

*Ellen Gibney*¹
(uxor *Ellen Murrell, Ellen McGivney*)

<p><i>Place Tried</i> Co. Cavan</p> <p><i>Offence</i> murder of her infant child</p> <p><i>Prosecutor</i> not stated</p> <p><i>Gaol Report</i> middling, held at Cavan Gaol</p> <p><i>Station of Gang</i> not stated</p> <p><i>Religion</i> Roman Catholic</p> <p><i>Marital Status</i> single</p> <p><i>Age</i> 20</p> <p><i>Height</i> 5' 2¾", 5' 2½"</p> <p><i>Head</i> round</p> <p><i>Visage</i> round</p> <p><i>Eyebrows</i> sandy</p> <p><i>Nose</i> medium</p> <p><i>Chin</i> large</p> <p><i>Family</i> brother Connor, sisters Mary & Margaret</p>	<p><i>Date Tried</i> 2 March 1849^a</p> <p><i>Sentence</i> death – commuted to transportation for life 29 March 1849</p> <p><i>Previous Convictions</i> none</p> <p><i>Surgeon's Report</i> indifferent</p> <p><i>Class</i> 3rd from 13 February 1850</p> <p><i>Literacy</i> neither read nor write</p> <p><i>Trade</i> country servant, housemaid</p> <p><i>Native Place</i> Co. Cavan</p> <p><i>Complexion</i> fair, freckled</p> <p><i>Hair</i> sandy, fair</p> <p><i>Forehead</i> high</p> <p><i>Eyes</i> blue</p> <p><i>Mouth</i> large</p> <p><i>Marks</i> scar on forehead, has been bled right arm</p>
<p>14 April 1849</p> <p>27 May 1850</p> <p>17 August 1850</p> <p>3 May 1851</p> <p>23 September 1851</p> <p>17 May 1852^c</p> <p>6 May 1854</p> <p>18 February 1857^d</p> <p>25 April 1859</p> <p>6 November 1860^e</p> <p>28 September 1862</p>	<p>Received at Grangegorman Depot, Dublin at 6pm.²</p> <p>Contracted as PPH to Charles Callaghan, Argyle St, Hobart, 12m at £8 pa.³</p> <p>Tried at Hobart PC charged with absenting herself without leave from the service of Charles Callaghan, Argyle St, Hobart at 4pm on 15 August & proceeding to the depot where she surrendered at 4:30pm the same day; sentence 1m HL, Cascades FF, then to reside in the country being a country servant.⁴</p> <p>Application for permission to marry James Murrell, free^b (approved 13 May).⁵</p> <p>Married as 25y, house servant, spinster, to James Murrell, 35y, labourer, widower, at St Luke's CE Church, Campbell Town; witnesses George Paice & Catherine Paice.⁶</p> <p>Son Richard Murrell, labourer's child, born at Evandale; baptised 7 June 1852 at St Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Evandale; baptised again 26 February 1853 in parish of St Joseph's RC Church, Launceston; parents resident at Perth.⁷</p> <p>Daughter Charlotte Elizabeth Murrell born at Perth; baptised 25 June 1855 in parish of Holy Trinity RC Church, Westbury; sponsors John Shehan & Catherine Connell.⁸</p> <p>Son John James Murrell, farmer's child, born at Chudleigh; baptised 15 March 1857 in parish of Holy Trinity RC Church, Westbury; sponsors John Mulroy & Margaret Mulroy.⁹</p> <p>Son Henry Denis Murrell born at Deloraine; baptised 15 October 1859 in parish of Holy Trinity RC Church, Westbury; sponsors James Keenan & Mary Shehan.¹⁰</p> <p>Daughter Mary Ann Murrell born at Deloraine; baptised 3 February 1861 in parish of Holy Trinity RC Church, Westbury; sponsors Francis Lacey & Rosanna Armstrong.¹¹</p> <p>Daughter Martha Murrell born at Deloraine; baptised 29 March 1865 in parish of Holy Trinity RC Church, Westbury; sponsors Richard Marles^f & Rose Lacey.¹²</p>

^a Date given as: 5 March 1849 on Irish transportation register; 4 March 1849 in *The Anglo-Celt*.

^b James is likely to have been convict James Murrells transported on the *Neptune 1* which arrived in 1838. He was transported for life, 25y, married with 6 children, wife Martha at NP of Cockworth.

^c Date given as 22 March 1852 on both baptism records.

^d Date given as 7 January 1857 on baptism record.

^e Date given as 6 November 1859 on baptism record, but the year must have been wrong as Henry was born in April 1859. The family bible gave the date as 6 November 1862, but this year was also wrong since Mary Ann was baptised in 1861. So the year must have been 1860.

^f Richard Marles is likely to have been Ellen's son Richard Murrell – this family name had many different spellings.

- 1 August 1870 Daughter Charlotte Elizabeth Murrell married Charles Edward Partridge at Independent Chapel, Tamar St, Launceston.¹³
- 20 August 1873 Son Richard Murrell married Elizabeth Ann Adamson at St Andrew's CE Church, Perth.¹⁴
- August 1874 Recommended for Conditional Pardon.¹⁵
- 21 October 1874 Husband James Murrell, 74y, labourer, died of decay of nature at Perth; wife resident at Perth.¹⁶
- 9 November 1874 Conditional Pardon approved (issued 27 February 1875).¹⁵
- 11 March 1879 Son Henry Murrell married Susan Turner at Wellington St, Launceston.¹⁷
- 14 May 1882 Daughter Mary Ann Murrell married George Johnson at York St, Launceston.¹⁸
- 15 January 1888 **Married** as 52y, widow, to Philip McGivney, 73y, farmer, widower, at St Mary's RC Church, Evandale; witnesses John Manning & Elizabeth Crawford.¹⁹
- 26 March 1893[§] Husband Philip McGivney, 88y, retired farmer, died of syncope due to aortic aneurysm at Evandale.²⁰
- 22 July 1893 Probate of will for husband Philip McGivney's, estate not exceeding £84; beneficiaries: grandson Philip Smith, daughter Margaret Pearce (Melbourne), wife Ellen McGivney, Revd John J McKernan (RC clergyman).²¹
- 30 August 1901 **Died** at residence of son Henry Murrell, Nile, 75y; buried 1 September in CE cemetery, Perth.²²



[§] Date given as 25 March 1893 on probate record.

References

- ¹ AOT, CON 41/24 *Australasia* No.512 (Ellen Gibney); AOT, CON 19/8 *Australasia* (Ellen Giberney); AOT, CON 15/6 *Australasia* No.78 (Ellen Gibney); NAI, Prisons 1/9/4 No.1760 (Ellen Gibney); NAI, TR9 p.9 (Ellen Gibney)
- ² NAI, Prisons 1/9/4 No.1760 (Ellen Gibney)
- ³ AOT, CON 30/2 p.126 (Ellen Gibney)
- ⁴ AOT, LC 251/2 (Ellen Gidney)
- ⁵ AOT, CON 52/4 (James Murrill & Ellen Gibney); AOT, CON 52/3 p.314 (James Murrill & Ellen Gibney)
- ⁶ AOT, RGD 37/10 1851/55 Campbell Town (James Murrill & Ellen Gibney)
- ⁷ AOT, RGD 33/30 1852/379 Morven (Richard Murrell); AOT, NS 240/8 1852 No.272 (Richard Merle); AOT, NS 1052/20 p.41 (Richard Murle)
- ⁸ AOT, NS 1052/14 1855 No.39 (Charlotte Murrles)
- ⁹ AOT, RGD 33/35 1857/272 Deloraine (John James Marls); AOT, NS 1052/14 1857 No.23 (John James Marrles)
- ¹⁰ AOT, NS 1052/15 1859 No.95 (Henry Denis Murrles)
- ¹¹ AOT, NS 1052/15 1861 No.6 (Mary Ann Murrles)
- ¹² AOT, NS 1052/16 1863 No.39 (Martha Marles)
- ¹³ AOT, RGD 37/29 1870/451 Launceston (Charles Edward Partridge & Charlotte Murrall)
- ¹⁴ AOT, RGD 37/32 1873/497 Longford (Richard Murrell & Elizabeth Ann Adamson)
- ¹⁵ AOT, CON 41/24 *Australasia* No.512 (Ellen Gibney)
- ¹⁶ AOT, RGD 35/43 1874/392 Longford (James Murrell)
- ¹⁷ AOT, RGD 37/38 1879/128 Launceston (Henry Murrell & Susan Turner)
- ¹⁸ AOT, RGD 37/41 1882/709 Launceston (George Johnson & Mary Ann Murrell)
- ¹⁹ AOT, RGD 37/47 1888/115 Evandale (Philip McGivney & Ellen Murrells)
- ²⁰ AOT, RGD 35/62 1893/172 Evandale (Phillip McGivney)
- ²¹ AOT, AD 960/21 p.199 No.4480 (Philip McGivney)
- ²² TAS Death Record 1901/0171 (Ellen McGivney); *Examiner*, 31 August 1901 p.1 col.1; AOT, NS 970/29 p.48 No.5 (Ellen McGivney); *Examiner*, 31 August 1901 p.1 col.1