

HANNAH McDONALD, Daughter

Birth: 7 Jul 1834 Place: Norfolk Plains
Baptism: 31 Jan 1836 Place: Longford, C.E. Age: 1
Death: 27 Dec 1925 Place: Residence of Mr G. Turnbull, Latrobe Age: 91
Burial: 29 Dec 1925 Place: Ulverstone Cemetery, C.E. [Headstone]
Occupation: Domestic Duties; Shop Keeper
Residence: Ringwood, Victoria (1896); Wynyard (1924)
Father: GEORGE McDONALD (ca1801-1878)
Mother: DELIA FURNER [ALIAS GILLAM] (ca1815-1900)

Witnesses to the marriage were James Hogben and Benjamin Laws. [RGD 981]

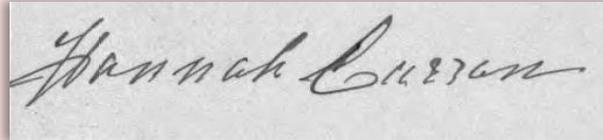
Storekeeper, Ringwood, Victoria 1898/98 1899/90.

Alfred Bock, Wynyard photograph with notation "Mrs H. Curran Age 72 years." Photographed wearing a "yellow gold citrine brooch, handmade ca 1860. Two fine charnières on back indicating it may have been a pendant. It is irreplaceable." [Mrs Margaret Fay, gemologist, Devonport]

Will dated 17 January 1924. Witnessed by T.A. Scott, Solicitor, Latrobe, and J.C. Keen, Butcher, Latrobe.

Cause of death was senility. Informant of death was A. Turnbull, niece, Latrobe. [RGD 429]

See also Holy Trinity Burial Register entry No. 327 in which H.J. McDonald gave her birthplace as British Isles [sic]. See Advocate Monday 28 December 1925 for death notice.



Spouse: JOHN CURRAN
Birth: ca 1822 Place: Ireland
Death: 6 Jul 1896 Place: Main Road, Ringwood, Victoria Age: 74
Burial: 7 Jul 1896 Place: Box Hill Cemetery, Victoria [Headstone]
Occupation: Settler (1851) Storekeeper (1894-1896)
Residence: Ringwood, Victoria (1894-1896)
Marriage: 23 Aug 1851 Place: St Andrew's Church, Westbury, by Banns

Came to Van Diemen's Land ca 1849. Victoria ca 1851.

Cause of death cancer of the stomach. Informant of death was wife, Hannah Curran, Ringwood, Vic. [VIC RGD Deaths Index No. 11291] Will.

No known children.



Hannah McDonald was born at Norfolk Plains in 1834; she was the McDonalds' second child. She married John Curran, who described himself as a settler, at Westbury in 1851 at the age of seventeen. He was however one of two men named John Curran who were transported from Ireland per the ship *Kinnear*, arriving in Hobart Town on 23 October 1842.

John Curran 1st, Police No. 6674 was a 24-year-old gardener, transported for ten years for robbery, and at one time described as violent and extremely dangerous. His native place was given as County Kildare. John Curran 2nd, Police No. 6681, was transported for 7 years for stealing a shawl. He was described as dirty, troublesome, and with stealing continually on board. His native place was Dublin. Unfortunately, neither man was described as 1st or 2nd when applying for permission to marry.

No doubt attractive in her youth, here, in this 1906 photograph (right), Hannah, aged 72, appears more handsome than pretty.

Her hair is dressed in the severe style of the late 1890s, the usual black bonnet, remembered by her niece May Leary, removed for the occasion. Her dark coloured dress with its tight bodice and gigot (leg of mutton) sleeves and sequin decoration is softened at the neckline with a narrow edging of lace.

Attractive drop earrings and long chain are the trappings of a comfortable existence, but her hands are not those of a woman who has known luxury all of her life. The beautiful golden citrine brooch at her throat has been handed down as a family heirloom.



When Maria Howman, niece of Hannah Curran, died in 1890 her death notice mentioned that she was “niece of Mr John Curran, of Ringwood,”¹ which indicates that aunt and niece stayed in contact with each other. John Curran died of cancer at Ringwood where he had been a storekeeper from at least the 1880s. Hannah continued to run the store after his death, later returning to Tasmania. While she was in Victoria she sent money home to her mother, 'a pound every 6 months'.² Hannah lived on until 27 December 1925 when she died at Latrobe.³ Twelve

¹ Age (Melbourne, Vic. : 1854 - 1954), Tuesday 17 June 1890, pg 1.

² Undated letter written by Maria Howman to an aunt in Tasmania ca 1890.

³ RGD 492/1925 Latrobe.

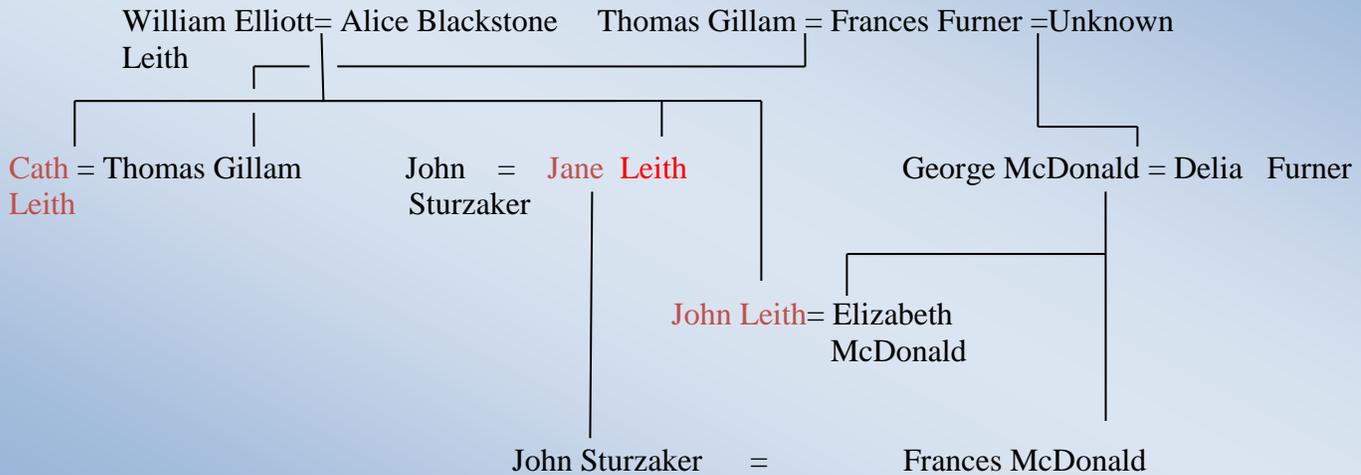
months prior to this she was living at Wynyard with her nephew Henry George Turnbull whom she appointed executor of her Will and principal beneficiary.⁴

A year prior to her death she made her 'last will and testament' and presumably at that time she had sufficient wealth to fulfil the various bequests:

I give and Bequeath the following legacies the Sum of one hundred pounds to be divided equally between such of the children of my brother George Macdonald as shall be living at my death the Sum of ten pounds to my niece Delia Sands the Sum of one hundred pounds to my sister Harriett Turnbull the Sum of one hundred pounds to be divided equally between such of the children of my sister Frances Sturzaker as shall be living at my death the Sum of one hundred pounds to my sister Delia Warden the Sum of ten pounds to my niece Edna Button the Sum of one hundred pounds to my brother Joseph MacDonald the Sum of twenty five pounds to Jemima MacDonald widow of my brother Arthur James MacDonald the Sum of forty pounds to be divided equally between such of the children of my late sister Maria Louisa Fogg as shall be living at my death the sum of twenty five pounds to my sister Catherine Woodhouse the Sum of forty pounds to be equally divided between such of the children of my late brother Thomas MacDonald as shall be living at my death & I Devise and Bequeath all my real estate if any and the residue of my personal estate to my nephew Henry George Turnbull for his own use and benefit absolutely.

Below is a table showing the complicated full and half family relationships between my Leith, Gillam, Furner, and McDonald families.

THE LEITH, McDONALD, GILLAM & FURNER CONNECTIONS



⁴ Will dated 17 January 1924.