

Warrensburgh Historical Society

March 1998

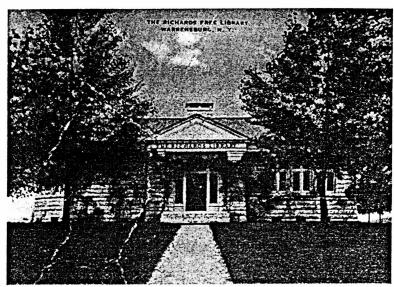
Volume 2 Issue 2

The Founding and Early History of The Richards Library by Sarah Farrar

In The Warrensburgh News issue of August 5, 1901 were run the headlines... The Richards Library; Magnificent Gift to the Town of Warrensburgh; Opened to the Public Tuesday Afternoon...Andrew Carnegie's Generosity Outdone...Donors Provide for Perpetual Support of the Institution.

The article went on to say (in part)... The generosity of Andrew Carnegie, the iron king and multi-millionaire, in endowing public libraries in many cities and towns in this country and in Scotland, has won for him world-wide fame and well deserved commendation. But, it will be noticed, there is a string attached to nearly all of Carnegie's gifts. Every city or town to which his beneficence has been extended has been required to provide annually a sum appromixmately ten percent of the amount given for the support of the institution. The Richards Public Library has been presented to the town of Warrensburgh with absolutely no conditions, the donors having amply provided for its perpetual support. Carnegie's generosity is therefore outdone in this magnificent gift to our town by Miss Clara Richards of Warrensburgh, and Mrs. Rowland C. Kellogg of Elizabethtown, who was formerly Miss Mary Richards.

In the latter part of the 19th century, some of the churches of Warrenburgh had small collections of books for the use of parishioners and Sunday school. Stewart A. Farrar had in his private library several books bound in red cloth, numbered and stamped as possessions of the Presbyterian Sabbath School Library. In 1890, the Richards sisters had seen to the establishment of the Warrensburgh Circulating Library in the Church of the Holy Cross (Episcopal). One could subscribe to membership for a dollar a year.



It must be that the Circulating Library did not serve well enough to suit them because they set about to rectify the situation by establishing The Richards Library. The University of the State of New York granted the charter July 1, 1901. At a cost of \$55,000 (site and building..\$15,000), endowment \$40,000), the Richard Library was built. The News article goes on to describe the building: The Library building stands on a sightly location on Elm Street opposite the new high school [now the HHHN offices]. It is built of native granite [limestone] from the quarries of David Brown & Sons near the county home. Jonah Hess of Johnstown had charge of the construction and sublet the contract for the stonework to David VanNess, also of that place. The plans were prepared by Architect A. W. Fuller of Albany.

The interior of the building is divided into three public rooms and a small private room for the librarian. The rooms are large and well-lighted and are furnished with every convenience of a modern library. The circulating department of literature occupies a section and the shelves are so conveniently arranged according to their class on steel

shelves constructed especially for this library. Each department of literature occupies a section and the shelves are so conveniently arranged that all books are within easy reach. The librarian's desk faces the center room. In this room is the catalogue cabinet, a series of drawers alphabetically arranged according to the Dewey system. This form of catalogue is elastic, a card being devoted to each book. Therefore it is always complete. No printed catalogues will be used. The reading room is in the south end of the building. Here are comfortable chairs, good light, and tables upon which will be found the latest papers and periodicals for the enjoyment of any person who cares to use them between the hours of 9 a.m. and 9 p.m. on weekdays, and 3 to 6 p.m. on Sundays. The building is lighted by electricity and will be heated by a hot air furnace. In the center room is a large chimney and fireplace in which a cheery blaze will dispell the chills in the early spring and fall.

For funds the Library received \$100 per annum from the State of New *(continued page four)*

A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

In reviewing the accomplishments of this Society of the year 1997, I was a bit surprised. If there was any doubt as to our dedication, this should eliminate it.

- *Annual General Membership Meeting and program, enitled, "Courting in Warrensburgh"
 - * Spring Issue of the "WHS Quarterly"
- * A program entitled "North Country Food Traditions" presented by Varick Chittenden of T.A.U.N.Y.
- * STICKY WICKET Croquet Games and Picnic-Our fundraiser
 - * Fall Issue of the "WHS Quarterly"
- * Society promotion at the "World's Largest Garage Sale"
- * Winter Issue of the "WHS Quarterly"
- *The Heritage of the Emerson National Bank of Warrensburgh" developed in cooperation with the <u>Glens</u> Falls National Bank
- * "Christmas in Warrensburgh" displaying a collection of old bottles from Warrensburgh's dairies, pharmacies and the "Bottling works", and a computerized postcard display by John Wulfken
 - * Holiday Dinner Social
- *Our membership has increased some 67% including, three "Life" memberships. Certainly, a "Life" membership shows a special confidence and support of this organization, and therefore, warrents special recognition. Those members are: *EldonHall, Jerold Quintal*, and *Caron Akeley*. (Caron has been supporting the Society since we reorganized in the Fall of 1996.)

On the topic of membership, a couple of notes:

First, in 1998 membership renewals were due on January 1st. This will be the last Society mailing to anyone not in good standing. It's certainly not fair to those who conscienciously support the organization with their dues, to say nothing of those who give of their time.

Secondly, I will say something of those who give of their time. Those who give some, give a lot. We have a fantastic group who, through their efforts, make the Soceity work. To the rest of you- hey, come on, help us out a little bit. If I had my way, as part of your annual dues, I would mandate two hours of your time. That's all we need. If many

of you would commit to two hours annually it would ease our burden substantially. Perhaps that time could be in writing an appropriate article for this paper. That would be very much appreciated. It could be about almost anything somehow related to the history of Warrensburgh. Seniors, your memories are invaluable. Students, what do you think of our town? The rest of you - just two hours!

So as not to end on a "down note", know that our volumteers are having a fun time being involved. We enjoy a lot of learning of various aspects of our Town's history, and socializing with folks of similar interests.

New Members

John Austin
Io and Matt Bruce
Maynard Baker
Joyce Harvey
James and Ellouise Parrott
John Hall, Atty
Anthony Fidd
Jerold Quintal, Supervisor

Board of Directors

Delbert D. Chambers, President John Wulfken, Vice President Linda Denner, Secretary Shane Newell, Treasurer Caron L. Akeley Jean Hadden Kaena Peterson Teresa Whalen

Calender of Events

March 16-27 -computerized postcard collection at the Richard's Library

March 25- Board of Directors meetiong

March 28- Warren County Historical Societies Forum at Gabey's Restaurant, Warrensburgh 10a.m. to 3 p.m. For more information call John Wulfken at 623-2919.

May 1 - Deadline for WHS Quarterly Summer Issue

May 25- Memorial Day Parade. Join us lets have a Big Turnout!

June - Summer Issue of WHS Quarterly will be out.

August 9 - Sticky Wicket Croquet Games and picnic details in the <u>Summer</u> Issue of our WHS Quarterly.

*Remember! Board of Directors regularly scheduled meeting are the fourth Wednesday of each month at seven o'clock Exceptions are well noted in advance. All Society members are welcome to attend. Call for locations or other questions at 623-3514.

Warrensburgh Historical Society Quarterly is published March, June, September and December Submissions are welcome

Next Issue Deadline is May 1
Editor Linda Denner
Production Coordinator:
Delbert D. Chambers

Warrensburgh Historical Society P. O. Box 441 Warrensburgh, NY 12885

Antique Soup by Caron Akeley Wicker Furniture

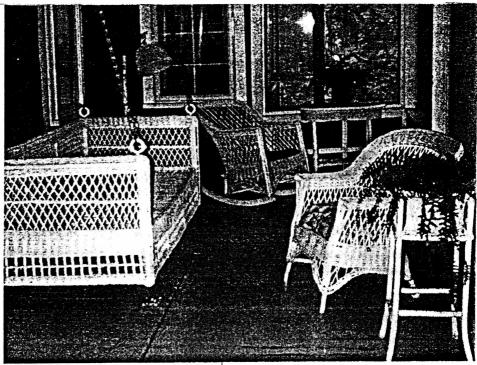
This is the time of year that many of us start to think that winter has been around long enough and daydreaming of balmy days ahead is a pleasant diversion. Sitting out on the porch, sipping a cool lemonade and watching the flowers bloom from the comfort of an old wicker rocking chair is one of those daydreams.

Wicker has been around since ancient times and has been found in excavations in Egypt. The name wicker implies articles made from rattan, from a palm tree, willow, reed, grasses, and in modern times, fiber machine made from twisted paper. The word wicker itself is thought to be of Scandianavian origin. the Swedish word "wika" meaning "to bend" and "vikker" meaning "willow".

The earliest wicker pieces to arrive in this country showed up in a roundabout way with people involved in the China Trade. It is said that the earliest piece to arrive was a cradle that came over on the Mayflower.

In the mid-nineteenth century. trade ships from China would pack rattan in amongst the cargo to keep it in place during the voyage and when arriving at Boston would dump it out onto the docks. One enterprising young man names Cyrus Wakefield noticed that it had potential for funiture making material. He started a rattan furniture business that grew over the years until he had a fleet of ships importing it just for the furnitue making business. He designed and made very elaborate vitorian wicker furniture for the porch. Chairs, tables, desks, cribs, plant stands, swings, and even an occasional pottychair were all typical pieces found in the victorian home. Elaborate wicker baby carriages were also quite the thing. It was very popular to use very fancy wicker chairs and benches as props when having your portrait taken in the local photographer's studio. By the turn of the century, many houses had glassed in "sun rooms" that were invariably furnished all in wicker.

By 1910, all the fanciful victorian style wicker with it's flowing lines and curliques, was considered out of fashion. With the angular, straight-lined mission furniture style coming into vogue, wicker styles soon followed suit. By the 1930's wicker was pretty much out of style for indoor use, but many pieces survived "out on the porch". Luckily for us, the cool, comfortable wicker porch furniture continues to provide us with a pleasant place to rest and watch life go by.



Pat's Column by Pat Terrell

Desserts are surely the favorite part of any meal or celebration.

In the country, desserts were made from whatever was available during the particular season or what had been "put-up", canned or dried for later use. For example in June strawberries and rhubarb were and still are abundant. These fruits were canned seperately or combined and also made into sauces and jams to be used later as dessert; made into pies, eaten on bread or *my favorite*tarts!

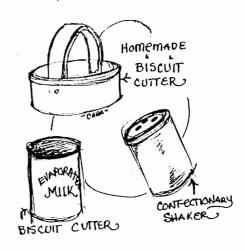
Pies were made the year round as fruits were "put-up with the season. The leftover pie crust dough was not discarded but shaped or cut with a can (such as I explained in my previous article to cut Baking Powder Biscuits), or cookie cutters into shapes to hold a spoonfull of jelly, jam or sauces. These were cooled, filled and "tested" by the children as a treat before dinner.

My Mother's recipe for filling was also used in cookies.

In a saucepan combine:
4 tablespoons water
1 cup (rounded) raisins, dates or figs. These can be combines or used seperately. A few chopped nuts may

also be used. 1/2 cup sugar 1/2 teaspoon lemon juice

Combine all the ingredients in a saucepan over a medium heat. Cook the mixture only untill it is blended, taking care to stir the mixture frequently. When the mixture is ready, set the pan aside for it to cool completely. Stir occassionally during the cooling period. The mixture must cool completely before you can use it.



photograph courtesy of Carol Flynn

(continued from page one)

York, \$100 per annum from the Town, and the rest from interest on invested endowments.

A Miss Bartlett of the Pratt Institue set up the Library and catalogued the collection. Miss Mary S. Crandall took over as Librarian on September 1, 1901 upon returning from the Pan-American Expostion.

Thomas W. Smith was the janitor who cleaned the building, stoked the coal furnace, and took the Christmas cactus home in the summer. (He disliked that cactus, and one summer it disappeared.) On summer afternoons, Tom Smith, whose main occupation was driver for Miss Richards, would take Miss Richards and Mrs. Kellogg for drives. Miss Bartlett was invited along. She told Miss Crandall she would not be working some afternoons because she went for drives with Miss Richards. Word got back to Miss Richards. Miss Bartlett was not invited again.

The Board of Trustees was composed of Miss Richards, Mrs. Kellogg, Dr. Daniel Bown Howard, MD., Ezra Wilkins Benedict, Principal of the High School, and Rev. Guy Harte Purdy, Rector of the Church of the Holy Cross. The term of office was to be five years; the trustees were to elect their own successors; and Miss Richards and Mrs. Kellogg were to succeed themselves for life. (The only change has been to raise the number of trustees to seven.)

The Library was active in the community. Book exhibits were circulated amoung the churches. Historical talks were given at the Library by guest speakers. Lantern Talks with slides shown were given periodically. New acquisitions were listed in *The News* several times a year.

The first case of vandalism occurred in 1910..the mutilation of a magazine. It was concluded that the perpetrator of the crime must have been from out-of-town because "no resident of Warrensburgh would be guilty of such a despicable act".

In May, 1911, an addition was begun using stone from the Brown quarry. It was finished early the next October. The Richards sisters financed the addition. Also in 1911, in November, a proposition was

submitted to the taxpayers of the Town providing for an increase in the annual appropriation for The Richards Library from \$100 per annum to \$300 per annum. It was voted down, and J. M. Somerville, proprietor of *The News*, ran an editorial decrying "Warrensburgh's Shame".

On December 22, 1914, The Richards Library burned. The December 24th issue of The News gave a complete description of the fire, which was thought to have started from the furnace or an overheated pipe in the basement. Only the outer walls of stone and the chimney are left standing. The newly organized Hackensack Hose company made a brave and determined fight to save the building, but the dense smoke which filled every room made entrance impossible and blocked their efforts to locate and extinguish the blaze...The total loss is estimated at \$18,000. The building, which was supposed to be practically fireproof, was insured at \$3,500 and the contents for \$1,500.

When the fire broke out, the janitor and the librarian and her assistant were at their noon dinners. A passerby, Seth A. Reed, "noticed an unusual amount of heavy black smoke issuing from the chimney". Discovering that the Library was filled with smoke, he rushed across the street to inform Principal Chilson at the High School who rang the fire alarm on the school bell. William Hadden, fire chief, was notified at the shirt factory, and Lewis E. Crandall, uptown captain, was called out with his men and apparatus. But the snow was deep, the nearest fire hydrant near the residence of James E. Goodman was a 1,000 feet distant, the smoke was very dense, and "a violent gale of wind..was at its height". The fire was in the walls and could not be reached.

Mr. Reed, Charles F. Burhans, J.E. Johnson, William Hadden, Earl Herrick, Maurice Ashe, and others set out to save as must of the contents as possible. Most of the curios and artifacts in the museum in the new addition were saved, as were the card catalogue, the library records, borrowers cards, some furniture and some books. But of the nearly 6,000 books, only about 1,000 were saved, and the original charter burned.

Mary Stewart Farrar was in Miss Regina Robert's 4th grade room which faced the burning Library. Mrs. Farrar remembers the class being allowed to watch out their window as the high school boys and men teachers went to help. They formed lines at the Library windows to receive the salvaged materials handed out by the men inside.

After a Board of Trustees meeting December 19, the intention to rebuild was announced. Mrs. Richards and Mrs. Kellogg would pay for the building, but the town would have to replace the books. And in the meantime, the Library work would continue in the parish rooms of the Church of the Holy Cross. All borrowers were asked to return their books so that the card catalog could be corrected and stock of the situation could be taken. (With the few books that were left a new accession book was begun.) The full insurance was paid, but it covered barely a third of the damages.

The rebuilt Library (opened September 23, 1915) was constructed to be as fireproof as possible by R. H. Rheinlander, a Glens Falls contractor. It was completed two months behind schedule because metal fixtures were held up by the war effort. The only wood in the construction is in the doors, window frames, and the wainscoting. The bookstacks, desk, tables, and chairs are of solid oak. All the books were wrapped in manila covers and still were so covered until 1946.

Then finally on November 2, 1915, the Town of Warrensburgh voted to raise the town tax appropriation to \$300 per annum. There was an editorial in *The News* commenting on the voting result and remarking on women suffrage (only thirteen women voted).

In various editorials and articles in The News, the usefulness of the library to the community has been commented upon. After the fire the following sentiment was expressed. The good accomplished by the library in the training of the young, the development of literary taste among adults, and a general advancement in culture cannot be estimated. That they will rebuild is to devoutly hoped.

From 1914 to 1935 the holdings doubled and the circulation tripled. In 1943, Miss Crandall retired because of illness and died soon after. Mrs. George Cameron (Jennie Daniel that was), who had been assistant since 1933, became librarian. Clara Richards died in 1924; Mary Richards Kellogg had died in 1918. Dr. Daniel Brown Howard died in 1903. Professor Ezra Wilkins Benedict left for another position in 1909. Rev. Guy Harte Purdy moved up in the church hierarchy to eventually become a bishop.

Thomas W. Smith, who lived across from his brother George on Smith Street, and among his many jobs was also Overseer of the Poor, (and he was my great granduncle died in 1939).



Clara Richards
courtesy The Richards Library

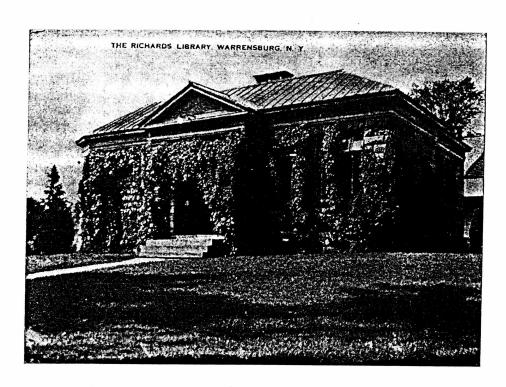
The Richards Girls by Sarah M. Farrar

Clara Richards and Mary Richards Kellogg were the daughters of Samual Taylor Richards and Mary P. Burhans. Samuel T. Richards was a businessman and a Civil War veteran. He was the Colonel of the 118th Regiment N. Y. Volunteers. He paid for Company C from Warrensburgh. He and Captain M. Nelson Dickinson were proud that they never applied for pensions. His parents were Peletiah Richards and Sally Wheeler. Peletiah Richards was a businessman and land dealer.

Mary P. Burhans was the daughter of Benjamin Peck Burhans and Rebecca Wickes. B. P. Burhans owned the tannery and had partnerships in other businesses in town.

Samual Richards was invalided home in 1863, and Mary died soon after. Samual died in the 1870's. The girls lived with relatives.

Mary Richards married Rowland Case Kellogg who had been an officer in her



Early Postcard of the Richard's Library courtesy of The John Wulfken Postcards of Warrensburgh Collection

father's regiment. He became a State Senator from Plattsburgh.

After Mary was widowed the sisters lived at The Elms. They travelled a good deal. After they were gone, their cousins, the Ishams, lived at The Elms. In the 1940's the house was bought by Philip and Ethel Roberts who renames it The Colony House and ran a rooming house, restaurant, motel, and antique shop. Thomas and Beverly Sprague bought it in the 1960's and renamed it *The Pillars*. Now it is owned and run by Ray and Patricia Wassel, and the elm trees are long gone to Dutch Elm disease.



Mary Richards Kellogg courtesy of The Richards Library

William Bond King of Warrensburgh by Jean Hadden

Can you imagine Warrensburgh, the Queen Village of the Adirondacks, being named "Bondsburgh?" Legend has it that William Bond, a lone settler who was sick and tired of the growing masses of humanity that over the years had spread steadily northward from Plymouth, Massachusetts where the Pilgrims had landed in 1620, pushed even further north to seek the solitude and freedom of the mighty Adirondack mountains. Before that time no one had ever bothered much with this area and although Indians hunted here, no major tribe had ever settled and called it home.

All this changed when Major General William Johnson, leading a provincial army against the French, announced on September 3, 1755 that he was having a "fort built at this lake where no house ever before was built, nor a rod of land cleared, which the French call Lac St. Sacrement, but I have given it the name of Lake George."

William Bond probably drove his wagon past the black remains of the fort that had burned in a bloody battle in 1757 and through the area, which would some day would be the town of Warrensburgh, in 1784 and some sources say 1786. I like to let my imagination take flight about this man arriving in the valley beneath the big stone mountain (later called Hackensack). gently wrapped in the arms of the beautiful Schroon River He must have felt that he had arrived in Paradise as he viewed its unspoiled beauty. I imagine him camping that first night on the shore of the little body of water he called "Bond's Pond." Was his wagon pulled by horses or oxen? Could he have dug a shallow pit for shelter and roofed it with planks from his wagon? That first night could he have looked at the stars and possibly drank a little corn whiskey he bought in Albany and dreamed of someday becoming the name-sake of a thriving community located around the pond, while he listened to the music of the wind in the big pine trees?

William was born in England in 1740. He sailed the wild Atlantic Ocean and settled in 1760 in Westchester County, a little north of Long Island, New York. For over twenty years he must have worked and saved his money. He was in his early 40's as he slept that first night in his new frontier home and his most

valuable possession was a deed dated October 11, 1784 stating that he was the owner of two parcels of land, each containing 500 acres from Jacob Watson, of New York City.

These parcels were a part of the holdings of Edward Jessup and 39 other persons, proprietors of Hyde Township. These gentlemen had acquired their Patent from King George III, King of Great Britain, dated September 10, 1774, which granted them 40,000 acres. William's parcel, bought and dearly paid for, was part of all this land.

In our time, in the town of Warrensburgh, the name of William Bond should be as well known as the name George Washington is to the rest of the country, but oddly enough it isn't. His name is hardly remembered at all by most people. Not only was our town not named for it's first settler but some future, uncaring person changed the name of Bond's Pond to that of Echo Lake.

No one is really sure just which Warren...Joseph the hero of Bunker Hill or James the Warrensburgh tavern keeper, the town is really named for, but that was to come much later. It is believed that Williams's land laid mostly around Echo Lake and the old Fairground area, where the new housing development is located behind Ashe's Hotel.

In the years William spent in Westchester County, did he acquire a wife? Was Mrs. Bond a lady of royal English birth, a dutch farm girl, an Indian maiden? He must have had a companion because one of the few things we know about the man is that he had a daughter. Although her name has been lost to us, we do know she married the son of Peleg Tripp of Chestertown.

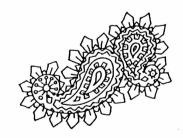
After William secured his land in Warrensburgh, he later bought another tract of land where the village of Chester now stands. His grandson, James Tripp was born August 12, 1816 in Warrensburgh, and became a farmer. James married first, Phoebe A. Palmer and second, Dorothea Mills. Phoebe's children were Hiram, Maria and Josephine. Dorothea's were Isaac and Thomas Tripp. They settled in Chestertown in 1846 and are all buried there. Many years later, in 1961, a descendant of this famiy, Dora Tripp Bullock, of Glens Falls, donated

William's original deed to his 1000 acres of Warrensburgh land to the Richards Library located in the town.

The next settler to arrive in Warrensburgh after William was Joseph Hatch, who came here in 1787 and soon after him Joseph Hutchinson, Sideon and Stokes Potter and then Josiah Woodward brought his family from Connecticut. Isaac Woodward was only fourteen years old when he arrived here with his family in 1789. The Woodwards were the seventh family to settle in this section of the country north of the head of Lake George. Aaron Varnum came in 1788 and James Pitts built a tavern in 1789.

What eventually happened to the mysterious William Bond? No one knows where his lonely grave lies, or even if it is in this area. Is it possible that he woke up one morning to discover that civilization had finally caught up with him and decided to once again move on to seek the last frontier? Did he die peacefully in his bed or did he meet his maker with his boots on, possibly laying beside a wagon track with a tomahawk buried in his skull?

In the Jan.-Feb. 1998 issue of The Patents, put out by the Northeastern New York Genealogical Society, Judge John Austin had a rare list of residents of Queensbury in 1790 which then comprehended all of Warren County. William Bond is listed in Warrensburgh. He was gone long before the town was formed in 1813 as none of the early records bear his name. He came, left little more than his name and then disappeared into the mists of Adirondack lore, leaving behind and echo saying, "William Bond was here."



The Stone Antique Shop by Ed Kreinheder

Ed Powers operated an antique shop in the fine old stone building at 27 Main Street. He had been there in the 1930's and was about 60 years old when I met him in the early 1940's. It was by far the finest shop in town and one of the best in the area.

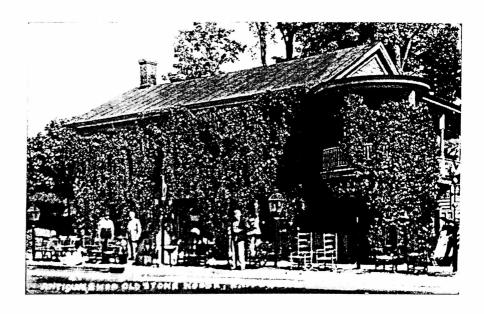
By local tradition it was build before 1800 as a blacksmith shop and the upper floor used as a ballroom.

Powers always had a fine collection of Windsor chairs and early american furniture. I remember seeing things like sets of stenciled Hitchcock chairs, a Hepplewhite tambour front secretary, and an early Queen Anne country highboy. Period chests of drawers of all kinds, weather vanes, sets of Windsor chairs, fine early china and glass, etc., and everything in first class condition.

Ed would not turn down a good Windsor chair or piece of furniture if it had problems, as he had skilled workmen available to restore them.

I once bought a fine fan back Windsor chair from him for \$35.00 paint all stripped off, of course. Also a fine continuous arm bow back Windsor \$45 crated, for this one I had it shipped lacking room in our car. In those days dealers relied mostly on tourist trade and were glad to crate cheaply or for free and to ship by R.R. freight which was slow but cheap and reliable. When I received the arm chair it had a new pine seat, not the one I had bought. On my next trip I told him about this and he said "Why I didn't think anyone could do that kind of work anymore." We both had a laugh at my expense."

He made it up to me later however. At that time antique guns were plentiful and very cheap up here. Knowing I collected them he found one for me, an 1803 U.S. Harper's Ferry rifled musket. He said "this is a good one it has a patch", (brass patchbox). It was the first U.S. regulation arm with a rifled barrel and was the official arm carried on the Lewis and Clark expedition to the Northwest. The most handsome of all U.S. Army guns with walnut half stock, check piece and sporting type brass fittings. Half round half octagon barrel with under rib for the ramrod. Taking a



Stone Antique Shop Postcard from collection of John Wulfken

a .54 caliber round ball with cloth patch. I always admired but never hoped to own one. Even though this one showed quite a lot of wear, I was happy to own it at \$8.00.

Ed was shrewd but quite a decent man. He liked the horse races and used to follow them and told me I could make a lot of money if I would go with him, but I never did.

Ed told me that in the late fall Macy's Department Store would send a buyer up to buy the remainder of his Window chairs for their antique department and that was the end of the busy season in Warrensburg.

Right after World War II the Carluccis, Franses and Joe, came to Warrensburg and located in part of Prouty's store to sample the business in Warrensburg, which seemed very promising at that time. They had quite a successful season and negotated a deal with Ed Powers to buy the Stone shop. Ed moved across the street to the old house directly opposite and which is now attached to the old Prouty shop as it stands today.

The Carluccis were experienced antique dealers and specialized in fine jewelry and kept an exceptional display of

fine chine and glass, furniture and art and were very successful and eventually bought the Prouty shop across the street where they kept mostly furniture and art. They now had the finest shop in town and one of the finest in the area.

Old Charley Prouty moved out of his shop to an old ranshackle building overhanging the river and sadly that was the last of Prouty as a well known and active antique dealer.

After Ed Powers demise, I was able to buy some fine pieces at his estate sale. A set of 6 matching step down Windsor chairs, only \$35 because of black paint, fine Chippendale 8 drawer table tall chest in figured maple \$225, continuous arm braced bow back Windsor \$35, a large deer weather vane and numerous other items.

Today the stone shop is still owned by Frances Carlucci but due to poor health has not been open for several years. We all hope it will again come into service as a fine antique shop.

Gentlemen, because we care about your well being, we offer the following:

How to Bathe:

Reader, we are disposed to take some care of your body as well as your mind. Be duly thankful, therefore, for the advise we are about to give you.

The spring hath some, "refreshed earth, reviving all but man"; your head aches and you feel occasionally drowsy, languid, and uncomforable-take a warm bath, it will relieve you in an hour, but take it in the proper way;

"When 'tis done, 'twere well It were not done quickly"; for in this lies the mischief of warm bathing. A man generally posts to a bath as if he were carrying an express, or running away from a broomstick. He is out of breath and in a perspiration on his arrival. He undresses himself in a great hurry. souses his body in the hot water. kicks about for five minutes, emerges with every pore open, puts on his garments, looks complacently in the mirror, and thinks he has taken a warm bath. No such thing; he has taken nothing but a cold. In one hour he begins to sneeze and the next day he commences coughing, and curses the bath. Philsophy grieves over his folly but will not relieve his nose and lungs. Why did the bath give him a cold? Because he was in a perspiration when he went into the water, which said perspiration was increased by the heat, and checked as soon as raised into the colder medium of the air. The order of nature must be reversed to prevent a man from taking cold under such circumstances.

Now reader, we will tell you how to take a bath. In the first place, pay your note if it be due; or if you cannot do that let it be protested and think no more about it. Tranquility of mind is all important in rendering the warm bath beneficial. Walk leisurely to the house of ablution, and disrobe yourself with moderate haste. You may have the water hot enough to parboil you if you choose; that is left to your own taste. In with you; and, to beguile the time, read a newspaper or smoke a cigar. In about half an hour the water will cool to nearly the temperature of the air, and you will have gone gradually and safely through half a dozen climates. You will have left the torrid for the temperate zone.

Then let in the cold water, very slowly, almost drop by drop, and in the

course of twenty minutes you will find yourself in a cold bath. Your pores will have closed gradually and moderately, your sensations will be exquisite during the process and you emerge from the cold water into the warm air, dry your body thoroughly with a coarse towel, and feel like a new man. It is an impossibility for you to take cold; if you do, you are at liberty to come and box our ears for giving you bad advice.

perris

THE RICHARDS LIBRARY TODAY

The Richards Library is as important to our community today as it was in 1901 when it first opened it's doors. It serves the Warrensburgh residents throughout the year, and extends its privileges to seasonal visitors as well. Story hour for eager children, audio and video cassettes as well as large type books for the sight impaired, the library offers something for everyone. Organization meetings as well as community service rotating displays are presented enriching our entire community.

The generosity of the Richards sisters enriches our lives everyday and touches past, present and future generations. What a profound gift for these woman to have bestored on our town and we should continue to preserve and cherish their legacy.

The Present Board or Trustees

is:

Roderic Kenyon, President Alice Damp, Secretary Jean Frulla Gerald Hamilton Gary Lawler Teresa Lloyd Dorothy Wright

The Present Staff that serve us so cheerfully are:

Sarah Farrar, Librarian Florence Gallup, Aide Linda Lamy, Aide Lynn Crandale, Aide Barbara Whiteford, Aide Heidi Morehouse, Aide

It is time for the Richards Library annual appeal. They rely on our community support in spirit as well as financially. They need matching funds to apply for mandated projects such as access and restroom facilities for the physically challenged, computer space as well as the need to better house their growing book collection.

The Warrensburgh Historical Society appreciates their assistance throughout the year to our town and our organization. We support them wholeheartedly and hope that all our readership share in our sentiments.

Additional copies of this Newsletter are available

Please send \$1.00 for postage and handling in check or cash to:

WARRENSBURGH HISTORICAL SOCIETY POST OFFICE BOX 441 WARRENSBURGH, NY 12885

Please send any submissions or suggestion to the same address. Submissions are welcome Next Issue Deadline is May1