Cahill, Joseph (c.1791-1870)

Sponsored: Charles Crick (Suffolk, groom and labourer)

Joseph Cahill born 1791, Waterford, Ireland was a Sergeant with the 40th Regiment of Foot. He was aged 18 when joining. Prior to the 40th Regiment coming to Tasmania Joseph served at North America and Waterloo. The 40th spent most of its tour of duty in Tasmania with one company at Sydney and Moreton Bay. (*Biographic Database of Australia* – www.bda-online-org.au). Men arriving in Australia (Sydney and Hobart) were mainly as Detachments of guards on convict ships starting in 1823. After retiring from the 40th Regiment Joseph received a pension. His pension was transferred several times including to Tasmania on 30 June 1829, England and finally to Waterford on 31 August 1861.

Joseph travelled between Tasmania and Ireland on a number of occasions, and this would account for his pension being transferred.

Joseph had at least 640 acres in the Cumberland district in central Tasmania. When in Tasmania he was very active including being appointed Inspector of Stock for the district of Hamilton; proprietor of the London Inn at Spring Hill with 300 acres attached; running stage coaches between Hobart and Launceston; and Postmaster at Spring Hill and Prosser's Plains.

In 1856 he was declared insolvent while a farmer at Shooter's Hill, near New Norfolk; debts £2026 9s., assets £1490 10s. (Launceston *Examiner*, Sat 23 Aug 1856, p2) Two months prior to being declared insolvent he applied for Immigrant Bounty Tickets.

Joseph Cahill had returned to his Irish home at the time of his death, aged 76, on 14 June 1870. His death notice in the *Irish Times* referred to him as 'Major' although most of the 40th Regiment records show him as Sergeant. Perhaps he was a Sergent-Major?

Death notice: *The Mercury*, Thu 8 Sep 1870, p1: Cahill – On 14 June at his residence, Dublin, Joseph Cahill, in the 82nd year of his age. Death notice: *Irish Times*, Dublin, 16 June 1870, p8: Cahill. 14th inst, at his residence, Castlewood Avenue, Rathmines, after a short illness, Major Joseph Cahill, aged 76, deservedly regretted. [Rathmines is an affluent inner suburb on the Southside of Dublin.]

Joseph Cahill, Sen., farmer, New Norfolk applied for Immigrant Bounty Tickets on 30 June 1856.