

# Bethinking of Old Orleans

C.W.Lattin County Historian

## Albion Academy Accomodations



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*The Albion Academy is pictured here in a mid 19th century lithograph. At that period of time, once a student completed the eighth grade in a district school, he was eligible to go on to secondary school in a local academy. These academies were the forerunners of present high schools. The students attending had to pay a tuition to support the institution. Academies in Orleans County were located at Albion, Medina, Holley, Gaines, Yates Center and Millville along with the Phipps Union Seminary, a girls finishing school at Albion.*

*The mood and quality of the following article from the Orleans Republican, dated Nov. 29, 1843, helps us to understand better how the academy system worked.*

"The Trustees of Albion Academy take pleasure in recommending this Institution to the notice and patronage of the public. They are confident that under the present supervision and management, the instruction in the various English, Mathematical, and Classical Departments will be thorough, and adapted to the capabilities of the students; and that special regard will be paid to the manners, habits, and morals of the pupils.

The Instructors employed, have, for years, been successfully engaged in the business of teaching; and are found to be amply qualified to discharge the duties of their station.

Having attended to recent examination and exhibition, we are prepared to say, that we were highly pleased with the order and arrangement, and with the very general promptness and accuracy of the answers to the questions which were asked. We were especially gratified with the exercise of mapping upon the black-board, and with the slate exercise; two methods of teaching recently introduced, which we think cannot fail to be highly useful, wherever they are practiced.

The age, established principles, habits, and modes of teaching of the Instructors are such, as to afford a sufficient

guaranty, that no time will be spent by them in preparing the pupils for the mere display; but that their incessant diligence, and best energies will be employed to fit the students to discharge well the duties of the stations they may be called on hereafter to fill.

During the year which is just closed the number of male scholars who have belonged to the Academy has been 170.

Rooms for the accommodation of some 30 young gentlemen from abroad are provided in the Academy; and are furnished in a manner superior to any other Institution in Western New York. Each room is furnished with a stove, French bedstead, bed and pillows, table, three chairs, pail, washstand, bowl and pitcher. The expenses for room rent are, from \$1.00 to \$1.50 a term for each student.

The charges for Tuition are the same as in the other Academies in the county.

Reading, Writing, and Spelling \$3.00

The same, with English Grammar, Arithmetic, Geography, and N. Philosophy \$4.00

The higher English branches, the higher Mathematics, and the Languages \$6.00

A charge of 25 cents each, for the Fall and Winter terms will be made for incidental expenses. The year is divided into three Terms of 15 weeks each, with a vacation of one week at the end of the Fall and Spring term. The next term, will begin on Thursday, December 7th.

The services of Mr. L.S. Fulton, a professed teacher of Painting, Book-keeping and Penmanship, which were secured last term, will be continued during the winter. This will afford a rare chance for all those who wish to acquire a knowledge of these useful and important branches - And we trust the opportunity now offered will not go unimproved.

In conclusion, the Trustees desire to say to their fellow citizens of the village of Albion, that you have an Institution at your own doors, where you may educate your sons for the discharge of duties they may hereafter be called to perform; or to enter other and higher Seminaries of Learning; and which we deem it both your interest and your duty to patronize. To young gentlemen in the different towns of the county, and elsewhere, we would say, of you wish for accurate and systematic instruction; if you wish to spend a few months, or a few years in one of the pleasantest villages in Western New York; if you wish for pleasant rooms, and an agreeable society to fellow students, come and take up your residence in Albion Academy.

Albion, Nov. 29, 1843

Alexis Ward  
Lemuel C. Paine  
R.S Burrows  
Hugh McCurdy  
T.C. Fanning  
F. Clarke  
O. Nichoson  
F. Fenton  
S. Burrell  
Thos. S. Clark  
and F. Doty