

Monroe Chapter D.A.R.

Brockport, New York

Compiled by Miss Helen M. Hastings - 1938

Old Houses of Monroe County --- Town of Clarkson



Old Bellinger House --- Present owner, George Wood

This cobblestone house with a wide cornice showing Greek Revival influences, was either built in the 1840's or at an earlier date and then given a new roof or "face lifting" treatment, somewhat later. The original entrance was on the side. The front door and portico are entirely modern. It is on the north side of the Ridge Road about three fourths of a mile west of Clarkson Corners.

This is regarded as the old Bellinger place. John Frederick Bellinger came from Herkimer County and settled in Clarkson in 1825. He married Ann Marcellus of Schoharie County. In a list of the students of Clarkson Academy dated 1837 there are Catherine, Eliza and Mary Bellinger.



Page 2 - Old Bellinger House

A long letter written by Catherine to her Aunt Eveline Marcellus who lived with them but had gone East on a visit is still in existence. Catherine was a very lively young lady.

Charles Bellinger, a brother of the girls, was born in 1839. He also received his education at Clarkson Academy. He had another sister Laura, only a few years older than himself.

The family had a music room - mentioned in the letter to "Aunt Eveline" - and they must have been interested in art, too, for Philip Boss, their neighbor, was said to be an intimate friend, and he painted a charming portrait of Eveline Marcellus which is still in existence.

Some time in the sixties James E. Mershon, who was a brother of Mary Mershon Palmer, became the owner of this house. The Mershons lived here many years. A son, *Edward* Mershon, Jr., married Cora M. Reed of the town of Sweden. A daughter is Mrs. Amidon of Brockport.