

CHAPTER VI.

THE CORBALLY AND CASTLECOMER BRANCH

"ELOPEMENT" THOMAS

For many years I had been curious about two famous doctors who appeared in "Who's Who", a Dr Percy Kidd and a Francis Kidd, F.R.C.S, both stating their father as Joseph Kidd. When I started this search in earnest I found my way eventually to a Mrs Dorothy McCall a daughter of Joseph's. From her I had a very thorough outline of their family tree which we shall come back to in a later chapter# on the Limerick Kidds.

Dorothy McCall sent me the following from papers left by her sister Dr Mary Beatrice Kidd, aged 84, who died 1957, and which she had received from a Dr Leonard Kidd, born 1862, died 1937. It reads verbatim as follows:

"Thomas Kidd of Burnchurch House - Cuffe (?) Grange, Co. Kilkenny.

Dr L. Kidd went to see him. He says that a Thomas Kidd came from the North of Ireland about 1780 and contested the ownership of some property with Joclyn (?) near Ferns, Co. Wexford. This Thomas had a younger brother called Ralph, who was killed by the rebels in the Battle of Castlesomes (?) 1798.

Thomas eloped with a Miss Mary Langford and moved to Corbally (?), Queens County, close to the border of Carlow. His wife died 1830. Thomas died about 1840, and was buried at . He had three sons, John, Thomas and William, and several daughters. William had one son and five daughters. Some of Thomas' children are still alive. My informant, Thomas, says the Carlow and Wexford Kidds are members of his Family".

Comments on the above.

1. I now know that Thomas Kidd of Burnchurch died in 1902, so the above was a note of information given before that date. Burnchurch by the way is near the town of Kilkenny.
2. 'Joclyn' sic is almost certainly a mistranscription of Joseph and Castlesomer is surely Castlecomer. Castlecomer lies about 12 miles west of Carlowtown and is in the County of Kilkenny on the main road to Dublin.
3. "Came from the north of Ireland in 1780." This was the year Sackville Kidd Sovereign of Athlone died. The stone in Athlone erected to his memory was put up by a Thomas Kidd. It became the date remembered in verbal tradition.

#[note added by WSF Kidd] - it appears that Franklin Kidd did not complete this intended later chapter; at least it was not included in the typescript sent to Gordon Kidd in 1973.

4. Dr Leonard Kidd was from Ulster and in common with many others including myself tried unsuccessfully to connect the Southern Ireland Kidds with the Kidd influx from Scotland into Co. Antrim in the early 17th Century (See Part 1, The Kidds of Northern Ireland). If his informant had simply said 'from the north', Leonard would certainly have registered it as 'come from the North of Ireland'. I think that Burnchurch Thomas, probably in his sixties, was retailing family tradition about his grandfather's origin and that from the north is in effect from Athlone which lies in the centre of Ireland at a strategic crossing of the river Shannon and about 100 miles as crow flies north west of Ferns.

5. I have since traced the gravestone of 'Elopement' Thomas. It is in the abandoned churchyard of the ruined church of Rathspick Parish, which lies just off the road N.W. from Carlow to Stradbally. It confirms his dates as 1745 - 1841 died aged 96.

6. Contested ownership of land near Ferns Co. Wexford with Joseph. Carlow and Wexford Kidds members of his family. Joseph Kidd of Raheen Co. Wexford 1768 - 1848 was a grandson of George Kidd of Newtonbarrystone and therefore according to my reconstruction during Chapters 1 and 2, a cousin of Elopement Thomas. The dispute was a family dispute.

7. Mary Langford. A John Langford married a Judith Kidd in 1792, (Ferns Marriage Licence Bonds). Judith Kidd appears in my reconstruction Chapter 2 of the Ballyrankin and Raheen branch on grounds of locality, dates and known number of George of Raheen's daughters as a sister of Joseph of Raheen, hence also a cousin of 'elopement' Thomas. I shall guess that Mary Langford was therefore first known to him through this connexion.

8. Joseph Kidd was clearly interested in land ownership. In the tithe book for the parish of Kilrush of 1824 he signs as Commissioner. In the marriage settlement of one of his sisters he assigns land to provide her with an income should she be widowed.

Diary of William Kidd of Maidenhead (1802 - 1840)

In 1958 I got to know the late Colonel Charles Kidd of Maidenhead House, Ballickmoyler, 8 miles out of Carlow town on the Stradbally road. In 1963 he discovered [a] diary of his great grandfather, William Kidd; son of 'Elopement' Thomas. This was of critical importance and I quote.

"According to my great grandfather's diary (William Kidd, of Maidenhead), he was born at Coon [Coan] in the County of Kilkenny on 6th August 1802. "I had two brothers and three sisters besides another sister who died very young, and many years before I was born. My grandfather's name was

Ralf Kidd and my mother's father a William Langford from Ferns in the County Wexford. My father, Thomas Kidd was an uncommon strong and healthy man and all through life he used much exercise and was very industrious. He has given all his children their portion and put them above want. He has now attained to something about his 80th year and is still strong and healthy but reducing somewhat. My eldest brother John was born March 10th 1788 and he married Miss Kidd of Raheen in the County of Wexford. He lived for some years at Corbally, but left there to live in Knocknagee, near Carlow in the County of Kildare." So spake my great grandfather William in a diary we unearthed lately".

I can add here that Charles Kidd has told me that one of his ancestors had been "Captain of the Guard" at Ferns (Co. Wexford) according to his family tradition.

Two important things emerge from this diary. First the probable date of the Elopement, that is 1787, a year before the birth of the eldest son, second that not only 'his younger brother', but also his father was a Ralph Kidd. To me this latter fact seemed to confirm the idea I had already formed that Elopement Thomas might be the Thomas who erected the Athlone Stone, for surely Sackville Kidd must have had in addition some more ordinary Christian name at any rate in his family circles.

'Elopement' Thomas's children (Sixth generation)

Before going further I will anticipate and insert here, what I have since found out about 'Elopement' Thomas children (Sixth generation).

1. John Kidd, born as above, at Coon in 15 March 1788, living at Corbally House before he went to Knocknagee (Co. Carlow); married Eleanor Kidd of Raheen 1819. (Ferns Ossory and Leighlin M.L.B.s). Possibly for a time held a farm of 288 acres in Parish of Clogdagh, Townland of Clogrenan 1850 Griffiths Valuations, this place being four miles or so south west of Carlowstown. He appears in the Index of Prerogative Grants P.R.O. Dublin for 1856 - 58. So died about 1856 - 7. There is an otherwise unaccounted John Kidd^[1] in the Slater's Directory 1856 among nobility, Gentry and Clergy address St Barnabas Street, town of Athy. Athy is just over the border of counties Leix and Kildare, about 5 miles N.E. from Corbally.

1. This John could just possibly be the Dublin accountant described in appendix to Chapter IV.

John Kidd was, it seems a well off man in the 'gentry' class. So too were the other sons Thomas and William. Thomas was renting 178 acres for £172 in the Parish of Tecolm, Townland of Corbally in 1850 (Griffiths Valuations). At that time also William's widow Mrs Phoebe Kidd had the house and 186 acres at Maidenhead and a further 78 acres at Farnans. William had died fairly young in July 1840 aged 38, and presumably it was William who first acquired Maidenhead house and land. Phoebe was born 1810 and died 1884 aged 73 and her stone is in Rathaspick abandoned churchyard as is William's father Thomas and others yet to be identified. Her maiden name was Rudd and she came from Templemore County Tipperary.^[1]

Between John Kidd and the next son Thomas Kidd were three daughters and I have their details.

2. Bessie Kidd born 1793, died 1834, married John Guest in 1819 again of Templemore Co. Tipperary and had eight children in the fifteen years of marriage.

3. Sarah Kidd born 1796, married Henry Brown and had a large family of sons.

4. Thomas Kidd. Then followed 'Elopement Thomas' second son Thomas of Corbally born 1800 died 1864. Will proved by son William Kidd of Corbally 7.9.1864. Customs House Register gives him as farmer of Ballylenan [Ballylethane], Corbally. William (son) present at death. Married Arabella Tarleton, of Huguenot extraction in 1835 (Ferns Ossory and Leighlin M.L.B.s). She predeceased him. They had 12 children. "There is a legend that he drank to excess and was financially broke" says a great grandson.

5. William Kidd (of the diary) born 1802, at Coon, later of Maidenhead House, which he acquired, died 1840, aged 38. According to the late Charles Kidd the house before that had a bad reputation being used by young Dublin profligates for weekend parties.

6. Probably the sister "that had died very young".

1. Templemore is on the direct route South from Athlone and we know now for certain (Appendix Chapter I) that a William Kidd apprenticed as a printer in Athlone and a son of Sackville first set up in business in County Tipperary in or near Cashel not far from Templemore and that his wife's people were from Coom.

7. Maria Kidd born 1808, married Johnathan Bradley, 11.6.1825, Ferns Ossory and Leighlin M.L.B.s. They had a daughter Eliza in 1826 Castlecomer Parish Register and a son David 1825 in same register.^[1]

The details of four generations 7th 8th 9th and 10th stemming from Thomas and William will be set out later.

Who was the Ralph Kidd 'Elopement' Thomas's Father?

My theory for which I can find no other plausible alternative may now be set out in full.

1. David Kidd of Dublin, Tailor,

2. George Kidd of Athlone probably in clothier trade, and

3. Thomas Kidd of Limerick, father of Peter Kidd, documented as an 'Eminent Clothier and Freeman of Limerick' were brothers or cousins of third generation and all had a family connexion in the Wicklow, Wexford and Carlow border region, that is the William Kidd who married Mary Loftus in 1698. Thomas of Limerick in 1720 had also a dwelling there (Ballynastraw House in N.W. corner of Co. Wexford, not far from William then at Ballisland) and in that year bought a string of properties in the neighbourhood (Deed). His son Peter born 1712 the year before his mother Margaret died in Limerick, was then only 8 years old. So Thomas himself or some one on his behalf kept an interest in the Limerick business to which Peter eventually succeeded. Peter would have been 28 when his father Thomas eventually died in 1740. Peter however was not his eldest son. Thomas's eldest son and heir was William the tailor of Clonegall who inherited the properties in the neighbourhood of Ballynastraw being then about 30 and together with a joint executor sold them back to their original

1. There is some confusion in the records, which I can't unravel, between a Johnathan and a John Bradley, and a Maria and an Elizabeth Bradley (Kidd) as the following extracts show.

1825 Maria Kidd married Johnathan Bradley Ferns Ossory & Leighlin M.L.B.s

1826 25/5 Johnathan & Maria Bradley bapt. daughter Eliza. (Castlecomer Reg.)

1827 16/4 John Bradley - Elizabeth Kidd Coolcullen married (Bethel Reg.)

x(1828 13/3 Johnathan and Elizabeth (formerly Kidd Bradley) bapt. son William,

x(1831 3/10) Johnathan and Elizabeth Bradley bapt. daughter Anne

x(1835 15/12 Johnathan and Maria (Kidd) Bradley bapt. son David

x Castlecomer Register.

owner from whom his father had bought them twenty years earlier for £600, a considerable sum in those days. And thereafter, as it were, disappears, as far as records go. Finally Thomas of Limerick and Ballynastraw must have married a second wife for in 1739 a year before his death he apprenticed a son John to the Goldsmiths in Dublin and this man eventually settled in Wexford near Ferns and married a Mary White a relative of his Uncle David's wife.

So much for Thomas of Limerick and Ballynastraw. The Dublin brother David, is well documented and he left no sons.

Now then as to George. Taking his dates as those on the Newtownbarry Stone (1683 - 1763) he would have been 21 when his father Thomas of Dublin died (1704) and in some branch of Clothier trade in Dublin. He married say about 1712, then aged 29. In 1719 he owns a house in Athlone. Our Sackville Kidd was born 1717. He was not the first son. The first[#] son was named Thomas after his grandfather and as I think, turns up as Thomas of Coolroe, Co. Wexford. See Chapter V on the Askamore branch. There was also certainly a later son George born 1728 who also settled in Wexford and appears on the Newtownbarry Stone, the George of Ballyrankin and Raheen died 1812.

But why this curious name Sackville. I have in Chapter 1 recorded that George Sackville (1st Viscount) and third son of Lionel Cranfield Sackville, 1st Duke of Dorset was born 26 Jan. 1716, and that later, in 1749 was first secretary to his father than Lord Lieutenant of Ireland. The explanation that occurred to me also accounts for the name Ralph. It is that he was christened Ralph Sackville Kidd, Ralph because that was his mother's maiden surname (we have come across this surname in the previous Chapter) and Sackville, because the first Duke of Dorset was father George's most distinguished client. Later when Ralph was in Athlone in business on his own, which we now know was a periwigmaker, he used the name in his business because of its aristocratic connexions. In the family he was never known as Sackville but only as Ralph.

But a more serious difficulty still remains, why the inscription on the stone in St. Mary's Church or Churchyard in Athlone. "Here lie the bodies of George Kidd and his wife and three of his children. As a mark of his filial affection Thomas Kidd erected this stone to preserve the memory of his father, Sackville Kidd, son of the above George who also was interred here with six of his children". Not altogether usual, I feel.

First I think Sackville in his time was well known and perhaps even notorious in Athlone and its neighbourhood. The use of the name Sackville is in itself suggestive and then there is the fact that he, possibly on his own initiative, had his second marriage (1774) to Elizabeth Waller, a widow, recorded in the Hibernian Chronicle and himself described as Vice Sovereign

#[Note added by WSF Kidd] - typescript has "last". This is contradicted by "a later son" in the second sentence on from this, and information elsewhere in the text (Ch 1, p17) shows this Thomas' estimated birth date before Sackville.

of Athlone, and later in the Dublin Directory of 1780, among the magistrates of chief towns, as Sovereign of Athlone. And yet in the opinion today of a local antiquarian in Athlone he could not have been Sovereign or Vice Sovereign as this position was exclusively held by two families of the local aristocracy. The only position open to tradesmen was that of a Bailiff of which there were two. I draw the conclusion that his family as a whole were not too fond of being reminded of him.

His widow, his second wife, for the last six years of his life was the prime mover in getting the stone put up. There was this burial plot originally obtained by George in which first some of George's children and later six of Sackville's own children had been buried. It was of course for Thomas "Grandpa George's Grave". He never knew, or had forgotten that Grandpa George and Grandma Eleanor had died almost together while away with Uncle George, Co. Wexford. He would have been 18 at the time and just possibly training in Dublin or elsewhere. The widow could easily have not known. All she wanted was that Sackville should have a memorial. Thomas is only lukewarm. He waters it down by the opening sentence about Grandpa George, his wife and three children. Assuming the stone was erected the year Sackville died, 1780, and not, as might be, later, Thomas was then 35, a bachelor and possible "Captain of the Guard" at Ferns, and most certainly not living in Athlone. His elopement with Mary Langford was not until 1787.

I expect you may feel at this stage that its really a bit too much to disbelieve what a man puts on his father's gravestone about his grandfather's place of burial some 20 years earlier. I do myself. More evidence I am certain exists and can be found. But at the moment the tale I have put together to cover the evidence at present is at least interesting.

Reconstruction of 'Elopement' Thomas's History

Eldest son of Sackville of Athlone. Born 1745 and brought up ambitiously and becomes in due course Captain of the Guard at Ferns. His Uncle George of Raheen lives in that neighbourhood. In 1780 his father dies and he inherits all or in part. In 1787 at age of 42 elopes with a Mary Langford, leaves Wexford and settled at Coon, where his eldest son John is born in 1788. In 1792 his cousin Judith Kidd daughter of his uncle George Kidd of Raheen marries John Langford, Mary Langford's brother, and later 1819 his eldest son John marries another daughter of George Kidd of Raheen by then a middle aged woman of 46 who is in fact a cousin of his father, 'Elopement' Thomas, and a sister in law of his mother - a curious and uncommon relationship.

'Elopement' Thomas's brother Ralph.

So far all we have about brother Ralph is that he was killed in the fighting at Castlecomer in 1798, and that he was a younger brother and so

>>the text seems truncated here; probable that at least the remainder of this sentence was left out, [note added by WSF Kidd]

Evidence of at least two families of Kidds in this district besides Elopement Thomas and his family is contained in

(a) The Castlecomer Parish Register which has been examined for me on two different occasions by different people.

(b) Extracts made in 1902 from the register of Mothel (Bethel) Parish Leighlinbridge. This register was destroyed in the Dublin troubles in 1920 and so these extracts are unique. I explain how I got them.

At the end of this Chapter I give both these pieces of evidence in full and I can say at once that they establish with fair certainty that Ralph was married and had several sons and a possible daughter. I will take the Castlecomer register first.

The Castlecomer Parish Register

First there is a Jane Kidd who died in 1814. She could on dates be Ralph's widow. Unfortunately in the reports I had no age at death was given. It would be interesting to check this.

Next there is a George Kidd (sixth generation) of Cruttenclogh [Croghtenclogh] and Castlecomer, a carpenter, who married an Ann Crawford (or Hill), and died aged 72, in 1845 (born 1776). His trade and the name of his wife come from records of a series of baptisms of children of theirs. On dates and locality this George qualifies as one of Ralph's sons, but it is noticeable that he and his children are artisans and workmen and not quite in the same social class as Elopement Thomas and his children. I explain this as follows. Thomas the eldest had ambitious education aimed at putting him in the class of gentry. His brother William (see Appendix Chapter 1) was apprenticed a printer, a trade for which a sound education was required and this son did well later socially speaking. Ralph was apprenticed to joiners and carpenters occupation and he and his descendants drifted rather lower in the social scale.

We can now list George of Cruttenclogh's seven children (seventh generation). It should not be difficult to trace this family from then on, but I have not.

1. Jane, baptised 1815 Castlecomer Reg. by George Kidd of Cruttenclogh and Ann formerly Crawford. This Jane married James Glenham, labourer in 1848, being daughter of George Kidd of Cruttenclogh. Witness William Sawyer at St. Mary Kilkenny. (Note mother's name here given as Crawford. In all other cases as Hill).

2. Margaret baptised 1818 by George and Anne of Coon Reg. of Mothel Leighlinbridge.
3. Alice, baptised 1821 by George and Ann (formerly Hill) Castlecomer Reg.
4. Thomas baptised 1823 by George Kidd of Cruttenclogh and Ann (former Hill), This Thomas married in 1848 (Customs House Register) Sarah Hill being then a Carpenter of Bilbo [Bilboa]* Parish of Cloydagh and father George also entered as a Carpenter. The marriage was at the Register Office Carlow. The Castlecomer Register shows they had a son William baptised 1850. Would be interesting to look for further children later in this Register.
5. George baptised 1826 by George Kidd and Anne (formerly Hill).
6. William, baptised 1829 son of George Kidd and Ann formerly Hill died 1838.
7. John also baptised same year 1829, son of George and Ann.

The extracts from the Parish register of Mothel (Bethel) Leighlinbridge 1902.

These first received from Frederick Alexander Kidd ^[1] whom I traced from the fact reported to me that he had been enquiring around Carlow about Kidd ancestors and that he worked for Shell oil. Dr Simpson was his great uncle by marriage. The original Andrew who emigrated with family was his great, great grandfather. F. A. Kidd sent me at the same time an outline of Andrew's Canadian descendants. To quote from his letter of August 1960

"My great grandfather Andrew Kidd married to Jane Kilfoyle left Ireland for Canada in 1818 or 1819. He had farmed near Coan (or Coon) about eight miles north west of Leighlinbridge. Coolcullen about three miles south of Coon. The Thomas and George Kidd in the register extracts were probably brothers of Andrew Kidd."

We can date Andrew whose eldest son John was married before the emigration as will appear later, as having been born about 1775, and on date and locality

1. A copy of this same letter received from another source 10 or 12 years later gives the Rectory as Bethel, the writer as Godfrey J. Green Canon and adds another name Jane, a second Jane, the first Jane being the mother and the second the daughter to the names of the family of Kidds that left the parish in 1818. It also omits altogether the list of baptisms, marriages and burials of Kidds between 1810 and 1823.

**[note added by WSF Kidd] – Bilboa village is on current OSI maps, and the church there still exists (view on Google Earth) but the name does not appear as a townland, nor as a civil parish in the IreAtlas database for the area round the village at the intersection of the borders of the three counties Carlow-Laois (Queen's Co)-Kilkenny. IreAtlas contains a townland entry for Bilboa in Co. Limerick but this cannot be the place mentioned in the typescript.*

he is therefore another of Ralph of Castlecomer's sons. As to the Thomas and George Kidd more will be said.

Now let me insert here a list of of the Kidds from the Mothel (Bethel) Register omitting only the Margaret daughter of George and Ann Kidd of Castlecomer already dealt with. It will help in the following discussion.

1813 Andrew and Jane Kidd of Coolcullen a daughter Jane

1816 -- ditto -- a son Andrew

4 July 1819 -- ditto -- a daughter Sarah

Note the emigration must have been later. Note also these three younger children Jane, Andrew and Sarah not mentioned in the Register statement that "Andrew, and Jane Kidd, John, Mary, Thomas, George and Betty left the parish in 1818". I suppose they were just children too young to matter.

1820 Thomas and Sally Kidd of Coolcullen a daughter Mary Ann

1821. George and Jane Kidd of Old Leighlinbridge a daughter Eliza

1821 Thomas and Sally Kidd of Coolcullen a son William

1827 John Bradley marries Elizabeth Kidd of Coolcullen

1823 John Leeson of Killinair [Killinure?; Kill?]*, marries Mary Kidd of Dysart [Dysart Glebe]*.

Not long after I had heard from Fred Alexander Kidd I had a letter out of the blue from Rev. J. H. Kidd, of Woodbridge, Ontario, a man I later found was over 90. This letter gave not only the outline of his own line and descent from Joseph Kidd of Askamore (see previous chapter) who emigrated with grown up children in 1824, but also a detailed account of Andrew's family, their arrival in Canada. In 1902, the date in the extract from Bethel Register, Dr Simpson I reckon would have been seventyish and the Rev. J.H. thirtyish. There must have been close contacts between these two Kidd families in Canada over the years, a fact which I have suggested could indicate that they were well acquainted and even related in Ireland and that the emigration first of Andrew led on to that of Joseph of the same locality two or three years later. I now quote Rev. J.H. K.

"Andrew Kidd and Jane Kilfoyle 1818: travelled up the St Laurence and Ottawa rivers. Found settlement had taken place around Richmond. There was a section further west. Here they settled. They named it 'The Derry'. In three years' time the land was all taken, but in

**[note added by WSF Kidd] – see the footnotes for these places in the placenames appendix; all three have uncertainties in their identification.*

fifteen years there were few Irish left in the settlement. Andrew Kidd now had family of four sons and four daughters.

John
Thomas
Andrew
George
Mary (Mrs Leeson)
Jane (Mrs Skirley)
Betsy (Mrs Mills)
Sarah (Mrs Gilfoyle)

John the eldest was twenty years old of age and married. On arriving his wife gave birth to a child and died. The child was Andrew who later went to live in Bruce county. John then married Mary Garland. They had a family of fourteen. Mary Garland a school teacher came from a family of fifteen. They walked 20 miles in the village of Perth to be married (then following the names of John and Mary's fourteen children).

In 1821 Thomas and George Kidd cousins of Andrew Kidd came to Derry 'The Derry '. Thomas married Mary Ann Leach. Their family was

1. William who had a store at Burrills Rapids, Ontario,
2. Richard,
3. George, who had a son known 'Tavern Tom' and Ned, a bachelor and member of Parliament. When Thomas Kidd' s wife died he married John's widow (Mary Garland)."

I will next quote from letters received from J. Harold Kidd of Burrills Rapids a grandson of the above mentioned William, stated above to have been eldest son of the Thomas Kidd, who went to Canada about the same time as Andrew.

"Thomas Kidd left Co. Kildare with his cousin John Kidd in 1820. Thomas left his sister Mary behind, who married James Ashmore^[1] of Fenigh Co. Tipperary. Thomas and John settled in the Ottawa area where I live. Thomas had three sons, the eldest William my grandfather, who had five sons the eldest of which was my father Thomas."

1. In another later letter "Thomas Kidd leaving Ireland in 1818 left one sister Mary Kidd whose husband was John Warren" and "My direct paternal forbears Thomas Kidd emigrated in 1820, and left his sister Mary behind who married John Warren."

again in a later letter "Thomas and his first cousin John Kidd arrived here in Carleton County at Richmond 20 miles distant in 1818. My grandfather (William) moved to Burrills Rapids."

For the above it would seem the most obvious assumption is that the two first cousins of Andrew's eldest son John, the Thomas and George were brothers and are the Thomas and George of the Bethel Reg. Old Leighlinbridge. Thomas with a wife called Sally and a son William baptised 26 April 1821 and George of Old Leighlinbridge with a wife Jane and a daughter Eliza baptised Jan. 1821. On this assumption their emigration could not have been before 1821 at the earliest, just as for a similar reason Andrew's could not have been before 1820. But note that Rev. J.H. Kidd's report names Thomas's wife as Mary Ann Leach not Sally.

Who was the father of cousins Thomas and George, a father born about 1775 - 80, who would be another son of Ralph of Castlecomer in addition to those we have so far had namely 'emigrating Andrew' and 'carpenter George'. There is a man in the records who might fit the bill satisfactorily on location but not well on dates. This is a Thomas Kidd of Leighlinbridge. A record which is in the 'Memorials of the Dead in Ireland' is, I think, that of a tombstone recording death and burial in 1815 of his wife Mary and a baby son Joseph born that same year 1815. We should have to assume that the baby Joseph was late child if this Thomas of Leighlinbridge was indeed also father of our emigres George and Thomas who must have been born about 1800.

Let us say then we have an Andrew, a George and a Thomas, sons of Ralph of Castlecomer. In addition we have a good case for a daughter Elizabeth Kidd of Old Leighlinbridge who married William Shirley in 1806 (born about 1780), Ferns Ossory and Leighlin M.L.B.s.

I do not feel quite satisfied with this reconstruction and one must always remember that the Castlecomer Register, so helpful in after years was destroyed in 1798.^[1]

1. For the information of any future investigator I add here four other Kidds I have not been able to place. In the first place from the Ferns Ossory and Leighlin Marriage Licence Bonds.

William Thomas Kidd who married Frances McCormick in 1809 (born about 1780), Harriet Kidd who married Thomas Chapman in 1799 (born about 1775) Christopher Kidd who married Ann Alkin 1809 (born about 1785) and finally a Thomas Kidd, Gent, Farmer of Stradbally Hill father of Agnes Kidd of Stradbally Leix who married a Thomas Willy in 1845. Customs House Register of Protestant marriages. This Thomas could have a birth date about 1780 - 90. I suppose it is just possible he may be the same man as our Thomas of Leighlinbridge, possible son of Ralph of Castlecomer.

Descendants of William of Maidenhead and Thomas of Corbally (sixth generation, sons of Elopement Thomas).

William (1802 - 1840) had one son Samuel Kidd of Maidenhead and four daughters.

Seventh generation.

1. Samuel Wesley Kidd, 1838 - 1912, aged 74, married Emma Helena Tarleton in 1876, at St Bartholomew's Church, Dublin, she being of Ballsbridge Dublin, Emma died in 1920.

2. Jane Kidd, married Thomas Bodkin 1852 at the Church of Castletown near Maidenhead, John Kidd (Uncle) and Samuel J. Davies, witnesses.

3. Phoebe Kidd 1840 - 1894 , married in 1862 Edward Bowers (1836 - 1901) one son recorded William Edward Bowers.

4. Bessie Kidd married a Mr Askins and went to Australia.

5. Mary Kidd married Jones Henry Davis at Castletown Church 1857 John Kidd (Uncle) and others witnesses.

I have the male Davis line for four subsequent generations which I will insert here.

8th generation William Denis Kidd Davis 1852 - 1889, married E. Jordan.

9th generation William Kidd Davies (note spelling) born 1882, married F. Harmer.

10th generation William. Kidd Davies, married E. Grey.

11th generation Peter Davies and Joy Davies.

Eighth generation

Samuel Wesley Kidd had one son Harold Kidd (1880 - 1968) Eighth generation, and three daughters. In order of age

Eileen Phoebe (1884 - 1931) who married Rev. James William Camier of the Church of Ireland in 1909 and had (ninth generation) a son Ernest Camier and a daughter Eileen Camier who married a Basil Bryan.

Olive Tarleton who married a Mr Devlin and was alive at Falmouth in 1960 with a daughter Helen Devlin who married a Mr Corbett.

May. She married first Charles Kidd, a second cousin, a dentist, who went to Stellenbosh, S. Africa, and died of T.B. and second to a Mr Walter Hoyle and was still living recently.

I have not much of Harold Kidd except his dates, born 29.2.1880 and died 24 April 1968, at Maidenhead aged 88, and had an only son Charles born 4.2.1915 (ninth generation). I met Charles at his Maidenhead house for one evening in 1958 (possibly 57 or 59). At that time his father Harold, his first wife, and children were in Canada. Charles married first Miriam Sutcliff of Toronto and second Patricia Lorraine Maitland Congreve. He died 17 Jan. 1970 aged only 55. His children (ninth generation) are :-.

1. Grace married and living Germany 1970.
2. David married 1968 Angela, now 1974 at Maidenhead.
3. Dennis, an accountant in Montreal.

Finally then we come to 'Elopement' Thomas's youngest son, also a Thomas, born 1800 and his descendants. As we have seen he came in to the Corbally house and farm. He appears in the Griffiths Valuations 1850 as of parish of Tecoln, townland of Corbally, farmer of Ballylinar [Ballylynan], 178 acres and house £172. He died 12.11.1864. Customs House register, a widower. His will was proved by William Kidd of Corbally 7.9.1864 a discrepancy in dates here. This William was evidently his son, for according to information from Charles above mentioned William, Charles' great grandfather and elder brother of Thomas of Corbally died 4.1.1840. Thomas, he married in 1835 a Miss Arabella Tarleton, of Huguenot descent, who was born 1807, and died in 1864. She bore him 12 children (seventh generation). I have a record of 5 sons and 4 daughters. They were

Seventh generation

1. Thomas Tarleton Kidd, of Stradbally and later of Burnchurch, Co. Kilkenny. He is the man who gave Dr Leonard Kidd the information with which this Chapter starts. He was born 1839 and died 1902, aged 63. He married Abigale V. Blackmore in 1864 or earlier and is buried with his wife and eldest daughter in the old churchyard Burnchurch. One son and three daughters as set out below.
2. William Kidd of Corbally; married a Frances about 1871. She died in 1874 aged 25. They had two children who both died; first another

William who died aged 3, in 1876 probably as a result of accident for death certified by Coroner; second a girl Sarah died 1874 aged 1 year. After these tragic events the father William went to the U.S.A. and there married again and is reported as having had two sons and a daughter.

3. The third son was Charles Kidd. His death is recorded in the Customs House Register 8th of July 1875 aged 32, Born 1843. He was a 'gentleman' farmer of Crossleigh [Crosslow] Carlow. To illustrate uncertainties, I can say that a Mr V. G. Hinds, son of one of Thomas's daughters, and therefore a nephew of Charles, and an old man of 86 when he wrote in 1960, says "Mr Gregory brought me over to the old torn down church of Rathaspick where all the Kidds of the older generations are buried and where Charles was buried July 1876 aged 30 years. The tombstones are very overgrown with white lichen and it's hard to get down the names and dates". I also have a record that Charles married one of the Tarleton family a Frances Tarleton a sister of the Emma Tarleton who married Charles cousin Samuel Wesley Kidd of Maidenhead (see above).

4. & 5. These two sons were named Samuel and Henry and I have nothing further of them. One could no doubt find them in the Customs House Register of deaths. I reckon they were born between 1840 and 1850 about so their marriages too might be found recorded if indeed they did marry.

6. 7. 8. & 9. The four daughters recorded were named, Mary Jane, Martha, Arabella, and Susanna. Mary Jane married a Mr Wilson and had a son who was a 'clever lawyer' (8th generation). Susanna was born 1838 and died 1918 aged 80. She married 8.4.1866 a Mr Hinds at Rathaspick Church . This would be in Customs House Register, but I have not checked. I have a record that her tombstone at Timahoe. They had four sons (8th generation) Frank, Thomas (1868 - 1938) buried at Stradbally; Leslie Hinds over 86 in 1960; and V. Griff. Hinds, my correspondent also over 86 in 1960. I have nothing of the other two girls Martha and Arabella.^[1]

1. The Stradbally Reg. has a Robert William Kidd son of Thomas and Ann Kidd. Could be a mistake for Arabella, born November 1832, baptised 31 March 1833.

It remains now to set out the descendants of the eldest son Thomas Tarleton Kidd (7th generation). But the Kidd name dies out. The only son recorded, besides three girls, was named Charles Kidd. Born 1870. He was a dentist, went to Stellenbosch in South Africa, and died there of T.B. at early age of 51. He had married his 2nd cousin, May Kidd, daughter of Samuel Wesley Kidd; later May Kidd married a Walter Hoyle who died in 1949. May Hoyle was still alive circa 1960. Now the three girls. The first, named Bessie died young, aged seventeen again of T.B. It looks as if this weakness must have come in through the mother Abigale V. Blackmore. The other two children Eva Violet Kidd and Ethel Mary Kidd and their children (Both married) were free of it. Eva Violet married Dr Robert Stirling. Two daughters recorded, who both married men named Hutchinson; I only knew the name of one of these daughters, Alice Evelyn Stirling born 1895. She had 3 girls (10th generation). The other whose Christian name I have not got had four sons (10th generation),

1. A farmer named unknown
2. Kevin Hutchinson also a farmer.
3. Arthur Hutchinson, D.F.C.
4. Another farmer name unknown to me.

This concludes my information, subject to correction, as to the descendants of 'Elopement' Thomas Kidd.

Descendants of 'Emigration' Andrew Kidd and of George and Thomas probably nephews of his who emigrated at about the same time.

Andrew's Canadian descendants are currently being very fully studied and documented by Mr Gordon Kidd of R.R.3. Georgetown Ontario, Canada, and I will not therefore include them in this story. Two general comments here of his are appropriate.

The first is as to old age in the line. "Their life expectancy seems to have averaged in the middle seventies, in spite of the risks, hardships and limited health services. Their tendency is to average weight or below. Dark colouring of hair and eyes is common. The other is that in contrast to certain of the other branch for example that stemming from 'Elopement' Thomas himself described above, the Kidd name in the ensuing generations in Canada has multiplied strongly. They seem to be mainly professional middle class and many have attained distinction.

I have some information about Thomas's descendants, but nothing further about George. Thomas had 3 sons and a daughter (8th generation). William the eldest opened a general store at Burrils Rapids. I have his line down to the present day which I set out below in Tabular form. The second son George had in turn a son known as Tavern Tom Kidd and this is all I know of him. The third son's name was Richard. The daughter was named Mary Ann and she married a man named Hodgins. She like William was born in Ireland before the emigration and appears in the Bethel (Mothel) Register (see Appendix.)

8th generation

William Kidd of Burritts Rapid
1821 -

9th generation

John Kidd
m. Ellen Lucas

Thomas Albert Kidd

10th generation

George Kidd
m. Mary Griffith

J. Harold Kidd,
m. Rachel Ashmore
who died 1959

William Ennis Kidd
D.D. Canon of St.
Georges Cathedral
Kingston Ontario
61879 (81 Feb. 1960)

Col. Thomas Ashmore
Kidd, see Canadian
'Who's Who'.

11th generation

James Aubrey Kidd
m. Hilda

Edward Dealty Kidd
of London. m. Jane
Aiken d. of
Lord Beaverbrook

William Herbert Kidd
Barrister and solicitor
Galt, Ontario

12th generation

John Kidd
b. 1945

Jean Kidd
b. 1947