

Albion and Tonawanda Railroad



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BY C.W. LATTIN

We find in the 55th session of Laws of New York State from April 17, 1832, an act to incorporate the Albion Tonawanda Railroad Co. The act occurred within the Senate and Assembly as brought forth by David E. Evans, Gaius B. Rich, Henry Edgerton, Alexis Ward and Nehemiah Ingersoll.

Subscribers mentioned in this legislation include: Orson Nichoson, David E. Evans, Gaius B. Rich, Alexis Ward, Hugh McCurdy, Harman Goodrich, John S. Ganson, Gideon Hard, Freeman Clerk II, Van Rensseler Hawkins, Lucas G. Merrill, David Scott, George W. Fay, Fredrick Martin, William Tilden,

Liberty Walker and Henry Edgerton.

The names of Nichoson, Ward, Ingersoll and Hard stand out as early settlers of Albion and ones who helped shape the village as we know it today.

The railroad was to run from Albion southward into Batavia ending near Tonawanda Creek. The capital stock of the company was to have been \$200,000 divided into shares of \$50 each. The corporation was allowed three years from the passage of the act for

commencement, which was to have been completed within five years. Otherwise, the privilege granted was to have been forfeited. The proposed line was never constructed and therefore all privileges of this legislation were forfeited.

In the 1870s, business leaders again talked of establishing a railroad from Point Breeze to Batavia, but with so many worthy proposed projects, talk was much cheaper than construction, which never occurred.