

## Amos Perry

Amos was born near the village of Wilton (Hillsborough County) New Hampshire 15 May 1783. Nothing is certainly known about his younger years or his schooling, although he undoubtedly grew to manhood at Wilton. His father sold the home farm at Wilton in 1801 and went to Elizabethtown, New York, to live, but how soon Amos made the change is not known! He and Sally Watkins were married at 11 June 1810, at Walpole, New Hampshire, some distance northwest of Wilton. She was born 19 Jan 1786; her parentage and birthplace are unknown. If Amos did not go to Elizabethtown before his marriage, he must have taken his wife there soon after they were married, as their first child was born there. It is recorded in the book "Pleasant Valley" by George Levi Brown (pp. 273-4) that Amos Perry was among the calvarymen under, Captain John Lobdell, who went from Elizabethtown to serve at "Plattsburgh" in the Battle of Lake Champlain, Sept 1814. (War of 1812) Three children were born to Amos and Sally at Elizabethtown; then before the middle of 1816 Amos moved his family to Williamsport, Penn. (Hannah Perry's record shows Washington as the county, but now the only Williamsport, Penn. is in Lycoming County, in the Central part of Penn. Washington County is in the southwestern corner of the state.) and by 1819 to Black River, Huron, Ohio. There Sally the mother died 11 oct 1819. Amos must have been at Black River when his father died at Elizabethtown, 6 Aug 1819. Soon Amos returned to New York to live; then he and Hannah Bowen were married by Alvah Tippets Esq. at Lewis, Essex, New York, 2 Oct 1821. Their four sons were born at Elizabethtown, Essex, New York. In 1833 or 1834 Amos moved again, taking his family first to Ohio, and a few months later to Kane County, Illinois, where he settled on a farm in Dundee township, about 50 miles northwest of Chicago. Chicago was incorporated as a town in 1833. As recorded in "The Romance of Dundee Township" by Irma Dupre, Amos was listed among the voters at the first township election held 1 July 1835. The same source also shows that he played a part in the establishment of the Adams and Dundee Baptist Church in 1838 and in 1841 of the Congressional Church. "The Perry family of many members were here the earliest year of settlement..." In the record of the Baptist church among the first members are listed "Father Amos Perry and six sons." (Amos' oldest son Frank did not remove to Illinois until a later date) The last twenty years of his life were spent near Dundee and he died at the age of 71, 14 Aug 1854, and was buried at Dundee. He left the Perry Homestead to his youngest son Cyrus, with the provision that his widow Hannah was to live with Cyrus the remaining years of her life. Cyrus, however, moved to Iowa in 1865 or 65, and took his mother with him. She died at Cresco, Iowa, in 1879. Principal source for the vital statistics of Amos Perry's Family is a hand written record done by, Hannah Bowen Perry, now in the possession of the writer. Another source is "The History of Wilton, New Hampshire, by A.A.Livermore. (pp. 464-45) This source gives Amos' birth as 5 May, which is probably an error, since Hannah recorded his birth as 15 May.

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