

NAN SHAW

BRIEF Memoir

Bridwell

Lane

THANKS TO

MARGARET KENOG

2/4/24

I am very bad at Spelling
and time is getting short
I have reached the age
of 83 + 9 months. I have been
house bound for years with
arthritis. How I would
like to go down Tullow St
and my Beloved Bride -
well Lane again, Potato
Market the old new Rd.
Mr Burns some time ago
had a letter in our Local
Paper that the Lane was
the Poorest Part of the
Town But he did not
know the first thing
about it. from Harrys
corner to Maxwells at the

The Rottom, ~~there~~ Hall
door and Privet House
was all in Bridewell Lane.
we had no hole in the
wall windows.

There was a few small
houses like all the houses
built all over the town
even the council houses.
built in Barrack St
and Staplestown Rd.
little Bark St had the
River flowing at the Back
like the few ones in
Bridewell Lane they had
6 + 7 steps with a hand
Rail. All the Rest of the
houses had from 4 to 6
and 7 Rooms in them

The old Bridewell was
where the Corn Mill (Whelans)
with Mr J Power was the man
that run it for the owners,
(hence the name
Bridewell Lane)

Then came Leonard
Willins house in the
yard then Slattery house,
Larance Byrne the shoe
maker. then 7 or 9 houses
all with upskattur to
them. the one that
Mrs Phelan lived in
was a very big one with
a shop counter and Big
window. Kimmies lived

opposite with a counter
and Big window ^{it} had
6 apartments. The house
that Mr. Phelan lived
in I remember a man
called Frank Murphy he
kept a Bacon shop, he
sold American Bacon
on fair days all the famous
baught Big sides ^{of Bacon} it
was very fat but it had
a lovely taste he was also
agent for the America
Shipping Co and he was
scooled to be a Millionaire
he kept a ~~house~~ ^{house} ~~keeper~~ ^{keeper} and
gave the famous ^{house} ~~house~~ ^{house} dinner
he was a relation of Murphy

The draper in Tullow St.
and the Carrys at the
top, had Land the Carrys
man had a horse + cart
and were always busy
and never wanted for
anything. They had a
Boy killed in the First
World War (his name was
Malt). Then next to them
Paddy Deere the cabbler
he Rented Part of Coddys
in Tullow St. then came the
Korcoran Family all workers
in Thompsons then next
to Phelans the Byrne
Family. Joe and Peter

they were Farmers and
Land up the Black Bog
they had Milking cows
which we all Bought.

Mickie Connors worked
for them, and Peter kept
a Potato Store where Mr
Doran kept his car in
after years, then came Mr
Kate McGrath she kept
a Shop and sold everything
^{next} our own house then Mulhale.
then Bill Gaffneys this house
was left unfinished.

Byrnes. McGrath and our
one were Built the Same,
with Shutters on all the

Windows, they had a
Front Hall + two steps
down to the Bottom hall
The stairs + kitchen was
off that. a large landing
with two steps up to the Front
Room with two large windows
and the Back Room the windows
also had Shutters and we could
see Slcockes fields also the
Hamover house we could even
see Graigue Chapel + Burn Bridge
and a night the light from
Grandy Row used to shine
over my Bed. By the way
at the Bottom of the yards of these
4 houses. There was a Row of
houses they were Built of stone
and in the Battle of Potato Mkt

The People was Burnt out of
them, the New Road covered up
History.

My Father was in the Boer
war and wounded in the Battle
of Colenso of which he had
a Pension he used to get every
3 months My Mother would
buy our foot-wear in January
and in April she would
buy stuff and make our
cloths, she had a foot-
machine that belonged
to her Mother I think she
made the clothes for all the
little children that died in
Potato Market & B Lane
she used to earn money
with her Machine

I Remember the day that the
First World War broke out
4th August 1914 and all the
Reserve men was called up
Jimmie Doyle. Martin Geoghegan
Tommy Geoghegan (Brothers)
Martin was missing Tommy
was taking Prisoners at the
Battle of Mons Ned Farrell
from Mill Lane was the first
from Carlow to be killed. Those
from Bridewell Lane that was
killed was Matt Leary Mr Francis
Paddy Mulhall died from wounds
Peter Tierney. Peter Finn Paddy -
Moran Neddy Downer
Timmy Bigley lost a Sea
Pail Hayden from Burn St
Mrs Bigley's Brother Wmmy
Farrell (Hayden) from Lock Pit Lane

and the 2 Holam Brothers
also from Lock Pit Lane and
Jim Holden (whose mother was
hook in the Royal Hotel for
years) also came from B Lane;
The Mulhall Family always
had to do with circus
& Play Folk, there daughter
May was married to my
uncle Ned Walker my moth-
er's younger brother. She had two
more Peter and Tom. Both were
Butchers with the Oliver family
in Dublin St and later Tom worked
with the Ham Family, a Butcher shop
that got burnt down and was
torned up for years. Mr F Slater
built it up into a fish shop
(By the way the Ham Family was no
Relation to Hearn's) Uncle Tom
worked for Tom Hearn and during

The first world war he went
to England and died there.
now back to Bridwell Lane. The Maher
Family was Painters. The Bradley
& Toddlen Family never wanted for
anything, Martin worked in all the
Big houses in the county and
Mary Kate worked in Mollays
Hosery Factory and then with
Mr Johnson the turner in
Dublin St. Mr David Mulhall
and his son worked for Mr
Fred Thompson in the leather
linene which was built
during the 1914 to 1918 war Mr
Jimmy Byrne worked there also
Harry Eldred Tom was
a tailor with Mr Williams
in Dublin St. Davey was his
Eldred and never wanted.

for anything. Annie
went off with Dobells,
and Kathleen + Judy
went on the stage.
Lisia Maor had 3
houses and 3 of her Son
~~and~~ worked for Miss
Ryem on the Boats. BRick
went England. Liz. Mary
+ Kella married. Lusa
made Puddings. you
never tasted anything
like them. + Liz used to
make Potted herrings for the
Black fast days. Tim
was killed in the Boer
war. My Father was

wounded at the Battle of
Blencourt, he had a Pension
he got it the 1st January
the 1st of April, 1st July
the 1st October, My Mother
bought cotton and made
dresses for Mallie, Nell,
Kathleen + myself, when
I was young it was Sailor
suits was the fashion and
they were lovely she had
Sewing Machine which
belonged to her Mother, She
bought footwear and
under wear we were very
lucky. she also made
little shrouds for all the
little Babes that died

and turned them with
Blue for Baby boys & Pink
for Baby girls, for which
she did not charge.

I remember Lady Aberdine
coming to Carlisle she
came for to teach us how
to avoid consumption as it
was called then, I was in
the infant school and our
names was put in a hat
and Midge Mulhall.

Emmie Fin from Bridwell
Lane and Clara Kelly from
Pollerton Rd was picked to
meet her and present her
with flowers, the nuns
made lovely white dresses

for them. I remember
seen the H. Comet I was
about 8 or 9 at the time (I am
85 today) it was over Lullow
St direction over James
& Dorans it was very bright
and had a long tail in a
clear Sky