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OHA AT 150

Over a barrel

The Onondaga Historical

Association is celebrating its 150th anniversary. Here's what was going on in 1863: Several hundred coopers that had been employed in making thousands of salt barrels annually successfully struck for higher wages. They paraded the streets, headed by a band of musicians and a banner inscribed, "Syracuse Cooper's Society" and "We won't make any more Barrels until we get our Price!" They had received nine cents for making a barrel, and demanded 11 cents. A considerable number of salt-packers also united in a strike for higher wages. They had received four cents per barrel and demanded five cents.

- Daniel Connors of the OHA

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