



ALLENDALE HISTORY AND HERITAGE

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NEXT MEETING: Monday, March 2, 8:30 p.m. at the Allendale Municipal Building.

PROGRAM: Richard Stahlman will present a program on the Ramapough Indians and the Indian heritage of the Mountain People. He will bring a "chief" along to the meeting.

REMEMBERING THE BLIZZARD OF 1888

The blizzard of '88 will probably go on for years as a sort of yardstick against which all other severe snowstorms are measured. For New York City and its suburbs in the states of New York and New Jersey, there has yet to be a storm that came close to matching it, although we have had other severe, crippling snowstorms, including one in 1947.

Those people who may have been up after midnight and who chanced to see the gentle rain turn to snow at about 12:50 a.m. on March 12, probably went to bed expecting to wake up to nothing more than a mere light dusting of snow. During that night, the temperature dropped to four degrees.

Henry Clay Anthony, who had moved to Allendale as a child with his family about 1862, wrote, in 1938, his memories of the morning of March 12, 1888 and of the days that followed. He was 27 years old and worked in New York City for a lumber business on the corner of Washington and Laight Streets. He commuted regularly by train from Allendale.

He and his family woke up to falling snow that Monday morning, but despite the snowfall, three in the family headed for the train station and took early morning trains. His father, Daniel Anthony, took the 6:30 a.m. train. Henry and his brother, Dan, took the train that left Allendale at 7:11 a.m. By 7:30 that morning, he recalled, "the wind had developed into a gale -- snowing so hard and with the wind, you could not see across the streets. The train managed to get to Paterson one hour late. We could not go any further. They switched our train on the track back of the depot and we stayed

in the cars until 3:30 p.m. We were playing cards. A friend playing cards with us suggested that we had better find a place to sleep. We tried everywhere. All of the few hotels and rooms were filled. My friend happened to remember a friend of his that lived somewhere on North Main Street across the river. So he and I started out to find him. We managed to locate him -- arrived at his place exhausted and nearly frozen. He could put us up -- we stayed there until Wednesday."

For the next few days, people in the cities and in the country lived through precarious and unusual circumstances. Paterson, recalled Henry Anthony, "was a wild place, for there were people from the west and all of the local passengers and commuters -- they ate and drank the city supply out."

In New York City, one resident reported that his high stoop, about 15 feet above street level, was entirely covered by a drift and he was stranded in his home for about four days. Anthony wrote that in the cities there was a great scarcity of milk, fresh meats, and coal. The elevated railroad in New York, Anthony wrote, did not run ". . . the latter part of Monday and all day Tuesday. . . ." There were, of course, opportunists who took advantage of the blizzard -- when the elevated railroads came to a standstill, passengers were rescued by "instant businessmen" who provided ladders for climbing down to the streets -- for a fee of \$2.00 per person. Cabmen at the Astor House charged \$100 per passenger to carry customers just a few blocks.

When 6000 Mount Vernon to New York commuters were marooned in the railroad station, a nearby businessman used the blizzard to his advantage. His small restaurant -- the only one in town -- had been failing, and he had, in fact, filed a petition of bankruptcy just two days before the storm. By selling sandwiches for \$5.00 each to stranded commuters, he saved his business and tore up the bankruptcy papers.

Closer to home, Alfred P. Smith, the editor of a small country publication called The Landscape, wrote of his experience of being snowbound in his home at 171 East Allendale Avenue in Saddle River. Lame from childhood, he had written pieces for The Paterson Guardian in the late 1850s, and later he wrote and published The Landscape, a small (5" x 8") monthly publication filled with local news of the Saddle River Valley and nearby towns. During the early hours of Monday, March 12, 1888, he recalled ten years later, "it became intensely cold, the wind raved, reared and howled, and Monday morning the deepest snow of the season covered the ground and filled the air like fog and spray in an ocean tempest." By Tuesday morning, "a wonderful sight met the eye. It was an ocean of snow, its impassable billows all around us. Just back of the Landscape office a drift 15 feet high stretched across the road, and near the window in front of the house was a continuation of the same formation about 12 feet high. On Wednesday morning when the storm had abated we caught a view of neighbor Jennings with his oxen unsuccessfully attempting to force a way through the snowy billows. Not a single person passed our place from Sunday evening till the following Saturday afternoon. All the while the editor was alone, using his coal sparingly and getting water by melting snow obtainable at the door and windows."

By Wednesday noon, Henry Anthony wrote, the railroad had succeeded in getting one track clear to Jersey City and a train, packed and jammed with passengers, left Paterson. It took two hours to make

the trip. He then took the ferry to New York, only to find the city snowbound -- where streets were cleared, snow was at least 3 to 4 feet above the sidewalks. When he finally arrived at his office, he found only the man who lived directly over the office. "I started at once for home," he wrote, "got a train out and after three hours' run arrived in Allendale. The wind and a slight rain had formed a heavy crust on the snow. It would bear up anyone, so I headed for a direct course to our home. The snow had covered all of the fences. Got home in good shape."

His brother Dan had slept in railroad cars Monday and Tuesday nights and, with a friend, decided to walk to Allendale on Wednesday. It took them over four hours to reach home.

"It took the railroads over a week to get their road back to normal condition," Anthony wrote. "It was quite a long time before all of the surface cars could run. Of course then the subways were a dream. Out in the country the snow had drifted so badly and the drifts were so high it was at least three weeks before all of the roads were passable. In fact, in secluded and protected places you could find snow in the early part of June."

In 1938 Anthony wrote, "I was going to refrain from quoting the depth of the snow and heights of some of the drifts created by the storm lest I be accused of enlargement. However, this is absolutely correct -- the snow was at least two feet in depth and in places so badly drifted that they were from five to fifteen feet high -- and in some places the gale had swept it clean of snow. These conditions were there and not by any means dreams."

Sources:

Manuscript: "The Blizzard of March 12th, 1888" by Henry Clay Anthony, written in 1938.

"Another Time -- Another Storm," by Jean H. Massimo, in RELICS, March, 1974.

"Gentle Spring, March '88," in RELICS, March 1975.

"FIRST FAMILIES" OF ALLENDALE...Notes on early residents of Allendale
Compiled by Pat Wardell and vicinity

Compiler's Note: This alphabetical listing cannot be considered an all-inclusive list of prominent early residents. We invite any member or friend to write us to add information to any listing or to insert an omitted listing. These notes are being compiled using information at hand that has been accumulated over the years, and we freely acknowledge that the list is far from complete. In general, it is our policy to list residents who were born or lived in Allendale prior to 1900 but there are a few exceptions for those with unusual or outstanding accomplishments or lengthy and dedicated service to Allendale.

Hasbrouck, DuBois Hotaling

The son of Abraham Hasbrouck and Catherine Goetschius, he was born September 16, 1825 and baptized February 24, 1826, Marbletown, N.Y. He married, June 10, 1851 at High Falls, N.Y., Mary Hasbrouck, daughter of Calvin Hasbrouck and Christina Robinson. They had children: Kate D. Hasbrouck, b. 1853, m. (1) Lounsbury Davis, and m. (2) Capt. J. L. Snyder; Matthew

DeWitt Hasbrouck, b. 1857, m. Julia E. Connor; Calvin Hasbrouck, b. 1863, m. Lena Zeeh; and Eva Hasbrouck, b. 1865, m. Cornelius Bogart Ostrander.

DuBois Hasbrouck was the grandson of the Rev. Stephen Goetschius. He was living in the Allendale vicinity by 1849, when he was Superintendent of Schools for Hohokus Township. He was a medical doctor. At the time of the 1850 Federal Census, he was listed as living with the John G. Ackerman family in the house at 475 Franklin Turnpike (the Ackerman-Cable-Taylor house, now Pfister's). By 1853, he was living across the Turnpike in an old stone house at the corner of the Turnpike and the road leading to Saddle River. (Bergen County Road Return F-144.) About 1894-95, O.H.P. Archer, who then owned the property, had the stone house torn down.

DuBois Hasbrouck was well known in Bergen County and in 1854, became a charter member of the District Medical Society of Bergen County (later the Bergen County Medical Society). The August 27, 1859 edition of the Bergen County Journal reported on a "Serious Accident at Hohokus -- on Friday afternoon, the 19th inst., a young man named Christian Wanamaker, in the employ of J. J. Zabriskie of Hohokus, had his left hand so completely shattered by the premature explosion of a charge of powder in blasting rocks, as to require amputation of the arm above the wrist, which operation was promptly performed by Dr. Abraham Hopper, assisted by his son, Dr. William Hopper, and Dr. DuBoise Hasbrouck of Paramus." DuBois Hasbrouck died between March 20, 1865 (the date of his will) and April 11, 1865 (the probate date of the will).

Hatch, George W.

He served on Allendale's first Borough Council in 1894 and was elected President of the Borough Council on March 18, 1895. He continued to serve on the Council until at least 1897.

Henion, Martin

On February 6, 1896, he was appointed Board of Health Commissioner by the Allendale Borough Council.

Hennion, Stephen Zabriskie

The son of Martin Hennion and Leah Garrison, he was born December 13, 1841 and baptized at Mahwah. He married, on May 15, 1860 at the True Reformed Church of Ramsey, Anna Elizabeth Christopher, daughter of William C. Christopher and Rosanna Lake. They lived on Hillside Avenue. They had two children: Josephine Eva Hennion, born in January 1870, and Martin Hennion, born about 1872. In the 1880 Federal Census for Hohokus Township, his occupation is listed as carpenter.

Hennion, William

His house is shown on Bergen County Road Return E-86, surveyed by Garret A. Zabriskie and dated December 1820. The house is shown on Hillside Avenue-South Central Avenue in the vicinity of today's Allendale-Ramsey border.

Hicks, John R.

He probably lived in the Allendale-Waldwick vicinity around 1800, because he is mentioned in the inventory of the estate of Peter Tebow, dated March 2, 1804, as owing, on black smith's book, \$1.62.

Higgins, Dennis

He owned land in Allendale in the mid-1800s. He inherited from his father, Michael Higgins, the property at 168 West Crescent Avenue (today the Ramapo Gate Inn), which he and his wife, Mary J. Higgins, sold on February 10, 1868 to Charles H. O'Neill of Jersey City.

Higgins, Malachi Edward

Born in Passaic on September 17, 1880, he and his wife, Mary Burchill Higgins, came to live in Allendale about 1918. He was president of the M. E. Higgins Co. in New York City, manufacturers of rubber stamps and printing devices. He was active in civic affairs in Allendale, serving as Mayor of Allendale from 1931 to 1934, and was a Trustee of the Allendale Library Association for more than 9 years. He was vice president and a director of the First National Bank of Allendale, president and director of the Magic Building and Loan Association of Waldwick, and director of the Allendale Building and Loan Association. He and his wife had three children: Malachi Edward Higgins, Jr.; Mary Higgins (m. Carlough); and Harriet Higgins (m. Paul F. Oswald). They lived at 215 Franklin Turnpike. M. E. Higgins died in March 1943.

Higgins, Michael

He and his family lived in the house that is today the Ramapo Gate Inn on West Crescent Avenue. He was born in Ireland about 1803. He and his wife, Anne, had at least one child: Dennis Higgins. Michael Higgins is listed in the 1860 Federal Census of Hohokus Township as a farmer.

Hilbert, Edward J.

The son of Hilbert and Ella Mowerson, he was a charter member of the Allendale Fire Association.

Hoffman, Catherine

She is listed as the owner of lot #146 of the Ramapo Tract, in Allendale, under the date of May 1787, and a house is shown on this lot in approximately the area near today's West Crescent Avenue northwest of the railroad tracks.

Hoffman, Philip

The name is found on the listing of Franklin Township Rateables in 1779 and 1780, where he is listed as owning 100 acres of land, apparently in what is today Allendale. He was a witness at the baptism in Paramus, on December 20, 1761, of Phillipus Pecker, son of Jacob Pecker (Packer?). He apparently died before 1791, for the Franklin Township tax rateables for that year show the names of "Widow Huffman" (with 50 acres of land) and "Ryndert Huffman" (possibly a son) with 50 acres of land.

Hopper, Abram

Born December 2, 1807, he married, on October 9, 1830 at Saddle River Reformed Church, Sarah Sloat Van Blarcom, daughter of Albert Van Blarcom. She was born in Franklin Township and was baptized at New Prospect (Waldwick) on January 6, 1810. They probably lived in the Waldwick-Allendale area. Their children were: Albert James Hopper; Eliza Ann Hopper, b. 1833, m. Isaac A. Smith; Eva Lavinia Hopper, b. 1834, m. William H. Yeomans; Sarah M. Hopper, b. 1837; Jacob H. Hopper, b. 1838;

Rosa Estella Hopper, b. 1840, m. James Alfred Ackerman; and Fannie J. Hopper, b. 1847-48, m. John H. Garrison. Abram Hopper died November 12, 1851 and his wife, Sarah Sloat Van Blarcom, died November 20, 1889. They were both buried in the Union Cemetery, Wyckoff.

Hopper, Andrew A.

An Andrew A. Hopper was one of the signers of a petition for vacation of a road called "The Shunpike" (Bergen County Road Return D-239) in January 1811. The Shunpike was, evidently, a road in Allendale around the toll gate, used by those who wished to "shun" the collection point and save paying the toll.

Hopper, Andries H.

He bought property on the west bank of the Saddle River at a small stream called "Smoker's Val" by deed from Peter Fauconnier, dated May 1, 1712. This is probably the same "Andries Hendrickse Hoppe" who married, in 1707, "Abigal Ackermans." The Smokis Voll brook today forms the southeastern boundary line of the Borough of Allendale.

Hopper, C. A.

He was elected to the Allendale Borough Council in the spring of 1897 and served at least two years on the Council. He was also a member of the Board of Stewards of the Archer Methodist Church and Assistant Superintendent of the Sunday School in 1894.

Hopper, Garret

He signed, in January 1811, the petition for vacation of the road called "the Shunpike." Another Garret Hopper is listed among the various persons named in the same petition as owners of land over which "the road desired vacated runs. . ."

Hopper, Henry A.

He signed, in January 1811, the petition for vacation of "The Shunpike" and is also listed among the names of landowners over whose land the road ran. He may have lived or owned property in the vicinity of today's Chestnut Street (in Allendale) and Hopper Avenue (in Waldwick). One Henry A. Hopper, probably the same person, was an appraiser, in March 1804, of the estate of Peter Tebow (Debow). One Henry A. Hopper, probably the same person, witnessed the will, dated November 16, 1816, of Abraham Quackenbush.

Hopper, Jacob

He was listed, in a January 1811 petition, among the names of landowners over whose property "The Shunpike," a road desired vacated, ran. A Jacob A. Hopper signed the petition.

Hopper, J. J.

His name is shown on Lot #30 (today's 45 Maple Street) on the "Map of the property of John L. Yeomans," surveyed March 1886 and filed May 5, 1886.

Hubbard, James A.

Born about 1856, he married Martha Amelia Moores, and they purchased, on December 27, 1899, from Benjamin and Ida Sutton, the property at 128 West Crescent Avenue. Their children were: Ralph M. Hubbard; James R. Hubbard (who was killed in World War I); John G. Hubbard; Mary Hubbard; and Grace Hubbard (m. Wilbur Goetschius). Active in civic affairs, James A. Hubbard was a member of the Methodist Church and had served as president of the Allendale Board of Education for many years. He died in September 1931 and his wife died in May 1947.

Hubbard, John G.

Son of James A. Hubbard and Martha Amelia Moores, he graduated from the Allendale School in 1912 and served in the armed forces during World War I. He was active in Allendale civic life, and served as Secretary of the Holiday Observers in 1932.

Hubbard, Mary A.

The daughter of James A. Hubbard and Martha Amelia Moores, she taught school in Ramsey for many years and the Mary A. Hubbard School in Ramsey was named for her. She was active in Allendale and served as Secretary of the Allendale Library Association in 1924.

Hutches, Benjamin F., Jr.

Son of Benjamin F. Hutches, he was born October 1, 1861 at Galveston, Texas, and married Elizabeth Marie Low, who had been born December 25, 1860 at Havana. They had children: William Edward Hutches, b. 1900, d. 1925; and Mary Hutches, m. B. Newman. B. F. Hutches, Jr. graduated as an electrical engineer from Massachusetts Institute of Technology, was a pioneer in railroad building for the Texas and Pacific Railroad, and was a member of the Texas Rangers. He served on the Allendale Borough Council for more than 3 terms, beginning in 1914, was president of the Men's Republican Club of Allendale, and in later life he operated the San Jacinto Swim Club. In 1913, the house at 46 Maple Street in Allendale was conveyed from B. F. Hutches and his wife to The Roman Catholic Diocese of Newark, and was remodelled to serve as a Catholic church. Mr. Hutches died in March 1935; his wife died in 1931.

Ivers, Alfred E.

Alfred E. Ivers and his wife, Adeline G., moved to Allendale about 1887, purchasing large tracts of land, including a house on Franklin Turnpike said to be more than 100 years old (the old Quackenbush homestead). They had children: Charles H. Ivers; George W. Ivers; Adeline G. Ivers, m. Anderson B. Bramhall; and another daughter who married Alonzo C. Barrett. Alfred E. Ivers was elected a Trustee of the Orvil Co-operative Building and Loan Association in April 1889 and was vice president of the Lyceum in Allendale the same year. He was appointed a Justice of the Peace in 1892 and in 1894 he was appointed Clerk of the Election when the newly-formed Borough's first Mayor and Council were elected. (See Vol. III, No. 3, the February 1977 issue of this newsletter, for "Some Childhood Memories of Allendale," written by Laura Barrett Haviland, granddaughter of Alfred E. Ivers.) Ivers Place in Allendale was named for Alfred E. Ivers.

Job, Ciril C.

Born January 28, 1878 in Dubrovnik, Yugoslavia, he came to the United States with his wife in 1902. They lived first in New York, then in Little Ferry, and settled in Allendale in 1932 when he bought the Inn at 168 West Crescent Avenue. The Inn had previously been called "The Steer Inn," and was later known as "The Crescent Inn" and is now "The Ramapo Gate Inn." In 1946, his son Pasko Job took over the management of the Inn and it became known as "Pat Job's Crescent Inn." Ciril C. Job and his wife had children: Ann Job; Florio Job; Gil Job;

Joseph Job; Pasko Job; and Ben Job.

Johnson, Charles B.

Born in Allendale, he graduated from the Allendale School in 1903 and was a charter member of the Allendale Fire Association. He was Secretary of the Allendale Christmas Tree Association in 1917. He worked for the Erie Railroad for 50 years and was a police marshall in Allendale before the Police Department was organized. He married Kittie R. Austin and they had children: Charles B. Johnson, Jr.; and Marion Johnson, m. Clifford Palmer. Charles B. Johnson died in September 1974; his wife, Kittie R., died in April 1973.

Johnson, Leslie R.

He served as Mayor of Allendale in 1951 and 1952.

Johnson, William

He was a charter member of the Allendale Fire Association.

Jones, Louis

He was a director, in 1900, of the Orvil Co-operative Building and Loan Association, and in 1926 was president of the Association (later called the Allendale Building and Loan Association). He was a member of the Publicity Committee of the Allendale Christmas Tree Association in 1917 and was a charter member and Treasurer of the Allendale Garden Club in 1921. His wife, Alice May Jones, died at the age of 83 in May 1955.

Keidel, Louis A.

Born about 1874, Louis A. Keidel was vice president of the Bankers Trust Company, New York City, vice president of the National Bank of Commerce, and a director of Schenley Industries, Inc. He and his wife, Ella T. Keidel, lived in Saddle River before moving to Allendale. Mr. Keidel served as Mayor of Allendale from 1939 to 1942.

Kendall, Lucian (Dr.)

Born about 1836 in Pennsylvania, at the time of the 1870 Federal Census, Dr. Kendall was living with the family group of Harvey Sherwood. He probably lived on or near Park Avenue. In October 1870, while he was visiting patients in Saddle River, his horse took fright and threw him out of the carriage, severely injuring him.

(to be continued)

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