

Spanish Archives of Primary Source Material for the Irish.

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The Basque country and Coruña.

(The following section consists of material from Bilbao and La Coruña, and is the continuation of the section based on the material from Malaga, Cadiz, El Puerto de Santa Maria, etc. as presented in The Irish Genealogist, vol.13, no.3, 2012.)

I would like to express my gratitude to Oisín Breatnach of Bilbao, an investigator studying the Irish diaspora in Spain, Portugal and France and who is completely fluent in Spanish, English, French, and Irish. He volunteered his expertise and helped greatly in my interpreting of both personal and placenames. These are often in Latin, Irish or Spanish, at times a curious phonetic mixture of all three, written in documents often greatly deteriorated with age and at times very difficult to read.

The Basque country.

This consists of the three provinces of Vizcaya, Guipuzcoa and Alava, with their three capitals Bilbao, San Sebastian and Vitoria respectively. Bilbao archives have an extensive selection of Irish interest, while elsewhere, particularly San Sebastian much material was destroyed by the Napoleonic invasion.

An Irish Dominican order in Bilbao, established in a rest house on the steps leading to Begoña church, carried out significant work translating Irish documents for the Irish seeking registration. This religious group had been forced to abandon Ireland by a decree of William III. They settled in Bilbao and were given financial help by the local council. Their signatures on many of the genealogical documents indicates their activity as translators from Latin to Spanish on behalf of the Irish petitioners.

While the data in the rest of Spanish archives is only available in cases of concession of the noble title of Hidalgo, that of Bilbao includes noble concession and mere citizenship.

Documents studied were found in two locations, the Municipal archives in Bilbao, known as 'La Diputación foral de Bizkaia' and the archive in Guernika, which has a published catalogue of genealogies, "CATALOGO de GENEALOGIAS " by Florencio Amador Carrandi, (1958), containing almost 3000 genealogies, including many Irish. This archive has now been transferred and incorporated into the Bilbao one.

The Basque country, unlike the rest of Spain was never conquered by the Arab invasion. Thus it saw itself as a bastion of Catholicism in the purest sense, and all its inhabitants regarded themselves, defenders of the faith, as noble, and so claimed the title of 'hidalgo'. This in turn led to the strictness of investigations of emigrants trying to settle there as regards their religious 'purity' and their legitimacy. This is reflected in many of the documents studied.

As an example, the following statement is repeated almost word for word in most petitions.

"----- is an old Christian of pure blood, totally distinct from all the evil races of Moors, Jews, Turks, Calvinists, Lutherians, the recently converted, those who repented before the Holy Inquisition, ---"

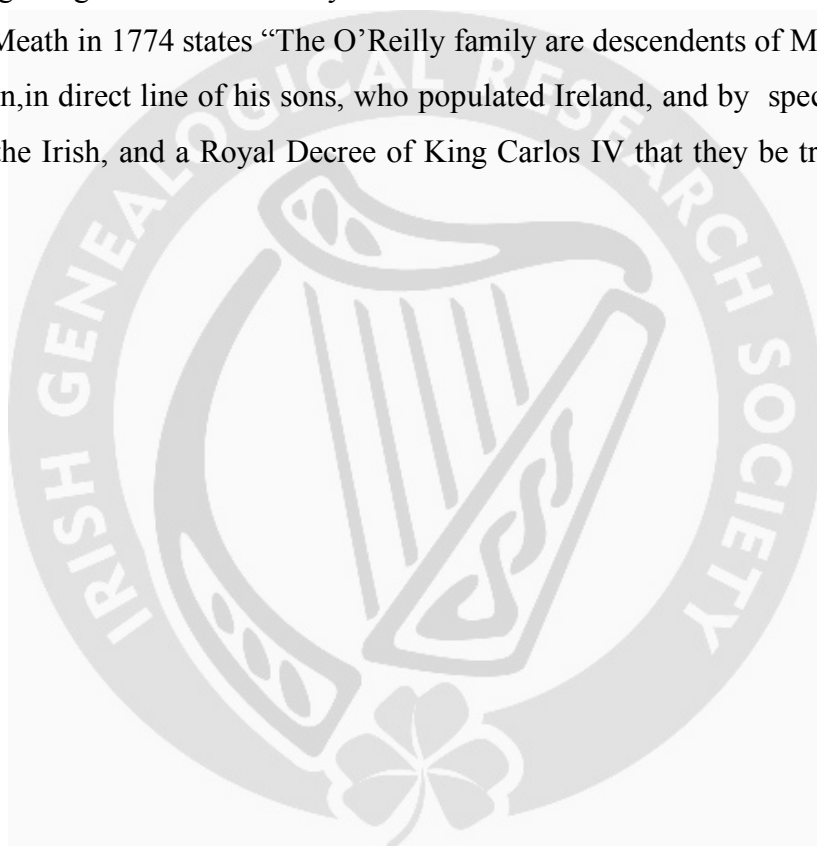
The rigorous investigation of applicants is seen in the case of a Francis Lacy of Carrickmacross. The examining body spotted that in his document of baptism, he had altered the spelling of his name 'LACI' to 'LACY', that the Y was written with a different ink, and they considered this falsification most serious. Fortunately they finally accepted his explanation.

The authorities in Bilbao insisted on written evidence from applicants to back up their claims. This conflicted directly with the Irish oral tradition, and some Irish had little or no documentation to confirm their identity. This is well illustrated in the case of John MacAuley of Ballycastle, Co. Antrim, who had only one brief statement on his identity from a Peter Marin, who declares "He grew up in my house, we went to school together, we were in first letters together, and he was brought up, fed and nourished in our house like a son." Arriving in Spain, such an applicant would be

confronted with the necessity to collate and have sent from Ireland the required documentation.

This was compounded by the difficulty of producing church documents in Ireland. Here one applicant states “ ---- that the parishes in the kingdom of Ireland, due to the persecution by the Protestant heretics of England, have to proceed with much caution and care in showing the registers of births, marriages and deaths of the Roman Catholics, as the knowledge of who they were could lead to their persecution.”

For those Irish petitioners with aspirations to Hidalgo status, the legend of Milesius suggesting common ancestry is often mentioned. Michael O'Reilly of Galtrim, Co.Meath in 1774 states “The O'Reilly family are descendents of Milesius, King of Spain,in direct line of his sons, who populated Ireland, and by special Bull conceded to the Irish, and a Royal Decree of King Carlos IV that they be treated as Spanish.-- --”



SEVEN DOCUMENTS WITH IRISH REFERENCE FROM THE LEGAL SECTION OF THE BILBAO ARCHIVES.

1705. Ref. JCR0643/029, folio 64 PO

Action by Augustin de Landecho against William Thorpe for seizure of the ship “Dorotea”..

Translation from latin by Brother John of Saint Thomas., Irish Dominican.

1729. Ref. JCR2928/016, folio 44 PO.

Power to act on behalf of Brother Santiago Prendergast and Miguel Louloc,(probably Lawless) of the Order of Our Lady of Carmen in favour of Arthur Lynch, also Irish of Bilbao, to collect from Francis Quinn of the college St.Patrick of Madrid, the money collected by him as alms destined for the missionaries going to Ireland to convert the heathen.

1729. Ref. JCR1399/032. Folio 59 PO.

Information,on genealogy, nobility and purity of blood of Michel Archer Rosseter and his wife Mary Geraldine Hore, resident in Bilbao, in order to register as residents..

Translator from Latin by Brother Raymond Fahy, deputy chief of the residence Calzadas de Begoña.

1774. Ref. JCR0758/021. Folio 2 PO

Petition of Thomas Power, merchant, resident in Bilbao, that the certificate of his coat of Arms of the name “Power” of Waterford in Ireland is genuine..

Translator named as Brother John Reynold.

1788. Ref. JCR2094/014. Folio 1

Petition Brother Andrew Ryan, of the Dominican Order (near Begoña church), that the Consulate of Bilbao accepts him as an interpreter, as he needs income to survive. He also offers his services as confessor to foreign sailors.

1803. Ref. JCR4022/007 . Folio 11PO.

Action by John Macauley, resident and merchant of Bilbao, against Brother Andrew Ryan over the payment of 2996 reales of a loan, an *arroba* – (11.5 kilos) of cod, 5 yards of cotton cloth and other things.

1808. Ref. JCR1806/001. Folio 11PO.

Case taken by Teresa de Arrate against Brother Andrew Ryan, Irish Dominican and Charles Boman and his wife Teresa Terry over the payment of three month’s salary for domestic service and the return of clothes left in the house.

The following series represent information extracted from petitions for Hidalguia or residency. These were lengthy statements often with many witnesses. From these were taken the relevant genealogical details. The year given is that of their concession . Note that below each person's name are either the words **SELLO MAYOR** , indicating concession of Hidalgo or nobility, or **SELLO MENOR**, indicating acceptance of proof of catholicity and concession of residency only. All comments in these series which follow the genealogy are solely those of the petitioner.

1731, Michael Archer, Ross, Co.Wexford.

Sello Mayor.

Ref. BSA 0397-001-003, AG 262

Ps. Lawrence Archer and Leonora Rosseter

PGPs Michael Archer and Elena Comerford

MGPs John Rosseter and and Mary Rosseter of Rathmacknee

The Archer and Rosseter families are of a pure race, free of the blood of Jews, Moors, the recently converted heretics, repentants of the Holy Inquisition, and other forbidden sects.....

Michael Archer originally lived in Bilbao in the house of a fellow-Irishman, Michael Morgan of Wexford. When he married and set up house in 1715, he petitioned for Hidalgo status.

His marriage was on the 30th September, 1715 to Mary Fitzgerald.

Her parents Maurice Fitzgerald and Ismaela Hore

PGps Thomas Fitzgerald and Margaret Maghragh of Dungarvan.

MGps John Hore and Mary Woodlock.

The families were all Catholics, of pure blood, and were deprived of their lands and property because of their religion by the heretics....

In direct line the male descendents are of the noble Archer family of Kilkenny.

In direct line the female descendents are of the noble Rosseter family of Lincoln.

Witnesses.

Augustin Wynne, Christopher White, friars in the monastery in Bilbao,

William McKernan, citizen of Bilbao, Christopher Hefernan, priest in Bilbao,

Raymund Everard.

Christopher White states that he came from Cultroner in Co.Meath, and he lost lands because of their Catholic religion by the heretical persecutors of the Catholic faith, and because of the said persecution and to remain faithful to our religion, and for no other reason, we fled from Ireland and the places of our nationality, and we came to the kingdom of Spain to remain true to our religion, and to enjoy the privileges and distinctions that all the Catholic Irish have merited of mercy, and to confirm the ancestry of Michael Archer and Mary Fitzgerald, that a brother of the mother of Michael lived in the monastery in Ross, and that another uncle was the Bishop of Ferns.

Raymund Everard states that the mother of Micael Archer was a direct relation of Patrick Lawless, Viceroy and Captain General of Majorca, Spanish ambassador to England, he originated from Talbot's Inch, Co.Kilkenny, and left Ireland after the Treaty of Limerick. (As ambassador to London, he caused outrage amongst English politicians who had to treat with "an Irish felon." He is buried in the cathedral of Palma.)

Statement signed by the Bishop of Ferns, John Berdon, 1st.April,1725 confirming that Michael Archer is of the ancient and noble family of Archer of Ross. Also signed by Peter Bellew, vicar of Holy Trinity church in Wexford, and by Ignacius Roche. Translated by Raymund Fahy, friar in Bilbao.

(In a register of 1739 of ships officers, there is a reference to the son of Michael Archer, also called Michael. He works as a translator, and is captain of navy frigate, and author of a highly- praised book "Lessons in sailing" for navy personnel.)

1652 Thomas Archer, Kilkenny,

Sello Mayor.

Ref BSA 0377-001-009

Ps Edmund Archer and Ana Archer

PGPs Patrick Archer and Leticia Pembroke

MGps Thomas Archer and Margaret Chanisbrough

Witness James Raggett, cleric of Kilkenny.

1671 Patrick Arthur, Limerick,

no sentence given.

Ref. AG 334

Ps Patrick Arthur and Kathleen Arthur

PGPs Peter Arhur and Margaret Creagh

MGPs William Arthur and Anastasia Ruiz.

Statement in English in support of Patrick Arhur signed by the public notary, Thomas Hart, in Limerick, 16th March, 1670. It refers to Michael Hore of Bilbao, nominated by the notary to represent Patrick Arthur, and confirming that he and all his forefathers are Roman Catholic. Also present in this document as witnesses are Patrick Arthur, William Gould, Patrick Hickey, John Manning.

1675 Agustus Bodkin, Athenry, Co. Galway,

Sello Mayor

Ref. BSA 0382-001-006

Ps Dominic Bodkin and Mary Bodkin

PGPs Lawrence Bodkin and Isabel Bodkin

MGPs Christopher Bodkin and Margaret Bodkin

A John Bodkin was the governor of Athenry when the forces of Cromwell entered the town.

A Leo Bodkin was mayor of Athenry and is buried in Galway cathedral in the chancel.

Witnesses are Simon Frens (French), Spanish Knight of Santiago, Jeronimo Frens, treasurer in the Spanish court of Mexico, Antony French, Thomas Martin and Thomas Joyce.

(The Bodkin family was one of the fourteen ‘tribes’ of Galway under de Burgh).

1702 Edward Brown, Waterford,

Sello Mayor.

Ref. BSA 0391-00-006, AG 619

Ps Edward Brown and Julia Murphy

PGPs Michael Brown and Juana Cuff

MGPs John Murphy and Kathleen Carew

Witnesses in Waterford, John Furlong and Patrick Furlong.

1753 Edward Doran, Lusk, Dublin,

Sello Menor

Ref. AG 757

Ps Nicolas Doran and Juana Segrave

PGPs Niclas Doran and Juana Fullam

MGPs Patrick Segrave and Juana MacGovern

Baptism of Edward Doran in Dublin, 14th.September, 1725

Godparents William Thorn and Anna Dolan.

Certified by Rector John Faron of Parish of Lusk, 1st.September, 1752

1738 James Dunne, (Don ?), Allen, Co.Kildare,

Sello Menor

Ref. AG 755

Ps. Michael Dunne and Dorothy Kenny

PGPs James Dunne and Kathleen Murphy

MGPs James Kenny and Kathleen Corrigan

Baptism of James Dunne, Parish of St.Patrick's Cross, 25th.July, 1700

Godparents Edmund Kenny and Margaret Hanigan.

Certified by Rev. Nicolas ----

1727, James Egan , Tuam,

Sello Menor.

Ref. AG 1195

Ps Dominic Egan and Ana Tracy.

PGPs Cormac Egan and Isabel Burke.

MGPs Thomas Tracy and Mary MacDonagh.

His coat of arms is signed by James Terry, Athlone king of arms at the court of James III, in exile in Paris 1720.

The petitioner was in the court of Paris with His Majesty king James III. He was forced to leave because of a person who owed him a considerable sum of money, and he had to support his family.

1738 Mathias Eldon (or Weldon/Beldon), Baldedriminy, Co.Meath,

Sello Menor

Ref.AG 853

Ps Nicolas Eldon and Mary Duff

PGPs Henry Weldon and Mary Farell

MGPs Daniel Duff and Leonora Farel

Baptism of Mathias Weldon, 13th. May, 1723.

Godparents Percy Crener and Isabel Pirie.

1653 David England of the Good Angel ('de buen angel' – possibly Spanish name), Limerick,

Sello Mayor

Ref. AG 880

Ps Thomas England and Kathleen Roche

PGPs Richard England and Juana Harold

MGPs Thomas Roche and Christina Faning

PGGPs William England and Kathleen Cantwell

MGGPs Peter Roche and Mary de la Ffont (Galway name)

The genealogy is confirmed by the Archdeacon of the cathedral of Limerick, Jordan de Burgh.

His paternal grandfather Richard England was mayor of Limerick

1726 Raymund Everard, Waterford,

Sello Mayor

Ref. BSA 0396-001-007, AG 920.

Ps Philip Everard and Margaret O'Kane

PGPs William Everard and Juliana O'Cultran

MGPs John O'Kane and Margaret O'Carol

Raymund Everard first married Mary Grace Butler in San Roman in France. They moved to the Canary Islands, then to Bilbao.

Children of this marriage were Edward, Clara, Mary, Josefa, Catalina, Isabel.

Mary Grace Butler died and Raymund re-married Mary Murphy.

Mary Murphy.

Ps. Gerard Murphy and Catalina Fitzpatrick of Waterford.

Raymund Everard is direct descendent of Everard family of Fethard.

Being persecuted in Ireland he and fellow-Irish have special rights in Spain

1798 James Fitzgibbon, Newcastle, Co.Limerick,

Sello Menor.

Ref. BSA 0418-001-005, AG 953

Ps William Fitzgibbon and Margaret MacMahon.

PGPs Gerald Fitzgibbon and Dorothy Butler.

MGPs William MacMahon and Honora Curtin of Balinbalig, 3 leagues from the city of Cork.

Baptism of William Fitzgibbon on 16th.September,1773

Godparents James MacMahon and Isabel Coave.

Baptised by Rev.Daniel O'Karney.

Document confirmed by Bishop of Limerick, Dionisius Conway, and signed by Rev.Modesto O'Brien, parish of Newcastle.

Other document in Latin states father William Fitzgibbon was born 1747, baptised by Rev.John O'Kennedy.

Godparents George de Lacy and Helen O'Brien.

Grandparents William Fitzgibbon and Margaret MacMahon married by the Rev.Modesto O'Brien, with witnesses John Walsh and Margaret de Lacy.

Signed by Carolius Tuohy, pastor of Newcastle, 18th.March, 1797, and counter-signed by the John, Bishop of Limerick, 13th.June, 1797.

The mother of James Fitzgibbon, Margaret MacMahon, was of noble origin and illustrious family, she was daughter of Elena Barry of Ballenvonary. The mother of Elena was daughter of O'Brien of Duhallo.

It is clear from all accounts and testimonies that James Fitzgibbon originates from an illustrious and noble family..... Nothing more could be done , due to the fact that in the said town of Newcastle no register remains, because of the persecution of the Roman Catholic religion.

1690 John Flay, Ireland.

Ref. BS judicial, 0186-007.

John Flay is absent, his wife Kathleen Carew is petitioning., a Marcus Plunkett acting on her behalf.

Her parents Bernard Carew and Margaret Fleming, who fled from Ireland after the war of Cromwell.

1680 Patrick Furlong, Wexford,

Sello Mayor.

Ref. AG 966

Ps John Furlong and Elena Keating.

PGPs Patrick Furlong and Juana French.

MGPs Clement Keating and Mary Kenny.

1674 John de Gras, (probably Grace), Belencourte, Co Kilkenny,

Sello Menor.

Ref. Judicial 1383-016

Ps William Gras and Ana Esley

His wife Mary Brett of Lincoln.

I married in England under the the obligations of the English king.They wanted to subvert our Catholic faith, so we came to Bilbao to live and be citizens.

1692 Patrick Grant, Waterford,

Sello Mayor.

Ref. AG 1152.

Ps Patrick Grant and Mary Allen.

PGPs Richard Grant and Mary Lee.

MGPs Patrick Allen and Ines Potter.

Witnesses. Patrick Balgan, Bernard Reilly, John Gallahan, William Fitzgerald.

1697 Thomas Grace, Kilkenny.

Sello Menor.

Ref. AG 1149.

Ps Edward Gracie and Kathleen Kelly.

PGPs Patrick Gracie and Leonara Butler.

MGPs Edmund Kelly and Mary Fitzgerald.

The maternal grandparents are from Uppercourt and Castlebourne.

Thomas Gracie is married to Elena Archer.

Her family.

Ps James Archer and Mary Fitzgerald.

PGPs John Archer and Helen Purcell.

MGPs Nicolas Fitzgerald and Elena Butler.

1741 Edmund Greghan, Jordanstown, Co.Kildare,

Sello Menor

Ref. AG 1153

Ps. Richard Greghan and Kathleen Hyland.

Baptised on 12th.October, 1709, in St.Mary's, Grangeford.

Godparents Tadeo Murphy and Mary Hewitt .

Baptism confirmed by curate John Reilly, 30th.July,1739

Witnesses who knew his family.

Martin Archdekin, Mathias Beldon.

James Savage who knew Edmund Greghan when he was an apprentice in the house of a master blacksmith.

1743 Dominic Cunny, Gallibeg, Co.Roscommon,

Sello Menor.

Ref. AG 1177.

Ps John Gunnen and Joanna Connor.

PGPs Cornelius Gunnen and Juana Malone.

MGPs William Connor and Manola Egan.

Witness Brother Antony MacVeigh from Dundalk states that his father David MacVeigh and his grandfather Patrick MacVeigh knew the Gunnen family.

Second witness Father JohnHerlin, Franciscan from Droheda.

1674 Michael Hore, Dungarvan,

Sello Mayor.

Ref. AG 1209.

Ps John Hore and Maria Woodlock

PGPs Michael Hore and Anastasia Walsh.

MGPs James Woodlock and Anastasia Lombard.

1770, David Keefe , Ullid, Co.Kilkenny, diocese of Ossory.

Sello Menor.

Ref. AG 1391.

Translation of documents from Latin to Spanish by Dominican John Reynolds.

Ps John Keefe and Kathleen Kelly.

PGPs Peter Keefe and Mary O'Donel.

MGPs William Kelly and Elena Noris.

Born on 1st.March,1739 and baptised the following Monday by Rev. Patrick Phelan.

Godparents David Keeke and Bridget Boye.

Baptism confirmed on 29th.April, 1769 by Rev.James Stapleton, and in Kilkenny on30th.April by Rev.Dionisius Dalgan.

All the family were true Catholics, confirmed by Marcus Shee, priest, on 5th.April, 1769 in Waterford.

Witnesses in Bilbao who knew David Keefe and his family.

James Roche of Co.Waterford, Raymund Doran of Co.Dublin, John Doldon Ullid, John Flynn of Naas.

1733 Dominic Killikelly , Lydican, Co.Galway.

Sello Mayor.

ref. AG 1392, BSA 0398-001-006

Ps Bernard Killikelly and Rebecca Joyce

PGPs Florence Killikelly and Elena Kelly

MGPs Dominic Joyce and Magdalena Lynch

Paternal grandmother was from Cloghbalimore in Co.Galway

Baptism of Dominic Killikelly in the church of St.Nicolas, city of Galway on 27th July,1701, confirmed on 17th.February, 1726 by Edmund Lynch.Genealogy confirmed by Stephen Egan, Bishop of Clonmacnoise, Edmund Lynch, doctor of theology, Brother Francis, vicar-general of St.Augustin in Galway, Brother Byrne of St.Augustine in Dublin, Prior James Dillon, of St.Salvador in Dublin, Brother Colman O'Shay, master of theology, Brother William Kenney, of St.Marys in Galway.Bernard Kelly is descended from Daihee MacFiathrago, King of Ireland from 405 to 428. Bernard Killikelly, father of Dominic Killikelly, was attorney general in Galway in 1687, named by the government of King James II. When the protestant governor arrived in Galway, he seized all.Signed in Dublin ,15th.July, 1727,by Charles Lynegar, alias O'Luinin, principal antiquary of Ireland.Translation from Latin to Spanish by Brother Raymund MacSweeney, Benedictine of Bilbao.The family were owners of the tower and castle in Lydican. Bernard Killikelly was Attorney General in Co.Galway in 1687, named by the government of king James II, who fled to Paris. Then the new protestant government arrived and confiscated the property of the Killikellys.Family moto is "FORTIS ET STABILIS".. .The coat of arms are confirmed by the Ulster King of Arms, William Hawkins,(Guillermo Kako Kins !) 23rd.June, 1727.The Killikelly family are descended from 'Daithi MacFiathragh', King of Ireland,405-428.A descendent, Florence Killikelly married Elena de Burg, daughter of Gerard de Burg, descendent of the Counts of Clanricard in Co.Galway. His brother was a priest in the parish of Ardrahan. Their sister Juana married Arthur Lynch, descendent of the Knight Nicolas Lynch of Knock, Co.Meath.The Lynch family built the church of St.Nicolas, the convent of St.Augustin and the walls of the city of Galway.

1661 William Kelly, Waterford,

Sello Mayor.

Ref. BSA 0378-001-006

Ps Hercules Kelly and Isabel Buser(probably Butler)

PGPs William Kelly and Ana Vittos(White)

MGPs Richard Buser and Juana Walsh.

William Kelly gives the power to act on his behalf to Thomas Bodkin, merchant of Bilbao, to present the necessary witnesses.

1758 Richard Killen, Warrenstown, Co.Laois(?),

Sello Menor.

Ref. AG1393

Ps John Killen and Isabel Dillon.

GPs Patrick Killen and Kathleen Magenis.

Baptism on 7th.May, 1721 in the parish of Castlejordan, in the town of Carricknagiragh, in the barony of Warrenstown by Rev.John Hoy.

Godparents John Hoy and Mary Reilly.

Document of baptism translated from Latin to Spanish by Brother Michael Archer in Bilbao 5th.August, 1751.

1789, Francis Lacy, Carrickmacross,Co.Monaghan.

Sello Menor.

Ref. AG 1399

Ps Andrew Lacy and Mary Hagan.

PGPs Michael Lacy and Mary Hughes

(of Co.Kildare.)

MGPs Terence Hagan and Margaret Hand.

Baptism in the parish of Carrickmacross on 17th.March, 1773, by Rev.Hugh Reilly.
Godparents Eugene Murry and Elena London.

The document of baptism is confirmed by Rev.Edmund Duffy, and translated from Latin in Bilbao by Brother Andrew Ryan.

Addendum in Bilbao , 2nd.April, 1789, indicates that the examining committee are unhappy with the document of baptism. Doubts are raised because the last two letters which conclude the surname where they claim to be his parents are emended- ‘estan enmendadas’- with ink newer than the ink on the rest of the document.....

however that in the land where Catholics are persecuted by heretics and enemies of our Catholic faith such formalities of the rules are not needed.

The appeal, dated 2nd.April, following questioning of the applicant , states that the points raised are not sufficient to reject his petition, as in Ireland it is virtually impossible to gather together papers, because protestant officials presume that such collection of material is with the intention of a “confeserada sublevación” – an organised uprising. that the the spelling of the surname of his parents was simply a correction of bad spelling, changing LACI to LACY.....and the original document was signed by no less than the Bishop of Clogher. Citizenship granted.(It does show the rigour of the legal proceedings.)

1741 Edmund Linch, Co.Mayo,

Sello Mayor.

Ref. AG 1521

Ps Steven Linch and Isabel Linch.

MGPs Stephen Linch and Maria Linch

This Stephen was brother of James Linch, Archbishop of Tuam, expelled from Ireland with king James II, and died in Paris in 1713.

Edmund Linch was born on 23rd.November,1711 and baptised on 25th. by Rev.John O’Malley, parish of Tuam.

Godparents Marcus Blake and Sarah Burke.

Edmund Linch married Ana Kelly of the noble family of Kelly of Dublin in 1734.

Stephen Linch has three brothers.

The oldest, Edmund, studied in Salamanca and Santiago. When he finished he returned to Ireland, where for many years was Vicar General in Tuam and in Galway where he died in 1730.

The second Ulyses Linch, studied in Paris, then rector in the Irish college in Nantes, then vicar in the college of St.Nicolas in Galway.

The third, Brother Dominic Linch, studied in Salamanca, and now is Doctor of Philosophy in Rome in the Dominican order.

All the family have been officers and captains who fought in the army of king James.

Testimony signed by Peter Kelly, Master of theology, Prior of Galway, Antony Blake, Doctor of theology in Tuam. 15th.August, 1739.

1792 John McAuley, Culfetrim, Co.Antrim.

Sello Menor.

Ref. AG 388.

Ps. John McAuley and Teresa Magee. (Ballycastle, Co.Antrim)

PGPs Patrick McAuley and Margaret McBrien.

MGPs Marcus Magee and Mary McBride.

Baptised in the parish of Ballykee.

Statement by Peter Manin. John McAuley grew up in his house, they went to school together and were in first letters together. He was brought up, fed and educated like a son.

John McAuley was a soldier in the Regiment of Zaragoza. He came to Spain via London.

1721 Charles MacCarthy, Caherkuike,(Caherkirky?) Co.Cork.

Sello Mayor.

Ref. BSA 0396-001-003, AG 15777

Ps Florence MacCarthy and Kathleen MacCarthy.

PGPs John Baptist MacCarthy and Kathleen O'Mahony.

MGPs Florence MacCarthy (of Carigen) and Leonora MacCarthy (of Drungarriff).

Witnesses in Bilbao Edmund Shee, John Power and Arthur Lynch, who state that nobody should attempt to collect proofs of genealogy in Ireland as it is invaded by the English.

Three letters of confirmation of nobility and purity of faith of Charles MacCarthy.

One signed by the Count of Berhaven, colonel of the Waterford regiment in the Spanish army, signed in 1721.

A second signed by the Duke of Ormonde, saying that Charles MacCarthy abandoned Ireland to follow his legitimate king James, signed in 1721.

The third, confirming the long, noble and true Catholic family of MacCarthy, is signed, 'in our refuge for fear of the persecution', on the 14th April, 1719, by the following, and by three priests currently in prison.

The bishop of Cork, Donato MacCarthy,

John O'Daly, doctor of theology,

Andrew Meade, curate of Cnocrahy,

Thadeus MacNamara, curate of St.Peters in Cork,

Charles MacCarthy, curate of Iniskean(Iniskyne),

Demetrius O'Flynn, priest, imprisoned, and rector of Holy Cross parish,

Florence MacCarthy, curate of Donaghmore,

Terence Begley, priest, imprisoned,

Francis O'Brien, priest, imprisoned,

John Brown, curate of the White church,

Thadeus O'Coghlan, curate of St.Marys.

1748 Richard MacDermott, Stamulin, Co.Meath.

Sello Menor.

Ref.AG 1580

Ps William MacDermott and Catherine Dillon.

PGPs Richard MacDermott and Honora Tiernan.

MGPs William Dillon and Kathleen Flyn.

Baptism on 10th.July, 1721, in Stamulin parish.

Godparents Joanny Kennedy and Margaret Kelly.

confirmed by Rev.Christopher White, 10th.May, 1743.

Witnesses. John O'Farrell of Stamulin states that he saw Richard MacDermott often when they were an apprentice tanners. He also knew his parents and his grandparents.

James Savage of Stamulin states that he knew Richard and his parents and grandparents for twentyone years.

Mathias Weldon, master tanner, his employer, states that he knew Richard, his parents and grandparents.

1743 William McGrath, Adamstown, Co.Wexford.

Sello Menor.

Ref. AG 1151

Ps John McGrath and Honor O'Kelly.

PGPs Dionisius McGrath and Kathleen Day.

MGPs Michael O'Kelly and Mary Roche.

Baptism by Rev.John McEvoy in the parish of Adamstown, on 1st.September, 1693.Godparents Patrick Murphy and Helen Baron.

Witnesses who knew the family of McGrath.

Michael Archer and his father Lawrence Archer of Ross. James Murphy of Wexford.

1756 Thomas MacLaghlin, Malaghlin, Co.Galway.

Sello Menor.

He is a ship's captain and is about to sail for foreign parts; he wishes to be registered as a citizen of Bilbao, and is giving a 'power' to a trustee, Domingo Muga, to make his claim.

Ps Colman MacLaghlin and Cecilia Tully.

PGPs William MacLaghlin and Winifred Kelly.

PGGPs Coleman MacLaghlin and Juana Daly

PGGGPs Charles MacLaghlin and Mary O'Neal.

MGPs Conlio Tully and Kathleen Burke.

MGGPs Demetrius Tully and Maria Burke

MGGGPs Conlio Tully and Margaret Burke.

This family tree and their Catholic faith was confirmed in Galway on 22nd.May, 1756 by Augustus Kirwan, curate, Antony Black, doctor of theology and president of the college of St.Nicolas, and Marcus, the Archbishop of Tuam.

The document is confirmed by Brother Michael French, Augustinian in the school of St.Thomas.

Baptism in the parish of Moycullen on 19th.December,1727, by Rev.Bartholemew Connor.

Godparents Christopher Dillon and Mary Martin.

The families of MacLaghlin and Tully , who were once rulers of their lands, raised at their own expense two regiments of soldiers in support of Charles I, and lost everything under Cromwell.

1798 James MacMahon, Bilbao,

Sello Mayor. Nephew of the above Patrick MacMahon.

Ref. BSA 0416-001-003, AG. 1582.

Ps Terence MacMahon and Maria Antonio de Sarazola.(married in 1754.)

PGPs James MacMahon and Honora MacCurtain.

Terence MacMahon and Maria Antonio de Sarazola had three children, Clara, born 1773, Michael Edward, born 1756, and James, born 1759.

There is a royal provision included, given by King Felipe V, on the petition of Edmund Shee, John Power and Arthur Lynch, Irish, citizens and traders of Bilbao, ordering the authorities of Bilbao not to send any representative to Ireland to verify or justify any of the family relationships, and not to oblige the petitioners to carry out searches or proofs of the same. Signed in Madrid, 1725.

1767 Patrick MacMahon, Newcastle, Co.Cork.

Sello Mayor

Ref. BSA 0407-001-002, AG 1581

Ps James MacMahon and Eleanora MacCurtain.(of Balinbalig.)

PGPs Terence MacMahon and Margaret Meade, from Newcastle, 10 leagues from the city of Cork.

Both died in 1756, he was 107 years old and she 98, as can be seen written on the tomb in the church of St.John in Newcastle.)

MPGs Cornelius MacCurtain and Juana Quin.
of Balinbelig, 3 leagues from the city of Cork.

Baptism on 21st.June,1741, document signed by the Bishop of Cork, Daniel O'Brien.

Godparents Edmund Ryan and Mary Dugan.

Baptism and genealogy of their family also signed by Daniel MacCurtain and John Sheahy, citizens of Cork, by John, Bishop of Limerick and by the apostolic notary, Daniel O'Sullivan.

Testamony in Bilbao by Edmund Shee, John Power and Arthur Linch, citizens and traders.

1673 Peter Madan, Waterford,

Sello Menor.

Ref. BSA 0380-001-008

Ps Patrick Madan and Aqeda Sherlock.

PGPs Richard Madan and Anastasia Comerford.

MGPs Peter Sherlock and Ana Faraday (?).

It was impossible for Peter Madan to bring genealogical proofs from Ireland.

1689 Michael Morgan, Waterford.

Sello Menor.

Ref. BSA 0388-001-007, AG 1730

Ps Patrick Morgan and Ann Balacio (perhaps Walsh).

PGPs Michael Morgan and Kathleen Fitzjames.

MGPs Robert Lincoln and Margaret Brown.

Translation of documents by Brother John Reilly, Dominican in Bilbao.

Witnessed in Waterford by John, Archbishop of Waterford, Vicar-General of Waterford, Philip Haackett, Deacon of Waterford, William Clayne, Prior of Waterford, Father Augustus Fitzgerald, Jesuit.

Mayors of Waterford.

William Lincoln, 1393,

William Lincoln, 1418,

William Lincoln, 1426,

Robert Lincoln, 1428,

William Lincoln, 1449,

William Lincoln, 1478,

William Lincoln, 1543,

Gerard Lincoln, 1645,

William Morgan, 1520,

William Morgan, 1526,

William Morgan, 1537,

Patrick Morgan, 1593.

1679 Valentin Morgan, Waterford,

Sello Menor.

Ref. BSA 0384-001-004.

Ps James Morgan and Ana Madan.

PGPs Patrick Morgan and Elena Sherlock.

MGPs Richard Madan and Anastasia Comerford.

1733 John Moriarty, Dingle.

Sello Menor.

Ref. BSA 0399-001-004, AG 1613.

Ps Mathew Moriarty and Kathleen Granfield.

PGPs Brian Moriarty and Kathleen Trant.

MGPs Thomas Granfield and Kathleen Tyrell.

Documents translated by Brother Raymund MacSweeny, Dominican.

Baptism in 1680 by Rev. Thadeus Cahane in Dingle.

Godparents David Rice and Catherine Barry.

Confirmation of the genealogy of the family as true Catholics, in spite of the tyrant Cromwell.

Signed by Melchor Moriarty, doctor of theology in the parish of Dingle, Dominic Moriarty, curate of Stradbally, and Ambrose Moriarty, curate of Balincurty. The copy of the baptism certificate is signed by Dionysius Moriarty.

Secular witnesses are Richard Trant, Timothy Moriarty, Mathew Moriarty, Peter Rice, all of Dingle.

Documents translated from Latin by Brother Raymund MacSweeny, Dominican, in Bilbao.

1755 John Morony, Kilmacduagh, Co. Clare.

Sello Menor.

Ref. BSA 0418-001-003.

Ps Thomas Morony and Mary Meade.

PGPs Edmund Morony and Juana MacNamara.

MGPs Andrew Meade and Juana Fitzgerald.

of Newcastle.

As noble Catholics they held public positions and honorary posts.

Many members of the family hold military posts in Spain.

Translation by Brother Raymund MacSweeny.

1725 James Murphy, Wexford.

Sello Menor.

Ps Bartholemew Murphy and Kathleen Murphy.

PGPs Geady (or Kedagh) Murphy and Kathleen Murphy.
of Duncormick.

MGPs James Murphy and Marianna Keating.
of Ross.

The ascendants of Murphy and Keating had extensive property, and two great mansions, called the mansion of Murphy in Mackmines, and the mansion of Keating in Baldwinstown.

1760 William O'Connor, Co.Wexford.

Sello Menor.

Ref. AG 1788.

Ps. Michael O'Connor and Kathleen Henry.

PGPs William O'Connor and Isabel O'Carney.

MGPs Mylesius Henry and Mary Roche.

1748 John O'Farrel, Dublin.

Sello Menor.

Ref. AG 1799.

Ps Richard O'Farrel and Mary Roe.

PGPs Patrick O'Farrel and Margaret Cohan.

MGPs Michael Roe and Isabel Russell.

Baptism on 24th. June, 1721 , in St. Mary's church, Dublin.

Godparents James White and Catherine Usher.

Baptism document confirmed by Pastor Dominic O'Byrne and by Cornelius O'Nary, doctor of theology of the Sorbonne.

Witnesses. Patrick Fleming confirms that he knew John O'Farrel in Dublin and Drogheda as a fellow-pupil in Grammar, also his parents.

James Savage of Kilkenny knew John O'Farrel for 13-14 years, also his father, being often in their house, where he dealt with Richard Farrel in the grain market.

Brother John Harlin of Drogheda knew John Farrel as a student for two years, and also visited the house of his parents and grandparents.

1754 John O'Heyne, Lydican, Co.Galway.

Sello Menor.

Ref. AG 1800.

Ps Eugene O'Heyne and Mary Kelly.

PGPs Patrick O'Heyne and Kathleen French.

MGPs Dionisius Killikelly and Isabel MacSweeney

Baptism on 24th.June,1727, in the parish of Ardrahan.

Godparents Bernard Killikelly and Mary Bodkin.

Confirmed on 2nd.April, 1752 by rector.

Confirmed by Father Peter Kelly, 4th.April, 1752, and by Father Michael French, Apostolic Notary.

1739 George, James and Michael O'Mara, Liniska (or Lismisky,"Fort of the water",) Co.Tipperary, (three brothers)

Sello Menor.

Ref. BSA 0398-001-003, AG 1831.

Ps John O'Mara and Isabel O'Connor.

PGPs James O'Mara and Kathleen ---

MGPs James O'Connor and Sarah O'Moore.

Confirmed on 10th.March by Peter Maules, priest.

Baptism . George O'Mara baptised 1705

Michael O'Mara baptised 16th.September, 1709

Godparents William Geia and Selina Borrow.

1739 Richard Petit , Carne(?), Co.Kildare

Sello Menor.

Ref. AGC 1998.

Ps Gerard Petit and Kathleen O'Connell.

PGPs Patrick Petit and Rosa Brown.

MGPs John O'Connell and Mary Reilly.

Baptism of Richard Petit on 26th.September, 1698.

Godparents Patrick Maccolmony and Kathleen Hogan.

Baptism confirmed on 30th.October, 1738, by Philip Reilly, parish priest.

1683 Christopher Plunket, Rathmore,

Sello Mayor.

Ref. AGC 0386-001-003

Ps Patrick Plunket and Margaret Plunket.

PGPs Nicolas Plunket and Mary Reilly.

The family of Plunket supported the king against Cromwell. Archbishop Plunket, uncle of Christopher was beheaded for his faith.

1721 John Baptist Power, Waterford, Bordeaux.

Sello Menor.

Ref. BS judicial legajo 888-002.

Ps Peter Power and Francisca Dubernet.

PGPs John Power and Maria Morgan.

MGPS Juan Dubernet and Francisca Gascq (French name).

PGGPs Walter Power(deputy general of Waterford, from Castletown.)

Confirmed by Julian Higgins, rector and Peter Bellew, priest. 20th.September,1719.

They state that the Power family have had great losses of their property, confiscation of estates and patrimony, great misery and calamities.

Witnesses from the port of Waterford, all merchants. That it is impossible to carry out any further proofs in Waterford because of the persecution.

William Campion, James White, William Murphy, Peter Strange, William Fagan,

Michael Sherlock, Edward Brown, Steven Fitzgerald, Julian Comerford.

1786 Mariano Power, Castletown, Co. Waterford, Bordeaux in France and Bilbao.

Sello Mayor.

Ref. AG 2014.

(This is a case of the widow Maria Asenis de Larrea, asking for hidalgo status for her sons Mariano, Luis, Juan, Lorenzo and Julian who are army cadets. Her late husband was Philip Power of Castletown, Co. Waterford and Burdeos, before moving to Bilbao where he died. In Spain all army officers had to be of hidalgo status.)

Ps (of Philip Power) John Baptist Power and Mary Morgan.

Marriage of Philip Power to Maria Asensia de Larrea 7th. April, 1758.

Coat of Arms of the family of Power of Castletown, descended from the barons of Doneyle.

Signed in Dublin by King of Arms, James Terry, on 31st. January, 1714

1678 Thomas Roseter, Wexford,

Sello Mayor.

Ref. BS judicial, legajo 1772, no.8. AG 2096.

Ps. Philip Roseter and Constance Sinnot.

PGPs Mathew Roseter and Mary Dacke. (Drake?).

MGPs John Sinnot and Mary Kenny.

All was well in Ireland from the time of the Patriarch St. Patrick until 1651 when Oliver Cromwell destroyed Ireland and introduced his heresies.

1721 Edmund Shee, Kimsanagh (Cumsinagh), Dublin.

Sello Mayor.

Ref. BSA judicial, legajo 2685, no.30, AGC 2203.

(Referred to both as Shee and O'Shee.)

Ps Edmund Shee and Francisca Philips.

GPs Robert Shee and Elena Meagher of Drumsanagh.

MGPs John Philips and Juana Stammers.

The ancient lineage of the Shees.

An ancestor Robert Shee married the daughter of Lord MacCarthy.

Another Robert Shee was married to the daughter of the Great O'Sullivan Mor.

The family were confirmed noble five centuries ago by Richard II, king of England, in the fifth year of his reign.

The genealogy of the Shees is signed by Christopher, Archbishop of Cashel, Malachy, Bishop of Ossory,

Peter Bellew, cathedral of Waterford,

Robert Phelan, canon of Cathedral of Kilkenny,

Antony Knowles, Jesuit Supreme of Ireland,

John Higgins, Jesuit.

No public or honorary offices are now given to the Catholic Irish. With the tyranny of Cromwell, the O'Shee family lost all its lands and property.

(The name is written as Shee and O'Shee in the documents.)

1763 John Smith, Rathfarnham.

Sello Menor.

Ref. AGC 2205.

Ps James Smith and Margaret Fitzsimmons.

PGPs Cornelius Smith and Mary Mully (or Murray).

MGPs John Fitzsimons and Alby Mully.

Baptism of John Smith on 20th.October, 1732, in the church of St.Patrick,

Rathfarnam, Dublin, confirmed by thr Rev. Nicolas Gibbons on 6th.December, 1754.

1736 Charles Walcot, Mulpit, Co.Galway.

Sello Mayor.

Ref. AG 2484.

Ps Charles Walcot and Christina Morgan.

PGPs Richard Walcot (of Kilcolgan, near Galway) and Juliana Browne (of Galway).

MGPs John Morgan and Margaret Smith (of Killcolgan).

Richard Walcot was captain in the army of James II.

Dominic Brown, cousin of his paternal grandmother, was a colonel in the same army.

Another cousin, Henry Brown, was Prior of the college in Galway and a doctor of theology in the Sorbonne.

His uncle Peter Walcot died in service of Philip V, and was a captain in the Spanish army.



La Coruña.

Traditionally in the 16th. and 17th centuries, La Coruña, as the Spanish port closest to Ireland had a nucleus of Irish traders established there. Prior to Kinsale, attempts were made to send military help to Ireland. The Irish merchants active in La Coruña were particularly active in these efforts, especially the powerful family of Nicolas Comerford, whose commercial activities included an active trading connection with Bayona. Following Kinsale, the forces of John de Aguila returned to this port, Hugh O'Donnell was received there and honoured as a military leader, and a wave of Irish exiles flooded the area, eventually creating a severe social problem. In the 18th. century, the trading monopoly of Seville and Cadiz greatly reduced the trading position and the attraction of La Coruña for emigrants.¹ The most comprehensive study of the Irish in this area is to be found in : “From Munster to La Coruña across the Celtic sea : emigration, assimilation and acculturation in the kingdom of Galicia (1601 – 1640)” by Ciaran O’Scea.(Google)

The parochial archive of San Nicolas in La Coruña reveals forty seven Irish marriages in the early 18th.century, but the municipal archive contains only two concessions of nobility to Irish emigrants.

1729, Antony Power, Waterford.

Sello Mayor.

Captain of Infantry in the Regiment of Murcia.

Ps Richard Power and Elena White.

The Powers are descended from the Barons Power of Curraghmore.

It is confirmed that he, with many others fled from those so dominating and humiliating, that to maintain themselves in the Catholic faith, they left the country. Baptism on 5th.September, 1685, in the church of St.Peter by Rev.Peter Bellew, in the parish of Kilbarry.

¹ Maria del Carmen Saavedra Vázquez, *La Participación de Galicia en el socorro de Irlanda y la comunidad irlandesa de La Coruña*, paper given at the Congress ‘Irlanda y la Monarquía hispánica: Kinsale,’ in Madrid, 2001.

Godparents James Toole and Anastasia White.

Personal witness Ignacius Roche of the company of Jesus, from Waterford and now in Santiago.

Witnesses confirming that the Powers are true Catholics

John Higgins, rector of the cathedral of Waterford,

Paul Bellew, vicar,

William O'Mara, doctor of theology.

Traders of Waterford who also testify

Thomas Shortall, William Aylward,

William Mayne, Richard Strange,

James Archdekin,

Michael Fitzgerald.

1774 Michael O'Reilly, Galtrim, Co.Meath.

Sello Mayor.

Ref. AG 1855.

Ps Cornelius O'Reilly and Mary Hogan.

PGPs Cornelius O'Reilly and Mary O'Reilly, both of Co.Cavan.

MGPs John Hogan (of Kiltroy) and Elena Plunkett (of Kilbeggan).

Michael O'Reilly, his parents and grandparents, paternal and maternal, and the rest of his family and ancestors have been and are pure old Christians, of pure blood, and separated from all evil race of Moors, Jews, the newly converted, penitents of the Holy Inquisition, are noble hidalgos, known for their purity.....

Because of the unhappiness of the kingdom of Ireland where reigns the heresy of the depraved sects, who follow the diabolical and bloody hate of their followers against the Holy Mother Catholic Church and the family of the referred Michael O'Reilly and his parents, that for the compassion that has been shown to those who merit it in Spain by the Catholic Kings, who admit them as natural citizens to all types of employment, politics, military, considering them as noble those who merit it.....

Documents and testimonials in Latin were translated to Castillian by Brother John Reynolds, Dominican in Bilbao.

The translation was of a document written by the priest in Galtrim, James MacEver, which certifies the genealogy and legitimacy of Michael O'Reilly.

His baptism was by Rev. Laughlin O'Casey, parish priest in Galtrim, on 11th. August, 1742.

Godparents James Dunn and Bridget Tiog.

Also signed by the Bishop of Midia, Augustin Cheevers.

The O'Reilly family are descendents of Milesius, the King of Spain, in direct line from one of his sons who populated Ireland, and by special Bull conceded to the Irish and a Royal Decree of Carlos II in 1678, that they be treated as Spanish.

My family and ancestors were dispossessed by Queen Elizabeth and by the tyrant Cromwell, in what was commonly called 'the scourging of the Catholics', for their constancy and firmness in their Catholic faith, thus the family of Don Michael fled. And there are outstanding persons in Spain with their talents in the regiments of Hibernia and Irlanda, well-known, of the family of Don Michael. Of the same family is Dominic O'Reilly, aide to the Spanish prince, (the Infante), and General O'Reilly, of the Spanish army.

