

Notes on Cú Choigríche O Cleary (d. 1664), the O'Clerys of Gibbonstown, Co Limerick, and the Cleare/Clere/Cleary families of Ormonde

Ultan Cleary

1) Descendants of Cú Choigríche (Cucogry) O Cleary (ca 1600 - 1664) and of his brother Cairbre O Cleary

Cú Choigríche O Cleary, of BallyCleary, Co Donegal, "*head of the Tirconnell sept of the O Clearys*" according to the introductory remarks to the Annals of the Four Masters by Kenneth Nicholls, who must have been of full age in 1632, when, in an Inquisition held on the 25th of May that year at Lifford, it was stated that he held the half quarter of the lands of Coobeg and Doughill, the modern Killybegs and Doochill ("DubhChoill"), near (a few hundred yards from) Ardara in the Barony of Boylagh and Bannagh, in the County of Donegal, from Hollantide 1631 until May 1632, for which he paid eight pounds sterling per annum to William Farrell, Esq. assignee to John Murray, Earl of Annandale, undertaker of 10,000 acres in the Barony of Boylagh and Bannagh under the Plantation of Ulster. Like his ancestors, he was a professional historian, and together with his third cousins Brother Michael O Cleary and Conary O Cleary, was one of the "*Quatuor Magistri*", or "*Four Masters*", a phrase coined by Fr. Colgan, a contemporary of Cucogry's, in 1645. Together they compiled the most comprehensive history of Ireland ever written to that date, from earliest times until 1605, which became known as the Annals of the Four Masters. The Annals were finished in 1636 under the patronage of Fergal O Gara, M.P. for Sligo, at Bundrowes in Donegal. Another patron at this time was Brian Ruadh Maguire, 1st Baron Enniskillen.

1641 was the year in which rebellion broke out in Ulster, quickly spreading to the rest of Ireland, firing the first shots of the devastating Civil Wars which engulfed Ireland, Scotland and England, all ruled at the time by King Charles I (Stuart). Known in Ireland as the Irish Confederate Wars, it lasted from 1641 until 1653, and pitted the native Catholic Irish (including the O'Clerys) against English and Scots Protestant colonists. Cucogry was undoubtedly in the Regiment of Colonel Manus O Donnell (killed at the Battle of Benburb in 1646) under the command of General Owen Roe O'Neill, (nephew of Hugh O'Neill, Earl of Tyrone) who commanded the Ulster Irish Army. During this time many Irish Catholics and Protestants, loyal to the Crown, including many O'Clerys fled to France and only returned after the Restoration of the Monarchy (King Charles I was executed by Parliament in 1649). The infamous Oliver Cromwell invaded Ireland in 1649 and the end for the Ulster Resistance came in 1650 with the defeat of the Ulster Irish by the Cromwellians at Scarfholis, near Letterkenny.

In the wake of the Commonwealth's conquest, the public practice of Catholicism was banned and Catholic priests were murdered when captured. All Catholic-owned land was confiscated in the Cromwellian Settlement and given to Scottish and English settlers, the Parliament's financial creditors and Parliamentary soldiers. The remaining Catholic landowners were allocated poorer land in the province of Connaught —this led to the Cromwellian attributed phrase "To Hell or to Connacht". Under the Commonwealth, Catholic land ownership dropped from 60% of the total to just 8%. According to the Mayo book of Survey and Distribution 1654-6, the "*inhabitants*" of Down and Antrim were assigned the Mayo baronies of Clanmorris, Carra and Kilmaine, while those of other Ulster counties (such as Donegal) were assigned the baronies of Murrisk, Burrishoole, Erris, part of Tirawley and Costello in the same county. The settlement specified *where they were to transplant themselves with wives, children and such servants as would volunteer to go with them before May 1st 1654. If they were found on the east side of the Shannon river after this date, the penalty was death. It was made clear that the transplantation was confined to proprietors of land and their families, specifically those persons who had contributed to or abetted the Irish insurgents or who had actually been in arms with them. The landless could either go with the landowners as tenants into the new areas, or as servants, or they could remain behind to be the hewers of wood and drawers of water to the new landowners.*

In 1654 Rory O Donnell, son of Colonel Manus O Donnell, who had been killed at Benburb in 1646, transplanted from Lifford to Mayo with a large group of Ulster kith and kin, including the O'Clerys as part of the Cromwellian transplantation. Their descendants are still known as "The Ultaigh" or the Ulster-people. With Cucogry O Cleary were his brother, Cairbre, his wife, at least two sons, (probably his daughter also) along with

many other families such as the MacSweeneys and the O Boyles. They settled on a remote corner of the Ormond Estate in North West Mayo (Burrishoole) probably partly because the O Donnells and their followers had been in the faction of the Duke of Ormond during the wars. Rory O' Donnell's son Manus was a Colonel in the Jacobite army, fought at the Battle of the Boyne in 1691 and died in 1736. He was grandfather to Sir Neal O Donnell, Baronet, first of the O Donnell Baronets of Newport, Mayo. In Connacht, one of Cucogry O Cleary's patrons was Turlogh O Neill, Lord of the Fews, who died in 1676, a Royalist Commander, who was also transplanted to Mayo by Cromwell, who was ancestor of the head of the Spanish branch of the O Neills, now represented by Carlos O Neill, 12th Marqués de la Granja, 5th Marqués del Norte, Marqués de Villa Verde and Conde de Benagiar.

The O Clearys first resided at Kilalla, before moving to Burrishoole, on the Ormond estate which Rory O Donnell seems to have settled on, and then moved West to Ballycroy, in West Mayo, where there are still places named in Irish after Cucogry and his brother, i.e. "Ard Cairbre" and "Tobar Cucogry". He brought with him his most prized possessions, namely his books. After some time, Cucogry migrated back East to Burrishoole, where he settled in the valley of Glenhest, at the foot of Nephin Beg, overlooking Lough Beltra at a place called Gort na hEilte (today Gortnaheltia). Rory O Donnell owned or leased the land around Glenhest, which Cucogry settled on, and the O Donnells still owned it in 1796 when they settled a large number of Catholic families there who were fleeing from Ulster. There Cucogry wrote prolifically, one of his last poems being written in 1662: "*Cucogry O Cleary, son of Diarmuid, composed this, lamenting the deaths of the children of Aodh, son of Magnus ODonnell, and particularly Mary, who was the last of that family to die.*" This Mary O Donnell was last married to David Burke. In addition he transcribed the "Life of Aodh Ruadh O Donnell", and the Book of the Invasions of Ireland, and the O Clery Book of Genealogies. It was probably in order to consult this book that the other celebrated Gaelic Antiquary of the Seventeenth century, Dubhaltach Mac Fírisigh (1600-1671) of Castle Lacken, Tirawley, Co Mayo, made the then dangerous and arduous journey, "*probably by way of David and Dorothy O Dowd's estate at Bunnyconnelan, across the south-western side of Lough Conn, and down through Glen Nephin to Glenhest*" – from *The Celebrated Antiquary* by Nollaig O Muraile. This was a journey of over twenty miles, perhaps made easier by the use of a horse, but fraught with danger. "*where a man in 1672 could not travayle that roadd without danger of being kild or robbed by woodkerne or outlaws, of late years called Toryes...*".

Cucogry married a Miss MacSweeney, who was a close relation (perhaps 1st cousin once removed) of Dr. Bartholomew Murry (1695-1767), of Co. Clare, Doctor-Regent of the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Paris and founder (in 1761) of a number of Bourses (scholarships) in the Irish College in Paris (College des Lombards), including three Bourses of 500 livres (pounds) each for the education of his relations (his grandparent's names were Murry, Lafferty, O Cahan and O Doherty in that order – O Murry's were a clan of South County Derry along with the O Cahans according to Lewis's topographical dictionary). Here follows the exact text of the donation:

"Three burses for students of families transplanted from Ulster to Co Mayo and borders of Sligo and Roscommon with preference for Murrys, O Dohertys, notably maternal relatives of the donor, and descendants of Gerard Og O Doherty, Touragee, near Bellahawnas, O Clery race, notably descendants of Cucogry O Cleary, of Tyrawley, near Kilalla, whose wife, MacSweeney was related to the donor, Dunlevys, particularly relatives of Andre Dunlevy, former prefect, who live on the Mayo-Sligo borders near Bellahy, O Shiels, or poorest families transplanted to these counties."

The great local historian, Pádraig Ó Móghrain M.A., collected many traditions about the Cleary family in West Mayo about the year 1944 from local inhabitants for inclusion in a book celebrating the annalists who became known as "The Four Masters". One of these contributors was Patrick MacManamon of Ballycroy, born in 1856, who knew a great many traditions about the family including. "*Cucogry O Cleary lived for a time in the townland of Kildun. Here there are places still called 'teach Cucogry', 'tobar Cucogry' and 'garrdha Cucogry', as well as Cosan Flann and a sea inlet name Béal Eoghain Uí Chleirigh. There is also an area of land called 'Ceathramha Mhuintir Chleirigh' or the quarter (about 120 acres) of the Cleary family. Cucogry's brother Cairbre, lived in Bellaveeny, about two miles to the east of Kildun. The hillock on which the house stood is still called 'Ard Cairbre'. Cucogry migrated to Glenhest afterwards. Michael O'Cleary of Glenhest, grandson or great-grandson to Cucogry had a quarrell with a neighbour and beat him so badly that he feared the injured man might die. So he fled, by night, across the mountains to Ballycroy. A son of his, Michael, married and had a son, Andy "Dall" O Cleary, or Blind Andy Cleary, who was a well-known fiddler and story-teller of Ballycroy and was reputed to have the gift of prophecy. Andy Dall (5th generation from Cucogry) gave his six sons the old O Cleary*

names, among them Flan, Tadhg and Michael. Andy was still alive in 1882." We can take from this that Andy's sons probably lived to see the start of the 20th century, and so his descendants may be traceable today. Another tradition is by Mr Patrick Forristal of Claggernagh Lower, who was born in 1875. "His grandfather told of an O Cleary who lived in Gortnaheilte. He heard from old people that an O Cleary was the first man buried in Annagh graveyard in Glenhest. He knew a poor woman, rather eccentric, who used to travel through Glenhest seeking charity in the 1890s. People called her Judy Cleary and Judy Flan (ed - was her father's name Flan O Cleary?), names she violently resented saying her proper name was Julia Anne Agnes OCleary, and that she was a noble lady, and came of a noble family, and that some of the great O Clearys were buried in Glenhest, and she meant to be buried there too. There are two families, one named Cleary, the other named Clarke, living in Glenhest. There was always a kind of natural nobility about them and they were always looked up to and respected."

Cucogchriche died around 1664 (his partially legible will (transcription & translation from the Irish below) is dated 1664 at Gortnaheltia, Mayo) and he is said to have been buried in Burrishoole Abbey, near the altar.

*"In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. I bequeath my soul to God Almighty, and I charge my body to be buried in the Monastery of Burrishoole, or in whatever other consecrated church.....in which it will appear best to my friends to bury me. I leave the property most dear to me, that I have put into my possession in the world, namely, my books, to my two sons, Diarmaid and Sean. Let them take their profit out of them without injuring them, and according to their necessities; and let them give their sight and their constant access to Cairbre's children like themselves; and let them instruct them according to the best benefit of Cairbre's children, to teach and instruct their own children likewise. I am charging them to be loving, friendly, respectful,as they would be to their own children, if they wish that God should be propitious to themselves, and give them prosperity in the world here, and their share in the Kingdom of Heaven in the other world, and I charge in like manner
Catherinaor great that shall be in her possession, and the horse.....in her own hands, and I give her its possession from my own death out..... and accordingly as it shall appear best.....There is.....examine what shall be in her hands, and I give her possession after my own death outand accordingly as it shall appear best
.....There is
.....examine what shall be in her hands, and I give her possession (after my death)of a horse and of a foal, and let him do all the good that he can to her until he has put her care of him non-shamefully. Should.....go..... another woman in the time of their idleness or the woman
.....upon the share of her sister, and if the woman of them who shall be..... brethren that shall be heirs of them both in their time there..... without being alive. If the little boy Eoch..... should take quietness of residence to himself, and come to the one place with
..... And Sean, I am charging you to do every good which can be done
.....accordingly as I have done, and
..... father and to his grandfather and to his grandmother
..... a cow which I put into his possession to him of your share or of your brothersresidence in which he is, dispose of it according to your own wishes..... as a benefit(pay) for saying Mass for the soul of Sean Meg-G.....as it shall appear to yourselves*

Cucoigriche O Cleirigh

In Curr-na-h-Eilte (Gort na hEilte), the 8th day of February 1664.."

Cucogry left children:

1a Diarmuid O Cleary, probably the eldest son, who was probably born about 1640 and would have died about 1700. He inherited his father's books and left issue, a son

1b Cairbre O Cleary, married about the year 1692 a Miss Maguire of Arney Bridge, Fermanagh. He removed with his children to the parish of Drung, Co. Cavan and would have died circa 1730 leaving issue,

1c Cosnamhach or Cosney OCleary, born at Gortnaheltia in 1693, moved to Knockbinish in County Leitrim and thence to Drung in County Cavan, with his father. He married Mabel, daughter of Donnell Ultagh (Dunleavy) and left (with four daughters), a son,

1d Patrick O Cleary, born 1738, who in 1759 married Anne, daughter of Bernard O Gowan, or Smith of Lara, Co. Cavan, and by her had six sons and six daughters. He died in 1816 aged 78 years and was buried in Drung Churchyard. His eldest son,

4a Flan O Cleary, possible son of Cucogry, who reputedly left a son

1b Tedy (Thady?) O Cleary, who had,

1c Michael O Cleary, (perhaps the *Michael O Cleary of Glenhest, grandson or great-grandson to Cucogry had a quarrell with a neighbour and beat him so badly that he feared the injured man might die. So he fled, by night, across the mountains to Ballycroy. A son of his, Michael, married and had a son, Andy "Dall" O Cleary, or Blind Andy Cleary, who was a well-known fiddler and story-teller of Ballycroy and was reputed to have the gift of prophecy. Andy Dall (5th generation from Cucogry) gave his six sons the old O Cleary names, among them Flan, Tadhg and Michael. Andy was still alive in 1882.*) who had,

1d Michael O Cleary who had

1e Martin O Cleary , reported by the Antiquary John O Donovan in 1842 to be the head of the Erris / Ballycroy family (thanks to Jim Collins, descendant of the Sligo branch of the O Cleary family for this information). Was he the Martin Cleary of Tallagh, who was also a trader of goods between Newport and Ballycroy? Martin Clery, who moved from Knockmoyleen in 1858 after buying land from the Cafferkeys of Fahy? and who who bought the licence for Cleary's bar (as it is now called) from his friend Mr Smithwick, Manager of the Bellingham Estate, and a Puritan? That Martin was grandfather of Louis Cleary of Cleary's Bar and Grocery Ballycroy, who died in 1955 and whose uncles John and Martin were both doctors in the area. The and Glenhest Clearys are probably the senior branch of the Clan now in existence.

2d Andy Dall O Cleary, possibly son of the above Michael. He was alive in 1882 and left issue. He maybe the same as the Andrew Cleary who married Bridget O Hara and had a son John whose descendants are numbered among "Descendants of Anthony ODogherty"

1f Judy Flan? (Julia Agnes O Cleary) - there's a Julia A Clarke in the 1901 / 11 census for Islandeady, Mayo who may be this person

2e Tadhg Cleary

3e Michael Cleary

4e Possibly (if our identification of Andrew Cleary of Drumsleed, Co Mayo, born ca 1800 with Andy Dall O Cleary above is correct) John Cleary who married Sabina (Celia) Dogherty b 1839 Knockmoyleen, Mayo. He was born 1832 in Drumsleed, County Mayo, IRE, and died January 11, 1898 in Elroy, Juneau Co. Wisconsin, USA. They left issue,

1f Mary Cleary b. 1859 Drumsleed, Mayo, Ire d. 1885 married John Mack

2f Michael Cleary b. 1862 Drumsleed, Mayo, Ire d. 4 April 1925 married Bridget Corrigan

3f John Cleary b. 4 Nov 1864 Andover, NY, USA d. 13 June 1931 Elroy, WI, USA married Annie Corrigan

4f Patrick Cleary b. 1866 Andover, NY, USA d. 1881

5f Andrew Charles Cleary b. 7 May 1869 Brooklyn, NY, USA d. 28 Aug 1941 Superior, WI, USA married Theresa Kahl

6f. James Cleary b. 1871 d. 1945

7f. Peter Aloysious Cleary b. 1874 d. 1940 married Matilda Bornine

8f Anorah (Annie) Cleary b. 1877 d. 1886

9f. Celia Cleary b. 1878 d. 10 Nov. 1953

10f. Lewis Martin Cleary b. 1879 Andover, New York, d. 1950

11f. Katherine Cleary b. Elroy, WI, d. 1 Jan 1940 married Arthur A. Kemp

12f Bridget Cleary b. 1881 Elroy, Wisconsin, d. 1883

2) The Cleary / Clery / O Cleary family centred around Gibbonstown, County Limerick, and North Cork

According to the account, it was while retreating after the Battle of Kinsale that they settled in around Gibbonstown. This is quite plausible as Gibbonstown is directly on the route the Ulster Army of Red Hugh O'Donnell of Tirconnell took. As evidence that this was at least possible is the fact that at Curreeny, in the Tipperary highlands, there live a people known as "the Ultachs" meaning the men from Ulster. These people all bear Ulster surnames and tradition has it that they were left behind when the Northern army was retreating from Kinsale. The tradition is that there were three O Cleary brothers, of which one settled in Clare, another in the County Tipperary and the third and last settled near Kilmallock in the County of Limerick. Sean O Cleary reputedly bought the townland of Gibbonstown, Limerick. There are some difficulties with this however, not least the appearance of his in a pardon in an Elizabethan Fiant of 1591 to Teige O Cleary McDonough of Annagh, which is about 14 miles SW of Kilmallock, indicating that there was an O Cleary population in this area prior to the Battle of Kinsale in 1601. The connected descent starts with....

1e Sean O Cleary, b abt 1685, Gibbonstown Limerick, father of

1f Thomas Clery b abt 1715 married Miss O'Donnell leaving

1g Sean Ruadh Clery b abt 1735 married Miss Lynch and had

1h James Clery, Wine Merchant of Cork (1797 - 1872) married Catherine Walsh and had

1i [Major General Sir Cornelius Frances Clery K.C.B.](#), General in the British Army during the Boer War. He became Quarter Master General of the Army in Ireland. He served in the Zulu War, where he was Chief Staff Officer, in Egypt, where he was Chief of Staff from 1886-88, and in the Boer War, where he commanded the 2nd Division of the South African field force. He was Professor of Tactics in the Royal Military College, Sandhurst.

2i John Walsh Clery, Merchant, Deputy Lieutenant of Cork

3i Rev Mother Stanislaus Clery, Nun in the Ursuline Convent, Waterford

4i Rev Mother St Michael Clery, Nun in the Ursuline Convent Waterford

5i Another Nun in the Ursuline Convent, Waterford

2h Thomas Clery of Annemount, Cork, and Ashton Grove, Cork, Wine Merchant, died 1896, Master of the Muskerry Hunt, sent his sons to Clongowes Wood College, sj, married Anna Marie Burne and had

1i John Thomas Clery, eldest son, of Ashton Grove, Cork had issue

1j Thomas Augustine Clery

2i Thomas Clery, died young

3i Joseph Bernard Clery, emigrated to Australia married Sophia Tweedy

4i Tom Clery, joined American Army, killed in the Mexican War 1849

5i Fr. Edward Joseph Clery

6i William H Clery of Ballincurrig House, Douglas, Cork married Eliza Cotter

7i Richard E Clery 1824 – 1896 married Mary Jane Nelligan had issue

1j Richard William Clery, Representative for Power & Company Whiskey married Jennie O Flaherty, whose brother Paddy Flaherty the Irish Whiskey Paddys was named after. Left issue

1k Thomas (Rev. Bernard) Clery O.F.M.

2k Jennie Clery, Member of Cumann na mBan

3k William O'Flaherty Clery, Bank Manager in Belfast

4k James Austin Clery, Manager of the Dunlop Rubber Plantation, Malaca, Malaya

2j Thomas Clery, 1857 - 1896, Freelance Journalist, Bank Official, married Delia Tudor Dickinson, niece of Charles Stuart Parnell.

3j Eilie Cleary, Nurse in Queen Alexandra's Imperial Nursing Service in South Africa during the Boer War

4j John Francis Clery, Secretary of the Cork Chamber of Commerce

5j George Carleton Clery, Munster and Leinster Bank Official, married May Andrews and had

1k Richard Nelligan Clery, General Manager & Director Munster & Leinster Bank

2k George Vincent Carleton Clery, Manager Munster & Leinster Bank Inchicore

3k Andrew Clery, died young

8i Surgeon Major George Carleton Clery MRCS, 1828 - 1873, educated at Stonyhurst College, sj, married Blanche Emily Jane Lee and left issue,

1j Lumley Lawrence Clery

2j Major General Carlton Buckley Lamington Clery C.B. married Jessie Fielen and had

1k Percy Clery

2k Carleton Laming St Clair Clery, killed in World War I

9i Charles Clery, emigrated to Canada and died shortly afterwards

10i Lieutenant Henry Clery (1834- 1879) , British Army, military settler in New Zealand had issue

1j Arthur Rothwell Clery

2j Carleton James Clery married Ida Mizpah Vause and had issue

1k Carleton Jack Clery

2k Cecis Vause Clery, 2nd New Zealand Divisional Artillery, killed 1943 at Tripoli

3h Cornelius (Con) Clery 1794 -1843, probate 1844, of Glenview, Co. Limerick md Nan Synan and had

1i George Clery

2i Arthur Patrick Clery (used the Gaelic form of the name calling himself Art Ua Cleirigh), B.A., Barrister-at-Law 1860, Practiced in India, Junior to Isaac Butt in several cases, assisted Isaac Butt in his paper "Land tenure in Ireland: a plea for the Celtic race (1866)", Author of A History of Ireland, had a son

1j [Arthur Edward Clery](#), 1879 - 1932, educated at Clongowes Wood College, living at 24 Haddington Rd Dublin 2 in 1911, Barrister & Professor of Law at University College Dublin, was elected to Dail Eireann as TD for the National University of Ireland constituency in 1927

4h Bernard (Bryan) Clery 1797 -1883, married Margaret O Grady and had

1i George Clery married Julia Keyes and had issue

1j George Clery

2j James Clery

2f Michael John Clery b abt 1717 md Deborah Meade and had

1g John (Yeoman) Clery b abt 1744, involved with the Yeomanry, buried 1791 Bulgaden md _____ Casey and had

1h Patrick Clery md _____ Casey and had

1i William Clery had issue

1j Patrick Clery

1k Thomas Clery md Hannah Powell, sister of JD Powell, owner of Martinstown House (Now owned by JP McManus)

2i Peter Clery

2h William Clery 1762 - 1856 md Elizabeth O Grady and had issue

1i John Clery md Anne McCarthy

1j William Clery 1822 - 1893, spent a few years in America before settling on the family farm. Wrote the family tree of this branch of the family. Md Elizabeth Quinlan and had issue

1k Pat Clery, farmer and also worked at Cannock's Department Store md Elizabeth Kelly

2k John Clery

2j Charles Clery, studied for the priesthood at Maynooth, but later joined the Army, as Lieutenant, went to India and was killed at Delhi during the Indian Mutiny

3j John Francis Clery, 1830 -1912, had a Drapery Business and was also a Butter Merchant, lived at "Kilbarron", Sunday's Well, Cork, married Margaret Warham and had

1k Aloysius John (Louis) Clery

2k Michael J Clery, shopkeeper, lived at Glasthule, buried Deansgrange Cemetery md Anne McGrath

3k John Marcus Clery

4k Patrick Clery (died young)

5k Joseph Clery

4j Michael John Clery, of The Glebe, Athlacca, and Fort Mary, Limerick 1832 - 1896, married Margaret Wise, whose father & uncle owned a distillery, and secondly Helena Barry, daughter of Michael Barry, MRIA, Barrister & Professor of Law at Cork University, son of Michael Barry of Elm Park, Farran, County Cork, son of James Barry, son of Philip Barry, reputed son of David Barry son of William Barry of Lislee (a junior branch of the Earls of Barrymore). He owned Cannock's Department Store, Limerick and founded Clery's Department Store, Dublin by whom he left

1k Francis (Frank) Clery, 1861 -1893, Partner in Clery & Co Department Store, died in Argeles-sur-Mer, (a resort southwest of Perpignan, still popular today) France where he had gone in hope of restoring his health

2k Thomas Clery, died young

3k Robert Clery, of The Glebe, Athlacca, which he inherited, Justice of the Peace, married Isabella Levers and left

1l Louise Clery, married 1917 Sir Christopher William Nixon, 2nd Baronet, Major in the Royal Artillery in World War I, Managing Director and Chairman of Clery's Department Store, Dublin

1m Sir Christopher John Louis Joseph Nixon, 3rd Baronet

2m Rev Sir Kenneth Michael John Basil Nixon, 4th Bt

3m Cecil Nixon, father of the present (5th) Baronet.

4k Patrick Sarsfield Clery, died while a Student at Trinity College Dublin

5k Michael Clery

6k John Charles Clery

5j Mark Francis Clery, Draper, arrived in Melbourne Australia aged 18 in 1857, married Margaret Rankin of Donegal and left issue in Melbourne

2i Michael Clery married Catherine Bermingham and had issue

3i Thomas Clery married Elizabeth Foley and left issue

4i William Clery, married Ellen Collins and left issue

5i James Clery of Bantard House, Bulgaden married Maria Hayes and had issue

6i Patrick Clery married Mary Duggan and had issue

7i Fr Marcus Clery, PP of Bulgaden, built Bulgaden Parish Church

3h James Clery had issue

1i Michael James Clery

2i Daniel Clery, listed as a landowner in Griffiths married Catherine Tracey and had

1j David Clery, Fenian in 1867 married Margaret Stewart dau of John Stewart of Ulster

3i Jeremiah Clery

4i Thomas Clery

4h Peter Clery of Gibbonstown md _____ Casey and had

1i Nicholas Clery

2i Denis Clery

5h Fr Thomas Clery

6h Mark Clery had

1i John Mark Clery and had issue

7h Michael Clery

3f James Clery of Ballinahinch b 1721, buried in Athneacey had issue

1g Patrick Clery, of Ballinahinch , b abt 1760, died (will) 1801 md and left

1h Thomas Clery ca 1802 - 1874 , built Ballinahinch House, married Mary Anne Guerin in 1833 and had

1i Patrick Cleary married Alice Herr

2i Daniel Clery, 1835 - 1869, Soldier in 4th King's Own Regiment

3i Major Richard Thomas Clery, 1843 - ?? Royal Munster Fusiliers

4i Thomas George Clery, b 1844, 17 Harcourt Terrace, Dublin, Lieutenant Colonel, later Major in the Leinster Regiment md Mary O Gorman and had

1j Reginald Clery, educated Belvedere College, sj, Irish Rugby Union Volunteer Corps in the British Army, shot dead by the insurgents during the Easter Rising in Dublin in 1916 on his way to Beggar's Bush Barracks.

2j Claude Valentine Clery, Electrical Engineer married Dora Reilly and had

1k Noelle Clery md George Reid

2k Val Clery 1924 - 1997, Commando in the Adriatic in WW2, Broadcaster in Ireland, England (BBC) and Canada (CBC). Later lived in Toronto, Canada

5i Surgeon General James Albert Clery, British Army, Ballinahinch House, Knocklong, Co. Limerick md Isabel Kirby, Newcastle upon Tyne and had

1j Lieut Col Vivian Augustine Cairns Clery, M.C. Royal Engineers b 1891, gassed in WWI, stationed in Germany and later in Kabul md Sibyl, dau of Capt Francis Johnston and had

1k Anthony Clery

2j Capt Noel Cairns Clery, Royal Field Artillery, killed in action 24 July 1916

2h John Walsh O' Clery, Captain in British Army (known as 'The O'Clery') md Eliza Keyes and had

1i Count Patrick Keyes O' Clery, fought in the Papal States, was created a Papal Count, known as Count Patrick Keyes O'Clery, or as he referred to himself, 'The O'Clery', Member of Parliament (Home Rule MP), buried Twyford Abbey, Ealing, London 1913 (Obituary, London Times)

3) Clery/Clere/Cleare families associated with the Butler earls of Ormonde

The deeds of the Earls of Ormonde also give us an insight into the affairs of the Cleary/Clere family in Kilkenny and Tipperary. The scribe (obviously clerical skill was not solely the preserve of the Donegal branch of the family) Seaan (John) Buidh O Clery transcribed the Psalter of Cashel for Edmond MacRichard Butler in 1453 (a nephew of the 4th Earl of Ormonde), an act which may well have been the beginning of a long relationship with the Ormonde Butler family. He also transcribed the book of Pottlerath (which is now in the Bodleian Library, Oxford), which in 1462 was exchanged with the FitzGeralds of Desmond for Edmund, who had been taken prisoner. A Sir Dermot Cleary is mentioned in 1501 and a Sir James Clery was steward to James Butler, the Earl of Ormond in the 1500s, which was an extremely powerful position to be in, having stewardship over vast areas of land, while the Earl would have been long detained on business at Court in London. In 1519 he was steward to Piers Butler, 8th Earl of Ormonde, who granted him the rents and tithes of the rectory of

Tuberyaghny in Lismore, to hold during the Earl's life, and in that year he was also granted Maymet and Clonfan in Meath by Sir James Butler, later the 9th Earl of Ormonde. He was also steward to Piers's successor James Butler, 9th Earl of Ormonde. He was granted the lands of Balynele, Mollaghe and Ballycurkyn in Tipperary in 1543 by Art fitz John Nele. James Clery (also known as James Clere) was Dean of St. Canice's Cathedral, Co. Kilkenny in the sixteenth century, and David Cleare and James Cleare were Deans of Ossory in 1505 and 1582 respectively. A David (died 1601) and Nicholas Clere (Nicholas graduated from Oxford University in 1567) were mentioned in relation to 3 meares in Boniston, Kilkenny in 1577. A Hugh Clery was granted the bakehouse and two crofts by the Earl of Ormonde in Dunfert, Kilkenny in 1582, a William Cleri was granted a water-mill near Rosbarcon, Kilkenny in 1572, Anastasia Clere was granted 3 meases (houses with lands and appurtenances) of land in Callan in March 1563, while John Clere gave a bond to the Earl of Ormonde for his interest in the parsonage of Knockgraffon, Tipperary in 1569 and there is a reference to very early Irish trade on the Continent in 1571, with a bond by Patrick Comerford and Alexander Brewer to pay a debt to John Clere (who was a professor of physick) in the town of Antwerp. Thomas Clere was Vicar of Clonmel in 1536, and Sir Thomas Clery was (Anglican?) Chaplain of Donfert in 1564, while in 1593 the Earl of Ormonde made Rory O Cleary his sergeant of the manor of Nenagh. Patrick Cleary who in 1623 was listed as a scholar at Trinity College, Dublin, is also likely to be of the Munster branch of the family, as is Luke Clere of County Kilkenny, a student at Oxford University in 1603. In 1608, Donnough O Clere granted the Earl of Ormonde Aghnecarrig in Tipperary, while in 1612, Donal O Clery sold Kincorky, Tipperary to the Earl of Ormonde, and William Mac Dermot O Cleary released the lands of Agnecarrige, and Castletown, Tipperary to the Earl of Ormonde in 1610-1611.

"*Jacobo Clery*" or James Clery was a preceptor in the University of Salamanca in 1610, and may have been of this branch of the family. Nicholas Clery with James Lalor (a family from Leix) were in Spanish Flanders in 1643 whence they had come from the Army in France, and were granted passports to return to Ireland from Ghent. His christian name as well as his companion's name would indicate a Munster origin for him. Perhaps of the same family was Rev. John Clarke, S.J. (1662-1723) born at Kilkenny, missionary to the Irish and Scots soldiers in the Low Countries. A *Jacobus Cleere, Hybernus, Kilkenniensis* (in other words James Cleere, from Kilkenny) was a student at the Irish College in Louvain in May 1641 and subsequently was ordained at Antwerp in 1645. He was later, in 1677 appointed President of the Irish College in Antwerp. Brother Mathew O Cleary. O.F..M. who wrote his will in the University of Louvain in 1657, where he was living with many of his Northern O Cleary cousins, an extract of which I give here: "*Jesus Maria. Know ye all Christian people to whom these presents shall com that I Matthew O Cleri, son and heire of Hugh Clery of Queloga in the King's County in Linster in Ireland doe make my last will and testament as followeth. I doe leave and bequeath unto my second brother John O Clery and in default of issue male to be had of his boddy, to my other brother Michael O cleary and theire heires all the right and entrest which I have or may have by my said father Hugh O Clearys death in any lands or other entrest in the kingdom of Ireland and especially in the half plow lands of Broder in Tipperary and the barroy of Lower Ormond. It is my will that by said brother John O Clery be oblidgeed when the said estate shall com to his hands or possession or his heires, then to give a childs protion to my said youngest brother Michael O Cleary and to my sister Catherin Ni Clery, all of which to be my last will and testament. In witness wherof I have hereunto subscribed my hand the 28th of Aprill in the yeare of our Lord God 1657. Matthaeus O Cleary.*" A Thomas Clery entered the Irish College at Louvain in 1755 as did another Thomas Clery, from Limerick in 1781.

The O'Clears or Cleeres were an old-established Catholic gentry family at Ballyragget, on the border of County Kilkenny and Queen's County. The earliest identified member was William Cleere (d. 1680). His son Simon (d. 1698) had, by his wife Elizabeth, several children only two of whom, John and William, have been identified; Simon Cleere espoused the Jacobite cause [ed - Simon Clear is listed as officer in Colonel Edmund Butler's regiment of King James II's Army List] and, in consequence, was attainted in 1691.