

Appendix 6: Violent Deaths

Catherine Shaw

Newspaper reports of Catherine Shaw's trial

Freeman's Journal 7 February 1843

Burglary

Catherine Shaw, a young woman of very prepossessing appearance, aged about 23 years, was arraigned on an indictment charging her with having, on the night of the 16th September last, in company with another person, burglariously entered the house of Mr John Bond, sen., of Dolphin's-barn, and stolen therefrom a quantity of property in plate and wearing apparel.

Mr Plunkett, Q.C. and Mr McKane, conducted the prosecution. The prisoner had no legal advisor.

Mary Armstrong examined by Mr Plunkett, Q.C. – I was housekeeper in the service of Mr Bond, of Dolphin's-barn, in last September; I recollect the night of the 16th Sept.; on that evening the doors and windows of the house were all regularly closed, barred, and bolted; the window of the closet, in particular, was closed that evening; in the course of the night, about half past twelve o'clock, when I was sitting in the kitchen, I heard a noise; I listened longer, and heard a foot coming down stairs; I thought it was Mr Bond's, and on that account was not alarmed by the circumstances; I then heard a noise in the parlour, and distinctly heard the parlour door opened; I heard the blot of the hall door unbarred, and then I did not hear it closed to again; I ran out; I saw a woman standing at the left-hand side of the hall, near the hall door; I asked her what she was doing there; a man rushed out from the parlour (or what seemed to me a man) and seized me by the throat, exclaiming "d—n your eyes, *whisht!*" I cried out, "Bond! Bond! bring the pistols, there are robbers in the house;" the man and woman ran away towards the rear of the house, as soon as they heard the Bonds coming; the woman appeared to be rather tall, but I know nothing about her whatever; we searched the house, and found Bond's press was broken open by means of a reaping hook; we found a cup of thick venus turpentine and sand-paper, which had been left behind by the robbers; we missed the carpet which was taken off the parlour floor; it must have been removed before I detected them; we missed two German silver candlesticks, a pair of snuffers, Mr Bond's silver spectacles, a silver ladle, several teaspoons, and other articles of value which were in the house the day before; several articles of wearing apparel, including a bodycoat of Mr Bond's, were also stolen that night; I saw the carpet, and other portions of the property, a short time after the robbery.

Major Cottingham, J.P., examined by Mr Plunket – I am a magistrate of county Dublin; I took the examination against the prisoner and many others; I saw her afterwards (on 15th November) in Kilmainham gaol; she came into my presence of her own accord; I cautioned her not to say any thing to me which could possibly tend to criminate herself, for that if she did so, what ever she said would be taken down in writing, and produced against her in another place; she made no reply, but went on to make a statement which I took down in writing, and read to her; she admitted having been concerned in the robbery at Bond's ,

and said that the shoe found there was one belonging to one of her companions; she admitted that she pawned the carpet which was stolen from Bond's, she said that she, in company with others, left Dublin on a night in September, for the purpose of robbing Mr Bond; that near the place there was a quarry, from which a ladder was taken, by means of which the males of the party got into Bond's house through a window; that one of the men took off his shoes going up, dropped one of them near the ladder, and that another of them was taken up by one of the party, and brought back to town; she said she was with them on occasion of taking up the carpet, and specified a variety of articles which were also stolen; she mentioned the names of the men who got into the house, and said that she would have gone in herself only that the men would not let her do so, for fear she might have got some of the stolen property; by her own statement it would appear that she did not enter, but was only at the door during the robbery; on the 16th November I had one of the persons arrested to whom she alluded; I repaired to a house in White's-lane, at a subsequent period, according to her information, attended by some constables; I ripped the floor up, and found three pistols, some gunpowder, and a box containing £1, a bag in which there were 19 duplicates, and some other property, which I took in charge; she had lived with others in that house.

Prisoner- Oh, my lord, at the time Major Cottingham asked me these questions I was in so great a fright I did not know what I was saying. There was a prisoner sick in the gaol with whom I am acquainted, and anything he told me I swore to.

Justice Perrin (to Major Cottingham) – Was a third party present at the time she made her admissions?

Major Cottingham – Oh, certainly not; I took special care of that.

Prisoner- He did not caution me, my lord, in the manner he states. He gave me no caution at all; or of he did, I didn't hear him. He let me go off on my own accord, and never stopped me.

A Juror (to Major Cottingham) – Did you ever know the prisoner before she made that confession to you?

Major Cottingham – Perhaps it will suffice to assure you, as I do most positively, that she knew quite well that I was a magistrate.

Mary Armstrong was again called, and identified the carpet and other property stolen.

Patrick Higgins examined by Mr McKane – I am in the employment of Mr Spring, pawnbroker; this carpet was pawned with us on the morning of the 17th September, by the prisoner; it was pledged with us before eleven o'clock.

Prisoner (to witness) – Will you swear positively I am the person who pledged the carpet?

Witness – I swear it distinctly; I took special notice of you.

Maurice Fitzgerald examined by Mr Plunket – I see the prisoner at the bar; I set a room for her and a man about the first of October last; the house was No. 18, White's-lane; they lived together for five weeks, until they were taken prisoners; witness identifies the property produced as that which was found in the room occupied by the prisoner.

The witness as cross-examined by the prisoner, but nothing of importance was elicited.

The case for the prosecution here closed.

The prisoner called no witnesses, and declined addressing any remarks to the court or jury.

Judge Perrin summed up the evidence, and charged the jury, who, without leaving the box, returned a verdict of “Guilty”.

Sentence deferred.

Freeman’s Journal 5 January 1843

COUNTY CALENDAR

Owen Kennedy, stealing several articles of wearing apparel, and also entering a dwelling-house and stealing wearing apparel therefrom; Margaret Kennedy having a stolen clock in her possession; Thomas Reilly, stealing a mare and harness; same, stealing a sack; Edward Lynch, entering a dwelling-house and stealing wearing apparel; Catherine Shaw, alias Bridget Kelly, having a stolen carpet in her possession.

(Lists of prisoners to be tried)

The judges have given directions to the sheriff to have the jurors, and other persons interested in the proceedings of the commission, in attendance at the court at half past ten o’clock punctually every morning. The commission will be opened at that hour this morning, instead of at one o’clock, as to heretofore the custom, an improvement of which it is right to appraise the public.

Dublin Evening Post 19 January 1843 *(notes only from the report)*

Trials of Edmund Lynch, Catherine Shaw and Thomas Kelly for burglary and highway robbery postponed

Crown – wanted to be tried together

Edward Lynch in a very dangerous state illness in Newgate Hospital

Found guilty of burglary at John Bond’s at Dolphin’s Barn

Petition which includes information about Catherine Shaw.

Irish Transportation Records; Owen Kennedy CRF 1843 K8

The accompanying memorial having been sent to me, I conceive I am called upon, as the committing magistrate to state that the Convict Owen Kennedy immediately after I had committed him for trial sent for me and of his own free will & accord made a full confession of his crime and in that confession gave me such further Information as to enable me to arrest and bring to justice, Edw^d Lynch, John Kellett, and Catherine Shaw – all of whom have been tried and sentenced to limited periods of transportation – Edward Lynch 15 years, Catherine Shaw 7 years, John Kellett at Trim C^o Meath and pleading Guilty, received a further sentence of 10 years.

The information received from Owen Kennedy materially assisted me in detecting this desperate Gang of Robbers & Burglars, an analysis of the crime perpetuated by them, I take

the liberty of sending herewith, it will lend to them the criminality of all & each of the Parties, who, not having been tried at the same time and before different Judges, the variances in their respective sentences, are easily to be accounted for – added to which the offences were committed in the Counties of Dublin, Meath and Kildare –

E Collingham
 J. G. Co Dublin
 10 Fitzgibbon Street
 March 25th 1843

Persons Robbed	Crime	Articles taken & Parties implicated
1 Aug ^t Mr Bradley - Tallaght	Burglary with Arms	3 Pistols – wearing app ^l & various articles - almost all these are found Kellett, E Lynch, Cath ^e Shaw -
2 Aug ^t 9 th Mr Danley Cloth, Tallaght	Burglary with Arms	Quantity of wearing appl. Silver spoons Table Quilts – Coats etc all found Ew ^d Lynch, Kit Corcoran, Andy Magarth
3 Aug ^t 19 Mr Peter Dunn [.....] Tallaght	Burglary “	Wearing apparel, Bed, Blankets etc Owen Kennedy, Jim Kennedy, John Kellett Ew ^d Lynch & Catherine Shaw Most of the articles found by Dup ^{te} got in Lynch’s room-
4 Sept ^r Pat Cunningham Tallaght Kellett & Coffey -	Burglary with Arms	Money, <u>Bellows</u> , <u>wearing apparel</u> Owen Kennedy, Cathe Shaw, John Articles found by Dup ^{te} at a [house?].
5 Sept ^r 24 th Mr Geoghegan & Chris Monaghan [Bovers?]	Highway Rob ^y with Arms & shot fired	money, <u>Great Coat</u> , found Kellett, Kennedy & Edw ^d Lynch -
6 Sept ^r 17 th Mr Bonds Dolphin Barn	Burglary with Arms	[..... ..], large quantity of wearing appl, <u>Hat</u> , <u>Carpet</u> , Bath {..... ..} etc etc Most of these are found Kennedy, Kellett, Lynch, Cath ^{ne} Shaw –
7 Sept ^r 28 th Dr Sherry Dunboyne	Burglary with Arms	£1 –note -19 ^s /4 ^d silver, 20 Articles of wearing apparel – <u>Calico</u> , quilts, etc etc

C ^o Meath	Shot fired	Kennedy, Kellett, Lynch, Cath ^{ne} Shaw
room		The Bank note has been identified by Sherry – It & other articles found under floor in Lynch's
	8	
Sept ^r 30 th	Beddy house	Burglary
[.....]		with
	Arms	1 <u>Coat</u> 1 <u>pr Trousers</u> , 1pr <u>women's shoes</u> 2 <u>Cloaks</u> – all found & identified
		Kennedy, Kellett, Lynch, Cath ^{ne} Shaw Kennedy convicted –Transported for life
	9	
Oct ^r 13 th	Hugh [Shirl?]	Highway
[Timahoe?]		Robbery
C ^o Kildare		with Arms
		Money 8 shillings
		Kellett, Lynch, Coffey & Cath ^{ne} Shaw
	10	
Oct ^r 13 th	Wm Saults	Highway
Maynooth		Robbery
C ^o Kildare		with Arms
by		£1 -5-6 – <u>Whip</u> , Handkerchief Kellett, Lynch, Coffey & Cath ^{ne} Shaw The whip found in Kellett's room & identified
		Saults, see Cath ^{ne} Shaw's conf ⁿ
	11	
Oct ^r 13 th	John Hanlon	Burglary
Derricrig (Derricrib?)		with
C ^o Kildare		Arms
		Entered the house down the chimney, (Kellett) but took nothing, <u>Cap</u> found after them
		Kellett, Lynch, Coffey & Cath ^{ne} Shaw
	12	
Oct ^r 13 th	[....] Fegan	Highway
[Timahoe?]		Robbery
Co Kildare		with Arms
		<u>Drab Great Coat</u> identified
		Kellett, Lynch, Coffey & Cath ^{ne} Shaw
	13	
Oct ^r 13 th	[.....]	Highway
Identified		Robbery
[Timahoe?]		with Arms
C ^o Kildare		
		2 half crowns, <u>Great Coat</u> , <u>Jobbers Box</u> , Kellett, Lynch, Coffey & Cath ^{ne} Shaw
	14	
Oct ^r 13 th	- Broughan	Highway
the	[Timahoe?]	attempt at
C ^o Kildare		Robbery
		with Arms
		Escaped having nothing about him – said he was [Courts?] man Kellett, Lynch, Coffey & Cath ^{ne} Shaw
	15	
Oct ^r 17 th	Benj ⁿ Beadley	Highway
Basket of		
Tallaght		Robbery
		with Arms
		money, <u>watch</u> , chain & seals, 5 <u>keys</u> . trousers severely beaten on head with pistol Kellett, Lynch. Catherine Shaw

Duplicate

The watch found & identified, do keys,

found in Lynch's room

16

Oct ^r 17 th	A man unknown Tallaght	Highway Robbery attempt	Escaped by dairyman coming up Kellett, Lynch. Catherine Shaw see, Lynch Statement No 3
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17

Oct ^r 17 th	Kearns Dunsink him	Highway Robbery	This man struck Kellett a blow on his hand with a heavy whip when Kellett fired at him
	Dublin Shot fired at him	Attempt	Kellett, Lynch, Cath ^{ne} Shaw NB. I saw the mark on Kellett's hand - EC

Owen Kennedy, Margaret Kennedy, John Kellett, Edward Lynch & Catherine Shaw are in custody in the Gaol of Kilmainham –

Corcoran, Coffey, & Andy Magrath are not yet arrested as the proofs against them are not sufficiently matured - Rose Bradley is in confinement under conviction for having in her possession a cloak stolen from Beddy's on the night of 30th Sept^r.

E Cottingham
J. G. Co Dublin
Jan^y 1843

W. Connors written along the side

5 Fitzwilliam Square East

April 5

Sir,

I had the honor to receive last night your letter in respect of Owen Kennedy a prisoner in the Gaol of the County of Dublin with certain documents which I return enclosed.

For the information of his Excellency the Lord Lieutenant I beg to state that Owen Kennedy was tried before me at the last January Commission together with his wife Margaret Kennedy for a burglary and felony committed on the 29th September last in the house of John Beady and stealing there out a variety of articles.

The first witness for the prosecution was Catherine Beady the wife of John Beady, they lived at Little Place near Mulhadert in the County of Dublin. Was about one o'clock at night, heard a noise, woke her husband, saw a man with pistol in the room, who desired witness to cover her head or he would blow out her brains. The man was within 2 feet of the bed, there was a light, they lighted the candle on coming in, saw three men in the room, could see into the Kitchen, various articles of wearing apparel, a coat, a cloak of John Beady, her husband's, a cloak belonging to her sister Bridget Conderman & many other articles that she does not enumerate were taken away by the robbers that night. They asked for money but could not get it as there was none in the house. Is certain the outer door was locked and

bolted when they went to bed, they broke in at the jam of the door and pushed back the lock. Thinks they were in the house about a quarter of an hour.

Sergeant Lambert was with her when she viewed the clothes at different Pawn offices in Dublin.

2nd Witness John Beady, lives at [Malhudert?] about 6 miles from Dublin, on the night of the robbery heard the voices of three men, but saw but one, he had a pistol, cannot identify him, identified his trousers which were amongst the articles carried away that night. They have been since altered into breeches and also coloured, there is a mark, 4 little cracks which enables him to identify them. The trousers were brought by Constable Luke Pender. The coat also he identifies as part of the property stolen, he got it at the Pawn office in Corn Market next morning.

3rd Witness Luke Pender [*indecipherable few words*] prisoner Owen Kennedy the night of the 9th October at Island Street, a person was with him not now on trial, witness went up to him in the street told him he arrested him for felony, he resisted, dragged – forcibly his wife assisting him, witness followed to his lodgings, searched them, found no arms, but found some gun powder which he said he got in the park, witness got some duplicates from another constable No 71 there are 13 in all. The prisoner Margaret claimed them all as hers. One of these was the duplicate of the trousers, this was dated 3rd of October –

Edward Cottingham Esq Magistrate of the County of Dublin 4th Witness On the 21st of October was at the Police office found the prisoner Owen Kennedy there and committed him to Kilmainham on the charge of Constable Pender respecting this robbery, on the 28th October was sent for to go to Kilmainham, saw the prisoner Owen Kennedy, who, after being duly warned against saying anything to criminate himself & fully aware of the consequences admitted he was at Beady's robbery & admitted fully to pawning the trousers. This was the case of the crown. The prisoner called no witnesses. The Jury found Margaret Kennedy not guilty, and found the prisoner Owen Kennedy guilty – on which I pronounced sentence against him of transportation for life –

It had appeared in the course of the commission, on the [statement?] of magistrates, and otherwise, that the offence of burglary and stealing had for a considerable time back become very frequent in the County of Dublin.- The offences generally committed on the houses and families of small farmers by gangs of armed persons. The houses broken open in the middle of the night & the inmates indiscriminately robbed, these gangs were for the most part composed of Dublin rogues. The plots formed in Dublin, and executed in the country, & the goods plundered immediately disposed of amongst the low Pawn brokers in Dublin. For these reasons and as it appeared on the crown book that another bill of indictment for another burglary & robbery committed on the 8th of August in the house of one Dooley at Belgard in the County of Dublin was found against the same Owen Kennedy at the same commission which [...] to find it still undisposed of. I with the concurrence of Judge Jackson, who sat with me in the commission, sentenced Owen Kennedy as before mentioned, considering that the putting a stop to these depredations would have a [...tary] effect.

I remain Sir your ob^t Serv^t

Edward Pennefather

Edward Lucas Esq

Chief Secretary's Office
Dublin Castle

The Humble Petition of Margaret Kennedy and her four helpless children

May it please your Excellency, Earl De Grey,

The humble Petitioner begs for Respite of her husband's Sentence who is now lying in Kilmainham Gaol under sentence of transportation for life which will be the cause of leaving herself and four helpless children without a Father; to starve on the world, knowing the humanity that lyes in your Excellency Breast, the humble Petitioners throw themselves on your Excellency Mercy that if you would mitigate the sentence of Owen Kennedy they will be in duty Bound to offer up their prayers to they(sic) Great God for your Ellency (sic) welfare here and hereafter

Signed by the following Gentlemen
In behalf of Owen Kennedy

(no signatures)

Ellen Cronin

Launceston Examiner Tuesday 18 October 1859 page 2

HORRIBLE MURDER NEAR GLEN DHU. This morning about half-past six o'clock the dead body of a woman was discovered lying on the Westbury road just above Glen Dhu under circumstances which leave no doubt that a foul murder had been perpetrated, as the throat was cut and the body lying in a pool of blood whilst the ground around bore marks of struggle having taken place. The name of the unfortunate deceased is Ellen Gibson, and she was only discharged from custody yesterday morning at the Police Office, having been apprehended on a charge of drunkenness. The body has been removed to the Brick makers' Arms to await the inquest. The husband of the deceased has been taken into custody on suspicion.

Launceston Examiner Wednesday 19 October 1859 page 5

DOMESTIC INTELLIGENCE.

BRUTAL MURDER ON THE SAND HILL, About six o'clock yesterday morning Mr R H Hawkins, assistant at Mr Henry Bennett's. was taking a morning ride to the top of the Sandhill, when on the main road and about a hundred yards past the turn to Westbury road, he saw what he at first supposed to be a bundle of clothing lying on the road side. On approaching close to it however, he discovered that it was the body of a woman with the throat cut. He immediately drove back to town and gave information to the Police. Who at

once recognised the body as that of Ellen Gibson, who was apprehended on Saturday for drunkenness, and who was discharged on Sunday morning, as she promised amendment and had been locked up all day on Sunday. The husband of deceased was at once arrested, but suspicion does not rest upon him, but upon another man who waited outside the Police Office for the woman on Monday morning, and who was seen in her company late on the same night. The body must have been dead several hours when discovered yesterday morning. The body was removed to the Brickmaker's Arms to await an inquest which will be held today.

Launceston Examiner 25 October 1859 page 2

THE MURDER ON THE SAND HILL. The inquest in the case of the late Ellen Gibson, found murdered on the Sand Hill, was resumed yesterday afternoon at 2 o'clock.

Henry Baker was present during the proceedings in custody in prison clothing. The husband of the deceased was also present in custody.

Dr. Miller was sworn, and his former evidence read over. A clasp knife was shown him, and he gave it as his opinion that it would produce such a wound as he had described if considerable force were used. A shirt, a sleeve waistcoat, a pair of trowsers, and a pair of boots were shown to the doctor, bearing marks which he stated he believed to be blood marks. The marks on the waistcoat and shirt were on the right sleeves, and the marks on the trowsers were on the inside of the flap and the bottom of the right leg. The boots produced would be likely to cause a wound by means of a kick on the part of the body described in the evidence.

Mr. Wm. Cleveland's evidence was also read over to the prisoner; also that of Mr. Robert Hewitt Hawkins. The last named witness said that he noticed marks about the spot where the body was found such as would be produced by boots like those produced. [They were very heavily nailed.] In one place a person wearing such boots appeared to have attempted to go upon the bank and slipped back. James Brydie (on the jury), general dealer, Sand Hill, sworn-I know Henry Baker now present; have seen him about twice in the year for the last three years; after missing him for about six months I saw him last Monday morning about ten o'clock; he was alone; he had his "kit" with him; he asked me to allow him to leave his bundle for a day or so; before leaving the shop he had a glass of ginger beer, and asked for three-penny worth of peppermint lozenges; he went away and came again on Wednesday forenoon; he asked me if I would lend him a shilling; I refused; he said he had money to take-that I had the things, and that he was sure to pay me; I then lent him a shilling; I saw nothing more of him until he was brought to me by the police on the following day (Thursday); I was asked if I had a bundle belonging to the prisoner; the bundle was opened in the prisoner's presence; it contained shirts and a pair of old boots; the peppermint lozenges sold by me to the prisoner were small and thick like those produced.

By the prisoner-You left the bundle on Monday in the forenoon, about ten o'clock. By a juror-I am quite sure the prisoner is the man; he lodged with a tenant of mine formerly.

Samuel Hopkins, sworn: On Tuesday morning, about 7 o'clock, the dead body of a woman was brought to this house (the "Brickmakers' Arms"); I knew the body, but not the name, of the deceased; I had seen her here at about a quarter past eight o'clock on the previous evening (Monday); she came in by herself; there was only one man present in the bar; she had a glass of ale; she remained about half an hour; she left with the man who was in the bar; the prisoner is that man; I am positive as to the identity of the man; he had come into the bar that evening; after he left with the woman I saw him again in about half or three-quarters of an hour; the woman did not come back with him; he stopped in the bar till about a quarter to ten; he had on a dark rough coat and a billycock hat; I am not certain about his

trousers; he had heavy boots on; when he came back he called for a pint of ale; he was sober on both occasions when I saw him; the woman was partially drunk.

By a juror: I saw no bundle with the prisoner.

Mrs. Elizabeth Hopkins (wife of the last witness), sworn: I know the prisoner as a customer for some months; he was in this house last Monday night; whilst he was here a woman came in; I missed both from the bar before nine o'clock; in about half an hour the man returned alone; I believe the deceased was the woman who was in the bar with the prisoner, by her dress; the prisoner on that night paid me a shilling he had owed me for some time.

By a juror-When the prisoner returned I served him with a pint of ale for which he paid me.

Wm. Cresswood sworn-I am in the service of John Oakley, a cow-keeper at Hampdon Vale; I know the prisoner by sight; I was in this house on last Monday evening about nine o'clock; I saw the prisoner there; I had some conversation with him; I asked him where he was staying; he said he did not know where he was going to stay that night; the prisoner wore a black billycock hat; I was sober; I think Baker was sober also; I knew the prisoner because we had both been in the service of Mr. Sheridan on the George Town Road.

By the foreman-I have known the prisoner two or three years. The prisoner was then removed and clothed in the dress he had on when apprehended.

James Birmingham sworn-I reside near here; I knew a woman named Ellen Gibson; I saw her on Monday evening between eight and nine o'clock; she was coming out of this public house; there was a man along with her; they were going towards the main road; he was taking liberties with her; she called out "Come, drop that, I won't have it;" she said she would go up the road a bit with him; I saw no more of them; I did not know the man; he had something dark on and a black wideawake hat; I did not hear him speak; I know the husband of Ellen Gibson [now present]; I can't swear to the prisoner as being the man who was with Ellen Gibson; I was about ten yards off from them.

By a Juror.-The words of the woman were the last I heard.

Johnson Davison sworn.-I live in Melbourne street near the Sand Hill; I was going along with my cattle about six o'clock on Tuesday morning when I saw some female dress lying on the right side of the road; I found it was a dead woman; I called to a person who was driving up the Westbury Road in his gig; he would not come back, and told me to report it to the police; the place was about forty yards up the Westbury Road; I called to a person at Mr. Brydie's shop; in the mean time a hawker came up to the spot where the body lay; I poked over a piece of rag, and a shilling rolled out of it, which I gave to the police.

Edward North sworn.-I reside at King's Meadows, where I keep a small shop; about nine o'clock last Tuesday morning the prisoner came to my shop and asked if I had any blue colored shirts; I said I had, and the price 3s.; he bought one, and put it under his arm; he had a dark coarse cloth coat and a dark billycock hat; I think his trousers were dark mole skin; his boots appeared to be heavy; when he came to my shop he was coming from town, and when he left he went towards Franklin Village; he tendered me a sovereign for the shirt, and I gave him the full change in mistake; I followed him, and he gave me the silver back, and I counted him 17s.; I noticed his dress as he was leaving, because I thought he might have given me a bad sovereign; he had a down look with him; he appeared in trouble; his manner was hurried and suspicious; I looked after him as he was going along the road; he looked back at me; from his general appearance I am sure prisoner is the man; the new shirt (produced from my shop) is from the same bundle and bears the same mark as the one I sold the prisoner. [Shirt found on the prisoner produced.] The pencil mark is also same as my shirts had on them; I believe this is the shirt I sold the prisoner.

Mr. Robert Hewitt Hawkins was recalled to prove that the two shirts produced, though differing in some respects, were from his knowledge of the trade out of the same dozen, and belonging to the same series of numbers.

Constable John Brown, of the Rural Police, and stationed at Young Town, beyond King's Meadows, sworn-Between six and seven o'clock on Friday evening I went into the bush about 200 yards from my station; between 30 and 40 yards from the main road I found a blue striped shirt (produced); it bore the blood marks now upon it; it was wet; there had been rain the night before ; the freshness of the stains was in part destroyed; the marks were fresher than they are now; the place where I found the shirt was just over the Saw Pit Hill; [the shirt was the one bearing marks of blood previously described]; the shirt was spread out upon the ground.

Detective Constable Seabridge sworn - The boots produced were handed to me by the Superintendent on Thursday afternoon to see if I could find any traces of foot marks; I had noticed footprints on the Tuesday morning when the murder was discovered; on comparing the boots with the marks on the ground where the body was found I found five foot prints which exactly corresponded, both right and left feet; I should call the nails in the boots diamond nails; [the heads of the nails in the boots produced were unusually large]; I called a person named Leslie to examine the foot prints; he did so; four impressions were within two feet of a spot which showed marks of blood; I tried the boots where there appeared to have been a slipping of the person's foot down the bank; the marks corresponded; I searched the clothes of the murdered woman and in her pocket I found some peppermint drops similar to those produced here to-day; I was sent out by the Superintendent to King's Meadows to the place where the shirt was found to see if I could find any tracks: it was a difficult place to find marks but I noticed two which corresponded at the heel and tip, but there was no impression of the sole.

James Leslie was sworn and gave similar evidence respecting the footprints.

Mr. James O'Connor, Superintendent of Municipal Police, sworn-About half-past ten o'clock on Thursday last I took Serjeant Rose with me and proceeded to Mr. Stephens on the Hobart Town road near Mr. Cleveland's; we made enquiries respecting the murder of Ellen Gibson, which had taken place on the previous Monday evening; after some conversation we were about to return to town when the prisoner came past; we turned round, when Serjeant Rose said to me "that looks something like the billycock"; I said, "wait a bit"; I then stepped up to the prisoner and said -" Well, my lad: where are you going?" [We were then looking after another man.] I asked him if he was looking for work -he said no; I asked him -" Where do you come from?" he replied "from the Mersey"; " When? I asked him; he answered "on Monday, in the Titania"; I asked him where he had been drinking; he said "there (pointing to this house), and, gave, a glass to a woman"; I had not spoken of any woman; I asked him where his coat was; he said the never had one. I then told him I apprehended him for the wilful murder of Ellen Gibson; he made no reply; I asked him if he had any kit; he said he had a bundle at Mr. Brydie's; I then took him to where the woman was murdered and showed him the blood; he looked at it for a few moments-turned his head on one side-and said " Oh is that where she was murdered"? We proceeded to Mr. Brydie's; Mr. B. at once identified the prisoner as the man who had left the bundle there on the previous Monday; he produced the bundle; the prisoner said it was his; it contained several check shirts, moleskin trousers, and boots (produced); whilst Sergeant Rose was looking over the bundle the prisoner picked up a razor which was along with the things and said, "Mind, that is my razor;" we then came with the prisoner to this house (the Brickmakers' Arms) ; Mr. Hopkins identified the prisoner; on reaching the station house I stripped the prisoner and took from his person the clothes which I now produce; the black billycock hat, the sleeve waistcoat with this mark on the lining of the right sleeve, much brighter than it is now, and which I believe to be blood; I showed the mark

to the prisoner, who said, "Oh, I must have got it at Mr. Reid's;" I produce these trousers which have a mark on the inner part of the flap which I also believe to be blood; the prisoner said nothing; I produce his boots which also had soils which I believe to be blood. [These were the prisoner's boots with the large nails described by the detective, Seabridge,] This knife (the one shown to Dr. Miller) was taken from the prisoner; it had apparently been recently cleaned; I received this shirt (produced) from Constable Brown of the Rural Police; the mark of blood on the sleeve corresponds with the mark on the sleeve of the waistcoat; the other man suspected of the murder was called "Deaffy," and wore a black billy cock hat.

Jesse Gibson, of Eardley-street, having been discharged from custody, was sworn, and stated he was the husband of the deceased, who was about thirty-five years of age; she was free by servitude for several years; last saw her alive between six or seven o'clock on Monday evening last; she was taking a glass at Carter's public house; I was wishing to get her home; she would not come; she followed after me, but I would not speak to her, and never afterwards saw her alive; did not know the prisoner. This closed the evidence, and The Coroner told the jury there was no doubt that a wilful murder had been committed; it was for them to say whether on the evidence the prisoner Henry Baker was the man who had committed the crime.

The jury having consulted for a few, minutes, returned a verdict of wilful murder against the prisoner Henry Baker, who was thereupon committed on the Coroner's warrant to take his trial. The proceedings terminated shortly before 7 o'clock.

Hobart Town Mercury 9 February 1860 page 2

EXECUTION.-Henry Baker, convicted at the last criminal sittings, at Launceston, of the wilful murder of Ellen Gibson, on the Sandhill, was executed this morning within the gaol. Baker was attended in his last moments by the Rev. F. Hales, who has been most assiduous in his attentions to the unhappy man. At the door of the condemned cell Mr. Hales stated that Baker had confessed to having committed the crime for which he was about to suffer, and I trusted that God would forgive him. After hanging the usual time, the body was cut down and handed over for dissection.-Examiner.

Sally McDonagh

The Mercury Friday 10 June 1870

INQUEST.

An inquest was held yesterday afternoon, before A. B. Jones, Esq., Coroner, at Allen's, Royal Exchange Hotel, on the body of Sally Fanning, aged 72 years, who died in the General Hospital on Monday last.

The jury having viewed the body, the following evidence was taken:

Thomas Hales, sworn, said the deceased and himself had lived together for six months as man and wife. On Sunday night last they both got drunk, and witness, waking up during the night, found that the deceased was not in bed with him. Sang out her name, but as he received no answer, he got out of bed to look for her. He then found her lying on the ground, and as she did not speak in answer to his questions, but continued to breathe very hard, he ran out, and called in Euphemia Adams, who lived next door, after which he went and bought a gill of

rum thinking it would do her good. Witness warmed the rum und then, with the aid of Mrs. Adams gave the deceased a few spoonful, after which she seemed to revive a little. Witness knew nothing more about the affair, because he then left the place, and indulged in liquor at five or six public-houses and did not return till three or four o'clock in the afternoon of the same day, when he found the deceased had been removed to the hospital. Witness was not sober when he came home. He had not seen the deceased from the night he was taken ill till to-day when he saw her body at the hospital. He never had a quarrel with the deceased since he had lived with her. She was a woman of very intemperate habits, and had been abandoned by her husband about three years ago. Since that time, prior to his living with her, she had lived by keeping lodgers.

To the foreman of the jury : The reason I left the house after getting the rum was because I thought there was quite enough there besides me. I was in and out several times during the morning, but I did not stay.

On being interrogated by the Coroner as to his reason for saying in the earlier part of his evidence that he did not return till the afternoon after supplying the deceased with rum, the witness replied that he did not think he said so. He was very drunk on Monday morning and did not know what he was doing. The last time he was sober before Sunday was the preceding Friday. The reason why he had not gone to the Hospital to enquire as to how the deceased was progressing was because he had been too drunk to walk out of his house.

Dr. Bright's evidence was then taken which was to the effect that after making a post mortem, examination of the body of the deceased he had come to the conclusion that the immediate cause of death was apoplexy, induced by the pouring out of blood on to the surface of the brain, which might have been caused by a fall or blow on the forehead. There were many marks of violence on various parts of the body, but witness thought they were fully five or six days old. The marks of violence on the head, which had caused the pouring out of the blood on to the brain he thought were fully four days old, but he would not like to swear that they had not been caused within twenty-four hours from the time he made the examination. The blood might have been poured out at the deceased's age without any violence, particularly as she was a woman given to intemperate habits.

Michael Synett, sworn, said he believed the deceased had been of late a woman of very intemperate habits. He believed that Hales and the deceased frequently quarrelled, but he did not know that such was the case from his own knowledge.

William Foster, sworn, stated that on Saturday afternoon he left a barrow-load of wood at the man Hales' place, when he heard Hale sing out, " You b-- wretch, I will finish you-" Witness went to the house on the Monday following, when Hales, hearing his footsteps, sang out " who's there, and what do you want ?" Witness replied that he wanted money, whereupon Hales ' replied that he had better go to deceased, who was in bed, for the money. Witness went up and spoke to her, but she did not reply, and on his trying to rouse her, he found she was insensible. Witness then went for a constable, who, with the assistance of two other constables, took her to the hospital. Never saw the man Hales strike the deceased, but had known him to threaten her. Hales was in the house when the constables took the deceased to the hospital, but he was very drunk at the time.

Euphemia Adams, a married woman, deposed that she was called in to see the deceased on Monday morning last, when she found her laying on the floor. She was quite insensible, and did not speak at all. Witness undressed her and put her to bed, and then gave her some wine which the man Halos procured for her. Witness had lived near to the deceased for about six mouths. Hales and the deceased often fought and quarrelled together when they had drunk too much liquor. It was about half-past six o'clock on Monday morning when witness was called in to see deceased. Both deceased and Hales were very drunk on Sunday, mid had been fighting together very much, but, as this was of so frequent occurrence, the neighbours did

not think it worthwhile to interfere.

Mary Middleditch, a woman living near the deceased's house, said she had never known the man Hales to ill-treat the deceased. They had often quarrelled together, but she had never seen him beat her.

Mary Loach (sworn), said the deceased and the man Hales had lived opposite her place for three weeks. She had never seen Hales ill-treat the deceased, nor had she ever said that if Mrs. Fanning died she would have Hales hung.

The jury deliberated for a few moments, after which they returned a verdict that the deceased died from the visitation of God, to wit, of apoplexy, without any violence having been used to her whatsoever.

Sudden Death.-An inquest was held at Allen's Hotel, Campbell street, yesterday afternoon, before A. B. Jones, Esq., the Coroner, to inquire into the circumstances attending the death of an old woman, named Sally Fanning, aged 72 years, who died in the hospital on Monday last. There were some half dozen witnesses examined, whose evidence showed the existence of a deplorable state of immorality amongst the class of persons to which the deceased and her paramour belonged. After three hours spent in hearing the evidence, the jury returned a verdict of "died from apoplexy".