

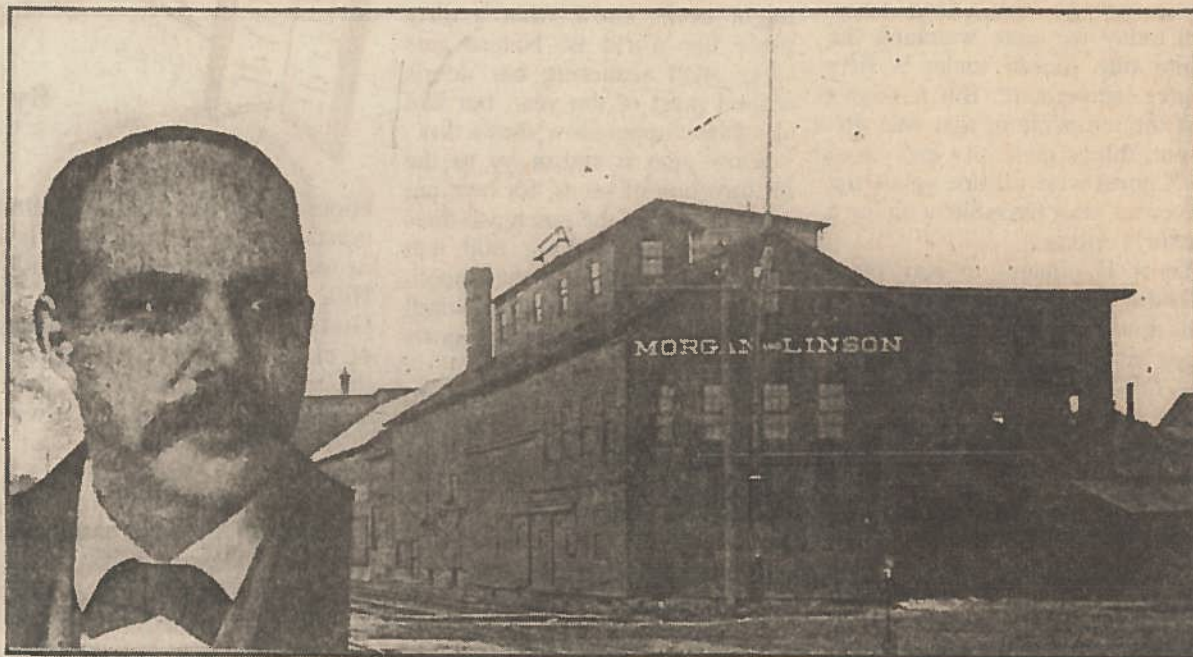
Bethinking of Old Orleans

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B. FRANK MORGAN 1848-1909



Benjamin Frank Morgan was born in the Town of Gaines to William Pitt Morgan and Eunice W. Chester of two old stock families. William P. Morgan settled here from Connecticut in 1832. When he died in 1881 his son, B. Frank Morgan, carried on with the family farm which was located on the west side of Route 279 south of Gaines. In 1887 Mr. Morgan moved to Albion purchasing a home on Clinton Street for his wife Emma G. Linson and daughter Emma Louise, but continued the farm operation.

At this time Mr. Morgan bought out the coal and grain business of Warner & Sheldon which was located on Clinton Street at the railroad. In 1890 the farm became known as Morgan and Linson. A cold storage was built and later enlarged because of the large local apple production. This enterprise carried the name of Morgan and Linson for many years long after the death of its namesake. Eventually it was owned by Walter Rowley, who had worked for Morgan & Linson.

At the turn of the century Morgan and Linson also established a large cooperage business for the shipment of apples. The Morgan farm in Gaines ranked for many years as one of outstanding production and served as a model for area farmers.

B. Frank Morgan was twice elected Gaines Town Supervisor, serving for the years 1884-1887. He took an active interest in public affairs through his lifetime. His business partner and

brother-in-law, Lyman S. Linson, built the house on West Avenue in Albion which is now the Christopher Mitchell Funeral Home.

Our pictures include a photo of B. Frank Morgan and also a view taken in 1905 of the business establishment at the Clinton Street R.R. crossing. Note the names Morgan and Linson on the building. At the time this picture was taken they were advertising: Feed, Coal, Wood, Grain, Beans, Cement and Barrels.

For many years Mr. Morgan was an active member of the Albion First Baptist Church, serving as a deacon over an extended time. His untimely death was keenly felt and lamented by his church. He was regarded as a man of excellent character throughout the community by all who knew or dealt with him. His death was caused by heart and kidney ailments. He left his wife Emma and a brother, William P. Morgan. Mr. and Mrs. Morgan had just the one daughter who predeceased them in 1892 at the age of 14.

As was often the custom years ago, when a prominent citizen died, all the stores and businesses in town would close out of respect during the funeral hour. Such was the case for B. Frank Morgan, who was laid to rest at Mt. Albion.

Blessed are they which do hunger
and thirst after righteousness:
for they shall be filled.

—Matthew 5:6