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# Parliamentary representation for County Tipperary, 1560-1800

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By Michael O'Donnell

## Part 4

### Biographical Details

[Names in italics are themselves the subjects of biographies]

**CLEARE, John.** (MP Fethard, 1727/53).

John Cleare of Kilburry, Cloneen was elected to represent the borough of Fethard on 27 September 1727. According to the Fethard corporation books both he and *Mathew Jacob* were unanimously chosen by all the burgesses and freemen present.

John Cleare had been sworn as a burgess of Fethard's corporation on 10 June 1718 and had been admitted as freeman of Cashel's corporation in 1713. Following a contested election for the position of sovereign of Fethard's corporation, Cleare was sworn to that office on 7 September 1720. He was again elected sovereign for the years 1742/43 and when the then sovereign for 1753 died in office Cleare acted in that position until the next election. Between 1720 and his death in 1753 Cleare took an active part in the affairs of Fethard's corporation, attending something like 55 meetings.

John Cleare was the only surviving son of *Colonel Thomas Cleare* and Esther his wife and was probably born in the 1680s. Two of his brothers died in December 1691, one aged 11 and the other 9 years. Both are buried with their father in Holy Trinity Church, Fethard.

John married Margaret Clutterbuck. The marriage agreement between John Cleare and Margaret Clutterbuck (a daughter of Rev. Laurence Clutterbuck of Derryluskan, Fethard; and possibly John Cleare's second marriage) was dated 19/20 July 1730. John's only child, Mary (marriage licence dated 28 June 1754), married William Parsons, whose descendants became in time Earls of Rosse.

Following the passing of an act of the Irish parliament the Cleare estate in south Tipperary passed to the Parsons family, but this proved to be more a burden than a benefit as John Cleare left debts close to £6,000. The extent of the Cleare property is given in the act, which received the royal assent on 29 April 1758 and which vested the lands in Sir William Parsons to help pay the outstanding debts. It records "the lands of Gortnepishy and Clorane, Cloneen, Ballyhomuck, Kilburry, Milestown, Beaverstown, a yearly rent charge or fee-farm rent of forty pounds Sterling, issuing and going out of the lands of Cappaghmagarrane, five houses or tenements in the town of Clonmel, and the remainder or reversion of the town and lands of Lismortagh and Rathmooly... and the town and lands of Lawlesstown."

In the House of Commons Cleare served actively on various committees between 1727 and 1743, but for the last ten years of his life his name was not mentioned in the Journals of the House.

John Cleare died on 10 March 1754 and his will, dated 8 July 1753, was proved on 22 June 1754.

[Rev. Walter Skehan, 'Fethard's corporation, etc.,' *Ir. Geneal.*, 4:88; 5th Report DKPRI, appendix, pp. 59, 60, 64, 66, 80; *Fethard Corporation minute books*, NLI Ms. 5858, ff153, 163/67, 205/06, 240, and NLI Ms. 5859, ff.23/24, 27; *Commons Jnl.(Ire.)*, 5:729, 6:154 & 412, 9:259, 10:414 & 861/64; Rev. W.P. Burke, *History of Clonmel*, (Waterford, 1907), 228, 437; *Burke's Peerage*, 1912, at Earls of Rosse; *Betham's Marriage Licence Abstracts*, NAI Ms. BET4/12, 68; RD10/359/3831, 48/141/30963, 48/162/31052, 94/389/66827, 100/363/70812; Edith Johnston-Liik(ed), *History of the Irish Parliament, 1692-1800*, (Belfast, 2002), 3:435 .].

**CLEARE, Colonel Thomas.** (MP Fethard, 1692/93).

Colonel Thomas Cleare of Kilburry, Cloneen, was elected to represent Fethard's corporation on 1 October 1692.

Colonel Thomas was the eldest son of Lieutenant Thomas Cleare who had come to Ireland from Ormsby in Norfolk, probably with the Cromwellian army. In time Lieut. Thomas acquired lands at Killaghy near Mullinahone. He is recorded as being extremely active in hunting down 'raparees' and other such malefactors in the lawless Ireland of his day. Following the restoration of the monarchy (1660) Lieut. Thomas handsomely changed his political coat. Soon after he was described as actively promoting 'his Majesty's service' in south Tipperary. By the terms of the Act of Settlement (1662) he received over 400 statute acres about Beverstown and Ballyduggan in the Mullinahone area. At this period he was living at Killaghy Castle, Mullinahone; later he sold this and, on 29 September 1693, acquired lands at Cappagh, Keilemekevong and Kilburry near Drangan.

Lieut. Thomas married Hanna, whose surname is not known (according to Tipperary Palatinate records Hanna was alive in September 1693), and had three sons: Colonel Thomas, the MP above, Henry, who was a merchant at Clonmel, and Joseph of Rathmooly near Killenaule. Of the three sons, Joseph (who died 17 April 1703) had two sons (of whom Lockyer is principally mentioned in records) and three daughters; but by 1740 the daughter Elizabeth was the only surviving member; in time Joseph's property pass to *John Cleare*, the MP above. The second son, Henry of Mary Street, Clonmel (died in 1718), had two sons Henry and Thomas, both of whom died unmarried; on their death Henry's property passed again to *John Cleare*.

Lieut. Thomas married secondly (marriage licence dated 11 July 1696) Patience Stone of Castletown, parish of Kildraught, Co. Kildare, but he had no children by this second marriage. Lieut. Thomas died on 13 January 1706.

The third son of Lieut. Thomas, Colonel Thomas Cleare the MP above, served in the army of William III in 1690 during that monarch's campaign in Ireland. It is quite likely that Cleare was a professional soldier. At the time he seems to have been in some need of money because he requested that he be allowed to sell the horses he had captured from Colonel Parker's troopers in 1690. On 26 February 1698 he acquired lands at Ballyduggan and Poulacapple near Mullinahone. In September 1702 the Duke of Ormonde leased him 640 statute acres at Miltown near Cloneen at an annual rent of £35. 2s. 5d.

During the parliamentary session of 1692/93 Cleare served on one committee only. He sought re-election to the parliament of 1695, but was defeated by *Thomas Carter*. Though Cleare petitioned against his rival he eventually withdrew his plea without it having come to a resolution in parliament.

Colonel Thomas married Esther (again, her surname is not known). They had children, two of whom, Thomas and Esther, died young. The only surviving child was *John Cleare*, the MP above. Colonel Thomas Cleare died on 9 January 1706 and was buried with his children in Holy Trinity Church of Ireland church at Fethard.

[5th Report DKPRI, appendix 3, pp.44, 45, 47; 6th Report DKPRI, appendix, p76; Rev. Walter Skehan, 'Fethard Corporation, etc.,' *Ir. Geneal.*, 4:88; Laffan, *Tipperary Families, etc.*, (Dublin, 1911), 34, 131; *Records of Ireland*, 1816/20, 181, 249/300; H. Gallwey, 'Tobin Family, etc.' *Ir. Geneal.*, 5:193; Rev. W.P. Burke, *Collections Relating to Clonmel*, ii, 245, Burke Mss., Mount Melleray, Cappoquin; Rev. W.P. Burke, *History of Clonmel*, (Waterford, 1907), 437/38; H.A.S. Upton, 'A List of the Governors and Deputy Governors of Counties in Ireland in 1699', *Jour.RSAI*, 55:36; Rev. J.A. Knowles, *Fethard and its Abbey, etc.*, 152/54; *Comms. Jnl. (Ire.)*, ii(1796), 583, 647, 678; *Betham's Marriage Licence Abstracts*, NAI Ms. BET4/18, 37; Seamus Pender, 'Census' of Ireland, 1659, (Dublin, 1939), 296.]

**CONWAY, Denis.** (MP Cashel, 1585/86).

Denis Conway, a member for the newly-created borough of Cashel, was elected in April 1585. In parliament he probably represented the Earl of Ormond's interests because he was one of the Tipperary members who opposed the passing of the Act of Attainder on the Earl of Desmond.

Among the list of jurors for Cashel in 1551 was David Conwey who may have been the father of Denis above. An undated scrap of a Chancery Bill records 'Dionise Conway, burgess' as executor to the will of Patrick Conway of Cashel. In the year 1581, according to the State Papers, a Denis Conway was sent by the lord deputy to Bristol to arrange the transportation and victualling of 300 soldiers due in Ireland. The soldiers were being forwarded to Munster. Elsewhere we read that in 1583 Denis Conway was one of Her Majesty's [Elizabeth 1] pensioners and that he was receiving substantial payments to compensate for expenses that were not specified.

In 1640 a Patrick Conway had 34 statute acres in the parish of St. Patrick's Rock, Cashel; and in the same year a George Conway held 457 statute acres at Templenoe in the parish of Boytonrath which had been mortgaged by Theobald Butler of Ardmayle long before that date. In 1654 Patrick was restored to 11 acres, 1 rood and 39 perches statute measure at Francis Abbey, parish of St. Patrick's Rock, Cashel. The will of this Patrick, dated 1660, mentions brother Francis and aunt Sarah.

[NA, *Chancery Bills*, K. 14; *Cal. SPI*, 1574/85, 298, 306, 310, 461; *Cal. SPI*, 1585/88, 53; *Ormond Deeds*, 5:60; *Civil Survey*, 1654/56, Co. Tipperary, (Dublin, 1931), i, 227, 238; *Betham's Will Abstracts*, NAI Ms. BET1/9, 94].

**CROKER, John.** (MP Fethard, 1768/76).

John Croker of Ballyneguarde (the 2-storied house was built in 1774), Ballyneety, Co. Limerick was elected to represent the borough of Fethard, having purchased his seat. The poll opened on Thursday 21 July 1768 and closed on 23 July. Both John Croker and his running-mate, *Cornelius O'Callaghan*, requested the attendance of all their friends in Fethard to cast their vote and help in the poll. The advertisement, dated 13 July 1768, noted that "carriages will be provided in Dublin at the Ram Inn in Aungier Street; in Corke at the New Inn on Hammond's-marsh; In Limerick at the Garter; and in Kilkenny at the Sheaf; and proper persons in each place will be appointed to attend." It is recorded that Croker "Came in here by the interest of his mother's sister, Mrs. Clutterbuck [of Derryluskan, Fethard], he had also the Pennefather interest as he is married to a daughter of Coll. Pennefathers [of Cashel] who has also a good interest in this Borough". It should be noted that ten members of the great Croker family were freemen of Fethard's corporation. And he was an intimate friend of Sir Henry Cavendish, who was married to his aunt; Croker seems also to have represented the Prittie interest in parliament.

The earliest recorded member of the Croker family in Ireland was an Edward Croker of Rawleighstown, Co. Limerick, who was reputed to be the third son of John Croker of Trevillas, Cornwall. Edward, who was killed in the rising of 1641, married and had an heir. However, the tombstone of John of Rawleighstown, who died in 1717 and is buried at Fedamore, notes that he was the great-grandson of John Croker of Lynham in Devon. Writing in 1681, Thomas Dineley tells us that the Croker family were corn merchants in Limerick city.

As noted above, John Croker of Rawleighstown died in 1717; he was succeeded by his eldest son, Edward, who married, on 10 December 1679, Mary Buckner and had family. He died in 1732. Edward was succeeded by his son John who seemed to have been the first to reside at Ballyneguarde. This John was MP for the borough of Kilmallock in 1723/27, but was unsuccessful in the election of 1727. He married, on 7 January 1703, Anne the daughter of Andrew Richards and had Edward, Richard, Andrew and John, among others. He died on 6 November 1751 aged 69 years, and his will has been published. The eldest son, Edward (born 25 November 1706), married Elizabeth the daughter Henry Prittie of Kilboy, Co. Tipperary. The marriage settlement was dated 20 October 1726. Edward and Elizabeth had three sons and three daughters. Elizabeth Prittie had sisters married to Sir Richard Meade and Sir Henry Cavendish (who had been admitted a freeman of Fethard's corporation in 1743); and her sister, Margaret, was married to Laurence Clutterbuck of Derryluskan, Fethard, which would have given Croker a connection with Fethard's corporation since various members of the Clutterbuck family had been, and were, burgesses on the corporation. Edward Croker died in 1780 aged 74 years.

The eldest son of Edward Croker and Elizabeth Prittie was John the MP above. He was born on 6 April 1730 at Kilboy House the home of Elizabeth. At the age of fifteen years (in 1745) John junior was admitted a freeman of Fethard's corporation, but there seems to be no record of his educational attainments and he does not appear to have entered Trinity College, Dublin. On 29 September 1753 he was admitted a freeman of Cashel's corporation.

John Croker married Mary (some sources call her Sarah) the eldest daughter of *Richard Pennefather* of New Park, Cashel. The marriage licence was dated 18 April 1753. They had five sons, Edward, Richard, John, William and Henry (died April 1762), and three daughters, Sarah, Charity (who married into the O'Grady family of Co. Limerick as did her brother John), and Eliza. The eldest son, Edward, inherited Ballyneguarde and in time married Margaret Anne the daughter or Richard Hare of Co. Kerry.

At the beginning of his parliamentary career John Croker reflected the mood of the Tipperary electorate which was one of opposition to the Dublin Castle government. In November 1773 the freeholders (the electorate) of Tipperary held a meeting at Nenagh at which they expressed their distaste for those pensioners, placemen and members of parliament who accepted government office. But then, in 1763, Croker had inherited his uncle Richard's estate and was probably independent of the need to curry government favour. Despite the lord Lieutenant, Lord Townshend, giving his son an Ensigncy in the army, Croker was still being described as unsteady in his support of government policy. According to a 1774 newspaper report: "This gentleman will not meet his Electors well pleased with his conduct, his successor at Feathard is already nominated." The pro-government borough owners were not happy with his conduct. He was not re-elected to the new parliament. The only record to him in the Journals of the House is reference to his poor attendance.

John Croker died on 11 February 1795.

[BIFR, 295; BLG(1871), i, 301; BLGI(1904), 122; T.U. Sadleir, 'Kilboy Mss., etc.' *Anal. Hib.*, 12:138; 'Abstracts of Wills', *Ir. Ancestor*, 14:122; Dymoke's column in *Freeman's Journal*, 30 July 1774; M. Bodkin, 'Notes on the

Irish Parliament in 1773', *Proc.RIA*, 48C:124; Hunt, *Irish Parliament of 1775*, (Dublin, 1907), 15; D. Large, 'The Irish House of Commons in 1769', *I.H.S.*, 11:31; P.B. Eustace(ed.), *Registry of Deeds, Dublin. Abstracts of Wills*, (Dublin, 1954), 2:48/49; G.O. Intestates, NLI Ms. 257:60; Burtchaell & Sadleir, *Alumni Dublinenses*; Rev. W. Skehan, 'Fethard corporation, etc.', *Ir. Geneal.*, 4:620; Mark Bence-Jones, *Burke's Guide to Country Houses: Ireland*, 1:25; G.O. Fisher Mss., NLI, Ms.142:48; 'The family of Croker', *The Herald & Genealogist*, 8(1874), 377/91; Edith Johnston-Liik (ed.), *History of the Irish Parliament, 1692-1800*, (Belfast, 2002), 3:543/44; *Memorials of the Dead*, 12:335; *Betham's Genealogical Abstracts*, NLI G.O. Ms.269(ix), 272 ].

**DAMER, Joseph.** (MP Co. Tipperary, 1735/36).

Joseph Damer of Roscrea and Mount Eccles, Dublin, was elected to represent the county on 3 November 1735. Following his election, *James Dawson*, who had put his name forward for election at the same time, complained to parliament of "an undue election and return". However, without having the problem discussed and resolved, Dawson withdrew his objection on 13 December. In his short period as a county representative there is no record in the Commons Journals of Damer having participated in any committee work. He was elected to represent the Mathew/Catholic interest in the county.

The first of this family to appear in Ireland, Joseph Damer, was born in Dorsetshire, England, in 1630. His father was John Damer of Godmanston, Dorset, who was born in 1602, and in 1628 married Elizabeth the daughter of Rev. William Maber. John and Elizabeth had six sons and one daughter, of whom Joseph was the eldest. Joseph is reputed to have been a prominent supporter of Cromwell and so following the Restoration of Charles II he decided that Dublin might be a safer place to live. He set up in the money-lending business in Fishamble Street where he prospered. In time he purchased an estate in the parishes of Shronell, Lattin and Bruis in west Tipperary, where he was joined by the elder son of his youngest brother, George (born 1644, died 1730).

This George had married Sarah the daughter of Richard Fowler of Dorset and had two sons, John (born 1674) and Joseph (born 1676), and a daughter Elizabeth. As John inherited his uncle's property in 1719 and was admitted a freeman of Fethard's corporation sometime before 1720, he was in Ireland by then.

Joseph senior died wealthy and unmarried in 1720 and was memorialised by Jonathan Swift who detested all moneylenders and especially Joseph Damer: "Know all men by these presents, Death the tamer/ By mortgage hath secured the soul of Damer;/ Nor can four hundred thousand sterling pound/ Redeem him from his prison underground/". Did the Dean, one wonders, have his request for a loan sharply rebuffed? But the writer of his obituary in the Dublin papers of the day treated Damer kindlier: "...and though his fortune was all his own acquiring, I believe, that it was got honestly. His purse was open to all he believed to be honest or where he thought his money secure. He never took more than common interest and very rarely that." Incidentally, Cashel's corporation obtained a loan of £30 from him on 8 October 1683. In his will, dated 16 January 1719, Joseph Damer left his property to his nephew John the son of George.

On inheriting John set about improving his uncle's fortune and estates. He gave his address as Tipperary town when, in October 1722, he purchased the town of Roscrea and 4,645 statute acres lying about it for £22,000.

In 1724 John Damer made an unsuccessful marriage with Margaret the eldest daughter of Andrew Roe of Roesborough, Tipperary. There were no children and they lived apart. John died on 13 August 1768 aged 94 years.

Meanwhile John's only brother, Joseph, the MP above, who was born in 1676 at Came on the

outskirts of Dorchester, had married Mary the daughter of John Churchill of Henbury in Dorset on 9 December 1714. They spent their early years at Came and had three sons, Joseph, John (this may have been the John who was MP for Portarlington, 1761/68 and Swords, 1768/76), and George, and two daughters Mary and Martha.

About 1730 Joseph and his family came to Ireland. Andrew Crotty of London wrote to Henry Boyle in Ireland on 5 September 1730 as follows: 'Newly gone over Mr. Joseph Damer, brother to John of Tipperary, to reside in Ireland. It is so much the interest and seems to be the inclination of both brothers to cherish the public interest of that country that it's scarce to be doubted, and Joseph having served in the last Parliament for the town of Dorchester.' In March 1731 John released to him the town and all the lands of Roscrea where Joseph built a fine house on the site of a Butler castle. In Ireland his daughter Mary married, in 1737 shortly after the death of her father, William Henry Dawson of Dawson's Court, Queen's Co.; and in time their descendants were to inherit the Damer fortune and to squander it.

Joseph, as noted, took his seat in the Irish House of Commons on 1 December 1735, but he did not long enjoy his success. He died on 1 March 1737 and was buried at Came where he was born. His wife Mary Churchill outlived him and did not die until 1755.

Joseph Damer and Mary Churchill had five children, the eldest of whom was Joseph. A daughter, Mary, married William Henry Dawson of Dawson's Court, Queen's Co., whose descendants eventually inherited the Damer property.

Joseph the eldest son of Joseph and Mary Churchill was born on 12 March 1718. On 27 July 1742 he married Caroline Sackville the only surviving daughter of Lionel, Duke of Dorset and had three sons and one daughter. In time he made a career for himself in English politics. By a patent dated 3 July 1753 he was created Baron Milton of Shronehill and took his seat in the Irish House of Lords. He was conferred with a peerage in Great Britain in 1762 with the title of Baron Milton of Milton Abbey, Dorset. He was created Earl of Dorchester on 15 May 1792. Joseph died on 12 February 1798 at Mayfair, London, having in his lifetime inherited his father's property in England and Ireland and that of his uncle, John, when the latter died in 1768. His sons, one of whom committed suicide in 1776 and both of whom helped in the squandering of a great estate, had no children of their own and so the Damer name and property passed to the Dawson family who by now had become Earls of Portarlington and lived in the beautiful Emo Court.

[D.G. Marnane, *Land and Violence*, (Tipperary, 1985), 11/12, 25; John Lodge, *Peerage of Ireland*, 7:72/75; Michael & Liam O'Dwyer, *The Parish of Emly*, (Emly, 1987), 54; NAI *Index to Prerogative Wills*; Rev. W.P. Burke, *History of Clonmel*, (Waterford, 1907), 294; Thomas P. Power, *Land, Politics, and Society in Eighteenth-Century Tipperary*, (Oxford, 1993), 222/23; *Comms. Jnl.(Ire.)*, 6:465/683; Rev. John Hutchins, *The History and Antiquities of the County of Dorset*, (London, 1861/70), iv, 387; Patrick Buckley & Gerard Riordan, *History of a Tipperary Parish: Lattin & Cullen*, (no place or date), chapter vi; *Betham's Will Abstracts*, NAI Ms.BET1/18, 61, and BET1/17, 59; *Finn's Leinster Journal*, 20/24 Aug. 1768; RD36/127/21789 and 104/325/73198; *Shannon Papers*, PRONI, D2707/A/1/2.].

**DAWSON, James.** (MP Co. Tipperary, 1703/13, 1713).

James Dawson of Ballynacourty, west Tipperary, was first elected to represent the county on 9 September 1703; and was again elected on 29 October 1713. He appears not to have contested the election of 1715. He was elected for the county in the return held in the autumn of 1727, but a Commons committee overturned the result and *George Mathew* obtained the seat.

In parliament Dawson appears not to have been an active committee man, but on 21 May 1709 he presented a petition to the House of Commons requesting financial aid to help make

the river Suir navigable from Clonmel to Thurles. A committee, which sat to examine his proposal, decided that the river could be opened to traffic from Goldenbridge and Ardfinnan (not Thurles) to Carrick-on-Suir at a projected cost of £1,000. The committee gave leave for the preparation of bill which in the fulness of time became an act of parliament, but this worthy undertaking appears never to have been implemented.

John Dawson was the first of this family to appear in Ireland and he seems to have come as a 1640s Adventurer. He may have come from Southerly in Lincolnshire because in the marriage settlement between his grandson, John, and Ellinor Southcote, dated 13/14 April 1719, there is mention of lands at that place. Following the Act of Settlement in the 1660s all John's property in the barony of Clanwilliam was confirmed to him. John also benefitted through the Duke of Ormonde's financial and political problems in that he was able to move from being the Duke's tenant to being a landowner in his own right. Administration of his property was dated 11 February 1691 and granted to his son James, the MP above. So John was dead before that date. James, when he succeeded, also added to the Dawson estate by purchase.

The date of birth of James Dawson is not known, nor is the date of his marriage to Ann Buckworth (probably daughter of *Richard Buckworth* of Cashel and Annie Carr) who died in 1735. In the administration of her goods, dated 10 December 1735, Ann records "James Dawson her lawful husband" which may have significance because the will of James, dated 20 August 1737 mentions Sarah (no surname given) as his wife. James had two sons, John and George, and two daughters, Mary who married Hugh Massy of Duntryleague and Anne who, on 6 April 1696, married Blennerhassett of Co. Kerry. The marriage settlement made between James's elder son, John, and Ellinor Southcote gives in detail the property held by James in 1718: 5,100 statute acres of profitable land and 18,850 statute acres of unprofitable land about Ballynacourty and Lisvernane together with near 1,000 statute acres in the barony of Conna, Co. Limerick. Throughout the 1720s James Dawson had loaned money to various impecunious landowners on the security of their lands which may have helped him to extend his landholding.

The poet Seán Clárach MacDomhnaill, in his poem on the death of James Dawson, described him (in Michael Coady's robust translation) as "arrogant ever, distainful and avaricious this grey-haired Dawson, a bloody and treacherous butcher" And that Dawson spent his time in "ravaging and hanging and mangling the poor". Dawson was certainly a contentious individual at election time.

James Dawson's will was dated 20 August 1737 and proved on 17 February 1738.

John, the son, married Eleanor Southcote, but had no children. He served as High Sheriff for Co. Tipperary in 1727 and was involved in the attempts to have his father elected to parliament in that year. According to his published will his lands at Greenane and elsewhere in Co. Tipperary were purchased from the Earl of Arran (the Duke of Ormonde's son). A report in the newspaper *Pue's Occurrences*, dated 25 March 1746, noted that 'A few days ago died at Bath, John Dawson of Co. Tipperary.' His will was dated 16 January 1744 and proved in 1746. His sister Mary had married Hugh Massy and in time the Dawson property passed to the Massy family.

[Betham, 15:172; *Ir. Geneal.*, 9:331; *Comms. Jnl.(Ir.)*, ii, 587, 597, 356, 478, 706, v, 535, vi, 581, 613; D.G. Marnane, *Land and Violence, etc.*, (Tipperary, 1985), 15, 19, 21, 82; W. Nolan & T.G. McGrath (eds.), *Tipperary: History and Society*, (Dublin, 1985), 317; *BLGI(1912)*, at Massy; Rev. W.P. Burke, *History of Clonmel*, (Waterford, 1907), 109, 441; *Intestates*, NLI G.O. Ms. 257:260; T.U. Sadleir, 'Manuscripts at Kilbooy, etc.,' *Anal. Hib.*, 12:134, 136; Thomas Power, *Tipperary, etc.*, (Oxford, 1993), 79, 125, 223; Rosalind McCutcheon, 'Pue's Occurrences 1744-9', *Ir. Geneal.*, 9:331; P. Beryl Eustace(ed.), *Registry of Deeds, Dublin: Abstracts of Wills, 1746/85*, (Dublin, 1954), 2:2.; RD25/14/13091, 50/33/31945, 50/510/34042,



100/363/70812; *Betham's Will Abstracts*, NAI Ms. BET1/17, 2, 138, BET1/18, 7; *Betham's Admon. Bonds*, NAI Ms. BET11/14, 68 and BET11/15, 33; *John Lodge's Genealogical Abstracts*, B.L. Add. Ms.23,693, 89; Michael Coady, *All Souls*, (Oldcastle, 1997), 71; Edith Johnston-Liik(ed.), *History of the Irish Parliament, 1692-1800*, (Belfast, 2002), 4:22/23.].

**DENNIS, John.** (MP Clonmel, 1800).

John Dennis of Lynnbury, Co. Westmeath represented this borough between 10 February and August 1800. With the passing of the Act of Union he resigned the seat.

John Dennis of Kinsale, Co. Cork married Anne the daughter of William Bullen of Kinsale and had a son, James (born 1721), and a daughter, Frances. James, the son, who had acquired land in Cos. Cork, Dublin and Kerry, married, in October 1749, the daughter of Emanuel Pigott the MP for Cork city but had no children. At this time James was a counsellor-at-law (having been called to the Irish Bar in 1746) and later, in 1768/76, when he was MP for Youghal, he was described as "second serjeant, a sensible man, and an ungraceful speaker". He went on to become Chief Baron of the Exchequer and was created Baron Tracton on 13 December 1780. But James died suddenly in 1782 without leaving an heir to his property.

So in his will of 1 May 1782, which was proved on 4 July, James left his estate to his sister Frances's children (apart from an annual payment of £1,800 out of that estate to his wife) on the condition that they assume the surname of Dennis.

This Frances had married Thomas Swift (died 1767) of Lynnbury, Co. Westmeath and had two children, Rev. Meade Swift and John Swift. Thomas was the second son of Meade Swift (died 1739) of Lynnbury. An ancestor of the Swift family, Godwin Swift, was reputed to have been Attorney General to the County Palatinate of Tipperary.

John Dennis(Swift), the MP above, was educated as a pensioner at Trinity College, Dublin, which he entered on 7 July 1777 aged 14 years. He was conferred with a BA in the Spring of 1782. He then attended at Lincoln's Inns, London, and the King's Inns, Dublin, in Trinity Term 1785. He held various legal and semi-legal positions between 1786 and 1798.

He married Emily the daughter of Robert Hamilton of Hill of Hills, Curragh, Co. Kildare and had two sons and one daughter: James, Captain Robert, and Mary.

John Dennis seems to have been profligate in money matters, borrowing from his brother, Rev. Meade. In 1792 he passed his stable of horses, including his racing horses, to his brother to pay a debt; and in 1794 he used the property he had recently inherited on the death of his aunt Lady Tracton to pay a £1,000 debt due to his brother.

John Dennis's elder son, James, died without leaving children. The younger son, Captain Robert, married and had children. It was through the latter that the Dennis(Swift) line continued.

John Dennis(Swift), the MP above, died at Sidmouth in Devon in 1830.

[Rev. W.P. Burke, *History of Clonmel*, (Waterford, 1907), 165, 321; M. Bodkin, 'Notes on the Irish Parliament in 1773', *Proc.RIA*, 48C, 185; P.B. Eustace(ed.), *Registry of Deeds, Dublin. Abstracts of Wills*, (Dublin, 1954), ii, 325; Rosalind McCutcheon, 'Pue's Occurrences, 1749', *Ir. Geneal.*, 9:378; *BIFR*, 354; *BLGI*(1912), 177; *Alum. Dub.*; Phair & Sadleir(eds.), *King's Inns Admission Papers, 1607-1867*, (Dublin, 1982), 129; G.E.C., *The Complete Peerage*, at Tracton; Burke, *Dormant and Extinct Peerages*, (London, 1883), 165; RD 458/200/294858 and 480/563/306458; *Finn's Leinster Journal*, 21Feb./25Feb. 1801; Mrs. Edith Johnston-Liike(ed.), *History of the Irish Parliament, 1692-1800*, (Belfast 2002), 4:45/46.].

**DONNELLAN, Nehemiah.** (MP Co. Tipperary, 1737/60).

Nehemiah Donnellan of Artane, Co. Dublin, was elected to represent the county on 21 October 1737.

The family of Donnellan are descended from Nehemiah Donelan archbishop of Tuam. Sir James Donelan, the fourth son of the archbishop and Elizabeth the sister of William Daniel, archbishop of Tuam, became in the fulness of time Lord Chief Justice of the Common Pleas in Ireland. He was born about 1588, entered Trinity College, Dublin and graduated with a BA in 1612. He was admitted to Lincoln's Inn, London, on 11 June 1616. He was called to the Bar on 4 February 1624, and represented Trinity College in the parliament of 1634. The Earl of Ormond doubted his loyalty to the king and considered him to be untrustworthy, probably correctly, as he was appointed a judge by the Cromwellians on 13 July 1655 and following the Restoration he was confirmed, on 30 November 1660, as Chief Justice of the Common Pleas. Sir James married Sarah (he was her second husband) the third daughter of James Wheeler, bishop of Ossory (1613 - 1640) and had children of whom Nehemiah (father of the MP above) was the third son. Sir James died on 8 May 1665.

This Nehemiah, born in 1649, matriculated from Trinity College, Dublin, in 1666, and was called to the Bar in Middle Temple, London, on 14 June 1669. He later held various legal appointments: King's Counsel, Recorder of Dublin, Prime Serjeant, and was appointed Chief Baron of the Exchequer on 27 December 1703. He served as MP for the borough of Galway in the Irish parliament of 1692/93. Even while serving the state as a law officer Donnellan was a Discoverer. The Discoverer filed a claim in the Chancery Court pointing out that a land transfer by a Catholic contravened some penal law. Should the complaint be upheld then the Discoverer was granted the Catholic interest in the property. An unscrupulous lawyer could become quite wealthy through such a procedure. It is recorded in the Journals of the Commons that Donnellan was granted, on 11 January 1698, a quarter of the lands "discovered" by him.

The acquisition of lands in this rather underhand way must have helped improve Donnellan's fortune. His wealth had so increased that in 1703, when the 2nd Duke of Ormonde was forced to sell property to clear debts, Donnellan purchased 3,188 acres of land including the "whole manor and town of Nenagh" for the sum of £5,274. Before the purchase Donnellan had been a tenant in the area. When in August 1701 he had been granted the right to hold a weekly Monday market and two annual fairs in Nenagh he had been described as "Lord of the Soil".

By his first wife, Mary the daughter of John Preston, Alderman of Dublin, Nehemiah had five children: James, John and William who were living in 1684, and Sarah and Elizabeth who were dead in that year. Mary Preston died on 26 September 1684 in childbirth. Nehemiah was still a widower in 1688 when he fled to England with two children to escape the Irish war.

Nehemiah returned to Ireland in 1690; and married, on 21 March 1694, as his second wife, Martha the daughter of Christopher Usher. His children were: Anne, Nehemiah, Christopher, James, John, and Martha who died young. According to the newspaper *Impartial Occurrences* dated Saturday 25 December 1705 "Lord Chief Baron Donalon" had died on that morning. His will was proved in 1705.

Nehemiah, born in 1698 and the MP above, entered Trinity College, Dublin, on 21 January 1715. He was conferred with a BA in the Spring of 1718. Nehemiah married firstly, in 1721, Catherine the daughter of Sir John Meade, the 1st baronet. She was the widow of Thomas Jones of Osbertstown, Co. Kildare. Nehemiah married secondly Hannah Knox. By his two marriages he had two children: Nehemiah Donnellan-Nixon, and Catherine. Mrs. Delaney in her memoirs mentions another son, but there is no record elsewhere of a second son.

On 26 July 1721 Nehemiah, his mother Martha and her then husband, Philip Percival of Dublin leased the town of Nenagh and 850 statute acres about it to Ezekil Davis Wilson of Carrickfergus for an annual rent of £500. But in her memoirs dated 1732 Mrs. Delaney wrote

that Nehemiah Donnellan was then living in a small house in the town of Nenagh, but that he proposed building a new country residence at Riverston near Nenagh and that "we have gone every morning in chaises to view Mr. Donnellan's grounds". She described Donnellan and his family as sensible and agreeable people who live handsomely.

Nehemiah died at Bath in May 1770. In his will dated 29 February 1768 and proved on 21 March 1772 he records the names of his two wives, his only son Nehemiah and his daughter Catherine Brady. He also notes grandsons George Ormsby and John Brady, so he may have had a second daughter.

He was succeeded by his son, also Nehemiah, who was born in 1722 to himself and Catherine Meade. In August 1750 Nehemiah junior eloped with Catherine the daughter of the wealthy David Nixon of Ravensdale, Co. Kildare. On their marriage Donnellan assumed the surname of Nixon. Mrs. Delaney, writing in 1758, noted that Nixon (the father), who was then dead, had left the couple forty thousand pounds. Nehemiah junior sat in parliament for the borough of Clogher, 1757-1760, while his father sat for Tipperary. His will was dated 24 December 1776 and proved on 1 May 1784. He mentions a wife Catherine and a son David Nixon Donnellan.

[Thomas P. Power, *Land, Politics, and Society in Eighteenth-Century Tipperary*, (Oxford, 1993), 80; *Anal. Hib.*, 1:30; 12:136, 17:25, 38; E.H. Sheehan, *Nenagh and its Neighbourhood*, (Nenagh, 1976), 26/27, 44, 81; *NAI, Index to Prerogative Wills; Alum. Dub.*, ; *BLG*(1871), 1:359; F.E. Ball, *Judges of Ireland, 1221-1921*, (London, 1926), 11:62/63; F.E. Ball, 'Some notes on the Irish Judiciary in the reign of Charles II, 1660-85', *JourCHAS*, 7(1901):138/39; *Officers of Ireland, 1688-1727*, *NAI Ms. M2537*; John Lodge, *Peerage of Ireland*, 3:296; H.F. Morris, 'Announcements in the *Impartial Occurrences*,' *Ir. Geneal.*, 5:189; H.F. Morris, 'Finn's *Leinster Journal 1770*,' *Ir. Geneal.*, 8:71; Edith Johnston-Liik(ed), *History of the Irish Parliament, 1692-1800*, (Belfast, 2002), 4:74/75; *Betham's Will Abstracts*, *NAI Ms. BET1/17*, 10 and *BET1/19*, 1 and 95, and *BET1/48*, 112; *RD32/50/18921; Funeral Entries*, *NLI G.O. Ms.73*, p.204, *G.O. Ms.75*, p.69, *G.O. Ms.76*, pp.65 and 67.]

#### **EVERARD, Sir John.** (MP Co. Tipperary, 1613/15).

Sir John Everard of Knockelly, Fethard, was elected MP for the county on 13 April 1613.

The first of this family appeared in Fethard records about 1300 and from him the line continued downwards to John Everard who married a Jennet Hussey and had two sons Nicholas and *Redmond Everard*. John Everard died sometime before 1534 and was succeeded in the property by his elder son and heir Nicholas. This Nicholas was dead before 10 November 1548, but he left a son, Richard Everard of Dromdyle, Fethard.

But it is through the second son of John Everard and Janet Hussey, *Redmond Everard*, that the Fethard Everard MPs are descended. Redmond married, but his wife's name is not known, and he had three sons of whom Sir John, the MP above, was the eldest and heir. The precise date of Redmond's death is not known; it occurred sometime between 1600 and 1607.

His son Sir John Everard was born about 1560. In November 1578 he was admitted to the Inner Temple, London, and was called to the Bar in 1590. Throughout the 1590s he was involved in various legal cases in the county and for the Earl of Ormond. By 1600 the Earl was referring to Sir John as a 'gentleman learned in the law', and appointed him, in April 1601, as a justice serving in the Earl's Liberty of Tipperary. On 10 May 1602 Sir John was appointed Second Justice of the Queen's Bench and it was noted that 'for that his care and industry are special means to retain the county of Tipperarie in obedience.' He was re-appointed to that position by the new king, James I, on 20 April 1603. It should be remembered that Sir John was unique in his time in that he openly professed his Catholicism while still sitting on the Bench. As a reward for his services to government and in recognition of his merits he was knighted at Dublin Castle on 10 February 1605.

Despite the honour placed on his shoulder a sword was suspended over his head in that great problems lay ahead for him. Being a Catholic he found that in good conscience he could not take the Oath of Supremacy [26 Henry VIII, c.1; 1534] which had conferred on the monarch all spiritual authority and to which all office holders were then required to swear. As Sir John procrastinated about the oath the government decided to make an example of him. Nevertheless, on 5 October 1605 the lord deputy Sir Arthur Chichester wrote that "if they can bring him [Everard] to conformity in religion, he is very fit for his place, being a grave and honest gentleman". But Sir John would rather resign than bend on a matter of principle; and so, on 27 January 1607, he voluntarily surrendered his commission and was granted an annual pension of £66. 13s. 4d. which he continued to receive up to his death. This was the general pension for a retiring judge, so the government treated him fairly in his going. His income was supplemented when, on 22 November 1612, he was appointed Justiciar to the Liberty of Tipperary, at an annual salary of £20 English. But, as a letter dated 29 May 1613 and published in the Calendar of State Papers notes, men of consequence thought him a fool for standing to his principles: "Sir John Everard [was] a man so addicted to his reputation that he resigned his place in the King's Bench, rather than take the oath of supremacy." Soon after his resignation Sir John was admitted to the King's Inns, Dublin; and he continued loyal in his support of government.

But while attending to his legal tasks Sir John did not neglect the inheritance that his father had passed to him. In parcels of land situated in south Tipperary and across the border in Cos. Cork and Limerick he had, by the end of the first decade of the seventeenth century, amassed about 8,000 acres which made him the leading landowner in the county.

In the parliament of 1613, perhaps because of his legal abilities, Sir John was assigned the role of leader of the Catholic opposition. On the opening day of parliament this opposition involved him in a comical and oft-told tale for the position of Speaker of the House. He lost the chair, the Catholic opposition withdrew from the Commons, and the session was prorogued. However, when parliament resumed on 11 October 1614 the Catholics and Sir John participated in its work. From that time on Sir John played an active role in the debates of the House, mostly as a constructive opponent of Protestant policies. Because of his opposition to government Sir John was expelled from the King's Inns, but was re-installed at the request of the lord deputy, Sir Arthur Chichester, on 19 November 1614. Though they differed on policy it would seem that Chichester and Sir John were on friendly terms and the lord deputy admired Everard's integrity.

When parliament was finally prorogued Sir John slipped quietly off the national stage. He lost, in 1621, his legal position in the Palatinate of Tipperary when James 1 withdrew the jurisdiction of that institution. And he suffered as a consequence of the imprisonment of Earl Walter, 11th Earl of Ormond, between 1619 and 1627.

Sir John Everard married Catherine Comerford, probably the daughter of Fulke Comerford of Callan. If so, her brother was the Gerald Comerford who was Chief Justice of Munster. Sir John and Catherine had Nicholas, Richard, and Gabriel. Sir John composed his will on 24 December 1623 and died on 23 September 1624. He left his lands in Co. Waterford to his third son Gabriel; to his second son, *Sir Richard*, he bequeathed the property in Cos. Cork and Limerick and what he owned at Burncourt near Clogheen where, in time, *Sir Richard* built for himself a lavish mansion; the remainder of his estate, lying in the barony of Middlethird, Co. Tipperary, Sir John left to his eldest son and heir Nicholas.

Nicholas entered the Inner Temple, London, in 1602 and was admitted to King's Inns, Dublin, on 4 November 1608. He married Catherine the daughter of James Butler, Lord

Dunboyne and they had John, Redmond, Catherine, Ellice and Cicily. Nicholas died in 1633, and administration of his property was granted to his principal creditor. Redmond, the second son, died in 1638 without leaving children.

John, the elder son (born about 1610) and heir to Nicholas, married Amy the daughter of David Roche, Viscount Fermoy and they had John who died young and *Nicholas* who became MP for Fethard in 1661.

[R.H.A.J. Everard, 'The family of Everard', *Ir. Geneal.*, 7:334/48; 'Chichester Letter Book', *Anal. Hib.*, 8:97; *Ormond Mss.*, NLI Ms. D3514].

**EVERARD, Sir John.** (MP Fethard, 1689).

The precise date of this election is not known because the records have not survived. The writs for it were issued on 25 March 1689 and the new members first sat on 7 May 1689.

The above Sir John was descended from *Sir John Everard* (MP, 1613-15) through the latter's second son, *Sir Richard Everard* of Burncourt, Clogheen. *Sir Richard* had married Catherine Plunkett the daughter of Sir Christopher Plunkett of Dunsoghly, Co. Dublin, and had a son and heir, Sir Redmond Everard.

Sir Redmond married Elizabeth Butler the daughter of Richard Butler of Kilcash and the niece of James, 1st Duke of Ormonde. They had two sons (John and James) and four daughters. The second son, James, appears to have died young without marrying. Sir Redmond died in Dublin on Sunday 20 February 1687 and was buried with his ancestors in Holy Trinity Church, Fethard.

The Everard estate then passed to the elder son and heir, Sir John, who was born about 1670. Even at this point the estate was encumbered with mortgages to a sum of about £2,500 which had been accepted between 1670 and 1685. For example, *Mathew Jacob* was owed £1,200 and Michael Henes, brother to the MP *Thomas Henes*, was also owed money.

In 1688 Sir John married Eleanor Butler the eldest daughter of Pierce Butler, 6th Lord Cahir. She brought with her a dowry of £2,500. They had two children, *Sir Redmond Everard*, who became MP for Fethard in 1713, and Pierce who died young.

Lately married, and not yet twenty years of age, Sir John was elected by the re-modelled corporation of Fethard to represent it in James 11's Irish parliament. In the war that followed the landing of James 11 in Ireland Sir John was an active participant as a captain in *Colonel Nicholas Purcell's* Regiment of Horse and served at the Battle of the Boyne. But at the Battle of Aughrim, on 12 July 1691, Sir John lost his life. Sadly for his young widow his body was not found on the battlefield; she was still living in 1707.

As a consequence of his support for the Jacobite cause Sir John was declared attainted and his estates forfeited on 11 May 1691; and the attainder was confirmed on 18 November 1697. After much wrangling the estate was returned to his surviving son and heir, *Sir Redmond Everard*.

As records of the parliamentary session, which was held in the King's Inns, have not survived there is no account of Sir John's work, or indeed if he attended in any meaningful way. In any event, apart from the subsidies voted to James 11, the legislation went for naught when William 111 gained the English throne.

[R.H.A.J. Everard, 'The family of Everard', *Ir. Geneal.*, 7:524/25; *Intestates*, NLI GO Ms. 257:60; J.G. Simms, *The Jacobite Parliament of 1689*, (Dundalk, 1966 ), 25; J.G. Simms, *Jacobite Ireland, 1685-91*, (London, 1969), 74/89.]

**EVERARD, Nicholas.** (MP Fethard, 1661).

The election of Nicholas Everard to represent the borough of Fethard was held on 22 April

1661. He was also one of the 137 members of the Convention which sat between 2 March and 27 May 1660.

This Nicholas was the great-grandson of *Sir John Everard* who represented the county in 1613/15, and the second son of John Everard and Amy Roche (the daughter of Viscount Fermoy). John Everard died on 11 August 1638, aged 28, leaving the following children, John (dead before 1641), Nicholas (the MP above), Joane, and Catherine (who died young).

Nicholas was born about 1634 and is reputed to have been educated by Father William Tirry, OSA, the Catholic martyr of the 1650s. This would suggest a Catholic upbringing, but Nicholas completed his education at Trinity College, Dublin, where he received a BA in May 1655. When Nicholas made a claim on his father's property in 1654 he was considered to be a Protestant in religion. Nevertheless, a modern historian writes that Nicholas Everard was probably the only Catholic member of the parliament which met in 1661.

His estate of about 5,000 plantation acres was not subject to confiscation in the 1650s, nor was he transplanted to Connacht. He was included in the general pardon issued from Whitehall on 25 April 1661; and had returned to him all lands that he held on 22 October 1641 under the terms of an English act of 25 April 1660. But already debts were beginning to mount against the great Everard estate in south Tipperary as can be read in the will of Nicholas's father, despite the fact (on paper at least), that different wives would have brought with them considerable dowries.

Nicholas died unmarried on 7 June 1661, aged 27, less than two months after his election and one month after the Commons first sat. While his name is recorded in Lodge's *Parliamentary Register* it is not given in the Journals of the House. On the death of Nicholas without heirs the Everard estate passed to his cousin Sir Redmond Everard of Ballyboy, Clogheen, who was the father of *Sir John Everard* the MP for Fethard in 1689; though Nicholas did will portion of his property to his sister Joane. Nicholas, the last of the Fethard line, was buried in St. Werburgh's Church, Dublin, on the day following his death, which would suggest some haste.

[R.H.A.J. Everard, 'The family of Everard', *Ir. Geneal.*, 7:505/13; S.J. Connolly, *The Oxford Companion to Irish History*, (Oxford, 1998), 113/14; *Funeral Entries*, NLI G.O. Mss. 78/72, 76/43, 68/63.]

#### **EVERARD, Redmond.** (MP Co. Tipperary, 1585/86).

Redmond Everard of Fethard was elected to represent the county in April 1585.

The Everard family have been associated with Fethard since the beginning of the fourteenth century, but as yet no unbroken family line has been possible to compile before John Everard, who had property in that town at the beginning of the sixteenth century. This John, who is first recorded in 1515, married a Janet Hussey and had two sons, Nicholas and Redmond above. John Everard died about 1543.

Nicholas Everard, the elder son, obtained the release to himself of his father's estate in 1534 for reasons that are not given. This Nicholas appears to have had a short and troublesome life, married, and had a son, Richard Everard of Dromdyle, Fethard. Nicholas seems to have died on 10 November 1548, and in a *fiant* or chancery warrant (of that date) Redmond is cited as the brother and heir of the late Nicholas Everard of Fethard. In 1550 Redmond granted Dromdyle to his nephew. Why the principal estate should pass to Redmond rather than to Richard the son of Nicholas is not known, nor the extent of that estate.

But by 1590 Redmond had acquired the title of "esquire", was being associated with the leading gentlemen of Munster, and five years earlier had represented his county in parliament. When a return was taken in 1607 his property in Fethard alone was considerable: 2 castles, 77 tenements, 100 great gardens, a mill, 400 acres of arable land, 100 acres of wood to the south of

the town. It may well be that Redmond built the family fortune which was to reach its high point under his son, *Sir John Everard*.

But of Redmond's private life little is known. He did marry and had at least two sons, *Sir John Everard* and Rev. James who was born in 1575. The latter was a member of the Society of Jesus and spent most of his adult life in the Society's house in Cashel. [R.H.A.J. Everard, 'The family of Everard', *Ir. Geneal.*, 7:329/34.].

**EVERARD, Sir Redmond.** (MP Fethard, 1713).

Sir Redmond Everard of Grove, Fethard, was elected to represent that town on 10 October 1713.

Sir Redmond was the son and heir of *Sir John Everard* (MP Fethard, 1689) and Ellen the eldest daughter of Pierce Butler, 6th Lord Cahir. Redmond's father was slain at the battle of Aughrim on 12 July 1691, when he, Redmond, was about two years old; Ellen Butler, his mother, seems to have died soon afterwards (she may not have died until 1706/07). The young boy was then given to the care of Mary Butler the second daughter of James, 1st Duke of Ormonde and wife to William Cavendish, 1st Duke of Devonshire. The guardianship was granted with the proviso that Sir Redmond be reared up a Protestant even though both his parents had been Catholic.

Before Sir John Everard had lost his life on Aughrim field his estate had been declared forfeit to the new king because of his active support for James 1. The consequence was that the young Sir Redmond as he grew up was left without his inheritance. But through his guardian, Mary Butler (her husband William Cavendish was a strong Whig supporter), he, Sir Redmond, had some powerful connections. And these, after various efforts, were so successful that the attainder on Sir John was declared void and the estate was to be treated 'as if no forfeiture had taken place'. The conditions for the return of the estate was that it was to be held in trust until Sir Redmond reached the age of 21 years, that he abjure the Catholic faith, and that the Trustees of the Forfeited Estates, who held the property in the name of the king, be compensated to the sum of £5,200 out of the profits of the estate.

In 1707 Sir Redmond entered political life when he was sworn as sovereign of Fethard's corporation, but his interest in that body appears to have been short-lived. After 1708 there is no further reference to him in the records (though he was not expelled and remained a burgess).

Sir Redmond entered national politics when, on 28 July 1711, he was 'returned to serve in Parliament, as a Citizen, for the City of Kilkenny'. He continued to represent this borough until 1713.

When the election to represent the borough of Fethard in the new parliament of 1713 came on four names were put forward for the two borough seats: Sir Redmond Everard and *Cornelius O'Callaghan* who could be said to represent the Catholic/Tory interest and on the opposite side *Epaphroditus Marsh* and *Mathew Jacob* representing the new Protestant/Whig party. Everard and *O'Callaghan* won the majority of the votes at the election, but when the Whigs came to power at national level (following the general election of October 1715) both of these lost their local power base in the corporation and the long period of Everard power and influence in local politics came to an end.

Hardly had Sir Redmond been elected when his seat was petitioned against by *Epaphroditus Marsh*, but after various adjournments the case was not heard before parliament was prorogued by the death of Queen Anne (1 August 1714). Sir Redmond, following the prorogation of parliament, was on a black list of Tories compiled by the triumphant Whigs; and some Whigs thought he should be led to the stake for burning.

But Sir Redmond survived all this (possibly by living out of Ireland) and on 22 September 1715 he was conferred with the degree of Doctor of Civil Law by one of the Oxford colleges. This probably meant that he was not actively involved in the preparations for the Jacobite rebellion of 1715 of which the 2nd Duke of Ormonde was one of the leaders. The rebellion failed in England in the summer of that year, but was fanned into flames in Scotland where the Earl of Mar proclaimed Prince James Francis Stuart as the rightful king of the United Kingdoms. Following the failure in England Ormonde fled to Europe. In the summer of 1718 Sir Redmond visited him at Paris, possibly with the intention of effecting a reconciliation between Ormonde and the Westminster government. But the new Whig government displayed little confidence in Sir Redmond and considered him untrustworthy.

None the less, despite his connection with the Jacobites and Tories, Sir Redmond continued to live at St. James's, Westminster, London, between 1716 and 1721.

In the latter year, on 15 June 1721, Sir Redmond married, in Westminster Abbey, Mary Drake the daughter of Montague Drake of Shardeloes, Bucks; she was 27 and he was about 32 years at the time. She brought with her a dowry of £10,000 according to the marriage articles of 30 May 1721, but this disappeared to clear Sir Redmond's debts which by then had amounted to £22,161. Part of the Everard estate lying in the barony of Iffa and Offa was sold for £11,500 to *Cornelius O'Callaghan* (to whom Everard owed money) and this together with the dowry helped to eliminate the claims on the estate. But it should be noted that the payment due to the Trustees for Forfeited Estates was probably a crippling blow, and the estate may well have been denuded of rent-paying tenants following the war of 1690.

On 20 June 1723 Sir Redmond was created Viscount Everard by the king in exile, James 111. This would suggest that Sir Redmond and his new wife had left London for exile at Paris where he spent the remainder of his years. It is quite likely that he fled from his creditors rather than from the political situation with which he had lived between 1716 and 1721.

Despite the move to France and the payments, debts continued to accumulate and by the end of the 1720s they stood at £15,000. An act of parliament was passed in 1727 which permitted the sale of part of the Everard estate in the barony of Middlethird. This realised about £7,000, and over the next few years the remainder of the debt was cleared by sales of land. By the 1730s the remains of the estate was bringing in only £1,000 a year in rents. To satisfy his needs Sir Redmond had recourse to borrowing from a Paris banker named Quane. Less than honest dealing by this banker and careless mismanagement of the Everard estate by a land agent seem also to have contributed to further rising debts. At this period it was written of that: 'by some mismanagement attending his estate in Ireland he was so ill supplied with money that he lived entirely upon credit for five or six years and was obliged to apply to Quane, a banker in Paris.'

Sir Redmond died on 13 April 1742 leaving no children. He willed his property to his wife, but she died four months later, on 15 August 1742, and in the administration of her property granted all to 'Richard Quane, principal creditor'. But the Everard estate passed to Sir Redmond's second cousin, James Long. This James was the second son of John Long of Killoran near Thurles and Mary Butler the daughter of Theobald, Lord Cahir (Lord Cahir's wife was Mary Everard, aunt to Sir Redmond).

To succeed to his inheritance James Long had to assume the surname of Everard. But his legacy was heavily encumbered with debts. Quane the Paris banker had sold on the notes of promise from Sir Redmond to Alderman Richard Dawson of Dublin. On 2 April 1744 Dawson, being then the principal creditor, filed a bill in the Court of Chancery, Dublin, against the Everard estate and James Long Everard for recovery of the monies due to him. By 31 January 1751 it was established that the creditors were owed £26,102, and so the estate was put to



auction to clear this debt. When the sale was completed James Long Everard was left with 200 statute acres at Grove, Fethard, and £147 in cash. In 1757 James Long Everard sold Grove to Thomas Barton, the Bordeaux wine merchant who had already purchased the greater part of the Everard property in 1751. And thus through neglect and mismanagement passed away the biggest estate in south Tipperary.

[*Fethard Corporation Books*, NLI Ms.5858, 51, 60, 98, 103; *Intestates*, NLI G.O. Ms.257:60; Thomas P. Power, *Land, Politics and Society in Eighteenth-Century County Tipperary*, (Oxford, 1993), 82/84; G.D. Burtchaell, *Genealogical Memoirs of the Members of Parliament for the County and City of Kilkenny*, (Dublin, 1888), 109/110; Rev. W.G. Skehan, 'Extracts from the Minutes of the Corporation of Fethard, Co. Tipp.,' *Ir. Geneal.*, 4:85; R.H.A.J. Everard, 'The family of Everard', *Ir. Geneal.*, 7:525/31; *Betham's Admon. Bonds*, NAI Ms. BET11/17, 118; Edith Johnston-Liik(ed.), *History of the Irish Parliament, 1692-1800*, (Belfast, 2002), 4:122/23; *Betham's Will Abstracts*, NAI Ms. BET1/22, 50; *Betham's Admon. Bonds*, NAI Ms. BET2/17, 118 and 68.]

**To be continued.**