

Appendix I

Tahlequah, Oklahoma

May 10 1937

Dear Margie:

I thought to write about the family tree but I know so little about it that I take little pleasure in writing of it. Years ago my father and the Iowa folks told the only tales I ever heard of the Keenan family. My recollection is that my grandfather's tombstone shows his birth place in Farmannah County (spelling from memory), Ireland. The emigration was to upstate New York, whence they shifted to Allegheny (now part of Pittsburg), Pennsylvania. There were both Keenans and McDonnoughs as I recall.

Grandfather then drifted to the southwestern part of the state near the Virginia line. One or more of his brothers went further south in western Virginia near Kentucky and we (or my informant) kept up no communication with them and know nothing of what became of them. My grandfather with my father a full sister (my aunt) and some half-brothers moved to Iowa in 1845-6 where they all remained except my father who returned to Pennsylvania where he married Nancy Scott Lazzell (Lazzele) in 1852 and settled on the Virginia side of the state line. Of this marriage was born Leonidas Harnaline, Bruce Lazzell, Mary Elizabeth, Thomas Grant and John Franklin Keenan.

Of the McDonnoughs (of the spelling I am not sure) there was a numerous lot of rather distant relatives in the Pittsburg area. There was also a number of Keenans and intermarried Keenan women folks that extended the list of relatives in that area. As it is now more than fifty years since I visited those relatives my memory is dimmed as to names. I remember one distant Aunt Somebody who lived with what seemed to be great elegance with bath, axminster rugs, and draperies on a fashionable Avenue in Pittsburg in whose bed I feared to leave the image of my more or less unwashed body on her immaculate sheets. One more I recall as a saloon owner and very strict in his church observance (Catholic). Evidently selling liquor was profitable judging from the outward appearance of his home furnishings and the service he employed in his dining room. I was a young Rube come to the City and was more than happy to get back home. I was too embarrassed to feel free to act and had hardly enough guts to answer simple questions asked me.

Of the Mr. Luther M. Boyers (may be spelled Boyer) who went in the early 90's to Memphis as a lawyer from Monongalia County West Virginia (my native county) I have but small account. It runs in my mind that he had an older brother who went there as a teacher before him. I remember this older brother who was teacher and lived part of the winter of 1876-7 at our home and it was through his persuasion that I went to the University at Morgantown, W. Va. I think Luther died before the turn of the century. It might be that some of the older lawyers recall him.

I am enclosing you the notice given Robert in the local paper, Democrat-Star. Bob Keenan says the Esquire cartoon is "wonderful". Mother is in fair physical health but her mental condition is not so good as I see it. Doc Graves was released from San Francisco and goes to Waterloo, Iowa for a tryout.

With love to all.

Your Dad