

Maria Lyons per Panama to Sydney, arrived 12 January 1850

Maria Lyons had a long and successful life in the colony after her arrival in Sydney. She married in May 1851 had ten children and died aged 86 in Ashfield, Sydney. Her photo was supplied by a descendant and she is one of the County Mayo girls researched in detail by Barbara Barclay of County Mayo. See her website at <http://mayoorphangirls.weebly.com/maria-lyons.html>

Maria's obituary here shows just what hardy pioneers many of the workhouse orphans were. Despite their very tough start in life, a great number of them became the backbone of their communities in the cities, towns and rural areas of Australia. They appreciated the 'break' given to them by the workhouse and the emigration commissioners and gave back to others less fortunate. This generosity of spirit was passed down to their descendants.



THE LATE MRS. CONNOLLY
An Appreciation

One more of our hardy old pioneers has been called to rest in the person of Mrs Connolly, of 'Elleray', Ashfield. She died at her home on 17 June. Born at Westport, County Mayo, Ireland, on 1 January 1836, her last days were happy and peaceful, her loving daughters ministering to the needs of the sweet soul who had spent a good deal of her life doing similar service for them and others. In association with her daughters, she was ever active in the promotion of Church services; but her special role was in the exercise of those corporal works of mercy. She saved many young lives during the course of the deadly epidemic of diphtheria which scourged the Paterson district some years ago. She was in the saddle night and day for many months, traversing the rough bridle-tracks in the mountains between the Allyn and the Williams [Rivers]. Mrs Connolly was an ardent patriot, intensely loving her fatherland, sympathising with this martyrs, glorying in the efforts of its champions and, recently, thankful to the Providence which spared her long enough in life to witness the dawn of an Irish Free State. She was also what is called 'A good Australian' by bequeathing to her adopted country six sons, four daughters, twenty-seven grand, and four great grandchildren, the youngest of deceased's family being Mrs J.F. Carlton, J.P., of Ashfield, who was one of the first lady magistrates appointed in this State. Her record of good deeds rank noble amongst the noblest. Throughout the latter years of her illness her spiritual needs were unfailingly attended to by Very Rev. Father Gannon, C.M., and during the illness of the latter Very Rev. Father Cullen, C.M., administered the Last Sacraments. A Requiem Mass was celebrated at St Vincent's, Ashfield, in the presence of a large congregation, and in the afternoon her remains were interred in the

new portion of the Catholic Cemetery, Rookwood, beside her husband, who predeceased her by eight years. Sympathetic friends of all denominations followed her remains to its resting place. Very Rev. Father Cullen, C.M., and Very Rev. Father Gannon, C.M., officiated at the graveside — R.I.P.

Freeman's Journal [Sydney], 13 July 1922, p.15

CONNOLLY — A Requiem Mass, for the Repose of the soul of the late MARIA CONNOLLY will be celebrated at St Vincent's Church, Ashfield, this morning at 9 o'clock.

Sydney Morning Herald, 19 June 1922, p.7.

CONNOLLY — June 17, 1922, at her residence, Elleray, 13 Church Street, Ashfield, Maria, relict of the late Patrick Connolly, aged 86, RIP. By request no flowers.

Sydney Morning Herald, 19 June 1922, p.8.

Death of son-in-law of Maria Connolly nee Lyons per Panama

A POPULAR OFFICER

THE LATE SERGEANT W.T. DORAN

The passing of Sergeant W.T. Doran, late sergeant of mounted police, in charge of the district of Coonamble, which occurred on the 25th inst. at Lewisham Private Hospital, is a matter for the sincerest regret not only to his private friends, but to the State, of which he was a highly capable and distinguished officer.

The eldest son of Mr and Mrs Martin Doran, of Flood Hall, Coraki, William Thomas Doran had seen 27 years' service, with the prospect of promotion to an inspectorship in the coming year. A singular devotion to duty, of which he mastered every detail, won for him the respect of all those associated with him at Maitland, Burrinjuck, Tamworth and Coonamble. He was looked on as an expert in police cases connected with stock, and was frequently complimented by his superior officers and the legal profession. He took a keen interest in all matters connected with his Church. While in Tamworth he was a regular participant in the church debating society. He assisted every public movement for improvement, and was mainly instrumental in establishing a Civil Motor Ambulance, which rendered most valuable service.

Sergeant Doran fully realised his duty. He never spared himself labour, and it was probably his devotion to duty which made him unfit to battle with his fatal illness. He married Catherine Cecilia, daughter of the late Patrick and Maria Connolly, of 'Elleray', Church-street. Ashfield. A Requiem Mass was celebrated by the Very Rev. Father Paul Cullen, C.M. (Provincial of the Vincentian Fathers), at St Vincent's Church. Ashfield, on Friday morning. The funeral cortege from the church to Ashfield Railway Station was escorted by all the mounted police of the depot, preceded by the Police Band, by direction of Inspector-General Mitchell, as a special token of respect to a valuable officer. The remains were carried from the church to the hearse, and afterwards to the grave, by six men of the New South Wales Mounted Police. The very large attendance included the chief mourners—Mrs Doran (widow), Mr Martin Doran (brother), Mr and Mrs Owen Maher (brother-in-law and sister), Mr and Mrs Martin Ryan (nephew and niece, respectively), Mr and Mrs Fitzgerald, Mr and Mrs Carlton (brothers and sisters-in-law), Mrs Burgess (aunt), Misses Burgess (3), Mr V. Burgess (cousins), Inspector Devlin (representing the Inspector General of Police), Inspector Bolton (representing seating the Metropolitan Superintendent), Sergeant Wood, Gilgandra (representing the Superintendent and Inspector, Dubbo district), Mr Crook (representing Police Magistrate, Dubbo District, and

staff of Court of Petty Sessions), Mr T.S. Crawford (representing Judge Armstrong), Mr J.H. Davies, and Mr P. Kearns (Assistant-Commissioner. G.S. Bank), Mr P. Gallagher LLB. Coonamble was represented by Messrs W.C. Wilson, G Madden, J.T. O'Neil, R.G. Gillett, Mesdames McAllary, G. Lane, Saap, Misses Josephine Rigney and McAllary. The Rev. Father Moynihan. CM., was assisted by the Rev. Father Vidal [Graeta]. OSA recited the prayers at the grave side — R.I.P. [*The Catholic Press*, 31 January 1924, p.25].