-Hamlet of Beaver Falls

-Hamlet of Belfort

-Hamlet of Indian River

-Hamlet of Naumburg

-Village of Croghan

-Beartown

-Forest City

-French Settlement

-Gooville

-Jerden (Jordon) Falls

-Long Pond

-Prussian Settlement

-Sisterfield

Highlighting the Town of Croghan History

Inside this issue:

"History is mostly guessing, the rest is prejudice."

—Will (1885-1981 and Ariel Durant (1898-1981), American historians.

George Croghan

What did happen to George Croghan after the War of 1812? In 1816 he married Serena Livingston, daughter of John R. Livingston, of New York. They moved to New Orleans, where her uncle, Edward Livingston, was a prominent citizen. In 1824 Croghan was postmaster of New Orleans.

Later he appeared as Colonel Croghan and was promoted as one of two inspector generals of the army. He was highly recommended to serve as Inspector General after the death of Inspector General Samuel B. Archer in 1825. On December 21, 1825, Croghan was appointed to this position. His first assignment was to inspect posts on the upper Mississippi and Missouri rivers in the West.

As inspector general, Croghan's position made him an essential and important cog in the administration of the army. The inspector general were the eyes and ears of the General-in-chief. It would appear that efficient operation and improvement in the army depended upon their careful observations and frank comments. There was no distinctive Inspector General's Department until after the Civil War. The reports that Croghan submitted to Washington followed a set form with Croghan making frank observations and sharp style.

Because he was out traveling to various forts, his place of residence changed. Some of the time he lived in New York, moved to Georgetown, then set up a home on the Hudson River, near his father-in-law.

Recommendations that Croghan made found their way into War Department orders and into new editions of the GENERAL REGULATIONS.

From 1826 to 1845 Croghan made inspections of the various forts in the Western Frontier. No inspections were made in 1830 and 1832 due to illness in his family. The tour of 1835 was cut short,

George Croghan (Continued)

due to the danger of cholera; in 1837, Croghan was engaged in mustering troops for the Florida war, and he performed a like service in 1846. Data for the years 1839 and 1841 couldn't be located.

We know that George Croghan lived in New York but whether he actually traveled through the Town of Croghan will remain a mystery for now. He did inspect Madison Barracks, Sackets Harbor and Plattsburg Barracks in 1843 and 1845. Perhaps he traveled through the Town of Croghan to see what the township that was named after him was like.

When the Mexican War started, Croghan's efforts were turned in that direction. He took an active part in the war with the army under General Zachary Taylor. He was ill during this time and was anxious to leave Mexico.

At the end of the war he returned briefly to Locust Grove, Kentucky and then to New Orleans, where he died of cholera of January 8, 1849.

(Source: ARMY LIFE ON THE WESTERN FRONTIER edited by Francis Paul Prucha – Selections from the Official Reports Made Between 1826 and 1845 by Colonel George Croghan, University of Oklahoma Press)

Replica of the gold medal presented by Congress to Colonel George Croghan in 1835.

From the Farmhouse Kitchen

The apple crop in 2013 was bountiful. Apples have been one of the crops that is important in the diet of people in the North Country. Apple orchards could be found on many small farms but with the demise of many small farms in the area, the apple orchards were left without the proper pruning and care to produce a bigger apple. Today along the roadside you see many apples trees, some of the apples are bitter but certainly could be made into cider and some would make a pie. Wildlife as well as domestic animals enjoy the apples too.

Apples are versatile and can be made into apple cobbler, apple crisp, apple pie, applesauce, apple butter, cider, apple cake, applesauce cake and the list goes on. Of course, the apple is delicious eaten raw.

With the large crop of apples, they could be preserved into apple butter, apple jelly, applesauce, apple pie filling, etc. for use during the winter.

One recipe using applesauce is:

Applesauce Spice Cake

1 stick oleo
1 c. sugar
1/2 c. chopped nuts
2 eggs, beaten lightly
1/2 c. chopped raisins
2 c. sifted cake flour
1 tsp. baking soda
1/2 tsp. nutmeg
1 tsp. cinnamon
1 c. unsweetened applesauce

Cream sugar and shortening together until fluffy. Add eggs and mix thoroughly. Add nuts and raisins.

Sift dry ingredients to creamed mixture, beating thoroughly after each addition.

Pour into a greased loaf pan and bake in a 350 degrees F. oven for l hour or until done. If done in layers, check in 25 minutes for doneness. Makes 1 loaf or 2 layers.

Frost if desired, or serve with whipped topping.

TIDBITS OF TOWN OF CROGHAN HISTORY

July 1, 1887—If you were to pass through Belfort and see the bark and lumber that is being hauled to and from here you would say it is quite a business place……

(Source: WATERTOWN HERALD)

May 14, 1914 (Beaver Falls News) Our little town was greatly shocked Monday about 2 pm when Mrs. Louis Bossie and her brother, Walter Lambert arrived from Belfort and going to Mrs. Bossies's home found the door locked. They entered through a window and on going in the bedroom discovered Mr. Bossies's dead body lying on the floor. It seems that Mr. Bossie went to Lowville Saturday p.m. and got in trouble of some kind. It is rather a mystery how Mr. Bossie arrived home from Lowville, as none of the neighbors saw him come and he did not come over on the train. The majority of Mr. Bossie's friends think he met with foul play. Mr. Bossie was about 28 years of age and is survived by his wife and four small children. The funeral was held from his home Wednesday at 1 pm and buried at Belfort.

(Source: JOURNAL AND REPUBLICAN)

1918—Croghan had another disastrous fire about midnight Monday night, when the hardwood flooring plant of Farney & Ebersol was completely destroyed. The fire was discovered by people returning from the Red Cross card party and was beyond control when seen. Fire Co. No. 1 responded and through their efforts much of the nearby lumber was saved. The winter stock of lumber was in and a large amount of flooring ready to ship. This plant was built and equipped by the J.R. LaFave Co., having been purchased by Farney & Ebersol about four years ago. The grade of flooring manufactured was of a very good quality and the demand always exceeded the output. The loss is estimated to be about $18,000, with $6,000 insurance. That the firm will see their way clear to rebuild is the hope of the citizens of this village, and the sympathy of all is extended to them in their great loss. (Source: April 4, 1918, JOURNAL AND REPUBLICAN)

Town of Croghan plow at Indian River with Cliff Shaw and Carl Bentley. Children—
Lynn Herzig and cousin _____Bentley. Circa 1950's

Alden Hoppel with
Town of Croghan
Oshkosh Snow Plow

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Father Leo Memorial School, Croghan. Today it is home of the American Maple Museum.

L&BR train at the Borden's Milk Plant, Croghan. The building no longer exists and is about where the new Croghan Fire Hall is located today.

TOWN OF CROGHAN CIVIL WAR VETERANS

Adams, Christopher

Adams, Michael (Cpl.)

Andrie, Michael (Sgt.)

Artz, Jacob

Bachman, Charles F.

Baird, Barney (Sgt.)

Baker, Peter

Bedford, Josiah A.

Bintz, John

Branaugh, Thomas

Bush, John S.

Bush, Nicholas (Cpl.)

Bush, Sylvester

Campany, John

Caswell, Morris

Davis, James S.

Deanstatt, John

Dekin, Samuel A.

DeLawler, Antwine

Deloyer, Duane

Duffer, John N.

Duruz, Marcellus

Dutton, John

Ehart, Frank

Fredenburg, Wm. H.

Gerard, Anton

Gerow, William H.

Gillispe, Sylvanus

Girard, James

Greenlow, Wm.

Grimmer, John Capt.

Grunert, Henry (Cpl.)

Haller, Andrew

Hamond, Nicholas

Harper, Henry

Hoch, Conrad

Holich, Joseph

Honer, Martin

House, Chas. H. (Cpl.)

Jacox, Dewight

Jacox, Stephen Sr.

Joye, Peter

Kirch, Peter

Kirschner, George

Lambert, Xavier

LaPorte, Henry (Sgt.)

Larget, John

Lefevre, Martin

Leonard, George

Linestruth, Baltser

Linestruth, H.B.

Longtin, Joseph T.

Manion, Patrick Sgt.

Maxwell, C.H.

McAuley, John

McIntyre, John

Meister, John A.

Miller, Daniel

Miller, Henry V. (Cpl.)

Murphy, John Cpl.

Oberly, Fred A. (Sgt.)

Oberly, Samuel H. (1Sgt.)

O'Keefe, Mark S.

Pachoud, Augustus

Pachoud, Joseph

Parquet, Christopher

Parquet, John

Ponto, Augustus

Raymond, John

Reynolds, Emerson

Roch, John

Segovis, George

Shear, Jacob

Slater, Chas. C. (Cpl.)

Smith, John

Smith, John G. Sgt.

Smith, Michael

Streeter, Reuben (Sgt.)

Stoffel, John

Stoffel, Nocholas

Strife, Nicholas

Teebido, Joseph

Tiss, Nicholas

Waterhouse, Frank

Waterhouse, Wm. W.

Werner, Charles G.

Wilcox, Gilbert

Wilcox, Squire

Wisner, Adam H.

Wisner, Henry J.

Zecher, Conrad Sgt.

Town of Croghan Civil War Veterans (continued)

The veterans listed are from the book, WHERE BRAVE MEN SLEEP by Charles C. Shaw and are buried in the Town of Croghan cemeteries. The spelling of the names may vary to how they are spelled today.

There are more veterans of the Civil War that served from the Town of Croghan and are buried in other cemeteries in New York State. The veteran may not have enlisted in the Town of Croghan and could have gone to the Town of Wilna, Lowville, etc. to enlist. Also some of the veterans died and were buried where they died. This was the case of Fred A. Oberly who died in Virginia and was buried at Fort Monroe, Virginia.

Each veteran has their own story. Here are several but it just gives a slight glimpse. Perhaps what they lived during the Civil War they wanted it to remain buried in their mind.

Andrew Haller who lived at Beaver Falls. He was born in Wertenburg, Germany and came to this country when nine years of age. The family spent 59 days in crossing the Atlantic and settled in Beaver Falls where Mr. Haller always resided. He served three years in the federal army during the Civil War. Mr. Haller enlisted at Sackets Harbor in 1862 in Co. D 5th N.Y. Heavy Artillery and served until June 1865.

Henry Linstruth, age 81, a Civil War Veteran, died at his home near Belfort, March 18th. Mr. Linstruth was born in Germany, June 8, 1844, son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Henry Linstruth, Sr. He came to the United States when about seven years old with his parents, who settled in Belfort and took up farming. He was married at Naumburg to Miss Caroline Gates, who died about twelve years ago *(about 1913)*. Of the union seven children were born. For several years he was fire warden in the town of Croghan and was widely known. Mr. Linstruth enlisted and served full time in the Civil War and was wounded in the hand while in battle. For bravery on the battlefield he was awarded a badge of honor. He treasured the memory of meeting President Lincoln on different occasions. The funeral was held at Gospel Hall and was buried in Gospel Hall Cemetery.

Augustus Ponto of Croghan died in 1885, was a soldier in the late war (*Civil War)* and a member of the Steele post of Carthage. Mr. Ponto brought home several war relics, which at the time of his death he gave to the post, among which was a piece of plank, 8 inches by 10, which was pierced with bullets and was taken from the siding of a Dunker church at the battle of Antietam, September 14, 1862. Another relic was a newspaper published at Fredericksburg, Va., 1862. It is printed on brown wrapping paper, the best obtainable in the south at that time, and contains many interesting articles, among which some of the sayings of General Johnston and descriptions of battles fought, in which A. Ponto took part. These relics were presented to the post at its last meeting.

(Sources for the above Civil War Veteran's information—JOURNAL AND REPUBLICAN)

Town of Croghan was formed April 5, 1841 from the Town of Diana and Town of Watson..

"History is not about dates or memorizing the tenets of obscure provisos. History is about people." -David McCullough

The Town of Croghan Historian's Office is located at the Town of Croghan Municipal Office, 9882 State Route 126, Beaver Falls, New York. If you have any questions or additions to the articles in this newsletter, please feel free to contact us at our home phone:

(315) 346-6201

This and previous newsletters can also be downloaded from Town of Croghan web site:

www.townofcroghan.com

If there is a special topic you would like to see in a newsletter or if we have made an error, please let us know.

Thank you.

Mary and Jack Sweeney

From the Town of Croghan Historian's Desk

This newsletter contains the conclusion of the life of George Croghan. He led a life of dedication to his country. Whether he traveled through the Town of Croghan to inspect the Fort at Plattsburgh is anyone's guess and would require a more thorough research of his papers. Also, in researching George Croghan we have to be aware that there was another George Croghan who lived in New York State but the time frame that he lived here is much earlier than the George Croghan, the namesake of the Town of Croghan, who was born in Kentucky, lived.

A couple of the snowplows that the Town of Croghan owned are in the Historical Picture section. Snowplows have gotten bigger and more expensive over the years.

As we continue to commemorate 150 years of the Civil War, there is a list of some of the men who served from the Town of Croghan.

The next newsletter will continue with researching the churches that are located in the Town of Croghan. There are many churches that have closed in the township and information is rather sketchy. The importance of keeping the records and the history of the church is important for future generations. It is also important for any organization, business, home, etc.

The Historian's Office is open by calling us at (315) 346-6201 to set up an appointment. We may not always have the answer, but we will try and find the answer.

Mary and Jack Sweeney