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# THE DISCOVERY PAPERS

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## Little Bit of ‘Ole England

75 years ago, in March 1946, President Harry S. Truman escorted former British Prime Minister Winston Spencer Churchill to Fulton, Missouri, and the campus of Westminster College. The two statesmen were there at the invitation of the College President. Following a lunch, that featured Missouri ham, in the college gym, Churchill rose to give his speech, “Sinews of Peace,” that became known as his “Iron Curtain” speech. He remarked that “an iron

*Churchill is considered one of the greatest speakers of the 20th century.*

curtain has descended across the continent,” condemning the policies of the Soviet Union in Europe. He was passing the reins of protecting the world to President Truman and the United States. President Truman responded with the “Truman Doctrine.” Both men shared the same values and recognized the importance of the British-American alliance in facing the dangers ahead.

## St. Mary the Virgin, Aldermanbury

Westminster College, in 1961, sought a way to honor PM Churchill, the memory of his visit to campus, and his leadership during World War II. Their decision was to relocate an historic London church to campus to be used as a college chapel and a monument to the former Prime Minister.

Their selection was the Church of St. Mary the Virgin, Aldermanbury, in the heart of the City of London. The parish was founded in the late 11th century/early 12th century with the first church building being constructed in 1200. It was destroyed in the Great Fire of London, in September 1666. It was rebuilt in 1672, under the direction of the great architect of the era, Sir Christopher Wren. That building stood until it was struck by the German *Luftwaffe* on December 29, 1940, leaving only the outer walls, columns, and bell tower standing. It remained in this ruined state until 1965, when it was dismantled.

It took the College and the project’s supporters on both sides of the Atlantic several years to raise the necessary funds and make the arrangements to move the 650 tons of stone from London, England to Fulton, Missouri. All 7000 stones were cleaned, removed, and labeled to be reassembled, following as closely as possible to Wren’s 1672 building. Some modifications were necessary but soon the cherished building rose once again from the ashes, 300 years after it perished in the Great Fire.

The strong connection of the site with the “Iron Curtain” speech continued when part of the “Berlin Wall” that was built to separate East and West Germany following World War II was relocated to churchyard in 1990, as *Breakthrough*, a sculpture using selected parts of the wall, created by Churchill’s granddaughter, Edwina, Sandys, for the Westminster College campus.



### Missouri State Symbols



State Tree

Flowering Dogwood

Became Missouri’s official tree on June 20, 1955



State Floral Emblem

White Hawthorn Blossom

Became official on March 16, 1923



### *Minor v. Happersett*

Minor v. Happersett is one of two nationally significant cases heard in St. Louis' Old Courthouse which were eventually appealed to the United States Supreme Court. Virginia Minor (pictured to the right) was a leading figure in the woman suffrage movement in Missouri and was a founder and first president of the Woman Suffrage Association of Missouri. This was the FIRST organization in the world with the expressed purpose of obtaining the right to vote for women.



A woman suffrage convention was held in St. Louis in 1869. A resolution was presented there, by Virginia and her lawyer husband, Francis Minor, that asserted the right of woman suffrage based on the recently ratified Fourteenth Amendment - women were citizens of the United States and entitled to all the benefits and immunities of citizenship. Meaning, that women already, by law, had the right to vote. All that remained was to demonstrate the right. Women began taking their rights "for a spin" (potentially an act of civil disobedience). They were granted universal suffrage in the Wyoming Territory in 1869 and Utah in 1870. They voted successfully and without question in 1871. Some women, like Susan B. Anthony in New York, were arrested and tried for voter fraud, after successfully casting their votes. Anthony's case was used as a warning to all women in the United States.

The test case came in 1872 when Virginia Minor attempted to register to vote in Missouri. Virginia sought to register to vote in the upcoming election (President U.S. Grant vs. Horace Greeley). She was denied registration by the sixth district of St. Louis registrar, Reese Happersett, on the grounds of Minor being female. She was not prosecuted for attempting to vote. Her husband brought suit against the registrar because he would not allow Virginia to register to vote. (A married woman could not sue in Missouri courts until 1889, with the passage of the Married Women's Act.) The suit contended that women were citizens of the United States under the 14th Amendment to the Constitution. There is no stated power to prevent a citizen from voting.

The Minors lost their case in the lower court and appealed to the Missouri Supreme Court. The state supreme court ruled that the 14th Amendment was meant to extend



the right to vote to the newly freed slaves only, even though it “guaranteed to the rights of citizenship and equal protection under the law to PEOPLE born or naturalized in the United States.”

Again, the Minors appealed. Francis Minor made the presentation before the U.S. Supreme Court arguing that the denial of suffrage in the states was a matter of practice rather than law and that “it is impossible that this can be a republican government, in which one-half the citizens thereof are forever disenfranchised.”

The Supreme Court ruled in October 1874, that “the Constitution of the United States does not confer the rights of suffrage upon anyone, because suffrage was NOT coexistent with citizenship.” The court upheld the right of the individual states to decide which citizens could and could not vote within their borders. They did not address the fact that women were full citizens under the law, however, women did not enjoy the same rights and privileges of citizenship as men.

*And, in case you were wondering what the other case tried at the Old Courthouse was,,,, it was the Dred Scott Case, which we will discuss in a future newsletter.*



Daffodils make their appearance around the time of Ostara, the spring equinox.

A legend says that the daffodil appeared in the Garden of Gethsemane on the night of the Last Supper to bring comfort to Jesus Christ, after his betrayal by Judas Iscariot.

Folklore tells us that Daffodils send the message

that this is the only person for you,  
your feelings are constant, and you hold them in high regard.

Putting fresh daffodils in a vase in your home will bring about abundance.



## St. Patrick's Day

A favorite celebration in March is St. Patrick's Day. Named in honor of the Patron Saint of Ireland, the holiday is rich in traditions of food, drink, and parades. The 5th Century Irish Missionary is believed to have died on March 17, and it has become his Feast day. The original color associated with the day was blue but by the 17th century, green became "the" color.

According to legend, Patrick is said to have removed all the snakes from Ireland. (Although, there are no native snakes on the Emerald Isle.) Shamrocks have become the emblem of Ireland. They were used by Patrick to symbolize the Holy Trinity to the indigenous people of Ireland, when he was a missionary there.

The first St. Patrick's Day Parade was held in New York City in 1762. Although cabbage has long been an Irish dish, it was traditionally served with a meat similar to ham. Apparently, the American Irish found corned beef to be more affordable and readily available and the tradition of corned beef and cabbage on St. Patrick's Day was born.

The Kansas City area is blessed with a strong Irish community. The annual parade in Kansas City is one of the largest in the nation. The Kansas City Irish Center in Drexel Hall along Linwood Boulevard celebrates all things Irish year 'round. Just down the street is Browne's Irish Marketplace, the oldest Irish-owned business in North America. Irish music, dance, and food are a big part of the fabric of life in Kansas City.



## Leprechauns

The "little people," species known as to mischief. They there. All leprechauns



"wee folk" of Ireland are the bearded sprites of the fairy leprechauns. Like other fairies, they are small and prone were living in Ireland before the humans came to live appear to be male and apparently are grouchy, untrusting

and rather solitary.

Early stories of leprechauns have them wearing red and three-cornered hats. They are the cobblers and bankers of the fairy world. They can be quite sneaky, especially when it comes to protecting their gold but, are quite generous with those who are kind to them. Humans have devised a variety of leprechaun traps in hopes of stealing their gold by luring them into the trap with something shiny.



Leprechauns are protected by European law. Apparently, there are 236 leprechauns still living in the caverns of Slieve Foye in Louth, Ireland. The European Union, in 2009, granted heritage status to the wee folk remaining there along with the animals and flora of the area to protect its biodiversity.

Links to making your own leprechaun puppet and trap are below:

<https://www.scholastic.com/parents/family-life/parent-child/st-patricks-day-printable-kids-leprechaun-puppet.html>

<https://www.thesprucecrafts.com/build-a-leprechaun-trap-1244921>



## Time Travelers

Welcome, Fellow Time Travelers!  
Amelia Peabody, here, eager to start our next adventure when we are able to be together again.

Like you, I have been in lockdown for the last year, spending my time developing new skills and doing lots of research. There's lots to learn about Missouri during this bicentennial year. Are you thinking about what the topic will be for your essay? More about the contest in next month's issue.

Today, I want to tell you about my namesake - Amelia Ann Blanford Edwards. Like the fictional character, Amelia Peabody, created by author, Elizabeth Peters, Amelia Edwards was a Victorian-era Egyptologist and so much more. I hope you enjoy learning about her as much as I have.

Amelia was a woman of many varied interests and talents. She was a published poet and storywriter as a young girl. Her artistic talents also emerged as she began illustrating her stories and painting scenes from books she read. Sadly, her parents did not support her pursuing life as an artist, believing it be scandalous. She then began composing and performing music for several years until she contracted typhus, followed by frequent sore

throats. The sore throats made it difficult to sing and she lost her interest in music. She also pursued riding, mathematics, and pistol shooting. She was 18 years of age.

As she entered her twenties, she decided to focus on being a writer and journalist, publishing her first full-length novel in 1855, *My Brother's Wife*. Her works were well received.

*Barbara's History* published in 1864, established her reputation as a writer. She must have loved research as much as I do, taking about two years to research and write each of her books. She wrote nine novels and numerous short stories, including ghost stories. As a journalist, she reported on all sorts of current events (except on police reports and the Houses of Parliament), as a staff writer for two magazines. She also produced histories of England and France.

Amelia loved to travel. In 1872, now in her early forties, Amelia and her friend, Lucy Renshawe, set off on an adventure through the Dolomites, a mountain range in northeastern Italy. She wrote about her mountain climbing journey in her book *A Midsummer Ramble in the Dolomites* published in 1873. The adventurous pair set their sites on France during the summer of 1873, where their walking tour was interrupted by torrential rains. They opted for the warmth and sunshine of Egypt, instead. The two spent weeks along the Nile on a large houseboat. Amelia illustrated and wrote about her discoveries in *A Thousand Miles Up the Nile*.

The trip to Egypt changed the focus of Amelia's life. She dedicated the remainder of her life and her money to the protection and research of Ancient Egypt. She became friends with and supporters of Egyptologists and archaeologists, lending her talents as a journalist, writer, and fundraiser to raise the alarm about the endangered Ancient Egyptian artifacts. She became a key figure in the Egypt Exploration Fund, which she co-founded.



A newspaper in 1889 called Amelia Edwards “the most learned woman in the world.” She was an independent, middle class woman, caught in the very patriarchal and class conscious society of the 19th century. Sadly, in order to be self-supporting, she had to suppress her liberal views and private life, and create a public persona for herself. It's the persona that is largely known about her while the “real” Amelia has remained in the shadows.

*Amelia Blanford Edwards (1831-1892)*

## Learning History Through Dolls

This month, we are going to explore the history of a doll - **Barbie** - born on March 9, 1959. This inspiring figure of fashion has had over 200 careers. There have been over one billion Barbies sold worldwide in 150 countries. It is believed that three Barbie dolls are sold every second!



Her full name is Barbara Millicent Roberts and she was created by Ruth Handler, who also created prosthetics for breast cancer patients. Her parents are George and Margaret Rawlins Roberts. She was born in the fictional town of Willows, Wisconsin. She was based on a German doll and cartoon character named Lilli by the Bild Company.



In her long life, Barbie has been to space three times and run for president six times. (*She would make a lovely Madame President!*) She's been a star in the movies, television, as well as, video games, music, and computer software. How about a mermaid, an angel, or a fairy? It seems Barbie has been everywhere, portrayed everyone, and done everything!

Barbie has owned more than 40 pets - dogs, cats, horses, ponies, birds, a chimpanzee, a giraffe - to name a few.

Barbie has inspired women to have surgery to look like her. Artists have sung her praises and captured her likeness on canvas. She's been the subject of documentaries and the topic of numerous graduate theses and dissertations. Fashion designers Gucci, Versace, Vera Wang, Dolce & Gabbana, and Givenchy have all created items for her vast wardrobe. The Louvre mounted a Barbie Exhibit in 2016. She's even made the cover of *Time*.

Let's all wish this inspiring and history-making doll - **HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!**







Robert Tonner's Grace doll for the Virtual Doll Convention wishes you a very Happy St. Patrick's Day!

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