



THE O'MOLLOYS OF FIRCEALL

www.omolloy.com



o'molloy
Clan Rally 2014

- o'molloy -

INTRODUCTION

The O'Molloy Clan Association was formed in November 2004 with a view to promoting the O'Molloy name and the territory of Firceall, which the O'Molloys ruled for centuries. It was hoped to achieve this through holding Clan Rallies and by developing connections in Ireland and worldwide which will gather, conserve and share relevant historical and genealogical information.

The O'Molloy Clan Association has continued to expand its membership. Through inquiries on our omolloy.com website we have mailed membership packages to interested Molloy families in Australia, New Zealand, Canada, China, Europe, Ireland, South America, the United Kingdom and the United States. Our Ancestry.com Molloy Genealogy and DNA website has over 100 members now and was again successful in uniting Molloy families through both traditional historical documents and the use of the Y-DNA test. We are now also administering the DNA Molloy websites at World Families and Family Tree DNA and our hope is to continue to expand our DNA database of Molloys.



This year will our 4th O'Molloy Clan Rally. We are excited about this year's gathering of Molloys, friends and those interested in the history of the Firceall region of Offaly where the Molloys once ruled and will rule again over August 15th to 17th, 2014. We are looking forward to reuniting with our old friends and making new friends with our guests from around the world.

The programme this year will be as follows:

Friday August 15 - Registration, historical lectures and visit to Tullamore Dew Heritage Centre (The origins of Tullamore Dew Irish whiskey can be traced back to 1829 when the Tullamore Distillery was founded in Tullamore by famed distiller, Michael Molloy).

Historian Caimin O'Brien will present '*Walking with Dinosaurs - A Journey Into The Medieval World of the O'Molloys*'. The presentation will be accompanied by a slideshow which will take people back into the medieval world of the

- o'molloy -

O'Molloys and the region they ruled over then, known as O'Molloy's Country.

The talk will look at the landscape of O'Molloy's Country and offer an insight into the social and political lives of the O'Molloys and how they ruled over their country and how they lost their lands and their country during the turbulent times of the 17th century.

Saturday, August 16 - Bus tour of Firceall, taking in Durrow High Cross and other Molloy historical sites featuring light lunch in famous Dan and Molly's pub in Ballyboy. Medieval evening in Charleville Castle with entertainment to include Internationally acclaimed Irish singer John Molloy, bass baritone.

The land where the Charleville estate and castle were created is situated in Ireland's most ancient primordial oak woods, once the haunting grounds of Ireland's druids. In the 6th century it was part of the ancient monastic site of Lynally, which itself was in the ancient Durrow monastic settlement. However by the mid-1500s the lands that had been ruled by the O'Molloy Clan had been lost to the plantations.

Sunday, August 17 - Options include Firceall mass rock visit, Lough Boora Parklands or golf at Esker Hills Golf Club, owned by Molloys.

I would like to thank the many people and organizations who lend their support to our organization through generous sponsorship and time commitment. In particular, we owe a debt of gratitude to

O'Molloy Association Officers

Frances Molloy Berry, Tom Molloy, Francis Molloy, John Butterfield, Danny Owens, Brian Pey and Mary Convey.

Committee:

Bernadette Molloy Clavin, Kathleen Molloy, William Molloy, and Des Molloy.

I will hand over the mantle of Chieftain after midnight on Saturday when a new Chieftain will be elected by the assembled Molloy Clan. I sincerely wish to thank my immediate family for their support these past three years and my extended O'Molloy family for allowing me the privilege of being your Chieftain.

Slán tamall,
John Malloy

- o'molloy -

O'MOLLOY'S OF FIRCEALL

Liam Cox

*'The prince of Firceall of the ancient sword is
O'Molloy of the freeborn name
Full power was granted to him and he held
His country uncontrolled.'*

-O Dugain

From Tuathal an Tuaiscirt and Eachadhfinn, sons of Fiacha Mac Neill Naoi nGiallach descended respectively the Mageoghegans of Kineleagh and the O'Molloys of Firceall. Kineleagh, the anglicised form of Cineal Fhiachaigh, is now the name of a townland between Kilbeggan and the hill of Uisneagh in Westmeath. Originally the Cineal Fhiachaigh was a folk group which included the o'Moloys of Firceall. Cineal Fhiachaigh was the older and more embracing title. Firceall is thought to be Fir Cealla - 'Men of Churches' and looks like a nick-name. The *Annals of Clonmacnoise*¹ says Kineleagh extended from Birr to Killare adjoining Uisneagh.

The Mageoghegans ruled the northern end of this area and the O'Molloys the southern end which came to be known as Firceall and covered approximately the modern baronies of Ballycowan, Ballyboy and Eglis in county Offaly, formerly known as King's county. Rahan, Durrow, Moylena, Lynally, Kilmore, Pallas, Athboy (Ballybay), Eglis, Baileanduna and Drummullen were all in Firceall.² A section of Firceall named Ui Briuin Cill Cruimthir [Fhiachrach] was located at Kilcumreagh a churchyard, townland and parish partly in counties Westmeath and Offaly.³ Rahan and the district around it, was the cradle of the O'Molloys.

Some ten generations down from Eachadhfinn emerged Mael Mhuaidh, slain in 1019, from whom derived the family name of O'Maelmhuaidh, anglicised to O'Molloy. Mael Mhuaidh had two sons: Donnchadh and Lorcan. The latter was father of Gillabhride who became Lord of Firceall in 1048, on the death of Fearghal, a brother or cousin. Gillabhride died in 1069.⁴ He is not mentioned in the genealogies. In 1110, his grandson Gillacholam O'Molloy was killed along with his wife, a daughter of O'Bric, at a place called Inis Iocha Mhic Dubhraí,⁵ by Cuchonnacht O hAilleain of Firceall.⁶

Gillacholam left three sons: Donnchadh, Murchadh, sometimes called Muirchertach, and Fearghal who is called Cubhlaí in the old 'Life of Mochuda'.⁷ In 1131 Donnchadh who was Lord of Firceall was put to death while in captivity by Murchadh O'Mealeachlainn, King of Meath. The latter handed Donnchadh over to the Muintir Luainim who murdered him and hid the body in a bog so that it was never recovered.⁸

- o'molloy -

Cubhladhma seems to have succeeded to the Lordship of Firceall. He was accused of having plundered the monastery of Rahan in a court held before Murchadh O'Maellachlainn in the latter's house in Durrow. O'Molloy denied the charge and was freed. A short time afterwards however, he again raided Rahan from which he drove off some cattle. The owner pursued him and in the conflict which developed between the parties Cubhladhma was wounded from the effects of which he died at the end of nine days. Saerbrethach O'Ceallaigh was abbot of Rahan when those incidents occurred and as he died in 1136, Cubhladhma O'Molloy's death must have taken place between 1131 and 1136.¹⁰

It would appear that O'Ceallaigh was not in favour with these O'Molloys during his abbotship in Rahan. After his time relations were better. Cubhladhma's brother Murchadh, otherwise Muirchertach, next assumed the Lordship of Firceall. One night in 1139 he sought sanctuary in the church of Rahan, but while he was asleep there the building was set alight and burned down by a kinsman Domhnall O'Molloy and the Muintir Luainim, and Murchadh perished in the flames. Domhnall then had himself made Lord of Firceall. But after two years he too was killed also at Rahan by the same Muintir Luainim.¹¹

These were a minor branch of the Cenel Fhiachaigh being descended from Tuathal an tuaiscirt and so kindred of the Mageoghegans. Six generations down from Tuathal appeared Ailgile and from his second son named Luainim came the Muintir Luainim of Rahan. As Lynam they were afterwards prominent in the territories of Firceall and Kineleagh.

Domhnall killed in 1141 was son of Ruaidhri O'Molloy. Neithir is in the genealogies. Domhnall's successor in the Lordship was a son of Fearghal, otherwise Cubhladhma above. After a short time in the office he was killed in 1142 by another son of Ruaidhri O'Molloy. Aedh, son of Donnchadh (killed in 1131), son of Gillacholam, next succeeded to the Lordship. After a reign of about fourteen years, he was killed with sixteen of his followers at the Island near Rahan by the Muintir Luainim and Conchobhar O'Braoin of Breaghmaine (now Bawney barony in Westmeath).¹²

Domhnall O'Molloy, grandson of Ruaidhri was murdered in 1171.¹³ Four years afterwards Gillacholam O'Molloy, Lord of Firceall, whose parentage is unknown was slain by Ruaidhri, son of Conchobhar Mac Coghlan.¹⁴ Gillacholam probably belonged to the line of Lorcan, son of Mael Mhuaidh which faded from prominence at this time, possibly due to the advent of the Normans who under Simon Clifford erected a castle at Rahan in 1227 all trace of which has long disappeared.¹⁵

More than half a century earlier Fearghal O'Molloy, who was five or six generations down in the genealogies from Donnchadh brother of Lorcan was Lord of both Cenel Fhiachaigh and Firceall as the Mageoghegans were still unknown to history. Fearghal was killed in 1165 by Ui Breachain or O'Brackens a little known Tethbha tribe.¹⁶

- o'molloy -

According to O'Clery,¹⁷ Fearghal was father of Aedh in turn father of Ruaidhri. But there is a lapse of a century in the genealogy at this point and evidently Fearghal above has been mistakenly identified with Fearghal O'Molloy Lord of Fircall killed by the English in 1268.¹⁸

The latter Fearghal had two sons: Murtagh and Aedh.¹⁹ To Aedh's son Ruaidhri who was Lord of Fircall Aenghus Roe O'Daly addressed a poem in the beginning of the fourteenth century. Donogh O'Molloy was Lord of his territory when he was killed in the battle of Athenry in 1316.²⁰ He is not in the genealogies and Ruaidhri's line seems to have died out.

The family was continued through Fearghal's son Murtagh or Muirchertagh who was father of Aedh Mor who in turn father of Aedh Og.²¹ It was from the latter all the principal O'Molloy lines of later centuries descended. He was living 1373 - 1375 and had two sons: Ruaidhri the eldest and Caullen or Cuailin, which looks like a nickname.

In 1373 Ruaidhri received a grant of ten marks from the royal treasury 'for his laudable services in the King's wars'. Two years later the grant was repeated. He died Lord of Fircall in 1383 leaving two sons: Niall, ancestor of the Sliocht mhic Neill, the main line of the O'Molloys and Teaboid, ancestor of the Sliocht mhic Teaboid.

Sliocht Mhic Neill O'Molloy

Niall succeeded to the Lordship in which office he died in 1425 leaving a son Aedh noteworthy as having founded the Carmelite monastery in Kilcormac, Co. Offaly. When he died also Lord of Firceall, in 1454 he was honourably buiread before the high altar in the monastery church. His son Rory, elected to the Lordship in 1427 died in 1431 and was buiread in Kilcormac.

Aedh had other sons including Cuchoigriche and Conn otherwise Constantine nicknamed an Cosnamhach. As a name Constantine was adopted by the O'Molloys from Saint Constantine, son of Fergus king of Alba or Scotland, who lived and died at Rahan where he helped to found the monastery in the seventh century.²² His name was in common use among the O'Molloys down to recent times.

On the death of Aedh in 1454 his son Cuchoigriche assumed the Lordship, but was opposed by a kinsman Teaboid of the Sliocht mhic Teaboid. Cuchoigriche led an army into the east of Fircall against Teaboid who abandoned his stronghold and fled leaving all his goods and cattle behind. Cuchoigriche seized the spoils and sent his followers off with them to his own place remaining behind himself with only a few attendants. Unexpectedly Teaboid aided by Aedh Bui Mageoghegan and some others descended on him and killed him on the edge of a bog.²³

Teaboid was then accepted as Lord. Cuchoigriche's brother an Cosnamhach however

- o'molloy -

set himself up in opposition and the feud continued. Finally in 1461 Teaboid was slain by O'Molloy na Coille who according to Paul Walsh 'was surely an Cosnamhach'.²⁴ An Choill was the place now called Cully in the heart of Fircall close to Pallas,²⁵ in Killoughey parish, Ballyboy barony.

In 1485 an Cosnamhach took a prey from Edmund Petit in Westmeath and being pursued by Petit's people turned on them and slew nearly a score of them.²⁶ He died in 1497²⁷ leaving three important sons: Cathaoir through whom the family was carried on, Cuchoigriche and Domhnall caoch.²⁸

The last mentioned became Lord of Firceall and was murdered in 1533 by his brother Cuchoigriche aided by his son Art on the green of Lynally near Tullamore.²⁹ Neither father or son became chieftan on that occasion and Cathaoir was inaugurated. Domhnall caoch left a son John, who was noted in 1541 as helping one O'Carroll in battle against another.³⁰

In 1537 Lord Leonard Grey brought an army into Fircall, captured the castles of Eglis and Broughal, near Kilcormac among others belonging to the O'Molloys and forced Cathaoir to make his submission to the Crown. The following year he was compelled to supply the Lord Deputy with six horsemen besides kerne and accompany him on his expedition. In 1541 Cathaoir made peace with Henry VIII and was restored to his castles. He died the next year and was buried in the monastery in Kilcormac. He seems to be the Cathaoir, anglicised Charles O'Molloy who in 1525 had two notable kinsmen Aedh and Constantine O'Molloy taken forcibly from the church of Kilcormac, where apparently they were seeking sanctuary, and put to death 'before the gate of the Convent'.³¹

Cathaoir left three sons: Art, Teaboid and Conall. With the approval of the Crown Art succeeded to the Lordship of Fircall.³² In 1543 the government directed him 'to find such kearne and horse as the counties of Kildare and Kilkennie are bounde to finde'.³³ In 1546 with the connivance of the Lord Justice the O'Molloys attacked the O'Connors and took spoils and prisoners from them.³⁴ In May 1552 Art was one of the Irish Lords who undertook 'to cut passes in their fastnesses that men might pass through without danger'.³⁵ At this time and indeed for decades before and afterwards, O'Molloy was among the most powerful of the Irish chiefs. He is noted as keeping twenty horse and a hundred kearne available for the king's service.³⁶

Art was still in office in March 1558, but for some reason was not as loyal as previously. When the O'Connors went into rebellion Art failed to join the government forces operating against them. The Lord Justice and Council complained that when they went to Art's house in Firceall he continually absented himself; that when they sent a party offering him pardon for himself, his wife, children and followers, not only did he refuse the pardon but in fact attacked the government forces, who afterwards claimed they had slain Calbhach anglicised Callagh, Art's eldest son 'with others of his faction'. As

- o'molloy -

a result the Lord Justice and his Council proceeded to appoint Art's brother Teaboid because of his loyalty and good service to the Crown 'to be chief captein of the said countrey of Ferkeall' and they were about to pass a grant thereof to him by letters patent.³⁷

Six months later September 1558 however, the Lord Deputy and Council at the request of the Earl of Kildare who bound himself to have the parties 'ready to answer at all callings' issued a pardon to Art and to Phelim O'Molloy and Margaret O'Connor.³⁸ In February 1556 Art was still 'chief of his nation' when the local captain of the Queen's gallowglasses took a prey from him and he retaliated in kind. The dispute was to be left to arbitration.³⁹ Art died Lord of Fircall the next year (1557) and was buried in Kilcormac. After the suppression of the monasteries Kilcormac was granted to Robert Leyster whose descendants settled there and having intermarried with the Magawlys of Calry a considerable amount of O'Molloy estates passed to that family.

Nearly two centuries earlier in 1503 a deed concerning pledges for the friars share of Ballyboy was executed between them and Teaboid anglicised Theobald son of Donagh O'Molloy and his wife. John O'Molloy was to receive eleven cows, the son of Mortagh, son of Aedh or Hugh two cows, and Teaboid himself four cows.⁴⁰ Although obviously persons of importance, their identity is uncertain.

When Art died in 1567 his successor seems to have been his brother Teaboid, who had been nominated to the Lordship by the Lord Deputy and Council in March 1558. In 1581 Domhnall son of Teaboid killed two sons of Mac Gillpatrick who were his prisoners. The next year however Domhnall was slain by the O'Connors Faly at Durrow-Colmcille and 'his death was the less lamented on account of his having endeavoured to supplant and expel his father in order that he might assume his place'.⁴¹ Teaboid was evidently then living.

His brother Conall was Lord of Fircall when he attended the Queen's parliament in Dublin in 1585. It was about this time he was appointed Royal Standard Bearer which office he recognised in 1595 when the Queen's army marched against the northern Earls and Conall O'Molloy carried that standard of England to the borders of Ulster. In 1590 he surrendered his lands to the Crown and got a regrant of them. He died in the spring of 1599 and was succeeded in the Lordship of Fircall by his son Calbhach who was placed in office 'by the power of the Queen' although many of his kinsmen objected and opposed him.⁴²

Conall married (apparently not his first marriage) Anne only daughter of Edward Bermingham of Ballyvolan, Co. Westmeath by his wife Catherine daughter of Gerald Og Fitzgerald of Castletown, Co. Meath.⁴³ This marriage explains how Bermingham came to be residing at Broughal castle in 1610, doubtlessly with his daughter, Conall's wife.

In January 1600 O'Neill, Earl of Tyrone moved with his army from Durrow-Colmcille

- o'molloy -

into Fircall where he encamped for nine nights 'at a place near Raleaghan or O'Molloys house at Gortacurr'...and the people of Fircall of upper Leinster and the west of Meath made full submission to him and formed a league of friendship with him'.⁴⁴ On February 8th Sir Geoffrey Fenton wrote that 'O'Molloy [Calbhach son of Conall] the chief Lord of the country who hath hitherto stood for her Majesty is fallen into his [O'Neill's] hands, with what conditions our honour may easily guess, where the weaker is driven to bend under the power of the stronger'.⁴⁵

With Calbhach the Lordship of Fircall lapsed. On 14 August 1599 among a list of pledges submitted by certain Leinster gentlemen to the government was Calbhach's son Cathaoir anglicised Cahir and Charles who was then at school in Dublin.⁴⁶ On 30 July 1604 the King wrote to the Lord Deputy 'to take surrender by Callagh O'Molloy son of Conall O'Molloy, of the Lordship of Raleyn and all his lands in Fircall in the King's county and to regrant the same with remainders'. But later in James I reign other districts of Firceall were confirmed to a large number of other grantees.⁴⁷

Callagh otherwise Calbhach O'Molloy was returned as a member of James I Irish parliament but was rejected by the authorities in Dublin on the flimsy excuse that he could not speak English. The date of his death seems to be unknown.

Of him Fr. Francis O'Molloy O.F.M. a descendant or near relation wrote toward the end of the seventeenth century: *'It is most true and of the fact I have myself seen and heard witnesses most worthy of belief namely, that whilst the kingdom of Ireland was devastated with famine, fire and sword and in the utmost dearth of provisions, in Queen Elizabeth's time Calbhach, son of Conall, chief of the O'Molloys grandfather of the present most industrious chief, having invited to his house nine hundred and sixty persons for the feast of Christmas entertained them there for the space of twelve days'*.

The reunion which is said by some to have been held in Broughal castle was the subject of an Irish poem of which Paul Walsh gives a translation of one verse:

*'Thrice three hundred and three score -
Tale unheard by thee before -
Feasted free in Calbhach's hall
Caring light what might befall.'*⁴⁸

Calbhach married a daughter of Teig Og O Doinn of Tenehinch Queen's captain of the territory of Iregan, and had Cahir otherwise Charles, and Art styled of Rathlyan, King's co.⁴⁹

Cahir succeeded to his father's estates of which he was in possession in 1640. He joined in the troubles which began in October 1641 served as a colonel in the Confederate army from which he was cashiered by the Supreme Council at Kilkenny in 1642. At the end of the war having fought on the 'Old' Irish side he was with Colonel

- o'molloy -

Richard Grace at the skirmish of 20 June 1652 which took place near Loughrea Co. Galway and from which the two managed to escape into Leinster where they surrendered to the Commonwealth authorities in August.⁵⁰ Molloy was among the Irish leaders for whose heads the commissioners offered rewards if brought in before 30 June 1652. Molloy's head was worth £100.⁵¹

Art O'Molloy of Rathlyan with a kinsman Owen Molloy of Clonkeen, King's county among others, was proclaimed by the Lords Justices in Dublin in 1642. The outlaws were described as 'vile, notorious, ungrateful, wicked and unnatural traitors and rebels'. Art like his brother Cahir was a colonel cashiered in 1642 by the Supreme Council in Kilkenny.⁵² He repudiated the peace made with Ormond in 1646 and like Cahir joined colonel Richard Grace's band in a last effort against the Cromwellians.⁵³ He was not the Arthur Molloy of Lelaghmore, King's county transplanted in 1656 to Bunratty barony, County Clare where he was decreed a hundred profitable acres⁵⁴ as he was then in the Spanish army.

Another Cahir described as Charles Molloy of Carneboy was transplanted to the barony of Costello, county Mayo in 1656 where he was decreed 614 acres profitable with 94 acres in Gallen barony, same county.⁵⁵ According to Paul Walsh the first mentioned Cahir obtained a Decree of Innocence in 1663.⁵⁶ In 1658 he was appointed Lt. Colonel to Col. Grace's regiment in the Spanish army in Flanders.^{56a} He was named, if the same person, in the list of Irish landowners - Charles Molloy of Barnaboy - submitted to the Lord Deputy Ormond in 1664 for restoration to their estates.⁵⁷ Incidentally the Molloy castle of Broughal was then in possession of William Bermingham.⁵⁸

Charles Molloy died before 1677 having married Honora, third daughter of Owen Moony of Esker castle, the ruins of which still remain at The Doon,⁵⁹ halfway between Athlone and Ferbane. Molloy left two sons and three daughters possibly among others: Arthur eldest son and heir, Charles Junior, Barbara, Margaret and Mary.

Arthur served in the army of James II and as Captain Arthur Molloy of Cappagolan, near Ballyboy, obtained the benefit of the Limerick and Galway articles on 6 May 1692.⁶⁰ He was living on 20 November 1695, married and had a daughter Marian, who married Conly Mageoghegan of ----- and was mother by him of three sons: Ross, Charles and Conly.⁶¹

From an inquisition⁶² taken at Phillipstown, King's county in July 1699 Arthur's brother Charles junior appears to have possession of Rathlyan. He does not seem to have married or left surviving male issue. Two sisters Margaret and Mary Molloy petitioned the House of Lords in 1703 concerning the forfeited estates of their brother Arthur, apparently then dead, or of their father Charles senior. They claimed the latter was a lunatic when making a deed which afterwards proved to their disadvantage.⁶³ The third sister Barbara Molloy had two payments of £50 and £10 odd awarded her about the same time out of the estate of Rathlyan.⁶⁴

- o'molloy -

Molloy of Clonbela

On the failure of the male line of the O'Molloys, Lords of Fircall, the headship of the clan was assumed by the Clonbela family. They were descended from Art O'Molloy whose identity is not established although the evidence points to his being a younger brother of Calbhach, the last Lord of Fircall, son of Conall who died early in 1599. Art was father of Daniel Molloy of Streamstown and Clonbela. Streamstown is near Drumcullen and Kinnitty Co. Offaly and is to be distinguished from Streamstown which belonged to the Mac Coghlan of Delvin and is near Banagher, same county. Clonbela continued to be a Molloy residence down to comparatively recently. It is about three miles NE of Birr south of the road to Kilcormac.

Daniel Molloy above was granted the lands of Coulemore by patent 22 December 1629. He married Mary, daughter of Nicholas Herbert of Killyan, King's county and had Edward who retired to Spain after the Cromwellian success of 1651 and returned to Ireland in 1662 when he was restored to his estates.

A lacuna follows and Edward appears again in 1701 when he successfully claimed his estate before the Trustees of Chichester House. He was succeeded in Clonbela by his grandson Edward Molloy whose father's name is not forthcoming. Edward the grandson died after 1752 leaving issue including two sons: Daniel and John.⁶⁵

At this time Robert Molloy was styled of Streamstown and he married Abigail daughter of Robert Minnett of Annaghbeg Co Tipperary whose elder daughter Margaret Martha married William Molloy of Dovehill⁶⁶ (about three miles NE of Clonbela). These Molloys, Robert and William were most likely cousins of Edward who died in 1752. William of Streamstown whose will was proved in 1777⁶⁷ may well have been the son of Robert above, while Edward of Dovehill, evidently a descendant of William of the same place, had a daughter Martha who married early in the nineteenth century Charles second son of Richard Holmes of prospect near Ballycumber and Garryduff, Co. Westmeath by whom she had issue.⁶⁸ Anne daughter of another William Molloy married as his second wife in 30 December 1781 William Smith of Smithville, Co. Tipperary.⁶⁹

Daniel elder son of Edward of Clonbela married 31 July 1752 Susanna daughter of Peter Daly of Killeagh near Moate, Co. Westmeath. Daniel made his will 30 November 1759 by which he bequeathed his estate of Clonbela to his brother John Molloy subject to an annuity of £50 to his wife Susanna during her life and his personal estate to his wife and brother whom he appointed executors. He died without issue at Killeagh on 7 January 1760 and probate was granted to his brother John 1 February 1760.⁷⁰

The latter born 1725 married 4 June 1755 Anne daughter and coheir of Edward Bomford of Hightown, not far from Mullingar, by whom he obtained property in Westmeath. He died at Streamstown in that county in May 1803,⁷¹ and was succeeded at Clonbela by his son Laurence Bomford Molloy who married 22 February 1788

- o'molloy -

Elizabeth youngest daughter of Rev. John Mulock D.D. of Bellair, King's county by his second wife Anne daughter of Richard Homan of Shurock near Moate Co. Westmeath and left issue:

- (1) Rev. John who succeeded to Clonbela on his fathers death in 1818 when he was succeeded by his brother
- (2) Daniel
- (3) Thomas Homan Mulock; and a daughter
- (4) Anne who married 1818 Alured L'Estrange son of Lieut. General L'Estrange and *d.s.p.* 1819.

Daniel of Clonbela married 16 May 1834 Julia Henrietta only daughter of James Higginson of Cushendun Lodge Co. Antrim, Major 10th regt. and died 25 April 1856 having had issue:

Laurence, died in infancy.
Laurence Bomford. below.
James died 16 May 1849.
Mary Macauley, who married Robert Macdonnell M.D.
and *d.s.p.* 8 March 1869.
Elizabeth Mulock, died 8 July 1856.
Harriet, died 24 August 1856.
Anne Bomford, below.

Laurence Bomford Molloy of Clonbela born 2 January 1845 married 3 February 1869 Amy Frances daughter of Rev. John Gemley of London, Canada and by her had issue:
Robert Lurence, born 1870, died 1892.

Mary Macauley married 29 October 1904 Lewen Francis Barrington Weldon, Egyptian Civil Service and had Olivia Mary living 1912.

Amy Frances, married 23 October 1905, Rev. G. Cruddas of Nether Warden, Northumberland and had issue: William Laurence Molloy born January 1907; Amy Patricia and Noreen Maud - three living 1912.

Evelyn Maud. Harriet Elizabeth, married 16 April 1909 George Lloyd Cruddas, elder son of Rev. G. Cruddas of Nether Warden, Northumberland and had Elizabeth Molloy living 1912.

The father Laurence Bomford of Clonbela was living 1922. His wife died 14 December 1895.⁷²

Anne Homan (above) married as his second wife 3 June 1876 Major Walter Weldon (late Madras army) son of Sir Anthony Weldon of Rahinderry, Queen's county. For whom she had issue some of whom were living 1911,⁷³ when she was residing at

- o'molloy -

Craddoxtown, Nass. Her husband died 1907.

Her sister Anne Bomford (above) is not noticed in many editions of *Burke's Landed Gentry*. She may have belonged to a first marriage of Daniel Molloy. She married Francis Hugh Massy of Suir Castle Co. Tipperary for whom she had issue: Francis Hugh married 1898, Gertrude Masterson only child of Captain Walter, 26th Cameronians and died March 1901 leaving issue.

Daniel Molloy colonel in the army married the widow of William Massy of Ballyglasheen, Co. Tipperary and *d.s.p.* October 1908.

Anne Bomford married 1871 John Henry St. George Whity of Ballintobber, Queen's Co.

Jane Adelaide married 1886 Austin Damer Cooper of Drumnigh and died his widow April 1906.

Harriett married Thomas Whitby and died 1869.⁷⁴

Returning to the third son of Laurence Bomford Molloy of Clonbela by his wife Anne Homan namely Thomas Homan Mulock - he was born 5 May 1798, educated at Trinity College, Dublin and married at Liss church near Ballycumber, Co. Offaly, Frances Sofia daughter of John Berry of Cloneen same county, by whom she had issue fifteen children. He qualified and practised as a medical doctor. On the death of his uncle Thomas Homan Mulock - his mother's brother - he inherited the latter's estate of Bellair 16 January 1843 on condition that he took the sole name of Homan-Mulock. Hence his descendants were and are really Molloyes. He lived during the latter part of his life as a country gentleman at Bellair 25 June 1889 and was buried at nearby Liss churchyard. His wife Frances Sophia died 12 August 1863 and was buried at Leghorn in Italy. His issue included:

Frances Elizabeth born December 1828, died unmarried October 1849 at was buried at Liss.

Thomas Homan died in his fourteenth year April 1844 and was buried at Liss.

John Berry, born April 1832, married in St. Andrews church, Dublin 21 November 1883 Anna Selina daughter of Lieut. Colonel Owen Lloyd Ormsby of Ballinamore Co. Leitrim, died without issue August 1885 and was buried at Kensal Green cemetery in London.

Elizabeth Georgina born 1833 married 1 June 1858 Captain Peter Macfarlane Syme and had issue.

Thomas Laurence born 1834 and died at Sydney, New South Wales 19 August 1854.

- o'molloy -

Richard Homan born 1836 and was living in 1905.

Mary Mulock born Novemebr 1838 married twice including Frederick Pepys Cockrell whose eldest son (by her) Robert Rennie (born 1869) of New College, Oxford B.L. of the Middle Temple, married at Simla [India] 4 October 1897 Helen Violet eldest daughter of James Alexander Lawrence Montgomery, colonel of the 92nd Highlanders and of New Park, Moville, Co. Donegal.⁷⁶ Mary Mulock's daughter Anne Hester by Frederick P. Cockrell married 15 December 1891 at St. Marys Chilham Edward Travers Dames Longworth of Glynwood, Athlone, Co. Westmeath.⁷⁷

Laurence Bomford born 1840, died unmarried 1863 and was buried at Liss.

William Berry of Bellair born April 1841, educated at Trinity College, Dublin and was appointed to the Indian Civil Service in 1862. He was Assiseteant Registrar of the High Court of Bombay in addirtion to many other positions. He retired from the service on succeeding to his father's estates in 1889.

Hester Jane born November 1842 married 14 November 1865 at Marylcystone parish church London Alfred Austin of Swinford Old Manor, Ashford, Kent, B.A. London, B.L. and a member of the Honorary Society of the Inner Temple. He was appointed Poet Laureate in 1896 in succession to Lord Tennyson. 'The dear Lami' of Austin's poems referes to his wife Hester Jane Mulock [Molloy] who assisted him with his work as author and journalist during their married life. Austin died 1913 and his wife died at Kensington towards the end of 1929.⁷⁸

Anne Homan born 1844, married Arthur Challis Kennard and had issue.

Henry Pilkington entered the Indian Civil Service and retired in 1895.

Homan, died unmarried 21 April 1861 and was buried in Florence.

Frances Berry of Ballycumber, Co. Offaly born July 1848, was educated at the Royal school, Enniskillen and Trinity College, Dublin. He worked in the Indian Civil Service from 1869 to 1898 when he retired and purchased the Ballycumber estate. While in India he married 14 August 1878 Ethel Annie daughter of Sir Edward Braddon, Premier of Tasmania by whom he had issue,⁷⁹ including two daughters and sons. The elder daughter Frances Ethel married 16 October 1900 Claude Beddington of 51 South St. Park Lane, London who served with the Imperial Yeomanry in the South African war, was severely wounded and awarded the Queen's medal with three clasps.⁸⁰ Edward, a son was appointed a Student Interpreter in the Levant October 1904, was acting Vice-Consul at Salonica 1907-09 and at Alexandra in 1910. He married 6 June 1910 at St. Margaret's Westminster, Elsie Mabel, elder daughter of Henry Joseph Hume Henderson of Gheniston Gardens, Kensington, London previously of the Indian Imperial Police.⁸¹ Francis Berry and some of his family were living at Ballycumber

- o'molloy -

House in 1923. A Mulock lady of this family married Sir Harold Nutting of St. Helen's, Booterstown and their son Anthony who was born in 1919 a few months after his parents left Ireland, was British Minister of State for Foreign Affairs in the last Conservative Government.⁸²

George Phillips, the fifteenth child of Thomas Homan Mulock of Bellair, was born in 1851 and became a civil engineer. His son was George Francis Arthur a captain in the Royal Navy from which he retired in 1941. He was born 7 February 1882 and educated at S....ore Park. In 1898 he entered the Navy and served on the National Antarctic Relief Expedition. He was surveyor and cartographer to the National Antarctic Expedition 1901-04 in S.S. Discovery. For his work on the expedition he was awarded the Black Grant for 1906 by the Royal Geographical Society. He served in the European war, Tsingtao Dardanelles 1914-16 (mentioned in dispatches four times); H.M.S. Southampton, Grand Fleet 1916-17; and in the Mesopotamia 1917-18. He published a work entitled: *Survey Work of the National Antarctic Expedition 1904-06*.⁸³

Sliocht Mhic Heaboid O'Molloy

Theobald otherwise Teaboid second son of Ruaidhri anglicised Rory, Lord of Fircall who died 1383 was ancestor of this O'Molloy line. Teaboid left at least four sons: Niall whose line died out after five generations; Domhnall anglicised Donall ancestor of the O'Molloys of Ballyboy; Fearghal or Farrell who died in 1404; and Meyler, who fought against his neighbours the Mageoghegans. In 1381 he killed Aedh Mageoghegan and the next year with the aid of Fearghal O'Molloy he slew Fearghal Rua Mageoghegan Lord of Kineleagh at Kilmona in the parish of Rahugh near Kilbeggan. Fearghal Rua was the ancestor of the Mageoghegans of Newtown.⁸⁴

Domhnall the second son above married Dubhcobhla daughter of O'Connor Faly. She died in 1381 and in 1401 Domhnall then heir to the Lordship of Fircall was killed by the English. The same year his father Teaboid was killed by the O'Melaghlin's the royal line of Meath when they attacked O'Molloys place at Cill Chruimthir Fhiachrach now Kill or Kilcumreagh on the border between Offaly and Westmeath near the town of Moate. The entry in the *Annals*⁸⁵ reads:

Teaboid bui O Maoil Mhuaidh was killed by the family of Art O Maoil Sheachlainn at Ceall Crom Riathrach and they burned the church on reaching it because of what he had done to O Maoil Sheachlainn, ie. Conchobhar and to themselves.

But all the guilt was not on O'Molloy's side. At this time the O'Melaghlin's were pushing into this part of Westmeath and it seems they were now forcing the O'Molloys' from Kilcumreagh as they had banished the Foxes from the district of Moyelly seven or eight years previously.

- o'molloy -

Teaboid's line was continued through Domhnall and his son Fachtna father of Cathaoir anglicised Cahir, in turn father of a second Domhnall⁹⁶ who was styled of Ballyboy. The latter's son was Ferganaim whom O'Ferrall called Ferdinando.⁹⁷ Early in the reign of Queen Mary he was held as a pledge in the fort of [Port] Laoise for the good behaviour of his followers.⁹⁸ In 1158 however he and his wife had a grant of English liberty.⁹⁹

They had thirteen sons: Cahir; Domhnall; Teige; Lysagh; John; Kedagh; Art; Conn; Hugh; Keane; Theobald; Niall and Brean who died leaving three sons: Rory, Brean and Callagh. Theobald and Niall both *d.s.p.* before 10 June 1589. Only the name of one daughter Margaret is forthcoming.

Domhnall the second son was father of Cosney otherwise Constantine, who was an infant when his father died, and ultimately succeeded to Derrydolney in Ballyboy barony, Co. Offaly. He brought a suit against his uncles and cousins above in the court of Chancery where a decree was granted in his favour 10 June 1589.⁹⁹ Domhnall and Hugh were among the Irish gentlemen who 'attended the sessions' and were 'quiet' according to Lord Justice Drury writing in January 1579.⁹¹

Ferganaim's daughter Margaret married Barnaby son of Teige O'Donn Lord of Hy Regain and was mother of Barnaby called Brian Og who afterwards succeeded to the manor of Brittas. He died in 1661 leaving Cahir Dunne of Brittas who married Margaret Coghlan and whose son Terence fell at Aughrim 1691 leaving three sons and an only daughter Dorothy who married Awley Molloy.⁹²

Domhnall's son Cosney at Derrydolney was succeeded there by his [?] son Daniel or Domhnall who was seized of some 620 acres there and in adjoining townlands when he died in August 1631. His son was Cosney then aged twenty years and unmarried.⁹³

Cosney does not appear afterwards unless he was the Cosney Molloy described in the will dated February 1642 of Robert Leycester of Kilcormac as 'my nephew Cosny Molloy of Dublin, gent.' To whom and to Barnabe Dunne esq. 'my well-beloved brother-in-law' he left 'all the goods' he had.⁹⁴

Another Daniel of Derrydolney successfully claimed under the Limerick articles 25 August 1699.⁹⁵ In 1846 when the old house of Derrydolney was being repaired a stone was unearthed which stated that 'this house was erected by Philip Molloy and Mary his wife in the year of our Lord 1684.'⁹⁶ This Mary was the eldest daughter of Cahir Dunne of Brittas (died 1630) by his wife Margaret Coghlan (noted above) sister of John Coghlan of Birr.⁹⁷

After the Williamite success Philip Molloy junior was outlawed for treason in parts beyond the seas⁹⁸ while his sister [?] Mary daughter of Philip Molloy married William Magawley of Calry, Co. Westmeath.⁹⁹ Another son was 'John Molloy Maphillip' - mac Philip - who died 9 May 1676 and was buried in Killeigh Abbey Churchyard.¹⁰⁰

- o'molloy -

The family was however carried on and in 1765 Derrydolney was in possession of Niall Molloy who was then residing with his wife at Bolton Street, Dublin. In August of that year about a hundred of his sheep were stolen off the lands of Derrydolney and most of them sold at a fair in Tyrellspass, Co. Westmeath.¹⁰²

O'Ferrall mentions¹⁰² only three sons of Ferganainm O'Molloy otherwise Ferdinando: Cahir, Hugh and Teige. He makes Cahir father of William in turn father of Arthur. Similarly Hugh's line was Green, his son Green junior and his son Kedagh. As a personal name Green was in much more common use with the O'Molloys' of Co. Roscommon than with those of Fircall. O'Ferrall makes Teige above father of another Green whose son was Felim. Teige might have been the O'Molloy of that name who helped the English when they laid siege to O'Maddens castle of Lusmagh, south of Banagher about 1595. It is impossible to identify these O'Molloys' some of whom may have lived into the opening years of the eighteenth century when O'Ferrall was compiling his genealogy. Doubtlessly many of them left descendants.

John son of Ferganainm seems to be the Shane O'Molloy who was seized of 286 acres in Monny, about three miles south of Kilcormac, and other lands when he died 10 December 1625 leaving Niall his son and heir then of full age and married.¹⁰³ John's daughter Elanor married Turlough O'Molloy of Aghadonagh in Rahan parish, Ballycowan barony.¹⁰⁴

Sliocht mhic Chaullen mhic Aedha Oig

Caullen – which may be a nickname – was a younger son of Aedh Og living in 1372-75 ancestor of the principal O'Molloy families, and was father of Terence whose son Donagh was father of two sons: Ferghal and Cosney otherwise Constantine ancestor of the O'Molloys of Kilmanaghan. Ferghal had two sons: - Murtagh and Ferghal og. There are no details of the latter. Murtagh was grandfather of Terence whose son Lewis [Lysagh] married Catherine Dunne and was father of Owen or Anthony O'Molloy who is said to have settled in Connacht where he was commonly called Captain Green O'Molloy.¹⁰⁵

For his services to the Queen (Elizabeth I) he got a large grant of land including the Manor of Uachtarthire afterwards called Coote Hall in Co. Roscommon. He married Honora Dowell (of the Dowell family of Mantua House) and died 20 July 1602 or 1603 leaving a son William of Uachtarthire and Lackan, Co. Roscommon.¹⁰⁶

The Connacht sept of O'Molloys (who afterwards wrote their name Mulloy) has been called Clann Thaidg which would indicate a different origin to that of Fircall.¹⁰⁷ John O'Donovan in the 19th century and Fr. Paul Walsh in the 20th were prone to this opinion. Yet from the latter's writings it is obvious Captain Green O'Molloy was a freebooter in the Queen's army in Connacht without any local ties. If his family was

- o'molloy -

long established in county Roscommon it is odd there is no mention of it in *'The Description of Ireland in 1598'*¹⁰⁸ or in the *'O Clery Book of Genealogies.'*¹⁰⁹

William above son of Captain Green married Margaret Clifford believed to be a relative of Sir Coyners Clifford governor of Connacht in 1599. In 1618 William had a grant from James I of large acres in north Roscommon. He had two sons: Conor and Edward and three daughters: Anne, Elanor the youngest and another by Margaret Clifford, but he had other issue including Arthur, Terence or Theobald, and William by another marriage.

From Conor the second son descended the family of Mulloy of Hughestown, Co. Roscommon,¹¹⁰ below. Edward the elder son of Margaret Clifford married a daughter of O'Connor Donn by whom he was father of Green O'Molloy whose son William was a Captain in the army of James II and was described as William Molloy of Ogtherherry, Co. Roscommon, gent, when he was outlawed for treason in parts beyond the seas in 1696.¹¹¹

In O'Gara's infantry regiment in the same army were Captain Green Molloy and Lieutenant Theobald Molloy. Both were probably brothers of Captain William. Theobald entered the service of the King of Portugal. Captain William left a son Ignatius of whom there are no details and a daughter Mary, who married Philip Reilly of Lismore, Co. Cavan.¹¹²

Elanor youngest daughter of William and Margaret Clifford, married MacDermot, Lord of Moylurg, and her sister Anne was the wife of Cathal O'Connor of Belangare, Co. Roscommon and thus mother of Major Owen O'Connor of the same place sometime Governor of Athlone for James II. Major Owen died in 1692 and was succeeded at Belangare by his brother Charles Og O'Connor.¹¹³

Regarding the other sons of William Molloy of Uachtarthire nothing seems to be known of Arthur, and Terence seems to be a misreading of Theobald proprietor of Lisdallon, in the barony of Athlone, who was transplanted in 1656 to the Ballintober barony, in the same county Roscommon where he was decreed 100 acres. William of Uachtarthire, whether father or son is uncertain, was also transplanted from his home in Tumna parish in 1656 to Moycarne both in the barony of Boyle, Co. Roscommon where he was decreed a thousand acres.¹¹⁴ A few years later about 1659 William Molloy was titulado or person of standing (in favour with the Commonwealth Government) in Uachtarthire townland.¹¹⁵ Again his identity is uncertain as is that of Edward Molloy who was restored to his estates after the Restoration and whose second son William of Ogtherherry, Co. Roscommon gent, was outlawed for foreign treason in 1696.¹¹⁶

- o'molloy -

Molloy of Hughestown

Conor second son of William Mulloy and Margaret Clifford was ancestor to this family. He married Jane daughter of Richard Rutledge of Belleek near Ballyshannon and left a son Theobald, who was a captain of Horse in King William's army at the battle of the Boyne. He married first a lady named King who *d.s.p.* and secondly Frances Harloe and had two sons: Charles and William, a captain in the army, who died at Exeter. Captain Theobald was high-sheriff of Co. Roscommon 1691-1693. He died at an advanced age in 1734 and was buried in the church of Ardcarne near Boyle.

He was succeeded by his elder son Charles, who is said to have been pressed into King James's army, but afterwards served King William in some of his wars being wounded at the siege of Vigo. He married Hester Adams and died aged 92 in 1760 leaving three sons the eldest of whom *d.s.p.* and was succeeded by his brother Coote Mulloy of Hughestown, Co. Roscommon. Charles the father was buried at Ardcarne.

Coote was born in 1720 and served as a cornet in Hamilton's Dragoons. In May 1745 he married Margaret daughter of James Dodd of Ardagh, Co. Longford by Martha his wife grand-daughter of Arthur Achmuty of Brianstown, same county and died January 1796 leaving issue:-

1. Tobias, below.
2. Rev. James, died unmarried. As Rev. James Mulloy of Monkstown, Co. Dublin he was mentioned in a marriage settlement of 20 September 1855 concerning Owen Richard Nathaniel son of William Lloyd of Rockville and Frances Maria daughter of William Hutchinson of Carrick-on-Shannon M.D.¹¹⁷
3. Coote, A.D.C. to General Eustace at the battle of Gemappe.
4. William of Oak Park, Co. Roscommon, born 1765 married 1796 Frances daughter of Arthur French of French Park M.P. and had issue:-
 - Coote, of Oak Park, died unmarried 1850.
 - William married 1855 Anne daughter of Daniel Kelly of Cargins, Co. Roscommon and had a daughter: Mary Emily Margarete.
 - Arthur Edward of the 64th Regt. Died 1853 leaving a son and daughters.
 - Alice, died unmarried.
 - Margarete, died unmarried.
 - Frances Lousa, died unmarried.
 - Jane, died unmarried.
5. Hester married Andrew Kirkwood of Castletown
6. Margaret married Thomas Mac Dermot Roe of Alderford, Co. Roscommon.
7. Rebecca married John Phibbs of Lisconny.
8. Helen married Rev. Peter Birmingham.

Tobias of Hughestown above was born May 1748, called to the bar in 1775 and died

- o'molloy -

in 1825. He married Susannah daughter of Colonel Arthur Roche son of George Roche M.P. for Limerick by whom he had issue:-

Coote, below; and Rev. Charles rector of Colooney Glebe, Co. Sligo who married May 1820 Margaret sister of Sir Robert King of Charlestown, Co. Roscommon and died April 1832 having had issue:- Charles Coote, Robert and Caroline.

Coote above of Hughestown married Mary eldest daughter of William Lloyd of Rockville, Co. Roscommon and died October 1841 having issue by her who died 1856:-

- 1 Coote Charles, below.
- 2 William James married 6 March 1837 Anne eldest daughter of Hamilton Gorges of Kilbrew and had issue: William Gorges, born 1839 and Emily Louisa married 10 April 1871 Colonel William Hutchinson Mulloy of Hughestown.
- 3 Mary married Surgeon William Hutchinson.
- 4 Hussy married Hugh Chambers.
- 5 Margaret married John Moore.
Rev. Coote Charles above of Hughestown married first 1831 Alice daughter of Robert King Duke of Newpark, Co. Sligo and by her, who died 1844, had issue:-
 - 1 Coote died unmarried March 1857.
 - 2 Robert died unmarried 1849.
 - 3 William Hutchinson, below.
 - 4 Mary died unmarried 1883.
 - 5 Elizabeth Anne married May 1868 Walter Henry Keating of Newcastle, Co. Westmeath and had issue living 1912.

Rev. Coote Charles married secondly September 1857 Catherine Reddish, eldest daughter of Edward Stopford D.D. Bishop of Meath and died 23 May 1882.

William Hutchinson above of Hughestown and of Kelvedon, Reading served as a colonel in the Royal Engineers. He was born 6 January 1839 married first April 1871 Emily Louisa daughter of W.J. Mulloy rector of Ballysonnan, Kildare, and by her who died 6 August 1880, had issue:- Coote Charles died 1874; Robert Coote died 1873; William Duke Gorges, below; Alice Mary. Col. William Hutchinson married secondly 24 April 1883 Edith Louisa Cortlandt daughter of Hon. H. Trotter of H.M. Colonial Service and died 23 January 1909 leaving issue by her:- Noel Frank Coote born 28 February 1886 and Edith Katherine Cortlandt.

William Duke Gorges Mulloy of Hughestown born 1877 married May 1898 Marguerite daughter of Alexander Paul of Aberdeen and had issue living 1912:- Charles Duke Paul born 22 November 1900; Marguerite Norah Aileen born 18 August 1906; Emily Louisa Frances born 6 May 1909.¹¹⁸

- o'molloy -

Molloy of Kilmanaghan and Aghadonagh

Cosney brother of Ferghal and son of Donagh grandson of Caullen younger son of Aedh Og O'Molloy was ancestor of the Kilmanaghan family. Cosney left a son Rory father of Cuchoigriche who seems to be the first to settle at Kilmanaghan,¹¹⁹ a churchyard and parish in the barony of Kilcoursey, Co. Offaly. He had an only son called Rory who succeeded to Kilmanaghan and Rory's younger son John settled at Aghadonagh a townland in Rahan parish, Ballycowan barony, Co. Offaly.

John married Dorothy daughter of William Mor Magawley of Carne in Co. Westmeath near Mount Temple, by whom he had issue eight sons and four daughters:- Cuchoigriche; Donagh; Turlogh; Garrett; Rory; John; Kedagh; James; Eilis; Cicily; Anne and Una. John the father, of Aghadonagh died 2 March 1634 and was buried in the parish church of Rahan. Cuchoigriche married Margery daughter of John O'Mooney of Gallen near Ferbane. Donagh married Elanor daughter of Andrew Briscoe of Srahykehenry, now Sragh castle the ruins of which still stand near the town of Tullamore, and had issue five sons and two daughters:- Dominic; Cosney; Rory; John; and Edward and Elanor; and Margaret who married Hobart Farrell of Aghadonoghue, [Co.?] Donagh died 16 November 1637 and was buried at Rahan. Turlogh third son of John of Aghadonagh married Elanor daughter of John O'Molloy of Munny about three miles south of Kilcormac. Garrett married Margaret daughter of Lieutenant George Hunt of Amorgan, Co. Limerick. There are no details of Rory or James the youngest son. John and Kedagh both d.s.p. Eilis married Dermot Og Coghlan of Drinagh, Garrycastle barony, King's county. Cicily married Hugh Coffey of Mosstown midway between Ballymore and Streamstown, Co. Westmeath. Anne married Tibbot Coghlan also of Drinagh, King's Co. and Una married Art O'Melaghlin of Cartrons, near Ballinahown, Co. Westmeath.¹²⁰ The Funeral Entries¹²¹ mentions three other daughters Elanor the eldest and two Finnualas all of whom died unmarried.

Doubtless the Molloy sons above left descendants and the name is still common in the Rahan area. In the summer of 1778 a King's Co. jury of which Archibald Armstrong was coroner found that Matthew Molloy of Rahan had been willfully murdered by certain persons of the locality who had absconded. Molloy's brother Ferdinand of Rahan offered a reward of fifty pounds for their apprehension. Mary Molloy [wife?] was also associated with offering the reward through Mr. Reynolds of Ash St. Dublin,¹²²

Another descendant was Rev. Peter Molloy nephew of Dr. John Cantwell, who was born at Rahan in 1792 appointed Bishop of Meath in 1830 and died in 1866. Rev. Peter was catholic curate of Balinacargy in 1868¹²³ and died parish priest of Ballymore, Co. Westmeath where he was buried 27 July 1883. In July 1810 another Molloy, Rev. Arthur was appointed parish priest of Rahan. It is not clear that he was a native; he probably was. After a few years at Rahan he lost the use of his mind and died about 1821. He was buried in the Franciscan Monastery cemetery at Clara.¹²⁴ In 1835 Bridget Molloy was admitted a postulante in Killina Presentation convent at Rahan.¹²⁵

- o'molloy -

In 1854 there was no Molloy in Aghadonagh townland nor in Kilmanaghan parish.¹²⁶ But there were many families of the name in Rahan and neighbouring parishes. In Ballybought townland, Durrow parish, Keydo Molloy occupied 96 acres and a good house, as did John Molloy on 55 acres in the same townland.¹²⁷ In 1892 there were 17 Molloys listed among the rated electors of the Tullamore polling district including:- Patrick of Ballybought son [?] of Keydo above; Constantine of Dublin whose valuation was £120; Joseph of Ballydrohid, Kilbride (Tullamore) parish, valuation £110; John of Murrough, Rahan parish, valuation £57; and John of Sragh, valuation £56.¹²⁸

Molloy of Cornalaur

Cornalaur townland measures more than 550 acres in Rahan parish and in 1854 the landlord or 'immediate lessor' was Reps. Bernard Molloy, who was most likely descended from the Aghadonagh family of the seventeenth century. Bernard was living in Cornalaur in 1837 but was dead in 1853 when his son and representative was Dr. Keydo J. Molloy who at one time lived at Charlestown House, Clara. Keydo married Maria Teresa daughter of James Lynam apparently of Bunakeeran townland, Killoughy parish, Ballyboy barony, where Lynam was a landowner of standing. The issue of this marriage included two sons: Bernard Charles, second son and James Lynam.

Bernard Charles was educated at Edmund's college, Herts, and at the University of Bonn. In 1867 he joined the Pontifical army then opposing Garibaldi who brought about the establishment of the Kingdom of Italy. In 1870 he was in the French army, a captain on the staff of Generals Pellissier and Tevis. For bravery against the Germans he received a gold war-medal specially struck by Marshal Mac Mahon the President and General-in-chief, who signified that it was '*a special mark of esteem to recompense for the service that you have rendered with courage and devotion during the war.*' In 1872 he was called to the English bar and was a barrister of the Middle Temple. Pope Pius IX nominated him a '*Cameriere Segreto di Cappa e Spado.*' He was devoted to chemical and electrical research and discovered a more economic method of extracting gold.

He first sought election to parliament in January 1874. In his address he stated among other things that education should be free from all control except that of the church since education not based on religion was false. He also declared that Ireland had the right to be governed by a parliament of her own – he was of course a 'Home Ruler.' However he was not successful until 1885 when he was elected an M.P. for the Birr division of the King's county, a seat which he held for many years. In parliament although a fluent, he was not a powerful speaker and his attitude was that of the cultivated gentleman. In the House of Commons his speeches were generally very moderate. He lived at Hawke House in Sunbury-on-Thames, but spent much time in travel and visited Australia among other places. Rarely if ever did he visit his constituency.¹²⁹

- o'molloy -

His brother James Lynam Molloy was born at Cornalaur in 1837 and although he is said to be living there in 1892 his family was not there in 1854.¹³⁰ He was educated at the Catholic University, Dublin, London University and at Paris and Bonn. In 1872 he was called to the bar at the Middle Temple, London but didn't practise. Instead he turned to literature. Some of his best known compositions were: 'Kerry Dances'; 'Just a song at twilight'; 'Darby and Joan'; 'Bantry Bay'; 'Thady O'Flynn'; 'Love's old sweet song'. He died in 1909.¹³¹

A contemporary of the Molloy family of Cornalaur was James Molloy, landlord of some 483 acres in Derrooly townland in the same parish of Rahan in 1854.¹³²

Molloy of Tullamore

This is another line whose origin is obscure although it is likely to have come from the Rahan stem. The earliest member noticed was Michael Molloy of Tullamore, who with John Vaughan leased two adjoining building sites in that town at Bridge street in 1756. Both were described as merchants and in or soon after 1756 they created houses on the Bridge street sites. The offices of Messrs. Hoey and Denning solicitors are now housed on the ground floor of the buildings then erected. On a third lease Molloy and Vaughan appear as partners in a business which was most likely a distillery.

In September 1809 Faulkner's Dublin Journal noticed the marriage of Bernard Daly of Cloghan, King's Co. to Miss Molloy daughter of S----- Molloy of Tullamore. It may be assumed the latter was a son of Michael of 1756 and father of a second Michael who 'inherited the house and property of his namesake.' Michael carried out some reconstructions and reopened the distillery in 1829. The business was afterwards - sometime between 1829 and 1853 - taken over by Bernard Daly and his wife Miss Molloy. The rated occupier in 1854 of the houses, offices, distillery and yard at Bridge street was Bernard Daly. The valuation of the property was £115. The immediate lesser of the adjoining house (No. 6) then vacant and the valuation of which was £8.50 was Philip Molloy son [?] of Michael of 1829.¹³³ In 1854 there were two Mrs. Mary Molloy's occupying houses, valuations £15 and £11 respectively, in High Street, Tullamore.¹³⁴

Another Tullamore Molloy whose ancestry is also obscure was Constantine who was one of the local yeomanry in 1798. He did good service in protecting the people from oppression and persecution of the Orange troopers. On one occasion he formed a guard at the chapel door of Mucklagh a few miles outside Tullamore and defied any Orangeman to interfere with the people inside hearing Mass on pain of being shot down. There were many similar anecdotes related to his courage and bravery and the fear with which he inspired the bigots of his day. He died 1 April 1844 aged 75 years and was buried in the old churchyard of Kilbride (some distance from the town of Tullamore) where there was a tomb erected to his memory. He was father of Constantine Molloy Q.C. described as an ornament to his profession who was living at Leeson street, Dublin in 1892.¹³⁵

- o'molloy -

Molloy of Pallas and Ballyduff

Pallas is a townland in Killoughey parish, barony of Ballyboy, Co. Offaly. In 1854 there was no Molloy family there. At the beginning of the seventeenth century Pallas belonged to Theobald Molloy who was also seized of the adjoining hamlet of Ballyduff containing some 249 acres and where there was another Molloy family of some standing. Theobald died 3 June 1633 and was succeeded at Pallas by his son and heir

Neale¹³⁶ who was then thirty-five years old his wife Elizabeth being a daughter of Breasal Fox of Kilcoursey castle just north of the town of Clara, Co. Offaly.

The Ballyduff family originated with John Molloy who married and left a son Hugh. The latter settled at Ballyduff where he died 3 March 1635. He may well have been a brother of Theobald above, of Pallas. Hugh married Margaret, a daughter of Cahir otherwise Charles O'Molloy of Ballyboy head of his clan and son of the last Lord of Fircall. Hugh's issue by his wife Margaret were: - Jasper, eldest son and heir who married Alice, daughter of John Briscoe of Sragh, gent; Melcher; Ellice; Gyles; and Mary.¹³⁷ Hugh and his son Jasper seem to have obtained Decrees of Innocence, 1663.

More than a century later James Molloy of Athlone had a son named John Jasper James baptised 5 February 1783 in Saint Mary's church in that town. The same year Mary Molloy of Athlone was noted as wife of Walter Blake. In 1743 Elinor Molloy otherwise Elinor Delamar was the grantee of No.35 Church St. Athlone while in 1779 the Delamar property in Athlone was granted to Laurence Molloy.¹³⁸ Evidence to identify these Molloys is insufficient.

Molloy of Killadooley

About the middle of the sixteenth century a branch of Molloys settled from Co. Offaly near Borris-in-Ossory, Co. Laois. In 1602 Kynn (Kieran?) Molloy of Donoghmore - between Borris and Rathdowney - received a crown pardon. Afterwards he or a son settled at Killadooley in the parish of Borris-in-Ossory. A descendant Captain Kieran Molloy took the Jacobite side and was outlawed in 1691.

He married daughter of Colonel Charles Molloy of Rathlehin, Killoughey parish, Ballyboy barony, Co. Offaly of the senior line of the family. Dorothy was widow of Louis Dempsey, 2nd Viscount Clanmalier who was outlawed for his part in the rebellion of 1641 and died in 1683. Her will made in 1707 was proved by her husband Captain Kieran Molloy in 1709.

He had a son John who by an agreement of 7 March 1703 had a grant of the lands of Graiguevalla and Garrymorris near Rathdowney containing 232 acres at a yearly rent of twenty five pounds from Captain Richard Fitzpatrick afterwards 1st Lord Gowran.

- o'molloy -

This John Molloy married Elizabeth Fitzpatrick niece of 7th baron of Upper Ossory and died 16 December 1718 aged 38 years. His wife died 1754 aged 75 years. Their children included: Brian; Elizabeth; Dorothy; and an unnamed daughter who married --- Keenan and had issue including Florence and Ellen. Brian apparently the only son, married Elizabeth ---- and *d.s.p.* in 1762 aged 50 years. His sisters Elizabeth Deegan and Dorothy Power benefited £30 and £20 respectively from his will proved 23 March 1764. Other benefits went to his nephew Florence Keenan and his niece Ellen Keenan £15 and £10 each. He left the rest of his goods to his wife. Thomas Molloy was one of the witnesses to Brian's will. These Killadooley Molloyes were buried in Donaghmore churchyard where two inscribed tombs marked their graves.¹³⁹

Molloy of Kells

This family farmed the lands of Lennoxbrook and Rathbrack, Co. Meath from the middle of the seventeenth century to the middle of the nineteenth century. Their origin is obscure. They were Protestants and were buried in Kells churchyard where their tombstones remain.

John Molloy senior erected the earliest of these to the memory of his wife Elizabeth Nicholson who died 8 March 1719 aged 69 years. He was probably father of a second John Molloy who is not mentioned and was father of Henry named in a deed of 1735 where John leased Castle Keran from James Lennox Napper of Loughcrew. In 1745 Henry lived at Rathbrack when he assigned his interests in certain leases to Sir Thomas Taylor of Kells. In 1779 and 1788 he assigned further interests to the Earl of Bective. He died in 1796 having had three sons: Edward the eldest, James Dutton and Henry.

Edward born in 1746, was described as of Castlepole and Lennoxbrook; he married Jane ----- and died 14 November 1814. He served as Soveigrn of the town of Kells and was Captain of Kells Yeomanry. He appears to have taken part in the battle of Tara in May 1798. The second son James Dutton was born in 1765 so there must have been other children in between. He married Margaret Bell by whom he had a son Edward of Lennoxbrook. He married secondly Margaret [Stephens?] by whom he had a son Henry of Rathbrack. James Dutton Molloy died in 1833.

Henry third son of Henry (d. 1796) married Dorothy Mortimer at St. Catherine's Dublin in 1789. There seems to be no other details of him. His nephew Henry, a captain in the army, second son of James Dutton died a young man having married Susan Elizabeth daughter of Dr. James Young of Ballybay, Co. Monaghan by whom he had three daughters.

- 1 Anne Eva who married John Anderson Exshaw (son of John Exshaw of Borrisokane Co. Tipperary) of Rosbercon, New Ross, Co. Wexford agent of the Bank of Ireland: she died 1 December 1923 leaving issue including the head of the Exshaw family formerly of Kimmage Manor.¹⁴⁰
- 2 Susan married William Dawson, National Bank manager, Roscommon

- o'molloy -

son of Captain Dawson, R.N. of Belmullet.

3 Margaret seems to have died unmarried.

Edward of Lennoxbrook eldest son of James Dutton was born in 1799. He married Laetitia Booth Bell, born 1805 and died 1837. When he died in 1867 the male line of his family came to an end. A broken column erected to his memory marks his grave in Kells churchyard.¹⁴¹

In 1891 Rev. John Molloy was appointed prior of the Franciscan friary of Courtown, Co. Meath. It is not clear that he was a native of the locality. He also acted as administrator of the Union of Bective. He died 7 January 1818 aged 70 years and was buried in Clonmaduff cemetery, near Courtown, which as a friary died out about 1828.¹⁴²

Molloy of Gortacur

Gortacur is a townland in Killoughey parish, Balyboy barony containing the village of Mountbolus. In the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries Gortacur was an important Molloy seat in Fircall but the branch of the family to which it ultimately fell hardly figures in the records.

Terence Molloy of Gortacur claimed successfully under the Limerick and Galway articles on 6 July 1694.¹⁴³ He was probably father or brother of Arthur Molloy of Gortacur who married Dorothy daughter of Terence Dunne of Brittas, Queen's Co. eldest son of Charles Dunne (died 1680) by his wife Margaret, sister of John Coghlan of Birr.¹⁴⁴ Dorothy Dunne's aunt Mary eldest daughter of Charles (died 1680) married Philip Molloy of Derrydolney noted above.

Another [?] Terence of Gortacur was among the O'Molloys restored to their estates by Charles II.¹⁴⁵ As late as 1854 Arthur Molloy junior was occupier of approximately 135 acres and two dwelling houses rated valuation £2-50 and £3-50 respectively – the second of which was then vacant – in Gortacur townland.¹⁴⁶

Molloy of Moate

This family seems to be an off-shoot of the Aghadonagh (Rahan) line. At the end of the eighteenth century it was represented by Constantine John Molloy who practised as a medical doctor at Moate, Co. Westmeath. He was listed among 'the freeholders of the neighbourhood of Moate' who in March 1800 approved of the legislative Union of Great Britain and Ireland.¹⁴⁷ He died a few years later and his will was proved in 1808.¹⁴⁸

He may have been father of Thomas and Patrick both of Moate who were cessed for tithes in 1825 and 1826. Patrick had a fair-sized farm in Killachonna townland about a mile from Moate. He was cessed on 45 acres of tillage.¹⁴⁹ There was no Molloy in this

- o'molloy -

townland in 1854,¹⁵⁰ nor indeed was Thomas in Moate. A second Thomas M. Molloy graduated at the University of Dublin as a medical doctor in 1825 and was practising in Moate in 1849.¹⁵¹

Was he Thomas Mulock Molloy (who with John Mulock Molloy) was a landlord of two holdings one a mill and stores in Bohernagrisna townland in Rahan parish, Ballycowan barony, King's co. In 1854.¹⁵² Dr. Thomas M. Molloy was not in Moate at this latter date when the only Molloy there James described as a spirit dealer in *Slater's Directory* for 1856.¹⁵³ He occupied a house, offices, yard and garden valuation £12-5s on the north side of the centre of the town.¹⁵⁴ He does not appear in Slater in 1881.

Joseph Molloy who carried on a grocery and spirit business, also at Main street Moate for many years at the beginning of the present century was not descended from any of the above Molloys. He married a sister of Michael Rabbitte of Moate by whom he had issue: Arthur who became a Carmelite priest and died in Australia in 1968; Rita who died unmarried; and Edward who married a daughter of Patrick Clavin of Ballinagarbry near Moate by whom he had issue including: Joseph Hugo born April 1941 and Patrick Arthur born September 1942, both at Moate.

O Molloy of Madrid

Rodrigo (Rory) O Molloy settled in Spain early in the seventeenth century and married Anastasia Lues by whom he was father of Cosme (Contantine) O Molloy. The latter married Leonora daughter of Bernardo O Connor by his wife Sesilia Mayo Gegan – obviously Sesilia Mageoghegan, both of whose families were also settled in Spain and had Rodrigo O'Molloy of Madrid who was born in June 1673, served as a captain in the Spanish army and was created a Knight of Calatrava.¹⁵⁵

Daniel Molloy of Athlone

He was originally a gentleman of fair estate which he encumbered to such an extent that he had to sell the property and with the money remaining after his debts were paid educated his only son for the medical profession. This was previous to 1826 when Daniel and his wife Bridget Tyrrell conducted a 'pay' school in a good slated house near the old Franciscan Abbey in Athlone. Daniel Molloy's ancestors are unknown. His wife was a lineal descendant of the O'Melaghlin's once kings of Meath her grandmother being a daughter of Captain Murrough O'Melaghlin of Farnagh castle near Moate. Molloy's only son (his name is not available), having qualified as a doctor abandoned his profession and joined the Royal Irish Dragoons. After some time it came to light that he was a gentleman and the officers of his regiment bought him out of the army and presented him with a sum of money to set him up as a doctor in his native town. However after some years he fell into ill-health and died probably about 1830 in Athlone.¹⁵⁶

- o'molloy -

O Molloy of Dowris and Rathmackilduff

Teige O'Molloy was living at Rathmackilduff in March 1596.¹⁵⁷ About this time he was one of his sept who aided the Queen's deputy when he attacked O'Madden's castle of Lusmagh, near Banagher, Co. Offaly.

Among Teigue's sons was Sean Og O'Molloy who in 1607 was living at Dowris castle, an important seat at the time. It was near Whigsborough House home of a branch of the Drought family for many generations.¹⁵⁸

Important Molloy castles not so far mentioned were: Eglish – called caisleán na hEiglise – which gave it's name to Eglish barony; Kiltubrid once known as the island castle as it stood on low ground long since drained, near Kinnity and Drumcullen; and Le Porte castle which was built on Lough Coura also drained, near Whigsborough.¹⁵⁹ These like Dowris were abandoned by the Molloyes at an early date.

Other Molloy Families

Henry Molloy of Derrymore, Killoughey parish, Ballyboy barony, was in 1854 occupier of a house (valuation £11-75) and about 470 acres some two thirds of which was bog. He was also immediate lessor of about 260 acres.¹⁶⁰

At the same time James Molloy was immediate lessor of about 483 acres in Derrooly townland in Rahan parish.¹⁶¹ In 1890 the following Molloyes were property holders in county Offaly, valuations in brackets:- John, Cormore (£10); Kieran, Clonmacnoise (£27); Michael, Clonlough Glebe (£40); Charles, Rathlione (£31); Charles junr., Rathlione (£27); Joseph, Ballyboy (£19); Laurence, Rathlione (£26); Patrick, Frankford (£32); Patrick, Gortnamuck (£38); Peter, Lugamarla (£30); John, Ballykealy (£28); Michael, Ballinree (£37); Patrick, Whigsborough (£10); Daniel, Crinkill (£34); Isaac, Lutzen, Glenageary (£50); Kieran, Ross (£10); Patrick, Boolinarrig Big (£32); William R., Dublin (£54); Thomas, Cumberland St., Birr (£14).¹⁶²

Outside Co. Offaly were : William of Blackfort Co. Tipperary. His daughter Anna married in February 1830 Captain William Augustus eldest son of Rev. Abraham Stewart rector of Donabate, Co. Dublin. She died in 1864 leaving two sons.¹⁶³ William Molloy of Rockvalley, Co. Tipperary. His daughter Rebecca married 1833 George son of Nathaniel Alexander Bishop of Meath.¹⁶⁴ James Molloy of Clonlough, Queen's Co. had a daughter Mary who married John Cahill of Fossey, Queen's Co. and of Johnswell, Co. Kilkenny one time merchant in Dublin city. Micheal Cahill of Ballyconra house, Co. Kilkenny was grandson of this marriage. He married 1843 Margaret daughter of Francis Magan of Emo, Ballymore, Co. Westmeath by whom had issue seven sons and four daughters.¹⁶⁵ John Molloy of Tralee, Co. Kerry, whose daughter Margaret Mary married June 11 Major Dominic Brunick of the Irish Valuation Office, was another family of standing. Margaret Mary, who died in 1937, had issue living in 1958.¹⁶⁶ Edward Bryan

- o'molloy -

Molloy of Kiltra, Enniscorthy, Co. Wexford married Mary daughter of Thomas Townshend of Clyda, near Mallow, Co. Cork¹⁶⁷ early in the last century.

Among important Molloyes not already noticed were:- Albin O'Molloy Cistercian Abbot of Baltinglass, who in 1185 offended Giraldus Cambrensis and the Norman clergy in a sermon preached in Christchurch, was appointed Bishop of Ferns in 1186. He died at an advanced age in 1222.¹⁶⁸

Charles Molloy a dramatist of some ability was born at Birr about 1690 and educated at Trinity College, Dublin of which he was a Fellow. He entered the Middle Temple in London but devoted his talents to literature. His first play *The Perplexed Couple* was produced in London in 1715, *The Coquet* in 1718 and *The half-pay Officers* in 1720. He was editor of *Fog's Journal* in 1728 and of *Common Sense* in 1737. His political tracts displayed unusual abilities of understanding and command of language: but his dramatic writings are now little known. He married a rich heiress and died in London in 1767.¹⁶⁹

Another Charles Molloy, a lawyer of the Inner Temple, born in King's county about 1640, was author of *De Jour Maritimo et Navali* published in London in 1676. The book had a considerable reputation and for about a century was a standard work on maritime law.¹⁷⁰ He died in London in 1690.

Monsignor Gerald Molloy was born at Mount Tallant house, Co. Dublin in 1834 and educated at Castleknock and Maynooth, where he was professor of technology 1857 – 1874. Then up to 1887 he was professor of natural philosophy in the Catholic University and later vice chancellor and senator of the Royal University. In 1870 he published *Geology and Revelation* and in 1888 *Gleanings in Science*. He died in 1906.¹⁷¹

Joseph Fitzgerald Molloy author, was born in New Ross in 1858. He went to London in 1878 and for four years was employed in the office of the agent-general of New Zealand. His writings included history, biography, fiction and verse. He died in 1908.¹⁷²

John Molloy a Catholic, born of humble parents in Queen's Co. emigrated to Canada in 1822 prospered and won respect. When revolutionaries planned a rising for Toronto in December 1837 Sir James Stuart on behalf of the authorities requested Molloy to address his countrymen and urged them to oppose the rebels. This he did with remarkable success. Copies of his speech in thousands were circulated all over Lower Canada to great effect. Afterwards he was sent on a mission to London where he had interviews with the Duke of Wellington, Lord Derby and other leading men.¹⁷³

Michael Molloy born in Straboe in 1851 was a merchant and hosiery manufacturer in Carlow, where he was a member of the urban district and county councils. He was a Nationalist member of parliament for Carlow from 1910 to 1918.¹⁷⁴

- o'molloy -

References

- 1 Murphy ed. p 222.
- 2 A.F.M. 1216 fn c.
- 3 Paul Walsh, 'Meath in the Book of Rights' in Feil sgríbhinn Eoin Mhic Neill, p 511.
- 4
- 5 A.F.M. 1048, 1069.
- 6 See Plummer, *Lives of Irish Saints*, ii. 306
- 7 A.F.M. 1110.
- 8 See Plummer, *Lives of Irish Saints*, ii. 306
- 9 ib., A, Clon. P 191.
- 10 See Plummer, *Lives of Irish Saints*, ii. 306
- 11 A.F.M. 1139, 1141.
- 12 ib., 1156, Plummer, *Lives of Irish Saints*, ii. 306
- 13 A.F.M.
- 14 ib., 1175.
- 15 A, Clon. P 233.
- 16 A.F.M.
- 17 'Book of Genealogies' in *Alalecta Hibernica* (18) p 75.
- 18 A.F.M.
- 19 O Ferral, *Linea Antiqua*. N.L.I. Ms., i. 491.
- 20 A.F.M.
- 21 O Ferral, *Linea Antiqua*. N.L.I. Ms., i. 491.
- 22 Plummer, *Lives of Irish Saints*, ii. 291; Cogan, *Diocese of Meath*, ii. 546 fn.
- 23 A.F.M.; Paul Walsh, 'O'Maolmhuaídh of Fir Ceall,' in the *Irish Book Lover*, vol. 24, p 31.
- 24 ib.
- 25 ib.
- 26 A.U.
- 27 ib.
- 28 Paul Walsh, 'O'Maolmhuaídh of Fir Ceall,' in the *Irish Book Lover*, vol. 24, p 31.
- 29 Cogan, *Diocese of Meath*, iii. 618.
- 30 A.F.M.
- 31 See *King's County Directory* (1890), p 94.
- 32 *The Haliday Manuscripts*, p 274.
- 33 ib. p 276.
- 34 A.F.M.
- 35 *Cal. Stste Papers, Ireland*, Vol 1509-1573, p 126
- 36 ib. Vol. 1601-1603, pp 600, 665
- 37 *The Haliday Manuscripts*, p 47.
- 38 ib. p 64
- 39 ib. p 151
- 40 Cogan, *Diocese of Meath*, iii. 615 fnote.

- o'molloy -

- 41 A.F.M. 1582
- 42 ib. 1599.
- 43 Funeral Entries, in *Memorials of the dead in Ireland*, viii. 187.
- 44 A.F.M. 1600 (p 2147).
- 45 Paul Walsh, 'O'Maolmhuidh of Fir Ceall,' in the *Irish Book Lover*, vol. 24, p 32.
- 46 ib.
- 47 ib.
- 48 ib. p 33.
- 49 *Burkes Landed Gentry of Ireland* (1912 ed.), p 199.
- 50 *Dunlop Ireland under the Commonwealth*, i. 204 footnote.
- 51 ib. p 207.
- 52 Gilbert. *A contemporary history of affairs in Ireland*, 1641-1652, i.41.
- 53 ib. iii. 113
- 54 Dr. Simington, *The Transplantation to Connacht 1654-1658*, p 4.
- 55 ib. pp. 201, 207.
- 56 Paul Walsh, 'O'Maolmhuidh of Fir Ceall,' in the *Irish Book Lover*, vol. 24, p 33.
- 56a Rev. B. Jennings, *Wild Geese in Spanish Flanders 1582-1700*, 2253.
- 57 See *The Irish Genealogist*, iv. (no. 4), p 291.
- 58 ib.
- 59 *Burkes Landed Gentry of Ireland* (1912 ed.), p 489.
- 60 Dr. Simms, 'Irish Jacobites'
- 61 Dalton, *King James's Irish Army*, ii. 557.
- 62 *Inq. Can. Hib. Rep.* 1. 2 Gul. III King's Co.
- 63 *Manuscripts of the House of Lords*, v. 218 220
- 64 ib. pp. 252, 257
- 65 *Burkes Landed Gentry of Ireland* (1912 ed.), p 481
- 66 ib.
- 67 See Vicars. *Index to the Prerogative Wills of Ireland 1536 1810*, p. 330
- 68 *Burkes Landed Gentry of Ireland* (1912 ed.), p 376
- 69 ib. p. 639
- 70 Genealogical Office Ms. 512. 1. 62; Moran Ms. Athlone i. 241 (N.I.,I.).
- 71 Moran Ms. Athlone ii. 37.
- 72 *Burkes Landed Gentry of Ireland* (1912 ed.), p 481
- 73 *Burkes Peerage* (1911 ed.), p 1898.
- 74 ib. p. 1266
- 75 See *Report from the Select Committee on Westmeath etc. (Unlawful Combinations)* 1871, p. 199; de Burgh, *Landowners of Ireland*, p. 330.
- 76 Crisp, *Visitation of Ireland* ii. 27
- 77 Moran Ms. Athlone ii. 301
- 78 Crone, 'Sgealta O Chathair na gCeo' in *The Irish Book Lover*, Vol. 18 p. 4
- 79 For details of the Mulocks of Bellair see Bewley, *The Family of Mulock*, pp. 14, 21-
- 25.
- 80 Crisp, *Visitation of Ireland*, v. Add. p. xii.
- 81 ib.

- o'molloy -

- 82 Des Hickey in *Sunday Independent*, 2 January 1972.
- 83 *Who's Who 1941*, p. 2265
- 84 *A. Clon.* P 233.
- 85 Seamus O hInnse, *Miscellaneous Irish Annals*, p. 163
- 86 O Ferral, *Linea Antiqua*, p. 491.
- 87 *ib.*
- 88 *The Haliday Manuscripts*, p 47.
- 89 K. W. Nicholls, 'Some Documents on Irish Law and Custom in the Sixteenth Century' in *Analecta Hibernica* (no. 26), p. 113.
- 90 *ib.* pp. 111-113.
- 91 C.P.S.I. Vol. 1574-1585, p. 157.
- 92 *Burkes Landed Gentry* (1894 ed.), p 555.
- 93 *Inq. Can. Hib. Rep.* Leinster, 21 Car. I King's Co.
- 94 Genealogical Office Will Abstracts.
- 95 Dr. Simms, 'Irish Jacobites' in *Analecta Hibernica* (no. 22), p. 127.
- 96 *The King's County Directory* (1890), p. 105.
- 97 *Burkes Landed Gentry of Ireland* (1912 ed.), p 200.
- 98 Dr. Simms, 'Irish Jacobites' in *Analecta Hibernica* (no. 22), p. 84.
- 99 O Ferral, *Linea Antiqua*, p. 502.
- 100 *Memorials of the Dead of Ireland*, ix. 301.
- 101 Moran Ms. Athlone ii. 280.
- 102 *Linea Antiqua*, p. 491.
- 103 *Inq. Can. Hib. Rep.* Leinster, 4 Car. I King's Co.
- 104 O Ferral, *Linea Antiqua*, p. 506.
- 105 *ib.* p. 491.
- 106 *ib.* p. 506; *Burkes Landed Gentry of Ireland* (1912 ed.), p 500.
- 107 Edward Mac Lysaght, *Irish Families* (1957), p. 225.
- 108 Hogan ed.
- 109 Seamus Pender ed.
- 110 *Burkes Landed Gentry of Ireland* (1912 ed.), p 500.
- 111 Dr. Simms, 'Irish Jacobites' in *Analecta Hibernica* (no. 22), p. 72.
- 112 Archdall ed. *Lodge's Peerage of Ireland*, iv. 160.
- 113 *Burkes Landed Gentry of Ireland*, iv. 160.
- 114 Dr. R. C. Simington, *The Transplantation to Connacht 1654-1658*, pp. 252, 261.
- 115 Seamus Pender, *A Census of Ireland c. 1659*, p. 583.
- 116 Dr. Simms, 'Irish Jacobites' in *Analecta Hibernica* (no. 22), p. 79.
- 117 Dr. Burgess Papers - Athlone Deeds, Vol. 3, Deed No. 1098.
- 118 *Burkes Landed Gentry of Ireland* (1912 ed.), pp 500, 501.
- 119 O Ferral, *Linea Antiqua*, p. 506.
- 120 *ib.* pp. 506-508.
- 121 *Memorials of the Dead of Ireland*, viii. [22].
- 122 Moran Ms. Athlone i. 423.
- 123 Cogan, *Diocese of Meath*, iii. 664.
- 124 *ib.* ii. 499, 535.

- o'molloy -

- 125 ib. iii. 464.
- 126 See *Griffith Valuation, Union of Tullamore, King's County*.
- 127 ib. p. 87.
- 128 *King's County Directory* (1890), p. 250.
- 129 ib. pp. 289, 291.
- 130 *Griffith Valuation, Union of Tullamore, King's County*, p. 144.
- 131 O'Donoghue, *The Poets of Ireland*, p. 164; Edward Mac Lysaght, *Irish Families* (1957), p. 226; Crone, *A Concise Dictionary of Irish Biography*, p. 49.
- 132 *Griffith Valuation, Union of Tullamore, King's County*, p. 146.
- 133 Dr. Moran, *Early History of Tullamore* (1962), p. 23; M. J. Moran Ms. Athlone, ii. 48 (N.L.I.); *Griffith Valuation, Union of Tullamore, King's County*, p. 125.
- 134 *Griffith Valuation, Union of Tullamore, King's County*, p. 126.
- 135 Cogan, *Diocese of Meath*, ii. 546-547; *The King's County Directory* (1890), p. 228.
- 136 *Inq. Can. Hib. Rep. Leinster*, 24 Car. I King's Co.
- 137 O Ferral, *Linea Antiqua*, p. 488.
- 138 Dr. Burgess Papers - *Dictionary of Athlone Biography*, ii. 327 (typed) Athlone Branch Library.
- 139 H.D. Walsh, *Borris-in-Ossory, an Irish parish and its people*, pp.89 - 90.
- 140 *Burkes Landed Gentry* (1958 ed.), p 258.
- 141 J.C. Shaw, 'The Molloy family of Kells', in *The Irish Genealogist*, iii. No. 5, pp. 187-189.
- 142 Cogan, *The Diocese of Meath*, i. 121.
- 143 Dr. Simms, 'Irish Jacobites' in *Analecta Hibernica* (no. 22), p. 99.
- 144 *Burkes Landed Gentry* (1912 ed.), p 200.
- 145 O'Hart, *Irish Landed Gentry when Cromwell came to Ireland*, p. 431.
- 146 *Griffith Valuation, Union of Tullamore, King's County*, p. 43.
- 147 M. J. Moran Ms. Athlone, ii. 10.
- 148 Vicars. *Index to the Prerogative Wills of Ireland*, p. 330.
- 149 Tithe Composition Applotment Parish of Ballyloughloe Ms. Book 15 (P.R.O. Dublin),
p. 20; Parish of Kilcleagh Ms. Book 82, p. 11.
- 150 See *Griffith Valuation, Union of Athlone, Co. Westmeath*.
- 151 *The Dublin Almanac* 1849, pp. 192-194.
- 152 *Griffith Valuation, Union of Tullamore, King's County*, p. 141.
- 153 p. 47.
- 154 *Griffith Valuation, Union of Athlone, Co. Westmeath*, p. 78.
- 155 Micheline Walsh, *Spanish Knights of Irish Origin*, iii. 18.
- 156 Burke, *Vicissitudes of Families* (2nd series) , p. 372; Schools - return for St. Mary's Parish [Athlone] in the *Ardaugh Journal*, ii. No.9), 74-75.
- 157 Hogan ed. *Description of Ireland in 1598*, p. 84, footnote g.
- 158 *King's County Ditectory* (1890), p. 93.
- 159 ib. pp. 174-175.
- 160 *Griffith Valuation, Union of Tullamore, King's County*, p. 42.
- 161 ib. p. 146.

- o'molloy -

- 162 *King's County Directory* (1890), pp. 135, 151, 225, 232, 250.
163 *Burkes Peerage* (1911 ed.), p 1738.
164 *Burkes Landed Gentry* (1958 ed.), p 12.
165 ib. p. 135.
166 *Burkes Landed Gentry* (1958 ed.), p 118.
167 ib. p. 701.
168 Edward Mac Lysaght, *Irish Families* (1957), p. 226; Webb, *A Compendium of Irish Biography*, p. 404.
169 Webb, *A Compendium of Irish Biography*, p. 342; Crone, *A Concise Dictionary of Irish Biography*, p. 156.
170 Webb, *A Compendium of Irish Biography*, p. 342
171 Crone, *A Concise Dictionary of Irish Biography*, p. 156.
172 ib.
173 Davin, *The Irishman in Canada*, pp. 403-405.
174 *Who's Who 1919*, p. 1733.

- o'molloy -

CASTLES, CHURCHES & GRAVEYARDS OF FIRCEALL

TULLAMORE

On the edge of Tullamore is Sragh Castle, built in 1588. The original O'Molloy castle stood nearby. These lands were granted to the Moore family in 1620 under the Firceall Plantation. Susanna and Matilda O'Molloy who owned the Tullamore lands had mortgaged them to John Moore, son of an Elizabethan soldier settled at Croghan Hill under the Leix-Offaly Plantation of the 1570's. The Moores slowly developed the town in the 18th century until Charles Moore died without an heir in 1764, and the property passed to his sisters son Charles William Bury, later first Earl of Charleville. Under Lord Charleville's ownership the town expanded and developed in the early 19th century.

The origins of the town's most famous export, Tullamore Dew - the legendary Irish whiskey - can be traced back to 1829 when the Tullamore Distillery was founded by Michael Molloy. In 1887, following the death of Mr Molloy, the distillery passed into the hands of the Daly family with Captain Bernard Daly in charge of the business. Today the town is a thriving business centre.



- o'molloy -



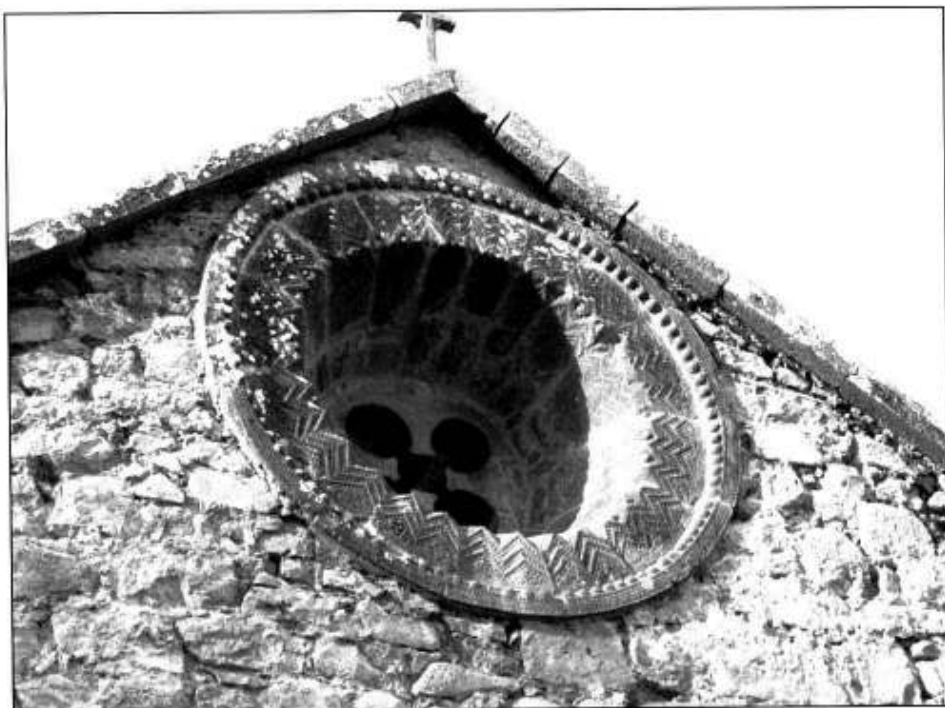
BALLYCOWAN CASTLE

The present Castle of Ballycowan is not the one from which the Barony was named, but a far more ancient one, whose site, there is every reason to suppose, is occupied by the house erected in 1626. This more ancient castle belonged to O'Molloy, Chief of Fercallia and not to the O'Dempseys, as Sir Charles Coote says without authority. It is mentioned by the Four Masters at the year 1557:-

"The Treasurer marched with an army into Feara-Ceall to revenge upon O'Molloy (Art) his protection of the Wood-Kerns and other rebels, and on this occasion the entire country, from the wood eastwards, was ravaged; Ballycowan (Baile Mhic Abhain) and Lynally, both houses and Churches, were burned, and Calvagh, the son of O'Molloy, was killed at the Ford of Glaisi (now Glash Bridge).

"He made a second incursion into the same country, burned

- o'molloy -



RAHAN

Rahan was founded in the 590's by a Kerryman named Carthage, son of Mochuda. He spent some time at Bangor, Co. Down and later at Lynally before St. Coleman advised him to build his own church at Rahan.

Carthage is reputed to have imposed a very strict way of life at Rahan. The monks could only eat their own vegetables and had to till the land by hand without using a plough. After only 30 years Carthage and his monks were expelled from Rahan following a dispute. The monastery was refounded in the 8th century by two brothers, Fidhmuine (died 757) and Fidhairle (died 763) Ua Suanaigh. Rahan then became known as Rahan Ua Suanaigh. The Muintir Luainimh, Ua Suanaigh or O'Kelly's seem to have been the original Fir Ceall or men of the churches - until the O'Molloys controlled Rahan at the beginning of the 11th century.

- o'molloy -

The annals record the numerous times that the Muintir Luainimh killed chiefs of the O'Molloys at the church of Rahan. In 1139 Muirceardach Ua Maelmhuaidh, lord of Feara Ceall, was burned by them in the church at Rahan; in 1156 Aedh, son of Donnchadh was killed at Inis Mochuda Raithne. In 1227 Simon Clifford, a Norman, built a castle on the church lands of Rahan, but the Normans only lasted in Firceall for about 100 years.

The O'Molloys known as the Sliocht Coilin became the new rulers of Rahan. In the middle ages the parishes of Eglis, Kilcormac, Rahan, Tullamore, Clara and Tubber were all part of the parish of Ardnurcher.

Ardnurcher, near Horseleap, was a Norman stronghold, and the Normans divided Meath into parishes. Rahan parish was created by Meiler Fitzhenry, grandson of Henry II. In 1421 Pope Martin V erected Lynally into a parish church, with the other churches of Firceall as auxiliary chapels.

The Molloy's lost much of their lands in Rahan and Lynally in the Firceall plantation of 1620. For their part in the Cromwellian and Confederacy wars they lost all their lands in the parish, to be restored only to 315 acres in 1666. By the end of the 17th century the senior branch of the family had died out. In 1798 Constantine Molloy, a Catholic yeoman, stood armed at Mucklagh chapel door to prevent orangemen who came to close it.

There are three churches at Rahan (1) the large Church of Ireland church which was rebuilt in 1732 around the remains of a Romanesque church (2) a small late medieval church nearby and (3) the basic remains of a medieval church in the corner of the cemetery. The larger church is one of the finest and most interesting churches in Ireland.

- o'molloy -

PALLAS

(Pailís Uí Mhaolmhuidh, O'Molloys Pallas)

Pallas consists of farm land, the ruins of an old castle, a small pool called Marlow's hole and Pallas Lake. Much of the lake today is shallow and overgrown with rushes. Pallas was once the stronghold of one of the leading families of the O'Molloys. When Theobald O'Molloy of Pallas died in 1633 his estate consisted of 647 acres plus the lake. His son Neal lost the estate in the Cromwellian confiscation. Subsequent owners were John Tilson, Arthur Hamilton and Maurice O'Connor. His grandson, Maurice Nugent O'Connor lost Pallas through bad debts to Joseph Leeson. He set Pallas to Malone. The family remained in Pallas until their mansion was unroofed by the 'Big Wind' in 1839. Michael Corcoran, a native of Rahan, lived there till 1890.

Pallas House was in its day a very fine building. The cut-stone surrounds of the doors and windows, together with those of Mount Pleasant were removed some years ago to build porches to the old church in Killeigh. The ancient fort of the O'Molloys was at the west end of the lake surrounded by two dykes. On a road map of 1777 the pub from which the area got its present name is shown at the S.W. angle of the cross. Inns, as hotels were called in those days usually had a sign rather than a name over their doors and that chosen by the innkeeper in Pallas was a ball painted blue and suspended from a pole, and so his inn was known by its sign -The Blueball. Also on the map of 1777 there is a church shown at the Cross, while in the map of 1912 shows the same church in ruins and on the opposite side of the road the Police barracks. There was a school in Pallas in 1824.



- o'molloy -



KILCORMAC

Kilcormac takes its name from a Corkman, Cormac Ua Liathain, who lived with St. Colmcille at Durrow abbey for a number of years. He replaced Colmcille as abbot of Durrow, and later established a quiet hermitage at Kilcormac where he came to pray. After Cormac's death Kilcormac declined until new monks arrived some 500 years later. The Kilcormac Missal was written in Kilcormac around the year 1300 which contains many references to prominent O'Molloys.

- o'molloy -

In 1420 Odo O'Molloy, son of the local chief Niall O'Molloy of Broughall Castle, founded a monastery for Carmelite Friars in Kilcormac. The founder died in 1454, and was buried in the friary church before the high altar. In 1536, two sons of Aedh O'Molloy, namely Aedh and Con, "were slain near the gate of the monastery of Kilcormac" but their remains were taken by force from the Abbey by Charles O'Molloy and his followers. In the same year is recorded the murder of two other sons of O'Molloy, John and Brian in Magheracuirne, Co. Westmeath. In 1567 the monastery was granted to Henry Cowley.

The lands were granted to Robert Leicester in 1604 and remained with that family until 1703 when Thomas Leicester forfeited them as a Jacobite. The Hollow Blade Co., Nottingham, became the next owners and they were succeeded by Isaac Stoney just before 1800.

The present church was built in 1867 and contains the wonderful 16th century pieta. In 1542 Charles O'Molloy, "Captain of his nation" died and was buried in the monastery of Kilcormac. In 1550 Con O'Molloy was given a lease for 21 years of the "site of the Priory of White Friars, of Kilcormac", at an annual rent of £3 6s 8d. He was the Prior of Durrow who had surrendered it to the Crown and died in 1563. Although O'Molloy had submitted in 1537, his son Art was later recognised as the new chief. In 1556 Art surrendered his lands to Queen Mary and was regranted them. His death is entered in the Kilcormac Missal, dated Nov. 1567. On Nov. 24th, 1568, Brother Rory O'More, one of the last of the White Friars of Kilcormac died.

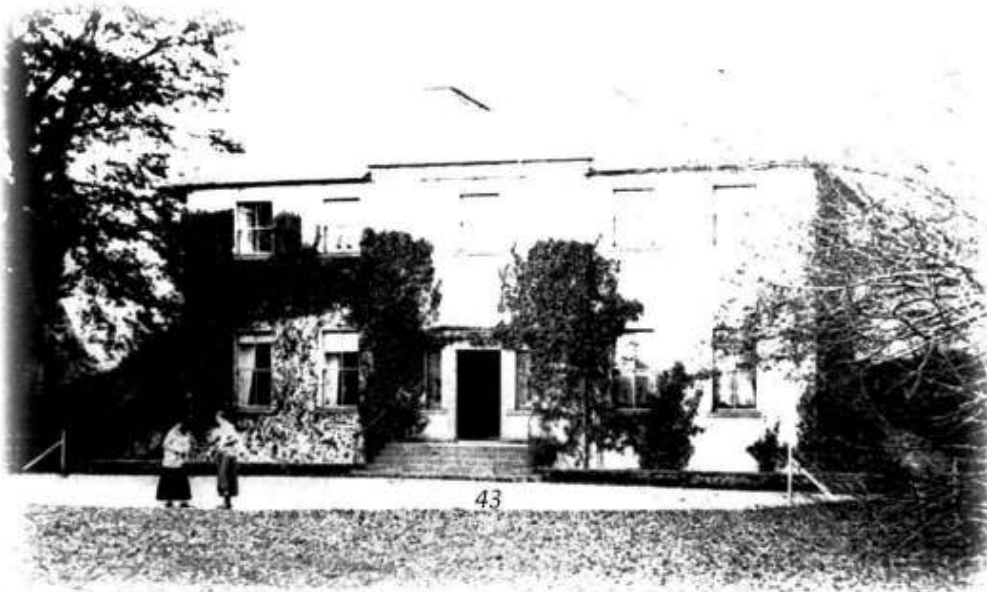
- o'molloy -

CLONBEALE

Clonbeale House was the last residence of the O'Molloy of Firceall. The Clonbeale line became the senior line when the male line of descent died out in the 17th century with brothers Arthur Molloy of Cappagolan, Ballyboy and Charles Molloy of Rathlyan. The Clonbeale line are descended from Art O'Molloy, father of Daniel Molloy of Clonbeale and Streamstown (Killyon).

The present house is believed to have been built about 1770 by John Molloy, and replaced an earlier two storey house which stood nearby. A fragment of the ruins of the previous house can still be seen in the large walled garden adjacent to the house. Clonbeale House is reached by a long elegant driveway. A gate lodge stood opposite the entrance, with a chalybeate spa well nearby on the roadside.

The O'Molloy family held ownership of Clonbeale (or Clonbela) into the 17th century and remained in occupation of Clonbeale House and estate until the 20th century. Daniel, son of Art Molloy, was granted his lands here following the Plantation of Firceall in 1620. However he was obliged to share Clonbeale with a newcomer, Nicholas Herbert, who was granted a large estate at nearby Killyon at this time, and Clonbeale subsequently became part of the Manor of Killyon. Nicholas Herbert's daughter Mary married Daniel Molloy of Streamstown and Clonbeale.



- o'molloy -

Nicholas Herbert, junior, was a Catholic who married a daughter of Terence Coghlan of Kilcolgan and the lands became part of the Coghlan estate about 1679. However the lands were forfeited and sold in 1704 when Terence Coghlan was outlawed for supporting James II. In 1724 the estate was bought by Anthony Malone of the Ballinahowan family, who leased Clonbeale to Edward Molloy in 1732. Edward Molloy also leased the Eglish Castle estate from Elinor Loftus at this time.

Edward died in 1754 leaving sons Daniel and John. John Molloy's son Daniel Molloy was very active in the local Famine Relief Committee when he helped establish a number of employment schemes to help relieve the severe distress among numerous poor families of the parish. The Clonbeale estate eventually came to Mary Molloy who married Captain Lewen Weldon.

After the Weldon family sold the house in the 1950's, the front portion of the existing house was demolished, when lead was stripped from the roof causing flooding. This accounts for the altered appearance of the house today, compared with earlier photographs. Clonbeale House is now home to Mr. Stephen and Mrs. June Powell.

- o'molloy -



GLISH

Eglish was a place of importance in the sixteenth century when it gave its name to the Barony of Eglish. A tower house castle was built here by the O'Molloy's on the banks of the Rapemills River and part of its ruined walls can still be seen today. The castle had a large dwelling house added to it in the late 17th century, with a further large addition at the rear built in the late 18th century. The castle was strategically sited on the main road between Ballyboy and Birr, and a settlement grew around the castle and church.

In 1532 the Earl of Kildare came to Eglish to help his relation, Ferganainm O'Carroll in a dispute with John O'Carroll. They took the castles at Killurin (near Geashill), Eglish and Ballindown (outside Birr). Eglish and nearby Dowras Castle were to remain in the ownership of the FitzGerald's, Earls of Kildare into the 17th century. In 1537 the English Viceroy Grey took the castles of Eglish, Birr and Broughal and compelled the O'Molloy to submit and join his army in attacking the O'Connors.

English settlers arrived to the parish following the 1620 plantation, but in the 1641 Rising most of them were forced to leave when Art O'Molloy was leader of

- o'molloy -

the Irish forces locally.

The present Eglish church dates from 1839. It replaced a church which is believed to have been situated close by. The earlier church had been in ruins following the 1641 rising, until it was levelled by Mrs Loftus who lived in the castle from 1714 to 1756. Mrs Loftus then brought a Bishop over from England to consecrate the grounds. The farm at Eglish was leased to Edward Molloy of Clonbeale by Mrs Ellinor Loftus.

Phelim Molloy held Eglish castle with Colonel Roger Moore for the Irish Confederate forces in 1642. He wrote an interesting letter to Captain William Parsons in which he offered to settle their differences by having 60 of his best men fight 100 of Parsons best men. The challenge was not accepted.

At nearby Mounthenry in the late 18th century was the home of John O'Molloy, or the Soogaun Chief, who wore a three cocked hat and a sword hanging from a belt made of hay (sugán). The Berry family lived in Eglish Castle from 1756 until William Berry, son of Francis Berry, sold the castle and estate under the Irish Land Acts in the early 20th century.

- o'molloy -

BALLYBOY

Ballyboy village lies at the centre of Firceall territory and for many years was an important town. The name of the village is 'Baile Atha Buidhe' or 'The Town of the Yellow Ford' as this was the only ford over the Silver River which runs through the town. The main road from Daingean to Birr ran through Ballyboy.

Saint Brigid is believed to have founded a convent near Abbey Rath in Ballyboy about the year 500AD, shortly before the arrival of the O'Molloy's as rulers of Firceall. Over 60 townlands in Ballyboy were ruled by the O'Molloy's until the arrival of Cromwell in 1650. The Normans built a motte at Abbey Rath in Ballyboy sometime before 1268.



Ballyboy was ruled by the O'Molloys from about 600AD to 1600. In 1600 Hugh O'Neill and in 1601 Red Hugh O'Donnell and their armies passed through Ballyboy.

After their role in the 1641 Rising the O'Molloy's were outlawed and lost their lands but the residents of Ballyboy escaped ruin by hiding in caves in the ground. They also managed to save a statue of Spanish origin, which was in the church. Locals hid the pieta in the bog where it remained for 60 years. The only man remaining alive who knew its whereabouts had to be carried, on his death bed, to point out where to dig. It was safely recovered in perfect condition and remains in Kilcormac church today. Lands in the barony of Ballyboy came to be owned by William Petty who organised the Down Survey.

Ballyboy had its own mint for a time. A coin found at Abbey Rath dates back to Rob Hutchinson of Ballyboy in 1668. In the 18th century Ballyboy became a good trading town. Merchants, tanners, blacksmiths, millers, wheelrights, carpenters, bakers, nailers and hatters were all found here.

The Great Famine of 1847-49 depleted the population of Ireland to less than half. Ballyboy was no exception. Before there were 400, after 219. The graveyard however provides an invaluable record of the families who lived in the area.

- o'molloy -

RATHLINE

This site contains the ruins of an medieval church surrounded by a well tended graveyard, a Norman motte and an Elizabethan castle of the O'Molloys.

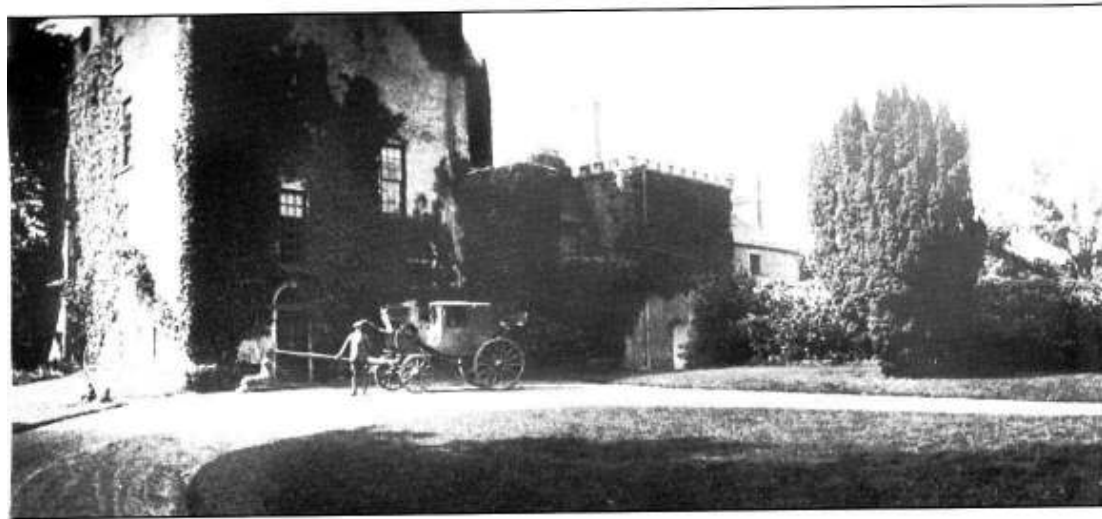
The monastery was founded here by St. Illand about the year 540. Rathline Castle was an O'Molloy stronghold owned by Connell O'Molloy in 1615 and by Charles Molloy in the 1650's.

Colonel Art O'Molloy of the Confederate army held Rathline in 1642. He was partly restored at the Restoration of King Charles II. The Briscoe family of Screggan subsequently held Rathline. The headless body of Father Molloy, who was hanged at Daingean in the 17th century was found here a few years ago.

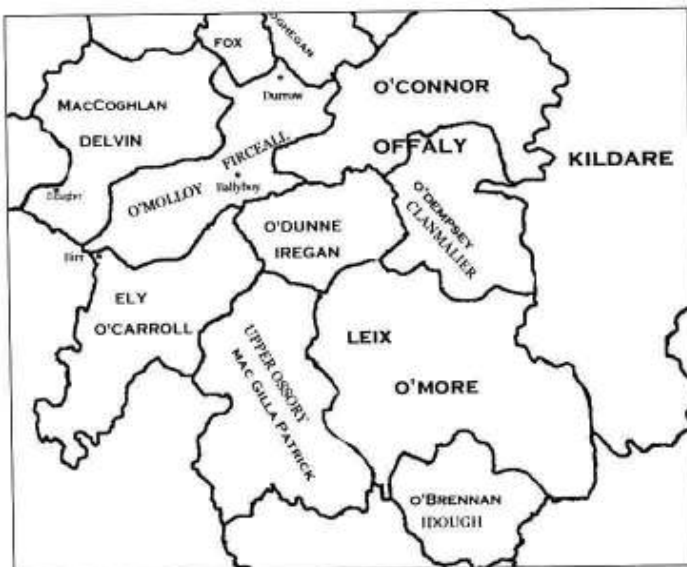


- o'molloy -

BROUGHAL CASTLE



MAP OF FIRCEALL & SURROUNDING CLAN DOMAINS



- o'molloy -

JAMES LYNAM MOLLOY (1837 - 1909)

James Lynam Molloy (1837 - 1909) was one of the 19th century's most gifted Irish songwriters. Born in Cornalaur, Rahan, which is near Tullamore, King's County, Ireland in 1837. He was well known there and wrote a number of idiomatic works in his homeland that reached high levels of popularity including *The Old Cottage Clock*, *Bantry Bay* and *The Kerry Dance*. Few of Molloy's works reached hit status in the US save his crowning achievement, *Love's old Sweet Song*, written when Molloy was nearly 60. Unfortunately, much of Molloy's music is lost to us today though copies are still undoubtedly to be found in attics and piano benches around the world.



If proof is needed of the contention that a prophet is never honoured in his own country, look no further than Ireland and County Offaly. "*James Lynam Molloy? Ah yes,*" they'll tell you in Tullamore or Clara, "*now that you mention it he wrote some songs and came from these parts.*" With many that's the sum total of their knowledge. Move outside the county boundary and the name Molloy will generate little more than a slack jaw and a vacant stare.

But try naming a song or two, and what a transformation! '*The Kerry Dance*', '*Love's Old Sweet Song*', '*Bantry Bay*' and '*Thady O'Flynn*' are among those sent lilting down the years by this son of Offaly, part of whose youth was spent among the green pastures and murmuring streams of midland Ireland. Here where the Molloy's had held sway for centuries and are still as numerous as shells on a seashore were sown the seeds of a rare talent that endowed the world of music with many unforgettable melodies.

The family from which he sprang was the senior branch of the O'Molloys, one-time princes of Fearceall, whose territory lay in the west of the county in the looming shadow of the Slieve Bloom. They were a warlike people, and surviving reminders of their turbulent past are the ruined castles of Broughal and Derrydolney, both within a few miles of Kilcormac. The Molloy's are also remembered for the splendour of their hospitality. At Broughal Castle during the sixteenth century they entertained one thousand of their followers for Christmas. But the immediate family of our Offaly composer is linked particularly with two other locations in the county - Clara and Rahan.

When James Lynam Molloy died in 1909, his death certificate stated that the event

- o'molloy -

occurred at Woolleys, that the cause of death was pernicious anaemia, and that the signature of the informant was that of Florence Molloy his widow. In Ireland his death went virtually unnoticed, but the London Times recorded it in a two-paragraph report....

"James L. Molloy, who died at his residence, Woolleys, Hambleden, Bucks., on February 4, in his 72nd year, was well known in musical circles, and wrote some charming music for many of the German Reed productions in the seventies - 'My Aunt's Secret', 'Very Catching' and others by Sir Francis Burnand. He was also war correspondent for one of the London dailies during the Franco-Prussian War, and was for some time in Paris during the first siege by the Germans."

"He wrote, among others, a delightful account of a roving trip in France entitled Our Autumn Holiday on French Rivers, 1873, which ran into several editions and is still a reference book to the Seine and the Loire. He was an accomplished French scholar, and a "bon camarade", in every sense of the term, and many of his old friends will mourn his loss".

The same paper on February 22nd 1909, included in a list of wills the information....

"Mr. James Lynam Molloy of Woolleys, Hambleden, Bucks, and of Cornclaire, (sic) King's County, Ireland, barrister-at-law, better known as a song composer, formerly a war correspondent during the Franco-Prussian War, who died on February 4, aged 71, left estate valued at £2,030...."

"Considering the universal popularity of his songs, which have been sung wherever our language is spoken", commented The Globe newspaper, "it is not going too far to describe James Molloy as a famous composer. There is not a single British home we would venture to say which boasts a piano and singer which a few years ago did not know "Love's Old Sweet Song". It had just the right combination of melody and sentiment, and easy enough to singer and accompanist to become a general favourite."

Surprisingly brief in view of Molloy's background was the Irish Times note of his death on the day following the event. *"Of late years his vogue had declined very much in favour of songs of a more ambitious and often less melodious type", it ran, "but many of his earlier compositions will last as long as ballad concerts are held".*

- o'molloy -

DECEASED MEMBERS

Dr FRANK J. MILLOY

The late Dr Frank J. Milloy was greatly interested in the history of the O'Molloy clan and in discovering his O'Molloy roots which he was able to trace back to the 18th century. He attended the first O'Molloy Clan Rally in 2005 and was always supportive of the activities of the O'Molloy Association. He was also a life member of OHAS in Tullamore and corresponded with historians in Ireland who shared his area of genealogical research. He was a quiet, pleasant, educated man who will always be remembered with affection by those who met him on his visits to Ireland. Members of Dr. Frank's extended family attended the O'Molloy Rally in 2008 and were delighted to visit Drumcullen, Eglish, Clonbeale and other O'Molloy locations.



Dr. Frank was able to trace his roots back to his great great grandfather, one Patrick Mulloy who was born in Drumcullen parish on 17th March 1792. On the 8th August 1807 at the age of 15 Patrick joined The Third Foot Guards or 'The Buffs' regiment who were then stationed in barracks at Clononey near Cloghan, approximately 8 miles from Drumcullen. He saw service at the battles of Nivalle, Rive and Toulouse in France and was discharged on the Isle of Wight, UK on the 5th March 1816 on medical grounds. He had impaired vision and a gunshot wound which he had received at Vieux Moguire, France in December 1813. His military records state that he had always maintained the character of a good and deserving soldier.

In 1820 he married Catharine Gray who was born in Ireland (location unknown) and they had two children born in Ireland; John born in 1829 and Patrick born in 1831. It has been passed down orally in the family that Patrick got a job as a footman in the Gray household and after the marriage to Catherine she was disowned by her family. This would explain why the family emigrated to Ontario, Canada in 1832 where he got a veterans land grant from the Governor of Canada in view of his military service.

Patrick and Catherine had a further three children born in Canada; Peter born in 1833, Ann born in 1837 and Catherine born in 1840. The family later moved to Markham near Toronto, Canada where Patrick operated a store for 10 years. In 1851 Patrick bought a farm in Emily township, Ontario 'for 68 pounds of lawful money'.

- o'molloy -

Catherine died at Downeyville, Ontario in 1853 and Patrick died suddenly in 1865 after eating a large meal.

About 1860 the spelling of the surname changed from Mulloy to Milloy when, according to family tradition, Patrick registered for his military pension, and his name was spelt Milloy by the Scottish official who recorded it. This version of the name has since been retained by his descendants.

Dr. Frank's great grandfather was John Mulloy, born in 1829, and his grandfather was Arthur Mulloy born in 1864. The family Christian names such as Patrick, Arthur, John and Catherine are popular in the Molloy family, and can be found in Molloy families of the period in the Killyon area of Drumcullen. The family were and are strongly Catholic to this day.

Brian Pey, August 2011

Milloy, Dr. Frank Joseph Jr. Dr. Frank Joseph Milloy Jr., a prominent thoracic surgeon in the Chicago area, died on March 3 in his Glencoe home after a short illness. He was 86 years old, a devout Catholic, avid history lover, staunch supporter of Ireland, and lifelong bachelor who was loved by many friends and colleagues. Dr. Milloy was born on June 26, 1924, and was the son of gastroenterologist Dr. Frank Joseph Milloy Sr. and Ola S. (McCabe). He enrolled at Notre Dame University in South Bend, Indiana, just before the U.S. entered World War II. After graduating with a BS in 1946, Frank entered his father's alma mater, Northwestern University in Evanston, where he received an MS in 1949 and an MD in 1948. He started his military service in 1942 when he joined the U.S. Navy Reserves, was an apprentice Navy seaman from 1943-45, and worked his way up to Lieutenant Commander in the Navy's medical corps. He was discharged in 1953 after serving in the Philippine Islands during the Korean War. Dr. Milloy was an intern at Cook County Hospital from 1947 to 1949 and resident from 1953 to 1957. From 1956 to 1960, he served as Asst. Chief of Surgery at a TB Sanitarium on Taylor St. Dr. Milloy was also an attending physician at Presbyterian-St. Lukes Hospital; a member of the staff at University Illinois Research Hospital, clinical associate professor of surgery at University Illinois Medical School; and associate professor of surgery at Rush Medical School. In 1968 he went on his own and joined the staffs of Mercy Hospital, Highland Park Hospital and Lake Forest Hospital. He retired in 1992 but

- o'molloy -

continued writing articles and chapters on the history of Chicago medicine, most recently about Cook County Hospital. He was a member and leader of several organizations, including American College of Surgeons (member); Society Medical History Chicago (president); Cook County Hospital Surgical Alumni Association; Karl Meyer Surgical Society (secretary); Warren Cole Surgical Society (past secretary); Illinois Thoracic Surgical Society (past president); Society Thoracic Surgeons; Am. College Chest Physicians; International Society Surgery; Chicago Surgical Society; Univ. Club (Chicago); Metropolitan Club; Knights of Malta, and Phi Beta Pi. Dr. Milloy is survived by extended family, god-children, and many close lifelong friends. Visitation will be Tuesday, March 8, 9 a.m. until time of funeral Mass at 10 a.m. at Saint John Cantius Parish, 825 North Carpenter Street, Chicago. Interment will follow at Ascension Cemetery in Libertyville. Arrangements by Wm. H. Scott Funeral Home.

- o'molloy -

- o'molloy -

