



November Meeting

~J. B. Sanders

I would like to thank Samantha Hall-Saladino Fulton County Historian for her presentation on the 250th anniversary of the Fulton County Courthouse. It was an enjoyable and informative presentation.

Our next meeting will be held at 7 pm on November 7, 2022 at the Galway Town Hall. No refreshments will be provided and social time will be limited. Michael Diana will present the program "Voices from the Haunted Past: Ghost Stories and Folklore from the Stockade". For centuries folks of all backgrounds have lived their lives in the Stockade neighborhood and, as folklore has it, some of them never completely left. Stories about spirit sightings and strange occurrences reveal the rich history of this historic area.

We are working to jointly present the program live at the Galway Town Hall and via Zoom for those who may wish to view the program remotely. The Zoom meeting number is 294 161 5132.

I regret to inform you that another Galway Preservation Society Member, Neil Cayey passed away on August 27, 2022.

If you haven't done so already, members should now submit their dues for the 2022-2023 year. Galway Preservation Society, P.O. Box276, Galway NY 12074.

Jane Davis' Book

~ Bonnie Donnan

The little book begins with Mrs. Jane Davis' name on page one. Her entries are written in such diminutive and fine script they require a strong magnifying glass to decode. There are short entries of the autograph book type, some of them written by the book's owner, credited to other's albums. Mrs. Davis seems to have used the book to note things that struck her fancy or suited her mood. Many are greeting card- like material.

Forget me not dear friend Where ere you stay forget me not

Though we are parted far away forget me not

Nov.24 1856

The earliest date in the book appears to be 1848. The year is documented on two facing pages, several pages into the book. The name Albert J. Hovey is written at the top of the pair. The left page records dates and prices for farm goods, the right page items from a store. Barter at its best. Examples on the farm products side: Two tons of hay for \$15, eight weeks of pasturing a cow for 25 cents a week, and eight pounds of butter for 18 cents a pound. On the merchant's side: Two yards of linen at 75 cents a yard, twenty pounds of candles at 12 cents a pound, and twenty-four pounds of sugar at 9 cents a pound. An entry on the store side on May 4 "Bill of goods for James" for \$31.81 seems to have interfered with the barter system. The last farm entry on December 31st reads "cash to balance" \$32.24.

The original posts are mostly on the right hand pages, but the left hand pages are filled with different handwriting. Mary A. Davis, a daughter, appears to be practicing her penmanship. She repeats entries and fragments of pieces that strike her fancy. I laughed out loud when I read one of her attempts to copy her mother's work, because she had left a blank for a word that I couldn't figure out either.

An entry written with a chunky pointed pencil was defeating my attempts to read it until I saw that breaks all ended with "When the old man died." Many, many, verses of " My Grandfather's Clock"

The Davis family lived on Hermance Road, and Jane and George are my great, great grandparents.



Memories

~ Alan Maddaus

After reading Alan Maddaus' response to Arlene Rhodes' article on the recent passing of members, I was motivated to send a response as well. Scott Person was in my homeroom during his freshman year at Galway High School. His pleasant demeanor and overall gentlemanly personality was evident at all times. That says a lot for a ninth grader! Kurt Johnson was my student in grade eight social studies and grade twelve economics as well as participation in government. His love of history and research made my day! These two fine men are part of fond memories of my twenty three years at Galway High School. Certainly my good friend Arlene Rhodes as my colleague added to that.

-Joan C. Slagle