

Warrensburgh Historical Society Quarterly

Volume 18 Issue 4

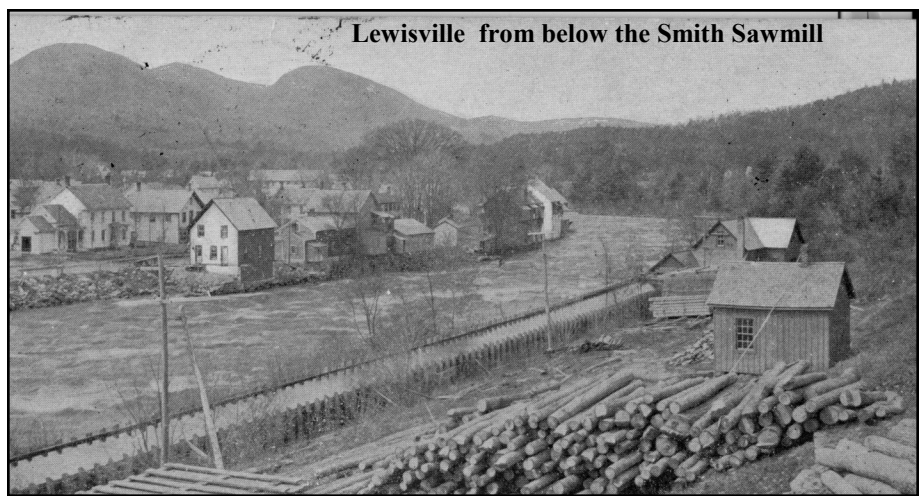
Winter 2013

Lewisville - Roots to Warrensburgh's History

by John T. Hastings

The section along River Street, from the Osborne Bridge downriver to where the side-walk ends, was known as **Lewisville**. Around 1900, the area experienced a housing boom up the hill from River Street, often referred to as "the Klondike." Fred Cunningham was the owner of 75 lots between Ridge Street and Hobson Street (a never completed street parallel to Burdick Avenue from Smith Street to Catherine Street). Although the Warrensburgh News abandoned the Lewisville heading and any reference to the name in 1927, the name still lives on. But what is the source for the name, Lewisville?

It appears the area was first named Lewisville in the mid 1800s when all of the families living there were named Lewis. The only indus-



try in the area was a planing mill, and later a pulp mill, which were owned by **Gardner T. Lewis** (1821-1892) and for whom the locality was named. These mills were located where the Hudson Valley power house stood in 1917. Other Lewis families were those of Holden K. and Augustus. Holden was the son of Palmer and Hannah (Kenyon) Lewis and it is possible, although uncertain, that Augustus, George and Gardner were also their sons, since all were born within a 7 year period and some family members came from Washington County. The impact of the Lewis family on Warrensburgh's history was far reaching.

Augustus Lewis (abt. 1824 - abt. 1863) appears in the 1860 Fed-

eral Census with wife Caroline. They have five daughters, Mary(13), Sally (10), Hannah(7), Lovina (4) and Harriet(2). Augustus is 36 years old and had moved to Warrensburgh around 1849. His occupation is listed as farming. Later census lists a son Gardner and a daughter Harriet. Augustus must have died around 1862-64 since in the 1875 Census Caroline was remarried to William Scripture and they had a son Ben, who is 10 years old. Augustus' first daughter Mary was born in Washington County before they moved to Warrensburgh. There was an Augustus Lewis who registered for the Civil War draft in Bolton and an Augustus Lewis who enlisted in the 39th NY Infantry, was wounded in the Battle

(Continued on page 3)

In this issue:	Page
<i>Lewisville</i> _____	<i>1</i>
<i>Letters to the Editor</i> _____	<i>4</i>
<i>Climate Change</i> _____	<i>6</i>
<i>Warrensburgh News May 1921</i> _____	<i>7</i>
<i>Museum Glimpses</i> _____	<i>8</i>

Calendar of Events

December 5 : Holliday Dinner

At Lizzie Keays
Make Reservations
at 504-4043
before 11/30

Menu
Choice of Soup or Salad
Italian Stuffed Chicken
Grilled Bistro Steak
Seafood Sampler
3 Dessert Choices
\$27.95 tax and tip included

December 7 & 8 Christmas in
Warrensburg; New Museum Exhibit
“Dollhouses and Room Boxes”
10 – 4:00 PM



For more events and details go
to: www.warrensburchhistorian.org
or call 623-2207.

Masthead Photo

This photo is a view looking up
Woodward Avenue in Warrensburg
with the Three Sisters Mts. in the
background. from the Editor's post
card collection.

Quarterly Editor

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We welcome comments, correc-
tions, articles, pictures, letters, and
reminiscences. Send to:

Quarterly Editor
Warrensburgh Historical Society
PO Box 441
Warrensburgh, NY 12885

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Note Change

The Board of Directors meets at the
Senior Center, 3847 Main Street, at
7:00 pm on the **FIRST Tuesday** of
each month. Call Gary to confirm at
240-6013 .

Warrensburgh Historical Society Quarterly
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Contributors to this Issue

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Rosemary Mahar

CURRENT MEMBERSHIP: 225

Warrensburgh Historical Society

Website: www.whs12885.org

Email: whs7396@yahoo.com

Welcome

New Members:

Dave and June Brown
Rose Phillips

Winter Museum Hours

Wednesdays, 12 to 4 pm and Sundays,
1 to 3 pm. If you are interested in vol-
unteering for as little as two hours a
month, please check the schedule on
the Society's website (Museum page)
or call the director, Steve Parisi at 623-
2207. No great knowledge of Warrens-
burg or experience is necessary, just a
friendly, welcoming personality.

Thanks, Steve

Membership Information

Students \$5.00 Individual \$15.00 Family \$25.00 Senior (62+) \$10.00
Senior Family \$18 Contributing \$55.00 Business \$50.00 Life (Individual only)
\$300 (membership is on a calendar year basis)

If you would like to join and receive the Quarterly by mail, please send a
check for the amount of the membership classification, with name, address, and
phone number to: **Warrensburgh Historical Society, P.O. Box 441, Warrens-
burg, N.Y. 12885**

NOTICE

The recording of history is an interpretive and ever changing study. There-
fore, the Warrensburgh Historical Society or its Board of Directors or members
shall not be held liable for the accuracy or authenticity of the material herein. **We
welcome and encourage corrections, comments, and additional information.**

(Continued from page 1) Lewisville

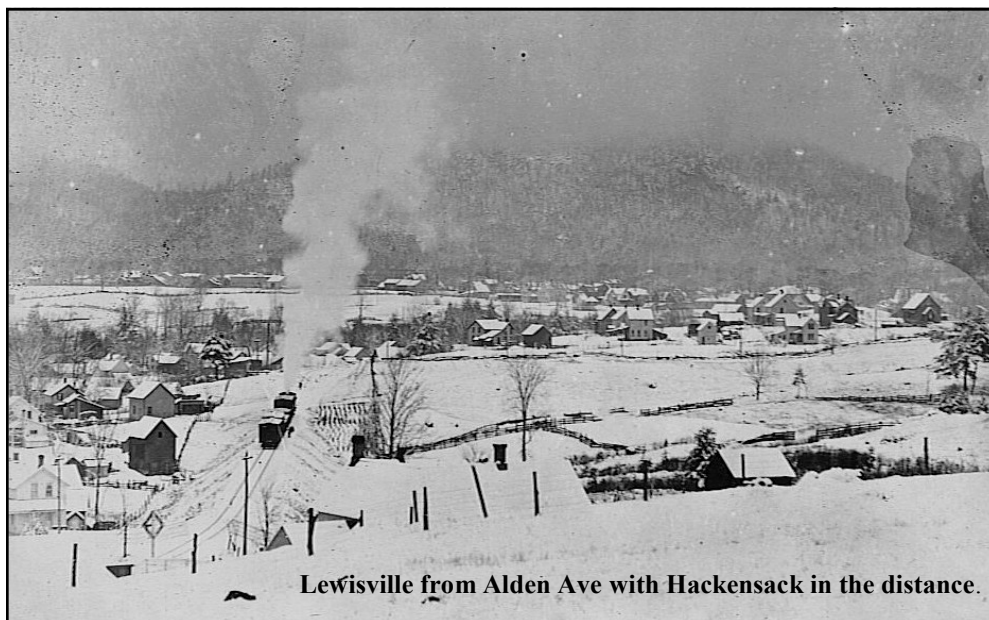
of the Wilderness and died on May 13, 1864. Although it is uncertain if is the same Augustus Lewis, the facts seem to fit.

Holden K. Lewis (abt. 1819-1892) moved to Warrensburg around 1854 with his wife Annie (Remington), who was born in Washington County. It was about this time (1854) that their son Orley was born. The 1855 NYS Census lists a brother George and his mother Hannah living with them. Holden was a wagon maker by trade. Other children born later were Emeline (1856), Abigail (1860), Perry (1862), Nellie/Ella (1864), and Sylvester (1872). Orley married Melissa Brown and they had a son Richard B. and daughter Edna May.

Richard B. Lewis (1881-1962) was a building contractor and was responsible for the building of the Masonic Temple, Maltbie's Garage, Colonial Arms bowling alley, dentist Arthur J. Cunningham's office (now Raluca Sandler's) and the Warrensburg Laundry. He also formed R. B. Lewis Hardware that became **Lewis Supply Company** which was started in 1930. First located on Hudson Street in the Woodward-Ashe building, it later moved to 17 Oak Street. He had two sons; Richard and Robert.

Edna May Lewis married Byron Duell and they had sons Karl, Donald, Ralph, Keith and Burton. **Karl Duell** opened his first garage and automobile dealership in 1931 and continue in the business into the 1960s. Edna wrote a column for the Warrensburg-Lake George News for many years.

Gardner T. Lewis (abt. 1821-1891) married Abigail



(Abbie) Unknown (abt. 1835-1915) and they had sons William Wayland, Hamilton M., Melvin G., Marvin L. and daughters Cora and Mary L. William was born about 1852 and died in 1917 at the age of 65. He had worked with his father at the planing mill before moving to Syracuse in the late 1880s. He would eventually move to Buffalo in the early 1890s and become treasurer and bookkeeper for Warrensburg native, **Randolph McNutt** in his furniture company. William had a son J. Gardner and a daughter Laura by his wife Sarah.

Gardner's son, Hamilton M. (abt. 1845-1923), also worked with his father in the planing mill and would continue in this profession for over 40 years. In 1872 he built his home on (88) River Street, which would later be the home of Warrensburg Historian, **Mabel Tucker**. In the early 1900s he moved to Saratoga to work in a planing mill there, serving as foreman. It was here that he lost his right arm in a 1905 accident while adjusting a planing machine. He was a member of the Warrensburgh Odd Fellows and Methodist Episcopal Church. He was married to Hen-

rietta Purdy and they had four daughters; Nellie, Lena, Lucy and Geneva.

Gardner's daughter Mary L. married George W. Tubbs and they had four children; John Livingston, Arthur Lewis, Thompson, and George Clinton. **John L. Tubbs** would go on to work for the Lake George Mirror, become editor for the **Warrensburgh News** and was a well known and accomplished musician. His daughter, **Margaret Louise Tubbs** was a school teacher in Warrensburg and wrote the book "*Legacy to Warrensburg*."

Gardner's brother George only appears in the 1855 Warrensburg Census. However, he does show up in the 1870 and 1880 Kingsbury Census. There is no evidence that he ever married.

Other Lewis' which appear in early census reports are John (1830 & 1840), Henry (1820), and Mary (1860). Mary is 72 years old and thus, was born about the same as Palmer. The birth dates for John and Henry are also in this time period and could be related, but no other evidence could be found to determine their relationship, if any.

Letters to the Editor

Dear Quarterly Editor

Your lead article in the Summer 2013 issue of the Warrensburgh Historical Society Quarterly on climate change contains various alarming statements and errors.

Paul Gilchrist writes that "change is natural, unavoidable, and not to be feared."

He ignores the scientific consensus that human-produced greenhouse gases are warming our climate and causing major dangerous changes in the environment. The New York Times of September 27th, 2013 reported among the findings of the 25 year efforts of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change that "the atmospheric concentrations of carbon dioxide (CO₂), methane, and nitrous oxide have increased to levels unprecedented in at least the last 800,000 years. CO₂ concentrations have increased by 40% since pre-industrial times, primarily from fossil fuel emissions ..."

The global average temperature graph shown on page one of his article does NOT support Professor Gilchrist's conclusion of "leveling off and cooling (from 1998) until the present." Nor his referral to cooling from 1940 "until 1975." His graph clearly shows a warming trend from 1950 on. The graph of the Climate Panel in The New York Times shows accelerated global warming from the 1970s on!

The author claims that "the first Earth Day in 1970 (was) organized to warn of an impending ice age." In fact, U.S. Senator Gaylord Nelson of Wisconsin conceived of the idea after witnessing the ravages of the 1969

massive oil spill in Santa Barbara, California. The first Earth Day led to the creation of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the passage of the Clean Air, Clean Water, and Endangered Species Acts.

To paraphrase Senator Daniel Moynihan, everyone is entitled to his own opinion, but not to his own facts.

Sincerely, Phillip Lefton

Part time Warrensburger for over 50 years.

The following is Paul Gilchrist's response to Mr. Lefton's letter.

Editor:

I'm glad to respond to Mr. Lefton's letter criticizing my recent climate change article. I think the term "alarming" in the first sentence should be reserved for predictions made by proponents of man-made climate warming. The information in my article should be called "surprising," because it's so seldom seen in the major news media, but found mainly in thousands of reports and comments by scientists well-qualified in climatology and closely related fields. Of course, the assertion about errors is what I will address below. It is indeed a controversial topic, and a large one. There should be much more public discussion about it.

In response to the first two sentences in the second paragraph of Lefton's letter: far from ignoring any "scientific consensus," I point to the fact that there is none and that the matter is not "settled," as proponents of anthropogenic global warming (AGW) like to say. I mailed Mr. Lefton copies of an "Open Letter to the Secretary-General" and a Senate report signed

by 700 eminent scientists, both of which dispute IPCC's AGW assertions and show beyond doubt that claims of a "consensus" are false.* If anything, a consensus among real scientists is in the other direction. Among the dissenting scientists are Dr. Antonio Zichichi, President of the World Federation of Scientists, and Dr. Freeman Dyson, who worked for many years on climate research as an atmospheric physicist at Oak Ridge National Laboratories, was a close colleague of Albert Einstein and eventually was given the position Einstein held at Princeton. Dyson is especially critical of the IPCC's computer models, predictions from which continue to be wildly inaccurate compared to reality.

In response to the last two sentences in the second paragraph, no one disputes the increase in CO₂, especially since the 1940s. The debate concerns whether that increase has anything to do with any rise in temperature since the mid-1800s. The two sentences from the *New York Times* that Lefton quotes do not make that assertion. In fact, no one has yet provided any such evidence. The increase is a natural recovery from the Little Ice Age, as explained in my article.

In response to paragraph #3, the graph on page one of my article does indeed show the leveling off of temperature from 1998 onward and the cooling from 1940 to 1975. Please look at it again. The graph in the *NY Times* article also shows the cooling from 1940-1975 even better than my graph does. A paragraph in the *NY Times* article notes the generally rising temperatures since 1850 "with shorter-term temperature shifts – up or down – shaped mostly by natural variability in the system (as with the recent plateau in temperature)." The

(Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 4) Letters

article mentions "the 'temperature hiatus' of the last 15 years." All this agrees with my article. In 2008, Dr. Rajendra Pachauri, Head of the IPCC, acknowledged the [then] 10-year lack of warming, as did Michael Mann and Phil Jones (of the "Climategate" scandal), conceding it spelled trouble for man-made warming theory – and it has continued several years since.

A primary environmental aspect of Earth Day 1970 was the prediction (based on Paul Ehrlich's book, *The Population Bomb*) that "at least 100-200 million people per year will be starving to death during the next ten years." Right. The climate part of this apocalypse was the prediction the earth was entering a new ice age, based on cooling that had been occurring since 1940, which would decrease agricultural production, resulting in mass famine. Besides starvation, Ehrlich raised the alarm that London would not exist twenty years hence due to ice and freezing temperatures. He's now equally vehement about disastrous warming. Harvard biologist Kenneth Wald warned that "The world has been chilling sharply for about twenty years" and that by 2000 the cooling will be "twice what it would take to put us into an ice age."

I say, "Fool me once, shame on you; fool me twice, shame on me."

Paul Gilchrist, PhD

P.S. Comments are welcome:
prg12824@yahoo.com

*These two sources can be Googled: "Open Letter to the Sec-



retary-General of the United Nations," and "More Than 700 International Scientists Dissent Over Man-Made Global Warming Claims."

And another Letter to the Editor looking for information on the Perkins Family.

I am looking for information regarding the parents and spouse of Elkanah Perkins b 1790 his wife Phebe unk was born approximately 1795. The most common theory is that Elkanah is the son of "Elisha" living in Athol from 1800-1830. Elkanah and Phebe had 10 children that lived to adulthood David C, Joel, Solomon, Mary, Nancy, John H, Orrin, Phebe, Martha "Patty", Roxanna and Jesse. I am a fourth generation descendant of Jesse Perkins b 1839 in Athol, d 1915 in Edinburg.

Based on the census data "Elisha" had at least 5 children. It is unknown where he was born, or where he died as he is no longer in Warren County after the 1830 census and no grave information has been located that I'm aware of. There are several theories on Elisha's lineage the most common being is that he was the oldest son of Joel and Mehitabel Brooks Perkins. This theory is based on naming conventions of the men living in the area during the early 1800's. Joel's sons

were Elisha b 1772, Elijah b 1774, Stephen b 1780, and Eli b 1786. The Thurman property tax rolls for 1799 show property ownership for Joel, Elisha and Elijah, in 1807 the assessment rolls show property for Elisha and Elijah. Then Elkanah named his 2nd son Joel. While this theory is definitely worth considering the above names were fairly common for the time and the men could have been related without being brothers.

Also, according to "The History of Stony Creek", it is believed that Oliver Riley was Elkanah's father in law. This theory is based on a land transfer to Oliver and his wife, basically what we would call a life estate today. The flaw in that theory is that Oliver Riley didn't have any female children on the 1800 census. The relationship between the Riley's and Elkanah is unknown, possibly grandparents of Elkanah or Phebe.

With Elkanah having such a large family I am hoping that someone has an old family bible/written histories in their attic or basement that has been forgotten. Or hopefully there may be church records from the original Athol/Thurman Church. Any sliver of information would be extremely helpful to attempt to put the pieces of this puzzle together.

Please let me know if this is something you would be willing to print and if you need me to add or change anything. Feel free to add my email address and or phone number in case anyone has information they would like to share.

Dee (Perkins) Bekman
Willits, California
7073493943

CLIMATE CHANGE IN WARRENSBURGH

A history of climate warming and cooling

By Paul Gilchrist

Part 2 in our series identified four millennial-scale cycles of warming and cooling that extended back to the beginning of the Holocene, i.e., the end of the glacial period about 10,000 years ago. Each of these centuries-long warmer periods and cooler periods was comprised of shorter decades-long warm and cool periods (smaller cycles porpoising within longer cycles). Prior to the Holocene, there were four major glacial advances and retreats during the 1.6 million years of the Pleistocene Epoch. We noted that the glacial advances and retreats were caused by variations in solar radiation reaching the earth, determined by cycles in the tilt of the earth's axis, the wobble of the axis, and the degree of eccentricity of the earth's orbit around the sun. Deep drill holes have extracted ice cores from thick glacial ice formed hundreds of thousands of years ago in Greenland and Antarctica in order to study, by means of isotopes, details of ancient climates during the Pleistocene.

During the 1980s, the first long ice cores from Greenland and Antarctica underwent isotope analysis. Scientists Willi Dansgaard of Denmark and Hans Oeschger of Switzerland in 1983 found there were millennial-scale climate cycles going back 250,000 years in the Greenland cores. Claude Lorius of France led the team that in 1985 reported similar cycles going back 400,000 years in the Antarctic cores. These researchers were awarded the Tyler Prize (the environmental equivalent

of the Nobel) in 1996. In 1997, Gerard Bond of Columbia University was lead author of the report that the cycles were also found in marine sediments dropped from melting glacial icebergs and laid down during the Holocene (since the last glaciation). Hundreds of researchers from institutions around the world have since reported these cycles in peer-reviewed articles. The cycles average about 1,470 years, with a variability spread of ± 500 years, and occur during both glacial and inter-glacial periods. The four millennial-scale cycles discussed and graphed in Part 2 are the most recent occurrences of these natural cycles. The ice core data show mid-latitude temperature less than 4°F higher in the warm periods – more at the poles, less in the tropics, and only about 1°F for overall global rise. A noteworthy finding has been that warming and cooling trends can occur with remarkable abruptness, average temperatures rising or falling quite a few degrees in just a few decades or a few hundred years. The cores show that atmospheric levels of CO₂ follow the temperature trends, CO₂ increasing after temperatures rise and falling after temperatures go down.

Having noted earlier that sun spots are an important determinant of temperature, their interaction with cosmic rays should be described. Galactic cosmic rays entering the earth's atmosphere have an extremely significant effect on temperature at the earth's surface, and this effect is modulated by the sun. Cosmic rays are a factor in formation of water droplets and cause an increase in cloud cover, which results in cooler air temperatures due to less solar irradiance reaching the surface. During times of greater sun spot activity, the solar wind created by the sun's electro-

magnetic field is stronger, which deflects and reduces the amount of cosmic radiation striking the earth. The result is less cloud cover and more irradiance reaching the surface. A change of 4% of cloud cover is enough to explain much of climate change in the past century. The atmosphere is warmed far more by conduction and convection of surface temperature than by irradiance passing through it. (An exception to this is the 1% of solar energy in the form of ultra-violet radiation that creates the ozone layer in the stratosphere, which is warmer than the layers above and beneath it and radiates energy downward into the troposphere.)

To summarize, greater numbers of sunspots lead to warmer temperatures both by increasing the amount of irradiance put out by the sun and by increasing solar wind, thereby reducing cosmic rays and reducing cloud cover. This allows more irradiance to reach the earth's surface, thereby warming the atmosphere via conduction and convection of surface heat.

Cosmic rays are instrumental in isotope formation. Bombardment by cosmic rays results in isotopes of carbon, beryllium, chlorine, and other elements, which serve as proxies of solar activity in ancient ice and sediment cores, pollen, stalagmites, fossils, shells, and tree rings. More isotopes mean there were more cosmic rays, which in turn means there were fewer sun spots, which translates to lower temperatures. By this method, measuring isotopes indicates ancient climates and climatic cycles. It is these measurements from samples all over the world

(Continued on page 8)

Below is a copy of the complete Warrensburgh News Edition for May 5, 1921, which was discovered when my brother, Roscoe and I were copying pages of the Warrensburgh News that were missing from the original microfiche copies (with the goal of preservation and digital search capabilities). The article is pretty much self explanatory of this and other strikes.

STRIKE EDITION The Warrensburgh News

Vol. XLII, No. 18

Warrensburgh, N. Y., Thursday, May 5, 1921

Whole No. 1881

PRINTERS' STRIKE CRAMPS THE NEWS

This Emergency Edition is Product of Editor's Work Alone, at Case and Press.

UNION CALLS OUR WORKMEN OUT

Demand Made for Forty-four Hour Week and Increased Pay is Resisted by This Office, Two in Glens Falls, and Others.

The Warrensburgh News is forced to go to its readers this week in this greatly abridged form—a mere apology for a newspaper; not a newspaper at all, in fact, because it contains only this announcement of the reason for its appearance in this form, no attempt being made to cover the news of this locality in our usual thorough manner.

The printers employed in The News plant are on strike, in obedience to an order of the International Typographical Union, issued from its headquarters in Indianapolis, to enforce the demand for a forty-four hour week with forty-eight hours pay. Incidentally, the local branch, Glens Falls Union, No. 96, has tacked on a demand for a considerable increase in wages.

Several years ago the working hours

were reduced from fifty-four to forty-eight hours a week. Employers were not exactly enthusiastic about this change, but it went into effect in all union offices and in practically all other printing plants with but little opposition. But employing printers generally are opposed to the forty-four week, maintaining that it will greatly lessen production and necessitate an increase in the cost of printed matter which consumers can, under present conditions, ill afford. Prices are high now, and necessarily so, in comparison with what they were before the war. Buyers are in many cases clamoring for a reduction, arguing that newspapers, printed stationery, and all other products of the printing house, should be, like many other commodities, on the downward trend. Were they to inspect the cost sheets of publishers and commercial printing plants they would readily see how impossible this is, even with the forty-eight hour week and the present wage scale.

The News is opposed to the forty-four week because it is contrary to the national policy of increased production which now prevails, and also because it is a blow at the life of the printing industry. The proposition is also being fought by the Glens Publishing Company and the Glens Falls Post Company, both of whose plants are closed while an effort is being made to effect a settlement.

In Albany 1200 job printers are on strike for less work and more pay. In Chicago, it is stated in press despatches, only two of 260 job printing shops are doing business, and in most of the large

cities the short week plan is being bitterly fought. In New York the Employing Printers' League has without a struggle surrendered to the demands of 15,000 workers, whose victory there is practically complete, although the matter of wages is still to be adjusted.

This little sheet, modest though it is, represents a great deal of hard work, as it is entirely a one-man production. While our type-setting machine stands cold and idle and our presses are unmanned, the editor, who for the occasion has brought into play his knowledge of the craft, gained during many years of work at type case and press, has "plugged up" the type by hand, worked off the edition on a job press, and with the assistance of a loyal girl, mailed it to our subscribers. The result is not what might be hoped for, but we have certainly "done our darndest."

It is not likely that the trouble will be of long duration, and The News hopes to appear next week in its usual form. We trust that our readers will be indulgent during the emergency.

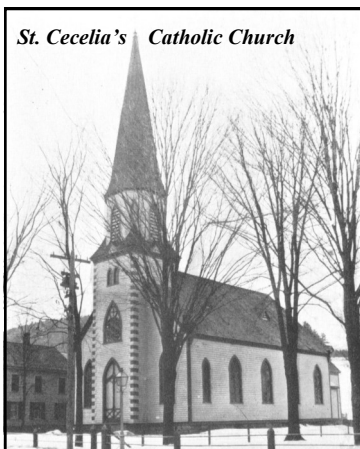
The papermakers' strike, which was called Sunday, in protest against a thirty per cent reduction in wages, has thrown out of employment about seventy-five men in Warrensburgh, the local mills of the Schroom, River Pulp and Paper Company being among those affected. This has a decidedly depressing influence upon the village life. This with the absence of news from the outside world, and even our own immediate vicinity, produces a feeling of gloom which it can only be hoped will not long endure.

MUSEUM GLIMPSES: Churches

By Rosemary Mahar

An hour or two at the Warrensburg Museum of Local History introduces you to the rich and varied history of the town. A QUARTERLY feature now and again will briefly explore a museum exhibit. The first of these is the museum exhibit on churches. At its very beginning the town boasted a variety of churches. Early settlers from Ireland and England brought the first church organization to Warrensburg. It was The First United Methodist Church, formerly known as the Methodist Episcopal Church which was founded in 1796. Photos of this and the many churches formed after this are part of the museum display "Faith Takes a Stand." Also included in this exhibit is a striking, framed needlework of "The Lord's Prayer" which was donated from the West Farmhouse and a bible copyrighted 1848 which belonged to Sarah Burhans. Several additional artifacts and photos give you a look into the religious history of our town.

St. Cecelia's Catholic Church



Mystery Photo

Can you identify the location and/or buildings in the above photo? If so, give John a call at 798-0248 with your answer or email at jthastings@roadrunner.com.

(Continued from page 6) Climate Change

that demonstrate the Dansgaard/Bond 1,470-year cycles.

The sun does not have a known 1,470-year cycle, but it does have known cycles of 87 and 210 years. These happen to be mathematically prime factors of 1,470, such that superimposing these cycles provides an explanation for the warming and cooling periods of the millennial-scale cycles that have been revealed by the numerous proxy methods we have described.

On a scale of hundreds of millions of years, the amount of cosmic radiation is affected by the relative position of our solar system as it revolves around the center of our galaxy. As our solar system passes through one of the bright arms of the Milky Way Galaxy in a cycle of

135 million years, it encounters a more intense level of cosmic rays, which tend to cool the earth by causing more low-level cloud cover that reflects the sun's radiation.



Part 3 of this series is shorter than originally planned due to space requirements for the Lefton letter and the author's response to it. Further discussion on climate change, including oceanic oscillations, is planned for the next Quarterly.