

Thomas Haggerty, 1554, *Dudbrook*

Researched by Marcia Watson

Name variation: Heggerty, Haggarty

On the 1841 census, at Closs Trongate, 85, Lanark, Lanarkshire, Scotland. Living with Neil Campbell, 20, born in Ireland, and his family were:

Grace Haggerty, 36, born in Scotland

Thomas Haggerty, 5, born in Lanarkshire

James Haggerty, 2, born in Lanarkshire

Thomas Haggerty senior had previous convictions when he was sentenced to transport. The following appear to be some of his crimes; however, there is another Thomas Haggerty, a flesher, in Glasgow.

Thomas Haggerty was convicted of lead-stripping and stealing on Friday night from the roof of a property in Wallace Court, Bell Street, and was sentenced to sixty days' imprisonment.¹

Thomas Haggerty was sentenced to sixty days imprisonment for being drunk and disorderly when in Saltmarket Street and for assaulting a person named Lyon to the injury of his person.²

On the 1851 census, at Bell Street, St James parish, Glasgow were:

Thomas Haggerty, head, married, 46, coal carrier, born in Ireland.

Grace Haggerty, his wife, married, 44, washerwoman, born in Edinburgh.

[There was a Thomas Haggerty serving eight months in North prison from August 1850; born 1834. He is possibly their son.]³

Later in the year, Thomas Haggerty was placed at the bar and charged with contravention of 10th Geo IV. cap. 38, sec 2; also an assault, by stabbing or cutting to the effusion of blood, injury of the person, and danger of life, in so far as, on the 17 August, he assaulted Frederick Irvine, a tartan manufacturer, while in Smith's Court, and with a knife stabbed the said Frederick Irvine on the right temple, and hear the right thigh, with intent to murder, maim, or disfigure him, in consequence of which he was wounded to the effusion of blood and danger of life. Thomas pleaded not guilty, and evidence was led in the case, which established the fact.

On the night in question, Haggarty had been seen in Smith's Court quarrelling with a female. On being requested by the injured party, Irvine, to go away or to make less noise in that quarter, the prisoner used a knife on the person of Irvine, who was removed to the Police Office, bleeding profusely from his wounds. Haggarty was apprehended in the course of the evening, and the knife was found on his person. The evidence of a party who resided with Haggerty will give some idea of the desperate character of the man.

Hugh Docherty knew the prisoner, who lived in the same house as him. He heard him say of the night in question that the first person who offered to insult him he would rip him up on the spot. Docherty said that Haggerty was going to New Wynd to see a friend. He also said that if anyone would lend him a gun or pistol, he would shoot the Fiscal with it. He would not stand confinement any longer. Docherty identified a knife that was taken from Haggarty as the weapon Haggarty had in his possession that evening. He sharpened the knife in the fire before he went out.

¹ Glasgow Chronicle, 20 March 1850, p4

² Glasgow Courier, 15 October 1850, p4

³ Scotland 1851 census, 644/1 126/17, page 17

In the examination of the court, it was elicited that the prisoner had only come out of confinement that day.

Dr Easton said the wounds might have been fatal.

No fewer than ten convictions for assault were proved against the prisoner. The jury found him guilty, and he was sentenced to transportation for life.⁴

Precognition against Thomas Haggerty *alias* Haggarty, married, coal porter, Bell Street, Glasgow, Lanarkshire, aged 47, born in Donegal, Ireland. In 1851, accused of contravention of 10 Geo. IV, c. 38, s. 2, and assault by cutting and stabbing, to the danger of life, and previous conviction.

At his trial on 6 October 1851, he was transported for life.⁵

Thomas was sent to the Warrior Hulk, arriving in the September quarter of 1852. He boarded the *Dudbrook* on 30 October 1852 for the voyage to Western Australia. Thomas continued his wayward behaviour, being charged with assault and drunkenness on several occasions.

His wife, Grace Haggerty, arrived per *Travancore* in 1857 with son Thomas Haggerty. Son James Haggerty did not come; he may have been serving a four year prison sentence from 1854.

Death by Drowning.-Two deaths by drowning occurred in the neighbourhood of Guildford last week. On Thursday afternoon, a man named Strange, in the employ of Mr C. Ferguson, Middle Awan, was crossing the river in a small punt when it capsized, and he was drowned; the body was not recovered until late in the evening. On Saturday, the body of an old man named Haggerty was found a little below the ferry in the Swan River; the poor fellow is supposed to have fallen out of a small boat on the previous evening. He was 68.

⁴ Glasgow Courier, 07 October 1851, p2

⁵ NRS Reference, AD14/51/166; JC26/1851/354