

Under a spreading chestnut tree the village smithy stands; The smith a mighty man is he, with large and sinewy hands; And the muscles of his brawny arms are strong as iron bands.

--Longfellow

This is the image of Joseph Haight who is fondly remembered by his granddaughter Mrs. Donna Vaughn of Holley. Although there are no chestnut trees in our old photo, Mrs. Vaughn remembers her grandfather as a tall brawny man of the type conjured up in the Longfellow ballad. Our thanks to her for the submission of the picture which shows Joseph Haight (left) and his son Edward (right) around ninety year ago.

This Blacksmith Shop was located at Murray just north of Rt. 104 on what is now Rt. 237. The little building to the far left in the picture would be the present site of the Murray Superette. The sign on the shop, although difficult to decipher, states in part: "J.W. Haight Horse Shoeing -----Repairing." A team of horses stands by while carrriage wheel repairing seems to be under way. I say this because of the number of wheels leaning up against the sliding doors to the blacksmith shop. Note the chimney on the building to exhaust smoke from the forge inside. Along with shoeing horses, blacksmiths were also acccustomed to being wheelwrights. The heavy metal tires for carriage and wagon wheels had to be driven onto the wooden rims while hot. When metal is hot it expands, when it cools it shrinks. It was the shrinking which held the metal tires onto the wooden rims. This was definitely a two person operation to heat and then drive the tires on into place.



Our old-time printer's cut from the turn of the century, shows what could be Joseph and Edward Haight working in the Murray Blacksmith Shop. One appears to be hammering out a shoe on the anvil while the other is nailing a new shoe to the horse's hoof.

Here follows a partial list of prices dated April 1st, 1903 from the Orleans County Branch of the Blacksmiths, Horseshoers and Wheelwrights of New York State.

Horsenbeing	
Resetting Shoes	<sup>\$</sup> .15
Resetting Onoco	\$.30
New Shoes	
is a second s	
Carriage Repairing	
Resetting tires 1¢ in. and under per set	\$2.00
" " one wheel	.75
New steel tires 3/4-7/8 x 3/16 in. per set	\$4.00
Iron Wagon tires 11/2-2 x 1/2 in. per set	\$7.00
Wood Work	
New rims 1 - 11/8 in. and under per wheel	\$1.00
One-half rim	\$ .65
Buggy spokes, three or more	\$.15
Bob runners \$1.50	
Repair Work	
Resharpening bean knives	\$1.00
" barrow tooth	\$ 02

harrow teeth

Mrs. Haight would have subscribed to this pricing which gives us an idea of what was done by a blacksmith in a day's work and what he got'for it.

The 1903 Directory of Orleans County lists 57 different blacksmiths at that time county-wide, of which Joseph Haight of Murray is one. The 1911 Directory lists 23 blacksmiths with Joseph Haight listed on Mechanic Street in Holley. The 1926 Directory lists only 6 blacksmiths. This decline in blacksmiths speaks well of the increase in motor cars and the gasoline engine.

The map shows Murray as it was from the 1913 County Atlas. The buildings in our photo are clearly seen on the map at the northwest corner of 104 & 237. Three houses west we also find the name of J. Haight which was his family

residence. Joseph Haight and his wife had seven children. When the youngest was born, Mrs. Haight died, leaving him and the older children to raise the younger ones. Their children were: Edward Haight, Stanley Haight, Martha Howard, the mother of Charles Howard, Jessie Trick, Augusta Bowman, Marion Beebe and Doris Taylor.