



At a special town meeting held yesterday afternoon it was voted to accept the gift of Orenaug Park, the bequest of Mrs. Susan B. Shove, and the sum of \$1,000 in trust for its maintenance, \$1,000 for the use of the Woodbury Library Association, and to erect a small pavilion on the park. The sum of \$2,000 for two years was appropriated for good roads.

1859: William Cothren celebrates Woodbury's centennial in his tower

1892: Mrs. Shove deeds the land to the town as a park

1900: the new tower is ordered and arrives in October

1901: the town accepts Mrs. Shove's donation of the park in July

1977: the tower receives new stairs, railings, and other necessary repairs

1859: Mr. Cothren sells his land to Susan B. Shove

1898: Donors work with Mrs. Shove to raise money for a new tower

1900: Mrs. Shove dies at Christmas time

1901: just as the new tower is finished, the old falls over in a storm

1995: Voices newspaper describes the 100th anniversary of the stone pillars at the entrance to Orenaug Park

Cothren's tower was built on what he called his "mountain land." He tells of the cost of the tower as well as of the purchase of the land in a letter to Mrs. Shove dated May 29, 1893.

Dear Mrs. Shove,

It has occurred to me, that I did not explain to you in a sufficiently explicit manner about my Orenaug Park land. Among the papers, I sent you last year for your examination, is my deed of it from Mr. Lewis. You will see by it the number of acres it calls for--between nine and ten, I think. I paid Mr. Lewis sixty dollars per acre for it. Then I bought of Mr. Sheldon Summers about three quarters of an acre more, extending from the tower to the base of the cliff, and quite around it on the east, north and south, as the fence now stands, and had a path around it as my sole means of access to the mountain, till my purchase from Mr. Lewis. Your father run out the Lewis land for us, when I purchased, and the deed describes the land in accordance with his report. Charley A. Somers charged me two hundred and fifty dollars for building the tower. It is firmly anchored to the rock by large iron rods, and could be repaired at a moderate cost, if the bad boys would only let it stay repaired. I cleared the whole hill as nice as a garden, at an expense of over three hundred dollars. As you will certainly not part with the use of it, while you live, if you purchase it, it will be a most valuable addition to your homestead.

Yours truly,
W. Cothren"

