

a door latch, two catches and staples

-12½

Half a days work for two men repairing
school house and one stove pipe

-50

(1 shilling equals 12½ cents (bit) - 2 bits equals 25 cents)

SCHOOL TEACHER'S TAX

Rate bill for inhabitants in District 16 in the year 1862.

John W. VanVranken \$2.93

James M. VanVranken 2.24

Leonard Petus 1.33

Henry Fonda 2.48

Joseph G. Cronkrite 4.18

Widow Maria Hegeman 1.02

George King 2.38

Lewis Fellows 2.28

Patrick Manion .48

Charles Grosse .49

Widow Eliza VanVranken .77

Dorcas VanVranken .58

Jacob Clute 1.17

William Kins 2.08

5% more tax will be added after two weeks. If tax is not paid
after 30 days the collector will levy the same by distress and
sale of the goods and chattels of such person except those exempt.

Park was formed in 1828, this school and part of the district was assigned to Clifton Park, district 13.

There is nothing very special about this school except that the old Quaker church was not far away and the school record book, still in existence, goes back to 1816. Mention is made that the school is in the town of Orange (Orange is the name the town of Halfmoon had temporarily changed to). There is a notation in this old book dated July 26-1910 by J. Herrick, trustee: copy of value of school property:

Value of site	\$100.00
Value of school house (including furniture but exclusive of site)	600.00
Value of Library	<u>55.00</u>
TOTAL	\$755.00

Oct. 22, 1816 I, Joseph Lamb, let Henry Clow have to buy lime for schoolhouse	\$2.50
24th bot of Ely McTodd 1 gallon of rum	1.25
going to look for stone twice	1.00
4 pounds stove pipe at 1/9 per pound	.88
Paid Veal for five load of stone	.63
Sept. 1817 Paid for lime	.75
put in one pane of glass	.13
1818 paid Mr. Sutherland for 6 panes of glass	.66

2 years interest on above account	.00
Due 1819 to boards to fix schoolhouse	.50
Oct. 1820 bot 12 panes of glass	.75
1 pound of putty	.13
Nov. 28 put in schoolhouse 3 panes of glass	.38

"At a special meeting held in school district #6 at the school house John Darby Esq. Chairman 2/6/1816 resolved that we agree to raise a sum sufficient to pay what has been expended on said school house and a sum sufficient to repair it providing a title can be provided for the land where said school house now stands"

A deed to the property or land was obtained from James Conklin dated "February 17-1816 to the trustees and taxable inhabitants of district #6 town of Halfmoon" (deed pasted in above school book, Conklin was paid \$22.50 for the land).

Particulars gathered from M. Amsden's school book and from recollection Sept. 20, 1819: "hired Manley Amsden to teach the school for six months for eighty dollars". "In March 1820 the Trustees met and settled with Manley Amsden and paid him thirty nine dollars and twenty five cents being the amount of public money for 1819 and the remaining \$40.75 made into a bill on the employers".



HALF MOON SCHOOL DISTRICT #5
WEST CRESCENT

HALF MOON SCHOOL DISTRICT # 7
COONS CROSSING

MISSING



HALF MOON SCHOOL DIS
WAS DISCONTINUED IN
CONTINUED AS CLIFTON

HALF MOON SCHOOL DIS
TOP OF PRUYNE HILL

MISSING

school for three months at a salary of \$40.00 per quarter employed M. Amsden to teach at the rate of \$40.00 per quarter who taught six months. In 1822 "the number of scholars between the age of five and fifteen years was 123".

The last meeting of school district #6 was November 8, 1828 when it was adjourned until April 4, 1829. At this time it was opened as "annual meeting of School District Number 13".
Henry Clow, moderator.

It is interesting to note the age span of the school children recorded. The first records simply mention the number of scholars or children. In 1829 our first Clifton Park record book records them as number of children residing in each district "over four and under sixteen years of age". In 1858 they were listed as over five and under sixteen. In 1864 the children were listed as over four and under 21 and in 1866 they were listed as over five and under 21.

There is some question as to whether these figures represent the number taught or registered on the census of the district. I do not know anything about the apportionment system used to distribute the money. The 1870 records show:

number of children between 5 and 21	} proportion for teacher's wages
average daily attendance	

library money

Total to be paid to district

In 1870 the average daily attendance was about 30% of total number listed.

an average attendance of 30.6%. After I examined the average attendance for the other districts, I thought it was interesting data to record here.

District #	No. of Children	Aver. Daily Attendance		
1	57	33.4	Rexford	58%
2	76	22.9	Grooms	30%
3	76	30.6	Vischer Ferry	40%
4	61	18.6	Clute's Dry Dock	31%
5	45	5.3	Moes Corners	12%
6	44	17.55	Town Shed	41%
7	43	21.7	Waites Corners	51%
8	60	17.4	Blue Barns Rd.	30%
9	108	29.5	Jonesville	27%
10	36	10.17	Elnora	28%
11	50	19.34	Ushers (Skunk Hollow)	40%
12	87	19.47	Clifton Park	22%
13	57	16.6	Ushers	29%
14	29	9.13	Goose Pasture Rd. (Appleton Rd.)	31%
15	48	18.3	Moe/Crescent Rds.	38%

School district #3, Vischer Ferry, in the above list shows an attendance of 76 children. The following list of students listed

Following is the age verses the number of students:

Age in Years	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
No. of Students	4	6	6	6	5	3	3	5	5	5	5	6	6	3	2	

School District #3 Vischer Ferry

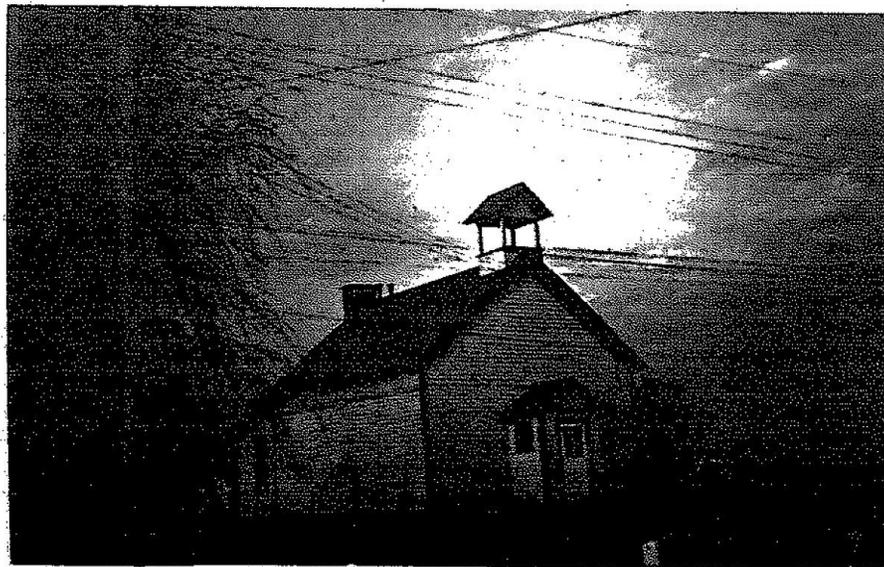
Teacher → November to February - N. P. Clute

Teacher - May to September - Mary E. Cooper

1877

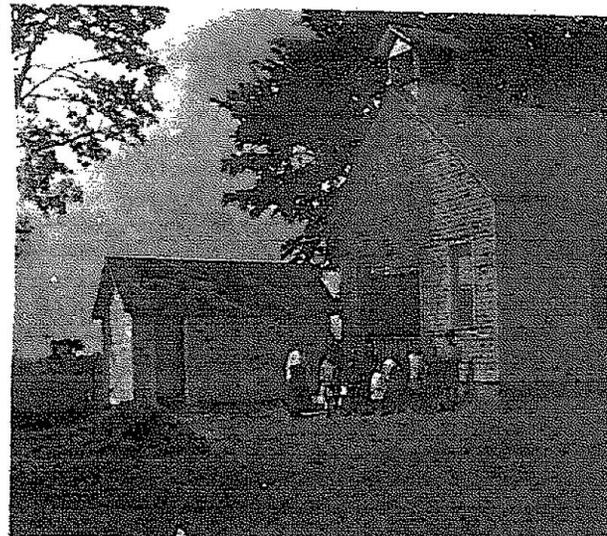
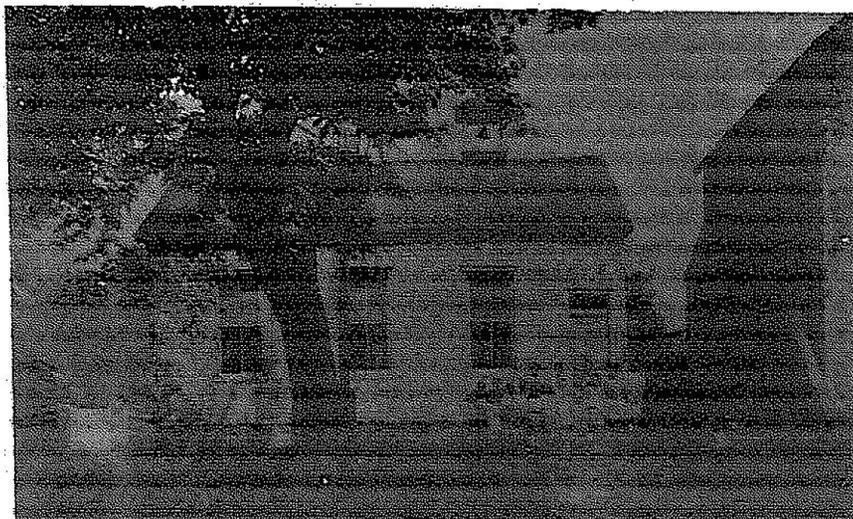
<u>Parents</u>	<u>Children</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Born</u>
Mrs. H. Arnold	Frank L.	11	1866
Samuel VanVranken	Sammy	11	1866
	Maggie	8	1868
Benj. Hood	Benj. W. Sparsley	10	1867
Stephen Lossie	Frank & Fred	15	1862
Alex. P. Sherman	Cranie	14	1863
" "	Libbie	5	1872
W. W. Letson	Vorhees	13	1864
" "	Lettie	16	1861
" "	Libbie	18	1859
Abram Best	Tweed	17	1860
" "	Miller	12	1865
" "	Nellie	6	1871
Sebastian Cragier	Tunis L.	15	1862
Mrs. C. Vickery	Hattie	19	1858
" "	Ophelie	17	1860
" "	Siche	15	1862
" "	Byron	9	1868
" "	Carrie	11	1866

<u>Parents</u>	<u>Children</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Born</u>
Samuel Cole	Edward	17	1860
James Monckton	Sarah	12	1865
" "	George	13	1864
" "	James	6	1871
Fred Pelky	Fred Jr.	9	1868
C. R. Sheffer	Lenord	9	1868
" "	Munie	8	1869
" "	Cornelus	6	1871
Jessy G. Pears	James	16	1861
" "	Lizzie	13	1864
" "	Abram	8	1869
John Sherman	Louis S.	9	1868
John Vanlony	Carrie	10	1867
" "	Minnie	7	1870
Chauncy Northrup	Lillie	6	1871
Louisie Sherman	Sarah McQuade	13	1864
James Mull	Ella	13	1864
Stephen Vickery	William	14	1863
John Vandusen	Lawrence	12	1865
Mrs. Ellen McTosh	Mary	14	1863
" " "	Cornelius	16	1861
John Pearse	Ned. F.	16	1861
N. P. Clute	William Cary	8	1869
Issac S. Mull	Cora B.	16	1861
Hiram Woodin	William	15	1862
John Quirk	James	17	1860
" "	Thomas	14	1863
" "	Martin	12	1865



HALF MOON SCHOOL DISTRICT # 9
RT. 9 BEFORE IT WAS MOVED

HALF MOON SCHOOL DISTRICT # 11
CHURCH HILL, CRESCENT



HALF MOON SCHOOL DISTRICT # 3

HALF MOON SCHOOL DISTRICT #
NOW ON GROOMS ROAD

CLIFTON PARK SCHOOL DISTRICT
WAS OLD BAPTIST CHURCH ON CEDAR
CLIFTON PARK VILLAGE



Charles Dutcher	Mina	8	1869
Phillip Fonda	William	17	1860
" "	Maggie	8	1869
Lewis Fellows	Adrian	6	1871
Benj. F. Chadsey	Frank	7	1870
Charles Howd	May	5	1872
Mrs. Gertie Lansing	Carrie	10	1867
" " " "	Emmet	7	1870
Stephen Reid	Maggie	14	1863
" "	Artie	12	1865
Abram VanVranken	Addie	9	1868
" "	Ammie	7	1870
" "	George	5	1872
Brainard Adsit	Brainard	18	1859
" "	Linna	16	1861
George Loosie	Twin daughters	15	1862
Patrick McCormick	John	19	1858
" "	Bridget	17	1860
William VanVranken	Norman	7	1870
" "	Witbeck	5	1872
Richard Clute	Stephen	6	1871
Henry Fonda	Cornelius	7	1870
Grandies Vischer	Eldert	18	1859

No. 6, 7	History of insects	2 volumes
9, 10, 11	Tales from american history	3 "
13, 14	Lockharts life of Napoleon	2 "
15	Combs Physiology	1 "
16	Indian traits	1 "
18	Adventures in Africa	1 "
20	Popular guide to the study of nature	1 "
19	The american forest	1 "
21	Perrils of the sea	1 "
22	Abercombie on the intellectual powers	1 "
23	Lectures on Literature	1 "
24	Scenery of the heavens by Dick	1 "
25	history pallestine	1 "
26	Chivalry and Cruisades by James	1 "
27	Life of Newton	1 "
28	Live and let live	1 "
29, 30	History of China	2 "
31	Circumnavigation of the globe	1 "
32	Life of Alexander the great	1 "
33, 34	Fullers letters on phylosophy	2 "
35	Barrows Life of Peter the great	1 "
36, 37	Russells life of Cromwell	2 "
38	Improvement of society by Dick	1 "

No.	Title	Volume	Page
39	Physical condition of the earth	1	"
40	Abercombe on moral feelings	1	"
41	Ives on female sovereignty	1	"
43	History of Virginia	1	"
44	Ornament discovered by Nifs Hughs	1	"
48	Life of early navigators	1	"
49, 50	History of New York	2	"
51, 52	Franklins life and works	2	"
53, 54	Visit to the American churches	2	"
55	Memoir of Nevins	1	"
56, 57	Christian Crahmun	2	"
59	Christs Reformation	1	"
60	Diary of an ennuyee	1	"
58	Popular infidelity	1	"
61	Burnside on the sabbath	1	"
62	Bucks treaties	1	"
63	the fathers book	1	"
64	Treaties on self knowledge	1	"
65	Records of a London clergeman	1	"
66	Tuckers lectures to young men	1	"
67	Christ rejected	1	"
68	Public instruction in presfsia	1	"
69	Beecher on scepticism	1	"
70	Stark Brown Montgomery Allen	1	"

No. 71	Star of the west	1 volume
72	Benedict Arnold	1 "
47	Perrys voyages (one volume lost)	1 "
74	School and Schoolmaster	1 "
77, 78	Political history of New York	2 "
79	life of Fulton	1 "
80	Randall Common school system	1 "
81	Goldsmiths history of Greece	1 "
83, 84	History of the reformation	2 "
86	Dicks works	1 "
87	Goldsmiths history of Rome	1 "
90	Report of the superintendant of schools	1 "
91	Dwights Lives of the signers	1 "
94, 95, 96, 97	Rollins history	4 "
1	Life of Washington	1 "
4	Swifs family Robinson	1 "



MALTA SCHOOL DISTRICT # 5
EAST LINE/ROUND LAKE RDS.



MALTA SCHOOL DISTRICT
UNION FREE SCHOOL, ROUND L

CLIFTON PARK SCHOOL DISTRICT # 3
CLASS ROOM IN 1914, VISCHER FERRY



CLIFTON PARK SCHOOL DIS
REAR VIEW, GROOMS CORNER



common school enrollment for all the districts over a period of years. Starting in 1830, two years after the town was started, up to 1887 covering some 57 years of existence. One cannot say growth as there was practically none since at the end of 1887 the enrollment was the same as in 1830.

The lower chart shows the variation in some of the most active districts due mostly to the shifting of the boundaries to accommodate the population.

One will note how the total enrollment started to decline until 1850 when it rather suddenly started upward. There was something taking place in the country which brought on this prosperity. New houses were being erected, many of the so-called Grecian type, with the white pillars were appearing. The 1849 Gold Rush Days, politics and other causes too complicated for us to understand were factors in this prosperity. We were approaching the Civil War Period and perhaps this was foreseen and war stock piles were being built.

The census of the towns is not readily available, except 1850, so one cannot figure out just what made the sudden rise in the attendance and then the decline in 1885 to the same number of students as in 1830.

In Beer's Topographical Atlas of 1866, Saratoga county lists the town of Clifton Park as leading all others in the country in the production of grain, apples, butter, and pork.

Rexford, #2 Grooms, #3 Vischer Ferry, #12 Clifton Park, and #16 Cragier's, indicate this sudden rise. In fact, the enrollment in Vischer Ferry increased so rapidly that a new district, #16, had been started in 1856 and opened with 88 students which accounts for the sudden drop in district #3 and probably district #4, Clute's Dry Dock. Families continually shifted from one district to another for the convenience of the children and at times a school would take in a group of students from the adjoining town.

Much could be gleaned from the records concerning the problems of keeping school teachers who were receiving from ten to twelve dollars a month with 'keeps' or board and room. We learn also the maintenance of the schoolhouse and out houses, the wood supply for the stoves, and the replacing of window panes. There was no mention of truant officers or disciplinary problems in and outside the school.

Often the teacher was a young girl, somewhat more intelligent than the average girl of her age, or widows and spinsters. Male teachers, who could best handle the big boys, were sometimes employed too. Then there were the boys, and sometimes girls, who played 'hooky', perhaps to pick violets or fish.

Park schools were found in the clerk's record book started in 1816 by Henry Clow for district #6. There being, at that time, no Clifton Park town. This was four years after the state authorized the formation of districts or two years after the districts were fairly well organized.

District #6 covered the area around Usher, sometimes called Pig Street, north of Route 9. In 1829 just after the town of Clifton Park was formed, this district was somewhat altered and made district #13 in the town of Clifton Park but also combined with the new Halfmoon area with joint control. Both districts 12 and 13 were joint with Halfmoon and are described elsewhere. Description of the Halfmoon districts have not been found and perhaps were destroyed in the Halfmoon town clerk's office fire - back about 1850. Although a school board's annual report book may still turn up in some attic.

Herein is being included some excerpts from #6-13 book to give one an idea on how the schools were run in those early days. It will be noticed in some of the minutes that #6 school was apparently old and in need of repair in 1816 and was setting on private property. It is doubtful that there were country schools before and during the Revolutionary War so perhaps this old school dated back to about 1785 which would make it about 30 years old and ready for new under pinnings.

ENROLLMENT DATA ON THE CLIFTON PARK DISTRICT SCHOOLS
1830-1886

YEAR	'30	'32	'33	'37	'40	'45	'49	'52	'55	'56	'63	'66	'67	'68	'69	'71	'75	'82	'85	'86	'87
1	87	54	47	59	67	67	47	81	79	76	78	68	81	72	59	69	80	47	35	34	36
2	118	101	89	76	73	61	65	95	101	102	112	94	102	107	84	85	46	50	69	69	50
3	56	70	67	50	55	62	68	131	141	76	95	69	76	104	102	66	88	69	75	96	74
4	59	28	46	51	56	39	46	90	85	97	106	100	70	101	112	100	83	45	39	51	45
5	65	69	62	51	55	28	33	51	68	68	58	54	60	55	57	52	60	43	50	45	45
6	55	50	53	52	55	39	27	43	41	52	51	51	45	51	43	40	38	35	47	53	53
7	57	54	62	50	49	55	41	67	82	55	57	58	53	54	49	57	42	38	32	36	48
8	54	64	50	37	109	84	58	80	71	85	86	70	86	80	69	59	61	53	41	42	37
9	50	52	50	43	59	41	30	84	81	90	97	109	109	104	90	98	106	72	68	71	75
10	57	73	47	36	56	41	30	23	37	34	40	39	41	35	33	30	36	38	36	38	39
11	30	60	37	29	25	29	22	40	44	43	33	20	21	25	24	44	45	59	13	33	29
12	57	40	59	49	83	89	69	87	83	125	125	132	108	113	78	83	82	75	60	71	67
13	38	54	28	34	25	28	25	28	43	73	79		66	64	68	61	64	34	37	40	33
14	..	40	49	41	30	22	18	14	29	27	32	28	24	23	20	25	19	28	15	25	22
15	..	..	..	36	40	34	41	54	55	67	70	51	37	42	35	43	40	34	32	32	30
16	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	88	72	57	54	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	785	729	746	694	815	725	620	978	1036	1158	1105	1024	1025	1017	948	945	905	727	637	715	702

TOTAL ATTENDANCE

CLIFTON PARK SCHOOL DISTRICTS

- # 1 Rexford Flats
- # 2 Grooms Corners
- # 3 Vischer Ferry
- # 4 Clutes Dry Dock
- # 5 Moe/Grooms Roads
- # 6 Town Shed Area
- # 7 146/Waite Roads
- # 8 Ashdown Road now with Ballston Lake
- # 9 Jonesville
- #10 Elnora
- #11 Kinns Road (Shunk Hollow)
- #12 Clifton Park Village
- #13 Ushers (Pig Street)
- #14 Appleton Road
- #15 Moe/Crescent Roads
- #16 Vischer Ferry South

HALF MOON SCHOOL DISTRICTS

- # 1 Middletown
- # 2 Newtown
- # 3 Half Moon Beach Rd.
- # 4 Carey Road Area (Moe)
- # 5 West Crescent
- # 6 Joined with C.P.#13
- # 7 Coons Crossing
- # 8 Top of Pruyne's Hill
- # 9 Grooms Rd./Rt. #9
- #10 Unknown
- #11 Church Hill, Crescent