

Mary McNamara 1st
(*nee Mary Cory, uxor Mary Ryan*)

Place Tried Co. Clare
Offence threatening to burn her uncle's house
Prosecutor John McNamara
Gaol Report very good
Station of Gang Anson

Date Tried 27 February 1849^a
Sentence 7 years
Previous Convictions none
Surgeon's Report quiet
Class 3rd from 24 January 1850

Religion Roman Catholic
Marital Status married
Age 21^b
Height 5' 2½", 5' 2"
Head oval
Visage oval
Eyebrows dark
Nose medium
Chin round
Family mother Biddy; father Patrick Cory;²⁹ brother John

Literacy read & write, neither read nor write
Trade country servant, house servant
Native Place Co. Clare
Complexion fresh, fair
Hair dark, brown
Forehead high
Eyes dark
Mouth large
Marks face slightly freckled

- 27 March 1849 Received at Grangegorman Depot, Dublin at 10pm.²
14 July 1849 Put on *Australasia* sick list for fever (off 29 September, sent to Hobart Hospital).³
cNovember 1849 Admitted to Hobart Hospital for amenorrhoea.⁴
1 December 1849 Admitted to New Norfolk Insane Asylum from Hobart Hospital for mania, 21y, convict in government employ.⁴
24 April 1850 Discharged from New Norfolk Insane Asylum to Brickfields Hiring Depot, Hobart.⁴
17 August 1850 Tried at Hobart PC charged with absenting herself without leave from the service of Mr Lucas,^c Battery Point on 31 July & remaining illegally at large until apprehended in Argyle St last night at 10pm; sentence 4m HL, Cascades FF, 2 months to be passed in the separate apartments, then to be hired in the country being a country servant.⁵
30 November 1850 Admitted to New Norfolk Insane Asylum from Cascades FF for mania, 19y, convict in government employ, pregnant.⁴
5 March 1851 Discharged from New Norfolk Insane Asylum in coach to Cascades FF, Hobart.⁴
25 March 1851 Application for permission to marry Robert Ryan, free^d (approved 15 April).⁶
5 May 1851 **Married** as 26y, servant, widow, to Robert Ryan, 31y, wheelwright, bachelor, at St Joseph's RC Church, Hobart;^e witnesses Michael Magrath & Bridget Goss (*nee Crotty, qv*).⁷
5 March 1852 **Daughter** Margaret Teresa Ryan, wheelwright's child, born at Sandy Bay; baptised 21 March at St Joseph's RC Church, Hobart; sponsors James Ryan & Bridget Ryan.⁸
22 June 1852 Ticket-of-Leave granted.⁹
4 April 1853 Recommended for Conditional Pardon.¹⁰
18 June 1853 **Daughter** Mary Ann Ryan, wheelwright's child, born at Browns River; baptised 3 July 1853 at St Joseph's RC Church, Hobart; sponsors James Brennan & Margaret Brennan.¹¹
4 April 1854 Conditional Pardon approved (issued at Hobart 8 June).¹²
25 April 1854 Petition for family refused.⁹

^a Date given as 1 March 1849 on Irish transportation register.

^b Age given erroneously as 25y on conduct record – this referred to Mary McNamara 2nd (*qv*).

^c This is likely to have been Edward or John Lucas.

^d According to descendant Frances Terry, Robert (1820-1883) was a free settler who came from Tipperary, Ireland to Hobart on 8 November 1844 via New Zealand, possibly involved in the whaling industry.

^e Place of marriage given as Sydney, NSW on death certificate.

- 6 May 1855 **Daughter** Elizabeth Ryan, wheelwright's child, born at North West Bay; baptised 5 December 1855 at St Joseph's RC Church, Hobart; sponsor Timothy Hassett.¹³
- 27 February 1856 Free by servitude.
- 12 November 1856^f **Daughter** Bridget Ryan, farmer's child, born at North West Bay; baptised 2 April 1857 at St Joseph's RC Church, Hobart; sponsors Anthony Ryan & Julia Ryan.¹⁴
- c1857 Moved with family to VIC.¹⁵
- 15 March 1859 **Daughter** Honora Ryan born at Ararat, VIC.¹⁶
- 2 March 1862 **Daughter** Fanny Josephine Ryan born at Ararat, VIC.¹⁷
- 8 March 1863 Daughter Bridget Ryan, 6y, died of scarlet fever & bronchitis at Ararat, VIC.¹⁸
- 8 November 1864 Daughter Mary Ann Ryan, 11y, died of diphtheria at Ararat, VIC.¹⁹
- 12 June 1865 **Son** Matthew Patrick Ryan born at Ararat, VIC.²⁰
- 20 June 1869 Daughter Margaret Teresa Ryan married Richard Hart at Ararat, VIC.²¹
- 23 September 1877 Daughter Elizabeth Ryan married John Corbett at *Hartwood*, Deniliquin, NSW.^{15,22}
- 10 September 1883 Husband Robert Ryan died of stomach tumour at Narrandera, NSW.²³
- 4 November 1883 Daughter Margaret Teresa Ryan died in childbirth at *Hartwood Station*, Deniliquin, NSW.^{15,24}
- 15 March 1887 Daughter Fanny Josephine Ryan married Matthew Cronin at Hillston, NSW.²⁵
- 6 February 1888 Daughter Fanny Josephine Ryan died in childbirth at Hillston, NSW.²⁶
- 27 September 1891 Son Matthew Patrick Ryan married Mary Dunne at Hillston, NSW.²⁷
- 10 July 1893 Daughter Honora Ryan married Matthew Cronin.¹⁵
- 23 June 1896 Daughter Honora Ryan died in childbirth at Hillston, NSW.²⁸
- 5 April 1903 **Died** of senile decay at Hillston, NSW, 78y, farmer's child; buried 6 April in Hillston, NSW; RC funeral service.²⁹



^f Date given as 7 November 1856 on baptism record.

References

- ¹ AOT, CON 41/24 *Australasia* No.1042 (Mary McNamara 1st); AOT, CON 19/8 *Australasia* (Mary McNamara 1); AOT, CON 15/6 *Australasia* No.123 (Mary McNamara 1st); NAL, Prisons 1/9/4 No.1688 (Mary McNamara); NAL, TR9 p.10 (Mary McNamara)
- ² NAL, Prisons 1/9/4 No.1688 (Mary McNamara)
- ³ AJCP, ADM 101/6 *Australasia* Sick List Case No.3 (Mary McNamara)
- ⁴ AOT, HSD 246/8 p.112 (Mary McNamara); AOT, HSD 254/1 (Mary McNamara/McNamara)
- ⁵ AOT, LC 251/2 (Mary McNamara 1st)
- ⁶ AOT, CON 52/4 (Robert Ryan & McNamara); AOT, CON 52/3 p.384 (Robert Ryan & Mary McNamara)
- ⁷ AOT, RGD 37/10 1851/531 Hobart (Robert Ryan & Mary McNamara)
- ⁸ AOT, RGD 33/4 1852/1213 Hobart (Margaret Ryan); AOT, NS 1052/8 p.162 (Margaret Ryan)
- ⁹ AOT, CON 41/24 *Australasia* No.1042 (Mary McNamara 1st)
- ¹⁰ *Hobart Town Gazette*, 5 April 1853 p.290 (Mary McNamara)
- ¹¹ AOT, RGD 33/4 1853/2411 Hobart (Mary Ann Ryan); AOT, NS 1052/8 p.200 (Mary Ann Ryan)
- ¹² AOT, CON 56/2 No.396 (Mary McNamara 1st)
- ¹³ AOT, RGD 33/6 1855/66 Hobart (female Ryan) – mother's name given as Mary Curry; AOT, NS 1052/8 p.291 (Elizabeth Ryan)
- ¹⁴ AOT, RGD 33/6 1856/1916 Hobart (female Ryan); AOT, NS 1052/9 p.11 (Bridget Ryan)
- ¹⁵ personal communication, Margaret Dorsett, 19 May 2004 ; personal communication, Frances Terry, 25 March 2004
- ¹⁶ VIC Birth Certificate 1859/8650 (Honora Ryan)
- ¹⁷ VIC Birth Certificate 1862/5958 (Fanny Ryan)
- ¹⁸ VIC Death Certificate 1863/71 (Bridget Ryan)
- ¹⁹ VIC Death Certificate 1864/7079 (Mary Ann Ryan)
- ²⁰ VIC Birth Certificate 1865/6193 (Matthew Patrick Ryan)
- ²¹ VIC Marriage Certificate 1869/1595 (Margaret Ryan & Richard Hart)
- ²² NSW Marriage Record 1877/2713 (John Corbett & Elizabeth Ryan)
- ²³ NSW Death Certificate 1883/10037 (Robert Ryan)
- ²⁴ NSW Death Record 1883/9853 (Margaret Hart)
- ²⁵ NSW Marriage Certificate 1887/6108 (Fanny Josephine Ryan & Mathew Cronin)
- ²⁶ NSW Death Certificate 1888/11567 (Fanny J Cronin)
- ²⁷ NSW Marriage Certificate 1891/4480 (Mathew Ryan & Mary Dunne)
- ²⁸ NSW Death Certificate 1896/6489 (Honora Cronin)
- ²⁹ NSW Death Certificate 1903/6295 (Mary Ryan)