

# NORTH COUNTRY NOTES

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CLINTON COUNTY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

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Shirley L. Koester, Editor

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## *The Next Meeting*

will be held on Monday, November 2, 1998, at 7:30 PM in the first floor meeting room of the Clinton County Government Center, 137 Margaret Street, Plattsburgh. The program, "Results of the 1998 Excavations at the Clintonville Forge Site," will be presented by Dr. Gordon Pollard, anthropology professor at SUNY Plattsburgh, assisted by students who participated in the excavations at Clintonville Forge in the summer of 1998. This program is made possible with public funds from The New York State Council on the Arts, a state agency and also The Institute of Museum and Library Services, a Federal agency serving the public by strengthening museum and libraries. It is free and open to the public.

## *Elizabeth Saily Warren*

It is with sadness that we note the death of this descendant of one of the founding families of Plattsburgh on October 10, 1998. Mrs. Warren was a home economics teacher in the Chazy Central Rural School.

Peter Saily hailed from the Province of Lorraine, France where he was born on April 20, 1754. He arrived in New York in 1785. Soon after his arrival he purchased 100 acres of land on Cumberland Head where he resided until 1791. He held important offices in the County and was a well-respected citizen for many years. He was the first judge in the County, appointed in 1804.

**Hon. Thomas Treadwell,  
A Statesman of the Revolution, and a  
"Gentleman of the Old School."  
For 24 Years Surrogate of  
Clinton County.**

In about 1794 Hon. Thomas Treadwell left the scenes of public life, to which he had been so long accustomed, and removed to this new region, settling on a heavily timbered tract of land at the foot of the beautiful bay St. Armand, afterward known as Treadwell's Bay. It is an interesting incident that he brought with him some forty slaves, who were subsequently emancipated and colonized by Judge Treadwell on the high region a few miles northwest.

Plattsburgh has a right to be proud of the large number of talented men who were among its pioneer inhabitants in the front rank was Judge Treadwell, who took his position as a natural leader in the social refinements, the politics, and the important enterprises of the region and times. He was already distinguished in national affairs. Thompson, in his history of Long Island, says: "He was one of the most useful men of his times. He was well educated and was distinguished for firmness and prudence during the difficult and trying period of the Revolution. He was almost constantly engaged in public business; was a member of the Provincial congress from 1771, with power to establish a new form of government. He was a member of the first Senate of the State under the Constitution, and seems in all respects to have been fitted for the perilous times in which he lived." He was one of the three constituting the Committee of Safety," while the constitution of his state was being organized in 1773. He was a Representative in the "Continental Congress" in Philadelphia in 1772-76; in 1775 was elected to the "Provincial Congress," sitting in the city of New York. In 1778 he was a delegate to the convention at Poughkeepsie to deliberate on the adoption of the Constitution of the United States. In 1778 he was appointed Judge of Probate for the city of New York. In 1791 he was elected to represent Suffolk, Kings and Queens counties in the National Congress, and was re-elected in 1793, which office he held till his removal to Plattsburgh.

In 1804, Judge Treadwell was elected Senator for the northern district of New York, the first State Senator from Clinton County, and in 1807 he was appointed surrogate for Clinton county, which office he held till his death in 1831.

### *The Old Homestead*

The Treadwell farm, bordering on Treadwell's Bay, was some four or five miles north of Plattsburgh. "Long Point," now a favorite resort, where the Palmers and Woods have handsome cottages, borders the bay on the northeast, affording one of the many interesting features of the landscape. The stately old mansion was built only a few rods from the shore and facing the bay, and was approached by a road running along the shore to Cumberland Head and thence to Plattsburgh, which was the principal thoroughfare between these points in those early days. The road was abandoned many years ago, and the beating waves have trespassed upon the shore till the roadbed has been wholly washed away.

### *The Family Burial Ground*

Sacred to the memory of the Hon. Thomas Tredwell, who departed this life Dec.30, 1831, aged 84.

Sacred to the memory of Mrs. Ann Tredwell, wife of the Hon. Thomas Tredwell, who departed this life Jan.5, 1798, aged 56 years.

*This article appeared in The Plattsburgh Sentinel, Friday, June 27, 1890*

*Among the landholdings of Judge Treadwell as reported in this article are several locations, including an area called "Richland" being a community of tenant houses in Beekmantown. These houses were provided for freed slaves of the Treadwell family. Mr. John Rea of Beekmantown is quoted in the article as having visited (as a boy) the home of Judge Treadwell. Richland was located one mile west of the "Brick Tavern," on the State road.*

The Treadwell family is still having an impact on our history. In the spring of 1998, a descendant visited the museum to see firsthand the portrait of her ancestor. Upon learning that the portrait of Thomas Treadwell and several others were in need of the attention of a professional conservator, she made a very generous contribution to provide for these services. We are always extremely grateful for such gifts, allowing us to better care for the treasures in our custody. We continue to accept gifts and collect artifacts and documents pertaining to the history of the people, events, and indeed anything to do with the past here in Clinton County.

*CCHA ANNUAL DINNER*

*NOVEMBER 14, 1998*

*6:00 p.m., Angell College Center, SUNY Plattsburgh*

Sid Couchey, of "Richie Rich" fame and a close personal friend of "Champ," will be the featured speaker. Reservations may be made at the Museum, 48 Court Street, Plattsburgh. The cost is \$25.00 per person. Please call 561-0340 for more information.

*The McMasters Prize For The Writing of History*

March 1, 1999 is the deadline for submission of papers for the McMasters writing prize. This is the 25<sup>th</sup> year for this competition established in honor of Emily McMasters, long time friend and supporter of The Clinton County Historical Association. It rewards exemplary writing on the theme of North Country History. For more information please call the CCHA Office: 518 561-0340

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