Children of Irwin unions from Briscarnagh

Irwin
Baptised 9 April 1813 Sarah, daughter of Robert Erwin [thus] and Margaret Pritchard, Briskernagh.

Irwin
Baptised 23 December 1827, Elizabeth daughter of John Irwin and Jane Conly, Briskernagh [thus].

*Irwin. Baptised 7 September 1828 Robert son of Joseph Irwin and Mary Pritchard, Briscarnagh

McCrief. Baptised 8 January 1830 Joseph son of Foster McCrief and Mary Irwin of Briskernagh [thus].

* This baptism seems to be the only relevant one which links with your family group sheet on the Irwin/Pritchard line.

Children of Prichard unions from Briscarnagh

Bryce:
Baptised 18 April 1826 James Henry, son of James Bryce and Jane Prichard, Briskinagh [thus].

Bonum
Baptised 9 March 1828 Robert son of Wm. Bonum and Mary Prichard, Briskernagh [thus].

Hall
Baptised 31 January 1830 David, son of George Hall and Jane Prichard, Briskernagh [thus].

Baptised 7 October 1832 Bessy, daughter of above union and place.

From this you will see that nothing is coming to light on James Pritchard (#823 and his wife Judith Ferguson (#824) We get one reference to a child named Robert (born 1828) of the union of Joseph Irwin (#822) and Mary Pritchard (#821) of Briscarnagh. This child named Robert is not listed in your family tree for this union.

There is a strong possibility that some of the family were Church of Ireland (Anglican) but became Methodist and that this is why we are hitting this dearth of records. The Wesleyan Methodist Circuit operated from Cootehill, Co. Cavan and the only extant baptismal records are those from 1846. These are too late to throw any light on the families sought.

The Ferguson surname in the 1828 return only occurs in Lisnalee townland where a John Ferguson held 10 acres and in Drum village where a Widow and Edward Ferguson held one acre each on lease.

This is a full overview of the extant records of the Church of Ireland from 1810. Methodist records are only extant from 1846 and Presbyterian records for baptisms from 1867 and 1845 respectively. Regrettably due to the scarcity of early church records I cannot recommend any other course to take. You could expend money unnecessarily on searches that would yield nothing and I would not recommend this.

Yours sincerely

Theo McMahon