

BARRINGTON

Until 1779 when General Sullivan drove the Indians west of the Genesee River, the land now known as the township of Barrington was claimed by the Seneca Indians Nation. However, King Charles I, of England, had granted the lands west of the Pre-emption Line to the state of Massachusetts in 1629.

After General Sullivan's troops returned to eastern New York and New England they told of the wonderful land they had seen with fertile soil, lakes and rivers teeming with fish and beautiful scenery.

However, the settlement of this land. was held in check for several years because of the controversy between New York and the state of Massachusetts as to who owned the land. This changed, in 1788 when Oliver Phelps and Nathaniel Gorham agreed to purchase 6,000,000 acres of land from the state of Massachusetts for about .03 per acre.

Phelps and Gorham then met with the Indian Five Nations and purchased from them 2,600,000 acres including all that land lying east of the Genesee River and west of the Pre-emption Line for \$5,000 and a perpetual annuity of \$500 per year. Phelps and Gorham however, could not come up with all the money and returned to the state of Massachusetts all that area of land west of the Genesee River.

In 1790, Phelps and Gorham kept two townships in what is now Ontario County and sold the rest of their purchase to Robert Morris who helped finance the Revolution. A short time later Mr. Morris sold the land to a group of English Capitalists which included Sir William Pultney. Mr. Pultney and his associates hired Captain Charles Williamson, as their agent, to come to America to make improvements in the area to hasten settlement.

One of his great achievements was the founding of Bath, N.Y. in 1797. Because of this a road was built through the wilderness connecting the new village of Bath with the old Indian Village of Geneva. This new road went nearly six miles through what is now Barrington township and did much to open the area to settlement. It also became the main stagecoach road west from Geneva to Bath, Angelica and Clean.

In 1797 what is now Barrington, was part of Fredricktown, a district of Steuben County. It was named for Frederick Bartles who was an associate of Charles Williamson. He had built a dam at the foot of Mud Lake, now called Waneta Lake in 1793. This dam was used to hold back water and when released sent many rafts of lumber and other farm products down to the Cohocton River and down to the Susquehanna to Harrisburg and other large cities. This was of great value to the early settlers who had no good way to dispose of their products.

To opt back to our own township with the building of the road to Bath, settlers began to arrive. Col. Jacob Teeples built the first home in

1800 where Milton DeWitt now lives. He kept a public house there, known as Teeples Tavern. He was elected Sheriff of Steuben County of which Barrington was then a part from 1808 to 1810 and was elected a member of Assembly, representing Steuben County in the state legislature in 1812. and 1813.

About 1798, Daniel Rapalee purchased lot ^62 in the township and. about 1810 purchased Teeples Tavern which he managed for many years.

Matthew Knapp came from Sugar Loaf in Orange County, N. Y. in 1804. He purchased a considerable acreage of land near Teeples Tavern and built a home there. He bought the land from an English Nobleman, Sir John Gladstone who was a member of The Pultney Group. He built his home where his Great Great Great Grandson Randy Knapp now lives.

Matthew Knapp was instrumental in organizing a free-will Baptist Church and they built a meeting house near Teeples Tavern. They had regular services there until 1847 when it was disbanded as there were two other Baptist Churches in Barrington at that time.

Matthew and his wife Mary had seven children. Jesse, one of his sons, had a blacksmith shop at the home farm which ran for many years. I have the account book he had with all his Barrington neighbors and it is very interesting and informative. One of Matthew's sons was named George Washington Knapp and I thought this rather odd until I discovered that Matthew's uncle was Uzal Knapp who was President George Washington's personal bodyguard. Uzal Knapp has the only monument at Washington's Headquarters at Newburgh, New York.

Matthew Knapp lived to be 81 years old and said that when he settled here he had the only house between Wayne and Penn Yan , with the exception of Teeples Tavern and Findly's Tavern which was near the Cop of Ward Hill on the Barrington-Milo line.

Other pioneers who came to Barrington around 1806 were William Ovenshire, Oliver Parker, Thomas Bronson, Joseph Finton, William Coolbaugh, James Finley, James and Nehemiah Higby and John Carr.

John McDowell came from New Jersey to Bath in 1795. He first-settled on Bluff Point where he had purchased land, supposedly in Steuben County but on a re-survey it was found to be in Ontario County and he lost his land. He then moved to the foot of Keuka Lake where he worked for Abraham Wagner. His son William bought 250 acres in Barrington \ mile north of Teeples Tavern in 1825. He paid \$4.00 per acre. His wife was Dorothea Decker and they had thirteen children. One son Francis McDowell was one of the founders of the National Grange. They were a prominent family in Barrington for many years.

Joseph F. Finton came to Barrington in 1806 and settler on what is now the Sturdevant Road. He had been a Revolutionary War soldier and lived in New Jersey. He was married to Margaret Swegals and they had nine children. I have a beautiful portrait of both Joseph F. and Margaret Finton and a pair of boots that he is said to have worn while

in the Revolution. Their son George W. Finton had a very successful grape box and lumber mill at Finton's Landing on Keuka Lake.

Nathan Crosby came to Barrington from Putnam County in 1812 and settled in Sunderlain's Hollow near Crystal Springs. He returned with his family to the eastern part of the state, probably because of the war that was on with Great Britain and the Indians at the time. He returned to Barrington three years later. He was married to Lydia Cole and they had seven children. Their son Selah was one of Barrington's first school teachers.

Peter H. Crosby, another son of Nathan married Caterine Finton, They settled on what is now the Welker Road, across the field from the Joseph Finton Property. They had six children and most of them married and lived on Welker Road. At one time, the Crosby family owned all the property along Welker Road from the Bath Road to the end of Crosby Point,

In 1812 a large group of settlers arrived from Putnam County. John Wright, Lodowick Disbrow, Nathan Crosby and David, Dennis, Eli, Ira and Tippet Sunderlain all settled in what became known as Sunderlain's Hollow near Crystal springs. In 1815, a church was formed there and was called The Second Baptist Church of Wayne of which we were then still a part. When the town of Wayne was divided, the church became known as the Barrington Baptist Church. The church later moved to the village of Wayne but the cemetery is still there at the end of Van Gordon Road and Nathan Crosby and others have stone markers that still remain there.

It "is hard to imagine how these early settlers could ever exist. They had to build a house, usually of logs. They had very few tools to work with and even had to have a blacksmith make their nails. They had to clear their land, dispose of the brush and trees, pull the stumps out and to build some type of fence to keep their horses, cattle, hogs and sheep at home. These fences were usually made of split rails but in the late 1920's there were still remains of stump fences where the tree stumps with their long roots were laid together on edge and also stone fences, where the rocks taken from the cleared fields were laid up to keep the livestock from roving off.

They had to make their own matches when material was available. (I have a package of the first manufactured ones made in Watervelet, N.Y. in the early 1800's. They had to make their fireplaces out of stone or hand-made bricks. Many of the early homes had dirt floors and thatched roofs. Until recently there was one of these old log houses at the Hamlet of Crosby, across from the church. This is where John Carr, one of our earliest settlers lived and had a grist mill, It was later used as a tavern and blacksmith shop. When I was a boy there was still a sign over the door that said, "Whiskey, 5C per Glass". We did our best to save this old house, probably the oldest in the county and even offered to buy the property but the owner thought otherwise and the old log house was destroyed about ten years ago.

The early settlers had to make their own candles to see at night, grind their own grain for flour, make their own bread, churn their butter and cure their own meat. They had to protect their livestock from wolves that were prevalent at the time and rattle snakes were also a problem in some places. Venison was a main source of food for the early settlers but villages like Bath paid hunters to shoot the deer and they became extinct in a few short years and remained that way in Barrington for nearly 100 years.

Our subject, Barrington, formerly Wayne and Fredricktown, before that became a township in 1822. It was named for some of the early settlers who came from Great Barrington, Massachusetts. It was still part of Steuben County but became part of Yates County in 1826. The first town meeting was held at Teeple's Tavern on February 24, 1825. It was at the home of Daniel Rapalee and he became the first Town Clerk. Richard Eddy was elected the first Town Supervisor and my Great Great Grandfather Matthew Knapp was elected Town Assessor.

The village of Warsaw was started when Abraham Freeland built a blacksmith shop there about 1825. This became the center of the township and at one time was a considerable village with a post office, general store, three churches, two hotels, a wagon shop, a schoolhouse and several homes. Oliver Wolcott was the first doctor.

The Methodist Church was started in 1810 by William Ovenshire. He held services in his own home for 15 years and at the local school until 1842 when a new church was built at Porters Corners, near his home. As many of its members lived near the village of Warsaw, the church was moved there in the summer of 1878. My parents were members and I barely remember going there but about 1928 the church was closed and torn down.

A Presbyterian Church was formed in 1830 and had about 30 members including Andrew Fleming, a settler from New Jersey. Benjamin Lord from Saratoga County, N.Y. and William McDowell also from New Jersey, all three direct ancestors of mine.

The Warsaw Baptist Church was organized at a meeting on March 20, 1838. Thirty-six people gathered together at that time-including Peter H. Crosby, Lucretia Kenyon and Abraham Hopkins who were also grandparents of mine. They built a meeting house on the east side of the Bath Road and Reuben Lamb was the first pastor. The present church was erected in 1867 on the west side of the road and has been very successful for 160 years. There were two long sheds on the south and west sides of the church where thirty people could park their horse and buggys while at the church service. These were torn down long ago but the church did have to recently buy more property for an auto parking lot as the attendance has increased to an average of 125 people for Sunday worship. They have also opened a new cemetery across the road from the church with three burials there in the past year,

The Crosby Baptist Church was organized on May 15, 1888. It was made

up of many members of the Warsaw and other Baptist Churches. Thirty-six members came from the Warsaw Church and six members from the Second Milo Church. I believe we can understand why they didn't like to drive their horse and buggys to the top of Barrington Hill every week to worship. Isaac Crosby and Henry Bullock were chosen deacons, Isaac Hewett, Herman Bullock and Amos Swarthout were trustees and Leroy Bellis was the first church clerk. They erected a church on Crosby Point almost at once and the little hamlet became very active with it's own post office, general store, a schoolhouse, two basket factories and a boat launching site where hundreds of tons of grapes were shipped out every year. Herman Bullock and George Fenton owned the two basket factories and in 1892 made 1,500,000 baskets giving employment to from 25 to 30 men and 50 to 60 women.

The only other Post Office Barrington ever had was at Crystal Springs. This became a small hamlet after 1865 when a group of people, searching for oil discovered at 43 feet a stream of water which was so abundant they couldn't go further. The water was found to be real pure and was also said to have medicinal values. In 1867 a large resort hotel was built and several homes were built in the area. The hotel became very popular but shortly afterward became destroyed by fire. It was re-built and a large modern sanitarium was added with hot and cold baths, steam baths, etc... The hotel was again destroyed by fire but was again re-built and remained popular for many years. There is no longer a hotel there but the water is still bottled and sold for drinking purposes.

There were numerous sawmills in Barrington by 1820. There had to be to take care of the thousands of acres of woods that needed to be cleared. Tippett and Dennis Sunderlain had a sawmill near Crystal Springs. Lumber was very cheap and sometimes sold for under ten dollars per thousand feet. That was why many acres of timber were burned and the ashes were sold to the many asheries that were in the area. The ashes were made mostly from hard woods and then made into potash. This was used to make glass, soap, bleach and some fertilizer. It took about 20 bushels of ashes to make 100 lbs. of potash which sold for up to \$6.00 per hundred pounds. Hired men at the time were getting ten to twelve dollars per month with room and board and the money from the ashes would almost cover the cost of cleaning an acre of land.

The high point of population in Barrington was about 1,500 in 1825. By 1850 there was a loss of 625 people and though we are gaining now in copulation, mostly by people who are looking for a peaceful place to live. We still have less population than we did in 1825.

We had 12 school districts in Barrington before Centralization. Each school had one teacher who taught all grades from 1st grade through 8th. There was a school meeting held once a year and a trustee was elected who was charged with hiring a teacher, a clerk who kept the records and a tax collector who tried to get enough money to pay the expenses which were very few. Before 1900, \$1.00 per day was considered a fair wage and the teacher usually had to walk to school.

The wood to heat the schoolhouse was generally donated by the parents who had children in the school.

The roads in the town were built in many cases along the lot lines as laid out by the early surveyors. The road from what is now Dundee to Wayne was a toll road and was covered by millions of board feet of hardwood planks. This was an improvement as long as the wood lasted. However, most roads were plain dirt with an open ditch along each side. They had terrible ruts a lot of the time and a farmer was chosen by the town board to oversee a certain section of the highway. The farmer chosen was to get a certain number of hours from his neighbor to keep the road passable. I have in my collection a paper of my great-grandfather giving him such authority and I also have a complete record of all the roads laid out in the township. The roads were not graveled until after the first World War and then the job was not completed for many years. Routes 14A and 54 were also completed about this same time. The old East Lake Road through Barrington was very narrow at that time and also very crooked.

By 1860 almost all the lands in the township had been cleared. All that was left were areas like Eggleston's Gully and other very steep places and a few small wooded areas the settlers wanted to keep for fuel. Most farmers raised a mixed variety of grain crops, hay and livestock and made a fair living. Welfare was almost unheard of. About 1850 it was discovered that grapes could be grown along the lake. It is said that Joseph Crosby, son of Peter, planted the first vineyard on the east side of Keuka Lake. Soon thereafter, hundreds of acres of grapes were planted along the hillsides and that with the planting of raspberries and apple orchards did much to improve the lives of many of the local farmers. This continued for almost 100 years.

As for growing up in Barrington, I consider myself one of the luckiest people in the world. Of the early settlers not only Matthew Knapp but Abram Hopkins, Nathan Crosby, Joseph Finton, William McDowell, Nathaniel Kenyon, Ebenezer Lord and Andrew Fleming came to Barrington before 1830 and all were direct ancestor of mine.

As for me, I was born in Barrington in the same house I still live in. My father, William Knapp, was born in the Ahram Hopkins house on the Keuka Vista Road and my mother Laverna Kenyon was born in the Nathaniel Kenyon house on Knapp Road. After their marriage in 1904 they bought the Tom Wilson home halfway between where the two had been born. I had six brothers and sisters. At 5 years of age I went to school at District #9. My brothers and sisters had all gone to school there as well as my parents and some grandparents. At different times my grandfather, grandmother, mother, 1 aunt, 1 uncle, 1 sister and a brother-in-law all taught at least a year in District #9. The school was on Ballard Road and at least two miles from our house. We usually went to school through the woods and fields as it was a shorter path to follow where hundreds of little feet had traveled over the years.

Our parents never took us to school. The schoolhouse was a one-room

building with a small closet for coats and hats, dinner pails and a small room for wood. The teacher had a large blackboard and a desk in front of the room. There were several rows of school desks for about 25 students and a wood stove for heat in the back of the room. There was also a water pail in the back of the room where the children could get a drink. Each morning one or two of the older boys had to walk to the neighbors, a quarter of a mile away, to get a pail of fresh water. We drank from one long-handled dipper that hung on a nail above the water pail. School hours were from 8:00 o'clock until 4:00 with a short recess at ten o'clock and an hour out at noon. In bad weather we played indoor games but most of the time we went outdoors and played anti-over, prisoner's base, run-sheep-run or in the winter, fox and geese. Even with all the hardships, I believe that we got a better education than most kids today. The first grade children sat in the front row and each year, as you passed from grade to grade, you moved back a seat. We had about 200 books in the bookcase and by the end of the 5th grade I had read them all. We had exams at the end of each year and in June, 1936, I had passed all my elementary regents.

In the fall of 1936, I went to Penn Yan Jr. High School. I had to live with my sister in Warsaw as no school bus came within 3 miles of my home. The next year District #9 agreed to join with the Dundee Central School and we were sent there. The first year we went to the old school building on Harpending Avenue but in 1939 the new school building was completed. I had joined the band and we led the parade from the old building to the new one. I played football three years at Dundee Central and broke the school record for throwing the shot put. I held this record for many years until it was broken by Sheldon Gibson a few years ago.

An interesting thing happened concerning this a couple of years ago. A black family by the name of Edwards lived on our bus route when I went to Dundee Central and they had a son Emmett, who was in the lower grades but rode on our bus. They moved away 50 years ago and I hadn't seen them since. One Sunday morning this gentleman come to our door, introduced himself as Emmett Edwards, said he lived in Chicago, and said he was on his way to see friends in New York City. He wanted to stop to say hello and we had an interesting conversation about the "good old days at Dundee Central". He went on to say that I had always been his idol in school and he still remembered the day I won the record shot put event, the distance being 41ft 5 1/2 inches. I had forgotten the distance myself and was shocked that he still remembered.

I had majored in history in school and had taken all the math and science available and received a college entrance diplomy in June, 1941. About the time I graduated from high school my father with whom I had helped on the farm since I was a young boy, asked if I wouldn't stay with him as the older children had all left home. He raised black raspberries, grapes and had dairy cattle and some poultry but his main business was cutting timber, posts and firewood. He had bought a new sawmill in 1918 which later proved to be a good business. His proposal sounded good to me and I agreed to it.

Times were very hard on the farm at that time and the depression of 1929 was still with us. Many Barrington farms were laying idle and many farms taken back by the county for non-payment of taxes. Firewood was selling for \$2.00 per face cord, delivered, and grape and fence posts were bringing .12 each if sharpened.

About this time my cousin who had bought my grandfather's 120 acre farm had moved to Albany to teach school and wanted me to buy the farm. I agreed to this and borrowed the money from the Federal Land Bank. My great uncle who owned the adjoining farm also asked me to buy his 120 acre farm. He said if I would pay him half the profit from his farm and 5% interest, I could have the farm. I also agreed to this but then the lady who owned the farm to the west with 15 acres of beautiful grapes, 90 acres of land, a nice house and two barns, offered me her farm at ridiculously low amount, I told her I just couldn't do that but a week later I got another call stating the grapes would be ruined if they were not trimmed and she had dropped her price another 20%. She agreed to wait for her money and I agreed to take over the farm. Several other neighbors wanted to sell also but I had to say no.

At this time, I had to buy two more tractors and hire several men. The rate at that time was \$.60 per hour and there was lots of help available. Kerosene for the sawmill was as low as .08 per gallon delivered from Penn Yan and gasoline as low as .15 per gallon.

To get back to the town of Barrington and it's beauty, one of it's great attractions is Eggleston's Glen. There is one great falls 110 ft. tall where the water goes over with a gorge close to 200 ft. tall. There is a beautiful gorge above the falls.

It was named for the Eggleston family that came with Charles Williamson to Bath in 1796. The family first settled on the west side of Keuka Lake but eventually moved to the east side and owned all of what is now Eggleston's point and much other land in the town of Barrington. In the early days there was an area set aside at the entrance to the glen for a picnic area. An early advertisement for the Grove Springs Hotel that appeared in Washington, New York and other large cities stated that the stagecoach leaves the Grove Springs Hotel every afternoon at 1:00 P.M. for the Eggleston's Falls. I have a copy of the deed when Matthew Knapp purchased one of his farms in 1811 and it states that one of the corners of the farm was the center of the great falls. We still own this piece of land.

Above the falls on a branch gully is another beautiful small 35 ft. falls. From the time I was 10 years old my friends and I would go to the little falls and we made a small log fort at the site where we felt safe to spend the night. Another spot in Eggleston's Gully was what we called the "sand cave". It was in the bank of the main gully opposite the little falls and there was a cave back in the bank in a huge yellow clay deposit. The cave itself was about 6 ft. high and went back into the bank about twenty feet. The dirt from the cave was out front and made a beautiful level spot to build a campfire.

The most interesting thing about the cave was that in the walls there were many petrified bones of pre-historic animals that we as kids used to dig out with a sharp stick. The sad thing is that during the 1935 flood, that whole section of the north bank of the gully slid into the creek and ended up in Keuka Lake. I have checked the bank many times but there is no sign of the cave. The gully was also a favorite spot of the Indians and we have found many Indian relics there.

In the early 1900's the Eggleston family sold the whole point and it became a girls' summer camp. Sometimes called the Science Camp or Camp Arey. Most of the girls that attended this camp were from New York City. One of the highlights of the camp was the large number of riding horses that were kept there. In those days the Knapp Road went all the way to the lake and although quite steep, several times during the summer a line of 10 to 15 horses with girl riders would come by our house.

Sixty years ago Barrington was truly a "neighborhood community" The Barrington Grange #1101 was formed in the late 1800's and my parents were early members. Crystal Springs also had a Grange for the farmers in that area of the township. I became a member of the Juvenile Grange in 1928 when I was only five years old. The meetings were held in the old Powlson Hotel in Warsaw and most residents of the town belonged to one of the two Granges.

About 1938 the Warsaw Baptist Church became the Barrington Community Church. Our family had belonged to the Methodist Church but after the local Methodist Church closed, we joined the Community Church. The young people held Christian Endeavor meetings every Sunday night.

The Barrington Rifle Club was formed in 1938. There were 5 original members, George and Charles Stryker, Milton DeWitt, Dayton Knapp and myself. We held meetings at the old District #9 schoolhouse which at the time had been closed but was given to the club by Dr. Henry Lane of Dundee who owned the land. A few years later the club purchased the Lee Morehouse farm of nearly 100 acres. We planted the entire area to trees and shrubs and made the barn into a fine clubhouse with a target range and basketball court upstairs. At one time, the membership was over 100 people. Meetings are still held regularly at the clubhouse. One of the important accomplishments of the club was the forming of the Yates County Federation of Conservation Clubs, in which I became very active. We held meetings once a month and worked on all kinds of conservation projects. This was back when word CONSERVATION was seldom used. In turn, I was chosen as the Yates County delegate to the N. Y. State Conservation Council and Phay Rutan became my alternate. There, I was elected state treasurer and later became 1st Vice President. I was a delegate to the State Council for 30 years and on the Board of Directors for over 10 years. We held meetings in every major city in the state during that time and I had the privilege to meet many important people. On one occasion at Lake Placid, the Council President and I had to go to Saranac Lake to pick up Arthur Godfrey, the radio star, who was our guest speaker and had flown his own plane to that airport. He had a small ranch in Virginia

at that time with a few dozen hereford cattle. When the Council President told Mr. Godfrey that I had 250 purebred herefords on my farm in Barrington he was impressed and that is all we discussed on our 10 mile trip back to the hotel .

In 1943, one of the most exciting times in my life began. the rifle club needed money to pay for their new clubhouse and farm. Someone came up with the idea that we could hold some square dances which were very popular at the time. There were five members in the club who played different instruments and I offered to "call" for the square dances and I could also play the clarinet and guitar. We rented the Macabee Hall in Wayne and The Barrington Ridge Runners Band was formed. To our surprise, we drew terrific crowds. We held these dances every Saturday night and soon had the Rifle Club bills paid. My brothers Jamie and Dayton also played in the band. About that time, I had a call from a man named Jack Ambrose who said he owned the Spinning Wheel Roller Palace in Penn Yan and was looking for a band to play every Saturday night and that we had been highly recommended. We took the job and were again surprised when we had a full house every week. For the next 21 years we played at least once a week and sometimes as many as three times. We played seven years at the Crystal Valley Grange Hall and summers at the Keuka Hotel for several years. We also played at many local schools, State Fair, Benton Grange and had the honor to play at the 150th Anniversary of Bath, N.Y. and also the 100th Anniversary of Dundee, and also played for a number of charities. In 1964, we decided to call it quits as we were all getting a little tired.

As for my main occupation which was farming, we had to work very hard in the late 1930's and early 1940's. The beans had to be pulled by hand, the sweet corn picked by hand, the wheat bound and later threshed, the hay piled up with a fork and put on a wagon. To get this done, with the acreage we had, sometimes we had to hire a dozen men and women. About that time rubber-tired tractors became available along with combines, hay bailers, corn pickers, corn choppers, etc..

With the invention of all these modern machines however, the federal government decided farmers were over-producing and where they had been encouraging farmers to grow more crops by giving them cheap lime, paying them to have hedgerows removed and diversion ditches dug, they now came out with the "soil bank" which paid the farmers to let the land lay "idle". They also cut the acreage of wheat we were allowed to grow, in my case from 75 acres to 17 acres.

They also encouraged farmers to re-forest their land by selling them cheap trees for \$10.00 per thousand. I was chairman of the Yates County Agricultural Stabilization Committee at the time and spent many evenings signing soil bank approvals, etc.. We did have annual meetings of all the county committees and it was always held at the Governor Clinton Hotel on 7th Avenue in N.Y. City which seemed rather odd.

By 1950, farming in Barrington had begun to slow down in earnest and

by 1960 we had sold our beef cattle herd and much of our farm machinery. At this point, we were spending all our effort cutting logs and sawing lumber. About this time, the Schlappi's joined me in the lumber business and we set up a new mill on Sturdevant Road and also a store where we sold all building supplies. In 1972, we purchased the Keuka Lumber Company in Penn Yan and in 1980 closed the Barrington store and built a new one in Penn Yan now managed by the younger generation of the Knapp and Schlappi families.

In closing, I would like to highlight a few changes that have occurred in our township in my lifetime.

1. Along the Keuka Lake shore where there were almost no cottages, except a few farms with large vineyards on the hillside, there is now a cottage almost every hundred feet.
2. There are almost no cash crops grown such as peas, beans, sweet corn, squash and potatoes. These used to be plentiful.
3. There are almost no dairy farms where there used to be one on almost every 120 acre farm.
4. There are very few vineyards left in the township and no raspberries which were a main crop when I was young,
5. Half the land farmed back then has either been re-forested or grown up to brush.
6. Deer, which were extinct for 100 years, are quite numerous along with an occasional bear, coyote, turkey and bobcat,

HOWEVER, WITH ALL OF THESE CHANGES, IF I COULD LIVE MY LIFE OVER AND CHOOSE ANYPLACE TO LIVE IN THE WORLD. IT WOULD STILL BE IN BARRINGTON, YATES COUNTY, NEW YORK.