

THE CHENEY FAMILY RECORD.

Bremen, Ga., May 28, 1930.

Mr. Owen Cheney,
c/o Sunday American,
Atlanta, Ga.

GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF ARCHIVES & HISTORY
CENTRAL RESEARCH

Dear Mr. Cheney;-

Reading your inquiry No. 164 in Sunday American March 30, 1930, inquiring about the ancestry of John Cheney of Greene County, Ga. who was born in 1765 and died in 1838. I have waited for some time to answer your inquiry, and seeing none and being a Cheney myself, I decided to write and answer your inquiry, and not knowing your address will send it care of Department of Genealogy & Historic Society, Sunday American, Atlanta, Ga. and write you a few lines of the facts as handed down to me by my Father, Dr. Sir Isaac Newton Cheney, who was born in Morgan County, Ga. in 1826 and passed away in 1916, and by one of my great Aunts, Pollie Middlebrooks, who was born in 1778 and died in 1885. She kept a record of the Cheney and Middlebrooks' family from the time the first two Cheney brothers landed on American soil. She first married a Middlebrooks a 2nd. Cousin and reared a large family, and when she was a widow about 75 years old, she married Isaac Cheney of Calabrate Springs, Merriwether County, Ga. He being about 85 years old at the time of marriage. She survived him by several years. She visited my Father's home every year or two when I was a boy. I made many notes of their statements in reference to the Genealogy of our family. I have mislaid part of my notes, and will write partly from memory. When old Aunt Polly was between 90 and a 100 years old, she was about as spry and her mind was as active as the average woman is at 65 or 70.

First will say that every Cheney in this country that Spell their name "Cheney" are related. The name was originally spelled "Chenney". One of the "y"'s being silent they dropped the middle "y" and spelled it Cheney. That is the reason it has been a little hard to trace the ancestry of the family prior to the Revolutionary War. John and Owen Cheney left their home at Cheneyville, England and came to America, and settled in Greene County, Ga. They served in the War, one of them was an Officer in the Army. They came ahead of their families and selected their home and their families came afterwards. John Cheney went North and settled in Baltimore and the Northern Branch of the Chenneys are descendants of John Cheney who settled in Baltimore. Owen Cheney remained in Greene County, Ga. has a son named John who was about 12 years old when he came over to his Father, and no doubt that is the John Cheney you are inquiring about. He remained in Greene County, Ga. Owen Cheney's wife was a Benton. They had another son named Thomas Benton Cheney, who in 1792 married Lucy Jane Middlebrooks and settled in Morgan County, Ga. and reared a large family 13 children, 10 sons and 3 daughters, 12 of whom lived to a ripe old age from 85 to over a 100 years. They settled in different counties as shown hereafter. (Ga)

The Father of John and Owen Cheney was Sir Isaac Newton Cheney of Cheneyville, England. The Chenneys-- Middlebrooks--Bentons--Callaways and Spences intermarried, and their descendants are scattered over the South and West.

The 10 sons and 3 Daughters of Thomas Benton Cheney and Lucy Jane Middlebrooks Cheney settled in different Counties as follows:
Dr. J. Cheney, Chattooga, County, Ga.; A. J. Cheney Cobb County, Ga.; Aquilla Cheney, Morgan County, Ga.; Luford Cheney, Morgan County, Ga.; Linton Cheney, Morgan County, Ga.; John Cheney, Morgan County, Ga.; Owen Cheney, Newton County, Ga.; Milton Cheney, Newton, or Walton County, Ga.; Rufus Cheney South Georgia thence to Texas; Dr. Sir Isaac Newton Cheney Carroll County, Ga.

Daughters- Angeline Cheney, married Hiram Spence and settled in Carroll County, Ga.; Thenean Cheney married a Shelton settled in Newton County, Ga.; Bettie Cheney married a Callaway, settled in Upson County, Ga.

They certainly obeyed the Biblical injunction to multiply and replenish the earth, for their descendants are scattered over Georgia and from Ga. to the Golden Gates in California.

Dr. J. F. Cheney received his education in the Old Field Academy in Morgan County, Ga. and finished in Penfield, Greene County, Ga. Read Medicine. Graduated at Augusta Medical College, married Louiza Callawa and settled in Chattooga County, then Floyd County, Ga. at Dirt Town, reared a large family, two sets of children.

His descendants are scattered over North and South Georgia and California. Sons named William- Dudley- Juden--Walton T.-Frank--Paul--Gillum-et. One Daughter Bula who married a Carver. He was a large land and slave owner. He refeged during the Confederate War, taking a bunch of Darkeys and his family to Baker County, Ga. When the war was over he came back to Chattooga County, Ga. Bought land down there. Two of his sons--Dudley and William remained in Baker County, Ga. The Cheney's down there are descendants of them.

Dr. J. F. Cheney originated "Cheney's Expectorant, a family medicine that is advertised and sold in nearly every country. (The famous Catarrh Cure was originated by Dr. J. F. Cheney-descendant of the Cheney that went to Baltimore) He was a large planter- a Doctor and a Baptist preacher, lived to a ripe old age between 90 and 100 years.

He now sleeps mid the beauty and the fragrance of the flowers and singing of the birds, on beautiful Myrtle Hill, overlooking the Seven Hills of Rome, above the placid stream of Ettawah, whose sparkling waters go girgling, girgling, murmuring, murmuring, mingling with the waters of Ousternollee, on it's way to the billows of the sea.

A. J. Cheney received his education in the Old Field Academy of Morgan County, Ga. Finished at Penfield, married a Latemer and Aunt of Georgia's Grand old Lady-- The First U. S. Senator-Mrs. Rebecca Felton, settled in Cobb County(then Cherokee) before there was any Atlanta, Ga. Where Atlanta now stands, it was then only a cross-Roads store and Black Shop called Marthasville. He purchased a large tract of land between Powders Springs and Marietta, Ga. and spent his life there. Just before the Battle of New Hope and Chick-isaw he refeged to Alabama, carried a bunch of darkeys and his family-bought land in Ala. andstayed there until the war was over, then came back to Cobb Co. Ga. reared a large family, two sets of children his second wife he married in Crawfordville, Ga. His children are scattered over Ga. and California, one of his sons-Dr. Jim Cheney now resides at Rome Ga. ^{www.georgiapioneers.com} one son Edd Cheney, Washington Ter. Sons Arthur-Charlie-Sam-reside in California. One Daughter Ida married a Yong Yong died, she then married a Eubanks, and resides at Piedmont Alabama. A daughter Maude married a Camp--both died leaving a son now connected with the Georgian office. A daughter Cora Married Judge Newt Morris now resides at Marietta, Ga. His son John Cheney now resides on the old Cheney plantation four miles South of Marietta, Ga. He is the namesake of the John Cheney inquired about, the boy who was 12 years old when he came over to his Father in Greene County, Ga. A. J. Cheney now rests in the family burial lot, on the old Cheney plantation, under the Giant Spreading Oaks that was saplings when he was there. The land of his choice, the place he brought his bride to when he was a young man. (C2)

Luford Cheney received his education in the Old Field Academy of Morgan County, married Lizer McCoy and settled in Morgan County, Ga. spent his life there--one son John Cheney survived him. He moved to Texas.

Rufus Cheney received his education in the Old Field Academy of Morgan County, Ga. went to Texas, married there. His descendants are in the "Lone Star State".

John Cheney received his education in the Old Field Academy of Morgan Co. Ga. married Sabina Shaw, settled in Morgan Co. Ga. spent his life there. Three daughters survived him; Mattie, Nellie & Nettie.

Aquilla Cheney received his education in Morgan Co. Ga. married Amanda Massie, settled in Morgan Co. and spent his life there.

Owen Cheney received his education in Morgan Co. Ga. and married _____ and settled in Newton County Co. Ga. and spent his life there reared _____ children.

Milton Cheney received his education in the Old Field Academy of Morgan Co. Ga., finished at penfield, Greene County, Ga. married a Stanton and settled in Newton, or Walton Co. Ga. Had a son named Aquilla Cheney who settled in Upson Co. Ga. and a daughter named Bettie Cheney, who married a McCrory, had a son named Isaac Cheney McCrory, then McCrory died, she then married a Thompson and had a son named him Isaac Cheney Thompson, and a daughter named Lucy Cheney who was an artist, painted some of the pictures of some of Georgia's statesmen that adorns the State Capitol. She married a Sanwich, Upson Co. Ga.

Linton Cheney received his education in Morgan Co. Ga. married Elizabeth Spence and settled in Morgan County, spent his life there.

He had one son George F. Cheney, who now resides there at Carrollton, Ga., hale and hearty at the age of 86 years. He married Sallie Hutchinson. He has 3 sons, Robert- Irwin and James and 2 daughters, Mrs. Florence Miller and Mrs. Nanie Jack, all of Carrollton, Ga., Linton Cheney had one daughter named Fannie Cheney, who married an Ivy settled in Morgan Co. Ga. She is now a widow and resides in Atlanta.

Thenean Cheney married a Shelton, settled in Newton County, Ga. Shelton died. She then married a Murray, settled in Newton Co. Ga. Left several children.

Angeline Cheney married Hiram Spence of Morgan Co. Ga. and settled in Carroll County, Ga. in 1825. Reared a large family-six sons and three daughters as follows: W. M. Spence, who married Delpha McPherson, G. M. L. Spence who married Emma Rowe, Dr. I. N. B. Spence, never married. Died at Social Circle, Ga. a few years ago. C. W. Spence married a Cantrell. J. R. Spence married Beala Foster. Moses Spence married Lula Chance.

Daughters-- Dora Spence married W. H. Rowe, Berry Spence married Robert West. Ella Spence married J. E. Bartlett. Each of the above reared a large family, except Dr. I. N. B. Spence. Their descendants are numerous--numbered by the hundreds, the largest family in Carroll Co. Ga.

Hiram and Angeline Spence now rest on the family burial lot, on the Spence plantation six miles North of Carrollton, Ga. The place they settled 105 years ago.

Dr. Sir Isaac Newton Cheney, son of Thomas Benton Cheney and Lucy Jane Middlebrooks Cheney was next to the youngest of 13 children, was born in Morgan Co. Ga. in 1826, passed away in 1916. He sent in his application to join the Masons just before he was 21 years old, and as soon as he arrived of age he was initiated into the Order No. 14 Morgan County, Ga. Finished at Penfield, Greene Co. Ga. Taught school for several years while reading medicine. His preceptors was Dr. J. F. Cheney & Dr. H. V. M. Miller. He graduated at the Augusta Medical College in 1856. In 1855 he married Martha Almina Pratt, Barbour, Daughter of Thomas J. Barbour and Martha Almina Pratt Barbour of Chattooga Co. Ga. who came from Virginia and from the sturdy stock of Barbour's Randolphs and Pratt's originally from Holland Scotland. In 1857 he settled in Carroll Co. Ga. and practised his chosen profession. In 1862 he was commissioned Surgeon of the 74th Ga. Regiment in the Confederate Army. He served under General Mercer, (I now have his original Commission as Surgeon and his Diploma issued by the Augusta Medical College) He practised medicine for over 60 years in Carroll and adjoining Co. He reared a family of six daughters and one son the undersigned to be grown, five children passed away young. His daughters are as follows: Lucy Jane Cheney married W. T. Perdue, Carrollton, Ga. Martha Almina Pratt Cheney married W. D. Evans, Carrollton, Ga. now reside at Eupora, Miss; Bula Benton Cheney married Fred Frederickson, Jensen, Fla; Ruth Pearl Cheney married Dr. E. M. Ellis, Crowley, La; Dora Mae Cheney married Chas. C. McLain, Atlanta, Ga. Both are now dead leaving one son Dwight McLain, Atlanta, Ga., and one daughter Chalsie May McLain, who married Pal Bradley now residing at Miami, Fla; Maud Victor Cheney married Henry W. Barron, now with the Southern Ruralist, Atlanta, Ga. One son Victor Barron, now Financial Editor of Atlanta Georgian, One son Barbour Barron, Atlanta, Ga. My full name is Sir Isaac Newton Cheney. My father Dr. Sir Isaac Newton Cheney and Dr. Sir Isaac Newton Benton Spence and Sir Isaac Newton Benton Rowe was all named after the old Sir Isaac Newton Cheney of Chexeyville, England. I married Stella Porter of LaGrange, Ga., reared 4 sons and one daughter as follows: Arthur Newton Cheney, married Ethel Smith, Atlanta, Ga. He passed away leaving one son Harold Newton Cheney of Atlanta, Ga. One son Isaac Porter Cheney married Fern Griffin, Carroll Co. Ga. Now resides in Gadsden, Ala. They have two sons Isaac Porter Cheney Jr., and Arthur Keeling Cheney. My son Claud Barbour Cheney after finishing High School lost his life on the Southern Railroad. One son Joseph Franklin Cheney is with me-Daughter Stella Eunice Cheney married Walter A. Cunningham now residing in Birmingham Ala. They have one Daughter Eunice Ray Cunningham now in College at Birmingham, Ala. Dr. Sir Isaac Newton Cheney passed away at the age of 90 though he did not look it, to be over 70. He received a fall that broke his hip and leg and at his age he couldn't recover from the shock. He passed away as he had lived without a fear, conscious and perfectly rational up to nearly the last breath. He passed through the shadows holding my hands. He sleeps on the hill in Bremen County Cemetery by the side of his beloved wife who was a poet and artist, gifted with that high ideal of Poetic vision as possessed by some ancient Scottish Poet. She was his Pal and inspiration for over sixty years, my mother.

The above and foregoing is a partial list of only one limb of the family tree, does not cover the branches. The Family Tree is very large but it is thickly dotted all along the years with distinguished men and women- Authors--Poets- Artists-Teachers- Preachers--Doctors and Jurist. Many of them were large land and slave owners. They belonged to the Old Souths' high class Citizens, imbued with the Old Souths' Southern Hospitality.

They held their women on a very high, exalted pedestal. I am no doubt one of your many, many, relatives.

(Signed) I. N. Cheney.

THE AQUILLA CHENEY LIMB
OF THE FAMILY TREE. (2)

(Among the old papers belonging to my grand-father (Aquilla Cheney) I find the following notation written on a piece of old faded paper.
" Thomas B. Cheney Died the 28th day of December 1845,
Lucy Cheney Died July 27 1879" In his own handwriting.

I later learned that they were in reality his Father and Mother.

Aquilla Middlebrooks Cheney was born August 3, 1822, was about 40 years old when he married which was about 1842. He married a widow by name of Amanda Massey, she was Amanda Campbell of Jasper County, before she was ever married. Among her brothers were William & Elijah C.

They had three children-one boy and two girls. The oldest a boy was named John W. Cheney; he was born about 1843. The next oldest child was a girl named Fannie Angeline Cheney; she was born about 1844; and the youngest child, a girl named Sophrona Jane Cheney; she was born about 1846.

John W. Cheney, was married to Jennie Bell Cook about 1898; he died in the year 1900, or in the Fall of 1899. He had no children.

Fannie Angeline Cheney, was married to Julius Sigman about 1890. They had 8 children named ~~George, John, Mollie, Grover, Frank, Clyde, Mance, Leola and Carlton~~. The Sigmans' lived near Hawkin's Academy, or school house in Walton County, Ga. until about 1890 when they moved to about 8 miles North of Sparta, Ga. in Hancock County, there I think all of them married except possibly one, either Mance or Carlton. Mollie married a Hitchcock; they had a number of children, their names I do not now recall. Who the rest of the m married I do not know.

Sophrona Jane Cheney was married to McHenry T. (Tucker) Morrow about 1890. They had six children, and lived in and around Social Circle; Rutledge and Atlanta, Georgia all of their lives. They lived about 2 miles South of Rutledge, Ga. at the Aquilla Cheney old home place, where the Aquilla Cheney Cemetery is, from 1900 to about the year 1914. The names of their 6 children were as follows: David Wesley Morrow, died in infancy buried at Morrow Cemetery lot in Cemetery at Social Circle, Georgia; John Milton Morrow; Troy Ga ines Morrow; Malvern Tucker Morrow; Cluie Bertram Morrow and Ruby Elizabeth Morrow. are still in life. will be 70 July 31, 1955,

John M. Morrow, married Erco Marable, they had 3 children, namely: Lewis; Mildred and Margaret Morrow.

John Lewis Morrow, married Mildred ~~Parker~~, They have 3 boys; Richard; Dewey and Birt, all in school, they live at 375 Ashburton, Ave S. E. Atlanta. Lewis has been on the Atlanta Police force for about 20 years.

Mildred Morrow, married Gid Long McEachern; they have ³ two children, Daryle and Gid L. Jr., they live at 1246 Ponce DeLeon ave., N. E. Atlanta, Ga., Gid Long Sr., is employed at C. & S. National Bank. ⁴

Margaret Morrow, is married to William O. Craig Jr., and has ³ three children; Hugh, Tommy and ~~Philip~~. They live at 2879 Alston Dr. S.E., Atlanta, Ga. and he is employed at U. S. Post Office, Atlanta. John M. Morrow graduated at the U. of Ga. at Athens in 1912 with a B. L. Degree and now is practising law at Carrollton, Georgia. ~~He later married Janet Brown of Bowling, Ia. She died & he married Alice Jackson~~

Troy Ga ines Morrow, married ~~Edna Robinson~~ at Ellaville, Ga., they have 3 children, Wayne, Marvin and Douglas. Wayne married ~~Nora Stevens~~ lives at Milledgeville, Ga. and has children named ~~Marvin married Betty Sue~~ lives at ~~Norfolk Va~~

has ¹ children named ~~Allen~~ lives at ~~Norfolk Va~~

Died Dec. 7, 1910

MEMORANDUM

APPROVED

Douglas the youngest child is still single.

Troy G. Morrow graduated at the U. of Ga. with an A. B. Degree, taught school and read law, and passed the State Bar Examination, is now Judge of the City Court of Ellaville, and practises law also.

Malvern T. Morrow, of Newborn, Ga., is married, and has 4 children namely, Clarence, Frances, Harold, and Mary. They are all married.

Clarence Morrow, married Bessie Stoddard 6 They have 1 children named Jerry.

Frances Morrow, married Wallace Tucker. They have 2 children named Robert & Tommy.

Harold Morrow, married, Pauline Moxley who had 2 children, and they have 3 children Faye, Kay & Paula Ann.

Mary Morrow, married, Adise Washburn, they have 1 children, named Bobby.

Malvern T. Morrow and Harold Morrow own and operate a cattle farm about one mile east of Newborn, Ga. (2)

Cluie B. Morrow, lives on Flat Shoals Road, in East Atlanta, Ga.

He married Esther Honea. They have two children Shirley & Betty. Shirley married Wm Cobb. C. B. Morrow owns and operates a Battery Shop on Flat Shoals Road in Atlanta, Ga.

Ruby Elizabeth Morrow, married W. T. Spears, and lives at 1857 Lakewood Terrace, Atlanta, Ga., They had six children namely:

Verna, Dorothy, W. T., Morrow, Ted and Iris. All are living except W. T. who died while small.

W. T. Spears is Branch manager for Becker Roofing Company on Whitehall Street, Atlanta, Ga.,

Verna Spears married Carlton Gunter, they have 2 children namely Jean & Brenda - Jean married. Verna works at the Lakewood Bank. Her husband is in the Roofing business.

Dorothy Spears, married F. M. Butler, who died in the Spring of 1955. They have 2 children named Elaine & Tommy.

Morrow Spears, is married Minam Tate. They have 1 children named David. Morrow is on the Fulton County Police force. www.georgiapioneers.com

Ted Spears is still enjoying single bliss. He is on Police force.

Iris Spears married Joe Pope and has 1 children. Her husband works for Gaylord Container Co.

THE AQUILLA CHENEY LIMB

WAS WRITTEN BY JOHN M. MORROW.

This June 25, 1955