

Notes on the family of Patrick O'Brien-[Jr.] and Eunice Gary

One of the children of Patrick and Phoebe (Loree) O'Brien was Patrick O'Brien [Jr.].

According to records in the Patrick O'Brien [Jr.] family Bible, owned by Gerald O'Brien of Henderson, Tennessee, Patrick [Jr.] was born "near Cincinnati, Ohio" on 11 December 1818. Records suggest that the O'Brien family lived in Harrison, Hamilton County, Ohio. The birth dates and birthplaces of the O'Brien children indicate that the family moved to Dearborn County, Indiana, about 1819.

Patrick O'Brien may have first married at the age of 26. A "Patrick O'Brien, Jr." was granted a license to marry Elisabeth McCalep on 20 July 1845, in Dearborn Co., Indiana [7-201]. No other information has been found to substantiate this possibility. Presumably the Elisabeth (McCalep) O'Brien would have died between 1845 and 1849.

At the age of 31, Patrick then married Eunice Gary. Their marriage license, obtained in Switzerland Co., Indiana, was dated 27 December 1849. The marriage certificate shows that they were married 28 December; however, their family Bible indicates that they were married on 30 December 1849.

Eunice Gary was born on 2 October 1832, in Allegany Co., New York. She was the daughter of Charles G. and Eunice (Spalding) Gary. The Gary family settled in Switzerland Co., Indiana sometime in 1835. (The Charles Gary family lived across the road from the farm of John and Elizabeth Loree Cunningham. It may have been this proximity which brought Patrick O'Brien into contact with Eunice Gary.)

Patrick and Eunice were living near Patrick O'Brien [Sr.] when the 1850 federal census was taken:

26	26	Patrick Obrien	32	M	Carpenter	Ohio
		Eunice "	18	F		New York

Patrick is also listed with his parents in that census.

Note: The [Sr.] and [Jr.] after the name Patrick O'Brien are only to differentiate the father and son. It was not a part of their names.

Patrick apparently began purchasing land in 1850. The following land transactions, recorded in Dearborn County, relate to Patrick O'Brien [Jr.]:

Grantee	Grantor	Description	Sec. T R	Acres
3-55 (\$650) 16 Aug 1850		W $\frac{1}{2}$, W $\frac{1}{2}$, SW $\frac{1}{4}$	19 7 2	36 $\frac{1}{2}$
8-433 (\$625) 14 Feb 1854		E $\frac{1}{2}$, W $\frac{1}{2}$, SW $\frac{1}{4}$	19 7 2	40 $\frac{1}{2}$
	13-26 21 Nov 1857	Part W $\frac{1}{2}$, SW $\frac{1}{4}$	19 7 2	80
13-498 (\$1000) 25 Apr 1856		E $\frac{1}{2}$, NE $\frac{1}{4}$	25 8 3	[80]
16-528 (\$350) 6 Oct 1860		Part SE $\frac{1}{4}$	25 8 3	20 $\frac{1}{2}$
19-148 (\$1) 16 Apr 1863		Part NE $\frac{1}{4}$	25 8 3	26 $\frac{3}{4}$

In 1850, Patrick [Jr.] began purchasing land across Lawrenceville Road (diagonally opposite) from his father. After the death of his father in 1851, he purchased his family's property at a public sale for \$1000. His last purchase in this area was in April of 1863. [The record of the sale of this land has not yet been located.]

An 1859 atlas of Dearborn County, shows the 80 acres sold in 1857 (W $\frac{1}{2}$, SW $\frac{1}{4}$, Sec.19, T7N, R2W) in the ownership of John Rosemeier, the person to whom Patrick [Jr.] sold the land. The atlas does not show the owner of the 80 acres formerly owned by Patrick O'Brien, [Sr.], by then owned by Patrick [Jr.] (E $\frac{1}{2}$, NE $\frac{1}{4}$, Sec.25, T8N, R3W). One-half mile north, Solomon O'Brien, Patrick's brother, is shown owning 80 acres (S $\frac{1}{2}$, NW $\frac{1}{4}$, Sec.24, T8N, R3W).

In the 1860 federal census, Patrick and Eunice are recorded with their growing family in Jackson Township:

1860 Jackson Township, Dearborn County, Indiana
 [214 212]
 Patrick O'Brien 40 M Farmer Ohio
 Eunice 38 F "
 Hester 8 F Ind.
 Is[abella] 5 F "
 Phoebe 3 F "
 Hannah 4/12 F "

In May of 1863, Patrick [Jr.], began purchasing land in Shelby Township, Ripley Co., Indiana, and probably sometime in 1863, Patrick [Jr.] moved his family there.

The land records of Ripley County show ten transactions related to Patrick O'Brien [Jr.]:
 Grantee: 32-80, 33-30, 33-502, 34-88, 37-16; Grantor: 35-330, 37-16, 37-449, 37-532, 39-9.
 These records can be summarized by saying that Patrick first purchased land in Ripley County
 on 2 May 1863, and had sold the last of his holdings on 30 March 1868.

Apparently in the spring of 1868, Patrick and Eunice and their family of seven children migrated
 to Hancock County, Illinois. They may have moved together with part of the family of his older
 brother Solomon O'Brien and his wife Samantha (Richards) O'Brien.

In the federal census of 1870, Patrick and his family were recorded in Harmony Township,
 Hancock County, Illinois:

1870 Harmony Township, Hancock County, Illinois

[38 38]

O'Brien, Patrick	51	M	Farmer	Ohio
Eunice	38	F		Massachusetts
Isabella	13	F		Indiana
Phoebe	3	F		"
Theodore	8	M		"
McClellan	4	M		"
Warren	3	M		"

An atlas of Hancock County published in 1874, shows "P. O'Brien" owning 80 acres in Section
 17 of Harmony Township (E½, SW¼, Sec.17, T4N, R6W). His brother Solomon, "S. O'Brien,"
 is named on 80 acres about a mile away in Section 7 (E½, NE¼, Sec.7, T4N, R6W).

The family was recorded in the 1880 federal census, in the same location.

1880 Harmony Township, Hancock County, Illinois

[22 22]

O'Brien, Patrick	61	M	Farmer	Ohio	Ireland	NJ
Eunice	48	F		NY	NY	Vermont
Theodore	18	M		Ind	Ohio	NY
McClellan	16	M		"	"	"
Warren	13	M		"	"	"
Homer	9	M		Ill	"	"
Wiley	6	M		"	"	"

In an interview with Raymond L. O'Brien (a grandson of Patrick O'Brien) recorded in 1974, it
 was noted that the O'Briens were "typically Irish, all smooth-shaven." He recalled that the
 O'Brien place, where they practiced "general farming (corn, livestock—hogs, cattle, horses)," was
 a "neat, well-kept farm."

The Patrick O'Brien [Jr.] family Bible lists twelve children born to Patrick and Eunice (Gary)
 O'Brien. The names and birthdates for each has been supplemented and clarified with

information from other sources.

1. Ledyard Chyler
b. 3 October 1850
2. Hester Ann
b. 11 June 1852
3. Sirous Smith
b. 20 April 1854
4. Isarue Isabelle
b. 3 April 1856
5. Phoebe Priscilla
b. 30 December 1857
6. Hannah Sophia
b. 1 February 1860
7. Theodore Thomas
b. 26 February 1862
8. Addison McClelland
b. 17 July 1864
9. Warren Almon
b. 3 April 1867
10. Homer Lafayette
b. 3 October 1870
11. Doc Wiley
b. 11 October 1874
12. Arnel
b. 30 November 1876

Patrick O'Brien [Jr.] lived in three states:

- 1818-1819 Born "near Cincinnati, Ohio" [presumably in or near Harrison, Hamilton County, Ohio] and as a young child, at about the age of one year, migrated with his family to Indiana.

- 1819-1868 Lived with his parents in four locations in Indiana, and after his marriage in 1849, with his wife and family in at least two additional locations in Indiana.

- 1868-1896 At the age of 50, he took his family to Illinois, where he stayed until the end of his life.

Patrick O'Brien [Jr.] who spent his life moving across the Midwest, died in Hancock County, Illinois, on 21 March 1898, at the age of 79. He was buried in Graham Cemetery, Basco, Illinois.

Eunice Gary O'Brien remained in Hancock County, and sometime before 1900, moved to the village of Basco in Bear Creek Township. She and her son Wiley were listed together in the 1900 census.

Eunice had moved as much as Patrick had in his life—and then some, having been born in New York, traveled with her family, the Garys, by flatboat down the Ohio River to Indiana, and then joined the O'Briens in their nineteenth century odyssey.

Eunice O'Brien was 78 years, 4 months, and 4 days old when she died on 6 February 1911. She was buried three days later in Graham Cemetery, next to Patrick.

The seventh child of Patrick and Eunice O'Brien was Theodore Thomas O'Brien, whose older of two sons was Raymond Leo O'Brien. Raymond's only child was Harold Elmer O'Brien, whose daughter is Patricia Irene O'Brien Hellmers.

The above summary was prepared by Norman D. and Patricia (O'Brien) Hellmers. The assistance of the following is acknowledged:

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Note: This narrative may be downloaded for anyone's personal use. Suggestions for corrections and additions are invited. Contact:

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