

# Grand Masters of Ireland

Source: "Irish Freemason's Calendar and Directory for the year A.D. 2006  
Published under the sanction of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Ireland – Dublin  
Listing graciously mailed by the Archivist – Grand Lodge of Ireland

The Archivist notes:

"Some of the dates for the early Grand Masters would have been taken from Newspaper articles and the like,  
as the earliest Grand Lodge Minute Books have not survived."

Compiled and edited by R.'W.'. Gary L. Heinmiller from internet sources.  
Archivist, Onondaga & Oswego Masonic Districts Historical Society [OMDHS]  
[www.ondhs.syracusemasons.com](http://www.ondhs.syracusemasons.com)  
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This is a work in progress, along with companion pages for many other Grand Masters,  
which includes numerous Genealogical Charts showing the close family interlinking of these Grand Masters with each other.

There is yet much editing and research to be done on this most interesting subject.

It is the tale of a long history encompassing the times in which they served, their families and homes.

It is, in essence, a socio-genealogical survey of these leaders of the Craft from numerous internet sources.

If you were to visit the various sources cited, you would find massive additional information available,  
giving you a profound overview of the history of mankind in various eras, from the early 1700's to the present time.

In researching, in many cases only the titles of the person was given, such as "Baron Kingston."

Through further research I found the Name of the person who most closely fit the period in which they served.

If I have erred as to the actual person who served, please feel free to send corrections, additions or deletions.

|    |      |                                  |  |
|----|------|----------------------------------|--|
|    |      | <b>Grand Lodge of Ireland</b>    |  |
| 1  | 1725 | Parsons, Richard                 | 1st Earl of Rosse  |
| 2  | 1730 | Parsons, Richard                 | 1st Earl of Rosse  |
|    |      | <b>Grand Lodge of Munster</b>    |  |
| a  | 1728 | O'Brien, Hon. James              | M.P. for Youghal [Mallow, 30 Oct 1725]   |
| b  | 1730 | Maynard, Col William             |  |
| 3  | 1731 | King, James                      | 4th Baron Kingston [see also 1735]   |
| 4  | 1732 | Netterville, Nicholas            | 5th Viscount Netterville; Deputy GM 1731   |
| 5  | 1733 | Barnewall, Henry Benedict        | 4th Viscount Kingsland [Barnewall]; Deputy GM 1732   |
| 6  | 1735 | King, James                      | 4th Baron Kingston [see also 1731 and 1745]  |
| 7  | 1736 | Beresford, Marcus                | 1st Viscount Tyrone – [1st] Earl of Tyrone; Deputy GM 1733   |
| 8  | 1738 | Stewart, William                 | 3rd Viscount Mountjoy – 1st Earl of Blessington  |
| 9  | 1740 | St. Leger, Arthur Mohun          | 3rd Viscount Doneraile   |
| 10 | 1741 | Moore, Charles                   | 2nd Baron Tullamore – Earl of Charleville [see also 1760]  |
| 11 | 1743 | Southwell, Thomas                | 2nd Baron Southwell  |
| 12 | 1745 | Allen, John                      | 3rd Viscount Allen   |
| 13 | 1747 | Wyvill[e], Sir Marmaduke         | 6th Bt.  |
| 14 | 1749 | King, Robert                     | 1st Baron Kingsborough   |
| 15 | 1751 | Sackville, Lord George [Germain] | 1st Viscount Sackville   |
| 16 | 1753 | Southwell, Hon. Thomas George    | Viscount Southwell; Deputy GM 1751-52  |
| 17 | 1757 | Butler, Brinsley                 | 2nd Earl of Lanesborough, Lord Newtown-Butler; His father, Hon. Humphrey, 1st Earl of Lanesborough, was the first Deputy GM of Ireland, 1725. Brinsley was Deputy GM 1753-56 |
| 18 | 1758 | Moore, Charles                   | Viscount Moore – 6th Earl and 1st Marq. of Drogheda; Deputy GM 1757  |

|    |           |                                  |  |
|----|-----------|----------------------------------|--|
| 19 | 1760      | Moore, Charles                   | 1st Earl of Charleville [see also 1741]  |
| 20 | 1761      | King, Sir Edward                 | 5th Bt. – 1st Earl of Kingston [see also 1769]   |
| 21 | 1763      | Nugent, Thomas                   | 6th Earl of Westmeath, K.P.  |
| 22 | 1767      | Lambart, Ford                    | 5th Earl of Cavan  |
| 23 | 1769      | King, Sir Edward                 | 1st Earl of Kingston [see also 1761]   |
| 24 | 1770      | Fitz Gerald, William Robert      | Marq. Of Kildare – 2nd Duke of Leinster [see also 1777]  |
| 25 | 1772      | Mac Donnell, Randal William      | Viscount Dunluce – 6th Earl and 1st Marq. of Antrim [see also 1778]  |
| 26 | 1774      | Rochfort, George                 | Viscount Bellfield – 2nd Earl of Belvedere [Belvidere], His sister Jane m. 1754, Brinsley Butler, 2nd Earl of Lanesborough [see also 1757 above] |
| 27 | 1776      | Wesley, Garret[t]                | 1st Earl of Mornington   |
| 28 | 1777      | Fitz Gerald, William Robert      | 2nd Duke of Leinster [see also 1770]   |
| 29 | 1778      | Mac Donnell, Randal William      | 6th Earl of Antrim [Marq. of Antrim] [see also 1772]   |
| 30 | 1782      | Wesley, Richard Colley           | 2nd Earl of Mornington – Marquess of Wellesley   |
| 31 | 1783      | Deane, Robert Tilson             | 1st Baron Muskerry   |
| 32 | 1785      | Hill, Arthur                     | Viscount Kilwarlin – 2nd Marquess of Downshire   |
| 33 | 1787      | Annesley, Charles Francis        | 2nd Viscount Glerawley – 1st Earl of Annesley  |
| 34 | 1789      | Hely-Hutchinson, Richard         | 2nd Baron Donoughmore – 1st Earl of Donoughmore  |
| 35 | 1813      | Fitz Gerald, Augustus Frederick  | 3rd Duke of Leinster   |
| 36 | 1874-1885 | Hamilton, James                  | 1st Duke of Abercorn, K.G.   |
| 37 | 1886-1913 | Hamilton, James                  | 2nd Duke of Abercorn, K.G.   |
| 38 | 1913      | Hely-Hutchinson, Richard         | 6th Earl of Donoughmore, K.P.  |
| 39 | 1948      | Brooke, Raymond Frederick        | Deputy GM 1930-48  |
| 40 | 1964      | Hely-Hutchinson, John            | 7th Earl of Donoughmore  |
| 41 | 1981      | Chichester, Dermot Richard Claud | 7th Marquess of Donegall   |
| 42 | 1992-2001 | Templeton, Darwin Herbert        | C.B.E.   |
| 43 | 2002-2005 | Waller, Eric Noel                |  |
| 44 | 2006      | Dunlop, George                   |  |
| 45 | 2014      | Grey, Douglas T.                 |  |

[http://www.irish-freemasons.org/Pages\\_GL/Grand%20Lodge\\_History.html](http://www.irish-freemasons.org/Pages_GL/Grand%20Lodge_History.html)

The Grand Lodge of Ireland is the second oldest in the world and the first evidence for its existence comes from the Dublin Weekly Journal of June 26th 1725. The paper describes an event which took place two days previously on June 24th - a meeting of the Grand Lodge of Ireland to install the new Grand Master, the 1st Earl of Rosse. Unfortunately the exact date of the foundation of the Grand Lodge is not known, but the installation of a new Grand Master would suggest it was already in existence a couple of years. 1725 is the year celebrated in Grand Lodge anniversaries.

There is considerable evidence that there were Masonic Lodges meeting in Ireland prior to the eighteenth century, for example the manuscript known as "the Trinity Tripos" dating to the 1680s, and the Baal's Bridge Square, discovered in Limerick in the mid nineteenth century, which purportedly dates to the early sixteenth century. The story of the "Lady Freemason", Elizabeth St. Leger, also dates to a time prior to the existence of the Grand Lodge.

During the eighteenth century hundreds of Lodges were founded in every part of Ireland, and most of these would have met at inns, taverns and coffee houses. In Dublin, Lodges were known to have met in the Yellow Lion on Werburgh Street, the Centaur Tavern on Fishamble Street, and the Eagle Tavern on Cork Hill, amongst others, and in Belfast meetings were held in the Sailor on Mill Street and the Donegall Anna. The meetings of the Grand Lodge however, generally took place in civic and guild buildings such as the Tailors' Hall in Back Lane, the Cutlers' Hall in Capel Street, and the Assembly Rooms on South William Street.

Towards the end of the eighteenth century the number of new Lodges being founded increased dramatically at the same time as the popularity of the Volunteer Movement expanded. Several Lodges were associated with Volunteer Regiments, and in Dublin, the First Volunteer Lodge of Ireland No. 620 was founded by the Officers of the Independent Dublin Volunteers in 1783. The Ballymascanlon Rangers were associated with Lodge No. 222, Dundalk, and in Fermanagh there was a regiment known as the Lowtherstown Masonick Volunteers.

The political influence of the Volunteers combined with the success of the American War of Independence and the French Revolution created new ideals of democracy in Ireland. Following the founding of the Society of United Irishmen several Lodges, particularly in the north of Ireland, made public proclamations in the press about the need for reform of the Constitution. Whilst the vast majority of Lodges that did this disavowed violence as the means to an end, some were quite rebellious in their proclamations. Other Lodges, it must be said, publicly dissociated themselves from their more revolutionary Brethren.

Government pressure was brought to bear on Grand Lodge and notices were sent out reminding Lodges of the Grand Lodge Law forbidding quarrels of a religious or political nature to be brought within the doors of the Lodge. However, several well-known United Irishmen including Henry Joy McCracken, Henry Monroe, and Archibald Hamilton Rowan were also Freemasons.

In 1826 the papal Bull of Leo XII against secret societies was widely promulgated in Ireland unlike the previous bulls issued against Freemasonry in the eighteenth century. Catholic members of the Order were threatened with excommunication if they failed to resign from their Lodges. One of the most prominent figures in Irish history to have been a Freemason, Daniel O'Connell, resigned after pressure was put on him by Archbishop Troy of Dublin.

The nineteenth century saw the expansion of Irish Freemasonry to all four corners of the globe with Lodges established in Australia, New Zealand, the West Indies, India and the Far East. Prominent during the century was the 3rd Duke of Leinster who presided over the Order as Grand Master for an impressive sixty one years. The nineteenth century also saw the expansion of the Masonic Female Orphan School, founded in 1792 to educate the daughters of deceased Freemasons. In 1881 a brand new school building was opened on the Merrion Road in Dublin while in 1867 the Masonic Orphan Boys School was founded.

By the 1820s the Grand Lodge of Ireland had arranged to lease No. 19 Dawson Street, Dublin, for use as the headquarters of Irish Freemasonry. From there, following a brief sojourn in the Freemasons Coffee House in D'Olier Street, the Order moved to another rented premises, Commercial Buildings on Dame Street, which became the Masonic Hall until 1869 when the present Freemasons' Hall opened for meetings. The new building was designed and purpose built as a Masonic Hall and it remains the headquarters of Irish Freemasonry, housing dramatically decorated Lodge rooms, a library, a museum, offices and dining areas.

### Biographical and Genealogical Notes

See also Grand Masters of England and Scotland at  
[www.ondhs.syracusefreemasons.com](http://www.ondhs.syracusefreemasons.com)

#### 1725, 1730 – Richard Parsons - 1st Earl of Rosse

b. Jan 1702; d. 26 Jun 1741

<http://www.thepeerage.com/p1519.htm#i15184>

[http://freemasonry.bcy.ca/biography/parsons\\_r/parsons\\_r.html](http://freemasonry.bcy.ca/biography/parsons_r/parsons_r.html)

<http://freemasonry.bcy.ca/history/hellfire/hellfire.html#dublin>



In Dublin records are unclear if there was one club meeting in several locations or several distinct "Hell-Fire" clubs. Its founders were Richard Parsons, first Earl of Rosse and Colonel Jack St Leger, a relative of the Hon. Elizabeth St Leger.

A picture by James Worsdale in the Irish National Gallery shows Lord Santry, Simon Luttrell "the wicked madman", Colonels Clements, Ponsonby and St George, all members of the Dublin Hell-Fire Club which met at the Eagle Tavern on Cork Hill, at Daly's Club on College Green, and at a hunting lodge on Montpelier Hill until the lodge burnt down and they relocated to the Killakee Dower House farther down the same hill.

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His sister, Catherine, d. 1776, married, 1705, James Hussey, d. 1759. They had a son, Edward Hussey-Montagu, 1721-1802, 1st Earl of Beaulieu, who married, 1743, Lady Isabella Montagu, d. 1786, daughter of **John Montagu**, 1689-1749, 2nd Duke of Montagu, **GM of the Premier GL of England, 1721-22**.

#### More about Edward Hussey:

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Edward\\_Hussey-Montagu,\\_1st\\_Earl\\_of\\_Beaulieu](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Edward_Hussey-Montagu,_1st_Earl_of_Beaulieu)

Born Edward Hussey, he was the son of Irish parents, James Hussey and Catherine née Parsons (a daughter of the 1st Viscount Rosse). In 1743 he married Lady Isabella Montagu, a daughter of the 2nd Duke of Montagu and Lady Mary née Churchill (a daughter of the 1st Duke of Marlborough). In 1749 he legally changed his surname to Hussey-Montagu and was made a Knight Companion of the Bath in 1753. From 1758 to 1762, he was Whig MP for Tiverton and on his retirement was raised to the peerage as Baron Beaulieu of Beaulieu, co. Southampton and later Earl of Beaulieu in 1784. Upon his death in Dover Street (off Piccadilly), London in 1802, his titles became extinct as his only son, John Hussey, Lord Montagu had died in 1787. He was buried on 14 December that year at Warkton, Northamptonshire.

<http://www.geocities.com/~cindycasey/hussengl.htm>

EDWARD HUSSEY, Esq. of Westown, who married in 1743, Isabella, eldest daughter and co-heir of John, Duke of Montague, and relict of William Montague, Duke of Manchester, and assumed at the decease of his father-in-law, the name and arms of Montague. In 1753, he was installed a knight of the Bath; in 1762, created a peer of Great Britain as Baron Beaulier, of Beaulier; and in 1784, advanced to be EARL BEAULIEU. By the co-heiress of Montague, his lordship had an only son. John, who died unmarried and one daughter, Isabella, who also died unmarried in 1772. He died in 1802 (when the peerage expired), and was survived in the Irish estates by his brother, RICHARD HUSSEY, Esq. of Westown, who died unmarried, having devised his property to his cousin (the grandson of Catherine Hussey, by her husband, Sir Andrew Aylmer, Bart.) GERALD STRONG, Esq., who assumed, in consequence, the name and arms of HUSSEY. Owing, however, to the will of Lord Beaulieu, who had bequeathed the estates to Lord Sidney Osborne, youngest son of the Duke of Leeds, litigation ensued, and was at length terminated by a compromise and division of the property under an act of parliament, 51st GEORGE III. Mr. Strong-Hussey married in 1781, Mary, daughter of Anthony Lynch, Esq., of La Vally, co. Galway, and had issue:

Anthony, his heir  
Margaret  
Isabella

Mr. Strong-Hussey, Esq., of Westown was born 24 August 1782, and married 19 Aug 1811 Mable, eldest daughter of Malachi Donelan, Esq. of Ballydonegan, co. Galway, and dying 12 July 1859, left, with other issue, a son and heir, the late Malachi Strong-Hussey, Esq. of Westown.

#### More about Lady Isabella Montagu:

<http://www.thepeerage.com/p5143.htm#i51425>

Lady Isabella Montagu was the daughter of John Montagu, 2nd Duke of Montagu and Lady Mary Churchill.

She m1, William Montagu, 2nd Duke of Manchester, son of Charles Montagu, 1st Duke of Manchester and Doddington Greville, on 16 April 1723.

She m2, Sir Edward Hussey-Montagu, 1st and last Earl of Beaulieu, son of James Hussey and Catherine Parsons, in 1743.

She died on 20 December 1786 in Dover Street, London, England and was buried on 28 December 1786 in Warkton, Northamptonshire, England.

As a result of her marriages, Lady Isabella Montagu was styled as Dowager Duchess of Manchester on 21 October 1739, as Baroness Beaulieu on 11 August 1762 and as Countess of Beaulieu on 8 July 1784.

m1 William Montagu, 2nd Duke of Manchester b. April 1700, d. 21 October 1739

m2 Sir Edward Hussey-Montagu, 1st and last Earl of Beaulieu b. before 1728, d. 25 November 1802

Child 1. John Hussey-Montagu, Lord Montagu b. 18 Jan 1746/47, d. 25 Jun 1787

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Another sister of Richard was Frances, who married, 1704, John Netterville, ca 1674-1727, 4th Viscount Netterville of Dowth. They were the parents of **Nicholas Netterville**, 1708/09-1750, 5th Viscount Netterville of Dowth, who **GM of Ireland, 1732**. Nicholas married, 28 Feb 1731/32, Catherine Burton (b 25.05.1712, d 24.05.1784, dau of Samuel Burton of Burton Hall) and they had children:

- (i) John Netterville, 6th Viscount of Dowth (b 03.1744, d unm 15.03.1826)
- (ii) Frances Netterville (d 1764) m. Dominick Blake of Castle Grove
- (iii) Anne Netterville (d unm 1756)

### **1731, 1735 – James King, 4th Baron Kingston** [see also 1735]

b. 1693; d. 26 Dec 1761

<http://www.thepeerage.com/p11741.htm#i117405>

James King, 4th Baron Kingston was born in 1693 in France. He was the son of John King, 3rd Baron Kingston and Margaret O'Cahan.

He m1, Elizabeth Meade, daughter of Sir John Meade, 1st Bt. and Elizabeth Butler.

He m2, Isabella Ogle in July 1751 in Pangbourne, Berkshire, England.

He died on 26 December 1761 in Martyr Worthy, Hampshire, England, without legitimate surviving male issue and was buried in Mitchelstown, County Cork, Ireland. His will was probated in February 1762.

On 8 January 1707/08 as an infant, he petitioned for naturalization, as "born out of her Majesty's allegiance, but are good Protestants." He held the office of Grand Master of the Freemasons [England] between 1728 and 1730.

He succeeded to the title of 4th Baron Kingston, of Kingston, co. Dublin [l., 1660] on 15 February 1727/28.

He was invested as a Privy Counsellor (P.C.) [Ireland] on 24 April 1729.

He held the office of Grand Master of the Freemasons [Ireland] between 1730 and 1732.

He held the office of Grand Master of the Freemasons [Ireland] from 1735 to 1736.

He held the office of Grand Master of the Freemasons [Ireland] between 1745 and 1747.

On his death, the Barony of Kingston became extinct.

m1 Elizabeth Meade b. before 1722, d. 6 October 1750

1. Children Hon. William King d. 7 Dec 1755

2. Elizabeth King 4

3. Margaret King+ b. b 1738, d. 29 Jan 1763

m2 Isabella Ogle d. 9 December 1761

<http://www.powells.com/biblio?show=HARDCOVER:USED:0345447646:14.95&page=excerpt>

Daughters of Ireland: The Rebellious Kingsborough Sisters and the Making of a Modern Nation, by Janet M Todd  
Chapter 1

The Price of a Bride  
The spirit of collateral calculation . . .  
-horace walpole

In May 1798 an earl was tried before his peers for the murder of his wife's cousin. The trial of Robert, Earl of Kingston, before the Irish House of Lords proved an extraordinary event in the King family, already torn apart by political difference and personal conflict. It also impinged on a crucial period in Irish and Anglo-Irish history: the Rebellion of 1798.

Robert and his wife, Caroline, were heirs of a dynasty. Long before 1798 their ancestors the Fitzgeralds had become notorious for combining murder, money, feuding and revolt. Through the generations they mingled old Celtic and English blood, becoming a fairly typical, ethnically diverse Anglo-Irish clan. They were especially proud of being descended from the White Knight, who derived his glamorous name from the color of his armor-or from the white scarf with which the English monarch Edward III bandaged his battle wound. The Knight established his castle at Mitchelstown in County Cork.

In the 1650s the Fitzgerald heiress brought the White Knight's inheritance of castle and fertile lands into the hands of the Kings, a Yorkshire family of civil servants whose grateful English sovereigns had rewarded them with Irish property at Boyle in County Roscommon. By this marriage the Kings became masters of thousands of acres in southern and midland Ireland. They liked the glamour of the White Knight and used him in family portraits as they moved up the ranks to become the Barons Kingston.

By the time of **James, 4th Baron Kingston**, in the eighteenth century, the King estates had been divided, and it became a dream of successive generations to unite them. But it was not one that James could realize, since at his death in 1761 he left only a married daughter, Margaret, to inherit his lands-as a woman she could not accede to his title. She had married rather beneath her: a country gentleman, Richard Fitzgerald of Mount Ophaley, County Kildare, a vain but attractive militia colonel with a modest civil pension of £200. When the marriage had occurred, however, the baron had had a son living and not much value was placed on the daughter-in the marriage market wealth far outweighed rank. With this young man's death, the family hopes had now to settle on Margaret's only child, Caroline, who became heiress of over seventy-five thousand acres of Cork and Limerick stretching across twenty miles. It was one of the largest fortunes in Ireland and she was one of the most sought-after girls.

Anxious about such wealth remaining in women's hands, James worked out a will that would ensure his estates traveled to Caroline and onward to the goal: a son in the bloodline. Through Caroline, too, the King lands in Counties Roscommon and Cork might once more be united; then her son could inherit all and give the family huge political and social prominence across the island. Caroline's father, Richard Fitzgerald, must of course be compensated, so James's will stipulated that if her mother was dead, Caroline at twenty-one would inherit all the land of the White Knight, but Richard, her father, should receive an income of £2,000 as long as his

daughter remained unmarried. However things were arranged and sweetened, the daughter would always be a great deal wealthier than her father. She might also remain wealthier than her eldest son, since he could not inherit until she relinquished the property.

In 1763, before her child was ten, Margaret died. Given her great riches and the danger of fortune hunters, Caroline was made a ward in chancery during her minority. Her father, Richard, was her guardian.

Three years after his wife's death Richard married again. His new spouse was a pleasant, sociable lady who brought him a modest fortune but not one on the scale of his first wife's. Soon they were parents of three daughters. Each would require a decent portion if she was to marry within her rank and keep up socially with her rich half sister. For the moment, as guardian of Caroline, Richard had access to the Mitchelstown rents but even with this goldmine he never quite had enough ready cash for his needs.

Caroline had a strange status, favored heiress and stepchild in a new family. It cannot have been easy for any of them. They lived at Richard's estate, Kilminchy Castle, in Maryborough, Queen's County (Laois), and kept a house in fashionable Merrion Square in Dublin. Earlier in the century the premier duke of Ireland, the Duke of Leinster, had built a large, rather forbidding country mansion in an undeveloped suburb of the city on the edge of Molesworth Fields, south of the Liffey. Rightly he assumed it would turn into a townhouse when his status attracted fashionable people to move close by. Merrion Square grew up around him and some of the newer inhabitants were Richard, his wife, their children and Caroline.

Occasionally they also visited Mitchelstown, and Caroline must always have known that she alone owned the castle, not her father. Where middle-class girls grew up assuming they would marry and place the dowry from their parents into the hands of a husband, an aristocratic heiress such as Caroline knew her importance from birth as carrier and holder of estates.

Yet father and daughter got on reasonably well. Richard did not overburden the girl with learning but ensured she had the proper ladylike accomplishments of French and music. He could also be indulgent and he bought Caroline the sort of present every little girl wants: a pony called Button.

Inevitably there was a buzz of activity around the rich child. Someone must secure her in marriage before she had a mind of her own or, as one guardian of an heiress expressed it, "before she was aware of what man or money was." It was common to arrange marriages on the basis of barter, and young women usually had little say in a matter that fathers had agreed. Caroline's interest would be represented mainly in the discussion of jointure (money to support her if her husband predeceased her) and pin money (her annual allowance). Her grandfather Baron Kingston's will ensured that the estates would always be vested in her and not simply be merged with those of a husband. If he died before she did, she would continue to hold them before leaving them to her eldest son.

As far as birth was concerned, the major claimant for the rich prize was William, son of the Duke and Duchess of Leinster, the Duchess being one of the five lively daughters of the English Duke of Richmond. It was impossible to marry higher in Ireland and the Leinsters had immense political and social prestige.\* But the Duke and Duchess had had a superfluity of children and consequently their great state was not supported by great riches. Also there were other Kings waiting in the wings with more zeal and assiduity than the Leinsters could muster.

These Kings, holders of the Roscommon lands at Boyle, had the advantage of being blessed by the dead Baron Kingston, who had favored an alliance of the two branches of his wealthy family. Like the Mitchelstown Kings, the Boyle Kings had gone some way up the social scale and were now Viscounts Kingsborough.

The present holder of the title was Edward, an ambitious, brooding, rather humorless man, who had succeeded his notoriously rakish and charming brother some years before. He was determined to avoid his brother's mistakes and make a respectable mark on the world. He would begin by resurrecting the defunct King title of Baron Kingston; he would then top it with an earldom. He felt he had the property to back his claims: he had inherited King House, big but unfashionably in the middle of Boyle town, and he was now reconstructing another mansion at nearby Rockingham that had a properly large demesne. This opulence was augmented by a further inheritance from his brother, a good solid townhouse in Dublin, 15-16 Henrietta Street, the grandest of the twenty-one terraced dwellings built in the 1720s and '30s away from the old city center. After he had achieved the proper honors, Edward would combine his titles and Boyle lands with the great Mitchelstown estates now vested in young Caroline. His instrument in this ambitious plan must be his eldest son, Robert, an unprepossessing youth now being educated expensively in England at Eton College.

Over the next years Edward kept an eye on Caroline, as well as on the opposition from the powerful Leinsters. He encouraged his own young daughters to write to the girl and swap stories about ponies. At the same time he set about a letter-writing campaign to capture the earldom of Kingston for his family and raise their social position.

In the mid-eighteenth century Ireland was ruled from Dublin under the British crown. The executive was usually drawn from the great Irish families, while ultimate authority lay in the crown-appointed Viceroy or Lord Lieutenant in Dublin Castle, seat of British power in Ireland. As the main instrument for rewards and favors, including titles and honors, the Lord Lieutenant was the most important personage to impress.

Despite his wealth, position and desire to please, Edward was never quite in favor with Dublin Castle or with the new young Hanoverian king George III in England, but he was persistent. He began by insisting on reviving the family name of Kingston and in June 1764 the Lord Lieutenant relayed to him that the King had agreed to create him Baron Kingston. At once the Rockingham mansion was named Kingston Hall. But, despite being entertained at Boyle, the Lord Lieutenant was unwilling to raise his host further. Edward was undeterred and wrote directly to ask for an earldom. It was refused.

In 1765 a new Lord Lieutenant, Lord Townshend, arrived in Dublin. At once Edward approached him but, despite high hopes, he had a distressing audience. It left him fearing the great man doubted his "Attachment to the House of Hanover" and "His Majesty's sacred Person." Profusely he expressed his loyalty to the crown.



He then started lobbying a neighbor in Henrietta Street, the Speaker of the Irish House of Commons, John Ponsonby, asking him to mediate with Townshend on his behalf. The Speaker did so and made Edward understand that the Lord Lieutenant was now sympathetic. Thus emboldened, Edward entertained Lord Townshend at dinner in King House.

In August 1768 he got his wish and became Earl of Kingston. Deeply grateful, he took his seat in the Irish House of Lords, knowing that his elevation had given him a better chance of gaining his second aim: the capturing of the Mitchelstown heiress. His new title allowed his son to take his old one and become Lord Kingsborough, a better-sounding name than plain Robert or Robin King. William, the Leinster candidate, still overtopped him in rank, since, on the death of his eldest brother, the young man had become Marquess of Kildare and heir to a dukedom.

Even before the Kingston title had been secured negotiations had been opened for the potential uniting of Caroline and Robert or rather the Roscommon and Cork estates of Boyle and Mitchelstown. Robert was still away at school at Eton; his absence was an advantage, since an adolescent boy would not help in the wooing. He could be fetched home when needed.

The first necessity was to secure Colonel Richard Fitzgerald, Caroline's father. Edward had been courting him for some years and in 1763, the year Richard's wealthy wife died, Edward had provided him with a parliamentary seat in which he had an interest at Boyle. This was a considerable kindness, since seats were much sought after and Richard had little political aptitude—once elected, he seldom attended Parliament. Despite receiving this patronage, Richard still insisted on being wooed for his consent to the marriage, since he had debts and a family of little girls. Edward understood his anxieties for he too had a family and large debts.

Meanwhile the Leinsters were advancing, trusting in their status to secure the prize. Unhappily for them William, their candidate, was far from Ireland on the grand Continental tour he had begun after his years at Eton. It was the custom for the British and Irish aristocracy to send young heirs on a European trip to educate and refine them and to acquire the southern artifacts to adorn their new mansions. Especially in need of refinement, young William was visiting Italy, France and Austria, supposedly learning military arts, sometimes being painfully homesick and sometimes enjoying the sexual freedom the Continent allowed. While he was away his mother and aunts, particularly Lady Holland in London—mother of the future politician Charles James Fox—looked out for his interests, and both wrote to him as soon as Caroline Fitzgerald, "Miss F," came on the market.

Like the other Leinster sons, William was devoted to his mother, and family letters of sentimental attachment flowed between him and the Duchess. Her favorite was the younger Edward, a glamorous and affectionate boy, and for him she reserved her greatest outpourings of love. But she was properly attached to all her children although, like his siblings, she could not avoid regarding William as dull. Since he felt ready for marriage and wanted to settle down and at the same time help the chaotic finances of his extravagant and huge family—the Duchess bore the Duke seventeen children, of whom eleven survived to maturity—it did not take much to interest him in Caroline Fitzgerald and her vast Mitchelstown estates. It helped that the girl was also reputed a beauty.

In July 1767 William wrote from Florence to his mother, authorizing his family to begin negotiating for a bride, though at that point he did not even know her age. Three months later he was more urgent: "I believe to make up for my travelling expenses (that causes me more uneasiness than one can imagine) you must marry me to Miss FitzGerald as soon as I return; so I beg you'll make Cecilia and Emily [his young aunt and sister] pay their court to her whenever they see her." His keenness was not entirely financial: "I like the description that Cecilia sent me very well, and I think there is no time to lose, as I hear they want to marry Master King to her directly, and it would be a thousand pities that poor William should lose so good a match. (I am in earnest.)" Later he told his mother, "I hope you'll make the young ladies be civil to Miss FitzGerald upon all occasions, as I wish I was married to her and settled." He thought it would be a good idea to get her to their grand house of Carton so they could impress and work on her there.

### 1732 - Netterville, Nicholas, 5th Viscount Netterville of Dowth; Deputy GM 1731

b. 7 Feb 1708/09; d. 19 Mar 1750; 10c8r

<http://www.stirnet.com/HTML/genie/british/nn/netterville1.htm>

m. (28.02.1731/2) Catherine Burton (b 25.05.1712, d 24.05.1784, dau of Samuel Burton of Burton Hall)

(i) John Netterville, 6th Viscount of Dowth (b 03.1744, d unm 15.03.1826)

(ii) Frances Netterville (d 1764) m. Dominick Blake of Castle Grove

(iii) Anne Netterville (d unm 1756)

Nicholas' parents were Frances Parsons, who married, 1704, John Netterville, ca 1674-1727, 4th Viscount Netterville of Dowth. Frances was the sister of **Richard Parsons, GM Ireland 1725**, above.

[http://www.ancestryireland.com/hip\\_statutes.php?filename=11.2&PHPSESSID=8392013dd3dec5f3ab55b0a3841c90c6](http://www.ancestryireland.com/hip_statutes.php?filename=11.2&PHPSESSID=8392013dd3dec5f3ab55b0a3841c90c6)

The trial of a peer was for that of Nicholas, 5th **Viscount Netterville**, for murder in 1743, when Lord Jocelyn (Lord Chancellor) presided as the acting Lord High Steward.

In the course of the century the Parliament House saw three murder trials: the 1720 act did not, of course, affect an Irish peer's right to be tried by his peers. The trials were those of Lord Barry of Santry in 1739, Lord Netterville in 1744 and **Lord Kingston** in 1798. They were spectacular occasions. To accommodate all who had the right and the inclination to attend, the trials were held in the House of Commons. The Lord Chancellor of Ireland, acting as Lord High Steward, presided. The accused came before the court dressed in deep mourning. He was immediately preceded by the brilliantly attired King-at-Arms carrying a shield with his arms. Near by stood the executioner with the blade of his axe turned from the prisoner. If the verdict was 'guilty', the blade was immediately reversed.

Lord Netterville, indicted in August 1743 for the murder of Michael Walsh, was tried on 3 February 1744, but honorably acquitted.



<http://homepage.eircom.net/~netterville/index1.htm>

Located in the heart of the Boyne Valley, amid the historic Newgrange, Knowth and Dowth Ancient Burial Tombs, dating back

3000B.C. Netterville Manor was built in 1877 and is one of the finest examples of Victorian Country Manors in Ireland today. The Lord Chief Justice of Ireland granted the adjoining Dowth Castle to the Netterville family in the 13th century and for the next 600 years, it remained in the hands of this distinguished family. Netterville Manor today is a family run guest house.

#### The development of freemasonry in Meath and Westmeath.

<http://www.meath.org/History.html>

The popularity of the Masonic Order in Meath owes much to the fifth Viscount Netterville, the Right Hon. **Nicholas Netterville**, who held the office of **Grand Master** of the Grand Lodge of Ireland in **1732**. He resided at Dowth, County Meath and came from an Anglo-Norman Catholic family; **his mother, Frances, was the eldest daughter [sister] of the Earl of Rosse, the first Grand Master of Ireland**. Within seven years of his election to office, the first Masonic lodge had been established in the town of Navan, when lodge No. 107 was granted a warrant, on 6 May 1739; this was followed by the establishment of lodge No. 197, on 4 October 1749, at Oldcastle.

The town of Trim saw its first lodge established on 7 May 1772, and it was in this lodge, No. 494, that both Richard Colley Wellesley, the 2nd Earl of Mornington, and his distinguished brother, Arthur, the Duke of Wellington, were admitted as Masons. Their father, Garret, was also initiated into this lodge. He was remarkable for his musical talents and was a founder member of the Dublin Musical Academy in 1747. **Both Garret, the 1st Earl, and his son Richard Colley Wellesley, the 2nd Earl, were Grand Masters** of the Grand Lodge of Ireland for the years **1776** and **1782** respectively. Two further lodges were also established in County Meath, the first, lodge No. 509, on 4 November 1773, at Crossakeel, Kells, and lodge No. 607, on 1 January 1789, in the town of Kells. Both lodges were involved in the Volunteer movement.

Another notable Meath family to be initiated into the Order was that of Ruxton. Captain Ruxton, originally from Bective, fought for the Crown at Ardee in 1641. As a result he was granted extensive lands in the area. He settled in Ardee and later became an influential member of Ardee Corporation. His grandson, William Ruxton of Ardee House, born in 1721, became a renowned surgeon. He was one of the founder members of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland in 1784. **William Ruxton** also held the prestigious position of **Deputy Grand Master** in the Grand Lodge of Ireland in the year **1769**.

The spread of freemasonry in Westmeath is mainly attributed to the Hon. Humphry Butler of Lanesborough, County Longford. He was appointed High Sheriff for County Cavan in 1727, and for Westmeath in 1728, and in that same year, on the death of his father, he was created Viscount Lanesborough. **Humphry Butler** was also appointed **Deputy Grand Master** of the Grand Lodge of Ireland at its institution between **1723** and **1724**. His son, **Brinsley**, was appointed **Junior Grand Warden** of the Grand Lodge of Ireland for the years **1751-52** and later held the prestigious position of **Deputy Grand Master** from **1753-56**. Brinsley was appointed to the highest office of the Order the following year, being elected **Grand Master** in **1757**. He eventually succeeded his father as 2nd Earl of Lanesborough in 1768.

Mr. **Dillon Pollard Hampson** of Castlepollard, County Westmeath, was also another notable officer in the Grand Lodge of Ireland, being appointed **Junior Grand Warden** in **1731**. **Robert Nugent**, of Carlanstown, County Westmeath, was appointed to the same office in **1732** and both men worked relentlessly for the advancement of the Masonic Order. Another important factor in the spread of freemasonry in Westmeath was the appointment of the Rt. Hon. **Thomas Nugent, 6th Earl of Westmeath**, to the position of **Grand Master** of all Ireland, for the years **1763** and **1764**. Nugent was descended from an old Anglo-Norman family, and was the first Protestant peer of his house. Like Charlemont, he was one of the original 15 founding Knights of St. Patrick installed in 1783, an honour which was most sought after by Irish peers of the time.

Note 24: John Nugent, of Clonlost, was descended from a powerful Masonic family. He was a cousin of both **Thomas, the 6th Earl of Westmeath, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Ireland 1763-64**, and **Robert Nugent**, of Carlanstown, **Junior Grand Warden, 1732**. His daughter married **Robert Rochfort, whose brother, George**, succeeded to the title as the 2nd Earl of Belvedere in 1772, and was appointed **Grand Master** of the Grand Lodge of Ireland **1774-75**. J. Aikin, and W. Enfield, *Peerage and General Biography* (London, 1799), p. 389; see also Lepper and Crossle, *History of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Ireland*, p. 211; see also J.C. Lyons, *The Grand Juries of the County of Westmeath, 1727-1853*, vol. 1 (Ledestown, 1853), pp 222-5.

#### 1733 - Barnewall, Henry Benedict, 4th Viscount Kingsland; Deputy GM 1732

b. 1 Feb 1708; d. 11 Mar 1744 Quansbury

m. 1735 at Arbor Hill, Honora Daly, daughter of Peter Daly of Quansbury

Henry's parents were Nicholas Barnewall, 1668-1725, 3rd Viscount Kingsland, who married, 1688, Mary Hamilton, d. 1735, sister of Elizabeth Hamilton, b. bef 1675, who married, 1685, Richard Parsons, bef. 1657-1702/03, father of **Richard Parsons, GM Ireland, 1725**, above.

<http://www.thepeerage.com/p11543.htm>

Henry Benedict Barnewall, 4th Viscount Barnewall of Kingsland was born on 1 February 1708. He was the son of Nicholas Barnewall, 3rd Viscount Barnewall of Kingsland and Mary Hamilton. He married Honora Daly, daughter of Peter Daly and Elizabeth Blake, on 22 May 1735 in Arbor Hill. He died on 11 March 1774 at age 66 in Quansbury, County Galway, Ireland, without issue. His will was probated in 1800.

Henry Benedict Barnewall, 4th Viscount Barnewall of Kingsland was Roman Catholic. He was disqualified from taking his seat, as a Roman Catholic. He succeeded to the title of 4th Viscount Barnewall of Kingsland, in the parish of Donabate, co. Dublin [i., 1646] on 14 June 1725. He succeeded to the title of 4th Baron of Turvey [i., 1646] on 14 June 1725. He held the office of Grand Master of the Freemasons [Ireland] between 1733 and 1735.

<http://books.google.com/books?id=4jQwAAAAYAAJ&pg=RA3-PA130&dq=%22Henry+Benedict+barnewall%22&cd=4#v=onepage&q=%22Henry%20Benedict%20barnewall%22&f=false> page 130.

THE Right Honourable HENRY BENEDICT BARNEWALL, Viscount BARNEWALL, of Kingsland, and Baron of Turvey, both in the county of Dublin, born February 1, 1708, succeeded his father Nicholas, June.14, 1725; and, May 22, 1735, married Honora, eldest daughter to Peter Daly, of Quansbury, in the county of Galway, Esq; counselor at law, by whom his Lordship has no issue.

Nicholas, the late and third Viscount, succeeded his father Henry; and married Mary, daughter of George Count Hamilton; and by her, who died February 15, 1736, had two sons, Henry Benedict, the present Viscount, and George; and four daughters, three whereof died young: but Frances, the eldest, married Richard Barnewall, third son to John [11th] Lord Trimleston.

<http://books.google.com/books?id=aRIOAAAAMAAJ&pg=RA1-PA154-IA11&dq=%22Henry+Benedict+barnewall%22&lr=&cd=14#v=onepage&q=%22Henry%20Benedict%20barnewall%22&f=false> page 154.

The Right Hon. Henry Benedict Barnewall, 4th VISCOUNT KINGSLAND, was the Representative of an old Catholic family of the Pale, and adhered to his religion all through those troublous times. The Pope's ban against Freemasonry had not been officially published in Ireland, and like the Duke of Norfolk, in England, Viscount Kingsland was a staunch son of the Church, and a zealous Freemason at the same time.

Lord Kingsland had been appointed Deputy Grand Master by his immediate predecessor in office, Viscount Netterville, or Nettirvill, as he himself spelled the name. Lord Kingsland served as Grand Master in 1733 and again in 1734, in accordance with the Irish custom that the Grand Master should serve two years. He appointed as Deputy Grand Master, Sir Marcus Beresford, VISCOUNT TYRONE, who was afterwards created Earl of Tyrone, progenitor of the Marquess of Waterford of today. Lord Tyrone served as Grand Master in 1736 and 1737. (see below)

The only Grand Master of Ireland during the last century, whose name is likely to be familiar to the reader of A.Q.C., is the Rt. Hon. LORD KINGSTON, whose services to the Grand Lodge of England have been recorded by Dr. Anderson. This enthusiastic Freemason, fitly called the International Grand Master, served as Grand Master of England in 1729, and in 1731 was elected Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Ireland. A little later in the same year, his Lordship was elected Grand Master of the G7-and Lodge of Munster, which thenceforward merged into the Grand Lodge of Ireland. Lord Kingston was again Grand Master of Ireland in 1735, in 1745 and in 1746, and took a prominent part in Irish Freemasonry, till his death in 1761. Lord Kingston's accession to the Chair of the Grand Lodge of Ireland marked a memorable epoch in its history; so memorable, that the date of his Grand Mastership has been commonly given as that of the creation of the Grand Lodge. We now know, however, that, in 1731, Lord Kingston succeeded the Earl of Rosse as Grand Master of a Grand Lodge which had been in full swing since 1725, if not from an earlier date. Much misconception on this and similar points has been caused by the singular omission of all reference to our Grand Lodge before Lord Kingston's accession. This omission has thrown us on outside sources for information, and has introduced much gratuitous confusion into our early history. It may be alleged in extenuation that Edward Spratt did but follow Dr. Anderson in thus passing over the course of events before 1731, but what might be pardonable in the case of an English writer treating of events across the Channel, becomes inexcusable in the case of an official compiling a history of his own Grand Lodge.

### 1735 - King, James, 4th Baron Kingston [see also 1731 and 1745]

#### 1736 - Beresford, Marcus, 1st Viscount Tyrone – [1st] Earl of Tyrone; Deputy GM 1733

b. 16 Jul 1694; d. 4 Apr 1763

He married, 1717, Lady Catherine Power, b. 1701, daughter of James Power, 3rd Earl of Tyrone.

Their daughter, Lady Anne Beresford, bef 1723-1770, married, 1738, William Annesley, ca 1710-1770, 1st Viscount Glerawly, and were the parents of **Francis Charles Annesley**, 1740-1802, 1st Earl Annesley, **GM Ireland 1787**.

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marcus\\_Beresford,\\_1st\\_Earl\\_of\\_Tyrone](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marcus_Beresford,_1st_Earl_of_Tyrone)

**Marcus Beresford, 1st Earl of Tyrone** (16 Jul 1694 – 4 Apr 1763), known as **Sir Marcus Beresford, 4th Baronet** until 1720 and subsequently as **The Viscount Tyrone** until 1746, was an Irish peer, freemason and politician. He was the only son of [Sir Tristram Beresford, 3rd Baronet](#) and his wife Nichola Sophia Hamilton, youngest daughter of Hugh Hamilton, 1st Baron Hamilton of Glenawly. In 1701 his father died and Beresford, aged only five succeeded to the baronetcy. His guardians were Marcus Trevor, 3rd Viscount Dungannon and after whose death in 1706, his wife Arabella Susanna.

In 1715, he entered the Irish House of Commons, sitting for Coleraine until 1720, when he was raised to the Peerage of Ireland with the titles Baron Beresford, of Beresford, in the County of Cavan, and Viscount Tyrone by King George I. A year later, he joined the Irish House of Lords. In 1736, he became **Grandmaster of the Grand Lodge of Ireland**, serving for the next two years. Beresford was further honoured in 1746, when he was created Earl of Tyrone. On 18 July 1717, he married Catherine, oldest daughter of James de la Poer (Power), 3rd Earl of Tyrone and had by her seven sons and eight daughters. Beresford died at Tyrone House in Dublin (inset at right) and was succeeded in his titles by his fourth and oldest surviving son George. His fifth son John was also a Member of Parliament and his seventh son William was ennobled in his own right as Baron Decies. In 1767, four years after the earl's death, his wife claimed the title Baron La Poer and was shortly thereafter confirmed. She died in 1769.



<http://www.thepeerage.com/p2684.htm#i26833>

Sir Marcus Beresford, 1st Earl of Tyrone was born on 16 July 1694; baptized on 27 July 1694. He was the son of Sir Tristram Beresford, 3rd Bt. and Hon. Nichola Sophia Hamilton.

Married Lady Catherine Power, daughter of James Power, 3rd Earl of Tyrone and Anne Rickards, on 16 July 1717.



Sir Marcus Beresford, 1st Earl of Tyrone succeeded to the title of 4th Baronet Beresford, of Coleraine, co. Londonderry [I., 1665] on 16 June 1701. He held the office of Member of Parliament (M.P.) for Coleraine [Ireland] between 1715 and 1720.3 He was created 1st Viscount Tyrone on 4 November 1720. He was created 1st Earl of Tyrone on 18 July 1746.

Family 1 by Lady Catherine Power b. 29 Nov 1701

Children:

1. Lady Anne Beresford+ b. b 1723, d. 12 May 17701
2. George de la Poer Beresford, + b. 8 Jan 1735, d. 3 Dec 1800; 1st Marquess of Waterford

Family 2

Children :

1. Frances Maria Beresford d. 1815
2. Jane Beresford b. b 1728, d. 1792
3. Catherine Beresford b. bef. 1733, d. 28 Mar 1763
4. Rt. Hon. John de la Poer Beresford+ b. 14 Mar 1737/38, d. 5 Nov 1805
5. William Beresford, 1st Baron Decies+ b. 16 Apr 1743, d. 6 Sep 1819

<http://www.iol.ie/~carigeen/Rocketscastle.htm>



Curraghmore House where the Marquis of Waterford lived. It includes a much altered castle which was built by the Power family in the 12<sup>th</sup> century. Most of the house dates from 18<sup>th</sup> century alterations carried out by Sir Marcus Beresford, when it came into his possession after his marriage to Lady Catherine Power. The front hall and the billiard room are the only parts of the original castle left and they are on a different level to the rest of the house. The estate covers about 10 square miles and in the gardens are some fine examples of Bronze statues.

### 1738 - Stewart, William, 3rd Viscount Mountjoy – 1st Earl of Blessington [aka Blesington]

b. 1709; d. 1769

<http://worldconnect.genealogy.rootsweb.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=maclaren&id=I65236>

<http://www.thepeerage.com/p13361.htm>

Sir William Stewart, 1st and last Earl of Blessington was born on 7 April 1709. He was the son of Sir William Stewart, 2nd Viscount Mountjoy and Anne Boyle.

He married Eleanor FitzGerald, daughter of Robert FitzGerald and Eleanor Kelly, on 10 January 1733/34.

He died on 14 August 1769 at age 60 in Charles Street, Berkeley Square, London, England. He was buried on 31 August 1769 in Silchester, Hampshire, England.

Sir William Stewart, 1st and last Earl of Blessington succeeded to the title of 3rd Baron Stewart of Ramalton, co. Donegal [I., 1683] on 10 January 1727/28. He succeeded to the title of 5th Baronet Stewart [I., 1623] on 10 January 1727/28. He succeeded to the title of 3rd Viscount Mountjoy, co. Donegal [I., 1683] on 10 January 1727/28.

He held the office of Grand Master of the Freemasons [Ireland] between 1738 and 1740.

He was created 1st Earl of Blesington, co. Wicklow [IRELAND] on 7 December 1745.1 He was invested as a Privy Counsellor (P.C.) [Ireland] on 26 August 1748.1 He held the office of Governor of County Tyrone.

On his death, his three peerages became extinct, and his baronetcy has inherited by a distant cousin, Sir Annesley Stewart.

He married Eleanor FitzGerald b. circa 1712, d. 1 October 1774

Child 1. William Stewart, Viscount Mountjoy b. 14 Mar 1734/35, d. 2 Feb 17542

Citations 1. [S6] G.E. Cokayne; with Vicary Gibbs, H.A. Doubleday, Geoffrey H. White, Duncan Warrand and Lord Howard de Walden, editors, The Complete Peerage of England, Scotland, Ireland, Great Britain and the United Kingdom, Extant, Extinct or Dormant, new ed., 13 volumes in 14 (1910-1959; reprint in 6 volumes, Gloucester, U.K.: Alan Sutton Publishing, 2000), volume II, page 191. Hereinafter cited as The Complete Peerage.

2. [S6] Cokayne, and others, The Complete Peerage, volume II, page 192.

### 1740 - St. Leger, Arthur Mohun, 3rd Viscount Doneraile

b. 7 Aug 1718; d. Aug 1750

<http://www.stirnet.com/HTML/genie/british/ss4tz/stleger1.htm>

m1. (03.04.1738) Mary Sheppard (d 11.08.1738, dau of Anthony Sheppard of Newcastle, Longford, by Elizabeth Allen)

m2. (03.06.1739) Catharine Skeffington (dau of Clotworthy Skeffington, 4th Viscount Massareene)

In 1743 Grove Manor was sold to Arthur Mohun St. Leger, third Lord Doneraile, who conveyed it in 1748 to Charles Unwin, probably for the purposes of a settlement, for on the death of Lord Doneraile in 1750, without issue, it passed under his will to his cousin Elizabeth St. Leger, afterwards the wife of Major Ralph Burton. On her marriage the estate was vested in trustees, who sold it in 1753 to the Hon. Thomas Villiers, second son of William, earl of Jersey. In recognition of his diplomatic services he was created Baron Hyde of Hindon, co. Wilts., in 1756, and earl of Clarendon in 1776, and from him the manor of Grove has descended with the title to Sir Edward Hyde Villiers, the present earl.

For an interesting, lengthy account of The Grove, by the Earl of Clarendon, 1984, see <http://www.rastall.com/grove/story.html>



Arthur Mohun St. Leger, third Viscount Doneraile, in Ireland, of the first creation. He was member for Winchelsea, was appointed a lord of the bedchamber to Frederick Prince of Wales in 1747, and died at Lisbon, Portugal, of consumption in Aug 1750.



Doneraile Court

Arthur's father's sister [his aunt] was the Elizabeth St. Leger, of Masonic fame:



### The Only Lady Freemason

by Eliza Sellenger

<http://www.freemason.org/cfo/novemberdecember2000/lady.htm>

Lord Doneraile, Elisabeth Aldworth's father, who was a very zealous man, held a Masonic Warrant in his own hands, and occasionally opened Lodge at Doneraile House, his sons and some intimate friends in the neighborhood assisting, and it is said that never were the Masonic Duties more rigidly performed, or the business of the Craft more sincerely pursued, than by the Brethren of No. 150, the number of their Warrant.

It appears that previously to the initiation of a gentleman into the first steps of Masonry, Mrs. Aldworth, then a young girl, happened to be in an apartment, adjoining the room usually used as Lodge-room, this room at the time undergoing some repair and alteration. Among other things, the wall was considerably reduced in one part for the purpose of making a saloon. The young lady having distinctly heard the voices, and prompted by the curiosity natural to all, to see somewhat of this mystery, so long and so secretly locked up from public view, she had the courage with her scissors to pick a brick from the wall, and actually witnessed the awful and mysterious ceremony through the first two steps.

Curiosity gratified, fear took possession of her mind, and those who understand this passage, well know what the feelings must be, of any person, who could have the same opportunity of unlawfully beholding that ceremony - let them judge what must be the feeling of a young girl - she saw no mode of escape, but through the very room where the concluding part of the second step was still performing, and that being at the far end, and the room a very large one, she had again resolution sufficient to attempt her escape that way, and with light but trembling steps, and almost suspended breath, she glided along unobserved by the Lodge, laid her hand on the handle, and softly opening the door, before her stood a grim and surly Tyler with his long rusty sword.

Her shriek alarmed the Lodge, who all rushing to the door, and finding from the Tyler she had been in the room during the ceremony, in the first paroxysm of rage and alarm 'tis said her death was resolved on, but that from the moving and earnest supplication of her younger brother her life was spared, on the condition of her going through the two steps she had already seen. This she agreed to, and they conducted the beautiful and terrified young creature through those trials which are sometimes more

than enough for masculine resolution, little thinking they were taking into the bosom of the Craft a member that would afterwards reflect a lustre on the annals of Masonry.

Though the memory of Mrs. Aldworth's beauty may have passed away, which in a long life of eighty years is no improbable conjecture, and though the bloom and charms of the young St. Leger may be sought for in vain in the countenance of our benevolent sister, the fine character which it pleased Heaven to stamp on her uncommon mind, has left so many memorials behind that no doubt this part of her history must indeed be blind incredulity.

The truth is, her hand and her heart ever open to the sufferings and to the claims of sorrow and distress, almost prevented supplication by their promptitude to relieve; nor let it be supposed that this spirit of beneficence circumscribed a circle round its action, or confined its influence. No - for though her Brethren in distress had the first claims on her liberality, it was not the less open or bounteous to the unenlightened.

Best of women, mother to the motherless, friend to the friendless, benignant and generous soul, who from the bosom of affluence didst hear the wretches cry, and fly from the table of luxury to bear comfort to the hovel of wretchedness, and wipe the unobtrusive tear from the eye of retired misery.

In the active gratification of her hospitable and benevolent heart, she did not, however, neglect altogether the other duties of the Craft; she was, (as far as she went) a most exemplary Mason, and has presided as Master of her Lodge, which she headed frequently in Masonic order of procession, and it was her custom on those occasions to precede the Lodge in an open phyton.

Her liberality to Masons it is unnecessary to dwell on, one of whom in distress never turned his back on her magnificent and hospitable dwelling unrelieved.

One circumstance before we conclude deserves notice, as it is a handsome lesson to those who boast the superiority of manly discretion and understanding, and yet err in this particular: Mrs. Aldworth had such a veneration for Masonry, that she would never suffer it to be spoken of lightly in her hearing, nor would she touch on the subject but with the greatest caution, in company with even her most intimate friends, whom she did not know to be Masons, and when she did it was under evident embarrassment and with a trembling apprehension lest she might in a moment of inadvertence commit a breach of Masonic duty.

Thus lived this pattern of female excellence, we had almost said, of human perfection, dispersing, like a principle of good, comfort and happiness to all around her, till He that gave thought proper to call her away to participate in the joys of His eternal kingdom.

Her death it is said was occasioned by the improper administration of laudanum in a slight indisposition.

We cannot conclude this sketch better than by giving a paragraph which appeared in a print of the day, on occasion of her death: "On Monday last, Died at Newmarket, in this Co., the Hon. Mrs. Aldworth, wife of Richard Aldworth, Esquire, M. P. She lived to the age of eighty, and such were the effects of her early education, under the good Lord Doneraile, her father, and her own happy disposition, that from her infancy perhaps there passed not a day which might not have been distinguished by some one act of her benevolence or charity. She lived for the most part of her time in the country, in the midst of her servants, to whom her house afforded the most cheerful hospitality; the meanest of them, when their wants required it, had access to her, and when the indigent or sick called on her, she never failed to disperse her favours with that bounty and humanity which a large fortune enabled her, and a still larger soul induced her to bestow; indeed, Heaven seemed to have appointed her Guardian of the Poor whom she relieved without ostentation.

She possessed the fairest sentiments of religion, and as if the manner of her death was meant as an anticipation of that happiness which awaited her, she spent in slumber her last hours, those hours so very dreadful in the general, without the least pain or opposition, her mind quite disengaged from a world in which she did her own duty, while the tears and lamentations of thousands about her expressed their feelings for kind Benefactress.

The Hon. Mrs. Aldworth was born in 1695, and died in 1775. The above is from Memoirs of the life of the Hon. Mrs. Aldworth, the only female who ever obtained the honour of initiation into the sublime mysteries of Freemasonry. (Extract from "Caulfield's Annals of St. Finn Barre's Cathedral, Cork.")

Lady Aldworth was buried in the Davies' vault, beneath the late Cathedral, and the writer had an opportunity of seeing her remains a few years before the Cathedral was taken down. She was then in a leaden shell, and in a wonderful state of preservation. She was attired in a dark silk dress, white satin shoes, and silk stockings of similar colour. Her person was comely; her face of a dusky or ash colour; her features quite perfect and calm. She had long silk gloves, which extended above the embroidered lace wristbands; her bosom was full and large for her age; she wore a white headdress, with a full frill round her neck, the plaits of which were not even ruffled. Thus she appeared in the Davies' vault."

### The Hon. Miss St. Leger and Freemasonry

by Bro. Edward Conder.

<http://freemasonry.bcy.ca/aqc/aldworth.html>

The Anglo-Norman House of St. Leger has perhaps one of the best authenticated pedigrees of any of those families whose pride it is, that they are descended from one of the companions in arms of the Conqueror. From the British Museum Library, Philpott's MSS., and the Stemmata St. Leodegaria, I find that Sir Robert St. Leger, Knight, obtained from William I. the Manor of Ulcombe in Kent, where the family flourished for many generations. Sir Antony St. Leger, Knight of the Garter, a lineal descendant of the above Sir Robert was appointed by Henry VIII. to be one of his commissioners for letting the Irish Crown lands, and on July 7th, 1640, he was constituted Lord Deputy of Ireland. It is from this Sir Antony St. Leger that the Right Hon. Arthur St. Leger, 1st Baron Kilmayden, and Viscount Doneraile, father of the lady, an episode in whose interesting life I am now about to discuss, was descended.

The initiation of the Hon. Miss Elizabeth St. Leger, afterwards the wife of Richard Aldworth, Esq., has long been a recognized fact in the history of Freemasonry in Ireland.

Several accounts, more or less differing in detail, and generally remarkable for their want of accuracy, have already been published.<sup>1</sup> The most authentic appears to be the one issued at Cork, with the authority of the family, in 1811. Although these different accounts vary considerably in the description of the manner in which Miss St. Leger witnessed the secret ceremonial carried on in the Lodge, the main fact of her being made a Mason remains undisputed.

If more proof were required than the well-known tradition, the fact of her portrait in Masonic clothing, her apron and jewels being still in existence, would satisfy the most exacting enquirer. The tradition, as we have it, is sufficiently circumstantial; if we consider the condition of speculative Masonry at the beginning of the last century, it contains nothing either improbable or impossible.

By the kindness of Lord Doneraile, Lady Castletown of Upper Ossory, Colonel Aldworth of Newmarket Court, Mr. James St. Leger, and other members of the family, I have fortunately been able to piece together all account of the incident which, although it may differ in some few particulars from those already printed, may fairly, as I hope to make clear on the present occasion, be accepted as the most authentic account of what transpired.

It would appear that the father of Miss St. Leger, Arthur St. Leger, 1st Baron Kilmayden and Viscount Doneraile, together with his sons and a few intimate friends, were accustomed to open a Lodge and carry on the ordinary ceremonies at the family mansion, Doneraile Court, County Cork.

On one occasion, during a period when the house was undergoing certain internal alterations, Viscount Doneraile, with others, met for Masonic purposes. The Lodge was held in a large room on the ground floor of the house, and in front of this room was a small library, divided from the back room by a partition wall. From a plan of Doneraile Court kindly sent to me by a member of the family, it is evident that the rooms to the right, on entering the hall, are probably the ones in question, the doors of these two rooms both open into the entrance hall, and are not far apart. The alterations having required the removal of some of the panelling from the larger room, the wall was in places undergoing repair; a portion of this had been taken down, and the bricks loosely replaced, without mortar, in the position they were ultimately to occupy. Against these loose bricks the oak panelling had been temporarily reared. On this particular afternoon Miss St. Leger had been reading at the library window, and the light of the winter afternoon having failed, fell asleep.

The sound of voices in the next room restored her to consciousness, and from her position behind the loosely placed bricks of the dividing wall, she easily realized that something unusual was taking place in the next room. The light shining through the unfilled spaces of the temporary wall also attracted her attention. Prompted by a not unnatural curiosity, Miss St. Leger appears to have removed one or more of the loose bricks, and thus was easily enabled to watch the proceedings of the Lodge.

For some time her interest in what was transpiring was sufficiently powerful to hold her spellbound; the quietness of her mind remained undisturbed for a considerable period, and it was not until she realized the solemnity of the responsibilities undertaken by the candidate, that she understood the terrible consequences of her action. The wish to hide her secret by making good her retreat took full possession of her thoughts. For it must be fully understood that although she was perfectly aware that her father's Lodge was held at the house, she had no idea, on entering the library, that on that evening a meeting was about to be held in the adjoining room.

Her passage into the hall was easy, but it unfortunately happened that the doors of the two rooms were close together. Outside in the hall the Tyler was on guard, and from this point her retreat was cut off. Miss St. Leger, realizing that the Tyler, Lord Doneraile's butler, well knowing the condition of the temporary wall, would at once, from her frightened appearance, grasp the situation, screamed and fainted.

This old and trusted family servant, divided between his affection for his young mistress and the duties he owed to the Lodge, hesitated whether he should call for aid from the household, or alarm the Lodge. Fearing, however, to leave the door unguarded, he decided to summon his master. This course brought Miss St. Leger's father, with her brothers, and other members of the Lodge, into the hall.

Having carried the young lady back into the library, and she being restored to consciousness, they learned what had occurred. Leaving her in charge of some of the members, they returned to the Lodge, and discussed what course, under the circumstances, they had best pursue. The discussion was prolonged for a considerable time, after which they returned, and having acquainted Miss St. Leger with the great responsibilities she had unwittingly taken upon herself, pointed out that only one course was open to them. The fair culprit, endowed with a high sense of honour, at once consented to pass through the impressive ceremonies she had already in part witnessed.

All traditions, as well as the accounts kindly supplied to me by various members of the family, are unanimous in stating that the circumstances, as above recorded, took place at a time when Miss St. Leger was a young girl, and unmarried. As will be seen, from the accompanying pedigree [omitted], compiled from information supplied to me by her descendants, Miss St. Leger was born in 1693, her father having married in 1690. It is of course difficult to decide the exact age referred to by "a young girl." When considering the pedigree it will be seen that the maximum age is clearly fixed at 1717-18 (if not much earlier) when Miss St. Leger would be twenty-four years of age.

At 17 she might fairly be called "a young girl" and this would be in 1710. This fact is beyond dispute, and at once destroys any argument that may be advanced concerning her initiation in any Lodge after its constitution by the Grand Lodge of Ireland.

If we consider the question of the date of Miss St. Leger's marriage with Richard Aldworth Esq., of which there appears unfortunately no official record, it in no way supports the theory with regard to such Lodges. Her daughter, Mary Aldworth, was born in 1719, and her eldest son, Boyle Aldworth Esq., had issue by his first wife, a son Richard, born in 1741, thus shewing that in 1741 the Hon. Mrs. Aldworth née St. Leger, was aged 48, and a grandmother. From this also it appears that Miss Elizabeth St. Leger must have been married before 1719, the date of the birth of her daughter, more probably a few years earlier, when we take into consideration the date of the birth of her grandson. These circumstances amply support the tradition that Miss St. Leger was a young girl at the time she was made a Mason. She was seventeen in 1710; and we may safely place the date of her initiation after 1710 and before the year 1718.



Tradition also reports, it will be remembered, that the Lodge was held at Doneraile Court, by its owner, Viscount Doneraile. From the pedigree it will be seen that he was married in 1690 (Miss St. Leger born in 1693) and he died on 7th July, 1727. It therefore follows that the Lodge must have been held before the year 1727.

Of the Lodges constituted by the Grand Lodge of Ireland, those bearing the numbers 44, 95, and 150, have frequently been seriously considered as being identical with the Lodge that initiated our fair sister. That such attempts at fixing her initiation after the formation of the Grand Lodge of Ireland in 1729-30 are vain and worthy of little attention, may be gathered from the following notes on the above three Lodges, kindly supplied me by our learned Brother Dr. Chetwode Crawley, whose forthcoming reproductions of the early constitutions of the Grand Lodge of Ireland<sup>2</sup> will show that the first Lodges on the Irish Registry were at work for years before they obtained Warrants. With regard to the first named, No. 44. Of this Lodge we know absolutely nothing, saving that the warrant must have been dated between 20th December, 1735, and 20th April, 1736, at a time when Miss St. Leger would neither be "a young girl," being then forty-seven years of age, nor would she have still retained her maiden name, seeing that her daughter Mary Aldworth was in that year twenty years old, and Miss St. Leger's (Mrs. Aldworth) father had been dead eight years,

Bro. Chetwode Crawley further informs me that "there is no ground for locating this Lodge at Doneraile any more than at Donegal."

Of Lodge 95 we know that it was founded 1st December, 1738, in Cashell, in which year Mrs. Aldworth was 50 years of age. This Lodge continued till 1750 in full work at Cashel, which is in County Tipperary, full fifty miles as the crow flies, from Doneraile.

Coming now to Lodge 150, which by the way I may term "The Favourite," and the one nearly all previous accounts rely upon as the foundation for their erroneous superstructures, I will only refer to a letter received by me the other day from Bro. Chetwode Crawley, in which he says:—"Lodge 150 is absurd as a mother Lodge for the lady. The Lodge was founded 25th February, 1745-6 in Dublin, where it was carried on continuously till at any rate 1759." At the date of constituting this Lodge, namely in 1746, our worthy Sister was in the proud position of being a grandmother, a period in life far removed from that of "a young girl."

The father of Miss St. Leger was created Baron Kilmayden and Viscount Doneraile by Queen Anne, 23rd June, 1703. On the occasion of receiving these honors his Lordship was at the court of St. James's, London.

From these circumstances only one solution of the difficulty as to the Lodge being held at Doneraile Court earlier than that constituted in 1735 seems possible.

We know, from the records of the Grand Lodge of Munster, that a meeting was held at the house of Mr. Herbert Phaire in Cork on St. John's day, the 27th December, A.D. 1726. It must not be forgotten that Doneraile Court is situated within thirty miles of that city, and it may be assumed that the Grand Lodge of Munster did not come into existence without there having been at least a Lodge, or Lodges, existing in that district before 1726. The early history of Freemasonry in London, as well as in Ireland, before the era of Grand Lodges, is to a certain extent obscure.

The Grand Lodge of England, founded in 1716-17, was the result of Lodges already existing; therefore speculative masonry was a living institution when Miss St. Leger was a girl of seventeen or eighteen.

Her father, Viscount Doneraile, as already stated, visited London to take up his patent in 1703, which we may conclude was neither the first nor the last visit to the Metropolis. At this date, only thirteen years before the Grand Lodge of England was founded, some at least of the old Lodges which joined in that Masonic event, must have existed, and it would be quite possible for his Lordship to have been made a mason in London during one of his visits.

If this be admitted, it would be quite possible for him, on his return to Ireland, to open a private Lodge in his own house, with the assistance of his friends. This Lodge would probably exist up to the time of his death in 1727, a date, as above mentioned, when a meeting of the Grand Lodge of Munster was held at Cork. Whether this private Lodge had an unbroken existence after the death of its founder, it is impossible now to say. The second Viscount, Miss St. Leger's eldest brother, was married in 1717, and succeeded to the family honours on the death of his father. He died in March, 1734, and was in turn succeeded by his son Arthur, the third Viscount, who died without issue in 1750.

The Hon. Mrs. Aldworth died in 1773, *aet.* 80, and was buried in the Davies vault in the old St. Finbarr Cathedral, Cork. A mural tablet to her memory was placed in the parish church of Doneraile.

The remains of the Hon. Mrs. Aldworth, appear to have been seen in after years by the late Dr. Richard Caulfield, shortly before the erection of the present Cathedral of S. Finbarr. Writing on the subject he says, (the body of the venerable lady was enclosed in a leaden shell and in a wonderful state of preservation.) "She was attired in a dark silk dress, white satin shoes, stockings of a similar colour. Her person was comely; her face of a dusky or ash colour; her features quite perfect and calm. She wore long silk gloves, which extended above the embroidered wristbands..... she wore a white head-dress, with a frill round her neck, the pleats of which were not even ruffled." The stone slab which covered the vault, having become undecipherable by age, was moved when the present Cathedral was built, and finally placed in the floor of the small chamber situated in the great tower.

The apron worn by our worthy sister is now in the possession of her descendant, Colonel R. W. Aldworth, of Newmarket Court, who has been kind enough to send me what may almost call a facsimile, which I now have the pleasure of exhibiting.

It will be noticed that the shape is peculiar and it is further very remarkable for its size, measuring with the flap folded, 21in. deep, width at top 21in., and width at the bottom 24 1/2 in. According to Bro. Crowe; the largest apron he has ever seen, measured with the flap folded 26 1/2in. deep, width at the top 22 1/2in., and at the bottom 24 1/2 in.

Bro. Rylands writes me the following observations on the matter:—

I must congratulate you on being able to exhibit to the Lodge this representation of Mrs. Aldworth's apron, and I am sure the best thanks of the members are due to Col. Aldworth, for having so kindly prepared such a capital facsimile of this interesting relic of his Masonic ancestor. The difference between the apron now exhibited and that I represented in the engraved portrait of 1811 is worthy of note. The one in the engraving is of small size, shield shaped, and the outer edges of both the apron and flap seem to be ornamented with fringe, probably of blue or white silk. As I have already pointed out, it is not unlike the St. Helena apron, in the possession of Col. Mead.<sup>3</sup>

The original, from which the engraving of 1811 was copied, having been evidently prepared as a portrait of Mrs. Aldworth in her Masonic clothing, it may fairly be concluded that the apron represented shows the form of the one worn by her at that period. The Pamphlet of 1811 states that the portrait was 'taken at an advanced period.' It appears to me to represent a woman of from forty to fifty years of age. Born in 1693, Mrs. Aldworth would be fifty in 1743. The form of the apron, however, appears to me to be of later date.

"The apron in the possession of Colonel Aldworth is of larger size, and would reach almost to the knees of a lady of ordinary height. It is the deep apron, following the shape of the trimmed skin of leather, not uncommonly worn of various materials in England before the Union. It must not be forgotten, however, that these were Irish aprons, of which very few old examples have been published. Through the kindness of friends I have had several very interesting examples lent to me which I hope to publish before long.

It could hardly be expected that one apron would, with Mrs. Aldworth's regular attention to her Masonic duties, remain in perfect order for twenty or more years. No doubt from time to time a renewal became necessary, and the apron in the possession of Col. Aldworth is probably the one worn by Mrs. Aldworth up to the time of her death, which took place in 1773. This would satisfactorily account for the difference in form. Under any circumstances this reproduction of the apron in the possession of Col. Aldworth, supplies a well-authenticated example of an apron used under the Irish Constitution before the year 1773."

Of the two jewels worn by Mrs. Aldworth, one is preserved by Lady Doneraile, the other is in the possession of Lodge No. 1, Cork. Her portrait is in the collection of Lady Castletown, of Upper Ossory. An engraved copy was published by subscription in 1811. From the pamphlet accompanying this engraving, we gather that Mrs. Aldworth was a most exemplary member of the Craft. Holding, as she did, the distinction of being the only Lady Mason, "she had such a veneration for Masonry that she would never suffer it to be spoken lightly of in her hearing; nor would she touch on the subject, but with the greatest caution, in company with even her most intimate friends, whom she did not know to be Masons, and when she did, it was under evident embarrassment, and a trembling apprehension lest she might, in a moment of inadvertence, commit a breach of Masonic duty."

It is further stated that she presided as Master of her Lodge, which she headed frequently in Masonic order of procession, driving, we are told, in an open carriage.

The latter part of this statement may be correct, but as to her ever having filled the chair of her Lodge, or even that she was ever in Lodge after her initiation and passing, I believe there is no evidence forthcoming. Indeed, the early accounts of her Masonic career only state that she was admitted to the F.C. degree, but at the date of her initiation all the principal points of the Craft were probably included in this the second, or as we now term it the third degree. I will not, however, enter here upon a disquisition on this interesting crux, but rather leave our heroine in full possession of all traditional Masonic honours although fearing that many bear the stamp of imagination pure and simple. What we do know is that as a Mason she was always remarkable for her true charity, which she dispensed with an open hand, thus proving herself to be a worthy representative of the knightly St. Legers, and adding fresh lustre to the traditions of the family motto—

*Haut et Bon.*

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The W.M. in the Chair, expressed the pleasure which had been afforded him in listening to the very interesting paper of Bro. Conder, and had no doubt the brethren present would express the same for themselves later on by heartily carrying the vote of thanks which he should move. Meanwhile he called for comments on the part of brethren present.

Bro. Speth thought that "comments" was undoubtedly the right word to use, as he conceived anything in the nature of a discussion to be practically impossible. Much as they all loved a discussion, with that little spice of dissent which gave it piquancy, he saw no opening for anything of the kind on this occasion. But he thought it possible to emphasise what had perhaps escaped the notice of the brethren in the mere bearing of the paper, although it would come out clearly enough in perusing it quietly at home. This was not so much the correction of the date hitherto accepted as that of Miss St. Leger's initiation, an important point enough in itself, as the fact that this correction brought her initiation back to a period when Masonry as we now understood it certainly did not exist in Ireland, and possibly not even in England. It carried us back to a period before the foundation of Grand Lodge, and showed us that the lady was initiated under the old regime; she and those assembled with her on that occasion were speculative members joining the Craft at a time when it was still mainly operative. The Lodge at Doneraile Court must in future rank with the one at Warrington in which Ashmole first saw the light, with the one at Chester of which Randle Holme was a member, and with others whose traces would yet turn up. The Scottish Lodges and that in the Masons' Company of London were not quite on the same footing, because their connection with Operative Masonry was still close and direct. The paper they had just listened to was a very important and welcome one, and seeing what Bro. Conder had already done for them in the short time he had devoted his attention to Masonic Archaeology, he (Bro. Speth) ventured to hope and even to prophesy, that much might be expected of him in the future. He would now read to them three communications he had received on this matter from Bros. Hughan, Rylands and Dr. Chetwode Crawley, merely expressing his regret that through illness in the one case, and unavoidable circumstances in the others, these brethren could not be present to deliver their remarks viva voce.

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Bro. Conder's paper is both interesting and startling in character. All our theories are demolished as to the period when the initiation of "our only Sister" occurred, for having been born in 1693, and married in 1718 *circa*, the insight she obtained into our mysteries must have been during the pre Grand Lodge era, or about the year 1710.

Until Bro. Conder's investigations we had all assumed that the various reports respecting the initiation of the Hon. Elizabeth St. Leger, though not always in agreement, were correct as to the occurrence being of a later date than 1730. Evidently the account printed by the late Bro. Richard Spencer, was based, in part, on particulars obtained from descendants of the famous Masonic Family. It is stated therein

"We have it from undoubted authority, that the occurrence took place when her brother was Viscount, *i.e.*, after the death of her father,"

and that in a communication received from the son of a brother who witnessed the ceremony, the fact of her initiation in Lodge 44 is asserted, and that the Warrant, then dormant, was in the possession of that Craftsman. The editor of the prints published early this century, is declared to have been indebted to Bro. Arundel Hill, of Doneraile (whose son Richard Hill testified as herein mentioned) for the information afforded, and that his authority " is most indubitable."

It is quite clear, however, that we have all been led astray as to the period of her initiation, and that the several Lodges noted as claiming the honour of her reception, had nothing whatever to do with the ceremony, for the simple and sufficient reason that they could not then have been in existence.

I consider Bro. Conder has done a grand service by discovering the year of birth, and approximate year of marriage, of the lady in question, these two dates proving that her initiation must have been some 20 to 30 years earlier than previously claimed, and also that her reception must have been in a Lodge under the old regime, of which we have no account whatever and which assembled some years prior to the oldest records yet traced of Freemasonry in Ireland. As to the jewel and the apron or aprons she wore, these were probably of much later date, and her appearance in public as a "Freemason" would doubtless be subsequent to the advent of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Munster and the Grand Lodge of Ireland, 1725-1730. We know that her name occurs as the second (and only lady) subscriber, on the printed list to Dr. Dassigny's "Enquiry" of 1744, the hundreds else being brethren; and that the post of honour was given to her, for the name immediately follows that of Viscount Allen, then the Most Worshipful Grand Master.

The 3rd Viscount Doneraile, nephew to the Hon. Mrs. Aldworth (née St. Leger) was Grand Master of the same Body in 1740, and supposing it is true that his aunt had been initiated about 1710—which there is no reason whatever to doubt,—the fact of his Lordship being so honoured by the Craft would possibly explain the prominent part said to be taken by the Hon. Mrs. Aldworth in Masonic processions. It is extraordinary that this error as to the date of her initiation should have remained so long unnoticed and uncorrected, especially so, when it is remembered that some of the descendents are evidently responsible for the mistake.—W. J. Hughan.

The History of the "only Lady Mason" is one which must interest every member of the Craft, and this interest is very much increased by having a clear statement of the facts. Up to the present time, only the most unreliable information has been obtainable from the ordinary printed accounts of the incident, and I must congratulate Bro. Conder on having brought together a quantity of information which at last places the matter on a satisfactory foundation. The slightest examination of any or all of the ordinarily known accounts shows, as I found out some years ago, that the dates will not fit in.

The simple facts, that Miss St. Leger when a young girl, obtained possession of certain Masonic secrets by concealing herself in or near the Lodge held by her father at Doneraile House, and that in consequence she was made a mason, were known. To this, successive writers have added their own ideas without any authority, often pursuing the dangerous and foolish course of making the details fit their own imperfect knowledge.

The accounts of the incident as we have them resolve themselves shortly into two possibilities—that Miss St. Leger, following the family tradition, was a young girl when she was made a Mason—or, that she was not Miss St. Leger at all, but certainly married, of middle age, a mother, and possibly a grandmother.

Bro. Conder, from a careful examination of dates and other matters, has been forced to the only reasonable conclusion. The remarks and "facts" of the tinkers and would-be editors of the story take their proper place, and the original tradition remains, pure and simple. The dates of Mrs. Aldworth's birth and death, the various dates in the pedigree and other circumstances, all point, as Bro. Conder clearly states, to a solution of the difficulty a solution amply supported by the discoveries of Dr. Chetwode Crawley.

It has been stated that the warrant of the Lodge at Doneraile House, in which Miss St. Leger was made a Mason, is, or was a few years ago, in private hands. It would be interesting to have a copy of this document, as in any case it cannot possibly date from the time when Miss St. Leger became a Freemason.—W. H. Rylands.

Dear Bro. Speth,—Let me begin by expressing unaffected regret at my inability to attend the meeting of Quatuor Coronati Lodge. Unfortunately, 10th January is the first day of term with us, and my professional engagements necessitate my presence in Dublin on that day. As if to make matters worse, the stated communication of the Grand Lodge of Instruction of Ireland, over which I have the honour to preside, takes place on the evening, of the very same day. Pray make these imperative reasons for my absence clear to the brethren.

I am heartily with my Bro. Conder in his view of the period of the lady Freemason's initiation. Indeed, I had arrived independently at a similar conclusion, and congratulate myself on having found my surmise supported by so thorough-going and competent an investigator, who has, to my mind, established his thesis once and for all.

Bro. Conder has treated the question so effectively that I have but little to add from the Irish standpoint. I am at a loss to conceive how the initiation was ever attributed to Lodge No. 150, which was a Dublin Lodge and never had any connection with Doneraile, or even with the Province of Munster.

I have traced the tradition which ascribes the initiation to Lodge No. 95, to a passage in Bro. Millikin's *Historico-Masonic Tracts*, published in Cork in the year 1848. The passage runs as follows :—

"...the Grand Secretary, John Calder,... laid before the committee, a charge against Lodge 95, for malpractices, and also to prove the validity of the Warrant of that Lodge. It is supposed that the malpractices had reference to the initiation of the Hon. Mrs. Aldworth, who became a Mason in that Lodge."

The original ground of Bro. Millikin's allegation is to be found in the document of which I forward you a photographic reproduction, borrowed from *Coementaria Hibernica*. From this it is clear that the malpractices occurred when the Lodge was held at Cashel, a city, fifty, miles from Doneraile, and separated from it by one of the loftiest mountain-ranges in Ireland. Further, I have lit upon a memorandum in the scanty archives of our Grand Lodge, which shows that the warrant No. 95 was transferred to Cork in 1750, apparently on account of malpractices in the previous year, when the Hon. Mrs. Aldworth was close upon her sixtieth year.

The ascription of the initiation to Lodge No. 44 stands on a different basis, or rather if I may use an Hibernicism, on no basis at all. As far as our Grand Lodge registers are concerned, the most diligent research has failed to find any trace of this No. 44 till 1810,

when we find a new Warrant issued with that number to a Lodge meeting at Armagh. It is just possible that the independent St. John's Lodge, in which the initiation took place, survived until it accepted a warrant from the Grand Lodge of Ireland, and that warrant may have been No. 44. But this is pure conjecture.

The early traditions concur in representing the Fellow Craft degree as that to which the Hon. Mrs. Aldworth was admitted. Some years ago in conversing with me on this topic you made a most acute observation, which deeply impressed me, to the effect that the early initiation of the lady would explain this statement. We may take it as proved that there were at most but two Degrees worked during the period immediately preceding the formation of Grand Lodge. This being so, the Lady could not have witnessed, or been admitted, to any degree higher in nomenclature than the Fellow Craft. As there is no ground for supposing that she ever was present in Lodge after the first eventful occasion, she remained ostensibly Fellow Craft, though the method of the ritual underwent subsequent development, in which she had no part. The more I reflect on this suggestion of yours, the weightier it seems.

I take the opportunity to forward in illustration of Bro. Conder's paper a jewel which is not a mere reproduction of the Hon. Mrs. Aldworth's, but identical with it in every particular, being apparently one of the same batch, if I may use the term.

I have come to the conclusion that the lady's jewel was not made especially for her as is generally supposed, but was one of a type in use in the early days of our Grand Lodge. This particular specimen is unusually large and valuable, and such jewels were only worn, I take it, by the more distinguished members of the Craft. The engravings that I have seen give a very inadequate idea of the original.

It has not escaped Bro. Conder's attention that in the late Bro. Spencer's broadsheet, Bro. Arundel Hill is alleged to have been an eye-witness of the initiation. With some little difficulty, I have ascertained that Arundel Hill, of Doneraile, was born in 1694, and died on 6th February, 1783, so that he may very well have witnessed the ceremony. He was the fourth son of William Hill, of Kilmallock, in Co. Limerick. He left two sons, Arundel and James, of whom the former was born in 1739, and died in 1820. This Arundel Hill the second had a son Richard, born in 1791, who died in 1845. This Richard seems to have been the authority for the tradition perpetuated by Bro. Spencer, who plainly confounds the two Arundel Hills, attributing to the second the part which the first may have played. The father of Richard Hill is impossible as a witness of the initiation, for he was not born till 1739, when the lady was already in her forty-seventh year, or thereabout.

I had hoped to be able to send you a view of Doneraile House as it appeared in the last century, but I have been unable to lay hands on any such picture or engraving, although I called to my assistance my good friend, Mr. T. W. Lyster, M.A., Assistant Librarian of the National Library of Ireland, whose acquaintance with such matters is unrivalled. The following extract from T. Crofton Croker's "Researches in the South of Ireland" will show the reason for our failure:

"Doneraile is twelve miles distant from Charleville, and was described as a neat village; the residence of Viscount Doneraile, whose mansion, surrounded by a park of considerable extent, is close to the village, and said to be worth seeing; we were unable to judge of this fact, the porter at the park gate pleading his lordship's positive orders to admit no strangers. This was the only occasion on which we met with any difficulty in seeing any gentleman's grounds, though not personally acquainted with the owner."

There is no need to remind my learned colleagues of the Quatuor Coronati Lodge, that there is another tolerably well authenticated instance of a Lady Freemason, in the person of Mme. Xaintrailles. Her story is told by Clavel, (*Histoire Pittoresque*, Paris, 1843, Chapter I). Though Clavel gives the title of the Lodge, Les Frères Artistes, and the name of the Worshipful Master, Cavelier de Trie, he omits the date, which tends to throw discredit on the narrative. There are, also, two or three instances in which female curiosity is said to have got the better of our precautions. Within the last few days, a case of this sort has come to our knowledge. I had written to Bro. H. F. Berry, M.A. W.M., of Trinity College Lodge, No. 357 (I.C.), asking him to verify some dates in the present inquiry, and, in his reply, he incidentally narrates the following episode. During the Christmas vacation, he was stopping at a country house in Tipperary, where he met a lady who astounded him by claiming an acquaintance with certain occurrences connected with an initiation. The lady informed him that her mother surreptitiously witnessed, through a slit in the wall of the bungalow, some part of the ceremony in a military Lodge, held in the Mauritius, nearly a quarter of a century ago. The fair eavesdropper disclosed the fact to her husband, who was a member of the Lodge, and who had been present at the initiation. He felt bound, in his turn, to disclose it to the Lodge, which neither inflicted the symbolic penalty, nor insisted on initiating her, but, very wisely, treated as a matter of no moment a cognizance of the ceremony which must have been, at best, ludicrously imperfect, inconsequent, and unmeaning.

Finally, allow me as an Irish Freemason to reiterate my appreciation of the manner in which Bro. Conder has treated the subject, and to venture the prediction that he will do still greater things for the archaeology of the Craft.—W. J. CHETWODE CRAWLEY.

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Bro. H. D. Williams exhibited a jewel which he understood was identical with Mrs. Aldworth's. On comparing it with that shown by Bro. Chetwode Crawley however, slight differences were observable, though the general style was the same.

Bro. Speth moved a vote of thanks to Bro. Conder, which was seconded by the Senior Warden and carried with unanimity and heartiness.

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1. In an introduction to a prospectus concerning the reproduction in facsimile of the mezzotint portrait of the Hon. Mrs. Aldworth, we are gravely informed that she was born in 1713, and initiated about the year 1734 at a Lodge where her father, Lord Doneraile, was W.M. This would be eight years after his death, and the young lady would be aged about forty-one!!
  2. *Caementaria Hibernica* (now in the press).
  3. A.Q.C., vol. v., pp. 184-5 (Nos. 39 and 48).

## 1741 - Moore, Charles, 2nd Baron Tullamore – Earl of Charleville [see also 1760]

<http://www.thepeerage.com/p14772.htm#i147713>

Charles Moore, 1st and last Earl of Charleville was born on 24 January 1711/12. He was the son of [John Moore, 1st Baron Moore of Tullamore](#) and [Mary Lum](#). He married [Hester Coghill](#), daughter of [James Coghill](#) and [Anne Pearson](#), on 13 October 1737. He died on 17 February 1764 at age 52, without issue. He was buried on 23 February 1764 in [Chapel, South Audley Street, London, England](#).



Charles Moore, 1st and last Earl of Charleville matriculated in [Trinity College, Dublin University, Dublin, County Dublin, Ireland](#), in July 1725. He graduated from [Trinity College, Dublin University, Dublin, County Dublin](#), in 1728 with a Bachelor of Arts (B.A.). He graduated from [Trinity College, Dublin University, Dublin, County Dublin](#), in 1730 with a Master of Arts (M.A.). He held the office of Grand Master of Freemasons [Ireland] between 1741 and 1743. He was invested as a Privy Counsellor (P.C.) [Ireland] on 1 September 1746. He was created *1st Earl of Charleville, in King's County [IRELAND]* on 16 September 1758. He held the office of Grand Master of Freemasons [Ireland] between 1760 and 1761. He held the office of Custos Rotulorum of King's County between 1761 and 1764. He held the office of Governor of King's County between 1761 and 1764.

On his death, his title became extinct; his widow removed to Dublin

**Family** [Hester Coghill](#) d. 28 July 1789

[http://www.midlands.ie/places\\_of\\_interest/heritage\\_towns.html](http://www.midlands.ie/places_of_interest/heritage_towns.html)

The Moore family who were English soldier settlers moved to Tullamore in the early 1700s. They had originally resided in Croghan. Their large house was built in the vicinity of Tullamore Harbour. They were a family of considerable political power and influence evidenced by the building of a barrack able to accommodate 100 soldiers in 1716. This was obviously of great economic benefit to the town. A Church of Ireland church was built in the late 1720s on Church Street (unfortunately nothing of this church now remains) and in 1767 the county infirmary was moved to Tullamore. This was one of the first signs of Tullamore's increasing importance in comparison to Daingean or Philipstown, the county capital at the time.

The 1760s saw Tullamore as dependent mainly on the agricultural industry, pasturage being predominant but also with an active woollen, linen and tanning industry. The town of Tullamore would have consisted of Patrick Street, Church Street Upper, Bridge Street, part of O'Connor Square and High Street. The death of **Charles Moore, first Earl of Charleville** in 1764, was a blow for the town. He had influenced and encouraged development in the town with his progressive and industrious attitude. Charles Moore's estate was inherited by his sister's [Jane's] son, John Bury.



Bury of Shannon Grove, Limerick was not to have much time to exercise his influence on the estate as he died shortly afterwards, drowned in Ringsend, Dublin in 1764.

His son, Charles William Bury inherited the estate – but he could do nothing until he came of age. His coming of age was to take just under twenty one years; he had inherited the estate at the ripe old age of six months. He became the first Earl of Charleville of the second creation. Charles William Bury brought great ideas and a progressive attitude to the town. He set about planning Tullamore with the ambition of making Tullamore comparable to the best towns of the country, in industry, prosperity and style, 'a Paris of the midlands'.

Tullamore Dew, a fine Irish whiskey, was named for the town of Tullamore [named for the Moore family who founded it]. The "Dew" represents the initials Daniel E. Williams, who first distilled the whiskey in 1829. He resided in Dew Park, Tullamore.

## 1743 - Southwell, Thomas, 2nd Baron Southwell

b. 7 Jan 1697/98; d. 19 Nov 1766

He married, 1718/19, Mary Coke, d. 1766, daughter of Thomas Coke and Mary Stanhope.

Mary Stanhope's half-sister, Elizabeth, ca 1663-1723, married, 1691, John Lyon, 1663-1712, 4th Earl of Strathmore. They were the parents of:

1. **James Lyon**, 1702-1734/35, 7th Earl of Strathmore, **GM Premier GL 1733, FRS**, and
2. **Thomas Lyon**, 1704-1753, 8th Earl of Strathmore, **GM Premier GL 1744**.



<Castle Mattress [Castle Matrix or Castlematrix]

[http://www.limerickcorp.ie/applications/general/Museum\\_ShowResults.aspx?SearchType=Location&Value=Castlematrix](http://www.limerickcorp.ie/applications/general/Museum_ShowResults.aspx?SearchType=Location&Value=Castlematrix)

<http://www.users.bigpond.com/olavemil/palatin2.htm>

About 200 families, consisting of close on 1000 individuals, settled in the County of Limerick on the Estate of Sir Thomas Southwell, of Castle Mattress, Rathkeale; and of the various plantations this was the only one which was successful. Under the agreement between the Government and Southwell, the Palatines got eight acres of land for each man, woman and child, under a lease at a rent of 5/- per acre, and the Government stocked their farms and paid their rent for twenty years. The Palatines went to Limerick with arms in their hands. Their men were supplied with muskets and ammunition, and were enrolled in a Corps called 'The German Fusiliers', or "True Blues", which existed until the yeomanry were disbanded at the close of the Napoleonic Wars.

<http://www.users.bigpond.com/olavemil/ambassador.htm>

Apart from the Government grants, they [the Palatines] received generous assistance from Lord Southwell, as will be seen from the following petition by him to the Lord Lieutenant in 1716 requesting the reimbursement of what it cost him to start the colony:

The Humble Petition of Sir Thomas Southwell humbly sheweth: That the said Sir Thomas Southwell, having set down 130 German Protestant families on his estate in County Limerick in or about Michaelmas 1712, and for their encouragement to settle and be a security to the Protestant interest in the country, he (the said Sir Thomas Southwell) set them his lands at almost one half of what it was worth, and gave them timber also to build their houses to a very great value; and for their

further encouragement did from time to time supply them with cash and other necessities.

That all these families are since well settled and follow the raising of Hemp and Flax and have a good stock which the said Sir Thomas Southwell (though very unwillingly) must seize upon to reimburse him for his great expense, unless His Majesty will be graciously please to repay Sir Thomas.

[Upper Grosvenor Street: South Side | British History Online](#)  
44, 2nd Baron Southwell [sic] of **Castle Mattress**.

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thomas\\_Southwell,\\_2nd\\_Baron\\_Southwell](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thomas_Southwell,_2nd_Baron_Southwell)

**Thomas Southwell, 2nd Baron Southwell** PC (Ire), FRS, (7 Jan 1698 – 19 Nov 1766), styled The Honourable from 1717 until 1720, was an Irish peer, politician and freemason. He was the oldest son of [Thomas Southwell, 1st Baron Southwell](#) and his wife Lady Meliora Coningsby, eldest daughter of [Thomas Coningsby, 1st Earl Coningsby](#). His uncles were [William Southwell](#) and [Richard Southwell](#), his younger brother was [Henry Southwell](#). In 1743, Southwell became Grandmaster of the [Grand Lodge of Ireland](#), a position he held until the following year.

In 1717, Southwell entered the Irish House of Commons for Limerick County, the same constituency his father had represented before, and sat for it until 1720, when he succeeded him also as baron. In 1726, Southwell was sworn of the Privy Council of Ireland. He became a Fellow of the Royal Society in 1735 and was Governor of County Limerick until his resignation in 1762. In March 1719, he married Mary Coke, eldest daughter of Thomas Coke, and by her he had three sons. Southwell died at Craig's Court, Charing Cross, aged 68 and was succeeded in his titles by his eldest surviving son [Thomas](#).

### 1745 - Allen, John, 3rd Viscount Allen

b. bef 1708; d. 25 May 1745, unmarried; from an encounter with one of the guards at Dublin, whom he shot.

He was the grandson of John Allen, 1660/61-1726, 1st Viscount Allen, who married, 1684, Mary Fitz Gerald, 1666-1697, sister of Robert Fitz Gerald, 1675-1744, 19th Earl of Kildare, who married, 1709, Mary O'Brien, b. bef 1694.

Mary was the sister of **William O'Brien**, bef 1705-1777, 4th Earl of Inchiquin, **GM - Premier GL 1727**, who was the brother of **Hon. James O'Brien**, d. 1771, **GM GL Sussex 1728** [see Table above]. This Allen line was also related, thought the son James [1<sup>st</sup> Duke of Leinster] of Robert Fitz Gerald and his wife Mary O'Brien, to James's wife, Lady Emily Mary Lennox, daughter of **Charles Lennox**, 1701-1750, 2nd Duke of Richmond and Lennox, **GM Premier GL 1724-25**. [see charts].

<http://www.thepeerage.com/p447.htm#i4470>

John **Allen**, 3rd Viscount Allen was born before 1708. He was the son of [Joshua Allen, 2nd Viscount Allen](#) and [Margaret du Pass](#). He died on 25 May 1745, from a wound received in an encounter with one of the Guards at Dublin whom he shot, unmarried.

John Allen, 3rd Viscount Allen held the office of Member of Parliament (M.P.) for Carysfort between 1733 and 1742. He succeeded to the title of *3rd Baron Allen of Stillorgan, co. Dublin* [i., 1717] on 5 December 1742. He succeeded to the title of *3rd Viscount Allen, co. Kildare* [i., 1717] on 5 December 1742.

<http://www.irishcultureandcustoms.com/02Hist/4April4.html>

1745 - On this date, John Allen (3rd Viscount Allen), former MP for Carysfort, kills a dragoon in a street brawl. 'His Lordship was at a house in Eustace Street. At twelve in the night, three dragoons making a noise in the street, he threw up the window and threatening them, adding as is not unusual with him a great deal of bad language. The dragoons returned it. He went out to them loaded with a pistol. At the first snapping of it, it did not fire. This irritated the dragoon who cut his fingers with his sword, upon which Lord Allen shot him.' The wound occasions a fever which causes Lord Allen's death on 25 May.

His sister, Hon. Elizabeth Allen (bef. 1734-1783), married **Sir John Proby, 1st Baron Carysfort, GM Premier GL 1752-53**. Through this marriage John Proby came into possession of Glenart Castle and the Arkiow Estate >



### 1747 - Wyvill[e], Sir Marmaduke, 6th Baronet Wyvill of Constable Burton

b. ca 1692; d. 27 Dec 1754

m. 1716, Carey Coke, d. 1734, sister of **Thomas William Coke**, 1697-1759, 1st Earl Leicester, **GM Premier GL 1731**.



Constable Burton

<http://www.burtonconstable.com/>

<http://www.tbheritage.com/Breeders/FoundBreeders/NorthYorkshire/NYorksTeesWilk.html>

The **Wyvills**, from whom James D'Arcy acquired Sedbury, still live at Constable Burton Hall, near Middleham, in a delightful house designed by the Yorkshire architect, John Carr. They were associated with horses for centuries and intermarried with other key breeding and racing families. The Wyvill family, along with most of the North Yorkshire landowners, were staunchly Royalist during the Civil War and paid for their loyalty. Their estate was sequestered and their house filled with troops quartered on them.

Sir Christopher's granddaughter, Ursula, married **Leonard Childers**, of Carr House, Doncaster. Childers bred two of the seminal early Thoroughbreds, *[Flying Childers](#)* and *[Bartlett's Childers](#)*. **Cuthbert Routh**, a friend and neighbour of the Wyvills, in his studbook, compiled between 1716 and 1752, states the dam of *Betty Leedes* was "a famous roan mare of Sir Mar. Wyvill's." This challenges the conventional GSB version of the incestuous origin of the dam of *Flying Childers* and *Bartlett's Childers* and is believed by Prior. If true, it would significantly disturb the foundation pedigree of the breed. This Sir Marmaduke Wyvill (d.1754) was Postmaster General for Ireland, and made an interesting marriage to Cary (d.1734), daughter of **Edward Coke** of Norfolk and Derbyshire, whose family were instrumental in importing the *[Godolphin Arabian](#)* from France.

An important early horse owned by the Wyvills was the *[Belgrade Turk](#)*, who appears to have been obtained through the close relationship with the Coke family. Edward Coke spent a considerable period in Paris as a youth and was on close terms with the Duke of Lorraine and used to stay with him at Luneville.

#### Note: **Belgrade Turk**

Imported c. 1719. Captured from the Turks during the second Austrian siege of Turkish-held Belgrade (Serbia) in 1717, the horse eventually was presented to the Duke of Lorraine, subsequently Emperor of Germany. Edward Coke of Longford Hall in Derbyshire, younger brother of the future Earl of Leicester, and the first English owner of the Godolphin, was "on intimate terms" with the Duke of Lorraine, having spent time with him at the Duke's hunting lodge in France. Coke's brother-in-law was the important thoroughbred breeder, Sir Marmaduke Wyvill, of Constable Burton, Yorkshire, and it was Wyvill who purchased the Belgrade Turk from the Duke and imported him into England.

<http://www.bloodlines.net/TB/Bios2/VolunteerWyvills.htm>

Horse Breeder / Racer



#### **Volunteer (GB)**

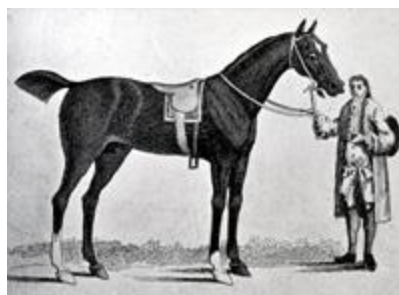
Volunteer b c 1735 (*[Young Belgrade](#)* - Wyvill's Childers Mare, by *[Bartlett's Childers](#)*). Sire Line *[Belgrade Turk](#)*. Family 18.

Volunteer was bred in Yorkshire by Sir Marmaduke Wyvill (1692-1754), 6th Baronet, at Constable Burton, near Bedale. Sir Marmaduke was married to Cary Coke, daughter of the elder brother of Edward Coke, owner of the *[Godolphin Arabian](#)* prior to Lord Godolphin.

In 1743 Sir Marmaduke sent Volunteer to Ireland where he won several Plates and other prizes. There he was purchased by Sir Edward O'Brien (1705-1765), 2nd Baronet, and later died from an accident. Volunteer left no stock that bred on, however, his sisters were among the foundation mares of *[Family 18](#)*.

#### Race Record

In April of 1742 at Newmarket he won the King's Plate, beating Mr. Aislabie's [later Sir Edward O'Brien's] Poor Robin (ch c 1735 *[Robinson Crusoe](#)*), Mr. Greville's Puff (b c 1735 *[Childers](#)*), (brother to the Duke of Devonshire's *[Blacklegs](#)* and *[Snip](#)*), and Mr. Nunn's Staghunter, in three heats. In May he won £50 at Epsom, beating Mr. Grisewood's Careless (ch c 1733 Bloody Buttocks). In June he won £50 at Guildford, beating the famous *[Old Traveller](#)* (b c 1735 *[Croft's Partner](#)*) in one heat. In July he won £50 at Nottingham, where he beat Mr. Martindale's *[Sedbury](#)* (ch c 1734 *[Croft's Partner](#)*) in both four-mile heats. In 1743 sent to Ireland and won several Plates and other prizes.



#### **1749 - King, Robert, 1st Baron Kingsborough**

bapt. 18 Feb 1724; d. 22 May 1755, unmarried; 4th Bart of Rockingham

<http://www.thepeerage.com/p3362.htm>

He was the son of Sir Henry King, 3rd Bt. and Isabella Wingfield.

Sir Robert King, 1st and last Baron Kingsborough succeeded to the title of 4th Baronet King, of Boyle Abbey, co. Roscommon on 1 January 1739/40. He held the office of Member of Parliament (M.P.) for Boyle between 1744 and 1748.2

He was created 1st Baron Kingsborough [IRELAND] on 13 June 1748.

He held the office of Grand Master of the Freemasons [Ireland] from 1749 to 1750.

He held the office of Custos Rotulorum of County Roscommon.

On his death, the Barony of Kingsborough became extinct.

He was the brother of **Edward King**, 1726-1797, 1st Earl of Kingston – **GM Ireland 1761 and 1769**, below.

<http://www.andrewcusack.com/2009/12/21/dublin-auctions/>





The Ulster-born painter Robert Hunter was one of the most prolific portraitist of late eighteenth-century Dublin, arguably the city's (and country's) golden age. Among his many works are these portraits of the three brothers King. Sir Robert King, 4th Baronet (*left*) was notorious as "a vile young rake" with vast estates in Roscommon, whose only interests were drinking, wenching, and spending. He once seduced the sixteen-year-old daughter of a tenant (who tried to force a marriage at pistol-point), fought in at least one duel, lived with his mistress in Dublin, was a Member of the Irish Parliament (before being made 1st Baron Kingsborough), and was Grand Master of the Irish Freemasons.

Hunter depicts **Robert** [center] at three-quarter length, standing in a red coat with an embroidered waistcoat and sword, holding a tricorn hat. His brother **Edward** [left] (5th Baronet after Robert's death in 1755, made Baron 1764, Viscount 1766, and Earl 1768) is depicted with dog by his side and gun in hand. The third brother, Henry King (later the Rt. Hon. Colonel Henry King MP), Hunter shows in a red velvet coat and yellow waistcoat, again with a sporting dog by his side. All three portraits are 48 inches by 38½ inches in giltwood rococo frames from the period. Sir Robert King sold at James Adam & Co., St. Stephen's Green, for €55,000, Sir Edward for €50,000, and Henry King for €38,000.



## 1751 - Sackville, Lord George [Germain], 1st Viscount Sackville

8c7r

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George\\_Germain,\\_1st\\_Viscount\\_Sackville](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Germain,_1st_Viscount_Sackville)

**George Sackville, 1st Viscount Sackville** (26 Jan 1716 – 26 Aug 1785), also known previously first as **Lord George Sackville** and then **Lord George Germain**, was a British soldier and politician who was Secretary of State for America in **Lord North**'s cabinet during the American Revolution. His ministry received much of the blame for Britain's loss of her American colonies. His issuance of detailed instructions in military matters, coupled with his failure to understand either the geography of the colonies or the determination of the colonists, may justify this conclusion.

**Lord George Sackville**, the third son of **Lionel Cranfield Sackville, 1st Duke Of Dorset**, **Lord Lieutenant of Ireland**. He had two careers. His military career had some distinction, but ended with a court martial. His political career ended with the North ministry after the loss of the American colonies. He graduated from **Trinity College, Dublin** in 1737 before he entered the army.

### Military career



He started as a Captain in the 7th Horse (later the **6th Dragoon Guards**). In 1740, he transferred to the **Gloucestershire Regiment** of Foot as a Lieutenant Colonel. The regiment was sent to Germany to participate in the **War of the Austrian Succession**. In 1743, Sackville was advanced to brevet Colonel.

George finally saw his first battle, leading the charge of the **Duke of Cumberland**'s infantry in the **Battle of Fontenoy** in 1745. He was captured, but since he was wounded in the charge, the French treated and released him. When he returned home, it was to duty in Scotland as the Colonel of the 20th Foot (**Lancashire Fusiliers**) Regiment.

In 1747 and 1748, he again joined the **Duke of Cumberland**. He became Colonel of the **7th Irish horse** and served in Holland. There was a break in his military career between wars when he served as first secretary to his father and as a MP in the Irish House of Commons. During this time, he also earned a reputation for homosexual behavior.

During the **Seven Years' War**, George returned to active military service. In 1755, he was promoted to Major General and returned to active service to oversee ordinance. In 1758, he was given a fourth regiment and joined the **Duke of Marlborough** as a Lieutenant General. They joined the allied forces of **Duke Ferdinand of Brunswick** in Germany. When Marlborough died, Sackville became Commander of

the British forces.



### Battle of Minden

On 1 Aug 1759 the British Hessian infantry made an insanely brave but successful attack on the center of the French line in the [Battle of Minden](#). Their attacking line formation even repulsed the French cavalry charge by holding until the last moment then firing a massive volley when the charge came within ten yards. As the French forces began to fall back on Minden, Ferdinand called for a British cavalry charge to complete the victory, but Sackville withheld permission for their advance. Ferdinand sent his order several times, but Sackville was estranged from [Lord Granby](#), the force commander. He continued to withhold permission for Granby to *gain glory* through an attack, and the allies lost the opportunity for a decisive victory or a rout. For this action, he was cashiered and sent home.

### Court martial

Sackville refused to accept responsibility for refusing to obey orders. Back in England, he demanded a court martial, and made it a large enough issue that he obtained his demand in 1760. The court found him guilty, and imposed one of the strangest or strongest verdicts ever rendered against a general officer. The court's verdict not only upheld his discharge, but ruled that he was *"...unfit to serve his Majesty in any military capacity whatsoever"*, then ordered that their verdict be read to and entered in the orderly book of every regiment in the Army. The king had his name struck from the Privy Council rolls.

### Political career

Sackville had been a Member of Parliament at intervals since 1741. He had served terms in both the Dublin and the Westminster bodies, sometimes simultaneously, but had not taken sides in political wrangles. As [George III](#) took the throne, he began his political rehabilitation.

There did not seem to be negative repercussions to the European stalemate of the Seven Year's War. The victories over the French within the colonial empire provided a chance for events of the war to be forgotten. The difficulty of repaying the debts incurred to fight the war caused a period of unstable ministries and shifting political alliances. In 1763, King George quietly returned him to the rolls of the Privy Council.

He increasingly lined up as a supporter of [Lord North](#) and, in 1769, he made this alliance formal. Then, in 1769, Lady Elizabeth Germain died without natural heirs, and left her estates to him. This not only improved his finances, it also gave him the chance to take that name formally. After 1770, he was known as **Lord George Germain**.

On 10 Nov 1775, Germain was appointed [Secretary of State for the American Department](#). At that time, North's cabinet had three secretaries of state; one each for Europe (the [Northern Department](#)), America, and the rest of the world (the [Southern Department](#)). Besides international relations, these secretaries were responsible for a great deal of Colonial administration and for military operations within their area.

This made Germain the primary minister responsible for suppressing the revolt in the colonies. He promoted or relieved Generals, took care of provisions and supplies, and became involved with the strategic planning of the war. His general approach was based on his idea that *"...the rabble ... ought not trouble themselves with politics and government, which they do not understand."* and that *"...these country clowns cannot whip us."*

Lord Germain and Prime Minister Lord North made three assumptions about the war they were about to face. One was that the American forces could not withstand the assaults of the British. Secondly, the war would be similar to wars they had fought successfully in Europe. Lastly, their victory would bring about their goal of having the colonies' allegiance. All of their assumptions proved to be false.

In 1776, he worked with General [Burgoyne](#) to plan, support, and issue orders for the [Saratoga campaign](#). However, the fact that his orders for [General Howe](#) were not clear contributed to the campaign's failure. In 1781, the confusion between orders for [Cornwallis](#) and [Clinton](#) contributed to the loss at [Yorktown](#).

### After the Revolution

When Lord North stepped down in 1782, Germain gave up both his cabinet post and his seat in parliament. King George made him a peer as **The Viscount Sackville**, but the controversy over his handling of the war continued. Some members were opposed to his seat in the House of Lords, but his declining health soon made the issue irrelevant. He retired to his country home at Stoneland Lodge in Sussex, and died there in 1785.

He married Diana Sambrooke, 3 Sep 1754,

His sister, Elizabeth Sackville, ca 1711-1729, married as his first wife, 1726, **Thomas Thynne**, 1710-1751, 2nd Viscount Weymouth  
– **GM Premier GL 1735.**



[http://www.freemasonry.bcy.ca/biography/carleton\\_g/guy\\_carleton.html](http://www.freemasonry.bcy.ca/biography/carleton_g/guy_carleton.html)

### Lord George Sackville [Germain]

The highest ranking freemason Guy Carleton, 1st Baron of Dorchester, was to encounter in his career was Lord George Sackville, later Lord Germain, **Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Ireland 1751 and 1752**, who, as already mentioned, was Carleton's most bitter foe.

Lord George, born in London in 1716, was the third son of the Duke of Dorset who was appointed to be Lord Lieutenant of Ireland in 1731. Accompanying his father to Dublin, Lord George entered Trinity College, Dublin and was called to the Irish Bar in 1734. He lived in Ireland for several years, becoming commissioned as Captain in the Carabiniers (6th Dragoon Guards), then on the Irish Establishment, in 1737. In 1740 he was promoted to be Lieutenant Colonel of Bragg's Regiment 28th Foot and was severely wounded in the Battle of Fontenoy on 11 May, 1745. In 1746 he was promoted to the Colonelcy of the 20th Foot. In December 1748 the Grand Lodge of Ireland issued Warrant No. 63 to Lord George Sackville as Master and Lieut-Colonel Edward Cornwallis and Captain Milburne as

Wardens. (Cornwallis left the 20th Foot in March 1750 to become Governor of Nova Scotia "where his zeal for Freemasonry made itself felt").

In 1751-1755 his father the Duke of Dorset was appointed Lord Lieutenant of Ireland a second time and Lord George came over with him as Chief Secretary of Ireland, and became a member of the Privy Council and Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Ireland (during which he was invited in 1752 by [Laurence Dermott](#) and his colleagues to become Grand Master of the Antients in England, but this never took place). In 1752 James Wolfe had become a Lieutenant Colonel in Sackville's old Regiment, the 20th Foot, and, having become a close friend of Carleton, proposed him as a military tutor for the Duke of Richmond's eldest son.

Transferred to the cavalry in 1755, Lord George was promoted to the rank of Major General and in 1758, in the badly managed attack on St. Malo, suffered his first major defeat. From October 1758 he commanded a British contingent of the allied army in Germany but at the Battle of Minden on 1 August, 1759, when he was Commander in chief of the British forces in Germany, he disregarded repeated orders by the allied commander, Ferdinand, Duke of Brunswick, to exploit the success of the rout of the French cavalry by the British forces and Hanoverian infantry; for this he was court-martialled, convicted of disobedience, adjudged "unfit to serve his Majesty in any military capacity whatever" and cashiered, and was referred to by many afterwards as the "Coward of Minden".

It is ironic that his former regiment, the 20th Foot, fought in the British line at Minden and "were heavily engaged and suffered great losses, but their discipline, bravery, and devoted gallantry, it is said were never excelled in the long annals of British service."

It is even more ironic that the regiment was dubbed "the heroes of Minden" for their victory and the name Minden was added to their colours and the lodge which henceforth became known as Minden Lodge No. 6354 in contrast to the derisive epithet bestowed on its founding Master.

However, in 1765, he was, as a statesman, restored to favour and in 1769 he inherited the estate in Northamptonshire of his friend, Lady Betty Germain, and adopted the surname of Germain.

In 1775 he was appointed Colonial Secretary in Lord North's administration and was the minister responsible for the general conduct of the war against the American colonists and was considered largely to blame for the surrender of Gen. John Burgoyne's British army at Saratoga, N.Y. in October 1777.



Shortly after Germain's appointment in November 1775, a bitter feud developed between him and Carleton. It will be recalled that in October 1775 Carleton as Governor of Québec had defeated Arnold in the battle for Valcour Island and had successfully repulsed the attack on Québec. Carleton, masking his distaste of Germain's reputation as the Coward of Minden, wrote him a report in May 1776 in respectful terms of the battle but Germain on his part unsuccessfully opposed Carleton's being created a Knight of the Bath.

On 1 June 1776 Lieut-Colonel Gabriel Christie, a friend of Germain, and his supporter at the Minden court-martial, arrived in Québec to be Quartermaster-General of the army in Canada—this had been arranged between them. However, a few weeks previously, Carleton, unknown to Germain, had appointed his younger brother Thomas to the post. Carleton wrote Germain that he would not discharge his brother to accept Christie without the King's approval—the King upheld his Commander-in-Chief in Canada. This altercation was followed by continual wrangling over the appointment of judges, and then they contested the conduct of the war.

The Cabinet had decided that Québec was to be the jumping-off point for an invasion of the American colonies directed at Albany, New York and Germain persuaded the Cabinet to nominate Major-General John Burgoyne, who was serving under Carleton, to lead the attack. Having succeeded in this, in February 1777 Germain tried to have Carleton replaced as Governor of Québec but the King put a stop to this. Germain's correspondence with Carleton intensified the bad feelings when he accused Carleton of failing to capture Ticonderoga—Carleton accused Germain of trying to have him removed from office. Ultimately Carleton resigned but had to stay on as Governor until the arrival of his successor which did not occur until 1778. Meanwhile, Burgoyne had surrendered at Saratoga and historians differ as to whether or not this was due to Carleton's deliberate failure to support him with relief troops as a move to discredit Germain. In England, Burgoyne was accused of responsibility but was defended by Carleton who gave evidence on his behalf in London in 1779 before a parliamentary committee of inquiry.

Carleton stayed on in England for over three years. Following Washington's victory over General Charles Cornwallis in 1781 much of the blame rightly or wrongly fell upon the Commander-in-Chief, General Henry Clinton, and on 15 December, 1781 the King wrote to Germain suggesting the appointment of Carleton as his replacement and urging a reconciliation between them as being in the best interests of the country but Germain would not agree.

On 24 December the King wrote Lord North, "Undoubtedly, if Sir Guy Carleton can be persuaded to go to America, he is in every way best suited for the service. He and Lord Germain are incompatible. Lord George is certainly not unwilling to retire if he gets his object which is a peerage."

On February 22, 1782 Carleton was appointed to replace Clinton, Germain simultaneously resigning and created a peer in his own right as Baron Bolebroke and Viscount Sackville of Drayton. He died a few years later in 1785.

<http://www.thepeerage.com/p3780.htm#i37800>

George **Sackville**, 1st Viscount Sackville was born on 26 Jan 1715/16. He was the son of [Lionel Cranfield Sackville, 1st Duke of Dorset](#). He married [Diana Sambrooke](#), daughter of [John Sambrooke](#) and [Elizabeth Forester](#), on 3 Sep 1754. He died in 1785.

Children:

1. [Hon. Diana Sackville](#) b. 8 Jul 1756, d. 29 Aug 1814
2. [Hon. George Sackville+](#) b. 7 Dec 1770, d. 31 May 1836

<http://www.thepeerage.com/p36119.htm#i361185>



< Hon. Diana **Sackville** was born on 8 Jul 1756. She married [John Crosbie, 2nd Earl of Glandore](#) >, son of [William Crosbie, 1st Earl of Glandore](#) and [Lady Theodosia Bligh](#), on 26 Nov 1777 at [St. James's, London, England](#), by the Archbishop of Canterbury. She died on 29 Aug 1814 at age 58. She graduated in 1772 with a Master of Arts (M.A.). In 1814 who being over-fond of gaming and slow in paying her debts became known as 'Owen Glendower' (i.e. 'Owing Glandore').

<http://www.uppercanadahistory.ca/uel/uel2.html>

Lord Germain was in charge of overall planning. The question is where was Howe? Lord Germain, an arrogant, hot-tempered, obstinate individual had promised Burgoyne he would write to Howe to acquaint him with his role in the plan. Whether he did or not is open to question. One source says Germain neglected to write the letter. Another says it was sent but it arrived too late. Still another source says that Howe received the message but decided while he was awaiting the rendezvous with Burgoyne to attack Philadelphia. Even though Howe held Burgoyne's destiny in his hands, he decided to sail in the opposite direction where he was successful in forcing Washington's retreat. Howe's victory resulted in a flanking party of the 33rd Regiment taking **"horse, arms, colours [\*\*] and drums"** of the rebel colonel of the Delaware Militia.



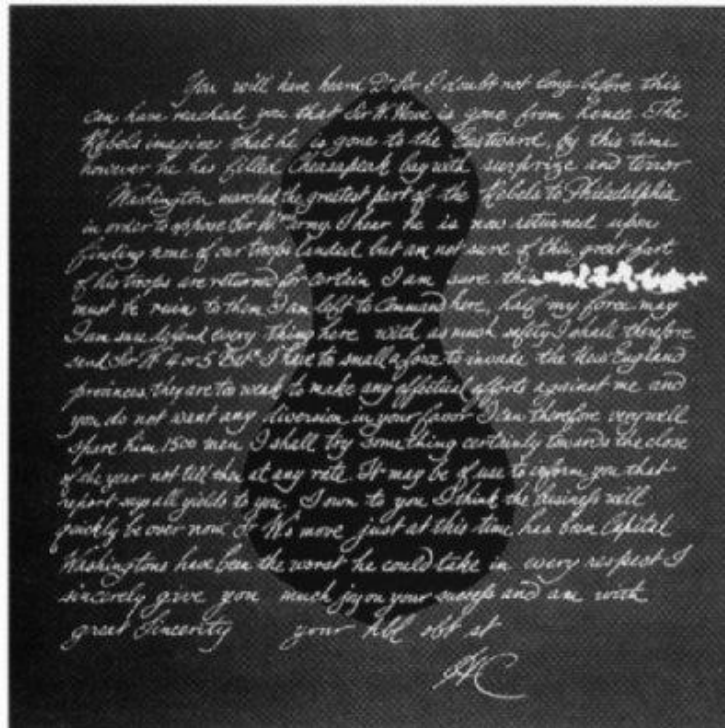
Prior to leaving to attack Philadelphia Howe almost casually called to the attention of his second in command, Sir Henry Clinton, whom he had left in command with a small force, that **"If you can make any diversion in favour of General Burgoyne's approaching Albany, I need not point out the utility of such a measure."** Clinton accepted this as a permissive offhand suggestion and took no immediate action. He later wrote to a fellow officer, **"I have not heard from Howe for six weeks and have no orders to co-operate with Burgoyne."**

On September 10 a messenger from Clinton managed to slip through the American lines with a letter to Burgoyne. It was coded so it could be understood only if the receiver knew the real message was enclosed within the hour glass shape in the centre of the page as indicated below. Clinton indicated that his forces were weak but he felt he owed it to Burgoyne to attempt to aid him. Clinton's forces unable to force his way far enough up the Hudson to join Burgoyne.

If as some have said, Howe did not receive the letter, Germain was criminally negligent. If Howe had come up the Hudson to unite his powerful army with that of Burgoyne's, success might have been theirs and they might have shared the glory of winning the American Revolution. Of this flagrant failure to ensure prompt and clear communication for this important plan, one historian wrote, **"Never was there a finer example of the art of organizing disaster."** Howe later boasted of his own **"very important and brilliant success"** and disparaged word that Burgoyne's situation had been very critical.

As soon as Washington realized that there would be no meeting of Burgoyne and Howe, he seized the chance to strike. **"Now let all New England rise and crush Burgoyne."** Burgoyne's army clashed with the American force of some 7000 led by Major General Horatio Gates at a place called Saratoga. The battle became an intense seesaw conflict with the advantage veering back and forth between the two forces.





Coded Letter within the hour glass from Clinton to Burgoyne, which reads:

*"Sir H. Howe is gone to the Chesapeake Bay with the greatest part of the army. There he is headed but am not certain. I am left to command here with too small a force to make any affective diversion in your favor. I shall try something at any rate. It may be of use to you. I owe to you. I think we move just at this time. . ."*

### 1753 - Southwell, Hon. Thomas George, [1st Viscount Southwell]; Deputy GM 1751-52

see also, <http://www.thepeerage.com/p14819.htm> and

[http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/~conqueror/genealogy\\_html/1932.html](http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/~conqueror/genealogy_html/1932.html)

Thomas George Southwell, 1st Viscount Southwell, 3rd Baron Southwell, b. 4 May 1721, d. 29 Aug 1780

Son of Thomas Southwell 1698-1766, who m. 1719, Mary Coke d/o [Rt.Hon. Thomas Coke P.C., M.P.](#) and [Lady Mary Stanhope](#)

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thomas\\_Southwell,\\_1st\\_Viscount\\_Southwell](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thomas_Southwell,_1st_Viscount_Southwell)

**Thomas George Southwell, 1st Viscount Southwell** (4 May 1721 – 29 Aug 1780), styled The Honourable from birth until 1766, was an Irish politician and freemason. He was the oldest son of [Thomas Southwell, 2nd Baron Southwell](#) [GM Ireland] and his wife Mary Coke, eldest daughter of Thomas Coke. Southwell was educated at Lincn's Inn and went then to Christ Church College, Oxford. He served in the 2nd Foot and became an ensign in 1738. Between 1753 and 1757, Southwell was Grandmaster of the Grand Lodge of Ireland.

In 1747, Southwell entered the Irish House of Commons for Enniscorthy, sitting for it until 1761. Subsequently he was returned for Limerick County, the same constituency his father and his uncle [Henry Southwell](#) had represented before, until 1766, when he succeeded his father as baron. Three years later, Southwell delivered his maiden speech in the Irish House of Lords. He was appointed Constable of Limerick Castle in 1750, and Governor of County Limerick in 1762, posts he held until his death in 1780. In 1776, Southwell was elevated to the title **Viscount Southwell**, of Castle Mattress, in the County of Limerick.

On 18 June 1741, he married Margaret Hamilton, daughter of Arthur Cecil Hamilton, and had by her three sons and a daughter. Southwell died, aged 59 and was buried at Rathkeale. He was succeeded in his titles by his oldest son Thomas, while his younger son Robert sat also in the Parliament of Ireland.

### 1757 - Butler, Brinsley, 2nd Earl of Lanesborough, Lord Newtown-Butler; His father, Hon. Humphrey, 1st Earl of Lanesborough, was the first Deputy GM of Ireland, 1725. Brinsley was Deputy GM 1753-56 b. 4 Mar 1728; d. 24 Jan 1779

<http://www.stirnet.com/HTML/genie/british/bb4fz/butler08.htm>

m. (22. Jun1754) Jane Rochfort (d 02.1828, dau of Robert Rochfort, 1st Earl of Belvidere). Her brother, **George Augustus Rochfort**, d. 1814 was **GM of Ireland 1774**, below.

<http://www.meath.org/History.html>

The spread of freemasonry in Westmeath is mainly attributed to the Hon. Humphry Butler of Lanesborough, County Longford. He was appointed High Sheriff for County Cavan in 1727, and for Westmeath in 1728, and in that same year, on the death of his father, he was created Viscount Lanesborough. Humphry Butler was also appointed Deputy **Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Ireland** at its institution between 1723 and 1724. His son, **Brinsley**, was appointed Junior Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge of Ireland for the years 1751-52 and later held the prestigious position of Deputy Grand Master from 1753-56. Brinsley was appointed to the highest office of the Order the following year, being elected Grand Master in 1757. He eventually succeeded his father as 2nd Earl of Lanesborough in 1768.

<http://www.thepeerage.com/p4888.htm#i48874>

Brinsley Butler, 2nd Earl of Lanesborough was born on 4 March 1728. He was the son of Humphrey Butler, 1st Earl of Lanesborough and Mary Berry. He married Lady Jane Rochfort, daughter of Robert Rochfort, 1st Earl of Belvidere and Hon. Mary Molesworth, on 22 June 1754. He died on 24 January 1779 at age 50.

Brinsley Butler, 2nd Earl of Lanesborough gained the title of 2nd Earl of Lanesborough.

Family 1

Child 1. Lady Mary Butler+

Family 2 Lady Jane Rochfort b. 1737, d. February 1828

Child 1. Augustus Richard Butler+ b. 10 Jul 1776, d. 26 Apr 1820

<http://rochfortbridge.wetpaint.com/>

### Jane Rochfort – Countess of Lanesborough

Born 1737, in Gaulstown House, she was the first of five children born to Robert and Mary Rochfort, and their only daughter. She grew up in the family home at Gaulstown where her mother was incarcerated. She led a sheltered life and seldom socialized, oblivious to the fact that she was said to be the most beautiful of the Rochfort family. At the age of nineteen, Jane married Brinsley Butler 2nd Earl of Lanesborough. Brinsley, a widower was the father of a two year old girl called Mary. The marriage was held on 22 June 1754. Jane, now a Countess, and her newly wed husband were soon blessed with a son and heir.



< Belvedere House

On 10 July 1776, Augustus Richard was born. On the death of her brother George, the 2nd Earl of Belvedere, Jane inherited part of the Belvedere estate including Belvedere House. Her sister in law and widow of the late 2nd Earl, also called Jane, was the Countess of Belvedere and are often misidentified. Jane lived at Belvedere House for a short period before her death in February 1828, at the ripe old age of 91. Her estate

was passed to her surviving children and grand children with the house at Belvedere passing to her grandson Lord Brinsley, 4th Earl of Lanesborough. Lord Brinsley Died in 1847 though not from any famine related illness and the house at Belvedere passed to his cousin Charles Brinsley-Marlay.



<http://www.belvedere-house.ie/>

### 1758 - Moore, Charles, Viscount Moore – 6th Earl and 1st Marq. of Drogheda; Deputy GM 1757

b. 29 Jun 1730; d. 22 Dec 1821

married Lady Anne Seymour-Conway, 1744-1784, sister of Francis Ingham Seymour-Conway, 1743-1822, 2nd Marquess of Hertford, who married, 1776, Isabella Anne Ingram Sheperd Irvine, mistress of **George IV 'Prinney' Hanover**, 1762-1830, Prince of Wales [later King of England] - **GM Premier GL 1790-1812**.

His daughter, Elizabeth Moore, 1771-1841, married, 1797, George Frederick Nugent, 1760-1814, 7th Earl of Westmeath, son of **Thomas Nugent**, bef 1725-1792, 6th Earl of Westmeath – **GM Ireland 1763-66**. below.





< Uniform of the 19th Light Dragoons, his left hand resting on a plumed helmet placed on a plinth, by Sir Joshua Reynolds.

Field Marshal **Charles Moore, 1st Marquess of Drogheda** KP, PC (Ire) (29 Jun 1730 – 22 Dec 1822) was a [British](#) peer and military officer, styled Viscount Moore until 1758. He succeeded his father as Earl of Drogheda in 1758, when his father and younger brother were drowned in the Irish Sea. Moore was elected Grandmaster of the Grand Lodge Ireland in 1858, a post he held for the next both years. In 1783, as the 6th Earl of Drogheda, he was founding member of the Order of St. Patrick. In 1791, he was created Marquess of Drogheda, and in 1801, he was made Baron of Moore Place, in the Peerage of the United Kingdom. He married Lady Anne Seymour-Conway, the daughter of Francis Seymour, 1st Marquess of Hertford, on 15 February 1766, and they had eight children:



|                            |  |
|----------------------------|--|
| Lady Isabella Moore        | 22 Nov 1766 – 22 Jun 1787  |
| Charles Moore,             | 1770–1837; 2nd Marquess of Drogheda  |
| Lady Elizabeth Emily Moore | 14 Mar 1771 – 18 Mar 1841, m. George Nugent, 7th Earl of Westmeath   |
| Lady Mary Moore            | 27 Aug 1772 – 22 Feb 1842, m. Alexander Stewart of Ards  |
| Lord Henry Seymour Moore   | 1774 – Aug 1825, joint Muster-Master-General for Ireland, m. Hon. Mary Letitia Parnell, d/o <a href="#">Henry Parnell, 1st Baron Congleton</a> , on 28 Sep 1824 and had issue: Francis Moore, 3rd Marquess of Drogheda (1825–1892) |
| Lady Gertrude Moore        |  |
| Lady Alice Moore           | Sep 1776 – 1789  |
| Lady Anne Moore            | d. Feb 1788  |
| Lady Frances Moore         | d. 5 Oct 1833, m. John Ormsby Vandeleur in 1800  |

## 1760 - Moore, Charles, 1st Earl of Charleville [see also 1741]

## 1761 - King, Sir Edward, 5th Bt. – 1st Earl of Kingston [see also 1769]

b. 29 Mar 1726; d. 8 Nov 1797

<http://www.thepeerage.com/p1280.htm#i12798>

Sir Edward King, 1st Earl of Kingston

Father Sir Henry King, 3rd Bt. b. circa 1681, d. 1 January 1739/40

Mother Isabella Wingfield b. before 1707, d. 23 October 1761

Sir Edward King, 1st Earl of Kingston was born on 29 March 1726. He was the son of Sir Henry King, 3rd Bt. and Isabella Wingfield. He married Jane Caulfeild, daughter of Thomas Caulfeild and Peggy Jordan, on 5 January 1752. He died on 8 November 1797 at age 71 in Kingston Lodge, County Roscommon, Ireland.

Sir Edward King, 1st Earl of Kingston held the office of Member of Parliament (M.P.) for Boyle between 1749 and 1760.

He succeeded to the title of 5th Baronet King, of Boyle Abbey, co. Roscommon [I., 1682] on 22 May 1755.

Grand Master of the Freemasons [Ireland] 1761-63; 1769-70.

Member of Parliament (M.P.) for County Sligo between 1761 and 1764.

Created 1st Baron Kingston of Rockingham, co. Roscommon [IRELAND] on 15 July 1764.

Created 1st Viscount Kingston of Kingston, co. Sligo [IRELAND] on 15 November 1766.

Created 1st Earl of Kingston [IRELAND] on 25 August 1768.

Custos Rotulorum of County Roscommon between 1772 and 1797.

Invested as a Privy Counsellor (P.C.) [Ireland] on 20 January 1794.

Family Jane Caulfeild d. April 1784

1. Children Lady Jane King+ d. 26 Jan 1838

2. Lady Frances King+

3. Hon. Henry King d. 1785

4. William King d. 1762

5. Lady Eleanor King d. 1822

6. Isabella King

7. Sir Robert King, 2nd Earl of Kingston+ b. 1754, d. 17 Apr 1799

## 1763 - Nugent, Thomas, 6th Earl of Westmeath, K.P.

b. bef 1725; d. 7 Sep 1792. 10C6r

His son, George Frederick Nugent, 1760-1814, 7th Earl of Westmeath, married, 1797, Lady Elizabeth Moore, 1771-1841, daughter of **Charles Moore**, 1730-1821, 6th Earl of Drogheda – **GM Ireland 1758-59**, above.

<http://www.meath.org/History.html>

An important factor in the spread of freemasonry in Westmeath was the appointment of the Rt. Hon. Thomas Nugent, 6th Earl of Westmeath, to the position of Grand Master of all Ireland, for the years 1763 and 1764. Nugent was descended from an old Anglo-Norman family, and was the first Protestant peer of his house. Like Charlemont, he was one of the original 15 founding Knights of St. Patrick installed in 1783, an honour which was most sought after by Irish peers of the time.

**Thomas Nugent, 6th Earl of Westmeath** KP PC(Ire) (Apr 1714 – 7 Sep 1792), styled **Lord Delvin** from 1752 to 1754 was an Irish peer and freemason. He gained the title Earl of Westmeath in 1754 on the death of his father John Nugent, 5th Earl of Westmeath. In 1758, he was sworn off of the Privy Council of Ireland. Nugent was appointed Grandmaster of the Grand Lodge of Ireland in 1763, a post he held for the following four years. Westmeath was made a Founding Knight of the [Order of St Patrick](#) on 11 March 1783. He died in 1792 and was succeeded by his son George.

By his first wife, Mary Stapleton, he had one son: [Richard Nugent, Lord Delvin](#) (1742–1761)

By his second wife, Catherine White, he had three sons and one daughter:

|                            |  |
|----------------------------|--|
| Thomas Nugent, Lord Delvin | died young   |
| George Frederick Nugent    | 1760–1814; 7th Earl of Westmeath                   |
| Hon. Henry Nugent          | 24 Nov 1762 – May 1770                             |
| Lady Catharine Nugent      | 6 Apr 1766 – 26 Feb 1794, married Hon. John Rodney |

### 1767 - Lambart, Ford, 5th Earl of Cavan

<http://www.irishmidlandsancestry.com/content/laois/community/lamberton.htm>

The original Lamberton House was built during the reign of King James I by Charles Lambert 1st Earl of Cavan and 1st Viscount Kilcourse. He died in 1660 and was buried in St Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin. He was succeeded by his eldest son Richard 2nd Earl of Cavan who sat as M.P. for Kilbeggan 1647 to 1649. He married twice, was a Jacobite and sat in the Parliament of King James III. He died in May 1691 and was buried in St Peter's Church, Maryborough, where a monument was erected to his memory. His eldest son Charles, who was born in Maryborough in 1649, returned to Ire land after the defeat of King James II, claimed his estates and assumed the title of 3rd Earl of Cavan. The entailment of Lambert Estate to the heirs male was broken and he took his seat in the Irish House of Lords as 3rd Earl of Cavan on the 27th October 1692. He married Castolina daughter of Henry Gilbert of Kilminchy Castle, Maryborough and sister of St Ledger Gilbert, M.P. for Maryborough.

He died 5th December 1702 and was buried in St Patrick's Cathedral. Succeeded by his son Richard as 4th Earl of Cavan who as born in Lamberton House in 1676. He joined the army of King William III, served in Spain, Portugal and the West Indies. On his return to Ireland he became Lieutenant Colonel of the Guards Regiment and Governor of the Royal Hospital, Kilmainham, Dublin. He married Margaret, daughter of Captain Richard Trant, Governor of the Barbadoes and niece of Sr Patrick Trant, Lord Lieutenant and MP for Queen's County in the Parliament of King James II and later 1st Viscount Maryborough. His daughter, the Lady Hester Lambert married in 1738 Warner Westenra, Burgomaster and MP for Maryborough of Heath House, The Great Heath of Maryborough. He died in 1737 and was buried in St Peter's Church, Maryborough. His widow died in 1742 and was buried with him.

He was succeeded by his **son Ford 5th Earl of Cavan**, who married Mary, daughter of Richard Edgeworth of Longwood, Co Meath. She died in 1766 and was buried in St Michan's Church, Dublin. He died 29th September 1772 and was buried with his wife. He left an only daughter the Lady Elizabeth who married Sir Michael Dromice Bermont. She sold the estate to Sir John Tydd.

A distant cousin, Richard, succeeded as 6th Earl but not to the estate.

Frederick 9th Earl of Cavan was Home Rule MP for South Somerset, 1885 to 1892 and in 1894 became Knight of the Order of St Patrick. The Earls of Cavan had no English title and therefore could not sit in the British House of Lords but could sit as MP at Westminster. Sr John Tydd Baronet sat in turn as MP in the Irish Parliament for Maryborough 1778 to 1783 and Ballinakill 1790-1797, MP for Ardfert, Co Kerry 1783 to 1790. In 1798 he was elected MP for the City of Clogher but resigned on been appointed Escheator of Leinster and Sir Jonah Barrington of Cullenagh Castle, Maryborough was elected in his place. The same year he was elected MP for the borough of Fore, Co Westmeath. In 1799 he became Escheator of Munster and again had to resign.

### 1769 - King, Sir Edward, 1st Earl of Kingston [see also 1761]

### 1770 - Fitz Gerald, William Robert, Marq. of Kildare – 2nd Duke of Leinster [see also 1777]

b. 13 Mar 1749; d. 20 Oct 1804, Carton House [see below]

married Emilia Oliva St. George

He was the son of:

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/James\\_FitzGerald%2C\\_1st\\_Duke\\_of\\_Leinster](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/James_FitzGerald%2C_1st_Duke_of_Leinster)

James FitzGerald, 1st Duke of Leinster (May 29, 1722 – November 19, 1773) was an Irish nobleman and politician. He was the son of Robert FitzGerald, 19th Earl of Kildare, and was Member of Parliament in the Irish House of Commons for Athy before succeeding his father as twentieth Earl of Kildare in 1744.

In 1747, on the occasion of his marriage to Lady Emilia Mary Lennox, daughter of Charles Lennox, 2nd Duke of Richmond and Lennox, he was in the Peerage of Great Britain created Viscount Leinster, of Taplow, and took his seat at Westminster that same year. From 1749 to 1755 he was one of the leaders of the Popular Party in Ireland, and served as the country's Master-General of the Irish Ordnance between 1758 and 1766, becoming Colonel of the Royal Irish Artillery in 1760.

In 1761 Leinster was created Marquess of Kildare and Earl of Offaly in the Peerage of Ireland, and five years later he was finally created Duke of Leinster, becoming by this time the premier duke, marquess and earl in the Peerage of Ireland.

His third son Lord Charles FitzGerald, was created Baron Lecale in 1800.

Children

1. George FitzGerald, Earl of Offaly, b. 15 Jan 1748

#### > 2. William Robert FitzGerald, 2nd Duke of Leinster, b. 12 Mar 1749, Arlington Place, Piccadilly

- > 3. Lady Emilia Maria Margaretta FitzGerald, b. 15 Mar 1751

4. Lord Charles James FitzGerald, Baron Lecale, of Ardglass, co Down, b. 30 Jun 1756

- > 5. Lady Charlotte Mary Gertrude FitzGerald, Baroness Rayleigh, b. 29 May 1758

- > 6. Lord Henry FitzGerald, b. 30 Jul 1761

- > 7. Lord Edward FitzGerald, b. 15 Oct 1763 - perhaps one of the most renowned United Irishmen. Lord Edward died on 4 June 1798 of wounds he received in resisting magistrates who were attempting to take him into custody on a charge of high treason.



- > 8. Lord Robert Stephen FitzGerald, b. 1765
- 9. Hon. Gerald FitzGerald, b. 1766
- 10. Lady Sophia Sarah Mary FitzGerald
- 11. Lady Lucy Anne FitzGerald, b. 5 Feb 1771

He was the maternal grandson of **Charles Lennox**, 1701-1750, 2nd Duke Richmond & Lennox – **GM Premier GL 1724-25**. His paternal grandmother, Mary O'Brien, b. bef 1694, was the sister of **Hon. James O'Brien**, d. 1771 – **GM Munster 1728**, above, and she was also the sister of **William O'Brien**, bef 1705-1777, 4th Earl of Inchiquin – **GM Premier GL 1727**. Hon. James's son, Murrough, 1st Marquess of Thomond, and Earl William's daughter, Mary, Countess of Orkney, [1st cousins] married each other bef. 1755.

<http://www.booksulster.com/library/biography/biographyF.php>

... Upon the death of his elder brother in 1765 he became Earl of Offaly; and when his father was created Duke in 1766, Marquis of Kildare. In 1767 he was elected member for Dublin, and continued to be a member of the House of Commons until his father's death in 1773. He held many important offices connected with the State, was one of the generals of the Volunteers, and on the institution of the order of St. Patrick in 1783 was the first of the original knights. Upon the Union, he received £28,800 compensation for the disfranchisement of Kildare and Athy. He died 20th October, 1804, aged 55, leaving a family of five sons and eight daughters. Barrington says: "His disposition and address combined almost every quality which could endear him to the nation; . . he always intended right. . . Something approaching to regal honours attended his investiture " [as a General of the Volunteers].

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Carlton\\_House](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Carlton_House)



The first record of a house at Carlton was in the 17th Century when William Talbot, recorder of the city of Dublin was given a lease of the lands by the 14th Earl of Kildare and is thought to have built a house here at this time. The house and lands were forfeited to the crown in [1691](#) and in [1703](#) sold to Major General Richard Ingoldsby, Master General of the Ordnance. In [1739](#), the lease was sold back to the 19th Earl of Kildare who employed [Richard Castles](#) to build the existing house. This was the same year the FitzGerald family bought [Frescati House](#). Castles was also responsible for some other great Irish Houses including [Westport House](#), [Powerscourt House](#) and in 1745, [Leinster House](#) which he built for the FitzGerald.

In [1747](#) James the 20th Earl of Kildare and from [1766](#) first Duke of Leinster, married [Lady Emily Lennox](#), daughter of the Duke of Richmond and great-grand-daughter of the English King [Charles II](#).

Lady Emily played an important role in the development of the house and estate as it is today. She created the Chinese room (bedroom to Queen [Victoria](#)) and decorated the famous Shell Cottage on the estate with shells from all round the world. One of Emily's 23 children was the famous Irish Patriot [Lord Edward FitzGerald](#), leader of the [1798 rebellion](#).

Carlton remained unaltered until [1815](#) when the 3rd Duke decided to sell Leinster House to the [Royal Dublin Society](#) and make Carlton his principle residence. He employed [Richard Morrison](#) to enlarge and re-model the house. Morrison replaced the curved colonnades with straight connecting links to obtain additional rooms including the famous Dining room. At this time the entrance to the house was moved to the north side.



<http://www.answers.com/topic/leinster-house>

< *Leinster House in 1911, decorated for the visit of King [George V](#).*

From the late [eighteenth century](#) **Leinster House** (then called Cill Dara House) was the Earl's official Dublin residence. When it was first built in 1745-8, it was located on the unfashionable and isolated south side of the city, far from the main locations of aristocratic residences, namely Rutland (now Parnell) Square and Mountjoy Square. The Earl predicted that others would follow; in succeeding decades Merrion Square and Fitzwilliam Square became the primary location of residences of the aristocracy, with many of their northside residences being sold. (They ended up as slums.) In the history of aristocratic residences in Dublin, no other mansion matched Kildare House for its sheer size or status. When the Earl was made the first [Duke of Leinster](#), the family's Dublin residence was renamed Leinster House. Its first and second floors - what Americans call second and third floors - were used as the floor model for the [White House](#) by its Irish architect, while the house itself was used as a model for the original stone-cut White House exterior.

One famous member of the family who occasionally resided in Leinster House was [Lord Edward FitzGerald](#), who became involved with Irish nationalism during the [1798 Rebellion](#), which cost him his life. With the passage of the [Act of Union](#) in 1800, Ireland ceased to have its own parliament. Without a House of Lords to attend, increasing numbers of aristocrats stopped coming to Dublin,

selling off their Dublin residences, in many case to buy residences in London, where the new united parliament met. The Duke of Leinster sold Leinster House to the Royal Dublin Society. At the end of the nineteenth century, two new wings were added, to house the [National Library of Ireland](#) and the [National Museum of Ireland](#). Part of this scheme intended to re-clad the house in more attractive Portland stone and extend the portico outwards (as opposed to being attached). Unfortunately this was not undertaken.

### 1772 - Mac Donnell, Randal William, Viscount Dunluce – 6th Earl & 1st Marq. of Antrim [see also 1778]

b. 4 Nov 1749; d. 29 Jul 1791, Antrim House, Merrion Square, Dublin, County Dublin, Ireland

<http://www.thepeerage.com/p1535.htm#i15341>

Sir Randal William Mac Donnell, 1st and last Marquess of Antrim was born on 4 November 1749. He was the son of Alexander Mac Donnell, 5th Earl of Antrim and Anne Plunkett. He married Hon. Letitia Morres, daughter of Hervey Morres, 1st Viscount Mountmorres of Castlemorres and Lady Letitia Ponsonby, on 3 July 1774. He died on 29 July 1791 at age 41 in Antrim House, Merrion Square, Dublin, County Dublin, Ireland. His will (dated 14 August 1790) was probated on 15 August 1791 in Dublin, County Dublin, Ireland.

Sir Randal William Mac Donnell, 1st and last Marquess of Antrim held the office of Member of Parliament (M.P.) for County Antrim between 1768 and 1775.

He held the office of Sheriff of County Antrim in 1771.

He succeeded to the title of 6th Earl of Antrim [I., 1620] on 13 October 1775.

He succeeded to the title of 6th Viscount Dunluce, co. Antrim [I., 1618] on 13 October 1775.

He was invested as a Knight, Order of the Bath (K.B.) on 5 May 1779.

On 5 February 1783 he was nominated to the Order of St. Patrick, but was never invested, being unwilling to resign from the Order of the Bath.

He was created 1st Earl of Antrim [IRELAND] on 19 June 1785, with special remainder to his daughters in order of seniority.

He was created 1st Viscount Dunluce [IRELAND] on 19 June 1785, with special remainder to his daughters in order of seniority.

He was invested as a Privy Counsellor (P.C.) [Ireland] in 1786.

He was created 1st Marquess of Antrim [IRELAND] on 18 August 1789.2

Sir John Blaquiere writes of him in 1775 as "an idle, unsteady young man, not to be depended upon."

On his death, the Marquessate of Antrim, and the two earlier creations of Earl of Antrim and Viscount Dunluce became extinct.

He married 3 Jul 1774 Hon. Letitia Morres d. 7 December 1801

Children

1. Anne Katherine Mac Donnell, Countess of Antrim+ b. 11 Feb 1778, d. 30 Jun 18342

2. Lady Letitia Mary MacDonnell b. 11 Feb 1778, d. b 30 Jun 18342

3. Charlotte MacDonnell, Countess of Antrim+ b. 12 Aug 1779, d. 26 Oct 18352

He was also **GM of the Antient GL 1783-91**.

His wife first married, 27 Feb 1762, Hon. Arthur Trevor, 1738-1770, whose sister, Hon. Anne Hill, 1742-1831, married, 6 Feb 1759, **Garret Wesley**, 1735-1781, 1st Earl of Mornington – **GM Ireland 1776**, below, and whose son **Richard Colley Wesley**, 1760-1842, 1st Marquess Wellesley, was **GM Ireland 1782**, below.

### 1774 - Rochfort, George, Viscount Bellfield – 2nd Earl of Belvedere [Belvidere]

d. 1814

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Earl\\_of\\_Belvedere](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Earl_of_Belvedere)

Robert's second son, who had been named after King George III (his godfather by proxy) became the Second Earl of Belvedere in 1774 and despite the family holding vast estates in Westmeath chose to reside in Dublin; probably not surprising given the unhappy associations of his other holdings. He bought the land for his town house the year he succeeded to the Earldom, and also married Dorothea Bloomfield.

Politically active, George was a violent opponent of the Act of Union but was eventually wooed by money to vote in favour. He did nevertheless continue to reside in Dublin after the Act was passed. Following the death of his first wife he married Jane McKay but died heirless in 1814.

His greatest legacy though is probably the town house he had built. He hired the well known architect Michael Stapleton to build it and it is one of the best surviving examples of Georgian architecture in Ireland.

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The Rochfort family without Earldom

After the Earl's death his wife remarried and bore a son whom she christened George Augustus Rochfort Boyd. He chose to live on the estate in Westmeath, which had no unhappy associations for him, and the townhouse fell into disrepair. Boyd sold it to a man who then passed it on to his brother's religious order the Jesuits. The former Belvedere House, Dublin is now part of the renowned teaching establishment Belvedere College.

Upon George Augustus' death in 1814 the title became extinct and has yet to be revived. Although the title does not survive the military tradition which saw the first Earl honoured for his services does seem to have lived on as, in 1915, one George Arthur Boyd-Rochfort, by then a true Irishman, was awarded the Victoria Cross (the UK's highest award for bravery) for service in France (Cambrin).

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Earl\\_of\\_Belvedere](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Earl_of_Belvedere)

The earldom of Belvedere, created in 1756, was held by the Rochfort family. The 1st Earl of Belvedere was Colonel Robert Rochfort (1708-1774) who came from a distinguished English family settled in Ireland. In 1738 Rochfort had been created Baron Belfield and in 1751 was elevated to Viscount Belfield before he finally received the new earldom. He went on to become Muster-Master-General of the Irish Army in 1764.



### The 1st Earl & his unfortunate marriage

Despite the apparent talents, or popularity at court, which led to his fairly rapid rise, Rochfort is probably best known (even notorious) for the treatment of his young wife Mary whom he married in 1736 when he was 28 and she was 16. Fairly early in his marriage (around 1743) he heard rumours that Mary had been unfaithful to him with his brother Arthur. As punishment, Robert had Mary locked up in the family house in Gaulstown, alone apart from her servants, for the rest of his life - thirty-one years. After twelve years of this captivity she had attempted to escape but was caught and subjected to even harsher treatment. When she was finally released by order of her son after his father's death she apparently took to wandering the house and talking to portraits as if they were real people. Her voice had assumed a peculiar quality (like a shrill whisper) and she was obviously profoundly damaged by her experience. She did not survive long after her release.

She was not the only one to suffer though. The enraged Robert took his brother Arthur to court and was awarded the then huge sum of 20,000 pounds in damages. Arthur, unable to pay, fled the country. When Arthur saw fit to return to Ireland he was thrown into the debtors prison where he stayed until the "Wicked Earl", as he became known, died.

During his life the 1st Earl commissioned Richard Castle to build Belvedere House, Mullingar. It is still a well admired piece of Georgian architecture and is now run by the Westmeath County Council. This building is possibly the best thing Robert is remembered for, now that time and events have obscured his military or 'political' prowess. Even his achievement with Belvedere House could be considered marred by his spitefulness though as he had a huge 'folly', some 180 feet tall, built simply to obscure the view of his brother's neighbouring (and larger) house!

<http://www.irelandseye.com/articles/travel/attractions/houses/belveder.shtml>

### Belvedere, County Westmeath

A desire to escape from the formality of country house life during the eighteenth century led to the emergence of small, comfortable holiday retreats known as villas. Undoubtedly the best example of such a building in Ireland is Belvedere - an exquisite house with an unusual elongated plan set in a fine landscape park overlooking Lough Ennell. Belvedere was built around 1742 to a design by Richard Castle, probably as a fishing pavilion, for Robert Rochfort, Lord Belfield, whose seat at Gaulston lay five miles away. Like other villas of the period, the building was distinguished from ordinary houses of the same size by the exceptionally high quality of its design and construction, most notably its superb joinery and brilliant plasterwork. But the very strange and terrible events that preceded its construction ensured that Belvedere was never really used as a villa, but rather became a country house in its own right.

Belvedere had hardly been completed in 1743 when a great scandal broke out surrounding its builder Robert Rochfort, and his wife Mary Molesworth. She was only sixteen when she married Robert in 1736, but at the time the match seemed highly suitable; he was intelligent, handsome and one of the country's richest young men, she was the pretty and well-connected daughter of the third Viscount Molesworth. They settled at Gaulston and all seemed well until 1743 when Robert, now Baron Belfield, was informed that his wife had committed adultery with his young brother Arthur, then living near Gaulston at Belfield. Robert, evidently a hot-tempered and self-centered individual, at once removed to his newly completed house at Belvedere, incarcerated his wife at Gaulston and plotted revenge against his brother, who fled to England.

For thirty-one years his wife remained confined at Gaulston with only servants to keep her company. Once in 1756 she managed to escape, but her father refused her entry into his house and within twenty-four hours she was back in Gaulston. Henceforth her movements were further restricted and she was no longer allowed visits by her children. It is said that she used to walk up and down the gallery at Gaulston gazing at the portraits 'as if conversing with them'. After her husband's death in 1774 she was released by her son, who was horrified to find that she had acquired a 'wild, scared, unearthly look, whilst the tones of her voice, which hardly exceeded a whisper, were harsh, agitated and uneven'. As for the unfortunate Arthur, he made the mistake of returning to Ireland in 1759 and was sued for adultery by his unrelenting brother, now Earl of Belvedere. Fined £20,000 in damages, he spent the rest of his life in the Marshalsea, the debtor's jail in Dublin.

Lord Belvedere's treatment of his wife makes gripping reading, but it is also an indictment of eighteenth century social attitudes. What is so striking is that his behaviour did his reputation no harm at all. At Belvedere he lived an extravagant lifestyle, entertained a great deal and rose through the social ranks to become Earl of Belvedere in 1756 and Master General of the Irish army in 1764.

Although its rooms are now empty, Belvedere remains much as it was in the Earl's time. A solid grey limestone house of two stories over a basement with a long front and curved end bows, it is probably the earliest bow-ended house in the country. Above the Venetian windows on the front there were formerly Diocletian or semi-circular openings, but unfortunately these were changed to their present shape in the nineteenth century. The Venetian and the bow windows provided light for the drawing-room and dining-room at either end of the house and between them are two small rooms (now united as one), a corridor and a handsome wooden staircase in a projection at the back of the building. Both the end rooms are grand but not large, with unusual chamfered corners and very high-quality joinery - their doors, windows and wainscoting all remain unpainted. The drawing-room chimney-piece is a Victorian addition, but other fireplaces and overmantels are original to the house, including a fine example in the east bedroom, probably Lord Belvedere's room.

The delicate rococo plasterwork ceilings are the real glory of Belvedere's interior. Framed by rich cornices these ceilings are notable for their lively quality and freedom of movement. The drawing-room ceiling has scrollwork enclosing medallions of Juno, Minerva and Venus, while that in the dining-room is rather bolder, with clusters of fruit and flowers and four puffing cherubs emerging from clouds in the centre. In the hall the plasterwork is in much lower relief and is supposed to represent the night, with an owl, a flaming torch, stars and more swirling clouds. The name of the plasterer is unknown, but it has been noted that the work closely resembles ceilings formerly at Mespil House outside Dublin; these are believed to have been the work of the Frenchman Bartholomew Cramillon who is known to have made the splendid rococo ceiling in the Rotunda Hospital Chapel in 1755.

The small park that Lord Belvedere created around his villa is just as fine as the house itself and was the envy of all visitors, not least John Wesley who in 1767 remarked that 'one would scarce think it possible to have such a variety of beauties in so small a compass'. One of the attractions was an enormous sham Gothick ruin, which Lord Belvedere in typical fashion built to block out the view of Rochfort House (later known as Tudenham), the home of another of his brothers with whom he had quarreled. Yet despite



his violent and cruel temperament, the Earl was certainly a man of taste and the Gothick arch he had built at the other end of the park is one of the most endearing follies in Ireland.

Following the death of the 'Wicked Earl' (as he was later known) in 1774, the house was inherited by his son, the second Earl, who sold Gaulston and continued to live at Belvedere where he added a small wing to the back. Although his father had left him 'very embarrassed in his circumstances' he managed to revive the family fortunes sufficiently to build a magnificent town residence - now the home of a famous Dublin school. He died without heirs in 1814 and the property was inherited by his sister, the Countess of Lanesborough, and later passed in 1826 to her great-grandson, Charles Brinsely Marley, who lived at Belvedere until his death in 1912. Marley laid out the Italianate terraces in front of the house and assembled a remarkable collection of pictures and objets d'art which was given to Cambridge University upon his death, forming the core of the Fitzwilliam Museum. The residue of this collection together with the house and estate were left to his cousin Lieutenant Colonel C. K. Howard-Bury, leader of the 1921 Mount Everest expedition, who after his death in 1963 bequeathed it to Rex Beaumont. The contents were auctioned by Christie's in 1980 - a catastrophic loss for any such house. However, the interior of Belvedere is so fine that it still retains its soul, empty as the rooms may be.



His sister Jane m. 1754, Brinsley Butler, 2nd Earl of Lanesborough [see also 1757 above]

The magnificent early 18th century stately home of George's father, Robert Rochfort, 1st Earl of Belvedere, stands in 160 acres of parkland on the shores of Lough Ennell.



A modern visitors centre tells the tale of Rochfort's cruel 31 years imprisonment of his second wife, Mary Molesworth; Sir John Pier's seduction of lady Cloncurry at a picnic (immortalised in verse by Sir John Betjemen) and the creation of Ireland's largest man-made folly - The Jealous Wall. Belvedere is one of the finest of Ireland's historic houses and together with gardens and park has been exquisitely restored.

< Drawing Room at Belveder

"oh gay lapped the waves on the shores of Lough Ennell  
And sweet smelt the breeze amid the garlic and fennel

But sweeter and gayer than either of these  
Were the songs of the birds in Lord Belvedere's trees"



[http://www.askaboutireland.ie/show\\_narrative\\_page.do?page\\_id=1541](http://www.askaboutireland.ie/show_narrative_page.do?page_id=1541)

### George Rochfort and Lady Lanesborough



George Augustus inherited Belvedere and the title from his father, thus becoming the 2nd Earl of Belvedere. He served as MP for Westmeath and as Sheriff for the County. In 1798 he left Ireland to live in England. Following the death of his first wife he re-married in 1803, however upon his death in 1814 the earldom and other titles became extinct as he had no issue by either marriage. His estate was divided between his widow Jane Countess of Belvedere's son by her second marriage George Augustus Boyd and the descendants of Jane Countess of Lanesborough, the sister of the 2nd Earl.

< Jane, Lady Lanesborough (1737-1828)

Jane Rochfort inherited Belvedere from her brother George in 1814 at the age of seventy-seven but spent very little time there. When she died in 1828 Belvedere House passed to her grandson Brinsley, fourth Earl of Lanesborough. He rarely visited Belvedere which was subsequently inherited by his cousin Charles Brinsley Marlay in 1847.

<http://rochfortbridge.wetpaint.com/>

George Rochfort was the first Worshipful Master of the Mullingar Lodge of Masons in December 1765. He also formed the first Volunteer Corps in the County at Mullingar in 1777. George restored once again the finest house in the County at Gaulstown, George had botanists employed to plant the bog land with exotic plants and formed three artificial lakes linked by a canal throughout the estate. He walled in a portion of the estate and had the finest herd of fallow deer therein. This area is still known today as "the Park". Shortly after the death of his first wife, George married Lady Jane Belvedere and moved into Belvedere House. In 1784 George sold Gaulstown to Sir John Browne M.P. 1st Lord Kilmaine. George died without issue in 1814 thus ending the title Earl of Belvedere. The estate was divided between his wife Lady Belvedere, and his sister Jane, Countess of Lanesborough. Jane Countess of Lanesborough died in 1828. The estate passed to her grandson Lord Brinsley 4th Earl of Lanesborough. With Gaulstown House now under new management, its new owner Lord Kilmaine was now the landlord for much of the area around Gaulstown. The years to follow were trouble free until the famine struck, although not harshly in this area, it still had its effect. Sir John Cavendish Browne, 3rd Lord Kilmaine, chaired a meeting of the landlords in the barony that was attended by gentry and peasantry alike. Work was provided in the area to give some relief. This George Augustus Rochfort, 2nd Earl of Belvedere together with grain imported by Lady Cooper of Dunboden House, and the construction of a wall around Dunboden Park, the straightening of the road to Rochfortbridge and the re-routing of the Derry river, all made life easier during the famine in this area. In the O.S. land survey of 1844, we see that the main road from Rochfortbridge to Mullingar takes the route along the Dalystown road, turning at "Lamb's Crossroads", to Kilbride House and then through Gaybrook into Mullingar. This was a major undertaking of work and may have contributed in a large way to the saving of lives of the hungry in the greater Rochfortbridge area.

#### The Facts about George.

George Rochfort, 2nd Earl of Belvedere was the son of Robert Rochfort, 1st Earl of Belvedere and Hon. Mary Molesworth. He was born on 12th October 1738. He married, firstly, Dorothea Bloomfield, daughter of John Bloomfield and Jane Jocelyn, on 20th August 1775. He married, secondly, Jane Mackay, daughter of Reverend James Mackay, on 10th November 1803. He died on 13th May 1814 aged 75, at Great Denmark Street, Dublin, County Dublin, Ireland, without issue.

He was styled as Viscount Belfield between 1756 and 1774. He held the office of M.P. for Philipstown between 1758 and 1761. He held the office of M.P. for County Westmeath between 1761 and 1774. He held the office of Sheriff of County Westmeath in 1762. He held the office of a Governor of County Westmeath between 1772 and 1814. He held the office of Grand Master of the Freemasons [Ireland] between 1774 and 1776. He succeeded to the title of 2nd Earl of Belvedere, of Co. Westmeath [I., 1756] on 13th November 1774. He succeeded to the title of 2nd Viscount Belfield, of Co. Westmeath [I., 1751] on 13th November 1774. He succeeded to the title of 2nd Baron Belfield, of Co. Westmeath [I., 1738] on 13th November 1774. On 7th June 1776 he obtained a pension of £800 per year for his and his father's services. On his death, his three peerages became extinct.

For a more complete text of the Rochforts, see: <http://rochfortbridge.wetpaint.com/>

#### **1776 - Wesley, Garret[t], 1st Earl of Mornington**

b. 19 Jul 1735; d. 22 May 1781, Knesington, London, England; bur. Grosvenor Chapel, So. Audley St., Mayfair, London, England.  
<http://www.thepeerage.com/p10256.htm#i102557>

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Garret\\_Wesley,\\_1st\\_Earl\\_of\\_Mornington](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Garret_Wesley,_1st_Earl_of_Mornington)

He was an Irish politician and composer, best known today for fathering several distinguished British politicians. He was born at the family estate of Dangan to Richard Wesley, 1st Baron Mornington and Elizabeth Sale. He was educated at Trinity College, Dublin and was elected its first Professor of Music in 1764. As a composer he is remembered chiefly for glees such as Here in cool grot and for a double Anglican chant.

Garret Wesley succeeded his father as 2nd Baron Mornington in 1758. In 1760, in recognition of his musical and philanthropic achievements, he was created Viscount Wellesley, of Dangan Castle in the County of Meath, and Earl of Mornington. He married Anne Hill, eldest daughter of the banker Arthur Hill, Lord Dungannon in 1759 His children were:

Richard Wellesley, 1st Marquess Wellesley, 2nd Earl of Mornington (20 June 1760–26 September 1842)  
William Wellesley-Pole, 3rd Earl of Mornington, 1st Baron Maryborough (20 May 1763–22 February 1845)  
Arthur Wellesley, 1st Duke of Wellington (c. 1 May 1769–14 September 1852)  
The Revd and Hon. Gerald Valerian Wellesley (7 December 1770–24 October 1848)  
Henry Wellesley, 1st Baron Cowley (20 January 1773–27 April 1847)  
Lady Anne Wellesley (1775–16 December 1844)

Four of Lord Mornington's five sons were created peers in the Peerages of Great Britain and the United Kingdom. The Barony of Wellesley (held by the Marquess Wellesley) and the Barony of Maryborough are now extinct, whilst the Dukedom of Wellington and Barony of Cowley are extant. The Earldom of Mornington is held by the Dukes of Wellington, and the Barons Cowley have since been elevated to be Earls Cowley. Garret Wesley died in 1781.

<http://www.booksulster.com/library/biography/biographyW1.php>

**Wellesley, Garrett, Viscount Wellesley**, of Dangan Castle, and **Earl of Mornington**, was born 19th July 1735 [He was the son of Richard Colley, whose aunt married Garrett Wesley of Dangan, in the County of Meath, descended from a family reputed to have been settled in Ireland since Henry II.'s reign. Her son Garrett Wesley died childless in 1728, and bequeathed to Colley all his real estate, upon condition that "he and his sons, and the heirs male of his body, assumed and took upon him and them the surname and coat-of-arms of Wesley." Richard Colley changed his name accordingly, and was created Baron Mornington in 1746. He died 31st January 1758. His descendants, about the year 1796, reverted to what was considered the more correct form of the name - Wellesley.

The Colleys (otherwise spelled Cowley or Cooley) came to Ireland in the reign of Henry VIII. and were granted estates in the neighbourhood of Carbery. Henry Colley of Castle-Carbery, a captain in Queen Elizabeth's Irish army, an ancestor of Richard, was knighted by Sir Henry Sidney, who recommended him to his successor as one who was "valiant, fortunate, and a good servant; and, having by my appointment the charge of the King's County, kept the country well ordered and in good obedience. He is as good a borderer as ever I found any there. I left him at my coming thence a councillor, and tried him for his experience and judgment, very sufficient for the room he was called into. He was a sound and fast friend to me, and so I doubt not but your Lordship shall find, when you have occasion to employ him."] Garrett Wellesley entered Trinity College, and took his B.A. degree in 1754, and M.A. in 1757. He succeeded his father as Baron Mornington in 1758, and was created Viscount Wesley (or Wellesley) and Earl of Mornington in 1761. "Perhaps he was in some degree indebted to the musical ear of George III. for the advancement, inasmuch as the Earl was a composer of no ordinary merit, and excelled in the species of composition which was most pleasing to the King. In no other way does he appear to have benefited by the royal favour, as his means were scarcely adequate to maintain the large family which grew up around him in the style suited to their position."

From his earliest years he displayed a wonderful taste for music. At nine years of age he learned to play catches on the violin, and was soon able to take the second part in difficult sonatas. His first original composition was a minuet. At fourteen he played the harpsicord and organ, and within a short time was able to extemporize fugues on the latter. The degree of Doctor of Music was conferred upon him by Trinity College in 1764. Amongst his other compositions were the beautiful glees, "Here in cool grot," and "Come, fairest nymph." He died 22nd May 1781, aged 45.

By his wife, Anne, daughter of Arthur Hill, Viscount Dungannon (whose family had been settled in Ireland for more than one hundred years), he had six sons and two daughters:

- (1) Richard - became Marquis of Wellesley.
- (2) Arthur Gerald (born in 1761; died young).
- (3) William (born in 1763; died 1845)-assumed the name and arms of Pole, and became Baron Maryborough.
- (4) Francis Seymour - died young.
- (5) Anne (born 1768; died 1844) - married (a) Hon. Henry Fitzroy, and (b) Charles C. Smith.
- (6) Arthur - became Duke of Wellington.
- (7) Gerald Valerian (born 1770; died 1848) - entered the Church, and became Prebendary of Durham.
- (8) Mary Elizabeth (born 1772) - appears to have died young.
- (9) Henry (born 1773; died 1847).

Lady Mornington, a somewhat cold and severe woman, who had a difficult struggle to bring up her family on a small property heavily encumbered, lived to witness the eminence to which her sons attained, and died 10th September 1831.

**1777 - Fitz Gerald, William Robert, 2nd Duke of Leinster [see also 1770]**

**1778 - Mac Donnell, Randal William, 6th Earl of Antrim [Marq. of Antrim] [see also 1772]**

**1782 - Wesley, Richard Colley, 2nd Earl of Mornington – Marquess of Wellesley**

b. 20 Jun 1760; 26 Sep 1842

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Richard\\_Wellesley%2C\\_1st\\_Marquess\\_Wellesley](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Richard_Wellesley%2C_1st_Marquess_Wellesley)



later Wellesley, 1st Marquess Wellesley (20 June 1760 - 26 September 1842), was the eldest son of Garret Wesley, 1st Earl of Mornington, an Irish peer, and brother of the famous Arthur Wellesley, 1st Duke of Wellington.

He was educated at Eton College, where he distinguished himself as a classical scholar, and at Christ Church, Oxford. By his father's death in 1781 he became 2nd Earl of Mornington, taking his seat in the Irish House of Lords. In 1784 he entered the House of Commons as member for Beeraiston. Soon afterwards he was appointed a lord of the Treasury by William Pitt the Younger. In 1793 he became a member of the Board of Control over Indian affairs; and, although he was best known for his speeches in defence of Pitt's foreign policy, he was gaining the acquaintance with Oriental affairs which made his rule over India so effective from the moment when, in 1797, he accepted the office of Governor-General.

Mornington seems to have caught Pitt's large political spirit in the period 1793 to 1797. Both seem to have formed the design of acquiring a great empire in India to compensate for the loss of the American colonies; the rivalry with France, which in Europe placed Britain at the head of coalition after coalition against the French republic and empire, made Mornington's rule in India an epoch of enormous and rapid extension of British power. Robert Clive won and Warren Hastings consolidated the British ascendancy in India, but Mornington extended it into an empire. On the voyage outwards, he formed the design of annihilating French influence in the Deccan. Soon after his landing, in April 1798, he learnt that an alliance was being negotiated between Tippoo Sultan and the French republic. Mornington resolved to anticipate the action of the enemy, and ordered preparations for war. The first step was to effect the disbandment of the French troops entertained by the Nizam of Hyderabad. The invasion of Mysore followed in February 1799, and the campaign was brought to a rapid close by the capture of Seringapatam. In 1803, the restoration of the Peshwa proved the prelude to the Mahratta war against Sindh and the raja of Berar, in which brother Arthur took a leading rôle. The result of these wars and of the treaties which followed them was that French influence in India was extinguished, that forty million people and ten millions of revenue were added to the British dominions, and that the powers of the Mahratta and all other princes were so reduced that Britain became the true dominant authority over all India. He found the East India Company a trading body, but left it an imperial power.

He was an excellent administrator, and picked two of his talented brothers for his staff: Arthur was his military adviser, and Henry was his personal secretary. He founded Fort William, a training centre intended for those who would be involved in governing India. In connection with this college, he established the governor-general's office, to which civilians who had shown talent at the college were transferred, in order that they might learn something of the highest statesmanship in the immediate service of their chief. A free-trader like Pitt, he endeavoured to remove some of the restrictions on the trade between Britain and India. Both the commercial



policy of Wellesley and his educational projects brought him into hostility with the court of directors, and he more than once tendered his resignation, which, however, public necessities led him to postpone till the autumn of 1805. He reached England just in time to see Pitt before his death. He had been created a Peer of Great Britain in 1797, and in 1799 became Marquess Wellesley in the Peerage of Ireland.

On the fall of the coalition ministry in 1807 Wellesley was invited by George III to join the Duke of Portland's cabinet, but he declined, pending the discussion in parliament of certain charges brought against him in respect of his Indian administration. Resolutions condemning him for the abuse of power were moved in both the Lords and Commons, but defeated by large majorities. In 1809 Wellesley was appointed ambassador to Spain. He landed at Cádiz just after the Battle of Talavera de la Reina, and tried unsuccessfully to bring the Spanish government into effective co-operation with his brother, who, through the failure of his allies, had been forced to retreat into Portugal. A few months later, after the duel between George Canning and Robert Stewart, Viscount Castlereagh, and the resignation of both, Wellesley accepted the post of Foreign Secretary in Spencer Perceval's cabinet.

He held this office until February 1812, when he retired, partly from dissatisfaction at the inadequate support given to Wellington by the ministry, but also because he had become convinced that the question of Catholic emancipation could no longer be kept in the background. From early life Wellesley had, unlike his brother, been an advocate of Catholic emancipation, and with the claim of the Irish Catholics to justice he henceforward identified himself. On Perceval's assassination he, along with Canning, refused to join Lord Liverpool's administration, and he remained out of office till 1821, criticizing with severity the proceedings of the Congress of Vienna and the European settlement of 1814, which, while it reduced France to its ancient limits, left to the other great powers the territory that they had acquired by the Partitions of Poland and the destruction of the Republic of Venice. He was one of the peers who signed the protest against the enactment of the Corn Laws in 1815.

Wellesley lived together with Hyacinthe-Gabrielle Roland, an actress at the Palais Royal (and by some accounts a prostitute) for many years. Her mother's husband was Pierre Roland, but she was said to be the daughter of an Irishman named Christopher Alexander Fagan. She had three sons and two daughters by Wellesley before he married her on 29 November 1794. He moved her to London, where Hyacinthe was generally miserable, as she never learned English and she was scorned by high society. Their daughter Anne was an ancestor of Elizabeth Bowes-Lyon (later Queen Consort). Another daughter, Hyacinthe Mary Wellesley, married Baron Hatherton. Following his wife's death in 1816, he married, on 29 October 1825, Marianne (Caton) Patterson, whose mother Mary was the daughter of Charles Carroll of Carrollton, the last surviving signatory of the United States Declaration of Independence. They had no children.



In 1821 he was appointed Lord Lieutenant of Ireland. Catholic emancipation had now become an open question in the cabinet, and Wellesley's acceptance of the viceroyalty was believed in Ireland to herald the immediate settlement of the Catholic claims. The Orange faction was incensed by the firmness with which their excesses were now repressed, and Wellesley was on one occasion mobbed and insulted. The hope of the Catholics remained unfulfilled. Lord Liverpool died without having grappled with the problem. Canning died; and on the assumption of office by Wellington, who was opposed to Catholic emancipation, his brother resigned the lord-lieutenancy. He had, however, the satisfaction of seeing the Catholic claims settled in the next year by the very statesmen who had declared against them. In 1833 he resumed the office of Lord Lieutenant under Earl Grey, but the ministry soon fell, and, with one short exception, Wellesley did not take any further part in official life.

On his death, he had no successor in the marquessate, but the earldom of Mornington and minor honours devolved on his brother William, Lord Maryborough, on the failure of whose issue in 1863 they fell to the 2nd Duke of Wellington.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Richard\\_Wellesley,\\_1st\\_Marquess\\_Wellesley](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Richard_Wellesley,_1st_Marquess_Wellesley)

**Richard Colley Wesley, 1st Marquess Wellesley KG PC PC (Ire)** (20 June 1760 – 26 September 1842) was styled **Viscount Wellesley** from birth until 1781 and was known as **Earl of Mornington** from 1781 until 1799. He was an [Irish](#) and [British](#) politician and [colonial administrator](#).

He was the eldest son of [The 1st Earl of Mornington](#), an [Irish peer](#), and Anne, the eldest daughter of [The 1st Viscount Dungannon](#). He was also the brother of [Field Marshal The 1st Duke of Wellington](#). He first made his name as [Governor-General of India](#) between 1798 and 1805 and later served as [Foreign Secretary](#) in the [British Cabinet](#) and as [Lord Lieutenant of Ireland](#).

Wellesley was born in [Ireland](#), where his family were part of [the Ascendancy](#), the old [Anglo-Irish aristocracy](#). He was educated at the [Royal School, Armagh](#), [Harrow School](#) and [Eton College](#), where he distinguished himself as a classical scholar, and at [Christ Church, Oxford](#).

In 1780, he entered the [Irish House of Commons](#) as the member for [Trim](#) until the following year when, at his father's death, he became **2nd Earl of Mornington**, taking his seat in the [Irish House of Lords](#). He was elected Grand Master of the [Grand Lodge of Ireland](#) in 1782, a post he held for the following year. Due to the extravagance of his father and grandfather, he found himself so indebted that he was ultimately forced to sell all the Irish estates. However, in 1781 he was appointed to the coveted position of [Custos Rotulorum of Meath](#).

In 1784 he joined also the [British House of Commons](#) as member for [Bere Alston](#). Soon afterwards he was appointed a [Lord of the Treasury](#) by [William Pitt the Younger](#).

In 1793 he became a member of the Board of Control over Indian affairs; and, although he was best known for his speeches in defence of Pitt's foreign policy, he was gaining the acquaintance with Oriental affairs which made his rule over India so effective from the moment when, in 1797, he accepted the office of [Governor-General of India](#).





< Wellesley in his red-coated officer's uniform.

Mornington seems to have caught Pitt's large political spirit in the period 1793 to 1797. That both had consciously formed the design of acquiring a great empire in [India](#) to compensate for the loss of the American colonies is not proved; but the rivalry with France, which in Europe placed Britain at the head of coalition after coalition against the French republic and empire, made Mornington's rule in India an epoch of enormous and rapid extension of British power. [Robert Clive](#) won and [Warren Hastings](#) consolidated the British ascendancy in India, but Mornington extended it into an empire. On the voyage outwards, he formed the design of annihilating French influence in the [Deccan](#).

Soon after his landing, in April 1798, he learned that an alliance was being negotiated between [Tipu Sultan](#) and the [French republic](#). Mornington resolved to anticipate the action of the enemy, and ordered preparations for war. The first step was to effect the disbandment of the French troops entertained by the [Nizam](#) of [Hyderabad](#).

The invasion of [Mysore](#) followed in February 1799, and the campaign was brought to a swift conclusion by the capture of [Seringapatam](#) on 4 May 1799 and the killing of [Tipu Sultan](#). In 1803, the restoration of the [Peshwa](#) proved the prelude to the [Mahratha war](#) against [Sindhia](#) and the raja of [Berar](#), in which his

brother [Arthur](#) took a leading role. The result of these wars and of the treaties which followed them was that French influence in India was extinguished, that forty million people and ten millions of revenue were added to the British dominions, and that the powers of the Maratha and all other princes were so reduced that Britain became the true dominant authority over all India. He found the [East India Company](#) a trading body, but left it an imperial power.

He was an excellent administrator, and picked two of his talented brothers for his staff: Arthur was his military adviser, and [Henry](#) was his personal secretary. He founded [Fort William College](#), a training centre intended for those who would be involved in governing India. In connection with this college, he established the governor-general's office, to which civilians who had shown talent at the college were transferred, in order that they might learn something of the highest statesmanship in the immediate service of their chief. A free-trader like Pitt, he endeavoured to remove some of the restrictions on the trade between Britain and India.<sup>[5]</sup>

Both the commercial policy of Wellesley and his educational projects brought him into hostility with the court of directors, and he more than once tendered his resignation, which, however, public necessities led him to postpone till the autumn of 1805. He reached England just in time to see Pitt before his death. He had been created a Peer of Great Britain in 1797, and in 1799 became [Marquess Wellesley](#) in the Peerage of Ireland. He formed an enormous collection of over 2,500 painted miniatures in the [Company style](#) of Indian natural history.

A motion by [James Paull \(MP\)](#) to [impeach](#) Wellesley due to his expulsion of the traders from [Oudh](#) was defeated in the House of Commons by 182 votes to 31 in 1808.

On the fall of the coalition ministry in 1807 Wellesley was invited by [George III](#) to join the [Duke of Portland's](#) cabinet, but he declined, pending the discussion in parliament of certain charges brought against him in respect of his Indian administration. Resolutions condemning him for the abuse of power were moved in both the Lords and Commons, but defeated by large majorities.

In 1809 Wellesley was appointed ambassador to Spain. He landed at [Cádiz](#) just after the [Battle of Talavera](#), and tried unsuccessfully to bring the Spanish government into effective co-operation with his brother, who, through the failure of his allies, had been forced to retreat into [Portugal](#). A few months later, after the duel between [George Canning](#) and [Robert Stewart, Viscount Castlereagh](#), and the resignation of both, Wellesley accepted the post of [Foreign Secretary](#) in [Spencer Perceval's](#) cabinet. Unlike his brother Arthur, he was an eloquent speaker, but was subject to inexplicable "black-outs" when he was apparently unaware of his surroundings.

He held this office until February 1812, when he retired, partly from dissatisfaction at the inadequate support given to Wellington by the ministry, but also because he had become convinced that the question of [Catholic emancipation](#) could no longer be kept in the background. From early life Wellesley had, like his brother Arthur, been an advocate of Catholic emancipation, and with the claim of the Irish Catholics to justice he henceforward identified himself. On Perceval's assassination he, along with Canning, refused to join [Lord Liverpool's](#) administration, and he remained out of office till 1821, criticising with severity the proceedings of the [Congress of Vienna](#) and the European settlement of 1814, which, while it reduced France to its ancient limits, left to the other great powers the territory that they had acquired by the [Partitions of Poland](#) and the destruction of the [Republic of Venice](#). He was one of the peers who signed the protest against the enactment of the [Corn Laws](#) in 1815. His reputation never fully recovered from a fiasco in 1812 when he was expected to make a crucial speech denouncing the new Government, but suffered one of his notorious "black-outs" and sat motionless in his place.

Wellesley lived together for many years with Hyacinthe-Gabrielle Roland, an actress at the [Palais Royal](#). She had three sons and two daughters by Wellesley before he married her on 29 November 1794. He moved her to London, where Hyacinthe was generally miserable, as she never learned English and she was scorned by high society: Lady [Caroline Lamb](#) was warned by her mother-in-law, [Elizabeth Milbanke](#), a noted judge of what was socially acceptable, that no respectable woman could afford to be seen in Hyacinthe's society.

Their children were:

[Richard Wellesley](#) (1787–1831), a member of parliament

[Anne Wellesley](#) (1788–1875), who married firstly [Sir William Abdy, 7th Baronet](#), and secondly Lt-Col [Lord Charles Bentinck](#)

Hyacinthe Mary Wellesley (1789–1849), who married [Edward Littleton, 1st Baron Hatherton](#)

Gerald Wellesley (1792–1833), who served as the East India Company's resident at [Indore](#).

the Rev. Henry Wellesley (1794–1866), Principal of [New Inn Hall](#), Oxford.

Through Lady Charles Bentinck, Wellesley is a great-great-great grandfather to [Queen Elizabeth II](#).

Wellesley also had at least two other illegitimate sons by his teenage mistress, Elizabeth Johnston, including Edward (later his father's secretary), born in Middlesex in 1796. At least some of Wellesley's children were seen by most of Richard's other relatives, including his brother Arthur, as greedy, unattractive and cunning, and as exercising an unhealthy influence over their father; in the family circle they were nicknamed "The Parasites".<sup>[10]</sup>

Following his first wife's death in 1816, he married, on 29 October 1825, the widowed Marianne (Caton) Patterson (died 1853), whose mother Mary was the daughter of [Charles Carroll of Carrollton](#), the last surviving signatory of the [United States Declaration of Independence](#); her former sister-in-law was [Elizabeth Patterson Bonaparte](#). They had no children. If not as unhappy as his first marriage, it was generally regarded as a failure. Wellington, who was very fond of Marianne (rumour had it that they were lovers) and was then on rather bad terms with his brother, pleaded with her not to marry him, warning her in particular that "The Parasites", (Richard's children by Hyacinthe) would see her as an enemy.



*Lord Wellesley in Garter Robes, with the badge of the Grand Master of the Order of St Patrick around his neck and carrying the white staff of office as Lord Steward. The portrait was painted by Sir [Martin Archer Shee](#) and exhibited at the Royal Academy in 1833.*

In 1821 he was appointed [Lord Lieutenant of Ireland](#). Catholic emancipation had now become an open question in the cabinet, and Wellesley's acceptance of the viceroyalty was believed in Ireland to herald the immediate settlement of the Catholic claims but they would remain unfulfilled. Some efforts were made to placate Catholic opinion, notably the dismissal of the long-serving [Attorney-General for Ireland, William Saurin](#), whose anti-Catholic views had made him bitterly unpopular. Lord Liverpool died without having grappled with the problem. His successor Canning died only a few months after taking up office as Prime Minister, to be succeeded briefly by Lord Goderich.

On the assumption of office by Wellington, his brother resigned the lord-lieutenancy. He is said to have been deeply hurt by his brother's failure to find a Cabinet position for him (Arthur made the usual excuse that one cannot give a Cabinet seat to everyone who wants one).<sup>[12]</sup> He had, however, the satisfaction of seeing the Catholic claims settled in the next year by the very statesmen who had declared against them. In 1833 he resumed the office of Lord Lieutenant under [Earl Grey](#), but the ministry soon fell, and, with one short exception, Wellesley did not take any further part in official life.

On his death, he had no successor in the marquessate, but the earldom of Mornington and minor honours devolved on his brother [William, Lord Maryborough](#), on the failure of whose issue in 1863 they fell to the 2nd Duke of Wellington.

He and Arthur, after a long estrangement, had been once more on friendly terms for some years: Arthur wept at the funeral, and said that he knew of no honour greater than being Lord Wellesley's brother.

The Marquess Wellesley by [John Philip Davis](#) ("Pope" Davis). >

The [Township of Wellesley](#), in [Ontario](#), Canada, was named in Richard Wellesley's honour, despite the many references (e.g.: [Waterloo](#), [Wellington County](#)) to his brother, Arthur Wellesley in the surrounding area, as was [Wellesley Island](#), located in the St. Lawrence river at Alexandria Bay. Wellesley Island also serves as the last point exiting the United States before crossing to Hill Island, in Canada.

[Province Wellesley](#), in the state of [Penang](#), [Malaysia](#); was named after Richard Wellesley. It was originally part of the state of [Kedah](#). It was ceded to the [British East India Company](#) by the [Sultan of Kedah](#) in 1798, and has been part of the settlement and state of Penang ever since. Now it has been renamed [Seberang Perai](#) in the [Malay language](#).

The [Wellesley Islands](#) off the north coast of [Queensland](#), Australia, were named by [Matthew Flinders](#) in honour of Richard Wellesley. The largest island in the group is [Mornington Island](#).

[Mornington Peninsula](#), south of Melbourne, was named after him.

As of the summer of 2007, a portrait of Marquess Wellesley hangs in the Throne Room at [Buckingham Palace](#).



## 1783-84 - Deane, Robert Tilson, 1st Baron Muskerry

**6th Baronet (1745-1818)** (created Baron Muskerry in 1781); He had previously represented [County Cork](#) in the [Irish House of Commons](#)



b. 19 Oct 1747; d. 25 Jun 1818

Married, 1775, Anne FitzMaurice, bef 1760-1830

< *Springfield Castle*

The Gentleman's Magazine - July to December 1818

<http://books.google.com/books?id=qoN8zSA-uyAC&pg=PA85&lpg=PA85&dq=%22springfield+castle%22+muskerry&source=web&ots=cD32KYp1NB&sig=CQFPiLwysJXYwbv4qyCecz7HJDE>

Right Hon. Lord Muskerry

June 25. Died, at his seat, Springfield Castle, co. Limerick, in his 73d year, the Right Hon. Robert Tilson Deane, Lord Muskerry, Baron Muskerry, co.

Cork, a Baronet, a privy counselor in Ireland, governor and custos rotulorum of the county of Limerick, colonel of the Limerick militia, a trustee of the linen manufacture, &c.

His Lordship was born in 1745, married in 1775 Anne Fitzmaurice, grand-daughter and sole heiress of John Fitzmaurice, esq. of Springfield Castle, co. Limerick, by whom he had issue four sons, two of whom survive him. His Lordship was the sixth Baronet and first Peer of his line, and was descended from the antient family of Deane, of Somersetshire, (not Suffolk, as erroneously stated in Lodge's Peerage) of whom Sir Matthew Deane, of Dromore co. Cork, was created a Baronet of Ireland, by Queen Anne in 1709: he was great great grandfather of the late Peer. His Lordship is succeeded in his title and estate by his eldest surviving son, the Hon. John Thomas Fitzmaurice Deane, now Lord Muskerry, colonel in the Army, major of the 38th regiment of foot, and Companion of the Bath, born September 27, 1777.



### MUSKERRY, BARON. (DEANE.)

*Peer of Ireland.*

His Lordship's ancestors were seated in Somersetshire, whence Matthew, 3rd son of Matthew Deane, Esq., came into Ireland and settled at Dromore, Co. Cork, in which neighbourhood he purchased considerable estates. He was created a Baronet in 1709, and d. in 1710, when he was succeeded by his son, Sir Robert, who, in 1714, was followed by his son, Sir Matthew. The latter d. in 1747, leaving two sons, Sir Matthew, his successor, who d. without male issue in 1751, and the Right Honourable Sir Robert, who followed his brother in the Baronetcy; he d. in 1770, and he was succeeded by his son.

SIR ROBERT-TILSON DEANE, Bart., created, in 1781, BARON MUSKERRY of Dromore, Co. Cork. He m. Anne, only child of Captain John Fitz-Maurice of the Royal Dragoons, who was the only son of John Fitz-Maurice, Esq., of Springfield Castle, Co. Limerick, son and heir of William, next brother of the 21st Lord, and 1st Earl of Kerry, from whom the present Marquis of Lansdowne descends; the said Captain John Fitz-Maurice dying before his father, his daughter became the sole heir of her grandfather, and succeeded to the estates and manor of Farraky, in the county of Limerick, comprising Springfield castle and ten thousand acres of land. The 1st Lord d. in 1818, and was succeeded by his eldest son JOHN-THOMAS-FITZ-MAURICE, 2nd Lord, who d. in 1824, and was succeeded by his only surviving brother, MATTHEW, present and 3rd Lord.

## 1785 - Hill, Arthur, Viscount Kilwarlin – 2nd Marquess of Downshire

b. 3 Mar 1753; d. 7 Sep 1801

<http://www.thepeerage.com/p2935.htm>

<http://www.proni.gov.uk/records/private/dnshire.htm>



Arthur Hill, who became the 2nd Marquess of Downshire, married a notable heiress, Mary Sandys, in 1786. In this way the estates at Edenderry in King's County (nearly 14,000 acres in extent, with a valuable additional income from tithes) and at Dundrum in Co. Down came into the family, along with a 5,000-acre estate at Easthampstead Park in Berkshire which was to become a second home. The Dundrum estate was enlarged in 1793 by the purchase of another 2,000 acres at Ballykinlar. As Earl of Hillsborough, the 2nd Lord Downshire had been active in county politics during the early 1790s. After his father's death, however, he spent most of his time in England, crossing to Ireland in the years before his death in 1801 only to exert his political interest against the proposed Union ... . The government's retribution took the form of depriving Downshire of the governorship of the county and the colonelcy of its militia, and dismissing his supporters from official posts.



An electioneering dowager

His widow believed he had been hurried to an early grave by these vexations, despite the convenient financial windfall of compensation for disfranchised boroughs - over £55,000 - which resulted from the passage of the Union. Bought off by Addington's government in 1802 with the title of Baroness Sandys in her own right - a title which passed to her second son in 1836 - Lady Downshire ..., as guardian during her eldest son's minority, deliberately followed a policy of building up the family's political strength in Co. Down by creating freeholders, till the estates there became what one contemporary observer described as 'a warren of freeholders' and 'the best specimen of political agronomy to be found in Ireland'. She also added to the property by two purchases: the estate of a Miss Mauleverer at Downpatrick, bought in 1806 at a cost of £17,450; and the reversion of the Lyndon estate at Carrickfergus. Neither was fortunate, for the Downpatrick estate had to be sold in 1818 to help ease the pressure of debt, while the Lyndon purchase was the subject of a long and vexatious lawsuit.

He was closely related to several other Grand Masters; see Chart XIII

## 1787-88 - Annesley, Charles Francis, 2nd Viscount Glerawley – 1st Earl of Annesley

**Francis Charles Annesley, 1st Earl Annesley**

b. 27 November 1740, d. 19 December 1802

<http://www.thepeerage.com/p810.htm>

Father [William Annesley, 1st Viscount Glerawley](#) b. circa 1710, d. 12 September 1770

Mother [Lady Anne Beresford](#) b. before 1723, d. 12 May 1770

Francis Charles **Annesley**, 1st Earl Annesley was born on 27 November 1740. He was the son of [William Annesley, 1st Viscount Glerawley](#) and [Lady Anne Beresford](#).<sup>1</sup> He married [Mary Grove](#), daughter of [Richard Grove](#) and [Mary Rylands](#), on 8 February 1766, with a fortune of £30,000.<sup>1</sup> He died on 19 December 1802 at age 62 in [Mountpanther, County Down, Ireland](#), without legitimate issue. He was buried in [Kilmegan, County Down, Ireland](#).

Francis Charles Annesley, 1st Earl Annesley held the office of Member of Parliament (M.P.) for Downpatrick [Ireland] between 1761 and 1770.

He succeeded to the title of *2nd Baron Annesley, of Castle Wellan, co. Down [I., 1758]* and *2nd Viscount Glerawley, of co. Fermanagh [I., 1766]* on 12 September 1770.

He was created *1st Earl Annesley, of Castlewellan, co. Down [IRELAND]* on 17 August 1789, with special remainder to his brother.

He and [Dorothy McIlroy](#) were associated before 1792.

He and [Sophia Connor](#) were associated before 1799 going through a form of marriage, although not valid because Sophia was still married at the time to one of the Earl's gamekeepers.

He had 4 illegitimate sons by Dorothy McIlroy, before the death of his wife. These sons are often confused with his illegitimate sons by Sophia Connor.

Family 1 [Mary Grove](#) b 1746 in Ballyhimock, Cork; d. 25 August 1791

Family 2 [Sophia Connor](#)

1. Children [unknown son Annesley](#) b. b 1799

2. [George de la Poer Beresford Annesley](#) b. c 1799, d. c Feb 1814

3. [Francis Charles Annesley](#) b. c 1800, d. 9 Mar 1803

<http://worldconnect.rootsweb.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=davidparsons&id=I00311>

The bigamous andmorganatic marriage

The most important set of legal case papers, however, runs from 1794 to 1819 and concerns the succession to the Annesley earldom and estate. In November 1795, the 1st Earl Annesley, then a childless widower of fifty-five, came to dine with his brother and heir presumptive, Richard Annesley, later 2nd Earl Annesley. On the way up the drive he was 'much struck with the appearance' of one Sophia Connor, the wife of his brother's gardener, and '... remained for some time in conversation with her ...', in the short time that such conversation lasted, the said Sophia was so dazzled by the rank and splendour of the said Earl ... that, in violation of her marriage vow, he consented to elope from your suppliant [as the gardener was termed in a subsequent legal case paper] with the said Earl on his return to Dublin that evening, which promise she accordingly fulfilled, and was on the evening of the said day taken off by the said Earl in his phaeton to Dublin.' Two years later, in 1797, Lord Annesley married Sophia Connor - illegally, in view of her previous marriage to the gardener. Subsequent to his marriage, Lord Annesley went to great trouble to fabricate a story that Sophia Connor was a gentlewoman with a fortune of £2,000 and paying it to himself. The thinking behind all this must have been that possession of a marriage portion distinguished the honest from the kept woman.

The Annesley peerage case

Although his brother offered '... to concur in any act that might meet the wishes to Lord A. to make a provision for the woman he co-habited with and for any children he might have by her ...', Sophia said she 'would not agree to it, but would take her chance'. She took her chance, after Lord Annesley's death in 1802, by endeavouring (unsuccessfully) to prove the legitimacy of her son by him, and her son's consequent right to the Annesley earldom and the family estate of nearly £5,500 a year. The ensuing litigation lasted until 1819, when Sophia settled for an annuity of £400. She nevertheless had the effrontery to complain that this was insufficient to enable her to '... resume her splendid appearance in Paris, where she had ... [previously] kept her barouche and servants in green and gold liveries, with her box at the opera, and moved in the first circles'. She died, at a Rue de Rivoli address, in 1850.

His mother, Lady Anne Beresford, bef 1723-1770, was the daughter of **Marcus Beresford**, 1694-1763, 1st Earl Tyrone - **GM Ireland 1736**.

## 1789-1812 - Hely-Hutchinson, Richard, 2nd Baron Donoughmore – 1st Earl of Donoughmore [1756-1825]

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John\\_Hely-Hutchinson](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Hely-Hutchinson)

**John Hely-Hutchinson** (1724 – September 4, 1794), [Irish lawyer](#), [statesman](#), and [provost](#) of [Trinity College, Dublin](#), son of Francis Hely, a gentleman of [County Cork](#), was educated at Trinity College, Dublin, and was [called](#) to the [Irish bar](#) in 1748.



He took the additional name of Hutchinson on his marriage in 1751 to Christiana Nixon, heiress of her uncle, Richard Hutchinson. He was elected member of the [Irish House of Commons](#) for the [borough](#) of [Lanesborough](#) in 1759, but after 1761 he represented [Cork city](#). He at first attached himself to the patriotic party in opposition to the government, and although he afterwards joined the administration he never abandoned his advocacy of popular measures.

It was around this time Hely-Hutchinson sold [Frescati House](#) in Blackrock, [County Dublin](#), now the [Blackrock](#) shopping Centre.

He was a man of brilliant and versatile ability, whom [Lord Townshend](#), the [lord lieutenant](#), described as by far the most powerful man in parliament. [William Gerard Hamilton](#) said of him that Ireland never bred a more able, nor any country a more honest man. Hely-Hutchinson was, however, an inveterate place-hunter, and there was point in [Lord North](#)'s witticism that if you were to give him the whole of Great Britain and Ireland for an estate, he would ask the [Isle of Man](#) for a potato garden.

After a session or two in parliament he was made a [privy councillor](#) and prime [serjeant-at-law](#); and from this time he gave a general, though by no means invariable support to the government. In 1767 the ministry contemplated an increase of the army establishment in Ireland from 12,000 to 15,000 men, but the *Augmentation Bill* met with strenuous opposition, not only from [Flood](#), [Ponsonby](#) and the habitual opponents of the government, but from the Undertakers, or proprietors of boroughs, on whom the government had hitherto relied to secure them a majority in the House of Commons.

It therefore became necessary for Lord Townshend to turn to other methods for procuring support. Early in 1768 an English [Act](#) was passed for the increase of the army, and a message from the [king](#) setting forth the necessity for the measure was laid before the House of Commons in [Dublin](#). An address favourable to the government policy was, however, rejected; and Hely-Hutchinson, together with the speaker and the attorney-general, did their utmost both in public and private to obstruct the bill. Parliament was dissolved in May 1768, and the lord lieutenant set about the task of purchasing or otherwise securing a majority in the new parliament. Peerages, pensions and places were bestowed lavishly on those whose support could be thus secured; Hely-Hutchinson was won over by the concession that the Irish army should be established by the authority of an Irish act of parliament instead of an English one.

The *Augmentation Bill* was carried in the session of 1769 by a large majority. Hely-Hutchinson's support had been so valuable that he received as reward an addition of £1,000 a year to the salary of his sinecure of Alnagar, a major's commission in a cavalry regiment, and a promise of the Secretaryship of State. He was at this time one of the most brilliant debaters in the Irish parliament, and he was enjoying an exceedingly lucrative practice at the bar. This income, however, together with his well-salaried sinecure, and his place as prime serjeant, he surrendered in 1774, to become provost of Trinity College, although the statute requiring the provost to be in holy orders had to be dispensed with in his favour.

For this great academic position Hely-Hutchinson was in no way qualified, and his appointment to it for purely political service to the government was justly criticized with much asperity. His conduct in using his position as provost to secure the parliamentary representation of the university for his eldest son brought him into conflict with [Duigenan](#), who attacked him in *Lacrymae academicae*, and involved him in a duel with a Mr Doyle; while a similar attempt on behalf of his second son in 1790 led to his being accused before a select committee of the House of Commons of impropriety as returning officer. But although without scholarship Hely-Hutchinson was an efficient provost, during whose rule material benefits were conferred on Trinity College.

He continued to occupy a prominent place in parliament, where he advocated free trade, the relief of the Catholics from penal legislation, and the reform of parliament. He was one of the very earliest politicians to recognize the soundness of [Adam Smith](#)'s views on trade; and he quoted from the *Wealth of Nations*, adopting some of its principles, in his *Commercial Restraints of Ireland*, published in 1779, which Lecky pronounces one of the best specimens of political literature produced in Ireland in the latter half of the 18th century.

In the same year, the economic condition of Ireland being the cause of great anxiety, the government solicited from several leading politicians their opinion on the state of the country with suggestions for a remedy. Hely-Hutchinson's response was a remarkably able state paper (manuscript in the Record Office), which also showed clear traces of the influence of Adam Smith. The *Commercial Restraints*, condemned by the authorities as seditious, went far to restore Hely-Hutchinson's popularity which had been damaged by his greed of office. Not less enlightened were his views on the Catholic question. In a speech in parliament on Catholic education in 1782 the provost declared that Catholic students were in fact to be found at Trinity College, but that he desired their presence thereto be legalized on the largest scale. "My opinion", he said,

"is strongly against sending Roman Catholics abroad for education, nor would establish Popish colleges at home. The advantage of being admitted into the university of Dublin will be very great to Catholics; they need not be obliged to attend the divinity professor, they may have one of their own; and would have a part of the public money applied to their use, to the support of a number of poor lads as sizars, and to provide premiums for persons of merit, for I would have them go into examinations and make no distinction between them and the Protestants but such as merit ought claim".

And after sketching a scheme for increasing the number of diocesan schools where Roman Catholics might receive free education, he went on to urge that

"it is certainly a matter of importance that the education of their priests should be as perfect as possible, and that if they have any prejudices they should be prejudices in favor of their own country. The Roman Catholics should receive the best education in the established university at the public expense; but by no means should Popish colleges be allowed, for by them we should again have the press groaning with themes of controversy, and subjects of religious disputation that have long slept in oblivion would again awake, and awaken with them all the worst passions of the human mind".

In 1777 Hely-Hutchinson became Secretary of State. When Grattan in 1782 moved an address to the king containing a declaration of Irish legislative independence, Hely-Hutchinson supported the attorney-general's motion postponing the question; but on April 16, after the Easter recess, he read a message from the [Lord Lieutenant](#), the [Duke of Portland](#), giving the king's permission for the House to take the matter into consideration, and he expressed his personal sympathy with the popular cause which Grattan on the same day brought to a triumphant issue. Hely-Hutchinson supported the opposition on the regency question in 1788, and one of his last votes in the House was in favor of parliamentary reform. In 1790 he exchanged the constituency of Cork for that of [Taghmon](#) in County Wexford, for which borough he remained member till his death at Buxton on 4 Sep 1794.

In 1785 his wife Christina had been created Baroness Donoughmore and on her death in 1788, his eldest son **Richard (1756-1825)** succeeded to the title. Richard, an ardent advocate of Catholic emancipation, was created Viscount Donoughmore in 1797, and in 1800 (having voted for the Union, hoping to secure Catholic emancipation from the united parliament) he was further created **Earl of Donoughmore** of Knocklofty, being succeeded first by his brother **John Hely-Hutchinson** (1757-1832) and then by his nephew John, 3rd Earl (1787-1851), from whom the title descended.

[http://64.233.179.104/translate\\_c?hl=en&sl=de&u=http://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/John\\_Hely-Hutchinson\\_2\\_Earl\\_of\\_Donoughmore&prev=/search%3Fq%3D%2522Knocklofty%2522%2B%2522Donoughmore%2522%26hl%3Den%26lr%3D%26sa%3DG](http://64.233.179.104/translate_c?hl=en&sl=de&u=http://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Hely-Hutchinson_2_Earl_of_Donoughmore&prev=/search%3Fq%3D%2522Knocklofty%2522%2B%2522Donoughmore%2522%26hl%3Den%26lr%3D%26sa%3DG)

[Translation]

#### **John Hely Hutchinson, 2. Earl OF Donoughmore**

**John Hely Hutchinson**, 2. Count von Donoughmore ( 15 May 1757 in Dublin – 6 Jul 1832 in Knocklofty) was a British General during the coalition wars. Hely Hutchinson studied first at the Eton College in Eton and Dublin and occurred 1744 the British army. 1792 he participated as a lieutenant colonel in the headquarters of the duke of Braunschweig in the campaign in the Chamagne. 1794 main headers Hely Hutchinson at own expense a regiment out, which he knew to lead in Flanders bravourös. After he had contributed to thrashing the Irish rebellion, 1796 were carried to the Major General and fought then 1799 again in Holland. 1801 embarked itself Hely Hutchinson to Egypt and took over there after the Verwundung of the general Abercomby in the battle of Alexandria to 21. March the supreme command over the British army. He conquered Damiette and Ramanieh, included **Cairo** and forced the general Belliard on 27 June with 14.000 men to the surrender. Then he turned to Alexandria and struck back themselves all losses Menous and forced also it on 31 August with his entire 10,000 men comprehensive armed force to the task. For its shining victories Hely Hutchinson was raised 1801 to the *lord Hutchinson OF Alexandria and OF Knocklofty*, in the county Tipperary, (16 December). After he had received 1806 the rank of a lieutenant General, he was sent 1806 as extraordinary Ambassadors to Russia and accompanied the **Zaren Alexander** in the **battle with Friedland**. To the **peace of Tilsit** he returned to England. 1825 he followed his brother as an Earl of Donoughmore and died on 6 July 1832 in Knocklofty.

#### **1813-1873 - Fitz Gerald, Augustus Frederick, 3rd Duke of Leinster [61 years]**

<http://thepeerage.com/p1207.htm#i12061>

**Augustus Frederick FitzGerald, 3rd Duke of Leinster (M)**

b. 21 August 1791, d. 10 October 1874, #12061

Father **William Robert FitzGerald, 2nd Duke of Leinster** b. 13 March 1749, d. 20 October 1804

Mother **Hon. Emilia Olivia St. George** b. before 1760, d. 23 June 1798

Augustus Frederick **FitzGerald**, 3rd Duke of Leinster was born on 21 August 1791. He was the son of **William Robert FitzGerald, 2nd Duke of Leinster** and **Hon. Emilia Olivia St. George**. He married **Hon. Charlotte Augusta Stanhope**, daughter of **General Charles Stanhope, 3rd Earl of Harrington** and **Jane Fleming**, on 16 June 1818. He died on 10 October 1874 at age 83.

Augustus Frederick FitzGerald, 3rd Duke of Leinster gained the title of *3rd Duke of Leinster*.

**Family** **Hon. Charlotte Augusta Stanhope** d. 15 February 1859

1. Children **Charles William FitzGerald, 4th Duke of Leinster**+ b. 30 Mar 1819, d. 10 Feb 1887
2. **Captain Lord Gerald FitzGerald**+ b. 6 Jan 1821, d. 23 Sep 1886
3. **Lady Jane FitzGerald** b. 1824, d. 3 Nov 1898
4. **Rt. Hon. Lord Ortho Augustus FitzGerald**+ b. 10 Oct 1827, d. 19 Nov 1882

<http://www.booksulster.com/library/biography/biographyF.php>

Grand Master of the Freemasons of Ireland, eldest son of the 2nd Duke, was born 21st August 1791. When quite a boy he succeeded his father as Duke of Leinster. He was educated at Eton and at Oxford. In politics he was a staunch Whig, and supported in the House of Lords the cause of Queen Caroline, Catholic Emancipation, the Reform Bill, and other measures of a liberal tendency. Most of his life was passed in Ireland attending to the duties connected with his estates and his position in the country. He was a man of singular refinement and amiability of character. He died 10th October 1874, aged 83, and was succeeded by his son.

His father, **William Robert FitzGerald**, 2nd Duke of Leinster, was **GM Ireland 1770 & 77** [above].

<http://www.kimbellart.org/database/index.cfm?detail=yes&ID=AP%201981.08>

**Claude Lorrain (French, 1604/5-1682)**  
**Coast Scene with Europa and the Bull** 1634. Oil on canvas

#### **Provenance History**

Painted for Charles de Blanchefort, maréchal de Créquy and duc de Lesdiguières, [1573-1638], France.

St. George Usher St. George, 1st baron St. George of Hatley St. George [c. 1715-1775], Headford, Galway, Ireland, around 1763-70;

by inheritance to his daughter, Emilia Olivia St. George and her husband, **William Robert FitzGerald, 2nd duke of Leinster** [1748/49-1804], Leinster House, Dublin, and Carton House, Maynooth, Kildare, Ireland;

by inheritance to his son, **Augustus Frederick FitzGerald, 3rd duke of Leinster** [1791-1874], Leinster House, Dublin, and Carton House, Maynooth, Kildare, Ireland;

by inheritance to his son, Charles William FitzGerald, 4th duke of Leinster [1819-



1887], Carton House, Maynooth, Kildare, Ireland;  
by inheritance, to his son, Gerald FitzGerald, 5th duke of Leinster [1851-1893], Carton House, Maynooth, Kildare, Ireland;  
by inheritance, to his son, Maurice FitzGerald, 6th duke of Leinster [1887-1922], Carton House, Maynooth, Kildare, Ireland;  
by inheritance to his brother, Edward FitzGerald, 7th duke of Leinster, [1892-1976], Carton House, Maynooth, Kildare, Ireland;

purchased, with Carton House, by Arthur Ronald Nall, 2nd baron Brocket [1904-1967], Brocket Hall, Hertfordshire, England, and Carton House, Maynooth, Kildare, Ireland, 1949; by inheritance to his grandson, Charles Ronald George Nall-Cain, 3rd baron Brocket [b. 1952], Brocket Hall, Hertfordshire, England until 1974. (Dr. Claus Virch with Art Associates Partnership, Bermuda, by 1975); purchased by Kimbell Art Museum Foundation, Fort Worth, 1981.

<http://www.nationalgallery.ie/html/press68.html>

*Landscape with a Portrait of a Youth and His Tutor on Horseback* by the Dutch seventeenth-century master, Aelbert Cuyp (1620-1691), was purchased by the National Gallery of Ireland for Euro €1.9m (stg£1m) at Sotheby's in London at their sale of Old Master paintings in December 2005.

It was once owned by the Dukes of Leinster, probably James FitzGerald, 1st Duke of Leinster (1722-1773) or his son, William (1749-1804) and most likely hung in Leinster House, Dublin. When this property was **sold by Augustus Frederick, 3rd Duke of Leinster** to the Royal Dublin Society (RDS) in 1815, the painting moved to Carton House, Co. Kildare.

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Carlton\\_House](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Carlton_House)

Carlton House remained unaltered until 1815 when the 3rd Duke decided to sell Leinster House to the [Royal Dublin Society](#) and make Carlton his principle residence. He employed [Richard Morrison](#) to enlarge and re-model the house. Morrison replaced the curved colonnades with straight connecting links to obtain additional rooms including the famous Dining room. At this time the entrance to the house was moved to the north side.



### 1874-1885 - Hamilton, James, 1st Duke of Abercorn, K.G.

b. 21 Jan 1811, Mayfair, London; d. 31 Oct 1885

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/James\\_Hamilton%2C\\_1st\\_Duke\\_of\\_Abercorn](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/James_Hamilton%2C_1st_Duke_of_Abercorn)



KG, PC (January 21, 1811 – October 31, 1885) was a British Conservative nobleman and statesman who twice served as Lord Lieutenant of Ireland. He had various styles during his lifetime, namely The Hon. James Hamilton (until 1814, by virtue of his father's courtesy viscountcy), Viscount Hamilton (1814–1818, while heir to the Marquessate of Abercorn), The Marquess of Abercorn (inherited in 1818), and finally The Duke of Abercorn (so created in 1868).

Born in Mayfair, London, Hamilton was the son of James Hamilton, Viscount Hamilton, who died when his son was only three. Hamilton was educated at Harrow and Christ Church, Oxford. In 1818 he succeeded his grandfather as second Marquess of Abercorn, and on 25 Oct 1832, at Gordon Castle, Fochabers, Banffshire, Scotland, he married Lady Louisa Russell, daughter of John Russell, 6th Duke of Bedford.

In 1844 Lord Abercorn was made a Knight of the Garter at the relatively young age of 33, becoming that same year Lord Lieutenant of County Donegal. Two years later he was appointed a Privy Counsellor and Groom of the Stole to Prince Albert, and remained a prominent figure in the royal court for the next two decades. In 1866 he was appointed Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, and two years later was created Duke of Abercorn and Marquess of Hamilton, resigning shortly after Gladstone won the 1868 general election. He was reappointed to the post in 1874, and the Duke served as Lord Lieutenant until his resignation in 1876, partly on account of his wife's ill health. He was also Grandmaster of the Freemasons (Ireland) from 1874 until his death. He was later elected Chancellor of the University of Ireland in 1881, and died four years later at his home of Baronscourt, County Tyrone.

#### Family and Children

With Lady Louisa Russell (1812–1905) he had fourteen children, thirteen of whom survived infancy:

1. Lady Harriet Georgiana Louisa Hamilton (1834–1913), who in 1855 married Thomas George Anson, 2nd Earl of Lichfield (1825–1892). They had eight sons and five daughters.
2. Lady Beatrix Frances Hamilton (1835–1871), who in 1854 married George Frederick D'Arcy Lambton, 2nd Earl of Durham (1828–1879). They had nine sons and four daughters.
3. Lady Louisa Jane Hamilton (1836–1912), who in 1859 married William Montagu-Douglas-Scott, 6th Duke of Buccleuch (1831–1914). They had six sons and two daughters.
4. Lady Katherine Elizabeth Hamilton (c. 1838–1874), who in 1858 married William Henry Edgcumbe, 4th Earl of Mount Edgcumbe (1833–1917) and was his first wife. They had one son and three daughters.



5. Sir James Hamilton, 2nd Duke of Abercorn (1838–1913), who succeeded him in the dukedom and was involved in promoting British imperialism in Africa.
6. Lady Georgiana Susan Hamilton (1841–1913), who in 1882 married Edward Turnour, 5th Earl Winterton (1837–1907). They had one son.
7. Lord Claud John Hamilton (1843–1925), who held the office of M.P. for Londonderry (1865–1868), for King's Lynn (1869–1880), for Liverpool (1880–1898) and for South Kensington (1910–1918). He was a Lord of the Treasury (1868), Aide-de-Camp to HM Queen Victoria (1887–1897) and High Steward of the Borough of Great Yarmouth and of Harwick. He was invested as Privy Counsellor in 1917 and as K.J.St.J. In 1878 he married Carolina Chandos-Pole (1857–1911), daughter of Edward Sacheverell Chandos-Pole (d. 1873, having lived in Radbourne Hall, Derby). They had a son and a daughter: Gilbert Claud Hamilton (1879–1943), who gained the rank of Colonel in service of the Grenadier Guards, fought in the Second Boer War and was decorated several times. He married twice, firstly in 1911 Enid Awa Elgar (d. 1916), daughter of Charles Elgar from Fernside, Featherston, New Zealand, and secondly in 1916 Mary Blair (d. 1961), daughter of Joseph Allan Blair from New York City, U.S.A. He had no issue. Ida Hamilton (1883–1970), who in 1909 married Hugh Dunombe Flower (d. 1950). They divorced in 1923 and had one son.
8. Lord George Hamilton (1845–1927), a Conservative politician who served in the cabinets of Lord Salisbury mainly as First Lord of the Admiralty and Secretary of State for India.
9. Lady Albertha Frances Anne Hamilton (1847–1932), who in 1869 married George Charles Spencer-Churchill, 8th Duke of Marlborough (1844–1892). They had one son and three daughters. In 1883 her petition to annul the marriage was accepted.
10. Lord Ronald Douglas Hamilton (1849–1867)
11. Lady Maud Evelyn Hamilton (1850–1932), who was Lady of the Bedchamber (1905–1909) and Extra Lady of the Bedchamber (1910–1925), and who in 1869 married Henry Petty-Fitzmaurice, 5th Marquess of Lansdowne (1845–1927). They had two sons and two daughters.
12. Lord Cosmo Hamilton (1853–1853, on the same day)
13. Lord Frederick Spencer Hamilton (1856–1928), who was Second Secretary of the Diplomatic Service (1877–1884), M.P. for South-West-Manchester (1884–1886) and for Tyrone (1892–1895) and wrote the books "Here, There and Everywhere", "The Days Before Yesterday" and "Vanished Poms of Yesterday". He died unmarried and without issue.
14. Lord Ernest William Hamilton (1858–1939), who gained the rank of Captain in the service of the 11th Hussars and was M.P. for North Tyrone (1885–1892). In 1891 he married Pamela Campbell (d. 1931), granddaughter of the 1st Baronet Campbell of Cross Mede, Hants. by his son Capt. Frederick Augustus Campbell (1839–1916). They had two sons and two daughters:
  - Guy Ernest Frederick Hamilton (1894–1914), who died unmarried.
  - Mary Brenda Hamilton (b. 1897), who in 1922 married the Lt.-Col. of the Scots Guards, Alphonse de Chimay, Prince de Chimay, Comte de Caraman (d. 1973). Their only child and daughter is the widow of the 8th Marquess of Hertford.
  - Jean Barbara Hamilton (b. 1898), who in 1921 became the first wife of Sir John William Buchanan-Jardine, 3rd Baronet Buchanan-Jardine, of Castle Milk (1900–1969). They were divorced in 1944 and had one child and son.
  - John George Peter Hamilton (1900–1967), who in 1932 married Alexandra Christine Egerton (d. 1963), daughter of William Egerton from Kimberley, South Africa. They had no issue.

<http://thepeerage.com/p10144.htm#i101432>

James Hamilton, 1st Duke of Abercorn was born on 21 January 1811 in Seamore Place, Mayfair, London, England.<sup>1</sup> He was the son of James Hamilton, Viscount Hamilton and Harriet Douglas.<sup>1</sup> He married Lady Louisa Jane Russell, daughter of Sir John Russell, 6th Duke of Bedford and Lady Georgiana Gordon, on 25 October 1832 in Gordon Castle, Fochabers, Banffshire, Scotland.<sup>2</sup> He died on 31 October 1885 at age 74 in Baronscourt.<sup>2</sup> His will (dated 13 March 1869 to 2 Feb 1877) was probated on 27 February 1886, at over £144,000.<sup>2</sup>

James Hamilton, 1st Duke of Abercorn succeeded to the title of 3rd Viscount Hamilton [G.B., 1786] on 27 January 1818.<sup>2</sup> He succeeded to the title of 2nd Marquess of Abercorn [G.B., 1790] on 27 January 1818.<sup>2</sup> He succeeded to the title of 10th Lord Abercorn, co. Linlithgow [S., 1603] on 27 January 1818. He succeeded to the title of 10th Lord Paisley, co. Renfrew [S., 1587] on 27 January 1818. He succeeded to the title of 10th Lord Paisley, Hamilton, Mountcashell and Kirkpatrick [S., 1606] on 27 January 1818. He succeeded to the title of 5th Baron Mountcastle, co. Tyrone [I., 1701] on 27 January 1818.<sup>2</sup> He succeeded to the title of 10th Earl of Abercorn [S., 1606] on 27 January 1818.<sup>2</sup> He succeeded to the title of 6th Baronet Hamilton, of Donalong, co. Tyrone and of Nenagh, co. Tipperary [I., 1660] on 27 January 1818. He succeeded to the title of 5th Viscount Strabane [I., 1701] on 27 January 1818.<sup>2</sup> He succeeded to the title of 11th Lord Hamilton, Baron of Strabane, co. Tyrone [I., 1617] on 27 January 1818.<sup>2</sup> He was educated in Harrow School, Harrow on the Hill, London, England.<sup>1</sup> He was educated in Christ Church, Oxford University, Oxford, Oxfordshire, England.<sup>1</sup> He held the office of Lord-Lieutenant of County Donegal in 1844.<sup>2</sup> He was invested as a Knight, Order of the Garter (K.G.) on 12 December 1844.<sup>2</sup> He held the office of Groom of the Stole to the Prince Consort between 1846 and 1859.<sup>2</sup> He was invested as a Privy Counsellor (P.C.) on 25 February 1846.<sup>2</sup> He graduated from Cambridge University on 5 July 1847 with the degree of honorary L.L.D.<sup>2</sup> He graduated from Oxford University on 4 June 1856 with the degree of honorary Doctor of Civil Laws (D.C.L.).<sup>2</sup> He held the office of Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland between July 1866 and December 1868.<sup>2</sup> He graduated from Dublin University on 21 April 1868 with the degree of honorary L.L.D.<sup>2</sup> He was created 1st Marquess of Hamilton, of Strabane, co. Tyrone [IRELAND] on 10 August 1868.<sup>2</sup> He was created 1st Duke of Abercorn [IRELAND] on 10 August 1868.<sup>2</sup> He held the office of Grand Master of the Freemasons [Ireland] between 1874 and 1885.<sup>2</sup> He held the office of Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland between February 1874 and December 1876.<sup>2</sup> He held the office of Envoy Extraordinary for the investiture of King Humbert with the Order of the Garter on 2 March 1878.<sup>2</sup> He held the office of Chancellor of the University of Ireland in 1881.



## 1886-1913 - Hamilton, James, 2nd Duke of Abercorn, K.G.



b. 24 Aug 1838, Brighton, Sussex, England; d. 3 Jan 1913, 61 Green Street, Grosvenor Square, London, England; bur. 7 Jan 1913, Baronscourt.  
<http://thepeerage.com/p10104.htm#i101033>

Sir James Hamilton, 2nd Duke of Abercorn was born on 24 August 1838 in Brighton, Sussex, England. He was the son of Rt. Hon. Sir James Hamilton, 1st Duke of Abercorn and Lady Louisa Jane Russell. He married Lady Mary Anna Curzon-Howe, daughter of Richard William Penn Curzon-Howe, 1st Earl Howe and Anne Gore, on 7 January 1869 in St. George's Church, St. George Street, Hanover Square, London, England. He died on 3 January 1913 at age 74 in 61 Green Street, Grosvenor Square, London, England, from pneumonia. He was buried on 7 January 1913 in Baronscourt.

Sir James Hamilton, 2nd Duke of Abercorn was styled as Viscount Hamilton between 1839 and 1868. He was educated in Harrow School, Harrow on the Hill, London, England. He graduated from Christ Church, Oxford University, Oxford, Oxfordshire, England, in 1860 with a Bachelor of Arts (B.A.). He held the office of Member of Parliament (M.P.) (Conservative) for County Donegal between 1860 and 1880. He held the office of Sheriff of County Tyrone in 1863. He was invested as a Companion, Order of the Bath (C.B.) in 1865. He graduated from Christ Church, Oxford University, Oxford, Oxfordshire, in 1865 with a Master of Arts (M.A.). In April 1865 he went on the Garter mission to Denmark. He held the office

of a Lord of the Bedchamber to the Prince of Wales between 1866 and 1885. He was styled as Marquess of Hamilton between 1868 and 1885. He held the office of Lord-Lieutenant of County Donegal in 1885. He succeeded to the title of 7th Baronet Hamilton, of Donalong, co. Tyrone and of Nenagh, co. Tipperary [l., 1660] on 31 October 1885. He succeeded to the title of 2nd Duke of Abercorn [l., 1868] on 31 October 1885. He succeeded to the title of 4th Viscount Hamilton [G.B., 1786] on 31 October 1885. He succeeded to the title of 2nd Marquess of Hamilton, of Strabane, co. Tyrone [l., 1868] on 31 October 1885. He succeeded to the title of 6th Baron Mountcastle, co. Tyrone [l., 1701] on 31 October 1885. He succeeded to the title of 12th Lord Hamilton, Baron of Strabane, co. Tyrone [l., 1617] on 31 October 1885. He succeeded to the title of 6th Viscount Strabane [l., 1701] on 31 October 1885. He succeeded to the title of 11th Lord Paisley, Hamilton, Mountcashell and Kirkpatrick [S., 1606] on 31 October 1885. He succeeded to the title of 11th Lord Paisley, co. Renfrew [S., 1587] on 31 October 1885. He succeeded to the title of 11th Earl of Abercorn [S., 1606] on 31 October 1885. He succeeded to the title of 3rd Marquess of Abercorn [G.B., 1790] on 31 October 1885. He succeeded to the title of 11th Lord Abercorn, co. Linlithgow [S., 1603] on 31 October 1885. He held the office of Grand Master of the Freemasons [Ireland] in 1886. He held the office of Groom of the Stole between 1886 and 1891. He was invested as a Knight, Order of the Garter (K.G.) on 10 August 1892. He was Chairman of the British South Africa Company. He was Special Envoy to the Courts of Denmark, Sweden, Norway, Prussia and Saxony in 1901, to announce the accession of King Edward VII.

Family Lady Mary Anna Curzon-Howe b. 23 July 1848, d. 10 May 1929

Children

1. Sir James Albert Edward Hamilton, 3rd Duke of Abercorn+ b. 30 Nov 1869, d. 12 Sep 1953
2. Lord Claud Penn Alexander Hamilton b. 18 Oct 1871, d. 18 Oct 1871
3. Lord Charlie Hamilton b. 10 Apr 1874, d. 10 Apr 1874
4. Lady Alexandra Phyllis Hamilton b. 23 Jan 1876, d. 10 Oct 1918
5. Lord Claud Francis Hamilton b. 25 Oct 1878, d. 25 Dec 1878
6. Lady Gladys Mary Hamilton+ b. 10 Dec 1880, d. 12 Mar 1917
7. Captain Lord Arthur John Hamilton b. 20 Aug 1883, d. 6 Nov 1914
8. unnamed son Hamilton b. 31 Oct 1886, d. 31 Oct 1886
9. Captain Lord Sir Claud Nigel Hamilton b. 10 Nov 1889, d. 22 Aug 1975

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/James\\_Hamilton,\\_2nd\\_Duke\\_of\\_Abercorn](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/James_Hamilton,_2nd_Duke_of_Abercorn)

James Hamilton, 2nd Duke of Abercorn, KG, CB, PC (24 August 1838 – 3 January 1913) was a British nobleman and diplomat. He was the son of James Hamilton, 1st Duke of Abercorn and Lady Louisa Russell. He was variously styled Viscount Hamilton (until 1868), Marquess of Hamilton (1868–1885), and finally Duke of Abercorn (from 1885).

Lord Hamilton was educated, like his father, at Harrow and Christ Church, Oxford. After graduating from Oxford with a B.A., he entered Parliament as Conservative MP for County Donegal, a constituency he represented from 1860 to 1880. After serving as Sheriff of County Tyrone, he re-entered university and emerged with an M.A. in 1865 (he was created a Companion of the Order of the Bath the same year). That year, he also embarked upon a diplomatic mission to Denmark. He served as a Lord of the Bedchamber to the Prince of Wales from 1866 to 1885; in the latter year, he took over his father's position of Lord Lieutenant of County Donegal, and inherited his father's peerage titles. In 1887 he was appointed to the Privy Council of Ireland.

Abercorn held several positions after acceding to that title, including Grandmaster of the Ireland Freemasons (1886), Groom of the Stole (1886–1891), Chairman of the British South Africa Company, and announced Edward VII's accession to the throne in 1901 to several countries as a Special Envoy. He was also created a Knight of the Garter, and died of pneumonia in London at the age of seventy-three.

On 7 Jan 1869, at St. George's Church, St. George Street, Hanover Square, London, England, he married Lady Maria Anna Curzon-Howe (23 Jul 1848 – 10 May 1929, Park Street, London, England), daughter of Richard William Penn Curzon-Howe, 1st Earl Howe (1796–1870) and Anne Gore (bef. 1832–1877, daughter of Adm. Sir John Gore (d. 1836)). They had seven sons and two daughters:

1. James Albert Edward Hamilton, 3rd Duke of Abercorn (1869–1953)
2. Lord Claud Penn Alexander Hamilton (1871–1871, on the same day)
3. Lord Charlie Hamilton (1874–1874, on the same day)
4. Lady Alexandra Phyllis Hamilton (1876–1918), who had HRH Princess Alexandra of Wales as sponsor at her baptism, she was lost at sea aboard RMS Leinster, unmarried.
5. Lord Claud Francis Hamilton (1874–1874, on the same day)

6. Lady Gladys Mary Hamilton (1880–1917), who in 1902 married Ralph Francis Forward-Howard, 7th Earl of Wicklow (1877–1946) She was his first wife; and they had one son.
7. Lord Arthur John Hamilton (1883–1914), who was Deputy Master of the Household from 1913, Captain in the Irish Guards and was killed in action at the First Battle of Ypres.
8. Lord unnamed Hamilton (1886–1886, on the same day)
9. Lord Sir Claud Nigel Hamilton (1889–1975), Captain in the Grenadier Guards, fought in the Second World War and served in the household of King George V, his widow and Queen Elizabeth II as Deputy Master of the Household, as Extra Equerry, as Equerry in Ordinary and as Comptroller, Treasurer and Extra Equerry. In 1933 he married Violet Ruby Ashton. They had no issue.

### 1913-47 - Hely-Hutchinson, Richard Walter John, 6th Earl of Donoughmore of Knocklofty, K.P. >

b. 2 Mar 1875; d. 19 Oct 1948; m. Elena Maria Grace; 18c5r

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Richard\\_Hely-Hutchinson,\\_6th\\_Earl\\_of\\_Donoughmore](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Richard_Hely-Hutchinson,_6th_Earl_of_Donoughmore)

**Richard Walter Hely-Hutchinson, 6th Earl of Donoughmore** KP PC (2 March 1875–19 October 1948) was an Irish peer and politician. He was an Earl in the Peerage of Ireland who sat in the House of Lords as **Viscount Hutchinson** in the Peerage of the United Kingdom. He attended Eton College.

From 1903 to 1905 he was Under-Secretary of State for War in the Unionist Government 1895-1905. From 1911 he was Lord Chairman of Committees of the House of Lords. He was elected Grandmaster of the Grand Lodge of Ireland in 1913, a post he held until his death. In 1916 he was part of the Mesopotamia Commission of Inquiry.

In 1921 he was elected one of the fifteen Peers of the Realm resident in the South (elected by a constituency of all Southern Ireland peers) to be a member of the Senate of Southern Ireland under the Government of Ireland Act 1920. The Senate convened in 1921 but was boycotted by Irish nationalists. Donoughmore did not attend its first meeting. In 1929 he chaired the Committee on Ministers' Powers following Viscount Hewart's controversial book, *The New Despotism*, in which Hewart claimed that the rule of law in Britain was being undermined by the legislature. The book was very controversial and led to the Committee. The Report rejected Hewart's arguments.

On 21 December 1901, he married Elena Maria Grace, daughter of [Michael P. Grace](#). She died on 22 February 1944.



### 1948-63 - Brooke, Raymond Frederick, Deputy GM 1930-48

[http://www.archive.org/stream/familiesoffrench00swan/familiesoffrench00swan\\_djvu.txt](http://www.archive.org/stream/familiesoffrench00swan/familiesoffrench00swan_djvu.txt)

Emily Alma Barton, m. as his second wife 21 April, 1881, Sir George Frederick Brooke, Bart., of Summertown, Co. Dublin, son of Francis Richard Brooke, by the Hon. Henrietta Monck, dau. of Charles, 3rd Viscount Monck, and by him, (who had also issue by his first marriage) had issue:

- |                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| 1. Francis Hugh Brooke,             | b. 10 Nov, 1882. 2nd Lieut. 60th Rifles, served in St. Helena during the So. African War, |
| 2. Augustine Henry Brooke,          | b. 25 Feb 1884, Lieut. Indian Cavalry, late 4th Dragoon Guards,                           |
| <b>3. Raymond Frederick Brooke,</b> | <b>b. 2 June, 1885.</b>   |
| 4. Arthur Charles Brooke,           | b. 26 Sept., 1886,  |
| 5. John Brooke, Sub-Lieut. R.N      | b. 2 Oct., 1887.  |
| 6. Basil Gerald Brooke,             | b. 10 March, 1894.  |
| 7. Geoffrey Thomas Brooke,          | b. 19 Oct., 1896.   |

II. Rose Mary Barton, known for her paintings.

<http://thepeerage.com/p17940.htm#i179400>

Sir George Frederick **Brooke**, 1st Bt. was born on 13 Aug 1849. He was the son of [Francis Richard Brooke](#) and [Hon. Henrietta Monck](#). He m1, [Anna Maria Shakerley](#), d/o [Geoffrey Joseph Shakerley](#), on 4 April 1875. He m2, [Emily Alma Barton](#), d/o [Augustine Hugh Barton](#) and [Emily Anne Martin](#), on 21 Apr 1881. He died on 21 Aug 1926 at age 77.

Sir George Frederick Brooke, 1st Bt. was educated at [Eton College, Eton, Berkshire, England](#). He was educated at [Trinity College, Cambridge University, Cambridge, Cambridgeshire, England](#).

He held the offices of: High Sheriff of County Wexford in 1882

High Sheriff of County Dublin in 1898.

Justice of the Peace (J.P.) for County Wexford.

Deputy Lieutenant (D.L.) of County Dublin.

Justice of the Peace (J.P.) for County Dublin.

He was created *1st Baronet Brooke, of Summertown, co. Dublin* on 12 Oct 1903. He lived at [Summertown, County Dublin, Ireland](#).

Child by [Anna Maria Shakerley](#):

- |  |                               |
|--|-------------------------------|
| 1. <a href="#">Lieutenant George Brooke+</a> | b. 10 Jun 1877, d. 5 Oct 1914 |
|--|-------------------------------|

Children by [Emily Alma Barton](#):

- |  |                                |
|--|--------------------------------|
| 1. <a href="#">Emily Henrietta Brooke+</a>           | d. 02 Aug 1953                 |
| 2. <a href="#">Rose Dorothy Brooke</a>               |                                |
| 3. <a href="#">Captain Sir Hugh Brooke, 2nd Bt.+</a> | b. Nov 1882, d. 4 Nov 1954     |
| 4. <a href="#">Lt.-Col. Augustine Henry Brooke</a>   | b. 25 Feb 1884, d. 27 Jul 1958 |
| <b>5. Raymond Frederick Brooke,</b>                  | <b>b. 2 Jun, 1885.</b>         |
| 6. <a href="#">Major Arthur Charles Brooke</a>       | b. Sep 1886, d. 27 Apr 1954    |
| 7. <a href="#">Captain John Brooke+</a>              | b. 02 Oct 1887, d. 13 Mar 1974 |
| 8. <a href="#">Major Basil Gerald Brooke+</a>        | b. 10 Mar 1894, d. 12 Sep 1969 |
| 9. <a href="#">Geoffrey Thomas Brooke</a>            | b. 19 Oct 1896                 |

## 1964-80 - Hely-Hutchinson, John, 7th Earl of Donoughmore

b. 12 Nov 1902; d. 1981; 19c4r

Miss Dorothy (Jean) Hotham, later Countess of Donoughmore (1906- ); M.B.E. 1947; Vice-President, London Branch, British Red Cross Society; m. (1925) 7th Earl of Donoughmore.

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John\\_Hely-Hutchinson,\\_7th\\_Earl\\_of\\_Donoughmore](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Hely-Hutchinson,_7th_Earl_of_Donoughmore)

**John Michael Henry Hely-Hutchinson, 7th Earl of Donoughmore** (12 November 1902 – 1981) was a British politician who later sat as a hereditary peer in the House of Lords. Donoughmore is perhaps most famous for being kidnapped from Knocklofty House, Clonmel, in June 1974, with his wife by the IRA as a political hostage, being released after a week.

Lord Donoughmore was the son of [Richard Hely-Hutchinson, 6th Earl of Donoughmore](#). He was Member of Parliament for Peterborough from 1943–1945. In 1948 he succeeded to all his father's peerages. In the military Donoughmore gained the rank of Colonel in the service of the Royal Armoured Corps (Territorial Army). He was chosen Grandmaster of the Grand Lodge of Ireland in 1964, a post he held until his death

[http://lodgestmagdalene100.org.uk/irish\\_freemasonry.htm](http://lodgestmagdalene100.org.uk/irish_freemasonry.htm)

The 7th Earl of Donoughmore. On the 4th of June 1974 the Earl and his wife were taken from their home in Clonmel, County Tipperary by persons thought to be members of the Irish Republican Army, for pro-republican reasons rather than anti-masonic reasons. They were both returned safely and unhurt a few days later.

The 7th Earl of Donoughmore was the last of his family to occupy Knocklofty House. The Earl and his wife were extremely popular figures in the local community to which they contributed generously. When the couple was kidnapped by an armed and masked gang from their home the incident was greeted with shock and outrage in Clonmel. Fortunately, they were both released unharmed four days later in the Phoenix Park. Knocklofty House which was the home of the Earls of Donoughmore for more than two hundred years was sold in 1983 and converted into a country hotel.



<http://www.obrien.ie/files/extracts/HostageSample.pdf>

Kidnapping by the Book

Lord and Lady Donoughmore

At two o'clock on the afternoon of Tuesday, 4 June 1974, Joe Phelan watched a blue Ford Cortina drive slowly past the gate lodge of Knocklofty House, County Tipperary, where he lived with his family. His father, Tom, had been chauffeur and gunkeeper to Lord Donoughmore, the wealthy peer, for more than thirty years. Knocklofty House was a twenty-four bedroom, eighteenth-century stately home set on a 650-acre estate a few miles from Clonmel. It was a tranquil, sparsely populated area in the rolling foothills of the Comeragh and Knockmealdown mountains, where outsiders tended to stand out. The three men in the Cortina did. They were taking everything in. When they saw that Joe had noticed them, they turned their faces away and the car sped off.

## 1981-91 - Chichester, Dermot Richard Claud, 7th Marquess of Donegall

b. 18 Apr 1916

<http://www.thepeerage.com/p5554.htm>

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dermot\\_Chichester,\\_7th\\_Marquess\\_of\\_Donegall](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dermot_Chichester,_7th_Marquess_of_Donegall)

Dermot Richard Claud Chichester, 7th Marquess of Donegall, LVO (born April 18, 1916) is the second son of Arthur Chichester, 4th Baron Templemore, whom he succeeded in the Barony. Educated at Harrow and Sandhurst, he served in the Second World War as a Captain with the 7th Queen's Own Hussars. Eventually reported missing in action and believed to have been killed, Chichester was in fact captured in November 1942 during the North African Campaign, and was a prisoner of war in Italy until escaping in June 1944. He was promoted Major that same year and retired from the British Army in 1949.

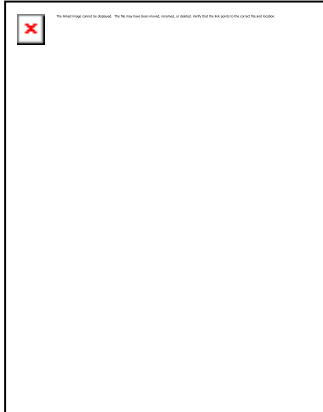
His elder brother, Arthur, having been killed in 1942 serving with the Coldstream Guards, Chichester succeeded his father as 5th Baron Templemore in 1953. In 1975 he also succeeded his distant cousin as 7th Marquess of Donegall, being the descendant of Arthur Chichester, 1st Baron Templemore, grandson of Arthur Chichester, 1st Marquess of Donegall. He became a member of the Honourable Corps of Gentlemen at Arms in 1966, and was later its Standard Bearer (1984 - 1986), for which he was appointed LVO, and was for many years an active member of the Conservative Monday Club.

In 1946 Lord Donegall married Lady Josceline Gabrielle Legg (died 1995), daughter of William Legge, 7th Earl of Dartmouth. They had a son, Patrick Chichester, Earl of Belfast, born 1952, and two daughters. The Marquess currently lives at the family home of Dunbrody Park, County Wexford.

## 1992-2001 - Templeton, Darwin Herbert, C.B.E.

7 Jun 2001 - Before closing Grand Lodge, the Grand Master, M.'W.'. Brother Darwin H. Templeton, announced his retirement and his intention to install his successor at an Especial Communication of Grand Lodge to be held on Thursday, November 22nd 2001. The Grand Master pointed out that he had now completed twenty years of continuous service since his installation as Grand Treasurer in 1981; and that he felt this was an appropriate time to retire from active Grand Office.

## 2002-2006 - Waller, Eric Noel



### MY VISION FOR THE FUTURE by M.'W.'. Bro. Eric N. Waller, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Ireland.

Paper presented at a Series of Talks on 'Irish Freemasonry in the New Millennium' held in the Provincial Grand Lodge of Antrim Masonic Hall, Belfast on Saturday 30 Oct 2004.

The Grand Lodge of Ireland has the responsibility of maintaining the highly respected standards and traditions of Irish Freemasonry throughout our Lodges here at home and overseas. We must also nurture and support regular Grand Lodges of other Constitutions with which we are in amity. We are an essential component in the maintenance of high standards in the World of regular Freemasonry in conjunction with our sister Constitutions of England and Scotland.

During my term of Office as Provincial Grand Master of The Provincial Grand Lodge of Wicklow & Wexford, I became increasingly aware of the poor public perception of our Order. It caused me grave concern. I felt it posed a major threat to our future progress and possibly our very existence. It is almost entirely our own fault that the public see us as sinister, secretive, sectarian and self-interested. We ignore this at our peril. It concerns me that Brethren will talk freely in public about their membership of Rotary, Round Table, Lions, Probus and sports clubs

but most will not admit to being Freemasons and indeed many will go to great lengths to hide that fact, which only serves to perpetuate the myth that we are a secret society. If the public do not know what we are, what we do and what we stand for, the result is distrust, suspicion and animosity for which we can only blame ourselves.

Freemasonry is totally different to the above-mentioned organisations. There is so much more to Freemasonry than the shallow depth of today's assessment and its scant inspection by today's society, obsessed as society is with the material success of the individual, the trappings of success rather than his contribution to society. It is not readily appreciated that membership of a Lodge teaches many life skills often untaught, or not experienced, elsewhere. A Brother must speak in public, make decisions, vote on issues and finally chair meetings. These are invaluable assets in all other aspects of life and for many this may well be the only opportunity of learning, practising and perfecting these skills and techniques. The Lodge provides opportunities to experience administration, responsibility, ceremonial activity, fund raising and caring. All in an atmosphere of peace and tranquility and where the increasing turmoil of outside life can be temporarily avoided and batteries recharged to help fit one again for the fray.

There have been dramatic changes in society in recent times. There are fewer so-called '9 to 5' jobs. Work practices have changed to the extent that many folk work long hours and often shifts at anti-social times. Both partners work and there is constant pressure on limited leisure time. Do not forget that Freemasonry is a leisure activity which is not in any way frivolous but must always be a rewarding, stimulating and enjoyable experience. Freemasonry is not for everyone but at all times there will be those to whom it will appeal.

We must ensure that we maintain a correct and interesting balance in planning our Lodge activities, not placing undue emphasis on either ritual or charity fund raising both of which are essential components in the ethos of Freemasonry. Lodge meetings must be planned to ensure that they are something to be enjoyed and not something to be endured.

There is serious concern that American Freemasonry is totally preoccupied with fund raising for non-Masonic causes presumably in a desperate attempt to achieve popularity and reverse the trend of drastically falling numbers. Some years ago I met a visiting American Brother who attended Wicklow Lodge, Installation meeting, he bemoaned the fact that so much of Masonic Ritual had been lost as it travelled across the Atlantic!

Charity is a natural off-shoot of Brotherly Love and is promoted explicitly in the Masonic ethos but it is not the "raison d'être" of the Order. Confirmation of this is given in the following quotation by the Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge of England, HRH The Duke of Kent who on this point responded:

"On the subject of the Charities, let me remind you first all that Freemasonry itself is not a Charity. Nor does it have charity as its main purpose. Charity is but one expression of the true spirit of Freemasonry, a demonstration to our Brethren and their dependents and to the community that our hearts are indeed expanded by benevolence".

Many Masons seem to view Freemasonry as just another charity and they can fulfil their Masonic commitment by an appropriate cash donation. It is not so, more is hoped and expected of us and as that 'more' may demand time and personal involvement it becomes more difficult to provide. Let us hope that we may prove equal to the task. We strive to do that which is right – to be open and honest to deal fairly, justly and equitably with all men irrespective of creed, race or colour. One of our most famous Masons, Daniel O'Connell, referred to Freemasonry as 'Philanthropy, unconfined by nation, colour, sect or religion.'

In the past, the Press regularly carried reports of Masonic functions, Lodge and Provincial Grand Lodge meetings, frequently mentioning the names of those installed as Officers. For some inexplicable reason this practice died out and we seemed to retire behind closed doors, unwilling to attract attention to ourselves, again perpetuating the myth of secrecy. Our public profile became almost nonexistent.

Tremendous benefits will accrue from informing the public about the true nature of Freemasonry and thereby achieving a vastly improved public image. A major step in this direction was the creation of the Grand Lodge website, an excellent source of accurate information about Irish Freemasonry which can be accessed by the general public and our members wherever they may be at any



time. Our website is the envy of our sister Constitutions and reflects great credit on our Webmaster, R.'W.'. Bro. Richard Gray who is with us today. We must try to improve others' perception of our Order. I firmly believe from that new members will emerge.

We must try to correct the false perception of us conveyed by the media and the Churches for they are the agencies who can and do formulate and direct public opinion and both are highly suspicious and even antagonistic.

The Churches find it impossible to accept that we are not in competition but that, in fact, we are supportive of religion and encourage each Brother to increase his interest in his own beliefs. We have no theology, do not have sacraments, do not engage as Freemasons in worship in our Lodges and cannot offer the means of salvation through good works or in any other way. It is interesting to note that we have been approached by The Church of Ireland who is interested in holding talks with us so that they may have a better understanding of Freemasonry and our relationship with the Anglican Church. This is encouraging. The first meeting is scheduled for early December.

I feel very privileged to have been installed as Grand Master in November 2001. It may seem strange but at no stage was I ever briefed as to my duties or responsibilities. I could act largely as a figurehead, appearing mainly on ceremonial occasions but that is not my style. I am not by nature a passenger. For my own satisfaction I must contribute to the success and add to the momentum of our Order.

I made it known that I was prepared to talk to the Media in an attempt to set the record straight and present a very positive public image of our great Order. Appropriate opportunities must be taken to dispel the old myths and focus on the benefits of Freemasonry. Let us identify the positives about our Order, then talk openly about them and try to promote them. This will necessitate across-the-board activities, starting in the home and family, expanding through one's circle of friends and acquaintances, into the work-place and leisure places, leaving it up to Grand Lodge, of course to deal with the media so that a consistent and coherent message comes across.

Following many years of largely ignoring the media, in the past three years we have had significant success in achieving positive media coverage which would have been virtually impossible without the excellent professional PR expertise and support that we received from Bro. Vere Wynn-Jones in Dublin and W.Bro. Trevor Hanna, here in Belfast. PR projects take quite a time to organise and a lot of groundwork is needed to arouse the interest of a newspaper editor or a radio producer. You must be aware that we have enjoyed very positive press coverage of the support given by the Freemasons of Ireland Medical Research Fund over a four-year period to the Cochlear Implant project for young children born deaf organised by the ENT Dept. of the Belfast City Hospital, a wonderful story of Freemasonry working for the good of the community. Just over a year ago, Bro. Hanna was able to arrange for me to be interviewed by David Dunseith on the BBC Radio Ulster 'Talkback' programme, I survived the experience and believe that the result was positive. That afternoon Bro Hanna arranged a press conference here in Rosemary Street where I was supported by R.'W.Bro.'. George Dunlop and R.'W.'. Bro. Adam McKinley. Reporters attended from the major Belfast papers and over the next few days we received a lot of coverage which was balanced and mostly favourable. Please bear in mind that we have no control over what is printed and 70% success is very successful. The media will not be interested in trivia so we must bide our time until we have an important and interesting story to tell before we take action again. We are regularly in touch with W.'. Bro. Hanna who is on the alert for suitable opportunities for media exposure which will arise in the future.

Most of our Brethren for years past have been overly defensive about their membership. It is very encouraging for all of us to read or hear something positive in the media about this organisation to which we are so deeply committed. We will feel good and more relaxed and take pride in our involvement which is good for our morale and the continued success of our Order.

We must demonstrate to the public, hopefully making our Order more attractive to prospective members that Freemasonry aims to develop the individual as a good citizen and as a man with a good moral foundation. Other benefits to society may follow, but they come from individuals acting in their personal capacities and not as Freemasons. It is not easy in the modern world to convince people that while Freemasonry as a body is not for anything and is certainly not a pressure group, its influence on the personal standards of its individual members must be good for society in general and is to be welcomed.

Our greatest critics would like everyone to believe that we are in terminal decline and are engaged in a recruitment drive. The reality is totally different. In its 279 years of existence, the Grand Lodge of Ireland has never embarked on a recruitment drive and it is inconceivable that it ever will. Total membership will always be cyclical. Our numbers reached an unsustainable level during the 1950s and 1960s in the aftermath of the Second World War. To-day total numbers are stabilising and are showing encouraging signs of increase in many areas. Living in South County Dublin, I am very much aware of what is happening among the 36 Dublin Metropolitan Lodges. This month 15 candidates are being processed. This an entirely spontaneous situation and compares with a monthly average of probably two several years ago. Membership in many Provinces has stabilised and in some cases, is on the increase. Our main goal is not to openly seek new members but to improve others' perception of our Order, from that, I believe candidates will emerge and I feel that this is already proving to be the case. At no stage must we ever compromise on our standards for admission, membership being open to men of integrity, of any religion, who believe in a Supreme Being.

I believe that every Brother in every Lodge can play a constructive part in ensuring a successful future for our great Order. In Freemasonry everyone matters. It is up to all of us to decide on the right mix and balance of our activities to maintain the momentum of Freemasonry for our own and future generations' benefit.

## 2006 – Dunlop, George



< Installed Grand Master on Thursday, 23 Nov 2006

[http://www.wisc-freemasonry.org/wmj/WMJ\\_April2K6.pdf](http://www.wisc-freemasonry.org/wmj/WMJ_April2K6.pdf)

Often overlooked, Ireland's role in spreading Freemasonry worldwide has been significant

### A Short History of the Grand Lodge of Ireland

By Bro. Robert C. Blackburn  
Middleton-Ionic Lodge

When discussing Freemasonry's origins, attention is normally focused on two locations: England and Scotland. England, for its part, possesses some tantalizing clues about the fraternity's ancient past. England can also claim the world's first Masonic "grand lodge," the Grand Lodge of England, which was founded in London in 1717.

Scotland, on the other hand, has produced some of Freemasonry's most important historical records. It is from Scottish documents dating to the late 17th Century that the transition from "operative" to "speculative" Freemasonry is most clearly seen. Moreover, Scotland has its well-publicized Rosslyn Chapel. But Ireland, too, has had its part to play in this story; one no less important, but curiously omitted from most Masonic histories.

**Emerald Isle Masonry Might Predate Masonry in England** Ireland is known for its medieval castles, monasteries and cathedrals.

Not surprisingly, its Masonic ties are early and well-documented. One of Irish Freemasonry's prized relics, the "Ball's Bridge Square," dates to 1507. Discovered in Limerick in 1830, it bears the Masonic inscription: "I will strive to live with Love & Care Upon ye Level By ye Square." In 1629, Bishop Bedell, who was Bishop of Kilmore and Provost of Trinity College, Dublin, recorded in his diary: "The petition of the Freemasons and Bricklayers of Dublin answered." By 1688, a lodge of speculative Masons was meeting at Trinity College, Dublin. A "Tripos" or speech, dating to that same year, includes the notation:

"From Sir Warren, for being Freemasonized in the new way, five shillings."

A catechism, known as the Trinity Manuscript, bears the endorsement: "Free Masonry February 1711". It is the earliest known document to recognize three classes of Mason, each with its own secrets.

The Grand Lodge of Ireland is the world's second oldest Masonic grand lodge. Its first known meeting occurred on June 26, 1725.

According to the Dublin Weekly Journal, more than one hundred gentlemen met at the Yellow Lion in Warbrough Street and later went to King's Arms. The procession included the Masters and Wardens of the Six Lodges of Gentlemen Freemasons, who are under the jurisdiction of the Grand Master and the Private Brothers all in coaches, it being a rainy day. A new Grand Master, Rt. Hon. the Earl of Rosse, was then elected."

The election of a "new" Grand Master, of course, implies that the Grand Lodge of Ireland was in existence before 1725. Just how long before, however, is not known.

#### **Irish Regiments Helped Spread Masonry Worldwide**

During the 18th Century, Ireland had hundreds of Masonic lodges throughout the countryside. While the Grand Lodge met in prominent civic and guild hall buildings in Dublin, such as the Tailor's Hall in Back Lane, the Cutler's Hall in Capel Street, and the Assembly Rooms on South William Street, most lodges met in inns, taverns, and coffee houses.

Military regiments at this time carried Irish Freemasonry around the world, establishing lodges and creating fraternal ties that last to this day. A few examples are illustrative.

Lodge No. 218, attached to the 48th Foot, brought Freemasonry to Cuba in 1763. Irish Masonic lodges were chartered in Jamaica in 1767. In 1769, Bro. Jeremiah French, a Captain in the 29th Foot and member of Lodge No. 322, became the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts' first Senior Grand Warden.

In 1775, Lodge No. 441, attached to the 38th Foot in Boston, initiated Prince Hall and fourteen African-Americans into Freemasonry. It was through an Irish Masonic lodge, therefore, that "Prince Hall" Masonry came into being.

In 1781, Bro. Brownrigg, a member of Lodge No. 441, became the **Grand Lodge of New York's** first Senior Grand Warden. In 1783, an Irish Masonic lodge was established in Barbados. Irish Freemasonry's influence, clearly, was far reaching. It even altered the course of English Freemasonry and helped introduce a new Masonic body, the "Royal Arch", to the world.

### **Ancients & Royal Arch Draw Upon Irish Freemasonry**

English Freemasonry, during the early 18th Century, was suffering from neglect. In 1751, it was divided into two Grand Lodges: the Ancients Grand Lodge (properly titled the "Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of England according to the Old Institutions") and the premier Grand Lodge of England (derogatorily referred to as the "Moderns").

For many years, Masonic scholars accused the "Ancients" of being a splinter group. This was not the case.

The Ancients Grand Lodge was formed by London-area Irish Freemasons who were denied admittance to local English lodges.

The Ancients, though less "aristocratic," proved better organized and very popular. It also aggressively charted its own lodges throughout the British Empire. The Ancients undeniable success resulted in its merger with the Grand Lodge of England in 1813. Much of the Ancients' Irish-based ritual went on to replace that of the "Moderns" in the new United Grand Lodge of England.

It should also be noted that the term "Ancient" when used today in "Ancient, Free, and Accepted Masons" is a nod to the Ancient (Ancient) Grand Lodge and, consequently, Freemasonry's underlying Irish heritage.

### **2014 Douglas T. Grey**

<http://freemason.ie/about-grand-lodge/senior-grand-lodge-officers/>



1977 Initiated in Leinster Lodge No. 141  
1981 Elected Worshipful Master Lodge No. 141  
1986-1988 Director of Ceremonies Lodge No. 141  
1996-2006 Honorary Secretary Lodge No. 141  
1995 Affiliated to Harmony Lodge No. 495 Mohill Co. Leitrim  
2004 Elected Worshipful Master Lodge No. 495  
2004 Appointed Chairman of Masonic Havens Ltd.  
2005 Member of Operations Comm. Events GLI  
2005 Appointed Representative at Grand Lodge for the Regular Grand Lodge of Italy  
1984 Initiated in Shakespeare RAC No. 143  
1992 Elected Excellent King Shakespeare RAC No. 143  
1994 Affiliated to Grand Master's RAC  
1991 Initiated in First Volunteer Preceptory No. 620  
1995 Elected Eminent Preceptor No. 620  
2002 Affiliated to Grand Master's Preceptory  
1996 Initiated in Original Chapter of Prince Masons  
1999 – 2006 Venerable Secretary Original Chapter  
2005 Elected Most Wise Sovereign  
2006 Installed Deputy Grand Master  
2014 [28th Nov.] Installed Grand Master