



Township of Sheldon Historical Society & Schoolhouse Museum Newsletter

Volume 3, Issue 1

Feb. 2014

*"An update on our progress as a Society and a Chartered Museum &
"A new look at old news from our town."*

Sheldon Historical Society Officers Board Members & Curators

10/ 2013 - 10/2014

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*We will be open on Tuesday afternoons from June through Sept., or by appointment, or by chance when we are at the museum. Watch for the **OPEN** sign on the porch railing. Newsletter compiled by Jeanne Mest and Mary Ann Metzger (with the help of volunteer hands)*

Attention: Our first meeting of the season is on Thursday, Feb. 20, 2014. All are welcome!

Meetings are held the third Thurs. of the month through Oct. Non-members are also welcome to attend. Our next meetings will be on March 20, April 17 & May 15.

"WINTER LAYS ICY HAND ON WHOLE STATE"

As I read through some old newspaper articles on FultonHistory.com, this headline from December 1935 caught my attention. Although it appeared in the newspaper almost 80 years ago, it seemed to accurately describe the winter of 2014. Sometimes it seems like Harris Corners is still the coldest place in New York State! But as February draws to a close, and we return to our beloved schoolhouse museum, we know that Spring is on the way.

We hope you enjoy our first newsletter of the year, and we would like to invite one and all to attend our upcoming meeting at 7:00 on February 20 at the Sheldon Historical Society Schoolhouse Museum.

We are a group of dedicated lovers of history and are happy to have you participate with us whenever you can. We also appreciate getting any pertinent information you may have on the "Town of Sheldon" that you are willing to share.

The New Year always brings some new displays in the museum, and we welcome your ideas and input. Please be thinking if you have some local or family history that you could share with us. This year we hope to add many more records to our family files, so let us know if we can be of help to you in your family history research. We also have an extensive collection of scrapbooks, maps, books & Historical Wyomings.

Please mark your calendars and join us when we start off the 2014 season with our Grand Opening at the Strykersville Town-wide Yard Sale on June 7th & 8th!

Jeanne Mest, Archival Curator

Welcome new members since last newsletter:

Elizabeth Love, of Point Pleasant, West Virginia, paid for a life-time membership.

December 4, 1935, from the Rome Daily Sentinel
Harris Corners coldest spot

By the Associated Press
Wintry blasts swept out of the North today, bringing severe cold and sporadic heavy snow to the Middle Western and Eastern States.

Buffalo Has Record Low
The lowest temperature on record for Dec. 4, 6.8 degrees above, was recorded at Buffalo.

Harris Corners was reported the coldest spot in Western New York, with a temperature of two below.

Town of Sheldon Historian- Barb Durfee
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The taxpayer - that's someone who works for the federal government but doesn't have to take the civil service examination. ~Ronald Reagan

Strykersville.

Many are suffering from severe colds.

Howard Bennion has been quite sick the past week, but is reported better.

The Kersch House was sold last week to William Cromwell of Wethersfield, the sale being made by E. A. Warner.

Dr. S. A. Brooks' property was sold last week to Burke Sherman, a jeweler at this place.

Thomas Jones purchased the Ed Jones property at a foreclosure sale held at Frank Glaser's hotel last Saturday.

John Barnes of Varysburg, who was in attendance at the Maccabee ball last Thursday evening, was unable to return home until the fore part of this week on account of the bad condition of the roads.

The Watson Bros. are making things lively at their store recently purchased of W. R. Hoy. In appearance they are shrewd men of business, and we bespeak for them an extra large trade in the mercantile pursuit.

Peter Dorsheid moved his family into his house on Factory street last Monday.

Dr. Fromholzer, finding it impossible to reach his patients with horses, cheerfully grasps his grip and journeys afoot.

Miss Ida Waterman is very poorly at present.

RICHARDSON.

Eugene R. Richardson died at his home in Strykersville, Sunday, May 9th aged 58 years. Deceased had been ill but a few weeks. He was well and favorably known in that vicinity having been a resident of Strykersville for many years. He is survived by his wife, and three sons, Archie and Ray of Niagara Falls and Ivan of Strykersville. Also three brothers, William H. Richardson of Warsaw, F. O. Richardson of Strykersville, Edward of East Aurora, George of Seattle, Washington, and Charles of Chaffee and two sisters, Mrs. James Ives of Java Village, and Mrs. R. H. Coatsworth of Buffalo.

Funeral services were held yesterday with burial at Strykersville.



Store on Rte. 20A & Rte. 98 1922

Owned by Louie Donnelly, Millard Embt, and Bert Cooper
Can anyone add to the history of this business?

Military News:

Men from Town of Sheldon drafted to serve their country.
April 6, 1865 "Wyoming Co. Times"

Drafted Men.

We give, below, a list of these drafted from Sheldon on the 31st ult:

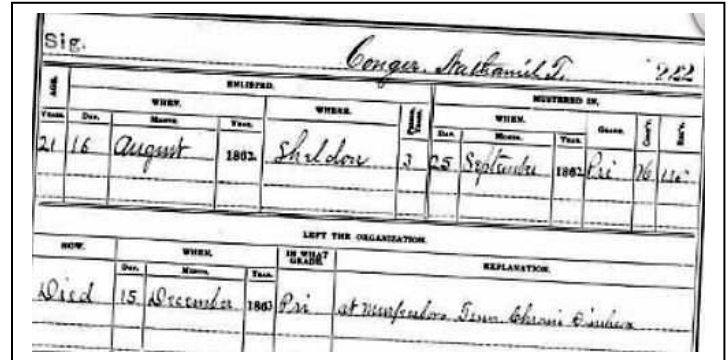
Martin Kibler, Edwin J Wolcutt, Andrew Steverson, Charles H Crippen, John Youger, Carl Malow, Conrod Castle, Edward Madden, John Myerus, Peter Glosser, John F George, jr., Michael Myers, Wm. Henry Andrew, Gardiner Nichols, Michael Barty, John Smith, Nicholas George, Nicholas J. Kirsh, John Riter, Edwin Hoard, John Beekman, Martin Girsh, Nicholas George, 3d, John Kitchen, Peter Dehock, Darius Munger, John D. Cole, Mathias Gabriel, 2d, Peter Musty, John M. Myerus, Martin Youtsey, Stephen Redding, Vanrensulaer D. Whitman, Sanford Godfrey, Peter Kiter, Domanick Younger, William Hersh, John N. Kirsh, John Miller, Nicholas Esse, William Seifert, Joseph George, Theodore Schiltz, John Mast, Joseph Hymao, Nicholas Smith, Charles Lowres, Spicer Dow.

Irish Blessing

May St. Patrick guard you wherever you go,
and guide you in whatever you do--
and may his loving protection be a blessing to you always.

Jeffrey Francis Thomas, who moved into the Vary House from his father's farm in 1885, where he was born Aug. 4, 1829, was a very prominent man about Varysburg. It is from his diaries dating from 1860-1866 which are in the New York Library in Albany, that we have learned a great deal of Civil War times in Varysburg. Jeffrey Thomas was a self-educated man and was not only a prosperous farmer but a country lawyer. He was married May 12, 1852 to Miss Harriet D. Richards, daughter of James and Anna Richards of Orangeville, whose family were pioneers in that township. (From "a Village in the Valley." by Anita Ripstein Hayes.)
 Below are excerpts from his diary from 150 years ago.

Jeffrey Thomas writes about his cousin Nathaniel T. Conger who died in Murfreesboro, Tenn. of health issues while enlisted in the Civil War.



January 1864

Jan. 12- Sawed wood & received official news today of the death of Cousin **Nathaniel T. Conger**.

Jan. 17 – Sunday- Went to Varysburg & heard the funeral sermon of N. T. Conger who died at Murfreesboro, preached by Mr. Alphonzo J. Aldrich of Middlebury. (Funeral held in the Free Will Baptist church.

January 19 – Rainy/ snowy. Went to Attica to carry **Herman J. Conger** on his way to join the Army. Come home sick. (Herman was a brother of Nathaniel.)

The Home Coming of Nathaniel Conger

Jan. 28- Started to go to Tennessee, rode to Attica with E. Madden, took the cars to Buffalo at 8:40 in the evening, and took the cars to Cleveland at about 11 o'clock in the eve.

Jan. 29 - Arrived at Cleveland at 8 o'clock this morning, took the train for Indianapolis, rode all day & arrived at 10 o'clock in the eve, went to the Bates Hotel & stopped for the night. We had a severe thunder shower in the night.

Jan. 30 – Took the train in the morn at 7:20, rode all day, stopped at Jeffersonville at 4 o'clock P.M., crossed the river to Louisville, KY, went to the Sanitary Committee Agent and & then to the Provost Marshals office & was told that I must wait until Mon. morning before going further South. Went to the Theatre *in the evening saw a splendid play of Macbeth King of Scotland (it was played by J. Wilkes Booth as Macbeth.) Got back to the Hotel at 12 o'clock, went to bed; rainy.

Jan. 31 – Sunday Spent the day rambling around Louisville, procured a pass to Nashville.

February 1864

Feb. 1 fair. Took the cars to Nashville, rode all day & arrived at Nashville at 5 o'clock P.M. stopped at the Commercial, Went to the theatre in the evening. J. Wilkes Booth played Richard III in the Battle of Bosworth.

Feb 2- fair. Rambled around up city, went to the Provosts Marshalls office, got a pass went around the Capital, the most splendid sight I ever saw, took the train at 3 o'clock P.M. arrived at Murfreesboro in the evening, stopped at Mr. Plummer's & Parishes Hotel.

Feb. 3 – clear. Got up this morning, went to Hospital No 1 & back to the undertakers, then went to the burying ground No.2 to look for Nathaniel's grave found it, then went to the provost Marshall's office, got a pass to the Battlefield of Stone River, went to the burying ground assisted to take up the Body of Nathaniel. T. Conger, Co. H. 136 Reg. N.Y.Vols. went from there back to the city, went to the depot with the corpse, went back to the Hotel and stayed all night. It was the most beautiful day I ever saw at this season of the year, clear & warm as the first of June in New York state.

Feb. 4 - clear. Took the train at 3 o'clock A.M. come to Nashville, went to Mr. W.R. Connelias to see him about sealing up the coffin. To the Addam's express office, to the State House to get a pass to Louisville, went up to the top of the State House & all over the different parts of it & all around the city to the theatre in the evening. Stayed at the Commercial Hotel, slept with rats.

Feb. 5 – fair. Took the train at 7 o'clock arrived at Louisville at 5:40 in the evening, stopped with M. Parker, went to the theatre in the evening, the play was Cappitala or the Hindan Hand. It was well played.

Feb. 6- rainy. Took passage on the Steamer Gen Buell for Cincinnati rode all night, had the best dinner & supper that I had eaten in a great while arrived in Cincinnati at 5 o'clock Sunday morning.

Feb. 7 – Sunday- fair. Stayed all day rambling around the city on the levee took the train for Columbus at 10 o'clock in the even

Feb. 8 – Arrived at Columbus at 5 in the morning waited until 10 o'clock took the train for Cleveland arrived there at 5 P.M. waited until 8 o'clock took the train for Buffalo rode all night began to see snow after leaving Columbus.

Feb. 9 – snow. Arrived in Buffalo at 5 A.M. waited until 9 took the train for Attica arrived at Attica tired a & glad to stop waited in Attica for the corpse to come in. Stayed all night.

Feb. – 10 fair. Waited in Attica until 11 o'clock the corpse came in on Turrel's train from Batavia. Mr. Levi Walker of Johnsonburg brought it up for me to Varysburg & lent me his tam to bring it home got home about 4 o'clock P.M.

Feb. 11 – cloudy. We buried Nathaniel today at 3 o'clock P.M. (He is buried in Thomas Cemetery on Thomas Rd.)

August 1865

Aug. 17 - Clear. Stayed at Mr. Conger's nearly all the forenoon. **Marcus R. Conger** died this morning at 20 min. past 2 o'clock, he was buried at 4 o'clock P.M. (Spotted fever)

(Unbelievable this what one Sheldon family endured during the Civil War days.)

Wyoming County Times.

VOL. 25 NO. 17.

WARSAW, N. Y., APRIL 29, 1897.

\$1.50 PER YEAR

INTERESTING REMINISCENCES.

Of People and Things in the Town of Sheldon.

The following letter was received some months ago by the town clerk of Sheldon and will be of great interest to many TIMES' readers:

Early in February I had the clerk of this town forward to you a souvenir book relating to our Plymouth celebration in May last. I will presume that said book was duly received by you. Fifty-three years are past since I was last in Sheldon, and sixty-six years have elapsed since I first left there when a boy, in 1829. Few, if any of those persons then living there at the age of twenty-one years are now living there or elsewhere. Possibly a few survive. I recall to mind the names of some of the old families. It was I believe in 1816 when my father John Satterlee, built the house on South street, a little past the cemetery, a little past the Crandall place. and 1817.

when he moved his family there from Connecticut; my older brother, Merritt L. Satterlee, and also a sister who died in infancy were born in Connecticut. My brother was clerk a number of years in Baldwin's store in Sheldon Center, later he clerked it awhile for Mr. Church at Oak Orchard, yet later he was awhile in Westfield. In 1836, when in his 22d year, he went to Chicago where he was with Mr. Church, and subsequently with several other partners. When with Mr. Church, that firm was the first wholesale grocers in that now great city. From March 1880 until his death in January 1894, brother Merritt was entirely blind. His widow and an only child are living in Chicago. Myself, the third child, born in 1818 (Bela Blakeslee, from my mother's father in Connecticut) the fourth, Sally Amanda, 1821. She married in East Plymouth, Ohio, and died there in 1892. The fifth, Alfred Brown, 1823. The sixth, a daughter, born somewhat prematurely after my father's death in March, 1828; she survived only a few days; I remember seeing her in a coffin and attending at the burying ground.

Brother Alfred united with the Baptist church in Strykersville, as did also my sister. I believe that he attended school at both Warsaw and Wyoming. In 1852 he graduated at Brown University and in 1854 at the Theological University at Rochester. In 1854 he was married and also ordained and with his wife sailed for Burmah, where he arrived in 1855. In 1856 he died of cholera and a few months later his widow died at sea on the way to this her native land. A daughter of about 18 months was taken in charge by the captain of the ship; this daughter lived many years with my brother in Chicago. Now she is Mrs. Chas. H. Fuller of Cleveland, Ohio.

I recall the names of some of the families residing at Sheldon Center which I remember used to be called Mud Point, or as a matter of brevity "Mud Pint." I will suppose that now it occasionally bears the expressive name. Presumably All Fools day has never been able to entirely fool you out of mud on the first of April. There were the Baldwins (brothers I believe) who kept store during a

course of years. Brother Merritt went there to live when he was a dozen years old, more or less. Soon after he received a severe kick from a horse that he led out to water; the result, a scarred face and the loss of several teeth. In later years, I have been told, that there were three of the brothers, perhaps only two in the store. Subsequently one or two of those brothers removed to Westfield and carried on the business there. At the Center lived a Mr. Fischer, a shoemaker, who had lost a leg in the war of 1812, if I mistake not. He did not hesitate to strap his children if they failed to walk straight. My impression is that one of the Chipman family resided at the Center; I think his name was Samuel brother to Lemuel, who lived in the southern portion of the town. I remember their father whose name I believe was Lemuel, Judge Chipman, if rightly recollect respecting him; I remember his white, shaky head along in the twenties. South if I mistake not lived a Mr. Feagle or Feagles, and also a Mr. Frink. There was Mr. Jackson Esquire Jackson, if my memory right.

serves me, during a course of years. On the north side of the green was a Mr. Doty, with whom I lived awhile after my father's death. He removed to Buffalo, where in December 1842 I stayed with him over night. At the north west corner of the green lived Mr. Abbott, who made potash. On East street the Episcopal church was built when I was a small boy. On the opposite side of the street not far away lived a Mr. Tiff, or some name akin to that. My impression is that on East street resided a Deacon Buell. I remember the name, Orange Buell. And down at the foot of the hill lived Mr. Humphrey, a lame man and a shoemaker and perhaps a tanner. Further on up the hill lived several Barber families, with one of whom, Jarvis Barber, I had a home for awhile. On North street resided Truman Case who married my mother's cousin, the daughter of Dana Dunbar. Further lived Mr. Persons or Parsons, whose wife was a sister to Mrs. Case. He kept a tavern. Ohas.

Dunbar died there unmarried. Chauncey Dunbar moved to Michigan and in or near that neighborhood where Judge Turner had a home. On West street I

remember a Mr. Hoard, and further along at the right or north resided a fleshy man, Dr. Hamilton. I was not much acquainted with Strykersville although my mother, brother and sister had a home there a number of years. Down West street lived Stephen Welton with whom I was having a home when my uncle Col. Philo Walton, Stephen's brother, took us all to Ohio in 1829.

Possibly you are not a native of Sheldon, or if you are a young man, of only in middle life, may not feel particularly

interested in the past. And now I desire to ask a few questions respecting my native town. Have you a historical society or public library, and if one or both, where located? Presumably at the Center. How much of a building or part of a building have you for such purposes? Have you spare room on the walls to hang frames, few or many? I have long had it in mind to bestow some interesting things to my native town if said town would be pleased to receive them and put them in suitable shape for preservation. For instance, I have many duplicate proclamations issued by the Governors of Connecticut for fast and thanksgiving. I might forward a score or more of these, and a'so several other things, valuable autographs, etc, etc. Please to have this letter preserved with or aside from the souvenir I sent you. Please write to me or have some one else do so with as full an explanation as it may be convenient to make and by so doing, much oblige,

BELA B. SATTERLEE.

Plymouth, Conn., Dec. 10, '96.

Special thanks to Renae Darling for bringing this article to our attention. It is surely rich with the past history of Sheldon, NY. It was published in 1896, reminiscing back to the earlier part of the century. We have no idea if his letter was ever answered. Please let us know if you have any memories you would like preserved.

In the early part of the 19th Century people from the East settled in Sheldon, many were New Englanders. They used the forest to make potash. In colonial days it referred to a crude potassium carbonate salt that was produced by leaching wood ashes and drying or evaporating the leachate in iron pots...hence pot-ash. Early settlers used this salt as a source of potassium fertilizer and for soap and glass making, wool scouring, and cloth dyeing. In fact, the first patent issued in the U.S. was for a process to extract potash from wood ashes.

Back in the day of Bela Satterlee, manners were quite different. In Sheldon most likely men followed respect with their hats. Hats were tipped, (or doffed) slightly lifting the hat off your forehead, when meeting a lady (remove your hat if you stop to talk), or to "say" to anyone, male or female – *thank you, excuse me, hello, goodbye, you're welcome or how do you do.* When a gentleman "dons" his hat to leave or "doffs" his hat to a lady, his actions are being described by two British colloquialisms that come from contractions of the phrases "do on" meaning "to do", and the Middle English "doffen", which became "don off" meaning "to do off"! Tipping of the hat is a conventional gesture of politeness. This hat tipping custom has the same origin as military saluting, which came from the raising of medieval Knights face visors to show friendliness. At the turn end of the 19th century, hats were pretty much worn by everyone when they went outdoors; this was initially not so much about fashion as it was about practicality. The hats kept the sun off you in the summer and your head warm in the winter. In addition to this, in the cities where, at that time, there was an amazing amount of industrial dirt and grime about, and on the farms where hats got very dirty, the hats were good for keeping the dirt off your head and out of your hair, and out of the house. Thus, "Take your hat off in the House" originated.

Genealogy Lovers

"Don't give up on finding a missing family member. The possibilities are many and the rewards of success are many."

Finding Great Uncle Will

(William Schiltz, born in 1856, was the oldest child of my Great-Grandfather Michael Schiltz and his wife Johanna Greff. His wife died a young lady of about 30 years old in 1866, leaving Great-Grandfather with three children. (William was about 10, Mary Ann 9 and Nicholas 5.) The next year he married an Irish immigrant, Bridget Disken, only about 14 years older than William. My Grandfather, the late Peter Schiltz, b. in 1884 was the youngest of Michael and Bridget's children; thus being 28 years younger than William.)

There has always been a vague image of Great-Uncle William Schiltz in my mind, although there has never been a picture or hint of how he looked. He seemed to be a missing legend and as I grew up he was often brought up subtly in conversation. He had left home and all contact was eventually lost. All kinds of theories surfaced through the years; he supposedly was upset with Great-Grandfather's will as he was left a small amount while the rest of the inheritance was divided amongst his siblings. But wait, he left for the West way before his father had died. My father, the late Harold Schiltz, thought that perhaps he went to California and was killed in the earthquake. Another time when Dad went into the feed business, a man from Ohio with a similar feed business like his also had the name of Schiltz. He wondered if that could be a descendent of Uncle Will. It seems the family could not get closure, even though this man was born in 1856. I wondered if he perhaps was the black sheep of the family.

At last, perhaps a breakthrough would come as I ventured online as a member of Ancestry.com. I checked every lead without success, except for one man in the Paulding Co., Ohio census, but he spelled his name William Schultz. It couldn't be, but then he did state he came from Buffalo, NY; when I travel I often tell people I am from Buffalo, NY, who would possibly know where Strykersville, NY is? The date matched, but no way would he go by Schultz, the locals were proud of this name, and although many left out the c when years ago a teacher said that it was silent so did not need to be put in. *(Oh, those one room schools in Sheldon, 16 at one time, who knows what else was taught the children.)*

Then came an email from Linda who was looking for the family of William Schultz, her husband was descended from the same man I had found on the census. The story she told was that he left home early, maybe only 14 years of age, because he couldn't get along with his stepmother. I surmised that Great-Grandfather had hired Bridget to help with the three children after his wife died, and in a small community like Strykersville having a single woman in your house would have been talked about. If my theory was true, he probably married her, a quick answer to his problems of raising the children. Times were hard back then.

Bridget, his second wife, came to America with a sister Mary, who also married a widower from Sheldon. Did they both work as servants? The ship list stated they were spinsters. Not much is known of Bridget except on her journey to America all the money she had was sewn in her pocket. Things were tough in Ireland, it is surmised she lived in a thatched roof house, had siblings, but the only hope for these girls was to venture to America. She is said to have smoked a pipe, probably she was a very strong lady, toughened by the way she lived for survival.

Soon after marrying Great-Grandfather, they had a daughter and then twin daughters and later several more children. It was very possible that Bridget was overwhelmed, missed her home and family in Ireland, overworked and was strict with her stepchildren. William no doubt resented this, and felt the loss of his mother. He was close to his sister Mary Ann, but she died in her late teens, and my friend from Ohio said that the story told was that after his sister died, he left for the west. We checked every lead we could find, but never found any proof, or a picture.

As a last resort, we designated a descendent on each side to send in a DNA sample. It took patience waiting for the results, but when it came back it proved a very strong match. Now we could put the pieces together. I was wrong in assuming that Great-Uncle Will was the black sheep of the family, it turned out quite differently. He had married a lovely lady and had several children. His obituary stated he was a prominent resident of Paulding Co., Ohio. He passed away within a week of his wife. He was a farmer, as were some of his children. His descendants also included many professionals who had contributed to society. It seems that the family both at home in my area, and Uncle Will's family from Ohio were respected people.

After proving relationship, we found out there was a court case involving Great-Grandfather and William and their wives with another landowner in Sheldon, NY. We are not sure what it was about, perhaps William talked of coming home and they bought a piece of property together. In the court case it stated that Great-Grandfather had went to Paulding Co., Ohio to talk with his son. The proof was right within reach after all. There are still left a lot of unanswered questions, most we will never know.

Although the older generations who were interested in Great-Uncle Will have all passed, at last there is closure to the story. Lesson learned, not to judge who the black sheep of the family is. Don't let the wool be pulled over your eyes; it may be that your wool is not white. We were lucky in that both families were good honest people. Who really knows what happened that long ago, and does it matter? Each family will enjoy finding the extended members of the clan who for so long were missing.

Written by Mary Ann (Schiltz) Metzger (Obituary next page, the spelling of his name is different from the traditional Sheldon spelling.)

Obituary dated 3 June 1937.

Aged Resident Died Saturday, May 19th. **William Schultz**, aged 82, passed away at his late home in Cecil, Ohio, Saturday afternoon at 1 o'clock. He had been seriously ill for the past five weeks. Decedent was born near Buffalo, NY on March 12, 1855. On August 6, 1887, he was united in marriage to Miss Rose Arend of near Cecil. To this union were born five children: Victor, of Grass Lake, Mich.; Roman and Joseph, of Fostoria, Ohio; Mrs. James Reinhart, of Emmett; and Mrs. Arthur Ankney, at home. He also leaves his wife, 19 grandchildren, other relatives and many friends. Funeral services were conducted Tuesday morning at 9 o'clock at Immaculate Conception Church at Cecil, with Rev. Albert Sims officiating. Interment was made in the Catholic cemetery at Rochester. Death record at Immaculate

Epidemic Near Bennington
An epidemic of diphtheria has broken out at Harris Corners school district in town of Bennington. Up to noon Monday there had been nine cases discovered by Dr. John Kneller of Attica, health officer of town of Bennington, with attending physicians of the neighborhood. One death, a son ten years old of Frank Rhoades with three others down with the disease in the same family, gave the first intimation of conditions, when the attending physician reported to health office Kneller, who the following morning made investigation with the attending physician discovering the nine positive cases. The district has been quarantined and is under strict observation. Most of the cases were pupils of the Harris district school. All last week the school had been closed for the pupils to assist in harvesting the potato crop. The Rhoades boy died Thursday afternoon, taking sick in the fields while at work. The stricken families under quarantine are Frank Rhoades 3 cases, John Bender 2, Nicholas Waters 1, Oscar Myers 1, John Fisher 1, Gottlieb Finkbiner 1. The case which died making a total of 10

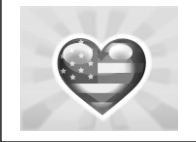
Our state, outside the metropolitan area, had only 10 deaths from diphtheria last year, compared with 511 in 1926. The number of cases dropped in the same years from 7500 to 118. Tuberculosis and syphilis would reach the low incidence of diphtheria if there were a more intensive application of existing knowledge about the disease it was said at the regional conference of the State committee on T. B. and N. H. and its W. New York affiliates in Buffalo recently.

Above article from Buffalo paper 1940
See article opposite from Sheldon→

Throughout history, **diphtheria** was a leading cause of death among children; it was called the "strangling angel of children". It is unknown what became of this epidemic in Oct. 1926, at Harris Corners. Did the rest of the children survive; did the disease spread through Sheldon? An anti-toxin for diphtheria was developed in 1895, but was not yet in widespread use. We know there must have been an outbreak of diphtheria in Sheldon 60 years earlier, in Oct. 1865, when 3 of the Dominisey children died within 4 days. In 1925, over 10,000 lives were saved when 150 teams of sled dogs relayed the antitoxin to a remote part of Alaska. The "Great Race of Mercy" is now celebrated by the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race.

Love Soup Dry Mix

- 1/3 cup rice
- 1/3 cup lentils
- 1/3 cup small shell macaroni
- 1/3 cup split peas
- 1/3 cup small rainbow rotini
- 1/8 cup barley
- 1/2 package dry onion soup mix



→→

Love Soup

Too often we find ourselves too much to be done
And dear ones around us are begging for fun.
When you're feeling overwhelmed with no time to mix
A quick meal you need and ten minutes to fix.
Earlier in the day on the night before
Get a pan from the cupboard and meat from the store.
In your soup kettle brown: 1/2 to 1 lb. hamburger
Add 8 cups water, 1 16 oz. can tomatoes and this mix.
Simmer slowly for 3-4 hours.
Bustle and work while your meal will be fixed.
And when you sit down and eat this soup
Too tired to smile and all beat and stooped,
Hope you'll remember and never forget
Our problems are fewer once they've been met.
We thank you for all that you give and you do
So remember each one that "We love you."



PO Box 122,
Strykersville, NY 14145

"I can only note that the past is beautiful because one never realizes an emotion at the time. It expands later, and thus we don't have complete emotions about the present, only about the past." — Virginia Woolf

The Historical Society welcomes new members! If you find local History interesting, we hope that you make a membership contribution and join us. It is open to anyone with an interest in the history of Sheldon, or a desire to volunteer services without restriction to age or place of residence. We maintain a School House Museum that is state chartered. There is always work to do to maintain this structure and to continue our research of data and archives and preserve treasured artifacts.

(Attention: If you are not a member and wish to receive your copy of the newsletter please join)

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

DATE: _____

Make check payable to The Town of Sheldon Historical Society.

Mail To:
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A new year in the Society to begin.

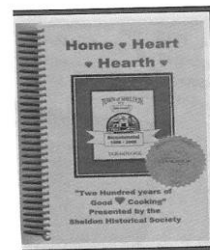
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