

## THE WEEK IN HISTORY



**Prof. C.C. Coe prepares to leave Clinton Square in 1871. He landed in Oneida.** (OHA)

## Syracuse's first balloon flights

*The Onondaga Historical Association looks back at the week in local history:*

**173 years ago:** In July 1847, John Wise made the first balloon ascension in Syracuse from an enclosure on the west side of Salina Street between Fayette and Jefferson streets. An excerpt from his journal read, "Onondaga Lake looked like a tiny fish pond, and the salt sheds around the northwestern part of the town had the appearance of so many market houses strung in parallel rows at different places."

Another trip took place in 1871 when Prof. C.C. Coe of Rome took off from Clinton Square and landed in Oneida.

Hot air balloons can still be found in Onondaga County; this year marked the 35th annual Balloonfest at Jamesville Beach.

— Daniel Connors of the OHA