

Trivial tidbits of history in the 1800s

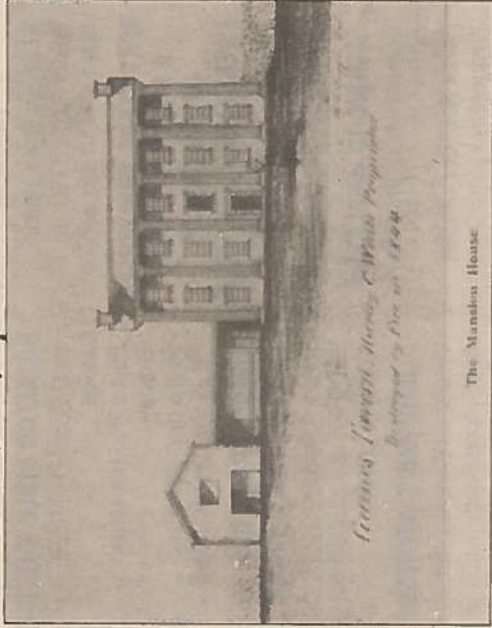
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BY C. W. LATTIN
Orleans County Historian

In 1821-22 Jeremiah Brown built a foundry at Barnegat, now Shelby Center. It was the first foundry of its kind erected west of the Genesee River and in it was cast the first plow every made west of Rochester. It sold for \$15.

As early as 1805 the Holland Land Company erected a salt works north of Medina for use of the early settlers. Salt was also made as early as 1814 in Holley which was once known as Salt Port. In 1821 salt was also made at Kendall but when the U.S. Government passed an act levying a tax of one shilling per bushel on the manufacture of salt, they suspended operations in Kendall.

In 1879 Miller and Pettin-gill built a large building in Clarendon for the purpose of drying and evaporating apples by the sulphur



The Mandamus House

and steam process. The business turned out about 200 tons of dried fruit annually. Cider was also converted into vinegar at this business with more than 80 men and women being employed seasonally.

The first post office in Orleans County was established at Ridgeway Corners in 1816. The mail came through from Canandaigua to Lewiston twice a week.

The first newspaper published in Orleans County was the Gazette. It was printed at Gaines in 1822 by Seymour Tracy and was in existence for four years.

Eagle Harbor was so named because canal surveyors saw an eagle's nest in a nearby tree. Hulberton was first named Scio but changed after I.H. Hulbert was postmaster.

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**Bethinking
of Olde
Orleans**

The first electric street lights in Albion were turned on April 6, 1890. This was considered a great improvement, being much superior to gas.

The 1850 Census reported the following statistics on the number of churches in Orleans County which were: 10 Baptist, two Freewill Baptist, one Congregational, two Episcopal, one Quaker, 11 Methodist, nine Presbyterian, three Universalist and one Catholic.

The same census also reported 286 deaths for the year ending June 1, 1850. There were 5,319 families and 5,273 dwellings at that time.