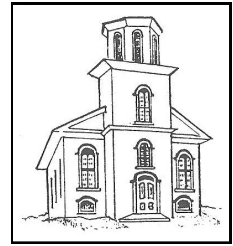


# CLINTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER



October 2012

## PROSPECT POINT RECALLED

Responding to the article on Prospect Point in the last newsletter Ron Mac Lean writes from Trumansburg that the Point was a favorite spot for young couples back in the 1950s when cars could drive right to the top.

He recalls that there was plenty of parking, and Oneida Lake was visible to the west.

Some may remember the Point as a sort of lovers' lane for those with autos.

## PRATT AVENUE IN C.M.

Most are familiar with Pratt Avenue which turns east or right off Clinton Street at the four corners in Clark Mills.

Where'd the name come from? Charles T. Pratt (1858-1930) was born in Clark Mills the son of Henry and Julia Carleton Pratt. Henry was involved with the Clark Brothers knitting mill.

Charles T. went on to found the Pratt Chuck Company, which made drill chucks for engine lathes, in Clayville in 1890 and moved

## UNDERGROUND RR AT JOINT MEETING

At the 36th joint meeting of the Clinton and New Hartford historical societies a New Hartford home, used to harbor slaves, will be the interesting topic.

Dean and Mary Hayes Gordon bought a home on Paris Road in 1986, known as the "Old Tuttle Farm." The Willis family, one of the first colored families to own property in New Hartford, purchased 65 acres in 1860.

Mary Gordon will tell the story of the property and her research to prove that it was a stopping place for the "Underground Railroad."

This meeting has been moved to Sunday, November 4, 2012 at 2 PM in the Willowvale Fire Hall on Oneida Street in Chadwicks.

Plenty of parking is available, and refreshments will be served.

to Frankfort in 1897. Pratt was master machinist and tried to build an automobile by placing an extra set of wheels just ahead of the rear wheels. With a 75 horsepower engine the car could handle seven passengers.

Pratt did not pursue the possibility of mass producing the cars and stuck with machine chucks.

Thanks to New Hartford's *Tally-Ho!* for this information about Pratt and Clark Mills.

Clinton Historical Society  
Founded in 1962

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**DUES-** \$10.00 individual; \$15.00 families/businesses; \$25.00 friend; \$50.00 contributing; and

## CHS AND OUR INTERNATIONAL CONNECTIONS

Can a small historical society in a small upstate New York village have international connections and significance? YES!!!

Rose Cleveland, younger sister of future US president Stephen Grover Cleveland, lived here in Clinton as a child in the early 1850s and then taught here at Houghton Seminary when an adult.

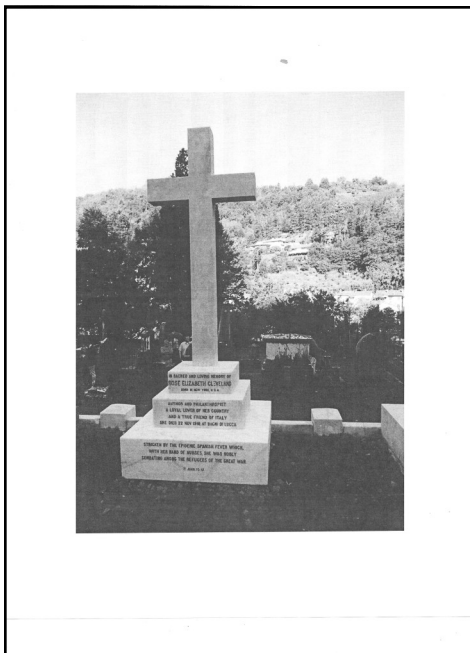
When Grover was president he, at first, had no wife, so Rose was the official first lady of the White House. He then married Frances Folsom some 30 years younger than he.

Rose (1846-1918) went on to make significant contributions to humanity as a missionary and a nurse to Italian war refugees and victims of the great flu epidemic at the end of World War I in the Florence, Italy area.

CHS recently received an inquiry from Sirpa Salenius, who is a university professor from Finland. She has been preparing a book about Rose's humanitarian efforts prior to succumbing to the disease herself.

CHS' chief researcher, John Burdick, has helped Ms. Salenius in her research and has answered many questions. She has sent John a postcard from Florence thanking him for his help. Ms. Salenius attended a conference there in which she presented information on Rose.

Ms. Salenius wrote that all went to the English Cemetery to see the restoration work done on the graves of Rose, Evangeline Whipple, and Nelly Enchsen. She sent us a picture of Rose's monument shown below. The inscription reads, "In sacred and loving memory of Rose Elizabeth Cleveland died November 22, 1918, author and philanthropist a loyal lover of her country and a true friend of Italy, she died 12 Nov 1918 at Bagni Di Lucca; stricken by the epidemic Spanish fever which with her band of nurses, she was nobly combating among the refugees of the Great War."



Rose Elizabeth Cleveland was born in Fayetteville, New York, on June 14, 1846. Known to her family as "Libby", Rose was the youngest of nine children born to Reverend Richard Falley Cleveland and Ann Neal Cleveland. In 1853 the family moved to Holland Patent, New York from Clinton, and where her father died that same year. Rose was 7. She was educated at Houghton Seminary here and taught at Houghton later in her literary career.

## 1906 OBITUARY OF O.J. HART

Obituary style has changed over the years. Previously more health details and more adjectives were given about the deceased.

Member Greg MacLean has provided Orris Josiah Hart's death notice from January 1906. Some excerpts:

"stricken with apoplexy during the night" "in politics he was a Republican"

"one of the best known and highly respected citizens of our town (Marshall)"

"he lived the quiet life of a farmer and there was not much in his history to enumerate, but if all the kindly deeds, generous acts and good counsel given when solicited, it would make a catalog of which any man would be proud"

"his home was particularly happy and there his friends were always welcome and hospitably entertained. Honorable and upright in all his dealings, he was a good citizen, a kind neighbor and greatly beloved by all who could claim the ties of kinship or of long acquaintance"

Hart was born December 12, 1826 and lived in Dixville on the road to Waterville. The Dixville school he attended then was previously used exclusively for the Brothertown Indians who lived in that area of Marshall.

Hart also held all offices in the town of Marshall except supervisor: town clerk, justice of the peace, and commissioner to fill quotas during the Civil War. He belonged to the Odd Fellows lodge.

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## ANOTHER FOUNDER OF BRISTOL-MYERS

Evidence from the Green County Historical Society in Coxsackie, New York tells the story of Rev. Lafayette Moore. Although an ordained Baptist minister he also was instrumental in founding two major pharmaceutical firms: Procter & Gamble and Bristol-Myers-Squibb.

In Oxford, New York in 1885 Moore started to make pills as a one-man operation and got several investors. Norwich Pharmacal Co. later became part of Procter & Gamble. However, in November 1887 he suddenly left and took the firm's money and equipment. Later that same month Moore started with William Bristol and John Myers at the Clinton Pharmaceutical Co. in Clinton.

Moore had served as a private in the Civil War in a New York City regiment, but was soon discharged due to "chronic nephritis" and "scrotum hernia." He graduated from Madison College (later Colgate University) in Hamilton, New York in 1874 and was ordained in Stanford, New York in 1870

For unknown reasons he quickly left the pill business after only 2-3 years as he was found preaching at the East Durham Baptist Church in East Durham, New York in 1889. He died in 1896 and is buried in a cemetery in East Durham. Moore was born in 1846 in New York City.



## ST. MARK'S

Neighboring St. Mark's Church on White Street in Clark Mills is also celebrating 150 years of service this fall.

St. James in Clinton, the other Episcopal church within the town of Kirkland, and St. Mark's share similar architecture with the vertical siding and gothic treatments.