

Published Articles
Of
Miscellaneous Items
At
Ossining, NY
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The Republican
8.20.1887

Ossining Institute. This Institution has passed from the care of the Rev. C D Rice, who has been at its head for the last nine years, to the control of the Rev. F B Dwight, the pastor of the Presbyterian Church of the village, who has assumed the responsibility of the management. It is his intention to place the school in the first rank with the educational institutions for young women; and his varied and thorough scholarship, as well as his acquaintance with the needs and requirements of such an institution, justify the highest expectations with regard to this accomplishment of his purposes.

Important additions and improvements are being made to the buildings and grounds and he has secured a large and able corps. of instructors.

Miss Van Vleck, the founder of the Institution¹, and its Principal until her disposal of it to Mr. Rice, has again accepted the position of Principal.

Miss Gifford, who will teach the German language and literature, has spent several years in Germany and France for the purpose of perfecting herself in French and German, and has taught these languages for the last seven years in Elmira College. The resignation of her position in that college was accepted with great reluctance after trying to retain her by a considerable increase in salary. Since accepting this position, large pecuniary

inducements have been offered her to teach in Boston and also in Yonkers. These facts furnish the best testimony as to the estimation in which she is held by those who know her worth as an instructor.

Miss Sherrard, who will give instruction in the Latin language and literature and also in History, studied at Elmira College making a specialty of Latin and German and of History and English Literature. She was for nearly three years the Preceptress of Plattsburgh Academy, NY, and more recently instructor in English and Latin at Ferry Hall, the Ladies' Department of Lake Forest University, Lake Forest, Ill. Miss Naramore will have charge of Mathematics and the Sciences. She has taken an elective and advanced course in Vassar College in Mathematics, Chemistry, Physics and Logic, and comes specially recommended by Miss Braislin, the Professor of Mathematics at Vassar. She has also had several years of very successful work as a teacher in the Housatonic Institute, Cornwall, Conn.

Miss Dwight is a sister of the Rev. F B Dwight. Her special department will be Elocution, Rhetoric, Composition and Literature. She has availed herself of the advantages for study in these directions in some of the best schools of New York City. In elocution, she has been a pupil of Mr. and Mrs. Vandenhoff, and her readings to select circles of friends have given great pleasure. She has given the best proof that she possesses the true spirit of the teacher in the fact that she has gathered and held, during the winter season, a class of working women, for a free course in the study of Literature – interesting them deeply in the study of our best English classics.

Miss Dilley has been selected to take charge of the Department of Vocal and Instrumental Music, and comes very highly recommended for this position. Mr. W H Sherwood of New York, who was one of the three judges selected to make the examinations for the American College of Musicians at the recent session of the Music Teachers' National Association in Indianapolis, Ind., writes

thus concerning her: "Miss Myra C Dilly has studied music and piano playing with me two seasons. She came to me already well advanced. She has a very high order of talent and ability for music, and is an artistic, sympathetic, and accomplished pianiste, There is true musical feeling and delightful touch, refined and poetic tastes in her playing. She always gets a good tone out of the piano, and natural musical expression. She has a good repertory of the better class of works for the piano. She shows a knowledge of theory, dynamic shading, technique, phrasing, harmony and musical interpretation, which will render her equal to teach or play thoroughly well as an artist"

Miss Wicks² was for many years a student of the Art School connected with Ingham University, and afterward studied under the direction of some of the best artists of New York City. She is herself an artist of unusual ability, and has had charge of the Art Department of the Institute the past seven years.

The large number of students which she has gathered around her from year to year that they might have the opportunity of availing themselves of here instruction in drawings and painting, and the still larger number of fine drawings, sketches, and paintings which they have executed under her instruction, attest, better than any words can do, her great worth and proficiency as an artist and a teacher.

Stenography will be taught to those desiring instruction in this direction by Miss Augusta Brush, an alumnae of Ossining Institute of the class of 1885, who has been very diligently preparing herself to do special work as a stenographer and has passed the Civil Service examination in short-hand writing.

Arrangements have also been made for courses of lectures, free to all the students by prominent scholars and educators, on subjects more or less directly connected with the several departments of instruction.

¹ Rev. Phraner, a member of the Shattemuc Canoe Club, was also instrumental in the founding of the Institute.

² Miss Wicks prepared the Shattemuc Pennant for the June 1886 canoe races.

The Institute is announced to open on the 20th of September.

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The Republican
06.06.1889

A New Yachting Organization. It is a very trite adage that every thing good has an imitator. Even the Sing Sing Yacht Club has a local rival. The "Sand Fleas" is the hop-skip-and-a-jump title of a new yachting organization, which has just been organized with headquarters at Hank Wards Sailor's Snug Harbor, up on the far end of Crawbuckey.

The officers of the club are Commodore, William Doty; Vice-Commodores, Albert Smith; Rear-Commodore, Charles Leggett; Treasurer, Hank Ward; Secretary, John Mattocks; Measurer, William Wescott; Steward, John Aitchison.

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The Democratic Republican
11.23.1895

Horseless Carriage. Last Saturday, at noon, the horseless carriage sent out by the well-known firm of R H Macy & Co., New York city, passed through this village en route for Chicago. A brief stop was made at the Hotel Keenan, where the man that runs the carriage and the bicyclist who accompanies the turnout on a wheel had their dinners. The novel vehicle attracted a large crowd of curious sight-seers during its stay in town, and it was accompanied to the outskirts of the village, upon its departure, by a most flattering procession of small boys, a thing that of itself indicates that the show was of unusual importance. The carriage is an imported one known as the Roger.

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Democratic Register
9.26.1898

--About thirty men are already employed in the Sullivan Marine Engine Works, in this village, and Mr. Sullivan hopes to have ten times that number employed before the year is out, and we hope so, too.

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The Republican
7.22.1899

The Old Farms of the Present Village of Sing Sing.

The ground upon which the corporation of Sing Sing now stands was, after the sale of the Philipse estate by the Commissioners of Forfeitures, occupied chiefly by the farms of John Bishop, Moses Ward and Elijah Hunter.

Moses Ward's land consisted of two farms – one containing sixty-seven acres and the other one hundred and fourteen. The first-mentioned farm was a long narrow strip of land having the Sing Kil for its northern boundary, and a line, which would have been nearly coincident with Main street, for its southern boundary. It extended from the Hudson River on the west to a point some distance beyond the Highland turnpike on the east.

The second farm of Moses Ward was almost in the shape of a square, with its northwest corner, where it touched his smaller farm, cut off. Its western line extended along the Highland turnpike about as far as Broad avenue, and then ran due east until it joined the farm of Marvel Garrison, the greater part of which is now the property of George F Secor. The line then ran due north as far as Clinton avenue of the present day, and from that point ran west, on a line not deviating much from the above-mentioned avenue, until stuck his own smaller farm.

On the north side of the Kil, with that as its southern boundary, was the farm of John Bishop, containing eighty-three acres. Its eastern boundary followed the Post Road to a point a short distance south of St Augustine's Catholic Church. From that point the line ran a little south west to the Hudson River, which was the western boundary. This farm embraced the greater part of the district known as North Sing Sing, and extended only a short distance beyond the present northern boundary of the village.

The farm of Albert Orser was located to the north of the Bishop place, and contained one hundred and sixty four acres. The village boundary takes in a

small track of land situated in the southwestern corner of this farm.

The farm of Elijah Hunter was of a very irregular shape. It contained one hundred and ninety-six acres. Main street, from the Hudson river to the Post road, where Moses Ward's larger farm commenced, was nearly coincident with its northern boundary. The line then ran south almost coincident with the Post road, until it had proceeded as far as the southwestern corner of Aaron Ward's farm, when it ran east along the southern boundary of Ward's farm, terminating with it southeastern corner. It then took a general direction southeast for a short distance. The southern boundary ran due west a very short distance beyond the southern line of the village, and the Hudson River formed the western boundary.

The corporation line would also have taken in portion of the following farms: The southwestern corner of the 141-acre track of Samuel Drake, lying north of the kil and east of the Post road, a tract of 14½ acres, also belonging to Samuel Drake lying on the south side of the kil, adjoining the eastern boundary of Aaron Ward's smaller farm; the southern part of the 137 acres of Solomon Sherwood, located south of the kil, and east of Drake's smaller tract; the southern part of the 70 acres of Daniel Miller, lying east of Solomon Sherwood's land, and extending from the kil as their northern boundary almost to the Croton road as their southern boundary; a very small portion of the farm of 137 acres of William Haight, in which the junction of the road for Pleasantville with Croton avenue was located; and the western portion of the 203 acres of Marvel Garrison, which lie east of Moses Ward's and Elijah Hunter's land.

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The Democratic Register
03.02.1901

What the Name Ossining Means. As we have time and again been asked for information as to the derivation and meaning of the name Ossining, which is to be our village name, we give it now for the benefit of all.

The name is of Indian origin. Its meaning and derivation were given by Henry M. Schoolcraft, in 1844, at the request of General Aaron Ward, an old Sing Singer, and at the time Member of Congress from this district.

We are told that the word Ossin, in the Chippeway language, signifies a stone, that Ossinee or Ossineen, is the plural for stone. This etymology was accepted, and, in May 1845, when our town was taken from Mount Pleasant, it received the name of Ossin-sing. In March, 1846, it was changed, by dropping the third "s", and made to read Ossin-ing, and still later the hyphen was omitted.

The name of the village has a more ancient origin and use. In the early part of the seventeenth century this locality was occupied by a tribe of the Mohegan Indians, know as "Sint Sincks". They owned the territory as far north as the Croton River, then call the "Kitchewan", the tribe inhabiting above this steam being the "Kitchawongs".

An Indian village occupied the present site of Sing Sing, and bore the name Sink Sink. The kil was called "Sint-Sinck" or at least it is so written on a map, which bears the date 1609.

In or about the year 1680 a patent was granted by the British Crown to one Vredryck Flypsen, or as afterward written, Frederick Philipse, permitting him "to freely buy" the district of country extending from Spuyten Duyvel Creek northward to the Croton River.

In the course of five or six years he secured the whole region specified. The last purchase of lands from the Indians was made August 24th, 1685, being the "tract or parcel of land commonly called Sinck Sinck".

Frederick Philipse first spelled the name as two words "Cinque Singte" and afterward as one word, with the same letters but without the second capital.

Thus it is seen the stream, the tribe, and their original village, all were called by the name, the sound of which is

expressed in various renderings above cited, and which the present name perpetuates. It will be found variously written on old maps and in ancient documents – Cinque Singte, Sink Sink, Cinquesingte, Sinck Sinck, Sin Sinct, Sint Sinck and Sin-Sing.

This is the only village in the world that bears this musical name, but Sing Sing by any other name would be better off. That's what there is "in a name".

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The Democratic Register
03-13-1901

--The following are the officers of the Sing Sing Yacht Club elected for the ensuing year: commodore, Ralph Brandreth; vice-commodore, Francis Larkin, Jr., rear-commodore, Gilbert M Todd; secretary, Robert T Dennis, treasurer, Frank L Young; measurer, William M Carpenter.

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The Democratic Register
5.09.1903

Tarrytown Yacht Club. A yacht club has been organized in Tarrytown with a membership of two hundred members and a good sized squadron.

Its field, the Tappan Zee Bay; its location, opposite the New York Central Railroad depot; and the fact that it is officered with representative business men of Tarrytown assures its success.

In order to secure a large membership the club has withdrawn its initiation fee for the month of May, and it is hoped that a large number of non-residents will take advantage of this opportunity to enroll their names and boats in the Tarrytown Yacht Club. Boat ownership not essential to membership.

The annual dues will be six dollars, payable quarterly. Blank applications for membership may be obtained by addressing R J Driscoll, secretary, 22 Orchard street, Tarrytown, NY.

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The Democratic Register
5.07.1904

--The new dock Peter Smith is building will extend 160 feet into the river and

Charles G Washburne will build one out from the Washburne dock to meet it, and a fine basin will then be enclosed for the use of our boat owners. It will be a much-needed acquisition to our river front facilities.

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The Democratic Register
10.1.1904

Sailing Vessels Scarce on Hudson The older inhabitants residing upon the banks of the Hudson can easily recall the time when it was no unusual sight to see great fleets of sailing vessels lying becalmed upon its waters, waiting for the favorable winds that would excite a gallant rivalry to test the sailing qualities of the swiftest boats. No such scenes longer greet the residents, this innovating age employing swifter means of transportation, and a sloop or schooner of the river excites a certain curiosity to ascertain its mission.

Occasionally a coastwise vessel, with its three or four masts and great hulk, is towed away, only to unfurl huge sails as it departs from the harbor of New York to reach some point of destination on the eastern or southern coasts.

The river looks bare and barren now as compared with twenty or twenty-five years ago.

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The Democratic Register
7.01.1905

New Dump Secured.—The Board of Trustees some time since received notice from Peter Smith that after June 15th his dock property could no longer be used as a dumping place by the village.

Since then President Madden has been looking about for a suitable place, and now has obtained the consent of Warden Johnson to dump ashes, etc. in the ravine on the State property at the foot of State street, on condition that a man be kept there to keep it in proper order.

Before the place can be used, approval of a legal Board of Health must be secured.

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2.29.1908

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Early Morning Blaze at the Upper Dock. The old building at the southeast corner of Broadway and Water street, owned by Lorenzo Sniffin, was gutted by fire early last Tuesday morning, and the origin of the blaze is a mystery.

Patrolman Ferdinand Fox, who was in the vicinity a few minutes after one o'clock, saw smoke issuing from the building, which is occupied as a grocery store and saloon by Italians named Santoro & D'Amato. He immediately communicated with the power house of the Northern Westchester Lighting Company, and the alarm 61 was sounded, calling out Monitor Hose, Ossining Hose, and Washington Hook and Ladder Companies. Officer Fox, assisted by William See, who resided nearby, succeed in arousing the inmates of the dwelling and they reached the street safely.

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Democratic Register
6.04.1910

First Airship Passes Ossining. Flying with the ease and grace of a bird, Glenn H Curtiss made the trip from Albany to New York on Sunday morning last, maintaining an average speed of fifty-four miles an hour and won the \$10,000 offered by the New York "World".

Comparatively few Ossining people saw him as he flew by. He reached here a few minutes after ten o'clock when most people were in church or were preparing to go. Those who learned of his coming lost no time in reaching vantage points.

Those who stationed themselves along the river front had a fine view of the man-bird. He flew along rather close to the water and one had to watch close to see him speed along against the background formed by the mountains on the opposite side of the water. It was the general impression that he would attain a great height and many of the watchers, even those having glasses, had their eyes trained to the wrong point and he slipped by without their seeing him.

As the fragile looking aeroplane sped by, it gave one an idea of an immense darning needle so familiar about meadows and marshes.

Democratic Register
6.11.1910

Local Aviator in flight. Samuel Webber, of Sherwood avenue, who is an engineer on the New York Central Lines, and is of an inventive turn of mind, is deeply interested in aeroplanes and has constructed one which has fulfilled his expectations.

On Memorial Day he made a number of short flights, but owing to trouble with the engine his efforts were confined to short distances and no high flights were attempted.

The aeroplane has a number of novel features upon which Mr. Webber has received a patent from Washington.

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Democratic Register
2.04.1911

New Canoe Club Meets. A regular monthly meeting of the recently formed Kitchawonk Canoe Club was held at the YMCA building last Thursday night, and there was an excellent attendance. Considerable routine business was transacted.

The membership limit has been placed at fifty and this will probably be reached long before the opening of the aquatic season.

The next regular meeting will be held at the YMCA rooms on March 24.

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13.1912

Canoeists Dine and Elect Officers. The Kitchawonk Canoe Club enjoyed a fine banquet in the grill room of the Weskora Hotel Thursday evening, about a dozen or the members being present.

A large cake, which was made by Mrs. Genet for the event of her son's, Rivers Genet, birthday was also enjoyed by all present.

Following the dinner several plans for the canoeing season were discussed and the annual election of officers for 1912 took place, the following being elected:

Commodore – Dayton E Herrick
Vice-Commodore – George Bruce

Secretary – Wilbur E Horton Jr.
Treasurer – Albert Briant
Measurer – Rivers Genet

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Democratic Register
1.11.1913

Wind Storm Does Damage. The Hurricane of Friday of last week continued throughout the night and caused considerable damage. The eastbound track of the New York Central Lines at Scarborough was washed out and not a train ran over it from 3.30 Friday until noontime Saturday, when a large force of Italians restored it to its former condition. Telephone poles were blown down and the lighting company was greatly hampered by breaking wires.

The tide, the highest in years, swept over the docks and the Northern Westchester Lighting Company had ten tons of coal stood on its wharf washed away. Some five inches of ice were blown out of the Fowler ice pond at Glendale.

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Ossining Daily Citizen
7.22.1914

Special Bill for Deepening Hudson. Peter G Ten Eyck, of Albany, has introduced a bill in the House of Representatives calling for an appropriation of \$750,000 for the deepening of the Hudson River channel to 12 feet. Congressman Ten Eyck has taken this action because of the delay in the passing of the Rivers and Harbors Bill.

Because of the work being done by New York State in the construction of the Barge Canal, Congressman Ten Eyck believes that the work on the Hudson cannot be allowed to be held up pending the passage of the Rivers and Harbors Bill.

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The above clippings were transcribed from the original newspapers, which reside at the Ossining Historical Society in Ossining, New York