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Cork M.P's., 1559-1800.

BEING A BIOGRAPHICAL DICTIONARY OF THE MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT FOR THE CITY, THE COUNTY, AND THE BOROUGHES OF THE COUNTY OF CORK, FROM THE EARLIEST RETURNS TO THE UNION.

BY C. M. TENISON, B.L., M.R.I.A.

[**Pomfreide (or Pomfret), John.**

M.P. Cork City, 1380.

Mayor of Cork, 1386. Was one of those summoned by Colton, the Chancellor, to meet at St. Peter's Church, Cork, upon the death, at the house of the Friars Preachers, on 26th December, 1380, of Edward Earl of March and Ulster, for the purpose of choosing a Lord Justice. The "Prelates, Peers, and Commons" were summoned, and Colton was chosen. See *Lawelyn, Thomas*; *Roche, David Fitz Thomas*; and *Staunton, Miles*.]

Ponsonby, Richard, of Crotto, Kerry.

M.P. Kinsale, 1731-60.

Eldest son of Thomas Ponsonby, of Crotto (who was son of Henry Ponsonby, a Cromwellian soldier, who got Crotto and Stackstown, county Kerry, assigned him, and whose brother was ancestor to the Lords Bessborough), by Susannah, daughter of Samuel Grice, of county Limerick.

He was LL.D. (*hon. cau.*), T.C.D., 1754. He petitioned against the return of *Gervais Parker (q.v.)* for Kinsale, and obtained the seat.

He married Helen, daughter of Sir John Meade, bart., and d.s.p.

Ponsonby, William (Brabazon), afterwards Lord Ponsonby.

M.P. Cork City, 1764-68; 1769-75; Bandon, 1775-83.

Eldest son of the Right Hon. *John Ponsonby*, M.P., Speaker of the House of Commons (I.), by Lady Elizabeth Cavendish, daughter of third Duke of Devonshire; and grandson of first Earl of Bessborough.

He was born 15th September, 1744; M.P. also for county Kilkenny, 1783-90; 1790-97; 1798-1800; and (in the Imperial Parliament) 1800-1806. Joint postmaster-general, 1784 and 1789. Created *Baron Ponsonby*, 1806.

He married, 25th December, 1769, Hon. Louisa Molesworth, daughter of third Viscount Molesworth (she re-married Earl Fitzwilliam, and died 1824). He died 5th November, 1806, leaving issue. Male line and peerage extinct.

Ponsonby, William (afterwards Sir William).

M.P. Bandon, 1796-97.

Second son of *William Ponsonby*, M.P. (*q.v.*), first Lord Ponsonby. He was M.P. also for Fethard, 1798-1800, and (in the Imperial Parliament) for Londonderry, 1812-15; K.C.B.; lieutenant-colonel 5th Dragoons, and a major-general. He fell at Waterloo.

He married, 20th January, 1807, Hon. Georgina Fitzroy, daughter of first Lord Southampton, and had issue. His eldest son became third Lord Ponsonby (extinct).

Pooley, Robert, of Dublin.

M.P. Castlemartyr, 1692; 1695-99.

Younger son of *Thomas Pooley*, M.P. (*q.v.*) He and Sir *Richard Hull (q.v.)* were the first two members for the borough of Castlemartyr, which was incorporated 28th July, 1674. He was a commissioner of the Excise, and died unmarried.

Pooley, Thomas.

M.P. Mallow, 1661.

Probably son of Lieutenant Thomas Pooley, an officer in Sir Adam Loftus' troop, and "now (1642) at garrison in Dundalk under Captain Cadogan."

He married, before 1657, Mary Southwell (she was living 1675), and had issue. His three daughters, viz.:—Catherine married first, Daniel Molyneaux, and secondly, Rev. William Campbell, who died 1750; Elizabeth married Mr. Baskerville; and Frances married Sir *Richard Hull* (*q.v.*) His sons were:—Thomas, M.P. for Newcastle, and died after 1722; Neville, who married Mary Jervoise, of Dublin, and died after 1675; John, afterwards bishop of Raphoe; Giles, M.A.; and *Robert*, M.P. (*q.v.*)

Portyngall, John.

M.P. Youghal, 1559.

Mayor (*qy.*) of Youghal, 1651, and again, 1572. The family (originally presumably from Portugal) was a prominent one in the town for many generations.

Powell, Edmond.

M.P. Rathcormick in James II.'s Parliament, 1689

Power, John, of Kilbelone.

M.P. Charleville in James II.'s Parliament, 1689.

Son of David Power, of Kilbelone, a '49 officer, who was "forfeited" by Cromwell, but restored by Charles II. He was one of the assessors for county Cork for James II.'s "Tax on Personal Estates in Ireland for the benefit of Trade and Commerce." He became a lieutenant-colonel in the service of France.

Prittie, Francis Aldborough.

M.P. Doneraile, 1800.

Second son of first Lord Dunalley, by Catherine, daughter of Francis Sadleir, of Sopwell, and widow of John Barry. He was born 4th June, 1779; married first, 10th September, 1800, Martha, only daughter of Cooke Otway, and widow of George Hartpole (she died 1802, having had a daughter); he married secondly, 1803, Elizabeth, only daughter of Right Hon. George Ponsonby, and had three sons (the eldest of whom succeeded as third Lord Dunalley), and two daughters.

He was M.P. also for Carlow, 1801; Tipperary, 1806-31.

Prendergast, Thomas, of Kildare Street, Dublin.

M.P. Castlemartyr, 1796-97; Clonakilty, 1797-1800.

Son of Thomas Prendergast by Jane, daughter of Samuel Gordon, and descended from a family long settled at Newcastle, county Tipperary, in which there was a baronetcy, now extinct.

He was called to the bar, 1787; a commissioner of Bankruptcy.

He married Charlotte, daughter of *Charles O'Neill*, M.P. (*q.v.*), and had issue.

Price, Cromwell.

M.P. Kinsale, 1783-90.

Probably son of Nicholas Price, M.P., of Saintfield, county Down, by his second wife, Maria, daughter of Colonel Alexander MacKenzie; and nephew of Cromwell Price, M.P., Downpatrick, 1727.

Was M.P. also for Monaghan borough, 1790-97; Fore, county Westmeath, 1798. He died before 1800.

Purdon, Bartholomew, of Ballyclough.

M.P. Mallow, 1703-13; Doneraile, 1713-14; Castlemartyr, 1715-27;
1727 till his decease in 1737.

Eldest son of Bartholomew Purdon, by Alicia, daughter of Major-General *John Jephson*, of Mallow, M.P. (*q.v.*), and grandson of Sir *Nicholas Purdon*, M.P. (*q.v.*)

He was born about 1675; high sheriff, Cork, 1708; married Anne, daughter of Colonel Chidley Coote, and had issue an only daughter. He died 19th July, 1737, and the inscription on his tomb says:—"He was justice of the peace, member of parliament, and lieutenant of the county thirty-nine years, during which time he strictly observed justice, faithfully served his king, and was a patriot to his country."

Purdon, Henry, of Cork.

M.P. Charleville, 1721-27.

Son of Adam Purdon, by Mary Clayton, of Mallow, and grandson of Sir *Nicholas Purdon*, M.P. (*q.v.*), and cousin of above.

He was a major in the army. He married a daughter of *Henry Bowerman*, of Coolyne, M.P. (*q.v.*), and d.s.p.

Purdon, Sir Nicholas, of Ballyclough.

M.P. Baltimore, 1661.

Fifth son of John Purdon, of Tullagh, county Clare, by Eleanor, daughter of Sir John Fleming, and niece of Lord Slane.

He was knighted 1660-1, by the Lords Justices. He married Ellis, daughter of Henry Stephens, of Broghill, county Cork, and had issue, *Bartholomew Purdon*, M.P. (*q.v.*)

He died 1678. (*See Caulfield's Cork Municipal Records*, p. 1157).

Read, John, of Coolnelonge.

M.P. Bandon, 1661.

Richardson, Edward, of Mooretown, *als.* Castlemore, gent.

M.P. Baltimore, 1692; 1695-99.

Was, I believe, an attorney in Cork. He received £5 from the corporation in 1710 for his services to the city "touching the prohibition of corn;" and again, a little later, he received five guineas, "besides what he laid out in feeling counsel."

Riggs, Edward, of Riggsdale.

M.P. Bandon, 1692; 1695-99; Baltimore, 1703-13.

Was one of the trustees for the disbursement of the fund levied for the relief of the inhabitants of Bandon in 1691, under the Act providing for a levy on each county in Munster; free of Cork, 1691; was indicted for high treason by one Major Lawless, in 1684, "for saying that he (Riggs) had a good estate in England, and that if he could not live quietly in Ireland he would go thither!" As a matter of fact he did go thither in 1689, he and his wife and five children. His income was then £800 a year, "besides £120 arising out of offices."

Was M.P. also for Bangor, county Down, 1715-27.

[Roche, David FitzThomas, knt.

M.P. Cork County, 1380.

See under Pomfreide, John.]

Roche, Alderman Dominick, of Cork.

M.P. Cork County, 1639.

Son of William Roche, of Cork.

Was apparently a contractor; lent the corporation £10 in 1624 to help it out of some financial difficulty; built the market house in New Street, 1630; undertook a contract to build certain bridges in the city in 1633, which resulted in a loss of £200, for which the corporation indemnified him by allowing him the customs of the port for one year. Unlike his predecessors, *Dominick Coppinger* and *Sir William Sarsfield* (*q.v.*), he did not forego his payment as Member of Parliament, for on 20th of August, 1641, he gave a receipt for the sums paid him "towards the allowance granted unto me by the corporation of Cork, being employed as one of the burgesses of parliament, at the rate of 7s. 6d. per diem, viz.:—232 days for the third, fourth, and fifth sessions of said parliament, the sum of £87 sterling," etc., etc. He was probably the Alderman Dominick Roche, the first whiskey distiller in Cork of whom we have express mention. His "maulte-house," adjoining his garden is (says Windele) mentioned in the *Roche MSS.* in 1618; and elsewhere it is stated that, at his death, he left "a barrel and a-half of *aqua vite*, worth £15 sterling; thirty barrels of maulte, worth twenty shillings the barrel; also, one great kettle for brewing, one *aqua vite* pot, and one brass pan."

He was mayor of Cork 1609, being the first to hold that office under the new charter of James I. (There were, at least, two other persons named Dominick Roche connected at this time with the corporation—one, a son of John Roche, and one, a son of Edmond).

(See Smith's *Cork*, i. 420, and Windele's *South of Ireland*, pp. 29 and 102).

Roche, Dominick, of Kinsale.

M.P. Kinsale, 1613.

Son of Richard Roche, of Kinsale. Free of Cork city, 13th October, 1642.

Roche, James, of Kinsale.

M.P. Kinsale, 1613.

Son of *Philip Roche*, of Kinsale, M.P. (*q.v.*) Was a merchant trading with France, whither he went in 1603 "about his merchandise."

Roche, James, of Kinsale.

M.P. Kinsale, 1634.

(Probably the same as the foregoing).

Roche, Patrick, of Kinsale.

M.P. Kinsale, 1639.

Second son of Richard Roche, of Powlenelong, ("sovereign" of Kinsale and J.P., and "descended from the house of Fermoy"), by his second wife, Jennet, daughter of Patrick Gould, of Cork. His castle of Powlenelong (Shippool), was besieged by Captain Adderley in 1642, and one hundred "rebels" slain. He suffered forfeiture under Cromwell; was in rebellion, and was outlawed in 1641.

He married Katherine, daughter of Thomas Sarsfield, of Cork.

Roche, Philip, of Kinsale.

M.P. Kinsale, 1585.

Probably son of Philip Roche, of Kinsale, and descended from the old Lords Fermoy. He was fined £50 in 1606 for not attending divine service according to the reformed church.

(*To be continued*).