



What's new in history?

A newsletter for students from the
Vineland Historical and Antiquarian Society

2018

Issue 1

How Vineland Residents Changed History

It might seem hard to believe but there were people living in Vineland who changed the course of American history. Everything started with Charles K. Landis (pictured at left, below), who founded the town in 1861. Mr. Landis believed that all people should be treated with respect and be given a fair salary for their work. In addition, he was one of the first people in America to sell small farms to people who wanted to own their own homes. Before then, not too many people were able to own property. Some of the women and men who once lived here believed that women should have the right to vote and they fought very hard to help make that happen. In November 1868, 172 Vineland women staged the largest demonstration that the country had ever seen to gain support for the cause, which was known in those days as “women’s suffrage.” People all over the country were so im-

pressed that they started to hold similar demonstrations in their towns, as well.

Another cause that was very important to the women of Vineland was called “dress reform” and it was led by a woman named Mary Tillotson (pictured at right). In the 1800s, most women wore long dresses that kept them from moving around very easily. She believed that if women wore pants, they would be more active and, as a result, they could learn more. She spent her entire life fighting for the cause of dress reform.



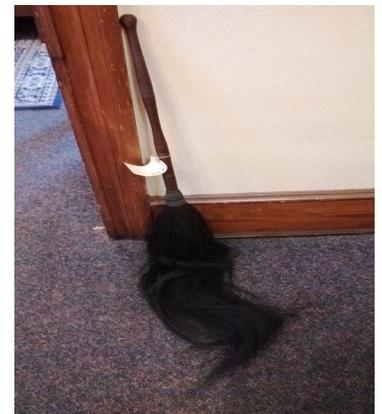
Charles K. Landis



Mary Tillotson

Curiouser and curiouser...

The Vineland Historical and Antiquarian Society, founded in 1864, is the oldest local historical society in New Jersey. Since it’s been around for so long, the Society has collected a lot of unusual—if not just plain weird—stuff. One example is the broom shown here that appears to have been made using a horse’s tail. It may be over 100 years old and possibly a lot older than that. This year, we’re going to start showing some of the things we find with our visitors so, if you’re in the neighborhood, drop by on a Saturday afternoon to see what’s on exhibit. You never know what we’re going to find as we explore the storage areas at our museum!



Technology in the 1800s

These days, technology is everywhere. Some of it is new and different, like virtual reality games and cell phones, while a lot of it (things like electricity and television) is very familiar. But, guess what? It was just the same for the people who lived in Vineland in the 1800s! The only difference is that the technology we take for granted now was all very new and exciting then. Imagine living in a world without Internet access (it's hard, isn't it).

Back then, people got most of their news from printed newspapers that were delivered to their door every day. Then, along came the telegraph, which could send news and messages all over the country in just a couple of minutes! Shortly after that, the telephone was introduced, which meant you didn't have to read the news, you could talk directly to another person even if they were in a different town.



Then there was the automobile, which meant you didn't have to travel on foot or by horse-and-wagon. People were once excited to be able to drive 20 miles at hour! Electric lighting was also a big advance in technology because most people used candles and oil lamps then.

Some people might think that we are very advanced with our current technology but that's probably what many thought in the 1800s. Won't it be interesting to see what new technology comes along in the years ahead?

State Scramble!

Unscramble the names of the states below.

1. D R A L O F I

2. N E A M I

3. S A A K S N

4. A X T S E

5. L I S O I L I N

6. O G O E N R

7. D A N A V E

8. T A M O N S I N E

9. A O C N A I R F I L

10. A O I G E G R
