

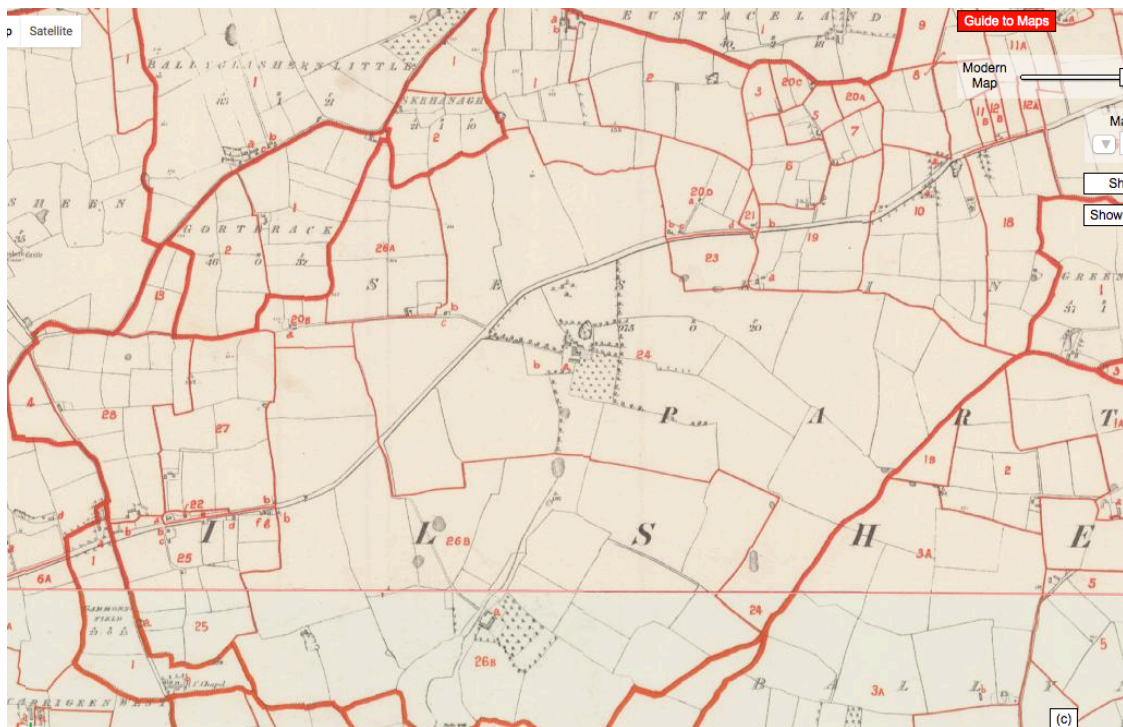
# O'Donnells of Seskin, Ballyboe, Byrneskill, Bannixtown and Toomevara

## 1 Introduction

This document presents the family descended from a Michael O'Donnell of Seskin, Kilsheelan, born 1820, died 1819. He was known as 'Daddy Micil to his grandchildren. His descendants occupied at least two farms of Seskin, both of which is still occupied today by O'Donnells. Other branches of this family took over large estates in Ballyboe, Bannixtown, Byrneskill and Toomevara, elsewhere in Tipperary.

The earliest record of an O'Donnell in Seskin is that of the Hearth Rolls (1664), which shows a **Turlogh Daniell** holding a house in Seskin.<sup>1</sup> He is potentially the grandfather of Michael.

The map below from the Griffiths Evaluations shows Seskin at it was in the 1850s. Note the two large farms. The patch at the centre of the map (marked 24) was later called Upper Seskin Farm, while the bottom centre is sometimes called Lower Seskin Farm (marked 26a).



Also mentioned in the 1664 Hearth rolls, Cormack McDonnell<sup>2</sup> was in adjacent Ballyneraha. Possibly a relative.

<sup>1</sup> Note that a letter from Archbishop O'Donnell to his nephew Jack in 1978 suggests a Turlogh O'Donnell, called Turlough of the Wines, from Tyrconnell originally, may be the ancestor of most of the O'Donnells in the South East part of Tipperary. This man however died around 1422.

<sup>2</sup> "Mac" was an alternative to the prefix "O". In 19<sup>th</sup> Century Co. Tipperary, "Mac" was not used much by the locals. Sometimes the English recording Irish names used the Mac prefix. Sometimes the richer families trying to stay in good

The family tree here presented is based on several key sources of evidence, presented in the appendices:

1. A **family tree** drawn by Charles Routledge O'Donnell in 1842, and archived in Limerick City Archives.<sup>3</sup>
2. Notes from ***The wages book of a Fethard farmer, 1880-1905*** by Cormac O'Grada, in 1994, about a farm of a great-grandson of Michael O'Donnell, in Bannixtown. (henceforth just WAGEBOOK).
3. Eoghan O'Neill's ***The Golden Vale of Ivowen***.
4. Information provided by current members of the family, **Patrick O'Donnell of Ballyboe** and **John Patrick O'Donnell of Lower Seskin**.
5. **The 1821 Census**, which covers two households of the family.
6. **The 1901 Census**.
7. **Parish birth and marriage records**. Note parish records for Kilsheelan Parish are only available online from 1840.
8. **Civil Births, Death and Marriages** records, available from around 1864.
9. **Wills, Tithes Lists and Griffiths evaluations**, etc.

### 1.1 A note on date estimation

Where exact birth and marriage dates are not available, I estimate them in relation to other available dates.

- Years preceded by "a." (e.g., "a.1766") indicate that the year was calculated from a known date and an age at that date, e.g., if someone was 76 on the 1<sup>st</sup> May, 1876, then their birth year is given as a.1800, but they may in fact have been born a year earlier or later.
- Years preceded by "c." (e.g., "c.1766") indicate that the year is a rough estimate using simple metrics:
  - Women are assumed to marry at 22, men at 24.
  - Couples are assumed to have their first child two years after marriage.
  - Births are assumed to be spaced two years apart.
- While these metrics are often not true in the individual case, they do provide a means to get a ballpark date for births and marriages. In most cases, I have found the calculated date to be fairly accurate.

## 2 Summary

**Daddy Micil O'Donnell** (1723-1819) had two wives:

- **Ms Cantwell** of Ballynaraha, with children:
  - **James** (1756-1829), Séamus Rua, married **Kate Welsh**,
    - **Cornelian** of Ballyboe, 1787-1824. Married **Anastatia Power**
      - **Michael**, 1817-1837. No issue.
      - **James** of Ballyboe, a.1819-1885,
        - Married **Margaret O'Neill** ( - 1866). No Issue.
        - Married **Maria Asper nee Cullinan**. No issue
      - **Margaret**, married **Michael Guiry** in 1860.
    - **Michael**, born c.1789, married **Ellen O'Donnell**

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standing with their overlords switched to Mac. And families coming in from other more anglo-dominated counties often took Mac with them.

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.limerick.ie/archives>

- **Edmond**, born c.1807.
  - **Mary**, born c.1808
  - **Michael**, born 1809, married Ms Fennessy, took on Ballynatin farm.
  - **Pierce**, c.1811
- **Pierce**, c.1795
- **John**, c.1797
- **Maurice**, a.1799
- **Catherine**, a.1802
- **James**, a.1804
- **Thomas**, a.1806-1846, married **Mary Cooney** (-1861).
  - **James** (1834-1918). Married **Ann Maher** (1831-1905) of Toomevara and took on her family farm.
    - **Thomas John** (1864-1949), a priest.
    - **Mary Anne** (1865- ), married **Thomas Francis Maher**. 14 Children.
    - **Alice Mary** (1867- 1955), married **Thomas Davy**. 8 children.
    - **John Cornelius** (1868-1880). Died aged 14.
    - **Catherine Mary** (1873-), married Thomas Kennedy.
  - **Mary Anne**, (a.1837-1907), married **Walsh**, widow by 1901 Census
  - **Catherine**, born 1837.
  - **Cornelius** (1839-1916). Held Seskin Upper in 1901. Married **Julia Rice** (1840-1886). Children:
    - **Mary** (1870- )
    - **Eileen Francisca** (1880- ), Inherited Upper Seskin. She married **William Heffernan**. 3 children. Son **John Baggott Heffernan** inherited the Upper Seskin Farm. Died 1985 without issue.
- Second marriage to **Mary Aloysius Lyon** (1858-1929).

  - **Julia**, born 1840, married **Richard Comerford**. 9 children.
  - **Alicia**, born a.1846 or earlier. Married **Nicholas Comerford**. 6 children.
- **Mary** (c.1764- ), married **Mr Power**.
- **Catherine Hogan** of Lisnatubbrid, with children:
  - **Catherine**, 1771, married **Michael Mullally** (1762-1849). 12 children.
  - **Pierce**, 1781, married **Mary ?Flaherty**
    - **Margaret**, a.1803
    - **Mary**, a.1805
    - **Catherine**, a.1807
    - **Michael**, a.1809
    - **Patrick**, a.1811 of Grove, married **Catherine UNKN**. Died without issue.
    - **James**, a.1813, probably did not marry.
    - **Ellen**, a.1815
    - **Alice**, a.1817
  - **Pierce**, (a.1819-1895), married **Johanna Byrne** (a.1825-1902).
    - **Michael**, 1851, of **Bannixtown** married **Maria Shea** (1855-)
      - **Kathleen Mary** (1880-1952). Married **Austin Rice**. 3 children.
      - **John Thomas** (1882- ). Probably died young.

- **Maria Agnes** (1883- ). Married **Richard J. Rice**. Two children.
- **Pierce** (1884- 1916). Died in the war, without issue.
- **William Bryan** (1888-1969). Inherited Lower Seskin. Married **Mary Angela Morris** ( -1983).
  - **Pierce** (c.1927-1986). Married **Breda Ryan** (-2019)
    - **Moya**, married Mr **Desmond**.
    - **Deirdre**,
    - **Carmel**.
  - **Bryan** (c.1929- ), had a farm in Garrinch.
- **Maria Josephine** (1891- ).
- **Amelia** (1892- ). Died 5 months old.
- **William** (1853-1933), became a priest
- **Pierce** (1855-1940), became a priest.
- **Bryan** (1857-1882). Died without issue.
- **Catherine**, 1859
- **Patrick** (1862-1949), took on Ballyboe. Married **Elizabeth Rice**. No issue.
- **James** (1864-1912), of LOWER SESKIN FARM, married **Elizabeth Cormack** (1873- 1927)
  - **Johanna**, 1898
  - **Elizabeth Mary**, 1899, married **Cecil Gerhardus Sophie van Heyningen**. Three children.
  - **Pierce**, 1900. Died as a baby.
  - **Katherine** (1901-1990). Married **Edmond Stokes**.
  - **Alice Evelyn** (1903- )
  - **Patrick Joseph (Paddy)** (1906-1989). Inherited Lower Seskin. Married Janet Croome. Also inherited Ballyboe from his uncle.
    - **William (Billy)** (c.1941-2022). Inherited Lower Seskin. Married UNKN.
      - **Edward (Ed)** current holder of Lower Seskin.
      - **2 daughters**
    - **Patrick (Pat)** (c.1943- ). Married Madelaine Meagher ( -2015):
      - **Gillian**,
      - **Patrick**, current holder of Ballyboe.
      - **Alice**.
    - **John (Jack)** (c.1945- ). Married UNKN. Bought Upper Seskin in 1985.
      - **John**.
    - **James** (c.1947- ).
    - **Elizabeth (Loz)** (c.1949- )
  - **Brian**, 1821, became a priest
- **Brian**, born c.1783, married **Ms Nugent**, children:
  - **Michael**, born c.1809.
  - **John**, born c.1811
- **John**, born c.1785, married Ms Mullally of Cappa.



### 3 Family of Michael O'Donnell, born c.1720

The earliest known ancestor of this family is **Michael O'Donnell**, born 1723,<sup>4</sup> who farmed in Lower Seskin<sup>5</sup> (probably house 26 on the Griffiths map). He was known to later generations as *Daddy Micil*.

O'Neil in *The Golden Vale* claimed that Michael or his father stemmed from the O'Donnells who held a substantial farm in Killurney, on the lower slopes of Selievenamon.<sup>6</sup> He however says that:

*The exact relation with the Seskin family is not quite clear now, as the family died out in the area in the male line, but it is believed that Daddy Micil or his father moved to Seskin from that area.*

Michael died about 1819.<sup>7</sup> Michael must have been an esquire (landed gentry), as some of his children were given that title.

According to Eoghan O'Neill's *The Golden Vale of Ivowen* (p531), Michael...

*rented the lands of Seskin from Mary Butler, wife of Pierce Butler.*

It seems the lease was until 1893. Later, the Butlers sold their Seskin lands to John Scott, viscount Clonmel, and Scott respected the lease to Michael O'Donnell. When the lease expired in 1893, a new lease was signed:

*...when the lease had run out in 1793 it was renewed in favour of Michael and his eldest son James, (know as Séamus Rua, 1758-1829) for the space of the lives of Michael's three grandchildren. There were in the property 444 statute acres in all.*

William Shaw Mason's *Parochial Survey of Ireland* (1814) comments on the land:

*There are some very large farms in the union; Michael and James Daniel hold in partnership a farm of three hundred and eighteen acres, from Lord Clonmel, the greatest part, if not all of which they farm themselves;*

Note: There is a will for Pierce O'Donnell of Seskin died 1771, Tipperary, which I have not been able to find, but is indexed online.<sup>8</sup> This might be a brother or father to Michael.

**Michael** married twice. His first marriage was to **Ms Cantwell** of "Ballyna, Co. Tipperary".<sup>9</sup> The 1830s Tithes list show a Ballena in Kilsheelan, which is probably the place. This is currently called Ballynaraha, just to the east of Seskin. Another possibility is Ballinure, 30km north of Seskin, possible as Cantwells were there in the 1840s.

Michael and Ms Cantwell had two children:

- **James**, born 1756,<sup>10</sup> or a.1762.<sup>11</sup> He married **Catherine (Kate) Welsh** of Comeragh, Co. Waterford.<sup>12</sup> Descendants of James occupied the Upper Seskin farms.

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<sup>4</sup> Eoghan O'Neill's *The Golden Vale of Ivowen*, p531.

<sup>5</sup> WAGEBOOK. O'Grady says that the information comes from a work *Gleann an Óir* (pp. 21-22, 30, 33). This book, by Eoghan Ó Néill, is in the National Library of Ireland, but is in celtic.

<sup>6</sup> To identify this family, O'Neil notes that Catherine, daughter of Robert Quinlan of Manganstown, and sister of famous Dr James Quinlan, married an O'Donnell of this family. She died "15th of June 1846 in the 86th year of her age". <http://kilkennygraveyards.blogspot.com/2018/04/>. She was called (on her grave) "Mrs Catherine Daniel of Clonmel" suggesting her husband had moved from Killurney to the worn of Clonmel. O'Neil also identified Tom O'Donnell "who later retires as Manager of the National Bank in Carlow" as "the last O'Donnell to live in Killurney", "although he had left the area as a young man". He had a son, Hugh O'Donnell, a Solicitor of Carlow.

<sup>7</sup> WAGEBOOK. The CR O'Donnell tree says 1820.

<sup>8</sup> <https://lists.rootsweb.com/hyperkitty/list/cotipperary.rootsweb.com/thread/2763697/>

<sup>9</sup> CR O'Donnell Tree.

<sup>10</sup> From information sent to me by Patrick O'Donnell of Ballyboe (current day)

<sup>11</sup> From age in the 1821 Census.

<sup>12</sup> First name and birth year from 1821Census. The rest from the CR O'Donnell tree.

- **Mary**, born c.1764. She married **Mr Power**.

Michael's second marriage was to a **Catherine Hogan** of Lisnatubbrid, Co. Tipperary.<sup>13</sup> They had a number of children:

- **Catherine**, born 1771.<sup>14</sup> Married **Michael Mullally** of Cappa. More below.
- **Pierce**, born 1781.<sup>15</sup> Note: Michael was 61 at this point, having several children in a second marriage. Pierce married **Mary ?Flaherty** of ?Killardry?, Co. Tipperary. This family occupied the Lower Seskin farm. More below.
- **Byran**, born c.1783. He married **Ms Nugent**. They had two children:
  - **Michael**, born c.1809.
  - **John**, born c.1811.
- **John**, born c.1785. He married a **Ms ?Mullally** of Cappa, C. Tipperary. (maybe Cappagh). This may be a sister of the his sister Catherine's husband.
- Other daughters.

What other information I have pertains to only three of these offspring: James of the first marriage, Pierce and Catherine of the second marriage. Each of their families will be explored below.

When the Seskin lease was renewed in 1892, it was jointly signed by Michael and his first son James (at that point around 30). O'Neal notes:

*Of particular interest is the fact that in the lease the landlord referred to the joint tenants by the names Michael Daniel and James Daniel. This was not uncommon – landlords frequently considered, apparently, that the gaelic prefix O was too aristocratic for their tenants as they might easily recall their ancestor's reputations. Daddy Micil, who was born in the dark 1720's signed his name accordingly, Michael Daniel, but his son Séamus Rua insisted on signing as James O Donnell.*

O'Neal says of the land:

*The property was eventually divided between Michael's two sons, the eldest Séamus Rua getting Upper Seskin while his younger brother Pierce eventually inherited the adjoining Lower Seskin, where he lived with Daddy Micil until the latter's death.*

It seems that Michael left his first family in the old house, and built a new house for the new wife and children. James of the first marriage took over the Upper Seskin farm, and Daddy Micil moved to the new house in Lower Seskin, where he raised his second family.

## 4 Family of Catherine O'Donnell, born 1771

**Daughter Catherine** was mentioned in the CR O'Donnell tree, as "Mrs Mullally of Cappa, Co. Tipp.". O'Neal, however said that Micil and Catherine had a daughter Catherine, who married **Michael Mullally** (1762-1849) of Ballycullen, Mullinahome. A book, "*History of O'Mullally and Lally clann*",<sup>16</sup> provides the following:

<sup>13</sup> Hard to read her town in the CR O'Donnell tree, but Lisnatubbrid is the closest match. I note there was a Hogan still there in the 1846 Griffiths House books, and also a Michael O'Donnell, possibly one of Michael's offspring inherited a house there. Her first name Catherine was not in the tree, but

<sup>14</sup> Eoghan O'Neill's The Golden Vale of Ivowen, p532.

<sup>15</sup> Birth year from the 1821 Census.

<sup>16</sup> O'Mullally, Dennis Patrick (1942) *History of O'Mullally and Lally clann; or, The history of an Irish family through the ages intertwined with that of the Irish nation.*

<https://ia800909.us.archive.org/30/items/historyofomullal00omul/historyofomullal00omul.pdf>

*[p341] Michael Mullally of Cappaghmore ...married Catherine O'Donnell of Seskin, and had issue, several sons and several daughters*

*[p363]Michael of Ballycullen (1762-1849) who marr. Catherine O'Donnell of Seskin (1771-1847), daughter of Michael O'Donnell and Catherine Hogan; (monument to Michael, Catherine and descendants in Mullinahone Cemetery)*

According to the O'Mullally history, Michael Mullally and Catherine had several children:<sup>17</sup>

- **Mary Mercy Mullally**, born c.1790. Became a Sister of Charity in Dublin.
- **Margaret Mary Mullally**, born c.1792. Became a Sister in Ursaline Convent, Dublin.
- **Catherine Mullally**, born c.1794. She married **James Kickham** on the 25th July, 1824.<sup>18</sup>
- **Bridget Mullally**, born 1796. Became a Sister in Presentation Convent, Carrick-on-Suir.
- **William F. Mullally**, born c.1798. Became Rev. William F., P. P. of Donohill;
- **J. J.**, born c.1900. Became Rev. J. J., P. P. of New Inn.
- **Michael Mullally**, born 1802. Called Michael of Ballycullen. Died 1872. He first married **Catherine Ryan** on the 8<sup>th</sup> November, 1830.<sup>19</sup> She died 1837 without issue. He remarried to **Ellen Power** on the 17th January, 1842.<sup>20</sup> She was born 1815, the daughter of Maurice Power of Rathroe and Anastasia Butler). She died 1892. Another source mentioned that he collected the poetry of Tipperary, which was published by J.G. Prim in 1863.
- **John Mullally**, born c.1804. Called John of Cappaghmore. He married **Mary Hanly**, daughter of James Hanly of Nenagh;
- **Bryan Mullally**, born c.1806. Became a M.D. and had a practice in Templemore. Married **Ellen Barry**, daughter of Dr. Barry.
- **Francis Mullally**, born 21<sup>st</sup> April, 1911.<sup>21</sup> Did not marry. Died 1839.
- **Annie Mullally**, born 16<sup>th</sup> April, 1813.<sup>22</sup> She married **Patrick Hogan** of Clerahan on the 27<sup>th</sup> October, 1840.<sup>23</sup>
- **Johanna (Judith) Mullally**, born 26<sup>th</sup> October, 1818.<sup>24</sup> Died in 1865), unmarried.

This must have been a very religious family: 3 of the daughters became nuns, and 2 sons became priests.

Father J.J. Mullally features in Irish History, mainly with his interaction with "Cut Quinlan", who was evicted from his farm, and proceeded to assassinate the 4 brothers who took over his farm, and then went on to shoot various landlords that abused their tenants. Father J.J. Mullally tried to convince him to stop his ways, but without success.<sup>25 26</sup>

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<sup>17</sup> Parish records for Mullinahone only begin 1809.

<sup>18</sup> <https://www.findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=IRE%2FPRS%2FMAR%2F0013516%2F1>

<sup>19</sup> <https://www.findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=IRE%2FPRS%2FMAR%2F1252425%2F2>

<sup>20</sup> <https://www.findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=IRE%2FPRS%2FMAR%2F0032134%2F2>

<sup>21</sup> <https://www.findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=IRE%2FPRS%2FBAP%2F0080077>

<sup>22</sup> <https://www.findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=IRE%2FPRS%2FBAP%2F0080407>

<sup>23</sup> <https://www.findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=IRE%2FPRS%2FMAR%2F0034211%2F1>

<sup>24</sup> <https://www.findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=IRE%2FPRS%2FBAP%2F0081508>

<sup>25</sup> History of the O'Mullally Clan, p.444.

<sup>26</sup> <https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/61277123>

## 5 Family of James O'Donnell, born 1756

**James** son of Daddy Micil was born 1756,<sup>27</sup> or a.1762.<sup>28</sup> He was known as Séamus Rua,<sup>29</sup> (sometimes Shamus Ruagh).<sup>30</sup> He co-signed the Seskin lease with his father in 1792, and seems to have taken over the Upper Seskin house for his family while his father moved to the Lower Seskin house with his new wife.

In the 1821 Census, James was shown as “gentleman and farmer”, holding 200 acres of land. He married **Catherine** (Kate) **Welsh**, born the same year, 1762, from Commera, Co. Waterford.<sup>31</sup> They probably married around 1785.

James and Catherine had several children:

- **Cornelius (Cornelian)**, born 1787,<sup>32</sup> died 1824 in Ballyboe.<sup>33</sup> See separate chapter below.
- **Michael**, born c.1789.<sup>34</sup> He married **Ellen O'Donnell** of Carrick.<sup>35</sup> See more below.
- **Pierce**, born c.1795.<sup>36</sup>
- **John**, born c.1797.<sup>37</sup>
- **Maurice**, born a.1799.<sup>38</sup> While he was alive and living at home for the 1821 Census, he was not mentioned in the 1842 tree, suggesting he may have died before then.
- **Catherine** (Kate), born a.1802.<sup>39</sup> I have seen no records concerning her. She either died young, or married and moved away.
- **James**, born a.1804.<sup>40</sup> See more below.
- **Thomas**, born a.1806.<sup>41</sup> See more below.

The CR O'Donnell tree does not include **Cornelius** in it. However, he is named as the eldest child of James in O'Neil's *The Golden Vale*.

The tree also does not include son **Maurice**, born a.1797, but he was named in the 1821 Census.

The census shows **James** born a.1804 and **Thomas** born a.1806. The CR O'Donnell tree lists children of Michael, presumably ordered by birth, as: Michael, James, Pierce, John, Thomas (the tree in general ignores daughters). If this order were correct, then Pierce and John would have had to have been born in the two-year gap between 1804 and 1806, possible only if they were twins. Also, it is difficult to explain why they were not shown in the 1821 census: Had they left home so young? Were they dead? One possible explanation is that they were in fact older than James, and had left home before the 1821 census. I have assumed this in the estimated birthdates shown above.

**James** the father died in 1829.<sup>42</sup>

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<sup>27</sup> From O'Neal's *The Golden Vale*.

<sup>28</sup> Age in 1821 Census

<sup>29</sup> From O'Neal.

<sup>30</sup> Information provided by Patrick O'Donnell of Ballyboe.

<sup>31</sup> First name and birth year from the 1821 Census. Surname and birthplace from the CR O'Donnell tree.

<sup>32</sup> Birthyear from O'Neil's *The Golden Vale*.

<sup>33</sup> Information provided by Patrick O'Donnell of Ballyboe.

<sup>34</sup> From the tree, date estimated as he was eldest child, with a 12-year-old son in 1821.

<sup>35</sup> From the tree.

<sup>36</sup> Included in the tree.

<sup>37</sup> Included in the tree. Left home by 1821 Census. Named as holding the land with his mother in the 1834 tithes list.

<sup>38</sup> From age in 1821 Census.

<sup>39</sup> From age in 1821 Census.

<sup>40</sup> From age in 1821 Census. Included in the CR O'Donnell tree.

<sup>41</sup> From age in 1821 Census. CR O'Donnell Included in the tree.

<sup>42</sup> Information provided by Patrick O'Donnell of Ballyboe.

The 1834 Tithes List shows **Catherine** as a Widow, holding the land. The 1846 House Books also show Catherine holding the house, with a note “Widow who holds a farm where she resides”.<sup>43</sup> The house is very large (137 measures) along with several out buildings, including “servants apartments”. By the 1850 revision of the House Books, she was crossed out, with her son’s Michael’s name written over. I assume she died somewhere around 1848.

Regarding son **John**, he was mentioned in the 1834 Tithes List as holding the land with his mother (James being deceased by then). As for when he died, there is a death registry for a John O’Donnell in the Carrick-on-Suir district in 1864, aged 82 (thus born 1782, which is possible).

Regarding son **Pierce**, one possibility is a Pierce O’Donnell who emigrated to Canada in 1834, arriving 29<sup>th</sup> August.<sup>44</sup> That Pierce married a Mary Mandeville. Mandeville occurs as a common name in the Tithes Applotment list for **Ballyneraha** within Kilsheelan. The Mandevilles were one of the powerful families of Tipperary, so it makes sense that the O’Donnell that married her was of a gentrified line, and this is the most likely. Pierce as a name was not all that common in the county at that time. But it could have been a Pierce O’Donnell from elsewhere in Tipperary.

The 1821 Census also shows James’ grandson **Michael** in the house, aged 12 (thus born a.1809). I assume this is Michael son of Michael, shown in the CR O’Donnell tree.

## 5.1 Cornelian of Ballyboe

**Cornelius** (sometimes Cornelian) son of James was born 1787.<sup>45</sup> He married **Anastatia Power** on the 23rd February, 1813 in Killenaule Parish.<sup>46</sup> Anastasia was born a.1785.<sup>47</sup> Cornelius took on the Ballyboe Estate, in the northern part of Kilsheelan Parish.

Details of this branch are extensive, so will be given below as a separate chapter below.

## 5.2 Michael son of James

Michael, second son of James, was born c.1789. As few records for the 1821 census survived, there is no census record for Michael and his family. What we know is mainly from the CR O’Donnell tree.

By the Griffiths House Books (1850), Michael seems to be in control of the Lower Seskin farm (he was the eldest male).<sup>48</sup> The final books show him holding 233 acres from the Earl of Clonmel, including “house, offices and land”. Two small houses are rented out to tenants. Note: this could be Michael son of Pierce, but Michael son of James was the eldest and most likely to inherit. Also, the House Books showed he took the house over from Catherine O’Donnell, Widow.

**Michael** married **Ellen O’Donnell**, daughter of Edmond O’Donnell of Carrick.<sup>49</sup> This was probably the marriage on the 7th September, 1801 between Michael Donnell and Eleonora Donnell in Carrick on Suir.<sup>50</sup> Witnesses were Edmond Donnell and James Donnell. This means that Michael must have been born 1883, or earlier, although O’Neil’s *Golden Vale* names Cornelius as the elder son, and places Cornelius born 1787. If this marriage is the right one,

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<sup>43</sup> [http://census.nationalarchives.ie/reels/vob/IRE\\_CENSUS\\_1821-51\\_007246815\\_00812.pdf](http://census.nationalarchives.ie/reels/vob/IRE_CENSUS_1821-51_007246815_00812.pdf)

<sup>44</sup> Erin's Sons: Irish Arrivals in Atlantic Canada, 1761-1853

<sup>45</sup> The link made to the Seskin family provided to me by Patrick O’Donnell of Ballyboe in 2020.

<sup>46</sup> <https://www.findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=IRE/PRS/MAR/0039546/1>

<sup>47</sup> From age on her grave.

<sup>48</sup> [http://census.nationalarchives.ie/reels/vob/IRE\\_CENSUS\\_1821-51\\_007246815\\_00764.pdf](http://census.nationalarchives.ie/reels/vob/IRE_CENSUS_1821-51_007246815_00764.pdf)

<sup>49</sup> From the tree.

<sup>50</sup> <https://www.findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=IRE%2FPRS%2FMAR%2F1508542%2F1>

then either O'Neil has Cornelius' birth year wrong, or Michael was the eldest child, or Michael married at 13, which is highly unlikely.

Michael and Ellen had various children:

- **Edmond**, born c.1807.<sup>51</sup> Probably named for his mother's father. There is an Edmond O'Donnell mentioned in the 1834 Tithes Applotment list as holding 20 acres in "Seskin Rue" (which I take to be Lower Seskin). My guess this is him, 29 at this point. I note that most of James' land was held by James' widow, Kate, with help from Edmond's uncle, John. It is not clear where Michael was at this point. Edmond does not appear elsewhere in records. The CR O'Donnell tree included a note under Edmond "Waterford", so it is possible he moved to Waterford town or county.
- **Mary**, born c.1808.
- **Michael**, born 1809. He was mentioned in the 1821 Census in his grandfather's house, which gives his birth year. He married Ms Fennessy.<sup>52</sup> He probably died in 1855 (see below).
- **Pierce**, born c.1811. The CR O'Donnell tree mentions him in relation to Carrick. As his mother was there, possibly Pierce inherited his maternal grandfather's lands. He is marked with an asterisk, which in other CR O'Donnell trees, indicates that he was the source of the information.

Regarding **Michael** born c.1809, the book "Irish Pedigrees" mentions a Michael O'Donnell of Seskin married the niece of Edward (Ned) Fennessy,<sup>53</sup> and when Edward died without issue, he willed his property in Ballynattin to this niece. The entry also says that this Michael died in 1855. I think this is clearly Michael son of Michael.

If it was, the niece (and thus Michael's wife) could be one of the daughters of Ned Fennessy's only brother, Thomas. The book names them as Ellen, Mary, and another unnamed. I have checked for Michael's weddings in both Carrick-on-Suir and Kilsheelan parishes, but with no success. If the niece was the wife of this Michael, they may have married near Ballynattin.

Ballynattin is just NW of Clerihan village, so in Clerihan parish. Unfortunately, marriage registries for that parish only exist from 1852. The Tithes list (1831) shows a Michael Donnell with 4 acres. Griffiths list a Michael Donnell there in 1854, holding 7 acres of land (but no house), and also renting a house to someone else.<sup>54</sup> I note that the 1848 House Book show a Michael O'Donnell holding house, office and 36 acres of land in Ballynattin Lower.<sup>55</sup>

Other possibilities (but their baptisms were probably recorded in Clerihan parish, records not available):

- Michael Danel? and Joanne Fenesy gave birth to Patrick on the 2<sup>nd</sup> February, 1832, Ardfinnan parish.<sup>56</sup>
- Michael O'Donnell and Bridget Fennelly gave birth to Patrick on the 25<sup>th</sup> March 1839, Ardfinnan parish.

According to a Fennessy genealogy page, **Michael** died in 1855.<sup>57</sup> No information available as to possible children.

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<sup>51</sup> Existence from the tree. His age is estimated as 4 years before his brother.

<sup>52</sup> From the CR O'Donnell tree.

<sup>53</sup> <https://www.libraryireland.com/Pedigrees1/FennessyHeber.php>

<sup>54</sup> <http://griffiths.askaboutireland.ie/gv4/z/zoomifyDynamicViewer.php?file=297012&path=../pix/297/&showpage=1&myssion=2623968545896&width=&height=&debug=>

<sup>55</sup> [http://census.nationalarchives.ie/reels/vob/IRE\\_CENSUS\\_1821-51\\_007246820\\_00172.pdf](http://census.nationalarchives.ie/reels/vob/IRE_CENSUS_1821-51_007246820_00172.pdf)

<sup>56</sup> <https://www.findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=IRE/PRS/BAP/6124002>

<sup>57</sup> <https://www.libraryireland.com/Pedigrees1/FennessyHeber.php>



### 5.3 James born 1804

**James son of James** may well be the James mentioned in the 1834 Tithes list, holding 20 acres of land in Seskin Rue. I believe this was a chunk of the 350 acres held in total by the O'Donnells in this period. Potentially, he was doled out some land for him to manage for himself. Another 20-acre block potentially went to his nephew Edmond.

### 5.4 Thomas born 1806

**Thomas son of James** was born a.1806. The names Thomas pops up in Seskin documents over subsequent years. In a list of people called to act on juries for 1846,<sup>58</sup> only three O'Donnells are listed for all of Iffa and Offa East, and the only O'Donnell in Seskin was a **Thomas O'Donnell**, farmer and leaseholder. I assume this was Thomas son of James, as James was listed in the 1821 Census as "Gentleman and Farmer". Thomas of James would have been 40 at this point.

Thomas married **Mary Cooney**,<sup>59</sup> probably around 1835.<sup>60</sup>

In the House Books (prepared leading up to the Griffiths Evaluation), Thomas was originally shown holding the upper of the two farms. However, in a revision, "Thomas" was crossed out, replaced by "Mrs", suggesting that Thomas had died, and his wife Mary took over the farm. This would mean a death date of around 1846 to 1850.

Thomas and Mary had at least 6 children:

- **James**, born 1834.<sup>61</sup> Married Ann Maher of Toomevara, Barony of Ormond, and took on her family farm. More details below.
- **Mary Anne**, born a.1837.<sup>62</sup> We only know of her from the 1901 Census, when she is living with Con, her brother. She is not named as a child of Mary in her 1860 will, perhaps because she was married and not in need of financial support, or perhaps due to a fight between mother and daughter. She married a Walsh. This could be Patrick Walsh, on the 5 Feb 1854 (Mary Anne).<sup>63</sup> However, by 1901, Mary was a widow, living with her brother, Con.<sup>64</sup> She died on the 13<sup>th</sup> March, 1907, aged 74. Con was present at death.<sup>65</sup>
- **Catherine** (Kate). Named in the will of Mary in 1860 as a daughter. Possible baptism 29th April, 1837, in Powerstown Parish (others baptised in Gambonsfield). Mother appears as Maria Co???y but might not be Cooney.<sup>66</sup> An Edmond Daniel was godfather. Still alive 1860.
- **Cornelius**, born 1839,<sup>67</sup> or 1845.<sup>68</sup> He died on the 25<sup>th</sup> July, 1916.<sup>69</sup> <sup>70</sup> When he died, he left an estate of 5,800 pounds. His probate entry says he was "late of Seskin".

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<sup>58</sup> Accounts and Papers of the House of Commons, Volume 42 1846

<sup>59</sup> From a MyHeritage entry for their son Cornelius. Also, the will of Mary O'Donnell of Upper Seskin names Con as her son, and Con is elsewhere identified as son of Thomas O'Donnell of Seskin.

<sup>60</sup> Estimated from Mary Anne's birth.

<sup>61</sup> His grave shows age 84 at death in 1918.

<sup>62</sup> Given as a sister to Cornelius in the 1901 Census.

<sup>63</sup> <https://www.findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=IRE/PRS/MAR/1449968/1>

<sup>64</sup> Derivable from the 1901 Census, as she is named a widow, and bears the surname Walsh.

<sup>65</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/deaths\\_returns/deaths\\_1907/05527/4549571.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/deaths_returns/deaths_1907/05527/4549571.pdf)

<sup>66</sup> <https://www.findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=IRE%2FPRS%2FBAP%2F4497114>

<sup>67</sup> I have so far been unable to locate a birth record for Cornelius, the online church registers for Carrick-on-suir do not cover that period for baptisms. It is also possible he was baptized in another parish. The 1911 Census places his birth as 1836, as does his death record. However, the 1901 census places him born 1839 as does a MyHeritage entry.

<sup>68</sup> The civil entry for his first marriage. It seems to say aged 23 at marriage in 1868. It is also possible it says aged 28 (thus compatible with the 1839 birth year). This would also make more sense as his bride was 28.

<sup>69</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/deaths\\_returns/deaths\\_1916/05235/4449973.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/deaths_returns/deaths_1916/05235/4449973.pdf)

<sup>70</sup> [http://www.willcalendars.nationalarchives.ie/reels/cwa/005014919/005014919\\_00690.pdf](http://www.willcalendars.nationalarchives.ie/reels/cwa/005014919/005014919_00690.pdf)



- **Julia**, born 7th November 1840.<sup>71</sup> A report on her marriage says she was the youngest daughter, so Alicia and Catherine must have been born before 1840. See more below on Julia.
- **Alicia**, born a.1846.<sup>72</sup> But note: newspaper announcement of her sister Julia's wedding says Julia was the youngest daughter. Possibly the age in the 1901 census was reduced. Still alive 1860. See more below.

**Thomas** died in October, 1846. There is a Cork Examiner obituary for him on the 21<sup>st</sup> October, 1846, it reads "On Saturday, after long illness, Thomas O'Donnell, Esq., of Seskin, co. Tipperary".

**Mary** died 18<sup>th</sup> January, 1861.<sup>73</sup> In her probate entry, she is named **Mary O'Donnell of Upper Seskin**. She left her farm to her son Con O'Donnell. In the 1901 Census, Cornelius O'Donnell holds house 17 in Seskin. She also left small gifts to three daughters, Alicia, Kate and Julia (Mary Anne is not mentioned). Mary's will mentions her two brothers, James Cooney, and Rev. William Cooney. The will refers to Con's "three sisters", which does not allow for Mary Anne.

**Daughter Catherine**, possible marriages:

- To Edmond Reilly on the 31<sup>st</sup> may, 1865 in Kilsheelan Parish.<sup>74</sup> One witness appears to be Maryanne O'Donnell, which corresponds to one of Catherine's sisters. The civil record confirms the father was Thomas, but places her residence as Knockrathkelly, and father's occupation as sub-agent, which supports the idea that this Catherine was daughter of Thomas of Knockrathkelly of the Kilcash line.
- To David Flynn on the 17<sup>th</sup> February, 1863 in Kilsheelan Parish.<sup>75</sup>

#### 5.4.1 James born 1834, son of Thomas

James O'Donnell was born 1834. The first evidence for him is that his mother, Mary, mentioned a son Thomas in her will made 1860. So, he was still alive at that point.

He was also mentioned in a biography of his son, Father Thomas O'Donnell of All Hallows College, Dublin.<sup>76</sup> The biography mentions that Father Thomas's father was a James O'Donnell of Seskin, who married into a farm in Toomevara, Barony of Upper Ormond (where Father Thomas was born and raised).

There were various possibilities for this James in the Seskin tree, but the birth entry of son Thomas named the godmother as Julia O'Donnell. This is the sister of James son of Thomas, so this fits. The fact that James also named his first son Thomas, the same as his father, is further evidence.

James married **Ann Maher or Meagher** of Toomevara on the 17th February, 1863 in Toomevara Catholic parish.<sup>77</sup> She was born 1832,<sup>78</sup> or 1834.<sup>79</sup> One strong possibility is the baptism of Ann Meagher on the 20th February, 1835 in Toomevara parish, to Andrew and Mary Meagher.<sup>80</sup>

<sup>71</sup> <https://www.findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=IRE/PRS/BAP/4408287>.

<sup>72</sup> From age in 1901 Census.

<sup>73</sup> [http://www.willcalendars.nationalarchives.ie/reels/cwa/005014884/005014884\\_00321.pdf](http://www.willcalendars.nationalarchives.ie/reels/cwa/005014884/005014884_00321.pdf)

<sup>74</sup> <https://www.findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=IRE%2FPRS%2FMAR%2F1120432%2F2>

<sup>75</sup> <https://www.findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=IRE%2FPRS%2FMAR%2F1120428%2F2>

<sup>76</sup> <http://allhallows.ie/cms/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/1950-1951-Annals.pdf>

<sup>77</sup> <https://www.findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=IRE/PRS/MAR/0901620/1>

<sup>78</sup> From age on the family grave.

<sup>79</sup> From age on civil death record.

<sup>80</sup> <https://www.findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=IRE/PRS/BAP/7088304>

He took on her family estate, which was called Annameadle House. This is in Aghnameadle townland, within Aghnameadle Civil Parish, Barony of Upper Ormond. The biography of Thomas says of the house:

*As the motorist leaves Roscrea and travels on through Toomevara and Nenagh, curving down to Limerick, he is skirting a range of mountains on his left, the hills of North Tipperary. Turning left in Toomevara and winding back about a mile into these hills, he will come to Annameadle, a solid farmer's house rebuilt in part by Father O'Donnell's father. ...*

*James O'Donnell came from Seskin at the other end of the County, near Carrick-on-Suir. As we say in Ireland, he "married in" to Annameadle.*

*His mother became a legend in the locality for her charity. In recalling her, one is reminded of St. Elizabeth of Hungary. On one of her charitable errands, that great lady was confronted by her lord, who thought things were going a little too far, and asked: "What have you there?" "Roses" was the quick reply. And roses it proved to be. The poor of Toomevara and around knew the roses of Annameadle well. Father O'Donnell was the eldest of five; he had three sisters and one brother, who was the youngest but one.*

One possibility for the farm they took on is that of Reverend John Maher, who was thrown off his own farm in Toomevara and then paid for the farm in Aghnameadle in 1848.<sup>81</sup> It is possible Ann inherited the farm.

James and Ann had five children (civil registration in Nenagh district):

- **Thomas John**, born 5<sup>th</sup> May, 1864,<sup>82</sup> baptised 7<sup>th</sup> May, 1864.<sup>83</sup> Julia O'Donnell was godmother, probably James's sister. He became a priest. He died 13 December, 1949.<sup>84</sup> More below.
- **Mary Anne**, born 10<sup>th</sup> October, 1865,<sup>85</sup> baptized 14<sup>th</sup> October, 1865.<sup>86</sup>
- **Alice Mary**, born 13<sup>th</sup> January, 1867,<sup>87</sup> baptized 13<sup>th</sup> January, 1867.<sup>88</sup> She married Thomas Davy and moved to Dublin. More below.
- **John Cornelius**, born 17<sup>th</sup> June, 1868,<sup>89</sup> baptised 20<sup>th</sup> June, 1868.<sup>90</sup> He died in 1880 aged 14 as the result of a fall from a horse while Thomas was just in religious training.<sup>91</sup>
- **Catherine Mary** (Kathleen), born 18<sup>th</sup> December, 1873,<sup>92</sup> baptized 21<sup>st</sup> November, 1873.<sup>93</sup> Married **Thomas J. Kennedy** on the 27<sup>th</sup> February, 1900.<sup>94</sup> He was a doctor of Toomevara, born 1868,<sup>95</sup> son of Thomas Kennedy, a farmer. Her rank was listed as "Lady". Her sister Mary was a witness, and her brother Thomas performed the ceremony.

Thomas John went off to train to be a priest, with the understanding that John, the younger son, would inherit the farm. However, John died aged 14. Thomas considered renouncing his

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<sup>81</sup> [http://census.nationalarchives.ie/reels/vob/IRE\\_CENSUS\\_1821-51\\_007246674\\_00660.pdf](http://census.nationalarchives.ie/reels/vob/IRE_CENSUS_1821-51_007246674_00660.pdf)

<sup>82</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth\\_returns/births\\_1864/03595/2325561.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth_returns/births_1864/03595/2325561.pdf)

<sup>83</sup> <https://www.findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=IRE/PRS/BAP/6323753>

<sup>84</sup> <https://historicgraves.com/all-hallows-college/du-ahco-0035/grave>

<sup>85</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth\\_returns/births\\_1865/03552/2307755.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth_returns/births_1865/03552/2307755.pdf)

<sup>86</sup> <https://www.findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=IRE/PRS/BAP/4748920>

<sup>87</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth\\_returns/births\\_1867/03497/2285284.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth_returns/births_1867/03497/2285284.pdf)

<sup>88</sup> <https://www.findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=IRE/PRS/BAP/4748928>

<sup>89</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth\\_returns/births\\_1868/03440/2263019.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth_returns/births_1868/03440/2263019.pdf)

<sup>90</sup> <https://www.findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=IRE%2FPRS%2FBAP%2F4030148>

<sup>91</sup> Cause of death from his brother's biography.

<sup>92</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth\\_returns/births\\_1873/03172/2163567.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth_returns/births_1873/03172/2163567.pdf)

<sup>93</sup> <https://www.findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=IRE/PRS/BAP/6323925>

<sup>94</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/marriage\\_returns/marriages\\_1900/10335/5762863.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/marriage_returns/marriages_1900/10335/5762863.pdf)

<sup>95</sup> Based on age 43 in 1911 Census.

calling, and return to take on the farm. But he, with his parents' support, decided to keep on as a priest. He became a well-respected priest, running the All Hallows College in Dublin (rector). From his bibliography:

*He was ordained priest in St. Vincent's College, Castletknock, on September 8th, 1888, and his first appointment was to Castletknock, where he taught for about a year and a half before being transferred to St. Joseph's, Blackrock, the Vincentian House of Studies. His life's work, the formation of clerics, began accordingly at the end of 1889, and continued for sixty years. He was appointed to All Hallows as Vice-President in 1895. He acted as Senior Dean for some time as well, and was Professor of Moral Theology. He was made President in September, 1909 and was retained in that office until September, 1948.*

James is mentioned in the 1889 Bassets Directory of Tipperary;

- James, O'Donnell, Union Nenagh, Annameadle, Toomevara, Elected Guardian
- Jas, O'Donnell, Farmers, Residents, Annameadle, Toomevara,

James and Anne were still living in the house for the 1901 Census, although all children moved out (although a granddaughter was visiting or living there):

Residents of a house 2 in Aghnameadle (Aghnameadle, Tipperary) 1901<sup>96</sup>

- Donnell, James, 70, Head of Family
- Donnell, Anne, 68, Wife
- Meagher, Margt, 5, Grand Daughter
- Quinlan, Eliza, 60, Servant
- Dwyer, Mary, 18, Servant

The granddaughter Margaret Meagher suggests that one of the daughters married a Meagher (perhaps a cousin, as Meagher is a spelling variant of Maher). This would be Catherine or Mary Anne, as Alice married a Davy.

Ann, wife of James, died 10<sup>th</sup> November, 1905, aged 74 on the grave (thus born 1831),<sup>97</sup> or 72 on the civil registration (thus born 1833).<sup>98</sup> The civil registry showed residence as Annameadle. On the family gravestone, she is said to be of Ballybeg, which is the townland adjacent to Aghnameadle townland. It is possible the townland they belonged to changed. The civil registry also shows her daughter present at death, Kathleen Kennedy of Toomevara, showing their daughter Catherine Mary married a Kennedy.

The 1911 Census shows James still head of family, but Ann is dead. Two different grandchildren are visiting from Dublin.

Residents of a house 12 in Aghnameadle (Aghnameadle, Tipperary)

- O'Donnell, James, 77, Head of Family
- Meagher, Thomas F, 11, Grand Son
- Meagher, Timothy, 8, Grand Son
- Meagher, Josie, 25, Servant

**James** died May, 1918, aged 84. His grave read as follows: <sup>99</sup>

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<sup>96</sup> <http://www.census.nationalarchives.ie/pages/1901/Tipperary/Aghnameadle/Aghnameadle/1700733/>

<sup>97</sup> <http://tipperarystudies.ie/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/B.%20Vol%209%20Parish%20of%20Aghnameadle%20reduced.pdf>

<sup>98</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/deaths\\_returns/deaths\\_1906/05569/4564035.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/deaths_returns/deaths_1906/05569/4564035.pdf),

<sup>99</sup> <http://tipperarystudies.ie/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/B.%20Vol%209%20Parish%20of%20Aghnameadle%20reduced.pdf>

O'DONNELL

64. In loving memory of James o'Donnell, Annameadle who died in May 1918 aged 84 and of his wife Anne Meagher of Ballybeg who died in November 1905 aged 74. Also of their son John who died in 1880 aged 14. Eternal rest grant to them O Lord.

**Mary Anne** daughter of James married **Thomas Francis Maher** (Meagher) on the 27<sup>th</sup> April, 1887.<sup>100</sup> The wedding took place in Limerick city, although his residence was given as Kingstown, Dublin, and hers as Toomevara. Thomas's father was Timothy Meagher, a farmer, dead by the time of the marriage.

I note that in 1848, a Thomas Francis Meagher unveiled for the first time the Irish tricolour flag, at a meeting of "Young Ireland Revolutionaries". James O'Donnell of Ballyboe preceded over that meeting.<sup>101</sup> I wonder if this formed a link between the families that cumulated in the marriage here. Connections need to be checked. The father of Thomas Francis was also a Thomas, and his son was called Thomas Francis also.

Most of the children were baptised in Dublin, although for Margaret in 1895 the residence was given as Cluggin, Co. Limerick with occupation "farmer". It is possible Thomas Francis had an estate in Limerick while his main business was in the capital. In Dublin, Thomas Francis had a grocer shop at 2 Lombard St, although later he was recorded as a Wine Merchant and eventually as a Publican. They had various children:

- **Mary Maher**, born 1890.
- **John Maher**, born 23<sup>rd</sup> December, 1890, baptised 26<sup>th</sup> December, 1890.<sup>102</sup> Dublin.
- **Alice Mary Maher**, born 5<sup>th</sup> September, 1892,<sup>103</sup> baptised 5<sup>th</sup> September, 1892.<sup>104</sup> Civil record gives address as 68 Upper Georges St., Dublin.
- **Anne Maher**, born 1894.
- **Margaret Maher**, born 27<sup>th</sup> June, 1895.<sup>105</sup> At the time, they were living in Cluggin, Co. Limerick.
- **Kate Maher**, born 1897.
- **Ellen Vincent (Eileen) Maher**, born 18<sup>th</sup> July, 1897,<sup>106</sup> baptised 21 Jul 1897. Residence given as 17 Spencer Villa in the parish record and 17 Spencer Villa Adelaide Rd in the Civil record.
- **James Joseph Maher**, born 17<sup>th</sup> November, 1898,<sup>107</sup> <sup>108</sup> baptised 21<sup>st</sup> November, 1898.<sup>109</sup> Address given as 2 Lombard Street, Dublin.
- **Thomas Francis Maher**, born 17<sup>th</sup> January, 1900.<sup>110</sup> Residence shown as South Dublin.

<sup>100</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/marriage\\_returns/marriages\\_1887/10806/5941187.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/marriage_returns/marriages_1887/10806/5941187.pdf)

<sup>101</sup> [http://www.turtlebunbury.com/history/history\\_irish/history\\_irish\\_clonmelshow.htm](http://www.turtlebunbury.com/history/history_irish/history_irish_clonmelshow.htm)

<sup>102</sup> <https://www.findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=IRE/PRS/BAP/3372158>

<sup>103</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth\\_returns/births\\_1892/02327/1871388.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth_returns/births_1892/02327/1871388.pdf)

<sup>104</sup> <https://www.findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=IRE/PRS/BAP/3372561>

<sup>105</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth\\_returns/births\\_1895/02204/1832735.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth_returns/births_1895/02204/1832735.pdf)

<sup>106</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth\\_returns/births\\_1897/02119/1805842.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth_returns/births_1897/02119/1805842.pdf)

<sup>107</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth\\_returns/births\\_1899/02052/1785421.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth_returns/births_1899/02052/1785421.pdf)

<sup>108</sup> Birth given as the 20<sup>th</sup> in the parish registry, which may be more accurate, as the civil registration was made three months after the birth.

<sup>109</sup> <https://www.findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=IRE/PRS/BAP/3962700>

<sup>110</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth\\_returns/births\\_1900/02008/1771892.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth_returns/births_1900/02008/1771892.pdf)

- **Timothy Maher**, born 12<sup>th</sup> November, 1902.<sup>111</sup> Residence the same, occupation shown as “grocer”.
- **Bridgit Josephine Maher**, born 1<sup>st</sup> March, 1901,<sup>112</sup> (mother given as Annis, but street address matches, this must be her nickname). Father’s occupation given as Grocer.
- **Joseph Maher**, born 2<sup>nd</sup> October, 1904.<sup>113</sup> Father’s occupation given as Wine Merchant.
- **Agnes Maher**, born 7<sup>th</sup> December, 1905.<sup>114</sup> Father’s occupation given as Publican.
- **Madeline Sophia Maher**, born 18<sup>th</sup> June, 1909.<sup>115</sup>

We know most of this from the 1901 and 1911 censuses (adding in the children farmed out to the grandparents in Toomevara)

#### **1901 Census: house 1.1 in Lombard Street (Trinity, Dublin)**

- Meagher, Thomas F, 43, Head of Family
- Meagher, Mary, 34, Wife
- Meagher, Mary, 11, Daughter
- Meagher, John, 10, Son
- Meagher, Alice, 8, Daughter
- Meagher, Anne, 6, Daughter
- Meagher, Kate, 4, Daughter
- Meagher, Eileen, 3, Daughter
- Meagher, Thomas F, 1, Son
- Meagher, Bridgit J, , Daughter
- Butter, Kate, 22, Governess

The 1901 Census shows the family in the same house. Thomas and Mary are still alive, all the children at home:

#### **1911 Census: house 2 in Lombard Street (Trinity Ward, Dublin)<sup>116</sup>**

- Meagher, Thomas Francis, 53, Head of Family
- Meagher, Mary, 44, Wife
- Meagher, Mary, 21, Daughter
- Meagher, John Joseph, 20, Son
- Meagher, Alice, 18, Daughter
- Meagher, Anne, 16, Daughter
- Meagher, Margaret, 15, Daughter
- Meagher, Kathleen, 14, Daughter
- Meagher, Eileen, 13, Daughter
- Meagher, Thomas Francis, 11, Son
- Meagher, Bridgid, 10, Daughter
- Meagher, Timothy, 7, Son
- Meagher, Agnes, 5, Daughter
- Meagher, Madeline, 1, Daughter

<sup>111</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth\\_returns/births\\_1902/01891/1734920.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth_returns/births_1902/01891/1734920.pdf)

<sup>112</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth\\_returns/births\\_1901/01966/1758382.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth_returns/births_1901/01966/1758382.pdf)

<sup>113</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth\\_returns/births\\_1904/01807/1707998.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth_returns/births_1904/01807/1707998.pdf)

<sup>114</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth\\_returns/births\\_1906/01752/1691232.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth_returns/births_1906/01752/1691232.pdf)

<sup>115</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth\\_returns/births\\_1909/01603/1644051.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth_returns/births_1909/01603/1644051.pdf)

<sup>116</sup> [http://www.census.nationalarchives.ie/pages/1911/Dublin/Trinity\\_Ward/Lombard\\_Street/91588/](http://www.census.nationalarchives.ie/pages/1911/Dublin/Trinity_Ward/Lombard_Street/91588/)

**Daughter Alice** married **Thomas Davy**, a merchant of Rathgar, son of Thomas Davy, a farmer, on the 30th January, 1889.<sup>117, 118</sup> The civil record names her father a “gentleman farmer”. The marriage took place at St. Patrick's Church, Monkstown, Co. Dublin, performed by her brother, Thomas, who was in Dublin. One of the witnesses was Kathleen O'Donnell, no doubt Alice's sister, Catherine.

The family home was "Arbourfield", Grosvenor Road, Rathgar, although another is mentioned: "Minnow Brook", Terenure, Dublin, and "Beaumont", Terenure Road East, Terenure.

Alice and Thomas had 8 children:<sup>119</sup>

- **Mary** Davy, born 13 August 1890, died 5th March 1931, unmarried.
- **Josephine** Davy, 6 December 1891 – 22nd March 1975.
- **Joseph Patrick** Davy. Born 21 March 1894, but died 18 months old of some disease, on 6th October 1895.
- **Margaret** Davy, born 5 June 1895. She died 11 weeks old on the 28 August 1895 of gastro-enteritis
- **UNKN MALE**, born 27 May 1897. “The child was miscarried at four and a half months, and lived for 1 minute”.<sup>120</sup>
- **Thomas Vincent** Davy, born 23 August 1900, died 2nd January 1995.
- **James Joseph** Davy, born on the 4<sup>th</sup> November, 1902, died 16th March 1991. “With his younger brother Eugene, he established J & E. Davy Stockbrokers in 1926, one of the leading firms in Dublin”.<sup>121</sup>
- **Eugene** O'Donnell Davy, born 26 July 1904. “He was a noted Rugby player with his club Lansdowne”. As noted above, he was a stockbroker with his brother. He died 11 November 1996. Wikipedia page.<sup>122</sup>

Alice died on 27 February 1955, aged 88, a widow, at her home, "Beaumont", Terenure Road East, Terenure, Dublin. Although another source said she died at Rathgar, her husband's estate in Dublin County.<sup>123</sup>

**Catherine** (Kathleen) were still alive by the 1911 Census, but seem to have had no children at that point. They were living in Toomevara town.

Residents of a house 2 in Toomevara Town (Latteragh, Tipperary)

- Kennedy, Thomas J, 43, Head of Family
- Kennedy, Kathleen, 32, Wife
- Kenny, Ellen, 50, Servant

#### 5.4.2 Family of Cornelius son of Thomas

**Cornelius** married **Julia Rice** on the 13<sup>th</sup> October, 1868.<sup>124 125</sup> Con was given as a Gent of Seskin, son of Thomas O'Donnell, also a Gent. The civil entry lists Cornelius as 23, thus born 1845, in conflict with the censuses and death record. It is possible this is actually “28” but somewhat degraded. 28 would be compatible with his 1839 birth, and also make him the same age as Julia. She is shown as 28, which matches her 1840 birth estimate. John Cooney was witness, re-enforcing the connection to Mary Cooney as his mother.

<sup>117</sup> <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/159123112/alice-mary-davy>

<sup>118</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/marriage\\_returns/marriages\\_1889/10724/5910286.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/marriage_returns/marriages_1889/10724/5910286.pdf)

<sup>119</sup> <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/159123112/alice-mary-davy>

<sup>120</sup> <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/181347167/male-davy>

<sup>121</sup> <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/159123108/james-joseph-davy>

<sup>122</sup> [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eugene\\_Davy](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eugene_Davy)

<sup>123</sup> <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/159123112/alice-mary-davy>

<sup>124</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/marriage\\_returns/marriages\\_1868/11480/8219758.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/marriage_returns/marriages_1868/11480/8219758.pdf)

<sup>125</sup> From a MyHeritage Entry for Con.



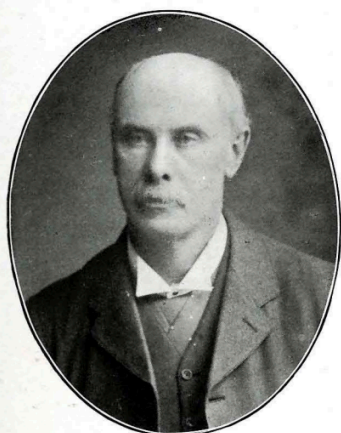
**Julia** was baptised 24th September, 1840, daughter of Richard Rice, a Gent of Kilworth, Cork, and Ellen Sheil.<sup>126</sup>

Julia is probably from the family below, Rice of Kilworth.<sup>127</sup> She may be a brother to Thomas Rice born 1829.



**Mr. Thomas Rice.**  
*At the age of 40.*

**Rice.**—THOMAS RICE, Clondulane House, co. Cork; son of Richard Rice, merchant; born at Kilworth, co. Cork, in 1829. Admitted a solicitor in 1851; Sessional Crown Solicitor and Crown Prosecutor for East Riding of Cork in 1871; held that office until resignation in 1906; conducted the public prosecutions during the disturbed times of the Land League. Recreation: hunting; commenced fifty years ago with the then Lord Fermoy's hounds, and with the Union Hounds hunted by Robert Uniacke; Lord Fermoy and Mr. Uniacke resigned about 1872, and thereupon the two hunting countries (Lord Fermoy's and Mr. Uniacke's) were united and called the United Hunt Club Country, known as the U.H.C. Country. Lord Shannon hunted the U.H.C. for about six years and then took the Vale of White Horse in England; since then the U.H.C. has been regularly hunted by various masters, including the present Master, Major Powell, D.S.O., appointed by the



**Mr. Richard Rice.**

**Rice.**—RICHARD RICE, Kilally House, Kilworth, co. Cork; son of the late Edmund Rice, of Ballinacarriga; born in March, 1846; educated at St. Colman's College, Fermoy, under the Presidency of the late Dr. Croke, Archbishop of Cashel. Coroner for the East Riding of co. Cork; Gold Medallist of the Incorporated Law Society for the best essay on the "Improvement and Extension of the County Courts in Ireland"; Silver Medallist in the Solicitors' Final Examination, won three scholarships in Law and several collegiate prizes. Admitted a solicitor, 1871; elected Coroner by open voting of the county for the East Riding, in 1872; while solicitor for the Municipal Board in Fermoy carried a measure of severance of the township from the Grand Jury; during the office of Coronership he had imposed on him in his district at Mitchelstown, Youghal, Midleton, and Fermoy the most important functions of holding inquests in the widely published cases of

deaths caused by or arising from collisions of the executive forces with the people in the exciting times of the Agrarian agitation, in which the coercion regime was defiantly opposed at public meetings; he received a personal letter from the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone and several public personages expressing appreciation of the able and impartial manner in which he throughout protracted and most perplexing inquiries had discharged his duty. Married, firstly, Ellie Mary, daughter of Daniel O'Brien, of Clashgarif House, Charleville, and had issue two sons, James, and Edmund Augustine, and one daughter, Lillie; secondly, in 1897, Margaret, daughter of Nicholas H. Walsh, of Midleton, and has issue three sons, Richard Thomas, and William Sinclair.

<sup>126</sup> <https://www.findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=IRE/PRS/BAP/1535381>

<sup>127</sup> [http://www.corkpastandpresent.ie/genealogy/pikescontemporarybiographies1911/contemporarybiographieso-y/biographies\\_hodges\\_complete\\_272\\_276.pdf](http://www.corkpastandpresent.ie/genealogy/pikescontemporarybiographies1911/contemporarybiographieso-y/biographies_hodges_complete_272_276.pdf)



Cornelius and Julia had two children:<sup>128</sup>

- **Mary O'Donnell**, born 24<sup>th</sup> September, 1870,<sup>129</sup> baptised 25<sup>th</sup> September, 1870 (from birth registration, but shown as 4 years older in the 1901 census).<sup>130</sup> There is a possibility that she married an O'Gorman, as at Eileen's daughter's wedding, her aunt Mrs O'Gorman was present. But may be the sister to Mr Heffernan. Mary was single in the 1901 census, but gone from the house by the 1911 census, suggesting she may have married in that period.
- **Eileen Francisca O'Donnell** (Ellen by the 1901 Census), baptised 10<sup>th</sup> September, 1880.<sup>131</sup> The civil birth registration shows the birth as 6<sup>th</sup> October, well after the baptism.<sup>132</sup> Often, people would register the birth late, and change the date of the birth to avoid the fine for late registration.

However, **Julia** died soon after, on the 20<sup>th</sup> February, 1886, aged 45.<sup>133</sup>

The 1889 Basset's Directory of Tipperary listed **Cornelius** in two categories for Seskin, Kilsheelan:

- Under Farmers and Residents
- As Elected Guardian of Clonmel Union

On the 30<sup>th</sup> April, 1889, **Cornelius** married a second time to a much younger woman **Mary Aloysius Lyon**.<sup>134</sup> <sup>135</sup> He was marked as "widower". They married in Kilkenny, suggesting she was from there (the Kilkenny border is not far from Carrick-on-Suir). She was born 1858 to father John Lyon, and was around 20 years younger than her husband (however, her death certificate places her born 1853). By the 1901 and 1911 Census, they had had no kids of their own, but the two children of Con's first marriage were still at home in the first census. Con was given as a widower, a farmer of Seskin. Con's father was given as Thomas, a farmer, which matches.

By the 1901 Census, the Upper Seskin house was still held by Cornelius, living with Mary Aloysius, his two children, and his sister Mary Anne.

**Mary Anne** died on the 13<sup>th</sup> March, 1907. She was marked as 74 years old, a widow of a farmer. Her brother Cornelius was witness.<sup>136</sup>

**Cornelius** died 25 July, 1916.<sup>137</sup> He was listed as a gentleman farmer, and his wife, Aloysia O'Donnell was present at death.

After Cornelius's death, it seems **Mary Aloysius** (Aloysia) moved to Clonmel, she was living at 14 Anne St, Clonmel when she died on the 13<sup>th</sup> September, 1929, aged 76.<sup>138</sup> Her nephew, John Herwick, was present at death, although his residence is given as Kilkenny, which is where she was born. This suggests one of her sisters married a Mr Herwick.

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<sup>128</sup> Children given by the 1901 census, left home by the 1911 Census.

<sup>129</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth\\_returns/births\\_1870/03319/2216515.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth_returns/births_1870/03319/2216515.pdf)

<sup>130</sup> <https://www.findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=IRE/PRS/BAP/5205617>

<sup>131</sup> <https://www.findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=IRE/PRS/BAP/5147754>

<sup>132</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth\\_returns/births\\_1880/02849/2044034.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth_returns/births_1880/02849/2044034.pdf)

<sup>133</sup> Her death record is at:

[https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/deaths\\_returns/deaths\\_1886/06257/4791917.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/deaths_returns/deaths_1886/06257/4791917.pdf). Note that Cornelius was marked as "widower" in the marriage certificate of his second marriage.

<sup>134</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/marriage\\_returns/marriages\\_1889/10735/5914416.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/marriage_returns/marriages_1889/10735/5914416.pdf)

<sup>135</sup> From the 1889 Marriage Certificate. Note also the fact that Con's father is shown as Thomas O'Donnell of Seskin. This is a major factor in establishing the link to Thomas.

<sup>136</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/deaths\\_returns/deaths\\_1907/05527/4549571.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/deaths_returns/deaths_1907/05527/4549571.pdf)

<sup>137</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/deaths\\_returns/deaths\\_1916/05235/4449973.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/deaths_returns/deaths_1916/05235/4449973.pdf)

<sup>138</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/deaths\\_returns/deaths\\_1929/04931/4339397.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/deaths_returns/deaths_1929/04931/4339397.pdf)

#### 5.4.2.1 Family of Eileen Frances O'Donnell

Eileen Frances married **William Francis Heffernan**, on the 19<sup>th</sup> May, 1909.<sup>139</sup> He was born 1857. He was a doctor in the R.A.M.C. (Royal Army Medical Corps),<sup>140</sup> promoted to Major in 1892, and to Lt. Colonel in 1900.<sup>141</sup> As of 1910 (birth of daughter Cornelia) his address was given as Pembroke Dock, South Wales, which was a large navy dockyard, with a military garrison attached. However, as of the birth of his second child, John, in 1912, he was shown as retired, and living in Barretstown, near Fethard, the house of William's father. Note that William was 23 years older than Eileen. She married at 29 to a man who was 52.

On the marriage registration, Con was listed as a "gentleman". Eileen's address was given as Seskin House.

Eileen and William had several children:

- **Cornelia Maud Gerard Heffernan**, born 19<sup>th</sup> May, 1910. The birth was registered in South Dublin, which suggests the couple was living there at this point. The two subsequent children were born in Tipperary.
- **John Bagot Gerard Heffernan**, born 1<sup>st</sup> January, 1912.<sup>142</sup> More information available from Ancestry.com.<sup>143</sup> He inherited the Upper Seskin Farm. He died 1985.<sup>144</sup>
- **Veronica Gerard Rice Heffernan**, born 3<sup>rd</sup> April, 1913.<sup>145</sup> Known as Vera.<sup>146</sup>

Residence for John and Veronica given as Barretstown.

Cornelia married a Mr. John Egan on the 1<sup>st</sup> September, 1931.<sup>147</sup> A photo of the event is below.<sup>148</sup> John Bagot Heffernan is to the right of the bride, he gave her away as the father was dead by that point. The mother, Eileen Frances nee O'Donnell, is sitting to the right of the bride, and Veronica (Vera) is to her right.

Note the photo (and thus the wedding reception probably) was taken at Seskin House, home of Eileen's parents. Cornelia's residence was also given as Seskin House in the wedding registry. This suggests that Eileen moved back to Seskin after the death of her husband. As Eileen was one of the two daughters of Cornelius, it is possible that Eileen inherited the house.

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<sup>139</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/marriage\\_returns/marriages\\_1909/10020/5644948.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/marriage_returns/marriages_1909/10020/5644948.pdf)

<sup>140</sup> From the Birth Record for Veronica.

<sup>141</sup> The Catholic Who's who & Yearbook, Volume 11, p207.

<sup>142</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth\\_returns/births\\_1912/01500/1609739.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth_returns/births_1912/01500/1609739.pdf)

<sup>143</sup> <https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/person/tree/16842968/person/437215906/facts>

<sup>144</sup> Information from Patrick O'Donnell, current owner of Ballyboe.

<sup>145</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth\\_returns/births\\_1913/01450/1593023.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth_returns/births_1913/01450/1593023.pdf)

<sup>146</sup> From caption of photo of sister's wedding.

<sup>147</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/marriage\\_returns/marriages\\_1931/09027/5266716.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/marriage_returns/marriages_1931/09027/5266716.pdf)

<sup>148</sup> Egan Heffernan Wedding, Seskin, Clonmel. (24322739764).jpg. (2017, April 13). Wikimedia Commons, the free media repository. Retrieved 07:09, February 18, 2020 from [https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?title=File:Egan\\_Heffernan\\_Wedding,\\_Seskin,\\_Clonmel.\\_\(24322739764\).jpg&oldid=240691777](https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?title=File:Egan_Heffernan_Wedding,_Seskin,_Clonmel._(24322739764).jpg&oldid=240691777)



A description of the wedding was given in a newspaper, as below. It shows the wedding was in St. Mary's Church, Kilsheelan

## Marriage of Mr. John Egan and Miss C. Heffernan.

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.  
WATERFORD, Tuesday.

**O**VER a hundred guests were present to-day at the wedding at St. Mary's Church, Kilsheelan, of Mr. John Egan, son of the late Mr. Edward Egan, and of Mrs. Egan, Mayville, Waterford, and Miss Cornelia Heffernan, elder daughter of the late Lieutenant-Colonel Heffernan, R.A.M.C., and of Mrs. Heffernan, Seskin, Clonmel. The Right Rev. Monsignor Innocent Ryan, D.D., Dean of Cashel, was the celebrant of the Nuptial Mass, and he was assisted by the Very Rev. M. Dowley, P.P., Kilsheelan; the Rev. T. Coughlan, C.C., Kilsheelan, and the Rev. John Warren, C.C., Waterford Cathedral. The Hon. Mrs. de la Poer and Major and Mrs. de la Poer, Curteen-le-Poer, supplied the floral decorations for the church.

The bride, who was given away by her brother, Mr. Baggot Heffernan, wore white satin with pleated panels, white satin velvet jacket with medieval sleeves in keeping with her head-dress, and a coronet of crystal glass. The Rev. M. Dowley read the Papal Blessing. There were six bridesmaids, in georgette frocks, with large leghorn hats, and each carried a bouquet of Victorian roses. The best man was Mr. Walter Walsh. The relatives of the bride present were her mother, Mrs. W. Heffernan, and aunt, Mrs. O'Gorman, of Gowran. The sister of the bridegroom, Mrs. R. J. Duggan, Monster House, Kilkenny, also was present.

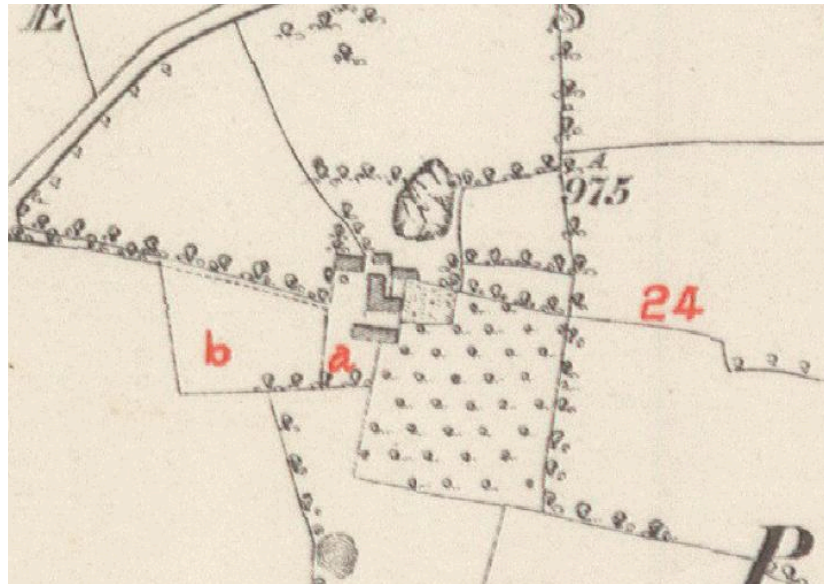
A reception was held at the home of the bride's mother, and in the afternoon the happy couple motored to Dublin en route to France and Corsica.

Son **John Baggot Heffernan** inherited the Upper Seskin farm on his parent's death. He himself died in 1985 without issue. When the farm was put up for sale, Jack (John) O'Donnell of the



Lower Seskin line bought the house, returning the house to O'Donnell ownership. They are still there.<sup>149</sup>

A map from the Griffiths Survey (1950s) shows the house where this family lived. The houses marked as 24 A were held by Mrs O'Donnell (household of James O'Donnell from the 1821 census). The core of Mrs O'Donnell's farm is shown below in more detail (the block marked 'b' is the one rented out by Thomas O'Donnell to Patrick Kearney).



Today, the farm is still there, and currently looks like the following (from Google Maps):



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<sup>149</sup> From Patrick O'Donnell, current owner of Ballyboe

#### 5.4.3 Julia born 1840, daughter of Thomas

**Julia** daughter of Thomas married **Richard Comerford** on the 26<sup>th</sup> November, 1867.<sup>150 151</sup> Possibly the brother of Nicholas above. His residence was given as Ballyfoyle, Kilkenny.<sup>152</sup> An Anastasia Cooney was witness, probably a relative of Julia's mother.

Waterford News - Friday 29 November 1867 shows:

*Nov, 26, at the Catholic Church of Gammonsfield, by the Rev. James Comerford, brother of the bridegroom, Richard Comerford Esq., of Ballyfoyle, co. Kilkenny, to Julia, youngest daughter of the late **James O'Donnell**, Esq., of Seskin, county Tipperary. [The paper showed James as the father, but the marriage registry shows clearly Thomas]*

They had children (all registered with residence given as Ballyfoyle, Kilkenny, Richard's occupation as Gentleman Farmer):

- **Catherine Comerford**, born 31<sup>st</sup> December, 1868<sup>153</sup>.
- **Edmond Comerford**, born 24<sup>th</sup> July, 1870.<sup>154</sup>
- **Mary Josephine Comerford**, born 7<sup>th</sup> July, 1871.<sup>155</sup>
- **Nicholas Comerford**, born 6<sup>th</sup> December, 1873.<sup>156</sup>
- **James Comerford**, born 6<sup>th</sup> December, 1873.<sup>157</sup> Twin to Nicholas.
- **Thomas**, born 18<sup>th</sup> September, 1875.<sup>158</sup>
- **Alice Mary**, born 24<sup>th</sup> December, 1880.<sup>159</sup>
- **2 more**, died early.

The 1901 census shows the family, only the younger two still at home.

#### 1901 Census: house 3 in Ballyfoyle (Kilkieran, Kilkenny)

- Comerford, Richard, 69, Head of Family
- Comerford, Julia, 60, Wife
- Comerford, Thomas, 25, Son
- Comerford, Alice, 20, Daughter
- Doran, Martin, 18, Servant
- Butler, Mary, 29, Servant
- Butler, Brigid, 21, Servant

The 1911 census shows Richard dead, Julia still alive, and son Thomas now in charge of the farm. Sister Alice is still unmarried, living at home.

#### 1911 Census: house 9 in Ballyfoyle (Kilkieran, Kilkenny)<sup>160</sup>

- Comerford, Thomas, 35, Head of Family, Farmer, single
- Comerford, Julia, 70, Mother, widow,
- Comerford, Alice, 29, Sister
- Dullard, Patrick, 28, Servant

<sup>150</sup> From a MyHeritage entry for Con. Also: <https://www.findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=IRE/PRS/MAR/1120455/1>.

<sup>151</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/marriage\\_returns/marriages\\_1867/11515/8235107.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/marriage_returns/marriages_1867/11515/8235107.pdf)

<sup>152</sup> Waterford News, Friday 29 November 1867, confirms Ballyfoyle in Co. Kilkenny.

<sup>153</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth\\_returns/births\\_1869/03408/2249809.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth_returns/births_1869/03408/2249809.pdf)

<sup>154</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth\\_returns/births\\_1870/03322/2217786.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth_returns/births_1870/03322/2217786.pdf)

<sup>155</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth\\_returns/births\\_1871/03273/2199398.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth_returns/births_1871/03273/2199398.pdf)

<sup>156</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth\\_returns/births\\_1874/03160/2159157.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth_returns/births_1874/03160/2159157.pdf)

<sup>157</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth\\_returns/births\\_1874/03160/2159157.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth_returns/births_1874/03160/2159157.pdf)

<sup>158</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth\\_returns/births\\_1875/03079/2128786.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth_returns/births_1875/03079/2128786.pdf)

<sup>159</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth\\_returns/births\\_1881/02840/2040916.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth_returns/births_1881/02840/2040916.pdf)

<sup>160</sup> <http://www.census.nationalarchives.ie/pages/1911/Kilkenny/Kilkieran/Ballyfoyle/528168/>

- Burke, Kate, 24, Servant

The census indicated that Julia and Richard had been married 40 years, with 9 children, of whom 5 were still living.

#### 5.4.4 Alicia born 1846, daughter of Thomas

**Daughter Alicia** married **Nicholas Comerford** (probably a brother to Richard above) on the 6<sup>th</sup> February, 1866.<sup>161</sup> Note also that an Alicia Cooney was witness to the marriage, perhaps the same woman who was witness to Julia's wedding. They lived in Kilkenny, as that is where they children were baptised, and Nicholas was a Farmer. They had children:

- **Nicholas Comerford**, born 13<sup>th</sup> June, 1867.<sup>162</sup> Residence given as Cellarstown, Kilkenny. Died on the 10<sup>th</sup> June, 1887, aged 20.<sup>163</sup> He died from Phthisis (tuberculosis).
- **Thomas Comerford**, born 8<sup>th</sup> July, 1868.<sup>164</sup> Residence given as Killeen, Kilkenny.
- **Pierce Comerford**, born 8<sup>th</sup> July, 1868.<sup>165</sup> Twin to Thomas. Died on the 9<sup>th</sup> August, 1887, aged 17.<sup>166</sup> He died from Phthisis (tuberculosis), like his brother Nicholas 2 months before. His brother Cornelius registered the death.
- **Mary Comerford**, born 12<sup>th</sup> August, 1870.<sup>167</sup> Residence given as Killeen, Kilkenny. Occupation of Nicholas given as Gentleman farmer. Died as a baby as a later child was called Mary. Died 5<sup>th</sup> February, 1873,<sup>168</sup> from a "Burn to the back".
- **Cornelius Comerford**, born 25<sup>th</sup> November, 1871.<sup>169</sup>
- **Mary Josephine Comerford**, born 20<sup>th</sup> September, 1873.<sup>170</sup> The record indicated the father was deceased before birth. She died aged 23 on the 23<sup>rd</sup> January, 1895.<sup>171</sup>

**Nicholas the father** died on the 21<sup>st</sup> January, 1873, aged 41.<sup>172</sup> He died of Pleuro Pneumonia. The 1901 Census shows Nicholas dead, Alicia now running the farm. Of the children, only Thomas and Cornelius survived to this date.

#### 1901 Census: house 2 in Cellarstown East (Kilkenny Rural, Kilkenny)<sup>173</sup>

- Comerford, Alicia, 55, Head of Family, Farmer, Widow
- Comerford, Thomas, 31, Son, Farmer's Son
- Comerford, Cornelius, 29, Son, Farmer's Son
- Butler, Mary, 29, Servant
- Royan, Michael, 27, Servant

No sign of death of Alicia the mother. No entry in the 1911 Census. No entries for Cellarstown East at all, possibly not entered in the website.

<sup>161</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/marriage\\_returns/marriages\\_1866/11528/8239569.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/marriage_returns/marriages_1866/11528/8239569.pdf)

<sup>162</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth\\_returns/births\\_1867/03474/2276198.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth_returns/births_1867/03474/2276198.pdf)

<sup>163</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/deaths\\_returns/deaths\\_1887/06204/4774688.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/deaths_returns/deaths_1887/06204/4774688.pdf)

<sup>164</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth\\_returns/births\\_1868/03429/2258324.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth_returns/births_1868/03429/2258324.pdf)

<sup>165</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth\\_returns/births\\_1868/03429/2258324.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth_returns/births_1868/03429/2258324.pdf)

<sup>166</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/deaths\\_returns/deaths\\_1887/06204/4774688.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/deaths_returns/deaths_1887/06204/4774688.pdf)

<sup>167</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth\\_returns/births\\_1870/03334/2222068.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth_returns/births_1870/03334/2222068.pdf)

<sup>168</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/deaths\\_returns/deaths\\_1873/020707/7265419.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/deaths_returns/deaths_1873/020707/7265419.pdf)

<sup>169</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth\\_returns/births\\_1871/03273/2199389.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth_returns/births_1871/03273/2199389.pdf)

<sup>170</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth\\_returns/births\\_1873/03172/2163504.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth_returns/births_1873/03172/2163504.pdf)

<sup>171</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/deaths\\_returns/deaths\\_1895/05914/4678959.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/deaths_returns/deaths_1895/05914/4678959.pdf)

<sup>172</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/deaths\\_returns/deaths\\_1873/020707/7265419.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/deaths_returns/deaths_1873/020707/7265419.pdf)

<sup>173</sup> [http://www.census.nationalarchives.ie/pages/1901/Kilkenny/Kilkenny\\_Rural/Cellarstown\\_East/1449278/](http://www.census.nationalarchives.ie/pages/1901/Kilkenny/Kilkenny_Rural/Cellarstown_East/1449278/)



## 6 Cornelius of Ballyboe

**Cornelian** (sometimes Cornelius) son of James was born 1787.<sup>174</sup> According to O'Neal's *The Golden Vale*, Cornelius' father, James, bought a large estate, called Ballyboe, and installed Cornelius there. The farm had 300 acres. Ballyboe is in the north west corner of Kilsheelan, within Kilsheelan catholic parish, but in Templetenny Civil Parish. He says that Cornelius built the large Ballyboe house which is still lived in by descendants of the family.

Seamus Rua O'Donnell took another farm of some three hundred acres at Ballyboe where he installed his eldest son Cornelius (1787-1824), - one of the three children mentioned in the Seskin Lease. Cornelius built the present fine house at Ballyboe, which he left to his son James (1819-1885). This James was a young Irelander and a member of the Confederate Clubs around Kilsheelan, and he presided at the great meeting on Slievenamon in 1848 which was addressed by Michael Doheny and Thomas Francis Meagher. He died without issue in 1885, when Ballyboe was taken over by his cousin, Patrick of Lower Seskin, from whom it passed eventually to the present Mr. Pat O'Donnell. Lower Seskin is now owned by his brother Mr. Billy O'Donnell, while Upper Seskin, having passed through the female line from Mrs. Eily Heffernan (nee O'Donnell) to her son Bagot Heffernan on the latter's death, was acquired by Mr. Jack O'Donnell and so returned to the O'Donnell family.

Cornelius married **Anastatia Power** on the 23rd February, 1813.<sup>175</sup> Anastasia was born a.1785.<sup>176</sup> As the marriage was in Killenaule Parish, Anastasia may have been from there.

Another possibility as to where she was from: after her death, her son Michael put up a memorial stone for her in Lismolin graveyard, amongst a cluster of 4 graves, the others belonging to Power families. If her immediate family was buried in Lismolin, it is possible they hailed from near there. Lismolin is 15km North of Killenaule.

Cornelius and Anastasia had three children:

- **Michael**, born a.1817.<sup>177</sup>
- **James**, born a.1819.
- **Margaret**, born c.1820. Only record is a marriage report in the Waterford News on the 7<sup>th</sup> December, 1860, where she is said to have married **Michael Guiry**, Esq., T.C., of Clonmel. She was said to be daughter of the late Cornelius O'Donnell, Esq., of Ballyboe, Co. Tipperary.<sup>178</sup> No sign of children in Clonmel District.

At the Catholic Church of Gammonsfield, on the 1st inst, Michael Guiry, Esq., T.C., Clonmel, to Margaret, daughter of the late Cornelius O'Donnell, Esq., of Ballyboe, county Tipperary.

<sup>174</sup> The link made to the Seskin family provided to me by Patrick O'Donnell of Ballyboe in 2020.

<sup>175</sup> <https://www.findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=IRE/PRS/MAR/0039546/1>

<sup>176</sup> From age on her grave.

<sup>177</sup> From the family grave, although the transcript says he died 1857, aged 20, which placed him born 15 years after his mother died (unless Cornelius remarried). I changed this to 1837.

<sup>178</sup> <https://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk/viewer/bl/0000891/18601207/046/0002>



**Anastasia** died on the 26<sup>th</sup> December, 1822, aged 37.<sup>179</sup> Michael would have been 5, James 3. **Cornelius** died two years later, in 1824.<sup>180</sup> I am not sure who raised the children. It is possible they were taken to Seskin until they were old enough to take over the estate.

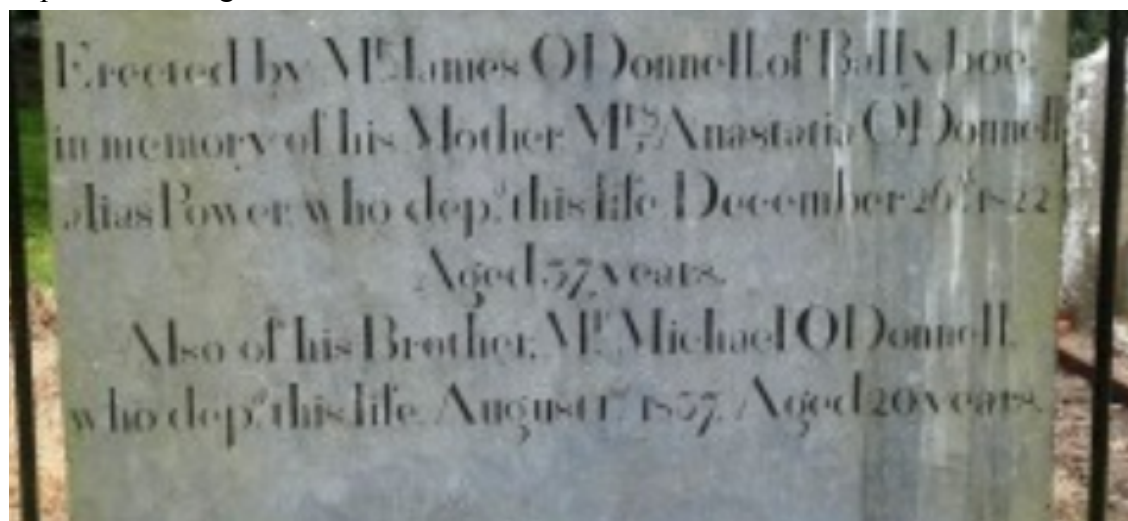
The elder son, **Michael**, died in 1837, aged 20. James thus inherited the estate.

The main reference for this family is a gravestone in Lismolin Graveyard:<sup>181</sup>

*Gloria In Excelsis Deo*  
*Erected by Mr James O'Donnell of Ballyboe*  
*in memory of his mother Mrs Anastatia O' Donnell*  
*alias Power who depd this life December 26th 1822 aged 37 years.*  
*Also of his brother Mr Michael O'donnell*  
*who depd this life August 1st 1837 aged 20 years.*  
*May their souls rest in peace Amen.*

I note the grave does not include Cornelius. My guess, when he died, he was buried in the family graveyard near Seskin. Anastasia (and her son Michael) were buried in Lismolin Graveyard, together with 3 other graves belonging to the Power family. She was buried with her birth family rather than in Seskin.

The year of death of brother Michael is elsewhere transcribed as 1857, which makes no sense as his mother died in 1822. I believe the proper year must be 1837, meaning he was born 1817. A picture of the grave below:



### 6.1 James son of Cornelius

**James** took the Ballyboe estate, held from Lord Lismore.<sup>182</sup> The estate was set on 352 acres of “prime quality Grazing and Meadowing and are situated about a mile from Kilsheelan Railway Station, on the Waterford and Limerick Railway, and about 44. miles from Clonmel and 8 miles from Carrick-on-Suir, both good market towns, in which monthly fairs are held”.<sup>183</sup> The buildings include “a handsome Residence and extensive out-offices, hay barn (suitable for a

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<sup>179</sup> From her grave.

<sup>180</sup> From Patrick O'Donnell of Ballyboe, also mentioned in *Golden Vale*.

<sup>181</sup> <http://historicgraves.com/lismolin/ts-lsmn-0020/grave>

<sup>182</sup> EESTATES

<sup>183</sup> NEWS01

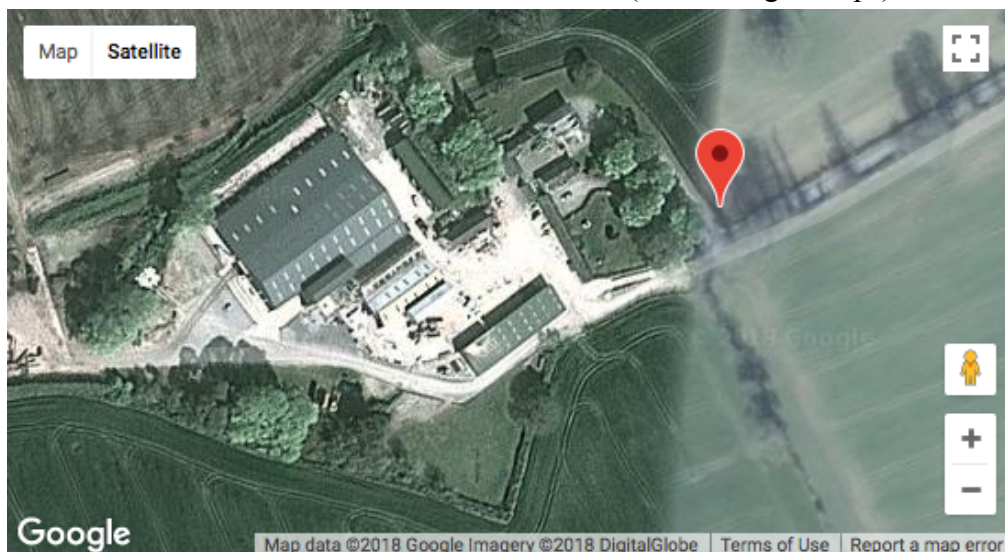
gentleman farmer), all in excellent repair”.<sup>184</sup> The estate was rented from Lord Lismore for initial 410 pounds a year, later reduced to 350.<sup>185</sup>

In some cases, he listed as “esquire”. He was fond of hunting it seems, mentioned as leading the hunt.



The house (from the web)<sup>186</sup>

An aerial view of the estate as of 2020 is shown below (from Google Maps):



James was closely connected to his landlord, Lord Lismore. When a ‘grand banquet’ was held for Lord Lismore in 1873, James chaired the banquet.<sup>187</sup>

James was in the Waterford News (19<sup>th</sup> October, 1849) when the paper reported “

*Two sheep, the property of Mr. James O’Donnell of Ballyboe, Tipperary, were stolen on Monday morning last.*

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<sup>184</sup> NEWS01

<sup>185</sup> NEWS01

<sup>186</sup> <http://landedestates.nuigalway.ie/LandedEstates/jsp/property-show.jsp?id=3921>

<sup>187</sup> HIST01

James was in the 1846 “A list of people called to act on juries” in the *Accounts and Papers of the House of Commons*, Volume 42 1846:

- James O'Donnell, Ballyboe, farmer, leaseholder.

As a link back to the Seskin line, when Patrick O'Donnell of Grove died, (see below) James of Ballyboe was also an executor of the will.<sup>188</sup> Patrick was James' cousin.

James was a leader of the political fight against English rule. He was chair of the Kilsheelan branch of the Irish Confederation Club. He was chairman at a major protest meeting on Slievenamon mountain, where prominent Irish independence fighters (Doheny and Meagher) spoke to a crowd of 10,000 (this on the 22<sup>nd</sup> July, 1848).<sup>189</sup>

James was arrested 2<sup>nd</sup> August, 1848, probably for his part in the Slievenamon meeting 2 weeks before. He was taken from his bed in Ballyoe, and marched to Clonmel, where he was imprisoned, along with other leaders, Dr Ryan of Carrick-on-Suir, O'Ryan of Cashel, and Purcell and Russell of Clonmel.

From William Nolan, *The Irish Confederation in County Tipperary in 1848*, p9:<sup>190</sup>

The *Tipperary Free Press* of 1 April carried a report on a meeting in Carrick to “reconciliate both sections of Repealers”<sup>191</sup> and had a comprehensive list of those attending which included members of the clergy, Rev Mr Byrne, C.C.; Rev Mr Power, C.C., Ballyneill, Rev Mr Shiel, Guardian of the Franciscan Friary; Rev Mr Mullins; C.C; strong farmers and professional men such as William O'Donnell, James O'Donnell of Ballybo, Dr Anthony O'Ryan, Patrick O'Hanrahan of Tirlough and Felix O'Neill.

P10

Subsequently Fr. Byrne assisted in calming Carrick “after a few persons were indicted for having spoken some military words on the occasion



Michael Doheny

of the Clubs seeing Mr Doheny out of town on last Sunday week.”<sup>192</sup> The normally sanguine sub-inspector of police, Mr Roche, had attempted the arrests “when not alone Carrick but all Tipperary was in excitement after the vast meeting of Slievenamon of the preceding evening”. Those arrested included Mr Maher, secretary of the Repeal Club. Not only did Fr Byrne calm the town but with Richard O'Donnell and James Teehan managed to persuade O'Mahony and “hundreds of stalwart men coming from the country in aid of the townspeople to return home”.

The *Tipperary Free Press* reported that Byrne had been arrested for sedition and was imprisoned and

<sup>188</sup> <https://search.findmypast.ie/record?id=ire%2ffor%2fwill%2ffreg%2f23090%2f2>

<sup>189</sup> <https://www.igp-web.com/IGPArchives/ire/tipperary/newspapers/tipperary-news-6.pdf>

<sup>190</sup> [http://tipperarystudies.ie/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/1998%2002%20\[pp%202-18\]%20William%20Nolan.pdf](http://tipperarystudies.ie/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/1998%2002%20[pp%202-18]%20William%20Nolan.pdf)

(From another Correspondent in Clonmel.)  
CLONMEL, AUGUST 3.—ANOTHER ARREST.—Yesterday (Wednesday) morning, Mr. James O'Donnell of Ballyboe in this county, was arrested on a warrant, signed by the Lord Lieutenant, and issued under the recent act. Mr. O'Donnell was in bed, at his residence, at the above place, when arrested. He was chairman at the late meeting of confederates on Slievenamon mountain. Mr. O'Donnell was marched into town, escorted by a large number of the constabulary, and lodged in our county gaol.

Messrs. James O'Donnell of Ballyboe Dr. Ryan, of Carrick-on-Suir, O'Ryan, of Cashel, Purcell and Russell, of this town, still continue in custody. We are not aware whether it is the intention of government to bring them to trial, or merely to keep them in prison under the suspension of the Habeas Corpus Act. It is probable, however, that the three first-named individuals will be arraigned for high treason at the expected special commission.

FROM: [https://mural.maynoothuniversity.ie/6802/1/Brian\\_Sayers\\_OCR.pdf](https://mural.maynoothuniversity.ie/6802/1/Brian_Sayers_OCR.pdf)

P67

*The news of the arrests in Carrick spread through the surrounding districts. O'Mahony had his clubmen assembled and (presumably armed) they marched upon the town of Carrick. At its entrance they met Byrne, together with **Richard O'Donnell**, a solicitor, and James Feehan, a brewer. While demonstrations were acceptable to Byrne and his henchmen an armed band in the town was quite another matter. O'Mahony and his followers were told that the necessity for fighting was over for that day, as the magistrates had yielded the prisoners, terrified at the determined muster of the clubs.*

P76

*Neither Dr Anthony O'Ryan, of Carrick, nor his brother James Francis, of Clonea Castle, County Waterford, attempted to flee the country at this time. These men, along with Dr John Purcell, of Carrick, and **James O'Donnell, of Ballyboe**, would stand trial, at the Special Commission which opened in Clonmel, on 21 September 1848, accused of high treason.*

P100

*O'Mahony's description, in the Hue and Cry, as a gentleman indicates a higher social standing than that of the men described as farmers. With a warrant against him, O'Mahony could not attend to his harvest that August. In a report*



*dated 21 August 1848, R.D. Coulson, R.M. at Carrick, wrote - 'Everything quiet - the country people are now cutting the crops of those against whom warrants have been issued and Q saving them for them. They did so for Mr. O'Donnell and propose doing so tomorrow or the next day for Mr. O'Mahony'.*

While James was held, neighbours collected his harvest for him in solidarity.<sup>191</sup>

A Special commission was held in Clonmel on 21st September, to try cases of "High Treason".<sup>192 193</sup> One item on the calendar was:

*Suspected of high treason -- John B . Russell ' James-Purcell , \_Edward Smith, James O'Donnell , Arthur O'Ryan , and Francis O'Ryan.*

Meagher and others were convicted of High treason.

The Waterford Mail of November 11, 1848 reported that

*An order has been made by the Privy Council to admit to bail the following political prisoners, now confined in Clonmel jail: John Russell, James O'Donnell, Anthony O'Ryan, and Thomas Parker O'Flanagan. They will be liberated on their giving the required bail.*

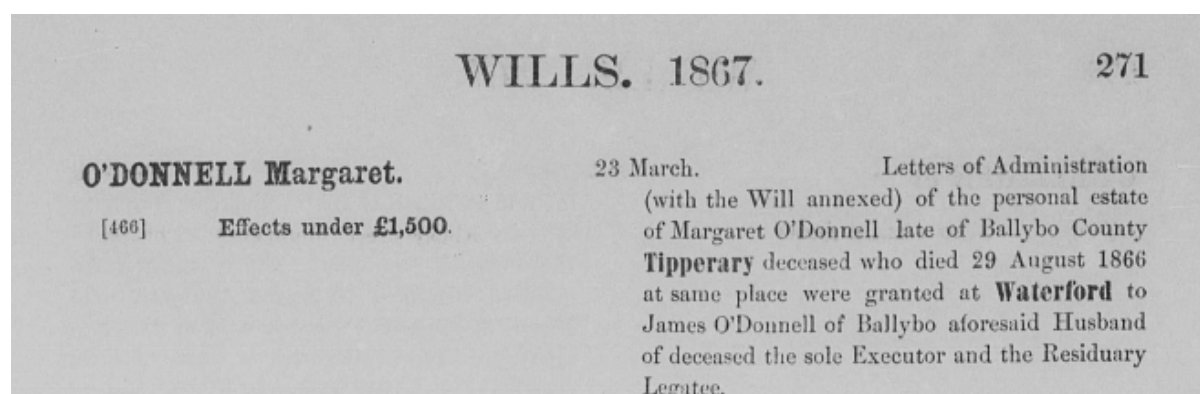
And later in the same paper:

*Four political prisoners were admitted to bail on Wednesday on the Lord Lieutenant's order: O'Donnell, Ballybo; John Russell, Clonmel, and a Mr Mahoney. They were discharged from custody on entering into recognizances to keep the peace.*

My guess is that the charges against James and those arrested with him were dropped. In any case, he returned to Ballyboe and farming.

**James** married twice. His first marriage, just months before his arrest, was to **Margaret O'Neill** on the 23<sup>rd</sup> May, 1848.<sup>194 195</sup> She was daughter of the late John O'Neill, Esq. They married in Carrick-on-Suir. The two witnesses were O'Neils, which makes sense as James' parents and brother were dead at that point.

**Margaret** died 29<sup>th</sup> August, 1866.<sup>196</sup> There are no signs of children in this marriage.



<sup>191</sup> THJ98, p100.

<sup>192</sup> Northern Star, 30th September, 1848.

[https://ncse.ac.uk/periodicals/ns/issues/ns3\\_30091848/page/1/articles/ar00109/](https://ncse.ac.uk/periodicals/ns/issues/ns3_30091848/page/1/articles/ar00109/)

<sup>193</sup> [https://mural.maynoothuniversity.ie/6802/1/Brian\\_Sayers\\_OCR.pdf](https://mural.maynoothuniversity.ie/6802/1/Brian_Sayers_OCR.pdf)

<sup>194</sup> <https://www.findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=IRE%2FPRS%2FMAR%2F1059115%2F1>

<sup>195</sup> <http://www.irelandoldnews.com/Cavan/1848/JUN.html>

<sup>196</sup>

<https://search.findmypast.ie/record?id=ire%2foriginalwillregisters%2f007604272%2f00707&parentid=ire%2forig%2fwill%2freg%2f22880>

It is Known that Margaret O'Donnell  
 (wife of James O'Donnell) late of Ballybe in the County of Tipperary died on the 22  
 twenty ninth day of August 1866 at Ballybe aforesaid having at the time of her  
 death a good place of abode at Ballybe aforesaid within the District of Waterford  
 and having during her coverture with the said James O'Donnell by virtue of certain  
 powers and authorities given to and vested in her by a certain Indenture of Settle-  
 ment bearing date the twenty third day of May 1848 and of all other powers and  
 authorities her enabling made and executed her last Will and Testament bearing  
 date the 3<sup>d</sup> day of February 1865 and thereof appointed her said husband the said  
 James O'Donnell sole executor and that the said James O'Donnell as the lawful &  
 husband of the said deceased is the sole person entitled to her personal estate and  
 effects over which she had no disposing power and concerning which she is dead  
 intestate And be it also Known that on the twenty third day of March 1867  
 Letters of Administration (with the said Will annexed) of all and singular the &  
 personal estate and effects of the said deceased were granted and committed

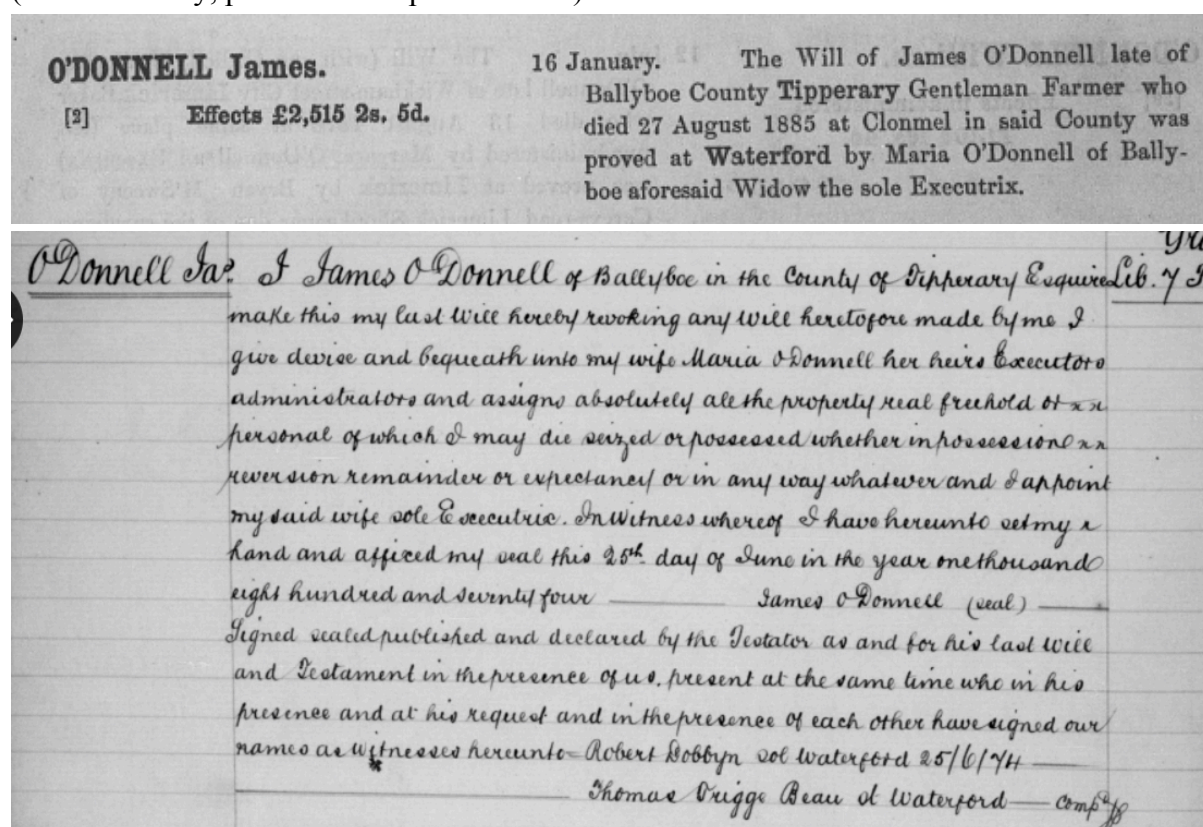
Ms. O'Donnell In the Name of God Amen This is the last Will and Testament of me  
 Margaret O'Donnell wife of James O'Donnell of Ballybe in the County of  
 Tipperary Esquire whereto I am under the trusts of my marriage settlement entitled  
 for my life to the interest dividends or annual proceeds of sixteen National Bank  
 shares and have the power of disposing by my Will of that corpus or capital of  
 said shares Now I hereby in pursuance of the power and authority contained in  
 said settlement and in pursuance of every other power and authority enabling me  
 in this behalf give and bequeath the said sixteen shares and all monies (if any) &  
 which may be due thereon respectively at the time of my decease for interest dividends  
 bonuses or upon any other account whatsoever unto my said husband James O'  
 Donnell his executors or administrators for his and their absolute use and benefit  
 Subject to the payment of the following legacies and sums of money viz fifty pounds  
 for the expences of my interment; fifty pounds for having high and low masses offered  
 up for the repose of my soul; ten pounds to the Abbot at the time of my decease of the  
 Monast. of Mount Mellary in the County of Waterford; ten pounds to the Superior<sup>ess</sup>  
 for the time being at the time of my decease of the sisters of Charity in the town of  
 Kilmal; five pounds to the President for the time being at the time of my decease of the  
 society of Saint Vincent de Paul in Kilmal aforesaid and five pounds to the President  
 of the same society in the town of Carricken sur; five pounds to the superior for the time  
 being at the time of my decease of the Christian Brothers in Kilmal and five pounds

James remarried soon after, to **Maria Asper**, on the 29<sup>th</sup> April, 1869.<sup>197</sup> Maria also was a widow, Asper was her previous husband's name. Her birth name was Cullinan, she was the daughter of Alexander Cullinan, a physician. She had been living in Ballyknockane in Tipperary before the marriage. The marriage registry identifies James' father as Cornelius O'Donnell, a farmer. Another James O'Donnell was witness (perhaps a cousin).

The Cork Examiner (3<sup>rd</sup> May, 1869) had an entry:

*...by the Rev. Mr Mooney, P.P., Maria, relict of the late Walter Asper, Esq., of Ballyknockin, to James O'Donnell, Esq., of Ballyboe, county Tipperary.*

**James** died 27<sup>th</sup> August, 1885, leaving everything to Maria.<sup>198</sup> No sign of children in this family. Soon after the inheritance was resolved in her favour, she put the estate up for auction (more correctly, put the lease up for auction).



The auction was described in a local paper (The auctioneer being an O'Donnell may be just coincidence, as he is one of the main auctioneers in Carrick-on-Suir):<sup>199</sup>

*SALE OF INTEREST IN AN EXTENSIVE FARM. On Saturday Mr. Michael O'Donnell, auctioneer, put up for sale, at Hearne's Hotel, Clonmel, the interest in the extensive farm at Ballyboe, near Kilsheelan, held by the late Mr. James O'Donnell, on which there is a very fine dwellinghouse with extensive offices, suitable for a large holding farmed on the mixed system. The place contains 352 acres, held by lease under Viscount Lismore. The former rent was 410 a year, but his lordship some time before Mr. O'Donnell's demise reduced it to 350 a year. There was a very large attendance of country gentlemen. The auctioneer having announced the terms of the sale, and that all rent and taxes would be paid up to the 1st May, stated that whoever would become the purchaser would*

<sup>197</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/marriage\\_returns/marriages\\_1869/11423/8196096.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/marriage_returns/marriages_1869/11423/8196096.pdf)

<sup>198</sup> WILLS86

<sup>199</sup> <https://www.newspapers.com/newspage/61107241/>



*not be required to pay any rent until next, year, when a half year's gale would be accepted by the landlord, and that the lease would be renewed, if desired, at the reduced rent. The biddings then continued with £600 by Mr. Stoke, and then they went on between that gentleman, Mr. C. O'Donnell, Mr. P. Walsh, of Kilsheelan," and Mr. Michael Boyle, until £1,500 was offered by Mr. C. O'Donnell. The auctioneer, however, announced that there was a reserve bid of £1.850 for the farm, and he adjourned the sale for the present.*

The Waterford News from Waterford, on May 21, 1886 · Page 2:<sup>200</sup>

*IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE IN IRELAND. Chanckbt Division Vice-Chancellor. In the matter of the Estate of JAMES O'DONNELL, Deceased. Between Maria O'Donnell Plaintiff. Catuesink Coosei Defendant. TO BE SOLD, pursuant to an Order of the Chancery Division of the High Court of Justice in Ireland, made in this Action, by M. O'Donnell, Auctioneer, at HEARNE'S HOTEL, CLONMEL, in the County of Tipperary, at One O'Clock, on SATURDAY, 22nd day of MAY, 1886, the following valuable Property, in One Lot: All that and those that part of the Lands of BALLYBOE, containing 352a. 2r. 35p., Statute Measure, or thereabouts, situate in the Barony of Iffa and Offa East and County of Tipperary, held under Lease dated 23rd day of September, 1869, from Viscount Lismore to James O'Donnell, for a term of twenty years, from the 1st day of November, 1863, at the Yearly Rent of 410 16 pounds, but which has been reduced to 350, and for several years paid.*

*PARTICULARS. There is a handsome Residence and extensive Out-Offices, Hay Barn, 4c., on the Lands (suitable for a gentleman farmer), all in excellent repair. The Lands are prime quality Grazing and Meadowing, and are situated about a mile from Kilsheelan Railway Station, on the Waterford and Limerick Railway, and about 44. miles from Clonmel and 8 miles from Carrick-on-Suir, both good market towns, in which monthly fairs are held. The Lands and Premises are in Plaintiff's possession. The Auctioneer's charges will be paid by the estate. PATRICK J. KENNY, Solicitor for Plaintiff, having Carriage of sale, 53, Dame Street, Dublin. M. O'DONNELL, Auctioneer, Clonmel.*

At the auction, Pierce O'Donnell bought the house and installed his son Patrick. There was a reference to Patrick of Ballyboe by 1895.<sup>201</sup> He was shown there in the 1901 Census.<sup>202</sup>

The Timothy Looney papers in the University of Limerick Archives contains correspondences between Looney and Patrick O'Donnell of Ballyboe.<sup>203</sup>

Patrick's grandson Patrick is the current resident.

<sup>200</sup> <https://www.newspapers.com/newspage/61107165/>

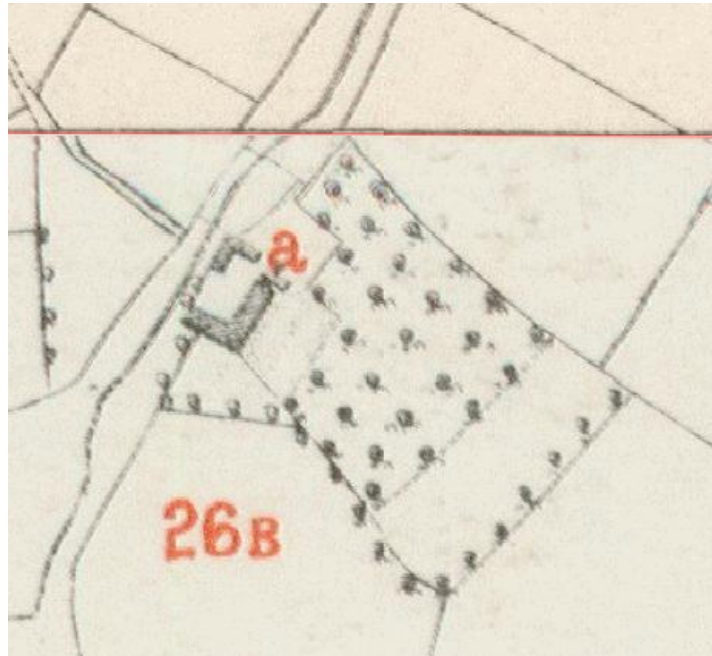
<sup>201</sup> NEWS03

<sup>202</sup> <http://www.census.nationalarchives.ie/pages/1901/Tipperary/Kilsheelan/Ballyboe/1712305/>

<sup>203</sup> [https://specialcollections.ul.ie/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/P43\\_Looney.pdf](https://specialcollections.ul.ie/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/P43_Looney.pdf) See archive P43/356.

## 7 Family of Pierce O'Donnell, born 1781

This section explores the second family of Daddy Michael, from his marriage to Ms Hogan. This family lived in the southernmost of the two farms in Seskin. In the Griffiths survey, it was marked as 26B.



It was held successively by descendants of Daddy Michael from his second marriage, is today held by O'Donnells, currently called Seskin Farm, producer of potatoes and a maker of potato crisps (see <http://www.odonnellscrisps.com/>). The current house was built in 1850 (according to Patrick O'Donnell of the current generation). The farm today is shown below (I think the arrow points at a new farmhouse):



The eldest son of Michael and Mrs Hogan was Pierce. He married **Mary ?Flaherty** (born 1783), and they had 10 children, equally spaced out over a 20-year period.<sup>204</sup> These were (mostly from the 1821 Census):

- **Margaret**, born a.1803.
- **Mary**, born a.1805.
- **Catherine** (Kate), born a.1807. There is a death record for a Catherine Daniel died 1876, aged 69 in Carrick-on-Suir, which would place her born 1807, in agreement with age given by the 1821 Census.
- **Michael**, born a.1809. See more below.
- **Patrick**, born a.1811. See more below.
- **James**, born a.1813. See more below.
- **Ellen** , born a.1815.
- **Alice**, born a.1817.
- **Peirse**, born a.1819. See more below.
- **Brian**, born a.1821. See more below.

The census showed Pierce holding Lot 5, with 150 acres and 8 servants (Note: numbering changed between each census, and is different also in Griffiths).

The CR O'Donnell tree confirms some of these children: Michael, Patrick, James, Bryan, Pierce and four daughters ("4d"). The only difference is it places Bryan before Pierce, and says 4 daughter rather than the 5 evident from the census.

Pierce died 1823.<sup>205</sup>

## 7.1 Michael born 1809

I am not sure what happened to Michael. He was named as the eldest son both in the CR O'Donnell tree, and in the 1821 Census. Yet he seems not to have inherited the farm. There is a Michael O'Donnell connected to a small lot in the Griffiths, which could be him, but in the end, his younger brother Peirse ended up with the farm. It is possible he died young, or was unfit to manage. Alternatively, he may have married into another property, leaving the Seskin one to his brother.

## 7.2 Patrick born in 1811 (Patrick of Grove)

There is a will by "**Patrick O'Donnell of Grove**" in 1862 which refers to his brother **Pierce of Seskin**. I believe this is Patrick born 1811, son of Pierce, with Pierce born 1818 being the brother. The will left the Grove land (82 acres) to Pierce. Patrick's wife was named as **Catherine**.

Patrick's will also names James O'Donnell of Ballyboe as executor, who was Patrick's cousin. On his probate entry it says "Patrick O'Donnell late of Grove and otherwise Burnskill" (elsewhere Byrneskill). This is an important link, as this links to both Pierce and to Michael of Bannixtown. Grove is 2km away from Byrneskill. Note however, Griffiths shows no O'Donnell at Grove. William Barton Esquire is the sole holder, with 219 acres. It is possible he sub-let land after this date.

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<sup>204</sup> 1821 Census for Seskin, Kilsheelan.

<sup>205</sup> Communication from Patrick O'Donnell.

One possibility for Catherine is a marriage entry between Patrick Daniell and **Catherine Walsh** on the 23<sup>rd</sup> February, 1830 in Carrick-on-Suir.<sup>206</sup>

**Patrick** died 20th January, 1869, according to a probate entry.<sup>207</sup> He left the farm holding to his brother Peirce. It seems he did not marry, or if he did, he had no children and his wife predeceased him.

### 7.3 James born 1813

There is a death record for a James O'Donnell of Seskin, bachelor, died 3<sup>rd</sup> April, 1892 aged 81. This is probably the James son of Pierce, born c.1813. He was shown as a farmer, so probably worked on his brother's farm. Present at death was James O'Donnell, nephew, probably Pierce's son James, who took on the Lower Seskin farm.

146	1892 3rd April Seskin Kilsheelan Co. Tipperary	James O'Donnell	M	Bachelor	81	General debility, 14 year declining no record at	James O'Donnell Nephew Present at death Seskin	Eleventh April 1892	Thos. N. White Registrar.
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Another possibility is that James was the James O'Donnell who was master of the Gurteen Asylum, which was somewhere in Kilsheelan. He was born a.1812.<sup>208</sup> He was son of **Pierce O'Donnell**, a farmer. He married someone, but she died.<sup>209</sup> At the time of his second marriage (1868), he was an officer at the Gurteen Asylum. By the time of his death 12 years later, he was master of the asylum.

On the 22<sup>nd</sup> October, 1868 (aged 56), James married his second wife **Alice Ryan**, a spinster of ?Filmore.<sup>210</sup> She was daughter of John Ryan, a mason. She was born a.1821.<sup>211</sup>

They had at least one child:

- **John**, born 6<sup>th</sup> July, 1875,<sup>212</sup> baptised 8<sup>th</sup> July, 1875.<sup>213</sup> Residence given as Gurteen Asylum.

**James** died on the 9<sup>th</sup> November, 1878, aged 66.<sup>214</sup> His residence was given as the Asylum, so he must have lived on the grounds. He was the Master of the Asylum at that point.

It appears that **Alice** moved to Woodlands, Kilcash after his death, as her death record and probate entry show this residence.

**Alice** died on the 9<sup>th</sup> December, 1888.<sup>215</sup> <sup>216</sup> She had an estate worth 1060 pounds. It appears they had no children, as she left everything to her brother William. The death record shows she was a farmer (it is possible that James had the farm as well as being an officer in the Asylum). A nephew Thomas Hanly was present at death.

No sign of John son of James and Alice.

<sup>206</sup> <https://www.findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=IRE/PRS/MAR/0988403/1>

<sup>207</sup> [http://www.willcalendars.nationalarchives.ie/reels/cwa/005014888/005014888\\_00521.pdf](http://www.willcalendars.nationalarchives.ie/reels/cwa/005014888/005014888_00521.pdf)

<sup>208</sup> From age at death.

<sup>209</sup> He was a widower at his second marriage.

<sup>210</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/marriage\\_returns/marriages\\_1868/11479/8219420.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/marriage_returns/marriages_1868/11479/8219420.pdf)

<sup>211</sup> From age at death.

<sup>212</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth\\_returns/births\\_1875/03088/2132010.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth_returns/births_1875/03088/2132010.pdf)

<sup>213</sup> <https://www.findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=IRE/PRS/BAP/6261124>

<sup>214</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/deaths\\_returns/deaths\\_1878/020491/7190668.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/deaths_returns/deaths_1878/020491/7190668.pdf)

<sup>215</sup> [http://www.willcalendars.nationalarchives.ie/reels/cwa/005014904/005014904\\_00340.pdf](http://www.willcalendars.nationalarchives.ie/reels/cwa/005014904/005014904_00340.pdf)

<sup>216</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/deaths\\_returns/deaths\\_1888/06157/4759634.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/deaths_returns/deaths_1888/06157/4759634.pdf)



## 7.4 Brian born 1821

Pierce's youngest son, **Brian**, was born 1821 (he was "under 1" in the 1821 Census, although O'Neil's *Golden Vale* places him born 1822). There is evidence that he became a catholic priest, as his nephew's baptism certificate (Pierce's son Michael, born 1851) lists a Rev. Brien O'Donnell as the sponsor, which is most likely Brian born 1821. O'Neil's *Golden Vale* also says he became a priest.

O'Neil also says **Brian** died 1862.

## 7.5 Family of Pierce (born a.1819)

**Pierce son of Pierce** was born a.1819. He married **Joanna Byrne** on the 20th June, 1850.<sup>217</sup> She was born 1826.<sup>218</sup> The marriage took place in Fethard Parish, and Joanna is elsewhere listed as being born in Carrigbawn, near Fethard. In other contexts, she is associated with Byrneskill (e.g., in the birth data of their first son), which is two kilometres east of Carrigbawn. The WAGESBOOK also refers to their son retiring to Byrne's Kiln (I assume an alternative to Byrneskill) when he passed on his Bannixtown farm to his son. All of this suggests that Joanna came to her marriage with a farm or house in or near Byrneskill.

A witness to the wedding was William Byrne, which is also the name of a landholder in adjacent Butler's Land, holding 67 acres and no house. This may have been her father. Note however that Byrneskill is shown in the 1854 Griffiths Evaluation as a single estate, with house and offices, and 137 acres of land, held by Timothy Halloran, so I am not clear what is going on here. By the 1901 Census, no O'Donnell is shown living in Byrneskill.

By the birth of their son James in 1865, their address is again listed as Seskin. By the 1901 Census, this son had inherited the Lower Seskin farm, with mother Johanna resident.

Pierce was also left a farm in Grove by his brother Patrick, who died in 1862. It is not clear what he did with it. The 1901 Census does not show any O'Donnells in Grove.

Together Pierce and Joanna had seven children:<sup>219</sup>

- **Michael**, baptised 4th August, 1851.<sup>220</sup> This was in Fethard parish, which contains Byrneskill. Other records mention he was born at Byrneskill,<sup>221</sup> reinforcing the idea that Pierce and Johanna were farming there at that time. His sponsors are Reverend Brien O'Donnell (probably his uncle) and Mary Byrne. Michael married into a farm at Bannixtown, and his farm is covered in more detail below.
- **William**, baptised 2<sup>nd</sup> June, 1853.<sup>222</sup> Became a priest in Waterford and Cahir. See more below.
- **Pierce**, baptised 17th September, 1855.<sup>223</sup> Became a priest in South Dublin. See more below.
- **Bryan**, baptised 25 March, 1857.<sup>224</sup>
- **Catherine**, baptised 7th April, 1859.<sup>225</sup> She died aged 17, on the 28<sup>th</sup> April, 1876.<sup>226</sup> She died of Phthisis (Tuberculosis).

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<sup>217</sup> <https://www.findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=IRE/PRS/MAR/0078691/1>

<sup>218</sup> Her birth year determined from the 1901 Census, when she was living with her son James.

<sup>219</sup> WAGESBOOK.

<sup>220</sup> <https://www.findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=IRE/PRS/BAP/0412490>

<sup>221</sup> The MyHeritage entry for Pierce O'Donnell: [https://www.myheritage.com/names/pierce\\_o'donnell](https://www.myheritage.com/names/pierce_o'donnell)

<sup>222</sup> <https://www.findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=IRE/PRS/BAP/4408612>

<sup>223</sup> <https://www.findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=IRE/PRS/BAP/4768499>

<sup>224</sup> <https://www.findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=IRE/PRS/BAP/5205207>

<sup>225</sup> <https://www.findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=IRE/PRS/BAP/5205272>

<sup>226</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/deaths\\_returns/deaths\\_1876/020583/7221885.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/deaths_returns/deaths_1876/020583/7221885.pdf)

- **Patrick**, baptised 15th May, 1862.<sup>227</sup> He later took over the Ballyboe farm previously held by a different branch of this O'Donnell family. See below.
- **James**, born 16<sup>th</sup> September, 1864,<sup>228</sup> baptised 18th September, 1864.<sup>229</sup> He later held the Lower Seskin farm, with his mother Johanna living with him. See below.

The 1889 *Basset's Directory of Tipperary* names two major Farmers/Residents in Kilsheelan, one of which was Pierce O'Donnell of Seskin. This would be Pierce born 1818. This list generally only lists major figures, esquires and large landholders.

There was a newspaper report in the Clonmel Chronicle on 3<sup>rd</sup> August, 1881 mentioning Pierce of Seskin:

*CARETAKER. – Mr. Pierce O'Donnell obtained a decree for possession against a caretaker, whom he allowed into possession at Seskin, at 1d. per week, and to whom Mr. O'Donnell otherwise acted most kindly, and was recompensed by abusive language when he asked possession.*

This may have been for a smaller house within Seskin.

Of the 7 children, two died young (Catherine at 17 and Bryan at 24), two became priests (William and Pierce). The remaining three, Michael, Patrick and James all married and took on different farms. More information below.

**Pierce the father** died 20th April, 1895, aged 75.<sup>230</sup> His son James was present at the death.

The Waterford Standard for 27<sup>th</sup> April had the following entry:

*Interment of Mr Pierce O'Donnell of Seskin*

*On Monday the funeral took place of the late Mr Pierce O'Donnell, Seskin, whose death occurred on Saturday last. The remains of the much-respected and lamented deceased were removed for interment in the family burial place attached to Gammonsfield church, the coffin being covered with very many beautiful wreaths. There was a large and representative attendance at the funeral. The chief mourners were – Rev. W.B. O'Donnell, Adm. Waterford Cathedral; Rev P O'Donnell, Dublin diocese; Messrs Michael O'Donnell, JP, Bannoxtown; Patrick O'Donnell, Ballyboe and James O'Donnell, Seskin (sons); Cornelius O'Donnell, Seskin; Wm Butler, Carrick; Wm Byrne, Carrigbawn, Patrick Flaherty, Mullinarinky; James Flaherty, Killusty Castle; James Flaherty, Jun, do; rev F Flaherty (Hon Col) Army Chaplain, and Dr Flaherty; Messrs Patrick Stokes, sen, Poulakerry; Patrick Stokes, jun, Kilmore; Wm Stokes and Thomas Stokes (cousins); Patrick Walsh, Kilsheelan; Pierce O'Donnell, Grange. Arrived at Gammonsfield, the remains were received by Rev Dr Delaney P.P. and Rev N Power, C.C., and placed on a cataique in the nave. Office and High Mass were then celebrated.*

This report mentions the two sons who became priests, the other three surviving sons, each on their respective farms (Bannixtown, Ballyboe and Seskin). It also mentions Cornelius of Seskin, probably the holder of the Upper Seskin farm, descended from the first wife of Daddy Micil.

In the 1901 Census, **Johanna** was shown as living with her son James in Lower Seskin. She died 14<sup>th</sup> December, 1902, aged 77, from influenza.<sup>231</sup> Son James was present at death.

<sup>227</sup> <https://www.findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=IRE/PRS/BAP/4729676>

<sup>228</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth\\_returns/births\\_1864/03603/2328868.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth_returns/births_1864/03603/2328868.pdf)

<sup>229</sup> <https://www.findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=IRE/PRS/BAP/6098371>

<sup>230</sup> WAGESBOOK and confirmed by

[https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/deaths\\_returns/deaths\\_1895/05928/4683704.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/deaths_returns/deaths_1895/05928/4683704.pdf)

<sup>231</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/deaths\\_returns/deaths\\_1902/05676/4599384.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/deaths_returns/deaths_1902/05676/4599384.pdf)



Note: it was not immediately obvious that the Pierce involved in the WAGESBOOK was the son of Pierce. It may have been the Pierce son of Michael, born c.1811. However, the death record of Pierce in 1895 shows him born 1819, and links him to the Michael of the WAGESBOOK. The WAGESBOOK also suggests Pierce was the grandson of Daddy Michael, while Pierce son of Michael was a great-grandson.

#### 7.5.1 Michael born 1851 son of Pierce

**Michael** was born on 2nd August 1851, in Byrneskill.<sup>232</sup> I assume this was his mother's family house (Joanna nee Byrne) and she went to her parent's farm to be with her mother while giving birth. I have seen it reported that the current Lower Seskin house was built circa 1850, and perhaps the house was not prepared for childbirth at that point.

Michael married **Maria Josephine Shea** on the 28<sup>th</sup> January, 1880.<sup>233, 234</sup> Maria was born 1855 or 1856,<sup>235</sup> the daughter of John Shea of Bannixtown, in Cloneen Parish, near Fethard. Soon after, Michael and Maria took over John Shea's Bannixtown farm. From the web:

*The book Wages of a Fethard Farmer offers a transcription of a wage-book from this Bannixtown farm managed by Michael. The introduction, by Ó Gráda, offers some facts about Michael: that, while born in Lower Seskin, he married the daughter of a farming estate, Bannixtown, and took over the estate. His wife was Maria Josephine Shea, daughter of John Shea of Bannixtown.*

Michael is listed as a magistrate and farmer in the 1901 census. Elsewhere, he is said to have been a Justice of the Peace and Secretary to Tipperary County Council.<sup>236</sup> Their residence in Bannixtown is in various places referred to as Bannixtown House, suggesting it was a manor house. The WAGESBOOK says:

*The lands acquired by O'Donnell on marrying Maria Shea totalled over 200 acres in the townlands of Tober and Bannixtown. ... The 1901 census describes his home at Bannixtown as containing ten rooms and 16 outhouses and farm steadings. By 1911 Bannixtown House had 14 rooms, and Michael O'Donnell was head of a ten person household, which included four live-in servants.*

The WAGESBOOK adds of Michael:

*He hunted with the Waterford and Tipperary Hounds and was a keen supporter of the Clonmel Horse Show. "A well-known and popular figure in the Fethard district", O'Donnell had served as a local magistrate and had also been secretary of Tipperary South Riding County Council for several years. In the latter position "he commanded the confidence and respect not only of these who were brought immediately in contact with him but the ratepayers in general". According to his obituary in the Clonmell Nationalist (14 January 1933), he was connected with the leading farming families of Counties Tipperary and Kilkenny".*

*Such evidence bespeaks wealth and respectability. It also suggests that Michael O'Donnell typified that stratum of strong Catholic farming families that had never quite lost their influence or self-respect before Catholic Emancipation, and whose power was on the rise in the post-Famine decades. Families like the*

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<sup>232</sup> [https://www.myheritage.com/names/maria\\_shee](https://www.myheritage.com/names/maria_shee)

<sup>233</sup> The 1911 Census shows them married 31 years.

<sup>234</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/marriage\\_returns/marriages\\_1880/11030/8033427.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/marriage_returns/marriages_1880/11030/8033427.pdf)

<sup>235</sup> From 1901 Census.

<sup>236</sup> [http://www.corkpastandpresent.ie/genealogy/pikescontemporarybiographies1911/contemporarybiographieso-y/biographies\\_hodges\\_complete\\_272\\_276.pdf](http://www.corkpastandpresent.ie/genealogy/pikescontemporarybiographies1911/contemporarybiographieso-y/biographies_hodges_complete_272_276.pdf)

*O'Donnells of Seskin formed a true "hidden Ireland", hitherto largely ignored by historians.*

It adds about families like the Seskin family:

*Like other old Catholic and Gaelic farming families, the O'Donnells and Sheas continued to prosper in a quiet way as tenants of considerable landholdings. Avoiding politics and conspicuous consumption, and largely excluded from the professions, they concentrated on enlarging their holdings, on accumulating dowries for their daughters, and on educating their sons. They married their own kin, valued family traditions, and were slow to let go of the Irish language. Breeding and racing horses were abiding interests. With the gradual democratization of politics in the nineteenth century, these families played leading roles in a succession of parliamentary-nationalist movements.*

Michael was mentioned in the 1889 Basset's Directory as a Farmer/Resident of Bannixtown, Fethard.

Michael and Maria had several children:

- **Kathleen Mary**, born 9<sup>th</sup> November, 1880.<sup>237</sup> Kathleen was still listed as unmarried in the 1911 census, aged 30, but married Austin Rice soon after, in 1913.
- **John Thomas**, born 28<sup>th</sup> February, 1882.<sup>238</sup> Had died or left home by the 1901 census.
- **Maria Agnes**, born 20<sup>th</sup> May, 1883.<sup>239</sup> She had left home by the 1901 Census.
- **Pierce**, born 3<sup>rd</sup> September, 1884.<sup>240</sup> He was known as Percy, and the eldest son. He fought in the First World War and died in Belgium from head injuries.
- **William Bryan**, (known as Bryan), born 6<sup>th</sup> February, 1888.<sup>241</sup> After Pierce's passing, he was the eldest son and thus inherited the farm.
- **Maria Josephine** (elsewhere Josephine), born 2<sup>nd</sup> February, 1891.<sup>242</sup>
- **Amelia (Emily)**, born 25<sup>th</sup> November, 1892.<sup>243</sup> She died 5 months later on the 9<sup>th</sup> May, 1893 (name given as Emily).<sup>244</sup>

The WAGESBOOK says that Michael and Maria had a total of seven children between November 1880 and November 1892, which matches this list. The 1911 census said that 2 of these 7 died before 1911. **Amelia** was one, the other was probably **John Thomas**. As eldest child, he should have inherited, but there are no records for him after birth.

Note also the practice of double-naming the children. This seems to have come from Maria Josephine's side, as the Seskin side did not do it.

#### **1901 Census: house 1 in Bannixtown (Cloneen, Tipperary)<sup>245</sup>**

- O'Donnell, Michael, 49, Head of Family, Magistrate and Farmer
- O'Donnell, Maria I, 45, Wife
- O'Donnell, Kathleen, 20, Daughter
- O'Donnell, Percy, 15, Son
- O'Donnell, Bryan W, 12, Son

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<sup>237</sup> <https://www.findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=IRE/PRS/BAP/0415881>

<sup>238</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth\\_returns/births\\_1882/02792/2025053.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth_returns/births_1882/02792/2025053.pdf)

<sup>239</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth\\_returns/births\\_1883/02735/2005493.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth_returns/births_1883/02735/2005493.pdf)

<sup>240</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth\\_returns/births\\_1884/02678/1986880.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth_returns/births_1884/02678/1986880.pdf)

<sup>241</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth\\_returns/births\\_1888/02525/1935884.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth_returns/births_1888/02525/1935884.pdf)

<sup>242</sup> From the 1901 Census. Also

[https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth\\_returns/births\\_1891/02398/1894432.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth_returns/births_1891/02398/1894432.pdf)

<sup>243</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth\\_returns/births\\_1892/02324/1870479.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth_returns/births_1892/02324/1870479.pdf)

<sup>244</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/deaths\\_returns/deaths\\_1893/06001/4707563.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/deaths_returns/deaths_1893/06001/4707563.pdf)

<sup>245</sup> <http://www.census.nationalarchives.ie/pages/1901/Tipperary/Cloneen/Bannixtown/1696529/>

- O'Donnell, Josephine, 10, Daughter
- Kearney, Bridget, 15, Servant

#### 1911 Census: house 4 in Bannixtown (Cloneen, Tipperary)<sup>246</sup>

- O'Donnell, Michael, 59, Head of Family, J.P. Co. Secretary, farmer.
- O'Donnell, Maria Josephine, 56, Wife
- O'Donnell, Kathleen Mary, 30, Daughter
- O'Donnell, Pierce, 26, Son
- O'Donnell, William Bryan, 23, Son
- O'Donnell, Maria Josephine, 19, Daughter
- Williams, Ellen, 17, Servant
- Williams, William, 67, Servant
- Kane, Patrick, 45, Servant
- Tobin, Thomas, 26, Servant

The census says they had had 7 children of whom 5 survived to 1911.

The WAGESBOOK says that **Mary** nee Shea died in 1902. However, the 1911 Census shows her alive and well in Bannixtown. Also, there is a death record for Mary O'Donnell who died on the 21<sup>st</sup> May, 1929, in Byrneskiln. She was listed as married, wife of farmer. Her daughter, Josy O'Donnell (Maria Josephine) of Byrneskiln was present at death. This suggests that Maria Josephine did not marry (or was at least not married by the age of 38).

Michael died on the 11<sup>th</sup> January, 1933, aged 83.<sup>247</sup> His son Bryan was present-at-death, his residence given as Bannoxtown (elsewhere Bannixtown), the main farm Michael held before retirement (see below).

(1).	(2).	(3).	(4).	(5).	(6).	(7).	(8).	(9).
1933	Michael	male	Widower	83yrs	Farmer	Malignant prostatic Gland failure Certified	Bryan O'Donnell Bannoxtown Present at death.	19

##### 7.5.1.1 Kathleen daughter of Michael

As for **Kathleen** born 1880, she married **Austin Rice** on the 18<sup>th</sup> June, 1913.<sup>248</sup>

According to the *Skehan Papers*, vol. 44., Austin was born at Rath-any on the 24<sup>th</sup> August, 1873, son of Richard Rice, a farmer, and Margaret Hayden, of Fermoy, Cork.<sup>249</sup> <sup>250</sup> He initially lived in St. Johnstown, but his aunt, Betty Hayden, left him an estate in Lismortagh (Lismortagh House), and the associated farm, to the north of Fethard, 15 km from Bannixtown. He was living there at the time of marriage, his occupation given as farmer.

Note a history of O'Donnells of this family marrying Rices. Her sister Mary Agnes married a Richard Rice 5 years earlier, and her uncle Patrick married Elizabeth Rice, sister to this Richard Rice. I assume Patrick's joining of the families in 1892 put them into frequent contact, so that Mary Agnes and Kate saw them often socially.

<sup>246</sup> <http://www.census.nationalarchives.ie/pages/1911/Tipperary/Cloneen/Bannixtown/841853/>

<sup>247</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/deaths\\_returns/deaths\\_1933/04865/4315333.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/deaths_returns/deaths_1933/04865/4315333.pdf)

<sup>248</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/marriage\\_returns/marriages\\_1913/09892/5594239.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/marriage_returns/marriages_1913/09892/5594239.pdf)

<sup>249</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth\\_returns/births\\_1873/03181/2166849.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth_returns/births_1873/03181/2166849.pdf)

<sup>250</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth\\_returns/births\\_1873/03181/2166849.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth_returns/births_1873/03181/2166849.pdf)

The wedding was performed by Michael's brother Father **William O'Donnell**, Parish priest of Clonmel. A witness, Jossie O'Donnell, would be Kathleen's sister, Josephine.

The birth records below showed that Austin and Kate lived and farmed on Austin's Lismortagh farm. A group photo from here in c.1920 is available in the NLI, commissioned by Mrs Rice, who may be Kate, or Austin's mother.<sup>251</sup>

Kate and Austin had at least three children:

- **Margaret Mary Rice**, born 28<sup>th</sup> June, 1914.<sup>252</sup> May have been called Mabel.<sup>253</sup> She married Michael Mulcahy on the 30<sup>th</sup> October, 1935.<sup>254</sup> He was a farmer of Drumdeel, Fethard, son of John Mulcahy, a farmer. Witnesses were Michael Rice and Evelyn Rice (Margaret's sister). They had at least one child.
  - **Alice Mulcahy**, born 23<sup>rd</sup> November, 1836.<sup>255</sup>
- **Richard Joseph Rice**, born 2<sup>nd</sup> May, 1916.<sup>256</sup>
- **Eveline Mary Austin**, born 9<sup>th</sup> June, 1918.<sup>257</sup> Sometimes called Evelyn. She married a Mr Hackett, and died on the 13<sup>th</sup> October, 2008, aged 90.<sup>258</sup>

**Kathleen** died 29<sup>th</sup> July, 1952.<sup>259</sup> <sup>260</sup>

**Austin** died on the 28<sup>th</sup> September, 1953, in Cashel Hospital.<sup>261</sup>

There is more information on this family in the Skehan Papers, vol. 44, but I did not take a copy of the next page.

#### *7.5.1.2 Mary Agnes daughter of Michael*

Regarding **Maria Agnes** born 1883, she married **Richard J. Rice** a farmer of Prohurst, Charleville, Co. Cork, on the 18<sup>th</sup> November, 1908.<sup>262</sup> Richard's father was listed as John Rice, a Land Sub-commissioner. In other contexts, he was listed as a full Land Commissioner. Note also that Richard's sister, Elizabeth, married Maria Agnes' uncle Patrick O'Donnell. See below.

**Mary Agnes** was listed as of Bannixtown, Fethard, Co. Tipperary, daughter of Michael O'Donnell, a farmer. One witness was Kathleen O'Donnell, no doubt the sister of Mary Agnes. Also, the priest who married them was William O'Donnell, the uncle (Michael's brother).

More details on Richard Rice are given in a book:<sup>263</sup>

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<sup>251</sup> <http://catalogue.nli.ie/Record/vtls000687537>

<sup>252</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth\\_returns/births\\_1914/01402/1576588.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth_returns/births_1914/01402/1576588.pdf)

<sup>253</sup> Skehan Papers.

<sup>254</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/marriage\\_returns/marriages\\_1935/08951/5240066.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/marriage_returns/marriages_1935/08951/5240066.pdf)

<sup>255</sup> Skehan Papers, vol. 44.

<sup>256</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth\\_returns/births\\_1916/01343/1554306.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth_returns/births_1916/01343/1554306.pdf)

<sup>257</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth\\_returns/births\\_1918/01279/1530316.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth_returns/births_1918/01279/1530316.pdf)

<sup>258</sup> <https://rip.ie/death-notice/evelyn-hackett-thurles-tipperary/56622>

<sup>259</sup> Skehan Papers, vol. 44.

<sup>260</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/deaths\\_returns/deaths\\_1952/04481/4175791.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/deaths_returns/deaths_1952/04481/4175791.pdf)

<sup>261</sup> Skehan Papers, vol. 44.

<sup>262</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/marriage\\_returns/marriages\\_1908/10075/5664952.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/marriage_returns/marriages_1908/10075/5664952.pdf)

<sup>263</sup> [http://www.corkpastandpresent.ie/genealogy/pikescontemporarybiographies1911/contemporarybiographieso-y/biographies\\_hodges\\_complete\\_272\\_276.pdf](http://www.corkpastandpresent.ie/genealogy/pikescontemporarybiographies1911/contemporarybiographieso-y/biographies_hodges_complete_272_276.pdf)



Mr. R. J. Rice.

**Rice.**—RICHARD JOSEPH RICE, Prohurst, Charleville, co. Cork; son of the late John Rice, who was for twenty-five years a Land Commissioner; born in co. Waterford, in 1868; educated at Blackrock College, Dublin. Farmer and land-owner; hunts with the Duhallow Hounds. Married, in 1908, Mary, daughter of Michael O'Donnell, J.P., Secretary to the Tipperary County Council, and has issue one son and one daughter.

This shows that Richard Rice and Mary Agnes had two children by that time. From birth records, these were:

- **Michael Patrick Joseph Rice**, born 16<sup>th</sup> April, 1916, residence given as Derryluskin, near Fethard.<sup>264</sup>
- **Teresa Elizabeth Rice**, born 1<sup>st</sup> September, 1917, residence given as Derryluskin.<sup>265</sup>

Regarding Mr Rice, there is a historical note that gives some background to his lifestyle:<sup>266</sup>

*There was, however, a revival of cricket in Fethard in the 1930s led by Mr Rice of Derryluskin. The cricket pitch was on the lawn of Derryluskin House. Some of the players of that period were, Mr Rice, Dick Rice, John and David O'Brien, Dick McCarthy and A.W. Newport.*

This supports the idea that Richard and Mary Agnes lived in a large estate house “Derryluskin House”. It seems that the Mr Rice here is Richard Rice’s father, John (as Dick Rice is also mentioned, Dick being short for Richard. Note that Richard Rice had one son, Michael).

Another story, which may be about Richard, or his father:

*We also have the following rather amusing story from two sources of the thirties period. The late Mick Hayes, Coolmoynes, a classy defender of Coolmoynes hurling teams of that time, was invited by Mr Rice to try his hand at cricket. Mick must have made a fair hand of the game as he was asked to play on a Fethard team against Cashel. Mick replied, “I’m sorry to have to disappoint you Mr Rice, but the fact is, if word got around I had appeared dressed in cricket flannels, I could never show my face in Coolmoynes again!”*

Another note: “Dick Rice of Derryluskin” who “flew 38 bombing missions over Germany with the RAF Bomber Command and returned safely”.<sup>267</sup>

There is some discussion in Chapter 16 of a book “Thomas Kent: 16 Lives”, about a Richard Rice, and brother Austin Rice, who were evicted from their farm in 1887,<sup>268</sup> in Coole Upper in Cork (about 12 km from Kilworth). If this is him, then that would explain the move from Cork to Tipperary. Another book says:<sup>269</sup>

<sup>264</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth\\_returns/births\\_1916/01335/1551132.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth_returns/births_1916/01335/1551132.pdf)

<sup>265</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth\\_returns/births\\_1917/01303/1539055.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth_returns/births_1917/01303/1539055.pdf)

<sup>266</sup> [https://fethard.com/news\\_archive/cnews.030808.html](https://fethard.com/news_archive/cnews.030808.html)

<sup>267</sup> <http://fethard.com/nationalist/2004/20040605.html>

<sup>268</sup> <https://www.revolvy.com/page/Kent-family-of-Bawnard>

<sup>269</sup> <https://castlelyonparish.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/The-Kents-of-Bawnard-by-Brendan-Hoare.pdf>



*... tensions were rising back home in Ireland between landlords and their tenants, resulting in the Land War. ... Richard Rice was evicted from his farm at Coole Upper. The whole estate was put up for sale by the landlord Peard and Richard Rice, as well as his sister Mary Kent, were amongst the farmers who wished to purchase their respective farms. At a meeting of the local branch of the Land League in Coolagown churchyard on 13 June 1889, all of the tenant farmers agreed that they would not purchase their respective holdings until Richard Rice was restored to his farm. Richard Rice negotiated with Peard but they failed to reach an agreement. A month later, the farm was sold to Orr McCausland and it was subsequently managed by a Scotsman named Robert Brown.*

*This resulted in a boycott of Brown and the Kents were amongst the main organisers of this boycott. Intimidation began at a fair in Fermoy, on 20 June 1889, when an unsuccessful attempt was made to prevent the sale of McCausland's pigs. In the following two days, Brown's fences at Towermore were knocked down and on 28 July Brown was assaulted at Coolagown Cross on his way home from a religious service in Fermoy. On the same day, the Castlelyons and Coolagown Branch of the Irish National League called a special meeting for the people to "show by their presence that they do not approve of land-grabbing, and that the land grabbers will have to glut their greed elsewhere than in Coole", as advertised by a public placard. It is reported that this meeting was attended by 200-300 members and was addressed by both Edmond Kent and Richard Rice, as well as by local priests. As the organisers intensified their boycott of Brown, his employees quit working for him and were given financial support from National League funds. As a result, Brown found it very difficult to buy and sell livestock, as well as having difficulty in buying food and provisions in Fermoy. As a result, Brown had to be supplied by the military in Fermoy.*

#### 7.5.1.3 *Pierce born 1884 son of Michael*

**Pierce** son of Michael and Maria was born 1884. Before WW1, Pierce worked in a bank, a "bank official".<sup>270</sup> A few years into WW1, on the 17<sup>th</sup> August, 1915, Pierce enlisted in the 5th Brigade Royal Field Artillery 81st Battery in the 3rd Canadian Division.<sup>271,272</sup> He was commissioned 1 September 1915, and left for France on the 18th November, 1915. He saw his first day in the fighting lines 6 days later, 24th November, 1915. He was promoted to the rank of Second Lieutenant. Six months later, he was wounded at 'Clapham Junction' in the Stirling Castle Sector of the Ypres Salient. His wound was a "compact skull injury". He was moved to No. 10 Casualty Clearing Station, Lijssenthoek in Belgium, where he died of these wounds on the 6<sup>th</sup> May, 1916. He was 30 years old.

#### 7.5.1.4 *Bryan born 1888 son of Michael*

**Bryan** born 1889 was the youngest son of Michael O'Donnell and Maria Shea. He was baptised William Bryan. When Michael and Maria were older, they gave Bannixtown into his hands, and moved to Byrne's Kiln.<sup>273</sup> Pierce was no doubt dead by then.

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<sup>270</sup> From his military record.

<sup>271</sup> <http://www.lijssenthoek.be/en/address/3905/-percy-odonnell.html>

<sup>272</sup> <http://ep.ita.ph/319>

<sup>273</sup> TREE01 mentions Byrneskill, which is in Tipperary. As of the 1850s Griffiths, there were no Byrnes in Byrneskill, but there was a William Byrne in adjacent Butler's Land. These are both in the same area as Bannixtown.

Bryan married **Mary Angela Morris** on the 15<sup>th</sup> April, 1925 (he was aged 36).<sup>274</sup> Mary was a national teacher, daughter of William Richard Morris, a surgeon. She was born on the 22<sup>nd</sup> May, 1899,<sup>275</sup> 10 years younger than William Bryan. Her birth was registered in Waterford city, but their marriage certificate shows “Clonmore Mooncoin”, which are two villages in Kilkenny on the road between Waterford town and Carrick on Suir. Mary is recorded as May on their gravestone.

William Bryan and Mary had (at least) two children:

- **Pierce** (Percy), born c.1927. Pierce is mentioned as son of William Brian in William's death record.<sup>276</sup>
- **Bryan**, born c.1929. Mentioned in the WAGESBOOK.

A gravestone in Killusty cemetery shows that William Bryan died 20th Feb 1969,<sup>277</sup> and Mary/May died 23rd Feb 1983:

*In loving memory of Bryan O'Donnell Bannixtown house died 20th Feb 1969  
and his wife May O'Donnell died 23rd Feb 1983  
R.I.P.*

Burke's *Landed Gentry of Ireland*, 1976, edition (p899) lists a Brian O'Donnell of Bannixtown House. This might have been the father (William Bryan), who died 1969 but was not known to the authors. Alternatively, it could be the son Brian, but it is not clear why it would mention the second son and not Percy.

Regarding their son **Pierce**, he married a **Breda Ryan**.<sup>278</sup> They had several daughters:

- **Moya**, married a Desmond (possibly Michael).
- Deirdre.
- Carmel.

**Pierce/Percy** died 3rd April, 1986. A grave in Killusty Cemetery shows:

*In loving memory of  
Percy O'Donnell Bannixtown House Fethard  
who died 3rd April 1986  
Rest in peace  
O'DONNELL  
Erected by  
his loving wife and family*

**Breda** died on 9<sup>th</sup> April, 2019. An obituary for Breda shows:

*The death has occurred of Breda O'Donnell (née Ryan (Austin)) Bannixtown House, Fethard, Tipperary / Donohill, Tipperary, April 9th 2019, peacefully at South Tipperary General Hospital, Breda; wife of the late Percy O'Donnell. Predeceased by her siblings John Ryan and Mary Buckley. Sadly missed by her loving daughters Moya (Desmond), Deirdre and Carmel, grandchildren Andrew, Michelle and Jack, sons-in-law Michael and Ger, sister-in-law Sally, devoted nieces, nephews, relatives and friends.*

Regarding **Brian** son of William Bryan, the WAGESBOOK says of the original Wages book:

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<sup>274</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/marriage\\_returns/marriages\\_1925/09142/5306659.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/marriage_returns/marriages_1925/09142/5306659.pdf)

<sup>275</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth\\_returns/births\\_1899/02026/1777237.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth_returns/births_1899/02026/1777237.pdf)

<sup>276</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/deaths\\_returns/deaths\\_1969/04173/4063285.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/deaths_returns/deaths_1969/04173/4063285.pdf)

<sup>277</sup> Although note that the death registry for Bryan shows he died 10th February, 1969. See:

[https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/deaths\\_returns/deaths\\_1969/04173/4063285.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/deaths_returns/deaths_1969/04173/4063285.pdf)

<sup>278</sup> See below, from her obituary.

*It is currently in the possession of Michael O'Donnell's grandson, Brian O'Donnell of Garrinch, Fethard*

This implies that Bryan himself had a son Brian, who moved to Garrinch, which is 6km west of Bannixtown. I would guess Percy was the firstborn, and thus inherited Bannixtown House. Brian was given or bought a farm on nearby land. He would have been born 1912-1922.

Note that as of 2004, there was a Brian O'Donnell in Garrinch still, probably a son or grandson.<sup>279</sup>

#### 7.5.1.5 Maria Josephine born 1891 daughter of Michael

Maria Josephine O'Donnell, daughter of Michael of Bannixtown, was born 1891. She was usually called Josey or Jossey. There is evidence that she did not marry: she was given as "Josie O'Donnell" on the death registry of her mother in 1929, so unmarried at 37.

There is a possible death record, for Josephine O'Donnell died on the 31<sup>st</sup> October, 1968 aged 77. This places her born a.1891, which matches. She died a spinster, living at 7 Gordon Place, Clonmel.

#### 7.5.2 William born 1853, son of Pierce

In the description of Pierce O'Donnell's funeral (see above), one of his sons was described as

- Rev. W.B. O'Donnell, Adm. Waterford Cathedral;

This shows that son William baptised 2<sup>nd</sup> June, 1853 became a priest. This partly confirms the WAGEBOOK, which says two of the sons of Pierce became priests, one in Cahir.

A document on priests in Waterford and Lismore<sup>280</sup> allows us to piece together the William who ended up serving in Cahir parish.

- Rev. William O'Donnell was from some point, the "Administrator of Holy Trinity Within", Waterford. (Pierce's funeral report said he was Adm. Waterford Cathedral, which is known as Cathedral of the Most Holy Trinity Within).
- In 1902, he was promoted to administrator of St. Patrick's parish in Waterford.
- In 1917, he became Parish Priest of Clogheen, Tipperary.
- In 1924, he became parish priest for Cahir Parish, which he held until 1933.

This is based on five entries;

1. in an entry for St. Patrick's Church:

*From the death of Father Kent in 1884 the pastorate lay in abeyance and the parish was in charge of an administrator, Rev. Thomas Dowley, till 1902, when Rev. William O'Donnell, Administrator of Holy Trinity Within, was promoted to the pastoral charge. Father O'Donnell became Parish Priest of Clogheen in 1917.*

2. In the entry for Clogheen Parish:

*Rev. William O'Donnell, translated from St. Patrick's, 1917-24.*

3. In the entry for Cahir parish, says:

*Rev. William O'Donnell (1924-33) secured a further extension; he also bought for the parish the present fine parochial house.*

...And later...

Rev. William O'Donnell, transferred from Clogheen, succeeded in 1924. He survived till 1933.

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<sup>279</sup> [https://fethard.com/news\\_archive/cnews.040622.html](https://fethard.com/news_archive/cnews.040622.html)

<sup>280</sup> <http://snap.waterfordcoco.ie/collections/ebooks/106729/106729.pdf>

William died on the 2<sup>nd</sup> February, 1933, aged 79.<sup>281</sup> Residence given as Parochial House, Cahir. Occupation given as Parish Priest.

#### 7.5.3 Pierce born 1855 (son of Pierce born 1818)

Pierce born 1855, son of Pierce, became a Priest. We know this because when Pierce the father died, the description of his funeral described one of the attending sons as:

- Rev P O'Donnell, Dublin diocese;

Now this must have been Pierce, as Patrick married and became a farmer. The WAGEBOOK also stated that two of Pierce's sons became priests, one in Dublin. This priest is often mentioned in connection with the family in one case, performing the marriage rites of his brother Michael. Some mentions say he was Rev. Pierce O'Donnell, CC of Rathmines, Dublin.

*25 April 1895 - Waterford Mirror and Tramore Visitor. - Waterford, Waterford, ANNUAL MEETING the WATERFORD BOARD OF GUARDIANS. . ~ w \*® MESri.\NiTioN. DISPENSAT COMMITTEE. j Yesterday.*

*viz—Rev W B O'Donnell, Adra 11 C Cathedral; Rev Pierse O'Donnell, CC, Rathmines; Michael Donnell, J.P., Patrick O'Donnell, Ballyboe and James O'Donnell, Esq, At 11 o'clock the sacred ceremonies commenced. The number of clergy present was very large. ...*

Also referred to as a member of the Waterford Archaeological Society as O'Donnell, Rev. Pierce, c.c., Rathmines, Co. Dublin .

By 1912, Pierce had moved, becoming the Parish Priest for Ashford, Co. Wicklow.<sup>282</sup>

**Pierce** died on the 30<sup>th</sup> August, 1940, aged 85.<sup>283</sup>

#### 7.5.4 Bryan born 1857 son of Pierce

It seems that Bryan suffered mental illness, and was an inmate of Clonmel Lunatic Asylum. He died there, aged 23 of an "Mental Disease and Epilepsy" on the 25<sup>th</sup> June, 1882.<sup>284</sup>

#### 7.5.5 Patrick born 1862 (son of Pierce born 1818)

On the death of James O'Donnell of Ballyboe, his widow put the estate up for sale. Patrick's father, Pierce, bought the estate (keeping it in the family) and installed son **Patrick** there, this in 1886. Patrick was 24 at the time.

On the 1<sup>st</sup> June, 1892, **Patrick** married **Elizabeth Rice** of Freemount, County Cork.<sup>285</sup> She was born a.1867,<sup>286</sup> daughter of John Rice, a Land Commissioner, from Freemount, County Cork. Patrick's brother Father William O'Donnell officiated. James O'Donnell was witness, probably Patrick's younger brother.

The 1901 Census shows that **Elizabeth** was born in Co. Waterford, but the wedding registration gives her address as County Cork. Elizabeth's brother Richard Joseph Rice married Patrick's niece, Maria Agnes, daughter of Michael of Bannixtown. Richard was also shown as living in Cork, and born in Waterford, which confirms the Rice family moved from Waterford to Cork at some point, or maintained multiple estates.

The 1901 Census shows Patrick and Elizabeth living in the Ballyboe Estate. No children at that time:

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<sup>281</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/deaths\\_returns/deaths\\_1933/04864/4314827.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/deaths_returns/deaths_1933/04864/4314827.pdf)

<sup>282</sup> From the death announcement for Pierce's brother James in 1912.

<sup>283</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/deaths\\_returns/deaths\\_1940/04717/4260424.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/deaths_returns/deaths_1940/04717/4260424.pdf)

<sup>284</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/deaths\\_returns/deaths\\_1882/06400/4837758.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/deaths_returns/deaths_1882/06400/4837758.pdf)

<sup>285</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/marriage\\_returns/marriages\\_1892/10637/5875818.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/marriage_returns/marriages_1892/10637/5875818.pdf)

<sup>286</sup> From 1901 Census.



### Residents of a house 6 in Ballyboe (Kilsheelan, Tipperary)

- O'Donnell, Patrick, 38, Head of Family, Farmer
- O'Donnell, Lizzie, 34, Wife, born Co. Waterford.
- ...and three servants.

The 1911 Census shows much the same, so it seems they had no children.<sup>287</sup>

**Patrick** died on the 2<sup>nd</sup> April, 1949 from pneumonia.<sup>288</sup> Elizabeth died 5 days later (7<sup>th</sup> April, 1949) from a cerebral haemorrhage.<sup>289</sup>

According to a communication from Patrick O'Donnell (currently holding the Ballyboe farm), Patrick and Lizzie had no children, so Patrick left the farm to his nephew, Patrick (Paddy) son of James, holder of the Lower Seskin farm. Paddy inherited also the Lower Seskin farm, and thus held both properties. Paddy passed Ballyboe to his son Patrick (source of this information), who is the current resident.

#### 7.5.6 James born 1864 son of Pierce

**James O'Donnell** was the youngest child of Pierce O'Donnell and Johanna Byrne. He was born on the 16<sup>th</sup> September, 1864.<sup>290</sup> Pierce was shown as a farmer of Seskin.

He married **Elizabeth (Lizzie) Cormack** on the 8th September, 1896.<sup>291</sup> She was born 1873,<sup>292</sup> daughter of Philip Cormack, a farmer, from Urlingford, County Kilkenny. The wedding took place in Rathmines, Dublin, where brother Pierce was a curate. However, the officiating priest was William O'Donnell, the other priest brother of James, who was later parish priest in Clonmel.

**James** ended up as head of the Lower Seskin house, probably from the death of his father Pierce in 1895. James is indicated as head of house in the 1901 Census, even though his mother Johanna was living there. He was 36 years old at that point. The house was specified as house 16 of Seskin.

**James and Elizabeth** had several children:

- **Johanna**, born 26<sup>th</sup> February, 1898.<sup>293</sup> At home in the 1911 census, no sign of death or marriage in Clonmel District.
- **Mary Elizabeth**, born 25th September, 1899.<sup>294</sup> <sup>295</sup> In some contexts, name given as Elizabeth Mary. She married **Cecil Gerhardus Sophie van Heyningen** (1899-1973) in 1923.<sup>296</sup> He was born 1899.<sup>297</sup> She passed away on 4 Oct 1992 in Johannesburg, South Africa.<sup>298</sup> They had 3 children including:
  - **Cecil James Van Heyningen** (??- 2011)
- **Pierce**, born 26<sup>th</sup> July, 1900.<sup>299</sup> He **died** 1 hour old, born prematurely.<sup>300</sup>

<sup>287</sup> <http://www.census.nationalarchives.ie/pages/1911/Tipperary/Kilsheelan/Ballyboe/819361/>

<sup>288</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/deaths\\_returns/deaths\\_1949/04544/4198449.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/deaths_returns/deaths_1949/04544/4198449.pdf)

<sup>289</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/deaths\\_returns/deaths\\_1949/04544/4198449.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/deaths_returns/deaths_1949/04544/4198449.pdf)

<sup>290</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth\\_returns/births\\_1864/03603/2328868.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth_returns/births_1864/03603/2328868.pdf)

<sup>291</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/marriage\\_returns/marriages\\_1896/10500/5824007.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/marriage_returns/marriages_1896/10500/5824007.pdf)

<sup>292</sup> From the 1901 Census, age given as 28.

<sup>293</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth\\_returns/births\\_1898/02092/1797596.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth_returns/births_1898/02092/1797596.pdf)

<sup>294</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth\\_returns/births\\_1899/02016/1773885.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth_returns/births_1899/02016/1773885.pdf)

<sup>295</sup> <https://www.ancestry.co.uk/genealogy/records/elizabeth-mary-o-donnell-24-37gx2xt>

<sup>296</sup> [https://www.myheritage.com/names/elizabeth\\_van%20heyningen](https://www.myheritage.com/names/elizabeth_van%20heyningen)

<sup>297</sup> [https://www.myheritage.com/names/elizabeth\\_van%20heyningen](https://www.myheritage.com/names/elizabeth_van%20heyningen)

<sup>298</sup> <https://www.ancestry.co.uk/genealogy/records/elizabeth-mary-o-donnell-24-37gx2xt>

<sup>299</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth\\_returns/births\\_1900/01972/1760219.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth_returns/births_1900/01972/1760219.pdf)

<sup>300</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/deaths\\_returns/deaths\\_1900/05742/4621529.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/deaths_returns/deaths_1900/05742/4621529.pdf)

- **Katherine Rosalie Ursula**, born 20<sup>th</sup> October, 1901.<sup>301</sup> She married **Edmund Stokes** of Powerstown on the 14<sup>th</sup> September, 1927.<sup>302</sup> They married in the Church of Cahir, where William O'Donnell, her uncle was Parish Priest. An Eva O'Donnell was witness, probably Alice Evelyn, her sister.
- **Alice Evelyn**, born 1st January, 1903.<sup>303</sup> At home in the 1911 Census.
- **Pierce**, born 16<sup>th</sup> September, 1904.<sup>304</sup>
- **Patrick Joseph (Paddy)**, born 15<sup>th</sup> March, 1906.<sup>305</sup>
- **An unnamed baby**, born 23<sup>rd</sup> February, 1907.<sup>306</sup> Died at birth, as it was not named.<sup>307</sup>

**Johanna, mother of James**, died the year after the 1901 Census. This matches the WAGESBOOK, which said Michael's mother died 1902.

The 1901 Census

#### **1901 Census: house 16 in Seskin (Kilsheelan, Tipperary)<sup>308</sup>**

- O'Donnell, James, 36, Head of Family, Farmer
- O'Donnell, Elizabeth, 28, Wife, Farmer's Wife, born Co. Kilkenny.
- O'Donnell, Johanna, 3, Daughter
- Donnell, Elizabeth, 1, Daughter
- Donnell, Johanna, 75, Mother, farmer's wife
- 5 servants

By the 1911 Census, the family was as follows:

#### **1911 Census: House 28 in Seskin:**

- O'Donnell, James, 46, Head of Family, Farmer
- O'Donnell, Elizabeth, 40, Wife
- O'Donnell, Johanna, 13, Daughter
- O'Donnell, Elizabeth Mary, 11, Daughter
- O'Donnell, Catherine ?, 9, Daughter
- O'Donnell, Alice Evelyn, 8, Daughter
- O'Donnell, Pierce, 6, Son
- O'Donnell, Patrick, 5, Son
- Holely, Bridget, 38, Servant
- Dempsey, Alice, 62, Helper

The census says that James and Elizabeth had been married 14 years, with 8 children born, of which 6 were still alive.

**James** died young, on the 16<sup>th</sup> March, 1912, aged 47, from broncho-pneumonia.<sup>309</sup> His wife Lizzie registered the death.

His brother, Reverend William, was appointed as executor of the will.<sup>310</sup>

<sup>301</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth\\_returns/births\\_1901/01930/1747113.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth_returns/births_1901/01930/1747113.pdf)

<sup>302</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/marriage\\_returns/marriages\\_1927/09107/5294289.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/marriage_returns/marriages_1927/09107/5294289.pdf)

<sup>303</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth\\_returns/births\\_1903/01876/1730265.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth_returns/births_1903/01876/1730265.pdf)

<sup>304</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth\\_returns/births\\_1904/01813/1709927.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth_returns/births_1904/01813/1709927.pdf)

<sup>305</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth\\_returns/births\\_1906/01748/1689899.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth_returns/births_1906/01748/1689899.pdf)

<sup>306</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth\\_returns/births\\_1907/01706/1676308.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/birth_returns/births_1907/01706/1676308.pdf)

<sup>307</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/deaths\\_returns/deaths\\_1907/05537/4552223.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/deaths_returns/deaths_1907/05537/4552223.pdf)

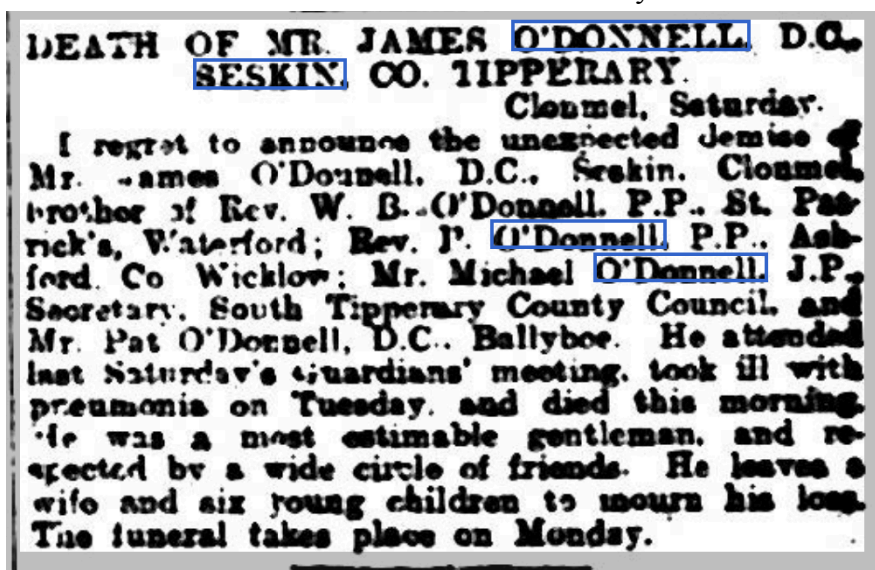
<sup>308</sup> <http://www.census.nationalarchives.ie/pages/1901/Tipperary/Kilsheelan/Seskin/1712239/>

<sup>309</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/deaths\\_returns/deaths\\_1912/05362/4495251.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/deaths_returns/deaths_1912/05362/4495251.pdf)

<sup>310</sup> [http://www.willcalendars.nationalarchives.ie/reels/cwa/005014917/005014917\\_00606.pdf](http://www.willcalendars.nationalarchives.ie/reels/cwa/005014917/005014917_00606.pdf)

**O'DONNELL James** [593] 7 September Probate of the Will of **James O'Donnell** late of Seskin-Kilsheelan County **Tipperary** Farmer who died **16 March 1912** granted at **Dublin** to The Reverend William O'Donnell P.P. and Thomas Stokes Farmer Effects £1,582

The death was announced in the Freeman's Journal on Monday 18 March 1912:



The announcement says he was a member of the Board of Guardians, and that his wife and six children survived him.

**Lizzie** died 15 years later, on the 9<sup>th</sup> February, 1927, after two years of heart problems. Her son Patrick Joseph was present at death.

**Catherine** daughter of James married **Edmond Stokes** on the 14<sup>th</sup> September, 1927.<sup>311</sup> He was born a.1897, a Farmer of Powerstown, son of Patrick Stokes, a Farmer. Catherine's name given as Catherin Rosalie, daughter of James O'Donnell, a Farmer, of Seskin. A Witness was Eva O'Donnell, probably her sister, Alice Eveline. **Edmond** died on the 27<sup>th</sup> May, 1978, aged 81. **Catherine** died 14<sup>th</sup> Jan 1990, supposedly aged 83, but actually, 89. They shared a grave in Powerstown Cemetery:

*In loving memory of Edmond Stokes, who died 27th May 1978, aged 81 yrs. His wife Catherine (Rena), nee O'Donnell, who died 14th Jan 1990, aged 83 yrs.*

**Patrick (Paddy)** son of James inherited the Lower Seskin house on the death of his mother. He was 21. On the 4<sup>th</sup> September, 1940, he married, to **Janet Croome**, a housekeeper, of Lisronagh parish (just north of Kilsheelan).<sup>312</sup> She was daughter of John Croome, a farmer. When Paddy's uncle Patrick of Ballyboe died in 1949, Paddy was left the Ballyboe estate, so he was holding two properties.

**Paddy and Janet** had 5 children:<sup>313</sup>

- **William (Billy)**, born c.1941, died 13<sup>th</sup> December, 2022. He inherited the Seskin Lower farm, and is still there. He married UNKN and had 3 children:
  - **Edward (Ed)**, born c.1967. He runs O'Donnells Crisps.
  - 2 daughters
- **Patrick (Pat)**, born c.1943. He inherited the Ballyboe farm. He married **Madeleine Meagher** in c.1967. She passed away 10<sup>th</sup> December, 2015. They had three children:

<sup>311</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/marriage\\_returns/marriages\\_1927/09107/5294289.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/marriage_returns/marriages_1927/09107/5294289.pdf)

<sup>312</sup> [https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/marriage\\_returns/marriages\\_1940/08847/5199344.pdf](https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/images/marriage_returns/marriages_1940/08847/5199344.pdf)

<sup>313</sup> Information from John O'Donnell, current holder of Upper Seskin.

- **Gillian**, born c.1969. Married Mr. Atkinson.<sup>314</sup>
- **Patrick**, born c.1971. (now holding the Ballyboe house)
- **Alice**, born c.1973.
- **John (Jack)**, born c.1945. He married UNKN in c.1969 and had children:
  - **John**, born c.1971.
 When the Upper Seskin farm came on the market in 1985, Jack bought it, returning it to the O'Donnell line.
- **James**, born c.1947.
- **Elizabeth (Loz)**, born c.1949.

**Paddy** died in 1989.<sup>315</sup>

Currently, **Ed O'Donnell** holds the Lower Seskin farm. In 2010, he extended from just growing potatoes, starting a potato crisp factory, which now sell nationally.

The **Upper Seskin House** was inherited by **John Baggot Heffernan** (son of Eillen O'Donnell of the line of Daddy Micil's first son). He died in 1985 without issue, and the house was put up for sale. **Jack O'Donnell** (son of Paddy) bought the farm, returning it to the O'Donnell name. His son John inherited the farm, and is the current owner. The house at this point looks like:



According to an EU website:

*Seskin Farm is located near Clonmel in the South East of Ireland and is owned by Jack O'Donnell, who operates a large commercial piggery on the site. The piggery uses a significant volume of hot water for individual heaters to keep litters of piglets warm during the first months of growth. Hot water is required 24 hours a day and 365 days a year. Not only was Jack O'Donnell facing increased heating costs with the rise in oil prices, but he was also unable to predict heating costs for the coming year with any degree of certainty, making it more difficult to run his business. A desire to deliver a heating solution that was cost effective, environmentally friendly, robust and stable lead Jack O'Donnell to consider switching to a wood-fuelled heating system. Following an analysis of the financial savings and the financial support available for woodchip boilers, Jack O'Donnell made the decision to change to a renewable heating system – woodchip boiler. 50% of the system cost was financed with a grant.*

<sup>314</sup> <https://notices.irishtimes.com/death/o-donnell-madeline/44467099>

<sup>315</sup> From email from his grandson Patrick.