

The Creaghe Family in Ireland

Papers of Percy Fitzroy Seton Creaghe (1875-1949)

Produced between 1930 and 1940

Prepared from papers kept at Castle Blunden, by kind permission of Lady Pamela Blunden and Percy's daughter Helen Mary Seton Holmes.

May 1997.

Copied by Merrill & Michael Barnett
12 Yanilla Av Wahroonga NSW 2076
Australia.

CREAGHE – CREAGH

The final E appears only to have been used by the Creaghes of Rheens and Tipperary Branches. The last representations of the Senior branch of the Rheens family – John Fitzstephen Creaghe.

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[A letter] Written to Philip C. Creaghe. – May 13, 1879 says:

Some letters and other documents signed with it, (the E) which are about 200 years old. About 1679 Charles II – Louis XIV of France.

The Cork branches of the family do not use the final E.

The name to vary arbitrary variations of pronunciation.

We and the Cork families pronounced it “Cray”

There is a village Creagh Cree-ah

In Que a working class family Cr-ah

HERIMONE

According to “The Saltar of Cashel”

Reigned for 14 years anno mundi 2738

The Saltar of Cashel

Does not now exist in its original form. It was written about AD 900 by Cormac O’Cullean a nu and re-edited circa AD 1000. And now only exists in parts in

“The Book of Lecan” (book of rights)

“The Book of Ballymote”
“The Book of Leinster”

The family of Creaghe is of Milesian Origin – according to the pedigree compiled from the Saltar of Cashel. They are descended from Herimon Monarch of Leinster. Reigned 14 years Anno Mundi 2738. He was second son of Milesius by his wife Scotia, daughter of one of the Pharaohs of Egypt.

“About the time that Troy fell and Rome was founded,” from Scythia, through Spain, with harp and battle axe and an advanced stage of civilization, came that “remarkable dynasty of Milesian chiefs, who for centuries formed its governing and enlightened class, moulding its institutions, and shaping its destinies.

The invasion from Spain led by Milesius was to avenge the murder of his uncle, Ith, who whilst on a friendly visit to Erin was slain by the Tuatha Danaans.

These Tuatha Danaans appear where succeeded probably by conquest; the Firbolgs as earlier inhabitants of Erin – long before the era of Authentic history oral or written. So the Creaghe trace their descent, through Herimon Am 2738 – AD 377 down to Naill of the Nine Hostages Anno Christi 377 and his son Eogau (or Eugenius). The origin of the name follows:

ORIGIN OF THE COAT OF ARMS OF THE CREAGHES

ARMS On a silver shield 3 laurel branches proper in chief of blue – 3 golden besants.

BESANTS were supposed to be derived from a plain flat gold coin.

A besant found by the crusaders to have been currency at Byzantium.

CREST A horse’s head with a bridle on and in the head band – a laurel, a laurel branch – all proper natural colours.

When the three brothers of the Hy Niall – that is the Clan of the Northern O’Nialls (O’Neils).

Pierce, Patrick and James came with might of men and with arms to drive the Danes from the city of Limerick where they had firmly established themselves in the 10 Century. These three brothers are said to have been in command of the Irish Forces which in coming through the River Shannon fording the river drove the Danes from the ford and forced their way into the city through the Creagh Gate Way and Lane – which is called after that name from that day to this because of the green branches they wore in their helmets. Each man of the said party which was to know the men in battle.

The other account which in my opinion is much more likely to be correct seeing that the Creaghe and Creagh Crest is a Nag’s Head decked with a branch. Why should the horse’s head have been introduced if the branches had been worn in the men’s helmets – is that these same O’Nialls after defeating the Danes and driving them out of Limerick. On returning from the pursuit in triumph decked the bridles of their horses with green branches as a sign of Victory from which they were called O’Niall O’Crasibhe – O’Niall of the Branch. The O’Niall was not used the name from

being O'Cravibhe, or Creavh, became Anglicized into Creaghe who were thereafter notables of the City of Limerick (see Ferrars History of Limerick). *Comment by Percy Creaghe?*

The First Mayor of the name was Jolin Russell alias Creaghe, Mayor of the city in 1216 and no other family except perhaps "Arthur" furnish so many chief Magistrates in the city. Our Branch of the family in the 18th Century were evidently "Merchant Adventurers" – trading with and owning property in the West Indies – and a certain John Creaghe (my great, great, great Grandfather P.F.S.C.) of whom more anon- acquired a considerable property in the Co of Tipperary.

The Cork branch of the family appear to have left Limerick and settled in the city of Cork in or previous to the time of Edward III (1327-1377).

1327-1377

The actual early connection between the Dangan, Rheens, and Castle Park Creaghes and the Cork branches is quite impossible to trace after such a vast lapse of years. The late John Fitzstephen Creaghe, of the Rheens branch and also the late Sir Arthur vicars Ulster King of Arms and many others have spent years trying to connect the families with any degree of certainty but have failed. However, there is a connection in later times in the XVIII Century as I have shown in the Pedigree Chart of the Families. *Comment by Percy Creaghe?*

CONNECTION BETWEEN CREAGHES OF CASTLE PARK & REENS & CREAGHS OF DANGAN

Pierse Creagh who married in 1639 M MacNamara of Creattalough or Cratloe Castle, Co Clare and died in 1670 at his Castle of Dangan and was buried in the old Franciscan Abbey of Ennis [Co Clare] where his tomb and monument are there still.

He was succeeded by his son Simon Creagh of Dangan who married Mary MacMahon of the Castle of Clanagh, niece of the famous Mauriah Rhu MacMahon, wife of Sir Donat O'Brien Bart of Dromoland. They had a daughter who married Colonel Burke of Reens.

AWC to King James in his Iris M Henry
And their granddaughter Catherine married STEPHEN CREAGHE OF REENS
AB 1706 died 22 December 1797.

From whom Creaghes of Reens
Dangan CREAGH'S
the Reens connection is "Direct Descent".

The Castle Park is only a very distant connection with that family of Creaghs

CREAGHE OF REENS

In reply to a letter of my Father's (Philip Creaghe) there is a town land called Reens West in this sub district (Ardagh). It is situated about 3 miles from Rathkeale and 5 miles from Newcastle. A family of the Creaghe's lived there about 120 or 130 years ago. The house and which they lived and which they built is locally called "Reens House". It is now owned by a man named Thomas Magner who lives there and farms about 100 acres. Magner's wife's maiden name was Mangan. It was her Grandfather, William Mangan, who lived there after the Creaghe family and it was during his life time that the house was built by the Creaghes. There is no living person in the neighbourhood who knows anything about the family except what they heard from people who are now dead, and there are only a few who seem to know that such a family ever lived here.

There are two old churchyards in the locality one – Kilscannell – about half mile across the fields from "Reens House" – the other Cloonagh about one mile distant from Kilscannell. There is no tomb or stone in either with a Creaghe inscription, and it is the belief of those who gave me the information that there was none of the family buried there, and that the old Churchyard in Rothkeal is the most likely place to find some trace of the family – if there is any member of it buried out of Reens House.

From James J O'Mahony
Const. R.I.C. Ardagh. 12 August 1905.

JOHN FITZSTEPHEN CREAGHE, of Weston-Super-Mare (See Pedigree Chart of Various Branches)

I believe that this segment is also written by O'Mahony, with the last sentence being a comment by Percy Creaghe.

This old man was a great friend of my Grandfather's youngest brother STEPHEN, and also of "Aunt Parsons", i.e. Elizabeth Creaghe, Grandfather's sister. She married first Major Sampson Carter, and secondly Richard Clere Parsons – (see Burke's Peerage. Rosse)
My father used to write to him up to his death, about 1866, and got a lot of Family History from him. In a letter of his, dated May 13, 1879 he wrote:

"I remember my late Father telling me that your "ancestor, my GREAT GRANDFATHER'S YOUNGER BROTHER" went to the Island of St. Eustatius in the West Indies, where he made a fortune, and sent home to my Grandfather a sum of money with which to purchase for him the property now belonging to your Family in Tipperary."

In this he was wrong. It was his Great Grandfather's younger brother's son –JOHN CREAGHE RICHARD.

John FitzStephen Creaghe of Weston-super-mare alive in 1866. Married – no children.

Various information sent to Philip Creaghe in letters etc. from 1879-1886. He was descended from the elder brother of my G.G.G. Grandfather [Richard of Kiloylin] (Percy F.S. Creaghe) and his branch of the family and ours are the only Creaghe no trace as to why the “E” was added but there are documents, and letters in J.F.S.C.’S POSSESSION as per letter 13 May 1879. I have some letters and other documents signed with it which are about 200 years old that would be 1679. In the reign of Charles II and Louis XIV of France.

DATED 1823

J.F.S.C.’s father Michael Creaghe born in Limerick 23 April 1769. Served in the Army 96 Regiment and four others and attained the Rank of Captain.

John Creaghe of Waterville Co. Limerick. Born at Reens, died 31 August 1809. He was Deputy Governor (same as Deputy Lieutenant and now) of the County of Limerick, a Magistrate for the same County also for Co Clare and the City of Limerick and Mayor of Limerick 1788.

J.F.S.C. was Stephen Creaghe of Reens, Co Limerick (McNewcastle). A magistrate for Co Limerick for 65 years, died aged 93. Stephen had one brother Richard (my GGG Grandfather). Stephen’s first wife was Catherine Burke, daughter of John Burke of Reens (an heiress), son of Colonel William Burke A.D.C. to King James II. Col. William Burke’s wife was a daughter of Simon Creagh of Dangan, Co Clare. She was maid of Honour to James’ Queen (Mary of Modena?)

Col. Burke became after James; retreat to France (July 1690) Commander of the Irish Brigade in the French Army and was killed at the Siege of St. Omer.

His wife (nee Creagh) became a prisoner of Louis XIV during her life and died at the Palace st ger.

Stephen’s second wife was Bridget Fitzgerald, daughter of Maurice Kt of Kerry who had firstly married Thomas Tandro of Sallow Glen. A sister of this Bridget Fitzgerald – Mary married Thomas Rice of Mount Trenchard Co Limerick (The Burke’s Peerage – Monteagle)

G G Grandfather was John Creaghe – of the city of Limerick.

G G G Grandfather was Stephen Creaghe of Kilmallock.

This man owned large properties particularly in and about Kilmallock until deprived of these by forfeiture. Some small part of the original “HY NIALL” lands at Kilmallock Co Limerick were still in the possession of John Fitzstephen Creaghe of Westonn-Super-Mare in 1886 despite many acts of confiscation.

CREAGHES OF WATERVILLE – CO. LIMERICK.

Creaghe tombs in Kilbredon Churchyard

Letter from Royal Irish Constabulary Sgt. William McEvoy
Shana Golden Barracks Co. Limerick. To Philip.C. Creaghe (1850-1932) September 1905.

Shanagolden, A village and parish about 3 miles from Foynas on the estuary of the Shannon.
Kildzedon [? sp]: An old residence of the Creaghes

McEvoy writes the name on the tombstone is spelt CREAGHE as expected from letters of John FitzStephen Creaghe of Weston-Super-Mare

John Creaghe son of Stephen the brother of my great great great Grandfather Richard of St. Eustatius and Kiloylin Co. Tipperary.

John Creaghe of Waterville Co Limerick 1766 married Mary Anne, elder daughter of Michael Creagh of Laurentium Co. Cork.

He was Mayor of Limerick 1787, JP Co and City of Limerick and Co Clare.

He died 31 August 1809

On Sept 6 1905 McEvoy writes:

“Waterville”

There is nothing now remaining of them (the ruins) but portion of the old wall and not even enough of them to give any outline of the structured design.

I am informed that the place was in an excellent state of preservation up to about 28 to 30 years ago (about 1875-1880) to which time it was occupied by a priest and his curate. Since then the place has been derelict and almost everything worth removing has been carried away including fruit trees, etc. With regard to family descendants I have been informed by an old resident Michael O’Shannassy of Kilbredon that some internments have taken place in the Creaghe grounds in Kilbredon to whose memory no inscription has been given. This man who is now 75 (born 1830) states that when he was a young man he remembers John Creaghe, son of the aforementioned John we know according to Lath Directory that he was residing at Waterville in 1814: buried in Kilbredon Church Yard and somewhat Creaghes of Waterville Co Limerick. Later either Dick or George whose remains were brought from the North of Ireland.

I have myself seen the complete disappearance of a big country house within a few years. When we went to Kilkenny in 1906 ‘Danesfort’ the Wamy’s family place was complete and in moderate repair. There were none of the family living there then as it was in the hands of the mortgagees. The roof was fairly good. There were magnificent marble Italian fireplaces in the principal rooms, stone pillars on porch – gradually the roof fell in. The interior was stripped – porch sold (to a Hutchinson, one of the Protestant farmer family who put it, rather tacked it on to his very ordinary little square house. Then the remains of the walls were pulled down to help build the present farm house and buildings. The avenue of big trees is still standing but of the old house there is no sign. We first saw it in 1906 and it had disappeared in 25 years.

RICHARD CREAGHE OF LIMERICK & KILMOYLER COUNTY TIPPERARY.

Born probably 1708 died 1795.
My Great Great Great Grandfather

A Merchant of the City of Limerick, where the Creaghes had been established from the time of the expulsion of the Danes about AD 945.

Limerick in the XVII and XVIII centuries was evidently the BRISTOL of Ireland, and carried on a large trade with North America and the West Indies. It would appear that Richard Creaghe was a prosperous Merchant Adventurer trading to the West Indies. We do not know if he lived out there himself. He lived originally in Limerick, and then may have gone out to St. Eustatius, where he may have laid foundations of fortune which his son had the handling of. He certainly lived for the later part of his life at Kilmoyler, on the right of the road from Cahir to Bansha. Very much in the same neighbourhood as the Archers of Tipperary, The English's of Springfield, and the Butler's of Bansha!!! On the outside of the old parchment covered Account book in which his Grandson, Richard Creaghe of Castlepark, Golden, kept his accounts, there is written:
RICHARD CREAGHE –

KILMOYLER.

JOHN CREAGHE

This old book originally belonged to Thomas Butler, of Kilmoyler, and his name is on the inside of the cover. The house had belonged to these Butlers since the XVI Century. It was probably found in the house, and taken into use by my G.G.G. Grandfather, when he came to live there from Limerick, sometime before 1757. (subject to revision). I give this date approx. in view of the entry on the inside of the front cover. "1757 Nov 20 lent to Wm. Dwyer etc. for eight shilling and eight pence".

There are various other financial dealing between the Family and the Dwyers, at subsequent dates.

RICHARD CREAGHE Senior paid £1259.19.8 for his Grandson Richard Creaghe of Castle Park's Commission in the "7th Dragoon Guards". Cornet's commission dated 13 April 1788.

We now know when he died, his elder brother STEPHEN died in 1797, at the age of 91.

Letters of Administration granted to:

Richard Creaghe, the Natural grandson and next of kin of Richard Creaghe late of "Kilmoyler in the County of Tipperary Esq.
"a widower deceased without lawful issue"
"now living."

Dated 5th February 1795.

John Creaghe Richard, his son, and Richard's father having died December 2, 1792.

JOHN CREAGHE, RICHARD

Of St. Eustatius, Dutch West Indies, and of Limerick and of abbey, or Abbeyfeal, Nr[near] Cashel. Co. Tipperary, born? died in Dublin December 2 1792.

My Great Great Grandfather

We know from the records of the Dutch Church, I St. Eustatius (See letter from St Eustatius 18 Feb. 1888 and covering letter from British Consul, Curacao March 3, 1888) that John Creaghe was living in the Island for 30 years from 1758 to 1788, when he returned to Ireland. I have the certificate of his taking the Test Oath at the General Assize, held in Limerick on August 19, 1788. Before leaving the Island he sold all the property which must have been considerable – all except two small plots in the Uppertown (see letter quoted above). He married in 1766 ANNE HEYLIGER, of St. Eustatius, and St. Croix. She remained in the island until 1789, when having sold all her slaves and furniture, etc., she came to Ireland. We find in one of Philip Roche, John of Limerick's statements of Accounts.

1789 August 31 remitted by Mrs. A. Creaghe from St. Eustatius £1262.9.0

So she must have returned later in this year. Most of the money made by John Creaghe (Richard) was spent in the purchase of THE BURREN ESTATE, on which CASTLEPARK WAS BUILT. John Creaghe Richard's agent in Ireland who looked after his affairs and Stephen put through the purchase of the Estate, was his nephew John Creaghe of Waterville, Co Limerick, who was the son of Richard Creaghe of Kilmoyler's elder brother STEPHEN.

ABBHEY or ABBEYFEAL Near Cashel, Co. Tipperary.

We do not know where Abbey was. My father never could find it, and we must conclude that the house has disappeared, and the name of the place, like so many others, has been changed.

THE BURREN ESTATE.

This was purchased in 1783 or 1784. I have a copy made in St. Eustatius, from a letter written by John Creaghe, dated Jan. 1785 giving a Money Statement of the purchase of this Estate for £14680, and of other land "Cloghleigh" for £4731. 17..6. Receipt for this money, signed by John Creaghe, is dated 15 February 1784. I think J.C.R. may have started to build the house of Castle Park, Golden. I have some of the building plans of the house, unfortunately they are not dated. I think, however, that the house could not have been finished until about 1795, as there is an item in the old account book kept by RICHARD (my great Grandfather) J.C.R.'s only son and heir.

May 2, 1795. Expenses sending my furniture from Dublin here £50.11.0.
(29 car loads)

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PHILIP ROCHE JOHN.

The Roches of Limerick were a branch of the Fermoy house. Driven from Cork by Cromwellian confiscation, came to Limerick about 1700, came to Limerick about 1700 and became eminent Merchants and Bankers.

PHILIP ROCHE, MERCHANT and VENTURER 1758. One of the greatest Merchants in the South of Ireland. His father, in 1755 fitted out "The Catherine" Letters of Marque – mounting fourteen 6 lb. guns. The first ship of its kind ever seen in Limerick, for the West Indian Trade.

Philip Roche John until his death in 1797 carried on a vast trade with Holland. From Lenihan's *History of Limerick* p.p. 323, 348, 399.

ANNE HEYLIGER 1766 = JOHN CREAGHE, RICHARD OF ABBEY

Had a brother John who is buried in the Cathedral of St. Catherine at Spanish town Jamaica. See Monumental Inscription in the British West Indies by Anderson.

"In Memory of John Heyliger. Major in his Britannic Majesty's 55th Regiment. He was born in the Island of St. Croix – August 23rd 1780. Died Oct 6, 1808."

There appears to be a curious disparity of ages but not an impossible gap – I have always heard that they were BROTHER AND SISTER – but may be half-brother, or even a nephew. At any rate as we know that Anne Heyliger owned property in St. Eustatius at St. Croix.

We know that Anne at her marriage was 20 years old in 1766 – that is to say if she was actually 85 at her death in July 1832. John was born in 1780. She would then have been 33.

For Record of John Heyliger's service – next page.

NOV 1933 From the Regimental Records of the 55th, the Westmoreland Reg. Now 2nd. Powder Reg. Records office Carlisle Depot.

JOHN HEYLIGER appears as a Lieutenant in the 55th Foot on the 26th June 1801. He was promoted Captain on the 5 May 1804, Junior Major 2 April 1807.

HEYLIGER

In the army List of 1808 there were three other Officers of this name, Augustus, Nicholas; Peter who fought at Waterloo.

There was also a John Heyliger appointed Cornet of the 15th Light Dragoons in 1801, promoted Lieutenant in 1802, and placed on half pay that year owing to reductions because of the Peace.

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The Castle,
Carlisle.
17 November, 1933.

P.F.S. Creaghe, Esq.,
Longmead,
Broad Oak,
Ottery St. Mary
Devon

Dear Sir,

With reference to my previous letter, I have been able to obtain the following information for you.

JOHN HEYLIGER.

He appears as a Lieutenant in the 55th Foot on the 26th June 1801. He was promoted Captain on the 5^e May 1804 and junior Major on 2 April 1807.

In the Army List of 1808 there were three other officers of his name, namely, Augustus, Nicholas and Peter.

The last named fought at Waterloo. There was also a John Heyliger who was appointed Cornet in the 15th Light Dragoons in 1801 promoted Lieutenant in 1802 and placed on half pay that year owing to reductions because of the peace.

LUKE ALEN received his first commission as a Lieutenant in the 6th of the six Regiments of Foot forming part of the Irish Brigade which were raised in 1794. The date of his commission was 1 October 1794. He was promoted Captain on 17 Jan. 1798, but the Regiment being disbanded in that year he was placed on half pay until posted on the 24th September 1803 as a Captain in the Nova Scotia Fencible Infantry. He was promoted MAJOR in the 3rd West Indian Regiment of Foot on the 16th May 1805 and Junior Lieutenant Colonel in the 8th West Indian Regiment on the 11 July 1811. At this date his name was shown as Alen. He was made Lieutenant Colonel of the 55th Foot on the 19th October 1815 and was awarded the C.B. in 1816. He retired on the 18th December 1817.

I trust this information will be useful to you.

Yours Truly,

P. Sherys. MAJOR
Commanding Depot the Border Regiment.

John Heyliger, brother – I have always heard of.

Anne Heyliger married our Great Great Grandfather John Creaghe[Richard] of Abbey.

Father and mother of Richard of Castle Park.

Luke Allen married Hannah Margaret, (daughter of A.H. sister of Richard of Castle Park. They got most of old AH's money if not all except a few hundreds.

LUKE ALEN = HANNAH MARGARET CREAGHE

married daughter of Anne Heyliger and John Creaghe Richard.

LUKE ALLEN received his first commission, a Lieutenant in VIth of the Six Regiment of Foot forming part off the Irish Brigade which was raised in 1794

Commission dated 1 October 1794.

Promoted Captain 17 January 1798. The regiment was disbanded in this year and Promoted Captain 17 January 1798. The regiment was disbanded in this year and he was placed on half pay until posted on 24 Sept. 1803 as Captain in the Nova Scotia Fencible Infantry. Promoted major in 3rd West Indian Regiment of Foot on 16 May 1805. Junior Lieutenant Colonel 8th West Indian Regiment July 11, 1811. On this date his name is spelt Alen. He was made Lieutenant colonel of the 55th Westmoreland Regt. Of Foot on 19th October 1815 and was awarded C.B. .in 1816. Retired 18 December 1817.

LUKE ALLEN OR ALEN

When I was at Castle Blunden in July of 1936 I came across an old volume of the newspaper of 1823, "John Bull". In it I found this, which I copied and sent to the Depot of the Border Regt. Late 55th Westmoreland Regt. I asked if this were the man who had married into our Family? Reply herewith.

JOHN BULL – for Monday. 10th March 1823.

"House of Commons". Thursday.

Colonel Davies presented a petition for Colonel Allen, who I the year 1811 was with his regiment in Guernsey under General Bailey. Colonel Allen was accused of making false Returns. The charges were that he tried men by Drum Head Court Martial – had placed more men in barracks than they were calculated to hold. Guilty of technical errors in first 3 charges. On the second charge he was convicted. The Prince Regent confirmed the findings and sentenced Colonel Allen to be reprimanded. He was subsequently removed from the Regiment, the 55th his continuing in command of it having been considered to be inconsistent with the Well Being of the Corps. Lord Palmerston said that the king could dismiss his officers, whether condemned by Court Martial or not, at his pleasure. General Bailey had given orders to diminish the frequency of Corporal Punishment, if possible, having found that this species of punishment was so often inflicted in the 55th Regt. That between Jan. and April 79 men had been tried and received 4873 lashes!

General Bailey had called for Returns, which were to be sent in every morning, of offences committed after 11 o'clock on the previous day, names of offenders, dates, and punishment they had received. It was found that between Jan. – April there had been 15 men tried, whose names did not appear in the Returns, who had received amongst them 1750 lashes.

This was most extraordinary misconstruction (?) of his General Bailey's orders, omitting to report, etc., and anyone who allowed such a thing was Not Fit to Command a Regiment. The next charge was that Colonel Allen had tried men by Drum Head Court Martial, in the course of 14 days, while General Bailey was away. The offences which it was thought necessary to try

before a D.H.C.-M were: A man had put two cartridges into the breast of his jacket instead of into his cartridge box (25 lashes). Next case – William Kingston was charged with an offence against a General Order of March, where, when or how the offence was committed did not appear, so that if notice had been given him two days before trial, he would have known how to defend himself. Another case was that of a man who “supported arms” without being ordered to do so (25 lashes). Next, James Stenton was tried for unsoldierlike conduct in being drunk, when his Regiment was in the field. Drunkenness was an offence which certainly SHOULD NOT have been tried by Drum Head Court Martial (100 lashes). Next case similar (100 lashes). Another case was that of a man who had “levelled” his piece improperly. Colonel Allen had been well treated, he had been allowed to SELL his commission, although he had received every commission which he had held, from FAVOR AND GRACE OF THE CROWN, and had not paid a single shilling for any of them!!

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Depot, the Border Regt.
The Castle, Carlisle
August 12, 1936

Dear Sir,

I wish to thank you very much for your thoughtfulness in sending us the extract from “John Bull”, which I can assure you is of great interest from a Regimental point of view.

I am enclosing all the information I could get concerning the Officer mentioned, and there is no doubt that he is the one mentioned in the report.

We have no Army lists older than 1840, except a few of the 18th Century, so it was not possible to trace his career back, but I hope the information I have managed to gather will be sufficient to establish what you desire.

Yours sincerely,

R. Warren Lieut Curator Reg. Museum The Border Regiment.
Mr. P.F.J. Creaghe, Longmead, Broad Oak,
Ottery St. Mary Devon.

LIEUT-COLONEL LUKE ALEN (ALLEN) CB

This Officer is shown in the records of the Border Regiment as Commanding the 55th Regiment of Foot (2nd Bn.) from 19th October 1815 until being cashiered in 1817. Unfortunately, there are no records of his services other than this, but the facts of the report in the issue of “John Bull” of March 10th, 1823, are substantiated by the following extract from the “Kendall Mercury and the Times” of October 26th and Nov. 2nd, 1888, being a resume of the history of the Regiment on the occasion of the Laying up of the Colours of the 55th Regiment, at Kendal, Westmoreland.

Happily, for the soldier, as for all other classes of men, the last half century has changed life for the better. When many of our best Westmoreland lads, during Napoleon’s time, were in the 55th, flogging was thought a beneficial means of coercing the soldier into sobriety and morals, but happily our brave defenders are free from the lash. There was, however, a time early in the

century when men of the 55th, under a tyrant Officer, were frequently brought out, a dozen together, set in a ring, and flogged into good behavior early in the morning, to the horror of their companions and the people. This was especially so under a Captain or General Allen, whose brutalities were reported by memorials to headquarters and the brute finally cashiered. The soldier, under a more democratic period, is lifted in the scale of life, and goes proudly to his duty, with the sympathy of the National always in his favour.

ANNE HEYLIGER, P.F.S.C.'S Great Great Grandmother who married John Creaghe Richard of Abbey.

John Creaghe 1766 Late of St. Eustatius & of Abbey. Co Tipperary died in Dublin Dec. 1792 Will dated 17 Feb. 1791 probate 15 Feb. 1793 known as John Creaghe Richard.	=	Anne, daughter of Heyliger of St. Croix and St. Eustatius. Born in America 1747 Died July 18, 1832 Aged 85 Buried at St. Thomas' Dublin July 21, 1832 On demolition of St. Thomas' Church 1925 Re-interred in a plot in Mount Jerome Cemetery.
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Copy of a letter to Laurence Creaghe, her (Anne Heyliger) Grandson and elder brother of my Grandfather (Richard F.H. Creaghe)

St. Eustatius
Feb. 18, 1888
To the Hon. & D.T.
U.B.M. Consul
Curacao

Sir,

In answer to yours of the 5th January asking for information as to what was done with the property of a Mrs. Anne Creaghe in this island and in what the same consisted. I regret that very little is known with certainty. Two lots in the Uppertown, one of which is a cistern and some old walls remain and are popularly known as "CREAGHE'S LOTS". Both these lots within the memory of some persons yet living HAD LARGE HOUSES on them, but every trace of these buildings has long disappeared and it is not known by whom they were taken down or sold. They had been occupied for some years by individuals who, it is said, had permission from the Governor to put up their Cabins "there" until the lawful owner should appear. Of course anyone claiming them would have to prove his claim by means of title deeds of some description. I have no doubt that such papers are in possession of the family and can be produced – they would be

indispensable. With a view of accumulating as much information as possible and not having much leisure myself I have requested a friend, who is very much interested in such matters, to make some research among the Government Records. He reports that these records do not extend farther back than 1781. In pursuing his investigations from that date, he has only been able to find occasional references to THE CREAGHE'S PROPERTIES, where they formed the boundaries of others. He also found a Power of Attorney passed by Mr. John Creaghe on the then Governor Jahannes Rucumbo and Mrs. Anne Creaghe in 1785, when on the eve of his departure for Europe, and later on in the same year (1788) a will of one of the family servants (Mary Creaghe) giving legacies to children of Mr. John Creaghe "then in Europe" – From the records of the Dutch Church, he found that Mr. Creaghe was living on the island from 1758 and was married here in 1788, so that his property must have been acquired long before that date. Consequently, at a period for which no records remain. Whether he left any other property as slaves, furniture etc. I have not yet ascertained but may discover later on when I will acquaint you with the result.

I am dear Sir,
Your old Servant Will de Geurste.

P.S. Since writing the above I have discovered that Mrs. Creaghe left this island in 1789 selling before she left her slaves, furniture, etc. No mention is made of houses or lots and the inference is that these were left under the management of her attorney Mr. Peter W. Runnels, who presumably took down the houses when they became dilapidated. I am sorry I have nothing of more consequence to communicate at present.

U.W. de G.

MEMORANDUM MADE BY ANNE HEYLIGER – MRS. JOHN CREAGHE RICHARD –
WHEN SHE WAS ABOUT TO MAKE HER WILL IN 1829.

To her son RICHARD OF CASTLEPARK	NIL
his wife	£100
his son Richard F.H.J.	£600
his son Stephen W.	£300
his daughters	
Ellen	300
Matilda Collins	100
Anne	1000
Elizabeth	400
	2800
Alen grandchildren	
Randel Alen	2040
Luke Alen	1035

Anna Maria	on marriage	5000
Augusta		2000
For Mourning	L200	
Funeral	250	
The Poor	20	

1936 Taken from a book on the West Indies

St. Eustatius Area 8 s. miles. A single mountain, pyramidal in shape, with a crater. This is at the apex. The summit is easily accessible on foot. Orangetown is the capital. Prosperity has left the island. Even sugar is unimportant.

St. Croix Area 84 sq. miles. Now tho' American, not prosperous, except perhaps those estates owned by English. Trade depressed.

Attack on and Pillage of St. Eustatius 1665.

In the year 1665, Great Britain, or rather England, declared war against the Dutch, the Netherlands, and the Governor of Jamaica, Sir James Modyford (of London) hastened to do his part. He mustered a force of some 650 men, chiefly reformed prisoners "resolute fellows and well-armed with pistols". They sailed in April in ten ships under the command of Sir Edward Morgan, with Lt. Col. Thomas Morgan, a connection of the house of Tredegar, and only distantly related to HENRY MORGAN, who did not go on this expedition. The ships cruised about for three months without doing much harm to Dutch shipping, then Sir Edward decided to attack St. Eustatius. This was an almost microscopic island, but the Dutch in their methodical way had founded there a celebrated market place for tropical produce and stolen goods. The landing was made on July 23. It proved only partly successful, and Sir Edward Morgan lost his life. As Modyford reported to the Lords of Trade and Plantations in London, "the good old Colonel leaping out of the boat, and being a corpulent man got a strain, and his spirit being great he pursued over earnestly the Enemy on a hot day, so that he surfeited and finally died.

Thomas Morgan, tho shot in both legs, assumed command. He ordered the place to be pillaged and burned. The job was performed half-heartedly, there being no enticing chests of "pieces of eight" lying loose. In August the expedition returned to Jamaica under a cloud.

JAMES DONDON, MICHAEL

From the following I would presume this:

JOHN CREAGHE OF LIMERICK

Richard Creaghe of Kilmoyler daughter – Michael Dondon of Limerick

John Creaghe, Richard James Dondon, Michael - Dau. of Heyliger of St. Croix & St. Eustatius

Richard Creaghe of Castle Park

James Dondon Michael was one of the Exors, together with a Mr. Eccles of Fota, Cork of John Creaghe Richard's Will. Thomas Eccles may have been one of the Cronroe family, but Thomas does not appear to be one of their family names.

This man James Dondon Michael had a bad reputation in the family – he calls himself a cousin – he was one of the Exors of John Creaghe Richard's will. Not only was their trouble over the money left by J.C.R. but also although J.D.M. was a married man, there was more than a suspicion that he had not behaved quite as nicely as an old married man should with Johanna Maria – daughter of "Dear Cousin" John C.R. and sister of Richard of Castle Park. Johanna had been left £6000 by her father. She died in 1792, aged probably 22 or 23. It does not sound a likely story, as Dondon must have been a middle-aged man for most of her life. As he was always trying to beg, borrow, or steal money from his relations, it seems more probable that he in some way got Johana to let him play hanky-panky with her money. It takes less than that to start the other sort of story, anywhere and at any time. My father (Philip C. Creaghe) told me that the family tradition was that he "had done her wrong".

Though the Dondons were at one time a family of some repute in Limerick, I rather think that Michael Dondon was a "poor relation" and the marriage of Richard Creaghe's sister was not what could be called "a good marriage".

*

I have a letter from James Dondon Limerick 31 July 1788 to John Creaghe Richard at Limerick. This must have been just after J.C.R. came home from St. Eustatius.

I quote starts, "Dear Cousin" ending "Your affect. Kinsman"
The most interesting passage is at the top of the second page –
"– that you would act like a child & brother to my honoured mother and dear sister."
The letter is that of a Toady, and is an attempt to borrow £400. It is endorsed on the outside by Richard, of Castle Park, J.C.R.'s son, wanting to get £400 from my father.

*

Another: To Lieutenant Creaghe 7th D. Guards. Kells.
Dated Feb. 9, 1793. Just after John Creaghe Richard's death 2 Dec. 1792.
It is about the will and starts:

"Dear cousin"

*

2 Dec. 1795

Richard Creaghe Esq Castle Park.

Starts “Dear Sir, and ends “Your obedient Servant”

There is a sentence in this which wants explaining. Sister Mary /less her sickness. But am sorry to inform you other changes, very alarming”. He must have meant “My sister” We know he had a sister. Richard Creaghe had a sister Johanna Maria (Mary) BUT amongst the old accounts, there is one just after the death of their Father. J.C.R. Dated 3 April 1793. “Mrs. Allen’s proportion of house expenses for her own” “and her deceased sister – etc.”

That means that Johanna Maria was dead before April 1793. So Dondon’s letter cannot refer to her.

*

Letter of Dec. 2, 1795.

“Dr. Creaghe’s children are all here”

Who is this Dr. Creaghe?

*

Letter of Jan. 7, 1798

This is rather interesting as it shows that ANNE HEYLIGER (Mrs. John Creaghe, Richard) was averse to her daughter, Hanna Margaret’s marriage with Luke Alen, of 55th Regiment. A.H. says, in effect, that she is very disappointed that Hanna has made such a rotten choice. Under the will of John Creaghe Richard, his daughters had to obtain the consent of his Exors to their marriage, if this were refused they would lose a good deal of their legacy (£6000) – see copy of will – J.D.M. had at first refused his consent. I do not know why, thereupon Hannah had said that if she were prevented from marrying Alen, she would die!! The family Doctor was called in to examine her, and gave it as his opinion that she jolly well would! So A.H. has written to J.D.M. again to ask him to reconsider his decision. She had evidently asked her only son, Richard, to do something about it, and he seems to have replied “I don’t care a Damn what she does.” J.D.M. sends on A.H.’s letter to Richard, and dares to write, that he J.D.M. thinks that he, R.C., really ought to be nicer to his mother.

A.H. and R.C., after the death of J.C.R. fought like blazes – over the will, and very probably about her being turned out of Castle Park. John Creaghe Stephen, of Waterville, asked her and her daughters to come and live with him, but she refused, and went to live in Dublin.

RICHARD CREAGHE [DL, OF CASTEL PARK] of 8 North Georges Street Dublin and of
Castle Park, Golden, Co Tipperary

Died 27 July 1837 at Harrogate buried in the vault at Golden.

Lieutenant 7th Princess Royal’s Regt. Dragoon Guards

Captain Ballintemple Cavalry
 Captain Commandant Loyal Golden Infantry
 Deputy Lieutenant for the Co of Tipperary Nov. 2, 1833
 High Sheriff for the Co of Tipperary 1815.

My Great Grandfather [Richard Creaghe, DL, of Castel Park]
 Cornet's Commission in 7th D.G. 30 April 1788
 This was paid for £1259.16.8 by his Grandfather [Richard of Eustatius, Kiloylin]
 Lieutenant's in 7th D.G. 13 June 1791
 2nd Lieutenant Ballintemple Calvary 31 Oct 1796
 1st " " 23 Aug 1798
 Captain " ?
 Capt. Commandant Loyal Golden Infantry, 15 Oct 1803

Richard[DL], at the time of his Father's death in Dublin, on Dec. 2, 1792, and presumably for some time afterwards, was with his Regiment. Dondon writes to him 9th Feb. 1793 "Lieutenant Creaghe, 7th D.G. Kells". When he resigned his Commission in the 7th D.G. could be found from the Regimental Records.

The house at Castle Park presumably was not finished until 1795. He must still have had his home at 8 Great George Street, Dublin, from whence he moved his furniture May 2, 1795. His mother and sisters lived there also, paying whole, or a proportion of rent, rates and house expenses, according to this account amongst my papers.

*

'MR. [Richard, DL] CREAGHE'S CHARGES AGAINST MRS. ALLEN [Hanna Margaret nee. Creaghe, his sister]'

House expenses in year 1792 and 1793.

April 3, 1793	88.19.4
11	7.19.3
May 12	56.17.6
18	22.15.0
June	13.13.9
Brewer	2.17.6
Rent	85.6.3
Taxes 6 months	6.9.3
½ £284.17.1 = 142.8.6	

Mrs. Allen's proportion of house expenses for her and her deceased sister's account for six months after the death of her father paid by Mr. Creaghe and during the greater part of which time he was at Quarters.

Paid by Mrs. Creaghe and her sister during the period eleven pounds seven and sixpence. Total of both accounts One hundred and fifty-three pounds fifteen shillings and sixpence.

“Mrs. Creaghe” – does this refer to his mother?

There is no record of any sister or does it mean his wife Matilda Parsons.

Richard [Creaghe, DL] was in constant dispute with his Mother, old Anne Heyliger – first over her “Dower” and his Father’s (J.C., R’s) will. Then in the endeavor to get her to leave him money in her will. I have a letter to his Mother’s solicitor, I suppose, Mr. David Casey of 16 Moore St. Dublin, dated Sept. 17, 1831, written from Castle Park, promising him 50 or 100 pounds according to results, if he can influence the old woman to leave him (R.C., DL) something good in her will. Not to leave everything to his sister Mrs. Alen. Elsewhere I have given provisional draft of this will (1829). It would appear that she left NOTHING to her son – £2800 to her Creaghe Grandchildren, while she left well over £10,000 to her Alen Grandchildren, besides having given one of them, Anna Maria, who married Swettenham, £5000 on her marriage. She, from the death of J.C.R. (2 Dec. 1792) and up to 1825 or 1829 £100 per annum. She then gave another £3300 or £3700 to her daughter Johanna Maria Alen. I don’t think Mr. Casey could have got much, except what he made the old Great Grandfather [R.C., DL] pay for the return of his letter. I don’t think that it would be amongst the Creaghe Papers unless in return for something. The Creaghes did not get much. My Grandfather [Richard F.H. Creaghe] only £600.

I presume that in May 1795, when the furniture was moved down to Castle Park, the Dublin house was given up. It is possible that, owing to the constant fighting, his mother moved into 43 Lower Gardiner Street, Dublin, with Johanna Maria, before this.

The Alens lived here later after the Marriage in 1798.

MINIATURES BY ADAM BUCK
RICHARD CREAGHE OF CASTLE PARK
IN OVAL GOLD AND ENAMEL FRAME. HAIR AT BACK

ANNA MARIA ARCHER-BUTLER NEE GALLWEY

“Adam Buck was born in Cork, and practiced in Dublin. He first exhibited at the Royal Academy in 1795 and continued until 1833, contributing 172 works. Portraits chiefly small in wax crayons, slightly tinted, mostly in profile. He published in 1811 a collection of 100 Greek Vases, drawn and engraved from originals.”

RICHARD CREAGHE OF CASTLE PARK
(AKA Richard Creaghe, DL)

Richard Creaghe of Castle Park
D.L. High Sheriff 1815

The 7th Princers Royals, Regt. Of Dragoon Guards
C.D. General Studholme Hodgson
CORNETS OF COMMISSION dated April 30, 1788
C.O. General Sir Charles Grey K.B.
Lieutenants Commission June 30, 1791.

We think he was promoted Captain but I have not got his commission – so it cannot now exist.
He retired at his Father's death in Dec. 1792.

YEOMANRY VOLUNTEER REGT.
Connected with the family

Richard Creaghe of Castle Park Great Grandfather [of Percy Creaghe]

*

LOYAL GOLDEN INFANTRY

An infantry corps of volunteers raised by my Great Grandfather who received his Commission as
Captain Commandant Oct. 15, 1803.

His Lieutenants were
Thomas Butler – Comm dated Oct. 15, 1803
Denis O'Magher “ “ Oct. 15, 1803

No record of disbanding. Possibly still a corp. in 1815 when Richard Creaghe was High Sheriff
for the County of Tipperary.

As tradition say that “He met the Judges with his own troops at the boundary of the County”,
whom the Judges came and hold the Assize.

Buttons silver – a turret castle surmounted with Royal Crown within a ribbon inscribed “Loyal
Golden Infantry”.

Richard Creaghe of Castle Park
Ballintemple Cavalry

This mounted corp. [of Yeomanry raised under warrant dated Sept. 20, 1796, by Thomas Ralph
(Maude) 2nd Viscount Hawarden, of Hawarden of Co. Tipperary and Baron Montact Captain
Commandant of the Corp.

Richard Creaghe
2nd Lieutenant Commission Oct. 31, 1796
1st Lieutenant Commission Aug. 23, 1798

GOLDEN CHURCH

From the Church Records – Easter Vestry 1810.

The Parishioners proposed that Mr. Richard Creaghe (my Great Grandfather, of Castle Park, Golden) be elected Church Warden, whereupon, the rector, (Mr. Hare) stood up and objected as he considered he was not a proper person to be a church warden. He did muster and exercise his Yeomanry during the hours of divine service on the Sabbath Day and also that he would report him to the Bishop of Cashel for his conduct.

There is no account as to whether the Bishop upheld his objection.
This Mr. Hare, the Rector, must have been a man of means – see his notice

“To the parishioners of the Union of Athassel” Cashel Sept. 16, 1816

In letter to the Re Mr. Hare Rector of Athassel in the Diocese of Cashel, dated Aug. 25 last Mr. Creaghe says that he wishes to be a mediator in some degree between him and Mr. Hare and his parishioners and if he thought he could do so shall be happy in receiving Mr. Hare’s instructions. Mr. Hare, in answer prayed him to be explicit and if he could devise any scheme to stop or check the outrageous robberies and murders in the country he would join him heartily. Mr. Creaghe had made no proposal. Mr. Hare therefore proposes to pay five shillings for every twenty Owners in perpetuity E.G. Sir John FitzGerald Bart, Richard Creaghe, Henry White, Well Chadwick, John Scully, Peter Smithwick, Thomas Butler, George Robbins, Thomas Lidwice, Lane and Joseph Robbins Esqs., from and after the first day of January One thousand eight hundred and sixteen. He will contribute nothing for forty shilling freeholders. Let those they vote for support them: nor for the tenants of middle men except the above named Landlords pay down the money. Mr. Hare shall lodge money in the hands of William Baker of Lismance and Sam Jacob of Habarnan. He had no communication with these Gentlemen, but their established characters assure him, that they will take this trouble as it is for a charitable purpose.

Pat Hare Cashel Sept. 16, 1816.

*

“The Atlas”- I have never seen

This Major Parsons was a Major in the 10th Foot. The North Licolnshire Regt. At Bunkers Hill

GRANDSON of William Parsons who married Martha Pigott of Chetwynd Co. Cork
Son of William Parsons who married Elinor W.
Brother of Matilda Parsons who married Richard Creaghe of Castle Park, Co. Tipperary – My
Great Grandfather.

Letter from W.A.B. to H.A.B. (in red album) dated Feb. 27, 1845, bemoans that such a good fellow and such an establishment should both be thrown away!!

FEBRUARY 1844

LAURENCE CREAGHE = LIZZIE CARTER
OF CASTLE PARK [son
Richard Creaghe, DL]

B. July 27, 1797
D. Mar. 12, 1852

JOHN WELDON CREAGHE = ALICE PHILIPS
Castle Park

LOUISA CREAGHE = WHITE
of Golden Hill Co Tipperary

Both lines extinct

Laurence married some woman of very humble class, tradition says, his cook, but eventually became in possession of the house and estate of Castle Park.

By my great grandfather's [Richard Creaghe of Castle Park] will, the estate (the house and all it contained included) was left to my grandfather Richard Fitzroy Heyliger Creaghe – the 3rd son. The eldest, John, had died in 1817 aged 21.

By a clause in this will, Laurence was given the option of purchasing the ESTATE from my grandfather[R.F.H.C.] at a nominal price – about L9000, I believe. This had probably something to do with monies advanced to Laurence by his father and never repaid by Laurence. This money the old Great grandfather Richard [of Castle Park] wanted to leave to his son Richard Heyliger so by his will he practically said to Laurence “you pay your brother this L9000 or else I give Richard everything and you don't get a penny”. Laurence paid the money and came to Castle Park.

On his death it descended to his only son John Weldon. This J Weldon C., as a boy had been saved from drowning in the River Suir, which ran through the acreage, when in flood by my Uncle Dick [Richard Fitzroy Creaghe], my father's eldest brother. Had J.W.C. not been rescued from certain death at that time my Uncle Dick would have eventually come into the whole property. As my Grandfather would have succeeded to the Estate on the death of Laurence in 1852.

John Weldon C. married a lady of quite good family, but the taunt of his mother's family evidently predominated. He lived a life of wild dissipation, squandered all his money and had to sell the estate to the Scully's. He died of drink.

The sister Louise who married White also went bad. There are no known descendants of Laurence Creaghe of Castle Park.

ANNE MATILDA b Dec. 16, 1798, died April 8, 1874
Buried at Milstead Kent
Married June 18, 1823, to Rev. Charles Collins, descended from
William Collins of Little Aston, Shenstone, Litchfield

Chas. Collins M.A. of St. John's Cambridge, Vicar of Feversham, Kent
B in Gower Street Jan. 20, 1800
Baptized St. Giles in the Field
Died at Milstead May 18, 1866.

These were the parents of
Rev. Charles Creaghe Collins
B April 18, 1826
D Dec 30, 1917

He married Hannah Cassels, they had no children
And of Georgina Pemberton Collins
B Dec. 13, 1839
D at Sidmouth Mr. 4, 1927
Married Jan. 4, 1865, to Henry William Benjamin Haward
and had issue, who are shown later.

*

ANNE MATILDA COLLINS

Born Mar. 2, 1803

Died July 22, 1837

is buried in the Family Vault at Golden.
She married July 15, 1830
At St. Anne's, Dawson St. Dublin
William Anthony Collins, Q.C. brother of Charles Collins
B Nov. 7, 1801 D. Mar. 30, 1875.

They had one son Richard Edward b. Jan. 15, 1833

And one daughter Frances Matilda Jane b. July 22, 1831.

She married Rinaldo Bacchetta, of Turin.

*

RICHARD FITZROY CREAGHE

Born April 27, 1844, married Mary Elizabeth Chetwood
Vowell, daughter of George Foott, Solicitor Dublin on Sept. 19, 1874.
Died May 17, 1922.

ISSUE

FLORENCE LAURA CREAGHE	B Nov. 14, 1875
RICHARD FITZROY CREAGHE	B April 4, 1878
HELEN ARCHER BUTLER CREAGHE	B June 27, 1880
Married GILBERT William Orr December 3, 1903	
MARY ELIZABETH CREAGHE	B June 24, 1882
RICHARD FITZROY CREAGHE	B
Married Winifred Barry 19 February 1916	
NORAH FITZROY CREAGHE	B Feb. 11, 1917
RICHARD CREAGHE	B Octo. 31, 1918
ALISON CREAGHE	Sept. 8, 1921
DAVID BARRY CREAGHE	Aug. 8, 1926

UNCLE HARRY'S[H.A.C.] ISSUE

HARRY ARLINGTON CREAGHE	B Feb. 2, 1849. Died August 6, 1886
Married December 7, 1881. EMILY CAROLINE daughter of Major George Cayley Robinson R.A.	

ISSUE

RICHARD FITZROY CREAGHE	Died in infancy
GERALD HARRY PIERCE CREAGHE	Jan. 19, 1883
Married Mary Lilla Somerville Scott; son Ronald James Alington b. Sept. 27, 1914	
HARRY ARCHER BUTLER	Dec. 16, 1885 Died 1930
Married Alice Tompson	
Issue: Richard Pierce b. Dec. 31, 1915	
Maxwell Piddocke	Dec. 15, 1918
Lionel Bruce	Mar. 18, 1921

BUNDLE OF LETTERS MARKED
RICHARD FITZROY HELIGER CREAGHE, MY GRANDFATHER

I don't know why, but I never heard anything about his military service from my Father [Philip C. Creaghe]. I suppose because it had come to an end years before Father was born. I had always meant to try and get in touch with the Regimental Records Office, at the Depots of the two Regt. in which he had served. In this I should have had some difficulty, as tho' the 37th still exists as the Hampshires. The 58th was "the Rutlandshire Regt." And I should not have known where to begin, as there is no such Regiment now. Thinking that there would always be plenty of time to start writing. I have just kept putting it off. Now with this new War [WW II], any thought of worrying any record office with requests to search out details of the service of an Officer, one hundred and fourteen years ago, is absurd.

I therefore started to try and find out what I could from any old letters that still existed.

*

April 7, 1822- I find from a letter of this date, that my Great Grandfather, Richard Creaghe, of Castle Park began to try and purchase a Half-Pay Commission for his son (what this may mean, I may hope to find out some day), and therefore wrote to Lord Lorton¹ asking him to use his influence. He does not appear to have been very helpful, see his letters of Jan. 18, 1822 and April 7, 1822.

Then Great Grandfather then turned his attention to Colonel Bagwell², who was much more useful, see letter of Sir Herbert Taylor, From the Horse Guards. To Col. Bagwell. dated Oct. 6, 1825: sent on to R.C. Dec. 14, 1825: saying that the C in C. (Duke of Cambridge) will favourably consider the application for a Half-Pay Ensigncy for R.F.H.C. Col. B's letter of Dec. 12, 1825, evidently refers to this. On Dec. 9, 1825, Sir Herbert Taylor informs Mr. Richard F. H. Creaghe, that his name has been submitted to the King for purchase of a Half-Pay Ensigncy, and will he lodge £450 with Greenwood and Cox.

¹LORD LORTON. Robert King, second son of 2nd Earl of Kingston-cr, Lord Lorton, 30/5/1806. He married Dec. 9, 1799, FRANCIS, granddaughter of Sir Laurence Parsons, who was the elder brother of WILLIAM PARSONS, the Father of MATILDA [Parsons] CREAGHE, my Great Grandmother.

²The Rt. Hon. Colonel WILLIAM BAGWELL.

Member of Parliament Co of Tipperary Militia. Raised by his father, a Privy Councillor. Muster-Master-General for Ireland. Of Marlfield, Clonmel.

*

On Dec. 27, Greenwood & Cox write to R.C [Richard Creaghe of Castel Park]. that the £450 purchase price of H.P. Ensigncy has been received and the matter reported to General Taylor.

Jan. 7, 1826, Lt. General Taylor writes to Colonel Bagwell, that H.R.H. has been pleased to have R.F.H.C [Richard F.H. Creaghe]. appointed to a Half-Pay Ensigncy.

*

Then begins the work of getting R.F.H.C. onto Full Pay, and appointed to a Regiment. Colonel Bagwell's interest is again invoked. See letter of Feb. 5, 1826, in which he says that he is using his best endeavours to have R.F.H.C. appointed to a Regiment. Col B. finds that unless influence is used, it is quite impossible an unattached officer may remain as such (on half pay) all his life. Asks that R.F.H.C. should come over to London, and be introduced to Col. B's letter of Feb. 14, 1826. Col B's nephew was on the unattached list for two and a half years.

*

March 23, 1826. A letter from Gen. Taylor at the Horse Guards, saying that the C – C (H.R.H.) will favourably consider R.F.H.C. for full pay. Another letter, from Col. B.

April 1, 1826, still working towards the same end. On May 11, 1826, copy of a letter written by Col. B to Gen. Taylor, from which we gather that R.F.H.C. did go to London – “Mr. Creaghe, the bearer” suggests the Rifle Brigade can be offered.

Then comes the important letter of August 8, 1826.

The culmination of all Colonel Bagwell's efforts. From Commander in Chief's Office, Horse Guards, to R.C. informing him that his son Ensign Creaghe

“has been restored (?) to full pay in the 58th

“Regiment, and his name will appear in the next Military Gazette”.

I don't know why, I had always imagined that R.F.H.C. had done most of his service in the 37th, the Hampshires. I must have been wrong.

*

The next stage in the story is indicated by the old Hotel bill, end of Sept. and beginning Oct. 1826. This is when R.C. and R.F.H.C. were staying at Abbot's Hotel, Dawson Street, Dublin, evidently ordering uniform. See various bills. Now comes a blank, which cannot be filled, if ever, until some future day when Peace and normality may allow somebody who is interested to get details of R.F.H.C.'s service from the present representatives of the old 58th whoever they may be.

We can only take up the record we have. We find the Regiment was serving in CEYLON in Jan. 1829, when the Surgeon of the 58th certified that R.F.H.C. was suffering from an ulcerated leg (varicose veins – I had the same thing in 1904) and that he should return to Europe at once, as they would only get worse in the Tropics. There is also a certificate from James Barry, Surgeon to the forces, who had examined Lieut. Creaghe's leg in Sept. (1829) on board “The Africa”, on passage from Mauritius. He also says – “bad ulcers, and most go home to get rid of them, as there is no possible permanent cure for them in the Tropics”.

There are then 2 letters from Greenwood & Cox, one of Dec. 15, 1829, re the payment of £30 to R.F.H.C. on his return from Ceylon, and one of Dec. 28, 1829, saying that they cannot help in furthering application from purchase of a Company, to write to the Military Sec. Lord Fitzroy Somerset. It appears that Lord Rosse wrote asking that Lieut. Creaghe had come home for the purpose of Retiring on Half-pay. He will, however, be considered a candidate for future employment.

In May 1830, the 7th R.F.H.C.'s grandmother, old Anne Heyliger[Creaghe], writes to Greenwood & Cox, authorizing then to pay £1100, for the purchase of a company for her grandson. (R.F.H.C.). For purchase price of Commissions, see old Army List, 1829

Anne Heyliger [Creaghe]died in 1832, in which year R.F.H.C. was a Lieutenant. We can only hope that her money did actually pay for his Company, whenever he did get it; as she only left him £600, by will.

Jan. 28, 1831. Lord F. Sommerset writes to Gen. Lord Donoughmore, who has evidently been using his influence in the meantime, to say that Lieut. Creaghe's application for restoration to Full Pay will be favourably considered.

The next "record" extant, is the order of the Lord Lieutenant that certain troops shall attend from their barracks at Ballinacollig (near Cork), a Tithe sale as a protection for the Civil Power. In the old newspaper cutting book, we find that Lieutenant Creaghe was in command of these troops, in November 1832. I think this points to R.F.H.C. having been restored to Full Pay (Letter Jan. 28, 1831).

*

THE HAMPSHIRE REGIMENT.

This is the last we know definitely of his service. From Lord Lorton's letters; now to R.F.H.C. himself: of the years 1832 & 1835, we may gather that he was, however unwillingly, using his influence to get R.F.H.C. a Company. We gather from both his letters that he, as he had been in opposition, he disliked asking any favour from Lord Grey's Whig Ministry – Days of the Reform Bill.

In Lord Lorton's letter Feb. 1835, it would almost appear as tho' R.F.H.C., had AGAIN left the service on account of ill health. Lorton says, you had better write yourself, make your own application (for purchase of a Company) saying that you were compelled to leave the Service through ill health.

However, as the Grandfather[R.F.H.C.] was always known as "The Captain" I think there is little doubt that he did succeed at last in purchasing his Company, even if it were only HALF PAY.

*

Copy of "The Order" referred to By the Lord Lieutenant General and General Governor of Ireland.

Anglesey.

These are to direct you and require you to cause Detachment to consist of one Subaltern Officer, I Sergt. From the 37th Reserve under your command to proceed on Thursday next 8th instant,

after the men have dined, to the house of Mr. Cross, Shandy, near Dripsey Bridge, to remain and to protect the Civil Power in collecting the Tithes belonging to the Rev. Mr. Johnson of the Parish of Magourney. The officer will act under the direction of the Magistrates and the duty being performed will return to his quarters. The Detachment of 1 Sergt. And 6 lancers stationed at the Rev. Mr. Johnson's house, Magourney, is under his orders to act with his detachment. Should it be required, the Officer commanding the detachment will also afford protection to the Rev. Mr. Beresford in the adjoining Parish of Innismore.

To the Officer Commanding
37th Reserve
Ballincollogh.

The civil Magistrates being to provide them with convenient quarters and carriages according to Law.

Given at His Majesty's Castle of Dublin, the 4 day of November 1832

By His Excellency's Command

Cork Nov. 6, 1832 George J. Bell,

CLONMICKLON CASTLE

JUNE 8, 1935

This castle may have belonged to Sir Pierce Butler. It was in Co. Tipperary.

EAST FRONT

The Eastern protecting curtain wall, lies between two flanking Bastion towers. These evidently were communicating by an uncovered way, behind the parapet. One of the doorways is seen in the 2nd story of the North East Bastion. There were probably buildings against the wall, under this walk. They do not exist now.

WEST FRONT Exterior – This is the Main Castle, and all that now remains of it. The stairway, giving access to all the floors, is spiral and is in this square tower. If there were any other stair, no trace of them remain. Most of this spiral stair was extant “within the memory of living man”; so I heard from one of the local inhabitants, who was with me; as was also the original stone roof of the small building on the left. Now covered with corrugated iron.

WEST FRONT Interior – All that now remains of the Castle, as seen from the Inner ward, which is now a cow yard.

SOUTH EAST BASTION- Of three stories. This Bastion still has a floor, of vaulted stone, to the second floor there is no access from the ground floor. The curtain wall evidently extended along the southern side.

NORTH EAST BASTION -This is taken from inside the Inner Ward, now a cattle yard. The second story doorway can be seen, and also the door of the top story. No floors in this. As can be seen in photo of S.E. Bastion, the top of outer wall extends upward to protect this door from the attackers' missiles.

It would appear that there were no Flanking Bastions on the South West, or North West Corners. Evidently the Castle was in a position that give full protection against attack from these quarters.

On the Eastern side are the Hills. The West looks out over flat country. The Main gate of the Inner ward was in the North Wall.

CREAGHE OF CONG

Cong is a small, picturesque village in Co. Mayo.

[This CREAGHE OF CONG] Who married HELEN BUTLER of Kilmoyler, has always been called the “brother” of JOHN CREAGHE of ABBEY, my Great Great Grandfather. This idea is carried on from Father’s unchecked guess, just because STEPHEN CREAGHE-BUTLER the son of HELEN of Kilmoyler, and CREAGHE of CONGE wrote to my Great Grandfather Richard of CASTLE PARK – as “your affect. Cousin”.

I have been comparing dates, and it is most improbable that they were cousins German – seeing that Stephen Creaghe-Butler’s sister, Helen (who married George MacNamara), had a daughter Maria MacNamara, who married Pierce Butler, 10th Lord Dunboyne, on May 29, 1773 – while JOHN CREAGHE married ANNE HEYLIGER in 1767. That is only five years’ difference.

We know that John Creaghe’s father was RICHARD of Kilmoyler. I have his old account book, a relic of a Butler of Kilmoyler; whose name is on it. Now why should Richard Creaghe have lived at Kilmoyler? If he had not some connection with the Butlers, who had owned it for many years.

Now if Richard Creaghe’s (my Great Great Great Grandfather) brother – known as Creaghe of Cong – having married HELEN BUTLER of Kilmoyler, and their daughter Helen married (according to Lodges Peerage of Ireland Volume IV) George MacNamara of CONG, it appears quite reasonable, as the other children of the marriage, viz – Stephen Creaghe-Butler, and Mary Creaghe - never married, that the MacNamaras should live at the Creaghe house at Cong, and that the brother-in-law, Richard Creaghe, should either become a tenant of, or be allowed to live in the old Butler house of Kilmoyler. This appears on the face of it to be chronologically possible while the other thesis, that “Creaghe of Cong” was Richard Creaghe of Kilmoyler’s son, brother of JOHN of Abbey, does not.

From John FitzStephen Creaghe, of Weston-Super Mare in the early 80’s my father received much information about J.F.S.C.’s Great Grandfather – STEPHEN CREAGHE of RHEENS – Born 1706 dies 1791. He was an older brother of RICHARD CREAGHE of KILMOYLER, BUT NOTHING ABOUT ANY OTHER BROTHER (C. of Cong) it’s years ago, and probably neither of them knew anything about him. My father did not get possession of the CREAGHE papers until my Grandmother’s death in 1904. Among these papers were these Stephen Creaghe-Butler letters.

*

CREAGHE BUTLERS

Thomas Butler of Bally Adams Queens Co. Esq. Will dated May 17, 1745, bequeathed all his lands and c in Queen's Co to

William Butler of Kilmoyler, with remainder to his first and every other son and all his lands in Co Tipperary to his nephew STEPHEN CREAGHE – who afterwards took the name of STEPHEN CREAGHE BUTLER – THIS FIRST AND EVERY OTHER SON AND IN DEFAULT OF ISSUE TO THE FIRST AND EVERY OTHER DAUGHTER AND DEvised AS FOLLS –

“And for and in default of such female heirs or daughters unto the daughters of my deceased sister Helen Creaghe, otherwise Butler, the elder to take before the younger, namely to Helen MacNamara, otherwise Creaghe and from and after her decease to my said sisters other daughter Mary Creaghe, and in default of any lawful issue of said William Butler the said Estate in Queen's Co is to go in the manner as in Co Tipperary. And in default of issue of William Butler – Stephen Creaghe, Helen MacNamara, and Mary Creaghe. Estates go to my brother John Butler's issue – and default of heirs to the Hon John Butler of Kilcash to such of his heirs as will resides at Kilmoyler.

*

THOMAS BUTLER & WILLIAM BUTLER both died without issue whereby STEPHEN CREAGHE-BUTLER became entitled to all the property.

Helene MacNamara (nee Creaghe) died without male issue but left 3 daughters.

1. Maria MacNamara married May 29, 1773 Lord Dunboyne
2. Helen “ “ Mick Wade Alen
3. Phoebe “ “ Hugh Maguire of Tempo Fermaugh

Lady Dunboyne had one son who died during her lifetime

Stephen Creaghe Butler died April 9, 1795 and left as his Executors Thomas Edward Wair and Arthur Creaghe

On the death of Lord Dunboyne

(Pierce Butler by Courtesy 10th Baron the 4th Baron having been implicated in the Rebellion of 1641 – was outlawed).

Maria Lady Dunboyne married David Walsh MP. According to my record John Humbert Moore.

By an act of Parliament 1787 the lands were vested in Edmond Lord Montgarret.

John Butler of Kilkenny Castle and John Creaghe of the City of Dublin.

(The latter evidently the Law Agent who is referred to in Stephen C- B.'s letter) by which an annuity was appointed for Richard Creaghe.

From an appeal in House of Lords, from High Court of Chancery in Ireland and to Philip.C. Creaghe. by Miss Maguire Nov. 1904.

*

Copy of note made by Philip.C. Creaghe from “Lodge’s Peerage. (Vol. IV) of Ireland.

Pierce Butler of Grantstown Co Tipperary 7th son of James 9th Earl of Ormonde by his wife Joan, daughter of James 11th Earl of Desmond. Pierce was also of Seix Abbey, for which place he was nominated when he received pardon for his Rebellion against Queen Elizabeth March 12, 1773. On him, his wife and children – his brother Thomas 10th Earl of Ormonde – 14 May 1595, settled Ballygurteen and other lands in Tipperary to beholden of the Manor of Donoughille, by the 40th part of a knight’s fee and £4 rent.

Pierce Butler married Catherine, daughter of John, Lord Poer – by whom he had six sons – James, his heir; William – Thomas – Edward – Richard – Edmond (of Killenaule) and several daughters. Catherine was married to John Tobin of Killahay. James the eldest son was of Kilmoyler and of Kilreighleher and married Anne, daughter of Mil Magrath, Archbishop of Cashel. They left one son James Butler Oge living in the reign of King James I who married Ellen, of the earl of Ormonde, secondly Mary third daughter of Thomas, Lord Kerry. By the former Ellen he had Catherine elder daughter to William Bowan of Bally Adams. Queen’s Co. Esq. By his first wife Bridget daughter of Sir Robert Tynte Krt. And had issue three sons and one daughter Helen who married to Creaghe of Cong Co Mayo Esq. By whom she had Stephen Creaghe-Butler of Brittas in Co. of Limerick Esq. Helen married Sept. 1740 George MacNamara of Conge (by whom she left Mary – Helen and Phoebe) Mary died unmarried.

The sons were James Butler of Killveighleher and of Bally Adams. Honour to King Charles II who on March 10, 1692, married Margaret, daughter of Caryll Lord Viscount Molyneux – widow of James 7th Viscount Gormanston – and married secondly Mary Dannie in England. He died Jan. 3, 1738, aged 94.

Thomas Butler Councilor at Law who died unmarried May 18, 1746, and was buried at Kilcardiff, near Kilmoyler, in the tomb of his ancestors. He bequeathed his Tipperary Estate to his nephew, aforesaid Stephen Creaghe, now Stephen Creaghe Butler this Queen’s Co Estate to his natural son Will Butler.

Captain John Butler who went to Spain with his Regiment having married Francis, daughter of Theobald Mathew of Thomastown, Esq. – left one son James who died unmarried and two daughters.

Elizabeth married Thomas Arthur of Ballyquin Co Clare
He left her a widow 23 Dec. 1755 with one son and one daughter since deceased.
She remarried Mr. Luke Wall.
Catherine married Mr. Benjamin Ellard of Cork how died 1750.

In the old church yard of Kilcardiff near Kilmoyler, the stone at entrance of Kilmoyler Vault bears the following inscription
“This vault and burial place belongs to the Butlers of Kilmoyler, descended from the 9th Earl of Ormonde and to their posterity only”

STEPHEN CREAGHE BUTLER CREATED FREEMAN OF KILKENNY
AUGUST 12, 1766

GOLDEN CHURCH
ALLEYNE TOMB

In the church yard on the west side, that is the side opposite to the CREAGHE vault – there are the remains of the ruined walls of the ancient church; probably Norman; same period as the old castle (ruins) In this enclosure is a tomb, and on one of the walls of the ruin is a slab, with this inscription:

Intra hac parietinas requisam reliquiae Johannis Alleyn,
Armiger, cujus memoriae ejus Filius Samuel Alleyn Armgr.
Fecit hoc mausoleum erigi – Quinto Die Janoarlii AD
Millasime Septingestesimo 9 ctogesimo Septio

(this was copied by the sexton for me)

“Within these ruined walls rest the remains of John Alleyne Esq. In whose memory his son Samuel Alleyne Esq. has had this tomb erected 5th day of Jan. AD 1787. There is also a silver Alms dish used in the church presented by Samuel Alleyne, in Sept. 1764. This is not inscribed with any coat of arms”.

John Alleyne of Coolprobane Co Tipperary married Mary, daughter of John Hyde of Creg [Creagh] Castle Co Cork

John Hyde was son of Arthur Hyde = Joan daughter of Richard Yeats of Youghal Oct. 1, 1695.

I have not been able to trace where Coolprobane was.

Samuel Alleyne was a godfather to John Creaghe of Castle Park and Matilda Parsons. The other godfather was Sir Laurence Parsons, Bart.

COPIED from an old paper in possession of a Miss Creaghe of Lower Mallow St. Limerick

JOHN CREAGHE = JOHANNA WHITE
OF LIMERICK

[Issue]

James of Limerick	Paul W Indies & USA	Dominic	Pierce	Susannah
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James Of Dorringo	John	Paul	Mary = John White	Catherine	Ellen = Jasper White
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We do hereby certify that we know John Creaghe formerly of this city of Limerick in the Kingdom of Ireland, merchant deceased and that the said John Creaghe intermarried with Johanna White by whom had had issue. James, Paul, Dominic, Pierce, and Susannah (Creaghe) James (John Creaghe's eldest son) now in St. Domingo in the French West Indies. John is second son and Paul is third son. Mary his eldest daughter now married to John White, city of Limerick, merchant. Catherine his second daughter and Ellen his third daughter now married to Jasper White of Limerick. James Creaghe, the father, died in Limerick 1758. We further certify that the said James Creaghe the eldest son of the said James Creaghe and Jane his wife resided in Limerick for several years after his father's death, and followed the mercantile business. Went some years ago to the West Indies, French Island St. Domingo. We further certify that Paul Creaghe, Uncle of the said James Creaghe, now in St. Domingo and one of the sons of the said John Creaghe and one of the younger brothers of the said James Creaghe, the father of the said James Creaghe now in St. Domingo went several years ago from Limerick to Nantz in the Kingdom of France, and afterwards went to St. Domingo where he followed the Mercantile business and that the said Paul Creaghe died several years ago interstate and unmarried in some part of the West Indies or America. Possessed a real personal estate in St. Domingo as we do believe and have been credibly informed. All which we certify this 6th day of October, 1789.

Michael Peter MacMahon

Bishop of Killaloe John Creaghe D.D. Dean and Pastor of St. Mary