

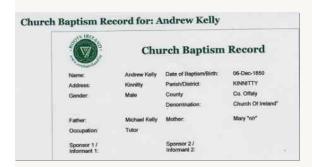
# **Andrew Alfred Kelley**

When Andrew Alfred Kelley was born on December 24, 1850, in Kinnitty, King's County, Ireland, his father, Michael, was 42 and his mother's name was Mary. He was just 16 when he immigrated to the United States from Ireland. He was a Carpenter, a Teacher and a Poet. His father and 2 older sisters, Margaret & Zillah also settled in Clinton, Iowa. He was married three times and had nine sons and one daughter between 1871 and 1902. He died on April 29, 1914, in Arcadia, Iowa, at the age of 63.



#### **Birth Record**

Notation in his father's bible says he was born in "Kinnitty King's County, Dec about 20th 1850."



# 1850 Baptism record

6 December 1850--Maybe a transcription error and should be 26th of December?



# 1853 Beagh, Limerick County, Ireland

A recent photo (Google Images) of the Parochial Schoolhouse where his father taught school and the family lived. The family appears to have moved back and forth between Kinnitty & Beagh during the famine years.



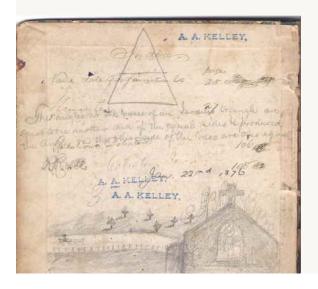
# **Fugitive Pieces**

Much of what we know about Andrew is from poems that he wrote. In his early poems, he writes about being an exile from his native land. Whether he was involved in something that required a hasty departure from their homeland or whether he was just speaking metaphorically, is open to speculation.



# My Native Village

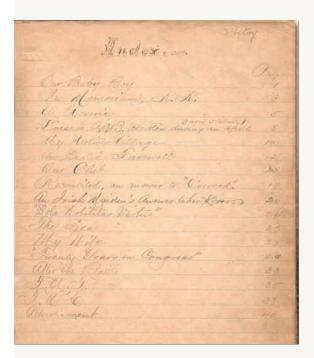
Oft when my daily toil is o'er, And evening's shadows round me close; As sitting at my cabin door, My thoughts far on a distant shore, Where the broad Shannon seaward flows. Fond memories of a peaceful spot, In that calm hour before me rise. Where stands the elm-shaded cot-Home of my childhood, ne'er forgot Till death shall close my weary eyes. In a lovely, peaceful valley, where The noble Shannon smoothly glides By Verdant hills encircled, there Where wildflowers scent the summer air; My own dear native village hides. And though many lands I've been, Where art and nature's charms combine; Before them all the fairest scene, My memory still holds fresh and green, Is that dear village home of mine Each beauteous spot of hill or plain How faithfull can I recall; The elm grove, the shady lane Where with joyous, happy train, I roamed, the gayest of them all. And now, of all that happy band, Some o'er the Atlantic waves Are, by the oppressors' ruthless hand, Now exiled from their native land, And some are laid in prison grave And many an exile's heart, like mine, Is hoping, praying yet to see The proud oppressor's star decline, That freedom's sun again may shine On village homes beyond the sea.--Nov 1872



#### **Our Club**

There were twelve of us in it, no more, but you'd count twelve for every one, If you'd listened outside of the door of the little back room of "the Sun," On the nights that we used to meet there- old Peter McCrae kep' it then:- What! You didn't know Peter, that's quare, why, I thought that from Aherlow Glen To Downpatrick, there wasn't a dog that didn't know Peter McCrae: If you once got a taste of his grog you wouldn't have that much to say. But howld on, sure it wasn't ould Pete, not his whiskey I'm telling about; But 'twas there that "Our Club" used to meet; 'twas there the great Ned used to spout. Ould Neddy McCormick you know, used to tache the hedge school in the Glen. Poor ould Ned! he is gone long ago- well, 'twas he was our president then. God be good to your sowl, honest Ned, and long may the primroses grow; And the grass long be green o'er your head, in the churchyard in ould Aherloe. For if ever an honest heart beat in mortal breast under the sun; If a genuine friend we e'er meet tin tis world, Neddy was one. And Neil Monahan, he was our Vice, and a droll Neil he was in his way. Speak of wars, he was up in a trice, for he'd been to the wars in his day. You should hear him discourse of the fall of the Malahoff, and the Redan, Sebastapool, Alma and all, in troth he could tell to a man, The number on both sides that fought, and also the number that fell. While I listened 'faith, often I thought, how in thunder he got off so well. For the divil a scratch nor scrape did Neil have, an' all he went through, But there's always a few that escape, and faith Neil, he was one of the few. And Neil, he has gone with the rest, to that Home where they never know strife. Of

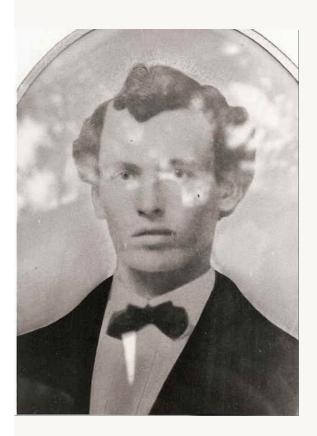




goodfellows one of the best that I ever have known in my life. An' then there was little Jim Flynn, that no mischief or devilment e'er Could be finished that he wasn't in; troth some of his tricks they were quare. Sure the night I will never forget, that he filled up ould Peter's dudeen:- I laugh when I think of it yet.- By my sowl, twas a comical scene. In the bowl of the pipe he let drop some powder, a thimbleful quite. With a little tobaccy on top, then he gave it to Pete, with a light. Peter took it- poor innocent sowl-and puffed for a minnit or two, Till the powder took fire the bowl, and the dudeen in smithereens flew. "Holy Moses!" yelled Peter, "I'm kilt," and threw himself back in his chair. The next thing he knew he was spilt on the floor, with his feet in the air. There he tumbled and bellow'd "I'm shot, my poll and my backbone is broke;" "By St.

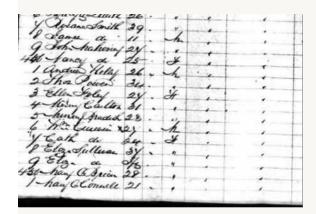
poor Jim tricked minisell at the last, when he met with that sty raity whome. For in wedlock she haltered him fast, and his club days were over, be sure. We had Maurice Fitzgerald the poet; That's one that I mustn't forget. Poor devil, he'd pawn his last coat for the money his "whistle to wet." The brains that would fit him to shine in life mid the brightest and best He smothered in whiskey and wine: No need I should tell you the rest. Look around you wherever you are, for some wretched type of the kind. I'll warrant you needn't look far; Alas! They're too easy to find. You will find, besides those who might rise were it not for this hell-born curse To all honors that mortals should prize, but what I consider worse, Will find some who those honors have won, and by this vice lost them again; And all the great deeds they have done, forgot in the wrecks that remain. Then there was Will Clancy, "Wild Bill," that's the name that he used to go by. Thought 'twas said he knew how to keep "still," whenever the guager was nigh. I do not know if they were true, the stories they told about Bill. How he'd bring down the real "mountain dew" that he found up on the hill. But if I remember aright, there must have been grounds for them too; For he skipped out quite sudden one night without stopping to bid us adieu. Now he's over the "herring pond" where for aught that I know, he may be What they call a "moonshiner" there, in the mountains of old Tennesse.

(to be continued)\*  $^*$ I do not know if he ever finished this poem, because I do not have any more.



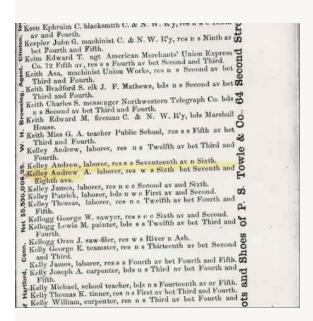
#### An Exile's Farewell

O'er foam-capped waves our gallant bark Bounds on before the wind, And bears me from that dear old land That I must leave behind. And as I tread the deck alone, With sorrow-laden heart; And thoughts of home and friends, that cause The bitter tears to start. And mem'ry brings me back again, Those happy schoolboy days, When rambling o'er the meadows green. We sang such merry lays. Alas! how diff'rent now my fate: How changed the future seems, From what my fancy pictured then In boyhood's bright daydreams. An exile driven from the land Where all my kindred dwell. There's nothing left me but to say Dear Erin, fare the well! And where so e'er my lot be cast, Whatever realms I see, Fond memories of that dear old land Shall ever cling to me. And when my spirit wings its flight From this earthly shell My latest, dying words shall be Dear Erin, fare thee well--Nov 24th 1867



#### Arrival- 4 Dec1867

I was unsure whether this was the correct Andrew. His age is listed as 26, he was actually 16. Next to him is a Thos. Power--a James Powers gave an oath for his, Andrew's, naturalization--possibly related? This voyage would have been in the same time period he wrote "An Exile's Farewell."



#### 1870

Clinton City Directory, Clinton, Iowa. His father Michael Kelly is also listed--sometime before this he changed the spelling of his last name from Kelly to Kelley.



### Marriage Register

He Married Ellen Savage on 12 Jun 1872 at St. Mary's Catholic Church.

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# June 16,1870

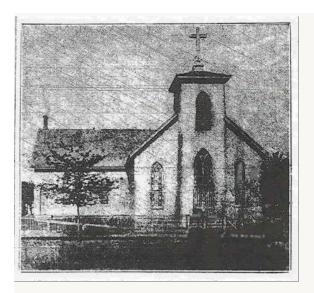
In 1870, Andrew Kelly was 20 years old and lived in Clinton, Iowa. He was living with his brother-in-law, Thomas Savage. Ellen was still listed under her maiden name.

1870 United States Federal Census

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# 1873

Transfer of property from Ellen Savage Kelly (party of the first part) for "natural love and affection" paid by the party of the second part (Andrew A. Kelley)



# The original St. Mary's Church

Clinton, Iowa---Where he married Ellen Savage 12 June 1870 and Kate O'Brien 15 February 1874



# **Our Baby**

Of our sweet little baby the Lord has bereft us. He has taken our angel to join with the rest;Though the joy of our life with him seems to have left us, We bow to His will who does all for the best. In the arms of his mother at the gate he would meet me. At evening returning, my daily toil o'er. But his sweet childish prattle shall never more greet me; In this life my baby boy I'll see no more. And Kate, my poor darling, how sadly she'll miss him, Her heart was bound up in that baby I know. No more he'll hold up to her his wee mouth to kiss him; Alas! never more in her lap will he crow. Now the joy of our life seems for ever departed The Giver has taken His gift back again. And tho' for our loss we feel nigh broken hearted. We return our thanks for the gifts that remain. And we visit the spot where our darling reposes In a sequestered nook 'neath the dark cypress shade. And we've plant a garland of sweet smelling roses, Above the wee grave where our baby is laid.--Oct 24th 1872



# In Memoriam--a poem remembering his wife Kate.

Farewell, may holy angels guide thy spirit to that shore, Where the sorrows of this weary world, shall trouble thee no more. Where peace and joy forever dwell, and partings are unknown And angels ever joyous sing around the Savior's throne. Thoughts of thy happiness above shall cheer my lonely life And of the blest reunion there, with thee my darling wife O! blessed hope of Christians, balm of the stricken heart Thou hast the power to blunt the point of sorrow's piercing dart But still, thy loss dear wife, has left a cloud upon my brow And on this heart that loved thee well, how well thou knowest now. The roses of three summers, scarce hove bloomed since we were wed Now in the bloom of youth, alas! thou'rt numbered with the dead. My tears bedew the grassy mound 'neath which thou'rt laid to rest Our first born little angel too, I've laid upon thy breast. And tho' from a cold world I try my grief to hide; Yet, O! how often, and how much, I miss the fair young bride That three short years ago, I brought to grace my humble home. Ah! little thought we then, how soon the parting was to come. Yet 'tis but for a little while, the parting here dear wife; And thou hast crossed the threshold of that next, that better life. And He who parted us can bring to this poor heart relief. And by his grace can guide me to that realm that knows no grief. There shall we meet again, dear wife, on that bright and beautous shore, Of

1010



# Andrew Kelley and son John Gerald

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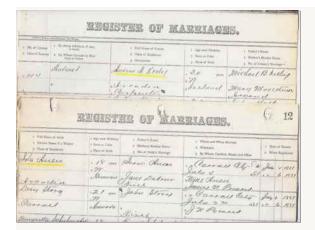
# 6 Nov 1876

Naturalization Oath of Allegience



# **Carroll County Courthouse**

Where he married Ida Auen, 4 July 1881.



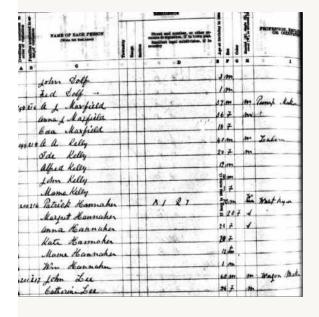
# July 4th 1881, Andrew married Ida Auen

Register of Marriages--this is the document where we first learned the maiden name of Andrew's mother. We thought it said MacEltrick, but now believe it says MacEttrick---perhaps a misspelling or variation of McKettrick.



## 1881-- My Wife

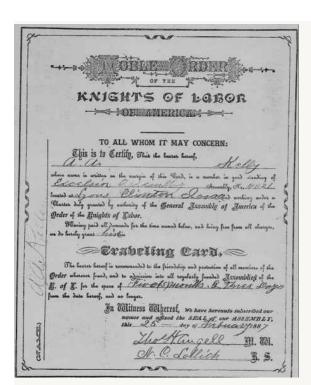
No waxen-faced, pale doll is she; This wife that I have chosen. Nor does she wear a number three "Bottine," and yet I think that shels worth a good, round dozen Of those pale, sickly city belles; Those devotees of Fashion. Her artless face full plainly tells Each phaze of love's pure passion. She dwells within no marble halls, No silks bedeck her form No sparkling, precious pendant falls From ear or neck, nor bracelet galls The plumpness of her arm. No new-style "Derby" crowns her head, No feathery plumes nod on it. She makes a first rate loaf of bread, But can't "fix up" a bonnet. She cannot strum the ivory keys, She's "not much of a singer. "But yet her hands are fit to squeeze The clothes without a wringer. She's healthy, young, she's good and true; I know she loves me dearly. Perhaps she "would not do" for you. But I know she suits me-nearly.--April 1881



#### 1885

In 1885, A.A. Kelly was 40 years old and lived in Clinton County, Iowa.

Iowa, State Census Collection, 1836-1925



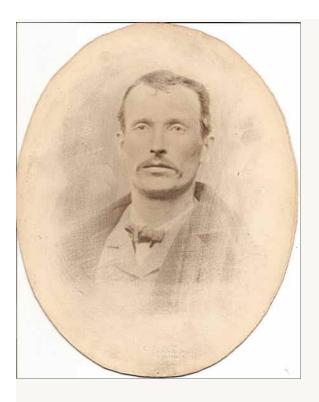
#### 1887

"Travelling Card" showing membership in the Noble Order of the Knights of Labor.

# HOWES BROS. HAVE THE FINEST DIAMONDS. 220 CLINTON CITY DIRECTORY. Keibner Albert, wks Lamb's mills, res 515 n 5th st Keisner Herman, lab, res 513 n 5th st Keister George W., retired, res 666, 9th av Keith B. Story, eng C & N W, res 331, 10th av Keith B. Story, eng C & N W, res 537, 6th av Keith Laura, res 323, 10th av Keith Stearns, lab, bds 323, 10th av Keith Stearns, lab, bds 323, 10th av Keithley John A., packer, Olney & McDaid, res 1110 5th st Keithley John B., painter, res 729, 6th av Keithley Hary A., Mrs., res 215 Basin st Keithly William R., lab, bds 523, 1st av Keller Benjamin wks J. L. Mahan, res Basin st Keller Benjamin, teamster, res ws Barker av Keller Charles D., teamster, res nw cor Prospect and Dunham av Keller Frank, wks S. Shoecraft, rms 4th av bet 1st and 2d st Keller George, teamster, res ws Barker av Keller Neils, wks Lamb's mill, res Liberty st 6 s Howes st Keller Peter, prop saloon and boarding, res Farmers Home, Liberty st Kelley Bames, wks Curtis Bros, res 711 n 2d st Kelley James, wks Curtis Bros, res 711 n 2d st Kelley William, carp, res 538, 2d av Kelley William, carp, res 538, 2d av Kelley Milliam, carp, res 538, 2d av Kelly Ann, res 420, 12th av Kelly Ann, res 420, 12th av Kelly Frank, wks Lamb's mills, bds Chancy House Kelly James, lab, bds 606, 3d av Kelly Patrick, lab, res 422, 12th av KELLY J. A. & BROS., (Incorporated) Joseph A. Kelly, prest; Peter H. Kelly, v prest; Thos. F. Kelly, sec; Wm. J. Kelly, treas office and factory cor 11th av and 15th st Kelly James, lab, bds 606, 3d av Kelly James, lab, bds 606, 3d av Kelly Patrick, lab, res 422, 12th av KELLY PETER H., (Kelly Bros) bds 538, 2d av Geo. Kendall & Co., Steam and 600 bds 538, 2d av

#### 1893

Clinton City Directory



Stockton Studio

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# 1900

A.A. Kelley married Ida in 1881. They had four children in 10 years. In 1900, he was 49 years old and lived in Arcadia, Iowa with his wife, Ida, and 4 sons.

1900 United States Federal Census

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#### 1905

In 1905, Andrew A. Kelley lived in Arcadia, Iowa.

Iowa, State Census Collection, 1836-1925



#### 1910

In 1910, Andrew Kelly was 59 years old and lived in Arcadia, Iowa with his wife, Ida, and 2 sons.

1910 United States Federal Census



# **Andrew Kelley's Children**

Top: Edwin Britt "Pat," Owen Roe "Roy," Eilert Walden "Ike," Bottom: Alfred James, George Bruce, Mary Ellen "Mayme," John Gerald, William Walter "Bill."

# 1914

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# 29 April 1914

Death Certificate



# Headstone

Obituary info--Andrew A. Kelley: at age 16 came to America with father and two sisters settling in Clinton; attended public schools in Clinton and graduated high school with honors.