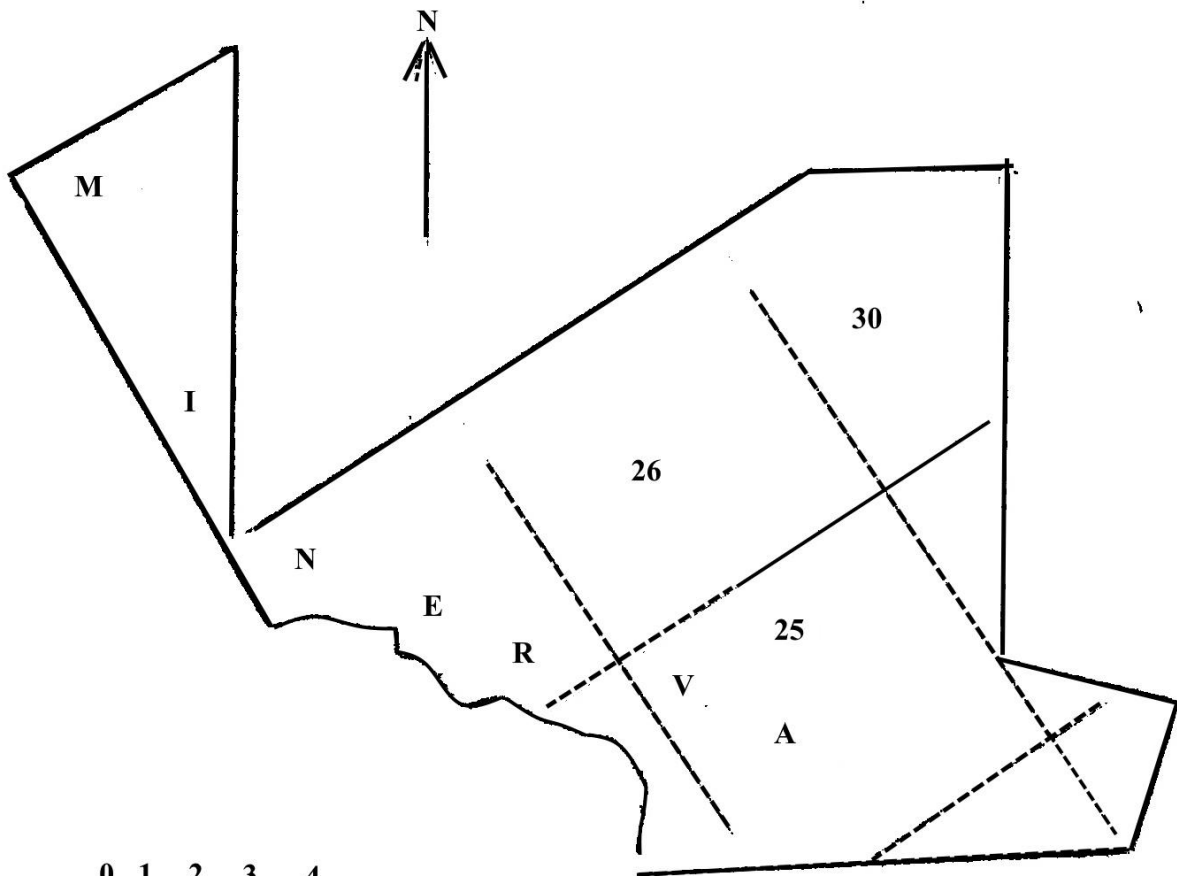


The  
Historical Society  
of the  
Town of Minerva  
Quarterly  
April 1972  
Vol. 1I No. 1



A Town in Essex County  
New York

The next meeting of the Historical Society will be held in the Town Hall at 7:30 P.M. on Tuesday, May 30th. This meeting has been scheduled a month later than usual. Charles LaBar, who is in charge of the program, and his wife Eleanor are on a trip to Germany and will not be home in time for the April date. Charles will be telling us about the making of maple syrup and maple sugar through the years, and will have slides to show. It should be a very interesting meeting.

This will be our Annual Meeting and there will be election of officers. Dues will be payable at this meeting. Membership dues are \$2 (Students \$1), but if you live too far away to attend meetings and do not care to join the society, you may pay \$1 a year for the July thru April Quarterly only. If you pay by mail, send to:  
Mrs. Andrew Halloran  
Minerva, N.Y., 12851

YOU WILL NOT RECEIVE THE JULY QUARTERLY UNLESS YOUR DUES ARE PAID BY JULY 1st.

VERY IMPORTANT

An Amendment to Article V - Section 4 of the Constitution was proposed at the last meeting that will be voted on at the May meeting:

"Upon dissolution of the Society, all monies remaining on hand shall be paid to the Town of Minerva to be used for Historical or Civic purposes."

The above is necessary so that we may acquire "Tax Exempt" status. This must be approved by two-thirds of those members present at the meeting.

"HISTORY OF MINERVA"

At an Executive Meeting held April 7, 1972, the possibility of having another printing of the *History of Minerva* was discussed. The printing company has notified us that our original plates will be five years old and possibly deteriorating. This would be our last chance to have another edition. These reprints would probably have to be sold for no less than \$4.00 per copy. We would be glad to hear your opinion on this prior to, or at the May meeting.

IN MEMORIAM

We were all shocked to learn of the death of Leslie Rist on Sunday, April 26th. He has been most helpful to us in passing on any information that he found about Minerva and its people. History was his great controlling interest and he shall be greatly missed by all those of the area who are history-minded. He was working toward the publication of a booklet that would bring together all of his great fund of knowledge about the early settlers of Newcomb and we hope that someone else will go on with this. We extend our heartfelt sympathy to his mother, Mrs. Iva Rist of Newcomb.

## JANUARY - MARCH MEETING

The January meeting was postponed because of a bad storm and was held on March 28th in the Town Hall. As a result, we had several guests who would not have been able to attend in January. One was Mrs. Betty Kneip who came from N.J. and spent a few days in the Jones home, gathering material on the Evans family and sharing what she has learned from relatives in Minnesota.

Mrs. Louise Hargreaves, Historian of Schroon Lake, was present with two other Schroon Lake ladies. One was Mrs. Beck, a descendant of the Talbot family of Minerva, and the other was Mrs. Potter.

Mrs. Bunce and her mother of Tatham attended, and Mr. and Mrs. Rae Culver of North Creek. Mr. and Mrs. Bowie of Albany and Olmstedville were also present.

The speaker of the evening was Mrs. Mark Fish, Historian of Chestertown, who gave her prize-winning essay on "Coverlets" and spoke also about the various exhibits that had been brought-quilts, crocheted bedspreads, and handwoven blankets and spreads. In her essay, Mrs. Fish brought out the point that many old quilt patterns were drawn by men and that many of the patterns, when used in different parts of the country, were given different names.

## ESSEX COUNTY HISTORIAN

Mr. James Bailey, Director of the museum at Elizabethtown, was recently appointed Essex County Historian by the Board of Supervisors. This position is without salary. The museum receives a yearly grant of \$8000 from the N.Y. State Council on the Arts and \$2000 from Essex County, in order that it may have a full-time director and remain open year-round. Miss Flum, an experienced librarian, has charge of the museum's growing collection of historical books.

Mr. Bailey has called a meeting on May 15th of the Historians of the 18 towns of Essex County, in order that all may become acquainted and make plans for the future. Helen Shevlin and Mabel Jones both expect to attend. Mr. Bailey is getting together material for a brief history of Essex County. He has sent to each historian a copy of the new map showing and numbering all county roads. This will be very helpful.

## MINERVA IN THE 29TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

In the recent reapportionment of Congressional Districts in the state, Minerva was placed in the 29th District along with Warren, Washington, Saratoga, Greene, and Rensselaer Counties; all of Columbia County except one town; and all of Albany County except one town. Minerva is the only town in Essex County which is not in the 30th District.

## SCENIC ROADS

You may have seen a copy of a little booklet called "*Off-the-Beaten-Path-Scenic Roads in the Adirondack Park*." It is put out by the Adirondack Park Association, Inc., with headquarters at Adirondack, N.Y. We are indebted to Philip Fitzsimons and Helen Shevlin for getting one of our scenic roads listed. A part of it is in the Town of Schroon, but it is one of the most beautiful drives of this area. Following is the listing:

**Nearest Community: *Olmstedville***

Trout Brook Road Tour: *Olmstedville* is a small village, reached by CR 29 (County Road) from Pottersville on Route 9 (Exit 29 on Northway). In center of Pottersville, Route 9 bears north to the right and CR29 bears north to the left. Just as you enter *Olmstedville*, before reaching main four corners, turn right on CR 24B, crossing several bridges over Trout Brook to a dead end at Hoffman Road (CR 24). At this point you have two choices:

1. Turn right and follow Hoffman Road to Schroon Lake Village.
2. Turn left to the Church-School combination, and turn right until you reach an old hotel, now called Sky Notch. Magnificent view of the pass to Blue Ridge. Pine tree next to road at end of hotel has sign reading:

"To all lovers of nature, Greetings,

In this spot in the year 1845, this sapling of 12 years  
was transplanted by me at the age of twelve. For 75  
years I have watched and protected it. In my advancing  
years it has given me rest and comfort.

Woodman, spare that tree!  
Touch not a single bough!  
In youth it sheltered me,  
And I'll protect it now."

- *Paschal P. Warren*

June 1, 1920

Age 87

Now retrace your route to the Hoffman Road and turn right on Hoffman Road. Coming to Oliver Pond, you find a campsite on either end. Follow road to Irishtown (old school and St. Mary's Church built in 1847, now unused). Straight ahead takes you back to *Olmstedville*. Or turn right at church to Minerva on Route 28-N. Before reaching Minerva, there is a public beach with cottages and campsites on Minerva Lake.

**Editor's Note:**

When you take this drive, you should know that what is now Sky Notch was formerly Bailey Pond Inn which was run by Arthur and Effie Raymond Warren, parents of Hazel Morse of Minerva and Marian Dimick of South Schroon. These two ladies were born and brought up in that house and Paschal Warren was their grandfather.

You should also know that before you reach Oliver Pond, you will pass on your right, the home of Eugene and Mildred Porter, members of our Historical Society. Their name is on the mailbox at the road. All during the growing season, the Porters' yard is full of lovely flowers which they are always glad to have people enjoy. Beyond and below the Porters is a large new house built by Mr. and Mrs. Bowie who are still only part-time residents of our area. They are also Society members and we look forward to the time when they will be permanent residents.

Farther along you will see a road going off to the right and a sign that says "Shevlin." Follow the arrows across a little bridge and you will see another lovely flower garden with Black Mountain in the background.

ANOTHER GIFT

A card was given us by Dr. Cadbury, through his niece, Dorothea Dickson. It reads:

A SOCIAL DANCE:

will be held at  
THE SUMMIT HOUSE, MINERVA  
Friday evening, Aug. 14, 1891

COMMITTEE OF ARRANGEMENTS

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ed Anderson, Newcomb</li> <li>• Ed McSweeney, North Creek</li> <li>• Chas. Shevlin, Minerva</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Orsin Kellogg, Minerva</li> <li>• Thos. Ratigan, Minerva</li> <li>• John Donnelly, Sand Pond</li> </ul>
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FLOOR MANAGERS

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lawrence Lynn, Minerva</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Orrin Williams, Newcomb</li> </ul>
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YOURSELF AND LADIES ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO ATTEND

GOOD MUSIC IN ATTENDANCE

Tickets \$2.00 - Mark Powers, Proprietor

Mark Powers lived where the Roger Kelly family now lives and he had a bar in the basement. That is probably where the dance was held. We are told that a son later had a shop there for repairing clocks and watches. No one seems to recall hearing the place called Summit House, but that is a very good name for it, since it stands at the top of a hill.

HAVE YOU BEEN WONDERING?

From the Warrensburg News:

Sept. 24, 1931 - Construction of dam on Minerva Creek which will make lake, has been started.

Jan. 14, 1932 - Dam completed at Minerva. Finished a short time ago and lake has now reached normal height, flooding about 100 acres.

## THE HEWITT LETTER

Following is a copy of the letter that was mentioned in our October Quarterly as being loaned by Esther Sheridan of N.Y.C. It was written to Daniel Lynch, grandfather of Mrs. Sheridan and of her sister, Grace O'Connor of Minerva. The letter was written by Sheldon B. Hewitt who left Minerva to go to Wisconsin in 1865. The story of his life, as written by Mr. Lynch in 1912, is to be found in *Minerva 1817-1967* on page 82.

**Neillsville - 18th Jan. 1872**

Well Dan I received your letter but I was away in the woods almost 3 months and did not see it till yesterday. I am glad to hear that you are doing well. I am well and smart for one of my age all except my eyes. They are bad. I cannot see to hunt much but I can trap very well. I killed a buck that was a curiosity, that was his horns. There was 19 points on one horn and 17 on the other and they were in all directions. I got this fall 5 minks, 2 wolves, 1 lynx, 1 wildcat, 1 badger. You must come here and see how they lumber. I have stayed in a camp ever since last October. Sometimes I work but not much. Steve Jones keeps camp for Dan. His wife and daughter cook. Jimmy Gates is boss. Dan is getting rich fast. He has a meat market and doing big business. Buys hogs and packs pork. He bought 500 hogs the other day. I saw hogs there that will weigh 700 pounds. They have hogs in this country and everything else, but there is no use in my trying to describe it to you, it would take a sheet of paper as big as Steub Hewitt said his daughter could write over in an hour, 80 acres. I went down to Iowa to see them. Went on the Mississippi 365 miles.

The old woman gains very slow. She is well otherwise except the lameness. Jim Grogan is married but he works for the company yet. They have 5 or 6 camps, 200 men or more, all Norwegians or very near all. They are good to work and very peaceable. I should like to know what part of Minnesota old Galloway is so I could write to him.

Dan, I have got no account against you. If I had, it is lost and let it go. We can remember the other and when you get money to spare send it or come and fetch it. I wish you would come. Don't be a fool as I was and not believe what you hear about this country. You can live here with  $\frac{1}{4}$  the work you do there. There are lots of men here from Minnesota; the Evans boys with teams are working for Dan. Men that used to live in Horicon are here. No work in Minnesota in winter. December was the coldest month ever known in this country. Now for 2 or 3 weeks it thaws every day and they go with wagons. Dan, if you ever come here, come to Humburd Station, Wis. But do not come without your family if you have any. From Humburd to Wedges Creek 9 miles and where Bub and Fleur lives and you will be at home, and if you are poor Jim will put you up a house in 15 minutes and set you at work in the best sawmill you ever see and anything you want is there-not to Minerva Corners or Glens Falls, it is there.

I can't think of anything to write and can't see. I want you to write often for no one writes lately. Remember me to all who may enquire. So, I remain your ever well-wisher and true friend,

S. B. Hewitt

Tom Chadwick is here lumbering on his own land and Jim buys his logs. Sam Minor and Susan are keeping for him. George Morse and Loren Gates, Steven Jones have all got handsome farms close together 8 miles north from here, and Cortez and Dan have farms there. Aaron is in Iowa but they expect him here this spring. Old Jireh is alive, 84 years old.

(NOTE: This was Jireh Gates and his sons, Dan and Aaron and grandson Cortez. They lived on the Northwoods Club Road in Minerva for many years.)

#### MORE ABOUT THE COLE FAMILY

Since the profile about Jennie Cole Jones came out in the January Quarterly, we have learned a good deal more about her ancestors. Much to our surprise, we learned that the original name was not Cole, but Charbonneau. The first members of the family to come to America were Olivier and Marguerite Garnier Charbonneau who came from Marans, France on the ship *St. Andre*, arriving in Montreal (then Ville Marie) on Sept. 25, 1659. They brought one daughter born in France and had seven other children born in Canada. One of these was Charles who married Marguerite Landry and had, among others, a son named Pierre.

Pierre Charbonneau is the one who came down into N.Y. State about 1840 and changed his name to Peter Cole. The word Charbonneau literally means "coal" in English. While in Canada, Pierre married Catherine Hall on Nov. 24, 1817 in Lacadie, Ste. Jean County, Quebec. One of their twelve children was Jean Baptiste, born in 1827, who became John B. Cole, who lived much of his life in the Schroon Lake area and was the ancestor of Jennie Jones and others in this area. He is the only one of Peter's family who did not go to Wisconsin.

One of John B.'s sons married Betsy Tripp. Mrs. Thomas Neal of Coronado, Calif., is a descendant of the Tripp family and she has been working on the Cole family for some years even though she is not a direct descendant. It is she who discovered most of the above material and has been kind enough to share it with us. She has been corresponding with the Cole descendants who live in Wisconsin, and through them she has a copy of a letter written by a priest in Canada to whom one of the Coles had written for a birth certificate. The birth certificate finally came along with a good scolding for having changed the name Charbonneau to Cole.

#### THOSE WERE THE DAYS - HOUSEHOLD HINTS

- A tiny bit of blue added to the water in which you wash glass adds to its brilliancy.
- Dried orange peel allowed to smolder will kill a bad odor.
- Clean the inside of decanters with tea leaves or chopped potato parings.

PROFILE  
Josie and Ethel Mitchell

Joseph (Josie) was born in Minerva, June 8, 1875, which means that he will be 97 this year. His parents were Joseph (Joe) and Polly Lewis Mitchell. His grandparents were William and Catherine Fradette Mitchell, both of whom were born in Ireland and came to Schroon about 1852, according to census records. They brought up a family of ten children in Paradox where William was a charcoal burner.

William's son Joseph may have worked in Port Henry as it was there that he married Polly Lewis on October 11, 1873. The Lewis family came to Minerva and Polly Mitchell was living with them when the 1875 census was taken. Their oldest child, Joseph or Josie as he was called to distinguish him from his father who was called Joe, was born that June.

Josie was eleven years old when his father in 1886 bought the farm near the Baptist church which was owned by the Rev. J. B. Webster, pastor of the church. It was there that Josie and his three sisters and one brother grew to adulthood. The brother John died of consumption at the age of eighteen. (The large house burned in 1960 when it was occupied by the Herbert Mitchell family.)

On August 19, 1906, Josie Mitchell married Ethel Ricketson and they celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary last year. Josie built a house opposite his father's home and that is where he and Ethel spent their life together until they went to Florida.

Josie continued the old type settler's way of life in that he farmed to meet the family needs and yet planned to be in readiness when there was an opportunity to work with his horses for other people, or on the town roads. Now don't lose sight of his era. The horses of these earlier years had to be the dual purpose type animals, and Josie was able to drive with the best of them; so he was sought more for the "buckboard work". He was a good woodsman, could serve as a guide in either fishing or hunting or work with the axe or crosscut saw.

Josie's work on the farm was neatly and efficiently done. A field of his plowing would bring admiration and also envy. Men experienced in the art would concede that the job was well done but add that if they had as good stone-free land to plow, they could do as well. However, there was a reason for that. Josie did a thorough job picking not only the small stones, but the boulders of a size that maybe better men would have left unmolested were dug out and hauled away on the stone boat.

Also, as a public servant, he took his turn on the school board, serving during the time when our new building was put up which is now our town hall. He was town assessor for several terms and made an excellent bid for Supt. of Highways. He was Justice of the Peace for many years and, as such, was one of the Town Board that signed the contract bringing electricity to Minerva in 1929.

Ethel Ricketson Mitchell was born in Newcomb, Nov. 22, 1887, the daughter of John and Malinda Sutton Ricketson. Her father was one of the well-known guides of the area who spent much time in the woods with hunting and fishing parties.

Ethel's mother was the daughter of Manning and Phila Ann Alden Sutton of Newcomb. Her grandfather was Willard Alden, a Methodist minister in Newcomb who was a direct descendant of Alden and Priscilla Mullins, both of whom came on the Mayflower in 1620. (Mrs. John Ricketson of Warrensburgh has the charts which prove this descent.)

Ethel and Josie Mitchell had ten children, all of whom are still living. This meant a very busy life for Ethel. There was no running water in her house, and water had to be carried uphill from the home of Joe and Polly Mitchell, who considered themselves very fortunate in having a good spring below their house and a ram to force the water up the hill and into a large tank in the shed at the back of their house. Josie and Ethel, along with many Minerva people, had no running water until the town water system was put in, in 1944.

Ethel taught her children to help with the work and they were a busy happy household. She always took time to rock her babies to sleep, saying that this was the only time she had to rest. She made her own bread, pies and cakes before the day of mixes and churned her own butter. She canned and stored garden produce for winter use along with pickles and preserves, some of the latter made from wild berries that the children were sent out to pick. Ethel also made the clothing for the family. When Josie was away helping to keep the North Woods Club Road passable in winter or was doing some other work that kept him away from home at other time, Ethel and the children did the chores - milking and feeding the cows, etc. etc.

In 1959, Josie and Ethel went to Florida to spend the winter with their daughters who live there, Ruth Foote and Edith Mitchell, and since then have spent most of the time in Florida. They still love Minerva and get back each summer to see their old neighbors and to visit their many children who live in the area - Helen Ferris in South Glens Falls, Dorothy Gaff in Saratoga, Clara Roblee in Pleasant Valley, Herbert in Minerva, Wilfred in Vermont, Ralph in Pennsylvania, and Thelma Buchanan in Ohio. During the past year Royce has moved to Florida.

Congratulations to Josie and Ethel Mitchell who have lived long and useful lives.  
**Warrensburg News - Feb. 7, 1924**

Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Mitchell married 50 years. Mr. Mitchell was born at Crown Point and moved to Minerva when six. He later married Polly Lewis who came from Vermont when a girl. They were married Oct. 11, 1873 in Port Henry. Returning to Minerva, they lived in several places, one being on the side of Moxam Mt. back of Lewis Beeman's residence. They later purchased the present residence and farm from Rev. J. R. Webster. Mr. Mitchell spent winters lumbering; in the summer he cleared the land and worked the farm and for 42 years drove for the R. and L. train service. His son Josiah lives next door. They had ten children.

## INTERESTING BITS ABOUT AREA CHURCHES

**Newcomb**

From *Adirondack News*, published by Washington Chase in Newcomb.  
Information supplied to us by the late Leslie Rist.

**Oct. 20, 1893** - A grand concert for the benefit of the Catholic Church in Newcomb, N.Y., was conducted at the Wayside Inn Hall on the 13th. The affair was conducted by Rev. Father Byrnes of Olmstedville. Several ladies and gentlemen from Minerva entertained the large audience with singing, speaking and instrumental music, assisted by Miss Harrigan of New York. The ladies furnished ample ice cream and lemonade, and the occasion wound up with a social dance until daylight. Net proceeds amounted to \$75.00. In fact the whole affair was a rare treat for all lovers of good music and a good time was had generally. (Leslie learned from Mrs. Hargreaves, Historian of Schroon, that Miss Harrigan was one of a famous family of entertainers and that some of them still own land near Schroon Lake.)

**Nov. 10, 1893** - Ground is broken for the Catholic Church. The site was purchased from Washington Chase and is one of the finest in town. A festival and Ball will be given at Wayside Inn on Thanksgiving Eve for the benefit of the new Catholic Church which is now being erected in this place.

**Schroon Lake**

From diary of Margaret Bradley

**July 17, 1881** - Henry Banks and I went to Schroon to Mass - the first Mass that was said in the church.

**Olmsteadville**

Information from Henry Bradley's store accounts, book C: Page 64

**Dec. 18, 1871** - Account of Henry Dornburgh  
. Credited by work on church per self - \$3.75  
. Credited by work on church per Willie - 3.13

(Henry Dornburgh was an uncle of Elizabeth Sullivan who tells us that he placed large earthen jars in the ceiling of the church in order to improve the acoustics. Henry had a son William who was then 18 years old.)

From Margaret Bradley's diary -  
**July 4, 1883** - The bell was blessed.

From *Warrensburg News* - Notes taken by Mrs. Paul Clifford of Brant Lake -  
**July 9, 1908** - St. Joseph's Church has been done over on the inside and thoroughly painted on the outside.

March 8, 1923 - A handsome statue of St. Elizabeth with pedestal was recently unveiled in St. Joseph's Church, the gift of Mrs. Margaret Wall Bailey of North Creek and Miss Elizabeth Wall of Ticonderoga, in memory of their parents Dr. John C. Wall and Elizabeth Wall.

### Cemetery Association

We Andrew Johnston, Chairman, and David Wilson, Secretary, certify that a meeting was held at the M.E. Church in the Village of Olmstedville in the Town of Minerva on the 28th day of December, 1882 pursuant to notice for the purpose of forming an association to procure and hold lands to be used exclusively for a cemetery or place for the burial of the dead. That the names of the persons present were Thompson S. Barnes, Thomas Welch, Thomas G. Shaw, Andrew Johnston, David Wilson, Gardner Huntley, Watson Huntley.

We further certify that it was unanimously voted to form an association and that name thereof be "Olmstedville Cemetery Association." Also voted that the number of trustees be nine and the following were elected by ballot - T.G. Shaw, Andrew Johnston, Wesley Barnes, John Lavery, Martin Talbot, Gardner Huntley, Edward Lavery, John R. Wilson, and David Wilson.

(The above copied by Mabel Jones, March 21, 1972 from a book on Corporations in the County Clerk's Office in Elizabethtown.)

### HUMOR

#### Sorrows of Satan

Customer: "I'm interested in buttons. Do you have buttons?"

The storekeeper showed her a rack containing an assortment that should have satisfied any garment on any person, but she showed disappointment rather than interest.

Customer: "No, I was looking for old buttons. I was told I might find some here. I want them for a collection."

Storekeeper: "If you can get away with putting buttons in the collection, you're better than I am."

#### Butter!! Credit!!

Customer: "We would like to do some trading here. Could we get some things and pay for them with butter?"

Storekeeper: "We take butter in payment. Have you the butter?"

Customer: "No, not yet, but we plan to. We are going to have a cow."

Storekeeper: "You don't have any cow yet but you are selling butter?!"

Customer: "No, we are buying a cow, but we don't have her home yet."

Storekeeper: "Well - when are you getting her home?"

Customer: "We don't really know. They advised us to leave her down there until she had been bred."

Storekeeper: "She is not milking now?!"

Customer: "No, she is only a heifer and they say she shouldn't be bred till she is two years old."

## MORE ABOUT RICHARD EVANS

We have had a letter from Mrs. A. J. Doffing of Wabasha, Minn., daughter of the Richard Evans whose military record was given in our January Quarterly. It is good to find out more about at least some of the many people from Minerva who went West.

Unlike most of the others, the Evans family left Minerva with money to invest in whatever enterprises interested them. The first Richard and his brother William became wealthy through lumbering and other businesses carried on in Minerva. Richard had ten children with whom to divide his wealth while William had only one step-daughter.

One of Richard's sons was Richard II, father of Mrs. Doffing. She tells us that, after returning from the war, he went to college. Since we have learned from William Hill of Amsterdam that Richard's brother Norman graduated from a Commercial College in Troy, N.Y., it is a very probable that Richard also attended that school.

On Oct. 14, 1867 in Glens Falls Richard married Frances Hare about whose parentage we know nothing. They must have gone to Dover, Minn. by 1870 as their daughter Helena Georgia was born there in Oct. of that year. Richard is said to have had money from his father to start a general store and lumber yard which he ran successfully until catastrophe struck in the form of fire. The day after his insurance policy expired his whole establishment burned, and he was left with only one team and a wagon, plus a wife and two children.

Richard then hired out to other people to draw their logs and lumber. He saved his money to buy more teams and wagons and hired other men to drive them for him. He also went to Wisconsin with his horses and worked in the woods one or two winters.

About this time railroads were being built in the area and Richard helped clear the rights of way. He gradually worked into the business of being a grading contractor for railroads and built up a fortune for himself through the years. He built railroad beds in 38 states until 1914. His daughter says that he gradually bought steam shovels and other expensive pieces of machinery. He is said to have been an expert mathematician who could add four columns wide without paper or pencil and could estimate the earth needed for a fill more accurately than the trained engineers on the job.

He had just completed a job in Padukah, Ky., and had left all equipment there, when he was granted a \$3 million contract out of St. Louis, Mo. The job was held up for lack of funds and the European situation. The railroad was never built and the equipment in Kentucky was vandalized. What was left was sold for \$25,000. Mr. Evans let 300 acres of timberland in northern Minn. go for taxes.

Richard's wife, Frances Hare, died when their son and daughter were quite young. He took a second wife, but had no children by her. In 1901, he married Agnes Doherty by whom he had two children. The oldest was Richard, Jr., the father of Mrs. Kneip who has been in Minerva several times and is collecting material for a genealogy of the Evans family.

The other child was Cynthia, named for her grandmother, Cynthia West Evans, who is now Mrs. Doffing of Wabasha, Minn. Richard's home at that time was in Minneapolis, Minn., but his family moved about with him a good deal as he contracted for railroads in various states. After 1914, they made their home for a time in Bay St. Louis, Miss., on the Gulf of Mexico, and then returned to Minneapolis where Richard spent the rest of his days. He retained a clear and active mind until he died in 1936 at the age of 90. He was given a full military funeral.

(We are indebted for the above information to Mrs. A. J. Doffing of Wabasha, Minn., Mrs. Richard Evans of Excelsior, Minn., and her daughter, Mrs. A. M. Kneip of Arlington, N.J.)

#### MORE HUMOR

"Micah 6:8 - What doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, to love mercy and to walk humbly with thy God"

#### How would you handle this one?

This woman was toting a gallon jar of butter when she came into the store. Her trading request was: Could she exchange this jar for another the same size.

Now dealing in butter was a tricky business. In those days, there was no such thing as government inspection and while the farmers' wives varied tremendously in their skill at butter making, rare indeed was the one who admitted preferring somebody else's butter to her own.

She noticed the storekeeper's puzzled expression and was frank and honest: "There is really nothing the matter with this butter if you didn't know about it, but a mouse fell in the cream."

The storekeeper took the butter to the back room, quickly changed the paper cover and brought it back to her.

---How many customers did he lose?

---Could Solomon have done better?

#### With Recycling in everyone's thoughts here are some ideas on THE VALUE OF OLD NEWSPAPERS - March 5, 1896

It is the wise housekeeper who always has a few old newspapers on hand. When economy requires, she makes one into a stove polisher, and it does excellent work. Layers of newspapers do not come amiss as a mat when carpets. In fact, newspapers make a floor wedding gown appear better than it should to the stores - because the presence of the ink in the paper is said to exclude moths. Newspapers make a chest protector for those with colds. Worn newspapers are good winter clothes when they are to be packed away, they are unequalled.

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 Johnston, Andrew – 10  
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 Jones, Mabel – 2, 10  
 Jones, Steve – 5  
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 Kelly, Roger – 4  
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 Porter, Mildred – 4  
 Potter, Mrs. – 2  
 Ratigan, Thomas – 4  
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