

# Parliamentary Representation for County Tipperary, 1560-1800

*Michael O'Donnell*

*Part 6.*

*(Names in italics are themselves the subjects of biographies; continued from THJ 2004, p. 135)*

**HACKETT, James.** (MP Cashel, 1689).

James Hackett was elected to represent the borough of Cashel in the parliament of James II in May 1689.

The family of Hackett is to be found in various places in south Tipperary from medieval times. It may well be that the founder of the family in Ireland came here as a settler from one of the eastern English counties. The family acquired modest land-holdings in various parts of the old barony of Middlethird and became merchants in both Fethard and Cashel. In Cashel they would have shared business interests with other local merchants such as the Boytons, the Conways and the Kearneys; and the family would in all likelihood have intermarried. As in nearby Fethard, the Hackett family did involve themselves in the governance of Cashel. However, despite their longevity in the area no detailed account of the family, and especially that in the town of Cashel, appears to exist.

The James Hackett above was cited as an alderman in the charter granted to Cashel by the Catholic James II in 1689. This James may have been the grandson of the James Hackett who was listed as an alderman in the 1638 charter granted to Cashel. And the latter James was probably the son of Robert Hackett who was recorded in a Patent Roll article dated 11 October 1613. Unfortunately, while we have random names such as the above it seems that wills and other such genealogical material has not survived.

In the sixteenth century casual references to the name of Hackett in Cashel can also be found. On 20 June 1577 a David Hackett was noted as being a merchant in the town; and in a *Fiant* dated 18 December 1578 a John Hackett of Cashel who was son of William was recorded as a burgess on the town's corporation. And on the latter date a Thomas Hackett of Cashel, who had a brother Robert, served as chaplain or priest. Around the same period a John Hackett, who was son of Richard, was a merchant in the town.

Naturally, being a Catholic merchant family in Cashel, the Hacketts would have made a contribution to the Catholic life of that place. A member is reputed to have had built the Franciscan friary in Cashel in the mid 1200s; and throughout the medieval period the family are said to have held the position of custodians of the Archbishop's pastoral staff. The Hackett family held lands about Cashel at Meldrum and Ballytrasny.<sup>1</sup>

**HACKETT, Nicholas.** (MP Fethard, 1560).

Nicholas Hackett of Fethard was elected to represent that town's borough in January 1560.

The association of the Hackett family with the town of Fethard can be traced back to the fourteenth century, an association that was to continue even to the latter half of the eighteenth century. Their land was in the townland of Rathmacarthy and their burial place was Holy Trinity Protestant Church, Fethard. Within that church can still be seen the monument to their memory and bearing the three hakes from their coat-of-arms. An ancient document records 'the Hackett hawse in ffethard' and mentions that the family was 'descended lynally from Sir John Hackett of Rathmacarthy'.

Nicholas Hackett was the second son of James of Fethard and Rathmacarthy which lies on the hilltop just to the south of Fethard on the Clonmel road. In 1569 James served as sovereign of the local corporation and he was still alive in 1590 when he was a witness to a Fethard deed. He also served as sovereign of Fethard in 1584 when he was cited in a Chancery bill. His wife's name is not known, but he had a son and heir, Walter who was a cousin to *James Laffan*.

In the early 1500s James Hackett of Fethard married and had two sons and one daughter. The son and heir was Richard (had a son and heir, James) who served as sovereign of the corporation in 1560s. This Richard's will was dated 25 November 1582 and proved on 8 November 1583; in it he was described as burgess. Richard married and had a son and heir, James. This James had two sons, Patrick and Nicholas (the MP above). Patrick inherited the estate at Rathmacarthy. In 1660 a Nicholas Hackett had a house with three hearths in the town of Fethard.<sup>2</sup>

**HACKETT, Redmond.** (MP Fethard, 1613/15).

Redmond Hackett was elected to represent the borough of Fethard on 1 May 1613. Among the Carew manuscripts is a paper entitled 'Calculation of the Votes of Munster in the next Parliament' and dated October 1611. In it the compiler noted that there was not any hope of having a Protestant elected to the forthcoming parliament either for one of the three boroughs or the county and the county of the Cross.

Nothing is known about this Redmond beyond that he may have been the father of Thomas Hackett who, in 1641, had one stone house together with a kitchen within the town's walls. Thomas was also a burgess on Fethard corporation. Thomas was also the owner of two thatched houses and four acres of standard measure within the burgagery of Fethard. This Thomas died in 1650 and was succeeded by his son Redmond. It is recorded that in 1660 Redmond Hackett had a house with one hearth within the town.

In the will of James, son of John Hackett of Fethard, dated 30 July 1670, there is a reference to 'cossen Redmond Hackett of ffethard'. This may have been a grandson to the above. There is no reference in the Journals of the Commons to Hackett having participated on any committee. He did sign, with other Tipperary members, a petition to the King, on 30 May 1613, pleading for redress for recusants.<sup>3</sup>

**HALEY, John.** (MP Cashel, 1613/15, 1634/35).

John Haley was first elected to represent the borough of Cashel on 4 May 1613 and for the next parliament on 21 June 1634. He may have been a cousin to *Nicholas* and *Richard Haley* following.

He may have been grandson to the John Feane O'Haly mentioned in an Ormond Deed of 1553.

Little is known about the private life of John Haley. His will seems not to have survived nor do we know the name of his wife or the members of his family, that is if he was married. He may have died sometime in the 1640s or early 1650s. In 1620 John Haley held some land to the east of St. Nicholas Street, Cashel; and the same John was mentioned in a pardon dated 1624. On 15 October 1614 Dr Haley (he was described as *Juris Civilis Doctor*) was appointed to a committee to examine an act for the conveyance of ecclesiastical livings. And between 1613 and 1615 he served as Chancellor to the Liberty of Tipperary.

In 1641 John Haley held 104 statute acres in the townland of Kylscobane, parish of St. Patrick's Rock, Cashel, which had come to him from his ancestors. This land was bounded with that owned by *Richard Haley*. The lands at Kylscobane had on them a big thatched house, which may have been John Haley's residence, and some five or six cabins which would suggest that he had tenants.

In the carve-up of the 1650s the Haley lands passed to Erasmus Smith; and in the same 1650s a Thomas Haley son of John of Cashel was granted a transplanter's certificate which meant that he had to remove himself and his possessions east of the Shannon. Among those listed as '49 Officers (those who were loyal to the king and who had observed the peace of that year) were John and Thomas Haley. Thomas Haley was listed among the burgesses in the 1638 charter granted to Cashel.

And this branch of the family seems to have fallen through the mesh of history from this time onwards.<sup>4</sup>

### **HALEY, Nicholas.** (Confederation of Kilkenny).

Nicholas Haley was elected to the General Assembly of the Confederation on three occasions.

He was probably the son of Richard Haley of Cashel who had been admitted to the Inner Temple, London, in 1608 to train as a lawyer. The name of Nicholas's mother is not known. Nicholas himself was bred up to the law and was enrolled at Gray's Inns, London, on 22 September 1638, which would have given him a birth-year of about 1620. Of the life of Nicholas little else is known, and, unfortunately, there seems to be no record of a marriage or of his having a family. Nor is it known when he died.

The Haly family began to appear in Cashel records in the middle of the sixteenth century. In 1550 a Richard Haly was witness to a deed and in 1559 he had two messuages in Cashel conveyed to him by the Convent of the College of St. Patrick, Cashel. In the year 1568 Richard was serving as portreeve, or chairman, to Cashel's corporation. And he continued being noticed in the Ormond Deeds down to 1575 after which he passed out of the records. He may have died soon after. Again, as with so many members of this family, nothing is known concerning his private life.

This Richard had a son, Nicholas, who may have been the first of the family to train in the law. His earliest appearance in local records was as a witness to a deed in 1577. In time he served as Chancellor of the Ormond Liberty of Tipperary, being appointed on 16 January 1605 and still serving in that position in 1608. Nicholas may have married a member of the junior Everard branch in Fethard; and the women of the Haley family were probably married off among the smaller landowners in south Tipperary. For example, one of Nicholas's

daughters was married to Edmond Comyn a small landowner living at Tullamaine near Fethard. This Nicholas served on a commission which sat between 1589 and 1594 to establish the bounds of the Earl of Ormond's ancient estate.

The Richard above who entered the Inner Temple in 1608 was probably his son and may have been his heir. It is not known if Richard had other brothers.<sup>5</sup>

**HALEY, Richard.** (MP Cashel, 1640/49).

Richard Haley was elected to represent the borough of Cashel in March 1640. He was described as Recorder, or law officer, to the Cashel corporation.

Richard Haley was probably son of Nicholas Haly who had been appointed to the office of Chancellor of the Liberty of Tipperary on 16 January 1605 by the Earl of Ormond at a fee of £13. 6s. 8d. a year, and he was still serving in this position in 1608.

Richard Haley, the MP above, was admitted to the Inner Temple, London, in 1608 to train as a lawyer. And he was listed as one of the forty-nine Officers. On 22 September 1638 Nicholas Haley son and heir of Richard Haley of Cashel was admitted to Gray's Inn, London, to also train as a lawyer.

According to the *Civil Survey* Richard Haley held sixty-four plantation acres in the townland of Georgeland in the parish of St. Patrick's Rock, Cashel. Long before the Rebellion of 1641, part of this land had been mortgaged to Redmond Everard of Fethard for £100.

The earliest of this family was probably the Richard Haley of Cashel, a burgess in the corporation, who, in 1559, had two messuages in Cashel conveyed to him by the Convent of the College of St. Patrick, Cashel. Richard is also recorded in the printed Ormond Deeds as being portreeve of Cashel in April 1568. His name continued to be recorded as witness to deeds until 1575.

Nicholas the Chancellor was probably his son. The earliest reference to Nicholas was as a witness to some Callan deeds dated 20 May 1577. Nicholas may have married a member of the junior Everard branch in Fethard; the women of the Haley family were probably married off to the members of the smaller landowners in south Tipperary. For example, a daughter of Nicholas married Edmond Comyn of Tullamaine near Fethard. This Nicholas served as a member of a commission which sat between 1589 and 1594 to establish the bounds of the Earl of Ormond's ancient estates.<sup>6</sup>

**HALSEY, Captain William.** (MP Co. Tipperary, 1654, 1656, 1659).

The elections, if such they could be called, were held on 27 July 1654 when Halsey represented the city of Waterford and the town of Clonmel, and on 17 September 1656 and 27 January 1659 when he sat for Clonmel alone. Following a directive of 2 March 1653 from the English parliament, Ireland for the duration of the Commonwealth period, was to be represented at Westminster by thirty members. Because of such a low representation many counties were united to their neighbours to become a single unit. Tipperary and Waterford, for example, were so joined. In the parliament of 1656 William Halsey was one of the members who voted in favour of the coronation of Oliver Cromwell as king of England.

Little is known about his life. According to the Court of Claims, his wife was Alice Gough nee Butler the widow of Lawrence Esmond who was cousin to Lawrence, Lord Esmond. It seems that he came to Ireland as a Cromwellian soldier, but may have received a training in the law. He held a Commission of the Peace for Co. Wexford in 1655 and he was

appointed Clerk of the Crown and Hanaper on 23 January 1656. He was one of the Mallow commissioners who, who at the time of the Restoration (May 1660), was appointed Chief Justice to the Munster Presidency on 4 February 1661. Sitting as he was in the Rump parliament of 1659 he probably saw that, that body had lost the support of the elites in Britain and Ireland and so he made his peace with the incoming monarchists.

William Halsey was granted 1,372 statute acres in the baronies of Sleaveardagh, Lower Ormond, Iffa and Offa, and Middlethird in the Commonwealth settlement of 1654 together with 857 statute acres in Co. Kilkenny. Following the Restoration of 1660 he was granted 11,700 statute acres in Cos. Tipperary, Waterford, Kilkenny, Wexford, Wicklow and Kerry by the Court of Claims on 22 July 1663. But when the dust finally settled on land claims in Ireland following the acts of Settlement (1666) and Explanation (1684) Halsey was granted, on 15 June 1667, 1,183 statute acres in the barony of Knocktopher, Co. Kilkenny and 185 statute acres in the barony of Lower Ormond, Co. Tipperary.<sup>7</sup>

**HAMERTON, Robert.** (MP Clonmel, 1703/13, 1713, 1715/27, 1727/33).

Robert Hamerton was elected to represent the borough of Clonmel on the general elections of the following dates, 27 August 1703, 23 October 1713, 29 October 1715, and 13 October 1727.

Little enough is known concerning Robert Hamerton. He was born about 1678. The Records of the Palatine of Tipperary notes that Robert had a wife Sarah and a son Richard. Together with his inheritance Robert seems to have purchased land at Newtown, Ballyneale, Orchardstown and 'neare two mile bridge'. In 1712 he served as Justice of the Peace for the county. He was elected mayor of Clonmel for the year 1725/26, but was ousted before he had served his full term because, it was alleged, he had not been correctly nominated. Though it seems he was not admitted as a freeman of that corporation until 5 October 1737. His will was dated 1733 and proved in the same year.

The first of the family in Ireland was Richard Hamerton, a Cromwellian settler, who is recorded in a settlement return of 1 May 1654 as the owner of a house and a plot of land of over seven acres in Clonmel. Following the Restoration (1660) he held a thatched house in Shamell's Lane, which was the property of Lord Cahir, 'two houses slated and a stable' in High Street, and a 'thatcht house and garden' in Blind Street.

In time Hamerton took to buying and felling wood, the timber of which he used for the manufacture of pipe-staves or wine casks. By the late 1650s he was issuing his own money tokens, had purchased an estate about Ballyneale, and had become part of the new merchant class in Clonmel. Not alone had he a number of houses in the town of Clonmel, but on 1 May 1663 he leased for twenty-one years an estate of 2,300 plantation acres in the Rathronan area to the north of Clonmel. By the end of the seventeenth century Hamerton had so prospered that he built a mansion near to the east gate of Clonmel (the present Town Hall is on the site). In the Hearth Roll return of 1665/66 Richard Hamerton had a house with eight hearths. Sir Paul Rycant (secretary to the lord lieutenant) on a visit to Clonmel on 24 September 1686 wrote, 'We came to Clonmel....I was lodged at Mr. Hamerton's, a very rich man also where I was very kindly treated.' The will of this Richard Hamerton was proved in 1689; and in 1690 the will of a Mary Hamerton was proved. She may have been his wife. Nevertheless, an act permitting the sale of Hamerton lands in the barony of Middlethird was passed through parliament in 1710. These sales were to discharge the debts of Richard

Hamerton. Robert's family line continued through his son Richard; there is a vault in Rathronan churchyard which records that a Robert Hamerton died on 17 October 1778 aged 63 years. And a Michael Hamerton, son of Robert, entered Kilkenny School on 26 August 1760 aged eight years. This Michael married in 1787.

About the time that Hamerton was first elected for the borough, the Moore family were actively making efforts to shape the borough to control it. The move by the Moore family began when the influence of the Duke of Ormonde on local politics began to wane. The rivalry between Stephen Moore and Robert Hamerton came to a head in the general election of 1727 when Stephen Moore set about depriving Hamerton of his seat by using the freemen he (Moore) had admitted while he was mayor of Clonmel in 1724/25. Ninety-two friends of Moore had been so admitted on one occasion. In the return on the 1727 election *Guy Moore* received 169 votes, *Stephen Moore* 161, Robert Hamerton 136, and *Robert Marshall* 133. Though the Moores won the majority they lost the election on an appeal to the House of Commons. A committee of the House concluded that out of the ninety-two freemen admitted by Stephen Moore in 1725 only four were resident; at that period non-resident freemen were not entitled to vote in a general election. This ruling was a significant defeat for the Moore faction and was to set back their efforts to control the Clonmel borough for years to come. Yet all this had a strange twist in time. Elizabeth the daughter of William, Earl of Bessborough, married, in 1722, Richard the son and heir of Stephen Moore of Kilworth and had a son Ponsonby Moore. This Ponsonby married Mary the only daughter of Richard Hamerton the MP above.<sup>8</sup>

### **HARRISON, James.** (MP Co. Tipperary, 1707/13).

James Harrison was elected to represent Co. Tipperary on 19 July 1707 to fill the vacancy created by the death of *Sir John Meade*.

James was the son of Captain John Harrison, a Cromwellian officer who was granted 1,484 statute acres about Cloughjordan in the barony of Lower Ormond. Captain John was confirmed in a grant of 1,490 statute acres on 29 June 1666 by the terms of the Act of Settlement. Captain John may have had others sons in Ireland as there is reference to a 'Joseph Haryson' living at Cloughjordan and to a 'George Harrison' being a member of Cashel corporation on 14 March 1674. In the years 1666/67 Captain John Harrison had a house of five hearths at Cloughjordan. He died in 1697 and his wife, Elizabeth, in 1689.

James, the son and MP above, was born about the year 1655 and seems to have received his early education at Athlone. He entered Trinity College, Dublin, on 14 June 1672. He married firstly Grizelle Warter of Bilbao (and Cullen, Co. Tipperary ?). She died in 1704 and was buried in Modreeny churchyard near Nenagh. James married secondly, on 27 August 1718, Eleanor Covert (whose father Richard was a Cork alderman) the widow of Thomas Moore of Chancellorstown and Barne near Clonmel. By his first marriage James had a son, John, and a daughter who married Colonel Henry Prittie (the third Henry, 1683-1738) of Kilboy, Co. Tipperary, on 2 February 1703. In time James made her his sole heir and an estate of 900 acres about Cloughjordan passed over to Prittie's control. The son John, born about 1682, appears to have been something of a failure in his father's eyes. John entered Trinity College, Dublin, on 26 July 1698 and may not have graduated. A short time later he married an Anne Boden who was described in her father-in-law's will as a 'pretended wife'. When James died his will specified that his son John should have only the life use of the

Harrison estate and on his (John's) death the property would pass to Prittie and his wife. As things fell out, John separated from Anne Boden on 11 February 1716, and they had no children.

James Harrison, the MP, seems to have served in the regular army as a lieutenant in Brasier's Regiment in the years between 1708 and 1712. He was Collector for the Liberty of Tipperary in 1702; and served as Justice of the Peace for the Liberty in 1715. It is quite likely that he was the Duke of Ormonde's nominee to parliament. James helped to develop Cloughjordan by obtaining for it, in 1706, the right to hold a weekly market and various fairs. The will of James Harrison was dated 6 January 1722 and was proved on 27 May 1728. In his will he requested that he be buried in Modreeny churchyard. However, there seems to be no reference to him on the Harrison tombstones in that place.<sup>9</sup>

**HENES, Thomas.** (MP Fethard, 1634/35, 1640/42, Confederation of Kilkenny).

The first election to the Dublin parliament was held on 23 June 1634 and the second in February 1640.

The Henes family, which spelt its name variously as Henesy, Hennesse, Heney, or Heynes, appear to have been merchants in Fethard rather than landowners.

Little is known concerning Thomas Henes. In Holy Trinity Protestant Church, Fethard, there is a slab which bears the inscription, 'Here lies Richard Henes, who died the 29th December 1615. His son Thomas and his wife Anastasia Archer erected this monument.' In 1641 Thomas was a burgess on the Fethard corporation. At that date he owned, within the walls of Fethard, a stone house, three thatched houses together with a kitchen and two plots of ground. He also had a plot of ground outside the walls, 243 statute acres at Colman which held from *Geoffrey Mockler* of Mocklerstown, Clerihan, by virtue of an £80 mortgage of 1627 and 1628, and a further 243 statute acres in Colman which he had leased from Mockler on 1 May 1631 for 81 years.

Thomas Henes is not mentioned throughout the parliamentary session of 1634/35, but he was active in that of 1640/41, appearing on no less than twenty-five committees. He also served on the influential Committee of Privileges and Elections. On 4 March 1641 he was one of a committee of four who were appointed for the province of Munster to raise money for the paying of Charles I's army. It is not certain if he had legal experience, but he did serve on a committee whose purpose was to examine parliamentary bills.

Despite all his parliamentary work he was expelled from the House of Commons on 22 June 1642, when forty-one Catholic members were ordered to leave the House. Following this expulsion he represented Fethard on the Confederate Council, on which body he first sat on 10 January 1647.

The precise date of Thomas Henes's death is not known, but his will was proved in 1671.

The Richard Henes mentioned above is the earliest known member of the family. Thomas Henes, the MP, probably had children as there are various subsequent references to the family name Henes. A Michael Hennesy, a native of Fethard, graduated in Louvain in 1687 and was appointed president of Antwerp College in 1703. And a Michael Henes, who was probably a grandson to Thomas the MP, on 12 December 1670, was claiming two mortgages of £60 and £100 on the Everard estate about Fethard. This Michael had two sons, Richard who married and had two sons, John (living in 1753) and Richard (living in 1753); Michael's other son was Thomas who was also married.<sup>10</sup>

**HUGHES, Samuel.** (MP Cashel, 1692/93).

Samuel Hughes was elected to represent the borough of Cashel on 30 September 1692.

He was the only son of John and Mary Hughes. He had a sister Mary. The will of John Hughes, the father, was dated 24 July 1668.

Samuel, who was born about the year 1654, married, on 4 September 1683, Jane the daughter of *Richard Le Hunte* and had two sons, John and Thomas. Apart from these few facts nothing else is known on his life. His will was dated 20 December 1694 and he was dead by 27 December as on that date Cashel corporation sat to appoint a new alderman in his stead.

Samuel Hughes was among a list of persons from Co. Tipperary who were declared attainted by the Parliament of James II sitting at Dublin in May 1689. But when William III, following his conquest of Ireland, renewed the Cashel corporation on 29 June 1691 Samuel Hughes was appointed one of the aldermen on the new body.

The son, Thomas Hughes, also served as an alderman on the Cashel corporation and was still living on 27 September 1719.<sup>11</sup>

**JACOB, Mathew.** (MP Fethard, 1695/99, 1703/13).

Mathew Jacob, who lived at St. Johnstown, Fethard, was firstly elected to represent the borough of Fethard on 13 August 1695 and secondly on 6 September 1703.

According to the family historians, he was the only son of Captain Mathew Jacob (died 1683) of St. Johnstown, Fethard, and Lydia Cooke daughter of Phaniel Cooke of Garrangibbon near Carrick-on-Suir. This Mathew, probably from Wiltshire, was reputed to have been a Cromwellian officer, but there is no reference to him in any extant list of such officers nor was he compensated with land in Ireland as either an officer or as an investor in the parliamentary/Cromwellian army.

Nothing is known about the early years of Mathew the MP above. Mathew married Elizabeth Minchin of Clonmel and had three sons and three daughters. Both Jacob and Minchin were members of a closely knit Presbyterian community in south Tipperary which was centred on Clonmel. The children of the marriage were: Samuel Jacob of Ballingarry who was dead sometime before 1732, but left a son Mathew of St. Johnstown; *Mathew* who served as MP for Fethard in 1727/60; John who lived at Clonmore (possibly near Cashel) and died about 1741; Abigail who married Jacob Sankey the son of *Captain Richard Sankey*; Rebecca who married Edward Millet of Shangarry; and a daughter who married John Latham of Meldrum. Mathew died about 1741 (1753?) and was buried with his father in Kiltinan graveyard.

Jacob served as a burgess on the Fethard corporation from sometime before the extant minute books commence (1707) to 1715. In April 1689, James II by mandate abolished the old corporations in Co. Tipperary (Clonmel, Cashel and Fethard) and set up new ones containing a more Catholic ethos in their place. The new charter for Fethard had a sovereign and twenty-one burgesses whose names were listed among its terms. One of the new burgesses was Mathew Jacob. He survived the downfall of James II as did another colleague of his among the same burgesses, Peter Cooke. But in the year 1715, on 20 December, he resigned his place as burgess because a recent anti-Popery act had made his position untenable; he being a dissenter in religion. He assigned his place on the corporation to his son-in-law Jacob Sankey of Mobarnane who was duly co-opted. Jacob also served as deputy clerk of the crown



in the Palatinate of Tipperary, but he seems not to have supported the policy of the Duke of Ormonde at all times.

Jacob and the other member for Fethard, *Thomas Carter*, were among the 'Association of the Knights, Citizens, and Burgesses of Ireland, in Parliament assembled' who signed an address of loyalty to King William on 28 March 1696. In his time in parliament Jacob was active on many committees.

Jacob's election to the parliament of 1703 was a controversial one in that his return was petitioned against on 29 September 1703 by *William Burgh*. It was contended by Burgh that he was the person properly chosen by the majority of all who had voting rights on the corporation, but that his majority had been ignored by the then sovereign, Peter Cooke of Fethard. Nevertheless, the sovereign returned Jacob and *Epaphroditus Marsh* (both Whigs). Though claiming right on his side Burgh withdrew his petition from the Committee of Privileges of the Commons on 3 November following.

On 10 October 1713 Jacob again put his name forward for election to the new parliament, but was defeated by a Tory combination of *Sir Redmond Everard* and *Cornelius O Callaghan*. There is no reference in the corporation book to this being a disputed election which would suggest that the local Tory element had quietly and without fuss gained control of the corporation.

The first known member in Ireland was a Mathew Jacob, as noted above. According to a survey of 1654 he had 'lately' rented from Edward Butler a son of Lord Dunboyne a stone house and lands at Clare in the parish of Kiltinane. In 1655 he was living in Clonmel and may have served as a merchant there until about 1665. In the Hearth Money returns for the early 1660s he is shown as occupying the castle and lands of Knockelly, Fethard, which he had on lease from Sir Redmond Everard. It would seem that Jacob rented rather than purchased homes in the 1650s and 1660s. Sometime in the 1660s the Manor of St. Johnstown, the property of the St. John family, had been 'acquired' by Thomas Osborne. It seems likely that Jacob purchased it from Osborne in the same decade. During the 1660s he was lending money to impecunious landowners such as Everard and the Duke of Ormonde. For example, there was a claim for a mortgage of £1,200, dated 1 November 1684, on the Sir John Everard lands at Balliboy and Killballyboy, Clogheen, and still another for £50 against the same Sir John. Incidentally, on 13 October 1715 Jacob sold 1,490 statute acres at Ballyboy and Killballyboy to *Cornelius O Callaghan* for £1,297. And on 4 August 1680 the Duke of Ormonde granted Jacob the use of 1,855 statute acres about Kilfeacle and a payment of £1,000 to clear an outstanding debt of £2,000 owed by the Duke. This may well have been the reason for the independent stance in parliament by Jacob to the wishes of the Duke. On 12 December 1698 John Fanning mortgaged his lands about Ballingarry to Jacob for £2,200. Fanning must not have been able to repay the mortgage because on 26 October 1718 Jacob settled 932 statute acres at Ballingarry and 486 statute acres at Garrancoole to his son Samuel who was married to a Riall from Clonmel. And the Fines and Recoveries of the Palatinate of Tipperary show many other sums ranging from as low as £30 loaned by Jacob to cash-strapped landowners. In this period Jacob may have obtained St. Johnstown from the Carew or Carve family on the terms of a mortgage. And Jacob may not have been averse to sharp practice in his dealings with landowners as can be seen in the case of the Sauce family of Saucestown, Fethard, who accused him of illegally possessing himself of their fathers's (James Sauce who died in November 1686) estate for whom Jacob acted as executor.

Captain Mathew Jacob married Lydia (she married secondly, on 17 November 1683, Godfrey Greene of Moorestown Castle, Clonmel) the daughter of Phanuel Cooke of Garrangibbon near Carrick-on-Suir and had one son, Mathew the MP above, and two daughters. One of the daughters married *Captain Richard Sankey*. Captain Mathew died about 1683 and was buried in the graveyard at Kiltinan, Fethard. He is not mentioned in the land settlements of the Acts of Settlement (1666) and Explanation (1684) which would suggest that he may not have been a Commonwealth officer or have supported financially that grouping.

His son, Mathew the MP above, set about extending the family fortune. In 1703 he purchased 608 statute acres at Jossestown, to the south of Killenaule, for £900; and about the same time he bought 152 statute acres at Cloghetany for £204. In 1727 he purchased the lands of Coolmore, formerly the property of the Everard family, which in time passed to the Sankey family.<sup>12</sup>

#### **JACOB, Mathew.** (MP Fethard, 1727/60).

Mathew Jacob was unanimously chosen to represent the borough of Fethard at the election held on 27 September 1727 and he continued to serve the borough until parliament was dissolved in 1760 by the death of king, George II. He was not a burgess on the Fethard corporation and at no time did he participate in its workings; he had been admitted a freeman in 1720.

This Mathew was the second son of *Mathew Jacob* above and Elizabeth Minchin. He was admitted to the Middle Temple, London on 7 November 1711. He did not marry and the date of his birth is not known. His country residence was at Mobarnane near Fethard which had been given to him by his father. He died on 6 December 1764 and left his estate to his nephew Mathew Jacob (who, on 15 June 1739, had married Ann White of the parish of St. Mary's, Dublin) the son of his brother Samuel.

Jacob was active in parliamentary affairs up to 1745 and served on at least one committee in each parliamentary session, some of which were quite important. For the last fifteen years of the parliament his name is not recorded in the Journals of the House. Mathew Jacob was not a burgess on the Fethard corporation, but was a freeman.<sup>13</sup>

#### **KEARNEY, Dennis.** (MP Cashel, 1689).

Dennis Kearney was elected to represent the borough of Cashel in the special parliament convened by James II to sit at Dublin in May 1689. The records of the election or the daily business of this parliament have not survived. In a list of the several persons outlawed in the court of the King's Bench, Ireland, in 1699/1700, is Denis Kearny, alderman, of Cashel for his part in the late Williamite War. He was probably a member of the merchant class of Cashel – the Conways, the Boytons, and the Kearneys.

The O'Kearneys were reputed to be hereditary custodians of the pastoral staff of the Archbishops of Cashel and for the maintenance of this office they had been endowed with lands about Ballydaugh, Cashel, by the archbishops.

In 1649 a Thomas Kearney, an alderman of Cashel, had 259 statute acres at Rathdangan which he mortgaged to Archball, Archbishop of Cashel. Donogh Kearney of Ballydaugh, parish of Railstown, held, in 1641, 374 statute acres by descent from his ancestors. A Kearney was mayor of Cashel when Fethard surrendered to Oliver Cromwell in February 1650.

The estate of the late Bryan Kearney of Moyglass was administered on 22 June 1639 to his son Donatus. An Everard reference notes that Mary Kearney, alias Comerford, and James Kearney who were administrators to the estate of Bryen Kearney leased a stone house in Fethard on 1 May 1679 from Everard. There are various references to other Kearneys: a Francis died on 30 May 1754 and his son, Dennis, on 24 March 1786; Alice Kearney, spinster, of Cashel, died on 10 May 1746 leaving her estate to her brother Denis Kearney.<sup>14</sup>

**KEARNEY, Patrick.** (MP Cashel, 1585/86).

Patrick Kearney was elected to represent the borough of Cashel in April 1585. According to a *Funeral Entry* manuscript in the National Library, Dublin, the leading Kearney family, and the root-stock out of which the other branches grew, was that of Ballyduagh in the parish of Railstown and barony of Middlethird, and was commonly called Ua Cearna Caisil.

The Cashel branch was probably a merchant family in that place. Patrick son of Paul Kearney who served as burgess on Cashel's corporation and who composed his will on 13 April 1633 may have been the same as the Patrick the MP above. This Patrick was listed as burgess on Cashel's corporation on 18 June 1618. He was married to Ellice (Conway ?) and may have had children. Paul Kearney, the father, was a merchant in Cashel and had been granted a royal pardon on 17 June 1611; he, Patrick, seems to have been the son and heir of the Patrick.

A Patrick Kearney had, in 1640, 366 statute acres in the parish of Erry, barony of Middlethird, by descent from his ancestors. This latter was probably the same Patrick Kearney who was listed as merchant and alderman in the charter of 1638. This Patrick may have been a grandson of the MP above.

Patrick Kearney, the MP, was elected to parliament in the interest of the Earl of Ormond and he was one of those who refused to give his consent to the passing of the Act of Attainder on the Earl of Desmond until Ormond's rights to the Desmond lands in Tipperary had been protected.<sup>15</sup>

**KEARNEY, Philip; and Kearney, James.** (Confederation of Kilkenny, 1642/49).

Philip Kearney, who gave his address as Knockelly, Fethard, served as secretary to the Confederation. According to De Burgo a James Kearney of Ballylosky near Drangan was one of the members on the Supreme Council of the Confederation which met on 10 January 1647. Philip and James were probably brothers.

The Kearney family may well have been merchants in Fethard like their cousins at Cashel. There are no records of any member of the family holding land in the immediate vicinity of Fethard in 1640, but they may well have rented land. The addresses at Knockelly and Ballylosky may be accounted for by such rental.

Philip was the eldest son of Michael Kearney of Fethard (who was the second son of Patrick of Knockanglass where the family held 1,300 statute acres in 1640) and Joan the eldest daughter of Henry FitzGibbon of Lisfunshion parish of Templetenny and barony of Iffa and Offa West. Philip was born on 15 January 1615. As the Kearney family had connections with European education centres it is quite likely that Philip and his later-born brothers received their education in one of those centres. On 28 August 1634 Philip married Ellinor the eldest daughter of John son of Thomas Butler of Derrylconey parish of Relickmurry and barony of Clanwilliam. By this marriage Philip had a son and heir, Michael, who was born on 5

August 1637 and whose will was dated at Fethard on 11 July 1716. Philip and Ellinor had another son, John, who was born in September 1640; and there may have been another son named Augustin.

As noted Philip became secretary to the Confederation and many of the letters and directives issued above his name have been published in Sir John Gilbert's work on that body.

In February 1657 a 'Mr. Kearney' compiled the 'Memorials of the Warr begunn in 1641, etc.' which is to be found among the Thomas Carte manuscripts in the Bodleian Library, Oxford. This 'Mr. Kearney' was James, above, of Fethard. James Kearney of Ballylosky may have been a brother to Philip above. Michael Kearney and Joan FitzGibbon of Fethard had as their seventh son James who was born on 24 July 1625. He married and had children, though the individual names have not survived. This James may have been the James Kearney who was granted a decree of innocence by the Commonwealth in the 1650s. Daughters of his, married into members of the Nagle family of Co. Cork; one of them being married to Sir Richard Nagle who served as Attorney-General of Ireland under James II. In the Hearth Tax returns of the mid 1660s there is mention of a Donogh Kearney living at Priorstown in the parish of Drangan.<sup>16</sup>

#### **LAFFAN, Thomas.** (MP Cross Tipperary, 1613/15).

Thomas Laffan was elected on 15 April 1613 to represent the county of Cross Tipperary.

The Laffan family occupied, in 1640, a good castle with a large bawn sited on a rocky outcrop in the townland of Graystown (Ballingree) in the parish of the same name and barony of Slieveardagh. Attached to the castle was a stone house. The ruins of both can be seen to this day.

Thomas Laffan, one of seven children, was the eldest son and heir of James Laffan of Graystown and Elinor Grace. Thomas may well have received his education abroad. He married firstly Ellen the daughter of Thomas Denn of Grenane, Co. Kilkenny, and with her he had two sons and six daughters. The elder son, Henry, married firstly Margaret the daughter Edmond Mandeville of Ballydine, Kilsheelan, and secondly Ellan the daughter of John Butler of Mountgarret. The second son, Edward Laffan, died young and unmarried. The daughters were married into the lesser gentry landowners of Co. Tipperary: the Mandevilles of Ballydine, McEgan of Kiltworoe in Lower Ormond, O'Dwyer of Knockgorman, Kearney of Ballyduagh, the White family of Clonmel, and Butler of Poulakerry, Kilsheelan.

Thomas Laffan, the MP, married secondly Joan the daughter of Edmond Tobin of Kilnagranagh in the parish of Cloneen and barony of Middlethird. By this marriage Thomas had five sons and five daughters. At the time of their father's death most of them were young and unmarried.

Thomas Laffan died at Lurgoe in the parish of Graystown on 6 December 1638 and was buried at St. Patrick's Church, Cashel, on 10 December following. He was succeeded by his eldest son, Henry. In 1640 Henry Laffan held 3,200 statute acres at Noan and Graystown. Henry's son, Marcus, held 640 statute acres at Lurgoe. All this land passed to *Elijah Greene*, even though Henry had submitted to the Peace of 1648. The family's great loss may have been owed to Marcus, Thomas's grandson, having served as a commissioner to the Confederation of Kilkenny for the levying of troops and taxes.

The earliest known member of this family was a Henry Laffan who, in 1294/95, was granted one carucate of land in the barony of Slieveardagh, in that area 'which is called

Graystown'. The next known member of the family was a John Laffan, possibly a son of Richard, who was recorded in an Ormond Deed dated August 1364 as being 'lately Seneschal of the Liberty' of Tipperary. This John also served as Sheriff of the Liberty in 1341 and 1344.

In 1375 a Henry Laffan of Graystown was Sheriff of the Liberty. He had a son John. By the beginning of the fifteenth century there were Laffans holding land at Graystown, Boelick and Mogorban with each of the families having given names such as Henry or John. Untangling the families, and especially the Graystown branch, in this century can be difficult when an address is not supplied. A Thomas Laffan, gentleman, from the barony of Sleveardagh was called to Clonmel on 4 September 1432 to attend on the Earl of Ormond and his Seneschal. This was probably the same Thomas Laffan who was cited as a free tenant in the barony of Sleveardagh in 1446/47.

On 22 December 1483 a Thomas Laffan, son of Thomas, was recorded as bailiff to the precentor of Cashel Cathedral. This may have been the same Thomas who, on 28 July 1521, styled himself Lord of Ballygroy (Graystown), but he must have been dead by January 1525 because in that year James Laffan of Ballingrey (Graystown) was listed among the jurors summoned to attend at the manor of Kiltinane (near Fethard) and James was called in a similar capacity to Crampcastle (also near Fethard) on 3 November 1541. To confuse the issue, however, a deed bearing dated 17 November 1542 records a James Laffan of Noan, Killenaule. This may be the same James; or possibly a cousin. The son and heir of James was probably the Henry Laffan of Graystown recorded in a deed of 5 November 1558.

The next known member of the family is James Laffan of Ballyngrey/Graystown. He was probably son of Henry and grandson of James above. In 1563 James Laffan of Graystown held lands in the barony of Sleveardagh to the value of £30. In a deed dated 16 July 1571 it was recorded that James owed £200 to Edward Butler of Callan. Gentlemen landowners were often strapped for cash when it came to dowering their daughters. On 26 January 1575 he served as executor to the estate of Richard Archdekin of Bawnmore, Galmoy, Co. Kilkenny, until the latter gained his majority. James served as Sheriff of Co. Tipperary in 1585/86 and again in 1592. On 24 March 1593 he was appointed one of the commissioners which met at Nenagh to inquire into the attainder of Donill McEe O'Mulyryan. In 1597 he served as Sheriff of the Liberty of Tipperary.

James Laffan married Elinor Grace, had five sons, Thomas, Edward, John, Patrick and Richard, and two daughters, one of whom married *Geoffrey Mockler*. James Laffan married secondly Rose Archer, the widow of Edmond Butler of Callan (Butler had died in January 1586 and was Second Justice of the Common Pleas) sometime before 1592. Rose Archer was the sister of Fr. Archer, the noted Jesuit. By this second marriage James Laffan seems not to have had any children. His will was dated 27 August 1607 and proved on 2 September following. James was succeeded by Thomas the MP above.<sup>17</sup>

### **LE HUNT, Richard. (MP Cashel, 1661-66).**

Richard Le Hunt was elected to represent the borough of Cashel on 4 April 1661; and parliament first assembled on 18 May following. In politics he probably represented the Commonwealth faction in the county which still had some power in the boroughs. This, incidentally, was the first parliament to meet in Chichester House the site of the later Parliament House.

A Sir George Le Hunt of Little Bradley, Suffolk, who served as Sheriff of that county in

1610, married firstly Barbara daughter of Sir Ralph Shelton of Norfolk and had three sons and two daughters who were born between 1603 and 1613. Sir George married secondly Elizabeth the daughter of Sir John Peyton of Isleham (she was then a widow) and with her he had two sons and five daughters. The younger son of this latter marriage was Richard Le Hunt, the MP above, who was baptised on 10 August 1620. Sir George was one of the small band of gentry in Suffolk who were ardently Catholic in religion and who had suffered under the Elizabethan penal laws. In the Civil Wars of the 1640s he was a Royalist as were the sons of his first marriage. The two sons of the second marriage supported parliament.

Of Richard's young life nothing seems to be known. At the start of the Civil Wars in England he was listed as a cornet of dragoons in Essex's army (which was sympathetic to the parliamentary side) and by 1644 he had risen to captain in Fleetwood's regiment of horse. He served as major among Fairfax's officers at the siege of Newark in November 1645. He later served under Cromwell in South Wales; and, in June 1648, while at the siege of Pembroke Cromwell ordered Fairfax to promote Le Hunt to the rank of Colonel in command of a troop of horse. So before he came to Ireland he had had considerable military experience. In his religious and political opinions he was described as one of the fanatical Independents (which included such men as Milton, Cromwell and Sir Harry Vane). The Independents were Calvinist in tone and in religion they affirmed the rights of persons to meet together for worship without being interfered with by any external authority such as bishops.

Richard came into Ireland in 1649 as a colonel in command of Cromwell's life-guards. He seems to have come with a brother who may have been the Peyton Le Hunt who, together with Charles Fleetwood, Henry Prittie, Daniel Abbot, Hierome Sankey and Thomas Stanley, signed a letter Cromwell the Lord Protector, dated May/June 1655, deploring the conditions suffered by protestantism in Piedmont.

Soon after Richard's arrival in Ireland Cromwell, in May 1650, appointed him to raise a regiment of foot in the country, but this operation did not go ahead as Le Hunt was captured by pirates operating out of the Scilly Isles on the south-west coast of England. This happened about March 1651 and Le Hunt was held by them until the Isles were later cleaned out by Blake. As a consequence of this capture, and the fact that Ireton was opposed to the creation of such a regiment, the project came to nothing. Instead, then, of commanding a new regiment Le Hunt was given the command of Colonel Tothill's regiment of foot on 16 June 1651. Tothill had been disgraced and dismissed before Limerick by Ireton. This last regiment was disbanded in August 1653 and Le Hunt's military career seems to have ended. However, he was to serve as an officer in the Tipperary Militia in the 1660s.

Up to November 1656 Le Hunt had received about £34,000 from Parliament as payment for his services and for his soldiers, but he contended that he was still owed £850. He petitioned for lands about Cashel as settlement for this debt.

In the land settlement of 1654 he received 295 statute acres in the barony of Sleveardagh and 2,803 statute acres in the barony of Kilnamanagh. And on 12 April 1658 Colonel Richard Le Hunt and *Elias Greene* were tenants of lands at Cappagh, Co. Tipperary. When the dust of land change had finally settled, Richard Le Hunt, by the terms of the Acts of Settlement and Explanation and by certificate bearing date 6 July 1666, was the owner of 3,110 acres, 3 roods and 25 perches, statute measure, in the barony of Kilnamanagh. And his total holding in Cos. Wexford and Tipperary now stood at 10,024 acres, 1 rood and 19 perches, statute

measure. But these new landowners were not having it all their own way. On 15 December 1665, for example, Le Hunt petitioned the House of Commons for aid in restoring him to the 'House and Lands of Cullentragh' in Co. Wexford. Parliament ordered the local Sheriff to give Le Hunt whatever assistance was necessary. Already, in 1660, Le Hunt, together with the Clonmel MPs, *Sir Thomas Stanley*, *Bartholomew Foulk* and others of a like political persuasion held a meeting at Cashel which expressed great alarm at the number of Irish officers returning from Europe and claiming loyalty to the restored monarchy. Of course these officers were also laying claim to their former estates now in the hands of soldiers and adventurers such as Le Hunt. The king attempted to reconcile these conflicting interests by the Declaration of 30 November 1660, by the Act of Settlement of 1662, and by the Act of Explanation of 1666. The group that met at Cashel drew up a petition demanding the confirmation of their newly-acquired land titles. In October 1660 Le Hunt was arrested, but he seems to have made his peace with the new regime after a fashion. The power of the Adventurers and Commonwealth soldiers must have still had great political strength in south Tipperary as the election of Le Hunt and other borough members in the county was to demonstrate.

About 1658 he married Mary the daughter of Thomas Lloyd of Cileyfedd in Pembrokeshire and had children. In his will Richard mentions that he had sons and daughters, but does not specify them by name. His wife Mary, in her will, records two sons, George and Charles. However, from other sources it is possible to put names to those children. George, his son and heir, Charles, Mary who married Francis Bolton of Clonyharp, Co. Tipperary, Jane who married *Samuel Hughes*, and a daughter who married John Buckworth. Colonel Richard had a brother, George, whose will was dated at Haverford West, Pembroke, on 20 May 1696.

In a letter to Lady Ormonde, dated from Cashel on 12 April 1658, Colonel Richard Le Hunte and *Elias Greene*, wrote that they held the tenancy of the lands at Cappagh, Co. Tipperary, and that it was their hope to continue doing so. Following the Restoration (1660) an address was submitted to the King desiring that 'all godly Ministers of the Gospel' that had laboured among the Protestant community in Tipperary should be continued in their ministry was actively promoted by Colonel Richard Le Hunt and *Sir Thomas Stanley*. All who signed this petition were known to be fanatical in their opposition to the Restoration.

In May/June of 1667 Colonel Richard Le Hunte was requesting a thirty-one-year lease on (Butler ?) lands at Shanballyduffe. (Among the Jurors at the Clonmel Assizes of 1683/84 was Thomas Buckworth of Shanballyduffe). In 1656 Colonel Richard served as High Sheriff for Co. Tipperary. On 2 May 1668 a lease of 2,700 statute acres in Shanballyduffe was issued in the name of Mary Le Hunte, widow, so the Colonel must have been dead by this date. A list of the Officers of the Tipperary Militia, dated 21 April 1669, noted that Colonel Richard Le Hunte was dead. The will of Richard Le Hunte was dated 29 March 1668 and was proved on 19 April 1668. It mentions only the name of his wife Mary Le Hunte. But Mary Le Hunte, in her will dated 16 January 1689, does mention her family. She had sons George and Charles, and daughters Mary (died c. 1694) who married Richard (or Francis ?) Bolton, Jane who married Samuel Hughes, and Anne (died c. 1702) who married Thomas Buckworth of Shanballyduffe and who were the parents of *Richard Buckworth*.

Richard Le Hunt was succeeded by his son George who married Alice Leger of Cappagh, Co. Tipperary and had five sons and three daughters. George may have moved back to

Pembroke as his will is dated Haverford West on 20 May 1696. The eldest son of George and Alice was George who was an alderman on Cashel's corporation in 1727, but later moved to Ballymartin, Co. Wexford; and another son, Richard, was MP for Enniscorthy in 1713/14 and 1715/47. Alderman George married and had two sons, Richard of Altramount, Co. Wexford, who died c. 1779/83, and George. The family was still living in Co. Wexford in the late nineteenth century.<sup>18</sup>

**LITTLE, Thomas.** (MP Cashel, 1634/35, 1640/49).

Thomas Little was first elected to represent the borough of Cashel on 21 June 1634; his second election was held in March 1640.

Thomas Little was described as 'my lord deputy's secretary'. He had come to Ireland as private secretary to Thomas Wentworth, the lord deputy. In the election of 1634 he had been recommended for the borough of Lismore, Co. Waterford, but had instead obtained that of Cashel. Both he and his son Thomas (who sat for the borough of Banagher, Co. Offaly in the same parliament) were members of a group on whose loyalty the lord deputy Thomas Wentworth could rely. Little, for seven years in the 1630s, had been employed in the customs.

Administration of the goods of Thomas Little of Chester was granted on 23 January 1653. Elizabeth was listed as his widow. And Thomas Little of Chester, the son of above, had administration of his goods granted on 3 April 1676. The next-of-kin was his daughter Anna Barter.

Thomas Little is not recorded in the Journals of the House of Commons for the years 1634/35. On 25 February 1640, Little was called upon to explain his absence from the House. Though the election for the 1640-49 parliament was held in February 1640, the writ for an election was not issued to 'Thomas Little from the City of Cashel, Co. Tipperary' until 5 March 1640. The only other reference to Little in the journals of the House for the 1640s is that on 4 June 1641 a committee was appointed to examine allegations that Little had referred to the members of the House as 'Teigs'. Little was later to serve as Escheator of Munster.<sup>19</sup>

**LYSAGHT, Hon. Joseph.** (MP Cashel, 1798/99).

Joseph Lysaght was elected to represent the borough of Cashel at the general election of September 1797. He resigned his seat on 7 March 1799 probably due to ill-health as he died on 8 August 1799; it is possible that he may have wished to avoid voting on the Act of Union which was then being debated. He served as MP for Youghal between 1768 and 1776, but in the intervening twenty years between the latter date and his election for Cashel he did not sit in parliament.

He was the second son of John Lysaght of Mount North, Co. Cork, and Catherine the daughter and co-heir of Joseph Deane. Joseph's younger sister, Mary, had married *Kingsmill Pennefather* of Cashel. Joseph's date of birth is uncertain, it may have been 1735 or 1736. His father had married on 17 December 1725. His brother Nicholas was an alderman on Cashel's corporation, and an entry in the minute books of that body noted that he was dead by 29 June 1782. This Nicholas served as MP for the borough of Tallow, Co. Waterford.

Joseph Lysaght was educated by a private tutor and entered Trinity College, Dublin, on 25 January 1753, though he seems to have left without a degree. He was called to the Inner Temple in 1756 to train in the law and was called to the Bar in 1761. In 1776 he was conferred with the (honorary ?) degree of LL.D.



Between 1787 and 1799 his name was to be found in a list of judges and barristers, so he may have practised in that profession. He held two sinecures: Collector of the Port of Cork Excise between 1765 and his death, for which he was paid £800 per year, and Collector of Excise for Cork from 1789 to 1791 and again in 1799. The latter was, on one occasion, worth £500 a year. It may well be that he had to rely on these two sinecures for his daily maintenance. But both positions were very much dependant on his slavish support of government.

He married, on 6 June 1795, Henrietta the widow of John Godsell who was the eldest daughter of St. Leger, 1st Viscount Doneraile. They had no children.

The earliest known member of the Lysaght family was a John who was serving as a cornet in the army of Lord Inchiquin in the 1640s. He was succeeded by a son Nicholas who served in the army of William III at the Battle of the Boyne. This Nicholas had a son who was also named Nicholas.

The will of the latter Nicholas was dated 24 September 1724 and was proved on 7 May 1726. According to it Nicholas had three sons, John (his heir), Nicholas, and Arthur, and two daughters. There was no mention of his wife's name so she may have been dead by this time. There may have been a connection with the Croker family of Ballyneguarde, Co. Limerick, as *John Croker* was one of the witnesses to the will.

John, the heir, was elevated to the peerage of Ireland on 18 September 1758 as Baron Lisle of Mountnorth. He married firstly, in 1725, Catherine the third daughter and co-heir of Baron Deane of the Court of Exchequer. By this marriage he had, John (his heir), Joseph (the MP above), James (who in time was to serve as Recorder to the Cashel corporation), Margaret, and Mary (who married Kingsmill Pennefather of Cashel). John Lysaght married secondly, in 1746, Elizabeth the only daughter of Edward Moore of Mooresfort, Co. Tipperary, and had one son and two daughters. John Baron Lisle died in 1781.<sup>20</sup>

To be continued.

## References

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- <sup>3</sup>Hubert Gallwey, 'Proprietors of Fethard, Co. Tipperary, 1641-63', *Irish Genealogist*, vi, p.6; Thomas Laffan, *Tipperary Families: Being the Hearth Money Records for 1665-6-7*, (Dublin, 1911), 113; W.P. Pakenham-Walsh, *Family of Hackett*, NAI Ms. 1810, f.15; *Calender of State Papers. Ireland, 1611-14*, pp. 355, 359/60.
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- <sup>5</sup>Joseph Foster, *The Register of Admissions to Gray's Inns, 1521-1889*, (London, 1889), p.220; Jane Ohlmeyer, 'Irish Recusant Lawyers during the Reign of Charles I', in Micheál Ó Siochru (ed), *Kingdoms in Crisis: Ireland in the 1640s*, (Dublin, 2001), pp.85/89; Donal F. Cregan, 'Irish Catholic Admissions to the English Inns of Court,

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