**Francis (Frank) Craig (27 August 1852 – 4 July 1930)**

Francis (Frank) Craig was the second son of Samuel and Mary Craig[[1]](#footnote-1) who built the Castle Hotel in 1853.

He was educated “first at York Government School, and by various private tutors, finishing at [Bishop Hale’s] Perth Collegiate School, under the Rev. P. A. Hare, M.A., as Head Master”[[2]](#footnote-2) [[3]](#footnote-3) [[4]](#footnote-4). He was described as a young man “of outstanding ability”. [[5]](#footnote-5)

He helped his mother Mary Craig at the Castle Hotel, probably from the death of his father in December 1869,[[6]](#footnote-6) when he was 17, and certainly from January 1872 when he 19.[[7]](#footnote-7) [[8]](#footnote-8) [[9]](#footnote-9)

In 1878, he was charged with assaulting Jane Turvey with his open hand, but the charge was dismissed when the complainant did not appear.[[10]](#footnote-10) In April, 1878, Mary Craig was prosecuted for selling alcohol to someone who was not staying at the hotel and also after 10 o’clock. Frank was the one who served the alcohol and gave evidence in this case.[[11]](#footnote-11) [[12]](#footnote-12)

He was one of two auditors appointed for the York Municipal Council for 1879.[[13]](#footnote-13) [[14]](#footnote-14)

In 1879, Mary Craig imported a “SODA WATER MACHINE” which was promoted, this was most likely organised by Frank.[[15]](#footnote-15)

In 1881, Frank organised festivities in York to celebrate the 52nd anniversary of the colony. He was praised by the West Australian for his work.[[16]](#footnote-16)

 “The fifty-second anniversary of the colony was a very great day indeed in York, and to the energy displayed by Mr Frank Craig is almost entirely due the success of its celebration. He has drawn up an excellent programme of sports which took place on the ground of the Agricultural Society, and succeeded in conjunction with Messrs Hoops and Horley in collecting £20 in prizes.”[[17]](#footnote-17)

Frank was then to leave York to establish a new hotel for his mother in Cossack. This was to be a wooden building prefabricated in Perth by Smith & Co [[18]](#footnote-18)of London House.[[19]](#footnote-19) It was with some houses “already marked and need only to be put together upon reaching their destination”.[[20]](#footnote-20) Frank was going up and down. On one return journey he brought back for Alexander McRae a nugget of gold weighing seven pennyweight and a half.[[21]](#footnote-21)

Unfortunately, the new hotel was blown away by a cyclone, described in the press as a “willy-willy”.[[22]](#footnote-22) Mary and Frank commissioned Smith & Co to build a new hotel. The West Australian reported that

“the entire hotel was erected, finished off, approved by the proprietor and paid for, within nine days after the order was received, and, on the 13th inst, the building, complete in all its parts, numbered and marked for the purpose of facilitating the work of erection at Cossack, was conveyed to Fremantle ready for shipment by the Amur. When it is borne in mind that the race holidays intervened during the preparation of the building, the extensive resources and appliances of this enterprising local firm are apparent. The hotel is of very considerable proportions, occupying an area of one thousand nine hundred square feet, and having a frontage of 72ft., with a verandah (9ft. wide) extending the whole length of the facade. The building contains eight commodious rooms a dining room, parlour, four bed rooms, a billiard room, and a bar. The design and construction of the house are of such a character that it has been rendered as strong and as gale-proof as wood and iron can make it. There is not a single nail in the frame of the structure, every rafter, tie-beams, collar-tie, stud, and wall plate being bolted together. There are no less than 965 iron bolts and nuts (some of the former being 15ft in length), while the corner posts and intermediates are of 6 x 6 jarrah. The building stands on seven rows of piles, six feet long, constructed of 12 x 12 jarrah, and is strapped with heavy iron bands, and bolted to the supporting piles. Some idea of the total dimensions of the building-and indeed of the material progress which, of late years, has taken place at the little North-Western port, for which the hotel is destined may be formed when it is stated that no less than 25,000 ft of inch boards were used in the building, for floors, weather boards, and lining; and there seems very little doubt - notwithstanding the great extent of frontage (72 ft.)-that if proper care be exercised in the re-erection of the structure at Cossack, it will effectually resist the force of more than ordinarily strong gales. During the time the building itself was in course of construction, Messrs. Smith & Co. were busily engaged in preparing the whole of the furniture necessary for the hotel, including the bar and bar-fittings, which, with the firm’s numerous staff and the aid of steam, was accomplished in less than a week. We are given to understand there were no less than thirty cabinet-makers and upholsterers engaged in the manufacture of the furniture, and twenty-eight workmen employed, simultaneously, on the building.”[[23]](#footnote-23)

The Cossack hotel was called the *White Horse Hotel*.[[24]](#footnote-24) Frank borrowed £300 from the ANZ for a period of 2 weeks, the name of the account was “Cossack”, so it was probably for the construction of this hotel.[[25]](#footnote-25) [[26]](#footnote-26)

He also owned the *Victoria Arms Hotel* in Roebourne.[[27]](#footnote-27)

Frank was missed in York. The Eastern Districts Chronicle published an article about him in 1882:

“There is oftentimes in a small community, someone, who, by a singular combination of genial qualities, grins in a far more than ordinary degree, the goodwill of those who know him, the sincere regard of a large circle, and the affection of his friends. Of this, Mr Frank Craig who has just left us for the North West, is an instance. His genial manners and his many sterling good qualities have made him as widely popular that there is probably not a soul in the district that does not regret his departure. The gap thus made cannot be refilled. His memory will ever remain green in the hearts of his friends, who feel that his leaving us is a loss to the district, and who heartily wish him, in his new sphere of action a similar popularity to that which he enjoys here, and that substantial success, which he so richly merits. [[28]](#footnote-28)

In January 1883, the new hotel in Cossack was reported as doing excellent business. Frank, said the West Australian, “will not permanently remain at Cossack, but will give place to one of his brothers at the end of a few months, when he will return to York and resume his former duties, very much to the satisfaction of those who frequent the Castle Hotel”.[[29]](#footnote-29)

Around this time[[30]](#footnote-30), Frank invested in a pearling lugger. It was a Craig lugger that found the “Southern Cross” pearl.[[31]](#footnote-31) This was a pearl cluster in the shape of a cross. Its history was set out by “Shiner” Kelly (a master pearler) in a letter to the West Australian. The pearl cluster was found in 1883 by a boy named Clarke who was working for Kelly. Kelly sold the pearl cluster to Frank Roy for £10, who sold it to Frank Craig for £40, who sold it on to a syndicate of “leading gentlemen in the colony”.[[32]](#footnote-32) There were only eight pearls in the cluster when it was sold by Kelly, and to make it resemble a well-proportioned cross--the right arm being absent--another pearl of suitable size and shape was subsequently secured at Cossack and attached in the proper place to the others, which, in the meantime, had been refastened together by diamond cement, thus making three artificial joints in the present cluster. The pearl was exhibited at the Colonial and Indian Exhibition at London in 1886, and later at the Paris Exhibition in 1889, where it was the centre of interest, and obtained a gold medal for the exhibitors. An effort was made to bring about its sale at £10,000, the owners suggesting that it was especially appropriate for presentation to Leo XIII. [[33]](#footnote-33) The pearl string was most recently on display at the South Australian Maritime Museum in 2019.[[34]](#footnote-34)

Frank returned to York in July 1883 and his place in Cossack was taken by his brother William.[[35]](#footnote-35) Frank commenced to “direct the affairs of”[[36]](#footnote-36) the Castle Hotel. [[37]](#footnote-37)

He renewed his interest in horses and in January 1884, he acquired the horse *Hero* for racing purposes, and offered *Hero* to stand at Cut Hill,[[38]](#footnote-38) but he had sold *War Cry* by November.[[39]](#footnote-39)

In December 1884, Mary retired and leased the hotel to Frank. [[40]](#footnote-40) The West Australian said:

 “For many years past, the business of the Castle Hotel has been carried on by Mrs Craig, the proprietor, who has succeeded in gaining for the inn a character as a house of entertainment second to none in these parts. Personally, I may say, Mrs Craig is universally esteemed, and she will retire into private life with the kindest regards and best wishes of all who know her for her future comfort and happiness. Upon Mrs Craig’s retirement, the business of the hotel will be carried on by her youngest (sic) so, Mr Frank Craig, who for some time past has been actively employed in conducting it, and who has moreover succeeded in gaining a very high opinion for his judicious management for a large and important establishment.”.[[41]](#footnote-41)

There is an entry in the John Taylor farm ledger for *Yangedine* that Frank Craig was employed as a labourer. This is possibly how he met his wife to be, Elfie Taylor. There is a Craig family story that Elfie refused to marry anyone else. [[42]](#footnote-42) On 3 December 1884, at Yangedine, Frank married Hannah Elford Taylor, the “oldest single daughter” of John Taylor of Yangedine,[[43]](#footnote-43) who had come to Western Australia as an indentured servant and had through hard work become a wealthy farmer and land owner.[[44]](#footnote-44)

Frank owned tannery premises[[45]](#footnote-45) and also took a lease of the *Settlers Arms* in Beverley which was then run by his brother James.[[46]](#footnote-46)

On 14 May 1885, Frank applied for a Publican’s General Licence for the Castle Hotel, describing himself as “Frank Craig, Publican, married”.[[47]](#footnote-47)

To celebrate the “turning of the first sod” of the York-Beverley railway in 1885, Frank provided “a first-rate repast for about 150 persons” at the Mechanics’ Institute.[[48]](#footnote-48)

 “Immediately after the turning of the sod had been completed the visitors repaired to the Mechanics’ Institute, where a most sumptuous spread had been prepared by the popular host of the “Castle Hotel,” Mr Frank Craig. The fact that it emanated from so far-famed an hotel is sufficient guarantee for the very feasible inference that it was first-class, and I shall not go wrong when I repeat the words of a distinguished visitor who was present, when he said, “It is the *very* best I ever saw.” This is not saying too much, and I feel quite confident that those of my readers who were present at the luncheon will fully agree with me.”[[49]](#footnote-49) [[50]](#footnote-50) [[51]](#footnote-51)

Another correspondent said “Everyone who visits York sings paeans to Frank Craig’s praise, and we but unite to laud his kindly good humour and *bon homie.[[52]](#footnote-52)*

Frank was described by his family historian, John Boyd Craig, as “obviously a dynamic man who acted quickly on any business opportunity”, [[53]](#footnote-53) and “one who was a host in himself and at all times evinced a pleasure in the conduct of public affairs.”[[54]](#footnote-54)

On 12 November 1885, a fire broke out in the yard of the Castle Hotel, burning a haystack, a dray, some timber and about 10 tons of sandalwood. Frank estimated the loss at over £250.[[55]](#footnote-55)

He became a member of the York Municipal Council on 16 November 1885[[56]](#footnote-56).

In March 1886, Frank commenced proceedings to enforce the sale of a parcel of land in Beverley.[[57]](#footnote-57) Also in that month, Frank put the *White Horse Hotel* at Cossack up for sale, [[58]](#footnote-58) later selling it for £200.[[59]](#footnote-59)

In January 1886, Frank added a billiard room to the Castle Hotel,[[60]](#footnote-60) and also started importing billiard tables and commenced frequently advertising them.

In January 1887, at a dinner at the Castle Hotel, the subject for discussion was the weight of a grasshopper’s brains. Barrister George Parker provoked former friend William Westwood by sarcastically saying that most men know the weight of their brains. Westwood responded that Parker, a barrister, had never had a case, and said “You are a contemptible worm and someone ought to crush you, go away, I cannot bear you near me, you vex me!” The next day the two had another argument and Parker suggested that Westwood challenge him to a duel, which Westwood proceeded to do. Westwood asked Frank Craig to be his second. Frank and the second for Parker (Charles Crossland) got together and Frank suggested they let the duel proceed but replace real bullets with putty. The duel subsequently took place with neither duellist knowing he did not have real bullets. Two successive shots were fired until the duellists realised they had been tricked.[[61]](#footnote-61)

J H Monger resigned as Chairman of the York Municipal Council in 1887 and Frank stood for the position of Chairman with Monger’s support and also the support of many others,[[62]](#footnote-62) this position being contested by Joseph Pyke. Frank was elected by a large number of votes. [[63]](#footnote-63) [[64]](#footnote-64)

In 1887, the York Council requested that the Colonial Office recognise York as a “Town” in the style of the old English Towns. This recognition was relayed by telegram to the Council on 3 June 1887. [[65]](#footnote-65) York was designated a Mayoralty and Frank became the first Mayor.[[66]](#footnote-66) Frank was again elected in November 1887 unopposed. [[67]](#footnote-67)

While he was Mayor, he was instrumental in putting trees on each side of Avon Tce and installing lamp posts[[68]](#footnote-68) [[69]](#footnote-69) in Avon Terrace and having the suspension bridge constructed.[[70]](#footnote-70)

According to articles in the Eastern Districts Chronicle in the early 20th century, Frank was Mayor when Responsible Government was conferred on Western Australia on 21 October 1890,[[71]](#footnote-71) and the proclamation was read by him on that date from a platform in Avon Park, which was then being used by the York Agricultural Society for its annual show, the annual show being then in progress.[[72]](#footnote-72) [[73]](#footnote-73) [[74]](#footnote-74) However this report is not borne out by reports at the time and Frank ceased to be Mayor in 1889.

Frank stood for Mayor again in November 1888 and was elected unopposed.[[75]](#footnote-75) He continued to run the Castle Hotel and renew his licence.[[76]](#footnote-76) He took an interest in developing an artesian water supply for York.[[77]](#footnote-77)

While he was Mayor, his policy was to insist on the rates being received prior to the day of election of councillors so people would be encouraged to pay their rates.[[78]](#footnote-78)

Frank was part of a number of expeditions to prospect for and fine gold during the Yilgarn gold rush.[[79]](#footnote-79) Frank went again to the Yilgarn goldfields in August 1890.[[80]](#footnote-80) He was one of a syndicate which he formed to prospect minerals in the Yilgarn, [[81]](#footnote-81) at a place called Golden Valley, finding “good gold”. [[82]](#footnote-82) [[83]](#footnote-83) [[84]](#footnote-84)

In 1888, Frank erected a public house in Golden Valley consisting of 8 rooms,[[85]](#footnote-85) [[86]](#footnote-86) perhaps operating this in partnership with Allan Counsel.[[87]](#footnote-87) He was a director of The Excelsior Gold Mining Company, No Liability.[[88]](#footnote-88)

Frank attached horse works to his Aerated Waters machine in 1889.[[89]](#footnote-89) His soda water was so popular that he received an order to supply 2,000 bottles to a buyer in Perth.

In 1889, he was fined for permitting dice to be thrown for money by Thielemann and William Craig.[[90]](#footnote-90)

Frank resigned as Mayor in November 1889,[[91]](#footnote-91) but was urged in print by many townspeople to stand again. Frank replied to the effect that he did not have the time to devote to Municipal matters.[[92]](#footnote-92)

In early 1889, Frank built a garden for vegetables and fruit trees[[93]](#footnote-93) on the other side of the suspension bridge (where it was originally located just to the left of where the South Street bridge now crosses the river).

“On the eastern banks of the river proceeding south from and including the bowling green, he established an orchard planted with beautiful varieties of fruit trees, and in conjunction with which he installed irrigation works, utilising water from the depths of the Avon with more or less success.” [[94]](#footnote-94)

“This triumphantly shows what can be done with comparatively poor soil by the assistance of irrigation. The garden is four acres in extent; it did not exist two years and a half ago, and at this present moment it contains about five hundred choice fruit trees, all yielding prolifically. I saw grape vines, peach, plum, apricot, nectarine, apple, pear, quince, loquat, mulberry, orange and lemon trees, eight to ten feet high, stoutly wooded and covered with the freshest foliage and rapidly ripening fruit in large quantities…… The garden is on a sloping bank, leading down to the Avon.” [[95]](#footnote-95) [[96]](#footnote-96)

“We have had the opportunity of seeing and tasting some remarkably fine specimens of peaches and nectarines grown by Mr Frank Craig at his orchard on the banks of the Avon River, at York. We do not recollect seeing finer grown fruit of their sort in the colony, some of the peaches weighing a quarter of a pound each, and being remarkably sound, luscious and fine flavoured. They were grown on irrigated land and speak volumes for the method of cultivation resorted to by Mr Craig at his orchard, which has only been planted a little over three years.”[[97]](#footnote-97) [[98]](#footnote-98)

In February 1891, Frank purchased the Miners’ Arms Hotel in York from James Grave’s estate, for £1,350.[[99]](#footnote-99) This was put up to let in November 1893.[[100]](#footnote-100)

In September 1991, Frank was involved in the dispute over John Taylor’s will.[[101]](#footnote-101) Frank then went to the Eastern Colonies”, returning “looking as happy and good tempered as ever.”[[102]](#footnote-102)

In May 1892, the Craig family applied to bring a number of lots of land under the Transfer of Land Act. All their land is listed. [[103]](#footnote-103) The estate was put up for sale in April 1892.[[104]](#footnote-104)

In August 1892, Frank arranged for the construction of a new Victoria Hotel in Roebourne. This opened at the end of February 1893.[[105]](#footnote-105)

 “The contractors and workmen who are to erect the new Victoria Hotel for Mr Frank Craig have comer up by the *Saladin* and the building, a large two storeys containing 28 rooms will be commenced immediately on that part of Mr Craig’s grant which facers the present Victoria Hotel.”[[106]](#footnote-106)

He also had an interest in a hotel at Broad Arrow (with Charles Brown).[[107]](#footnote-107)

On 11 November 1892, quoting the Eastern Districts Chronicle:[[108]](#footnote-108)

“a man named Peter Donnolley, employed as ostler at the Castle Hotel, had made application to Mr. Frank Craig, the landlord, for drink to be supplied to him. This he was refused as he had been previously supplied with two or three glasses of liquor. Not satisfied with this Donnolley made repeated requests to be served, and refusing to leave the bar to attend to his duties Mr. Craig endeavoured to quietly eject him. This evidently enraged Donnolley who with an open pen-knife attacked Mr. Craig, and succeeded in stabbing him in the stomach the full length of the blade, following up with an oath congratulating himself upon having achieved his end. Moving away Mr. Craig experienced a peculiar feeling, which turned out to be blood emanating from the wound. The police were at once summoned, and Donnolley was arrested, a knife being found in his possession.”[[109]](#footnote-109)

Frank Craig ceased to run the Castle Hotel at the end of December 1892[[110]](#footnote-110) and handed over to his younger brother William Craig [[111]](#footnote-111) [[112]](#footnote-112).

Frank was taking a greater interest in Perth and Fremantle. In July 1893, he purchased the National Hotel in Fremantle, and Edward Ingram ran it.[[113]](#footnote-113)

Frank wrote a rare letter to the paper in 1893 in relation to the sandalwood industry.[[114]](#footnote-114)

In January 1894, a whirlwind passed through York and carried away the roof of Frank’s aerated water factory building.[[115]](#footnote-115) Frank visited the Eastern Goldfields in mid 1894 mounted on a camel.[[116]](#footnote-116)

Frank was appointed a member of the Bureau of Agriculture[[117]](#footnote-117) [[118]](#footnote-118) and Justice of the Peace[[119]](#footnote-119) in December 1894. As a Justice of the Peace Frank once said that “when he first sat on the bench he would frequently remark after listening to a long tale of woe, “Oh, fine him ten bob: his father used to work for me” or “Let him go this time, his brother’s a decent fellow.”[[120]](#footnote-120)

In 1896, he again travelled to the Goldfields and then visited England[[121]](#footnote-121) “to see life”.[[122]](#footnote-122) He was in London at the same time as Alexander Forest and R F Scholl, one newspaper describing them as “these three fat men”.[[123]](#footnote-123) A London correspondent wrote (obviously from York):

 “Our ex-mayor has grown considerably stouter, and I believe the same may be said of his banking account. He has successfully floated a large exploration company with a capital of £200,000[[124]](#footnote-124) and has also, I am told, sold several mines.”[[125]](#footnote-125)

Another journalist described Frank as:

 “Conglomeration of good fellowship, rotundity, and good health”.[[126]](#footnote-126)

He returned by the beginning of 1897 was living at 41 Adelaide Terrace, Perth,[[127]](#footnote-127). In March 1897 he was offered a seat on the Land Purchase Board[[128]](#footnote-128) and in June 1897 he started to preside as a Magistrate.[[129]](#footnote-129) Also in that month, he applied for a publican’s licence for a hotel on the corner of Cliff and High Streets in Fremantle to cost between £7,000 and £8,000.[[130]](#footnote-130)

Frank joined the Governor’s party in a visit to York in September 1897.[[131]](#footnote-131)

He appears to be settling down as Mrs Craig advertised for a “cook, female, good, wanted” to work at 48 Adelaide Tce, Perth.[[132]](#footnote-132) [[133]](#footnote-133) Frank advertised his orchard of seven acres in York as being “to let”.[[134]](#footnote-134) [[135]](#footnote-135) [[136]](#footnote-136)

In 1989, the Board of Directors of the Stock Exchange Company of Perth appointed Frank as a member.[[137]](#footnote-137)

In April 1898, Frank was the buyer of the Central Gold Mine and equipment, all for £850.[[138]](#footnote-138)

In September 1898, Frank was appointed one of the Royal Commissioners to inquire into the penal system.[[139]](#footnote-139) All of the appointments met with criticism on the ground that none of the appointees had any experience of the penal system. [[140]](#footnote-140)

Frank was also appointed as a member of the Metropolitan Waterworks Board.[[141]](#footnote-141)

“This meant that Frank would have been actively involved in the planning and decision making in relation to CY O’Connor’s design for Mundaring Weir, pumping station and water pipeline from Perth to Kalgoorlie.” [[142]](#footnote-142)

John Henry Monger retired from Parliament and offered his seat to Frank Craig,[[143]](#footnote-143) but Frank clearly did not take up the offer to be in Parliament.

In 1901, their address changed to 290 Adelaide Tce Perth where they had a “well-known Perth lawn”.[[144]](#footnote-144) The home was called *Elfden* and is now the headquarters of the National Trust.

In later life he took an interest in the North West and acquired the property *Portree* in the Port Hedland district.[[145]](#footnote-145) This was successful and he then acquired *Maroobah* and *Yalbalgo[[146]](#footnote-146)[[147]](#footnote-147)* stations in the Carnarvon area, which were also profitable investments.[[148]](#footnote-148) He then acquired *Wandina* station[[149]](#footnote-149) on the lower Murchison for his son Colin, and then *Mundabullangana* station. [[150]](#footnote-150)

He purchased a property at Balingup[[151]](#footnote-151) adjoining the township and named it *Golden Valley*. [[152]](#footnote-152) [[153]](#footnote-153) He kept Border Leicester sheep. [[154]](#footnote-154) The property was described as having the “richest pasture that exists in Western Australia”.[[155]](#footnote-155) William Marwick visited him there in 1914.[[156]](#footnote-156) Frank spent “a considerable part of each year”[[157]](#footnote-157) at *Golden Valley.[[158]](#footnote-158)*[[159]](#footnote-159) He sold *Golden Valley* to E P Blakeney of Greenbushes in 1920.[[160]](#footnote-160) [[161]](#footnote-161)

He acquired a considerable amount of Perth property including offices opposite Sandovers Buildings’ in Fremantle,[[162]](#footnote-162) land he subdivided in Claremont,[[163]](#footnote-163) which possibly included the house and land in Shenton St that was sold by Frank to become the building and grounds of Scotch College,[[164]](#footnote-164) and the Perth Stock Exchange buildings, which he sold to the Commonwealth Bank for £25,000.[[165]](#footnote-165) [[166]](#footnote-166)

Their former residence at 228 Adelaide Terrace became the headquarters of the Royal Automobile Club, which purchased the building for £5,000.[[167]](#footnote-167) Frank and his wife had moved to South Perth by October 1927,[[168]](#footnote-168) and sold a large quantity of furniture in January 1929.[[169]](#footnote-169)

He became very active member of a number of company boards including the Swan River Shipping Company[[170]](#footnote-170), Nor West Meat Works Ltd (which carried on freezing works at Carnarvon)[[171]](#footnote-171) [[172]](#footnote-172) and was Chair of the board of London, Liverpool and Globe Insurance Company[[173]](#footnote-173) [[174]](#footnote-174) and the Perth Gas Company. [[175]](#footnote-175)

For took a keen interest in sports and was for many years an honorary steward to the WA Turf Club,[[176]](#footnote-176) and was the owner of a number of horses. “One of his favourite hobbies and pastimes was to follow the hounds. [[177]](#footnote-177)

He did a lot of touring.[[178]](#footnote-178) [[179]](#footnote-179) [[180]](#footnote-180) [[181]](#footnote-181)

His town residence (in 1930) was the head-quarters of the Automobile Club, which he owned. [[182]](#footnote-182)

He took a world tour in 1929, motoring many thousands of miles to see the great farming states of the United States. “What surprised him very much was the comparative loneliness of the great farming areas, and the lack of interest in the rich land of the great central valley of the United States on the part of American youth[[183]](#footnote-183)

He died on 4 July 1930 at Cottesloe,[[184]](#footnote-184) [[185]](#footnote-185) leaving an estate valued at £21,703 net.[[186]](#footnote-186)

Rob Garton Smith

President

The York Society (Inc)

October 2022

1. Dalgety’s Review 17 July 1930, p.1. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. WA Bulletin 21 July 1888, p.6. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. West Australian 19 March 1924, p.10 [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. John Boyd Craig: HeirLine, a private family history, 2002(?) (unpublished), p.20. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. Dalgety’s Review 17 July 1930, p.1. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. Surmised by John Boyd Craig, p.21 [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. He gave evidence of a forged cheque which was passed to him while he was serving at the bar of the hotel. Perth Gazette and Western Australian Times 5 January 1872, p.2; Herald 6 January 1872, p.3. [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
8. He gave evidence in two other cases in 1877: Western Australian 9 October 1877, p.2; Eastern Districts Chronicle 15 December 1877, p.3. [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
9. He gave evidence in another case in 1878: Eastern Districts Chronicle 26 January 1878, p.3. [↑](#footnote-ref-9)
10. Eastern Districts Chronicle 12 January 1878, p.2. [↑](#footnote-ref-10)
11. Eastern Districts Chronicle 20 April 1878, p.2. [↑](#footnote-ref-11)
12. He was a witness in three other cases in 1878: Eastern Districts Chronicle 1 June 1878, p.2; 17 August 1878, p.2; Herald 5 October 1878, p.3; West Australian Times 8 October 1878, p.2; Inquirer and Commercial News 9 October 1878, p.2. And another in 1879 when Mary Craig was prosecuted for having an unlicensed dog: Eastern Districts Chronicle 4 January 1879, p.2. [↑](#footnote-ref-12)
13. Western Australian Times 29 November 1878, p.2. [↑](#footnote-ref-13)
14. He signed a Requisition supporting Richard Hardey as a candidate for the Legislative Council in December 1879: Inquirer and Commercial News 31 December 1879, p.3. [↑](#footnote-ref-14)
15. Eastern Districts Chronicle 65 September 1879, p.4. [↑](#footnote-ref-15)
16. He was witness in another court case involving theft of whiskey from the Craigs by the Master of the *Lady Stirling* steamer: West Australian 14 October 1881, p.2. [↑](#footnote-ref-16)
17. West Australian 10 June 1881, p.3. [↑](#footnote-ref-17)
18. [↑](#footnote-ref-18)
19. West Australian 25 April 1882, p.3. [↑](#footnote-ref-19)
20. Herald 24 December 1881, p.1. [↑](#footnote-ref-20)
21. Victorian Express 29 March 1882, p.3. [↑](#footnote-ref-21)
22. Eastern Districts Chronicle 31 March 1882, p.3. [↑](#footnote-ref-22)
23. West Australian 25 April 1882, p.3; 17 June 1882, p.1. [↑](#footnote-ref-23)
24. West Australian 11 March 1886, p.2. [↑](#footnote-ref-24)
25. John Boyd Craig: HeirLine, a private family history, 2002(?) (unpublished), p.22. [↑](#footnote-ref-25)
26. Frank sold this hotel in June 1886 for £200: Herald 12 June 1886, p.8. [↑](#footnote-ref-26)
27. West Australian 29 March 1889, p.2. [↑](#footnote-ref-27)
28. Eastern Districts Chronicle 1 December 1882, p.3. [↑](#footnote-ref-28)
29. West Australian 9 January 1883, p.3. [↑](#footnote-ref-29)
30. John Boyd Craig says this was after 1884. [↑](#footnote-ref-30)
31. John Boyd Craig: HeirLine, a private family history, 2002(?) (unpublished), p.22. [↑](#footnote-ref-31)
32. West Australian 18 March 1887, p.3. [↑](#footnote-ref-32)
33. Kunz and Stevenson: "The Book of the Pearl", see https://www.karipearls.com/the-southern-cross-pearl.html [↑](#footnote-ref-33)
34. https://www.facebook.com/SAMaritimeMuseum/posts/the-southern-cross-pearl-is-a-natural-wonder-unevenly-shaped-pearls-are-highly-v/2283995398332098/ [↑](#footnote-ref-34)
35. West Australian 20 July 1883, p.1. [↑](#footnote-ref-35)
36. York Chronicle 18 July 1930, p.2. [↑](#footnote-ref-36)
37. West Australian 2 December 1884, p.3. [↑](#footnote-ref-37)
38. Eastern Districts Chronicle 11 August 1884, p.4. [↑](#footnote-ref-38)
39. West Australian 11 November 1884, p.3. [↑](#footnote-ref-39)
40. Eastern Districts Chronicle 16 May 1885, p.2. [↑](#footnote-ref-40)
41. West Australian 2 December 1884, p.3. [↑](#footnote-ref-41)
42. John Boyd Craig: HeirLine, a private family history, 2002(?) (unpublished), p.23. [↑](#footnote-ref-42)
43. West Australian 9 December 1884, p.3; Rica Erickson: Bicentennial Dictionary of Western Australians, p.698. [↑](#footnote-ref-43)
44. Refer to the Wikipedia article on him. [↑](#footnote-ref-44)
45. Eastern Districts Chronicle 20 June 1885, p.2. [↑](#footnote-ref-45)
46. West Australian 9 December 1884, p.3. [↑](#footnote-ref-46)
47. Eastern Districts Chronicle 16 May 1885, p.2. [↑](#footnote-ref-47)
48. West Australian 23 May 1885, p.3. [↑](#footnote-ref-48)
49. Eastern Districts Chronicle 23 May 1885, p.3. [↑](#footnote-ref-49)
50. Eastern Districts Chronicle 4 July 1885, p.3. [↑](#footnote-ref-50)
51. West Australian 24 October 1885, p.3. [↑](#footnote-ref-51)
52. Daily News 30 July 1885, p.3. [↑](#footnote-ref-52)
53. John Boyd Craig: HeirLine, a private family history, 2002(?) (unpublished), p.24. [↑](#footnote-ref-53)
54. York Chronicle 18 July 1930, p.2. [↑](#footnote-ref-54)
55. West Australian, 19 November 1885, p.3; Daily News, 12 November 1885, p.3. [↑](#footnote-ref-55)
56. WA Bulletin 21 July 1888, p.6. [↑](#footnote-ref-56)
57. West Australian, 10 March 1886, p.3; Daily News, 11 March 1886, p.3; West Australian 11 March 1886, p.3; Daily News 12 March 1886, p.3; Daily News 12 March 1886, p.3; Herald 13 March 1886, p.3; Western Mail 13 March 1886, p.24; Daily News, 15 March 1886, p.4; West Australian, 16 March 1886, p.3; Daily News 16 March 1886, p.3; Inquirer and Commercial News 17 March 1886, p.2; Inquirer and Commercial News 17 March 1886, p.5; Western Mail 20 March 1886, p.21 [↑](#footnote-ref-57)
58. West Australian 11 March 1886, p.2. [↑](#footnote-ref-58)
59. The Herald, 12 June 1886, p.8. [↑](#footnote-ref-59)
60. Eastern Districts Chronicle 8 January 1887, p.2. [↑](#footnote-ref-60)
61. The identity of the duellists and seconds has been disguised in the report of the duel by pseudonyms, but Frank is clearly identified because he is called “Frank Castle”. The others involved are suggested with some degree of uncertainty, Inquirer and Commercial News 26 January 1887, p.3; Daily News 29 January 1887, p.2. [↑](#footnote-ref-61)
62. Eastern Districts Chronicle 5 February 1887, p.4. [↑](#footnote-ref-62)
63. WA Bulletin 21 July 1888, p.6. [↑](#footnote-ref-63)
64. Eastern Districts Chronicle 5 February 1887, p.2. [↑](#footnote-ref-64)
65. John Boyd Craig: HeirLine, a private family history, 2002(?) (unpublished), p.24. [↑](#footnote-ref-65)
66. Geraldton Guardian and Express 23 July 1930, p.1. [↑](#footnote-ref-66)
67. WA Bulletin 21 July 1888, p.6. [↑](#footnote-ref-67)
68. Eastern Districts Chronicle 16 November 1889, p.4. [↑](#footnote-ref-68)
69. Eastern Districts Chronicle 11 August 1888, p.4. [↑](#footnote-ref-69)
70. Geraldton Guardian and Express 23 July 1930, p.1. [↑](#footnote-ref-70)
71. Eastern Districts Chronicle 26 October 1923, p.4. [↑](#footnote-ref-71)
72. Eastern Districts Chronicle 26 October 1923, p.4. [↑](#footnote-ref-72)
73. York Chronicle 18 July 1930, p.2. [↑](#footnote-ref-73)
74. York Chronicle 26 July 1929, p.2. [↑](#footnote-ref-74)
75. Eastern Districts Chronicle 17 November 1888, p.4; West Australian 21 November 1888, p.3. [↑](#footnote-ref-75)
76. Eastern Districts Chronicle 8 December 1888, p.7. [↑](#footnote-ref-76)
77. Eastern Districts Chronicle 22 June 1889, p.4. [↑](#footnote-ref-77)
78. Eastern Districts Chronicle 22 January 1898, p.3. [↑](#footnote-ref-78)
79. West Australian 12 November 1887, p.3; 30 November 1887, p.6. [↑](#footnote-ref-79)
80. Eastern Districts Chronicle 23 August 1890, p.6. [↑](#footnote-ref-80)
81. Geraldton Guardian and Express 23 July 1930, p.1. [↑](#footnote-ref-81)
82. John Boyd Craig: HeirLine, a private family history, 2002(?) (unpublished), p.26. [↑](#footnote-ref-82)
83. Inquirer and Commercial News 3 October 1888, p.5. [↑](#footnote-ref-83)
84. A partnership with William Morris to acquire mining leases continued to 1919: Kalgoorlie Miner 18 September 1919, p.1. [↑](#footnote-ref-84)
85. Eastern Districts Chronicle 28 July 1888, p.4. [↑](#footnote-ref-85)
86. West Australian 24 July 1888, p.3. [↑](#footnote-ref-86)
87. Dissolution of partnership advertised in Eastern Districts Chronicle 24 January 1891, p.4. [↑](#footnote-ref-87)
88. West Australian 27 November 1888, p.3. [↑](#footnote-ref-88)
89. Eastern Districts Chronicle 18 May 1889, p.5. [↑](#footnote-ref-89)
90. Daily News 20 May 1889, p.3. [↑](#footnote-ref-90)
91. Eastern Districts Chronicle 16 November 1889, p.4. [↑](#footnote-ref-91)
92. Eastern Districts Chronicle 15 November 1890, p.4. [↑](#footnote-ref-92)
93. Eastern Districts Chronicle 14 December 1889, p.4; 18 January 1890, p.4. [↑](#footnote-ref-93)
94. Geraldton Guardian and Express 23 July 1930, p.1. [↑](#footnote-ref-94)
95. Inquirer and Commercial News 27 November 1891, p.2. [↑](#footnote-ref-95)
96. West Australian 10 July 1891, p.2. [↑](#footnote-ref-96)
97. Daily News 23 February 1893, p.2. [↑](#footnote-ref-97)
98. West Australian 9 March 1895, p.5. [↑](#footnote-ref-98)
99. Inquirer and Commercial News 20 February 1891, p.5. [↑](#footnote-ref-99)
100. West Australian 4 November 1893, p.5. [↑](#footnote-ref-100)
101. West Australian 9 September 1891, p.2; 12 September 1891, p.4; Western Mail 12 September 1891, p.14; West Australian, 13 October 1891, p.3. [↑](#footnote-ref-101)
102. Daily News 24 November 1891, p.3. [↑](#footnote-ref-102)
103. Eastern Districts Chronicle 21 May 1892, p.3. [↑](#footnote-ref-103)
104. Inquirer and Commercial News 23 April 1892, p.6. [↑](#footnote-ref-104)
105. Nor’West Times and Northern Advocate 4 March 1893, p.3. [↑](#footnote-ref-105)
106. Nor’West Times and Northern Advocate 6 August 1892, p.2. [↑](#footnote-ref-106)
107. North Coolgardie and Miners Daily News 20 July 1899, p.2. [↑](#footnote-ref-107)
108. Eastern Districts Chronicle, 12 November 1892, p.3. [↑](#footnote-ref-108)
109. Peter Conolly (?) was sentenced to 18 months imprisonment: Nor’West Times and Northern Advocate 24 December 1892, p.3. [↑](#footnote-ref-109)
110. West Australian 10 December 1892, p.3. [↑](#footnote-ref-110)
111. Eastern Districts Chronicle 7 January 1893, p.7. [↑](#footnote-ref-111)
112. Police Gazette 1 February 1893, p.21. [↑](#footnote-ref-112)
113. Eastern Districts Chronicle 1`5 July 1893, p.4. [↑](#footnote-ref-113)
114. West Australian 2 August 1893, p.6. [↑](#footnote-ref-114)
115. Daily News 3 January 1894, p.2. [↑](#footnote-ref-115)
116. Eastern Districts Chronicle 16 June 1894, p.2. [↑](#footnote-ref-116)
117. John Boyd Craig: HeirLine, a private family history, 2002(?) (unpublished), p.26. [↑](#footnote-ref-117)
118. Western Mail 1 December 1894, p.36; West Australian 24 December 1894, p.2. [↑](#footnote-ref-118)
119. Southern Times 22 December 1894, p.3. [↑](#footnote-ref-119)
120. Mirror 13 March 1908, p.12. [↑](#footnote-ref-120)
121. Eastern Districts Chronicle 1 February 1896, p.6; Daily News 7 February 1896, p.2. [↑](#footnote-ref-121)
122. Northam Advertiser 15 February 1896, p.2. [↑](#footnote-ref-122)
123. Daily News 16 June 1896, p.2. [↑](#footnote-ref-123)
124. This company may have been Frazer’s GM Co No Liability: See West Australian Sunday Times 30 December 1900, p.5 in which the directors are severely criticised. Or was it Leonora Main Reefs GM Syndicate Limited: Kalgoorlie Miner 20 February 1902, p.3 of which Frank was Chairman. [↑](#footnote-ref-124)
125. West Australian 11 July 1896, p.3. [↑](#footnote-ref-125)
126. Sporting Life: Dryblower’s Journal 7 October 1905, p.1. [↑](#footnote-ref-126)
127. See To let Ad, advertising a house to let in Albany: West Australian 26 January 1897, p.2. [↑](#footnote-ref-127)
128. John Boyd Craig: HeirLine, a private family history, 2002(?) (unpublished), p.28. [↑](#footnote-ref-128)
129. West Australian 2 June 1897, p.4. [↑](#footnote-ref-129)
130. Western Mail 11 June 1897, p.10. [↑](#footnote-ref-130)
131. West Australian 10 September 1897, p.5. [↑](#footnote-ref-131)
132. West Australian 14 January 1898, p.8. [↑](#footnote-ref-132)
133. West Australian 2 September 1898, p.8. [↑](#footnote-ref-133)
134. West Australian 29 July 1898, p.8. [↑](#footnote-ref-134)
135. The orchard was considered for purchase by the bowling club in 1908: Eastern Districts Chronicle 22 August 1908, p.2. The Council considered sub-division plans in 1908: Eastern Districts Chronicle 12 September 1908, p.3. [↑](#footnote-ref-135)
136. The orchard was advertised as sub-divided lots in 1910: West Australian 26 November 1910, p.2; Eastern Districts Chronicle 16 December 1910, p.2. [↑](#footnote-ref-136)
137. John Boyd Craig: HeirLine, a private family history, 2002(?) (unpublished), p.29. [↑](#footnote-ref-137)
138. Kalgoorlie and Boulder Standard 9 April 1898, p.2. [↑](#footnote-ref-138)
139. West Australian 10 September 1898, p.10. [↑](#footnote-ref-139)
140. West Australian 11 September 1898, p.5. [↑](#footnote-ref-140)
141. West Australian 8 November 1898, p.4; Murchison Times and Day Dawn Gazette 10 November 1898, p.3.. [↑](#footnote-ref-141)
142. John Boyd Craig: HeirLine, a private family history, 2002(?) (unpublished), p.29. [↑](#footnote-ref-142)
143. Eastern Districts Chronicle 1 July 1899, lp.3. [↑](#footnote-ref-143)
144. Southern Times 20 June 1905, p.5. [↑](#footnote-ref-144)
145. Northern Times 29 June 1912, p.3. [↑](#footnote-ref-145)
146. Purchased in 1909 for £4,500: West Australian 1 July 1909, p.2; Northern Times 17 July 1909, p.2. [↑](#footnote-ref-146)
147. Northern Times 6 September 1913, p.3. [↑](#footnote-ref-147)
148. His son Colin looked after Yalbalgo: Northern Times 6 October 1917, p.5. He was a prisoner of war during World War I. West Australian 19 December 1918, p.7. Frank Craig invested £2,000 in a War Bond: West Australian 15 April 1918, p.6. [↑](#footnote-ref-148)
149. For £17,900: Murchison Times and Day Dawn Gazette 21 April 1922, p.3. [↑](#footnote-ref-149)
150. Dalgety’s Review 17 July 1930, p.1. [↑](#footnote-ref-150)
151. Southern Times 22 December 1906, p.3. The seller was Montray Bunbury and the price was £3,500. [↑](#footnote-ref-151)
152. John Boyd Craig: HeirLine, a private family history, 2002(?) (unpublished), p.22. [↑](#footnote-ref-152)
153. Western Mail 14 January 1916, p.11. [↑](#footnote-ref-153)
154. Western Mail 14 January 1916, p.11. [↑](#footnote-ref-154)
155. Daily News 7 June 1912, p.3. [↑](#footnote-ref-155)
156. Eastern Districts Chronicle 11 December 1914, p.5. [↑](#footnote-ref-156)
157. Blackwood Times 12 March 1920, p.4. [↑](#footnote-ref-157)
158. Blackwood Times 12 March 1920, p.4. [↑](#footnote-ref-158)
159. South Western Times 2 November 1918, p.7. [↑](#footnote-ref-159)
160. Bunbury Herald and Blackwood Express 12 March 1920, p.2. [↑](#footnote-ref-160)
161. Blackwood Times 12 March 1920, p.4. [↑](#footnote-ref-161)
162. Umpire 10 November 1900, p.4. [↑](#footnote-ref-162)
163. Guardian: Suburban and Municipal Recorder 14 May 1904, p.2. [↑](#footnote-ref-163)
164. Guardian: Suburban and Municipal Recorder 16 July 1904, p.2. [↑](#footnote-ref-164)
165. Albany Advertiser 7 October 1922, p.2. [↑](#footnote-ref-165)
166. Dalgety’s Review 17 July 1930, p.1. [↑](#footnote-ref-166)
167. West Australian 7 August 1926, p.8. [↑](#footnote-ref-167)
168. Daily News 7 October 1927, p.11. [↑](#footnote-ref-168)
169. West Australian 26 January 1929, p.3. [↑](#footnote-ref-169)
170. Western Mail 4 August 1899, p.10. [↑](#footnote-ref-170)
171. West Australian 21 March 1919, p.6. [↑](#footnote-ref-171)
172. Sunday Times 23 March 1919, p.1. [↑](#footnote-ref-172)
173. West Australian 24 December 1904, p.14. [↑](#footnote-ref-173)
174. West Australian 8 February 1908, p.11. [↑](#footnote-ref-174)
175. Dalgety’s Review 17 July 1930, p.1. [↑](#footnote-ref-175)
176. Dalgety’s Review 17 July 1930, p.1. [↑](#footnote-ref-176)
177. Geraldton Guardian and Express 23 July 1930, p.1. [↑](#footnote-ref-177)
178. Visit to Port Hedland in 1908: Mirror 5 June m1908, p.6. [↑](#footnote-ref-178)
179. One year world trip in 1911 -1912: Eastern Districts Chronicle 10 March 1911, p.3; 26 May 1911, p.3. [↑](#footnote-ref-179)
180. Tour of the districts between York and Albany 1922: Eastern Districts Chronicle 10 March 1922, p.3. [↑](#footnote-ref-180)
181. Visit to England: Western Mail 23 April 1925, p.27; letter to the paper about South Africa: Eastern Districts Chronicle 3 July 1925, p.3; return Daily News 15 February 1926, p.7; Daily News 25 March 1926, p.8. [↑](#footnote-ref-181)
182. Dalgety’s Review 17 July 1930, p.1. [↑](#footnote-ref-182)
183. Sunday Times 28 April 1929, p.9. [↑](#footnote-ref-183)
184. York Chronicle 18 July 1930, p.2. [↑](#footnote-ref-184)
185. West Australian 5 July 1930, p.1. [↑](#footnote-ref-185)
186. Sunday Times 21 September 1930, p.13. [↑](#footnote-ref-186)