

**MARY KIRCHER RODDY**  
**MKR Genealogy**

----- 6035 27<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE, Seattle, WA 98115

DATE: 20 February 2017

REPORT TO: *[Client name], [address for private use]*

SUBJECT: Parents of Helen E. Butler Geary of San Rafael, Marin, California  
Born: 17 July 1879 California  
Died: 16 August 1954 Marin, California<sup>1</sup>  
Married: Approximately 1908, likely in Marin County, California  
David Geary<sup>2</sup>

Known children of Helen E. Butler Geary:

Harold E. Geary, b. 9 Feb 1909, California – d. 17 Feb 2002<sup>3</sup>

Raymond Geary, b. 23 Aug 1910, California – d. 14 Sep 1924, Marin, California<sup>4</sup>

Known Siblings:

Edward I. Butler, b. 21 Nov 1874, Monterey, California – d. 27 Nov 1961, Marin, California<sup>5</sup>

BACKGROUND: Client provided details of the marriage of her maternal grandparents, Johanna E. Geary, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harold E. Geary to William D. Cutler, in Fairfax, Marin, California in 1962. Client believes there is some Irish ancestry and wants to know where in Ireland her Irish ancestors came from.

OBJECTIVE: Research Helen E Butler Geary to determine who her parents are. Additional research may be performed in the future to identify birth locations of Hannah's Irish immigrant ancestors.

ASSIGNMENT: Determine identities and birth, marriage and death dates of Helen E Butler Geary's parents.

REPOSITORIES: Online resources including Ancestry.com, Newspapers.com, FamilySearch, California Digital Newspaper Collection and other web-based resources

LIMITATIONS: I am only checking online resources at this point. Additional research will need to be performed to obtain vital record certificates as necessary to confirm findings. Work being done on a pro bono basis for client who will order vital records copies when she has the funds to do so.

**KEY FINDINGS:** Helen Butler Geary's parents are Michael D. Butler and Mary Ann Ryan. They were married 19 June 1872 at St. Francis Catholic Church, Osage Mission, Neosho, Kansas.

Michael D. Butler, the son of James and Ellen/Nell Donovan Butler, was baptized 11 September 1841 in the Catholic parish of Drimoleague in County Cork, Ireland. Variant forms of the parish name include "Drimoleague and Drinagh" and "Drinagh"

**NEXT STEPS:** Order death certificates for the following to confirm birth place and parents' names  
Michael D. Butler, d. Marin County, Calif., 25 Oct 1920, cert 39494<sup>6</sup>  
James Butler, d. Monterey County, Calif., 18 April 1916, cert. 12676<sup>7</sup>  
Joseph Butler, d. Coffeyville, Montgomery, Kansas, 28 Aug 1927

Order death certificate for Mary A. Ryan Butler, d. Marin County, Calif., 20 July 1905. Death notice indicates she was born in County Waterford. Need death certificate to find parents' names and birth date.

Search Ross County, Ohio naturalization records, census records for information on James and Ellen Donovan Butler

Search Neosho County, Kansas records for death information on James and Ellen Donovan Butler

### **AN OVERVIEW OF RESOURCES USED**

Ancestry.com Databases:

- California Death Index 1905-1939 and 1940-1997
- US Federal Census records
- Kansas State Census Collection 1855-1925

FamilySearch.org Databases:

- US Social Security Death Index
- US Federal Census records
- California Births and Christenings
- Kansas County Marriages 1855-1911
- Ohio County Marriages 1789-2013

FindaGrave.com

Newspapers.com – newspapers in Marin County, California and Kansas

California Digital Newspaper Collection – newspapers in Marin and San Francisco, California

National Library of Ireland – Catholic Parish Registers at the NLI for Drimoleague

### RESEARCH NOTES

1. “Joanna Geary Weds William D. Cutler” newspaper article provided the following biographical details:
  - a. Joanna Elizabeth Geary of San Rafael, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harold E. Geary
  - b. William David Cutler of Visalia, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. Richard Cutler of Visalia
  - c. Rev. Richard Cutler, brother of bridegroom officiated
  - d. Ross Cutler of Visalia, brother of groom, was best man
  - e. Ushers were bride’s brothers, Stephen and Don Geary of San Rafael and groom’s brother, John Cutler, of Visalia
  - f. Bride is granddaughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Timothy Howard of Vallejo and the late Mrs. Helen B. Geary of San Rafael. She is the grandniece of Judge Edward I Butler of San Rafael<sup>8</sup>
  
2. “Edward I. Butler Succumbs at 87; Former Judge of Superior Court” newspaper article provided the following biographical details:
  - a. Edward I. Butler served 31 years as a judge. Entered politics in 1906
  - b. Funeral Mass at St. Raphael’s Catholic Church, rosary and arrangements handled by Keaton’s mortuary. Burial at Mount Olivet Cemetery.
  - c. Edward I. Butler “born 21 November 1874 in Monterey, the son of Michael Butler, a carpenter and Mary A Butler, both immigrants from Ireland.”
  - d. When he was a small child the family moved to Napa and in 1880 moved to Inverness and starting a dairy business. Later they acquired a large dairy ranch on the Point Reyes Peninsula near Drake’s Estero
  - e. Attended Point Reyes School, the old Black District Grammar School. In 1896 entered old St. Mary’s College in Oakland. Graduated from Hastings College of Law in San Francisco.<sup>9</sup>
  - f. In 1906 his father built a home on Laurel Place where Judge Butler resided until ~1959.
  - g. After death of his father, his sister Mrs. Helen Butler Geary and her two children shared the Laurel Place home.
  - h. Judge was the last of the four children of Michael and Mary A. Butler to survive. He outlived his sister and two brothers. Closest kin is a nephew, Harold E. Geary of San Rafael.<sup>10</sup>
  
3. Helen Butler Geary in the California Death Index 1940-1997

Name: Helen Butler Geary  
Birth Date: 17 Jul 1879  
Birth Place: California  
Death Date: 16 Aug 1954  
Death Place: Marin  
Mother's Maiden Name: Ryan  
Father's Surname: Butler<sup>11</sup>

## 4. Edward I. Butler in the California Death Index 1940-1997

Name: Edward I. Butler  
 Birth Date: 21 Nov 1874  
 Birth Place: California  
 Death Date: 27 Nov 1961  
 Death Place: Marin  
 Mother's Maiden Name: Ryan<sup>12</sup>

5. 1900 Census details for Michael Butler family, Point Reyes, Marin, California<sup>13</sup>

Name	Birthdate	Birthplace	# Year mar	Imm yr	Occupation
Michael	Feb 1840	Ireland	26	1848	Farmer
Mary	Mar 1841	Ireland	26	1870	
Joseph	Feb 1875	Kansas			At School
Edwin	Mar 1877	California			At School
James	Feb 1879	California			Farm Labor
Nellie	Mar 1881	California			At School

## 6. Joseph Butler in the California Death Index 1940-1997

Name: Joseph Butler  
 Birth Date: 28 Mar 1873  
 Birth Place: Kansas  
 Death Date: 13 July 1944  
 Death Place: San Francisco  
 Mother's Maiden Name: Ryan  
 Father's Surname: Butler<sup>14</sup>

## 7. Joseph Butler in the US, Social Security Application and Claims Index, 1936-2007

Name: Joseph Butler  
 SSN: 717141299  
 Gender: Male  
 Race: White  
 Birth Date: 28 Mar 1873  
 Birth Place: Osage Neosho, Kansas  
 Father: Michael Butler  
 Mother: Mary A Ryan  
 Type of Claim: Original SSN.  
 Notes: Jan 1940: Name listed as JOSEPH BUTLER<sup>15</sup>

## 8. Edward Ignatius Butler detail from "California Births and Christenings"

Name Edward Ignatius Butler  
 Gender Male

Event Type Birth  
 Event Date 21 Nov 1874  
 Event Place Monterey, Monterey, California  
 Father's Name Michael Butler  
 Mother's Name Mary Ryan<sup>16</sup>

9. 1920 census details for Michael Butler family, San Rafael, Marin, California<sup>17</sup>

Name	Age	Birthplace	Occupation
Butler, Michael D	77	Ireland	None
Butler, Edward D	45	Calif	Judge
Geary, Helen	40	Calif	None
Geary, Harold E	10	Calif	None
Geary, Raymond	9	Calif	None

10. "Died, Butler" newspaper article provided the following biographical details

- a. Mary A Butler, wife of Michael Butler, formerly of Point Reyes, died 20 July 1905
- b. Mother of Joseph, Edward I., James A., and Nellie E. Butler
- c. Native of County Waterford, Ireland, aged 63 years
- d. Funeral from late residence, corner Petaluma street and Laurel place, thence to St. Raphael's Church, interment Mount Olivet Cemetery<sup>18</sup>

11. "Respected Pioneer Goes to Rest" newspaper article provided the following biographical details

- a. Michael D. Butler came to Marin county forty years ago, engaging in the ranching business, conducting a large dairy on Point Reyes
- b. Retired 15 years ago and came with his family to San Rafael
- c. Shortly after coming to San Rafael, Mrs. Butler passed away
- d. Resided with son, Judge Edward I. Butler and daughter, Mrs. D. R. Geary in Laurel Place
- e. Father of Dr. Joseph Butler of San Francisco
- f. Father of late James Butler
- g. Died 25 Oct 1920, aged 78 years
- h. Burial in Mount Olivet Cemetery<sup>19</sup>

12. "Surprise Visit Results in Disappointments" provided the following biographical details

- a. Joseph Butler, his daughter, Lizzie and his son John A. Butler are in San Rafael on a visit to his brother, M. Butler in August 1909
- b. Joseph and his children come from Coffeyville, Kansas
- c. This is their first visit to the coast
- d. Last week M. Butler left for the East to surprise his relatives whom he had not seen in years

- e. Assemblyman E. I. Butler and Mr. and Mrs. David Geary are dispensing hospitality at their Laurel Place home<sup>20</sup>

13. “Neosho, Kan – Joseph Butler Dead” provided the following biographical details

- a. Joseph Butler, age 88, died at his home in Coffeyville, Kansas 28 August 1927
- b. He was born 28 September 1838 in the parish of Drinagh, County Cork, Ireland where he lived as a small boy until 1849 when he came to America with his mother, landing in New York and later moving to Ohio where he grew to manhood
- c. On 1 Jun 1868 he married Miss Ellen Doud at Chilicothe, Ohio, and soon after they moved to Osage Mission (now St. Paul), Kansas
- d. He was a carpenter<sup>21</sup>
- e. He was later a bridge builder employed by “the Katy” [railroad] and retired in 1908 at which time the family moved to Coffeyville
- f. Ellen Doud Butler died in 1909
- g. He is survived by his children, Mrs. F. J. Conway of Mukskoguee, Oklahoma; Mrs. M. J. Quinn, of Los Angeles, Cal; Mrs. B. B. Shea of Kansas City, Mo., and John A. Butler of Coffeyville, Kansas<sup>22</sup>

14. Michael Butler, age 29, and Mary Ann Ryan, age 27, were married 19 June 1872 at St. Francis Church, Osage Mission, Neosho, Kansas<sup>23</sup>

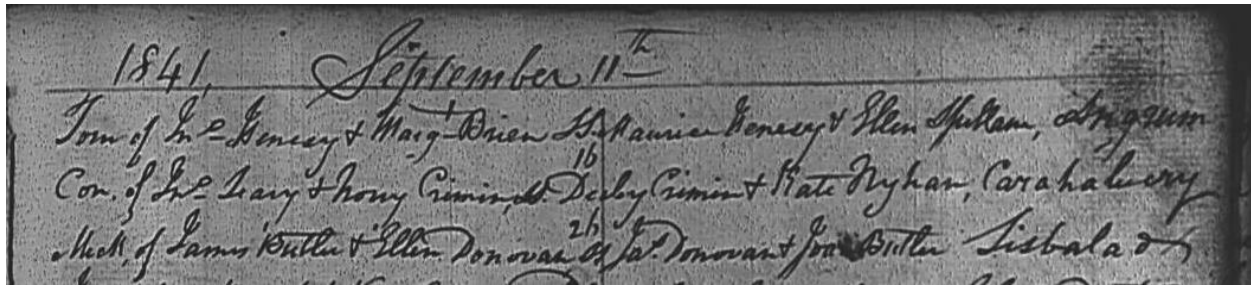
15. Joseph Butler and Ellen Dowds, marriage license issued 14 September 1868, married 15 Sep 1868, Ross County, Ohio<sup>24</sup>

16. James Butler and Catherine Brady, marriage license issued 10 July 1857, married 11 July 1857, Ross County, Ohio<sup>25</sup>

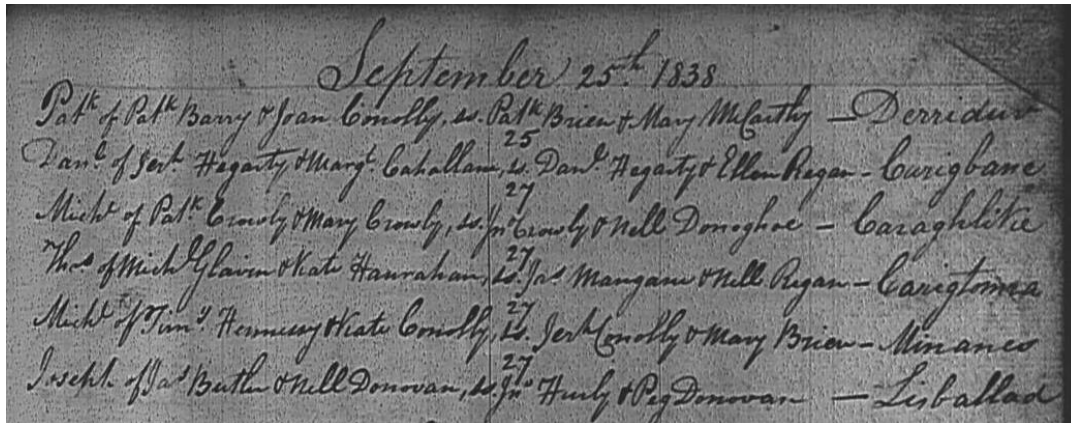
Note: James and Catherine Butler and their children are enumerated in the 1870 census in Osage Mission, Neosho, Kansas immediately following Joseph and Ellen Butler.<sup>26</sup> In 1880, James and Catherine and their children live in Monterey, California,<sup>27</sup> where Edward I. Butler’s obituary indicates he was born. James Butler’s entries in the California Great Register of Voters indicate he was naturalized 6 March 1857 in the Court of Common Pleas, Ross County, Ohio.<sup>28</sup> Because of the commonality of locations of Ross County, OH; Neosho County, Kansas and Monterey, California, it seems likely that James Butler is a brother of Michael D. Butler.

17. Baptismal records from Drinagh, County Cork, Ireland –

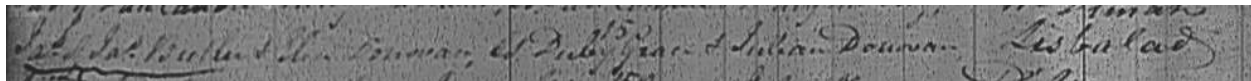
- a. Mick of James Butler and Ellen Donovan, baptized 11 Sep 1841:<sup>29</sup>



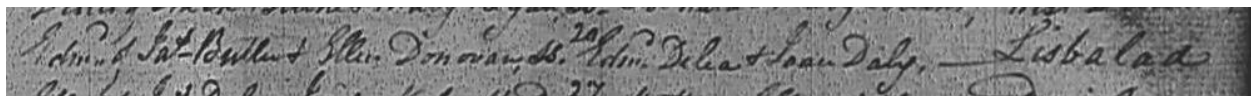
b. Joseph of James Butler and Nell Donovan, baptized 27 Sep 1838:<sup>30</sup>



c. James of James Butler and Ellen Donovan, baptized 15 Dec 1828<sup>31</sup>



d. Edward of James Butler and Ellen Donovan, baptized 20 Sep 1835<sup>32</sup>



18. 1875 Kansas State Census from Mission, Neosho, Kansas for Butler Family<sup>33</sup>

Name	Age	Birthplace	Where from to Kansas	Personal Estate	Occupation
Joseph	35	Ireland	Ohio	\$100	Mechanic
Ellen	29	Ireland	Ohio		
Mary E	5	Kansas			
Johanna C	3	Kansas			
John	1	Kansas			
Jas	85	Ireland	Ohio		Farmer
Ellen	80	Ireland	Ohio		

<sup>1</sup> "California, Death Index, 1940-1997," database, Ancestry.com, (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 19 February 2017), entry for Helen Butler Geary, d. 16 August 1954

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- <sup>2</sup> "United States Census, 1910," database with images, FamilySearch (https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:MVL6-MST : accessed 22 February 2017), Harold E Geary in household of David R Geary, San Rafael, Marin, California, United States; citing enumeration district (ED) ED 47, sheet 18A, family 279, NARA microfilm publication T624 (Washington D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 1982), roll 88; FHL microfilm 1,374,101.
- <sup>3</sup> "United States Social Security Death Index," database, FamilySearch (https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:JTHX-STG : 20 May 2014), Harold E Geary, 17 Feb 2002; citing U.S. Social Security Administration, Death Master File, database (Alexandria, Virginia: National Technical Information Service, ongoing).
- <sup>4</sup> "Brief Items of Local Interest" Sausalito News, 20 September 1924, page 4, col 3, from California Digital Newspaper Collection (<https://cdnc.ucr.edu> : accessed 21 February 2017)
- <sup>5</sup> "Edward I. Butler Succumbs at 87; Former Judge of Superior Court," Daily Independent Journal (San Rafael, California), 28 November 1961, p. 1, col. 3-7; digital images, Newspapers.com (<http://www.newspapers.com/image/74351393/> : accessed 19 February 2017).
- <sup>6</sup> "California Death Index, 1905-1939," database with images, FamilySearch (https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:QK91-Z9QJ : 5 June 2015), Michael D Butler, 25 Oct 1920; citing 39494, Department of Health Services, Vital Statistics Department, Sacramento.
- <sup>7</sup> "California Death Index, 1905-1939," database with images, FamilySearch (https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:QK91-ZMTN : 5 June 2015), James Butler, 18 Apr 1916; citing 12676, Department of Health Services, Vital Statistics Department, Sacramento.
- <sup>8</sup> "Joanna Geary Weds William D Cutler," Daily Independent Journal (San Rafael, California), 3 August 1961, p. 31, col. 4-5; digital images, Newspapers.com (<http://www.newspapers.com/image/70555273/> : accessed 19 February 2017).
- <sup>9</sup> "Edward I. Butler Succumbs at 87; Former Judge of Superior Court," Daily Independent Journal (San Rafael, California), 28 November 1961, p. 1, col. 3-7; digital images, Newspapers.com (<http://www.newspapers.com/image/74351393/> : accessed 19 February 2017).
- <sup>10</sup> "Butler, continued from page 1" Daily Independent Journal (San Rafael, California), 28 November 1961, p. 4, col. 5; digital images, Newspapers.com (<http://www.newspapers.com/image/74351413/> : accessed 19 February 2017).
- <sup>11</sup> "California, Death Index, 1940-1997," database, Ancestry.com, (http://www.ancestry.com : accessed 19 February 2017), entry for Helen Butler Geary, d. 16 August 1954
- <sup>12</sup> "California, Death Index, 1940-1997," database, Ancestry.com, (http://www.ancestry.com : accessed 19 February 2017), entry for Edward I. Butler, d. 27 November 1961
- <sup>13</sup> "United States Census, 1900," database with images, FamilySearch (https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:M9PG-J3B : accessed 21 February 2017), Michel Butler, Bolinas and Point Reyes Townships, Marin, California, United States; citing enumeration district (ED) 53, sheet 3B, family 34, NARA microfilm publication T623 (Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 1972.); FHL microfilm 1,240,093.
- <sup>14</sup> "California, Death Index, 1940-1997," database, Ancestry.com, (http://www.ancestry.com : accessed 19 February 2017), entry for Joseph Butler, d. 13 July 1944
- <sup>15</sup> Ancestry.com. U.S., Social Security Applications and Claims Index, 1936-2007 [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2015. : accessed 20 Feb 2017, entry for Joseph Butler SSN 717141299 Original data: Social Security Applications and Claims, 1936-2007.
- <sup>16</sup> "California Births and Christenings, 1812-1988," database, FamilySearch (https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:V2XL-ZGN : 6 December 2014), Edward Ignatius Butler, 21 Nov 1874; citing Monterey, Monterey, California; FHL microfilm 1,290,896.
- <sup>17</sup> "United States Census, 1920," database with images, FamilySearch (https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:MH7V-FJW : accessed 21 February 2017), Micheal D Butler, San Rafael, Marin, California, United States; citing ED 91, sheet 4A, line 25, family 88, NARA microfilm publication T625 (Washington D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 1992), roll 120; FHL microfilm 1,820,120.
- <sup>18</sup> "Died – Butler" San Francisco Call, 21 July 1905, page 14, col 4, from California Digital Newspaper Collection (<https://cdnc.ucr.edu> : accessed 20 February 2017)
- <sup>19</sup> "Respected Pioneer Goes to Rest," Marin Journal (San Rafael, California), 29 October 1920, p. 1, col. 5; digital images, from California Digital Newspaper Collection (<https://cdnc.ucr.edu/cgi->



[bin/cdnc?a=d&d=MJ19201029.2.12&srpos=1&e=-----en--20--1-byDA-txt-txIN-%22respected+pioneer+goes+to+rest%22+butler-----1/](https://cdnc.ucr.edu/cgi-bin/cdnc?a=d&d=MJ19201029.2.12&srpos=1&e=-----en--20--1-byDA-txt-txIN-%22respected+pioneer+goes+to+rest%22+butler-----1/) : accessed 19 February 2017).

<sup>20</sup> "Surprise Visit Results in Disappointments," Marin County Tocsin (San Rafael, California), 28 August 1909, p. 1, col. 2; digital images, from California Digital Newspaper Collection (<https://cdnc.ucr.edu/cgi-bin/cdnc?a=d&d=MCT19090828.2.9&srpos=1&e=-----en--20--1-byDA-txt-txIN-%22surprise+visit+results+in+disappointments%22-----1>) : accessed 19 February 2017).

<sup>21</sup> "Neosho, Kan – Joseph Butler Dead," The Catholic Advance (Wichita, Kansas), 3 September 1927, p. 5, col. 3; digital images, Newspapers.com (<http://www.newspapers.com/image/179544943/>) : accessed 19 February 2017).

<sup>22</sup> "Kansas Correspondence, continued from page 5," The Catholic Advance (Wichita, Kansas), 3 September 1927, p. 16, col. 1; digital images, Newspapers.com (<http://www.newspapers.com/image/179545142/>) : accessed 19 February 2017).

<sup>23</sup> Kansas County Marriages, 1855-1911, database with images, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:FW2Y-965> : 16 February 2016), Michael Butler and Mary Ann Ryan, 19 Jun 1872; citing Marriage, , Osage Mission, Kansas, United States, district clerk, court clerk, county clerk and register offices from various counties; FHL microfilm 1,404,957.

<sup>24</sup> "Ohio, County Marriages, 1789-2013," database with images, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:XZHV-M4V> : 8 December 2014), Joseph Butler and Ellen Dowds, 15 Sep 1868; citing Ross, Ohio, United States, reference v i-k p212; county courthouses, Ohio; FHL microfilm 281,641.

<sup>25</sup> "Ohio, County Marriages, 1789-2013," database with images, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:XZK6-GZQ> : 8 December 2014), James Butler and Catherine Brady, 11 Jul 1857; citing Ross, Ohio, United States, reference P 255; county courthouses, Ohio; FHL microfilm 281,640.

<sup>26</sup> "United States Census, 1870," database with images, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:MCJY-3TB> : 17 October 2014), James M Butler in household of James Butter, Kansas, United States; citing p. 4, family 16, NARA microfilm publication M593 (Washington D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, n.d.); FHL microfilm 545,939.

<sup>27</sup> "United States Census, 1880," database with images, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:M6PM-TPZ> : 14 July 2016), James Buttler, Pajaro, Monterey, California, United States; citing enumeration district ED 51, sheet 147C, NARA microfilm publication T9 (Washington D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, n.d.), roll 0069; FHL microfilm 1,254,069.

<sup>28</sup> Ancestry.com California State Library, California History Section; Great Registers, 1866-1898; Collection Number: 4 - 2A; CSL Roll Number: 29; FHL Roll Number: 977080 : accessed 21 Feb 2017 Pajaro Precinct, Monterey, California, page 117, image 617 of 630

<sup>29</sup> National Library of Ireland, "Catholic Parish Registers at the NLI", digital images, National Library of Ireland (<http://registers.nli.ie/registers/vtls000633308#page/130/mode/1up> : accessed 21 Feb 2017), Drimoleague Parish (County Cork), Diocese of Cork and Ross, "Bapt 20 July 1817–20 Oct 1846," page 130; digitized from NLI microfilm 04801/06.

<sup>30</sup> National Library of Ireland, "Catholic Parish Registers at the NLI", digital images, National Library of Ireland (<http://registers.nli.ie/registers/vtls000633308#page/114/mode/1up> : accessed 21 Feb 2017), Drimoleague Parish (County Cork), Diocese of Cork and Ross, "Bapt 20 July 1817–20 Oct 1846," page 130; digitized from NLI microfilm 04801/06.

<sup>31</sup> National Library of Ireland, "Catholic Parish Registers at the NLI", digital images, National Library of Ireland (<http://registers.nli.ie/registers/vtls000633308#page/63/mode/1up> : accessed 21 Feb 2017), Drimoleague Parish (County Cork), Diocese of Cork and Ross, "Bapt 20 July 1817–20 Oct 1846," page 130; digitized from NLI microfilm 04801/06.

<sup>32</sup> National Library of Ireland, "Catholic Parish Registers at the NLI", digital images, National Library of Ireland (<http://registers.nli.ie/registers/vtls000633308#page/98/mode/1up> : accessed 21 Feb 2017), Drimoleague Parish (County Cork), Diocese of Cork and Ross, "Bapt 20 July 1817–20 Oct 1846," page 130; digitized from NLI microfilm 04801/06.

<sup>33</sup> Ancestry.com Kansas State Historical Society; Topeka, Kansas; 1875 Kansas Territory Census; Roll: ks1875\_15; Line: 20-26