

Oct 14, 1969

Miss Claudine Coulter  
Washington Co. Historical Museum  
Nashville, Illinois 67263

Dear Miss Coulter:

I am not quite sure how to write this, but I have some information on George Cherry which I believe should be brought to your attention.

I am not ready, as yet, to give a complete history on this family as it is not complete, but would be glad to contribute one, when it is finished, if you would like.

I am enclosing sheets which prove that the George Cherry buried in the Oakdale cemetery was not in the Revolutionary War. I have this family traced back to where they came to America and there is no evidence of military service by him at any time. There was a George Cherry in South Carolina who was connected with the R.W. but it was not this one.

I have included the census from 1840, 1850, and 1860 for Perry County, where he made his home. As you can see these all support the fact he was born ca 1800. I also, include a copy of his will, complete with misspellings. I have the photocopy of the original, which is in the Perry County Courthouse. There is also a marriage certificate for him and Mrs Isabella (Hend) McClary (widow of Hugh M. McClary). They were married 10 May 1860. His first wife died ca 1849.

All this, I believe, proves that even the dates on the tombstone are all wrong.

There are also other records in Perry Co. which are in the 1860's.

Someone may have gotten the information for his death

from "The Warringtons Combined History of Warrington, Macclesfield, and Cheshire Counties 1682-1883" and there is a discrepancy there, too. Page 85 says he died March, 1857 and Page 429 says March, 1867.

Further I have received a letter from a great-grandson in California and have just yesterday talked to another great-grandson (age 86) and they both say the same thing, Our George Cherry, buried at "Country" Cemetery in Oakdale was born in Ireland ca 1800. He married Margaret Kirkpatrick ca 1818 in Ireland. They came over in the Spring of 1819 and the first child Sarah (later Neill) was born on board ship. Therefore, her birthplace is also given as Ireland.

I hope this letter is clear and understandable. I did believe, however, this matter should be straightened out, as other people may come to gaze on to the Cemetery in search of information and find the wrong facts. I also intend to notify the Spauld Library of my findings, as a lot of people go there for facts, too.

I hope this will cause no trouble, but merely set the facts straight.

I have not yet received conclusive proof from Ireland, but am sure in time I shall.

Sincerely,

Mrs Kathryn Zacher

I would like to say, I read the history of  
Oakdale Township and enjoyed it very much. I have  
only two complaints (small ones).

On pages 42 and 48 my great grandmother's maiden name  
is spelled Zwengel and Schwengel, it is indeed ZWENGEL.

I am having this family searched now in Germany and  
have hopes of getting it back to close to 1600. I now have  
some slight information to the late 1700's.

"I, George Cherry, in the County of Perry and State of Illinois, do hereby make and Declare this my Last will and Testament in manner and form following to wit: First, it is my will that my funeral Expenses and all my just debts be fully paid.

Second, after the payment of such funeral Expenses and debts, I give, devise, and bequeath, unto my Daughter Sarah Cherry, otherwise Dunlop, the Sum of Five Dollars to her and her heirs and assigns forever.

Third, I give, devise, and bequeath unto the three heirs of my Deceased Daughter Rebeca Jeane, who was intermarried with David Willson, the sum of five Dollars (\$5.00) cash each, making in all fifteen Dollars and their heirs and assigns forever.

Third, I give and Devise unto my Daughter Mary McClurkin, formerly Cherry the sum of four Hundred Dollars to her and her heirs and assigns forever. Also my horse and waggen.

Fourth, I give and devise and bequeath unto my Daughter Martha Ann, Adams, wife of Samuel H. Adams the sum of Three Hundred Dellears to her and her heirs and assigns forever. Also, a certain Tract of Land No. as follows; The North West part forty Acres of the South West quarter of Section No. 32 Township Three South of Range four West laying and being in Washington County and State of Illinois to her and her heirs and assigns forever.

Fifth, I give and devise and bequeath unt my Daughter Ellen McMillan, Wife of James W. McMillan the Sum of Five Dollars to her and her heirs and assigns forever.

Sixth, I give and devise and bequeath unto my Son, James A. Cherry, all the Ballance, Resi--, and Remainder of my property bethe Real and personal to him and to his heirs and assigns forever.

Ninth, all the Just Debts and Leggiteas all heir must be paid up.

And lastly, Thereby Constitute and apoint Samuel H. Adams and James A. Cherry of Perry County, Executors of this my last will and Testament, Revoking and

page 2 - Will of Geo. Cherry

annulling all former Wills made by me and Ratting and Confirming this and no other to be my Last Will and Testament, in Wittness, Whereof, I the said George Cherry have hereunto set my hand and Seal this 25th day of February 1867 in the year of our Lord one thousand Eight Hundred and Sixety Seven.

George Cherry  
signature

Seal

Signed Sealed and published and Declared by the said George Cherry as and for his last Will and Testament in presence of us who in his presence and in the presence of Each other and at his request have Subscribed our names as Witnesses thereto

David Brown ----- (can't read)  
signed

Seal

George J. W. Smith

Seal

#### PROOF OF WILL

State of Illinois

ss

Perry County

In the County Court of said county, In Probate April Term A.D. 1867 Personally appeared in open court - David Brown and George J. W. Smith Subscribing witnesses to the annexed instrument.

1840 CENSUS - Perry County, Illinois

Cherry, George age 40-50 yrs.  
 , Margaret " "  
 , 1 male " 5-10 yrs.  
 , 1 male " 15-20 yrs.  
 , 2 female " 0-5 yrs  
 , 2 female " 5-10 yrs.  
 , 3 female " 10-15 yrs.

1850 CENSUS - District #7 - Perry County, Illinois - Sept. 11th, 1850

Cherry, George	50 yrs.	Born in Ireland
, Maryt.	20 yrs.	Illinois (later Mrs. Wm. McLurken)
, James	15 yrs.	Illinois
, Martha A.	13 yrs.	Illinois (Mrs. Samuel Hugh Adams)
, Elanor	11 yrs. (Ellen)	Illinois (Mrs. James McMillan)

Neil, Matthew	36 yrs.	Born in Ireland
, Sarah (Cherry)	30 yrs.	Ireland
, <del>William</del> Eliza J.	10 yrs.	Illinois
, James R.	9 yrs.	Illinois
, Robert A.S.	7 yrs.	Illinois
, John C.	5 yrs.	Illinois
, Margaret A.	3 yrs.	Illinois
, Samuel R.	4 months	Illinois
, George C.	4 months	Illinois

1860 CENSUS - Dist. #7 - Perry County, Illinois - Sept. 10, 1860

Cherry, George	61 yrs.	Born in Ireland
, Isabella	47 yrs. (2nd wife)	Ireland
, children		
Dunlap, Jackson (2nd marriage)	43 yrs.	Born in Ireland
, Sarah (Cherry) (Neill)	40 yrs.	Ireland
, children		