

Rethinking of Old Orleans

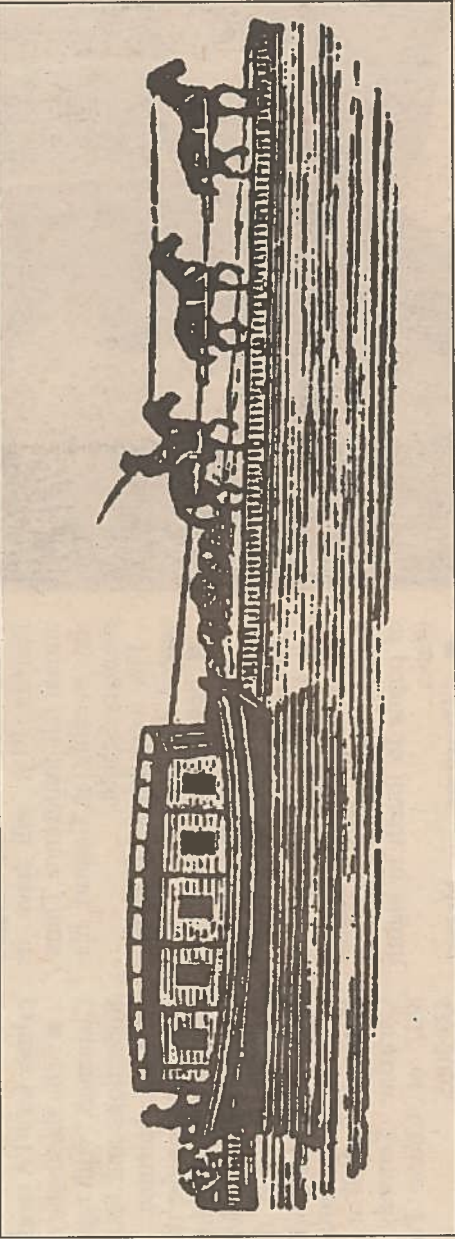
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William Glidden's canal story

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thirty cents a meal. On the line-boat I was bowsman, at \$18 a month, and I waited on the passengers and got milk at the stations.

"We had a black man for cook, who was not allowed in the bow cabin. The stern cabin was for officers of the boat. We had room for 40 in the bow cabin, with berths on both sides, the men and women separate. I ran on the line-boat from Albany to Buffalo.

"We charged the 300 Dutch \$300 for their passage, and were eight days on the trip. The steersman would get \$18 to \$20 per month. I was off and on the line-boat 13 years. I bought a boat in the '40s and made three round trips, and cleared \$1,100 in one trip. I was away from home two months, and saved \$1,400."

Note: Guided tour of Mt. Albion Cemetery at 2 p.m. Saturday.

The following story is taken from History of Clarendon from 1810-1888 by David Stuges Copeland.

The book, published in 1889, contains many firsthand accounts of what life was like for local people during the first half of the 19th century. To say these stories make fascinating reading is almost an understatement.

William Glidden, an early settler in Clarendon, speaks the following:

"Jeremiah Cogswell, of Brockport, was my captain on the 'New Hampshire' of Brockport, in 1825, and I was a driver. The boat was about 80 feet in length and 17 in width, and the horses were carried in the stern, with a temporary stable hung on. This boat would carry about seven hundred barrels of flour and drew three feet of water.

"I made three round trips

from Buffalo to Albany and Brockport. We would be about 18 to 20 days in the full trip. I received \$8 a month as driver. In 1829 I was on a line-boat, Cogswell the owner, Joshua Bailey the first captain and Church the second. He was from Jefferson county. We had two horses on the line-boat at

each station, from 12 to 20 miles apart. We had a stern cabin and also a bow cabin on this boat. At one time we carried 300 Dutch in the center of the boat. In 1829, Brockport was about the size of Clarendon, with one grocery and several stores. The grocery was kept by one

Webster. Utica about the same size as Rochester, and Syracuse as large as Holley at present, and Schenectady also; I saw the first cars at Schenectady.

"Utica we called the best town on the canal. We had good living on the boat, and the board in the cabin was about