

ISCHUA VALLEY

HISTORICAL SOCIETY

HARLON C. BROWN BUILDS FIRST CAR IN TOWN

Harlon C. Brown was born in 1851 in Warsaw, New York. His family moved to East Otto and he ran a wood-working shop. He moved to Franklinville in 1892 and built a shop near the depot. It was there in 1901 that he built the first automobile owned in town. He made the box, wheels, gearing and engine and also built the engine that was used in making these parts.

The machine weighed 440 pounds and could carry two people. It excited a great deal of public interest at the time. This car ran for two years and then the engine was taken out and a larger car was made. Mr. Brown made two more cars afterwards, one of them a two-cylinder 9-horse power car.

With the exception of two years he ran a shop at Springville, Mr. Brown continued to work in Franklinville as a pattern maker, cabinet maker and expert mechanic in wood and iron work. He constructed several pieces of inlaid furniture that contained from 4,000 to 7,000 pieces.

Information was found in *FRANKLINVILLE, NEW YORK IN PICTURES AND STORY* by Roy Van Hoesen.

