

# Jane Robertson

(*uxor Jane Cavanagh*)

POLICE NUMBER 233 <sup>1</sup>	LITERACY read only
TRIAL DATE 21 September 1840	AGE ON EMBARKATION 16
TRIAL PLACE Inverness Court of Justiciary	AGE ON ARRIVAL 17
OFFENCE stealing a watch	HEIGHT 4' 11¾"
SENTENCE 7 years	COMPLEXION fresh
GAOL REPORT 4 times in prison before, bad, single	HEAD oval
PREVIOUS CONVICTIONS once 5 times in gaol altogether 8 months, 10 days, ditto, ditto	HAIR brown
SURGEON'S REPORT giddy but quiet	VISAGE full
ON THE TOWN no	FOREHEAD round
MARITAL STATUS single	EYEBROWS dark brown
CHILDREN 0	EYES light hazel
FAMILY mother Lydia, step-father James Russell, brothers Bill and John	NOSE small
NATIVE PLACE Hull, England	MOUTH medium
TRADE ON EMBARKATION	CHIN small
TRADE ON ARRIVAL nurse girl	MARKS none

c1824 Brother John Robertson born at Redford, Gloucestershire, England.<sup>4</sup>

c1825 **Born** at Kingston upon Hull, Yorkshire, England; mother Lydia.<sup>2</sup>

9 December 1836 Charged at the Police Court, Dundee, Forfarshire (Angus), Scotland with Edward Rennie and John Robertson with theft in stealing on 6 December from the dwelling house of labourer James Findlay, Nethergate, Dundee, a red and yellow printed cotton gown, the property of Margaret Findlay, a lilac coloured printed cotton gown, the property of Jean Findlay, both daughters of James Findlay; sentence 10 days imprisonment in the Dundee Tolbooth; Jane from Dumbarton, John from Dumbarton, Edward from Edinburgh.<sup>3</sup>

15 September 1837 Charged at the Sheriff Court, Dundee, Forfarshire (Angus), Scotland with brother John Robertson with 4 acts of theft, aggravated by being habit and repute a thief and previous conviction, in stealing (1) on 25 April from a house of baker Roderick Harris, Nethergate Street, Dundee a drab coloured merino frock or gown, property of Margaret Harris, daughter of Roderick Harris; (2) on 26 April from the house of widow Margaret Soutar or Anderson, Nethergate Street, Dundee a printed cotton gown or wrapper and a flowered cotton shawl, the property of Ann Donaldson; (3) on 2 May from the house of widow Charlotte Gray or Paton, Nethergate Street, Dundee a black, red and yellow tartan shawl, the property of Charlotte Paton, daughter of Charlotte Gray or Paton, and a black and white checked worsted shawl, the property of Mary Paton, daughter of Charlotte Gray or Paton; and (4) on 3 May from the house of tinsmith Thomas Fyfe, Overgate Street, Dundee a silk handkerchief and 2 cotton handkerchiefs, the property of Thomas Fyfe or his wife Mary Smith of Fyfe; sentence 8 months imprisonment in the Dundee Bridewell.<sup>3</sup>

23 December 1839 Charged at the Sheriff Court, Elginshire, Scotland with theft.<sup>3</sup>

17 April 1840 Committed to the Tolbooth, Elgin, Elginshire, Scotland charged with shipmate Nancey Robertson (*qv*) with theft.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> TAHO, CON40/1/8 p.263 No.233 [image 210] (Jane Robertson); TAHO, CON19/1/1 p.249 [image 128] (Jane Robertson); ML, CY 1282 p.153 (Jane Robertson); ML, CY 1197 p.157 (Jane Robertson); ML, CY 958 p.444 (Jane Robertson)

<sup>2</sup> TAHO, CON19/1/1 p.249 [image 128] (Jane Robertson); NAS, JC26/1840/82 (Jane Robertson)

<sup>3</sup> NAS, JC26/1840/82 (Jane Robertson)

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- 22 April 1840 Brother John Robertson tried at the Court of Justiciary, Inverness, Inverness-shire, Scotland indicted for housebreaking in stealing clothes from a woman's house; sentence 7 years transportation.<sup>4</sup>
- 21 September 1840 Tried at the Court of Justiciary, Inverness, Inverness-shire, Scotland with shipmate Nancey Robertson (*qv*) indicted for theft, habit and repute and previous conviction in stealing on 16 April 1840 from a bothy on a farm at Cottos of Burgie occupied by farmer Alexander McIntosh a silver watch, a black ribbon and 2 brass keys, the property of Hugh Smith, servant to Alexander McIntosh; verdict guilty in terms of own confession; sentence<sup>5</sup> 7 years transportation; cannot write, no fixed abode.<sup>6</sup>

Statement of defendant Jane Robertson:

*Jane Robertson who being admonished and examined.- Declares That she does not know what her age is. Declares That her father was a school master in Dundee and that he died of the cholera some years ago. Declares That her mother is married to James Russell a travelling Showman and that the declarant travels the Country with them. Declares That she left Russell and her mother at Forres on Thursday morning last the sixteenth instant. Declares That the declarant left Forres about eleven o'clock in the morning of the said day in company with a girl called Nancy Robison whose parents were also in Forres selling jewellery with which they travelled the country. Declares That after leaving Forres as aforesaid the declarant and the said Nancy Robison proceeded along the road leading to Elgin for about three miles or thereby when they turned up a road on the right leading to a house standing on a hill. Declares That she does not know the name of the said house. Declares That they turned off the said road leading to the said house by a footpath on the right and went to a farm house which is less than a mile distant from the house above mentioned Declares That they went into a Bothy or mens sleeping apartment near to the said farm house and the door of the said Bothy was standing open. Declares That when they went into the said Bothy or sleeping apartment they heard the ticking of a watch and on searching for it they found a watch hanging to the post at the head of one of the beds Declares That the said Nancy Robison desired the declarant to take the watch which the declarant did. Declares That the said watch had a black ribbon attached to it which the declarant and the said Nancy Robertson took off and divided between them to tie their hair and these being now shown to the declarant a silver watch having engraved thereon in the inside these words "Wm. Williams Dublin" and the number "3363." Declares That it is the watch which the declarant took as above mentioned and there being also shown to the declarant a brass metal key Declares and identifies it as having been attached to the foresaid ribbon and declares that she also carried away the key; and there being also shown to the declarant a piece of old black ribbon the declarant identifies the same as being that part of the ribbon which was attached to the watch which the declarant got when it was divided between her and the said Nancy Robison as above mentioned and the foresaid articles having now a label fixed to them is subscribed by the Judge Examiner as relative hereto in the declarants presence she having declared that she could not write. Declares That neither the declarant or the said Nancy Robison took any thing else from the said Bothy. Declares That after the declarant had taken the watch as aforesaid she and the said Nancy Robison crossed the Turnpike road towards the Sea an slept on Thursday night at a place called the Hole in a house there Declares That the declarant and Robison left the Hole about six o'clock yesterday morning and came to Elgin by the village of Hopeman the declarant still carrying the watch. Declares That on their way to Elgin they stopped at Bishopmill about a quarter of a mile north of the town of Elgin and there they went into a watchmakers shop and offered the foresaid watch for sale to a man in the shop of whom they asked fifteen shillings for the watch but he refused to buy it saying it was only worth ten. Declares That the said man did not buy the watch as he said he had no change. Declares That Nancy Robison told the said man that her father was a soldier and that it was his watch. Declares That Robison and the declarant returned to the said shop at eight O'clock in the evening and saw the man and pressed him to buy the watch but he said he would not give them half the money for it the declarant having previously asked only five shillings for the watch. Declares That the man accordingly gave*

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<sup>4</sup> TAHO, CON33/1/16 No.3799 [image 278] (John Robertson)

<sup>5</sup> Nancy Robison alias Robertson was also found guilty and sentenced to 7 years transportation; no fixed abode.

<sup>6</sup> NAS, JC26/1840/82 (Jane Robertson); NAS, AD14/40/38 (Jane Robertson)

them half a crown then for the watch and he said that he would pay them another half crown the next morning when he got change and desired them to call back at nine O'clock on Saturday morning that is today. Declares That declarant and Robison intended to return to Forres at the time they were apprehended last night on the Streets of Elgin That the declarant had had some difference with her stepfather which was the reason of her leaving Forres on Thursday morning as aforesaid all which she declares to be truth and that she cannot write.<sup>3</sup>

- 5 April 1841 Departed Woolwich, England on the *Rajah*.<sup>7</sup>
- 19 July 1841 Arrived at Hobart on the *Rajah*.<sup>7</sup>
- c24 July 1841 Upon arrival at Hobart, sent to Launceston for assignment.<sup>8</sup>
- 13 September 1841 Charged with disobedience of orders and disrespectful conduct towards her master Mr Roberts; sentence 1 month hard labour in the Crime Class at Launceston Female Factory.<sup>9</sup>
- 12 October 1841 Charged with disobedience of orders in refusing to work in the service of Tregurtha; sentence 10 days in solitary confinement at Launceston Female Factory.<sup>9</sup>
- 18 October 1841 At Launceston.<sup>9</sup>
- 31 December 1841 At Longford Gaol.<sup>10</sup>
- 13 January 1842 Brother John Robertson arrived as a prisoner on the *Barossa*; aged 18, single, born Redford, Gloucestershire, brought up at Inverness; Protestant, can read, labourer.<sup>4</sup>
- 2 February 1842 Charged at the Police Court, Longford with uselessness by her master Mr Pascoe; returned to Government.<sup>11</sup>
- 19 March 1842 Charged at the Police Court, Longford with uselessness by her master Mr Tarrant; remanded.<sup>12</sup>
- 21 March 1842 Brought up at the Police Court, Longford charged by her master Mr Tarrant with neglect of duty and idleness/insolence; plea guilty; sentence 10 days in solitary confinement at Launceston Female Factory, then returned to Government.<sup>13</sup>
- 1 November 1842 Charged at Launceston Female Factory with disorderly conduct in the Assignable Class; sentence 6 days in solitary confinement at Launceston Female Factory.<sup>9</sup>
- 26 January 1843 Charged with being absent without leave from the service of McLaughlin; sentence 10 days in solitary confinement at Launceston Female Factory.<sup>9</sup>
- 7 February 1843 Charged at Launceston Female Factory with misconduct in setting fire to some blankets and keys, also her wearing apparel; sentence 14 days in solitary confinement at Launceston Female Factory.<sup>9</sup>
- 11 March 1843 Charged at the Police Court, Launceston upon complaint of her mistress Sarah Hines with larceny under the value of £5; in the service of T Hines; plea guilty; witnesses Sarah Hines and Joseph Naron; verdict guilty; existing sentence of transportation extended 12 months and recommended to be detained in Launceston Female Factory for 6 months of that term on probation.<sup>14</sup>
- Ann Campbell (*Mexborough*) charged with receiving the same; same sentence; in the service of Mrs Hill.<sup>14</sup>
- 20 September 1843 Husband Henry Cavanagh granted a Free Pardon.<sup>24</sup>
- 9 December 1844 Charged at Launceston Female Factory with disorderly conduct; sentence 24 hours in solitary confinement at Launceston Female Factory.<sup>9</sup>
- 14 December 1844 Ticket of Leave granted; gazetted 17 December.<sup>15</sup>

<sup>7</sup> AJCP, ADM 101/63 *Rajah*

<sup>8</sup> ML, CY 1282 p.142 (Jane Robertson); ML, CY 1274 p.262 (Jane Robertson)

<sup>9</sup> TAHO, CON40/1/8 p.263 No.233 [image 210] (Jane Robertson)

<sup>10</sup> AJCP, HO 10/51 p.391 No.233 (Jane Robertson)

<sup>11</sup> TAHO, LC362/1/5 p.187 (Jane Robertson)

<sup>12</sup> TAHO, LC362/1/5 (Jane Robinson)

<sup>13</sup> TAHO, LC362/1/5 (Jane Robinson)

<sup>14</sup> TAHO, LC346/1/12 (Jane Robertson); TAHO, CON78/1/2 p.100 (Jane Robertson)

<sup>15</sup> *Hobart Town Gazette*, 17 December 1844 p.1514 (Jane Robertson)

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- 20 January 1845 Charged at the Police Court, Launceston with misconduct in being out after 10pm on 18 January; reprimanded; ticket-of-leave holder, no service.<sup>16</sup>  
Jane Wainwright (*Mexborough*) charged with the same offence, same sentence; ticket-of-leave holder, no service.<sup>16</sup>
- 22 March 1845 Application for permission to marry Henry Cavanagh<sup>17</sup> (free) sent to the Secretary; approved.<sup>18</sup>
- 24 March 1845 Notice given of approval for permission to marry Henry Cavanagh; Jane holding a Ticket of Leave, resident of Longford; Henry free, resident of Longford.<sup>19</sup>
- 21 April 1845 **Marrried** Henry Cavanagh at Christ Anglican Church, Longford; Jane aged 21, assigned servant, spinster, illiterate; Henry aged 33, free, bachelor; witnesses Joseph Pearce and S Dowsett (clerk).<sup>20</sup>
- 18 July 1845 Brother John Robertson granted a Ticket of Leave.<sup>4</sup>
- 6 May 1846 **Son** William Cavanagh<sup>21</sup> born at Cressy; mother Jane Robinson; informant father Henry Cavanagh, shoemaker.<sup>22</sup>
- 22 April 1847 Brother John Robertson free by servitude.<sup>4</sup>
- 11 June 1847 **Daughter** Martha Cavanagh born at Cressy; mother Jane Robinson; informant father Henry Cavanagh, shoemaker.<sup>23</sup>
- 17 September 1847 Brother John Robertson issued a Certificate of Freedom.<sup>4</sup>
- 19 October 1847 Husband Henry Cavanagh issued a Certificate of Freedom.<sup>24</sup>
- c1847 Moved with her family from Tasmania to Victoria.<sup>33</sup>
- 1849 **Son** John Cavanagh born at Belfast (now Port Fairy), VIC; father Henry Cavenagh; mother Jane Cavenagh.<sup>25</sup>
- c1850 **Son** Henry Cavanagh born at Merri River, VIC; father Henry Cavanagh; mother Jane Cavanagh.<sup>26</sup>
- 1851 Son Henry Cavanagh baptised at Merri River, Warrnambool parish, VIC.<sup>26</sup>  
**Daughter** Lydia Cavanagh born at Merri River, VIC; father Henry Cavenaugh; mother Jane Cavenaugh.<sup>27</sup>
- c1852 **Son** James Cavanagh born in VIC.<sup>33</sup>
- 1854 **Daughter** Mary Cavanagh born at Warrnambool, VIC; father Henry Cavanagh; mother Jane Robinson.<sup>28</sup>  
Daughter Mary Cavanagh, aged 10 weeks, died at Warrnambool, VIC.<sup>29</sup>
- 1858 **Son** Edward Dunster Cavanagh born at Warrnambool, VIC; father Henry Cavanagh; mother Jane Robinson.<sup>30</sup>

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<sup>16</sup> TAHO, LC346/1/8 (Jane Robinson); TAHO, CON78/1/2 p.100 (Jane Robertson)

<sup>17</sup> Henry Cavannah was transported for 14 years on the *Enchantress* in 1833, tried at Lancaster (Liverpool) Quarter Sessions on 22 October 1832 for stealing provisions & single, labourer, aged 23, native place Dublin; Ticket of Leave 23 October 1839, Conditional Pardon 3 November 1841, at Norfolk Plains 18 November 1841 (TAHO, CON31/1/7 p.200 No.1529 [image 204] (Henry Cavannah), TAHO, CON18/1/6 p.352 [image 189] (Henry Cavannah)).

<sup>18</sup> TAHO, CON52/1/2 p.293 (Jane Robertson & Hy Cavanagh)

<sup>19</sup> *Hobart Town Gazette*, 25 March 1845 p.418; 1 April 1845 p.441; 8 April 1845 p.470 (Henry Cavanagh & Jane Robertson)

<sup>20</sup> TAHO, RGD37/1/4 1845/2202 Launceston (Henry Cavanagh & Jane Robinson)

<sup>21</sup> There is a baptism record for a John Alfred Kevannah which states he was born at Cressy on 16 April 1846 and baptised at the Wesleyan Church, Launceston on 23 September 1846, father Henry Kevannah, labourer, mother Jane Kevannah (TAHO, RGD32/1/3 1846/2935 Launceston (John Alfred Kevannah, mother Jane Kevannah)). This was probably William.

<sup>22</sup> TAHO, RGD33/1/27 1846/709 Longford (William Cavanagh)

<sup>23</sup> TAHO, RGD33/1/27 1847/830 Longford (Martha Cavanagh)

<sup>24</sup> TAHO, CON31/1/7 p.200 No.1529 [image 204] (Henry Cavannah)

<sup>25</sup> VIC Birth Record 1849/30109 (John Cavenagh)

<sup>26</sup> VIC Birth Record 1851/33091 Methodist/Wesleyan, Warrnambool parish Fiche 474 (Henry Cavanagh)

<sup>27</sup> VIC Birth Record 1851/11072 (Lydia Cavenaugh)

<sup>28</sup> VIC Birth Record 1854/2720 (Mary Cavanagh)

<sup>29</sup> VIC Death Record 1854/3453 (Mary Cavanagh)

<sup>30</sup> VIC Birth Record 1858/12923 (Edward Dunster Cavanagh)

26 February 1861

Husband Henry Cavanagh died of suicide by cutting his throat at Warrnambool, VIC; aged 50, farm labourer, 15 years in Tasmania, 15 years in Victoria, born Dublin; father Henry Cavanagh, dealer; mother Martha; married in Tasmania aged 33 to Jane Robinson, children William aged 15, Martha aged 14, John aged 12, Lydia aged 10, James aged 9, Henry aged 5, Edward aged 2; inquest held; informant widow Jane Cavanagh, illiterate, resident of Warrnambool.<sup>31</sup>

Inquest held into the death of husband Henry Cavanagh at *The Caledonian Hotel*, Warrnambool, VIC.

Verdict: committed suicide at Warrnambool on the morning of 26 February by cutting his throat with a razor whilst in a state of temporary insanity.<sup>32</sup>

Statement of witness William Twaites, Warrnambool:

*I am a labourer and live in Henna Street. Between the hours of seven and eight on this day I was at work on outside of Mr Sorrels yard and heard Mrs Cavenagh screaming and said her husband had cut his throat. I went to the house when I went in – the deceased was on the bed leaning on his elbow. He had a large gash on his throat from which the blood was coming profusely. Deceased held out his hand to me – saying “the lubra the lubra give me a drink of water”. I gave him a glass of water all which he drank. I then went for Dr Singleton who returned to the house with me. After my return he breathed twice or three times – and then died. I know nothing of the habits of the deceased. When I went into the house with Dr Singleton I saw the razor produced lying on the floor of the bedroom. I picked it up and gave it to Dr Singleton. During the time I was in the house the wife of deceased did not make any statement to me as to the way in which he came by his death. When she left the house she went in the direction of Dr Singleton’s house and arrived there before I did. Before I went for Dr Singleton I put a cloth round the neck of deceased to stop the bleeding.<sup>32</sup>*

Statement of witness Dr John Singleton, Warrnambool:

*John Singleton having first been duly sworn saith I am a legally qualified medical practitioner and live at Warrnambool.*

*Mrs Cavenagh called on me about seven o’clock this morning to go and see her husband who had cut his throat. I met Mr Twaites coming for me as I was returning with Mrs Cavenagh – the former and I got to the house before Mrs Cavenagh. I found the deceased lying on his face on the bed with a cloth round his neck. I removed the cloth and turned him on his back. He breathed four or five times after that. I found a deep wound across the throat and the bed saturated with blood as also the floor. Deceased died about 3 or 4 minutes after my arrival at the house.*

*Post Mortem examination. At the request of the Coroner I have this day examined the body of deceased. I found the wind pipe divided across as well as the large blood vessels. Both carotids were cut through and the internal jugular vein on the right side. The razor produced would have inflicted such a wound as that in the throat of deceased.*

*I have known the deceased for some time past and considered him a man of very excitable temperament. When I first knew him he drank very hard. I think the book on Insanity which deceased has been reading has been injurious to him.<sup>32</sup>*

Statement of witness Jane Cavenagh, illiterate:

*This deponent Jane Cavenagh on her oath saith as follows. I am the widow of Henry Cavenagh deceased. About 7 o’clock this morning I went into the bedroom to get a comb – my husband was lying on the bed in his trousers – his boots were off. He said to me putting his hand to his heart “Jane I’m a done man”. He then jumped up and put his back to the bedroom door. I was in the bedroom at the time. He cut his throat with the razor produced which he had in his left hand. When he had cut his throat he gave one holloa & grinned and staggered on the bed. When he put his back to the door he held me by the wrist with his right hand whilst he cut his throat with his left. I screamed out and ran down to Dr Singleton who came back with me. My husband has been very sober lately. Yesterday I came down to this house, the Caledonian Hotel and got a gill of rum for him which he did not drink but gave to the children. He has had only three days harvesting work for the three last months. He has been*

<sup>31</sup> VIC Death Certificate 1861/1982 (Henry Cavanagh); PROV, VPRS 24 1861/173 (Henry Cavanagh)

<sup>32</sup> PROV, VPRS 24 1861/173 (Henry Cavanagh)

*incessantly smoking last week he smoked half a pound of tobacco in three days. He went from home last evening about dark and I was out when he returned – but when I got home about half past ten o'clock he was quite sober. We had no words after my return. I have never heard him threaten to take his life. We had no words during the night or this morning. He appeared to sleep well during the night. He has been reading a book lately given to him by the late Mr McClurath on Insanity – he has been reading it a great deal. The body the Jury have this day seen is that of my deceased husband, Henry Cavenagh.<sup>32</sup>*

Statement of witness Lydia Cavenagh, aged 9, illiterate:

*This morning I saw my mother go into the bedroom. I was then in the kitchen. My father was lying on the bed when my mother went in. I saw my father with a razor in his hand he jumped up and slammed to the door. My mother opened the door and I saw my father shaking his head about and staggering. He was all over blood and shook a lot of blood on my mother. My father did not say anything when he cut his throat – he only screamed out. My father and mother did not quarrel last night nor this morning. They were both sober when they came home last night.<sup>32</sup>*

- 27 February 1861 Husband Henry Cavanagh buried at Warrnambool Cemetery, VIC, no minister.<sup>33</sup>
- 1862 **Son** Thomas Cavanagh born at Warrnambool, VIC; father Henry Cavanagh;<sup>34</sup> mother Jane Robertson.<sup>35</sup>
- 1872 Son John Cavanagh married Ellen Downey in Victoria; John born at Warrnambool, VIC.<sup>36</sup>
- 1873 Grandson John Cavanagh born at Hawkesdale, VIC; father John Cavanagh, mother Ellen Downey.<sup>37</sup>
- 26 August 1873 Daughter Martha Cavanagh charged at Heathcote, VIC with stealing goods; sentence 3 months' imprisonment at Sandhurst Gaol.  
Description: born 1848 at Hobart, servant, 5' 2", light complexion, brown hair, blue eyes, pointed nose, medium mouth, medium chin.<sup>38</sup>  
William Mason (No.11196) charged with the same offence, sentence 6 months imprisonment.<sup>38</sup>
- 2–8 December 1873 Daughter Martha Cavanagh discharged from Sandhurst Gaol, VIC.<sup>38</sup>
- 1874 Grandson Robert Cavanagh born at Hawkesdale, VIC; father John Cavanagh, mother Ellen Downey.<sup>39</sup>
- 1876 Granddaughter Mary Jane Cavanagh born at Hawkesdale, VIC; father John Cavanagh, mother Ellen Downey.<sup>40</sup>
- 1878 Granddaughter Martha Cavanagh born at Hawkesdale, VIC; father John Cavanagh, mother Ellen Downey.<sup>41</sup>
- 1880 Grandson James Cavanagh born at Hawkesdale, VIC; father John Cavanagh, mother Ellen Downey.<sup>42</sup>
- 1882 Granddaughter Martha Cavanagh died at Hawkesdale, VIC; aged 3 years.<sup>43</sup>
- 1882 Grandson William Cavanagh born at Penshurst, VIC; father John Cavanagh, mother Ellen Downey.<sup>44</sup>
- 26 September 1882 Charged at the Police Office, Sandhurst, VIC with vagrancy; lodged in the lockup.<sup>45</sup>

<sup>33</sup> VIC Death Certificate 1861/1982 (Henry Cavanagh)

<sup>34</sup> Thomas' father could not have been Henry Cavanagh as he died at least ten months before Thomas was born.

<sup>35</sup> VIC Birth Certificate 1862/11068 (Thomas Cavanagh, mother Jane Robertson)

<sup>36</sup> VIC Marriage Certificate 1872/4418 (John Cavanagh and Ellen Downey)

<sup>37</sup> VIC Birth Certificate 1873/9780 (John Cavanagh)

<sup>38</sup> *Victoria Police Gazette*, 9 December 1873 p.316a (Martha Cavanagh, 2170)

<sup>39</sup> VIC Birth Certificate 1874/23262 (Robert Cavanagh)

<sup>40</sup> VIC Birth Certificate 1876/23561 (Mary Jane Cavanagh)

<sup>41</sup> VIC Birth Certificate 1878/16518 (Martha Cavanagh)

<sup>42</sup> VIC Birth Certificate 1880/23101 (James Cavanagh)

<sup>43</sup> VIC Death Certificate 1882/5633 (Martha Cavanagh)

<sup>44</sup> VIC Birth Certificate 1882/24849 (William Cavanagh)

<sup>45</sup> *Bendigo Advertiser*, 27 September 1882 p.2 (Jane Cavanagh)

Newspaper report:

A BROTHEL DISTURBANCE.—Quite a scene occurred yesterday afternoon in Bernal-street amongst some of the unfortunate women. A drunken man and a woman had a fight in the middle of the road, and a boy rushed away for a policeman. Senior-constable Linehan and Constables Yelland and Cantwell went down to Bernal-street and heard scream, coming from a brothel kept by an old offender named Margaret Tandy. The police entered and found the woman Tandy and others, named Jane Kavanagh, Margaret Orr, and an old man named James Fitzgerald, fighting each other. They were all the worse for liquor, and the police arrested the quartette. The three women were lodged in the lockup as vagrants, and Fitzgerald for being drunk and disorderly.<sup>45</sup>

19 April 1883 Complainant at City Police Court, Sandhurst, VIC in a case against William Dempster charged with aggravated assault on her; sentence 3 months imprisonment.<sup>46</sup>

17 September 1883 Charged at City Police Court, Sandhurst, VIC with being drunk and disorderly; fined 5 shillings, or in default 24 hours imprisonment.<sup>47</sup>

27 October 1883 Daughter Martha Kavanagh charged at City Police Court, Sandhurst, VIC with insulting behaviour; sentence 14 days imprisonment.<sup>48</sup>

Newspaper report:

Patrick Costello and James Linehan were charged with insulting behaviour in M'Ivor-street on Saturday morning. Constable Hayes deposed that at about half-past twelve o'clock on Saturday morning he saw a crowd of persons in M'Ivor-street. There were three women of the town, named Eliza Cameron, Martha Kavanagh and Margaret Curry on the scene, two of them were lying in a shed, and the prisoners were attempting to drag the other woman into the shed also. Costello and Linehan were fined 20s each, with fourteen days' imprisonment in default. The women, Cameron and Curry, were sent to gaol for three weeks, and Kavanagh for fourteen days. Curry was also fined 10s, with 10s damages, in default fourteen days' imprisonment for damaging property in the lock-up.<sup>48</sup>

3 January 1884 Charged at City Police Court, Sandhurst, VIC with drunkenness; fined 10 shillings, or in default 2 days imprisonment.<sup>49</sup>

12 March 1884 Daughter Martha Kavanagh charged at City Police Court, Sandhurst, VIC with being an idle and disorderly person; sentence 6 months imprisonment.<sup>50</sup>

Newspaper report:

Two women, named respectively Catherine Ryder and Martha Kavanagh, were each charged with being idle and disorderly persons. The evidence of Senior-Constable Douglas was to the effect that the women are notorious prostitutes, and that they were in the habit of prowling around Bernal-street accosting men. About three o'clock yesterday morning they were observed by the police with a man in their company, who they wished to take up a dark lane. They were then arrested. It was elicited that Ryder had been convicted for vagrancy on several occasions, and Kavanagh had also served sentenced for the same offence. The bench sent both women to gaol for six months.<sup>50</sup>

15 April 1884 Charged at City Police Court, Sandhurst, VIC with being drunk; discharged.<sup>51</sup>

16 April 1884 Charged at City Police Court, Sandhurst, VIC with being an habitual drunkard; sentence 1 month imprisonment at Sandhurst Gaol; and old woman.<sup>51</sup>

17 November 1884 Charged at City Police Court, Sandhurst, VIC with drunkenness; fined 5 shillings, or in default 24 hours imprisonment.<sup>52</sup>

10 April 1885 Charged at City Police Court, Sandhurst, VIC with being drunk and disorderly; fined 5 shillings, or in default 24 hours imprisonment.<sup>53</sup>

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<sup>46</sup> *Bendigo Advertiser*, 20 April 1883 p.2 (Jane Kavanagh)

<sup>47</sup> *Bendigo Advertiser*, 19 September 1883 p.3 (Jane Cavanagh)

<sup>48</sup> *Bendigo Advertiser*, 29 October 1883 p.2 (Martha Kavanagh)

<sup>49</sup> *Bendigo Advertiser*, 4 January 1884 p.3 (Jane Cavanagh)

<sup>50</sup> *Bendigo Advertiser*, 13 March 1884 p.2 (Martha Kavanagh)

<sup>51</sup> *Bendigo Advertiser*, 17 April 1884 p.2 (Jane Kavanagh)

<sup>52</sup> *Bendigo Advertiser*, 18 November 1884 p.3 (Jane Kavanagh)

<sup>53</sup> *Bendigo Advertiser*, 11 April 1885 p.2 (Jane Kavanagh)

- 22 October 1885 Charged at City Police Court, Sandhurst, VIC with insulting behaviour in Hargreaves Street on Wednesday evening; fined 40 shillings, or in default 48 hours imprisonment.<sup>54</sup>
- 11 December 1885 Charged at City Police Court, Sandhurst, VIC with larceny; sentence 7 days imprisonment at Sandhurst Gaol.  
Description: born 1830 in Scotland, servant, 5' 1", sallow complexion, grey hair, blue eyes, 16 previous convictions.<sup>55</sup>
- 15–21 December 1885 Discharged from Sandhurst Gaol, VIC.<sup>55</sup>
- 21 December 1885 Daughter Martha Cavanagh charged at City Police Court, Sandhurst, VIC with using obscene language in a public place; fined 20 shillings, or in default 7 days imprisonment.<sup>56</sup>  
Newspaper report:  
*OBSCENE LANGUAGE. – A woman named Martha Cavanagh was charged with using obscene language in a public place. Constable Arundel found the woman in M'Ivor street, near the Saracen's Head Hotel, on Saturday evening. She was under the influence of liquor, and making use of the language complained of. The defendant stated that she was drunk at the time, and had no recollection of what she had done. A fine of 20s was inflicted; or, in default, seven days' imprisonment.*<sup>56</sup>
- 1886 Granddaughter Martha Cavanagh born at Horsham, VIC; father John Cavenagh, mother Ellen Downey.<sup>57</sup>
- 25 January 1886 Charged at City Police Court, Sandhurst, VIC with insulting behaviour and assault; sentence 3 months imprisonment at Sandhurst Gaol or fine for the insulting behaviour and 14 days imprisonment cumulative at Sandhurst Gaol or fine for assault.  
Description: born 1830 in Scotland, servant, 5' 1", sallow complexion, grey hair, blue eyes, 18 previous convictions for larceny, insulting behaviour and assault.<sup>58</sup>
- 4–10 May 1886 Discharged from Sandhurst Gaol, VIC.<sup>58</sup>
- 10 May 1886 Charged at City Police Court, Sandhurst, VIC with insulting behaviour; sentence 3 months imprisonment at Sandhurst Gaol, or fine.  
Description: born 1830 in Scotland, servant, 5' 1", sallow complexion, grey hair, blue eyes, 19 previous convictions.<sup>59</sup>
- 10–16 August 1886 Discharged from Sandhurst Gaol, VIC.<sup>59</sup>
- 6 December 1886 Daughter Martha Cavanagh charged at City Police Court, Sandhurst, VIC with larceny; sentence 3 months imprisonment at Sandhurst Gaol.  
Description: born 1848 at Hobart, servant, 5' 2", fresh complexion, brown hair, brown eyes, 4 previous convictions.<sup>60</sup>
- 1–7 March 1887 Daughter Martha Cavanagh discharged from Sandhurst Gaol, VIC.<sup>60</sup>
- 3 January 1887 Charged at City Police Court, Sandhurst, VIC with vagrancy; sentence 3 months imprisonment at Sandhurst Gaol.  
Description: born 1830 in Scotland, servant, 5' 1", sallow complexion, grey hair, blue eyes, 21 previous convictions.<sup>61</sup>
- 1–4 April 1887 Discharged from Sandhurst Gaol, VIC.<sup>61</sup>
- 25 January 1888 Charged at City Police Court, Sandhurst, VIC with drunkenness; fined 10 shillings and costs 2/6; or in default 3 days imprisonment.<sup>62</sup>

<sup>54</sup> *Bendigo Advertiser*, 24 October 1885 p.25 (Jane Kavanagh)

<sup>55</sup> *Victoria Police Gazette*, 23 December 1885 p.364b (Jane Kavanagh)

<sup>56</sup> *Bendigo Advertiser*, 22 December 1885 p.4 (Martha Kavanagh)

<sup>57</sup> VIC Birth Certificate 1886/19018 (Martha Cavenagh)

<sup>58</sup> *Victoria Police Gazette*, 12 May 1886 p.154c (Jane Kavanagh)

<sup>59</sup> *Victoria Police Gazette*, 18 August 1886 p.240c (Jane Kavanagh)

<sup>60</sup> *Victoria Police Gazette*, 9 March 1887 p.82a (Martha Kavanagh, 2172)

<sup>61</sup> *Victoria Police Gazette*, 6 April 1887 p.112a (Jane Kavanagh)

<sup>62</sup> *Bendigo Advertiser*, 26 January 1888 p.4 (Jane Cavanagh)



- 8 February 1888 Charged at City Police Court, Sandhurst, VIC with maliciously setting fire on 6 February to the bush fence surrounding the hut at Spring Gully in which she resided with a man named Abel Rathbone; remanded for a week.<sup>63</sup>
- 25 July 1888 Charged at City Police Court, Sandhurst, VIC with being an habitual drunkard; sentence 14 days imprisonment at Sandhurst Gaol.<sup>64</sup>
- 22 October 1888 Charged at City Police Court, Sandhurst, VIC with fighting whilst drunk; fined 10 shillings, or in default 48 hours imprisonment.<sup>65</sup>
- 3 December 1888 Charged at City Police Court, Sandhurst, VIC with drunkenness; fined 20 shillings, or in default imprisonment.<sup>66</sup>
- 13 December 1888 Charged at City Police Court, Sandhurst, VIC with being an habitual drunkard; sentence 6 months imprisonment at Sandhurst Gaol.  
Description: born 1830 in Scotland, servant, 5' 1", sallow complexion, grey hair, blue eyes, 29 previous convictions.<sup>67</sup>
- 16 April 1889 Daughter Martha Cavanagh charged at City Police Court, Sandhurst, VIC with receiving 3 pictures and frames; sentence 14 days imprisonment at Sandhurst Gaol.  
Description: born 1848 in Tasmania, servant, 5' 2", fair complexion, brown hair, blue eyes, 6 previous convictions; resident of Spring Gully.<sup>68</sup>  
Newspaper report:  
*In connection with the case, Mrs. Martha Kavanagh, of Spring Gully, was charged with receiving the three pictures from the three girls. Evidence was given by Senior-Constable Barry and Constable Davidson, of the search for the property at prisoner's place. She admitted having been offered it, but had refused to take it. A further search resulted in the picture frames (produced) being found buried in her garden. The prisoners King and Ball were called, and admitted taking the property from Flanagan's house, but thought as the place was tumbled down and deserted they were not doing any wrong; also that they gave the pictures to prisoner, who tore out and burned the pictures, but kept the frames, so that the police, as she said, could not identify them. Sergeant Fahey proved a previous conviction of robbery against the prisoner, and she was sentenced to 14 days' imprisonment.*<sup>69</sup>
- 1-6 May 1889 Daughter Martha Cavanagh discharged from Sandhurst Gaol, VIC.<sup>68</sup>
- 21-27 May 1889 Discharged from Sandhurst Gaol, VIC.<sup>67</sup>
- 6 November 1889 Charged at City Police Court, Sandhurst, VIC with drunkenness and using bad language at Quarry Hill; for being drunk fined or in default 14 days imprisonment, and for using bad language fined £2, or in default 2 months' imprisonment; 39 previous convictions.<sup>70</sup>
- 13 January 1890 Charged at City Police Court, Sandhurst, VIC with being drunk and disorderly; sentence 3 days imprisonment at Sandhurst Gaol.<sup>71</sup>
- 17 January 1890 Charged at City Police Court, Sandhurst, VIC with drunkenness; fined 10 shillings, or in default 7 days imprisonment.<sup>72</sup>
- 27 January 1890 Charged at City Police Court, Sandhurst, VIC with being an habitual drunkard; sentence 3 months imprisonment at Sandhurst Gaol.  
Description: born 1839 in Scotland, 5' 1", sallow complexion, grey hair, blue eyes, 33 previous convictions.<sup>73</sup>
- 24-30 April 1890 Discharged from Sandhurst Gaol, VIC.<sup>73</sup>

<sup>63</sup> *Bendigo Advertiser*, 9 February 1888 p.4 (Jane Kavanagh); *Bendigo Advertiser*, 8 February 1888 p.2 (Jane Cavanagh)

<sup>64</sup> *Bendigo Advertiser*, 26 July 1888 p.2 (Jane Kavanagh)

<sup>65</sup> *Bendigo Advertiser*, 23 October 1888 p.2 (Jane Cavanagh)

<sup>66</sup> *Bendigo Advertiser*, 4 December 1888 p.2 (Jane Kavanagh)

<sup>67</sup> *Victoria Police Gazette*, 29 May 1889 p.200b (Jane Kavanagh, 5632); *Bendigo Advertiser*, 14 December 1888 p.2 (Jane Kavanagh)

<sup>68</sup> *Victoria Police Gazette*, 8 May 1889 p.176c (Martha Kavanagh, 2172); *Bendigo Advertiser*, 17 April 1889 p.4 (Mrs. Martha Kavanagh)

<sup>69</sup> *Bendigo Advertiser*, 17 April 1889 p.4 (Mrs. Martha Kavanagh)

<sup>70</sup> *Bendigo Advertiser*, 7 November 1889 p.4 (Jane Kavanagh)

<sup>71</sup> *Bendigo Advertiser*, 14 January 1890 p.4 (Jane Kavanagh)

<sup>72</sup> *Bendigo Advertiser*, 18 January 1890 p.4 (Jane Kavanagh)

<sup>73</sup> *Victoria Police Gazette*, 30 April 1890 p.146b (Jane Kavanagh, 5632)

- 1 May 1890 Charged at City Police Station, Sandhurst, VIC with being drunk and disorderly; sentence 14 days imprisonment at Sandhurst Gaol.  
Description: born 1839 in Scotland, 5' 1", sallow complexion, grey hair, blue eyes, 34 previous convictions.<sup>74</sup>
- 15–21 May 1890 Discharged from Sandhurst Gaol, VIC.<sup>74</sup>
- 3 October 1890 Charged at City Police Court, Sandhurst, VIC with insulting behaviour at View Point; fined 10 shillings; 42 previous convictions.<sup>75</sup>  
Newspaper report:  
*A notorious character named Jane Kavanagh who, according to Sergeant Fahey has been before the court fully 100 times, was fined 10s for insulting behaviour in View-street on the previous evening.*<sup>76</sup>
- 11 October 1890 Charged at City Police Court, Sandhurst, VIC by Constable Doble with being drunk and disorderly; fined £1, or in default 7 days imprisonment at Sandhurst Gaol.  
Description: born 1839 in Scotland, servant, 5' 1", sallow complexion, grey hair, blue eyes, 36 previous convictions.<sup>77</sup>
- 15–22 October 1890 Discharged from Sandhurst Gaol, VIC.<sup>77</sup>
- 18 October 1890 Charged at City Police Court, Sandhurst, VIC with being drunk and disorderly; sentence 1 week imprisonment at Sandhurst Gaol, or fine.  
Description: born 1839 in Scotland, servant, 5' 1", sallow complexion, grey hair, blue eyes, 37 previous convictions.<sup>78</sup>
- 9 December 1890 Charged at City Police Court, Sandhurst, VIC by Constable Molloy with being an habitual drunkard; sentence 3 months imprisonment at Sandhurst Gaol.  
Description: born 1839 in Scotland, servant, 5' 1", sallow complexion, grey hair, blue eyes, 39 previous convictions.<sup>79</sup>
- 5–11 March 1891 Discharged from Sandhurst Gaol, VIC.<sup>79</sup>
- 12 March 1891 Charged at City Police Court, Sandhurst, VIC with being drunk etc; sentence 14 days imprisonment at Sandhurst Gaol, or fine.  
Description: born 1839 in Scotland, servant, 5' 1", sallow complexion, grey hair, blue eyes, 41 previous convictions.<sup>80</sup>
- 2–8 April 1891 Discharged from Sandhurst Gaol, VIC.<sup>80</sup>
- 3 April 1891 Charged at City Police Court, Sandhurst, VIC with being drunk etc; sentence 1 month imprisonment at Sandhurst Gaol, or fine.  
Description: born 1839 in Scotland, servant, 5' 1", sallow complexion, grey hair, blue eyes, 42 previous convictions.<sup>81</sup>
- c3 May 1891 Discharged from Sandhurst Gaol, VIC.<sup>81</sup>
- 4 May 1891 Charged a City Police Court, Bendigo,<sup>82</sup> VIC with being an habitual drunkard; sentence 6 months imprisonment at Bendigo Gaol.  
Description: born 1839 in Scotland, servant, 5' 1", sallow complexion, grey hair, blue eyes, 43 previous convictions.<sup>83</sup>
- 8–14 October 1891 Discharged from Bendigo Gaol, VIC.<sup>83</sup>
- 1 August 1891 Daughter Martha Cavanagh charged at City Police Court, Bendigo, VIC with being drunk whilst furiously driving a horse and cab belonging to Jeremiah Dowling; sentence 7 days imprisonment at Bendigo Gaol and fined 40 shillings.

<sup>74</sup> *Victoria Police Gazette*, 21 May 1890 p.166b (Jane Kavanagh, 5632)

<sup>75</sup> *Bendigo Advertiser*, 3 October 1890 p.2 (Jane Kavanagh); *Bendigo Advertiser*, 4 October 1890 p.4 (Jane Kavanagh)

<sup>76</sup> *Bendigo Advertiser*, 4 October 1890 p.4 (Jane Kavanagh)

<sup>77</sup> *Victoria Police Gazette*, 22 October 1890 p.334b (Jane Kavanagh, 5632); *Bendigo Advertiser*, 13 October 1890 p.3 (Jane Kavanagh)

<sup>78</sup> *Victoria Police Gazette*, 29 October 1890 p.340b (Jane Kavanagh, 5632)

<sup>79</sup> *Victoria Police Gazette*, 11 March 1891 p.80b (Jane Kavanagh, 5632); *Bendigo Advertiser*, 10 December 1890 p.4 (Jane Kavanagh)

<sup>80</sup> *Victoria Police Gazette*, 8 April 1891 p.114b (Jane Kavanagh, 5632)

<sup>81</sup> *Victoria Police Gazette*, 13 May 1891 p.150b (Jane Kavanagh, 5632)

<sup>82</sup> Sandhurst's name changed to Bendigo in 1891.

<sup>83</sup> *Victoria Police Gazette*, 14 October 1891 p.294a (Jane Kavanagh, 5632); *Bendigo Advertiser*, 5 May 1891 p.4 (Jane Kavanagh)

- Description: born 1848 in Tasmania, servant, 5' 2", fair complexion, brown hair, blue eyes, 7 previous convictions.<sup>84</sup>
- 6–12 August 1891 Daughter Martha Cavanagh discharged from Bendigo Gaol, VIC.<sup>84</sup>
- 14 October 1891 Charged at City Police Court, Bendigo, VIC with drunkenness; fined 10 shillings, or in default 48 hours imprisonment.<sup>85</sup>
- 19 October 1891 Charged at City Police Court, Bendigo, VIC with being drunk etc; sentence 1 month imprisonment at Bendigo Gaol, or fine.  
Description: born 1839 in Scotland, servant, 5' 1", sallow complexion, grey hair, blue eyes, 45 previous convictions.<sup>86</sup>
- 19–25 November 1891 Discharged from Bendigo Gaol, VIC.<sup>86</sup>
- 19 November 1891 Charged at City Police Court, Bendigo, VIC with being drunk and disorderly; sentence 7 days imprisonment at Bendigo Gaol.  
Description: born 1839 in Scotland, servant, 5' 1", sallow complexion, grey hair, blue eyes, 46 previous convictions.<sup>87</sup>
- 26–30 November 1891 Discharged from Bendigo Gaol, VIC.<sup>87</sup>
- 19 December 1891 Charged at City Police Court, Bendigo, VIC with being drunk and disorderly; sentence 7 days imprisonment at Bendigo Gaol.  
Description: born 1839 in Scotland, servant, 5' 1", sallow complexion, grey hair, blue eyes, 47 previous convictions.<sup>88</sup>
- 24–27 December 1891 Discharged from Bendigo Gaol, VIC.<sup>88</sup>
- 27 December 1891 Prisoner in the lock-up, Bendigo, VIC charged with habitual drunkenness.<sup>89</sup>  
Hut at Carpenter Street, Quarry Hill recently occupied by Jane and daughter Martha Cavanagh burnt to the ground; owner Ah Loon.<sup>90</sup>  
Newspaper report:  
*FIRE AT QUARRY HILL. – At about two o'clock yesterday morning a two-roomed hut, owned by a Chinaman named Ah Loon, and situated in Carpenter street, Quarry Hill, was totally destroyed by fire. The place was occupied until about a week ago by two women named Jane and Martha Kavanagh. The brigades responded promptly to the alarm, but were unable to do anything towards saving the place, which was uninsured, and valued at £5.*<sup>90</sup>
- 7 January 1892 Charged at City Police Court, Bendigo, VIC with being drunk etc; sentence 1 month imprisonment at Bendigo Gaol, or fine.  
Description: born 1839 in Scotland, servant, 5' 1", sallow complexion, grey hair, blue eyes, 48 previous convictions.<sup>91</sup>
- 4–10 February 1892 Discharged from Bendigo Gaol, VIC.<sup>91</sup>
- 16 February 1892 Charged at City Police Court, Bendigo, VIC with drunkenness; fined £2, or in default 14 days' imprisonment.<sup>92</sup>
- 4 March 1892 Charged at City Police Court, Bendigo, VIC with being an habitual drunkard; sentence 6 months imprisonment at Bendigo Gaol.  
Description: born 1839 in Scotland, servant, 5' 1", sallow complexion, grey hair, blue eyes, 50 previous convictions.<sup>93</sup>
- 11–17 August 1892 Discharged from Bendigo Gaol, VIC.<sup>93</sup>
- 10 September 1892 Charged at City Police Court, Bendigo, VIC with being drunk and disorderly; sentence 7 days' imprisonment at Bendigo Gaol, or fine.

<sup>84</sup> *Victoria Police Gazette*, 12 August 1891 p.234a (Martha Kavanagh, 2172); *Bendigo Advertiser*, 3 August 1891 p.2 (Martha Kavanagh)

<sup>85</sup> *Bendigo Advertiser*, 15 October 1891 p.2 (Jane Kavanagh)

<sup>86</sup> *Victoria Police Gazette*, 25 November 1891 p.331a (Jane Kavanagh, 5632)

<sup>87</sup> *Victoria Police Gazette*, 2 December 1891 p.336a (Jane Kavanagh, 5632); *Bendigo Advertiser*, 20 November 1891 p.3 (Jane Kavanagh)

<sup>88</sup> *Victoria Police Gazette*, 30 December 1891 p.366a (Jane Kavanagh, 5632); *Bendigo Advertiser*, 21 December 1891 p.3 (Jane Kavanagh)

<sup>89</sup> *Bendigo Advertiser*, 28 December 1891 p.2 (Jane Kavanagh)

<sup>90</sup> *Bendigo Advertiser*, 28 December 1891 p.2 (Jane & Martha Kavanagh)

<sup>91</sup> *Victoria Police Gazette*, 10 February 1892 p.46a (Jane Kavanagh, 5632)

<sup>92</sup> *Bendigo Advertiser*, 17 February 1892 p.2 (Jane Kavanagh)

<sup>93</sup> *Victoria Police Gazette*, 17 August 1892 p.222a (Jane Kavanagh, 5632)

- Description: born 1839 in Scotland, servant, 5' 1", sallow complexion, grey hair, blue eyes, 51 previous convictions.<sup>94</sup>
- 15–21 September 1892 Discharged from Bendigo Gaol, VIC.<sup>94</sup>
- 23 September 1892 Charged at City Police Court, Bendigo, VIC with being drunk and disorderly; sentence 14 days imprisonment at Bendigo Gaol.  
Description: born 1839 in Scotland, servant, 5' 1", sallow complexion, grey hair, blue eyes, 52 previous convictions.<sup>95</sup>
- 13–19 October 1892 Discharged from Bendigo Gaol, VIC.<sup>95</sup>
- 10 October 1892 Charged at City Police Court, Bendigo, VIC with being drunk and disorderly; sentence 14 days imprisonment at Bendigo Gaol, or fine.  
Description: born 1839 in Scotland, servant, 5' 1", sallow complexion, grey hair, blue eyes, 52 previous convictions.<sup>96</sup>
- 26–31 October 1892 Discharged from Bendigo Gaol, VIC.<sup>96</sup>
- 22 December 1892 Charged at City Police Court, Bendigo, VIC by Constable Featherstone with being an habitual drunkard; sentence 3 months imprisonment at Bendigo Gaol.  
Description: born 1839 in Scotland, servant, 5' 1", sallow complexion, grey hair, grey eyes, 53 previous convictions.<sup>97</sup>
- 23–29 March 1893 Discharged from Bendigo Gaol, VIC.<sup>97</sup>
- 6 April 1893 Charged at City Police Court, Bendigo, VIC with drunkenness; sentence 7 days imprisonment at Bendigo Gaol.<sup>98</sup>
- Newspaper report:  
*AN OLD OFFENDER—An old woman, named Jane Kavanagh, was brought before the City Bench yesterday, charged with drunkenness. She was arrested at an early hour yesterday morning while lying asleep on the cold ground in the market sheds. She assured the bench that she was not drunk at all. She was 63 years of age, and had merely sat down in the market to rest herself when she must have fallen off to sleep. The Rev Mr. Potter had promised her that conditionally on her turning over a new leaf he would get a situation for her. If the bench would only let her off on this occasion she would sign the pledge at once. The P.M.: You cannot expect Mr. Potter to interest himself on your behalf if you continue to get drunk. Is she known to the police? Sergeant Fahey: I'm sorry to have to say it, your worship, but she's been here 67 times before. The bench sent her to gaol for a week, the P.M. advising her to carry out her promise—to sign the pledge—on her release.<sup>98</sup>*
- 27 May 1893 Charged at City Police Court, Bendigo, VIC with vagrancy; sentence 6 months imprisonment at Bendigo Gaol.  
Description: born 1839 in Scotland, servant, 5' 1", sallow complexion, grey hair, blue eyes, stout build, 55 previous convictions.<sup>99</sup>
- Newspaper report:  
*Two old women, named Ann Davis and Jane Kavanagh, were charged by Constable Haig with vagrancy. The evidence of the arresting constable was that he found the first-named on the previous night sleeping in an old shed behind the Normanby hotel. The second he arrested in Mundy-street, where she was lying in a state of intoxication. Plain-clothes-constable Davidson stated that both women were well-known to him. They had no means of support, and frequented the brothels. Each was sentenced to six months' imprisonment.<sup>100</sup>*
- 9–15 November 1893 Discharged from Bendigo Gaol, VIC.<sup>99</sup>
- 27 March 1894 Charged at City Police Court, Bendigo, VIC with being drunk and disorderly; remanded.<sup>101</sup>

<sup>94</sup> *Victoria Police Gazette*, 21 September 1892 p.254b (Jane Kavanagh, 5632)

<sup>95</sup> *Victoria Police Gazette*, 19 October 1892 p.280a (Jane Kavanagh, 5632)

<sup>96</sup> *Victoria Police Gazette*, 2 November 1892 p.294a (Jane Kavanagh, 5632)

<sup>97</sup> *Victoria Police Gazette*, 29 March 1893 p.94b (Jane Kavanagh, 5632); *Bendigo Advertiser*, 23 December 1892 p.4 (Jane Kavanagh)

<sup>98</sup> *Bendigo Advertiser*, 7 April 1893 p.2 (Jane Kavanagh)

<sup>99</sup> *Victoria Police Gazette*, 15 November 1893 p.312a (Jane Kavanagh, 5632)

<sup>100</sup> *Bendigo Advertiser*, 29 May 1893 p.2 (Jane Kavanagh)

<sup>101</sup> *Bendigo Advertiser*, 23 March 1894 p.2 (Jane Kavanagh)

- 28 March 1894 Brought up at City Police Court, Bendigo, VIC charged as before; fined 10 shillings and costs 1 shilling, or in default 3 days' imprisonment.<sup>102</sup>  
Newspaper reports:  
*AN OLD OFFENDER.*—"It wasn't so much the beer I had as the rheumatics in my legs that caused me to walk like that," explained Jane Kavanagh to the city bench yesterday, when brought up on remand, charged with drunkenness. The arresting constable stated that the woman had been turned out of an hotel about 7 a.m. on Tuesday, and as she was very disorderly he had to lock her up. "Well, you know, it's Easter," pleaded the old woman; "and if your worships will only let me off this time I'll sign the pledge and never come before you again." This appeal evidently made an impression on the magistrates, and there appeared a possibility of Jane getting "another chance" when Sub-inspector Murphy imparted to the bench the interesting bit of information that this was the woman's 74<sup>th</sup> appearance. She will have an opportunity of signing the pledge on the termination of the sentence of seven days' imprisonment which the bench imposed, in default of the payment of 10s with 1s costs.<sup>102</sup>  
Three drunkards were cautioned and discharged, and Jane Kavenagh, a notorious character, behaved herself in court in such a manner that Sergeant Kilfeder expressed the opinion that she was not yet quite recovered from the effects of her drinking bout. She was remanded until to-day.<sup>103</sup>
- 16 April 1894 Charged at City Police Court, Bendigo, VIC with being an habitual drunkard; sentence 6 months' imprisonment, detained at Bendigo Gaol.  
Description: born 1839 in Scotland, servant, 5' 1", sallow complexion, grey hair, blue eyes, stout build, 58 previous convictions.<sup>104</sup>  
Newspaper report:  
*AN HABITUAL DRUNKARD.*—An old woman named Jane Kavanagh made her 75<sup>th</sup> appearance before the city bench yesterday, charged with being an habitual drunkard. Jane indignantly denied the charge; she only took a little drop now and again. It transpired, however, that the "now and again" was during the few days between her liberation and her return to the gaol. "Yes," she went on volubly, "the police won't give me time to get away from the town. As soon as I come out of gaol they lock me up again. Just fancy two big policemen getting hold of me to lock me up. I wasn't drunk at all, but they knocked me about and made me sick, and then said I was drunk. And they don't treat me properly at gaol. Last time I was here Mr. Hayes fined me 10s, or three days, but they kept me in gaol for a week. I know the rule; it's 10s or three days. You're fined 20s when you get seven days, and I was only fined 10s, so that they kept me four days too long. "You're sentenced to six months' imprisonment this time," the P.M. announced. "But what about the four days I was cheated out of?" queried the old woman, but just then a constable hurried her out of court to the cells, and the question remained unanswered.<sup>105</sup>
- 18 May 1894 Removed from Bendigo Gaol, VIC to Pentridge Prison, Coburg, VIC.<sup>106</sup>  
Newspaper report:  
*PRISONERS FOR PENTRIDGE.*—To-day five female prisoners, who have been serving sentences in the Bendigo gaol, will be removed to Pentridge, where the women's penitentiary has been completed. The batch, which includes Rose Briggs, Emma Shenandori, Fannie Anderson, Jane Kavanagh, and Louisa Maria Johnson, alias Clingan, will be in charge of Constables J. Riley and Sheehan.<sup>106</sup>
- 20–26 September 1894 Discharged from Pentridge Prison, Coburg, VIC.<sup>104</sup>
- 22 December 1894 Arrested for insulting behaviour, placed in the cells at the lockup.<sup>107</sup>  
Newspaper report:  
*INSULTING BEHAVIOUR.*—An old offender named Jane Kavanagh again got into the hands of the police on Saturday night. During the day she had obtained 2s out of the city poor box on

<sup>102</sup> Bendigo Advertiser, 29 March 1894 p.2 (Jane Kavanagh)

<sup>103</sup> Bendigo Advertiser, 28 March 1894 p.2 (Jane Kavenagh)

<sup>104</sup> Victoria Police Gazette, 26 September 1894 p.276a (Jane Kavanagh, 5632)

<sup>105</sup> Bendigo Advertiser, 17 April 1894 p.2 (Jane Kavanagh)

<sup>106</sup> Bendigo Advertiser, 18 May 1894 p.2 (Jane Kavanagh)

<sup>107</sup> Bendigo Advertiser, 24 December 1894 p.2 (Jane Kavanagh)

the representation that she was destitute. She appears, however, to have gone straight away and spent the money in drink. Later on she returned to the town hall, and made herself as comfortable as possible on the steps, where she began singing "The March of the Cameron Men." Sub-inspector Murphy, however, happened to come along just at the time, and apparently the tune was not appreciated by the officer, for he at once insisted on Jane herself taking a march to the lockup, where she was placed in the cells.<sup>107</sup>

March Of The Cameron Men

*There's many a man of the Cameron clan  
That has followed his chief to the field  
He has sworn to support him or die by his side  
For a Cameron never can yield.*

*I hear the pibroch sounding, sounding  
Deep 'er the mountain and glen  
While light springing footsteps  
Are trampling the heath*

Chorus

*'Tis the march of the Cameron men.  
'Tis the march, 'tis the march  
'Tis the march of the Cameron men.*

*Oh, proudly they walk, but each Cameron knows  
He may tread on the heather no more  
But boldly he follows his chief to the field  
Where his laurels were gathered before.*

Chorus

*The moon has arisen, it shines on the path  
Now trod by the gallant and true  
High, high are their hopes, for their chieftain has said  
That whatever men dare, they can do.*

Chorus

24 January 1895 Charged at City Police Court, Bendigo, VIC with being drunk and disorderly; fined 5 shillings, or in default 24 hours' imprisonment; 78 previous convictions.<sup>108</sup>

4 August 1896 Arrested and charged with larceny, held at Back Creek police station.<sup>109</sup>

Newspaper report:

*ALLEGED LARCENY. — Yesterday afternoon Constable Hancock, the officer in charge of the Back Creek police station, arrested an old woman named Jane Kavanagh on warrant, for the larceny of a cushion and two pillow shams, valued at £2, from John M'Millan, a labourer, who is camped at Back Creek. It is alleged that the accused called at the informant's camp on Sunday, and he showed her the articles, which he had won in a raffle up country. The woman admired them very much, and shortly afterwards M'Millan discovered that they were missing. His suspicious rested on her and M'Millan reported the matter to Constable Hancock, who made inquiries, with the result that he ascertained that Jane, who is well-known to the police, had disposed of the articles to Mrs. O'Connor, the licensee of the Brian Boru hotel, for 5s, on the representation that she was selling them for a "friend." M'Millan subsequently swore an information against the accused and the warrant was duly executed. Accused states that M'Millan gave her the articles to sell for him.<sup>109</sup>*

23 February 1898 Daughter Martha Cavanagh charged at City Police Court, Bendigo, VIC with drunkenness; fined 5 shillings, or in default imprisonment.<sup>110</sup>

31 July 1899 Daughter Martha Cavanagh charged at City Police Court, Bendigo, VIC with drunkenness; fined 5 shillings as she had previous convictions against her.<sup>111</sup>

<sup>108</sup> Bendigo Advertiser, 25 January 1895 p.4 (Jane Kavanagh)

<sup>109</sup> Bendigo Advertiser, 5 August 1896 p.2 (Jane Kavanagh)

<sup>110</sup> Bendigo Advertiser, 24 February 1898 p.2 (Martha Cavanagh)

<sup>111</sup> Bendigo Advertiser, 1 August 1899 p.3 (Martha Kavanagh)

- 18 October 1899 Charged at City Police Court, Bendigo, VIC with being drunk; discharged, arrangements having been made to get her into the Benevolent Asylum.<sup>112</sup>
- 22 December 1902 **Died** of dysentery and exhaustion at the Victorian Immigrants' Home, St Kilda Road, Melbourne, VIC; aged 74, born Inverness; parents unknown; informant Mr Abbot, authorised agent of the Immigrants Home<sup>113</sup>; 62 years in Victoria; married, particulars unknown.<sup>114</sup>
- 24 December 1902 Buried at Melbourne General Cemetery, VIC.<sup>115</sup>

### Notes

- Jane's son Thomas Cavanagh may be the Thomas Cavanagh who died on 3 July 1864 of ulceration of the cheek at the Immigrants Home<sup>113</sup>, Melbourne, VIC; aged 3½ years, parents unknown; informant John Harrison, messenger of the Immigrants Home, Melbourne; buried 4 July 1864 at the New Cemetery, Melbourne, VIC.<sup>116</sup>
- Jane's son Edward Dunster Cavanagh is probably the Edward Cavenagh who was charged on 13 October 1873 with Jabez Adderly with absconding from the industrial school at Melbourne, VIC. Description: about 15 years of age, 4' 10", medium build, dark complexion and hair; both wearing school uniform and were recently transferred from the ship *Nelson*.<sup>117</sup> He was arrested by the Hotham police in November 1873.
- Jane's son Edward Dunster Cavanagh is possibly the Edward Kavanagh who died in 1881 at Kilmore, VIC, aged 22, father unknown.<sup>118</sup>
- Jane's son James Cavanagh may be the James Cavanagh who married Christina McLean in 1882 at Warrnambool, VIC.<sup>119</sup>
- Jane's brother John may be the John Robertson who married Ann Hughes (*St Vincent*) at St Paul's Anglican Church, Stanley on 18 February 1851; John aged 29, bachelor, labourer; Ann aged 27, spinster, house servant, illiterate; witnesses John Lake (illiterate) and Ellen Meally.<sup>120</sup>

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<sup>112</sup> *Bendigo Advertiser*, 19 October 1899 p.2 (Jane Kavanagh)

<sup>113</sup> The Immigrants Home was established in 1853 by the Immigrants Aid Society 'for the amelioration of the fearful distress amongst the newly arrived population', over time it came to serve a similar function to an English workhouse, operating as a night shelter, convalescent hospital and providing shelter for deserted wives, single mothers, neglected children and the disabled (*eMelbourne the city past & present*, 'Immigrants Home').

<sup>114</sup> VIC Death Certificate 1902/14892 (Jane Cavanagh)

<sup>115</sup> VIC Death Certificate 1902/14892 (Jane Cavanagh)

<sup>116</sup> VIC Death Certificate 1864/6271 (Thomas Cavanagh)

<sup>117</sup> *Victoria Police Gazette*, 21 October 1873 p.270 (Jabez Adderly & Edward Cavenagh); *Victoria Police Gazette*, 18 November 1873 p.296 (Edward Cavanagh)

<sup>118</sup> VIC Death Record 1881/10934 (Edw Kavanagh)

<sup>119</sup> VIC Marriage Record 1882/4863 (James Cavanagh & Christina McLean)

<sup>120</sup> TAHO, RGD37/1/10 1851/618 Horton (John Robertson & Ann Hughes); Gunn & Kippen, 'Household and Family Formation in Nineteenth-Century Tasmania' No.8844 (John Robertson & Ann Hughes); TAHO, CON52/1/3 p.383 (John Robertson & Ann Hughes)

This biography supplements our book *Patchwork Prisoners* available from [www.researchtasmania.com.au](http://www.researchtasmania.com.au).