Barquilla de la Santa Maria
BULLETIN of the Catholic Record Society-
Diocese of Columbus

Vol. XXXX, No. 4 April, 2015



Mary (Minaugh) Sheridan, 1801-1888
(Courtesy of the Columbus Metropolitan Library)

The Sheridans of Somerset And their Immediate Kin

by Donald M. Schlegel

(Continued from Vol. XXXX No. 2)

Part 5 - Mrs. Mary Sheridan

Mrs. Sheridan was small in stature, weighing not much more that 120 pounds when young and healthy. Her eyes were gray, keen, and searching, "her utterance free and decisive, and there is lurking in the expression a vein of benevolence, controlled by the most attractive dignity."[68]

It was a Somerset tradition that Mrs. Sheridan was, in the days of the family's early struggle, a remarkable woman. She brought up her children carefully and taught them habits of industry. Her boys are said to have been as well behaved and as neatly dressed as any of the children in the neighborhood. She imparted to the children much of her own spirit and many of her sterling qualities.

She was said to have schooled the children in their first lessons[69] but like many women of her time, she could not write; deeds bear her mark rather than a signature. Going beyond Mary's capabilities, John and Mary saw to it that their children received a formal education to the extent local resources allowed. Their daughter Mary attended St. Mary's Academy in Somerset and became a teacher; Phil went to West Point, but not without soul-searching and counsel with Father Nicholas Young as to the preservation of his faith; John and Mike attended St. Joseph's College, south of town, which opened in 1851.

It no doubt was Mary's sense of family and a mother's love that brought into their household her motherless nephew, Patrick Minaugh, and later her likewise motherless niece, Theresa Minaugh (later Mrs. McGreevy).

Mary's spirit and determination are mentioned by two sources. Family tradition asserts that Mary assaulted an Orangeman in some heated argument and the family had to flee Ireland overnight.[70] On October 7 and 8, 1853 occurred the "Hippodrome War" in Somerset between the railroad construction workers and the hands of a traveling circus. John Sheridan was out of town when the 150 men in his employ were called upon by their compatriots, in their shanties along the right-of-way, to join the battle. "Mrs. Sheridan learned of the disturbance and of the proposed action of her husband's workmen. By dint of mingled persuasion and authority she succeeded in inducing them all to return to their boarding-houses."[71]

A visitor of 1861 described Mary as "a quiet, retired, religious, good-old soul, who considered punctual attendance at Mass at St Mary's the paramount duty of life." The conversation turned to the war, and the visitor was soon made aware that a beloved son and brother was away, a Lieutenant in the Regular army, in Oregon, but was expected shortly to come home, as he was ordered to the East. "Never was more heart-felt praise lavished on anyone than there was on 'Phil.' that day. His kindness of heart; the manner in which he shared his pay with his family and kept the hearth warm at home..." Mrs. Sheridan—her eyes filled with tears—declared that he was "a good boy and that God would bless him."[72]

After her son Phil had become famous, Mary often was pestered by journalists seeking some fact or anecdote regarding him. Of a happy and jovial disposition, she had a keen sense of humour, and is said to have been always ready to play a trick, especially on such persistent journalists. Her press interviews, although quoted as carrying much weight, were of no value as history.[73]

The Sheridans' retirement home south of the village was described in a newspaper article of 1875. "The large dooryard is enclosed by a split paling fence of a little better finish than the palings farmers usually put around their gardens, and flanked on the side next to town with a venerable peach orchard, whose antiquated limbs have withered under the influences of the late frosts.... The house is neat and comfortable, but of very modest appearance. It might easily be taken for the residence of an Ohio farmer of moderate means. The interior of the house is no more pretentious than the exterior. The parlor floor is covered with an American Brussels; the windows are hung with green curtains, and the walls and ceiling are plain. A set of dark, sofa-bottomed chairs and a dozen pictures complete the exhibit. The largest picture is a representation of 'Falstaff Mustering His Recruits.' Near this hangs a medium-sized plain photograph of General Sheridan in uniform. On the opposite side of the room hangs a smaller photograph of the General, and in still another place a photograph of the General and his staff. Photographs of four or five other members of the family fill up the interstices."[74]

She was a typical Irishwoman in her love of home and hearth and the memories they held. She also respected the lives of her neighbors and valued their contributions as highly, if not moreso, than her own or those of her famous son. P. H. Greiner told this story of her.

> I remember having said once to Mrs. Sheridan, "Is not this home too small for you now? When the general and colonel visit you, you will not have room for the callers. Let me trade you my house;

possibly you would prefer living in town. Mine is a little larger. You know it would be more convenient when the boys return."

"I know the house is small for the occasions to which you refer. They have often spoken of building us a larger one, but I won't hear to it. No, I would not exchange with any one. I will never forsake this. From that gate by the road, and this door, I waited and watched for years for the boys to return from war. In this house Mary and father died. This house has witnessed the loves, hopes, joys and sorrows of so much of my life that I cannot think of leaving it while I live. No! I would not exchange."

The year before Mrs. Sheridan died the state of Ohio celebrated its first centennial anniversary...

[This was the centennial of the Northwest Territory. For that celebration...] Mr. Graham of Columbus...came to Somerset...to secure the loan of the cradle that had rocked Phil Sheridan, hearing that it was still in possession of the family. ...we went to the Sheridan home and, after presenting Mr. Graham, I stated the purpose of his call. I was not surprised to hear that the cradle had not been seen in many years. Mrs. Sheridan told us the story of its disappearance, which is as follows:

"When we lived in town a very poor family who lived near us borrowed it when their first-born came, and kept it until their third child had been rocked in it. We never saw it again, nor did I care, for it was not a very substantial or elegant piece of furniture when it left us, and was probably much the worse for wear when they moved away."

After giving us the history of the cradle, there ensued a slight pause, which the old lady broke, saying:

"So it is Phil's cradle you desire, Mr. Graham, and came all the way from Columbus to secure it. Why shouldn't the cradle that rocked the Walker boys, or my John, or Mr. Greiner, or the Martin boys, who never came back to their poor old mother after the war, why should not a cradle that rocked any of those boys do as well? They were all soldiers."

There was a tinge of sarcasm in her remark which I thought Mr. Graham would not understand, and even if he did it would embarrass him to answer, so I came to his rescue and answered:

"You know, Mrs. Sheridan; we never distinguished ourselves; we never won great battles, nor did we make a great ride."

"No! Probably you made no great rides, but you made the great marches through heat, cold, hunger and thirst; I am sure it is easier to ride than to march. Mr. Graham, if you can find a cradle that has rocked a private soldier, take it up with you. It might not be appreciated by some, but it would be by me."

Mrs. Sheridan always disliked to see the private soldiers overlooked, not because her brightest boy [John L.] had been a private, but because of that strong democratic sentiment that stands up for the more humble patriot.

As Mr. Graham secured nothing from the Sheridan home that he thought would be available for the exhibition, I contributed the saddle which General Sheridan gave me, together with other relics.[75]

Mary Sheridan lived on for thirteen years after her dear husband John's death. She died on June 12, 1888, at the age of 87 years. She "sank into death as an infant goes to sleep, the transition being so gentle as to be almost imperceptible. This was a fitting death for a noble little woman whose sole aim in life appeared to be the fulfillment of her duty to family, friends, country and God. No honors could elate her, but she was sensible and grateful for every blessing.

"When she died, the poor had one friend less. The needy, wandering soldier never found a more hospitable welcome than Mrs. Sheridan would extend. Many of them would drop in, when in our vicinity, to see the mother of General Sheridan. There was a generosity and gentility of nature in her that made her beloved by all."[76]

Her funeral, on June 14, took place in the morning. "It passed off very quietly and indeed was a fitting end for one who was without the desire for show and glitter, and whose predominant characteristics were charity toward all and humble resignation to the will of her Divine Master. ...Owing to the illness of the general his family and brother, M. V. Sheridan, were unable to attend the funeral, so the only mourners present were: John L., son of

the old lady, his wife, Kate Sheridan, and two daughters, Mary and Nellie, and Mrs. McGreevey of Somerset, the last named lady being a niece of Mrs. Sheridan."[77]

NOTES

68) *Springfield* (Ohio) *Republic*, June 2, 1888
69) *The Life of Gen. Philip H. Sheridan...* Frank A. Burr and Richard J. Hinton; Providence: J. A. & R. A. Reid, 1888; pp 23-24
70) Drake, *Little Phil*, p. 26
71) Burr & Hinton, *op. cit.*, 34. For a description of the "war" see the CRS *Bulletin*, Vol. XXIX, No. 8 (Aug. 2004) pp 155-158.
72) *Daily Alta California*, Apr. 7, 1867
73) O'Connell, IER, p 384
74) *New York Herald*, May 15, 1875
75) Greiner, Henry C., *General Phil Sheridan as I knew him, playmate-comrade-friend*; Chicago : J.S. Hyland and Co., 1908, pp 389-391
76) *ibid*. p 388
77) New Lexington *Democratic Herald*, June 21, 1888

Abstracts from the *Catholic Telegraph*

(Continued from Vol. XXXX No. 1)

March 26, 1862

Consecration of the Right Rev. Bishop Rosecrans.

This solemn event took place yesterday, the Feast of the Annunciation, in St. Peter's Cathedral, which was crowded to its utmost capacity. A large number of our separated brethren, ladies as well as gentlemen, could be distinguished among the dense congregation. The proximity, in point of time, of the concluding ceremonies to the hour at which the Telegraph goes to press, must necessarily qualify the length and minuteness of the present notice.

About 10 o'clock the bishops, priests, members of religious orders, and ecclesiastical students entered the sanctuary in procession, two and two, headed by the grand-cross bearer. The prelates present were the Most Rev. Archbishop (who had been, up to that hour, indisposed and confined to his room for two weeks), the Right Rev. Bishop Spalding of Louisville, the Right Rev. Bishop Luers of Fort Wayne, the Right Rev. Bishop Carrell of Covington, the Right Rev. Bishop De St. Palais of Vincennes, and the Bishop elect, the Right Rev. Dr. Rosecrans. Among the ecclesiastics and religious present, we noticed the Very Rev. Edward Purcell, V.G., who delivered the sermon of the day on the text of the Annunciation, the Very Rev.H. Ferneding, V.G., the Rev. A. M. Tobbe, assistant priest, the Rev. C. Driscoll, deacon of honor, Rev. R. Gilmore, sub-deacon of honor, Rev. J. Dwinger, deacon of office, Rev. J. Alberink, sub-deacon of office, Rev. C. H. Borges, master of ceremonies, Rev. W. J. Halley, assistant ditto, Rev. Father Sopranis, Visitor of the Jesuits in the United States, Rev. W. P. Morrogh, New York, and the Rev. Fathers Walshe, Macleod, Stoehle, Banchet, Henge, Guilfoyle, Garvey, Bouche, Vogt, Hengehold, Corcoran, Tisse, P. B. Donahue, N. Donahue, Wachten, Kelly, Whytler, &c. [Misspellings as in the Telegraph.]

Pontifical High Mass was celebrated by the Most Rev. Archbishop, at whose hands with those of the Right Rev. Prelates of Louisville and Fort Wayne the Bishop elect was consecrated. The blending of the two essentially different but equally significant, beautiful, and edifying ceremonials of High Mass and the Consecration, was new to many and impressively solemn to all. The chaunting of the Kyrie and the Litany by the choir of ecclesiastics, and the glorious outbursts from the orchestra were not only a religious, but an intellectual treat of the highest order, in the enjoyment of which three full hours flew away like so many minutes. After consecration the new Bishop, accompanied by the two assistant prelates and preceded by the grand cross, took the circuit of the church and bestowed his benediction on the congregation.

At 3 o'clock another large assemblage was in attendance at the Cathedral where Grand Vespers

were conducted by the new prelate in full canonicals, assisted by the Rev. Messrs. Gilmore, Hally and Macleod in deaconal robes. On this occasion the Right Rev. Bishop Luers delivered a very emphatic and telling discourse on the festival of the day.

Sympathy with Distress.

The following letter from the good pastor of Lancaster speaks for itself. Coming from a German priest, of his own voluntary motion, how beautifully it illustrates the Catholic spirit of our holy religion, and how different is its estimate of a "fortunate country" from that of the world!

LANCASTER, O., March 20, 1862

Most Rev. Dearly Beloved Archbishop,

Enclosed I send you eighty-five dollars, whch I collected at the Mass on St. Patrick's Day. If not too much trouble, you will please forward it to the suffering poor of Ireland. You may send it to any part where it may be most needed. I am sorry that it is not more; our poverty must be our excuse for not giving more. May the bloodless martyrs of that fortunate country obtain for us a share of that fortitude and constancy in the faith which they have for so many centuries displayed to an admiring universe! God certainly displays the riches of His grace in their long continued sufferings. They behold the wicked persecutor, rich and powerful and prosperous in all his undertakings, whilst the servants of God struggle for existence and are unsuccessful. Still they do not despair, but on the contrary, they teach all nations that "God is good," and gives eternal renown and happiness for our earthly loss. Blessed is the people that has faith and strength thus to exchange earth for heaven!

Your humble and obedient servant,

and son in Christ,

H. LANGE

N.B. The generous contribution of St. Mary's, Lancaster, has been sent by Archbishop Purcell to the Bishop of Galway.

Subscriptions, Second Quarter, 1862
(Name, post office, date)
James V. Beid, Steubenville 5/14
Jos. Blickle, Gallipolis 4/30
Mrs. L. C. Butch, Lancaster 6/18
L. A. Burgoon, Somerset 6/18
James Callinan, Steubenville 5/14
Miss Rose Cashbaugh, Zanesville 6/11
D. E. Clark, East Rush Creek 6/18
J. G. Connell, Delaware 4/16
John G. Connell, Delaware 6/11
M. Cumming, Steubenville 5/14
Mrs. M. A. Curs, Delaware 4/9
Simon Cusick, Steubenville 5/14
G. M. Dittoe, Somerset 6/18
Mrs. Mary Draper, Danville 6/25
A. Eberst, Philo 6/4
G. Factor, Coshocton 6/11
John Faherty, Steubenville 5/14
A. Feist, Steubenville 5/14
W. Fink, Zanesville 4/16
Ph. Gainers, St. Joseph's 6/18
Rev. Hechinger, Zanesville 4/2
Owen Inggoldsbe, Steubenville 5/14
Rev. D. Klueber, Enoch 5/7
P. Krier, Philo 6/4
Rev. H. Lange, Lancaster 6/18
John Lignen, Steubenville 5/14
Francis Lynch, Steubenville 5/14
Miss Eliza McAleer, Lancaster 6/18
Th. McDonald, Delaware 4/9
P. Marzluff, Chillicothe 6/11
Francis Mattingly, West Zanesville 4/9
James Mattingly, West Zanesville 5/7
Martin Miller, Delaware 4/9
Jos. Mooter, St. Joseph's 6/18
T. W. O'Brien, Zanesville 5/28
Rev. J. J. O'Donohue, Portsmouth 5/7
John Paine, Mt. Vernon 6/11
R. Paine, Mt. Vernon 6/11
W. Poland, Chillicothe 6/11
Jos. Postlewaite, Homer 4/2
Jas. Rogers, Mt. Vernon 6/11
P. Ryan, Zanesville 5/28
St. Mary's Convent, Somerset 6/18
P. Shannon, Steubenville 5/14
John Smith, Steubenville 5/14
John Swann, Steubenville 5/14
Wm. Sweeney, Delaware 5/7
Rev. F. J. Tierney, Wilkesville 4/16
James Toole, Lancaster 4/23

(To be continued)

St. Patrick Cemetery
Union Township, Scioto County
(Continued, from Vol. XXXX No. 3)

(Block Z, continued)

Row 4
John Jacob Orlett 1943-blank
Margaret Gloria Orlett 1937-blank
Paul Vincent Orlett 1934-blank

- -

Block A

Front area
Ann wife of John Lorner, died May 9, 1881, aged 28 y's & 28 d's
also her infant child, aged 8 days
Thomas Haley died June 18, 1881 in his 68th year
A native of County Galway, Ireland
May his soul rest in peace. Amen.
Dear wife and children too
I have been called away from you
Weep not for me 'tis all in vain
You cannot call me back again.
Annie wife of P. J. Guthrie died Apri. 26, 1883, aged 28 yrs. and 8 ms.
We have loved her on earth
We will meet her in heaven.
STANTON
Thomas 1854-1916 {Thomas Stanton died Oct. 20, 1916, age 59}
Catherine Stanton 1855-1893

Burns Lot
Martin Burns Born in Roscomon Co. Ireland died June 30, 1900 aged 73 years
James P. Burns 1868-1916

Smith Lot
Four stones, marked "Mike", "Pat", "Father", and "Mother"

Donahoe Lot
Bea Donahoe Mar. 7, 1932
John C. Donahoe 1860-1918 {John Donahoe died Nov. 4, 1918}
[John Donahoe died Apr. 29, 1901, aged 83 ys 1 m & 17 ds
[Bridget his wife born Dec. 26, 1826 died Aug. 26, 1918 {Bridget Donahoe died Aug. 26, 1918, age 92}
James Donahoe May 18, 1947
Hannah E. Donahoe 1876-1949 {Hannah Donahoe died Jan. 12, 1949, age 73 HR}
Mary A. Donahoe 1855-1951

Finn Lot
[John Patrick Finn Born Clare County, Ireland May 1, 1831 Died Sept. 7, 1910
[Bridget his wife born Clare County Ireland Dec.23, 1844 died May 1, 1900
{Fergus Finn Born Feb. 20, 1878 Died Apr. 6, 1899
{John P. Finn Jr. Born Mar. 8, 1868 Died Sept. 28, 1891
Fergus Finn 1828-1903

- -

Block B

Walsh Lot
Edmund J. 1887-1941 {? Edward Walsh died Sept. 24, 1941, age 50}
George 1856-1940 {George Walsh died May 16, 1940, age 83}
Mary A. 1861-1931 {Mary Walsh died Feb. 6, 1931, age 70}
Marie daughter of G. and M. Walsh died May 22. 1896, age 2ys & 2ms
Joseph Bennett son of John C. & Maggie Walsh Died Sept. 29, 1897 Aged 3y 5m & 19d
Kathryn E. Walsh Feb, 24, 1899 - Dec. 24, 1982
Rose E. 1892-1973 {Rose Elizabeth Walsh died June 12, 1973, age 81}
Michael J. 1903-1941 {Michael Walsh died Oct. 13, 1941, age 37}
Margaret E. 1862-1940 {Margaret (Finn) Walsh died Nov. 4, 1940, age 79}
John C. 1854-1931 {John C. Walsh died Apr. 18, 1931, age 77}



The chapel at St. Patrick Cemetery, McCullough, in 2013.
Father Mertian and Brother John are buried directly in front of it.

North of Walsh Lot
James Gallivan
Mary Gallivan his wife

Finn Lot
FINN
Rose A. 1885-1971
Ella F. 1882-1953
George B. 1888-1947
Winnie Finn 1868-1935 {Winifred Loretta Finn died June 22, 1935, age 63}

Conley Lot
[Winifred Beehler Nov. 1, 1963 {Winifred C. (Conley) Beghler died Nov. 1, 1963, age 69}
[Katherine Conley Nov. 20, 1960 {Katherine Conley died Nov. 20, 1960, age 59}
[Honora Conley Feb. 11, 1968 {Honora Conley died Feb. 11, 1968, age 73}
Margaret Conely Reardon 1885-1964
Beatrice Conley {Beatrice Conley died Mar. 8, 1954, age 68}
Martin B. Conley {? Martin Conley died Feb. 19, 1939, age 54}
[Patrick M. Conley
[Wife Catherine Conley {Catherine Conley died Nov. 22, 1929, age 77}
[Son James Conley
Patrick Conley Jr.
Mary A. Conley
Michael J. Conley {? Michael Conley died Jan. 25, 1949, age 69}

- -

Block C

Conley Lot
CONLEY
Ellen 1864-1939 {Ellen Conley died May 2, 1939, age 76}
Martin 1874-19(blank) {Martin Conley died Jan. 14, 1953, age 81}
John C. 1870-1947 {John Conley died June 12, 1947, age 79}
Michael Conley Sr. born Apr. 4, 1851 died Feb. 6, 1922 {Michael Henry Conley died Feb. 6, 1922, age 72}

Patrick H. son of James and Margaret Conley Mar. 4, 1860 - Mar. 29, 1909
Margaret Conley born in the Parish of Feakle Ireland, Co. Clare 1825 died Feb. 20, 1906

A precious one from
us has gone, a voise
we loved is stilled
A plase is vacant
in our home which
never can be filled.

James Conley born in the Parish of Feanleire Co. Clare 1802 died Jan. 11, 1897
Michael Conley Native of Co. Clare, Ireland died May 14, 1877 age 68 years May his soul rest in peace

Joyce Lot
William Joseph Joyce Cpl US Army Korea 1926 + 1983
Nelle F. Joyce 1889 + 1976
Wm. Joyce 1878 + 1940 {William Matthew Joyce died Mar. 2, 1940, age 60}
JOYCE
Bernadine T. Joyce 1935-blank
William J. Joyce 1926-1983
+ Bernard Joyce July 22 1927 - Nov 19 1938 {Bernard Joyce died Nov. 19, 1938, age 11}

Hessian Lot
Mary J. Hessian 1853-1929 {Mary Jane Hessian died Aug. 2, 1929 age 76}
Ellen Hessian
John Hessian
John P. Hessian
[John Hessian died 1897 aed 78 years
[Ellen Hessian
[John P. Hessian died 1895 aged 28 years
[Mary
[Julie
[Catherine

- -

Block D

O'Brien Lot
+ Helen Jeanne O'Brien 1923-1997
+ James Edmund O'Brien 1916-1991
+ Kathleen O'Brien Bell 1914-1985
+ Harold F. Bell 1912-1980
+ Eileen O'Brien Kelley 1913-1977
+ Harold W. Kelley 1915-1973 {Harold W. Kelley died Oct. 11, 1973, age 58 WP}
+ Margaret E. O'Brien 1889-1981
+ William J. O'Brien 1885-1965 {William O'Brien died 1965, age 79}
Mary Anne Turner Sept. 8, 1954 {Mary Anne Turner died Sept. 8, 1954, age 24 hours}
Mary Margaret O'Brien Kuhnash 1911-1932 {Mary Margaret (O'Brien) Kunash died Feb. 14, 1932, age 21}
+ Mary O'Brien Smith 1851-1875
+ Patrick O'Brien 1822-1874
+ Ellen Dowd O'Brien 1830-1876
+ Dennis P. O'Brien 1864-1892
+ James M. O'Brien 1892-1913
+ Mary E. O'Brien 1862-1914
+ John W. O'Brien 1853-1929 {John William O'Brien died May 5, 1929, age 75}
+ Mary B. O'Brien 1893-1910

Walsh Lot A
+ George L. Walsh 1894-1943 {George Walsh died Jan. 15, 1943, age 48)
+ J. R. Walsh 1848-1934 {James R. Walsh died May 30, 1834, age 86}
+ Rose Walsh 1857-1931 {Rose Walsh died Nov. 15, 1931, age 74}

Walsh Lot B
Infant son of John R. and Lucile Walsh Aug. 8, 1930 {infant son of John Walsh, still born, Aug. 8, 1930}
Infant daughter of J. M. and Edith Walsh 1923 {infant daughter of Joseph M. and Edith Walsh, still born, July 13, 1923}

(To be concluded)

Copyright 2015,
Catholic Record Society - Diocese of Columbus
197 E. Gay St., Columbus, Ohio 43215
Donald M. Schlegel, Editor