

Correspondence with Francis Keenan

By Jerry Long, Owensboro, Ky.

Oct 19, 2004 e-mail : From Wayne Meador to Jerry Long:

Jerry,

A New Yorker cousin of mine wishes to contact you concerning a "missing" relative. He is a good guy at least for one who was a university prof at NYU... At least he grew up in Illinois and Kentucky so there is hope for him. He co-authored the KEENANS OF BRECKINRIDGE COUNTY. His name is Dr. Francis W. Keenan.

Wayne Meador, Etown

----- Original Message ----- **From:** kaye keenan **To:** Alice Meador **Sent:** Tuesday, October 19, 2004 10:29 AM **Subject:** Owensboro Library

Hi Wayne:

What is the name of your friend who works in the Kentucky Room at the Owensboro Library? I have met him and talked with him when there but do not remember his name. I want to ask him about copies of the Owensboro Messenger to learn if it is on microfilm and if it stretches to 1856.

The reason for this inquiry is that I have thought more about the sudden demise of James H. Keenan and your theory that he may have been murdered while acting in some capacity as a peace officer, perhaps deputy sheriff. I know that he did work at the jail in Hardinsburg from time to time and could have become a target for one of the prisoners. Or, he could have been done in while acting in some other capacity as a deputy sheriff. If so, perhaps his demise was reported in the paper. Unfortunately, no copies of the Hancock County or Hawesville papers survived from that period. I went to the offices of the paper last year and was told that they did not exist anywhere. So, my only hope is to try the Owensboro Messenger. I thought that I would call your friend there and ask him if the paper is on microfilm for 1856 and, if so, give him the approximate dates of James's death and ask him to review the paper for those dates to see if he could find an entry.

Looking forward to your response,
Kinan

JERRY LONG.... He works in the Kentucky Room of the library. He is a significant researcher and author of things geneological from the Ohio, Breck, Daviess and Hancock Co areas.. He can

probably tell from the top of his head about the circulation of the earlier Oboro newspapers. The horrific 1937 flood of the Ohio Valley decimated Oboro so it may have wiped out any archives which may have accumulated, but we shall hope that is not the case.

Oct 19, 2004 e-mail : From Francis Keenan to Jerry Long:

Hello Jerry Long:

We have met when I have visited the "Kentucky Room" to do research during my travels. I am currently attempting to learn why an ancestor died. His name was Jame H. Keenan. He was born in 1825 in Ohio County (now Breckinridge County) Kentucky; he died mysteriously sometime before October, 1856 in Hancock County, Kentucky. He also died intestate. He was the son of Patrick Keenan and Cassandra Burch. His brother, John Keenan, a deputy clerk for the Breckinridge County Court, was appointed as the administrator of James's estate. The inventory, appraisal, and auction sale was moved from Hancock County to Breckinridge County on the appeal to the court by John Keenan. James H. Keenan operated a saddlery and leather shop business in Hardinsburg, Kentucky.

I have a "day book" that belonged to James H. Keenan and in it he made entries that indicate James operated from time to time as a deputy sheriff. Since I do not know how he died, I have speculated that he may have made enemies in his capacity as a law officer which could have led to his murder. He was only about 31 years of age when he died.

Also, he had just rented property in Bennettsville, Hancock County, a few months before his death. I have speculated that he intended to open another saddlery and leathershop there for Bennettsville was very near to the Victoria Mines. These mines needed horses, saddles, harness, bridles, and the like and the business would have been a lucrative one for James Keenan. I suppose that it is also possible that he died in an accident or from a disease or other malady.

He was married to a woman named Eliza Ann and her maiden surname is unknown. James is listed in the 1850 Federal Census, District 1, Breckinridge County, Kentucky (Hardinsburg) as James Canon. I found no record of any deeds or land transfers in his name in Breckinridge, Hancock, Grayson, Ohio or Daviess Counties. Also, a record of his marriage has never been found.

I have learned that neither Hancock County or Breckinridge County have microfilmed or copies of newspapers extant in 1856. I was attempting to read them for an obituary or story about James H. Keenan's demise. I am now wondering if any Owensboro Messenger or other newspaper from 1856 survives on microfilm or otherwise? I am certain that you can answer this question for I learned of your expertise while working with you in the past. If such newspapers do exist for Owensboro, I want to review them.

There was a James Keenan listed as a taxpayer in Ohio County, Ky., in 1830. However, James H. Keenan would only have been about 5 years old then. Would he have paid taxes upon, say, a horse, at that age? No other James Keenans are known to have been in Ohio County at that time.

I shall look forward to your response.

Cordially,
Francis Keenan, Ph.D.
Emeritus Professor
Brockport, New York

PS: You may remember discussing with me upon my last visit to the Kentucky Room last year, a book that Perry Ryan and I co-authored concerning the Keenan family of Breckinridge County, Kentucky. We are now about to complete a supplement to that work. I will visit Perry in Georgetown after Thanksgiving.

Hi Jerry:

I should have added to my last that I have considered the possibility that James H. Keenan could have been a Civil War Casualty. I found on the internet that a James Keenan had been a Pvt. in the 2nd Regt., KY Heavy Artillery, Union. However, I am not able to find any information about that unit and its casualties. So, I have requested Pvt. Keenan's records from the National Archives and Records Administration, or NARA, in Washington, D.C.

Regards,
Francis Keenan

Oct 21, 2004 e-mail : To Francis Keenan from Jerry Long:

Prof. Keenan:

I regret to inform you that there are also no newspapers in existence for Owensboro in the 1850's. In the immediate area there are papers across the river in the Indiana towns of Cannelton, Rockport and Evansville that date back that far. I have access to books that index the early papers in Cannelton and Rockport. In these indexes under the K's and C's I saw no entry that looked like it could be James H. Keenan, who died about 1856. You might want try to get access to the Evansville and/or Louisville papers for the period just prior to the date when an administrator was appointed for the estate of James H. Keenan.

During the period of 1852-1861 the state of Kentucky kept some death records. I checked those for Hancock and Breckinridge Counties and saw no entry for James H. Keenan. In the Hancock County tax lists I could not find James H. Keenan listed. He does appear in the Breckinridge County tax lists. The last two years he was listed there are in the years of 1855 (James H. Keenan, total value \$1000) and 1856 (J. H. Keenan, total value \$1100). He was listed as having no land and in each of these years a one was entered in the category of children aged 6-18 years. I

also checked for him in a published listing of "Coroner's Inquests" found in the Hancock County courthouse and James H. did not appear. I do not believe the James H. Keenan, who was born in 1825 would appear in the 1830 Ohio County tax list because in the entry for this James a one is entered in the column of male tithables which would suggest that he was at least 21 years of age.

I found were a "Mrs. Eliza Ann Keenan" married Ambrose Thompson on 1 May 1860 at the residence of Francis Fryear in Hardin County, KY. Ambrose and Eliza are listed in the Hardin County censuses of 1860 (Eliza age 38, born KY) & 1870 (Eliza age 48, born KY). Ambrose was previously married to a Cecelia. No Keenans were enumerated in their household. This possibly could be James H. Keenan's wife. In the 1850 Hardin County census no Keenans appeared.

If you have any copies of your Keenan book left you might want to keep in mind the Owensboro Library. We regretfully do not seek out and purchase family histories. Our guidelines limit us to purchasing only general resource books and thus we only get family histories if someone donates a copy.

Sorry I could not be of any more help.

Best wishes,
Jerry Long

Oct 21, 2004 e-mail : From Francis Keenan to Jerry Long:

Hi Jerry:

I cannot begin to thank you enough for the information you forwarded with respect to James H. Keenan. You found information for which I have searched in Hardin County. I do not know how I missed the marriage of Eliza Ann Kenan but I am happy to have the data. Also, there may or may not be reason to believe that James & Eliza had a child. He had young people in his census for 1850 at Hardinsburg, District 1, Breckinridge County. It would appear that they were working in his saddlery business as apprentices. So, it is possible that the child which you found in the Hancock County census could have either been his issue or an employee. I will likely never know the answer to this one; however, I believe that the youngster was an employee for if he were a Keenan, I would have found some trace of him. You have also saved me some work for I had intended to do research concerning coroner's inquests. Perry Ryan informs me that murders of law officers (if he was one) were rare then because the punishments were so severe.

So, it may be that James H. Keenan died of one of the scourges that swept through the country from time to time or in an accident. I know that there was a terrible Yellow Fever epidemic in 1855, for example, that killed thousands of people.

So, I have some work to do. I will follow upon the newspapers you cited in the Spring when I make my trip to your region. I also now have a lead to follow in an attempt to learn the maiden surname of Eliza Ann Keenan who remarried in Hardin County. Thanks especially for that information.

With respect to a Keenan family history book, I will ask Perry Ryan to send you one. He is my co-author. We still have a few. I think that your Kentucky Room ought have one. Also, if there are any expenses or fees due for the research you sent me, please so inform me and I shall remit immediately. Your data is useful to us and will be in the Supplement to our book which ought be out by the January 2005. The Supplement will also be sent to you for it contains additions and corrections as well as further research findings and a report concerning ongoing research. Please send me the mailing address to which Perry ought send it. Or, better yet, just send it to Perry at Perry.Ryan@ag.ky.gov

Once again, thank you for the best report I have received in some time. You made my day and I am much impressed by your research skills.

Cordially,
Francis Keenan, Ph.D.
Emeritus Professor
Brockport, NY

Oct 21, 2004 e-mail : To Francis Keenan from Jerry Long:

The address of the Kentucky Room is: Daviess County Public Library, 450 Griffith Ave. Owensboro, KY 42303. Best wishes, Jerry Long

Oct 21, 2004 e-mail : From Francis Keenan to Jerry Long:

Okay Jerry. I have arranged for Wayne Meador to deliver one of the books to you. If you desire to have it signed, I will make a special trip there to do so when I visit Ohio County, Ky., this Spring. Just let me know.

I am all ready having some success in tracing James H. Keenan's widow, Elizabeth Ann. In the 1880 Federal Census for Allison Twp., Hardin County, KY, p. 388, line 23, the name of Elizabeth's sister is listed. However, I cannot read the surname. The given name is Marcella, widow. Elizabeth Thompson is the last name in the household. If I could decipher that surname, I might be able to trace Elizabeth Ann and find her maiden surname via her sister. Do you know if the 1880 Census for Hardin County has been indexed? Maybe someone else has been able to read that difficult surname.

Anyway, thank you for all of your great assistance. This is one of those problems that I have been trying to solve for some years now.

Regards and best wishes,
Francis Keenan

Oct 22, 2004 e-mail : To Francis Keenan from Jerry Long:

Eliza Thompson's sister in the 1880 census is Marcella "Vertrees". Marcella is the wife of John Vertrees. According to records of the LDS Church she was a "McGill". Marcella married about 1849. She & John are in the 1850 Hardin County census. I did not find their marriage in Hardin County. In a book of abstracts from the "Elizabethtown News" the following entry is recorded for the issue of Friday, 31 January 1890 - "Mrs. Eliza Thompson died at the home of Mr. W. C. Brown, near Cecilian, last Friday. Was 67 years old." I believe this is the former wife of James H. Keenan - the age matches exactly what was listed for her in the 1860, 1870 & 1880 Hardin County censuses. Eliza's second husband, Ambrose Thompson, is listed on Ancestry.com as being born 26 Feb 1813 and died 28 Jan 1876. He was the son of Ambrose & Mary Ann Thompson and married 3 times: married 1st Mary Ryan 28 Nov 1837 & 2nd Cecilia Metcalf 30 Nov 1847.

I hope this helps a little more. Thanks for the offer of the book. It will be great to add it to our collection.

Best wishes,
Jerry Long

Oct 22, 2004 e-mail : From Francis Keenan to Jerry Long:

Hi Jerry. Well, that is great news again. The McGill maiden surname is the biggie. I had gotten a great amount of the same data by working late last night at the keyboard. But, there is tangible and important news for me in your message. Can you tell me which file at LDS revealed the McGill surname? I will see if I can find it, too. I will want to contact the contributor to ascertain the documentation of that claim.

Wayne Meador promised that he would get you his extra copy of the Keenan family history book very soon. I am proud to be able to place it with you and you certainly deserve a copy for your Library after having supplied me with critical information for the forthcoming Supplement to it. I will insure that you also get a copy of the Supplement to file with the book.

I am currently attempting to learn whether there were any old cemeteries at Bennettsville, Hancock County, KY ghost town now. It was near the Victoria Mine and I understand that only one house remains and nothing but foundation stones as reminders that it was a boom town in the middle of the 19th century. James H. Keenan had just expanded his saddlery and harness business to Bennettsville to be near to the mines I would suspect. Since he died there, I am thinking that I ought try to find him. I have raised many stones from underground in Kentucky by driving a spike into the ground and when getting "plink" instead of a "thunk," I dig. Some stones that I have found have been rather amazing ones, too. One can see Bennettsville by

viewing old maps. It lay at the end of what is now Keg Bridge Rd. which goes sw off County Rte 992 in Breckinridge County until it crosses into Hancock County.

Enough for now.
Thanks again Jerry.
Francis

Oct 23, 2004 e-mail : To Francis Keenan from Jerry Long:

In the I.G.I. on the LDS page there are entries for the births of two children of John Vertrees & Marcella McGill (Susan, 1852 & Josie, 1854). I suspect that the original source for these births may have been the 1852-1861 Vital Statistics that were kept by the State of Kentucky for Hardin County. Volunteers of the LDS church have entered these into their I.G.I. database. Below are the links to the two pages that I hope will take you directly to those entries. Best wishes, Jerry Long [Note links that I sent took you to search page and not to actual data.]

Oct 23, 2004 e-mail : From Francis Keenan to Jerry Long:

Dear Jerry:

Thank you once again. Your information over the past few days has taken me far in writing the last chapter for James H. Keenan and Elizabeth McGill. I have found the McGills and Thompsons and Vertrees's in the census data and only now need to find where James and EA are buried. That one may elude me but I shall try when I visit Kentucky. Eliz. is likely buried wherever Ambrose Thompson is buried and that will be somewhere in Hardin County.

I also think that I know how to get to Bennettsville area, Hancock County. There is a road named the Keg Bridge Road which runs sw off Breckinridge County Rte 992. It is a dead end and goes directly to the old site. I have not been up that road for I thought it a private one and did not want to disturb the natives. However, I pass it routinely when visiting my ancestral home which is nearby. So, you shall not need to look for a route to old ghost town Bennettsville for me. But, if you do find that there were cemeteries near there, that would interest me greatly. I will go up there in the springtime and see how far I must walk through briars to find the old foundations. Evidently, one house yet stands there.

Thanks again and best wishes,
Francis Keenan

Oct 25, 2004 Contact [Kentucky Room] : Wayne Meador, Elizabethtown, KY:

He came to the Owensboro Library and donated a copy of the Keenan family book compiled by Francis Keenan, whom I have recently been corresponding with, and Perry Ryan. Mr. Keenan had mentioned to him my request for a copy of the book for the Owensboro Library and Mr. Meador told him he would donate an extra copy he had.

Feb 17 e-mail : From Francis Keenan (kkeenan@rochester.rr.com):

Hello again Jerry:

I have come upon a story which may have no legs. It was relayed to me coincidentally as I was engaged in family history research. I was informed via this media that about 1904 the sheriff of Ohio County, Kentucky, was found dead near Balltown (Mattingly) in Breckinridge County. He was found lying upon the side of a hill, so the story goes. Further, the sheriff's horse walked to and was discovered in Cloverport. The name of the sheriff in this tale was not known by the story teller.

It was further claimed by the story teller that one of his kin left Dundee in Ohio County rather suddenly and hastily following this event. The story teller believes that his relative who departed Dundee for the State of Missouri was somehow implicated in the murder of the sheriff.

I do not have access to newspapers from that era. They might reveal whether there was such an event. Do you have any idea whether this story is credible; and further, what the name of the sheriff was? Was there a murder and was the crime solved?

This is not a pressing issue with me and I would not expect that you spend inordinate amounts of time in any research with respect to the story. I wish that I had more information and a specific date to relay; but, I do not. Perhaps a review of the role of sheriffs for Ohio County might reveal something. I will not be able to get to Hartford until later this spring when I will be able to undertake a search of records in the Ohio County seat.

Kindest personal regards, Francis Keenan

Feb 24 e-mail : To Francis Keenan from Jerry Long:

Mr. Keenan:

Sorry for the delay in replying. I needed the time to get around to checking a few things. The story about an Ohio County law enforcement official being killed in the Balltown area sounds familiar. However, it could not have been an active sheriff of Ohio County. Calvin Perry Keown was sheriff during 1901-1905 and he did not die until 1926. It possibly could have been a deputy sheriff or town marshal.

I am in the process of abstracting the death records in the early Ohio County newspapers, 1875-1919. I have already published an index for the years of 1920-1980. In the older period one of the years I have gone through is 1904. I reviewed all of these entries and done appeared to match any elements of your story.

I will keep an eye out in the future as I am going through the old papers. If I find anything about it I will send the story on to you.

Best wishes, Jerry Long

Ohio County, KY Message Board (Ancestry.com):

Posted by Francis Keenan (kkeenan@rochester.rr.com), 24 Feb 2005: Can anyone who reviews this message board assist me in discovering the circumstances of the family of Jerome B. Rice who married Sarah Ann "Sallie" Taul? They were both born in Breckinridge County, Kentucky. Jerome B. Rice, born April 1862, was the son of James Rice and Letitia (maiden surname unknown). James Rice can be found living in the Cloverport District when the 1870 census was conducted. When the 1880 census was enumerated, James Rice had moved his family to the Liberty Hall District of Breckinridge County. Sarah Ann "Sallie" Taul, born January 18, 1865, was the daughter of John Richard Taul and Sarah Jane Ball. I would also like to learn the names of the parents of Sarah Jane Ball. I found Jerome and "Sallie" Rice listed in the 1900 Federal Census for Ohio County, Kentucky, Magan Township, p. 230a. Three issue were listed for them, all females, born in Kentucky. The names are very difficult to read. They appear to be: Aubrey Rice, daughter, born October 1890; Jazie Rice, daughter, born July 1892; and Mammie Rice, born July 1895. Jerome is listed as a merchant. Also living with him was his brother, Nat (Nathaniel Rice), age 44 years, born in Kentucky. Nat was listed as what appears to be a car salesman and druggist. This family does not appear in the 1910 Federal Census. Does anyone know what happened to any of the members of this Rice family from Breckinridge County, Kentucky?

e-mail from Jerry Long to Francis Keenan, 4 March 2005:

Mr. Keenan:

I saw on several Internet sites that you were working on Sarah A. Taul, who married Jerome B. Rice in Breckinridge Co., KY on 21 April 1889. Are you someway related to her? By now you have probably learned that she was the granddaughter of John W. Ball & Mary P. Clark. Her great-grandparents were William B. Clark & Eleanor Pate. I have done some work on this line because the Pate family was one of my family lines. Eleanor Pate is a first cousin of my 3rd great-grandfather, William Pate.

I noticed you gave a complete date of birth for Sarah A. Taul (18 Jan 1865). I had only been able to estimate her birth from the censuses. Could I ask your source for her full birth date? I have been going through some of the old Breckinridge County newspapers on microfilm. I ran across a death notice for Mrs. Sallie Rice in the 11 Aug 1937 issue of the "Breckinridge News". It reported that she died on 30 July 1937 in Indianapolis, IN, where she was buried in the Crown Hill Cemetery. Her survivors were listed as three daughters, Mrs. Paul Adams, Mrs. M. J. Walsh & Mrs. Loga Louise Rice, a brother, Lafe H. Taul of McQuady & a sister, Mrs. J. M. Mullen of Cloverport.

Best wishes,
Jerry Long

e-mail from Francis Keenan to Jerry Long, 4 March 2005:

1. Hi Jerry: Whew; you are way ahead of me with respect to the Rices. Thanks for the information. I will share what I know but first let me answer your question. My source for the birthdate for Sarah A. "Sallie" Taul came from Kathi Fine. Her mother was a Taul. Kathi does Taul family research. I cannot vouch for the veracity of her data as she did not send me documentation or proof. You can contact her at: Klfine1@insightbb.com She lives in Louisville.

Many of the Taul lineage married into the Keenan lineage of Breckinridge County, Kentucky. Some of these marriages are to be found in the Keenan family history book to which you now have access. There are several Pates mentioned in the Keenan book also. But, they were entered by my co-author, Perry T. Ryan. I know little about them.

Interestingly though, I have been working recently to learn more about the Samuel Crawford (ca 1740 -1818, Ohio County, KY) lineage. Two of his daughters married men with the Pate surname. They were: Mary Crawford m. Ed Pate; Jennet (or Janet; or Jane) Crawford m. John Pate. I do not know if any of these are related to the Pates you are investigating. Mary (Crawford) Pate is buried in the Crawford Cemetery in Breckinridge County. I do not know if this cemetery is listed in the Breckinridge County Cemetery Books. You may know since copies of these cemetery books are, no doubt, in the stacks at your fine Kentucky Room. I have been to the cemetery. It is on private property and is quite remote. However, the small family plot is in a copse of trees on the edge of a field on a high ridge and is surrounded by a low rock wall that is deteriorating.

My interest in Sarah "Sallie" Taul who married Jerome B. Rice stems from the adduced fact that Jerome B. Rice was the father of an illegitimate child born to Clara May Keenan. Clara later married Wm. Patterson. This data is not recorded correctly in the Keenan book where it appears as if Claude Keenan was the son of Patterson. He was not. According to Perry Ryan, Clara's impregnation was a statutory rape. Be that as it may, the illegitimate child was named Claude Keenan (See Keenan book). He has many living descendants in central Illinois. I knew Claude Keenan as a small boy. I have been attempting to provide the grandchildren and great grandchildren of Claude Keenan with information concerning their half – whatchamacallums born to Jerome B. Rice after he married Sarah "Sallie" Taul.

I had found Jerome and "Sallie" living in Evansville, Vanderburgh County, Indiana, in the 1910 Census. Jerome was listed as an insurance salesman. I had not been able to find him after 1910. Perhaps he also went to Indianapolis. I now have another avenue of research to pursue with respect thereto, thanks to your message. I would surmise, based upon what you wrote, that Jerome likely died and "Sallie" returned to her home in Breckinridge County.

Your message includes the names of the issue of Jerome and Sallie and their married surnames as well. This is a huge bonus for me. I have no intention of contacting any Rice descendants from

this lineage for reasons you likely will understand. There is another wrinkle to this. The mother of "Sallie" Taul was Sarah Jane Taul. Sarah Jane Taul was the daughter of John Ball. John Ball was the brother of William Taul. William Taul married Henrietta "Nettie" Keenan who was Clara May Keenan's eldest sister. None of this is important or even unique since about every major surname lineage in Breckinridge County can be traced to another if one reconnoiters enough generations.

Finally, I am going to send you an essay which I have written but which I shall not publish on Perry's advice. It will come via a separate electronic mail message. Thank you for the information you so generously supplied. If I can be of any assistance, I shall be most happy to provide it. Regards, Francis Keenan

2. Jerry, the attached is not for the Kentucky Room or for any but your private use and information. I certainly do not wish to be sued for slandering the Rice family. However, I am certain that DNA evidence would substantiate my research. Francis [Attached 6-page article on Jerome B. Rice & Clara May Taul. Saved to disk.]

3. Gee, I was so excited that I sped through your message and misinterpreted part of it. Upon a reread of it, I see that "Sallie" Rice died in Indianapolis and NOT Kentucky as I had surmised. She is buried in the same cemetery as one of my paternal uncles, Dr. Reid Lionel Keenan. He was a nationally known orthopaedic surgeon and was called into the most difficult cases, usually, emergencies. Regards, Francis

Hi Jerry: I just happened to think that you might enjoy having this information which I recently discovered since it provides insight into rural education in the early 19th century in Breckinridge County, KY. You are free to put this data in the Kentucky Room if you think it worthy. Wayne Meador has done research on the families of the young students mentioned in the text. He indicated that all the families of the boys named had subsequently migrated to Illinois, excepting the Marten (likely, Martin) and Beavin families. I think rather certainly that the Beavin line remained; but, I have no knowledge concerning the Martin family. Francis Keenan

SCHOOL DAYS, 1831: John Keenan (1811-1896) was a teacher, farmer, county court clerk, and land surveyor. In the winter of 1830-1831, he entered the following message in his day book. "Know all men by these presents that I, John Thomas Keenan of Ohio County and State of Kentucky do purpose to teach reading, writing and arithmetic for the sum of three dollars per scholar for the term of six months the school to continue five days in a week in the former school house and I will attend at one hour by sun in the morning and keep till one hour by sun in the evening and if I lose any time, I will make it good. I will take merchantable pork to be delivered on the 25th day of December, or corn the first of November; also jeans flax linen all at the Rough Creek market price all to be delivered at my father's house ... and everyone may discharge the above some by paying two dollars and twenty-five cents in specie ... the above such as jeans flax linen and specie to be payable at the expiration of the school. The school (is) to commence the first day of March in 1831."

It should be noted that John Keenan lived about two miles west of Falls of Rough on the farm of his father, Patrick Keenan, all of his adult life. This farm was located in a region called "The Cutoff" because in January of 1831 it was cut off from Ohio County and became a part of Breckinridge County, Kentucky. John Keenan mentioned the following scholars who had signed for his school: David Atterbury; Jed Ashcroft; William E. Matthews; William E. Meeks; George Matthews; Thomas Marten; Thomas Beavin. The Keenan private school was providing educational skills to locals some twenty years before Kentucky began to provide state funding for public education. Bartering was a common method of recompense for services rendered. The jeans flax was used at the wool carding mill at Falls of Rough. The mill had been established by 1831 by the Green family and the building still stands alongside the river near the old iron bridge. The five months of school in 1831 were from shortly after sunrise to just before sunset, a very long day for these young scholars. Surely, they got their money's worth!

e-mail from Francis Keenan to Jerry Long, 6 March 2005:

Hello again Jerry:

According to Perry T. Ryan's family history book concerning his Ryan legacy (I do not know whether the Kentucky Room has a copy), Jerome B. Rice died April 5, 1915, in Evansville, Vanderburgh County, Indiana. Perry indicates that Jerome B. Rice was buried in Owensboro, Daviess County, Kentucky.

Does the Kentucky Room have a listing of the cemeteries in Owensboro? If so, I may be able to discover which cemetery contains the remains of Jerome B. Rice.

Also, Jerome's mother was Elizabeth G. Ryan, an ancestor of Perry's. Elizabeth married Samuel Rice, Sr. I am rather certain that both of them are buried in the Rice Cemetery at Tar Fork, Breckinridge County, Kentucky.

Francis Keenan

e-mail from Jerry Long to Francis Keenan, 7 March 2005:

"Jerome B. Rice born 22 April 1861 & died 5 April 1915" has a monument in section C of Owensboro's Elmwood Cemetery, he was buried there on April 6th. He had an obituary in the "Owensboro Messenger" of 6 April 1915. For the period he had a really good obit. It listed his full name as Jerome Bonaparte Rice. It contains only one apparent error - it stated he died here in Owensboro. However, he does not appear in the Kentucky Death Index, but he is listed in the Indiana Death Records, 1882-1920, indexed by the WPA (on Ancestry.com). This source reports that he died in Evansville on 5 April 1915 at the age of 53. I have attached coipes of J. B.'s obit and of his wife (Sallie Taul Rice, from 11 Aug 1937 issue of "Breckinridge News", Cloverport, KY).

Jerome B. Rice & Sarah A. Taul had four children: 1. Aubrey, b. Oct 1890 KY, m. Paul Adams, ca 1925, living in Indianapolis, IN in 1937 (found there in the 1930 census, no children); 2. Loga Lewis, b. July 1892 KY, living in Indianapolis, IN in 1937; Winifred/ "Winnie", b. July 1895, m1. Clarence E. Marshall, 21 July 1913 Daviess Co., KY, m2. Martin J. Walsh, ca 1923, living in Indianapolis, IN in 1937 (found in the 1920 & 1930 censuses of Indianapolis, Marion Co., IN); 4. child born & died between 1900-1910 (1910 census reports her mother had 4 children but only three then living). I could not locate Sallie Taul Rice in the 1920 or 1930 censuses.

You mentioned the Crawford Cemetery in Breckinridge County. I visited this cemetery on 19 May 1980. It was then on the farm of Ed Campbell. The Samuel Crawford, Jr. (1781-1824), who has a monument there is a brother to my 4th great-grandmother, Jane Crawford, wife of John Pate. You state that their sister, Mary/"Polly" Crawford (wife of Edward Pate, Perry Ryan's ancestor) is buried here. I have never heard or seen this before. Why do you think she was buried in the Crawford Cemetery? Also could I ask why you visited the cemetery?

Best wishes,
Jerry Long

e-mail from Francis Keenan to Jerry Long, 7 March 2005:

1. Hi Jerry: Thank you for the information concerning the Rice family. Some of it was needed. I am writing now to inform you that my Norton Virus Protection 2004, will not permit me to open the attachment you sent which had the obituary for Jerome B. Rice. Perhaps you will be able to find another method of sending it to me. In the meantime, I will respond to your questions about the Crawford family via another electronic mail. Thanks again, Francis Keenan

2. Hi Jerry:

I could not find Sallie (Taul) Rice in the 1920 or 1930 census either. But, the obit. for her which you kindly forwarded, reports that she had been living in Indianapolis for 18 years. She died in 1937; this means, probably, that she left Evansville after she became a widow in 1915 to live with or near her daughters in Indianapolis. Somehow she was not canvassed for the censuses mentioned.

One day, Wayne Meador, my cemetery reclamation friend [we have reclaimed four old cemeteries that were in very poor condition; we spiked them for underground stones, raised them, and reported the results to the archivist at the Breckinridge County Courthouse in Hardinsburg] came to me and mentioned that he had seen the name Samuel Crawford in a census and that the occupation listed for him was "Capitalist!" This occupation piqued our interest for we both knew Breckinridge County to be far less capitalistic than most. So, we decided to search for his grave to discover what kind of tombstone adorned this capitalists place of final repose. This trip was just for fun. We found the cemetery on the property of Johnnie Lee Richards who married Jeanette Ryan, daughter of Thomas Lamar Ryan. Jeanette inherited her father's farm.

She is Perry Ryan's aunt. I thought her the prettiest gal in the valley when I was a teenager. So, I wonder if we visited the same cemetery? Are there two Crawford Cemeteries? This one is north of Rte 992 and west of the Pisgah Baptist Church on that same route by a mile or so. The cemetery was on a ridgetop at the edge of a hay field in a copse of trees; it was surrounded by a knee high field rock wall that was badly deteriorated. Perhaps this description will permit you to know if it is the same cemetery which you visited.

As for whatever I said about Pate/Crawford, it came from a message I received from Wayne Meador. I may have made an error in reporting what he sent to me which, I think but cannot corroborate, he took from census data. Here is what he sent to me: "The children of Sam (Crawford) and Jane were William, Mary [m. Ed Pate], Peggy [m. Joe Allen], Jennet/Janet [m. John Pate], Eleanor [m. Jim Jinnings (?)], Sam Jr. b. 1-27-1781 VA d. 5-23-1824, buried Crawford Cem [m. Theodosia E. Compton], Mason, [m. Polly McCreary], Sally [m. George Jackson."

Wayne is an excellent historian, careful about his documentation. He has just moved from Elizabethtown to Florida. His e-mail address there is: Ameador1@CFL.rr.com . Wayne has the highest regard for your scholarship. He may be able to tell you more. Today, he wrote that he believes that we did not find the grave of the capitalist. He thinks the capitalist Sam Crawford was Samuel Crawford, Jr.'s, son ... another Samuel Crawford. Evidently, there were three of them. The capitalist, in the 1880 Breckinridge County Census, according to Wayne, was living in Webster. He thinks this one owned and operated a hotel in Cloverport.

Perry Ryan's family history book lists no Pates or Crawfords; but, he wrote it when in high school or soon thereafter. I am not a Crawford or Pate family historian but find interest in most surnames from Breckinridge, Hancock, and Ohio Counties in Kentucky. I am grateful for your efforts in my behalf. Please feel free to write to Wayne Meador. I hope I have clarified any misleading information previously forwarded. No wonder Wayne and I did not find the grave of the Capitalist. But, it was a fun day nevertheless.

Regards, Francis Neenan

3. Jerry, this was on my computer this a.m. from Wayne Meador in Florida. Do not pay much attention to his writing style. He is very bright but attempts to display himself as a "redneck." Hope this helps. Heck, probably have more data than this all ready. Francis

Cuzn Doctari, Just returned from a meeting.....

The info which I received from Elen Mason Banks Hawesville-Easton Road Fordsville, KY 42343 includes the following: "Mary Crawford b. 11-18-1771 VA.m.4-6-1789 to Edwrd Pate, son of Jerimiah Pate".... In the listing of siblings (children of Sam Crawford, Sr. and Jane Mason, on Sam Jr is listed as having been interred in the Crawford Cemetery. Her info further indicated that William Crawford and Mason Crawford were buried in Illinois; Eleanor Crawford

Allen, Hardinsburg; Mary Crawford Pate, Breck Co;.... There was absolutely NO specific documentation in Ellen's data that any of the siblings of Sam Jr were or were not buried in Crawford Cemetery. Hopefully, this note will clarify my original sharing of Ellen's info. If I erred, remember this was probably NOT the first occurrence.... and I am very old.....diminished.... Hmmm. Hi Jerry. Wayne

e-mail from Jerry Long to Francis Keenan, 7 March 2005:

Would you please let me know if your Virus program alerted you to a problem with the attachment that I sent - did it say it contained a virus? A few weeks ago someone sent a message with a virus to me and I have been looking for any residual problem. I have done a couple of scans of my system and everything looks okay but I am not sure. We are talking about the same Samuel Crawford Cemetery - a short distance past the Pisgah Church. I only inquired further about it because of the statement that Mary Crawford Pate was buried there. Best wishes, Jerry Long

e-mail from Francis Keenan to Jerry Long, 8 March 2005:

1. Hi Jerry: I did not save the Alert message but it said that I would not be allowed access to the attachment in your message because it contained a threat. I am not certain that it said virus. Your computer may be clean. It is possible that the "threat" latched onto the message in transit. However, I am not a "techie." I would like to have the obituary for Jerome Rice, at your convenience. Hope this helps, Francis

2. Jerry, just to the north of the Crawford Cemetery and over the edge of the top of that ridge, there is a cave. The owner went to look at it a few years ago and found that someone had dug out the floor completely looking for Indian artifacts. The owner, Johnnie Richards, said that he had found artifacts there in the past. He was disturbed that thieves had invaded his cave. It is a shame that whatever might have been there as an anthropological find has been destroyed. Francis

3. FYI, Francis (Some Pates on p. 4). Sent 6 page family group sheet for Samuel Crawford & Jeannet Mason (mason1.pdf) compiled by Cindi Bonney Meyer.

e-mail from Francis Keenan to Jerry Long, 10 March 2005:

Hi Jerry: I have not gone after the Young lineage. I have been in cemeteries that have Young tombstones. A friend, Billy Cummings, who lives in Grayson County, just across the bridge over the Rough River, near where one turns into the LaFayette Golf Course, has been cleaning an old cemetery near his home that has Youngs in it. I was named after a friend of my father. His name was Francis Young. He lived at Bismark, Vermilion County, Illinois. I think Francis Young was born ca 1908. He always told me that his father's family came from western Kentucky but that he

knew nothing about them. Do you know of any Youngs in your research who left western Kentucky to settle in Illinois?

This inquiry is not a matter of consequence for me but I just thought that I would ask after I saw your message on one of the message boards about the Youngs. Best wishes, Francis

Hi Jerry: This just in from Billy Cummings. When he states that he "would love to take him there..." he is talking about you. The cemeteries are really in the backwoods.

I shall see if Billy can assist with the Youngs that went to Illinois.

Francis

From: [Billy Cummings.](#)

To: [kaye keenan](#)

Sent: Thursday, March 10, 2005 7:52 AM

Subject: Re: Young Cemetery

Hurrah, yes, I have young's on two sides and have been worging on this all week. Was in the Cem. last week. Is here close and there is another Young Cem. close to the one we seen. It has been cleaned up but they did not do a very good job since we were there. I would love to take him there and work with him on this. The Youngs left here to Worrick and Spencer Co. Ind then on to Ill and I have been out there but found little on them there. They did go there and started a township in Mclean Ill. Billy.

From: [kaye keenan](#)

To: [Billy Cummings](#)

Sent: Thursday, March 10, 2005 10:20 AM

Subject: Young Cemetery

Hi Bill:

Where is that cemetery that you took me to visit that had the Young tombstones in it? Jerry Long, the archivist and fine researcher at the Daviess County Public Library, Kentucky Room, does Young family history research.

I was named after a friend of my father. He was Francis Young, a farmer who lived in Bismark, Vermilion County, Illinois. I think Francis Young was born ca 1908. He always told me that his father's Young family had migrated to Illinois from western Kentucky but that he did not know from what area. So, the Youngs that you know about have always fascinated me but I have been too busy with other matters to question you about the Youngs. Do you know of any that may have gone to Illinois in the late 1800's some time or other?

This is not a pressing matter with me. I just thought that I would ask. I have passed your e-mail address to Jerry Long for he may be interested in the cemetery(s) that you know about and where they are located if they have Youngs in them.

Give Molly a candy for me. We are still covered with four feet of snow and it continues to fall. Spring is just around the corner. Yea, right.

Francis

e-mail from Jerry Long to Francis Keenan, 10 March 2005:

Francis:

My Young family (originally Jung) was from Hancock County, KY and is unrelated to the Young family of Grayson County, KY. Since Young is one of the more common surnames I have not attempted to collect any data on this line. I have corresponded to a serious researcher of this line however. We were then exchanging data on the Mason-Landrum line. Her name is Debra Young Smith. In 1989 the last time we wrote she was living at 1593 Wellington Drive, Bowling Green, KY 42103.

The Samuel Crawford, who was listed as a capitalist (in the 1860 Breckinridge Census) was Samuel C. Crawford (1815-1893), son of Samuel Crawford, Jr. & Theodosia Compton. He has a monument in the Crawford Cemetery that you visited. In the Breckinridge censuses of 1850 he was listed a merchant, 1870 as a farmer and in 1880 as a hotel keeper (Cloverport Hotel). I believe the use of the word "capitalist" to describe his occupation simply meant one who was involved in several economic endeavors and is on a much smaller scale than the term is generally describes.

Thank you for the name of the Crawford-Mason researchers. Ellen Banks and I have talked many times about our mutual ancestors. She is a great lady; exceptionally nice and generous. Do you still have your listing of what you found at the Crawford Cemetery? I was wondering if you uncovered any other monuments buried in the ground. When I was there in 1980 I did not explore to find any monuments other than those that were above ground. My listing of what I found was published in the periodical, "Kentucky Family Records" in 1991 (West-Central KY Family Research Association, Vol. 15, p62; in the same issue were also my listings of the DeJarnette, Brickey & Taul cemeteries in the same neighborhood). In the Crawford Cemetery I found monuments for 7 people. Six of these (Samuel, Theodosia Earl, S. C. - the "Capitalist", & Mary Angeline Crawford and Eliza Jane Fitzgerald were exactly the same as what was published in the 1991 book, "Breckinridge County Cemeteries, Volume 1". I, however, did find one monument that was not found in this book - John Saml. Younger (son of G. M. & E.) born 1 Sep 1840 & died 30 Sep 1840. Did you and Mr. Meador find any others?

If you send me your mailing address I will send copies of the obituaries of Jerome B. & Sallie (Taul) Rice.

Best wishes,
Jerry Long

e-mail from Francis Keenan to Jerry Long, 10 March 2005:

Hi Jerry:

I did not spike the Crawford Cemetery. In fact, I did not even take a note pad and pencil as I usually do. I was just out for a walk and decided to visit that one to see what it was like. This was about four years ago now. I do remember the Younger grave that you mentioned because I wondered at the time whether he was likely the husband of one of the Crawford daughters.

Billy Cummings, whose address I sent to you today, is a Landrum descendant. One of his ancestors sold land to Patrick Keenan, my patriarch, in 1826. Patrick lived in a cave on the property until he had erected a log home. The home was only destroyed two years ago when the present owner, Mr. Husband on Rte 110 between Falls of Rough and Rt. 69, dozed it. He also covered the entrance to the cave to protect his grandchildren. Landrum's name is on the deed, the first one issued for the property, as is that of Benjamin Burch (1753-1830), Wayne Meador's ancestor.

Your conclusions respecting the use of the word "capitalist" match mine. I am certain that there were numerous land speculators and loan men in the county very early. I have not communicated with Ellen Banks; that is Wayne's friend.

I have relatives in the Brickey and Taul Cemeteries but have not visited the DeJarnette Cemetery. I probably have kin there, too. A fun one is the old St. Mary's of the Woods Cemetery that is some miles west of McQuady and not the one across from the Church.

My mailing address is:

Francis Keenan
111 Sherwood Drive
Brockport, New York 14420
585-637-2506

I do not own a cell phone. I do not have a large file for the Brickey surname. But, my aunt Zelma (Brickey) Keenan, of Hardinsburg, who is quite infirm now, caused me to do some research and present it to her. I put what I had into *The Chronicle*, the newsletter of the Breckinridge County Historical Society of which I am a life member. If you want that file, I will send it to you.

I have the obituary for Sallie Rice but would very much appreciate having the one for her husband, Jerome Bonaparte Rice.

Regards and best wishes,

Francis

March 11, 2005 Letter: To Francis Keenan, 111 Sherwood Drive, Brockport, NY 14420:

Sent copy of obituary of Jerome B. Rice (1861-1915).

e-mail from Francis Keenan to Jerry Long, 14 March 2005:

Was received today thanks Jerry!

Francis

e-mail from Francis Keenan to Jerry Long, 23 March 2005:

Hi Jerry: I have come upon more Pates. Am wondering if this bunch can be found in your Pate file. Sarah (McQuiddy/McQuady) Pate, wife of Samuel (?) Pate, and daughter of Thomas McQuiddy, deceased ca 1835 in Franklin County, KY, died prior to her father. I found some probate records. Sarah, of Hancock County, Kentucky, and Mr. Pate, her husband (not sure about his given name) left issue named: Mary, Poindexter, William, and Thomas. Do you recognize this family? Regards, Francis

[Note: Copy of message also sent to Janet Jack.]

e-mail from Jerry Long to Francis Keenan, 29 March 2005:

Yes, I am distantly related to this family of Pates. Are you also related to them in some way? Sarah McQuady/McQuiddy married Samuel C. Pate (1795-1872) in Breckinridge County in 1820, either on Jan 10 or Feb 1 - have seen sources that give both dates. Samuel C., was the son of Edward Pate & Mary Crawford, and a first cousin to my 3rd great-grandfather, William Pate. I do not have any exact dates for Sarah. She appears to have been born to Thomas McQuiddy (do not know her mother's name) between 1800-1804 and died between 1830-1838. According to a list of her father's heirs given in Franklin County, KY Order Book K, p271, recorded on 15 Oct 1838, Sarah Pate by then had died, leaving four children - Mary, Poindexter, William & Thomas. The first three remained in Breckinridge County and the latter moved to Daviess County, KY. Poindexter (1822-) married twice in Breckinridge County, Lucinda Pate, 1845 & Judah O. Pate, 1851. Mary married Delaney Holder. William Pate (1824-) married Elizabeth J. Muffett in Breckinridge County in 1847. And Thomas E. Pate (1827-1900) married Sarah E. Newman in Breckinridge County in 1852. Do you know who the mother of Sarah McQuiddy Pate was? Best wishes, Jerry Long

e-mail from Francis Keenan (kkeenan@rochester.rr.com) to Jerry Long, 29 March 2005:

HI Jerry and thanks for your response. I have most of the data which you so kindly forwarded. Respecting your two questions, I answer as follows:

1. Am I related to these families? Answer: Well, no, not really and only very tangentially. A Keenan descendant of the Breckinridge County Keenan patriarch married John N. McQuady. John N. was a son of William McQuady/McQuiddy and William was a brother to Sarah who

married the Pate. William and Sarah were issue of the Thomas McQuiddy whose will in Franklin County you cited.

2. Do I know the name of Thomas McQuiddy's wife? Well, no again. I have seen the given name of Nancy but have never seen a maiden surname for Thomas's wife. I have sent for the court documents in Franklin County, KY, desiring to learn if the wife's name was mentioned. I think not for others would all ready have seen it. It has not been reported in the literature that I have reviewed.

I have been working in earnest to assist a lady in Rock Island County, Illinois, named Janet (McQuady) Jack, recover her family history. She descends from William McQuady. You can find her family in the Keenan family history book.

Thanks again, Jerry, for your most able assistance.

Francis

e-mail from Francis Keenan to Jerry Long, 30 November 2009:

Hi Jerry:

I seek a map of Kentucky which provides the county lines in 1830. I am writing an essay about the once southeastern tip of Ohio County, Kentucky. Ohio County was formed from Hardin County in 1798. The southeastern portion was removed in January of 1831 and became a part of Breckinridge County, the latter formed originally in 1799 and also from Hardin County. The portion of Ohio County which became a part of Breckinridge County has been dubbed 'the cut-off' by most locals and was once so mentioned in a federal census report. Are there any maps at the DCPL which would indicate Ohio and or Breckinridge County lines in 1830?

I have a copy of the legislation which ordered this change. The description of the boundaries in the legislation is not very revealing with respect to the northern boundary line of the 'cut-off' and also contains one error. Also, I wonder whether there might be any materials in the Kentucky Room respecting 'the cut-off?' My essay shall attempt to discern the reasons for this change in county lines.

Kindest regards,

Francis Keenan

e-mail to Francis Keenan from Jerry Long, 30 November 2009:

Below is a list of maps in our collection of Kentucky that were published prior to 1831. Most of these do not show county lines. The one nearest to 1831 is a "Geographical, Statistical & Historical Map of Kentucky" published in 1827. I have scanned the section of this map that shows Ohio and Breckinridge Counties. Since it is a map of the whole state not much detail is

given. I know of no map that was made solely for either these counties that early. The earliest map created just of Ohio County that I know of was done in 1885. In our files I do not know of any materials on the Cut-off for this early period.

Best wishes,
Jerry Long

e-mail from Francis Keenan to Jerry Long, 30 November 2009:

Jerry, thank you for the prompt response to my inquiry about early maps in western Kentucky. The map which you forwarded was somewhat assistive. I am indebted to you for the research you performed in my behalf.

Kindest regards,

Francis

e-mail : From Francis Keenan to Jerry Long, 28 February 2010:

Hello Jerry: I am starting a research project about Tar Fork, Breckinridge County, Kentucky. I have noted that there are references to this community, no longer extant, in issues of the Hartford newspaper early in the 20th century. I viewed some of them and they were not helpful. Do you know of any materials in the Kentucky Room that are about Tar Fork? I am in North Carolina just now but plan to be in Kentucky sometime later in March. I would make a special trip to Owensboro if you think it worth my time respecting Tar Fork. I have written to NARA for information about the date of origination of the post office and the name of the first postmaster. I believe that enough people probably had collected on the ridge where Tar Fork existed by about 1880 to start a post office; but, I am merely guessing. I have recently submitted an essay to *Ancestral News* in E-town and it will be published about August according to the editor. It was about that region called "the Cut-off" which was in southeastern Ohio County until it was removed to Breckinridge County by the Kentucky State Legislature in January of 1831. What is your opinion concerning the location of that fabled place called "Pincheco?" Kindest regards,
Francis Keenan

e-mail : To Francis Keenan from Jerry Long, 1 March 2010:

Mr. Keenan: I have attached an article on Tar Fork from the book, "Breckinridge County, Kentucky History" by Guida Goodman Snively that was published in 2005. I am sorry but I don't know of any other sources that our library has on Tar Fork. We have a couple of microfilms from the National Archives on the history of Kentucky post office appointments but we don't have the film that includes the counties that start with "B". If you can locate a copy it would provide a listing of all of the post masters and the dates of their tenure. I notice that the Breckinridge County newspapers for 1886, the year the Tar Fork post office was established, are

unfortunately missing. I will be eagerly awaiting the "Ancestral News" and your article on the "Cut-off". Best wishes, Jerry Long

e-mail : From Francis Keenan to Jerry Long, 1 March 2010:

Jerry, that was a big assist. Thank you very much. The data matches some which I am finding. I have a "runner" going to NARA tomorrow to get the post office data for me. Saves time that way. Do you subscribe to *Ancestral News*? If not, I will insure that you get a copy of the essay I mentioned in my last. I noted that you are far too scrupulous to get involved in a discussion about "Pincheco." I am finding some crazy "stuff" about that "place." Regards and best wishes, Francis

e-mail : To Francis Keenan from Jerry Long, 2 March 2010:

I do receive the "Ancestral News". I am a lifetime member of the Ancestral Trails Historical Society. Pincheco I do not believe refers to a specific spot. It is similar to an area in Ohio County where my grandfather spent most of his life. The area between Sulphur Springs and Rosine was referred to by its inhabitants as Hell's Neck. And they jokingly said if you stopped at a house there and asked where Hell's Neck is they would point down the road this way and if you stopped at the next house down the road they would say it was back the other way. I have heard Pincheco described as about a 10-mile area where the three counties of Hancock, Breckinridge and Ohio come together with the majority lying in Hancock County. It olden times it had an infamous reputation of being the home of many violent crimes. Best wishes, Jerry Long

e-mail : From Francis Keenan to Jerry Long, 2 March 2010:

Jerry, you nailed it. I have read quite a bit about the fabled "Pincheco" and the best description was just as you related it in your message. That corner where the counties ... Ohio, Hancock, and Breckinridge come together is very near to the farm where I was partially raised. I will need to ask my Luttrell buddies from Dundee about "Hell's Neck." One country boy to another, have a gudun! Francis

e-mail : From Francis Keenan to Jerry Long, 7 September 2011:

Hi Jerry:

Here is a bit of trivia which you can place with the Keenan book in your collection if you are so inclined. I am okay and now turned 76 years of age. I may get to Kentucky this fall but probably not to Owensboro.

Kindest regards and best wishes always,

Francis Keenan

Patt Keenan, farmer, and his spinster sister, Mary Keenan, sailed from Newry in Northern Ireland for New York in the USA in October of 1804 aboard the brig Ceres. They were listed as residents of Markethill which is near Armagh. This Patt Keenan was believed to have been the patriarch of the Breckinridge County, Kentucky, Keenans in the USA. (See: Francis Keenan and Perry Ryan, THE KEENAN FAMILY Of Breckinridge County, Kentucky, 2005 Cumulative Supplement, pp. 6,7.) [See also: Carl Boyer, 3rd (Editor). Ship Passenger Lists, National and New England (1600-1825). Newhall, California: The editor, 1977, p. 119.]

Then there was this:

Thomas Jefferson had agreed to join John Adams and Benjamin Franklin in the new commission for negotiating commercial treaties with interested European countries.

"He hurried to Boston, ... (and) booked passage on the London-bound brig Ceres ... Departure was set for July 4 (1784), the eighth anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, but regrettably for those who like their historical coincidences neat, the Ceres did not weigh anchor until 4 a. m. the next day. The crossing took a brisk nineteen days." (Source: Jack Rakove. Revolutionaries. New York: Mariner Books (paper), 2011, p.205.)

It seemed quite a coincidence that the patriarch of the Breckinridge County, Kentucky, Keenans sailed 20 years later in 1804 aboard the same ship that carried Thomas Jefferson to Portsmouth, England. As an aside, Thomas Jefferson packed his disassembled Phaeton, a ritzy single horse drawn carriage, for the trip. He used it during his travels in France. (Rakove, p. 295.)

A brig was a two masted ship with square sails. The Ceres was a luxuriously appointed ship, well crewed and with comfortable passenger quarters. No photo of the ship exists but there are paintings of it.