

## Family of Steve Keogh

My father, second son of Thomas, whose older brother was, Bernard Joseph Keogh, was quiet about his youth. He was proud of his heritage, but seldom spoke of what he knew.

My grandfather, Thomas Keogh, died in 1939 here in Nashville. He was 49. My grandmother died here in 1962. I was 5 at the time. So I didn't know them. My father died young as well. So I was lucky to pay a visit to my Aunt Monica, oldest of the Keogh family which included 4 boys, before she passed and asked her about what she knew of our family in Widnes. She knew little, other than of family that came to Tennessee and returned to the East or back to Widnes.

### Chemicals

My grandfather worked in the chemical trades, in Virginia and New Jersey when they arrived in America. My Aunt Monica spoke of her family being in the chemical trades as working in the Lime Pots (Lime Pits - where lime was processed), or something to that effect. One of my grandmother's uncles who came over with her had found his way into Tennessee to work for the DuPont deMours gunpowder plant in Old Hickory, Tennessee. DuPont supplied the gunpowder to the US government for the WWI effort. His name was Michael Caine. He bought a small tract, or farm, in Donelson, east of Nashville and sent word to my grandfather that there was a good living to be made in Tennessee. Tennessee at the time might have been like the tropics. It was not very populated, and mostly woodland. Hot and humid. When they arrived, they found the farmhouse to be not much more than a shack. Also, Michael Caine had found work in factories around the mines in northern Alabama. He was back and forth from Alabama, and my grandfather quickly decided this was not for him. The gunpowder plant was perfect for him and what he wanted for his family.

### Tague

James Tague was 14 when he boarded the Franconia in 1914 with his grandparents, Edward Rowan, 52, and Mary Ann Rowan about, 45. I visit his grandchildren, who are in their 60's, the McRedmonds, Tom, Ann, and Marie, who live on the McRedmond farm near downtown Nashville. Most of my mothers' nieces and nephews, the Mulloys, and my cousins on my father's side as well, attended parochial school along with the McRedmond clan. We always call each other Cousin, yet we aren't sure if that is factual.

Recently, their cousin visited from Widnes, and I can't recall his first name, but he is a Tague about their age, in his 60's. I met him by chance and he asked me about the Keogh's here. I gave him a photocopy of the Franconia manifest.

I wonder if you know this Tague fellow. Sorry for not remembering his first name. I lost contact with Marie Frear, the kind lady that did the research, after changing email service. She didn't leave personal info, but my guess is she used the library in Liverpool.

1851 or 1854

This is just what I was saying in the previous email. I thought Bernard Joseph Keogh might be born in 1854 by his age in one census, but another link I stumbled upon gave his birth year as 1851. This I found earlier this week.

A wonderful lady answered my request I placed on a bulletin board space on the internet. I had asked if anyone could give me information on Keogh's, or Byrne's from Widnes. She responded with 5 page report with info from the 1881 and 1901 census's. I've gathered a lot from that report, connecting names from the manifest with names in the report. In the 1881 census she found William, Edward and John Keogh living with Bernard and Ellen. In the 1901 census she found Martin 13, Thomas, 11, and James 6. So the older boys were on their own. The 1901 census also found John and Edward as general labourers at Alk Wks, (alkali works? - *United Alkali was the forerunner of ICI - Imperial Chemical Industries*). Bernard worked as labourer in a Soap Works.

Like a bomb goes off when I see Martin's picture

Holy smokes, there is my dad, my uncle Joe, my uncle Tom, and my Grandfather Tom (Martin's younger brother by 2 years) also sitting in that chair. My cousin Michael Keogh needs to see this picture. There is no difference- none at all. I am the proud owner of my grandfathers' portrait. My dad and uncles fought over who would rightly possess it. Now I have it. My brother Kevin has not asked about it so I believe I'm in the clear now to display it in my hallway. And Martin's picture made me realize, there are other Keogh's in this world.

Kitty - Bernard

My dad said that my grandfather did a lot to help Bernard Keogh, and Kitty Keogh get passage to America. Could the two in your families picture be these two? They lived in my grandfathers house when they arrived but not for long. They were ready to be on their own when they arrived. My dad didn't tell me much about them. Somewhere in either my sisters filings or maybe here in my house, are passports of Bernard and Catherine Keogh, immigrants from England. My dad kept tem among our stash of photos. I am not sure, but I remember there being a Kitty Gilmore related to us. I believe she was married to Martin Gilmore. Could this be your Kitty? Bernard had twin daughters. I think their names are Bernadette, and Bernadine. They are probably in their late 60's early 70's. Although my dad, uncles, and Aunt Monica were near their age, I don't recall meeting Kitty, and recall being at Bernards only once as a boy. They weren't close to my generation of Keoghs. The picture looks a lot like a picture of my dad and his siblings made not long before he passed. If Bernard and Kitty are the same as I knew of, you may know a lot about my family already.

Catherine - Monica

Martin and Tom both married Catherine's. My dad's oldest and only sister was Monica.

## Bernard Joseph

My dad's oldest brother was Bernard Joseph Keogh, named after his grandfather. And there IS a Keogh not a thousand miles away, that we see in the telephone book, that live 30 minutes from here. He too is Bernard Joseph Keogh. My uncle got odd phone calls in the late 70's asking for the detective. He found out a New York City detective had retired and moved to Tennessee with the same exact name. None of us have ever met him or his family. I did have a close encounter as I was driving down the highway and saw KEOGH on the license plate in front of me- a lady at the wheel, travelling down the highway through where Bernard is known to live. Undoubtedly kin to Bernard of NYC.

And now I know where my great-grandfather is buried.

## Keogh-Evans-Mercer-Griffith

My family names are Keogh, Byrne, Mulloy, Gallagher. I tell folks here you can't get any more Irish than me. My son Jesse carries the same attitude.

## Mad Jack

My Aunt Monica told me that my grandfather never forgave John Keogh for striking his mother. Unbelievable that I would read those same words in your website. She referred to him as Mad Jack Keogh.

## Ellen

My Aunt Monica told me that my grandmother, Catherine Byrne, tended to Mrs. Keogh who lay in her bed most of the time she remembered, in her room on the second floor. My grandmother was close to her and was like a daughter she never had. My grandmother was the same age as Martin Keogh. She was born in 1888 in Widnes. She would have been 17 when Ellen died. My Aunt died in 1995. My Uncle Tom in 1992, Joe in 1985, my dad in 1981, and I'll add that my mother passed in 1979.

Congrats to John on his 50th. I too turned 50 in 2006. My sisters made I fine mockery of me.

## Ballinasloe

My Aunt Monica told me that my great grandfather was from Ballinasloe, Roscommon, Ireland. There is nothing to substantiate this but her word. She was much older than her brothers, and was very close to her parents, so there must be some validity to this. By the way, there were 3 other boys born but didn't survive, between Aunt Monica and my uncle Joe. One of them did make it to the age of 3 however. Anyway, she also said my grandfather travelled with his dad (BJK) to Ballinasloe when he was young. She tells me that he met some folks in the village, and one man shouted, I can tell by the cut of yer jib your a KYOO (she always emphasized the man's brisk pronunciation of Keogh).

I hope this message serves you well. My siblings and I didn't have parents to fill us in on our heritage. My uncle Gerry (Gerald Keogh) and his wife Peggy have visited Widnes and met relatives there within the last 10 years. Maybe you have met him. It is possible you already know a lot about us in the States.