

WILLIAM NEWMAN McDONALD, Son

Birth:	11 Aug 1838	Place: Longford
Baptism:	16 Sep 1838	Place: Longford, C.E.
Death:	20 Jul 1854	Place: Westbury Age: 15
Burial:	22 Jul 1854	Place: St Andrew's, C.E., Westbury
Occupation:	Labourer	
Residence:	Marsh Paddock [now Exton]	
Father:	GEORGE McDONALD (~1801-1878)	
Mother:	DELIA FURNER [ALIAS GILLAM] (~1815-1900)	

For birth see baptism as William Newman McDonell (sic), son of George and Delia McDonell, Norfolk Plains, shoemaker. [RGD 9123]

Surname on death certificate given as MacDonald, and his age as 16 years. His occupation was "labourer". Cause of death "inflammation." Informant of death was George (x) Best, Undertaker, Westbury. Burial Register states was "of Marsh Paddock". C.E. Burial entry 199 and RGD 203]

What is "inflammation and in the case of William Newman, which part of the body was injured or infected? There is no mention of him sustaining an injury in the newspapers of the day, so perhaps we will never know. However the following interested me:-

"Inflammation is always due to an injury or infection of some sort. For example, if you bang your finger while hammering a nail, the body's response is inflammation to the injury - resulting in pain, swelling, redness, warmth and often a temporary loss of function of the finger. This response is protective to allow for healing time by the immune system and protecting the injured finger from further injury while healing.

*Low-level inflammation - the kind you often do not visibly see or feel - is caused by similar assaults on the body that are just less obvious. This inflammation is still an immune response by the body trying to protect itself and heal. Over time, if the root cause of the inflammation is not eliminated, the inflammation remains and is then chronic, which causes progressive damage to the affected organ systems. This type of inflammation is systemic and deadly!"*¹

Did not marry.

No known issue.

The fourth of George and Delia's children, William Newman, was born in 1838 and died at Westbury on 20 July 1854 aged 15 years.

Cause of death is recorded as 'inflammation' which may have been influenza, or the same affliction which carried off his elder brother George in 1875.

¹ <http://weightoftheevidence.blogspot.com/2005/07/death-by-inflammation>.