- THE BOOK OF CLARKSON -

In this book I have copied 100 pages of the 300 page Book of Clarkson which I wrote in 1931. While spending a winter in Clarkson, much has been omitted but we have tried to give a fair representation. The original book (2 Vol.) has been turned over to Mrs. Maurice Barron, Ridge Road, Clarkson, who is the present Clarkson Historian.

Wm. Wilkinson
99 Atlantic Ave.
Rochester, N.Y.

[In the 66th year of his age] October 1947

This is written as a guide to would be small town future Historians. Sooner or later everything can happen - in a small town and Clarkson was and still is - no exception.
Sometimes the most difficult part of doing something is getting started. There is one thing certain - if you don't start, you will never finish. So we have decided to start but do not promise to finish - but will do our best.

We have learned one thing, at least, from this attempt to write up Clarkson and that is - that to write a history of even a place as small as Clarkson, takes a heap of time and hard work. We have learned to appreciate the work of others along this line.

Lockwood Doty of Geneseo decided to write up Livingston County. He intended to spend a few months gathering material and then publish it - but the months changed to years and he spent the rest of his life at it and died without seeing its completion. However it was published after his death. So we have decided not to wait. This must be completed by April 1 - or not at all. A little will be added each day - as the spirit moves us - just an informal bunch of facts gathered from here and there. Much of it is hearsay - but most of it is true - it is all true as far as we know.

We will make no attempt whatever to check up on grammatical errors, spelling and punctuation. Life is too short for that - what's the use anyway! Instead of paragraphs or chapters, it will be written in spasms - and this is the first spasm - so far, so good - but the "worst" is yet to come.
there are many who seldom look at a book unless there are pictures in it and so we have decided to have a few pictures as they help to break the monotony. The "Story of Brockport" recently published has but one picture and that's Hiel Brockway after whom Brockport was named. Our regular staff artist is away on his vacation but he will do the best he can.

It is not the intention to give a long detailed history of the early days in the Town of Clarkson, but merely that all may understand why Clarkson was such a desirable place for settlement and how it became the most talented village north of Albany and the center of business activity between Rochester and Lewiston and how, later, it ceased to grow while Brockport and some other places grew rapidly, a summary of this early history will be given. This can be found in old Monroe County books and other papers but inasmuch as these books cannot be easily seen by all and as the material is somewhat scattered, it seems best to repeat it here—especially that part that refers to the locality now known as Clarkson Village.
Clarkson, located at the crossing of the Ridge and Lake Roads - two former Indian trails - is a part of the famous "Triangular Tract" - a tract of land in the shape of a 10+ piece of pie or an ice cream cone (take your choice) - 9 ½ miles in width on Lake Ontario and 28 miles from north to south, terminating at a point on the southern boundary of the Town of LeRoy, the eastern boundary of this huge 'piece of pie' was a line parallel with the course of the Genesee River and is now the present Clarkson-Farmington Town Line. The western boundary was a north and south transit line which is now the County Line Road and is the western boundary of the Town of Clarkson and County of Monroe. The Triangular Tract was originally owned by Robert Morris, "The financier of the Revolution" from whom it was purchased in 1801 by a land company composed of three merchants from New York City - LeRoy, Bayard and McGraw. The Town of Le Roy was named after one of these men. This Tract was divided into 4 Townships, numbered from south to north - Le Roy, Bergen, Sweden and last but not least - Clarkson. Clarkson was Township No. 4. This also included Hamlin - later Clarkson was divided and Hamlin became - Township No. 5.
Clarkson at that time occupied more than half of the entire Tract. Each town was divided into sections and each section was divided into lots which conformed with the general shape of the town. The acreage of a lot varied somewhat, but the average lot in the Town of Clarkson was about 118 acres. Some farms today occupy the whole of a lot. An example of this is the farm now owned by E. H. Kenyon on the Lake Road. This farm occupies the whole of one lot and is described as follows: "The whole of lot #9, Section #11, Township #4 of the Triangular Tract.
The Lake Road is the dividing line for certain of these lots but both sides of the Ridge Road may be in the same lot. Most of the houses in Clarkson Village west of the Lake Road are in lot #13, Section #5. Those east of the Lake Road near the Corners are in lot #19, Section 5.
For example, the old Hotel is part of lot #13, Section #5, Township #4 of the Triangular Tract. The Town Hall or Church are located in lot #19, Section #5, Township #4 of the triangular Tract. We have given considerable detail on this because we all may, sooner or later, run across such a description in a deed or search and this will make such description more easily understood.
Moody Freeman was the first man to settle in Clarkson in 1804.

How the Triangular Tract got that way will be explained later.

First Settlements at Le Roy in 1801. Land sold for $2.00 and 50¢ an acre.

All this Triangular Tract was purchased by a land company in 1801.

Leroy - Bayard - McEvers.
In 1800, all the land west of the Genesee, including the Triangular tract was a part of the Town of Northampton and County of Ontario with county seat at Canandaigua.

In 1802, this became Genesee County with county seat at Batavia—eventually. Later in 1807, this land was divided and the Triangular tract and all land westward became the Township of Murray and Clarkson was called Murray Corners.

In 1802, the Lake Road—4 rods wide—was opened through the center of the tract from Albion to Lake Ontario. This road was given by the land company and was not included in the adjoining lots. A Mr. Scott had charge of the cutting through of this road. In places it follows an old Indian trail that led to Lake Ontario.
Settlements were commenced at LeRoy in 1801, and land was offered at $2.00 and $2.50 per acre.

All early deeds were recorded in Genesee County at Batavia. The search now held by Charles Maw, dated 1816, shows the names of the original landholders including General Clarkson. This deed was recorded in Batavia.

The Lake Road, for years, was known as "the Plank Road," but it was really a 'corduroy road' - that is, a roadway formed of logs laid side by side. Only recently some of these logs were unearthed, when the Brockport-Ontario water main was being laid through Clarkson.

From Wilkie's Corners at the north edge of the village of Brockport to Homlin. This road was a Toll road and was kept up by a group of private citizens who held a charter. There was a Toll gate north of Wilkie's Corners, but later the Plank Road and Tolls were abolished about 1870 - but long after that it continued to be known as "the Plank Road." The Toll gate was near the big elm tree, and the gate keeper lived in the John Heise house.
The Ridge, as all know, was a former Indian trail following a natural ridge of land which, ages ago, formed the southern shore of Lake Ontario. This ridge of land extends from Oswego on the east to the Niagara River on the west. For years the Indians had used it as a trail, leaving hatchet marks on the trees.

Up till 1811, the Ridge Road was only a wagon track through the woods with no permanent bridges across the streams but in 1812 it was somewhat improved and used to convey troops and supplies to Fort Niagara. The first bridge over the Genesee River at Main Street was built in 1812 to help complete the route from Canandaigua to Lemont via the Ridge from the Genesee River.

As early as 1810, stages ran over the Ridge Road and Clarkson became a stopping place for all stages, teamsters and travelers. Previous to 1812, many settlers had arrived but few settled during the war which did not end till 1815.

Thus we see how Clarkson, located at the crossing of two main highways became such a desirable place for settlement.
Clarkson was named after General Clarkson, an early settler and large land owner who gave one hundred acres to the town when it was formed in 1820. His child was the first boy baby to be born in Clarkson.

A chip off the old block.

Don't know his first name, so will call him 'Willie'.

Son of General Clarkson first boy baby born in Clarkson.

The first settler, in all the Town of Clarkson, was Moody Freeman, who built the first cabin in 1803. Two miles north of the corners on the west side of the Lake Road. He cleared the first land and raised the first grain and was the first back woods lawyer. He attended church at Clarkson Corners. We find his name on the records. He joined the Church Dec. 25, 1818. The present Church edifice was built in 1825.

He built a cabin in 1803 on the Lake Road 2 miles north of the corners. First man to settle in the Town of Clarkson. He was a member of Murray Congregational Church which later became Clarkson Congregational Church.
The first building at Clarkson Corners was erected by James Sayres on the present site of the Harry Fletcher House in 1804.

Sayre also built and ran the first sawmill on 'Cigarette Creek' just west of Faines. This was the first sawmill in Clarkson.

First House at Clarkson Corners built by James Sayres on present site of the old Palmer Homestead.

Deacon Joel Palmer came from Connecticut in 1810 and purchased the Sayres place. He went back to Massachusetts—married and returned to Clarkson with his bride (1811).

It is said of Deacon Joel Palmer that he was a prominent and exemplary man, useful to society (he had 9 children) and a devoted Christian. He served in the War of 1812 under Capt. Haskell who formed a Clarkson Company.

In 1910 Harry Fletcher tore down what was left of the first old house. Eden Coffelt, then an old man, helped him tear it down. It stood at the rear of the present brick house.
The first girl baby to be born in Clarkson was Almira Palmer, daughter of Deacon Joel Palmer. She was born in 1812 and was the first girl born west of the Genesee River in this section.

Nellie Cornell, Rochester's veteran Teacher, is a daughter of this same Almira Palmer. Miss Cornell's real name is 'Ellen F.'

Born 1812
IN CLARKSON
Died 1879

ALMIRA PALMER
Baptized 1816
Joined the Church 1825
1st Girl Baby born West of the Genesee River!

Fussell Palmer was the youngest of the nine children. He was born in 1829 and died at the home of Nellie Cornell in Rochester in 1910.

The first church meetings were held in the old school house and at homes until 1825 when the present church was built. I will mention this later on.

The Haskells were masons and house builders. Several of the Clarkson houses were built by them. They lived in the old wooden house just east of Cotter's Stone.
Joel Palmer erected a Tannery at the rear of his home near the bend of the creek where a mill pond was formed.

The Palmers were Tanners, Carriers and later became Cobblers and ran a Cobbler Shop in the small brick house next to the creek just west of the Palmer house where Harry Fletcher now lives. Richard Armer tells us that he remembers getting his first pair of dress-up boots at the Palmer Cobbler Shop.

Eli Bloodgett bought a lot in 1804 but few settlements were made till 1808 in 1809. Henry McCall built the first store at the S.E. Corner where he also ran the first Tavern. This building is still standing (m.3 Legs) and no doubt is the oldest building in Clarkson today. Henry McCall later ran a Tavern in East Clarkson (Field's Corners) on the N.E. Corner. At that time, Garland was called McCall's Corners. It was the third Tavern to be erected in the Town.
The first frame house in Clarkson was built by Isaac Williams on the site of the old hotel on the S.W. corner. He also ran the first blacksmith shop. The second tavern was built by Dr. Baldwin on the site of the Charles Mau House. This was a wooden building and was replaced later in 1819 by the present brick house now occupied by Chas. Mau. The wooden building was moved and made into what is now the Geo. Bowes house.

The old hotel on the S.W. corner was built by Hiel Brockway in 1816, the same year he settled in Clarkson. He also helped to build Blodgett Mills. This is the same Hiel Brockway who afterwards moved to Brockport and after whom Brockport was named.

Cotter's store was built by Silas Walbridge in 1825. Walbridge leased the hotel and kept the tavern for a number of years. He was the last proprietor of the Eagle Tavern at 4 Corners in Rochester which tavern was torn down when Press Block was built. Silas Walbridge is buried in Mt. Hope Cemetery. His son, named Clarkson Walbridge is also buried here.
DeWitt Clinton journeyed westward in 1810 looking for a route for the Erie Canal. He stopped at Clarkson at a wooden tavern on the north side of the Ridge. This might have been Dr. Poole's Tavern as the one east of Potter's Store was not erected at the time—or it might have been one farther west of the Corners.

"Fast stages ran from Rochester to Lewiston—they changed horses at Clarkson.

From 1814 to 1819 Clarkson belonged to a large section of land known as the town of Murray and Clarkson Village was called Murray's Corners.
In 1819, Clarkson was set off from Murray and in 1820 it became an incorporated town and was named Clarkson after General Clarkson who gave 100 acres to the town at the first town meeting Apr. 4, 1820. Monroe County was formed in 1821.

On Oct. 11, 1852, Clarkson was divided into two towns: Clarkson and Union. This was just before the Civil War.

Afterwards became Hamlin which was named after Hamilton Hamlin, Vice-President of the U.S., under Lincoln 1861-1865.
the first Post Office in Clarkson was established in 1816 when a line of stages ran between Rochester and Lewiston and delivered a daily mail. The line was discontinued at the opening of the Erie Railroad in 1825.

Dr. Abel Baldwin, who built the Chas. Man House in 1819, was the first Postmaster and the first Post Office was in his wooden tavern. That was afterwards torn down. To make way for the brick mansion that still stands today. Gustave Clark was the first appointed postmaster. The office was in the O'Brien Block on the SE corner.

Clarkson's first lawyer was the Hon. John Bowman. He built the house now occupied by O. J. Witter in 1824. It is the oldest house on the Lake Rd. South of the Corners. With the exception of the frame of the Bowman house which was moved from the Main corner.

The first Doctor was Dr. Noah Owen.
From 1814 to 1819 Clarkson belonged to a large section of land known as the Town of Murray.

In 1819, it was set off from Murray and became an incorporated Town. The organization was completed at the first town meeting held April 4, 1820, at the new home of Dr. Abel Baldwin, the present Chas. New home. At this meeting, it was named Clarkson in honor of General Clarkson who was an early settler and gave 100 acres to the Town.

So it was that Clarkson received its name. It might have been called Freeman-Town after the first settler, or Sayres Mills after the first mill owner or even Blodgetts Mills. It could have been Balmaville, or Brockway Center, or perhaps Palmer City after Decaen, Joel Palmer, or Roeckslburg after Nathaniel Roeckle the second physician. But you know the old slogan - on something about the rise by any other name or something - after all there's nothing in a name. If you don't like Clarkson, perhaps we could call a special meeting and have the name changed. Don't shoot!

The records of these early Town meetings are still on file with the Town Clerk. At the first meeting Oretas Haskell was elected the first Supervisor and Gustavus Clark, an early merchant, was elected Town Clerk.
The county of Monroe was formed from parts of Ontario and Genesee Counties in 1821 - one year after Clarkson was incorporated. It was named in honor of James Monroe who was the President of the U.S. at that time.

The first Court House was erected in 1822 on the site of the present Court House. In 1851, a second Court House was erected. This second Court House was torn down about 1874. The large stone that was erected in the center of the road at the corners by the DAR was a part of one of the columns of this second Court House. The present building is the third building to occupy the same site.

The DAR Monument is a section of one of these columns.

The flagstones in front of this building were yellow. This area was known as yellowstone Park.

The Second Monroe County Court House
Erected 1856 - torn down about 1893
The early settlers met with many difficulties. Decaying timber and stagnant water was everywhere, and there was much sickness especially during the hot weather.

It was not safe until the water courses now cleared to the lake. There was proper drainage. Much of the sickness was caused by drinking stagnant surface water.

Clarkson Corners was high and dry as compared to many other places especially those near the lake.

Whole families were wiped out in a settlement on the Ridge near Sandy Creek. In 1804, a Dutchman named Strunk erected a cabin at the mouth of Sandy Creek at 'Straight Lake'. He was the first one to venture into that deadly region and his life paid the penalty.

Wolves roamed the North Country and people returned home before dark or used torches if they ventured out at night. (They still have 2 bigged wolves in Clarkson.)
Early merchants bought ashes (1/2 Rash 1/2 trade) and made potash.

Erastus Haskell manufactured salt from salt springs.

It would seem from reading the early Town Clerk records that nearly everyone had animals of some kind.

There are over two hundred 'brands' on record. These marks are on the ears and consist of various combinations of holes, slits, swallow tails, square crops, half pennies and half crops.

Here are some of them:

- Swallow Tail
- Hole
- Slit
- Square Crop
- Half Penny
- Half Crop

How would you like to tame your ears treated this way?
- STRAY ANIMALS -

Moody Freeman's brand was a swallow tail on the left ear.

In spite of this recording, many neglected to brand their animals as the records contain many notices of strayed animals.

Here are some of the notices placed on file with the Town Clerk:

"strayed- A 3 year old grey mare, coat foretop and tail cut square."

"Came into the enclosure about six weeks since- a sandy colored sow shot- probably weighs 140 pounds. Clarkson Jan. 17, 1822"

Signed Jeremiah Spireman.

Here are some more brands-

Petutiah Rogers - a swallow tail in left ear.

Elijah Cook - a hole in the right ear and a slit in the end of the left ear.

Nathaniel Rowell - a square crop off each ear an a slit in each ear (Why so cruel?)

Consider Batelleon - a small notch the upper side and the same the under side of the right ear.

Wm. Alvord - A hole through the right ear.

Gretas Haskell - a half penny underside of each ear.

John Redman - A hole in the left ear and a swallow tail in the right ear (also a hole in his ass.)
Agreed April 3, 1821 at Clarkson Town meeting -

"that any ram found running at large on the commons between the first day of Sept. and the 10th day of Nov. shall be forfeit to the overseers of the poor."

The deeper we delve into Clarkson’s past, the more we think of the old burg. As we go back to the old days, the more we realize that history is still being made today. When all memory of all those living in Clarkson to-day is gone, Clarkson will still be here.

It sort of adds a fourth dimension or something as it were. You can’t help but lose yourself and at times actually seem to be living back a hundred years ago.

After all it’s Time that stays - we are the ones who pass on. Taft, the great Sculptor shows this in his great master piece on the old Midway in Chicago.

The Statuary shows Father Time Standing
while youth, middle age and old age pass by. Time does stand still despite the illusion, he has always held that it flees or flits - or something. He are the ones who come and go. He are living in eternity now. (Will someone please take up the collection?)

We inquired of an elderly lady if she remembered when the old houses were built. She replied, "It seems like they had always been there." We have been able to trace some of these old houses and will tell more about them further on.

Speaking of Fourth Dimension - there are only a few people in all the world, perhaps less than a dozen, who have been able to grasp Einstein's "Law of Relativity." But while we are at it, perhaps it might be well to explain this so others may understand it. The law of Relativity - or something is something like this - or something - the people in New York City look on people in nearby smaller cities as 'hicks.' The people in these cities look on the people in upstate cities (like Rochester) as 'hicks' and the people in Rochester look on the people in Brockport as 'hicks' and the Brockporters look on the people of Clarkson as 'hicks' and we think the people on the Drake Road are 'hicks' - and, by neck! it's true - they are!
So you see it's all a matter of viewpoint. We quite often hear it said that a certain person thinks the world revolves about him - nothing is truer - his world does revolve about him and he is the center of the universe - as far as he is concerned.

Your world is all that matters with you. But perhaps we can go too far. We can easily get narrow-minded and refuse to get out of a rut.

After all it's all one big world but we seem to see it from different viewpoints.

"Clear as mud," I hear you say, but mud reminds us of clay and clay makes bricks and bricks made the old Clarkson houses - and that ends another paragraph.

There were brickyards at Clarkson and on the Hop Farm on the Road Road also on the Redman place at Redman's Corner.
"Agreed that hogs shall not be free
commons from the first day of
April to the first day of November
under penalty of 25¢ for each offense."

" Came into the enclosure of Peter Miller
on the 8th Inst. two sheep - one black
weather - the other a white ewe. Dec. 21, 1822."

"Voted - that fences shall be 4½ feet high
and so constructed or made of rails
or other materials so that the space
between the rails shall not be more
than seven inches - 1821."

"Voted that any person owning a stud
horse or colt and suffering the same
to run at large on the commons or
highways shall be subject to a penalty
of $5.00 which shall go to the support
of the common schools - 1821."

"Penalty of 6¢ each for sheep found
at large on the Commons or Highways."
Good Old Days

Whiskey was used freely in the early days. For many years there was but one grist mill in the whole town but there were several distilleries along the Ridge Road. Elijah Drake had a distillery on the Ridge—a mile west of the Corners—opposite the Drake Road which was named after him.

These distilleries were kept in full operation to supply the wants of the people. Whiskey was used by all families and even at religious gatherings by young and old. Homer, The Church at Clarkson was opposed to members using strong and spirituous liquors except for medical purposes. It was used freely by most families and regarded, a necessity. Those were what they called "the good old days."

The early schools were sort of private schools where the teacher was supported by tuition. Children were not compelled to attend as they are today.

It required a hard year of labor to earn a suit of clothes. Boots were costly. Shirts were made from flax hemp. Wool was a luxury. Buckskin breeches were common. Moccasins were worn in sunny, at all times cold weather.

There were log dwellings, rooms, spinning wheels and homespun. There were huskings, quiltings, wood shavings, raisings and apple parings. And each was a joyous occasion.
There were ox-steds - Cumber sleighs - horse back riding. Trees to fell and fences to make. These were the good old days but we prefer to live in the present.

Gustavus Clark was one of the early merchants - he had great business ability and was an active, intelligent and generous-hearted man. He was the first Town Clerk. He built the house now occupied by E. Fowler. Henry Martin, his partner succeeded him in business and later became a Buffalo banker. Martin also lived in the Fowler house. The MacFarland house became the Clark Manor House. James Seymour, one of the founders of Brockport began trade in Clarkson.

Silas Walbridge kept the Tavern on the S.W. Corner for many years. He built the Graham Cotton Store in 1825.

Silas Walbridge who ran the old Taverns on the S.W. Corner and in the Wooden Home East of Cotton's Store from 1825 to 1854 made模拟

He leased the Tavern from Dr. Baldwin who bought it from Hiel Brockway in 1824

He attended Church. His pew was # 5

He had a son named Clarkson Walbridge.

He was a good mixer.

He moved to Rochester. Ran Eagle Tavern (Real Clock) Buried in Mt. Hope.
David Forsyth, one of the early settlers, cleared all the land from the Corners ½ mile west on the south side of the Ridge. This afterwards became the Patterson farm.

Some early physicians were doctors—Nathaniel Rowell, Baldwin, Harmon, Elijah Rowell, Taber, Perry (the father of Mrs. A.W. Bates) Murdock, and Tozier (the father of Joseph Tozier—the druggist).


This all leads up to the time when the Erie Canal was projected in 1817. Great efforts were made to have the Canal pass through Clarkson near the Corners. But as soon as it was made known that it would cross the Lake Rd., a mile south, Sheldon Clarkson business men began to see that there would be the future business point.

First house erected in Brockport on the Site of the State Bank of Commerce.
(Copyrighted)
(No Board game—with the wind)
So. Hiel Brockway, James Seymour, Abel Baldwin and others who had settled in Clarkson, hastened to buy up the land where Brockport is now located.

Hiel Brockway bought all the land east of Main Streets south of the Canal.

Seymour bought the land east of Main Street between the Canal and Market Street. Abel Baldwin bought land east of Main and south to South Ave.

The first Canal was 45 feet wide and 4 feet deep.

The Canal was finished as far as Brockport in 1823 and this gave Brockport a 2 years start over places far then west where the Canal had not yet reached.

Brockway gave the lands on which the Normal and Grammar schools are located. He built scores of houses. The Welch Homestead recently torn down, the old Jim Adam's place on Erie Street also recently demolished. He built the 'Uplands' house and the Burlingame house on West Holley Street and many others. His home for years was the wooden house on the N.W. Corner of Erie and Utica Streets.
Most all the bricks used in Clarkson houses and early Brockport houses came from two Clarkson brick yards—
the one near the corners just north of the Ridge and the one on the Ladd Rd. on the Hoy farm.

Later in 1850-51, the Rochester & Niagara Falls R.R. was completed. This followed the Canal and again
Clarkson received another setback. Business left Clarkson and went to Brockport, but Clarkson remained a
desirable place of residence and became
known for culture and learning.

The Clarkson Academy was one of the best
in Western New York and students came
from other places to complete their
education in Clarkson. (Can you imagine!)

Prof. Cha. D. McClean was principal
of the Clarkson School about 1863-4.
He became Teacher of Mathematics in the
Brockport Normal and in 1868, he
became principal. He retired in 1898.
His name is in the church records. He
rented a pew in 1865 and 1864.
It is easy to imagine what might have happened in Clarkson if the Canal had crossed the Lake Road near the village. There would have been no Brockport and Clarkson today would be one of the largest towns or city in Western New York. No other town had such an early start. Clarkson remained a desirable place to live but it has remained stationary in regards to population. We have often thought that Clarkson would grow if more houses were built. Any desirable house in Clarkson would be quickly rented. Perhaps—who knows!—Clarkson may yet become the metropolis of Western New York. All we need to do is to find gold in something— but it suits most of us just as it is—or as it could be if certain objectionable spots could be dotted up. Perhaps we will get around to do it someday. Perhaps someday we will find a place for the DAR Monument.

This stood in the center of the road at the Corners but was removed when road was improved. It was a section of a pillar of the 2nd Monmouth Court House (See P.18)
Items from Poormaster's Account.

1921 1 Quart of Wine .63
1922 Dr. Nathaniel Ronell's account $40.00

1923 Went with Isaac Allen to Herbert Wheelan's
To examine the case of Robert G. Boswell
who had been to work on the Canal
and came from Ireland.
To self examine the case $2.00
To Isaac Allen - Do - 2.00
Dr. Ronell charged for visit 1.50
Dr. Fabor for visit and medicine 2.00
Mr. Wheelan for Coffin 2.50
To dig grave 3.00
To shroud 1.25
To sheet 1.50
For damage done to bedding etc 4.00
To nursing and attendance 5.00

(A sad story! We imagine that Mr.
Boswell was not the only one to get sick. Working on the Canal. It
was hard work, all hard work and
there were no Italians then.
But they evidently gave him a good
send-off. According to the last item.

Wakes were the common thing in those
days and still are today but perhaps
somewhat more dignified. Not many years
ago Pierce Cummings attended one of
these wakes, they drink freely and he
ended up the party by staging a boxing
match with the corpse standing in the
corner. It ended in a draw! A good time
was had by all.
There are many of these items in the Poormaster's Record, books. We cannot give them all but will give enough to convince all that they had their trouble in those days just as we have them today, but most of the cases were caused for at home. If your favorite ancestor is not mentioned here, don't blame us, it's probably in the Record, books.

1824
1 yard Calico at 1/9 .21
2 yards flannel 1.25
1 pair stockings .50
To making skirt & petticoat .63

1825
To boarding Phebe Bird 8 weeks
and schooling at 8 s a week $8.00
"Spelling" Book 1/6 .19
1 cord wood .75
3 gal. Whiskey 1.13

(The whiskey was not for Phebe Bird. Perhaps it was for her daddie, he was a bird, too.)

The only book the pupils had when they entered school was a combination spelling and reading book (mentioned above).
Poor master's Records:

1832 | To Satinett, buttons and Thread for Phebe Dubois's family  | $6.14

1833 | 3 Yards cloth and trimmings for coat for Mr. Countryman's family  | $3.86

1839 | To Transfer Timothy Eldridge to County House - very crazy - took 2 mon. | $4.00

1840 | To Sara Ann Oliver for making pantaloons for Timothy Eldridge | $1.00

1846 | One heavy sheep's gray coat for Jacob Ostran | $1.50

Molasses + Cod fish | $.50

1850 | Paid Mr. Smith for coffin | $1.50

Paid ... | $1.75

1 bushel Potatoes | $.50

Paid Joel B. Palmer for shoes | $1.25

S. B. Jewett - Attorney fees | $10.00
- Poormaster's Records -

1851 Case of David Ross (A short but sad tale)

Paid for telegraphing for Coroner  .20
Paid for coffin for Hand Ross  5.00
Paid for digging grave  2.00
Credit - money found in pockets of D. Ross  .93

1851 40 Pounds flour  $1.00
     8 Pounds Pork  1.00

1853 4 Pounds butter  .63
Credit - To cash from supervisor
        - excise money  - 45.00

1855 25 # Corn Meal  .50
     8 # Pork  1.19
Paid Dr. Tozier  17.00
Paid Dr. Clark  5.00

Doctor Tozier
He lived in the Levi Thompson house
His pew was # 9.
- Poormaster's Records -

1856  Cash expended Conveying Charles Paine and family to foot-10se $3.00

To E. Allen for Wood 1.75

1857  9 yards Calico 1.13
      8 yards diaper 1.00
      3/4 yards flannel .28
      1 pair Shoes 1.00
      1/2 lb. Tea  .21
      2 candles .32
      4 lbs. Sugar .52

1859  1 gal. molasses .88
      2 # White fish  .28
      4 # Butter  .60
      2 # Crackers .16

1860  Paid Washington L. Rockwell for rent for Charles Paine 7.88

Paid for shrowds for Shell children 1.00
Paid Mr. Sanders for "diggin" graves 1.25

Paid S. Goff for team & horse at funeral of W. Shells children 3.00
- Poor master's Records-

1860  Paid for stove and pipe for Chas. Paine  $8.00
1860  Paid for moving Charles Paine from Barnes  $4.50
1860  Paid for wood for Chas. Paine  $3.00
1860  10 Bu. Potatoes for  "  "  $3.75
1860  40 lbs. Rye flour for R. P.  $1.20
1860  To shroud for Charles Paine  $1.25
1860  "Dignity" grave for Charles Paine  $2.00
1860  (the end of Chas. Paine.)
1860  (but they no sooner got rid of one)  
1860  (than they had another.)
1860  Load of wood for D. Brink  $2.50
1860  Pair shoes for Mrs. Brink  $1.50
1860  5 Bu. Potatoes for Mrs. Paine  $2.50
1860  10 lbs. Buck wheat flour for Mrs. Brink  $0.25
1861  Groceries from H. M. Haskell  $15.28

(The Hassells ran the grocery on the Corner which is now owned by Graham St. Rotten. They owned and lived in the large wooden house east of the store. At that time the house was connected with the store by a passageway so they did not have to go outside.)

1861  Moving Phoebe Brink  $1.50
1863  Mrs. Sarah Redman for keeping Mrs. Brink  $18.00
- Poormaster's Records -

1863 Mrs. Hunt, 2 emigrants' tickets from Rochester to Detroit
For keeping Mrs. Hunt and 2 children at Beeche's Hotel
 overnight and 3 meals apiece
Cash to Mrs. Hunt
Crackers & Cheese for Mrs. Hunt

1863 To Mr. Stickles for taking care of Thebe Brink & needs
For trouble of funeral of T. Brink and washing up things
Smith for Coffin & box
For burying clothes
For digging grave
(The end of Thebe Brink)

Load of wood for Mrs. Paine

1864 Groceries for Ed. DeGraff at Haskeills

1864 Coffin & box for Jobe Irish

1864 Dec. 6: R. Bird's services
digging grave, ringing bell and
building fire in church for the
funeral of Mr. Tent.

R. Bird
Ringing the Old Church
Bell for the funeral of
Mr. Tent.

I'll say he was
a bird!

1864
Bell was cast 1846
Poormasters Records.

1869  E. Sunat for driving hearse  .75
     1 Quart Whiskey for H. L. Smith  .65

1872  1100 # Coal of Gordon
     Ton Coal
     (this is the first mention of coal before this it was wood.)  7.00

1873  Paid Henry Casey to move Mrs. McGuire  .50

1873  Coffin & "Horse"
     (things getting expensive)  20.95

1877  Dr. Geo. Miller "Dr. Bill"  24.50

1878  Paid I. C. Crady for Town burial lot in E. Clarkson Cemetery  36.00
     Paid Haskell for taking J. Lewis to almshouse  1.00

1879  J. K. Vosburg for quart of whiskey  .50
     (The Vosburgs now the old hotel for a number of years)
     To take Eliza Dettman to asylum  2.34
     Paid Mr. Amidon for whiskey  .40
     (Amidon followed Vosburg in the old hotel)

Poor master delivering a gallon of whiskey to a sick family who hadn't got sick!
Poormaster's Records

1863 Mrs. Hunt - One gal. of oil .10
Dr. W. B. Mann for services 10.00

1884 Adam Moore grocery account 10.00

Adam Moore followed Haskell in the grocery store. Fred Moore, his son, came next.

Exercise Money Received 87.50

The Board of Exercise met once a year in May and granted licenses. The amounts varied from $5.00 for a grocery license to $25.00 for a tavern license. This money was turned over to the poormaster.

1884 Amount furnished Mrs. Harrington 2.00
Amount for James Mahan 5.62

Paid Geo. W. Miller for medical services 65.00
Adam Moore for groceries and whiskey 1.36
Cash to D. Bates for moving John Conley to Brockport 1.00

Dr. W. B. Mann for examining R. King - Crazy 5.00

Dr. W. B. Mann for examining Eliza Deftman ("Lumitick") 5.00

(people need 'nuts' in Clarkson.)
Town Records

Town officers were elected once a year at the Town Meeting which was held in the Spring. These meetings were held in various parts of the Town in homes. The first meeting was held April 4, 1820 at the home of Abel Baldwin (the present home of Chas. Morr.); this house was built in 1819.

The County and State elections were held in the Fall.

1824 In 1824 (Nov.1) DeWitt Clinton received 199 votes for Governor of N.Y. State.

1826 In 1826, the town meeting was held in the old hotel - then burned by Silas Walbridge. Many meetings were held there.

1826 "Resolved that the Town raise $360.00 for support of poor."

1826 DeWitt Clinton received 177 votes for Governor Nov. 6, 1826.

1826 Clarkson gave Martin Van Buren 238 votes for Governor of N.Y. State.
Town Records.

1833 Voted we raise $200 for support of Comm. Schools (this was in addition to what was received by supervisor.)

"Voted we raise $150.00 for support of Poor."

Town meetings were held the first Tuesday in April.

James H. Warren was elected supervisor more terms than any other.

1840 Town Meetings held in March.

1878 "Moved that the overseer of the poor be authorized to purchase a lot in the E. Clarkson Burying Ground in which to bury the town poor."

Joel B. Palmer
Clerk.

1853 Tuesday March 1, 1853 at the regular Town Meeting held at the house of Silas Walbridge the town was divided into Clarkson and Union (now Hambin.)

Maintenance and repair of roads and bridges required much attention.

Lists of those who had to work on roads were made out.
- Town Records -

Special Meeting Sept. 1860

1860 Complaint of exorbitant charges by physicians for medical services and attendance upon with pampers.

Charges fixed as follows:

For common cases of Obstetrics $3.00
Twins at one sitting, one dollar extra 4.00
Twins at 2 sittings, 2 dollar extra 5.00
Simple fractures 2.00
Compound 4.00
Visits and medicine within 1 mile .50
More than one and less than five 1.00
More than 5 and less than 10 (125th) 1.50

Dr. Tozier complained when he presented this bill and so as not to do him an injustice, they allowed him $10.00 extra on his years work.

Dr. Norris G. Clark
He had a negro coachman and cook.
They lived in separate quarters.
He lived in the place now occupied by Thatchers – formerly the W.S. Thompson place.
1863 Special meeting to vote a relief fund of $250.00 for families of those who had been drafted in the Army.
1864 Some raised in 1864.

1864 Poll Tax: 1 day's work on each male citizen for highway labor.

1864 Aug 26. Special meeting to vote to raise $500.00 for each volunteer, substitutes and drafted men.

216 votes 190 for 25 against 1 blank.

A total of $24000.00 was raised by taxes on property. A total of 83 soldiers are listed. Amounts varied from $50.00 to $1000.00 according to amount of service.

Total raised. $24000.00.

1869 Town meeting was held at Tavern of A.K. Vesburg where it was held each year till the Town Hall was built in 1899. There was a wooden wing on the west end of the hotel. This was used for Town Hall at a rental of $25.00 a year.

-Town Meetings were held in the rear end of the old Hotel.
1876 - Highway Commissioner's Report -

Your Commissioner would call your attention to the covered bridge at Clarkson Corners. From its present appearance, I think it will be necessary to retimber and recover a large part of it the coming season and in view of that fact, I now call your attention to the propriety of raising a sufficient sum to enable the Commissioners to arch the same in a durable and permanent manner with a stone arch. Thereby saving, in the end, a large amount of expense which is occurring almost every year to keep the present bridge in a suitable repair. The present bridge I consider as a dangerous one and liable perhaps at any time, when subjected to any unusual weight, to break through and invoke the town in any and all damages incurred thereby. The walls of the present bridge are gradually becoming worse and more unsafe and will, probably in two or three years at least, won't re-tying. Your Commissioners cannot tell definitely the cost of an arched bridge but think it can be put in for about $800.00 all of which is respectfully submitted.

St. V. Carrington
Highway Commissioner

Dated: Clarkson Feb. 27, 1876.

(Advice to Catoists - Short down to 35 miles)

(St. V. Carrington's Notes on Clarkson Bridge 1876)

(1892 260 V. p. trans. of plank 10' x 12' x 6'  Mixed mortar.)

Cost #7000.00

Forty-four rods laid - Twin Doors built the present arch. We also built the Normal School Buildings in Brockport.)
Board of Excise

The Board of Excise consisted of the
Superior and the 3 Justices. A
meeting was held in May each year
at which time licenses were granted or
withheld. The record book shows that
the first meeting was held May 6, 1833
and the last meeting May 1, 1854.

The First Meeting

1833

At the meeting of the Commissioners of Excise
for the Town of Clarkson in the County
of Monroe on the 6th day of May 1833.

Present S. B. Jewett, Supervisor
Sam Mead
M. E. Whitbeck, Justices of the Peace.

Resolved that licenses be granted to the
following persons to retail strong and
spirituous liquors and wines and that
the sum to be paid for each license be
the sum set opposite the name of each
person. To wit:

Silas Walbridge, Tavern Keeper $12.00
O.H. Boyd $10.00
Robert Patterson $8.00
J. H. Lovejoy $8.00
Isaac Houston $8.00
William Kane $7.00
Gideon Orr $7.00
Clark & Martin - Grocers $5.00

In witness whereof we, the said Commissioners
hereunto subscribed our names this
day and year above written.
Board of Excise

Silas Walbridge ran the tavern on the S.W. corner. He paid the largest license. Isaac Houston ran the tavern where Lemke now lives. Isaac Houston was the grandfather of W.H. Gallup. Isaac Houston died in 1852.

1837 Here is a list for 1837.

Silas Walbridge $9.00
Joseph H. Longjoy 9.00
Jeremiah Dunn 9.00
Oliver H. Boyd 13.00
Isaac Houston 9.00
Gideon Orr 9.00
James Patterson - Grocer 5.00

All excise money was turned over to the commissary.
Some applications were denied.
Some were given "Temperance Licenses" without charge.

1844 Here is another list.

Silas Walbridge $17.00
Isaac O. Thompson 15.00
Duane Whitecomb 15.00
Isaac Houston 15.00
Alexander D. Raymond 15.00

- Strong and Spirituous Liquors.
- Look not on the wine when it is red.
- Board of Excise -

1853 At a meeting of the Commissioners of Excise of the Town of Clarkson, held at the house of Silas Walbridge on the 2nd day of May 1853, James H. Warren, Supervisor, in the Chair. Present at the meeting.

James H. Warren, Supervisor.
Wayne Markham
William Johnson
Gustaveus Clark
Henry C. Rice

Justice of the Peace.

Dr. Alphonso Perry presented a petition signed by a large number of the voters of the Town of Clarkson, in which is set forth the evils of selling strong and spirituous liquors as a beverage and praying the Commissioners of Excise that they will not grant license to sell strong and spirituous liquors for the present year.

Resolved that the above petition be received and placed on file in the Town Clerk's office.

Resolved that licenses be granted to the following named persons to retain strong and spirituous liquors and wines, and that the sum be paid for each license which is set opposite their names respectfully.

Voting in the affirmative:
Majors Clark, Rice and Markham.

Negative:

Signed:

that
Board of Excise

Loran S. Goodrich $15.00
Thomas Tolford 15.00
Folly Redman 15.00

Resolved that this board grant temperance licenses to the following persons:

Sibas Walbridge
Folly Houston

In Witness Whereof I, the Commissioner of the Board of Excise, have hereunto subscribed my name in the year and day above written.

J. H. Warner, Chairman
Gustavus Clark
Wayne Markham, Justices
Henry E. Rile

(The Dr. Alphonso Perry who presented the petition was the father of Mrs. Augusta W. Bates. He lived in the Reuben Faine place.

In 1848, all men, charged $15.00 except for the grocery license which remained at $5.00.

Folly Redman was denied a license in 1854 but they gave her a temperance license.
Memorial Day Celebration

1871. On an old programme we have found a description of a Memorial Day celebration in Clarkson. This is only one of many such celebrations held in the past. Try to picture a beautiful day in May—flags flying and the ladies dressed in the latest. What would we give if we could actually go back and see one of these days.

Fife and Drum Corps
They sure could make music.

MEMORIAL DAY - 1871.

Captain Henry Allen - Marshal of the Day.
Adam Moore - Chairman - Committee of Finance.
Gustavus A. Dauchy - Committee on Teams.
John B. Haskell - Chairman - Stage & Ground Com.
— Floral Committee —

Miss Mary Jenett — Mrs. F. C. Tepley
Miss Lucy Patterson — Miss Sarah Steele
Miss Nellie Penigo — Miss Celia Allen
Miss Florence Bushnell — Miss Libbie Stewart
Miss Sarah Moore — Miss Julia Farrell
Miss Louise Forer.

James H. Warren & Wilson Moore - Directors.
On the large platform, erected on the Church Common, were the national emblems, numerous large and beautiful vases filled with flowers. A large concourse of people, in carriages or seated on temporary seats, or standing, listened with deep interest to the exercises of the occasion.

1871

Music - By Scott's Band
Prayer - By the Rev. Mr. Wilson of Brockport
Address - By Hon. J. Fuller - Presiding Officer
oration - By Geo. Ramie Esq. of Rochester
Music - By Band
Poem - By Rev. C. E. Florman
Benediction - By Rev. Chas. Kittridge

After which the procession visited the cemeteries of Flaxkem and Hombin. Upon entering the first cemetery visited, an apostrophe to their honored dead was read by Capt. F. C. Tapley.
CLARKSON's  
Lieutenant Governor  
HENRY ROGERS SELDEN  

Henry R. Selden was born in Connecticut 1805. moved to Rochesterville (Rochester) in 1825 and studied law in the office of his brother S.I. Selden and Addison Gardiner. When 25 years of age he was admitted to the bar and settled in Clarkson.

He resembled A. Lincoln but his hair was not as dark.

H.R. Selden with his brother Hiram Sibley from the W.U. Telp Co.

The same year and began the practice of law. He married Laura Fl. Baldwin (1834) daughter of Dr. Abel Baldwin who built the Chas. Mott House. Dr. Baldwin built the Hernandez house and the Selden's Rock there. They had three children - six died while young. One of these 12 - Geo. B. Selden held the valuable patent on the Automobile. In 1834 Henry Selden formed a partnership with Rob. Simeon B. Smith. This law firm continued till 1858 when Judge Selden moved to Rochester. His career was marked with brilliant achievements and distinguished honors. He was a self-made man.
He early became identified with politics, and with J. A. King lead the newly organized Republican party to victory. King became Governor and Selden Lieutenant Gov. of New York State in 1856. This was the first Republican victory in the whole Nation. H. R. Selden was the universally acknowledged leader of the Bar of Western New York. He was known throughout the Nation.

He was offered the nomination of vice-president with Abraham Lincoln but he declined. Hannibal Hamlin became vice-president and Andrew Johnson succeeded him in the second term. If Henry R. Selden had accepted the nomination for the first term, the chances are that he might have been reelected as vice-president for the second term and then on the death of Lincoln, he would have become President of the United States and Clarkson would have had a president—Oh Boy! Wouldn't that have been something! And people would still be flocking to Clarkson to see where he lived and the little old law office would soon become a national shrine—instead of a sorefoot. Selden held other notable positions. He was a judge of the Court of Appeals—the highest court. He retired in 1879. He removed to Rochester about 1858 and lived on State Place east of the YMCA. He died in 1885.

The Clarkson Law Office is the little brick building now joined to the brick building at the S.E. corner of Lake and Ridge Roads (Ps. Norton drain).
Col. Simeon B. Jewett was born in Connecticut in 1801. He studied law in the office of his brother in Schenectady, N.Y. and was admitted to the bar in 1823. He moved to Clarkson and started to practice law. He was married in 1831 to Miss Nancy Cook.

A Gentleman of the Old School.

He was U.S. Marshal under Pres. Buchanan.

Buried in West Cemetery.

Col. Simeon B. Jewett.

In 1834 he formed a co-partnership with Judge Henry R. Selden under the firm name of Jewett & Selden, which continued till 1853 when Judge Selden moved to Rochester.

Col. Jewett was engaged for a short period during the years of 1835-36 in the Lumber business in the State of Georgia. He early became interested in politics and took an active interest in Town, County, State and National elections—always a Democrat.
- Col. Simeon B. Jewett -

He was a man of wonderful executive ability and untiring industry. For quickness of perception and boldness of execution he had no superior. As a lawyer and Collector, he had few superiors. Socially, he was always pleasant and courteous, was a fine conversationalist and was popular with all whom he came in contact. He was a good husband, kind father and faithful friend.

He was stricken with paralysis in 1867 and died in Clarkson in July, 1869, aged 68 years. His wife died in April, 1883 and only child, Mary W. Jewett, died in the old homestead, about 1910.

This was a lawyer office for over 50 years. When Col. Jewett retired it was used by James Clark.

These two buildings were joined to make garage. The corner building is the oldest building standing in Clarkson today. The little building was a close second. (As both gone now.)
- The Bowman Family -

We have been unable to find the complete history of the Bowman family, but we will give what we have found.

Hon. John Bowman was one of the early settlers. He was Clarkson's first lawyer and was noted as a lawyer. He was a judge of the U.S. Court. He built the house on the Gordon farm, now occupied by O. J. Witter in 1824. This is the oldest house on the Lake Road, south of the village.

Lorina Bowman was his wife.

W. R. Bowman and John M. Bowman were sons of Hon. John and Lorina Bowman. W. R. was also a lawyer.

John M. Bowman built the house now occupied by S. M. Furnald in 1850.

A John Bowman, a nephew of John M., was a lawyer in Rochester. He had considerable money but lost it. He jumped from a tall building in N.Y. City. He was killed. In his will, he left $500.00 to the West Clarkson Cemetery.

The Bowman church pew was no. 9.
LEWIS SWIFT

World Famous Astronomer
Born in Clarkson Feb. 29, 1820.
(That was the year Clarkson was born, too. Clarkson became an incorporated town in 1820.)
He was born and lived on the Geo. Potter place
north of the Corners on the Lake Road, the
Swifts attended Clarkson Church.
He received his education in The Clarkson Academy.
1862 He discovered his first Comet from the roof of a cider mill.

Studied Astronomy - did not attend college
but was a learned man.

He loved books - had a keen mind, good
memory. His specialty was Comet seeking.
He discovered 6 Comets - (that we don't know
what he did with them) Twice Married. First
wife died 1863. Had 5 children.

H. H. Warner of Rochester erected an observatory
for Dr. Swift - on East Ave. It was the
best at that time. Dr. Swift used it
from 1883 till 1894 when he left Rochester.
The old observatory is now being torn down.

He would stay up all night to
look at the stars.
Capt. James H. Warren was a native of Columbia County, N.Y. and came to Clarkson in 1810 with his father, Lyman Warner. The Warren farm was just east of Garland on the north side of the Ridge Road.

In 1843 Captain Warren married Olivia Erany. In 1863, he was elected sheriff of Monroe County, serving three years.

In his early life he was engaged in the freight and passenger department of a line of packet boats between Rochester and Buffalo. Perhaps that's where he got his "Capt."

An enterprising and energetic man, he took a prominent part in the development of this town, serving as supervisor for years—no one was ever elected to more terms than he. His hand was ever ready to aid any charitable enterprise and his benevolence was well known.

He died in 1888 in his 72nd year—a loss to his family and all who knew him.

Capt. Warren lived for years in the S. M. Furnace home. It was known as the Capt. Warren Place.

He attended the Clarkson Church in 1860. His farm map no. 148.
The Selden Patent

Geo. B. Selden, born in Clarkson, was the son of Hon. Henry R. Selden. He was born in the Germantown House and moved to Rochester where he studied law and became a Patent Attorney.

This world famous is not understood by anyone so we will give it here.

This patent was secured in 1895 before the automobile came into general use. It was an idea for applying internal combustion engines to the propulsion of vehicles, motor & clutch and reducing gear. All this seems old stuff but it was all new then. The patent also included throwing clutch in and out and adjusting gearing. No auto could be made or operated without the elements combined in the Selden Patent. This broad and inclusive patent gave Selden a dominating power over the automobile industry. Royalties were paid for years but a powerful group headed by Henry Ford fought it. Ford claimed that Selden's patent was merely a combination of several devices that had been used separately elsewhere. The litigation was very costly. It lasted from 1904 to 1908. The first decision was in favor of Selden but the appeal reversed the decision and from 1911 it has been unnecessary to pay royalties on the Selden Patent. Once again down that's off to the Hon. H. B. Selden! By it was not for Henry T - there never has been a George B. and no patent and no autos and we would all be walking today.

Geo. B. Selden, Jr. is the only Selden listed in the Rochester directory. He lives in Brompton Twp in Medina Junior High.
The Ridge Road Bridge over the Genesee River

Although 16 miles or so from Clarkson, the new Ridge Road Bridge should be of interest to all Clarksonites.

For one 100 years attempts have been made to span the Genesee River near the Ridge Road.

The village of Carthage was just south of the Ridge and east of the river. Carthage was then a rival of Rochesterville and it was early realized that growth depended on a bridge at that point over the Genesee. Previous to 1812, all early settlers in this section had forded the river above the falls near where Main Street now crosses the river.

The first bridge near the Ridge Road was built in 1819. It was the longest in the world at that time - built entirely of wood - a marvel of construction. Took 22 men 9 months to build. After 13 months afterwards, in 1820, it crashed into the river. Three other bridges were built and each, in turn, crashed. The last one fell because of the heavy snow. The Driving Park Ave. Bridge was built in 1890. It still stands.

VETERAN'S MEMORIAL RIDGE ROAD BRIDGE
OVER GENESSEE RIVER - ROCHESTER, N.Y.
-- Time To Boom Clarkson --

It would seem that now is the time for Clarkson to boom. This new bridge will bring more traffic to the Ridge. It will be easier to reach places on the east side of the river. The undersigned believes that if Clarkson had 500 small, up-to-date houses that everyone would soon be occupied. Clarkson needs more small houses. Suppose that each of these 500 new homes had ten shelter children, each that would make an increase of over 500 people. We would need more school buses and, perhaps the poor master would need an assistant but that would make business. We would have a Hart's store and a couple A & P's. The women would all go to the A & P. -- and things would boom! Perhaps some of the old walls would fall down and go boom! Clarkson just can't grow if we do not erect some homes. Less than 5 houses have been built around the corners in the past 25 years! If we, personally, were not still on our first million, we would do something about it. The photo of Rhos Mans farm should be laid out in lots. Clarkson can become a city yet! (Do you suppose the name has something to do with it? We might call it Brook Ridge. Don't shoot!)

Let's call it Brookridge.

The village needs a name -- Clarkson is the town.
West Clarkson Cemetery

Many of the first settlers are buried in the West Cemetery. A while ago the map on chart of this cemetery was destroyed by mice, but many been left in the tool shed in the cemetery, but the stones are mostly in good condition. This cemetery dates back to about 1820 when the town of Clarkson was incorporated. Here are a few of the many names to be found.

John Bowman Died 1853 Age 71 years.

Louise, this wife 1870 " 78 ".

Jos. M. Bowman, son 1854 " 39 ".

Simeon B. Jenett Born 1801 Died 1869

Nancy Cook, his wife 1796 " 1883

Mary W. Jenett - dau 1836 " 1903

Deacon Joel Palmer Born 1788 (Settled 1811) Died 1877

Thebe, his wife 1790 " 1859

Russell, son 1829 " 1910

Abel Baldwin Born 1784 Died 1864

Laura, his wife 1786 " 1861

Stephen Cornell Born 1810 Died 1878

Elmira Palmer, his wife 1812 " 1879

Children Samuel Born 1834 Died 1854

Emelia 1836 " 1842

Julia 1838 " 1847

Ellen F 1840 "

Mabel (Ellen F) Cornell, still living in Rochester.

(Not gone)

The 5 Sheldon Children

Augusta, Henry, Laura

The other Sheldon lot is in Dr. Hope Rochester.

(Handwritten notes and doodles are present in the image.)
The East Clarkson Cemetery

This cemetery is not as old as the West Cemetery. It was incorporated March 18, 1865. The annual meetings are held the first Monday in April.

Trustees (as listed in old pamphlet)
George Gatkup.
Henry Nixon
Leonard D. Trimmer.
D. C. Freeman, Secy.
D. B. Crippen, Treas.

The first trustees were James H. Warren,
George Crippen and Henry W. Moore.

Some of the regulations of the Endowment Fund:

"In no event shall the Trustees of said Cemetery be liable to repay the principal paid into this fund, but shall be liable for the faithful discharge of the obligations incurred by them."

"The funds received from the sale of lots in East Clarkson Cemetery shall be placed in an approved Savings Bank, and withdrawn only on check of Trustees, Secretary and treasurer and the principal sum of each fund shall be used only for constructive improvements or in extending and enlarging the grounds."

"The treasurer shall give a bond of $1,000.00, with one approved security for the faithful performance of his trust."

R. I. P.
James L. Clark

The following from Winifred Tapley Warner Cleveland, dated Jan. 16, 1932:

"My grandfather James L. Clark was a lawyer with his office in Albany. In 1867, the Deputy U.S. Marshall of Northern District, N.Y., presented him with a magnificent set of silver consisting of a tray, wine, tea, coffee pots, sugar bowl etc. They are Sheffield plate and the tray alone is worth $1000 now. He entertained many prominent men from Albany State legislative at our home. He wore ruffled shirts until his death.

"Aunt Maria, James L. Clark's sister, was an orphan very early. Her mother died at her birth and there were two children, the son (James L.) received his share of the estate but Maria was managed by the six church trustees, and they decided that she must live nine months with each family, paying her board which they extracted and also money to help with the work. By the time her brother married and took her home, the deacons had gotten all her money.

"The silver mentioned above was presented to my grandfather in the State House in Albany. He disliked surprises but he was called into some special room in the State House with two men behind his ears and received a real surprise and seemed unable to speak. My father had bought two barrels of clothes and grandmother made clothes which were shipped to a hotel in Albany where my father and mother stayed and entertained a very large gathering of men.

There were many old and rare antiques in the old Clark house but these have been scattered.

For many years, Winifred Tapley Warner was a judge at the Brookport Fair for the Best Antiques Collection."
- Ridge Road Creamery

The Ridge Road Creamery, owned by N. Gallup, was organized back in the 1890s. They did a big business and the butter made there was in great demand. Several wagons called at farms in Clarkson and nearby towns for cream 2 or 3 times weekly. Three nearby brought milk to the factory. Fresh butter milk to drink free. They fed it and skim milk to the pigs.

J.W. N. Gallup bought this creamery and continued to make butter but later turned it into a great mill.

\[ \text{IT WAS CLARKSON'S MOST EXTENSIVE INDUSTRY} \]

The land for the Creamery was bought off the Lorback Place (McFarland's) Officers in 1895.

E.R. Campbell - President.
E.R. Hixon, Sec.

W.J. Minot, Treas.

W.J. N. Gallup, Mgr.

This has been remodeled into a house and is now owned by Mr. Sedgwick.
In the past 125 years, more or less, Clarkson has seen many changes. Many industries and trades have flourished. Perhaps the first of all these were the saw mills.

Next was made from salt springs on the Ladder Road. Even today, the cattle in these fields where the past looks are located, require no other salt than that found on the surface of the ground. There was Potash and Eye- or Donghmi manufactured from wood ashes. The merchants bought ashes paying 1/2 trade and 1/2 cash. The flour and seed mills were necessary, too, also Tanneries and distilleries. The Patent medicine which he peddled far and near. His pills were famous and nearly put the almanac book manufacturer out of business. Carriage, wagons and apple barrels. Bennett had a bicycle repair shop. Back in the 1890's on the Fleming place just east of the church. Ega's was manufactured by Dappan Rounds one Collins store and East to a building on the river. Corner lot which was remodeled into a house by James Boyle. Dried apples and sweet cider — Joe Keiler made fine cider in the basement of the house now occupied by Mrs. Stettner and young Gelblot's still makes a wicked drink. Adlington displays and smitches. Boots and shoes. The Palmers ran a cobblers shop in the little brick house now occupied by W. Gallop next to the babbling brook and Joe BoombelleConclusion point on the corner of the lot now owned by
Roy Fetter. Joe was one of the early hops in this section back in the 90's. His favorite past time was experimenting a bike and the boys delighted in soaking him on the bean with ripe tomatoes. Building truck paths was the specialty of John Statcher. Some made horse redish and Mrs. Phelps ran a meat and meat-plant. The present meat shop was the first one.

We remember the one run by Rea Werner over Harley Harrell's Implement Store. He sold real and meat and bull shooting. Sports and the present.<n
Chiseling babies is always the popular sport around the grocer's store. A newspaper was published by the old hotel. A man called "the Jeffersonian" but it didn't last long as the editor lost his stock of paper while crossing the bridge back on his way back from Rochester.

Yes, and they made butter and cheese. Clarkson butter was famous and brought a big price (20¢). There were at least 3 brickworks. One of these was just north of the Ridge near the Corners, on the Sey farm on the Ladd Road, and on the Redman Place (Green's) Redman's Corners. The last bricks were made about 1891. Mr. Pankin was the last foreman of the brickyard. He tried where Fred Stumpf was born. He employed several Italians among the first to reach this section. He kept them well supplied with beer and they worked like horses. Barabady, one of these men, returned to Clarkson and spent a winter with Joe 'Boombally'. The boys enjoyed calling on them. Ask our new supervisor.
House Moving

House moving has always been popular in small towns and Clarkson was no exception.

Here are a few that we have heard of—perhaps there are others we have missed. The home now occupied by Frances Burch was the old Scaife home and was moved from the Haylett place west of the village. Herb Rockburg and Clark Tapley remember riding in this house when it was moved. Then the boys then. The Morgan Tenant house, opposite the Horse place was moved by Pott Blodgett from a place just west of Henry Nesbitt's. The bricks used in the A. B. Raymond Mill, which stood near the Mill Pond, south of Roy Pettus, came from an old house that stood on the S.W. Corner at Redman's Corners. Os Blake, as a boy of 12, helped tear down that old hotel. The 'De Weiss' place, north of the Corners was moved from the Morgan farm 2 miles north. The 'Wild Town' house was once the Harrington place and stood on the creek back of Raymond's Mills. It was moved by J. H. Johnson. The Born home once stood on the Cheo. Maw Corner. There was a brick building west of the old hotel. It burned down but the walls and old well were there a long time. The old home that stood when the Bredenham house stands was moved back and used as a barn after the present house was built.

who said: "Clarkson Stands Still?"
The old Hotel sheds were moved to the D.W. O'Brien place west of the village where you can see them today. A small wooden house stood between Ed. Hovell's and D.W. O'Brien's place. This was also moved to the D.W. O'Brien place next to the road. It was known as the Better home. The Atwood Store or Dance Hall was once a part of a building used as a stable & Dance Hall and stood on the creek just east of where Mrs. Steffner lives. A part of this same building was moved to the Chapman farm to be used as a tobacco house. A home stood where Stemp's gin was. It was burned. Tim O'Brien lived in it at the time. A little brick house stood east of the Stemp house. It was torn down. It was occupied once by Barringer and then by John Stanley. The west wing of the old hotel where the Town meetings were held was torn down by James Royle and went to help alter the old Baxter Rounds cigar shop which afterwards became the Will Hamill home where Chas. Armbror now lives. The shed back of Alta Hamill's home was used in front of the Joe Weiss place as a hot dog stand and where Tell Murphy got all those buildings, we don't exactly know. Surely Clark's do move slow but sure!
the first school in Clarkson was in the building located on the Ed. Rowell place west of the village. The early history of Orleans County tells of it being shingled during the war of 1812 when the Ramon at Nejara could be heard in Clarkson. The Homoth house seems to have been the first private school and is one of the oldest houses in town. The best records are still in evidence and the old timbers show its age. At first it was part of a private school. The first teachers were Laura White and Charlotte Cummins.

The church society was organized in this old building! The church was built in 1825 and the present brick school soon afterwards. The land was given to the church and the church leased the land to the school for 99 years. This lease expired a short time ago and has not been renewed. The Congregational Society continued to meet in the private school house (old schoolhouse?) and the midweek services were held at homes till the Church was completed in 1825.

We have heard considerably about the old Academy but nothing very definite. Perhaps we could sum it all up by saying that it was a "shrunken" of a school. The best in Western New York in its day. People came to Clarkson to complete their education and many, as teachers, went elsewhere to fill big positions.

Chas. D. McLean taught in Clarkson at one time. He became principal of the Brockport Normal School afterwards for 30 years. Lewis Swift, the Great Astronomer received his education at the old Academy. Mary Janet, at one time, edited the school paper. It's difficult to tell just where the old Academy left off and when the school as it is today began. Harold Clarke found one 1845 dome when cutting on water pipes.
Chas. D. McLean - Mr. Ketcham - Chas. Clark & wife
Miss Gould and sister Mrs. Gratton - Mary Stickles
Henrietta Boyd - Geo. Brown, Chas. D. Carr, Frank Torpy
Lemuel Kingman - Henry Clark - Lela Clark - Mary Fallsce
Mary Hamann - Zora Lucas - Edith Lewis - Florence,
Dotty - Miss Robb - Ed. Ramey, Miss Shearer, Fred Wilkinson
Will Brown - John Drennan, Will Pledger, Will Wilkinson
Mr. Short, Minnie Clark - Mike McCabe - Mahal Redman
Ruth, Nellie - Vera, Frank - Mr. Hughes - Will Tompkins
(Pattieh, Wilimas and J. Alexander Boyd Dempster Pratt.
Rev. Norris Bull A.M. and Rev. Abner Goodall were teachers
in the old Academy.
(This list is not exactly correct and will
be changed later on.)
Books in the School Library - 1850.

How many have you read?

Life of Washington
The Poor Rick man.
Some Family Robinson
National History
The Son of a Genius
History of Insects
Tales of American Nat
Tales of American Rep
Napoleon Bonaparte
Pollock's Book
Principles of Philosophy
Indian Traits
Discovery of America
Tale of the Forest
Observation of Nature
Fruits of the Sea
Intellectual Forces
General Literature
Planetary System
Holy Land
Christian (or something)
St. Isaac Newton.
Lwi and Jet live
Empire of China
Ricemnoration!
Alexander the Great
National History
Philosophy
Peter the Great
Oliver Cromwell
Improvement of Society
The Earth

Whale Fishing
Lucy and Voyageant
History of New York
Father's Book
History of Insects
Animal History
Roman History
Description of the Country
Life of Napoleon
History of England
History of France
Charles the Twelfth
The Young Men's Guide
Francis Marion
William Penn
Golden Rule
Records of Travelers
Olden Time
Olden Shipwreck
Peter Earley
Robinson Crusoe
At It Was
Eben Fox
School Friend
Berkley, the Banker
the Little Door
the Tree & Fruit
Choice Emblem
Wonders of Art
Ethan Allen
Happy Family
Tea & Coffee
Self Knowledge
Life of Fulton
Locke - on Understanding
Farmers School Book
- Books in the school library in 1850: Read these and complete your education.

Napoleon Campaign.
Patrick Henry.
Life of Lafayette.
Chemistry.
Family Fireside.
Capt. Cook's Voyage.
Young Wife.
Electric Biography.
Political Economy.
Free Banking.
Wanted Evening.
Moral Tales.
The Taras.
Mary Jamison.
pictures of Taste.
Young Cadet.
Working Man.
Juvenile Biography.
Physical Man.
Indian Wars.
Table.
Texas Emigrant.
Life of Thomas.
Book of the Navy.
Clock Maker.
Young Man from Home.
Farmers Daughter.
Flower Basket.
Rose Bud.
Dick's Christmas Philosophy.
De Anjou's Reformation.
Cannino's Speaker.
Washington &Senecas.
Bonaparte & Marshals.
Agent Office Reports.
Mexican Wars.

Captain Smith.
Prorogual Philosophy.
N.Y. Statutes.
Dick's Philosophy.
Buck's Anecdotes.
Battle Grounds.
Every Day Book.
Picturesque Unit. of the U.S.
Biog. of the American Rev.
Arnold's Tales.
Irishman's Welcome.
Sacred Mountains.
Book of the Army.
Fremont.
Life of Taylor.
 Beauties History.
Bernadette's Letters.
Great Cities.
Rollins Experiments.
Parker Book.
Tales of the Drama.
Family Monitor.
Boy's Day Book.
Southern States.
Things by Right Names.
Young Pilgrim.
American Mechanic.
Juvenile Budget.
Child's Friend.
Family Stories.
Expedition to Granada.
Biographical Annual.
Political History.
Love & Money.
Book of the Indians.
Norman's Travels.

The Birth of Clarkson.
Clarkson Ballads

Clarkson Ballads were published some time ago the first and only edition was quickly
of course, by special request, we repeat
some of them here. the first one on p. 75
was written after a lonely winter in Clarkson
and the 2nd one on p. 75 was written at the time
the new bathroom was added to the parsonage.

- Clarkson -

[Verse]

In Clarkson Town we love so well,
The shady ridge road and the old Church bell
A more peaceful spot would be hard to find
Such friendly neighbors - so loving and kind.

In that Clarkson Town you've heard tell
A half a league, this side of hell.

Our thoughts go back to other days
To good old folks with good-fashioned ways
To good old days before the war
When the women knew what plants were for
And men were noble, kind and true
And it wasn't a sin to make home brew.

And how well we remember Jimmie Coyle
He once could fill your cup with oil
Jimmie, he was a good old soul
A little gruff but with heart of gold
And when the boys were wont to get rough
Jimmie, he says "yes" had enough!

Now Jimmie, long since has crossed the bar
His haunt's now home the motor car
Once on the corner solemnly stands
The dummy stone cursed in foreign lands.

* D.A. Immigrant (1931)

* A league is 3 miles.
- Clarkson Ballads -
- Springtime in Clarkson -

Tune: Ode Hundred

The robins from the south arrive
The crocus shows its petals fair

The pearly willows are all alone
And linen breezes fill the air.

The frost from the cold, cold ground has gone
He shea on rocks and snow in the sun
It will soon be time to mow the lawn
And the neighbors here are on the run
A piano enough again that spring has come.

And so to bed to rest and dream
No more snow - nor ice - just ice-cream.

Suddenly we awake - there's a terrible blast
The cold white snow is falling fast
The frost is on the window glass
And it's cold enough to freeze - your finkles
That's springtime in Clarkson.

(Sacred Hymn)

The Passing of the Minister's Pray.

The minister's pravy has gone astray
It crossed the ridge one stormy day
And now, very much against its will,
It's anchored back of the old feed mill.

And people still sit in the open door
As the minister did in days of yore
Under some sort of mystic spell
A listening to the old church bell,
If that chime could speak
A what time it could tell.

Now Clarkson is rather old and sedate
But there are those who would bring it up to date

Make changes, if you must, till we all get dizzy
But spare for posterity - that minister's pravy.
The following verses on Florida were written in Florida in February 1929. Perhaps it was the wonderful climate that inspired us. We dedicate these verses to the Ballads, Chapmans, Shakesper, Henri, Louis, and others who have learned to love Florida and Sarasota.

--- Sarasota ---

There was a man from Clarkam Town Who worked all day till the sun went down From early spring till late in the fall He labored hard to make his hand.

And then there came a wintry breeze He started in to plow and plunge His hard earned cash went for wood and coal And then he plucked into his hole.

And then he stayed through the wintry blast Till the good old sun returned at last Spring time came and winter had went But his hard earned cash, he hadn't a cent.

But when again the fall rolled round He said "I guess I'll stay, old Clarkam Town." "I'm sick and tired of ice and snows." "I'm going to find out where the sumem goes." These northern winters get my goat a.

So he headed straight for Sarasota. And come enough, the summer was there He'd chased it right into its hair And every morn at the break of day You'd find him out on Sarasota Bay Or floating down the Myakka River With many a boat or rest or shiver And when you'd meet him, he whistled a tune For every day was a day in June And instead of dying at 60 He's 86 and I still alive.
- Ballads -

Now, Clarkston folks. This is for you
Why not come to Florida, too?
Tis very true—what the preacher said—
"We live long once and are a long time dead."
So when next old Winter shows his season's fault,
Instead of blankets, climbing underneath,
Just jump in the car—climb out of your shell—
Step on the gas and drive like hell!
And you'll soon leave old Clarkston far behind.
And in Florida, you'll find a real gold mine.
Gold in her cheeks—gold in her hair
And balmy breezes—everywhere.
And when too soon, you return in The spring
Eternal praises for Florida, you'll sing.

Selah.

- FLORIDA -

Eternal sunshine—snow, white sand,
Birds and flowers on every hand,
Lakes and palm trees everywhere
And balmy breezes fill the air
Great beneath a palmetto tree
While the darn little redbugs crawl all over me.
That's Florida—

W.W.
If Clarkson were in California
They would roll up the town and give it class
They'd call it San Clarkson and the Ridge
And the Ridge would be marked by a wedding bell
And famous far and wide as "El Honeymoon Trail"
The flowers would bloom at Christmas time
For setas, roses and jasmine.

And along the brooks they'd have a park
With all kinds of birds from a quail to a lark
And hundreds of benches where in the warm sun
Would sit hundreds of men—and each man a bum
And over the church they would cast a spell
By naming it "Mission Congregational."

And they'd have hotels with old and new
Full of Gentlemen burns with nothing to do
Except play cards or mope, with the blue-
Roll balls in the park or pitch horses.
Gentlemen burns far from the food
Seeking the sunshine away from the cold.

In a beautiful valley it would lie
Near snow capped mountains touching the sky.
High up in the mountains they'd build a dam
And with fleur-de-lis and azaleas irrigate the land
Wherever needed the water goes.
And the desert would blossom like the rose.

In the winters and summers would be much the same
But there'd be several months without any rain
And instead of elms and maples, palm
There'd be palms and eucalyptus everywhere
And they'd place smudge pots between friend trees
To make Jack Fruit tough, and among
If Clarkson were in California.
CALIFORNIA

If Clarkson were in California
They farm a ranch would be
Fruits and vegetables galore-
Oaks and pines... 

Beans, alfalfa, chickens and pigs
Walnuts and almonds, peaches and grapes
Crops and lettuces, sea-gulls and seacoast.

Every day in the year-in the open air
No hats, no coats-and legs all bare
Children both old and young would play.

Morning and night and all day long
Sometimes warm but never too cool
You'd wonder just how they kept them in school.

On Sundays and holidays they'd go on a hike
Up mountains and down mountains, from morning till night.
The bright sun would shine all the day long
And the hikers would join in the springtime song.

Through groves of big trees and by water falls
And on green grass in their own fields.

And sometimes they'd have pageants or plays
Of the early missions or gold-digging days
And they'd wear real whiskers and funny trick suits
Indians, pirates, Spaniards - Great-giggers in boots
And march round the town - a beautiful sight
And the young folks would dance far into the night.

And on a side street just off of Gay Broadway
Would be a place where the times held sway
"Greasy Spoon" restaurants and "Tabo of Broth and Blood"
Salvation Army - fill up the jug
Unemployed craters, sailors, and thugs
Some fiddle - some wine - all honky-tonk and ring
If Clarkson were in California.
If Clarkson were in California
On one side the towns-no place for your daughter
Would be Chinatown and the Latin Quarter
Interesting places to visit at night
Chinese ladies in silk gowns-a wonderfull sight
Duo stories-glistening and chop suey places
Black almond eyes and funny chunk faces

In the Latin Quarter-many strange people you'll see
Some from far off the deep blue sea
Mexican, Spanish, Italian and French
Side by each on a well worn-bench
Filipino phoets with black greasy hair
Watch out you won't drown into their again.

At the edge of the town on a hillside fair
You'll find the "Biltmore" for 25 million
Royals and music and bright trails
Soup to nuts-not coffee and sausages
The millionaire would have this fun
But it would be no place for a gentleman town.

And each store would have an open front
With clerks in green smocks-all on the jump
And the autos would drive through the Lindoos
Right into the grocery store
And many would deal in Real Estate
A fine house and ride out Ford- L. Drake

And Bungalows of white stucco would be in style
With low roofs furred with red Spanish tile
And they would have a fine library and Civic Center
And street cars-play as you wish
And they'd dress up the town and to give it class
They'd name it Fran Clarkson or San Clarkson-
If Clarkson was in California.
And o'er the church. They'd cast a spell
By naming it 'Mission Congregational!'
If CLARKSON were in CALIFORNIA.

There's something about the balmy climate of
places like Florida and California that make
us want to write "Poesy." Many have asked
us which we liked the better. Florida or
California. This poem on California
was written in California in Feb. 1930.

California does not compare with Florida
in the winter. It's open in California
but it's not hot. The ocean breezes require
you to carry a light overcoat. Florida is
deal warm in the Wintertime except at
times when a cold spell creeps in but the
cold does not last long. We like California
along the coast best in the summertime. Like
all other places, the seasons vary. You cannot
judge the climate from one season! But if
you want to get away from cold weather we
recommend Florida. Many Clarkson people have
found it an ideal place to spend the winter but
Clarkson in June, can't be 'beat' by either.
We feel that our crude attempt to represent some of the Clarkson doorways is somewhat of a fluke but if we can get more to observe the wonderful beauty to be found in these doorways, we should be satisfied.

Many of the Clarkson houses were built by the Haskells, who came from New England.

No doubt these are replicas of old colonial doorways to be found in the older states, Connecticut and Massachusetts.

Congregational Church
Erected, 1825.
We dare not mention just which doorways we intended to represent. Our attempts
have fallen so far short that we must ask you to stretch your imagination somewhat.

Next time you pass a doorway, take a good look they will stand close inspection.
the workmanship is wonderful.

Two of the most beautiful of all are not represented here - the Albert Palmer doorway and
the Simeon B. Ferris. Both of these are over 100 years old. Let yourself get doorway
conscious.
CLARKSON CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

The Congregational Society was organized in the old schoolhouse in 1816. The church was not built till 1825. Meanwhile Sunday services were held in the schoolhouse and midweek services were held in the homes.

The charter members were:

Joel Palmer - Theodore Ellis - Mary Perry
Folly Day - Polly Rice - Phoebe Palmer
Patience Ellis - Anna Swift - John Phelps
Cabin Green - Mary McCracken - Dennis
Whelans - Laura White & Charlotte (first school teacher) Sally Reid - Betsy Phelps

First Deacons - Joel Palmer and Levi Smith
First Clerk - Joel Palmer

MINISTERS

1815 Ezra Woodworth
1819 John F. Bliss
1835 E.M. Toof
1863 J.B. Gardiner
1867 Francis Rowe
1873 A.A. Eagles

(This list will be corrected and completed later)

Officers 1876 - Trustees W.G. Rockwell, Chauncey Allen
Elijah Drake

Deacons - John Steele - Frederick Bellinger
Clark - John Steele

Supt. S.S. Edward Wadham (25 years)
Samuel Wadham, Supt. in 1876

Russell Palmer, Treasurer
Edward Cole, Librarian
Organized 1816
Church erected 1825
Joined the Presby 1830
Returned to Cong. 1853
Became Burfy 1869

The Murray Congregational Church, as it was called at first, was organized in Murray at Murray Corners in 1816. The first meeting was held in the schoolhouse, which is now occupied by Tom Homoth, the present brick school house was built soon after the church was built.
OLD CHURCH RECORDS

Sept. 4, 1816. Charter Members: "These were examined as to their religious experience and doctrinal knowledge - gave satisfaction, and, after agreeing to the Confession of Faith and Covenant, were received into the church." The constituting prayer was by W. Williams.

One of the Articles of Faith: "We believe that God has set apart for himself and consecrated to his worship our whole portion of time, to be kept holy and spent in acts of devotion, except so much as may be taken up in works of necessity and mercy, and that this portion of time under the gospel dispensation is the first day of the week."

Sept. 15, 1816. The following children were baptized on Sept. 15, 1816: Alwine Palmer, Betsy Palmer, Joel Palmer (Children of Joel and Phoebe Palmer).

Julia Kim Ellis, Daniel Ellis, Orice Ellis, Alvin Kiehlin, Jerome Swift, Polly Swift, Weldon Henry Harris, Joseph Swift, Dean Swift, Lucinda Ellis, Salome Hatcher.

July 15, 1821. The following were baptized: Hopkins Rovell, Thompson Rovell, Juliet Rovell. These were Rovell and Elizabeth Rovell (Children of Dr. Rovell and Sally Rovell.)

Dec. 21, 1820. The following were baptized: Sarah Elizabeth, Lucia Jane, Martha Ann, Harriet Newell, Sola, Martha Tennant, Mary Sophia. (These were the children of Elijah and Sarah Rovell.)
OLD CHURCH RECORDS

June 4 1819

"At a meeting at the home of Theophilus Taylor - voted that those members on the "Connecticut Tract", wishing to form a church at "Sandy Creek" be considered as dismissed from "the watch and care of this church", when they are organized into a church in that place."

In 1819, church became connected with the Presbyterian, but lost none of the Congregational rights and privileges. Moody Freeman who was the first man to settle in the town of Clarksville in 1803 was a delegate to the Presbyterian in 1819.

Sept 9 1819

At a meeting on Sept. 9, 1819, at the house of Rev. Black, it was resolved that it be the indisputable duty of all members to attend meetings on the Sabbath and on all other occasions.

Feb. 4 1822

Moody Freeman & Bro. John Brown were appointed as a committee to visit absent members and inquire into the reasons of their absence.

Jan. 1823

Brother Whelan was accused "(1) for being for a long time in the neglect of public worship and of the ordinances of the gospel. (2) That he is accustomed to the neglect of family prayer. (3) That he has frequent meals on the Sabbath."

After due notice was given for second Sunday, Bro. Eli. Whelan was uncommunicated.

June 15 1823
"Rev. Bliss requested that he be allowed to serve his pastoral relation to this church. He urged a dismissal and recommended and urged upon the church to employ another minister.

The reasons given were:

(1) He had felt for some time that his services were not useful and not desired by many in the congregation and that they were wishing for a change.

(2) That the salary had become small and that the proportions for the year were only about $120."

"But it was decided at a meeting that the church had no dissatisfaction with Bro. Bliss and wished this to be distinctly understood."

June 30, 1823

Was appointed as a day of fasting, humiliation and prayer at which time all members were required to renew their covenant with the Lord.

July 11, 1823

The Church was called upon to settle family quarrels. Several pages on the case of Mrs. Smith are given. Here is some of it—Mrs. Smith boasted to old Mrs. Bettie—'that her eyes were now opened—that all the confusion that had ever happened in the family came from her,' and since that time Mrs. Smith has never been well.' She often said, 'I can't bear to have you in my sight. You killed my father. You are a very bad woman. You are guilty of everything that is bad. Plead you was dead. The sooner the better. I hope it will not be long before there is an end of you.'"
Many times Mrs. Smith had expressed a wish to Mrs. Betty that she would take her children and walk adding that she desired a good horse riding. On one occasion Mrs. Smith wished Mrs. Betty was in HELL! At a special meeting Sept. 2, 1835, Mrs. Smith had 4 communicated from the Church the vote was unanimous.

1831 Others were accused of unchristian conduct profane swearing and committees were appointed to labor with those backsliders. In Aug. 1831, Brother Alvord was charged with excessive drinking of intoxicating liquors, at the raising of Mr. Clark's barn. He was warned to guard against even the cause of offense in the future to which he agreed.

Brother John Wright committed crimes of "the least cost" and he was re-communicated.

Brother Jeremiah F. Davis was accused of adultery but he denied the charge. He was re-communicated.

1831 A committee was appointed to visit Brother Gary Beech whom common report says drunk, intoxicating liquor freely and gave it to his workmen while engaged in gathering his crops. Bro. Beech appeared before the Church and made confession of the crimes with which he had been charged, giving signs of sorrow upon which the Church passed a resolution to forgive.
1831 Brother Alford was again called up on the carpet for having at different times, brought disorder upon the cause of Christ by the too frequent use of intoxicating liquors. He again promised to reform but on Nov. 4, 1831, he was suspended from the Church.

1832 On April 24, 1832, he again confessed of the sin of intemperance and expressed penitence upon which the Church voted that he be restored to the privilege of the Church.

But on June 22, 1832, he was asked to appear before the Church and answer to the charge against him—"Drinking ardent spirits, contrary to his most solemn vows and to the Church and to brethren who had conversed with him." The committee reported that Bro. Alford said he would drink ardent spirits when he thought it necessary and how he was finally re-communed.

1832 Resolved to purchase oil for the use of lamps in the meeting house from collections taken at the season of Communion.

1859 Messrs. Allen & Messers was a committee to call on the Choristers of the Church and converse with them in reference to the Church Music.

When ever any member neglected to attend service, a committee was appointed to call on them.

1862 In 1862, a Committee called on Matthew L. Patterson, a member of the Church, who had neglected attending public ordinances of the Sanctuary!
- Few Rentals -

1858

In a record book of few rentals from 1858 to 1859, we find that the rentals varied from $12.00 to $26.00. In a few in a ship as they were then called, the highest priced ships were no. 11 and no. 12.

Here are some of the holders and ship numbers:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Name</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>A. Snyder &amp; Z. Tomley</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>H. Rowley</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>H. Led</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Joel Palmer, Justice Palmer</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>S.J. Talbot-Miles Walshbridge</td>
<td>39</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>E. Murdock</td>
<td>40</td>
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<td>J. Wilkins</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Henry R. Selden</td>
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<td>W. B. &amp; John S. Bowman</td>
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<td>A. Baldwin</td>
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<td>S. J. Whitney</td>
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<td>L. Allen</td>
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<td>Chas. A. Perry &amp; H. Ashley</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>C. Allen &amp; J. B. Clark</td>
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<td>W. E. Reynolds</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>W. E. Silliman</td>
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<td>17</td>
<td>A. Perry</td>
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<td>18</td>
<td>Mrs. J. E. Clark</td>
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<td>Jervis F. Perry</td>
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<td>20</td>
<td>H. Gray &amp; S. J. Talbot-Miles</td>
<td>54</td>
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<td>21</td>
<td>M. S. Barker</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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| 22 | A. Shaw                      | 54  | W. Kirn
| 23 | R. Secfield                 | 10  | E. D. Olds.     |
| 24 | H. Nelli                     | 8   | E. R. Feathers    |
| 25 | T. Henley                    | 39  | John Nelli    |
| 26 | D. Penrose                    | 24  | Gordon Haught  |
| 27 | Miss Brown                   | 18  | Frederick Bellringer |
| 28 | S. Whipple                   | 13  | Chas. D. McLean |
| 29 | N. Blodgett                  | 8   | F. Rob. Swett  |
| 30 | A.S. Palmer & J. Mershon     | 18  | F. G. Randall   |
In the old log cabin in 1816-17, it replaced the first frame house which stood there and was built by Isaac Williams who also ran the first blacksmith shop on the same corner. The hotel property originally included the land along the lake road from the ridge to the south line of the H. F. Long property and was bounded on the west by the Patterson Farm which at that time belonged to David Forsyth who cleared the land.

In 1824 this property was purchased from Dr. Baldwin by Henry R. Selden, his son-in-law. The wooden building that stood on the main corner which was also a tannery was moved south of the hotel and became the Geo. Ross house. Lately it was torn off the 7a piece, starting at the south end and in about the following order, H. F. Long 1825, A. Forde 1829, F. Dutcher 1841, T. A. Dwyer 1842, S. W. Fennell 1850, Ross 1825, H. Ross 1877. Give us the 7a piece of land in front of where the C. Amor house stands.
Clarkson's only newspaper was published in the Old Hotel by J. C. Burchard in 1835. It was called "The Jeffersonian." A dance hall was in the shed. During a 4th of July celebration about 1860, a cannon exploded and killed a girl who was sitting in the window with her sweetheart. We remember another 4th of July celebration when the boys put a skyrocket in the pants of "Slippery Jim" Mahon. He was celebrating, too, there were fireworks but Jim didn't see them.

Town meetings were held here in the west wing of the hotel and in a while but after J. K. Vosburg bought it about 1867, all meetings were held there till the Town Hall was built in 1899. The rental was $25.00 a year. Tom Lynch ran a hardware store in the west wing but moved his store to Eustis.

Len Olds owned the hotel before it was purchased by J. K. Vosburg. In a Vosburg & Enos Vosburg & Farnham it was rented to Hi Byrds and later to Luther & Edward Foster and then sold to James Grover. Then to his brother Frank Foster. So, Heinrick of Brockport rented it a year - then John Ward and then it was sold to James Toole who ran the East Palace at the former.

W. S. Backus bought it from Mr. Toole and then sold it to A. T. Brief bought it and made a garage - then Robb - Reuben Stump & Schurkeit and was leased to Smith & Fratson, etc.
The old hotel was built by Hick Brockway in 1816-17. It replaced the first frame house which stood there and was built by Isaac Williams who also ran the first blacksmith shop on the same corner. The hotel property originally included the land along the lake road from the bridge to the South line of the A.F. Town property and was bounded on the west by the Baldwin farm which at first belonged to David Forsyth who cleared the land.

In 1824 this property was purchased from Dr. Baldwin by Henry R. Selden, his son-in-law. The wooden building that stood on the mariner which was also a tavern was moved south of the hotel and became the Bee Hive House. It was sold off the 7a piece, starting at the Smith and in about the following order: H.F. Long 1825; E. Forlie 1829; F. Durkee 1841; T.A. Dunyan 1842; S.M. Furlong 1850; Pomus 1825; H. Rinck 1877; E. Amer 1923 (Baxter Rounds had a building that stood in front of where the C. Amer house stands. It was a cigar factory. First office & Tom Clark's office."

Clarkson's only newspaper was published in the old hotel by J.O. Batch 1855. It was called "The Jeffersonian." A dance hall was on the sheds. During a 4th of July celebration about 1860, a dance was being held in the hall- a cannon exploded and killed a guy who was sitting in the window with his prescription. We remember another 4th of July celebration when the boys put a city-wreck in the points of "Slippery Tom." He was celebrating, too. There were fireworks but John didn't see them. Town meetings were held there in the west wing of the hotel once in a while but after J.K. Vosburg bought it about 1867- all meetings were held there. The Town Hall was built in 1879. The rental was $125 a year. Tom Dunyan ran a hardware store in the west wing that moved his shop in Electrician. Levi Olds owned the hotel before it was purchased by J.K. Vosburg. J.K. Vosburg & Emmer Vosburg also ran it. It was rented to W. C. Thorne also later to Thomas Edward Eddins and then again to James Farley. Then to his brother Frank Farley. Ernie Heinrich also rented it a year. Then John Ward and then it was sold to James Doyle who took off the westing of the hotel.
- Russell Palmers Dairy 1891 -
Born 1829 - Died 1910

Here are a few of the many entries in his 1891 diary.
Just to remind us that even 40 years ago - that
girl was just one thing after another - same as today.

January 1891

Played on violin - Drew load of coal for Ezra Barker.
Ellen Cornell called - Mr. Wadham preached - Officers elected.
Called at Mrs. Pattersons - Church Society Annual meeting.
Drew load of coal for Mr. Bovey.
Took load of beans to Brockport for Mr. Lembcke.
Called on Mrs. Chapell.
Paid Taxes.

He kneeled that ye bare need of these things. Was sick
with throbbing in the ear. Went to singing school
went to mill.
Mr. Foster threshed beans - went
to singing school.
went to Brockport for Joseph Vials.

February 1891

Communion.
Took Gracie to the depot.
Drew load of wood for Mr. Tents.
Singing School.
Took 2 bags of beans to Ezra Barker to pick.
Snow foot deep. Tenance lecture by Mrs. Barker.
Attended Races.

Izic here in the evening - played violin.
went to Church.

Social at Mrs. Pattersons 10¢.
Attended Young People's Meeting.
Picked beans.
Went to Hamlin depot as bearer to Mrs. Semi's funeral.
Fished picking beans.
Attended Grand Concert - 25¢.

March 1891

Attended Farmers Institute in Bpht.
Sold bushel beans - 2.00
Wet drizzly day.
Took Mr. Havilting to depot.
75¢.
Went to Henry Moore's Social.
Stormy day.
Went to Rochester.
90¢.

Got left on 10 o'clock train.
Attended to Sap.
Went to

Garland singing-school.

Forty service - $0.00.

April 1891

Bought cow - 30.00

Arthur had horse to move goods to Brockport.

To move to Connecticut.

Brandy 50¢.

Drew dynamite.

Grafted

some prunes + pears.

Drew manure to the garden.

Helped

Mr. O'Brien fix bridge.

Took Ellen to the train.

Fixed something.
- RUSSELL PALMER'S DIARY - 1841 -
- May 1841 -
- June 1841 -
- July 1841 -
- August 1841 -
- September 1841 -

Sowed, Oats - Fixed fence - Cold, Windy - Fixed the fence - Patched roof - Plowed land this side creek. Planted potatoes - Mr. Donnelly had horse. Fixed carriage house door. Mr. Verney plowed orchard. Fixed harness. Went to Blythe for E.R. Wilson - Put in pump.


October
Picked some apples and pears. Mr. Latifa's funeral.
Dug beets. **(but the diary ends here)**
Here is one Apr. 3, 1864

Miss Bonesteel gave an entertainment. I played the violin. (Miss Bonesteel became famous as an actress. A playhouse in Detroit is named in her honor.) Here is one for Jan. 1, 1868

Stormy. Grand sleighing. Made several calls. Dance at twelve at night.
1868, 63 years ago. (the famous new Tamara & dead in theater)
Bought sole $1.02. Bought horsehide $1.90

Attended Church. Text: "For you are dead and your life is hidden in Christ in God." Securred 12 tips

(AD: what this means but at most there is something to do with Tarrin or he mentioned it often.)
Bought two hides. Went to Wednesday evening meeting. Cold. Very few there. Securred tips - put them in oil. 93 lbs. tanners $39.06. Ralphkin $6.00

 Took a trip to Chicago. Visited stock yards & opera.
Sunday, April 12, 1868. Sabbath School Concert.

But there is one that is different:

Went to Holley. Was married to Sarah Eliza Osborne (hadn't). Went to Niagara Falls. Stopped at the American $6.00.

(But com after the wedding he neglected to keep up his entries. Can you blame him?)

(Did you ever start a diary, and kept it up for a whole year? Very few have done that.)
List of Clarkson Postmasters:

This list was made by F.R. Hixson and published in the Brockport Republic about 1925. In 1820 Clarkson was one of the principal stagecoach stops between Rochester and Buffalo and it was not until the Canal and railroad were put through that Brockport had a Post Office. The mail was received through the Clarkson Post. After the time of the Canal, Brockport began to grow, much of the traffic being directed from the Ridge to the new waterways and gradually Clarkson became the less important of the two and about 1860, a Post Office was established in Brockport.

Following is a list of Postmasters in Clarkson:

(Between 1816 and 1820 mail was received at Dr. Baldwin's Tavern)

1820 - Emanuel Clark - Republican - S.E. Corner
1837 - Henry Martin - Democrat - S.E. Corner
1841 - Silas Waitebridge - Whig - S.E. Corner
1843 - Emanuel Clark - Democrat - S.E. Corner
1849 - Silas Waitebridge - Whig - S.E. Corner
1853 - John M. Bowmen - Democrat
1854 - Henry M. Haskell - Democrat - S.E. Corner
1856 - Moses S. Barker - Democrat
1861 - Henry M. Haskell - Republican - S.E. Corner
1864 - John P. Haskell - Republican - S.E. Corner
1867 - Adam Moore - Republican - S.E. Corner
1870 - Geo. W. Miller - Republican - S.E. Corner
1878 - Emma Miller - Republican - S.E. Corner
1879 - Adam Moore - Republican - S.E. Corner
1885 - Washington T. Rockwell - Democrat - S.E. Corner
1889 - Frederick A. Moore - Republican - S.E. Corner
1892 - Baxter A. Rounds - Republican - (Charlestown lot)
1893 - Charles P. Bellinger - Democrat - S.E. Corner
1897 - Fred. R. Hixson - Republican - Lake Rey Smith
1915 - Julia O'Brien - Democrat - S.E. Corner
1923 - Ellen E. Lewis - Republican - S.E. Corner

The new Republican party came into power about 1860 when Lincoln was elected.
- CLARKSON ACADEMY -

The following interesting list of scholars of the old Academy was found by Jim Ballup in a chest in the Faberer Attic.

---

CATALOGUE

of

the

Teachers and students

of

- CLARKSON ACADEMY, Monroe Co., N.Y. -

For the year ending July 4, 1839.

Rev. Norris Bull, A.M. Principal.

Rev. Ohmer Cordell, A.B. Assistant-Teachers.

Miss Betthish Toring

- STUDENTS -

- LADIES -

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Clarinda C. Atkinson</th>
<th>Clarkson</th>
<th>Clarinda Jones</th>
<th>Clarkson</th>
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<tr>
<td>Catharine Bellinger</td>
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<td>Laura Kelsoy</td>
<td>Bergen</td>
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<td>Eliza</td>
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<td>Ortha Langdon</td>
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<td>Mary E</td>
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<td>Betsey Ann Lee</td>
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<td>Cordelia Barker</td>
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<td>Abigail Airmel</td>
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<td>A. Ethel A. Blodgett</td>
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<td>Jane</td>
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<td>Ann M. Bowman</td>
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<td>Fanny Faber</td>
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<td>Martha E. Bull</td>
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<td>Mary C.</td>
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<td>Emily Clark</td>
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<td>Sarah M. Drake</td>
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<td>Lois Eldridge</td>
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<td>Harriet Forsyth</td>
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<td>James</td>
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<td>Ann E. Gillett</td>
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<td>Debra M.</td>
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<td>Frances Bordell</td>
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<td>Eliza Jones</td>
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<td>Frances E. Simpson</td>
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<td>Rebecca Ann Hobbs</td>
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<td>Jane Holmes</td>
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<td>Eliza Homan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mary Jennings</td>
<td>Clarkson</td>
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CLARKSON ACADEMY

(Gentlemen of the School)

Roger Adkins  Fort Ramsey, N.W. Ter.
Wes. D. Atkins  Holley
Isaac Allen  Clarkson
John H.  Rochester
John Atkinson  Clarkson
Isaac H. Arnett  Byron
Adrian Baucher  N.York City
Edwin M. Bartley  Clarkson
Horace Boardman  "
James Bowarnan  "
W.H. Bowron  "
John H.  "
Wm. Bull  "
John H. Bull  "
Edmund Butts  "
Warren Cantine  "
Thos. E. Cutler  "
Frederick A. Day  "
Isaac Delameter  "
Elizah Drake  "
Chea. Dunham  "
Myron R. Eaton  "
Henry Ellenwood  "
Geo. Filmore  "
Geo. Gillett  "
Asa G. Groce  "
Wm. P. Groce  "
Lorenzo Harmbold  "
Wm. Hart  "
John Haskell  "
Henry  "
James S. Hobbs  "
Wm. H. Hobbs  "
Isaiah Hurty  "
Nath. Huskey  "
Truman Ladd  "
Wm. DeForest Randon  "
Wm. C. Mc Clintock  Seneseo
Sarah Mc Bollum  Lockport
James McNab  Buffalo
Daniel P. McGown  Wheatland
Henry H. Martin  "
Chauncey Nash  "
Geo. Noye  "
Albert H. Palmer  "
John Palmer  "
John "
Samuel  "
James Beech  "
John Foster  "
Andrew J. Rich  "
Ryaland J. Rogers  "
Thompson Round  "
Seth  "
Wm. Royce  "
James Schaeffer  "
Stephen D. Seavey  "
Morgan S. Smead  "
Alban Smith  "
W. R. Stevens  "
Reed Stevens  "
Lewis Swift  "
Robert N. Tuttle  "
Edwin Wadham  "
George Watkins  "
Henry  "
Wm. Warren  "
Fort Ramsey, N.W. Ter
Truman  "
Philo Wells  "
Henry West  "
Aaron  "
Geo. Whipple  "
Benj. Wilson  "
Daniel Wood  "
Edwin  "
Wellington Woodruff  "
Byron.
First Grade. - Reading, Writing, Spelling, Arithmetic, Geography, and English Grammar, $5.00 a quarter.
Second Grade. - Book-keeping, Chemistry, History, and Botany, separately and with preceding studies, $4.00.
Third Grade. - All the branches taught in the High Schools and Colleges with any of the foregoing $5.00 (why put to waste?) Music, Vocal, and Instrumental, will be a regular branch of instruction. There are also, during each year, complete courses of lectures on Chemistry and Natural Philosophy. For attendance on these, the students are charged $1.50 a quarter. The lectures in Natural Philosophy will continue through the coming autumn, and those in Chemistry through the winter and spring. The institution is furnished with a valuable chemical and philosophical apparatus.

The next term will commence on the 15th of August, 1837, and will continue 22 weeks. The winter vacation is two weeks and the summer six weeks. No scholars admitted for less than half a quarter.

Clarkson, Aug. 1, 1837. H. R. Selden, Secretary.

Boy! Boy! Boy! That was some school! There were 51 Radics and 76 gents - a total of 127 and what gets us is what Tell they put them all - they must have used the out-buildings for music department and Chemistry! This Catalogue was printed. In another palace we will give an unofficial list of pupils in the Clarkson Village School in 1841. This was found written in a note-book of one of the students. The list of parents is also given. There are mostly local students. We judge that the old Academy became local about 1853. (It burned down.)
P.S.

CLARKSON ACADEMY.

This certifies that Fanny Palmer has attended Clarkson Academy about one year and three months in the course of between four and five years past, which time she has devoted to the study of English Grammar, Geography, Arithmetic, Algebra, Nat. Philosophy, Chemistry, Geometry and the Latin Language, in which branches she has made good proficiency for the time spent in the study of them. She has uniformly sustained a good moral character and a fair reputation for diligence and a faithful observance of the rules of the Institution.

(Signed) Norris Bull, Principal of Clarkson Academy.

Clarkson Aug. 17, 1840

(The above was found in the attic of W.C. Fletcher, who lives in the former Palmer Homestead.)

Note: The old Clarkson Academy was some school, but perhaps Henrietta had it beat. The annual report of the Monroe Academy at Henrietta is to be found in an early Rochester paper, "the Rochester Daily Advertiser and Telegraph" in the issue of Jan. 30, 1830. We will make a copy of this report in one of our scrapbooks.

W.W.
Dec. 10, 1947

Dear Bill,

When I got home from the hospital I found your painting had arrived. We (in the family) think it is great and have carried it up stairs for a while. Then I think I'll hang it in the hall at the top of the stairs, where it can be seen from downstairs, but people won't be able to get their hands on it, at least without a little trouble. We feel sure that the envelope you sent with it.

Charlotte Garrison

Note:
Mrs. Maurice Garrison is the present Town Historian. The original 'Book of Clarkson' (2 Vols.) is in her possession. The above letter refers to a small old-fashioned painting I made of the old church. "Denny" is the present Postmaster and reads the post cards. He sometimes puts his 'John Henry' on letters addressed to your Truly Wills. I did not receive the 'Old Academy' picture mentioned in letter.
there is one person in town who will know the whole history of the picture. (It will sound quite plausible, too).

I went up to Mabel Redman a day or two ago and made a copy of that old academy picture. It is quite small and doesn't show up too well, however I did the best I could. I did it with colored chalk (because that was easiest for me) and it rubs off very easily but you can get the colors almost exactly. I'll send it to you and also I'll try to send a board, as I have used for oils. I shall rub it so it will be ready for the picture.
Mrs. Maurice Garrison
Ridge Road
Clarkston, New York

Mabel said that if I would let her have the chalk picture she would make a stenciled one and put it on an old tray. I may not get this stuff to you until school is out for the holidays (with Christmas, mumps in school, etc.), but I will get it there.

Poor Denny is having quite a rough time with an infected boil on the back of his neck. So if he doesn't sign the envelope you will know why.

Charlotte Garrison

Note:
Mrs. Maurice Garrison is the present Town Historian. The original Book of Clarkson (2 vol.) is now in her possession. The above letter refers to a small old-fashioned painting I made of the old church.

"Denny" is the present Postmaster and reads the first cards. He sometimes puts his 'John Henry' on letters addressed to your truly (With)

P.S. I did not receive the "Old Academy" picture mentioned in letter.
From notes by A. M. Mapwell, British Traders 1840 -

"Leaving Rochester by stage coaches via the Ridge Road, we halted at a plank-house, near which there is a very pretty village, some calling it Brunkfield and others Sweden - two somewhat dissimilar names - and got fresh horses at Sandy Creek, a trout-catching stream; whilst all along the road are to be seen capital wood-cock coverts, consisting of alders which grow luxuriously on moist soil."

I think Mrs. Thomas Garrison was Teacher in this School 1747-48.

This building still standing. It is used for the lower grades. The upper grades go to Bruckport. That is the Dry house in the distance. It burned down. The old Academy which also burned years ago before the above building was built stood in the space between the Dry house & the present school building.

Finis