

Murdoch McGlinchie/McGlenchie, 102, *Hashemy*

Researched by Marcia Watson

Some of the name variations found in the records: McGlinchie, McGlenchy, McGlenshie, McClinchie, McLenty, Murdock, Murdoch, Grant

Baptism	23 November 1825, Glasgow, Scotland
Parents	Thomas McGlinchie and Agnes Grant (also called Ann Grant)
Parent's marriage	
Siblings	Margaret (1823-1844), Thomas (1827), Ann (1829), Mary Anne (1833)
Wife	Marion Somerville (widow)
Married	14 March 1871, Sandhurst, Victoria
Children	

Parents: Thomas was a tailor, and he appears to have died or disappeared before 1841. Their children were all baptised at the Roman Catholic church, St Andrews, Glasgow. ¹ Surname variations for their baptisms were Maclinchy, McLenety, McLinchy and McGlenchy.

In 1841, living in Mitchel's Close, Glasgow Bridgeway, Lanarkshire, Scotland, were two families:² Nancy McGlinchy, 50 born Scotland; Murdoch, 15; Thomas, 10; Mary Anne, 7. There was also an Agnes Grant, 1m, born Lanarkshire, who does not appear to belong to the second family named Burns.

At the Winter Circuit Court of Justiciary, on 6 January 1846:.

From Lanarkshire – Alexander McCrossan and Murdoch McGlinchie, theft &c.

Archibald McCrossan and Murdoch McGlenchie were charged with theft and reset. The charges were found not proven. The crime of reset of theft consists either in harbouring the person of the thief after the goods are stolen, or in receiving or disposing of the goods. ³

The Glasgow Spring Circuit. List of prisoners, in January 1847 for the upcoming Circuit Court.⁴

The Circuit Court of Justiciary will open here tomorrow (Tuesday), the 20th April.

From Lanarkshire – Murdoch McGlinchie, assault and robbery

Murdoch McGlinchie was accused of assault and robbery, in so far as on the 19th or 20th of December 1846, in Stockwell Street, he did attack, assault, and rob Daniel Thomson, joiner. Prisoner pleaded not guilty. He was found guilty and sentenced to 15 years transportation.⁵

Court records show Murdoch McGlinchie, was a tailor of Bridgegate Street, Glasgow. He was tried at High Court, Glasgow on 23 April 1847.⁶

Murdoch McGlinchie, 20, single, a tailor, can read and write, was convicted on 23 April 1847 at Glasgow of assault and robbery. He was sentenced to 15 years transportation. Murdoch had ten previous convictions – three for theft, two for assault, two for being a rogue and vagabond, and acquitted three times of theft. He was received at Millbank Prison on 15 June 1847 from Glasgow. After six months he was transferred to Wakefield Prison in West Yorkshire. Fifteen months later, Murdoch was moved to Portland Prison on 20 December 1848, and it was from here he boarded the *Hashemy* on 19 July 1850 for the voyage to Fremantle. While at Portland Prison, Murdock McGlenchie was reported four times for irregularity and

¹ The Scottish Catholic Archives, Reference MP/62

² 1841 census, Bridgegate, Glasgow, 644/1, p15

³ Glasgow Herald, 05 January 1846, p2; 06 February 1846, p4

⁴ Glasgow Herald, 19 April 1847, p4

⁵ Glasgow Herald, 26 April 1847, p1

⁶ National Records of Scotland, JC26/1846/141; AD14/47/279; JC26/1847/331

disposed of as in Report Book and Misconduct Book – 20 March 1849, 19 June 1849, 16 October 1849 and 6 January 1850. Unfortunately, the reasons for each report are not stated in the Governor's journal.

On arrival at Fremantle in October 1850, his description was:

102. Murdock McGlenchie, 24, 5' 3", brown curly hair, blue eyes, long face, dark complexion, stout, scar on right side of chin, a tailor and single.

Murdoch appears a few times on the Casual sick list at Fremantle.⁷

		Complaint	Treatment
McGlenchie M	21 October 1850	Bad tooth	
McGlenchie Mart	27 November 1850	Tooth ache	extract
McGlenchie Murdoch	24 December 1850	Constipation	Pilul & draughts
McGlenchie M	25 December 1850		Mixt fever
McGlenchie Murdock	15 January 1851		
McGlenchie Murdoch	26 January 1851		
McGlenchie Murdoch	28 January 1851	Wants snuff instead of tobacco	
McGlenchie Murdoch	4 March 1851		
McGlenchie M	16 March 1851	Worms	Pulv. Basilie
McGlenchie	7 April 1851	Diarrhoea	Pils: Calomel & Mix. purge
McGlenchie	8 April 1851		

On 1 April 1851, there was an unclaimed letter for Murdock McGlinchie at the Perth Post Office.⁸

A Ticket of Leave issued on 10 April 1851. Murdoch McGlenchie, a tailor, worked for Frederick Waldeck in the Perth district. His rate of pay was 25s per month.⁹ Frederick Waldeck was a tailor in Irwin St. He was also President of the Total Abstinence Society in 1854.

17 July 1851 – Murdoch reported he was now working for Thomas Farmer, tailor of Perth.

7 August 1851 – he reported that he was discharged by Farmer; and had a pass for Fremantle.

11 September 1851 – pass to Guildford for 14 days to seek employment.

15 September 1851 – pass to Fremantle for 14 days to seek employment.

19 September 1851 – returned to Perth, working for himself until 9 June 1853(?)

11 February 1852, Perth - Murdoch McGrenshie, ticket-of-leave holder, drunk in the streets; fined 5s and 3s expenses.

On 24 April 1852, at Fremantle:

Murdoch McClinchie, A. Donaldson, and P. Conway, were brought up in custody, for assaulting, the Swan policeman on the racecourse on Wednesday the 14th instant.

J. Sullivan, on oath, said— On the afternoon of Wednesday, I was conversing with Mr G. Shaw and a native woman, when the prisoner, McClinchie, came up, and, pushing between us, tore a bonnet worn by the woman in pieces from her head, with some hair. I laid hold of him, and while trying to secure him, was attacked by three other ticket of leave men, who knocked me down repeatedly; I at length drew my sword and struck Conway on the head, who then gave me another blow on the neck; I gave him a thrust in the right breast, and he ran off. Bottup had been set upon by two ticket of leave men at the same time, but by an active use of his baton put them to the rout. I handcuffed McClinchie, but for want of assistance to convey him either to Guildford or Perth, was obliged to release him, after ascertaining his name and residence. I recognise Donaldson and Conway as being two of the party who assaulted me.

Witnesses disagreed on whether undue force was used by the policeman.

⁷ SROWA Acc 1156 CS1

⁸ The Perth Gazette and Independent Journal of Politics and News (WA : 1848 - 1864), Fri 4 Apr 1851, p2

⁹ Further correspondence on the on the subject of Convict Discipline and Transportation. Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of her Majesty. 30 April 1852, p196

A. Donaldson, P. Conway, and Murdock McClinchie, the ticket-of-leave men spoken of in our last as creating a riot and assaulting a constable on the racecourse on the 14th instant, were brought up and fined with costs £1 16s 6d each; McClinchie an extra 5s to the black woman named Iodina for the destruction of her bonnet. [Alexander Donaldson 223, Patrick Connaway 821]

December 1852, Fremantle:

About 30 cases were brought before the Magistrate. Many of the ticket of leave holders were admonished for being out after 10 o'clock at night, others had a small fine to pay. One man, Murdoch McGlenchie was fined £2 for resisting the police and endeavouring to rescue a prisoner. McGlenchie was ordered to be locked up until the fine was paid, and the cash was forthcoming a few minutes later.¹⁰

26 July 1853 – sent to Mount Eliza Depot.

9 August 1853 – sent to Bunbury.

At some stage, Murdoch was sent back to gaol and was serving hard labour.

Fremantle Prison, sick list.¹¹ He was in the Hard Labour division

30 January 1854	Constipation. Employed in hard labour
2 February 1854	Bowel complaint
24 June 1854	Re-convicted prisoner received at Fremantle prison
24 October 1854	
24 November 1854	Febricular
27 November 1854	Febricula, constipated and pyrexia. Discharged 2 December
8 December 1854	Impaired vision, given Dovers powder at bedtime
4 February 1855	Constipation. Admitted to hospital the following day with dysentery, discharged 8 February
Murdoch was admitted with dysentery and treated with 2 purgative injections, castor oil, epsom salts, and croton oil. Matter dislodged by purgatives (in pounds): Non-feculent matter – uncertain; feculent matter – 18lbs. Remarks: Evacuations tolerably healthy.	
18 February 1855	Discharged by surgeon
15 May 1855	Aerophagitis [Esophagitis]
18 May 1855	Aerophagitis [Esophagitis]
1 June 1855	Pemphigus, treated with poultice
18 July 1855	Formina?
7 September 1855	Constipation
12 December 1855	Constipation
8 January 1856	Strained back
29 February 1856	Pain in bowels (wind), purge powder
18 March 1856	Discharged from prison

On 17 March 1857, there was a letter at Post Office for Murdock McGleniee.¹²

Then, on 2 May 1857, he was engaged by Thomas Farmer, tailor in Perth.¹³

A Conditional Pardon granted 16 August 1860.

7 October 1861 – Perth Police Court. M. Glenchie, c.p., fined 5s for drunkenness, &c.¹⁴

Murdoch went to Victoria per *Bombay* in 1862. The mail steamer called in at Albany on the way to Melbourne. [This is what Murdoch claimed in 1872]

On 30 November 1868, at Sandhurst Petty Sessions, he was fined 5s or 24 hours in prison, for being drunk.¹⁵

¹⁰ Inquirer (Perth, WA : 1840 - 1855), 29 December 1852, p3

¹¹ SROWA Acc 1156 M14-16; M3

¹² The Inquirer and Commercial News (Perth, WA : 1855 – 1901, 18 March 1857, p2

¹³ SROWA cons 1386/1, p17

¹⁴ The Inquirer and Commercial News (Perth, WA : 1855 - 1901), 23 October 1861, p2

1869. Victoria. Murdoch was sometimes using a second given name of Grant, later he dropped the McGlenchie.

Archibald McCrossen, Samuel George Hill, **Murdoch Grant McGlenchie**, and Henry Rodgers, addresses unknown. You are hereby summoned to appears before me, or some other warden of the goldfields, at the Warden's Court, Sandhurst, on the 20th day of September 1869, at Eleven o'clock, to answer complaint of Samuel Robinson of California Gully, and Thomas Wallis, of Ironbark Gully, by which complaint they seek to be put in possession of a certain quartz claim, registered No 1591, situate on Comet Reef, on the grounds that the said claim has been abandoned by you under the by-laws of the Sandhurst Mining District.

.....¹⁶

On the 14th March, at the Manse, Sandhurst, by the Rev. James Nish, Mr Murdoch McGlenchie, Ironbark, to Marion, relict of the late Mr John Somerville, Jackass Flat.¹⁷

John Somerville had a refreshment license for Jackass Flats in 1862. Marion Somerville was a storekeeper at Jackass Flats in 1871. The Somerville's had five surviving children, born between 1855 and 1867. John was alive in June 1868, his death has not been found.

The Western Victoria Hill Company (registered). C.C White will sell by public auction on 13 December 1872, at three o'clock, at the Victoria Hotel, Sandhurst, the undermentioned shares, forfeited for non-payment of fifth call of threepence per share: M. McGlenchie, 15,761 to 15,920 (160 shares)¹⁸

On 4 January 1873, Murdoch was charged with assaulting his wife, at Sandhurst on 31 December 1872. Discharged.¹⁹

16 April 1878. Sandhurst Petty Sessions:²⁰

Peace Information.—Murdoch McGlenchie was charged with having threatened to cut off the head of his wife, Marion McGlenchie, on the 14th instant. Marion McGlenchie deposed that the defendant went home at 3.30 on Sunday morning, pulled a razor out of his pocket, and said he would cut her head off. Some matches fell on the floor just then, and he put the razor on a box to pick them up; meanwhile, she took the razor, hid it, and got out of the defendant's way. He then went to bed and slept for some time, when he went away again.

About midday, he returned drunk, pulled her about by the hair, and punched her with his fists, and then went away again. At two o'clock on Monday morning, he returned very drunk, with a short crowbar concealed behind his back. He kicked the door in and raised the bar to strike her when her married daughter seized the bar, and together they managed to take it from him. He broke the windows and then went away, and she sent her two boys for the police. She was in fear of her life from the defendant. Senior-constable Gleeson said he went to the house of the defendant and found all the windows broken and the plaintiff bleeding from the face. Mrs Russell*, a married daughter of the plaintiff, and her son David* (*sic*) Somerville, corroborated the evidence, and the defendant was bound over in two sureties of \$10 each, and himself in £20, to keep the peace for twelve months. [*Janet Russell and Daniel Somerville]

The Police record:

15482. Murdock McGlenchie, 5' 6½", sallow complexion, grey hair, hazel eyes, born in Glasgow in 1826, a tailor, Presbyterian and can read and write. His nose is painted, and has a injured right forefinger.

Previous history: arrived per *Bombay* in 1862. On 15 December 1870 sentenced to 24 hours imprisonment for drunkenness.

¹⁵ Victoria Petty Sessions Registers, 16734/P1/Vol 17

¹⁶ Bendigo Advertiser (Vic. : 1855 - 1918), 21 September 1869, p3

¹⁷ Bendigo Advertiser (Vic. : 1855 - 1918), 20 March 1871, p2

¹⁸ Bendigo Advertiser (Vic. : 1855 - 1918), 13 December 1873, p3

¹⁹ Victoria Petty Sessions Registers, 16736/P1/Vol 7

²⁰ Bendigo Advertiser (Vic. : 1855 - 1918), 17 April 1878, p3

He was admitted to Sandhurst Gaol on 16 April 1878 and released on the 18th on payment of sureties.

At Eagle Petty Sessions on 31 May 1878, a charge against Murdoch was withdrawn.

On 28 June 1878, Murdoch arrived in Sydney on board the SS *Hero*, from Melbourne. Listed as Macglennie.

Then in December 1881, at Ultimo, New South Wales. Lost or stolen, between the hours of 1 and 3am, on the 4 December, from the person of **Murdoch Grant**, Bank-street, whilst drunk in Ultimo Road – a silver Waltham watch, No 1468639, value £3, identifiable.²¹

2 October 1883, Darlinghurst Gaol, NSW: ²²

7601. Murdock Grant, drunk & indecent language, one month, he paid a fine and was released the following day.

June 1883. Hyde Park, Sydney. Lost or stolen, between the hours of 7 and 8pm the 29 May, from the person of Murdoch Grant, No 24 Francis Street, whilst drunk in Hyde Park – a silver Waltham hunting watch No 1468607, value £4 10s. Identifiable.²³

11 June 1888. Lost or stolen. Murdock Grant – a silver lever watch No 18035, "Nisbet, London" maker. ²⁴

In December 1890, an unclaimed letter for a Murdoch Grant. Possibly him.²⁵

Asylum and Destitute Records in NSW

28 February 1895. ²⁶

848. Murdoch Grant, 69, Unitarian, born Glasgow. Came out about 33 years ago per SS *Bombay* as a passenger. Widower; no family or relations. Tailor.

Last working 6 months ago at David Jones Co & since been staying at a lodging house in Washington St B of H. Debility: bronchitis & is destitute. Discharged 4 March by request.

Monday 16 December 1895

4131. Murdock Grant, 70, Unitarian, born Glasgow. Came out 32 years per SS *Bombay* as a passenger, to Victoria & 15 years afterwards to NSW. Widower, no family or relations. Tailor. Past working for David Jones Co until 9 months ago & has since been living on a Bee Farm near Bathurst, working for his keep; arrived in Sydney last Thursday. B of H - Senile debility; Ch Bronchitis & is destitute.

In margin - sent 17 Dec 1895 to RA [Rookwood Asylum]

30 December 1895

4280. Murdock Grant, 70, Unitarian

RA - left 23 Dec 1895. Since staying at a boarding house, 2 Bathurst Street.

B of H. Debility and is destitute

In margin - sent 30 Dec 1895

5 May 1896

1788. Murdoch Grant, 70, Unitarian

RA - left 28 April 1896. Since been staying Mill Street off Bathurst Street.

B of H - senile debility & is destitute

In margin - sent 5 May 1896

17 August 1896

2941. Murdoch Grant, 70, Presbyterian

RA – left, since been living as best he could. Been to Mittagong.

B of H. Senile decay & destitute [Note: this record appears wrong as he died 2 days earlier!]

²¹ NSW Police Gazette, 7 December 1881, p440

²² State Archives NSW; Roll: 276

²³ NSW Police Gazette, 6 June 1883, p228

²⁴ NSW Police Gazette, 20 June 1888, p191

²⁵ NSW Government Gazette, 11 December 1890

²⁶ New South Wales, Australia, Hospital & Asylum Records, 1840-1913 – Register of Inmates.

15 August 1896. An elderly man, aged about 70 years, named Murdoch Grant was killed on Saturday evening on the railway line between Strathfield and Homebush. He came to town on Thursday and saw a friend at Pyrmont. On Saturday, he was returning to Rookwood Asylum, where he had been an inmate for seven months. At Strathfield, he went onto the platform by mistake and then boarded the train again as it was just leaving the station. He was unable to get into the carriage he had originally been in. Samuel Fisher saw Grant unfasten the chain at the end of the carriage platform, and in endeavouring to step across to the next car, he fell between the carriages. Fisher gave the alarm, and a party was sent back to look for the man. He was found lying across the rails, quite dead, the body having been terribly shattered. Grant was taken to South Sydney Morgue.²⁷

The Register of Bodies brought to the South Sydney Morgue records **Murdock Grant McGlinchie** as being brought in on 15 August 1896 at 8.45pm.²⁸

At the inquest held on the 17 August 1896, it was reported:

Murdock Grant, 69 years old and 5'3½', grey hair rather long almost, and bald on top, grey beard.

Born in Scotland,

A tailor by trade.

A detailed description of his clothing is included.

A verdict of Accidental Death was recorded.²⁹

Death index says the parents of Murdoch Grant were Thomas and Ann.

Buried at Rookwood Cemetery, Zone C Section MMM Grave 312.

Died intestate.

His wife went back to using the name Marion Somerville. She died in 1888 and left an estate of £335. The three cottages she owned, and all her belongings were sold.

²⁷ Goulburn Evening Penny Post (NSW : 1881 - 1940), 18 August 1896, p1

²⁸ Registers of Bodies Received, 1881–1901

²⁹ State Archives NSW; Series: 1394; Item: 2/772; Roll: 1783