**His wife, Martha, went along with him to help.**

**Toward the end of the epidemic, they both came**

**down with the yellow fever and died. His death**

**was on March 13, 1879; her death was a few days**

**later on March 22. They were remembered by the Paris community with reverence and great respect.**

**This couple left children who were taken in by other Routon families. Mary Catherine Haymes**

**Routon took Grace to raise. Grace Routon became a school teacher who married Ollie Watkins. Unable to have children of their own, they visited a Nashville orphanage and met a boy and girl who were brother and sister. They took the little girl to**

**adopt but five miles outside Nashville, Ollie and Grace turned the buggy around and returned to the orphanage to take in the little boy, too.**

**Grace Routon Watkins and husband, Ollie Watkins, are buried in Spring Hill Cemetery.**

**DR. PHILIP QUINCY ROUTON**

**BORN 1832 – DIED 1879**

**SARAH WIMBISH ROUTON**

**BORN 1839 – DIED 1879**

**“Blessed are the merciful for they shall**

**obtain mercy”**

**Matthew – Chapter 5 – Verse 7**

**July 2, 2010**

**Spring Hill Cemetery**

**Paris, Tennessee**

**Dedication Remarks by Fred Booth**

**of Alexandria, Virginia (Routon and**

**Wimbish Descendent)**

**Prayer of Remembrance by**

**John B. Routon of Milan,**

**Tennessee (Routon and Wimbish**

**Descendent)**

**The Great Yellow Fever Epidemic of 1878 struck**

**New Orleans and moved up the Mississippi to**

**Memphis causing 5,000 confirmed deaths there and gradually moved up the Mississippi River Valley to Paris, Tennessee. Other western Tennessee cities hard hit were Milan, Collierville, Brownsville, Martin, and LaGrange.**

**Dr. Philip Quincy Routon with his wife, Sarah**

**Wimbish Routon, acting as his nurse, treated**

**the Yellow Fever victims in Paris and died within**

**days of each other in March, 1879.**

**Because of the economic struggles faced by so many in the post-reconstructon South, the family could not afford a stone marker in 1897 for their graves.**

**This couple’s graves lay unmarked for over 130 years from the time of their death.**

**Routon family members purchased the memorial stone in September, 2009, to commemorate these**

**dedicated caregivers.**

**The stone marker reads:**

**ROUTON**

**Dr. Philip Quincy Sarah Wimbish**

**1832-1879 1839 -1879**

**Died fighting the Yellow Fever**

**“Blessed are the Merciful”**

**This dedication ceremony was scheduled the day before the third Routon Family Reunion held in**

**Paris. This couple represents one of three Routon-**

**Wimbish marriages. The other two are the marriage of John Henry Routon and Martha Hunt**

**Wimbish (sister of Sarah Wimbish Routon) who are also buried in Spring Hill Cemetery and the marriage of Joseph Senter Routon and Minnie Greer Wimbish, both buried in Bevil Cemetery.**

**Dr. Philip Routon was born in 1832 in Henry County, Tennessee, the son of Philip and Mary**

**Fuqua Routon. Philip was a twin of John Henry**

**Routon. His older brother, Aaron Routon,**

**was a physician practicing in Camden, Tennessee.**

**During the Yellow Fever Epidemic, Dr. Philip**

**Routon went day and night to attend the sick.**