



# Keeney Update

VOLUME XI, Number 2

Rescue Press, Jr.  
P. O. Box 5519,  
Charleston, WV 25361-5519

MAY 1994

## KEENEY BROTHERS IN THE MISSOURI TERRITORY AFTER 1810 Settlers in Saline, Ray and Holt Counties

The JOHN JONATHAN KEENEY family, origination in Greenbrier Co., VA (now WV) and expanding into eastern Tennessee, found itself moving westward as the western states were opened up to settlement about the time of the War of 1812.

The first stop seemed to be Fayette Co., IN, where some branched out into neighboring Hendricks and Montgomery counties, but some of the Keeney brothers (sons of John Jonathan) sought their fortune along the Missouri River in the NW part of what became the state of Missouri. Settlements took place in Saline Co., but more permanent homes were established in Ray and Holt counties.

The oldest son, JOHN, JR. (1772-1845) was listed on the 1821 Ray Co. tax list and in the 1830 and 1840 censuses. He died in Holt Co., as did some of his older sons. Following his death, his wife Mary and the families of most of his surviving children joined to caravans headed West along the Oregon Trail. This family has been documented in detail in WAGON RUTS WEST, a 180-page 1984 publication by Ralph R. Keeney (b.1923), a descendant who lives in and writes from The Dalles, OR.

NANCY ANNA KEENEY, the only daughter listed in the large JOHN JONATHAN family, was born about 1782 in TN and became the wife of John M. Oldham on 25 December 1807 in Missouri. She died in Hayes County, MO in 1835.

JONATHAN ANTHONY KEENEY (1778-1850), whose family was highlighted in the January 1994 KEENEY UPDATE, apparently made at least one venture to Missouri, but he and his family remained in the Hendricks Co. area of Indiana, except for those who later migrated to Polk Co., Iowa. Jonathan himself died in Avon, IA in 1850, soon after his arrival there. His eldest son, JOHN HIRSH KEENEY, spent six years in Missouri before returning to the Keeney Family 320 acre farm in Hendricks Co., IN.

JOSEPH DAVID KEENEY, brother of John, Jonathan, Mary and others, died intestate at Richmond in Ray Co., MO in 1817 and probate records show that his estate was administered by brothers John and James. Joseph had married Susan Trooley in Ray Co. on the 17th of June, 1816.

THOMAS KEENEY, who received 80 acres from Gabriel Frewitt in Saline Co., MO on 26 September 1822, and his wife Nancy applied for dismissal from their Indiana church on 1 October 1814 and were on the very first wagon to appear in Saline Co. in 1816. He had sold his Indiana land to his father and brother. He and a Rev. Peyton were reportedly the first preachers to settle in Saline County.

Another brother, JAMES KEENEY, has a place in Lafayette County, MO history (p.213) as follows:

From Lafayette County, MO marriage record:

The first marriage in the county is a curiosity, and we copy it verbatim at Apellatin, etc.

Lillard County no ye to home it may concern that this 8th day of February 1821 was joined together in the holy state of matrimony James Keeney and Anney Bonney by me.

Jonathan Keeney, S. M. (Gospel Min.)

This James Keeney, according to daughter Elizabeth Pierce, built a dam in Tennessee across the Chickamauga River, used by troops during the Civil War. He was born about 1790 in Tennessee and was drowned in 1841, fording a river near Paducah, KY. Ten children were born to James and Annie in their short marriage. Annie remained a widow until her death 17 July 1899.

The Iowa Genealogical Society and Mormon sources list MICHAEL KEENEY, who married Nancy Ann Milley, as another brother in this family, but other sources list him as a son of Thomas, a brother of the first John Jonathan. This family, which settled in Cass Co., MO was listed in detail in a previous issue of KEENEY UPDATE.

New Garden is located near the western border of Ray Co., about 4 miles east and a little north of Excelsior Springs. In 1842 the New Garden Primitive Baptist Church was organized with fifteen members, all with letters from Big Pigeon Baptist Church in Cooke Co., TN. No doubt they were all

Continued on next page



FREDERICK M. & JOSEPHINE OSINCUP KEENEY are pictured here with their five children (listed on page 5, May, 1993 KEENEY UPDATE). Watson S. Keeney (1874-1916) is upper left; Gilbert Watson Keeney (1877-1941) is upper right; Theodore W. Keeney (1883-1943) is lower left; Edith L. Keeney is lower center (1882-1918); and Leona Cannon Keeney (1895-1950) is lower right. Frederick M. Keeney (1847-1921) was a son of John Nelson and Rebecca K. Tupper Keeney. He settled in Shelby Co., Iowa after leaving Pennsylvania.

# IOWA

continued

Keeneys or Keeney family members. There was a legend for many years that the church was known as the Church of the Lost Child. This region had been explored by Lewis & Clark on their exploration to the West and Ray County was formed from Howard Co. in 1821. Its principal stream is called Crooked River, with several creeks as tributaries. KEENEY CREEK is one of these.

Prior to their coming to Missouri the Keeneys had been members of the New Bethel Baptist Church in Fayette Co., IN and had organized the Big Bottom Baptist Church in Saline Co., MO. In these churches Thomas Keeney made efforts to be ordained; records show that he was given the "privilege of exhorting" and the opportunity to "exercise his gift". In Tennessee and Indiana his wife, Nancy, was also mentioned as a member of the church.

Missouri Valley KEENEYS not previously listed by family in KEENEY UPDATE:

2. THOMAS KEENEY, born c.1780 Cooke Co., TN; died c.1846 in Holt Co., MO; probate filed 18 April 1846 in Probate Court, Holt Co., by Lavina Keeney; listed as minister and ferryman

3. (1) Nancy Fugate, believed to be a daughter of John & Eleanor Morgan Fugate, res. in Cooke Co. in the early 1800s (born 1780s, died 1832); mother of first six children of Thomas Keeney

4. (2) Lavina (Lavina, Lovina) Ainsworth, mother of two daughters born much later than the others; Lavina n. Henry Fellows on 12 Dec 1848 after the death of Thomas; the 1850 Holt Co. census shows Henry, Lavina and Amanda Keeney as a household

1. MARTHA KEENEY (Patsy), b.11 Jan 1806 in TN; d.23 Sept 1879 in Lane Co.,OR; m. Edward Mulholland 12 Oct 1827 in Ray Co., MO

2. ELIZABETH MULHOLLAND, b.4 Nov 1825, drowned 1 Feb 1843 while crossing Missouri River; married Andrew Jackson Keeney, son of John, Jr., on 18 Nov 1841 in Henry Co., MO; no children

3. THOMAS MULHOLLAND, b.27 Oct 1827 in MO; died 18 Aug 1901 in Inyar, Kara residence; m. Mary Davison, from TN, on 24 Aug 1848 in Holt Co.

4. EDWARD MULHOLLAND, b.6 Nov 1829 in MO; married Margaret M. 21 Sept 1854 Lane Co.,OR; m. (2) Martha Dick 29 May 1865

5. NANCY MULHOLLAND, b. 4 Apr 1833 in MO; died 6 Mar 1865; m. Daniel Locke

6. JOHN MULHOLLAND, b. 23 Jan 1836 in MO; died 13 Sept 1866

7. MARTHA MULHOLLAND, b. 23 May 1838 in MO; died July 1866; m. William L. Spry 12 Oct 1854

8. WILLIAM HENRY MULHOLLAND, b. 1 Aug 1840 in MO

9. MARY M. MULHOLLAND, b. 27 Oct 1841 in MO

10. RUSSELL MORGAN MULHOLLAND, b.18 Sept 1844 in MO; d.18 Dec 1890; m. Martha J. Blau in OR

11. CATHERINE MULHOLLAND, b.16 Oct 1848 in MO; m. James P. Milliron 2 Jan 1865

12. NANCY KEENEY, b. 1809 in TN, d.1862 in OR; was the second wife of JAMES KEENEY (b.30 Aug 1816 in TN, d.27 Apr 1885 in Linn Co.,OR, son of John Keeney, Jr. and a first cousin of Nancy) on 1 March 1846 in Ray Co.,MO; Catherine Stewart, first wife of James, died in childbirth in 1849 and was mother of Mary S. (m.George Overton) and Sarah; his third wife, Miranda Pearl, was the mother of Mordcai Keeney (b.23 Nov 1878) Children of Nancy & James:

1. MIRANDA KEENEY, b.1844; m. Jacob W. Wigle (b. 1842 in IL) on 20 Dec 1865

2. MARY C. WIGLE, b.1867

3. SARAH C. WIGLE, b.1869



GRANDFATHER JACOB W. WIGLE, husband of Miranda Keeney, is seated by Sarah (Susie) Wigle Bishop (with daughter Nyrtle on her lap. Standing are sons Jake D. and Abraham Wigle. The picture was taken in 1891.

5. JAMES E. WIGLE, b.1874
6. MARTHA WIGLE, b.1879
7. IRENA KEENEY, b.1840 - 21 in 1870 census
8. MARTHA ELIZABETH KEENEY, b.1852, d.1 Sep 1932 at Yakima, WA; m. George Warren on 14 Jan 1888
9. CATHERINE KEENEY, b.1814 m. Russell M. Morgan 24 Sept 1833 in Lafayette Co.
10. MARY (Polly) KEENEY, b.18 April 1814, d.11 June 1875 in Lane Co., OR; m. Tolbert Kelley (b.27 June 1808 in Wayne Co.,KY) on 28 Dec 1842 in Henry Co., MO; her father was upset because Kelley was a Methodist, so the Kelleys moved to Kentucky in 1849; Mary stayed there until her husband's death and in 1859 joined a wagon caravan to Oregon, experiencing a storm in which she and two children were injured and having a visitation by Indians
11. ELIAS KELLEY, b.1844 in MO - 15 in 1859
12. NANCY KELLEY, b.1846
13. REBECCA JANE KELLEY, b.1848
14. THOMAS KELLEY, b.1850 in KY
15. WALINDA ANN KELLEY, b.1852 in KY
16. GILMORE TOLBERT KELLEY, b.1855 in KY
17. ELIZABETH KEENEY, b. c.1815, m. (1) ISLEY KEENEY, a first cousin and son of John, Jr. (b.15 May 1811, d.6 Dec 1842) on 27 Jan 1852 by Rev. Beriah Brown; m. (2) John H. Duncan on 21 Apr 1859; he died in MO and she went to Oregon; m. (3) Philip Malkey (b.1820) in Douglas Co., OR
18. MELISSA (WALINDA) KEENEY, b. c.1818 m. Benjamin Brown 24 Feb 1842 in Henry Co., MO Children of Thomas Keeney & Lavina Ainsworth:
19. LOUISA J. KEENEY, b.7 July 1842 in Howard Co.,MO, d.20 Nov 1910; Info. from cert-fied death certificate, State of Missouri; m. Francis Lucy (b.1822

## Continued

- in IA) on 17 Sept 1847 in Holt Co. m. (2) William Jefferson Elder (b.8 Aug 1829 in Pulaski Co., KY, d.9 Sept 1901 in Holt Co.,MO) on 14 Sept 1865
4. CENNY VIGLA ELDER, b. Oct 1866
4. WILLIAM THOMAS ELDER, b.21 Mar 1869, d.9 Mar 1948 m. Birdie May Roberts
4. JESSIE PERRY ELDER, b. May 1871
4. ALLEN MONROD ELDER, b.29 Aug 1876, d.26 Oct 1960 m. Beulah Payne
4. MARTHA A. ELDER, b. July 1873
4. ELMER ELDER, b. Aug 1878, d. 1958
4. CHARLES ARTHUR ELDER, b.23 May 1891, d.17 May 1960 in Los Catos, CA; m. Ida Lunsford on 21 Nov 1900
4. ANNIE ELDER MARTIN, b. Jan 1884
3. ANANDA KEENEY, b.1846; in 1850 census was living with her mother and step-father, W. H. Fellows; in 1880 was living with Lydia (age 72) and John (age 31) Gaugy in Holt Co., MO census m. Joseph Gaudée on 16 June 1864
2. JAMES KEENEY, b. c.1780 in Tennessee, d.1841 fording the river at Paducah, KY
- w. Ruth Ann (Annie) Ranney (b.15 Jan 1803, d.17 July 1899) on 8 February 1821 in Fayette Co., MO by Rev. Jonathan Keeney; James & Annie may have returned to TN for a while, since some of the children were born in TN and James died on a return trip to MO; Annie was living next door to Mary, widow of John Keeney, Jr., in Holt Co. 1850 census
3. JONATHAN H. KEENEY, b.4 Feb 1824 in MO, d.17 Jan 1884 at Pilot Rock, Umatilla Co.,OR; m. Mary Adeline Lamb (b.28 Dec 1827 in KY, d.1885)
- In 1857 Jonathan and Mary, with 5 children, took an ox team and with others (including cousin) crossed the plains to Sonora, CA; another child was born on the way. In 1858 they traveled by boat to Portland, from where they went to Lane Co. and established a farm. In 1861 they moved east of the mountains to Umatilla Co., where Jonathan became a well-known wool grower. His three oldest sons started a ranch near Long Creek, OR in 1874
4. JOHN HENRY KEENEY, b.12-1847 in MO; age 52 in 1900 Union Co., OR census; wife: Martha E. (b.5-1852 in IL)
5. SARAH E. KEENEY, b.1877
5. HARRY J. KEENEY, b.3-1880
5. HATTIE KEENEY, b.2-1885
5. LEATHA KEENEY, b.1-1889
5. MARY KEENEY, b.10-1891
4. JOSEPH WATSON KEENEY, b.1849
4. MARSHALL SHERMAN KEENEY, b.1 Oct 1850 in Lawrence Co.,MO; age 49 in 1900 Grant Co.,OR census; m. Carrie Conger (d.11-1889) 1-25-1882
5. BERTHA A. KEENEY, b.9-1883
5. HUBERT C. KEENEY (d.12 March 1889)
4. MARTHA KEENEY, b.1851/2
4. JULIA KEENEY, b.1851/2
4. THOMAS BENJON KEENEY, b.10 Sept 1852 in Jasper Co., MO; m. Nancy E. Snoderly on 1 Dec 1892 (she died in 1899)
5. ELSIE PAY KEENEY, b.4-1882
5. DOBOTHY DOTT KEENEY, b.8-1883
5. JAMES CRITTENDEN KEENEY
4. CALISTA KEENEY HARDESTY, b.1855
4. SARAH C. KEENEY JONES, b.1857
4. CHARLES EDWARD KEENEY, b.1872; age 48 in 1920 Grant Co. census; lived with employer Sidney R. Ward; no wife or children listed; inherited major share in his father's will, probated 22 Jan 1884 in Umatilla Co., OR (page 78)
3. ELLEN F. KEENEY, b.1838; age 22 in 1850 MO census m. Andrew Kopp 20 Dec 1860 (Mormon record)

3. MARTHA KEENEY, b.1829; 21 in 1850 census
4. ELIZABETH J. KEENEY, b.1832
- m. Charles M. Pierce 3 July 1851 (Mormon record)
4. SARAH E. PIERCE, b.1852
4. NATHAN E. PIERCE, b.1854
4. JOSEPH J. PIERCE, b.1856
3. ROSANNA (Rhoda) KEENEY, b.1834; age 35 in 1870 MO Co. census, living with her mother
3. CATHERINE HANNAH KEENEY, b.1826
- m. Calvin Miller (b.1829 in OH)- Holt Co. 1870
3. JAMES RAMSEY KEENEY, b.18 July 1839 in Ray Co.,MO; d. 1 Aug 1913 at Madaworth, KS; m. Nancy Ann Rootstock (b.24 Oct 1840, d.17 Apr 1916 at Oregon, MO)
4. MAMMY ANN (Mannie) KEENEY, b.12 Dec 1862 in Oregon, MO, d.22 Sept 1933, m. James Ira Stephenson (b.6 Dec 1857, d.17 Jan 1929 at Willow Springs; on 12 Dec 1879
5. IRVAN G. STEPHENSON, b.17 Jan 1893 in Holt Co., d.12 Mar 1953; m. IGA Belle Green (b. 30 June 1887, d.7 Apr 1975) on 8 Apr 1906
6. EARL L. STEPHENSON, b.17 Nov 1920 at Oregon, Holt Co., MO; m. Genevieve Childress 9 Dec 1945; lives in Springfield, MO
3. GEORGE KEENEY, b.1840; age 20 in 1860 Holt Co. cen.
3. LEITHA KEENEY, b.1833; age 17 in 1850 census
- m. Nathan E. Pierce (b.1828 in MO) on 27 Dec 1849



FAMILY REUNION many years ago, at home of Mary Keeney-Overtin in Brunsville.

THANKS GOES TO THESE KEENEY RESEARCHERS AND OTHERS who have assisted with the research for this report: Helen M. Wilson, Sheridan, WY; Rose Saith, Loveland, CO; Elsie Bennett Browning, Lebanon, OR & Ward Cove, AK; Ralph R. Keeney, The Dalles, OR; Sylvia Richardson, Junction City, OR; Earl L. Stephenson, Springfield, MO; Census records: Tennessee 1820-1850, Oregon 1850-1920, Missouri 1830-1930; Birth and Marriage Records from Sallaw, Ray, Holt, Henry and CoFayette counties, MO and Linn, Lane, Umatilla and Grant counties, OR; and Jefferson Co., TN, Missouri Pioneers, Volume I; Mormon Library; Court Records, Jefferson Co., TN; records of Big Pigeon Baptist Church; Histories of Ray County and LaFayette County, Missouri.

## CALIFORNIA UPDATE

IRIS CECIL KEENEY PRIDDY (b.1912 in Govan, OK), daughter of Oscar Douglas Keeney, has moved from her home in Bakersfield, CA to a retirement home in Garden Grove. She has recently lost two family members by death: a sister, Ruth Elizabeth Barnes on 18 October 1988 and a brother, Oscar Douglas, Jr. of Springfield, OR on 11 October 1993.

There are only two lasting requests we can leave our children. One is roots; the other is wings.

The cheapest way to have your family tree traced is to run for public office.

From "The Sunny Side of Genealogy"  
Compiled by Pamela D. Beault

# FAMILY RECORD

## William Keeney

William "Bill" Keeney, 52, of Charleston died Dec. 11, 1991, at home after a long illness.

Surviving family members include James Keeney of Charleston, Brian Wayne and Robert Norris, both Charleston, and Nancy Elaine Jarrett of Charleston.

Service will be 11 a.m. Friday at Cunningham-Parker-Bohannon Funeral Home, 1001 N. Robert W. Burdette officiating. Burial will be in Legacy Memorial Park, Cross Lanes. Friends may call from 3 to 5 p.m. today at the funeral home.

## James Morton

James W. Morton, 67, of 117 E. Main St., Glenbeulah, died Tuesday, Feb. 21, 1991, following a lengthy illness.

He was born Sept. 8, 1921, in Waukesha, W. Va., a son of Frederick G. and Nona Keeney Morton. On Sept. 20, 1945, he married Polly Endrey.

Mr. Morton was a 1940 graduate of Clay County High School and served in the U.S. Air Force from 1942 to 1945. He resided in Glenbeulah where he was employed with Mayhew's Garage until 1957 when he purchased his own garage that he operated until 1978. He was a member of St. Praxedius Catholic Church, Glenbeulah, the Walter Gillis American Legion Post No. 484, Glenbeulah, where he served as past commander, and the Green-Green Lions Club.

Survivors include his wife, two daughters, Leonard and his wife Mary of Town of Plymouth, and Thomas and his wife Mylene of Peoria, Ariz.; a son, James, and his wife Helen; his husband John of Elkhart Lake; six grandchildren; stepmother, Evelyn Morton of Lazenore, W. Va.; three sisters, Gertrude Radtke and her husband Howard of Parkersburg, W. Va.; Emogene Lazenore, W. Va.; and Helen La Mesa and her husband Kenneth of Fond du Lac; three brothers, Clifford and his wife Mamie at Tallmadge, Ohio; Homer and his wife Phyllis of Lazenore, W. Va.; and Charles of Montgomery, W. Va. His parents and one sister preceded him in death.

Funeral services will be held Saturday at 11 a.m. at St. Praxedius Catholic Church, Glenbeulah. The Rev. James Sera will officiate. Entombment will follow in Garden of Peace Mausoleum, Sheboygan. Friends may call Friday after 4 p.m. to 10 p.m., Saturday at Willis Funeral Home, Plymouth. A graveside service will be held Friday at 10 a.m. at the Garden Plot. Will conduct military services.

## Robert L. Keeney Sr.

OAK HILL — Robert L. Keeney Sr., 68, of Oak Hill, died Jan. 4, 1991, at Raleigh General Hospital, Beckley, after a long illness. A native of Newell, a retired track driver, and a Harry Keeney of the first World War. He was a member of the Church of God.

Surviving wife, Geraldine Keeney; son, Robert Lee Jr. of Wayne, Sunny Joy of Fayetteville, James Douglas of Frederick, Ohio; Mona Hill Ogilvie, Bessie, a retired nurse, sister, Nancy Davis of Liberty, W. Va.; Walter, John, Harvey, Dave and Kimberly, 12 grandchildren. Service will be 2 p.m. Friday at Gateway Church of God, 210 E. Riverside. Morning prayers following burial will be in Rose Memorial Park, Fayetteville. Friends may call from 7 to 9 p.m. today at DePue-Parsons Funeral Home, Fayetteville.

## Mrs. LeMieux

Mrs. Helen V. LeMieux, 61, of 479 Marshall ave., died Tuesday, April 16, 1991, at her home.

She was born Jan. 28, 1930, in Lazenore, W. Va., a daughter of Fred and Nona Keeney Morton. On May 28, 1949, she married Kenneth LeMieux in Fond du Lac.

Mrs. LeMieux was employed by Fond du Lac County from 1978 to 1984, and Murray's Disposal from 1985 to 1989. She was a member of Community Church.

Survivors include seven daughters, Monica Newton and her husband Dale, Debbie Kelly and her husband Robert, Corinne Schmidt and her husband David, Rebecca Fenner and her husband Thomas, and Lauren Hernandez and her husband Randy, all of Fond du Lac; Jennifer Sturtz and her husband Robert of Van Dyne, and Josh Gleason and her husband Paul of Rosendale; one son, Bill and his wife Dawn of Oakland; 12 grandchildren; two sisters, Jerry Radtke and her husband Howard of Parkersburg, W. Va., and Jean Stone and her husband Wilson of Lazenore, W. Va.; and three brothers, Mitchell Morton and his wife Elaine of Tallmadge, Ohio, Homer Morton and his wife Phyllis of Lazenore, W. Va., and Charles Morton of Kimberly, W. Va.

She was preceded in death by her husband in 1989, one sister, one brother, her parents and her stepmother.

Funeral services will be held Friday at 4 p.m. at Community Church. The Rev. William Crawford will officiate. Entombment will be at Shrine of Rest Mausoleum.

There will be no visitation. A memorial in her name has been established.

Local funeral home is handling arrangements.

SCRUGGS, France — Service will be 1 p.m. Monday at East Niro Baptist Church, 1001 S. Williams and the Rev. Dan L. Williams officiating. Burial will be in Montgomery Memorial Park, Lenoire, Friends may call from 3 to 4 p.m. and 7 to 9 p.m. today at Pifer, Frank Funeral Home, Belle of Snows, Lenoire.



David Williams, 60, 5111 First St., Niro, W. Va. 26141. Mrs. Suggs, 73, of Niro died March 21, 1991, at home after a long illness.

## Obituaries

### William T. Wilson

SHERIDAN, Wyo. — William T. Wilson, 83, died after a long illness on Thursday, Dec. 16, 1981, at Memorial Hospital of Sheridan County.

He was born on Aug. 8, 1918, in Newell, S.D., the son of William C. and Hannah C. (Milberg) Wilson. He was educated at South Dakota State University in Brookings, S.D.

Bill married Mary Hiley Miller on Nov. 21, 1942, in Scruggs, S.D. Bill spent most of his career in the construction business with Peter Kiewit Sons Inc. in Rapid City, S.D. In 1980, Bill was transferred to Sheridan, Wyo., where he retired as a vice-president of the Kiewit Co.

Bill was a member of St. Peter's Episcopal Church and the B.P.O.E. Elks Lodge No. 320 of Sheridan, the Kall Struss in Grandson, S.D., and the Masonic Lodge No. 25 in Rapid City, S.D.

Bill is survived by his wife, Helen; a daughter, Carol Orr and her husband, Charles of Big Horn, Wyo.; a son, Bill Wilson and his wife, Joan of Billings; and a son, Tom Wilson and his wife, Nadine of Cheyenne, Wyo.; a brother, Leonard Wilson of Newell, S.D.; a sister, Evelyn Aschewerth of Spearfish, S.D.; eight grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his brother, Harold; and his sister, Lilian.

Funeral services will be 3 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 18, at St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Sheridan with Father David Daprey and Rev. Canon Raymond Clark officiating. Interment will follow later in the day at the Pineapple Cemetery, Belle Fourche, S.D., with Chaplain Francis Althome in charge of arrangements.

Memorials in memory of Bill may be designated for the charity of donor's choice, in care of Delphine Toner, First Interstate Bank, Sheridan, Wyo. 82801.

## DAVID J. KEENEY SERVES AS DELEGATE FROM JACKSON TO WEST VIRGINIA HOUSE OF DELEGATES

The JOURNAL of the House of Delegates of the Commonwealth of Virginia extra session held in the City of Wheeling on 7 Thursday, December 4th, 1962, includes the following:

"The Committee on Privilege and Election which was referred to them of D. J. Keeney, 1962, the member elect from the County of Jackson and a part of Roane County; the certificate of said D. J. Keeney as an individual form of 14W, and he is now in his seat and is duly qualified, and has traveled 136 miles from the place of his residence to the city of Wheeling. Charles Rooton, Chairman December 12, 1962

[David J. Keeney was a son of John B. and Rachel Burdette Keeney and lived at Ravenswood, Wv; as a result of the Wheeling meeting, West Virginia became a state on June 20, 1863.]



## Keeney

Hewitt and Alberta Keeney of Lee-wood celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary Feb. 7, 1994, with a reception given by their children at Maverick Gymnastics Club. He is a retired coal miner. She is the former Alberta Burke. Their children are Darrell Keeney of Burton, Ohio, and Carol Jones of Lee-wood. They have three grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

These KEENEY III have donated enough to cover expenses from January 1994 and this issue as well: \$50 Mary Ann Keeney, Raleigh, NC; \$25 Ida Keeney Melham, Summit, NJ; Pat B. Austin, Laceyville, PA; Helen M. Wilson, Sheridan, WY; Joyce Hoffman, Sugar Grove, WV; Frederick Keeney, Hickox, TN

Other: Bob & Jane Massey, Bloomington, CA; Arita Keeney, Sandy, UT; Amelia Falser, Junnar, WV; Joseph W. Foulke, Wilton, CT; Elaine R. Bristol, Newman, CA; Doris Keeney Hall, Belle, WV; Kurla Keeney Yates, Santa Fe, NM; Sharon N. Galitz, Peoplers, SC; David R. Russe, Kent, PA; Erna C. Johnson, Staunton, VA; Glinda Keeney Stephens, Newington, CT

WILLIAM KEENEY was a son of Morris Clark Keeney (1917-1972) and the family line extended back to Noyes M. (1869-1940), Moses M. (b. 1837) & DAVID (b. 1794) & CATHARINE JARRETT KEENEY; JAMES MORTON & HELEN V. LEMIEUX were children of Mona Keeney & Frederick Morton, grand-children of Harrison C. Keeney and great grandchildren of Moses Willis Keeney. WILLIAM T. WILSON was the husband of Helen M. Wilson, a descendant of Thomas & Nancy Foggate Keeney of Tennessee & Missouri (see p.1-2); ROBERT L. KEENEY, JR. is a descendant of James Keeney b. 1810 of Lawrence Co., OH and son of Benjamin F. Keeney; FRANCES HILL SCRUGGS was a granddaughter of John S. Williams, a son of daughter of Francis C. & Patsy Hill. NEWELL GAZELLE KEENEY's family line is Harry Lowell Keeney (father); Andrew Jackson Keeney (1867-1899); Robert W. Keeney (1833-1908) and Michael R. Elizabeth Gatewood Keeney (1894-1971).

## G.W. wrestler sets precedent

PITTSBURGH — Mark Samples did something no other wrestler from West Virginia has accomplished when he reached the finals in the 140-pound division at the National High School Wrestling Championships at Duquesne University.

Samples, the 140-pound state champion from George Washington High School, beat four state champions before losing in the championship match to Clint Musser of Jesuit High in Walsh,

Ohio, 11-3. Musser is a two-time defending Ohio state champion.

Samples pinned Mike Liberman of Arizona at 2:19 in his first match. He then defeated Seth Septer, the Iowa state champion by a major decision score of 16-5. Mike Garcia of Mount Carmel, Pa., High School was his next victim. Samples defeated the three-time state champion, 2-1, in overtime. Samples reached the final round after routing Moises Perez, the California state champion, 15-0.

Samples hasn't decided where he'll attend college.

LEFT: Mark Samples is the son of Amon & Rebecca Louise Keeney Samples, grandson of Albert M. (Bus) Keeney and great grandson of McDonald & Mamie Stanley Keeney; CRAIG KEENEY is the son of Kent Dwayne Keeney & Sherry Ann Payne Keeney and a great grandson of James T. Keeney, of Eskdale.

## Invitation

### KEENEY GENEALOGISTS

Are you a die-in-the-wool unrepentant obsessive KEENEY GENEALOGIST? What will you be doing the first week of August 1994?

So many have written KEENEY UPDATE in the past ten years expressing a desire to see KEENEY MOUNTAIN, the MICHAEL KEENEY CABIN and other Greenbrier Co., WV spots of Keeney history. Maybe several could travel to Lewisburg (or nearby) for a day or two and yours truly could arrange:

- a guided tour to the Keeney Cabin and nearby cemetery;
- a visit to OLD GREENBRIER CHURCH in Alderson, where their archives include records back to 1780;
- a meeting with Greenbrier Historical Society members (they meet on Thursdays);

-a get-together to compare notes and trade KEENEY stories.

If this "turns you on", let me know and I'll send you a map of the region, a list of nearby motels and state parks, and information about other attractions in the Greenbrier area.

Let me know of your interest by the end of May. By June 15 I'll have the above materials for you or will notify you that the interest is nil.

This invitation is open to anyone on the KEENEY UPDATE mailing list.

Roscoe Keeney, Jr.

### STORK ARRIVES IN SOUTH DAKOTA

SHAWN KEENEY HARMON, wt. 8 lbs., was born January 3, 1994; son of Heather Keeney Harmon & Tim, Mitchell, SD; grandson of John P. & Rebekah Voll Keeney first child.

## Igloo, iglop, iglug

The Charleston Gazette, Saturday, January 22, 1994



Craig Keeney (front), 14, and Jeremy Oda, 15, make creative use of their time away from school by building a 6-foot ig-

loo on Central Avenue in Belle. Sunshine and higher temperatures forecast for this weekend threaten its existence.



Laceville, PA Cemetery

FAMILY GROUP RECORDS  
DOCUMENTATIONSWITZERLAND COUNTY,  
INDIANA KEENEYS

HELP: If you can identify with any of the persons in this family line, please contact KEENEY UPDATE

US4840 William KEENEY-144  
HOPE Charlotte B. DAVIS-147

## US4840 - William KEENEY-144

BIRTH-SPouse-DEATH: Tombstone data gives death date and age (birthdate calculated from obituarial). Crete cemetery, corner of Exchange St. and Vincennes Ave., Crete, Will Co., IL. Also listed in reading of Crete Cemetery 1978: p. 6. South Superior St. 5 West. Co. Early Will Co. History states he moved to area in 1826 - (SERIAL Quarterly), from Ohio, appears in 1840 Will Co. IL Federal census. 1850 mortality schedule for IL says born in NY; probate papers give no clue to birthplace.

PHI file 1,210,794 shows a list of Free-men admitted to East Hartford in 1823 where a William Keene appears on the first Monday of April. To qualify as a Free-man you had to be 21, own land, or both.

## WIFE - Charlotte B. DAVIS-147

NOTES: Found in 167 to 168 June 1991 - Charlotte Davis, baptism date of 12 Nov. 1800, parents William Davis and Sally H. Born in Rutland, Worcester Co., Mass. Does this fit right info? Marriage info says she is from Wrentham, Tolland Co., CT.

In Betsey Davis who received \$500 from estate of William Keeney be her sister? Evidence below seems to point in this direction.

BIRTH-SPouse-DEATH: Tombstone data gives death date and age (birthdate calculated from obituarial). Crete cemetery, corner of Exchange St. and Vincennes Ave., Crete, Will Co., IL. Also listed in reading of Crete Cemetery 1978: p. 6.

WIFE/MARRIAGE: from KeeneY Update edited by Roscoe KeeneY, Jr. January 1991. Remarriage letter (Feb. 1991) says she is from Vernon, CT, and married by Isaac B. Bolter.

MARRIAGE: Found on PHI file # 2968, Barbour Collection, East Hartford, Hartford Co., CT Vital Records, Vol. 1, p. 94, by Rev. Isaac Deibel, pastor of North Church in East Hartford.

## CHILD 1 - Charlotte Elizabeth KEENEY-149

BIRTH-MARRIAGE: Will Co. IL records; 1850 IL census, Crete, Will Co. Collet, IL courthouse.

POSSIBLY DESERTED BY SECOND HUSBAND, WENDELL A. CASTLE. SHE REVERTED TO FIRST MARRIAGE NAME AND REMARRIED FOR THIRD TIME ON OCTOBER 1842 TO MERRILL MULLER, ALSO IN WILL CO. CANNOT FIND HIS LOCATION IN ANY ILLINOIS CENSUS, 1840, 1850.

PER CORRESPONDENCE WITH TERRY NORTH, DESCENDANT OF WENDELL A. CASTLE, HE DESERTED HIS FIRST WIFE, ELIZABETH, IN 1837, REVED TO MULLER. SHE DIVORCED HIM IN BRIDGEPORT (HARTFORD), CT, IN OCTOBER 1838.

## Other marriages:

On Sep 1859	Robert A CASTLE-145	1810: 149
On Oct 1842	Merrill MULLER-177	1819: 154

## CHILD 2 - George J. KEENEY-146

DOCUMENTATION: IL CENSUS 1850 STATES BIRTHPLACE AS OHIO; 1840 SAYS MASS. HE IS LIVING WITH HIS OTHER KEENEY MEN KNOWN TO BE CHILDREN OF WILLIAM AND CHARLES KEENEY, BUT HE IS NOT MENTIONED IN WILL OF WILLIAM KEENEY. IS HE A NEPHEW? MIDDLE INITIAL COULD ALSO BE AN "M" WHEN HE SIGNED A STATEMENT IN PROBATE OF JOHN L. HARRIS IN ESTATE, 1859.

## CHILD 3 - William KEENEY-149

DOCUMENTATION: 1850 IL CENSUS LISTS HIM TWICE--CRETE WITH WIFE CLARISSE KEENEY AND IN HENGE WITH BROTHER GEORGE NELSON KEENEY, ET AL. ONE ENTRY SAYS BORN IN OHIO, THE OTHER SAYS MASS.

## CHILD 4 - George Nelson KEENEY-150

BIRTH-PARENTS: CENSUS IL 1850; PROBATE RECORDS OF FATHER WILLIAM KEENEY 1798-1841. SOMETIMES LISTED AS GEORGE, OTHER TIMES NELSON.

GEORGE H. KEENEY, Rising Sun, county surveyor, undertaker and produce dealer, is a native of Switzerland County, Ind., born in 1815. He is a son of Hiram B. and Delilah (Humphrey) Keesey, his father native of New York, his mother of Switzerland County, Ind. His father, Hiram B. Keesey, born in New York in 1820, came to Switzerland County with his parents in 1835. He farmed with his brother William, for several years and then purchased the farm, where his wife now lives, on which he resided until his death in 1890. He owned 200 acres of good land. Mr. Keesey married Delilah Humphrey in 1842. She was a daughter of Stephen Humphrey, of an old family in Switzerland County. Mr. Keesey was a member of the F. & A. M. as one of the most thrifty farmers and esteemed citizens of the county which he lived. He had four children: Laura, wife of P. North; George H., bowler, who married Lena Cunningham; and Jacob who married Mollie Moore. At the time of his death, Mr. Keesey was holding the office of surveyor of Switzerland County. George H., our subject, grew up on the farm, where he remained until his father's death. He was educated in the public schools of the county and subsequently taught several terms. He acquired a knowledge of surveying and civil engineering and has since done considerable work in that line. He served as deputy surveyor in Switzerland County from 1859 to 1880, when he located in Rising Sun. He was appointed surveyor of Ohio County in 1883 and has since served by election as regular surveyor. From 1878 to 1877 he was employed in the United States revenue service. In connection with his official work as surveyor and engineer, Mr. Keesey does undertaking and officiates as a funeral director, besides doing quite an extensive produce business in partnership with Simon Boymer, president of the Rising Sun National Bank under the firm name of Keesey & Boymer. Mr. Keesey was married in 1878 to Miss Mary Bhatler, of Aurora, Ind., daughter of Andrew Bhatler, and they have five children: Burke, Jayward, Hala, Mable and Deane. Mr. Keesey is a member of the F. & A. M., Patriot, Ind and of the Universalist Church, clerk of the latter society.

JOHN KEENEY, a native of Connecticut, came from Delaware County, N. Y., to this county in 1836. He was born in 1780, and as far as known was a resident of New York. He was a son of Jonathan and Esther (Beale) Keesey. His parents died in Delaware County, 2 Y., and he there grew to manhood and married Dorothy Harris, daughter of Robert Harris, and came, in 1835, with his family of nine children to this township. He purchased 200 acres, which Mr. William Keesey still owns. He was a plain farmer, not connected with any other business. As a surveyor and did considerable in this line. Was considerable as a worthy farmer. He was accidentally drowned in the Ohio River near Vevay by being run over by a steam boat while going down the river in a small flatboat loaded with haythe snath. Their children were Fannie, John B., Sallie, William J., Harris, Ira, Alfred, Esther and Hiram B.

WILLIAM J. KEENEY, farmer, York Township, born in Delaware County, N. Y., 1810, son of John Keesey, came to this county with his parents in 1835. He remained with his parents till 1840, when he began farming for himself, making his annual trip to New Orleans and doing some trading. This he continued for sixteen years annually, but has since confined his work to the farm. He has kept good grades of stock and taken considerable interest in stock raising and agricultural affairs. He was one of the charter members of the Switzerland and Ohio County Agricultural Society, which was organized in 1851, and has since officiated as director, vice-president and president. Is one of the thrifty farmers of the county and a member of the Masonic Fraternity. Mr. Keesey was married in 1843 to Mary R. Truesdell, daughter of James Truesdell, and born on Bryant's Creek by the Ohio, in this county, 1815. Her parents were James and Nancy (Jones) Truesdell, the former of New York, the latter of Lexington, Ky. They married in this county, the Joneses coming to this township about 1800, Truesdells later. Her grandfather, Louis Jones, started for Kentucky in an earlier day with their parents. The father died on the way. The widow and children came on to Kentucky, where the brother of Lewis was killed by Indians near Lexington, on which land the town is situated. Louis subsequently became lame sick in Kentucky and returned to Virginia, and when a young man came West again and located in this county on Bryant's Creek near 1800, as stated above. Mr. and Mrs. Keesey have reared six children to maturity; Mary H., wife of Levi Sodem; Benjamin J., married Jennie M. Langwell; Martin G., married Louise Banta; James (died 1901); Emily; Estella, wife of Harry Torrence; Arietta, still at home. The old double chair in which the Truesdells rode from New York to this county, is still in possession of Mr. William Keesey, and is more than one hundred years old. Mr. Keesey has patented a number of important inventions, chief among which was the universal pitman now in use by the champion mowers and reapers.