

Bethinking of Old Orleans

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Varied items from out of the past

In 1813, David and Joseph Sturges laid pipes to carry water from a hillside spring in the hamlet of Clarendon to their home. To have running water at that time was a special privilege. A neighbor, Ambrose Phillips, gave them \$20 to have the water piped into his house also.

On April 25, 1829, the Orleans County Board of Supervisors authorized the raising of \$1,500 to bridge Oak Orchard and Marsh creeks in Carlton in such a manner as to unite the three sections of the town now divided by said creeks. Hence, the place name "Two Bridges" came about.

In 1821 and 1822, Jeremiah Brown built a foundry at Shelby Center, which was the first of its kind erected west of the Genesee River. It was here that the first plows were made west of Rochester. They were sold for \$15.

The first post office in Orleans County was established in Gaines on July 1, 1816. Mail was carried in two-horse carriages three times a week each way. In 1817, a daily line of mail stages ran each way from Rochester to Lewiston on Ridge Road.

The total cost of the Erie Canal when completed in 1825 was \$7,143,780.86. It



took over eight years to build. By 1833, the state had received enough tolls from the canal to pay the original cost.

Around 1879, Miller and Tettingill built a large, dry house in Clarendon for drying apples by a sulfur and steam process. This industry turned out about 200 tons of dried fruit annually. Cider was also converted into vinegar at this plant, which at one time employed over 80 men and women.

Salt works were erected at a spring north of Medina by the Holland Land Company as early as 1805 and thrown

open for the use of early settlers. A road was thus opened by the company as well, which from their southward was known as Salt Works Road. Salt was also produced at Holley in 1814 and Kendall in 1821.

I believe our photo was taken in the 1880s or 1890s, as there is a political poster hanging on the wall with Grover Cleveland's picture on it. The man who is unidentified is possibly a wheelwright, judging from his tools, work bench and wheel in the vice. The photo was taken by M.H. Dunning of Albion.