WILKINSON

1

RECORD

- 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 Garrison Ridge Road, Clarkson who is the present Clarkson Historian.

Wm Wilkinson
109 Atlantic Ave
Rochester, N.Y.
October 1947

(In the 66th year of his age.)

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

WILKINSON
Scrap Book # 1

THE BOOK OF CLARKSON.

Jan. 1. '32 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.

Quill Pen.

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.

Sand Box for drying ink.

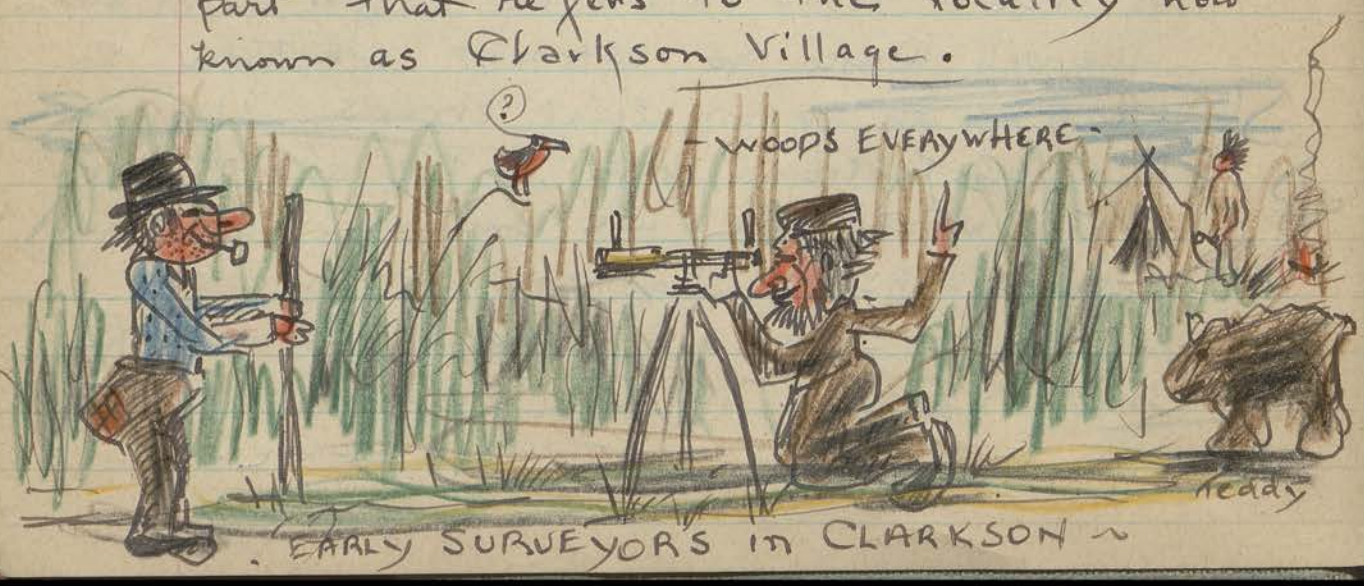
A little will be added each day - as the spirit moves us - just an informal bunch of facts gathered from here and there. much of it is hearsay - but most of it is true - it is all true as far as we know.

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 "wurst" 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 we will do the best we can.

AXE

It is not the intention to give a long detailed history of the early days in the Town of Clarkson, but in order that all may understand why Clarkson was such a desirable place for settlement and how it become the most talented village west 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.



EARLY SURVEYORS IN CLARKSON ~

- EARLY HISTORY -

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) - 9½ 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 - Parma 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 McEvens. The Town of LeRoy was named after one of these men.

This ▽ Tract was devided into 4 Townships, numbered from south to north. LeRoy, 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.

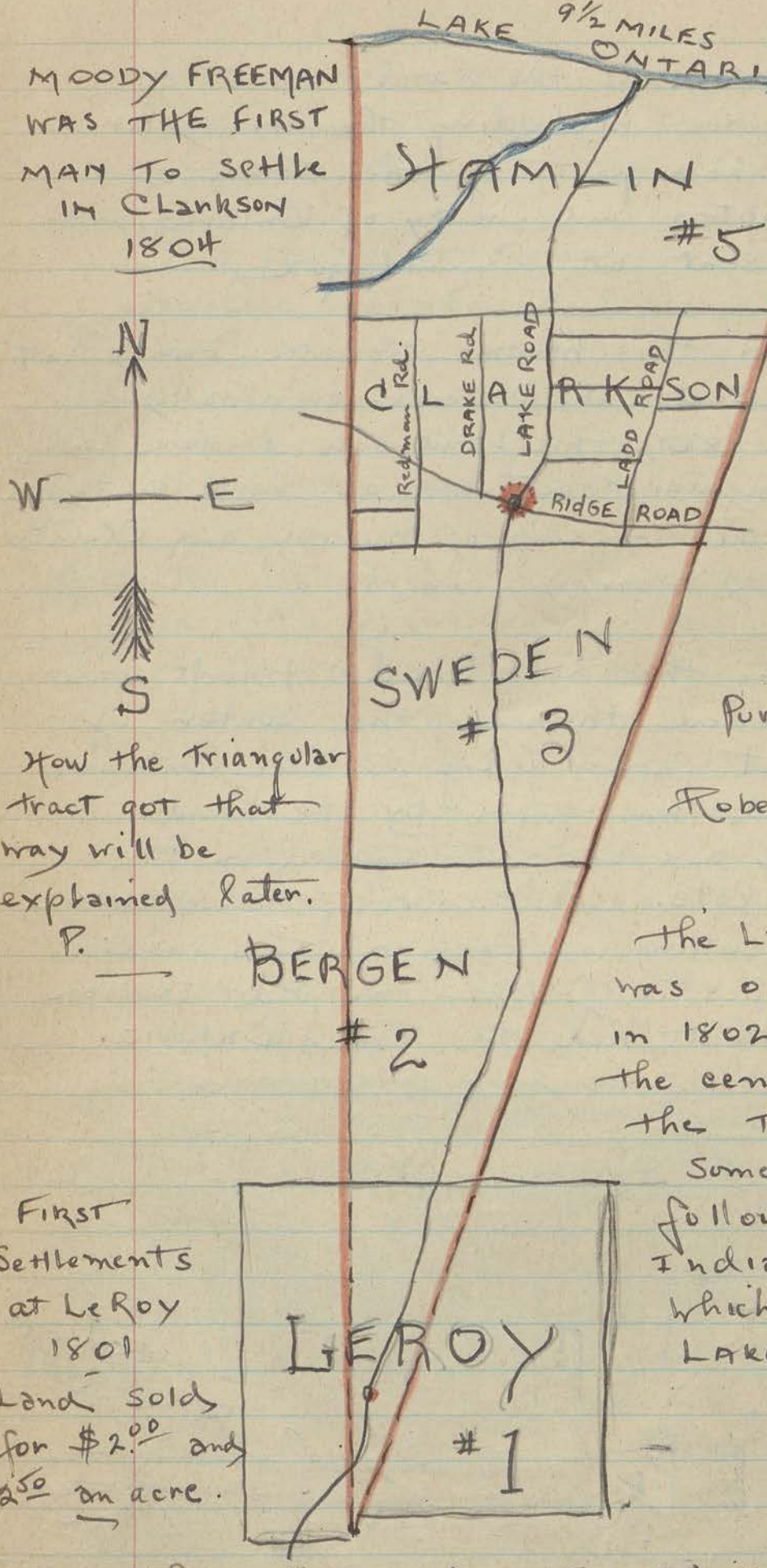
The acerage of a lot varied somewhat, but the average lot in the Town of Clarkson was about 118 acres. Some farms to-day occupy the whole of a lot. An example of this is the farm now owned by E. L. Kenyon on the Lake Road. This farm occupies the whole of one lot and is described as follows - "the whole of lot #3, Section #11, Township #4 of the Triangular Tract.

Hand Bellows.

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 on a deed or, search and this will make such description more easily understood.

THE TRIANGULAR TRACT.

MOODY FREEMAN WAS THE FIRST MAN TO SETTLE IN CLARKSON 1804



AT FIRST CLARKSON INCLUDED HAMLIN.

← Showing Roads as they are today

How the Triangular tract got that way will be explained later. P.

this ▽ Tract Purchased 1801 FROM Robert Morris

the Lake Road was opened in 1802 through the center of the Tract. In Some places, it follows an old Indian trail which led to LAKE ONTARIO

FIRST Settlements at LeRoy 1801

Land sold for $2.00 and $2.50 an acre.

ALL this Triangular Tract was Purchased by a land Company 1801
- LEROY - BAYARD - McEVERS -

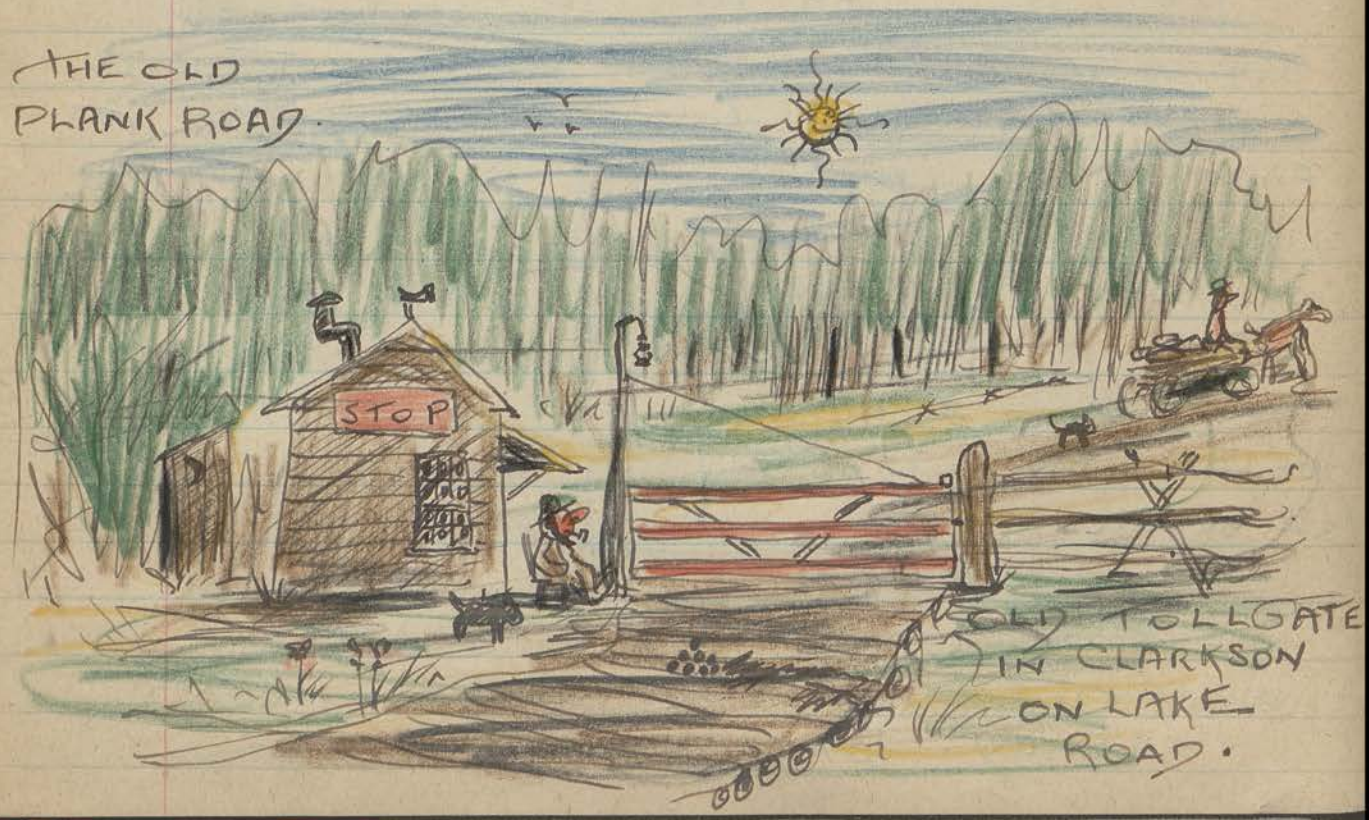
In 1800, all the land west of the Genesee, including the Triangular tract was a part of the Town of Northampton and County of Ontario with County seat at Canandaigua.

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.

WOLVES.

In 1802, the Lake Road - 4 rods wide - was opened through the center of the tract from LeRoy to Lake Ontario. This road was given by the Land Company and was not included in the ajoining 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.

THE OLD PLANK ROAD.



OLD TOLLGATE IN CLARKSON ON LAKE ROAD.

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 land holders including General Clarkson. this deed was recorded in Bataria.

INDIANS

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 Hamlin. 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.

Going To Church - the old Plank Road - the Swift Family.

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.

Andiron.

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 Lewiston 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.

FLINT LOCK MUZZLE LOADER - (OR something)

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'.

POWDER HORN
For men only

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 backwoods 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.

MOODY FREEMAN

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 Paines. This was the first sawmill in Clarkson.

BUILT 1804

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

YE PEDAGOGUE

Deacon Joel Palmer came from Connecticut in 1810 and purchased the Sayre place. He went back to Massachusetts - married and returned to Clarkson with his bride in 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. Aden Goff, then an old man, helped him tear it down. It stood at the rear of the present brick house.

CRADLE.

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.'

YE BELLE OF Something

Born 1812 IN CLARKSON Died 1879

1st Girl Baby born West of the Genesee River!?)

Buried in West Cemetery.

ALMIRA PALMER

Baptised 1816 Joined the church 1828

Russell 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. 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 Store.

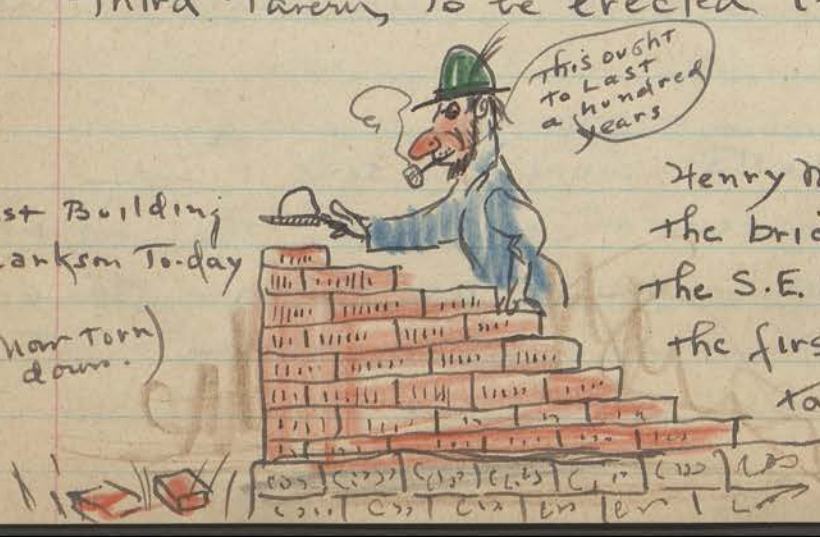
Joel Palmer erected a Tannery at the rear of his home near the bend of the creek where a mill pond was formed.

the Palmers were Tanners, Curriers 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.

CANDLE MOULD

Eli Blodgett bought a lot in 1804 but few settlements were made till 1808 or 1809.

Henry McCall built the first store at the SE corner where he also ran the first Tavern. this building is still standing (on 3 legs) and no doubt is the oldest building in Clarkson Today. Henry McCall later ran a Tavern in East Clarkson (Ladd'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.



Oldest Building in Clarkson To-day

(P.S Now Torn down.)

Henry McCall built the brick building on the S.E. Corner. It was the first store and tavern in Clarkson.

1812-13

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 Maw house this was a wooden building and was replaced later in 1819 by the present brick house now occupied by Chas. Maw. The wooden building was moved and made into what is now the Geo. Bower house.

Grandfather Clock.

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 Powers Block was built. Silas Walbridge is buried in Mt. Hope Cemetery. His son, named Clarkson Walbridge is also buried there.

This become the demo home

where the OLD HOTEL GARAGE NOW Stands.

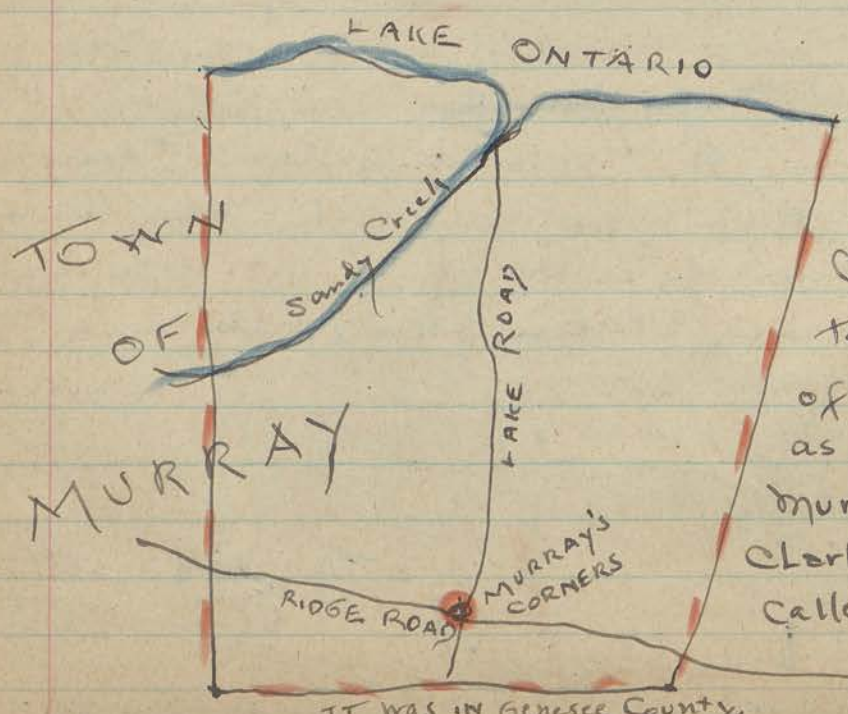
S.W. CORNER

FIRST FRAME HOUSE and BLACKSMITH'S HOP.

DeWitt Clinton journed 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. Baldwin's Tavern as the one east of Cotters store was not erected at the time - or it might have been one farther west of the Corners.

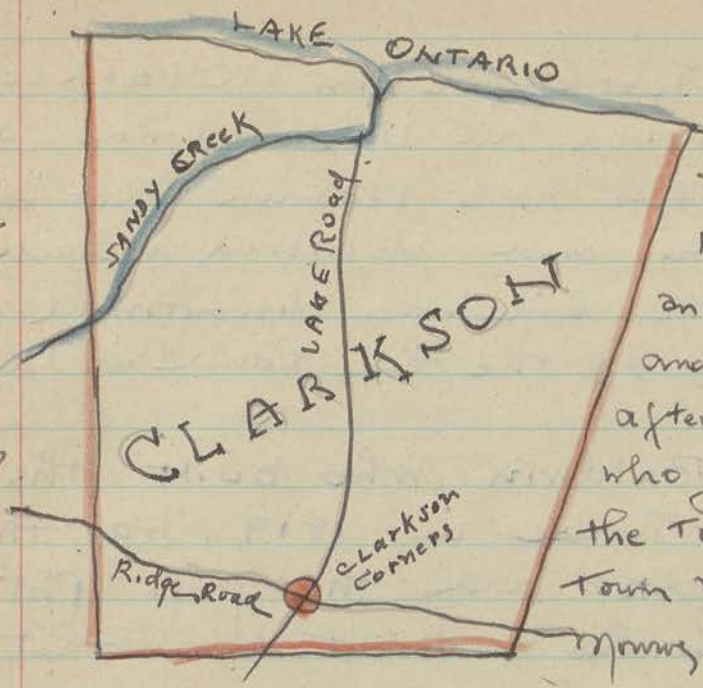
"The OLD RIDGE ROAD"

"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,

The first town meeting in Union was held in the house of James C. Patterson on the first Tuesday of March 1853.

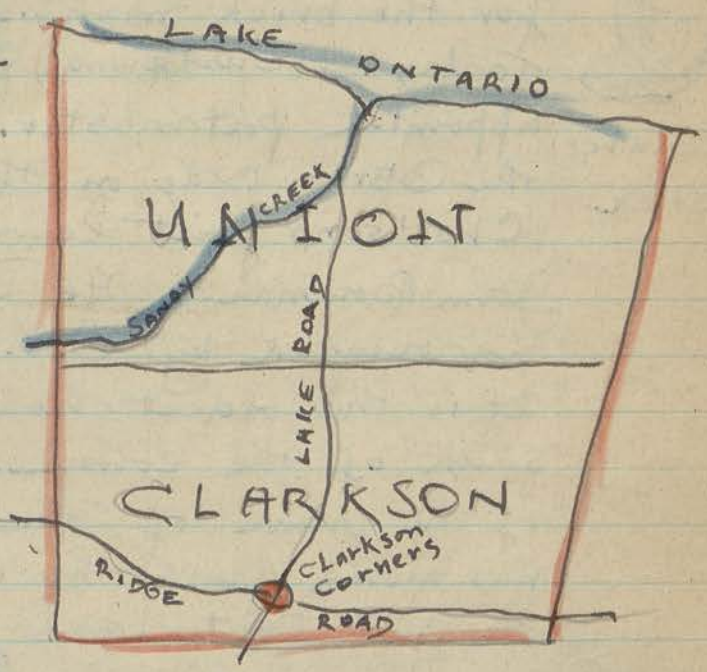


In 1819 Clarkson was set off from Murray and in 1820 it became an incorporated town and was named Clarkson after General Clarkson who gave 100 acres to the town at the first town meeting Apr. 4. 1820 Murray County was formed in 1821

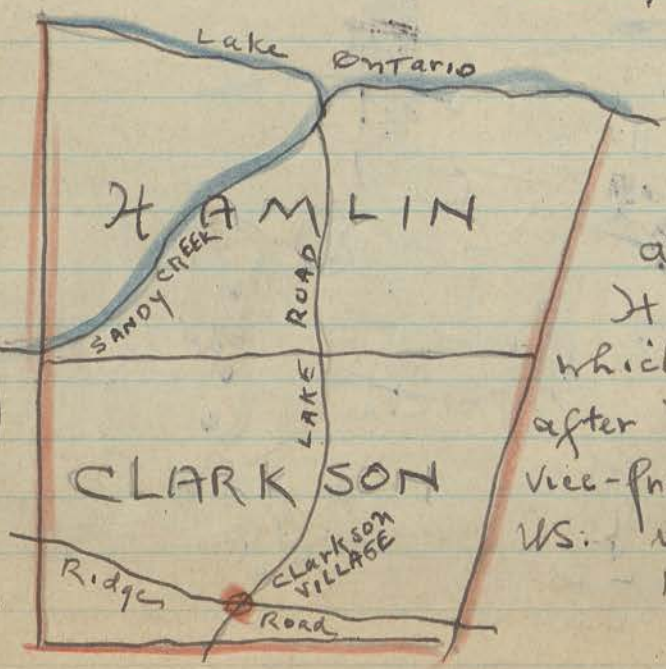
Newton has the names agreed upon by the Board of Supervisors but it has named Union

On Oct. 11, 1852 Clarkson was divided into two towns Clarkson and Union

This was just before the Civil War.

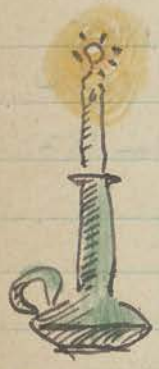


The first town meeting of Clarkson held after it was devided was in the house of Silas Walbridge the first Tues. in March 1853. Gus. Clark, Henry Rice + James H. Warren presiding.



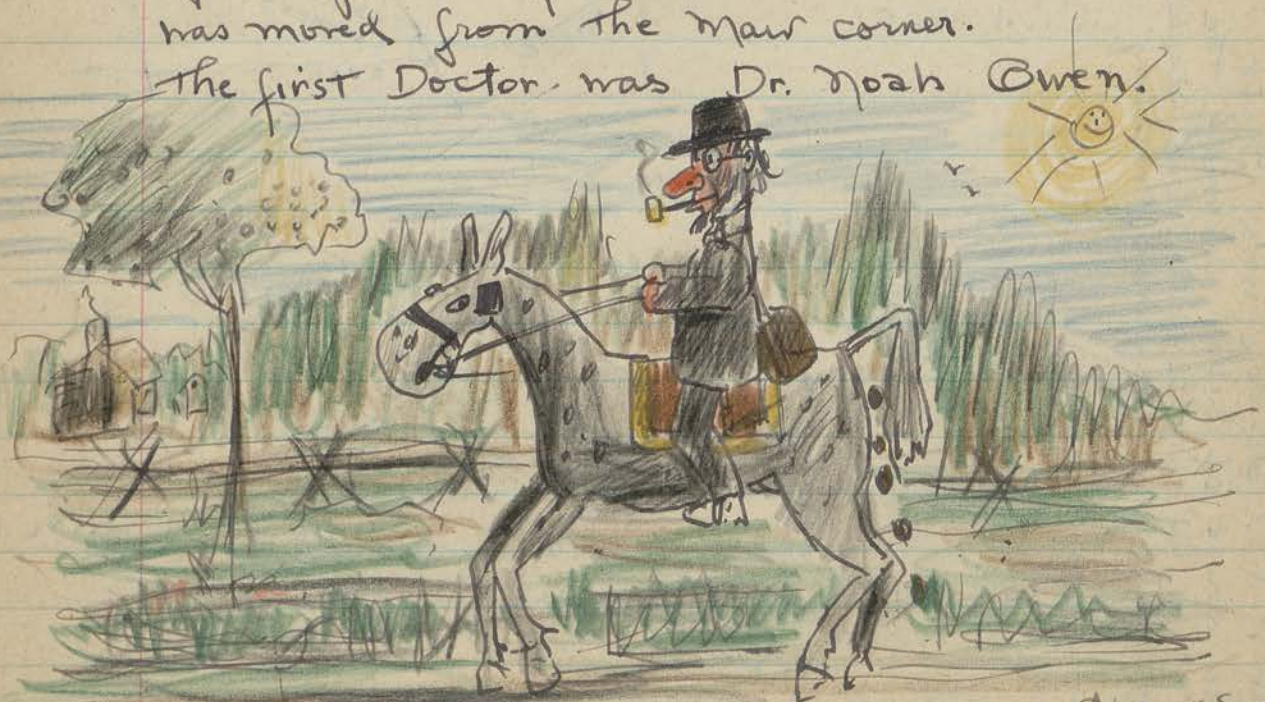
UNION afterwards became HAMLIN which was named after Hannibal Hamlin Vice-President of the U.S. under Lincoln 1861-1865.

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 till the line was discontinued at the opening of the Erie Canal in 1825.



Candle Stick.

Dr. Abel Baldwin, who built the Chas. Maw 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 to-day. Gustarmo Clark was the first appointed postmaster. the office was in the O'Brien Bldg 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 Bower house which was moved from the Maw corner.
The first Doctor was Dr. Noah Owen.



DOCTOR NOAH OWEN - FIRST DOCTOR IN CLARKSON.
- the original old Gray mare -

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. Maw 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.

Spinning Flax.

The Women Smoked pipes

So it was that Clarkson received its name. It might have been called Freemantown after the first settler or Sayre's Mills after the first mill owner or even Blodgett's Mills. It could have been Balmoville or Brockway Center - or perhaps Palmer City after Deacon Joel Palmer - or Rowellsburg after Nathaniel Rowell the second physician. But you know the old slogan - or something about the rose 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!

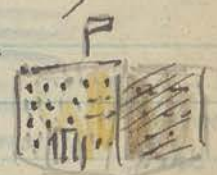
The records of these early Town meetings are still on file with the Town Clerk. At the first meeting Aretas Haskell was elected the first Supervisor and Gustavus Clark, an early merchant, was elected Town Clerk.

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 1894. 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.

First C.H. Erected 1821

Built by Gideon Cobb from bricks manufactured in his brickyard established about 1820. Previous to that bricks for Rochester houses came from Clarkson



Present Courthouse Erected 1894

the DAR monument is a section of one of these columns

All three Buildings stood on the same site

the flagstones in front of this building was yellow. this space was known as yellowstone Park

the Ramed Worden statue of Justice atop this old Courthouse is now in a niche in front of the present C.H.

Taylicabs

The second Monroe County Courthouse
Erected 1850 - 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 were 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 this 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 legged wolves in Clarkson.)

Tongs found in cellar of the OLD Palmer Cobbler Shop by Yours Truly, C

STRUNK'S CABIN At the mouth of SAND

Early merchants bought ashes (½ cash ½ 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 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.

Lantern.

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

"Strayed - A 3 year old grey mare colt - foretop and tail cut square."

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

Signed Jeremiah Spikerman.

Here are some more brands -

Pelatiah 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 and a slit in each ear (Why so cruel?)

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

Wm Alvord - A hole through the right ear.

Aretas 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 To-day. 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 loose 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

still while youth, middle age and old age pass by. Time does stand still dispite the illusion. We have always held that it fleets or flits - or something. We are the ones who come and go. We 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.

What! No pictures on this page?

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 heck! it's true - they are!

Many Rochester buildings were made from Clarkson bricks until Gideon Robb erected his brickyard on Monroe Ave Brightonakam 1820 -

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 mattens 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 spasm.

there were brickyards at Clarkson and on the Hoy farm on the Ladd Road also on the Redman place at Redman's Cor.

CLARKSON BRICKYARD
- North of the Ridge - East of Corners -

- Old Town Clerk Records -

"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 - 1831."

"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."

- STRAY ANIMALS -

- 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. However, 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 To-day.

It required a half years 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 or none at all - till cold weather.

There were log dwellings, looms, spinning wheels and homespun. There were huskings, quiltings, wood choppings, raisings and apple parings and each was a joyous occasion.

There were ox-sleds - lumber sleighs - horse back riding - Trees to fell and fences to make. These were pure 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 Mac Farland 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 Cotten store in 1825.

Silas Walbridge who ran the old Taverns on the SW Corner and in the Wooden Home east of Cotter's store from 1825 to 1854

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

He had a son named Clarkson Walbridge.

He attended Church.

He was a good mixer. His pew was #5.

moved to Rochester - Ran Eagle Tavern (Power Block)

Buried in Mt. Hope.

Silas Walbridge was Postmaster. the P.O. was on The N.E. Corner.

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, Tabor, Perry (the father of Mrs. A.W. Bates) Murdock and Tozier (the father of Joseph Tozier - the druggist.)

Lawyers included - The Hon. John Bowman. Hon. S. B. Jewett, Hon. Henry R. Selden and William Bowman - son of John. B.

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, shrewd 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)
(P.S. Both gone - with the wind)

So. Hiel Brockway, James Seymore, 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 west of Main Street south of the canal.

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

The Canal was finished as far as Brockport in 1823 and this gave Brockport a 2 years start over places farther 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 & 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 set back. 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. Chas. 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 1863 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 To-day 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 or something - but it suits most of us just as it is - or as it could be if certain objectionable spots could be dolled up - perhaps we will get around To do it - someday. Perhaps someday we will find a place for the DAR Monument.

D.A.R. Monument.
This stood in the center of the road at the Corners but was removed when roads was improved - It was a section of a pillar of the 2nd Monroe Co Court House (See P.18)

ITEMS FROM POORMASTER'S ACCOUNT.

1821 1 QUART of WINE .63

1822 Dr. Nathaniel Ronell's account $40.00

1823 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. Tabor for visit and medicine	2.00
Mr. Wheelan for Coffin	2.50
To dig grave	1.00
To shirt	1.25
To sheet	1.50
For damage done to bedding etc	4.00
To nursing and attendance	5.00
(last but not least) To gallon whiskey	.50

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 hand work and there were no Italians then.
But they evidently gave him a good sendoff. 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 drank 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.

Poormaster's Records.

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 troubles in those days just as we have them to-day but most of the cases were cared 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 flanel	1.25
	1 pair stockings	.50
	To making skirt & petticoat	.63

- A HOME MADE COFFIN -

1825	To boarding Phebe Bird 8 weeks and schooling at 8s a week	$8.00
	"Speling" 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 dad - 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 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 men. 4.00

— Over the hill to the nut house

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

1846 One heavy sheep's gray coat for Jacob Ostran 4.50

Molasses + Cod fish .50

1850 Paid Mr. Smith for coffin 1.50
Paid " " " shrouds .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 David 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 poorhouse	$ 3.00
	To C. 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
	½ 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

- The Last Journey -

- Poormaster's Records -

		$
1860	Paid for stove and pipe for Chas. Paine	8.00
	Paid for moving Charles Paine from Baines	4.50
	Paid for wood for Chas. Paine	3.00
	10 Bu. Potatoes for " "	3.75
	40 lbs Buckwheat flour for C.P.	1.20
	to shrowd for Charles Paine, Esq.	1.25
	"Diging" grave for Charles Paine (the end of Chas. Paine.)	2.00
	(But they no sooner got rid of one Than they had another.)	
1860	Load of Wood for D. Brink	2.50
	Pair shoes for Mrs. Brink	1.50
	5 Bu Potatoes for Mrs. Paine	2.50
	10# Buckwheat flour for Mrs Brink	.25
1861	Groceries from H. M. Haskell	15.28

(the Haskells ran the grocery on the Corner which is now owned by Graham H. Cotter. 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	$78.00

- Poormaster's Records. -

1863	Mrs. Hunt - 2 emigrant's tickets from Rochester to Detroit	$ 12.00
	For keeping Mrs. Hunt and 2 children at Beeche's Hotel overnight and 3 meals apiece	3.00
	Cash to Mrs. Hunt	5.00
	Crackers & cheese for Mrs Hunt	.50
1863	To Mr. Stickles for taking care Phebe Brink 5 weeks	7.50
	For trouble of funeral of P. Brink and washing up things	4.50
	Smith - for Coffin & box	6.00
	For burying clothes	2.00
	For diging grave	2.00
	(the end of Phobe Brink)	
	Load of wood for Mrs. Paine	4.25
1864	Groceries for Ed. DeGraff at Haskells	5.17
1864	Coffin & box for Jobe Irish	10.00
1864	Dec. 6 R. Bird's services diging grave - ringing bell and building fire in church for the funeral of Mr. Tent.	3.00

R. Bird Ringing the old Church Bel for the funeral of Mr. Tent.

(I'll say he was a bird!)

1864

The same old Bell.

Bell was cast 1846

Poormasters Records.

1869 E. Surat for driving hearse. .75
1 quart whiskey for H. L. Smith .65

1872 1100# coal of Gordon 5.38
Ton coal 7.00
(this is the first mention of coal. before this - it was wood.)

1873 Paid Henry Casey to move Mrs McGuire .50

1873 Coffin & "hurse" 20.75
(things getting expensive.)

1877 Dr. Geo. Miller "Dr Bill" 24.50

1878 Paid I. C. Crary for Town "buriel" 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 .80
(the Vosburgs ran the old hotel for a number of years.)

To take Eliza Dettman to asylum 2.34

Paid Hi Amidon for whiskey .40
(Amidon followed Vosburg in the old hotel.)

Poor master delivering a gallon of whiskey to a sick family

who wouldn't get 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.)

Excise Money Received 87.50

the Board of Excise 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 " James Mahaer 5.62

Paid Geo. W. Miller for medical services 65.00

Adam Moore for groceries & Pt. whiskey 1.36

Cash to D. Bates for moving John Conley To Brockport. 1.00

Dr. Wm B. Mann for examining R. Ling - Crazy 5.00

Dr. Wm B. Mann for examining Eliza Dettman ("Lunitick") 5.00

(People went '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
1820 Town in homes. the first meeting was held April 4, 1820 at the home of Abel Baldwin (the present home of Chas. Maur.) This home 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 run 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

1828 Clarkson gave Martin Van Buren 238 votes for Governor of N.Y. State.

- EARLY TOWN MEETING -

Votes went to the ones who would pay the most money. Everybody smoked at election time - and there was candy, too.

- Town Records -

1833 Voted we raise $200.00 for support of Com. Schools this was in addition to what was received by Superiser.)

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

Town meetings were held, the first Tuesday in April.

James H. Warren was elected Superiser 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 devided into Clarkson and Union (now Hamlin.)

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 paupers.

Charges fixed as follows -

For common cases of Obsterics	$3.00
Turns at one sitting, one dollar extra	4.00
Turns 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 (12 sh.)	1.50

Dr. Tozier complained when he presented his bill and so as not to do him an injustice, they allowed him $10.00 extra on his year's 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. G. Thompson place.

- TOWN RECORDS -

1863 Special meeting to vote a relief fund of $250.00 for families of those who had been drafted in the Army.

1864 Same raised in 1864.

1864 Poll Tax : 1 days 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. to $1000.00 according to amount of service. Total raised - $24000.00

1869 Town meeting was held at Tavern of L.K. Vosburg 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 west 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 would 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 occuring 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, want relaying. Your Commissioner, 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

H. J. Carrington
Highway Commissioner

Dated - Clarkson Feb. 27 - 1876.

(Advice to Autoists - slow down to 35 miles.)

(In 1892 Geo. Vahue tore off planking & O'Brien mixed mortar) Cost $1000.00

(Twin Downs built the present arch - He also built the Normal School Buildings in Brockport.)

H. J. Carrington who wrote this letter lived on the Creek opposite the Tuttle Place. He made apple brandy. If he could make brandy like he wrote letter, it must have been - and they say it was.

- Board of Excise -

The Board of Excise consisted of the Supervisor 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 Meed
M. C. Whitbeck } Justices of the Peace.
James Patterson

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 such 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 have hereunto subscribed our names the day & 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 Wm Gallup. Isaac Houston die in 1852.

1837 Here is a list for 1837.

Silas Walbridge	$19.00
Joseph H. Lovejoy	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 poormaster.
Some applications were denied.
Some were given "Temperance Licenses" - without charge.

1844 Here is another list.

Silas Walbridge	$17.50
Isaac O. Thompson	15.00
Duane Whitcomb	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
Gustavus Clark
Henry C. Rice
} Justices 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 retail 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 -
Messrs Clark - Rice and Markham.
negative
Wm Johnson.

Carried

Board of Excise-

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

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

Silas Walbridge
Polly Houston.

In Witness Whereof, we the Commissioners of the Board of Excise have hereunto subscribed our names in the year and day above written.

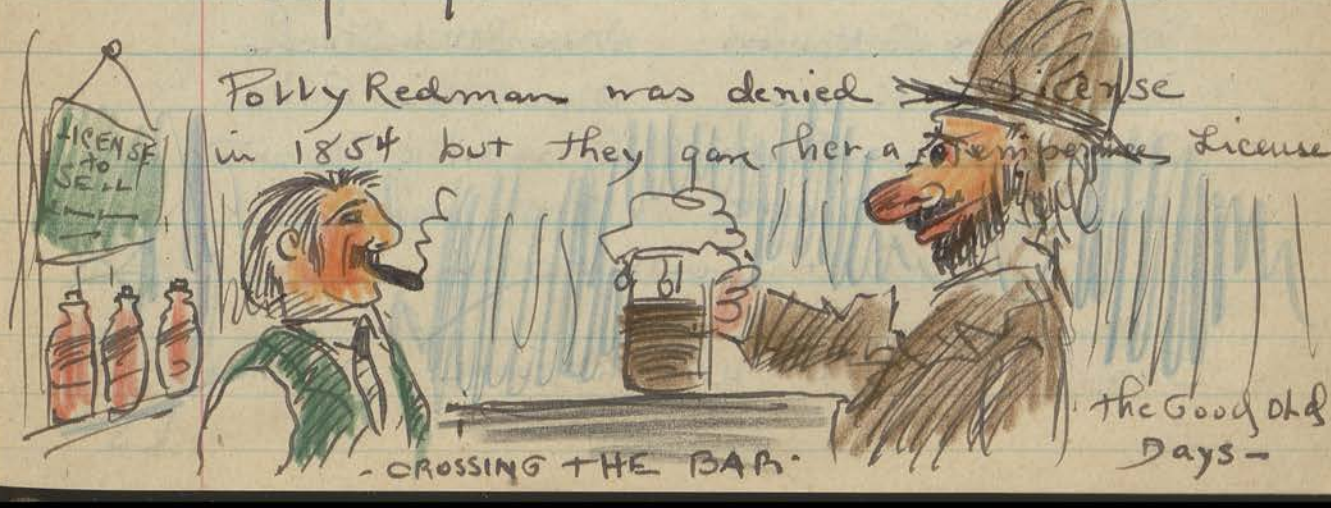
J. H. Warren - Supervisor
Gustavus Clark
Wayne Markham } Justices
Henry C. Rice

(Wm Johnson did not sign)

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

In 1848, all were charged $15.00 except for the Grocery License which remained at $5.00

Polly Redman was denied ~~a~~ license in 1854 but they gave her a temperance License.



- CROSSING THE BAR.

the Good Old Days-

- Memorial Day Celebration -

1871 On an old programe 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 + Grounds Com.

— Floral Committee —

Miss Mary Jewett — Mrs. F.C. Tepley
Miss Lucy Patterson — Miss Sarah Steele
Miss Nellie Penigo — Miss Celia Allen
Miss Florence Bushnell — Miss Lillie Stewart
Miss Sarah Moore — Miss Julia Farrell
Miss Louise Fowler.

James H. Warren + Wilson Moore - Directors.

- Memorial Day Celebration. -

"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 settles 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. G. Fuller - presiding Officer.
Oration - By Geo. Ramies Esq. of Rochester.
Music - By Band.
Poem. By Rev. C. E. Hurman.
Benediction - By Rev. Chas. Kittridge.

After which the procession visited the cemeteries of Clarkson and Hamlin. Upon entering the first cemetery visited, an apostrophe to the honored dead was read by Capt. F. C. Tapley."

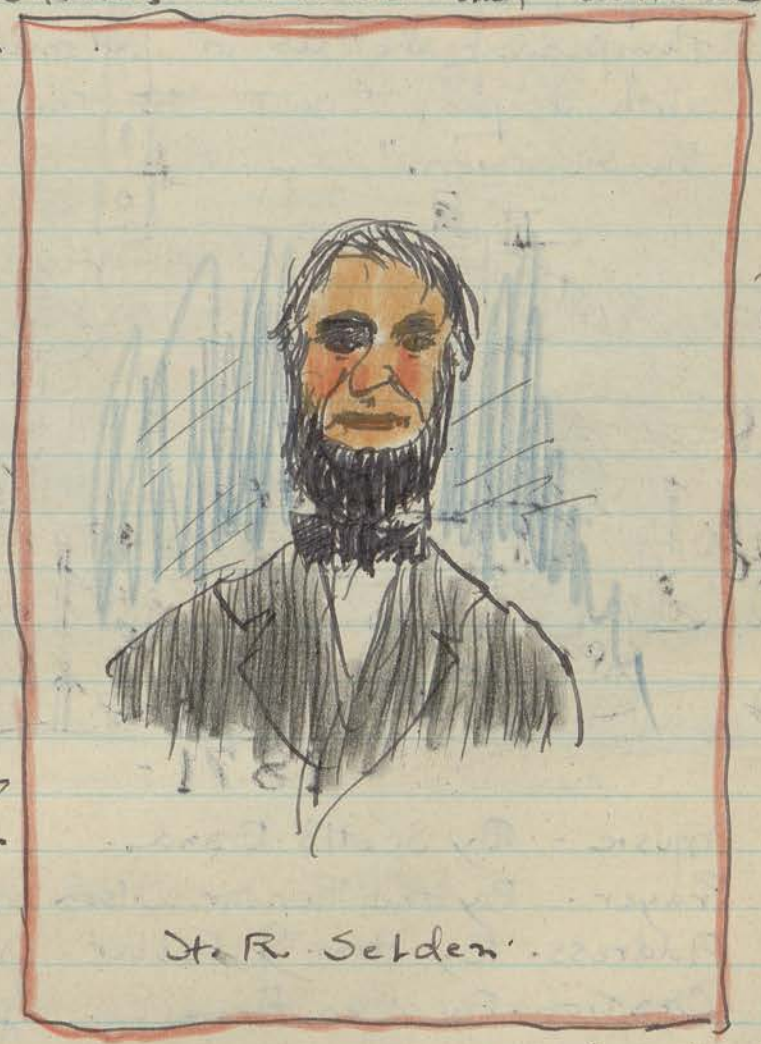
ABE LINCOLN

CLARKSON'S
Lieutenant Governor.
- HENRY ROGERS SELDEN -

Henry R. Seldon was born in Connecticut 1805. moved to Rochesterville (Rochester) in 1825 and studied law in the office of his brother S. L. 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 helped Hiram Sibley form the W.U. Telg. Co



H. R. Selden.

the Selden Pen was no. 8 -

- the same year and began the practice of law. He married Laura A. Baldwin (1834) daughter of Dr. Abel Baldwin - who built the Chas. Mann house. Dr. Baldwin built the Hermance house and the Selden's lived there. They had twelve 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 Col. Simeon B. Jewett. 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.

- H. R. Selden -

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 retained 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 have become a national Shrine - instead of a sore spot. Selden held other notable positions. He was a judge of the Court of Appeals - the highest court. He retired in 1879. He moved to Rochester about 1858 and lived on Grove 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 & Ridge Roads.

(P.S. now torn down.)

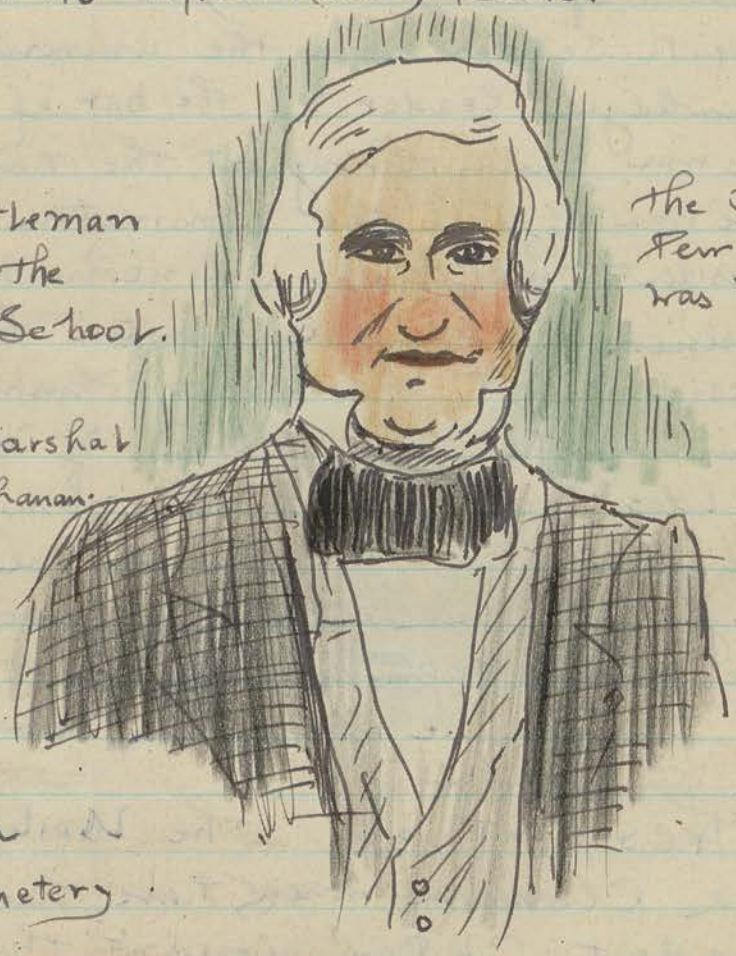
- Col. Simeon B. Jewett -

Col. Simeon B. Jewett was born in Connecticut in 1801. He studied law in the office of his brother in Skaneatelas, 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



the Jewett Pew was No. 40

- 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 (H. F. Lowry now lives in the Jewett Place.)

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

Jewett and Selden
LAW Office

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.

(Is Both gone now.)

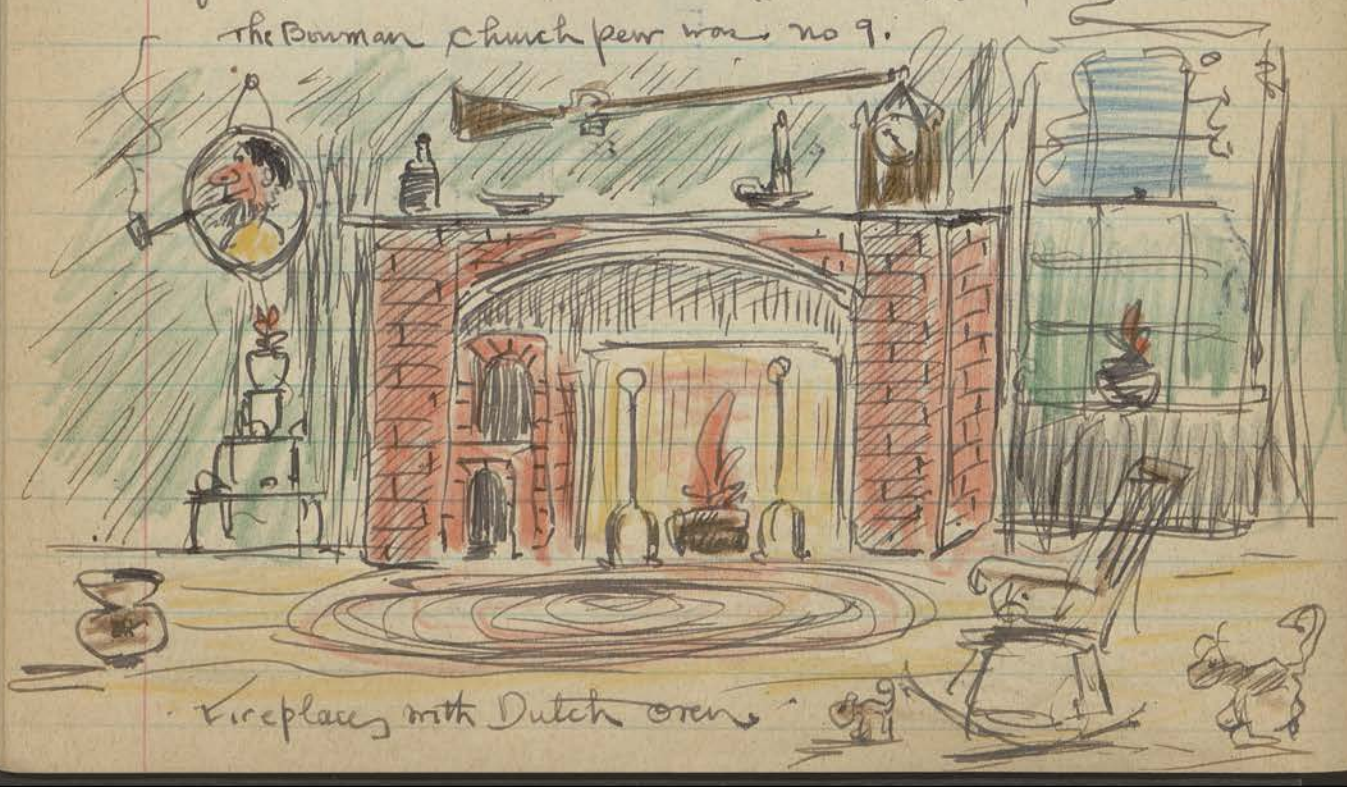
- the Bowman Family -

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 Corners.
Lorica Bowman was his wife.
Wm C. Bowman and John M. Bowman were sons of Hon. John and Lorica Bowman. Wm C 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 last summer 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.



Fireplace with Dutch oven

LEWIS SWIFT

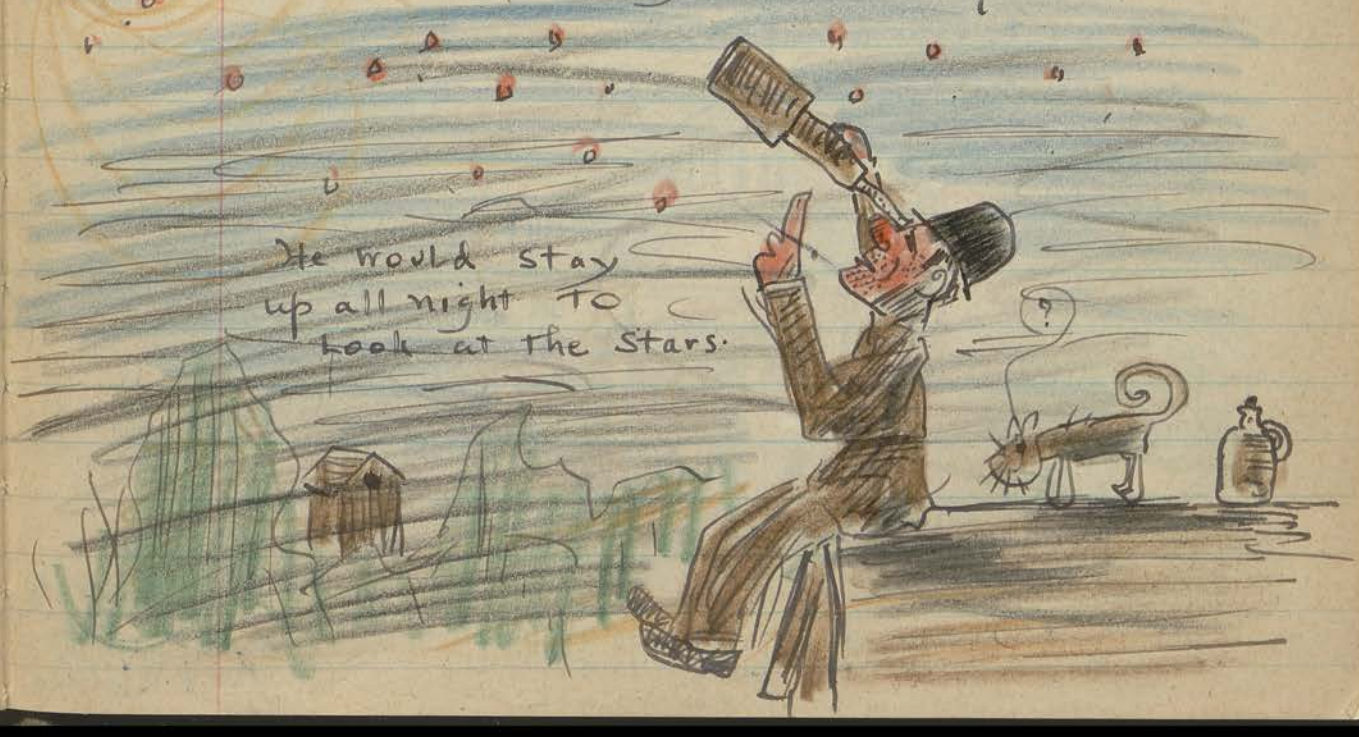
- World Famous Astronomer

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. Cotter 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 - (but 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 observeratory 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.



- Capt. James H. Warren. -

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 Crary. 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 his 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 73rd year - a loss to his family and all who knew him.

Capt. Warren lived for years in the S.M. Furnald house. It was known as the Capt. Warren Place.

He attended the Clarkson Church in 1860. His pew was no. 48.

- THE CAPTAIN WARREN PLACE -

- The Selden Patent -

Geo. B. Selden, born in Clarkson, was the son of Hon. Henry R. Selden. He was born in the Hermance house and moved To Rochester where he studied law and became a patent Attorney.
this World famous is not understood by everyone 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 Tom that's off to the Hon. H. L. Selden. If it were not for Henry L. - there would have been no 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 on Grove Place + teaches in Madison 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 Clarksmites.

For over 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 complete it. Fourteen 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 Genesee River - Rochester, N.Y.

(P. 1061-Somers Vol I)

- 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 our 5000 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 wooden fall down and go boom! Clarkson just can't grow if we do not erect some houses. 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 whole of Chas. Maw's 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 'Brook Ridge'.

the Village needs a name - Clarkson is the Town.

(P.71)

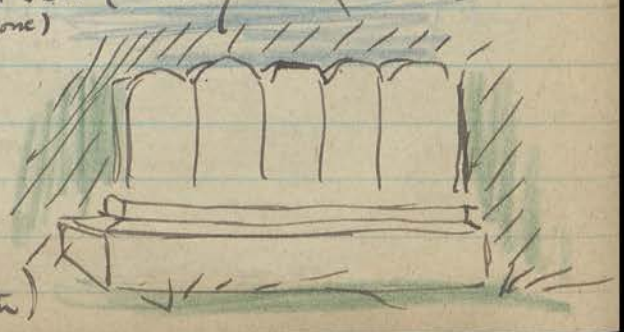
- West Clarkson Cemetery -

Many of the first settlers are buried in the West Cemetery. A while ago the map or chart of this cemetery was destroyed by mice, it having 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 " his wife	"	1870	"	78 " .
Jas. M. Bowman - son	"	1854	"	39 " .
Simeon B. Jewitt	Born	1801	Died	1869
Nancy Cook, his wife	"	1796	"	1883
Mary W. Jewitt - 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
Almira Palmer, his wife	"	1812	"	1879
Children Samuel	Born	1834	Died	1834
Pemelia	"	1836	"	1842
Julia	"	1838	"	1847
Ellen F	"	1840	"	—

[Nellie (Ellen F) Cornell, still Living in Rochester)
(now gone)

The 5 Shelden Children
Augusta, Henry, Laura
Perry & Jessie.
(the other Selden lot is in Mt. Hope Rochester)



Frances Z. Allen wife of Ed. H. Vickers B 1860 - D 1905

Gilbert P. Stanton D 1853
Harriet Peck (his wife) D 1888
James Z. Clark D 1879
Caroline Peck (his wife) 1893.

Mrs. E. C. Tapley D 1880 (Mary Clark)
Chas. M. Clark D 1910
Maria Z. Clark D. 1912 (Sister of J. Z. Clark)

Hiram Redman B - 1815 D - 1879
William " B 1847 D 1907
Rufus Scofield D 1865
Susan " D 1872

- The East Clarkson Cemetery -

This cemetery is not as old as the West Cemetery. It was incorporated March 18, 1868. The annual meetings are held the first Monday in April.

Trustees (As listed in old pamphlet)

George Gallup.
Henry Nixon
Leonard D. Trimmer.
D. C. Freeman, Secy.
D. S. 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 thereby"

"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 such funds shall be used only for constructive improvements or in extending and enlarging the grounds."

"The treasurer shall give a bond of $1000.00 with one approved security for the faithful performance of his trust."

R. I. P.

(P. 110)

- James L. Clark -

the following from Winifred Tapley Warner Cleveland ©. dated Jan. 16 - 1932 -

"My Grand father 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, urn, Tea & Coffee pots, sugar bowl etc. They are Sheffield plate and the tray alone is worth $1000.00 now. He entertained many prominent men from Albany State Legislature at our home. He wore ruffled shirts until his death."

"Aunt Maria, James L. Clarks 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 seven Church trustees and they decided that she must live nine months with each family, paying her board which they extracted and also was made 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 Grand father in the State House in Albany. He disliked surprises but he was called into some special room in the State House with his pen behind his ear and received a real surprise and seemed unable to speak. My father had bought two barrels of dishes and grandmother made cakes which were shipped to a hotel in Albany where my father and mother stayed and entertained a very large gathering of men."

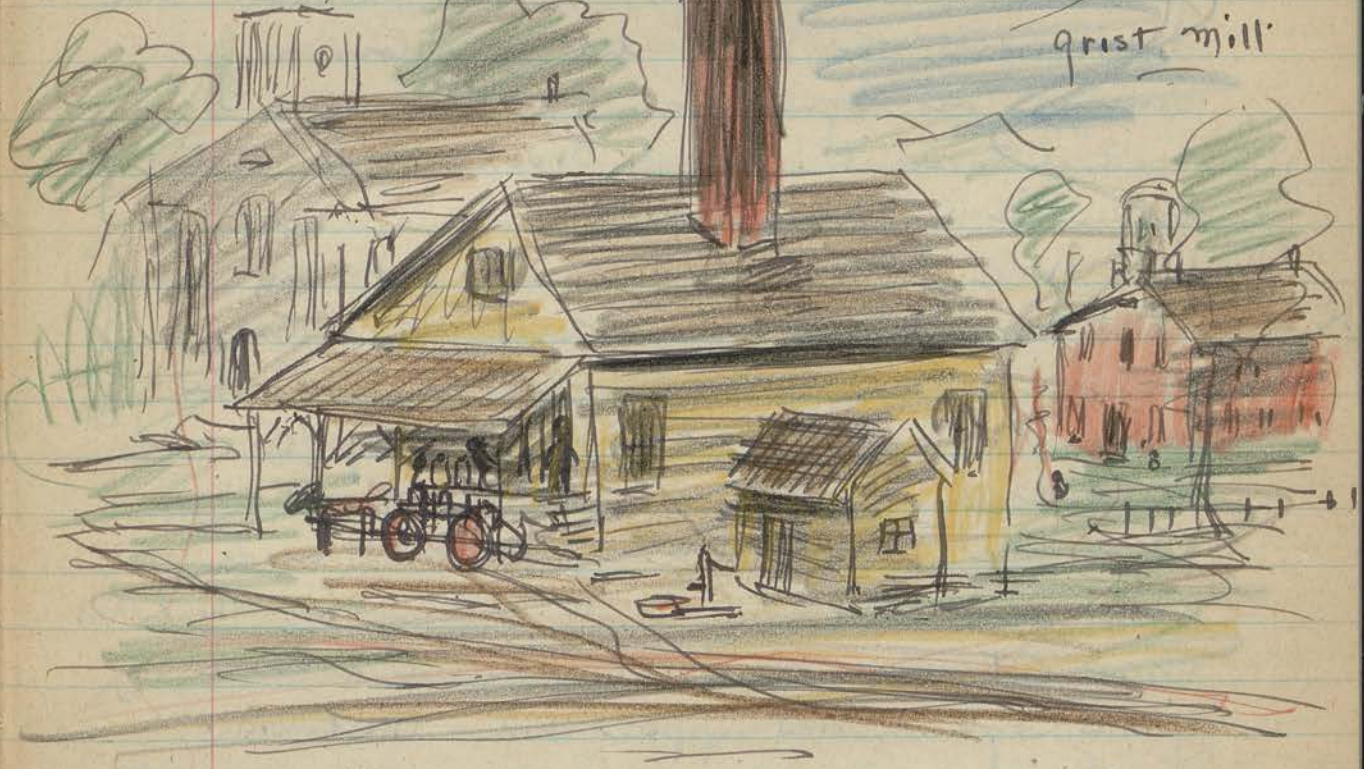
there were many old and rare antiques in the old Clark house but these have been scattered. For many years Winifred Tapley Warner won prizes at the Brockport Fair for the best Antique Collection.

The James L. Clark place is now owned by T. A. Dunyea. the author of this book has a bound volume of the Rochester Daily Advertiser and Telegraph for parts of the years 1829-1830. This belonged to James L. Clark. His name is on some of the pages. 'Strange' name by Lloyd Wilmer.

- Ridge Road Creamery -

The Ridge Road Creamery Co. Inc. was organized back in the gas 90's. 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. Those nearby brought milk to the factory - Lots butter milk to drink - free. They fed it and skim milk to the pigs.

Wm. N. Gallup bought this creamery and continued to make butter but later turned it into a grist mill.



- IT WAS CLARKSON'S MOST EXTENSIVE INDUSTRY -

The land for the Creamery was bought off the Lorback place (MacFarland's)

Officers in 1895

E. R. Campbell - President.

F. R. Hixson, Sec.

M. Minot, Treas.

Wm N. Gallup, Mgr.

This has been remodeled into a house and is now owned by Mr. Sedgwicks.

(P.14)

- Clarkson Industries -

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. then salt was made from salt springs on the Ladd Road. Even Today, the cattle in these fields where the salt licks are located, require no other salt than that found on the surface of the ground. then, there was Potash and Lye - or something - manufactured from wood ashes. The merchants bought ashes paying ½ Trade and ½ cash. The flour and feed mills were necessary too, also Tanneries and distilleries. the later did a flourishing business as liquor was considered a medical necessity. Benj. Brooks made patent medicines which he peddled far and near. His pills were famous and nearly put the alarm clock manufacturers out of business. Carriages, wagons and apple barrels. Bennett had a bicycle repair shop back in the gay 90's on the Flemming place just east of the church. Cigars were manufactured by Baxter Rounds over Cotter's store and later in a building on the Chas. Armer lot which was remodled into a house by James Coyle. Dried apples and sweet-cider - Joe Keisler made fine cider in the basement of the house now occupied by Mrs Stettner - and Eckbeck still makes a wicked drink - Advertising displays and sweatches - boots and shoes. The Palmers ran a cobbler shop in the little brick house now occupied by Wm Ballup next to the babbling brook and Joe Boombellie coned sure put on a wicked Tap. He had a shoeshop on the corner of the lot now owned by

- Clarkson Industries -

Roy Fetter. Joe was one of the early 'wops' in this section back in the 90's. His favorite sport was exercising a bike and the boys delighted in soaking him on the beam with ripe tomatoes. Building cinder paths was the specialty of John Stetcher. Some made horse radish and Mrs Phelps ran a cookie factory - or something and the present Barber shop was not the first one. We remember the one run by Rev. Warner over Harley Hamil's Implement Store. He sure could weild a wicked razor. Cracker testing and bull shooting have always been favorite sports around the grocery stores. Peddling baloney will always be popular. A newspaper was published in the old hotel. It was called "the Jeffersonian" but it didn't last long as the editor lost his stock of paper while crossing Aquatte Creek on his way back from Rochester. Yes - and they made butter & cheese. Clarkson butter was famous and brought a big price (20¢). There were at least 3 brickyards just north of the Ridge near the Corners - on the Hoy farm on the Ladd Road and on the Pedman place (Green's) Redmans Corners. The last bricks were made about 1890. Mr. Panken was the last foreman of the brickyard. He lived where Fred Staffin now lives. He employed several Italians - among the first to reach this this section. He kept them well supplied with beer and they worked like horses. 'Barabaldy', one of these men, returned to Clarkson and spent a winter with Joe 'Boombelly'. the boys enjoyed calling on them - ask our new supervisor. (see picture p. 24)

the Fups ran a cut glass factory in Wm Sollup's Creamery. They made cut glass pitchers, Catchers and everything - everything but cut glass ball clubs - but it didn't last long.

A Mr. Wood lived where Mrs McGuire now lives and ran a harness shop.

-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 house now occupied by Francis Burch was the old Scoffield house and was moved from the Haight Place west of the village - Herb Roskurg + Clark Tapley remember riding in this house when it was moved, they were boys then. the Morgan Tenant house opposite the Horey place was moved by Putt Blodgett from a place just west of Harry Nesbitt's. the bricks used in the A.B. Raymond Mill - which stood near the mill pond south of Roy Fetter's, came from an old hotel 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 'Joe Weiss' place north of 'the Corners' was moved from the Morman farm - 2 miles north. the 'Will Lowry' house was once the Harrington place and stood over the creek back of Raymond's Mills. It was moved by Mort. Johnson. the Borra house once stood on the Chas. 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 house that stood where the Grace Harmon 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. Rowell'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 Cotter house. The Dixon store or Dance Hall was once a part of a building used as a stable & Dance Hall and stood over the creek just east of where Mrs. Stettner lives. A part of this same building was moved to the Chapman farm to be used as a tobacco house. A house stood where Stemps now live. 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 Hamil house where Chas. Armer now lives. The shed back of Alta Hamil's house 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 Clarkson do move - slow but sure!

Many of the 'little' houses were moved from Brockeport.

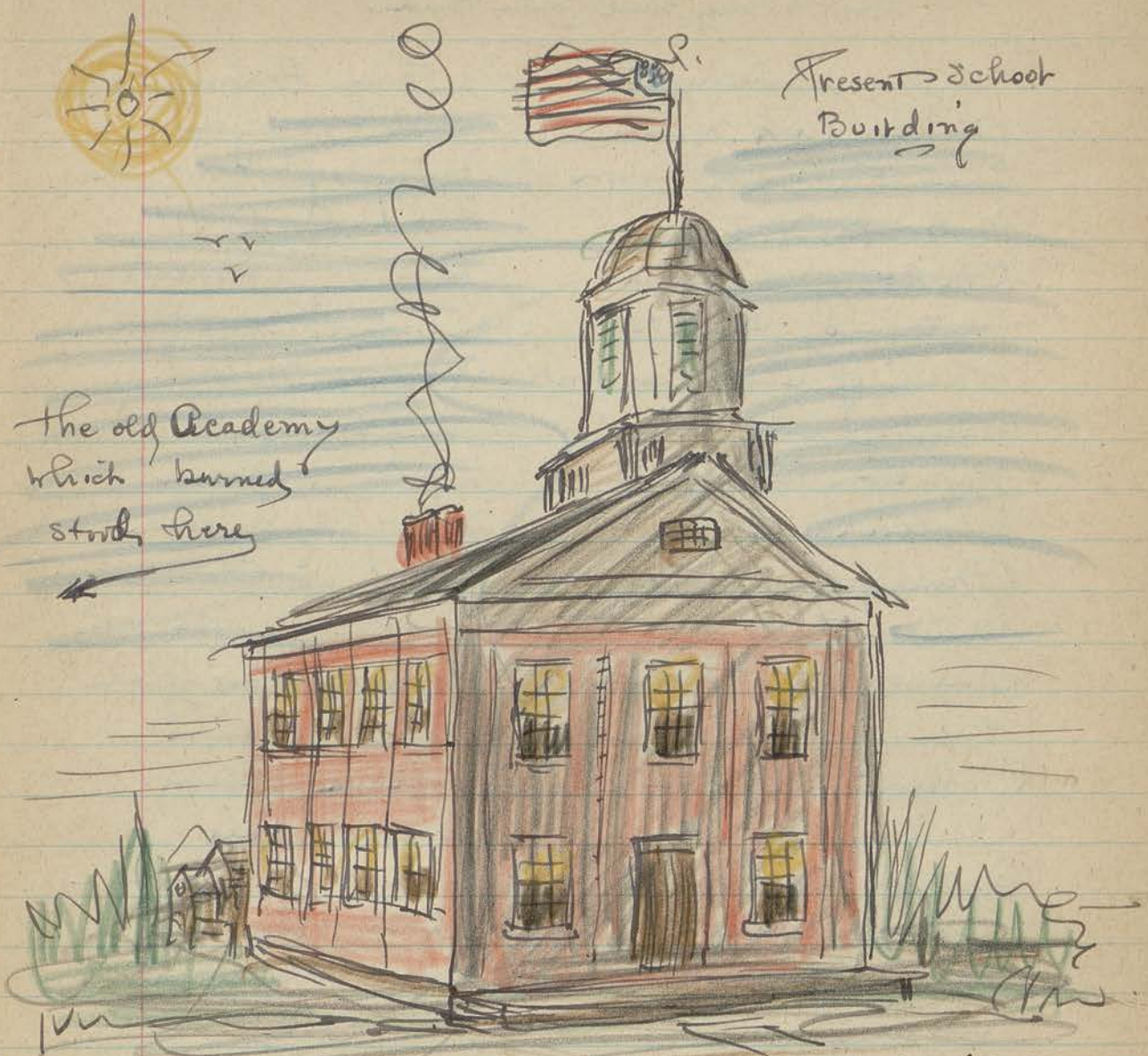
The Days of Real Sport.

(P. 80)

- the School -

the first school in Clarkson was in the building located on the Ed. Rowell place west of the village. the early Histories of Monroe County tell of it being shingled during the War of 1812 when the Canon at Niagara could be heard in Clarkson. the Homuth house seems to have been the first private school and is one of the oldest houses in town. the hat racks 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 this private school house (or old school house?) and the midweek services were held at homes till the Church was completed in 1825.

We have heard considerable about the old Academy but nothing very definite. Perhaps we could sum it all up by saying that it was a 'humdinger' of a school - the best in Western New York in that 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 Jewett, at one time, edited the school paper. It's difficult to tell just where the old Academy left off and where the School as it is today began. Harold Clark found one 1845 dime when putting on water pipes.



Chas. D. McLean - Mr. Ketchem - Chas. Clark & wife
Miss Gould and sister Mrs Gratton - Mary Stickles
Jennie Value - Chas. McLean Paine, Mary Steele
Henrietta Boyd - Geo. Brown, Chas D. Carr, Frank Torpy
Elmer Kingman - Henry Clark - Ida Clark - Mary Wallace
Smyra Hermance - Zora Lues - Edith Lewis - Florence
Doty - Miss Robb - Ed. Rowell, Miss Shearer, Ara Wilkinson
Wm Brown, John Drowns, Wm Pledger - Wm Wilkinson
Mr. Short, Minnie Clark - Mike McCabe - Mabel Redman
Ruth Nellis - Vera Frank - Mr. Hughes - Will Tompkins
(Bethiah Loring and J. Alexander Boyd Dempster Pratt.
Rev. Norris Bull A.M. and Rev. Abner Goodell were teachers
in the old Academy.
(this list is not exactly correct and will
be changed later on.)

(82)

- Books in The School Library - 1850 -
How many have you read?

Life of Washington
The Poor Rich man.
Swiss Family Robinson
National History
The Son of a Genius
History of Insects
Tales of American Hist.
Tales of American Rev.
Napoleon Bonaparte
Pollock's Book
Principles of Philosophy
Indian Traits
Discovery of America
Tale of the Forest
Observation of Nature
Perils of the Sea
Intellectual Powers.
General Literature
Planetary System
Holy Land.
Chivalry (or something)
Sir. Isaac Newton.
Live and let Live.
Empire of China
Circumnavigation!
Alexander the Great
National History
Philosophy
Peter the Great
Oliver Cromwell.
Improvement of Society
the Earth
Normal Feelings?
Female Sorrowings
United States
Ornaments Discovered.

Whale Fishing.
Lives + Voyages.
History of New York.
Fathers 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 Mans Guide.
Francis Marion.
William Penn.
Golden Rule
Records of Travelers.
Olden time
Alden Shipwreck.
Peter Parley.
Robinson Crusoe.
It 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 Putman
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
Eccentric Biography.
Political Economy.
Free Banking.
Winter Evenings
Moral Tales
The Tiara.
→ Mary Jamison
Pleasures of Taste.
Young Cadet.
Working Man.
Juvenile Biography.
Physical Man.
Indian Wars
Fables.
Texan 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 Aubigne's Reformation.
Cannings Speaker.
Washington & Generals.
Bonaparte & Marshals.
Patent Office Reports
Mexican Wars.

Captain Smith.
Proverbial Philosophy.
N.Y. Statutes.
Dick's Philosophy
Buck's Anecdotes.
Battle Grounds
Every Day Book.
Pictorial Hist. of the U.S.
Orators of the American Rev.
Arnold's Lectures
Ireland's Welcome
Sacred Mountains.
Book of the Army.
Fremont.
Life of Taylor.
Beauties History.
Bennetts Letters.
Great Cities.
Rollin's Experiments.
Parlor 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 Book of Clarkson ??)

(86)

Clarkson Ballads

Clarkson Ballads were published some time ago the first and only edition was quickly exhausted. so, 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 -

Tune - "Turkey in the Straw."

O 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.

Oft our thoughts go back to other days
To good old souls with old fashioned ways
To good old days before the War
When the women knew what skirts 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 sure 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 "Yees had enough!"

Now Jimmie, long since has crossed the bar
His haunts now house the motor car
And on the corner sternly stands
the # dummy stone cursed in foreign lands.
In that Clarkson Town you've heard tell
A half a league * this side of hell.

D.A.R. monument (P. 31)

* A league is 3 miles.

- Clarkson Ballads -

- Springtime in Clarkson -

Tune "Old Grimes is Dead" -

The Robins from the South arrive
The crocus shows its petals, fair
The pussywillows are all alive
And balmy breezes fill the air.
The frost from the cold, cold ground has gone
We shed our coats and loaf in the sun
It will soon be time to mow the lawn
The neighbors hens are on the run
(A sure enough sign 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 its cold enough to freeze - your ankles.
(Thats springtime in Clarkson.)

(Sacred Hymn)

Tune "Old Hundred" -

The Passing of The Ministers' Privy.

The ministers' privy 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 ministers did in days of yore
Under some sort of mystic spell
Listening to the old church bell,
If that bulwark could speak
What tales 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 ministers' privy.

- Ballads -

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 Gallups, Chapmans, Shafers, Hennons, Lowrys and others who have learned to love Florida and Sarasota.

- SARASOTA -

Tune - Reuben Reuben I've been thinking

There was a man from Clarkson Town
Who worked all day till the sun went down
From early spring till late in the fall
He labored hard to make his hard.
And then there came a wintry breeze
He started in to shiver and sneeze
His hard earned cash went for wood and coal.
And then he climbed into - into his hole
And there he stayed - through the wintry blast
Till the good old sun returned at last
Spring had came and Winter had went
But of his hard earned cash, he hadn't a cent.

But when again the Fall rolled round
He said "I guess I'll leave Old Clarkson Town."
"I'm sick and tired of ice and snows"
"I'm going to find out where the summer goes -
these northern winters get my goat-a."
So he headed straight for Sarasota.
And sure enough - the summer was there
He'd chased it right into its lair
And every morn at the break of day
You'd find him out on Sarasota Bay
Or floating down the Myakka River
With nary a coat - or vest - or shiver
And when you'd meet him - he whistled a tune
For everyday was a day in June
And instead of dieing at 65
He's 86 and still alive.

- Ballads -

Now, Clarkson folks - This is for you
Why not come to Florida, too?
'Tis very true - what the preacher said -
"We live but once and are a long time dead"
So when next old Winter shows his glissening Teeth,
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 Clarkson 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. W.W.
Selah.

- FLORIDA -

Eternal sunshine - snowy white sand,
Birds and flowers on every hand,
Lakes and palm trees everywhere
And balmy breezes fill the air
I rest beneath a palmetto tree
While the darn little redbugs crawl all over me.
that's Florida - W.W.

- CALIFORNIA -

If Clarkson were in California
they would doll up the town and to give it class
They'd call it Fran Clarkso or San Clarkas
And the Ridge would be marked by a Wedding bell
And known far and wide as "El Honeymoon trail"
the flowers would bloom at Christmas time
Poinsettas, roses and jas-a-mine.

And along the brook 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 o'er the church they would cast a spell
By naming it "Mission Congregational".

And they'd have hotels both old and new
Full of Gentlemen bums with nothing to do
Except plays cards or mope with the blues -
Roll balls in the park or pitch horseshoes.
Gentlemen bums far from the fold,
Seeking the sunshine - away from the cold.

In a beautiful valley. it would lie
near snow capped mountains. Touching the sky.
Highup in the mountains, They'd build a dam
And with flumes and sluices irrigate the land
Wherever needed - the water goes
And the desert would blossom like the rose.

the Winters and summers would be much the same
But there'd be several months without any rain
And instead of elms and maples, fair
there'd be palms and eucalyptus everywhere
And they'd place smudge pots between ~~fruit~~ trees
To make Jack Frost cough and sneeze
If Clarkson were in California

-CALIFORNIA-

If Clarkson were in California
Every farm a ranch would be
And of fruits and vegetables - all kinds you'd see
Oranges, lemons - dates and figs
Beans and alfalfa - Chickens and pigs
Walnuts and Almonds - peaches and grapes
Celery and lettuce - sea gulls and snakes.

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 holiday
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 - 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 rest on green grass in their overalls.

And a certain times 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 - Gold-diggers 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 bums held sway
"Greasy Spoon" restaurants and "Tubs of Blood"
Salvation Army - fill up the jug
Unemployed orators, sailors and Thugs
Some foolish - some wise - all lousy with bugs
If Clarkson were in California.

-Ballads- (92)

- CALIFORNIA -

If Clarkson were in California
On one side the town - no place for your daughter
Would be Chinatown and the Latin Quarter
Interesting places to visit at night
Chinese ladies in silk pants - a wonderful sight
Curio stores - glistening and Chop Suey places
Black almond eyes and Funny chink faces

In the Latin Quarter - many strange people you'd see
Some from far over the deep blue sea.
Mexicans, Spanish, Italian and French
Side by each on a well worn bench
Filipino chicks with black greasy hair
Watch out you don't drawn into their snare.

At the edge of the town on a hillside fair
You'd find the "Biltmore" for ze millionaire
Golf links and music and bridle trails
Soup to nuts - not coffee and snails
The millionaire would have his fun
But it would be no place for a gentleman bum.

And each store would have an open front
With clerks in green smocks all on the jump
And the autos would drive through the open door
Right into the grocery store
And many would deal in Real Estate
A free lunch and ride out Blvd. La Drake

And bungalows of white stucco would be in style
With low roofs covered with red Spanish tile
And they would have a fine library and Civic Center
And 5¢ street cars - pay as you enter
And they'd dolled up the town and to give it class
They'd name it Fran Clarkso or San Clarkras -
If Clarkson was in California.

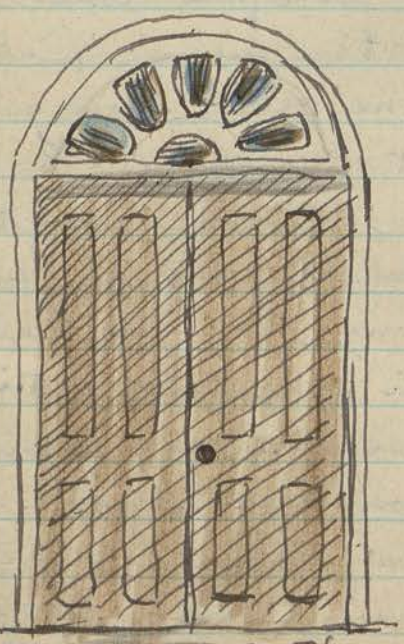
" And o'er the Church. They'd cast a spell
By naming it 'Mission Congregational'. "!
— IF CLARKSON WERE IN CALIFORNIA.~

There's something about the balmy climate of places like Florida and California that make us want to write "Poetry". 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 time. It's open in California but it's not hot. The ocean breezes require you to carry a light overcoat. Florida is real 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 peoples have found it an ideal place to spend the winter but Clarkson, in June, can't be 'beat' by either.

- CLARKSON DOORWAYS -

We feel that our crude attempt to represent some of the Clarkson doorways is somewhat of a fizzle 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



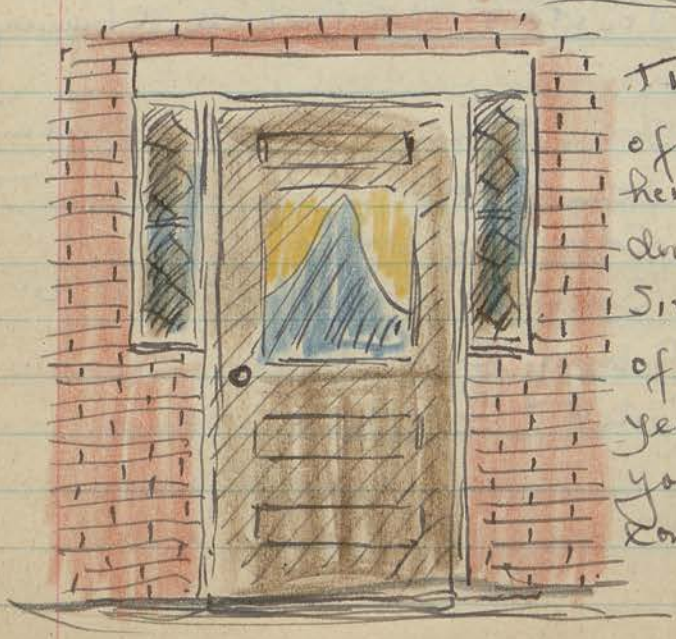
Congregational Church
Erected 1825.

No doubt these are copies of old Colonial doorways to be found in the older states. Connecticut and Massachusetts.

- CLARKSON DOORWAYS -

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. Jewett. 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 houses.

The Charter members were -

Joel Palmer - Theodore Ellis - Mary Perry
Polly Day - Polly Rice - Phebe Palmer
Patience Ellis - Anna Swift - John Phelps
Calvin Green - Mary McCracken - Desire
Wheland - Lana White & Charlotte (first
School Teachers) Sally Reed - Betsy Phelps

1st. Deacons - Joel Palmer and Levi Smith.
1st Clerk - Joel Palmer.

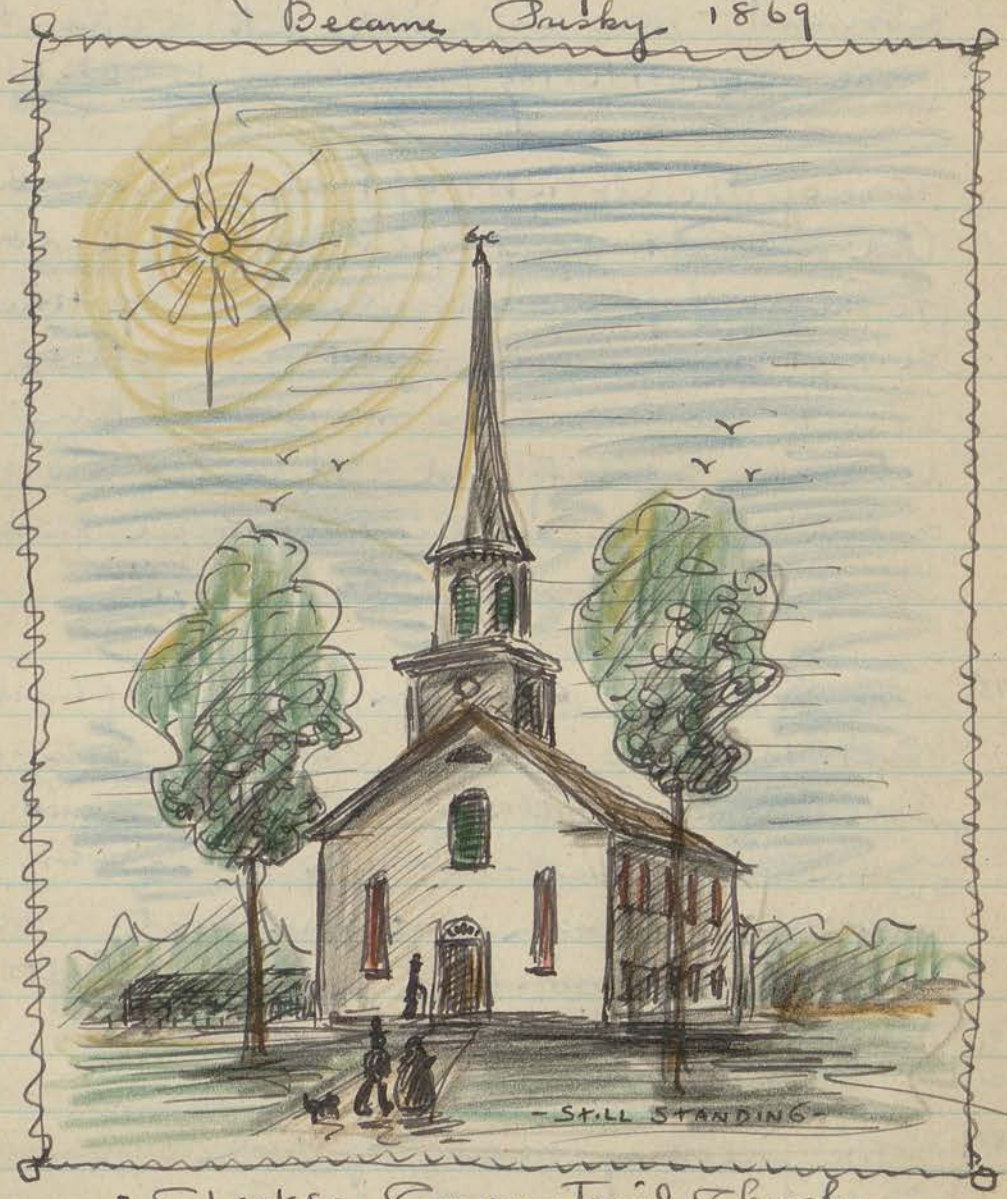
- MINISTERS -

1816 Ezra Woodworth	1817 - W. Loring
1819 John F. Bliss	1830 - C.E. Furman.
1855 E.M. Toof	1857 - Joseph McNulty
1863 C.B. Gardner	1866 - Chas. Kittridge
1867 Francis Rae	1868 N. N. Clute.
1873 A.A. Graley.	

(this list will be corrected and completed later.)

Officers 1876 - Trustees W.L. Rocknell, Chauncey Allen.
Elijah Drake.
Deacons - John Steele - Frederick Bellinger
Clerk John Steele.
Supt. S.S. Edward Wadhams (25 years)
Samuel Wadhams Supt. - in 1876.
Russell Palmer - Chorister.
Edward Corlett - Librarian

Organized 1816
Church erected 1825
Joined the Presby. 1830
Returned to Cong. 1853
Became Presby. 1869



- Clarkson Congregational Church -
Built 1825

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 Louis Homoth. The present brick schoolhouse 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 informed into a 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 one seventh part 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 baptised on Sept. 15 1816 - Almira Palmer - Betsey Palmer - Joel Palmer (Children of Joel + Phebe Palmer)
Julia Ann Ellis - Daniel Ellis - Olive Ellis - Abigail Ketchum - Jerome Swift - Polly Swift. William Henry Harrison Swift - Dean Swift - Lucinda Ellis - Salina Hatch.

July 1819 The following were baptised
Hopkins Rowell - Thompson Rowell
Juliet Rowell - Morse Rowell and Elizabeth Rowell
(Children of Dr. Nath. + Sally Rowell.)

Dec 2 1820 The following were baptised.
Sarah Elizabeth - Lucia Jane - Martha Ann - Harriet Newell - Solon - Martha Jennett - Mary Sophia.
(these were the children of Elijah + Sarah Rowell.)

- OLD CHURCH RECORDS -

(101)

June 4 1819 "At a meeting at the house of Theophilus Taylor - voted that those members on the "Connecticut Tract", wishing to form a church at "Sandy Crick" 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 privilages. Moody Freeman who was the first man to settle in the Town of Clarkson in 1803. was a delegate to the Presbytery in 1819.

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

1822 Feb. 4 Moody Freeman & Bro. John Bliss were appointed as a committee to visit absent members and inquire into the reasons of their absence.

1823 Jan. 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 frequently labored on the Sabbath."
After due notice was given for several Sundays. Bro. Eli. Whelan was excommunicated - June 15 - 1823.

- OLD CHURCH RECORDS.

Jan 27 1823 "Rev. Bliss requested that he be allowed to sever 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 $120.00."

"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 1825 The Church was called upon to settle family quarrels - Several pages on the case of Mrs. Smitt are given. here is some of it -

"Mrs. Smitt observed to old Mrs Bettie - 'that her eyes were now opened - that all the confusion that had ever happened in the family arose from her', and since that time Mrs. Smitt has never used her 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 every thing that is bad - I wish you was dead. The Sooner the better. I hope it will not be long before there is an end of you."

Many times Mrs. Smitt had expressed a wish to Mrs. Bettie that she would take her duds and walk adding that she deserved a good horse whipping. On one occasion Mrs Smitt wished Mrs. Bettie was in HELL! At a special meeting Sept. 2. 1825, Mrs Smitt was excommunicated from the Church. the vote was unanimous.

1831 Others were accused of unchristian conduct - profane swearing and committies were appointed to labor with these 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 basest sort" and he was excommunicated. (He showed true keen)

Brother Jeremiah C. Davis was accused of adultery but he denied the charge. He was excommunicated.

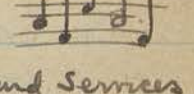
1831 A committee was appointed to visit Brother Gray Beech whom common report says drank intoxicating liquor freely and gave it to his workmen while engaged in gathering his crops. Bro. Beech appeared before the the Church and made confession of the crimes with which he had been charged, giving sighs of sorrow upon which the church passed a resolution to forgive.

More Old Church Records-

1831 Brother Alvord was again called up on the carpet for having, at different times, brought discredit upon the cause of Christ by the too frequent use of intoxicating liquors. (cider & wine) He again promised to reform but on Nov. 4. '31. he was suspended from the Church.
(But we still find more about Bro. Alvord.)

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 privilage of the Church.
But on June 22-1832, he was asked to appear before the Church and answer to the charge against him - to wit:- "Drinking ardent spirits, contrary to his most solemn vows both to the Church and to brethren who had conversed with him." the committee reported that Bro. Alvord said he moved drink ardent and spiritous liquors when he thought it necessary - so he was finally excommunicated (we fear that Bro. Alvord ended up in the lower regions.)

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

1859 Messers Allen & Mershon was a committee to call on the chorister of the Church and converse with him in reference to the Church music. 
Whenever any member neglected to attend services, 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!

- Pew Rentals -

1858 In a recordbook of pew Rentals from 1858
1859 to 1859, we find that the rentals varied from $12.00 to $29.00 for a pew or a slip as they were then called. the highest priced slips were no. 11 and no. 12.

Here are some of the holders and slip numbers.

# 1.	A. Snyder & Z. Towsley	45	Hopkins R. Smith
2	H. Rowley	34	E. Rowell
3	Elon Lee	36	John Steele
4	Joel Palmer. Justice Palmer	37	Adam Moore
5	S. J. Talmadge - Silas Walbridge	39	J. Wakefield & C. Viezie
6	E. Murdock	40	S B. Jewett
7	J. Wadhams	41	M. A. Patterson
8	Henry R. Selden	42	Reuben Price
9	Wm H + John M. Bowman	43	L. H. Johnson
10	Abel Baldwin	44	Hulbert
11	J. J. Whitney	45	J. Cooper
12	Isaac Allen	46	A. Sanford
13	Chas. A. Perry + A. Ashley	47	J. Tozier
14	C. Allen + M. G. Clark	48	J. P. Lovey + Miller
15	Austin Pinney	49	D. W. Jones
16	W. L. Rockwell + C. Silliman	50	J. Hamlin
17	A. Perry	51	A. Lowell
18	Mrs. I. L. Clark.	52	W. Seaton
19	Saml C. Perry.	53	L. Haskell
20	H. C. Crary + Sidney Bushnell.	48	James H. Warren
21	M. S. Barker.	44	Mrs. Chas. Bates
22	A. Shaw	54	Wm Kincaid
23	R. Scofield	10	E. D. Olds.
24	H. Nellis	8	G. R. Feathers
25	J. Henyon	39	John Nellis
26	J. Perrigo	24	Gordon Haight
27	Miss Brown	18	Frederick Bellinger
31	S. Whipple	13	Chas. D. McLean
32	M. Blodgett	8	Enoch Sweat
33	A. S. Palmer + J. Mershon	5	H. S. Randall

- The Old Hotel -

(1932)

In the Good Old Days you could proudly walk in the front and enjoy a glass of cool refreshing beer but now you have to sneak into a cellar or back door with your head turned to be sure no one is looking and what you drink will make you climb a tree! Give us the good old days.

The old hotel was built by Hiel 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 Rd. from the Ridge to the south line of the H.F. Lowry property and was bounded on the west by the Patterson Farm which at first belonged to David Forsyth who cleared the land. In 1824 this land including the hotel was sold to Dr. Abel Baldwin who built and lived in the Chas Marr house. Dr. Baldwin leased the hotel to Silas Walkridge and afterwards to Wm. Stroughton. Silas Walkridge built the Graham Potter store in 1825 and ran the tavern east of Potter's store. It was known as the Walkridge Tavern. The old hotel (in 1836) property was purchased from Dr. Baldwin by Henry R. Selden, his son-in-law. The wooden building that stood on the Marr corner which was also a tavern was moved south of the hotel and became the Geo. Bower house. Lots were sold off the 7 a piece, starting at the south end in about the following order. H.F. Lowry 1828. E. Fowler 1829 - F. Durkee 1841 - T.A. Dunyea 1842 S.M. Furnald 1850 - Bowers 1825? H. Clark 1877 C. Armer 1903 (Baxter Rounds had a building that stood in front of where the C. Armer house stands. It was a Cigar Factory - Post Office & Town Clerk's Office. This was remodled in the Chas. Armer house by James Foyle who tore off the wing of the hotel.

- the Old Hotel -

Clarkson's only newspaper was published in the old hotel by J.B. Balch 1835. It was called "The Jeffersonian." A dance hall was over 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 sweetheart. We remember another 4th of July Celebration when the boys put a sky-rocket in the

pants of "Slippery Jim" Mahar. 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 once 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 stuff on Election day. Levi Olds owned the hotel before it was purchased by J.K. Vosburg. Ira Vosburg & Erwin Vosburg also ran it. It was rented to Hi Amidon also later to Luther & Edward Foster and then sold to James Cotter - Then to his brother - Frank Cotter. Geo. Heinrick of Brockport rented it - a year - then John Ward and then it was sold to James Coyle who ran the last saloon at the Corners. Wm Gallup bought it from Mrs. Coyle's heirs and tore down the barn. A.J. Grief bought it and made a garage - then Robb - Reuben Stemp & Schurkert and now leased to Smith & Tratson, etc. etc.

SUDS

Several million gallons of booze were drank in this Hotel enough to float a battleship

E

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(112)

- RUSSELL PALMER'S 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 life was just one D... thing after another - same as today

- January 1891 -

Played on violin - Drew load of coal for Mrs Barker - Ellen Cornell called - Mr. Wadhams preached - Officers elected. Called at Mrs. Pattersons - Church Society annual meeting. Drew load of coal for Mr. Bovee - Took load of beans to Brockport for Mr Lorback. Called on Mrs. Chapell - Paid Taxes - Walked to Presby. Church Brockport - Text - "He knowth that ye have need of these things" Was sick with throbbing in the ear - Went to Singing School - went to Mill - Mr. Foster threashed beans - went to Singing School - Went to Brockport for Joseph Vialls.

- February 1891 -

Communion - Took Gracie to the depot - Drew load of wood for Mr. Tent. Singing School - Took 2 bags beans to Mrs Barker to pick - Snow foot deep Temperance lecture by Mrs. Barker - Attended Caucus - Bertie here in the evening - played violin - went to Church Social at Mrs. Pattersons 10¢. Attended Young Peoples meeting. Picked beans - Went to Hamlin depot as bearer to Mrs. Sen's funeral - finished picking beans - Attended grand Concert - 25¢.

- March 1891 -

Attended Farmers Institute in Bkpt. Sold bushel beans $2.00 Wet drizzly day - Tapped maple trees - Boiled sap. Took Mr. Harrington to depot. 75¢ Went to Henry Moore's Social - stormy day - Went to Rochester - 70¢ Got left on 5 o'clock Train. Attended to sap. Went to Garland Singing School - Easter Service - Snow + sleet.

- April 1891 -

Bought Cow $30.00 Arthur had horse to move goods to Brockpt. to move to Connecticut. Brandy 50¢ - Drew manure - Grafted some prunes + pears. Drew manure to the Garden - Helped Mr. O'Brien fix bridge - Took Ellen to the train - Fixed Smokehouse;

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- RUSSELL PALMER'S DIARY - 1841 -

- May 1891 -

Sowed Oats - fixed fence - Cold Windy - fixed the lane 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 Bkpt. for F. R. Hixson - Put in pump.

- June 1891 -

Hoed potatoes - picked up stones - Sowed some onions and beet seed. Dragged, rolled & fitted the "pond". Cleaned and oiled harness & washed buggy. The heifer had her calf. Worked on road drawing stone. Attended concert at Normal - Strawberries for dinner. Set out cabbages. Fixed front gates & fence. Sold calf $6.00 Paris Green on potatoes - Mat Lorback cut the grass.

- JULY 1891 -

Drew hay - Went to Bkpt with cherries - Rainy day. Sawed up rails - planted sweet corn between potatoes. Hoed in garden - sold cherries - Weeded beets - Sold calf $5.00 Dug some potatoes - sowed turnip seed. Sold Boree a peck potatoes 20¢ Picked bushel pears. Raked Barley. Let Edgar Benedict have bushel potatoes on account.

- August 1891 -

Went to Troutberg - horse 25¢ - Communion 10¢. At Spencers Barlows - Dug potatoes - Very warm - did not do much - Mrs. Moore came - Went blackberrying - Mrs Foster took horse & buggy to go To Troutberg. Dug potatoes. Mr. Reichel preached - Rainy Day - Too wet to work - Called at Mrs Pattersons - Dug potatoes. Went for black berries.

- September 1891 -

Drew some wood - Picked Lombard plums - Social at Church. Finished digging potatoes - Took 5 doz. corn To Bkpt = 45¢ Picked Golden gage plums - picked pears and snow apples - Drove to Holleys. Picked prunes. Very warm. Church - Text - "Come." Drew home my share of oats and Barley from Verneys.

-Russell Palmer's Diary.- (Final)
-1891-
-October-

Cut corn, Sold some apples - finished cutting corn - Husked some corn - Sold bushel Quinces 60¢.
Picked enor apples + pears - Mr. Latta's funeral.
Dug beets --- (but the diary ends here)
(there were other years but few entries were made-)
Here is one - Apr. 1-3-1884-
Miss Bonesteele gave an entertainment. I played the violin (this Miss Bonesteele became famous as an actress - A playhouse in Detroit is named in her honor) Here is one for Jan 1-1868---
Stormy - good sleighing - made several calls - Dance at hotel at night.
1868 - 63 years ago - (the Palmers were Tanners + dealt in leather)
Bought sole $113.02 - Bought horsehide $1.90
Attended Church - Text - "For you are dead and your life is hidden with Christ in God." Scoured 12 kip (don't know what this means but it must have something to do with tanning as he mentions it often.)
Bought two hides - Went to Wednesday evening meeting, Cold. very few there. Scoured kip - put them in oil - 93 lbs. harness $39.06 - Calfskin $6.00
Sabbath School Institute - Mr. Marshall preached.
Took a trip to Chicago - Visited Stockyards + Opera.
Sunday April 12. 1868 - Sabbath School Concert.
Chas. Johnson preached - I played the organ.
Called at Mrs Pattersons - Paid $2.00 for hides.
- But here is one that is different. -
Went to Holley - was married to Sarah Eliza Osborn (my wife) - Went to Niagara Falls - Stopped at The American $6.00
(But soon after the Wedding he neglected to keep up his entries - Can you blame him!)

(Did you ever start a diary and keep it up for a whole year? Very few have ever 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 stage coach stops between Rochester and Buffalo and it was not until the Canal (1825) and railroad (1850) were put through that Brockport had a P.O. Previous to that time, mail was received throughout the Clarkson P.O. From the time of the Canal Brockport began to grow, much of the traffic being diverted from the Ridge to the new waterways and gradually Clarkson became the less important of the two and about 1860, a P.O. was established in Brockport.

- Following is a list of postmasters in Clarkson -

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

1820	Gustavus Clark	- Republican	- S.E. Corner.
1837	Henry Martin	- Democrat	- S.E. Corner.
1841	Silas Walkridge	- Whig	- N.E. Corner.
1843	Gustavus Clark	- Democrat	- S.E. Corner.
1849	Silas Walkridge	- Whig	- N.E. Corner.
1853	John M. Bowman	- Democrat	
1854	Henry M. Haskell	- Democrat	- N.E. Corner.
1856	Moses S. Barker	- Democrat	
1861	Henry M. Haskell	- Republican (*)	- N.E. Corner.
1864	John B. Haskell	- Republican	- N.E. Corner
1867	Adam Moore	- Republican	- N.E. Corner.
1876	Geo. H. Miller	- Republican	- S.E. Corner
1878	Emma Miller	- Republican	- S.E. Corner.
1879	Adam Moore	- Republican	- N.E. Corner.
1885	Washington L. Rockwell	- Democrat	- S.E. Corner
1889	Frederick A. Moore	- Republican	- N.E. Corner.
1892	Baxter A. Rounds	- Republican	- (Chas Comer lot.)
1893	Chas. B. Bellinger	- Democrat	- N.E. Corner.
1897	Fred R. Hixson	- Republican	- Lake Rd South.
1915	Julia O'Brien	- Democrat	- S.E. Corner.
1923	Ella E. Lewis	- Republican	- N.E. Corner

(*) The new Republican party came into power about 1860 when Lincoln was elected.

(16)

- CLARKSON ACADEMY -

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

CATALOGUE
of the
Teachers and Students
of
- CLARKSON ACADEMY, Monroe Co., N.Y. -
For the year ending July 4, 1837.

Rev. Norris Bull, A.M. Principal
Rev. Abner Bordell, A.B. } Assistant Teachers.
Miss Bethiah Loring

- Students -

- LADIES -

Clarinda C. Atchinson	Clarkson	Charity Jones	Clarkson
Catharine Bellinger	"	Laura Kelsey	Bergen
Eliza "	"	Oritia Langdon	"
Mary E "	"	Betsy Ann Lee	Clarkson
Cordelia Barker	"	Abigail Limel	"
Althea A. Blodgett	"	Harriet "	"
Jane "	"	Fanny Palmer	"
Ann M. Bowman	"	Marcia L "	"
Martha E. Bull	"	Caroline Peck	"
Mary C. "	"	Catherine H. Peck	Bethany
Emily Clark	"	Maria L. "	"
Sarah M. Drake	"	Irene Perry	Michigan
Lois Eldridge	"	Mary J. Perry	Clarkson
Harriet Forsyth	"	Harriet Rathbun	"
Jane "	"	Julia "	"
Ann E. Gillett	"	Eliza Rowell	"
Delia M. "	"	Martha "	"
Frances Bordell	"	Sara E. "	"
Clem Brooks	"	Jane Simmons	Brockport
Frances E. Brooks	"	Minerva Spencer	Clarkson
Lavinia Harrington	Bergen	Ann M. Steele	"
Rebecca Ann Hobby	Clarkson	Harriet Storrs	"
Jane Holmes	"	Amy Stuchfield	"
Eliza Hosmer	Batavia	Julia Ann Townsend	"
Mary Jennings	Clarkson	Ellen Whipple	"
		Harriet A. White	Bergen

-CLARKSON ACADEMY-
(Gentlemen) (of the old school)

Roger Aikin	Fort Ramsay - N.W. Ter.
Wm D. Allis	Holley
Isaac Allen	Clarkson
John H. "	Rochester
John Atchinson	Clarkson
Isaac H. Arnett	Byron
Adrian Boucher	N. York City
Edwin M. Bartley	Clarkson
Norman Blodgett	"
James Bowman	"
Wm H. Bowman	"
John H. "	"
Wm M. Bull	"
John H. Bull	"
Edmund Butts	Gaines
Warren Cantine	Barre
Thos. R. Cutler	Albion
Ferdinand A. Day	Holley
Isaac Delamater	Bergen
Elijah Drake	"
Chas. Dunham	"
Myron R. Eaton	Lockport
Emery Ellenwood	Pembroke
Otis J. Filmore	Knowlesville
Geo. Gillett	Clarkson
Asa F. Grover	Medina
Wm P. Groves	Clarkson
Lorenzo Hannibal	"
Wm Hart	"
John Haskell	"
Henry "	"
James S. Hobby	"
Wm H. Holmes	"
Josiah Hurty	Bethany
Nath. Husted	Clarkson
Truman Judd	"
Wm DeForest Landon	"
Wm C. McClintock	Geneseo
Isaiah McCollum	Lockport
James McCracken	Buffalo
Daniel R. McVean	Wheatland
Henry H. Martin	Clarkson
Chauncey Nash	Bkpt.
Geo. Nogle	Clarkson
Albert H. Palmer	"
John Palmer	"
Justus "	"
Samuel "	Parma
Israel Peck	Bethany
John Porter	Clarkson
Andrew J. Rich	Attica
Ryland J. Rogers	Churchville
Thompson Rowell	Clarkson
Solon "	"
Wm Royce	Michigan
Jonas Schaffer	Clarkson
Stephen D. Scovell	Lockport
Morgan S. Smead	Covington
Alban Smith	Clarendon
Wm R. Sterens	Parma
Robt Sterens	Attica
Lewis Swift	Clarkson
Egbert K. Tuttle	"
Edwin Wadhams	Parma
George Walbridge	Clarkson
Henry "	"
Wm Warren	Fort Ramsey N.W. Ter.
Truman "	"
Philo Wells	"
Henry West	Clarkson
Aaron "	"
Geo. Whipple	"
Benj. Wilcox	LeRoy
Daniel Woods	Clarkson
Edwin "	"
Wellington Woodruff	Byron

- CLARKSON ACADEMY -
- CATALOGUE - Aug. 1 - 1837.

(The STUDIES AND TERMS OF TUITION IN CLARKSON ACADEMY ARE ARRANGED IN THE FOLLOWING ORDER --)

First Grade - Reading, Writing, Spelling, Arithmetic, Geography and English Grammar - $ 3.00 a quarter.
Second Grade - Book keeping, Chemistry, History and Botany separately or with preceeding studies $ 4.00
Third Grade - All the branches Taught in the High Schools and Colleges with any of the fore going $5.00 (Why go to Yale?)
Music - Vocal and Instrumental, will be a regular Branch of instruction. There are also, during each year, complete Courses of lectures in 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 16th of August inst. and will continue 22 wks. 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 ladies and 76 gents - a Total of 127 and what gets us is - where Tell they put them all - they must have used the out buildings for music department and Chemistry. This Catalogue was printed. In another place we will give an unofficial list of pupils in the Clarkson Village School for 1841. This was found written in a note book of one of the students. The list of parents is also given. These are mostly local students. We judge that the old Academy became local about 1853. (It burned down)

P.S.

(P.80 VOL II)

- 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 H.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.

Mrs. Maurice Garrison
Ridge Road
Clarkson, New York

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

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 Post Cards. He sometimes puts his 'John Henry' on letters addressed to yours truly

W.W.

P.S. 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's 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) 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 oil it so it will be ready for ~~the~~ picture.

Mrs. Maurice Garrison
Ridge Road
Clarkson, New York

Mabel said that if I would let her have the chalk picture she would make a stencil of it 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

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From notes by A. M. Maxwell, British Traveler 1840 -

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

I think Mrs Maurice Garrison was Teacher in This School 1947-48.

this building still standing. It is used for the lower grades. the upper grades go to Brockport. 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 —