# The Heritage News

Issue 5

Jefferson Heritage and Landmark Corp.

October, 1993

### Frank Magre Day

On Sept. 26, 1993 the Jefferson Heritage and Landmark Society held a reception at Jefferson College honoring the lifetime achievements of Frank Magre.

For three quarters of a century, Frank Magre has dedicated himself to the study and preservation of Jefferson County's heritage and archeological treasures. He has given tirelessly of his time and enormous knowledge to school groups, historical societies and students of all ages. He is widely acknowledged as an expert on Missouri petroglyphs and pictographs.

About 150 people were in attendance at the reception. Speakers for the afternoon were Jean Andre Magre, Dorothy Heinze, Ray Puckett, Jean O'Brien, Ken Cole, and Carol Diaz-Granados Duncan. Several proclamations were presented to Mr. Magre, including ones from the State of Missouri, Jefferson County, and various municipalities. Jefferson Heritage and Landmark also presented a grant to the Crystal City Historical Society to establish a living memorial to Mr. Magre.

Refreshments and hors d'ourves were served in the Viking Room, where there was also a display of Mr. Magre's personal collection of artifacts and pictures.

### <u>Indian Artifacts</u>

There will be a meeting of the Jefferson Heritage and Landmark Society in the Little Theater of Jefferson College at 2:00 p. m. on Oct. 17, 1993. Charles Zimmerman will give a program on Indian artifacts and will display a portion of his extensive collection of relics. The public is invited to attend. As this program will be of great interest, you may wish to arrive early to get a good seat!

The Democrat — June 6, 1885

Crystal City has many acquirements, among which is the (Dr.) Taylor, where you can get to order, not Taylor-made suits, but Taylor made prescriptions, measured to fit the disease, and like Taylor made suits that always fit, Taylor made prescriptions always cure.

Limitville is not far behind; for there is the wise Miller that lives by the mill; he grinds your corn and your wheat with a will, and you will be wise if you are afflicted with ills, if you go to the (Dr.) Miller of Adams hotel, to grind your medicines and mix your pills.

If you are fond of history, go to the little drugstore in front of Adams' hotel, there you will find, not the Bruce of Scottish history, but Dr. Bruce of Limitville, willing and ready to give you a history of all your aches, pains and ills; drugs, medicines and pills.

And we must not forget the running Brookes,
— the one prefaced with the Dr. — which heads at
the large white house, opposite Waggener's store,
and is ever running at the call of the sick and
afflicted.

Among our entertainments we often have music by the band. One of its instruments, the (Dr.) Horn, you will find at the Tony drug store by the side of Sexauer's saloon, in constant attendance, ready at any and all times to blow to the tune of the disease.

Membership in the Jefferson Heritage and Landmark Society is \$10.00 per year. Send your name and address to:

Jefferson Heritage and Landmark Betty Olson, Treasurer 712 S. Main St. DeSoto, MO 63020

### PRIVATE WELLS — TAPPING THE HIDDEN RESOURCE

The following excerpt is from an article written by Dwight Weaver in <u>Missouri Resource Review</u>, Summer 1993 edition.

"Most people living in Central, eastern and southern Missouri towns and rural areas depend on ground water for their domestic needs," said Bruce Netzler, chief of the Missouri Department of Natural Resources' Wellhead Protection Section. Our reliance on drilled wells to obtain ground water is essentially a 20th century phenomenon. Native Americans and the early settlers in Missouri extracted ground water only from springs — and from hand-dug shallow holding wells. They relied primarily upon surface streams and small ponds that often dried up during hot weather. Even many of the smaller springs did not flow all year. Although cisterns often carried them through dry times, cisterns too could fail, usually when most needed.

Most of the early hand-dug wells were at least three feet to eight feet in diameter. Depths of the wells varied from 10 feet to 40 feet. Their walls were fortified with enough rock or brick to keep the sides from caving in. They were designed to collect water from sand deposits adjacent to their sides. Cisterns were built in a similar way, but their sides and bottoms were sealed so that water could be stored in them. Gutters and downspouts capturing rainwater, which fell on the roofs of homes and outbuildings, provided the water source for cisterns.

Once the well or cistern was complete, the opening was covered with a wooden platform or a concrete slab with a hand-pump mounted on the cover. Then, water was pumped into buckets to be carried indoors.

These shallow water sources were easily polluted. Illnesses such as scarlet fever often were attributed to such water supplies.

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### EPIDEMICS By: Lisa K. Thompson

Sickness and disease played an important role in the lives of our ancestors. Although by the mid 1800's, advances had been made in understanding the causes and prevention of disease, many epidemic illnesses still caused great alarm to the public.

Diphtheria and Scarlet Fever were two maladies restricted largely to children below the age of puberty. These two throat distempers were often confused, as their symptoms of fever and sore throat are similar. However, Diphtheria was considered to have the highest mortality rate. Many families lost several children at a time to this dread disease.

Various fevers, including Malaria, Dysentery, Typhoid, and Yellow Fever also plagued the early settlers. Many different names were applied to these fevers. Malaria was often called fever and ague or intermittent fever because of its alternating fever and chills. Dysentery with its fever, cramps, and diarrhea was sometimes referred to as Flux. The fever which accompanied Typhoid usually lasted two to three weeks, giving it various names such as slow fever, nervous fever, and long fever. The term bilious fever has also been applied to many of these fevers.

When Yellow Fever made its appearance in a community, terror followed closely along. The irreparable damage done to the liver and kidneys, which caused the yellow tint to the skin, was almost always fatal. The disease's incubation period was short, usually four to five days, rendering treatment basically useless.

Influenza and respiratory diseases such pneumonia and pleurisy were probably among the most widespread of all illnesses. However they were not met with the fear and consternation in which the more spectacular diseases were met.

Because of its high mortality rate and the possibility of being disfigured for life, Smallpox or Variola was probably the most feared of all contagious diseases. It recognized no age barriers and was highly contagious. The best protection against smallpox was a previous attack or inoculation (also called variolation). After several cases of smallpox appeared in the county, the following advertisement was placed in the January 13, 1882 edition of The Democrat:

VACCINATE! I am prepared to vaccinate with Higgins pure, non-humanized virus, all who may apply at my office at Zion on the afternoon of each Wednesday and Saturday. No risk when this matter is used.

J. E. Morris, M. D.

#### **OUTDATED TERMINOLOGY**

Over time, many disease names have changed. The following is a list of some of the old terms you may come across in your research and their current names.

Apoplexy	Stroke
Bad Blood	Syphilis
Consumption	Tuberculosis (Pulmonary)
Dropsy	Congestive Heart Failure
Glandular Fever	Mononucleosis
Grippe	Influenza
Lock Jaw	Tetanus
Quinsy	Tonsillitis (Streptococcal)

#### ADVANCEMENTS IN MEDICINE

contributed by: Della Lang

Dr. Amandus Crull, who practiced medicine in the Dittmer/Cedar Hill area from 1861 until his death in 1890, also found time to write regular columns for some local newspapers.

Following is an excerpt from a column in which he was commenting on the advancements of medicine during his professional career:

"What a contrast, then and now. How willing are people in this day to take medicine in all shapes and forms. It does not require five persons to administer drugs to a patient now. The country is overflowed with patent medicines, and men have become machinery that have to be kept in motion by artifice, through the aid of regular drugs and stimulants."

The following articles are from The Democrat:

#### April, 1872

Maxville Mo., April 24, 1872

Editor Jefferson Democrat,

At one time I had expected the smallpox to have assed away, but the last few days seems to have spread it again, and if we should get a week or two of warm weather, it will then spread all through the settlements. Those having the smallpox, as soon as they get out of bed, go among the people and set them all agoing. There have been so far, fifty-two cases of smallpox and eleven deaths from same, in the neighborhood of Maxville.

#### May, 1872

We have heard many complaints last week from citizens of Rock Township of the carelessness with which those infected with the smallpox act, by which the disease is communicated to their neighbors. We were informed that the Priest, Father Brockhagan, positively assured the people that there was no danger of contracting the disease in a holy place like the Church and while attending to their religious ordinances, and that the corpses were brought to the Church and the rites performed in the presence of the congregation and school children, and that people attended the Church with their faces covered with scabs. If any person thinks himself wronged by the above statement we are ready to give our informant. We are not prepared to take anything back, for we think it time that people guilty of such inexcusable negligence or foolishness should be handled without gloves. If a pastor is so ignorant as to mislead, or so depraved as to delude his congregation,

the people so infatuated as to believe such nonsense, they need exposing; while, if such is not the case, they can easily produce the evidence.

#### December, 1881

We learn that a colored man on Mrs. OFallon's farm, near Sulphur Springs, has smallpox.

The fatal case of smallpox we mentioned two weeks ago, occurred at Joseph Landoit's. The disease was communicated to the family by some one from St. Louis.

Judge Elkins arrived in Hillsboro last Friday, complaining of being unwell, and it was noticed that his face was broken out with some sort of eruptions. He was in his office next day and Sunday, but everybody thought "smallpox" and fought shy of him, which made him very indignant. Sunday afternoon he rode down to Victoria, staid all night at Meyer's hotel and went on Whitney's train next morning to Pevely to resume school teaching. That evening Dr. McNutt sent back word that the Judge really had the varioloid. It is hardly necessary to add that the people of our town are excited, and using all precautions known to prevent the disease getting a hold.

Judge Williams was prevented attending Court, sickness in his family; his oldest boy being down with typhoid, Dr. Berkley is in attendance.

George Cole, colored, was sent to jail, from Kimmswick, for committing an assault. Next morning he complained of being sick, and the sheriff learned that he had been with a smallpox case, so the jail door was opened and Cole was told to walk out and walk home. He walked.

There is a case of smallpox at the house of Mr. Hesse, not far from Pevely.

A Negro man named Wilburn, died of smallpox, on Glaize creek, one day last week or week before. His wife left him and the body lay there three days when some one set fire to the cabin and burned up cabin, body and all.

We are permitted to publish the following extract from a letter from Dr. McNutt of Pevely to County Clerk Donnell.

I write in justice to, and without the knowledge of Judge Elkins, to say that he went to Hillsboro on Friday, the 9th inst. only after he had my positive assurance that he did not have smallpox or varioloid; and I am satisfied that it was his implicit confidence in my diagnosis — knowing that I am familiar with the disease — that prompted him to persist in the mad folly of going around in the face of so much opposition. I regret that I could not see him Saturday morning or Even Friday evening as doubtless the eruption was then sufficiently developed to be easily recognized. I hope you will show this to any interested parties, that they may deal leniently with the unfortunate blunder and throw the mantle of charity over any overt act the Judge may have committed.

Quite a fright was occasioned by the death of a colored citizen of Jefferson County, on the farm of J. J. O'Fallon. The colored man died with smallpox, and it was with difficulty any person could be found to bury him. Finally a colored man was found who had had the smallpox, who agreed to take the job for \$25. A pony purse was raised of \$10, and next morning there was a new made grave near where the cabin had stood, but the cabin had disappeared, and only fire coals and ashes remained. No new cases of smallpox have been reported in that vicinity, and it is to be hoped that the dreadful disease is buried in the ashes of the cabin. Our doctors are busily engaged in vaccinating the populace generally.

#### January 1882

Dr. Bainbridge will be in Hillsboro next Monday to do any dental work that may be desired. He will also have a supply of vaccine virus, and be prepared to vaccinate all who call. He will remain only three days, and those who want work done should not delay calling on him.

The only cases of smallpox that we know of, in the county, are in the colored family on Glaize creek, and the family of Mr. Hess on Sandy. One of Hess's boys died last week, and the others are reported as improving. All who are not vaccinated should be so at once, for the disease is liable to be brought from St. Louis any day.

Judge Elkins' little girl died last Monday. Some of the Judge's actions since he contracted the dreadful disease, which prostrated his whole family and has taken away the idol of his home (have been unwise) but his punishment has been greater than any one could have wished, and we are sure that all thoughts of vengeance will vanish if he is careful to not spread the disease any further. He and his family took care of themselves, no one visiting them but the doctor. On Tuesday, in company with Eugene Brewster, he conveyed the remains of his little Maude to the DeSoto cemetery. It has certainly been a severe affliction.

Dr. Brewster requests us to state positively that all danger of infection of smallpox from Judge Elkins' family is over; the remaining members being well and everything thoroughly disinfected.

Judge Elkins has decided to resume business in Probate Court on the 21st inst. We presume that there will be no danger of him communicating smallpox to any one.

A disease resembling scarlet fever of a mild type, has prevailed among the children of Dry Creek, but there have been no deaths from it, that we have heard of.

News from Judge Yerger is discouraging. He has a severe attack of typhoid fever. LATER Just as we go to press we learn that the Judge died on Wednesday afternoon. He will be buried today at noon.

Mrs. James White has been quite sick with typhoid fever, but is improving rapidly under the treatment of Dr. Auerswald.

There was a case of varioloid discovered last Sunday — a little boy about two and a half years old, son of Mr. Hout living near the old Seminary in the south end of town. (DeSoto) Proper precautions have been taken to stop any spread of the disease, and as the house is isolated, it is thought will be none. The school board stopped for a week, Miss Berkely's school, which is held in the Seminary building, to await further developements. It is supposed by the parents, that their little one contracted the disease from a young man who had been stopping with them, who was visiting St. Louis nearly every day.

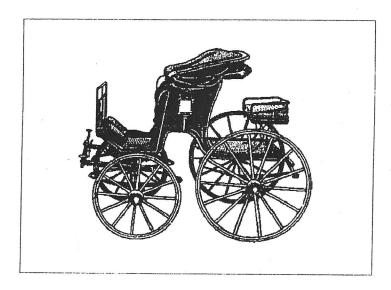
Last Saturday evening some one started the report that one of Mr. Pacaut's little daughters had the smallpox. The first Mr. Pecaut noticed was people leaving the sidewalk and walking in the street as they passed his store. He made enquiries what was thematter, and then marched his whole family into the front store, where every could see that there was no smallpox or anything else the matter with them. The scamp who tarted the rumor, ought to be hooted out of town, and will be pretty apt to get that, if nothing worse is discovered.

#### March 1882

The wife of Fred Mason, (col.) living in the Meramec bottom below the Gray farm, died of smallpox on the 19th inst., aged 48 years. This is the first case

that has occurred in that part of the county, and every precaution has been taken to prevent the spread of the disease. It is supposed the woman got it from some second hand clothing, as she had not been away from home.

One of Polk Williams' little children died of scale fever last Saturday. They live about four miles from Hillsboro, and the disease was carried from Sheriff Jones' family.



#### April, 1884

Our doctors must be prospering. We noticed Dr. Auerswald out in the finest top buggy in the county, ar "Old Dr." Brewster is flying around in a bran new gig the is a perfect daisy.

#### November, 1918

#### **PROCLAMATION**

On account of the prevalence of Influenza, it is hereby ordered that Schools, Churches, Billiard and Pool Halls, Theatres and Moving Picture Shows be closed until further notice; that saloons cigar stores, etc., close at 10 p.m., that all citizens refrain congretating in crowds of more than six on the street or in other places and that children remain on their own premises.

Done by order of the Board of Health of the City of Festus, Mo., this 12th day of November 1918.

J. Scott Wolff, Mayor Dr. Rutledge Health Officer

"Four Bears never saw a white man hungry, but what he gave him to eat . . . and how have they repaid it ! . . . ! do not fear death . . . but to die with my face rotten, that even the wolves will shrink . . . at seeing me, and say to themselves, that is Four Bears, the friend of the whites.""

Four Bears, a Mandan chief, who at the time was dying from smallpox.

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H. Berkley, M. D.

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#### **OBITUARIES**

BERKLEY -- Died May, 1884, Dr. Hugh Berkley.

Dr. Hugh Berkley of DeSoto was buried last Friday, in that city. He had been in bad health for years, and died in Kentucky, whither he had gone on a visit to his brother. Religious services were held at the Congregational church, after which DeSoto lodge, A. F. & A. M. of which he was an honored member, took charge of the remains and interred them with Masonic honors. Dr. Berkley had been a resident of Desoto for many years and was well known throughout the county, his professional calls sometimes being from long distances. He had a reputation as physician second to none in this part of the State, and was much respected and admired for his many good qualities as a man. He was a faithful officer in the Presbyterian church for years, but on the organization of a Congregational church in DeSoto, he united with it. He leaves a wife and several grown children. We do not know his age, but he was well along in years. The verdict of all is - a good man has gone to enjoy the fruits of a well spent life.

MORRIS — April 30, 1883, at his residence at Zion, Dr. John E. Morris, aged 40 years.

Dr. Morris was a native of Phelps county, Missouri. He first came to this county in 1872 under the direction of the M. E. Conference, as an itinerant minister and proved to be very popular with and acceptable to the people of his circuit. In 1876 he located here permanently to practice his profession, that of M. D. in which he was successful, and was well liked as a physician by all who secured his services. He continued to preach as a local preacher and by the last Conference of his church was persuaded to accept the pastorate over a few churches near him. Being a man of good intellect and cultivated mind, his preaching was interesting and effective. As a Sunday school worker he had no superiors, and alas! too few equals, and in this department his loss will be especially felt. As a man and citizen he was a thorough gentleman, entertaining his own positive views on all subjects, but respecting the opinions of others, and thus commanded a respect and love such as is enjoyed by comparatively few. He was selected as a candidate Representative by the Republican party at the last election, but would not neglect his

business to make a canvas and, though defeated, came out of the race respected as much by those who voted against him as by his most ardent supporters.

He leaves a wife — a worthy lady - and seven children, the eldest of which is about fifteen years of age. While the community has lost an upright, intelligent citizen, the church a faithful and able defender, the Sunday school cause a devoted and earnest worker. his bereaved family have suffered a loss which is irreparable, and they have the sincere sympathy of all.

Dr. Morris was earnest work, energetic in every good dominant motive always being to accomplish some good and promote the welfare of those around him. While assisting in fencing in a graveyard he contracted a severe cold, a violent attack of pneumonia followed, and death soon claimed his body, but we feel confident that his spirit is at rest with the God whom he served.

PARKS - December 5, 1882, at his residence in Joachim township, this county, William Parks, M. D. aged 63 years, 1 month, and 23 days.

Dr. Parks was born in Carlisle, Pa. He had resided in this county the past 23 years. He was a faithful servant in his profession, and had the friendship and esteem of all who knew him. His last words were; "I am going!" I am going!" When asked whereto, he pointed upward. His funeral was preached by the writer and, notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather, a goodly number of his friends assembled to hear and to pay the last tribute of respect to a departed friend. He leaves a companion in feeble health, and four children — two young men and two young ladies - to mourn the loss of a kind father. They have the sympathy of

KOERNER - Died February 11, 1885, Dr.Koerner.

(Jan. 1885) F. Koerner, better known as the sugar doctor, who has been confined to his room for nearly a year, was transferred from his bachelor home, near High Ridge, to the county farm, two weeks ago, where he is expected to die from dropsy.

(Feb. 1885) Dr. Koerner, familiarly known as "the sugar doctor" died at the poor farm last Wednesday. He claimed to be over eighty years of age.

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