

KIRKLAND TOWN LIBRARY



Addy

1864 -Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

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Barbara Owens



Addy

Clinton, N.Y. in the 1860s



West Park Row c 1860; Clinton Historical Society

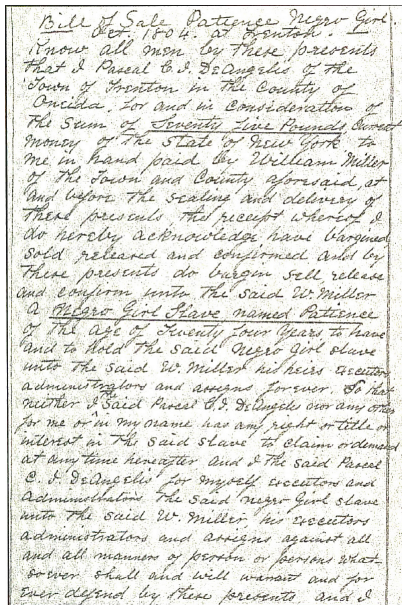
The Civil War brought turmoil and change for Clinton and its citizens, but the community continued to grow and prosper similar to what happened to Addy and her family. The Village of Clinton began the 1860s with a population of 1,174 people and ended the decade with a population of 1,580.

Slavery

In the early 1800s, slavery was a hotly debated topic; people either strongly opposed it or were in favor of the practice. Slave owners existed around the country, even in Upstate New York.

At right is a bill of sale for a slave girl named Patience, who was sold in Trenton, NY, about 20 miles north of Clinton. This document may have been similar to the bill of sale written for Addy's father and brother. Photo courtesy of Oneida County Historical Society

By the 1860s, many people in the area had become abolitionists. They did not believe that anyone should "own" another human being.



Bill of Sale Patience Negro Girl
Dec 1804 at Trenton. I
know all men by these presents
that I Pascal C. S. DeAngelo of the
Town of Trenton in the County of
Oneida for and in Consideration of
The Sum of Twenty Five Pounds
Money of the State of New York
to me in hand paid by William Miller
of the Town and County aforesaid at
and before the sealing and delivery of
these presents the receipt whereof I
do hereby acknowledge have bargained
sold released and confirmed and by
these presents do bargain sell release
and confirm unto the said W. Miller
a Negro Girl Slave named Patience
of the age of twenty two years to have
and to hold the said Negro Girl slave
unto the said W. Miller his heirs
administrators and assigns forever. So that
neither I said Pascal C. S. DeAngelo nor any one
for me or in my name has any right or title or
interest in the said slave to claim or demand
at any time hereafter and I the said Pascal
C. S. DeAngelo for myself executors and
administrators the said Negro Girl slave
unto the said W. Miller his executors
administrators and assigns against all
and all manner of person or persons what
soever shall and will warrant and for
ever defend by these presents and I

Bill of sale for the slave girl Patience;
courtesy of Oneida County Historical Society

Slavery

Clinton was home to Henry Howard, a former slave. Mr. Howard escaped from Maryland and went to Philadelphia as Ad-dy's family had done. Eventually he moved to Clinton, where he would live for the rest of his life.

On January 1, 1863, President Abraham Lincoln issued his Emancipation Proclamation. It stated "all persons held as slaves are and henceforward shall be free." It also said the government would allow African-Americans into the military. Mr. Howard volunteered and served as a soldier in the Civil War. He is buried in the Old Burying Ground on Kirkland Avenue.

William Williams was another former slave who lived in Clinton and proudly served his country. He was a cook in the Union Army. He is buried in an unmarked grave in Sunset Hill Cemetery.

Mr. Howard, Mr. Williams and Ad-dy's brother Sam were among the more than 200,000 African-Americans who fought in the Civil War.



Photo courtesy of Clinton Historical Society

Soldiers

With the beginning of the Civil War in 1861, more than 300 men from Clinton enlisted on the Union side. One Hamilton College student fought for the Confederacy. Since there were no phones, people kept in touch through letters. Letters from the battlefield took a long time to reach family and friends back in Clinton. Soldiers also wrote to request changes in their appointments.

James Bronson, a Clinton resident, first wrote a letter home right-handed but then had to write with his left hand after a battlefield injury resulted in the loss of his right arm. He suffered the same injury as Addy's brother Sam.

Draft: Washington, D.C. 15th Aug 1864
Dear Mother
I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th inst. for the purpose of sending my mother who is dangerously ill at New Orleans to the aid.

Respectfully
James C. Bronson
Capt 9th Regt N.Y. Inf.

August 15th 1864
I have the honor to request leave of absence
120 days on accompanying Surgeon's certificate.

Very Respectfully
Your Obedt Servt
James C. Bronson
Capt 9th Regt N.Y. Inf.

Letter on the left was written by James Bronson before his injury, the one on the right, after; Clinton Historical Society

Citizens

Citizens of Clinton helped the soldiers as much as they could during the war. They sent supplies such as food, clothing, medicine, and bandages. After receiving news of the great battle at Gettysburg, Clinton resident J.S. Avery, Esq., left his home to take care of the wounded and look after the welfare of our Clinton troops.

Clara Barton was another person with ties to Clinton who helped the wounded at Gettysburg. She had attended school at the Clinton Liberal Institute, which was originally located on Chestnut Street. During the Battle of Gettysburg, she became known as the “Angel of the Battlefield.” Later she became even more famous as the founder of the American Red Cross.



Clinton Liberal Institute; Clinton Historical Society

Life in Clinton During the Civil War

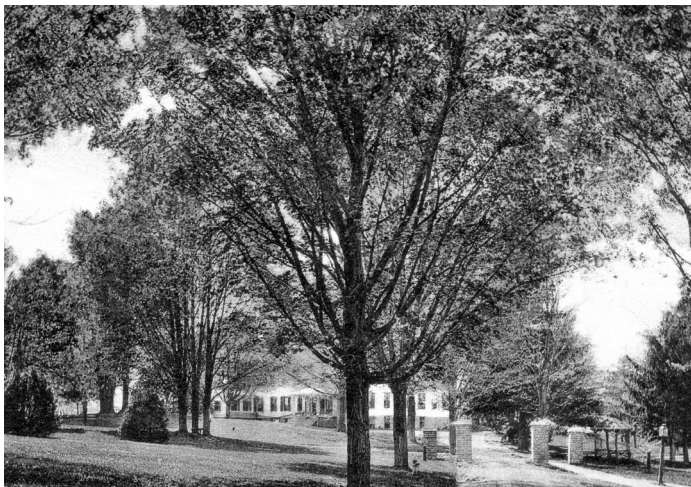
Back home, the community of Clinton experienced its own challenges. On March 27, 1862, a fire broke out on West Park Row which destroyed the original businesses, which were built of wood. Since Clinton did not have a fire department at this time, the Village Board decided to organize the first Clinton Fire Department in 1866.

Schooltown

Clinton was known as “schooltown” because of the many schools that existed here.

The Houghton Seminary and the Cottage Seminary were both founded on the grounds of the current Clinton Middle School in 1861.

These schools accepted students from all over the nation. Similar to Addy’s school in Philadelphia, they were not segregated by nationality or racial group.



Houghton Seminary; Clinton Historical Society

Churches

By 1865, with the increase in population, Kirkland had eight churches serving Roman Catholics, Presbyterians, Universalists, Methodists, Baptists, and Episcopalians. There were many reports of local churches aiding escaping slaves who used the Underground Railroad. The first church in Clark Mills, St. Mark's Episcopal Church, laid its cornerstone in 1863. In Clinton, St. James Church was dedicated in 1865.



St. James Church



St. Mark's, Clark Mills

photos courtesy of Clinton Historical Society

Growth of Clinton

More businesses and many new homes being built to accommodate the growing population. Elm Street was developed in 1861 and Prospect Street was opened in 1864. A grocery store built at 36 College Street changed hands several times and is now known as Don's Rok. With train service arriving in Clinton in 1866, a new train station was built on Water Street, now Kirkland Avenue, near the current Clinton House Apartments.

After the war, many Clinton families were reunited with loved ones, as was Addy's family, and there was much hope for the future.

Suggested Reading

Easy Fiction

Pink and Say by Patricia Polacco
(Easy POL)

Juvenile Fiction

A Light in the Storm: the Civil War Diary of Amelia Martin by Karen Hesse
(J Fiction HES, Dear America Series)

Civil War on Sunday by Mary Pope Osborne
(J Fiction OSB, Magic Tree House Series)

The River Between Us by Richard Peck
(J Fiction PEC)

Silent Thunder: a Civil War Story by Andrea Davis Pinkney
(J Fiction PIN)

Juvenile Nonfiction

Scholastic Encyclopedia of the Civil War by Catherine Clinton (J 973.7 CLI)

Civil War by John E. Stanchak (J 973.7 STA)

Mr. Lincoln's High-Tech War: how the North Used the Telegraph, Railroads, Surveillance Balloons, Ironclads, High-Powered Weapons, and More to Win the Civil War by Thomas B. Allen (J 973.73 ALL)

Elizabeth Van Lew: Civil War Spy by Heidi Schoof (J 973.785 VAN)

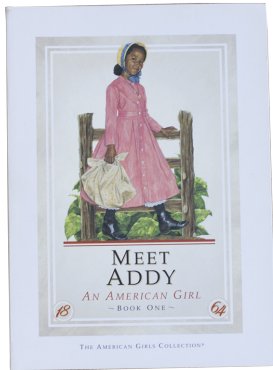
Behind Rebel Lines: the Incredible Story of Emma Edmonds Civil War Spy by Seymour Reit (J B EDMONDS)

Young Adult

Soldier's Heart: a Novel of the Civil War by Gary Paulsen (YA Fiction PAU)

The Civil War: a History in Documents by Rachel Filene Seidman (YA 973.7 SEI)

Addy's Accessories



Book



Pajamas



Comb



Bonnet

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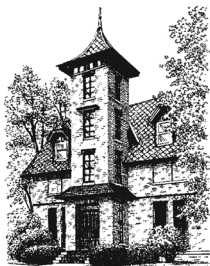
To learn more about the program visit <http://kirklandtownlibrary.org/americangirldolls/>



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