

THE KIDDS OF IRELAND

Part II The Dublin and Southern Ireland Kidds

by Franklin Kidd (1890-1974)

*Unpublished manuscript typescript;
this version dates from 1972-73, based on statements made in it*

*this searchable text version made using Omnipage ocr from manuscript images
(from website <http://www.kiddgenealogy.net/>), by William S F Kidd 3/2012
with subsequent extensive visual editing to remove typographical recognition errors;
the pagination of the original typescript is retained in this conversion, in order to facilitate
comparison with the original.*

*Most of the underlined text in the original has not been marked in this version. Headings have
instead been distinguished by using contrasting font styles. Text indentations similarly have not
been retained. If you miss them, or the underlined body text, feel free to take a copy and to
surrender the time needed to put them in!*

*I have added a few footnotes to make clear where I have made any changes from the original
typescript text; most of these point either to minor typographical errors, or in a few cases to an
obvious error in a date, probably originating from misreading the source used while typing. Such
footnotes are all explicitly marked as added to distinguish them clearly from Franklin Kidd's
footnotes. (as an editorial observation, for a typewriter manuscript, there are astonishingly few
typographical errors, even though the first of them occurs on page 1....)*

*In Chs. 2 and 3, the name typed Leighton has in every case been replaced (without note) by
Leighlin (which occurs correctly everywhere in chs. 1, and 4-6 in this one context of Marriage
Licence Bonds). Similarly, in Ch1 and appendices to Ch4, Cranmore has been changed for
consistency to Cranemore (also without note).*

*Where there is a significant difference between a place name in the original typescript and present
usage in the IreAtlas database or OSI maps, or a possible misidentification of a place, I have
inserted the suggested name in square brackets and in a contrasting sans serif font thus: [Uskerty],
without a footnote, but minor differences are not marked. Some of the place names used frequently
by Franklin Kidd to label the family branches have small differences, namely Askamore is now
Aska More; Ballisland is now Balisland, and Slyguff is Sliguff; I have not changed these.*

*A table providing all townland and parish place names from their first occurrences in the typescript
and comparative modern names from the online sources mentioned is provided as an appendix at
the end of this document. Also a Google Earth kmz file of locations of these townlands, churches
and graveyards, and towns and villages is available in a separate link on this website.*

A note to USAians: all numerical dates in this document are in D-M-Y format

*And one more and important thing to keep in mind about dates – many of the earlier dates he cites,
or infers, are marked as approximate, in this format: 1750c or 1750 c. or 1750 c or 1750c.
These should not be used as exact year dates; commonly they are uncertain by 5 to 10 years, and in
some cases more.*

THE KIDDS OF IRELAND

Part II The Dublin and Southern Ireland Kidds

Introduction

I have told in Part I how and why I started in 1958 my pursuit of the Kidds of Ireland and some, but not yet all, of what I discovered about the Kidds of the north coming from Scotland. I was trying to trace my grandfather's origins. I had not much to go on. Both my father and my grandfather were Benjamins.

When I was a boy living at Croydon (1897*-1904) and later at Tonbridge (1904-1920) my grandparents lived first at Brixton and later at Dulwich and we visited them on occasions. My father used to tell us tales about his adventures as a boy in Ireland. My grandfather died in 1914 and my father in 1916.

In 1927 my brother had a letter from my father's youngest brother, by that time in California. Answering a query about grandfather, he wrote "My father never told us anything about himself or his family, though we all tried many times to get some information on the subject. My mother, however, used to tell us that he had lived when a boy with an elder sister "in a very large house"; that this sister was not very nice to him and that he wanted to run away to sea and eventually did so. He did not like it, and was afraid to go home, so drifted round the world, until he eventually joined the Royal Irish Constabulary, where he was in some official position or other when my mother met him. I understand that years afterwards she induced him to try to trace his sister, but he found that she was dead and all trace of her was lost. We ourselves nor any of our friends or relatives have any other information other than this."

It was 30 years later after my retirement in 1957 that I began my search. With only this to go on except for a memory that my mother had once told me that "Grandpa" had said to her out of the blue "If you only knew, you would find that you were related to people well known in London". This and the reference, emphasised in quotes to "a very large house" fitted in with the surmise outlined in part I, that he derived from the Keady Kidds of Armagh. There was a Dr Hugh Kidd (1826-1895), in London, in his later life who with his wife, (a second wife younger than himself), was well to do and well known in society. He had been head of a large Dublin Hospital and was, if the surmise made in Part I is correct, grandfather Benjamin's 2nd cousin. My own wife who was at the Grove School in London circa 1905-1910 says there were girls there who claimed to be related to the then widely read author of Social Evolution, Mr Benjamin Kidd, my father.

**[note added by WSF Kidd] - typescript has 1807; must be a typo, for 1897 (or perhaps 1890, although 1891 England census does not appear to contain a record for him or parents)*

Well, however that may be, I got hold fairly soon of the outline record of grandfather Benjamin's career in the R.I.C. and the record of his marriage from Customs House Register in Dublin (Protestant marriages in Ireland had had to be registered from 1845 onwards). In these two documents he left a clear enough trail pointing to his being the son of a farmer, also named Benjamin (marriage certificate), somewhere on the common border of Co. Wicklow and Co Wexford (P.I.C. record), which, as I went on to discover, is the heart land of the Kidds of South Ireland. In the registers of Carnew Church in the Parish of Carnew which straddles the borders, I found a far larger number of Kidds, births, marriages and deaths, than anywhere else. The trouble was no Benjamin Kidd was amongst them and no other Benjamin Kidd has turned up anywhere else in the South. If he was so anxious to conceal his origins as he appears to have been can we be certain that the information which he gave to the R.I.C. and in his marriage certificate are correct? In this Part II I shall assume that they are, and you will find when I come to the Askamore branch (Askamore is in the Parish of Carnew) that by exercising my imagination and ingenuity, together with some odd bits of information from members of the Askamore Kidds of today, I have been able to place him tentatively.

I have now collected so much data about the Kidds of Southern Ireland that I felt I should put it together on record. There is necessarily a great deal of speculation with regard to the interrelationships especially in the earlier generations following the first arrivals. This speculation and the balancing of probabilities on basis of evidence of dates, locality, names, occupations etc., etc., constitutes a main line of interest in the tale.

The Kidds of South Ireland male and female have married people with surnames of English rather than Irish origin and there has been little mixture of blood with the native catholic Irish. There has also been a seep away of Kidds from Ireland to U.S.A., Canada, South Africa, Australia, and back to England or Scotland. Conversion to Catholicism seems to have been rare. And of course there has been the occasional arrival over the years of other Kidds from England or Scotland, especially into Dublin.

My sources of information besides that gained from Kidds still living have been Parish Registers, the State records of births, deaths and marriages, kept in Dublin, tombstones and memorial tablets, records of land valuations deeds of purchase and sale, wills, old directories and newspapers etc. I am sure that further records will be found which will add to, confirm or modify the tale I have fitted together. This includes a good many hundred Kidds over the years from the mid Seventeenth Century. If I can, I shall get my collection of records organised and made available for anyone who may be interested in the future to continue the hunt. There are still a large number of loose ends.

Finally I think anyone really interested should (1) have a good map to be able to follow the arguments based on locality and (2) make out for themselves in 'family tree' form the whole or the particular parts in which they are most concerned. Incidentally the Kidds of the North, in my account of them, start one generation before those in the South so that for example 2nd generation in the north dates with 1st in the south and so on.

CHAPTER I

The first three generations

The Kidds of Southern Ireland, as I have detailed in Part I, are only as one in ten compared with those of the North. These in the North clearly originated in Scotland coming as traders and settlers from ports on the Firth of Clyde to ports on the North Antrim coast, and being Presbyterian Protestants. Were those in the South also from Scotland? For a time I thought so.

The earliest Kidd records so far found in the South of Ireland start with two in the register of St. Michan's[#], Dublin:

Richard Kidd married Ellen Kelly 10 April 1637

Richard Kidd married Brichtett Kelly 5 Nov. 1640⁺.

From these two entries, I assume* that Ellen died soon after marriage, and that Richard then married her sister. Also we can assume Richard to have been born 1605 c. I shall call him the first generation of South Ireland Kidds.

On evidence of date alone he could have been son or nephew of the first Kidd recorded in Northern Ireland, Walter Kid merchant of Dunluce, Co. Antrim and burgess of Irvine in Ayrshire, Scotland, whose son James is recorded as having settled in Dunluce, married and had young family there of 8 prior to 1641. Other Kidds also, who were probably sons or relatives of this merchant Walter Kid, settled in North Antrim from Scotland at this time. Walter's dates appear to be 1570c.-1635c.

The name, Richard, however, bothered me. It did not seem in character. Also the fact that the Southern Kidds were Episcopalians. I then found in "The Bax Family" by Bernard Thistlethwaite 1936, a detailed study of a Quaker family originating in a Richardus Kidd of Settle, in Yorkshire, buried at Giggleswick in 1589, born 1530c. His great-grandson, John Kidd, was the original Quaker who "suffered for his Faith". John's descendants are fully recorded, but Thistlethwaite gives only his direct ancestors back to Richardus. They were, his father, William Kidd, baptized Giggleswick 1596, married Catherine Preston 1618; his grandfather Thomas, baptized Giggleswick 1572, married Janeta Forster 1592.

Now John Kidd's second son was a Richard Kidd, and the name Richard occurs in the six following generations. So it is no great assumption to make that among the so far untraced sons and grandsons of Richardus (1530c. - 1589) there were Richards, and that one grandson born 1600c. could have been the Richard who went to Dublin and married the Kelly girls. I believe the Society of Genealogists, London, possess copies of parish registers of Settle and Giggleswick 1568 - 1610. More research is needed into earlier records of Yorkshire Kidds.

#[note added by WSF Kidd] - typographical error St Micham's; should be St Michan's

+ [note added by WSF Kidd] - given as 8 Nov 1640 on page 12 of "The registers of the Church of St. Michan, Dublin". Parish Register Society of Dublin, 1907.

**[note added by WSF Kidd] - there is in fact a burial record 24 Aug 1640 for "Elinor Kiddie, wife of Richard Kidd" in the St. Michan's register (page 21 in "The registers of the Church of St. Michan, Dublin". Parish Register Society of Dublin, 1907.)*

There is more indirect evidence. We shall see the early Kidds of Dublin appear to have been in the clothier's trade. Now, John Kidd the first Quaker was a clothier. One of John's sons was a clothier, and one of his grandsons a weaver, who moved south to Reading, near London. I think we can safely assume that the Kidds of Giggleswick were a family engaged in sheep farming in the Yorkshire hills, and in weaving and trading in woollen fabrics, and that the first Kidd to reach Dublin did so as a trader from the port of Preston. Preston lies at the head of the estuary of the river Ribble, about 35 miles from Settle, which is in the hills near the source of the river. In the early 17th century Liverpool was a small village compared with Preston, which had been granted a Charter as early as 1179.* Woollen weaving was one of its important industries.

The second generation

The only candidate so far known is *Thomas Kid of Dublin* (1640c. to 1704). There is a record of an intestacy or inquisition for this Thomas dated 1704. If we assume a normal span of life, this Thomas Kid would have been born about 1640, so that by dates he qualifies as a son of Richard of Dublin above. It seems probable too that he must have been a man of means, and could have been connected with the trade and manufacture of textiles and clothing.

The third generation

If the above Thomas Kidd had sons, we should expect them to have birth dates about 1670-1680. I have found in records seven, a David Kidd, a James Kidd, two Georges and two Thomases and a William Kidd, all born at about this time. I shall, as we proceed, make a case that possibly the two Georges are the same man, and also the two Thomases. David and James were in Dublin. One George and one Thomas, respectively, of Athlone and Limerick. William, the other Thomas and the other George were close together in the region of the juncture of Co. Carlow, Co. Wicklow and Co. Wexford, and the towns or villages of Carnew, Shillelagh and Clonegall. (See map)

The above five or seven Kidds of the third generation on evidence of date suggest that it is likely that the original Richard had other sons in Dublin of whom no record has so far emerged.+ I shall assume they were

* It would be interesting to find out whether Kidds are recorded among the burgesses of Preston.

+ Among the records examined are St. Marie's Church, Monkstown, Dublin, 1669-1757; St. Peter's and St. Kevin's (one volume) 1669-1761 Dublin; St. Micham's, Dublin, St. Werbrigh; St. Andrews, St. Andoes, St. Anne and St. Bride one volume 1632-1800; St. Catherines 1636-1715; St. John the Evangelist and Cathedral Church of St. Patrick, one volume 1677-1880; St. Nicholas Without 1694-1739; Provost Winter's Registers Trinity College, Dublin.

related either as brothers or first cousins. It is advised that the reader at this stage keeps before him Chart No.1. The Kidds of Southern Ireland, first 3 generations#. Also the sketch map of the Kidd country around the juncture of the three counties Wicklow, Wexford and Carlow.

(1) **David Kidd of Dublin** 1670 c. - 1736, 5th Nov. (third generation). What we know of David Kidd comes from Bethams Abstracts of the Wills of David himself (of the City of Dublin, taylor), and later of his daughter Ann. David's will dated 5 Nov. 1736, proved 14 June 1737, left his property to his wife Mary and his daughter Ann. In the register of St. Marie's Church, Monkstown, Dublin, we find that Ann Kid married James Ware (sic) in 1738. James was a widower. For in 1759 Ann Weir (sic), widow of James Weir of Dublin, merchant, dates a will 3rd July 1759, proved 19th Jan. 1760, leaving her property to her daughter Elizabeth, wife of William Jaffary, and her step-daughter, Mary Weir, and her mother Mary Kidd.

I think we can deduce from the above that David Kidd left no descendants in the male line, was born 1765 c., married a Mary, and had his daughter, Ann, about 1695-1700, his wife being about 25 when she married (born 1670-1675), and still living in 1759.

Now as to this Mary, wife of David Kidd, Tailor, of Dublin, there is evidence that she could have been the daughter of Francis Brookes, of Clough, Wexford, 'gent'. There is a Townland of Clough, in Parish of Clonmore, Union of Enniscorthy. The evidence is again from Bethams Abstracts of Prerogative Wills (1718) "Francis Brookes, of Clough in Wexford, gent: brothers James and John Brookes; sister Anne White and her sons Francis and John White - sister Mary Kidd. The evidence is not conclusive, and rests on name and dates and locality. It fits with the further picture it unfolds.

(2) **James Kidd of Dublin** 1675 c. - 1744, silk weaver (third generation). What is known about this James derives from an unusual number of Deeds in which he was Grantor preserved in the Deeds Office, Henrietta Street, Dublin. In the Grantor index covering the years 1708-1729, there are 21 Kidd entries for Southern Ireland, - 19 of them are James's. * Briefly abstracted they are as follows:-

June 1737. James Kidd silk weaver lets to Patrick Fling yeoman premises for 31 years at £2.4.0.

Mar. 1737. Lets land to Samuel Parkes a Chirurgeon of Dublin.

Sept. 1735. Raises £100 on security of property from Rev. Charles Whellingham, Archdeacon of Dublin.

* The two others are (1) the Thomas Kidd of the next paragraph and a John McMahon Kidd, Captain in H.M. 22nd Reg. of Foot, assigning him land in City of Cork.

#[note added by WSF Kidd] - The chart to which Franklin Kidd refers has not been preserved with this copy of the manuscript. His sketch map also has not been found; however, all the places to which he refers can be seen using Google Earth and the link on this web site to the kmz file which I have made for these places.

May 1738. Assigns property to creditors redeemable for £122, payable May 1739.

June & July 1738. Raises £100 on security of properties.

Nov. 1738. Raises £40 on security of property leases.

Dec. 1738. Raises £200 on security of property leases, mortgage discharged later.

Feb. 1738. Lets property for annual rent £5.

Mar. 1738. Raises £300 on security of properties.

May 1739. Lets to Henry Sherwin (Goldsmith) property annual rent £40.

May 1739. Raises £100 on properties. Mortgage discharged following year.

April 1740. Lets property.

April 1740. Lets property rent £18.

May 1740. Assigning land in City (small plots) to the Archdeacon Rev. Charles Whellingham.

June 1740. Raises £100 on mortgage of several house properties to William Devall 'gent'. James Kidd's son John Kidd one of witnesses of deed (William Devall a public notary).

Nov. 1740. Assigns lease of house "Sign of the Blew Cross" in which he lived and tennis court to James Picken Gent.

Nov. 1743. Lets two houses £8.5.0. rent.

Oct. 1744. (not registered till 1746) Lease of house property at rent of £6.*

* Location of properties.

'House situated Aungier St/York Street bounded on S. by house belonging to James Kidd, situated in Parish of St Peters'

'Houses on East side of Water lane and Marrowbone Lane southside of Aungier St.

Dwelling house in which James Kidd then lived situated on Eastside of Aungier St. known as the Sign of the Blew Ball, together with backside and tennis court at rear of the town houses which adjoin the said house on the south side.

Houses on North side of Marrowbone Lane

Property on East side of Kevin's Port

Glebe on West side of Kevin's Port

Trades mentioned of those renting etc., Taylor, Goldsmith, Carpenter, Chirurgeon, Silkweaver, Glazier.

What can fairly be deduced from the above is, I think, the following

James Kidd of Dublin was born 1670-80. He was brought up to the trade of silkweaving. He married 1710-20 and had one son at least, named John Kidd. From 1737, the date of the proving of the will of David Kidd, the tailor of Dublin City, James owns house and land properties in Dublin, from which he receives in the order of £100 - a year at least from the records surviving, and, as may well be, more from other properties as well. That he raised sums up to £300 on short term loans secured on these properties. Finally, he died about 1743-5. There is no direct evidence that he was a brother of David, the tailor, son of Thomas (will of 1704), but on general grounds, that is of dates, calling, status and the absence of any other Kidds recorded, it does not seem very unlikely that he in fact was so.

James's son John, appears again I think in the Abstract of a Will dated 17 March 1782, and proved 4 Jan. 1783, that is forty years after he witnessed a deed of his father in 1740. So he must have been by then an old man of say 60-70 years of age. The will is of one James Parkinson of Drumcondra Lane, Dublin, a carpenter, who was also of a good age for he had a great nephew and niece. His property was left to (1) his nephew James Parkinson and his children James Parkinson and Anne. (2) his sister Elizabeth Connor and her daughter Anne Connor. (3) his brother John Kidd. For James Parkinson to have a brother named John, implied to me that James Parkinson's mother lost her husband when her three children (1) James of Will, (2) his brother, father of nephew and niece Parkinson and (3) his sister Elizabeth Connor, were very young and then married James Kidd the silk weaver by whom she had another son John born 1710-20. The three Parkinson children were born say 1705-1715. It looks also as if the James Parkinson of the will was a childless widower or bachelor and that he and his ½ brother John Kidd must have remained close friends throughout life.

One would presume that a line of Dublin Kidd may have descended from this John (b.1720c.) but I have not yet followed this up intensively. The Dublin picture in which many Kidds appear is more complex than that of the others I attempt to unravel, owing to influx into Dublin of Kidds from elsewhere in Ireland and from England over the years, and I shall not deal with them for the time being.

(3) *George Kidd, of Newtownbarry Cemetery* (1683-1763) Third generation

This man and his wife Eleanor, both died 1st Nov. 1763, each aged 80. Their stone, and that of their son, also George, lies in an old graveyard near Newtownbarry, Co. Wexford. It is I think new evidence discovered and reported to me by Patrick Doyle, stonemason of Coolkenno. "We had to wade through a meadow, sandpits, bracken and barbed wire, and in the middle of a field of barley is the little graveyard all overgrown with nettles and weeds of all kinds". Molly Kidd 3.7.63. It reads: "Underneath lie the bodies of George Kidd and Elenor his wife; both died 1 Nov. 1763 each aged 80 years.

Also their son George Kidd (fourth generation) late of Ballynastraw who died 12 April 1812 aged 84 years." Their son was therefore born in 1728 when Elenor his mother was 42. The son appears certainly to be the George Kidd of Parish of Kilrush recorded in the burial register of Carnew 11/5/1812 aged 84 (born 1728), and also the George Kidd of Raheen, whose 6th daughter married William Plummer of Ballyrankin. (Marriage Settlement Deed of 1809). The following is an abstract of this Deed. "Marriage Settlement of 3rd April 1809 between

- (1) William Plummer, of Ballyrankin, Co. Wexford, gent., and
- (2) George Kidd, of Raheen, of said County, and Elizabeth Kidd, his sixth daughter, and
- (3) Joseph Kidd, of Raheen, farmer,

whereby William Plummer grants to Joseph Kidd for £50.- the lands of Ballyrankin 179 acres, Joseph being required to pay an annuity of £20.- to Elizabeth if she survives her husband, William Plummer. Witnesses Hercules Atkins Attorney and John Pounden Merchant both of Enniscorthy, Co. Wexford."

It seems certain that Joseph was a son of George, and a brother of Elizabeth, and great-grandfather of the late Mr. John Kidd, of Ballyrankin. I shall deal with the later history of this Raheen, Ballyrankin line of Kidds further on.

It is, however, necessary to bring in here the probability that George Kidd of fourth generation, who is described on the Newtownbarry stone as "late of Ballynastraw", in the Carnew Register as of Parish of Kilrush and, on the above Deed, as of Raheen, is identical with a George Kidd who married also a Judith Dockrell in 1753 (Ferns Marriage Bonds). At this date he would have been only 25 years old. By this first marriage it is believed he had four children before Judith died circa 1766, their names being William born 1753, Judith born 1756, George born 1760 and lastly a Joseph Kidd born 1765. This Joseph is the well attested ancestor of the Cranemore and Bohermore lines. Judith, George and William are recorded on a Tombstone in Churchyard of Carnew as follows:

"Sacred to the memory of George Kidd late of Ballynastraw who died 1 Aug. 1825 aged 65. Also his brother William Kidd who died 7 Feb. 1829 aged 76 and Judith Kidd sister of the above named George and William who died 8 Feb. 1867 aged 105."*

These three were probably all unmarried. They are referred to in a Deed⁺ dated 1824 (a year before #George's death). The parties were:

* Memorials of the Dead in Ireland. Vol. VII p,103.

+ Deed reference.

#[note added by WSF Kidd] - typo Goerge corrected

- (1) William Seabrooke of Ballynastraw, farmer.
- (2) George Kidd, farmer, and Judith.
- (3) William Kidd of Ballynastraw, farmer.

James Rainsford of Ballynastraw had surrendered a lease dated Nov. 1775 of part of the lands of Ballynesbagh (sic) and premises (Ballynastraw?). William Seabrooke now holds lease of 90 acres at £65. per annum on east side of road from Clonegall to Newtownbarry. Agreed that this lease and premises should go to and be enjoyed by William Kidd, George Kidd and Judith Kidd, and the survivor of them, and should revert to said William Seabrooke, George, William and Judith each paying William Seabrooke 10/-d.

Why should William Seabrooke have acted as this Deed suggests to benefit George, William and Judith? It would seem likely that he was the William Seabrooke who married a Susan Kidd in 1820 (Clonegal. Reg.) where he is described as of Ballyboy. This marriage is also recorded in the Ferns Ossory and Leighlin Marriage Licence bonds. Susan would have been born circa 1800, and I shall suggest she was one of Joseph's daughters, and niece of George, William and Judith. (See later section on the Cranemore and Bohermore lines.)

To go back now to our George Kidd (fourth generation) of Raheen, of Kilrush parish, and "late of Ballynastraw". (1728-1812): I have not traced the name of his second wife. What is interesting and odd is that, if I am correct, he called some of the children of the second wife by the same names as those of the first wife, another Joseph, another Judith and another George. (See later section on the Ballyrankin Kidds.)

Finally, who was the father, the George Kidd born 1683*, buried with his wife Elenor both of whom died on the same day and at the same age, 80 years, on 1 Nov. 1763. The conclusion we should come to is that he is identical with the George of Athlone, son or nephew of Thomas Kidd of Dublin will 1704, brother or cousin of David the tailor of Dublin 1670c.-1736; that he set up in a clothiers business in Athlone and was succeeded there by his son Sackville Kidd who became in due course sovereign or mayor of Athlone. The junction of Co. Wicklow, Co. Wexford and Co. Carlow was certainly, as we shall see, the centre of the Kidd clan outside Dublin itself. It was probably strongly protestant at that time. I have found no subsequent records of Kidds in or around Athlone. I think that George after handing on his Athlone business to his son Sackville, either retired to the Newtownbarry neighbourhood or died there while on a visit to his son George or brother (or cousin) William of Ballisland (see later). This William Kidd, (third generation No.7) whom we shall come to was the only one of the seven 3rd generation Kidds, who from firm records appears to have resided in the Wicklow Wexford border country at least from early manhood.

**[note added by WSF Kidd] - 1763 typed, crossed out and overwritten in pencil 1683*

(4) **Thomas Kidd of Ballynastraw** 1675c.#-1740. Third generation.

We come across this Thomas in two Deeds. In the first dated 1723 Thomas Kidd of Ballynastraw, Co. Wexford, gent., purchases in 1723 the leases of varying properties in over a dozen townlands running south down the River Slaney from Clonegall. In a later Deed in 1740, his eldest son and heir, William Kidd of Clonegall, Clothier, jointly with a coexecutor disposes of these same properties. They were both bought (£100.-) from and later resold (£600.-) to a Matthew Derenzi, of Clobemon Hall.

In the Roll of Apprentices, Dublin Company of Goldsmiths, 1653-1752, there appears "1739, John Kidd son of Thomas Kidd of Ballinstraw, Co. Wexford, bound to P. Popkens." We can date Thomas Kidd with fair certainty 1675c. to 1740.

We get the impression of a man of some means, aged 50 to 60, in 1723 buying as an investment or as a speculation land, houses and mill properties on a large scale, and living himself in a good house in close reach of his various properties. There is a Ballynastraw House and a Ballynastraw Cottage marked on the Ordnance Survey Map of 1841 in townland of Ballynastraw, Parish of Moyacombe, Co. Wexford, which is situated at the juncture of the three counties, Wexford, Wicklow and Carlow. There is a Clobemon Hall, in the townland of Clobemon, six miles down the River Slaney from Ballynastraw. Clonegall lies just over the border in Co. Carlow, about a mile north of Ballynastraw House.

On dates, and on the Dublin and clothier connexion, it is reasonable to believe that Thomas Kidd came from the Dublin family, and was a brother of the David Kidd and James Kidd, of Dublin, dealt with above. It seems also very likely that Thomas of Ballynastraw was a relative of the George Kidd dealt with above, whose son was described on a tombstone as "late of Ballynastraw".

Of Thomas's son William, the tailor of Clonegall, I have been unable to find any other record besides that mentioned above. I am inclined to think that he remained unmarried or died young, but of this more later.

Thomas's younger son, John, apprenticed to the Company of Goldsmiths, appears likely to be the John Kidd of Kilcombe, of whom we know through the record of the death of his widow in the Tombe (Camolin) Parish Register "1800 4 April burial of Mary Kidd widow of John Kidd of Kilcombe at Camolin aged 70". Kilcombe is not marked on the Bartholomew's 1/4 to the mile maps of Ireland obtained about 1958, which I have used for the most part in this study. But in an earlier map of 1841 entitled The Townland Survey of the Co. of Wexford a Kilcombe church ruins and graveyard to the West of it is shown 3 miles north of Camolin and 2 miles South of Askamore. I cannot find Tombe on my maps. I had the extracts from the Tombe (Camolin) parish registers from the Dean of Ferns in 1960. I wonder does the old graveyard of Kilcombe Church and the ruins still exist? There could well be Kidd graves there.

#[note added by WSF Kidd] - obvious inversion typo 1765 corrected to 1675

John of Kilcombe appears to have had several daughters. We may conveniently recount what there is to tell about them here. Tombe, Camolin and Ferns are on the main road east of the Wicklow mountains to Dublin. Ferns, once the capital of the Kingdom of Leinster, was a Cathedral town, the seat of a bishop. John, trained as a goldsmith, must have found some employment there, and was probably not a farmer. Presuming him ten years older than his wife, he would have been born c.1720. His daughters we think were the following:

An Elizabeth Kidd of Tombe (born 1765) married Francis Smith of Tombe in 1788.

A Mary Kidd of Kilcombe (born 1766) married Solomon Doyle of Tombe in 1789.

These are from the Tombe Register. From the Ferns and Kilbride Register we have four baptisms between 1786 and 1796, a William, an Elizabeth, a Henry and a John, children of William Richardson and Mary Jane née Kidd. Also six children between 1791 and 1807 born to Henry Seabrook and his wife née White Kidd. These children were successively John, William, White a girl, Henry, Antony and Richard. The William Seabrook was born 1792, and would seem to be certainly the William Seabrook who later married Susan Kidd in 1820, and deeded land to George, William and Judith in 1824, as we have seen above.

Mary Jane and White Kidd would thus appear to have been born 1768c. and 1770c. and qualify as two more daughters of John of Kilcombe and his wife Mary (1730 to 1800).

What of this curious name White. The obvious suggestion is that Mary, John's widow, was a Miss Mary White. Now refer back to the will of Francis Brookes gent of Clough, Co. Wexford dated 1718 which I have already quoted as suggesting that his sister Mary Kidd née Brookes was David Kidd's wife. The Will mentions another sister of Francis Brookes, Anne White and her two sons, Francis and John White. I now suggest that Mary White, wife of John Kidd of Kilcombe was a sister of these two White boys. This would make her a niece by marriage of David Kidd.

(5) **George Kidd, of Athlone** 1680c.-1745c or (1683-1763). (Third generation)

We come now to the George Kidd of Athlone. He is recorded on a stone put up by his grandson, a Thomas Kidd, in the Church in Athlone, Co. Westmeath (Mem. of the Dead in Ireland Vol. 11). This reads as follows:- "Here lie the bodies of George Kidd, his wife and three of their children. As a mark of his filial affection Thomas Kidd erected this stone to preserve the memory of his father, Sackville Kidd, son to the above George, who also lies here interred with six of his children. He died on the 12th of October 1780 in the 63rd year of his age".

A thing which first attracts notice in the above is the curious Christian name of Sackville. He was a man of note. Three other records of him have been found. Lists of Freeholders (Dublin Genealogical Office Mss 443) gives Roscommon circa 1780 Saguil (sic) Kidd of Athlone, valuation £10. Index to Hibernian Chronicle 1769-1775, marriages Feb. 28, 1774, Sackville Kidd, Vice-Sovereign of Athlone, to Elizabeth Waller wid. of Thos. of Athlone. This clearly must have been a second marriage at the age of 57. Finally the Dublin Directory of 1780, under magistrates of chief towns, lists Saquille (sic) Kidd, Dec. 1779, Sovereign of Athlone. It may be noted at this stage that I have not so far found any other earlier or later records of Kidds in or around Athlone, which is situated at the strategic crossing of the Shannon river, more or less in the centre of Ireland.

We can date the George Kidd, Sackville's father, from the above inscription as born 1683c., mar. 1710c. Sackville was born 1717. Why was he christened Sackville? (If he was so christened). I turned my attention then to the Sackville family, and found at once a curious coincidence of dates. George Sackville (1st Viscount) 3rd son of Lionel Cranfield Sackville, 1st Duke of Dorset, was born on 26th Jan. 1716. He had a long and distinguished career (see Encyclopaedia Britannica 11th Edition), but I need only quote here one relevant passage. "In 1740, he was transferred to the cavalry, receiving the Colonelcy of the 7th (3rd) Irish Horse (Carabineers). With this Office he combined those of First Secretary to his father, the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland and Irish Secretary of War; and a seat in each of the two Houses of Commons at Westminster and Dublin, winning at the same time the repute of being "the gayest man in Ireland except his father". He was educated at Westminster School and Trinity College, Dublin. More must be available about his father: whether he had estates in Ireland, and if so, where. I doubt, however, whether George Kidd would have christened a son of his Sackville without there being some personal and close link somewhere. As there is no evidence that I know of connecting the Sackvilles with Athlone, I am inclined to think father George Kidd was born in Dublin, son of Thomas Kidd (Will 1704), and was engaged in some branch of the fashionable clothier's trade there in 1717 when his son Sackville was born and christened: that it was when his family was still young, say 1730c., that he set up business in Athlone, where his son Sackville followed on and clearly did well, since we find Sackville there as Vice-Sovereign in 1774, and occupying a good class dwelling. As we shall see later Sackville was, I think, a second Christian name which he used for prestige purposes in his business life, and that he had another name by which he was known in his family.

Athlone is not a large town (population 6,617 in 1901), but derives its importance from the fact that from earliest days it was as a military post, controlling the crossing of the River Shannon river. A castle and bridge were built in 1210. As the key to Connaught it was the seat of the Presidency of Connaught under Elizabeth, and withstood siege in 1641

rebellion. In 1690 and 1691 it sustained two sieges. In the first, it was held for James II. In the second, lost to forces of William III under a Dutch Commander, Jodert de Ginkell, who became Earl of Athlone, the title lasting in his line until 1844. In 1797 very large fortifications were built on the northern side of the river.

The hypothesis is reasonable, I think, that both George and Sackville of Athlone followed the trade, or business, of a high class military and gents' clothier in the more or less settled and prosperous period 1730 to 1780 when Sackville died.

We now come to the question as to whether George of Athlone could possibly be identical with the George of the Newtownbarry Stone who died on the same day as his wife, and was of the same age as her, on 1 Nov. 1763. At this time Sackville was 45, and his mother and father 84. They could both have died as the result of an ailment contracted on a visit to the Newtownbarry district in winter. The visit would have been to their youngest son George of Raheen, then 35 years old, who had set up as a business man or farmer in this neighbourhood because of the presence of relatives there, William the tailor of Clonegall (his father Thomas of Ballynastraw now dead), and as we shall see later, most probably a Kidd of Ballisland, son of the William Kidd of Ballisland of third generation.

An alternative reconstruction would be that George and Elenor of the Newtownbarry Stone moved from Athlone to Ballynastraw soon after the death of his brother Thomas of Ballynastraw in 1740. Sackville would at that time have been only 22 or so, and their younger son George only 12. Sackville would seem to have been a little young at that date to take on the Athlone business, but it is quite a possibility as his father was still in the background, and there could well have been an experienced assistant staff.

(6) ***Thomas Kidd of Limerick*** born 1650 to 1680c. (Third generation).

There is a well authenticated Peter Kidd, clothier and Freeman of Limerick in 1747 (Freeman Rolls), from whom can be traced with certainty the descent of a large Kidd family with many distinguished members. Peter's death is recorded in the Dublin Hibernian Journal of Wednesday, 29th February 1792 "died at Limerick Mr. Peter Kidd, formerly an eminent clothier". His wife was Honora Kean. The will of Thomas Kean, of Dublin, dated 21st Oct. 1767, proved 5th Feb. 1768, mentioned his sister Honora Kean, wife of Peter Kidd, and her eldest son, Michael Kidd, and her younger son, Edmond Kidd. (Betham's Abstracts of Prerogative Wills). Peter and Honora had a large family, and many of the children died young. Their burials and baptisms are in the Register of St. John's Church, Limerick, from 1743 to 1767. We can, from the above, date Peter's birth as 1715c.

Peter could thus very reasonably be a son of George of Athlone or another of the third generation Kidds, but for another piece of evidence. "There are earlier entries of Kyds or Kidds in the same Register (St. John's, Limerick) dating from 1713 Margaret wife of Thomas Kidd ." * So states Mrs. Dorothy McCall# last surviving child (by second wife) of Joseph Kidd born 1824, died 1918, son of Thomas Kean Kidd 1780-1850 (St. John's Register, Limerick), corn merchant, son of Edmund Kidd, Solicitor, of Limerick (1753-1838) St. John's Register, who is mentioned as the younger son of Honora Kean and Peter Kidd in the Will referred to above. From this it appears that at about the time of Peter's birth, a Margaret Kidd, wife of a Thomas Kidd, died and was buried in Limerick, and that the husband, Thomas, was living at that date. We can only estimate Thomas's birth within wide limits, say 1650-1680.

It is possible to identify this Thomas of Limerick with the Thomas of Ballynastraw, as follows:- David Kidd was a high class tailor of Dublin, succeeded to his father's business (Thomas of Dublin, Will 1704). David's brothers, George and Thomas, both in clothier trade, both moved out of Dublin, George setting up at Athlone, as above suggested, and Thomas in Limerick, as clothiers. Both did well in the relatively settled period following William III's accession (1689). In due course, Thomas between age of 30 and 40 married Margaret, who died at the birth of Peter in 1713. Thomas remained in business in Limerick for another 10 years. In 1723 he retired, and moved to Wexford, choosing Wexford through the fact of his brother's wife Mary's family being of Wexford.+ He bought property, married a second wife, and settled down as a 'gent'. Meantime, he kept some interest in the Limerick business with a view to putting one of his sons into it. William, his eldest, and Peter were apprenticed in the clothiers' trade in Dublin. Eventually, William the eldest is a clothier at Clonegall, and Peter a clothier in Limerick, as we know from the records. On this interpretation, John, son of Thomas of Ballynastraw, apprenticed goldsmith in Dublin 1739 would have to be a son by a second wife whom Thomas married either before or after he bought the properties in Wexford. This second wife could be the Kathren Kidd who died 1724. Patrick Doyle told me he had found an old underground flag-stone in Carnew Churchyard with the inscription "Here lieth the body of Kathren KiddApril 1724'. There were words he could not decipher.

* A recent search of the Register has failed to reveal this entry. It could easily have been a gravestone inscription, especially as, if it was a Register entry, why not include it when noting the others? A search of gravestones St. John's, Limerick, is indicated.

+ Also a William Kidd, a brother or cousin, at Ballisland.

#*[note added by WSF Kidd] - the surname is McCall, not McColl as in the typescript here; see page 78 (p1 of Ch.6)*

(7) **William Kidd**. (Third generation) This Kidd (the last of the third generation so far found) appears in the Ferns Marriage Licence Bonds in 1695 as marrying a Mary Loftus. This record associates him geographically with the George Kidd of the Newtownbarry Cemetery and the Thomas Kidd of Ballynastraw, and dates his birth approximately 1660-70. It looks, moreover, as if this William Kidd may have been the first of the Kidds to settle on the Wicklow-Wexford border.

Recently, through Mr. Harry Hollingsworth, I have been told of an MS 6054 in National Library, Dublin, among the FitzWilliam papers. These contain rent rolls, leases, etc., of an estate at Carnew and Shillelagh (The Demesne of Coalattin Park) in Co. Wicklow and Co. Wexford dated 1728.* The entry of interest is "Willm. Kid, his wife, one son and 2 daughters subtenant of Thomas Goodison chief tenant in townland of Ballyisland" p.95.

Will'm Kid's son could, from what we know, have been of any age up to 30 or more, living at home and unmarried, and William Kid, of Ballyisland (sic) therefore could have married about 1700. I conclude that he is in fact identical with the William Kidd who married Mary Loftus in 1698. Another interesting fact is that in these records of 1728 we find in a neighbouring townland a Valentine Loftus with a wife, six sons and a daughter, which suggests that this Valentine Loftus may well have been Mary Loftus's brother.

William Kidd, then, who we may describe as of Ballyisland (born 1670c. died 1740c.) was of the third generation, and his son of unknown name of the fourth generation. This so far unnamed man seems undoubtedly to have been the father of a Samuel Kidd of Ballisland born 1740, as recorded on one of the oldest gravestones in the Old Yew Tree graveyard at Shillelagh. I quote this as I had it from Patrick Doyle, stonemason, of Coolkenna "Erected by William Kidd in memory of his father Samuel Kidd of Ballisland, who departed this life 8 June 1812 aged 72 years. Also here lieth the body of George brother of the said William, who died 27 Feb. 1828 aged 47 years. And also is interred the remains of said William Kidd who died 9 July 1842 aged 60 years". There is also a record of George Kidd's death Feb. 1828 in the Parish Register of Clonegall Church. Here he is called George Amona Kidd. Apparently his brother William also used the name Amona, as witnessed by a Register of Baptism in Carnew Church. "7.11.1825 John A. of William A... and Anne Kidd". Samuel then was born in 1740, William his son in 1782, George, also his son, in 1781. I shall return to this when dealing later with the Ballisland line of Kidds from the fourth generation onwards. There must be some reason or significance in the use of the Christian name 'Amona' but I don't get it myself%.

* "His lordship had imagined that he had settled among Protestant colony in Shillelagh and gave the inhabitants bargains that they could live comfortably upon" the agent in his report.

%[note added by WSF Kidd] – see footnote added on p.1, Ch. 3

One is naturally prompted at this stage to ask who this first William Kidd of Ballisland was, and how connected with the other Kidds of the third generation who seem to congregate in this district around Shillelagh, Carnew and Clonegall on the border of Counties Wicklow, Wexford and Carlow. His marriage in 1698 is the earliest of definite Kidd records in this district so far. Had he come from Dublin? was he a son or nephew of 2nd generation Thomas Kidd of Dublin Will dated 1704? Was he a farmer or in some business or trade? I would plump for his having been connected with estate management after being born and brought up in Dublin.

Besides the son of unknown name, believed to be the father of Samuel of Ballisland 1740-1812, William of the third generation who married Mary Loftus in 1698 could also be the father of a Thomas Kidd of Coolroe 4th generation. But there is another conjecture which I prefer to the effect that Thomas of Coolroe was another son of George Kidd of the Newtownbarry stone and I shall return to this in dealing with the Askamore branch later. Anyhow, what we know of Thomas of Coolroe is as follows:

In a Deed* registered 12 Nov. 1750, Caesar Colclough of Tintern, Co. Wexford, leases to Thomas Kidd of Coolroe, Co. Wexford, gent., all that part of Tintern (about 30 acres) commonly called the Little Grove, to his heirs and assigns, for the lives of himself and his wife Hannah and of Thomas Derenzy, son of Matthew Derenzy of Clobemon, Co. Wexford.

In the register of Tintern, "1805 May 7th at Owenduff Mrs. Hannah Kidd of Coolroe (died or was buried) aged 98".

Thomas Kidd married Hannah Clarke 1736, as recorded in the Ferns Marriage licences.+ I would suppose him therefore to have been born 1705-10c.

The locality Tintern, notable for the historic Tintern Abbey, separates him considerably from the main group of Kidds round about the juncture of the Wicklow, Wexford, Carlow County borders. Tintern is on the south coast some 30 miles from Newtonbarry as the crow flies, and a good deal further by road. Thirty acres seems to imply his occupation to have been that of a farmer. He may have gone to Tintern because it was his wife's home county. Anyhow he had money, and was not a labourer. The year after he married Hannah a John Kidd was born (1737), whose death in 1821 aged 84 as recorded in the Carnew register where he is stated to be of Kilrush. As Thomas Kidd marries Hannah Clarke 1736, and John Kidd of Kilrush born 1737, it seems more than likely that this John of Kilrush was the son of Thomas of Coolroe and of Tintern, and that on reaching manhood he had returned to his father's native stamping ground, and this may well have been through the influence of the Derenzy family of Clobemon, which is near Kilrush. It was a Matthew Derenzi

* 143/214/96635 Deed reference.

+ Printed in the Kildare Archaeological Society's Journal Vols, 9 & 10. Originals destroyed by the fire in the Four Courts, Dublin, in 1922.

of Clobemon Hall who sold the string of properties to Thomas of Ballynastraw in 1720.

There are three girl Kidds who could have been John of Coolroe's daughters, their marriages being recorded in the Ferns Marriage Licence already referred to. They are:

Elenor Kidd* married Bartholomew Goff 1764 (b.1739c.)

Mary Kidd married John Graham 1767 (b.1742c.)

Ann Kidd married Robert Sells 1771 (b.1746c.)

One must state, however, that these three, or some of them, could on dates equally well be daughters of William the tailor of Clonegall.

I have not been able to make out that John of Kilrush to be the forefather of any line of Kidds, though it is just possible on dates that he could be the originator of the Slyguff (near Carlow) Kidds via a second John Kidd of Kilrush (born 1766 died 1843 aged 77, Carnew Register). The Slyguff Kidds certainly regard Kilrush as their ancestral Parish. But more of that later.

Summary of Third Generation Kidds

A summary of the information we have about these seven Kidds living in the last quarter of the 1600s, and the first half of the 1700s may now be made.

(a) David 1665c. - 1736 Tailor of Dublin. His daughter Anne married Dublin merchant. No sons.

(b) James 1675c. - 1744. Silkweaver of Dublin. His son John also lived in Dublin. A Thomas Kidd who married Ann Hopkins 1746, (Register of St. Peter and of St. Kevin's, Dublin), probably also a son of James.

(c) George 1683 - 1763 Gravestone near Ballinstraw, Co. Wexford. First known ancestor of Ballyrankin Kidds. Son, George of Raheen (1728-1812).

(d) Thomas 1675c. - 1740. Invested in properties near Ballynastraw, Co. Wexford, 1723. Eldest son was William, a clothier of Clonegall. A younger son, John, was apprenticed to goldsmiths, Dublin, 1739.

* The name Elenor (spelling rather variable) is one of the clues pointing to Thomas of Coolroe being a son of the George and Elenor of the Newtownbarry stone.

(e) George 1680c. - ? His son, Sackville Kidd, was merchant of Athlone, and became Sovereign (Mayor) of Athlone. Very possibly a clothier. Possibly identical with (c).

(f) Thomas 1665c. - ? Of Limerick, and probably father of Peter Kidd, an eminent clothier of Limerick. Could be same man as (d).

(g) William 1670c. - ? Of Ballisland near Shillelagh: married Mary Loftus in 1695. (Ferns Marriage Licence Bonds).

It seems likely that all these Kidds were originally townsmen in trade or business. Two of them had sons who were clothiers. Of the others, one was a tailor, and another a silkweaver. I think it is acceptable to conclude that they were all of the same family originating in Dublin and related, either as brother or cousin.

On the other hand, it is quite possible that further evidence of early Kidds born before 1700, may crop up either in or near Athlone or the town of Wexford, the Parish registers of which go back to this date, and have not yet been combed or further afield. I think the theory that Thomas of Ballynastraw is identical with the Thomas of Limerick, husband of Margaret who died in 1713, is well grounded. The other theory that George of the Newtownbarry stone is identical with George of Athlone is perhaps more tenuous. I shall return to this when dealing with the identity of the Thomas Kidd who erected the stone in Athlone Church, and I shall be looking for reasons why he may not have known that his grandfather George, and grandmother Elenor, were not in fact in the family grave, as I am supposing, but at Newtownbarry.

The Fourth Generation and onwards

After the fourth generation from Richard of Dublin 1610c.-1670c. we begin to distinguish between the main branches or families of the Kidds of Southern Ireland, which will be dealt with in the following chapters. Seven distinct lines of Kidds can be distinguished and there will also be a few fragments of family trees which I have been unable to connect with any of these seven lines. The seven main branches are as follows:

(1) ***The Ballyrankin, Kilrush, Raheen Branch.*** These centre on Kilrush Church, Co. Wexford. These stem from the George and Elenor of the Newtownbarry stone and George may be identical with the George of Athlone. The Slyguff Kidds of Co. Carlow are most probably an offshoot of this branch in the sixth generation.

(2) ***The Ballisland Branch,*** stemming from the William, who married Mary Loftus in 1698. This branch seems to have centred upon Shillelagh Co. Wicklow and to have spread north eastwards up the valley which runs over into the Vale of Avoca.

(3) ***The Cranemore, Kildavin Branch*** stemming from a first marriage of Newtownbarry George's son George "late of Ballynastraw" to a Judith Dockrell in 1753. They used the Kildavin Church; #this and Cranemore are just over the border in Co. Carlow.

(4) ***The Askamore Branch***, which has been thought to derive from Thomas of Ballynastraw and his eldest son and heir William the tailor of Clonegall. This branch is outstanding in the matter of longevity. Locality (Askamore and Clonegall) and occupation support the above attribution. Longevity suggests another equally possible one on dates, namely that the Askamore Kidds stem from George of Newtownbarry stone, via Thomas of Coolroe and his wife Hannah who reached the age of 98.

(5) ***The Corbally and Castlecomer Branch***. While the other branches seem to spread out from the focal point of Ballynastraw, Clonegall and Carnew at the juncture of the three counties, Wicklow, Wexford and Carlow, the Corbally branch centre is away beyond Carlow in Co. Leix. Its connexion with the Wicklow and Wexford branches will be shown later.

(6) ***The Limerick Branch***. The descendents of Peter 'the eminent clothier' of 4th generation are well documented. His father is believed to be a Thomas Kidd who originated in Dublin and I think, retired to Ballynastraw on the Wicklow Wexford border.

(7) ***The Dublin Kidds***. I have not been able to trace a line which I could call the Dublin branch, successors to the John (4th generation) son of James (3rd generation). There are however a good many records of Kidds many of which can be connected with a good deal of probability into scraps of family trees. But it is in the nature of things that we should expect Kidds to appear in Dublin over the years coming from elsewhere in Ireland, England and Scotland, as well as in the reverse direction.

#[note added by WSF Kidd] - “; this and” added here in order to make sense of and retain the “are” after Cranemore in the typescript.

THE KIDDS OF IRELAND

PART II. THE DUBLIN AND SOUTH IRELAND KIDDS

Appendix 1 to Chapter 1.

In the pedigree chart attached to this chapter, I have attributed to Sackville Kidd a possible second son, in addition to the Thomas Kidd who erected the stone in St. Mary's Church in Athlone - namely a William Kidd, all I knew of whom was that his wife was named Mary and that in 1775, 15 August, they had a child baptized Thomas at St. John's Cathedral, Co. Tipperary. My thought had been that Sackville's sons were town bred and trained in some profession or trade in pursuit of which they had left Athlone. I have recently had some new evidence which makes it more likely that indeed Sackville did have a son William.

The following I had indirectly from Mr English of the Old Athlone Society - an extract from "The Athlone Independent of October 21, 1835.

"We beg leave to correct an error which the writer of a paragraph in the "Worker" of Saturday last has fallen into, stating that the late Mr William T Kidd was an Englishman and the first publisher of the "Westmeath Journal". His father was the person who first established that paper more than 60 years ago, and continued the proprietorship of it until 12 or 14 years since. The older Mr Kidd was born in Athlone and apprenticed to Mr Potts of 'Saunders News Letter' in or about the year 1757. He afterwards established a paper called "The City Journal" at 29 Skinners Row, Dublin, which however he soon gave up and then commenced "The Westmeath Journal" (The Westmeath Journal was in 1822 published in Mullingar)."

Skinners Row rang a bell and I found I had a reference to two children, age two, named Kidd, buried 24 May 1777 and 16 March 1779, the first a girl, the second a boy, children of William Kidd of Skinners Row, Dublin (Reg of St Werburghs). So it seems clear that the father referred to above in the extract from the Athlone Independent was also named William.

I found also that I had a reference to a William Kidd of Dublin and Mullingar in two deeds, in the first of which 1783 he is called a printer and in the second 1812 'agent'. I also found I had a reference to the will of a William Kidd indicating that he died in 1821.

The note I have of the first of the above deeds is as follows -
"Dated 15 August 1783 (No. 551, 518, 237755" Deeds Office Dublin).

Chancery deed of Kevin, Parker and Gason, to which William Kidd of Mullingar, Co. Westmeath, printer, and Christian Kidd otherwise Parker his wife, daughter of Thomas Parker late of Coon, Co. Tipperary gent, deceased were one of the parties". It is a pity I have not now a fuller note of contents of this deed. That William's wife came from Tipperary is interesting in that our William's wife Mary above baptised a son Thomas in the Cathedral at Cashel Tipperary in 1775. This is the right date for the first child that died in Skinners Row, Dublin, but the wife has a different name, but an odd one 'Christian'. It could well be that her name was Mary Christian Parker or Christian Mary Parker. Note that one of the solicitors is a Parker and could be a brother. The name Coon rings another bell. A place called Coon (or Coan), but in the adjacent county of Kilkenny, is where a Thomas Kidd, who I believe was the Thomas who erected the stone in St Mary's Athlone in memory of Sackville his father, settled in 1780 after Sackville's death in that year. (See Chapter on the Corbally and Castlecomer branch) Lastly from this deed it appears that William had left Skinners Row by 1783, and set up in Mullingar. I should say that he came into funds on the death of his father Sackville and started the Westmeath Journal about that time.

By the time of the second deed (No. 644, 443, 444584) in March 1812, he is obviously a man of some standing and means. My abstract reads "Release of 21 March 1812 between (1) William Kidd of Mullingar, Co. Westmeath gent, and (2) The Right Hon. the Earl of Granard reciting that William in Trinity term 1811 obtained a judgement in H.M. Court of Kings Bench for £2000 debts besides costs" and declaring "that William now releases the estate of George, Earl of Granard in the Co. Lectrim from said payment and that the Earl of Granard agrees to render his estates in Co. Westmeath liable for the same. Witnesses Thomas Armstrong of Dublin, Solicitor, and Michael Ross of Mullingar, Yeoman."

Now as regards the son William Thomas Kidd who followed his father as owner of the Westmeath Journal, I have a record of his death 3 October 1835, will proved 1837. He was only 52, i.e. born 1783, the date of the first deed above quoted. He was entered as of Cloghereen, near Killarney, Co. Kerry, late of Mullingar Co. Westmeath. Apparently also he had acquired the title of Captain (using it I expect as a prestige symbol as his grandfather probably did with the name Sackville).

To conclude this appendix to date (November 1972) here are two other items again through Mr English of the Old Athlone Society.

(1) Sackville it turns out was a periwig maker thus confirming my guess that he was in the high class clothing trade. Deed 632, in the Deeds volume of The Burgess Records of Athlone in the Athlone Library. Date not given me.

(2) George Kidd (the father of Sackville, one may assume) held part of Devenish Court and a garden in 1719: so he was in Athlone at least 10 years earlier than I estimated: However in 1719 George was 36, if he is really the George of the Newtownbarry Stone. Sackville of course was born in 1717.