

Through Irish Eyes

Seeing the world as home

by

Rebecca L. Hudnall

Part IV. Outer Leaves of the Sheridan Tree

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

Titles in the *Through English Eyes* Series

- Part I. England Back in the Day
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**Part IV. Outer Leaves of the Sheridan Tree –
Bridget Sheridan Casey's Brothers and Sisters**

Introduction

“In 1845, about 20 million people inhabited the United States. During the next decade, nearly 3 million immigrants arrived, mainly from Ireland and Germany. This largely Catholic influx descended on a country that was mostly native-born Protestant, anti-Catholic in sympathy. The Know Nothings fought to delay citizenship for the new immigrants and bar them from voting. In the early 1850s, they won elections in several cities, swept to statewide victory in Massachusetts, and gained surprising ground in New York. Newspapers and preachers assaulted “popery”; there were bloody anti-Catholic riots in several Northern cities.”¹

This is the story of my great-great grandmother Bridget Sheridan Casey’s family, her brothers and sisters and nieces and nephews. Six of her brothers and sisters were identified. Her mother, a Masterson, most likely died in Boone County, Virginia, now West Virginia, between 1850 and 1853. Her father’s name has not been discovered, but if Irish naming conventions are any indication, his name was probably James or Bryan. He was said to have many brothers, and there are several Sheridans to be found in the Irish Midlands. He may have been Patrick Sheridan of the townland of Aughnashannagh in Clonbroney.²

Irish records that might have identified her parents are either non-existent, or were begun too late to include members of that generation, or perhaps they just haven’t been found. Her parents fall into what is referred to as ‘the silent century’, the time between 1700 and 1800, when records were virtually non-existent. After the 1641 Irish Rebellion, the Cromwellian confiscations of land were followed by massive transfers of property from the Roman Catholic, Anglo-Norman, and Gaelic owners to the Protestant Anglo-Irish.

All of Bridget’s brothers and sisters, or their surviving families, emigrated from Ireland. For those siblings who came to America, records generally proved illusive or incomplete regarding parents’ names because laws requiring vital records in most states were only beginning to be written. The happy exception to this was Massachusetts where records were quite good. Many of Bridget’s nieces and nephews could be traced. Newspapers provided another source of information, as many of them were newsworthy, especially in Australia and the American frontier. Perhaps, in time, this research will help others to find more about the family.

¹ *Team of Rivals*, by Doris Kearns Goodwin, Simon and Schuster Paperbacks, 2005, page 180, ref: political upheaval complicated by the Know Nothing party, formed in reaction to immigration in 1840s and 1850s.

² Patrick is the only Sheridan to be found in the Tithe Applotment 1823-1837 in Clonbroney. Bridget had sons named Patrick, and James and this would be within the Irish naming conventions.

In the late 1800s, one of Bridget Casey's nieces, Bridget Reilly Brady, wrote a number of letters to her. These letters provided the names of many family members, which enabled the identification of more of them in public records. Had I known Bridget Brady, I would have loved her, and would have spent all the time I could with her at her house in Brooklyn, listening to her, laughing with her, learning from her, and visiting with the cousins.

Bridget Brady ran a boarding house for most of her married life at 885 Pacific Avenue in Brooklyn, New York. The house still stands today. She was the heart and soul of the Sheridan clan in New York City, hosting gatherings of her many cousins in the area. Her most enduring quality, that she was a prolific letter writer, has allowed her extended family to live on beyond their time on earth. By keeping her niece's letters, Bridget Casey ensured her family would live again in the hearts and the memories of their Sheridan relatives through stories reconstructed from hints provided in the letters. Though Bridget Brady had no children of her own, she provided the means to find the family in America and Australia.



Illustration 1: Bridget Reilly Brady's House in Brooklyn. © 2011

The letters identify the brothers and sisters of Bridget Sheridan Casey but speak mainly of their children because by the time of the letters, the brothers and sisters were, in all likelihood, dead. In an 1896 letter, Bridget Brady mentioned that Bridget Sheridan and John Casey were her only surviving aunt and uncle.³

³ *Letter from Bridget Brady to Bridget Casey, December 4, 1896.*

There were letters exchanged with other nieces in New York. Catherine Mullen Davy and Annie Mullen Sheil wrote to Bridget Casey as one letter survives and others are mentioned. If Bridget Casey's letters to any of her New York nieces could be located, they would open a door to the family that otherwise may be forever closed.

The Sheridans had an existing family connection to the Caseys prior to the marriage of John Casey and Bridget Sheridan. This connection revolved around the famous English court case of the late 1800s, involving what was called at the time, the Blake fortune. Two branches of the Sheridans in New York were involved in the case, as was our Bridget in West Virginia. If the English archives in London contain all of the ancillary claim letters, this famous probate case might yet yield more information on Bridget Sheridan Casey's family in Ireland. One of the Brooklyn Sheridan/Casey connections is covered in some detail in *Through Irish Eyes, Part III. Putting a Finger on History – the Caseys.*

Because of the Irish tendency to name all family members after other family members, to eliminate confusion in this story, Bridget Sheridan Casey is generally referred to as Biddy Casey, the name her loving family used for her.

Pedigree

The Sheridan family is as Irish as they come. Originating in County Longford, the name was first recorded there in the 8th century AD, in Granard. Sheridan has its origins in O'Sirideain, meaning descendants of Sirideain, or 'shearers of the hay crop'. The ancestral home of the clan is Granard parish and it appears that the small and friendly Granard Town and its environs are the origin of all the Sheridans who spread in their own Diaspora across the world.

Our story must begin with Bridget 'Biddy' Sheridan, who was born in Ireland on June 11, 1815, almost certainly in the Civil Parish of Clonbroney, Poor Law Union of Granard, County Longford. If she wasn't born in Clonbroney, she lived a great deal of her life there, perhaps in the years immediately following her marriage.⁴

Situated about two miles outside Granard Town, Clonbroney, or Broney's Meadow, is both a civil parish and a Roman Catholic parish. Old Clonbroney is said to be the first convent and churchyard established in Ireland by St. Patrick in 728 AD.⁵ Approximately 8 miles northeast of Longford Town, it consists of roughly 13,200 acres of gently rolling farm land that today is quickly being developed. Clonbroney is bordered by the Roman Catholic parishes of Killoe, Drumlish, Edgeworthstown, Granard, and Colmcille, some of which are firmly tied to the family by existing records.

The Catholic chapel at Clonbroney did not have a parish house in the early years so parish records for Biddy's time, that might prove her presence, are nonexistent. Some church records do exist for parishes in the immediate area, and they contain information on the baptisms of some of her nieces and nephews. Her brother Thomas Sheridan most likely married Ann Reilly in November 1831 in Granard Town.⁶ Biddy's sister Catherine's children were baptized at Edgeworthstown, as was at least one of her brother Bryan's children. Five of her sister Mary's children were baptized in Ardagh-Moydow parish, a stone's throw away. Her brother Bryan died in Edgeworthstown parish in 1841 and his burial was recorded there, as was the remarriage of his widow.

⁴ *Letter from Bridget Reilly to Bridget Casey, August 1886.*

⁵ *Look left off R194 on the way to Ballinalee from Granard for the road leading to St. James Church.*

⁶ *Granard Parish Marriages, Thomam Sheridan and Annam Reilly, November 27, 1831. Witnesses were James Gafney and Margaret Reilly. Family History Center, film 1,279,228.*

Without official records to prove birth, marriage, or death, it is nearly impossible to accurately determine the birth order of the seven identified siblings. Bryan was certainly the oldest, born about 1791. James, born about 1793, would be next. John and Mary appear to have been older than Catherine and Thomas. Biddy was certainly the youngest. Twenty-four years elapsed between the birth of Bryan and the birth of Biddy. In Irish families of the time, a child was born roughly every two years, so there were probably other children in the family who did not survive childhood. At the time of her death in 1900, Biddy Casey was the last surviving sibling of her immediate Sheridan family.⁷

While the given names of Biddy's parents have not been found in any official record, including Biddy's death record in Boone County, her mother was a Masterson whose given name was probably Catherine, and her father either Bryan or James Sheridan. While this is pure speculation with the exception of the Masterson maiden name, it is based on the Irish naming conventions widely followed at the time and loosely followed by Biddy herself when she had her own family.⁸ These names also appear in virtually all branches of the family who had a sufficient number of children to follow the convention. An exception to this was the Australian branch of the family.

Biddy may have been the daughter of Bryan, or Bernard, Sheridan of Kalsallagh who died in 1846. This could explain why her mother might have been in Boone County by 1850. Kalsallagh is just south of Cam, a townland mentioned in the family letters. Cam, just shy of 408 acres, is in the Mostrim (Edgeworthstown) civil parish.

She may have been the daughter of Patrick Sheridan of Aghnashannagh, Clonbroney parish. Patrick, in 1825, was the only Sheridan in Clonbroney parish in the Tithe Applotment book, 1823 to 1837. There were no Sheridans in Clonbroney in the later Griffiths Valuation.

Biddy's father had many brothers, a fact mentioned in one of the letters, but her uncles were not identified by name. On two occasions in America, Biddy was asked to chart her father's family including maiden names of all her aunts.⁹ She was related on the maternal side, as first cousins through the Mastersons, to the Geretys, Mastersons, and Brackens of County Longford and America.

Family stories have maintained that Biddy was a first cousin to General Phillip Henry Sheridan of Civil War fame. Although this was never mentioned in any of the surviving family letters, the story came down independently through two branches of the family,

⁷ *A letter from Bridget Reilly Brady to Bridget Sheridan Casey, Dec. 4, 1896, mentions that all her aunts and uncles are dead, save for Bridget and John Casey.*

⁸ *A case can be made that her mother, Catherine, was living with Bridget's brother James, next door to Bridget in Boone County in 1850.*

⁹ *The first occasion was the Blake/Sheridan probate case in 1886 and the second, the Kevin Sheridan probate case in San Francisco.*

surviving in both branches among people not aware of each other's existence for over 100 years.¹⁰ The story also survived in a Lamb branch of the family.¹¹

Surprisingly little information regarding General Sheridan's ancestry is available even today, possibly because he came very close to being put forth as a candidate for President in 1880. Nothing was found to support Biddy and the general having been first cousins. There was a generational difference between them, with Biddy being older, so there would have been a level of removal involved if they were cousins.



Illustration 3: Granard, County Longford, looking toward St. Mary's Church on the hill.
© 2008

¹⁰ *Biddy Casey's descendants and Bryan Sheridan's descendants in Australia.*

¹¹ *Mary Alice Lamb Speyer's descendants in California.*

The Irish Records

While no specific Clonbroney records were located for the family, entries for Biddy's nieces and nephews are in parish records for Edgeworthstown and Ardagh-Moydow in the 1830s and 1840s. As mentioned, one brother married in Granard. One of the letters from Bridget Brady mentions that her husband Pat Brady's sisters used to see Biddy at the ball alley in Clonbroney.¹² This would have been a ball alley used for the old Irish sport of hurling. So she definitely lived in County Longford and Clonbroney parish at some point.

A very common surname, especially in the counties around Granard, there were 858 entries for Sheridans in the Tithe Applotment Books, compiled between 1823 and 1837. A family letter¹³ referenced "Camer and Kilty" as areas where the family lived. There is no townland called Camer in Longford today, but there are three probabilities for the actual townland of old, Cam in Mostrim and Camagh, in Abbeylara and Killoe.

The Tithe Applotment Books contain pre-Ordinance Survey townland names that may no longer exist and this could be the case with Kilty and Camer. Accounting for differences in spelling, the Tithe Applotment Book for 1833 does have a townland Camma, and this was probably the area referred to in the letter. A townland in Abbeylara parish in the Barony of Granard, Camma had five Sheridan land holders in 1833: James, William, Philip, Constantine, and Thomas. Any one of them, or none of them, could have been Biddy's father.

Townland of Camma = Barony of Granard in the Parish of Abbeylara and

Occupiers Names	Survey deducting Roads	first quality	second quality	third quality	fourth quality	Vicarial	Impropriate
Sheridan Jas.	23.2.7	5.2.7	9.0.0	5.0.0	14.0.0	12.3	1.1.8
Sheridan Willm	19.0.10	4.0.10	5.0.0	5.0.0	5.0.0	8.11/2	16.2
Sheridan Phillips	14.1.20	3.1.20	3.0.0	5.0.0	3.0.0	6.11	12.5
Sheridan Constantine	7.0.0	2.0.0	3.0.0	1.0.0	1.0.0	3.11/2	6.9/2
Sheridan Tho.	7.0.0	2.0.0	3.0.0	1.0.0	1.0.0	3.11/2	6.9/2
			X			16.0	0

Illustration 4: Tithe Applotment Book, Camma, County Longford, Ireland, 1833.

¹² Partial letter from Bridget Reilly Brady to Bridget Sheridan Casey, August 1886.

¹³ Letter from Bridget Reilly Brady to Bridget Sheridan Casey, dated May 20, 1886.

There was a townland of Cam in Mostrim (Edgeworthstown) but no Sheridans there in the Tithe Applotment Books in 1825. There was civil parish of Cam in Roscommon, but no Sheridans in the Tithe Applotment Books there.

Kilty might possibly refer to the townland of Kilteelagh, or Kiltyclogh, *Coillte Cloch*, meaning stony woods, in Clonbroney but no Sheridans were listed there either.

In the townland of Cornakill, in the parish of Killinkere, in County Cavan there were several Sheridans in the Tithe Applotment book in 1833: the widow Catherine Sheridan, the widow Margaret Sheridan, as well as two listings for Patrick Sheridan and two for John Sheridan, along with Francis, Michael, Peter, James, and Matthew Sheridan. The parish of Killinkere is reputed to be where General Philip Henry Sheridan's family originated.

One of Biddy's first cousins, Catherine Sheridan Kiernan, referred to in a family letter as the Widow Kiernan, came to America about 1850 but by 1886 had returned to Ireland and was living in Edgeworthstown.¹⁴ Due to the common occurrence of that name, and the fact that Irish death records of the time did not record parents' names of adult deceased, nothing further is known about the widow Kiernan.

By 1851 Edgeworthstown, on the outskirts of Clonbroney, had a population of about 800.¹⁵ One of Biddy's sisters, Catherine Sheridan Mullen, lived there after her marriage, as well as one brother, Bryan.

Wherever Biddy grew up, she was part of a large and loving family, a family that participated in each others lives, stood baptism for their nieces and nephews, attended weddings and celebrations, and clearly enjoyed each others company, much as their descendants do today.

Even though not much is known about Biddy's brothers and sisters themselves, their stories can be loosely pieced together based on the stories of their children. These outer leaves of the family tree may be the best and only way we can come to know some of the brothers and sisters.

¹⁴ *Letter from Bridget Reilly Brady to Bridget Sheridan Casey, dated May 20, 1886.*

¹⁵ *For those of the family on the grand Irish trip in 2008, Edgeworthstown is where this author had a flat tire.*

Immigration

A trickle of Sheridans left Ireland entering America mostly through the port of Philadelphia prior to the Great Hunger. Wave after wave followed, mostly through New York. They spread out literally 'from sea to shining sea', from Boston to San Francisco and in between. By the mid-1800s, our Sheridans had settled in New York, New Jersey, Massachusetts, Virginia, Iowa, Nebraska, Missouri, California, and half way around the world in Australia.

The Sheridans were educated for the most part, and were fearless in their undertakings as first generation immigrants. They became miners, city managers, lawmen, soldiers, lawyers, judges, prosecutors, firemen, express agents, land owners, farmers, and business managers. They became reasonably successful in their adopted lands, no small feat considering the attitudes toward the Irish at the time. Some died far too soon. They possessed one characteristic of strong family ties – they kept in touch across vast distances.

Most of Biddy's relatives came through the Port of New York as did Biddy herself. By and large, the bulk of her nieces and nephews settled in New York City and spent the rest of their lives in Manhattan and Brooklyn, which was, at the time, a newly built, up and coming area, of New York City.

After the Civil War, New York City became the fastest growing metropolis in the country. There were no street lights, traffic jams were everywhere, and horses generated ten pounds of manure per horse per day. On March 12, 1888 a blizzard struck New York and shutdown the city. Frostbite checkpoints were set up. It was the most crowded place in the world. In 1894 a plan was approved for a subway, something that Boston had already accomplished. Lower Manhattan was teeming with immigrants and the subway would help relieve this crowding while allowing the people to continue to work in Manhattan.

– PBS American Experience, New York Underground

Both the Sheridans and the Caseys immigrated in waves and kinship groups, and continued to do so for years after Biddy and her family were settled in Virginia. Two of Biddy's brothers made their way to Virginia, before she and her family arrived. One of the brothers was in Roanoke County, Virginia, as early as 1846, preceding Biddy to the area by at least four years.

Biddy was aware of, and in contact with, many of her relatives during her fifty years in America. Most of the family had been educated in Ireland and could read and write, with

a very Irish style of writing.¹⁶ This skill made their lives easier for the time in which they lived and allowed them a sense of the possibilities of life beyond subsistence. Their world expanded because they could read. They learned about other people, about situations and opportunities, and they could imagine different lives for themselves and could avail themselves of the opportunities around them. When Biddy herself was a child in 1826, there were nine schools in Clonbroney parish alone. According to the enrollment statistics in the Longford Town library, Protestants and Roman Catholics, boys and girls, were educated together at the time.

While most of the nieces and nephews lived in the New York City area, a few lived for a time in Massachusetts. One was a pioneer in Iowa, another an even earlier pioneer in the Nebraska Territory, and another went as far as San Francisco where he set up an express business. At least two nephews and a sister-in-law immigrated to Australia between 1849 and 1851. Biddy herself emigrated to America in May 1850.

¹⁶ *Comment of Father Francis Kelly of Granard, Ireland. 2008.*

Cast of Characters – Sheridans

_____ Sheridan (Most Likely Bryan or James or Thomas)
 m. Catherine Masterson (abt. 1770 – bet. July 1850 / Jan 1853)

Bryan (Ire.) b. abt. 1791 burial 2/12/1841 m. Honora Hynes (unmarried)	James (VA) b. abt. 1793 d. 2/2/1859 (unmarried)	Mary b. abt. 1795-1805 d. bef. 1870 m1. Lawrence Shanley	John (VA & MO) b. abt. 1800 d. bet. 1860-1876 m. Sarah Brill	Thomas b. d. m. Anne Reilly	Catherine (NY) b. 1810 d. 2/23/1857 m. Thomas Mullen	Bridget (VA & WV) b. 6/11/1815 d. 10/5/1900 m. John P. Casey
Bernard Kevin (1830-1895) (unmarried)	John (1824-1893) m2. Myles Reilly	John (1849-bef. 1860) Sarah Catherine (1851-1936) m. Joseph Breitenstein	Margaret (abt. 1835-1899) (unmarried) Bridget (abt. 1837-1883) m. James Fitzsimmons Mary (abt. 1843-1905) m. Michael Oates Annie (abt. 1847-1894) (unmarried)	Michael (1837-?) Margaret (1845-bef. 1906) Catherine (1840-1922) m. Patrick Davy Thomas (1844-1886) (unmarried) Mary (1848-aft. 1906) (unmarried) Annie (abt. 1847-1906) m. Edward Sheil	Sarah Ann (1847-1898) m. Pat Mannix Nicholas (1848-1922) (unmarried) Patrick (1849-bef. 1853) Mary Cath. (1852-1930) (unmarried) John P. (1854-1937) m. Rose M. Lamb James B. (1856-1935) (unmarried) Margaret (1858-1884) (unmarried) Matilda (1861-1936) (unmarried)	
Thomas J. (1833-1894) m. unknown Bridget (? - ?) Philip (1834-1910) m. Emma Wastell Robert Joseph (1837-1896) m. Annie Garvan Honora (1840-?)	Mary (abt. 1829-1886) m1. unknown m2. unknown Green m3. Joseph Connor Patrick (1831-aft. 1900) m. Catherine Sullivan Bridget (1834-1910) m. Patrick Brady Thomas (1836-1879) m. Bridget Christina Cogan Catherine (1837-1909) m. Thomas Malone Bryan (1841-1862) (unmarried)					

(See *Part III. Putting a Finger
 on History – the Caseys*)

In (West) Virginia

For information on living conditions in Virginia before and during the American Civil War and afterwards in the newly formed state of West Virginia, see *Through Irish Eyes, Part III. Putting a Finger on History – the Caseys.*

Background

James and John Sheridan have been intriguing figures since my mother took me to see their graves on a hillside in Boone County, West Virginia, in the early 1990s. Since the brothers appeared to be buried together and shared the same tombstone and year of death (1859), it seemed logical to assume that they had died together in some horrific accident. I certainly imagined that they were Biddy's younger brothers who had come to live with their sister. Finding out about them was something to look forward to with relish. What I found, however, surprised me greatly.

The first surprise was to find that John was married with a wife and son in 1850 and that James shared his home with Catherine Sheridan, who was much older than he was, old enough in fact, to be his mother. Never having heard of John's wife and child, let alone the possible mother, and knowing of no marked grave on the hillside for them, only deepened the mystery. Perhaps the brothers had died in some plague of sickness to sweep through Boone County in the 1850s.

The next surprise was to find that James had not died of the plague or in an accident at all. He had died of natural causes, specifically, of dropsy, a chronic condition now often attributed to congestive heart failure. All of this made much more intriguing whatever story there was to be discovered about the two brothers. Yet nothing could be found about John or his family in official Boone County records of the time, or about the elusive Catherine, other than the 1850 federal census records. Adding to the mystery, both brothers were much older than their sister Biddy.

Biddy's grandson, Peter Joseph Casey, obviously believed that her brother John was buried on that hillside, and that both John and James had died in 1859. He and Biddy's other Casey grandchildren had the large stone engraved and placed there in 1971, 112 years after the brothers' supposed deaths.¹⁷ With a fervent wish that Great Uncle Joe will

¹⁷ *Peter Joseph Casey placed stones on several family graves using some of the proceeds from the settlement of his brother Louis Sheridan Casey's estate in 1971. Six stones were placed on family graves by the Fleshman Monument Company of Charleston, WV. Only three stones have been definitely located. Fleshman Monument Company was bought by*

forgive me for doubting the inscription, it can now be said with certainty that Biddy's brother John is not buried on that hillside. The lives of James and John diverged in the years just before the Civil War, and in the process the Sheridans of Virginia gained another, previously unknown branch of the family, the Sheridans of Missouri and Alaska.

Who was Catherine Sheridan in 1850?

By 1850 James Sheridan was living in Boone County, Virginia, almost certainly with his mother Catherine.¹⁸ Catherine, 80 at the time, was listed in the census as born in Pennsylvania. While this might be true, in which case she was not James' mother, it is far more likely to be an error on the census record.

Catherine was an interesting person to come across. Her age would argue for her being James Sheridan's mother, as would her location in 1850, next door to her daughter Biddy, and her other son John. Being their mother made no sense if she was born in Pennsylvania as all the Sheridan siblings were born in Ireland. Being a wife at 80 to a husband of 57, while possible, was not likely. Nor was she James' sister, although he did have a younger sister whose name was Catherine.¹⁹

The two brothers may have come over from Ireland separately. James does not appear to have been with John in Roanoke in the mid-1840s, as he has no listing on the head tax rolls there, while John does. James may have come over with his mother after the death of his father, but the Pennsylvania reference remains a mystery. If James lived and worked in Pennsylvania for a time, it might explain the Pennsylvania reference as a misunderstanding. The only thing known for certain is the brothers preceded Biddy Casey and her family who came on the steamship *Constitution* in May 1850, and Catherine was not with the Caseys on board that ship.

If Catherine was Biddy's mother, as instinct would indicate, it is unlikely that she would have left Biddy unmarried in Ireland while the bulk of the family left for America. This would place her immigration sometime between 1846 and 1850 since John and Biddy married in the Spring of 1846, or possibly, as early as the Spring of 1845.²⁰ John

Sears Monument but Sears was unable to buy the records, which remain unavailable, in spite of an interest by the State of West Virginia to obtain them. If the records could be obtained, the locations of the other three family graves might be identified.

¹⁸ *Boone County Personal Property tax rolls, 1847-1854. FHL film 2,024,485. 1850 Federal census. The census taker in 1850 spelled Catherine with a 'K'. Since all of the letters and other records spell the name with a 'C', for the sake of consistency, Catherine is used here.*

¹⁹ *James' sister Catherine Sheridan married Thomas Mullen in Ireland, had several children there, immigrated to Brooklyn and lived out her life there.*

²⁰ *See Through Irish Eyes, Part III. Putting a Finger on History – the Caseys for an explanation of the dates.*

Sheridan came to Virginia prior to Biddy's marriage, and he himself married a Virginia woman in August of 1846. When Catherine immigrated remains a mystery.²¹

Only fragments remain of the 1841 Ireland census and none of those fragments encompass the right locality. Unfortunately most of the Irish census data was lost during the troubles of the 1920s or was deliberately destroyed by the government. As a result, finding the family intact before the various marriages, while they were still in Ireland, proved impossible.

The mystery of just who Catherine Sheridan was, endures. If she was Biddy's mother, as I believe to be the most likely scenario, then her name was Catherine Masterson Sheridan.

²¹ *The passenger lists for all the famine ships for all spelling variations imaginable for the name Sheridan between 1846 and 1850 have been searched with no luck in finding either John or James coming through New York with, or without, their mother. Perhaps James followed his brother John between 1846 and 1850 and brought his mother. If they came through another port other than New York, they may never be found in the passenger lists, especially without knowing who else might be in the group. Without knowing with whom they traveled it is nearly impossible to pick them out of the many James, John and Catherine Sheridans who emigrated.*

James Sheridan

James was born in Ireland about 1793, probably the second child in his family. He immigrated to America by 1849, possibly earlier. He and his brother John were living in Boone County and were on the personal property tax rolls by 1849.²² While John was on the rolls for Roanoke County by 1846, James was not there. He arrived in Virginia without so much as a horse or mule to his name and in the 1850 federal census he was working as a miner in Boone County, Virginia.²³

On March 23, 1850, James purchased 100 acres of land on Lick Creek from Joseph H. Barker, Malinda Barker, and James B. Barker for \$150, "lawful money of Virginia".²⁴ Shortly after his arrival two months later, James' brother-in-law, John Casey, bought a half interest in that land for \$100.²⁵ The land purchase was not recorded with the county until 1851 and was not reflected on the 1850 census.²⁶ This was not unusual as it would not have been recorded until the land was paid for.

The 100 acres formed a family compound of sorts for the Sheridans in Virginia. James and Catherine lived next door to John and Biddy Casey, and John and Sarah Sheridan.

Sometime shortly thereafter, James found himself in need of money and he turned to his brother-in-law, John Casey. He borrowed \$150 and signed a bond on July 26, 1852. The same day he conveyed to Edmond Pate, as Trustee, his interest in his remaining 50 acre share on Lick Creek, in acknowledgment of the debt owed to John Casey. The land, hogs, cattle, etc. were deeded to Mr. Pate as collateral for James being "justly indebted to the said Casey".²⁷ The money was to be repaid by July 26, 1853. Edmond Pate, a neighbor of both men, was the manager of the Virginia Cannel Coal Company of Peytona, where both James Sheridan and John Casey were employed.²⁸ Edmond Pate, a wealthy man and the owner of several slaves, died shortly after in 1853.²⁹

James continued to farm until his death. In 1854, the last year before the Civil War for which there are tax records, he had 2 horses and 28 cattle/sheep/hogs, and \$40 worth of household and kitchen furniture, for a total farm worth of \$260. He paid 92¢ in tax.

²² *Personal Property Tax Lists 1847-1854, Boone County, Virginia. FHL film 2,024,485.*

²³ *Federal Census 1850, Virginia, Boone County.*

²⁴ *Deed Book A, page 181. Boone County, Virginia.*

²⁵ *West Virginia indenture document, dated December 1851. Deed certified December 17, 1852.*

²⁶ *The name of both John and James was spelled 'Sheredon' in the 1850 census.*

²⁷ *Deed Book A, page 391, Boone County, Virginia.*

²⁸ *1850 Federal census.*

²⁹ *Coal, Steamboats, Timber, and Trains, Bill Dean, Pictorial Histories Publishing Company, Charleston, WV, 2007, page 22-26.*

James died at Lick Creek on February 2, 1859 of dropsy.³⁰ Dropsy, or hydropsy in the old usage, refers to the retention of fluid leading to swelling of soft tissue. Nowadays it might be called edema and be due to something like congestive heart failure or even cancer. The information for James' death certificate was reported by Willis M. Dent, a friend.³¹ Mr. Dent gave James' age as 59, but this can be safely discounted. A neighbor from the area and one who most likely worked on the Sheridan farm, Willis Dent could not be expected to know James' correct age³², which was closer to 66 when he died.

Willis Dent presents an opportunity for another look into the extended family. In 1860, a year after James' death, Mr. Dent, originally of Bedford County, Virginia, was living next door to John and Biddy Casey and engaged in farming. At 29 he rented his house and farm, possibly that previously occupied by James and Catherine Sheridan. In 1860 he had a milk cow, another head of cattle of some sort, seven swine, and a crop of corn, wheat, oats, tobacco, and potatoes.

Willis had married Eliza Catherine Harless* about 1853. By 1860, they had three children. While Willis didn't own his own farm, he had at least one farm laborer, James Greybill, that lived with his family. He probably rented from John Casey or the neighbor on his other side, Joseph Henley Barker, the original owner of all the land involved, including the Casey farm. In any event clearly Mr. Dent and his family were friends with both the Sheridans and the Caseys.

By 1870, Willis' fortunes had improved and he had moved to another area of Peytona where he owned his own farm, worth \$800. Tragedy struck the Dent family when his young wife, Eliza, died on July 13, 1871 of consumption. She was 37 years old and left behind eight children. Willis served as county assessor from 1876 to 1880. He died between 1880 and 1900, possibly in 1884. Since the 1884 death records are missing from Boone County, the death is difficult to confirm.

* Eliza Catherine was the daughter of Philip Henry Harless, the brother of this author's great-great grandfather, James Howard Harless, and Elizabeth Barker, the sister of Spicy Barker, this author's great-great grandmother. Elizabeth Barker was also the sister of Nancy Barker, the great-great-great grandmother of Bobbie Lee Shamblin Casey.

³⁰ *Register of Deaths for the Year Ending December 31, 1859, Boone County, Virginia, number 33, FHL film 34,484.*

³¹ *In 1850, Willis Dent is 18, unmarried, and living next door to the Daniel Javins family in District 6 of Boone County, on the farm of Michael Criggins of Ireland. Daniel Javins is a many greats grandfather of Bobbie Shamblin Casey.*

³² *Of the information on official documents, genealogists are generally most suspicious of information on old death certificates. Oftentimes, whoever was giving the information did not necessarily know details of the deceased, even if they were a family member.*

The remaining 50 acres of James' land probably reverted to the Caseys, either through the original debt, by purchase, or via inheritance. No deed transfer has been found. In any event, by 1860 John Casey owned 100 acres of land.³³

James Sheridan was buried on the hillside in Boone County above the Kirk Cemetery, near Ashford, close to the Mahone Chapel. The Kirk cemetery is about one-half mile from the new Mahone Chapel³⁴ heading back towards Marmet, on the right hand side.



Illustration 5: Grave of James Sheridan and his nephew John Sheridan. © 2011

³³ *Federal Census, 1860, Virginia, Boone County, Agricultural Schedules. John Casey had 30 acres of improved land and 70 acres of unimproved land with a total value of \$600 plus \$10 worth of farm implements. John had 3 horses, 3 milk cows, and 16 swine worth \$700. He produced 100 bushels of wheat, 300 bushels of corn, 75 bushels of oats, 5 bushels of peas and beans, 100 bushels of Irish potatoes, \$30 of orchard products, 150 pounds of butter, \$20 worth of homemade manufacture, and slaughtered \$1,125 worth of farm animals. A prosperous farm by any standard of the time.*

³⁴ *The original Mahone Chapel burned sometime in 1995-1996.*

Given the location of the grave, it's possible that John and Biddy Casey were also buried on the same hillside. Their son Patrick Casey, who died in October 1850³⁵, and Catherine Sheridan, believed to be her mother, may also be buried there since their deaths occurred prior to 1860. This may be the 'Casey Fork Cemetery' referred to in family stories. It's also possible that John and Biddy were buried on their own property at Lick Creek and that is the 'Casey Fork Cemetery'. If so, their graves are lost to all time since that property has been used for commercial mining and other interests since the heirs originally sold it more than a century ago to an agent for mining interests.

³⁵ *Unverified family documents.*

John Sheridan



Illustration 6: Possible tintype of John Sheridan. Courtesy of Kathryn Thomas.

Born about 1800 in Ireland, John was Biddy Casey's third or fourth brother. He was in America by 1846 and can be located in the official records of the Commonwealth of Virginia, where he had decided to take a wife.

On August 20, 1846, John Sheridan posted a marriage bond of \$150, "true Virginia money", using the services of a local bondsman named Frederick Thrasher, in Roanoke County, Virginia.³⁶ He married Sarah Brill that same day.³⁷ That Sarah's father was not involved in posting the bond could indicate that he had already died.

At that time in Virginia, a bond was required to be posted although it wasn't necessary that the marriage be performed on the same day. The bond was the state's way of insuring honesty on the part of the participants and insuring there was no legal impediment to the marriage, mostly

on the part of the groom. It wasn't unusual for the bride's father to participate in the bond, but it wasn't required. This system helped insure that the bride was not compromised by false promises. If the marriage did not take place, the \$150 was forfeited to the Commonwealth of Virginia. A great deal of money at the time, this was a sum not to be trifled with. Release from the obligation to pay the Commonwealth was granted only when the license was returned by the officiate at the ceremony. The marriage bonds bound not only those who posted the bond, but also their heirs and assigns to pay the debt if the marriage did not take place and the bond was not released. Clearly, this was not a matter to be taken lightly.

The Presbyterian marriage ceremony was performed by the Rev. Urias Powers. The Sheridans were Catholics and the Presbyterian aspect of the ceremony remains a mystery.

³⁶ *Frederick Thrasher was born about 1770 and was a local 'farmer, distiller, and lender'. In 1850 he had a net worth of \$2,000, no small sum for the time.*

³⁷ *Most transcribed records show this as 1845, but this is a transcription error. The original record clearly shows 1846.*

An explanation may lie in the laws of the Commonwealth. Virginia had an established state religion, the Church of England, until the Revolutionary War. Since the end of that war was just 60 years prior to the marriage, other religions may have been slow to take root in the steep Appalachian and Blue Ridge Mountains. Presbyterianism was slightly more acceptable to Church of England adherents than was Catholicism and so may have gained an earlier foothold. There were no Catholic churches in the area at the time.³⁸

Sarah Brill, was born on May 9, 1814 in Virginia.³⁹ Since Virginia did not require birth records at the time, it's nearly impossible to find the name of her father. No personal information was contained in the marriage bond or the returned release. Sarah's mother's given name was Catherine but her mother's maiden name remains unknown.⁴⁰ There were several Brill families in Virginia in the 1840s but census data in 1840 identified only the head of household by name, making it difficult to narrow down which of the families was Sarah's. It's probable that most of these Brill families were related, that Sarah remained close to them, and even possible they were responsible for John and Sarah's eventual move to Missouri.

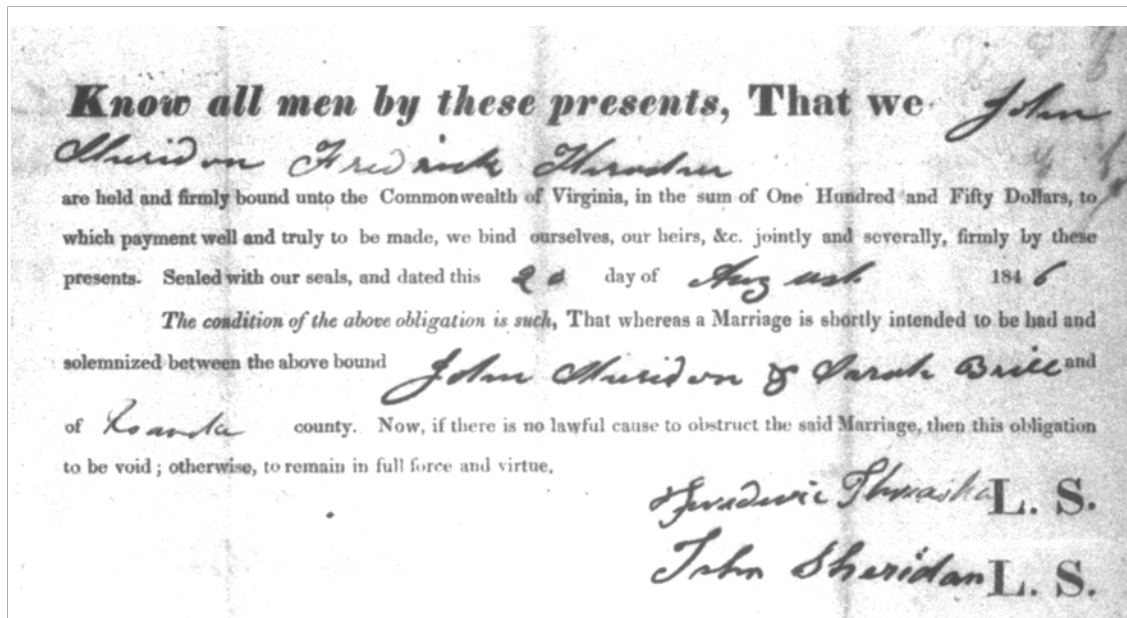


Illustration 7: Marriage bond of John Sheridan and Sarah Brill.

³⁸ Nearly all of the returned licenses were checked and none were found in that time frame in that area where the ceremony was performed by a Catholic priest.

³⁹ Email on September 4, 2011 from Kathryn Thomas citing note from Norma Skov, John and Sarah Brill Sheridan's great-granddaughter.

⁴⁰ 1860 Federal Census, Iron County Missouri.

In Bedford County, Virginia a Catherine Horn married Henry Brill on December 11, 1808 and this could be Sarah's parents. Catherine Horn's father was Charles Horn and Henry Brill's parents were John and Ann Baker Brill.

Virginia Marriages 1740-1850. Ancestry.com. Bedford County Marriage Bonds, FHL film 896,772, item 2, page 16.

In Pugh, Frederick County, Virginia in 1820, living with a Henry Brill, Sr. was a female under 10 who could be Sarah. Henry Brill, Jr. and his wife and son were next door. Henry, Jr. and his wife were 16-25 years old. Two marriages of a Henry Brill took place in Frederick, in 1815 and 1819, respectively to Mary Ann Hoffman and Rachel Cooper.

1820 Federal Census, Frederick County, Virginia, August 7, 1820. Henry Brill, head of household, 1 male under 10, 1 male 10-15, 2 males 16-25, 1 male 45+, 1 female <10, 1 female 10-15, 1 female 45+. Three persons were engaged in agriculture and they had no slaves.

If Sarah Brill herself was a widow at the time of her marriage to John Sheridan, there are two possibilities in Frederick County: Isaac Brill married Sarah Williams October 13, 1836; John H. Brill married Sarah A. Milhorn February 14, 1843.

Virginia Marriages 1740-1850. Ancestry.com. Bedford County Marriage Bonds, FHL film 896,772, item 2, page 16.

The Rev. Powers waited for quite some time to return the bond release to the state. He batched nearly 2 years worth of releases, including that of John and Sarah, and returned them to the Commonwealth of Virginia on December 29, 1847. It's fortunate that his health didn't suffer, or there could have been a large number of bond penalties assessed in Roanoke County in 1847.

Sarah and John lived in Roanoke County from 1846 until 1848 when they moved to Boone County, Virginia,⁴¹ where they later lived alongside his brother James, and his sister Biddy Casey and her family on Lick Creek. On July 17, 1850 John, 50, was working as a miner. He and Sarah, then 37, have a son, John, one year old, born in Virginia.⁴²

No record of John ever owning property in Roanoke or Boone County has been found. He was likely living on the land owned by his brother James or his brother-in-law John Casey, in the Irish way of communal living. Like James, John was working for William

⁴¹ *Personal Property Tax Rolls, Boone County, Virginia, 1849. FHL film 2,024,485.*

⁴² *1850 Federal Census, Boone County, Virginia.*

Madison Peyton at the Virginia Cannel Coal Company of Peytona District. State law had restricted the amount of mining land the company could hold to 10,000 acres but Peyton and his investors formed other companies to get around the limitation. An English mining engineer, Joseph Gill, had inspected the coal seams and reported one to be at least 10 feet thick and as good a quality as any he had ever encountered.⁴³

Sarah gave birth to a baby girl, Sarah Catherine Sheridan, on January 6, 1851 in Boone County.⁴⁴ Their son John died sometime between 1850 and 1860, probably before 1853, when death records began to be kept. It is all but certain that this son is the John Sheridan buried on the hillside alongside his Uncle James.⁴⁵ In the Fall term of the County Court of Boone County in 1853 a fine of \$1.00 was assessed John Sheridan for Trespassing, Assault and Battery.⁴⁶ Numerous fines were assessed for this transgression, most for \$1.00. More serious fines for the same offense amounted to \$17.50 and up, so this was not likely, by any means, to be the reason John and Sarah eventually left Virginia. This amount was not to be trifled with, however, as \$1.00 of 'true Virginia money', could buy an acre of land at the time.

John appears on the tax rolls for Boone County as late as 1854, the last year for which records are available, when he paid 89¢ in taxes for one cattle/sheep/hog,⁴⁷ down from the three cattle/sheep/hogs he had in 1853.⁴⁸

At some point, John and Sarah decided to move on. It's possible that they stayed beyond 1854. By 1860 they had moved to Iron County, Missouri. They may have chosen Iron County because others from the Brill family were already living there and more were on their way from Virginia.

On June 30, 1860 John Sheridan, 59⁴⁹, his wife Sarah, 46, and their daughter Sarah Catherine, 10, were living in Iron Township, Pilot Knob post office, Iron County,

⁴³ *Coal, Steamboats, Timber, and Trains*, Bill Dean, Pictorial Histories Publishing Company, Charleston, WV, 2007, page 22-26.

⁴⁴ *Boone County birth records are available only from 1853 on. Sarah Catherine's descendants place her birth on January 6, 1851.*

⁴⁵ *Boone County death records are available from 1853 on. Neither John Sheridan's nor Catherine Sheridan's deaths are in the available records, making it probable they died prior to 1853. Catherine was already 80 in 1850 and so likely died soon thereafter.*

⁴⁶ *www.pwcvirginia.com/documents. A list of all fines, penalties, and amercements by B.E. Barrett, Clerk, County Court of Boone County, transcribed on April 30, 2009 by Ron Turner from the original Boone County documents held at the University of Virginia, Richmond.*

⁴⁷ *Personal Property Tax Lists 1847-1854, Boone County, Virginia. FHL film 2,024,485, Perry Taylor's district, number 19, 1854.*

⁴⁸ *Ibid., Perry Taylor's district, 1853.*

⁴⁹ *If John was 50 on July 17, 1850 but still only 59 on June 30, 1860, then the actual day of his birth could possibly be narrowed down to between July 1 and July 17, 1800.*

Missouri. Living with them was Catherine Brill, 82. John was working as a stone mason.⁵⁰ The older woman, Catherine Brill, born in New Jersey, was most certainly his mother-in-law, even though relationships were not listed on that census.⁵¹

By the 1860s marble was being quarried on Marble Creek in Iron County. There were also significant mining operations for iron ore, providing another reason for John to be there. At one time it was believed that an entire mountain in the area was made of iron. Although this helped to fuel the boom in the area, it wasn't accurate and the iron proved to be only surface deposits.

Commerce was booming in Pilot Knob prior to the Civil War. A railroad, the St. Louis and Iron Mountain Railway, had been completed from St. Louis to Pilot Knob in 1858. This made it economical to bring the iron to market in St. Louis and, via the Mississippi River, to other areas.⁵² The railway to Pilot Knob had been opened for passenger traffic to and from St. Louis at the same time.

While it isn't known how John and his family traveled from Boone County to Missouri, it would have been feasible for them to have gone down the Coal River from Peytona District to where the river meets the Kanawha River at present-day St. Albans, and down the Kanawha to the Ohio River, then to the Mississippi River, and via the Mississippi to St. Louis. From St. Louis they could go by rail to Pilot Knob. This would be a trip of about 600 miles and while it had many interconnections, it was possible to travel in this manner relatively easily for the time.

Pilot Knob was flourishing. St. Mary's Catholic Church was founded there⁵³ in 1851⁵⁴. The town of Ironton was established nearby, and the first house was built, in 1853. Ironton, about two miles from Pilot Knob, became the county seat in 1857, and was incorporated in 1859. It had a court house, a jail, three churches, a Masonic and an Odd Fellows Hall, a public school, a school for colored children, an iron foundry, two saw mills, two lumber mills, a flour mill, two wagon factories, a saddler's shop, two hotels, one band and a newspaper office.⁵⁵ Times were good but the Civil War was on its way, bringing with it a world of misery for the inhabitants of southeastern Missouri.

⁵⁰ *1860 Census, Iron County, Missouri. This census confirms that Sarah and Sarah Catherine were both born in Virginia.*

⁵¹ *Another John Sheridan, 28, was living in Roanoke County in the 1850 census working as a stone mason for the B&O Railroad, with several men, some of whom had their wives with them. That younger John did not have a wife with him and there was no other Sarah Sheridan in the area.*

⁵² *This railroad became part of the Missouri Pacific in 1917. John Sheridan's granddaughter, Lucy Breitenstein Stevens' husband, Otis, worked on this railroad.*

⁵³ *Location: N37 37.288 W090 38.453*

⁵⁴ *This church was destroyed by a tornado one hundred and six years later in 1957.*

⁵⁵ *Rootsweb, A Directory of Towns, Villages and Hamlets Past and Present in Iron County, Missouri.*

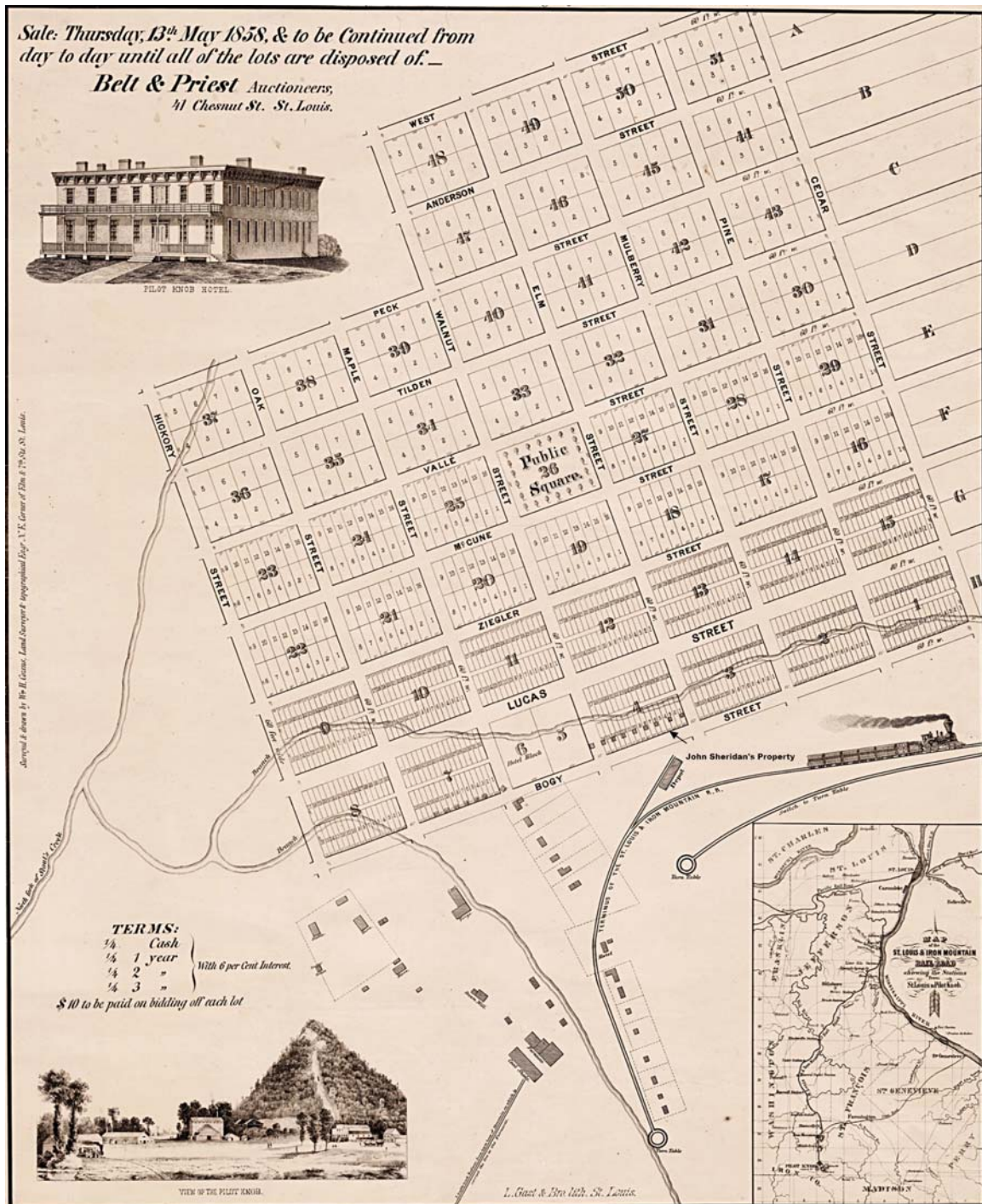


Illustration 8: Pilot Knob 1858. Arrow shows John Sheridan's Property across from the train depot.

On August 9, 1860, John bought Lot 4, Block 4 in Pilot Knob from Bernard Rutchman and his wife Augustine⁵⁶, for seven hundred dollars.⁵⁷ The lot was on the main street of Pilot Knob, known as Bogy Street, and was directly across from the train depot. John and Sarah had a home and/or possibly, a place of business, for his work as a stone mason.⁵⁸

John and Sarah had left one border area before the War began, only to find themselves in another border area where sympathies were just as divided and life was just as dangerous, perhaps even more so. Virginia was a slave holding state, and Missouri was also, although neither Boone County nor Iron County had large numbers of slaves in 1860. Among the populace though, loyalties were sharply divided between rebel sympathizers and loyalists. Iron County would suffer greatly from this division during the war. All of Southeast Missouri suffered greatly.

Although Missouri never seceded from the Union, Confederates abounded and had no sympathy for their Union loyalist neighbors, and the Sheridans were probably Union sympathizers. As the War dragged on starvation was rampant in Southeast Missouri as the Confederate Army provisioned itself from the farms of Union loyalists, and the Union Army did the same from the farms of southern sympathizers.⁵⁹ Missouri had a secessionist governor during the Civil War and he turned a blind eye to Confederate sympathizers perpetrating attacks across the state.⁶⁰

In 1864 Major General Sterling Price launched a Confederate cavalry attempt to recapture Missouri, and especially St. Louis with its rail head, from Union forces. The first major battle of this campaign occurred at Pilot Knob on September 27, 1864, with Price's force numbering more than 12,000 men. Fort Davidson, the object of the Confederate offensive, was only blocks from John and Sarah's property on Bogy Street.

⁵⁶ *Bernard Rutchman's name is spelled many different ways. The voter registration spelling for 1864 is used here. In the Union Provost Marshal Papers, his name was spelled Reutschman for his \$2000 Merchants Bond in December 1864.*

⁵⁷ *Record Book C, page 61. Index on FHL film 914,415. Deed on FHL film 914,418.*

⁵⁸ *The disposition of the lot after John died is unknown. No record has been found of it being sold and existing records have been extensively searched in person at the county courthouse and online.*

⁵⁹ *General Grant had refused to allow his troops to take provisions without receipt from any farms in the area. This changed after the Battle of Shiloh in 1862. Grant had determined that the war would drag on for years and one way of bringing an end to it was to deny provisions to the rebel troops in any of the border areas. What could not be taken by the Federal troops was destroyed. Personal Memoirs of US Grant, De Capo Press, 1952, 2001.*

⁶⁰ *Capital Dames, The Civil War and the Women of Washington, 1848-1868, Cokie Roberts, Harper Collins, New York, 2015, page 170.*

“Reports had come to us from time to time that the Confederates were about to make a raid upon Arcadia Valley, but we jeered at the idea of their visiting a place so well fortified as Pilot Knob.”⁶¹ As the Confederate Army approached, the Union defenders set up defensive perimeters around the fort. A Union cannon line was set up along the main street of the town, squarely in front of the Sheridan property.



Illustration 9: Pilot Knob, 2012. © Google Maps.

If John, Sarah, and their family remained behind, they were in the thick of the battle. A number of civilians left on the train before the battle began. A number of the men grabbed their guns and joined the fight at the fort. Some civilians tried to escape the battle area by forming a wagon train as the battle was commencing. Still others stayed behind and endured as the battle was fought around them.

The siege raged on in several spots through the two day rebel assault. At one point the Confederates reached the cannon line on the main street, but were driven back by heavy fire.

⁶¹ *Account of Mrs. C.J. Pitkin, Pilot Knob, The Thermopylae of the West*, by Cyrus Peterson and Joseph Mills Hanson, The Neale Publishing company, New York, 1914, page 229.

While the rebel forces were regrouping during the night, and building ladders with which to scale the fort in the morning, General Ewing and the Federal troops at the fort made a bold move by stealing out in the darkness. The troops made good their getaway through the rebel lines. A small Union contingent was left behind to destroy the fort after the others were safely away. The resulting explosion at 3 AM tore through the fort. "... just as I had stepped two or three paces from the front door of the hotel (on the main street which would be Bogy Street), the magazine at the fort exploded and the debris began falling about us like hail. To escape I ran for shelter some fifty or sixty feet across the street when three steps would have put me safely in the hotel. The report was so sudden and unexpected that for the first and only time in three days I lost my full presence of mind. The next morning Pilot Knob was occupied by the enemy."⁶²

St. Mary's Catholic Church was damaged in the explosion as the whole town was rocked by its force.⁶³ The Confederates at first thought the explosion was an accident but found out differently when they entered what was left of the fort that day and found it deserted. Two thirds of Price's remaining troops pursued the escaping Federal force and a number of civilian refugees for four days, as they made their way to Leasburg, Missouri and from there to Rolla. There were four major running battles as Ewing and the civilian refugees made good on the escape. There was little for anyone to eat and little time in which to eat what they could forage from the surrounding countryside. Everyone was hungry and on the run for their lives.

One particularly poignant story of the death of an unnamed civilian during the retreat was recounted by Sgt. H.C. Wilkinson, Company H, 47th Missouri Volunteer Infantry. The incident took place on September 30, the retreat having made it as far as Leasburg. "... about noon the enemy ceased firing, and so did we ... during the afternoon several men of Co. F came over into the potato patch in our front to dress a pig, which had been killed there during the attack the night before. When they came up, a large elderly man, bareheaded, (a civilian refugee), was bending over the pig, skinning it. Just at this moment a squad of men from Co. H and other companies rode into the field ... and shouted: 'Yonder they come!' The poor old man left the pig and began running toward the gateway ... and while he was running one of our men, who had been asleep behind the breastwork, suddenly awoke, rose up, and fired at the old man. The latter fell, shot through the body and never while I live will I forget his pitiful cries. He was led away to our field hospital, where I think he died not many hours afterward."⁶⁴

Though there was tremendous loss of life, mostly on the Confederate side, General Price had gained very little and in fact, had lost much. His insistence on attacking Fort

⁶² *Account of Rev. D.A. Wilson, Pilot Knob, The Thermopylae of the West, Op. Cit., page 244.*

⁶³ *Private Patrick Mannix, Biddy Casey's future son-in-law, had been reassigned to Company C, 8th Regiment, Missouri Infantry on February 16, 1864 but had mustered out prior to the Battle of Pilot Knob.*

⁶⁴ *Pilot Knob, The Thermopylae of the West, Op. Cit., page 305.*

Davidson had cost the Confederacy the opportunity to take St. Louis when it was still weak and scarcely defended. This decision cost the Confederacy its last major opportunity for a significant victory.

The six day battle was certainly a horrific experience for the locals, which would have been especially true for John and Sarah, given their location. Were they on the four day retreat out of the area with General Ewing's troops? If they evacuated the area as the battle was forming, where did they go, when did they come back, and what awaited them when they did? Such a large army passing through the area would not have left much behind in terms of provisions or animals. "The whole valley, indeed, had been pretty well cleaned out. Some worn-out horses were left, but very few good animals remained ... For several days we were at the mercy of guerrillas but they did us little harm. None the less, it was a joyful sight when a company or two of Union soldiers from Cape Girardeau came in ... The raid was a trying time to the people of the valley ..." ⁶⁵

Sometime between 1860 and 1876, John Sheridan died, almost certainly in Missouri. Neither he nor Sarah can be found in the 1870 census although Sarah appears again in the 1876 Missouri state census. The 1870 census took more than four months to complete in this still devastated area and it is easy to see how John and Sarah could have simply been missed in the counting. In 1870 their daughter Catherine was living with the James Buford⁶⁶ family in Iron Township. The Buford family had a black domestic servant. Catherine could have been a live-in nanny, governess, servant, friend of the family, or simply, a boarder.⁶⁷ The Buford family was well off. No clue has been found as to why Catherine would be in Iron County without her mother and father. She was 19 years old and unmarried. Later family letters report that she was working.

Though John and Sarah Sheridan's whereabouts were unknown in 1870, Sarah at least, was still alive. Because she was still alive, and not with her daughter, it's not unreasonable to assume that John was also alive in 1870.

Sarah reappeared in the 1876 Missouri state census without John, who was clearly dead by then. Catherine was not living with her mother although she was no longer with the James Buford family. The state census contains precious little detail. By 1880 Sarah and Catherine were back living in the same household. This area of Missouri was completely ravaged during, and in the aftermath of, the Civil War. It must have been very difficult

⁶⁵ *Account of Rev. D.A. Wilson, Pilot Knob, The Thermopylae of the West, Op. Cit., page 248.*

⁶⁶ *This James Buford may have been the sheriff of Iron County from 1869 to 1873 and 1877 to 1880.*

⁶⁷ *Family lore in the Breitenstein family says that Sarah Catherine worked to support herself in a restaurant.*

for two women to try to hold onto property.⁶⁸ No record of the disposition of the Main Street property has been found.⁶⁹

Around 1877, John's and Sarah's daughter, Sarah Catherine, married Joseph Breitenstein, a Swiss immigrant and wagon maker who lived in Ironton, Missouri. Joe, born February 22, 1847, immigrated with his brother Martin on the Steamer *Cordova*, from Switzerland. They disembarked in New York on April 17, 1868.⁷⁰ Joe was 21 and his brother was 17.

Joseph Breitenstein appeared for the first time in Missouri in the 1876 state census. There were other Breitensteins already in the area by the time Joe immigrated. By 1880 Catherine and Joe have one son, Joseph, and Catherine's mother, Sarah Sheridan, a widow at 66, was living with them.⁷¹ A final confirmation that these are our Sheridans came from Catherine Sheridan Breitenstein herself.

Vital records are sparse for this area of Missouri at that time. However, one existing record provided valuable confirmation of the family history. Catherine gave birth to her third son, Alfred, on August 24, 1883 in Belleview, Missouri, part of Iron Township.⁷² On his birth certificate Alfred's parents supplied the birthplace of his mother, confirming that Catherine Sheridan Breitenstein was born in Boone County, Virginia. She was 32 in 1883, making her born in late 1850 or early 1851, meshing perfectly with her family's oral tradition. She was, decidedly, Biddy Casey's niece.

Sarah Brill Sheridan died on October 28, 1897 and was buried on the family farm near Belleview, Missouri. No official death record for her has been found.

No definitive records for either John or Sarah prior to their marriage in 1846 have been found.

⁶⁸ *Unfortunately not much information can be gleaned from the transcription of the 1876 state census. The agriculture portion was not included in the transcription, so it isn't known if Sarah was on a farm or was living in Pilot Knob proper.*

⁶⁹ *Surviving records at the Iron County Courthouse were exhaustively searched by hand.*

⁷⁰ *"Germans to America, Passenger Data File", Affiliate Manifest id 00030689, departure port Havre and Liverpool.*

⁷¹ *The Breitenstein name is often misspelled in census data and other records and can sometimes be difficult to find. It has appeared in records as Breilenstein, and Bereitenstes, and even, Brightemtaghn. Most legal documents manage to spell it correctly.*

⁷² *Missouri Birth Certificates, Roll C2901.*



Illustration 10: Sheridan Breitenstein graveyard, near Belleview, Missouri. © 2011.



Illustration 11: Gravestone of Sarah Brill Sheridan (1814-1897)

So who was buried with James Sheridan on the hillside in Boone County, West Virginia? All of the information points to Biddy Casey's nephew, John Sheridan, the son of her brother John, as the person buried on that hillside. Further, the surviving letters provide indications that the rest of the Sheridan family believed the elder John to still be alive close to, and even into, the 1880s, although Sarah was actually a widow by 1880. The extended family was aware of James' death, but they seemed to have heard nothing of John's demise.

On May 21, 1886 Annie Shanley of Sioux City wrote to her great-aunt Biddy Casey, "... father asks ... if you hear anything of your brother John to let him know." She did not ask about James because she knew James had died 27 years earlier. Annie and her father clearly believed John might still be alive. Further the phrasing 'if you hear anything' implied they knew that John was not there in Boone County with his sister.

News of James' death had also reached the Sheridans in New York as it was mentioned in one of the letters. Clearly the letter writer had no inkling that John had shared the same fate.

In a letter from Catherine Mullen Davy dated August 24, 1884, she wrote to her aunt Biddy Casey, "when I wrote to you before I forgot to ask you how Uncle John Sheridan and Uncle James were. Please tell me in your next letter whether Uncle James is living or not. I heard that he was dead but did not know for sure." She clearly had never heard that John had died and believed him to still be alive.

At least John, Sarah, and Sarah Catherine left Boone County together. It is apparent from the son John's absence in Missouri in the 1860 census that he died at a young age. Since Biddy Casey's grandchildren believed there was a John Sheridan buried at Casey Fork, only one John Sheridan could be there, and that is the little boy.

Further, a 2006 note from AnnaBelle Breitenstein, who was married to John Sheridan's great-grandson, John, stated that Sarah Catherine Sheridan's "...parents were buried in the Belleview (Missouri) area, on a farm...owned by a man called Bunker Smith...who plowed over them. After Joseph (Breitenstein) died and was buried on a hill close to the house (on Catherine's new farm), Catherine had her mother moved to the spot where Joseph was buried. My John thought that probably they couldn't find her father's grave, but there is a very old, small, unmarked stone close to her mother's, that John thought might have his marker."

Bridget Sheridan

Bridget Sheridan's life and the lives of her children, are recounted in detail in *Through Irish Eyes, Part III. Putting a Finger on History – The Caseys.*



Illustration 12: Possible tintype of Bridget Sheridan Casey (1815-1900).

Bridget, called Biddy by her family, was born in County Longford, Ireland on June 15, 1815. She married John Casey in a Catholic ceremony in the Spring of 1846, or possibly 1845. They immigrated to America with their three children on the ship *Constitution* arriving in New York City on May 12, 1850. By July 1850 they were living in Boone County, Virginia, where Biddy would give birth to five more children. They had a prosperous farm there until their deaths, John on June 16, 1897 and Biddy on October 5, 1900.

By 1860 the Casey farm consisted of 30 improved acres and 70 unimproved acres with 3 horses, 3 milk cows, 30 other cattle, and 16 swine, with a value of \$700, and \$10 worth of farm implements. On this land the family produced 100 bushels of

wheat, 300 bushels of corn, 75 bushels of oats, 5 bushels of peas and beans, 100 bushels of Irish potatoes, \$30 of orchard products, and 150 pounds of butter, along with \$20 of home manufactured goods. Additionally they had slaughtered \$1,125 of farm animals in 1860.⁷³ The bounty of the farm may have made it a target for provision raids during the war.

Biddy and her family survived the Civil War in the border area of Virginia that became West Virginia on June 20, 1863. After the war, in January 1865, John Casey expanded their farm by buying an additional 25 acres from Allen Smith for \$125.

⁷³ 1860 Federal census, Agriculture Schedules, Peytona District, Boone County, Virginia. Reel 195.

By 1870 the farm had grown to 50 improved acres, and 70 unimproved. John and Biddy had 2 horses, 7 milk cows, 4 working oxen, 20 cattle, 40 sheep, and 12 swine, with a total value of \$860 in livestock. In addition to wheat, rye, and oats, they produced 500 bushels of Indian corn.⁷⁴

The farm continued to grow and by 1880, the last census to include agricultural schedules, John and Biddy had 50 acres of tilled land, 75 acres of woodland and forest, and 25 acres of meadow/pasture/orchard, with a value \$1000. They had \$580 of livestock and paid \$50 in wages for 12 weeks of hired labor. The total value of production was \$300. They owned 3 horses, 10 oxen, 3 milk cows, 5 other head of cattle, 2 calves, 6 swine, 60 sheep, 25 lambs, 70 barnyard poultry and 70 other types of poultry. They reported that 40 sheep or lambs were killed by stray animals. They produced 100 lbs of butter, 60 fleeces weighing 170 lbs, and 210 dozen eggs. 15 acres had been mowed, 15 acres had not been, producing 6 tons of hay. 20 acres were planted in Indian corn which produced 490 bushels. 10 acres were planted in oats, which produced 100 bushels, 3 acres were planted with Irish potatoes, producing 25 bushels. 4 acres were planted with 10 apple trees producing a \$10 crop of apples. They kept bees which in 1880 alone produced 200 lbs of honey. The family cut \$50 of forest products and sold one cattle living. Finally the farm produced 1 bushel of dry beans. The family worked hard indeed, with everyone pitching in.⁷⁵

By the time of John's death the farm had grown to 422 acres. Biddy lived there until she died on October 5, 1900. After selling the farm to an agent for the coal companies, the remaining unmarried children moved to a farm in Putnam County, West Virginia. Only two of Biddy's children married. Sarah Ann married a returning Union soldier named Pat Mannix in 1865 and John Patrick married Rose M. Lamb in 1891. For more on the Lamb family, see *Through Irish Eyes, Part II. On the Lamb with Ed and Mary*.

For more detail on John's and Biddy's lives, and the lives of their children and grandchildren, as well as tintypes, photographs, and documents, see *Through Irish Eyes, Part III. Putting a Finger on History – The Caseys*.

⁷⁴ 1870 Federal Census, Agricultural Schedules, Bald Knob Post Office, Peytona Township, Boone County, West Virginia, page 1, line 25.

⁷⁵ 1880 Federal census, Agricultural Schedules, Peytona District, Boone County, West Virginia, page 1, line 10.

In New York

The Sheridans began arriving in New York in the 1840s. A few remained in Manhattan. Most moved on to Brooklyn, a nascent city coming into its own. In Manhattan our Sheridans settled on the lower east side along the East River.



Illustration 13: Lower Manhattan 1841. Sheridan Areas of Interest.

- 1 Columbia Place**
- 2 Goerck Street**
- 3 Delancy Street**

The opening of the Erie Canal had transformed New York into a preeminent port. By the 1840s up to forty passenger ships might arrive every day. Waves of immigrants in the mid 1850s changed the composition of Manhattan. The area that would become Central Park in 1858 was being used for bone boiling, and as a pigsty and a garbage heap, with

bare soil and stagnant water when Biddy Casey's relatives arrived. Travel was by horse car and omnibus. Modern New York City would not begin until the consolidation of the five boroughs in 1898, fifty years after the Sheridan and Casey arrivals.

Between 1840 and 1859 three quarters of all immigrants to America came through New York City, an average of about 157,000 per year. In 1854 alone 319,000 immigrants descended on Manhattan. Not all stayed but Manhattan had grown to a population of 814,000 by 1860.⁷⁶ The face of the city, and the nation, was changing. Matthew Brady opened the Daguerrean Miniature Gallery at Broadway and Fulton in 1844.⁷⁷ Work began on the Trans Atlantic telegraph cable from New York to London in 1857 and completed in 1858. Lower Manhattan was becoming increasingly crowded.

Brooklyn, across the East River from lower Manhattan, was a different story. A building boom struck Brooklyn in the 1850s. In 1851 alone there were 2,600 structures built. With construction booming, the Irish opened lumberyards and established themselves as contractors and carpenters⁷⁸ and many of the Sheridans, made their living in this fashion. More than a quarter of Brooklyn's population by 1855 was Irish. "Irishmen reigned supreme in horse-reliant transport. They sat atop hacks, omnibuses, stages, and horsecars ... They took over the docks as well."⁷⁹

Called the City of Churches, Brooklyn had eighty churches by 1866, serving a growing populace of more than 200,000 people. A pleasant place to live, Brooklyn's streets were tree lined, lending a more rural atmosphere than in lower Manhattan with far less crowding. Hundreds of ferries plied the East River. Railroads provided access to Philadelphia, Washington, Boston, and west to places like Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

Flatbush, which in 1870 consisted of about thirteen farms, was incorporated into wards 25 and 26 of Brooklyn in 1886.

Bridget Brady and her contractor husband lived across the street from St. Joseph's Church where there were usually four Masses daily with five on Sunday. Her aunt, Biddy Casey, lived in rural Virginia, where there might be one Mass a month and slavery was still practiced. As Bridget Brady remarked to her aunt in 1897, "Brooklyn is quite a different city since you seen (sic) it."⁸⁰

⁷⁶ *Gotham, A History of New York City to 1898*, Edwin G. Burrows and Mike Wallace, Oxford University Press, New York, 1999, page 736-737.

⁷⁷ *Ibid.*, page 689.

⁷⁸ *Ibid.*, page 744.

⁷⁹ *Ibid.*, page 744.

⁸⁰ *Letter from Bridget Reilly Brady to Bridget Sheridan Casey, January 8, 1897. Biddy Casey arrived in New York on the Constitution on May 12, 1850. There she would have visited her sisters-in-law, Margaret Casey McGrath and Esther Casey McGrath.*



Illustration 14: Brooklyn, 1886. Robinson's Atlas. E. Robinson and R.H. Pidgeon, Civil Engineers. Sheridan Areas of Interest.

- | | | | |
|---|---|----|---------------------------------------|
| 1 | 885 Pacific Street | 8 | Washington & DeKalb
McGregor House |
| 2 | 18 Underhill | 9 | 247 Steuben Street |
| 3 | Bergen Street,
10th Ward | 10 | 243 Graham Street |
| 4 | 496 Hicks Street | 11 | 77 Stockton Street |
| 5 | 588 Henry Street | 12 | 874 Myrtle Street |
| 6 | Kent & Willoughby
St. Patrick's Church | 13 | 242 Monroe
227 Madison |
| 7 | 414 Baltic Street | 14 | Classon & DeKalb
Casey/McGrath |

Mary Sheridan

The oldest of the Sheridan sisters, Mary, was probably born between 1795 and 1802. She herself has proved elusive, although her children and her two husbands have not. No official records for Mary herself have been found although Irish baptismal records for several of her children have been. Because Bridget Reilly Brady, Mary's daughter, was a prolific letter writer, information about Mary's family survives and this information provides a glimpse of Mary herself.

Mary married Lawrence Shanley, about 1822 and they lived around Edgeworthstown, County Longford, Ireland.⁸¹ Little is known about Lawrence's family, except that he had a brother named John and they both died young.⁸² No records regarding Mary's life with her first husband have been located, but Lawrence died in Edgeworthstown on January 12, 1824. He was 22 years old.⁸³ He and Mary had one child who survived to adulthood, a son they named John, born March 17, 1824.⁸⁴

Lawrence was buried out of St. John's Church, part of the Church of Ireland. The only way one could have an official death certificate in 1824, was if that certificate was issued by the Church of Ireland. Otherwise, one was not officially dead as no other church was authorized to issue such a civil record. Prior to at least 1837, it was illegal for a Catholic priest to set foot in a cemetery.⁸⁵

After Lawrence died, Mary married Myles Reilly, around 1828 or so. Myles was born around June 1796⁸⁶ and lived in the parish of Ardagh-Moydow in County Longford. The local churches were Our Lady in Moydow and St. Brigid's in Ardagh. St. Brigid's in

⁸¹ *On the family trip to Ireland with Uncle Pat, Aunt Bobbie, and the cousins, Edgeworthstown was where we had lunch and the flat tire. It is very, very close to Clonbroney parish.*

⁸² *John Shanley, Lawrence's brother, may have married Bridget Dillon and had one son James Shanley baptized at Ardagh-Moydow on April 13, 1822.*

⁸³ *At the library in the town of Longford, Ireland, an excerpt from a newspaper mentions the death of Lawrence Shanley in Edgeworthstown. His brother John died there two months earlier, on November 22, 1823 at the age of 24. The reference was to St. John's Church, Church of Ireland. When Mary's son John Shanley married, he in turn named his oldest son Lawrence, after his father.*

⁸⁴ *Petition for Citizenship, Massachusetts State and Federal Naturalization Records, 1798-1950. John Shanley's grave marker gives his birth date as 1823 without a month or day. Since he was the source for the earlier petition for citizenship, 1824 is probably correct.*

⁸⁵ *Family History Library, Salt Lake City, genealogy class 'Researching Old Irish Church Records.'*

⁸⁶ *1870 Federal Census, New York City, New York taken in June 1870 Myles was 74. In a second Federal census taken in December 1870, Myles was 75.*

Ardagh would have been their church.⁸⁷ They may have lived in the townland of Trumra, outside Granard for a time.⁸⁸ Myles was probably a shoe maker in Granard in 1841 with a house, a stable, no yard but a small garden.⁸⁹ This would explain how two sons and a step son became involved in boot making in Massachusetts immediately after they immigrated to America.

In the Irish church records for Granard, Myles Reilly was baptized on June 8, 1796, the son of Thomas⁹⁰ Reilly and Ann Armstrong.⁹¹ His sponsors were William Keegan and Esther Tuite. Myles had several brothers, Thomas (September 1792), John (January 1798), and Andrew (March 1805) and at least one sister, Catherine (January 1803).

Mary and Myles continued to live in the Ardagh-Moydow area after their marriage and five of their six children who survived to adulthood were baptized there.

All of Mary's children were quite adventurous in their undertakings and all of them immigrated to America. They seem to have been successful in life, although her youngest son died in an accident at an early age in Massachusetts. Mary gave birth to her last child before her youngest sister, Biddy, had even married, so she was considerably older than Biddy. At the time in Ireland, as was true elsewhere, most women had a child roughly every two years, bearing children for perhaps 20 to 25 years. Mary's child bearing ended in 1841 indicating that she was probably born before the turn of the century.

The oldest of Mary's children from her second marriage, also named Mary, was born around 1829 or 1830 but no record for her baptism has been found. Mary was followed by Patrick, baptized in November 1831, Bridget in January 1834, Thomas in February 1836, Catherine in October 1837, and lastly, Bryan in January 1841.

No definitive record for Mary Sheridan in America has been found, and it is unknown if she immigrated, but her husband Myles was in America by June 1870. Mary wasn't with him and she was not mentioned in any of the letters as being alive when the letters were written. She probably died in Ireland but there remains a slim chance she came to America and died here.⁹² Most of her children immigrated in 1851.

⁸⁷ *In his petition for citizenship in 1854, Patrick Reilly stated he was born in Ardagh.*

⁸⁸ *Myles Reilly, Tithe Applotment Books, 1833, Townland of Trumra, Barony of Ardagh, Parish of Granard.*

⁸⁹ *Ireland Rate Books. 1841*

⁹⁰ *A mistake in the transcribed index of these records gives the father's name as Andrew. The correct name, Thomas, is in the original records.*

⁹¹ *Page 131, FHL film 1,279,228.*

⁹² *A Mary Reilly, who was born about 1802, died in Brooklyn at 2 Graham Street, in the Seventh Ward on February 2, 1860, and was buried at Holy Cross Cemetery, Brooklyn. Page 17, item 2, FHL film 447,543, reference id 28.*

Of Mary's several children, one in particular played the most important role in perpetuating the Sheridan heritage. Her second daughter, Bridget Reilly, immigrated to Brooklyn where she married Patrick Brady and became the glue binding the Sheridan family in America. Bridget wrote several letters to her aunt and namesake, Biddy Casey, and to her first cousin, Matilda Casey. A few of these letters survive today, thanks to the family propensity to not throw anything away.

All of Mary's children immigrated to America, although not all of them did so at the same time. First to come was Mary's oldest son, John Shanley, in 1848. He and his wife, also named Mary, appeared in the 1850 census in New York City and their first child, a daughter named Mary, was born in New York in 1849. Next to emigrate was Patrick Reilly on February 28, 1851.

All but one of the rest of Mary's and Myles' children immigrated on the ship *Ashburton*, arriving in New York City on March 1, 1851. Records for the ship from Liverpool to New York show a number of Sheridan passengers and the rest of the Reilly children, with the exception of the oldest daughter, Mary. Late in their lives Bridget and her sister Kate confirmed their immigration date as 1851 and that their sister Mary came later.

Traveling with the children on the *Ashburton* was Margaret Riley, 55. The name was abbreviated as Margt., but the age was what would be expected for Mary Sheridan Reilly. If Mary was truly not with them, then she was probably already dead by 1851. Myles' immigration date remains unknown but he was in New York by 1870, along with his oldest daughter Mary.

From New York, John Shanley moved to Massachusetts where he worked in a boot factory, before moving to Iowa in 1869. Mary's youngest son, Bryan,⁹³ died in Massachusetts in 1862 in an accident. One son, Patrick, lived in Massachusetts for a time, also working in a boot factory, before moving to Nebraska in the late 1850s. The rest of Mary's family lived out their lives in Brooklyn and Manhattan.

Mary Sheridan Shanley Reilly was certainly dead by 1870. Her husband Myles survived her and in 1870 was living in lower Manhattan with their daughter Kate Reilly Malone, in Kate's boarding house. Myles' and Mary's eldest daughter, Mary, who was the widow Mary Green, was also staying there.⁹⁴

In the 1875 New York state census, Mary Green was with her sister Bridget in Brooklyn but sometime before 1878 went West to Nebraska with her father, Myles, "to my brother

⁹³ *The English equivalent of the Irish Bryan, is Bernard. Varieties and Synonymes of Surnames and Christian Names in Ireland, for the guidance of registration officers and the public in searching the indexes of births, deaths, and marriages, Matheson, Robert E., Sir, 1901, Dublin, page 28.*

⁹⁴ *The 1870 census reference looks like Mary Breen, but in light of the Nebraska records, this is Mary Green, also confirmed by the 1875 New York state census.*

Pat.”⁹⁵ Myles died in Nebraska about 1880 or 1881. He was probably buried in Dakota County on his son Pat’s farm or nearby in Jackson or Hubbard, but his grave has not been located, nor has any death record.⁹⁶ While Dakota County issued beautiful marriage licenses at the time, death records were much harder to come by.

New York naturalization records of the time contain virtually no useful information, but there are several possible naturalization records for Myles Reilly in New York. One such record for a Miles Reily at 390 8th Ave. in New York on September 20, 1860 could be him, especially if he himself or the court clerk confused 8th Avenue with 8th Street. That address, if it was on East 8th Street, was very near the location of the boarding house run by his daughter Kate in 1870. However, Kate Malone was not to be found there in the June 1860 census even by her maiden name of Kate Reilly. This Miles’ declaration of intention was filed in New York on May 18, 1858. Kate would, of course, not have been able to sponsor her father because she herself, being a woman, could not apply for citizenship. As of September 20, 1860 this Miles had been in America for at least 5 years, and in New York at least 2 years since that was where he filed his declaration. His witness was Daniel McGuire of 44th Street and 11th Avenue

⁹⁵ *Letter from Bridget Reilly Brady to Bridget Sheridan Casey dated May 20, 1886.*

⁹⁶ *The state of Nebraska makes obtaining death records difficult at this writing.*

Catherine Sheridan

Biddy Casey's sister, Catherine Sheridan was born about 1810 in Ireland.⁹⁷ She married Thomas Mullen there, probably around 1836 or earlier. After their marriage they lived in Edgeworthstown, in the civil parish of Mostrim, Poor Law Union of Granard, County Longford. Called Kitty by the family, she had at least six children in Ireland, three of whom were baptized in Edgeworthstown.⁹⁸

Surviving Catholic church records for Edgeworthstown begin in 1838, and there is no record of Kitty's marriage there. By Irish tradition, the Sheridan girls would have married out of (in) their home parish, believed to be Clonbroney.⁹⁹

The present St. Mary's Church in Edgeworthstown was built in 1872 and replaced an earlier church built on the same site about 1790. The site was donated by the Edgeworth family in 1787. This earlier church would have been Kitty Sheridan's parish church after her marriage and where the three children were baptized: Catherine on December 29, 1840; Thomas on December 16, 1844; and Mary on April 15, 1848.

Kitty and Tom immigrated to America in 1853,¹⁰⁰ probably on the ship *Middlesex*, arriving in New York on April 20, 1853.¹⁰¹ They settled in a brick apartment building with two other families on Bergen Street, near Nevins, in Brooklyn's 10th Ward, 2nd Election District.¹⁰² The family on Bergen Street was comprised of Tom and Kitty, two sons, Michael, 18, and Thomas, 10, and Mary, 7 years old.¹⁰³ Catherine, 15, was in

⁹⁷ 1855 New York state census, Kings County, Brooklyn. *Record of Deaths in the City of Brooklyn, February, 1857, line 12.*

⁹⁸ Edgeworthstown/Mostrim Catholic records, FHL film 1,279,219.

⁹⁹ Father Francis Kelly, parish priest, St. Mary's Church, Granard Town. *The more Longford County parishes eliminated from the possibilities of locations for the Sheridan sisters to have married, the more credence lent to the Sheridans being from the parish of Clonbroney.*

¹⁰⁰ Affidavit for Civil War widow's pension Catherine Mullen Davy, Catherine Sheridan Mullen's daughter, on March 23, 1918. *She maintained that her family immigrated around 1850. At other times she gave 1855 as her immigration date. The date on the 1855 state census should be accepted as the most accurate estimate and the family identified their immigration year as 1853.*

¹⁰¹ New York Passenger Lists, Middlesex Manifest, passengers 613-617, Ancestry.com. *If this is the correct record, Catherine was not with them but a daughter Bridget, born about 1845, was. There was no Bridget with them in the 1855 New York census, but death records for 1854 and 1855 are missing for Brooklyn.*

¹⁰² 1855 New York state census, Brooklyn, 10th Ward, 2nd Election District, family 663.

¹⁰³ 1855 New York state census, Brooklyn, 10th Ward, 2nd Election District, family 663.

service with the William Hewlet family, who lived close by.¹⁰⁴ Margaret and Annie remained behind in Ireland and did not immigrate until 1860.¹⁰⁵

Tom worked as a laborer in the construction business, working with marble, as did many of his neighbors.¹⁰⁶ He was listed in the Brooklyn city directory in 1856 and 1857. The children went to work when they were very young. In any event, the family would not have many years together to build a life in their new home.

Catherine Sheridan Mullen died in Brooklyn on February 22, 1857 of consumption and was buried at Holy Cross Cemetery. She was 46 years old.¹⁰⁷ Plot D-263 was purchased on February 26, 1857 by her husband.¹⁰⁸ It was to become a much populated burial plot in the years to come.

In 1860 Thomas Mullen and his youngest son Tommie, 15, were still living on Bergen Street in the 10th Ward. Their daughter Catherine was living with the John McGregor family working as a servant. She was 19 years old.

Like his wife, Thomas Mullen, 57, died at home on Bergen Street on July 8, 1861 of consumption.¹⁰⁹ He was 57 years old, still working in marble when he died, and was buried at Holy Cross Cemetery, in the same grave as his wife. His son Tommie signed up to fight in the American Civil War the next year.

¹⁰⁴ 1855 New York state census, Brooklyn, 10th Ward, 2nd Election District, family 514. The immigration date for Catherine Mullen, 15, was 1853 on this census.

¹⁰⁵ On her sister Annie Mullen Sheil's death certificate, Catherine Mullen Davy gives Annie's immigration date as 1860 while on the 1900 census her immigration date is 1855.

¹⁰⁶ 1855 New York state census, Kings County, Brooklyn. One of the neighbors who also worked in marble was Thomas Fitzsimmons, who may be related to the Fitzsimmons who married Bridget Sheridan, the son of Thomas Sheridan, Catherine Sheridan Mullen's brother.

¹⁰⁷ FHL film 1,315,321 'Brooklyn Death Ledger', page 21. Death records in New York City for the early years of the Irish migration did not have a great deal of information on them. Without the threads found on later certificates, there is little information to prove definitively the origins and family connections of the person who died. In this case, the definite proof came in the form of the other persons buried in the same grave. The older certificates did not have parents names on them and so, once again, the names of Bridget Sheridan Casey's parents were not to be found.

¹⁰⁸ Conversation with Holy Cross Cemetery administration staff, November 18, 2016. Records for actual burials are sketchy for the time frame but the plot purchase is definitive. Also buried in D-263 are Catherine's children Tommie (1886) and Annie (1906).

¹⁰⁹ New York, New York, City Municipal Deaths, 1795-1949, certificate 138, film 447,543.

Two of Kitty's daughters, Catherine and Annie, figured prominently in the surviving letters. A picture of Annie survives, along with a letter from Catherine. Some information is available for Kitty's son, Tommie, but very little else is available to tell us anything about the rest of the family, other than that they existed.



Illustration 15: Grave of Catherine Sheridan Mullen (1810-1857), Thomas Mullen (1805-1861), Annie Mullen Sheil (1847-1905), Thomas Mullen (1844-1886). Small stone on the right. Holy Cross Cemetery, Brooklyn, New York. © 2011

Thomas Sheridan

Biddy Casey's brother Thomas' birth year has not been determined. He is clearly older than Biddy but younger than his brothers Bryan, James, and John. Thomas married Ann Reilly in Ireland, probably on November 27, 1831 in Granard parish. Their witnesses were James Gafney and Margaret Reilly.¹¹⁰ It isn't known if Tom and Ann died in Ireland or immigrated to America.¹¹¹ Though they would have married in her parish, they would not necessarily have lived there after marriage, and so their children would not necessarily have been baptized there. Only one baptismal record for their known children has been found close to Granard.

Tom and Anne lived for a time in Moylett in County Cavan, a townland about twenty miles from Clonbroney. Located in Killinkere civil parish, in the barony of Loughtree Upper, Moylett consists of 561 acres of land. Unfortunately the Roman Catholic records that survived in the Diocese of Kilmore are few, with large gaps of years. Only one of their daughters, Mary, can be found there, and she was baptized on July 2, 1848.¹¹²

The family may have lived in Killshandra in the late 1830s. A Bridget Sheridan, the daughter of Thomas and Anne, was baptized there on June 4, 1838. This Bridget may be the missing fourth child of Thomas and Anne mentioned in a letter from Catherine Davy to Biddy Casey. Killshandra is about 20 miles from Moylett.

Ann Reilly's parents are not known but she had at least one brother whose name was Patrick, who was mentioned in a family letter. The letter indicated that Patrick was alive at least as long as December 1896.¹¹³ It is possible that Ann may have been a sister to Myles Reilly who married Mary Sheridan Shanley Reilly, or a sister to the Mary Reilly who married John Shanley, or they could be related in some other fashion.

Thomas and Ann had at least four children who immigrated to America. There may have been more children.¹¹⁴ Margaret, probably the oldest, was a servant in Manhattan all of

¹¹⁰ *Granard Catholic church records. FHL film 1,279,228. The witness Margaret Reilly could be the same Margaret who came to America on the Ashburton with the children of Mary Sheridan and Myles Reilly in 1851.*

¹¹¹ *An Ann Reilly of Edgeworthstown died in October 1847 at the age of 28, a victim of the famine but this Ann Reilly was too young to be Tom's wife.*

¹¹² *Mary gave her birth month and year for the 1900 Federal census in Brooklyn as June, 1848.*

¹¹³ *Letter from Bridget Brady to Biddy Casey, December 4, 1896.*

¹¹⁴ *A Thomas Sheridan, five years and four months old, died on Bergen Street in Brooklyn on October 1, 1861 of scarlet fever. Record of Deaths in the City of Brooklyn, October 1860, line 327. FHL film 1,315,321. Bergen Street was where Catherine Sheridan Mullen and her family lived and this death is mentioned only because her brother Thomas and his wife Anne, may have lived there also if they immigrated to America.*

her adult life. Mary, born June 1848, lived all of her adult life in Brooklyn. Another daughter, Annie, born about 1851, or possibly as early as 1847, also lived out her life in Brooklyn.

A fourth child was mentioned in a family letter as having died in the Summer of 1883.¹¹⁵ No name, gender, age, or place of death was attached to the comment. This was almost certainly Bridget Sheridan Fitzsimmons, born in Ireland about 1837, who died in Manhattan on September 17, 1883.¹¹⁶

Another Sheridan family, along with several Mastersons, was on the ship *Ashburton* in 1851, which carried Mary Sheridan Reilly's family. Thomas Sheridan 55, born in 1796, with Eliza, 27, and John Sheridan, 30, possibly a married couple, Mary Sheridan, born about 1847 or 1848, Annie Sheridan, born about 1849 or 1850, a four year old male whose name could have been George, and a 28 year old female, whose name could not be deciphered.¹¹⁷ It is difficult to know with any certainty if this was Biddy Casey's brother, but it could have been, especially if Ann Reilly Sheridan had died in Ireland by 1851.

A Thomas Sheridan, working as a painter, lived at 37 Goerck Street in New York in 1866, the same street and block where Bridget Sheridan Fitzsimmons lived.

¹¹⁵ *Letter from Catherine Mullen Davy to Biddy Casey, August 24, 1884, page 2.*

¹¹⁶ *Death Certificate, number 470851, 1883, City and County of New York. According to the death certificate, the father of the deceased was Thomas Sheridan, the mother was Ann Sheridan and the deceased was in the US for 40 years at the time of her death, making her immigration in 1843. The marriage certificate, if it could be found, might shed light regarding whether her mother was Ann Reilly. Since New York did not keep civil marriage records at the time, the Catholic Church would be the best possibility for more information.*

¹¹⁷ *This could be our Thomas and his family. If so, his wife Ann was probably dead by then. The first name of the 28 year old female may have begun with an S or an A.*

In Australia

The first penal colony to be established in Australia was Botany Bay in New South Wales in 1788. Although not originally intended to be a colony for convicts, the proposal for the settlement at New South Wales was amended to include them. Many of these convicts were skilled tradesmen or farmers who had been convicted for trivial crimes. By 1793 the first free immigrant settlers began to arrive.

One in three convicts transported after 1798 was Irish with about twenty percent of those convicted of political crimes or crimes associated with the agrarian troubles of the time. By 1815 immigration began to grow rapidly with free settlers from England and Ireland. Convict removals from England and Ireland were ended in Sydney by 1840, although they continued for a time in other parts of Australia.

With the discovery of gold in 1851, Australia was transformed economically, politically and demographically, and by 1857 New South Wales had more than 300,000 Caucasian settlers.

It was just before the discovery of gold, that the widow of Bryan Sheridan and her second husband, with Bryan's younger children, decided to take their chances on Australia instead of America. They were neither convicts nor assisted passengers. Braving the much longer voyage to New South Wales, rather than Canada or the United States, they proceeded to make their marks on the 'Land Down Under'.

Bryan Sheridan

Biddy Casey's oldest brother, Bryan,¹¹⁸ called Brinie by the family,¹¹⁹ was born in Ireland about 1791. According to the surviving letters and other information, he was a store keeper, a butter buyer¹²⁰ and inn keeper by occupation¹²¹ and lived in Edgeworthstown, County Longford. He married Honora Hynes of County Meath, sometime before 1830.¹²² Honora was born about 1805.

Bryan had at least four sons, Bernard Kevin, Thomas J., Philip, and Robert Joseph, and two daughters, Bridget and Honora.¹²³ Only Honora can be found in the official baptismal records of Edgeworthstown, which began too late to include the other children. However, other documents support the births of some of these children as occurring in Edgeworthstown.

Bryan was mentioned in the newspaper during the effort to raise money for the 'National Annuity to Daniel O'Connell' in 1835 as having contributed £1 to the cause for the Liberator.¹²⁴ According to the list of contributors and amounts, this was very generous donation.

Bryan appeared in the Valuation Office Books for 1841 as keeper of a public house on Main Street in Edgeworthstown, with a good yard and gate, an entrance in the front, an office, and a garden. He had no lease but kept the property in good repair. He also acted as the agent in Edgeworthstown for the Robinsons' Line, an emigration office and shipping line operating in New York, Dublin and Liverpool.¹²⁵

¹¹⁸ *In many Irish records, Bryan and Bernard were interchangeable. Further complicating names, some parishes attempted to record a Latin version of the name, a version which did not always exist in reality. Bryan was frequently recorded as Bernard or Bernardus, and in many cases this name carried over into civil records and life in general. Because his family referred to him as Brinie, Bryan has been chosen as the preferred name for this story.*

¹¹⁹ *Pronounced like vinegar/sugar brine.*

¹²⁰ *Letter from Bridget Reilly Brady to her aunt, Bridget Sheridan Casey dated May 20, 1886.*

¹²¹ *Marriage certificate, New South Wales, Registry of Births, Deaths, and Marriages, registration number 1867/000391.*

¹²² *A George Hynds died in Edgeworthstown on December 10, 1847, at the age of 60. He may be related to Honora. The reference to County Meath comes from Honora's Australian death certificate.*

¹²³ *Honora can also be Norah, Elinore, Elenore, Ann, or Hannah or many other variations.*

¹²⁴ *Dublin Weekly Register, March 5, 1836, page 3.*

¹²⁵ *Dublin Weekly Register, March 11, 1837, page 1.*

On April 13, 1829 the Roman Catholic Relief Act was passed by the House of Lords and received a very reluctant Royal assent from King George IV. Intended as an emancipation bill for Catholics, it repealed the Test Act of 1672 and the remaining Penal Laws which had disenfranchised Catholics since 1728.

Mr. Daniel O'Connell had won a seat in Parliament as the representative from County Clare in 1828 but was not permitted to take his seat due to the prior existing penal laws. As a condition of giving the royal assent for this Catholic emancipation bill, George IV had insisted on a provision requiring any Catholics winning election prior to 1829 and the passage of the law, to take the Protestant oath of supremacy and allegiance before they could be seated. If they refused, a new election would have to be held. Only after being elected under the new bill, could they be seated without taking the oath. The provision had been framed purposely to exclude Mr. O'Connell from taking his seat. The law also included a provision raising the voting requirement to men owning or renting land worth at least £10. This excluded the forty shilling freeholders from voting, which they had been able to do since 1793.

Largely due to the efforts of the Irish lawyer Daniel O'Connell (1775-1847), passage of the new law had received support from several prominent Britons, including Robert Peel, as well as the Prime Minister and the Duke of Wellington. Mr. Peel, the Home Secretary at the time, apparently feared an Irish revolt if the law was not passed.

Mr. O'Connell refused to take the oath so a new election was required for County Clare, which he won again quite handily, finally taking his seat in Parliament. It was felt by many of the Irish people that Mr. O'Connell had sacrificed his career for many years for the good of Ireland. Having forgone what could have been a lucrative career, an annuity was subscribed to compensate him for his work on behalf of the Irish people. Daniel O'Connell was forever after known as The Liberator.

Bryan died at the age of 50 and was buried on February 12, 1841 in Edgeworthstown. His burial was recorded in the parish records for St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception. His estate was probated by his wife Honora in 1841 but no records survive save for the index.

Honora probably continued to run the family business after Bryan's death as she had several young children to care for.

After a year of mourning, Honora remarried on February 2, 1842 to Richard Darby at St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception in Edgeworthstown.¹²⁶ Richard was born about 1815 in County Laois and was younger than his new wife. A shop keeper, he also worked as a

¹²⁶ *Edgeworthstown parish records, FHL film 1,279,219.*

mail guard on coaches owned by Charles Bianconi operating between Edgeworthstown and Dublin,¹²⁷ but he went into bankruptcy in May 1844.¹²⁸ No matter their grit and determination, the family, along with the rest of their fellow Irish, was facing possible starvation during the Great Hunger and decided to quit Ireland.

The Darby family immigrated to Australia in 1851 with four children on the clipper *Blackwall* arriving in Sydney on December 3, 1851.¹²⁹ The record refers to ‘Mr. and Mrs. Darby with four children’. This could have been Philip, Robert, Bridget, and Honora or it could have been the four boys. Two of the boys, Thomas and Bernard, immigrated to America and it is not certain that they ever went to Australia.¹³⁰ No definitive death records have been found in Australia or Ireland for the two girls.

Richard and Honora operated a small general store/grocery store close to Sydney harbor for several years prior to relocating elsewhere in Sydney when Richard joined the New South Wales railways. He was given the honor of being the railway guard on the inaugural run of the historic Sydney-Parramatta Railway on September 26, 1855. He continued to work for the railroad for years in that capacity reaching the position of stationmaster by the time he retired.

Honora Hynes Sheridan Darby, died at home on Campbell Street, in Sydney, on March 17, 1862 of hepatic and ovarian disease. She was 57.¹³¹ The death record notes that there were no living children of her second marriage but that she was survived by four living sons from her first marriage. No living daughters were mentioned so Bryan’s daughters died at relatively young ages.¹³² Her funeral was held at St. Mary’s Cathedral on March 18. Her husband paid £2, 2 shillings for the burial.¹³³ The witnesses to Honora’s burial were James McConnell and Robert Sheridan, her son. Her grave was relocated in 1901 from Devonshire Street Cemetery to Botany Cemetery.

After Honora’s death, Richard remarried to Theresa Gibney in 1863, and fathered at least two sons, William and Richard, and one daughter Mary Theresa. He retired from the Railway in 1889.¹³⁴ He lived at 94 Buckingham Street, Sydney, died in 1891, and was

¹²⁷ *Freeman’s Journal* May 11, 1844, page 3.

¹²⁸ *Dublin Mercantile Advertiser*, May 17, 1844.

¹²⁹ *Philippa Barbour, New South Wales, great-great granddaughter of Bryan Sheridan. Some Australian records list 1849 as the immigration date for Philip and Robert Joseph.*

¹³⁰ *The Fagan Bealac arrived at New York City on May 17, 1847 with Bernard Sheridan, 18, and Thomas Sheridan, 13, on board, as well as two Darbys. Manifest id 2336, from Dublin with 198 passengers aboard.*

¹³¹ *Australian death records, even then, were a genealogist’s dream, containing a wealth of information.*

¹³² *A Norah Sheridan, the daughter of Michael and Anne, died in Sydney in 1884 (reg. #444).*

¹³³ *Two guineas in old money.*

¹³⁴ *Sydney Morning Herald*, February 16, 1889, page 8.

buried in Rookwood Cemetery, Sydney. Boot and Gommeson were the undertakers.¹³⁵ Richard may have had a sister, Bridget Darby, who married Robert Taylor and gave birth to a daughter who died at Richard's house in 1880.¹³⁶

Nothing further is known about Bryan but his children made their mark on the world. Bernard Kevin immigrated to America, moved to California, and lived out his life in San Francisco. Philip and Robert immigrated to Australia and were prominent in Irish life in Sydney and died there after long and successful lives. Thomas immigrated to New York where he worked first as a carpenter and stage hand, then a stage manager, and moved to New Jersey two years before he died in 1894. Nothing further is known about the daughters, Bridget and Honora.



Illustration 16: Main Street, Edgeworthstown, Ireland. 2008.

Edgeworthstown photo by Sarah777 at English Wikipedia. Public Domain,
<https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=3331943>

¹³⁵ *Sydney Morning Herald*, January 23, 1891, page 8.

¹³⁶ *Sydney Morning Herald*, December 27, 1880.

The Nieces and Nephews

John Sheridan's Descendants

John Sheridan, Jr.

John Sheridan
m. Sarah Brill
|
John, Jr. (1849-abt. 1853)
(unmarried)

John and Sarah Brill Sheridan's only known son, John Jr., was born in Virginia about 1849. The only official document with a reference to him is the 1850 Federal Census for Boone County, Virginia.

He died very young, and no record of his death has been found. Boone County began recording deaths in 1853 placing his death between 1850 and 1852. He is almost certainly the John Sheridan buried on the hillside above the Kirk Cemetery at Casey Fork, near Ashford, alongside his uncle, James Sheridan.

Sarah Catherine Sheridan

John Sheridan
m. Sarah Brill
|
Sarah Catherine (1851-1936)
m. Joseph Breitenstein
|
Joseph (1879-1947)
(unmarried)
John (1881-1947)
m. Nellie McCall
Alfred (1883-1945)
(unmarried)
Anna (1886-1951)
m. William P. Clinton
Jasper (1889-1967)
m. Ethel Lester Fleming
Lucy (1892-1973)
m. Otis Brown Stevens

John and Sarah Brill Sheridan's only daughter was born in Boone County, Virginia on January 6, 1851.¹³⁷ She spent her early years on the farm at Lick Creek, next door to Biddy Sheridan Casey and the Casey family, and her uncle, James Sheridan. Sometime between 1854 and 1860 she moved with her family to Pilot Knob, Iron County, Missouri.

As recounted in the story of her parents, the Civil War years in Missouri were difficult and became more so for the Sheridan family during the Battle of Pilot Knob, which took place on the door step of her father's property.

By 1870 Catherine, as she was called by the family, was living with the Buford family. The whereabouts of her parents at the time is unknown.

¹³⁷ *Catherine Sheridan Breitenstein family records, courtesy of Kathryn Thomas.*

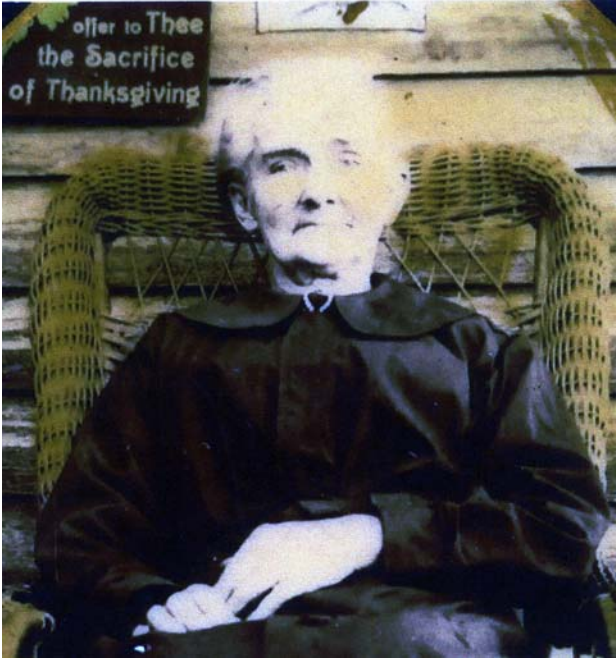


Illustration 17: Sarah Catherine Sheridan Breitenstein (1851-1936). Courtesy of Kathryn Thomas.

About 1877 Catherine married Joseph Breitenstein, a Swiss immigrant, and settled down on a farm around Belleview, Missouri. They had six children who lived to adulthood and by 1880 her mother Sarah was living with the Breitensteins.¹³⁸

Catherine and Joe Breitenstein had a good life together, although not a long one. Several land purchases were recorded for Joe in and around Iron County, Missouri.¹³⁹ The 1898 tax assessment showed him with a personal property assessment of \$295, not including real estate.¹⁴⁰

Joe died on January 19, 1903 of an appendicitis. Although no official record of his death has been found, family stories relate that he had fallen ill and was being taken to the doctor in the back of a wagon when he

passed away.¹⁴¹ He was buried on the family farm.

Catherine Sheridan Breitenstein's granddaughter, Norma Jean, remembers her father, Jasper, speaking of her grandmother frequently. She herself remembers Catherine slightly. As related in a family letter, Catherine "... died the year I was in kindergarten. I remember her slightly. She was small, slim, white haired. She liked to call herself an Irishwoman. I remember visiting the cemetery on the family farm and her sadness when we left to go home ... One other interesting fact. She always said she was related to Philip Sheridan who was a famous general. I tried to tie the families together but the closest I could come is that her father John and Philip may have been cousins. Since Philip was younger maybe a second cousin."¹⁴²

¹³⁸ A John Breitenstein was living in Pilot Knob as early as June 5, 1863 when he bought property from Bernard Rutschman and his wife, the same persons from whom John Sheridan purchased property in 1860.

¹³⁹ Various Missouri Land Transfers.

¹⁴⁰ Iron County Register.

¹⁴¹ Kathryn Thomas, great-great granddaughter to John Sheridan. 2012.

¹⁴² E-mail to Kathryn Thomas from Norma Jean Breitenstein Skov, Jasper Breitenstein's daughter, and John Sheridan's great granddaughter, dated March 26, 2006.

In 1930 Catherine Sheridan Breitenstein was 79, living with two of her sons on her farm in Iron County.¹⁴³ No official death certificate has been found in the Missouri records, but according to family records, she died on December 23, 1936. Joe and Catherine are buried in the small family plot on their former farm, along with Sarah Brill Sheridan.

As is typical, oral family stories began to confuse the family history as the years rolled by and the next generation became the informants. The death certificates for two of the sons stated their mother was born in Roanoke, Virginia. Roanoke was, of course, where their Sheridan grandparents were married, not where their mother was born. As she aged, Catherine Sheridan Breitenstein changed the reference to her birthplace from Boone County, Virginia, to Boone County, West Virginia. She was well aware of her origins. She referred to her father's birthplace as the Irish Free State, a common reference after Ireland gained a measure of independence in 1921. She was said by her descendants to have taken a great deal of pride in Irish independence and her Irish heritage, a trait she held in common with the rest of the Sheridans.



Illustration 18: Joseph Breitenstein (1847-1903). Tintype courtesy of Kathryn Thomas.

Catherine's first child, Joseph William, called Jodie, was born September 11, 1879. He never married, was a farmer and died in a nursing home in Manchester, St. Louis County, Missouri, on February 19, 1947 of unknown causes. He had lived his life on his mother's farm with her and his brother, Alfred.

Another son, John, born May 25, 1881, married Nellie McColl on July 5, 1913. A barber by occupation, he also had a farm not far from his mother's farm. He died on April 14, 1947. He and Nellie had at least one son, John P. Breitenstein, born about 1921.

Catherine's third son, Alfred, born August 24, 1883, never married, worked as a farmer, and managed his mother's farm all his life. Alfred died on December 31, 1945.

¹⁴³ *Federal Census, 1930, Iron County, Missouri.*

A daughter, Anna, born on March 15, 1886, married William Price Clinton on December 13, 1913.¹⁴⁴ William was born on March 4, 1882 in Iron County. They moved from Missouri to Edwardsville, Madison County, Illinois, just outside of St. Louis. Annie, or 'Aunt Ketch', as she was called by the family, was very social and some of the Breitenstein family followed her and her husband to Illinois to live.

Anna died on June 18, 1951 in Edwardsville and was buried in Valley View Cemetery. William moved back to Missouri and died in Frankclay, St. Francois County, on December 27, 1962. He was buried with Anna in Edwardsville.

A fourth son, Jasper C., called 'Jap' was born May 19, 1889, worked on his mother's farm, married Ethel Lester Fleming, and died in St. Louis, Missouri in June 1967.

A daughter, Lucy, born August 11, 1892 in Banner, Missouri, married Otis Brown Stevens on June 12, 1910. Otis was a laborer in a granite quarry in Belleview. He also worked on the Iron Mountain Railroad. Lucy died in January 1973 and was buried at Arcadia Cemetery in Missouri.



Illustration 19: Grave of Sarah Catherine Sheridan Breitenstein (1851-1936) and her son Alfred Breitenstein, Iron County, Missouri. © 2011

¹⁴⁴ *Edwardsville Intelligencer*, June 18, 1951.



Illustration 20: Sarah Catherine Sheridan Breitenstein, center, her son Jasper, right, her granddaughter Norma Jean, left, with dog. Taken on the family farm outside Belleview where the Breitenstein cemetery is now located. Courtesy of Kathryn Thomas.



Illustration 21: Lucy Breitenstein Stevens (1892-1973). Courtesy of Kathryn Thomas.

Mary Sheridan's Descendants

John Shanley

John Shanley, the only son of Mary Sheridan and her first husband Lawrence Shanley, was born March 17, 1824 in County Longford, Ireland.¹⁴⁵ The joy of his birth did not replace the sorrow of his father's death on January 12, 1824 at the age of 22. Lawrence had been preceded in death by his brother John, who had died at the age of 24, on November 22, 1823. The two brothers were buried side by side in St. John's Cemetery in Edgeworthstown, Ireland.¹⁴⁶

St. John's Church, part of the Church of Ireland, was built about 1750, possibly incorporating part of an earlier church from the 1600s. It is set back from the road to the Northeast of Edgeworthstown and its graveyard contains many old graves. The earliest readable stone in the cemetery is from 1705. Mary Sheridan Shanley would have stood at Lawrence's grave and mourned the loss of her husband, with their son John in her arms.

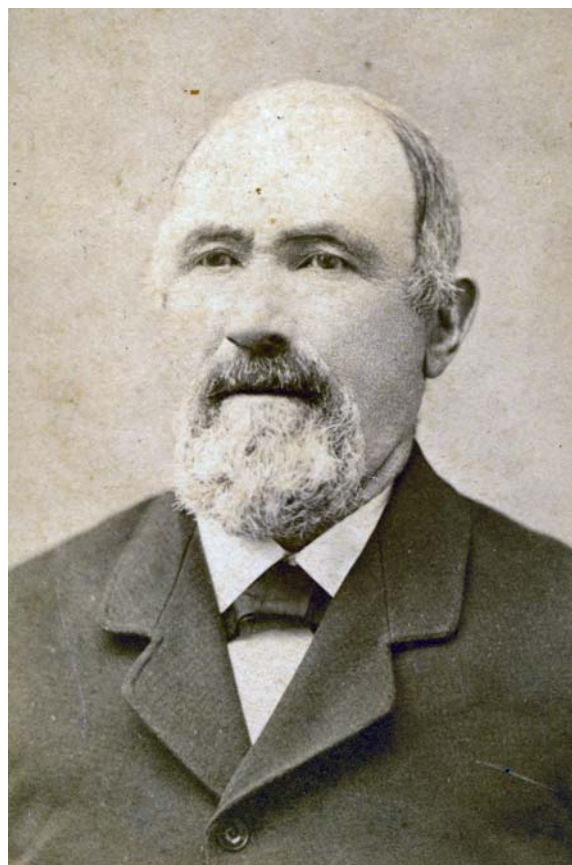


Illustration 22: John Shanley (1824-1893).

After his mother married Myles Reilly, John would have grown up with his mother's new family in Ardagh. On October 29, 1847, John Shanley and Mary Reilly¹⁴⁷ stood baptism for Bridget Reilly, the daughter of Thomas Reilly at Ardagh-Moydow parish.

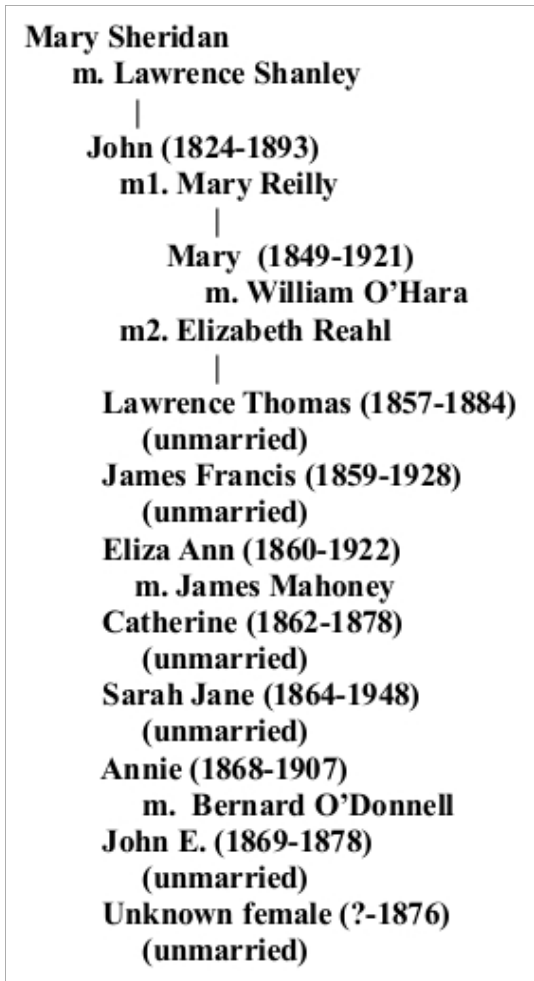
John married a woman whose name was, quite ironically, Mary Reilly in Ireland and they immigrated to America, arriving in New York on March 27, 1848 aboard the *Columbia*

¹⁴⁵ *Petition for Citizenship, Boston Massachusetts, February 26, 1851. Some records place his birth as 1823.*

¹⁴⁶ *Newspapers, Longford Library, County Longford, Ireland.*

¹⁴⁷ *This Mary Reilly was probably either John's half sister Mary (abt. 1829-1886) or his future wife, also named Mary Reilly (abt. 1830-1852).*

from Liverpool along with 390 other passengers.¹⁴⁸ His first child, a daughter they named Mary, was born in New York in 1849.¹⁴⁹



By September 13, 1850 John, 26, Mary, 19, and their daughter Mary, 1, had moved to Randolph, Norfolk County, Massachusetts. The cottage industry of boot making had grown into a factory system in Randolph by the mid-19th century, providing employment for many immigrants. The Shanleys took in a boarder in Randolph, Thomas Farrell, 20. John was working as a boot crimper and Thomas was a boot trimmer.

John and Mary's happiness in their new country was short lived. Mary died on November 30, 1852 of consumption. She was 22 years old.¹⁵⁰ After his wife's death, their daughter, Mary, was sent to live with John's half brother, Patrick Reilly and Pat's wife, Catherine, providing a stable family environment for the child. John moved to a boarding house in Stoughton, and in 1855 was still making boots. Stoughton is about five miles from Randolph, and both towns are just south of Boston.

John married a second time to Elizabeth Reahl¹⁵¹ of Stoughton on January 31, 1857 in Boston. The marriage ceremony was

performed by Reverend Michael Caroker. Elizabeth, born in County Cavan, Ireland in September 1833, immigrated to America around 1851 or 1852. Called Eliza, she was the daughter of James Reahl.¹⁵²

¹⁴⁸ *Petition for Citizenship, Boston, Massachusetts, February 26, 1851. John and Mary Shanley (Shanly), passenger manifest, Columbia. Mary's age on the manifest is correct but John's is 4 years off.*

¹⁴⁹ *Surrogate Court, Kings County, New York. Deposition of Mary Shanley O'Hara in the Bridget Brady probate case. 1910.*

¹⁵⁰ *FHL film 1,954,512. Randolph, Massachusetts deaths. Number 71, page 142. Town of Randolph. From the records of Saint Mary's Catholic Church.*

¹⁵¹ *Reahl is sometimes rendered Rehill.*

¹⁵² *Elizabeth R. Shanley obituary, February 19, 1920, The Western World newspaper, "Catholic News in Iowa".*

John filed his petition for citizenship on February 26, 1851 in Circuit Court in Boston and was naturalized and a voter by 1865.¹⁵³ He continued to work making boots in Randolph and by the 1865 Massachusetts state census he and Elizabeth had five children:¹⁵⁴ Lawrence Thomas, named for his grandfather, born December 20, 1857¹⁵⁵; James Francis, born March 19, 1859; Eliza Ann, born April 23, 1860 in Stoughton, Norfolk County¹⁵⁶; Catherine, born March 21, 1862 in Stoughton¹⁵⁷; and Sarah Jane, born September 22, 1864 in Randolph.¹⁵⁸ John's oldest daughter Mary was not with the family in 1865. Pat Reilly had moved to Dakota County, Nebraska, just outside Sioux City, Iowa, in 1858 and Mary was sent to live elsewhere. A daughter Annie was born June 22, 1868.

In April 1869¹⁵⁹ John and Elizabeth Shanley moved West. The Homestead Act had been passed in 1862 but John settled in Sioux City instead of filing a farm claim. Did he go West due to the building of the transcontinental railroad and the commercial opportunities that afforded? Or did he go because his half brother Pat Reilly was settled and a successful farmer, just outside Sioux City? Once again, his oldest daughter, Mary, now an adult, stayed behind in the East.

There are two surviving letters from 1886 written by John's daughter Annie, to her great-aunt Biddy Casey. The letters provide a window on the family and give a hint of the personalities involved. Most of all, they provide threads to identify some of the family's adventures through life.

The Shanleys lived at 313 Bluff St., Sioux City, on a site overlooking the town and the Missouri River. In 1870 they had four boarders and a domestic servant. In 1880 they had only two boarders living with them, Peter and James Murray, laborers from Vermont.

Two more children, a son and a daughter, were born in Iowa. In an 1886 letter, Annie mentioned that her father had an easy government job, and her brother Jim, who had been a city weigh master and a Deputy Marshall, had been newly elected as City Marshall. She said he had little to do but to enforce the laws and that it was an important job requiring a \$10,000 bond to be posted.

Annie went on to update her great aunt on the rest of the family and to inquire after Biddy Casey's family.

¹⁵³ *1920 Federal Census, Sioux City, Iowa, taken on January 7, gives 1860 as the naturalization date for Elizabeth Reahl Shanley who would have achieved naturalization only as a side effect to that of her husband, John, or her father James.*

¹⁵⁴ *1865 Massachusetts state census, May 25, 1865.*

¹⁵⁵ *Massachusetts Births, Stoughton, 1857, page 335, number 192, Lorenzo Thomas Shanley.*

¹⁵⁶ *Massachusetts Births, Stoughton, Norfolk County, 1860, page 334, number 46.*

¹⁵⁷ *Massachusetts Births, Stoughton, 1862, page 331, number 36.*

¹⁵⁸ *Births Registered in the Town of Randolph for the Year 1864, page 289.*

¹⁵⁹ *Letter from Annie Shanley to Bridget Casey, May 21, 1886.*



Illustration 23: Birdseye View of Sioux City in 1866. J.J. Schlawig Residence, Sixth and Nebraska Streets, in foreground.

Sioux City, including the adjoining parts of Nebraska, had a large Irish community. Annie mentioned in one of her letters that Mary and Margaret Bracken, cousins of Biddy Casey, lived in Jackson, Nebraska. They were daughters of Biddy Gerety Bracken who, along with her five sisters, were first cousins of Biddy Casey. Biddy Bracken had operated a store selling meal near the chapel in Clonbroney, Ireland.¹⁶⁰

Mary Bracken, was married to Thomas Sullivan and Margaret (Maggie) Bracken to Mike Cain. For more information on the Sheridan/Masterson/Bracken connection, see the chapter, “The Cousins – The Masterson Connection.”

The Shanleys were prominent in the Irish community of Sioux City. When the first Catholic school opened, the Shanleys were on hand to welcome the Sisters of Charity, who would teach at the new school. The two oldest boys joined the volunteer fire department. The Shanley family, for the most part, would live out their lives in Sioux City.

¹⁶⁰ *Letter from Bridget Brady to Bridget Casey, May 21, 1886.*

John Shanley died there on July 18, 1893¹⁶¹ of heart failure and was buried at Calvary Cemetery in Sioux City. His wife Eliza survived him by many years.

In the Federal census of April 10, 1910 Eliza and her daughter Sarah Jane were at the Bluff Street house with a boarder, Clara Dineen, a teacher.¹⁶² Only three of the Shanley children were still alive in 1910: Lizzie, James, and Jannie (Sarah Jane).



Illustration 24: Grave of John Shanley, Calvary Cemetery, Sioux City, Iowa. © 2011

By 1920 Eliza had moved from Bluff Street to 1621 Douglas Street where she died on Wednesday, February 11, 1920 of senility. She was 86. Funeral services were held at the Cathedral of the Epiphany, old St. Mary's Church, on Saturday, February 14, 1920, and burial was in the family plot in Calvary Cemetery alongside John.

John Shanley was survived by the children of his daughter, Lizzie. Sarah Jane and James never married and Annie had no surviving children.¹⁶³ John's oldest daughter Mary and

¹⁶¹ *Surrogate Court, Kings County, New York. Deposition of Mary Shanley O'Hara in the Bridget Brady probate case. March 9, 1910.*

¹⁶² *This census says Eliza is the mother of seven children but in reality she had eight.*

¹⁶³ *Surrogate Court, Kings County, New York, Op. Cit., 1910.*

her husband William O'Hara had one child, Mary, who died in New York in 1958, unmarried. The Shanley children were civic minded and involved in their community and are included here in some detail.



Illustration 25: Shanley Family Plot, Calvary Cemetery, Sioux City. © 2011



Illustration 26: Grave of Elizabeth Reahl Shanley (1834-1920). Calvary Cemetery, Sioux City. © 2011

Mary J. Shanley O'Hara

Mary Shanley, John's oldest daughter and his only child with his first wife, was born December 24, 1849 in New York.¹⁶⁴ In the 1880 census, where she is living with her aunt, Bridget Reilly Brady, her place of birth was given as Putnam County, a New York county that borders Connecticut on the way to Massachusetts. Her family had moved to Randolph, Massachusetts by September 1850, so perhaps she born on the trip north.

When her mother died in 1852, Mary was sent to live with her Uncle Pat Reilly's family in Randolph. She was about 9 when Pat moved to Nebraska and she did not move with him. Since her father John and his second family have not been found in the 1860 census, it's not known if she lived with him for a time after he remarried. She was not with her father in 1865 in Massachusetts.

Mary was living with her Aunt Bridget Brady in 1880 in Brooklyn and married William O'Hara, a worker in a blacksmith shop and a boarder at her aunt's house, about 1881. William was born about 1850 in Ireland and came to America in 1863.¹⁶⁵ In a letter dated December 4, 1896, Bridget Brady mentioned that John Shanley's oldest daughter was married and living "here", meaning in Brooklyn. Mary and William O'Hara owned their home at 414 Baltic St., Ward 10, in Brooklyn, free and clear.

Mary had only one child, Mary R., born May 14, 1882, at 4 AM, at 9th Avenue and 17th Street, in the 8th Ward. Mary was 33 at the time and William was 30.¹⁶⁶

William was a fully employed 'horseshoer' in 1900. In the 1905 New York state census, William was still a 'horseshoer' living with his wife Mary, at 414 Baltic Avenue, and their daughter, Mary, who was working as a servant.

William O'Hara died on November 18, 1912. His estate was probated by his widow. After all her Aunt Bridget Brady had been through when her husband Pat died, and after all Bridget Brady's relatives had been through when Bridget herself died, William had no will and died intestate. Probate was filed December 2, 1912, by his widow and daughter. Curiously enough, William was listed as not 'seized by real estate' but with a personal estate of not more than \$700.

¹⁶⁴ *Death Certificate Mary J. Shanley O'Hara, July 28, 1921, Brooklyn, New York, number 12880, FHL film 2,027,536. The death certificate gives her year of birth as 1850 but Mary was one year old in the 1850 census in Massachusetts, taken September 13, 1850.*

¹⁶⁵ *Federal census, 1900, Brooklyn, New York, June 6, 1900, Enumeration District 144, Ward 10, Sheet No. 7. The ages for both William and Mary are badly mangled on this census, as is Mary's birth place.*

¹⁶⁶ *Brooklyn Births, New York, certificate number 4026, FHL film 1,324,377.*

Mary Shanley O'Hara was still at 414 Baltic when the Federal census was taken on January 10, 1920. Her daughter, Mary, was with her. The widow O'Hara owned her own home. Her daughter was not married and worked as a saleslady in dry goods.

Mary J. Shanley O'Hara lived the rest of her life in Brooklyn and died at 12:10 AM on July 28, 1921, of chronic endocarditis and sclerosis at Brooklyn State Hospital.¹⁶⁷ Her funeral was at St. Agnes Church August 1, 1921. She was 71 years old and was buried at Holy Cross Cemetery in Brooklyn on August 1, 1921, section BBBB, row 40, plot 114. No probate records for her have been located. Her daughter Mary continued to live in Brooklyn, died in June 1958 and was buried in the same plot at Holy Cross on June 13, 1958. She never married.

¹⁶⁷ *Kings County, New York, Deaths, 1921, certificate number 12880.*

Lawrence Thomas Shanley

*“What means the toll of funeral bell from out St. Mary’s Shrine,
And solemn sound of sad farewell and firemen all in line?
The funeral knell of gallant soul from earth to heaven fled;
And manhood’s tears shed by the bier, of manly manhood dead ...
... Son of the Celtic race farewell ...”*

– John Brennan, *The Dead Fireman*

Born December 20, 1857 in Stoughton, Massachusetts,¹⁶⁸ Lawrence Thomas was the oldest of John and Eliza Shanley’s children. Educated in Massachusetts and Sioux City, he was bright enough to skip a year in school. He worked first as a messenger boy with Colonel Sullivan, chief of the U.S. Army commissary department in Sioux City. He rose to the position of storekeeper and worked with officers in the commissary and quartermaster departments in Yankton, South Dakota, Cheyenne, Wyoming, and Denver, Colorado.¹⁶⁹

Lawrence returned to Sioux City about 1881, still a young man, and took a position with Jandt and Tompkins, a wholesale dry goods store. His brother Jim had volunteered for the fire department on February 26, 1880. Following in his younger brother’s footsteps, he volunteered for the fire department on January 10, 1882.¹⁷⁰ “It seemed the young Irish boys loved the danger and the excitement involved in fighting fires.”¹⁷¹

Called Larry by his contemporaries in Sioux City, Lawrence was quickly elected foreman of Engine Company #1. “The series of fires in the residence part of the city last winter brought on exposure, and at several fires he remained for hours wet to the skin ...”¹⁷² On a bitter cold winter day in 1884, while fighting a fire at the home of George D. Perkins, the owner of the Sioux City Journal, Lawrence was fatally injured.¹⁷³ He died Sunday, May 25, 1884 after suffering the ill effects of his injuries for ten weeks.

A beloved figure in the town, the city gave him one of the largest funerals to date with more than 75 carriages in procession with the mayor and the city council, along with the city fire engine and the hook and ladder companies. Two bands played a dirge as the procession proceeded along Fourth Street. Besides paying for the funeral, the city voted to pay his medical bills for the entire time he was ill.

¹⁶⁸ *Massachusetts Births 1841-1915, 004341180, Image 23 of 1088, FamilySearch.org.*

¹⁶⁹ *Obituary, Lawrence Shanley, Sioux City Journal, May 27, 1884.*

¹⁷⁰ *Ibid.*

¹⁷¹ *Grace T. McCarty, June 12, 1937. Lecture at the Woodbury County Courthouse, Sioux City, IA.*

¹⁷² *Op. Cit., Obituary, Lawrence Shanley, May 27, 1884.*

¹⁷³ *Op. Cit., McCarty, June 12, 1937.*

The first Sioux City fireman to die in the line of duty,¹⁷⁴ Lawrence's death certificate states he died of 'congestion of the brain', rheumatism, and malaria. His physician was B.A. Guyton, Sr. and the undertaker was A.J. Millard. He was buried in Calvary Catholic Cemetery at Sioux City. Just 26 years and 5 months old, he was working as a clerk at the time of his death.¹⁷⁵

Congestion of the brain, or encephalemia, is associated with brain swelling. The blood vessels become suffused with blood. The face can be flush, the eyes suffused, and delirium can result as well as loss of speech resulting in apoplexy and sudden death.

Perhaps Lawrence was struck on the head while fighting the Perkins fire. The details may never be known but suffice it to say, the people of Sioux City felt he died a hero's death and their judgment must be accepted. He was a man of even temperament and in the words of his employer, "He had no faults."¹⁷⁶ Called "the ... dearest of all" his family clearly loved him.¹⁷⁷ No better epitaph could be found. Lawrence was honored with a plaque on the riverfront Heroes Walk in Sioux City.

Four years after his death, in 1888, the Sioux City Fire Department became a professional, paid fire department.



Illustration 27: Lawrence Shanley's Heroes Walk Plaque © historyculturebybicycle.blogspot.com 2015

¹⁷⁴ *Sioux City Fireman's web site.*

¹⁷⁵ *FHL film 1,451,569, death number 238.*

¹⁷⁶ *Sioux City Tribune, May 29, 1884*

¹⁷⁷ *Letter from Annie Shanley to Bridget Sheridan Casey, May 21, 1886.*

OBITUARY.

Death of Lawrence Shanley—In the Line of Duty—Council Resolutions—The Firemen—Funeral Arrangements.

SHANLEY.—In Sioux City, Ia., on May 25, 1884, Lawrence Shanley, aged 26 years and 6 months.

When the fire bells tolled on Sunday evening citizens knew that Larry Shanley was dead. They had heard of his long sickness, of the deranged mind during the last days, and they knew on Saturday that all hopes of his recovery had gone. But the tolling of the fire bells saddened them, though they had expected it to end this way. The young man who died Sunday evening had made himself such a universal favorite, not only in the store where he was employed, in the fire company, of which he was foreman, but among the people of the city generally, that it seemed as if it could not be that this promise of a useful and brilliant career must, after all, be cut off just as it was opening.

Lawrence Shanley was born in Stoughton Center, Mass., December 25, 1857. In 1869, his father, John Shanley, removed to Sioux City with his family. Lawrence acquired most of his education in our public schools. The writer remembers fourteen years ago of his being promoted over one year, the only scholar in the schools that had that honor that year. On leaving school he took a position as messenger boy with Col. Sullivan, then chief of the commissary department at this city. He rose from that place to the more responsible one of storekeeper, and was with several officers in the commissary and quartermaster departments, going with Maj. Elderkin to Yankton, and from that town to Cheyenne, and finally to Denver. He returned to this city about three years ago, and took a place with Jandt & Tompkins, which he filled acceptably until his last sickness came on. He was chosen foreman of the fire engine company last January, and has proved a most efficient man in that difficult place. His death was the direct effect of his devotion to duty. The series of fires in the residence part of the city last winter brought on exposure, and at several fires he remained for hours wet to the skin in the bitter cold. A naturally strong constitution bore up under this for the time, but about eight weeks ago he was taken with inflammatory rheumatism. This left him some three weeks ago, but so worn and enfeebled that when the disease that had racked his nerves attacked his brain there was not vitality enough remaining to shake it off.

At the council meeting held at noon yesterday, Alderman Tompkins, of the fire committee, presented the following:

Whereas, Lawrence Shanley, foreman of the engine company, has died from the effects of exposure and disease contracted while in active service, and while in the active discharge of his duty; and,

Whereas, The firemen of Sioux City devote their services to the benefit of the city without any compensation, be it

Resolved, By the city council of the city of Sioux City, that in acknowledgement of the faithful and valuable services of the said Lawrence Shanley, and to show their appreciation of the same, that the mayor and city council attend the funeral of the deceased, and that the expenses of said funeral, and for medical attendance during his sickness, be paid by the city, and that the committee on fire department be directed to ascertain the amount of said expenses and report the same to the city council at its next regular meeting.

On presenting the resolution Alderman Tompkins spoke feelingly of the worth of the deceased as the best fireman ever connected with the department, a man fearless and without love for himself when fighting a fire, his death was the direct result of his devotion to duty. Other aldermen spoke to the same effect. The resolution passed unanimously.

The fire department at a called meeting decided to attend the funeral in a body. The following committees were appointed: On drapery, J. L. Ryan, Wm. Ingledue and David Hattenbach. On decoration, A. J. More, E. S. Anable, A. L. Dorsey. On resolutions, A. J. More, W. S. Follis, John Amaldr. The pall bearers will be John Amaldr, W. S. Follis, David Hattenbach, Ross Weir, Martin Neilan, H. A. Millard.

The funeral cortege, headed by Schiobert's band, will leave the family residence, corner of Bluff and West Fourth streets, at 9:30 a. m. to-day, arriving at the Catholic church at 10 o'clock, where there will be high requiem mass. The remains will then be escorted to the Catholic cemetery by the fire department. Father Benahan will conduct the funeral service.

In their deep affliction the bereaved family have the sympathy of the entire community. The loss which falls so heavily upon them is the loss of the entire community as well. There are not so many men of the worth of Lawrence Shanley that one can be spared without being missed.

Illustration 28: Sioux City Journal, May 27, 1884.

5-29-He Rests at Last. 1884

"Larry" Shanley is dead, was announced last Sunday evening, and the fire bells were tolled to remind his comrades that their friend and foreman had passed away. The sorrow of the fire laddies was sincere, for an efficient member and sturdy friend was gone from their midst to return no more.

The flag was hung at half mast above the engine house, and the engine, hose carts and building were draped in mourning in honor of the departed.

Laurence Shanley was born in Stoughton Center, Mass., Dec. 25, 1857, and was, consequently, in the twenty-seventh year of his age. His parents came to Sioux City in 1869, and here, in the public schools, he acquired his education. He filled various positions in the commissary department here, at Yankton, and other points, until about three years ago, when he entered the employ of Jandt & Tompkins, of this city, where he remained until his last sickness. His ailment was primarily inflammatory rheumatism, caused by exposure at fires in the cold last winter, and this led to other complications, which affected and deranged his mind, but even with a naturally robust constitution, he was unable to rally from the attack.

The deceased was highly esteemed by all who knew him and in the family circle he was a particular favorite. The family feels this affliction most deeply, and have the heart-felt sympathy of the whole community. H. A. Jandt, the head of the great firm in whose employ the deceased was for the past three years, says if he were to write his epitaph it should be: "He had no faults."

At the meeting of the council, Monday morning, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

Whereas, Laurence Shanley, foreman of the engine company, has died from the effects of exposure and disease contracted while in active service, and while in the active discharge of his duty; and,

Whereas, The firemen of Sioux City devote their services to the benefit of the city without compensation, be it

Resolved, by the city council, of the city of Sioux City, that in acknowledgement of the faithful and valuable services of the said Lawrence Shanley, and to show their appreciation of the same, that the mayor and city council attend the funeral of the deceased, and that the expenses of said funeral, and for medical attendance during his sickness, be paid by the city, and that the committee on fire department be directed to ascertain the amount of said expenses, and report the same to the city council at its next regular meeting.

The funeral was held from the Catholic church, Tuesday morning at ten o'clock, the fire department and city council attending in a body. After the service at the church, conducted by Father Lenehan, the remains were interred in the Catholic cemetery, and thus forever was laid away the familiar form of a devoted son, a loving brother and a true friend.

NOTES.

There were seventy-five vehicles in the funeral procession, besides the engine and hook and ladder companies and the two bands.

The northwestern band played a dirge as the cortege moved up Fourth street.

Laurence Shanley is the first member the fire department has lost by death

Illustration 29: Sioux City Tribune, May 29, 1884.

James Francis Shanley



Illustration 30: James Francis Shanley (1859-1928).

James Francis, called Jim, was born March 19, 1859¹⁷⁸ in Massachusetts. He graduated from high school in Sioux City,¹⁷⁹ and in March 1886 was elected City Marshall. His early career in Iowa was best summed up in the book, "History of Counties of Woodbury and Plymouth, Iowa", by Will L. Clark, et al, published in Chicago by A. Warner & Co., 1890-1891. An excerpt follows.

James F. Shanley, chief of police, Sioux City, is a native of Massachusetts, and was born in 1860 (sic). He is a son of John Shanley, of Ireland, who was inspector for the government for a number of years. He began life as a bootblack, and from that position he rose to messenger boy for the government. He then became C.S. for United States attorney, T.C. Sullivan, and then was clerk and afterward store-keeper. He

remained in the employ of the government until ten years ago. He was employed by the city as watchman, then as superintendent of the city markets, then as deputy marshal, and finally as city marshal, which office he held two terms. In March, 1889, he was appointed chief of police, which position he now holds. He is a member of the Roman Catholic Church, and takes the democratic side in politics.

In 1886 Sioux City was a wide open town. An early adopter of prohibition, Iowa had banned liquor statewide, but as a result of a local election in Sioux City, the ban was ignored and saloons were licensed by the city government. Several temperance preachers had tried to shut down the saloons and gambling houses, but without success. On the night of August 3, 1886, the most outspoken of the temperance preachers, the Rev. George Channing Haddock, was murdered in the street. Rev. Haddock had arrived in Sioux City in October 1885. He died in the gutter with a gunshot wound to the neck.

¹⁷⁸ *Sioux City Sunday Journal, Obituary, James F. Shanley, June 24, 1928, page 27.*

¹⁷⁹ *1895 Iowa state census.*

The conspirators fled the city but were pursued by Chief of Police James Nelon and City Marshall James F. Shanley. Several plotters were arrested and brought to trial but no one served more than three months for the murder. Prohibition finally came to Sioux City, but didn't last more than five years before being ended all over Iowa. Ironically, the man who shot the Rev. Haddock lived the rest of his life in Sioux City as a brewer and died there in 1909.

In an article on the famous Haddock murder trial in the Anita, Iowa newspaper, Jim Shanley was described as a “young man, being not more than 27 years of age, but his long experience as an officer has given him an enviable record as a terror to evil doers and a man true to his duty. Mr. Shanley is powerfully built and his physical strength is enormous.”¹⁸⁰

So perhaps little Annie had understated the job that faced her brother. More likely she meant that he could do little else because he was so busy enforcing the law. By 1895 Jim was out of the marshaling business after two terms and was no longer the Chief of Police.¹⁸¹

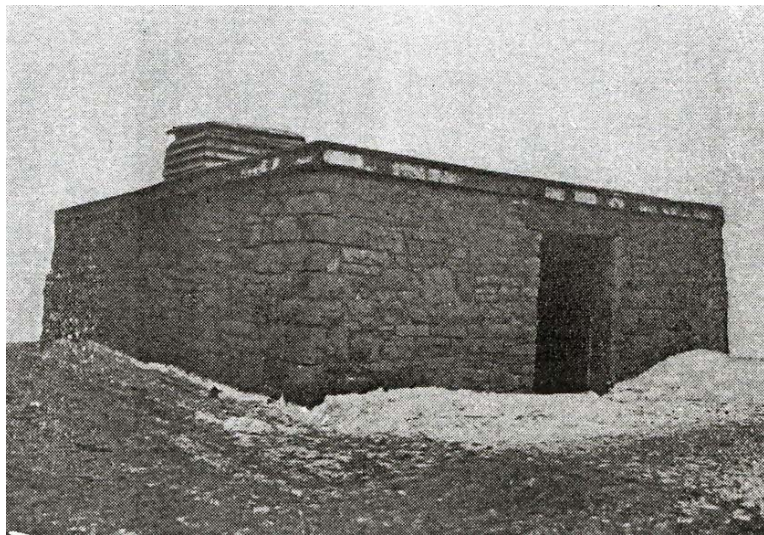


Illustration 31: Sioux City Jail, known as "The Little Brown Jug". Circa 1860s.

On December 3, 1901, having just finished his dinner, Jim Shanley was standing in his kitchen when he was shot through the window. Two men were walking toward town and one of them appeared to be loading a gun when it went off. The bullet hit Jim in the abdomen. In critical condition, he was taken to St. Joseph's Hospital where he recovered. The shooting was ruled accidental.

Jim worked off and on as a private detective and in 1910 he was working as a railroad detective based in Seattle, Washington¹⁸² and San Francisco, California. He later returned to Sioux City and resumed his law enforcement career there.

¹⁸⁰ *Anita Tribune, Anita, Iowa. Thursday April 21, 1887, page 6.*

¹⁸¹ *1895 Iowa state census. James' occupation was listed as 'none'.*

¹⁸² *Surrogate Court, Kings County, New York. Bridget Brady probate case. 1910*

EX-CHIEF OF POLICE SHOT.

James F. Shanley of Sioux City Shot Through Window of His Home.

Sioux City, Dec. 3.—James F. Shanley, ex-chief of police of Sioux City, lies at St. Joseph's hospital with a bullet in his abdomen, and the doctors attending him state that his condition is critical. Mr. Shanley, who had just arisen from the dinner table, was standing at a window in the kitchen of his home. He saw two young men walking down the Milwaukee track toward the city. They were Joseph J. Malloy and Charles F. Bornschein. Malloy handled his gun as if he were trying to load it. Almost simultaneously with the short report of a rifle a bullet crashed through the glass of the kitchen window and struck Mr. Shanley in the abdomen. James Shanley was chief of police under Mayor E. C. Palmer, in 1890 and 1891. In 1886, 1887, 1888 and 1889 he was city marshal. His long service in the Sioux City police department has made his name a familiar one in western police circles. The shooting was entirely accidental.

*Illustration 32: Iowa State Reporter,
December 6, 1901, page 35.*

Still active in the community as he grew older, Jim ran for city council in 1922 but was defeated in the primary. After the election, the new administration appointed him Chief of Police once again. He was in his 60s and Prohibition was the law of the land. In July 1923 City Councilman Taggart, who had appointed Jim, tried to remove him from office supposedly because he was letting bootleggers and gamblers run amok. The two men had an argument and the newspaper reported that Jim tore off his badge and threw it down. The councilman, set to fire him for insubordination, was said to have the backing of the full council, but Jim left town for a few days to allow tempers to cool. When he returned, he apologized to Councilman Taggart. In exchange, the councilman released a statement expressing his confidence in Jim and stating that Jim would continue to protect the citizens of Sioux City in his capacity as police chief. They settled their differences and Jim remained in office.

Jim Shanley's name was to appear in the newspapers many more times before his death. During the era of nationwide Prohibition, 1920 to 1933, the rule of law gradually fell completely apart. Prohibition so utterly changed the legal landscape of

America that the original sponsor and financier of the 18th Amendment, John D. Rockefeller, withdrew his support and called for its repeal. Rockefeller, a teetotaler himself, feared that lawlessness would be so widespread as a result of money from bootleg liquor and vice, that there would be no law at all. It appears that Jim's career fell victim to this time of lawlessness. Not that he was corrupt. That doesn't appear to be the case at all. It appears more likely he stood in the way of others who may have been corrupt.

According to the Sioux City Journal, Jim Shanley was involved in the publication of a pamphlet called 'Facts', which made its appearance in September 1924. Six or seven issues were published prior to the November city election in 1924. The 'Facts' pamphlet alleged that its purpose was to expose vice and graft conditions then existing in Sioux City. A series of articles dealing with the interactions of public officials and members of the underworld were printed in the pamphlets. As a result, Councilman Charles E. Wilcox, Chief of Police Joe Young, and Chief of Detectives Joe Young brought a civil damages suit against several citizens for \$2,000 for malicious intent to defame. The suit further maintained that these three officials had been held up to public ridicule and deprived of public confidence and social intercourse, as a result of the publication of the pamphlets.¹⁸³



Illustration 33: Jim Shanley, Sioux City Sunday Journal, June 24, 1928, page 27.

Pat Daly, James F. Shanley, A.T. Culhane, Harry Schatz, Charles Streigel, James W. Marshall, and George M. Marshall were arrested and booked for criminal libel on Monday, November 24, 1924.¹⁸⁴ The newspaper reported that earlier Mr. Culhane had been engaged in a 'fisticuffs' with Councilman Wilcox.

The case appears to have died legally, before coming to any resolution. "Because the state claimed it could not produce two material witnesses Wednesday, the hearing of James Shanley, former chief of police, who is charged with criminal libel in connection with the publication of 'Facts' was set over until December 6. Shanley and several others were arrested recently on the grounds that they had libeled several officers of the city administration. When he was taken into police court, Shanley appealed his case to justice court and was to have been given a hearing Wednesday. One of the witnesses the state claimed it was unable to place on the stand Wednesday was E.C. Gibson, a city detective. No more arrests were made Wednesday in

connection with the 'Facts' case and it is unlikely that more arrests will be made soon, due to lack of evidence, Chief of Police Joe Young stated Wednesday afternoon."¹⁸⁵ The case appeared to have had something to do with 18 gallons of drinking alcohol that disappeared from the police station.

Jim Shanley continued to live in Sioux City with his sister Sarah Jane at 508 16th Street, a house they were renting for \$55 a month in 1925. He lived with his sister until his death.

¹⁸³ *Sioux City Journal*, November 25, 1924.

¹⁸⁴ *Police Booking Ledger*, Sioux City, Iowa. 1924

¹⁸⁵ *Sioux City Journal*, Nov. 27, 1924, page 4. "Shanley libel case to have a hearing next week"

On Wednesday April 6, 1927 the following appeared in the Sioux City Journal: "Recovering from an attack of bronchial pneumonia, James Shanley, former chief of police and a long time resident of Sioux City is confined at his home, 508 Sixteenth Street. Mr. Shanley has been removed to his home from St. Joseph's Hospital, where he had been dangerously ill for several weeks. Dr. Frank G. Valiquette, who is attending him, said that unless he suffered a relapse there was no further danger from pneumonia. The illness weakened him, however, and he is unable to get out of bed ..." What the newspaper did not report was that Jim had been diagnosed with cancer and did not have long to live.

On Wednesday April 4, 1928 another article appeared in the Sioux City Journal: "Former Police Chief Slightly Better Today: Slight improvement in the condition of James Shanley, 508 Sixteenth Street, former chief of police, who has been seriously ill at his home for the past month, was reported Tuesday by relatives. Mr. Shanley was able to leave his bed for a short time Tuesday morning and, although he was still very weak, appeared slightly stronger, relatives said. Mr. Shanley was chief of police during the first term of office of Tom L. Taggart, being appointed in 1922. He did not finish out his term of office, however, and James O'Keefe was named acting chief to take his place."

Jim Shanley died the morning of June 23, 1928 at home, of cancer of the tongue and throat. In an obituary the next day, the Sioux City Journal reported: "He was employed by the federal government here and in Yankton, SD ... Although older than most men who have occupied the position as chief, Mr. Shanley was unusually active during his last term and personally investigated nearly every major crime in the city. He accompanied officers to the scene of the crimes and frequently followed up clues (sic) which he himself uncovered ... Mr. Shanley also had several years experience as a railroad detective. After serving as chief of detectives of Sioux City, he went to the west coast and at Portland, Oregon he was employed as a sleuth by the Northern Pacific. He later was employed by the Santa Fe road, with headquarters in San Francisco. He never married and had resided for years with his sister Janie Shanley, who is principal of Dwight School." The article described some of his many exploits. Internment was at Calvary Cemetery on June 25, 1928.



Illustration 34: Grave of Jim Shanley, Sioux City, Iowa. © 2011.

Through his many years of contact with the underworld, Mr. Shanley became both liked and feared by the men he sought. Many criminals who were captured and convicted through Mr. Shanley's activities later supplied him with 'tips' that aided him in running down other hunted men.

Mr. Shanley also had several years' experience as a railroad detective. After serving as chief of detectives of Sioux City, he went to the west coast and at Portland, Ore., he was employed as a sleuth by the Northern Pacific. He later was employed by the Santa Fe road, with headquarters in San Francisco.

For some time before going west, Mr. Shanley took up construction work, and helped supervise the straightening of the Missouri river bank near Sioux City.

He was never married, and had resided for years with his sister, Miss June Shanley, who is principal of Dwight school.

Knew the Underworld.

One story of how Mr. Shanley's knowledge of the underworld resulted in capturing a murderer is recalled by newspaper men. It was in the summer of 1923, after Glenn Livermore, an ex-service man, had been brutally kicked to death while he was walking along Iowa street with his wife. The police had hurried to the scene of the crime and had thrown a net about the south "bottoms" in an effort to capture "Slim" Shaffer, an underworld character, who was said to have been the slayer.

Chief Shanley himself went to the area surrounded by the officers and with gun in hand he aided in searching the weeds along the Missouri river bank.

As darkness fell the officers were without a clue to Shaffer's whereabouts, although they had searched every house in the neighborhood. He was believed to still be within the police circle.

A small, ratfaced man made his way through a crowd of police to Chief Shanley's side and whispered a few words. The chief conversed earnestly with the fellow for a few moments, and then called his men to their automobiles and returned to the police station.

His Man Surrenders.

When interviewed by reporters, Chief Shanley gave the usual statement that "he hoped to catch the murderer within a few hours." He then said, confidentially, however, that "Slim" Shaffer was hiding in a certain house in the "bottoms," and would surrender at 1 o'clock the next afternoon. The reporters were incredulous, and paid little attention to the chief's prediction.

At 1 p. m. the next day the telephone rang in the desk sergeant's office at the old police station on Sixth street, between Douglas and Pearl streets, and a man on the wire said that he was "Slim" Shaffer, and that if the patrol wagon would go to a designated place he would surrender.

Two officers immediately drove to the spot, and Shaffer walked out of an alley with his hands up. The reason for Shaffer's delayed surrender was never told by Mr. Shanley, but the occurrence demonstrated his knowledge of the "tenderloin" and this resulting co-operation which he received.

Illustration 35: Excerpt from the Sioux City Journal detailing some exploits of Jim Shanley, June 3, 1928, page 3.

Eliza Ann Shanley

Eliza Ann, or Elizabeth Ann, called Lizzie, was born April 23, 1860 in Stoughton, Massachusetts. Lizzie was a dressmaker in 1886, living with her parents in Sioux City.¹⁸⁶

On February 25, 1889, she married an older, well to do man named James V. Mahoney, a widower 17 years her senior. James was born in the town of Golden in County Tipperary, Ireland in April 1843, the son of Timothy Mahoney and Ellen Trihey.¹⁸⁷ He immigrated to America in 1853 and was the secretary of the Board of Trade in Sioux City. The ceremony was performed by Timothy Treacy, a Catholic priest. Their witnesses were Patrick D. Mara and Lizzie's sister, Sarah Jane. He and Lizzie employed a live-in servant and owned a spacious house at 2810 Nebraska Street in Sioux City, free and clear.¹⁸⁸



Illustration 36: Eliza Ann Shanley Mahoney (1860-1922). Sioux City Journal, January 31, 1922.

James Mahoney was associated with the Sioux City and Northern Railroad and the Pacific Short Line and was chairman of the Sioux City Commercial Association. The family moved to Chicago in 1900. A 'widely known railroad man ... Mr. Mahoney had a notable career in railroad circles. Because of his widely known capabilities as a railroad man and diplomat, he was for years chairman of the Western Trunk Lines Committee with headquarters in Chicago. It was this position he held when he died on October 13, 1909.'¹⁸⁹ His funeral was held at St. Ambrose Church in Chicago and he was buried at Sioux City.¹⁹⁰ James was survived by his wife and six children from his two marriages.

For a time after his death, Lizzie took in boarders in Chicago. In 1910 she and her three children, all born in Iowa, were at 1034 E. 47th Street, Chicago, where she had three

¹⁸⁶ Annie Shanley letter to Biddy Casey, May 21, 1886.

¹⁸⁷ *Return of Marriages in the County of Woodbury, Iowa, for the year ending October 1, AD 1889, license number 2287.*

¹⁸⁸ 1900 Federal Census, Woodbury County, Sioux City, Iowa, Enumeration District 166, Ward 2, sheet 5.

¹⁸⁹ *Sioux City Journal*, Jan. 30, 1922, page 5. Obituary for Elizabeth Shanley Mahoney.

¹⁹⁰ *Chicago Daily Tribune*, October 14, 1909, page 16. FHL film 1,239,822, file number 11655.

boarders, and her own income. Her daughter Marie, born April 1890, was a teacher and her son, John S., born June 1893 was a clerk. Another daughter Catherine Frances, born February 3, 1899,¹⁹¹ was in school.



Illustration 37: James V. Mahoney (1843-1903).

In 1920 the remaining Mahoney family was together at 5329 Woodlawn, Chicago. There were no boarders with her although Lizzie's brother, Jim, may have lived with her for a while in Chicago. Marie was working as a secretary in a physician's office, John was a railroad clerk, and Catherine was a stenographer.

Lizzie was visiting in Sioux City when she became ill on February 8, 1921. She was treated for arthrosis deformans, osteoarthritis. The treatment continued for a year and she remained in Sioux City where she died at the home of her brother James and her sister Sarah Jane on Sunday morning January 29, 1922.¹⁹²

Her funeral was at the Cathedral of the Epiphany, Old St. Mary's Church, in Sioux City and she was buried in Mt.

Calvary Cemetery. Lizzie's daughter, Marie Mahoney, was the informant for the death certificate and incorrectly specified Mary Sheridan as Lizzie's mother. Mary Sheridan was Lizzie's grandmother.

She was survived by her three children and three step-children. Two of the daughters were married: Mrs. Sperry E. Darden of Chicago and Mrs. A.J. Cunningham of Sioux City. Marie Mahoney was not married at the time of her mother's death. The three sons were: John S. Mahoney of Chicago, C.W. Mahoney of Seattle, Washington, and Lewis C. Mahoney of Downers Grove, Illinois. At the time of her death, Lizzie had one grandson, P. A. Cunningham.¹⁹³

In 1930 Lizzie's daughter, Marie, was in Sioux City with her aunt Sarah Jane Shanley.

¹⁹¹ *Iowa, Delayed Birth Records, 1850-1939, number 284487.*

¹⁹² *Standard Certificate of Death, Department of Vital Statistics,, State of Iowa, 097-528.*

¹⁹³ *Op. Cit., Chicago Daily Tribune, October 14, 1909, page 16.*

Sarah Jane Shanley

Sarah Jane, called Jannie by the family, was born September 22, 1864 in Randolph, Massachusetts.¹⁹⁴ Educated in Sioux City public schools, she became an educator for more than 50 years, first as a school teacher and then as a principal. She never married.

Jannie completed 8 years of grammar school and two years of high school. In 1888/1889 she was at the Bluff Street School, A and B primary. In 1891/1892 she was teaching 2nd grade at Mann School, at 3rd Street and the southwest corner of Bluff. She made \$500 a year teaching in 1914 in Sioux City when she was 50 years old. She was the principal at an early landmark school, the Dwight School, at 7th and Wall Street. Established in 1880, Dwight was a two room school, subsequently demolished in 1925. By 1943 moving into the modern age, Jannie had a telephone and her phone number was 8-6016.

On November 19, 1923, the Sioux City Journal reported that Miss Jane Shanley was improved after being confined to her home for two months.

Jannie retired about 1933 and continued to live in the family home which she shared with Miss Clara Dineen for decades, along with, later, several nieces, grandnieces and grandnephews. She died on Monday, February 9, 1948 at home. A requiem high mass was celebrated by the Rev. Joseph E. Tolan the following Wednesday. She was the last surviving child of John and Eliza Shanley's eight children.



Neither the house at 313 Bluff Street nor the one on Sixteenth Street were still standing in 2011.

Illustration 38: 508 16th Street, Sioux City, Iowa. 2011.

¹⁹⁴ *Births Registered in the Town of Randolph, in the year 1864, page 289.*

Annie Shanley

Annie L., the author of two surviving letters to Biddy Casey, was born June 22, 1868¹⁹⁵ in Massachusetts, a year before her family moved to Iowa. When she wrote to her great aunt in 1886 she had just completed school and was not yet working. On June 22, 1894, she married Bernard M. O'Donnell, a telegraph operator for Western Union in a ceremony performed by Timothy Treacy, the priest who performed the marriage ceremony of her sister Lizzie. Their witnesses were J. P. McDonnell and Jane Shanley. It was the first marriage for both.¹⁹⁶

Bernard was from MacGregor City in Clayton County, Iowa. His father was Michael O'Donnell and his mother was Ellen Flaherty¹⁹⁷ O'Donnell.¹⁹⁸ Bernard's father had died by 1880. Bernard, born December 20, 1866,¹⁹⁹ had three sisters: Mary, born about 1861 who became a school teacher; Margaret, born about 1865; and Elizabeth, born about 1869. He had one brother J. P., born about 1871.

On the 1895 Iowa state census Annie and her husband lived next door to her mother in Sioux City. Kate Sullivan, a cousin who was the daughter of Mary Bracken Sullivan, lived with them. Kate, born July 24, 1861 in Randolph, Massachusetts,²⁰⁰ worked as a saleswoman, and died at St. Joseph's Hospital in Sioux City of chronic myocarditis with arteriosclerosis, on April 26, 1934.²⁰¹ She was buried in Jackson, Nebraska on April 28.

Annie lived in Chicago for a time, around 1897, according to her Aunt Bridget Brady and was still there on February 24, 1903. Annie became pregnant at 39 and on February 22, 1907 the child, a daughter, was born prematurely and died that day in Sioux City. Named Annie, the baby was buried in Mt. Calvary Cemetery in Sioux City.²⁰²

Sweet Annie Shanley died the same day of puerperal uraemia.²⁰³ Sometimes known as childbed fever, Annie's was an infection of the urinary tract resulting in acute renal

¹⁹⁵ *Death Certificate, State of Iowa, Department of Vital Statistics, 97 1704.*

¹⁹⁶ *Return of Marriages in the County of Woodbury, Iowa, for the year ending October 1, AD 1894, license number 4415.*

¹⁹⁷ *Standard Certificate of Death, State of Iowa, Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, 97-07510, December 20, 1918, Bernard M. O'Donnell.*

¹⁹⁸ *Iowa county Death records, 1880-1992, certificate number 3113, page 205. Ellen Flaherty O'Donnell, born in 1833, died February 15, 1925 at 92.*

¹⁹⁹ *Death Certificate, Iowa, Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, 97-07510, December 20, 1918.*

²⁰⁰ *Births Registered in the Town of Randolph for the Year 1861, page 297.*

²⁰¹ *Standard Certificate of Death, State of Iowa, Department of Vital Statistics, number 369.*

²⁰² *Certificate of Death, Department of Vital Statistics, State of Iowa, number 97-1705.*

²⁰³ *Certificate of Death, Department of Vital Statistics, State of Iowa, number 97-1704.*

failure. She was buried three days later in Mt. Calvary Cemetery in Sioux City. According to the probate papers for Bridget Brady's estate in Brooklyn, Annie had no children surviving her. Her obituary has not been found in either the Sioux City paper or the Chicago papers, or the Sioux City Research Center.

Annie's husband Bernard, died on his 52nd birthday, December 20, 1918 at 701 Pearl Street in Sioux City of cardiac embolism and bronchitis.²⁰⁴ He was buried three days later at Mt. Calvary Cemetery in Sioux City.

Friends of Mrs Ber. O'Donnell, nee Annie Shanley, have heard with regret of her death, in Sioux City, last Friday. She was sick less than a week. Mrs J J McBride, Thos Sullivan and Wm Riley, cousins, attended the funeral Monday.

Illustration 39: Dakota County Herald, March 1, 1907, page 5.

²⁰⁴ *Standard Certificate of Death, State of Iowa, Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, 97-07510, December 20, 1918.*

John E. Shanley

John and Eliza Shanley's last son, John E., was born in 1869 and died in 1878. He was buried in the family plot at Calvary Cemetery in Sioux City. Nothing further is known of him.

Catherine Shanley

John and Eliza Shanley's daughter, Catherine, was born in Massachusetts on March 21, 1862²⁰⁵ and died in Sioux City in 1878.²⁰⁶ Nothing further is known about her.



Illustration 40: Grave of John E. Shanley, Sioux City, Iowa. © 2011.

The Unknown Shanley Child

Annie Shanley's letter to Biddy Casey in 1886, mentions an unidentified baby sister who died in Sioux City, about 1876. Annie clearly stated in the letter that there were three boys and five girls in the family.

According to probate statements by Mary Shanley O'Hara, John Shanley had seven children in his 2nd marriage, but there were actually eight, as detailed in the letter, including those who had died by 1910. The boys were Lawrence, James, and John. The girls were Eliza (Lizzie), Catherine, Sarah Jane, Annie, and the unidentified 'baby sister'.²⁰⁷

On the 1885 Iowa state census, a Georgia Shanley was living with the family, who was 14 and, surprisingly, male. However, Georgia does not appear in any other documents, including the 1880 Federal census, and Annie clearly stated her baby sister died much earlier. Georgia may have been a live-in servant, with the last name misstated by the census taker.

²⁰⁵ *Massachusetts Births and Christenings, 1639-1915, FHL film number 1,940,671, item 6, page 52.*

²⁰⁶ *Letter from Annie Shanley to Biddy Casey, 1886.*

²⁰⁷ *In the 1885 Iowa state census, a Frank, 18, was living in the Shanley household. No relationships were on the census. This was Frank A. Long, a clothing clerk, born in Massachusetts, still living with the family on the 1895 census at 25.*

Mary Reilly Green Connor

Mary Sheridan
m2. Myles Reilly
|
Mary (abt. 1829-1886)
m1. Unknown
m2. Unknown Green
m3. James Connor

Mary Reilly, the oldest of Myles Reilly and Mary Sheridan's children, was born in Ireland about 1829 or 1830.²⁰⁸ Her baptismal record was not at Ardagh-Moydow implying that, for a time, Myles and Mary lived elsewhere in Ireland. Mary didn't emigrate with her brothers and sisters in 1851. An August 1886 letter mentioned that Bridget Brady's husband's sisters "were out to this country with my sister Mary, his sisters say". If Mary Reilly was married in Ireland it would make perfect sense for her to remain behind.

She was widowed at least once, perhaps twice, by the time she immigrated.²⁰⁹ Mary was in New York by 1864.²¹⁰

In the 1870 census Mary, now Mary Green, was at her sister Kate's in Manhattan with their father Myles Reilly. Her surname from her first marriage is unknown.²¹¹ In a letter on December 4, 1896, Bridget Brady remarked that Thomas Sheridan, the brother of Bernard Kevin Sheridan, was living in New York about 1864, married with a baby girl, and used to 'call to see my sister Mary'.²¹²

Sometime between 1875 and 1878 Mary went west with her father to Dakota County, Nebraska. She married James Connor, a widower, on August 27, 1878 at St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Jackson. James, the son of R. Connor and Jane Brannan, was born in 1823 in County Wicklow, Ireland. Their witnesses were Holland Boyle²¹³ and Mary Farrell of Jackson. Rev. John Lawless performed the ceremony.²¹⁴

²⁰⁸ *In the 1875 New York state census, Mary was 45 living with her sister Bridget and Bridget's husband Patrick. The Federal census in 1870 has her as 40 and in 1880 as 45. The Nebraska marriage records give her age as 40 in 1878. Mary's age was another one of those moving targets. More weight should be given to the earlier census data.*

²⁰⁹ *Letter from Annie Shanley to Biddy Casey, dated May 1886. It first seemed Mary's married names were Murphy, then Flaherty, then Connor but this proved to not be the case. Patrick Flaherty of County Longford married Mary Reilly Murphy of Smith Street near Nelson, a widow, daughter of Michael and Mary Reilly, on June 14, 1865 at St. Mary Star of the Sea Church in Brooklyn. A dispensation was granted for the marriage.*

²¹⁰ *Letter from Bridget Brady to Biddy Casey, dated December 4, 1896.*

²¹¹ *The 1865 census for New York County, which is Manhattan, is incomplete.*

²¹² *The Mary Shanley of the 1880 Brooklyn census living with Bridget Brady was John Shanley's daughter before she married William O'Hara.*

²¹³ *In 1860 Holland Boyle, 12, was a neighbor of James and his first wife, Ann, in Nebraska Territory. The Boyle family, from County Tyrone, Ireland, was quite large with ten children, all of whom were born over a 25 year time period in Pennsylvania.*

James came to Dakota County, Nebraska on May 18, 1857 and took a claim in St. John's Precinct.²¹⁵ He filed for a homestead in 1863 in Dakota City, Dakota County and the claim was finalized in 1871. His first wife was Ann Flannigan, sometimes called Ellen. In the 1870 census he was a widowed farmer with three daughters: Helen 18, born in New York, Margaret J., 16, born in Nebraska Territory²¹⁶, and Mary, 10, also born in Nebraska Territory.

By 1880 James had become a liquor dealer. He and Mary were said to be 'very comfortable', Irish shorthand for well off. Living with them in 1880 was a niece Jane Reilly, 18, a sister B. Connor, 60, and four boarders. Their house was destroyed by fire on July 28, 1884.²¹⁷ By the 1885 Nebraska state census, they were back farming.

Mary died in Jackson, Nebraska about 1886, leaving James once again, a widower. Annie Shanley wrote two letters that year, the last in August, and both of them spoke of Mary as still alive, as did a letter from Bridget Brady in May, 1886. A letter in 1896 referred to Mary as having died ten years earlier so one can assume she died in late 1886, between August and December, or early 1887. In 1893, James was living in Jackson.²¹⁸

There is no record of Mary having had any children during any of her three marriages. If she did have any children, none survived her,²¹⁹ but she had three step-daughters.

Margaret Connor married Michael Boyle, 27, when she was 23 years old at St. Patrick's Church in Jackson on March 5, 1878. Michael, born in Philadelphia, was the son of Charles and Ellen Flannigan Boyle. Their witnesses were Michael Bolen and Mary Connor of Jackson, probably Margaret's sister.

Mary Connor married Patrick Gill at St. Patrick's Church, Jackson, on July 1, 1879. She was 19 and he was 32, born in Ireland, the son of John Gill and Marcella Fagan. Their witnesses were Joseph P. Kenney and Mary Delongheny, both of Jackson, and the ceremony was performed by the Reverend John Lawless.

Nothing further is known of Helen Connor.

²¹⁴ *Dakota County Nebraska marriage records, August 22, 1878, Record number 2, page 94.*

²¹⁵ *Warner's History of Dakota County, Nebraska, Pioneer Settlers of 1855, Chapter XVII, M.M. Warner, 1893.*

²¹⁶ *Records vary. Margaret was probably born in New York.*

²¹⁷ *Warner's History of Dakota County, Nebraska, M.M. Warner, 1893, Lyons Mirror Job Office, page 117.*

²¹⁸ *Warner's History of Jackson County, Op. Cit., page 233.*

²¹⁹ *Surrogate Court, Kings County, Brooklyn, NY. Bridget Brady probate papers, 1910, page 33.*

Patrick Reilly

Mary Sheridan Shanley Reilly's son, Pat Reilly, was born on November 18, 1831 in Ardagh, Longford County, Ireland and baptized at Ardagh-Moydow on November 25, 1831.²²⁰ His sponsors were Lawrence Mulligan and Bridget Sheridan, who was quite likely Bridget Sheridan Casey.



Illustration 41: Ardagh City, County Longford, Ireland. © 2008

Pat immigrated to America, arriving in New York on the *William Wirt* on February 28, 1851.²²¹ Arriving a day in advance of the rest of his siblings, he settled in Massachusetts, making shoes where his half brother John Shanley was doing the same. Pat traveled with Margaret Riley, 18. Her relationship to him, if any, remains unknown.

Pat married Catherine Sullivan on May 15, 1853 in Quincy, Massachusetts.²²² It was a first marriage for both. Kate, as she was called by the family, was born in June 1833 in

²²⁰ *On one census Pat gave his birth date as April 1830 but this conflicts with both the information he gave for his citizenship declaration and his baptismal information.*

²²¹ *The departure port, date of arrival, and place of arrival were given in his declaration for naturalization in December 1854. The ship name came from Ancestry.com.*

²²² *Marriages in the Town of Quincy, 1853, page 270, entry number 55.*

Ireland, the daughter of Thomas and Ellen Sullivan.²²³ Pat and Kate had two sons born in Massachusetts: Miles Thomas, born February 22, 1854²²⁴ and William born about 1857.²²⁵ By convention Miles would have been named for his paternal grandfather, Myles Reilly.

Mary Sheridan
m2. Myles Reilly
 |
Patrick (1831-1903)
m. Catherine Sullivan
 |
Miles Thomas (1854-1921)
m. Catherine (O'Neill?)
William (1857-aft. 1910)
m. Unknown
John (1858-aft. 1910)
m. Unknown
Mary (1863-aft. 1910)
m. J. J. McBride
Catherine (1864-aft. 1910)
m. Thomas Casey

On December 23, 1854 Pat made his declaration to become a citizen in District Court, Boston. He continued to make his living as a shoe maker before deciding, at the age of 27, to try his luck out west as a farmer. He moved to the eastern Nebraska Territory in 1858, settling just outside Sioux City.²²⁶ Pat and Kate had several more children there: John, born about 1858; Mary, born about 1863; and Catherine, born about 1864. There may have been another child between 1858 and 1863 who did not survive. Nebraska records are not yet readily available.

Kate Sullivan Reilly's mother, Ellen, was living next door to Pat and Kate in 1860 in St. John's, Nebraska, with her daughter Ann and son Peter, a shoemaker, who brought his Massachusetts skill west with him.

Having worked first as a laborer after the move, Patrick became a prosperous Nebraska farmer. In 1870 he had 33 acres in farming, along with another 10 acres of wood land and 90 acres of unimproved land. The farm was valued at \$1600 with another \$1000 of farm implements. He didn't pay anyone to help him with the farm but he had a big family to do the work alongside him. He owned 2 horses, 2 mules, 2 milk cows, 3 pigs, and 6 head of cattle, for a total of \$600 in livestock. He raised 200 bushels of Spring wheat, 50 bushels of oats, 1 bushel of peas, 200 bushels of Irish potatoes, and 70 tons of hay that year. He also produced 300 pounds of butter and sold \$100 worth of animals for slaughter. The value of his operation was \$1300, not a bad sum for 1870.²²⁷

²²³ *Thomas and Ellen Sullivan were also the parents of Thomas Sullivan who married Mary Bracken in Randolph in 1854. Mary Bracken was the oldest daughter of Biddy Casey's first cousin Bridget Gerety Bracken.*

²²⁴ *Massachusetts Births and Christenings, 1639-1915, Miles Thomas Riely, 22 Feb 1854; FHL film 1,954,512. The 1855 Massachusetts census lists Margaret Reilly, two year old female in the household, who is clearly Miles Reilly.*

²²⁵ *A William P. Riley was born Nov. 22, 1856 in Cambridge, the son of Patrick, a blacksmith, and Catherine. This is probably not him.*

²²⁶ *In the 1900 Federal census, both Patrick and Kate are listed as having immigrated to America in 1858. This is clearly incorrect.*

²²⁷ *1870 Federal census, Agricultural Schedules.*

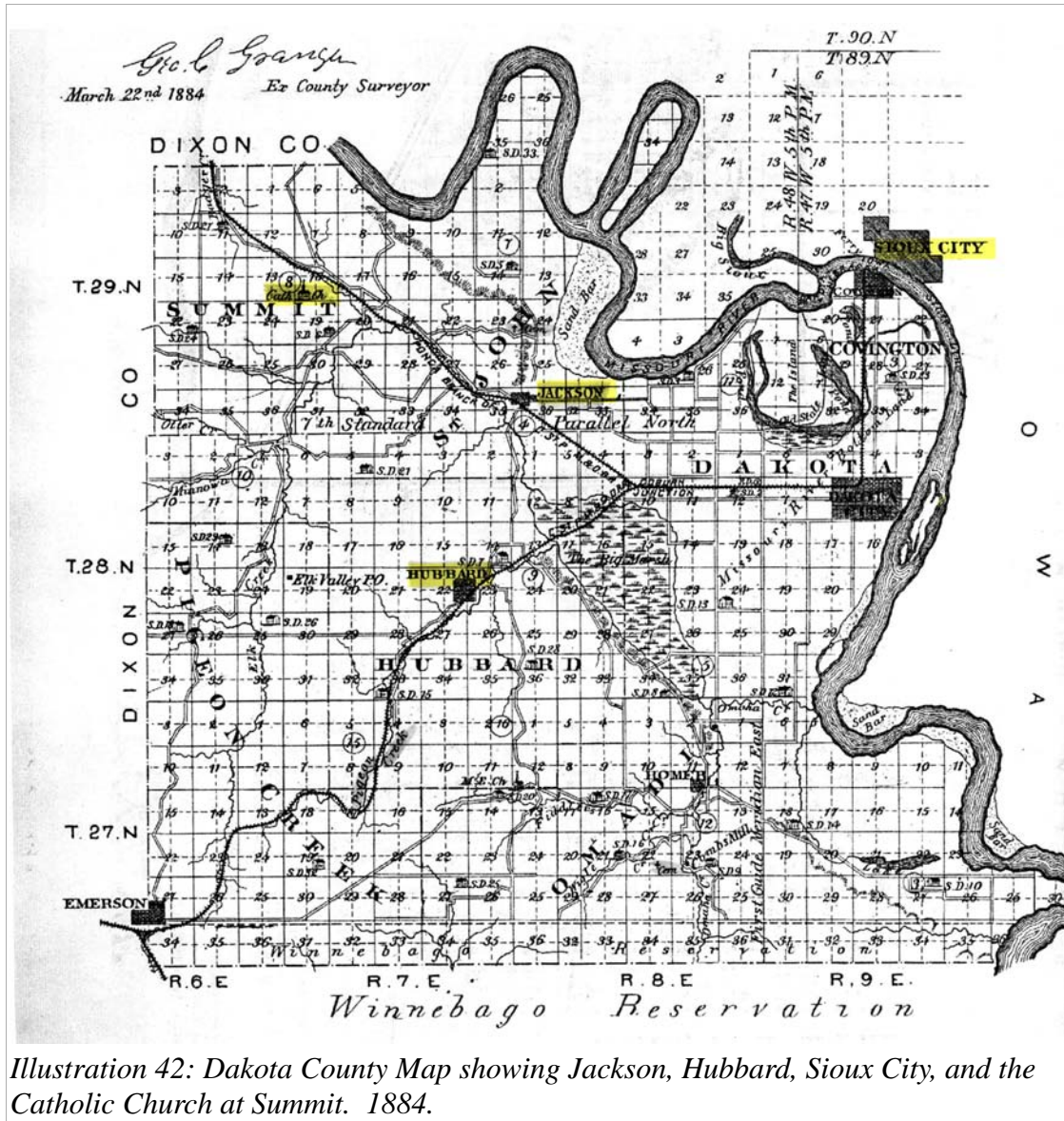


Illustration 42: Dakota County Map showing Jackson, Hubbard, Sioux City, and the Catholic Church at Summit. 1884.

By 1880 Pat had 45 acres in production and 115 acres in permanent meadows, orchards, vineyards, etc. His farm was valued at \$3000 with an additional \$200 of farm implements and \$700 of livestock. He spent \$150 on fences and paid a laborer \$20 to work on the farm for 2 weeks. His production in 1880 was valued at \$500. He had 20 acres of mowed grass land and produced 40 tons of hay. He was the owner of 6 horses, 4 milk cows, 16 other cattle, 70 pigs and 20 barnyard chickens who produced 30 dozen eggs. Four calves were born that year and he sold one. He made 200 pounds of butter and farmed 20 acres in Indian corn producing 1200 bushels, 16 acres of wheat producing

150 bushels, and one-half acre producing 40 bushels of potatoes. In addition the farm produced 8 cords of wood valued at \$20.²²⁸

Pat's father Myles Reilly and his sister Mary, now twice widowed, came out to Nebraska either to visit, live with, or set up farming near Pat, between 1875 and 1878.²²⁹ Mary married a third time to a prosperous farmer named James Connor in 1878. Myles, Pat's father, died before the census was taken in 1880.

By 1885 Pat's son Miles Thomas had his own 160 acre farm close by in Spring Bank, Dixon County. Miles and his wife Kate had five children, Matilda, 8, Ellen, 7, Thomas A., 5, Anna, 3, and Patrick, 4 months, born in April 1885.²³⁰ A son William was born in October 1886, a daughter Loretta in October 1888, a daughter Stella in July 1893 and another son Thomas in November 1898, indicating the first son named Thomas must have died. In all Miles and Kate had eleven children, eight of whom survived as long as 1900.²³¹

Pat's son Miles went on to be the supervisor of the county poor farm in Dakota County, Nebraska. His son William, then 28, was murdered at the poor farm in September 1916 by John Payson, 68, an inmate there. William was shot in the left leg with a shotgun. The wound was about three inches above the knee and about four inches in length and to the bone. An artery was probably hit as the wound bled profusely. In the course of the leg being amputated, William died at St. Joseph's Hospital in Sioux City, Iowa. Payson was charged with murder.²³² The case went to trial in November, 1916 but the jury was unable to reach a verdict. A new trial date was set for December but John Payson pled guilty to a charge of assault to do great bodily injury and was sentenced to one to five years in the state penitentiary at Lincoln, Nebraska. He served one year, was paroled, and returned to Dakota County in 1917.²³³

Miles Thomas Reilly died in 1921. His wife Catherine moved from the poor farm in early 1922.²³⁴ They had managed it for several years.

Pat Reilly lived most of his life in Jackson, Dakota County, but by 1900, Pat and Kate had turned their farm over to their youngest daughter Catherine and moved into town where Pat was once again a shoemaker living on Elk Street in Jackson Village. Pat's son William lived a couple of houses away on Elk Street with his wife Delia, who was from Pennsylvania, and their children Loretta, Frank, Mabel, Blanche and Helen. William

²²⁸ 1880 Federal census, Agricultural Schedules.

²²⁹ Letter from Bridget Reilly Brady to Biddy Casey.

²³⁰ Nebraska State Census, 1885.

²³¹ Federal census 1900, Iowa, Woodbury County, Sioux City.

²³² The Dakota County Herald, Dakota County, Nebraska, September 21, 1916, page 1.

²³³ The Dakota County Herald, October 18, 1917, page 5.

²³⁴ The Dakota County Herald, March 22, 1922, page 5.

gave his occupation as a 'capitalist' in 1900.²³⁵ Pat's daughter Mary married J. J. McBride and was living in Jackson, Dakota County, in 1910. His son John lived in Jackson. His daughter Katie married Thomas Casey and moved to Cleveland, Ohio.²³⁶ She died there on August 7, 1943. Thomas became insane and choked to death at breakfast at Cleveland State Hospital on September 27, 1922.

Patrick probably died on June 25, 1903. Catherine Reilly fell ill in September of 1909 and in December she was diagnosed with pneumonia. She was living at the home of her daughter Mary McBride at the time. Her daughter, Katie Casey, came back to visit due to the illness.²³⁷ Catherine died on January 13, 1910.²³⁸ Both Pat and Catherine are buried at St. John's Cemetery in Hubbard, Nebraska.

<p>HOMESTEAD.</p>	
<p>Receiver's Office, <i>Nebraska, May 13th</i> 1868.</p>	
<p>RECEIVER'S RECEIPT, } <i>No. 464</i> }</p>	<p>{ APPLICATION, { <i>No. 464</i></p>
<p>RECEIVED of <i>Patrick Reilly of Nebraska Co.</i>, the sum of</p>	
<p><i>Twelve</i></p>	<p>dollars <i>—</i> cents; being the amount of fee</p>
<p>and one-half the compensation of Register and Receiver for the entry of <i>SW, NE 1/4</i></p>	
<p><i>SE, NW 1/4</i></p>	<p>of Section <i>No. 14</i> in Township</p>
<p><i>No. 28</i></p>	<p>of Range <i>No. 4</i> East under the act of</p>
<p>Congress approved May 20, 1862, entitled "An act to secure homesteads to actual settlers on the public domain."</p>	
<p><u>\$ <i>12</i></u></p>	<p><i>Chas. N. Martin</i>, Receiver.</p>

Illustration 43: Patrick Reilly Homestead Receipt, May 13, 1868.

²³⁵ Federal Census, Nebraska, 1900.

²³⁶ Surrogate Court, Kings County, New York. Bridget Reilly Brady probate papers. 1910.

²³⁷ The Dakota County Herald, December 3, 1909, page 4.

²³⁸ The Dakota County Herald, January 21, 1910, page 4.

PROOF REQUIRED UNDER HOMESTEAD ACTS MAY 20, 1862, AND JUNE 21, 1866.

WE, *Michael Beacom & Michael Cain*, do solemnly swear that we have known *Patrick Reilly* for *12* years last past; that he is ~~a man~~ *Head of a family* consisting of *Wife* and *5 children* & is a citizen of the United States; that he is an inhabitant of the *SW 1/4 NE 1/4 & SE 1/4 NW 1/4* of section No. *14* in Township No. *28* of Range No. *7E* and that no other person resided upon the said land entitled to the right of Homestead or Pre-emption.

That the said *Patrick Reilly* entered upon and made settlement on said land on the *13th* day of *May*, 18*68*, and has built a house thereon *21 ft + 17 ft of logs - One story - Two doors - two windows - is a good comfortable house to live in*

and has lived in the said house and made it his exclusive home from the *13th* day of *May*, 18*68*, to the present time, and that he has, since said settlement, plowed, fenced, and cultivated about *10* acres of said land, and has made the following improvements thereon, to wit: *Has planted 1500 forest trees - 50 apple trees - granary 14 ft x 18 ft - Stable - Sheds - yard - Hog pens - Chicken House dug a well - Root House &c*

I, *James Stitt*, do hereby certify that the above affidavit was taken and subscribed before me this *30th* day of *June*, 18*73*

WE CERTIFY that *Michael M Beacom & Michael Cain* whose names are subscribed to the foregoing affidavit, are persons of respectability.

Geo J McPherson, Register.
James Stitt, Receiver.

Illustration 44: Patrick Reilly Homestead Proof, May 30, 1873.

Bridget Reilly Brady

If any relationship is to survive, there has to be at least one person in the relationship determined to make it so. Every family that survives as a unit, has someone who becomes the heart and soul of the family, the one who keeps the extended family together. In the case of this generation of Sheridans in America, that person was Bridget Reilly. Of all Biddy Casey's nieces and nephews, she was the one who kept in touch with everyone she could. She often had a house full of company. The informal Irish society of the Sheridan family in Brooklyn, scattered and reforming, found a core around which it could form, in her house.



Born in Ireland on January 8, 1834, Bridget was the third child, and second daughter, of Myles

Illustration 45: Bridget Reilly Brady (1834-1910).

Mary Sheridan
m2. Myles Reilly
|
Bridget (1834-1910)
m. Patrick Brady

Reilly and Mary Sheridan. For most of her life she did not accurately remember the year in which she was born, which she believed to be 1835. Since she related ensuing family events to the year of her birth, the year of those events may be one off.

Bridget was baptized in County Longford, Ardagh-Moydow parish, on January 18, 1834.²³⁹ Her sponsors were Thomas Farrell and Catherine Ward. There were two Catholic Churches in Ardagh-Moydow at the time. St. Mary's Church, or the Church of Our Lady, in Moydow,

²³⁹ *Father Francis Kelly of Granard indicated that the situation with record keeping at that time was worse than generally believed. He indicated that for a time, it was illegal for Catholics to keep records of such things. Having an existent record relating to a person conferred a legal sort of personhood on them and the English government, up to the repeal of the Penal Laws in 1829, would not allow Catholics that recognition.*

replaced an earlier church on approximately the same site in 1840. The second church, the Church of St. Brigid, in Ardagh, replaced an earlier T-shaped church on the same grounds. Built between 1878 and 1881, St. Brigid's remains a spectacular architectural example of churches of its type and is one of the finest in Ireland. It can be seen approaching Ardagh from the East.²⁴⁰ The Reillys would have been baptized in the earlier church on that site in Ardagh.²⁴¹

Bridget attended the wedding of John Casey and Biddy Sheridan when she was 11.²⁴² In a letter to Biddy Casey, she mentioned others who had attended the wedding, including Bridget and Mary Bracken,²⁴³ and reminded her aunt of various relationships in the family. She stood as godmother for Biddy Casey's second son, Patrick, at his baptism in Ireland in 1849. Bridget mentioned in one of her letters to her aunt that people tell her she favors her aunt in appearance.

Bridget Reilly emigrated with other members of her family, leaving Liverpool on the *Ashburton* arriving in New York on March 1, 1851, nearly a year after John and Biddy Casey's immigration to Virginia. The family unit on board was comprised of Bridget Riley, 17, Thomas Riley, 14, Catherine Riley, 14, and Brian Riley, 10.²⁴⁴ Traveling with them was Margaret Riley, 55,²⁴⁵ James Sheridan, 22,²⁴⁶ and Patrick Rooney, 18. The *Ashburton* was carrying 350 passengers in steerage on this trip. Nine passengers died during the voyage and were buried at sea.

While there were several other Rileys and Sheridans on the ship, these were grouped together and so, can generally be assumed to be traveling together. Bridget's sister Mary, who was already married, was not on the *Ashburton* and one of the letters indicated she

²⁴⁰ *The Church of Ireland at Moydow Glebe, built in 1765, and rebuilt between 1830-1835 after a fire, has a very old cemetery which includes graves of Roman Catholic families. Perhaps some of our Sheridans or Reillys are there. Located to the West of Ardagh, the windows of the church are very similar to those remaining from the original St. James Church at Clonbroney.*

²⁴¹ *Patrick Reilly's declaration for citizenship in 1854 stated that he was born in Ardagh.*

²⁴² *The surviving letters from Bridget Reilly span the 1880s to the early 1900s. During this time in her life she confused the year of her birth, consistently referring to it as 1835, when in fact, it was 1834. Because she calculates references to events according to her age at the time, it is difficult to know if the event should be calculated from 1834 or 1835.*

²⁴³ *See the chapter "The First Cousins – The Masterson Connection" in this volume, for the relationship of the Brackens to the Sheridans.*

²⁴⁴ *Brian, Bryan, and Bernard are interchangeable in Irish records. While Bridget Reilly Brady's brother was baptized Bernard, Bernardus was often used as the Latin version of Bryan.*

²⁴⁵ *Letter from Bridget Brady to Biddy Casey, August 1886, indicated that Mary immigrated separately from the rest of her brothers and sisters.*

²⁴⁶ *A James Sheridan was born in 1830 in Granard whose father was Bernard Sheridan and whose mother was R. McDonnell.*

came to America after the rest of her siblings. Bridget's brother Patrick, had arrived the day before his brothers and sisters on the ship *William Wirt*.²⁴⁷

Bridget probably worked as a domestic in Brooklyn, or Massachusetts, for a time. She married Pat Brady, in New York, by 1865. Pat was from Loughill,²⁴⁸ a townland in Clonbroney parish, and was the son of Paddy and Kitty Dolan Brady.²⁴⁹ His mother was a sister of Lamy Dolan of Larhard²⁵⁰. In an 1886 letter Annie Shanley told Biddy Casey that Pat's family was not the Owen Brady of Graffogue²⁵¹ that Biddy knew.



Illustration 46: Plaque in St. Mary's Church, Granard, Ireland. Owen Brady of Graffogue was known to Biddy Casey.

On December 29, 1865 Patrick Brady contracted with Elizabeth Taber to pay \$2,200 for a four story home at 885 Pacific Street in Brooklyn²⁵² and he and Bridget settled in there for the duration of their married life. Bridget opened her doors to her fellow Irishmen and her extended family and lived there until she died.

²⁴⁷ Also traveling on the *Ashburton* was Thomas Sheridan, born in 1796, with several members of his family. *Passenger Manifest, Ashburton, page 4*. The names and ages are poorly written but this could be other immediate family members of Biddy Casey.

²⁴⁸ Letter from Bridget Brady to Biddy Casey, August 1886, says Pat was from Loughlin in Clonbroney which is probably actually Loughill or Laughil in Clonbroney.

²⁴⁹ In the *Tithe Applotment Book for Loughill, Clonbroney*, there is a tenancy entry for "Brady, Patrick and Sons" encompassing slightly less than 9 acres of land in 1825.

²⁵⁰ This could be Lisard in the parish of Clonbroney.

²⁵¹ In St. Mary's Church in Granard, there are several brass plates that were preserved from the old Granard church when the new one was built in the 1860s. These plates had been placed on pews in the old church by family members or friends to encourage worshipers to say extra prayers for these relatives.

²⁵² *Conveyances, Book 687, Page 310, Kings County, New York Land Records, image 145 of 650, FamilySearch.org. New York, Land Records, 1630-1975," images, FamilySearch (https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.3.1/TH-1951-33201-5356-52?cc=2078654&wc=M9M4-LTS:2049569647 : accessed 02 Dec 2013), Kings > Conveyances 1865-1866 vol 687-689 > image 172 of 650.*



Illustration 47: Bridget Brady's House, 885 Pacific Street, circa 1939. New York City Archives.

Pat Brady was a builder in Brooklyn and they appear to have been very happy in their life together. She was certainly devoted to him and he appeared to be to her. In 1886 she wrote to her aunt that she 'wants for nothing and is as happy as can be.' Although they never had children of their own, their house was a beacon to all their relatives.

In several of her letters Bridget asked for pictures of her aunt, her uncle, and her West Virginia cousins. Clearly because she could not meet those cousins, or see her long ago relatives from Ireland, she longed at least to be able to see their faces in a photograph. She would have personally known Nicholas and Sarah Ann Casey from the Ireland days.

From the letters it appears that Bridget first made contact with her aunt on May 20, 1886, after a long separation. Having brought her aunt up to date on all the family news, she mentioned the real purpose of the letter, to inform Biddy of the Sheridan/Blake probate case winding its way through the English courts, and to seek her aunt's assistance in identifying various Sheridan family connections.²⁵³

In another 1886 letter Bridget tells her aunt that her husband's sisters, Bridget, Ann, and Mary, used to see Biddy Casey frequently at the ball alley in Clonbroney. This would have been a ball alley used for the old Irish sport of hurling.

Bridget lost her husband very suddenly on July 6, 1896 to heart failure. He collapsed and died at 230 Duffield Street. His funeral was held at old St. Joseph's Church on Pacific Avenue. For a year thereafter she followed strict mourning with her letters tinged in black, both the paper and the envelopes. She wrote often to her aunt of how very much she missed him and after his death, as her health began to fade, she became more fixated on religion. She continued to be the heart and soul of the family, but she was clearly very lonely for Pat.

BRADY—Suddenly, on July 6, **PATRICK**, beloved husband of Bridget Brady, a native of the parish of Clumrony, County Longford, Ireland. Relatives and friends are invited to attend the funeral from his late residence, 885 Pacific st, on Thursday, July 9, at 9:30 A. M.; thence, to St. Joseph's Church, where a solemn requiem mass will be offered for the repose of his soul.

Illustration 48: Brooklyn Daily Eagle, July 8, 1896, page 7.

Bridget had a lot of difficulty settling her husband's estate, which amounted to slightly over \$4300, plus property. She had to hire a male co-administrator, but the estate was finally settled on April 25, 1898. The probate papers yielded a bit more information about Pat Brady's family.

Pat had a brother Thomas, who preceded him in death, and Thomas had at least three children who were still alive in 1896: Philip, Catherine, and Mary, all of full age in 1896. Nothing further is known of Thomas' descendants.

Pat Brady's sister, Mary, deceased by 1896, had married a Reardon and had one son, Joseph, who was still alive in 1896. Another sister, Ann, deceased by 1896, had married

²⁵³ *For information on this case, see Appendix 1.*

an Ennis, and had one daughter, Mary A., who survived her uncle.²⁵⁴ Nothing further is known of his third sister, Bridget, but she too was obviously deceased by 1896. Although the initial estate papers do not mention them, the settlement papers mention William L. Bond and Joseph H. Mahon on an equal footing with his other nieces and nephews, so these were likely other relatives.²⁵⁵ No one objected to Bridget's inheritance.

After she was widowed, Bridget continued to attract and welcome her relatives to her home. Her letters reveal hints of her personality and her relationships reveal the love her family had for her and she for them. She was very protective of her extended family, their interests and information about them. Her picture portrays a confidence and steadfastness and possibly provides a hint of what Biddy Casey looked like.

Over the years several of Bridget Brady's sisters and nieces and nephews lived with her in her house in Brooklyn. John Casey's sisters Margaret and Esther lived in Brooklyn and although Esther died in 1868, Bridget kept in touch with Margaret and updated her aunt in West Virginia on this sister-in-law.²⁵⁶ Bridget and Pat raised their niece, Mary Malone, in their home. Mary, the daughter of Bridget's sister, Kate Reilly Malone, lived with them almost her entire life and was one of two main beneficiaries of Bridget's will,²⁵⁷ the other being various Catholic organizations.

By 1900 Bridget was no longer taking in boarders, although she still lived in the same large house in Brooklyn. Now it was just family with her: her niece, Mary Malone, and Bridget's sister, Kate Malone, who by then had been a widow for several decades.²⁵⁸

Bridget Reilly Brady died on March 1, 1910 of anal cancer. For one so sweet and tough and generous of spirit, to die of such a painful disease is heartbreaking. Bridget's funeral was held at old St. Joseph's Church, Brooklyn.²⁵⁹ She and her beloved husband Patrick are buried at Holy Cross Cemetery, Brooklyn, Section Olive, Range R, Plot 1-4.²⁶⁰

²⁵⁴ *Administration of the Goods, Chattels and Credits, Surrogate's Court, Administration without a valid will, July 24, 1896. Kings County Estate Files, digital folder 004197785. That Bridget and Pat had no children of their own was also confirmed in the 1900 Federal Census.*

²⁵⁵ *Surrogate Court, Kings County, New York, Decrees, 1898, Volume 45, Page 15.*

²⁵⁶ *See the Casey story for information on John Casey's two sisters Margaret Casey McGrath and Esther Casey McGrath, of Brooklyn.*

²⁵⁷ *In some census data, Mary Malone is listed as Mary Brady. While this could possibly be the daughter of Patrick's brother Thomas, it is almost certainly Mary Malone.*

²⁵⁸ *Like her sister, Kate Malone's birth year is one year off. She was actually born in October 1837.*

²⁵⁹ *Old St. Joseph's Church was replaced with the Co-Cathedral of St. Joseph in 1912 at 856 Pacific Street.*

²⁶⁰ *A Catherine Malone, who died at 71 on April 24, 1913, is buried in the same plot group of 16 burials, but this is not Bridget's sister Kate Reilly Malone.*

In the 1910 census, Mary Malone was living by herself in her aunt's house and according to the census owned the house. Certainly the house had to be sold to fund various bequests to the Catholic Church. There were no boarders there in 1910, although Mary's brother Thomas Malone lived there for a time with her. By the 1920 census Mary Malone was no longer at 885 Pacific Street.

Bridget Brady's estate files in King's County Surrogate Court were 73 pages long. The will, written in 1907, was originally contested by several nieces and nephews, on the basis of fraud or undue influence upon Bridget at the time the will was written. There were multiple bequests made to various Catholic charities and organizations and a priest was a co-executor of the will. A \$2,000 bequest to her niece, Mary Malone was specified along with a \$250 bequest to another niece, Catherine Reilly.

The contestants withdrew their objections and the will and codicil were settled as originally filed. As mentioned previously, as she approached the end of her life, some of the family letters reflected Bridget's growing obsession with religious matters and charities.



Illustration 49: Brady Malone graves. Holy Cross Cemetery, Brooklyn. © 2011.

Thomas Reilly

Mary Sheridan
m2. Myles Reilly
|
Thomas (1836-1879)
m. Bridget Christina Cogan
|
Mary F. (1871-1894)
m. William Scott
Annie (1873-aft. 1910)
m. Unknown Adams
Thomas J. (1874-1887)
(unmarried)
Catherine B. (1877-aft. 1915)
(unmarried)

Mary Sheridan and Myles Reilly's second son, Thomas, was baptized on February 7, 1836²⁶¹ at Ardagh-Moydow. His sponsors were James Leavy and Anna Mulligan.

Called Tom by the family, he immigrated to New York with his siblings on the *Ashburton* in 1851. He lived for a time in Stoughton, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, working as a boot maker, living in the same boarding house in 1855 as his half brother John Shanley. Thomas petitioned for, and was granted, citizenship in Boston on October 26, 1858.²⁶² His brothers, John Shanley and Patrick Reilly, testified on his behalf as to his residence and good moral behavior.

In November 1870 Tom married Bridget Christina Cogan, the daughter of Thomas and Catherine O'Connell Cogan. Born in Ireland on May 10, 1846, Christina had immigrated about 1852. They lived in in the 25th Election District of the 11th Ward of Manhattan where Tom was a retail liquor dealer.

Tom's father Myles, was staying with them in December, when the 1870 Federal census was conducted.²⁶³ Kate Malone and her son Thomas, were living in the same building and Mary Reilly Green, Thomas' sister, was living next door.

Tom's first child, Mary F., was born about 1871. Another daughter, called Annie, was born about August 1873. A son, Thomas, was born July 29, 1874.²⁶⁴ Another daughter, Catherine B., called Katie, was born around July 1877.²⁶⁵

²⁶¹ *Tom's petition for citizenship gave his birth date as February 17, 1836. The original baptismal record must be accepted as accurate.*

²⁶² *U.S. Circuit Court, Boston, Massachusetts, volume number 10, page 105-105A.*

²⁶³ *Another family, with parents Thomas and Bridget, lived in the 3rd Election District of the 20th Ward in Manhattan in the 1870 census with four children with many of the same names as our Reillys, but each about 15 years older. This Thomas was working as a laborer. His daughter Kate, 15, was a dressmaker. By 1880 this Thomas had died and his widow and children were at 434 West 25th Street in Manhattan.*

²⁶⁴ *State of New York, Certificate of Death in the City of New York, 1887, number 615324, FHL film 1,412,496.*

²⁶⁵ *Federal census, Manhattan, 1880 and 1900.*

Tom Reilly died quite young of paralytic dementia²⁶⁶ on April 1, 1879.²⁶⁷ He was 44 at the time of his death and was at Ward's Island, City Lunatic Asylum. He had been sick for four years. On May 14, 1866 his father in law, Thomas Cogan, purchased a burial plot, Section 5, Avenue 10-T-4 in Calvary Cemetery. Over the next fifty-three years six bodies were buried in that plot: Tom himself; then Thomas Cogan in September 1888 at the age of 81, and Catherine Cogan in December 1889; then two of Thomas and Christina's children. The last to be buried there was his wife Bridget Christina in 1919.²⁶⁸

After her husband died Bridget Christina continued to live at 357 8th Street in Manhattan. She went to work as a seamstress and her cousin, Mary Larkin, moved in with her. Mary, who was single, also worked as a seamstress. The daughter of Timothy Larkin and Ann O'Connell, Mary was born in New York.

Tom's son, Thomas J. Reilly, died on September 6, 1887 at home at 357 8th Street of consumption with complications of asthma. He had been sick since June of the prior year and was buried at Calvary Cemetery. He was 13 years, 1 month, and 10 days old.²⁶⁹

Calvary Cemetery, in Queens, New York, is the largest Roman Catholic Cemetery in the United States with some three million burials, as of this writing. Comprised of 385 acres, the first 71 acres was purchased on October 29, 1845. The first burial occurred on July 31, 1848. Owned and managed by the Archdiocese of New York, it is comprised of four divisions. First Calvary or "Old Calvary" located on Laurel Hill Boulevard, between the Long Island Expressway and Review Avenue, was filled by 1867. Second, Third, and Fourth Cavalry known as "New Cavalry" were established in 1888, 1879, and 1900, respectively.

In 1888 Tom's daughter Mary married William Scott and gave birth to two children, Mary L. and Madeline. Mary Reilly Scott died on April 21, 1894 at 4:30 in the morning at 322 East 78th Street in Manhattan of consumption. Only 22 years old, she had been sick for about a year²⁷⁰ and was buried at Calvary Cemetery. William Scott who worked as a mason, lived with Christina and the rest of the family for a number of years after his wife's death.

²⁶⁶ *Paralytic dementia, a severe neuropsychiatric disorder classified as an organic mental disorder caused by chronic meningoencephalitis that leads to cerebral atrophy.*

²⁶⁷ *Certificate of Death, The Health Department of the City of New York, 1879, #315960. Confirmation of identity provided by Calvary Cemetery grave information, Section 5 Ave 10-T-4.*

²⁶⁸ *Multiple burials in single graves are not unusual for cemeteries in the New York area.*

²⁶⁹ *New York, New York City Municipal Deaths, 1795 – 1949. Certificate number 615324, FHL film 1,412,496.*

²⁷⁰ *State of New York, Certificate and Record of Death, 1894, number 13646. FHL film 1,322,876.*

In 1900 Tom's widow Christina was still at 357 E. 8th Street, Manhattan with her two surviving children, Anna, and Katie, and her son-in-law William Scott. Her granddaughters were not there at that time. Anna Reilly was working as a typist and Kate as an operator of some sort.²⁷¹ By 1910 the two granddaughters were back with Christina but their father, William Scott, was no longer there.

Anna Reilly married an Adams and moved to 67 Wilson Street in Brooklyn by 1910.²⁷² Katie, at 55, was still living at home with her mother in Manhattan in 1910. Christina Reilly was not mentioned in Bridget Brady's probate papers.²⁷³

Christina's older granddaughter, Mary L. Scott, had married Joseph Cronin, a conductor, around 1910 and was living in Brooklyn. Joseph was born about 1889 in the United States and they had two children: William J., born about 1911; and Mildred, born about 1913. The entire remaining family moved in with Mary and her husband at 644 60th Street in Brooklyn by 1915: her grandmother Christina., 71; her aunt Kate Reilly; her sister, Madeline Scott, 23, now a stenographer; and her grandmother's cousin, Mary Larkin, 72.²⁷⁴

Bridget Christina Cogan Reilly died at her granddaughter's home on 60th Street of liver cancer with complications of anemia on November 3, 1919.²⁷⁵ She was buried at Calvary Cemetery in the family grave.

Mary A. Larkin died at the same place, 644 60th Street, on November 22, 1923 three days after suffering a stroke and was buried at Calvary Cemetery. She was 75 years old. Arrangements for her burial were made by her sister Sarah.²⁷⁶

There is no surviving picture of Tom Reilly but in a letter of April 4, 1897 Bridget Brady writes Biddy Casey that her cousin, Thomas J. Sheridan, Jr. of New Jersey,²⁷⁷ looked so much like her own brother Tom.

²⁷¹ 1900 Federal Census, Borough of Manhattan, Supervisor's District 1, Enumeration District 393, Sheet Number 18.

²⁷² For Bridget Brady's probate case Annie Reilly Adams was served papers at 369 East Third Street in Brooklyn.

²⁷³ Surrogate Court, Kings County, Brooklyn, NY. Bridget Brady probate papers, 1910, page 34. Also 1910 census, New York City, Manhattan Ward 11, District 1655, family number 79.

²⁷⁴ New York State Census, 1915, Kings County, Assembly District 9, Election District 33, Block number 3, page 27.

²⁷⁵ New York City Municipal Deaths, 1795 – 1949, certificate number 21351, FHL film 1,324,341

²⁷⁶ Department of the Bureau of Health, City of New York, Standard Certificate of Death, Borough of Brooklyn, 1923, certificate number 20740, FHL film 2,032,197.

²⁷⁷ Thomas J. Sheridan of New Jersey was the grandson of Bryan Sheridan (1791-1841).

United States of America.

To the Honorable the Judges of the Circuit Court of the United States,
begun and holden at Boston, within and for the District of Massachusetts.

Respectfully represents *Thomas Riley*
of *Stoughton* in said District, *Brookline* an Alien and a free white
person, that he was born *in the County Longford Ireland*
on or about
the *seventeenth* day of *February* in the year of our Lord eighteen
hundred and *thirty one* and is now about *twenty two* years of
age; that he arrived at *New York* in the District of
New York in the United States of America, on or about the
fifth day of *March* in the year of our Lord eighteen
hundred and *fifty one* being then a minor under the age of eighteen years;
that it then was, and still is, his bona fide intention to reside in and become a cit-
izen of the United States of America, and to renounce all allegiance and fidelity to
every foreign Prince, State, Potentate, and Sovereignty whatsoever—more especially to
Victoria, Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland.

whose subject he has heretofore been. All which appears in the record of the Honorable
Court,
to wit, on the day of A. D. 18

And the said *Thomas Riley* further represents, that
he has ever since continued to reside within the jurisdiction of said United States,
to wit, at *Stoughton*
that he has never borne any hereditary title, or been of any of the orders of nobility;
that he is ready to renounce and abjure all allegiance and fidelity to every foreign Prince,
Potentate, State, or Sovereignty whatsoever, and particularly to **Victoria**, Queen of the
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland,

whose subject he has heretofore been; that he is attached to the principles of the
Constitution of the United States of America, and well disposed towards the good order
and happiness of the same.

Wherefore your petitioner prays that he may be admitted to become a citizen
of the said United States of America, according to the forms of the statutes in such case
made and provided.

Thomas Riley

Illustration 50: Thomas Reilly Declaration for Citizenship, October 26, 1858.

Catherine Reilly Malone



Illustration 51: Catherine Reilly Malone (1837-1909)

Mary Sheridan and Myles Reilly's third daughter, Catherine, was baptized October 28, 1837 at Ardagh-Moydow. Her sponsors were Thomas Reilly and Margaret Leavy. Known as Kate to her family, she was very close to her older sister Bridget throughout her life. She immigrated to America in 1851, on the *Ashburton*²⁷⁸ with her brothers and sisters. Like her sister Bridget, Kate consistently gave her birth year one off from the actual year. She believed she was born in October 1838 but the official Ardagh-Moydow records place her birth in 1837.

Kate married Thomas Malone sometime around 1865, probably in New York but civil marriage records were not legally required at the time.²⁷⁹ Her daughter Mary was born around 1866 and a son Thomas in 1868.

By 1870 Kate was a widow. To support her family she ran a boarding house in lower Manhattan at 2 Columbia Place, an alley or rear court on the south side of East 8th Street, between Avenues C and D.²⁸⁰ Columbia Place no longer exists as a place name and the area was changed greatly by highways and bridges, but can be easily found on old maps.

Kate's father Myles Reilly, 75, and her sister, Mary Green, 40, were staying with her in December 1870.²⁸¹ Born in Ireland about 1795 her father was still going strong in 1870

²⁷⁸ *The 1855 NY census for Manhattan is no longer complete. They may have first lived in Manhattan before Brooklyn. Certainly Kate did.*

²⁷⁹ *There may be some Roman Catholic Church records that could shed light on this.*

²⁸⁰ *Federal Census, New York, Manhattan, 11th Ward, 10th District, 2nd Enumeration District. December 16, 1870. Also OldStreets.com, a Guide to Former Street Names in Manhattan.*

²⁸¹ *For some unknown reason, there appear to be two 1870 censuses for parts of Manhattan. In one census taken June 1870, Myles Reilly and his daughter Mary are with*

and his trek through life was not yet over. He and his daughter Mary left Manhattan for Nebraska sometime between 1875 and 1878, proving once again what an adventurous clan the Sheridans were.

In 1877 Kate was at 405 Eighth Street running a boarding house²⁸² which she continued to do with her son Thomas in 1880. Her daughter Mary was living with Bridget Brady in Brooklyn, “as she (Bridget) has no children of her own.”²⁸³

In the 1890 New York City directory, Kate was still running the boarding house but by 1900 she had given it up and moved in with her sister, Bridget Brady, in Brooklyn. The 1900 census confirms that Kate had only two children during her lifetime and both were still living.

Mary Sheridan
m2. Myles Reilly
 |
Catherine (1837-1909)
m. Thomas Malone
 |
Mary (1866-1943)
(unmarried)
Thomas (1868-1935)
(unmarried)

Kate died at the age of 72 on March 20, 1909 in Brooklyn of hepatitis complicated by cardiovascular disease and pulmonary edema.²⁸⁴ Her funeral was March 22 and she was buried in Holy Cross Cemetery in Brooklyn as were so many of her family. Her grave is not in the ‘Brady/Malone’ section, however. She was buried in a predominantly Italian section of the cemetery where her sister Bridget had a tombstone erected.

Kate’s son, Thomas Malone, died at 67 on August 25, 1935 at Kings County Hospital.²⁸⁵ A laborer all his life, he never married. He died of hypertensive heart disease and was buried at Holy Cross Cemetery. Prior to his death he lived at 904 Bergen Street, Brooklyn.

MALONE—On May 19, MARY BRADY. Funeral from Peter Farrell Funeral Home, 2750 Atlantic Avenue, on Saturday. Requiem mass at St. Joseph's Church, 10 a.m. Interment Holy Cross Cemetery.

While many nieces lived in Bridget Brady’s boarding house at one time or another, the only one who lived there consistently for most of her life was Mary Malone. Mary was there in the 1875, 1880, 1892 and 1900 censuses,²⁸⁶ and was there with Bridget in 1910. She never married and the Bradys did not formally

Illustration 52: Brooklyn Daily Eagle, May 21, 1943, page 13.

his son Thomas and Thomas’ wife Christina. In the other census, taken in December 1870, Myles and his daughter Mary Green are with Kate Malone and her children.

²⁸² 1877 New York City Directory, page 956, publisher Trow City Directory, Compiler H. Wilson.

²⁸³ Letter from Catherine Mullen Davy to her aunt, Biddy Casey, August 1884. While the 1880 census has Mary Malone as Mary Brady, Bridget and Patrick’s daughter, she is not their daughter but their niece. Bridget and Patrick were childless.

²⁸⁴ FHL film 1,324,185. Certificate number 5394.

²⁸⁵ FHL film 2,079,653. Certificate number 5391.

adopt her,²⁸⁷ but she used the Brady name at times. She received approximately half of her aunt Bridget's estate, an amount second only to the Catholic Church. Mary Malone died on May 19, 1943 of natural causes after being hospitalized for two months. She was buried with her brother in Holy Cross Cemetery in the Brady/Malone plot. An enduring mystery surrounds her. Her death certificate states her father was Andrew Brady and her mother Catherine Reilly, that she was born in Ireland about 1886, a description which does not fit Kate's daughter Mary Malone. The informant was her executor, Robert J. Fitzsimmons. Holy Cross Cemetery has her age as 76 implying she was born in 1867 which very much fits Kate's daughter. The obituary in the Brooklyn Daily Eagle was for Mary Brady Malone and she was buried with Kate Malone's son Thomas.

No letters from Kate Malone survive, so her personality remains a mystery but her appearance does not. Bridget Brady sent a picture of her sister to Biddy Casey in West Virginia. Her likeness, taken by Louis Gogler, a German photographer, portrait painter, and crayon artist, survives. Mr. Gogler's studio was at 350 – 352 Bowery in Manhattan, from about 1867.



Illustration 53: Inscription for Catherine Reilly Malone (1837-1909). Holy Cross Cemetery. Brooklyn, New York.

²⁸⁶ The name is Marie Brady in 1910 and the birth year is slightly off. This could be Patrick Brady's niece Mary Brady but is most likely Catherine Reilly's daughter, Mary Malone.

²⁸⁷ Statement made in Surrogate Court during probate of Bridget Brady's will. 1910



*Illustration 54: Grave of Catherine Reilly Malone (1837-1909).
Holy Cross Cemetery, Brooklyn, New York.*



Kate Malone, on the right, bears a resemblance to the woman in the tintype believed to be Bridget Sheridan Casey, on the left.

Bryan Reilly

Mary Sheridan
m2. Myles Reilly
|
Bryan (1841-1862)
(unmarried)

The youngest of Mary Sheridan's and Myles Reilly's children, Bryan,²⁸⁸ was baptized on January 8, 1841 at Ardagh-Moydow. His sponsors were John Reilly and Bridget Sheridan, who was very likely Biddy Casey. Called Brynie by the family he immigrated to America with his brothers and sisters and lived in Randolph, Norfolk County, Massachusetts with his older brother Pat and Pat's family.²⁸⁹

After Pat moved to Nebraska, Bryan lived in Stoughton, Massachusetts, Norfolk County, where he died on June 6, 1862 of a brain concussion due to an unspecified accident.²⁹⁰ He was 21 years old.

His official death record provides no other information although Annie Shanley wrote to her great-aunt Biddy Casey that Bryne (sic) Reilly died in Massachusetts in 1862.²⁹¹ He had been gone for so long, that by the time his sister, Bridget Brady, passed away in 1910, there seemed to be no memory of him at all among his surviving nieces and nephews in Brooklyn.²⁹² Hopefully more information about the circumstances of his death can be found later in a Stoughton newspaper from the time, if such a paper exists.

Miscellaneous Reilly Notes

A child named Miles Reilly was born on April 20, 1864 and died on November 27, 1864 in Brooklyn. No parents were listed on his death certificate. He lived at 303 Water Street in the 3rd Ward and was buried at Holy Cross Cemetery. Birth certificates were not mandatory at the time but church records, if they exist, could reveal more information about his baptism or his funeral and possibly reveal the names of his parents.

²⁸⁸ *The name Bernard in the record is the Anglicized version of the Irish Bryan.*

²⁸⁹ *1855 Massachusetts state census, September 4, 1855.*

²⁹⁰ *FHL film 960,181, volume 157, page 311, number 82. The name on the certificate is Barney Riley.*

²⁹¹ *Letter from Annie Shanley to Biddy Casey, dated May 26, 1886.*

²⁹² *Surrogate Court, Kings County, Brooklyn, NY. Bridget Brady papers. 1910. There is no mention of her brother Bryan.*

Bryan Sheridan's Descendants

Bernard Kevin Sheridan

Bryan Sheridan's oldest son, Bernard Kevin, called Kevin by the family, was born about 1830 in Ireland, most likely in Edgeworthstown. Kevin may have immigrated to Australia with his mother and her second husband, Richard Darby, around 1849-1851, but if he did, he did not stay long.

He most likely came directly to America with his brother Thomas, on the *Fagin Bealac*, landing in New York City on May 17, 1847,²⁹³ before his mother and step-father departed for Australia. His brother Thomas was definitely in New York by the early 1860s but Kevin has proved harder to find there. He may have been living with the Peter Masterson family in New York City in 1850.²⁹⁴

Bryan Sheridan
m. Honora Hynes
|
Bernard Kevin (abt. 1830-1895)
(unmarried)

Kevin was in San Francisco, California by the early 1870s and may have begun his career in 1871 and 1872 as a driver for the Omnibus Rail Road. This would have given him a start in the town.²⁹⁵ By 1873 he had an express wagon business in San Francisco, a business he continued to operate for two decades. During this time he used both Bernard and Thomas as a first name, as well as B. K., in city directories from 1873 to 1894, with the same business and residential addresses. When he died his obituary in the Evening Call gave his name as Thomas B. K. Sheridan. So he was obviously known by both names, as well as by his initials, B.K.

Kevin's express business was first located at the northwest corner of Sacramento and Kearny Streets, later at the southeast corner of Sacramento and Dupont Streets. In June 1880 he lived at 708A Commercial Street near Clay,²⁹⁶ in a boarding house with other laborers from France, Japan, Germany, Switzerland, Canada, England, Louisiana, Ireland, and more. Kevin was in contact with people far different than he, but like him, they had all arrived to forge new lives in a challenging environment. The famous Emperor

²⁹³ *The Fagin Bealac departed Dublin and landed in New York with 178 passengers on May 17, 1847. The passenger manifest, page 3, shows Bernard Sheridan, 18, traveling with Thomas Sheridan, 13. Also on board was Etty Darby, 26 years old, and John Darby, 20, a mechanic. The Darbys were not traveling with the Sheridans or with each other given their positions in the passenger manifest. Also on board were three members of the Hynes family: John, 27, William, 21, and Nicholas, 18, all bakers.*

²⁹⁴ *Peter Masterson's age (59) and country of origin (Ireland) could indicate an uncle.*

²⁹⁵ *San Francisco City Directory, 1871, 1872. Thomas Sheridan.*

²⁹⁶ *1880 Federal Census, San Francisco, CA. This would be either 708 or 711 Commercial Street. Both addresses are noted in the City Directories of the time.*

Norton, Emperor of the United States and Protector of Mexico, lived just one block away in a small nine by six room at 624 Commercial Street.²⁹⁷

From 1884 to 1887 Kevin lived near the southwest corner of Taylor and Francisco Streets, at 2333 Taylor. On August 22, 1887, he purchased property in San Francisco from D. M. Delmas²⁹⁸ and five days later, on August 27, a second deed was recorded for a purchase from George R. B. Hayes.²⁹⁹ The deed books that would contain detailed information about these purchases did not survive the earthquake and fire of 1906, so the location of the property he purchased remains a mystery.

As with most of the Sheridans, Kevin made a success of his endeavors.³⁰⁰ He died at the northeast corner of Chestnut and Mason Streets in San Francisco, on September 17, 1895 of pneumonia.³⁰¹ He was 65 years old and never known to have married. The coroner noted that he died at home. One might naturally assume that this was the property he had purchased in 1887 but that was not the case. If the coroner was correct that he died where he lived, he didn't own where he lived.³⁰² The physician signing the death certificate was E. C. Mervy.

Like his cousin Bridget Reilly Brady, Kevin left a sizable estate for the time and place. Although the Superior Court probate records were lost in the 1906 earthquake and fire, the surviving Public Administrator's Report listed the estate value on October 8, 1895 as \$5,442.10.³⁰³ The estate consisted of \$1,192.10 in cash, and property worth \$4,250.

Kevin was first buried in Laurel Hill Cemetery in San Francisco but this was not to be his final resting place.³⁰⁴

²⁹⁷ *Joshua Norton was a wealthy businessman who lost his fortune in commodities speculation during Gold Rush San Francisco. His mental health declined after this reversal and in 1857 he declared himself Emperor of the United States and later added Protector of Mexico. San Francisco businesses and citizens embraced and humored him. He received a stipend from the Masons which enabled him to pay his 50¢ nightly rent on his room at the Eureka Lodging House at 624 Commercial Street. The San Francisco Chronicle, April 1, 2017, page C1.*

²⁹⁸ *FHL, California, San Francisco County Records, Volume 92, 1887 image 281 of 312, Deed Book 1251, page 239.*

²⁹⁹ *FHL, California, San Francisco County Records, Volume 92, 1887, image 281 of 312, Deed Book 1251, Page 238.*

³⁰⁰ *In 1894 he may have been in business at the Sacramento and Dupont location, with Frank McGrath, as "McGrath and Sheridan, Teamsters", using the name Thomas Sheridan, but this is unlikely.*

³⁰¹ *SF Death Records, Book M, Reel 3, number 1470, September 18, 1895.*

³⁰² *San Francisco Library, property maps with owners names, 1894.*

³⁰³ *\$5,442 of wealth in 1895 would have an economic status value of about \$1.3 million in 2016 or an economic power value of \$5.8 million. Measuringworth.com/uscompare.*

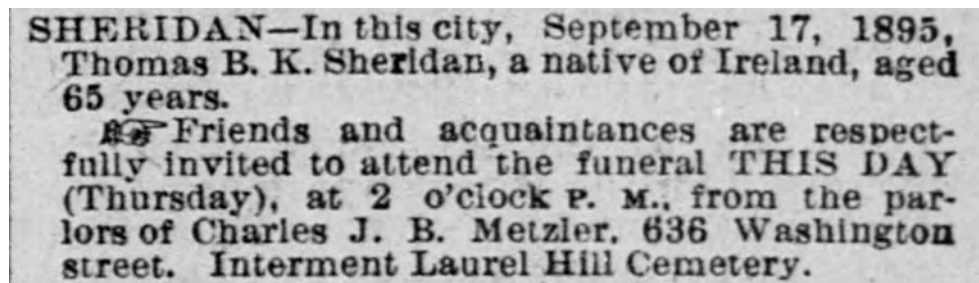


Illustration 55: Obituary notice for Kevin Sheridan (1830 - 1895), San Francisco Call, September 19, 1895.

The city administrator, along with several of Kevin's relatives, began a search for his heirs. Pat Reilly, a brother-in-law of Kevin's uncle, Thomas Sheridan³⁰⁵, was said to have advertised for Kevin's Australian brothers.³⁰⁶ Word reached West Virginia via letters exchanged between Bridget Brady and her aunt, Biddy Casey. Biddy was asked by the lawyers to assist in the settlement by creating a chart of family relationships, including the names of Biddy's uncles and the maiden names of all of her aunts.³⁰⁷

The law firm of Dorn and Dorn handled the probate in San Francisco.³⁰⁸ It is unlikely the information from the estate settlement was preserved anywhere other than San Francisco County probate records and these records did not survive the earthquake and fire of 1906.

Biddy Casey corresponded with the Gruber and Bonyng law firm at 305 Broadway, in Manhattan, regarding the estate. Founded by Abraham Gruber and William H. Bonyng, the firm employed a young attorney, Edward C. Dowling, a cousin of Biddy Casey's through the Mastersons.³⁰⁹ This firm may have received the requested relationship chart of the Sheridan family from Biddy Casey.³¹⁰

³⁰⁴ *Charles J.B. Metzler, Kevin's undertaker, was burned out after the quake, but reopened as Metzler Undertaking at 1892 Folsom Street, in the South of Market area.*

³⁰⁵ *Thomas Sheridan was the brother of Kevin's father, Bryan Sheridan (1791-1841).*

³⁰⁶ *Letter from Bridget Brady to Biddy Casey, December 4, 1896.*

³⁰⁷ *Letter from Dorn and Dorn to Gruber and Bonyng with a copy to Biddy Casey, October 31, 1896.*

³⁰⁸ *Marcellus A. Dorn was admitted to the bar of the Supreme Court May 31, 1882 and practiced in San Francisco with his younger brother D. S. Dorn. They had the business of the Sheriff of San Francisco, C. S. Laumeister for four years (1889-1892).*

³⁰⁹ *For more on this, see The Cousins – The Masterson Connection in this volume.*

³¹⁰ *By 1900 the law firm had become Black, Olcott, Gruber and Bonyng and some of the attorneys were still listed in 1930 as practicing in New York at 170 Broadway. If the firm survived under another name and if any of the old papers remain from the estate, this could be a boon in detailing family relationships.*

The estate was settled among Kevin's brothers: the still living Philip in Australia, the heirs of the deceased Robert in Australia, and the heir of the deceased Thomas in New Jersey. The Public Administrator spent \$271 on Kevin's funeral and \$715.13 on fees and expenses, leaving \$205.97 cash on deposit. The property was transferred to the heirs on March 17, 1897 and the remaining proceeds distributed.³¹¹ As happened with the deed book when the property was purchased, as well as the probate records themselves, the deed book involved in the transfer at settlement no longer exists, leaving the exact location of the property Kevin purchased unknown.

After the rebirth of San Francisco from the ashes of the great fire in 1906, the city began to expand. Land developers pressured the City and County government to move the existing cemeteries out of the city. Bowing to the pressure, the City declared the cemeteries to be a public health hazard and the dead began the great move south to Colma on the peninsula. Some cemeteries fought the evictions in court. Laurel Hill was one of the last holdouts and the bodies there were not moved until the mid to late 1930s when they went to Cypress Lawn Cemetery in Colma.³¹²

Laurel Hill Cemetery was part of the larger Lone Mountain Cemetery which opened in May 1852 in the Richmond District of San Francisco proper. Lone Mountain was bounded by California, Geary, Presidio, and Arguello Streets. Laurel Hill became a separate cemetery in 1862.

If the dead had no family to pay the relocation expenses, the corpses were re-buried in a single large section. Their markers, if they had one, were dumped along the edge of San Francisco Bay as breakwaters. In some cases, although not Laurel Hill, the dead were not moved at all when the land was converted to other uses. This fate became known at the time by the popular phrase, being 'grassed over'.³¹³ The Lincoln Park Golf Course in San Francisco is built on a grassed over cemetery.

As happened with his mother Honora Hynes Sheridan Darby, whose grave was relocated as Sydney expanded, so too was Kevin reburied at Laurel Hill Gardens of Cypress Lawn Cemetery in Colma, California, in vault 1114. Other Sheridans around him are Francis, J.J., Mary, Mary Ann, Patrick, and Robert. None are known to be related to Kevin.

³¹¹ *FHL, California, San Francisco County property records, Deed Index volume 118, 1896-1897, Image 167, Deed Book 1726, Page 282.*

³¹² *So many cemeteries were moved to Colma that in later years the town adopted the advertising phrase, "It's great to be alive in Colma!"*

³¹³ *"Raking the Ashes: Genealogical Strategies for Pre-1906 San Francisco", by Nancy Simons Peterson, California Genealogical Society, 2006.*

LAUREL HILL CEMETERY
INTERMENT RECORD
HALL & SHERMAN CO., S. F.

NUMBER				NAME		BOOK	PAGE
DATE OF BURIAL		AGE		PLACE OF NATIVITY		DATE OF DEATH	
Sept. 18 1895		65 0 0		Ireland		Sept. 17 1895	
PLACE OF DEATH				CAUSE OF DEATH			
N.E. cor. Chestnut + Mason				Pneumonia			
LOT NO. AND NAME							
GRAVE		TIER		PLOT			
1		44		North Ridge			
REMOVED TO						DATE	
Vault 1114 PHma						10-1-46	
ORDERED BY				REMARKS			

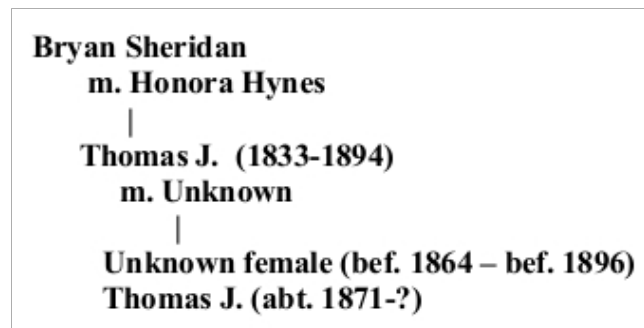
REMOVED TO A WINDALE
APR 29 1940
By Cypress Abbey Company

Illustration 56: Removal order for Kevin Sheridan from Laurel Hill Cemetery.



Illustration 57: Laurel Hill Gardens mass grave site with monument at Cypress Lawn, Colma, California. © 2017

Thomas J. Sheridan



Bryan Sheridan's second son, Thomas J., was born July 7, 1833 in Edgeworthstown. He immigrated to New York, probably with his brother Kevin when he was 13 years old, arriving in New York City on May 17, 1847 on the *Fagin Bealac*.

Working as a carpenter, Tom was living at 498 9th Avenue in Manhattan with the Abraham Pulis family in 1855.³¹⁴ Mr. Pulis, a local merchant, sponsored Thomas for citizenship in New York Common Pleas Court on October 9, 1854 by attesting to his good moral character and attachment to the principles of the Constitution of the United States.³¹⁵

Tom continued working as a carpenter and later became involved in theater work, first as a stage hand. He was involved in the early management of Booth's Theater in New York and worked in many other prominent theaters in the city. He was a Royal Arch Mason and for forty years a member of Hope Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons, at 16th Street and 5th Avenue, chartered March 3, 1852.

Thomas married in New York, but his wife's name is not known. They had at least one daughter and one son, Thomas J., Jr., born about 1871. Thomas used to visit his cousin, Bridget Brady's sister Mary Green, when she lived in Manhattan in the 1860s. Bridget Brady mentioned in a letter that she had not seen her cousin for 32 years and she described him as having been "very delicate".³¹⁶

Thomas and his family lived in Manhattan for their married life but sometime before 1890 Thomas' wife died. He continued to live in Manhattan but as he became sicker with consumption, he and his son moved in with his friend, John J. Bryant and John's wife Celia, at 785 Greenwich Street in Manhattan.³¹⁷ A couple of years later, they all moved out of the city to the Watsessing area of Bloomfield, New Jersey.

Tom and his son Thomas J. Jr. were living in the home of his friend John Bryant in Watsessing when Tom died on September 11, 1894. He was buried at Rosedale Cemetery

³¹⁴ 1855 New York State Census, 8th Ward, 7th Election District, June 1855, page 29.

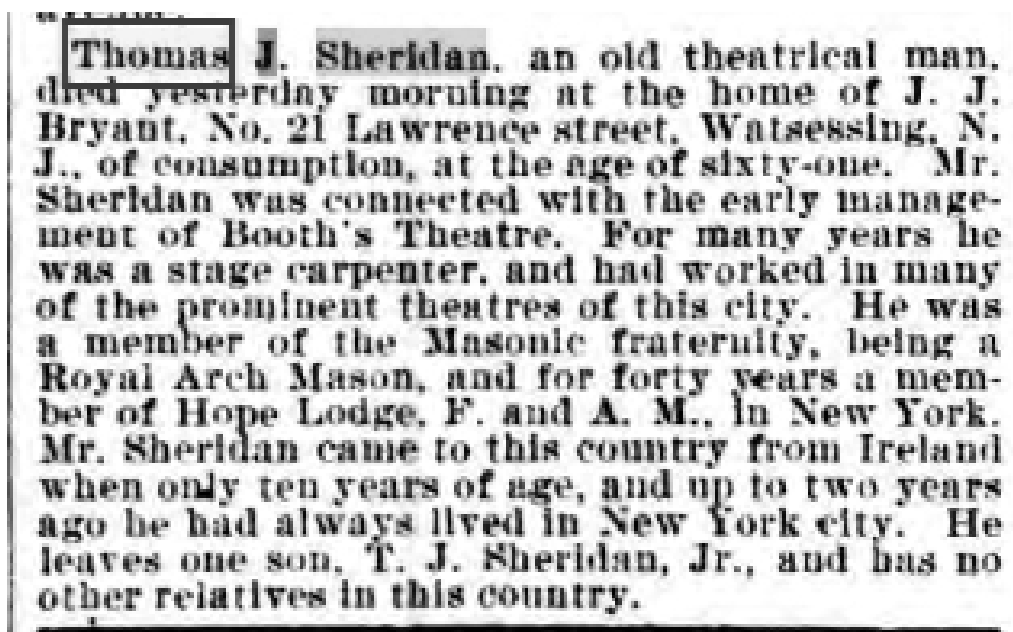
³¹⁵ Court of Common Pleas, New York County, Bundle 139, record number 160A.

³¹⁶ Bridget Reilly Brady letter to Biddy Casey, December 4, 1896.

³¹⁷ 1890 New York city Police Census, election district 28, assembly district 9, film 1,304,793, image 383.

in Bloomfield New Jersey.³¹⁸ His son continued to live with the Bryants in New Jersey at least until 1895.³¹⁹ The Bryants moved back to New York where Celia Bryant died at 49 on May 24, 1896 at 2 Bethune St. in New York City.³²⁰ She was was buried on Staten Island. Born about 1848, Celia was the daughter of Henry H. and Phoebe J. Roome.³²¹

In 1897, Thomas' surviving son visited Bridget Brady after receiving news of his Uncle Kevin's death in San Francisco. Bridget Brady speculated in a family letter that this son had moved from New Jersey sometime around 1897 and possibly went to California to look after his father's portion of the inheritance but that was pure supposition on her part. He probably moved elsewhere because the Bryants, with whom he had been living, had left New Jersey and moved back to Manhattan. Nothing further is known of the son.



Thomas J. Sheridan, an old theatrical man, died yesterday morning at the home of J. J. Bryant, No. 21 Lawrence street, Watsessing, N. J., of consumption, at the age of sixty-one. Mr. Sheridan was connected with the early management of Booth's Theatre. For many years he was a stage carpenter, and had worked in many of the prominent theatres of this city. He was a member of the Masonic fraternity, being a Royal Arch Mason, and for forty years a member of Hope Lodge, F. and A. M., in New York. Mr. Sheridan came to this country from Ireland when only ten years of age, and up to two years ago he had always lived in New York city. He leaves one son, T. J. Sheridan, Jr., and has no other relatives in this country.

Illustration 58: Thomas Sheridan obituary, New York Herald, September 13, 1894, page 14.

³¹⁸ *Death certificate, New Jersey, Bloomfield.*

³¹⁹ *1895 New Jersey state census.*

³²⁰ *New York Herald, May 27, 1896, page 1.*

³²¹ *New York City Municipal Deaths, film 1,322,913, cert # 17727.*

New York Common Pleas.

IN THE MATTER OF

Thomas J. Sheridan

ON HIS NATURALIZATION.

STATE OF NEW YORK, }
City and County of New York, } ss.

Thomas J. Sheridan

of *24 Renwick Street*

the above named applicant, being duly sworn, says, that he has arrived at the age of twenty-one years, that he has resided in the United States three years next preceding his arrival at that age, and has continued to reside therein to the present time; that he has resided five years within the United States, including the three years of his minority, and one year at least immediately preceding this application, within the State of New York; and that for three years next preceding this application, it has been his bona fide intention to become a Citizen of the United States.

Sworn in open Court, this *9th* day }
of *24 October* 1854 }

Thomas J. Sheridan

CLERK.

STATE OF NEW YORK, }
City and County of New York, } ss.

Abraham W. Puls

of *498 9th Avenue* being duly sworn, doth depose and say, that he is well acquainted with the above named applicant; that the said applicant has resided in the United States for three years next preceding his arrival at the age of twenty-one years, that he has continued to reside therein to the present time; that he has resided five years within the United States, including the three years of his minority, and in the State of New York one year at least immediately preceding this application; and that during that time he has behaved as a man of good moral character, attached to the principles of the Constitution of the United States, and well disposed to the good order and happiness of the same; and deponent verily believes, that for three years next preceding this application, it has been the bona fide intention of the said applicant to become a Citizen of the United States.

Sworn in open Court, this *9* day }
of *October* 1854 }

Abraham W. Puls

CLERK.

I do declare on oath, that it is my bona fide intention, and has been for three years next preceding this application, to become a Citizen of the United States, and to renounce forever all allegiance and fidelity to every foreign Prince, Potentate, State or Sovereignty whatever, particularly to the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, of whom I am now a subject.

Sworn in open Court, this *9* day }
of *October* 1854 }

CLERK.

Thomas J. Sheridan

I do solemnly swear, that I will support the Constitution of the United States; and that I do absolutely and entirely renounce and abjure all allegiance and fidelity to every foreign Prince, Potentate, State or Sovereignty whatever, and particularly to the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, of whom I was before a subject.

Sworn in open Court, this *9* day }
of *October* 1854 }

CLERK.

Thomas J. Sheridan

Illustration 59: Thomas J. Sheridan Declaration for Citizenship, 1854.

Philip Sheridan



Illustration 60: Philip Sheridan (1834-1910).

Bryan Sheridan's third son, Philip, was possessed of an ebullient and gregarious personality. Born February 17, 1834,³²² or 1835, in Edgeworthstown, Ireland, he immigrated to Australia in 1849, or 1851, at the age of 15 with his brother Robert, his mother and stepfather, and possibly two more siblings. He spent time in Maitland and Queensland before he proceeded to make quite a mark on the town of Sydney.³²³ In 1854 Philip was living at 13 May Street in Sydney, in a three room timber dwelling with an iron roof in Blackwattle Bay.³²⁴

Philip married Emma Wastell on November 20, 1865 in the small country town of Berrima, New South Wales,³²⁵ at Holy Trinity Church, according to the Rites of the Church of England. Phil was Catholic and Emma was a member of the Wesleyan Church, generally regarded as Methodist today. Phil was living in Marulan, NSW, at the time and the marriage certificate lists Marulan as his birth place, a clerical error. The certificate stated that Emma was born in Sydney, another error, and that Phil's father's occupation was merchant. Their

witnesses were Douglas Rowley and Sarah Ann Wastell. Phil was working as an

³²² The Referee, Sydney, New South Wales, periodical, February 19, 1896, page 8. 1834 is highly unlikely if Thomas was born in July of 1833. One of the two dates has to be off.

³²³ Convict removals to Australia had stopped by 1849. The Darbys and Sheridans were not part of those removals. Family sources maintain that Philip may have immigrated as late as 1851 with his mother and step-father, Honora and Richard Darby. The ship's manifest identifies only 'Mr. and Mrs. Darby and four children'.

³²⁴ Newspaper, July 12, 1854.

³²⁵ Registration number 1643. A different Philip Sheridan married Julia Moore at St. Mary's Cathedral on February 2, 1854 in Sydney, New South Wales. This was not Bryan's son Philip but was, in all likelihood, another relative. Marriage certificate, New South Wales. FHL film 1,368,019. He immigrated as an assisted passenger with his sister Jane on the ship Sarah on August 14, 1851. His son, born in 1855, was named Bernard Lawrence Sheridan.

engineer at the time. Berrima, once a major town, now an historic village in the Southern Highlands of New South Wales, lies between Sydney and Canberra.



Illustration 61: Holy Trinity Church, Berrima, New South Wales. Courtesy of Philippa Barbour.

Emma, born in Kent, England on March 16, 1840, was the daughter of Richard and Elizabeth Wallace Wastell. Living at River Row, Chatham, in Kent in 1841, the family was comprised of Emma, her parents, her two older sisters Mary Ann and Charlotte, and her aunt, Sarah Wallace, 15. Her father was a coal merchant.³²⁶ The family immigrated to Australia arriving at Moreton Bay on November 3, 1849. Later they settled in New South Wales.

Philip was engaged in unspecified pastoral pursuits in Queensland and mining in New South Wales, as well as contracting work on railway excavations.³²⁷ At one time a purchaser and smelter of tin in Sydney, he took a business trip to a tin mine from August to October in 1880 and his findings made the papers in Queensland. He was also a landlord and with his brother Robert, served on the capital building committee for St. Mary's Cathedral in 1892. But his real contribution to Sydney, and his lasting legacy,

³²⁶ 1841 Census, England, Kent, Chatham, Gillingham, District 14, page 13.

³²⁷ Obituary, Philip Sheridan, Sydney Morning Herald.

was to the game of cricket. The manager of the cricket grounds, he was a founding father and one of the original three trustees of the Australia cricket association.

Some citizens of Sydney didn't feel the money and effort spent on a new cricket stadium to be money well spent and Phil wrote more than one letter to the editor defending the new Cricket Ground. Reading these letters, it's easy to see how he got his reputation as a seanache, an Irish story teller.



*Illustration 62: Emma Wastell (1840-1925).
Courtesy of Philippa Barbour.*

Philip played a little cricket himself although not on a level to be part of the famous game in 1882 when England's team was humiliated by Australia's team. After that game English cricket was declared 'dead', which of course it wasn't, and its ashes were said to be awarded to the land Down Under. Forever after, the matches between the two nations have been referred to as the 'Ashes'. Even though Phil was not a good enough player to be involved, and by this time he would have been too old anyway, it is certain he was at the stadium, cheering on the Sydney team and he was surely present at all celebrations afterward, regaling everyone with his stories and his wit.

Active in the Archdiocese, along with his brother Robert's brother in law, J. P. Garvan, Philip and some other gentlemen, including a John F.

Sheridan,³²⁸ applied to the government for a permit to establish an 'art union' on behalf of the Roman Catholic Church on July 23, 1880. In February 1881, parliamentary testimony resulted in denial of the permit because it was deemed to be an illegal lottery.³²⁹

Several articles appeared in the Sydney Morning Herald detailing Phil's adventures. Early on was an advertisement for recovery of stolen property. "Stolen on Saturday last, the 8th of July (1854) a dray from Costello's Yard Paramatta Street, the property of Philip Sheridan. One pound reward will be given to any person giving information as to who took the dray."³³⁰

³²⁸ *This may have been the Rev. John Felix Sheridan, and probably a relative.*

³²⁹ *The Newcastle Morning Herald and Miners Advocate, February 14, 1881, page 3.*

³³⁰ *Sydney Morning Herald, July 12, 1854, page 1.*

Perhaps the most interesting story about Phil related when he and two relatives evicted a 'jumper', were subsequently arrested, and brought up on assault charges. As reported in the Sydney Morning Herald on November 16, 1871:

"Before Mr. Justice Chever and a jury of four, Doyle v. Garvan and others. ... this action was ... brought for trespass, assault, and forcible ejection of the plaintiff (Doyle) and his goods from a certain property which he then occupied but of which one of the defendants (Philip Sheridan) claimed to be the owner. The defense was that the plaintiff had been rightfully ejected by Sheridan, assisted by the other defendants, James Garvan and Denis Garvan.

"The substantial questions at issue were whether there had been a trespass by defendants, or only an assertion of a lawful right; and if the latter, whether any more force had been used than was necessary. The scene of the occurrence out of which this action arose was an allotment of the land at the corner of Victoria and Bourke Streets, Surrey Hills, having a frontage of 131 feet to the former street.

"The plaintiff, Charles Doyle, who described himself as a collector and commission agent, alleged that he had been put in possession of this property in November or December of 1848, by the late Mr. W. Toogood, the then legal owner of the same, and a Mr. O'Donnell, the former of whom marked out the boundaries of the land with pegs. Plaintiff was to occupy the land rent free for four or five years, and was then to pay such rent as might be agreed upon ... For the purposes of such actual occupation plaintiff erected a small hut on the land, and caused a ship's small deck house, or cabin, to be conveyed and erected there. In this place he took up his abode.

"At about twenty minutes past 6 PM on the 28th of August last, plaintiff was lying on a bed in his domicile, when he heard a noise, and saw a door burst open, which he had fastened with a cord. Plaintiff leaped up and heard Sheridan, who with the other defendants was outside, call out 'Now then, out you come.' Plaintiff, not coming out on this invitation, the defendant, Denis Garvan, came in, and ran at plaintiff "butting at him" (so the plaintiff said) "with his head". Doyle, however, still refused to vacate the premises, whereupon Sheridan called out, "Now, then, Peter" and another person entered, by whose assistance Doyle was dragged from the bed to the door.

"Doyle resisted in every possible way, short of striking his ejectors, particularly at the door, against which he laid his hands and feet. Notwithstanding all this resistance, however, he was forced to the outer gate – a distance of fifty-two feet – and cast out, his assailants remaining in possession of the premises. The evidence of the plaintiff was supported by a Mrs. Wilson, who was in the cabin at the time of the scuffle ... The defendants' case was, in fact, that Doyle had – to use a phrase common on the gold fields, and applicable to this state of things – "jumped" the property on the assumption that no one had a good enough claim to turn him off.

“... The defendants positively denied that there had been any more violence than was absolutely necessary for the ejection of Doyle in assertion of Sheridan’s title. Their evidence in this respect was corroborated by that of two policemen, who went at the request of the defendants simply to look on, as witnesses, defendants having called at the station house and requested the attendance of the officers for that purpose ... His Honour left the case to the jury ... The jury, after about a half-an-hours consideration, found a verdict for the defendants.”

Philip and Emma had ten children, nine of whom survived to adulthood. Phil died on Saturday, January 15, 1910 at home at Bracklyn, Darley Street, Darlinghurst, of a heart attack. He had awoken with chest pains and his family sent for a doctor, but he died before the doctor arrived. Called the ‘Father of the Sydney Cricket Ground’, he is buried at the Roman Catholic Cemetery at Waverly.³³¹

A man of independent means by the time of his death, he left a widow, nine grown children, and a comfortable estate of £6,781.

The Sydney Morning Herald obituary stated ‘The information that he was 77 years of age will come as a great surprise to many people, for he was smart enough in his walk to be 20 years younger. He possessed a fund of anecdotes, and in the telling of them, he displayed a rare Irish wit.’³³²



*Illustration 63: Philip Sheridan (1834-1910).
Courtesy of Philippa Barbour.*

³³¹ *Death registered in New South Wales Australia, 1910, number 60. Section 8, Special Vault 111A.*

³³² *An Irish wit is by no means rare.*

Bryan Sheridan
m. Honora Hynes
 |
Philip (1834-1910)
m. Emma Wastell
 |
Emma Mary (1866-1943)
m. Augustine McShane
Sarah May (1867-1951)
 (unmarried)
Edith Maud (1869-1951)
 (unmarried)
Richard Hynes (1870-1947)
m1. Mabel Alice Baldwin
m2. Miriam Margaret Clarke
m3. Mildred Chlorinda Warren
Annie Theresa (abt. 1872-1899)
m. Sylvester Waite
George (1874-1876)
 (unmarried)
Percival Joseph (1876-1926)
m. Evelyn Irene Lane
Thomas Vincent (1878-1958)
m. Gertrude Alice Steward
Gertrude Mary (1879-1946)
 (unmarried)
Ethel Marie (1887-1970)
 (unmarried)

Perhaps the best comment about Phil came from the great Anglo-Indian batsman Ranjitsinhji, who met Phil in 1897-1898. It is excerpted here from an article on the Sydney Cricket Ground website: "Philip Sheridan is a small man, slightly built, very active and vivacious for a man of his age, and always full of fun and spirits. One can always tell that Philip Sheridan is in the room from the amount of talking and laughing that is going on. His ready wit is indeed astonishing; he always turns everything into a joke, and his punning at times is worthy of Charles Lamb. If the company is dull and low spirited, Philip Sheridan is the man to cheer it up. One cannot sit a few moments by his side without being convulsed with laughter at something or other that falls from his lips. He is a firm and true friend."

It's easy to see that Phil enjoyed life and the men around him enjoyed Phil.

Emma Wastell Sheridan survived her husband for a number of years and died on May 4, 1925 at the home of her daughter at 177 Belmore Road, Coogee,

Sydney. In her will she left the cottage "Hambleton" on Wardell Road, Dulwich Hill to her daughter Emma Mary Sheridan McShane and the remainder of her estate to her four unmarried daughters: Sarah, Edith, Ethel, and Gertrude. She was buried at Waverley Cemetery with her husband.

Phil's oldest child, Emma Mary was born on March 6, 1866 in Campbelltown³³³ and died on June 26, 1943. On December 28, 1889 she married Augustine Timothy McShane at St. Thomas Church, Lewisham (Petersham), in a ceremony performed by the Rev. T. Lang. Austin as he was called, was born on March 6, 1865, the third son of James McShane and Hannah O'Brien, Derryvale, Marrickville. Austin died on June 1, 1938 in Dulwich Hill, Sydney.

³³³ *Registration number 7359.*

Sarah May was born on September 25, 1867 in Singleton.³³⁴ She never married and died in Sydney at Randwick Hospital on July 14, 1951.

Edith Maud was born March 4, 1869 at Singleton.³³⁵ She never married and died on September 24, 1951 in Sydney, leaving a comfortable estate. She was buried in the family vault at Waverly Cemetery with her parents and three unmarried sisters.

Phil's oldest son, Richard Hynes Sheridan, was born October 22, 1870 at Petersham, New South Wales.³³⁶ Known for most of his life as William Hynes Sheridan, he died on August 7, 1947 at Karoola Hospital in Kempsey, NSW.



Illustration 64: Emma Mary Sheridan (1866-1943). Courtesy of Judy McShane.

Annie Theresa was born about 1872 in Sydney. She married Sylvester Joseph Waite on May 30, 1899 at Sacred Heart Church, Darlinghurst, Sydney. Sylvester, born in 1872 in Condobolin, NSW, was the son of Thomas Waite and Johanna O'Shaunessy. Sylvester died on February 11, 1937 in Canterbury, Victoria. Annie died on November 8, 1963 in Hawthorne, Victoria.

Phil's son George was born April 23, 1874 in Sydney³³⁷ and died May 25, 1876 of scarlet fever and croup. He was two years old.³³⁸

Another son, Percival Joseph, was born May 7, 1876 in Darlinghurst, Sydney.³³⁹ Percy married Evelyn Irene Lane, known as Effie, with whom he had three children. He died on July 23, 1926 in Townsville Hospital, Queensland. His daughter, Marjorie Evelyn, was made a Member of the Order of the British Empire in 1978. See Appendix 3.

³³⁴ *Registration number 14593.*

³³⁵ *Registration number 16425.*

³³⁶ *Registration number 5137.*

³³⁷ *Registration number 1510.*

³³⁸ *Certificate number 01206.*

³³⁹ *Registration number 1357.*



Illustration 65: Phil Sheridan's sons in 1882. Left to right, William Hynes, 12, Percival Joseph, 6, and Thomas Vincent, 4. Courtesy of Philippa Barbour.

Thomas Vincent was born January 2, 1878 in Darlinghurst, Sydney.³⁴⁰ He died on July 9, 1958 in Cronulla, Sydney. On May 10, 1907 he married Gertrude Alice Steward, the youngest daughter of James Steward of Ashfield. The ceremony was held at St. Thomas Church, Lewisham, performed by the Rev. Father Phelan.

Gertrude Mary was born February 28, 1879 in Darlinghurst, Sydney.³⁴¹ She never married and died on July 2, 1946 in Coogee, Sydney.

Philip and Emma's last child, Ethel Marie, was born April 11, 1887 when Emma Wastell Sheridan was 47 years old.³⁴² Ethel died on May 28, 1970 at Our Lady of Sacred Heart Hospital in Randwick, Sydney. She never married.

³⁴⁰ *Registration number 2475.*

³⁴¹ *Registration number 1105.*

³⁴² *Registration number 5929.*



Illustration 66: Percival Joseph Sheridan and Family, circa 1911. Left to right, back: Percy 1876-1926), Effie, George (1903-1976); front: Gordon (1907-1988), Marjorie Evelyn (1902-1982). Courtesy of Philippa Barbour.

Robert Joseph Sheridan

Bryan Sheridan
m. Honora Hynes
|
Robert Joseph (1837-1896)
m. Annie Garvan
|
John Patrick Garvan (1868-1938)
m. Beatrice Maud Hordern
Robert Joseph (abt. 1870-1928)
m. Mary McMackin
Denis Bernard Garvan (1873-1922)
m. Florence Catherine Dimond
Mary (1874-1876)
(unmarried)
Annie A. (1878-1972)
Elizabeth Christina (1881-1957)

The youngest son of Bryan Sheridan, Robert Joseph, was born on July 17, 1837, in Edgeworthstown, Ireland.³⁴³ He immigrated to Australia with his brother Philip, his mother, and step-father, between 1849 and 1851.

Robert, employed under the Civil Service Act on April 2, 1861, worked for the fledgling railway service, New South Wales Railway, when it was just beginning and the lines covered only 74 miles. Over the next 35 years, he steadily advanced and worked as a traffic auditor at the Railway Audit Office³⁴⁴ where he was earning a salary of £520 in 1886. He 'was of an active disposition'³⁴⁵

and was involved with his brother Phil in the Sydney Cricket Association. An avid sportsman, a sculler and a marksman, he represented New South Wales in several Inter Colonial competitions. For several years he was the president of the Rifle Association.³⁴⁶

Robert married Annie Garvan on May 2, 1867³⁴⁷ in Sydney, New South Wales, at St. Mary's Cathedral. The ceremony was performed by minister S. F. A. Sheehy. The marriage certificate listed his father Bryan's occupation as inn keeper and Annie's father's as clerk. Annie, born in County Limerick, Ireland,³⁴⁸ was the daughter of Denis Bourke Garvan, Esq. and Annie Culhane. Annie's father, deceased at the time of the wedding, had been with Her Majesty's Customs. Their witnesses were James P. Garvan, Annie's brother,³⁴⁹ and Mary Ann Elizabeth McCormick.

³⁴³ *Marriage Certificate, New South Wales, 1867/000391.*

³⁴⁴ "Death of Traffic Auditor Robert Joseph Sheridan 13-9-1896", *New South Wales Railway Budget 1896, Volume 5, page 3.* The same index mentions an article on the retirement of P.J. Sheridan 1893, Volume 1, who is not our Philip Sheridan.

³⁴⁵ *Ibid.*

³⁴⁶ *The Freeman's Journal, Sydney, September 19, 1896, page 15.*

³⁴⁷ *Registration number 391.*

³⁴⁸ *Gravestone, Rookwood Necropolis, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia.*

³⁴⁹ *Denis and James Garvin, Annie's brothers, were defendants with Robert's brother Philip in the Doyle eviction. James became Major-Commander of the Irish Rifle Corps, in Sydney.*

Robert Joseph Sheridan died of carcinoma of the stomach in Sydney, on September 14, 1896³⁵⁰ at his home at 12 Sir John Young Crescent. He was 59. His funeral was held on Tuesday, September 16, 1896 at St. Mary's Cathedral and he was buried in the Necropolis. His wife Annie survived him and died on April 24, 1917³⁵¹ in St. Leonards.

Robert and Annie had at least six children, three daughters and three sons, five of whom were still alive in 1897.³⁵² Robert Joseph was not as much in the newspapers as his more flamboyant brother Philip, but one of his sons made the papers regularly. John Patrick Garvin Sheridan, is included here as his career path so resembles that of Charles Patrick Casey, Biddy Sheridan Casey's great-grandson.

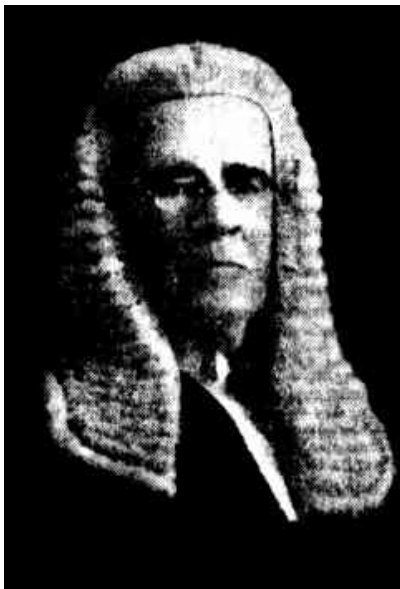


Illustration 67: John P. G. Sheridan (1868-1938), Sydney Morning Herald, September 6, 1938, page 14.

Robert's oldest son, John Patrick Garvan Sheridan was born in 1868 in Sydney.³⁵³ He studied law and was admitted to the Bar on March 7, 1893 becoming a Barrister-at-law. Appointed to prosecute on behalf of the Crown at the special sitting of the Supreme Court at Lismore, "on the 12th prox.",³⁵⁴ he was appointed again in 1925 in Maitland. He then 'took silk'³⁵⁵ and was appointed a judge of the District Court in Sydney in December 1929 and served there until his death.

John Patrick Garvan Sheridan married Beatrice Maud Hordern on January 9, 1901 in Sydney, at St. Andrew's Cathedral, according to the rites of the Church of England. Called Totsie by her family, Beatrice was born June 22, 1880 in Sydney, New South Wales Colony, the daughter of Edward and Christine Stack Hordern.³⁵⁶

John Patrick and Totsie had two daughters but after 17 years of marriage, they divorced on October 1, 1918. According to the divorce filing, he left her and she

³⁵⁰ Registration number 8908. The official death certificate implies Robert immigrated to Australia in 1849.

³⁵¹ Registration number 8412.

³⁵² Letter from Bridget Brady to Bridget Casey, dated January 8, 1897, refers to Robert's five children. These birth and death records match the count of children in 1896.

³⁵³ Registration number 13318.

³⁵⁴ Sydney Morning Herald, July 31, 1914.

³⁵⁵ The award of Queen's (or King's) Counsel is known informally as taking silk. Appointments are made on the basis of merit.

³⁵⁶ Geneanet.org.

sued for restoration of conjugal rights and won, which set the stage for a decree nisi. When he did not return to her, the marriage was ended and he was ordered to pay £52 quarterly child support for their two daughters. Totsie moved to England with the children and there she subsequently married Baron Henry de Tuyll, the Baron Hendrick Nicolaas Van Der Tuyll of Serooskerken, on February 1, 1930 at Brompton, England. The Baron was purportedly a very rich man.³⁵⁷

In 1931, based on the remarriage and wealth of his ex-wife, John Patrick petitioned for dissolution of the decree ordering him to pay £52. In addition he maintained he had made the payments monthly, not quarterly. He also had paid into accounts for the children and sent them presents but it seems the girls may have been estranged from him. The order to pay was discharged that year. Beatrice Maud died on February 16, 1953 in London. The baron died March 14, 1949 at Torquay, Devon, England.³⁵⁸

John Patrick was due to retire in December of 1938 but died on Monday, September 5, 1938 at St. Vincent's Private Hospital. He was survived by his two daughters, Mrs. Beatrice³⁵⁹ Durand the wife of Mortimer Durand, and Miss Patricia Sheridan of England. He was also survived by two sisters, Miss Annie Sheridan and Miss Elizabeth Sheridan, both of North Sydney. He played cricket and loved to travel. His funeral was a Requiem Mass at St. Mary's Basilica and he was buried in the Catholic Section, Rookwood Cemetery, Mortuary 1.³⁶⁰ His will was probated in March 1940.



Illustration 68: Beatrice Maud Hordern. Photograph by Bernice Agar. The Sun, November 24, 1929.

Robert Joseph, the second son of Robert Joseph, was born in 1870,³⁶¹ and died on May 19, 1928 in North Sydney. He married Mary McMackin on October 14, 1916 at St. Mary's, Manly, in a ceremony performed by the Rev. Father McDonald. Mary was the daughter of the late Bernard McMackin, and the granddaughter of Donald McDonald of Woolla, Manning River. Mary died in 1940.

³⁵⁷ *Tuyll was a Dutch family with links to England. Hendrick was the son of Hendrick Nicolaas Van Detuyll and was born July 26, 1882 at the Hague and died at 67. He first married Kate Hensman on Feb. 28, 1914 in London.*

³⁵⁸ *Geneanet.org.*

³⁵⁹ *Born 1908, Woollahra, registration number 20547.*

³⁶⁰ *Sydney Morning Herald, September 6, 1938, page 14.*

³⁶¹ *Registration number 2588.*

Denis Bernard Garvin Sheridan was born in 1873³⁶² and died on June 27, 1922³⁶³ in Chatswood.³⁶⁴ He married Florence Catherine Dimond (1879-1964). They had four children: Mary Florence Garvan Sheridan (1913-1992) who married Edmund Arthur Collingridge (1912-1966); Denis Sheridan (1918-1985); John Sheridan, an infant who died on April 21, 1916;³⁶⁵ and another child, gender and birth date unknown (? - 1922). Florence Catherine died June 16, 1964.³⁶⁶

Robert Joseph Sheridan's daughter, Mary, was born in 1874³⁶⁷ and died in 1876.³⁶⁸ Nothing further is known.

Robert Joseph's daughter, Annie Sheridan, was born in 1878³⁶⁹ and died on June 7, 1972³⁷⁰ in Ryde. Nothing further is known.

Robert Joseph's last daughter, Elizabeth Christina Sheridan, was born in 1881³⁷¹ and died on June 23, 1957³⁷² in North Sydney. Nothing further is known.

³⁶² *Registration number 66.*

³⁶³ *Gravestone, Rookwood Necropolis, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia.*

³⁶⁴ *Registration number 6716.*

³⁶⁵ *Gravestone, Rookwood Necropolis, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia.*

³⁶⁶ *Gravestone, Rookwood Necropolis, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia.*

³⁶⁷ *Registration number 3036.*

³⁶⁸ *Registration number 1436.*

³⁶⁹ *Registration number 3463.*

³⁷⁰ *Gravestone, Rookwood Necropolis, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia.*

³⁷¹ *Registration number 360.*

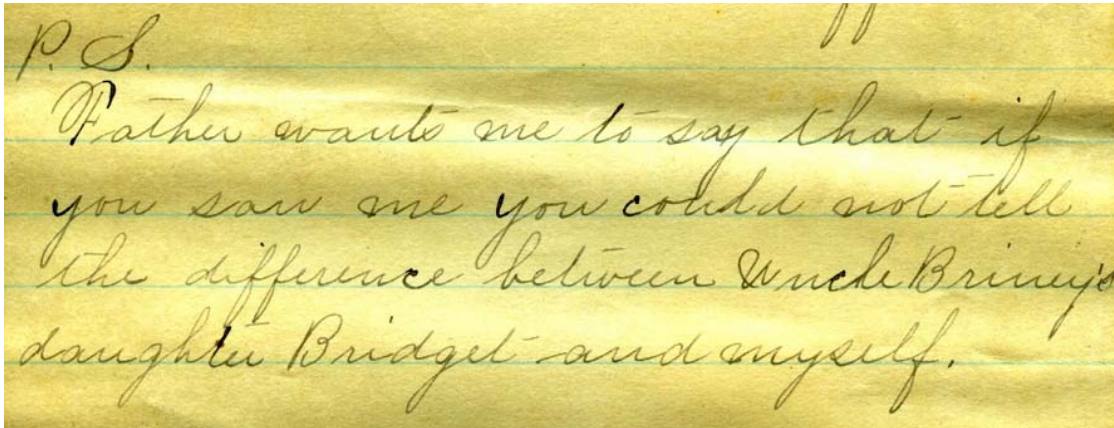
³⁷² *Gravestone, Rookwood Necropolis, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia.*

Bridget Sheridan

Nothing is known about Bryan's daughter Bridget except that she was said to favor in her looks, Biddy Casey's great-niece, Annie Shanley of Sioux City, Iowa.³⁷³

A letter on August 8, 1886 from Annie Shanley to Biddy Casey, remarked that "Father (John Shanley) wants me to say that if you saw me you could not tell the difference between Uncle Briney's daughter, Bridget, and myself." This would seem to imply that Bryan's daughter Bridget, was well known to both John Shanley and Biddy Casey. Annie Shanley was eighteen at the time of the letter which also implies that Bryan's daughter may have lived at least until young adulthood.³⁷⁴

Bryan Sheridan
m. Honora Hynes
|
Bridget (?-?)
(unmarried)
Honora (1840-?)
(unmarried)



The only known reference to Bridget Sheridan, Bryan's daughter, is a post script to a letter from Annie Shanley when she was 18, to her great aunt Bridget Sheridan Casey, on August 8, 1886.

³⁷³ Close by Lawrence Shanley's grave in Edgeworthstown, Ireland is the grave of a Bridget Sheridan, who died at the age of 15 on March 29, 1835, making her born as early as 1820. Her stone was placed there by her loving father Bryan Sheridan, who might be our Bryan. On the other hand she could be the daughter of one of Biddy Casey's uncles, or someone completely unrelated.

³⁷⁴ A Bridget Sheridan died 'young' on October 8, 1840 in Claron, County Westmeath, with no explanation of the word young.

Honora Sheridan

Bryan Sheridan's youngest child, a daughter Honora, was born a few months before his death. She was baptized in Edgeworthstown, Ireland, on September 27, 1840 at St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception.³⁷⁵ She is not mentioned in any of the letters, making her difficult to track. It isn't known if she survived childhood or immigrated to Australia or elsewhere. No mention of her has been found in the death records at Edgeworthstown and nothing further is known at this time. Some Irish records mention Jane as another name for Honora, but even so, no records have been found that can be identified as her. An Honora Sheridan died in Cornashin, County Cavan on October 14, 1840. Another Honora Sheridan of Culleboy, County Cavan was buried on February 5, 1848. No age was recorded for either. If her mother did not remain in Edgeworthstown after her remarriage to Richard Darby, the daughter Honora could have died elsewhere.

Other Australian notes

A short digression is made here to explain a bit about the Rev. John Felix Sheridan and his history, since he was somewhat famous and easy to track, and almost certainly, a relative. John Felix sailed from Liverpool on October 7, 1847 arriving in Port Jackson, New South Wales on February 7, 1848, after a four months long voyage. Born on November 9, 1824, he was from Martinstown, Athboy, County Meath, Ireland, the second son of Philip Sheridan, a farmer born about 1776, and Catherine Moore.³⁷⁶

John Felix went on to local greatness, serving at several churches in Australia as well as being a founding fellow of St. John's College, and Vicar General and General Official of the diocese as well as the Roman Catholic immigration agent in Sydney. "... bearded, stocky and radiating joviality, ... he was a good fiddler."³⁷⁷ When John Felix died at 72 of diabetes on March 15, 1897, Cardinal Moran presided at his funeral and his nephew, the Rev. John Sheridan was the celebrant. Over 100 priests and dignitaries were in the sanctuary and 700-800 people attended the funeral.

John presided at the marriage of the other Phil Sheridan and Julia Moore in Sydney on February 2, 1854. Their witnesses were James McGorman and Jane Sheridan, the groom's sister.

³⁷⁵ *Some of the old Catholic records attempted to Latinize all the names. Her father was Bernard (Bernardus) Sheridan, mother is Honoria Hinds, sponsors are John Calery and Bridget Calery.*

³⁷⁶ *It is possible that John Felix's father, Philip Sheridan, was a relative and might even be a brother of Biddy Casey's father.*

³⁷⁷ *Australian Dictionary of Biography – Online Edition. C.J. Duffy.*

Thomas Sheridan's Descendants

Margaret Sheridan

Tom Sheridan's oldest known daughter, Margaret, born around 1834 in Ireland, immigrated to America, never married and went into service in Manhattan for 40 years or more, almost entirely with the same family.³⁷⁸

Thomas Sheridan
m. Anne Reilly
|
Margaret (abt. 1834-1899)
(unmarried)

Margaret was in service at 385 Fifth Avenue in the home of Samuel Sands, a stockbroker and banker, and his family as early as 1870.³⁷⁹ The Sands enterprise included a bank at 62 Cedar Street. Mr. Sands had a very large contingent of servants, including Margaret, who was 46, in 1880.³⁸⁰ Samuel Sands married Emily Aymos, the daughter of a very wealthy English man and they had at least nine children before Emily died on June 24, 1879. Margaret worked as a nursemaid in the household to the large Sands family.

Margaret died at the Sands' home on 5th Avenue on December 18, 1899 of rectal cancer and exhaustion. She was at least 65, although her death certificate gave her age as 62. While the certificate gives her father's name as John Sheridan and her mother as Mary Reilly, this was certainly Tom's daughter Margaret.³⁸¹ The Sands family would not have necessarily been cognizant of Margaret's particulars. She was buried in the family plot at Holy Cross Cemetery on December 20, 1899³⁸² with her sisters, Mary Sheridan Oates and Ann Sheridan.³⁸³

³⁷⁸ *Letter from Bridget Brady to Biddy Casey, January 8, 1897.*

³⁷⁹ *Federal census, 1870, New York. New York state census records for 1865 are spotty for Manhattan.*

³⁸⁰ *There was also a John Casey working for the Sands family in 1870, although of course, this was not the West Virginia John Casey.*

³⁸¹ *Certificate and Record of Death, State of New York, Manhattan, 1899, record number 34961. FHL film 1,322,968.*

³⁸² *Margaret Sheridan's death certificate says she was buried in Flatbush, which was Brooklyn. A transcription error on the Holy Cross Cemetery web site states a Martin Sheridan was buried there on December 20, 1899.*

³⁸³ *Catholic Cemeteries, Diocese of Brooklyn, <http://www.ccbklyn.org/information-news/locate-a-loved-one>*

Mary Sheridan Oates

Tom Sheridan's and Anne Reilly's daughter, Mary, was born in June 1848³⁸⁴ in Moylett,³⁸⁵ County Cavan, Ireland. She was baptized on July 2, 1848 in the Roman Catholic parish of Killinkere and Mullagh,³⁸⁶ in the Diocese of Kilmore. Mary's sponsors were Felix McCabe and Rose Reilly, who was married to a Peter Sheridan.³⁸⁷

No definitive record of Mary's immigration to America has been found but she was living in Brooklyn by the mid 1860s. She maintained she immigrated in 1861.³⁸⁸ She was very close to her cousin Bridget Reilly Brady, and was mentioned in several letters.

Mary married Michael J. Oates, a widower, about 1868 in Brooklyn. Michael was born in Pennsylvania about 1829 or 1830. Both of his parents were from Ireland and his mother was from Clonbroney in County Longford.³⁸⁹ His family moved to New York when he was about 3 years old and he married Catherine Matson there around 1854. Catherine was born in Kings County, New York about 1836.³⁹⁰ They lived in the 2nd Election District of the 6th Ward of Brooklyn and in the manner of the time, had several children together. Their first son, Thomas W., was born around May 1855.³⁹¹ Another son John F., was born about 1856, followed by a daughter Mary E. in 1858, and another son, Michael J., in May 1860. Michael's mother,

Thomas Sheridan
m. Anne Reilly
|
Mary (1848-1905)
m. Michael Oates
|
James C. (1869-1938)
m. Sarah Sullivan
Ann (abt. 1870-1930)
m. Adolph Knippler
Charles (1873-1877)
(unmarried)
Margaret (1875-1877)
(unmarried)
Catherine (1878-1878)
(unmarried)
George Peter (abt. 1879-1949)
m. Alice E. O'Grady
Josephine (abt. 1883-1956)
m. Joseph Minogue

³⁸⁴ *Some census records place her birth sooner but the majority point to 1848 as does her death certificate.*

³⁸⁵ *In the baptismal record for Mary, Moylet (sic) is noted by the names of her parents.*

³⁸⁶ *Ireland, Catholic Parish Records, 1655-1915, Diocese Kilmore, Parishes Killinkere and Mullagh, Baptisms January 1, 1842 – April 11, 1862, image 147 of 231, Ancestry.*

³⁸⁷ *Rose Reilly and Peter Sheridan of Killyduff had a son, Thomas, baptized on June 7, 1848 in Kilmore. His sponsors were James Smyth and Anne Reilly. Killyduff is a 201 acre townland in Killinkere.*

³⁸⁸ *1900 Federal Census, Kings County, Brooklyn.*

³⁸⁹ *Brooklyn Deaths, 1883, FHL film 1,323,779, certificate number #173. Brooklyn Daily Eagle, June 15, 1874, page 3, obituary for Ann Moran.*

³⁹⁰ *1860 Federal Census, Kings County, Brooklyn.*

³⁹¹ *1855 New York State Census, Kings County, Brooklyn.*

Ann Oates, born about 1808, lived with them and Michael earned enough to support his family and employ an Irish servant, Ellen McCormick, to help with the household tasks.³⁹²

Michael had taken a job as a policeman by 1855. Between 1851 and 1855 there were 144 policemen and 15 officers on the newly formed Brooklyn force. Nominations for the police were made by the aldermen and the salary was about \$200 a year. In 1856 a complaint was made against Michael but was dismissed as having no merit.

As a policeman, in a time of unrest, Michael had a hard row to hoe. This was no more true than during the Civil War, as complex and difficult a time in the Northern states as it was in the Southern ones. The following account of his role in helping to quell a riot was taken from several articles that appeared in the *Brooklyn Daily Eagle* in 1862. The articles report both the riot itself and the subsequent trial of the rioters.

THE CHARGE AGAINST OFFICER OATS.—We published some days ago the account of a charge against officer Michael Oats of the 3d district police, preferred by a woman. The case has been thoroughly investigated before Mayor Hall, and the evidence shows distinctly that Mr. Oats acted correctly in the matter. The following card from the mayor explains it :

CARD.—The undersigned having examined into the charges preferred against officer Michael Oats of the 3d district police, for maltreating a female of the 6th ward on the evening of the 3d inst., finds, after the examination of eleven witnesses, produced by the complainant, that no evidence appeared casting the least shadow of blame upon the conduct of officer Oats.

GEO. HALL, Mayor.

Illustration 69: Brooklyn Daily Eagle, September 12, 1856.

In 1862, rumors were rampant that President Lincoln planned to free the slaves in the states that had seceded from the Union. The fear among those on the lower rungs of the economic ladder, and this included the Irish, was that the freed blacks would come North to the factory towns and take their jobs. Already at the bottom of the heap, at a time when job postings often stated 'Irish Need Not Apply', the tight knit community was gripped by a spreading fear of further economic disadvantage. Justified or not, fair or not, the fear was a reality that the situation would make their already hard lives, even harder.

Riots had already occurred in Cincinnati, Ohio before the riot in Brooklyn on August 4, 1862. An earlier incident at a local Brooklyn saloon had caused wild rumors to circulate and racial tension had increased in the area. Many of the blacks working in Brooklyn were off at the emancipation celebrations at the time of the Brooklyn riot, but there was a group of about 20 working at the Watson Tobacco Factory in Michael's neighborhood.

³⁹² *Ellen McCormick, 25, born in Ireland. 1860 Federal Census, Kings County. It's possible that Ellen worked elsewhere and simply boarded with the Oates' family.*

The black workers from the adjoining Lorillard Tobacco Factory had been sent home in anticipation of trouble but those at the Watson Tobacco Factory refused to leave. The white workers had gone home to dinner at noon but the black workers typically remained at the factory to eat their dinners, or what we would now call lunches.

An attack had been set for 12:30 PM, by a mostly Irish mob. Newspaper accounts at the time set the number of rioters at 400 but this appears to be an exaggeration. There were about five or six Negro men remaining at the factory on Sedgwick Street, with the other workers being mostly Negro women and children.

Michael was having dinner at home when one of his children came in to tell him there was a fight going on. He and Officer Byrnes of the 43rd Precinct were the first to arrive at the scene shortly after 12:30 PM. A mob of 50 to 75 people had gathered outside. Bricks had been thrown through the windows and people were running out the door of the factory, some with pitchforks in their hands. He personally saw someone strike a 'colored person'.³⁹³

Michael tried to assist the stricken man back into the factory away from the crowd but got only about 20 feet before being bombarded with stones and bricks. He arrested the man throwing the missiles but the crowd wrenched the man free and he ran away. Michael pursued him and arrested him again as the crowd pressed in to wrest the man free once more. Knowing one of the men in the crowd, Michael asked for his assistance. The man, a Mr. Patrick Keenan, one of the defendants in the ensuing trial, did intervene and told the arrested man it would be best to go with the officer. Thanks in part to Mr. Keenan's intervention, Michael managed to get the arrested man to the station house. When he returned to the scene about a half hour later with reinforcements, the crowd was more orderly.

The arrested were arraigned in 2nd District Court before Justice Boerum. About a week later Michael was called to testify against several of the defendants, mostly Irish like himself, and he gave a gripping description of the riot itself.³⁹⁴

Officer Oates identified several of the defendants on trial, and he specifically identified the one defendant who had threatened to murder one of the blacks with his pitchfork. Having lived in the neighborhood for about 15 years, and feeling it was a generally peaceable place, he testified he had never seen the like of the riot before and described it as a "frightful affair".

When the precinct captain testified, he described the crowd as being as large as 1,000 people. The mob was throwing stones and bricks and were attempting to drag the colored workers out. According to the captain's testimony, when thwarted in this, they turned to

³⁹³ *Testimony by Officer Michael Oates as reported by the Brooklyn Daily Eagle, August 12, 1862, page 2.*

³⁹⁴ *Brooklyn Daily Eagle, August 12, 1862.*

trying to burn the building down. The fate of the building was not mentioned at trial. None of the rioters were convicted.

In September 1862 the Emancipation Proclamation was formally announced and more riots occurred. On March 3, 1863, Congress passed a conscription act which precipitated even more violent riots, some of the worst being in the boroughs of New York City. As a policeman, Michael surely had his hands full.

In the midst of all this turmoil, Michael's first wife, Catherine, was ill with consumption. She died on August 25, 1863 at 440 Columbia Street in the Sixth Ward of Brooklyn. She was 27 years and six months old and was buried at Holy Cross Cemetery.³⁹⁵ In the 1865 New York state census, Michael, now a widower at 35, was living in the 6th Ward with his mother Ann, 56, and his four surviving children: Thomas 10, John 8, Mary 7, and Michael 5. Ellen McCormick was still around to help with the household.

By 1865 Michael had taken on the job of bell ringer in the fire department at the South Brooklyn bell tower³⁹⁶ for which he was paid an annual sum of \$900.³⁹⁷ The bell ringer occupation was an interesting twist and was brought about as the Brooklyn Fire Department tried to expand its services and make these services more efficient.

Prior to establishing the position of bell ringer, it was difficult for the fire fighters to find the location of a reported fire. Getting to the fire and putting it out as fast as possible was, of course, of the utmost importance. So the post of bell ringer was established, a position similar to that used in other large cities of the time. Immediately upon discovering a fire, the person making the discovery would go to the nearest police station and inform the officer in charge. That officer, via some means of communication with headquarters, would notify the nearest bell tower. Similar to a telegraph, the bell ringer would communicate the district in which the fire was located to the fire department, by means of a transmitter via a series of taps. He, and it was always a he, would strike the alarm on his bell. The engines and horse drawn trucks, would then scour the given district until they found the fire. By today's standards this was not exactly efficient, but it was a far cry over the previous methods.

Mary Sheridan married Michael Oates about 1868 and added seven children to those he already had with his deceased first wife. Only four of the seven, two sons and two daughters, survived as long as 1900.³⁹⁸

³⁹⁵ *Brooklyn Deaths, 1863, certificate number 4573, FHL film 1,323,654.*

³⁹⁶ *Manuel of the Common Council of the City of Brooklyn for 1866, compiled by Henry McCloskey, City Clerk, Arthur Brown, New York, 1866, page 42.*

³⁹⁷ *Brooklyn Daily Eagle, February 27, 1865, page 2.*

³⁹⁸ *1900 Federal Census, Kings County, Brooklyn.*

Their first child together was James, born January 5, 1869.³⁹⁹ In August 1870 Mary and Michael were still in the 6th ward of Brooklyn and Michael was still a city fireman. Whether or not this proved to be a less dangerous job than policeman is unknown. Mary was raising the four children from his first marriage and his mother, Ann, now 60, was with them, as was Mary's sister, Annie Sheridan, in 1870.

Michael's mother died on June 14, 1874 in Brooklyn of congestion of the lungs, consumption.⁴⁰⁰ In 1880 the Oates family was at 496 Hicks Street in Brooklyn.⁴⁰¹ Michael's son, Michael J., 20, a plumber, was living at home with them. Their son James, now 11, was in school and three more children had been added to their family, a daughter Ann, 9, born January 7, 1871,⁴⁰² a son Charles, born on May 12, 1873, and a daughter, Margaret, born in 1875.

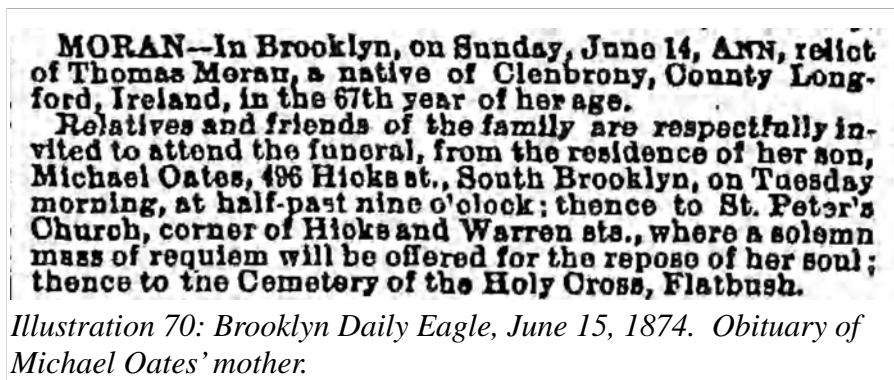


Illustration 70: Brooklyn Daily Eagle, June 15, 1874. Obituary of Michael Oates' mother.

Mary's son Charles died of diphtheria on July 14, 1877 in Brooklyn.⁴⁰³ He was four years, two months, and two days old and had been sick for six days. He was buried on July 15. Five days later, at 6 AM on July 19, 1877, Mary's daughter Margaret died of diphtheria.⁴⁰⁴ She was two years old and had been sick for only three days. They were both buried at Holy Cross Cemetery.

A daughter Catherine was born on January 7, 1878. She died eight days later on January 15, 1878 at 4:00 AM of trismus nascentium. Sometimes called Lock-Jaw of Infants or Nine-Day Fits, in 1884 this was sometimes considered to be the result of cranial,

³⁹⁹ *Brooklyn, Kings County Births, year 1869, page 144, FHL film 1,315,322.*

⁴⁰⁰ *New York, New York City Municipal Deaths, 1795-1949, 1874, certificate number 4728, FHL film 1,323,711. Brooklyn Daily Eagle, June 15, 1874, page 3.*

⁴⁰¹ *1880 Federal census, Kings County, taken June 1880.*

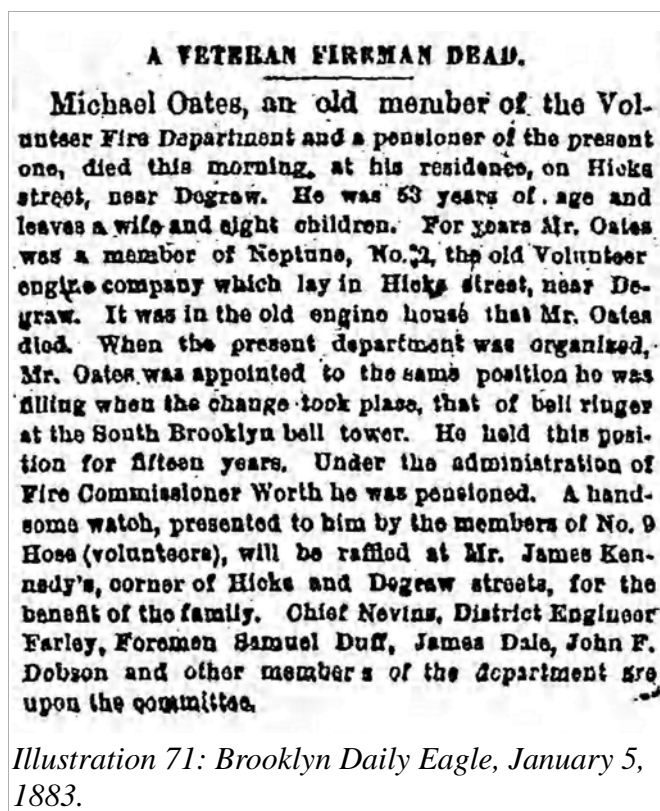
⁴⁰² *New York, New York, City Births, 1846-1909. Certificate number 85, FHL film 1,324,348.*

⁴⁰³ *Brooklyn, Kings County Deaths, 1877, certificate number 5790, FHL film 1,323,733.*

⁴⁰⁴ *Brooklyn, Kings County Deaths, 1877, certificate number 6025, FHL film 1,323,733.*

occipital, or parietal displacement, which could result from complications during labor.⁴⁰⁵ The child would experience frequent contractions of the lower jaw, spreading to the rest of the face and extremities.⁴⁰⁶ Now it is considered a form of tetanus seen only in infants, usually in the first five days of life, probably due to infection of the umbilical stump. Catherine was buried the same day at Holy Cross Cemetery. Mary had lost three children in the space of six months.

A son, George Peter, was born about 1879, followed by another daughter, Josephine, born in October 1882.⁴⁰⁷ George would follow in his father's footsteps in the fire department. Mary's sister, Ann Sheridan, 34, continued to live with them and worked as a paper stainer. In 1880, they had a boarder, Catherine Reilly, 23, born in Ireland about 1857, probably a cousin through Mary Oates's mother, Ann Reilly Sheridan.



Michael Oates died on Friday morning, January 5, 1883 at the age of 53 of pyaemia and ulcers of the leg. Given his occupation and the dangers attached, it isn't unreasonable to assume he may have been injured on the job at least once, and probably far more often. He had been treated for the affliction for 6 months prior to his death.⁴⁰⁸ Pyaemia or pyemia is a type of septicemia that leads to wide abscesses of a metastatic nature. The abscesses or ulcers are caused by staphylococcus bacteria in the blood. Prior to antibiotics, it was almost always fatal. Once it was contracted, Michael never stood a chance. He had received a commemorative watch when he retired from the force and it was sold at auction after his death to help the family financially.

⁴⁰⁵ *The Lock-Jaw of Infants (Trismus Nascentium) or Nine-Day Fits, Crying Spasms, etc.: Its History, Cause, Prevention, and Cure.* JAMA, 1884

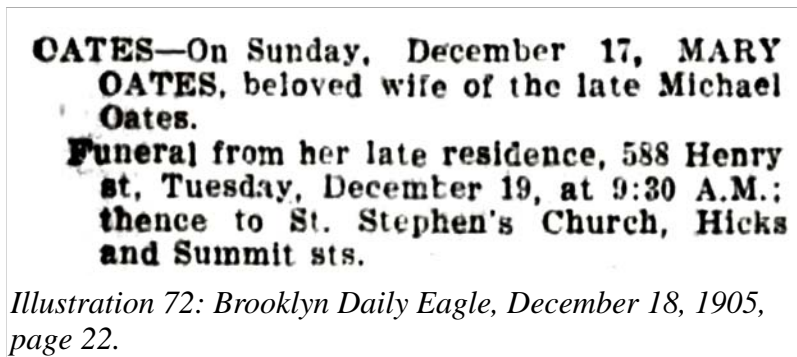
⁴⁰⁶ *A Practical Treatise on the Diseases of Children,* John Forsyth Meigs, William Pepper, P. Blakiston, 1882. Google Books.

⁴⁰⁷ Josephine's birth certificate has not been found.

⁴⁰⁸ FHL film 1,323,779, certificate number #173.

We don't know what Mary and the children did to support themselves after they lost Michael but she did receive his annual pension of \$300 after he died.⁴⁰⁹ Certainly the children who remained at home also supported the family. Mary was a frequent visitor to the home of her first cousin, Bridget Brady. In 1900 she and the family were at 492 Hicks St. in Brooklyn. Now a widow for 17 years, four of her children were still living: James, George, Josephine, and Annie. As happened with many other Irish families of the time, her three unmarried children were living at home with their mother. James was a shipping clerk, George P., a lithographer, and Josephine, a seamstress.

Mary Sheridan Oates died December 17, 1905 at 12:30 AM of stomach cancer at 588 Henry Street in Brooklyn. She was buried in the family plot at Holy Cross Cemetery. She had suffered for six months with cancer. Her death certificate stated she had been in New York for 44 years.⁴¹⁰ She may have lived in Manhattan for a time if her father immigrated and lived on Goerck Street, a possibility. Her death certificate gave her age as 57 confirming 1848 as the year of her birth. She left an estate worth \$40. Her son, James, filed her probate papers.



Mary and Michael are buried at Holy Cross Cemetery in the same grave as her sisters Annie and Margaret Sheridan, Michael's first wife Catherine Matson Oates, their children James Oates and Annie Oates Knippler, and their granddaughter, Maria Minogue.

⁴⁰⁹ "Third Annual Message of Honorable Seth Low, Mayor of Brooklyn: with Annual Reports of Heads of Departments of the City Government", January 7, 1884, Printed for the Corporation, Statement H, pages 196-197.

⁴¹⁰ Brooklyn Death Certificates, 1898-1920, certificate number 23030, FHL film 1,324,112.



Illustration 73: Grave of Michael and Mary Sheridan Oates has no tombstone. Holy Cross Cemetery, Brooklyn. © 2011

James C. Oates was born on January 5, 1869. He married Sarah Sullivan, the daughter of William and Catherine Reilly Sullivan, between 1910 and 1920. Called Sadie by the family, she was born on May 22, 1872. They lived at 94 Amity Street in Brooklyn. James worked as a clerk at the National Biscuit Company, retiring on August 1, 1935. Sick for more than two years, he died on March 9, 1938 of sclerosis of the myocardium, arteriosclerosis, and hypertension.⁴¹¹ He was buried in the same plot at Holy Cross as his mother and father.⁴¹² Sarah died at St. Peter's Hospital in Brooklyn on March 5, 1942 of cardiac failure⁴¹³ and was buried at Holy Cross Cemetery.

⁴¹¹ *Certificate number 5170, FHL film 2,131,459.*

⁴¹² *Holy Cross Cemetery, Section Plot, Row 29, plot 48.*

⁴¹³ *Certificate number 4841, FHL film 2,133,887.*

Mary Sheridan Oates' daughter, Annie F., married Adolph F. Knippler, a lithographer, between 1892 and 1905. Adolph was born February 13, 1864 in Jersey City, New Jersey, the son of Anton⁴¹⁴ and Wilhelmina Kurtz Knippler,⁴¹⁵ German immigrants. They had several children. Their first child, Ruth W., born on March 31, 1897,⁴¹⁶ died on July 26, 1902 at 188 19th Street in Brooklyn and was buried in Greenwood Cemetery. She was five years old.⁴¹⁷ Ruth was followed by: Dudley, born around 1900; Arthur, born about 1902; Jerome Wesley, born September 29, 1903⁴¹⁸; Lewis Sheridan, born August 28, 1905⁴¹⁹; Cyril Gordon, born November 18, 1907⁴²⁰ who died March 11, 1947; Otis Rider (Gregory), born November 17, 1909⁴²¹; and lastly, Anna Virginia, born about 1917.

In 1910 and 1920 the Knipplers were renting a place at 241 Court street. Between then and 1930 they moved to a row of two story houses at 131 Martense Street. Their son, Dudley, had married Margaret Steffens on June 12, 1923,⁴²² and he lived there with his family, paying \$52 a month rent and working as a clerk in the post office.

Annie and Adolph lived in the other half of the duplex with Arthur, now a city inspector, Cyril/Gordon, a clerk in a florist shop, Gregory/Otis, a telephone installer, and Anna Virginia. They paid \$55 a month rent. Adolph was still working as a lithographer in a print shop. Anna was a member of the Attendant Nurses Club of the YWCA.

Annie Oates Knippler died at 58, at home at 131 Martense Street, on August 31, 1930 of gastric carcinoma with complications of myocardial failure and was buried at Holy Cross Cemetery in Brooklyn with her mother and other family members.⁴²³ The house at 131 Martense Street still stands in 2017. Adolph died on January 20, 1946 at 129 Martense

⁴¹⁴ Anton Knippler was born in Germany about 1835 and died in Brooklyn on November 14, 1925. He was a retired barber and was buried at New York Lay Cemetery in Brooklyn. New York City Municipal Deaths, 1795 – 1949, certificate number 20830, FHL film 2,048,058. He was 90 years old.

⁴¹⁵ Wilhelmina Kurtz Knippler died in Brooklyn on February 2, 1911. She was the daughter of Valentine and Magarite Kurtz and was born about 1835 in Germany. New York City Municipal Deaths, 1795 – 1949. Certificate number 2455, FHL film 1,324,228.

⁴¹⁶ Certificate number 4635, FHL film 1,324,433

⁴¹⁷ New York, New York Municipal Deaths, 1795-1949, 1902 Certificate 13573, FHL film 1,324,050.

⁴¹⁸ Certificate number 22704, FHL film 1,991,336

⁴¹⁹ Certificate number 22295, FHL film 1,991,794

⁴²⁰ New York City Municipal Deaths, 1795-1949, certificate number 5568, FHL film 2,167,622

⁴²¹ Certificate number 37299, FHL film 2,022,753

⁴²² Certificate number 6858. Brooklyn Italian Genealogy, www.italiangen.org.

⁴²³ Section Plots, Row 29, Plot 48.

Street in Brooklyn and was buried at New York Bay Cemetery in Jersey City, New Jersey.⁴²⁴ He was 81 years old.⁴²⁵

KNIPPLER—On Sunday, Aug. 31, ANNIE OATES KNIPPLER, beloved wife of Adolph Knippler, mother of Dudley, Arthur, Wesley, Sheriden, Gordon, Otis and Virginia Knippler; sister of James and Lieut. George Oates, N. Y. F. Dept., and Mrs. Josephine Minogue. Funeral from her residence, 131 Martense St., Wednesday, Sept. 3, 9:30 a.m. Requiem mass Holy Cross Church, Church Ave., 10 a.m.

Illustration 74: Brooklyn Daily Eagle, September 2, 1930, page 15.

Lewis Sheridan Knippler, called Sheridan by the family, became a typewriter cleaner and was living with his father in 1925. Otis, Virginia, Arthur and Gordon also lived at home.

Virginia Knippler had married a Freeman by 1946. Nothing further is known.

Mary Sheridan's son, George Peter Oates married Alice E. O'Grady on September 8, 1908 at St. Stephens Catholic Church in Brooklyn.⁴²⁶ Alice, born in Jersey City,

New Jersey, was the daughter of James and Maria Saunders O'Grady. George's brother James stood up for him at the wedding as did Lulu O'Grady.

Like his father before him, George became a fireman. Like his father before him, the job would take his life.

In 1910 George and Alice were living with George's brother James and his sister Josephine and her husband at 717 Greenwood Avenue in Brooklyn. Alice had given birth to one child but the child died.⁴²⁷

By 1920 George and his growing family are at 1315 Prospect Avenue in Brooklyn. He and Alice have three sons, Joseph R., 7, John W., 4, and William F., 1, and George has been promoted to lieutenant with the New York Fire Dept.

By 1930 George and Alice Oates, at 296 Sherman St, Assembly District 12, have added two daughters to their family, Alice, 9, and Marian, 5. They own their home, worth \$6,000, and George was still a lieutenant with the fire department. In 1940 the family

⁴²⁴ Now called Bayview - New York Bay Cemetery, 321 Garfield Avenue, Jersey City, Hudson County, New Jersey.

⁴²⁵ Brooklyn Death Certificates, 1919-1949, Certificate number 1882, FHL film 2,167,311.

⁴²⁶ New York, Brooklyn, Marriage Certificates, 1866-1937, certificate number 6929. FHL film 1,613,289.

⁴²⁷ As of this writing, only one Oates child who died in that time period has been found. Margaret, daughter of John Oates and Mary Short, born May 31, 1908, died in Brooklyn on October 17, 1908, certificate number 19499, FHL film 1,324,176.

was still together at the same address. Their son Joseph had become a fireman with the city following in his father's and grandfather's footsteps. John was a soda dispenser at a store and William was an attendant at a gas station. Their daughter Alice was a secretary at a dress shop and Marian was still at school.

Following in his father Michael's footsteps, George Oates gave his all to his job. He died in the line of duty on March 3, 1949 in New York. A member of Engine Company 283, he had been injured on Dec. 12, 1947, in a fire at Alabama Avenue and Linden Boulevard, the call having come in from alarm box 77-1928.⁴²⁸ His Requiem Mass was celebrated at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church on March 7, 1949.

Mary's youngest daughter, Josephine, born in October 1882, married Joseph Horton Minogue⁴²⁹ on January 5, 1902.⁴³⁰ Joe was born December 18, 1879 in Ithaca, New York, the son of Timothy Minogue and Mary Conway. He was a bartender when they married. Her brother James lived with them for a time.

Joseph and Josephine had three daughters: Josephine Grace, born February 27, 1907;⁴³¹ Maria Minogue; and Dorothy. Maria died in July 1903 and was buried in the Oates plot at Holy Cross.⁴³² Joseph died of pneumonia at home, 717 Greenwood Avenue,⁴³³ on September 27, 1916 in Brooklyn.⁴³⁴ At the time of his death he was employed at the Amsterdam Opera House in Manhattan. He was buried at Holy Cross Cemetery.⁴³⁵

Josephine continued living in Brooklyn and was at 1012 Ocean Avenue, in the 21st assembly District, in the 29th Ward in 1930. Her two daughters, Grace, 23, and Dorothy C., 17, were with her. A little ahead of her time, Josephine had a job as an office supervisor with the telephone company. Grace was a stenographer with a sugar broker. They were renting their apartment for \$60 a month and they had a radio.

⁴²⁸ The number 77 specifies Brooklyn. 1928 specifies Alabama Avenue and Linden Boulevard.

⁴²⁹ Minogue is a variation on the Irish surnames Mannix and Monaghan, both associated with the Casey branch of the family. *Varieties and Synonymes of Surnames and Christian Names in Ireland, for the guidance of registration officers and the public in searching the indexes of births, deaths, and marriages*, Matheson, Robert E., Sir, Alex, Thom, and Co., Limited, 1901, Dublin, page 49.

⁴³⁰ New York, Brooklyn, Marriage Certificates, 1866-1937, certificate number 7558, FHL film 1,562,348.

⁴³¹ New York, New York City Births, 1846-1909, certificate 6703, FHL film 1,992,591.

⁴³² Holy Cross Cemetery Brooklyn, Plots section, row 29, plot 48.

⁴³³ The New York Times, September 29, 1916, page 13.

⁴³⁴ Brooklyn death records, Joseph H. Minogue, died Sept. 27, 1916 at 32 years # 19651, FHL film 1,324,302.

⁴³⁵ Section Hona, Row 20, Plot 46S.

By 1940 Josephine was living with her daughter Grace and Grace's husband William Flannery, their two children, and her other daughter Dorothy, at 143 Bromley Road in Hempstead, Nassau County, New York. She was still working as a telephone company supervisor. She died in November 1956 and was buried at Holy Cross Cemetery.⁴³⁶

Children from Michael Oates' first marriage

Thomas Oates worked as a plumber and may have married Cecilia Carrolin on February 5, 1882 in Brooklyn.⁴³⁷

John F. Oates, worked as a tin roofer. He died two days after a fall on February 10, 1888.⁴³⁸ While a notice in the Brooklyn Daily Eagle suggested he fell because he had too much to drink, that was not the case. A coroner's inquest ruled that he died of fatty degeneration of the heart, and so he likely collapsed from that. He died in Long Island College Hospital. He was 31 years old and married.⁴³⁹

Michael J. Oates, Jr. worked as a plumber. Nothing further is known.

⁴³⁶ *Section Hona, Row 20, Plot 45S.*

⁴³⁷ *Brooklyn Italian Genealogy, Kings County, Certificate number 528.*

⁴³⁸ *Brooklyn Daily Eagle, February 8, 1888, page 6. New York City Municipal Deaths, 1795-1949, certificate number 2181, FHL film 1,323,832.*

⁴³⁹ *Coroner's Certificate of Death, Kings County, New York, 1888, certificate 2181.*

Anne Sheridan

Thomas Sheridan
m. Anne Reilly
|
Anne (abt. 1847-1894)
(unmarried)

Tom and Anne Reilly Sheridan's daughter, Anne, was born about 1847.⁴⁴⁰ She lived with her sister Mary Oates for most, if not all, of her life in Brooklyn, and died on May 15, 1894 of pneumonia at 492 Hicks Street in Brooklyn, Ward 6. She had lingered for 5 days. There were two families at this address and Annie lived on the 1st floor. No parents' names were on the death certificate.

She was buried at Holy Cross Cemetery in Brooklyn on May 18, 1894,⁴⁴¹ in the same plot that would hold her sister Mary, years later. Her death certificate stated she immigrated to America around 1868, so the family may not have all emigrated from Ireland at the same time.

Bridget Sheridan – the Possible Fourth Child

Tom and Anne Sheridan's fourth child was mentioned once in a letter from Catherine Mullen Davy, to her aunt Biddy Casey in August 1884. In the letter she mentioned that another of Thomas Sheridan's children died in the summer of 1883.⁴⁴² No mention was made of gender or where the person died. Further complicating the search, if the Sheridan referenced in the letter was female, and she was married, finding her would be exponentially more difficult. But sometimes one gets lucky.

A Thomas Sheridan was run over by a truck, certainly horse drawn, in Jersey City, New Jersey in October, 1883, at the age of 50. This Thomas would have been born about 1833, a date that would be in keeping with a marriage in 1831 in Granard. However, Jersey City in Hudson County, did not include parents' names on the death records of the time, making it impossible to prove or disprove if this was the missing descendant.

Thomas Sheridan
m. Anne Reilly
|
Bridget (abt. 1837-1883)
m. James Fitzsimmons
|
Robert (1861-1885)
m. Mary Anne O'Neil
Richard Michael (1863-1885)
(unmarried)
John Charles (1867-1908)
(unmarried)
James (1874-1911)
(unmarried)

⁴⁴⁰ *Annie's age is illusive. It varied wildly in both the New York state and Federal census from 1870 to 1892. In all of these, she lived with her sister, Mary Oates, and Mary's family.*

⁴⁴¹ *Brooklyn Death Certificates, 1862-1897, certificate number 7176, FHL film 1,323,917. Holy Cross Cemetery, Plots section, row 29, plot 48*

⁴⁴² *Letter from Catherine Mullen Davy to her aunt, Biddy Casey, dated August 24, 1884.*

Bridget Sheridan Fitzsimmons, born in Ireland about 1837, died in Manhattan on September 17, 1883. The daughter of Thomas and Ann Sheridan, her full name may have been Catherine Bridget or Bridget Catherine. She married James Fitzsimmons, either in Ireland or, most likely, in America, around 1860 or before. James worked as a cartman or driver and was the son of Thomas and Ann Fitzsimmons.

In 1870 the Fitzsimmons family was living on the second floor at 25 Goerck Street in the 13th Ward on the edge of the Bowery with three sons, Robert, Michael, and Charles. Robert was born in January, 1861. Michael was born about 1863. Charles was born about 1867. A Richard Fitzsimmons, two years old, and an Ellen Fitzsimmons, seven months old, died of scarlet fever in the 13th Ward of Manhattan in May 1860 but it isn't known if these were Bridget's children. In the 1866 New York city directory, a Thomas Sheridan was living at 37 Goerck Street and working as a painter.

The Fitzsimmons family was still at 25 Goerck Street in 1880 and another son, James, born about 1874 had been added to the family. The census listed a son named Richard, born about 1864, who was probably Michael in the 1870 census. He was working as a clerk in a store.

Bridget Sheridan Fitzsimmons died three years later on September 17, 1883. A coroner's inquest was held so she probably was not being treated for a heart condition. A ruling was made on September 18 that she died of angina pectoris at 25 Goerck Street.⁴⁴³ James purchased two graves in Section 12, Range 32, Plot W, Grave 11 & 12, at Calvary Cemetery on September 19, 1883.⁴⁴⁴ Over the years seven family members would be buried in the two graves.

Bridget's son Richard died on Monday, April 27, 1885 in a fall from the roof top of 39 Goerck Street. His body was found in the alley between 39 and 41 Goerck. He was 21 years old.⁴⁴⁵ An inquest was held but was still pending when the death certificate was released. It was believed he fell from the roof when he was sleeping there, and died of a fractured skull. He was buried in grave 11 with his mother at Calvary Cemetery.

⁴⁴³ *Another Fitzsimmons family, James and Bridget, lived in Manhattan with a son, John, born about 1868 who died on May 21, 1908, and a son James, born about 1878 who died on February 25, 1911, who never married and was buried at Calvary Cemetery. A daughter Nellie Irene, born about 1871, died on June 17, 1897. Another daughter Mary, born about 1869, died in Kings County, either on December 29, 1870, certificate 10592, or June 30, 1870, certificate 4222.*

⁴⁴⁴ *Calvary Cemetery, deed 182, 846.*

⁴⁴⁵ *Manhattan Death Certificates, 1866-1919, certificate 526429, FHL film 1,373,966.*

The lower East side of Manhattan was filled with people, horses, and carts. Along with the horses came tons of manure and with the people, garbage. Crammed into small rooms, often six or more to a room, tenement dwellers could escape the overcrowding and heat of their apartments on the roofs of the buildings. A temperature of 90° could easily translate to 120° inside the tenements. When the heat and humidity struck, they would often sleep on the roof, as sleeping in the parks and public areas was outlawed. Often they simply sought a place of refuge on the roof. “During the summer of 1896, a ten day heat wave killed nearly 1,500 people, many of them tenement dwellers, across New York City ...’ They took to the rooftops, and they took to the fire escapes, trying to catch a breath of fresh air ... somebody would fall asleep ... roll off the top of a five story tenement, crash into the courtyard below and be killed.’

Hot Time in the Old Town, Edward P. Kohn, Basic Books, a member of the Perseus Group, 2010. Author interview, Fresh Air, National Public Radio, August 11, 2010.

Bridget’s son Robert John was a ‘truckman’, operating a horse drawn truck in 1880. He married Mary Anne O’Neil, the daughter of Hugh and Jennie Ward O’Neil, on January 26, 1885 in Manhattan⁴⁴⁶ in a ceremony performed by William Everett, the rector of Nativity Church in Manhattan.⁴⁴⁷ They had one son Richard, born in December 1885 who died in January 1886, and another son Joseph, born about 1889 who died at the age of 3 on August 4, 1892.⁴⁴⁸ Both sons are buried in the family plot at Calvary Cemetery.

Mary Anne O’Neil Fitzsimmons died at home at 8 PM on July 7, 1902 of asthemia, complicated by pneumonia. Her surviving children, Robert, born April 1888, Mary, born March 1887, John J., born August 1891, Bernadette, born April 1893, and Joseph, born November 1894, went to live with Mary Anne’s sister, Catherine O’Neil after the death of their mother.⁴⁴⁹ Bernadette married Joseph Sake on July 30, 1914 in Manhattan. Joseph was the son of Frederick and Mary Bolan Sake and was born in Elizabeth, New Jersey.⁴⁵⁰ Robert’s son John J. married Sarah Mahon, called Sadie, on June 18, 1916 in Manhattan.⁴⁵¹ Robert John, may have died on August 1, 1928.⁴⁵²

⁴⁴⁶ *Manhattan Marriage Records, 1866-1937, certificate 53826, FHL film 1,570,676.*

⁴⁴⁷ *Ibid., 1885, number 53826, FHL film 1,570,676.*

⁴⁴⁸ *New York City Municipal Deaths, 1795 – 1949, certificate number 29179, 1892, FHL film 1,322,844.*

⁴⁴⁹ *Federal census 1910, New York, Borough of Manhattan, 1910, 18th Ward, Supervisor District 1, Enumeration District 949, Sheet 12B.*

⁴⁵⁰ *New York, New York City Marriages, 1829 -1 940, certificate number 25837, FHL film 1,613,925.*

⁴⁵¹ *New York, New York City Marriage Records, 1829 – 1940, certificate number 16394, FHL film 1,614,507.*

⁴⁵² *Bridget’s maiden name was not listed on the death certificate.*

Bridget Sheridan Fitzsimmons' son John, who was probably Charles, lived at 6 Mangin Street in Manhattan and died of chronic pulmonary tuberculosis, consumption, at 11 PM on May 21, 1908. He had been admitted to Bellevue Hospital ten days earlier.⁴⁵³ He was 40 years old and was buried in the family plot at Calvary Cemetery in Manhattan.

Her husband James died at home on June 6, 1907 with a coroner's ruling of chronic nephritis, a nonspecific term for any chronic inflammatory process arising in the kidney.⁴⁵⁴ He was living at 8 Goerck Street at the time and his body was removed to 547 Grand Street. He was buried at Calvary Cemetery in the same grave as his wife and three of his sons.

Their son James never married and died of acute rheumatic fever, complicated by acute endocarditis, at 1:15 AM on February 25, 1911 at Gouvernue Hospital. He had been living at 576 Grand Street and had been hospitalized for 22 days.⁴⁵⁵ He was buried in the family grave at Calvary Cemetery.

Bridget Sheridan Fitzsimmons' only descendants are the descendants of her son Robert.

⁴⁵³ *State of New York, Certificate and Record of Death, 1908, number 16703, FHL film 1,323,187.*

⁴⁵⁴ *State of New York, Certificate and Record of Death, 1908, number 19057, FHL film 1,323,155.*

⁴⁵⁵ *State of New York, Certificate and Record of Death, 1911, number 6539, FHL film 1,323,271.*

Catherine Sheridan's Descendants

Michael Mullen

Kitty Sheridan and Tom Mullen's oldest known son, Michael, was born about 1837. He was living with the family in Brooklyn in the 1855 New York state census but was not with his father and brother in 1860. Nothing further is known about him and he is not mentioned by name in any family letter.⁴⁵⁶

Catherine Sheridan
m. Thomas Mullen
|
Michael (abt. 1837-?)

Catherine Mullen Davy

Catherine Sheridan
m. Thomas Mullen
|
Catherine (1840-1922)
m. Patrick Davy
|
Thomas (1866-1887)
(unmarried)
Catherine (1868-1943)
(unmarried)
John F. (1869-1917)
m. Mary P. Reynolds
James (1871-?)
Edward (1873-1873)
(unmarried)
Joseph P. (1874-1891)
(unmarried)
Annie (1875-1905)
m. Max John Salzmänn
Hattie (1877-1881)
(unmarried)
William T. (1878-1917)
(unmarried)
Walter Joseph (1881-?)
m. Mary A. Diver

Kitty Sheridan Mullen named her oldest daughter Catherine, in keeping with Irish tradition, after herself and probably her own mother, Catherine Masterson Sheridan, believed by this author to have died in Boone County, Virginia, between 1850 and 1853.

Catherine Mullen was baptized in Edgeworthstown, Ireland on December 29, 1840.⁴⁵⁷ Her sponsors were John Kiernan and Margaret Mullen. Like her cousins, Catherine was sometimes confused about when she was born but the official baptismal record must be accepted as factual. Most people of that time had no need of official certificates. In an agrarian society, other than for planting and harvesting, dates were not all that important. Such record keeping in early Ireland was illegal for Catholics anyway.

Catherine first appeared in America in Brooklyn in the 1855 state census. She was a servant in the William Hewlett household in the 10th Ward of Brooklyn at the age of 15. By 1860 she was a domestic servant with the John McGregor family

⁴⁵⁶ A Michael E. Mullen died at 30 in Brooklyn on June 14, 1866, certificate number 3140, Soundex M450.

in the 7th ward of Brooklyn, at the corner of Washington and DeKalb Streets. A merchant from New Hampshire, John McGregor and his wife Eleanor had five children.⁴⁵⁸ The area had several wealthy merchants employing servants and Catherine herself confirmed this arrangement with the McGregor's in her Civil War pension application.

Called Katie by the family, Catherine corresponded with her aunt, Biddy Casey, but only one letter survives.⁴⁵⁹ She was mentioned in several more letters written by her cousin, Bridget Brady.

Catherine spent the Civil War years in Brooklyn, but by June 30, 1865 she was no longer working for the McGregor family.⁴⁶⁰ On July 27, 1865 she married a returning Civil War veteran named Patrick Davy at St. Patrick's Church, at the corner of Kent and Willoughby Avenue, Brooklyn.⁴⁶¹ The ceremony was performed by the Rev. Edward Fitzpatrick, with her sister Annie Mullen serving as a witness along with Denis Slattery. A dispensation was obtained from the Bishop prior to the marriage, indicating an impediment to the marriage existed. It may have been as simple as a dispensation from having the banns published for the required three weeks.⁴⁶² This was a first, and only, marriage for both.⁴⁶³

Patrick was born on June 15, 1837⁴⁶⁴ in Ireland, the son of John Davy and Aleta Hattie Killcerley.⁴⁶⁵ Patrick was from Cashilcawley, in the parish of Achonry, in County Sligo, and immigrated to America about 1849 when he was 12.⁴⁶⁶ A Davy family had lived in Edgeworthstown at the time Catherine was there, so they might have known each other in

⁴⁵⁷ *FHL film 1,279,219, Edgeworthstown/Mostrim Catholic records. Catherine maintained in her Civil War pension application that she was born in December 1843 but the official, original parish registers must be accepted as factual.*

⁴⁵⁸ *1860 Federal Census, 2nd District, 7th Ward, Brooklyn, New York, page 126.*

⁴⁵⁹ *"I hear from you through Katie Mullen." Letter from Bridget Reilly Brady to Biddy Casey, May 20, 1886.*

⁴⁶⁰ *New York State census, 1865, Kings County, 1st Election District, 7th Ward, page 58.*

⁴⁶¹ *St. Patrick's (1843) merged with the Italian St. Lucy's to become St. Lucy - St. Patrick Church in 1974. It then merged with Mary of Nazareth in 2011. Records are at the new church.*

⁴⁶² *Silinonte, Joseph M., 1956, Bishop Loughlin's Dispensations, Diocese of Brooklyn, 1859-1865, volume 1, 974.72 K28s, FHL. For more information, contact the Chancellor of the Diocese of Brooklyn, 75 Greene Street, PO Box C, Brooklyn, NY 11202, (718) 399-5900.*

⁴⁶³ *Patrick Davy pension files.*

⁴⁶⁴ *Patrick's pension record specifies first that the year was 1835, then 1837. For the pension, Patrick filed an affidavit stating that there was no living relative, or existing church record, and/or schoolmates that would have knowledge of his birth date. His brother Michael was still alive at the time but was a younger brother.*

⁴⁶⁵ *Patrick Davy pension file.*

Ireland or their families may have been acquainted. In 1917 Patrick's brother Michael stated in an affidavit that he had known Catherine Mullen since at least 1859, a date which precedes her marriage to his brother.⁴⁶⁷

At 5 foot 7 inches tall, with a fair complexion, blue eyes, and brown hair,⁴⁶⁸ Patrick fit the pretty typical description of an Irishman for the time. He had two brothers: John, born about 1833, and Michael,⁴⁶⁹ born about 1838, and two sisters Anne, born about 1843, and Bridget born about 1845.⁴⁷⁰ Anne appears to have either married or died between 1865 and 1870.⁴⁷¹

Shortly after Fort Sumter was fired upon, Patrick signed up to fight for the Union in the Civil War. He first enlisted in Company F, 13th Regiment, New York State Militia, on April 23, 1861. The regiment, comprised of eight companies under Colonel Abel Smith, left the state that day for three months duty around Washington, D.C. Serving as infantry in Annapolis and Baltimore, Maryland, the regiment took part in an engagement near the Lighthouse at Smith's Point, Chesapeake Bay, on May 18, 1861.⁴⁷² Baltimore was in a state of rebellion in the Spring of 1861. The city was full of Southern sympathizers and Union troops were sent to quell the riots. Patrick and his regiment were discharged and mustered out on August 6, 1861 at Brooklyn.⁴⁷³

He next enlisted in Company K of the 139th New York Volunteer Infantry. Colonel Anthony Cook had been authorized to begin recruiting for this regiment from the outlying areas of Kings and Queens counties on July 28, 1862. The regiment was to serve for 3 years beginning September 9, 1862 continuing through June 19, 1865.

⁴⁶⁶ *An Owen Davy and a Patrick Davy were listed in the Tithe Applotment books for Cashilcawly in 1827.*

⁴⁶⁷ *Patrick Davy pension file.*

⁴⁶⁸ *Patrick Davy Civil War pension application.*

⁴⁶⁹ *Michael Davy was living at 123 Clinton Avenue in Brooklyn when he witnessed Catherine Mullen Davy's application for a widow's pension on May 15, 1917. A policeman, Michael died on April 13, 1924 in Brooklyn. His wife, Margaret Anderson Davy, died on February 2, 1907.*

⁴⁷⁰ *Federal census 1850, New York, Kings County, Brooklyn, 7th Ward, page 246, September 12, 1850.*

⁴⁷¹ *In 1883 a Patrick Davy placed an ad looking for information about his brother Mathew who had immigrated to the US and had previously lived at Court Street, Brooklyn. This Patrick was living at 340 East 47th St. New York City, and no association has been made with our family.*

⁴⁷² *At the time, secessionists were very strong in Maryland. Lincoln worked hard to prevent Maryland from seceding from the Union, but rail traffic through Baltimore was under constant aggression by secessionists. Team of Rivals, Doris Kearns Goodwin, Simon & Schuster, 2006.*

⁴⁷³ *New York in the War of Rebellion, 3rd edition, Frederick Phisterer, Albany, J.B. Lyon Co., 1912.*

Consisting of about 1,000 men in total, Companies E and K were organized at Brooklyn. Catherine's brother, Tommie Mullen, enlisted in Company E of the same 139th New York Volunteers.

The regiment left the state on September 11, 1862, ironically, for Virginia, and spent its first winter there. It served in Virginia for the duration of the war participating first at Yorktown, then Fort McGruder, Crump's Crossroads, Chickahominy and Forge Bridge. While fighting at Bottom's Bridge the regiment escaped casualties. The 139th reinforced the Army of the Potomac under Ulysses S. Grant at Cold Harbor, where it fought with gallantry and suffered 33 killed, 118 wounded and 2 missing.⁴⁷⁴ After a stinging defeat, Grant pulled his army from Cold Harbor and moved south to Petersburg, taking the 139th New York with him.

In May 1864, while part of General Butler's army, the 139th regiment assaulted Petersburg along the James River and suffered further casualties. "It then went into position (at Petersburg) on the right of the line, where it lost men almost daily by reason of its proximity to the enemy's pickets and being exposed to incessant firing. In the latter part of August it was relieved (at Petersburg) and went into the defenses of Bermuda Hundred."⁴⁷⁵ The regiment took part in the brilliant and successful assault on Fort Harrison and the siege of Richmond. It served at Swift Creek, Proctor's Creek, and Drewry's Bluff.

In December 1864 the regiment was posted on the North bank of the James River in front of Richmond where it remained until the fall of Petersburg. The 139th entered Richmond without opposition on April 3, 1865.

The 139th New York Volunteer Infantry mustered out honorably as scheduled on June 19, 1865 at Richmond, Virginia, under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Thomas Mulcahy. By that time it had lost 5 officers and 70 enlisted men killed outright or mortally wounded in action. Another 2 officers and 78 enlisted men were lost to disease and other causes, including eight enlisted men who died while prisoners of the Confederacy.

Patrick had entered the war as a Private at the age of 25. He was promoted to full Corporal on September 29, 1864 during the siege of Petersburg and mustered out of his company four days early, on June 15, 1865 in Richmond, Virginia.⁴⁷⁶ He married Catherine Mullen six weeks later in Brooklyn.

Patrick was a glass worker all of his life and he and Catherine made their home in Brooklyn. The Davy family moved around quite a bit but stayed within the same general area of Brooklyn and its Irish enclaves.

⁴⁷⁴ 7,000 soldiers died at Cold Harbour in just 20 minutes. Ken Burns, *The Civil War*.

⁴⁷⁵ *History of the 139th NY*.

⁴⁷⁶ NARA, *Film M551*, roll 33.

By April 16, 1870, the couple was living in the 7th Ward in Brooklyn with three children and his mother, Aleta, called Hattie, Davy.⁴⁷⁷ Thomas was born April 13, 1866, followed by Catherine on January 15, 1868. A second son, John F. was born September 26, 1869.⁴⁷⁸ These were followed rapidly by James, born October 19, 1871; Edward, born March 27, 1873; Joseph P., born May 16, 1874; Annie, born December 13, 1875; Hattie, born July 11, 1877; William T., born December 27, 1878; and finally Walter Joseph, born February 26, 1881.

Together Catherine and Patrick had ten children. Catherine outlived all but two, or possibly three, of them.

The first to die was little Edward on August 16, 1873. Sick for five days he died at 185 Classon Avenue of cholera infantum, an acute infectious disease characterized by diarrhea, vomiting, rapid emaciation, and extreme prostration. Buried the next day at Holy Cross Cemetery, he was four months and 20 days old.⁴⁷⁹

The next to die was little Hattie on July 10, 1881. Sick for ten days she died of scarlet fever at 243 Graham Street. Buried at Holy Cross Cemetery the next day, she was four years old.⁴⁸⁰

Their son, Thomas, died at 4:00 in the morning on March 29, 1887 at 449 DeKalb Street, corner of Graham in the 8th ward of Brooklyn of consumption, complicated by asthma. He was 21 years old. His funeral was held at St. Patrick's Church and he was buried at Holy Cross Cemetery in Brooklyn. Patrick's mother, Hattie, died on January 25, 1888.

The Davy family heartbreak was only beginning. Their son Joseph worked as a clerk. He developed an inguinal hernia, probably shortly after birth when the inguinal canal did not properly close and left a weakened area prone to hernias. The hernia strangulated, meaning a portion of his intestine became trapped in his abdominal wall and became infected. This would have caused him severe pain, nausea and other complications. He died due to the restricted blood flow on November 20, 1891 at 353 Franklin Street. Sick for six days he was buried at Holy Cross Cemetery. He was 17 years old.

In 1892 John, James, Catherine, William, and Walter were still living at home with their parents. Their youngest daughter, Annie, joined the Order of St. Joseph at Port Henry, New York in April 1896.⁴⁸¹ By 1900 Annie was back at home with the family at 247

⁴⁷⁷ *1870 Federal Census, New York, Brooklyn.*

⁴⁷⁸ *The birth dates of all the children are from Patrick Davy's Civil War pension application.*

⁴⁷⁹ *Brooklyn Death Certificates, 1862-1897, certificate number 7212, FHL film 1,323,705.*

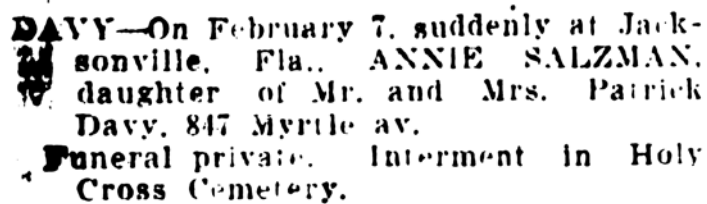
⁴⁸⁰ *Brooklyn Death Certificates, 1862-1897, certificate number 7538, FHL film 1,323,763.*

⁴⁸¹ *Letter from Bridget Reilly Brady to Biddy Casey, January 8, 1897.*

Steuben Street in Brooklyn.⁴⁸² She was there as late as June 1, 1905 with her parents and her siblings, William, Walter, and Catherine at 874 Myrtle Avenue.⁴⁸³ Walter was working as a law clerk.

Annie married Max John Salzmänn, a merchant, or mechanic, on September 5, 1905 in Jacksonville, Duval County, Florida.⁴⁸⁴ The ceremony was performed by the Rev. Paul F. Brown, a Presbyterian minister. Their witnesses were Mrs. Paul F. Brown and Mrs. W. F. Alderman.⁴⁸⁵ Max was born in Germany on July 23, 1869 and immigrated in 1886.⁴⁸⁶ The couple lived at 508 East Church Street in Jacksonville.

Annie died of heart failure on the street in front of 212 East Church Street⁴⁸⁷ on February 7, 1907 in Jacksonville, Florida. Her body was brought back to New York for a private funeral and she was buried in Holy Cross cemetery in Brooklyn⁴⁸⁸ with her brother Joe.



DAVY—On February 7, suddenly at Jacksonville, Fla., **ANNIE SALZMAN**, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Davy, 847 Myrtle av. Funeral private. Interment in Holy Cross Cemetery.

Illustration 75: Brooklyn Daily Eagle, February 10, 1907, page 58.

Max remarried to Mary Lula Sineath on December 29, 1912 in Jacksonville, Florida.⁴⁸⁹ Working as a shoemaker, Max was of medium build and medium height, with brown eyes and black hair. He was cross-eyed.⁴⁹⁰ Max died on June 23, 1941 in Duval County.⁴⁹¹ He was buried in Montefiore Cemetery, Springfield Gardens, Queens County, New York.

⁴⁸² *Federal census, 1900, New York, Kings County, Brooklyn, Supervisor's District 2, Enumeration District 77, sheet number 8, June 6, 1900.*

⁴⁸³ *1905 New York state census, Kings County, Brooklyn, 6th Assembly District, 13th Election district, Block A, page 9, June 1, 1905.*

⁴⁸⁴ *Board of Health, City of Jacksonville, Duval County, Florida, Record of Licenses and Marriages for the month of September, 1905, number of license 169.*

⁴⁸⁵ *Marriage License, State of Florida, Duval County. Filed for record September 15, 1905.*

⁴⁸⁶ *Federal Census, 1910, Jacksonville, Duval County, Florida, 18th Precinct, Supervisor's District 2, Enumeration District 77, sheet 3. Max's occupation was mechanic.*

⁴⁸⁷ *Bureau of Vital Statistics, Certificate of Death, Office of the City Board of Health, State of Florida, Jacksonville, February 9, 1907.*

⁴⁸⁸ *Brooklyn Daily Eagle, February 10, 1907, page 58.*

⁴⁸⁹ *Florida, County Marriages, 1830 – 1957, page 502, image 313 of 581, familysearch.org.*

⁴⁹⁰ *United States World War I Draft Registrations, image 1696 of 4354, Florida, Jacksonville City, number 3.*

⁴⁹¹ *Florida Death Index, 1877 – 1998, Ancestry.com.*

In 1910 the Davy family was still on Myrtle Avenue with two of their children at home. Their son Walter was working as a baker and their daughter Catherine was a lace maker. Patrick continued working in glass.⁴⁹²

Patrick and Catherine Davy had a long and fruitful life together and hopefully it was a generally happy one. We do know that it was a life filled with family, both immediate and extended. Catherine was a frequent visitor at the home of her first cousin, Bridget Brady.

Patrick was sick for four years and died at home at 8 AM on May 2, 1917 of cardiac asthenia with arterio sclerosis. He was buried at Holy Cross cemetery on May 5.

Thomas F. Madden was the undertaker.⁴⁹³

Not long after losing her husband Catherine lost another son. William died at home on June 11, 1917 of endocarditis and was buried in the same plot with his father. He was 38 years old and had never married.

The heartbreak continued when another son, John F., a marine insurance clerk, died a few months later on November 26, 1917 of acute parenchymatous nephritis, a form of Bright's Disease, with a contributory cause of acute uremia. John had married Mary P. Reynolds on March 3, 1895.⁴⁹⁴ They lived for a time at Bay 16, corner Main Bath Beach. They had one daughter, Marion Francis, called Mary, who died on September 13, 1899 and was buried at Holy Cross Cemetery with her uncle Joe Davy and her aunt, Annie Saltzman. John died at home at 112 Fourth Avenue in Brooklyn. He was 48 years old and was buried at Fresh Pond Cemetery. Thomas Madden was the undertaker.⁴⁹⁵

Catherine lived on for five more years with her daughter Catherine in a tenement at 77 Stockton Street in Brooklyn. Patrick's Civil War service had allowed for a pension to augment the family income. The first pension, an old age pension was given to Patrick for his service on May 5, 1892.⁴⁹⁶ After his death, a widow's pension for Catherine was granted on May 12, 1917.⁴⁹⁷ It was sometimes a long and arduous process to obtain these

⁴⁹² *Federal census, 1910, New York, Kings County, Brooklyn, Supervisor's District 2, Enumeration District 495, 21st Ward, sheet 13, April 21, 1910.*

⁴⁹³ *Certificate of Death, Department of Health of the City of New York, Bureau of Records, 1917, number 34043, registered number 9716.*

⁴⁹⁴ *New York, Brooklyn, Marriage Certificates, 1866-1937, 1895, certificate number 859, FHL film 1,561,958.*

⁴⁹⁵ *New York, New York City Municipal Deaths, 1795-1949, certificate number 23001, FHL film 1,324,315.*

⁴⁹⁶ *Pension Application number 1,084,872, certificate number 900,349*

⁴⁹⁷ *Pension Application number 1,100,477, certificate number 844,467*

pensions and that was certainly true for both Patrick and later, for Catherine.⁴⁹⁸ Dutts and Phillips was the law firm acting on behalf of the widow.

Catherine developed heart trouble on January 8, 1922 and required the constant care of her daughter Catherine. She died of a cerebral hemorrhage on March 31, 1922 and was buried with her husband and her son at Holy Cross Cemetery on April 3, 1922. Catherine had a \$100 life insurance policy with the John Hancock Company when she died.

Catherine's son, James Davy, was living with the family in 1892 but had no listed occupation. According to his father's pension application statement on April 8, 1915, James was still alive in 1915. Nothing further is known about him.⁴⁹⁹

Catherine's daughter, Catherine, died, probably of a stroke, at 10:15 AM on September 23, 1943 at Kings County Hospital. She was living at 53 Ellery Street in Brooklyn and had been hospitalized for only one day. The informant for her death certificate was her brother, Walter Joseph. Kate was buried at Holy Cross Cemetery in Brooklyn, in the same plot with her parents.

Walter Joseph Davy married Mary A. Diver and had at least four sons and one daughter. Mary was the daughter of John and Mary Sheridan Diver. Mary died on June 28, 1951 and was buried at Holy Cross Cemetery in Brooklyn. One of their sons, Thomas, died the day he was born on May 22, 1920 and was buried at Calvary cemetery.⁵⁰⁰ Their other children were Walter Aloysius; John Joseph, who became a priest; Eugene Sheridan; Rosemary, who married William Greene; and, Vincent James, who married an Olga, last name unknown.

⁴⁹⁸ *Pension filings can contain a wealth of information for researchers. Civil War service not only benefited the country at the time, but relatives and descendants seeking information long after the fact.*

⁴⁹⁹ *A James Davey died on February 20, 1929. This James was a married iron worker, born in Ireland, whose father was Patrick Davey and his mother Nora Dennis. He and his wife Elizabeth lived at 107 Tillory Street at the time of his death.*

⁵⁰⁰ *New York City Municipal Deaths, 1795 – 1949, certificate number 12809, 1920, FHL film 2,026,514.*

Walter Joseph's eldest son, Walter Aloysius, was born on January 22, 1909⁵⁰¹ and died December 24, 1978 in Macon County, North Carolina.⁵⁰² He married a Marion with whom he had a daughter, Regina, in 1929. Marion Davy died in childbirth. He then married Mattie Louise Franklin, who was born in Georgia in 1915 and died in 1979 in North Carolina. They had two children: Joseph in 1944; and, Thomas Edward, in 1946.



Illustration 76: Grave (with flag) of Patrick Davy 1917, Catherine Mullen Davy 1922, Catherine Davy 1943, Mary Diver Davy 1951, and William T. Davy 1917. Holy Cross Cemetery, Brooklyn. Plots Section, Row 17, Plot 17. © 2011.

⁵⁰¹ *Brooklyn Birth Certificates, 1866-1909, certificate number 3884, FHL film 2,022,465. Registered name Walter J. Davy on the index.*

⁵⁰² *Social Security Death Index, 1935 – 2004. North Carolina Death Indexes, 1908-2004, Ancestry.com.*

Patrick's brother, Michael Davy, became a policeman in Brooklyn. Born about 1839, he died on April 13, 1924.⁵⁰³ Two of his sons, Thomas and Matthew, also became policemen and died in what were initially reported as suicides by the newspapers, but were later ruled accidental deaths.



Illustration 77: Tombstone of Patrick and Catherine Mullen Davy.



Illustration 78: Walter Joseph and Mary Diver Davy. Courtesy of Joe Davy.

⁵⁰³ Michael was 11 on the 1850 census in Kings County, New York. His death certificate implies his year of birth was 1844 but this is incorrect.

Tommie Mullen

Catherine Sheridan Mullen's son, Tommie, was baptized on December 16, 1844 at Edgeworthstown, Ireland. His sponsors were John Shanley and Mary Kenny. The youngest son of Kitty and Thomas Mullen, he was 5'3" tall with blue eyes, brown hair, and a fair complexion.⁵⁰⁴ After his mother died in 1857, Tommie worked for a time as a furrier's apprentice in Brooklyn. Like the other children in the family, he was hard at work by the time he was 16, and probably sooner.⁵⁰⁵

**Catherine Sheridan
m. Thomas Mullen
|
Thomas (abt. 1844-1886)
(unmarried)**

He signed up to fight in the Civil War with the 139th New York Volunteer Infantry a year after his father died. He was 17 years old.

Tommie served as a Private in Company E during the Civil War. Like that of his brother-in-law, his company saw a lot of action in Virginia.⁵⁰⁶ Earning \$13 a month Tommie was a percussion cap maker for his regiment, a very dangerous job both while he was doing it, and later to his health. Percussion cap making used fulminated mercury, which replaced flints to ignite the black powder in muzzle loaded firearms. Highly sensitive to friction and shock, ingested it was a neurotoxin, which may have affected his muscle movements later. Mercury poisoning also causes anemia, asthma, chest congestion, sinus difficulties, bone loss, anxiety, brain dysfunction, renal failure and a host of other problems. All of this very likely contributed to an early death for Tommie.

When he was serving in Virginia, did he know that his aunt and several cousins, lived close by? He obviously knew them from Ireland. Edgeworthstown is a stone's throw from Clonbroney and his mother and Biddy Casey were sisters, close in age. Like his future brother-in-law, Tommie mustered out on June 15, 1865 at Richmond, Virginia.⁵⁰⁷

After the War he went back to Brooklyn and made a living as a painter. He may have lived in the 6th Ward of Brooklyn in 1870 with the Williamson family and other boarders, working as a paper stainer and, in 1880 in Enumeration District 7, working as a laborer.

He died in Flatbush (Brooklyn), at Kings County Hospital on August 3, 1886, at the age of 41⁵⁰⁸ of consumption, a disease with many of the same symptoms as mercury

⁵⁰⁴ *Civil War enlistment records.*

⁵⁰⁵ *1860 Federal Census, Brooklyn, New York, 10th Ward.*

⁵⁰⁶ *For detail of the regimental battle history, see the information on the 139th NY under Catherine Mullen Davy's story.*

⁵⁰⁷ *NARA Film 551 roll 101.*

⁵⁰⁸ *Record of Deaths, Town of Flatbush, Kings County, New York, number 5009, page 267, FHL film 1,376,355. His age was listed as 42 but he was a few months shy of*

poisoning.⁵⁰⁹ A partial letter from Bridget Brady to Biddy Casey written on the day of his funeral states "today we buried Aunt Kitty's youngest son, Tommie Mullen." He never married.⁵¹⁰ Tommie was buried at Holy Cross Cemetery in Brooklyn with his parents and his sisters, Annie Mullen Sheil and Margaret Mullen.

<i>Ch</i>	<i>139</i>	<i>N. Y.</i>
<i>Thomas Mullen</i>		
Co. <i>E</i> , <i>139</i> Reg't N. Y. Inf.		
Appears on		
Regimental Descriptive Book		
of the regiment named above.		
DESCRIPTION.		
Age <i>18</i> years; height <i>5</i> feet <i>3</i> inches.		
Complexion <i>Fair</i>		
Eyes <i>Blue</i> ; hair <i>Brown</i>		
Where born <i>Ireland</i>		
Occupation <i>Percuss. Cap. Mkn.</i>		
ENLISTMENT.		
When <i>Aug. 26</i> , 186 <i>2</i> .		
Where <i>Brooklyn</i>		
By whom <i>St. M. McCormick</i> , term <i>3</i> yrs.		
Remarks:		
<i>Chandler</i>		
(884b)		Copyist.

<i>M</i>	<i>139</i>	<i>N. Y.</i>
<i>Thomas Mullen</i>		
Co. <i>E</i> , <i>139</i> Reg't N. Y. Infantry.		
Appears on Co. Muster-out Roll, dated		
<i>Richmond, Va., June 19, 1865.</i>		
Muster-out to date <i>June 19, 1865.</i>		
Last paid to <i>Dec. 31, 1864.</i>		
Clothing account:		
Last settled <i>Aug. 3, 1864</i> ; drawn since \$..... <i>100</i>		
Due soldier \$..... <i>100</i> ; due U. S. \$..... <i>100</i>		
Am't for cloth'g in kind or money adv'd \$..... <i>36.57</i>		
Due U. S. for arms, equipments, &c., \$..... <i>100</i>		
Bounty paid \$..... <i>100</i> ; due \$..... <i>100</i>		
Remarks:		
Book mark:		
<i>J. J. Jones</i>		
(261)		Copyist.

turning 42. His doctor was John A. Arnote, MD.

⁵⁰⁹ The microbial cause of tuberculosis was not discovered until 1882, four years before Tommie's death.

⁵¹⁰ The letter from Bridget Brady stated that she was just past 51, confirming the year 1886 by her accounting, even though she was really 52.

Mary Mullen

Mary Mullen was baptized on April 15, 1848 at Edgeworthstown, Ireland. Her sponsors were Philip Sheridan and Mary McManus.⁵¹¹

Catherine Sheridan
m. Thomas Mullen
|
Mary (abt. 1848-aft. 1906)

Mary was with the family in 1855 on Bergen Street in the 10th Ward in Brooklyn when she was seven years old. She was not with her father and brother in the 1860 census and was probably in service with a local family by then.

Nothing further is known about her or her life except that she was mentioned in her sister Catherine Davy's pension application and again in her sister Annie Sheil's probate case in 1906, so she was still alive at least until 1906.

⁵¹¹ *This may be Philip Sheridan, the son of Bryan Sheridan, who immigrated to Australia a year or so later.*

Annie Mullen Sheil

On the surface, it should have been easy to find information about Annie Mullen. Her core family members are known, her husband's name is known, the date of the marriage is known. She was mentioned in so many letters. Her face looks hauntingly out from her picture, seeming to say so sweetly, 'Find me.' Yet it has not been easy to nail down many facts about her.

Annie's birth date is illusive. Her sister Catherine gave the year as roughly 1850 on Annie's death certificate, which also indicated she was born in Ireland. Earlier census records place her birth year as early as 1847 or 1848 and this is most likely. The 1900 census gives her birth date as May 1848 but this date conflicts with her sister Mary's birth date in 1848, making one wonder if Annie and Mary were the same person but they were clearly not. Mary survived Annie and was mentioned in her probate case. No



Illustration 79: Annie Mullen Sheil (1847-1906).

**Catherine Sheridan
m. Thomas Mullen
|
Annie (abt. 1848-1906)
m. Edward Sheil**

baptismal record has been found for her in Edgeworthstown, even though the years from 1840 to 1848 contain records for her siblings. An Ann Mullin was baptized in Edgeworthstown, on January 18, 1848, the daughter of Michael Mullin and Maud Farrell.⁵¹² Annie is consistently referred to as a cousin by Bridget Brady and this would not be the case if she was not Catherine Sheridan's and Thomas Mullen's daughter.

Both Annie and her sister Margaret were not with the Mullen family in the 1855 New York census, implying that they were living elsewhere, possibly as servants, but their ages would argue against this.⁵¹³ Perhaps she truly was the daughter of Michael Mullen but was raised by Catherine and Thomas. Perhaps Catherine Mullen was too sick with

⁵¹² On June 18, 1843 Michael Mullin married Margaret Farrell in Edgeworthstown.

consumption to take care of the youngest children when she emigrated in 1853 and Annie and Margaret stayed behind in Ireland with other family. Annie's death certificate states that she immigrated in 1860. Her sister Catherine was the informant for the certificate and she was the last immediate family member who might know the correct year.

It's most likely Annie arrived in New York on January 23, 1860 on the ship *Edinburgh* when she was twelve years old. Traveling with her was Margaret Mullen, 15, and Ellen Mullen, 10.⁵¹⁴ The *Edinburgh* had hit an iceberg in June 1859 and was making its first voyage after repairs in St. Johns, Newfoundland. It set sail on the Liverpool – Queenstown – New York route on November 23, 1859, taking a full two months to arrive in New York.⁵¹⁵

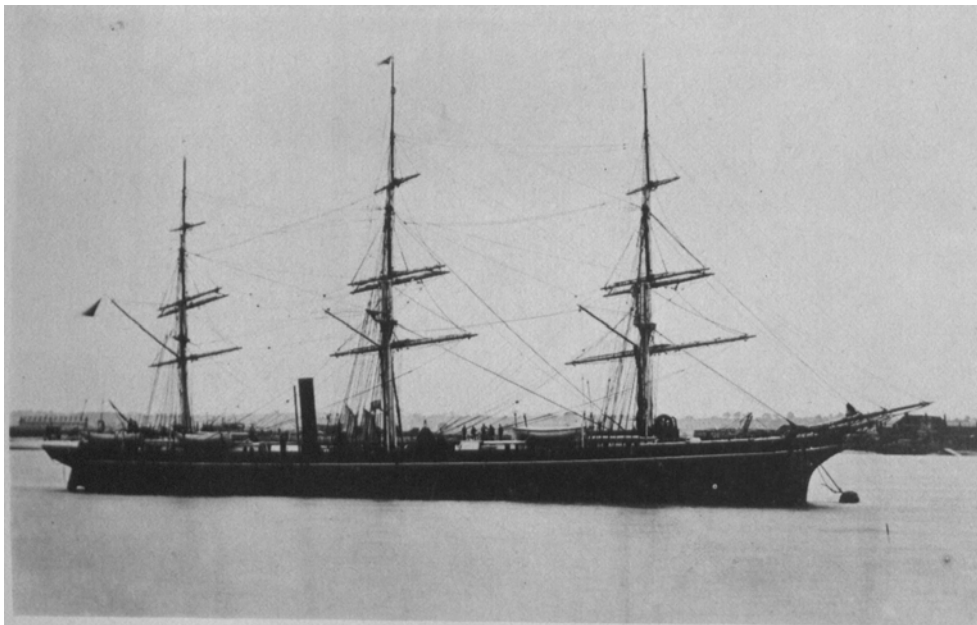


Illustration 80: The Edinburgh. Ancestry.com

The earliest confirmed record for Annie is in the 1875 census where she was living with Bridget Brady in Brooklyn. Her age was 28, which would make her born about 1847. Family letters confirm she was living at Bridget's boarding house. The two cousins

⁵¹³ *In the 1855 NY census, ward 11, district 2, an Annie Mullen, 13, was working as a servant in the household of Richard Wyatt, a broker. She had been in the country for three years which would mesh with the immigration of her family but this Annie was too old to be our Annie Mullen.*

⁵¹⁴ *Year: 1860; Arrival: New York, New York; Microfilm Serial: M237, 1820-1897; Microfilm Roll: Roll 198; Line: 21; List Number: 44, Edinburgh, number 65, 66, and 67.*

⁵¹⁵ *www.norway-heritage.com, S/S Edinburgh, Inman Line.*

seemed to be very close. She was still with Bridget Brady in 1880 and her future husband, Edward Sheil, was boarding there also.⁵¹⁶

In 1865 Annie, 17, was likely working as a servant in the household of Joseph Harpry, a druggist, in the 7th Ward of Brooklyn. Since both her parents had been dead for years, she would have gone to work immediately upon arrival.

In 1880 Annie was working in a shirt factory as did many Irish women, both at home in Ireland and in America. On November 5, 1881⁵¹⁷ she married Edward Sheil. The ceremony was performed by the Reverend Edward Corcinan at St. Joseph's Church at 856 Pacific Street, on the same block as Bridget Brady's boarding house. Their witnesses were Hugh Finn and Mary Fully.

Edward had been married previously. His wife Elizabeth died February 2, 1879 of phthisis pneumonia, consumption, at home at 889 Pacific Street, Brooklyn. She had been sick about four months. A native of Ireland, Elizabeth had immigrated about 1851 and had lived in New York since about 1858. She was buried at Holy Cross Cemetery in the grave that would shortly contain her husband.⁵¹⁸

Annie moved with Edward to 18 Underhill Avenue in Ward 9 of Brooklyn. A three family house just around the corner from Bridget Brady, they lived on the second floor with his daughter Mary, 25, from his first marriage and Mary's two children, Margaret Bell and Carrie Bell, and an Annie Sheil, 16.⁵¹⁹

Annie's husband died on October 12, 1892 at 18 Underhill Avenue of chronic Brights disease and secondarily, gradual exhaustion. He was 57 years old, and worked as a driver. He had lived in Brooklyn for 25 years, immigrating about 1867. Buried with his first wife, Elizabeth, at Holy Cross Cemetery, Brooklyn, he had been sick for several months. The death certificate was delivered to Annie's sister, Catherine Davy.⁵²⁰

⁵¹⁶ *In 1875 an Edward Sheils was at 889 Pacific Street with his wife Elizabeth and daughter Mary Emma 14. They ran a boarding house with five boarders and Edward was a cartman. Elizabeth died on February 2, 1879.*

⁵¹⁷ *Records of St. Joseph's Church, now the Co-Cathedral of St. Joseph, 856 Pacific Avenue, Brooklyn, New York. Although the church record gives the groom's last name as Sheilds, his last name was most definitely Sheil.*

⁵¹⁸ *Certificate of Death, Health Department, City of Brooklyn, 1879, number 1100.*

⁵¹⁹ *1892 New York state census, ward 9, third election district, Brooklyn, page 11, February 16, 1892. With them was Annie Sheil, 16, Mary Bell, 25, Carrie Bell, 6, and Margaret Bell, 4.*

⁵²⁰ *Brooklyn Death Certificates, 1862- 1897, number 16943, FHL film 1,323,895. Attending physician was James Donaghue and John Duffy, undertaker.*

Annie appears to have gone into service after the death of her husband. She probably lived at 268 Smith in Brooklyn⁵²¹ until 1900 when she was living with her sister Catherine Davy and her family. In 1904 and 1905 she was probably living at 406 Degraw in Brooklyn.⁵²²

She died at her sister's house at 874 Myrtle Avenue,⁵²³ Brooklyn, on April 13, 1906 of capillary bronchitis. She was buried in Holy Cross Cemetery in Brooklyn in the same grave as her parents and her brother Tommie. According to her death certificate she was 56 and had been in the United States and New York for 46 years. Annie's estate was probated April 28, 1906 by her sister Catherine Davy and was estimated to be of less than \$125 value. Her sister Mary renounced her right to administer the estate. No settlement papers have been found.

Unless the immigration record for the entire family, or Annie's baptismal certificate, can be found, she will forever remain an intriguing enigma.

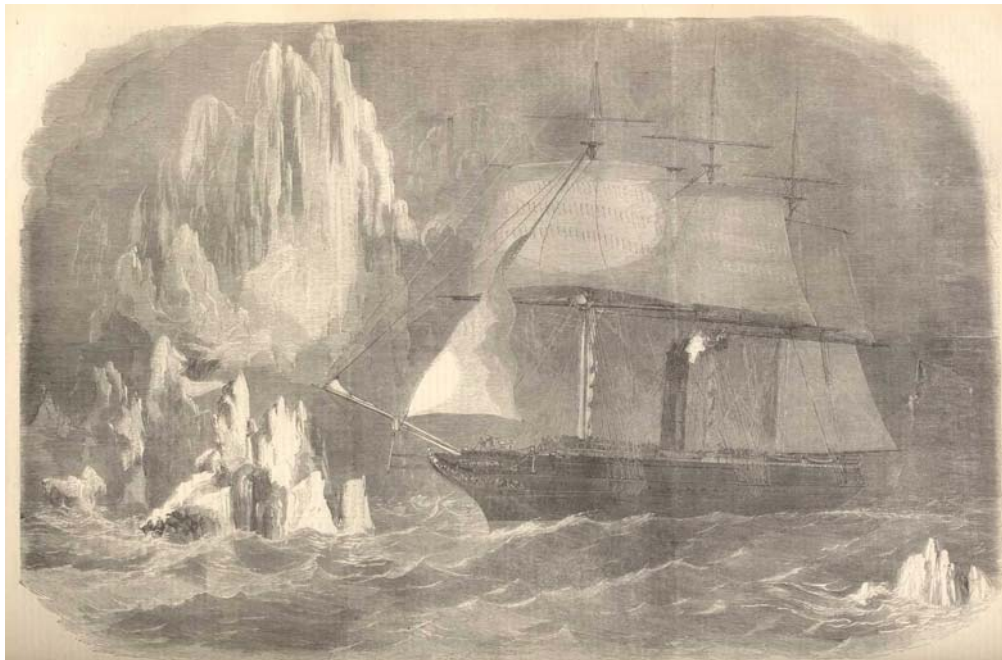


Illustration 81: Collision between the steamship Edinburgh and an iceberg, 180 miles from Newfoundland on June 6, 1859. Ancestry.com

⁵²¹ Various Brooklyn City Directories, Brooklyn Public Library.

⁵²² Various Brooklyn City Directories, Brooklyn Public Library.

⁵²³ Annie was not living at the Davy house when the 1905 New York state census was taken.

Margaret Mullen

**Catherine Sheridan
m. Thomas Mullen
|
Margaret (abt. 1845-bef. 1896)**

Nothing is known about Catherine Sheridan's daughter, Margaret, or her birth order. If she immigrated to America in 1860 with her sister Ann, she would have been born about 1845.

The only documented reference to her existence was in Catherine Davy's pension application but no specific information about her was given. She was not with the family in 1855 in Brooklyn or with her father and brother in 1860. She was certainly dead by 1896 since she was not mentioned in Bridget Brady's December 4, 1896 letter. She was also not mentioned in Annie Mullen Sheil's 1906 probate filing.

A Margaret Mullen, the daughter of Michael Mullen and Mary Sheil, was baptized in Edgeworthstown on June 19, 1842. Another Margaret Mullin, the daughter of Michael Mullin and Maud Farrell was baptized in Edgeworthstown on February 27, 1850. Her sponsors were Patrick Fonda and Catherine Kennedy. As mentioned previously, an Annie Mullin, daughter of Michael Mullin and Maud Farrell was baptized in Edgeworthstown January 18, 1848.

```

graph TD
    A["____ Masterson  
m. Unknown"] --- B["(Catherine) Masterson  
m. ____ Sheridan"]
    A --- C["Marcella Masterson  
m. Andrew Gerety"]
    B --- D["Bryan (1790-1841)  
m. Honora Hynes  
James (1793-1859)  
(unmarried)  
Mary (? - ?)  
m. Lawrence Shanley & Myles Reilly  
John (1800-aft.1860)  
m. Sarah Brill  
Thomas (? - ?)  
m. Anne Reilly  
Catherine (1810-1857)  
m. Thomas Mullen  
Bridget (1815-1900)  
m. John P. Casey"]
    C --- E["Unknown female 1  
Unknown female 2  
Unknown female 3  
Unknown female 4  
Unknown female 5  
m. ____ Halton  
Bridget (1800-1866)  
m. Michael Bracken"]
    E --- F["Mary 1829-1910  
m. Thomas Sullivan  
Bridget (1832-1922)  
m. Michael Dowling  
Ann (1836-1884)  
unmarried  
Margaret (1838-1904)  
m. Michael Cain  
Edward (1840-1881)  
m. Margaret Elizabeth Quinn  
Catherine (1844-aft.1893)  
m. Peter McMahon  
Andrew (1845-1894)  
m. Mary Gill"]
  
```

“I was at your wedding and Bridget Bracken and her sister Mary was there also. You want to know how Bridget Bracken (Dowling) is related to you. She is related to you by the Mastersons. Her mother’s name was Bridget Gerety. She kept a store and sold meal near the chapel of Clomroneý (sic). If you remember there was six sisters of the Geretys all first cousins of yours ... This lawyer who wrote to you before is Bridget Bracken’s son and his name is Edward Dowling. He is a good conscientious young man ...” Bridget Reilly Brady, December 4, 1896 in reference to the estate of Kevin Sheridan.

Bridget Sheridan Casey and Bridget Gerety Bracken were first cousins, through their mothers, who were sisters. Bridget Gerety, the daughter of Andrew Gerety and Marcella Masterson,⁵²⁴ was born in December 1800 in Ireland.⁵²⁵ She married Michael Bracken, around 1828, had several children, and kept a store near the chapel in Clonbroney where she sold meal. Two of her daughters, Bridget and Mary, attended Bridget Sheridan's and John Casey's wedding.

Bridget Gerety Bracken's family immigrated to America in two groups in the early 1850s. The first to emigrate were the three oldest daughters. Bridget, who would later marry Michael Dowling, and her sisters, Mary and Ann, immigrated through New York City, arriving on July 18, 1850 on the ship *Centurion*.⁵²⁶ The girls moved to Randolph, Massachusetts where several other members of the extended Masterson, Gerety, and Sheridan families were living, including several Reilly cousins, who were children of Mary Sheridan.

Three years later their mother, Bridget Gerety Bracken, came to America, arriving in Boston, on May 28, 1853 on the ship *Champion*. She was 52 and gave her occupation as servant. With her were her remaining children, Margaret 15, Edward 11, Catherine 9, and Andrew 7. Also on board were several Mastersons. Her husband, Michael Bracken, appears to have died prior to his family's emigration from Ireland.⁵²⁷

The older girls went to work as servants. Edward, Catherine, and Andrew Bracken were with their mother in the 1855 Massachusetts census in Randolph, Norfolk County, sharing a dwelling with the Lynch family. Margaret, at 17, was in service with a wealthy merchant's family in Randolph that employed four servants.

As the Civil War was coming to a close, Andrew enlisted in the Union Army in April 1865. While his service did not last long, he re-enlisted later and made the Army his career.

⁵²⁴ *Marcella Masterson (non-Irish Marcella, Irish-Gaelgae Mairsil, pronounced Marcel).*

⁵²⁵ *Deaths registered in Randolph, County of Norfolk, Mass., 1866, page 11/33, number 1451. Volume 193, page 262.*

⁵²⁶ *Roll M277. Ships passenger list, Mary, Bridget, and Ellen Bracken. Ellen was a common nickname for Ann. This could have been Ellen, the wife of James Bracken of Randolph in 1865. 1850 was the time frame that Bridget herself supplied as her immigration date. Another Bridget Bracken, 16, came on the ship Northumberland, arriving in Boston on June 19, 1849.*

⁵²⁷ *Bridget Gerety Bracken was a widow in the 1865 Massachusetts state census, the first census in the United States in which she was listed that recorded marital status. Michael Bracken has not been found in any census taken in the United States.*

Bridget Gerety Bracken died in Randolph, Massachusetts of consumption on March 1, 1866.⁵²⁸ Her death record confirmed the Masterson family connection to Biddy Casey.

11
33

DEATHS Registered in RANDOLPH, County of Norfolk,

No.	Date of Death.	Name and Surname of the Deceased.	AGE.			Place of Death.	Sex and Condition.	Occupation.
			YEARS.	MONTHS.	DAYS.			
1115	March 1 1866	Bridget Bracken (Gerety)	65	3		Randolph	Female	Indiv.

F. C. Allen, Registrar. *W. C.*

Married Name.	Parents.	Disease or Cause of Death.	Place of Interment.	Interment or Undertaker.	When Registered.
Bridget	Andrew & Marcella Masterson	Consumption	Randolph	P. Hughes	1866

Illustration 82: Bridget Gerety Bracken (1800-1866) death record.

The death record above shows Bridget Bracken's maiden name, Gerety, and her parents' names, Andrew and Marcella Masterson Gerety.

⁵²⁸ *Deaths Registered in Randolph, County of Norfolk, Massachusetts, page 33, number 1451.*

Mary Bracken

Bridget Gerety
m. Michael Bracken
 |
Mary (1829-1910)
m. Thomas Sullivan
 |
John (1854-1855)
 (unmarried)
Honora (1856-1857)
 (unmarried)
Thomas (1857-1927)
Peter (1859-1864)
 (unmarried)
Catherine (1861-1934)
 (unmarried)
Edward (1863-1864)
 (unmarried)
Annie (1865-1866)
 (unmarried)
Mary Ann (abt. 1870-?)
m. J. McEwen
Margaret (abt. 1872-1881)
 (unmarried)

Bridget Gerety's oldest daughter, Mary Bracken, was probably born in County Meath in late February 1829. A Mary Bracken was baptized in the parish of Killyon and Longwood, Diocese of Meath, in County Meath, on March 5, 1829. Her parents were Michael and Biddy Bracken and Biddy is a diminutive of the name Bridget. Her sponsors were Patrick Dickson and Bitty Sands.⁵²⁹ Some sources have her born as late as March 1831. Mary gave her birth date for the 1900 census as April 1829.

Mary married Thomas Sullivan on February 12, 1854 in Quincy, Norfolk County, Massachusetts in a ceremony performed by the Reverend T. O. Sullivan, a Catholic priest. Thomas, the son of Thomas and Ellen Sullivan,⁵³⁰ was born at Cam, a townland in the Barony of Ardagh, just outside of Edgeworthstown in County Longford, on December 25, 1831. He immigrated to America, arriving in Boston on July 27, 1850 on the ship *Hope*, with his sister Catherine, who would marry Mary Bracken's cousin and Biddy Casey's nephew, Patrick Reilly.⁵³¹

Tom worked as a boot trimmer in Randolph and became a citizen on October 24, 1856. The witnesses to his good character were John Shanley and Bernard Smith.⁵³² John Shanley was, of course, a cousin to Tom's wife, Mary Bracken.

⁵²⁹ *Ireland, Selection of Catholic Parish Baptisms, 1742-1881, Ancestry.com.*

⁵³⁰ *Thomas Sullivan and Andrew Gerety had small adjoining pieces of land in Aughafin, which is now part of Edgeworthstown proper, in the Tithe Applotment Book in 1825.*

⁵³¹ *Boston Passenger Lists, 1820-1891, FHL film 419929, page 1464. Tom's petition for citizenship gives August 5, 1850 as his immigration date. No ships arrived on that date with Thomas Sullivan as a passenger.*

⁵³² *U.S. District Court, Boston, Massachusetts, Volume 25, page 41-41A, Petition for Citizenship.*

Mary and Tom had ten children but only three survived as long as 1900.⁵³³ Their first born was a son, John, born on November 5, 1854⁵³⁴ who died on September 22, 1855 of teething.⁵³⁵ Teething was a commonly listed cause of death in children in the mid to late 1800s. As yet no correlation has been made between teething and currently understood causes of death in children.

A possible daughter, Honora, was born on April 28, 1856⁵³⁶ and died on August 10, 1857 of whooping cough.⁵³⁷ Another son Thomas was born September 27, 1857 or July 7, 1858 in Randolph.⁵³⁸ Peter was born October 12, 1859 and died five years later on July 25, 1864 of dysentery. A daughter Catherine was born on July 24, 1861.⁵³⁹ Another possible son, Edward, was born on October 16, 1863⁵⁴⁰ and died on August 18, 1864 of cholera infantum.⁵⁴¹

In 1865 the family was living close by Mary's sister, now Margaret Cain, and her family. Heartache again visited the family when a daughter Annie, born in Randolph on November 2, 1865,⁵⁴² died at six months and eight days of dysentery on May 10, 1866.⁵⁴³

The Sullivan family moved to Dakota County, Nebraska, probably in 1868 with her sister Margaret Cain's family. Two more daughters were born there: Mary Ann, about 1870; and Margaret, about 1872.⁵⁴⁴ Margaret, called Maggie by the family, died on December 21, 1881.

Thomas continued to work as a shoe maker in Nebraska and six people were living with the family as boarders in 1885 who were also shoe makers in one form or another, along with two servants. The family was living on Vine Street in Jackson Village, Nebraska. In 1900 Thomas gave his occupation as capitalist on the census so he probably owned his own business. Their son Thomas, and daughters Catherine and Mary were still at home.

⁵³³ 1900 Federal Census, Nebraska, Dakota County, St. Johns Precinct, page 31.

⁵³⁴ Births Registered in the Town of Randolph for the Year 1854, page 233.

⁵³⁵ Deaths Registered in the Town of Randolph for the Year 1855, page 157.

⁵³⁶ Births Registered in the Town of Randolph for the Year 1856, page 283.

⁵³⁷ Deaths Registered in the Town of Randolph for the Year 1857, page 236.

⁵³⁸ Births registered in the Town of Randolph. Two Thomas Sullivans were born in Randolph. One on July 7, 1858, page 291, on Main Street; another on September 27, 1857, page 311, on Howard Street. Another Thomas Sullivan, born in 1820, lived in Randolph at the same time, with his wife Mary, who was born in 1828.

⁵³⁹ Births Registered in the Town of Randolph in the Year 1861, page 297.

⁵⁴⁰ Births Registered in the Town of Randolph in the Year 1863, page 229.

⁵⁴¹ Deaths Registered in the Town of Randolph in the Year 1864, page 256, number 1242.

⁵⁴² Births Registered in the Town of Randolph in the Year 1865, page 288.

⁵⁴³ Deaths Registered in the Town of Randolph in the Year 1866.

⁵⁴⁴ Federal Census, 1880, Nebraska, Dakota County, St. John's Precinct, page 23.

Thomas Sullivan died at 75 on November 17, 1904, and was buried in the family plot in St. John's Cemetery, Jackson, Dakota County, Nebraska.

Mary Bracken Sullivan died on January 16, 1910 in her sleep at the home of her daughter Mrs. Mary McEwen in Sioux City. Called a pioneer settler of Dakota County, she died of bronchial pneumonia⁵⁴⁵ and was buried at St. John's Cemetery, in Jackson. She was survived by two daughters and one son, Thomas.

Mary's daughter Kate was living with her cousin Annie Shanley and Annie's husband Bernard O'Donnell in 1895 in Sioux City, working as a saleswoman. She never married and died of chronic myocarditis on April 26, 1934 in Sioux City. She was buried in Jackson, Nebraska.

Thomas Sullivan, Jr. may have become active in local politics. A Thomas Sullivan gathered a petition in 1905 to divert the course of Elk Creek from emptying into the Missouri River and instead flow into Jackson Lake in order to prevent the flooding of several hundred acres of farm land every Spring.⁵⁴⁶ He served as County Commissioner and Mayor of Jackson and died of heart disease while working on his farm on March 22, 1927.⁵⁴⁷

⁵⁴⁵ *The Dakota Herald, January 21, 1910, page 4.*

⁵⁴⁶ *The Omaha Daily Bee, August 20, 1905, page 3.*

⁵⁴⁷ *The Lincoln Star, Lincoln, Nebraska, March 24, 1927, page 5.*

Bridget Bracken

Bridget Gerety
m. Michael Bracken
 |
Bridget (1832-1922)
m. Michael Dowling
 |
John (1859-?)
Mary Ann (1861-1935)
m. James Reynolds
Elizabeth (abt. 1863-aft. 1935)
m. Luke Doyle
Margaret (1864-1868)
(unmarried)
Daniel Francis (1868-1901)
Joseph (abt. 1870-?)
Edward Charles (1870-1908)
(unmarried)
William Henry (1878-1947)
m. Augusta Florence Johnson

Bridget Gerety's second oldest daughter, Bridget⁵⁴⁸ Bracken, was born in Ireland about 1832. She married Michael Dowling on July 15, 1858 in Randolph, Norfolk County, Massachusetts. They were both living in Abington, Plymouth County, at the time. Michael was born about 1832, also in Ireland, the son of Patrick and Elizabeth Lynane Dowling. They lived in Abington for a while after their marriage and their first child, a son named John, was born there on June 26, 1859.⁵⁴⁹ Michael Dowling was a successful boot maker early on. By 1860 he had accumulated \$1,400 in real estate and \$200 in personal effects.

A daughter, Mary Ann, was born in Abington, on May 5, 1861, although the family was living in Hopkinton, Middlesex County, at the time.⁵⁵⁰ The

family moved to the Fourth Ward of Brooklyn, New York in 1862, where by 1865 two more children had been added to the family: Elizabeth, born about 1863, and Margaret, born in September 1864.⁵⁵¹ Margaret died at the age of three on April 23, 1868.⁵⁵²

By 1880, Michael Dowling had become a manufacturer of shoes and several more children had been added to the family: Daniel Francis born in November 1867; Joseph about 1870; Edward Charles on November 29, 1870; and William Henry on July 28, 1872. The family lived at 227 Madison Street in Brooklyn.

⁵⁴⁸ *New York State Census, 1875, Kings County, Brooklyn. Bridget's name was given as Delia, however, this is a common Irish version of the name Bridget. Matheson, Op. Cit., page 28.*

⁵⁴⁹ *Massachusetts Births, 1841-1915, Births in the Town of Abington, 1859, page 298, number 106.*

⁵⁵⁰ *Massachusetts Births, 1841-1915, Births in the Town of Hopkinton, 1861, page 112, number 82.*

⁵⁵¹ *New York State Census, 1865, Kings County, Brooklyn, Fourth Ward, page 34, family number 242.*

⁵⁵² *Brooklyn Death Certificates, 1862-1897, certificate number 2436, FHL film 1,323,670.*

Michael retired from manufacturing shoes in 1888. He died at 74 on January 26, 1906 of paralysis after an illness of three weeks, probably from a stroke. He left an estate of \$40,000 in real estate and about \$2,400 in personal property. Survived by six of his children, his will specified a bequest of \$1,000 to his widow along with the income from the entire estate. Upon her death the remainder was to go to his children.⁵⁵³

Daniel Francis died February 19, 1901 in Brooklyn.⁵⁵⁴ He was 33 years old. William Henry became a real estate broker, married Augusta Florence Johnson, and died on December 10, 1947 in Brooklyn at the age of 75. John had moved to Omaha, Nebraska by 1906. Mary married James Reynolds and Elizabeth married Luke Doyle. Joseph had moved to Lima, Ohio by 1906.



Illustration 83: Edward Charles Dowling (1870-1908). Cornell Alumni News, December 9, 1908.

Edward Charles Dowling attended Cornell University where he graduated from the College of Law in 1891. He began practicing at the law offices of Abraham Gruber where he became involved in the settlement of Kevin Sheridan's estate in San Francisco. He was elected a Member of the Assembly as a Republican in 1902 for the seventeenth district of Brooklyn, and was reelected in 1903, 1904, 1905, and 1906. In his last term he sponsored a bill for the rearrangement of the Municipal Court districts in Brooklyn and after the bill became law he ran in 1907 for the office of justice in the second district and won easily. He never married.⁵⁵⁵

Edward died of heart disease with complications of pneumonia at the home of his physician, Dr. Hubbard Mitchell in Manhattan on December 1, 1908. He had fallen ill while sitting as a judge in the Gates Avenue Court, where he earned an annual salary of \$8,000. He was a member of the Invincible Club, the Stuyvesant Heights Republican Club, the Levi P. Morton Club, and the Seventeenth Assembly District Republican Club.⁵⁵⁶ His funeral was held at the Church of the Nativity, Claussen and Madison, in Brooklyn. Honorary pallbearers were the Speaker of the Assembly, the Commissioner of Jurors, the Commissioner of Records, one former state senator, an assemblyman, and several Municipal Court Justices.⁵⁵⁷

⁵⁵³ *Surrogate Court, Kings County, New York.*

⁵⁵⁴ *New York City Municipal Deaths, 1795-1949, Brooklyn, Kings County, certificate number 3527, FHL film 1,324,035.*

⁵⁵⁵ *Cornell Alumni News, December 9, 1908, page 125.*

⁵⁵⁶ *New York Times, December 2, 1908.*

⁵⁵⁷ *Brooklyn Daily Eagle, December 2, 1908, page 16.*

Bridget Bracken Dowling died on May 2, 1922 at the home of her daughter, Elizabeth Dowling Doyle. Her funeral was at the Church of the Nativity in Brooklyn where she had lived for 60 years.

OBITUARY.

Michael Dowling.

Michael Dowling, father of Assemblyman Edward C. Dowling, of the Seventeenth Assembly District, and formerly a leading shoe manufacturer, with factories in Massachusetts, Manhattan and Brooklyn, died yesterday at his home, 227 Madison street, of paralysis, after an illness of three weeks. Mr. Dowling, who was born in Ireland seventy-four years ago, came to this country when 15 years of age and had lived in Brooklyn forty-five years, forty years of which time he lived in the Seventeenth Assembly District. He retired from active business in 1888. He leaves a widow, four sons and two daughters. Funeral services will be held at his late home Monday morning, at 9:30 o'clock, followed by a solemn requiem mass in the Church of the Nativity, corner of Madison street and Classon avenue.

MRS. MICHAEL DOWLING DIES IN HER 91st YEAR

Mrs. Bridget Bracken Dowling, widow of Michael Dowling and mother of the late Municipal Justice Edward C. Dowling, died on Tuesday at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Luke D. Doyle, 242 Monroe st., in her 91st year. She was born in the County Longford, Ireland, had been a resident of Brooklyn for 60 years, and was one of the oldest members of the R. C. Church of the Nativity. She is survived by two daughters, Mrs. Mary A. Reynolds and Mrs. Doyle; three sons, John A., of Omaha, Neb.; Joseph L., of Houston, Texas, and William Dowling; 19 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. The funeral will be held on Saturday morning, with a requiem mass at 10 o'clock, and the interment will follow in Holy Cross Cemetery.

Illustration 84: Brooklyn Daily Eagle, January 27, 1906, page 27.

Illustration 85: Brooklyn Daily Eagle, May 4, 1922, page 24.

Ann Bracken

Ann Bracken, born in June 1836 in Ireland,⁵⁵⁸ went into service in Randolph, first in 1855 with the Norwood family.⁵⁵⁹ In 1870 she was with the Ansel French family where she had accumulated a personal estate worth \$150. Ansel French was a local saloon keeper.⁵⁶⁰ By 1880 Ann had retired due to chronic rheumatism and was living with her sister Catherine McMahon. Ann died of paralysis agitans, Parkinson's Disease, on December 18, 1884 in Randolph.⁵⁶¹ She never married.

Bridget Gerety
m. Michael Bracken
|
Ann (1836-1894)
(unmarried)

Margaret Bracken

Margaret Bracken was born in Ireland on March 17, 1838,⁵⁶² immigrated to America in 1853 and went into service in Randolph, Massachusetts. She worked next door to a branch of the Cain family in 1855.

Margaret married Michael Cain on June 17, 1860 in Randolph.⁵⁶³ Prior to the marriage, Margaret was living with her sister Mary Sullivan. Michael Cain was born September 1, 1830 in Camlisk, County Longford,⁵⁶⁴ Ireland, the son of Farrell and Margaret Kiernan Cain.⁵⁶⁵ Farrell Cain had slightly more than 7 Irish acres in Camlisk More, just outside Edgeworthstown in 1825.⁵⁶⁶ Mike immigrated to America, arriving in New York on July 12, 1850. He moved to Randolph, Massachusetts where he worked as a bootmaker and became a citizen on November 2, 1855.⁵⁶⁷ The witnesses in court to his good character

⁵⁵⁸ *Deaths registered in the Town of Randolph for the Year 1884, page 269, number 75.*

⁵⁵⁹ *1855 Massachusetts state census, Norfolk County, Randolph.*

⁵⁶⁰ *1870 Federal Census, Massachusetts, Norfolk County, Randolph.*

⁵⁶¹ *Deaths Registered in the Town of Randolph for the Year 1884, page 269, number 75.*

⁵⁶² *An Ancestry.com public tree gives Margaret's birth date as March 17, 1837. Her Massachusetts marriage record gives her age in 1860 as 21. Her immigration record gives her age in May 1853 as 15.*

⁵⁶³ *Marriages Registered in the Town of Randolph for the Year 1860, page 24.*

⁵⁶⁴ *Camlisk More is in Ardagh Barony, Civil Parish of Mostrim (Edgeworthstown), Poor Law Union of Granard. There is also a Camlisk Beg about one kilometer away.*

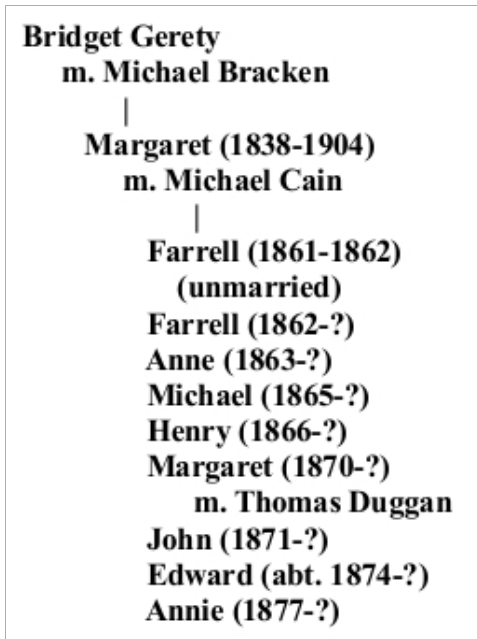
⁵⁶⁵ *Another first cousin of Bridget Sheridan Casey was Catherine Sheridan, who married a Kiernan and immigrated to America, where she was widowed. She moved back to Edgeworthstown by 1896.*

⁵⁶⁶ *Tithe Applotment Book, 1825, County Longford.*

⁵⁶⁷ *Declaration for Citizenship, Petition for Citizenship, U.S. District Court, Boston, Massachusetts, volume 17, page 221 & 221A. No immigration record found.*

were John Shanley and Felix Kiernan. John Shanley was, of course, a cousin of Mike's future wife, Margaret Bracken.

In 1860 Michael's parents, Farrell and Margaret Cain, had a boarder, Jeremiah Gerety, 19, living with them, who was very likely a relative. Michael's mother, Margaret, died in Randolph on November 18, 1878 of dropsy at 81.⁵⁶⁸ His father Farrell, or Farley as he was sometimes called in America, probably died on April 14, 1864 in Randolph.



Margaret Bracken and Mike Cain had five children in Randolph before moving to Jackson, Dakota County, Nebraska, in May 1868 where Mike continued to work as a shoe maker. Nebraska had become a state on March 1, 1867.

Their first child, Farrell, born March 11, 1861, died of teething, in Randolph on February 6, 1862.⁵⁶⁹ Another son they named Farrell was born September 2, 1862. By 1870 they had added Anne, born October 28, 1863, Michael, born April 10, 1865, Henry, born December 2, 1866, Margaret, born in Nebraska about 1869, and John born in 1871. Mike's sister Catherine Cain, married Peter Carney in 1858 and settled in St. John's precinct one and a half miles north of Jackson in 1878. The Cain family remained in Jackson for 9 years. In 1877 they settled on a piece of land one and a half miles from where

Hubbard now stands.⁵⁷⁰ They had a total of eleven children, four of whom died by 1900.⁵⁷¹

Mike and Margaret were great friends of their cousins, the Shanleys in Sioux City, and there was much visiting back and forth between the families.

Mike died on March 28, 1902. Margaret Bracken Cain died on March 1, 1904. They are buried in Hubbard, Dakota County, Nebraska.

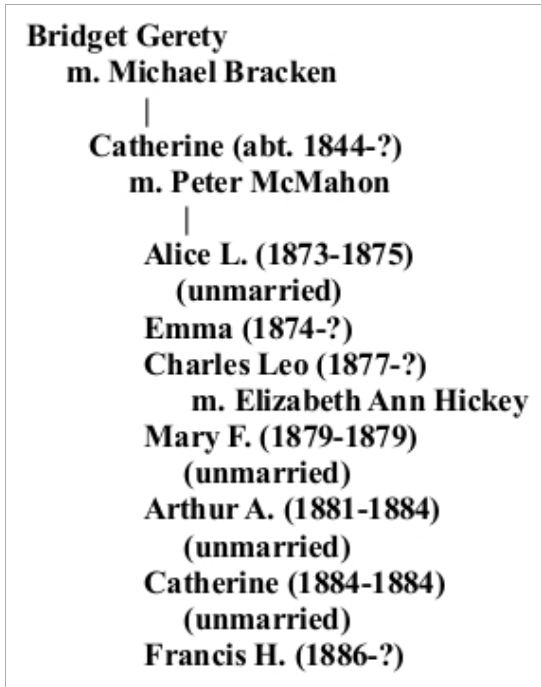
⁵⁶⁸ *Deaths Registered in the Town of Randolph in the Year 1878, page 249, number 71. Margaret Cain was the daughter of Patrick Kiernan and Bridget McLaughlin.*

⁵⁶⁹ *Massachusetts Deaths, 1841 – 1915, Randolph, Norfolk County, 1862, page 290, line 11.*

⁵⁷⁰ *Warner's History of Dakota County, page 276. Biographical Chapter XVII. Pioneer settlers of 1855.*

⁵⁷¹ *Warner's History of Dakota County, page 276. Biographical Chapter XVII. Pioneer settlers of 1855.*

Catherine Bracken



Catherine, known as Kate to her family, was born about 1844 in Ireland. She immigrated with her mother in 1853 and worked in 1865 as a domestic servant in the Porter family household in Randolph. Franklin Porter was a local druggist.

Catherine married Peter McMahon on November 13, 1870 in Randolph, Massachusetts. Peter was born in Randolph on February 25, 1839, the son of Patrick and Mary Dunn McMahon. He had married Jane Agnes Hill on April 10, 1864 in Randolph but Agnes died on September 18, 1865 of typhoid fever. He married Catherine five years later.

Peter was a returning Civil War veteran, having served with the 4th Massachusetts Infantry, Company D. He worked as a boot maker and he and Kate had several

children: Alice L., born October 10, 1873; Emma, born December 31, 1874; Charles Leo, born January 5, 1877; Mary F., born October 13, 1879; Arthur A., born August 26, 1881; Catherine, called Katie, born August 10, 1884; and Francis H., born January 29, 1886.⁵⁷²

Their daughter Alice died in Randolph on January 28, 1875 of spinal meningitis. She was 1 year, 3 months, and 18 days old. Another daughter Mary died in Randolph on October 20, 1879 of convulsions.⁵⁷³ She was 7 days old. Their son Arthur died of inflammation of the brain on November 9, 1884. He was 3 years, 2 months and 14 days old. One day later, on November 10 their daughter Catherine died of consumption. She was 3 months old.⁵⁷⁴

⁵⁷² *Various Randolph, Massachusetts birth records.*

⁵⁷³ *Massachusetts Town Clerk, Vital and Town Records, 1626 – 2001. Randolph, Norfolk County, 1879, page 247, number 66. On the same page, two children of Michael and Julia Cozzens Sheridan, James, 7 days old, and Jane 15 years, 4 months, and 24 days, died of diphtheria in 1879.*

⁵⁷⁴ *Deaths Registered in the Town of Randolph for the Year 1884, page 269, numbers 61 and 62.*

HER FRIENDS ANXIOUS.

Mrs McMahon Escapes From an Insane Asylum and is Lost to Sight.

RANDOLPH, Sept 20—Mrs Catherine McMahon, whose home is on South st, in this village, was an inmate of the Taunton lunatic hospital, her mind having become deranged soon after the death of her husband.

On Tuesday, Sept 12, she made her escape, since when nothing has been heard from her. The week previous to her escape she wrote a letter to her daughter, stating that she was desirous of seeing her on Saturday. The daughter not being able to comply with her mother's desire, she received another letter on Monday following saying that she was coming home.

She is about 50 years of age, of medium hight, weighs about 140 pounds, has black hair, tinged with gray in front, dark blue eyes and a florid complexion. At the time of her departure she wore a brown print wrap, a black crocheted shoulder cape, black straw hat, trimmed with a black ribbon, and a white apron.

Mrs McMahon's brother, Andrew Bracken, an officer at Deer Island, and other family connections in this village, have been in constant search for her.

On Monday afternoon a telegram was received here from police headquarters at Boston, stating that the missing one was at a house at Eggleston sq, but upon investigation it proved that the party was another runaway, but from the Danvers institution.

It is feared that some mishap has befallen her. The hospital people are making all possible efforts to find her, and her friends have left a description of her with officers in the immediate vicinity.

Illustration 86: Boston Daily Globe, September 20, 1893, page 18.

Catherine's heartbreak was not over. Her husband Peter died on February 8, 1893 in Randolph of intermittent fever and cerebral hemorrhage.

Peter had filed for and was granted an invalid pension for his Civil War service on April 24, 1880. Catherine was granted a widow's pension after his death.⁵⁷⁵ She was said to have become insane possibly due to dementia a few months after the death of her husband and was committed to the Taunton Lunatic Hospital. She escaped on September 12, 1893. Catherine was 50 at the time of her escape, and weighed 140 pounds with black and gray hair, dark blue eyes and a florid complexion. According to letters she had written to her doctor, she was headed home to Randolph. A search was instituted for her and her brother Andrew, a policeman at the time, tried to help find her. It isn't known if she was ever found or died as a Jane Doe somewhere between Taunton and Randolph, although the answer would likely lie in her widow's pension files.

Catherine's son, Charles Leo, married Elizabeth Ann Hickey on October 19, 1914 in Holbrook, Norfolk County. Elizabeth, a school teacher, was the daughter of Jeremiah J. and Ann A. Sheridan Hickey.⁵⁷⁶

⁵⁷⁵ Civil War pension application 360087, certificate 249054 (Peter) and pension application 575081, certificate 402877 (Catherine).

⁵⁷⁶ *Marriages Registered in the Town of Holbrook, Massachusetts in the Year 1914*, page 66.

Edward Bracken

Edward Bracken was born on January 1, 1840 in County Longford, Ireland.⁵⁷⁷ After immigrating with his mother in 1853 he made his living as a boot crimper in Randolph, where he married Margaret Elizabeth Quinn on October 4, 1863. Margaret, called Lizzie by the family, was born December 12, 1844 in Randolph, the daughter of Edward Quinn (1800-1858) and Catherine Bohan.⁵⁷⁸ Some records have her mother as Rosanna Muldoon (1817-1904), the daughter of Thomas and Bridget Gill Muldoon.⁵⁷⁹

Edward became a citizen of the United States on April 4, 1874 in the District Court in Boston. His witnesses were John Flood and John Purcell, both of Randolph.⁵⁸⁰

They had several children together: Mary, born September 11, 1865; Ann, born October 31, 1867; Mary E., born March 20, 1869; Margaret, born November 23, 1870; Sarah F., born November 14, 1872;⁵⁸¹ Anna L., born July 13, 1874; Eileen, born February 19, 1876; Michael Edward, born March 1, 1878; and, Elizabeth, sometimes called Lillian, born November 28, 1879.⁵⁸²

They lost two daughters in 1869. Ann died of scarlatina anginosa, which causes extensive necrosis and ulceration of the throat, on January 2. She was one year and three months old. Mary died eight days later on January 10 of scarlatina maligna, an acute and

Bridget Gerety
m. Michael Bracken
|
Edward (1840-1881)
m. Margaret Elizabeth Quinn
|
Mary (1865-1869)
(unmarried)
Ann (1867-1869)
(unmarried)
Mary E. (1869-?)
Margaret (1870-?)
m. Francis S. Gilligan
Sarah (1872-?)
Anna L. (1874-?)
m. Edward J. Lonergan
Eileen (1876-?)
m. Daniel P. Lyons
Michael Edward (1878-?)
Elizabeth (1879-?)
m. Joseph M. Kelley

⁵⁷⁷ *Edward Bracken Naturalization, U.S. District Court, Boston, Massachusetts, volume 71, page 76-76A.*

⁵⁷⁸ *Births Registered in the Town of Randolph, Massachusetts for the year 1844.*

⁵⁷⁹ *A public tree on FamilySearch gives her mother's name as Rosanna Muldoon Quinn. The Massachusetts marriage record has her mother's name as Rosanna. Edward's brother Andrew married a Mary Gill in 1893.*

⁵⁸⁰ *Op. Cit. Volume 71, page 76-76A.*

⁵⁸¹ *Another Massachusetts record gives her birth date as November 13, 1873 but this conflicts with Anna who was born in July 1874.*

⁵⁸² *Various, Births Registered in the Town of Randolph, Massachusetts.*

extremely lethal form of scarlet fever. She was three years and four months old.⁵⁸³ Her sister, Mary E., born two months later, was named for her.

Edward Bracken died on October 19, 1881 of phthisis pulmonalis, consumption.

Mary, Sarah, Annie, Eileen, and Michael went to work in the shoe industry by 1900 working as shoe stitchers. Margaret had married Francis S. Gilligan, a plumber, on July 1, 1896 in Randolph.⁵⁸⁴ All of the rest of the children, continued to live at home with their mother for a time.

Eileen married Daniel P. Lyons, a commercial traveler, on September 30, 1908. Elizabeth married Joseph M. Kelley, a railway mail clerk from Weymouth, on July 7, 1909 in Randolph. Annie married Edward J. Lonergan, a shoe operator in Weymouth, on April 19, 1910 in Randolph.

Margaret Quinn Bracken died in Randolph in 1927.⁵⁸⁵ Both she and Edward are buried in St. Mary's Cemetery, Randolph. Edward's tombstone notes that he was born in Edgeworthstown in 1840. No baptismal record has been found for him there.

⁵⁸³ *Deaths Registered in the Town of Randolph for the Year 1869.*

⁵⁸⁴ *Marriages Registered in the Town of Randolph for the Year 1896, page 519, number 14.*

⁵⁸⁵ *Massachusetts Death Index, 1901-1980, volume 62, page 437.*

Andrew Bracken

The youngest of Bridget Gerety's children, Andrew Bracken was born on August 2, 1845 in County Longford.⁵⁸⁶ He worked as a shoemaker in Randolph, Massachusetts. Although he believed he immigrated through Boston on May 15, 1852, the date was actually May 28, 1853.⁵⁸⁷ When he enlisted on April 6, 1865 in New York City as a private in Company M of the 24th Cavalry Regiment, he was 5'4" tall with brown hair, blue eyes and a light complexion. By reason of consolidation as the Civil War was ending, he was transferred on June 17, 1865 to the 1st New York Provisional Cavalry, and sent to Virginia where he mustered out a month later on July 19 at Clouds Mills.

**Bridget Gerety
m. Michael Bracken
|
Andrew (1845-1894)
m. Mary Gill**

Andrew Bracken re-enlisted on November 22, 1873 and served until November 22, 1878 as a private in Company B, 19th US Infantry. Over the course of his career he served at Fort Elliot in Texas as a courier, in Kansas, in Indian Territory (Oklahoma), and in Nebraska. From March 10, 1879 until March 9, 1884 he served in Company I, 4th US Infantry. On May 7, 1884 he enlisted again in Company B of Instruction.

In his last tour of duty, he contracted rheumatism so severe that he could not continue in service. He transferred to Company C of the 8th Cavalry on May 18, 1886. On August 15, 1886 he was discharged at San Antonio, Texas and on November 8, 1886 he filed for an invalid pension. For about a year he lived at the National Soldier's Home in Washington, DC. After his discharge, he lived at Hot Springs, Arkansas where he worked for a time as a laborer. In 1891 he was at Military Headquarters in Los Angeles.

Andrew Bracken was a very sick man. Diagnosed with rheumatism⁵⁸⁸ during his service, he also had consumption, tuberculosis of the left lung, possibly contracted while serving at Jefferson Barracks, Missouri in 1875. Rheumatism was a catch all diagnosis for several diseases in the 19th century, one of which was lupus and Andrew's symptoms were not inconsistent with this debilitating disease. Emaciated, at 5'5" he weighed only 110 pounds in 1891.

Andrew moved back to Massachusetts where he was naturalized on November 12, 1892 in United States Court, District of Massachusetts. His references were John T. Mahoney and John S. Kenney. At the time he lived at 3 Ohio Street, Boston.

⁵⁸⁶ *Naturalization Papers. 1892. The year may have actually been 1844.*

⁵⁸⁷ *Andrew Bracken, Civil War Notes.*

⁵⁸⁸ *Andrew Bracken/Burke pension application.*

GENERAL AFFIDAVIT.

NOTE.—Write the affidavit just as you would write a letter, stating all the facts, circumstances, dates and places, as near as you can remember, according to the requirements in the case in which your testimony is to be used; also state how you know what you say to be true; whether from personal observation or otherwise. (This blank can be used for the testimony of either one or two persons.)

STATE OF MASSACHUSETTS } ss. Gen. Law.
COUNTY OF SUFFOLK }
In the matter of the claim for widow's pension No.
of Mary Bracken, widow of Andrew B. Burke.
late of Company 10th 19th Regt. Mass. Infantry Volume
Personally came before me, a Justice of the Peace, in and for aforesaid County
and State, John A. O'Sullivan, aged 40 years,
and _____, aged _____ years,
resident of Boston, in the County of Suffolk, State of

Mass., who being duly sworn, declare in relation to aforesaid case, as follows:
I well knew Andrew Burke in Co. B. of
1st Infantry, Jefferson Barracks, Mo. I had
served in Co. B. of 1st Cavalry, and after
my discharge I was employed by the Dutts
of Jefferson Barracks, and then met Burke.
On his return to Boston I knew him
as Andrew Bracken, and in fact I knew
his name was Bracken, while he was at
the Barracks, for in giving him his mail
I noticed it was mailed at Randolph Mass.
and I asked him who (who) he knew there
and he told me his folks lived there, and
I found I knew them, and I came from
the West town Ave.

I therefore, that Andrew Burke who
served in Co. B. of 1st Infantry, Jefferson
Barracks, and Andrew Bracken, the
husband of claimant, were one and
the same person.
I further declare that the above testimony
was all written in my presence, on July 1, 1895,
at Boston, Mass. by J. A. O'Sullivan and
only from my oral statement, then made
to him, and to O'Sullivan, and that in making
the same I did not see, and was not
aided or prompted by any written or printed
statement or notes prepared or dictated
by any other person.

and that I have no interest in said case, and am not concerned in its prosecution.

Affiant's Signature, John A. O'Sullivan
P. O. Address, P. O. Washington St.

Illustration 87: Affidavit that Andrew Burke was Andrew Bracken.

In July 1893 he married Mary Gill in Boston, Suffolk County. Mary, born December 15, 1853 in Randolph, Massachusetts, was the daughter of Bernard Gill and Rose Carney, both from Ireland. It's likely they knew each other well in Randolph. Mary Gill grew up practically next door to Andrew's sister, Mary Bracken Sullivan.

Andrew was taken seriously ill on Sunday, December 9, 1894 and shortly before noon on Wednesday, his condition worsened. His physician lost all hope for recovery and he died that evening at 5 PM on December 12, 1894 at the Officer's House on Deer Island.⁵⁸⁹ He was serving as a patrol officer at Deer Island Prison, which was still called the House of Industry at the time. He had been an officer there for years.

Father McAvoy of St. Mary's Church said the Requiem Mass for the repose of his soul, the first ever such Mass at that church. His body was taken to South Boston to lay in state until December 15th, after which it was taken to Randolph for burial at St. Mary's Cemetery, where the newspaper obituary noted that he was to be buried beside his father and mother.⁵⁹⁰ He and Mary had lived at 286 West Third Street in Southie, as South Boston is known to this day.

Representatives from the Trimountain Garrison army and navy union accompanied the body. Pallbearers were Augustus Forrest, Dominick Hand, Patrick Brady, and Michael Brady.

⁵⁸⁹ *Our Paper*, volume 10, page 811, Massachusetts Reformatory, 1894.

⁵⁹⁰ *Boston Post*. December 16, 1894. Other references to Andrew in the *Boston Daily Globe* December 13, and December 17, 1894.

OFFICER BRACKEN'S FUNERAL

The funeral of Patrolman Andrew Bracken, a trusted officer at Deer Island for the past five years, took place yesterday from his late home, 286 West Third Street, South Boston. Trimountain Garrison, R. A. and N. U., of which the deceased was a member, attended in a body. Commander R. R. Centro, Vice-Commander Peter Cusack, Deputy Commander O. H. Durew, Adjutant French and Captain John Kenny acted as pall bearers. The body was borne to the Old Colony depot and taken on the 12 o'clock train to Randolph, Mass., and laid to rest beside his father and mother, who died only a few years ago. Mr. Bracken was 49 years old and leaves a wife, sister and a large circle of friends.

Officer Bracken was taken ill on Sunday last. Hospital Superintendent T. F. Roache did all that medical skill could do for him, but shortly before noon on Wednesday his condition changed for the worse. The physician lost all hope, and his death came at 5 o'clock in the evening, surrounded by his wife and friends.

On Thursday morning his body was taken to the chapel, where the first requiem mass ever celebrated there was said by the chaplain, Father McAvoy, of St. Mary's Church, who delivered a very touching eulogy at the close of the services. The organ was presided over by Mr. Cornelius Wielslinger, solos being rendered by E. G. Edwards and J. Keenan. The body was brought to Boston on the afternoon boat and taken to his late home in South Boston, where it laid in state till Saturday morning.

Illustration 88: Boston Post. December 16, 1894.

Andrew had been granted a pension as Andrew Burke. After his death, his widow claimed his pension and, of course, had to file several affidavits to prove the marriage as well as the fact that Andrew Bracken was indeed Andrew Burke. One of the statements filed in the matter was by Michael Sheridan of Randolph, Massachusetts. Michael was born in Ireland in 1831, the son of James and Ann Kerrigan Sheridan.⁵⁹¹

Andrew's widow, who was a nurse, continued to live in South Boston at 254 West 3rd Street with her sister Rose Gill. Mary died at home at 11 PM on July 20, 1920 of arterio sclerosis complicated by a weak mental condition of four months duration. She was 66 and was buried at St. Mary's in Randolph.⁵⁹² Rose Gill continued to live in Boston but at 135 Seventh Street with her cousin Catherine Burnett. Catherine, born in Ireland about 1868, was a widow who had married about 1890, immigrated in 1909, and worked as a servant to a family. They paid \$15.00 a month rent.

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Bracken, Andrew												
ENLISTED.					MUSTERED IN.							
AGE	WHEN.			WHERE.	PENSION YEARS.	#	WHEN.			GRADE.	COMPT.	RENT.
	YEARS.	DAY.	MONTH.				YEAR.	DAY.	MONTH.			
21	25	6	April	1865 N. Y. City	1	6	April	1865 Private	Co. M	Car	24	
LEFT THE ORGANIZATION.												
HOW.	WHEN.			IN WHAT GRADE.	EXPLANATION.							
	DAY.	MONTH.	YEAR.									
SR Transferred	17	June	1865 Private	Co. M	to 1st N. Y. Prov. Cav. by reason of consolidation							
REMARKS: Died at Boston Mass Dec 12, 1894												
SR	Born in Ireland Occupation Shoemaker. Blue Eyes. Brown Hair. Light complexion 5 feet 4 in high											
Am 6.90. car 5.700000 456 Randolph, Mass.												

2-20-95

Illustration 89: Andrew Bracken, Civil War Excerpt.

⁵⁹¹ Michael Sheridan died of pneumonia on May 4, 1898 in Randolph. A Mary Sheridan, born in Ireland, daughter of James and Ann Sheridan, died of consumption at 27 years, 8 months in Randolph on December 19, 1862, and was probably Michael's sister.

⁵⁹² Massachusetts State Vital Records, 1841-1920, Deaths 1920, Volume 18, Boston, page 439, certificate number 7213.

Other Gerety Family Notes

An Andrew Gerety died in Mullingar, Westmeath on 28 January 1853.

A Mrs. Marcella Gerety died on June 26, 1862 in Mullingar, Westmeath.

A Marcella Gerety, maiden name Hynds, was buried on December 6, 1842 in Moate in Ardagh parish. Moate was a town in Clonlonan in Athlone.

A Marcella Gerety died in April 1770 in Walshestown, Mullingar, Westmeath.

Other Sheridan Notes

As related in one of the letters, Bridget Sheridan's father had many brothers. One can assume there would be sisters also. No aunts and uncles of Bridget were mentioned in the letters. Only one daughter of one brother was mentioned and that was Catherine Sheridan who immigrated to America around 1850 but had returned to Ireland as 'the widow Kiernan' and was living in Edgeworthstown in 1896. Catherine Kiernan may have had a daughter living in New York who was in touch with Bridget Brady. It's possible that some of the following leads may be related. Ages and places are what would be expected.

A Catherine Sheridan died in Mullingar on 2 March 1853.

There were several Sheridans in the records of Ardagh-Moydow and Granard.

On March 22, 1831 James Cox, son of Patrick Cox and Mary Sheridan was baptized in Newtown-Forbes. Thomas Sheridan and Bridget Sheridan, were his sponsors.

A Patrick Sheridan married an Elizabeth Gerety in Ireland. They had a daughter Catherine Sheridan, born about 1804, who married a Farley and died in Randolph, Mass. on October 13, 1870 at age 66 of consumption. Elizabeth could be one of the six Gerety sisters.

In May 1818, a Patrick Sheridan married Ann Masterson in Granard Parish. Their children were Ann, born August 1819, Edward, born January 1822, Lawrence, born July 1835, and Ellen June, born 1836. Another Ann was born September 1827 to "Patrick and wife", which may or may not be the same family.

A Michael Halton married a Mary Sheridan in December 1812 in Granard.

Epilogue

Thus ends the story of my great-great grandmother's brothers and sisters, the outer leaves of the Sheridan branch of the family tree. While the names of both of Bridget Sheridan Casey's parents could not be discovered, at least her mother's name could be deduced from the available evidence. The fate of Biddy's brother Thomas Sheridan and his wife Anne Reilly remains a mystery but instinct and the unfolding lives of Thomas' children, strongly indicated that Ann probably died in Ireland but that Thomas came to America.

Of all the Irish branches of the family, the Sheridan branch was perhaps the most adventurous. They left half their world behind in Ireland but brought the best half, their family, with them to America. It's hoped that this book can shine a light on their lives and honor those lives.

My special thanks to my great-great grandmother and her daughters Mary and Matilda Casey, for preserving the letters and pictures they received over the years. These provided many threads to trace Bridget's brothers and sisters, and nieces and nephews. Without the letters, they and their stories, would have been lost to time. Instead the richness of their lives and experiences can be enjoyed and preserved and give an idea of the spirit and personalities of these long gone Sheridans.

I feel I have come to know them. I hope the reader feels the same.

Perhaps when DNA testing comes in more general use than today, the finger (and the family knows which one!) will be able to identify even more of our Irish relatives further back in time. Perhaps it can put a finger on history.

Appendix 1. The Sheridan/Blake Probate Case

Introduction

There was a legend in the family, on the Lamb side, told to all of us as children about the rich English Protestant gentleman who married the poor Irish Catholic girl. His parents heartily disagreed with the marriage and disinherited him, and so the couple fled to America to make a new life for themselves. As related to the Charleston, West Virginia contingent of my generation, it was a Lamb/Monaghan story. In reality it was a Sheridan story and involved a famous English probate case in the late 1800s.

Biddy Casey and her niece, Bridget Reilly Brady, exchanged some letters regarding the case and Biddy probably provided information about her father's family to assist in determining if anyone in the family had a claim to the sizable inheritance.

An article in the New York Times on September 25, 1889 referenced some possible American heirs to the estate from Brooklyn and their names were all Casey. Why the potential heirs to a Sheridan estate would all be named Casey was perplexing. The answer was, of course, those Caseys, like their West Virginia cousins, were all also Sheridans. For more on those Caseys, see Through Irish Eyes Part III. Putting a Finger on History – the Caseys.

The truth behind the legend proved to be most interesting. The case was settled after many years in English courts and any American claims were not found to have a valid basis, if any were ever pursued with any vigor.

Summary

The story involved a beautiful young woman, named Helen, or Ellen, Sheridan, who married a young English officer stationed in Ireland in the early 1800s, whose name was Robert Dudley Blake. Herein is a summary of information provided to the Sheridan Clan Society in Granard by Helen Sheridan (not the lady in question).

According to testimony in the case, General Blake met Helen, who was supposedly the daughter of a captain of a trading vessel out of Galway. General Blake ran away with her to Scotland when she was seventeen, and married her in Glasgow. His family considered her to be a person of low origin and felt the couple were not lawfully married, and further, that the lady herself was illegitimate. If Helen's parents were married in a non-conforming ceremony, meaning non Church of Ireland ceremony, in Ireland, then by English law, she would have been illegitimate and an illegitimate person had no relatives by law. After their own marriage about 1819, Robert Blake left Helen to be educated in the manners of society and he returned to England to prepare a way to bring her into

English society. Several years later, perhaps three years, he brought her back as his new bride and presented her as a well brought up young lady.

In spite of their efforts to the contrary, Helen was not well accepted in society. Rumors with regard to his wife had swirled in his absence, and as a consequence, they had few social engagements. It was said Mrs. Blake had a peculiar, perhaps Irish, accent. His family showed a disinclination to treat his wife with cordiality and this caused a rift between Robert Blake and his family. An old officer of Marines, a Mr. Smith of Galagate House, testified in a letter that he believed Mrs. Blake to be the illegitimate daughter of one Thomas Sheridan.

General Blake wrote a will about twelve years after his marriage, on February 24, 1831, and in the will stated that his wife had brought with her a dowry of £4,000. His family never accepted this to be true. Many people believed the clause was inserted in the will in an attempt to enhance the status of Blake's wife. His will left nothing to his own family in order to ensure that his wife's right to inherit was unquestioned. Mr. Blake passed away about 1850 and his family did not contest his will. Mrs. Blake did enjoy the friendship of her husband's brother, Sir Francis Blake of Tilmouth House. When Sir Francis passed away in 1860, his own estate was quite muddled and further complicated hers.

Helen Blake passed away on Saturday, September 23, 1876 at her home at 4 Earl's Terrace, Kensington, London, and her estate was entered into probate. She had prepared a draft will but apparently had failed to complete and sign, the document.

West, King, Adams, and Company of London were the solicitors for Robert and Helen Blake. They maintained Mrs. Blake informed them she had no relatives at all. One of her servants testified that Mrs. Blake had told her she had two sisters.

Nine claimants came forward in the first years and hundreds more, when the estate was advertised. Most were from Ireland, but other claims came in from America, New Zealand, Canada, and other countries. Several bequests were honored, many were not.

The case lives on in local lore. Claims were still being made against the estate as late as the 1930s. Perhaps there is more about the American claim to be obtained from the Public Records Office in London. (Ref: TS17, 1273 to 1293).

The story of the Sheridan Blake probate case, as compiled by Helen Sheridan, and detailed on the Sheridan Clan web site, is reproduced here in detail, slightly modified and condensed in the interest of space.

The Blake Millions – by Helen Sheridan

Introduction

This presentation was created by Helen Sheridan, from reading through documentation on this topic stored in the Public Records Office in Kew in London. (Ref. TS17, 1273 to 1293). Some information is from the Blake papers in the Records Office in Berwick-upon-Tweed.

When & Where The Story Started

On Saturday, September 23, 1876, Mrs. Blake was in bed at her leased home at 4 Earl's Terrace, Kensington, London. Mrs. Blake was a lady in her mid-seventies, but her exact age has not been established. In the house with her were two servants, James and Gertrude Burke, and two friends she had requested earlier that day, by telegram, to come to her as she was unwell. They were Mr and Mrs Edward Edwards Langford.

Before the Langfords arrived at 4 Earl's Terrace, Mrs. Blake dispatched James Burke to her solicitors, West, King, Adams & Co, of 66 Cannon Street, London, to fetch to her Mr King. The assumption was that Mrs. Blake wished to complete her will, as it was lying on the bedside table. Mr. King duly arrived at 4 Earl's Terrace, but found that Mrs. Blake had died before his arrival.

What Happened Then

Mrs. Blake had prepared the draft will some three years earlier but had not completed it. Mr. King took it with him when he left and he asked the Langfords to remain at the home, to look after and secure the house and its contents. As there were no known relatives of Mrs. Blake, this was deemed to be especially important. The Langfords stayed in the house for the next three months.

Mr. King gave notice of Mrs. Blake's death to the Solicitor of Her Majesty's Treasury on the following Monday and asked for instructions as to arrangements for Mrs. Blake's funeral. The Treasury advised him to make such arrangements as he saw fit. Mr. King had the body transported to Northumbria, and buried in Norham churchyard in the vault in which her husband General Robert Dudley Blake had been previously buried.

Mr. King did not himself attend the funeral in Northumbria, but arranged for the attendance at the funeral of four persons, in order to see that the funeral was properly carried out, and that there would be someone to follow the body to the grave. These were Mr. & Mrs. Langford, a Miss Hudson, and a Mr. Duddell. Mr. King advised these four that their mourning expenditure would be paid out of Mrs. Blake's estate. Mourning expenditure was also provided for Mr. & Mrs. Burke. The cost was £12 15s 2d. Mrs. Blake was buried in Norham on September 30, 1876.

The Search For Information

The Treasury Solicitors and their agents, the firm Hare & Co, embarked on gathering what information they could about Mrs. Blake and her husband, beginning with the documents at 4 Earl's Terrace. Information concerning the General was plentiful, but there was little if any that related to Mrs. Blake. Affidavits were sworn by a number of long term friends of Mrs. Blake and her late husband, and statements were taken from other friends and acquaintances.

A notice was placed in London newspapers in November 1876 and May 1877:

"Blake. - Heir At Law. - Next Of Kin. - The Heir at Law and the Next Of Kin of Mrs. Helen Blake, late of No. 4, Earl's Terrace, Kensington, widow, deceased, are Requested to Communicate with the Solicitor for the affairs of her Majesty's Treasury, Whitehall. 28th November 1876"

The Affidavits

Miss Eliza H. Hudson – Swore she first met Robert Dudley Blake when she was an eleven year old in 1811. He took the upper rooms in her mother's house at 4 Little George Street in Westminster in 1811, which he kept until 1818. For a short time thereafter R D Blake took a furnished apartment in Camberwell, where he owned some properties, close to the new home of Miss Hudson's family, whom he continued to visit. In the Spring of 1819 R D Blake went to the Continent for ten months. On his return from the Continent he took rooms at the house of Mr. Bliss at 19 Adam Street, Adelphi, and continued to visit the Hudsons. He had property in Sussex and would sometimes go and stay there.

Miss Hudson first met Helen Blake in or around 1830, when R D Blake introduced her as his wife. Afterwards Eliza Hudson paid visits to Handcross House in Sussex and remained on intimate terms with the Blakes for the remainder of their lives. She was told that the Blakes had married in Scotland in the year 1819, that Helen Blake, before her marriage, had been made a ward of Chancery after her father died when she was young and her mother remarried. The remarriage was either to her mother's cousin or to her first husband's cousin. Miss Hudson stated that it was her understanding that Helen Blake had never been to Ireland but would have liked to have done so.

Miss Hudson attributed the General's secrecy about his marriage to the difference in age with his wife, and also the fact of her wardship of Chancery. It was further her understanding that Mrs. Blake had inherited £4,000, and that there had been some difficulty in obtaining the money. The Blakes had no children, but Mrs. Blake had suffered a miscarriage after a road accident before 1830. She also suffered pain in her right hand as a result of trying to play a demanding piece on the pianoforte, and that she generally would get someone else to write for her when possible.

Douglas Pitt Gamble – Swore that his father, John Richard Gamble, was a close friend of General Blake and acted as a go-between between General Blake and his brother Sir Francis Blake, and his sister Mrs. Stag. In his role as a go-between, John Gamble visited the Blake family home in Northumbria. One of the family difficulties that occasioned this need had arisen from the idea that General Blake was living in sin with “a person of very low origin”. However, John Gamble expressed his opinion to the Blake family that General Blake was lawfully married to the lady in question, and that on his return to London, he himself would endeavor to ascertain the truth of the matter.

Two days after this visit, General Blake invited John Gamble to a meeting. The invitation came from the General at his Adam Street address. At that meeting the General showed John Gamble the marriage certificate to verify their married status. Mr. Gamble also raised the delicate matter of Mrs. Blake’s supposed illegitimacy, as claimed by the Blake family. General Blake answered “Well so she is. She never saw or knew her father whom I believe was a captain of a trading vessel between Galway and Baltimore. Her mother ill-treated her, and when she was about seventeen I ran away with her, took her to Scotland and married her at a place near Glasgow.” Douglas Pitt Gamble, who became a friend of the Blakes, also stated that he had repeatedly heard Mrs. Blake say that she had not a relation in the world, and that General Blake had said the same thing on several occasions.

George Farquharson King – Swore that he was a partner in West, King, Adams & Co, the General’s and Mrs Blake’s solicitors over a long period of time. Mr. King did not know Helen Blake’s maiden name. Having done business with the Blakes for many years, Mrs. Blake had frequently informed both Mr. King and his late partner Mr. West, that she had no relations whatever. Additionally, the law firm had some years before drawn up the draft will at her request, and some revision of that draft had been done a short time before she died.

Signed Statements

Edward Edwards Langford & his wife Marian Isabella – Attested that they were intimate friends of the late General Blake and Mrs. Helen Blake from 1837, having first become friends with the Blakes when the Langfords resided in the same parish of Slaugham in Sussex.

Helen Blake requested Mr. Langford’s help in making the arrangements for General Blake’s funeral, following his death in 1850. Afterwards he assisted Mrs. Blake in arranging her affairs. The Langfords interpreted expressions frequently made by Helen Blake about ground rents on properties in St. George’s Place, as intimating that Mrs. Blake was going to benefit the Langfords in her will and that they had frequently heard Mrs. Blake say that none of her property should go to the Blake family.

The Langfords remained at 4 Earl's Terrace for about three months after the death of Helen Blake, at a cost of great inconvenience to themselves, and in much discomfort at first, owing to the state of the house. They humbly submitted that they had a claim on the bounty of the Crown due to the provision, which would have been made by Mrs. Blake had she lived long enough to complete her will, as well as the services rendered by them, since her death.

Mrs. King nee Ellison – Mrs. King was the daughter of Mr. Ellison, the Rector of Slaugham for many years. She signed a statement describing what she & her family knew of General and Mrs. Blake, in support of a claim by a Miss Fitzgerald, in 1882. Miss Fitzgerald purported to be Mrs. Blake's next of kin. Mrs. King gave the fullest personal account of the Blakes.

The General was eccentric, very well informed, very agreeable, orderly, and fastidious regarding cleanliness. An exception was made, however, in his correspondence and his way of leaving notes on small bits of paper and old cards lying about.

Mrs. King was quite sure that all of Slaugham in the early 1820's understood the General to be a bachelor. Sometime between 1823 and 1827 General Blake announced his intention to leave Slaugham for six months and to bring back with him a bride. As the General was a very private person, this announcement of his intended marriage created intense astonishment in Slaugham society. On the General's return, his wife became an object of intense interest. She was discussed and scrutinized by the ladies of Slaugham. Those ladies 'turned up their noses' and declined to call upon her. There was really nothing wrong with Mrs. Blake, but the General had announced a bride and Mrs. Blake's manner and general demeanor were not those of a newly married lady. Slaugham society put her down as a lady who must have been married three years at least.

Rector Ellison called on General Blake and the General likely produced a marriage certificate. The Rector and his daughter called on Mrs. Blake and the other ladies of Slaugham followed his example. General Blake & Mrs. Blake became bona fide members of Slaugham society. The Ellison family became very close to the Blakes, and remained so for the life of General and Mrs. Blake.

Neither the General nor Mrs. Blake ever gave a hint to the Ellisons of Mrs. Blake's origins and it appeared they were most anxious to conceal them. The Blakes not only avoided mentioning the smallest clue to Mrs. Blake's family, but also threw obstacles in the way of any such discovery. On one occasion Mrs. Blake, at an unguarded moment used an expression, just one sentence which threw the smallest possible light on her birth, and the General showed great signs of uneasiness and quickly changed the conversation.

The Ellisons considered Mrs. Blake to be inferior to the General's rank in life. Mrs. Blake had a peculiar accent, which the Ellisons thought to be a northern one, or possibly

Irish. The Ellisons formed no opinion on the matter of whether Mrs. Blake's accent was Irish.

Miss Fitzgerald, whose claim the statement was in support of, left Mrs. King a photograph of a Mrs. Jones, a supposed elder sister of Mrs. Blake. Mrs. King said that her brother, her husband, herself, and her eldest daughter thought the photo looked strikingly like Mrs. Blake. Miss Fitzgerald said that Mrs. Jones, the lady in the photograph, had beautiful hair as an aged woman, soft, pure white, and lush, just like Mrs. Blake's hair.

When General Blake died Mrs. Blake adopted his old habit of writing notes on scraps of paper and became very untidy in dress and person. The Kings knew Mrs. Blake until the last, and she gave a sovereign as pocket money to their children just before she died. From all that Miss Fitzgerald said to the King family, the Kings sincerely believed Miss Fitzgerald's relatives were the right heirs.

The Kings had heard nothing that would lead them to believe that Mrs. Blake was illegitimate, and they never thought she was.

The Blake Family Statement

Mrs. Blake's history prior to her marriage has not been clearly traced. She herself never spoke in any detail about it, and her allusions to her early days went no further than a statement that her father was a "man of note", and that she had been born in a vessel on the River Mersey.

The Blake family knew that General Blake's connection with his wife had not commenced with their marriage, and that it wasn't unusual that the Blake family showed a disinclination to receive the lady with cordiality. In consequence, a partial estrangement followed between them and the General, but in due course friendly relations were established, and the General's wife became a frequent visitor to Sir Francis Blake at the family mansion, Tilmouth House.

The General's will was executed about 12 years after their marriage, and clearly was intended to put beyond question the fact of his marriage with the lady. The will states that by his marriage with his wife, the General had acquired a sum of £4,000, and that other property had subsequently come to him as her husband. But this fact was not revealed by the General to any member of his family in his lifetime. It was suggested that the story may have been a sort of pious exaggeration or misstatement, made with the idea that it would in some way strengthen the position of the wife should her claims under the will be questioned. Such an emphasis was unusual in a will, but might make sense if it was understood that when the will was made, the General's family believed, and had shown that they believed, that the relationship between the General and his wife had not been beyond question or criticism.

The Blake family considered the reason for this was to put the General's wife's right to succeed to his estate beyond any danger. On the General's death in 1850, his widow's right to succeed to his real and personal estate, in accordance with his will, was not questioned by anyone. She continued in the enjoyment of the estate until her death and was a frequent visitor at Tilmouth. During the later years of her brother-in-law's, Sir Francis Blake's, life, their mutual relationship was one of friendship.

Mrs. Blake's brother-in-law Sir Francis died in 1860, and his affairs were much embarrassed. Some parts of the estate had been heavily mortgaged and after his death in 1860, some parts were sold by the mortgagees. An important part of the sold off estate was purchased by Mrs. Blake herself.

From 1869, the succession to the Blake estates (Sir Francis Blake's) was the subject of long and costly litigation, at the conclusion of which Mr. Francis Douglas Blake was the eventual beneficiary. Mrs. Blake shared with Mr. Sanderson, Francis Douglas Blake's solicitor, that she had purchased part of the estate with the hope that one day the estate might be rejoined. They agreed upon a price of £66,903 and a deposit was paid. However Mrs. Blake died before the sale was complete, and the balance of the money was in due course paid into the Treasury.

Mrs. Blake was on the kindest and most friendly terms with all the children of the late Sir Francis, and after his death, his daughters Mrs. Steele and Miss Blake at various times resided with her. Mrs. Blake had offered to adopt Miss Mary Blake after Sir Francis's death. Mrs. Blake assured both his daughters that they might rely on her as their friend. Many letters from Mrs. Blake indicated the most affectionate sentiments on her part towards the Blake family.

Mrs. Blake arranged the burial of her husband General Blake in the Blake vault in Norham churchyard, and reserved the right to be buried there herself as part of the conveyancing of the estates repurchased from her by Mr. Francis Douglas Blake.

The Blake family submitted that under the circumstances, there existed ample justification for the family of the late Sir Francis Blake sharing in the liberality of the Crown in dealing with Mrs. Blake's estate.

Gertrude Burke's Statement

Mrs. Gertrude Burke, along with her husband James, were servants of Mrs. Blake at the time of her death. Mrs. Burke remembered Mrs. Blake referring several times to being related to the famous Brinsley Sheridan. After about six months in her service, Mrs. Burke asked if any of the Sheridans were still living. Mrs. Blake made reply very distinctly "There is one, a member of parliament." She then suddenly turned the conversation, as if she wished to avoid the subject.

Mrs. Blake related to Mrs. Burke that her father went abroad and died there. She could not remember him, being too young at the time. Mrs. Blake also told her that she was made a ward of Chancery, in consequence of the hardship and cruel treatment of her mother. Mrs. Blake told her she had two sisters: one went abroad and she believed married an officer in the Spanish army; the other sister she fancied she had seen in Liverpool, many years after she had left home. Mrs. Blake drew the attention of the General to her supposed sister, and the General said “Nonsense, Helen”, and thinking that he was right, Mrs. Blake did not venture to speak to her. Mrs. Blake always believed these sisters, being older, were dead. Mrs. Blake’s mother had married Mrs. Blake’s father’s cousin, and there were three children of the marriage, a girl and two boys. The boys died in infancy, and the girl, Mary, died between ten and twelve years of age. Mrs. Blake seemed to have great love for Mary’s memory to the last, saying frequently “Oh, I wish I had little Mary, dear little Mary”.

Mrs. Blake also told Mrs. Burke that she had been sent to the country to boarding school, which had been a farmhouse, from whence she eloped to Scotland when very young, with General Blake, and married there. They then traveled through Europe for a long time.

The £4000 legacy

Most of the statements consider that there was no £4000 legacy, but that the General introduced the concept to enhance the status of his bride.

There were two mentions of the money. In a letter from the General to Helen Blake dated July 1821 written while the General was on holiday with his mother in Cheltenham, he writes “I am sorry to find you still continue uneasy because I have not made known my marriage with you – Depend upon it My dear Helen that such would not increase our happiness. The dispositions of my brother Francis and Mrs Stag are no way similar to yours, and if we were to enter into what the world calls fashionable life it would cause to us a heavy expenditure which you know our means could but ill afford – and although the interest of your four thousand pounds has augmented my income still it would be quite inadequate to meet the expense of such society – Besides which I know my own interest and I hope your happiness too well to endeavor to convert my really domestic and rational Wife into a whirligig woman of fashion.”

The General’s will dated 24/2/1831 states “I commence this my last will by stating that I formerly made a will on my return to England from Scotland in which country I was married to my dear wife now Mrs. Helen Blake, and in that will I gave and bequeathed unto her Mrs. Helen Blake Her heirs and assigns for ever all my freehold estates and I also gave and bequeathed to her all my other estates – And whereas I acquired by my marriage with Her a sum of four thousand pounds and other property has subsequently come to me as her Husband and I have purchased other estates since I made that will – For those reasons and in consideration of Her disinterested and exemplary conduct on all

occasions, and of the love, affection, esteem, and regard which I have always had for Her I by this my last Will and Testament give, devise and bequeath,” etc. etc.

The General wrote a letter the following day 25/2/1831 from 9 Staple Inn, London to his wife stating “I think it proper to mention to you (that you may be aware of it) that I shall destroy my old will which is twice noticed in The Will which I signed yesterday – and my reason for destroying it, the old will, is because having yesterday signed My last will and testament the other is now of no use. – But as the will still older than the above mentioned old will might be of use for the purpose of showing the regard which I had for you even before you had favoured me with your hand in marriage I think it as well not to destroy such will but to keep it as it is not noticed in my last will and testament. – The old will which is amply noticed in my last will and testament and the older will both one and the other add strength to my last will and testament signed by me yesterday (as also two duplicates thereof) as showing that I have uninterruptedly for a vast number of years intended that you should at my death have all my Freehold estates. I am My dear Helen Your Sincere and Affectionate Husband – R D Blake”

Letters re: Mrs. Blake’s origin

Mr Paxton of Norham on Tweed in a letter dated June 8, 1882, said that he was not by any means intimately acquainted with the late Mrs. Blake, but he remembers the first visit of her to Tilmouth, about forty years ago. The subject of her visit was talked of in the neighborhood and he heard at that time that she was an illegitimate daughter of Thomas (not Richard) Sheridan. This information came from an old officer of Marines, the late Mr. Smith of Galagate House. Mr. Paxton remembered that Mrs. Blake had wished to take one of Sir Francis Blake’s daughters to educate, but that Sir Francis had objected, and that some little difference had in consequence arisen between them. Mrs. Blake frequently afterwards visited Tilmouth and the neighborhood, and it had always been his impression that her parentage was as above stated.

When she bought the Twizel properties after the death of Sir Francis it was understood that it was with the intention of preserving them for the Blake family.

A second letter dated June 17, 1882 from Mr. Paxton, stated he had endeavored that week to find some one who could give information about the late Mrs. Blake, and that he had found only one alive who knew anything about the lady. That man was 92 and has been many years a tenant on the Twizel estate and was often seen speaking with the lady. Although the old man was feeble in body, his mind was clear with an excellent memory, yet he had no information about her parentage. The old man remembered Mrs. Blake saying she was born in Edinburgh and lived there until she was eight years old, when her father took her to London. Mrs. Blake also told him she had no near relatives if any alive. The clerk of Norham Church informed Mr. Paxton that after General Blake’s death, she came to his brother, Sir Francis Blake at Tilmouth, to arrange the burial. They could not then legally bury him in the vault in Norham church so Sir Francis and Mrs.

Blake ordered a new vault to be made in the churchyard. Her husband's body was put into this new vault about a year after his death. Before Mrs. Blake's death two children of Mr. Francis Blake, the father of the present proprietor of the Twizel estates, were also deposited in the vault. Last of all Mrs. Blake's herself was buried there.

Mr. Clayton of Chesters of Humshaugh on Tyne, wrote a letter, dated January 9, 1883 stating it was generally understood that Mrs. Helen Blake was the natural daughter of a Northumbria farmer of the name Sheraton, and became a domestic servant in the family of Sir Francis Blake of Twizel Castle in Northumbria. General Blake, then a Captain in the army, took a fancy to the girl, while on a visit with his brother. He paid for her education and married her at Glasgow under the name of Helen Sheridan, to conceal her humble origins. The girl, being naturally clever, took and maintained a place in Society consistent with her husband's rank. It was surmised that the passages in her husband's will in which she was spoken of as a lady of fortune, were used merely for the purpose of disguise, the Blake family being eccentric. The descendants of Sheraton, the Northumbrian farmer, at one time entertained the idea of making a claim as next of kin of Mrs. Blake, but being satisfied of her illegitimacy did not pursue it. At this distance of time it may be difficult to procure strictly legal evidence of these facts but I believe there is no doubt of their authenticity and a knowledge of them may be of use in testing the claims of the Irish man. I am curious to see how he will identify the property of his kinswoman with the description contained in General Blake's Will. – An Irish lady of fortune is a rare phenomenon.

Would-be Claimants

Nine claimants came forward in the first few years. None Succeeded. Some of these were:

- the representatives of one Richard Kirwan
- the McAllister family
- Ann Harford
- John Brown
- Margaret Lardner
- William Patrick Sheridan

In subsequent years, after articles in the press, hundreds of inquiries poured in. Most were from Ireland, and some from the United States, Australia, New Zealand, Spain and Canada. None of these inquiries came to anything.

Five Petitions of Rights were embarked upon:

1. The first petitioner was Martin Sheridan who claimed he was heir at law and entitled to the real estate. A fiat was granted and some interlocutory proceedings took place, but nothing further was done. Five years later on October 27, 1897, the court dismissed the petition for want of prosecution.
2. At the same time, Mary Sheridan of Roscommon and nine other persons presented a petition of rights claiming that they were next of kin and entitled to

- Mrs. Blake's personal estate. A fiat was granted and some interlocutory proceedings took place, but nothing further was done. Five years later on October 27, 1897, the court dismissed the petition for want of prosecution.
3. Anastasia Brennan, although dated September 22, 1888, was not filed until July 8, 1893. The petitioner claimed to be the next of kin and heiress at law of the deceased. A defense was delivered but subsequently the Petitioner failed to comply with certain orders for the delivery of further particulars. On May 30, 1894, an order was made that unless these particulars were delivered within twenty one days of the service of the order, the petition should stand dismissed. They were not delivered and proceedings came to an end.
 4. Edward Kelly and Margaret Beehan filed on January 22, 1900. Edward Kelly claimed to be heir at law of the deceased. Margaret Beehan, as the personal representative of one John Kelly, claimed he was a first cousin of the deceased and was entitled to her personal estate. A defense was duly delivered which traversed the facts alleged in the petition, and in addition claimed the benefit of the Statutes of Limitations. The claimants' solicitors decided to proceed no further.
 5. Annie Murtha Minahan of Charlestown, Massachusetts, USA, as the legal personal representative of one William Leonard, in 1931. This case ended in a dismissal of the petition, with costs.

Draft Will Bequests

The following bequests were honoured:

Trinity College Dublin - £3,000, to invest and found a 'Blake National History Scholarship'

The Royal National Lifeboat Institution - £6,400, for the Irish Service. To purchase two boats: the 'General R Dudley Blake', and the 'Helen Blake' 'Shipwrecked Fishermen and Mariners' - £1,000

The O'Connor Don MP - £2,000

Lewis Llewelyn Dillwyn, MP - £2,000

Various charities for Irish Railway Employees - £2,000

'Royal Society for the Protection of Life from Fire' - £1,000

Eliza Hudson, of 13 and 14 Westmoreland Place, Camberwell

There were a number of personal bequests:

Mrs Langford - £500

Miss Harriet Brown of Upper Norwood - £500

The Honorable Mrs Methuen, daughter of Rev W Ferguson - £500

Sophia Duddell, niece of George Duddell - £100

Rev. W. Ellison, son of the late rector of Slaughtam - £100

William Rovry, and Charlotte his wife, in her employ - £100

Names in the draft Will which were marked out and not honored:

Mr John Strong, formerly of Carters Lodge Sussex - £500
Mary Blake, spinster, daughter of the late Sir Francis Blake - £500
Albert Ferguson, son of Rev W Ferguson - £100
Maynooth College - £3000 to found a Blake National Language Scholarship

Incomes to be provided out of trusts to be set up, but which were not honored:

Eliza Hudson, to deliver £50 annually
Mrs Stewart, widow of Rev. James Stewart, Presbyterian minister, Norham,
interest from £500

THE TUAM HERALD, TUAM, CO GALWAY
SATURDAY, AUGUST 14, 1909

ANOTHER BLAKE "WINDFALL"

According to the "London Star" a very curious story attaches to the announcement that another Blake fortune has fallen to the Treasury by the death of Mr Fred K Blake, of Broadfield Lodge, near Crawley, who died on 6th May, intestate, and a bachelor without known relative. Although this estate is not so large as the more famous Blake millions which have interested so many, it reaches the respectable total of £43,000. It is certainly curious that this intestate should be related to the famous Mrs Helen Blake, whose fortune also went to the Crown. The romances of these two "windfalls" begins with General Robt. Dudley Blake, son of General Sir Francis Blake, second baronet, who belonged to an old Northumbrian family. He held Twissel Castle, and in Durham, Tilmouth, and Segrill in Northumberland, and were very rich. While he was Captain in the Army, Robert Dudley Blake met in Dublin a beautiful Irish girl named Helen Sheridan, the daughter of a country schoolmaster. He fell in love with her, and had her educated in England, and married her in Lanarkshire in 1819. Their only child died in infancy, and left it all to his widow when he died in 1860. In the same year his brother, Sir Francis Blake, third baronet, died without legitimate issue, and the baronetcy became extinct. Sir Francis also left considerable property to his sister-in-law, Mrs Helen Blake. This lady died at Earls court terrace in 1876, and at the age of 76, without making a will. Her real estate was worth about £30,000, and the personal estate to about £119,000 more. The whole of the personal estate was seized by the Crown, and next-of-kin advertised for. But no one of the claimants who came forward from Ireland and America could satisfy the Court of Chancery that they were next of kin, and £24,000 having been spent in costs, the personal estate amounting to £140,000 remained in the hands of the Crown. In the district of Clarendon there are still Sheridan's who claim to be related to Helen Blake, but they are too poor to push their claims. The second Blake intestate comes in this way: Sir Francis Blake, the third baronet, had several children to whom he bequeathed considerable sums at his death in 1860. One of them was Mr Fred K Blake, who has just died at Crawley. He was formerly an officer in the Army, and was never seen in the North of England, though he owned the Seghill estate of 400 acres, on which the Leycocks works their colliery. There was a rumour on the Tyneside that some poor relatives intended to claim the personal estate, which is valued at £43,000, but nothing has been heard of it in the Courts, and letters of administration of his property have been granted to the Solicitor to the Treasury, and his successors in that office "for the use of his Majesty." The Seghill colliery and the landed estates pass to the deceased's kinsman, Sir Francis Blake, first baronet of the 1907 creation, whose family bought the Seghill Park and other Northumberland estates from the Crown when Mrs Helen Blake died intestate. Altogether, the Crown has reason to be grateful to the Blakes for their "windfalls."

Appendix 2. Family Letters

Bridget Reilly Brady to Bridget Casey, May 20, 1886

Brooklyn, May 20, 1886

My dear aunt
I write these few lines to you. I
suppose you will be surprised
to hear from me since Bridget
Reilly from Bridget Brady.
I have often thought of writing to
you, but from time to time
neglected it, my sister Mary
wrote to you some years ago
when she was stopping here with

2

me and then she was a widow
she got no answer to her letter
we got your address from Mrs
M. & Cath. she and my father
went out next after that to my
brother & since he is out there
about thirty years, they are just
convenient to my brother John. ~~She~~
My father is dead over five years
and Mary married again. ~~But~~
~~to living in New York, and is a~~
widow. I hear from you through
Katie Mullin, Annie is living in
the house with me, she brought
over the last letter she had from
you. that you answered to the
letter we wrote in such a hurry.
We were very sorry to hear of the
death of your daughter. it must
have been very sad for you to
have her brought home dead to ~~you~~.

Dear aunt about the legacy we wrote to you about. I heard since that her name was Ellen Sheridan married to General Blake, her mother was called Molly Sheridan and was married to a man the name of Sheridan, there is parties of both sides claiming it is this but I have heard the Sheridans of Camer & Kelly are the right parties belonging to it and that is so. I have heard that James Sheridan the butler buyer had a good deal to do with it and of course that is my uncle, the parties looking after it on my grand-mother's side, so Mrs. Walton and her children some of her children is living in New York, one of her sons is gone home now to look after it. I

4
 Suppose you know also I mean she is the widow Bracken sister Bridget's once they heard we were the right ones they want to give us no information the time was to suppose we may they said, my husband went to New York to consult a lawyer he told him if any claim went in, it could be had if the right parties are found. So I hope to get information from you, you are the oldest one I can look to, and the first too if you can tell me any of your uncle's daughter's names or who they were married to, all of them I know is Catherine Sheridan that is the widow Kierman she came to this country about the same time you did she is home now I heard from her daughter's expecting that she is living in Sedgewick town. I hear there is a sister

a lawyer in Dodgersville town
that the Halton's who employed
let me know if any of the Halton's
you knew was lawyers. There is
a priest there that I know I
was going to write to him, ~~it is~~
~~a pity so much money would~~
~~go to the English Government~~
it will if it is not claimed.
I hope you will answer this
as soon as you get it. Mrs Day
was going to write to you but she
wanted me to write. She thought
I knid more than she did. I
would have wrote before but was
waiting to get a little more
information. I wrote to first say
of yours in Boston the Wactons.
I got a letter yesterday and they

say are are the right ones. Tell
me if you will take it in
hand to do something concerning
it so I will know what to say
when I write home.
~~Now~~ dear aunt I have no more
to say this time about the legacy.
I hope this letter will meet you
all in good health as this leave
is all at present. I would live
~~to see you I was saying to my~~
~~husband he had ought to take~~
me there this summer. he is a
builder if he has a chance this
summer he says probably he
would. Thank God I want for
nothing and am as happy as I
can be. I will soon send my
picture to you. I would like
yours or some of your children.
Let me know if your daughter

7

Annie is living near you I heard
she is married a long time ago.

I close my letter with love
to you all - Hoping to hear from
you by return of post.

No more from your loving niece

Budget Brady

885 Pacific St

3-

Dear Aunt, you wanted to know
 who my husband was. he was son
 of Paddy Brady ~~and he was son~~
 of Katie. I am a sister of Larry O'Brien
 of Garbhard. I think that was the
 name of the place. his father and
 mother lived in Goughin in the
 parish of Clonsilla. he had three
 sisters. Bridget, Ann and Mary.
 one brother Thomas they were out
 to this country with my sister
~~Mary his sister says they~~
 spent well they often came upon at
 the ball alley. they are not the
 Bradys. you thought they were.
 am going to send you my letters
 now. I will send you Mr Brady's
 at an other time. I had no large one

~~now~~ I hope you will know it. I
 am now fifty one past some tell
 me I look like you. I would like
 to have you send me one of
 yours or some of your children
 are are all well. her at present
 with the exception of a little
~~trouble are busy today and~~
 Betty Springuet con. Johnny Mullin
 he was been in for some time
 he has never been married. they
 were all glad to hear from you.
 and wishes to be remembered to you
 Dear Aunt I will say no more
 this time hoping to hear from you
 very soon. I will write as soon
 as I find any information.
 I close with love to you.

Love from your loving niece
 Bridget Brady
 880 Pacific St.

P.S.

Let me know if you live any where
 near Washington?

Bridget Reilly Brady to Bridget Casey, November 23, 1896

Brooklyn N.Y.
Nov 23rd 1896

My dear aunt

I was very much pleased today by seeing a letter that came from you and knowing you are still living. I wrote on two or three occasions to you and received no answer so I ^{thought} that you might have died. The gentleman who wrote to your post master inquiring for you is my cousin and yours also. He is a son of Bridget Bracken who lived beside

you home. He is a lawyer and I have put this case in his hands as I know he would take more interest in it than a stranger. He has friends in San Francisco who are lawyers and they can assist him. You will have to state the names of your brothers and sisters. I have been corresponding back and forth to California for sometime. My cousin Kevin Sheridan my uncle Brynne's son has died there leaving an estate of over four thousand dollars and I thought you were his first heir. Did he

ever write to you after going to California? The last time you wrote to me you told me your husband wasn't well. I hope he has quite recovered. Now my dear aunt I am going to tell you of my sad loss. My dearly beloved husband has died, he died on the 6th of last July it has left me very sad and lonely. I think I told you when I last wrote to you that my brother John Shanley was dead. My sister Kate lives with me. Kevin used to write to my sister Mary when she was living. I want you to

write to me as soon as you get this as I can give you some information and I would like you to tell me how many children you have and where your daughter Annie is living. The lawyer was here to see me today he is going to write to you I told him I would write to you. I will now close with love trusting you will comply with my request in answering at once

Your niece
Mrs Bridget Brady
885 Pacific St

Bridget Reilly Brady to Bridget Casey, December 4, 1896

885 Pacific St,
Brooklyn N.Y.

My dear Aunt I received
your letter which was
very welcome and was
pleased to hear from
you all that you were
all well and that your
husband is still living
You must feel happy
to think you have lived
such a long life together
you have passed your
golden jubilee. you were
fifty years married last
spring if I count right
I was a few months

past eleven years when
you were married. I will
be ~~sixty~~ ^{eighty} two if I live un-
til the eight of January
I was at your wedding
and Bridget Bracken and
her sister Mary was there
also. you want to know
how Bridget Bracken is
related to you. she is re-
lated to you by the Ma-
tecons her mothers name
was Bridget Garity she
kept a store and sold meat
near the chapel of Blon-
nong. If you remember
there was six sisters of the
Garitys all first cousins
of yours. Dear aunt I

think I can trace kindred
better ^{than} you. I never forgot
the names of my relatives
I knew the names of your
brothers and sisters but I
said to you that you
would have to give them
to the lawyer. This lawyer
who wrote to you as I
told you before is Bridget
Bracken's son and his ^{name}
is Edward Dowling he is
a good conscientious
young man and I would
strongly advise you to
engage him should you
need a lawyer. After he
died a girl by the name
of Rose Fager from near

Grand that I was ac-
quainted with here wrote
to me from California
telling me my uncle
Byrnie's son Kevin Sher-
idan had died and left
no will that was lost
March so I wrote back
and forth for inform-
ation to her several ti-
mes. She was not per-
sonally acquainted with
him but my uncle Tom
Sheridan's brother in law
Patrick Reilly was and
he had his (Kevin's) brot-
hers in Australia ad-
vised for and I be-
lieve they have heard

5
no account of them.
We heard that they and
their mother died years
ago but don't know how
true it is. He had a brother
Thomas living in
New York and we have
not seen him in thirty
two years. at that time
he was married and had
a little baby girl but he
was very delicate at that
time he used to call to
see my sister Mary. They
moved away from that
part of the city so we
have ~~not~~ heard anything
of him since. The lawyer

says they will have to be
hunted up and if not
found you are the next
heir. There was lawyers
writing to me from California
that Mrs Fagen
told them I was his co-
heir they thought I would
look it up as I had so
much trouble of my own
after my husband died
I gave it up so finally
they wrote to me again
and as I told you before
I put it into lawyer
Dowlings hands he wrote
to these lawyers friends
of his in California and
they gave him the account

of what ^{the} estate was worth
as I told you before. I have
nothing more to do with
it only to give you all the
information I can as you
are his first heir if his
brothers are not found.
If you give lawyer Dow-
ling authority he will do
his best for you and I
think it will be alright.
you want to know the
name of the adminis-
trator. it is A. C. Freese
Public Administrator
Room 35 Chronicle Build-
ing San Francisco Cal.
Mr Dowling says you have
all the information you

could possibly get in that
letter he sent you that
his friends the lawyers
in California sent him
you wanted to know
how long my husband
was sick. he had heart
trouble for a long time
but had not been con-
fined to bed atal he died
suddenly. My brother John
Shanley died suddenly of
heart disease also three
years ago last July. His
wife two daughters and
a son are living in some
city Iowa. yet one of the
daughters is married and
living there another is
married and living in
Chicago and his oldest

9.
is married and living
here she was here to see me
today. Your niece Cath-
arine Carey and her sis-
ter Annie are here this
evening they are well and
glad to hear from you
they wish to be remem-
bered to you. You have
seven nieces here my
uncle John's two daugh-
ters Mary and Margaret
my aunt Kittys three
daughters and Kate and
I. My sister Mary died out
west ten years ago my
father and her went out
to my brother Pat he lived
a few miles from where
John Shanley lived I

was glad to hear you had
so many children living
I stood for one of your
children in Ireland I
thought his name was
Patrick but I see by the
names you have no Pa-
trick. I was glad to hear
from your daughter
Annie I heard at one
time that she was a very
handsome woman and
was married very wealthy
It was told she lost three
two children but God
will be done. I am en-
closing you a memorial
card of my beloved hus-
band that you will some

time think to pray for
him, I am sorry you are
so far away as you are
the only aunt and uncle
we have living. I think
now I have given you
a great deal of news. I
will close my letter with
love to you and all my
concerns. Hoping to hear
from you soon.

I remain

Your loving niece

Bridget Brady

Dec 4 1896

885 Pacific St
Brooklyn N Y
Jan 8, 1897

My dear aunt

I received
your welcome letter and
was pleased to hear from
you. I have heard from Law-
yer Douling he says he
has written to you and
that you have his letter by
this time but now dear
aunt according to infor-
mation I received this week
from my cousin Tommie
Sheridans son who called
on me I had an inter-
view with him for about

and he believes he has two
children. He is coming
to see me in a week or so
and going to bring me pic-
tures from Australia, he
wrote to California and
found that I was a cousin
of his and got my address
from there. I thought I
would write and let you
know so as you would not
go to any bother or expense
until you hear from me
again. When I see him a-
gain I can question him
more closely about the
family but I think he is
the right party as he looks
so much like his father
and my brother Tom, he is

an hour only as his time was limited. He told me his father moved from New York to Newark New Jersey some years ago and he died there two years ago his mother is also dead and he is the only surviving child and he is 15 years old. According to his statement and his looks I think he is the right one he told me he corresponds with his uncles in Australia and his uncle Robert is dead only a few months, he was married and left five children and his uncle Phil is there and married also

quite an intelligent young man. Dear aunt I wish we were not so far apart that we could see our cousins and know them I think it is only right that relations should correspond with each other so if there is anything important they will know of it. You wanted to know if your husband's sisters were still living Peter and her husband is dead about twenty years and all her children are dead but there is someone living grand-children Peggy or Margaret as she is called here is still alive

5
she looks well and smart
but suffers a great deal
with Rheumatism chiefly
with one of her grand-
children, she was here to
see me a few months ago
and got your address so
she wanted to write to you
Mary Sheridan was mar-
ried but is now a widow
going on 15 years this man-
was Dates she has two sons
and two daughters one of
her daughters was married a
few weeks ago. Margaret
never was married she
is living with one family
for nearly 40 years. It is
Annie Shanley that lives
in Chicago her husband

name is Bernard O'Donnell
Lizzie who is married her
husband is commissioner
of Louis City he was in to
Washington on business
and before going home he
came on here to see me
Christmas week he thought
a great deal about my hus-
band he was here last April
also on his way from
Washington. I have made
inquiries about the place
you live in and heard
it was a very wild coun-
try and that you had
males there only once a
month. So that so, if so
it is quite different to here

I live across the street from
the church we have four
nurses nearly every morn-
ing and five on Sundays
Brooklyn is quite a different
city since you seen it.
Mrs Dancy's youngest daught-
er now 21 years old is a sis-
ter of the order of St Joseph in
Port Henry New York she was
received last April. If your
daughters have their privi-
leges I would like they ^{would}
each send one to me and
if you have one of your own
I wish you would send it
as I would just love to see
it. I sent mine to you ^{one}
years ago but I never got

an answer to the letter I
sent with it so I don't know
whether you got it or
not. I am sorry to hear
that my boy died but he
is better off with God and
we are sure we have a
child in heaven. Dear
Aunt this day brings me
both joy and sorrow this
day 62 years ago I was
born and six months
ago today my dear hus-
band was waking. I think
I have told you all the
news for this time so
I will close with love
to you and all my
concerns. Hoping to hear
from you soon.
I remain your niece
Mrs Bridget Brady

Bridget Reilly Brady to Bridget Casey, February 21, 1897

Sunday
Feb 21. 1897

My dear aunt

I received your letter sometime ago. Would have answered it before as you wanted Tommie Sheridan's address I delayed as he had moved from his former address and his place of business in Newark N.J. I had a letter from him this week and his business place is now in New York. His address is Mr. Thomas J. Sheridan care of Mr. C. H. Half-

penney 800 Broad St Newark N.J. I don't know his uncle Phil's address in Australia. I wrote to him this week and told him you wanted his address and his uncles and that you were glad to hear from them. I told him if you would write to him your name was Mrs Bridget Casey so he would know who it was. Lawyer Dowling has been to see me he wanted Tommie Sheridan's address so I gave it to him. He

wanted information from him to send to you, he must have made a mistake when he told you that the two uncles were alive as I told him that Robert was dead a few months at that time.

When I get more information from Tommie Sheridan as I expect to soon I will let you know. All your nieces and cousins here are well. I am delighted to know I am going to get my cousins pictures when it is convenient.

I will say no more at present. Will close with love to all. Hoping to hear from you soon

I remain

Yours niece

Mrs Bridget Brady
885 Pacific St

Brooklyn N.Y.

4/6/97

My dear aunt

I received
^{letter}
your welcome, was glad
to hear that you were all
well and also glad to hear
I had ~~lost~~ another little
cousin. I often meant to
ask you your daughter
Annie's marriage name
when you write tell it
to me. Dear aunt I have
not heard from Tommie
Shendall since I wrote
to you last. He promised
me he would come to see
me and bring me the pic-

tures of his uncles and cousins also the letters and his uncles address but he did not come. I asked him a few questions the day he called. I asked him if he knew anything about his grandfather and he said he believed he was married twice so I knew that was alright, but I did not give him any information. I asked him a few questions about his father and mother and he answered them alright. He looked so much like his father and my brother

Tom that we came to the
conclusion that he must
be alright. Mrs Dowling
called to see me a few weeks
ago and she said the law-
yer had a letter from his
friends the lawyers in Cal-
ifornia stating that Phil
in Australia and his rep-
resentatives were the right
parties for it. I gave Mr
Dowling the same infor-
mation I am giving you
for I could not say anything
different. I said to Tommie
Shendean the day he called
that I thought his uncle
Phil was the right one for

it but he said he was en-
titled to his fathers share
and his uncle Roberts
children were entitled
to their fathers share.
My dear aunt if I get a
letter or hear any news I
will let you know. If
you wish you can write
to the emigrate in
California and find out
from him what proofs
they can give that they
are the right parties, be-
cause you are the right
one if they cannot prove
themselves. We are an-
dionely waiting to see

5,
our conveniences pictures. I
had John Shanley's daughter
Mrs Mahoney and
two children make one
a visit. Her husband
was in Washington, D. C.,
on business and she was
with him; they remained
in Washington until
after the inauguration
We are all well at present
Hoping to hear from you
very soon I close my letter
with love to all.

Your niece
Mrs Bridget Brady
885 Pacific St.

Bridget Reilly Brady to Matilda Casey, August 10, 1897

885 Pacific St
Brooklyn

My dear cousin

I received
your letter and we
were all very sorry to
hear of the death of your
poor father. Your mother
must take it to heart
very much. They lived
so many years together
and to be such a good
old age. I can sym-

pathize with her in
the loss of her husband
for I feel the loss of
mine very keenly. He
was thirteen months
buried yesterday. God
will be done He knows
best. we will only have
to try to pray for the
happy repose of their
souls until we are
called to our reward
Dear cousin your aunt
Margaret McLaughlin
with an accident about
the time I wrote to you

lost. She was out and
in crossing the street
was knocked down by
a man riding a bicycle
she was severely hurt and
was taken to a hospital
in an ambulance. She
has recovered sufficiently
to be taken home and
is now in her grand-daughter's
I sent word to her of the
death of your father by
my cousin Mrs. Mary
she lives close to her. I
have not seen her since
shortly after the death of

my husband, she came
to see me then, she is
quite a nice respectable
old lady but is troubled
with rheumatism.
The picture I am send-
ing she gave Mrs. Mary
to send to you and she
wrote her address on
the back of it. I am
sending you my sis-
ter Kate (Mrs. Malones)
picture, also your
cousin Annie Mullins
she is one of the ones

5
you look like, these of
course you will see are
a good while taken.
When I get some more
of your covering pictures
I will send them to you
I would love to see a
picture of your mother
if she has one. I hope
she is feeling better. It
is funny I have not
heard from Connie
Sheridan since. We

have come to the con-
clusion he has gone to
California as he left the
place where he was em-
ployed. I am also
sending last Sundays
paper. The views you
see of fountain at Pro-
spect Park entrance is
quite convenient to me
I suppose you see your
sister Annie often. I
would love to have a
picture of her as I know

her when she was a
little girl. We have seen
in the papers there are
disturbances with the
miners in the part of
the country she lives in.
I will look for a letter

from you very soon

With love to all

I remain

your cousin

Bridget Brady

August, 10. 1897

Brooklyn, N.Y.

Dec 21, 1897

Dear cousin Matilda

I received a letter from you some time ago for which you must excuse me for not answering before. I was waiting to see I would get some more pictures and hear from Tommy Sheridan but I have failed in both. I hope your mother has im-

proved in her health. Did she ever write to California since? All your cousins here are well. I wish we were not so far apart so that we could visit other. Now my dear cousin I am going to send you a little token for Christmas. I am sending you three pairs of rosy beads. The large pair is for your mother. You can take your choice of

the other two pairs. The other is for your sister Mary. I am also sending you an Agnus Dei and an Immaculate conception medal to each. I hope you will get them alright. I am going to make this letter short as I am in a hurry today. I hope this will find ^{you} all well as it leaves no at present I know you will have a lovely Christmas as well as myself for

after death it is always sad. you said your sister Annie was not feeling well. I hope she is feeling better now.

I close my letter wishing you a merry Christmas and a happy New Year

Your loving cousin

Bridget Brady,
885 Pacific St.

These beads medals and Agnus Dei's are all blessed so therefore they are all ready for to be used. Write soon so that I will know you get these things alright.

Brooklyn, N.Y.
Jan 26, 1898

Dear concern

I received your letter, we were all very much pleased to hear from you. The day I got your letter Annie and Katie Mullin were here. I had a visit from John Shanley's daughter Lizzie her husband and two children from Boston City. Her husband is in Washington in the interest of Sioux City and she came on there

to board with him while his business keeps him there. They came on here last week and remained until yesterday. We had quite a house full of concerns here on Sunday. Mary Sheridan and her daughter, John Shanley's oldest daughter Mary that lives here her husband and daughter and Annie Mullin altogether there was fourteen concerns here. We were all talking about your mother and all of you. We were saying if we only

got out there to see you
how nice it would be. I
was asking Mr Mahoney
how far it was from
Washington. I told him
the name of the place
where you lived, he said
he would find out all the
particulars as he is con-
nected with some of the
railroads out there and
let me know, so you
need not be surprised
if you see some of your
cousins this spring. I
cannot say for sure now
you wanted to know if
my brother Pat had a

farm in the west, he did
have a farm but he has
gave it up to his young-
est daughter. He has
three sons and ~~three~~^{two}
daughters They are all
married and I believe
he has twenty three
grand children. They
are all pretty well to do
Dear cousin I have put
you in the Union of Our
Lady of Mercy for a New
year's token. I solicit
for it, at the time. I
wrote to you last I did
not have the medals
so I am now sending
you the certificate and

5. medal. I was sorry to hear there was no improvement in your sister's ^{health}. I hope God will spare her to her family. We were all pleased to hear you would send some pictures of her children. I was glad to hear your mother's health had improved, you wanted to know how many children my sister Kate had she has two a son and daughter. I think I have told you about all the news for the present.

(over)

With love to your mother and all my cousins I am as ever your cousin

Bridget Brady
885 Pacific St

P.S.

Mr Mahony says this medal is to be worn with a blue ribbon, this is the reason why I have put a piece on.

Brooklyn N.Y.
Oct 16, 1898.

Dear Cousin

I received
your welcome let-
ter sometime ago.
You must excuse
me for not an-
swering it before.
I was glad to hear
that your mother
was feeling better
I hope she is much
improved by this
time and that

your sisters and
brothers are well.
I suppose your
brothers are mar-
ried. I never heard
from Jimmy. I re-
sided since. I wrote
to him and never
got an answer to
my letter. As he
left his situation
I thought maybe
he went to Califor-
nia. Your cousins
here are all well.
When I last heard

from your aunt
Margaret she was
in very poor health,
she is not able to go
out any more. I
enbrace you are
glad that the war
is all over. The
poor soldiers have
suffered very much
from want and
exposure. I hope
that none of your
friends had to go
to it I am send-

two papers of the
Sacred Heart Union
for your mother,
and an Ave Maria
I enbrace you are
fond of good read-
ing. I hope you
will not be as ne-
glectful in answer-
ing my letter as
I have been in an-
swering yours as
I would like to
hear from your
mother and all of

(v)
news for this time. I
will close my letter with
love to all of you and
I hope to hear from you
soon. I remain

Your cousin
Bridget Brady
888 Pacific St

Brooklyn N. Y.
Dec 26, 1900

My dear cousin Matilda,

I received your letter with the sad news of your poor mother's death. We were all sorry to hear of it. I hope that God had mercy on her soul. She had a good long life and I know you all must have had a sad and lonely Christmas without her. We were also sorry to hear of the death

^{2,} of your nephew, his death was very sad, but it was a great blessing that he was conscious until death and had the blessing of the rights of our holy church. I am ashamed to think I have not answered your letter before, but it is not that I did not think of you, and speak of you often enough. My eyesight has got very poor and I cannot write myself and sometimes it is not convenient for me to have them

3.
written, but I will try to do
better the next time. My
health is pretty good at
present, but last summer I
was not feeling well for a-
while. All your cousins here
are well. I wish you all
a happy New Year. Christ-
mas and New Years are,
always sad to me now since
the death of my husband
as I have so many pleasant
recollections to look back to
I hope this will find you
your brothers, sisters, nieces,

4.
and nephews in good health
Oh ho have you living home
with you now?
I will close my letter with
love and best wishes, hoping
to hear from you soon.

Your cousin

Bridget Brady

885 Pacific St.

885 Pacific St.
Brooklyn N.Y.

My dear cousin Matilda
I received
your very welcome letter
I was looking for it so
long. We were all very
much pleased to hear
from you. Your cousin
Mrs. Oates (that is your
uncle Tom's daughter)
was here soon after I
received it, and she was
delighted to hear from

you, she ² took your address
and said she would
write to you soon.
Your cousin Annie Miller
(she is Mrs. Davis's sister)
was here the ~~the~~ day.
I got it. Your cousins
in Sioux City Iowa are
all well. Annie that
used to write to you,
her sister Lizzie and
her brother are living
in Chicago, and her
other sister who is a
school teacher remained

with her mother in
Sioux City. We were
glad to hear that your
sister Anna's children
are getting along well,
and also to hear that
your brother John has a
little baby girl. I am
enclosing a little gold
Immaculate conception
medal to her (the baby)
I had it blessed by a
very holy priest. I am
also sending you some
papers and a book to

read, I ⁴ selected for these
societies, as there is very
interesting reading in
them. I thought you
might like to read them
I suppose you do feel
very lonesome without
your mother. We have
neither an aunt or uncle
living now. We have
had rather a hard
winter here, part of it
was very severe, and
the poor suffered a great

deal on ^s account of the
high price of coal.

Glad you any trouble
with coal there? I heard
there is coal mines con-
venient to you.

I think I have told
you all for the present,
hoping to hear from you
soon, and with love to
all. I am as ever,

Your cousin
Bridget Brady.

Feb 24, 1903.

Brooklyn, August 24/
Brooklyn August 24/84

Dear Aunt -
I take the
pleasure of writing
these few lines to you,
hoping to find you and
your family in good
health, as this leaves me
and mine at present.
I received your kind
~~and ever welcome letter~~
and was glad to hear
that you all were
enjoying good health.
I was sorry to hear
that Uncle John was
sane as I thought at
first it was but a
slight hurt, but I
suppose age is against
him. His sister Mrs.

New-York, she is a
widow and has two
children, a girl and boy.
The girl lives with
Bridget Brady as she
has no children of her
own. Mary went out
West about two or three
years ago and got
married out there and
is very comfortable.
Dear Aunt when I
wrote to you before I
forgot to ask you how
Uncle John Sheridan
and Uncle James were.
Please tell me in your
next letter whether Uncle
James is living or not.
I heard that he was
dead, but did not
know for sure.

M^r. Grath sends her
love to you all; she
has been very sick, but
she is better now, and
able to be around again.
You asked me about
my uncle's children;
my uncle Bryan's I
never saw any of them.
There is two of uncle
Thomas's children in
Brooklyn, and one in
New York and one of
them died last summer.
My aunt Mary's
children, there is one
in Brooklyn, Bridget,
her marriage name is
Brady, my sister Anne
that is married, lives
in her house. Her
sister Kate, lives in

to you and your family.
Brooklyn NY

I was sorry that I
could not get your
picture, I shall send
you mine and my
husbands at the first
opportunity. Dear Ann
you have so many
housekeepers now that
I think you might
come in and make us a
visit, we would be all
delighted to see you.
Give my love to your
Auntie and tell her I
sympathize with her
for like myself she has
plenty to do when she
has eight children to
attend to. I have 6 boys
and 2 girls. We all
join in sending love

Annie Shanley to Bridget Casey, May 21, 1886

Sioux City Iowa
May 21. 1886

My dear Auntie

Your very kind
and welcome letter was received,
in due time, we were delighted
to hear from you.

As you were surprised
to hear we were out west we have
lived in Sioux City seventeen years
last April we moved from there
when I was a baby.

Our family consisted of three boys
and five girls, about ten years
ago my last a baby sister and
about eight years ago I lost
a younger brother and an older
sister. About the same time

but last and dearest of all
was our older brother Lawrence
the oldest of the family who
died two years ago this month
he was twenty-six years at the
time of his death.

You ask what occupation Father
follows. He has been working
for the government the greater
part of the time and has a
very nice position and gets good
wages. Jim, my brother, has worked
for the city for a long time, first
as city foreman and then as
Deputy Marshal and last March
was elected Marshal, by the
people, it is a very responsible
position, requiring ten thousand
dollar bond, he has nothing
to do but to enforce the law,
Eliza my older sister is a dress
maker, and Jennie is a

school teacher, she teaches
in the public school in
the city. I have just finished
schooling and have not begun
to work.

Father wished me to tell you
about his brothers and sisters.

Mary is married to her third
husband, Mrs. Gousser, and is
living in Jackson, Nebraska.

Pattick also lives in Nebraska
on a farm. Bridget lives in
Brooklyn. Tom is dead.

Aunt Kate is a widow, her
husband died some time ago.
she lives in New York and keeps
board. Bryne, the youngest,
died twenty four years ago in
Massachusetts.

I enclose Father's picture,
it was taken some time ago
but is a very good picture.

Father wants to know how you
husband is getting along,
and if you hear anything of your
brother John, to let him know.

I have no other picture I could
send now, but will send them
when we have some more taken.
~~I understand they are to have~~

Your picture of any of the family.
Mother wished me to tell you that
it was one of the Bradys of

Grafton that Aunt Bridget
married, but not a brother of
Paven Brady's or any of the
family. As Father did not
~~know him at the time~~

I will close now, all send
their love to you and hoping
you will write soon.

I remain

Your loving sister

Annie G. Shanley

B. B. Bly

Annie Shanley to Bridget Casey, August 8, 1886

Sions City Iowa
August 8, 1886

My dear Aunt
Although I was
very much pleased to receive
your kind letter, I have been very
overwhelmed in answering it.
I trust you will pardon me this
time and I promise to be more
punctual in future.
We were all very sorry indeed to
hear Uncle John was so badly
crippled but when his health
is good it is a great comfort.
I was much pleased with cousin
John's picture, we are, of course,
as entire strangers, still I
value his picture very much.

I have just arrived home after
a two weeks visit to Nebraska.
Aunt Mary lives in Jackson, Nebraska
about twelve miles from Sioux City
and Uncle Patrick lives at Dubuque
four miles above Jackson.
We have a great many friends
living in Jackson. Mother says
you know some of them, there
is Mary and Margaret Bracken.
Biddy Grant's two daughters.
Mary is married to Phoebe Sullivan
and Margaret to Mike O'ann.
Aunt Bridget has written to me
often regarding the money but
father now does not remember any
thing about them. Aunt
Mary wants to remember a great
deal, I went to see her and
wrote Aunt Bridget all the
information she could give

one about them.
Father wants me to ask you
if you know how many brothers
you ~~father~~ ^{father} had? and
what were their names? also
if you ever heard of ~~A. C. C.~~
~~James or any of them.~~
of Gammon being married to
a man named Captain Blake.
Dear Aunt I trust you will out-
mitate my example but never
any letter soon. All the family
join in sending love to you
I remain

Your loving niece
Annie S. Shaffer
313 Buff St.

P.S.

Father wants me to say that if
you saw one you could not tell
the difference between Uncle Briggs
daughter Bridget and myself.

Dorn and Dorn to Gruber and Bonyng, October 31, 1896

Dorn & Dorn,
Rooms 57, 57 1/2 South Street,
Chronicle Building
San Francisco
Oct. 31st 1896
Gruber & Bonyng,
305 Broadway
New York City N.Y.
Gentlemen
Yours of the 26th inst. inquiring about the estate of Bernard St. Sheridans received. Upon inquiry from the Public Administrator we find that the estate consists of Present of Real Estate valued at \$12,500.00 Promissory note of J. H. and P. J. Garnett for \$3,000.00 Secured by mortgage and Promissory note of \$100.00 which is considered as valueless and ex. Cash on hand \$97.00 The Public Administrator has no definite information as to who the heirs are and expresses himself as desirous of getting such information. Our relations with that office are cordial and we are satisfied that if we can show that we are entitled to the estate there will be no trouble in getting it. Kindly furnish us with a complete list of the Relations bearing fact as far as possible in the shape of a Chart showing ancestors and descendants together with maiden names also any information which you have about Mrs Sheridans. We will then take the matter up and we feel confident that if you can show heirship

There will be no trouble
about the details
Yours very truly

Ans Sin

Daytona Beach Co
West. Virginia

San Francisco Administrator to Bridget Casey, March 16, 1897

A. C. FREESE,
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATOR,
ROOM 35, CHRONICLE BUILDING,
SAN FRANCISCO.
TELEPHONE 1565

San Francisco, Mar. 16th, 1897.

Mrs. Bridget Casey,

Peyton Boone Co.,

West Virginia,

Madam:- Replying to your inquiry concerning the estate of B. K. Sheridan, deceased, I have to say that Reinstein & Eisner, 223 Sansome Street, this City, are the attorneys for the heirs of said deceased. The heirs, I understand, are brothers and ~~sisters~~ sisters, some of whom, I understand, reside in Australia, and the Court will no doubt, order distribution as prayed for by the heirs.

Yours, etc.,

A. C. FREESE,

Administrator of the estate of B.K. Sheridan,

(Deceased).

Recd.

Appendix 3. Marjorie Evelyn Sheridan Pownall, Member of the Order of the British Empire

– Taken from various articles by Philippa Barbour



Illustration 90: Marjorie Evelyn Pownall (1902-1982). Photograph courtesy of Philippa Barbour.

A proud member of the Australian branch of the Irish Sheridan family, Australian-born Marjorie Evelyn Sheridan, was the granddaughter of Philip Sheridan. Known as Little Marj to her family, she was born in Darlinghurst, Sydney, now Kings Cross, on January 12, 1902 to Percival Joseph and Evelyn Irene Lane Sheridan. Her father was employed in the Justice Department of New South Wales, appointed to serve in several country towns between 1904 and 1913.

A favorite of her grandfather Phil, he sent Little Marj postcards during his five month trip to Ceylon, Egypt, the Suez Canal, Italy, France, and England, a collection the family retains today.

An intelligent child, Little Marj developed her writing skills early on. She attended the prestigious North Sydney Girls' High School where she began her literary career by

writing and publishing a school magazine. Known as Terry to her friends, she formed life long relationships with her schoolmates. After finishing her schooling, she joined the work force in Sydney with Fox Films. Later she joined Metro-Goldwyn-Myer as a clerical secretary and worked there until her marriage to Leslie Pownall in December 1929.

Leslie was born on April 22, 1897 in Chatswood, the son of William Robert Edmund and Fanny Ada Grinsted Pownall. On February 28, 1916 at the age of 18 Leslie enlisted in the Australian Imperial Force for service overseas in World War I. Serving on the Western Front in France as a gunner, he suffered severe trench fever, which probably

began as trench feet.⁵⁹³ A bacterial infection causing a long, painful, and debilitating disease, trench or immersion foot, if left untreated, could become gangrenous requiring amputation. Leslie was sent to a hospital, first in Belgium, then in Birmingham, England in November 1917. He was sent back to France in May 1918 where he continued to serve as a gunner. There he suffered from scabies, a skin infection caused by skin tunneling mites. After a brief hospitalization for treatment, Leslie again rejoined his unit. He returned to Sydney in full health in 1919 and was discharged from service in 1920.

During the Second World War Leslie joined the Air Force Reserve and served as an Air Raid Warden. He and Eve, along with their neighbours, established a communal chook⁵⁹⁴ yard to supply eggs, an item severely rationed during the war.

Adopting the professional name Eve Pownall after her marriage, Eve combined caring for her family with an enduring interest in children's literature. In 1945 Eve was involved in founding the Children's Book Council of New South Wales. In 1952 she won the children's Book of the Year award for her still classic work The Australia Book, which was republished several times over the years, most recently in 2008, more than fifty years after original publication.

Eve wrote more than one hundred radio and magazine scripts as well as numerous books on poetry, biography, historical fiction and social studies. In 1959 she wrote

a book originally published as Mary of Maranoa,⁵⁹⁵ which was republished in the 1980s



*Illustration 91: Leslie Pownall (1897-1962).
Photograph courtesy of Philippa Barbour.*

⁵⁹³ *Soldiers often stood for hours or even days in wet and unsanitary conditions in the trenches. Their feet would become numb, red, and swollen with open sores from the constant dampness.*

⁵⁹⁴ *Australian term for chicken*

⁵⁹⁵ *Maranoa is a district of Queensland.*

as Australian Pioneer Women. For many years this book was used as recommended text in Women's Studies at several universities in Australia. Her research took her to several parts of remote inland Australia by plane, train, riverboat, and bus in the 1950s.

Leslie and Eve were both active in community issues and early childhood education throughout their lives. They enjoyed a busy social and recreational life involving tennis, golf, horseback riding and boating together for many years.

Eve had a genuine interest in children and especially their education. As a published author, she especially enjoyed talking to children's groups, to encourage the young to value and understand the skills associated with reading and writing. Not one to enjoy being made a fuss over, Eve had a phrase she used whenever people gushed about always wanting to be an author. She would reply: "It's just a matter of applying the seat of the pants to a seat of the chair!"

In the New Year's Honours List for 1978, Civil Division, Eve was made a Member of the Order of the British Empire (M.B.E) for service to literature. In 1981 she won the Lady Cutler Award. Today an award is given in her name annually by the Children's Book Council of Australia for the Best Information Book nationwide. Eve remained active well into her seventies with gardening, yoga, travel, and perhaps her favourite, speaking to primary school aged children about Australia and literature. She was a staunch supporter of an Australian Republic.

Always proud of her Irish ancestry and its characteristics of strong personality and dramatic tendencies, Eve remained busy and active until her death at eighty. She died at home in Forestville, Sydney, New South Wales on November 15, 1982. Preceded in death by her husband in June 1962, she was survived by her children, Philippa Jane Pownall and Gerald Shane Pownall and five grandchildren. Appreciating the value of family, Eve had remained close to her two brothers, George Percival Sheridan (1903-1976) and Gordon Frederick William Sheridan (1907-1988), all her life. Both of her brothers died in Sydney. Her daughter Philippa became interested in family history after her retirement in 2000 and became a dedicated and accomplished genealogist.

Sources:

Bathurst Family History Society

Family Letters

Lane Cove Council Archives

National Archives of Australia

National Library of Australia – Trove

New South Wales Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages

Lineage: Bryan Sheridan → Philip Sheridan → Percival Joseph Sheridan → Marjorie Evelyn Sheridan Pownall → Philippa Pownall Barbour

Appendix 4. A Granddaughter Remembers Phil Sheridan

SHERIDAN GRANDPARENTS - GRANDPA & 'MUM'

Don't remember very much about Grandpa. He had a room in the front of the house - guess you could call it a study. He spent a lot of time there but I guess he had an office somewhere in town to conduct his business. They lived at Darlington. A very big house with a lovely staircase and a room underneath for grandchildren with all sorts of toys to play with. There were about 8 bedrooms, servants rooms upstairs, huge kitchen and laundry etc. Downstairs as well as Drawing Room and dining room, a large family room for meals. There wasn't much frontage to Darley Street but family room and one of upstairs bedrooms looked out on a lovely lawn and garden - sheds etc.

A day or so before Christmas, Grandpa and Mum used to come out to our place at Dulwich Hill with Turkey, ham, cake, pudding etc. also toys for the young ones. They came by Hansom cab and it was a great day. We were more or less the 'poor relations'.

'Mum' was always in black and wore a bonnet tied under her chin, I never remember seeing her actually working - but she would have had plenty to do with her big family, although they always had one or two servants.

I remember when Grandpa died - it was the day or night before my birthday - After his death they moved to a lovely, but much smaller house - 2 storey - in Coogee Bay Road, Coogee. House was called "Bracklyn" as at Darlington but I think the name was changed later.

After I started at the Bank I used to go out to Coogee sometimes and stay overnight. Once 'Mum' gave me a half-sovereign and I bought enough navy serge material for a skirt for work. (There's a note 'to pay rent \$4 a month' - but not sure where it fits in. Monica.)

Sometime after 'Mum' died the 4 maiden aunts split up - Cissy and Auntie going to live at Randwick and Gertie and Ethel had a lovely flat in Carr St Coogee (or Randwick). Auntie and Cissy later left cottage and took a nice flat at Randwick end of Coogee Bay Road.

Ethel and Gertie were at my wedding and gave us (the 4 aunts) the Silver Tea and Coffee Service on a tray which Monica has now. (Gave to Laura 1991.)

Illustration 92: An original remembrance of her grandparents, Phil Sheridan (1834-1910) and Emma Wastell Sheridan (1840-1925), by Gertie McShane Kennedy.

Appendix 5. General Philip Henry Sheridan

“A brown, chunky little chap, with a long body, short legs, not enough neck to hang him, and such long arms that if his ankles itch he can scratch them without stooping.” – Abraham Lincoln describing Philip Henry Sheridan⁵⁹⁶

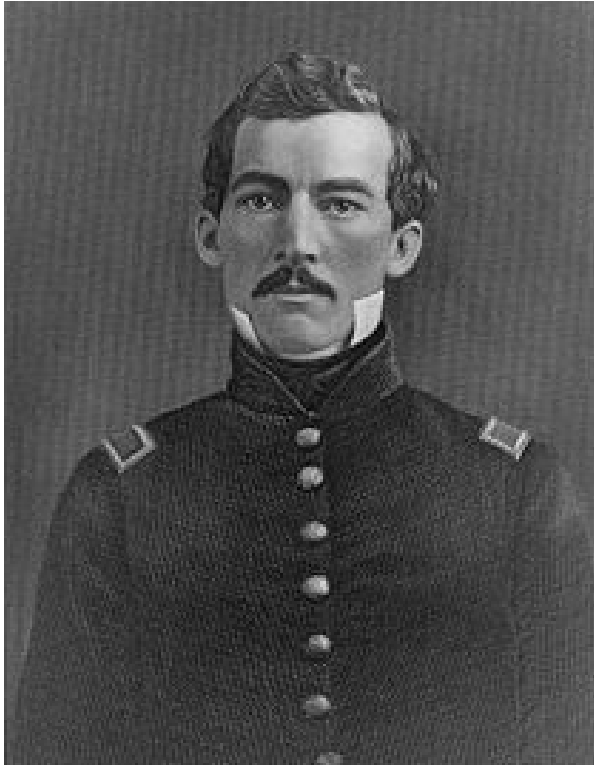


Illustration 93: Philip Henry Sheridan.

Biddy and Phil Sheridan might have been first cousins, once or even twice removed, since ‘Little Phil’ was born about 39 years after Biddy’s oldest brother and 15 years after Biddy herself.

Phil Sheridan’s parents were John Sheridan of Killenkere⁵⁹⁷ and Mary Miner of Mullagh, both in County Cavan.⁵⁹⁸ His mother’s name was sometimes spelled Meenagh, Moynagh, Mynagh, or Mooney. His father, born November 17, 1801, and his mother, born April 10, 1801 were second cousins on the Sheridan side,⁵⁹⁹ presenting more than one possible connection to Biddy.⁶⁰⁰

The General’s paternal grandfather, John Sheridan of Carrickgorman, was born about 1770, and his grandmother was a Gaynor of Mullagh. His maternal grandfather was Patrick Miner who

married Rose Sheridan and lived in Blagh Glebe on a 4 acre farm. His maternal grandparents had four sons, Hugh, Philip, John and Patrick, and at least two daughters, Rose and Mary Ann. Patrick and Rose Miner died on the voyage to America and were

⁵⁹⁶ *Wikipedia, Philip Sheridan.*

⁵⁹⁷ *There were thirty-six John Sheridans listed in the Tithe Applotment Book for 1823-1837, in County Cavan, some of them in Killenkere.*

⁵⁹⁸ *There is another Mullagh in County Clare.*

⁵⁹⁹ *Article on Philip Henry Sheridan from FHL film 1,321,223, item 19.*

⁶⁰⁰ *Ibid. The 1860 census ages were in line with this information but the 1850 census ages were not. There Phil’s father was five years younger and his mother 10 years younger.*

buried at sea. Their daughter, Mary Ann Miner, had at least one son, Michael Halpin, who came to America without his parents.⁶⁰¹ The last name Halpin was often rendered Halfpenny, a name mentioned in the Sheridan letters.⁶⁰²

During his life there was considerable controversy regarding where the General was born. In his memoirs he maintained he was born in 1831 in Albany, New York.⁶⁰³ Others maintain he was born in Ireland at about the same time. Some Irish oral traditions support the contention that he was born in the civil parish of Killenkere, in the townland of Carrickgorman, the Barony of Castlerahan, the Poor Law Union of Bailieborough, in County Cavan, along the road from the town of Virginia to Bailieboro.⁶⁰⁴ Irish oral traditions maintain that Phil's uncle, Michael Sheridan, stood for him at baptism in Ireland.⁶⁰⁵

Early family reports have the General's family coming to America in the 'year of the cholera', generally accepted to be 1832, not 1830, further suggesting that Phil could have been born in Ireland. He had an uncle, Thomas Gaynor, in Albany and he and his family ended up there for a time⁶⁰⁶ before moving to Somerset, Ohio. His mother at one time said he was born at sea but later retracted that statement.⁶⁰⁷

Phil accepted an appointment to West Point on March 20, 1848. Halfway through his four years of study he received a furlough and went home to Ohio which accounts for his presence there in the 1850 Federal census with his family in Somerset, Perry County, Ohio, taken on July 1, 1850. Phil, whose age was given as 23 implying he was born about 1827, was working as a merchant,. His parents were listed as John L. Sheridan, born about 1805 in Ireland, and his mother Mary, born about 1810 in Ireland.

Phil's birthplace on the 1850 census was given to be Massachusetts.⁶⁰⁸ Phil's father worked as a contractor and owned \$500 in real estate. There were three other siblings at home: a sister, Mary, born about 1834 in New York; a brother, John, born about 1837 in

⁶⁰¹ *FHL film 1,321,223, item 19.*

⁶⁰² *Letter from Bridget Brady to Biddy Casey, February 21, 1897.*

⁶⁰³ *Personal Memoirs of Philip H. Sheridan*, by Philip H. Sheridan, 1888, *New and Enlarged Edition, Volume 1*, by Brig.-Gen. Michael V. Sheridan and Irene Rucker Sheridan, 1902, D. Appleton and Company, New York, 1904, page 2.

⁶⁰⁴ *Rose Casey Trujillo went to Ireland in 1967 with her father, James Philip Casey, and saw the house where Irish tradition maintains that Phil Sheridan was born. Rose indicated it was marked with a plaque and was in County Cavan, between the town of Baillieborough and the town of Virginia, supporting the records at FHL, and that her father took her there specifically to show her where her cousin was born.*

⁶⁰⁵ *FHL film 1,321,223, item 19.*

⁶⁰⁶ *FHL film 1,321,223, item 19.*

⁶⁰⁷ *Terrible Swift Sword*, Bruce Catton, Doubleday, New York, 1963.

⁶⁰⁸ *1850 Federal Census, Somerset, Perry County, Ohio. July 25, 1850, page 658, dwelling 136, family 136.*

Ohio;⁶⁰⁹ and a brother, Michael, born about 1841 in Ohio. A fourth child, Patrick Miner, born about 1846 in Ohio was with the family. Living next door, was Hugh Miner, born about 1832 in New York, working as a clerk and living in the household of Martin Scott, a wealthy merchant who owned \$4,000 worth of property.

The controversy about where he was actually born remains today. His official death certificate states that he was born in Somerset, Perry County, Ohio but this can be safely discarded as inaccurate. Some weight must be given to the 1850 census as it was the earliest census in which he appeared by name, and the information most likely came from one or both of his parents or from Phil himself.

Phil was suspended from West Point for a year in 1851 for fighting with a classmate.⁶¹⁰ In 1860 Philip's parents were still in Perry County with Mary, John, and Michael still at home. They owned \$2,000 of real estate and \$225 of personal property. Phil was stationed elsewhere with the Army.

Philip Sheridan's father died of old age on May 5, 1875 in Somerset, Ohio. He was 74 years and six months old according to his death record, placing his birth in 1801 once again.⁶¹¹ His mother died on June 12, 1888 of debility in Reading Township, Perry County. She was 87 years, 2 months, and 2 days old making her born in 1801.⁶¹²

Philip Henry Sheridan died in Dartmouth, Massachusetts on August 5, 1888 of heart disease. His death record gives his age as 57, born in Somerset, Ohio and that his parents, Michael and Margaret, not John and Mary, were born in Ireland.

His brother, Michael Vincent Sheridan, born on May 24, 1840 at Somerset, Ohio, died on February 21, 1918 at Washington, DC.

If Little Phil was related to the family it could be through either of his parents and their shared Sheridan ancestry. Proving it would require more information about Biddy Casey's father and his brothers and sisters, aunts and uncles, as well as the General's own family. Civil War pictures of Philip Henry Sheridan do bear a family resemblance to some of our Sheridans.

⁶⁰⁹ *The Sheridan family was not present in the 1840 census in Somerset, Ohio, unless they were living in a household not their own, where their names would not be listed.*

⁶¹⁰ *Op. Cit., Sheridan, pages 11-12.*

⁶¹¹ *Ohio, County Death Records, 1840-2001, Perry County, Death records 1867 -1908, vol. 1-3, page 102.*

⁶¹² *Ibid. Vol 1-3 > image 288 of 411.*

Appendix 6. Some Documents and Pictures

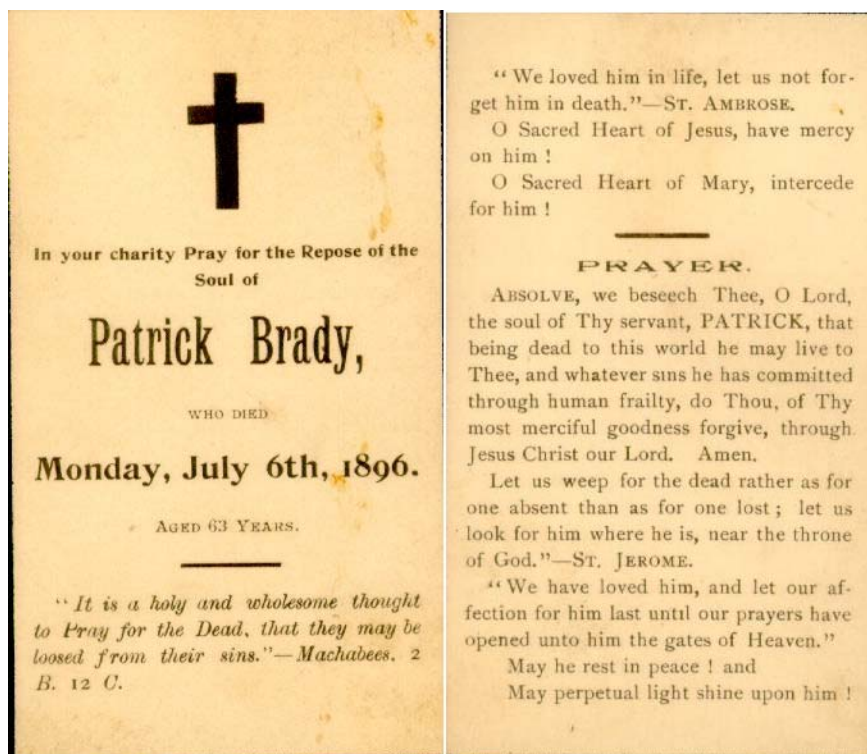


Illustration 94: Patrick Brady (1833-1896) Prayer Card.

This Freeman's Journal article may, or may not, refer to the Andrew Gerety of our story.

costs.	WEDNESDAY—SEDUCTION.
<i>Andrew Gerity v. the Hon. Thomas O'Grady.</i>	
This was an action for the seduction of the plaintiff's daughter, and was set down for hearing this morning. The jury was sworn, and Mr. Martyn was proceeding, on the part of the plaintiff, to open the pleadings, when a communication was made by the defendant's agent to Mr. Martley, Q.C., plaintiff's leading counsel, who immediately after receiving it informed the court that it would not be necessary to trouble his lordship with the case, the parties having come to an arrangement. The learned gentleman suggested that as the jury had been sworn, the best course to take was to withdraw a juror.	
Judge Perrin—Is there to be a verdict?	
Mr. Martley—No, my lord.	
Judge Perrin—Very well. Gentlemen, you are discharged.	
The compromise (we heard) was effected by Mr. O'Grady paying a sum of 60l. to Miss Gerity.	

Illustration 95: Freeman's Journal, May 18, 1844.

MARRIAGE RECORD.

Filed for Record 20 day of September
 A. D. 1878, at No. o'clock No.
Asse Probate Judge,
 DAKOTA COUNTY, NEBRASKA.

MARRIAGE LICENSE.

STATE OF NEBRASKA, } ss.
 DAKOTA COUNTY,

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEBRASKA,

To any Person Legally authorized to Solemnize Marriages, Greeting:

You are Hereby Authorized To join in the Holy Bonds of Matrimony, and to Celebrate within this county the Rites and Ceremonies of Marriage between James Connor and Mary Reilly whose ages, residence, &c., are as follows:

NAMES OF PARTIES	Age	Color	PLACE OF BIRTH	RESIDENCE	FATHER'S NAME	MOTHER'S MAIDEN NAME
<u>James Connor</u> Groom.	<u>34</u>	<u>White</u>	<u>Ireland</u>	<u>Dakota</u>	<u>R Connor</u>	<u>Jane Brennan</u>
<u>Mary Reilly</u> Bride.	<u>20</u>	<u>"</u>	<u>"</u>	<u>" " "</u>	<u>Michael Reilly</u>	<u>Mary Sheridan</u>

and this shall be your good and sufficient warrant, and you are required to return this License to me within three months from the celebration of such marriage, with the certificate of the same appended thereto, and signed by you, under the penalty of five hundred dollars.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and official seal
 this 22 day of August A. D. 1878
Asse
 Probate Judge.

CERTIFICATE OF MARRIAGE.

STATE OF NEBRASKA, } ss.
 COUNTY OF DAKOTA.

Be it Remembered, That at Catholic Church Jackson in said County, on the 27 day of August 1878, James Connor and Mary Reilly were duly joined in marriage by me, in presence of Holland Boyle residing at Jackson and Mary Reilly residing at Jackson, witnesses present at the ceremony.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand, this 27 day of August 1878
John L. Landon

Illustration 96: Marriage record, Mary Reilly and James Connor, Dakota County, Nebraska, August 27, 1878.

United States of America.

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MASSACHUSETTS DISTRICT, ss.

Be it Remembered, That at a District Court of the United States, at Boston, within and for the Massachusetts District, on the *Twenty-third* day of *December* in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty *seven*

Personally appeared before the Clerk of said Court

Patrick Reilly

of *Randolph* in said District, *Cordwainer*
an Alien and a free white person; and, by his declaration in writing, on oath, set forth, that he was
born at *Ardagh, in the County of Boniford, Ireland,*

on or about the *Fifteenth* day of *November* in the year
of our Lord eighteen hundred and *thirty-one* and is now about
thirty-three years of age; that he arrived at *New York*
in the District of *New York* in the United States of America,
on or about the *Twenty-ninth* day of *February*
in the year of our Lord eighteen hundred and *fifty-one*; that it then was,
and still is, his bona fide intention to become a citizen of the United States of America, and to
renounce for ever all allegiance and fidelity to every Foreign Prince, State, Potentate, and Sovereignty whatsoever; more especially to *Victoria, Queen of the*
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland,

whose subject he has heretofore been. He therefore prayed, that his said Declaration and Intention might become a record of said Court, agreeably to the laws in such case made and provided.

Whereupon the Declaration of the said
is admitted to become a record of said Court accordingly.

Patrick Reilly

Illustration 97: Declaration of Intention to Become a Citizen of Patrick Reilly.

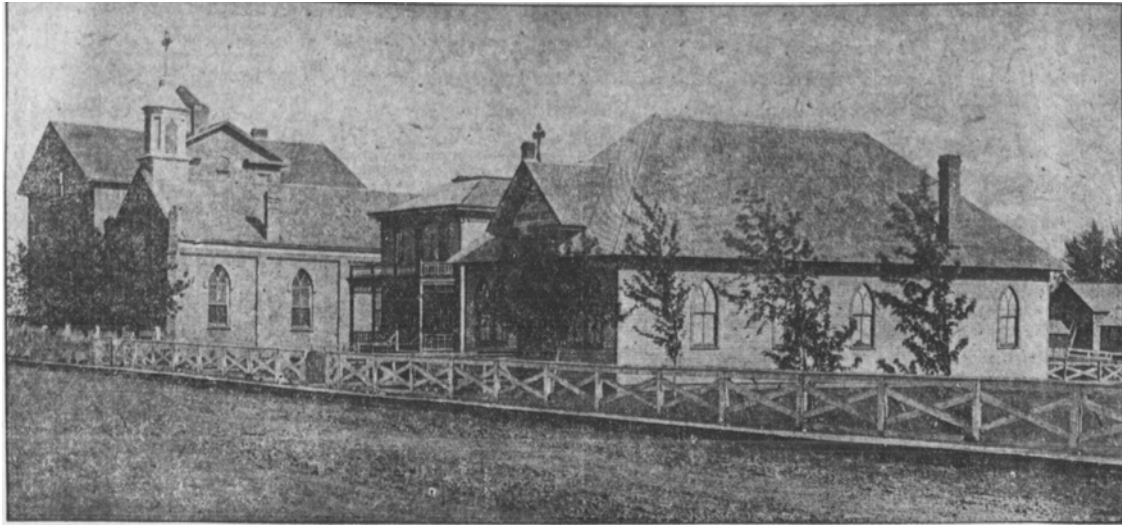


Illustration 98: St. Patrick's Convent, Church, Rectory, and Parish Hall, Jackson, Nebraska, circa 1894. *The Omaha Daily Bee*, July 15, 1906, page 25.

FARMERS ARE LUCKY FOLKS.

Thomas Sullivan Would Send Roosevelt a Vote of Thanks.

That this year has been a mighty good one for farmers was declared by Thomas Sullivan, of Jackson, Neb., a widely known farmer of Dakota county, who was in Sioux City on business.

"Yes, sir, we farmers are a mighty lucky lot just now," Mr. Sullivan said. "Everything a farmer has to sell is bringing good prices. Our corn crop is about 85 or 90 per cent of a full crop and it is bringing in about 30 per cent more than did the corn crop at this time a year ago."

Mr. Sullivan said he was willing to give President Roosevelt credit for the favorable weather conditions.

"I don't think it would be out of order," said the broad shouldered Nebraskan, "to send to the president a written testimonial of our recognition—a testimonial written in wheat and corn."—*Sioux City Journal*.

Illustration 99: *The Norfolk Weekly New Journal*, December 16, 1904, page 5. Reference Thomas Sullivan, Jr. and Theodore Roosevelt.

NO RULE ON BATHING SUITS

POLICE TO SHUT EYE ON ONE-PIECE COSTUMES.

BARE LEGS ARE PERMITTED

"Girls May Wear Anything Within the Bounds of Decency," Says Chief Shanley—Conscience Only Guide at Brown's Lake.

Sweltering June days have sent thousands scurrying to lakes and bathing beaches, where they may escape from the heat in the cool waters of nearby summer resorts.

Sioux City is amply supplied with watering places, and in few cities are the regulations in regard to swimming costumes as liberal as here.

Girls may wear one-piece suits at all the nearby bathing beaches, a freedom which is not even allowed at Coney Island, and which is frowned upon at many California resorts.

"Girls may wear anything they want to as long as they keep within the bounds of decency," Chief of Police Shanley declares. "We are not going to be fussy about lengths of costumes as long as they are modest." By this the chief evidently infers that "September Morns" will not be tolerated, but that the police will turn the eye the other way when a comely maid in a bathing suit, minus skirt and sans hose, passes their way.

Illustration 100: *Sioux City Journal*, June 14, 1922, page 16.

BIRTHS, DEATHS AND MARRIAGES REGISTRATION ACT 1995

REGISTRATION NUMBER

1865 / 001643

MARRIAGE CERTIFICATE

Date and place of marriage	Names and surnames of parties	Conjugal status	Birthplace
257 20 th November 1865 at Berrema	Philip Sheridan Emma Westall	Bachelor Spinster	Meruma Berrema
<p>Married in the Holy Trinity Church, Berrema</p> <p>According to the Rite of the Church of England</p>			
Usual occupation	Age	Usual place of residence	Father's name mother's name and maiden surname
Engineer	30	Marulan Sydney	Honoria Lynda
	35		Elizabeth Wallace
Father's occupation			
Merchant			
Clerk			
<p>This Marriage was solemnized between us</p> <p>Philip Sheridan Emma Westall</p>		<p>In the presence of us</p> <p>George Ash. Bentley Sarah Anne Westall</p>	
<p>By (or before) us The. H. Hall M.A. Officiating Minister or Registrar.</p>			

Illustration 101: Marriage Certificate, Philip Sheridan and Emma Wastell, Berrima, New South Wales, Australia, 1865.

NEW SOUTH WALES					REGISTRATION NUMBER
BIRTHS, DEATHS AND MARRIAGES REGISTRATION ACT 1995					1867 / 000391
MARRIAGE CERTIFICATE					
Date and place of marriage	Names and surnames of parties	Conjugal status	Birthplace		
391 2 nd May 1867 Sydney	Robert Joseph Sheridan	Bachelor	Ireland		
	Annie Garvan	Spinster	Ireland		
<p>Married in the <i>St Mary's Cathedral Sydney</i></p> <p>According to <i>the rites of the Roman Catholic Church</i></p>					
Usual occupation	Age	Usual place of residence	Father's name mother's name and maiden surname	Father's occupation	
Clerk	29	Sydney	Brian Sheridan Honora Hynes	Ironkeeper	Particulars in Column 5.7.9.10 obtained from Church Register No. 278 M. J. P. M. Deputy Registrar General, Sydney. 4.7.1914
	26	Sydney	Dennis B. Garvan Annie Cullhane	Clerk	
<p>This Marriage was solemnised between us { <i>Robert J. Sheridan</i> } In the presence of us { <i>Thomas B. Garvan</i></p> <p>{ <i>Annie Garvan</i> } { <i>Mary Ann Elizabeth Hynes</i></p> <p>By (or before) me <i>S. J. A. Sheehy</i> Officiating Minister or Registrar.</p>					

Illustration 102: Marriage Certificate, Robert Joseph Sheridan and Annie Garvan, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia, 1867.

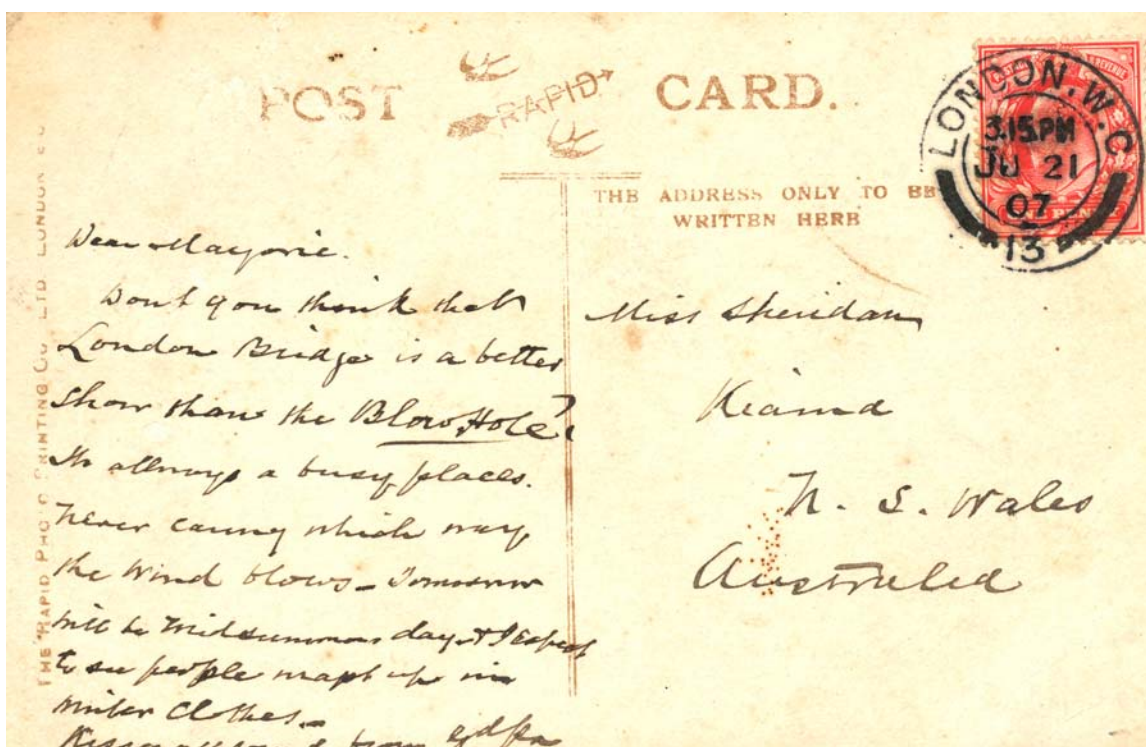


Illustration 103: Postcard to Marjorie Sheridan from her grandfather Philip Sheridan. 1909.

FORMER CITY TEACHER DIES

2-10-48
Jane Shanley, 83, Was
Early Day Resident;
Rites Wednesday

Miss Jane Shanley, 83, early day Sioux City resident and a longtime teacher in the public schools here, died Monday after a brief illness at her home, 508 16th street.

Miss Shanley's parents, the late Mr. and Mrs. John Shanley came to Sioux City in the 1860s. They resided in a house overlooking the Missouri river at a time when residential and business districts here were built along the river bank.

The late James F. Shanley, former chief of police here, was one of their family of seven children, all of whom preceded Miss Shanley in death.

Miss Shanley was born at Randolph, Mass., September 22, 1864, and was educated in the Sioux City public schools. She was a teacher here for more than 50 years.

She retired about 15 years ago and continued to live in the family home, which she shared with Miss Clara Dineen.

Survivors include two nieces, Miss Marie Mahoney and Mrs. Catharine Darden both of Sioux City and a nephew, John Maloney of Chicago, in addition to a grandniece, Miss Betty Darden, and grandnephews, Bill and Bud Darden, all of whom share the family home.

Miss Shanley was a member of Cathedral of the Epiphany, the Catholic Women's league and Good Shepherd auxiliary and the Cathedral Confraternity.

Funeral services will be held at 10 a. m. Wednesday at the Cathedral of the Epiphany. Rev. Joseph E. Tolan will sing the requiem high mass. The Larkin funeral home has charge of arrangements.

The rosary will be said at 7:30 o'clock this evening at the residence.

Illustration 104: Sioux City
Journal, February 10, 1948.

JOURNAL: WEDNESDAY

DUST TO DUST.

Funeral of the Late Lawrence Shanley—
Order of the Procession—Resolutions of
Respect—John Brennan's Tribute—From
His Employer.

Sioux City did honor to herself in honoring the deceased Lawrence Shanley yesterday. The funeral was the largest ever held in the city, with the possible exceptions of the funerals of Chas. Hedges and Judge Hubbard. The procession formed at the family residence, corner of West Fourth and Bluff streets, at 9:30 A. M. and proceeded to St. Mary's church in the following order:

Northwestern Band.
Fire Engine Company.
Schieberl's Band.
Hook and Ladder Company.
Hearse and Pall Bearers.
Mourning Carriages.
Members City Government and Police Force.
Carriages of Citizens
Citizens on Foot.

Near the church the members of the fire company opened ranks and the procession of carriages, headed by the bands playing dirges, moved on to the church. The church itself was crowded, and hundreds of people remained outside, unable to obtain admittance. After the requiem mass, Father Leuchan delivered a beautiful funeral address, citing the example of the dead as worthy of the imitation of the living. After the services in the church the procession moved away in the order in which it came, only on the way to the Catholic cemetery the Fourth street route was taken. Besides those on foot eighty-seven carriages were counted passing a given point. At the grave the impressive service of the Catholic church was read, and then the mourners and mourning citizens came away, leaving in the city of the dead one of the truest and best hearts that ever beat in this city of the living.

Last evening's Times contained from the pen of John Brennan a few verses under the head of "The Dead Fireman," that are so true and beautiful that they are republished here:

What means the toll of funeral bell
From out St. Mary's shrine,
And solemn sound of sad farewell
And firemen all in line?
The funeral knell of gallant soul
From earth to heaven fled;
And manhood's tearful bier,
Of manly manhood dead.

Mid smoke and flame the summons came,
That called thee to thy grave;
Midwinter scowled amid the flame,
But thou wert there to save.
And now, too soon, ere manhood's noon,
Thy martyr's crown is won;
For man's a martyr who goes down
With face to duty done.

Long may the wreath its perfume breathe
Above thy pallid breast,
And lightly lay the virgin clay
Where honored ashes rest.
The first to fall where manhood strove
To be the first in line;
The summer winds shall rave above
No braver heart than thine.

Since crucified, the Man-God died;
Since Jude and Macabee
For brethren bravely, nobly tried
To teach men to be free,
By Hudson, Tiber, Tweed and Rhine,
'Twas faith and freedom's plan
To Deify, in every clime,
The "man who dies for man."

My tears are shed for those who grieve;
For thee I will not mourn;
The gentle muses bid me weave
Their laurels o'er thy urn.
Death withers manhood in its prime
As sun in summer sears;
But duty conquers death and time,
And honor needs no tears.

Son of the Celtic race farewell;

Illustration 105: Sioux City
Journal, 1884.

Baron de Tuyll, who is engaged to Mrs. Beatrice Sheridan, is reputed to have £70,000 a year, and is handsome and charming as well. He has given Mrs. Sheridan's two young daughters a car each, and given her one for herself also, and is also giving her a cottage near Cobham. The wedding is to take place next month, a year after the death of the first Baroness. The poor lady died from eating oranges. In order to get thin, she ate nothing else. After having become slim, she returned to an ordinary diet, and quickly became fat. Massage and more oranges weakened her so that she died.

Illustration 106: Newcastle Morning Herald and Miner's Advocate, March 6, 1930.



Illustration 107: Mrs. Beatrice Garvan Sheridan. Photo by Bernice Agar.

Baroness, Back From War Zone, Had Narrow Escape

AN Australian back from the war zone, the Baroness de Tuyll, formerly Miss Beatrice Hordern, of Sydney, has twice had to vacate her home before Hitler's bombs.

The Baroness lived in one of the loveliest and most romantic homes in Holland, the Castle Geldrop in North Brabant, for centuries seat of the Baron de Tuyll's family.

"Castle Geldrop had exciting associations with the days of the Huguenot persecutions. It was used in assisting the Huguenots to escape. Giant chestnut trees, hundreds of years old at the front door, have chains which were used to tie up horses of fleeing Huguenots," said the Baroness, who arrived in Sydney last week.

When Hitler invaded Holland, the Baroness was luckily in England, but the Baron had a narrow escape.

They then set up home at Wood Manor, then Surrey residence.

Situated near an armaments works, it was subject to nightly air-raids, so that it too had to be vacated.

"Since the invasion we have not had a single piece of news as to the



The Baroness de Tuyll.

late or the fate of our Dutch friends," said the Baroness.

The Baron de Tuyll is expected in Sydney shortly.

Illustration 108: The Sun, Sydney, August 18, 1940, page 10.



Illustration 109: Timothy and Mary Conway Minogue, parents of Joseph Minogue. Unidentified child. Late 1880s. Unverified photograph.

John Oates, 40 years of age, of 498 Hicks street, while intoxicated this morning, fell on the sidewalk on Hicks street, near DeGraw, and received an incised wound of the forehead. He was attended by Ambulance Surgeon Maunton and taken to the Long Island College Hospital.

Illustration 112: Brooklyn Daily Eagle, February 8, 1888, page 6.

John F. Oates died of degeneration of the heart after collapsing on the street.

Joseph H. Minogue.

Joseph H. Minogue, of 717 Greenwood avenue, died on Wednesday, from pneumonia, after a brief illness. Mr. Minogue was born in Ithaca, N. Y., and had been a resident of Brooklyn for twenty-two years. He was employed at the Amsterdam Opera House in Manhattan. He is survived by his wife, Josephine Oates; two daughters, Grace and Dorothy; two sisters, Mrs. Frederick R. Nicholas and Mrs. James J. Burns, and a brother, John J. Minogue. The funeral will be held on Saturday morning, with a requiem mass in the R. C. Church of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, Fort Hamilton Parkway and East Fourth street, interment following in Holy Cross Cemetery.

Illustration 110: Joseph Minogue Obituary, Brooklyn Daily Eagle, September 28, 1916, page 17.

OATES—GEORGE P., March 3, 1949, Lieut. N. Y. Fire Dept., Engine Company No. 283, beloved husband of Alice E. Grady Oates; devoted father of Joseph R., N. Y. F. D., John W., William F., Alice Haggerty and Mary Marion Oates; brother of Mrs. Josephine Minogue. Solemn Requiem Mass Monday, 10 a.m., Immaculate Heart of Mary R. C. Church, Ft. Hamilton Parkway and East 4th Street. Reposing at his residence, 296 Sherman Street. Arrangements by Joseph G. Duffy.

Illustration 111: George P. Oates, obituary, Brooklyn Daily Eagle, March 5, 1883, page 5

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Massachusetts District, to wit: CITY OF BOSTON,

18

WE *John Shanley and Philip Kinnar*
Both of Randolph

and both citizens of said United States, severally depose and say, that we have known
Michael Cain the foregoing Petitioner, for five
years last past, during which time he has resided in said *Randolph*

and that he has resided within the State of Massachusetts one year at least; and has
conducted himself and behaved as a man of good moral character, attached to the prin-
ciples of the Constitution of the United States, and well disposed to the good order and
happiness of the same.

John Shanley
Philip Kinnar

I *Michael Cain* do solemnly swear, that I do, absolutely
and entirely renounce and abjure all allegiance and fidelity to every foreign Prince,
Potentate, State, or Sovereignty whatsoever—particularly to *Victoria*, Queen of the
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland

whose subject I have heretofore been; and that I will support the Constitution of the
United States of America—So help me God.

Michael Cain

United States of America.

District of Massachusetts, to wit:

AT a District Court of the United States, *Specialey* holden at said Boston, on
the *second* day of *November* in the year
of our Lord 185 *5*, to-wit: on the *—* day of
~~A. D. 185~~ , the said *Michael Cain* was admitted to
become a citizen of the United States of America; and the Court ordered, that record
thereof be made accordingly.

ATTEST,

Clerk.

*Illustration 113: Michael Cain Declaration for Citizenship, with
John Shanley as witness.*

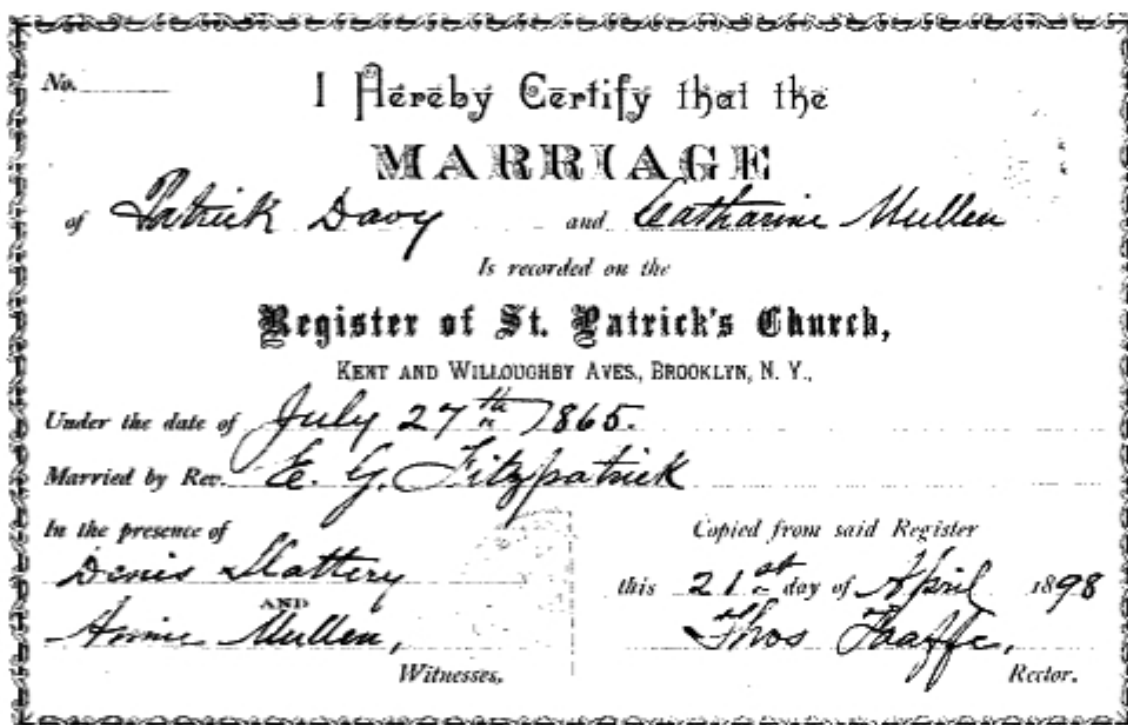


Illustration 114: Marriage certificate of Catherine Mullen and Patrick Davy.

MRS. MARY SHERIDAN DIVER, 65 years old, of 139 Penn st., wife of the late John Diver, a wholesale dry-goods merchant, who was for many years connected with the firm of Brice & Johnson, died on Saturday at her home. Mrs. Diver was born in County Cavan, Ireland. She had been a resident of the Eastern District of Brooklyn for 45 years, and was an old member of the R. C. Church of St. Vincent de Paul. She was the daughter of John and Mary Tully Sheridan, and is survived by two sons, Bernard J., and Lt. James C. Diver, U. S. A.; two daughters, Mrs. Walter J. Davy and Mrs. Thomas J. Butler, and a sister, Mrs. Julia Farrell of Troy, N. Y. The funeral will be held on Wednesday morning, with a requiem mass in the R. C. Church of the Transfiguration, Marcy ave. and Hooper st., and interment in Calvary Cemetery.

Illustration 115: Brooklyn Daily Eagle, October 4, 1920, page 2.

DAVEY—Suddenly, on April 13, 1924, **MICHAEL DAVEY, 80 years**, 159 Martense st., retired patrolman, New York Police Department; father of Lieut. Matthew F. Davey, Detective Bureau; Joseph A. Davey, Henry A., Edward A., Mrs. William Wren, Mrs. William F. Quinlan, Mrs. Robert B. Kind. Funeral 9:30 a.m., April 16, from his late residence; thence to Holy Cross Church, where a requiem mass will be said for the repose of his soul. Relatives and friends invited. Interment Holy Cross Cemetery.

Illustration 116: Brooklyn Daily Eagle, April 14, 1924, page 24. Michael Davy, brother of Patrick, obituary.

Captain Davey Kills Himself; Police Veteran

Doctor, Delayed Reaching Scene, Finds No Accident Evidence

Capt. Matthew F. Davey, one of the most popular and finest appearing officers in the Police Department, who had had several commands in Brooklyn, was found dead with a bullet in his head last night in bedroom of his home at 2950 Ocean Ave.

Police of the Sheepshead Bay station listed the shooting as a suicide in the first report.

Later, after an investigation, the official report was changed to read that Captain Davey shot himself accidentally through the right temple while cleaning his revolver.

A brush, a bottle of oil and several cartridges, police said, were found on the bed on which Captain Davey's body lay.

Chief Counsel Samuel Seabury of the city-wide investigation said last night Davey has not figured in the probe.

Doctor Is Delayed

Dr. Lillian Seitsive of Coney Island Hospital told reporters she had considerable difficulty locating the scene of the shooting, after responding to the police alarm.

First, she said, she searched through the five-story apartment in which Captain and Mrs. Davey lived without being able to learn where the shooting occurred.

Then, she said, she telephoned Police Headquarters and was delayed another ten minutes. While she was on the phone her ambulance driver located the Davey apartment.

The physician reported the bullet had entered Davey's right temple and that powder marks indicated

Please Turn to Page 2

Illustration 117: Brooklyn Daily Eagle, September 27, 1931, page 1.

Captain Davey Kills Himself

Continued from Page 1

the revolver was held very close to his head. The bullet went through the head and came out the left temple.

Saw No Accident Clues

Dr. Seitsive said the Davey home was filled with policemen by the time she arrived. She said she saw none of the reported evidence that Davey was cleaning his revolver.

Mrs. Davey, who reported the shooting, told police she was in an adjoining room.

Captain Davey, who was 48, joined the force in 1905. He was made a lieutenant by former Commissioner Enright, whom he served as a confidential investigator, and for several years was in the detective divisions in Brooklyn and Manhattan.

After serving for several months as acting captain in charge of plainclothesmen under Inspector Thomas H. McDonald at Brooklyn headquarters, Davey was made a full captain and assigned to the newly created Borough Park station in Brooklyn.

He was transferred last June to command the Oak St. station, Manhattan.

Illustration 118: Brooklyn Daily Eagle, page 2.

NEW YORK POLICE CAPTAIN KILLED BY OWN BULLET

By International News Service.

NEW YORK, Sept. 26.—Police Capt. Matthew Davey, 45, of New York accidentally shot and killed himself in his Brooklyn apartment tonight, according to police.

He was cleaning his service revolver in the bedroom, according to the police report, when the revolver was accidentally discharged, a bullet piercing the right side of his head.

Illustration 119: Syracuse American, September 27, pg 1.

"COP" A SUICIDE IN BEDFORD AVE. SALOON

Walking into a side room in the saloon of Allen A. Gerlath, at 973 Bedford avenue, at 8:45 o'clock last night, Policeman Thomas A. J. Davey, attached to the Greenwich street station, Manhattan, shot himself in the right temple, dying instantly.

Davey had been on duty all day and was on his way home at 88 Prospect place. Just before he knocked at the door of the saloon and requested admittance he bade farewell to several companions, calling to them cheerfully. Davey was unmarried, and was appointed to the police force in 1906. His brother, **Matthew Davey**, also is a policeman, attached to the Fourth avenue station in South Brooklyn. Another brother is a clerk in District Attorney Cropsey's office.

Illustration 120: The Daily Standard Union, February 9, 1914.

DAVEY NOT A SUICIDE.

**Coroner's Jury Finds Policeman's
Death Was Accidental.**

A Coroner's jury has found that Policeman Thomas J. A. Davey of the Greenwich street station, who was found dead, with a bullet wound in his right temple, in the rear room of a saloon at 973 Bedford avenue, last Sunday night, did not commit suicide, as was reported.

After an investigation by Dr. Wagner, Coroner's physician, it developed that Davey's death was accidental. His revolver dropped out of his pocket, the hammer striking the floor and exploding one of the cartridges.

Illustration 121: Brooklyn Daily Eagle, February 15, 1914, page 4.

Both Matthew Davy and Thomas Davy were nephews of Catherine Mullen Davy, and her husband Patrick Davy.

County Court of Kings County.

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF

Thos Mullen

A DISCHARGED SOLDIER,

To become a Citizen of the United States, according to Act of
Congress, passed July 17, 1862.State of New-York, } ss.
County of Kings,*Thomas Walsh*

of the City of Brooklyn, being duly sworn, says, that he is well acquainted with the above named applicant, and that the said applicant has resided within the United States for the continued term of one year at least immediately preceding this application; and that during that time he has behaved as a man of good moral character, attached to the principles of the Constitution of the United States, and well-disposed to the good order and happiness of the same.

Sworn in open Court, this

25 day

Sham's Hall

of Oct -

1867

John J. White CLERK.State of New-York, } ss.
County of Kings,

I,

Thos Mullen

of the City of Brooklyn, do solemnly swear, that I will support the Constitution of the United States; and that I do absolutely and entirely renounce and abjure all allegiance and fidelity to any foreign Prince, Potentate, State or Sovereignty whatever; and particularly to the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland.

of whom I was before a subject; that I enlisted in the Military Service of the United States, have been honorably discharged therefrom, have resided therein over one year, and am now over 21 years old.

Sworn in open Court, this

25 day

Thos Mullen

of Oct 1867

John J. White CLERK.

THEREUPON it is ordered by the Court, that the said *Thomas Mullen*
and is hereby admitted a Citizen of the United States of America.

BY THE COURT.

John J. White
CLK.

Illustration 122: Thomas Mullen, Oath of Citizenship, October 25, 1867, Kings County Court, New York.

GENERAL AFFIDAVIT.

State of New York County of Kings ss:

ON the matter of Catherine Mullen Davy
vs. 1100427 Co. 71 139 Regt N.Y. Inf.

ON THIS 23 day of March, A. D. 1918, personally appeared before me, a
Commissioner of Deeds in and for the aforesaid County and State, duly authorized to
 administer oaths Catherine Davy, aged 77 years, whose Post Office
 address is 206 Adolph St. Brooklyn N.Y., and
 _____ aged _____ years, whose Post Office
 address is _____

well known to me to be reputable and entitled to credit, and who, being duly sworn, declares in relation to the aforesaid case
 as follows:

That she was born in The Parish of Edgewoodstown
County of Longford, Ireland and that she came to the
U. S. when she was quite young and then to the home of her
Uncle and that during the summers of 1850
and 1860, she was living with a family by the name of
McGregor at the cor. of Huron St. and 6th St. Brooklyn
N.Y. and that her father's name was Thomas Mullin, brother
Catherine (Phonetic) Mullin, Brother Thomas Mullin, Sister
Margaret and Anna and Mary, that her Brother Thomas
served in Co. E. 139th N.Y. Inf., in the Civil War

NOTE.—Affiants should state how they gained a knowledge of the facts in which they testify.

_____ further declare that _____ no interest in said case and _____ not concerned in its
 prosecution.

1

2

If either witness signify X mark, two witnesses who can write
 must sign here.



Catherine Davy

Affiant's Signature.

Illustration 123: Affidavit of Catherine Mullen Davy regarding her birth, immigration, and other family members. Application for widow's pension of a Civil War veteran.



Illustration 124: Canon Francis Kelly, Pastor of St. Mary's Church, Granard, Ireland, Diocese of Ardagh and Clonmacnois. Priest, administrator, historian, gentleman and scholar. © 2008

Acknowledgments

My everlasting gratitude goes out to my cousin Bridget Reilly Brady (1834-1910) of County Longford, Ireland and Brooklyn, New York. May she rest in peace forever.

Once again I must thank my great aunt, Marie Casey, for keeping the pictures and the letters for so many years. My fondest hope is that she would be proud of what has been unearthed and passed to all the family because she did exactly that.

My thanks to my cousin, Philippa Barbour, great granddaughter of Philip Sheridan (1834-1910) of Ireland and Australia for setting me on the correct path with my Australian cousins early on, saving me from so many errors.

Last but not least, I owe a debt of gratitude once again to my husband Samuel Hudnall for his technical expertise and assistance in producing this book and his patience in proofreading and correcting so very many mistakes.



Illustration 125: This author's mother, Marie Elizabeth Casey Hudnall, at Sheridan, Wyoming. © 1993

Family Group Sheets

Catherine Masterson and Unknown Sheridan

Husband: Sheridan, Unknown (Probably James, Bryan, or Thomas)		
Birth		Ireland
Death		Ireland
Father		
Mother		
Marriage:		
Marriage	estimated about 1790	Ireland
Wife: Masterson, Catherine		
Birth	about 1770	Ireland
Death	between 1850-06-08 and 1853-01-01	Lick Creek, Boone County, Virginia, USA
Father		
Mother		
Children		
1M	Sheridan, Bryan	
	Birth	1791 Ireland
	Burial	1841-02-12 Edgeworthstown, County Longford, Ireland
	Spouse	Hynes, Honora
	Marriage	estimated before 1829 Ireland
2M	Sheridan, James	
	Birth	about 1793 Ireland
	Death	1859-02-02 Lick Creek, Boone County, Virginia, USA
3F	Sheridan, Mary	
	Birth	between 1795 and 1802 Ireland
	Death	before 1870
	Spouse	Shanley, Lawrence
	Marriage	about 1822 Ireland
	Spouse	Reilly, Myles
	Marriage	about 1828 Ireland

4M	Sheridan, John		
	Birth	1800	Ireland
	Death	between 1860 and 1876	Missouri, USA
	Spouse	Brill, Sarah	
	Marriage	1846-08-20	Roanoke County, Virginia, USA
5M	Sheridan, Thomas		
	Birth	between 1800 and 1809	Ireland
	Death		
	Spouse	Reilly, Anne	
	Marriage	estimated 1831-11-27	Granard Parish, County Longford, Ireland
6F	Sheridan, Catherine		
	Birth	1810	Ireland
	Death	1857-02-23	Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
	Spouse	Mullen, Thomas	
	Marriage	estimated about 1836	Ireland
7F	Sheridan, Bridget		
	Birth	1815-06-11	County Longford, Ireland
	Death	1900-10-05	Cobb, Boone County, West Virginia, USA
	Spouse	Casey, John Patrick Sr.	
	Marriage	Spring 1846	County Longford, Ireland

Bryan Sheridan and Honora Hynes

Husband: Sheridan, Bryan		
Birth	1791	Ireland
Burial	1841-02-12	Edgeworthstown, County Longford, Ireland
Father	Sheridan, Unknown	
Mother	Masterson, Catherine	
Marriage:		
Marriage	estimated before 1829	Ireland
Wife: Hynes, Honora		
Birth	about 1805	County Meath, Ireland
Death	1862-03-17	Sydney, New South Wales, Australia
Father	Hynes, Unknown	
Mother	Unknown, Bridget	
Children		
1M	Sheridan, Bernard Kevin	
	Birth	about 1830 Ireland
	Death	1895-09-17 San Francisco, San Francisco County, California, USA
2M	Sheridan, Thomas J.	
	Birth	1833-07-07 Ireland
	Death	1894-09-11 Bloomfield, Essex County, New Jersey, USA
3M	Sheridan, Philip	
	Birth	1835-02-17 Edgeworthstown, County Longford, Ireland
	Death	1910-01-15 Darlinghurst, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia
	Spouse	Wastell, Emma
	Marriage	1865-11-20 Berrima, New South Wales, Australia
4M	Sheridan, Robert Joseph	
	Birth	1837-07-17 Edgeworthstown, County Longford, Ireland

	Death	1896-09-13	Sydney, New South Wales, Australia
	Spouse	Garvan, Annie	
	Marriage	1867-05-02	Sydney, New South Wales, Australia
5F	Sheridan, Honora		
	Birth	1840-09	Edgeworthstown, County Longford, Ireland
	Death		
6F	Sheridan, Bridget		
	Birth		
	Death		

John Sheridan and Catherine Brill

Husband: Sheridan, John		
Birth	1800	Ireland
Death	between 1860 and 1876	Missouri, USA
Father	Sheridan, Unknown	
Mother	Masterson, Catherine	
Marriage:		
Marriage	1846-08-20	Roanoke County, Virginia, USA
Wife: Brill, Sarah		
Birth	1814-05-09	Virginia, USA
Death	1897-10-28	Iron County, Missouri, USA
Father		
Mother	Brill, Catherine	
Children		
1M	Sheridan, John	
	Birth	about 1849 Boone County, Virginia, USA
	Death	between 1850 and 1853 Boone County, Virginia, USA
2F	Sheridan, Sarah Catherine	
	Birth	1851-01-06 Boone County, Virginia, USA
	Death	1936-12-23 Missouri, USA
	Spouse	Breitenstein, Joseph
	Marriage	about 1877 Missouri, USA

Mary Sheridan and Lawrence Shanley

Husband: Shanley, Lawrence			
Birth	about 1801	Ireland	
Death	1824-01-12	Edgeworthstown, County Longford, Ireland	
Father			
Mother			
Marriage:			
Marriage	about 1822	Ireland	
Wife: Sheridan, Mary			
Birth	between 1795 and 1802	Ireland	
Death	before 1870		
Father	Sheridan, Unknown		
Mother	Masterson, Catherine		
Children			
1M	Shanley, John		
	Birth	1824-03-17	County Longford, Ireland
	Death	1893-07-18	Sioux City, Woodbury County, Iowa, USA
	Spouse	Reilly, Mary	
	Marriage		Ireland
	Spouse	Reahl, Elizabeth	
	Marriage	1857-01-31	Boston, Suffolk County, Massachusetts, USA

Mary Sheridan and Myles Reilly

Husband: Reilly, Myles			
Birth	1796	Ardagh-Moydow Parish, County Longford, Ireland	
Death	about 1880	Nebraska, USA	
Father	Reilly, Thomas		
Mother	Armstrong, Ann		
Marriage 2:			
Marriage 2	about 1828	Ireland	
Wife: Sheridan, Mary			
Birth	between 1795 and 1802	Ireland	
Death	before 1870		
Father	Sheridan, Unknown		
Mother	Masterson, Catherine		
Children			
1F	Reilly, Mary		
	Birth	about 1829	Ireland
	Death	about 1886	Nebraska, USA
	Spouse	Unknown	
	Spouse	Green	
	Spouse	Connor, James	
	Marriage	1878-08-27	Jackson, Dakota County, Nebraska, USA
2M	Reilly, Patrick		
	Birth	1831-11-18	Ardagh, County Longford, Ireland
	Death	1903-06-25	Jackson, Dakota County, Nebraska, USA
	Spouse	Sullivan, Catherine	
	Marriage	1853-05-15	Quincy, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, USA
3F	Reilly, Bridget		
	Birth	1834-01-08	Ardagh-Moydow Parish, County Longford, Ireland
	Death	1910-03-01	Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA

	Spouse	Brady, Patrick	
	Marriage	about 1865	Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
4M	Reilly, Thomas		
	Birth	1836-02	Ardagh-Moydow Parish, County Longford, Ireland
	Death	1879-04-01	Manhattan, New York City, New York, USA
	Spouse	Cogan, Bridget Christina	
	Marriage	1870-11	
5F	Reilly, Catherine		
	Birth	1837-10	Ardagh-Moydow Parish, County Longford, Ireland
	Death	1909-03-20	Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
	Spouse	Malone, Thomas	
	Marriage	about 1865	New York, New York, USA
6M	Reilly, Bryan		
	Birth	1841-01	Ardagh-Moydow Parish, County Longford, Ireland
	Death	1862-06-06	Stoughton, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, USA

Thomas Sheridan and Anne Reilly

Husband: Sheridan, Thomas		
Birth	between 1800 and 1809	Ireland
Death		
Father	Sheridan, Unknown	
Mother	Masterson, Catherine	
Marriage:		
Marriage	estimated 1831-11-27	Granard Parish, County Longford, Ireland
Wife: Reilly, Anne		
Birth		Ireland
Death		
Father		
Mother		
Children		
1F	Sheridan, Margaret	
	Birth	about 1834 Ireland
	Death	1899-12-18 Manhattan, New York City, New York, USA
2F	Sheridan, Bridget	
	Birth	about 1837 Ireland
	Death	1883-09-17 Manhattan, New York City, New York, USA
	Spouse	Fitzsimmons, James
	Marriage	estimated before 1860
3F	Sheridan, Mary	
	Birth	1848-06 Ireland
	Death	1905-12-17 Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
	Spouse	Oates, Michael J.
	Marriage	about 1868
4F	Sheridan, Anne	
	Birth	about 1847 Ireland

	Death	1894-05-15	Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
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Catherine Sheridan and Thomas Mullen

Husband: Mullen, Thomas		
Birth	between 1803-06-15 and 1804-07-08	Ireland
Death	1861-07-08	Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
Father		
Mother		
Marriage:		
Marriage	estimated about 1836	Ireland
Wife: Sheridan, Catherine		
Birth	1810	Ireland
Death	1857-02-23	Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
Father	Sheridan, Unknown	
Mother	Masterson, Catherine	
Children		
1M	Mullen, Michael	
	Birth	about 1837
	Death	
2F	Mullen, Catherine	
	Birth	1840-12
	Death	1922-03-31
	Spouse	Davy, Patrick
	Marriage	1865-07-27
3M	Mullen, Thomas	
	Birth	1844-12
	Death	1886-08-03
4F	Mullen, Margaret	
	Birth	about 1845

	Death	before 1896	New York, New York, USA
5F	Mullen, Ann		
	Birth	about 1847	Ireland
	Death	1906-04-13	Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
	Spouse	Sheil, Edward	
	Marriage	1881-11-05	Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
6F	Mullen, Mary		
	Birth	1848-04	Edgeworthstown, County Longford, Ireland
	Death	after 1906	United States of America

Bridget Sheridan and John P. Casey, Sr.

Husband: Casey, John Patrick Sr.			
Birth	estimated 1812-05-06	Ireland	
Death	1897-06-16	Peytona, Boone County, West Virginia, USA	
Father	Casey, Nicholas		
Mother	Unknown, Ann		
Marriage:			
Marriage	Spring 1846	County Longford, Ireland	
Wife: Sheridan, Bridget			
Birth	1815-06-11	County Longford, Ireland	
Death	1900-10-05	Cobb, Boone County, West Virginia, USA	
Father	Sheridan, Unknown		
Mother	Masterson, Catherine		
Children			
1F	Casey, Sarah Ann		
	Birth	1847-01-19	Ireland
	Death	estimated 1898-02-08	West Virginia, USA
	Spouse	Mannix, Patrick	
	Marriage	1865-05-15	Kanawha County, West Virginia, USA
2M	Casey, Nicholas		
	Birth	1848-03-14	Ireland
	Death	1922-10-17	West Virginia, USA
3M	Casey, Patrick		
	Birth	estimated 1849-10-15	Ireland
	Death	estimated 1850-09-12	Peytona, Boone County, West Virginia, USA
4F	Casey, Mary Catherine		
	Birth	1852-12-05	Peytona, Boone County, Virginia, USA
	Death	1930-09-08	Nitro, Pocatalico District, Putnam County, WV USA

5M	Casey, John Patrick Jr.		
	Birth	1854-04-13	Lick Creek, Boone County, Virginia, USA
	Death	1937-02-11	Charleston, Kanawha County, West Virginia, USA
	Spouse	Lamb, Rose M.	
	Marriage	1891-09-23	Montgomery, Fayette and Kanawha Counties, West Virginia, USA
6M	Casey, James B.		
	Birth	1856-09-05	Peytona, Boone County, Virginia, USA
	Death	1935-08-17	St. Francis Hospital, Charleston, West Virginia USA
7F	Casey, Margaret		
	Birth	1858-08-15	Peytona, Boone County, Virginia, USA
	Death	estimated 1884	West Virginia USA
8F	Casey, Matilda		
	Birth	estimated 1861-04-15	Peytona, Boone County, Virginia, USA
	Death	1936-08-17	St. Francis Hospital, Charleston, West Virginia USA

Thomas J. Sheridan

Husband: Sheridan, Thomas J.		
Birth	1833-07-07	Ireland
Death	1894-09-11	Bloomfield, Essex County, New Jersey, USA
Father	Sheridan, Bryan	
Mother	Hynes, Honora	
Marriage:		
Marriage		
Wife:		
Birth		
Death		
Father		
Mother		
Children		
1F	Sheridan, Unknown Female	
	Birth	about 1862 New York, New York, USA
	Death	before 1897 New York, New York, USA
2M	Sheridan, Thomas J.	
	Birth	about 1871 New York, New York, USA
	Death	

Philip Sheridan and Emma Wastell

Husband: Sheridan, Philip		
Birth	1834-02-17	Edgeworthstown, County Longford, Ireland
Death	1910-01-15	Darlinghurst, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia
Father	Sheridan, Bryan	
Mother	Hynes, Honora	

Marriage:

Marriage	1865-11-20	Berrima, New South Wales, Australia
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Wife: Wastell, Emma

Birth	1840-03-16	River Row, Brompton, Chatham, Kent, England
Death	1925-05-04	Coogee, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia
Father	Wastell, Richard	
Mother	Wallace, Elizabeth	

Children

1F	Sheridan, Emma Mary	
	Birth	1866-03-06 Campbelltown, New South Wales, Australia
	Death	1943-06-26 Dulwich Hill, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia
	Spouse	McShane, Augustine Timothy
	Marriage	1889-12-28 Petersham, New South Wales, Australia
2F	Sheridan, Sarah May	
	Birth	1867-09-25 Singleton, New South Wales, Australia
	Death	1951-07-14 Sydney, New South Wales, Australia
3F	Sheridan, Edith Maud	
	Birth	1869-03-04 Singleton, New South Wales, Australia
	Death	1951-09-24 Coogee, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia
4M	Sheridan, Richard Hynes	
	Birth	1870-10-22 Petersham, New South Wales, Australia

	Death	1947-08-07	Kempsey, New South Wales, Australia
	Spouse	Baldwin, Mabel Alice	
	Marriage	1897-04-06	Wyalong, New South Wales, Australia
	Spouse	Clarke, Miriam Margaret	
	Marriage	1909-01-13	Sydney, New South Wales, Australia
	Spouse	Warren, Mildred Chlorinda	
	Marriage	1944-04-17	Sydney, New South Wales, Australia
5F	Sheridan, Annie Theresa		
	Birth	about 1872	Sydney, New South Wales, Australia
	Death	1963-11-08	Hawthorne, Victoria, Australia
	Spouse	Waite, Sylvester Joseph	
	Marriage	1899-05-30	Darlinghurst, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia
6M	Sheridan, George		
	Birth	1874-04-23	Sydney, New South Wales, Australia
	Death	1876-05-25	Darlinghurst, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia
7M	Sheridan, Percival Joseph		
	Birth	1876-05-07	Darlinghurst, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia
	Death	1926-07-23	Queensland, Australia
	Spouse	Lane, Evelyn Irene	
	Marriage	1900-10-02	Darlinghurst, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia
8M	Sheridan, Thomas Vincent		
	Birth	1878-01-02	Darlinghurst, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia
	Death	1958-07-09	Cronulla, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia
	Spouse	Steward, Gertrude Alice	
	Marriage	1907-05-10	Petersham, New South Wales, Australia
9F	Sheridan, Gertrude Mary		
	Birth	1879-02-28	Darlinghurst, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia
	Death	1946-07-02	Coogee, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia

10F	Sheridan, Ethel Marie		
	Birth	1887-04-11	Summer Hill, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia
	Death	1970-05-28	Randwick, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia

Robert Joseph Sheridan and Annie Garvan

Husband: Sheridan, Robert Joseph		
Birth	1837-07-17	Edgeworthstown, County Longford, Ireland
Death	1896-09-13	Sydney, New South Wales, Australia
Father	Sheridan, Bryan	
Mother	Hynes, Honora	
Marriage:		
Marriage	1867-05-02	Sydney, New South Wales, Australia
Wife: Garvan, Annie		
Birth	about 1841	County Limerick, Ireland
Death	1917-04-24	St. Leonards, New South Wales, Australia
Father	Garvan, Denis Bourke	
Mother	Culhane, Annie	
Children		
1M	Sheridan, John Patrick Garvan	
	Birth	about 1868 Sydney, New South Wales, Australia
	Death	1938-09-05 Sydney, New South Wales, Australia
	Spouse	Hordern, Beatrice Maud
2M	Sheridan, Robert Joseph	
	Birth	about 1870 Sydney, New South Wales, Australia
	Death	1928-05-19 North Sydney, New South Wales, Australia
	Spouse	McMackin, Mary
3M	Sheridan, Denis Bernard Garvan	
	Birth	1873 Sydney, New South Wales, Australia
	Death	1922-06-27 Chatswood, New South Wales, Australia
	Spouse	Dimond, Florence Catherine
4F	Sheridan, Mary	
	Birth	1874 Sydney, New South Wales, Australia
	Death	1876 Sydney, New South Wales, Australia

5F	Sheridan, Annie A.		
	Birth	1878	Sydney, New South Wales, Australia
	Death	1972-06-07	Ryde, New South Wales, Australia
6F	Sheridan, Elizabeth Christina		
	Birth	1881	Sydney, New South Wales, Australia
	Death	1957-06-23	North Sydney, New South Wales, Australia

Sarah Catherine Sheridan and Joseph Breitenstein

Husband: Breitenstein, Joseph		
Birth	1847-02-22	Switzerland
Death	1903-08-19	Missouri, USA
Father		
Mother		
Marriage:		
Marriage	about 1877	Missouri, USA
Wife: Sheridan, Sarah Catherine		
Birth	1851-01-06	Boone County, Virginia, USA
Death	1936-12-23	Missouri, USA
Father	Sheridan, John	
Mother	Brill, Sarah	
Children		
1M	Breitenstein, Joseph William	
	Birth	1879-09-11 Bellevue, Iron County, Missouri, USA
	Death	1947-02-19 Manchester, St. Louis County, Missouri, USA
2M	Breitenstein, John	
	Birth	1881-05-25 Bellview, Iron County, Missouri, USA
	Death	1947-04-14 Bellview, Iron County, Missouri, USA
	Spouse	McColl, Nellie
	Marriage	1913-07-05
3M	Breitenstein, Alfred	
	Birth	1883-08-24 Bellview, Iron County, Missouri, USA
	Death	1945-12-31 Bellview, Iron County, Missouri, USA
4F	Breitenstein, Anna	
	Birth	1886-04
	Death	1951-06-18 Edwardsville, Madison County, Illinois, USA
	Spouse	Clinton, William P.
	Marriage	1913-12-31

5M	Breitenstein, Jasper C.		
	Birth	1889-05-19	
	Death	1967-06	St. Louis, Missouri, USA
	Spouse	Fleming, Ethel Lester	
6F	Breitenstein, Lucy		
	Birth	1892-08-11	Banner, Iron County, Missouri, USA
	Death	1973-01	
	Spouse	Stevens, Otis Brown	
	Marriage	1910-06-12	

John Shanley and Mary Reilly

Husband: Shanley, John		
Birth	1824-03-17	County Longford, Ireland
Death	1893-07-18	Sioux City, Woodbury County, Iowa, USA
Father	Shanley, Lawrence	
Mother	Sheridan, Mary	
Marriage:		
Marriage 1		Ireland
Wife: Reilly, Mary		
Birth	about 1830	Ireland
Death	1852-11-30	Randolph, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, USA
Father		
Mother		
Children		
1F	Shanley, Mary	
	Birth	1849-12-24 Putnam County, New York, USA
	Death	1921-07-28 Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
	Spouse	O’Hara, William

John Shanley and Elizabeth Reahl

Husband: Shanley, John		
Birth	1824-03-17	County Longford, Ireland
Death	1893-07-18	Sioux City, Woodbury County, Iowa, USA
Father	Shanley, Lawrence	
Mother	Sheridan, Mary	
Marriage:		
Marriage	1857-01-31	Boston, Suffolk County, Massachusetts, USA
Wife: Reahl, Elizabeth		
Birth	1833-09	Ireland
Death	1920-02-11	Sioux City, Woodbury County, Iowa, USA
Father	Reahl, James	
Mother		
Children		
1M	Shanley, Lawrence Thomas	
	Birth	1857-12-20 Stoughton, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, USA
	Death	1884-05-25 Sioux City, Woodbury County, Iowa, USA
2M	Shanley, James Francis	
	Birth	1859-03-19 Stoughton, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, USA
	Death	1928-06-23 Sioux City, Woodbury County, Iowa, USA
3F	Shanley, Eliza Ann	
	Birth	1860-04-23 Stoughton, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, USA
	Death	1922-01-29 Sioux City, Woodbury County, Iowa, USA
	Spouse	Mahoney, James V.
	Marriage	1889-02-25 Sioux City, Woodbury County, Iowa, USA

4F	Shanley, Catherine		
	Birth	1862-03-21	Stoughton, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, USA
	Death	1878	Sioux City, Woodbury County, Iowa, USA
5F	Shanley, Sarah Jane		
	Birth	1864-09-22	Randolph, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, USA
	Death	1948-02-09	Sioux City, Woodbury County, Iowa, USA
6F	Shanley, Anna Louisa		
	Birth	1868-06-22	Massachusetts, USA
	Death	1907-02-22	Sioux City, Woodbury County, Iowa, USA
	Spouse	O'Donnell, Bernard M.	
	Marriage	1894-06-22	Sioux City, Woodbury County, Iowa, USA
7M	Shanley, John E.		
	Birth	about 1870-07	
	Death	1878	Sioux City, Woodbury County, Iowa, USA
8F	Shanley, Unknown		
	Birth		
	Death	about 1876	Sioux City, Woodbury County, Iowa, USA

Mary Reilly and James Connor

Husband: Connor, James		
Birth	about 1823	County Wicklow, Ireland
Death	after 1893	Jackson, Dakota County, Nebraska, USA
Father	Connor, R.	
Mother	Brannan, Jane	

Marriage 3:		
Marriage	St. Patrick's Catholic Church	
	1878-08-27	Jackson, Dakota County, Nebraska, USA

Wife: Reilly, Mary		
Birth	about 1829	Ireland
Death	about 1886	Nebraska, USA
Father	Reilly, Myles	
Mother	Sheridan, Mary	

Marriage 2:		
Marriage		

Husband: Green, Unknown		
Birth		
Death		
Father		
Mother		

Marriage 1:		
Marriage		

Husband: Unknown		

Patrick Reilly and Catherine Sullivan

Husband: Reilly, Patrick		
Birth	1831-11-18	Ardagh, County Longford, Ireland
Death	1903-06-25	Jackson, Dakota County, Nebraska, USA
Father	Reilly, Myles	
Mother	Sheridan, Mary	
Marriage:		
Marriage	1853-05-15	Quincy, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, USA
Wife: Sullivan, Catherine		
Birth	1833-06	Ireland
Death	1910-01-13	Jackson, Dakota County, Nebraska, USA
Father	Sullivan, Thomas	
Mother	, Ellen	
Children		
1M	Reilly, Miles Thomas	
	Birth	1854-02-22 Randolph, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, USA
	Death	1921
2M	Reilly, William	
	Birth	about 1857 Massachusetts, USA
	Death	
3M	Reilly, John	
	Birth	about 1858 Nebraska, USA
	Death	
4F	Reilly, Mary	
	Birth	about 1863 Nebraska, USA
	Death	
	Spouse	McBride, J. J.
5F	Reilly, Catherine	
	Birth	1864-05-05 Hubbard, Dakota County, Nebraska, USA

Death	1943-08-07	Cleveland, Cuyahoga County, Ohio, USA
Spouse	Casey, Thomas	

Bridget Reilly and Patrick Brady

Husband: Brady, Patrick		
Birth	about 1833	Clonbroney, County Longford, Ireland
Death	1896-07-06	Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
Father	Brady, Paddy	
Mother	Dolan, Kitty	
Marriage:		
Marriage	about 1865	Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
Wife: Reilly, Bridget		
Birth	1834-01-08	Ardagh-Moydow Parish, County Longford, Ireland
Death	1910-03-01	Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
Father	Reilly, Myles	
Mother	Sheridan, Mary	

Thomas Reilly and Christina Cogan

Husband: Reilly, Thomas		
Birth	1836-02	Ardagh-Moydow Parish, County Longford, Ireland
Death	1879-04-01	Manhattan, New York City, New York, USA
Father	Reilly, Myles	
Mother	Sheridan, Mary	
Marriage:		
Marriage	1870-11	
Wife: Cogan, Bridget Christina		
Birth	1846-05-10	Ireland
Death	1919-11-03	Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
Father	Cogan, Thomas	
Mother	Connell, Catherine	
Children		
1F	Reilly, Mary F.	
	Birth	1871 Manhattan, New York City, New York, USA
	Death	1894-04-21 Manhattan, New York City, New York, USA
	Spouse	Scott, William
	Marriage	1888
2F	Reilly, Annie	
	Birth	1873-08 Manhattan, New York City, New York, USA
	Death	
	Spouse	Adams, Unknown
3M	Reilly, Thomas J.	
	Birth	1874-07-29 Manhattan, New York City, New York, USA
	Death	1887-09-06 Manhattan, New York City, New York, USA

4F	Reilly, Catherine B.		
	Birth	1877-07	Manhattan, New York City, New York, USA
	Death	after 1915	

Catherine Reilly and Thomas Malone

Husband: Malone, Thomas		
Birth		
Death	before 1870	
Father		
Mother		
Marriage:		
Marriage	about 1865	New York, New York, USA
Wife: Reilly, Catherine		
Birth	1837-10	Ardagh-Moydow Parish, County Longford, Ireland
Death	1909-03-20	Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
Father	Reilly, Myles	
Mother	Sheridan, Mary	
Children		
1F	Malone, Mary	
	Birth	about 1866
	Death	1943-05-19 Manhattan, New York City, New York, USA
2M	Malone, Thomas	
	Birth	about 1868
	Death	1935-08-25 Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA

Bridget Sheridan and James Fitzsimmons

Husband: Fitzsimmons, James		
Birth	about 1835	Ireland
Death	1907-06-06	Manhattan, New York City, New York, USA
Father	Fitzsimmons, Thomas	
Mother	, Ann	

Marriage:

Marriage	estimated before 1860	
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Wife: Sheridan, Bridget

Birth	about 1837	Ireland
Death	1883-09-17	Manhattan, New York City, New York, USA
Father	Sheridan, Thomas	
Mother	Reilly, Anne	

Children

1M	Fitzsimmons, Robert John		
	Birth	1861-01	New York, New York, USA
	Death	estimated 1928-08-01	Manhattan, New York City, New York, USA
	Spouse	O'Neil, Mary Anne	
	Marriage	1885-01-26	Manhattan, New York City, New York, USA
2M	Fitzsimmons, Richard Michael		
	Birth	about 1863	New York, New York, USA
	Death	1885-04-27	Manhattan, New York City, New York, USA
3M	Fitzsimmons, John Charles		
	Birth	about 1867	New York, New York, USA
	Death	1908-05-21	Manhattan, New York City, New York, USA
4M	Fitzsimmons, James		
	Birth	about 1874	New York, New York, USA

	Death	1911-02-25	Manhattan, New York City, New York, USA
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Mary Sheridan and Michael J. Oates

Husband: Oates, Michael J.		
Birth	about 1829	Pennsylvania, USA
Death	1883-01-05	Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
Father		
Mother	Oates, Ann	
Marriage:		
Marriage	about 1868	
Wife: Sheridan, Mary		
Birth	1848-06	Ireland
Death	1905-12-17	Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
Father	Sheridan, Thomas	
Mother	Reilly, Anne	
Children		
1M	Oates, James C.	
	Birth	1869-01-05 Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
	Death	1938-03-09 Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
	Spouse	Sullivan, Sarah
	Marriage	between 1910 and 1920
2F	Oates, Ann	
	Birth	1871-01-07 Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
	Death	1930-08-31 Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
	Spouse	Knippler, Adolph
3M	Oates, Charles	
	Birth	1873-05-12 Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
	Death	1877-07-14 Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA

4F	Oates, Margaret		
	Birth	1875	Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
	Death	1877-07-19	Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
5F	Oates, Catherine		
	Birth	1878-01-07	Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
	Death	1878-01-15	Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
6M	Oates, George Peter		
	Birth	about 1879	Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
	Death	1949-03-03	Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
	Spouse	O'Grady, Alice E.	
	Marriage	1908-09-08	Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
7F	Oates, Josephine		
	Birth	1882-10	Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
	Death	1956-11	
	Spouse	Minogue, Joseph Horton	
	Marriage	1902-01-05	

Michael J. Oates and Catherine Matson

Husband: Oates, Michael J.		
Birth	about 1829	Pennsylvania, USA
Death	1883-01-05	Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
Father		
Mother	Oates, Ann	
Marriage:		
Marriage 1	about 1854	
Wife: Matson, Catherine		
Birth	about 1836	Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
Death	1863-08-25	Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
Father		
Mother		
Children		
1M	Oates, Thomas W.	
	Birth	1855-05 Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
	Death	
2M	Oates, John F.	
	Birth	about 1856 Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
	Death	1888-02-10 Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
3F	Oates, Mary E.	
	Birth	about 1858 Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
	Death	
4M	Oates, Michael J.	
	Birth	about 1860 Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
	Death	

Catherine Mullen and Patrick Davy

Husband: Davy, Patrick		
Birth	1837-06-15	Cashilcawley, County Sligo, Ireland
Death	1917-05-02	Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
Father	Davy, John	
Mother	Killcerley, Aleta	

Marriage:		
Marriage	1865-07-27	Saint Patrick's Church, Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA

Wife: Mullen, Catherine		
Birth	1840-12	Edgeworthstown, County Longford, Ireland
Death	1922-03-31	Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
Father	Mullen, Thomas	
Mother	Sheridan, Catherine	

Children		
1M	Davy, Thomas	
	Birth	1866-04-13 Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
	Death	1887-03-29 Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
2F	Davy, Catherine	
	Birth	1868-01-15 Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
	Death	1943-09-23 Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
3M	Davy, John F.	
	Birth	1869-09-26 Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
	Death	1917-11-26 Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
	Spouse	Reynolds, Mary P.
	Marriage	1895-03-03 Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA

			USA
4M	Davy, James		
	Birth	1871-10-19	Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
	Death	after 1915-04-08	
5M	Davy, Edward		
	Birth	1873-03-27	Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
	Death	1873-08-16	Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
6M	Davy, Joseph P.		
	Birth	1874-05-16	Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
	Death	1891-11-20	Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
7F	Davy, Annie		
	Birth	1875-12-13	Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
	Death	1907-02-07	Jacksonville, Duval County, Florida
	Spouse	Salzmann, Max John	
	Marriage	1905-09-05	Jacksonville, Duval County, Florida
8F	Davy, Hattie		
	Birth	1877-07-11	Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
	Death	1881-07-10	Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
9M	Davy, William T.		
	Birth	1878-12-27	Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
	Death	1917-06-11	Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
10M	Davy, Walter Joseph		
	Birth	1881-02-26	Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
	Death	1960	New York, New York, USA
	Spouse	Diver, Mary A	

Annie Mullen and Edward Sheil

Husband: Sheil, Edward		
Birth	about 1835	Ireland
Death	1892-10-12	Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
Father		
Mother		
Marriage:		
Marriage 2	1881-11-05	Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
Wife: Mullen, Ann		
Birth	about 1847	Ireland
Death	1906-04-13	Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
Father	Mullen, Thomas	
Mother	Sheridan, Catherine	

Sarah Ann Casey and Patrick Mannix

Husband: Mannix, Patrick		
Birth	1836	County Clare, Ireland
Death	1911-09-23	National Military Home, Montgomery County, Ohio, USA
Father	Mannix, Thomas	
Mother	Higgins, Catherine	
Marriage:		
Marriage	1865-05-15	Kanawha County, West Virginia, USA
Wife: Casey, Sarah Ann		
Birth	1847-01-19	Ireland
Death	estimated 1898-02-08	West Virginia, USA
Father	Casey, John Patrick Sr.	
Mother	Sheridan, Bridget	
Children		
1F	Mannix, Catherine	
	Birth	1866-12-17 Cabin Creek, Kanawha County, West Virginia, USA
	Death	1960-12-31
2F	Mannix, Mary Ann	
	Birth	1868-07-07 Lick Creek, Boone County, Virginia, USA
	Death	estimated 1871
3M	Mannix, John F.	
	Birth	1870-05 Horse Creek, Boone County, West Virginia, USA
	Death	estimated 1896
4F	Mannix, Margaret L.	
	Birth	1872-05-12 Big Coal, Boone County, West Virginia, USA
	Death	estimated 1898
5M	Mannix, Nicholas C.	
	Birth	1874-03-30 White Oak, Boone County, West

			Virginia, USA
	Death	1900-02-12	Hinton, Summers County, West Virginia, USA
6M	Mannix, James A.		
	Birth	1877-04-08	Boone County, West Virginia, USA
	Death	1962-01-14	Spencer, Roane County, West Virginia, USA
7M	Mannix, Patrick S. (H.)		
	Birth	1878-09-10	Boone County, West Virginia, USA
	Death	1967-10-10	Saint Albans, West Virginia, USA
	Spouse	McKenzie, Agnes Ann	
	Marriage	1905-09-21	Montgomery, Fayette and Kanawha Counties, West Virginia, USA
8F	Mannix, Bridget Cecilia		
	Birth	1883-05	Boone County, West Virginia, USA
	Death	1961-01-09	
	Spouse	Fox, Earl David	
	Marriage	1906-06-19	Summers County, West Virginia, USA
9M	Mannix, Joseph Maurice		
	Birth	1885-02	Boone County, West Virginia, USA
	Death	1965-11-04	Washington, District of Columbia, USA
	Spouse	Fitzpatrick, Margaret T.	
	Marriage	1914-11-25	Summers County, West Virginia, USA
10F	Mannix, Rosa		
	Birth	1886-08-19	Boone County, West Virginia, USA
	Death	1887-10-01	Boone County, West Virginia, USA
11F	Mannix, Gertrude		
	Birth	1889-12-01	Boone County, West Virginia, USA
	Death	1981-08-14	
	Spouse	Neely, William Clyde	
	Marriage	1910-06-28	Summers County, West Virginia, USA

John Patrick Casey, Jr. and Rose M. Lamb

Husband: Casey, John Patrick Jr.			
Birth	1854-04-13	Lick Creek, Boone County, Virginia, USA	
Death	1937-02-11	Charleston, Kanawha County, West Virginia, USA	
Father	Casey, John Patrick Sr.		
Mother	Sheridan, Bridget		
Marriage:			
Marriage	1891-09-23	Montgomery, Fayette and Kanawha Counties, West Virginia, USA	
Wife: Lamb, Rose M.			
Birth	1867-04-15	Campbell's Creek, Kanawha County, West Virginia, USA	
Death	1953-10-15	Charleston, Kanawha County, West Virginia, USA	
Father	Lamb, Edward		
Mother	Monaghan, Mary		
Children			
1M	Casey, John Edward Sr.		
	Birth	1892-09-12	Winifrede, Cabin Creek District, Kanawha County, West Virginia, USA
	Death	1974-02-14	Charleston, Kanawha County, West Virginia, USA
	Spouse	Selbe, Faye Elizabeth	
	Marriage	1920-05-12	Sacred Heart Church, Charleston, Kanawha County, West Virginia USA
2M	Casey, Louis Sheridan		
	Birth	1894-01-22	Winifrede, Cabin Creek District, Kanawha County, West Virginia, USA
	Death	1970-02-13	Charleston, Kanawha County, West Virginia, USA
3M	Casey, James Philip		
	Birth	1897-03-04	Peytona, Boone County, West Virginia, USA

	Death	1976-10-28	Charleston, Kanawha County, West Virginia, USA
	Spouse	Aultz, Gertrude	
	Marriage	1936-01-27	St. Anthony's Church, Charleston, West Virginia, USA
4M	Casey, Peter Joseph		
	Birth	1899-03-07	Peytona, Boone County, West Virginia, USA
	Death	1985-04-08	Charleston, Kanawha County, West Virginia, USA
	Spouse	Leftwich, Thelma Barbara	
	Marriage	1928-11-17	Sacred Heart Church, 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
	Spouse	Burati, Alia Marcella	
	Marriage	1951-08-11	Sacred Heart Church, Charleston, Kanawha County, West Virginia USA

Emma Mary Sheridan and Augustine McShane

Husband: McShane, Augustine Timothy		
Birth	1865-03-06	Marrickville, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia
Death	1938-06-01	Dulwich Hill, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia
Father	McShane, James	
Mother	O'Brien, Hannah	

Marriage:

Marriage	1889-12-28	Petersham, New South Wales, Australia
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Wife: Sheridan, Emma Mary

Birth	1866-03-06	Campbelltown, New South Wales, Australia
Death	1943-06-26	Dulwich Hill, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia
Father	Sheridan, Philip	
Mother	Wastell, Emma	

Children

1M	McShane, George Andrew	
	Birth	1890-11-03 Marrickville, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia
	Death	1933 Cootamundra, New South Wales, Australia
2F	McShane, Aileen Mary	
	Birth	1892-11-26 Marrickville, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia
	Death	1981-12-15 Dulwich Hill, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia
3F	McShane, Ethel Mildrid	
	Birth	1893 Marrickville, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia
	Death	1991-06-01 Newport, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia
4M	McShane, Reginald Philip	
	Birth	1896 Petersham, New South Wales, Australia

	Death	1969-03-10	Coogee, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia
5M	McShane, Gerald A.		
	Birth	1897	Petersham, New South Wales, Australia
	Death	1898	Petersham, New South Wales, Australia
6F	McShane, Gertrude Mary		
	Birth	1901-01-16	Petersham, New South Wales, Australia
	Death	1990-07-25	Casino, New South wales, Australia
7F	McShane, Winifred Mary		
	Birth	1904-03-28	Marrickville, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia
	Death	1998-08-21	Strathfield, New South Wales, Australia
8M	McShane, John Bernard		
	Birth	1907-12-14	Marrickville, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia
	Death	1998-05-19	Merrylands, New South Wales, Australia

Percival Joseph Sheridan and Evelyn Irene Lane

Husband: Sheridan, Percival Joseph			
Birth	1876-05-07	Darlinghurst, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia	
Death	1926-07-23	Queensland, Australia	
Father	Sheridan, Philip		
Mother	Wastell, Emma		
Marriage:			
Marriage	1900-10-02	Darlinghurst, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia	
Wife: Lane, Evelyn Irene			
Birth	1874-01-16	St. Leonards, New South Wales, Australia	
Death	1943-08-10	Longueville, New South Wales, Australia	
Father	Lane, John		
Mother	Frederick, Margaret		
Children			
1F	Sheridan, Marjorie Evelyn		
	Birth	1902-01-12	Darlinghurst, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia
	Death	1982-11-15	Forestville, New South Wales, Australia
	Spouse	Pownall, Leslie	
	Marriage	1929-12-21	Neutral Bay, New South Wales, Australia
2M	Sheridan, George Percival		
	Birth	1903-04-15	Darlinghurst, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia
	Death	1976-10-14	Gordon, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia
	Spouse	Tait, Elizabeth Laing	
	Marriage	1932-09-15	Sydney, New South Wales, Australia
3M	Sheridan, Gordon Frederick William		
	Birth	1907-07-12	Kiama, New South Wales, Australia
	Death	1988-09-30	Willoughby, New South Wales, Australia
	Spouse	Richards, Mary Edith Maud	

	Marriage	1935-08-24	Sydney, New South Wales, Australia
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Bridget Gerety and Michael Bracken

Husband: Bracken, Michael		
Birth		
Death	estimated before 1853-05-28	County Longford, Ireland
Father		
Mother		
Marriage:		
Marriage	estimated about 1828	Ireland
Wife: Gerety, Bridget		
Birth	1800-12	Ireland
Death	1866-03-01	Randolph, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, USA
Father	Gerety, Andrew	
Mother	Masterson, Marcella	
Children		
1F	Bracken, Mary	
	Birth	1829-02 County Meath, Ireland
	Death	1910-01-16 Sioux City, Woodbury County, Iowa
	Spouse	Sullivan, Thomas
	Marriage	1854-02-12 Quincy, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, USA
2F	Bracken, Bridget	
	Birth	about 1832 Ireland
	Death	1922-05-02 Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
	Spouse	Dowling, Michael
	Marriage	1858-07-15 Randolph, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, USA
3F	Bracken, Ann	
	Birth	1836-06 Ireland
	Death	1884-12-18 Randolph, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, USA
4F	Bracken, Margaret	

	Birth	1838-03-17	Ireland
	Death	1904-03-01	Hubbard, Dakota County, Nebraska, USA
	Spouse	Cain, Michael	
	Marriage	1860-06-17	Randolph, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, USA
5M	Bracken, Edward		
	Birth	1840-01-01	County Longford, Ireland
	Death	1881-10-19	Randolph, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, USA
	Spouse	Quinn, Margaret Elizabeth	
	Marriage	1863-10-04	Randolph, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, USA
6F	Bracken, Catherine		
	Birth	about 1844	Ireland
	Death		
	Spouse	McMahon, Peter	
	Marriage	1870-11-13	Randolph, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, USA
7M	Bracken, Andrew		
	Birth	1845-08-02	Ireland
	Death	1894-12-12	Boston, Suffolk County, Massachusetts, USA
	Spouse	Gill, Mary	
	Marriage	1893-07	Boston, Suffolk County, Massachusetts, USA

Mary Bracken and Thomas Sullivan

Husband: Sullivan, Thomas		
Birth	1831-12-25	Cam, County Longford, Ireland
Death	1904-11-17	Jackson, Dakota County, Nebraska, USA
Father	Sullivan, Thomas	
Mother	, Ellen	

Marriage:		
Marriage	1854-02-12	Quincy, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, USA

Wife: Bracken, Mary		
Birth	1829-02	County Meath, Ireland
Death	1910-01-16	Sioux City, Woodbury County, Iowa
Father	Bracken, Michael	
Mother	Gerety, Bridget	

Children		
1M	Sullivan, John	
	Birth	1854-11-05 Randolph, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, USA
	Death	1855-09-22 Randolph, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, USA
2F	Sullivan, Honora (possible daughter)	
	Birth	1856-04-28 Randolph, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, USA
	Death	1857-08-10 Randolph, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, USA
3M	Sullivan, Thomas	
	Birth	1857-09-27 or 1858-07-07 Randolph, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, USA
	Death	1927-03-22 Dakota County, Nebraska, USA
4M	Sullivan, Peter	
	Birth	1859-10-12 Randolph, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, USA
	Death	1864-07-25 Randolph, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, USA

5F	Sullivan, Catherine		
	Birth	1861-07-24	Randolph, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, USA
	Death	1934-04-26	Sioux City, Woodbury County, Iowa
6M	Sullivan, Edward (possible son)		
	Birth	1863-10-16	Randolph, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, USA
	Death	1864-08-18	Randolph, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, USA
7F	Sullivan, Annie		
	Birth	1865-11-02	Randolph, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, USA
	Death	1866-05-10	Randolph, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, USA
8F	Sullivan, Mary Ann		
	Birth	about 1870	Dakota County, Nebraska, USA
	Death		
	Spouse	McEwen	
9F	Sullivan, Margaret		
	Birth	about 1872	Dakota County, Nebraska, USA
	Death	1881-12-21	Dakota County, Nebraska, USA

Bridget Bracken and Michael Dowling

Husband: Dowling, Michael		
Birth	about 1832	Ireland
Death	1906-01-26	Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
Father	Dowling, Patrick	
Mother	Lynane, Elizabeth	
Marriage:		
Marriage	1858-07-15	Randolph, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, USA
Wife: Bracken, Bridget		
Birth	about 1832	County Longford, Ireland
Death	1922-05-02	Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
Father	Bracken, Michael	
Mother	Gerety, Bridget	
Children		
1M	Dowling, John	
	Birth	1859-06-26Abington, Plymouth County, Massachusetts, USA
	Death	
2F	Dowling, Mary Ann	
	Birth	1861-05-05Abington, Plymouth County, Massachusetts, USA
	Death	1935-01-07Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
	Spouse	Reynolds, James
3F	Dowling, Elizabeth	
	Birth	about 1863Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
	Death	1953-05-29Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
	Spouse	Doyle, Luke
4F	Dowling, Margaret	

	Birth	1864-09	Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
	Death	1868-04-23	Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
5M	Dowling, Daniel Francis		
	Birth	1867-11	Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
	Death	1901-02-19	Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
6M	Dowling, Joseph		
	Birth	about 1870	Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
	Death		
7M	Dowling, Edward Charles		
	Birth	1870-11-29	Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
	Death	1908-12-01	Manhattan, New York County, New York, USA
8M	Dowling, William Henry		
	Birth	1872-07-28	Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
	Death	1947-12-10	Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
	Spouse	Johnson, Augusta Florence	

Margaret Bracken and Michael Cain

Husband: Cain, Michael		
Birth	1830-09-01	Camlisk, County Longford, Ireland
Death	1902-03-28	Hubbard, Dakota County, Nebraska, USA
Father	Cain, Farrell	
Mother	Kiernan, Margaret	
Marriage:		
Marriage	1860-06-17	Randolph, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, USA
Wife: Bracken, Margaret		
Birth	1838-03-17	Ireland
Death	1904-03-01	Hubbard, Dakota County, Nebraska, USA
Father	Bracken, Michael	
Mother	Gerety, Bridget	
Children		
1M	Cain, Farrell	
	Birth	1861-03-11 Randolph, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, USA
	Death	1862-02-06 Randolph, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, USA
2M	Cain, Farrell	
	Birth	1862-09-02 Randolph, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, USA
	Death	
3F	Cain, Annie	
	Birth	1863-10-28 Randolph, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, USA
	Death	
4M	Cain, Michael	
	Birth	1865-04-10 Randolph, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, USA
	Death	

5M	Cain, Henry		
	Birth	1866-12-02	Randolph, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, USA
	Death		
6F	Cain, Margaret		
	Birth	1870-04	Dakota County, Nebraska, USA
	Death		
	Spouse	Duggan, Thomas	
	Marriage	1906-04-25	Merrill, Plymouth County, Iowa, USA
7M	Cain, John		
	Birth	1871-06	Dakota County, Nebraska, USA
	Death		
8M	Cain, Edward		
	Birth	about 1874	Dakota County, Nebraska, USA
	Death		
9F	Cain, Annie		
	Birth	1877-08	Dakota County, Nebraska, USA
	Death		

Edward Bracken and Margaret Elizabeth Quinn

Husband: Bracken, Edward		
Birth	1840-01-01	County Longford, Ireland
Death	1881-10-19	Randolph, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, USA
Father	Bracken, Michael	
Mother	Gerety, Bridget	
Marriage:		
Marriage	1863-10-04	Randolph, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, USA
Wife: Quinn, Margaret Elizabeth		
Birth	1844-12-12	Randolph, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, USA
Death	1927	Randolph, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, USA
Father	Quinn, Edward	
Mother	Bohan, Catherine	
Children		
1F	Bracken, Mary	
	Birth	1865-09-11 Randolph, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, USA
	Death	1869-01-10 Randolph, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, USA
2F	Bracken, Ann	
	Birth	1867-10-31 Randolph, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, USA
	Death	1869-01-02 Randolph, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, USA
3F	Bracken, Mary E.	
	Birth	1869-03-20 Randolph, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, USA
	Death	
4F	Bracken, Margaret	
	Birth	1870-11-23 Randolph, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, USA

	Death		
	Spouse	Gilligan, Francis S.	
	Marriage	1896-07-01	Randolph, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, USA
5F	Bracken, Sarah F.		
	Birth	1872-11-14	Randolph, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, USA
	Death		
6F	Bracken, Anna L.		
	Birth	1874-07-13	Randolph, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, USA
	Death		
	Spouse	Loneragan, Edward James	
	Marriage	1910-04-19	Randolph, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, USA
7F	Bracken, Eileen G.		
	Birth	1876-02-19	Randolph, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, USA
	Death		
	Spouse	Lyons, Daniel P.	
	Marriage	1908-09-30	Randolph, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, USA
8M	Bracken, Michael Edward		
	Birth	1878-03-01	Randolph, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, USA
	Death		
9F	Bracken, Elizabeth		
	Birth	1879-11-28	Randolph, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, USA
	Death		
	Spouse	Kelley, Joseph Michael	
	Marriage	1909-07-07	Randolph, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, USA

Catherine Bracken and Peter McMahon

Husband: McMahon, Peter		
Birth	1839-02-25	Randolph, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, USA
Death	1893-02-08	Randolph, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, USA
Father	McMahon, Patrick	
Mother	Dunn, Mary	
Marriage 2:		
Marriage	1870-11-13	Randolph, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, USA
Wife: Bracken, Catherine		
Birth	about 1844	Ireland
Death		
Father	Bracken, Michael	
Mother	Gerety, Bridget	
Children		
1F	McMahon, Alice L.	
	Birth	1873-10-10 Randolph, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, USA
	Death	1875-01-28 Randolph, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, USA
2F	McMahon, Emma	
	Birth	1874-12-31 Randolph, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, USA
	Death	
3M	McMahon, Charles Leo	
	Birth	1877-01-05 Randolph, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, USA
	Death	
	Spouse	Hickey, Elizabeth Ann
	Marriage	1914-10-19 Holbrook, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, USA
4F	McMahon, Mary F.	

	Birth	1879-10-13	Randolph, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, USA
	Death	1879-10-20	Randolph, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, USA
5M	McMahon, Arthur A.		
	Birth	1881-08-26	Randolph, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, USA
	Death	1884-11-09	Randolph, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, USA
6F	McMahon, Catherine		
	Birth	1884-08-10	Randolph, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, USA
	Death	1884-11-10	Randolph, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, USA
7M	McMahon, Francis H.		
	Birth	1886-01-29	Randolph, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, USA
	Death		

Thomas Sullivan and Ellen Unknown

Husband: Sullivan, Thomas			
Birth			
Death			
Father			
Mother			
Marriage:			
Marriage			
Wife: , Ellen			
Birth	about 1810	Ireland	
Death			
Father			
Mother			
Children			
1M	Sullivan, Thomas		
	Birth	1831-12-25	Cam, County Longford, Ireland
	Death	1904-11-17	Jackson, Dakota County, Nebraska, USA
	Spouse	Bracken, Mary	
	Marriage	1854-02-12	Quincy, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, USA
2F	Sullivan, Catherine		
	Birth	1833-06	Ireland
	Death	1910-01-13	Jackson, Dakota County, Nebraska, USA
	Spouse	Reilly, Patrick	
	Marriage	1853-05-15	Quincy, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, USA
3M	Sullivan, Peter		
	Birth	1835-10-01	Edgeworthstown, County Longford, Ireland
	Death		
4F	Sullivan, Ann		
	Birth	about 1840	Ireland

	Death		
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