



Cooney Family Genealogy
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Compiled by Thomas Dailey

Descendants of Michael Cooney and Ann Fitzgerald

Introductory Note

The first two generations of this genealogy are based on a letter written in 1936 by Anna Seymour to her first cousin Patrick Cooney. She was Irish but spent her adult years in England and Scotland; he was born and lived in the United States. His inquiry about the family history, prompted by his daughters' interest, brought her reply in 1936. Anna Seymour's letter is included as an appendix to this paper.

According to Anna Seymour's history, a young lady of the Fitzgerald family living at their estate, called Carton, eloped with her stable groom, a young man named Cooney. The Fitzgeralds were the most prominent noble family of Ireland and Carton was one of the great Georgian houses of the 18th century. Anna Seymour did not know the young girl's precise relationship to the Fitzgeralds but the letter recounted the Cooneys in Clonmel receiving money sent from Carton, and also told of an old "grandaunt" at Carton (whom Ann once secretly visited) giving Ann money that had been hidden away for her.

These gifts could explain the relative prosperity of the Cooneys in the following generation. For example, Ann Fitzgerald Cooney's son Thomas Cooney (c.1807-73) was trained in French as a child and his son Michael (1839-90) was an educated man, as evidenced by the elegant hand with which he signed his American naturalization document in 1874. John Cooney (1811-47) was another son of Ann Fitzgerald Cooney and he left a considerable estate. The large number of properties in Clonmel held by the the Cooneys according to *Griffith's Valuation* is further evidence of the family's prosperity in the mid-19th century.

Most every aspect of Anna Seymour's letter has been confirmed as correct. The Michael Cooney who came to America had an uncle named Michael and an aunt named Ellen; and there was a house called Farm Lodge on the Cashel Road in Clonmel where Michael Cooney (the uncle) lived until his death in 1891. Farm Lodge itself remained standing in 1989 but most of its land had by then been sold for a housing development. Given Anna Seymour's credibility, a search was undertaken for an Ann Fitzgerald of a likely age for marriage c.1805. *Burke's Genealogical and Heraldic History of the Peerage, Baronetage and Knightage* (105th edition, London, 1970, p. 1581) (hereinafter *Burke's*) listed an Anna Maria Fitzgerald but offered little further information about her. This Anna Maria is quite likely the Ann Fitzgerald of Anna Seymour's letter.

Generation One

1. MICHAEL (1) COONEY was from Kilkenny, later lived in Clonmel, and was married to Ann Fitzgerald, according to a letter dated 11 Dec 1936, written by his great granddaughter Anna Seymour to his great grandson Patrick Cooney.

According to the letter from Anna Seymour, Ann Fitzgerald was from Carton, Co. Kildare, Ireland and was of the family of the Duke of Leinster, whose surname was Fitzgerald and who were known as the Geraldines. Anna Seymour's letter told the story of the young Ann leaving Carton to elope with her stable groom, whose surname was Cooney.

According to *Burke's* (p. 1581) Anna Maria Fitzgerald was the daughter of Charles James, Lord Lecale of Ardglass. Lord Lecale, born on 30 Jun 1756, was the third son of James, 1st Duke of Leinster and 20th Earl of Kildare, and his wife, Emilia Mary, daughter of the 2nd Duke of Richmond and Lennox. Charles James Fitzgerald was a Rear-Admiral in the Royal Navy, Muster Master-General of Ireland, and a Member of Parliament (1776-1800). He was created Lord Lecale in the peerage of Ireland on 27 Dec 1800. *Burke's* did not include the name of his first wife, the mother of his two children: Henry, who was killed in action off Civita Vecchia on 14 Sep 1803; and Anna Maria, about whom no birth or death information was included. Lord Lecale married Julia, the widow of Thomas Carton, on 18 Jul 1808. Shortly after the marriage, Lord Lecale died on 18 Feb 1810 at the age of 53. His widow, Lady Lecale, died on 6 May 1844.

The Complete Peerage of England, Scotland, Ireland, Great Britain, and the United Kingdom Extant, Extinct, or Dormant by George Edward Cokayne (hereinafter Cokayne) has an entry on the Barony Lecale of Ardglass that sheds further light on the life of Charles James Fitzgerald. At the time of his 1808 marriage, he was said to have been a widower, thus establishing the prior marriage but offering no details. Lord Lecale died at Ardglass Castle and his will was proved in 1810. In a footnote, Cokayne described the arrest of Juliana, Baroness Lecale, for debt, at 23 Queen Street, Brompton on 25 Jan 1811. The officer acted on the supposition that Lady Lecale was not privileged, being an Irish baroness in England. The matter was discussed in Parliament (*The Journal of the House of Lords*, Vol. XLVIII, p. 58). Lady Lecale was 65 years of age at the time of her death at Courtlands, Devon in 1844, making her year of birth c.1779. Her will was proved in July 1844.

Burke's stated that Lord Lecale died without surviving issue (*d.s.p.s.*), whereas Cokayne held that he died without issue (*d.s.p.*). *Burke's* thus took account of Henry and Anna Maria Fitzgerald whereas Cokayne made no mention of them. It is difficult to understand *Burke's* maintaining that Lord Lecale died without surviving issue without giving the date of death of Anna Maria. Illegitimacy could be an explanation, however, the *The Annual Register, or a View of the History, Politics, and Literature, for the Year 1803*, recorded for 14 Sep 1803: "14th killed, in gallantly boarding a privateer off Civita Vecchia, the hon. Henry Fitzgerald, son of Lord Locale, brother to the duke of Leinster." (p. 519) The same report appeared in *The Gentleman's Magazine: and Historical Chronicle for the Year MDCCCIII* (V. 94). These references suggest that Henry (and by extension Anna Maria) were most likely legitimate children of Lord Lecale. This position is buttressed by Cokayne referring to Lord Lecale's having been said to have been a widower at the time of his 1808 marriage. It is possible that further information about Anna Maria Fitzgerald could be obtained from either Irish religious and civil records, or peerage publishers such as Burke and Debrett.

Based on *Burke's*, it is certain that Charles James Fitzgerald had children named Henry and Anna Maria. Charles James was born in 1756 and Henry was serving in the Royal Navy in 1803 so a birth year in the 1780s can be reasonably assumed for Henry. The genealogical links proposed in this paper rely on Henry's sister, Anna Maria, also having been born in the 1780s or possibly the early 1790s. There is a clear record of Henry's death in 1803. If *Burke's* was wrong on Anna Maria predeceasing her father, she would have been an orphaned girl aged around 20 in 1805, when she could well have been living at Carton, the ancestral seat of her father's family and the country home of her first cousin, Augustus Frederick, 3rd Duke of Leinster.

At the time of his marriage in 1808, Lord Lecale had a London residence in Clarges Street, St. George, Hanover Square. He died in 1810 at Ardglass Castle, his residence in Ireland. He was interred at Bright Parish Church, where there is a memorial plaque. Ardglass Castle is now the Ardglass Golf Club Clubhouse.

Despite Lord Lecale's having had residences in Ireland and London, the impecunious history of the Dowager Lady Lecale from 1811 suggests that she would not have had the means of supporting her late husband's surviving daughter—even had she been inclined to do so—further supporting the hypothesis that the orphaned Anna Maria was living at Carton.

Returning to Anna Seymour's letter, she was definite on the point that Ann Cooney was from Carton. Based on the Clonmel baptismal records, it is beyond doubt that Anna Seymour's story starts in the first decade of the 19th century though she did not use a specific date. The first Clonmel baptismal record for a child of Michael Cooney and Ann Fitzgerald was in June 1811, and the birth of their first child was probably a few years earlier. Nearly all other material statements in the letter have been confirmed, and it is certainly credible that an orphaned girl of uncertain future might have acted as did the young Ann described by her great-granddaughter Anna Seymour.

Finally, the repetition of the names Ann and Mary in succeeding generations should be mentioned. Thomas Cooney had a daughter named Anne Mary (b.1851) who herself had a daughter named Anna Maria (b.1881). Also, John Cooney's eldest daughter was named Mary Ann (b.1841). It is not always known whether individuals were actually called Ann or Anna, Mary or Maria. The baptismal records usually recorded names in Latin (hence Anna and Maria). Contemporary records sometimes confirm the Latin or Anglicized version being used. For example, Anna Maria Seymour (b.1881) was known as Anna and signed her letters accordingly. Her mother (b.1851) was known as Anne, which is known from a photograph of her identified by her American niece Agnes Cooney Noonan in the 1920s.

Children of Michael Cooney and Ann Fitzgerald were:

2. i. THOMAS (2) COONEY was born c.1806-07 and was probably the eldest child Michael Cooney and Ann Fitzgerald. No record of his birth or baptism has been located but he was listed as a brother of John Cooney in the latter's will, executed in 1847. From their children's baptismal records, it is clear that Thomas Cooney was

married to Bridget Power. Thomas Cooney died on Cashel Road, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary, Ireland, a widower, age 66, on 17 Jun 1873, according to the civil death record, from which a birth year of c.1806-07 can be inferred.

3. ii. JOHN (2) COONEY was baptized (as Johannem), at St. Mary's, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary, Ireland on 22 Jun 1811, the child of Michaelis Coony and Anna Fitzgerald, with sponsors Patritis Malay and Mary Quin, and with M.D. recorded, presumably as the priest (Catholic Parish Registers, The National Library of Ireland; Dublin, Ireland; St. Mary's, Clonmel, Microfilm 02461/02, p. 94). John Cooney was married to Margaret Hogan.

iii. MICHAEL (2) COONEY was baptized (abbreviated as Mich.m) at St. Mary's, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary, Ireland on 15 Mar 1814, the child of Michaelis Coony and Anna Fitzgerald, with sponsors Gulielmo Flynn and Margarita Carroll (Catholic Parish Registers, The National Library of Ireland; Dublin, Ireland; St. Mary's, Clonmel; Microfilm 02461/02, p. 125).

Michael Cooney died in Cashel Road, Clonmel on 25 Mar 1891, according to the civil death record, which listed him as a bachelor and a farmer, age 76. The informant was his nephew Francis Cooney of Cashel St., who was in attendance. The death was registered on 8 Apr 1891. The registrar's name is indecipherable. (Superintendent Registrar's District of Clonmel, Registrar's District of Clonmel, Union of Clonmel, Co. Tipperary, No. 376) His recorded age at death was thus off by only one year in relation to the baptismal record.

According to Anna Seymour's 1936 letter, Michael Cooney lived with his spinster sister Ellen at Farm Lodge on the Cashel Road above Clonmel. He was described as having been devoted to Ellen; indeed moving from the main house to a small building on the property after her death. Anna Seymour referred to Michael Cooney as Mick.

The will of Michael Cooney of Farm Lodge, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary, Ireland, who died on 25 Mar 1891 at the same place, was proved at Waterford by Francis Cooney, a farmer, of Cashel Street,

Clonmel on 7 May 1891. The effects of Michael Cooney were valued at £684. Francis Cooney was the sole executor. All property was left to Francis Cooney of Cashel Street, Clonmel, who was required to pay £10 *per annum* to Anne Cooney, a niece of the decedent. Michael Cooney had executed the will on 28 Jun 1878. Michael Cooney's niece Anne was probably the mother of Anna Seymour (writer of the 1936 letter).

iv. CATHERINE (2) COONEY was baptized (as Cath?) at St. Mary's, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary, Ireland on 14 Dec 1816, the child of Mich. and Anna Cooney, with sponsors Mich.l Sullivan and Anna Meghar (Catholic Parish Registers, The National Library of Ireland; Dublin, Ireland; St. Mary's, Clonmel, Microfilm 02461/02, p. 161). The abbreviated version of Catherine is barely visible but the parents and sponsors names are clear. With another Catherine baptized in 1819, it is likely that this Catherine died in infancy.

v. CATHERINE (2) COONEY was baptized (as Catherina) at St. Mary's, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary, Ireland on 25 Dec 1819, the child of Michaelis Cooney and Anna Fitzgerald, with sponsor Elena or Ellena Dunn; the priest was P. Gaffney (Catholic Parish Registers, The National Library of Ireland; Dublin, Ireland; St. Mary's, Clonmel; Microfilm 02461/02, p. 204). The names of the parents (Michaelis Cooney and Anna Fitzgerald) are unusually bold and well preserved in this record. The spelling of the sponsor's Christian name is unclear; it could be Elena or Ellena.

vi. ELLEN (2) COONEY was baptized (as Elenam) at St. Mary's, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary, Ireland on 21 Nov 1821, the child of Michaelis Cooney and Anna Fitzg (name cut off since the entry is the last on a page whose edge is worn) with sponsors Michaele Cunningham and Maria Brien. The priest's names is illegible (Catholic Parish Registers, The National Library of Ireland, Dublin, Ireland; St. Mary's, Clonmel; Microfilm 02461/02, p. 229).

There is an Ellen Cooney whose death was recorded in Clonmel in the October-November-December quarter of 1889, at age 73 (Vol. 4, Page 377, FHL Film No. 101595). The year of birth of this person should have been c.1816, making this death record off by five

years. Nevertheless, the death of Ellen Cooney in 1889 makes sense in light of the recollections of Anna Seymour of her uncle Michael (Mick) surviving his sister Ellen and also about the rich fabrics of Ellen's dresses being used for costumes for Anna's dolls. Consequently, this is almost surely the spinster Ellen Cooney who lived with her bachelor brother Michael (Mick) at Farm Lodge, Clonmel, according to Anna Seymour's 1936 letter.

According to Anna Seymour's letter, Ellen was sent at a young age to a boarding school run by a former governess of her mother's. Ellen was known for being steeped in the Geraldine (Fitzgerald) family tradition and was herself a talented seamstress and always richly dressed.

Ellen Cooney is quite possibly the younger lady (to the left) in a mid-19th century ambrotype in the collection of the American Antiquarian Society (AAS Item O). The ambrotype descended in the family of Michael Cooney (1839-90), who emigrated to America in 1863 and was said (in Anna Seymour's 1936 letter) to have been Ellen's favorite in the family. His having been her favorite further supports the belief that he would have had her photograph and that the lady to the left in the ambrotype is indeed Ellen Cooney.

It is noteworthy that none of the baptismal sponsors of the Cooney children was named Cooney or Fitzgerald, making it likely that neither parent was a native of Clonmel, thus lending further credence to Anna Seymour's story.

Generation Two

2. THOMAS (2) COONEY was born c.1807 and was probably the eldest child of Michael Cooney and Ann Fitzgerald. No record of his birth or baptism has been located but Thomas Cooney was listed as a brother of John Cooney in the latter's will, executed in 1847. Thomas Cooney died on Cashel Road, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary, Ireland, a widower, age 66, on 17 Jun 1873, according to the civil death record (Ireland, Civil Registration Death Index, 1864-1958, Vol. 9, Page 482, FHL Film No. 101586), from which a birth year of c.1806-07 can be inferred. The informant was Michael Cooney of Cashel Road (presumably the decedent's brother since his son Michael had emigrated to America in 1863). Farm Lodge was located on the Cashel Road and was probably the residence of Thomas Cooney.

Griffith's Valuation listed a large number of properties in Clonmel held by Michael and Thomas Cooney.

Based on the baptismal records of their children and the marriage record of their son Michael, it is clear that Thomas Cooney was married to Bridget Power though the marriage record has not been located.

Bridget Power, daughter of Lawrence Power and a mother with the surname Murray, was baptized in Fethard, Co. Tipperary, Ireland on 21 Jul 1810 (Catholic Parish Registers, The National Library of Ireland; Dublin, Ireland; Fethard; Microfilm 02504/04, p. 29). Anna Seymour's 1936 letter to Patrick Cooney told of their grandfather Thomas Cooney having been sent as a child the seven miles from Clonmel to Fethard in order to learn French. It is possible that the young student of French might have met his future wife on one of these visits to Fethard.

There is a mid-19th century ambrotype with two ladies in the collection of the American Antiquarian Society (AAS Item O). The elder lady (to the right) is possibly Bridget Power Cooney. The ambrotype descended in the family of Michael Cooney (1839-90), who emigrated to America in 1863, and it is likely that he brought a photograph of his mother.

At his death in 1873, Thomas Cooney was a widower. It is possible that the Bridget Cooney who died in Clonmel in 1867 had been his wife. The 1867 death registration district was Clonmel. (Ireland, Civil Registration Death Index, 1864-1958, Vol. 19, Page 355, FHL Film No. 101583). However, Bridget Cooney's age at death was given as 70, from which a birth year of c.1796-97 can be inferred, which is highly unlikely if her baptism was in Fethard in 1810 and with a childbirth in 1852. The 1867 record may be a case of misstatement of age, especially since her presumed husband has an inferred birth year of c.1806-07 and it is unlikely that his wife would have been ten years his senior. It is also possible that the 1867 death is for another Bridget Cooney.

Michael Cooney, the eldest child of Thomas and Bridget Power Cooney, was married in Northampton, Massachusetts to Margaret McGrath, who was born in Fethard, Co. Tipperary, Ireland in 1841. Both Michael Cooney and Margaret McGrath had mothers with the maiden name Power so they might have been cousins on the maternal side.

Children of Thomas Cooney and Bridget Power were:

4. i. MICHAEL (3) COONEY was baptized (as Michael) at Ss. Peter and Paul, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary, Ireland on 13 Oct 1839, the child of Thomas Cooney and Brigida Power, with sponsors Patricius Cantwell and Anna Fitzgerald, and with Patricius Cantwell recorded as the priest (p. 51 of the original register) (Catholic Parish Registers, The National Library of Ireland; Dublin, Ireland; Ss Peter and Paul, Clonmel; Microfilm 02463/01, p. 54). The male sponsor was also the priest and the female sponsor was probably the paternal grandmother. If the sponsor Anna Fitzgerald was indeed the grandmother, it would be notable since Anna Seymour's letter described Michael Cooney's father (Thomas) as being particularly devoted to his own mother so he might well have made the unusual selection of her as sponsor for his first child.

Michael Cooney was married to Margaret McGrath.

ii. JOHN (3) COONEY was baptized (as Joannes) at Ss. Peter and Paul, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary, Ireland on 15 Apr 1841, the child of Thomas Cooney and Brigida Power, with sponsors Joannes Cooney and Ellena Cooney (probably uncle and aunt, respectively), and with Joannes Mullins recorded as the priest (p. 72 of the original register) (Catholic Parish Registers, The National Library of Ireland; Dublin, Ireland; Ss Peter and Paul, Clonmel, Microfilm 02463/01, p. 75).

A John Cooney was married to Mary Keily at Ss. Peter and Paul, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary, Ireland on 8 Oct 1870. Further research is needed to determine if this John Cooney was Thomas Cooney's son.

iii. THOMAS (3) COONEY was baptized at Ss. Peter and Paul, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary, Ireland on 3 Sep 1842, the child of Thomas Cooney and Brigida Power, with sponsors Michael Cooney (probably an uncle) and Margarita Power, and with Joannes Power recorded as the priest (p. 90 of the original register)(Catholic Parish Registers, The National Library of Ireland; Dublin, Ireland; Ss Peter and Paul, Clonmel; Microfilm 02463/01, p. 93).

It is possible that Thomas Cooney immigrated to or visited America since a Thomas Cooney witnessed the marriage of Michael Cooney and Margaret McGrath in Northampton, Massachusetts in 1865.

iv. JOSEPH (3) COONEY was baptized (as Josephus) at Ss. Peter and Paul, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary, Ireland on 18 Feb 1844, the child of Thomas Cooney and Brigida Power, with sponsors Joannes Cooney (probably an uncle) and Margarita Cooney (probably the uncle's wife), and with Robertus Henbry recorded as the priest (p. 112 of the original register) (Catholic Parish Registers, The National Library of Ireland; Dublin, Ireland; Ss Peter and Paul, Clonmel; Microfilm 02463/01, p. 115).

v. BERNARD (3) COONEY was baptized (as Bernardus) at Ss. Peter and Paul, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary, Ireland on 30 Aug 1846, the child of Thomas Cooney and Brigida Power, with sponsors Patritius Power and Maria Donohoe, and with Robertus Henebry recorded as the priest (p. 148 of the original register) (Catholic Parish Registers, The National Library of Ireland; Dublin, Ireland; Ss Peter and Paul, Clonmel; Microfilm 02463/01, p. 153).

It is possible that Bernard Cooney immigrated to or visited America since a Bernard Cooney was a baptismal sponsor for Thomas F. Cooney in Northampton, Massachusetts in 1871.

vi. PATRICK JOSEPH (3) COONEY was baptized (as Patritium Josephum) at Powerstown, Co. Tipperary, Ireland on 24 Mar 1850, the child of Thomas Cooney and Brigidda Power, with sponsors Michaele Cooney (probably an uncle) and Anastasia Neagle (Catholic Parish Registers, The National Library of Ireland; Dublin, Ireland; Powerstown; Microfilm 02455/02, p. 28). Though this baptism did not take place at Ss. Peter and Paul, Clonmel, as with the other children of this family, the parents' names as well as the year 1850 falling between the births of Bernard in 1846 and Anne in 1851 strongly suggest that this child belonged to the same family. It is also noteworthy that the eldest son of this family (Michael) later named his own eldest son Patrick Joseph. It is probable that the Cooney family had moved to Powerstown (which borders Clonmel) at the time of the 1850 birth.

A Patrick Cooney was married to Anna Kelly at Ss. Peter and Paul, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary, Ireland on 10 Feb 1880. One of the witnesses was Mary Cooney. Further research is needed to determine if this Patrick Cooney was Thomas Cooney's son.

5. vii. ANNE MARY (3) COONEY was baptized (as Anna Maria) at Ss. Peter and Paul, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary, Ireland on 30 Mar 1851, the child of Thomas Cooney and Brigida Power, with sponsors Joannes Power and Ellena Cantwell, and with Petrus O'Connor recorded as the priest (p. 198 of the original register) (Catholic Parish Registers, The National Library of Ireland; Dublin, Ireland; Ss Peter and Paul, Clonmel; Microfilm 02463/01, p. 204).

Anne Mary Cooney was married firstly to John Francis Buckley and secondly to Henry Seymour.

viii. FRANCIS (3) COONEY was baptized (as Franciscus) at Ss. Peter and Paul, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary, Ireland on 3 Apr 1852, the child of Thomas Cooney and Brigida Power, with sponsors Joannes Cooney (probably an uncle) and Marianna Cooney, and with Joannes Power as the priest (p. 209 of the original register) (Catholic Parish Registers, The National Library of Ireland; Dublin, Ireland; Ss Peter and Paul, Clonmel; Microfilm 02463/01, p. 215).

Francis Cooney was the executor of the estate of his uncle Michael Cooney (1814-91), who died on 25 Mar 1891. In the estate documents, Francis Cooney was described as a farmer of Cashel Street, Clonmel. All of the property was left to Francis Cooney, who was required to pay £10 *per annum* to Anne Cooney, a niece of the decedent (and most likely the sister of Francis and the mother of Anna Seymour).

Francis Cooney (age 50, head of family, male, single, Roman Catholic, born in Clonmel, profession landlord) was recorded in the 1911 Census of Ireland at 2 Cashel Street, Clonmel, West Urban, Tipperary, residing with his sister Annie Seymore (age 48, sister, female, married 27 years, Roman Catholic, born in Clonmel, four children born alive, of whom one living), and a servant named Anastasia Alyward (age 80, female, Roman Catholic, servant).

Francis Cooney died at 2 Cashel Street, Clonmel on 17 May 1922, according to the civil death record, which listed him as a bachelor and a farmer, age 66; there was no medical attendant. The informant was his niece A. N. Seymour of 61 Radcliffe Road, London. The death was registered on 25 May 1922; the registrar was P. J. O'Brien. (Superintendent Registrar's District Clonmel, Registrar's District Clonmel No. 1, 1922, No. 394) Francis Cooney's death was mentioned in a 1931 letter from Anna Seymour to her cousin Patrick J. Cooney written at the time of her mother's death in 1931.

Francis Cooney was called Frank. It is noteworthy that Patrick Cooney (1869-1943) visited Ireland in 1906, during which trip he would surely have met his uncle Frank Cooney. Patrick Cooney's only son was born two years later in 1908 and was named Frank, perhaps after his great uncle.

3. JOHN (2) COONEY was baptized (as Johannem), the child of Michaelis Coony and Anna Fitzgerald, at St. Mary's, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary, Ireland on 22 Jun 1811, with sponsors Patritis Malay and Mary Quin, and with M.D. recorded, presumably as the priest (Catholic Parish Registers, The National Library of Ireland; Dublin, Ireland; St. Mary's, Clonmel; Microfilm 02461/02, p. 94).

John (as Joannes) Cooney was married to Margaret (as Margarita) Hogan at Ss. Peter and Paul, Clonmel on 7 Jun 1840, in the presence of Johanna Nowlan, and with Joannes Power officiating as the priest (p. 14 in the original register) (Catholic Parish Registers, The National Library of Ireland; Dublin, Ireland; Ss Peter and Paul, Clonmel; Microfilm 02463/03, p. 18).

John Cooney died on 16 May 1847. His will was proved at Waterford by Thomas Cooney, a Clonmel builder, on 12 Mar 1862. Thomas Cooney was one of the executors. John Cooney's estate included £30 sterling in the Clonmel Savings Bank and £20 promised by his brother Thomas to John's eldest daughter, Mary Anne, to be given to her upon marriage, as well as houses in Queen Street and Cashel Street, Clonmel to be used as a residence for his family. Rents were to be received by his brothers Thomas and Michael and to be used for his children—Mary Anne, William, Michael, Thomas, and John. His wife, Margaret, and his children were to be placed under the guardianship of Thomas and Michael Cooney. The executors named were Thomas Cooney, a merchant, and Michael Cooney, a builder. The will

was executed at Clonmel on 15 May 1847, one day before John Cooney's death. One of the witnesses was a surgeon. In 1862, Thomas Cooney was named the sole executor.

Griffith's Valuation listed a number of houses in Queen Street, Clonmel held by John Cooney; these will have been the houses mentioned in his will. *Griffith's Valuation* also listed a large number of properties in Clonmel held by Michael and Thomas Cooney. All together, *Griffith's Valuation* listed nearly 40 holdings of John, Thomas, and Michael Cooney in Cashel Street and Queen Street in Clonmel.

The Margaret Hogan who was married to John Cooney was most likely the one baptized at St. Mary's, Clonmel on 12 Jan 1817. She was the daughter of William Hogan and Margaret Egan and was baptized with sponsors Richard Dalton and Mary Luther. Margaret Cooney died on 4 May 1895, as described below. There were six baptisms of a Margaret Hogan at St. Mary's, Clonmel between 1810 and 1824. The most likely to have been married to John Cooney, based on the 1895 death record from which there is a discrepancy of only one year, was the Margaret Hogan baptized on 12 Jan 1817. She was the daughter of William Hogan and Margaret Egan and was baptized with sponsors Richard Dalton and Mary Luther. Another Margaret Hogan was baptized on 11 May 1823. The age at death, however, would have been off by five years for this woman to have died in 1895.

Margaret Cooney died on 4 May 1895 at Main Guard, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary, according to the civil death record, which described her as a 77 year old widow and a gentlewoman. The informant was Margaret Mcgrath of Queen's Lane, present at death. The death was registered on 25 May 1895; the registrar's name is indecipherable. (Superintendent Registrar's District of Clonmel, Registrar's District of Clonmel, Union of Clonmel, Co. Tipperary, No. 33)

Children of John Cooney and Margaret Hogan were:

- i. MARY ANN (3) COONEY was baptized (as Maria Anna) at Ss. Peter and Paul, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary, Ireland on 18 Feb 1841, the child of Joannes Cooney and Margarita Hogan, with sponsors Thomas Coony and Johanna Ryan, and with Joannes Mullins recorded as the priest (p. 70 in the original register) (Catholic Parish Registers, The National Library of Ireland; Dublin, Ireland; Ss Peter and Paul, Clonmel; Microfilm 02463/01, p. 73).

A Marianne Cooney was married to Cornelius Halloran at Ss. Peter and Paul, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary, Ireland on 27 Jun 1875. One of the witnesses was Francis Cooney. Further research is needed to determine if this Marianne Cooney was John Cooney's daughter.

ii. WILLIAM (3) COONEY was baptized (as Guililmus) at Ss. Peter and Paul, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary, Ireland on 3 Jul 1842, the child of Joannes Coony and Margarita Hogan, with sponsors Thomas Hogan and Brigida Coony, and with Joannes Mullins recorded as the priest (p. 88 in the original register) (Catholic Parish Registers, The National Library of Ireland; Dublin, Ireland; Ss Peter and Paul, Clonmel; Microfilm 02463/01, p. 91).

On 2 Apr 1884, Thomas Cooney, a Clonmel grocer, was granted letters of administration under the estate of William Cooney, a Tipperary pawnbroker who had died on 10 Dec 1883 at Cahir. The value of the estate was £2,302, 3 shillings, and 6 pence. Further research is required to determine whether this William Cooney was John Cooney's son born in 1842.

iii. MICHAEL (3) COONEY was baptized at Ss. Peter and Paul, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary, Ireland on 14 Jan 1844, the child of Joannes Cooney and Margarita Hogan, with sponsors Michael Cooney (probably an uncle) and Margarita Savage, and with Patricius D. Bourke recorded as the priest. (p. 110 in the original register) (Catholic Parish Registers, The National Library of Ireland; Dublin, Ireland; Ss Peter and Paul, Clonmel; Microfilm 02463/01, p. 113).

6. iv. THOMAS (3) COONEY was baptized at Ss. Peter and Paul, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary, Ireland on 22 Mar 1846, the child of Joannes Cooney and Margarita Hogan, with sponsors Thomas Hogan and Ellena Cooney (probably an aunt), and with Patricius D. Bourke recorded as the priest (p. 141 in the original register) (Catholic Parish Registers, The National Library of Ireland; Dublin, Ireland; Ss Peter and Paul, Clonmel; Microfilm 02463/01, p. 146). Thomas Cooney was married to Johanna Mara.

v. JOHN (3) COONEY was baptized (as Joannes) at Ss. Peter and Paul, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary, Ireland, on 2 May 1847, the child

of Joannes Cooney and Marg.ta Hogan, with sponsors Michael Cooney and Maria Anna Cooney, and with Robertus Henebry recorded as the priest (p. 156 in the original register) (Catholic Parish Registers, The National Library of Ireland; Dublin, Ireland; Ss Peter and Paul, Clonmel; Microfilm 02463/01, p. 161).

There is a record for a John Cooney, an iron monger, age 23, and Catherine O'Brien, a spinster, age 35, being married at Ss. Peter and Paul, Clonmel, on 4 Feb 1869. The groom's father was also John Cooney and his profession given as a builder. In the religious record, the male witness was recorded as Thomas Horgan but that may have been a misspelling of Hogan (which was John Cooney's mother's maiden name) (Catholic Parish Registers, The National Library of Ireland; Dublin, Ireland; Ss Peter and Paul, Clonmel, Microfilm 02463/03, p. 146). The groom's age is off by two years in relation to the baptismal record but his father being named John Cooney; the father's profession being a builder (likely the profession of the elder John Cooney given the number of houses he held); and a witness named Horgan (possibly a misspelling of Hogan), the evidence is quite strong that the groom in 1869 marriage was the son of John Cooney and Margaret Hogan.

It should be noted that there is also a John Cooney who was married to Mary Keily at Ss. Peter and Paul, Clonmel on 8 Oct 1870. Given the evidence for the 1869 marriage, however, it is more likely that the 1870 marriage was of the John Cooney whose parents were Thomas Cooney and Bridget Power.

Generation Three

4. MICHAEL (3) COONEY was baptized (as Michael) at Ss. Peter and Paul, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary, Ireland on 13 Oct 1839, the child of Thomas Cooney and Brigida Power, with sponsors Patricius Cantwell and Anna Fitzgerald, and with Patricius Cantwell recorded as the priest (p. 51 of the original register) (Catholic Parish Registers, The National Library of Ireland; Dublin, Ireland; Ss Peter and Paul, Clonmel; Microfilm 02463/01, p. 54). The male sponsor was also the priest and the female sponsor was probably the paternal grandmother. If the sponsor Anna Fitzgerald was indeed the grandmother, it would be notable since Anna Seymour's letter described Michael Cooney's father (Thomas) as being particularly

devoted to his own mother so he might well have made the unusual selection of her as sponsor for his first child.

A 24-year old named Michael Cooney arrived at the Port of New York on 27 Jun 1863 aboard the *Calhoun*.

Michael Cooney was married to Margaret McGrath in Northampton, Massachusetts on 19 Feb 1865. The Northampton civil record listed Michael Cooney as a machinist, age 25, born in Ireland, residing in Williamsburg [Massachusetts], and his parents as Thomas and Bridget Cooney; and Margaret McGrath as age 21, born in Ireland, residing in Williamsburg [Massachusetts], and her parents as Patrick and Mary. The civil record also stated that the marriage was the first for both groom and bride and that the ceremony was performed by J. F. Sullivan. The religious record (kept at St. Jerome's Church, Holyoke, Massachusetts as of 1991) confirms the date of marriage as 19 Feb 1865, adding that the marriage was performed by the Rev. I. F. Sullivan in the presence of Thomas Cooney and Johanna McGrath. The former might have been the groom's brother. The latter was undoubtedly the bride's sister. The presence of Thomas Cooney and Johanna McGrath at the marriage suggests that relatives of the bride and groom were present in America in 1865. The priest's first initial being J in the civil record and I in the religious record can be attributed to either a transcription error or more likely the use of Latin in the religious record.

Michael Cooney and Margaret McGrath also filed an Intention of Marriage in Williamsburg, Massachusetts on 18 Jul 1865. The reason for this filing—five months after the marriage in Northampton—is unknown. Her age was given as 21 and her father was listed as Thomas McGrath. Since Margaret McGrath's February 1865 civil marriage record and her 1925 death record agree that her father's name was Patrick, the strong weight of evidence is for that name. Her age having been given as 21 in both February and July 1865 lends credence to the January birth month used in her death record rather than March as in the 1910 Federal census (though she would have been 24 rather than 21 in either instance).

In the 1865 Massachusetts State census, Michael (Cooney (age 25, married, iron molder) and Margaret Cooney (age 21, married, operative) were recorded as family no. 174 at house no. 139 in Williamsburg; there is an indecipherable mark after Michael Cooney's name that could possibly have been meant to be a D or a 2d, or perhaps it was just a scribble; the census was taken on 1 May 1865 (1865 Massachusetts State Census, Hampshire County, Williamsburg, Lines 22-23; Reel 14,

Vol. 17). Michael Cooney's occupation as an iron molder differs from his profession as a machinist in other records.

Michael Cooney was naturalized as a United States citizen by the Superior Court of Hampshire County, Northampton, Massachusetts on 27 Feb 1874 (NARA Index to New England Naturalization Petitions 1791-1906 (M1299)). The record stated that Michael Cooney of Williamsburg, Massachusetts was born in the Parish of St. Mary, Co. Tipperary, Ireland on or about 8 Oct 1839, and that he arrived in the United States at the Port of New York on or about 13 May 1863 (it is noteworthy that Margaret McGrath probably arrived at the Port of New York on 12 May 1863). The arrival date of 13 May precedes the documented arrival of a Michael Cooney aboard the *Calhoun* on 27 Jun 1863 by about six weeks. Eleven years had passed so memory might have failed or possibly the June arrival was for another man of the same name. The naturalization document was signed by Michael Cooney in an elegant hand, confirming Anna Seymour's description of him as having been well educated. Pierce Larkin and Michael H. Mockler endorsed the naturalization. The naturalization record presents a birth date five days preceding his baptismal record so it confirms that the correct baptismal record has been located.

In the 1870 Federal census, Michael Cooney was recorded as Michael Cooney Jr. (age 30, born in Ireland, machinist) with his wife Margaret (age 27, born in Ireland, keeping house); and their son Patrick (age 1, born in Massachusetts, at home) in Williamsburg, Massachusetts (Chesterfield P.O.) (Page 35, Lines 30-32). The "Jr." after Michael Cooney's name was an error. Peirce O'Donnell (age 25, born in Ireland, working in brass mill) and James Mullally (age 25, born in Ireland, working in a brass mill) were recorded with the Cooney family (Page 35, Lines 33-34). Peirce O'Donnell was surely the man who would marry Margaret McGrath Cooney's sister Johannah McGrath in 1871.

In the 1880 Federal census, Michael Cooney (age 40, born in Ireland, both parents born in Ireland, machinist) was recorded with his wife, Margret (age 35, born in Ireland, both parents born in Ireland, keeping house), and their children, all born in Massachusetts: Patrick (age 11, attending school); Thomas (age 8, attending school); Michael (age 6); Bernard (age 1); and Agnes (age 2/12, born in March 1880) in Easthampton, Massachusetts (ED 343, SD 60, Page 3, Lines 33-39).

In the Northampton and Easthampton, Massachusetts Directory for 1882-1883 (which was published in 1882) Michael Cooney was listed under Easthampton (p. 162) as a machinist residing in Holyoke. In the 1883-1884 Northampton and

Easthampton Directory, he was listed under Easthampton (p. 179) as having removed to Bridgeport.

Michael Cooney was listed in the Bridgeport, Connecticut Directories for 1883-87 as a machinist residing at 54 Grand Street. In the 1888 and 1889 Bridgeport Directories, he was listed as employed by the Bridgeport Spring Co., and residing at 54 Grand Street. The house at 54 Grand Street was between Main Street and Hurd Avenue.

According to the civil death record, Michael Cooney (laborer, married, child of Michael and Mary Cooney, born in Ireland) died at 69 Grand Street, Bridgeport, Connecticut on 10 Jan 1890, age 45, and was buried at St. Michael's Cemetery (Bridgeport Book of Deaths 1889-1893, p. 52). Thos. F. Martin M.D. was the certifying physician. Michael Cooney's age and his parents' Christian names were incorrectly recorded. He was 50 and his parents were named Thomas and Bridget. Michael Cooney was buried at St. Michael's Cemetery on 15 Jan 1890; the sexton was D. J. Cremin (Record of the Returns made by Sextons of Cemeteries in the Town of Bridgeport). Michael Cooney was almost certainly buried in an unmarked single grave located in Section 2 of the cemetery, where numerous single graves of this period are located. His widow, Margaret Cooney, did not purchase her family's burial plot at the same cemetery until the death of her son Thomas in 1909.

The following death notice was published in the *Bridgeport Evening Farmer*.

In this city, Jan. 10, Michael Cooney, aged 45 years.
—Friends are invited to attend the funeral from his late residence, No. 69 Grand Street, on Sunday, Jan. 12, at 1 o'clock p. m., and thence to St. Augustine's Church at, 1:30 p m. *Bridgeport Evening Farmer*, 11 Jan 1890, p. 1.

The only known photograph of Michael Cooney is a family portrait dating from c.1875 with him, his wife, and their three eldest children. It is in the collection of the American Antiquarian Society (AAS Item P).

Margaret McGrath was baptized at Fethard, Co. Tipperary, Ireland on 17 Jan 1841, the child of Patt M. grah and Mary Power, with sponsors Michl Nanly and Ellen Daniel (Catholic Parish Registers, The National Library of Ireland; Dublin, Ireland; Fethard; Microfilm 02504/06, p. 65). Fethard is a town about seven miles from Clonmel. Margaret McGrath was most likely born a few days before, on 14

Jan 1841. Throughout this paper, McGrath will be the spelling used for her family name. The pronunciation of the name in Ireland was something like McGrah.

There is a c.1863 ambrotype probably of Margaret McGrath's mother, Mary Power McGrath, in the collection of the American Antiquarian Society (AAS Item N).

Though the 1841 Fethard baptismal record for Margaret McGrath is beyond doubt the correct one, there are conflicting pieces of information. Her stated age of 21 on the civil marriage record is off by three years. Her death certificate stated that she was born at Clonmel, Ireland on 14 Jan 1848 and that her parents were Patrick McGrath and Bridget Powers. The death certificate was wrong on the birth year (which was actually 1841) and her mother's name (which was actually Mary Power). Notably, a birth year as late as 1848 for Margaret McGrath would be unlikely even in the absence of the 1841 Fethard birth record given her marriage in 1865, which is certain based on contemporary records and the family Bible entry. On the other hand, the birth date of 14 January on the death certificate supports the Fethard baptismal record of 17 January since three-days time between birth and baptism would have been normal at the time in Ireland. As to place of birth, Clonmel is only seven miles from Fethard so it is quite possible that the former was accepted by the family as her place of origin in Ireland. Finally, the curious 1865 Intention of Marriage document had her father's name incorrectly as Thomas (which was her father-in-law's name) and also had her age wrong. Despite these inconsistencies, the 1841 Fethard birth record must be the correct one. If there were any doubt, it would have been eliminated by the closeness of dates of birth and baptism on the death and baptismal records, respectively.

A 20-year old named Margaret McGrath arrived at the Port of New York on 12 May 1863 aboard the *City of Washington*. Interestingly, on his 1874 naturalization application, Michael Cooney stated that he had arrived in the United States on 13 May 1863.

In the 1900 Federal census, Margaret Cooney (widowed, age 52, born in Ireland in March 1848, both parents born in Ireland, the mother of six children, all of whom were living, immigrated 1860) was recorded at 64 Sanford Avenue, Bridgeport, Connecticut. Five of her children, all recorded as born in Massachusetts, were living with her: Thomas F. (b. Oct. 1871, machinist); Michael E. (b. June 1873, grocery clerk); Bernard F. (b. Aug. 1878, reporter); Agnes M. (b. March 1880, bookkeeper); and William A. (b. Feb. 1882) (ED 29, Sheet 12, Lines 69-74). In fact, Margaret Cooney was 59; she was the mother of seven children; one of the children had died; and her year of immigration was probably 1863.

In the 1910 Federal census, Margret Cooney (head of household, age 62, born in Ireland, widowed, the mother of six children, of whom five were living, immigrated 1860, able to read and write, both parents born in Ireland) was recorded at 122 Center Street, Bridgeport, Connecticut with three of her children—Michel E. (son, age 35, born in Massachusetts, janitor); Agness M. (daughter, age 28, born in Massachusetts, dress maker); and William A. (son, age 27, born in Massachusetts, shipping clerk) (SD 29, ED 32, Sheet 5B, Lines 73-76). In fact, she 69; she was the mother of seven children; her name was spelled Margaret not Margret; her son's name was spelled Michael not Michel; and her daughter's name spelled Agnes not Agness.

Federal census records for 1900 and 1910 on the number of children of Margaret Cooney did not take account of Edward, who had died in infancy in 1877.

In the 1920 Federal census, Margaret Cooney (age 72, born in Ireland, immigrated 1846) was recorded at 64 Taft Avenue, Bridgeport, Connecticut, with her daughter, Agnes Cooney Noonan, and the Noonan family (Vol. 4, ED 37, Sheet 2B, Line 98). The record is internally inaccurate since according to the census, Margaret Cooney's immigration year (1846) preceded her birth year (1847 or 1848).

In the 1890 and 1891 Bridgeport Directories, Margaret Cooney, widow Michael, was listed at 69 Grand Street. In the 1892 Directory, Margaret Cooney was listed at 122 Hurd Avenue. In the 1893 and 1894 Directories, Margaret Cooney was listed at 30 Commercial Street. In the 1895-97 Directories, she was listed at 26 1/2 Sanford Avenue. In the 1898-1904 Directories, she was listed at 64 Sanford Avenue. It is likely that the change from 26 1/2 to 64 Sanford resulted from the re-numbering of houses in Bridgeport. In the 1905 Directory, she was listed at 124 Center Street. In the 1906-10 Directories, she was listed at 122 Center Street. In the 1911 Directory, she was listed at 141 Frank Street. In the 1912 Directory, she was listed at 506 Grand Street. In the 1913 and 1914 Directories, she was listed at 174 Hurd Avenue, which is between Grand and Goodsell Streets. She was not listed in the 1915-17 Bridgeport Directories. It is possible that in 1915 she was residing with her children William and Agnes at 782 William Street, Bridgeport, Connecticut and in 1916 with her daughter Agnes at 76 Worth Street, Bridgeport, Connecticut. Agnes was listed at the William Street address in the 1915 Bridgeport Directory, at the Worth Street address in the 1916 Directory, and in prior years had been listed living with her mother.

In the 1918-20 Bridgeport Directories, Margaret Cooney, widow Michael, was listed at 64 Taft Avenue, the residence of her son-in-law Michael Noonan. In the 1921 Directory, Marguerite Cooney was listed at 239 Wheeler Avenue. Since this was also the address of Michael Noonan, Marguerite was surely an incorrect listing for Margaret Cooney. Neither Margaret nor Marguerite Cooney was listed in the 1922 Directory. Margaret Cooney, widow Michael, was listed in the 1923 and 1924 Directories living at 25 Tom Thumb Street, also the address of Michael J. and Agnes M. Noonan. In the 1925 Directory, Mrs. Margaret Cooney was listed as having died on 3 Feb 1925, age 77.

These Bridgeport Directory listings make clear that Margaret Cooney's unmarried children lived in her household roughly until her daughter, Agnes, married Michael Noonan, at which point, Margaret Cooney lived in the Noonan household until her death in 1925. There are photographs of her with two of her granddaughters (the Noonans' daughters) probably taken at 239 Wheeler Avenue in the early 1920s. These photographs were given to Thomas Dailey by Margaret Noonan in 1972.

Margaret Cooney died at 25 Tom Thumb Street, Bridgeport, Connecticut on 3 Feb 1925, age 77, according to her death certificate, which also listed her birthplace as Clonmel, Ireland, her birth date as 14 Jan 1848, and her parents as Patrick McGrath and Bridget Powers. The death record listing of her parents was the same as the 1841 Fethard baptismal record except that her mother's Christian name was Mary in the 1841 record and Bridget in the 1925 record and her surname was Powers rather than Power in the later record.

Margaret McGrath Cooney's funeral took place on 5 Feb 1925 from her late residence, 25 Tom Thumb Street, and with a solemn high mass at St. Patrick's Roman Catholic Church, Bridgeport, Connecticut. Rev. John C. Lynch was the celebrant. Rev. Michael J. Thompson served as deacon and Rev. Charles Hosey as sub-deacon. Her pall bearers were her sons Patrick J. Cooney, Bernard F. Cooney, and William A. Cooney, her son-in-law Michael Noonan, as well as Edward Tole and Thomas Forbes.

Margaret McGrath Cooney was buried in the Margaret Cooney plot (Sec. 5, Lot 273 North 1/2) at St. Michael's Cemetery, Stratford, Connecticut, on 5 Feb 1925, age 75, according to cemetery records. This is the plot that she had purchased on 14 Feb 1909, at the time of the death of her son Thomas.

Obituaries and death notices for Margaret Cooney appeared in *The Bridgeport Times*, 4 Feb 1925, p. 14; *The Bridgeport Post*, 4 Feb 1925, p. 15; *The Bridgeport*

Telegram, 7 Feb 1925, p. 27; and possibly other newspapers. Obituaries made reference to her having had a long illness and that she had been a long time resident of the northern section of Bridgeport.

There are five photographs of Margaret McGrath Cooney in the collection of the American Antiquarian Society. The earliest dates from c.1875. It is a family portrait of her, her husband, and their three eldest children (Patrick, Thomas, and Michael); it is the only known photograph of Michael Cooney and his sons Thomas and Michael (AAS Item P). The American Antiquarian Society also has a portrait of Margaret McGrath Cooney from c.1895 that was made in various sizes (AAS Items Q, Q-1, and Q-2). There is also an informal photograph with her granddaughter Margaret Noonan from 1918 (AAS Item R). In addition to the photographs of Margaret McGrath Cooney in the American Antiquarian Society collection, there is one from 1921 with her granddaughters Margaret and Catherine Noonan in family archives held by Thomas Dailey.

Children of Michael Cooney and Margaret McGrath were:

7. i. PATRICK JOSEPH (4) COONEY was born on 15 Mar 1869, and was married to Helen Sheahan.

- ii. THOMAS F. (4) COONEY was born at Williamsburg, Massachusetts on 23 Oct 1871, the son of Michael Cooney (a machinest [sic]) and Margaret McGrath, both of whom resided in Williamsburg and were born in Ireland, according to Williamsburg records (Vol. 4, p. 14, no. 6). Thomas Cooney was baptized at St. Mary's Church, Northampton, Massachusetts on 5 Nov 1871, by P. V. Moyne, with sponsors Bernard Cooney and Margaret Keating, according to baptismal records of St. Mary's Church (p. 201), which listed his birthplace as Haydenville and his birth date as 22 Oct.

In the 1880 Federal census, Thomas Cooney was recorded in Easthampton, Massachusetts (age 8, born in Massachusetts, attending school, both parents born in Ireland) (ED 343, SD 60, Page 3, Line 36).

In the 1900 Federal census, Thomas F. Cooney was recorded as a machinist born in October 1871, and living at the residence of his

mother, 64 Sanford Avenue, Bridgeport, Connecticut (ED 29, Sheet 12, Line 70).

Thomas Cooney was listed in the 1892 Bridgeport Directory residing at 22 Hurd Avenue (his mother's residence) and working at E. P. Bullard. In the 1893 Bridgeport Directory, he was listed at 30 Commercial Street (also his mother's residence) and employed at the Armstrong Mfg. Co. In 1894, Thomas Cooney was still listed at 30 Commercial Street but was working in Norwalk. In the 1895 Bridgeport Directory, he was listed as having moved to Norwalk. He was not listed in the 1896 and 1897 Bridgeport Directories. In the 1898-1900 Bridgeport Directories, Thomas F. Cooney had two listings; one was probably an error. In these three Directories, he was listed (probably inaccurately) as a machinist living at 64 Sanford Avenue (his mother's residence). In the 1898 and 1899 Directories, he was also listed in business at 142 Courtland Street, living on Verplanck Street in New York. The T. F. & P. J. Cooney enterprise at 142 Courtland Street was a grocery business. Its advertisement in the Bridgeport Directory for 1898 (p. 800) read: "T. F. & P. J. Cooney, Staple and Fancy Groceries, Fresh Fruits, Vegetables, Canned Goods, Etc. Fairfield Avenue, Cannon and Courtland Streets, Bridgeport, Conn.". Perhaps Thomas Cooney was a buyer for the grocery business living in New York while Patrick managed the operations in Bridgeport. In the 1900 Directory, Thomas F. Cooney was again listed in the grocery business at 142 Courtland but his residence was given as Fairfield.

By 1901, the grocery business listing had disappeared and Thomas F. Cooney was listed in the 1901-04 Directories as a machinist living at 64 Sanford Avenue. In the 1905 Directory, he was listed as having moved to Norwalk. This was his last listing in the Bridgeport Directory. There was another Thomas F. Cooney listed on Fairfield Avenue in the Directory in these years but it is virtually certain that he was another man of the same name.

Thomas Cooney died at 122 Center Street, Bridgeport, Connecticut (his mother's residence), on 14 Feb 1909, according to his death certificate, which gave his birthplace as Haydenville, Massachusetts, his birth date as 23 Oct 1871, and his parents as Michael Cooney and Margaret McGrath. He was buried in the Margaret Cooney

plot (Sec. 5, Lot 273 North 1/2) at St. Michael's Cemetery, Stratford, Connecticut, on 16 Feb 1909, age 37, according to cemetery records. The following obituary appeared in the *Bridgeport Standard*.

THOMAS F. COONEY.

After an illness of several months with a complication of diseases, Thomas F. Cooney, son of Mrs. Margaret Cooney, died yesterday morning at the family home, 122 Center street. Death was not unexpected. The deceased was a machinist, 37 years old and single. Besides his mother, one sister and four brothers survive him. The funeral will be held tomorrow morning at 8:30 at the house and 9 o'clock at St. Augustine's church. Interment will be in St. Michael's cemetery. Friends are requested to omit flowers. *Bridgeport Standard*, 15 Feb 1909, p. 3.

A separate death notice appeared on the same page. *Bridgeport Standard*, 15 Feb 1909, p. 3.

The only known photograph of Thomas F. Cooney is an albumen print dated c.1875 in the collection of the American Antiquarian Society (AAS Item P) in which he is seated second from the left.

iii. MICHAEL EDWARD (4) COONEY was born at Williamsburg, Massachusetts, on 17 Jun 1874, the son of Michael Cooney (a machinest [sic]) and Margaret Cooney, both of whom resided in Williamsburg and were born in Ireland, according to Williamsburg records. He was baptized (as Michaelem Edwardum) at St. Mary's Church, Northampton, Massachusetts on 21 Jun 1874, by M. E. Barry, with sponsors Thos. Ellsworth and Cecilia Dunne, according to baptismal records of St. Mary's Church (p. 266), which listed the birthplace as Haydenville.

In the 1880 Federal census, Michael Cooney was recorded in Easthampton, Massachusetts (age 6, born in Massachusetts, both parents born in Ireland) (ED 343, SD 60, Page 3, Line 37).

In the 1900 Federal census, Michael E. Cooney was recorded as a grocery clerk, born in June 1873, and living at the residence of his mother, 64 Sanford Avenue, Bridgeport, Connecticut (ED 29, Sheet 12, Line 71).

In the 1910 Federal census, Michel [sic] E. Cooney (son, age 35, born in Massachusetts, janitor) was recorded at the residence of his mother, 122 Center Street, Bridgeport, Connecticut (SD 29, ED 32, Sheet 5B, Line 74).

Michael E. Cooney was listed in the Bridgeport Directories for 1896 and 1897 as a silk weaver living at 26 1/2 Sanford Avenue (his mother's residence). In the 1898 Directory, his trade of silk weaving remained the same but the residence was 64 Sanford Avenue, reflecting the re-numbering of streets in Bridgeport at the time. In the 1899 and 1900 Directories, Michael E. Cooney was listed as a clerk at 142 Courtland (his brothers' grocery concern), living at 64 Sanford Avenue. In the 1901 Directory, he was employed at the Monumental Bronze Co., and living at 64 Sanford Avenue. In the 1902 Directory, his employment changed to clerk at 132 Cannon Street; his residence was unchanged. In the 1903 and 1904 Directories, he was listed as a clerk at 1170 Pembroke Street while still living at 64 Sanford Avenue. In the 1905 Directory, he was still working as a clerk at 1170 Pembroke but had moved to 124 Center Street (also his mother's residence). In the 1906 Directory, his employment was unchanged but his residence had moved to 122 Center Street (as had his mother's). In the 1907 and 1908 Directories, he was listed as a manager at 1705 Main Street and his residence was unchanged. In the 1909 Directory, he was listed as a janitor at Eagles' Hall with the residence unchanged. In the 1910 Directory, he was listed as a bartender at 1629 Main Street, with his residence unchanged. In the 1911 Directory, he was listed in the same employment but had moved to 155 Frank Street. In the Directory for the same year, his mother and two siblings were listed at 141 Frank Street. In the 1912 Directory, his employment was unchanged but he had moved to 506 Grand Street (his mother's residence). In the 1913 Directory, he was listed as a bartender at 126 Wall Street and living at 174 Hurd Avenue (his mother's residence). This was his last listing in the Bridgeport Directory.

Michael E. Cooney died at St. Vincent's Hospital, Bridgeport, Connecticut on 9 Apr 1914, according to his death certificate, which gave his birthplace as East Hampton, Massachusetts, his birth date as 1875, and his parents as Michael Cooney and Margaret McGrath. He was buried in the Margaret Cooney plot (Sec. 5, Lot 273 North 1/2) at St. Michael's Cemetery, Stratford, Connecticut, on 11 Apr 1914, age 39, according to cemetery records.

The Bridgeport Post printed the following obituary the day after his death.

Michael E. Cooney.

Michael E. Cooney, son of Mrs. Margaret Cooney, of No. 174 Hurd avenue died at St. Vincent's hospital yesterday afternoon following an abdominal operation. The deceased had not been in good health for some time[.] He was a member of Bridgeport aerie of Eagles. The funeral will be tomorrow forenoon at 11 o'clock from St. Patrick's church, where the committal services will be read. The burial will be at St. Michael's cemetery. *Bridgeport Post*, 10 Apr 1914, p. 3.

The Bridgeport Post printed the following obituary the day of the funeral.

Michael Cooney.

The funeral of Michael Cooney was this morning from the home of his brother, William Cooney of No. 782 William street at 10:30 o'clock and from St. Patrick's church at 11 o'clock, where services were conducted by the Rev. James B. Nihill. A delegation from Bridgeport Aerie of Eagles attended. Burial was in St. Michael's cemetery. *Bridgeport Post*, 11 Apr 1914, last page [16].

The only known photograph of Michael E. Cooney is an albumen print dated c.1875 in the collection of the American Antiquarian Society (AAS Item P) in which he is held by his mother.

iv. EDWARD FRANCIS (4) COONEY was born on 9 May 1877, and was baptized (as Edwardum Franciscum) at St. Mary's

Church, Northampton, Massachusetts, on 13 May 1877, by John T. Sheehan, with sponsors Daniel Keating and Johanna Powers, according to baptismal records of St. Mary's Church (p. 334), which listed his birthplace as Haydenville. Edward Cooney died at Williamsburg, Massachusetts on 13 Sep 1877, according to Williamsburg records. In the family Bible, this child was recorded as Edmund rather than Edward. The Bible was published seven years after the birth and death of this infant.

8. v. BERNARD (4) COONEY was born on 30 Aug 1878, and was married to Josephine Klein.

9. vi. AGNES (4) COONEY was born on 10 Mar 1880, and was married to Michael Noonan.

vii. WILLIAM (4) COONEY was born at Williamsburg, Massachusetts on 8 Feb 1882, and baptized (as Gulielmum) at Immaculate Conception Church, Easthampton, Massachusetts on 26 Feb 1882, by R. F. Walshe, with sponsors Patritius Cooney and Hannah Moriarity, according to Immaculate Conception Church baptismal records (p. 138). He was usually listed in records as William A. Cooney. His middle name was Augustus.

In the 1900 Federal census, William A. Cooney (b. Feb. 1882) was recorded at the residence of his mother, 64 Sanford Avenue, Bridgeport, Connecticut (ED 29, Sheet 12, Line 74).

In the 1910 Federal census, William A. Cooney (age 27, born in Massachusetts, shipping clerk) was recorded at the residence of his mother, 122 Center Street, Bridgeport, Connecticut (SD 29, ED 32, Sheet 5B, Line 76).

According to the Bridgeport civil record, Wm. A. Cooney (age 27, born No. Hampton, Mass., clerk, residence B'port, Conn., first marriage) was married to Katherine Strickfus (age 26, born Bpt., Ct.) by the Rev. James V. Hussion, Ass't Pastor, at Bridgeport, Connecticut on 7 Jun 1911; his parents were listed as Michael and Margaret and hers as Joseph and Christina (Marriages 1910-1913, p. 85).

The following story appeared in *The Bridgeport Post*.

COONEY-STRICKFUS

Quiet Wedding Takes Place at St. Charles' Church.

A quiet wedding took place this morning when Miss Katherine Frances Strickfus, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Strickfus and William A. Cooney, were married at St. Charles' church by Rev. James V. Hussion. Attending the bride was her sister, Christina Strickfus and Michael E. Cooney, a brother of the groom officiated as best man. The ceremony was attended only by relatives of the contracting parties.

An elaborate wedding breakfast was given at the residence of the bride's parent on Pembroke street, after which the couple departed on a short wedding trip. The bride, who is very well known in this city, was attired in a traveling suit of blue with a hat to match. The groom is employed in the shipping department at the Star Shirt Co. After July 1, Mr. and Mrs. Cooney will be at home to their friends at 104 Parallel street, where a cosy flat has been prepared. The bride received many handsome gifts of cut glass, silver and linen. *The Bridgeport Post*, 7 Jun 1911, p. 3.

William Cooney was listed in the 1897 Bridgeport Directory living at 26 1/2 Sanford Avenue (his mother's residence) and working as a reporter at the *Bridgeport Telegram*. This listing may have been in error, confusing William with his brother Bernard (who was indeed a reporter) since William would have been only 15 in 1897. Bernard, who would have been 19 in 1897, was first listed the following year as a reporter with the *Evening Post*. William A. Cooney was listed in the Bridgeport Directory for 1902, when he was a clerk at 1170 Pembroke Street and living at his mother's residence, 64 Sanford Avenue. In the 1903 and 1904 Directories, he was listed as a manager at 1326 State Street living at 26 Sanford Avenue. In the 1905 Directory, his employment was unchanged but his residence was 124 Center Street (also his mother's residence). In the 1906 Directory, he was listed as a reporter at the *Bridgeport Telegram*

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and

living at 122 Center Street (his mother's residence). In the 1907 directory, his employment changed to shipper at Swift & Co. residence was unchanged. In the 1908 Directory, his employment changed to the Bridgeport Gas Light Co. while his residence unchanged. In the 1909 Directory, his residence was unchanged no employment or profession was listed. In the 1910 Directory, he was listed as a shipping clerk at 340 George Street while still living at 122 Center Street.

In the 1911 Bridgeport Directory, William Cooney was still listed as a shipping clerk at 340 George Street but his residence had changed to 141 Frank Street (also his mother's residence). In the 1912 Directory, he was listed as a clerk at the Adams Express Co. and living at 149 Parallel Street. In the 1913 and 1914 Directories, his employment was unchanged and he was living at 782 William Street. In the 1915 Directory, he was listed a clerk at the Columbia Graphophone Co. and living at 782 William Street. In the 1916 Directory, he was listed as a clerk living at 782 William Street. In the 1917 and 1918 Directories, he was listed as a clerk at the Remington Arms & Ammunition Co. and living at 782 William Street. In the 1919 Directory, William A. Cooney was listed as having moved to Nichols. There was no listing for him in the Bridgeport section of the Directory from 1920 through 1930. In the 1932 and 1934 Directories, William A. Cooney was listed as a foreman at 1285 Boston Avenue (General Electric) and living with his wife Kathryn S. Cooney in Nichols. In the 1933 Directory, the only change from 1932 was his listing as a general foreman. In the 1935 Directory, the only variation from 1932 and 1934 was his being listed as a warehouse superintendent. In the 1936 Directory, he was listed again as a foreman with the other information unchanged from 1935. In the 1938 Directory, he was listed as employed at 1285 Boston Avenue and living with his wife, Katherine S., in Nichols. In the 1941 Directory, he was listed as a section superintendent at 1285 Boston Avenue with the other information the same as in 1938. In the 1946 Directory, William A. Cooney was listed as a section superintendent at 1285 Boston Avenue living with his wife, Katherine Cooney, in Nichols. In the 1951 Directory, he was listed living with his wife, Katherine S. Cooney, at 1995 Huntington Turnpike, Trumbull.

William Cooney died on 17 Nov 1954, according to the Bridgeport Directory, and was buried in the Strickfus plot (Sec. 5, Lot 48 South 1/2) at St. Michael's Cemetery, Stratford, Connecticut, on 19 Nov 1954, age 72, according to cemetery records.

There is a photograph in the Bridgeport Public Library Historical Collections of the Adams Express Co. staff. Based on family resemblance and his employment history, it is almost certain that William Cooney is in the front row second from the right. The photograph was taken by Corbit Photo and is dated "Sep. 27th 1914". It is available on line at the Connecticut Digital Archive.

Katherine Strickfus was born in 1882. She was the daughter of Joseph Strickfus and Christina Hyland. Her Christian name appeared variously as Katherine, Catherine, and Kathryn.

In the 1900 Federal census, Katherine Strickfus (daughter, age 18, born in Connecticut in December 1881, both parents born in Connecticut, Milliner) was recorded with her parents, brother, and sister at 620 Maple Street, Bridgeport, Connecticut, a house owned by her father with a mortgage (SD 26, ED 39, Sheet 9A, Lines 6-10).

In the 1910 Federal census, Katherine Strickfuss (daughter, age 28, single, born in Connecticut, both parents born in Connecticut, Milliner working at home) was recorded with her parents, brother, and sister at 620 Maple Street, Bridgeport, Connecticut (SD 29, ED 45, Sheet 7A, Lines 28-32). Between 1900 and 1910, her father (Joseph) had become a fireman.

She died in 1963 and was buried in the Strickfus plot (Sec. 5, Lot 48 South 1/2) at St. Michael's Cemetery, Stratford, Connecticut, on 20 Nov 1963, age 84, according to cemetery records.

5. ANNE MARY (3) COONEY was baptized (as Anna Maria) at Ss. Peter and Paul, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary, Ireland on 30 Mar 1851, the child of Thomas Cooney and Brigida Power, with sponsors Joannes Power and Ellena Cantwell, and with Petrus O'Connor recorded as the priest (p. 198 of the original register) (Catholic Parish Registers, The National Library of Ireland; Dublin, Ireland; Ss Peter and Paul, Clonmel; Microfilm 02463/01, p. 204).

Annie Mary Cooney (a spinster with no profession, resident of Cashel Street, the daughter of Thomas Cooney, an architect) was married to John F. Buckley (a bachelor, a merchant, resident of Johnson Street, the son of Thomas Buckley (dead), who had been a merchant) at Mount Melleray Abbey on 27 Jun 1884, by John Casey C.C., with witnesses Timothy Murphy and Julia Murphy; the marriage was registered on 16 Aug 1884; the registrar's name is indecipherable (Registrar's District of Cappoquin, Union of Lismore, Co. Waterford, No. 23).

John Francis Buckley died at Bellview on 1 Apr 1885, according to the civil death record, which listed him as age 29, married, a shopkeeper. The informant was his sister-in-law M. E. Buckley of Bellview, present at death. The death was registered on 8 Apr 1885 by Assistant Registrar James Forrest. (Superintendent Registrar's District of Fermoy, Registrar's District of Fermoy, Union of Fermoy, Co. Cork, No. 405)

Anne Buckley (widow, full age, grocer, resident of Clonmel, daughter of Thomas Cooney, a builder) was married to Henry Joseph Seymour (bachelor, age 33, laborer, resident of Clonmel, son of Henry Seymour, grocer) at Ss. Peter and Paul, Clonmel on 19 Aug 1888, by John Curran C.C. with witnesses Walter Hall(?) and Catherine Gardiner; the marriage was registered on 22 Aug 1888; the registrar's name is indecipherable (Superintendent Registrar's District of Clonmel, Registrar's District of Clonmel, No. 73). The record was indexed in the July-August-September quarter of 1888, in the Registration District of Clonmel, Ireland (Vol. 4, Page 244, FHL File No. 101255). Based on her death record, Anne Mary Cooney was married to Henry Seymour, a brewer's clerk.

Anne Seymour was recorded in the 1901 Census of Ireland at 65 Queen Street (Clonmel West Urban, Tipperary) (age 41, born Clonmel, married, head of family, housekeeper, Roman Catholic), with her daughter Anna Maria Seymour. The age of 41 in 1901 suggests a birth year c.1859-60, which is eight or nine years later than the Clonmel baptismal record. Henry Seymour was not recorded with her in the 1901 census of Ireland so perhaps he died before 1902.

Annie Seymore was recorded in the 1911 Census of Ireland at 2 Cashel Street (Clonmel West Urban, Tipperary) (age 48, born in Clonmel, married 27 years, sister of head of family, four children born alive, of whom one was living). She was recorded with her brother Francis Cooney (age 50, born in Clonmel, single, head of family, a landlord by profession), and Anastasia Alyward (age 80, a female servant). All three were Roman Catholics. The age of 48 in 1911 suggests a birth year

of c.1862-63, which is 11 or 12 years later than the Clonmel baptismal record. Francis Cooney's age is also understated.

Anastatia Alyward died in Cashel Street on 9 Jul 1911, according to her civil death record, which listed her as age 84, a spinster housekeeper. The informant was Elizabeth Meskill of 12 Cashel Street, who was present at death. The death was registered on 20 Jul 1911 by Registrar P. J. O'Brien. (Superintendent Registrar's District of Clonmel, Registrar's District of Clonmel No. I, Union of Clonmel, Co. Tipperary, No. 367) Anastatia Alyward was probably the servant called "Anty" in Anna Seymour's 1936 letter. If so, she would have worked in Cooney households from the 1850s until 1911.

The death of Anne Seymour on 6 Mar 1931, age 77, was registered in Kensington District, Sub-district of Kensington South, County of London, England. The place of death was 61 Redcliffe Road, the residence of her daughter, Anna. She was the widow of Henry Seymour, a Brewer's Clerk. The informant was her daughter, A. Seymour, who was in attendance. The death was registered on 9 Mar 1931, No. 71 by Registrar R. I. Martin (1931 March Quarter, Vol. 1A, p. 225). The age at death is within two years of the Clonmel baptismal record.

Two photographs of "Grand Aunt Anne and Anna Seymour" taken in "England 1929" were placed in the Cooney family Bible. The handwriting identifying the photographs is most likely that of Agnes Cooney Noonan. The two photographs are in the family archive held by Thomas Dailey.

Children of Anne Mary Cooney and Henry Seymour were:

- i. HENRY (4) THOMAS SEYMOUR was born in Quay Street, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary, Ireland. His father was Henry Seymour of Limerick and his mother was Anne Seymour, formerly Cooney, of Quay Street. The father's rank or profession is difficult to make out but appears to be "Gunner R. A." The informant was the mother, Anne Seymour of Quay Street. The birth was registered on 7 Aug 1889 and the registrar was John Kempill(?). There is a notation stating "Registered in statutory declaration 7-8-89". (Superintendent Registrar's District Clonmel, Registrar's District Clonmel, 1889, No. 250). The birth record states that Henry Seymour was born on 1 Mar 1889 but is probably in error as to the month of birth. The other nine births on the page occurred in June or July 1889. As Henry Seymour's is the only one outside of this period, it is

likely that a transcription error occurred from the noted statutory declaration. He was probably born in June or July of 1889. His baptismal record has not been located.

Henry Seymour died in Gladstone Street, Clonmel on 29 Sep 1895, age 6, child of a clerk. The informant was his mother, Anne Seymour of Gladstone Street, present at death. The death was registered on 13(?) Oct 1895 by Registrar John Kempill(?). (Superintendent Registrar's District Clonmel, Registrar's District Clonmel, 1895, No. 102)

ii. ANNA MARIA (4) SEYMOUR has a problematic birth date. Her parents were married in 1888 and her brother Henry was born in 1889 so it is unlikely that she was the eldest child or that her birth was before 1890. In the 1901 Census of Ireland, however, she was recorded as age 20, suggesting a birth year c.1881. Adding to the uncertainty, the birth year to be inferred from her 1963 Acle, Norfolk, England death record (Vol. 4B, p. 597) is c.1887.

Anna Maria Seymour was recorded in the 1901 Census of Ireland at 65 Queen Street (Clonmel West Urban, Tipperary) (age 20, born in Dublin, not married, Roman Catholic) with her mother, Anne Seymour.

In Anna Seymour's 1936 letter on the family history, it was clear that her mother and Patrick Cooney's father were siblings. She wrote to him of her mother's death in 1931, and in 1940 about the Irish estate of a second cousin named Kathleen Broderick. Anna Seymour also corresponded with Agnes Cooney Noonan and Lenore Cooney Doherty but none of their letters is known to survive.

Two photos of "Grand Aunt Anne and Anna Seymour" taken in "England 1929" were placed in the Cooney family Bible. The handwriting identifying each was probably that of Agnes Cooney Noonan. In the photos, Anna Seymour bears a resemblance to Patrick Cooney's daughters Josephine and Lenore. The photos were taken in front of a bungalow, probably located on Canvey

Island, Essex, England, based on Anna Seymour's note on the back of a similar photo that appears to be from the same place and time. The photos are in the family archive held by Thomas Dailey.

Anna Seymour lived at 61 Redcliffe Road, S. Kensington, London, S.W. 10, England in 1931, when she wrote to Patrick Cooney of her mother's death. In 1936, she lived at "Sarclet" France Lynes, in Stroud, Gloucestershire, England, based on her letter to Patrick Cooney dated 11 Dec 1936. In 1940, she lived at The Field House, Staxigoe, Wick, Caithness, Scotland, based on her letter to Patrick Cooney dated 12 June 1940.

Anna Seymour was married to Arthur William Ball in 1937. According to her death record, he was a schoolmaster.

Anna Seymour met her husband, Arthur Ball, through the Peverel Society, a group of writers of which both were members. He had joined in 1926, according to Gillian Lindsay. A letter from Peverel Society founder and author Flora Thompson to Anna Ball in 1941 was quoted in Christopher Hilliard's *To Exercise Our Talents* (Harvard University Press, 2006). Lewis advised Anna Ball to work on her own writing while encouraging her husband's literary career in parallel. Anna and Arthur Ball became friends of Flora Thompson and continued in correspondence with her until her death in 1947. Flora Thompson's letters to Anna and Arthur Ball are in the archives of the University of Exeter and copies are at the University of Texas.

In a personal communication to Thomas Dailey, literary biographer Gillian Lindsay quoted Arthur Ball as describing his wife Anna as a writer of Irish short stories and sketches. Anna Seymour described her own work in the same way in her 1931 letter to Patrick Cooney, in which she raised the possibility of American magazines or papers being interested in her Irish sketches and stories.

Anna Maria Ball died at 214 Yarmouth Road, Thorpe St. Andrew in the Registration District of Acle, Sub-District of Blofield and Flegg, County of Norfolk, England on 22 Feb 1963, age 75, according to her civil death record, which also recorded her husband as Arthur William Ball, a schoolmaster, her residence as 9 Harvey Close,

Thorpe St. Andrew. The informant was G. Oliver, the occupier of 214 Yarmouth Road, the place of death. The death was registered on 25 Feb 1963, No. 466, and the Registrar was George E. B. Lincoln (1963 March Quarter, Vol. 4B, p. 597). The age of 75 in the death record was probably wrong based on the 1901 Census of Ireland record.

In 1991, Arthur Ball lived in Thurso, Caithness, Scotland. He died in 1993 (there was a disparity in his age and Anna Seymour's).

iii. NN (4) SEYMOUR had died by the time the 1911 Census of Ireland was taken, which recorded four children born of Annie Seymore.

iv. NN (4) SEYMOUR had died by the time the 1911 Census of Ireland was taken, which recorded four children born of Annie Seymore.

6. THOMAS (3) COONEY was baptized at Ss. Peter and Paul, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary, Ireland on 22 Mar 1846, the child of Joannes Cooney and Margarita Hogan, with sponsors Thomas Hogan and Ellena Cooney, and with Patricius D. Bourke recorded as the priest (p. 141 in the original register) (Catholic Parish Registers, The National Library of Ireland; Dublin, Ireland; Ss Peter and Paul, Clonmel; Microfilm 02463/01, p. 146).

Thomas Cooney was married to Johanna Mara.

Thomas Cooney died at Poulmaganoge, Co. Waterford on 25 May 1898, according to his civil death record, which listed him as age 52, married, a wine and spirit merchant. The informant was Alice Murphy of Clonmel, present at death. The death was registered on 3 Jun 1898 by Registrar Philip O'Flynn. (Vol. 4, p. 431, Superintendent Registrar's District of Clonmel, Registrar's District of St. Mary's, Union of Clonmel, Co. Waterford, No. 458)

The administration of his estate was granted at Dublin to Johanna Cooney of Main Guard, his widow. In his estate record, Thomas Cooney was described as a merchant. His residence was Main Guard, Clonmel and the value of his estate was £2,678.

Johanna Cooney died at Main Guard, Clonmel on 31 Jul 1913, according to the civil record, which listed her as age 62, the widow of a merchant. The informant was Margaret Cooney of Main Guard, Clonmel, who was present at death. The death was registered on 17 Oct 1913 by Registrar P. J. O'Brien. (Superintendent Registrar's District of Clonmel, Registrar's District of Clonmel I, Union of Clonmel, Co. Tipperary, No. 407)

Child of Thomas Cooney and Johanna Mara was:

i. MARGARET MARY (4) COONEY was born in Main Street, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary, Ireland on 17 Jan 1885, the daughter of Thomas Cooney, a grocer, of Main Street and Johanna Cooney, formerly Mara. The informant was M. A. Whelan of Johnston Street, who was present at birth. The birth was registered on 23 Feb 1885 by Assistant Registrar John M. Daniel. (Superintendent Registrar's District of Clonmel, Registrar's District of Clonmel, Union of Clonmel, Co. Tipperary, No. 491)

Margaret Cooney, died at Main Guard, Clonmel on 12 Aug 1957, according to the civil death record, which listed her as age 74, a spinster shop-keeper. The informant was Betty Carey of Horsepasture, Clonmel, who was present at death. The death was registered on 29 Oct 1957 by Assistant Registrar Cathleen Cunningham. (Superintendent Registrar's District of Clonmel, Registrar's District of Clonmel No. 1, Co. Tipperary, No. 304)

Generation Four

7. PATRICK JOSEPH (4) COONEY was born in Williamsburg, Massachusetts on 15 Mar 1869, according to his Bridgeport, Connecticut death certificate. Also according to his Bridgeport, Connecticut marriage record, he was born in Williamsburg, Massachusetts (Marriages June 1893-Sep. 1899 City of Bridgeport, p. 94).

In the 1870 Federal census, Patrick Cooney (age 1, born in Massachusetts) was recorded in Williamsburg, Massachusetts (P.O. of Chesterfield) (Page 35, Line 32). Nevertheless, no record of his birth or baptism has been located in Chesterfield, Williamsburg, Easthampton, or Northampton, Massachusetts.

In the 1880 Federal census, Patrick Cooney (age 11, born in Massachusetts, attending school, both parents born in Ireland) was recorded in Easthampton, Massachusetts (ED 343, SD 60, Page 3, Line 35).

Patk J. Cooney (age 27, born Williamsburg, Mass., salesman) was married to Helen F. Sheahan (age 26, born Bpt.) by D. J. Cremin at Bridgeport, Connecticut on 24 Jun 1896; it was the first marriage for both; the parents of both were born in Ireland (Marriages June 1893-Sep. 1899 City of Bridgeport, p. 94).

The marriage was noted in the *Bridgeport Evening Post* with the following story.

JUNE WEDDING.

At St. Augustine's church this morning the wedding of Miss Helen Frances Sheahan to Patrick J. Cooney was solemnized by the Rev. Father Cremin. The church was filled with a number of relatives and friends of the groom [who] was attended by his brother, Michael E. Cooney and the bridesmaid was Miss Mary J. Sheahan. A number of friends of the family were present from out of town. A wedding breakfast was served at the residence of the bride's mother, Mrs. Jeremiah Sheahan of Frank street.

The bride and bridesmaid were attired in gowns of white silk with pearl ornaments. The bridal party left for a wedding journey which will embrace the western part of Massachusetts and the eastern part of New York state. *Bridgeport Evening Post*, 24 Jun 1896, p. 3.

The *Bridgeport Evening Farmer* also reported on the wedding with the following story.

JUNE BRIDES AND GROOMS.

THREE COUPLES APPROACH HYMEN'S ALTER TO-DAY.

All of the Contracting Parties Well
Known in Local Circles—Large
Gatherings Witness All Three
Marriages.

Three well-known Catholic couples were united in matrimony today. At St. Augustine's church this morning, with a nuptial mass, Father Cremin pronounced the words which made Patrick J. Cooney and Miss Helen F. Sheahan man and wife. Many friends of the contracting parties

witnessed the ceremony. The mass was celebrated at 9:30. The bride was attired in a gown of white silk, and carried a white ivory prayer book; the bridesmaid, Miss Mary A. Sheahan, a sister of the bride, was similarly attired and carried a bouquet [sic] of white roses. The best man was the groom's brother, Michael E. Cooney. Following the ceremony the bridal party repaired to the home of the bride's mother in Frank street, where a wedding dinner was served, to which only the immediate relatives of the young couple were invited. At the conclusion of the festivities at the house, Mr. and Mrs. Cooney departed on their honeymoon trip which will embrace visits to Boston and other Eastern points. The groom is a popular young salesmanT [sic] many years has been a salesman for R. T. Whiting. The bride is a daughter of the late ex-Alderman Jeremiah Sheahan, and a favorite with her acquaintances. *Bridgeport Evening Farmer*, 24 Jun 1896, p. 1.

Another article on the wedding appeared in *The Morning Union*. It also noted that the bride was a "daughter of the late ex-Alderman Sheahan" and that the groom was "a salesman in the employ of R. T Whiting". *The Morning Union*, 25 Jun 1896, p. 3.

In the 1900 Federal census, Patrick J. Cooney was recorded at 142 Frank Street, Bridgeport, Connecticut, as a grocer (age 31, born in Massachusetts in March 1869); along with his wife, Hellen [sic] F. (age 30, born in Connecticut in March 1870); and their daughter, Marion (born in May 1897) (ED 26, Sheet 11, Lines 26-28).

In the 1900 Federal census, Patrick J. Cooney (age 31, born Mar 1869 in Massachusetts, married four years, both parents born in Ireland, grocer) was recorded with his wife, Hellen [sic] F. Cooney (age 30, born Mar 1870 in Connecticut, married four years, one child, which was then living, both parents born in Ireland); and one child, Marion M. Cooney (age 3, born May 1897 in Connecticut, father born in Massachusetts, mother born in Connecticut) residing at 142 Frank Street, Bridgeport, Connecticut, a house owned with a mortgage (SD 26, ED 26, Sheet 11A, Lines 26-28.)

In the 1910 Federal census, Patrick J. Cooney (head of household, age 41, born in Massachusetts, married 14 years, commercial traveller in wooden ware) was recorded living with his wife Helen F. Cooney (wife, age 40, born in Connecticut, married 14 years, six children of whom five were then living); and their children: Marion Cooney (daughter, age 12, born in Connecticut, single); Agnes Cooney

(daughter, age 8, born in Connecticut, single); Josephine Cooney (daughter, age 6, born in Connecticut, single); Lenora Cooney (daughter, age 4, born in Connecticut, single); and Frank Cooney (son, age 1 and 5/12, born in Connecticut, single) at 140 Frank Street, Bridgeport, Connecticut, a house owned with a mortgage. The 1910 census indicated that five of the Cooneys' six children were living, reflecting the infant death of Helen Frances (4) Cooney in 1901. (SD 29, ED 26, Sheet 10B Lines 98-100 and Sheet 11A, Lines 1-4; on Sheet 11A the ED number was incorrectly written as 23 but it is evidently 26.)

In the 1920 Federal census, Patrick J. Cooney (age 48, born in Massachusetts, salesman with a construction company) was recorded with his wife, Helen (age 47, born in Connecticut); and their children: Marion, (age 22, born in Connecticut, a bookkeeper at Graphophon); Agnes (age 17, born in Connecticut, a stenographer at a paper box company); Josephine (age 15, born in Connecticut, attending school); Lenora (age 14, born in Connecticut, attending school); and Frank (age 11, born in Connecticut, attending school) at 140 Frank Street, Bridgeport, Connecticut (a house owned with a mortgage) (SD 38, ED 36, Sheet 10A, Lines 22-28).

In the 1930 Federal census, Patrick J. Cooney (age 61, born in Massachusetts, age 27 at first marriage, salesman in the construction industry) was recorded at 112 Aldine Avenue, Bridgeport, Connecticut along with his wife, H. Francis [sic] Cooney (age 60, born in Connecticut, age 26 at first marriage); and their children: Agnes V. (age 27, born in Connecticut, single, stenographer at a steel factory); Josephine R. (age 25, born in Connecticut, single, public school teacher); Lenore E. (age 24, born in Connecticut, single, public school teacher); and Frank J. (age 21, born in Connecticut, single, bookkeeper [sic] in auto sales). Patrick J. Cooney was recorded as owning the house, which was valued at \$15,000. The census recorded the monthly rent from 110 Aldine Avenue (the first floor flat in the same house) as \$60. Helen Sheahan Cooney's cousin Mary A. Murphy was also recorded at 112 Aldine Avenue in the 1930 Federal census. She was age 62, born in Ireland, single, immigrated in 1890, and employed as a cook for a private family. (ED 1-31, Sheet 24A, Lines 20-26.)

In the 1940 Federal census, Patrick J. Cooney (age 72, father-in-law, born in Massachusetts, widower, completed 8th grade, lived in the same place in 1935) was recorded at 112 Aldine Avenue, Bridgeport, Connecticut residing with his daughter Marion C. Delby [sic, the correct spelling is Delvy] and her family. The house was owned and valued at \$6,000. (SD 4, ED 9-50, Sheet 9-A, Lines 17-21.) Another daughter, Josephine R. Bown, was recorded living with her family as well as a

cousin, Margaret Noonan, in the flat downstairs at 110 Aldine Avenue (SD 4, ED 9-50, Sheet 9-A, Lines 16-20).

Patrick Cooney's family first appeared in the Bridgeport Directory in 1883. His father, Michael Cooney, was listed as a machinist residing at 54 Grand Street in the 1883-87 Directories.

In the 1887 Directory, Patrick Cooney was listed residing with his parents at 54 Grand Street. In the 1888 and 1889 Directories, Patrick J. Cooney continued to be listed as living at 54 Grand Street. In the 1890 and 1891 Directories, his residence and that of his mother had changed to 69 Grand Street. In the 1892 Directory, the residence for Patrick J. Cooney and his mother changed to 22 Hurd Avenue and in the 1893 and 1894 Directories, they were listed as residing at 30 Commercial Street. In the 1895 and 1896 Directories, they both were listed as residing at 26½ Sanford Avenue. In the 1897 and 1898 Directories (after his marriage to Helen Sheahan), Patrick J. Cooney was listed as residing at 58 Frank Street.

In the 1899-1910 Directories, Patrick J. Cooney was listed as residing at 142 Frank Street. In the 1911-22 Directories, he was listed as residing at 140 Frank Street. In the 1923 Directory, his residence address was unchanged but for the first time his wife, Helen F., was included. The residential listing at 140 Frank Street with Helen F. continued in the 1924-26 Directories. In the 1927 and 1928 Directories, Patrick J. Cooney was listed as residing with his wife, Helen F., at 110 Aldine Avenue, which is at the corner of Laurel Avenue. In the 1929-34 Directories, Patrick J. Cooney was listed as residing with his wife, Helen F., at 112 Aldine Avenue. In the 1935-40 Directories, Patrick J. Cooney was listed as residing at 112 Aldine Avenue. In the 1941 and 1942 Directories, Patrick J. Cooney was listed as residing at the Hillside Home. In the 1939-41 Directories, he was also listed as Patrick Cooney at 119 Pine Creek Beach, Fairfield, the address of the cottage that his wife had owned since 1925. The 1941 cottage listing has a confusing error; a Stratford, Connecticut address appeared on the line following Patrick Cooney's Pine Creek Beach listing. Comparison to the 1942 Directory makes clear that the Stratford address belonged with an unrelated individual whose name appeared just above Patrick Cooney's. Patrick Cooney died in 1943 at the Hillside Home. His granddaughter Helen Bown Dailey has a childhood memory of going with her parents to visit him there.

In the 1887 Bridgeport Directory, Patrick Cooney was listed as a clerk at 26 Frank Street. Given the address of his employ, he quite likely worked for his later father-

in-law, Jeremiah Sheahan. In the 1888 Directory, Patrick J. Cooney was listed as a clerk at 235 Fairfield Avenue; his 1889 and 1890 listings were as a clerk at 60 Courtland Street. In the 1891-97 Directories, Patrick J. Cooney was listed as a clerk at 345 Main Street. In the 1898-1900 Directories, Patrick J. Cooney was listed as being in business as T. F. & P. J. Cooney at 142 Courtland Street. He was in the grocery business with his brother Thomas F. Cooney. There was also a separate business listing for T. F. & P. J. Cooney, grocers at 142 Courtland Street in the 1898-1900 Directories as well as a large advertisement in the City Directory for 1898 (p. 800): "T. F. & P. J. COONEY, STAPLE AND FANCY GROCERIES, Fresh Fruits, Vegetables, Canned Goods, Etc. Fairfield Avenue, Cannon and Courtland Streets, BRIDGEPORT, - CONN.". In the 1901 Directory, Patrick J. Cooney was listed as a commercial traveler with no business address and no grocery business listed or advertised. His professional listings continued until the 1932 Directory, as described below.

In the 1902 Directory, Patrick J. Cooney was listed as a commercial traveler with an office at 603 Water Street. In the 1903-10 Directories, he was listed as a commercial traveler with no office address. In the 1911 and 1912 Directories, he was listed as a commercial traveler with the Smith-Comstock Company. In the 1913-15 Directories, he was listed again simply as a commercial traveler. In the 1916-19 Directories, he was listed as a bookkeeper at the Bridgeport Mills Company. In the 1920-26 Directories, he was again listed as a commercial traveler. In the 1927 Directory, he was listed as a salesman, and in the 1928 Directory, he was listed as a manager at 2844 Fairfield Avenue. In the 1929 Directory, he was listed as a salesman. In the 1930 Directory, no place of business was listed for him. In the 1931 Directory, he was listed as a salesman in New York. In the 1932 Directory, he was listed as city sheriff. This was his last professional listing in the Bridgeport Directory, however, his residential listings continued until his death.

In 1906, Patrick Cooney went to Ireland and presumably saw relatives in Clonmel and perhaps other parts of the country. This trip may have been the basis of his friendship and correspondence with his cousin Anna Seymour. "Patk J. Cooney, Gent.", male, aged 37, was recorded on the United Kingdom outward passenger list for the ship *Baltic*, which departed Queenstown, Ireland on 19 Jul 1906, destination New York. He was travelling on the same ticket as James Adair.

According to American records, the *Baltic* arrived in New York, New York on 26 Jul 1906, its point of departure having been Liverpool, England, with passengers Patrick J. Cooney and James Adair. They were both listed as grocers at 1688 Main Street, Bridgeport, Conn. Both were listed as age 37; Cooney was listed as married

and Adair as single. Both had stayed in Armagh, Ireland though they could have visited other places as well. Perhaps Adair's family came from Armagh.

Patrick Cooney's greatest interest seems to have been in public affairs and intellectual matters. He was an active and committed Socialist and also a writer. He read avidly; his daughter Marion recalled his passing the many hours he spent on trains by reading. His monograph, *Roman Catholicism and Socialism*, published by the Progress Publishing Company in 1908 (a copy of which is in the American Antiquarian Society collection), was a thoughtful piece for one without a university education. He was active in the Socialist political movement in the United States and ran for office in Bridgeport several times, once against his brother Bernard, who was the Republican candidate. In 1931, when Patrick Cooney was elected Sheriff in Bridgeport, he was the first Socialist Party candidate elected to public office in the State of Connecticut. His daughter Josephine recalled a parade of Socialist supporters to the family's house on Aldine Avenue to celebrate her father's victory. He was a friend of Eugene Debs and also of Jack London, whom Josephine Cooney well remembered staying at their house on Frank Street. Patrick Cooney's granddaughter Helen Bown lived as a young child in the same house on Aldine Avenue as her grandfather and recalled his physical decline in the late 1930s as a result of facial skin cancer. She recalled that despite his declining health he was able to perform household chores such as clearing snow and shoveling coal into the furnace. His nephew Howard Owens, Sr., who worked as a young man for Patrick Cooney, once observed that his uncle was, in intellectual matters, an "enlightened man".

Patrick Joseph Cooney died at the Hillside Home, Bridgeport, Connecticut, on 21 Jan 1943, according to his death certificate, which also listed his residence as 112 Aldine Avenue, Bridgeport, Connecticut, his birthplace as Hadenville [sic], Massachusetts, his birth date as 15 Mar 1869, his parents as Michael Cooney and Margaret McGraw [sic] (both born in Ireland), and his occupation as a salesman with the Belmont Metal Co. His death certificate also stated that he was buried at St. Michael's Cemetery on 23 Jan 1943. His mother's maiden name was misspelled; however, McGrath would have been pronounced by the Irish at the time similar to McGraw so the record was phonetically correct. The following obituary appeared:

An obituary for Patrick Cooney appeared in the *Bridgeport Post* of 21 Jan 1943, p. 23. His wake was held at Lieberum and Heaphy, 866 Lafayette street, his funeral was at St. Augustine's church, and his burial was at St. Michael's cemetery.

There are nine photographs of Patrick Cooney in the collection of the American Antiquarian Society (AAS Items P, S, T, V, W, W-1, X, AA, and BB). The collection also includes a photograph of his house at 142 Frank Street, Bridgeport, Connecticut (AAS Item U). These images range in date from c.1875-c.1925. In addition, there are photographs of him from the 1930s in the family archive held by Thomas Dailey.

Helen Frances Sheahan was born in Bridgeport, Connecticut on 13 Mar 1870, and was baptized at St. Augustine's Church, Bridgeport, Connecticut, on 20 Mar 1870, by the Rev. J. L. Fitzpatrick, with sponsors Peter Callahan and Mary Clampit [sic], according to church records. In her baptismal record, Helen Frances Sheahan was incorrectly recorded as Ellen Frances Sheehan. She has two Bridgeport civil birth records. In the first, she was incorrectly recorded as Ellen Frances Sheehan, while her parents were recorded as Jeremiah Sheehan and Nora Clampitt, the surname of each misspelled (City of Bridgeport Births Record 1850-1887, p. 86). This record was obtained by the City of Bridgeport from the St. Augustine Roman Catholic Church (all the records in the volume were obtained from churches). In the second, a female with the surname Shaler was recorded as born 13 Mar 1870 to parents Jeremiah Shaler and Cora[?] Shaler (Record of Births in the Town of Bridgeport, 1870, p. 190). It is quite likely that the Shaler child was Helen Frances Sheahan.

In the 1870 Federal census, Frances E. Shehan (female, age 3/12, born in Connecticut in March 1870) was recorded with her family in Bridgeport, Connecticut (1870 Federal Census, Bridgeport, Connecticut, Page 105, Lines 30-38). The listing of the infant as Frances E. was a mistake; her Christian name was actually Helen Frances. She was named after her paternal grandmother Ellen Shaughnessy Sheahan (the Christian names Helen and Ellen seem to have been used interchangeably by the Irish of the 19th century). Further evidence that there can be no doubt about the identity of the infant listed is that Helen Frances Sheahan was born on 13 Mar 1870, making her about three months old when the census was taken on 24 Jun 1870, in which her age was recorded as 3/12. It should also be noted that the surname (correctly spelled Sheahan) was misspelled Shehan in the 1870 census. The 1870 census also recorded the value of her father's real estate as \$800 and his personal estate as \$55.

In the 1880 Federal census, Nellie Sheehan (age 10, attending school, born in Connecticut, both parents born in Connecticut) was recorded with her family at 23 Frank Street, Bridgeport, Connecticut (SD 1, ED 129, Page 24, Lines 35-43). Helen Sheahan was known as Nellie and was often listed by that name in records.

As a child, Helen Sheahan attended Union School on Grand Street, according to several Bridgeport Board of Education Annual Reports of the 1870s and 1880s, where her exemplary attendance was recorded.

Helen Sheahan Cooney owned a cottage and garage at Pine Creek Beach, Fairfield, Connecticut. The deed, executed 2 May 1925, was recorded in the Fairfield land records on 17 Jun 1925 (Vol. 118, Page 219). The grantee was listed as Nellie F. Cooney and one of the witnesses to the deed was B. F. Cooney, a brother of Patrick Cooney. The cottage purchased by Helen Sheahan Cooney was next door to one owned by her first cousin Henry J. Clampett. Though the Cooneys did not purchase the Pine Creek Beach cottage until 1925, it is likely that they rented it or one nearby in earlier years. There are photos of Josephine Cooney and friends at Pine Creek Beach that probably date from 1921. There is also an earlier photo of the the Cooney family at the same place from the 1910s. Transfer of the cottage from Nellie F. Cooney to Agnes V. Cooney was effected by a quit claim deed signed on 22 Apr 1932 and recorded in the Fairfield land records on 24 May 1935 (Vol. 155, Page 482). This recording occurred shortly after the death of Helen Sheahan Cooney. Agnes V. Cooney owned the cottage until 19 Jul 1948, when it was sold (Fairfield land records, Vol. 225, Page 393). A change of name of the owner from Agnes V. Cooney to Agnes C. McKeon was recorded in the Fairfield land records on 8 Jul 1941 (Vol. 185, Page 403).

Helen Sheahan Cooney died in Bridgeport, Connecticut on 27 Apr 1935, according to her death certificate, and was buried in the Honora Sheahan plot (Sec. 3, Lot 328) at St. Michael's Cemetery, Stratford, Connecticut, on 30 Apr 1935, according to cemetery records.

Obituaries for Helen Sheahan Cooney appeared in the *Bridgeport Post* of 29 Apr 1935, p. 23, and 30 Apr 1935, p. 21. Her funeral was at St. Augustine's Church. The main celebrant of the mass was the Rev. Leo Weston, assisted by the Rev. Alfred Driscoll, the Rev. Thomas F. Henahan, and the Rev. Francis Sugrue. Fr. Henahan read the committal at St. Michael's Cemetery, Stratford, Connecticut. Pall bearers were Bernard Cooney, William Doherty, John Sheahan, Charles Patterson, and John Cull.

There are 12 photographs Helen Sheahan Cooney in the collection of the American Antiquarian Society (AAS Items E, F, I (possible), K, L, M, S, T, V, X, AA, and BB. The collection also includes a photograph of her house at 142 Frank Street, Bridgeport, Connecticut (AAS Item U). These images range in date from 1870-

c.1925. In addition, there are photographs of her from the early 1920s as well as 1934 in the family archive held by Thomas Dailey.

Children of Patrick Joseph Cooney and Helen Frances Sheahan were:

10. i. MARY MARGARET (5) COONEY was born on 10 May 1897, and was married to Henry Delvy.

ii. HELEN FRANCES (5) COONEY was born at 142 Frank Street, Bridgeport, Connecticut on 3 Jul 1900, the daughter of Patk. Jos. [Cooney] (age 31, born Williamsbury [sic, it was Williamsburg], Mass., grocer) and Helen Frances Sheehan [sic, it was Sheahan] (age 30, born Bpt., Ct.); she was the second child of her mother, both living; the birth was certified by W. C. Bowers, M.D. (Births in the Town of Bridgeport, 1899-1900, p. 356).

Helen Cooney died at 142 Frank Street, Bridgeport, Connecticut on 16 Sep 1901, according to the civil record, which also listed her father as Patrick J. Cooney, incorrectly giving his birthplace as Willimantic, Conn., the birthplace of her unnamed mother as Bpt. Conn., and her place of burial as St. Michael's Cemetery (Record Book of Deaths 1900-1905, p. 122). In fact, she was buried in the Honora Sheahan plot (Sec. 3, Lot 328) at St. Michael's Cemetery, Stratford, Connecticut, in the same grave later used for her mother, Helen Sheahan Cooney, according to Agnes Cooney McKeon, who told the story to Thomas Dailey in 1990 shortly before Helen Cooney's name was placed on the Sheahan monument in 1991.

The *Morning Union-Telegram* printed the following story on the day of Helen Frances Cooney's death.

Sudden Death.

Helen, the 14 months old daughter of P. J. and Nellie Cooney of 142 Frank street, died suddenly early this morning from convulsions. *Morning Union-Telegram*, 16 Sep 1901, p. 3.

The *Bridgeport Evening Farmer* printed the following story the day of the funeral.

The funeral of Helen, the 14 months old daughter of Patrick J. Cooney, was held this afternoon at the residence of the parents. Rev. Father Fitzpatrick read the burial service. There was a profusion of beautiful floral tokens. Interment was in St. Michael's cemetery. *Bridgeport Evening Farmer*, 17 Sep 1901, p. 6.

ter The *Morning Union-Telegram* printed the following story the day after the funeral.

The funeral of Helen, infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. P. J. Cooney, was held from the residence of the parents, 142 Frank street, yesterday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock. A large number of sorrowing relatives and friends attended the obsequies and a beautiful and extensive array of floral tributes was noticed. The interment was in St. Michael's cemetery. *Morning Union-Telegram*, 18 Sep 1901, p. 3.

There were additional death notices in the the *Bridgeport Evening Farmer*, 16 Sep 1901, p. 6; and the *Morning Union-Telegram*, 17 Sep 1901, p. 3.

There are no known photographs of Helen Frances Cooney.

iii. AGNES (5) COONEY was born at 142 Frank Street, Bridgeport, Connecticut on 17 May 1902, the daughter of Patrick J. [Cooney] (age 34, born Haydenville, Mass., travelling agent) and Helen F. Sheahan (age 32, born Bpt., Conn.); the certifying physician was J. W. Wright, M.D. (Births in the Town of Bridgeport, 1902, p. 153). The record listed Agnes as the third child of her mother, and mistakenly stated that all three were living. In fact, her sister Helen had died in 1901. Agnes Cooney's middle name was Veronica.

In the 1910 Federal census, Agnes Cooney (daughter, age 8, born in Connecticut, single) was recorded with her family at 140 Frank Street, Bridgeport, Connecticut (SD 29, ED 26, Sheet 11A, Line 1; the ED was incorrectly written 23, but is evidently 26).

In the 1920 Federal census, Agnes Cooney (age 17, born in

Connecticut, a stenographer at a paper box company) was recorded with her family at 140 Frank Street, Bridgeport, Connecticut (SD 38, ED 36, Sheet 10A, Lines 22-28).

In the 1930 Federal census, Agnes V. Cooney (age 27, born in Connecticut, single, stenographer at a steel factory) was recorded residing with her parents at 112 Aldine Avenue, Bridgeport, Connecticut (ED 1-31, SD 4, Sheet 24A, Line 22).

Agnes V. Cooney was listed in the 1919-23 Bridgeport Directories as a clerk at 128 Thompson Street, residing at 140 Frank Street. In the 1924 Directory, she was listed as Agnes Cooney, a stenographer at 245 Water Street residing at 140 Frank Street. In the 1925 and 1926 Directories, she was listed as Agnes V. Cooney, a stenographer at 245 Water Street residing at 140 Frank Street. In the 1927 and 1928 Directories, Agnes V. Cooney was listed as a stenographer at 245 Water Street residing at 110 Aldine Avenue. In the 1929 Directory, Agnes V. Cooney was listed as a stenographer at 245 Water Street residing at 112 Aldine Avenue. In the 1930-38, Directories, Agnes V. Cooney was listed as a stenographer at 221 Water Street residing at 112 Aldine Avenue. In the 1939 Directory, she was listed as a stenographer at 245 Water Street residing at 112 Aldine Avenue. In the 1940 Directory, she was listed as having married William J. McKeon.

In the 1942 Directory, William McKeon was listed residing at 119 Pine Creek Beach in Fairfield, Agnes Cooney McKeon's cottage which had previously been her mother's. The cottage continued to be used by others in the family when Agnes was away from Connecticut. For example, Helen Bown (daughter of Josephine Cooney Bown) remembered her family spending the summer of 1942 at the cottage, and also staying there with her grandmother's cousin Mary Murphy. According to Helen Bown, her aunt Lenore Cooney Doherty and her family took another summer house at Pine Creek Beach in these years.

According to her Bridgeport marriage record, Agnes Veronica Cooney (age 36) was married to William James McKeon (age 36), in Bridgeport, Connecticut on 25 Mar 1940. Both were born in Bridgeport and it was the first marriage for both. His occupation

was given as mechanical engineer, his address as 159 Hazelwood Avenue, and his parents as John F. McKeon and Maria A. Noonan. Agnes Cooney's occupation was given as stenographer, her address as 112 Aldine Avenue, and her parents as Patrick Jos. Cooney and Helen Sheahan. William James McKeon was an engineer and traveled a great deal both in the United States and abroad for his work. In addition to his work in engineering, William McKeon was also an early aviator.

There was a newspaper notice of the wedding in the *Bridgeport Times-Star* of 20 Mar 1940. the ceremony was held at St. Augustine's Church in Bridgeport. Mr. and Mrs. Herman Bousquet of Southport attended the couple, and a reception was held at the Green Shutters in Bridgeport. Agnes Cooney worked for Hunter and Havens, a steel company in Bridgeport, and William McKeon for Ford, Bacon, and Davis, Consulting Engineers of New York.

During the early 1940s, when he was not traveling for his work, the McKeons' summer residence was the cottage that had been her mother's on Old Dam Road at Pine Creek, Fairfield, Connecticut. Their winter residence was a house on Canal Street in Westport, Connecticut. Her niece Helen Bown Dailey recalled staying with her aunt and their elderly cousin Mary Murphy at the Pine Creek cottage. The McKeons also lived in places where he had engineering projects, including Louisiana and Galveston, Texas. In the late 1940s, the McKeons lived in her sister Lenore Cooney Doherty's house at 1313 Stadium Avenue, Bronx, New York. William McKeon died in 1949 and Lenore Doherty died in 1950. After Lenore Doherty's death, Agnes McKeon left the house on Stadium Avenue and moved to Manhattan, where she lived in Greenwich Village at 111 West 11th Street. She worked in social services at St. Vincent's Hospital in New York. While living in New York, Agnes McKeon often spent week-ends with her sister Marion Cooney Delvy in Middlebury, Connecticut. In the mid-1960s, Agnes McKeon moved back to Connecticut, to Southbury, where she lived very happily for the remainder of her life. She was an avid philatelist, loved gardening and, along with her companion of many years, Clifford Cross, was a devout member of her church.

William James McKeon was born on 6 Jan 1904 and died on

7 Jan 1949, according to the McKeon cemetery monument inscription. He was buried in the McKeon plot (Sec. 4, Lot 48 South 1/2) at St. Michael's Cemetery, Stratford, Connecticut, on 20 Jan 1949, age 45, according to cemetery records. According to the McKeon monument at St. Michael's, the family came from County Galway, Ireland.

Agnes Cooney McKeon died on 24 Oct 1998, age 96, in Southbury, Connecticut. She was buried in the Honora Sheahan plot (Sec. 3, Lot 328) at St. Michael's Cemetery, Stratford, Connecticut, on 28 Oct 1998, according to cemetery records. Her obituary appeared in the *Fairfield Citizen-News*, shortly after her death.

There are five photographs of Agnes Cooney in the collection of the American Antiquarian Society ranging in date from 1905 to c.1925 (AAS Items V, X, Y, AA, and BB) as well as a photograph of the house at 142 Frank Street, Bridgeport, Connecticut where she grew up (AAS Item U). AAS Items U and X belonged to Agnes Cooney McKeon, who have them to Thomas Dailey.

11. iv. JOSEPHINE ROSARIA (5) COONEY was born on 17 Jul 1904, and was married to Alfred Augustus Bown.

12. v. LENORE (5) COONEY was born on 27 Nov 1905, and was married to William Doherty.

13. vi. FRANK JOSEPH (5) COONEY was born on 14 Dec 1908, and was married to Pearl Jones.

8. BERNARD F. (4) COONEY was born at Easthampton, Massachusetts, on 30 Aug 1878. He was baptized at Immaculate Conception Church, Easthampton, on 21 Sep 1878, by James Boyle, with sponsors John Catey and Margaret Powers, according to Immaculate Conception Church baptismal records (p. 102). He was known as "Ben".

In the 1880 Federal census, Bernard Cooney was recorded in Easthampton, Massachusetts (age 1, born in Massachusetts, both parents born in Ireland) (ED 343, SD 60, Page 3, Line 38).

In the 1900 Federal census, Bernard F. Cooney was recorded as a reporter born in August 1878, and living at his mother's residence, 64 Sanford Avenue, Bridgeport, Connecticut (ED 29, Sheet 12, Line 72).

Bernard F. Cooney (age 24, born Easthampton, Mass., reporter) was married to Josephine Klein (age 20, born Bridgeport, Conn.) by the Rev. H. Dahme, Rector of St. Joseph's Church, at Bridgeport, Connecticut on 10 Sep 1902; it was the first marriage for both; his parents were Michael [Cooney] and Margaret McGrath, both born in Ireland; her parents were John Klein and Catherine Riehl Klein, both born in Germany. (Marriages 1901-1906, p. 118).

The following story appeared in the *Bridgeport Evening Post*.

NEWSPAPER MAN WEDS.
Cooney-Klein Nuptials at St. Joseph's
Church This Morning.

Miss Josephine, daughter of Mrs. Catherine Klein of Ogden street, and Bernard F. Cooney were united in marriage this morning at 10 o'clock, at St. Joseph's German Catholic church. A nuptial mass was celebrated by the pastor, Rev. Herbert Dahme, who performed the ceremony. Miss Louise Klein, sister of the bride was bridesmaid and William A. Cooney, brother of the groom, attended the latter. Only the members of the families of the young couple were present. The bride wore a travelling gown of navy blue with hat to match. A wedding breakfast was served at the bride's home after the ceremony attended by the immediate relatives of the young couple.

Mr. and Mrs. Cooney left the city this afternoon for a two weeks trip which will embrace points of interest in New York, Massachusetts, Washington and several southern cities. Upon their return they will reside on DeKalb avenue, where the groom has furnished a comfortable home. Both young people are well known, Mr. Cooney being on the city staff of the Standard. *Bridgeport Evening Post*, 10 Sep 1902, p. 2.

Another lengthy story appeared in the *Bridgeport Evening Farmer* of 10 Sep 1902, p. 1.

In the 1910 Federal census, Bernard F. Cooney (head of household, age 31, born in Massachusetts, married seven years, Ass. Clerk of Probate Court, rents house) was recorded with his wife, Josephine M. Cooney (wife, age 28, born in Connecticut,

married seven years, one child, which was living); and their daughter Marie C. Cooney (daughter, age 6, born in Connecticut, single) at 538 Odgen (sic, it was Ogden) Street, Bridgeport, Connecticut (SD 29, ED 38, Sheet 7A, Lines 23-25).

In the 1920 Federal census, Bernard Cooney (head of household, age 41, married, born in Massachusetts, both parents born in Ireland, engaged in his own real estate business) was recorded with his wife, Josephine (wife, age 37, married, born in Connecticut, father born in Connecticut, mother born in Germany); and their daughter Mary (age 15, single, attending school, father born in Connecticut, mother born in Germany) at 61 Bancroft Avenue, Bridgeport, Connecticut, a house he owned free of mortgage (SD 38, ED 37, Sheet 14B, Lines 61-63). The daughter was actually Marie, her father was born in Massachusetts, and her mother in Connecticut.

In the 1930 Federal census, Bernard Cooney (age 51, born in Massachusetts, age 23 at first marriage, insurance broker) was recorded with his wife, Josephine (age 48, born in Connecticut, age 20 at first marriage); and their daughter, Marie B. (age 26, born in Connecticut, single, teacher in a public school) at 61 Bancroft Avenue, Bridgeport, Connecticut, a home he owned, which was valued at \$14,000 and had a radio set (ED 1-39, SD 4, Sheet 24A, Lines 38-40).

Bernard F. Cooney was listed in the 1898 Bridgeport Directory as a reporter at the *Evening Post* living at 64 Sanford Avenue (his mother's residence). In the 1899 Directory, he was listed as a reporter for the *Morning Union* and living at 64 Sanford Avenue. In the 1900-02 Directories, he was listed as a reporter for the *Bridgeport Standard* with his residence unchanged.

In the 1903 and 1904 Bridgeport Directories, Bernard F. Cooney was still listed as a reporter at the *Bridgeport Standard* but had moved to 49 DeKalb Street. This move probably was related to his marriage in 1902. In the 1905-07 Directories, his job was unchanged but he had moved to 724 William Street. In the 1908 Directory, his job was unchanged but he had moved to 1246 East Main Street. In the 1909 Directory, his job was unchanged but he had moved to 714 William Street. In the 1910 Directory, he was listed as Assistant Clerk of the Probate Court and had moved to 538 William Street. In the 1911 Directory, he was again listed as a reporter at the *Bridgeport Standard* and was still living at 538 William Street. In the 1912 Directory, he was listed in the real estate and insurance business at 1115 Main Street, and as the Collector of Taxes, with an office at City Hall; his residence was still 538 William Street. B. F. Cooney had a large advertisement for his

insurance business in the 1912 Bridgeport Directory (p. 812). It listed his office in the Security Building at 1115 Main Street. The City Government listing in the 1912 Bridgeport Directory had Bernard F. Cooney as the Collector of Taxes and Assessments. The 1913 Directory listed his work unchanged and his residence as 1044 Noble Avenue. The 1914-16 Directories listed him in the real estate and insurance business at 1115 Main Street and residing at 456 Wood Avenue. His business advertisement was on p. 84 of the 1915 Directory and listed both insurance and real estate. His 1917 Directory entry was unchanged except that his residence was listed as 450 Wood Avenue. In the 1918 Directory, his business listing was unchanged and his residence was back at 456 Wood Avenue, suggesting that the 1917 residential listing might have been a typographical error. The 1919 Directory listing was unchanged except that his business included surety bonds. His advertisement in the 1919 Directory listed him as a real estate and general insurance broker in Room 715 of the Security Building at 1115 Main Street (p. 117). In the 1920 and 1921 Directories, his business was unchanged but he had moved to 61 Bancroft Avenue. In the 1922 Directory, he was still in the real estate, insurance, and surety bond business at 1115 Main Street and was also listed as Vice President of Harrison, Schnee & Cooney, Inc., located at 1150 Main Street; his residence was still 61 Bancroft Avenue. In the 1923 Directory, his residence was unchanged except that and his wife, Josephine, was included in the listing; professionally he was listed as a realtor at 1115 Main Street, Vice President of Harrison, Schnee & Cooney at 1150 Main Street, President of the Bridgeport Real Estate Board, and Secretary of the City of Bridgeport Park Board. In the 1924 Directory, his listing was the same except that he was no longer President of the Bridgeport Real Estate Board. His 1925 Directory listing was the same as 1924 except that Harrison, Schnee & Cooney was not mentioned. His 1926-30, 1936, and 1938 Directory listings were substantially the same as 1925.

The following article announced Bernard Cooney's retirement from politics in 1913 to devote more time to his real estate and insurance business.

B. F. Cooney Retires from Politics

Bernard F. Cooney, for some time past collector of taxes at Bridgeport, Conn., has decided to abandon political life and will hereafter devote his entire time to the development of his insurance and real estate business. Mr. Cooney has been engaged in the insurance and real estate business in Bridgeport for the past three years, with an office in the Security building, and the business has grown to such proportions as to require his entire time. *The Standard. A Weekly Insurance Newspaper.*, Vol. 73, No. 16, 18 Oct 1913, p. 387.

The following article in the newspaper industry weekly, *The Fourth Estate*, noted Bernard Cooney's election as President of the Bridgeport Real Estate Board in 1922.

COONEY HEADS BRIDGEPORT
REAL ESTATE BOARD.

Bernard F. Cooney, for years in the newspaper field at Bridgeport, Ct., as political and city hall reporter of the defunct Standard, was elected president of Bridgeport Real Estate Board, at the annual meeting of that organization last week. *The Fourth Estate*, 30 Dec 1922, p. 26.

Bernard Francis Cooney died at St. Vincent's Hospital, Bridgeport, Connecticut on 25 Jan 1939, according to his death certificate, which listed his residence as 61 Bancroft Avenue, Bridgeport, Connecticut, his birthplace as No. Hampton, Massachusetts, his birth date as 27 Aug 1878, his parents as Michael Cooney and Margaret McGrath, and his occupation as realtor and insurance. His death certificate also stated that he was buried at St. Michael's Cemetery on 28 Jan 1939.

Bernard F. Cooney was buried in the Josephine Cooney plot (Sec. 7, Lot 516 SW 1/4) at St. Michael's Cemetery, Stratford, Connecticut, on 28 Jan 1939, age 60, according to cemetery records.

There was much press attention to the death of Bernard Cooney. Lengthy articles appeared in *The Bridgeport Post* of 25 Jan 1939, p.1; the *Bridgeport Times-Star*, of 25 Jan 1939, p. 1 included a photograph.

After starting his career in journalism, where he wrote for several Bridgeport newspapers and also was a correspondent for the *New York Sun* prior to starting to work in the insurance and real estate field. He served 33 consecutive terms as clerk of the Bridgeport Board of Park Commissioners. He was elected tax collector in 1911 when he ran as a Republican against his Socialist brother Patrick J. Cooney.

The celebrant of his funeral mass was at St. Augustine's Church was the Rev. Alfred Driscoll, who was assisted by the Rev. Thomas Henahan, the Rev. Leo Weston, and the Rev. Dr. Finton S. Tehan. The pallbearers were former Mayor E. T. Buckingham, John A. Orr, Edward P. McCarthy, Michael Svihra, Frank H. Mullins, and Frank J. Quinlan.

Josephine M. Klein was born in Bridgeport, Connecticut, the daughter of John Klein and Catherine Reihl.

In the 1900 Federal census, Josephine Klein (age 18, single, born March 1881 in Connecticut, father born in New York, mother born in Germany, Telephone Operator) was recorded with her widowed mother, sister and two brothers at 538 William Street (at the corner of Ogden Street), Bridgeport, Connecticut, a house owned by her mother with a mortgage (SD 26, ED 36, Sheet 7A, Lines 37-41).

Josephine Cooney died in Bridgeport Hospital, Bridgeport, Connecticut on 5 Nov 1958. Her obituary appeared in the *Bridgeport Telegram* of 6 Nov 1958, p. 57. She was buried in the Josephine Cooney plot (Sec. 7, Lot 516 SW 1/4) at St. Michael's Cemetery, Stratford, Connecticut, on 8 Nov 1958, age 76, according to cemetery records.

Josephine M. Cooney, widow of Bernard F., was listed in the 1941 and 1942 Bridgeport Directories residing at 61 Bancroft Avenue.

Child of Bernard Cooney and Josephine Klein was:

i. MARIE CATHERINE (5) COONEY was born at 49 DeKalb Avenue, Bridgeport, Connecticut on 19 Feb 1904, the first child of Bernard F. Cooney (b. E.Hampton, Massachusetts, occupation: reporter) and M. Josephine Klein (b. Bridgeport, Connecticut), according to the civil birth records (Bridgeport Births, February 1904, p. 115; and Births in the Town of Bridgeport, 1904, p. 355). The birth was certified on 26 Feb 1904 by F. M. Tukey, M.D. Marie B. Cooney died on 12 Nov 1965 at Van Doren Convalescent, Fairfield, Connecticut and was buried at St. Michael's Cemetery on 15 Nov 1965, according to her death certificate, which listed her residence as 61 Bancroft Avenue, Bridgeport, Connecticut, her occupation as school teacher, her father as Bernard F. Cooney (incorrectly stated to have been born in Bridgeport), and her mother as Josephine M. Klein (b. Bridgeport). Marie Cooney was buried in the Josephine Cooney plot (Sec. 7, Lot 516 SW 1/4) at St. Michael's Cemetery, Stratford, Connecticut, on 15 Nov 1965, age 61, according to cemetery records.

In the 1910 Federal census, Marie C. Cooney (daughter, age 6, born in Connecticut, single) was recorded living with her parents at 538

Odgen Street, Bridgeport, Connecticut (SD 29, ED 38, Sheet 7A, Line 25). The street name was misspelled; it should have been Ogden.

In the 1920 Federal census, Mary [sic, it was Marie] Cooney (age 15, single, born in Connecticut, father born in Connecticut [sic, he was born in Massachusetts], mother born in Germany [sic, she was born in Connecticut], attending school) was recorded with her parents at 61 Bancroft Avenue, Bridgeport, Connecticut (SD 38, ED 37, Sheet 14B, Lines 61-63).

In the 1930 Federal census, Marie B. Cooney (age 26, born in Connecticut, single, teacher in a public school) was recorded residing with her parents at 61 Bancroft Avenue, Bridgeport, Connecticut (ED 1-39, SD 4, Sheet 24A, Line 40).

She was listed in the 1925 Bridgeport Directory (as Maria B. Cooney) as a teacher residing at 61 Bancroft Avenue. In the 1926 Directory, she was correctly listed as Marie B. Cooney, a teacher residing at 61 Bancroft Avenue. She was not listed in the 1927 Directory. In the 1928 and 1929 Directories, Marie B. Cooney was again listed as a teacher residing at 61 Bancroft Avenue. In the 1930 Directory, she was listed as a teacher at 500 Huntington Road (Beardsley School) residing at 61 Bancroft Avenue. She was listed in the 1936-38, 1941, and 1942 Directories as a teacher at Bassick High School residing at 61 Bancroft Avenue. She was head of the History Department at Bassick High School. Her obituary appeared in the *Bridgeport Post* of 13 Nov 1965, p. 20.

There is a c.1909 photograph of Marie Cooney in the collection of the American Antiquarian Society (AAS Item FF).

9. AGNES M. (4) COONEY was born at Easthampton, Massachusetts on 10 Mar 1880, the daughter of Michael Cooney (a machinist) and Margaret McGrath, both of whom were born in Ireland, according to Easthampton records. She was baptized (as Agneus) at Immaculate Conception Church, Easthampton on 18 Mar 1880, by R. F. Walshe, with sponsors Jacobus Smith and Johannah Donovan, according to Immaculate Conception Church baptismal records (p. 118).

In the 1880 Federal census, Agnes Cooney (age 2/12, born in Massachusetts in March 1880, both parents born in Ireland) was recorded in Easthampton, Massachusetts (ED 343, SD 60, Page 3, Line 39).

In the 1900 Federal census, Agnes M. Cooney (born in March 1880, bookkeeper) was recorded at the residence of her mother, 64 Sanford Avenue, Bridgeport, Connecticut (ED 29, Sheet 12, Line 73).

In the 1910 Federal census, Agness [sic] M. Cooney (daughter, age 28, born in Massachusetts, dress maker) was recorded at the residence of her mother, 122 Center Street, Bridgeport, Connecticut (SD 29, ED 32, Sheet 5B, Line 75).

According to the Bridgeport civil record, Agnes M. Cooney (age 36, born East Hampton, Mass.) was married to Michael Noonan (age 51, b. B'port, Conn., carpenter) by J. C. Lynch, Pastor of St. Patrick's Church, at Bridgeport, Connecticut on 17 Dec 1916; it was the first marriage for both; her parents were listed as Michel [sic] [Cooney] and Margaret McGrath and his as James [Noonan] and Alice Gilson [sic] (Marriages Index 1916-1917, p. 105). His mother's maiden name was actually Gibson.

In the 1920 Federal census, Agnes Noonan (age 39, born in Massachusetts) was recorded at 64 Taft Avenue, Bridgeport, Connecticut, along with her husband, Mike Noonan (age 54, born in Connecticut); their daughter, Margaret (age 2, born in Connecticut); and Agnes Noonan's mother, Margaret Cooney (age 72, born in Ireland (Vol. 4, ED 37, Sheet 2B, Lines 95-98).

In the 1930 Federal census, Agnes Noonan (age 50, born in Massachusetts, age 36 at first marriage, both parents born in Tipperary, Ireland) was recorded with her husband, Michael J. (age 65, born in Connecticut, age 52 at first marriage, carpenter in a "Shop Box", both parents born in Meath, Ireland); and their daughters Margaret (age 12, born in Connecticut); and Catherine (age 10, born in Connecticut) at 25 Tom Thumb Street, Bridgeport, Connecticut, a residence that had a radio set and for which the monthly rent was \$30 (ED 1-38, SD 4, Sheet 11A, Lines 3-6).

Agnes Cooney was listed in the Bridgeport Directories for 1906-08 as a dressmaker living at 122 Center Street, her mother's residence. In the 1909 Directory, her profession was changed to seamstress and her residence was unchanged. In the 1910 Directory, she was listed as employed at the D. M. Read Co., and still living at 122 Center Street. In the 1911 Directory, she was listed as employed at Meigs &

Co. and living at 141 Frank Street, also her mother's residence. In the 1912 Directory, she was still listed as working at Meigs & Co., but had moved to 506 Grand Street, also her mother's residence. In the 1913 and 1914 Directories, she was still listed as working at Meigs & Co. but had moved to 174 Hurd Avenue (also her mother's residence). In the 1915 Directory, Agnes Cooney was listed as employed at the Columbia Graphophone Co. and was living with her brother William A. Cooney at 782 William Street. In the 1916 Directory, she was listed as living at 76 Worth Street with no employment or profession listed. This was the year of her marriage to Michael Noonan.

In the 1918-20 Bridgeport Directories, Michael Noonan was listed working at the Crane Co. and living at 64 Taft Avenue. In the 1921 Directory, he was still employed by the Crane Co. and living at 239 Wheeler Avenue. In the 1923-27 Directories, Michael J. Noonan, a foreman at the Crane Co., and his wife, Agnes M., were listed living at 25 Tom Thumb Street. In the 1929 and 1931 Directories, Michael J. Noonan, an assistant foreman at the Crane Co., and his wife, Agnes M., were listed living at 25 Tom Thumb Street. In the 1934 Directory, Agnes M. Noonan, widow of Michael, was listed as having died on 15 Oct 1933, age 53.

Margaret Noonan recalled that Bridgeport Mayor E. T. Buckingham owned the house at 25 Tom Thumb Street and that it was next door to Tom Thumb's own house, in which all the fixtures were specially made in small size for its famous occupant. Mayor Buckingham was a pall bearer for Bernard Cooney, whom Margaret Noonan recalled being very kind to the Noonan family so he may have arranged for the Tom Thumb Street house to be rented by the Noonans.

Agnes M. Noonan died at her residence, 1394 North Avenue, Bridgeport, Connecticut on 15 Oct 1933, according to her death certificate, which also gave her parents as Michael Cooney and Margaret McGrath, her birthplace as Haydenville, Massachusetts, and her birth date as 7 Mar 1880. Agnes M. Noonan was buried in the Margaret Cooney plot (Sec. 5, Lot 273 North 1/2) at St. Michael's Cemetery, Stratford, Connecticut, on 17 Oct 1933, age 53, according to cemetery records.

There are three photographs of Agnes Cooney Noonan from c.1916 to 1920 in the collection of the American Antiquarian Society (AAS Items GG, JJ, and PP). In addition, there are numerous photographs of her from the 1920s in the family archive held by Thomas Dailey.

Michael J. Noonan was born 22 Mar 1866, according to his death certificate, which also listed his parents as James Noonan and Alice Gibson, both born in Ireland, his

occupation as a carpenter, and his place of death as his residence, 25 Tom Thumb Street, Bridgeport, Connecticut, age 65, on 13 Dec 1931. He was buried in the Margaret Cooney plot (Sec. 5, Lot 273 North 1/2) at St. Michael's Cemetery, Stratford, Connecticut, on 16 Dec 1931, age 62, according to cemetery records.

There are two photographs and a pencil sketch of Michael Noonan in the collection of the American Antiquarian Society (AAS Items HH, II, and JJ). In addition, there are photographs of him from the 1920s in the family archive held by Thomas Dailey.

Children of Agnes Cooney and Michael Noonan were:

i. MARGARET ALICE (5) NOONAN was born at St. Vincent's Hospital, Bridgeport, Connecticut on 25 Oct 1917, the daughter of Michael J. Noonan (age 52, born Bridgeport, shipping clerk) and Agnes M. Cooney (age 37, born E. Hampton, Massachusetts), the first child of her mother whose residence was 25 Tom Thumb Street, Bridgeport. (Births October 1917, p. 369 1/2).

In the 1920 Federal census, Margaret Noonan (age 2, born in Connecticut) was recorded at 64 Taft Avenue, Bridgeport, Connecticut, along with her parents and her grandmother Margaret Cooney (Vol. 4, ED 37, Sheet 2B, Lines 95-98).

In the 1930 Federal census, Margaret Noonan (age 12, born in Connecticut) was recorded with her parents and sister at 25 Tom Thumb Street, Bridgeport, Connecticut (ED 1-38, SD 4, Sheet 11A, Line 5).

In the 1940 Federal census, Margaret Noonan (age 21, born in Connecticut, single, lived in the same place in 1935, department store sales clerk, earned \$100 for 8 weeks work in 1939) was recorded with the family of her cousin Josephine R. Bown at 110 Aldine Avenue, Bridgeport, Fairfield County, Connecticut, a house owned and valued at \$6,000 (SD 4, ED 9-50, Sheet 9A, Lines 12-16).

After the death of her mother in 1933, Margaret Noonan lived for several years with her cousin Marion Cooney Delvy in Middlebury, Connecticut, according to Helen Bown Dailey. Margaret Noonan

returned to Bridgeport c.1936 and lived with the family of her cousin Josephine Cooney Bown. In the 1936 Bridgeport Directory, Margaret A. Noonan was listed as living and employed at 110 Aldine Avenue, the residence of her cousin Josephine Cooney Bown. In the 1937-39 Directories, Margaret A. Noonan was listed (with no mention of employment) as living at 110 Aldine Avenue, still the residence of her cousin Josephine Cooney Bown. In the 1940

Directory, she was listed as a saleswoman at Meigs & Co. and living at 110 Aldine Avenue. In the 1941 and 1944 Directories, she was listed as a cashier at 1020 Main Street and living at 78 Rockland Road, Fairfield, also the residence of the Bowns.

In 1940, Margaret Noonan moved with Alfred and Josephine Bown from 110 Aldine Avenue, Bridgeport, Connecticut to 78 Rockland Road, Fairfield, Connecticut, and in 1948 she moved with them to 400 Buena Vista Road, Fairfield, Connecticut. After the death of Alfred A. Bown in 1972, she lived with his son Alfred J. Bown in Sudbury and later Stow, Massachusetts.

Margaret Noonan was known in the family as Margaret or Margie, to children as Mimi, and to her professional colleagues as Peg or Peggy. She was very fond of her uncle Bernard Cooney, known as Ben, whom she said was kind to her mother. She also fondly remembered her uncle Patrick Cooney visiting her mother often while out walking his dog, which invariably chased after her mother's cat.

Margaret Noonan died in Concord, Massachusetts on 14 Feb 1986, according to the Massachusetts Death Index (Certificate No. 018794). She was buried in the Margaret Cooney plot (Sec. 5, Lot 273 North 1/2) at St. Michael's Cemetery, Stratford, Connecticut, on 17 Feb 1986, age 68, according to cemetery records.

There are 13 photographs of Margaret Noonan in the collection of the American Antiquarian Society (AAS Items JJ, KK, LL, LL-1, MM, NN, OO, OO-1, PP, PP-1, QQ, and RR, as well as one without an Item identification).

15. ii. CATHERINE AGNES (5) NOONAN was born in Bridgeport, Connecticut on 5 Feb 1920.

Note on the Michael and Margaret McGrath Cooney Family Bible in the American Antiquarian Society Collection

The family Bible of Michael Cooney and Margaret McGrath Cooney was published in Boston, Massachusetts by George V. Jones, probably in 1884. Births, marriages, and deaths were entered on the pages designed for such information. The 1865 marriage and all births up to 1882 appear to have been written in the same hand and probably at the same time. The handwriting and ink are uniform. The 1896 and 1902 marriages, the 1897-1905 births, as well as the deaths of 1876 [sic, it was 1877], 1890, and of Helen Cooney also appear to be contemporaneous with one another based on handwriting and ink. The 1931-39 deaths were written in pencil and are in another hand.

It would therefore appear that the Cooney family acquired the Bible in the mid-1880s. The 1865 marriage of Michael Cooney and Margaret McGrath and the birth dates of all their children were probably inscribed at that time. The second group of entries was probably done after the 1905 birth of Lenore Cooney and prior to the 1908 birth of Frank Cooney since the latter is not included. Lenore Cooney's entry is written on the last line for births, however, there is ample space for another entry below it and the writer would most likely not have excluded a child when there was space for inclusion. The final entries were probably written by Margaret Noonan in 1939 or shortly thereafter. The first two groups of entries were written in elegant 19th century style, but they appear to be in different hands. One is surely that of Margaret McGrath Cooney. It is almost certain that the later group was written by her. It includes her husband's death and makes no distinction between children of her sons Patrick and Bernard, listing them only in order of birth, as a grandparent might have done. It is quite possible that the first group was written by Michael Cooney prior to his death in 1890 though the hand is not evidently the same as his signature on naturalization papers dated 1874. Though it is also possible that Margaret McGrath's handwriting might have changed a bit during a 20-

year period, it is more likely that Michael Cooney might have used a more careful, perhaps more elegant hand in his family Bible than he would have done in court papers. There was also a gap of at least a decade between execution of the naturalization documents in 1874 and the initial Bible inscriptions around 1884. A final point on the handwriting, though not dispositive, is that the earlier group appears to have been written by a man while the latter group is almost surely in a lady's hand.

It is also worth noting that the Bible recorded the 1876 birth of a child named Edmund while the civil and religious birth documents had the name as Edward and the year 1877. The year should be 1877 not 1876, as it is impossible that the contemporary records would both have been wrong on this point.

Also, the birth day for Helen was written in ink at the time of her entry but the year 1899 (which is incorrect—it was actually 1900) was added later in pencil suggesting that the writer knew the other birth years but had to check on the birth year for the child who had died in infancy. Similarly, Helen Cooney's year of death (1901) was never included.

The Bible was in the possession of Margaret McGrath Cooney until her death in 1925, at which time it passed to her daughter Agnes Cooney Noonan, with whom she lived. When Agnes Cooney Noonan died in 1933, the Bible passed to her daughter Margaret Noonan. Margaret Noonan gave it to her cousin Thomas Dailey when she moved from Connecticut to Massachusetts in 1972. As of 2017, the Cooney family Bible was in the collection of the American Antiquarian Society, having been donated by Thomas Dailey.

Marriages:

Michael Cooney & Margt. McGrath married Feb. 19th 1865

Patrick J. Cooney & Helen F. Sheahan June 24th 1896

Bernard F. Cooney & Josephine M. Klein September 10th 1902

Births:

Patrick J. Cooney born March 15th 1869

Thomas F. Cooney “ Oct. 23rd 1871

Michael E. “ “ June 17th 1874

Edmund “ “ May 8th 1876

Bernard F. “ “ August 27th 1878

Agnes M. “ “ March 10th 1880

William A. “ “ Feb. 8th 1882

Mary Margaret May 10th 1897

Helen	July 3rd 1899
Agnes	May 17th 1902
Marie Catherine	February 19th 1904
Josephine	July 17th 1904
Lenore	November 1905

Deaths:

Edmund Cooney	1876
Michael Cooney	January 10th 1890
Helen Cooney	September
Agnes Cooney Noonan	Oct. 15, 1933
Michael Noonan	Dec. 13, 1931
Bernard F. Cooney	Jan. 25, 1939
Katherine Noonan Aunt Kate	Oct. 1939

Letter from Anna Seymour to Patrick J. Cooney

“Sarclet” France Lynch
Stroud, Glos.

December 11, 1936

Dear Pat.

I should, I know, have replied to your welcome letter months ago. Somehow, my life is cluttered up with things I have undone! I am pleased that your girls show an interest in the family history for it's certainly so unusual as to seem hardly credible. But true it is! The pity being so little of it has been passed on.

However I'll give you all I know. Years and years ago a widow—a Mrs. Cooney—came from Kilkenny to Clonmel, as housekeeper to a Quaker family. She had a little son whom she boarded-out in the town. He was a strikingly handsome and very intelligent youth, but difficult and indolent, showing little desire to stand on his own feet.

Wandering by the river, or fishing or hanging round the stables of the house where his mother was

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employed. After some years he betook himself on tramp, and finally reached Kildare and the Castle of the Geraldines, where he made his way to the stables, and asked for work. He was given a lowly job and settled down quite happily—until one day the owner of the castle, making a tour of inspection, was impressed by his handsome appearance, and ordered that he should be promoted groom to — Ann Fitzgerald. The question is was she a daughter of the Castle and therefore “Lady Ann” or just a relation, living at Carton.

It ended in the romantic Ann eloping with the handsome young groom, whose poor mother got the shock of her life when he appeared at the house of her employer, accompanied by the girl. As they had been some days getting to Clonmel, the poor mother decided they must be married at once, and consulted the parish priest who agreed and performed the ceremony. There began for the poor widow a harder struggle than ever,

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because she had to provide the wherewithal for a daughter-in-law as well as good for nothing son, who had given up any further attempts at earning a living — just loafing about the stables and down by the river, fishing. Children came in rapid succession, all of whom were christened gratis; the parish priest having intense pity for—“the poor misguided young thing.”

Apparently her family tracked them to Clonmel. And for years money was sent, but no message. Just addressed—Cooney. Clonmel. Very occasionally it reached her, being usually delivered at the house of another Cooney (no relation). It was years later that our grandfather heard of this from the then postmaster. In spite of her youth and inexperience she must have possessed much force of character; the verdict being that she made the best of things and was never heard to be-moan

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her lot. Although not good looking she had beautiful hair and hands, with exquisite tapering fingers (both of which seem to have descended to my mother, whose hands were the loveliest I've ever seen, no amount of ill-usage took away from either their shape or whiteness). Our grandfather was her eldest child. He adored his mother and despised his father. My mother used to tell me how she she remembered as a wee child listening in dread to her father lashing himself into a temper of the most violent as he related to your father tales of the heartless selfishness of his father towards his “wonderful” mother, as he always called her. But to go back. One morning when our grandfather was about twelve years old, his mother called him to her and said that she had had a dream in which an old grandaunt of hers who had always resided at Carton and whose favourite she had been, was dying and anxious

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to see her, that she felt she must go, and begging him to look after his brothers and sisters, she left for Kildare, promising to return as soon as possible (our grandfather used to describe how he looked after the others, never left the house, and had everything in order when his mother returned). She found things just as she had dreamed and told of the pleasure of seeing her old home and the old retainer who smuggled her into her Grandaunt's room and out again, unnoticed.

The old lady could only point to a part of her Bureau which at a touch swung open, revealing a secret drawer, where she had secreted a goodly sum which she indicated the other was to take. Returned home, she immediately set to work to do something to aid her children. Our grandfather was sent to the Grammar School—a very unusual thing, the pupils being mostly protestants and all belonging to the “upper-ten”. The eldest

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daughter—Ellen was sent away to what may have been a private school kept by a former governess of her mother’s. Our grandfather had but one aim—to learn all he could and so fit himself to earn enough to make life easy and comfortable for his mother—After school he used to walk the seven miles to and from Fethard (14 in all) in order to learn French from an old Frenchman who taught his language free to any boys who wished to learn it. It was this eagerness too that got him apprenticed to a first-class architect. About this time he made a vow neither to drink nor smoke till he had made good and secured his mother’s independence. The others in the workshop used to put him up against the wall and force a glass between his lips, but no amount of “tagging” could make him waver. For many years his mother lived to enjoy the comforts he never wearied of giving her. He built what must have been at that

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time a quite imposing residence. The old woman I think I have already mentioned was her servant. Mother used to say that up to the day of her father’s death nothing gave him greater pleasure than a chat with the old woman who had served his “wonderful mother” and who could be always sure of receiving a nice money present from him.

His mother’s rank meant nothing to our grandfather; it was her character and goodness appealed to him so much. His sister Ellen, on the contrary, was soaked in the Geraldine tradition. She resembled her father, being very beautiful in feature and like her mother in being stately to a degree. She lived and died with her bachelor brother, Mick.

Mother used to tell how every Sunday when they were children your Father had the job of taking them after Mass up to Farm Lodge, (where their Aunt Ellen and Uncle Mick lived,) there to be inspected and criticised by the

said Aunt Ellen. “Hold yourselves erect” she would command or “Is that how a descendent of the Geraldines should enter a room!” One day in Cashel St. she caught Mother handing over some rags in exchange for a stick of toffee from a man with a barrow. She shook her by the shoulders, tossed the toffee back to the man and hauled her down to No 2, demanding when the frightened “Anty” appeared in answer to her terrific knocking “Where’s your Master?” and when he appeared she hurled abuse at him for allowing his child to disgrace the Geraldines. Your father was her favourite and he was the only one not afraid of her. My mother she terrified, so that she was quite relieved when she died. Nevertheless, she must have had much to recommend her—intellectually and artistically as well as being a good housewife and wonderful needlewoman; too, she made life very happy for her brother, so much so that after her death he found Farm Lodge too full of memories of her. So he

built himself a little two-roomed shack in the field and lived there alone, a daily woman attending to his simple needs. He surrounded himself with everything belonging to her—and sunny days her clothes—she always dressed well and richly—were hung out in the sun to air. After his death “Anty” passed on those exquisite thick silk dresses and beautiful velvet coats to me—to make clothes for my dolls! What a shame it was.

Well, I hope all this is not too boring—that the girls will find some of it at least of interest.

I do hope you’re all well and the latest generation thriving—they seem a healthy little collection. Marion’s twins have grown much more staid, haven’t they.

Are Agnes’s girls doing well? Poor things! They certainly deserved things to happen to make them forget what had been.

Believe me. Your affectionate cousin,

Anna

Identity of “Anty”

Anastatia Alyward (the Cooney family servant) may be the lady referred to as Anty by Anna Seymour. In the 1936 letter, Anty encountered the haughty Ellen Cooney c.1850 and in a 1931 letter Anna Seymour described being with Anty at the time of her death, and also described the fondness they had for one another.

Possible “Grandaunt” of Ann Cooney

There was an Emily Mary Margareta, Countess of Bellomont (1751-1818) who was the second daughter of the 1st Duke and Duchess of Leinster and therefore a sister to Lord Lecale of Ardglass and the aunt of Ann Fitzgerald Cooney. Lady Bellomont’s death in 1818 would have been roughly the time that Ann returned to Carton and was given money by a “grandaunt”. However, Lady Bellomont died in Penzance, Cornwall (according to Cokayne). Of course, the elderly lady could have left Carton and visited Cornwall where she died. Her husband had died in 1800 with no surviving male issue so Lady Bellomont could well have returned to Carton after his death, at which time the future Ann Cooney would have been a young girl. The Fitzgerald archives could well shed light on this possibility.

Probate Record

In the Bridgeport, Connecticut Probate Court index for 1840-1898, there are two records for administration of property relating to Bernard Cooney, Agnes M. Cooney, and William A. Cooney, the three minor children of Michael Cooney, who had died in 1890. According to Bridgeport Probate records (Vol. 72, pp. 452-53), Margaret Cooney (the widow of Michael and mother of the three minors) was appointed guardian for the three minors on 15 Apr 1897 for the purpose of administering an estate not deriving from their mother (herself). Also in the Bridgeport Probate records (Vol. 81, pp. 785-88), Margaret Cooney reported to the court on 8 Feb 1899 that of the \$150 received by each minor, she had expended \$25 on clothing, etc. for Bernard Cooney, \$50 on clothing, etc. for Agnes M. Cooney, and \$100

on school tuition for William A. Cooney. It is clear that the children of Michael Cooney (who had died in 1890 in Bridgeport, Connecticut) inherited an estate deriving from their father's family in early 1897. Assuming that the total received by each child was \$150 and that the adult children received the same amount, the total amount passed to the Cooney children from the unnamed estate would have been \$900.

7/17/18