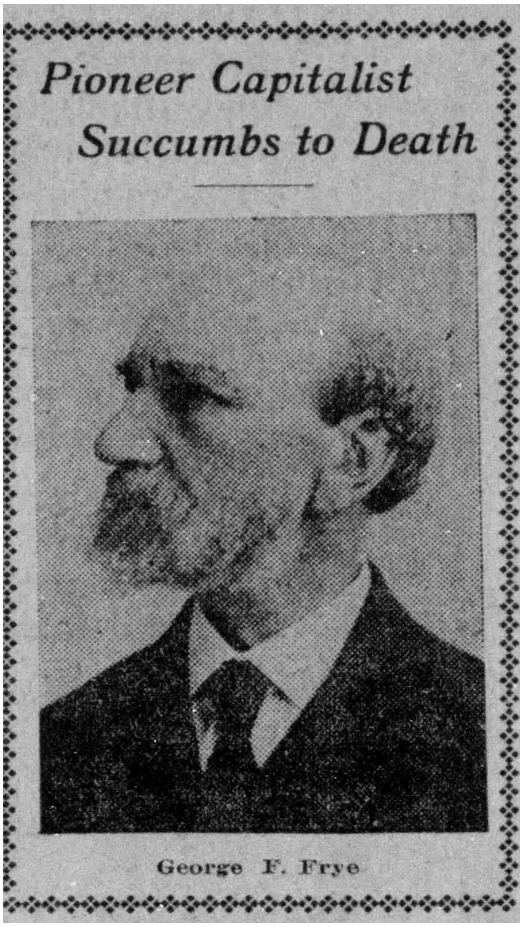
George Frederick Frye

Pioneer of 1852

compiled by Stephenie Flora
oregonpioneers.com

George Frederick Frye
b. 15 Jun 1833 Hanover, Germany
d. 02 May 1912 Seattle, King County, Washington
buried Lake View Cemetery, Seattle, King County, Washington
s/o Otto Friedrich Christian Frye and Sophia Maria Pranga

m. 24 Oct 1860 Seattle, King County, Washington
Louisa Catherine Denny
b. 20 Oct 1844 Knox County, Illinois
d. 22 Mar 1924 Seattle, King County, Washington
buried Lake View Cemetery, Seattle, King County, Washington
d/o Arthur Armstrong Denny and Mary Ann Boren



GEORGE F. FRYE, EARLY PIONEER OF CITY, IS DEAD

From the Early Fifties He Was in the Forefront of All Enterprises.

AT 77 HE BUILDS HOTEL

In Business With A. A. Denny and H. L. Yesler, Served in Indian War; Built First Theater and Organized City's First Brass Band.

George Frederick Frye, pioneer business man of Seattle, died last evening of pneumonia at the family residence, 1306 Summit avenue. Mr. Frye had been ill only a few days.

Mr. Frye was born at Drackenbury, Germany, January 15, 1833, in an old stone mansion built in 1649. His father, Otto Frye, served as burgomaster of his native town for twenty-four years. Mr. Frye was the only surviving member of a family of ten children.

Came to America When a Boy.

He came to America at the age of 16 and after living three years with a sister in Missouri he joined a party bound for Portland, Or. The trip across the plains was made with ox teams. He spent one winter in Portland and then, with Hillory Butler, for whom the Hotel Butler was named, in 1853 came to Seattle, then a small settlement on the Sound.

On October 25, 1860, he married Miss Louisa C. Denny, a daughter of Arthur A. Denny, the father of Seattle. For a while they lived in a cabin on the site of the Stevens hotel. Afterwards Mr. Frye built a home where the Hotel Barker now stands on Pike street and lived there for forty years.

Early Leader in Seattle.

In a quiet, unobtrusive way Mr. Frye was one of the leaders of the early Seattle business men. He established the first meat market. With A. A. Denny and H. L. Yesler he built the first saw mill and the first grist mill.

He built and managed the Frye opera house, which was on the site now occupied by the Stevens hotel. This was the first theater deserving of the name in Seattle.

Mr. Frye was a member of the first company of volunteers which saw active service during the Indian war of 1855. He was captain of the J. B. Libby, one of the early Sound steamers. He started the first brass band in Seattle. He acted as the first Santa Claus.

Builds the Frye Hotel.

The latest, and perhaps the greatest, achievement of Mr. Frye was the building of the Hotel Frye. At the age of 77 years, Mr. Frye personally supervised the construction of this eleven-story building.

Mr. Frye was a charter member of the Pioneer Association and was a trustee of that organization. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Louisa C. Frye, and four daughters, Mrs. George H. Fortson, Mrs. Daniel W. Bass, Mrs. P. H. Watt and Mrs. Virgil N. Bogue. Two sons, James Marion Frye died in 1905 and Arthur Frye in 1892.

Funeral services will be held at the family residence, Summit avenue, tomorrow afternoon at 2:30 o'clock. Other details have not yet been arranged.

[Seattle Post Intelligencer, Seattle, Washington, Friday, May 3, 1912, p. 1]

MRS. FRYE GETS $750,000 ESTATE

Seattle Pioneer Willed $5 to Each of His Four Daughters.

The will of George F. Frye, Seattle pioneer, admitted yesterday to probate, devises a property estimated to be worth approximately $750,000 to the surviving wife of the testator, Mrs. Louisa C. Frye. The husband died May 2, 78 years old. The will was executed November 24, 1897.

Among the properties owned by the estate are the Frye hotel, the Barker hotel and the Stevens hotel.

Of the five children, James Marion Frye died since the will was executed. The daughters, Mary Louisa Frye Fortson, Sarah S. Frye, Roberta G. Frye and Lizzie Helen Frye are each given $5.

Mrs. Louisa C. Frye was named as executrix without bond.

[Seattle Post Intelligencer, Seattle, Washington, Thursday, May 9, 1912, p. 12]

Children of George Frye and Louisa Denny:

1. James Marion Frye
b. 22 Aug 1861 Seattle, King County, Washington
d. 14 Feb 1905 Seattle, King County, Washington
buried Lake View Cemetery, Seattle, King County, Washington
m. Florence Loretta Ripley 1887

2. Mary Louisa Minnie Frye
b. 06 Feb 1864 Seattle, King County, Washington
d. 18 Nov 1937 Woodway Park, Snohomish County, Washington
buried Lake View Cemetery, Seattle, King County, Washington
m. George Haley Fortson
m. Milton Wycliffe Kirk

3. Sarah Sophia Frye
b. 27 Jan 1867 Seattle, King County, Washington
d. 28 Jul 1947 Seattle, King County, Washington
buried Lake View Cemetery, Seattle, King County, Washington
m. Daniel Waldo Bass

4. George Arthur Frye
b. 29 Sep 1869 Seattle, King County, Washington
d. 06 Jun 1893 Seattle, King County, Washington
buried Lake View Cemetery, Seattle, King County, Washington

5. Roberta Gertrude Frye
b. 23 Jun 1875 Seattle, King County, Washington
d. 23 Sep 1963 Seattle, King County, Washington
buried Lake View Cemetery, Seattle, King County, Washington
m. Paul Harris Watt

6. Elizabeth Helen Frye
b. 06 Nov 1878 Seattle, King County, Washington
d. 23 Mar 1961 Seattle, King County, Washington
buried Lake View Cemetery, Seattle, King County, Washington
m. Virgil Newton Bogue 1907