

*KATE KENNEDY: POST  
OFFICE PENSIONER AND  
DISPENSARY DOCTOR'S  
DAUGHTER  
BY PETER GIBSON*

Catherine McMahan (“Kate”) Kennedy was first employed by the Post Office in 1871 as a messenger in County Mayo. She later worked as a telegraph clerk in Dublin and, from 1877, in Belfast. She retired on health grounds in 1901 after thirty years’ service. Kate never married and she died in Belfast on 17th November 1908.

### **Family**

Kate Kennedy was born in 1838 in Tarbert, on the County Kerry side of the estuary of the river Shannon. Her parents were William George Kennedy (whose life and career I will discuss below) and Catherine Kennedy (nee McMahan).

Kate was the sixth of seven children – four girls and three boys. A fifth girl, Dorcas, was brought up as one of their siblings but, given that her reported birth date was two years after William Kennedy’s death (when Catherine was aged fifty-eight) she was probably a granddaughter of Catherine. It was not unusual for a grandchild born outside wedlock to be brought up as a child of the family.

Other members of Kate’s family were also living in, or near, Belfast when Kate lived there. Kate Kennedy (nee Kerr), the widow of one of Kate’s brothers, William, lived in Belfast. Dorcas (mentioned above) married a Church of Ireland clergyman, Francis Matchett, and lived in Belfast and Hillsborough.

Before discussing the life and work of Kate’s father, I want to discuss the role of dispensary doctors in Ireland.

### **Dispensary Doctors**

Dispensary doctors were the precursors of the modern day general practitioner. Legislation in 1805 defined them as “an institution where medicine and advice are given gratis to the poor”. They were to be supported by voluntary donations and contributions from county Grand Juries (an early form of local government).

By the 1830s, 450 dispensary doctors were in post but coverage varied greatly from county to county. When the Poor Law was introduced on 1838, the dispensary doctor service became the responsibility of Poor Law Unions and eventually a total of 723 “dispensary districts” were established to provide universal coverage across Ireland.

From 1864, dispensary doctors were made responsible for the registration of births, marriages and deaths. When registering deaths, the doctors were required to note the cause of death and the duration of the illness. The *Addressing Health* project has accessed many of these important death records made by dispensary doctors in the course of its research.

The role of dispensary doctor was seen as inferior to other members of the medical profession who treated those who could pay for their advice and treatment. Their plight has been described as follows:

*“The dispensary doctor has to trudge along miles on foot, and ride through bogs and up watercourses to reach his patients. His pay was hopelessly inadequate and he had no regular pension so that he hung on long after he was fit for work. Many died of overwork and quite a few of drink”.*

The novelists, Somerville and Ross, who were well known for their *Tales of an Irish RM*, referred to inclement weather as being “fit for only a snipe or a dispensary doctor”.

### **The life and career of William Kennedy, Dispensary Doctor**

William George Kennedy, Kate’s father, was born in County Sligo in 1799. By the time of the 1821 Census he was as a physician (MD) and in 1823 he qualified as a Master of Surgery (CM – Chirurgiae Magister) at the University of Glasgow.

In 1824 he married Catherine McMahan in Limerick and took up the position of dispensary doctor in Tarbert, County Kerry, where he remained for the rest of his life.

In 1832, during the cholera pandemic, William Kennedy directed the successful measures taken in Tarbert to ensure that the disease -- which had killed sailors on a ship which had docked in the town -- did not spread.

The Irish Famine (Irish: an Gorta Mór – the Great Hunger) occurred when the potato crop failed in successive years from 1845. County Kerry was particularly badly affected by the famine and it has been estimated that, between 1845 and 1848, the population of the county dropped by 30% as a result of death from illness and starvation and emigration, mostly to the United States.

William Kennedy must have been greatly challenged trying to treat poor people, probably in their hundreds, trying to survive in awful circumstances. He was moved by the plight of his neighbours to take political action and was one of the “Proprietors of Land, Clergy and Others in the County of Kerry” to sign a public declaration which was published in newspapers, including in the *Tralee Chronicle*, on 17th October 1846. The declaration called for:

*“a meeting of men representing the interests all parties in Ireland...to give effect to the desire of persons of all parties and persuasions, to join in rescuing their Country from its present evils, and to promote its permanent amelioration.”*

The absence of an Irish Parliament, which had been abolished by the Acts of Union in 1801, meant that there was no forum for debate in Ireland. The signatories desired to see such an assembly headed by the Earl of Devon. The previous year the Devon Commission had made recommendations about the future ownership of land in Ireland; recommendations which started the debate about land reform which eventually resulted in the passing of the Landlord and Tenant (Ireland) Act in 1870.

William Kennedy, in addition to being a dispensary doctor, had a number of other appointments. Some of these are likely to have been remunerated and would have been welcome additions to his salary, which, as we have seen, may have been modest compared to the income of other members of the medical profession. One such role was advertised in many newspapers at the time. An example appeared in the Kerry Evening Post on 17th July 1841. Church of England Fire and Life Insurance named William Kennedy as one of their medical officers for County Kerry.

Despite having a number of remunerated roles, William Kennedy seems to have had difficulty making ends meet. The Bankrupt & Insolvent Calendar, dated 4th October 1852, recorded that he was one of the "Prisoners, whose estates and effects have been vested with the Provisional Assignee" who were required to appear at Tralee Court on 22nd October 1852. It was reported in the same journal, on 25th October 1852, that William Kennedy was among those who had obtained an "Interim Order from Arrest". This must have been a difficult period for William Kennedy and his family. Kate Kennedy, the postal pensioner, was aged about fourteen at this time.

No record has been found of any further the court proceedings and William Kennedy remained in his post in Tarbert until his death. He died on 11th September 1858, aged fifty-eight. He is reported to have died of an unspecified fever. It is possible that he had contracted a disease from one of his patients.

We can imagine that the young Kate Kennedy was greatly saddened by the death of her father. However, perhaps she was also took comfort from the knowledge that he had cared for the poor people of Tarbert for over thirty years.

Acknowledgement: The original research into Kate Kennedy's Life Story was undertaken by Lorna Patterson.

## Fact Sheet: Kate Kennedy

Pensioner Details
<i>Pensioner name:</i> Kate Kennedy
<i>Person ID:</i> IR1005
<i>Your name:</i> Lynn Patterson
<i>U3A group:</i> Northern Ireland
Part One: Birth and Family
1: When and where was your pensioner born?
<p>Kate Kennedy was born on 26 November 1838 in the town of Tarbert, County Kerry, Ireland (Note: her Post Office records give an estimated birth year of 1846). As she was born before the introduction of compulsory registration no birth certificate has been found. However, there is a Church of Ireland baptismal record in Kilnaughtin Parish for 23 December 1838 which includes her date of birth.</p> <p>Subsequent census records for Kate and her various siblings record their religious denomination as Church of Ireland.</p> <p>Kate was born just at the end of one major cholera pandemic and grew up in Tarbert against a societal background of famine, poverty, recurring outbreaks of infectious disease and civil unrest. By virtue of her father's occupation her family would have been considered middle class.</p> <p>Tarbert was a small market town, possessing an unusual combination of features due in part to its geographical location as described in its Slater's Directory entry from 1856. It includes three references to Kate's father:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• William George Kennedy, MD (and to the dispensary), Main Street</li><li>• "the town has the benefit of a dispensary, well supported and skilfully superintended"</li><li>• Dispensary, William George Kennedy MD and surgeon Main St; attendance, Tuesdays and Fridays, from 9 until 2</li></ul>
2: Who were your pensioners' parents? Record any details you can find out about them here (e.g. occupation, religious affiliation, whether they could read or write)
<p>Kate's parents were <b>William George Kennedy</b> MD and <b>Catherine McMahon</b>.</p> <p>William and Catherine were married on 12 July 1824 in St Mary's Cathedral, Limerick.</p> <p><b><u>William George Kennedy 1799-1858 – Kate's father</u></b></p> <p>William was born in 1799 in Cladagh, Co Cavan, Ireland. His parents were Samuel and Eliza Kennedy. In the 1821 census Samuel is recorded as a farmer of some 23 acres and William is a Physician, living with his parents and siblings.</p>

He qualified as a CM (Master in Surgery) in Glasgow in 1823, following which he took up a post as Dispensary doctor in Tarbert, where he remained for the rest of his life. He also held various other positions locally.

His family home on the main street in Tarbert was rented (NAV £6 10s for house and garden).

No death certificate has been found. However, his death notice in the *Freeman's Journal* on 16 September 1857 indicates that he died of fever. This was an occupational hazard for dispensary doctors, exacerbated by the often unsanitary living conditions of their destitute clientele.

An additional death notice in the *Limerick Reporter* on 18 September 1857 references his professional appointments as "ordnance medical officer in charge of the forts of the Lower Shannon".

His obituary also appeared in the Medical Directory for Ireland 1858.

A recent article in the local press in response to the current coronavirus pandemic looked back on Tarbert's experience during a previous pandemic, and included references to Dr Kennedy:

*The Kerryman* (8 April 2020)

*"TARBERT: WINDOW ON THE PAST*

*The second Cholera Pandemic (1826-1837) like the first (1817-1824) began with outbreaks along the Ganges delta in India and spread affecting every country in Asia and from Russia to the rest of Europe including England and America. The British Government issued quarantine orders for ships sailing from Russia to British ports.*

*In November 1832 a vessel named 'Prince George' sailing from the Russian port of Archangel to Bristol put in at Tarbert for provisions. Some of the sailors on board showed symptoms of the 'Indian cholera' and one of them died of the disorder. The Port Surveyor and Coastguards at Tarbert immediately put the ship under quarantine. Tarbert medical Doctor Kennedy went on board and reported that the crew were in a healthy state with precautions being taken in respect of four crew members. In Tarbert a Health Board was set up comprising local gentry, clergy and four Health officers were appointed all under the direction of Surgeon William Kennedy, the hero of the pandemic. They agreed to prevent the landing of any furniture, luggage or other goods by land or water from the city of Limerick, or any other town or city where the cholera or contagion may have been detected. They also took the precaution of cleansing and whitewashing houses in the town. They also applied to the Lord Lieutenant for a loan to enable them to establish a hospital if required."*

**Catherine McMahon Kennedy 1801-1878 or later -- Kate's mother**

Catherine McMahon was born in Limerick to James McMahon and Honor Kelly. She was baptised in St Mary's, Limerick city, on 17 August 1801. Her religious denomination was Roman Catholic

No death or burial record has been found for Catherine. The last records found indicate that she was still living at the Dispensary in Tarbert in 1878, some 20 years after her husband's death.

*Tarbert Court Petty Sessions Order Book* 19 March 1878 records her successful complaint against a neighbour in which her daughter Dorcas Kennedy appears as a witness

3: Did your pensioner have any siblings? What were their names, and how old were they in relation to your pensioner? Use this space to record anything else you have found out about them (e.g. occupation)

Kate was the sixth child of eight born to William George Kennedy and Catherine McMahon. Her siblings, in order of their birth, are listed below.

**1) Susan Moroney Kennedy (18 May 1825-10 July 1915)**

Susan was born in Tarbert and lived there all her life. In the 1901 census her occupation was given as a lodging house keeper at 10 Bridewell Street, Tarbert. She never married or had children. She died in 1915 of old age/senility, leaving a modest estate of £45 9s 8d.

**2) Bryan Kennedy (1827-?)**

Baptised in Kilnaughtin on 29 April 1827, no further definitive records for Bryan have been found. It is possible that he emigrated to the United States as a young man, candidates have been found but there is insufficient detail in the online records to make a conclusive identification.

**3) Blanche Moroney Kennedy (1829-19 April 1852)**

Baptised in Kilnaughtin on 29 August 1829, Blanche's date of birth is not recorded.

Blanche never married or had children, dying at home at the age of 22 from hydrothorax. One of the two newspaper death notices found for Blanche includes a cause of death and brief tribute: *"after a painful and lingering illness, borne up with every faith and hope in our beloved Saviour. She was esteemed and beloved by everyone; but amongst the poorer classes, in the direful time of the great distress, she always was the first in attending to their wants and sympathising for the sick, when coming in the Tarbert Dispensary, attended by her bereaved parent, Dr Kennedy"* (Derry Journal 14<sup>th</sup> April 1852)

**4) Robert Leslie Kennedy (21 September 1833-29 July 1894)**

Robert Leslie (possibly named after a member of the local gentry, the landowner from whom Dr Kennedy leased his family home) married Elizabeth "Eliza" Lyons Ryan while he was a medical student in Dublin on 12 June 1858. Their first child, Robert J, was born in 1859. In March 1860 Robert Leslie enlisted in the 2nd Btn 60th Foot (Kings Royal Rifle Corps), later stationed in Winchester. He served in the Ambulance Corps for a time before being discharged in November 1861 on health grounds (his military record indicates scrofula, possibly aggravated by intemperance). He returned to Tarbert for a period, where he appears as a witness in an 1862 Petty Sessions case, before emigrating to Australia (New South Wales) with his wife and son. Two further children were born there, both girls: Blanche Maud Mary in 1866 and Catherine Veronica (1869-1952). He was employed in New South Wales as a Dispenser (pharmacist) in a lunatic asylum in 1869 before rejoining the army where he continued in his role as Dispenser for the Ambulance Corps of the New

South Wales contingent 1884-1886, including during their brief period on active service in Sudan.

He died in New South Wales in 1894 in Liverpool Asylum for the Infirm and Destitute after an illness of some 2 months, where he may well have been employed prior to his illness. The cause of death was not recorded, and no death certificate has been found.

#### **5) Elizabeth Kennedy (23 April 1836-?)**

Elizabeth was born in Tarbert on 23 April 1836 and baptised on 8 May 1836. No further records for Elizabeth have been found.

#### **6) William George Kennedy (26 January 1842-26 October 1888)**

William George spent his working life as a lighthouse keeper, initially at Tarbert, then also at Sligo, Tralee, Kilrush, Scattery Island in Clare and ultimately in Shrove, Donegal.

He married Kate Blanche Kerr (1851-1939) in 1869 in Sligo, and the couple had 9 children:

- i. Bryan Charles McMahon Kennedy 1871-1923
- ii. Blanche Annie Kennedy (m. Irvine) 1873-1954
- iii. Robert Kerr Leslie Kennedy 1874-1928
- iv. William George Kennedy 1876-1942
- v. Westropp Campbell Kennedy 1879-1880
- vi. Geoffrey Launcelot Kennedy 1880-1966
- vii. Florence Kathleen Kennedy (m. Ellis) 1882-?
- viii. Henry Drew Kennedy 1884-1955
- ix. Cecil Bernard Kennedy 1886-1972

He was a defendant in Clare Petty Sessions in May 1882 for keeping a dog without a license, which he then duly purchased for £0 2s 6d for his Irish Water Spaniel bitch.

He died on 26 October 1888 in the Light House in Shrove, Donegal from polyphus of the larynx and phthisis, 6 months both, certified.

After her husband's death Kate Kerr Kennedy relocated to Belfast. She was living at 60 Fitzwilliam Street at the 1901 census with 6 of her children, and nearby at 20 Rugby Road in the 1911 census with 3 children then resident. Both addresses are approximately 2.5 miles away from her sister-in-law Kate's home in Euston Street.

At the time of her death in 1939 Kate Kerr Kennedy was still living in Rugby Road, by then at No. 62.

#### **7) Dorcas Kennedy (1859-17 April 1916)**

No record of Dorcas' birth has been found. Alone amongst the siblings, there is also no baptismal record. Her parentage is self-declared (ref. marriage announcement, marriage record and sister Kate's headstone). If the year of birth is correct (this has been taken from her death certificate) her father William George died in the preceding calendar year and her mother Catherine would have been some 58 years old when she was born. It is, however, clear that she lived with Catherine Kennedy (ref. Petty Sessions Register entries)

and was raised as her daughter although quite possibly she was not Catherine's biological child.

Dorcas married Reverend (later Canon) Francis William Matchett, a Church of Ireland clergyman, in 1895. The couple had no children. They spent their married life in several different parishes including in Hull, East Belfast and finally in the Hillsborough area of County Down in Northern Ireland before she died from liver cancer on 17 April 1916. The inscription on her headstone reads *"In Loving Memory of Dorcas, Wife of Rev. F. Matchett B.D., Rector of Hillsborough, who fell asleep 17th April 1916. A woman of good works."*

She left an estate of some £497 18s 7d.

### Part Two: Marriage and children

1: Did your pensioner marry? What was their spouse's name, and when and where did they marry them? Use this space to record any extra details you can find out about their spouse (e.g. when/where they were born, their occupation)

Kate never married.

2: Did your pensioner have any children? What were their names, and when they were born? Use this space to record any extra details you can find out about them (e.g. occupation, where they lived later in life)

No records of any children have been found

### Part Three: Work

1: What occupation was your pensioner recorded as doing in census years? Please make sure to state clearly which year you are referring to

Kate began working for the Post Office in 1871 as a Messenger (this is the first record found relating to her occupation).

She completed some 30 years' service before retiring on ill health grounds in 1901.

Much of that time was spent in Belfast, to which she transferred from Dublin in 1877. By that stage Kate was working as a Telegraph Clerk.

She remained in Belfast working as a Telegraphist until her retirement. This is her declared occupation in the 1901 census and Belfast Street Directories published during that period ie. 1887, 1890, 1901, 1907 and 1908.



IRELAND.					
Buttevant	...	*Miss E. Costello.	Pms.	...	1886
Cork	...	Lawless, J.	S.C. & T.	...	Queenstown, '71; Cork, '73
Dublin	...	Freeman, W.	Clk. (T.)	...	E.T. Co., '64; G.P.O., Dublin, '70; Clk., '92
"	...	Moffett, P. J.	S.C. & T.	...	E.T. Co., '54; G.P.O., Waterford, '70; Dublin, '74
"	...	Mackle, W.	"	...	M.T. Co., '56; G.P.O., '70
"	...	Gardner, W. H.	"	...	1862; Sr., '69
"	...	O'Rorke, L. E.	"	...	1891
"	...	Miss N. E. Bell	"	...	M.T. Co., '64; G.P.O., '70
"	...	" V.M. Cuthbert	"	...	M.T. Co., '67; G.P.O., '70
"	...	" C.M. Kennan	"	...	1870
"	...	" K. Kennely.	"	...	1870
Queenstown	...	Reilly, H.	"	...	1871

Above: 1901 Post Office retirements (extract from *St Martin's le Grand* magazine Vol 11 p460).

Kate would have been working out of the new purpose-built General Post Office building on Royal Avenue, Belfast, once it opened on 1 August 1886. For the year ended June 1886 some 1.3 million telegrams were sent and received in Belfast.



Above: GPO Belfast, c.1886. [Source: National Library of Ireland](#)

2: What occupations were people living with your pensioner (e.g. spouse, children, boarders) doing in the census years? Please make sure to state clearly which year you are referring to

In 1887 Kate was living at 59 Willowfield Street, Belfast. At some point between 1887 and 1890 she moved a couple of streets away to 67 Euston Street.

Kate also appears to have lived alone at 67 Euston Street (recent image below) from at least 1890 until her death in 1908. The property was a second class house with six rooms.



*Above: 67 Euston Street today. Source: Google Street View.*

Euston Street first appears in the Belfast Street Directory in 1890. In an area where much of the existing housing stock lacked any indoor toilet facilities, bathroom or garden these newly built properties would have been considered well appointed, if not aspirational. In illustration, the occupations listed for her neighbours includes a strong presence of skilled tradespeople and professionals (an extract showing one side of Euston Street, the odd numbers, follows).

**EUSTON STREET**  
off Beersbridge Street (Road?)

1. Coard, Mrs.
3. Reid, Miss
5. Clarke, John, power-loom dresser
7. Warnock, T. F., litho. artist
9. Rainey, A., clothiers' assistant
11. McCurley, James, foreman
13. Waddle, James, tailor
15. McCullough, Alex., mechanic
17. Murray, Mrs.
19. Scanlon, James, manager
21. Ross, Wm. J., bookkeeper
23. Grier, Alexander D.
25. Doris, Arthur, agent
27. McBride, John, plater
29. Morrow, T., railway guard
31. Calvin, William, baker
33. Vacant
35. Raeburn, J. McF., engineer
37. Kelly, James, labourer
39. Tate, David, do
41. Morrison, David, baker
43. Collins, David, packer
45. Graham, James, plater
47. McCullough, W., bookkeeper
49. Kirk, Ernest, superintendent parcels post, G.P.O.
51. Gibson, James, joiner
53. Strang, Robert
55. Wright, Wm. S., clerk

57. Craig, George, mechanic
59. Jamison, Richard, labourer
61. Thompson, S., druggist and grocer
63. Vacant
65. Alexander, David, draper
67. Kennedy, Miss, telegraphist
69. Major, Joseph, rent agent
71. Gouk, William, engineer
73. Gibson, Wm., N.S. teacher
75. Yeates, Robert, joiner
77. Mitchell, William, clerk
79. Marsh, Walter E., Inland Revenue officer
81. Carr, John, clerk
83. Lovett, E. C., bookkeeper
85. Hoe, William, clerk
87. McDowell, Jno., do
89. Wilson, John
91. Porter, William
93. Martin, George
95. Munn, James, clerk
97. Montague, Patrick, traveller
99. Gladhill, J. J., wood turner
101. Carlisle, Robert, plater
103. McCrea, Mal., bookkeeper
105. Patterson, W. B., solicitor's clerk
107. Millar, John, plater
109. Davidson, George, clerk
111. Esson, C., electric engineer
113. Hay, John, salesman
115. Rodger, Francis W., ship's draughtsman

Today the super output area containing Euston Street ranks of 64 out of 890 on the NISRA Deprivation Index 2017, with parts of the housing stock in that street having been demolished and redeveloped.

#### Part Four: Anything Else

Please use this space to record anything else you have found out about your pensioner

No records have been found to indicate where Kate was living when she first transferred to Belfast in 1877 up to 1887, or to reference any events after her retirement in 1901 until her death in 1908.

Kate died at home on 17 November 1908. The cause of her death was certified as Chronic Bronchitis 3 years and Valvular Disease of Heart 2 years.

Kate died without a will. Administration of her estate in the amount of £104 0s 11d, equivalent to approximately £12,500 today, was granted on 21 December 1908 to her younger sister Mrs Dorcas Matchett.

Kate was buried in Dundonald Cemetery on the outskirts of Belfast. An image of her grave can be found [here](#).

Kate's religious denomination from birth was Church of Ireland. Her Euston Street home is located in East Belfast, in Willowfield parish between the Woodstock and Beersbridge Roads. The Willowfield Parish Church of Ireland building was consecrated in 1872 with a view to meeting the needs of the community moving into new houses springing up all around the area, including those in Euston Street, and it is likely that Kate would have been

a member of the congregation. The church is located 0.2 miles or 3 minutes' walk away from her home

Although Kate lived alone, certainly over her later years and in her retirement, she did have access to both family and friends for support.

- Her sister-in-law, Kate Kennedy (nee Kerr), and several of her adult children were living nearby in Belfast at the time of Kate's retirement and eventual death.
- Her sister Dorcas Matchett was also living in East Belfast with her husband, a Church of Ireland clergyman, in Knockbreda Park a couple of miles away from Kate's home and subsequently in Annahilt, County Down.
- Her former colleague at the Post Office, Nora Kathleen Sinton, is listed as present at death on Kate's death certificate. In the 1901 census 18 year old Nora's occupation is given as "Female Learner, GPO Belfast"; in the 1911 census she is described as a "Telegraphist, Civil Service". It may be that Nora was trained/mentored by Kate prior to her retirement, in any event the connection established remained in place for some 7 years thereafter.

### **Some Background Notes on Dispensary Doctors**

The dispensary doctors were the precursors of the modern day general practitioner in Ireland, first established by legislation in the County Infirmaries (Ireland) Act 1805 by which they were defined as "an institution where medicine and advice are given gratis to the poor". Dispensaries were supported by voluntary donations, the sum of which the 1805 Act obliged county grand juries to match finance dispensaries from local taxation (bodies comparable to modern county councils, grand juries were groups of landowners who were called together by the High Sheriff in each county twice a year for legal and local administrative reasons).

By the early 1830s, there were 450 dispensaries throughout Ireland. With the enactment of the Irish Poor Law in 1838 the dispensary doctors were put under the control of the Poor Law Unions. Following the famine years of the 1840s and their implications for the free medical care system, the Medical Charities Act of 1851 led to the modernisation and extension of the old system in terms of its management, funding and accessibility. It established 723 dispensary districts. These dispensaries made a domiciliary medical service available to the destitute poor for the first time.

In 1863, the dispensary doctors were made registrars of births and deaths and of Roman Catholic marriages and the practice of registering births, marriages and deaths was standardised on the 1st of January 1864 (civil registration). When registering deaths, the dispensary doctors were required to note the cause of death and duration of illness, thus enabling accurate statistics of mortality to be compiled.

## Part Five: Your Sources

Please use this space to record the sources you have used

### General

- All surviving nineteenth-century marriage, baptism and burial records in Co. Kerry are available online at (Church of Ireland) <https://churchrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/> or (Roman Catholic) <https://registers.nli.ie/parishes/0676>
- Entry on town of Tarbert, Co. Kerry, Ireland: Slater's Royal National Commercial Directory 1856 (Thom's Directories for Ireland): [https://www.ancestry.co.uk/imageviewer/collections/61314/images/46596\\_83024\\_005506\\_0162-00323?treeid=&personid=&hintid=&queryid=42206a40d3cacd6f27d771b78f462e61&usePUB=true&phsrc=CXx1164&phstart=successSource&usePUBJs=true&pld=4654400](https://www.ancestry.co.uk/imageviewer/collections/61314/images/46596_83024_005506_0162-00323?treeid=&personid=&hintid=&queryid=42206a40d3cacd6f27d771b78f462e61&usePUB=true&phsrc=CXx1164&phstart=successSource&usePUBJs=true&pld=4654400)
- Timothy P. O'Neill, "Fever and Public Health in Pre-Famine Ireland", *The Journal of the Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland* Vol. 103 (1973), pp. 1-34
- Fever Hospitals in Ireland: [https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736\(02\)75487-1/fulltext](https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736(02)75487-1/fulltext)
- The Dispensary Doctor in Ireland: <https://www.theirishstory.com/2019/12/13/a-hopeless-and-thankless-job-the-dispensary-doctor-in-ireland/#.YDOzSOj7TIU>
- Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency Multiple Deprivation Measures 2017 <https://deprivation.nisra.gov.uk/MDM/Details?id=BT6+9AF>

### William George Kennedy – Kate's father

- Medical Directory for Ireland 1854. Wellcome Trust; London, England; Collection: The Medical Directory for Ireland, 1854; Reference: b24754663\_i13753393
- 1821 Census: <https://www.findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=IRE/CENSUS/1821-1831/189574>
- Marriage: <https://www.findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=IRE/FFOLLIOTT/REG/262545>
- Tithe Applotment Book 1832: <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:VX5C-WC5>
- Griffiths Valuation 1851: <https://www.findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=IRE%2FGRIFF%2F121%2F121094%2F030%2F1>
- Obituary: Medical Directory for Ireland 1858 (Note: The Medical Directory for Ireland was first published in 1852. It listed medical practitioners who held qualifications as either pharmacists or doctors in Ireland. The first Medical Register was not published until 1859, reflecting registration requirements for licensed practitioners introduced in The Medical Act of 1858).
- Death notice in Limerick Reporter 18 September 1857: <https://search.findmypast.co.uk/bna/viewarticle?id=bl%2f0000828%2f18570918%2f042&stringtohighlight=william%20kennedy%20tarbert>
- Death notice in the Freeman's Journal 16 September 1857:

<https://search.findmypast.co.uk/bna/viewarticle?id=bl%2f0000056%2f18570916%2f018&stringtohighlight=william%20kennedy%20tarbert>

- Kerryman article 2020:  
<https://www.pressreader.com/ireland/the-kerryman-south-kerry-edition/20200408/283055531529137>

### **Catherine McMahon Kennedy – Kate’s mother**

- Baptismal record:  
<https://www.findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=IRE/PRS/BAP/6400691>

Petty Sessions Tarbert Court Registers:

- 28 February 1871
- 19 March 1878
- 30 April 1878

The National Archives of Ireland; Dublin, Ireland; CSPS 1/9076-9106A Ancestry.com. Ireland, Petty Session Court Registers, 1818-1919 [database on-line]. Lehi, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2020.

### **Susan Moroney Kennedy 1825-1915**

- Baptism 16 May 1825:  
<https://churchrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/display-pdf.jsp?pdfName=nai-mic-kilnaughtin-0525>
- Census 1901:  
<http://www.census.nationalarchives.ie/pages/1901/Kerry/Tarbert/Bridewell Street/1424780/>
- Census 1911:  
<http://www.census.nationalarchives.ie/pages/1911/Kerry/Tarbert/Bridewell Street/276483/>
- Complainant in July 1901 Court Petty Sessions (single complaint against her next door neighbour, case adjourned):  
<https://www.findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=IRE%2FPETTYS%2F005174599%2F00068%2F1606854> AND  
<https://www.findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=IRE%2FPETTYS%2F005174599%2F00062%2F1606822>
- Death certificate:  
[https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/deaths\\_returns/deaths\\_1915/05263/4460219.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/deaths_returns/deaths_1915/05263/4460219.pdf) Will 1915:
- Will:  
<http://www.willcalendars.nationalarchives.ie/search/cwa/details.jsp?id=1639416030>

### **Bryan Kennedy 1827-?**

- Baptism 29 April 1827:  
<https://churchrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/display-pdf.jsp?pdfName=nai-mic-kilnaughtin-0525>

### Blanche Moroney Kennedy 1829-1852

- Baptism 29 August 1829:  
<https://churchrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/display-pdf.jsp?pdfName=nai-mic-kilnaughtin-0526>
- Death notice from Cork Examiner, 19 April 1852:  
<https://search.findmypast.co.uk/bna/viewarticle?id=bl%2f0001115%2f18520414%2f013&stringtohighlight=blanche%20kennedy%20tarbert>

### Robert Leslie Kennedy 1833-1894

- Baptism 29 September 1833:  
<https://churchrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/display-pdf.jsp?pdfName=nai-mic-kilnaughtin-0527>
- Marriage:  
<https://www.findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=IRE%2FBMD%2FM%2F651982393>
- Census 1861: <https://search.ancestry.co.uk/cgi-bin/sse.dll?indiv=1&dbid=8767&h=8077331&tid=&pid=&queryId=c80d59321d3dba06cef22688a88ff48d&usePUB=true&phsrc=nYL470&phstart=successSource>
- Army service:  
[https://search.ancestry.co.uk/cgi-bin/sse.dll?indiv=1&dbid=61643&h=89011&tid=&pid=&queryId=385d325e02762519324f79c8dc187f0e&usePUB=true?#?\\_phcmd=u\('https://www.ancestry.co.uk/search/?name%3Drobert%2Bleslie+kennedy%26event%3D1880+sudan+5212%26count%3D50%26event+x%3D10-0-0%26keyword%3Ddispenser%26military%3D1885+new%2Bsouth%2Bwales-australia+30094%26military+x%3D5-0-0%26successSource%3DSearch%26queryId%3D385d325e02762519324f79c8dc187f0e','successSource'\)](https://search.ancestry.co.uk/cgi-bin/sse.dll?indiv=1&dbid=61643&h=89011&tid=&pid=&queryId=385d325e02762519324f79c8dc187f0e&usePUB=true?#?_phcmd=u('https://www.ancestry.co.uk/search/?name%3Drobert%2Bleslie+kennedy%26event%3D1880+sudan+5212%26count%3D50%26event+x%3D10-0-0%26keyword%3Ddispenser%26military%3D1885+new%2Bsouth%2Bwales-australia+30094%26military+x%3D5-0-0%26successSource%3DSearch%26queryId%3D385d325e02762519324f79c8dc187f0e','successSource')) AND  
[https://www.ancestry.co.uk/imageviewer/collections/3255/images/40941\\_307267-00354?usePUB=true&phsrc=nYL220&phstart=successSource&usePUBJs=true&pld=318040](https://www.ancestry.co.uk/imageviewer/collections/3255/images/40941_307267-00354?usePUB=true&phsrc=nYL220&phstart=successSource&usePUBJs=true&pld=318040) AND  
<https://www.findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=GBM/SOLIDX/00109665> AND  
<https://www.findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=GBM/60TH/FOOT/005614> AND  
<https://www.findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=GBM%2FWO97%2F1572%2F775840>  
<https://gallery.records.nsw.gov.au/index.php/galleries/war-and-australia/war-and-australia-sudan/> AND  
<https://search.ancestry.co.uk/cgi-bin/sse.dll?indiv=1&dbid=1686&h=840662&tid=&pid=&queryId=de83c089f9d6c6d80dc3ee650de6db94&usePUB=true&phsrc=nYL482&phstart=successSource>  
Ancestry.com. UK, Military Campaign Medal and Award Rolls, 1793-1949 [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2010.
- Professional:  
[https://www.ancestry.co.uk/imageviewer/collections/2387/images/32080\\_223787\\_0011-00677?treeid=&personid=&hintid=&queryId=a6bc6d0ddb4e476aa9fc49daa4adf566&usePUB=true&phsrc=nYL425&phstart=successSource&usePUBJs=true&pld=2](https://www.ancestry.co.uk/imageviewer/collections/2387/images/32080_223787_0011-00677?treeid=&personid=&hintid=&queryId=a6bc6d0ddb4e476aa9fc49daa4adf566&usePUB=true&phsrc=nYL425&phstart=successSource&usePUBJs=true&pld=2) AND 8193 State Records Authority of New South Wales; Kingswood, New South

Wales, Australia; Returns of the Colony; Series: NRS 1286; File: Public Service Lists (Blue Books); Fiche: 817 New South Wales Government Gazette 1892:

[https://www.ancestry.co.uk/imageviewer/collections/2172/images/41239\\_226752\\_-00873?treeid=&personid=&hintid=&queryId=0def71753a1cbbc14ffa6d61af09aae3&usePUB=true&\\_phsrc=nYL467&\\_phstart=successSource&usePUBJs=true&pId=826444](https://www.ancestry.co.uk/imageviewer/collections/2172/images/41239_226752_-00873?treeid=&personid=&hintid=&queryId=0def71753a1cbbc14ffa6d61af09aae3&usePUB=true&_phsrc=nYL467&_phstart=successSource&usePUBJs=true&pId=826444)

- Witness at Tarbert Petty Sessions 18 Nov 1862:  
<https://search.findmypast.co.uk/record?id=IRE%2FPETTYS%2F005174576%2F00105&parentid=IRE%2FPETTYS%2F005174576%2F00105%2F512659>
- Emigration:  
<https://www.findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=ANZ%2FMIGR%2FVICTORIAPASSLIST%2FOUT%2F1157107>
- Death:  
<https://www.findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=ANZ%2FBMD%2FNSW%2FD%2F0006129232> AND  
[https://www.ancestry.co.uk/discoveryui-content/view/43042:8812?tid=&pid=&queryId=c65c828ded5487c8876a8a87ab15cb82&\\_phsrc=nYL230&\\_phstart=successSource](https://www.ancestry.co.uk/discoveryui-content/view/43042:8812?tid=&pid=&queryId=c65c828ded5487c8876a8a87ab15cb82&_phsrc=nYL230&_phstart=successSource)

#### Elizabeth Kennedy 1836-?

- Baptism 8 May 1836:  
<https://churchrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/display-pdf.jsp?pdfName=nai-mic-kilnaughtin-0527>

#### Kate Kennedy 1838-1908

- Baptismal record: <https://churchrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/display-pdf.jsp?pdfName=nai-mic-kilnaughtin-0528>
- Appointment as a Messenger in 1871: British Postal Museum and Archive; Series: POST 58; Reference Number: 84  
[https://www.ancestry.co.uk/imageviewer/collections/1933/images/31694\\_212109\\_-00636?backlabel=ReturnSearchResults&queryId=86e2386b2da99c33f82a44dad5c900a4&pId=76761](https://www.ancestry.co.uk/imageviewer/collections/1933/images/31694_212109_-00636?backlabel=ReturnSearchResults&queryId=86e2386b2da99c33f82a44dad5c900a4&pId=76761)
- Transfer from Dublin to Belfast 1877: British Postal Museum and Archive; Series: POST 58; Reference Number: 87  
[https://www.ancestry.co.uk/imageviewer/collections/1933/images/31694\\_212111\\_-00257?backlabel=ReturnSearchResults&queryId=1b13e1947c6e701ebf2b1ea7acf2845d&pId=482771](https://www.ancestry.co.uk/imageviewer/collections/1933/images/31694_212111_-00257?backlabel=ReturnSearchResults&queryId=1b13e1947c6e701ebf2b1ea7acf2845d&pId=482771)
- 1901 and 1911 census:  
<http://www.census.nationalarchives.ie/reels/nai000706971/> AND  
<http://www.census.nationalarchives.ie/reels/nai000706928/>
- Belfast Street Directories 1887-1908:  
[https://streetdirectories.proni.gov.uk/media/hhxCoM9I2iPY7DiqER2yxw..a?ts=ObIWfAKs\\_aVPt61p7O5mY-mb5iDVudckfYKeesrbuHU.a](https://streetdirectories.proni.gov.uk/media/hhxCoM9I2iPY7DiqER2yxw..a?ts=ObIWfAKs_aVPt61p7O5mY-mb5iDVudckfYKeesrbuHU.a) AND  
<https://streetdirectories.proni.gov.uk/media/PKwo0Zo6yLFtdd-->



[ysTtqA..a?ts=DXZANjdEv2ZupyLF\\_fyAI9vsTl8npd6ax7X0Gdrq3bs.a](#) AND

<https://lennonwylie.co.uk/efgcomplete1890.htm> AND

<https://www.lennonwylie.co.uk/efgcomplete1901.htm> AND

<https://www.lennonwylie.co.uk/ecomplete1907.htm> AND

<https://www.lennonwylie.co.uk/ecomplete1908.htm>

- Death certificate:  
[https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/deaths\\_returns/deaths\\_1908/05481/4535041.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/deaths_returns/deaths_1908/05481/4535041.pdf)
- Burial record:  
<https://dof.belfastcity.gov.uk/burialsearch/BurialRecordDetails.aspx?RecordID=7907.796>

### William George Kennedy 1842-1888

- Baptism 27 February 1842:  
<https://churchrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/display-pdf.jsp?pdfName=nai-mic-kilnaughtin-0528>
- Marriage: <https://www.findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=IRE/BMD/M/613545989>
- Petty Sessions Register 15 May 1882:  
<https://search.findmypast.co.uk/record?id=IRE%2FPETTY%2F005175809%2F00422&parentid=IRE%2FPETTY%2F005175809%2F00422%2F2649716>
- Death notice:  
<https://search.findmypast.co.uk/bna/viewarticle?id=bl%2f0001649%2f18881031%2f017&stringtohighlight=william%20kennedy%20tarbert>
- Death:  
[https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/deaths\\_returns/deaths\\_1888/06160/4760333.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/deaths_returns/deaths_1888/06160/4760333.pdf)
- Probate:  
<http://www.willcalendars.nationalarchives.ie/search/cwa/details.jsp?id=1639723803> <https://www.ancestry.co.uk/discoveryui-content/view/1463151:2572?tid=&pid=&queryId=1defc04da6c8176379376b73c884a368&phsrc=nYL431&phstart=successSource>
- 1901 census:  
[http://www.census.nationalarchives.ie/pages/1901/Antrim/Windsor\\_Ward/Fitzwilliam\\_Street/975767](http://www.census.nationalarchives.ie/pages/1901/Antrim/Windsor_Ward/Fitzwilliam_Street/975767)
- 1911 census:  
[http://www.census.nationalarchives.ie/pages/1911/Antrim/Cromac/Rugby\\_Road/166592/](http://www.census.nationalarchives.ie/pages/1911/Antrim/Cromac/Rugby_Road/166592/)

### Dorcas Kennedy 1859-1916

- Marriage announcement, Belfast Newsletter 14 October 1895:  
[https://www.ancestry.co.uk/imageviewer/collections/2193/images/32509\\_260488-05683?treeid=&personid=&hintid=&queryId=579e7276767ad8066e32c31daea8a7c1&usePUB=true&phsrc=nYL177&phstart=successSource&usePUBJs=true&pld=91300611](https://www.ancestry.co.uk/imageviewer/collections/2193/images/32509_260488-05683?treeid=&personid=&hintid=&queryId=579e7276767ad8066e32c31daea8a7c1&usePUB=true&phsrc=nYL177&phstart=successSource&usePUBJs=true&pld=91300611)
- Marriage: <https://churchrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/display-pdf.jsp?pdfName=k-461-3-1-016>

- Census 1901: <http://www.census.nationalarchives.ie/pages/1901/Down/Annahilt/Glebe/1237596/>
- Death certificate: <https://geni.nidirect.gov.uk/search/death/full/f2ba9b01-2298-e311-b1aa-001b7899ebdc?search=904d4d12-cb76-4f5e-8156-772138b0b03b>
- Will 1916: <https://apps.proni.gov.uk/WillsCalendar IE/willsSearchResultsDetails.aspx>

#### **Nora Kathleen Sinton 1882-1948**

- Birth: [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth\\_returns/births\\_1882/02774/2018220.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth_returns/births_1882/02774/2018220.pdf)
- Census 1901: <http://www.census.nationalarchives.ie/reels/nai000351516/>
- Census 1911: <http://www.census.nationalarchives.ie/reels/nai001452430/>
- Will: <https://search.findmypast.co.uk/record?id=GBOR%2FGOVPROBATE%2F1949%2FSO05803-SINKER-1949&parentid=GBOR%2FGOVPROBATE%2FC%2F1949-1949%2F00167862>
- Death record: <https://search.findmypast.co.uk/record?id=IRE%2FQUAKER%2FYMM-14%2F0069&parentid=IRE%2FQUAKER%2FBURS%2F52880>