

## MISCELLANEA

### Geraldine Coat of Arms Rediscovered at Adare Franciscan Friary

In *The Memorials of Adare Manor*, compiled by Caroline, Countess of Dunraven in 1865, there is an illustration of a portion of a gateway at the Franciscan Friary. It shows a Coat of Arms built into the wall overhead an arch [Figure 1]. The accompanying text states '*The gateway on the south side (of the friary) in the direction of Croom and Castle Roberts, is still tolerably perfect; a portion of it is here represented, shewing a shield bearing the Kildare arms. From this gate a road, formed of the roughest pavement, still nearly entire, leads to the Abbey. The principal entrance (of the friary) was probably on the north side towards Limerick, or the west side towards the castle and bridge: but of the gateway or wall not a trace remains.*'<sup>1</sup> This latter gateway presumably refers to the 'principal entrance'.

The coat of arms is mentioned by Westropp in 1916 in describing the friary, where the gateway is called the 'Kilmallock Gate' '*Approaching it, by the ancient bridge, near the Manor, one first sees the "Kilmallock Gate" with the Geraldine shield above it.*'<sup>2</sup> Peter Harbison, uses the same terminology in his descriptions of the Franciscan Friary in 1970 and 1992 but asserts that the coat of arms has been removed: '*It was approached by the "Kilmallock Gate" which now stands by itself to the west of the church, minus the Geraldine arms which once adorned it.*'<sup>3</sup> His phrase 'west of the church' is confusing. If this refers to the Friary church then it is, presumably, the length of low wall, (currently forming the south side of the golf tee), which is an extension westwards of the south wall of the transept and has an opening close to the building. This is shown clearly in the plan of the friary by Leask<sup>4</sup> and illustrated in the *Shell Guide To Ireland*.<sup>5</sup>

There is another short stretch of wall with an arched ope located a short distance from the south wall of the friary church / transept angled roughly north-south. This may have been subject to restoration, possibly by the 3<sup>rd</sup> Earl of Dunraven in 1875, as the ends of the masonry over the arch have been straightened and appear finished, i.e. it is not ravelled as one would expect if the wall had continued in both directions. It would appear that the west face of this wall is the external one, as the wall is flush and directly over the top of the arch, there is a square recess, as if it once contained a plaque. The east face, on the other hand, is recessed around the arch and one would, therefore, assume this to be the inside face, with the door contained within the recess.

In the *Urban Archaeology Survey* for the OPW in 1989 John Bradley, Andrew Halpin and Heather A. King, treat the 'Kilmallock Gate' as an individual item, describing it as '*a single wall ... running north-south... situated in Adare Manor Golf course directly north of and overlooking the Desmond castle and west of St. Nicholas' Church. ...According to Harbison it was adorned with the Geraldine arms.*'<sup>6</sup> This stretch of wall is still extant and may have been, as Bradley suggested, a part of the town defences / gatehouse.

There is, however, another stretch of wall, (c. 40m long, although this is not a precise measurement), located approx. 60m south of Franciscan Friary, on the north-western side of the old carriage driveway running between the Manor and the northern entrance to the demesne, across the Maigue by the narrow bridge. This wall has a through-arch and on the southern side of the wall, to the east of the arch, is the Kildare Coat of Arms. [Figure 2]. It is clear that this is the structure that Lady Dunraven referred to, as

<sup>1</sup> Caroline, Countess of Dunraven, *Memorials of Adare Manor*, Oxford, 1865, p. 92.

<sup>2</sup> T. J. Westropp et al. in *The Antiquities of Limerick & its Neighbourhood* (R.S.A.I. Antiquarian Handbook Series No. VII), Dublin, 1916, p. 76.

<sup>3</sup> Peter Harbison, *Guide to National and Historic Monuments of Ireland*, (1970), p. 145 and revised edition 1992, p. 214.

<sup>4</sup> Harold G. Leask, *Irish Churches and Monastic Buildings*, vol. 3 Dundalk, 1978, p. 98.

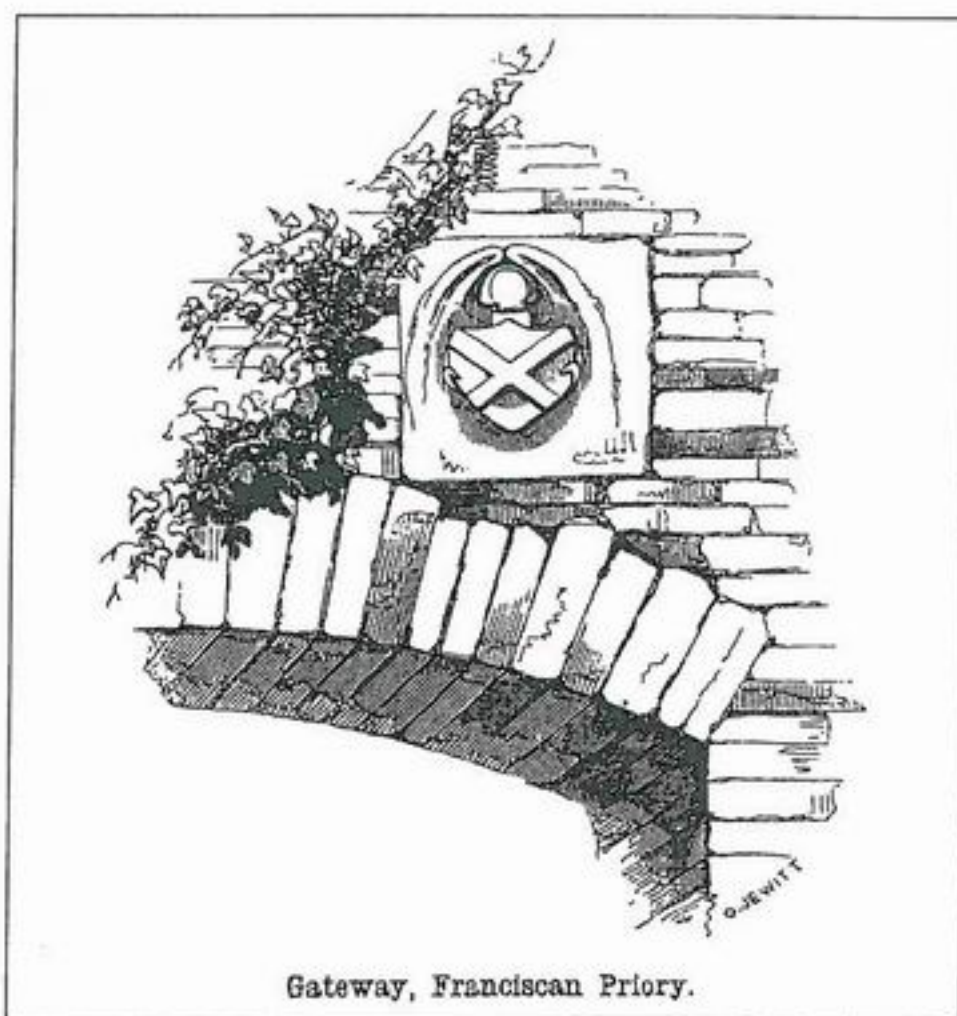
<sup>5</sup> Lord Killanin and Michael V. Duignan, *The Shell Guide to Ireland*, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition, London, 1967, p. 54.

<sup>6</sup> John Bradley, Andrew Halpin and Heather A. King, in *Urban Archaeology Survey, Part XVII (i), Co. Limerick* (1989, OPW, unpublished), p. 39.



it is facing in the direction of Castleroberts / Croom as she described This wall is marked on the 1843 O.S. map as is a road extending from the bridge through the arch to the Friary. The seventeenth century Down Survey Map shows a precinct wall around the Friary. The location of the surviving stretch would correspond to this.

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**Figure 1.** Illustration from Memorials of Adare Manor 1865.



**Figure 2.** Coat of Arms, photographed 29 May 2003.



## Late Townland Formation in North-East Co. Limerick

The townland system, in general, is believed to date from the medieval period but, as McErlean has noted, there were changes, including subdivision, occurring in some places even as late as the first half of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century<sup>1</sup>. The purpose of this note is to suggest that many of the townlands at the north-eastern end of Co. Limerick, on Sheet 1 of the Ordnance Survey 6" series, are such late formations.

In The Civil Survey of Co. Tipperary, Annaholty townland (the only townland of Stradbally parish in Co Tipperary) is described as being bounded on the west with the lands of Portcrossy, the present day Portcrusha<sup>2</sup>. An examination of the 6" map shows that this is not the case. Annaholty is separated from Portcrusha by Gooig and Coolready, which share a border with Annaholty, and Derrylusk. The present Portcrusha is a rather insignificant and artificial looking entity having the Shannon as its west boundary and the dead straight Castleconnell to O'Briensbridge road as its eastern boundary. In 1840 it was described by O'Donovan as "286 acres of bog of which about one third is reclaimed".<sup>3</sup>

In an earlier volume of this journal it was noted that 17<sup>th</sup> century references point to the existence of two Portcrushas, and it was suggested that one of them is the present day Montpelier<sup>4</sup>. Two further references to Portcrusha have been noted in the Inchiquin Manuscripts. The first, in the will of Murrough O'Brien 1551, refers to the "duas quaterias Portcrossy" (the two quarters of Portcrossy) and the second, in a 1699 rental of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Earl of Inchiquin, names Thomas Arthur as paying £12-10-0 tent for "Portcrossy & c"<sup>5</sup>. The latter is significant because Arthur's rent is one of the higher amounts in a list where the majority of rents are below £5. This suggests that the Portcrusha holding, whatever the "&c" implies, was of some importance and not just the bogland which currently holds the name. A similar impression is gained from the 1659 Census which gives the populations of "Lower Port Crussy" as 22 and "Upper Port Crussy" as 18<sup>6</sup>. The other three townlands are not named. A population of 18 puts Upper Portcrusha, to take the lesser-populated example, towards the lower end of the middle third of the full list, hardly an insignificant townland.

One is led to the inevitable conclusion that 17<sup>th</sup> century Portcrusha has to have included Coolready, Gooig and Derrylusk to border with Annaholty. This conclusion is not gainsaid by the Co. Limerick place-name book, which gives 1840 as the earliest reference for Coolready and Derrylusk, while Gooig is noted somewhat earlier in 1714<sup>7</sup>. This opens up the probability that Fairy Hall and Derryhasna, first mentioned in 1840, were also part of Portcrusha and the possibility that Lacka and Derreen were too.<sup>8</sup>

The question of when this subdivision occurred is difficult to answer with certainty. O'Donovan in the Ordnance Survey Letters and Field Name Book gives the impression of a well-established townland system of some antiquity. The Brown of Clonboy Papers hint at subdivision taking place a short distance to the south in the Lisnagry area in 1676<sup>9</sup>, but there is no reason to suspect such an early date in the case of Portcrusha. It is tempting to place it in the period between the 1699 Arthur reference and the early mention of Gooig in 1714.

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<sup>1</sup> T. McErlean, 'The Irish Townland System of Landscape Organisation', in Terence Reeves Smith and Fred Hammond (eds) *Landscape Archaeology in Ireland*, BAR (British Archaeological Reports, 1983, p. 116.

<sup>2</sup> R. C. Simmington, *The Civil Survey of Co. Tipperary*, vol. 2, Dublin 1934, pp. 197-8.

<sup>3</sup> John O'Donovan, *Field Name Book*, Dublin 1840, p. 1625.

<sup>4</sup> B.J. Hodkinson, 'Montpelier or Portcrusha Upper?', *NMAJ*, 40, 2000.

<sup>5</sup> John Ainsworth, *The Inchiquin Manuscripts*, Dublin 1961, pp 501 & 505 respectively.

<sup>6</sup> Séamus Pender, *A Census of Ireland c1659*, Dublin 1939, p. 275.

<sup>7</sup> Art Ó Maolfabhail, *Logainmneacha na hÉireann Imleabhar 1, Contae Luimnigh*. BAC 1990.

<sup>8</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>9</sup> E. A. McLysaght, 'Brown Papers', *Analecta Hibernica* 15, 1944, pp 84-5. The caveat that this could refer to land in Clare is not relevant, the fact subdivision is taking place in the region is the important factor.



## Castleconnell Inscribed Slab

A stone with a carved equal armed cross, surrounded by a double circle and an incised inscription is built into the exterior face of the west wall of the medieval church at Cloon Island, Castleconnell, Co. Limerick [NGR 16604, 16274]. It was first published by Petrie in 1878 who described it as being on the interior of the north wall.<sup>1</sup> Crawford located it in its present position in his publication in 1912.<sup>2</sup> Macalister suggested in 1949 that the inscription began with a cross followed by *lobed fecet cruce(m)*.<sup>3</sup> In their recent study of the inscribed early Christian stones in Munster [reviewed in vol. 41, 2001 of this journal] Elizabeth Okasha and Katherine Forsyth reject Macalister's reading and suggest instead that the first word may be *bendacht*, the Irish word for *blessing*. If they are correct in this the authors say that they would then expect the next word to be *ar* [on] followed by the name of a person.<sup>4</sup> The text is now so eroded that no definitive reading is possible. However I would suggest that the wording is in Latin, not Irish and was originally *Benedacteur hoc templum* and that the cross is one of the twelve consecration crosses that were carved on the exterior of a new building intended for worship. Another twelve crosses would have been found on the interior walls. The conclusion from Petrie's account that the slab was moved in the late nineteenth or early twentieth centuries is supported by its present location, 81 cms from the ground. Such crosses were placed seven or eight feet high to avoid desecration. Above each cross there would have been a bracket to hold a candle and a ladder or similar device would have been provided for the consecrating bishop to reach each cross which he anointed by tracing out the cross with his thumb dipped in chrism as he uttered the words *benedacteur hoc templum*. Such consecration crosses can still be seen in some churches in England and I suggest that this is a unique survival in Ireland.

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<sup>1</sup> George Petrie, *Christian Inscriptions in the Irish Language*, 2<sup>nd</sup> edn. (ed.), Margaret Stokes, Dublin 1878, p. 13 and plate viii, figure 15.

<sup>2</sup> H.S. Crawford, 'A Descriptive List of Early Cross-slabs and Pillars', *JRSAI*, 42, 1912, pp 217-44.

<sup>3</sup> R.A.S. Macalister, *Corpus Inscriptionum Insularum Celticarum*, vol. 2, Dublin 1949, pp 98, 100 and plate xxxv, figure 918.

<sup>4</sup> Elizabeth Okasha and Katherine Forsyth, *Early Christian Inscriptions of Munster: a Corpus of the Inscribed Stones*, Cork 2001, p. 187.

## The Knights Templar House in Limerick City.

Edward I's charter granted to Limerick in 1278 states, 'the templars and hospitallers shall not have any man or messuage quit of the common customs of the city within its liberty, save one alone'.<sup>1</sup> While this is no doubt part of a formulaic list of liberties common to many charters, there was a Templar House in Limerick, which is assumed to be the frankhouse used by the brethren as they went about their business in the town rather than a full preceptory.<sup>2</sup> Several references may be quoted. The first is in the Plea Rolls of Edward I, where the citizens of Limerick were summoned for allowing the escape of a felon who had fled to it.<sup>3</sup> Then there is a group of references which revolve around Robert of Trim who is accounting for money from the goods of the Templars in Limerick City after their suppression 1308. According to Westropp the Exchequer Roll of Edward III dated 1327 has Robert accounting for 3s from the goods of the Templars.<sup>4</sup> There may be a slight confusion with this reference because MacNiocaill has published documents relating to the suppression of the order, dated to 1327-28 but in which the references to Robert of Trim cover the period 1308-15 and the sums involved are 4s on each occasion.<sup>5</sup> Westropp's reference may therefore belong to this earlier period. As noted the latter

<sup>1</sup> Larry Walsh, 'The Mayoral Myth', in David Lee, (ed.), *Remembering Limerick*, Limerick, 1997, p. 42.

<sup>2</sup> H. Wood, 'The Templars in Ireland', *PRIA*, xxvi, 1907, p. 366: the frankhouse or freehouse was exempt from paying customs.

<sup>3</sup> A. Gwynn, and R. N. Hadcock, *Medieval Religious Houses Ireland*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed., Dublin, 1988, p. 341.

<sup>4</sup> T. J. Westropp, 'Ancient Churches in Co. Limerick', *PRIA*, xxv, 1905, p. 363.

<sup>5</sup> G. MacNiocaill, 'Documents Relating to the Suppression of the Templars in Ireland', *Analecta Hibernica*, 24, 1967, pp 183-226: pp 221, 223, 225 & 226.



group post-dates the suppression and some of them date to after the Templar properties were supposed to have been given to the Knights Hospitallers in 1312. Robert is, however, accounting to government for the monies involved, so one has to assume that the Hospitallers did not gain immediate access. Gwynn and Hadcock note that as late as 1329 the Hospitallers were still having difficulties in gaining possession of some of their properties<sup>6</sup>.

It is possible to trace the later history of the property to the present day and give its exact location. Once the house had passed to the Hospitallers it was associated with their preceptory of Any in Hospital, Co. Limerick which, after the Dissolution, was granted to the Browne (Kenmare) family in the reign of Elizabeth I<sup>7</sup>. The only property in Limerick owned by Lady Browne listed in the Civil Survey of 1654 is described as, "a stone house in the Kea lane upon the north side thereof and west upon ye Church now sett to Mr Hampton by the said Ladie"<sup>8</sup>. There is a series of references to this property in the Kenmare Manuscripts. A 1701 document reciting earlier indentures refers to "a house in Key Lane lately in the tenure of Henry Price cordwainer"<sup>9</sup>. A 1703 lease to John Murrow calls it "a house in Key Lane, Limerick called The Signe of the White Cross"<sup>10</sup>, a name presumably harking back to its former use. In 1732 Dr Bryen is noted as being in arrears of £8 for the house while a marginal note records a further £40 arrears from Teige Carthy of Hospital who is insolvent and gone to live in Cork<sup>11</sup>. A notebook of Thomas 4<sup>th</sup> Viscount Kenmare dated to c1757 states that it was set to Dr. O'Brien in 1729 for 61 years and is now held by his assigns<sup>12</sup>. Finally a rental of 1768 shows Michael Furnell paying £8<sup>13</sup>.

It is this last reference that allows the Templar House to be located exactly. Limerick Museum holds a number of photographic copies of plans, drawn by John Appleyard, of the estate of Edward Hoare dated 1747. One of these LM1987:162:10 shows a series of properties in Quay Lane including one marked "This square or house in Quay lane is sayed to belong to Patrick Furnell Esq. therefore is not pt. of the premises." The Furnell name forges the link while the location is confirmed by a close reading of the 1654 Civil Survey. The Templar house stood at the corner of Churchyard Lane (sometime Bachelor's Walk) and Quay Lane. In relation to the present-day city it lay just within the graveyard of St. Mary's Cathedral, on the upper side of the entrance in Bridge Street (the former Quay Lane).

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### **Visit of the Marquis of Lansdowne to his Limerick Estate.**

The following account of the first visit by the 5<sup>th</sup> Marquis of Lansdowne to his extensive Limerick estates 30 September 1868 was printed in the *Cork Examiner* on the following day. This twenty-three year old descendant of two famous families with strong Irish connections was Sir Henry Charles Keith Petty FitzMaurice. He held in addition to his marquissette, the titles of Earl Wycombe of Chipping Wycombe, Bucks, Viscount Caln and Calnstone, Wilts, and Lord Wycombe, Baron of Chipping, Wycombe, Bucks in the peerage of Great Britain. He was Baron Nairn of Nairn county Perth in Scotland and Earl of Kerry and Earl of Shelburne, Viscount Clanmaurice and Fitzmaurice, Baron of Kerry, Lixnaw and Dunkerron in the peerage of Ireland.

<sup>6</sup> Gwynn & Hadcock, op.cit. pp 327-8.

<sup>7</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 336.

<sup>8</sup> R. C. Simington, *The Civil Survey: Vol. IV Co. Limerick*, Dublin, 1936, p. 427.

<sup>9</sup> E. MacLysaght, *The Kenmare Manuscripts*, Dublin, 1942, p. 393.

<sup>10</sup> *Ibid.* p. 146.

<sup>11</sup> *Ibid.* p. 178.

<sup>12</sup> *Ibid.* p. 246.

<sup>13</sup> *Ibid.* p. 253.



The earliest family title was that of 1<sup>st</sup> Lord of Kerry and Lixnaw held by Thomas Fitzmaurice who died 1280 and was the great, great grandson of William Fitzgerald who had come to Ireland in 1171 to assist Strongbow. The family had to be satisfied with this modest title until the early eighteenth century when Thomas Fitzmaurice obtained an earldom. He had married Anne, the only daughter of Sir William Petty, famous for his survey and descriptions of Ireland, and who had acquired extensive lands in Ireland, particularly in Kerry. Her mother was Elizabeth, Baroness Shelburne, the daughter of a prominent Limerick Cromwellian settler, Sir Hardress Waller. In 1722 Thomas was created 1<sup>st</sup> Earl of Kerry and Viscount Clanmaurice. His second son, John, inherited the Petty estates and added that surname to his own. John became Baron Dunkerron and Viscount Fitzmaurice in 1751 and was created 1<sup>st</sup> Earl of Shelburne in 1753, again choosing a title to reflect his Petty inheritance. He also received a title in the peerage of Great Britain, as Baron Wycome of Chipping Wycome in 1760. His son, William, was a noted British statesman in the reign of George III becoming, briefly, Prime Minister in 1782. Two years later he obtained the Earldom of Wycome, Viscountcy of Calne and Calston and became the 1<sup>st</sup> Marquis of Lansdowne, all in the British peerage. His eldest son, John, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Marquis died without issue and his second son Henry, 3<sup>rd</sup> Marquis, inherited the Earldom of Kerry from his cousin along with the titles of Viscount Clanmaurice and 23<sup>rd</sup> Lord of Kerry and Lixnaw. His son Henry married as his second wife, Emily, Baroness Nairne and through her the Scottish Barony of Nairne was added to the already long list of subsidiary titles held by the Lansdowne family.

The 5<sup>th</sup> Marquis was born 14 January 1845 and educated at Oxford where he obtained MA and DCL degrees. In the year after his Limerick visit he became a Lord of the Treasury and in 1872 Under Secretary for War. He was appointed Governor General of Canada in 1883 where he served for five years before becoming Governor General of India where he remained until 1894. He returned to Britain as Secretary of State for War in 1895 and became Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs in 1900. He had succeeded his father in 1866 and acquired his Scottish titles on the death of his mother in 1895, female inheritance of titles being allowed in Scotland. The year following his Limerick visit he married Lady Maud Evelyn Hamilton, daughter of the first Duke of Abercorn. They had four children, their youngest daughter married the 6<sup>th</sup> Marquess of Waterford in 1897.

The Hon. Mr Kenneth Howard was Lansdowne's first cousin, son of his aunt Louisa who had married in 1845 James Kenneth Howard, son of the Earl of Suffolk. Kenneth Howard added by royal licence in 1881 the surname Bury following his marriage in that year to Lady Emily Bury, youngest daughter of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Earl of Charleville of Charleville Forest, near Tullamore, Co. Offaly.

Daniel Kennedy, parish priest of St. Munchin's 1865-78, was born in Loughill 1808 and ordained in 1838. He was curate and later administrator at Kilfinane until appointed parish priest of Stonehall in 1849. He became P.P. of Loughill in 1855, when it became a separate parish from Glin, and came to St. Munchin's ten years later. He is buried in Anhid graveyard, Croom.

The Marquis of Lansdowne owned 1,526 acres in Limerick, valued in 1876 at £2,701. His Kerry estates were however more extensive totaling 94,983 acres to the value of £9,553. He owned all the land on which the roads and housing estates on the north side of the city which bear his name or titles, such as Lansdowne, Shelbourne and Clanmaurice were erected in the last century.

*LIMERICK, Wednesday: The Marquis of Lansdowne and suite arrived at Cleary's Royal Hotel, Limerick, yesterday, and this day his Lordship, accompanied by his relative, the Hon. Mr. Howard and his agent, Mr. Harvey Todhunter, proceeded to pay a first and formal visit to his large property in the immediate neighbourhood of this city, on the Clare side of the river and in the north liberties of Limerick. The Marquis, who has not very long attained his majority, had not until today made personal acquaintance with his Limerick estate*



and its occupiers, and the occasion was availed of by the tenantry to present his lordship with an address of welcome. A deputation of some 40 or 50 tenants, headed by the Rev. D. Kennedy P.P. of St. Munchin's, accordingly met their noble landlord at the Crossroads of Cahirdavin, as he was on his rounds to the several holdings, and as the car drove up from the Thomondgate side, they respectfully uncovered, and received the Marquis with a cheer which his Lordship courteously acknowledged. The car was stopped, the deputation gathered around, his Lordship and his friend got down in the gutter, and there and then, upon the public highway, at the meeting of four cross roads, and immediately in front of the Cahirdavin police barrack, the address was duly read by the Rev. Mr. Kennedy (who was first introduced to the Marquis, presented and replied to. The address, which was tastefully engrossed in illuminated text hand upon a large sheet of vellum, set forth the feelings of the tenantry for the noble house of Lansdowne, and bid cordial welcome to its present representative, whom it trusted, would follow in the footsteps of his lamented ancestors, and be, if possible, a frequent visitor amongst them. It also referred in terms of gratitude to the kindness of the agent. (Mr. Todhunter), and touched upon other topics of general or special interest in connection with the event. Father Kennedy, in presenting the address, begged to assure the Marquis of the industry, honesty, and worth of the subscribers to the document, and said he felt delighted in having an opportunity of bearing testimony to their respectability.

His Lordship replied in a brief speech, in which expressed his pleasure at the reception they gave him and the welcome they accorded him, which was only similar to what he had experienced on his other Irish properties. He hoped he would deserve their good opinion, and he would endeavour to follow in the footsteps of his father (hear, hear), to whom their address made such kindly reference. He had much pleasure in finding that although he had not been amongst them before he was well represented in Mr. Todhunter (hear, hear). His lordship warmly thanked the deputation, remounted his car amid a hearty cheer or two, and drove off in the direction of Cratloe, to continue his round of farm and domiciliary visits.

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### **The place names Maidstown and Ballinvreena, Co. Limerick**

In his book on the place names of Co. Limerick, *Logainmneacha na hÉireann, Imleabhar 1, Contae Luimnigh*, Dublin, 1990, Art O Maolfabhail records on page 29 a change in townland name from Ballyvenoge to Maidstown, some time between 1730 and 1840, when Maidstown first appears as "Meadstown". He gives no references for the intervening period. He also suggests that the English Maidstown is a possible mistranslation with Bheanóg being read as Bean óg.

Thanks to a collection of leases, conveyances and related material, which has recently come into the possession of Limerick City museum, it is now possible to pinpoint when this change occurred. The documents for the most part concern the dealings of one Daniel Webb relating to property in Ballinvreena. In six documents Webb is described as "Daniel Webb of Ballyvenoge", LM1999:18-21, :23-24 (dated 1723, 1739, 1739, 1741, 1741 and 1745 respectively) while in LM1999:35 (1745), there is a variant spelling of Ballyvinnoge. Then in LM1999:25 (1756), he is described as Daniel Webb of "Ballyvenoge otherwise Maidstonn" and in LM1999:36 (1757) Maidstown stands on its own. From then on it appears only as Maidstown, i.e. LM1999:38, (1784) and :39 (1799). The changeover can therefore be quite closely dated to the late 1740's or early 1750's. There is no evidence to suggest that Webb himself was responsible for the change.



Ballinvreena is another townland where there is a large gap in the place name sequence, this time from 1666 to 1840. The same series of documents allows this gap to be closed. In LM1999.18, (1723), it is "Ballinvrinny otherwise Ballinvring otherwise Ballinveery," while in LM1999.19 (1739), the final G of Ballinvring is missing. The G is restored and the other spellings are identical in the following LM1999:20 (1739), :34 (1739), :21 (1741), :24 (1745), :25 (1756), :26 (1761), :28 (1778), and :29 (1778). In two documents Ballinvring becomes Ballinvrinny repeated a second time LM1999:31 (1779) and :33 (1780), while in LM1999:37 the second Ballinvrinny is spelt with a single N at the end. Ballinvrinny appears on its own in LM1999:27 (1778), :30 (1778) and :32 (1779). A variant spelling of Ballinvreeny appears in LM1999.35 (1745) which form also occurs in a later group LM1999:38-41 (1784, 1799, 1817 and 1836 respectively).

LM1999.39 (1799) also fills gaps in the sequence for four other townlands. Effin, (gap c1660-1840), appears in its present spelling, as does Fantstown (gap 1666 to 1840). Gibbonstown (gap 1685 to 1840) appears as Gibbingstown while Ballysalla (gap 1684-1840) appears as Ballyschala.

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#### *Acknowledgement*

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### **Crime in Limerick 200 years Ago**

*About the hour of 12 last night, four armed robbers forced into the house of Joseph Massy Harvey, Esq., at Summerville, near Newtown-Pery, pretending they were a Press-gang, and seeking for sailors. Mr Harvey being of the society of Friends, never permitted fire arms to be kept in his house, for that when the villains entered they forced the family into one room, which they locked up - except Jacob Mark, Esq., who got unperceived out of a window and brought a few of the Militia from Durack's Barrack - during Mr. Marks absence the robbers were regaling themselves with wine, &c. and packing up every valuable article. It was with difficulty that the Militia and their spirited leader (Mr. Mark) got admittance and not until three of the robbers fled; the fourth who proves to be a recruit lately enlisted in the 12<sup>th</sup> Light Dragoons, snapped his Hose-pistol several times before he was secured. From the exertions making by the Officers &c. of that excellent Regiment, there is little doubt but his associates will shortly be lodged with him, in our prison. [Limerick Chronicle, 27 August 1803].*

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