

October 9, 1930

My dear Miss Osborne:

I wonder if the records of your Society will help me out in a little matter of local Illinois history? Back in the 1850's there was living at Macoon a family by the name of Vanburkirk. Do you have any record of them and particularly of their political bias? Were they supporters of the movement against the extension of slavery? Do you know whether they were acquaintances at first of Abraham Lincoln? Those are the points on which I want to satisfy myself. If you have no records, could you give me the name of someone in Macoon who is strong on local history?

Please do not go to unusual efforts to find this out for me. Just steer me towards the person who might know if you have no data on the Vanburkirks in your file.

And thanking you in advance for your kind efforts please believe me

Cordially yours

Mallon

Mallon