

# CHILDREN AT PLAY



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

BY C.W. LATTIN

**T**his picture was probably taken around 1890 showing some children, mostly girls, playing on seesaws or teeter-totters.

Both seesaws are simply contrived by using a saw buck with a plank stretched over it. In fact, a small heap of wood in the back ground gives evidence that the saw bucks have been used for their intended purpose.

Nineteenth century children made the most of what they had to play with. It is a fact that children certainly played outside more than they do today.

Note that all the girls are wearing dresses, hats and high top leather shoes which either lace or button up. No

jeans, tee shirts or sneakers in this picture.

Most photos of this time frame were posed while this one gives the appearance of being candid. Because photography was done by professionals they usually took the time to have people pose for the shot.

The only information on the picture is a rubber stamp stating: "M.L. Reynolds, Albion, N.Y.". At the time this was taken Henry J. and Marcus L. Reynolds are listed in the 1888 Orleans County Directory as operating a restaurant and dining room at the depot.

The picket fence in the picture separates the Reynold's property from the NYC depot. The Reynolds Restau-

rant would have been in the building people will remember as Costello's Bar, Gregg's Red & White Store or later Susie's Pizzeria. The children in our photo are playing in back of that building.

The white building across the street was the Albion House which was a hotel later torn down in the 1930's.

The building in the distance was Morgan & Linson's Produce business. It was later owned by Walter Rowley and torn down when Lipton's expanded and Clinton Street was closed off at the railroad crossing.

The horse covered with a blanket hitched to a wagon is simply waiting at the depot.