



What Ever Happened to Polly O'Connell McNamara ?

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8 July 2005

History Series Design by
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1. Introduction

In a previous history, "The Daniel O'Connell Family of Southington, Connecticut: A Short History", 19 June 2005, this author made several references to Daniel O'Connell's sister Mary "Polly" O'Connell. Mary married John McNamara, sister of Mary McNamara. Daniel married Mary McNamara. Polly's family Bible was passed down to my mother, Mary Georgii Messier. In that bible was a list of brothers and sisters, as well as a list of her children. This not only gave us new information, but allowed us to confirm new findings by comparing children's names and birthdates. Readers of the Daniel O'Connell History will also remember the comments of Mary Jones Lockyer when describing a wedding picture of John and Polly. That picture is shown on the title page above. Mary Jones was the daughter of another of Daniel's sisters, Elizabeth Jane.

Mary Lockyer also mentioned descendents of John and Polly. Polly lived in Fall River, Massachusetts, along with other family and friends of the O'Connell family. Given the amount of space devoted to other O'Connell, McNamara, Jones and Lockyer family members, as well as the Gray sisters and Daniel O'Connell's neighbors, the Delahunty's, it seemed strange to me that I had not found out more about Polly herself. In fact, it was downright embarrassing. This document should be considered to be an addendum to the Daniel O'Connell History. In the process of learning more about Polly, we also learned more about the McNamaras. The new McNamara information is presented here. One of these days, the Daniel O'Connell history will be updated with all of this.

Let us begin by presenting the pertinent information from Mary Lockyer's letter and the information from Polly's Bible. This will give us a reference point. I have often wondered how Polly's Bible passed down to my grandmother, Sarah O'Connell instead of to Polly's children. Since the Bible contained O'Connell family history, and because Daniel and Mary McNamara O'Connell represented the same two families that John and Polly did, it probably made sense to John to pass the Bible on to them. John was going to be very busy raising seven children in Fall River working as a day laborer. Mary Lockyer's

letter, circa 1972, states the following about Polly:

"John and Polly were parents of Peter, Nellie, Mary, Lizzie, Maggie, Annie, and Tom. Peter was a baby born in Merthyr, their first child died in Merthyr before they left for the U.S.A. Annie is the mother of the Herlihy Boys. Maybe Betty [Mary Elizabeth Lockyer, daughter of Mary Lockyer, granddaughter of John and Mary O'Connell McNamara] would like to read this history, if it is all right with you.

"So you see the O'Connells and the Macks are very closely entwined with the two marriages, and Betty and Bob have crowned it now [Bob: Daniel Robert Georgii, grandson of Daniel O'Connell and brother of Mary Georgii Messier]. We are told we all come from Adam and Eve, so what are we? Seems funny, doesn't it?"

With reference to the wedding picture shown above, "That picture is their wedding one. She had red hair and the dress she wore was made by my grandmother, Mary Talbot O'Connell, your great grandmother. Don't you like the style?"

In the Daniel O'Connell History, we misinterpreted the name "Herlihy" to be "Herliky". That was an error that was corrected when we checked for the name in Fall River census reports.

The Bible information concerning the John and Polly family is (where we have added birth place information in brackets):

1. **John and Mary McNamara, married August 10, 1872 [Wales, Malta];**
2. **Peter Paul, born June 29, 1875 [Wales];**
3. **Mary, born August 27, 1877 [Wales];**
4. **Sarah, born August 2, 1879 [Wales];**
5. **Ellen, born May 10, 1881 [Wales];**
6. **Elizabeth, born April 29, 1883 [Mass.];**
7. **Annie, born December 29, 1885 [Mass.];**
8. **Margaret, born January 29, 1887 [Mass.];**
9. **John, born March 6, 1889 [Mass.];**
10. **Thomas, born July 16, 1892 [Mass.].**

A birth place of Wales means Merthyr Tydfil. A birth place of "Mass." means Fall River, Massachusetts.

The Bible information concerning Mary O'Connell's family is:

1. **John [Thomas] and Mary [Talbot] O'Connell, married February 28, 1843;**
2. **Ellen. Born December 23, 1848;**
3. **Thomas, born May 23, [illegible]**
4. **John, born November 1, 1850;**
5. **Mary [Ann], born June 15, 1853 [Malta];**
6. **Daniel, born April 5, 1855 [Halifax, Nova Scotia];**
7. **Elizabeth Jane, born September 17, 1858 [Wales].**

Mary Ann "Polly" O'Connell was born in Malta, according to an 1871 Wales census. It is known that John Thomas and Mary Talbot had children born in India and Malta. John, and the previous children may have been born in India – or one of several other countries of the British Empire.

2. Living in Merthyr Tydfil, Wales

Since there is significant new information, we will track the McNamara and O'Connell families from the earliest information now available, even though it repeats much of what is already published in the Daniel O'Connell History.

New information includes the 1861 Wales census. We were unable to find the John Thomas and Mary [Talbot] O'Connell family in Wales in this census, but we were able to identify the Thomas and Sarah McNamara family, including John McNamara. Some difficulty was caused by the strange spelling of the name: Machmanara. According to the 1861 Merthyr Tydfil, Glamorgan, Wales census, the McNamaras live at 19 John Street. The information is as follows:

1. **Thomas Machmanara, head, Age 34, Occupation: puddler, Born Ireland;**
2. **Sarah Machmanara, Wife, Age 34, Born Abergavenny, Monmouth [Wales];**

3. **John Machmanara, Son, Age 11, Occupation: puddler, Born Merthyr Tydfil, Glamorgan [Wales];**
4. **David Machmanara, Son, Age 8, Occupation: scholar, Born Merthyr Tydfil;**
5. **Thomas Machmanara, Son, Age 6, Occupation: scholar, Born Merthyr Tydfil;**
6. **Mary Machmanara, Daughter, Age 4, Occupation: scholar, Born Merthyr Tydfil;**
7. **Catherine Machmanara, Daughter, Age 2, Born Merthyr Tydfil;**
8. **Ellen Machmanara, Daughter, age 6 months, Born Merthyr Tydfil.**

This is the first time that we have learned Thomas McNamara's first name. This explains the existence of so many Thomas McNamaras down the line. Note that even at the age of 11, John is working in the iron mill as a puddler: a skilled occupation that is usually passed down from father to son. Mary McNamara, Daniel's future wife will be disappearing from census reports until she marries Daniel in Massachusetts. This is the only mention we have of her in the Wales census reports. Note the "Sarah, Mary, Ellen" pattern. This naming patten will reappear in the children of both John and Mary [O'Connell] McNamara and Daniel and Mary [McNamara] O'Connell.

By the 1871 Merthyr census, Thomas has died and Sarah has become the head of the household. They are living at 30 George Street (Royal Oak);

1. **Sarah McNamara, Head, age 41, no occupation, Born Abergavenny, Monmouth, Wales;**
2. **John McNamara, Son, Age 20, Puddler, Born Merthyr Tydfil;**
3. **David McNamara, Son, Age 18, Puddler, Born Merthyr Tydfil;**
4. **Thomas McNamara, Son, Age 16, Puddler, Born Merthyr Tydfil;**
5. **Catherine McNamara, Daughter, Age 12, Scholar, Born Merthyr Tydfil;**
6. **James McNamara, Son, Age 8, Scholar, Born Merthyr Tydfil;**

7. Sarah McNamara, Daughter, Age 6, Born Merthyr Tydfil.

Note that two girls are missing: Mary and Ellen. They are probably working. Two more children have been added: James and Sarah. Sarah is age 6 (we don't know if she turned 6 this year or will turn 7), so Thomas probably died around the period 1864 - 1867 (new kids typically pop out about every 2 years). Also note that Sarah McNamara's age in the two census records is inconsistent. This inconsistency will reappear.

There is a possible explanation for why Mary is missing in the 1871 Merthyr census. In the Mary Jones Lockyer letter to Mary Georgii Messier mentioned above, she provides the following comment:

"Your grandmother [Mary McNamara] and her cousin, Mary Ann Jones, went to London to live and work. Later, M.A. Jones married a – Stephens, I have forgotten his first name, though I knew them well, they were parents of Blodwen Stephens. She was a teacher and visited in Southington. Your mother will remember her."

Given that John was working the iron mill by age 11, it is not a stretch to expect the ladies to be working somewhere as "servants", a very common occupation for young ladies, even in America at that time

John Thomas O'Connell has died by 1871 and Mary is the head of household. They are living at 26 Quarry Street [Row]. The census record states:

1. **Mary O'Connell, Head, Widow, Age 48, seamstress, born in Ireland;**
2. **Mary O'Connell, Daughter, Age 18, occupation "Outdoor Services", born Malta, B. Colony;**
3. **Daniel O'Connell, Son, Age 16, working as a laborer in the iron works, born Halifax, N.A. [The "iron works" referred to here is the Cyfarthfa Iron Works].**
4. **Elizabeth O'Connell, Daughter, Age 13, occupation "Outdoor Service", born Merthyr Tydfil).**

After his mother dies, Daniel will move in with the McNamaras and will become a puddler in the Cyfarthfa iron works.

On August 10, 1972, Mary O'Connell married John McNamara. There was a second marriage in 1972, one we did not know about while writing the Daniel O'Connell History. Somewhere in the June quarter of 1872, the marriage between Sarah MacNamara and James Ahearn was recorded. The name James "A'Hearne", with wife Sarah will appear in the 1880 Fall River census. Boarding with the A'Hearnes will be several of the McNamara children, including John. We have information on the A'Hearn family in the 1861 and 1871 census records. There will again be spelling inconsistencies.

In 1861, James A'Hearn is married and living at 42 Iron Lane in Merthyr. He is an Iron miner.

1. **James Ahearn, Head, Age 34, Occupation: miner, Born Ireland;**
2. **Johanna Ahearn, Wife, Age 32, Born Ireland;**
3. **Mary Ann Ahearne, Daughter, Age 8, Occupation: scholar, Born Glamshire [Glamorgan] Merthyr;**
4. **Hannah Ahearn, Daughter, Age 7, Occupation: Scholar, Born Glamshire Merthyr;**
5. **John Ahearn, Son, Age 5, Occupation: Scholar, Born Glamshire Merthyr;**
6. **Ellen Ahearn, Daughter, Age 3, Occupation: Scholar, Born Glamshire Merthyr;**
7. **Dennis Ahearn, Son, Age 1, Born Glamshire Merthyr;**
8. **John Marshall, Boarder, Widower, Age 50, Occupation: Laborer in mine works; Born Ireland;**
9. **John Marshall, Boarder, Age 7, Occupation: scholar, Born Glamshire Merthyr;**
10. **James Murphy, Boarder, Unmarried, Age 24, Occupation: Laborer in iron works, Born Merthyr Tydfil.**

Note that the Ahearns have three boarders, allowing them to pull in some extra cash. The census does not say what part of Ireland

James comes from, but a check on Ahearn (Ahern) and O'Connell residents of Glamorgan county in 1871 indicate that the vast majority of both come from County Cork.

By 1871, James' wife has died and his family is living at 74 Brecon Road. Brecon Road runs parallel to Quarry Row where the O'Connells live. Both are near George Street, where the McNamaras live. George Street crosses the Taff River and intersects Quarry Row. James' name is now spelled Ahern. Ahern is the most common spelling among the Irish, even in America. The 1871 A'Hearn data is:

1. James Ahern, Head, Age 41, Widowed, Occupation: Laborer, Born Ireland;
2. Mary Ann Ahern, Daughter, Age 18, Occupation: Servant, Born Wales Glamorgan;
3. Hannah Ahern, Daughter, Age 16, Occupation: Servant, Born Merthyr Wales;
4. John Ahern, Son, Age 14, Occupation: Hauler, Born Merthyr Wales;
5. Ellen Ahern, Daughter, Age 12, Born Merthyr Wales;
6. Dennis Ahern, Son, Age 11, Born Merthyr Wales;
7. Thomas Ahern, Son, Age 9, Born Merthyr Wales;
8. H????? Ahern, Son, Age 4, Born Merthyr Wales.

The last name was deliberately struck through and was difficult to read. This may mean that the boy died. Johanna apparently died within the last four years. The two oldest girls are "servants", probably reflecting fate of Mary and Ellen McNamara.

3. Transitioning to America

The next time we see any of these people is in the 1880 Fall River, Massachusetts census. Living on Fountain Street is James A'Hearne and his wife Sarah. James is born in Ireland and Sarah is born in Wales. They have a 7 year old son named William, born in Wales (born around 1873). Also boarding with them

are a number of people named McNamara, whom you should find familiar.

1. James A'Hearne, Head, Age 50, Occupation: Laborer, Born Ireland, Parents born Ireland;
2. Sarah A'Hearne, Wife, Age 54, Occupation: Keeping house, Born Wales, Parents born Wales;
3. William A'Hearn, Son, Age 7, Born Wales, Father born Ireland, Mother born Wales;
4. David McNamara, Boarder, Widowed, Age 28, Occupation: Works at rolling mill, Born Wales, Father born Ireland, Mother born Wales;
5. Thomas McNamara, son, Age 5, Born Massachusetts, Father born Wales, Mother born Ireland;
6. Catherine McNamara, Boarder, Single, Age 21, Occupation: Works at cotton mill, Born Wales, Father born Ireland, Mother born Wales;
7. John McNamara, Boarder, Married, Age 30, Occupation: Works in rolling mill, Born Wales, Father born Ireland, Mother born Wales;
8. James McNamara, Boarder, Single, Age 17, Occupation: Works in rolling mill, Born Wales, Father born Ireland, Mother born Wales;
9. Sarah McNamara, Boarder, Single, Age 16, Occupation: Works in cotton mill, Born Wales, Father born Ireland, Mother born Wales.

This John is Mary "Polly" O'Connell McNamara's husband. He and several of his brothers and sisters, as well as mom, are in America making some money in the mills. Presumably, he plans to move the family here when he saves up enough. Note that older brother Daniel is widowed and has a son, Thomas, that was born in Massachusetts five years earlier, about 1875. Given that William Ahearn was born about 1873 in Wales, we can estimate that the James A'Hearn - David McNamara family emigrated to America in that time frame. We will learn from the 1900 Fall River census that John McNamara first arrived in 1880 and Polly in 1883. Another thing that the 1900 (Wareham, Massachusetts) census tells us is that the

future wife of Daniel O'Connell, Mary McNamara, arrived in America in 1879, about a year before her brother John and two years before her future husband.

The boy William Ahearn will eventually marry Annie Mahoney and have three children. The Mahoney family in 1880 consists of (yes, the father's name is Florence).

1. **Florence Mahoney, Head, Age 50, Occupation: laborer, Born Ireland, Parents born Ireland;**
2. **Ann Mahoney, wife, Age 42, Born Ireland, Parents born Ireland;**
3. **Julia Mahoney, Daughter, Age 20, Occupation: Cotton Mill, Born New York;**
4. **Mary Mahoney, Daughter, Age 13, Occupation: at school, Born Massachusetts;**
5. **John Mahoney, Son, Age 11, Occupation: at school, Born Massachusetts;**
6. **Annie Mahoney, Daughter, Age 5, Born Massachusetts.**

Mary Talbot O'Connell died in Merthyr Tydfil in 1880, a year before the next (1881) census. She had remarried in the interim to a fellow named James Crowley. James had worked on an estate owned by Mary's parents. In the 1881 Merthyr census, we find Daniel and James Crowley boarding at 29 Quarry Row. The head of the household is John McNamara who has returned from Fall River.

A list of people living at 29 Quarry Row is:

1. **John McNamara, Head, age 30, Iron Puddler, Born Merthyr;**
2. **Mary, Wife, age 27, Born Merthyr;**
3. **Peter P., Son, age 5, Scholar, Born Merthyr;**
4. **Mary, Daughter, age 3;**
5. **Daniel O'Connell, Border, age 25, Iron Puddler, Born Halifax, Canada;**
6. **James Crowley, Border, age 58, iron Puddler, Born Ireland.**

Note that young Sarah McNamara, daughter of John and Polly as listed in the family Bible, is not listed here, and is not listed in Mary

Lockyer's notes. She may have died before 1881, when she would be turning 2 years old.

Note that both Daniel and his step father have been working as puddlers. Undoubtedly they were trained by John. As a member of the family, Daniel may have taken over John's position at the iron mill and supported Polly and the family while John was scouting Massachusetts.

4. Living in America

By 1890, the John McNamara, and Daniel O'Connell families are established in Massachusetts. John and Polly [O'Connell] McNamara are raising a family in Fall River while Daniel and Mary [McNamara] O'Connell are raising their's in Wareham. Both John and Daniel are working in an iron mill, probably as puddlers. We know that Daniel was a puddler because it was written on his children's birth certificates.

The 1890 census records for Massachusetts and most sataes were lost in a fire. Therefore, it is difficult to track people during this period. However, there are Fall River City directories available for the 1889 - 1891 period.

In 1889, There is one Ahearn listed:

1. **Sarah Ahearn. She resides in a house at 168 Annawan [Street].**

This directory does not list wives, nor women, unless they are widowed. We therefore believe that her husband James A'Hearn had died by 1889. Two male McNamaras **boarding** at this address in 1889 are

2. **James McNamara, iron worker.**
3. **Thomas McNamara, helper.**

James is probably John's brother, Sarah's son, who was listed in the 1880 Fall River census. Thomas could be the son of David McNamara. David is not listed. The directory also lists an iron worker that appears to be John:

4. **John McNamara, house, 49 Almond, iron worker.**

The problem with this conclusion is that there is another John McNamara living at 46 Ferry Street. We know from the 1900 census that John and Polly and family will be living on Ferry Street. This is probably the John we are looking for, even though his profession is "boat hand":



"Birds Eye View" of the Fall River, Massachusetts waterfront area about 1877. The streets upon which the McNamara and Ahearn family members lived are shown on this map. Fountain and Ferry Streets are near the right side, Annawan and Central run down the center, while Walnut and Locust are near the left side. North is to the left.

5. John McNamara, house, 46 Ferry, boat hand.

One year later, in 1890, Sarah Ahearn is no longer listed. This does not necessarily mean she is dead. James is still listed as boarding at 168 Annawan. His profession is still iron worker. John McNamara, the iron worker, is missing from the directory; John McNamara the boat hand still lives at 46 Ferry. The only Ahearn listed in 1890 is

1. **William Ahearn, works 90 Pleasant, house 64 Rodman, shoemaker.**

James and Sarah had a son named William, who was 7 years old in 1880. He would be 17 in 1890 and possibly an apprentice shoemaker.

In 1891, James McNamara is still an iron worker boarding at 168 Annawan. Also boarding there is

1. **Thomas McNamara, boards 168 Annawan, laborer.**

Why he wasn't listed in 1890, we don't know. The John McNamara at 46 Ferry is still listed, but his occupation is now unspecified. There is a John McNamara owning a house at 82 William, with the occupation "laborer". Perhaps this is the previous "iron worker".

Two A'Hearns are listed in 1891. William lives at the same address but has changed his business address. There is also a James Ahearn with no occupation.

2. **William Ahearn, works 121 Bedford, house 64 Rodman, shoemaker.**
3. **James Ahearn, boards 85 Bedford.**

By 1900 John and Polly are still living on Ferry Street and have had all their children. Mary is 44 years old. The youngest child, Thomas is 8. According to the 1900 Fall River census the family consists of

1. **John McNamara, Head, Born May 1852, Age 48, Number of years married: 26, Born Wales, Father Born Ireland, Mother born Wales, Year of immigration to the US: 1880, Number of years in US: 20, Occupation: Daylaborer, Months not employed: 4, Rents Home;**
2. **Mary [Polly] McNamara, wife, Born January 1856, Age 44, Years married: 26, Mother of how many children? 11, How many living: 7, Born Malta, BT, Parents born Ireland, Immigrated to US: 1883, Number of years in US: 13;**

3. Peter McNamara, Son, Born June 1875, Age 24, Born Wales, Father born Wales, Mother born Malta, Immigrated 1883, Occupation: Plucking (fur factory);
4. Mary McNamara, Daughter, Born August 1877, Age 22, Born Wales, Born Wales, Immigrated 1883, Occupation: spinner (cotton);
5. Ellen McNamara, Daughter, Born May 1881, age 19, Born Wales, Immigrated 1883, Occupation: spinner (cotton);
6. Elizabeth McNamara, Daughter, Born April 1883, Age 17, Born Mass., Occupation: spinner (cotton);
7. Annie McNamara, Daughter, Born September 1885, Age 14, Born Mass., Occupation: spinner (cotton);
8. Maggie McNamara, Daughter, Born January 1887, Age 13, Born Mass., Occupation: at school;
9. Thomas McNamara, Son, Born July 1891, Age 8, Born Mass.

Note that Polly had 11 children by 1900 and that 7 are still alive. Two names missing here, compared to the Bible, are Sarah and John. Assuming these children died, that means that there were 2 more that were not recorded in the Bible. Also note that the birth date for Thomas should be 1892, not 1891. There is also a discrepancy in the birth month of Annie.

We have not found the William Ahearn family in the year 1900. Her older sister, Julia, is still living with the parents at a street whose name we cannot read, but looks something like Bar E.

1. Florence Mahoney, Head, Born May 1830, Age 70, Number of years married: 40, Born Ireland, parents born Ireland, Year of immigration: 1850, Number of years in US: 50, Occupation: city laborer, Months unemployed: 6, Rents home;
2. Ann Mahoney, Wife, Born April 1832, Age 68, Number years married: 40, Number of children: 3; Number living: 2, Born Ireland, Parents born Ireland, Year of immigration: 1850, Number years in US: 50;
3. Julia Mahoney, Daughter, Born August 1866, Age 33, Born New York,

Parents born Ireland, Occupation: Spooler Cotton;

4. John Brady, Son, Born February 1869, Age 31, Born Massachusetts, Parents born Ireland, Occupation: [can't read image];

By 1910, Polly has died. John is at Gilbert Place with three of his children. Peter and Thomas are probably supporting the family, though John is working.

1. John McNamara, Head, Age 59, Widowed, Born England, Parents born Wales, Immigrated 1878, Occupation: Laborer - city, rents home;
2. Peter McNamara, Son, Age 32, Single, Born England, Father born England, Mother born Ireland (Native language Irish), Immigrated 1881, Occupation: trucker at docks;
3. Annie McNamara, Daughter, Age 24, Single, Born Mass., Father Born



Elizabeth "Lizzy Mac", daughter of John and Mary [O'Connell] McNamara. Picture taken in Fall River, Massachusetts

England, Mother Born Ireland (Native language Irish), Occupation: None;

- 4. Thomas McNamara, Son, Age 17, Single, Born Mass., Occupation: laborer - hat factory.**

Whoever talked to the census taker, probably Annie (since she kept house), did not know that the mother, Polly, was born in Wales (England) and said she was born in Ireland. Annie may have known only that her mother's last name was O'Connell. It was common to use the name England for Wales. For example, even Welsh members of the Royal Welch Fusiliers were recorded as English in the military records. For this reason, it is now difficult to determine Welsh membership statistics.

In 1910, the widowed William A'Hearn and his three children have moved in with his father-in-law. On Central Street, we have:

- 1. Florance Mahoney, Head, Age 80, Number years married: 50, Born Ireland, Parents born Ireland, Year of immigration: 1857, Occupation: Ledgerman - City ?????, Number months out of work in 1909: 24;**
- 2. Ann Mahoney, Wife, Age 78, Number years married: 50, Number of Children: 9, Number still alive: 2, Born Ireland, Parents born Ireland, Year of immigration: 1856;**
- 3. Julia Mahoney, Daughter, Age 48, Single, Born New York, Parents born Ireland, Occupation: Spool Tender - cotton mill;**
- 4. William J. A'Hearn, Son-in-law, Age 37, Widowed, Born Wales, Father born Ireland, Mother born Wales, Year of immigration: 1885, Occupation: teamster(?) - print works;**
- 5. James A'Hearn, son, Age 10, Born Massachusetts, Father born Wales, Mother born Ireland;**
- 6. Ann A'Hearn, Daughter, Age 8, Born Massachusetts;**
- 7. [Sarah?] A'Hearn, Son, Age 5, Born Massachusetts.**

By 1920, John appears to have died, Annie is married to Michael Herlihy (thank Mary Lockyer for telling us about the name Herlihy),

and is the mother of two boys. Living with them is brother Peter and an uncle of Michael's (I assume, since the name is unfamiliar). According to the 1920 Fall River census, we have the following people living on Walnut Street:

- 1. Michael Herlihy, Head, Age 30, Born Mass., Parents born Ireland, Occupation: ????? - cotton mill;**
- 2. Annie Herlihy, Wife, Age 33, Born Mass., Father born Wales, Mother born Ireland;**
- 3. Michael J. Herlihy, Son, Age 6, Born Mass., Parents born Mass.;**
- 4. William F. Herlihy, Son, Age 4, Born Mass.**
- 5. Thomas Griffin, Uncle, Age 56, Single, Immigrated 1873, Born Ireland, Naturalized 1883, Parents born Ireland, Occupation: weaver - cotton mill;**
- 6. Peter McNamara, Brother-in-Law; Age 45, Single, Immigrated 1876, Born Wales, Naturalized 1885, Father born Wales, Mother born Ireland, Occupation: laborer - Massachusetts.**

Annie still lists her mother as being born in Ireland. Peter, being born in Wales, should know better.

John and Polly's step brother William A'Hearn is still living in Fall River in 1920. He is now living on Central Street with two children the youngest apparently having died, as well as a brother-in-law.

- 1. William J. Ahearn, Head, Age 47, Widowed, Rents Home, Immigrated 1880, Naturalized 1900, Born England, Father born Ireland, Mother born England, Occupation: laborer - house contractor;**
- 2. James Ahearn, Son, Age 26, Single, Born Massachusetts, Parents born Ireland, Occupation: painter - house;**
- 3. Annie Ahearn, Daughter, Age 18, Single, Born Massachusetts, Parents born Ireland, Occupation: none;**
- 4. John Mahoney, Brother-in-Law, Age 53, Single, Born Massachusetts,**

parents born Ireland, Occupation: laborer - city.

William A'Hearn does not appear in the 1930 Fall River census. Peter McNamara is still single and living on Annawan Styreet:

- 1. Peter McNamara, Lodger, Age 52, Single, Born Wales, Father born Northern Ireland, Mother born Wales, Year of Immigration: 1885, Occupation: Marine Fireman - steam boat, Whether Actually at work: No, Line Number for unemployment: 13.**

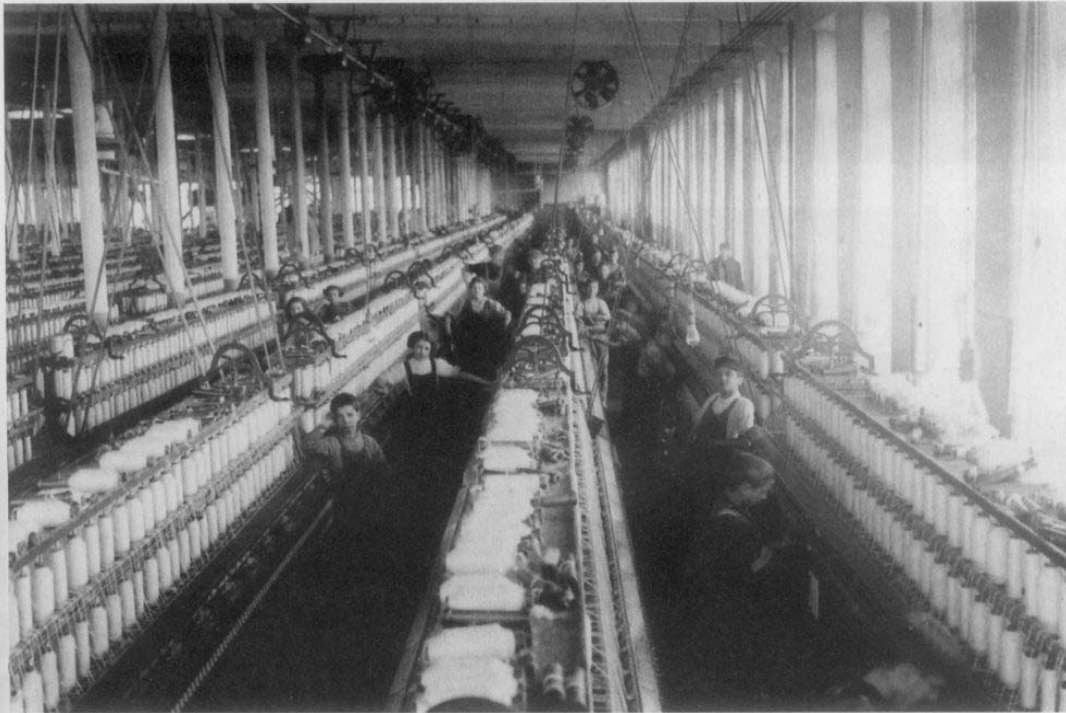
Note that Peter is out of work. This is about the second year of the depression.

Annie McNamara Herlihy is still married to Michael and has 3 children. Michael has a skilled job and they are renting a home on Locust Street.

- 1. Michael W. Herlihy, Head, Age 41, Rents Home, Monthly rent: \$17.33, Age at first marriage: 23, Born Massachusetts, Parents born Irish Free State, Occupation: Fancy Dyer - print works, Actually at work: yes;**

- 2. Annie C. Herlihy, Wife, Age 44, Age at first marriage: 26, Born Massachusetts, Parents born Wales;**
- 3. Michael J. Herlihy, Son, Age 16, Single, Born Massachusetts, Parents born Massachusetts, Occupation: None;**
- 4. William F. Herlihy, Son, Age 14, Born Massachusetts;**
- 5. Paul Herlihy, Son, Age 8, Born Massachusetts.**

This concludes all we presently know about Polly O'Connell McNamara and family. The following picture was taken from the book **Fall River**, Rob Lewis, Arcadia Publishing, 1995, www.arcadiapublishing.com. It shows the inside of one of the cotton mills. Some of our relatives may have worked here.



This Hine photograph is of the spinning room at the Cornell Mill. The mill was organized in 1889 and had a capacity of 45,000 spindles. It operated until 1930. (Lewis Hine photograph courtesy of the National archive.)