

NORTH COUNTRY NOTES

ISSUED OCCASIONALLY BY THE

CLINTON COUNTY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

No. 4

Allan S. Everest and Charles W. McLellan, Editors

May 1961

The Next Meeting

of the Historical Association will be on Monday evening, May 1st. It will consist of a tour through the SHERIDAN IRON WORKS in Champlain as the guests of MR. JOHN ZURLO, Manager. Members are requested to meet at the office entrance at 7:30 p.m. for the trip through the plant. This will be followed by talks by MR. ZURLO and by MR. OSCAR E. BREDENBERG on the history of the Sheridan works through more than a century of iron founding and manufacturing in the North Country.

School Composition

The following is a typical composition of any boy in any age—in this case written in Champlain during the early 1850's. The writer, George Hoyle Burroughs (1845-80) ran a store in Champlain. (McL. coll.)

Our School Days are the most pleasant part of our life. it is very important that we should all go to school and study well. we should always Obey our teachers and be kind to our school mates and they will be kind to us. one of the hardest and worst duties that we have is writing compositions; I have put mine off until the very last minute and then I thought I would not write any but the thought of those five black marks changed my mind, and after writing and rubbing out about a dozen compositions I have at last produced this very miserable specimen.

George H. Burroughs

CHAMPLAIN ACADEMY

THE FALL TERM OF 13 WEEKS
begins Monday, Sept. 6th, 1869.

This institution is beautifully situated in a healthy elevated site in the Village of Champlain. Its rooms are pleasant and conveniently spacious, and the whole interior fitted up with regard to the comfort of the students.

THE COURSE COMPRISES

Reading, Grammar, Writing, Elocution, Composition, History, Geography, Algebra, Arithmetic, the use of Globes, the elements of Astronomy and the Natural Sciences, together with the Latin & Greek Languages, Book-keeping, &c.

STUDENTS DESTINED FOR A COLLEGIATE COURSE

will receive a thorough preparation in the Classics and in such higher branches of Mathematics as they may require.

THE FEMALE DEPARTMENT

Will be under the charge of a competent and experienced Preceptress.

P. F. BURKE, A.B., Principal

(From an advertisement in the CHAMPLAIN JOURNAL, Aug. 25, 1869.)

Animal Life

From the records of the annual town meeting of the town of Plattsburgh, held on the first Tuesday in April, 1808.

1st Voted to raise the Bounty for Killing a full Grown woolf to Twenty Dollars to be Caught and Killed as per Town law Past in 1807 and for a whelp Ten Dollars.

2d voted that Sheep, Horses, and Hogs Shall not be Free Commoners.

3d that if any Ram or Rams Shall be found Running at Large after the first Day of Septembr untill the first Day of November next they Shall be Put into the Pound and there Remain untill the owner Shall Pay the Pound Keeper his fees and one Dollar for the use of the Poor.

4th that Stallions Shall not Run at Large after they are one year and Six months old, and if found Running at large to be put to Pound and there Remain untill the owner or owners Shall Pay the Sum of Ten Dollars, one Dollar to the Prosecutor and the other nine to the Poor Masters for the Benefit of the Poor, and that all Horses which are Called half Stallions Shall be Considered as Stallions and to be Delt with as Such.

5th that for all Crows Killed after the Tenth of April untill the first Day of July Shall be Intitled to Twelve and half Cents.

6th Geese not to be free Commoners.

The Funeral of Daniel Webster

From a letter dated February 17, 1853, from Joseph Bradish Nye of Plympton, Mass., to his cousin Bartlett Nye in Champlain. Daniel Webster died at Marshfield, Mass., October 24, 1852, at the age of seventy. (From the McLellan Collection.)

But Mr Webster has gone, he died full of years and full of honor, with no duty unperformed, no trust undischarged. He has done his work and earned his Crown. He died too as the heart hopes to die. He died in his own home amid those scenes of Natural beauty endeared to him by the Joys & Sorrows of many eventful years, with the faces of family, kindred & friends around his bed, religion pillowing his head, in that mellow and pensive season of the year so dear to his tender spirit, his own trees waiving before his dying eyes, and that voice of the Sea which he loved so well soothing his dying ear.

I wish you could have been at his funeral. I will give you a little description of it.

I left home that morning with hundreds of our towns people (it was a most lovely autumnal day) for Marshfield. Business was entirely suspended throughout the towns in this vicinity. The booming gun and tolling bell heard in every direction, told the mournful tale of the Nations Bereavement.

We arrived at the house about ten o'clock (its 17 miles distant from us). An immense assemblage had congregated in and about the grounds. The Coffin was exposed to view on the Lawn in front of the house, and the greatest eagerness was evinced by those present to take one last look of his Majestic Countenance.

The remains were clothed in a Blue Coat with Brass Buttons, light vest, white pantaloons, and Gaiter Boots that was his usual & favorite dress in the warm season.

In the vast throng were to be seen residents of Distant Cities and States and the towns in this vicinity were nearly depopulated on that day. Franklin Pierce was there, and I believe a sincere mourner. Not one from Washington, that appeared strange to me. It was expected Mr Fillmore would be there, and people thought it very strange he was not. I think that I never witnessed such perfect order and decorum where so large a crowd was congregated in my life. Every one seemed saddened by the melancholy occasion that brought them together.

College Expenses

From a letter written by Amasa Corbin Moore on July 12, 1819, while a student at Middlebury College, to his father, Pliny Moore, at Champlain. (McL. Coll.)

My Dear Papa

As it is but five weeks to Commencement, I send an account of my bills. Mrs. Gowdy generally expects pay for board at the end of the term and at Commencement I will have boarded there 25 weeks which at \$2 per week amounts to \$50. My washing bill will be \$7.14. 2 books which we are now studying viz Trigonometry & Mensuration \$2.25. Two pair of thin stockings \$1. Thin pantaloons \$2. To the Philomethesian Society \$1.25.

Celebration of the 4th of July \$2. At commencement I am to speak. The expence of the stage will be \$1. The mending of my coat, boots &

pantaloons together with getting a broom & tumbler \$2, and another quarter bill which I shall have to pay at commencement will be \$8, amounting in all to \$76.69.

I expect, My Dear Papa, that both Mama and Matilda have been travelling about so, and you are so engaged in building that you have hardly a cent left and this large bill has come to make you gloomy and sad, but I could do no otherwise than send it.

I wish much to pay all the small bills and, at least, some part of my board. If it is not convenient for you at present, the quarter bill can best be put off.

4 MAY '51

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Allan S. Everest, Co-editor

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