# **Through Irish Eyes**

Seeing the world as home

by

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Part I. Ireland Back in the Day and Part II. On the Lamb with Ed and Mary

#### First Edition

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Titles in the *Through Irish Eyes* Series

Part I. Ireland Back in the Day
Part II. On the Lamb with Ed and Mary
Part III. Putting a Finger on History – the Caseys
Part IV. Outer Leaves of the Sheridan Tree
Part V. The Tintypes and Other Pictures

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#### **Foreword**

"If you cannot get rid of the family skeleton, you may as well make it dance."

- George Bernard Shaw

When I was growing up I heard such things as, "You're a corker, you are." Whenever there was a thunder storm my Grandmother Faye Casey would say "The potato wagons are rolling in heaven." It all sounded so natural to me that I never made an Irish association with any of it. My great uncles always talked of being Irish but to me it seemed so much in the distant past.

One day at my Mother's house I found a secretarial pad with a little bit of the Irish family history written in it. In January of 1991, Mom had asked Great-Aunt Marie Casey about the Caseys and Lambs and she wrote down the answers to those questions. My mother was named for Aunt Marie, the only surviving child of John P. Casey Jr. and Rose M. Lamb Casey. Several months later, we were all gathered around the dining room table and I started asking Aunt Marie for some of the details of what Mom had written down.

After I retired in 2007, I decided to take what Aunt Marie had provided and expand on it with whatever could be found on the Internet and in other family records. The world and the availability of the information it held, had changed considerably since that evening in 1991. I never expected to find as much as I did and I never expected to fall in love with my ancestors, but I did.

My research comes from many places: old wills, maps, titles, letters, census information, birth, death, and marriage certificates, ships' manifests, captain's journals, history books, old newspapers, and family stories. A one page document found in the basement of my childhood home in Marmet, West Virginia, proved invaluable as to the origin of the Lamb clan, their history, birth dates, and areas of origin in Ireland. Written in 1913 by Great-Uncle Ed Lamb, Rose Casey's brother, it contained information that enabled me to find the ship on which the Lambs emigrated to America. Without the 'Uncle Ed note', it would have been nearly impossible to find the right people on the right ship.

The truest treasure trove turned out to be in the basement of Rose Lamb Casey's house. Long afflicted with pack-rat-itis, the Caseys kept letters and pictures relating to all the Irish branches of the family, the Lambs, Monaghans, Sheridans, and Caseys. The family owes Rose's granddaughter, Anita, a debt of gratitude for preserving these treasures.

Another amazing find was the journal of the captain of the *Bridgewater*, the ship on which the Lambs came to America. The Mystic Seaport Research Center in Connecticut holds a wealth of information and the staff are gracious and willing to help with research.

Another treasure trove of information, and the memory keeper of the third generation Irish-Americans, was Pat Casey, my mother's baby brother. He helped me to understand the personalities of many of my great uncles and aunts, all of whom I knew, but few of whom I understood when I was young. Uncle Pat knew them, understood them, and most of all, loved every one of them.

It was also a pleasure and an honor to drive all over southern West Virginia with my mother, Marie Casey Hudnall, in search of old graves, farm, store, and house sites. Mom, if you are reading this, thank you. I loved every minute of it and remain amazed at what you remembered about where those places were located.

There are a number of discrepancies between the historical records and what was remembered by family members as they grew older. As all genealogists discover if they stay at it long enough, memories can get in the way of history. With family stories, however, there is usually an element of truth somewhere in the story, even though some of the details are not remembered accurately. Sometimes the germ of the story becomes obvious when the legend is compared to historical records. This proved true of our family legends and helped to shed light on the personalities involved.

One of the most intriguing family legends was the Lamb story of the 'little angel that died at sea'. Some of these legends are addressed in Appendix 1. The Legends and The Reality.

#### The Records and Conventions and a Word about Images

Finding official Irish records prior to 1864 remains extremely difficult and getting any scrap of information often involves reading microfilms of original church records from Ireland. Oftentimes these records are in Latin, are faded, smudged, generally eyestraining, and difficult to decipher. Just when one thinks one has uncovered a gem, one comes smack up against the Irish cultural pattern of naming children, a pattern resulting in the duplication of names, multiple times over, within the same generations.

Irish families in the 1800s were large to begin with. The naming conventions ensured that names would propagate almost exponentially in succeeding generations. Brothers and sisters, already given names of relatives preceding them, would go on to name their own children in the very same manner. The result being, one brother or sister would give roughly 50% of their children the same names as were given to roughly 50% of the children of all of their brothers and sisters. A boon in intuitively picking out relatives in a pinch, this quickly becomes its own mathematical population-naming explosion. Herein is the pattern for naming Irish children prevalent at the time:

The first son was named for the father's father, the first daughter for the mother's mother.

The second son – the mother's father, the second daughter – the father's mother.

The third son – the father, the third daughter – the mother.

The fourth son – the father's eldest brother, the fourth daughter – the mother's eldest sister.

The fifth son – the mother's eldest brother, the fifth daughter – the father's eldest sister.

While this custom was not always adhered to, it does appear that names were passed down with great regularity in our family in much the same way as the cultural pattern indicates. This pattern broke down as families became more Americanized.

Some discrepancies in dates and name spellings are noted. Some of the misspellings may help future researchers find more of the old records. Ages were a challenge as records did not often agree. Weight was given first to official documents then to family sources. I really do know how to add and subtract, but it may often seem like that isn't the case. The historical renderings of economics, politics, and national history are my own interpretation of facts and I take full responsibility for any mistakes.

The family had a lot of photos and tintypes taken in the course of their lives. The many unlabeled photographs were clearly important to the family for them to be saved for more than 100 years. Many were identified, yet none were identified as being of Edward or Mary Lamb. Many photos were taken while both Edward and Mary were living in close proximity to their children. Logically it makes no sense, that of the hundred-plus images, none were of the central figures of the family. Unless another branch of the family possesses similar, but identified images, the true identities are lost forever.

Any serious genealogist will admit that sometimes an image or a record speaks to them, and so it is with me. Using a process of elimination, an attempt was made to identify some of the images. Family members that were missing from the collection were considered as 'possibles'. If images of that person's immediate family members were identified, the unidentified images were looked at for several factors. Firstly, when were the types of photography invented and more importantly, commonly used. Secondly, which image bore a resemblance to an identified, immediate family member. Thirdly, did the period of dress match the time of the person, something harder than one might imagine. Lastly, if there was more than one person in the image, what was their familiarity with each other. Essentially, a possible identification was backed into, as an educated guess. Consequently, a number of images are labeled 'possible tintype of" and 'possible photograph of".

Knowing that sometime in the future some of these deductions will be proved to be wrong, is a given. For when that inevitability happens, I apologize to current and future generations. Don't let that inevitability cause the narrative to be discounted.

I offer my heartfelt thanks to the Family History Library in Salt Lake City and to the West Virginia State Culture Center. Both perform a priceless service for all of us in preserving our shared family histories.

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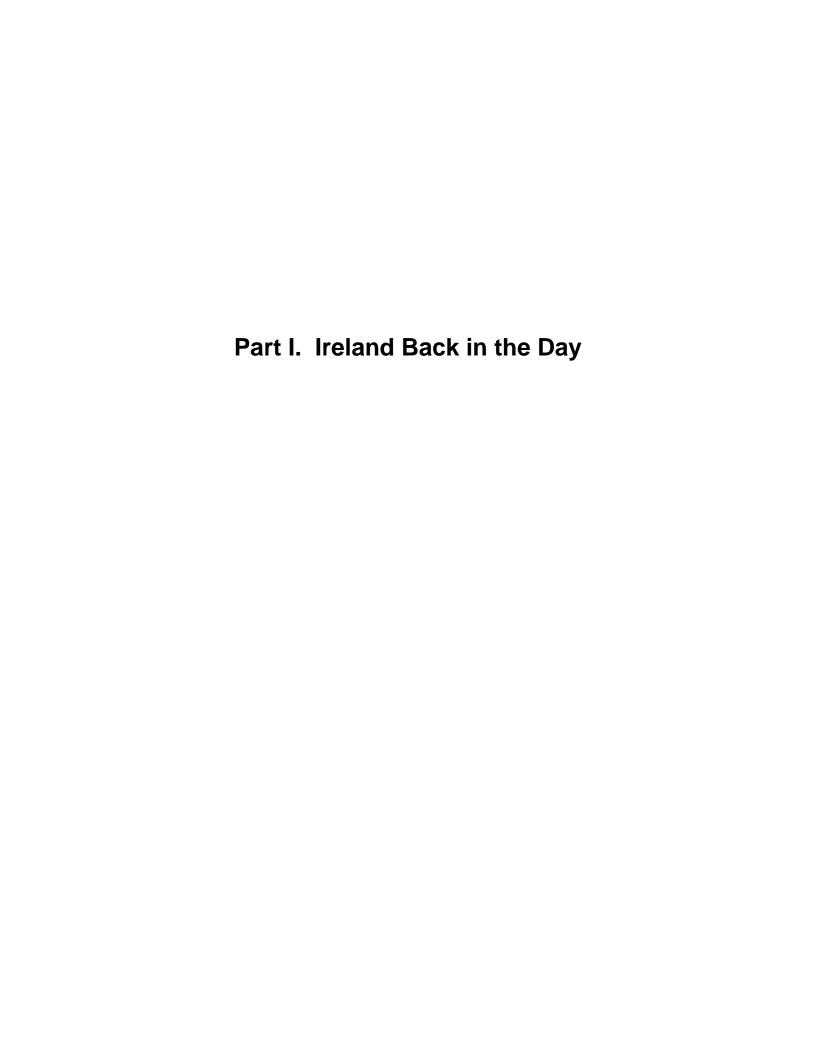
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## A Wee Bit of History

To understand the Irish side of the family, it was necessary to step back in time and see what their life was like in Ireland. The conditions there affected the lives of the Caseys, Sheridans, Lambs and Monaghans. Members of all four families left Ireland within five years of each other. Edward Lamb and Mary Monaghan went first to England in the early 1850s and lived and worked there for ten years. John Casey and Bridget Sheridan went directly to America in 1850, after first going to Liverpool to sail on an American ship. Many in John Casey's and Bridget Sheridan's families preceded them to America in the 1840s.

Beginning in the eighth century, Ireland was invaded off and on for four centuries by the Vikings. In 1154 an Englishman by the name of Nicholas Breakspear became Pope Adrian IV and issued a papal bull, *Laudabiliter*, authorizing the invasion of Ireland by the Norman English King, Henry II. The bull, a truly appropriate name, was meant "...to enlarge the boundaries of the Church, (and) to proclaim the truths of the Christian religion to a rude and ignorant people (the Irish)..." This set the stage for centuries of conflict between the English and the Irish.

Henry's allies, the Norman warlords, invaded Ireland fifteen years later in 1169. The deposed Irish King of Leinster, Dermont MacMurrough, had provided the excuse by inviting the Normans to invade in a misguided and selfish attempt to regain his throne. Succeeding popes recognized the original papal bull and the legality of the occupation of Ireland in order to save the souls of the Irish, and thereby undo the damage supposedly done by the Vikings. Over the next four centuries the Irish had many a rising against these warlords and their harsh rule.

When the Reformation of the Roman Catholic Church came along in the 16<sup>th</sup> century in Europe, most especially in 1534 in England under Henry VIII, it became strategically important to exercise even more of a stranglehold over Ireland. The English needed to prevent any part of the island from being used by other European Catholic monarchs to launch an invasion of England, an endeavor already blessed by the sitting pope who hoped to reverse the English Reformation.

As the throne of England went back and forth among Henry VIII's heirs, so also did the religious wars wax and wane before settling, albeit temporarily, on the English Queen Elizabeth I. After Elizabeth's death, the situation erupted again into a long Civil War in England in the mid-1600s between the forces of Parliament and those of King Charles I who had a Catholic wife and was suspected of being a closet Catholic himself.

The Irish were to suffer greatly for hundreds of years from this situation. King Charles' wife had tried to raise an Irish Catholic army to defeat the forces of Parliament in the English Civil War. Support for the Catholic monarchy was strong in Ireland and the Parliamentary victor in these struggles, Oliver Cromwell, made sure the Irish paid dearly for that support for centuries to come. After King Charles I was executed, Parliament and Oliver Cromwell turned their attention to punishing the Irish.

In 1649 Cromwell defeated the Catholic forces at Drogheda and reportedly ordered his army to slay all of the inhabitants of that unfortunate town. Cromwell's invasion is memorialized in an Irish curse that was a favorite of Mary Monaghan Lamb: "Go! And may the curse of Cromwell go with you. That you may never come back, nor a word from you!"

Punishment of the Irish was codified into law in 1690 when King William III, otherwise known as William of Orange, introduced the Penal Laws and banned the practice of Catholicism as the government sought to shore up the Church of England in Ireland.

Under the Penal Laws, Catholics were bared from purchasing land, and any estates were divided at death among all sons, unless, of course, the eldest turned Protestant. If he did, he could inherit the entire estate. "No Catholic could vote, hold office, practise (sic) law, join the army, carry a sword, keep a gun, or own a horse worth more than" five pounds. The Irish and their church were outcasts together in Ireland and the two identities merged together. They were not Irish who also happened to be Catholic or Catholics who happened to be Irish. They were Irish Catholics. When they came to America by the hundreds of thousands, they brought that identity with them.

Although the Penal Laws had been repealed by the time of the potato famine, the laws had done their work in terms of transferring ownership of the land from the Irish. Very few Irish owned the land they worked or the cottages they lived in. Their economy was a primitive farming economy, feudal in nature, and the Irish lived as little more than cottiers in their own country. Sharecroppers, they used their crops to pay their rent and buy what they needed.

English landlords further preserved the economic status quo by denying gainful employment to Catholics, especially in the more industrialized North. Irish men were left unemployed in these areas and the women went to work for a pittance in the factories. This kept the cost of goods low for the English market, kept the Irish living at subsistence levels, and perhaps most importantly, kept the Irish and the less well off English loyalists at odds over their livelihoods. The English in Ireland understood that if you want to keep

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> <u>The Famine Ships,</u> <u>The Irish Exodus to America</u>, Edward Laxton, Henry Holt and Company, New York, Copyright 1996, page 21.

a person down, deprive them of an education and a decent living, and this they did very well in the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

From 1727 to 1793, only Protestants who owned land worth at least 40 shillings outright, or held that much land in lease, were allowed to vote. After 1793, and until 1829, both Protestant and Catholic freeholders, as they were called, could vote if their freehold was worth at least 40 shillings. After 1829 the franchise level was increased to 10 pounds, greatly favoring landlords and the moneyed classes. In addition, until the Ballot Act of 1872, in order to vote a man had to stand up and publicly declare his electoral allegiance. Women, of course, could not vote. All of this had the expected result of returning landlords' candidates to office and maintaining the status quo.

In the rural areas the croppies, as the Irish tenants were called, were totally dependent on the English purchase of their crops for export to the market abroad. When the potato blight came in 1846, it devastated the countryside and the Irish were soon faced with a decision: leave Ireland or starve. They left by the hundreds of thousands and those who remained starved in nearly equal numbers.

## The Great Hunger and Eviction

Prior to the potato blight, most Irish who emigrated did so voluntarily. These early emigrants had more choices in their lives as most possessed some amount of capital. The poorer Irish remained at home in Ireland with fewer choices. As their numbers grew in population but the amount of land to be farmed did not, they became a thorn in the sides of their English landlords. Birth rates were extraordinarily high and as the population increased, the amount of crops that could be paid to the landlords as rent, was limited by the amount of land to be farmed. This presented a problem to the land owners as they had fixed expenses of their own and often lived a lavish lifestyle. Oftentimes, landlords had great difficulty paying their own taxes, both the tax on the land, and the poor tax, a tax assessed to help support the growing numbers of impoverished poor, or in other words, the Irish people.

To control the political situation, especially in the North counties of Ulster Province, English landlords would manipulate the crops they would buy, often refusing to buy the more valuable crop from Irish farmers. If Irish farmers were making a good, albeit subsistence living, growing flax, they might find the next year that the linen factories in Ulster had another supplier of flax.

When the potato blight struck, many English landholders looked upon it early on as an opportunity to thin the ranks of people dependent on the land. English landlords and in

some cases, the English government itself, paid the passages of the poor Irish evictees, often giving the evictees no choice of whether to stay or leave. This practice became known as landlord eviction and is in stark contrast to the voluntary immigration that occurred at the same time. The landlord evictions were generally cheaply done and often were on unsafe, overloaded ships. These were mainly responsible for what came to be known as the coffin ships of 1847.

In many cases, getting rid of the tenants was the only consideration. Their survival did not necessarily play any part in the decision. With fewer tenants to be fed, the cost of their passage could often be recovered in the appreciation of land values and the increased availability of crops. In many, if not most cases of eviction, the houses of the evictees were torn down as soon as their belongings could be thrown outside. In addition to breaking the hearts of the evictees, this practice prevented any new tenants from moving into the empty houses.

Oftentimes the English landlords made promises of better situations awaiting on the other side of the Atlantic. These promises could be made with impunity because the landlords knew the emigrants would not arrive back on their doorsteps in Ireland, no matter what they found in the United States or Canada.

During the Great Hunger, Ireland lost almost 2 million people of a total population of roughly 6.5 million, to starvation and to emigration. The mass emigration of Irish to America changed not only Ireland, but also irrevocably changed America and American history.

Many of these emigrants were Celtic speakers and their loss in Ireland had a devastating effect on the language. Since many were tenant farmers, the Irish countryside underwent a staggering transformation. Large estates in Ireland tripled during this time and conversely, the number of small family owned farms plummeted from 300,000 to 88,000.<sup>2</sup>

The fungus *phytophthora infestans* first hit Waterford and Wexford in the south of the country in 1845. By 1846 it had spread widely and by 1847 was raging across the length and breadth of Ireland. There were no modern remedies to stop it and its effect was immediately devastating. For years afterward, Irish farmers would watch the potato crop after harvest, in the fear that it would blacken and rot overnight.

The tenant farmers were dependent on the potato crop for food. A typical Irish family had to grow 6 tons of potatoes a year to survive. Since the crop was also the method of

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The Famine Immigrants, Lists of Irish Immigrants Arriving at the Port of New York, 1846-1851, Edited by Ira Glazier and Michael Tepper, Baltimore, Genealogical Publishing Company, 1984-1984.

payment to landlords, and was used for barter for other goods and services, the potato was essential to survival.

In reality to call the situation a famine is a misnomer because there was abundant food. While the Irish were starving, food was being exported from Ireland. That food was just not being made available to the Irish people. More money could be made by exporting the food to England. Many English also blamed the Irish themselves for the situation, believing that the Irish were somehow an inferior race who reproduced far too often.

More than a century later the English government apologized to the people of Ireland for the treatment they received in those horrible years.

#### **Emigration**

In 'The Famine Immigrants', Ira Glazier, Editor, 1983, writes, "the modus operandi governing the Famine migration was both simple and straightforward – emigration in the current year depended on the harvest of the preceding year. To be felt at the local level it then took two additional years for the 'chain effects' that followed emigration. The 'chain effects' were associated with family remittances and prepaid fares. According to contemporary sources, between one-quarter and three-quarters of the Irish who emigrated from Liverpool in the famine years had their passages prepaid. Remittances were sent back by the family members who had emigrated in earlier years. The extent of remittance payments depended on the strength of the family relationship as well as on the opportunities for employment and savings in the immigrant community in the new country."

The areas of Ireland from which emigration was the heaviest were the north central and northwest sections of the country. Counties Cavan, Monaghan, and Longford experienced emigration of 17 - 20% of their total population. The only county with a higher percentage of population loss was Roscommon, also a northern county. While the south of Ireland suffered from extreme destitution, it had the lowest level of population loss. This may have been because the inhabitants could not afford to emigrate or had no one else to pay for their passage. The English had a budding industrial establishment in the north in Ulster Province and a well established Protestant population there, employed in the higher paying jobs. Perhaps the southern Irish had fewer reasons to leave their beloved homeland.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Ibid., The Famine Immigrants, Ira Glazier, Editor, 1983.

Every Irishman who wrote of his success to his friends back home encouraged them to join him. The Irish built enclave communities around the people from back home, and churches to serve those communities, further strengthening their life in America. They helped each other, and in so doing, helped themselves.

Family remittances may have been the cause of a second wave of emigration after declining numbers in 1847 and the first half of 1848. That coupled with the disastrous crop failure throughout Ireland in 1848, may have been the impetus for the emigration of some of the Caseys in 1848, and of John and Bridget in 1850, even though the harvest was slightly better in the intervening years. Emigration numbers were over 200,000 in 1849 and in 1850. As will be seen later, John Casey had at least two sisters who had already made the move, as well as several nieces and nephews. Bridget Sheridan Casey had relatives already settled in America by 1846 and many more who were to come later.

It is unlikely that the Caseys were involuntary evictees. Information indicates that it was a well planned move. The young and the healthy were not so readily evicted as they were more productive, and could more readily support themselves than could the old, the sick, the infirm. Family letters indicate that John's and Bridget's families in Ireland had, in general, contented and happy lives there. There was, however, a plan in place, and a place was being prepared for John and Bridget.

While the Lambs took a different route, their emigration was probably for many of the same reasons. Edward Lamb decided to go either with or shortly after, his brother Patrick, to Durham County in England to work in the coal mines that were opening up in the Great Northern Coal Fields.

## **Crossing the Pond**

Emigration was a dangerous undertaking in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century. In general, it was not an easy passage, especially for those sailing on British or Irish ships from Irish ports. As many as one in seven Irish immigrants died in the effort from 1846 to 1851. One hundred and seven of the evictees of Lord Palmerston's estate died on a single ship, the *Lord Ashburton* in October 1847. Another ship, the *Londonderry*, which left the port of Derry in the winter of 1848 carrying 174 passengers, encountered a storm. The captain forced the emigrants into the after cabin where 31 women, 23 men, and 18 children suffocated.

Typhus was one of the most contagious diseases ever known in 1847. Known as 'ships fever', also camp fever and jail fever, it was spread readily in overcrowded, unclean conditions such as existed aboard some of the famine ships. Carried in the dried feces of mice, lice, and fleas, when airborne, it was easily inhaled or it entered the body through

the eyes. In 1847, the year of the coffin ships, many people died of typhoid fever, either during the voyage, or shortly after landing.

Both English and America ships carried emigrants but as the trade in emigrants became more profitable, American ship owners dominated the enterprise with bigger vessels. These larger ships tended to leave from the more established English port of Liverpool, while many of the English ships left from smaller Irish ports. Not all Irish had a choice in their embarkation port. Many evictees whose fares were paid by English landlords sailed from the smaller Irish ports on the smaller, less sea worthy ships. No matter the port of embarkation, the ships were almost entirely sailing ships, not the newer, more modern steam ships coming into service at the time.

The American ships that sailed from Waterloo Docks at Liverpool tended to be safer as they were wider-hulled and were more profitable because they carried more passengers. Passage across the Irish Channel to Liverpool could be had cheaply or sometimes for free if ballast was needed for the short 300 mile voyage. Edward Laxton writes in *The Famine Ships*, "More often however, they were ferried across the Irish Sea to Liverpool on the hated British mainland, to seek bigger ships for the Atlantic crossing. Liverpool was the ill-famed slavers' port, where human cargo always had a value, and the Irish would travel in no greater comfort than the slaves before them."

Leaving Liverpool, the ship would sail out of the Mersey River and head south between Ireland and Wales, then head West under the southern tip of Ireland. Even though the journey was safer, it must have been emotionally wrenching to go first to England, and then to see the Irish coast one last time from the deck of the ship as it left Liverpool for America. Ships bound for more northern ports in North America, such as Boston or Canada, would most often sail around the northern tip of Ireland, but in winter, this northerly route could be quite dangerous due to icebergs.

Along with three-quarters of all other emigrants, the route to Liverpool and from there to New York, became the route of the Casey family, the Sheridans, and later, that of the Lambs.

The Irish were cargo on these voyages. There were no stately cabins for them, no midnight buffets, no roulette wheels, and no dining at the captain's table. Far too often, there was not enough food for the voyage.

Rations for each passenger generally included one gallon of water a day for drinking and all other water needs. Food and water rations were strictly limited and based on an average time for the passage. Children under 14 would generally receive half rations.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> <u>The Famine Ships, The Irish Exodus to America</u>, Edward Laxton, Henry Holt and Company, New York, Copyright 1996, page 7.

On some of the ships, often those illegally overloaded, the crew would not dispense the rations daily but would leave the passengers to starve for days on end. This situation was exacerbated by the uncertainty of the duration of the crossing.

The passage from any of the many ports, Belfast, Liverpool, Dublin, Waterford, Cork, etc. took roughly 6 weeks to New York. One ship was at sea for 15 weeks. The fastest made the voyage in 16 days. Edward and Mary Lamb's passage took 9 weeks, half again longer than would normally be expected.

Many ships went to Canada, especially to Quebec, which required less paperwork since Canada was part of the British Empire. Many of the immigrants who landed in Canada, if not most of them, intended to and did, go on to the United States by land. Sailing to Canada instead of the United States carried its own particular perils. Several ships and passengers were lost to icebergs.

Today's mockups of famine ships show below deck quarters looking much like the inside of the buildings at Dachau concentration camp in Germany. There were no toilets on board, just buckets that had to be emptied overboard. In reasonable weather groups of 20 or 30 passengers were allowed on deck to clean themselves or get fresh air. They washed in sea water when it was possible to do so. Cooking was not allowed below decks. Consequently, when the weather was bad, as it often was, there was no cooking at all and no one but the crew allowed on deck. Each passenger was allotted a small amount of space, between 9 and 12 square feet, in which to sleep and to stash all their worldly belongings. All their clothes, farm implements, tools of their trade, everything they owned in life had to fit in that space.

One family legend has many Casey brothers going to South America after John Casey disembarked in North America. While many Irish did go to South America, the emigrants were cargo and it would have been inefficient for a ship to go first to North America and continue on to South America. Ships from Ireland and England regularly made round trips to Canada and New York. Westbound they carried emigrants. Heading back to England they carried cotton, flax or Canadian lumber. The Irish made the westbound trip profitable but they were not the main purpose of the voyage. Some in Bridget Sheridan's family went to Australia and perhaps this was the origin of the family legend.

Roughly five thousand voyages were made across the Atlantic carrying Irish emigrants in the six years of the Famine Emigration. In 1846 the fare was 3 to 5 pounds, half a year's wages, or about \$15 US equivalent. Posters advertised the sailing of ships in Ireland and Liverpool.

Passengers went through a roll call on deck as the ship was being towed out of port. If there was a ship's medical officer on board, he, and it was always a he, had the power to allow them to continue or to send them back to port. Sickly passengers would often be sent back to shore, without regard to the fate of rest of their family. This roll call helped to give us our passenger manifests that can now be searched.

In 1850 our Caseys: John, Bridget, Ann, Nicholas, and little Patrick, sailed on the American ship *Constitution* from Waterloo Docks in Liverpool. Fourteen years later in 1864, the Lambs: Edward, Mary, Patrick and Miles, sailed on the American ship *Bridgewater* from those same docks in Liverpool. Like others before them they sailed south and west between Wales and Ireland and in all likelihood, if they were allowed on deck, saw their beloved Irish coast along the way for the last time.

#### Sources:

<u>The Famine Ships, The Irish Exodus to America</u>, Edward Lawton, Henry Holt and Company, New York, Copyright 1996.

The Famine Immigrants, Lists of Irish Immigrants Arriving at the Port of New York, 1846-1851, Edited by Ira Glazier and Michael Tepper, Baltimore, Genealogical Publishing Company, 1984-1984.

Wikipedia

And many, many more minor sources

Part II. On the Lamb with Ed and Mary	

#### Introduction

"To speak the name of the dead, is to make them live again and restores the breath of life to he who has vanished."

– Inscription on the tomb of Tutankhaumun

This is the story of Edward and Mary Monaghan Lamb. Contrary to family legend, both the Lamb and the Monaghan families were Irish in origin but with a large dose of English life thrown into the mix.

Family legends painted only a small picture of this side of the family but it was enough to know that Edward and Mary would be interesting.<sup>5</sup> The quest to find them began with family stories and progressed with the discovery of some old letters in the basement of the Casey family home in Charleston, West Virginia. It was further aided by pictures belonging to their granddaughter and by information found in the Hudnall family home in Marmet, West Virginia. Written in 1913 by the youngest son of Edward and Mary, who was also named Edward Lamb, the single sheet of paper contained a brief outline of his immediate family with some names and dates.

This paper, hereafter referred to as the 'Uncle Ed Note' for clarity, contained a reference to the areas of Ireland where both his father, Edward, and his mother, Mary, had been born. While many of the dates referenced in the note turned out to be incorrect, the note proved to be the launching point for all of the research that followed.<sup>6</sup>

Unlike the Caseys, the Lambs would come to America long after the Great Hunger had ended and they did so after a long stay in England where Edward worked as a coal miner, along with one, and perhaps two, of his brothers. Mary's sister Rose was married to Edward's brother Patrick and the two couples lived as neighbors in Willington, England, for nearly 10 years, sharing tragedies and triumphs together.

Five of Edward and Mary's ten children were born in Willington. These children formed an extended family with their cousins and their aunt and uncle in the colliery village where they lived in Northeast England. Over the years they were there, several coal miners from the area immigrated to the coal mining regions of Virginia, now West Virginia, and southwestern Pennsylvania. The Lambs were preceded to their new life in

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> See Appendix 1. The Legends and The Reality

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> See Appendix 5. The Uncle Ed Note

America by friends they knew from Ireland or had met in England and the two Lamb brothers and the two Monaghan sisters remained in touch after Edward and Mary left for America.

It took a lot of courage to pick up everything they owned in life and move 3,000 miles away to a place they had never seen. When Edward and Mary left England, the American Civil War was still being fought in Virginia, the very destination they had in mind. Following the path of the friends who went before them, they went directly to the border area of the War, the new state of West Virginia, and they did so fully aware of the dangers and the potential rewards. They consciously chose this area because there was well paying work for someone with Edward's skills and they had friends already there. Most importantly, a family could own land and livestock and raise their own food, something out of their reach in the English mining village of Willington.

As for Mary, perhaps she thought that her broken heart could mend in West Virginia and that what was left of her family after the devastating deaths in England, could prosper and survive. Although more heartache awaited her, her family did indeed prosper and survive. When she died, she left behind newspaper and magazine clippings of poems of loved ones lost, and news of Ireland.

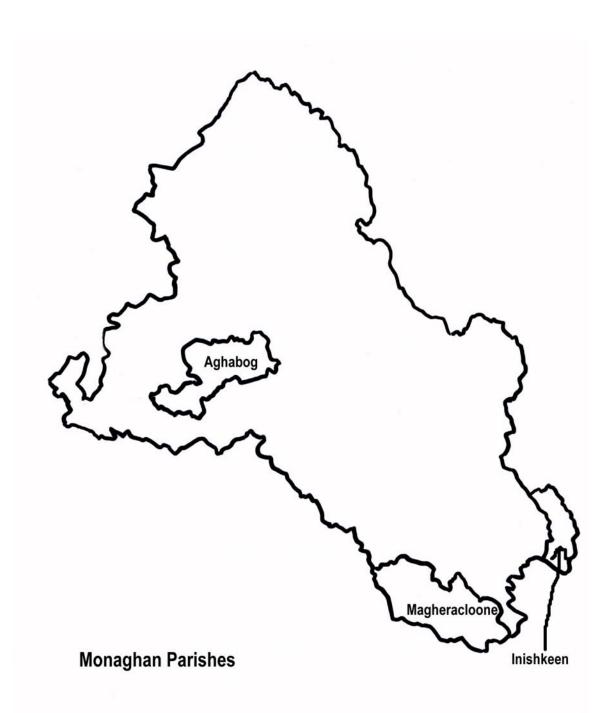
The whip of hunger scourged them from the glens and quiet moors, But there's a hunger of the heart that plenty never cures; And they shall pine to walk again the rough road that is yours.

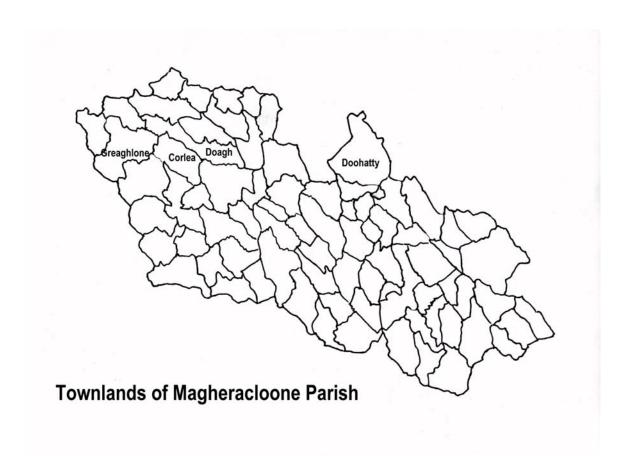
Within the city streets, hot, hurried, full of care, A sudden dream shall bring them a whiff of Irish air-A cool air, faintly-scented, blown soft from otherwhere.

-"The Passing of the Gael" - Eithna Carbery

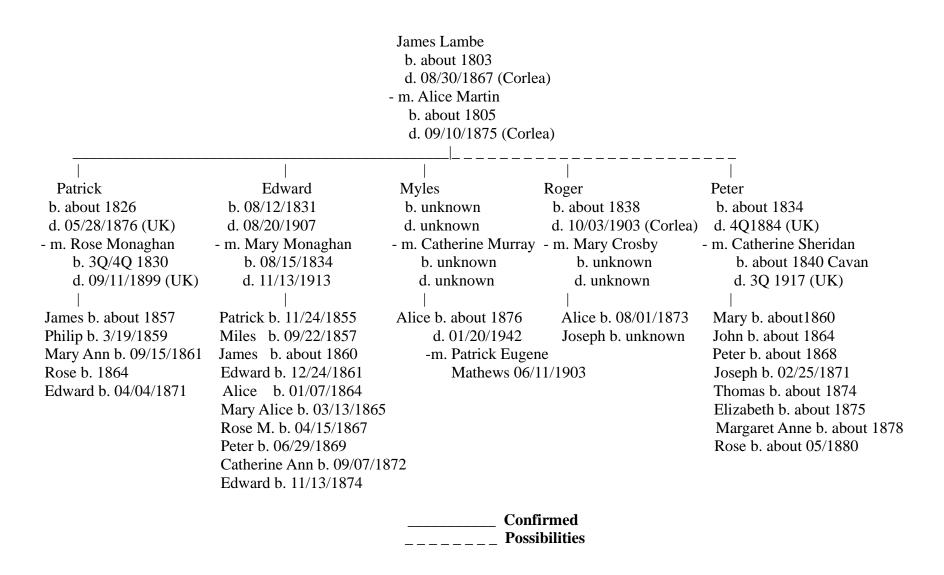
# The Locations in Ireland



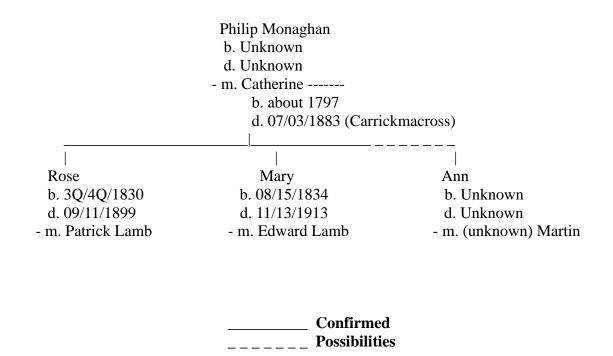




#### The Cast of Characters – Lamb



# **The Cast of Characters – Monaghan**



## The Beginning in Ireland

While the name Lamb may sound English, it's likely that it comes from the Gaelic Leum, or the primitive Celtic Lam, signifying a sword or armor. Monaghan is a variant of the Irish name Monahan, an Anglicized form of the Gaelic O'Manachain, meaning a descendant of manach, a monk. In England, and one supposes Ireland also, Edward Lamb wrote his name in his own hand with an ending 'e', as Lambe. In census records in both England and America, it became simply Lamb. Whether that was a conscious choice on his part or not, we'll never know. He may have accepted the spelling in later years simply because everyone else recording an official trail had already changed it for him. Today there are still many families in Durham County, England, named Lamb, and at least one named Lambe.

Both Edward and Mary were born well in advance of the Home Rule so long fought for all over Ireland and both were from the especially dangerous Ulster Province, which straddles the border between today's Republic of Ireland and the Republic of Northern Ireland. Of the four provinces of Ireland, Ulster was the one most dominated by Orange Society activism, prejudice, and violence. Ulster Province was where English money was heavily invested in establishing industry at the dawn of the Industrial Revolution. Maintaining this industrial might depended on remaining a decade or so behind England in wages and working conditions. For a Catholic man, Ulster Province held little prospect of a promising future.

Edward and Mary were teenagers during the Great Hunger and that experience would have affected them considerably. Both families were involved in farming and children were the farmer's wealth. The older sons would be expected to work while the younger ones might actually go to school. This could explain why Edward could read and write, but his older brother Patrick could not. Daughters were expected to do their share. As the Irish say, when you are born, "your bread is baked for life."

## **Edward's Family**

The son of James Lambe, a farmer and laborer, and Alice Martin Lambe, of 'Maracloon'<sup>8</sup>, Edward was born on August 12, 1831, the year Charles Darwin embarked

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Marriage certificate, Registration District Auckland, County of Durham, England, 1855. Index 10a142.

for the Galapagos Islands on the HMS Beagle, and many years prior to Queen Victoria's ascension to the throne of England.

Nothing has been found that would indicate that the Lambes were wealthy land owners or English in ancestry. The fact that one and perhaps two of his brothers were illiterate coal miners further lends itself to this supposition.

County Monaghan is a border county entirely in the Republic of Ireland. Magheracloone, at slightly less than 13,000 acres, is the largest parish in south Monaghan, and the Lambs have been numerous there and in surrounding areas for centuries.

All the surviving family letters and papers reference places in Ireland that are not villages to speak of, but are small sections of a civil parish. Called townlands they are not necessarily towns or even villages per se. In general they're roughly the land acreage of a good sized American family farm, or a small town. Generally, though not always, there isn't really a commercial center. Several townlands together make up a civil parish. Several civil parishes comprise a county. Several counties comprise a province. This roll up ignores other boundaries also used in Ireland, the in-between areas of Poor Law Unions and Baronies. The sequence is generally townland, then barony, then civil parish, poor law union, county, and finally, province. The Irish are very regionalistic, much like West Virginians, and so associate themselves with all of these areas.

Edward Lamb's family lived in the townlands of Greaghlone and Corlea. Greaghlone<sup>10</sup>, consists of 449 acres. Adjacent to Greaghlone, Corlea consists of 252 acres. The centers of the two townlands are within 2 miles of each other, making them more akin to adjacent farms.<sup>11</sup> Both are in the Barony of Farney, the civil parish of Magheracloone (*Machaire (na) Cluain*, Pasture Plain), the Poor Law Union of Carrickmacross (*Carraig Mhachaire Rois*, Rock on the Wooded Plain), in County Monaghan, Ulster Provence. Today

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Parish marriage records, St. Wilfrid's Catholic Church, Bishop Auckland, England, May 31, 1852. 'Maracloon' is Magheracloone.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> The Uncle Ed note gave Edward's birth date as August 12, 1829. The month and day are confirmed by other sources, the year is incorrect. 1831 is supported by the Durham County marriage certificate signed in Edward's own hand, the English census of 1861 and the Bridgewater passenger manifest dated January 1865.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Uncle Ed Note, 1913. No official record of his birth or baptism has been found, but Magheracloone was his parish. He may have lived in Corlea or Geaghlone, adjacent townlands in Magheracloone.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> There are more than 1800 townlands in County Monaghan alone. Five townlands in Monaghan are named Corlea. Four of them are in Carrickmacross, Poor Law Union (District). One of them is in Magheracloone Civil Parish in Carrickmacross. All referenced official certificates herein are for this particular Corlea.

Greaghlone is still farmland but it's been affected by the building boom, as has so much of Ireland.

The 1848 Griffith's Valuation, a property survey used for assessing poor law taxes, contains entries for James, Owen, and Patrick Lamb in the townland of Greaghlone, all tenants of Evelyn P. Shirley.<sup>12</sup> The tenancy for James includes a house, an office, meaning a shed, shop, factory, corn shed, cowshed, or pigsty,<sup>13</sup> and land of 12 acres, 1 rod, and 30 perches,<sup>14</sup> with a rateable valuation of 6 pounds for the land and 15 shillings for the building. As early as 1821, the Tithe Applotment Book of 1823-1837 contains a record for James Lamb in the Counties of Monaghan and Louth, parish of Inniskeen (Inishkeen in the Barony of Farney), townland of Greaghlone. This James could be Edward's father and, if so, he had a respectable holding for a tenant farmer.<sup>15</sup> Connections to the Lambs in Corlea however, make it more likely that this James was a relative of Edward's father.<sup>16</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> In 1876 Evelyn Philip Shirley was one of the largest landowners in Monaghan with more than 26,000 acres. He was a historian, antiquarian, and Member of Parliament. He left thousands of documents concerning his Irish estates, including leases, letters, wills of tenants, etc., held at PRONI in Northern Ireland. Introduction to the Shirley Papers, Public Record Office of Northern Ireland, December 2007, page 21. Evelyn Philip Shirley was one of the absent landlords who later encouraged and subsidized the emigration of his tenants. Generally considered a fair landlord, this assessment of him changed after the election defeat of one of his candidates in 1826. He took his anger out on his tenants in such a fashion that after one of his agents passed away unexpectedly in 1843, bonfires were lit across Shirley's holdings and his tenants held a long celebration. The situation was so dire for the Irish people in this area, the conflict became known as 'The Battle of Magheracloone'.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> Tracing Your Irish Family History, Anthony Adolph, Harper Collins, 2009, page 86
<sup>14</sup> 1 rod =1 pole =1 perch = 16.5 square feet or 5.5 square yards. There are 40 square perches to a rood (a rectangular area of 40 rods and 160 square perches to an acre. In Ireland a perch was standardized as 21 feet making an Irish chain longer than a standard English measure chain.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> Valuation of Tenements, Parish of Magheracloone, Griffith's Valuation. 1847-1864, Page 103. Ordinance Map S 30.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> James Lamb, a widower, died in Greaghlone in 1866 at 75 years of age. The informant was Luke Lamb of Corlea. Number 404, Deaths Registered in the District of Carrickmacross, in the (Poor Law) Union of Carrickmacross, County Monaghan, Ireland. 1866.



Illustration 1: An abandoned farm house in the Magheracloone area. 2008

In Corlea there was a James Lamb with a house on land of 7 acres, 1 rod, and 25 perches valued at 5 pounds. Official documents confirmed that Edward had a brother named Myles. Through other official documents, the James Lamb in Corlea can be directly connected to a wife named Alice, as well as a son named Myles, making him far more likely to be the correct James Lamb, who was born about 1803 and died on August 30, 1867 of bronchitis.<sup>17</sup> He left his wife and at least one son in Corlea and this son, named Myles, was the informant on James' death certificate. The Tithe Applotment Book also shows holdings for James Lamb in 1821 in Corlea in Inniskeen.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> This certificate has more interest as our James because as will be shown later, Edward Lamb was known to have a brother named Myles who was living in Ireland at that time, and this James is all but certain to be the husband of Alice Lamb who died in Corlea a few years later. Number 78, Deaths Registered in the District of Carrickmacross, in the (Poor Law) Union of Carrickmacross, County Monaghan, Ireland. 1867. Years later Edward Lamb was to die at the home of his niece Alice, the daughter of his brother Myles.

Edward's mother was Alice Martin and in the Greaghlone<sup>18</sup> of 1848 was Myles Martin with 11 acres and 3 rods of land worth 6 pounds, 10 shillings and Peter Martin with land and a house worth 3 pounds, 10 shillings on 5 acres, 3 rods. That Alice's father could be either Myles or Peter would easily explain the occurrence of both names in the extended family later on.<sup>19</sup>

Alice Martin was born about 1805 and died on September 10, 1875 in Corlea, of an unknown debility of two months. She was the widow of a farmer, as would be expected, and her son Roger was the informant on her death certificate. Roger, who had married in Corlea in 1867, gave his father's name as James on his marriage registration.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> This may explain the Greaghlone reference by Uncle Ed Lamb in 1913. It may be related to his paternal grandmother Alice Martin's birth place.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> Edward had a brother Myles and Edward and Mary's second son was named Myles and their fifth son was named Peter.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> Number 234, Deaths Registered in the District of Carrickmacross, in the (Poor Law) Union of Carrickmacross, County Monaghan, Ireland. 1875.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> Number 46, Marriages, Roman Catholic Chapel of St. Peter's, District of Carrickmacross, in the (Poor Law) Union of Carrickmacross, County Monaghan, Ireland. January 29, 1867.



Illustration 2: Another abandoned farm house in the Magheracloone area. 2008

# Mary's Family

Mary Monaghan was born August 15, 1834<sup>22</sup>, the daughter of Philip, a farm laborer, and Catherine Monaghan of 'Maracloon'. Mary's family's economic situation was likely to have been similar to Edward's family but perhaps with lesser circumstances as her father had no tenancy in Griffith's Valuation or the Tithe Applotment Book. While Griffith's omitted the very poorest of dwellings and those with multiple occupants often had only

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> The Uncle Ed note gave her birth date as August 15, 1836 in Dohat. Again the year is incorrect. 1834 is supported by the Durham County marriage certificate acknowledged by Mary's mark, the English census of 1861, and the Bridgewater passenger manifest dated January 1865.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> Parish marriage records, St. Wilfrid's Catholic Church, Bishop Auckland, England, May 31, 1852

one occupant listed, using this source, no Philip Monaghan is to be found as a tenant in County Monaghan. Possibly Philip was already dead in 1848 and Catherine was alone or living with one of her children.

There are three possibilities in County Monaghan for Mary's townland of origin, Doohat, Dohatty, and Doagh but only two of these are in Magheracloone.

Doohat today is a beautiful area of gently rolling green hills and farmlands about two kilometers from the village of Newbliss on the road to Monaghan Town. It's about 25 miles from Greaghlone and is comprised of 249 acres in the Barony of Dartree, in the civil parish of Aghabog, in the Poor Law Union of Cootehill, County Monaghan, in the Province of Ulster.<sup>24</sup> In the Doohat of the time, the landlord was the Rev. William D. Pounden who owns the entire townland. None of his tenants were Monaghans.<sup>25</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> Dartree is one Barony (Cremorne) distant from Farney. Some family names from there are MacCoskar, MacCuskar, McCluskey, and Devine. We may have an as yet unproven connection to the McCluskey name, through a maiden name of an ancestor.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> Although one finds a Sheridan and a Reilly in Doohat.



Illustration 3: Gentle hills and farms dot the Doohat area of County Monaghan. 2008

Dohatty is a stronger possibility for the correct townland of Mary's birth. Doohatty is comprised of 456 acres, in the same Barony of Farney, the same civil parish of Magheracloone, and the same Poor Law Union of Carrickmacross as Greaghlone and Corlea, and is only 8 or 9 miles from Greaghlone. Philip Monaghan is just as elusive in Dohatty with only two tenant/landlords there: Evelyn P. Shirley with 238 acres, 5 rods and 70 perches in fee, and his tenant, John Cooper with 216 acres, 6 rods and 46 perches.

In the marriage records of St. Wilfrid's Church for Edward's brother Patrick and Mary's sister Rose, the residence of both sets of parents is "Maracloon', a phonetic spelling of Magheracloone. On the microfilm at the Family History Center in Salt Lake City of the records of St. Wilfrid's Church there are many references to 'Maracloon'. There was also a letter to the local priest asking about the location of 'Maraclown'. The writer was researching his family history and could not find such a place in either Ireland or England and asked where it might be located. The letter was written about 100 years before the Internet. I would have sympathized with and responded to the author, if they were still alive, for the fits an Irish accent can give a researcher.

This comprises the sum total of 456 acres of Dohatty. On the English marriage certificate of his daughter Mary, Philip's occupation was 'agricultural laborer' and not farmer, making it most likely that he was a laborer either for Mr. Shirley or Mr. Cooper.

One other possibility exists for Mary's family home, and it is perhaps the strongest possibility. Earlier records in the Tithe Applotment Book of 1823-1837 have a Philip Monaghan of County Monaghan and County Louth, parish of Inniskeen (Inishkeen), in the townland of Doagh, in 'Maracloon', that could have been misrepresented as Dohat or Dohatty in the family record.

No vital records have been found for Mary's father, Philip, but there is a strong possibility for her mother, Catherine. On July 3, 1883 a Catherine Monaghan died in Carrickmacross of 'debility of several years'. Born about 1797, she was the widow of a laborer named Philip Monaghan. The death was attested to by her daughter, Ann Martin.<sup>27</sup> If this was Mary's mother, Catherine, then two of Mary's sisters have been identified, Rose and Ann.

# The Marriage

Towards the end of the Great Hunger, Edward made a decision to 'cross the water', to go to England and find work. It wasn't unusual for men of working age in a family to do just that, if money was tight or there was not enough lease land to subdivide among the sons. Sometimes crossing the water was a temporary situation and sometimes it became permanent. It's difficult to determine just when that happened for Edward but the decision certainly involved his older brother Patrick who was in Durham County by early 1852, working as a laborer.<sup>28</sup> Certainly Edward could have come at the same time.<sup>29</sup>

Prior to the Great Hunger, it was the custom in Ireland to subdivide the tenant farm among the sons of the family. As the families grew, the farms thus became smaller and smaller and unable to support the number of people dependent on them. This practice ended with the famine and younger sons were expected to find work elsewhere. Edward was definitely not the oldest son, and perhaps Patrick was not either, but in any event,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> Deaths in the County of Monaghan, District of Carrickmacross, Union of Carrickmacross, 1883, number 496. Of all the many Catherine Monaghans who died in County Monaghan, this Catherine was the most likely to be ours. In addition, the name Ann was was used by both Rose and Mary Monaghan in naming their children.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup> Marriage certificate, registration District Durham, Durham County, England, 1852. Number 10a55. Patrick Lamb and Rose Monaghan.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup> 1851 UK census, Ebchester. This Patrick and Edward Lamb may or may not be ours.

they both ended up living and working in England shortly after the end of the Great Hunger.

Various members of both the extended Lamb and Monaghan families may have come to England separately to escape the famine. There were many Lambs and Monaghans in the English census of the time, especially around the coal fields of Northeast England.<sup>30</sup>

That Edward came to England in advance of his marriage is a given. He was a witness at the wedding of another Lamb family member a month before his own wedding. On January 15, 1855 Nicholas Lamb, the son of Peter and Mary Lamb of Crook in Durham County, married Bridget Burns at St. Wilfrid's Chapel in Bishop Auckland. Both Nicholas and Edward gave Crook as their residence. Nicholas' sister, Mary, married Patrick Boyle a few months later at the same church on June 11, 1855.

Edward was probably boarding with Peter Lamb's family in Crook at the time. He signed his name as Edward Lambe on Nicholas' marriage license. Bridget Burns, Nicholas' new wife, was the daughter of Hugh and Bridget Burns, and was from County Monaghan, Ireland.

An even more important marriage to the future of the young Edward and the woman he would marry, had taken place three years earlier in Durham County, England on May 31, 1852. On that day Edward's brother Patrick married Mary Monaghan's sister Rose<sup>32</sup> in a ceremony at Saint Cuthbert's Chapel in Durham. Patrick was 26 years old and living in Willington, England. Rose was 22 years old and living in Willington. They were married by William Fletcher, a civil clerk and priest. Their witnesses were Mary McKanna<sup>33</sup> of Claypeth and Bridget Welch of Gilesgate Manor. Neither Patrick, nor Rose, nor their two witnesses could write<sup>34</sup> but they may have been functionally literate for the time. It is all but certain that this was an arranged marriage and that it resulted directly in Edward and Mary's own arranged marriage. The two sisters would have been 'sent for' as the pool of potential Irish brides in Durham County was shallow indeed.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>30</sup> The biggest frustration in Irish research is the lack of Irish records. The census data for Ireland from 1821 to 1851 was lost in a fire in Dublin in 1922. That frustration is compounded many times over. The census data from 1861 through 1891 was deliberately destroyed by the Irish government. First the 1861 and 1871 returns were destroyed followed by the 1881 and 1891 returns in 1918. Under a misguided attempt to preserve 'confidentiality', our heritage was assassinated forever.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>31</sup> FHC British film number 2,082,482. St. Wilfrid's Chapel marriage records.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>32</sup> This is the oldest documented occurrence of the name Rose in the family.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>33</sup> See the section on the McCroney family for more on the possible connections to the McKanna family.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>34</sup> The marriage certificate has an 'X' as a mark for all parties.

Edward Lamb and Mary Monaghan gave Crook as their residence at the time of their marriage in 1855. Crook, often referred to in the same breath with its neighbor as Crook and Billy Row, had undergone a profound change by 1851 due to the expansion of coal mining in Northeast England. Surprisingly, there weren't many Irish families living there at the time. In the 1851 census there were 96 Irish men, but only 32 Irish women and 7 Irish children. Given the tight knit community, and the tendency of the immigrant groups to stick together, these statistics point to the making of a problem. If an Irish man wished to marry, the norm was to send for a bride in Ireland, rather than to marry a non-Catholic or non-Irish woman.

When it came time for Edward to take a bride, he may have heard of, and probably already knew, Rose's lively sister Mary. Edward's marriage to this strong, hard working and lovable young woman was a logical step for all concerned. The sisters would be neighbors and friends, and the brothers would work together in the mines. The family, or the part of it reconstituted in England, would be together again.

Edward Lamb married Mary Monaghan on February 14, 1855 at Saint Wilfrid's Chapel in Bishop Auckland, England.<sup>35</sup> The church still stands today and Mass is celebrated there once a week by a visiting priest. The ceremony was performed by Joseph Cullen, a Catholic priest who happened to be a civil clerk, making a second service unnecessary. The witnesses were Thomas Kenny of Brancepeth and Bridget Callaghan of Brancepeth. Edward, 23 at the time, was employed as a pitman in the local coal mine.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>35</sup> Marriage Certificate, Durham County, England, St. Catherine's House index 10a 164, Auckland, 1Q1855. Parish records for St. Wilfrid's Chapel, Bishop Auckland, England.



Illustration 4: St. Wilfrid's Church, Bishop Auckland, England. 2009

Mary Monaghan was 20 when she married. She was not listed in the 1851 English census, and neither was her sister Rose or her parents, making it likely they and their parents remained in Ireland and the sisters crossed the water just prior to each one's wedding.

Two letter fragments survive from Rose and Patrick to Edward and Mary. Although the letters were written by one of Rose's children, these fragments were instrumental in unraveling the Lamb and Monaghan mystery, specifically that the two brothers had married two sisters.



Illustration 5: Interior view of St. Wilfrid's Church, Bishop Auckland. 2009

# The Middle in England

# Mining in the Great Northern Coal Fields

Thomas Grattan wrote of the Irishman in 1859: "The shores of England are farther off, in his heart's geography, than those of New York or Massachusetts."

But sometimes those shores of England can present opportunities. Considering the situation in Ireland by 1851, it is not surprising that Edward would venture off in search of something better.

Edward and his older brother Patrick had come to work in the Great Northern Coal Fields of Durham and Northumberland in the Northeast of England by the early 1850s.

Demand for coal had grown exponentially with the Industrial Revolution and the proliferation of the steam engine, which needed mountains of coal to burn in order to make steam. In 1810 there were about 10,000 miners working in the northeast area. By 1860 that number had grown to 60,000. Surprisingly, not many of them were Irish. Most were Englishmen who came from around the country in search of better wages than were available elsewhere.

Coal mining wasn't an easy life and the work was then, as it has always been everywhere, dangerous. Life in the colliery villages wasn't easy either. High infant mortality was the norm everywhere but more particularly in mining families. For England as a whole at that time, 33% of children did not survive to adulthood. For mining families, that rate was 40%. For Edward and Mary's children born in England, that rate would prove to be 60%. The causes were many and varied, but environmental factors were first and foremost.

Edward and Patrick worked in an area bounded by the River Tees in the South, the River Tweed in the North, and the River South Tyne in the West.<sup>36</sup> It's an area much like Ireland but with hedge rows instead of rock fences, and bordering the Moors, a high wind swept area of England.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>36</sup> The area looks much like the country in the 2008 PBS version of 'Jane Erye'.



Illustration 6: Looking down from Oakenshaw toward Willington. 2009

As happened in America, coal companies in England often built housing alongside the mines. The companies considered this an investment prerequisite, since commuting in the modern sense was not practical, and there were not enough houses to accommodate a growing work force in the mining areas. Because they represented a stable work force, men with families were desirable employees and generally received preference in housing.

Often miners lived for free in company cottages as long as they worked at that particular company's mine. Sometimes they were made to pay rent. While one situation may seem more advantageous to the miner, both situations had political implications attached to them. English law during the mid-nineteenth century was such that a man had to own property, or rent property, in order to vote. Women, of course, could not vote at all. All of this worked in the favor of the mine owners. The issue of either living for free, or having a house as part of the employment contract, meant that the miner lost the right to vote. This loss of franchise rippled through society, giving miners little say over civic life

and the conditions under which they lived and worked, and little power to change anything of any importance to their quality of life. This was not an accident of happenstance on the part of the mine owners, but a well thought out and protected facet of life at the time.<sup>37</sup>

If a miner ceased working at a particular mine and the mine owned his living quarters, the miner and his family had to vacate the house. If they went on strike for any reason they were summarily evicted, oftentimes within hours. If evicted, they could find their belongings thrown into the street within the hour. Not packed nicely, not moved gently, but thrown into a heap in the street.

Coal companies competed for labor, but in order to hold onto that labor in an increasingly competitive situation, they often required miners to sign contracts. These contracts always favored the mine owners, and men could be imprisoned if they went on strike, or if they left to work for better wages at another mine. Contracts remained the norm until about 1872, when agreements were instituted between miners and owners with somewhat more favorable terms for the miners themselves. Some of these later contracts could be canceled by the miner with as little as 14 days notice, a vast improvement to the previously existing system. Edward and Patrick worked under the older, less favorable terms.

Housing for lower income English families was not great to begin with in the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century, and so it was with colliery cottages. They were situated on land that actually adjoined the mine proper, generally a pit and a gigantic slag heap. The coal dust permeated everything, not just the people's lungs. Families had to contend with dampness, lack of ventilation, cramped interiors, coal dust, more coal dust, and still more coal dust.

Colliery cottages were generally two rooms deep and 'blind backed', meaning there was only one entrance. The back of the house had no exit. Although the design changed over the years, the cottages generally had two ground floor rooms and two first floor (to Americans second floor) rooms which formed the 'double house', essentially a duplex. There may have been a ladder leading to the upstairs rooms or, if one was lucky, a stairwell, 38 but stairwells were a luxury often sacrificed to provide more living space.

Willington, A study of the industrialization of a Durham Mining Village, 1840-1915. Quinn, Vanessa, Durham University, 1990, E-Theses.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>38</sup> On March 14, 2009 I went looking for Edward and Mary's house in Willington, England, and met up with a wonderful couple, George and Martha, who own a home at 48 New Row in Oakenshaw. George has an interest in the area and is familiar with what it looked like back in the time of Edward and Mary. What is now the front of the house, was the back in the old days and was a solid wall. The old front is now the back. The coal mine itself was just down the road from where the miners lived. These were pit

Coal was the method of heating and cooking and was delivered to a 'coal house', a storage house adjoining the pantry. Opposite the pantry would be the privy and the ash heap for dumping the spent coal. This meant that in addition to the coal and coal dust on the job and outside their living quarters, they had coal and coal dust inside as well, and a source of bacteria leading from the privy area, directly to the kitchen.

mines. A big hole was dug and the pit pile was stacked up beside the hole. When the mine played out, the pile was pushed right back in. The miners would walk to the mine, but if the 'coal bucket' line was running down the street at the time, which was some sort of pulley mechanism, George said they would just grab hold and get a ride. George said the tunnels go back under the buildings even now. To buy a place one has to have a mining survey done.

George and Martha took me into their house and let me see the layout. Although all of the houses have been redone extensively, they are all quite small, still two rooms downstairs and two rooms upstairs. The buildings all abut each other and step down slightly as one walks along. The upstairs dormers are odd. Every other house has the dormer of the neighboring house infringing on it. Still standing at several of the houses are the little brick coal shoots and storage areas. George indicated the Oakenshaw houses were company houses until fairly modern times. The ash pit and privies are now replaced by indoor plumbing, of course, but it is easy to see how they presented a danger to the health of the miners and their families. George and Martha's house is representative of the type of colliery cottage Edward and Mary lived in, but unfortunately it is not the correct New Row. What I saw was Oakenshaw and was Oakenshaw even back in the mid-1800s. Edward and Mary lived on New Row in Willington proper, in the valley below and those houses are now gone.



Illustration 7: Old coal house, repurposed, in Oakenshaw. 2009

The general design of the cottages was such that the ash pits and the privies filled with rain water and slop water, creating a breeding ground for bacteria. The privies were little more than holes in the ground, unlined, generally with no drainage, and so waste seeped into the ground water. Since the pantry was not far from the ash pit, there was easy access to pantry windows for disease. Once infected by bacteria, the miners and their families had little with which to fight the disease. Penicillin had not yet been discovered and this situation contributed to the high child mortality rate suffered by the Lambs and other miners in England.

The privies for the colliery houses in Willington were serviced free of charge by the mine owner, Straker and Love, but this service would be suspended during a strike making conditions even more miserable for the miners who were not on strike and who continued living in their houses.

"Although many colliery families had a relatively high standard of living and kept their own home in good order, it was the external conditions, the poor servicing, water and drainage which resulted in squalor and was hazardous to health." 39

Close living in the mining communities meant there was little privacy and life was essentially a public endeavor for each family. For the Irish, this was not very different from the communal life back home. Oftentimes a family would take in other miners as boarders to supplement their income or to provide housing for other emigrant family members. Ethnic boundaries were seldom crossed in this arrangement. Families tended to take in boarders of their same nationality and this is reflected time and again in the census data. Irish families tended to take in only Irish boarders. All of these conditions led to a strong sense of community for each ethnic group. The villages of the Great Northern Coal Fields developed a reputation for just that sense of community.

Edward and Mary did as many others in their situation, and had two boarders living with them in their cottage in 1861.<sup>40</sup> Interestingly enough, if the census taker recorded the data accurately, their boarders were John Lamb, 32, and Patrick Lamb, 41 28. The family itself consisted of five members at the time and Mary was once again pregnant. So there were four adults and three children, soon to be four children, living in that tiny cottage.

Edward and his brother Patrick worked for Straker and Love at the Brancepeth Colliery, pit A, 'Sunnybrow', in the heart of the village of Willington.

Brancepeth Colliery had been around for a while but wasn't a very profitable enterprise until Joseph Love took over and converted the main business from simply mining coal to manufacturing coke. Love was a Methodist who ran the village of Willington with a somewhat benign iron fist. He controlled not only the economic aspect of life there, but pretty much the social and religious aspects also. Religion played a large part in the social and economic life of England as a holdover from the religious wars of the last two centuries. Joseph Love was committed to seeing it continue to play that role. There were many conversions to Methodism among newly hired miners although not all of these new converts remained devout in their new denomination. Joseph Love's hand remained benign as long as his workers and their families followed his dictates.

Over time Brancepeth consisted of four pits: Pit A 'Sunnybrow' sunk in 1840; Pit B 'Oakenshaw' sunk in 1850; Pit C 'Brancepeth' or 'New Pit' sunk in 1866; and Pit D

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>39</sup> Archaeologia Aeliana. Miscellaneous Tracts Relating to Antiquity, Fifth Series, Volume XXIII, The Society of Antiquities of Newcastle Upon Tyne, The Black Gate. John Philipson, Editor, pages 291-309.

<sup>40 1861</sup> United Kingdom census, Willington, England.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>41</sup> This Patrick Lamb is not to be confused with Edward's brother Patrick.

'Drift After' sunk in 1865. All of the pits were connected underground over time and it was possible to walk from one to each of the others.

Edward and Mary lived in a colliery cottage among several rows of cottages collectively referred to as New Row. It was generally the norm when a colliery built new houses for its workers, to name each new addition New Row, or Long Row, or some slight variation. Not a lot of creativity was expended in naming the housing areas or in numbering them. The numbers started with one and just went on down the line, no odds and evens for different sides of streets.<sup>42</sup>

The area around the Brancepeth mines grew quickly. In 1841 the population of Willington stood at 258. By 1851 it had grown to 965. Ten years later, when Edward and Mary were there in 1861 it stood at 2,393.<sup>43</sup>

Conditions at the mines favored the owners at all times. This extended even to whether an individual miner would be paid for his work at all. It was very much an unequal ground. Coal owners regulated the amount of coal produced in order to control the market price. This included limiting production by individual miner. At the time Edward and Patrick were working at Straker and Love, miners were paid by measure of coal that fit in a tub. The same situation of being paid by measure of coal prevailed in mines in America, and became one of the main reasons for the mine wars in early 20<sup>th</sup> century West Virginia.

In Willington the measure had to be of a certain minimum or it was deemed a 'slack tub'. The 'banksman' worked for the owner and was the sole determiner of the measure. He received a commission for every slack tub and this may have given him an incentive to short the miner. Some were honest, some were not. Unscrupulous banksmen would often short the measure or take coal out of the tub for themselves or the mine owner. Sometimes the low ceilings in the tunnel caused coal to be knocked out of the tub before the tub made it to the surface. If the tub was short, the miner would be paid nothing for

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>42</sup> Since New Row still existed in 2009 as an address in Willington, it was logical to assume this was the same address where Edward and Mary lived. But conversations with long time residents of Willington and a closer look at the 1861 census proved this was not the case. The present day street called New Row, is on the high moor in Oakenshaw. In the 1861 census, Oakenshaw was a separate area from Willington proper and Edward and Mary were in Willington proper. Oakenshaw was developed when pit B was sunk in 1850 and it's possible that Edward worked there, and that they lived there at some point before they left England, but all of the paper trails point to living in Willington proper and working at Pit A.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>43</sup> By contrast, Stockley, which I believe includes Oakenshaw, stood at 282 in 1861 and had grown to only 712 by 1871, long after Edward and Mary emigrated. Oakenshaw consisted of only 15 houses in the 1861 census.

his labors. So the miners did everything in their power to anticipate the right measure. This situation precipitated a strike in October 1863, called the Rocking Strike. Edward and Patrick were still working in the Willington mines when this strike was called.

In the Rocking Strike the miners were trying to win the right to have a representative at the surface when the tubs were being measured. The miners favored a change from measure to weighing. Baring this, they hoped to be paid proportionately for slack tubs, instead of not being paid at all. The strike name came from the custom of rocking the tub back and forth so that the coal would settle and could be topped off before it reached the surface. Tubs not level full were subject to confiscation.<sup>44</sup>

During the Rocking Strike, cut off from their coal allowance in the winter weather, 219 men, women, and children were evicted from their cottages by police.<sup>45</sup> When they sought shelter with their fellow miners not on strike, the owners threatened the non-striking workers with eviction. When the strikers tried to erect tents to live in, these tents were prohibited. The strike was broken when strike leaders asked working miners to donate money to assist strikers to emigrate elsewhere. The men refused.<sup>46</sup>

It was just before the Rocking Strike, in the Summer of 1863, that Edward and Mary's neighbors, the McCroney and McCardle families, left for America and wrote back to the Lambs to encourage them to follow. The families were close and may have been related. That a strike was coming, was certainly no secret to the miners. It isn't likely that the Lamb family participated in the Rocking Strike, because if they did, they would have been blacklisted by every mine owner in the area.

Edward continued to work in Willington for another year, something that would not have been possible if he had joined the strike. His brother Patrick worked in Willington for the rest of his life until his death in 1876.<sup>47</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>44</sup> A similar situation but with a slight twist, contributed to the strikes of the early 1900s in West Virginia. Miners were expected to fill a cart that held two tons of coal. The carts might actually hold two and a half tons. Since they were not weighed, the mine owners might get 25% more coal than the miners were being paid to load.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>45</sup> Some estimates put that number at over 1,000.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>46</sup> CoalDust Corner, John Stephenson

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>47</sup> On a trip in 2009, I wondered where the mines had been located because I expected it to look like West Virginia and couldn't see any hills to hold coal. Leaving Oakenshaw for Willington on the old Roman Road, I could see just how high up the area is. The back road to Oakenshaw from Durham was a deceptively gentle up slope. The wind blows constantly at Oakenshaw and it is COLD.

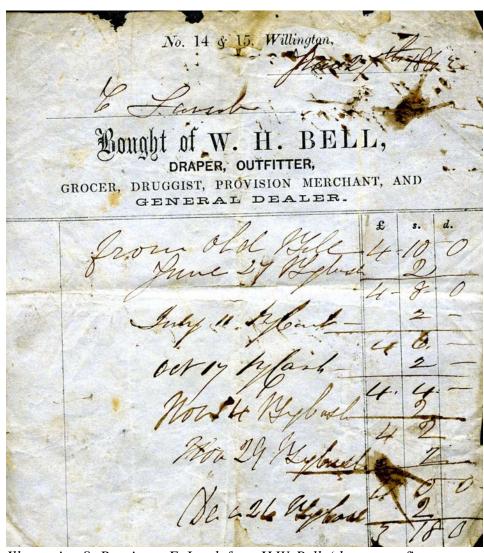


Illustration 8: Receipt to E. Lamb from H.W. Bell, 'draper, outfitter, grocer, druggist, provision merchant and general dealer', Willington, dated June 27, 1863.

Edward paid two shillings toward his bill on June 27, July 11, October 17, November 29, and December 26, 'by cash'.

# The Family in Willington

After their marriage in 1855, Mary moved with Edward to Willington and into a colliery cottage provided by the coal company. This was not a move of a great distance, but only a couple of miles. The *Traveler's Handbook* of the time described the town as "Willington Station, in the midst of a hideous colliery". Air pollution created by black residue emitted by burning coal, blanketed the town. Coal dust was everywhere from the mine operations.

The Lambs may have been slightly better off than some around them. Edward was a pitman and pitmen received a higher wage than general laborers. His brother Patrick was a laborer, an unskilled category. Laborers and coke workers were generally not as well paid. In mid 1800s England, pitmen typically earned more than workers in either agriculture or manufacturing. Joseph Love maintained that a good workman could make 5 shillings a day at Straker and Love. In his 1863 letter from (West) Virginia, Patrick Clark tells Edward that miners in America can make from 16 to 20 shillings per day, a significant increase. <sup>49</sup>

Edward possessed another skill much in demand. He was literate. Being able to read and write might sound surprising but it was not uncommon for an Irishman. In the Ireland of Edward and Mary's time, civil parishes had schools, and Catholics and Protestants often attended the same ones. <sup>50</sup> "A literate and articulate pitman was respected by his fellow workers, as he would be an important means of communication between themselves and the agents of the owners." <sup>51</sup>

This respect and affection can be seen in the two surviving letters written to Edward by his fellow miners. There is a sense of a camaraderie and compassion for each other, and why not? They were not in competition for advancement. They were in a life and death situation and relied on each other, both in the pits and outside of them.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>48</sup> United Kingdom 1861 census, Durham County, Willington.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>49</sup> After the Norman conquest in 1066 AD the pound was divided into twenty shillings or 240 pennies, making a shilling 12 pennies. Old money as it is called now, was divided into pounds (L), shillings (s) and pennies (d). So 5 shillings was roughly 1/4 pound.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>50</sup> Many Irish who emigrated were literate and the Sheridans are excellent examples of the literate Irish.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>51</sup> Spennymoor Whitworth Park Colliery, 1836-1855, R.S. Abley. Out-of-print.

Mary spent her day in hard labor at the cottage. With three coal miners living there,<sup>52</sup> she would be expected to be up and cooking before they left for work, and again when they came home. The miners would also expect heated water for bathing after the day's work, since the mines of the time didn't have such facilities. If all three men didn't work the same shift, this would have meant that Mary would end up doing this at all hours of the day and night, even if it meant she had to sleep a split shift herself. She would have had clothes to wash and mend by hand, children to care for and feed, and a house to clean of incessant coal dust. All of this on top of the fact that she was pregnant roughly half of the time.<sup>53</sup> When she was not pregnant, she had an infant at hand. Life was hard for a coal miner, but it may have been even harder for a coal miner's wife, and no less dangerous.

Their first child, Patrick, was born at 153 New Row, Willington, on November 24, 1855.<sup>54</sup> A second son, Miles, was born on September 22, 1857 at 107 New Row, Willington.<sup>55</sup> Another son, James, was born in late 1859 or early 1860.<sup>56</sup> When the 1861 United Kingdom census was taken nationwide on April 6 and 7, 1861, Edward, 29, Mary, 28, Patrick, 5, Miles, 3, and James, 1, were living at 127 New Row, Township of Willington, Durham County, England.<sup>57</sup> Eight months after the census, on Christmas Eve, December 24, 1861 a fourth son, Edward, was born at home.<sup>58</sup> Edward and Mary had a large and growing family in the six short years of their marriage, but tragedy was soon to reduce its size.

Edward's brother, Patrick, and Mary's sister, Rose Monaghan Lamb, were living close by at 73 New Row in 1861. Patrick, 35, a laborer, and 'Rosy', 30, have two sons, James, 4, and Philip, 2. Following Irish custom the boys were named after their grandfathers,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>52</sup> Census data, 1861, Durham County. Edward and Mary had two boarders in 1861, Patrick Lamb, 32, and John Lamb, 28. Both were coke burners and both were from Ireland. While this Patrick is not to be confused with Edward's brother, Patrick, both boarders are almost certainly Edward's relatives.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>53</sup> In their ten years in England, Mary gave birth to five children.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>54</sup> Patrick Lamb birth certificate. Number 276, sub-district of St. Oswald, Durham County, England. Registered December 18, 1855.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>55</sup> Miles Lamb birth certificate, sub-district of St. Oswald, Durham County. Registered October 5, 1857.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>56</sup> James' official birth certificate has not yet been located. James was one year old in the 1861 census, and three years old at his death in February, 1863. The Uncle Ed note gives his birth date as November 11, 1860 in his note, but he was probably born in 1859.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>57</sup> All of these ages, except that given for Mary, corroborate the ages given on the marriage certificate and the children's birth certificates. Mary was more likely 26 at this time. This could be an error on the part of the census recorder.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>58</sup> Edward Lamb birth certificate, sub-district of St. Oswald, Durham County. Register January 6, 1862. This was not the Ed Lamb of the 1913 note, who was the second of their six sons to be named Edward.

James Lamb and Philip Monaghan. Perhaps Edward and Mary were content to leave that part of Irish convention to their siblings. In any event, they waited until their third son was born to name him after his paternal grandfather James.<sup>59</sup> For a time at least, the double first cousins would grow up in close proximity to each other.<sup>60</sup>

An elementary school, the first in Willington, had opened in 1851. Education at that time and in that place was not so much an intellectual activity as it was an indoctrination into work habits and discipline to prepare the next generation of the labor force. This attitude would have been encouraged by the staunch Methodist mine owner, Joseph Love. Perhaps Patrick, who would have been old enough for school before they emigrated, had an opportunity to attend. His brother Miles, who was seven when they left, might have even had a chance to attend for a while. Whether or not the work ethic was learned in school or born of necessity, Patrick and Miles absorbed the lesson and the discipline well. They followed their father into the mines at very young ages, cutting their lives tragically short in America.

In early 1863 tragedy struck the family in Willington. Two of the boys had come down with Scarlatina, commonly known as scarlet fever. Crowded conditions often led to the rapid spread of strep bacteria, which can lead to rheumatic fever, heart valve damage and scarlet fever. Caused by infection with Streptococcal group A bacteria, Scarlatina is characterized by a rash on the throat and chest, the result of a toxin produced by the bacteria. This red rash, which generally occurs within 72 hours, gives the disease its name. Beginning with a fever and sore throat, progressing to chills, vomiting, and abdominal pain, it was often fatal. Doctors at the time had little understanding of bacteria and viruses. To reduce the swelling at the throat, they would typically treat the patient with bleeding bubbles placed on the throat. Today scarlet fever is easily treated with penicillin and is not generally fatal, but that treatment was not available at the time.

The first of the boys to die was little Edward on January 21, 1863.<sup>61</sup> He was 13 months old. Three weeks later, on February 10, James died, at three years of age.<sup>62</sup> The boys were being tended by a neighbor, Catherine McKanna McCroney. Mary and Edward must have been unable to summon the strength to register the deaths, as Mrs. McCroney was the informant for the official records.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>59</sup> Since Patrick was Edward's older brother, perhaps his first son Patrick was named for this brother.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>60</sup> Double first cousins result when siblings marry siblings. Double first cousins share both sets of grandparents and 25% of their DNA. With double the degree of consanguinity than mere first cousins, they are sometimes considered half-siblings.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>61</sup> Death certificate, Durham County. The address was 127 Long Row but it's possible that Long Row and New Row were the same. Registered February 17, 1863.
<sup>62</sup> Ibid.

The children may have been buried either at the cemetery at St. Stephen's Church in Willington or at the cemetery near Brancepeth Castle.<sup>63</sup> Roman Catholic burial grounds had been legalized in England by the Burial Act in 1852, so it is possible they were buried at the Catholic Church in Crook or in Bishop Auckland, but there was not a Catholic Church in Willington until much later. Previous to the Burial Act, a law enacted in 1606 required that Roman Catholics in England be baptized by the Church of England and buried in a Church of England cemetery.<sup>64</sup>



Illustration 9: Graveyard adjoining St. Stephen's Church, Willington. Most of the grave stones have been removed and those remaining are generally not of the early 1860s time frame. 2009

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>63</sup> Our Blessed Lady's Temperance Sick and Burial Society had been formed in 1862, just prior to the children's deaths. If any records were kept by this society, the cemetery holding Edward and James might be able to be located in the future.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>64</sup> Generally however, Catholics were baptized and married by Roman Catholic rites but still buried in a Church of England churchyard. For marriages, if the priest performing the marriage was not also a civil clerk, a second ceremony would have to take place in the presence of a civil clerk.

Shortly after the deaths of the two boys, Mary became pregnant again. Her fifth child, and first daughter, Alice, was born on January 7, 1864 at 8 Coke Terrace, Willington. She was named for her paternal grandmother, Alice Martin. The name Alice was sometimes referred to by the Irish as *Eilish* or Ellen.

#### The Decision to Quit England

After almost 10 years in England, Edward and Mary decided to leave and build a new life in America. They were encouraged to do so by friends who had preceded them to the new state of West Virginia. The overwhelming tragedy that had befallen them with the deaths of their children had to have had a great impact on the decision. Perhaps remaining in Willington was just too painful.

On August 30, 1863, Patrick Clark, a son of James and Catherine McCroney, wrote a letter to Edward and Mary from Mason City, Mason County, (West) Virginia.<sup>66</sup> Patrick told Edward and Mary that although the family had a rough passage taking six weeks, they had arrived safely and found jobs. The letter implies the McCroneys had discussed emigration with Edward and Mary before leaving and that the Lambs were fully expected to join them very soon in America.

Patrick made a point of telling Edward and Mary that a man can keep two milk cows and graze them for free in the summer, and as many pigs as he wished.<sup>67</sup> He told them how much provisions cost in (West) Virginia in English money and how much he was able to make at his new job in the mines. Most importantly, he offered to send them passage whenever they were ready to come and expressed the hope that they would be there to enjoy Christmas dinner together.

One portion of the letter is addressed to 'Dear Edward' and the other half to 'Mrs. Mary Lame' and is signed 'your son till death'.<sup>68</sup> It must have been a close and loving

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>65</sup> Birth certificate, Durham County. Registered January 19, 1864.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>66</sup> By August of 1863, of course, Mason County had been part of the new state of West Virginia for two months.

<sup>67</sup> In Willington the miners' wives had tried to demand fair and economic pricing of commodities. They asked for a co-operative to be established with its own butcher and for the mine owners to buy some cows so that their children could have a readily available supply of cheap milk to drink. In the 1860s Joseph Love blocked a move by the men to start their own co-operative and dismissed even talking about such a thing.
68 This letter went from West Virginia in 1863 to Willington, England. It then went to Liverpool with the Lambs, was taken aboard the Bridgewater with them to New York, and back to West Virginia with their possessions. Kept by succeeding generations, it was found in 2008 in the Casey family home basement.

relationship between the two families, whether one of friendship or blood.<sup>69</sup> After all, Catherine McCroney had cared for the little boys when they were dying of scarlet fever. For whatever reason, Edward and Mary waited until late 1864 to leave for America. Perhaps they wanted to see what would come of the American Civil War before leaving. Perhaps they didn't want to take on the arduous journey with Mary pregnant.

In September 1864, Atlanta fell to General Sherman resulting in the re-election of Abraham Lincoln on November 8. The course of the war was decided and there would be no more talk of George McClellan's truce with the Confederates or a country split into two countries. The Confederacy would fall and peace would come to West Virginia, whether the area remained a free and independent state, or was forced to become part of Virginia again.

Edward and Mary left Willington, and traveled to Liverpool by train. Edward's brother Patrick may have traveled to Liverpool to see the family off.

The Lambs set sail for New York on November 11, 1864. Once again, Mary was pregnant, but little Alice, her only daughter, had died, and Mary's heart was broken once again.<sup>70</sup>

They both understood what could be expected of life in America. Edward knew what employment awaited him. They had friends waiting for them in West Virginia. The deaths of three of their five children in such quick succession may have been the final straw in the decision. Surely anything would be better than the grief they felt.

At the time there were several coal miners in Mason County from Durham County.<sup>71</sup> Like the Lambs and McCroneys, these miners helped each other and kept in touch, and thus came to the same area. The two surviving letters from Edward and Mary's family members to them, and the two letters from Edward's peers, other coal miners, betray an affection for both and a strong sense of love and community.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>69</sup> The author of this letter, Patrick Clark, was a member of the McCroney family of Willington. See "The McCroney Family of Ireland, Willington, and West Virginia" in this book.

While no English death certificate has been found for Alice, she was missing from the Bridgewater ship's manifest. If she had died at sea, this would have been noted on the manifest. At the time of this writing, not all of the death indexes are available online and it is possible that Alice Lamb's is one of the missing certificates. Perhaps her death was recorded under another name, such as a middle name. Perhaps she died elsewhere in England, on the way to Liverpool.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>71</sup> 1870 Federal Census, Mason County, West Virginia.

The miners stuck together and helped each other over the tough times. They helped each other find good jobs in mines with a better quality of coal. Some, like Patrick Clark, were willing to put more than their words on the line, indicating that Edward was a likeable, honorable person, and that Mary was much beloved by all who knew her.

Major source for life in Willington:

Willington, A Study of the Industrialization of a Durham Mining Village, 1840-1915. Quinn, Vanessa, Durham University, 1990, E-Theses.

# Passage to America

"Death is at all times solemn, but never so much as at sea...at sea the man is near you, at your side, you hear his voice, and in an instant he is gone, and nothing but a vacancy shows his loss." - <u>Two Years Before the Mast</u>, Richard Henry Dana, Jr., 1840

By 1865 roughly 75% of the emigrants from Ireland were arriving in America by steamship. Cooking and sanitary conditions on board the steamers had improved over the sailing ships that preceded them but that, nevertheless, continued to be used. So it was that the Lambs came to America on an older sailing ship in the only class of travel available, steerage.

The Lambs might have had an easier crossing but for whatever reason, money, timing, expediency, etc., they did not. As reflected in the captain's journal, they had what can only be described as the trip from hell.

Edward, Mary, Patrick and Miles chose the winter of 1864-1865 to travel the North Atlantic and sailed from Waterloo Docks in Liverpool, England on the ship *Bridgewater* on November 11, 1864, the same day General Sherman ordered Atlanta be burned.

At 1,498 tons, the *Bridgewater* had three decks and had been constructed of oak in Philadelphia in 1855 by the firm Croml. Its home port was New York and its owners were Williams and Guion. Measuring 194 by 40 meters, it had been metaled a year earlier, in December of 1863.

As luck would have it, the master of the ship was Charles C. Sisson, a seasoned sailor with a penchant for chronicling his voyages in a diary format. Many masters kept their ship's records merely as instrument readings with weather conditions. While much of Captain Sisson's diary is comprised of instrument readings and the set of the sails to compensate for the ferocious weather they encountered, there is much in it of the day to day life on board the ship. The voyage was an extremely difficult and long passage, taking not the three weeks of later family stories, and not even the four to six weeks more normal for the time. This voyage was nine long, arduous, difficult weeks. The journal reflects Captain Sisson's growing despair with their fortunes at sea.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>72</sup> Captain Sisson's original diaries are housed in the Mystic Seaport Research Center in Mystic, CT.

With the exception of about two days, the ship suffered bad weather for the entire nine weeks. Hit with rain, snow, hail and high seas, waves washed water into the steerage compartment several times. The rough seas prevented the passengers from being allowed on deck to take the air and wash themselves. Since cooking was allowed only on deck, and not in the hold, this would have presented a great hardship to the passengers. Rations had been stocked for a roughly six week journey, so the captain would have had to cut rations and water to make them last the nine weeks of the actual journey.

Given the rain and high seas water would have spilled into the rations, possibly even spoiling some of them. Freshness of rations would have already been a problem with an added three weeks at sea. The bad weather made the trip even more dangerous than normal since the crew relied on lookouts for safety and the view was often obstructed by snow and rain. One marvels at their courage that they would endure such hardships to start a life in a land they had never seen. Perhaps it was not courage at all but an indication of how badly they sought an opportunity to better their lives and the lives of their children.

The passenger manifest records that two infants died on the *Bridgewater* during the crossing: Bridget Gleason, a girl, and John Queen, a boy, both under 1 year old.<sup>73</sup> One child was born on the *Bridgewater* on December 1, 1864, and the birth was mentioned in the master's journal but no name was recorded for the child. Two of the crew were lost overboard and Captain Sisson makes mention of them and the circumstances of their deaths in his journal.

The number of passengers, 350, the number of wives and mothers, and the length and hardships of the crossing would certainly lend itself to these women knowing and caring for each other during those nine long weeks. Since Mary had just lost three young children in England and was once again pregnant she, perhaps more than most, would have felt empathy for the loss suffered by the mothers of Bridget Gleason and John Queen. By custom and sheer necessity, the bodies of the two small children were consigned to the sea, a sorrow that Mary would have spoken about for the rest of her life.<sup>74</sup>

As the *Bridgewater* neared shore off New York on January 8, 1865, it encountered a sinking bark, the *Mallie Metcalf*, laden with coal from Philadelphia and bound for Boston. The *Bridgewater* took on the crew of ten from the bark 'and left her to the mercy of the sea'. On January 10, the *Bridgewater* itself struck the Outer Middle in New York

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>73</sup> Bridgewater *Passenger List*.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>74</sup> Until records can be located concerning Alice's death, it can't be said for certain that she was not 'the little angel who died at sea' in Marie Casey's remembrances, but it is highly unlikely that the event happened to Edward and Mary directly.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>75</sup> Charles C. Sisson, Master's Journal.

harbor while in tow. It was freed the next day and sailed into New York. The Lamb family disembarked in New York City on January 12, 1865.<sup>76</sup>

On the return voyage to Liverpool in April 1865, as he approached England, Captain Sisson was informed by passing fishermen that Richmond had fallen. The following year, on a voyage taking four and half months, the *Bridgewater* sailed from New York, around Cape Horn, to San Francisco.<sup>77</sup>

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Illustration 10: Excerpt from the Bridgewater passenger list showing the Lamb family onboard.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>76</sup> Patrick's age was recorded as seven and Miles' as five, but Miles was seven and Patrick turned nine before the ship arrived in New York. Edward's and Mary's ages were one year off. Alice, missing from the passenger manifest, would have been listed, if she had died onboard ship.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>77</sup> In his journal of that voyage, Captain Sisson sketched the Golden Gate - not the bridge, of course, which didn't exist, but the entrance to the Bay.

#### In America

# Campbell's Creek, Kanawha County, West Virginia

The Kanawha River was navigable for only six to eight months of the year and prior to the Civil War, the Kanawha Valley was served by neither canal nor railroad. All commercial Kanawha coal was consumed by the salt works at Malden in 1850, where two bushels of coal would produce one bushel of salt.<sup>78</sup>

Gas companies on the Eastern seaboard had been importing cannel coal from England but by the 1850s, these companies began to turn to western Virginia, Kentucky, and Pennsylvania for cannel coal. As the salt works at Malden declined in salt production, coal production in the surrounding areas advanced. On December 1, 1864, while the Lambs were on board the *Bridgewater* somewhere in the North Atlantic Ocean, two brothers, George H. and Stephen F. Dana, came from Richfield Springs, New York and secured a tract of coal land on Campbell's Creek in Kanawha County, West Virginia. Campbell's Creek Coal and Oil Company was incorporated on April 14, 1865.<sup>79</sup>

Campbell's Creek played an important role in the economic development of the valley. The creek itself is sixteen miles long and drains to the Kanawha River. Coal Fork, located about two miles up the creek, is comprised of two forks, left and right. Coal Fork was the site of the earliest mining activities on the creek. By 1865, John D. Lewis had acquired most of the land and entered into an agreement with the Dana brothers to lease them the right to mine and convey coal from a 600 acre tract of land, mostly extending up the right fork. The left fork was used for company buildings, such as the company store, and boring for oil. A school was built there in 1867 and a bustling community of miners was established.<sup>80</sup>

It would have been logical for Edward and Mary to go first to Mason City in Mason County, West Virginia, where their friends the McCroneys and McCardles had been living for the last year and a half. Perhaps they did, but if they did, they did not stay. Just two months after landing in New York, they were in Kanawha County and Edward was mining coal. Their sixth child, Mary Alice, called Molly by her parents, was born there on March 13, 1865.<sup>81</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>78</sup> Campbell's Creek, Portrait of a Coal Mining Community, 1989, Todd Henson.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>79</sup> *Ibid*.

<sup>80</sup> Ibid.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>81</sup> Register of Births, Kanawha County, 1865, page 91, number 79. When Mary Alice died in 1942, a birth year of 1867 was noted, inaccurately. The official Kanawha County



Illustration 11: Possible tintype of Edward Lamb and one of his sons.

Life in America didn't change much for Edward and Mary. He continued to work in the mines and she continued to have more children. On April 15, 1867, a daughter, Rose, 82 was born. Another son, Peter 83, was born on June 29, 1869, followed by another daughter, Catherine Ann, on September 7, 1872. 84 Their last child, the second son to be named Edward after his father, was born on November 13, 1874. 85

Tragedy continued to follow the Lambs in the loss of their children.

Editor's Note: Could the man and child in this tintype be Edward and Patrick or Miles? There is certainly a family resemblance in the picture and the boy is most certainly the man's son. Edward was 43 when Patrick and Miles died. The boy doesn't resemble Peter Lamb at all in his facial structure. There is a resemblance to the youngest son, Ed, but for the boy to be this son, Edward himself would have to be at least 50 and this man does not appear to be that old. There has to be a reason why this picture was saved in the family collection. Neither the man nor the child resembles the Caseys, but both bear a strong resemblance to Edward and Mary's daughter, Catherine Ann Lamb, and their son, Ed Lamb.

records must be accepted. The Register Book of 1865 still contained instructions for recording the births of slaves along with the names of their owners.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>82</sup> Register of Births, Kanawha County, 1867, page 118, number 114.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>83</sup> Birth record has not been located.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>84</sup> Register of Births, Upper District, Kanawha County, West Virginia, 1872, page 166.

<sup>85</sup> Register of Births, Upper District, Kanawha County, West Virginia, 1874, page 185.

# **January 8, 1875**

Where the demons of death, often come by surprise.

One fall of the slate, and you're buried alive.

- Merle Travis, 'Dark as a Dungeon'

Edward and Mary Lamb were living on Coal Fork of Campbell's Creek when tragedy once again struck.

A coalfield boy would begin work as early as nine or ten years of age, working first as a 'gob', a picker who separated coal and slate. When he reached eleven or twelve, he could become a 'trapper boy', someone who opens and closes a ventilation door for mule drivers and their mule teams to pass. They could also work as greasers, spraggers, or

switch throwers. It wasn't until 1941 that United Mine Worker contracts imposed a minimum age of 18 for mine work.<sup>86</sup>

Miners were responsible for their own safety.



Illustration 12: Possible tintype of Patrick Lamb who died at Campbell's Creek, January 8, 1875.

Miners were responsible for their own safety. If a roof gave way, it might break a miner's back or crush him to death. A miner of the time worked mainly without supervision and his safety depended almost entirely on his own judgment and knowledge. A miner had to learn to listen for warning sounds, and rely on his own ears to tell him if the roof was creaking or cracking.<sup>87</sup> His life depended on it.

Edward Lamb and the two oldest boys, Patrick and Miles, were employed by the Campbell's Creek Coal Company, and were working together on January 8, 1875 when the roof gave way. The accident was horrific but not unusual for mines in those days. Roofs were not braced in any scientific fashion and roof collapses, or slate falls, were all too common. The three of them were digging coal when the roof of the room in which they were working broke off, and a piece of slate about 8 feet wide, 14 feet long and 20 inches thick, fell. Edward barely

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>86</sup> Campbell's Creek, Portrait of a Coal Mining Community, 1989, Todd Henson.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>87</sup> *Ibid*.

escaped with his life and was injured on his face when he struck the side of the bank as he fled the falling slate. Miles and Patrick were not so lucky and were crushed under a horrible weight. Patrick was 19 years old, and Miles only 17.

Edward and Mary had now lost all of their children born in England. Only 40 herself, Mary had buried five of her ten children.

Edward kept digging coal for the rest of his working life, in spite of the tragedy. It was what he knew how to do, and he and his family had to survive.

"And slight, withal, may be the things that bring back on the heart the weight which it would fling aside forever; it may be a sound, a flower, the wind, the ocean, which shall wound."

Childe Harold's Pilgrimage, Can. 4.
 George Gordon, Lord Byron, 1812

# **Picking up the Pieces**

At some point Edward became a naturalized citizen. On June 12, 1880, Edward and Mary and the five surviving children were living in Malden, Kanawha County, District 54, which is probably still Coal Fork of Campbell's Creek. The 1880 Federal census notes that Mary cannot write, a fact confirmed by her English marriage certificate, but that she could read, or was functionally literate.

By June 5, 1900 Edward and Mary, their family raised, had moved to Handley Precinct of Cabin

Creek. Edward was no longer working but his two adult sons, Peter and Edward, Jr. had

# TERMIBLE ACCIDENT AT THE CAMPHELLY CREEK COALMERE.

Two Men Instantly Killed.

On Friday, January 8th, 1875, at the Coal mine of Campbell's Creek Coal Company, Mr. Lamb and his two sons were at work digging coal, when the roof of the room in which they were working gave away and a large piece of rock felt upon the two young men crushing them to atoms. The old gentleman escaped unhurt, exceptan injury in the face from striking against the side of the bank in his flight. The plece of rock or slate which fell upon the boys was about 8 feet wide and 14 feet long, and 20 inches in thickness. The bodies were since taken

from where the rock when it was found that they were frightfully mangled. One of the heads was mashed perfectly flat and the brains scattered all tround, the other young man's body was mashed to a jelly, his liver was protruding through the ribs; and each of the bodies were flat as a plank. Dr. Albert Parks arrang ed the bodies after they were brought from the mines, sewing up the heads, and relieving as far as possible the ghastly appearance of the corpse. The ages of the young men were about 17 and 19 years respectively.

Illustration 13: Tri-Weekly Courier, Charleston, WV. January 12, 1875. gone down into the mines. The 1900 census is the last one in which the father Edward appears.<sup>88</sup>

During his life in West Virginia, Edward kept in loose touch with other Irish miners with whom he had worked in England. In the years since Edward and Mary immigrated, a few others from Edward's family came to America. Edward must have longed to see the family of his Irish childhood and his friends from Durham County, England. In 1907, he left West Virginia, left Mary and their family, and traveled to McKees Rocks, Pennsylvania where his life ended.

Edward and Mary had faced the cruelest hardships together, losing five children to disease and mining accidents. Together they faced down the indifference of nature. They struggled to survive, taking great chances to improve their lives and the lives of their children. They were a family for more than 50 years. It is unlikely that Edward did not intend to return to Mary and West Virginia.<sup>89</sup>

They both came from a world where people did not indulge themselves in happiness. Life was a struggle to survive. Their society was constrained by social standards that have since been cast aside. Yet some wounds never heal. The loss of her children must have left a vacuum in Mary's life, and yet she went on with that life, nurturing and caring for her surviving children and grandchildren. She never gave up. Mary Monaghan Lamb faced the world with courage, humor, warmth, and determination. The same emotions must have played on Edward. What did he need to do in the remaining years of his life? What was there for him in McKees Rocks, Pennsylvania?

There were a lot of Lambs in northern West Virginia and southwestern Pennsylvania in the early 1900s. Several coal miners from Durham County had immigrated there as well as a number of others from Ireland, including Barney McCardle, Edward's old friend.<sup>90</sup>

In July 1907 Edward went to stay with his niece Alice A. Mathews in McKees Rocks. Alice, born about 1876, was the daughter of Edward's brother Myles and his wife Catherine Murray Lamb. <sup>91</sup> Alice immigrated to America sometime around 1880 and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>88</sup> In the 1900 census Edward's birth date was given as August 1828 and Mary's as August 1835, both incorrect.

In December 1887 Edward received a registered letter #22705 PO New York. The envelope is all that is left and all that can be read is J.W. ----, 229 B -----. In 1887 Gilbert H. Crawford and Henry Schmitt had a place of business at 229 Broadway, NY. They were both on the Board of Education of NY at the time and associated with a college there but no clue has been found as to the business of the letter.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>90</sup> 1900 Federal Census, Pennsylvania and West Virginia.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>91</sup> Death Certificate, Alice Mathews, Wayne County, Michigan, 1942.

worked as a domestic servant in Pittsburgh.<sup>92</sup> Given her age at immigration, it is likely that one or both of her parents also immigrated.

On June 11, 1903 Alice A. Lamb had married Patrick Eugene Mathews at St. Francis de Sales Catholic Church in McKees Rocks, Allegheny County, Pennsylvania. Patrick was the son of Irish immigrants, Joseph and Anna Mathews who had settled in Virginia. He was born on April 13, 1880 in Virginia.



Illustration 14: Home of Patrick and Alice Lamb Mathews as it appeared in 2013.

Patrick Mathews' father, Joseph Mathews, the son of John and Catherine Mathews, was born about 1836 in Ireland and emigrated to America by 1860 to Fauquier County, Virginia. In 1860, on the eve of the Civil War Joseph was living in the Northeast Revenue District of Fauquier County, VA, working as a laborer for an overseer named William R. Soaper, along with another Irishman named Hugh Smith. Both Irishmen boarded with Hugh Chinn.

Anna was born about 1842 in County Kings, now County Offaly, in the Province of Leinster in the Midlands of Ireland. The daughter of Patrick and Ann Dailey, she married Joseph Mathews on November 15, 1861 in Fauquier County. Together they had at least 13 children. After the Civil War, Joseph became a laborer on the railroad making enough money to employ a 9 year old black domestic servant according to the 1870 Federal census, Upperville Post Office, Scott Township, Fauquier County, Virginia. By 1900 the family had moved to 115 K Street NE, in the District of Columbia. Joseph, a watchman, died on Nov. 1, 1909 in Washington, DC. Anna may have died on August 31, 1917 in DC.

<sup>92 1900</sup> Federal census, Allegheny County.

#### Edward's Death

Edward died at Alice's house in the Norwood section of McKees Rocks in Stowe Township, Allegheny County, Pennsylvania on Tuesday, August 20, 1907 <sup>93</sup> A funeral Mass was held at 9:00 AM on August 24 at St. Francis de Sales Church.

On August 21, 1907, The Pittsburgh Press reported in an article titled "Heat Causes Many Deaths; Cooler Today" that "Edward Lamb, aged 85 years, died suddenly at home of niece No. 81 McKinnie Avenue, Stowe Township, from heat and old age. Lamb died suddenly last night at the home of his niece, Mrs. Patrick Matthews. He had been at the home for about two months (sic), going there from his home in Virginia (sic) for a visit. When some of the family entered the room last evening Mr. Lamb was found dead. <sup>94</sup> He was buried on Saturday, the 24<sup>th</sup>."

Alice Matthews' statement for the coroner's inquest more accurately described the symptoms of a heart attack. Edward had suffered chest pains for two days and indigestion, both indicative of a heart condition. Additionally it was not particularly hot in Pittsburgh on August 20, 1907. Alice further stated that her uncle had been living with them for three weeks while visiting, not the two months reported in the newspaper.

Edward was buried on August 24 at Calvary Church Cemetery on Squirrel Hill in Pittsburgh, section 8, row 4, grave 74. The family placed a stone typical of those used at the time, on his grave.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>93</sup> Uncle Ed wrote in his note that his father died August 17, 1909, but this is incorrect.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>94</sup> Google News Archive, The Pittsburgh Press, August 21, 1907, page 2.



Illustration 15: Grave of Edward Lamb, Calvary Church Cemetery, Pittsburgh, PA. 2013

By the 1910 Federal census, Patrick and Alice Mathews were in Ward 3, of Duquesne Burough, Pennsylvania, Allegheny County, at 1134 Duquesne Avenue, with four children: Joseph E., born about 1904 in Pennsylvania; Alice T. born about 1906 in Ohio; Peter H, born about 1907 in Ohio; and Miles W. born about 1908 in Ohio. A fifth child had died. The census has the family name as Matheros. Patrick was of medium height, stoutly built, light brown eyes, and brown hair (Draft Reg. WW I). He was a 'car builder' with Pennsylvania Lines at Conway Yards in 1918, living at the Hotel Speyerer, Rochester, Beaver County, PA. Alice was in Pittsburgh at the time. She died in Eloise Hospital in Detroit in 1942 of cancer of the esophagus, after a stay of at least 12 years. When Patrick died isn't known and he has not been located by this author after 1918.

### Mary's Death

On July 16, 1908 Mary bought the former Hawkes property in Hernshaw from H.M. and Fannie Cobb for \$650.<sup>95</sup> One or two family letters survive from the time period. One letter from her daughter, Mary Alice Speyer, written after her father's death, mentioned that she wished she could make life easier for her mother and her brothers.

In the 1910 Federal census, Mary was living in Hernshaw, Marmet Precinct, Louden District, Kanawha County, with her sons, Peter and Edward, who were both miners. Her daughter, Rose, and Rose's family live next door and Mary could continue to enjoy the adoration of her grandchildren. Mary continued to live close to her daughter Rose until she died on November 13, 1913.<sup>96</sup>

In anticipation of her death, Mary wrote and signed a will on November 10 which was not probated until January 31, 1921<sup>97</sup>, many years after her death. Her son, Edward Lamb, served as executor. Joe Casey, Phil Casey, Christy Craig and Frank Cochrane were appointed to appraise the estate. Mary's son Pete inherited the property she had purchased in 1908. Pete sold it on February 1, 1921 to E.H. and Maude B. Morris.

Mary and her beloved sons, Patrick and Myles, are buried together in the old section of Spring Hill Cemetery in Charleston.<sup>98</sup>



Illustration 16: Possible picture of Mary Monaghan Lamb.

<sup>95</sup> West Virginia Deed Book 88, page 58.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>96</sup> No death certificate has been found for Mary Lamb in West Virginia either at the county or the state level. This date is from family and probate records and Mary's tombstone. The online information at the WV Culture Center seems to be missing death information from Louden District of Kanawha County for 1913. Death certificates were not required by the state of West Virginia until 1917, although counties did keep records prior to that, including Kanawha County.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>97</sup> Vol. 9, Page 503 Will Record. Volume 8, Page 251, Fiduciary Order Book. Will dated Nov. 10, 1913.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>98</sup> Along the road that circles the old section, as the circle is nearly complete, the headstone is on the left, on a little hill. It was placed by Mary's grandson, Peter Joseph Casey in 1971, with a portion of the proceeds from the estate of Louis Sheridan Casey.



Illustration 17: Gravestone of Mary Lamb and her sons, Patrick and Myles. The birth dates for the boys are not correct on the stone.

"Sorrow had fled but left her traces there." - Doris Kearns Goodwin, <u>Team of Rivals, The Political Genius of Abraham Lincoln.</u>

# The Brother and the Sister in England

Edward Lamb's older brother Patrick either preceded him to England or took Edward with him when he 'crossed the water.' Patrick Lamb was in England by May 1852, when he sent for and married Rose Monaghan in Durham County. By Irish custom, Patrick would have been working steadily before taking on the responsibilities of a bride and a family, so he at least, probably came well in advance of his 1852 marriage. Having survived the Great Hunger, a job and income would take on added importance to him before he undertook the responsibility of a family.

Patrick Lamb was born around 1825 or 1826<sup>100</sup> making him about five years older than his brother Edward. Rose Monaghan was born about 1830<sup>101</sup>, making her about four years older than her sister Mary. Both were apparently unable to write. Patrick suffered from asthma but nevertheless, worked all his life as a laborer in the mines and coke ovens around Willington. He and Rose had a large family together. In 1861 they were living at 73 New Row, not far from Edward and Mary.

Their first son, James, was born about 1857. Another son, Philip, was born March 19, 1859. Since they were married in 1852, it is highly likely that at least one more child was born between 1853 and 1857 who did not survive. A daughter Mary Ann was born September 15, 1861 at 141 New Row, Willington, 102 the home of Peter and Catherine Sheridan Lamb. 103 Another daughter Rose was born about 1864. Their last child, Edward, was born on April 4, 1871, so there were likely one or two other children born between 1864 and 1871 who did not survive.

The birth of Mary Ann at Peter Lamb's home could indicate that Peter was another brother and that Rose gave birth to her child at the home of her sister-in-law. Peter was

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>99</sup> In the 1851 United Kingdom census there was a Patrick, 27, and Edward Lamb, 18, living at Stobbs Wood Head, in the civil parish of Ebchester, district 3C, registration district Durham, sub-registration district Tanfield. Patrick worked as a railway laborer and Edward as a coal miner, both from Ireland. The ages are within the range expected for this to be our Patrick and Ed.

Marriage certificate, Durham County 1852. Since the marriage occurred on May 31, 1852, Patrick could have been born anytime between June 1, 1825 and May 30, 1826.
 Ibid. Conversely, Rose could have been born in 1829 or 1830.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>102</sup> Birth Registration, District Durham, Sub-district Saint Oswald, Number 51, 1861.
<sup>103</sup> April 1861 UK census. There were boarders living with Peter and Catherine: James Sheridan, 25, Andrew Gearty, 20, and Peter Reily, 20. All common names but ones that play into various branches of the extended Sheridan family through the years. This Peter Lamb was not the Peter Lamb who lived in Crook in 1855.

28 in the 1861 census, making him born around 1832 or 1833, rather a perfect time for another brother to have been born.

Patrick and Rose remained in Willington when Edward and Mary emigrated to America. Their family grew over the years and various members can be traced in each available United Kingdom census up to 1901. One daughter, Mary Ann Lamb, became a nun and emigrated to America, first to Boston and then Manhattan.

By 1871 Patrick and Rose had moved to 8 Nelson Street, another row of colliery cottages in Willington. Patrick died there at home on May 28, 1876 of chronic asthma, probably exacerbated by his mining jobs. He was working as a laborer in a cinder oven, not an easy job, when he passed away. He would have been 50 or perhaps 52 when he died, passing away at a much younger age than his brother Edward, who lived to be 76.



Illustration 18: Possible tintype of a young Edward Lamb with his brother Patrick.

*Editor's Note: If the other tintype is* Edward and one of his sons, then this one is Edward and a relative or a friend. The man believed to be Edward looks to be much younger in this tintype than in the one of the man and his son and the backgrounds are very different. This tintype may be Edward and his brother Patrick and, if so, the picture was taken in England. There is an ease and familiarity revealed in the pose. The stone building in the background was more common to a building of significance in England at the time than to the buildings common in the 1860s and 1870s in West Virginia.

<sup>104 1871</sup> united Kingdom Census.

Death Registration, District Durham, Sub-District Saint Oswald, Number 137, 1876. Saint Catherine's Index number 10a 186. Even though his wife Rose was the informant for the certificate, the age given, 62, cannot be correct and was not supported by any other documentation for Patrick Lamb.

In 1881 Rose and the remaining members of her immediate family had moved to 73 Russell Place, another colliery cottage row. Her second son, Philip, unmarried at 22, had gone down in the mines by this time. Rose was now 53, already a widow for five years. Her daughter Rose, unmarried at 16, was working as a domestic servant. Her oldest son James, 24, had by this time married Ann<sup>106</sup>, 24, and they had one son, Cyril, born in 1881, who was 2 months old at the time of the census. James and Ann had their own home at 45 Albert Street in Willington. Patrick and Rose's youngest son, Edward, was 9 years old and attending school.

Fragments of two letters from Rose to Edward and Mary have survived, both in bad condition, undated, not very wordy, and written in the large hand of a child.

One letter fragment with religious medals attached to it was written between 1869 and 1872. The medals were meant for their American born nieces and nephew: Mary Alice, Rose, and Peter and their names were written beside the medals. The letter fragment was signed 'Affectionately, your (bro)ther and sister, Patrick and Rose', but the paper disintegrated and a large hole appeared where the 'bro' would otherwise be. 107

The second letter fragment, written after 1876 and signed by Rose's son Edward, was addressed to 'Dear Brother' and undated. Rose asked for the address of Mary Alice, and on the second page gave the address of Mary Ann as 'Sister Rodriguez Des Mariae, (Little) Sisters of the (Poor), -- Dudley Street, Boston Mass, U.S. America'. <sup>108</sup> Once again parts of the letter have deteriorated leaving large holes in the paper. The fragment, signed 'from Aunt Rose and Cousin Edward', contained lots of 'XXXX's along the bottom 'to all'. The Mary Ann of the letter was Patrick and Rose's daughter, and the niece of Edward and Mary. The Mary Alice of the letter is, of course, Mary Alice Lamb Speyer, although she may not yet have been a Speyer when the letter was written. <sup>109</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>106</sup> This Ann may have been Hannah Spelman.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>107</sup> Unfortunately, the medals caused the paper to deteriorate significantly and more rapidly than it might have otherwise. This letter was baffling because at first a family could not be mentally constructed where there would be a father Patrick and a sister Rose, or a brother Patrick and a sister Rose. The latter was physically possible but not at all likely, since in the immediate family our Rose was only 7 when her brother Pat was killed in the slate fall. So it wasn't possible that the letter was written by our Rose in West Virginia. It was only during a trip to England in 2009 that the story came together that the brothers had married sisters.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>108</sup> Including the 'US America' on the address implied international mail, that the origin of the letter was a country separate from the USA. It was this international address that first centered the search for the letter's author in England and led to confirming the brother and sister in Willington.

<sup>109</sup> Mary Alice had moved to Cincinnati by 1890 and was working there in a bank.

In 1891 Patrick and Rose's oldest son Philip was still single and working as a coal miner, living as a boarder in Brandon and Byshottles, a town about 2 miles north of Willington, at 17 Frederick Street.

By 1891 the youngest son, Edward, was 20 and had gone down in the mines. He and his mother Rose, who was now 60, were living at 15 Nelson Street in Willington, another colliery cottage. The time frame of the second letter meshes perfectly with two events occurring in America and dates this letter as having been written between 1886 and 1890. The first event was the immigration of Mary Ann Lamb to Boston and the second was Mary Alice Lamb's move to Cincinnati, Ohio.

Mary Ann Lamb came to America in 1886<sup>110</sup>, and for a time lived in Boston. The Little Sisters of the Poor had opened a home for the elderly and destitute in Boston in 1870 in two adjoining houses on Springfield Street. A newer building of the society, housing 200 persons, was completed in 1880 at Woodward and Dudley Streets, Roxbury, near St. Patrick's Church. Sometime prior to 1920, the sisters moved to Somerville, Massachusetts, but by this time Mary Ann had moved to a convent in Manhattan.

By 1900 Mary Ann was a sister at 'The Home for the Aged of the Little Sisters of the Poor' at 135 West 106<sup>th</sup> Street in Manhattan. Although it was not a home specifically for elderly Irish, there were many Irish living there. In 1910, 1920, and 1930 she was still at the same place, but missing from the 1940 census and probably dead by then.<sup>111</sup> Today the home is no longer open. It was one of three now closed that had been operated by the sisters in New York City.

Rose's youngest son Edward married Alice Gaffney in 1898 and they moved to 36 Albert Street in Willington by 1901 with their two children, a son Thomas, 2, and a daughter, Rose, 5 months old. Edward worked in the mines as a coal hewer, someone who undercuts the coal with a pick.

Just two miles away, at 3 Sunderland Street in Brandon and Byshottles, Patrick and Rose's oldest son, Philip, 42, lived with his wife, Catherine Carroll, who was born in Brandon about 1870. In 1901 they had two children, George, 3 years old, born in Durham, Durham County about 1898, and Mary A., 7 months old, born in Sleetburn, Durham County in 1900. 112

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>110</sup> 1900 Federal Census, Borrough of Manhattan, New York County, New York State, Ward 12.

<sup>111 1910,</sup> Borough of Manhattan, New York County, New York, District 12, ward 616.
112 This is the first instance of the name George found in the Lamb family and preceded George Nicholas Casey, Sr., by about 9 years.

This branch of the Lamb family is thoroughly English by this time, as all of them were born in Durham County. Did they still identify as Irish?

As for what happened to Patrick and Rose's other daughter, Rose, she may have married Bernard Conlon in 1885 in Durham but this is not confirmed.

As Edward outlived his brother Patrick, Mary outlived her sister Rose by more than a decade. Rose Monaghan Lamb died on September 11, 1899 at 19 Railway Street in Brandon and Byshottles, of 'senile decay'. She was 68 years old. 114

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>113</sup> Rose's age was 22 on May 31, 1852 and 68 when she died in 3Q1899, implying she was born in 3Q or 4Q 1830. Since both documents agree, 1830 should be accepted as her birth year.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>114</sup> St. Catherine's Index death record, 10A 267. Number 68, Deaths in the Sub-district of Saint Oswald, County of Durham, England. 1899.



Illustration 19: Possible tintypes of Mary Monaghan Lamb, left, and her sister Rose Monaghan, right, or vice versa. These images were obviously made at the same time by the same photographer, witness the similarity of the floor pattern. The apron appearance in the left tintype was also common attire in the colliery cottages of Willington, as evidenced by surviving photos of the time.

# The Children Who Survived

# **Mary Alice Lamb**

Mary Alice Lamb was born on March 13, 1865 in Kanawha County, West Virginia, 115 the first of Edward and Mary's children to be born in America. She was named for her deceased sister, Alice, her paternal grandmother, Alice Martin Lamb, and her mother Mary. Her birth came just two months after her parents' difficult voyage from Liverpool to New York City. Called Molly as a child by her family, she grew up on Coal Fork of Campbell's Creek while her father mined coal.

Prior to 1890, Mary Alice moved to Ohio and worked at the First National Bank in Cincinnati. By early 1890 she was in Norwood, a town completely surrounded by Cincinnati. She wrote at least three letters from Norwood, two to her mother and one to her brother Peter. In the letter to Peter she mentioned that she had much she would like to tell him but since he cannot read, she cannot do so, implying the information she would like to impart was for his eyes only. In a letter to her mother she mentioned that her mother wanted to know the name of her 'dude'. 116 Mary Alice replied that his name was Louis Speyer and she indicated there would be a future for them together.

Louis Speyer was born in Kentucky on October 5, 1868, of German descent and made his living as a house carpenter. His



Illustration 20: Tintype of Mary Alice Lamb as a young woman.

mother's maiden name was Goss. Northern Kentucky is today a suburb of Cincinnati, which was, and still is, a heavily German town.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>115</sup> Kanawha County, WV birth records, page 91, number 79, 1865. Both the 1870 census and the 1880 census confirm this year, giving her age as 5 in 1870 and 15 in 1880. The 1913 Ed Lamb note also listed the year as 1865.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>116</sup> Mary Alice's handwriting was truly terrible and difficult to decipher. At first the reference to 'dude' in the letter sounded too modern to be what she had actually written but in reality 'dude' was a very common reference in the 1890s.



Illustration 21: Old St. Elizabeth's Church, Norwood, Ohio.

On November 25, 1891 Mary Alice married her young man at St. Elizabeth's Church, 1747 Mills Avenue in Norwood. The church has since been decommissioned and is used for other purposes.



Their first son, Edward, was born on May 24, 1894, followed by Eugene, born on January 28, 1896. A third child was born before 1900 who did not survive. By June 1900 Mary Alice and Louis had purchased their own home in Columbia Township, Silverton Precinct, Cincinnati, Ohio. In the years that followed, Mary Alice's age was consistently given as younger than she actually was. Perhaps she never knew her real year of birth. Many people did not. Perhaps the explanation is as simple as her not wanting to appear to be older than her husband or perhaps she was not the informant for the various censuses.



Illustration 23: Eugene Speyer

By 1910 three daughters had been added to the family: Marie Catherine, born December 29. 1900, Rose Regina, born Nov. 24, 1902, 118 and Louise Frances, born Nov. 23, 1905. Mary Alice may have forgotten, or never knew the extent of her Irish origins. The Speyer family identified as of English extraction on the 1910 census. 119 Mary Alice probably heard many stories of her parents' family life in Willington but perhaps not so many of their earlier years growing up in Ireland.

As World War I raged on in Europe and America entered the war, Mary Alice's younger son enlisted in the armed forces on July 17, 1917. Private First Class Eugene Speyer, Company A, 307 Field Signal Battalion, shipped out to France as a member of the Defensive Sector, American Expeditionary Forces. In the horrible conditions during the

second phase of the battle of the Argonne Forest, at St. Mihiel, Meuse-Argonne, Eugene

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>117</sup> Federal Census, Hamilton County, Ohio, 1900.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>118</sup> On a trip to the Canal Zone on Aug. 19, 1933, Marie and Rose gave these birth dates. <sup>119</sup> Federal census, Hamilton County, Ohio, 1910. Family number 152 Silverton Village, Port of Columbia Township.

died on October 20, 1918 of lobar pneumonia. <sup>120</sup> He was 22 years old. Years later, after the family had moved to Los Angeles, either Eugene's body or a memorial headstone for him, was placed in the family plot in Calvary Cemetery. At the time of Eugene's death, the Spanish flu had begun killing 30 million or more people worldwide. On the death certificates of the day, influenza was often officially recorded as pneumonia and so it is possible Eugene died of the Spanish flu.

In 1920 the Speyer family was at 6838 Park Avenue in Cincinnati<sup>121</sup> and the surviving children were all still at home. Edward, 24, with blue eyes and dark brown hair<sup>122</sup> worked as a machinist in auto supplies. Louis was still a house carpenter. Sometime before 1921, the family decided to leave Ohio and move to California. There were several Speyers in Los Angeles at the time so perhaps they were joining family.

By April 8, 1930 Mary Alice and Louis were living in Los Angeles, California with their daughters Marie, now 28, Rose, 24, and Frances, 23. They owned their home at 4109 Halldale Avenue but rented out the main house and the garage, choosing instead to live in an apartment over the garage at 4109½ Halldale, in order to supplement their income. The value of their real estate was \$3,000. They had a radio set in the home, an important addition in 1930. Louie was still a carpenter. Marie taught in high school and Rose taught in the public school system.

Mary Alice died at home at 1020 Oakes Blvd. in San Leandro, Alemeda County, California at 1:30 AM on June 11, 1942 of a coronary occlusion. She and Louie had been living there about 6 months and she had been to see the doctor just two days prior to her death. They could have been visiting their daughter Louise in San Leandro, at 591 East 13th Street during the war. They may have moved to Oakland for Louie to work in the ship yards during WW II. Her body was taken back to Los Angeles for burial. In 1946 Louie was back at 4109 ½ Halldale Ave., where he remained at least until 1954.

Lobar pneumonia involves the entire lobe of a lung and its most common cause is streptococcus.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>121</sup> Federal Census taken January 29, 1920.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>122</sup> World War I Draft registration card.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>123</sup> Information from Gene Spurlock, the son of Louise Francis Lamb, 2014.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>124</sup> 1930 US census. On this census, Catherine Lamb Craig's father was listed as born in England and her mother as born in North Ireland all of which can be safely discounted based on official records.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>125</sup> Death Certificate, County of Alameda, California. Mary Alice's birthday was given as March 31, 1867 an incorrect date.

<sup>126 1942</sup> supplemental voter rolls and the 1944 regular rolls show Louie Speyer at 2875 Georgia Street in Oakland, California.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>127</sup> *Voter registration.* 

Louie Speyer survived his wife Mary Alice for quite some time and died of heart failure in Madera County, California on January 11, 1961 at 92. He had been suffering from the flu for 6 days prior to his death. Madera, located in the Central Valley and the foothills of



Illustration 24: Louis Edward Speyer and Anna Frances Townsley, perhaps on their honeymoon.

the Sierra Nevada, is just north of Fresno County. 128 He lived next door to his daughter Marie Warren, who cared for him in his old age until he became a resident at the Madera Sanitarium. His body was taken back to Los Angeles to be buried alongside his wife.

The surviving son, Louis Edward, married Anna Frances Tounsley on November 30, 1921 in Los Angeles. Panna Tounsley was born July 29, 1893 in Nebraska but her parents, Michael and Anna Killderrey Tounsley, were from Ireland. Edward was 26 and Anna 25 when they married. They had at least two daughters Mary F., born Aug 22, 1923, and Martha R. Dorn about 1928, and one son Louis Edward, Jr. born June 14, 1925. In 1930 they owned a home worth \$5,000 in Los Angeles at 1546 West 69th Street. In 1930 Edward was doing general carpentry, an occupation that seemed to attract most of the extended family at this time. Panna Tounsley was

Anna and Edward ran a café, Lou Speyer's Coffee Shop, in Los Angeles, where Anna worked as a waitress for 40 years. Their last known address was 1301 Harkness Lane, Redondo Beach. Anna was a widow<sup>132</sup> when she died at California Lutheran Hospital at 1414 South Hope Street in Los Angeles on

Nov. 4, 1960, of basal cell carcinoma of the skin that had metastasized. She's buried at

His death certificate gives his birth date as Oct. 5, 1868, a date that may or may not be correct.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>129</sup> FamilySearch.org, GS film number 2074274, page 84, Digital folder 004280990.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>130</sup> Martha R. might be Dorothy Rose Speyer in the California birth registration records. Born Aug. 1, 1927, her mother's maiden name was Torrusbey.

<sup>131 1930</sup> Federal Census, Los Angeles County.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>132</sup> An Edward A. Speyer, born in Ohio on January 31, 1904, died in Los Angeles on December 24, 1966, although his mother's maiden name was Bailey.

Calvary Cemetery.<sup>133</sup> The informant on her death certificate was Mrs. Mary Correll, her daughter.<sup>134</sup>

Edward and Anna's son, Louis Edward Speyer Jr., enlisted in the Army in Los Angeles on Oct. 11, 1943 as a private. He had a grammar school education, not unusual for the time, with 'unskilled general woodworking occupations'. He was single but was listed as having dependents, who may have been his parents. In 1948, he lived at 731 East 136th Street. His last residence was Fountain Valley, California and he died on April 30, 2006 in Orange County, California at the age of 81. In 1948, he lived at 731 East 136th Street.

Rose Regina Speyer was born November 26, 1902 in Ohio. She married Walter L. Greene in California sometime between 1934 and 1938<sup>138</sup> and they continued to live in Los Angeles, where she worked as a teacher in the public school system for 34 years. Walter was a builder and a registered Republican, as was Rose and her mother Mary Alice. Her father Louis was a Democrat.

Louis and Mary Alice lived for a time with Rose and her husband in 1938 and 1939 at 3921 Welland Avenue in Los Angeles about two miles from their place on Halldale. The marriage between Rose and Walter was a love match and when Walter, who was much older than Rose, died just a few years later, Rose was devastated. She remained a widow for the rest of her life.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>133</sup> Death Certificate, County of Los Angeles, California.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>134</sup> Mary Correll had at least one child, Shirley Ann Correll, born May 14, 1955 in Los Angeles.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>135</sup> Military records. Ancestry.com

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>136</sup> Voter Registration.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>137</sup> Social Security Death Index, Fountain Valley, California.

<sup>138 1934</sup> was the last voter registration where Rose was still a Speyer. By 1938 she was a Greene.



Illustration 25: Rose Regina Speyer and her husband Walter Greene.

Rose Speyer Greene died in Santa Clara County, California on August 20, 1988 of a bleeding duodenal ulcer with a contributing cause of uremia. She lived at Pilgrim Haven, an assisted living and skilled nursing facility, at 373 Pine Lane in Los Altos. She was buried next to her husband Walter at Fairmount Memorial Park in Spokane, Washington, at Lawn 6, section BD, Space 20. The funeral director was Roller Hapgood Tinney in Palo Alto and Tennessee Valley Funeral Home in Spokane. <sup>139</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>139</sup> Handling the arrangements for the burial was Carol Miller, a great-niece who lived at 5904 North Argonne Road, in Spokane, married to Dr. Howard G. Miller.

Frances Louise was born November 23, 1905. She married Cyril Marshall Spurlock in Reno, Nevada in January 1931. They were both students at the University of California, Berkeley, graduating in 1931. Cyril was born January 19, 1904 in Covelo, Mendocino County. California, the son of Thomas Franklin Spurlock (1869-1940) and Mary Ann Eldred (1875-1940). Cyril received a degree in Agricultural Economics at Cal Berkeley and worked for the Federal Land Bank in Berkeley as a farm property appraiser in the 1930s. Frances received a degree in Fine Arts from Cal Berkeley. 140

Their son, Eugene Marshall (Gene) Spurlock was born September 8, 1932 in Los Angeles. Frances Louise had returned to LA from Berkeley before the birth so that her mother and older sisters could



Illustration 26: Louise Frances Speyer Spurlock. Los Angeles, California.

help care for her. Her sister, Rose, paid the medical expenses and her canceled check for \$50 is still held by the family. They continued to live in Berkeley and San Leandro at a variety of addresses, the last being at 916 Bridge Road from January 1937 to September 1938. Cyril transferred to the Farm Credit Administration in the US Department of Agriculture in Washington, D.C., where the family lived for a time at 2929 Connecticut Avenue, NW.<sup>141</sup>

Louise and Cyril's daughter, Mary Susan, was born January 4, 1939. Shortly afterward, in March 1939, Louise abruptly left the District of Columbia with the children and moved back to Los Angeles, staying with her sister Rose at the Welland Avenue house. Louis

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>140</sup> Gene Spurlock. 2014

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>141</sup> Gene Spurlock. 2014.

and Mary Alice Speyer were also living there, in an addition that Rose and Walter had added to their house. In August 1939, the family moved back to San Leandro, at 591 Lafayette Street.

When World War II began, Cyril Marshall's office in DC was decentralized to Kansas City, Missouri, due to possible German bomb attacks. The family came back together in Kansas City living at 606 East 73<sup>rd</sup> Terrace from May 1942 to June 1946. At the end of the war, they moved back to Washington, D.C. living at 4419 Chesapeake Street, NW from September 1946 to July 1947, when they moved to 4204 45<sup>th</sup> Street, NW.

In 1960 Cyril and Frances moved back to Berkeley where they lived at 1514 Oxford Street. Cyril died at home on September 19, 1982. Frances continued to live at the house moving sometime later to a retirement home in San Mateo. She died at Stanford Hospital in Palo Alto, California on January 11, 1999. 143

Marie Catherine Speyer married George R. Warren and together they owned and operated the Warren Photo Company in Oakland, CA from the mid-1930s until their retirement in 1953. They started out living in or above their store, located at 534 17th Street, and later moved to larger quarters at 1734 Franklin Street. When they retired, they moved to Oakhurst, CA where they built a small home for her father to stay, and another home for Rose, who moved there to be close to her family when she retired from the Los Angeles Public School System. Rose, however, had a personality conflict with her father and stayed no more than two years in Oakhurst before returning to the Bay Area.



Illustration 27: Marie Catherine Speyer.

George Warren died in Oakhurst. Marie moved to a retirement home in nearby Fish Camp, where she died on February 22, 2000. Mary Alice, Louie, Eugene, Frances

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>142</sup> *Ibid*.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>143</sup> *Ibid*.

Louise, Marie and George are all interred at the family plot in Calvary Cemetery, 4201 Whittier Boulevard, Los Angeles. Edward is buried in the same cemetery alongside his wife, Anna.

The author wishes to thank Gene Spurlock (1932 - 2014) for his assistance in writing the story of his grandmother, Mary Alice Lamb Speyer, his mother, Frances Louise Speyer Spurlock, and her siblings.



Illustration 28: Mary Alice Lamb Speyer late in life.



Illustration 29: Marie Elizabeth Casey Hudnall late in life.

Mary Alice Lamb Speyer and her great-niece, Marie Elizabeth Casey Hudnall, shared a remarkable resemblance in their later years. A look generally ascribed by the family to the Casey side, may really be the look of the Lambs or, more likely, the Monaghans.

#### **Catherine Ann Lamb**

Catherine Ann Lamb was born on September 7, 1872 in the Upper District of Kanawha County, West Virginia.<sup>144</sup> She was the ninth child of Edward and Mary Lamb and the fourth of five born in the United States. She bore a strong resemblance to her father.

Catherine Ann Lamb married Christa Craig on September 12, 1899 in Hamilton County, Ohio. Christa, called Christy by his family, was living in Parkersburg at the time, working on a steamboat. Catherine was living in Cincinnati. The officiant was Rev. John W. Mackey, a Catholic priest. Christy was born in March 1864 on Willow Island in Wood County, West Virginia. His father, George W. Craig, was said to be from Scotland but this has not been verified. His mother, Eveline Stead (Avaline Steede), was from Virginia. 146

George W. Craig, the son of Thomas and Hester (or Rhoda) Craig, married Avaline L. Steed, the daughter of Joseph and (unknown) McCoy Steed, on April 1, 1863 in Pleasants County, Virginia, now West Virginia. He was 23 and she was 22. Register of Marriages, Pleasants County, Virginia, 1863, number 5. Mary Hester Craig was born to them on June 28, 1867, Register of Births, Pleasants County, WV 1867, page 27, number 23. George and Emaline Craigg lost a daughter, Mary, 10, on July 21, 1876 to Diphtheria in Pleasants County, WV. Register of Deaths, Pleasants County, 1876, page 19, number 16.

After their marriage the Craigs lived first in Newport, WV, a suburb of Parkersburg where Christy worked as a hotel clerk. In the 1900 census, the birth place of Catherine's parents was given as England, not Ireland, which is clearly wrong. The years in England had distorted the family origins. She and Christy owned their own home.

Their first child, a daughter, was named Mary Alice, after her maternal grandmother, her paternal great-grandmother, and her aunt. On July 18, 1902, twins Margaret Carniega and Rose were born in Murphy Town in Wood County, WV. Little Rose did not survive. The family moved to Beverly, Ohio. On April 20, 1904 a daughter, Ella Bowen Craig, was born. Ella Bowen later became known as Cattie Craig. On February 7, 1906, a

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>144</sup> Birth records, Kanawha County, West Virginia, Upper District, 1872, page 166, line 72.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>145</sup> Marriage license, Hamilton County, Ohio, 1899, Number 256.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>146</sup> Federal Census, 1920.

son, Treasure, was born, who died on November 28, 1907.<sup>148</sup> He was followed by two more sons: Carl Paul, born February 29, 1908,<sup>149</sup> and Edward Lemm, born May 30, 1911.<sup>150</sup>

The family had moved 25 miles away, to Beverly Village, Waterford Township, Washington County, Ohio to a rented house by 1910. Christy became a salesman in a marble works operation. In the 1910 census Catherine again identified her mother as born in Ireland but her father, incorrectly, as born in England.

In 1920 they were renting in Waterford Township with three daughters at home: Alice, Margaret, and Catherine (Ella B. in the 1910 census), and two sons: Carl and Eddie. <sup>151</sup> In 1920 Christy was working in a match factory in Ohio.

By 1930, the family had moved back to West Virginia and owned a home at 117 Libby Street in Kanawha City. The girls were no longer at home but the boys, Carl and Eddie were there and unemployed, as was much of the country at that time. Christy had found work as a watchman at the new Libby-Owens glass plant.

Christy died of a ruptured aortic aneurism on January 14, 1940 at 2 AM. He may have been working when he was struck down as his last day at work was January 13. An autopsy was performed due to the suddenness of the death. Christy was buried at Mt. Olivet Cemetery, Charleston, West Virginia. Owen and Barth were the funeral directors.

In the 1940 census Carl and Edward Craig were living with their mother at 446 58<sup>th</sup> Street, Charleston. Carl was an unemployed sheet worker for Libby-Owens and Edward was an unemployed construction worker, both out of work for 16 months.

Ohio County Births, 1841-2003, Index. FamilySearch. <a href="http://FamilySearch.org">http://FamilySearch.org</a>: accessed 2014. Index based upon data collected by the Genealogical Society of Utah, Salt Lake City. Ella B. Craig, 5 years old, was in the 1910 census with the family. However, Catherine Craig, 15, was in the 1920 census with the family. Catherine Craig's marriage license indicates a 1904 birth year and this was confirmed by the Social Security death record for Katherine Wysong, SS # 301-30-8633.

Ohio, Deaths and Burials, 1854-1997, Index. FamilySearch. <a href="http://FamilySearch.org">http://FamilySearch.org</a>: accessed 2014. Index based upon data collected by the Genealogical Society of Utah, Salt Lake City.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>149</sup> Birth date extracted from Register of Deaths, Kanawha County, West Virginia, 1961. It is possible that his name was really Edward Lamb Craig.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>150</sup> Birth date extracted from Register of Deaths, Kanawha County, West Virginia, 1948.

On the 1920 census, Catherine's father, Edward Lamb, was once again listed as having been born in England and her mother Mary as born in Ireland.

Catherine Ann Lamb Craig died July 24, 1945 due to myocarditis in St. Francis Hospital. 152 Burial was at Mt. Olivet Cemetery with Owen and Barth as the funeral directors. The informant for her death certificate was her son, Eddie.

On December 16, 1942, Eddie Craig enlisted in the armed forces, as a Private, Branch Immaterial – Warrant Officers, for the duration of the war. Eddie had one year of college. He was 5' 3" tall and weighed 105 pounds and was a carpenter by occupation. 153

Eddie Craig died at the family home at 446 58<sup>th</sup> Street, on November 27, 1948 of accidental suffocation due to smoke inhalation. He had



Illustration 30: Catherine Ann Lamb Craig, late in life.

fallen asleep on the sofa, most likely while smoking. The sofa smoldered all night releasing smoke continuously into the closed room. The smoke was sighted at 9 AM by a man in the street who alerted Eddie's brother Carl. When they found Eddie, he was

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>152</sup> West Virginia Department of Health, Certificate of Death, number 9001, district number 200, serial number 873. Her year birth year on the certificate is 1873, but this is inaccurate.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>153</sup> U.S. World War II Army Enlistment Records (1938-1946), NARA, Record Group 64, National Archives.

already dead.<sup>154</sup> Thirty-seven years old and never married, Eddie was buried in Spring Hill Cemetery, Charleston, WV.<sup>155</sup>

Carl Craig worked as a glass worker at Libby-Owens in Kanawha City. He never married



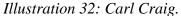




Illustration 31: Eddie Craig.

and died at home at 446 58<sup>th</sup> Street of a coronary thrombosis on July 21, 1961 at 3:00 AM and was buried in Mt. Olivet Cemetery, Charleston, WV.<sup>156</sup> He was 54 years old.

Both boys shared a remarkable resemblance to their mother Catherine and their grandfather, Edward Lamb.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>154</sup> Charleston Daily Mail, Saturday, November 28, 1948. Page 1.

Register of Deaths, Kanawha County, WV, Number 16185, 1948.
Register of Deaths, Kanawha County, WV, Number 9236, 1961.

Alice Craig married George Mathews and nothing further is known.



Illustration 33: Alice Craig and George Matthews.

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Margaret Craig married Leslie T. Chapel, a meteorologist with the U.S. Weather Bureau in the Panama Canal Zone. He began work there on April 20, 1916, when he was 24 years old. He was born in 1892 in Wisconsin and had been living in Broone, New York. Leslie resigned as a meteorologist in October 1918 when he was drafted during World War I but returned to service in the Weather Bureau after the war in January 1919. <sup>157</sup>

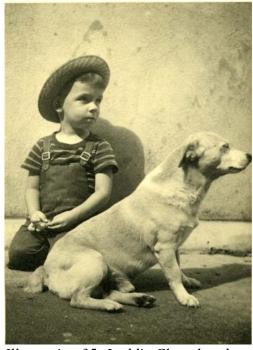


Illustration 35: Laddie Chapel and friend.



Illustration 34: Margaret Craig and Leslie Chapel.

The Chapels lived in Panama and had a least one son, Lad. At some point, perhaps later than Panama, perhaps earlier, they lived in Denver, Colorado. George Louis Casey, Mary and Edward's greatgrandson, visited his cousins, the Chapels, when he was returning from combat service in the Pacific at the close of World War II. George's aunt, Marie Casey,

arranged for him to leave the U.S.S. Mississippi, BB-41, on the western end of the canal and return to his ship when it reached the eastern end.<sup>158</sup>

United States, Panama Canal Zone Sailing Lists and Employment Records, 1905-1937, index and images. Service record cards, box 7, 1904-1920, image 99 of 1598. FamilySearch (https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/QVSH-7PD1: accessed 20 Jul 2014), Leslie T Chapel, 1916.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>158</sup> A Leslie T. Chapel, a meteorologist at the Panama Canal in 1930, may be the same Leslie who married Margaret. Born in Wisconsin in 1899, he lived with his mother in

Catherine and Christy's third daughter, known as 'Cattie' (Ella Bowen Craig) married Jesse Clark Wysong on June 15, 1927. Ten years older than Cattie, Jesse was born in Newport, Virginia on October 12, 1894. The son of Charles Robert and Addie Cleo Rock Wysong, he was divorced. Cattie and Jesse lived for a time in Ashland, Pennsylvania

where he worked as a carpenter. Jesse died of an apparent coronary occlusion on May 12, 1950 in Princeton, WV. 160 They had at least one daughter, Susan. Cattie sometimes stayed toward the end of her life on 58th Street in Charleston in her mother's house. She died in March 1977. 161

#### **Peter Lamb**

Peter P. Lamb, Edward and Mary's eighth child was born on June 29, 1869. 'Uncle Pete' waited until the ripe age of 52 to marry. He took Mrs. Katie Flowers (nee Katherine Wills), a widow<sup>162</sup>, to be his wife on Feb. 15, 1923 in Charleston, West Virginia. <sup>163</sup> He was living in Raleigh County at the time. Katie was 40 when they married and they never had any children or at least, not any that survived. Pete was a coal miner who worked as a 'trackman'.

Pete and Katie had lived in the town of Sharon on Cabin Creek in Kanawha County for ten years, when he died there on June 23, 1934 of



Illustration 36: Peter Lamb and Katie Flowers.

Cristobal Town in the canal district of Cristobal.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>159</sup> Register of Marriages, Kanawha County, WV, 1927, page 70, record 678.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>160</sup> Register of Deaths, Mercer County, West Virginia, 1950, page 218, record 4. State file number 6496. Jesse's brother, Paul, committed suicide in 1941.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>161</sup> Social Security Death Index, Ancestry.com, Katherine Wysong, born April 20, 1904, died March 1977.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>162</sup> Katherine Wills married Samuel Flowers on September 20, 1910 in Kanawha County. She was 27 and single. He was 29 and a widower. Register of Marriages, Kanawha County, 1910, Page 38. They were married in Putney, a town that existed in 1907, but for the most part was a precinct of Malden District in Kanawha County.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>163</sup> Register of Marriages, Kanawha County, 1923, page 201, record 206.

carcinoma of the jaw, onset one year.<sup>164</sup> Diagnosis was confirmed by pathology tests at Charleston General Hospital. Burial was at Mt. Olivet Cemetery, Owen and Barth Funeral Directors. He was 64 years, 11 months and 24 days old when he died. Joseph Peter Casey, his nephew, was the informant for his death certificate. It isn't known when or where Katie Flowers Lamb passed away but she continued to live at Cabin Creek and worked as a housekeeper for Hay and Coy Young, at least until 1940.<sup>165</sup>

#### **Edward Lamb**

Ed Lamb, the tenth and last of Edward and Mary's children, was born on Coal Fork of Campbell's Creek on November 13, 1874. In the old days it would have been said that he 'broke the mold'.

Ed worked in the coal mines on Paint Creek and on occasion was said to have overindulged in alcohol on paydays. One payday he fell sleep on the railroad tracks, close to Gallagher on Paint Creek, and was hit by an oncoming train. It took the engineer about a half mile to stop the train and one of Ed's legs had been severed. He was placed on the locomotive and taken to the Sheltering Arms Hospital<sup>166</sup> at Hansford on Paint Creek. He wore a peg leg for the rest of his life. According to family stories, he was a likeable and jovial man. Faye Casey spoke very well of her unclein-law and confirmed his disposition as did all of her children. He was clearly a family favorite.<sup>167</sup>

Ed died of acute cardiac failure, onset 5 minutes, due to chronic myocarditis of several years. No informant was named on the death certificate. Death occurred at 7 AM on December 8, 1950 at St. Francis Hospital,



Illustration 37: Ed Lamb, son of Edward and Mary Monaghan Lamb, late in life.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>164</sup> Register of Deaths, Kanawha County, West Virginia, 1934, number 12154.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>165</sup> Federal Census, Cabin Creek, Kanawha County, West Virginia, Leewood, Sheet 18-A, 1940. Katie was 48 on this census, indicating she was born in 1892. Her marriage record, probably more correctly, indicates she was born in 1882.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>166</sup> The Sheltering Arms Hospital was started by the Episcopal Diocese of West Virginia in 1888 and was only the second hospital in the entire state. It was supported by payroll deductions from coal miners and railroad workers and other donations. Non-miners

Charleston, West Virginia.<sup>168</sup> He was living in Marmet at the time in a house owned by his nephew, George Nicholas Casey, Sr. His occupation was retired engineer but he had been a coal miner for the bulk of his life. Burial was in Mt. Olivet Cemetery, with Simpson Funeral Home handling the arrangements.



Illustration 38: Ed Lamb and his sister Rose Lamb.

could subscribe for about 10 cents a month. Heating and electric lights were added in 1907-1908. The hospital closed in 1923 and at least some of its papers were donated to the state cultural center.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>167</sup> This story was related to this author by Charles Patrick Casey. Ed will always be a favorite of this author even though she has no memory of him because he sat down and wrote a one page note, that almost 100 years later, provided information that allowed her to find the family's history in Ireland and England.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>168</sup> His death certificate gave his birth date as November 18, 1874, but this is not correct.

#### Rose M. Lamb

Rose Lamb, the seventh child of Edward and Mary Lamb, was born April 15, 1867 at Malden, West Virginia, probably on Coal Fork of Campbell's Creek. She married John P. Casey, Jr. on September 23, 1891 and died on October 15, 1953 at St. Francis Hospital, in Charleston, West Virginia. Cause of death was intestinal obstruction, onset 12 days. 169



Illustration 39: Rose Lamb prior to her marriage to John P. Casey, Jr.

For Rose's story, see *Through Irish Eyes*, <u>Part III. Putting a Finger on History – the Caseys.</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>169</sup> Certificate of Death, West Virginia State Department of Health, Division of Vital Statistics, District 200, Serial Number 1511, State File Number 12430, 1953.



Illustration 40: The Casey and Speyer families in 1908. Back row, from left to right: Rose Lamb Casey, James Philip Casey, Louis Sheridan Casey, Eugene Speyer, Mary Alice Lamb Speyer. Front row, from left to right: Black Ted, also known as 'Suppy', the dog, George Nicholas Casey, Sr., Marie Casey, Louise Frances Speyer, Marie Catherine Speyer, Rose Regina Speyer, Peter Joseph Casey, leaning on a stick. Missing are John P. Casey, Jr., and his son, John Edward Casey, who had gone to work in the mines with his father at an early age, Louis Speyer, and his son, Louis Edward Speyer, Jr.

# The McCroney Family of Ireland, Willington, and West Virginia

Edward and Mary maintained a life long friendship with another Irish family from Willington who figured prominently in their lives in England and West Virginia. The McCroney family may have been the reason the Lambs ended up in West Virginia. Because the families were close, and more than likely related, some of their story is included here with a hope for future discoveries. As happened with the Lambs, coal mining took a heavy toll on the McCroney family.<sup>170</sup>

Catherine McKanna<sup>171</sup> McCroney<sup>172</sup> helped care for the Lamb children as they lay dying of scarlet fever in England in early 1863. She and her husband James, a coal miner, lived at 119 New Row, very close to the Lamb cottage. As happens frequently with census data, various ages were given over the years for Catherine and James, but it seems they were both born about 1816 in Ireland and were in England roughly a decade before Edward Lamb and his brother Patrick.

The immediate McCroney family included two sons with the surname of Clark, Patrick and James, and a daughter, Bridget, who married into the McCardle family in Willington, England. Bridget McCroney and her husband Pat McCardle immigrated with the McCroneys to West Virginia. Over time, other McCardles from Willington would follow to the coal fields in and around West Virginia, Ohio and Pennsylvania.<sup>173</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>170</sup> The family used McCroney as their last name. Some English documents have their name as simply Croney, but it is obvious they are the same family. Some references from West Virginia, specifically with reference to their daughter Mary Ann McCroney Ryan, use McCrory, but this is also the same McCroney family.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>171</sup> A Mary McKanna was one of the two witnesses at Patrick Lamb and Rose Monaghan's marriage in England.

The WV death certificate of the McCroney's daughter Biddy, lists her mother Catherine's maiden name as Donahue. Various other WV documents list the name as McKenna and McCanna. Biddy's English birth certificate gave her mother's name as Catherine McKanna. Volume 24, page 119. 1Q1842.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>173</sup> In the 1863 Patrick Clark letter, Patrick referenced Mr. Barnard McCarrell, who was the Lambs next door neighbor in Willington. In that letter he confirmed that this Barney was a brother of Patrick McCardle and indicated that Barney remained in England for the time being. Barney immigrated to America a few years later.

The first official record found of the McCroneys<sup>174</sup> in England was for the birth of their daughter Bridget, known as Biddy, in Wingate, Easington, Durham County, on April 25, 1842. Several more children were born prior to their move to Willington, where they were neighbors and friends of the Lambs. In the 1850s the McCroneys lived in Leadgate and Newgate in Durham County.<sup>175</sup> Their family was largely comprised of the same members as it would be ten years later in Willington with two important differences relating to the 1863 emigration letter. Two sons have the last name of Clark and Patrick Clark was the author of the letter from the family in West Virginia to the Lambs in Willington.

On the 1851 census James and Catherine have two sons, Patrick, 17 and James, 12, both of whom are working as coal miners, both of whom have a last name of McCroney and both of whom were born in Ireland. By 1861, Patrick was not to be found with the McCroneys but a son, James Clark, 21, was with them. This was certainly the same James McCroney in the 1851 census, implying that both Patrick and James in the earlier census were Clarks, not McCroneys.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>174</sup> James and Catherine McCroney probably married in Ireland as no official record can be found in England either under McKenna, McCanna, Donahue, McCroney or Croney, including with a K instead of a C. They have not been found in any ships' passenger manifest although they came to America in 1863, and settled in Mason City, WV. Liverpool was mentioned in the 1863 letter as their point of departure.

<sup>175</sup> United Kingdom census, 1851.

<sup>176</sup> James McCroney was 30 and Catherine 20 on the 1851 census, which is at odds with their ages in the 1861 and later census documents. In the 1861 census, they were fifteen years older than in 1851. On at least the 1841 census, ages were rounded down to the nearest decade. Source: Family History Center seminar on English census data.

177 A Patrick Clark married Margaret Dailey in Durham County England on October 30, 1855. He was 19 making him the correct age to be the correct Patrick Clark, but his father was Frances Clark, a railway laborer. They were married at St. Cuthbert's, Brooms, Lanchester and resided in Lead Gate, Durham County. Their witnesses were Mark and Margaret O'Brien. Register of Marriages, Durham, 1855, Number 77. This is not the correct Patrick Clark, however, as he and his wife were still to be found living in Durham County in 1871.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>178</sup> So who were these boys and why was the name McCroney in the 1851 census but Clark in 1861? Perhaps they were sons of Catherine McCroney's sister or perhaps there was another marriage prior to that of Catherine and James. This remains an unsolved mystery and Patrick and James Clark have yet to be found in Mason County, WV.

In 1861 Catherine and James McCroney had four daughters: the aforementioned Bridget<sup>179</sup>; Mary Ann, born December 22, 1844<sup>180</sup>, Catherine, born in 1850,<sup>181</sup> and Sarah, born in 1855.<sup>182</sup> There were two sons Michael, 12, born in August 1850, and James Clark,<sup>183</sup> 21, born in Ireland about 1840. James worked as a coal miner and at the tender age of 12, Mike was already working in the mines as a pony 'driver'. Mining practices of the time kept the ponies, who were used to haul the coal and equipment, underground their entire lives. Never seeing the light of day, the ponies were blind and young boys were employed to drive them.<sup>184</sup>

On February 13, 1860, the McCroney's oldest daughter Bridget<sup>185</sup>, married Patrick McCardle.<sup>186</sup> The newlyweds continued to live with the McCroneys, making a total of nine people in a cottage likely no bigger than the Lamb cottage.

By 1863, labor conditions in Willington were leading up to the Rocking Strike which began in October of that year. Prior to the strike, sometime between February and August, the McCroney family, including Pat McCardle, left Willington and traveled to Liverpool to take a ship to America. They wrote back to Edward and Mary from Mason City in August 1863 telling of their new life in West Virginia and what to expect when the Lambs themselves arrived there. Continuing to do what they knew how to do, the men all went to work in the local mines.

In the 1870 Federal census James and Catherine McCroney were still in Mason City, West Virginia. James, 55, was crippled so there was probably some sort of accident in England or after they got to West Virginia, which might explain the reference in the 1863 letter to James as needing rest before starting work, after the journey to America.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>179</sup> The parish records might help in determining any McCardle or Clark relationship that might have existed with Edward Lamb.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>180</sup> Mason County, West Virginia Death Record.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>181</sup> The UK census for 1851 was taken March 30, 1851. Catherine was six months old in this census, making her born about October 1850. Some sources give her birth date as May 1852, which is highly unlikely.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>182</sup> Durham County, United Kingdom, 2Q1855, 10a203, last name recorded as McRoney. <sup>183</sup> A James Clark was born in 1839 in Durham Western. His birth certificate might yield some further information. He might have been a nephew or someone they adopted as their own. Or he might have been someone else entirely.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>184</sup> All of this makes it virtually certain that James Clark's brother, Patrick Clark, was the author of the 1863 letter imploring the Lamb family to join them in Mason County, Virginia.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>185</sup> Bridget's age on her marriage certificate in 1860 was 21 which conflicts with her age on the 1861 census where she was 18.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>186</sup> Marriage license, Durham County, United Kingdom, 1860.

Catherine McCroney was 56 and keeping house. Their children, Catherine, 16, Sarah 15, and Michael 19, were at home and Michael was working as a coal miner. James and Catherine owned real estate worth \$300, probably their house. Their daughter, Mary Ann, had married Thomas Ryan and was living close by.

In the June 1880 Federal census Mike McCroney, 27, was still in Mason City with his sisters Kate, 24, and Sarah, 20, and his mother Catherine. Mike was still a miner but had been unemployed for six months. Times must have been tough for the family that year. His father, James, missing from the census, was surely dead by now.

On May 7, 1882 Mike McCroney wrote to his 'worthy and esteemed friend' Edward Lamb. Mike was about 32 at the time, doing, in his words, dull 'well head' work on the Ohio River bank but had been unemployed for two months. He asked if Edward could get him work 'on the Creek', probably Campbell's Creek or possibly, Cabin Creek. Edward was still working at Campbell's Creek, where his sons had died, at least as long as 1880.

Mike inquired about the thickness of the coal seam and how long the 'rung' generally lasts. Obviously Edward had asked in a previous letter about mutual friends from the old days and Mike updated him on what he knew about Stephen and Barney McCardle being in Pennsylvania. This was a reference to Pat McCardle's father, Stephen, and Pat's brother, Barney, who had been Edward's neighbor in Willington. Mike responded that 'the old man', (Stephen), <sup>188</sup> had to be committed to an asylum but he broke out some time after and no one knew where he was. <sup>189</sup>

Mike went on to ask Edward if there were many miners working at Lovells' works. <sup>190</sup> Mike had worked for Lovell for two years in Carbondale, Ohio 'before he (Lovell) went up there'. He asked about the content of the coal and if there was much slate in it, and remarked that Pat McCardle would like to see that area of the country, implying that Pat might be willing to move there. Mike signed his note 'Well Wisher and Friend till Death'. Earlier in the letter he expressed his sorrow that Mary was not well. Seven years after the death of her two boys in the horrific coal mine accident, Mary's health must have been greatly affected by the loss of five of her ten children in a twelve year span. Mike wrote that his mother, Catherine McCroney, was not doing well either.

Catherine's age was 63 on this census but she was likely a few years older. As with many other census references, one sees the divergence in ages as the years pass.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>188</sup> John Stephen McCardle was at home in 1880 living with his family. He was 13 at the time of this letter and was not the Stephen referred to in the letter.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>189</sup> This might be the Danville asylum, near Reading, Pennsylvania. There was a fire there in 1881 which resulted in many inmates walking away during the chaos.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>190</sup> Lovell Coal Mining Company also had a mine at Puritan, Pennsylvania, Cambria County, and apparently owned a mine at Campbell's Creek.

Mike and his sister Kate continued to live on Second Street in Mason City. By 1900 their mother had died. Mike continued to work as a coal miner and died in Mason City on May 21, 1920 of mitral insufficiency. He was buried in the Catholic cemetery in Mason City. Born in 1848 in Durham County, England, he never married and died at 72.<sup>191</sup>

Catherine 'Kate' McCroney died in Mason City on January 30, 1934 of arteriosclerosis. Born in England, she never married and died at 82. 192

Sarah McCroney married James Lineham on August 8, 1886 in Mason County. His mother came from Ireland in 1836 and still lived on Third Street in Mason City in 1900 at the age of 82. Sarah and James appear to have moved away and nothing more is known.

Mary Ann McCroney married Thomas Ryan on April 26, 1865. Thomas, another miner, was born January 10, 1839 in County Tyrone, Ireland, and lived for a time in Scotland where his father worked as a coal miner. Thomas was used to a life of hard work, working as a miner himself in Scotland when he was ten years old. He emigrated to America in 1851 and served with the West Virginia 4th Infantry during the Civil War.

Mary Ann and Thomas Ryan lived a few doors away from Mike and Kate McCroney in 1900. The Ryans had at least ten children over the course of their marriage. At home with them in 1900 were three daughters: Elizabeth A., born in June 1879; Julia, born March 13, 1882 in Cabin Creek; and Josephine, born in April 1885. Thomas Ryan passed away of cancer of the face on February 10, 1922. Mary Ann McCroney Ryan died of apoplexy on January 23, 1927, at the age of 82. Her death certificate gave her mother's name as Katherine McKenna.

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While the family was still in England, the McCroney's oldest daughter Bridget<sup>193</sup>, married Patrick McCardle on February 13, 1860, at the Church of Our Lady Immaculate and Saint Cuthbert in Auckland.<sup>194</sup> Their witnesses were Michael McCardle and Ann Jane Foster. The ceremony was performed by Seton Rooke. Pat McCardle was born in Ireland about 1839 or 1840. The son of a farmer named Stephen McCardle, he worked as a coke drawer in the mines of Willington.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>191</sup> Mike's WV death certificate lists his mother's maiden name as McCanna and his birth date as 1848. Other records imply 1850 but no official birth certificate has been located. <sup>192</sup> Mason County, West Virginia death records. Catherine's age is almost certainly incorrect on this document.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>193</sup> For some reason, Bridget's age on her marriage certificate in 1860 was 21 which conflicts with her age on the 1861 census where she was 18.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>194</sup> Marriage license, Durham County, United Kingdom, 1860.

Pat McCardle's brothers, Barney, 27, and John 30, lived next door to Edward and Mary Lamb at 126 New Row in Willington. Barney<sup>195</sup> was a widower and he and John were both laborers, undoubtedly in the coal pits. Their sister, Anne, 20, was a house maid and there were five Irish boarders living with them. Barney didn't come to America at the same time as his brother, but he did eventually immigrate, as did his brother Michael McCardle. Both worked as coal miners in the Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania area in the early 1900s. <sup>196</sup>

Pat and Bridget McCardle settled in Mason County initially, but moved for a time to Ohio, probably Carbondale in Athens County, around 1869, and one of their children was born there. <sup>197</sup> By 1875, they were back in Mason City.

In 1880 Patrick, 45, and Bridget, 37, have seven children at home. Their oldest, James, 18, was born in England, about 1862. Their second oldest, a daughter, 15, was born in West Virginia about 1865. She was followed by another son Patrick F., 13, born in West Virginia about 1866. A son, John Stephen, born in Ohio about 1869, was 11. Four more sons were born in West Virginia: Michael, born about 1874, Joseph, born about 1876, Bernard, born about 1879, and Arthur, born in March 1884; along with another daughter, Annie, born on November 4, 1881. There was probably at least one or two more children who did not survive born between 1869 and 1874.

Patrick and Bridget continued to live on Third Street in Mason City. They owned their own home, something beyond their reach in England. Their daughter, Kate, operated a shoe factory and two of their sons, Bernard and Arthur, were coal miners who lived at home in 1900. Their son Patrick, married Kate Mullen on June 21, 1891 and lived on Center Street, Mason City. He and his wife adopted a daughter Ruth, born in February 1893.

Pat and Bridget's oldest son, James, married Alice Steele on July 26, 1890 at St. Joseph's Church in Mason City. Alice was born in February 1868 in Ohio. In 1900 they lived on Center Street in Mason City with their two children: James, born in May 1891; and Arthur Francis, called Frank, born in September 1893. Frank died of lobar pneumonia on March 20, 1936 at St. Francis Hospital in Charleston.

Patrick McCardle of Ireland, England, Virginia, and West Virginia, died March 13, 1913 of pneumonia in Mason City at the age of 79. He had been a coal miner all his life. His son Arthur was the informant at his death.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>195</sup> Barney McCardle was referenced in the 1880s letter as being in Pennsylvania in the 1880s. He came over sometime after the first wave of the McCardle/McCroney family in 1863.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>196</sup> Federal Census, 1880 and 1900.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>197</sup> Mike McCroney, Pat's brother in law, mentioned Carbondale in his letter in 1882.

Bridget McCroney McCardle died on March 1, 1924 in Mason City, West Virginia of apoplexy at the age of 82. She and her son Bernard were living on Fourth Street in Mason City at the time. Bridget had given birth to thirteen children, eight of whom were still alive as late as 1900. <sup>198</sup> Known to all as Biddy, she and Pat had emigrated in 1863. Pat was naturalized in 1869 and if he noted her on his papers, she would have been naturalized at the same time. Perhaps Biddy even got to vote before she died. She was buried in the Catholic cemetery at Pomeroy, OH. Her death certificate listed her mother's maiden name as Catherine Donahue although it was actually McKanna. <sup>199</sup> The informant was B.J. McCardle, her son Bernard, making it likely that Donahue was a family name in some other fashion.

Pat and Biddy's son, John Stephen McCardle, born in 1869 in Ohio, married Lula B. Mann of Alabama. They lived in Carbon Hill, Walker County, Alabama in 1900 with their family: Robert Michael, born in 1894, Patrick F., born August 1896, and Bernard, born January 1899. They had one boarder living with them, James Williams, 11 years old, born August 1888. They had married about 1891 and by 1900 Lula had given birth to four children, three of whom survived. Stephen was a mine contractor, out of work for six months in 1900. The family moved back to Mason City. One daughter, Agnes Leona McCardle, born March 28, 1901 in Mason City, died there of the croup or diphtheria laryngitis, on November 6, 1902 at the age of one year and seven months. On February 26, 1903 Lula gave birth to another daughter named Agnes Josephine. Lula gave birth to at least 7 children.

Arthur Joseph McCardle, Pat and Bridget's youngest identified son, died on February 13, 1922 of paresis in Mason County.

Coal mining tragedies continued to haunt the McCroney and McCardle families as they had the Lambs.

Three McCardle brothers, Stephen, James, and Patrick, all sons of Pat and Bridget, died together in a mine explosion on January 18, 1906, on Paint Creek along with eighteen other miners. A few days before the disaster, the mine had been sold to a syndicate owned by several Pennsylvania capitalists, including the Mucklow brothers of Titusville, Pennsylvania. Ten mines on Paint Creek had been purchased and incorporated as the Paint Creek Colleries. The mine involved was owned by a subsidiary, the Detroit and Kanawha Coal Company, and was located at Detroit, West Virginia, about 25 miles from Charleston.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>198</sup> Federal census, Mason County, West Virginia, 1900.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>199</sup> Birth Certificate, Biddy McCroney, Registration District Easington, County of Durham, England, March 4, 1842.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>200</sup> The town of Mucklow in WV was named for these brothers. For a time, John and Rose Lamb Casey lived in Mucklow.

Around 12:30 PM an horrendous explosion hurled tons of debris and wreckage from the mouth of the mine. The toll in miners' lives would have been much greater if the disaster had not happened during the lunch hour.<sup>201</sup> Even though the Mason County death certificates for the three brothers say the disaster was near Maggie in Mason County, it was not.<sup>202</sup> This explosion was particularly devastating to area families as nearly everyone killed died with at least one relative. Four Bridgeman brothers, three Synder brothers, and two Mikel brothers, as well as a father and son named McLaughlin, were killed. Stephen was 37 years old. James was 43, and Patrick was 39 years. They were all family men. Burial was by Biggs and Rappold.

The mining tragedies continued for the family.

Stephen McCardle's son, Robert Mike, had been born May 18, 1894 while the family was living in Alabama. Robert Mike married Nellia Anderson who had been born in West Virginia about 1896. He was working as a mechanic and living in Smithers, Fayette County, West Virginia. Mike and Nellia had two children, Charles and Ruth, born about January 1920.

Robert Mike was working in Carbondale, Fayette County, on October 6, 1921 when the roof of the room in which he was working caved in. He was killed in a slate fall at 27. Mike was buried at Hambrick Cemetery. His widow took her children and returned to the home of her parents, Charles and Anna Anderson, in Falls District, Fayette County, West Virginia, where she worked as a salesperson in a shoe store.<sup>203</sup>

Bernard B., another son of Stephen McCardle, became a salesman of burial lots in Portsmouth Ohio, married with children.

There is a connection between the Lamb, Clark, McCardle and McCroney families not yet fully discovered. Several marriages took place in Ireland in the 1800s between the Lamb and McArdle families. One of the witnesses at the marriage of Patrick Lamb and Rose Monaghan was Mary McKanna of Claypeth, Durham County. Mary could be a

<sup>&</sup>quot;Twenty Human Beings Hurled Into Eternity," Bluefield Daily Telegraph, 1-19-1906 "Horrible Mine Disaster Yesterday at Detroit Mine on Paint Creek," Charleston Daily Gazette, 1-19-1906." "All the Bodies Found in the Detroit Mine," (no source given), 1-20-1906. See also: The Point Pleasant Register at the State Archives on microfilm March 6, 1862 – Nov. 28, 1923, The Advocate Charleston Feb. 7, 1907 – Dec. 30, 1909, The Labor Argus May 24, 1906 – Dec. 28, 1911.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>202</sup> For some reason, dual death certificates were issued for these deaths. The deaths occurred in Kanawha County, not Mason County. The Kanawha County certificates identify the correct place of death.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>203</sup> 1930 Federal Census, Fayette County, West Virginia.

sister or other relative of Catherine McKanna McCroney, since, generally, maiden names were used on the church records of the time.

Some other McCardle and Clark entries in the English census: 1851: Patrick McArdle, 45 in 1851, Durham, Conside and Knitsley, District 6b, with his wife Mary 35, and children Patrick, 13, James, 10, John, 5, and Henry, 10 months. 1861: John McKardle 22, coal miner, 129 New Row, Willington, with his wife Mary 23, and Paul McKardle 19, a boarder and coal miner. All were born in Ireland. 1861: John L. Clark, of Durham County, a prisoner and coal miner, 26 and married. 1861: Thomas Clark 36, 124 New Row, Willington. James Clark was close by. Sandy Clark, 40, at 101 New Row. Peter Clark, 32, at 98 New Row, Willington, District 21h and 21a.

## **Another Brother Perhaps**

#### **Peter Lamb in Willington**

In the April 1861 United Kingdom census, Peter Lamb and his wife Catherine Sheridan Lamb were living at 141 New Row in Willington, very close to Edward and Mary. Peter was 28 and Catherine was 20, indicating they were born about 1833 and 1841, respectively. They had one child, a daughter Mary, 1, and three boarders living with them, all born in Ireland. One boarder was James Sheridan, 25, a laborer, who was almost certainly related to Catherine, and perhaps ultimately to the Sheridan/Casey clan. The two other boarders were Andrew Gearty, 20, and Peter Reily, 20, surnames found in the extended family.<sup>204</sup>

Peter Lamb married Catherine Sheridan of County Cavan, Ireland, apparently, and unfortunately, not in England so their marriage certificate wasn't available to verify his father's name. Their daughter Mary's birth country could be either England or Ireland. The 1861 census listed her as born in Ireland but later census data has her born in England. If she was born in Ireland, then the marriage definitely would have taken place there.<sup>205</sup>

Peter worked as a laborer in the coke ovens for Straker and Love. By 1871 Peter<sup>206</sup> and Catherine have four children: Mary 11, John 7, Peter 3, and Joseph, 1 month old. They lived at 18 Tyne St. in Willington and were still taking in boarders in spite of the size of their family. Patrick Rooney, 45; Peter Gough, 20; and Patrick McCaghy, 20, all born in Ireland, were living with them.

By 1881 the family had added four more children: Thomas 7, Elizabeth 6, Margaret Anne 3, and Rose, 11 months. At 46 Russell Place, Willington, they no longer had boarders. With eight children at home there would be no room. Their oldest daughter Mary Lamb, may have married Isaac Armour in 1880 in England. Living just a few cottages away at 73 Russell Place was Rose Monaghan Lamb.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>204</sup> See <u>Through Irish Eyes</u>, <u>Part IV</u>. <u>Outer Leaves of the Sheridan Tree</u>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>205</sup> Proof that Peter was another brother remains illusive unless another document can be found somewhere with his father's name. Instinct indicates Peter is a third brother. His birth year, roughly 1833, would fit nicely in the chronology of births, typically one birth every two years.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>206</sup> Peter's age in the 1871 census, 40, implies he was born in 1831 but his age continued to vary over the years.

Peter died in 4Q1884 at 49.<sup>207</sup> Catherine's sons Peter, Joseph, and Thomas, all coal miners, and two of her daughters still lived at home in the 1891 census. Margaret, 13,<sup>208</sup> was working as a domestic servant, and Rose<sup>209</sup>, 11, was attending school. The family had moved to 385 Gordon St. in South Shields, closer to Newcastle, in the civil parish of Westoe.

In 1901 Catherine was 57, living with her son Thomas, 27, a barman, and her daughter Rose, 20, at 25 Marsden St., in South Shields.

Catherine's son John, 37, had married Elizabeth, 35, and they lived at 40 Allhusen Terrance in Gateshead, St. James. John worked as an above ground electrician at a colliery. He and his wife had eight children in 1901, ranging in age from nine years to ten months.

Catherine's other son, Joseph, 30, a miner, had married Catherine, 28, by 1901 and they had a son Joseph, 1. They lived at 1 Mozart Street, South Shields.

Nothing is known of the other children: Mary, Peter, Elizabeth, and Margaret Anne,

Catherine Lamb died in South Shields in 3Q1917.<sup>210</sup> Unfortunately, except for small children, English death certificates of the time did not list parents' names and neither Catherine's nor Peter's would shed any light on a possible relationship to Edward Lamb.

Was Peter a younger brother of Edward and Patrick? Census data varies in implying his birth year was anywhere from 1831 to 1834. Since he died in 1884 and that death certificate implied he was born about 1834, this places him squarely where another child would be in the James and Alice Lamb family. Edward and Mary's fifth son was named Peter, another good indication. Patrick and Rose Lamb's daughter Mary Ann was born at Peter's house in Willington in 1861 and this may be the best indication that there was a family connection.

#### Some Other Miscellaneous Possibilities for Relatives

John Lamb, the boarder with Edward and Mary, was 32 in 1861 so he was born about 1829, about the time another sibling would have been born. If he married in England his parents' names, or at least his father's, could be found. Patrick Lamb, the other boarder,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>207</sup> St. Catherine's Index number 10a189.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>208</sup> The name on the census was Mary A. but this was Margaret Anne.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>209</sup> The name on the census was Rachel but this was Rose.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>210</sup> St. Catherine's Index number is 10a 817.

was 28 in 1861 so he was born about 1833, but he cannot be a brother since the real brother named Patrick was easily identified and tracked. Perhaps this Patrick was a cousin.

In 1861 Thomas Lamb, 25, a coal miner, was in a prison that seemed to house a mix of debtors and ordinary criminals. Thomas was listed as a prisoner, not a debtor. Perhaps he was a striking miner. His birthplace was Easington, Durham County, about 1836, and if true, he was not likely to be a brother of Edward. The McCroneys lived in Easington for a time though, so there could be a connection.

A Monaghan family lived at 65 New Row in Willington in 1861: Hugh, 42, a coal miner, his wife, Ellen Brannan, 36, three daughters: Bridget, 5, Rose, 4, and Mary, 5 months; and two sons: John, 7, and Owen, 2. Hugh and Ellen married on May 25, 1851 at St. Wilfred's Chapel in Bishop Auckland, the same church where Edward Lamb and Mary Monaghan were married. Hugh was the son of John Monaghan, a laborer, and Ellen was the daughter of Thomas Brannan, a laborer. Hugh and Ellen were both born in Ireland. Perhaps Hugh's father John was a brother of Mary's father Philip Monaghan.

Patrick Monaghan, 27, a laborer from Ireland, boarded at 156 New Row in 1861 with the Sheedy family. Patrick was married, although his wife was not with him. If his age is accurate, he would have been born around 1834, which was Mary Monaghan's birth year. The years 1851 to 1880 have been searched to see if he married in Durham County but no marriage certificate has been found. If he did marry there, his father's and possibly his mother's name would be available.

In the March 1851 UK census, Mary Monaghan, 14, a dressmaker, lived in St. John Parish, (or St. Nicholas, District 1d), Newcastle upon Tyne. Her father Patrick, 38, was a mason, and her mother was Margaret, 40. She had a brother Patrick, 12, who worked as a nail maker, and a brother Lawrence, 10. All were born in Ireland. This was not our Mary Monaghan, of course, but the family could have been relatives.

The trail of the two boarders, John and Patrick Lamb, coke burners who were living with Edward and Mary in 1861, has grown cold and nothing further is known of them because there are no threads to identify any possible leads. The Lamb name could be a mistake but it is most likely they were relatives. There are men in the 1871 census around Durham with the same names, but without further threads such as family stories or English marriage certificates, one cannot say definitively that they were even still alive in 1871. The 1891 census had a Patrick Lamb, 65, from Monaghan, Ireland, unmarried and living at 2 Wakefield Yard, in Willington. The age would be about right for this to have been Patrick the boarder.

In the 1851 census there was a John Lamb, 20, a coal miner, born in Ireland, who was a boarder at 106 Back Bondgate Street in the Township of Bishop Auckland, Ecclesiastical District of St. Andrew Auckland, in Durham County. The age would be approximately correct for this to be Edward and Mary's 1861 boarder, but the name was common, so this may or may not be the same John Lamb.

#### Denouement

The information from Edward and Mary's youngest child, 'Uncle Ed', provided threads to identify the family in Willington, the ship on which they emigrated to America, and the children who lived and died in England. He was close to Edward and Mary and he lived at home with his mother Mary until she died in 1913.

I have often wondered why Uncle Ed committed the information to paper in 1913, and I personally surmise that he did so to keep that piece of family history from being lost forever. His mother passed away in 1913 and his father in 1907. Perhaps he was acutely feeling the passage of time on the event of his mother's death. I am profoundly grateful that his note could be found 94 years later in a dusty basement in Marmet. Thank you, Uncle Ed. You have no idea how helpful that piece of paper has been.

The struggles of our ancestors to survive and prosper should not be allowed to be forgotten. These struggles have shaped us all, whether we realize it or not. Edward and Mary Monaghan Lamb may not have come from wealth and they themselves never attained it in life. They suffered great personal tragedies in the loss of five children at very young ages. They struggled but they endured. They triumphed over adversity and all that life threw at them. They bravely left their native Ireland to make a new life, first in England, and then again in America. To those of us who never knew them personally, the few threads that are left to make them flesh and blood show them to have been interesting, resilient, strong and beloved by friends and family.

They were from a world and a time where people did not indulge themselves in happiness. Their lives were defined by social and economic constraints. The loss of their four sons and their first daughter surely left a vacuum in both their lives, a wound that would never heal, a sorrow that could never be left behind. In this journey of discovery, I feel I came to know them to some extent, and can safely say that they had an inner strength many can only dream of.

"No man is a failure who has friends."
- Clarence, Angel 2<sup>nd</sup> class, "It's a Wonderful Life"

"I will not let thee go.

I hold thee by too many bands:
Thou sayest fairwell, and lo!
I have thee by the hands,
And will not let thee go."
- Robert Bridges (1844-1930)
'I will not let thee go' 1873

## Appendix 1. The Legends and The Reality

"I cannot tell how the truth may be; I say the tale as 'twas said to me." - Sir Walter Scott

Marie Casey (1902-1996) and her brothers grew up hearing stories told by their parents, their grandparents Lamb, and their uncles, many of whom were steeped in the tradition of the Irish Seanchai (Shan-a-kee). Charged with keeping track of the clan, these story tellers captivated their audiences with their ability to tell a tale in all its details and glory. This ability was a gift bestowed on several members of the family and some would say, saw its perfection realized in Charles Patrick Casey (1929-2014) of Charleston and Philip Sheridan (1834-1910) of Australia. Marie Casey, the last surviving grandchild of Edward and Mary Lamb, tried her best to remember the stories and keep safe the pictures and letters.

Several stories in our branch of the Lamb family were passed along ascribed to certain members of the family. All of these legends contain an element of truth. They happened to someone, but age and time played a trick on to whom.

#### The Legend

"Grandmother Lamb's Family: Mary McCluskey met and married Edward Lamb, son of Ned Lamb, a landlord in Ireland, and he forbade Edward's marriage to a Catholic Irish girl. Edward's father disowned and disinherited Edward. After a year later, little Edward was born. So my grandmother and grandfather decided to come to America. It took three weeks of sailing to reach America. In this period of time, the little baby became ill and died. He was buried at sea." – Reflections of Marie Casey

#### The Reality

Mary's name was Monaghan, not McCluskey, confirmed by her official English marriage certificate and the official birth certificates of her children born in England, as well as the death certificates of her children in America. For Marie Casey to make a reference to McCluskey implies strongly that somewhere the name occupied a branch of the family tree. It, and many variations of it, were common to County Monaghan, Ireland. Another family story maintained we were related to the first American born cardinal, John Cardinal McCloskey, but this is unproven.

Edward Lamb was the son of James Lambe, a tenant farmer but not a land owner, in Magheracloone, a parish owned almost entirely by a single English lord, Evelyn P. Shirley. Edward was a pitman in an English coal mine, not an occupation for a gentleman at the time. His brother Patrick worked in the mines. This was not a wealthy family.

The marriage was likely to have been an arranged marriage, as was the custom of the day. It was also the second marriage between the two families. Three years earlier Edward's brother had married Mary's sister, making it highly unlikely the second marriage would have been scandalous or not sanctioned by both families.

The story of disinheritance was a story passed down through the years that actually involved the Sheridan branch of the family. Helen or Ellen Sheridan, an Irish girl, married Robert Dudley Blake, a wealthy English gentleman around 1819. This marriage was the basis for a well documented and famous English court case. Bridget Sheridan Casey was peripherally involved in that case, forming the origin of that aspect of the legend. For more on the Sheridan/Blake case, see <a href="https://documented.org/">Through Irish Eyes</a>, Part IV. Outer Leaves of the Sheridan Tree.

The Lambs came to America long after the Great Hunger had ended and they did so after living for nearly ten years in England as a married couple. Edward, the first of their children to die, died of scarlet fever in England, not aboard the ship to America. Mary and Edward had lost three of their five children by the time they emigrated and Mary was pregnant with her sixth child at the time of the voyage. Their journey was nine long and difficult weeks from Liverpool to New York in the winter of 1864-65. Two small children died on that voyage and Mary would have spoken of that for the rest of her life. In all likelihood, this experience was the origin of 'the little angel who died at sea'.

#### The Legend

"Later they arrived in Crown Hill, West Virginia, between Montgomery and Chesapeake. As time passed, four boys and three daughters were born: Edward II, named after the little angel that died at sea, then Mary, Peter, Rose (my mother), Myles, Patrick, and Catherine made up the Lamb family." – Reflections of Marie Casey

#### The Reality

Edward and Mary had ten children, five of whom, including Patrick and Myles, were born in England, and five of whom, were born in Kanawha County, West Virginia.

#### The Legend

"When Myles was 17 years old and Patrick 18, they were killed in the mines in a slate fall on Campbell's Creek. This mine was an 'individual mine', not company owned. The family worked the mine and sold the coal they dug. The roof caved in on the two boys. In those days they didn't know anything about putting posts and barricades and safety things up." – Reflections of Marie Casey

#### The Reality

Edward and Mary Lamb were living on Coal Fork of Campbell's Creek, WV in the mid-1870s. Edward and his two oldest boys Patrick and Myles, were employed by the Campbell's Creek Coal Company and were working together on that fateful Friday, January 8, 1875. Patrick was 19 years old and Myles was 17. Edward was 43. The three of them were digging coal when the roof of the room in which they were working gave way and a piece of coal about 8 feet wide, 14 feet long, and 20 inches thick, fell. Edward barely escaped with his life. Myles and Patrick were crushed.

#### **Epilogue**

Marie Casey was a young child when both Edward and Mary died and they may not have spoken much about the children they lost in England, at least not to a very young grandchild. Even if they spoke of these events to Marie's older brothers, time and age would understandably dim the memories of all involved over three quarters of a century.

This author is profoundly grateful to Marie Casey for leaving behind the threads to research the family and find the real persons behind the legends.

#### Marie Casey died April 23, 1996 at the age of 93.

Columbia the free is the land of my birth. And my paths have been all on American earth; But my blood is as Irish as any can be, And my heart is with Erin afar o'er the sea.

T. D. Sullivan, The Irish American, Irish-American Almanac for 1875

## Appendix 2. The 1863 Emigration Letter

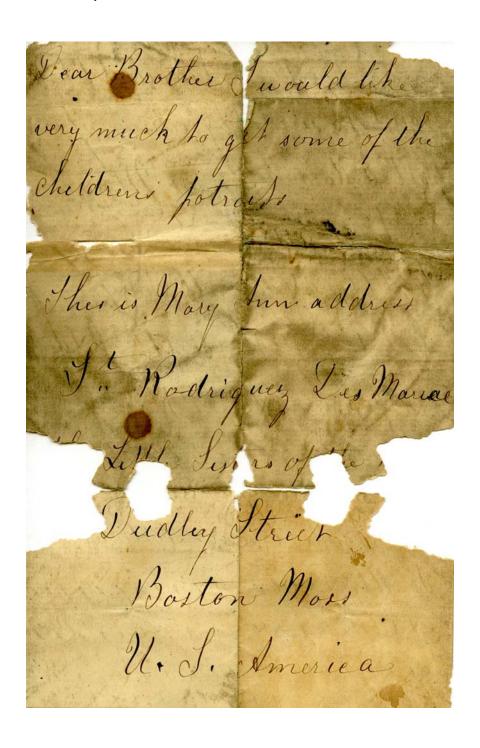
Virginia Auguest 830 1863 Dear Sir i take May Den Wee have all landed Saft am I have all Got Started to ark But May Father and i Fore Or five Weeks Dear Edward the had a Very Severe Pasage of it the Ware Six Weeks. On Seea Dear Edward May Wather and Me Would To See you here as soon as you ban Set here dow you bank it And let us Now When you Will I Be bedy to come and a Will Send you Money to Bring your of the Or i Will Day your Vatrage Which you He like Dow you ban let nows Now in your letter

Dear Edward boal hours is Making from Diset en to 20 the en Chillings per Day of English Money Dear Edward Every Man here ban delp two Metbilk Cows and as Maney Pigs as he has a Mine and the Set the bows Grased for Northing in the Summer i Wish to you Now that Off have a bathalick Churche and school here and it is not two hundred mards france My house Dear Grend as you Spoke in the leter gon Bote to Me in lifer pool Conderning the humberellor Barnard BM Carrell had it in his hand When heleft me in the torane

To Mirs Marey Lame Dear Marey my Mather Sends her Kind Love to you and She Would Be Bedaidd to sel you here and Wethink that We Will have you With us for Mour Christmes Dimner my Mother feels Very happy at Fresent We have a fine table Milk bow and We are Very bomfer Hat obresent Let Barnard Me. Carell Now that his Brather is Working labering Work and he has ten Shillings per Day of British Momen i Wish to let mon Now the Rate of Provishion and & Dence per Stone Belf w pence per found Eggs 2 pence her Du gien Dotals 5 pend per peck Bacan whence her found

And Every thing in Der pashion thes the Family Paines in Dending Will Wishers Stor Now More Patrick Clark Rite With Return Patrick black Mason bity Mon Mason Country State Delay to true withit for bound for Send me this letter back Again some

# Appendix 3. Letter from Rose Lamb to Mary and Edward Lamb, circa 1890.



Dear Brothe I would like yout to write by return of host & do not larget Mary Olices addiess God bless your all & my hind love to all the children from Aunt Rose From Cousin Colwar to Allxxxxxxxxxxxxxx \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* 

## Appendix 4. The 1882 Mike McCroney Letter

Mason City Worthers and Esteemed Free I have becerved Jour Kind hote a few day, ago we were are all. Very Glead to here of your Been Well and your to here of Marcy Jetting Such Foor health We are ingood health at Present Except mother and the has had a Very Bad Whill again Well head Work is Very dull on the Ohio has Been Salle for 2 Munths I would like too no if you Could get me Work on the breek if so Wright Soon let me no the thickness of the Coul and how long the rung generally lasts

you wanted to no if I knowed Ener theing about Steephen in Cardle he was staying with Barney in S. a the Old man Went out of heis mind and they tooke him to the asilans he Broak Out of Some time after and there has Been he account of of him since let me he if there is Meney Miner Working in lovells Works I am Well acquanted for lovell I Worked for him 2 Jears at Carbondale This before he Went West up there let me no if there is Much Plate in that Coul or Nigerhead Pat M Cardle Would like See that Part of the Country I Lend Jour all our Beast sey a and Frindley Wishes and Conclude by remaining Well Wisher till Seath Wright soon levovey

## **Appendix 5. The Uncle Ed Note**

TO HIS TO THE	Father Odie	and Leine Born
in orz a	iguel ou acce	of Silone. to imonaghan
12.	118.29 - Jawn	in many de der.
	motherful	V Tariotte
Born	in Chiland	august 15/836
monage	han Co Doha	Land Fit 14-1854
marre	din ald Eng	rland Feb 14-1854
-	/	Born in Eng
Died Jan . 8-1	875	Born in Eng no Born Nov 24 - 1856
A 11 May 8-1	1875 11'Car Ac	1 1011 1011 1010
Seen your o'	Trucco cam	L " Sept 22-1858
Dead	James !!	" Nos 11-1860 " Die 24-1862
List	Cedward "	" " Nie 24-1862
List	mary "	in america in Bom march 30-18.65
Bed	13	i barries
	Sur Dia	1 B - 2 may 120-18 15
	many car	moreno 10.00
/	Hosel !!	11 april 15-1867
4	Peter	" June 29-1869
16	atherine	1. Sept 7-1877
Sicon- 8	dward	" Nova 13-1874
Control of the second	T-1 1	ed august 17- 1909
	I when I've	ea sugust 11-1101
	m. 1 1	2
	Mother Wiel	
4	Peter Lamb Dies	Quine 23 1934
mara	Lamb Speyer De	ill July 09 1942
The state of the s	Total Control	. Crack 7-24 8944
V .	El la Lamb	Dief & Dec - 8 1950
The state of	boward Lamb	one ( alex -8 (700
VA	1.	
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This note, written in 1913 by Edward and Mary Lamb's youngest son, also named Edward Lamb, provided a phonetic townland name for both his father's birthplace, Grlone, as well as his mother's, Dohat. <sup>211</sup> This allowed a civil parish to be found which, once identified, made it possible to find some official records for other life events.

Deciphering place names from family documents brought its own host of challenges.

The first challenge was the spelling of the name itself. Irish names can be quite lengthy in Gaelic, which tends to have a lot of vowels. Yet the name could sound completely different to a non-Gaelic speaker, such as the American born Uncle Ed. A single name might be ten or more letters long in its Irish rendition, but sound like only one or two syllables to someone in America.

The second challenge was introduced when the Irish speaker had a thick Irish brogue but the American listener did not. Uncle Ed was born and educated in America but both of his parents were born and educated in Ireland. Those who knew Mary Monaghan Lamb spoke of her heavy Irish brogue. As happened with many Irish, the census taker for the 1910 Federal census recorded her not as a speaker of English, which of course she was,

Place names in the family letters were sometimes abbreviated from their much longer Irish names. The accuracy of the Irish spelling could vary with the education and age of the person when they left Ireland. Generally, for the time and place, accuracy should not be expected. Since the writer and the intended reader would know the reference exactly, phonetically or otherwise, there was no need to write the whole name. For instance, there are hundreds of areas of Ireland that might begin with 'Kilty', yet because the writer and the reader knew the Kilty of the reference, oftentimes they didn't bother to write the full name.

but as a speaker of Irish.<sup>212</sup> By the same token her husband Edward, given his time, place, and occupation, would have also had a thick brogue.

The only possible townland name in County Monaghan resembling Grlone was Greaghlone.<sup>213</sup> This match was confirmed by another source of all things Irish, Father Francis Kelly of Granard Town.<sup>214</sup> To Uncle Ed's ear, Greaghlone would sound like the Grlone of his note.

While this proved valuable in determining places and names of people, it proved to be inaccurate with regard to dates. Clearly the note was altered by others over the years and date information was added. Over the course of all the research, the note proved accurate on some months and days, but not as accurate with years.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>212</sup> 1910 Federal census, Kanawha County, West Virginia, Marmet Precinct, column 17, "Whether able to speak English, or, if not, give language spoken".

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>213</sup> Greaghlane is nearby but in the civil parish of Magheross and for reasons that are obvious elsewhere, this was not a candidate for Edward's birthplace.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>214</sup> I met Fr. Kelly on a research trip in 2008 to Granard, County Longford, in search of the Sheridans. As the people of the town said, "If Father Kelly doesn't know it, it's not to be known." For more on Father Kelly, see <u>Part IV. Outer Leaves of the Sheridan Tree</u>.

**Appendix 6. Family Group Sheets** 

### **James Lamb**

Hus	sband: Lar	nb, James			
Birth			Ireland		
Death	1	estimated before 1875	Ireland		
Fathe	r		Special Specia		
Moth	er				
Mai	rriage:	n = 4 - 25	h in the second		
Marri	iage				
Wif	e: Martin,	Alice			
Birth		estimated about 1805	Ireland		
Death	i	estimated 1875-09-10	Ireland		
Fathe	r				
Moth	er				
Chi	ldren				
1 M	Lamb, Patrick				
	Birth	calculated about 1826	Magheracloone, County Monaghan, Ireland		
	Death	1876-05-28	Willington, Durham County, United Kingdom		
	Spouse	Monaghan, Rose			
	Marriage	1852-05-31	St. Cuthbert's Chapel, Durham, Durham County, United Kingdom		
2M	Lamb, Edward				
	Birth	1831-08-12	Magheracloone, County Monaghan, Ireland		
	Death	1907-08-20	McKees Rocks, Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, USA		
	Spouse	Monaghan, Mary	·		
	Marriage	1855-02-14	St. Wilfrid's Chapel, Bishop Auckland, Durham County, United Kingdom		
ВМ	Lamb, Myles				
	Birth		Magheracloone, County Monaghan, Ireland		
	Death				
	Spouse	Murray, Catherine (Une	confirmed)		
4M	Lamb, Ro	ger			
	Birth	estimated about 1838	Magheracloone, County Monaghan, Ireland		

	Death	1903-10-03	Corlea, Magheracloone, County Monaghan, Ireland		
	Spouse	Crosby, Mary			
	Marriage	1867-01-29	St. Peter's Church, Carrickmacross, Magheracloone, County Monaghan, Ireland		
5M	Lamb, Peter (Possibility)				
	Birth	estimated about 1834	Magheracloone, County Monaghan, Ireland		
	Death	1884	Willington, Durham County, United Kingdom		
	Spouse	Sheridan, Catherine			

Philip Monaghan

			Philip W	onagnan	
Hus	sband: Moi	nagha	n, Philip		
Birth				Ireland	
Death	n			Ireland	
Fathe	er				
Moth	er				
Mai	rriage:				
Marri	iage			13	
Wif	e: Unknow	n, Ca	therine		
Birth		calcu	ulated about 1797	Ireland	
Death	1	1883	3-07-03	Magheracloone, County Monaghan, Ireland	
Fathe	r				
Moth	er				
Chi	ldren				
1F	Monaghai	Monaghan, Rose			
	Birth		calculated 1830	Magheracloone, County Monaghan, Ireland	
	Death		1899-09-11	Brandon and Byshottles, Durham County, United Kingdom	
	Spouse		Lamb, Patrick		
	Marriage		1852-05-31	St. Cuthbert's Chapel, Durham, Durham County, United Kingdom	
2F	Monaghan, Mary				
	Birth		1834-08-15	Magheracloone, County Monaghan, Ireland	
	Death		1913-11-13		
	Spouse		Lamb, Edward	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
	Marriage		1855-02-14	St. Wilfrid's Chapel, Bishop Auckland, Durham County, United Kingdom	
3F	Monaghar	n, Ann			
	Birth			Magheracloone, County Monaghan, Ireland	
	Death				

Patrick Lamb and Rose Monaghan

Hu	sband: La	amb, Patrick			
Birth		calculated about 1826	Magheracloone, County Monaghan, Ireland		
Deatl	n -	1876-05-28	Willington, Durham County, United Kingdom		
Fathe	er	Lamb, James			
Moth	er	Martin, Alice			
Ma	rriage:				
Marr	iage	1852-05-31	St. Cuthbert's Chapel, Durham, Durham County, United Kingdom		
Wif	e: Monag	han, Rose			
Birth		calculated 1830	Magheracloone, County Monaghan, Ireland		
Death	1	1899-09-11	Brandon and Byshottles, Durham County, United Kingdom		
Fathe	r	Monaghan, Philip	•		
Moth	er	Unknown, Catherine	nknown, Catherine		
Chi	ldren				
1M	Lamb, J	ames			
	Birth	calculated 1857	Willington, Durham County, United Kingdom		
	Death				
2 <b>M</b>	Lamb, Philip				
	Birth	1859-03-19	Willington, Durham County, United Kingdom		
	Death				
3F	Lamb, Mary Ann				
	Birth	1861-09-15	Willington, Durham County, United Kingdom		
	Death		New York, New York, USA		
1F	Lamb, R	Lamb, Rose			
	Birth	1864	Willington, Durham County, United Kingdom		
	Death				
5M	Lamb, E	Lamb, Edward			
	Birth	1871-04-04	Willington, Durham County, United		

	ripdijanobleso	Kingdom
Death		85-366

**Edward Lamb and Mary Monaghan** 

Hus	sband: La	mb, Edward		
Birth		1831-08-12	Magheracloone, County Monaghan, Ireland	
Death		1907-08-20	McKees Rocks, Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, USA	
Fathe	r	Lamb, James		
Moth	er	Martin, Alice		
Mai	riage:	e in the company of	parents.	
Marri	age	1855-02-14	St. Wilfrid's Chapel, Bishop Auckland, Durham County, United Kingdom	
Wif	e: Monagh	nan, Mary		
Birth		1834-08-15	Magheracloone, County Monaghan, Ireland	
Death	A	1913-11-13	(4.12)	
Fathe	r	Monaghan, Philip		
Moth	er	Unknown, Catherine		
Chi	ldren			
1M	Lamb, Patrick			
	Birth	1855-11-24	Willington, Durham County, United Kingdom	
	Death	1875-01-08	Campbell's Creek, Kanawha County, West Virginia, USA	
2 <b>M</b>	Lamb, Myles			
	Birth	1857-09-22	Willington, Durham County, United Kingdom	
	Death	1875-01-08	Campbell's Creek, Kanawha County, West Virginia, USA	
3M	Lamb, James			
	Birth	1860	Willington, Durham County, United Kingdom	
	Death	1863-02-10	Willington, Durham County, United Kingdom	
1M	Lamb, Ed	ward		
	Birth	1861-12-24	Willington, Durham County, United Kingdom	
	Death	1863-01-21	Willington, Durham County, United Kingdom	

5F	Lamb, Alice				
	Birth	1864-01-07	Willington, Durham County, United Kingdom		
	Death	1864	United Kingdom		
6F	Lamb, Mary	Alice			
	Birth	1865-03-13	Campbell's Creek, Kanawha County, West Virginia, USA		
	Death	1942-06-11	San Leandro, Alameda County, California, USA		
	Spouse	Speyer, Louis			
	Marriage	1891-11-25	St. Elizabeth's Church, Norwood, Ohio, USA		
7F	Lamb, Rose	М.			
	Birth	1867-04-15	Campbell's Creek, Kanawha County, West Virginia, USA		
	Death	1953-10-15	Charleston, Kanawha County, West Virginia, USA		
	Spouse	Casey, John Patrick Jr.			
	Marriage	1891-09-23	Kanawha County, West Virginia, USA		
8M	Lamb, Peter P.				
	Birth	1869-06-29	Campbell's Creek, Kanawha County, West Virginia, USA		
	Death	1934-06-23	Sharon, Kanawha County, West Virginia, USA		
	Spouse	Wills Flowers, Katherine			
	Marriage	1923-02-15	Charleston, Kanawha County, West Virginia, USA		
9F	Lamb, Catherine Ann				
	Birth	1872-09-07	Campbell's Creek, Kanawha County, West Virginia, USA		
	Death	1945-07-24	Charleston, Kanawha County, West Virginia, USA		
	Spouse	Craig, Christa			
	Marriage	1899-09-12	Hamilton County, Ohio, USA		
10M	Lamb, Edwa	ird			
	Birth	1874-11-13	Campbell's Creek, Kanawha County, West Virginia, USA		
	Death	1950-12-08	Charleston, Kanawha County, West Virginia, USA		

Roger Lamb

		Rogei	r Lamb		
Hus	sband: La	amb, Roger			
Birth		estimated about 1838	Magheracloone, County Monaghan, Ireland		
Deatl	h	1903-10-03	Corlea, Magheracloone, County Monaghan, Ireland		
Fathe	er	Lamb, James			
Moth	ner	Martin, Alice	in, Alice		
Ma	rriage:				
Marr	iage	1867-01-29	St. Peter's Church, Carrickmacross, Magheracloone, County Monaghan, Ireland		
Wif	e: Crosby	y, Mary			
Birth		estimated about 1845	Ireland		
Death					
Father Cr		Crosby, Michael	rosby, Michael		
Moth	ier	1			
Chi	ildren				
1F	Lamb, A	Alice			
	Birth	1873-08-01	Corlea, Magheracloone, County Monaghan, Ireland		
	Death				
2M	Lamb, J	oseph			
	Birth				
	Death				

**Myles Lamb** 

		iviyies	Lailib	
Hus	sband: Lam	o, Myles		
Birth			Magheracloone, County Monaghan, Ireland	
Death				
Fathe	r	Lamb, James	mb, James	
Moth	er	Martin, Alice		
Mar	riage:			
Marri	age			
Wife	e: Murray, C	atherine (Unconfirmed)		
Birth				
Death	1			
Fathe	г			
Moth	er			
Chi	ldren			
1F	Lamb, Alice	э A.		
	Birth	calculated about 1876		
	Death	1942-01-20	Detroit, Wayne County, Michigan, USA	
	Spouse	Mathews, Patrick Eugene		
	Marriage	1903-06-11	McKees Rocks, Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, USA	

#### Peter Lamb wode become Husband: Lamb, Peter (Possible Brother) estimated about 1834 Birth Magheracloone, County Monaghan, Ireland Willington, Durham County, United 1884 Death Kingdom Father Lamb, James Mother Martin, Alice Marriage: Marriage Wife: Sheridan, Catherine calculated about 1840 Birth County Cavan, Ireland Death 1917 South Shields, Durham County, United Kingdom Father Mother Children 1F Lamb, Mary calculated about 1860 Birth Death 2M Lamb, John Birth calculated about 1864 Death **3M** Lamb, Peter Birth calculated about 1868 Death 4M Lamb, Joseph Birth 1871-02-25 Willington, Durham County, United Kingdom Death 5M Lamb, Thomas Birth calculated about 1874 Death 6F Lamb, Elizabeth

	Birth	calculated about 1875		
	Death			
7F	Lamb, Margaret Anne			
	Birth	calculated about 1878		
	Death			
8F	Lamb, Rose			
	Birth	calculated 1880-05-00		
	Death			

**Mary Alice Lamb** 

		iviary A	lice Lamb			
Hus	sband: Sp	eyer, Louis				
Birth		1868-10-05	Kentucky, USA			
Death	1	1961-01-11	Madera County, California			
Fathe	r					
Moth	er					
Mai	rriage:					
Marri	age	1891-11-25	St. Elizabeth's Church, Norwood, Ohio, USA			
Wif	e: Lamb, I	Mary Alice				
Birth		1865-03-13	Campbell's Creek, Kanawha County, West Virginia, USA			
Death 194		1942-06-11	San Leandro, Alameda County, California, USA			
Fathe	r	Lamb, Edward	mb, Edward			
Moth	er	Monaghan, Mary	Ionaghan, Mary			
Chi	ldren					
1M	Speyer, Louis Edward					
	Birth	1894-05-24				
	Death					
	Spouse	Tounsley, Anna Frances				
	Marriage	1921-11-30	Los Angeles, California, USA			
2M	Speyer, E	Speyer, Eugene				
	Birth	1896-01-28				
	Death	1918-10-20	Argonne Forest, St. Mihiel, Meuse-Argonne France			
3U	Speyer, L	Jnknown				
	Birth	before 1900				
	Death	before 1900				
4F	Speyer, M	Marie Catherine	19			
	Birth	1900-12-29	Silverton, Hamilton County, Ohio, USA			
	Death	2000-02-22	Fish Camp, Mariposa County, California, USA			
	Spouse	Warren, George R.				

5F	Speyer, Rose Regina				
	Birth	1902-11-24	Silverton, Hamilton County, Ohio, USA		
	Death	1988-08-20	Santa Clara County, California, USA		
	Spouse	Greene, Walter			
6F	Speyer, Frances Louise				
	Birth	1905-11-23			
	Death	1999-01-11	Palo Alto, Santa Clara County, California, USA		
	Spouse	Spurlock, Cyril Marshall			
	Marriage	1931-01-00	Reno, Nevada, USA		

#### Rose M. Lamb

		Ros	se M. Lamb		
Hu	sband: Ca	sey, John Patrick Jr.			
Birth	â	1854-04-05	Lick Creek, Boone County, Virginia, USA		
Deatl	n -	1937-02-11	Charleston, Kanawha County, West Virginia, USA		
Fathe	er	Casey, John Patrick Sr.			
Moth	er	Sheridan, Bridget			
Ma	rriage:				
Marr	iage	1891-09-23	Kanawha County, West Virginia, USA		
Wif	e: Lamb,	Rose M.			
Birth		1867-04-15	Campbell's Creek, Kanawha County, West Virginia, USA		
Death	1	1953-10-15	Charleston, Kanawha County, West Virginia, USA		
athe	r	Lamb, Edward	mb, Edward		
Moth	er	Monaghan, Mary	ionaghan, Mary		
Chi	ldren				
1M	Casey, John Edward				
	Birth	1892-09-12	Winifred, Cabin Creek District, Kanawha county, West Virginia, USA		
	Death	1974-02-14	Charleston, Kanawha County, West Virginia, USA		
2M	Casey, Louis Sheridan				
	Birth	1894-01-22	The second secon		
	Death	1970-02-13	Charleston, Kanawha County, West Virginia, USA		
M	Casey, J	ames Philip			
	Birth	1897-03-04	Peytona, Boone County, West Virginia, USA		
	Death	1976-10-28	Charleston, Kanawha County, West Virginia, USA		
M	Casey, P	eter Joseph			
	Birth	1899-03-07	Peytona, Boone County, West Virginia, USA		
	Death	1985-04-08	Charleston, Kanawha County, West Virginia, USA		

5F	Casey, Marie			
	Birth	1902-10-27	Hernshaw, Kanawha County, West Virginia, USA	
	Death	1996-04-23	Charleston, Kanawha County, West Virginia, USA	
6M	Casey, George Nicholas Sr.			
	Birth	1907-02-09	Hernshaw, Kanawha County, West Virginia, USA	
	Death	1991-01-20	Charleston, Kanawha County, West Virginia, USA	

## **Catherine Ann Lamb**

Hu	sband: Crai	g, Christa				
Birth		1864-03-00	Willow Island, Wood County, West Virginia, USA			
Deat	h	1940-01-14	Charleston, Kanawha County, West Virginia, USA			
Fathe	er	Craig, George W.				
Moth	ner	Stead, Eveline L.				
Ма	rriage:					
Marr	iage	1899-09-12	Hamilton County, Ohio, USA			
Wif	fe: Lamb, Ca	therine Ann				
Birth		1872-09-07	Campbell's Creek, Kanawha County, West Virginia, USA			
Deatl	h	1945-07-24	Charleston, Kanawha County, West Virginia, USA			
Fathe	er	Lamb, Edward				
Moth	ner	Monaghan, Mary	onaghan, Mary			
Chi	ildren					
1F	Craig, Mary	Craig, Mary Alice				
	Birth					
	Death					
	Spouse	Mathews, George				
2F	Craig, Marg	Craig, Margaret Carniega				
	Birth	1902-07-18	Murphy Town, Wood County, West Virginia, USA			
	Death					
	Spouse	Chapel, Leslie T.				
3F	Craig, Rose					
	Birth	1902-07-18	Murphy Town, Wood County, West Virginia, USA			
	Death	estimated 1902-07-28	Murphy Town, Wood County, West Virginia, USA			
	Craig, Ella Bowen					
4F	Craig, Ella					
4F	Birth	1904-04-20	Beverly, Washington County, Ohio, USA			

	Spouse	Wysong, Jesse Clark	
	Marriage	1927-06-15	
5M	Craig, Treas	ure	
	Birth	1906-02-07	Beverly, Washington County, Ohio, USA
	Death	1907-11-28	Beverly, Washington County, Ohio, USA
6M	Craig, Carl P.		
	Birth	1908-02-29	
	Death	1961-07-21	Charleston, Kanawha County, West Virginia, USA
7M	Craig, Edward Lemm		
	Birth	1911-05-30	
	Death	1948-11-27	Charleston, Kanawha County, West Virginia, USA

James McCroney and Catherine McKanna

Hus	sband: Mc	Croney, James				
Birth		estimated about 1816	Ireland			
Death	=	calculated between 1870 and 1880	Mason City, Mason County, West Virginia, USA			
Fathe	r					
Moth	er					
Mai	riage:					
Marri	age					
Wif	e: McKanr	a, Catherine				
Birth		estimated about 1816	Ireland			
Death		calculated between 1880-05-07 and 19	Mason City, Mason County, West Virginia, USA			
Fathe	r					
Moth	er					
Chi	ldren					
1M	Clark, Par	Clark, Patrick				
	Birth	estimated 1834	Ireland			
	Death					
2M	Clark, James					
	Birth	estimated 1839	Ireland			
	Death					
3F	McCrone	y, Bridget				
	Birth	1842-04-25	Easington, Durham County, United Kingdom			
	Death	1924-03-01	Mason City, Mason County, West Virginia, USA			
	Spouse	McCardle, Patrick	·			
	Marriage	1860-02-13	Auckland, Durham County, United Kingdom			
4F	McCrone	y, Mary Ann				
	Birth	1844-12-22	Leadgate, Durham County, United Kingdom			
	Death	1927-01-23	Graham Station, Mason County, West Virginia, USA			
	Spouse	Ryan, Thomas				
	Marriage	1865-04-26	Mason City, Mason County, West Virginia,			

			USA		
5F	McCroney, Catherine				
	Birth	calculated 1850-10-00	Leadgate, Durham County, United Kingdom		
	Death	1934-01-30	Mason City, Mason County, West Virginia, USA		
6F	McCroney, Sarah				
	Birth	2Q1855	Durham County, United Kingdom		
	Death				
	Spouse	Lineham, James			
	Marriage	1886-08-08	Mason City, Mason County, West Virginia, USA		
7M	McCroney, Michael				
	Birth	calculated about 1848	Leadgate, Durham County, United Kingdom		
	Death	1920-05-21	Mason City, Mason County, West Virginia, USA		

**Bridget McCroney and Patrick McCardle** 

Hus	sband: Mc	Cardle, Patrick			
Birth		1840-03-00	Ireland		
Death	h	1913-03-13	Mason City, Mason County, West Virginia, USA		
Fathe	er	McCardle, Stephen			
Moth	er				
Mai	rriage:				
Marri	iage	1860-02-13	Auckland, Durham County, United Kingdon		
Wif	e: McCron	ey, Bridget			
Birth		1842-04-25	Easington, Durham County, United Kingdom		
Death	1	1924-03-01	Mason City, Mason County, West Virginia, USA		
Fathe	r	McCroney, James			
Moth	er	McKanna, Catherine			
Chi	ldren				
1M	McCardle, James				
	Birth	3Q1863	Durham County, United Kingdom		
	Death	1906-01-18	Detroit, Paint Creek, Kanawha County, West Virginia, USA		
	Spouse	Steele, Alice			
	Marriage	1890-07-26	Mason City, Mason County, West Virginia, USA		
2F	McCardle, Agnes				
	Birth	estimated about 1865	Mason County, West Virginia, USA		
	Death				
BM	McCardle, Patrick F.				
	Birth	1866-12-00	Mason County, West Virginia, USA		
	Death	1906-01-18	Detroit, Paint Creek, Kanawha County, West Virginia, USA		
	Spouse	Mullen, Katie A.			
	Marriage	1891-06-21	Mason City, Mason County, West Virginia, USA		
M	McCardla	McCardle, John Stephen			

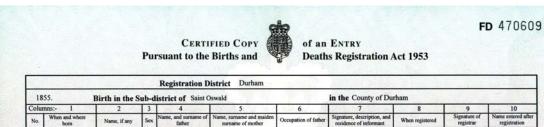
	Birth	estimated about 1869	Athems, Ohio, USA		
	Death	1906-01-18	Detroit, Paint Creek, Kanawha County, West Virginia, USA		
	Spouse	Mann, Lula			
5M	McCardle, Michael				
	Birth	1874-11-00	Mason City, Mason County, West Virginia, USA		
	Death				
6M	McCardle, J	oseph			
	Birth	estimated about 1876	Mason County, West Virginia, USA		
	Death				
7M	McCardle, Bernard Joseph				
	Birth	1879-03-09	Mason County, West Virginia, USA		
	Death	1962-12-26	Charleston, West Virginia, USA		
8F	McCardle, Annie				
	Birth	1881-11-04	Mason County, West Virginia, USA		
	Death				
	Spouse	Johns, John H.			
	Marriage	1914-02-24	Wheeling, Ohio County, West Virginia, USA		
9M	McCardle, A	rthur Joseph			
	Birth	1884-03-18	Mason County, West Virginia, USA		
	Death	1922-02-13	Mason County, West Virginia, USA		

		Mary Ann I	VicCroney		
Hus	sband: Ry	an, Thomas			
Birth		1839-01-10	County Tyrone, Ireland		
Death		1922-02-10	Mason City, Mason County, West Virginia, USA		
Fathe	г	Ryan, Edward			
Moth	er	McCallin, Mary			
Mar	riage:				
Marri	age	1865-04-26	Mason City, Mason County, West Virginia, USA		
Wife	e: McCror	ney, Mary Ann			
Birth		1844-12-22	Leadgate, Durham County, United Kingdom		
Death		1927-01-23	Graham Station, Mason County, West Virginia, USA		
Fathe	г	McCroney, James			
Moth	er	McKanna, Catherine	McKanna, Catherine		
Chi	ldren				
1F	Ryan, Ma	ary			
	Birth	1866-01-29	Mason County, West Virginia, USA		
	Death				
2F	Ryan, Catherine				
	Birth	1868-04-17	Mason County, West Virginia, USA		
	Death	1874-04-01	Mason City, Mason County, West Virginia, USA		
3F	Ryan, Isabella				
	Birth	1868-04-17	Mason County, West Virginia, USA		
	Death	1868-09-07	Mason City, Mason County, West Virginia, USA		
4M	Ryan, Ed	ward C.			
	Birth	1870-06-27	Mason County, West Virginia, USA		
	Death	1947-10-08	Huntington, Cabell County, West Virginia, USA		
5M	Ryan, Ja	mes R.			
	Birth	1872-01-31	Mason County, West Virginia, USA		
	Death	calculated before 1870-07-00			

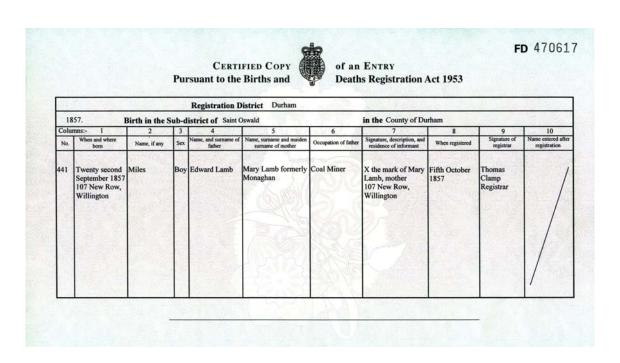
6F	Ryan, Jane				
	Birth	1873-01-00	Mason County, West Virginia, USA		
	Death	1875-06-00	Mason City, Mason County, West Virginia, USA		
7F	Ryan, Unkno	own			
	Birth	1875-07-00	Mason County, West Virginia, USA		
	Death	1875-07-00	Mason City, Mason County, West Virginia, USA		
8M	Ryan, Thom	as Joseph			
	Birth	1876-06-03	Mason County, West Virginia, USA		
	Death	1961-02-11	Mason City, Mason County, West Virginia, USA		
9F	Ryan, Elizabeth A				
	Birth	1879-06-00			
	Death				
10F	Ryan, Julia				
	Birth	1882-03-13	Cabin Creek District, Kanawha County, West Virginia, USA		
	Death				
11F	Ryan, Josephine				
	Birth	1885-04-00	Cabin Creek District, Kanawha County, West Virginia, USA		
	Death				
	Spouse	Mahoney, Patrick J.			
	Marriage	1910-06-01	Huntington, Cabell County, West Virginia, USA		

# **Appendix 7. A Few Documents**

			CERTIFIED (	COPY of a	in A 1	ENTRY OF M	MARRIAGE		TJ 40	0939
				uant to t	he !	Marriage A	ct 1949			M. Cert. S.R./R.B.D.&M.
19	SSS. Maj		tion District A	uckland	Richa A.	rKland			t- d-	
C-1	District of	Juckland	ed at St. Wilfi	in the	country	Durhan			in the	
No.	When married	Name and s	rmame Age	Condition	Rank or profession	. Residence at the time	re of marriage Father's same an	d surname Rank	s or profession of father	\
	Fourtoenth February	Edward L	ambe year	Backelor	Pitman	Crook	James La	mbe F	arner	
	1822	Many Mona	ighan 20 yexs	Spinster		Crook	Printip Mon		abouner	
rried in	the St. Wil	fred's Colla,	bel_according to	the Rites and	Ceremonies of the	Roman	Ca Hiolics	by me, 20	reph Callen	Cles
Marriag was lemnized tween us	XTIE	mark of	nhe, many mona	ghan	in the Presence of us,	+ The Di	ask of Thorna	s Kenny Callan	y_ Skoma Kog	s Dean istrar
-	There are officere retaining possessing a false certificate		Registrat	Pursus tion District	OPY of an ant to the	Ma Ma	TRY OF MARRIAGI	(Printed by the author	erity of the Registrae Gener	S.R./I
N	o, When Ma		Name and Suranme.	Age.	Condition.	Rank or Profession,	Residence at the Time of Marria		ame and Surmane	Hauk or Profession o
5	Thirty	first Patri	ick Lamb Inonaghan		Bachelor	10 VA	Willington Willington	James	South	Inbonice Subonice
- 1			of Patrick A			1-	Polic Church Inark of Many) The Inark of Bri	Ma Naun Aget Toes	a %	Helelus Clamy Segistray
Date	Person	as Married	Residence	Pa	rents	11				
Side.	1				POR VINCE	Residen	Witnesses		Residence	Minister
155 File	May,	Samle Minaghe	book of	anes "Ale.	a Lamb	Moneyhan	he hottom		pette.	buga Cele
may 3/1	Patrick Ron M.	A CANTERPOLICE FOR STATE	Willington Willington	1.6/36.	Hen Lamb	Marad	leen Bridget	Malst Gib,	got Mur	William .



- 11	355.	Birth in the S	Sub-d	istrict of Saint	Oswald		in the County of Du	rham		
Colu	mns:- 1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
No.	When and where born	Name, if any	Sex	Name, and surname of father	Name, surname and maiden surname of mother	Occupation of father	Signature, description, and residence of informant	When registered	Signature of registrar	Name entered afte registration
2276	Twenty fourth November 1855 153 New Row Willington	Patrick	Boy	Edward Lamb	Mary Lamb formerly Monaghan	Coal Miner	X The Mark of Mary Lamb Mother 153 New Row Willington	Eighteenth December 1855	Thomas Clamp Registrar	





FD 470608

18	362.	Birth in the S	Sub-d	listrict of Saint	Oswald		in the County of Du	rham		
Colu	mns:- 1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
No.	When and where born	Name, if any	Sex	Name, and surname of father	Name, surname and maiden surname of mother	Occupation of father	Signature, description, and residence of informant	When registered	Signature of registrar	Name entered after registration
215	Twenty fourth December 1861 127 New Row Willington	Edward	Boy	Edward Lamb	Mary Lamb formerly Monaghan	Coal Miner	Edward Lamb Father 127 New Row Willington	Sixth January 1862	Thomas Clamp Registrar	





186	3. Deat	h in the Sub-distric	t of Sain	t Oswald		in the C	ounty of Durham	Mary of	
Colur	nns:- 1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
No.	When and where died	Name and surname	Sex	Age	Occupation	Cause of death	Signature, description and residence of informant	When registered	Signature of registra
358	Twenty first January 1863 127 Long Row Willington	Edward Lamb	Male	13 months	Son of Edward Lamb a Coal Miner	Scarlatina Not certified	X The Mark of Catharine McCroney Present at the Death 127 Long Row Willington	Seventeenth February 1863	John Gregson Registrar

		Registra	ation D	istrict	Durham	- 6			9 3 11 11 11
186	3. Deatl	h in the Sub-distric	t of Sain	t Oswald		in the Co	ounty of Durham		
Colun	nns:- 1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
No.	When and where died	Name and surname	Sex	Age	Occupation	Cause of death	Signature, description and residence of informant	When registered	Signature of registra
359	Tenth February 1863 127 Long Row Willington	James Lamb	Male	3 years	Son of Edward Lamb a Coal Miner	Scarlatina Not certified	X The Mark of Catharine McCroney Present at the Death 127 Long Row Willington	Seventeenth February 1863	John Gregson Registrar

1876 DEATH in	the Sub-district of Sa	aint Osw	ald		in the Co	unty of Durham	S. Carrier	ownster ex se
Columns:- 1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
No. When and where died	Name and surname	Sex	Age	Occupation	Cause of death	Signature, description and residence of informant	When registered	Signature of registrar
			Springer 1	X	AVAIL			
16	OF THE PARTY OF THE	attended.		COLUMN TO COLUMN	100	Land South Williams Con-	Salt - Print	
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- 227 (5-27)	STRATION DISTRICT				DURHAM	2007 200 10000-1 0				
1899 DEAT	'H in the Sub-district of S	aint Osw	ald		in the	County of Durh	am		No.	
umns:- 1	2	3	4	5	6		7	8	9	
When an	d Name and surname	Sex	Age	Occupation	Cause of d	eath Signature	, description and	When	Signature of	
where die	d						ce of informant	registered	registrar	
					2/1					
Show	ulk	1		Widow of	Simile Dece	di Edwar	d Lamb	+7		
49	Olore	- 60	68	Patrick .	Sistem A Commission		Son	Twelfth	Michael	/
Railway Langley	Moor Lamb	T Gerna	Mears	Lamb General	bertified by	30 W	ear offreet	September	Tindale	/
Brajuloji	and Ho		9	Labourer	Edwin 9. 83	Wa	lliugson	1899	Hegiotran	/
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1200				Service V	E				41	
<u>3</u> DI	EATAS Registere	d in the	District	of ha	2010	./ :-	La Heim	e ha	40	. /
	uni - O				. //	in t	ne union o	Man	Chuaci	ofs_
			in the Co	ount 4 o	Monay	han				
Date and Place Desch			Conditio	n.   Age last Birthday	Rank, Profession, or	Certified Cause of De and Duration of Illa	ath, Signature,	Qualification, and	When Registered.	Signature of 1
(3)	(3.)	(4.)	(5.)	(6.)	Occupation. (7.)	(8.)	Ess. Mesidence	Qualification, and of Informant.	(10.)	tr.
1883	Catherine			1		Informed to	be , her	1 ,		
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tè and Place of De	ath. Name and Surname.	Sex.	Condition,	Age Inst Birth day.		rtified Cause of Death, id Duration of Illness.	Signature, Q	Qualification, and	What Paris	O' this are
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_	DEATHS Registered	in th	a District	of Can	i Almaer	oss in	the Union	of Car	ielma	ceoss
Σ.	DEATHS INGISTRICA	L III VII	o District	01	-m	1	t the chief			
			in the	County	flone	ghan		-		
Date and Place of l	Death Name and Surname.	Sex.	Condition	Age last Birthday	Rank, Profession, or Occupation.	Certified Cause of Dear and Duration of Illnes	th, Signature,	Qualification, and	When Registered	Signature of 1
2000 000 1 1000 01 7		1	1	buthday.	Occupation.	and 1/uracion of 103es	nesiden	/	1	
lit-	Miss				Widow of	Pehiliter	Roces	x Lamb	September	1.1
replembe	spice	fi	Widon			months	becup	mark for	Vientions	
Len	Land	1	Widon	1.		. / /.	60	lea	1875	Micke
1875		1	L	1 9 3 12		eneuhfied	1000		1/0/3	WIN

No.	When Married.	Name and Surname.	Age.	Condition.	Rank or Profession.	Residence at the Time of Marriage.	Father's Name and Surname.	Rank or Profession Father.
16	1864 29 Junt	Roger Lamb	29	Bachelor Spristes	Farmer	Carlea. Dreumbunk	James Lamb Duichael Crost	Corlea
	rried in the Roman	Catholic Chapel of	etis S	uzgliena		o the Rites and Ceremonies of the Robins of the South	(/2/	me,

SOCIAL SECURITY NO.  If veteran, name was	CERTIFICATE OF DEATH MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NEALTH Bureau of Records and Statistics	28215413
THE allee 11	atheers	Local File No. 74
County Township City or village Edite Name of hospital Longth of totar to hospital S1 ) 9 in this	USUAL RESIDENCE OF State Township City or village Street no. 12 City or village Street no. 12 Cition of foreign country of the community City on many country of the countr	Start Hauesok
TEMAL White	or WIFE Date of death fun	AL CERTIFICATION WARY 20 - 1942 10 42
Name MURUDUM  Birth date of decemend  Age: Years   Months   Days    12 2 7	If less than one day date stated above at 2	Death is said to have occurred on the
Birthpless Skilfalls Usual orecapation Hotels Co Industry or besigner  Name Myline Co		many Colema
Methodo Meldu Meidou name Atkeris Birtholoo Seelde	Other contributory caused  well Mussey  Major Andings and datos: Of operations	of Importance
The state of the s	Of autopsy Ro A	aloper
Cometery Action	Date 1- 73-, 1947 Where did injury occur?	Cacident, homicide or suicide
SOYS MUTTELL	In industry, home or pub	
Flood 1- 43- 10 42 1.1	N. Macket Signature Signat	ise tiville

#### PROOF OF IDENTITY.

State of Pennsylvania, County of Allegbeny,

Edward Land Deceased.

8/ M. Kinney and residing at 8/ M. Kinney and the flees Rocks On being duly sworn according to law, do depose and say that I visited the Room in my residence of above address and fully identified the body lying there as that of my while Hisfull name is Edward Land, born

age, 8.5 years - months & days. Social relation Married occupation Relief , and residing as above address Deceased has been making his home with us for the hast three weeks The only thing he Complained of was a pain in his Chest. The didn't feel very well yesterday afternoon ang. 30 % o 7, about 3 30 Oclock he layed down on the bed we removed his Clothes he Complained of only the are thing that was the hair in his Chest. about 7 Oclark same date found deceased in tred cold sent for a dorlor of our the was slead before the darlor arrived, this was about 6 30 0 m same date.

I Patrick E. Matthews Residing at 817 Kinney ave. M. Kers Rocks Pa Conoborate The above statement of my wife.

Deseased has had indigestion also asthma for some lines.

Sworn and subscribed before me this 21 31 day of Aug. 1907.
The Laidley Coroner.

alice a. mathews Pairick E. Marhum

# PRESS REPORT.

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Inquisition to be held Thurs day	aug. La	107, 100	ru
Inquisition continued to			
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Coroner's Office,  Body viewed on the 2/ day of	Pittsburg, Pa., C	by J.N. La	illey Deputy Corone
Station			-K Tw
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Tatt name of deceased as another	a acum	<i>σ</i>	
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Residence 8/ M. Kinney ave, mi	Kees Wocks a	occupation (Re	ired
Date of accident	-1	ime	
Location of assident		4,	
Date of Death Luesday ang.	201 1907 m	201: 30 Qal	160
Place of death at home	1,2, 1	ime v - ecc	CIP (V.
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Body found	·		
Past mortem examination held by		M. D. Date	190
Notice for Witnesses Aug. 2121.	1907 7.74	Laidley	Deputy Coroner
Notice for Witnesses Aug. 2/21.	1907 7.74	Laidley	Deputy Coroner Deputy Coroner
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Notice for Witnesses Aug. 2/21.	1907 J.JY. 1907 " " 1907 by " "	Laidley	Deputy Coroner Deputy Coroner
Notice for Witnesses Aug. 2/21.  Notice of Inquest	1907 J.JY. 1907 " " 1907 by " "	Laidley	Deputy Coroner Deputy Coroner
Notice for Witnesses Aug. 2/21.  Notice of Inquest	1907 J.JY. 1907 " " 1907 by " "	Laidley	Deputy Coroner Deputy Coroner
Notice for Witnesses Aug. 2/21. Notice of Inquest  Death Certificate Issued "  RE  A Dr. Zwill Mail slad	1907 J.JY. 1907 " " 1907 by " "	Laidley	Deputy Coroner Deputy Coroner Deputy Coroner
Notice for Witnesses Aug. 2/21. Notice of Inquest  Death Certificate Issued "  RE  A WILL Mail state  WIT	1907 J.JY. 1907 " " 1907 by " ":	Laidley	Deputy Coroner Deputy Coroner
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Illustration 42: Marie Casey and Alice Craig dressed for religious confirmation.



Illustration 41: Eddie Craig during World War II.



Illustration 43: Louis 'Sherd' Casey, Louis Speyer, John Edward Casey taking exercise while visiting.





Illustration 45: John P. Casey and Rose M. Lamb, Wedding Picture, September 1891.



Illustration 47: Tintype. Unknown boy.



Illustration 46: Rose Speyer. Los Angeles, California



Illustration 48: Rose Speyer. Cincinnati, Ohio.



Illustration 49: Louise Frances Speyer Spurlock, Louis Speyer, Mary Alice Lamb Speyer, Rose Regina Speyer Greene, Anna Frances Tounsley Speyer.

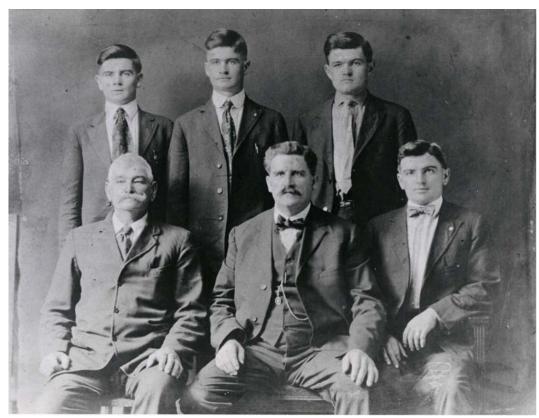


Illustration 50: Front: John P. Casey, Jr., Edward Lamb, Jr., John Edward Casey. Back: Peter Joseph Casey, James Philip Casey, Louis Sheridan Casey. September 6, 1918. Cincinnati, Ohio. Taken when Phil was drafted and they all tried to go with him.



Illustration 52: Marie Catherine Speyer. Cincinnati, Ohio.



Illustration 53: Louis Speyer (1868 - 1961), late in life.



Illustration 51: Louis Edward Speyer. Los Angeles, California.



Illustration 54: Cyril Marshall Spurlock.



Illustration 55: Postcard of Eugene Speyer, seated, and friend after enlistment.

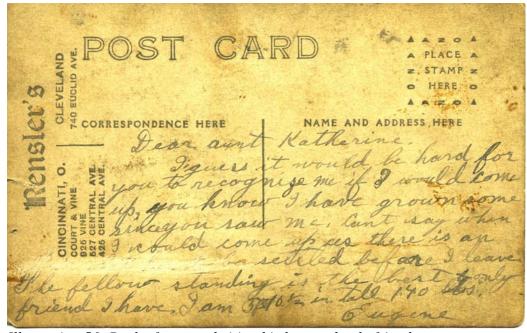


Illustration 56: Back of postcard citing his best and only friend.



Illustration 57: Marie Casey as a young woman.



Illustration 58: George Nicholas Casey as a young man.



Illustration 59: Speyer house in Norwood, Ohio with Marie Speyer, left, and Rose Speyer in the yard.

### Acknowledgements

My special thanks to two people.

First to my husband, Sam Hudnall, for so many things that I can't properly detail all of them. His encouragement to undertake this project, his willingness to go with me to so many places to gather information, his tolerance during the information gathering and writing phases, his patience and time in helping me with the chosen software product and finally for his correction of literally, dozens of mistakes. Sam served as 'first editor' of all of the stories. I knew if he found them interesting, then there was truly a story there.

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