



CLINTON COUNTY TRAILS

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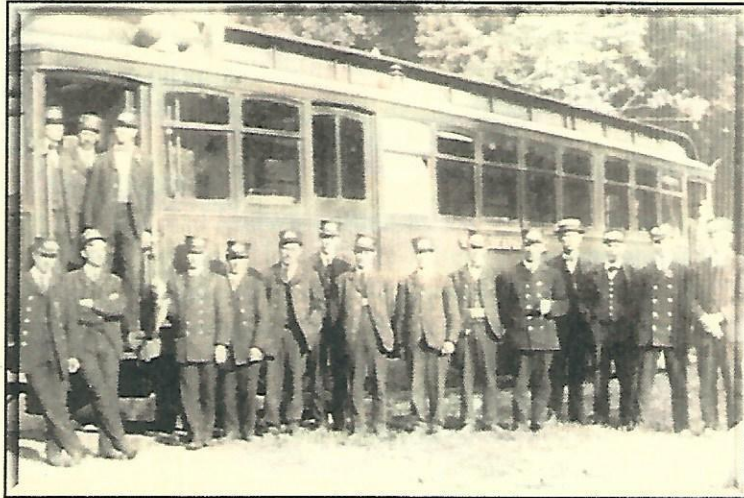
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An interurban car & staff Sign says: "College & Pine"
Donated by Dorothy Rosekrans

CARS HAVE COME

(*St. Johns News*; 19 Feb. 1903)

The suburban cars arrived last week according to schedule. People rubbed their eyes and rubbed their necks when the first one appeared on Wight Street, wondering if it was a tangible reality or only an hallucination. Then they drew near and examined the long-looked-for rolling stock, and if anybody said anything that was not complimentary, it has not been reported.

The new cars are certainly among the finest, if not the best, in use on any of the Michigan electric railways. The two cars are identical in construction. Car No. 1 is named "Lansing" and car No 2 is named "De Witt." The third car will be named "St. Johns." Each coach is 58 feet in length, as long as the ordinary railway car. They are fully vestibuled, the platform being reached by means of three steps. In color, the coaches are the same as the regular Pullman cars. The trimmings are of red and gold, the lettering being in the latter.

The interior of the car is finished in cherry and hard maple. The seats are cane upholstered, and each car has a capacity of 54 persons. In the main portion of the car are 21 seats while in the smoking apartment there are six. The forward part of the coaches is divided by a partition from the

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remainder. This section gives the motorman plenty of room for the operation of the electrical controller and brakes. It will also be equipped as a baggage and freight room. Directly back of the baggage room is the smoking apartment. These two occupy about one-half of the entire car.

The cars are equipped with air brakes and Arnold's new compressed air device, which will furnish the motor power for the cars while in the city, will also be installed. In the country electricity will be used. The coaches are heated by boilers in the baggage room and each is lighted by ten incandescent lamps arranged along the entire length of the car.

In each car is a toilet room and a drinking fountain, and all other devices needed for comfortable traveling. The cost of the first car will be about \$10,000 owing to the new equipment used for which



Egg wagon postcard picture

[to] Mrs. Emmett McCrumb,
Portland, Mich. Eagle, Mich.

Wait for the wagon. Charlie will be there April 22.

Save your eggs for him.

[signed] Charlie Johnson.

(Postmark: Eagle, Mich., Apr 18, 191-)

Donated by Margaret Sheffer

OLIVE (GOOCH) HILL'S BIBLE

Now in possession of Yvonne Gilbreath

Holy Bible, Containing the Old and New Testaments, translated out of the original tongues, and with the former translations diligently compared and revised; New York; Printed by D. Fanshaw for The American Bible Society; Stereotype Edition; 1830.



Record of the births of the children of Stephen & Olive Hill:

Lucy H.	Feb. 2, 1836	
Boy Stillborn	July 26, 1838	
Warren N.	Nov. 25, 1840	
Bartlett B.	Jan. 22, 1843	
Ellery B.	Oct. 17, 1845	
Eliza	Mar. 17, 1848	
Ben	June 8, 1850	
Frank T.	Jan. 18, 1851	died Sept. 30, 1858
John L.	Oct. 14, 1856	died Oct. 6, 1858

Record of the births of the children of Amos and Lucy Hill:

Amos was Olive Hill's son

May	May 9, 1874
Pearl	June 12, 1878
Kenneth S.	Mar. 16, 1886

THEODORE LYMAN

Otago [New Zealand] Witness, Issue 542, 19 Apr 1862, p 3

An inquest was held on the body of Theodore Lyman who was found strangled in his tent at Gabriel's Gully on Tuesday, the 15th inst.

Sergeant Thompson stated that, on visiting the tent of the deceased, he found him lying on his back, quite dead, with the blankets of his bed smoothly folded over him. Round his neck was a handkerchief into which had been introduced a piece of wood which had been used as a lever to effect strangulation. There were no marks of violence on the person of the deceased, nor any evidence of a struggle having taken place.

The mates of the deceased gave evidence to the effect that they left him on Monday evening about 5 o'clock. He was then perfectly sober but appeared to be low spirited; never seemed to be quite right in his head; had not been lucky in getting gold but was making wages. Dr. Close had examined the body of the deceased and believed death to have been produced by strangulation. It was quite possible for the deceased to have so tightened the handkerchief himself as to produce death. He was advanced in years and in anything but a healthy state. It was his opinion that the deceased had met his death by his own hand.

After some deliberation the jury returned a verdict to the effect that the deceased, Theodore Lyman, committed suicide while laboring under a fit of temporary insanity.

From the evidence of **G. R. Anderson**, who had known Lyman in Victoria, it was ascertained that the deceased was a native of Essex Town, Clinton Co., Michigan, United States. He was about 60 years of age and had several sons and daughters married. He had been pretty lucky in Victoria and on one occasion had saved as much as 150 oz., which he attempted to smuggle across the Victorian border into New South Wales. He was detected and the gold seized, and ever since that time he was not the same man but moped and fretted continually. When he left Victoria for Sydney it was his intention to have taken a passage for the United States, then to rejoin the family from which he had so long separated. The attempt to save a few pounds in the shape of duty had produced this disastrous result and had so preyed on the mind of the deceased as to cause him to commit suicide.

(This article was discovered by Jan Suchma on <paperspast.natlib.govt.nz/>

BARTHOLOMEW HETTLER

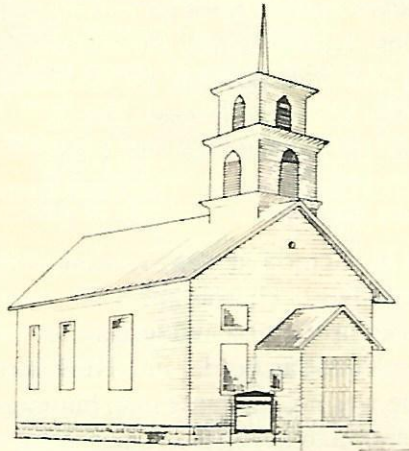
Michigan Pioneer Collections; Vol. 29, 1899; by Ralph Watson; (first appeared in a St. Johns newspaper)

There appears to be some doubt among certain individuals as to the truthfulness of the statement that **Bartholomew Hettler**, for many years a resident of the eastern portion of this township, died in the Klondyke country in February last, whither he had gone to seek his fortune in mining for gold. The inquiries and expressions of doubt have been so frequent that Mrs. Hettler and family desire us to publish some extracts from a letter written to her by W. H. Egerton, who was engaged with him in mining operations, and dated at Saw Mill Camp, Klutina Valley, via Port Valdes, Alaska, February 8, 1899.

He says: "I am compelled to inform you that Mr. Hettler passed away at 4:30 a.m. on February 6, 1899. He had been ill all winter and was very anxious to get to his home and pleaded with us to take him to Valdes. But this was impossible. To attempt this journey, with the mercury at 30 to 50 degrees below zero, meant certain death. There was but one chance in a thousand for him to reach home alive even if he could have reached Valdes. However, a party of friends of Mr. Hettler made the attempt on the 5th to reach the coast. They started with him on a sled, and he appeared to be very happy over the thoughts of being on his return trip to his home and friends. Mr. Hettler continued bright and hopeful until about 8 o'clock that evening when he complained of cramps which continued to grow severer until about 11 p.m. when he seemed easier, and at midnight slept which continued until 4 a.m. when he began to talk. He said: 'Boys, take me to Valdes; boys, take me home.' Then he remained silent, and it was thought he was going to sleep again but it was that eternal sleep. The best of care was given him that could be given a human being in this country. The remains were conveyed toward Twelve Mile Camp and laid to rest with those of others who had laid down their lives in attempting to better the condition of the loved ones at home.

Drawing taken from church bulletin
dated 21 Jan. 1996

Eagle United Methodist Church
Est. 1841



"...as I have loved you."
-Jesus

EAGLE METHODIST CHURCH

(edited from a history written by Mrs. Leo Kerr, dated May 18, 1941)

The first house in Eagle Township was built of logs in 1834 by **Anthony Niles**, who the following year gave his permission for religious services to be held in his home. Reverend Monett, a Methodist missionary from Ohio Conference, conducted these meetings, visiting this remote settlement about every six weeks. He followed his circuit, which embraced a great extent of country, on foot, as his fine horse was stolen, carrying a knapsack stored with a Bible, a hymn book, a liberal supply of tracts, and a few articles of clothing.

In 1837 a log school house [Kebler] was built about two miles east of what has since become the village of Eagle, where the services were held for a year or so. Later the Red Schoolhouse was built nearby where the services were held for many years following.

At a protracted meeting in the winter of 1840, the first meeting of the kind held in the township,

scores of people were saved and the following spring the Methodist class was formed. It never discontinued and was really the germ of the society now in existence.

From 1841 to 1855 the preaching was supplied by the Portland Circuit although much of the time the people were without preaching owing to the large territory to be traveled by a few ministers. The services were held in the Jenison School house a half mile east of our village after it was built.

In the fall of 1874, it was thought that sufficient aid could be secured to build a church and as people responded liberally by promise it was thought best to organize for that purpose. And in accordance with that view, on January 23, 1875, at a quarterly conference at Grand Ledge, a board of trustees to consist of seven members was elected. The name of the First M.E. Church of Eagle was decided upon. The board consisted of: **Loyal W. Hill, T.R. Compton, G. D. Palmer, William Dravenstatt, M. R. Hill, George W. McCrumb, and W. B. Strickland.**

After considerable discussion and several meetings, on February 15, 1875, the present site was decided upon and donated by George W. McCrumb. Soon after that a bee was organized to deliver the stone for the wall and, as a goodly number turned out with teams and sleighs, a sufficient amount was hauled in one day from the **Henry Davenport** farm to lay the wall as soon as weather would permit. The ladies furnished dinner for those who worked and became a great help in building the church and raised quite a proportion of the funds. The first \$500 was borrowed with an interest rate of 12%. Enough money was raised by fall to enclose the building.

A Troy bell, weighing 1065 pounds, costing \$352.28, including freight, was bought, and as it arrived the evening before the day set for the dedication, it was placed in the belfry by lamplight that same evening.

On the morning of October 15, 1876, Reverend George B. Jocelyn of Jackson came to dedicate the church. Altho a sufficient amount was pledged it was several years before the total cost of \$2,960 was paid.

The parsonage was built in 1887. During the pastorate of Reverend Kenyon in 1899 the sheds were built.

Around 1905 the present pews were placed in the church and a gasoline lighting system installed replacing the old kerosene lamps. During the pastorate of Reverend Loomis in 1922, the church was remodeled and redecorated with the basement added and furnace installed to replace the two stoves which had been used for many years at the rear of the church on either side. The acetylene lights replaced the gasoline lights and stained glass windows replaced the others. Electric lights were installed six years later. During the pastorate of Harold Jacobs, a new metal roof was put on the church, the buildings were painted, a new carpet was put in, the basement floor was cemented, and the church was newly decorated.

The ladies of the church bought the Davids building now called, "The Rooms," May 10, 1907, and enlarged them in 1915. Besides being used by different societies of the church they have been used by other worthy organizations of the community and are used by the Epworth League as a recreation center.

There have been 27 pastors since the church was built of which the following were here in more recent years: L.B. Kenyon, D.M. Ward, C.T. Van Antwerp, John Klose, J.K. Stark, G.W. Tuttle, D.E. Birtch, Elliot Bouck, Charles Hayward, J.S. Valentine, G.T. Fisher, Paul D. Huff, R.E. Saunders, Frank Loomis, Carl Seipp, Clair Snell, F.P. Frye, and our present pastor, Harold Jacobs, who all labored so faithfully and well.

It would not be right not to mention some of the outstanding laymen and women who labored earnestly and prayerfully to make our church what it is today. A few of those workers were: Mr. and Mrs. **M. R. Hill**, **G. D. Palmer** and wife (The latter started the Ladies' Aid Society here.), Mr. and Mrs. **T. R. Compton**, Mr. and Mrs. **Luther Eddy**, Mr. and Mrs. **William Dravenstatt**, Mr. and Mrs. **D. N. Baker**, Mr. and Mrs. **W. F. Kerr**, Mr. and Mrs. **Henry Newsom**, Mr. and Mrs. **David Morris**, Mr. and Mrs. **Myron Hazen**, Mr. and Mrs. **A. E. Dravenstatt**, and Mr. and Mrs. **F. L. Brokaw**.

ARCHIVES CLOSED THESE DATES

April 2	Good Friday
May 31	Memorial Day
July 5	Independence Day (observed)
Sept. 6	Labor Day
Nov. 11	Veteran's Day
Nov. 25-26	Thanksgiving Day
Dec. 23-31	Christmas



EARLY SETTLER

Martha J. (Reeve) Grier received an Early Settler Certificate in 2005 based on her proof of lineage from **Thomas E. Reeve** who settled in Watertown Township ca 1850. Others who received certificates on the same settler were **Carolyn S. (Kehoe) Jakus** (gr-dau of **Guy Reeve**, and her sons **Trent Christopher, Aaron Patrick, & Ethan Matthew Jakus**.

LINEAGE CHART

Start the first generation with you, the recipient of the chart.

1 I. [name] MARTHA J. REEVE born on 08-Sept-1936
At St. Johns Comm Hospital, Clinton County, MI [place, county, state]
Married to DAVID C. GRIER on Nov. 27, 1983
Who is child of KENNETH GRIER & ELIZABETH B. HOAG
At SOUTH HAVEN, MI occupation Retired
Other spouses LEON WOHLFERT military service N/A

Continue with other direct line ancestors back through qualifying ancestor.

2 parent Guy ALFRED REEVE

Born 28-OCT-1887 at Eaton County, MI
Married to FRANCES C. BARRETT
Who is child of Stephen BARRETT & MARY ELLEN PHILLIPS
On 8-June-1922 at Methodist PARSONAGE - LANSING, MI
Died 13-MARCH-1965 at St. Johns Hosp, St. Johns, MI - Clinton Cty
Buried UNION Home Cemetery occupation FARMER/CARPENTER
Military service N/A other spouses N/A

3 grandparent ALFRED T. REEVE

Born MAY 1855 at ELMIRA, NEW YORK
Married to EVA BRIGGS
Child of JAMES S. BRIGGS & SARAH LOUISA CHAPPELL
On 4-FEB-1883 at INGHAM County, MI
Died 5-July-1919 at LANSING, INGHAM County, MI
Buried Delta Center, Cemetery occupation ~~HOUSEWORKER~~ FARMER
Military service N/A other spouses N/A

4 g-grandparent THOMAS E. REEVE

Born 11-Dec, 1814 at LINCOLNSHIRE, ENGLAND
Married to Unity BUGG
Child of RICHARD BUGG & ANN FRANCE
On 15-MAR-1843 at GEDNEY-HALL, LINCOLNSHIRE, ENGLAND
Died 11-SEPT-1892 at Clinton County, Watertown, Twp, MI
Buried Mt. Hope Cemetery occupation FARMER
Military service N/A other spouses SOPHIA BUTT

SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR

George W. Anderson Camp No. 58
Department of Michigan

Presents:

When:
Monday
June 14, 2010
at
7:00 pm



Where:
VFW Post 671
12250 US 27
DeWitt, MI



Richard L. Hamilton

Author of "OH! HAST THOU FORGOTTEN"

The public is invited to hear the author give his presentation of his ancestor, 1st Sgt. George T. Patten, who fought with Gen. George A. Custer in the Michigan Cavalry Brigade during the Civil War. A must for Civil War buffs and historians. There will be an opportunity to purchase his book with a signing session after his speech.

SURNAMES OF RESEARCH 2010

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Sam & Jo Pardee, 2518 Gary Ave., Lansing, MI 48906-4131; Brown, Coffman, Otto

Kim [Howe] Sperry, 8204 US 27, DeWitt, MI 48820; kwsperry@aol.com; Joseph Edmund Williams, William & Eleazer Sperry, Adelbert Winslow, Alexander Calder, Rossow, Witt, Klaver & Lietzke

RECENT ACQUISITIONS

- *National Genealogical Society Quarterly*, 2008-2009
- *New England Hist. & Gen. Register*, 2006-2009
- *What Can't Brave Americans Endure, NJ Infantry at Valley Forge Encampment*; Boyle; 2001
- *Index to Stryker's Register of NJ in the Rev.*; 1995
- *Patents & Deeds & Other Early Records of NJ, 1664-1703*; Nelson; 2000
- *Early Germans of NJ*; Chambers; 1969
- *NJ Marriage Records, 1665-1800*; Nelson; 2009
- *Family Records or Genealogies of the 1st Settlers of Passaic Valley*; Littell; 1999
- *French & Native N.American Marriages 1600-1800*; Bunnell; 2004
- *Historical Register of Officers of the Cont. Army during the War of the Rev.*; Heitman; 2008
- *Naval Pensioners of the US, 1800-1851*; Bockstruck; 2002
- *The Pension Lists of 1792-5 With Other Rev. War Pension Records*; Clark; 1996
- *Known Military Dead During the American Rev. War 1775-1783*; Peterson; 2004
- *Pensioners in Western PA in 1883*; *Western PA Gen. Soc.*; 1993
- Misc. **Winans** family papers
- *The Ancestry of Nathan Lewis Harrison*; 2008; Keith G. Harrison
- Scrapbook compiled by **Willis L. Cressman**; his photos of WWII service
- DeWitt HS Alumni Reunion book; 1950
- Fowler HS grad program 1925
- Fowler HS grad invitation 1929
- Jason School, 1902 souvenir booklet
- Scrapbook; Eagle School; by McCrumb
- Eagle School Reunion register; 1989
- Clinton Co. School Directories: 1951-2; 1957-8; 1959-60; & 1963-4
- Grand Ledge Telephone Directories (1951, 1954, & 1956)
- Dewitt Community Church directory; 1994
- DeWitt Comm. Church Dir. 1994
- DeWitt Comm. Church; Misc. lists of officers and members 1988-2000
- History of Eagle Methodist Church; 1941
- Justices Docket, Essex Twp., ca 1862-1873
- Clinton Co. Govt. Directories; 1929-30 through 1943-44
- Assessment Roll Eagle Twp.; 1942
- Proceedings of Clinton Co. Bd. of Supervisors; 1935-36 & 1941-42
- **Emmett Mc Crumb's "Daybook"**; 1916-18
- Emmett Mc Crumb's "Journal"; 1928-1943 & 1894-1918
- Emmett Mc Crumb's "Ledger"; 1916-1918
- Tonia Co. Road Map; undated
- Map - St. Johns Original Subdivisions; 2001

Photos:

- Clinton Co. Bd. of Supervisors
- Monroe School bldg. & students ca 1925-26 (3 pictures)
- Charlie Johnson w/horse & wagon (postcard ad for egg business)
- Eagle School students; 1967-8; ca 1940-2; 1948-9; 1964-5; 1993
- Brown School students; 1922
- Mary McCrumb
- Agnes Lietzke
- Vern Babbitt
- Mable Hazen Higbee
- John M. & Eliza (Doane) DeWitt
- John M. & Eliza (Doane) DeWitt Family (early 1900's)
- Wm. H. Norris barn
- Isaac Chauncey Mix, Jr.

NEWZ FROM EARLY PAPERS

Courtesy of archives staff & other discerning researchers.

Ordinances (Clinton Independent; 5 Oct 1871)

The Board of Trustees of the village of St. Johns Ordain, That no person shall keep any disorderly house, house of ill fame, gaming table or any instruments or devices for gambling, in said village, but all such disorderly houses, houses of ill-fame, gaming table, instruments or devices for gambling, shall be suppressed, or closed up, and the keeper thereof, upon conviction, shall be punished by fine or imprisonment, or both, in the discretion of the court.

...That no person or persons shall have or conduct any traveling theatre, show or concert, or carry on the business of peddling, pawn-broking or hawking, or conduct any lottery or so-called "gift enterprise" in the village of St. Johns, without a license from the Board of Trustees of said village and only subject to the regulations of the said Board.



...That no person shall ride or drive any horse, mule or team of any kind, on the streets or public grounds of said village in an inordinate manner, nor leave any team in any street of said village, unfastened.

Party in Westphalia (Clinton Independent; 30 June 1892)

A grand celebration and picnic will be held on Monday next, July 4, in **Nic Thome's** grove, just east of the village of Westphalia. At ten o'clock in the forenoon a procession will form at the engine house in that village headed by the Westphalia cornet band, and followed by members of the council and citizens in general, and march to the grove. A grand bowery dancing floor will be erected on the grounds and music furnished by **Pohl's** orchestra. All kinds of refreshments will be served. Westphalia never does anything by halves and this will be no exception.

My family

As I look upon my family tree

Me, My Mom, My Dad make

three
Grampa and Gramma are on the

ladder
I love them lots, cause I

watter
Beth and Scott are my uncles

two feet tall and lots of

success
Nagge and Mary are my

aunts
they are pretty like my

sis's
I don't have time to tell

you all
but my family and I have

a ball

WRITTEN BY MATTHEW MOYER age 9
grandson of Lynne Gregory



It's Time to Renew your Dues

Please notice it's dues time again. The address label on this newsletter shows the last year for which you have paid. To prevent your name from being dropped from the membership rolls, please send in your dues **before Apr. 30th** using the form inside the last page of this newsletter.

The **Archives of the Clinton County Historical Society** is located at 16101 Brook Road in Dewitt Township Community Center. Volunteers are there to give research assistance from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Mondays and Tuesdays and from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. on Thursday and Fridays. Phone: (517) 482-5117. Web page: dewittlibrary.org/CCHS

The **Genealogists of the CCHS** meet the first Monday of each month at 1:00 p.m. November through March and 7:30 p.m. April through October in the Firstbank Community room, located downtown St. Johns. E-mail address: ccgensoc@yahoo.com. The **Historical Society** meetings are held 30 minutes prior to the Genealogist's meetings at Firstbank, the first Monday of January, April, July and October.

The **Paine-Gillam-Scott Museum** Complex is located on the West side of the Courthouse Square in St. Johns. Victorian House, General Store, Carriage House, Changing Exhibits. Open April 15th to December 21st. Sunday 1-4 p.m. and Wednesday 2-7 p.m. The Museum is self-supporting and needs to raise funds each year for utilities, maintenance, and insurance. Please support the Museum by becoming a "Friend of the Museum" for only \$25.00 per year—based on calendar year, payable to the "PGS Museum", P.O. Box 174, St. Johns, MI 48879; includes Museum newsletter, invitation to the annual events, free admission to Museum. Also request "Ways of Giving" Brochure. Please consider an endowment gift, monetary and artifact memorial gifts and decedent bequests. Web page: www.pgsmuseum.com and e-mail address is: pgs.museum@hotmail.com.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL

Mr./Mrs/Miss _____

List 5 Names you are Researching:

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip _____

Phone: _____ New _____ Renewal _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Date: _____

Annual Dues to join both the Clinton County Historical Society and the Genealogy Committee are \$15.00 single and \$20.00 a couple/family. Membership is based on the calendar year and includes a subscription to the quarterly newsletter, *Clinton County Trails*. Checks should be made payable to the Clinton County Historical Society and mailed to P.O. Box 174, St. Johns, MI 48879.

Genealogical queries should be addressed to: Genealogists of the Clinton County Historical Society, P.O. Box 23, St. Johns, MI 48879



NEWSPAPER MICROFILMING FUND

The newspaper microfilming fund balance has reached \$751. Thank you to all who have donated to this project. We aim to accumulate enough—probably more than \$2,000—to film at least another ten years of the *Clinton Co. News* (the 1950's).

BYLAWS UPDATE

The Executive Board the CCHS is in the process of amending the Society's bylaws to more clearly define the current situation and operation of the Society, Paine-Gillam-Scott Museum, and the Archives. Adoption of the amended bylaws will be voted on at the annual meeting on Monday, May 3, 2010, 7:00 p.m., in the First Bank meeting room in St. Johns. The current bylaws and the proposed amendment can be seen on our web page at www.dewittlibrary.org/CCHS .