

The Clay County MOsaic

"Fitting the Pieces Together"

Quarterly Newsletter of the Clay County Archives & Historical Library, Inc.
July-August-September 2010

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MOsaic by Internet

If you would like to receive your future newsletters online, we will need to have your e-mail address.

Please send it to:

info@claycountyarchives.org

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

"The, uh, stuff that dreams are made of."

Wow, what a great line! *The Treasure of the Sierra Madre*. No, wait... *Key Largo*. No, that's not it. Oh, what movie is that from? Ah, that's right...*The Maltese Falcon!* Yes, I know...the line originated from Shakespeare, from *The Tempest*, I think: "...such stuff that dreams are made on." (You can decide which version you like better. It's hard to beat Bogie, though.)

The jewel-encrusted falcon (from Malta, of course) serves as valuable motivation for a motley collection of single-minded treasure hunters. They will do most anything to acquire it.

When something is so desired, it doesn't matter whether it is lost, hidden, buried or otherwise obfuscated. Once you are "bitten" you will not stop looking for it. You will not give up. You will not relent. Even when it takes days, weeks, months, years or a lifetime.

And the thing is, well, the treasure may hold little monetary value. But it has tremendous personal value. Then its value increases not just by finding it, but also by discovering its very nature. And that usually becomes the goal. Once the euphoria of locating it wears off, we become obsessed by learning about it.

For instance, let's say we're looking for long-lost Great-Aunt Martha. We search and search and find that she lived in a particular county in a particular state at a particular time. Wonderful! Now we want to know more about who she was. What she did. How she lived. What she thought and how she felt. We want to know her story.

And this, then, truly becomes "buried treasure." We search through documents, pictures, writings, objects, etc., looking for valuable nuggets of information to shed light on the true character of dear Aunt Martha. We hope these clues have not since been lost or discarded.

This reminds me of an interesting verse in Proverbs: "It is the glory of God to conceal a matter; it is the honor of kings to seek it out" (paraphrased).

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GENERAL INFORMATION

HOURS OF OPERATION

Monday through Wednesday -- 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
First Wednesday of Month -- 6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m.
Closed on National Holidays

MEMBERSHIP FOR CALENDAR YEAR

Individual & Family (one address) -- \$15.00
(Memberships paid after October 1 will apply to next calendar year.)

BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP

Unlimited *On-Site* Research
Subscription to *The Clay County MOsaic*, our quarterly newsletter.

RESEARCH POLICY & FEES

Non-members pay \$5.00 per day for on-site research. Member and non-member research requests by mail are accepted. Each request must be accompanied by a self-addressed stamped envelope and an initial research fee of \$10.00 per surname for one hour of research. Additional hours are \$10.00 per hour.

COPY PRICES

Original records (such as probate material)	\$1/page
Other published material	15 cents per page
Microfilm printouts	25 cents per page
Computer printouts	5 cents per page
Outsize copies	50 cents per page
Photographs	
Standard Quality	50 cents
Archival Quality	\$5.00

Personal imaging will be charged at the above rates.

SPECIAL GIFTS PROGRAM

Benefactors -- \$1,000 & up (cumulative)

Patrons -- \$500-\$999 (cumulative)

Contributors -- \$100-\$499

Friends -- \$25-\$99

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WHEN INSULTS HAD CLASS

Throughout this issue, we'll quote some glorious insults from an era when cleverness with words was still valued, before a great portion of the English language got boiled down to four-letter words, not to mention waving middle fingers.

ARCHIVES GIFT SHOP

CLAY CO., MISSOURI MARRIAGES 1821-1881

CLAY CO., MISSOURI MARRIAGES 1881-1904

Each Book, Softbound \$24.50 ppd

(MO residents add \$1.80)

Each book, Hardbound \$29.75 ppd

(MO residents add \$2.19)

THE STORY OF LIBERTY...from settlement to suburb, a movie available in two formats:

DVD -- \$15 each

S-VHS -- \$10 each

(add \$2 for shipping and handling)

The VHS version is available in two formats, for older model players & for the current model players. Specify which of the formats you desire.

GREETING CARDS

Christmas cards – 12 for \$10

Note cards 10 for \$5

BLUE SKIES, a newly published book. See page 2 for more information.

DOCTOR ON THE WESTERN FRONTIER

The Diaries of Dr. William Wallace Dougherty, 1854-1880 **CLOSEOUT—NEW PRICE**

\$12.00 at the Archives

\$17.00 if mailed

I KNEW FRANK...I WISH I HAD KNOWN JESSE

Family, Friends and Neighbors in the Life and Times of the James Boys

Hardback: \$55.00 members

\$60.00 non-members

Soft cover: \$17.00 members

\$22.00 non-members

GUERRILLAS AND OTHER CURIOSITIES

Bud, Donnie and Me

Soft cover: \$15 members

\$17 non-members

MISCELLANEOUS BOOKS (all postpaid):

1877 Historical Atlas of Clay County 15.00

Every-Name Index to 1877 Atlas 13.00

Clay County Births, 1883-84 7.00

Clay County Deaths, 1883-84 7.00

DAR Sesquicentennial Book 18.00

Every-name Index to DAR Book 11.00

Please make your check payable to:

Clay County Archives

And mail to:

P. O. Box 99

Liberty MO 64069

OF INTEREST TO GENEALOGISTS

What Was Happening the Year You Were Born?

If you will go to this address: <http://www.infoplease.com/year/1900.html> you can learn news from 1900. Change the year to the year you (or your ancestor) were born (1900 or later), and you will find out what was happening that year. Sadly, the fact that you were born will probably not be noted.

Try <http://dicter.net/> for translations to or from any of 44 languages. You have to download it, but it's free.

From "Show Me" State Genealogical News, Fall 2010

The Illinois State Genealogical Society will hold its Fall Conference in Peoria at the historic Hotel Pere Marquette on October 23rd. For more information, go to <http://www.usgenet.org/usa/il/county/peoria1/isgsfc.htm>

From "Show Me State Genealogical News, Summer, 2010

You can access passenger lists at: <http://aad.archives.gov/aad/series-list.jsp?cat=GP44>

From "Show Me State Genealogical News, Summer, 2010

DID YOU KNOW?

Twenty-five African-American men from both the Army and the Navy earned the Congressional Medal of Honor for service in the Civil War, although in some cases it was not awarded until years later.

The first was William H. Carney, a sergeant in the 54th Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry. Carney earned his medal in South Carolina during the battle for Battery Wagner on July 18, 1863, although he did not receive it until 1900.

Fourteen African-American soldiers earned their Medals of Honor on September 29, 1864 at the Battle of Chaffin's Farm (New Market Heights).

From American Heritage Magazine, Summer 2010

WHEN INSULTS HAD CLASS

The exchange between Winston Churchill and Lady Astor: She said, "If you were my husband, I'd give you poison," to which he replied, "If you were my wife, I'd drink it."

**EXCERPTS FROM OUR LATEST
PUBLICATION, "DOCTOR ON THE
WESTERN FRONTIER: THE DIARIES
OF DR. WILLIAM WALLACE
DOUGHERTY,
1854 – 1880"**

Friday July 22, 1870

All the talk and excitement is about the European War, France and Prussia. Both sides have friends here.

Saturday July 23, 1870

Got 2 pigs from Morris Mabe today. They are fine fellows. Male & female "Poland Berkshire." Allowed him \$16.00 for the pair.

Wednesday July 27, 1870

Paid Geo. Hughes \$60.00 in Co. warrants and owe him \$6.80 yet, then he is paid up all I owe him for Ella & Mattie's schooling.

Monday, August 1, 1870

County Court and good many in town. Circuit Court also in session, to try some horse thieves arrested some days ago.

Monday, August 8, 1870

The European war is going on to the great disadvantage of the French.

Tuesday, August 23, 1870

Good many are preparing for the fair next month. Still exciting news from the seat of war.

Wednesday, August 24, 1870

Saw Mr. Wright of the Bible Society was here yesterday. Will have to settle with him soon. The French seem to be getting the upper hand of the Prussians.

Friday, August 26, 1870

Went in the P.M. to see Jim Collins's child – Erysipelas. Got home before night. Went to hear Rev. D. Coulter temperance lecture.

Note: "Erysipelas" is another name for typhoid fever. It's also called "St. Anthony's Fire," "The Sacred Fire," or "The Rose."

Wednesday, August 31, 1870

Mornings cool and hot sun. Good weather for chills. The Independence fair commenced yesterday. Good many going from here.

Thursday, September 1, 1870

Ella and Eugene Fritzen went to Independence fair. Broadhurst came in at night. Came at supper and staid all night on his way from Haynesville Mo.

Note: Haynesville, at the time, was prospering and expected to be one of the largest towns in the area. But the railroad bypassed Haynesville and the town died. Most of the residents went to Holt.

Friday, September 2, 1870

My Birthday fifty today. How time flies, another and another comes & goes. Thus time flies, and we grow older before we know it.

Sunday, September 4, 1870

The Prussians have whipped the French as I predicted. Napoleon surrendered, which will end the war. Awful destruction of life in the war.

Tuesday, September 6, 1870

The Fair commenced today. Not many there. The display by ladies good. Was called to judge the vine fruit & vegetables, together with Mr. Wells and Dr. Mitchell. Bought John, Willie & Charly a suite of clothes at M Goldman's for \$16.35.

Sunday, September 11, 1870

Dr. Jones talks of going to Kansas City to take a professorship in a new school established recently there. I think he will do well. He wants me to act as one of the trustees of the new college. I told him all right.

Note: Dr. Jones had put up the first Confederate flag, on the courthouse in Liberty, as soon as the news came from Ft. Sumter.

Saturday, October 15, 1870

Dan Hughes made me a present of a fine Meerschaum pipe the first one I ever had.

Note: Dan Hughes had a dry goods store on the square in Liberty from 1873 to 1885.

**MISCELLANEOUS GLEANINGS
FROM MICROFILM
OF EARLY CLAY COUNTY
NEWSPAPERS**

Articles from the *Liberty Tribune*

May 13, 1910

Time and the U.C.V.

“Stars and Bars” and “Old Glory” Intertwined and Honored Equally at Mobile

When a leader in a Confederate reunion speaks of the United States as the "grandest government on earth" and thereby draws fervid applause from the old soldiers of the Gray, and when a United States Congress votes to furnish several thousand tents for a Confederate encampment, you may conclude safely that the war is over – over, in spirit as well as in fact. And those two things, as Col. W. H. Woodson tells it, happened in connection with the big reunion at Mobile this year.

Col. Woodson, John Will Hall and Dave Stollings returned together from the reunion last week. Col. Woodson was chatting about his experiences the other day.

"The miracle has been wrought and the bitterness is gone from them as becomes old age," he said. "Everywhere in Mobile the Stars and Bars and Old Glory were draped together and both were honored equally by the veterans. There was no disposition to revive old issues and hatreds. The dominating emotion of the reunion was not what you might have found twenty or even ten years ago, but rather that of tender, ripened fellowship."

A Bit of Sadness, Too.

"I couldn't help catching the bit of pathos in the assemblage of gray heads – nearly fifteen thousand of them under one tent. It was the biggest Confederate reunion ever held, they said, but the reunions can't keep on growing for long. It has been forty-five years since the end of the war and the youngest of the veterans must now be nearly 60 years old. Those who had reached their majority when the war commenced are now in their 70th year at least. Only a few years more and a national Confederate reunion will be a gathering of just a handful of decrepit 'last leaves' to remind one of the verse:

The mossy marbles rest
On the lips that he had pressed
In their bloom;
And the names he loved to hear
Have been carved for many a year
On the tomb.

"But no such heaviness of feeling was apparent in the reunion this year. Seven thousand of the veterans marched miles in line. The line was nearly two hours long. And some of the delegates – especially those from Virginia and Kentucky – were as proud and gallant and fine looking as any men I ever saw.

"The Man Who Did the Most."

"I believe the people down there consider Admiral Raphael Semmes as much of a war hero as General Lee and I found that Gen. John B. Stone was in sympathy with them. General Stone invited the editor of the Confederate Veteran and me and several ladies to go with him to the cemetery where Admiral Semmes' body is buried. There is a heroic statue of the great seaman in the cemetery and as we stood in front of it General Stone, who lives in Kansas City, made us all take notice by saying:

Here lies a man who in my opinion accomplished more than any other one person who has lived in this country. With a crew of a few Italians and negroes and coal and provisions for a week in a boat that had been condemned for sea-going, he set out into the gulf of Mexico. There was not a friendly port in which he could weigh anchor peacefully. Yet within an incredibly short time, he annihilated the merchant marine of the greatest government in the world and in the forty-five or more years that have passed since then, the United States had hardly begun to recover from the injury he inflicted."

Dixie Swept Them Away.

"There was lively competition among several cities for the reunion next year and it looked for a good while as if the Chattanooga people were going to get it. They worked hard for it, spent money, pinned buttons on every one and soon had the delegates with them."

"How'd Little Rock happen to win, then?" Colonel Woodson was asked.

"Well sir," said he, "those fellows arrived late but they brought a big brass band with them and when it got in the crowd and played 'My Maryland,' 'The Girl I Left Behind Me,' and 'Dixie,' it just swept the reunion away. They could have had anything they wanted."

January 25, 1934

Transient Camp in Clay County
Government Leases Farm South of Liberty Given to Helping Hand by William Volker

Lovers of the open road are receiving no encouragement from the federal government. Instead

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**MISCELLANEOUS GLEANINGS
FROM MICROFILM
OF EARLY CLAY COUNTY
NEWSPAPERS**

(Continued from Page 5)

they are being persuaded to settle down and forget about a No. 1 and his adventures, and readjust themselves and find again a place in the social program being remade by the new deal.

Clay County has been selected as a place for a part of this readjustment. Down on the Birmingham road, four miles south of Liberty the government has leased the 350-acre farm given last summer by William Volker to the Helping Hand Institute, and already is at work on a camp for transient homeless . . . Barracks for approximately 250 men will be provided. A road has been completed to the camp and a well sunk. A spring on the hillside to the north may be brought into service later. The present barrack, housing about fifty men, now in use by the Helping Hand Institute, will be used for a mess hall. The new barracks are being built across the creek. A new bridge is near completion joining the two sites.

To be admitted to the camp a transient must pass an examination at the Kansas City office. No one will be admitted to the camp without orders from the Kansas City office. The examination will be thorough. Only transient and no local homeless will be admitted, it is said.

The Helping Hand Institute took possession of the land August 1. Since that time about fifty men have worked daily and have about fifty acres of the farm cleared and plowed. About 900 bushels of vegetables were raised on the tillable part last summer.

The 50 acres already cleared will not be turned over to the government but will be retained for use in raising garden food for use at the institute. The rest of the land is in timber and underbrush and will be cleared.

The camp will be suited to the government's purpose as the clearing of the land will give employment to the men encamped there. The land is rich river bottom soil and once cleared, should produce heavily.

The government contract is for one year with the privilege of renewal yearly for five years.

Even the part under the government lease will be useful to the institute as the men put on it will relieve the institute of part of its burden. The institute already has been putting the farm to that use.

The government's aim is to get the transients off "the bum." It is hoped that they can be rebuilt physically where necessary and gradually fitted somewhere onto economic society again. When it is learned they have homes somewhere, an effort will be made to return them to their homes.

"We have given the transients the choice of staying in the city or going to the farm." E. T. Brigham, superintendent of the Helping Hand Institute, said. "Almost to a man they have chosen the farm."

The buildings erected on the farm by the institute have been of contributed materials. Persons wishing buildings razed have offered the material to the institute for the work. The men just now are finishing the razing of a Wabash roadhouse about four miles from the farm. Much good brick and other materials have been piled on the farm for future use. Several miles of used railroad ties are to be contributed, Mr. Brigham said.

Other such projects may be established at St. Joseph, Springfield, and St. Louis.

February 14, 1919

Turn Clock Ahead March 30

Unless the law is repealed all clocks in the country will be turned ahead once more on March 30 to bring about the daylight saving which was first tried last year. The law was passed as a war measure in the interests of the saving of fuel but so far there has been no agitation looking toward its repeal. It is believed the majority of the people are in favor of the daylight saving although some are known to be against it.

September 14, 1925

Missouri City has an excellent natural bathing beach over on the bar in front of town where space is not limited. But Elvis M___ requests that swimmers wear their bathing suits when they come, as we have no lockers yet. The water is pure and constantly changing.

Articles from the *Liberty Advance*

July 20, 1925

A late Kansas City *Journal* woman's page gives tooth-paste pink as one of the most fashionable colors for sport's dresses. "You are probably familiar," the item says, "with the handsome thread of pinkness that so placidly spreads itself all over the brush each morning. Keep the shade in your mind's eye." Which is a good ad for toothpaste and also suggests that aspirin white, liver-pill brown, radish red, Airedale tan, and bathroom blue may be among the newer shades soon.

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WHEN INSULTS HAD CLASS

Mark Twain: "I didn't attend the funeral, but I sent a nice letter saying I approved of it."

**MISCELLANEOUS GLEANINGS
FROM MICROFILM
OF EARLY CLAY COUNTY
NEWSPAPERS**

(Continued from Page 6)

Old Landmark Burned

The Robertson house, an old landmark of Missouri City, was destroyed by fire that started between 8 and 9 o'clock Sunday night. The dwelling, a two story house, originally of logs was weather boarded many years ago. It has stood vacant for several years. In its day the home was one of the show places along the Missouri River. When the late Jeff Robertson bought the place soon after the civil war he spent much money on improving it. The house was built before the war and for many years was the home of the late John Story. At the rear ruins of old cabins used by the slaves could still be seen. For several years after the opening of the Missouri City coal mine, near the old house, Mr. Lew Coffey and wife ran a boarding house for those employed at the mine and conducted it well.

WILLIAM J. BRYANT DEAD

The Great Commoner Passed Away Sunday – Spoke in Liberty Three Times

William Jennings Bryan died Sunday afternoon at Dayton, Tenn. His death was due to apoplexy according to physicians and he died while asleep as he had gone to his room shortly after eating to take a rest.

Mr. Bryan had taken part in the big Scopes trial at Dayton and was preparing to launch a battle against modernism. He appeared in excellent health.

The funeral arrangements have not yet been made but is probable that he will be buried at Arlington cemetery.

Mr. Bryan is survived by his wife, two daughters, Mrs. Richard L. Hargreaves and Mrs. Ruth Bryan Owens and one son, William Jennings Bryan, Jr. His brother, Charles W. Bryan, also survives.

W.J. Bryan was born March 19, 1860 in Salem, Ill. He was a colonel during the Spanish-American war. Three times he was defeated for the nomination for president, twice by William McKinley and the third time by William Howard Taft.

Recently Mr. Bryan became very wealthy through land holdings in Florida.

Bryan, always close to the hearts of old-time Clay county democrats, spoke in Liberty three different times. The first time was during his second campaign for president in 1899, when, on June 8, he spoke from a platform that had been erected on the college campus. He was taken to the college grounds in R.L. Raymond's trap, then the most fashionable

vehicle in Liberty. Ex-Governor A.M. Dockery and the late James F. (A?) Reed, then chairman of the third congressional district, occupied rear seats on the platform. Bryan's reception committee for that visit here was composed of J.J. Stogdale, J.D. Ford, L.H. Bell, John L. Dougherty, John M. Newlee, W.G. Dollis, S.A. Pence, T.J. Wornall, John Williams, George C. Waller and mayor John Will Hall. Judge John King, then sheriff of the county, was marshal of the day.

A great throng filled Liberty. Over every road leading to town, people came. The great tent erected at the speaker's stand on the campus, with a seating capacity of 3,500, was filled to overflowing, the aisles being filled. It was estimated that 5,000 crowded in and around the tent, which was located at the southwest corner of the college grounds. A drizzling rain was falling when Bryan started to speak.

Mr. Bryan, who was introduced by Hon. A.M. Dockery, spoke on Imperialism, condemning trusts and a standing army. He also stated that the question of 16 to 1*, raised in 1896, was not dead, but still lived.

Bryan again visited Liberty August 13, 1915, this time on the chautauqua program. This time he was introduced by Hon. J.W. Alexander. He spoke on the "Causeless War," and talked for an hour and ten minutes. He was paid \$250 for the lecture. Bryan that day at the chautauqua drew a record crowd.

Three times a leader of the democratic party – three times defeated – yet Bryan dominated for sixteen years the party and its policies.

The "Silver Tongued Boy of the Platte," as Bryan was known in his younger days leaped meteor like into national, even world-wide, prominence at the democratic convention July 10, 1896, at Chicago, by his "Cross of Gold" speech, and the convention was stampeded for Bryan over eight other candidates.

This speech came after a long debate over the free silver plank. In a fiery burst of enthusiasm he ended his famous speech thus:

"The individual is but an atom; he is born, he acts, he dies; but principles are eternal; and this has been a contest over a principle. Having behind us the producing masses of this nation and the world, supported by the commercial interests, the laboring interests and the toilers everywhere, we will answer those who demand a single gold standard by saying:

"You shall not press down upon the brow of labor this crown of thorns. You shall not crucify mankind upon this cross of gold."

*"16 to 1" refers to the ratio of silver to gold. You can learn more at <http://www.u-s-history.com/pages/h763.html>

WHEN INSULTS HAD CLASS

Groucho Marx: "I've had a perfectly wonderful evening. But this wasn't it."

RECENT ACCESSIONS

Two metal map cabinets, donated by Keith Nelson.

Seven books of Bethel School, donated by Lindsay Crossett.

Book of information on a Burlington Railroad Depot tour, donated by David Hardy.

List of students at Clay Seminary, 1855 to 1865, donated by Lauren Petrillo.

Book, "These are the Generations – Eleanor, Claudette, Harriet..." a family history book of the Petty, Greenfield and associated families, donated by Eleanor A. Speaker.

Seven abstracts, donated by Liz Ivey.

Book, "The Liberty Christian Church" covering the years 1837 to 1953, written by James Edgar McDonald and donated by Bob and Nancy Chrisman Jones.

Two rolls of Leo Adams' building plans, covering Franklin School and Steve Border's Consolidated Cleaners (corner of Gallatin and Kansas), donated by Jeff Moore.

Five pictures of the rechanneling of the Missouri River and one of a B-29 flying over Kansas City, dating to 1949, donated by Sandra Howerton.

Ray County plat book, April 1937, donated by Kenneth Neth.

Copies of original letters with Clay County connections, written by Caroline Moss, Emily Chauncey, G.B. Holland to James Loucks, John Beauchamp, Captain C. F. Rush, Mary E. Green, and Adaliza Thornton to John Thornton, dating from 1838 to 1851, donated by Randy Pence.

D.A.R. scrapbook and bag of miscellaneous material belonging to his late mother Louise Hawkins, donated by Steven Hawkins.

"Early Days in the West, Along the Missouri One Hundred Years Ago" a paperbound book of letters by Judge Joseph Thorp, donated by Richard L. Wharton.

These items are available for our patrons to use in their research. Thank you to these generous donors.

WHEN INSULTS HAD CLASS

A Member of Parliament to Disraeli: "Sir, you will either die on the gallows or of some unspeakable disease." "That depends, Sir," said Disraeli, "on whether I embrace your policies or your mistress."

Clarence Darrow: "I have never killed a man, but I have read many obituaries with great pleasure."

Churchill: "A modest little person, with much to be modest about."

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

(Continued from Page 1)

So, however those nuggets became concealed, what an honor it is to search for and discover them! And by them to get acquainted with, to connect with, that very someone who may have lived decades or centuries ago.

And what satisfaction we get from finding these bits and pieces of historical treasure. For unraveling the mystery and solving the puzzle. This, too, can be a great motivator for other such endeavors.

During your treasure hunt, make sure you have a treasure map and plenty of supplies and take along experienced guides who can clear a path in the dense forest that may lie ahead. You and I both know of the perfect point of embarkation. And I hope you "book" a trip to the Clay County Archives soon for your trip through time. Who knows, you might even run across a black avian statuette from an exotic place. Or something even more valuable.

Stuart E. Elliott

ONE IN OF THE STRANGE THINGS THAT HAS APPEARED IN MY "IN" BASKET

Modern Conveniences

Here is an Ozark Mountain mother's letter to her son in the Army.

Dear Son:

Your Pa has a good job now, the first he has had in 48 years. We air a great deal better off now than we wur. Your Pa gets \$14.95 every Thursday so we thought we would do a little fixin up and sent to a mail order house for one of them new fangled things they call bathrooms you hear about in some houses.

It is put in shape by a man called a plumber. On one side of the room is a big long thing like the pigs drink out of, only you get in that and wash all over. On the other side is a little white think they call a sink. This is for light washing, such as your face and hands, but over in the other corner, now son, I'll tell you we really got something thar.

This little contraption you put one foot in and wash it clean and you pull a little chain and get fresh water for the other foot. Two lids came with the dern thing and we ain't had any use for them in the bathroom, so I'm usin one for a breadboard and as the other had a round hole in it, we took that one and framed grandpas picture. They are awful nice folks to deal with. They sent us free a big roll of writing paper with it. Take keer of yourself, son.

From your Maw

100 YEARS AGO
EXTRACTS FROM THE
LIBERTY TRIBUNE

July 8, 1910

May Stop Brick Paving?

It is understood that protests will be filed against the resolution to lay brick paving on West Franklin street, which was adopted by the council last week. Some of those who originally petitioned for the resolution may protest on the ground that the cost would be greater than expected. The cost, according to the estimate, would be about \$3 a front foot to the owners of abutting property, or about \$210 for a 70-foot lot. The space between the curbing to be paved is only 24 feet, and the property owners on each side of the street pay half.

The West Franklin street resolution, however, has started much talk of paving other parts of town. East Franklin street, the four sides of the public square and Arthur street from Leonard street to Jewell street have lead so far in these discussions.

Dorsey Will Case Argued.

The suit over the Dorsey will was argued in Kansas City last Saturday. The case was heard at Plattsburg in April and Judge A.D. Burnes who said there he would meet the attorneys in Kansas City this month. He fixed last Saturday as the time hearing the arguments at the court of appeals rooms.

The suit is over the money willed by Mrs. Mary Dorsey to the four protestant churches of Liberty. Claude Hardwicke and Attorney Herndon of Plattsburg appeared for the heirs and Judge Sandusky, M.E. Lawson and Ralph Hughes for the churches. Judge Burnes probably will give this decision in September. If the will stands each church will get about \$6000.

July 15, 1910

A Motor Car's Anti-Climax.

The queer little motor car in which John Fischer has his groceries delivered is believed to be the oldest machine in service in this part of the country. Its brilliant, if anti-climatic, history dates back to 1900, when automobiles were about as scarce in Missouri as aeroplanes are now. In that year Charles W. Armour of the Kansas City branch of the Armour packing company journeyed to Paris. The Luxurious City was getting very busy with funny little motor cars about that time and the machine which now chortles about Liberty, laden with canned goods and green groceries was the bate (sic) which caught Mr. Armour.

He bought it for \$2000, and then, it is said, another idea struck him. He would tour France in it. No record was kept but, as a surmise, Mr. Armour

being a beginner, it was an eventful tour. Afterward he brought the car to America and at New York had to pay \$900 duty on it.

It was one of the first cars in Kansas City. Subsequently, Mr. Armour traded it back to a dealer on a larger car. Mr. Fischer bought it from the dealer.

A Conscience Social.

The Westminster circle of the Presbyterian church will give an ice cream social on the lawn of the home of E.D. Moore Saturday night. It is to be a conscience social. That means, the young women explain, that what a cooling plate of ice cream with cake will cost will depend on the conscience of each guest.

The yard is to be dotted with inviting tables and chairs and illuminated with Japanese lanterns. The profits are to be applied to the circle's fund for improving the lighting plan of the church building.

Hog Wallows in Roads.

The Richmond *Missourian* printed the following: "Mr. Jas. Deval was thrown from his buggy Saturday soon after starting to Excelsior Springs. A hog in a wallow scared the mare and ditched the owner. Jim is suffering from injured ribs – and he makes motion that folks move their hog wallows out of the roads."

July 22, 1910

Married in Motor Car.

In response to a telephone message from Kearney, Elder F.V. Loos, T.C. Stean and John North walked out Wednesday afternoon to where the Kearney road enters Liberty and met a Ford motor car containing three young people. Elder Loos then stood upon the footboard of the car and married the young man and young woman who had been sitting in the tonneau. They were Earl M. Collins and Miss Juanita Endicott of the Paradise neighborhood. The driver and owner of the car was Galen Brown.

It had been the plan of the couple to go to Mr. Loos' home for the ceremony, but they received word that some friends from Platte township were getting ready for some wedding stunts. That caused the telephone message.

Both groom and bride are among the best folks in Platte township and many friends of both congratulate them upon their happy union. Mr. Collins is a prosperous farmer. Mrs. Collins was one of Clay's most popular teachers.

After the ceremony Mr. Brown drove them to Kansas City, where they will remain a few days before returning to Platte township.

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100 YEARS AGO
EXTRACTS FROM THE
LIBERTY TRIBUNE
(Continued from Page 9)

September 16, 1910

A Colored ex-Congressman Here.

B.W. Murray, a negro congressman from South Carolina for two terms, was in Liberty Tuesday and spoke to the colored folks at the A.M.E. church that night. The subject of his lecture was "Race Ideals." In his talk he spoke of the condition of the colored race and advised them to make efforts to better it and endeavor to rise about evil surroundings.

September 23, 1910

Harry Boggess, driving the same horse and buggy that fell in a well with him on South Leonard street a few weeks ago, met with an other accident last Friday. Harry was driving up East Mississippi street, near the college building when his horse shied to one side, throwing the buggy into a ditch and turning it completely over.

CRAWLING THROUGH THE
CEMETERIES WITH KEN

By Ken Neth (Known around the Archives as Mr. Cemetery.)

We have been informed of a Civil War burial site just to the north of Roosterville. No names are known at this time.

Peter Vanderhoorn is doing research on the northern portion of the county and including cemeteries. He is making a disk on the tombstones and will give the Archives a copy.

Volunteer Joyce Schumacher, her husband Willie and I are in the process of correcting and updating our listings on the Fairview Cemetery in Liberty.

ROUGH ON RATS

An article in the latest "Missouri State Genealogical Association Journal" states that in 1888 Lizzie Brizzolerie, Italian member of a vaudeville company playing in St. Joseph, had committed suicide via "Rough on Rats."

Rough on Rats was a poison manufactured by E.S. Wells in Jersey City, New Jersey. Wells also manufactured medicines, such as his "Worm Syrup" and a remedy for corns called "Rough on Corns."

Interestingly there is currently a punk rock group called, "Rough on Rats."

THE SALEM WITCH TRIALS

When Madness Ruled

You're Accused!

It's the spring of 1692 in Salem, Massachusetts. You've just been accused of being a witch by "an afflicted girl." The reason for the accusation against you might have been any from a long list of possibilities.

Perhaps you're reclusive, talk to yourself, or exhibit some other form of eccentric behavior. Perhaps you were involved in a previous dispute with the family of the afflicted girl. Perhaps you don't go to church, or go to the wrong church, or sided with the wrong faction in recent congregational strife within the Salem Village Church. Perhaps you speak French or are suspected of having aided the Wabanakis in the recent Indian wars.

Or perhaps you expressed support for a recently accused witch or – worse yet – accused the accusers of lying. Whatever the reason, you're in big trouble now! What do you do? (Pick an option below.)

- (A) Flee Salem
- (B) Accuse someone else
- (C) Quick! Get pregnant!
- (D) Confess, even though you are innocent
- (E) Plead innocent and stand for trial
- (F) Refuse to stand for trial and face the consequences

ANSWERS:

Flee Salem

Good idea if you can swing it. Several accused witches did escape from jail and survive the 1692 hysteria. They included Philip and Mary English, John Alden, Hezekiah Usher and Mrs. Nathaniel Cary. However, all these accused persons had either money or influence that made their escape possible. You don't have either. Try your next option.

Accuse Someone Else

The theory here is that if you're afflicted by witchcraft, you can't be a witch yourself. This theory even convinced some daughters to testify against their own mothers. It's not a bad idea (if you have no conscience), but – sorry – it's too late now. You should have thought of this idea a few days ago. Now your accusation will look like an obvious attempt to distract attention from your own guilt. The accusation of witchcraft has been made against you and you're still going to have to deal with it. Pick another option.

(Continued to Page 11)

THE SALEM WITCH TRIALS

When Madness Ruled
(Continued from Page 10)

Quick! Get Pregnant

This isn't as silly an idea as it sounds. Pregnant women, even if convicted of witchcraft, would not be executed so long as they remained pregnant. The theory is that even if you deserve death, the baby inside you does not – so the officials will put off your execution. This was called “reprieve for the belly.”

Of course, you still might be executed eventually, but the hope is that the hysteria won't last another nine months.

One slight problem, however. Who will you find in jail to impregnate you? Sorry, this option is not available. Try another.

Confess, Even Though You Are Innocent

This route, pioneered by accused witches Tituba and Deliverance Hobbs, turned out to be a lifesaver. Confessing witches weren't executed. Instead, they were kept apart from other prisoners, to be called upon in trials when their testimony might be helpful to the prosecution. The Puritans believed that once a person made a full confession, his or her fate should be left in God's hands, not man's. Fifty-five persons in the Salem area confessed to witchcraft in 1692, adding substantial credibility to the initial charges of witchcraft made by the afflicted girls.

Do you really want to admit to being a witch? Is this something you want on your resume? If not, try another option.

Plead Innocent and Stand for Trial

This is the approach that led to nineteen innocent persons being carted off to Gallows Hill during the summer of 1692. If you plead innocent, you'll have to face trial without a lawyer and without the ability to call witnesses on your own behalf and answer unanswerable questions (“If you're not a witch, how do you explain the fact that these afflicted girls fall into fits the minute you enter the room?”) all before a court that unanimously believes in witchcraft and believes that you're guilty. (Even in the one case that the jury came back with an acquittal, the trial of Rebecca Nurse, the court sent the jury back to reconsider the verdict. The second time around, the jury found Nurse guilty.)

You'll face spectral evidence – and how do you propose to convince the court that your apparition was *not* doing all this work on the part of the devil? *Just exactly what was your apparition doing on the night of April 23 anyway?*

This approach looks hopeless. You better try another option.

Refuse to Stand for Trial and Face the Consequences

Octogenarian Giles Corey gave this option a try. Knowing the fate that awaited him if he stood for trial, Giles refused to answer the ritual question: “Will you be tried by your God and your country (that is, a jury)?” The penalty for refusing to answer was *peine forte et dure*, an especially unpleasant way of going that involves piling heavy stones on your body until you either agree to stand trial or are crushed to death.

I don't think you want to go through with this. Better try another option.

From the “Salem Trials,” found at
<http://www.law.umkc.edu/faculty/projects/ftrials/ftrials.htm>

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

My husband Dave and I are working on a project in commemoration of the 150th anniversary of the Civil War. We are compiling a list of Civil War soldiers who are buried in Clay County. So far we have over 400.

What we need are volunteers who would like to “adopt a soldier” and do research about him. Most of the research can be done here at the Archives; we have lots of information in newspapers, books, pictures, cemetery censuses, etc. If you are interested, please contact us at 816-454-5779 or at dsmith1027@kc.rr.com.

Linda Smith

WILSON CREEK GRAVEYARD

Wilson C. Creek favored the Union and the rest of his family favored the Confederacy. Therefore, he chose to have his own graveyard rather than the family graveyard approximately 1½ miles to the northwest. That's why Clay County has two Creek cemeteries.

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

May Twelfth (Berry) Palmer was born on (Can you guess?) May 12, 1888.

WHEN INSULTS HAD CLASS

Walter Kerr: “He has delusions of adequacy.”

Oscar Wilde: “He has no enemies, but is intensely disliked by his friends.”

Mae West: “His mother should have thrown him away and kept the stork.”

Moses Hadas: “Thank you for sending me a copy of your book; I'll waste no time reading it.”

**THE CITY OF LIBERTY AND
HISTORIC LIBERTY, INC.
ANNOUNCE THEIR 2010 – 2011
HISTORY SEMINAR SERIES**

Saturday, November 6, “Old Windows Don’t Have to Be a ‘Pane!’” 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at 5 E. Kansas Street, second floor, (above Los Compas Restaurant). Space is limited; RSVP to 439-4537)

Saturday, December 4, “The Art of Buying or Selling a Home.” 10:00 a.m. at City Hall Chambers, 101 E. Kansas Street.

Saturday, February 5, “Who is Hanging in Your Family Tree?” 10:00 a.m. at the Second Baptist Church, 300 E. Kansas Street.

Saturday, March 5, “Civil War Surgery” (tentative). 10:00 a.m. at the Clay County Historical Museum, 14 N. Main Street.

Saturday, April 2, “The Battle of Liberty.” 10:00 a.m. at the Corbin Theatre, 15 N. Water Street.

All seminars are free and open to the public. For more information, call 816-439-4537.

ARCHIVES ANNUAL MEETING

The Archives annual meeting will be held on Saturday, November 13th. Details are forthcoming.

REMINDER

All Archives memberships expire at the end of the calendar year. Don’t be left out – renew today.

HOLIDAY CLOSINGS

The Archives will be closed for the week of Thanksgiving (November 22nd through 24th) and the week after Christmas (December 27th through January 2nd.)

The Clay County MOsaic

Clay County Archives & Historical Library, Inc.
210 E. Franklin StreetP.O. Box 99
Liberty, MO 64069(816) 781-3611
info@claycountyarchives.org