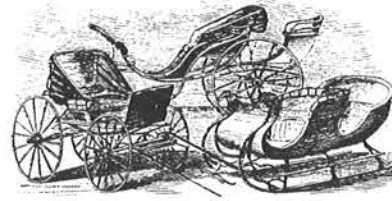


THE LACKAWANNA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

at THE GEORGE H. CATLIN HOUSE
232 MONROE AVENUE
SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA 18510



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PROGRAMS & EVENTS



DECEMBER

December 3, 1993 Saturday 2PM "HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS" Enjoy this special musical performance by *Dear Friends*, the ensemble in residence at the Stephen Foster Memorial dedicated to keeping the traditions of American music alive. Join your friends in the beautifully decorated setting of the Catlin House for a charming 19th century style afternoon. (Funding for this performance provided in part by *Pioneer American Bank and Hazzouri Family Dentistry*)

CHRISTMAS POSTCARD DISPLAY: Throughout December view this wonderful display of Antique Christmas postcards from the turn of the century (collection courtesy of Jack Hiddlestone).

OPEN HOUSE: Saturday December 3 thru Dec. 11, 2-5PM: Visit the Catlin House as it is decorated in traditional seasonal finery.

3

Scrapbooks and Other Curious Creations: *A Variety of Victorian Albums*

5

Postcard Memories: 1905 Cyclone in Carbondale

7

At the Catlin House: Volunteers & Docent Training Program

PRESIDENT'S NOTE

Dear Friends,

We certainly have been experiencing history in the making recently, with the opening of The Mall at Steamtown in time for the holiday season!

Coming in December, the Lackawanna Historical Society will celebrate by hosting a special musical performance by "Dear Friends," the ensemble in residence at the Stephen Foster Memorial in Pittsburgh, at our annual open house.

As President, I encourage you to join us at this and other programs scheduled throughout 1993-1994 and bring along family and friends. Membership in the Lackawanna Historical Society is more important now than ever before.

Please do stop by the Catlin House and experience the festive atmosphere. In addition to the scheduled dates and times for programs and events, we are open from 10 A.M. to 5 P.M. Tuesday through Friday. Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,
Joe Cimini



Board of Trustees at Annual Dinner 1993

Last May, The Lackawanna Historical Society hosted its annual dinner at the historic Lackawanna Station Hotel in Scranton. The Society was privileged to have as guest speaker, Michel Lefevre, from the Bureau of Historic Preservation of the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission in Harrisburg, who spoke on the state of Pennsylvania's cities.

One hundred and ten people were in attendance for the occasion.

Welcome to new members of the Board of Trustees:

Joseph Levy of Scranton to the class of 1991, Richard Bovard of Waverly to the class of 1992, and Eileen Pocius of Scranton to the class of 1993.

The Lackawanna Historical Society Journal, is published for the benefit of the Members of the Lackawanna Historical Society. Any inquiries should be addressed to the Director at the Lackawanna Historical Society, 232 Monroe Avenue Scranton, Pa. 18510 Tele. (717) 344-3841 Tuesday through Friday, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

1993-1994

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Mary Ann Moran
Administrative Assistant
Mary Ann Gavern
Museum Receptionist

Jack & Nancy Hiddlestone
Caretakers

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March thru September 1993

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Dunmore
Lake Ariel
Factoryville
Moscow
Scranton
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Dayton, OH
Montrose
Scranton
Bakersfield, CA
Scranton
Clarks Summit
Clarks Summit
Clarks Summit
Moscow
Scranton
Fleetville
Scranton
Clarks Summit
Scranton
Clarks Summit
Plymouth Meeting
Scranton
Scranton
Greentown, NY

Hawley
Scranton
Del. Water Gap
Germantown

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Daniel Spindler
Denise Michini
David Palmer
Dorothy Gavern Dean

Blakely
Scranton
Archbald
Hop Bottom
Scranton

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Mayor and Mrs. James P. Connors
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Costanzo
Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Evans
Reverend and Mrs. William Leety

Scranton
Scranton
Clarks Green
Olyphant
Scranton

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Patricia Serine
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Waverly
Peckville
NY, NY
Clarks Summit
Blakely

SUSTAINING

Mr. and Mrs. Brian J. Murray
Scranton



Memorial Donations

In Memory of:

Mrs. Esther Horger
Mrs. Esther Horger
Mr. Everett Brown
Mrs. Rita Kinback
Mrs. Ethel Cummings

by:

Miss Marie Smith
Mrs. Charlotte Van Duesen
Miss Marie Smith
Mrs. John Mears
Mrs. Charlotte Van Duesen

Library Donation:

A donation from Mr. and Mrs. Barry Barkan on the occasion of their son, Seth's Bar Mitzvah to be used for purchase of publications. Congratulations Seth.

From the Director:

I take this opportunity to extend a word of thanks to the many volunteers new and old who continue to offer their valuable time and effort to the Historical Society. Over the last few years the Society has become more organized and active than ever before, thanks to the work of a small but dedicated staff of employees and volunteers. Our goal for the future is to continue to grow and make available to all the valuable resources preserved through many years by this organization.

I'd also like to express my gratitude to AKZO Salt, Inc. for their generous donation this summer which allowed us to host the musical ensemble "Dear Friends," at our annual ice cream social, and to commend their continued support of community based organizations like the Historical Society.

If you have a particular interest or concern regarding the Society, please contact me. The Society is here thanks to you, let us know how we can serve you.

Maryellen Calemno
Executive Director

THE WELSH IN SCRANTON:

LHS resources are valuable in new publication and film documentary

In early September, the Society had the privilege to host William D. Jones, Ph.D., currently at the University of Wales in Cardiff, who spoke on the topic of his recent book, "The Welsh in Scranton," published by the University of Wales Press and the University of Scranton Press.

Clearly, Dr. Jones is more familiar with the history of Scranton and her people than many natives. Dr. Jones has been associated with Scranton and the Lackawanna Historical Society for almost 15 years since working on his doctoral thesis. His trip to the U.S. this year was to film a documentary for Welsh Public Television on the Scranton Area which has recently aired in Wales.

As we anxiously

EDUCATION FOR THE FUTURE:

The Lackawanna Historical Society has often been involved in community outreach programs as a means of educating the public of rich and fascinating history of our region as well as our services at the Society.

In an effort to reach a greater audience we are interested in developing educational school programs throughout Lackawanna County.

If you are interested in working on an education committee or funding a particular education project, please call the Director of the Society at 344-3841.

wait for a copy of the completed film to be transformed and sent to the Society, we are making arrangements for a private viewing of the documentary.

A special thanks to Bill Jones, producer Ioan Roberts, and production assistants Nigel Denman and Geoff Lloyed for their generous contribution.

"The Welsh in Scranton" by William D. Jones Ph.D. is available through the Society at \$34.94. A limited supply exists.

COAL SEAM:

Coal Seam is the title of the most recently published work of local poets which focuses on the Anthracite region. The book was edited by poet Karen Blomain and is a rich tribute to the people of the area. The book, in hard cover would make a lovely holiday gift and is available through the Society for \$19.95.

GRANTS REVIEW

The Society has received a grant from the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission for general operating support in the amount of \$4,810. We are grateful that this funding source still exists. However, it is unfortunate that through the years this support continues to be cut as Pennsylvania's budget continues to grow.

Explore Your Heritage in Merry Ol' England

The Lackawanna Historical Society will sponsor a tour through England in June of 1994. The tour will be based in London and travel through the English countryside visiting some of the country's well known sites. While the tour will be an educational experience for those who have never been to England, it is designed to be relaxed and accommodating to our individual group.

A meeting to discuss the trip more specifically is scheduled for late January. For further information, please call the Historical Society at 344-3841.



The "Dear Friends" ensemble perform to the crowd seated under the big top on the lawn of the Catlin House.

Thanks to all of the staff and volunteers who joined at this year's Ice Cream Social. Paul and Mary Gere for the delicious home made ice cream, to Akzo Salt for funding this year entertainment and to Mayor Jim Connors for his precious time. Thanks also to Jennifer Calemno, Barb Castanzo, Judy Donaldson, James Gavern, Ed Kerber, Greg Moran, and Jeth Mill.

REMINDER:
YOU WILL SOON BE RECEIVING A RENEWAL NOTICE REGARDING MEMBERSHIP IN THE LACKAWANNA HISTORICAL SOCIETY WHICH IS DUE JAN. 1, 1994. PLEASE MAKE YOUR PAYMENT UPON RECEIPT OF YOUR INVOICE TO AVOID A SECOND MAILING. THANK YOU.

COLLECTION HIGHLIGHTS

SCRAPBOOKS AND OTHER CURIOUS CREATIONS: A VARIETY OF VICTORIAN ALBUMS

Today, people are intrigued with collecting. We collect stamps, coins, cans, buttons, even trash! In the 19th Century the most popular type of collections was the kind that could be kept in albums. Over the last two years, the Historical Society has been indexing its scrapbook collection. Now that we have reached a mid-point of this inventory, we would like to review the variety of albums that have been created.

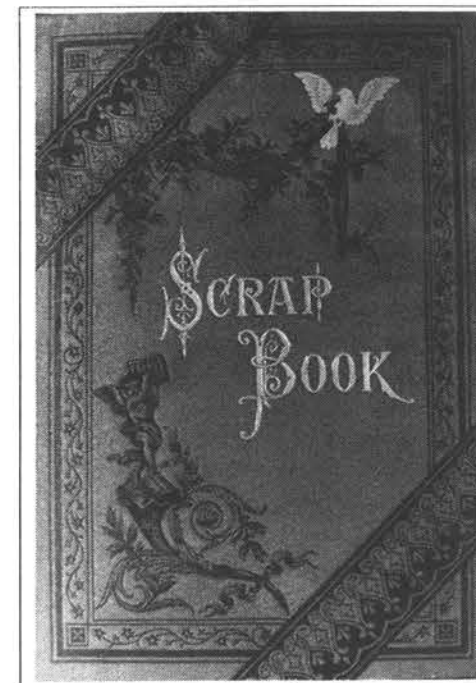
The history of albums can be traced to Germany in the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries when the Album Amicorum was used to record heraldry through collections of painted coats of arms, autographs and inscriptions. Later, German students used the same type of album for sketching

various scenes while traveling. By the 18th century, the Amicorums were filled with hand-painted hunting scenes, poems, music and love ballads. The album idea would soon spread to England and then to America with illustrated silhouettes taking the place of hand painted scenes.

The earliest types of album collections in America can be traced to the beginning of the 1800's when women created "commonplace books" containing recipes, drawings, and poetry. These albums were frequently homemade, using sheets of rough paper or hemmed linen with wall paper or cardboard as a cover. Hand-cut silhouettes, pieces of needlework, and locks of hair were popular forms of ornamentation and can be

found in many of the late 18th and early 19th century albums.

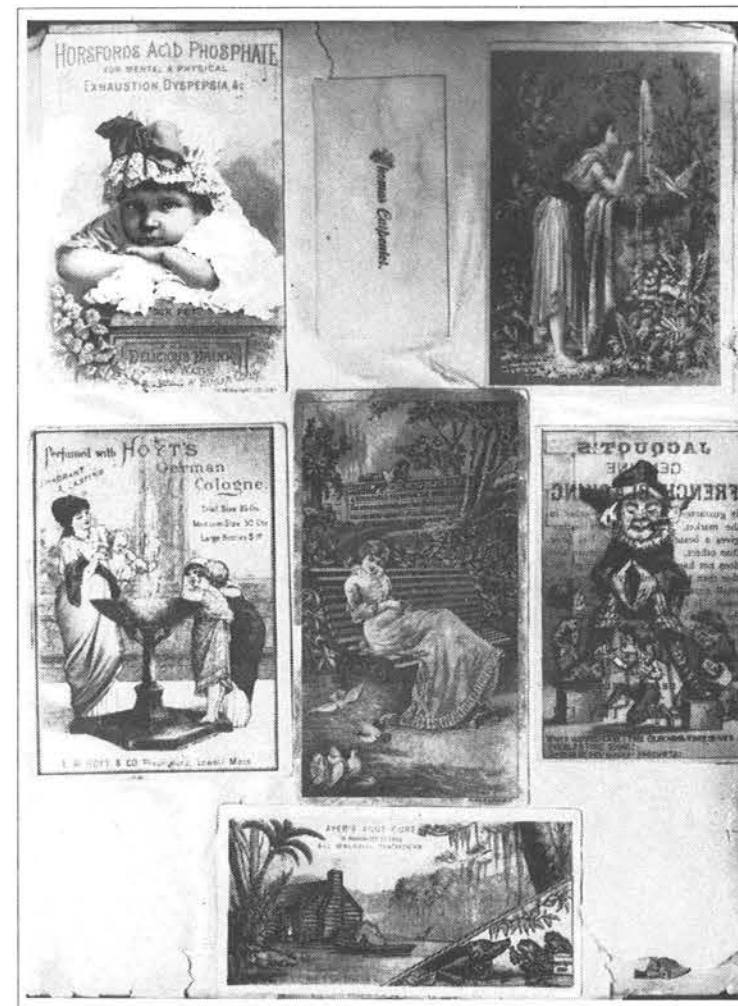
During this time, it was not unusual for an album to be made entirely of hair because Victorians had become obsessed with hairwork. Hair jewelry was no longer made only by the experts but amateurs had also taken up the craft. The art of plaiting and hair weaving was easily learned through the many instructional books that were printed and locks of hair were often



added to autograph books or used to fasten a page of verse.

As the popularity of albums increased, decorative prints could be purchased to paste in the albums with pre-engraved pages or with printed frames for handwritten verse, autographs or pressed flowers. By the mid-1800s, not only were paper items sold as collecting pieces for albums but the albums themselves were being marketed. Special albums could be purchased that were made specifically to hold collecting cards and other scrap items. Album cards were produced as a series and could cover any wide assortment of subjects including birds, flowers, and Civil War scenes. Albums could be purchased already filled at a cost of \$18.00 but for most people, filling them was half the fun! Examples of these theme albums can be found in the LHS collection and include the topics of Victorian art, flowers, and Biblical scenes.

Another type of album that was popular in the 19th Century but was less expensive was the album that contained trade cards, greeting cards, or scrap pictures. During the 1870's and 1880's advertising cards were given away by every kind of business. Scrap pictures were sold in an assortment of shapes and sizes and were made specifically for pasting in albums. Women



Scrapbooks Cont.

would often keep an album of greeting cards just to show off how many she had received. Though it was not uncommon for children to collect one of these types of paper items in scrap books, many times women would combine all three categories in a beautiful arrangement in one album.

The albums used to hold these collections of cards or scraps were usually covered in leatherette which was gold embossed with a picture and/or the words "Scrap Album" or "Scraps" or "Scrap Book." There are a few examples of these "scrap" books in the collection containing a wonderful variety of scraps and cards, but the majority of the LHS's albums marked "scraps" are filled with newspaper clippings relating to local historical and genealogical information.

By the turn of the 20th century, a new item had been added to the scrap book family. This was the postcard. In the first decade of this century literally billions of postcards had been printed and placed in albums. Today it is difficult to find one of these albums intact because more often than not a dealer will remove the postcards to sell separately. The Historical Society is fortunate to have two of these postcard albums in its collection, both of which are almost completely filled with Scranton postcards!

One other album that has been around since the mid 1800's and is still popular today is the photograph album. Possibly the most treasured type of album, the photo album was often displayed on a center table in the parlor. It was covered in

real or imitation leather, brightly-colored plush, or celluloid, the first plastic. Sometimes the photo albums were elaborately decorated including an attached music box or a side drawer to hold extra photographs. The very ornate albums included attached easels to stand upright. The LHS collection of family photo albums are stored separately from the scrap books and include such prominent names as Archibald, Throop, Von Storch, and Tripp.

While scrapbooks were seen as mainly a hobby in the 1800's, today they serve as an excellent resource for documenting individual tastes and customs of the period. The kind of material collected, including great varieties of patterned and colored scraps, demonstrates what may have been important or attractive to individuals. Early scrapbooks include original poems and personal accounts as well as signatures and comments from friends or the occasional woven hair chain as a page filler. Today, all of these things help to tell us a story about the creators of scrapbooks and collections like the Society's continue to reveal to us so much about our past.

DONATING to the COLLECTION

In 1992, the Lackawanna Historical Society received the donation of a Civil War letter dated January 1, 1865 from Charles E. Daniels of Greenville, Delaware. Mr. Daniels was born in Scranton in 1903 and lived here for twenty five years before leaving the area to work for Du Pont, Inc.

The letter that Mr. Daniels donated was written by his Grandfather, Morgan P. Daniels in Savannah, Georgia and sent to his brother, William in Hyde Park. In it, Morgan describes the New Years Day Feast, boiled rice, and expresses an interest in the amount of snow in Scranton, since he has "not seen any snow since last winter."

Mr. Daniels also sent his grandfather's discharge certificate and an account of the march to Savannah.

This personal account is written by Morgan P. Daniels as part of Colonel Mindel's report. It begins on November 15, 1864 when the 33rd Regiment of New Jersey Volunteer Infantry marched out of Atlanta at 7 o'clock a.m.

Morgan gives a day by day account of the march including camp sites and skirmishes encountered.

This year, Mr. Daniels has again sent us a donation useful in documenting our local history as well as his own family his-

NEWS OF THE WAR! THE SCRANTON TRUTH

Full
Associated Press
Dispatches
by Special Wire.



CHARLES E. DANIELS
is the Special War Correspondent of The Scranton Truth, with the Thirtieth Regiment, and is one of the best in the field.

THE SCRANTON TRUTH is the only afternoon newspaper in Pennsylvania outside Philadelphia and Pittsburgh that receives the full and uncut Associated Press Dispatches. This is the best telegraphic news service published anywhere.

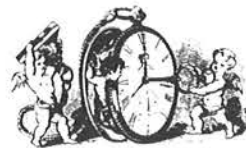
If you want to keep posted about the movements of the United States Army and Navy during the war with Spain, read THE SCRANTON TRUTH. Its dispatches are the latest, the fullest and the most reliable to be found in any newspaper.

All the News of the Day on
the Day it Happens.

Advertisement in The Scranton Truth

tory. This recent donation is a book of newspaper clippings authored by his father, Charles Edward Daniels who acted as the Scranton Truth's special war correspondent with the Pennsylvania Troops on their way to the Cuban War. These clippings are especially useful in that they include the names of many people from Scranton and other parts of Lackawanna County.

Mr. Daniels is one of many donors who contributes to the rich history of our region. Without their kind support and continuous interest, we would not be able to provide the services of interpreting Lackawanna County's history through our exhibits and programs, and to assist various researchers in the library.



VOLUNTEER UPDATE: WHO'S WHO at the CATLIN HOUSE???

The Historical Society welcomes new volunteers Ed Kuchinski, Barb Castanzo, and Edward Kerber II who joined the Society this summer and have been working at the Catlin House on various projects.

Ed Kuchinski works at the Catlin House every Wednesday compiling an index of obituaries that have been collected over the last few years. This index will be useful to researchers in the future who are searching for an ancestor's date of death.

Barb Castanzo has been busy researching and updating the Genealogy files. She has also provided assistance to one of our long term volunteers from the Scranton School District, Sandra Whitlock, in setting up the Mourning Costume exhibit which is currently on display at the Catlin

House.

Edward Keber is a senior at Scranton Prep with a strong interest in local history. This fall, he is volunteering at the Catlin House to fulfill part of his senior service requirements. Ed has assisted in a number of projects at the Catlin House including cataloguing recent donations, conducting research for written inquiries, and assisting in exhibit planning. Both Edward and Barb were also very helpful in their participation at this year's Ice Cream Social.

Welcome back to LHS Volunteers Douglas Forrer and Heidi Gambo. Douglas is back after Summer Break for his sophomore year at the University of Scranton and spends one day a week volunteering at the Catlin House. Heidi, who was a volunteer during the summer of 1992, has returned to help catalogue and inventory materials that are in storage.

The most recent volunteers to the LHS are Ann Marie O'Hara from Scranton, Jerry Kardos from Old Forge and Doug Heller, also from Scranton.

Ann Marie is a retired nurse from Moses Taylor Hospital who is the mother of seven children. She has been busy working on the library collection's verticle files.

Jerry Kardos is a graduate student at the University of Scranton and has been cataloguing photographic negatives, repairing and encapsulating maps and providing assistance where needed.

Doug, a graduate of Bloomsburg University, has been researching topical subjects for the development of educational programs in the local school districts.

Call us if you are interested in serving as a volunteer.

CHURCH TOUR THIS SPRING

Last spring, the Historical Society sponsored its first church tour with the assistance of the Carbon-dale Historical Society and the Architectural Heritage Association. Because the "Up the Line" tour was such a success, plans are currently being made for another church tour this spring. If interested in assisting with these plans, contact the Historical Society at 344-3841. Thank you to all the churches that participated as well as Joe De-Scipio, president of the Architectural Heritage Assoc. for his work in guiding the tour.

VOLUNTEER RECRUITMENT:

In September, The Lackawanna Historical Society participated in the Annual Collegiate Volunteer Fair held at the University of Scranton. The fair is designed to increase students awareness in the community and to actively involve them as volunteers in local organizations.

Thank you to LHS member Mary Claire Morris a talented educator who donned turn-of-the-century costume to capture the attention of students and inform them of the importance of volunteer work at the society. THANKS.

and times, please call the Society at 344-3841.

*Individuals must be registered before classes begin to know approximate size of group.

DOCENT TRAINING SCHEDULED

Beginning in January throughout February, the Society will conduct a series of lectures and workshops as part of a training program for tour guides, new and old, at the Catlin House.

The program is designed to teach guides about the collections and the functions of the Lackawanna Historical Society. After completing the sessions, guides will be expected to assist with regular tours and open house events throughout the

spring and summer months.

The five two hour sessions will be scheduled one evening per week with a guest lecturer who will focus on one particular area of interest and how the objects in the collection will illustrate that topic.

The program will also include visits to local museums and training tour guide procedures.

Session Topics will Include: Historical background on the Lackawanna

Historical Society and current services; The Catlin House; George Catlin and the Society; Antique Furniture, customs practices, and the function of rooms at the turn of the century; 19th Century Fine and decorative Art; Industrial Background: Scranton and the industrial revolution.

Individuals interested in becoming tour guides, must attend all sessions if possible and enjoy working with the public. For specific dates

POSTCARD MEMORIES . . .

Research compiled by Jack Hiddlestone

On August 31, 1905, the Scranton Republican newspaper page three headline read, "Destructive Cyclone Visits Carbondale." The article that followed described how a section of Carbondale had experienced great havoc the night before at 8:45 PM when a cyclone, termed more commonly today as a tornado, passed through the city.

The cyclone was described as "a funnel shaped, black cloud, coming to a point at the bottom and extending and expanding upward until the top reached a width of some few hundred feet." The path of the storm was about a mile in length and cut a clean swath of two hundred feet in width through the 42nd Street area of Carbondale. It came from the northwest and its route was semi-circular from 42nd Street, down through Dundaff Street, across the D&H and Erie Railroad Company yards to Belmont Street, where it whirled off to an adjoining field and died out.

While the path of the cyclone left thirty homes wrecked, some reduced to rubble and others torn from their foundations and badly damaged, there was little or no rain before, during, or after the storm. In addition to the residential damage, barns, horses, chickens, and whatever else that came into the path were lifted and carried great distances, as much as several hundred yards, before being dropped.

Several tales have been compiled to document



The Carbondale Cyclone Pope Residence Forty Second Street

the incredible destruction of the storm. One is the story of the William Pope family of 42nd Street. Their home was moved twenty-five feet from its foundation and reduced to a pile of sticks and boards. The parents escaped without injury, but their three children, who had been sleeping in one bed when the incident occurred had to be dug out of the debris. When they were found, they were still in their bed with only bruises to show for it!

Patrick Cuff, also of 42nd Street, was surprised by the storm when his home was ripped from its foundation completely destroying the interior and leaving an umbrella stuck in the siding about thirty feet from the ground as if to demonstrate the strength of the wind. Mrs. George Craft experienced

the wind's strength first-hand when she was carried almost sixty-five feet through the air before she was dropped in a neighbor's yard, with only slight bruising.

Mrs. Craft was not the only passenger carried through the storm. When George O'Leary's barn was lifted from Thorn Street and dropped in pieces along the way, a horse inside was deposited without injury to a nearby cornfield belonging to P.J. Foster. Another horse that was tied outside a barn owned by William Bowers on Canaan Street was safely delivered to the front porch of the Bower residence.

Due to the damage created by the storm, two local hose companies were unable to get to a fire at the Hope home on 42nd Street.

When the Mitchell and Hendricks Hook and Ladder could not pass the fallen tree and debris, the fire was extinguished by neighbors.

The "cyclone" lasted only five minutes and miraculously only two people were seriously injured but those who experienced it remembered its arrival, heralded by the peculiar rumbling, freight train noise and the destruction and personal losses it dealt during its short life.

Editors Note:

The real photo postcard pictured here is just one of the many views that was taken by an unnamed photographer in the days following the disaster.



AT THE CATLIN HOUSE

RESEARCH & VISITORS

In May, the Historical Society welcomed member Jacqueline Bachar of Ranchos Palos Verdes, California when she visited the Catlin House to research her family history. Jacqueline, a descendent from Deacon John Phillips and Stephen Miller, was particularly interested in the Hildah Brown Genealogical Collection.

Mrs. Brown had conducted extensive research on the Phillips and Miller families and their affiliated lines for over thirty-five years before her death in 1970. A large sum of these papers was donated to the society and included several files and boxes of genealogical notes written on every type of paper imaginable. Mrs. Bachar noted that, "As a researcher, I am delighted that Hildah threw nothing out!" For it was often these tiny scraps of paper that provided her with treasures of facts.

One important find was a small clipping of an obituary pertaining to Jacqueline's paternal great-grandmother, Harriet Miller Sprague. "Although I knew that she was widowed at a young age and had remarried (Mr. Tompkins), I had no idea she was again widowed after a few years. She married a third time to a Mr. Kresge and moved to Stroudsburg where she died."

In addition to all of the family ties that she was able to discover, Jacqueline

found an interesting set of letters among the thousands of papers in the collection. It appears that although Hildah had been researching her family for some time, it was not until 1935 that the information gathering accelerated with the formation of a family organization to find any individuals who could show descent from John Phillips. From the various correspondences, it appears that some type of land claim was involved. Discussion takes place about hopes for "settlement." "Perhaps it related to coal rights," Jacqueline suggested remembering her father "talking about my grandfather's hope of receiving something from the coal companies, but instead got a wonderful family history." The letters also mention canal and other transactions involved.

Also included in this correspondence are the minutes from monthly meetings that were held by the group showing Hildah's reports of the latest developments. Dues were collected to cover expenses and legal assistance was obtained. These meetings also offered Hildah a chance to update family history information.

Although these events took place over a period of several years, the outcome of the claim is not clear, but by the tone of the writing, it does not appear that any group settlement was reached.

While Hildah's work

did not provide her with the inheritance settlement she was seeking, it did create an excellent resource of valuable family information for her descendants like Jacqueline Bachar, who has recently been able to bring one aspect of Mrs. Brown's endeavors to light and hopefully continue to successfully trace her family's history!

Note: Jaqueline Bachar is planning to publish her findings in a book about her family history and is currently searching for any original photographs and letters that will add to her research. She is especially interested in locating photographs taken by Arthur L. Miller of Edella. Anyone who can assist in this matter, please contact the Lackawanna Historical Society at 344-3841.

BEHIND THE SCENES:

The FASHIONS EXHIBIT room has recently been painted thanks to the volunteer efforts of Jack Hiddlestone. Temporarily the wedding gown display will not be shown so that the gowns can be reviewed cleaned and restored.

ON COLLECTIONS:

The Historical Society is continuing to organize its collections so that researchers can reference and utilize all the resources that we have to offer. At the time of this writing over 1500 photographs and 1000 maps have been catalogued and are accessible through reference cards which will eventually be entered into a computer program.



Jaqueline Bachar sorts through files at the LHS.