

OHA AT 150**Bare knuckles
and mitten makers**

The Onondaga Historical Association is celebrating its 150th anniversary. Here's what was going on in 1863:

Bare-knuckle heavy-weight fighter John Heenan of West Troy fought Tom King of London, England. The match took 39 minutes and ended after the 24th round in King's favor when Heenan's seconds "threw up the sponge." The outcome of Heenan's fight was received with interest by fellow New Yorkers in Syracuse and many of the "fancy" had money bet on the outcome, the majority in favor of Heenan.

The "ladies of Syracuse" sent 450 pairs of mittens to the 122nd New York Volunteer Infantry Regiment in their winter camp in Virginia. They advertised the need for more female volunteers in the newspaper to make enough for the 149th NY Regiment as well. The paper even published a "How to Knit Mittens" article for people who wanted to support the two local regiments.

— *Daniel Connors of the OHA*