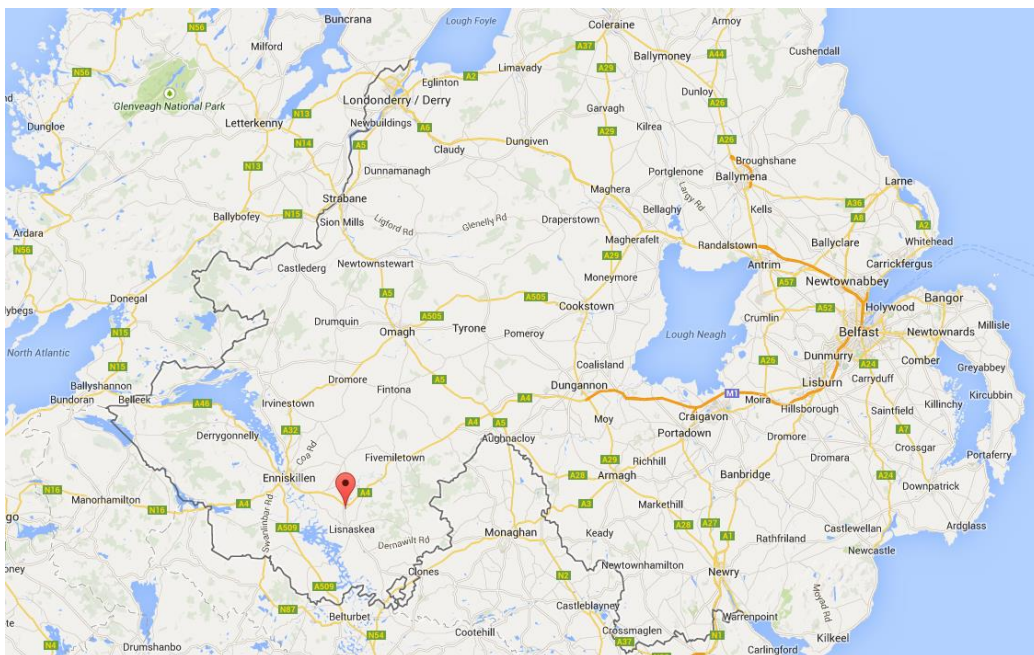


Elizabeth & Mary Ann Wray per *Derwent*, arrived Port Phillip 25 February 1850

Elizabeth and Mary Ann Wray arrived in Port Phillip [Victoria] from the Lisnaskea workhouse in County Fermanagh. The *Derwent* spent nearly four months at sea. The shipping list notes their ages are recorded as 16 and 14 respectively. However Elizabeth was baptised on 27 March 1831 and Mary Ann on 4 May 1835 at Lisnaskea Church of Ireland. This implies they were a year older than the ages recorded on the shipping manifest. Their mother Mary (*nee* Morton) died and is buried at the same church. Their father, Thomas Wray was a school teacher in Coolcrannel [marked on map below] before his wife's death. On the death of their mother two elder brothers were sent to their uncle in Canada. The girls and possibly one brother were sent to the workhouse at Lisnaskea.



Lisnaskea workhouse entrance block from the north-east and the entrance doorway with 1841 plaque. Photographs taken by Peter Higginbotham, 2003. Reproduced here with grateful thanks. See www.workhouses.org.uk/Lisnaskea/ for more details.



Mrs William Keene, presumably Elizabeth Wray,
wife of William Thomas Keene.

Elizabeth Wray (1831-1899) [pictured] married William Thomas Keene (1832-1926) on 6 October 1853 in St James Cathedral Melbourne. William had arrived in Melbourne in 1851 from England via the Californian goldfields. At the time of their marriage he was described as a baker and she as a servant. It would be nice to think they met while he was delivering bread to the home where she worked as a servant, however he gave his address as ‘the diggings’. His father William senior and sister migrated in 1852 followed by his mother and two other sisters in 1858.

Elizabeth and William had 10 children (six boys and four girls): Elizabeth Sarah, Flora Annette, William James, Charles Bodley, Archibald Augustus, Thomas Evans, Julia Cecilia and Mary Louise (twins), Henry John and Norman Arthur.

Elizabeth and William lived in Melbourne for seven years where three children were born and he was recorded as a mariner and carrier. They moved to a sheep property known as ‘Deepwater’ near Tenterfield, NSW, in 1861 as manager following the death of his brother-in-law Archibald Windeyer who had managed the property. Later he was manager of ‘Collaroy’ station Merriwa, NSW, of ‘Bando’ station Cassilis, NSW, where Elizabeth gave birth to their youngest son Norman in 1875. William Keene’s father, also William, died in 1872 in Raymond Terrace.

In 1878 William was appointed manager of ‘Gurley’ station near Moree in northwest NSW where they were for 12 years before failing eyesight made him unable to class the wool clip. Gurley station at that time was 250,000 acres and 100 miles (161 km) around the boundary.

Elizabeth and William spent the rest of their lives in Raymond Terrace, NSW, in William’s family home. They are buried in the Raymond Terrace Pioneer Cemetery. Their marble headstone is inscribed:

In memory of Elizabeth
wife of William Thomas Keene
died May 12th 1899 aged 65 years
also
William Thomas Keene
died October 8th 1926
aged 95 years

Mary Ann Wray (1835-1867) married James Kirk in Taradale, Victoria, on 18 August 1862. She had three children, however only one survived infancy. Mary died in 1867.

Information provided by descendants Virginia Stokes and John (Jock) Keene