

Memoirs of Harold Scheer.

My great grandparents were Cort Henry and Elizabeth Oetker Scheer, born in Hanover, Germany. Great Grandfather plied his trade as Blacksmith and Machinist.

Grandfather Dietrich Christian Scheer was born in Hanover on February 18th 1827. In the fall of 1842 the family set sail for America on the "Columbus", the trip taking sixty-three days. They landed at New Orleans and the trip to St. Louis, Missouri, required eleven more days. A relative who had preceded them advised their locating in Madison County, Illinois, and they did so on land in Fort Russell Township which became the family home. The Father died at the age of seventy and his wife followed him two years later.

Grandfather D.C.Scheer received his education in Germany and while there learned from his father the trade of blacksmithing which he followed for a year and a half after coming to the United States. In 1848 he rented a farm in Fort Russell Township cultivating it diligently, and little by little was able to buy land of his own until he had a large estate.

The first home was a house 22X26 feet in dimensions but in 1875 he erected a substantial and commodious farm dwelling, The marriage of D.C.Scheer and Miss Christine Keppie was celebrated April 23rd 1851. She was a native of Bavaria and died at the early age of twenty-nine leaving an infant daughter who passed away sometime later.