

Parliamentary Representation for County Tipperary, 1560-1800

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Part 8.

(Names in italics are themselves the subjects of biographies; continued from THJ 2006, pp. 43-62)

MAUDE, Anthony. (MP Cashel, 1695-99).

Anthony Maude of Dundrum, Co. Tipperary, was elected to represent the borough of Cashel on 13 August 1695. He had been admitted a freeman of that borough on 31 July 1695 by a majority vote of the council with just sufficient time to make him eligible to stand for the parliamentary elections, but he was not sworn to the honour until the elections had ended. Maude had been elected for the borough of Knocktopher, Co. Kilkenny, in the previous parliament of 1692/93, but was unseated on a petition.

Anthony Maude was the only son of Colonel Robert Maude (who died 21 April 1685) of Ripon in Yorkshire, and Frances the fourth daughter of Sir Christopher Wandesford of Castlecomer. Anthony, who was born in 1638, entered Trinity College, Cambridge, on 12 May 1655 and matriculated from there in 1656. He had enrolled in Gray's Inn, London, on 28 May 1655. He may have made his living in the practice of law and later in life he certainly had plenty of money to loan to impecunious landowners at a good rate of interest.

Anthony married firstly, on 26 November 1666, Mary Charleton (on whom her father settled lands in Cos. Tipperary and Cork) and seems to have had no children. Perhaps she died in childbirth. He married secondly, on 20 February 1671, Alice the eldest daughter of Sir Standish Hartstonge of Bruff, Co. Limerick. By this latter marriage Anthony had two sons, Robert who was admitted to Trinity College, Dublin, on 10 July 1693 aged sixteen years, and Anthony who also entered Trinity College, Dublin, on 8 July 1695 aged seventeen years; and two daughters, one of whom died young in 1670, and Anne who married as her first husband Rev. Jerome Ryves, Dean of St. Patrick's Dublin, (they had a daughter, also Anne, who married Thomas le Hunte, the MP for Wexford in 1735/68) and as her second

husband Sylvester Crosse, the MP., who had been admitted a freeman of Cashel on 25 April 1701.

In his political life Anthony Maude was accused of having Jacobite sympathies, but this may have been no more than political rivalry. He did serve as High Sheriff for Co. Tipperary in 1686. However, while in parliament, on 28 March 1696, he was one of the many MPs who signed a declaration accepting William 3rd as the lawful king of Ireland.

Anthony Maude died in 1701/02 and administration of his goods was granted to his son Robert on 20 February 1702.

The Maude that came into Ireland originated in West Riddlesden and Ripon in Yorkshire. The Yorkshire branch is reputed to have come from the family at Chester in the former county of Flint; the Irish descendants took their titles from Hawarden Castle which lies about five miles south-west of Chester and from Montalt (or Molde) in Flintshire.

On 23 February 1605 a Robert Mawde of Heltwayte Hill, Yorkshire, a son of Anthony, was admitted to Gray's Inns, London. A Thomas Maude who was living at that place had a son Colonel Robert who, in the 1640s, sold the family property and moved to Ireland, probably in the Parliamentary army, where he purchased lands in Kilkenny and Tipperary. In compensation for his military efforts as a colonel he was granted large tracts of land in the barony of Kilnamanagh in Co. Tipperary. When the dust of the Acts of Settlement and Explanation of the 1660s had settled Robert Maude was left in possession of about 9,000 statute acres at Ballintemple (which included Dundrum Castle), Kilt Patricke, Donohill, Clonoulty and Clogher, all in the Kilnamanagh. He also held some portions of land in East Carbery, Co. Cork, and Duleek, Co. Meath. In the hearth-tax returns of the 1660s he is shown as having a house, probably a tower house, with six fireplaces. Following the land settlements the Maudes had a secure base in west Tipperary, a base they were to enjoy the benefits of for the next two hundred years.

Robert Maude married Frances the fourth daughter of Sir Christopher Wandesford of Castlecomer, Co. Kilkenny and left one son, Anthony (the MP above), who succeeded him, and two daughters. Robert died on 21 April 1685 and was buried in St. Mary's Church, Kilkenny; his wife died on 5 January 1691.

Robert, the son of Anthony the MP above, succeeded his father at Dundrum when the latter died in 1701/02. He attended Trinity College, Dublin on 10 July 1693 and entered the Middle Temple, London, on 31 March 1696.

The family, it seems, favoured careers in the law. But Robert moved to a career in politics and later sat in parliament for the boroughs of Gowran, Co. Kilkenny, in 1703, St. Canice, Kilkenny, in 1713 and again in 1715, and for Bangor, Co. Down, in 1727. He was sworn a freeman of Cashel corporation on 25 April 1701. On 9 May 1705 he was created a baronet. Though Robert seems to have been a Tory in politics he did not alienate the violent Whig party which came to power in 1715. In January 1718 he married Eleanor the daughter and heiress of Francis Cornwallis of Acton in Middlesex and Albemarlais in Carmarthenshire. By this union he had five sons: Anthony, the eldest, who died aged three months in June 1721; William who died young; Robert who died of smallpox aged twenty one years and unmarried on 8 December 1756; Sir Thomas the MP below; and Sir Cornwallis through whom the Maude line continued; one of his three daughters; Alice who was baptised on 5 August 1724, married *Stephen Moore*, the MP,

Sir Robert died of gout on 4 August 1750, aged seventy-four years and was buried in St. Anne's Church, Dublin, with his children. He was succeeded by his son Sir Thomas, the MP below.¹

MAUDE, Sir Thomas. (MP Co. Tipperary, 1761-76).

Sir Thomas Maude contested the general elections of 1761 and 1768, but he did not participate in the election which was completed on Wednesday 29 May 1776. By the latter date Maude may have realised that his chances of re-election may have been slim. At a meeting held at Nenagh in November 1773 a large segment of the county electorate had

expressed its distaste for MPs who slavishly supported government or accepted government appointments. And Maude had been promised a place in the Irish peerage which would free him from the shackles of the Tipperary voters. None the less his ambitions were not fulfilled until July 1776, two months after the general election.

The general election of 1761 was an intensely sectarian and closely fought contest. The three candidates for the county were *Henry Prittie* of Kilboy, *Thomas Mathew* of Annfield, and Sir Thomas Maude. This election was held in Clonmel and opened on Tuesday 28 April 1761 before the High Sheriff Richard Waller. Waller, it should be noted, was a 'red-hot' Protestant and so, most likely, a Maude partisan. According to Mathew when the poll closed on 8 May the record stood as follows, Prittie 924 votes, Mathew 532, and Maude 496. After the closure a scrutiny of votes was called for which opened on Thursday 14 May and closed at 6.0pm on Saturday 16 May. In that period some 122 votes were examined of which fifty-five were for Maude and sixty-seven for Mathew. At the end of the scrutiny Sheriff Waller forwarded Prittie as elected to the first parliamentary seat and he bracketed both Mathew and Maude for the second seat which meant that both of the latter had to petition the Commons Election committee for a resolution. At the committee sessions the usual suspects were trotted out: Papists, bribery, non-resident voters. As the Committee of Elections was unable to agree the question it passed to the House of Commons. 'The Sheriff of Co. Tipperary was examined by the House yesterday [13 November 1761] and came off with flying colours, tho' he was very apprehensive it would be otherwise, by what I could see'. So wrote the Dublin lawyer of Henry Cole Bowen to his client at Bowen's Court, Co. Cork. And he went on to assure Bowen that Sir Thomas's seat 'is quite certain'. The writer also noted that 'when one of Mr. Mathew's friends [he had about twenty such in the House] attempted to speak there was much coughing and snorting, but none when Sir Thomas's friends spoke - except the word "well mov'd" when the question was called for which was often done, there was not a negative against the matter being determined in the manner which I have above mentioned' which was that Maude would get the second seat. The members of the Commons, having looked with some horror at the perceived rising power of Catholics, voted by sixty-seven votes to seventeen to declare Sir Thomas the winner. And Mathew was forced to withdraw his petition.

The dispute between Mathew and Maude extended even to their election agents, Daniel Gahan of Coolquill (for Maude) and Prendergast of Ballylomasney (for Mathew); both agents fought a duel in which Prendergast was fatally wounded and Gahan barely escaped with his life from an enraged Clonmel mob.

The general election which closed at noon on Friday 29 July 1768 was a quieter affair. The candidates were Sir Thomas Maude with 696 votes, *Francis Mathew* with 621 votes, *Henry Prittie* with 596 votes, and John Bagwell of Kilmore, Clonmel, 371 votes. The High Sheriff, Anthony Parker the younger, of Castletown, Co. Tipperary, returned Maude and Mathew as the elected MPs. It should be noted that Maude was the leader in all the election counts. As noted above under the sketch of *Anthony Maude*, Sir Thomas was the fourth son and heir of Sir Robert Maude and Eleanor Cornwallis of Acton in Middlesex. Sir Thomas was born at Dublin, privately educated at Leixlip, and entered Trinity College, Dublin, on 4 December 1744, when he gave his age as seventeen years. He appears to have left Trinity without a degree and may have done so following the death of his brother Robert. He became a member of the Royal Dublin Society in 1756.

On his return to the county Sir Thomas began an interest in local politics. He was admitted as a freeman of Cashel Corporation on 29 September 1749 as had been his father and grandfather. He was a member of the Grand Jury sitting at Clonmel on 16 March 1761; he was appointed High Sheriff for the county on 10 January 1765; and he was one of the governors of the county in 1770.

On coming into his inheritance he lived at Dundrum where, according to Arthur Young who visited there on 12 October 1776, he had 'a very good estate'. Young was of the opinion that 'His Lordship's system of husbandry is an admirable one'; and goes on to note that when leases 'fell-in' on Sir Thomas's estate he took back the land into his possession, improved it by drainage, manuring and 'throwing down the miserable fences which split the farms into little scraps of fields'. The enlarged and improved farm was presently leased at a higher rent. Sir Thomas also held about 2,000 acres of demesne land on which he introduced better feeding methods (indeed almost similar to what passes for modernity today) for cattle; new means of rearing pigs; and improvements in the breeds of sheep. In short, an improving landlord, but at what cost to the tenants he inherited; especially as he may have moved, long before the lease expired, against a tenant who excessively subdivided his little holding. As a modern historian of the barony of Clanwilliam has written: 'Clearance while compatible with efficient estate management made for poor tenant relations.'

All the improvements must have generated much employment in the Dundrum area, employment that may not have been passed to local Catholics. Sir Thomas certainly had no Catholic servants in his mansion at Dundrum, being able to tolerate only those of the Protestant religion about his person. Among his peers Sir Thomas was personally disliked and he was described as ungenerous in his dealings with people. His active support for Protestant values and his voting against the Catholic Relief measure of 1774 did not endear him to Catholics in Tipperary; and he was seen as the man who did most to forward the trial and execution of Father Nicholas Sheehy. In short a perfervid Protestant.

Sir Thomas, having assiduously cultivated government from the date of his entry to parliament, was finally granted his place in the Irish peerage on 18 July 1776 with the title of 1st Baron de Montalt and he was given a seat on the Irish Privy Council. But Sir Thomas did not long enjoy his new honours as he died unmarried at Dundrum on 17 May 1777 and with his death the Montalt honour became extinct. However, the baronetcy and the estate, which because of the modernising schemes was now burdened with a debt of £27,000, passed to his brother Sir Cornwallis.

Sir Cornwallis Maude was baptised on 19 September 1729. He married firstly, on 6 August 1756, Letitia Vernon of Stanbury Hall, Worcester; she died in 1757 leaving a daughter. Sir Cornwallis married secondly, on 10 June 1766, Mary Allen of Prior Park, Somerset; she died in 1775 leaving a son and three daughters. This son, Thomas Ralph Maude, became the heir. Sir Cornwallis married thirdly, in June 1777, Anne Isabella the daughter of Thomas Monck, Counsellor-at-Law. This last marriage produced five sons (one of whom, Cornwallis, succeeded his brother Thomas Ralph to the titles and estates) and six daughter (one of whom, Emily, married in 1826 Henry Prittie of Kilboy, the 2nd Lord Dunally, as his second wife).

Sir Cornwallis purchased his Commons seat for the borough of Roscommon in 1783 and on entering parliament offered his vote to government in the expectation that his late brother's baronetcy (Baron de Montalt) would be re-created and offered to him. The baronetcy was conferred on him on 29 June 1785, and he was given further promotion in

the Irish peerage by being advanced as Viscount Hawarden on 10 June 1791. However, he seldom attended the House of Lords and took little interest in its affairs. When the Act of Union was being debated he supported the Union with Great Britain.

He had been a member of the Royal Dublin Society since 1778, but did not have his brother's interest in the estate at Dundrum. Instead he invested his money in such projects as the great flour mill at Marlfield, Clonmel. However, under him the estate did survive intact and by the end of the eighteenth century his annual rental income was estimated to be £12,000.

Sir Cornwallis Maude, Viscount Hawarden, died in 1803.

He was succeeded by his eldest son, Thomas Ralph Maude who was born on 16 April 1767 and became the 2nd Viscount Hawarden. In 1803 he married Francis Anne Agar the only daughter of Charles Agar (Archbishop of Cashel, 1779/1801, Archbishop of Dublin, 1801/09, and promoted 1st Earl Normanton in 1806); they had no children. Frances Agar brought with her a dowry of £15,000 which was very welcome as the Maude estate was still burdened with debt. However, the Archbishop was none too enamoured of the marriage between his daughter and an impecunious peer. Thomas Ralph died on 26 February 1807 and was succeeded to the titles and estates by his half-brother, Cornwallis.

Cornwallis Maude, the 3rd Viscount Hawarden, was born on 28 March 1780, the eldest son of Sir Cornwallis and his third wife Anne Isabella Monck. The 3rd Viscount married, on 8 July 1811, Jane the youngest daughter of Patrick Crawford Bruce of Taplow Lodge, Buckinghamshire. They had four daughters and one son. The 3rd Viscount died on 12 October 1856 and was succeeded by his only son. This 3rd Viscount carried out widespread evictions on his Dundrum estate between 1830 and 1845 (some 144 families were put off the land) so as to increase his demesne lands and to re-settle the remainder of the property with Protestant tenants.

The 4th Viscount, also named Cornwallis, was born on 4 April 1817; he married, on 24 March 1845, Clementina the eldest daughter of Admiral Charles Elphinstone Fleming and had daughters and a son named Cornwallis Maude who died in the lifetime of his father in South Africa at the battle of Majuba Hill in 1881. The 4th Viscount was further promoted as 1st Earl de Montalt, but this title became extinct when he died in 1905. The viscountcy then passed to cousins and the house and estate at Dundrum were sold, ironically, to an order of Catholic nuns. Today the Maude family live at Wingham in Kent and the 9th Viscount Hawarden succeeded in September 1991.²

MEADE, Sir John. (MP Co. Tipperary, 1692/93, 1695/99, 1703/07).

Before his election as a member for county Tipperary in 1692 Sir John Meade of Ballintober, Co. Cork, had sat for Trinity College, Dublin, in the parliament of May 1689 which was in essence a Catholic parliament. According to Archbishop King of Dublin the two college representatives in this latter parliament had to be prevailed on to stand because 'the university must choose and it could not stand with their honour to choose papists'. Therefore, Meade was not seen as having betrayed the Protestant interest.

When elections for the Irish parliament of the new king, William 3rd, came on Sir John was put forward for County Tipperary in the Duke of Ormonde's and Tory interests. He was elected on 18 September 1692, on 21 August 1695 and again on 9 September 1703. In parliament, on 28 March 1696, Sir John was one of a number of MPs who signed an address

declaring William 3rd to be the lawful King of Ireland. Meade may have felt expedient to do so because, in 1692, Viscount Sydney, the lord lieutenant, had made a reference that, 'his [Meade's] wife is a papist'.

Sir John was born in 1642 as the son and heir of Lieut.-Col. William Meade of Ballintober and Elizabeth the daughter of Sir Robert Travers. Since 1636 William Meade had held lands at Crogh, Co. Cork, which had been mortgaged by Maurice, Viscount Roche. Sir John was privately educated at Kinsale and entered Trinity College, Dublin, on 20 May 1658, when he gave his age as sixteen. He attended the Middle Temple, London, on 2 November 1661 and the King's Inn, Dublin, on 28 May 1668.

Sir John's early life may have been spent in private practice and he seems not to have come to public notice until he was knighted in August 1678. In his private years Sir John must have enjoyed considerable wealth in the years between 1660 and 1690 (possibly through his marrying rich heiresses) as he was in a position to loan such considerable sums as £800 and £1,000 to impecunious Cork landowners such as John Barret and the Earl of Clancarty. Such loans were given, naturally, on the security of their lands and the Court of Claims Sir John secured the use of those lands until the debts were repaid. By such loans Sir John obtained the use of a considerable amount of property in Barrets barony and Muskerry, Co. Cork, in the years before he became MP for Tipperary. As can be seen in south Tipperary in this period landowners were in the main asset-rich, but extremely strapped for cash; and so a man flush with money could improve his standing.

By the 1680s Meade was coming to the attention of Ormonde's officials and family. For example, on 28 May 1682 the Earl of Arran wrote to his father the Duke: 'I got one to sound Sir John Meade about your chief judge's place in Tipperary and do find that he will willingly accept it and that will bring your courts there [the Liberty of Tipperary] into credit again....' On 26 November of the same year the commission to appoint Sir John as Chief Justice of the Liberty was being prepared.

Following his employment in the Ormonde Liberty, Sir John turned his attention to Tipperary. He was, for example, one of a number of subscribers who paid for the casting of a set of bells for St. Mary's (Protestant) church in Clonmel. In the interests of his personal finance he leased about 4,000 acres in the area around Golden in 1697 which he generally set out to Protestant head-tenants, in 1702 and 1703 he converted this lease into a fee-farm grant; in 1724 his son purchased outright the title to this large estate and enhanced it by obtaining, in 1739, the right to hold a fair at Golden. An indenture, dated 8 March 1705, records that Sir John had property at Mount Ormonde in the barony of Clanwilliam. And the Duke of Ormonde was a good friend to Sir John in that the latter was secure in his parliamentary place in the years between 1692 and 1707.

Sir John married firstly, in 1671, to Mary the daughter and heiress of James Copinger of Co. Cork, but she died without leaving children. He married secondly, on 14 June 1680, Elizabeth the daughter and co-heiress of Colonel Daniel Redman of Ballylinch, Co. Kilkenny, by whom he had one daughter. Redman had been granted about 1,900 plantation acres in Co. Kilkenny of which he gave half on his death to his elder daughter who had married Lord Ikerrin and the remainder to his second daughter on her marriage to Sir John. Though she bore him no son Elizabeth Redman's inheritance greatly benefited Sir John's fortune. As his third wife (she was nineteen and he was forty six) he married, on 14 June 1688, Elizabeth (she was the papist wife referred to by the lord lieutenant) the daughter of Pierce Butler, 2nd

Viscount Ikerrin. She brought with her a dower of £1,000. By this last marriage Sir John had four sons and five daughters. The eldest son and heir was William who was born on 18 June 1689, but he died of a fever unmarried on 5 June 1702 in the lifetime of his father; James, the second son, who died an infant; Pierce, the third son who inherited, and who became the 2nd Baronet; and Richard who became the 3rd Baronet; of the daughters Catherine married (as her second husband) Nehemiah Donnellan of Nenagh who served as MP for Co. Tipperary in 1727/60.

Sir John may have suffered from poor health during the last ten years of his life. The Commons Journals record his being allowed to absent himself from the House on the grounds of sickness while parliament was sitting. Sir John Meade died on 12 January 1707.

The family of Meade are presumed to have come into Ireland from Bristol sometime in the late thirteenth century. There is a reference, dated 10 June 1297, in the Justiciary Rolls to a Henry Myagh. The family prospered in Co. Cork and about 1340 one Adam Meagh possessed a large estate in the neighbourhood of Buttevant. From Adam the Meade families of Meadstown Castle, Tisaxon, Killany and Ballintober were descended and continued to prosper. By the end of the sixteenth century one John Meade was a 2nd Justice for Munster. He died in 1599 leaving two sons, William and John. Of his two sons John succeeded him at Ballintober. This John may well have been the John Meade of Cork who, according to a letter dated Carrick on Suir 11 March 1612, was appointed Justiciar of the Liberty of Tipperary for life at an annual salary of £20. And he was possibly the same John Meade who was knighted on 23 January 1623 and who married a daughter of Dominick Sarsfield, Viscount Kilmallock, and had a son and heir William.

William Meade in time became the Colonel William who built Ballintober House near Ballinhassig, Kinsale, a baroque mansion with formal gardens. A mansion which has been described by a modern historian as 'probably one of the largest unfortified houses in south Munster erected in the Restoration period'. William was appointed Escheator of Munster on 20 August 1660 and again on 8 December 1665. He married and had four sons of whom one was Sir John the MP above.

When Sir John died in 1707 he was succeeded by his third son Pierce Meade as the 2nd Baronet. But the latter did not long enjoy his estate as he died of smallpox and unmarried at the age of seventeen. Administration of his goods, dated 4 May 1716, was granted to his mother Lady Elizabeth. The title and estates then devolved on his brother Richard. Sir Richard Meade, the 3rd Baronet, served as MP for the borough of Kinsale, 1725/44.

He entered Trinity College, Dublin, on 5 October 1712 and was conferred with a BA in 1715. He was active in the local politics of Kinsale where he struggled with the Southwell family for control of that borough, in 1727 he was appointed a Justice of the Peace for Co. Tipperary.

Sir Richard married (the marriage settlement was dated 6 May 1736) Catherine the daughter of Henry Prittie of Kilboy, Co. Tipperary. The newspaper, *Pue's Occurrences*, notes that on Saturday 21 April 1744 the 'Lady of Sir Richard Meade was safely delivered of a son'; later that same paper tells us that Sir Richard died on Sunday 27 May 1744 'after a few Day's Illness'. Strangely, in his will dated 26 May 1744 Sir Richard has no reference to this son of a month; instead he records his wife Catherine and his daughter Elizabeth.

That small infant became in time Sir John Meade the 4th Baronet. Later still in his life he was promoted to the peerage as the 1st Earl of Clanwilliam. He entered Trinity College,

Dublin, in 1760 and was conferred with a BA in 1764; and he followed this up by indulging, like his contemporary the young Lord Kildare, in the Grand Tour through France, Switzerland and Italy. But first he served as MP for Banagher for the years 1764/66.

He married, on 30 July 1765, Theodosia the heiress and daughter of Robert Hawkins-Magill of Gill Hall, Dromore, Co. Down, and had sons and daughters. But it was a marriage fraught with difficulties. Sir John was reputed to have been a spoilt child and a headstrong adult. He was, Mrs. Delaney wrote, 'unreasonably indulged and under no sort of command'; and later it was said of that 'his attachment to the ladies and the turf' meant that he 'dissipate[d] a noble fortune'.

So well did Sir John enjoy his lifestyle that by 1787 the debts on the estate stood at £72,135 which the yearly income was inadequate to reduce. Property, consequently, was sold to reduce the debt. It was in this year of 1787 that Sir John sold the Meade home at Ballintober to his cousin Rev. John Meade whose nephew became the ancestor of the later Ballintober Meades where they continued to live down to the early 1900s; the Meade mansion was demolished in the 1940s. Following the sale of his home Sir John moved to live on his wife's estate at Gill Hall, Co. Down. Throughout the 1790s the Tipperary estate (some 5,000 acres which lay about Golden) was sold off, mainly to Catholic head-tenants.

Despite his financial problems (and his income was reputed to have been £14,000 a year in 1799) honours came to Sir John. He was created Baron Gillford of the Manor of Gillford, Co. Down and Viscount Clanwilliam on 17 November 1766 and Earl of Clanwilliam in Co. Tipperary on 20 July 1776. In politics he was in favour of the Union between Great Britain and Ireland. He died on 7 October 1800 at St. Stephen's Green, Dublin, and was succeeded by his eldest son, Richard.

Richard Meade, 2nd Earl of Clanwilliam, was born on 10 May 1766. He was twice married, and by his first wife had two sons and three daughters. He seems not to have had any children by his second marriage. He died in September 1805, and was succeeded by his only surviving son, Richard Charles, who became the 3rd Earl.

The 3rd Earl was born on 15 August 1795. He married and had three sons and one daughter. In 1828 he was created Lord Clanwilliam in the United Kingdom peerage and so was entitled to sit in the London House of Lords.

The 4th Earl served in the Royal Navy and in time obtained the rank of Rear-Admiral, he married and a son, Richard Charles, who was born in 1868.

The Clanwilliam home at Gill Hall was abandoned some short time after 1909 when the newly-married 5th Earl took his wife there. She could not live with the ghosts in the house and so the Earl purchased the nearby mansion at Montalto, Ballynahinch, Co. Down. Sometime in the late 1960s Gill Hall was destroyed by fire.³

MEDLICOTT, Thomas. (MP Clonmel, 1703/13).

Thomas Medlicott (or Medleycott) was elected to represent the borough of Clonmel on 27 August 1703. Earlier Medlicott had been returned to parliament for the borough of Kildare on 10 October 1695. After Clonmel he sat for Ballinakill in 1713/14, for Downpatrick in 1715/27, and for Newtown Limavady from 1727 until his death in 1738. In the years between 1695 and 1714 Medlicott represented the Duke of Ormonde's interests in parliament, and he was a supporter of the Tory party in Ireland. He was one of the many members of the Commons who signed, on 28 March 1696, an address which declared William 3rd as the

legitimate king of Ireland. Medlicott was a political survivor who sailed through the great upheavals of the opening decades of the eighteenth century without harm to himself.

Thomas Medlicott was the third son of Thomas Medlycott of Abingdon in Berkshire and Anne the daughter of John Whickers, a London merchant. The James Medlicott of Tully, Co. Kildare, whose will was proved on 5 May 1733, was probably a brother to Thomas the Irish MP. Thomas, their father, who was himself an MP in the English parliament, died in 1713. Thomas, the MP above, was baptised on 22 May 1662; and of his education nothing appears to be known. He entered the Middle Temple, London, on 23 November 1680 to train as a lawyer; he was admitted to the King's Inn, Dublin, on 6 May 1691 and subsequently was called to the Irish Bar. In later life Medlicott is reputed to have had a very successful law practice. In 1725 the honorary degree of LL.D was conferred on him by Trinity College, Dublin.

Medlicott came to the attention of James Butler, 2nd Duke of Ormonde and became his [Ormonde's] secretary and estate manager. He was not backward in using Ormonde's influence to promote himself to office and position. In 1698 and 1699 he leased lands from the 2nd Duke at a rental of £400 a year. In March 1701 he obtained the manor of Burrishoole, Co. Mayo which comprised 70,000 acres, from the Earl of Arran on a long lease at a rent of £400 a year. About the same period Medlicott with his brother James leased property in the barony of Clanwilliam, Co. Tipperary, and at Crehana, barony of Middlethird [this last was probably the barony of Uppertthird in Co. Waterford]. His relationship with the 2nd Duke was of considerable benefit to Medlicott, but he did survive the collapse of Ormonde's world in 1715. And with all of this he had house property in London and an estate in Monmouthshire.

Thomas Medlicott married Sarah Goddard; the marriage licence was dated 1 January 1687. They had two sons who seem to have died as infants and a daughter, Anne, who survived into adulthood. For a man who was so determinedly successful the lack of a male heir must have been a galling yoke to carry. In December 1715 the daughter Anne Medlicott married Edward Riggs of Riggsdale, Co. Cork, who served as MP for Baltimore in 1707/13 and later for Killybegs.

But Thomas Medlicott had a mistress, a Miss Muschamp, who bore him a son, Thomas John, born at Greenwich, London, in 1724, and educated at Athy School, Co. Kildare, under the name of Thomas Muschamp. In time Muschamp was made heir to the Medlicott fortunes and changed his name to Thomas John Medlicott. He was the ancestor of the Medlicotts of Rockett's Castle, Portlaw, Co. Waterford.

On 4 February 1714 Thomas, the MP above, was appointed chief commissioner of the Revenue and Excise Board of Ireland, an office which he successively filled on various dates until his death. By the King's Letter dated 24 July 1714 he was granted the gift of £500 for his services on the Revenue Board; and he was reputed to have been an industrious and conscientious official. Archbishop Boulter in a letter noted that Medlicott was unwell in June 1728; but he did not die until 1738.

The family of Medlicott was living at Pontesbury, Shropshire, in the early 1500s. Thomas Medlycott died on 10 February 1551 leaving a son Richard (he died in May 1603) who married and had a son Thomas. This latter Thomas, who died in 1623, married and had a son Thomas Medlicott of Abingdon, Berkshire. Thomas of Abingdon, who married Anne Whickers, was the father of Thomas the MP above.⁴

MINCHIN, Humphrey. (MP Co. Tipperary, 1715/27).

Humphrey Minchin of Armagh Castle, near Riverstown, Co. Tipperary, was elected to represent Co. Tipperary on 25 October 1715.

He was the second son of Charles Minchin of Money gall, Co. Tipperary, who had served as a captain in the Parliamentary army in the 1640s. Charles had married Elizabeth the sister of Colonel Walcott of Croagh, Co. Limerick, and had six sons. Charles was compensated for his military services with lands in the barony of Sleveardagh (the poorer land in the county was reserved for soldiers) together with his brothers Lieut. Humphrey and Lieut. John. Their grants of land lay about the Lismalin, Shangarry and Ballingarry areas of the barony. In 1666/69 brothers Humphrey and Charles Minchin addressed the Court of Claims, established as a consequence of the late Act of Explanation, to have any faults in their title deeds rectified. Lieut. Humphrey Minchin of Shangarry (his will was dated 1671) was buried in nearby Crohane churchyard and the family of Lieut. John continued to reside in the Shangarry/Wilford area (a Boyle Minchin of Ballingarry died in April 1768). But Captain Charles moved away from Sleveardagh to north Tipperary to the barony of Lower Ormond. Here, in 1669, he purchased the lands of Armagh from another Cromwellian Solomon Cambie and in 1680 he bought Busherstown near to Dunkerrin, Roscrea, from Sir Robert Stevens. A warrant for Charles Minchin to be Sheriff of Co. Tipperary was dated 25 November 1676. Captain Charles may have been dead by 1686 as he is not recorded in the Administration of the goods of his son Charles Minchin which was granted on 14 April 1686. In this document Charles mentions only his brothers and sisters, Humphrey, John (this John married Frances daughter of Daniel Ryan of Inch and widow of Power of Waterford. She died in 1696), Ann, Rose, and Jane Bourke (Minchin). But the eldest son of Captain Charles was Thomas (he died about 1685 and reputedly in the lifetime of his father) of Busherstown who married, in 1680, Elizabeth the daughter of Richard Butler, but he had only two daughters.

Humphrey, the MP above, was the second son. He was born on December 1660. He entered Trinity College, Dublin, on 14 October 1678, but he seems to have left without a degree; he was admitted to the Middle Temple, London, on 20 August 1680. He served as High Sheriff for Co. Tipperary in 1696. He served as Justice of the Peace for the county in 1715 and again in 1727. He was admitted to the freedom of Fethard in 1720; having MPs on its minute books seemed to appeal to the latter place.

Very little is known about his parliamentary career. In his twelve years as MP he was nominated to no more than five committees; he opposed the concept of an Irish national bank. During his parliamentary years he may not have enjoyed good health as there is reference to his being allowed to absent himself from the Commons for recovery of his health.

Humphrey Minchin married Rebecca the daughter of Joshua Paul of Bogh, Co. Carlow, and had seven sons and eight daughters. Charles, the eldest, died young. Paul, the second son and heir, was of Ballinakill Castle which he inherited from his father; he was later of Bogh, Co. Carlow. He served as High Sheriff for Co. Tipperary in 1736. He married in 1727 Hennrietta the daughter of Joseph Bunbury of Johnstown, Co. Carlow. His will was dated 9 July 1764 and proved on 24 August. He left children. The third son was also named Humphrey (this name was used by the various branches of the Minchin family and led to occasional confusion). This latter Humphrey married, on 11 June 1736, Catherine the elder daughter of Godfrey Greene of Greenville (Kilmacow), Co. Kilkenny. He was admitted to

the freedom of Fethard in 1730 and to that of Cashel in 1731. In time he sold Ballinakill and moved to live in England. Another son, William of Busherstown, purchased, on 26 April 1703, 365 statute acres in the barony of Eliogurty for £432.

Humphrey Minchin, the MP above, died in the last quarter of 1732. His will was dated 30 September 1732 and proved on 19 April 1733. As he does not mention his wife she may have died before him. In it he records his sons as Paul, George and Humphrey, and his daughters Rebecca Garden, Sarah, Anne, Jane, Mary and Sophia.

In 1776 a John Minchin, then resident in Limerick, held the lands of Armagh. In the 1930s the lands at Armagh were sold to the Irish Land Commission and the name Minchin is no longer to be found in the area.

The Minchin family are reputed to have come into Ireland from Gloucestershire near to the end of the reign of Queen Elizabeth I and to have settled in King's county [Offaly]. The family were of farming stock in the parish of Wick Rissington, in Gloucestershire. However, before the Civil Wars of the 1640s there seems to be no reference to a Minchin family in Ireland. It may well be that the first of the family to come into this country were the three brothers who were granted land in the barony of Sleveardagh for their services in the Parliamentary army. Those brothers were, Capt. Charles, Lieut. John and Lieut. Humphrey. But as already noted Captain Charles purchased land in the barony of Lower Ormond and he was the father of Humphrey the MP above.⁵

MOCKLER, Geoffrey. (MP Cross Tipperary, 1634-35).

Geoffrey Mockler of Dracoasland [Drakes Land in the parish of Mooretownkirke and barony of Middlethird] was elected to represent the County of the Cross Tipperary on 21 July 1634. He, together with his colleague *Sir Thomas Gough* were the last MPs to serve as members for the County of the Cross Tipperary [that is, church lands in the county] before the Cross was subsumed into Ormonde's Liberty.

This Geoffrey, son of Edmond of Mocklerstown, was married to Ellinor daughter of James Laffan. It seems that they had a son, Edmond, who was involved in the Civil Wars of the 1640s, though Carte in his *Life of Ormonde* implies that Geoffrey was not compromised.

However, very little is known concerning Geoffrey's life. In 1640 he owned 1,235 plantation acres in the parishes of Colman, Moorestownkirke, and Coolmundry, all in the barony of Middlethird; and he owned 200 plantation acres at Castleblake in the parish of St. Patrick's Rock, Cashel. He was, then, one of the lesser, though considerable landowners in the county. His son Edmund held 569 plantation acres; this may have been a wedding donation. An undated Chancery Bill abstract hints that Edmund may have married a daughter of Edward Boyton.

By 1640 Geoffrey appears to have been burdened by in mortgages. In 1636 he mortgaged some of his lands to John Butler of Molloghmony for £350. His lands at Moyglass had fallen to the descendants of Sir John Everard (for a debt of £24), and his lands at Graigbarry, parish of Coolieagh, had also in part passed to the Everards.

In the share-out of Tipperary lands to the Parliamentary adventurers and soldiers, Mockler's estate, both real and mortgaged, passed to Sir Boyle Maynard (adventurer/court favourite) with a small portion being granted to the Duke of York (James II). The lands of Mocklerstown, Coolmoynes and Rathdrum, in all 688 acres, were being leased by William Maynard of Curryglass, Co. Cork, as late as 1714.

As a compensation for the loss of his estate Geoffrey was offered lands in the barony of Burrishoole, Co. Mayo, which he appears not to have taken up. Instead, when a Court of Claims had been created, following the passing of the Act of Settlement in 1663, Mockler made a claim for 400 acres of his estate, but nothing was done for him; and he did not press his claim in the new Court of 1668/69, following the Act of Explanation. But then Geoffrey died in 1666 and his son Edmond may have felt that the claim was a hopeless one. The family may have moved to live at Moyglass perhaps on the lands that were in dispute between themselves and the Everards. A Chancery Bill dated 13 September 1675 records a Geoffrey Mockler of Moyglass who occupied lands in that place and at Grangebarry. He was reputed to be a grandson of Geoffrey of Mocklerstown.

Sadly, the genealogies of the lesser landowners of south Tipperary, who were living before the coming of Cromwell and the Act of Settlement, have not been compiled, with the exception of two or three families. Very little, if anything at all, has been published on such families as Englishes, Keatings, St. Johns, Marnells, Farmings, Sails, and Sauces. And the Mockler family has suffered similar neglect.

The earliest known member of this family was Geoffrey Mockler of Mocklerstown who died about 1549. He may well be the same Geoffrey who was recorded as a tenant on the Ormond estates on 10 December 1508. This Geoffrey, becoming important enough to serve as a juror on the Earl's court in the Liberty of Tipperary, is recorded in various deeds up to the 1540s. Livery of his estate was granted to his son and heir in 1549 on payment of a fine of £26. 13s. 8d. However, there can be some confusion with this family as there were branches (bearing similar names) at Rathdrum and Ballyclerihan.

This heir Edmund was probably the same Edmund who, on 1 February 1564, was granted a pardon for various offences and especially for the murder of Shane son of David O Lanneregane of Grangemanaghe, Co. Tipperary, husbandman (a prosperous tenant farmer of 20/30 acres). An Edmond Mockler of Mocklerstown was recorded in a deed dated 20 September 1583 so he may still have been living at this period. The Godfrey Mockler who died on 16 July 1608 and had a monument erected to his memory by his wife Margaret Kearney may have been a son. The monument lies in Ballyclerihan old graveyard.

The will of Edmond Mockler of Mocklerstown was dated 1612. He was probably the son of Geoffrey who died in 1608 and father of the Geoffrey the MP above. According to a list of the principal landowners in the baronies of Tipperary in 1600, Mockler was listed among the leading members for the barony of Middlethird.⁶

To be continued.

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