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"Ramah".
Tenterden,
GUYRA. 2365
New South Wales

11th May, 1991.

Mr E.E. Gardiner,
303 Birdwood Terrace,
TOOWONG. 4006
Queensland.

Dear Mr Gardiner,

Recently I was looking through some Genealogical Research Directories in our local Library and noticed with great interest your inserts for KESSEY in the 1982, 1984, and 1985 Directories. Of particular interest is the one for 1984:-

KESSEY 1808-1900 Bathurst, New South Wales.

In my genealogy I have an Ann Kessey married to William James Budge.

This event took place on 4th January, 1858 at Bathurst. William was a Bachelor and Ann a Spinster. William's occupation was given as a Brickmaker and his usual place of residence was District of Bathurst.

Ann Kessey gave her address as Burnt Flat and they were married in the All Saints Church, Bathurst, according to the forms of the Church of England.

"The consent of Thomas Kessy, Father of Ann Kessey was given to the marriage of Ann Kessey with William James Budge the said Ann Kessey being under the age of twenty-one years."

Witnesses to the event were William Ashworth and Catherine Budge.

No further particulars were given but I have much more on the Budge Line. However, this is the only information I have on the Kessey Line. Though I have tried different tactics, I have always come up against blanks.

My direct ancestor from this line is Elizabeth Jane Budge, daughter of the above, who married Mark Louff (should have been Lauff) on 28th January, 1882 at Blayney. I have Elizabeth Jane's Death Certificate and her mother's maiden name is given as Cassey but on various birth certificates for the children, I have again seen the name Kessey.

I am doubtful if you will even receive this letter as it is so long ago that you lived at the above address but I decided to try and hope for the best.

Yours sincerely,

Hazel Charles
(Mrs) Hazel Charles.

24 RUNYON AVENUE,
GREYSTANES. 2145
Sunday, Sept. 6, 1992

Dear Olive,

Thanks for your letter of Aug. 31st. I was thrilled to receive it. You asked what your Ed had earlier sent me - well I was unfortunately a couple of months too late when I first wrote.

I have compared your notes with mine:-

Samuel Rawson & Mary Grady:		
Elizabeth christened	13.6.1854	
Margaret "	1.8.1840	
James "	13.3.1842	
* Margaret "	28.7.1844	Parish Hartley
Sarah "	6.2.1845	

*Margaret - You show her married to a William Costelloe in 1864. I also found a Margaret married to a James Humphreys in 1879 Ref. 2411. Have you ever heard of him?

*Margaret in Baptism records as daughter of Samuel ROFS and Mary Grady born 26.5.1844 ch. 28.7.1844
Godparents: Philip and Nancy Hanrahan.

The name ROFS keeps appearing through christening records. Catherine Foran born 4.12.1837 (daughter of Patrick Foran and Ellen Grady) christened 2.8.1844 had as godparents Michael Hanrahan and Maria ROFS.

Cornelius Foran was christened 2.8.1844.

Who was Johannah CASEY, sister-in-law and informant on Patrick Foran's death?

Patrick Grady & Catherine McQuirk:

I found a Julia baptised in 1845 - could account for the four year difference between births of Patrick and Daniel.

Ellen christened 18.4.1853.

Catherine McQuirk Grady's death entry ref. 1046 shows parents as Patrick McQuirk and Norah Francis. You show Daniel McGuirk & Honora Francis.

I have looked again at the shipping list for the "City of Edinburgh" and think it only looks like MARY and is actually MARG. Grady. In the letter to NSW Governor from Dublin Castle 17.6.1828 she is listed as Margaret Grady (convict's wife). In Surgeon's letter from the ship on 12.11.1828 she is listed as Margt. Grady, wife of Patrick Grady who lived some time back with Mr. Astate, Parramatta. In stores issued listing from "City of Edinburgh" she is listed as Margaret Grady.

You have also written down the side that Ellen Grady Foran is alleged to have bought land in 1835 (640 acres). Has this been proven? If not, let me know and I will go into the Land Titles Office in Sydney and search.

Thomas Kessey & Sarah Ann Grose:

I found the following 2 births:-

Ellen CASEY 1863 ref. 7394
Thomas CASEY 1864 " 8107

Patrick Grady & Catherine McQuirk:-

Patrick is shown as marrying Eliza Badley in 1865.

There is also a Patrick son of James Grady & Rose Donelly. Do you know anything of him? I have his birth as 5.8.1842 and christening 11.9.1842 but nothing else. Could he have married Eliza Badley?

For James & Rose's first three born namely, Patrick, James born 1840 died 187? (ref.02744) and Anne born 9.7.1845 ch. 6.12.1845 - do you know if Patrick and Anne also died? They are not mentioned in James's will in 1859. Although a John is, this could be James. There was also a proviso that John had parental consent to any marriage - this didn't apply to the other children - I wonder why! Could have been family problems as the land left to William was crossed through although probate was granted including that portion in 1888.

As you can see from above, I have been spending a lot of time on christenings lately. I included some of the dates here as I wasn't sure if you had them.

Patrick Foran was a witness at the wedding in 1835 of William Fanning and Margaret Flinn. He was currently living at Bathurst. Also, could not write.

Re Thomas Kessey & Julia Grady:-

Julia is shown as marrying George JOSEPH Gunning
I have her and a George ALFRED Gunning having 8 children.

It is terrific to have someone to exchange ideas with on this side of my family as I have been doing it all solo. Relatives are quite happy to look at everything but too busy etc. to help. I guess you have also found the same.

One last request - what do you know of Ann Kessey b.1841 who married William James Budge.

Well I had best close for now - it was lovely talking to you recently - hope to hear from you soon,

Regards

Whitley. (Cook)

Dear Ted,

The holidays have enabled me to spend some hours in the State Archives & the Mitchell Library. I have come up with further information re our bushranging relations. It answers some questions & begs further questions & follow-up. Copies of the following are attached :-

Section A Entrance Book to Bathurst Gaol (Reel 2321
NSW State Archives)

- ① August 1858 - James Kessy
- ② April 1865 - Philip Foran
- ③ December 1865 - John Foran
- ④ December 1865 - John Foran
- ⑤ January 1867 - Cornelius Foran
- ⑥ February 1867 - Patrick & John Foran

'see in' for Patrick probably indicates he was previously arrested but I didn't come across it.

- ⑦ July 1867 - John Foran (End of the line!!)

Section B. Extracts from The Bathurst Times 1867
(Microfilm - Newspaper Room, State Library of NSW)

- ① Local Intelligence - Bushrangers on Carcoar Rd. Feb 2, 1867
- ② Sat. March 2, 1867 - Police - M^c Manus
- ③ wed April 17th, 1867 - Pugilistic Encounter
- ④ wed. May 1, 1867 - Escape of Prisoners under Escort.

This I presume was Patrick Foran.

Section C Returns for the Supreme Court - Circuit
Bathurst (Reel 2394 State Archives)

* Lawrence Cummins & 18 Oct. 1867. Cummins is f.
The Sand Creek Bus!

Section D Bench of Magistrates Court - Bathurst
(Reel 2744
State Archives)

- Part I
- ① Cornelius Foran - 6th Feb 1867
 - ② Patrick + Phillip Foran
 - ③ John Foran - 24 July 1867

Part II Circuit Court - This I believe is
a summary of Supreme
Court - Circuit. It appears
at the end of the reel.

① Patrick Grady - Horse stealing (was it him?)
see below

② Lawrence Cummins
③ John Foran } see above

Section E Court Records from Old Bailey -
Thomas Casey - (Microfilm - Mitchell
Library)

① Some other bits + pieces that I didn't
make copies.

① Circuit Court Return of Convictions - Bathurst
Oct. 1867 (Reel 2394 State Archives)

No 41 Patrick Grady

Crime - Horse Stealing

Date - 14th October 1867

Judge - Hargrove

Sentence - Seven Years Hard Labor on the roads or
other public works of the colony

Disposal - To be worked in Darlinghurst or Berrima
Goals or on Cockatoo Island until further
orders.

a March 1865
No 83 Edward McQuirk

Born Colony - 1845
Nat. Place - Sydney
Rel. - Catholic
Trade - Labourer
Admitted - 24th March 1865
Whence - Mudgee
Purpose - 7yrs Roads

DISPOSED :- How - On Escourt
when - March 31, 1865

CRIME - Horse Stealing

b a 1864

Frederick Peisley
See in Jan 20 1866
Rockley
Trial 2nd Sess
Discharged
Not Guilty
June 2, 1866

Peisley as you
know was found
Not Guilty with
James & Thomas
Kessey in 1864

CRIME - Highway Robbery

c June 1866
Frederick Peisley
Bathurst
Remanded
Admitted to Bail
July 6, 1866

CRIME - Suspicion Horse Stealing

(3) A discrepancy - I had previously not noticed that in the Entrance Book to Bathurst Gaol the first column is headed "Read & Write". James & Thomas Kessey had "Both" written in the first column which indicates their literacy. This goes against our oral history yet confirms Thomas' signature on his Marriage Certificate.

(4) I am on the trail of Patrick Crody's Conditional Pardon. The Ticket of leave issued 10 Sept. 1833 was renewed because of wear & tear. Will follow that up. Apparently they were carried around by convicts.

(5) I came across a book titled "Cockatoo Island" the other day & there is a small chapter on the convict settlement. Of interest is the following extract - "in April 1856, by order of the Colonial Secretary, it was decided that Cockatoo Island should receive all prisoners sentenced to work on the roads and public works of the colony." Explains James & Thomas Kessey being sent there. I'll send a copy of the relevant chapter when I return from the South Coast.

(6) Another Entry in Entrance Book to Bathurst Gaol
(Reel 2321
State Archives)

No 83 Edward M'Quick

Born Colony 1845

Nat. Place - Sydney

Rel. - Catholic

Trade - labourer

Admitted - 24th March 1865

Whence - Mudgee

(Was he related to
Patrick Crody¹⁴ (Junior)
wife Catherine M'Quick?)

Purpose - Tyrs Roads

DISPOSED How - On Escourt
when - March 31, 1865

CRIME - Horse Stealing

(7) It was of interest to find that James kessey had his first brush with the law in 1858 at the age of 18. There doesn't seem to be any record of his conviction or otherwise.

(8) I could find no reference in the Government Gazette to Patrick Grady in 1845. The Sydney Gazette was ~~set~~ out of print. It finished around 1841.

Will follow up on Patrick Grady (Junior)

Enclosed also find Thomas Casey ^{Julia} line & close up on George ^{Julia} Gunning. ^(Julia is a chart)
I have sent copies to Ann & Athol Lament.

Hope this finds you well

Paul GUNNING

29/2/87

Dear Ted,

Hope this reaches you with current bans on interstate mail. I have had some further success with the Kessey Brothers & quite by accident I was trying to sort out Thomas Casey's pardons (see further on) when I stumbled ^{upon} a pardon for Patrick Foran in 1869. Spurred on, a little further there was Thomas Kessey's (Jnr) pardon & release from gaol on 17th October 1871. A closer investigation revealed a very faint yet readable entry showing James Kessey's release on the same day. Great stuff!! The copy of the latter is hardly worth sending. Also enclosed are further copies from

"The Bathurst Times". I was searching the paper for a report of the trial of John Foran & Laurence Cummins which should have been big news, yet I could find nothing. There are a few small gaps in the papers & perhaps it has been lost.

The paper report on Patrick Grogan I enclose because it coincides with the trial of Patrick Grogan per Bench of Magistrates Court a couple of days earlier. My presumption is that the paper misspelt his name - The question still remains - Was it Patrick Grogan Jnr?

Thomas Casey's pardons are puzzling & the archivist had little to offer - I'll have to return to Uni & do Australian History! He received his first pardon in 1821 after 3 years - a not uncommon occurrence under Macquarie's Governors - one would think to have received an Absolute Pardon in 1845 but it is listed as a 1st Class Conditional Pardon. This would seem a duplication of the 1821 one - The second pardon still did not

allow him to return to U.K. or Ireland. Actually a friend of mine is doing Aust. history at the moment & I'll get her onto it.

Another fascinating story is on the Gunning side. Two brothers Phillip (my great-great grandfather) & Robert arrived within a year of each other 1828 & 1829. In 1837 Robert was granted his ticket of leave but in 1838 it was cancelled "for attempting to impose on His Excellency, the Governor by bringing forward two spurious letters purporting to convey the news of his wife's death." (Robert left a wife & child in England) He had applied to marry "Mary Mears per Asia 7". Now "Asia 7" was the Female Convict ship that carried Eliza Somers from Ireland. Eliza as you know became the wife of Ben Hall Senior & mother of the famous Bushranger. Thanks for the Stoney Creek Bushranger. Apparently it was quite common for convicts, who realized that they would never be reunited with their wives to committ bigamy, but the clergy were soon onto it.

cheers for now

Paul

Contid.

6/3/87

I have made another visit to the State Archives & hit another Jackpot. In the N.S.W. Police Gazette of 1864 I found various references to our illustrious great//grandfathers. I was most surprised to find confirmation of the story as depicted in "Captain Moonlite" by ~~Pat~~ Charles White. I will obtain a copy of the account of 'the two Maills on my next visit. It has to be a photograph & it takes a few weeks before it is available

Another fascinating aspect is the spelling of the surnames "Kissey" + James is known as "Casey".

The other account of the robbery of Thomas Casey's blankets raises further questions. Uncle Jack at Bathurst ~~was~~ told me that Thomas was a bullock driver between Sydney + Bathurst. He was known to be one of the finest + never worked his animals after lunch. But other evidence has him at Hope Hill, + Mount Tamar. If he was still in the carrying business then its most likely that this is our Thomas.

Ah well, give me something else to explore. Going to Bathurst this afternoon to spend the weekend - should see Ruth + Jim.

Paul

30/1/87

Dear Ted,

Managed to spend a couple of hours at the Archives yesterday & came up with the following - copies attached.

① Ticket of leave for Patrick Grady 6 Feb 1837 - it replaced the one issued 10 Sept. 1833 because it had become mutilated & spoiled. (Reel 926)

② Patrick's Conditional Pardon (Reel 776)

③ Bathurst Circuit Court 1866 & Patrick Foran's conviction (Reel 2744)

④ Bathurst Quarter Sessions - 1868

Phillip Foran - He seems determined to join his brothers at Government Expense. (Reel 2744)

⑤ Bathurst Quarter Sessions

John Kessey for Cattle Stealing. Perhaps & very likely this was Thomas & Julio Casey's 2nd son. Unfortunately the entry only reads "guilty" No sentence is noted. - I'll follow up with Entrance Book to Bathurst Gaol. (Reel 2744)

⑥ Thomas Casey's setting up of the carrier business to Bathurst.

Marvellous stuff !!

cheers for now

TABULATION OF THE FAMILIES OF PATRICK AND JAMES GRADY.

PATRICK GRADY born: died: 1892-10085
 F: Patrick; M: Margaret. nee Whalan)
 married 1843. Vol. 162-3881 to:-
 CATHERINE McQUIRK;
 born 1824. Vol. 125-539.
 died 1884-1046.
 F: Patrick?; M: Honora.
 (Daniel) (nee Francis)

JAMES GRADY born: died: 1887-6322. ? East Macquarie.
 F: Patrick; M: Margaret nee Whalan.
 married 1835. Vol. 19-1369 to:-
 ROSE DONELLY;
 born
 died 1889-7219 ?
 F: James; M: Lucy (?)

CHILDREN:

CHILDREN:

(*****) PATRICK GRADY born 1844. Vol. 62-1095.
 DANIEL born 1848. Vol. 66-745.
 (+) ELLEN born 1853. Vol. 70-795.
 THOMAS born 1855. Vol. 72-2287.
 MARY A. born 1857-4305.
 ELIZABETH A. born 1858-4753.
 *** MARY JANE born 1860-5014;
 married WILLIAM QUINN
 1882-3795.
 JAMES F. born 1864-7480.
 ROSETTA born 1865-5718; died Dalby
 11.8.1960.
 married (1) Frank York 1.5.1883
 at Thargo; died
 6.2.1891.
 (2) Michael Jerome Power
 1892-1997.
 JOHN P. born 1868-6137;
 died 1870-2607.

JAMES GRADY born 1840. Vol. 142-2256; died: 1871-2744.
 PATRICK born 5.8.1842 (1842. Vol. 61-2302; Baptised 11.9.42)
 ANNE born 1845. Vol. 62-2136.
 HENRY born 1847. Vol. 64-3487.
 WILLIAM born 1849. Vol. 66-1778.
 MICHAEL born 1852. Vol. 70-772; died 1860-2916.
 TIMOTHY born 1854. Vol. 71-2171; died 1860-2919.
 MARGARET born 1856-3088.
 THOMAS born 1859-4613.
 TIMOTHY born 1860-5011.

*** MARY JANE QUINN nee GRADY was one of the two witnesses at the second marriage of
 LOUISA GARDINER nee KESSEY when she married WILLIAM THOMSON at
 a C/E ceremony at St. Stephens at Bourke in 1889.

(*****) PATRICK GRADY married 29.12.1865 Elvia Badley; father James farmer; mother: Mary Crinon.
 (+) ELLEN GRADY married in 1873 at Hill End NSW DAVID GEORGE CHARLES GRIMWOOD.

Thomas Case
 b 1799 - Edmonton, Middlesex
 Arr. NSW 31/12/1818
 d. 22/7/1882 Pardon 28/11/1821

d
 M. John Moriarty

Ann
 b 1841
 d
 M William J. Budge
 M 1847 Kelso

Zita (Bonnie) M
 b 1894
 — Shirley
 — Nancy
 — Ernie
Mildred J. b + d. 1889
Amelda b + d. 1888
Mabel m Ken-Ross
 b 1891
Ernest Gladstone m Isabel Todd
 b 24/8/1899
 d 25/6/1966
 — Margaret
Olive Constance m Green No Issue
 b 1897

James
 b 30/5/1840 Native Day Creek
 d 31/7/1927 - Bathurst
 M. Mary Jane Penderycross
 b 1853 Goulburn
 d 19/7/1923 Newtown

M 27/6/1873 - Bathurst

Ivy F b + d 1886
Vincent A. b 1884 d 1886
Leslie T.B b + d. 1880
Sidney Stanislaus - Never Married
 b 1891
Edith Blanche m David Barry
 b 1877
 — Harold
 — George
 — Zita
 — Grace
Arthur b 1876 d 1977
Beatrice Burdett M Ernest Henry Gunning
 b 30/6/1874 - West Maitland
 d 3/11/1947 - Bathurst
 — See Gunning Line

John
 b 1837
 d 9/3/1902 - Black Springs
 M Mary Ann Harrahan
 b 1828
 d 16/9/1907 - Black Springs

M 1857

Eva Maud b 1876 d 1877
Emily Theresa b 1872 d 1872
William Thomas b 1863 d 1863
LOUIZA M (2) William Thomson M 1/2/1839
 b 1861
 d. 18/1/1919 Thargomindah
 — Eva Lily Mary b 27/1/1887 d 11/5/1961
 — Mable Maud b 11/1/1885 d 4/7/1955
 — Ernest Edward b 31/4/1883 d 24/4/1903
26/1/1861 - Mount Tamar M (1) Thomas Gardiner M 1/6/1882
 b. 1858 Brewarrina
 d. 2/5/1888 - Thargomindah
 — Ernest Edward b 31/4/1883 d 24/4/1903

Thomas
 b. 1833
 d 11/6/1903 Parramatta
 M. Sarah Ann Crose
 bapt. 7/6/1838 - Parramatta
 d. 24/1/1889 - Barrington

M 29/12/1856 Windsor

Mary Anne M Charles ? Graham
 b 1858
 d 27/1/1900
 — Herbert b 1878
 — Sydney b 1883
 — William b 1891

Jane

M 1874

b 1859

d

M. Denis M'Namara

Herbert John (Smith)

b 1875

Martha

M 1878

b 1857

d

M Samuel Ward M Alexander
d 1895 Bortersfield
NO ISSUE 3 ISSUE

(2) M Mary Ann Cole 1908

Mary
b 1914

Victor
b 1909

William

b 8/2/1853 - Outhurst

d 20/12/1928 (1) M Henrietta Cole 1878

Mabel
1892

Myrtle
1890

Ruth
1887

May
b 1885

Wilhelmina
b 1883

Elizabeth

b 1849

d

Informant Mothers Death - 1883
listed as Kessay - Age 34

Robert Phillip M Metitia Maud Macnab

b 30/10/1835 - Lagoon

d 9/11/1958 - Condoctolin

b 24/4/1881 - Brisbane Valley Ck

d 25/2/1951 - Condoctolin

William John M Davina Todd

b 1874

d 1855 - Stony Creek

Elizabeth Jane M Daniel Joseph Reedy

b 1/9/1871

d 22/3/1938 - Forbes

b 1867

d 5/7/1956 - Forbes

Ernest Henry M Beatrice Burdett Kessay

b 19/7/1869 - White Oak

d 12/11/1957 - Outhurst

b 30/6/1874 - West Maitland

d 3/1/1941 - Outhurst

See Gunning
Line

Julia

b 1847

d 20/11/1901

M George Joseph Gunning

b 1845 or 6

d 2/9/1931

M 16/11/1867

Margaret

b 1845

d

M. George Itaines

M 1879

Julia Grady

b 1816 - Tipperary

d. 1/12/1883

22/12/1832

Outhurst

EXTRACT from AUSTRALIAN BUSHRANGING "CAPTAIN MOONLITE" by Charles White

Page 36, Chapter XII

"HELD UP FOR SEVEN HOURS"

One bright frosty night in June 1864, the driver of Cobb and Co's mail coach from Bathurst to Orange, Jimmy Nairn, and five passengers in the coach, had an experience on the road the reverse of pleasant. Half the journey had been covered and the horses had come to a walk in making a rather steep ascent, when the dozing passengers inside the coach were startled into full wakefulness by hearing a rough voice commanding the driver to "Bail up". Looking out they saw the armed men, wearing masks, one standing near the horses' heads, covering the driver with a revolver, and the other two facing the body of the coach, one on each side.

The usual formula was then observed. The passengers were told to alight, and having done so were eased of their possessions and made to stand or sit in a group at the side of the road, with one of the bushrangers standing as custodian over them; at the same time the driver was busy throwing the mail bags out of "boot" or off the rack on to the road, one or two of the men supervising the operation. This complete, the bags were cut open and searched for money letters and other valuables. These having been appropriated, attention was next given to the passengers' luggage, and articles of wearing apparel were taken out, together with every portable thing of value, all the stolen property being packed into the valises on front of the bushrangers' saddles.

While this search and appropriation proceeded the coach-driver was allowed to sit upon the box holding the reins, and from that point of vantage he could observe all that went on, although he was powerless to prevent or check it. The passengers were about fifteen yards off, enjoying the frosty air of the hills as they sat in a row upon the trunk of a fallen tree; but the least suspicious movement on the part of any of them was met by a sudden pointing of his revolver by the bushranger standing guard over them, and a peremptory demand—"Damn you. Keep quiet, or I'll empty this into you!" It was only one against five, certainly, but that one had six little leaden messengers at his command, which could by the simple pressure of a finger be sent on their death-dealing errand. So the five sat and waited until the search was ended, when they naturally expected to be permitted to resume the journey.

Not so, however; and when one of them ventured to ask why the bushrangers were detaining them after they had got all they wanted, he was met by the answer—"We're going to keep you here all night until the down coach arrives, as we intend to kill two birds with one stone". They were allowed, however, to converse with each other in a low tone of voice, and to occasionally make an effort to "keep their spirits up by pouring spirits down", from a bottle of "Old Tom" which one of them had stowed away in his travelling bag when commencing the journey.

It was a weary wait, although broken by two unexpected occurrences. An hour had passed when the "clipperty-clop, clipperty-clop" of a cantering horse upon the frosty ground was heard drawing nearer, and presently a lad on horseback rode up. He was on his way home from Bathurst, and near the turn-off to his father's farm when he came upon the row of huddled humans sitting like dozing kookaburras on a log.

Before he could recover from his surprise at the unusual sight his bridle was seized and he was ordered to dismount and take his seat with the others. Another hour passed and the sound was heard of an unshod horse coming in a quick trot along the road from the opposite direction. This proved to be the lad's father, who, anxious concerning the non-appearance of his son at the time expected, had set out to meet him. He also was compelled to join the others, but came near being shot through making a show of resistance.

For seven long hours they sat, fretting and fuming and freezing, until at last the rattle of the down mail coach was heard, and the well-known voice of driver John Fagan broke the stillness of the night with its cheery "Geet up". Fagan had had experience with the knights of the road before, and saw at a glance what the matter was when a horseman rode up his leading horse's head and a second man pulled up opposite the vehicle. There was only one passenger in the coach, and he was conducted safely to where the others sat, after emptying his pockets; while Fagan was being searched and the mail bags were being thrown out into the road.

At last the bushrangers announced the completion of their "job", and in the early hours of the morning they mounted their horses and rode away into the bush with their booty, which was considerably smaller than they had hoped to gather in this double haul.

"Well, boys, how did you like it?" laughingly asked Fagan, as the released prisoners again sought their seats in the coach for Orange.

"Oh, if I had only brought my revolver!" lamented one of the victims, a well-known storekeeper from Orange. "I guarantee that——"

"Ah, now, stop it, C——" interposed Fagan, who was intimate with the speaker. "I'll bet you're glad you didn't bring it, if it's any value, for you'd have lost that, too" The inference was so plain that even C—— could see it, and for his own comfort joined in the laugh that was raised. For long after that storekeeper, whose boast was broken by the jocose John, was greatly affronted if any acquaintance chanced to speak of a revolver in his presence.

There was excitement in Bathurst and in Orange when the coaches arrived at the destination, with broken mail bags and moneyless passengers, and, of course, the mounted police at each end were soon scouring the bush between the two towns, in the hope of picking up tracks of the bushrangers. But several weeks passed in fruitless searching, and then quite unexpectedly a clue was obtained, the result being the arrest of a young man named Thomas Kessy, and two companions who all lived near Bathurst. The arresting constable searched the room in which Kessy slept, and found in his box two shirts, one marked "James Hayes", guernsey and two pairs of boots. These articles were subsequently identified by two of the coach passengers as part of the property stolen from them when the mail was stuck up.

The three men were tried before Judge Milford at the Bathurst Assize Court four months after arrest and the case was clearly proved against Kessy, whom three of the passengers positively identified as one of the robbers; but the evidence against the other two was inconclusive, and they were acquitted and discharged. Kessy was found guilty, and was sentenced to ten years' hard labor on the road.

At the same Assize Court a brother of the last-mentioned bushranger was also tried on a charge of robbery under arms, on the Limekilns road, some five miles from Bathurst, he being at the time accompanied by two other men. The victim on this occasion was a well-known farmer and grazier at Limekilns. He was on his way home from Bathurst when bailed up by three men, who robbed him of some silver, a poncho (a sort of overcoat without sleeves, at that time in common use), and his horse and bridle. This robbery took place a few days after the Orange and Bathurst mails had been stuck up, and the prisoner's room was searched on the same day as his brother's. Beneath the bed was found a poncho which McKinnon afterwards identified as that which had been stolen from him. He could not, however, swear that the prisoner was one of the trio who robbed him, but said that he was like one of them in size and build.

But the possession of the poncho was considered by the jury sufficient proof of guilt and James Kessy was convicted.

He also received a sentence of ten years' hard labor on the roads.

Coroner's Inquest:

An inquest was held, this morning, at the hospital, before the District Coroner (Mr. B. Lee) and a jury of twelve, to inquire into the death of JULIA KESSEY, who had been found apparently drowned, in a creek near Ranken's Bridge. The following witnesses were examined:-

John Smith, a little boy seven years old, an adopted son of deceased, deposed: I lived with deceased at Burnt Flat, near Gorman's Hill; deceased came into Bathurst with me yesterday, in a cart, soon after dinner to go to Alloway Bank; we left Bathurst, and in crossing a creek, which was running strong after the thunderstorm, the horse shied at the froth on the water, and twisted round; deceased pulled the reins; the horse jerked the cart back and deceased was thrown out over the wheel, dragging me with her; I caught hold of the shaft and got into the cart; the water was not deep; deceased was half-way in the wheel; I did not hear her speak, nor did I see any blood; the horse was standing still; I ran up to Mr. Cusick's half-a-mile off and told him; he ran down to the place; on the way out, we stopped at one public-house in Bathurst, and another on the road; I do not know whether deceased drank anything or not; she was sober at the time of the accident.

Dr. Bassett deposed: I have examined the body of deceased; I found an abraded wound on the right side of the face, and a comminuted fracture of the jaw; this might be the result of a violent blow or of a heavy fall on some hard substance, and might have caused insensibility; I am of opinion that deceased, having been first stunned by some heavy blow, was drowned in the shallow stream of water into which she had fallen.

Daniel Cusick, farmer, deposed: I live near Alloway Bank; about dusk last night heard the little boy (the first witness) coming up the road towards my place, crying; he said his grandmother was lying in the creek drowned; it is called Machattie's Creek, and is generally dry except after a storm, when it rises very fast and falls rapidly; I ran down at once; and saw a horse and cart, the horse was lying in the bed of the creek, but the cart was not overturned; there was about three feet of water where the horse was; the horse was in the deepest part of it; this was about two rods below the ordinary crossing; the cart had come into a steeper part of the creek than the ordinary crossing; I could not find the deceased near the cart, but found her body quite dead about twenty yards down the stream; I removed it from the water, and in doing so I noticed a slight mark under the right ear; I laid the body on the bank with the assistance of another young man and gave information to the police; I had known deceased for about 14 years; she was not of intemperate habits.

By a jurymen: Where the cart came into the creek there were small logs like piles which had been used in repairing the road and for showing the crossing; I could not see if deceased had struck one of them the water was running over them.

Senior-constable Sutton deposed: Last night from information receive I went out and brought the body of deceased to the hospital; I had known deceased for nearly 20 years; I never saw her the worst for liquor.

The jury found that deceased came to her death accidentally from drowning.

Deceased was the owner of a freehold farm of about 100 acres, and was about 70 years of age. She leaves a family of 11.

JULIA KEFSEY

LAST WILL & TESTAMENT

8.8.1883 THIS DAY BY ACT OF COURT ADMINISTRATION OF THE
ESTATE AND EFFECTS OF JULIA KEFSEY LATE OF BATHURST, WIDOW,
DECEASED WAS GRANTED TO WILLIAM KEFSEY THE SON OF DECEASED.
INTESTATE DIED FEBRUARY 1883.

ESTATE SWORN AT £536. (I OF S CONDITIONALLY DATED 22.8.1883)

CORONER'S INQUEST.

JULIA KESSEY

When received: 2.2.1883
Coroner or Magistrate: Barry Lee
Where held: Bathurst
Date: 2.2.1883
Name of Deceased: Julia Kessey
Age: 68 years
Where born: Tipperary
Locality of death: Bathurst
Verdict: Accidentally drowned
Cash or property possessed by deceased:
100 acres land,
horses and cash.