

HOME
LED - Annual's
of the
Stoney family



Compiled by Major Stoney R.A.
Illustrated by A. Stoney of Portland.





Sincerely yours,
F. S. Loring

PREFACE.

ALTHOUGH boasting of one's pedigree is a proof of bad taste, if not of ill-breeding, and depending on ancestry for respectability rather than on one's self is manifestly absurd, it is nevertheless satisfactory and desirable to possess some *authentic* records—simple though they may be—of our forefathers; for, independent of the sacred duty of cherishing the memory of the dead, it is advantageous as well as interesting to study family history, because it brings home to us examples, some of which we ought to follow, and some of which, alas! we ought to avoid.

The following annals of the Stoney family—printed solely for private circulation—are compiled, for the most part, from original papers which once came from old bureaux in Greyfort, Arran Hill, and Emell Castle. They embrace a period of about a hundred-and-fifty years, and, following mainly the fortunes of the head of the house, end virtually at the death of Thomas Stoney of Arran Hill, in 1826; that is to say, they are brought down to a time within the memory of the present generation.

A glance at the ensuing pages will show that they have no literary claims or pretensions; in fact, the old documents are merely strung together, and are allowed to tell, as much as possible, their plain unvarnished tale; but the absence of artistic merit from the text is amply compensated for by the excellence of the illustrations.

Compiling these annals has been to me a labour of love, and my earnest hope is that my work may be the means of inspiring everyone bearing the name of Stoney with the laudable ambition of contributing his utmost to the family credit by his industry, integrity, and prudence; remembering, the while, Ben Jonson's truthful lines:—

“Gentility
Is but an airy and mere borrowed thing
From dead men's dust and bones, and none of ours,
Unless we make or keep it.”

F. S. S.

*Woolwich,
June, 1879.*

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SOME IMPORTANT CONTEMPORANEOUS EVENTS.

- 1676. Carolina planted by English merchants.
- 1689. William III. proclaimed King.
- 1702. Anne succeeds to the throne.
- 1704. Battle of Blenheim.
- 1713. England gets possession of Gibraltar and Minorca.
- 1714. Accession of George I.
- 1715. First Jacobite rebellion.
- 1727. Accession of George II.
- 1746. Young Pretender defeated at Culloden.
- 1757. Decisive battle of Plassy, in India.
- 1761. George III. crowned. Voltaire flourishes.
- 1762. Canada ceded to England by France.
- 1769. Watts patents the first steam engine.
- 1773. Capt. Cook makes discoveries in the Pacific.
- 1775. Hostilities in America.
- 1776. American Congress declares independence.
- 1782. Minorca surrendered to the Spaniards.
- 1789. Revolution in France.
- 1798. Rebellion in Ireland.
- 1801. Union of the English and Irish Parliaments.
- 1815. Battle of Waterloo.
- 1820. George IV. ascends the throne.

SOME OLD ANNALS
OF
THE STONEY FAMILY.

The Stoney of Wharfedale,

WEST YORKSHIRE.

THE earliest records we can find of the Stoney family* are those supplied by the Rilston parish registers, which prove that the Stoney's resided over two hundred years ago at Kettlewell, in Wharfedale—as the native valley of the River Wharfe is called—in the West Riding of Yorkshire. Unfortunately, the Kettlewell registers of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries have been lost, so we cannot trace the direct pedigree further back than George Stoney, who married Mary Moorhouse at Rilston in 1675 (old style). It is probable, however, that the Stoney's had for centuries previous resided on their own lands in the secluded neighbourhood of Kettlewell—a quaint village situated at the foot of extensive moors, and boasting to be the most ancient settlement in the romantic valley of the Wharfe. One of the family (Christopher Stoney, a Leeds merchant) writes, in 1770 :—“When I came into this country from y^e *Desserts* (so I may call it), where I had scarce seen men, I knew not one person but one in this part of the world.” And again, “I am the first of our Yorkshire family which ever was in y^e mercantile way.”

Lower, in his “*Britannica Patronymica*,” says “the name is probably derived from Loch Stoney, in Forfar, where the family may have been originally settled.” But this is only a surmise; it is as likely—nay, much more likely—that the family, like that of Stanley (Stone-lea) derived the appellation from the stony tract they owned in Yorkshire—Stoney Bank, perhaps, which is not far from Kettlewell. Indeed, the word “Craven” (the name by which that whole district is distinguished) is said to be derived from an Angle-Saxon word signifying a crag, in reference to its general rocky or stony appear-

* A George Stoney is casually mentioned in the “*Memorials of Bermuda*” in the year 1623.

ance.* Even so recently as the seventeenth century, a great diversity existed in the mode of spelling proper names, and hence we find some of the Yorkshire Stoneys insisting that their name should be spelt Stona or Stoner.†

George Stoney of Rilston.

Rilston is situated eleven miles south of Kettlewell and four north of Skipton.‡ It is a quiet hamlet, remarkable for its picturesque situation as well as for its historical associations with the "Rising in the North" (1569), which is commemorated in Wordsworth's well-known poem, "The White Doe of Rylstone." Its parish registers go back to 1569, but the following is the first entry which contains the name of Stoney, and it is an important one for our purpose, as all the Irish Stoneys have sprung from the couple whose "wedding" it records.

Weddinges, 1675.

George Stoney of Kettlewell and Mary Moorhouse of Rilston married the sixth day of January, 1675.

As, according to the "old style," the new year did not begin until the 25th of March, we must consider that this marriage took place in 1676 according to the more modern mode of computing the year from the 1st of January.

The family of Moorhouse were evidently connected with Rilston for a long period, as the name (another instance of local origin) occurs in some of the earliest registers, and there are at present two families of Moorhouse holding a good position in the same Riding. (See Walford's "County Families.") According to Sir Bernard Burke's "General Armory," the arms of the Yorkshire Moorhouses are:—Or, a saltire gobony sa. and ar.; *crest*, a pelican vulning herself, ppr.

The next entry in the Rilston registers is of equal importance.

* "Regionem ad hujus fontes *Craven* vocamus, forte a Britannica *crage*, id est saxum; saxi enim, atque pendentibus rupibus et aspretis omnia inhorrescunt, quibus media suis quasi latebris subsidit Skipton, &c."—"Theatrum Orbis Terrarum." Amsterdam, 1648.

† The following poetical reply by Sadleir Stoney, Esq., to a common and obvious pun on the name of Stoney, is inserted for the benefit of the rising generation:—

Think not beneath a Stoney name,
A stony heart is sure to reign;
As in the nut with hardest rind
The sweetest kernel you will find,
So thus a Stoney always proves
He has a heart that fondly loves.

‡ The whole of the hilly road from Skipton to Kettlewell is one of exceeding beauty. Rilston or Rylstone is separated from Bolton Abbey in Wharfedale by a range of hills.

*Christenings, 1676.*Carol^s Rex ii.Thomas, the sonne of George Stoney of Rilston bapt: Decembr 17th.

After this we find entries regarding other children of "George Stoney of Rilston" as follows:—A son, John, baptised in May 1678; a son, James, baptised in November 1679; a daughter, Isabell, baptised in June 1682, and buried in May 1683; a son, George, baptised in April 1684; a son, Robert, baptised in September 1685; an infant daughter, Mary, buried in February 1686 (old style); a daughter, Abigaille, born 21st January, baptised 26th of February 1687 (old style), and buried in the following August; a son, Leonard, born and baptised the 18th of April 1691, and buried in the following August.

There is no further mention of George Stoney of Rilston in the registers, but the following entry, perhaps, gives us a clue to his parents:—

Isabell Stoney, late wife of John Stoney, late of Ketlewell, buried the 1st of May, 1690.

Touching this surmise, it will be observed that he called his eldest daughter Isabell and his second son John.

This entry, in 1703, probably refers to one of his relations:—

Chr: Stoney buried 25th June.

As George Stoney fixed his abode at Rilston when he married, it may be assumed, as hinted at by Christopher Stoney of Leeds, that he obtained the estate, which he is known to have possessed there, through his wife, Miss Moorhouse. It appears that at the close of the seventeenth century he mortgaged this estate (worth £80 a year in 1770) for £800, and emigrated to Ireland—a country which, under William III.'s *regime*, offered inducements to English Protestants with capital to settle there. George Stoney settled at Knockshegowna (Hill of the Fairies) in the northern extremity of the county Tipperary. There is no direct proof to show this, but Christopher Stoney's remark that he "left England," the tradition in the family that their ancestor settled at Knockshegowna soon after the revolution of 1688, and other incidents furnish us with strong circumstantial evidence as to the fact. As to the precise time of George Stoney's emigration, we would fix on the year 1692 (at which date his eldest son, Thomas, was sixteen years old), because the entries in the Rilston registers regarding his family cease in the previous year, and assuming that the Mrs. Isabell Stoney who died in 1690 was his mother and had resided with him, he might have had no particular inducement to remain in Rilston after her death. It is, at all events, certain that at least two of George Stoney's sons (Thomas and James), settled in Ireland, and it is also certain that when he took his departure from England he left some relatives of the same surname behind him in Craven.

Thomas Stoney of Lisleagh or Greyfort,

CO. TIPPERARY.

Thomas Stoney, the eldest son of George Stoney of Rilston, and who was, as we have seen, born at Rilston in 1676, married Sarah Robinson in 1712. The bride, who was only nineteen years of age, was a lady of good parentage and well connected. Her father was Thomas Robinson, Esquire, of Knockshegowna, and her grandfather had been George Robinson—an officer in Cromwell's army. The Robinsons of Knockshegowna had migrated from the county Durham, but the name and crest (a stag trippant) they bore are common to so many families in the United Kingdom that it would be idle to urge any hypothesis regarding their anterior pedigree.

Her mother was one of the Armstrongs of Gallen, King's County (since Baronets), and a daughter of Andrew Armstrong—a member of an old Border family and a distinguished officer of horse in Charles I.'s army during the great rebellion. (See Burke's "Peerage and Baronetage.")

One of her uncles was General John Armstrong, who had served with distinction under Marlborough at Blenheim (1704). He founded the Royal Arsenal at Woolwich, 1716, and was, at the period of decease (1742) Surveyor-General of the Ordnance, Qr.-Mr.-General of the Forces, and Lieut.-Governor of the Tower of London.

Her brother Andrew was, at the time of her marriage, a captain in the army, and rose subsequently to be Major-General, Colonel of the 38th Regiment of Foot, and Equerry to Her Royal Highness the Princess Dowager of Wales (King George III.'s mother).*

Two of George Stoney of Greyfort's greatest friends, whose names occur frequently in the following records—viz., General Bigoe Armstrong,† Colonel of the 8th, or King's, Regiment of Foot, and Lieutenant-General Robert Robinson—were respectively her cousin and nephew. These two General Officers lived in fashionable streets in London, and their wills, which are still in existence, show that they were both men of ample means, and held a high position in society. For example, that of General Armstrong, made in 1792, specifies, in addition to bequests to his relations, including Thomas Stoney of Arran Hill, certain legacies to his butler, his two footmen, and his

* His portrait, which perhaps still exists in some of the Royal Palaces, was painted by Thomas Hudson, the great London portrait painter, who was Sir Joshua Reynolds' master. The portrait was engraved by the equally celebrated artist, M'Ardill, and many copies of the engraving are in possession of the Stoney family.

† The Armstrongs were probably related to Philip Bigoe of Newtown, King's County, who died in Charles II.'s time, and whose arms are given in Burke's "General Armory."

wife's maid; that of General Robinson, made in 1798, leaves legacies to various relations, including his "cousin, Isaac Stoney," Mary Margaret Morgan (mother of the first Lord Tredegar) "daughter of his cousin, Captain George Stoney, R.N.," and George Robert Stoney of Greyfort, also legacies of twenty guineas to each of his following friends for the purchase of a ring, as a token of his regard:—viz., The Right Honourable Lord Dorchester, Sir David Lindsay, Bart., Lieut.-Colonel Burton of the late Horse Grenadiers, and John White, Esq., of Lower Brook Street; nor were his butler, his coachman, his footman, or his cook forgotten.

Thomas and Sarah Stoney resided at Greyfort or Lisleagh (*Lis* = fort, and *leagh* = grey), near Borrisokane, which he leased from the Saunders' family, and which adjoined Lisleaghbeg, or little Greyfort, of which he, or his father, had purchased a lease for ever from the Firmans at a nominal rent. Little has been handed down concerning their married life, but there is an old family Bible now in possession of one of their descendants (Robert Johnston Stoney of Pittsburgh, U.S.) which contains the following memoranda, written in a neat and lady-like hand:—

Sarah Stoney, her Bible, bought the first Day of July, 1726.

George Stoney, son of Thomas and Sarah Stoney, was Born 11th of August, 1713.

Tho^s Stoney, Son to Sarah and Tho^s Stoney, was Born y^e Second of Aprill, 1715.

Andrew Stoney Stoney (*sic*), Son to Tho^s and Sarah Stoney, was Born y^e 13th of July, 1717.

Seven weeks after Sarah Stoney bought the Bible—namely, on the 18th of August, 1726—her husband died, having made two days previously the following will, which shows that he was a religious, sensible, and educated gentleman:—

In the Name of God, Amen. I, Thomas Stoney, being sick and weak in body, but of perfect and sound memory, doe resign my soul to God, through Christ our Saviour, that gave it, and my body to the Earth, from whence it came, to be decently buried in the Churchyard of Ballingarry, at the discretion of my Executrix, in sure and certain hopes that at the Resurrection, through the meritts and passion of Christ our Redeemer, both my soul and body will unite and enter into his Heavenly Kingdom, which never shall end. Amen.

Inprimis, my Will is That all my just debts and funeral expenses be paid in due time. Then I leave and bequeath all my worldly substance, real and personal, in as full and ample a manner as if every particular were named, to be equally divided between my well beloved wife, Sarah Stoney, and my three sons (*viz.*) George Stoney, Thomas Stoney, and Andrew Stoney; each of my sons to have their Dividend as they come to the age of twenty-and-one years.

Then, my will is That my wife, durring her widdowhood, be sole executrix of this my will; but if she commits mattrimony before my children comes to the said Age, that then and in that case she shall be obliged, by this my will, to give up the full Dividend of each of my sons that are not come to the age aforesaid to my Brothers, James Stoney and Tho^s Robinson, that it may be managed by them to the best

advantage for the use of my said children, till they are att age; and this is my last will and Testament.

Signed with my hand and sealed with my seale this 16th of Augt., 1726,

THO STONEY.

Signed and sealed in the presents of

JOHN HEAD.
RICH^d BRIEN.
THOMAS ROBINSON.

Copia vera ex^{ta}, BEN^{EM} LLOYD, *Reg^r*.

The above will being made only two days before Thomas Stoney died would seem to indicate that his death was caused by some sudden illness; and the fact of his wishing to be buried in Ballingarry (near Knockshegowna) instead of Borrisokane (the parish in which he lived) implies an affection for the former place such as a residence there in his earlier years with his father might be expected to engender.

Mrs. Stoney was only thirty-three when she became a widow; but she appears to have managed her affairs with prudence and discretion, for her sons were evidently well brought up and well educated, and prospered in the world. She died, without having re-married, in 1748—almost on the anniversary of her husband's death. Their remains rest together in Ballingarry churchyard, under a tombstone bearing this inscription:—

Here lyeth the body of Thomas Stoney, who died 18th of August, 1726, aged 49;
and

Sarah, his wife, who died August 19th, 1748, aged 55.

Of Thomas Stoney's three sons, ANDREW, the youngest, died without issue.

THOMAS,* the second son, left issue twin sons—namely, Isaac, the ancestor of the Stoneys of Frankford, King's County, and George, a Captain in the Royal Navy, whose only child, Mary Margaret Stoney, married Sir Charles Morgan, Bart., of Tredegar Park, near Newport, Monmouthshire, and bore him many children, including her eldest son, who became the first Lord Tredegar, Viscountess Rodney, and Lady Owen. (See Burke's "Peerage.")†

It is, however, with GEORGE, Thomas's eldest son, we are most interested, and he is entitled to a new chapter.

* Interred in Borrisokane, alongside the Greyfort vault. The inscription on his tombstone runs thus:—

Here lies the body of Mr. Thomas Stoney, who died the 18th day of February, 1764, Aged (49) years.

† Lady Morgan (Mary Stoney) had a fortune of £7000. Her grandson, the present Lord Tredegar, owns over 25,000 acres in Monmouthshire, valued at over £88,000 a year. (See "Owners of Land in England," 1873.)

George Stoney of Greyfort.

George Stoney, eldest son of Thomas Stoney, was born at Greyfort, on the 11th of August, 1713, as recorded. He consequently was at his father's death only thirteen—too young to have learnt or cared for the family history—and this perhaps is the reason why so little has been handed down to us concerning the preceding generations. Fortunately, however, there are many documents in existence which throw light on his own career, and, what is still more fortunate, they prove that his career was one of which his numerous descendants may be justly proud. Among these documents are his diaries for two years—fifteen years apart—namely, 1765 and 1780, several letters which he wrote or received, and finally his will. From these several sources—some of which are transcribed in the following pages—we gather that George Stoney of Greyfort was eminently possessed of common sense and energy—the shrewdness of Yorkshire and the dash of Tipperary. Looking upon idleness and extravagance as the forerunners of poverty, he was, in himself, a model of industry, and, apart from hospitality, of thrift too. He attended to his varied employments with unflagging zeal, and never allowed a wet day or a long journey to interfere with his duty to himself or his neighbour. Having heard one morning, for example, that some of his friends who lived forty miles away wanted to see him, and though he had drunk a bottle of wine over night, and did not feel well, and though the day was wet and windy, he mounted his horse and rode to their house. Next day he spent in discussing their business, and on the following morning at 5 o'clock he started back to Borrisokane, spent all the day at the fair there, then went to Ballinderry to dinner, and did not reach his home till 9 o'clock at night. He was over fifty years of age, and not in his usual health, when this occurred. He carried on extensive farming operations, including the culture of hops and tobacco, and sometimes employed so many as seventy men a day to thresh his corn. He dealt largely, too, in sheep and black cattle. In one year his fleeces numbered 2633, and he sometimes sent as many as 130 bullocks to a fair. And yet his own affairs did not monopolise the whole of his business capacity; he acted as agent to his relatives, Generals Armstrong and Robinson, and others, and was ever ready to do a kind turn for a friend—such as writing a will, drawing up a lease, or superintending some farming operation.

Acting on the sound economical principle that a man's income should increase with his expenses, or, in other words, with his family, he added year by year to his patrimony, and though he kept open house at Greyfort and exchanged hospitalities with all the good families in the neighbourhood, he gave handsome fortunes to his six daughters, and left four of his sons sufficient landed property to start them as gentlemen. He was well educated—indeed, very well educated for a country gentleman of the period; he wrote a neat hand, and expressed himself with singular clearness and felicity; he was a perfect accountant, and had some knowledge of law; moreover, he was fairly versed in

general literature, and knew enough of the ancient classics to make apt quotations from Virgil in his old age. As for amusements, he enjoyed hunting, fishing, and shooting, and occasionally presented himself at a cockfight or a hurling match. He loved a rubber of whist, and before he grew old was not averse to a social bottle of good port after dinner. In disposition he was just, generous, honourable, devout.

The foregoing being merely intended as a kind of preface to George Stoney's life, there is no need to touch here on the extraordinary marriage of his eldest son with the Countess of Strathmore, or the sociable propensities of his family in general. The extracts from contemporaneous documents given in the sequel speak for themselves.

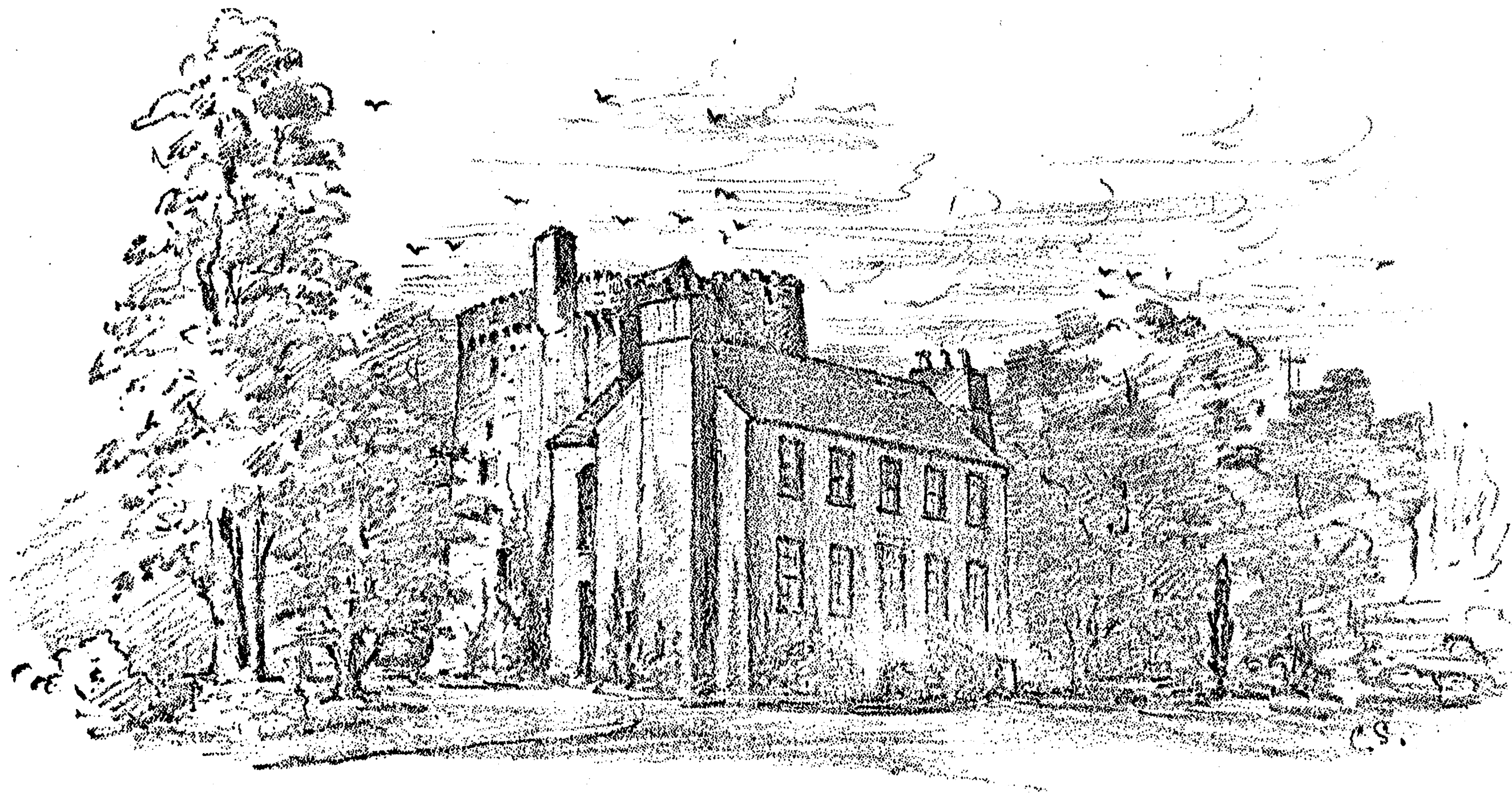
When George Stoney was in his twenty-third year—namely, on the 14th of January, 1745 or 1746 (present style)—he married Elizabeth Johnston, daughter of James Johnston, Esquire, of Rath,* King's County, one of her brothers being Captain Robert Johnston, who eventually succeeded to the Johnston estates, and left them and Emell Castle to her grandson, Thomas Stoney, of Arran Hill. James Johnston was son of one of the gallant defenders of Derry, during the memorable siege in 1689,† and was himself at one time a Lieutenant in a cavalry regiment. This marriage introduced yet another North British element into the Stoney family, for the Johnstons were evidently of Scotch extraction; but we know nothing further of their atecedents, as in this instance also genealogical speculation is baffled by the commonness of the name, nor does heraldry help us, their flying spur‡ being claimed or adopted by several northern families of Johnstons and Johnstones, and even by some South of England Johnsons.

The following letter was written to George Stoney on the occasion of his marriage, by his cousin, John Scott, whose mother was sister to George Stoney's mother (Robinson), and whose father, Mr. Scott, lived at Ballingarry. It is one of the oldest family epistles in existence, and deserves being quoted in full as a specimen of the polite letter-writing of the age—the age of Addison, Chesterfield, Steele, and Pope. The uncle at Brussels refers in all probability to Col. Andrew Robinson,

* When the Johnstons purchased Emell Castle, they abandoned their old home, Rath, and nothing now remains of it but an ivy gable which is opposite Rathenny, and about two miles distant from Emell Castle. The Johnstons were probably connected already with the Stoneys through the Armstrongs.

† It may be worth while to observe here that any descendant of one of the defenders of Derry may, if he think proper, become a "Prentice Boy" of that City; and Sir Ralph Smith Cusack, of Dublin—a great-great-grandson of George Stoney and his wife, Elizabeth Johnston—having satisfactorily proved his claim through the Johnstons, has lately been enrolled on the list of the "Prentice Boys of Derry."

‡ According to tradition, when Bruce, the King of Scotland, was at the English Court, a plot to murder him was set on foot, and one of his friends, called Johnston, hearing of it, sent him a spur with a feather tied to it. The King took the hint and flew back to Scotland, and the flying spur has ever since been the crest of the Johnstons. Others think that this crest and the motto "*nunquam non paratus*" were adopted by the chief of the clan Johnston as indicative of the alacrity with which they repelled Border raids.



who was probably serving with the British forces in Belgium, which had been engaged under the Duke of Cumberland at Fontenoy in the previous year.

LONDON,

The 13th February, 1745.

DEAR COUSIN,

The last Letter I have been favoured with from you conveyed me one for our uncle, which met no delay in my hands, having been forwarded by the next Post for Brussels after it arrived. I presume you must have had his answer some time.

By a letter from my Father, which came to me two days since, he gives me notice of your marriage. I have no reason to doubt, from the good opinion I have conceived of your understanding, but that you have made a very prudent choice of a companion for Life. Give me leave to offer you my sincere congratulations. Salute my new (but unknown) Relation in my Behalf, and (without a formal, long-winded compliment) accept in these concise Terms my real good wishes for your perfect Happiness, and believe me to be, as I truly am,

Dear Cousin,

Most affectionately and sincerely yours,

Mr. George Stoney.

JN^O SCOTT.

My Love to my aunt, and cousin Andrew

Little is known of the first nineteen years of George Stoney's married life, beyond some important dates, of which the first in order are a couple of entries from the old Bible before referred to :—

Andrew Robinson Stoney, Born Friday, 19th June, 1747. His sponsors are Colon^l (Andrew) Robinson, Trevor Lloyde, Esq^r, Mrs. Elizabeth Andrews, and Mrs. Mary Egan. Nursed by Honory MacGilton.

Thomas Stoney, Born ye 20th July, 1748. His sponsors are the Rev^d Mr. Arthur Grueber, Mr. John Hanly, Mrs. Daniel Rogers, and Mrs. Robert Ledger. Nursed by Honory M'Gilton.

George Stoney lost his mother and father-in-law within twelve months; the former having died, as already stated, in August, 1748. The tombstone of the latter in Ballymacky churchyard is thus inscribed:—

Here lyeth the body of Lieut. James Johnston, of Rath, who departed this life the 12th day of March, 1748, aged 69 years.

Besides his daughter, Mrs. Stoney, he left two sons—Thomas and Robert (Captain), and a daughter, Mrs. Steele—perhaps some connection of Steele of "The Tatler," who was a native of the county Tipperary.

Next in order of time come entries from the family Bible recording the births of four daughters—Rebecca, the 29th October, 1750 (nursed by her mother); Elizabeth, the 4th of April, 1753; Sarah, the 29th of April, 1754 (nursed by her mother); Mary, the 23rd of December, 1757; and then the birth of two sons, thus:—

James Johnston Stoney was Born y^e 23 of Aprill, 1759, Tuesday morning, about nine o'clock. His sponsors were Colonel Armstrong, Mr. Quintan Dick, Miss Bonham, and Mrs. Nesbitt. Nursed by Nancy Wooley.

Bigoe Armstrong was Born the 26 of March, 1762, on Friday morning, about 4 o'clock. Nursed by his mother. He is our tenth child. His Godfathers were his uncle, Thomas Johnston, and his Brother, Thomas.

George Stoney's uncle, Andrew Robinson, died in 1762, aged 79. As he was at the time of his death a Major-General in the army, a full Colonel of a regiment, and Equerry to the Princess Dowager of Wales, it may be taken for granted that he was a distinguished officer and had been present at several of the following great battles which had occurred during his service:—Blenheim, Ramilies, Oudenarde, and Malplaquet, under Marlborough; Dettingen, under King George II. (1743); Fontenoy (1745) and Culloden (1746), under the Duke of Cumberland.

George Stoney's fifth daughter, Catherine, was born the 16th of September, 1764.

We now come to George Stoney's diary from 12th of March, 1765, to the 11th of March, 1766 (new or present style, the civil or legal year having since 1752 commenced like the historical year, on the 1st of January). An account is given for every day of these twelve months, with a few exceptions, but only the most important or characteristic entries are here transcribed; there would be no use in recording, for example, the repeated occasion on which the same company dined at Greyfort. It should be added, however, that Sunday was a day on which guests invariably came to dinner.

From the prices of cattle, wool, &c., it may be calculated that money was three or four times more valuable then than it is now.

The diary was written on blank leaves bound into the end of "The Gentleman's and Citizen's Almanack," for the year of our Lord, 1765. Dublin.

MEMORANDUM FOR Y^E YEAR 1765.

March.

12th. Went to Charleville* for Captⁿ. Johnston.

13th. Met Downer. Set him to survey the domain. Met Mr. Smyth to value the hay, lime, and brick.

15th. Agreed with Tom Smyth to value the hay between Mrs. Bury and Capt. Johnston at 90 tons, the lime at 500 barrels, the brick at 34 thousand.

● The residence of the Burys, from which the first Earl of Charleville afterwards took his title. (See p. 16.)

- 16th. Set off in the morning for Greyfort.
- 18th. Agreed to let James Leahy and Pat Griffin the Upper Roran for two years at eleven shillings per acre, and for thirteen years at 12 shs. per acre; contains 54 acres 3 qrs. Let the Lower Roran to Hugh Meara and Samuel Hogan for two years at ten shs., and for 11 shillings per acre for 13 years; contains 122 acres.
- 19th. Set off at 7 o'clock to meet Cap^t Johnston at Charleville. Hail, rain, and snow obliged me to lie at Ballywilliam. Won at cards 5sh. 5d.
- 20th. Got to Charleville at 10 o'clock. Met Mr. Downer. Finished the wastes of Park and Clover. Viewed the domain. Lay at Tullamore.
- 21st. At Charleville. Dined with Mr. Ross.
- 22nd. Spent the forenoon regulating matters. Dined with Mr. Ross, and sat the evening with him at cards, &c.
- 23rd. At Tullamore. Mr. Ross and Mr. Williams dined with me.
- 24th. Off to Lisleagh and dined at home.
- 27th. Sister Steel and Nancy Cole came here.
- 28th and 29th. The same company at home. Mr. Nesbitt's family at dinner.
- 30th. Br. and Sr. Steel, Miss Cole, and Isaac Stoney, with Jemmy Ryan, lay here.
- 31st. (Sunday). Our family dined at Mr. Nesbitt's.

April.

- 1st. Received an account that Cousin Sadleir died last night about o'clock. Had this day a return of my old disease—a Flux.
- 2nd. My disorder continued. Lived on Toast and Claret, with Claret posset, and had a good night.
- 3rd. Tolerably well. Ate heartily of fresh meat. Drank wine and water. Messrs. Rogers, Grattan, and Abbott dined here. Lost at cards 15sh. 2d. Did not win a Rubber.
- 7th. (Easter Sunday). Captain Johnston, of Mote, and Sisters dined here. Sister Steel went home, and Betty with her.
- 8th. Johnⁿ* Stoney went to the office.
- 10th. Went to M^t Falcon with wife, eldest Son, and daughter.
- 11th. Dined at Mr. Rolston's. Sent Tom to Nenagh Market.
- 12th. Dined at home. Dr. Bulkeley here. Settled account, and find it of bad consequence to have long accounts with Doctors.
- 14th. (Sunday). Mr. Saunders dined here. Rode with him to Mount Falcon, where my wife, Tom, and Beck were.
- 17th. Dined at Ballinderry, where Capt. Saunders arrived the day before. Home in good time.
- 18th. Had Mr. Saunders, the Captain, and Andy at Dinner. Fished in morning; no luck.
- 23rd. At Ballymoney.† Sold a bag of wool 46 st. 11 lbs., at 11sh. 6d. per stone. Fleeces, 140. Mem. Dunlop (his caretaker) and his boy went to bed and left me to wait on Mr. Carroll to the stable at 10 o'clock. His wife sat up.
- 24th. Received a letter to let me know Clem. Sadleir and Mr. Smyth were at ——. Set out for Holycross to meet them. Drank a bottle of wine last night,

* This Johnston Stoney may have been son of one of George's uncles—James, perhaps.

† Afterwards called Oakley Park.

and am not well to-day. High wind and wet. Roscrea, Clinikenny, Killea, Kilaskek, in 7 hours ride—near 28 miles (Irish).

25th. At Holycross. Met Messrs. Tom and John Smyth, Mr. Tho^s Bunbury, Clement Sadleir. Consulted about a match between Miss Sadleir and Mr. John Smyth, whose fortune by his own account was £750. Seems off on account of settlements.

26th. Rose at 5. Set off to Borros fair. From 1st hour to y^e Rag; 2nd, Borrisoleiagh; 3d, Lattragh; 4th, Lisinisk; 5, Bally Capull Hill (this side); 6th, Borros. (N.B.—It is about 25 miles.) Bought Calves. Went to Ballinderry. Dined there—Capt. Hogan, Saunders, Coun^r Falkiner. Woodward owes me 6d., and S^d owes me 4 s. 4. Rode home about 9 at night. Tom bought a heifer calf for 11sh. 4½d.

28th. (Sunday). Mr. Saunders, Captain Saunders, Andy, Miss Falkiners, and Nesbitt dined here—Dr. Frend—in the evening. Mr. and Mrs. Nesbitt and y^e two Miss Rogers.

May.

3rd. Spent the day in writing and accounts.

6th. Tom went to Brookfield to Housewarming.

7th. All day writing letters.

9th. At Charleville. Viewed all the concern.

14th. At Home; writing and accounts. Drew and signed Mr. Scott's will, and wrote letters for him, he being weak and unwell.

21st and 22nd. Dined at Mr. Ed: Ledgers, being each day at Ardcroney, branding and drawing sheep.

28th. Returning from the Fair (Frankford), dined with Mr. Dunn, the Priest, with a large company. Lay at Dr. Pritchard's, and came next morning to Ballymoney.

30th. At Ballymoney. Dined there alone. No meat to be got in Birr. Eggs of consequence for dinner. Poled my Hops.

June.

1st. Returned from Birr by Gloster. Dined there with Mr. Lloyd, Sr. William, and Mr. Saunderson, and Families.

4th. Mrs. Labatt and Mrs. Bell dined here. In y^e evening Mr. Nesbitt and family, Mrs. Wilkinson, and Miss Miles came.

6th. Wife and eldest daughter went to Charleville. Mr. and Miss Scott also.

17th. Dined at Home. Called at Birr. Lay at Ballymoney.

18th. Sent one Hogshead of cider to Charleville and one to Lisleagh.

19th. Shore part of the Breaghmore Hoggets.

22nd. Wrote to Clem. Sadleir, recommending Isaac Stoney as an Attorney for him.

28th. Went to Barnagrotty (Gen^l Armstrong's property) with Mr. James Berry. Viewed Ballycor and Cullinwaine. Dined at Silver Hills and settled my Tithes with Mr. Philpott. Paid him this year's tithes and Rent for Ardcroney.

July.

1st. Dr. Howard came in Evening and prescribed for my wife.

4th. Went to Breaghmore to wash sheep. Left Tom to finish and came home. Mr. and Mrs. Armstrong and family, and Miss Conrahy here. Christened Kitty the day before.

8th. Had 14 Shearers and finished Ardcroney sheep. 761 Fleeces put in the wool room.

28th (Sunday). Dined at Home. Goff Hemsworth, son, and son-in-law, Jack Smith, and Isaac Stoney dined at Lisleagh.

30th. Total fleeces this year put into the Woolrooms ...1872

At Ballymoney and Ardcroney 761

Total shear of 17652633

August.

19th. (Monday). I, with wife, Tom, and Beck, set off for Birr Races. Stayed at Ballymoney all the week. Went 3 days to the course.

31st. Drew on Grattan and Smyth, favour of Mrs. Arabella Smyth, for £100, on account of Ardcroney rent.

September.

2nd. At Breaghmore. Remained here this week selling meadows and thatch, mowing and saving Hay, making drains, &c., &c., and had gathered on Thursday mushrooms sufficient for an Hogshead of Ketchup. On Tuesday I paid Mr. Grattan £112 15. He and the Priest dined with me in the Fields same day.

8th. (Sunday). At Ballingarry church. Dined with uncle Scott.

9th. Went to the Hurling at Carney. Mr. Bunbury asked me to dine with him on the 25th on the Commons.

10th. Went to Arran Hill to meet Bryan with Barry's lease of Ballynockane.

13th. My Family at a Play in Borros. Gathered 4 Kishfulls of Mushrooms this day at Ballymoney.

14th. Jⁿ Stoney sent his son here with the Books and accounts current for £72 14 0, and sent cash only £52 14 0, Desiring me to pay by my salary (to him) 20£. N.B.—He promised me last month to pay £100, which was what he thought that might be out from him.

15th. (Sunday). Went early from B.mony to Charleville. Found Dr. Pocock, Bishp: of Ossory, there. He this day confirmed at Tullamore, returned indisposed, went to his chamber, took a Puke, went to bed about 5 o'clock, seemed to rest quietly, but was found dead about 12. He complained of a pain in his stomach, which he could impute to no other cause than a few mushrooms eaten the day before at Ballyboy.

17th. Set off from Charleville to Banagher Fair. Lay at Capt. Edm^d Armstrong's. Bullocks of all kinds sold high; those of 4½ stores at about £3 10 and upwards. All gold. Returned home afternoon with Mr. Sadleir of Goldengarden. Went next morning to Ballymoney. Called with Mr. Sadleir at Cangort.

21st. (Sunday). Mr. Robbins and Family to Dinner.

24th. Mr. Sadleir's family dined at Lisleagh, and Mrs. Barry.

25th. Bought two cows from Capt. Johnston, £4 4 2, custom included.

October.

3rd. Went to Charleville and paid brother Johnston £14 4 4½, which I had received from Thomas Dancer, on his account.

14th. At Home. Meason and his Brother offered me 22sh. per acre for John Kennedy's part of Steriem.

15th. Set drawing timber from Killeen, and the millwright, M'Grath, and his son at Cog wheel.

17th. Had 8 Trout sent from Breaghmore by Dunlop.

25th. Came to Lisleagh. Went in afternoon to visit Mrs. Firman—the first time. Played cards. Mr. Firman owes me 1sh. 7½d. Returned home about 11 at night.

26th. At Home.

27th. (Sunday). At Lisleagh. Mrs. Firman and daughter dined. Mr. Firman and Captain Vandeleur disappointed.

30th. *Memo.*—To buy in Cork a Law grammer, 1s. 7½d., and a Clark's Magazine, price 2s. 8½d.; and to send Cider, potatoes, and Butter to Minorca. General Armstrong's half year's Rent, due 1st May, 1765, is £96 18 10.

November.

4th. Toom Fair. Sent 80 Bullocks. Did not sell. Bought 21 half-year-old Calves at 21sh. per.

7th. John Walsh cut out for me a Riding Coat and spoiled it.

13th. Sent 130 Bullocks for Cork. Laying myself at Millbrook.

14th. At Goldengarden. Mr. and Miss Sadleir at Home.

15th. At Kilworth; y^e new Inn.

Millbrook about 3 hours, about 10 miles

Pallace " 2½ " " 8 "

Goldengarden " 4½ " " 16 "

Aherlow " 3½ " " 12 "

Mitchelstown... " 2½ " " 9 "

Kilworth " 2 " " 6 "

Fermoy " 4 "

Ralphcormok " 2 "

Cork " 12 "

18th. Could not sell.

19th. Began to Kill at Bradshaw's House, where I was not as well pleased as formerly.

20th. Went on Killing and Delivering. My Beef engaged to Messrs. Devonsheir. Their dealing good, and so was my Beef. My Hides to Sheriff Wilcocks, at 24sh. 6d. per 112 cwt. My Tallow to Harden, at 4sh. 6d. per head all round.

December.

2nd. Went to M^r Falcon with Mr. Scott. Shot a leash of cocks.

14th. Wool at Ballymoney, Tons 6 13 2 7.

and at Lisleagh " 4 8 1 4.

(i.e., a Total of over 11 tons, and worth about £1000).

1766.

January.

1st. Went with Mr. Scott to Drominagh Wood. Shot a leash of cocks.

20th. Set out for Cork at 9 o'clock. Travelled with Mr. Robbins to Cashell.

22nd. Got to Cork at 11 o'clock. The carrier also arrived with 13 bags of the wool. Bought $4\frac{1}{2}$ Tuns of Pilchard oil at £16 per Tun, 14 Barrels of Herrings at 15sh.* and 8 do. at 10sh. *Memorandum for Cork.*—Train oil, Spirits, Hops, Hair-cloth, Coffee, and Lump Sugar. Bought Tea, £4 14 6.

February.

10th. In the evening searched William Meehan's Cabin and found about 2 Barrels of my Bere, which his wife confessed to have been stolen out of my Barn. Brought it back. Took up his two cows and a calf.

17th. Mr. Nappier came here to instruct my family in writing, reading, and figures, at 40sh. per annum. Nappier remained here 3 or 4 days. Johnston, Armstrong, and Kitty in the measles this week. Dr. Howard attended them, and I remained at Home on account of their indisposition.

Ensign Andrew Robinson Stoney.

But little mention is made in the foregoing diary of George Stoney's eldest son, Andrew Robinson, as he was with his regiment, the 4th Foot, which he joined as ensign early in 1765; his commission, according to the "Army List," bearing date 28th November, 1764. He was undoubtedly the most extraordinary and remarkable man the Stoney family has produced; a considerable portion therefore of the following pages are devoted to his chequered career—his marriage to Miss Newton, a Durham heiress; his duel with Sir Dudley Bate, and marriage to Lady Strathmore, "the greatest heiress in Europe;" his going into Parliament; his moving in the highest society; his ill-treatment of the Countess, and consequent imprisonment; his protracted law-suits; his penury; his death. The next four letters give, among other things, an insight to his character. Extravagance and ill-temper were the main cause of all his misfortunes in life, and these were the very faults his commanding officer found in him as an ensign; while, on the other hand, his cleverness and power of making himself liked will account in some measure for his marvellous temporary successes.

From Thomas Johnston (George Stoney's brother-in-law) to his brother "Lieut. Robt. Johnston, of the 37th Regt., at Ciudadella, in the Island of Minorca" (crest on seal, a flying spur):—

CHARLEVILLE,

20th July, 1765.

MY DEAR ROBINS,

Letter of the 27th April acquainting me that you never Rec^d any of my letters has made me & all your Friends in this Quarter very uneasy, but I think you know my punctuality in writing so well, that you will impute it to the proper cause—neglect of officer—for immediately on Rec^t of your first Letter I wrote you Brother Stoney's answer, that he was not for making any alteration in affairs between you and him till you returned, that he had wrote to Cork to send you Butter, &c., that the potatoes shôd go as soon as new came in, &c., &c. Soon after, on Receipt of y^r second Letter y^e 9th Feb^y, I wrote to you again, both directed to Calcraft's care;

* For his workmen.

the 2^d of April, on Rec^t of y^r 3^d Letter, I wrote to you an account of my having sold my Interest in Malbro' Street & removed to Charleville, which I took from the 25th March on very reasonable Terms, viz. £190 10s. a year, 410 acres, about 60 Brace of Deer, and two years Turf thrown in. Major Beving has joined in the lease for 20 years, and I am almost settled, I hope, for Life; that is, my Repairs which have been very expensive, are very near being at an End, and I am a Stout Farmer, between four and 500 Sheep, 50 Calves, besides Cows & Horses, and I want 200 Sheep more as soon as the Rents come in. My interest here is worth a good Deal, they tell me; but the constant Repairs that will be necessary I am afraid will make it dear enough. This last, my 3^d Letter, I directed to you to Minorca, and put it in the Post Office in Dublin myself, & paid their Demand with it, and this I shall put in the Post Office here (Tullamore) in like manner. I also informed you in my last Letter of Robinson's being (thro' Colonel Robinson's Int^t) an Ens. in the 4th Reg^t, now Brudenell's, without pay; however, he has been lucky in getting into pay since the 12th of last month by the Death of a Lieut.; he has been with his Reg^t since March, and General Armstrong and Col. Robⁿ give very good accounts of him, but we never hear from him & his father but twice; he is now going with y^e Reg^t to Exeter. Tom, his brother, is a very promising boy and inclines to Farming, but his Father does not encourage him as he ought; he sometimes talks of giving him your Farm, and I always urge it, & that we will all join in a Lease to him if he gives you £100, which I hope he will do one time or other; he has been of late distressed for money, or at least he tells me so. Be it as it will, I don't like it; he has too many irons in the fire, & I am bound for a great Deal for him, but I hope there is no fear if he lives, and his health is very good; and mine is not worse, nor can I say it's better. No alteration of any kind amongst your acquaintances since you left us, except Mrs. Bunbury's affair with Col. Nugent (Bristoll Nugent's Son); Mat Bunbury, her husband, took her to Bath, where she begun her intreague, & he, not suspecting her, invited her gallant to his House on the Banks of the Shannon, where Report says he found him under his Wife's Bed, after forcing in the door, being denyed admittance; and how Nugent got off from his house I have not yet learned, but Bunbury, and young Mr. Pretty, and Captⁿ Brook, who lately married a Sister of Pretty's, followed him to Dublin, and, as the Story goes, Mr. Nugent offered him a meeting, and asked him to bring a case of pistols and treat him as he thought proper; that he had already done him injury enough, and would not oppose him; so it went no farther. The poor wife was sent to her father, and he would not let her in, and I hear she is at Mr. Otways. This is the Topic of Scandell at present.

Politics you'll see in the newspapers. Our new Ministers or Secretarys of State, the Duke of Grafton and Gen^l Conway, its thought are put in by way of a parade to further alteration that it is hoped will please the people of England. I told you in my Last, which I hope you Rec^d, of Jack Andrews's wife's Death. The Estate can't be sold; however, he can settle £60 a year on a 2nd wife, and no Doubt will get one.

I am in no Doubt but you will be employed to your satisfaction when a war goes on. Gen^l Armstrong made his nephew sell out to turn farmer, for fear of being sent abroad from his mother & sisters, & this will be no loss to you. He is for throwing all the care of them and their affairs on me, as he has taken a house in Argyle Street, London, & means to live there. I am sure he will always do anything in his power for you; till he gets a Regiment he can do nothing. Be sure write, and be sure that I shall do so whilst I live, and Mrs. Johnston, who regards no one more than she does you, desires me to insist upon it, and tell you so with her best wishes with those of

Y^r Aff^{le},

THOS JOHNSTON.

From Colonel Robinson to George Stoney, Esquire :—

SOUTHAMPTON,

17th September, 1765.

DEAR COUSIN,

[The first part of this letter is of no family interest.]

I have been here near two months, amusing myself, as other idlers do, with the entertainments of the Place, & your letter of the 21st ult^o has reached me here. Colonel Nugent's adventure has been long public in this country, and somewhat differently related.

I would not wish you to acquaint your son with the intention of purchasing a Lieutenancy for him when an opportunity offers, because I mean to tell him that it will be done only on condition of his *making good progress at the Academy*.* Has uncle Scott built his House yet? Gen^l Armstrong has received your drafts for 20 guineas.

Be so kind to remember me to your family.

I am, dear Cousin,

Very much yours,

ROB^R ROBINSON.

From Lieut.-Colonel Maddison, commanding the 4th Foot, to the full Colonel "The Honble. Colonel Brudenell, in New Hertford Street, Mayfair, London" :—

[*Extract.*]

PLYMOUTH,

June y^e 6th, 1766.

I undertook to examine Ensign Stoney the other day, and to represent to him the bad steps he was taking. I find he is greatly involved in debt, to the amount of Forty pound and upwards. He's very averse to taking advice, and I assure you both (Captains) Boarder & Henderson have taken great pains with him, with such little effect that they have given him up. I have taken him in hand once or twice myself pretty strongly. He does his duty, but not with seeming pleasure a boy of his age ought to do, and he's a very Indifferent Temper.

General Armstrong to George Stoney, Esq. :—

DUBLIN,

12th July, 1766.

DEAR SIR,

No doubt you will be surprised at your son's arrival in Ireland. It is an expedient thought of by Col. Robinson (& approved of by his Colonel) to get him away from his Reg^t for a few months, that he may be under your eye, and they hope that you will be able to break him of that idle extravagant turn he has taken. He is very sensible & smart, and I make doubt but that he will in a little time turn out a clever fellow. His Colonel† told me the other day that he has taken a very

* Probably Marlowe, or some other military institution where young officers were sent for a course of instruction.

† Colonel Brudenell, a son of the Earl of Cardigan's.

great liking to him. He took the trouble some time ago to write to him himself, which he imagined would have a good effect on him, to which he received the enclosed most sensible answer, which Col. Robinson desired I would send to you by Post.

Brudenell is a man of Interest, and has it much in his power to help him on fast if he behaves well, as I hope he will, & Andrew seems to be very sensible of it, and promises to take better care for the future.

I am obliged to you for what I am told you have been endeavouring to do here for me; but, by the largeness of the Purchase, I suppose you meant it for Col. Robinson.

I am very sorry I can't do myself the pleasure to wait upon you in the Country, as I propose to return to England as soon as possible after my business is done. Col. Robinson is gone to Harrowgate in Yorkshire for the summer.

I have given your Son Ten guineas; he has promised to account with you for it when he gets home, and you can give me credit for it in your next account—I shall not want it sooner. He landed here on Thursday, and he set out this morning for his uncle Johnston's. He desires you will send Horses for him as soon as you can.

I beg my best respects to Mrs Stoney, & am, dear Sir, your most sincere

Humble Servant,

B. ARMSTRONG.

P.S.—Notwithstanding what I have said above, your son cannot get away from hence until you send horses for him, which I beg you will do as soon as possible. In this *great Town of Dublin* we cannot get horses that can travel so for any money, & Post Chaises are too exorbitant.* He has only a small cloak bag. Please to tell the servant who comes with them that I lodge with Mr Towers, Law man, in Parliament St.

From the same to the same :—

[Extract to shew that Colonel Robinson was, like his Uncle, General Andrew Robinson, connected with the Court; and also to shew that he and General Armstrong possessed a considerable amount of capital.]

ARGYLE ST.,

18th Oct^r 1766.

I am sorry to tell you Colⁿ Robinson was taken so ill the day before he was to set out with the Queen of Denmark, that he was not able to go, and is not yet well enough recovered to write to you, but he desired I would let you know that in consequence of what you say of the mortgage on the Estate in Clare, he is off with Lord Kerry, and leaves it to you and Counsellor Wolfe† to settle the affair, Provided it is not with a Lord or a Member of Parliament, for the reasons you give. We both join in it, and propose to go Ten Thousand Pounds (£10,000) if that or a little more will answer the purpose.

* One is inclined to suspect this was an invention of Andrew's, that he might stay longer in Dublin, and have more of the ten guineas to waste.

† Afterwards the Lord Kilwarden, who was assassinated in 1803.

Concerning Andrew Robinson Stoney's Marriage with Miss Newton.

We now arrive at a set of letters from Ensign Andrew R. Stoney to his father, on the subject of his marriage with Miss Hannah Newton, the orphan and only child of William Newton, Esq., of Cold Pig Hill, Durham, whom he first met at a ball to which the officers of his regiment were invited on their arrival at Newcastle-on-Tyne. The plausible tone of his letters when endeavouring to obtain a settlement from his father, affords a striking contrast to the bitterness of his subsequent epistles.

SUNDERLAND,

23rd April, 1763.

DEAR FATHER,

I Rec^d your kind letter of the 5th inst., which (since you did not comply with my request) was wrote in the stile I could wish. I immediately produced your letter to the lady, and also to her Mother; Both of whom (Particularly the former) was very much distressed. I then told the lady that it was in her power to act as she thought proper, as I thought myself at her disposal, and I should not be angry with her supposing she dismissed me—which I now expected, as I could not expect any woman to do more than she had; upon which I took my Hatt, & wished her a good Morning; But you may be assured I had no intention of going, for I well knew I would not be permitted. However, with the help of a few of her Tears, I was prevailed on to remain with her. I did Everything in my power for a trip to Scotland, But her reasons to the Contrary was so good, & her promises for a future day so fair, that I could not But in some measure agree with her. The greatest objection she had—& a very proper one, which I did not positively know Before—was that her marrying Before she is of age without the mother's approbation, may cause some trouble in the part of her fortune that is intealed; as the Father (who was an odd kind of a man) left his will that whoever marry'd his Child should be in possession of fifty or sixty pounds p^r year, or some such trifle. She has an uncle who is a very troublesome kind of man, and if not proper care is taken she tells me wou'd do anything to hurt us; for he has one son who paid his addresses (By the Father's direction) to his Cousin. The Father offered to settle a very good fortune on him, But, notwithstanding, he was immediately Rejected; therefore the uncle is so very much exasperated that he publickly says that should I marry her he will do everything in his power to perplex her affairs. As I think I told you in my last, the fortune that I mentioned was entealed is upon his son. I do not doubt But it may be in his power to give some trouble; for you must know that this estate (which was purchased a little before the Death of the Lady's Father) was Bought jointly Between the Uncle & Father, since which time it never has been divided; for the Father of this Lady intended, by what I understand, that his daughter shou'd marry her Cousin, in order to keep the fortune in the family, and the Uncle says it would be so, if that Dammed Irishman had not come in the way (meaning me). The Lady also says that it must be extremely disagreeable to her to come into a family to whom she may be disagreeable to; in short, dear Father, I Beg & request that you will contrive it so as to make a settlement of three hundred p^r year on me, or even two, as I give you my word I know there is nothing in the world more wanted to marry me to a woman I love & regard, and a woman that will be a credit to our family, as well for her accomplishments as, without doubt, a fortune as large—above twenty thousand pounds—as I cou'd ever expect to get. I have taken great

pains to put it into execution without any assistance; But as it will not answer (at least at present) I hope that I shall not be obliged to give it over for want of what I have asked, particularly as it is in my power to secure you in the manner I have informed you in my former letters. In all probability so good an opportunity may never happen to any of our family again; therefore, I once more Beg, Dear Father, that you will not hesitate any longer, But Comply with my Request as soon as possible, as you must well know delays are dangerous in matters of consequence. I love the lady sufficiently well (was I independant) to marry her without any fortune; therefore, how much more happy must I be when I can get her with so good a one. And tho' it may appear to you that I am not sufficiently serious for a matrimonial life, yet give me leave to assure you that my getting a woman I esteem with a Competancy is very capable of making a surprising change for the better, which I hope you shall find to be the case one day or other. As to my Constitution (and you seem to agree with me) it is the very thing in my opinion to Protect it. The lady and her mother (who are as uneasy about it as I am) has desired me to write a letter to you in the most pressing manner I could; for it has been so long talked of in town, and we have been so much together, that it is looked upon as impossible to be avoided with propriety on either side. As I told you Before, I have no reason But to imagine she will have me when she has everything in her own power; But as in all probability our Reg^t will march from hence for Edin-burgh in a month or five weeks, in my absence (as women are naturally changeable) there is a possibility that I might lose the ground I have gained. I think you will be very much surprised when I tell you that this young lady is Reconed to be very sensible, But you will I suppose say that her regards for me Contradicts it. However, you may recollect what the man said when he Kiss^d his Cow?*

I wish heartily that you will not be the cause of my being disappointed, as I hope to make amends to you & my mother (whom I desire my duty to) by proving to you that

I am your Du^f. obedient Son,

A. ROBINSON STONEY.

From the same to the same:—

[*Extract.*]

June 19th, 1768.

I am and ever shall be obliged to my dear Father for his kind letters of the 25th & 27th ultimo, as I have the pleasure of informing you that nothing prevents my being the happiest man in the World, but writings, &c., been drawn, which cannot be done untill your Title in which you are to consign to me is made. I understand it is absolutely necessary for me to have Fifty pounds p^r year Real Estate, so must beg you'll get it as soon as convenient, as nothing now prevents my being Happy but what remains to be done on my side; therefore, dear Father, I hope you will have everything put an end to without delay, as a woman a man loves with a fortune of at least Twenty Thousand Pounds should not be trifled with.

I must request that my uncle Johnston will be so kind as to take the trouble of coming over and seeing everything executed, and if Isaac Stoney was to come with

* "Everyone to his fancy," as the man said when he kissed his cow.

him I think he might be of use. It is an unreasonable Request to ask my uncle, but I daresay on this occasion he will think nothing of it. Whitehaven will be the best & nearest Port, and the distance from that to this is about one hundred miles, with very good Roads, as also Chaises for travling; so that if he meets with a fair Wind, he need not be above three days coming from Charleville here.

From the same to the same:—

[*Extract.*]

NEWCASTLE,

August 2nd, 1768.

Notwithstanding the very great Happiness I have in View, I am at present not a little perplexed at the Bill (that I informed you of in my letter of the 27th ulto.) drawn by me at Edinburgh upon Grattan & Smyth, is by a letter from them protested. I have heard nothing from the people of Edinburgh that let me have the money, as yet, but suppose soon shall. You have, dear Father, sufficient reasons to think me very extravagant; but when I tell you the expenses I have been at that was absolutely necessary for a young man paying his addresses to a Lady with Twenty Thousand Pounds fortune, I hope you will excuse me. I have attended with this lady at all Publick diversions within fifty miles of Newcastle, I have had two Horses, it has cost about Fifty Pounds for different presents, besides at first Fees to servants,* & many other expenses attending such a scheme. However, I have, thank God, succeeded as I could wish in every particular; and now my only wish is after I am marryed to be settled near my parents, in hopes of Repaying them for the distress I must from time to time justly cause them to have. No man had ever a greater prospect of being truly happy than I have, as no man ever loved a woman better, and I make no doubt but our Regards are reciprocal.

I informed you in my last Letter in regard to Mr. Duane, that went from hence lately to Ireland, and who has been desired by the Lady's guardians to make strict inquiries about me & my connctions, pretentions, &c. He is, as I told you before, a kind of Agent to Lord Ossory, & is gone over in order to take possession of some of his Irish Estates. I should be glad that you had an opportunity of seeing him, as he soon returns to England. I never have mentioned anything in regard to my pretentions, &c., but what I was positive to be true, for which I am very glad.

From the same to the same:—

[*Extract.*]

September 10th, 1768.

I received your letter of the 16th ulto, and am very unhappy to think I have done anything to disoblige so good a Parent; no doubt my letter to Mr. Smyth was, if taken in the light I at that time designed, extremely rude, notwithstanding which, I must in some measure attempt to mitigate my Crime. In the first place, think how disgraceful the consequence would have been to me at any time, but more particularly so in my present situation. Had it been known in Town of my having a Bill in Ireland protested, many people here would have been very happy at the account, and might have some grounds for their many unjust Reports, which I think are now at an end, though I believe it to be more owing to fear than regard

* Feeing the servants of one's host was a common custom in the last century.

to me, as I have brought every person that I could find out that mentioned my name to a severe account, & obliged them to beg my Pardon in the most penitent manner. However, I am now on a very good Footing with everybody, & even with them gentlemen, and I have particular invitations to all the Gen^l Houses of distinction in this County. But to return to the former part of my Letter, I secondly think Mr. Smyth should, immediately on protesting my Bill, have wrote to you, in order that, if you thought proper, I might have timely assistance.

However, Dear Father, since it is your commands, I shall write by this Post a Letter to Messrs. Grattan and Smyth, in which I shall ask their pardon. I do assure you it hurts my spirit not a little, as I believe it to be the first acknowledgement I ever made in my life, except to a Parent; which, perhaps, you will say I am nothing the better for.

One of Miss Newton's guardians has had a Letter from Mr. Duane, with a true and particular account of you, which has given me not a little pleasure, as it answers in every particular to my own account. Miss Newton desires me to tell you she will with great pleasure allow her money to be lay'd out in a purchase in Ireland, and that she will have no objection to living there, if my friends think it for my advantage. She also says she would like to live near Greyfort, in order *to have my Father to govern me.*

I received a letter a few days past from the Regiment, ordering me to join at the end of three months from the date of my leaving it, which time will be expired the 13th of October. I therefore must request you will acquaint Colonel Robinson of it, who will no doubt be so kind as to get my leave prolonged; for it is impossible I can think of going before I am marry'd. I would prefer going out on ensign's half pay or resigning. But I hope my Friends will be able to get me out of the army to more advantage.

When *I am marry'd* I shall be happy in seeing all the Family—Brothers and Sisters, &c. You mention nothing of my mother (to whom I send my duty), so have the pleasure of concluding she is well. I have lived so extremely regular for this year past that I am very near as fat as Isaac Stoney.

From the same to the same:—

November 7th, 1768.

I have the pleasure to inform my dear Father that my long-wished-for Happiness was this morning complicated by adding to our Family a woman whom I have reason to think will in every particular be agreeable.

I am very sensible of the many obligations due to you as a Parent, but more particularly for your great kindness and Readiness in assisting me in this last Happy event, which I shall, I flatter myself, prove a happy thing for all our Family; and to that end, I shall always do everything in my power. As to my good uncle, I believe it is unnecessary for me to mention the obligation I think due to him, as also my good Aunt, both of whom I shall during my life take all the pains in my power to convince that I have a true sense of their very great kindness to me.

The gentlemen of the Law at this side of the water give it as their opinion that Burris Estate is not worth sixpence to you; therefore, I suppose you will think it proper to find some more advantageous Purchase for us, as it would not answer for young beginners to purchase a Lawsuit. However, I am much obliged for your kind intention to serve us.

The particulars in regard to my marriage I must leave to my good uncle to acquaint you with—as you may imagine, this being the first day, I have but little

time; therefore conclude, joined by my wife in every proper compliment due to so good parents, which we (thank God) are blessed with, and hope that it will be in your power one day or other to return us the compliment, which will make your

Dutyfull & ob^t Son ever Happy.

A. R. STONEY.

Since the arrival of my uncle, I have drawn a Bill on Messrs. Grattan & Smyth for Fifty Five Pounds Sterling, and am this day obliged to draw another for one Hundred, which I hope it will be convenient to you to have paid, as it shall be the last; and in consequence of the many Bills I have drawn from time to time, & the great expense my uncle's journey will be to you, I take the liberty of sending you the enclosed, which I hope it will be in my power to discharge in a short time.

Still enclosed in the original is the following promissory note, which of course was never "discharged":—

On demand, I promise to pay to George Stoney, Esq., or order, the sum of Five Hundred Pounds sterling, value received by Drafts on Messrs. Grattan, Smyth, and otherwise. This 7th day of November, 1768 Eight.

ANDREW ROBINSON STONEY.

Andrew Robinson Stoney was at the time of his marriage only in his twenty-second year. His wife is described by a lady who knew her as "not at all handsome, short, and very dark." About a year after his marriage—viz., Dec. 1769—he was promoted Lieutenant in his regiment. He then obtained a lieutenancy on half-pay, which he retained till his death. He and his wife resided for the most part at her paternal residence, Cold Pig Hill, Durham, and were acquainted with all the county families in their neighbourhood.

Concerning the Relations of the Stoney Family in Yorkshire.

Up to about this time George Stoney of Greyfort had lived in comparative ignorance of his Yorkshire relations; but now an incident occurred which brought him into communication with one of them, and the next set of documents form part of a correspondence which ensued in connection with his grandfather's property at Rilston, the family coat of arms, &c., &c.

[*Extract of a letter from George Stoney of Greyfort to his "Dear Brother," Thomas Johnston, Esq., Charleville.*]

I had an obliging, sensible Letter from a Christopher Stoney, near Leeds. A Stallion Master from Yorkshire last season called at my House, said I had many Relations near him, & advised me to write to one of them. I did so, & this is an

answer, which I would send you, but I mean to enclose it to Robinson.* I mentioned to him the Estate my grand-father had in Yorkshire, but that I concluded Time had left me no Title to it, & he replies he went to examine into the affair—that the Estate is let at 60 or 70£ per, and that it was only mortgaged at 800£, and adds he has taken advice & has no doubt of recovering it for me, as I was born & lived out of the Kingdom. There possibly may be somewhat in this matter that yet may be recoverable, for the length of Time they have been in possession of the Rents has doubtless paid Interest and Principal.

(There is no date to this letter, but it appears to have been written about the time of "Robinson's" marriage to Miss Newton.)

[From Christopher Stoney of Leeds to George Stoney, "att Grey-fort, Near Borrosokean."]

LONDON,

April 4th, 1762.

SIR,

Your esteemed favour I duly rec^d ye 18th Feby., a few days before I came to this place. As for your son's marriage, I give you joy of, as to points of fortune it's plenty with a good woman, which I have no reason to dispute his choice; and heartily wish them all y^e Blessings a Married State can afford. If your son gives me a call, I shall be glad to see him.

As to y^e Estate being sold to Law^r Banes, I am tould its only a mor'gage to him; if so, lett it come how it wou^d, I am haprehensive the Equity of Redemption is in you; for conversing with a gentleman of my acquaintance, he said he wou^d give £100 for a Title to the Estate, and he wou^d take y^e Chance to recover; & farther said he was once Tould the Law^r Banes, at his death, only bequeathed y^e Estate as a mortgaged one, But this being only hearsay, I do not state it as a facte. If y^e Estate came by your grandmother, except she joyned, in the Fine I think your grandfather could neither sell nor mor'gage. We have publick Registers in Yorkshire, but only about 60 years standing, as I am informed, so that nothing can be of use saving Law^r Banes's Will; but not having time before I came this journey, I cannot inform you how that is. It will give me pleasure for y^e Estate to return to its own. As for y^e papers you mention, as well as Cozⁿ George Stoney's marriage, I spoke to Bro^r Booth about 'em a day or two before I left home. Cozⁿ George did marry an old woman, but could not tell whether she is living or not, but promised me to make all y^e inquiry he could; and if any papers or Deeds, to procure them if possible. As for your grandmother's name, it might be "Moorhouse;" that I don't know, but will inform myself when I go to Craven, where y^e Estate lies, but may be sometime before I go there.

As you may expect to know my Family, I have six children living—my eldest son in London, and has been 3 years, and my eldest daughter along with me. We purpose staying a few days on our return home with our other Relations, as mentioned in my last, who lives near Peterborough—about 80 miles from here—but writes their name *Stona* [or *Stoner*—the MS. is indistinct], occasioned by my uncle Tho^s, their grandfather. Y^e Quarrill was borrowing £100 on Bond, which Bond is now with my relations. The dispute was about our name at y^t time and was the

* Andrew Robinson Stoney was familiarly called "Robinson."

occasion of my uncle Tho^s leaving his native place. There appeared to be 4 Brothers, 3 of which signed our name as we do, but uncle Thomas would have it Stona. But few our name in England. I suppose y^r house and mine has moor of y^e name than all this Island.

We both wish the Title to your Estate could be made clear, as we might have the pleasure to see you in England. To the few of our name I have and shall make you known.

I have a friend, one Mr. Crooke, from the Island of St. Kitts, to dyne with me, who informs me he was acquainted with a Lieutenant George Stoney* on Board y^e "Fenix" or "Vulture" Man of War about 18 months ago, who dyned with him there. My friend said he was well acquainted with one Stoney at Leeds, Yorkshire, so desired the Lieutenant to write his name; being the same as mine, the Lieutenant said he was tould he had some relations in the north of Yorkshire, but did not know them. I should esteem it as a favour if you could inform me who he is, for I never heard of any in England but our own Family.

As to y^e Family Coat of Arms, I never see any, except y^r grandfather tooke them with him when he left England, which is not likely he did. If I stay a week longer at this place, if I have time, will search y^e Heraldry for them.

My son and daughter joynes with me in compliments to you and yours, and all our unknown Relations.

I am, with a Tender of my best Respects and services, your sincere friend and affectionate Relation,

CHRISTOP^R STONEY.

N.B.—Excuse hurry of Business, in haste to be gone home.

From the same to the same:—

SIR,

Having been abroad for some time, on my Return I found a letter from you, But could not answer it till I wrote to Mr. Booth, who gave me no answer p. Return of poste. His eldest son came to Leeds this week and informed me his father had wrote to you a week before he received mine, to which I beg leave to Reffer you.

As to your Estate at Rilston,† I think your appearing in person with proper Inquiry might inform yourself how matters are circumstanced. You'll be at a loss, as we had no register of Deeds, &c., in Yorkshire at the time your grandfather left England. I am informed it is not above 3 or four years since Law^r Baynes Dyed; if so, his Will, if registered, should be y^r guide. If at York, Leeds is only Twenty Three miles Distant.

At the worst, a Bill in Chancery must bring them to, If Mr. Baynes nor any of his Executors has not done anything to debar y^e heir at Law, which wod be prudent to inquire into; Que., whether Ireland is deemed to be beyond y^e sea. I am not so much acquainted with that Law Form, But may inform yourself.

As for your sons, we have excellent schools in Yorkshire, who takes at all ages, even down to Four years old; I have sent my youngest daughter, who is only seven years of age. You may have them fixed from Ten to Twelve pounds p. ann^m either in Master's House—if there be a vacancy—or in a good Tradesman's House. Th^o I

* Lady Morgan's father.

† This was undoubtedly the old way of spelling the name, but Wordsworth appears to have brought "Rylstone" more into fashion.

say £10 or £12, you'll please observe there will be washing, Teaching, &c., &c., which will be about £18 to £20 a piece, exclusive of clothes. Childer are learnt any science you please to put them to; Yorkshire is crowded with young gentlemen and childer from all parts. My eldest son Learnt Lattin, writing, & accompts, as well to write and speak the French Language; my youngest son only learns the English grammer, writing, & accompts, which as soon as he has done that—which will be next summer—his Bro^r proposes sending him to Switzerland. I had intended him going to France, but the gentleman who my son is with came from Switzerland, which induces him to send him thither for about Two years. What he designs further to do with him I don't know. I am the first of our Yorkshire Family which ever was in y^e mercantile way. As my sons seems to bid fair, I am determined, if I live, to push them forward.

I am now much wanting in Education, from the Different Correspondents I have to do with, which makes me forward my sons with Vigour. When I came into this country from y^e *Desserts*—so I may call it—where I had scarce seen men, I knew not one person but one in this part of the world; however, I'll beg Leave to drop this subject, In hopes of seeing one who has been so long lost to us. You may be assured to meet with a good Bed and a Harty welcome.

My Best wishes attend you and yours.

I am, Dr Sir,

Your affect^e kinsman,

CHRISTOP^R STONEY.

N.B.—Lieut. Johnson I cannot find in Leeds, so I suppose he is gone.

P.S.—If By Liverpool, there is a machine comes Twice a week; If in Post Chaise, a good Turnpike Road on to Leeds.

LEEDS,
Aug^t 4th, 1770.

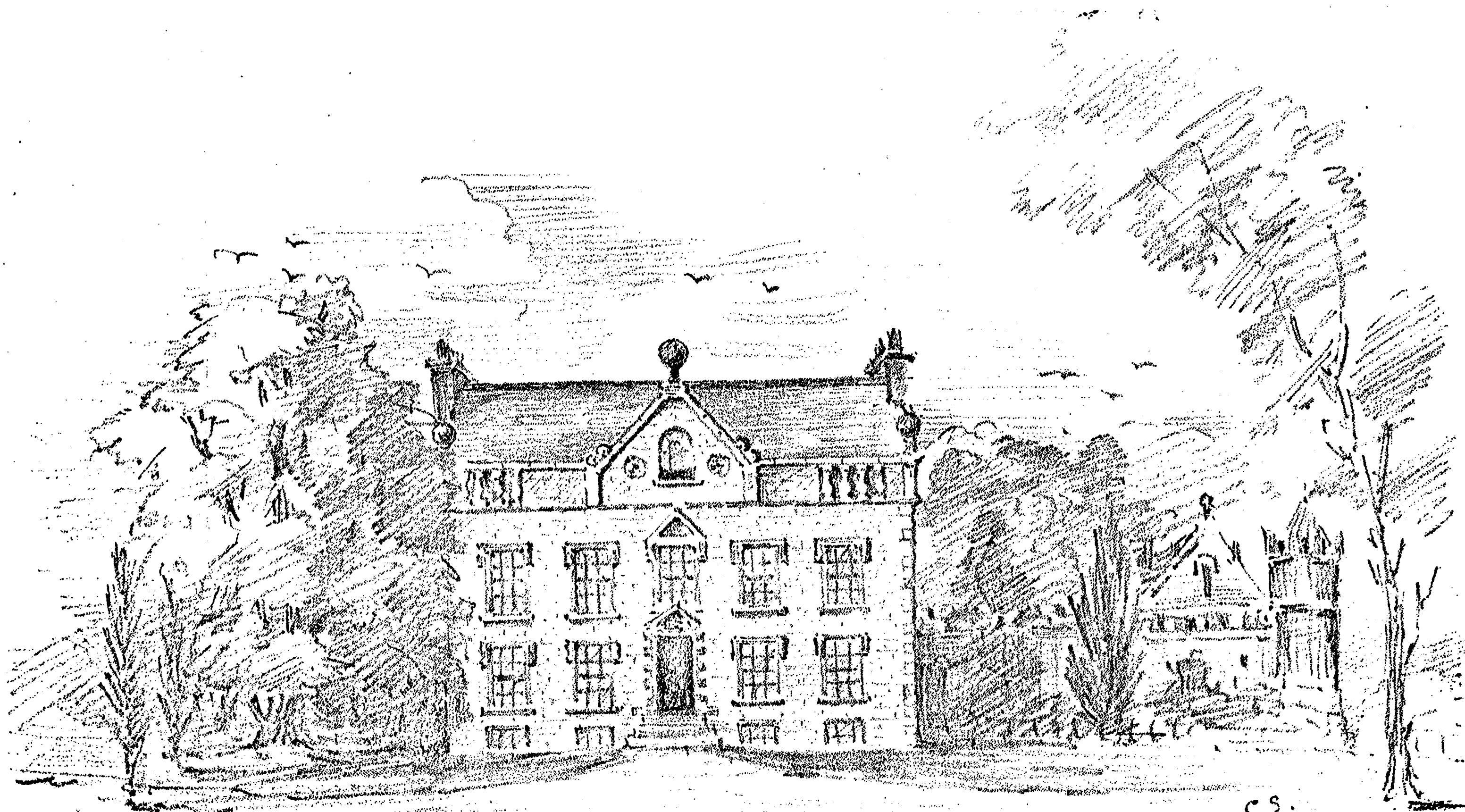
It appears from the foregoing letters that there were four brothers in Yorkshire, three of whom spelt the family name Stoney, while the fourth, Thomas, spelt it Stona or Stoner. One of the three former was father to Christopher Stoney of Leeds, and another was probably George Stoney of Rilston, and hence the relationship between Christopher of Leeds and George of Greyfort. The George Stoney whom Christopher calls "Cousin," and about whose widow George of Greyfort inquired, may have been one of the sons of George Stoney of Rilston, who had remained in Yorkshire, or returned there after his father had left.

There are still some members of the old family in Craven. A Mr. W. H. Stoney, of Skipton, writes to Major Stoney, 1st February, 1879 :—

In reply to yours of this morning, I would say that if your ancestors are from Rylstone, we are undoubtedly members of the same Family.*

The land you speak of, my father was several times urged by a gentleman in the neighbourhood to take possession of, by driving the cattle from the fields and fixing locks upon the gates, and he would stand the brunt of any cost or danger from so doing. I believe the land was mortgaged, or rather the deeds were deposited with a wealthy gentleman in the neighbourhood for some advance of money.

* Mr. Stoney is, however, unable to trace his pedigree more than two generations back.



C.S.

MOUNT FALCON.

An old gentleman, a member of an old county Family, and who knew my grandfather and his Family, always asserted that the name was *Stoner* not *Stoney*; and a gentleman who did so spell his name, and so inherited an estate of considerable value, and to which he asserted my father had an equal right, and would have it that the Family was the same. This person is now dead. He left an estate of upwards of £30,000 to a sister's husband.* The pronunciation in the Rylstone district is more in favour of the *Stona* or *Stoner* than the *Stoney*, but that may arise from the dialect common to Craven, which is in many respects peculiar.

These remarks about the mortgage on the property, and the different ways of spelling the name, agree in a curious manner with some of Christopher Stoney's observations, of which the writer of the letter was not aware.

"Ye Estate at Rilston," is, it appears, now part of the property of Captain Henderson, of Eshton House, who inherited it from a Mr. Wadilove—a gentleman who bought up all the land he could in the neighbourhood.

Though there were not many Stoneys in Yorkshire in Christopher Stoney's time—at all events, so far as he knew—there are plenty of the name there now. The Rev. Thomas Umfraville Stoney, late venerable Rector of Pateley Bridge, W. Riding, being written to on the subject in 1862, replied "that the name was common to many in that neighbourhood, none of whom were in a high class in life, and that his own grandfather was a well-to-do farmer, who had no arms but those which God had given him when he came into the world."

The Marriage of Thomas Stoney of Arran Hill with Ruth Falkiner.

From George Stoney of Greyfort to Richard Falkiner of Mount Falcon :—

27th Feby, 1772.

DEAR COUNSELOR,

My Regards to you and Family render it very distressing to me that I cannot alter my Sentiments with regard to the Treaty lately on Foot between us, nor can (I hope) any blame be laid at my Door, as on consulting my best Friends I am informed I have offered more than an equivalent for the Fortune intended Miss Falkiner, whose good sense and happy disposition are of the greatest weight with me. But then, you know, my Dear Sir, that I have a numerous Family to provide for, and what I give my son will be a great Barr to getting off my daughters and discharging my Debts; therefore, if I act as a just Father, I cannot, nor will not, do more than I at once proposed; and when you consider my situation, you cannot say

* His name appears as Robert Stoney of Skipton in "Owners of Land in England," 1873. He possessed over 300 acres in Craven.

I do not give my son a full proportion of my Fortune. Had I a certainty of long Life, I might risque more, but that cannot be in this World. He must therefore be content with what I can give without great prejudice to my growing young ones, or remain as he is for some years.

With sincere good wishes and true Respect to your Family,

Your affect^e servant,

GEORGE STONEY.

Arran Hill having been settled on Thomas Stoney, the marriage took place in the following year, and is thus recorded in the old Bible :—

Thomas Stoney was married to Ruth Falkiner, May the 6th, 1773, and his wife was brought to bed* of her first son at Greyfort, April the 28th, 1774. His sponsors, Sir Thomas Dancer, Thomas Johnston, Esq., Mrs. Sadleir, and Mrs. Stoney his grandmother, named George Stoney.

Mrs. Stoney of Greyfort also had a son—George Robert Stoney—in 1774, but the portion of the leaf on which it would have been recorded in the old Bible has been accidentally torn out.

The Falkiners had been established for several generations at Mount Falcon, near Borrisokane. They, too, were of Yorkshire extraction; tracing their pedigree to Richard Falkiner, a cavalier who had come to Ireland with the Marquis of Ormonde's army. Sir Frederick Falkiner, Baronet, is of the same family. The coat of arms of the Falkiner's of Mount Falcon are :—Or, three falcons, close ppr. in the centre, chief point a mullet, gu. (See Burke's "Peerage and Landed Gentry.") Mount Falcon is still in the Falkiner family, but Arran Hill has passed away from the Stoneys, and the once hospitable mansion is now (1879) in the state of ruin represented in the adjoining drawing.

Death of A. R. Stoney's first Wife.

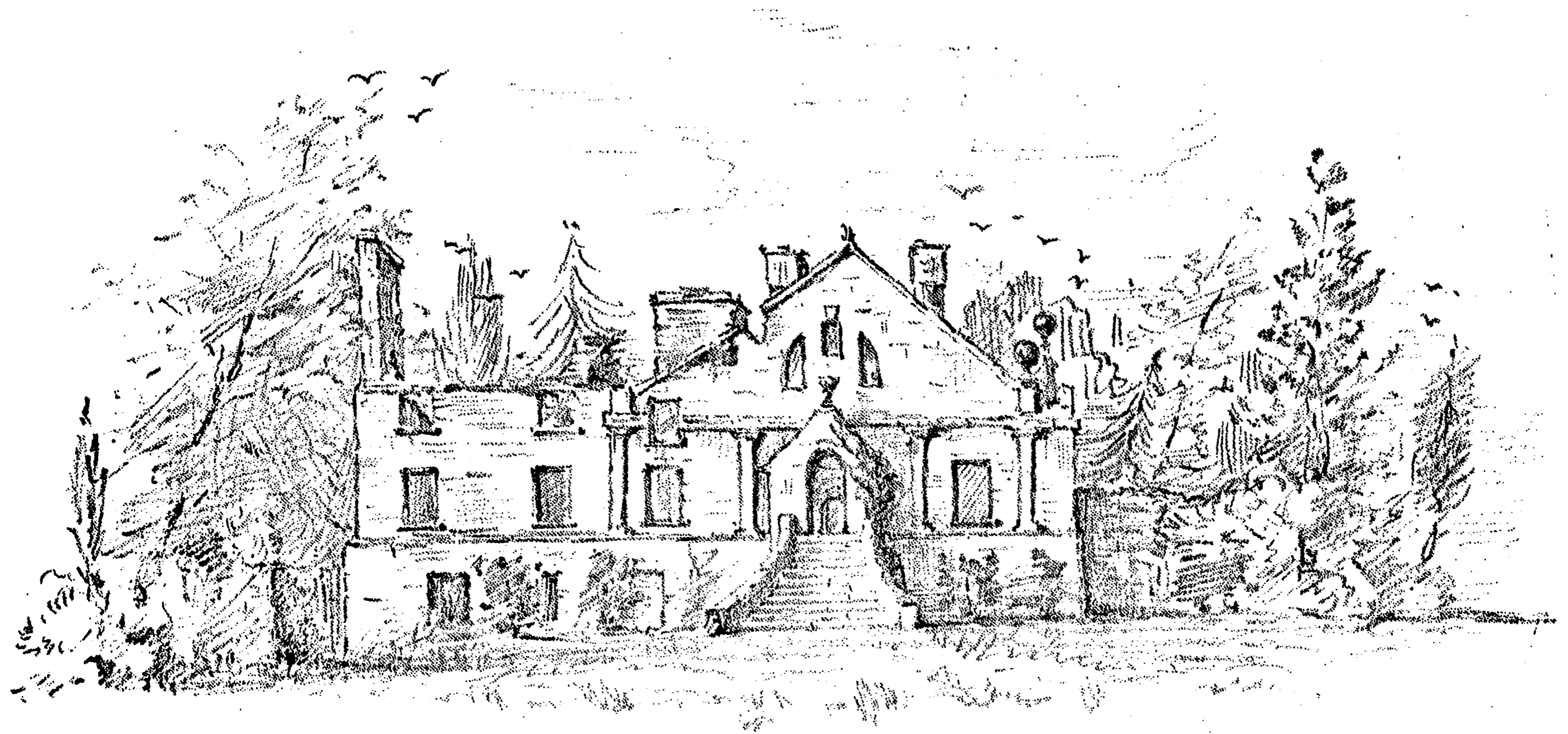
Letter from Andrew Robinson Stoney, to his father, George Stoney, Esq., Greyfort :—

NEWCASTLE,
21st June, 1775.

SIR,

I received your *flattering* Epistle of the 20th of February, which I must acknowledge gave me no small concern, as it really contained more Blasphemy under the cloak of enthusiastick Religion than I ever before observe in the compass of one sheet of paper. But my fears are too well founded, and therefore I shall submit the argument to your flight of imagination, and content myself with the disagreeable Idea that Reason and you are for ever parted; otherwise you could not

* This is still a North of England expression.



ARAN HILL

avoid seeing and consequently acknowledging the gross impropriety of the whole of your Conduct, both to me and all your Family. But, Sir, you are now become the object of Pity, and therefore ought not to be censured by a generous Mind.

To avoid acting the part *you* have, I must own that I cannot make a Title to the Estate in Ireland, tho' all the papers I received from his Lordship of Charleville* are in my possession, and they shall be all returned safe to you, provided you are pleased to become a purchaser, which you may be upon your own Terms, and the Estate shall be reconveyed by Mrs. Stoney & me. Was I not extremely well acquainted with the impossibility of disposing it to any person but you, I should not, you may be assured, have troubled you a second time; but as I am satisfied that is the case, excuse my requesting an absolute answer, which you have never been so kind as to give either to me or my friend who wrote to you about the situation of my affairs, & yet you have thought it expedient to contradict the Fact—from what motive I am not able to suggest, but can't form a favourable opinion.

I have made the purchase I mentioned to you in my last, to the amount of between six and seven Thousand pounds; part of the money (tho' a small part) I have paid, and the remainder I am obliged to discharge on the 1st of next August.

The *Lordling's* attempt to procure a poor revenge has so far answered his purpose as to put me to near £200 expence, and has prevented me from expending the money, for which he was unluckily made Trustee, upon this purchase as was my original Intention. However, I have the pleasure to inform you that if you will forget your precious self for once, and give me the value of the Estate in Ireland, I can settle the whole of my payments without any material degree of inconvenience, which news (I will pay you the compliment to believe) adds not a little to your satisfaction. But live for ten years and you shall be surprised. I had like to forget that I myself am mortal. *Apropos*, pray how old am I?†

I am in a great hurry to have this matter accomplished, for two reasons:—The first is, never am I happy when in Debt; and the next is, from my having an opportunity of taking the Grand Tour with a man of the first Rank and abilities in England, & whom I shall be obliged to follow at a great expence if not able to attend.

A letter a few days ago arrived from Col. Robinson, who I presume you know is abroad, from which I fear he is not going to be long intended for this World.

I spent a day last week in Town with Gen^l Armstrong, who is very well. He made no inquiries after you, and therefore I did not trouble him with a subject with which he has no concern. Mrs. Stoney has been for some time past in Bath, but before I left she was ordered to Bristol, and is now there—*I fear for ever*.

I have made the necessary inquiries in relation to your Yorkshire Estate, & have the pleasure to inform you that your hopes ought not to be small. It is now let for £400 per Ann.

I beg you'll write to me by return of Post, as my affairs will be unsettled till I hear your determination.

I have a thousand things to mention, but at present have only Time to say

I am your Humb^e Serv^t,

A. ROBINSON STONEY.

Ps.—Direct your letter to A. Robinson Stoney, Esq., at Bath.

* His Uncle, Thomas Johnston.

† Twenty-eight.

Mrs. Andrew Robinson Stoney died soon after this letter was written, probably of consumption. The following statement of a lady (before quoted as an acquaintance) respecting her married life must be taken *cum grano*. It was penned about forty years after Mrs. Stoney's death, and proves that the writer was no friend to Bowes, as A. R. Stoney was called. He had an unfortunate habit of turning people into ridicule, and thus making enemies; and it is probable that this lady, like her friend Mrs. D., was at one time the object of his satire. The last paragraph is absolutely incredible:—

He made a very bad husband, and she was a most wretched wife, and brought no children alive into the world; which he much desired for his own sake. He made the bell of St Nicholas toll for one that was dead-born, but failed in proving it to be born with life. If he could have proved it, I understand the law gives a life-estate in the wife's property. He many times advertised the wood on the estates of Coldpig Hill, &c., to be sold, but the next week newspapers always produced a forbiddance from the next heirs. He behaved like a brute and a savage to his wife, and in a short time broke her heart. But do not depend on me, write to Mrs. D. She was at Bath when Mr. Bowes thought proper to lampoon her for coming into some public place in a hat. The lines were very severe.

I will add another strange anecdote of Bowes:—Bowes upon some occasion locked his wife in a closet that would barely contain her, for three days, in her *chemise* (some say without it), and fed her with an egg a day. I have done violence to my feelings, and wish what I have said may be of any use. Mrs. D. can tell a great deal more than me. Write without delay.

This statement was made for the information of Dr. Foot,* who was at the time compiling his vindictive book entitled "The Lives of Andrew Robinson Bowes, Esq., and the Countess of Strathmore,"† to which we shall refer to often again, and frequently quote from.

A. R. Stoney's Marriage with the Countess of Strathmore.

In about a year and a half after his wife died, A. R. Stoney became the hero of a double event which became the talk of all London, if not of all England. The facts will be stated briefly:—

"Miss Bowes of Durham, the then richest heiress in Europe, whose fortune was £1,040,000, with vast additions on her mother's death and immense estates on the demise of her uncle, married the Earl of Strathmore, February 1766."‡ She bore him five children. He died at Lisbon, in April 1776, having been in delicate health

* Foot also received Mrs. D's. letter on the same subject; but it must have been more favorable than he expected, as he has not published it.

† Published about 1811, and now very rare.

‡ Haydn's "Dictionary of Dates."

for some time previously. The Countess, who during his illness had resided in Grosvenor Square, London, "received the account of his death with a cold and unfeeling indifference,"* and very soon afterwards encouraged the addresses of a Mr. Gray, who had held some office in India under Clive; and Foot mentions, too, an "Italian Marquis, who was the Countess's chaperon." At all events, her conduct provoked the comments of the public papers, and, amongst other things, she was compared with the Queen in "Hamlet." Andrew Robinson Stoney—now a recent widower—gained an *entrée* to her house through his connection with Durham† (in fact, it appears he had known her previously); and we do not think that this would have happened had he been a notoriously bad husband to his first wife. He very soon got into the Countess's good graces, and made friends with all her establishment, and, indeed, the Countess and Andrew were on such good terms that, in spite of her engagement to Mr. Gray, he carried on a correspondence with her of the style of which the following sentence of his, referring to her two pet cats, may be given as an example:—"Were I Proteus, I would instantly transform myself, to be happy that I was stroked and caressed like them by you." Further on he adds:—"You will think me whimsical; but on Thursday next, at one o'clock, I shall be at the garden at Paul's Walden. There is a leaden statue—or there was formerly—and near that spot (for it lives in my remembrance) I shall wait; and can I presume that you will condescend to know the place?"‡

A few weeks after this letter was written, a virulent attack on the Countess of Strathmore, and in which allusion was made to Andrew Robinson Stoney, appeared in the "Morning Post," whereupon that gentleman immediately challenged Bate, the editor, and a hostile meeting took place in a room in the Adelphi Tavern, in the Strand, on Monday evening, the 13th of January, 1777. Having discharged their pistols at one another, the combatants continued the duel with their swords, and the row they occasioned induced waiters and others in the tavern to burst open the door of the room. "Upon rushing in," writes an eye-witness, "I seized on Capt. Stoney's sword-arm, and immediately threw myself before him from fear he should receive any further hurt from his antagonist, whom I presently saw was Mr. Bate, whose behaviour at that instant convinced me that no further danger was to be apprehended from him. Soon afterwards, though with no small difficulty, I prevailed upon Capt. Stoney to yield me up his sword; and as he at that time seemed to be very weak, I apprehended he was hurt, and upon my examining him I found he was much wounded. I think there were three wounds in his right breast and one upon his sword-arm. It was a matter of great

* Foot.

† Cold Pig Hill (near Lanchester) is only eight miles from Gibside, the Countess's favorite country seat.

‡ Paul's Walden, near Hitchen, in Hertfordshire, was at this time the residence of Mrs. Bowes, at whose death (soon after) it became the property of her daughter, the Countess. It is evident A. R. Stoney knew the place of old.

surprize to me that one or other of the combatants were not absolutely killed on the spot, as I found them, on my entering in the dark, the candles having been knocked down, as I suppose, in the engagement."

The nearest surgeon was sent for, and he turned out to be Jesse Foot, who thus became acquainted with A. R. Stoney. Dr. Scott, M.D., also came in a few minutes after, and these two medical gentlemen have certified that Stoney was wounded in the breast and arm, and Bate in the abdomen and thigh. Sir Cæsar Hawkins—the celebrated surgeon, who visited Stoney two hours afterwards, and Bate next morning—corroborated Messrs. Scott and Foot's statement. Years afterwards, when Stoney Bowes had earned a bad name, there were people who said the duel was a sham one; but, independent of the direct evidence, Bate's well-known character as a fire-eater,* and Stoney's undeniable courage, leave no reasonable doubt as to its reality. An account of it will be found in the chronicle of "The Annual Register" for the year 1777. The morning after the duel, Mr. Gray warmly thanked Stoney for his gallant conduct in defence of the Countess, while the lady herself hastened to his apartments in the St. James's Coffee House, attended him on his sick couch, and commemorated the event in the following graceful lines:—

Unmoved Maria saw the splendid suite
Of rival captives sighing at her feet,
Till in her cause his sword young Stoney drew,
And to revenge the gallant wooer flew:
Bravest amongst the brave! and first to prove,
By death or conquest, who best knew to love!
But pale and faint the wounded lover lies,
While more than pity fills Maria's eyes.
In her soft breast, where passion long had strove,
Resistless sorrow fixed the reign of love.
"Dear youth," she cries, "we meet no more to part,
Then take thy honours due—my bleeding heart!"

Accordingly, as chronicled by the "Annual Register," The Right Hon. the Countess of Strathmore was married to Andrew Robinson Stoney, of Cold Pig Hill, County of Durham, on the 17th of January, 1777, at St. James's Church, Westminster—*i.e.*, four days after the duel. To the Rev. Mr. Gardiner, who officiated, the bridegroom presented fifty pounds.

"The morning after the marriage he had quite a *levée*. Not being well enough to be moved, or not now caring much about it, he was seen dressed in a new suit of regimentals; his vanity reminding him, that fourteen (seven?) years ago, he was the youngest Lieutenant upon half-pay of a disbanded regiment. Two general officers, in their full regimental dresses, paid him and the Countess the nuptial visit; these were his near relations, General Robinson of Marlborough Street, and

* Bate fought at least two duels afterwards, and in 1780 he was sentenced to a year's imprisonment for a libel in the "Morning Post" on the Duke of Richmond. He was a personage well known, and subsequently became Sir H. Bate Dudley, Bart.—*History of British Journalism*. London, Bentley, 1859.

General Armstrong of Berner's Street. General Lambton called in his regimental dress also; he was the relation of the Countess. In point of family and origin the couple were much on a par; I never could see much difference between them."

So says Dr. Foot; but it is to be added that the origin of the bridegroom—respectable though it was—could not stand comparison with the representative of the time-honoured House of Bowes, one of whose many distinguished heads was the gallant Elizabethan Knight, Sir George Bowes, who helped to suppress the "Rising in the North."

"The cards," continues Foot, "were in heaps that were left by visitors in coaches, on horseback, and on foot. All was bustle; and there would have been something light and airy, something of felicity in this knight-errant frolic of Fortune, something which on a superficial mind would strike the attention as a prosperous and dexterous piece of romance; but the foundation was not sound, the cause was not good, the prospect was not bright, the background was sombrous."

Foot wrote this paragraph, judging from subsequent events; but had Stoney only common prudence, the marriage might have turned out happy and prosperous. As it happened, however, he lost through folly the splendid opportunity he had won through adroitness.

Surtees,* who draws his inspiration from Foot's more detailed description, gives us the following sketch of the lady:—

"Aged at this time about thirty, Lady Strathmore had a graceful figure, somewhat inclining to *embonpoint*, and her general appearance was prepossessing. Of botany her knowledge was most extensive, and her garden is said to have been a very paradise. For poetry she had cultivated a taste naturally delicate, and had acquired many languages; but the language of books was the only one to which she had ever been accustomed that did not speak the words of flattery. Her intellect had been educated, but not her character.

"Mr. Stoney," continues Surtees, "was a native of Ireland, where, in the County of Tipperary, his family were creditably established. Showy without learning, cunning without prudence, and ambitious without perseverance, he brought with him a pleasing address and person, and the fluency, wit, and assurance which are said to be indigenous to the country of his birth."

Foot gives us further particulars of the bridegroom:—

"His speech was soft, his height more than five feet ten, his eyes were bright and small (he had a perfect command over them), his eyebrows were low, large, and sandy, his hair was light, and his complexion muddy, his smile was agreeable, his wit ready; but he was always the first to laugh at what he said, which forced others to laugh also. There was something uncommon in the connexion of his nose with his upper lip;

* "Sketch of the Lives of Lords Stowell and Eldon." London, Chapman and Hall, 1816.

he could never talk without the nose—which was long, and curved downwards—being also moved ridiculously with the upper lip. It was when he meant to be emphatic the effect was most discovered; in light conversation he avoided it, by not employing his upper lip beyond a certain extent, and in that case he was necessarily forced to lisp.”

We do not know how much of Lady Strathmore’s immense property was settled on her young children by her first husband, but Mr. O’Byren (a friend of A. R. Stoney’s) in writing, on the 16th January, 1777, an account of the duel to George Stoney of Greyfort, incidentally mentions that the Countess had “£8,000 a year at least.” She certainly had a good deal of property in her own control, and was in possession of two magnificent places in Durham—namely, Streatlam Castle and Gibside; the former near Barnard Castle (the old feudal fortress of the Boweses), and the latter near Newcastle. At Streatlam Castle there was, and is still, a full-length portrait of the Countess, amongst the other Bowes’ family pictures.

“Mr. Stoney,” says Surtees, “whom I shall now generally call by the surname of Bowes, resided much, for some time after his marriage, in Lady Strathmore’s house in Grosvenor Square. He at that period became the associate of the Duke of Norfolk, and some other men of rank and dissipation; and their orgies were enlivened by his humour and diversified by the practical jokes which he appears to have considered himself privileged to play off.”

In accordance with his father-in-law’s will, Andrew Robinson Stoney, like the Earl of Strathmore, obtained, soon after his marriage, royal permission to assume the surname of Bowes; and though he married a Countess and mixed with Dukes, we are happy to add he dropped that of Stoney at the same time. With reference to this, Foot observes:—“As his original name is not seen in his signature, I have no right to disturb it; for if I did I must expose his place of nativity, his family and relatives, who I know are in possession of wealth, respectability, and honourable connexion. Two of his sisters I have seen, one of them for three months daily, and the other during the time her brother was upon his death-bed, so that it must be apparent I could give a very proper account of his genealogy if I chose; but I am resolved to decline it, purely because I do not wish to stain their fair fame by the insertion of their names in this disgraceful relation of one so closely allied by blood but so estranged by nature. Their escutcheon, so far as I can prevent it, shall not be blotted by him.”

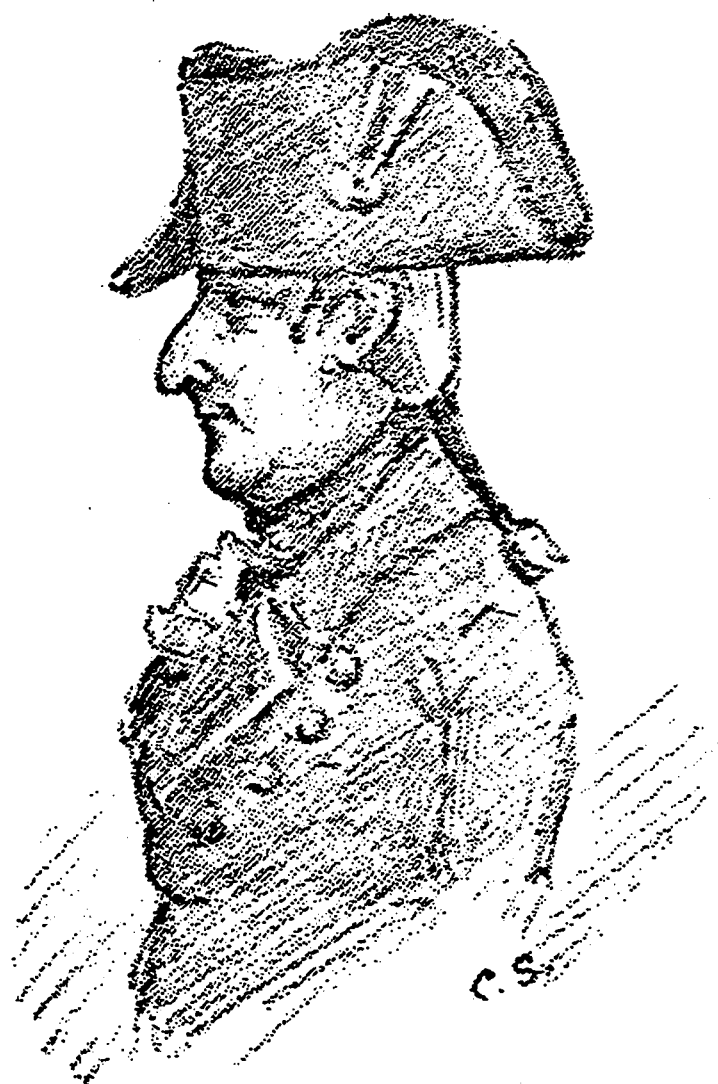
A few days after the marriage, and before the name of Bowes was assumed, George Stoney of Greyfort received the following letter from his new daughter-in-law, for the disagreeable tone of which he was indebted to his undutiful son:—

SIR,

Mr. Stoney, though in a fair way of perfect recovery, not being yet able to write, on account of the wound in his arm, desires me to inform you that Mr. O’Byren, who has been in London, and is lately returned to Ireland, has Papers



THOMAS STONEY 17



ANDREW ROBINSON BOWES

with him, and Directions to dispose of Mr. Stoney's Estate, the entire management of which he has left to Mr. O'Brian, and he has also orders to file a Bill in Chancery to oblige you to perform your engagement, as Mr. Stoney bids me say (which I am extremely sorry to find from his account and Mr. Gibson's is but too true) he does not think that either you or your Family deserve the most distant Degree of favour or Indulgence from him.

Tho' I am conscious of the ill-usage Mr. Stoney has received, I must confess I should have wish'd to address you in a different stile. I am writing by Mr. Stoney's Bedside, and add this without his knowledge.

I am,

Sir,

Your most Obed^t humb^{le} Serv^t,

MARY ELEANOR BOWES STRATHMORE.

We may rest assured that Gen. Armstrong and (now) Gen. Robinson did not omit to communicate to George Stoney their ideas regarding the romantic marriage, which must have caused considerable excitement and amusement at Greyfort; but the only Irish letter we can find on the subject is the following, from Isaac Stoney to his first cousin:—

Tho^s. Stoney, Esq.,

Arran Hill,

B'okane.

Free.

[Crest on seal, a demi-lion.]

W. Clonfert.

DUB., 8th Febr., 1777.

D^r TOM,

I rece'd your's, and from a Letter which I rece'd since my last to you, from my Brother,* who was then in London, I begin to think we shall be all the better of Robinson's change, for he gives Lady Strathmore such an amiable character as that I am sure she will not be the least Hinderance to anything he is Pleased to do; he says she is as well Bred a Woman as any in England, Mistress of all the Languages; and at the same time free from Pride. In short, he says there is every appearance of Happiness in the match, as well as fortune, and that no person could have been more basely wronged than she has been in the Diff^t Publications in the "Morning Post," of which Bate was the Editor, and everything that was say'd against her was all envy and Malice, set on foot by some Noblemen in England who were Piqued at her refusing to marry them. The World in gen^l, I am sorry to say, only wants the Wind of a word to set scandal on foot, but particularly when the object is one to be envied, then their scandal knows no bounds. However, I am happy to Inform you that what was say'd of her is as untrue as it was malicious and Villianous; and what can give a clearer Proof of its falseness than no one's daring to avow it, and the Printer's refusing to give up the authors?

* George.

I believe I ment^d something to you in my first Letter of the Publick opinion of this Lady's Character, which I am exceedingly glad to find was wrong. If I did, keep it to yourself, or burn the Letter, as I only told you in confidence, and I shou'd be sorry to be thought I run with the crowd, and, believe me, I find ten times the Pleasure of having it in my power, thro' George, to give you this Pleasing acct, and that I find everything that has been say'd to this Lady's Prejudice was entirely owing to Envy and Resentment for her preferring Robinson to sev^l Noblemen and Men of Fortune who pay^d their addresses to her; but I daresay Robinson will give them the old Irish Recipe if they call on him—that is, the D——I relieve them. Pray let me know which you would Rather (as you are certainly Intitled to the first choice) take—an Irish Peerage, or a seat in the English house of Commons. I suppose the Latter, as anyone now-a-days may get the former; however, I shan't accept of either untill you make your Election and are provided for. As to where I live now, it is of no consequence, for a Letter directed to me in Dublin comes quite safe; Lord Clermont knowing me to be the only cousin (German) by marriage that Lady Strathmore has in this Kingdom. However, as it may be a gratification to you, I live at No. 4, York Street, where I should be very happy to see you. I beg you won't be laughing at our Private jokes about this business, or mention them to any one until we see how things may turn out; for should we be taken no notice of, then the laugh would be against us.

Nancy joins me in everything to Mrs. Stoney, you, and little ones, and our love, &c., to Greyfort, and believe me

Dr Tom's most affect^e

Kinsman,

ISAAC STONEY.

You may assure my Aunt that Robinson is quite well of his wounds.

Bowes's early Married Life with the Countess, and his Entry into Parliament.

Before the expiration of Bowes's honeymoon, one of the members for the borough of Newcastle died, and Bowes, with characteristic promptitude, sought the representation of the constituency and issued his address:—

To ye Worshipful the Mayor, Aldermen, Common Council, and Freemen of y^e Town of Newcastle-upon-Tyne:—

As the great loss you have sustained in y^e death of your late Representative, S^r Walter Blacket, has made a vacancy in Parliament for Newcastle-upon-Tyne, I beg leave most respectfully to offer myself to your notice as a person who wishes to devote himself to y^e interests of that Town, and at y^e same time to solicit y^e Honor of your protection and approbation; and if I am fortunate enough to be deemed worthy of your countenance and Interest, I shall endeavour with most anxious zeal

to render myself deserving of your confidence, and shall, through my whole conduct, study to obtain y^e most just pretensions to such a distinguished honor. At y^e same time, I hope the present state of my indisposition, which will not allow me y^e satisfaction of an attendance in y^e North, will excuse y^e omission of my personal respects till my Health more comfortably will permit me that Honor, which I dearly hope to receive.

I am, gentlemen, your most faithfull and obedient humble servant,

AND. R. BOWES.

GROSVENOR SQUARE,

Feb^r 17, 1777.

The polling took place next month, and resulted in the election of Sir John Trevelyan (nephew of the deceased member), who obtained 1163 votes. Bowes, though absent, had 1068—a fact which proves he must have had, independent of the Bowes interest, some personal influence or popularity in Newcastle, as the owner of the Cold Pig Hill Estate. His principal agents at the election were William and John Scott, sons of his or Lady Strathmore's steward at Gibside—a venerable old man whom Foot recollects to have once seen in a scarlet and gold waistcoat, and who had prospered so well under the liberal patronage of the Bowes family that he educated his sons as gentlemen. "At this contest, John Scott—also then an inexperienced young barrister—was retained by Bowes as one of his Counsel, and received from him a fee of two hundred guineas for his exertions."*

Bowes presented a petition to Parliament against the return. A formidable array of counsel was employed on each side, and Bowes "did not forget to add the then unknown John Scott" to his number. The election was confirmed, but "it contributed to establish Bowes's importance very much," as John Scott wrote to his brother.

To George Stoney, Esq., Borrisokane, Ireland. (Endorsed "A. R. Stoney Bowes, a high letter"):

GIBSIDE, Nov. 14, 1777.

SIR,

Your letter of the 29th of October I have this moment received, and in reply to it must acquaint you that I am determined never to have any money transaction in a country where I have been already treated in so very illiberal and unnatural a manner. However, Sir, in respect to your Health, nature obliges me to confess, contrary to the dictates of just resentment, that I am extremely sorry to hear of its decline, and esteem it my duty to procure you the best advice England affords, which luckily is in my power at this Period, as Doctor Scott—one of the best London Physicians—happens to be now with me, in order to attend my wife to Town, as she is so very near her time that I did not think it prudent for her to take so long

* Surtees.

a journey without ample assistance at hand. I am perfectly well satisfied that the mode you have followed must have been very detrimental to your constitution; & to confirm Doctor Scot's opinion, which I beg you will show the greatest attention I shall as soon as possible apply to two or three more of the most eminent of the Faculty, & also send you their directions.

I am, Sir,

Your most obt & very humble servant,

A. ROBINSON BOWES.

P.S.—Lady Strathmore not writing to you as usual was entirely in consequence of my positive orders to the contrary.

Although on his second marriage Bowes seemed desirous of ignoring his family, Lady Strathmore prevailed on him to ask his sister Mary on a visit, which was accepted at the instance of her mother, but under protest from her sensible father. It will be seen hereafter that Mary terminated her visit abruptly, though the cause—no doubt a good one on her part—is not recorded.

From Andrew Robinson Bowes, Esq., to —, Esq. (Transcribed from Foot's book, in which there are several other letters from the same to the same from Gibside and Streatlam Castle, and all about money principally) :—

COLD PIG HILL,

November 11, 1778.

DEAR SIR,

Though I am this moment going out a hunting, I must write one line to answer your obliging letter of the 4th inst. I am much obliged by the information you give me relative to the new Creation. I was before too apprehensive the power was in the option of the ministers, and that the difficulty therefore would be great in my present situation. However, my dear friend, time should be always taken by the forelock, and hope on that account a trifle (of five-hundred pounds, for instance) will not allow you to stop your proceedings.

I came here last Sunday with my wife and Sister and General B—, upon a hunting party. My real reason was to avoid a sore throat, which was very troublesome at Gibside, though, thank God, not mortal. Markham (my chaplain), his wife, and Major P — keeps house. We return on Sunday.

The last policies that were done for me were by D—, at six per cent. for two years, the hand of justice and suicide excepted. I will send to you when I return, in order to have the names examined. The other policies you mention in your last letter only, shall be sent to you the moment I return to Gibside, with your promise

that they shall be returned immediately, as I believe you will find names on them that ought not to be there. The hint you gave me about Mr. W—— would be very pleasing to me, you may be assured, but I must know nothing yet.

I am, dear Sir,

In much hurry, yours, &c.,

A. R. BOWES.

P.S.—If ten thousand can be accomplished upon the above terms I will give my note, payable in two months when finished.

If I should ever get into Parliament, I shall have plenty of things to ask without waiting for the matter in question.

“The matter in question” was the “New Creation,” or Irish Peerage, which Bowes was at this time endeavouring to obtain; and there was nothing unreasonable in his aspiration, for there was a great deal of truth in Isaac Stoney’s remark that anyone could get an Irish Peerage in those days.

In 1780 there was a dissolution of Parliament, and Sir Mathew Ridley and Andrew Robinson Bowes were elected members for Newcastle. The unsuccessful candidate petitioned against the return of Bowes, who again employed John Scott as one of the counsel for the defence of his seat, which was successfully accomplished.

This association of young Scott with leading barristers brought him into notice and gave him a professional start—the great *desideratum* at the bar—which led to a flow of business, and his eventual rise to be Lord Chancellor of England and Earl of Eldon, whilst his brother, William Scott, shared in his success, and rose to be Lord Stowell and Judge of the High Court of Admiralty.

Bowes was only thirty-three when he entered Parliament, and was in a capital position for ensuring a brilliant social career, but he threw it away. Already he was oppressed with debt.

“Bowes had been fortunate in having served the office of Sheriff just in time to be chosen member for Newcastle, and it is beyond all question that he meditated standing for the county at some future time, and had got some strong interest on his side. As to what he did in Parliament there can be no trace, his vote being always silent. He still aimed at an Irish Peerage, and finding the administration recoiled at it, he grew sulky and abusive.”*

From the Countess of Strathmore to George Stoney, Esq. (Endorsed “Lady Strathmore on Mary’s quitting her.” Probably written at her husband’s dictation):—

* Foot.

LONDON,

Dec^r 8th, 1780.

SIR,

Tho' Language cannot do justice to my present sensations, and I feel myself very unfit for any employment, yet I shall not refrain from attempting to express how much I am shocked at the dreadful accident which happened in this Family yesterday, when I have the misfortune to say that Miss Stoney left us in the middle of the night, eloping from a public Hôtel where we then were, & I am greatly hurt to add that the affair is already universally known.

Mr. Bowes, in the greatest agitation I ever beheld, both of mind and Body, has set off for Holyhead, & has left me under the most dreadful apprehensions of what consequences may attend his journey, in case any gentleman accompanies his sister, which is a circumstance we are yet totally ignorant of, as also what place she is gone to, tho' we conjecture Ireland.

I am particularly affected by Mr. Bowes' feelings on this occasion, as I consider myself in some measure the cause of them, it being at my earnest solicitation that he brought Miss Stoney to England, & I cannot avoid saying that I think myself extremely ill-requited by her, as her recent conduct is one of the most unfortunate circumstances could have happened to Mr. Bowes and myself, & which will do us a very irreparable injury. To me it may especially be productive of the most pernicious effects, as I am the Mother of a large Family, & have Daughters under whose eyes such an example ought not to have been exhibited.

I must now add that I take my final leave of every part of your Family, observing that I never met with a greater instance of Impropriety or Ingratitude, & that I am convinced Mr. Bowes was not too harsh in his censures, which I have, till now, often thought & told him he was. Pray do not give yourself the unnecessary trouble of answering this letter, as it is impossible to do so in a manner satisfactory to me.

I am, Sir,

Your humble servant,

M. E. BOWES STRATHMORE.

From A. R. Bowes to Thomas Johnston, Esq., Charleville.

[*A literatim copy of the original, which is written on gilt-edged paper.*]

PAUL'S WALDEN,

July 3rd, 1781.

DEAR UNCLE,

I should certainly have written to you long before now, had I not been so ill treated by some persons of my own Family (too many) as not to be in a state of mind sufficiently composed to correspond even with you, whose friendship and affection I shall ever remember with Gratitude. The Injuries of Persons with whom I am not closely allied may perhaps occasion me a Momentary anxiety; the Laws of honour point out a mode of Redress, and soon open a Channel for Resentment to vent itself by; But the Injuries done me by near Relations, which nature and Law forbids me to avenge, become deep and painful wounds, admitting of no cure but what may be drawn from time and much Reflection—remedies which the quickness of my Feelings will not allow me to avail myself of.

It is unnecessary for me to acquaint you that unnatural and Foolish Parents are the persons who have Poisoned my Tranquility. Not contented with disconcerting Schemes which in the Foolish Fondness of a Brother's & a Son's Heart I had formed for their Happiness; not content with defeating designs which I had vainly hoped to accomplish for their and my own aggrandisement; not content, I say, with using every Effort in their power to cover Lady Strathmore and myself with Infamy; they dare to take a Savage pleasure in giving fresh Poignancy to the Indignities we have suffered, by acquainting me that my project was upon the point of being compleated, that the end of my Inviting the Earl of M—— to my House, under the pretence (with his Mother) of an alliance with Lady Maria Bowes—Lady S.'s Eldest Daughter—at a more advanced age, was on the Eve of being obtained, and that he fell into the Decoy as precipitately as even my most Sanguine hopes could presage. But nineteen, & consequently ignorant of the world, he admired, Loved, nay pressed my graceless and I really believe Infamous Sister to accompany him to Scotland, whilst the bane of my Labour for her advantage, prepossessed, as I suppose, in favour of some Contemptible Lover, Suppressed from me the Important Intelligence, when it could be carried (had I known it) into instant Execution; and now that it is utterly frustrated, Scruples not to declare it. As to her being prevented making the discovery to me at the proper time by a dread of offending me, as she has asserted, it is too ridiculous for even my worthy Parents to believe, particularly as I declare to you that she perfectly well knew my scheme in favour of her. That she was under apprehension I believe, but it was the apprehension of being Separated for ever from the object of her wild affections, because she well knew that I would hurry the matter into Immediate execution, as the greatest step that could add to the dignity & Interest of our Family—a young man whose Rank and Twelve Thousand P^r Annum was amongst the Smallest of his Qualifications. Such has been the abandoned conduct of a Sister whom I Loved almost as Life itself, whom I brought Comparatively out of obscurity, Polished with Infinite pains her already rec^d bad Education, Brought her forward with caution & a Watchful Eye—a Sister whose Felicity I prized beyond my own, and would have even distressed my Fortune to have made her great and happy. But, base and ungrateful as she has proved herself to be, why do I call her sister? Why give that endearing Epithet to my Enemy, the Premeditated Foe of my Peace and felicity, and of the Interest of all her Family? Why did she presume to bring her Vulgar Attachment, her Love-sick Hankerings, into that new sphere where my Folly placed her? or rather, why did I introduce the Viper to the most unreserved confidence of my Family?

But I will no farther pursue a train of reflections which would lead me to Madness. I renounce her for ever, and hereafter shall Endeavour to banish her as effectually from my Remembrance as I have already done from my Heart; and with her all those who have in any respect advised, abetted, received, or encouraged her.

As to my wise Father, he has taken the Task upon himself of becoming the Ingrate's Interpreter, as well as advocate. He has given me the kind Intelligence as a Balm, no doubt, for my anxiety. Unnatural as he is, I wish not to slander the Atom, but I affirm in the most serious manner that his last letter was such a Rhapsody that it confirms beyond contradiction the opinion I had long conceived of his Insanity. His Ideas are unhappily conveyed in a canting Enthusiastical Style, which of all Species of Madness is the most difficult to be cured. Were he really in his Senses, with all the filial Respect I ever had I could not avoid laughing at his appeals to God and Religion at the conclusion of those Periods in which he employs numberless flimsey arts to over reach me, and to palliate and vindicate Conduct which cannot be Palliated or Vindicated. (I confess, and I thank God for it) I am not encumbered with too much Religion, yet I hope I respect it sufficiently to conduct myself with Justice and Propriety; But if its Tendency be to render men wild, Hypocritical, unjust, and ungrateful—as my Father's Creed teaches him—I should glory in being an Infidel all my Life.

After all these Injuries and Indignities, can you wonder that I adopt the only mode left me of avenging Lady Strathmore and myself? This my Father may think cruel! and, after all, what does my Cruelty consist in? Why, in compelling by Law a man to do me that Justice which neither his own voluntary Inclination nor yet his boasted sense of Religion ever prompted or at least obliged him to do me. I require but my right, and no Law of God or Man forbids me to do otherwise. I am therefore determined to prosecute it with Vigour, cost what it will, and have written to some Gentlemen of the Law in Ireland to that Effect. Should they, however, remit anything of that dispatch necessary to conduct the suit with Efficacy, I shall go thither myself and give it animation. I shall consent to no Suspension or Arbitration of any kind; the cause is in the Hands of the Law, and by that alone it must be decided. Such is my Invariable determination.

As to the threats Concerning my Letters, they meet my Contempt. I am rather surprised that he should Conceive or Execute such a design, But I should have been a fool indeed if after my knowledge of him (which has been ever since I could connect an Idea) I addressed any matter for his Perusal which I should not be Equally Satisfied to come under the observation of all Mankind.

How often have I freely given you my opinion of him? You know in that particular at least I have been for many years Steady. I disregard him and all his confederates, numerous as they are, against my Honour, Happiness, and Fortune; and though I have a Heart tender as a fond mother's to those I love, yet to such unnatural Enemies as him and his Family it shall appear hard and Implacable.

To such as condemn me for extending my Enmity to all his Family, I would say that my grievances are of no common or trifling nature; they Strike at everything Dear and Valuable to man, and therefore cannot be too severely punished. Nay, so fixed am I to my purpose, that should death arrest him before the Termination of the Suit, his Executors shall be responsible for his Embezzlement. He owes me, upon a moderate Computation—very moderate indeed—near Ten Thousand pounds. Great as this sum may appear, I have the first opinions that I shall recover it. I can prove the whole by his own Hand.

Long as this Letter is, I must yet add to it one Important point more, as nothing would afford me greater pleasure than to be ever on the most cordial and amicable Terms with you, whom I have always Loved & revered. I conjure you to Interfere in no degree whatsoever in the dispute Subsisting between Mr. Stoney & me (as long as I exist I shall never again call him Father), as I have not formed my present determination but upon the most Solid & deliberate Grounds; it is fixed as Fate. My Injuries are of no common Kind; they have wounded me in the tenderest Part; they cannot admit of the least alleviation. All Mediation, therefore, must be Ineffectual. After what Lady Strathmore & I have Suffered, Pity would be meanness. I shall therefore persist Inflexibly in my Resolution, and strain every nerve that Justice shall supply me with to make the ill treatment I have sustained retort with double Vengeance on the Wicked and Contemptible Authors. As to the Idea of giving Mr. Stoney a receipt in full, it was never my Intention. I shall only give receipts for what I receive, which is all Justice can require. If you wish to have my Estate in Ireland, I will sell it to you with the arrears for an Annuity for my Life; but I must first know what you think a fair price, and must then desire an Immediate and an exact mode in the Execution of the transaction; as I well know how all negotiations in Money Matters are carried on in Ireland, and how Seldom they are finished in a Legal manner. All the Money I can either beg or Borrow I am now Expending upon my own life. As Lady Strathmore wrote to Charleville a few days ago, I shall not trouble you with Comp^s.

I am truly & Affectionately

Yours,

A. R. BOWES.

I inclose you Mr. Stoney's Letter, under a perfect Confidence that you will return

it to me, directed to Gibside, by return of the Post. I also enclose a letter of yours, which Mr. Stoney Inclosed to me, I think very Improperly. However, I must add that I think a different Letter from what you wrote to your Sister might have been of more real Service to her and the Family. It appears to me from that you had it in your power to have given some very useful advice. I should say more upon this subject, but that I have several People round me.

The young Man that has been lately sent over is really fit for nothing but a Farmer. He knows less than a Boy ought to know at Ten Years of age. A Good temper and a good person are not sufficient in this Country.*

How "Mrs. Wilson" was sent to meet Mary, and how the latter was warmly welcomed home, will be found referred to in her father's diary; but otherwise we have no reply to the statements put forward in the preceding rigmarole of a letter. We know, however, that Lady Maria Bowes was hardly in her teens at this time, and we also know that her guardians would not allow her, a few years afterwards, to pass even one night under her mother's roof. It is possible, therefore, that Mary Stoney disliked the society she was forced to mix with, and finding that her brother objected to her leaving his house, went away unknown to him.

Extracts from George Stoney of Greyfort's Diary.†

1781.

January.

1st. Had all our friends of the Mount, young and old, with Messrs. Saunders, Nesbitt, &c. The House full, to commence with for the New Year.

5th. This House very quiet; no stranger but Father Kennedy. Armstrong went to Capt. Robinson's. Fox Hunting next day.

7th. Wife and 2 daughters dined at Sopwell.‡

8th. Wife and Family dining at Ballynavin. Sons gone to Shinrone Assembly.

9th. Rested at Home to prepare for next Entertainment. W. Smith (son-in-law) Foxhunting; killed near Castletown.

12th. (January, 1781). Sent Mrs. Wilson to England by Waterford for Mary. Cash to her 15 guineas. Bigoe not yet returned since Shinrone Assembly. Know not where he is. Suppose Coolfin: anywhere Jollying rather than at Home.

13th. Dined here, the families of Ballynavin, Bushey Park, Milford, Arran Hill, Mr. Trimbell from Dublin—an agreeable young man & great Foxhunter.

14th. House quiet; the family at Home. Betty§ only dined here. Returned in the evening perfectly well; was seized with a violent cholic late at night. Sent by daybreak for her mother, who went to see her.

* His brother, Bigoe Armstrong Stoney.

† The original diary compasses the period from September 13th, 1780, to September 14th, 1781.

‡ The Sopwell family at this time consisted of Mr. and Mrs. Francis Sadleir and their two daughters, Mary (afterwards Mrs. Trench, and mother of the first Lord Ashtown) and Catharine (afterwards Mrs. Bury, and mother of the first Earl of Charleville).

§ Elizabeth Stoney, who married Ralph Smith of Milford, 27th Jany., 1772.

15th. Found her so dangerously ill, sent for Dr Heenan. Found him at Lord Eyre's. Believe her Disorder Rheumatic, Bilious, or both. So violently attacked as to be feared in the jaws of Death the *entire day*. Rather better in the Evening, & much more so towards Morning—a serious lesson not to trust in the things of this World, but to submit ourselves wholly to His holy Will who governs all things. We should likewise with grateful Hearts submit ourselves, and be thankful for his Dispensations, be they what they may, and conclude that whatever is is Best.

16th. Betty continues to mend, through Divine favour. Hope this fit will bring her reflection, and cure her of immoderate grief for the loss of her child, Nancy—an offering to her Creator—perhaps now a Little Guardian Angel hovering round her mother and Family.

17th. Favorable news from Millford—Praise the Lord!

18th. Wife went off after nightfall to Milford, being uneasy, yet all well there. Capt. Robinson came here late to Fox Hunt. The Hounds arrived before him.

19th. All early up for the Hunt. Mr. Saunders came before Sunrise; Tom Stoney, Rev. R. Falkiner followed. Breakfasted. Waited an Hour for Mr. Sheriff Firman. Set out without him at length. R. Smith and he came; met us on Lisleaghbeg. After drawing my covers in Borris Wood, we unkennelled. Fox ran hither, next to Kilrouane. I must wait further intelligence, as I went not off my own Land. From thence to Ballynavin, Lettyville, Iminisky, Ballycapple Wood, crossed the Bog to Emell Castle, Ballintemple, and earthed in my Island past Culinwain—Derryboderig.

28th. (Sunday). Mr. Sims came from Nenagh and his Son. Ralph, Willy, T. S., Capt. R. D. Falkiner, and Jos Biggs went to bed *early next morning*. Capt. R. withdrew upstairs, passed some hours there, returned fresh on the gentlemen, and was an Hero the latter end of the night, as usual, a bad return of Sunday's work.

29th. Gentlemen rose late with heavy Heads. T. Biggs set off early; Capt. R. soon after. William Smith, I hear, did not sleep much yesterday, but made up the beginning of the night.

30th. Johnston, with a party of volunteers and others, set out about 12 last night. Surprised and took 6 of Mr. Yelverton's men on Decrees about daylight. They are now safe lodged in Charlie's office.

31st. Mr. P. Firmin (Sheriff) came here; Mr. Clark after him, and demanded the Prisoners. Served me with a copy of appeal. Delivered the Prisoners to the Sheriff; He promised to send Mr. Yelverton's note for the amount of their Debt next day, but did not do so.

February.

4th. Dined at Sopwell. Kitty, who had been there above a fortnight, returned Home.

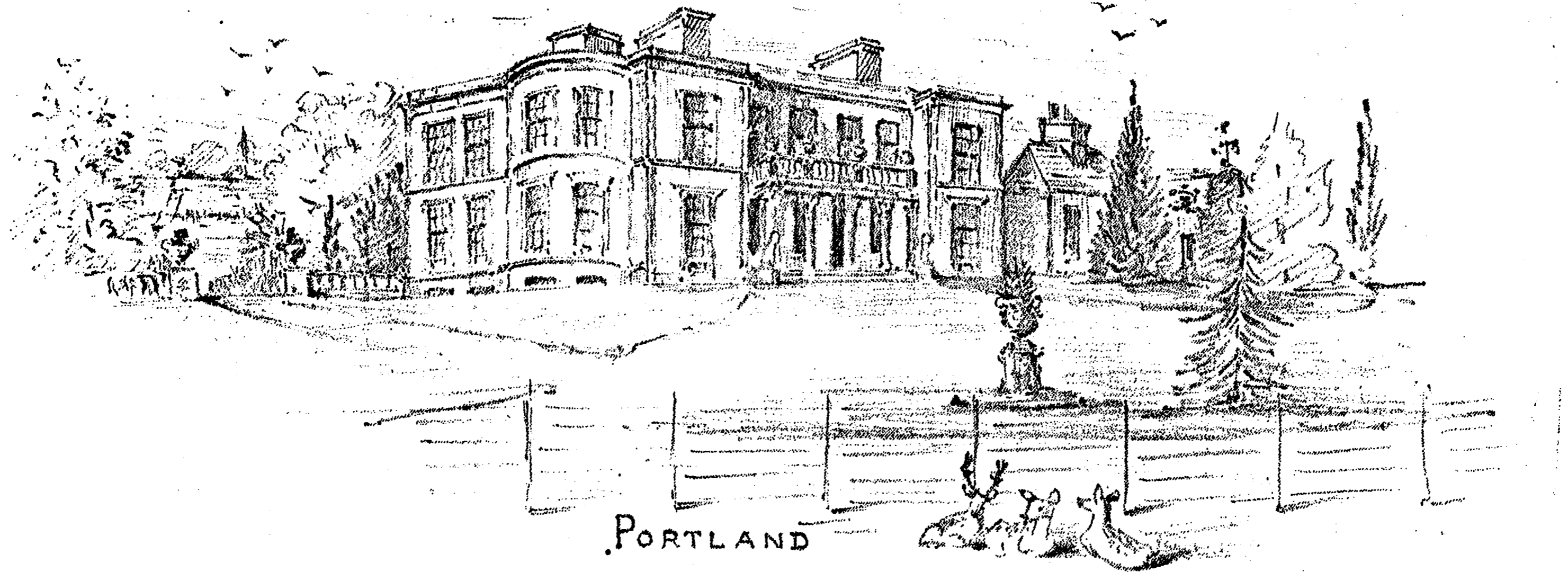
15th. Armstrong began to Recruit.

16th. Mrs. Rogers and Miss Rogers an Evening Visit. Played Commerce. Supped and parted about 10 o'clock.

17th. Expected this day accounts from England, yet none arrived, nor any from Mrs. Wilson. I never approved of this affair she went on; but must submit to the rising Governor of the House. It is all her own, I wish & pray it may end well.

N.B.—Mrs. Wilson went off on the 12th ult^o, yet I suppose she has not accomplished the intent of her journey.

21st. Appointed for a public Fast to do away with our sins and entreat Blessings on His Majesty's armies—never more wanting; but hearts not turned and humbled to the Lord will find but slender help (if any) for the *form* of Prayer, unless the



Heart be affected. What better can ensue than deaf disdain to such mockery ! Sowed 7 Beds of Ballymony Tobacco seed in new Garden.

22nd. Received a letter from Gen^l Armstrong relative to Bigoe. He thinks East India Co^s Service the best, and to go out a cadet preferable to a commission at Home by many degrees, and that it may require £200 to fit him out. I approve of what our two friendly generals advise ; wife only what suits her fancy. The Thunder she hears subject to that climate a great objection ; as if America was not equally subject to that Thunder. Shall consult my good friend W. Smyth. He was there, and his friend Capt. Brooke can give him full information. What a pity it is that over much care and tenderness should overturn the happiness of Children, which is not love for Children, but self-love, self-indulgence !

23rd. Betty and Sally, nurses and servants, came here. Betty quite disheartened and full of vapours ; can bear no contradictions to her own sentiments ; all is well while it suits her own Temper—mother's daughter all over. An anonymous letter which she has received has given her a bad turn of melancholy ; she knows not how to resign herself with tranquillity of mind to the will of her Creator. Till she does she will feel many imaginary distresses which she will realize. Add to this, late Hours, both night and morning, will feed and increase her lowness of spirits, possibly to an incurable degree. I am sorry—very sorry—for it, but my advice is despised throughout my House. Ralph came this Evening, and Willie went to Frankford in the morning. To eat, drink, and be merry, and take no thought for to-morrow, is a good Scripture rule to go by. *Probatum est !*

25th. (Sunday). Ruth (daughter-in-law), Kitty, Fanny, Ralph, Willie, and Tom, all to Modreeny church to see Mr. Prettie's cavalry parade. A fine life while it lasts ; Eating, drinking, sleeping, and merriment would seem to be the use we came into this world for. The morning spent in preparation for the entertainment of the day, which is ended with very little or very few thanks to the bountiful Donor. How little do we show forth our love, or remember, with the shepherd of old,

O Melibæe, Deus nobis hæc otia fecit.*

26th. Tom Johnston, Capt. R., and Willy Smith to Fox Hunt with Mr. Prettie. Returned fatigued to dinner. No sport. Went to bed in due time soberly.

March.

2nd. Kitty and Fanny at French Park. Johnston, not wishing to be reprimanded at home, by advice and approbation of mother went to Portland,† there to enjoy life. Let him stay till he recovers his senses.

6th. Had 70 Threshers.

8th. Received letters which gave account of our long absent daughter Mary's arriving at our friends in William Street, to the great satisfaction of all here except Miss Stoney, who is reduced to Miss Kitty.

16th. Had the pleasure to receive our daughter Mary in good health and spirits. It was a serious, solemn meeting, where tears could not flow and find passage. More serious and violent agitation succeeded ; demonstration of the love and affection of a Family to their restored daughter and sister.

17th. Family alone. T. Stoney and wife called here. Went to the Mount. Cock-fighting there. Dined at Ballyrickard.

18th. (Sunday). All the Mount Family dined here, and Mrs. —, T. Stoney

* Virgil, Ec. 1.

† George Stoney leased Portland from the Earl of Antrim in 1776 ; his son Thomas, of Arran Hill, bought the head rent subsequently.

& wife, R. Smith and Family, Capt. Robinson. House quite full. Mr. Saunders and Mr. Nesbitt.

19th. Our assizes began. Mrs. Sadleir and Mrs. Trench, morning visit.

22nd. Dined at Sopwell by invitation; Father, Mother, Mary, Kitty, Armstrong. Drank a little claret. Mr. Sadleir very pressing; felt no bad consequence. Returned in the evening. Obligated to take an Anderson's pill some days after.

23rd. Wife, Sally, Mary, and George to Millford. Few days at home except company come in the way; all the rest gadding abroad.

27th. Mr., Mrs. Andrews, and 2 Daughters, with Mr. Hawkshaw and Bro^r Tom, dined here. Willy & Armstrong cockfighting at Killogany. Tom H^r* lost the main. Johnston went to Charleville.

29th. Family spent the morning and Dined at Home; the Evening at Mrs. Cuff's; returned at 10, supped and went to bed, and may probably have breakfast over by 12 o'clock. Thus rolls away our time, which is called *Precious*, but squandered in trifling matters and idle abuse of the blessings given by Heaven, which, by a bad use of them, become sinful.

31st. Johnston and Armstrong came from Coolfin, after seeing poor old Dick Steel buried. Pity he had not better sense than to leave his fortune to Bastard children, which it is probable were *not* his. He despised of late the woman who bore them. Hope he truly repented of his commerce with her!

April.

1st. (Sunday). The women of the Family all gone to Modreeny church, to see Col. Prettie's volunteers exercise.

3rd. Family, all but self, to dine at Lisbryan. Returned some hour in the night. I heard them not, having gone to rest at an early hour, that I might rise and attend to my duties. Armstrong recruiting in Monegall.

4th. Family all a-bed 10 o'clock. Single self at his Bread and whey. Servants complain of want of Rest. Obligated to keep late hours waiting for their Mistress, they cannot rise to attend the morning work. Ladies down to Breakfast at 12. An airing in Borris. Returned to Dress. Dined at Home. Capt. Robinson and Tom Biggs with them. In Evening went to Mrs. Cuffe's Rout. Returned I know not when. Armstrong returned from Monegall. Got two Recruits; wicked fellows! I listed a young fellow from Tina in his absence, gave him £1 2 9. Armstrong came home lest the two should be rescued.

5th. Armstrong and Jones to Roscrea; wife and daughters to dine at Gurteen. Happy times when pleasures and festivity are their daily amusement! Wonderful depravity! If it does not tire their senses I shall be greatly surprised; yet some women's vanities and taste for pleasures never end! Pity such Dispositions should have Houses & children who will not think of their good.

6th. Wife & Family confined to Home. Carriage broken, both axle and perch.

8th. Tom Stoney, wife, Kitty, and Fanny Toler gone to visit Mr. Drought's, Whigsborough. Ralph and Family came here to shun a fever Nurse Magilton has at Millford.

12th. Early sent two Fifer and Drummer Recruits to meet Armstrong in Roscrea, to beat up for Soldiers.

16th. All the Family to an Assembly at Nenagh.

17th. Armstrong no sooner returned from Nenagh Assembly, but off he rides to Birr meeting. Such doings cannot hold long. Bankruptcies must ensue. Deprived of every prudent measure, our young ones are hurrying on to their own

destruction, and sorry I am to observe the mother, who at her time of life should have sense to consider consequences but will not, gives all her aid and encouragement to her children in their excesses. Unhappy for them, they will suffer for it when they feel poverty, which through unavoidable circumstances must come. A round of pleasures depending on neglected Industry must have fatal effects! All see this but the infatuated party. *They* will not hear; their hearts are hardened! Young People are easily caught in the snares of Pleasure; but to see the Hoary Head, that should instruct, lead or advise to tread in the Fashions of this World—that broad path which leads to destruction—is a melancholy reflection! Inclination that prompts to pleasure is so strong that a Father's advice has no weight where the mother joins in the cry, "Take your pleasure when you can!"

23rd. (Sunday). Part of the Ormond Independents came to Borros Church. The Officers dined at Mr. Rogers'; Mary, Kitty, and Tom Stoney dined there. Borros Volunteers a pitiful figure this day—only 15 appeared. N.B.—No notice was given of the Ormond Volunteers appearing at Church.

24th. Johnston & Armstrong went to Portland, on their way to recruit at Eyrecourt Fair.

28th. Bought Mr. Prettie's wood (Knocknacree) at £2750 0s. 0d., to be cut in 4 years.

30th. Began to drink spa (from Springfield, for the benefit of his complaint).

May.

3rd. Wife still at Gurteen; returned to Dinner; having been a few hours with her family, she and Mary paid an evening visit to Mrs. Cuff. *Borros is certainly an engaging city.*

4th. Wife, Mary, and George afternoon visit at Arran Hill on a car. Capt. Tom Armstrong called here this morning to see our Recruits. Has desired our son to meet him at Farney Bridge the 13th.

14th. Recruits troublesome—Drinking, &c.; Two—Lyons and Walpole—deserted.

15th. Marched the Recruits to Greyfort, put them into the Barn, and placed guards night and Day. Continued the same till Thursday, the 17th.

17th. My son, Bigoe Armstrong, moved towards Dublin with his recruits—21 only with him; expected more on the road, and to lie at Coolfin first night. Ralph, Willy, Capt. Robinson, Johnston went as assistants with him part of the way. Went also Mother, Betty, Mary, Kitty, who had better stay at home, as they were melancholy aids by the way, and Armstrong was sufficiently distressed without their addition to the trouble he was in at parting. Tho' wild, giddy, thoughtless, and overflowing with spirits, yet he has a plentiful stock of good nature, a good mind, and a true heart, if I can form any Judgement of him. He is possessed of Honor and Honesty departing from Home. I trust the Lord will form his heart in wisdom, and be his guide thro' this world of sin & distraction!

N.B.—Mr. Woodward presented my son with a very genteel sword, on condition to pay him 20 guineas when he married a wife with two or Three Thousand a year. The obliging manner in which he presented it shall ever have due weight with me, and I think my son may live to return him or his family more than adequate thanks in as polite a style as that which our very obliging friend and neighbour made him this Present. The manner in which it was presented is vastly to be preferred to the present—tho' valuable.

19th. Cæsar M'Cloud went off to join Bigoe's party, and got to town with him on Monday, which made his number 25.

20th. Wife and Daughters returned from Coolfin; Captain Warburton with them, who added 2 men to Bigoe's party.

23rd. This morning wife and Mary set out for Charleville. George was too precious a charge to stay with Father; took him to Birr, Capt. Johnston accompanying. Letters by this day's Post say the party arrived Monday in Town, passed their men with credit, and put them on Board a Tender, where I doubt not they remain detained by Easterly wind.*

June.

4th. Tom and wife and 2 children lay here this and next night. Mrs. Stoney had success at cards; won two or three crowns. Begun to prepare my Tobacco land to plant.

12th. Had a swarm of bees this morning. Much alarmed at Brother Robt Johnston and Lady's unexpected return so soon from Rath, he being unwell—a cold looking towards a Pleurisy and high pulse.

13th. Dr Heenan arrived; found Br Johnston very ill; had him bled.

22nd. Brother Johnston so well as to discharge the Doctor; paid him 15 guineas—Ten days' attendance—which he well deserved from his anxiety, and close attendance, and great care.

24th. Br Johnston, continuing to mend, went out in his carriage for the benefit of airs.

July.

24th. Armstrong at Review; remained there. Does nothing but idle and scamper about. Dined with General Gabbett; returned next morning. Went as he said to dine at the Mount, and from thence to the Officers' Ball at Nenagh.

August.

13th. Bigoe took his usual ramble to Borros. Did not return till after I was in bed. It is to be feared he will miserably apply and dispose of his time, and when too late, if ever, *Repent*.

14th. Bigoe did not present himself to me this day—I suppose sensible of the abuse of his time, and the idea I must form of his misbehaviour kept him at a distance. Tom and wife on Evening visit; left them at supper and went to Bed. My family are too genteel to attend to my rule of lying down or rising in a morning. They despise Solomon's description of the sluggard; but should Poverty creep in at the door of sloth and Dissipation, as it always must, then fatal experience will convince his words are true. The youngest child in the House will not be put to bed when I go. "No," his tender mother replies, "will you not let him have his supper?"—an excuse every night to indulge the Child after I am gone to his manifest prejudice; but for peace sake I must submit.

16th. Tired with a repetition of visiting and revisiting, I have for a fortnight past omitted my diary, though Maryborough Review has been visited, and not a single day omitted to fill up the measure of idleness, &c., &c., &c.

* Bigoe Armstrong Stoney received his commission as Ensign in the 85th Regiment of Foot, the 14th of May, 1782. He was afterwards transferred to the 8th, or the King's Regiment of Foot, 27th October, 1786, of which General Bigoe Armstrong was Colonel, and in which there were five other officers called Armstrong.

Various Letters from George Stoney of Greyfort, selected and directly transcribed from his "Letter Book," which contains, in his own handwriting, copies of Letters sent by him, 1782-6.

To Mrs. Falkiner, M^t Falcon:—

GREYFORT,
May, 1782.

DEAR MADAM,

I received your obliging and interesting favour relative to my Family, and Thank you for it. If I had it in my power to do more and better for my son [Bigoe] than the present intended line describes, I should be happy to adopt it, but I have not. The Army alone can gratify him. My Friends at this time can not procure him a commission; I can not purchase, and if I cou'd, even by distressing and cramping my affairs, yet you know he cou'd not live on his pay, and without additional support the consequence must be that his commission must be sold to pay his debts. Add to this, if he did live on his pay, he might be grey-headed before he cou'd on our Establishment arrive to a state of Independance without a better aid than my circumstance can bear; and we experimentally know he is a stranger to the value and right use of money, having already run through four times, at least, more than cotemporary of his in the Recruiting scheme; and does he, even since his return, demonstrate that he has a shadow of economy? If he had, he wou'd not embark in cock-matches.*

I have no child that I regard above him, yet I am not so blinded by self-love as not to see his errors and draw reasonable conclusions from them. The lot I intend for him is Honourable, and such as many gentlemen of Fortune and property in England have solicited for their sons, and, when once obtained, is an independant Station to any young man of prudence, and such as in a few years, properly managed, must establish a Fortune, which can be removed to any part of the globe.†

I tell you this from the authority of General Armstrong, who is a steady Friend and no Puffer.

* * * * *

The Account from General Armstrong that my son was provided for in the 85th Regt. prevents my sending the above.

G. S.

To Sir Cornwallis Maude, Bart.,‡ Dublin:—

GREYFORT,
19th Feb., 1783.

SIR,

Having heard that you are in Town for advice relative to your Health, and judging it might proceed from the complaint§ you mentioned to me when you

* Cock-matches were a very fashionable amusement. See Lecky's "History of England in the Eighteenth Century"—a book which describes in a very interesting manner the social and political condition of Ireland during that period.

† An appointment in India is probably referred to.

‡ Afterwards Viscount Hawarden.

§ Stone; which the writer suffered from, and which appears to have been a common complaint in those port-wine days.

honoured this house with a call, and having since you were here experienced much ease by the use of *ura ursi*, I take the liberty to refer you to the "Medical Museum," first volume, page 89, printed in London. Dr. Heenan, of Birr, often urged me to take it, and as I would not, he sent me the Book. There I found so many cases similar to my own that I took it, and find so much ease and benefit that I now give you this trouble hoping you may receive the same.

Various are our electioneering reports. One has been that you will not canvass in opposition to Mr. Toler's interest, and yesterday Capt. Johnston heard at Mr. Andrews's from Mr. Gilbert Toler that you were under such engagements at sundry times that you can not set up in opposition to him, who is very active in canvassing. I told Capt. Johnston you had early made such declarations in favour of Mr. Toler, but on your writing a letter to know his determination you had received such an answer as left you at liberty; that you then declared yourself to the Publick, and that on coming to this neighbourhood Mr. Toler even rode with you to several Freeholders without making any objection to your applying for their votes, from which it is clear that he, at that period, did not hold you under any engagements to him. I suppose Sir W^m Barker's resignation has caused this alteration in his sentiments. By what I find, Mr. Bagwell is a sheet anchor about Clonmell. You are best judge of his consequence; but if you persevere and are active, I think, through our own and Mr. Mathews' influence, Mr. Prittie and you must succeed, and probably without contest, on the day of Tryal; but there is no canvass without Puffing.

Mrs. Sadleir was here last week. Mrs. Toler had been with her the day before, and assured her that Sir Cornwallis Maude and Mr. Toler would both stand the Poll. She was in such spirits that Mrs. Sadleir got it into her head that you two had formed a private junction in opposition to Mr. Prittie.* I assured her I was convinced in my mind that you never had such an idea, but that it probably is your wish to add to Mr. Prittie's Interest, who stands on too firm ground to be overturned. I purpose waiting on her this week, to convince her by yesterday's information that she has no room to suspect such a junction, but rather the contrary.

I have no farther to add, but to wish you a firm re-establishment of your Health, and to intreat you may be as steadily active in your applications and canvass as your opponents are, which must ensure you that certain success most ardently wished for by,

Dear Sir,

Your most faithfull & obed^t. Servant,

GEORGE STONEY.

To Lient.-General Armstrong, Berners Street, London :—

[*Extract.*]

27th Nov^r, 1782.

I have had large dealings with Lord Shelborn, having bought and paid him about 8,000£ for his King's County woods. He called twice at my House in Ballymony, & missing me there, sent an express to Grayfort desiring me to meet him at Frankfort. I went, and he very politely returned me Thanks for my punctuality, &

* Henry Prittie, who was Mrs. Sadleir's son-in-law at this time, was afterwards raised to the Peerage as Lord Dunalley.

added that if I would let him know he cou'd oblige or serve me he wou'd; for which honor he had all the Thanks I cou'd bestow. Notwithstanding the little regard some great men pay to such compliments or words of course, yet I have had it in my thoughts to refresh his memory by recommending this young man (Bigoe) to him, & only wish and wait for your & General Robinson's approbation & thoughts. At any event, tho' he may probably turn a deaf ear, or forget an affair so long past as 12 or 14 years ago, yet I do not conceive it can do any harm; but you shall govern me.

To the Right Honourable the Earl of Shelborn, London:—

GRAYFORT, BOBBESAKEAN, IRELAND,
Feb. 6, 1783.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR LORDSHIP,

The Honor you done me by your Lordship's desiring me to meet you at Frankfort, the satisfaction you were pleased to express with the punctual discharge of my contract for your Lordship's woods, but above all, your most obliging and polite desire to know if you could render me any service, shall be ever remembered with heartfelt Gratitude. Thus emboldened by your Lordship's benign Goodness, I now presume to acquaint you that my fourth son, Bigoe Armstrong Stoney, is an Ensign in the 85th Regiment, now at Dover Castle. I hope he will have the Honor of being presented to your Lordship, and if he is so happy to have your countenance and protection, he will be a most fortunate young man.

May your Lordship long continue to advise, direct, and govern his Majesty's Councils, triumph over your Adversaries, and establish on a solid foundation that Peace which your wise measures have enforced on better terms than was expected, or even hoped for, by moderate men, when, happily for the nations, you were appointed to the direction of State affairs.* For presuming to interrupt your Lordship these few moments, permit me to plead the anxiety of a Parent for a favourite son's happiness, and you will pardon your Lordship's most devoted & most obedient servant,

GEORGE STONEY.

To Wm. Gibson, Esq., Newcastle-on-Tyne:—

[*Extract.*]

Sep^r 18th, 1783.

Notwithstanding Mr. Bowes's great Fortune, I am persuaded there is not one of his Family who is not happier than he is. We have a competency, and a greater blessing—Content.

To his "dear cousin" General Robinson, Marlborough Street, London:—

[*Extract.*]

GREYFORT,
April 2^d, 1784.

Cap^t Johnston has had an answer from Lord Shelborn, on his application to him for Bigoe. These are his words, as near as I can recollect:—"I am sorry I

* The Earl of Shelburne—afterwards Marquis of Lansdowne—became Prime Minister in 1782.

did not receive your letter before —— went for Ireland, as I gave some mem^{ds} to his Secretary; but if Ensign Stoney will wait a while, I promise you I shall have more pleasure in serving him than he can have in receiving." Tho' great men's promises are Brittle, yet as Cap^t Johnston has a constant correspondence with this Nobleman, I entertain persuasive hope that he will perform.

A postscript to this letter contains some prophetic observations respecting the great Irish Rebellion of 1798:—

I feel myself very unhappy at your disturbances; they must give our gracious King much trouble. Here I have dreadfull apprehensions from opposition against a Reform in our Parliament and protection duties, which may bring on dreadfull consequences, such as we have seen in America.* Offended Volunteers may sullenly lie bye; Bigotted Papists may hope to become uppermost by our Anarchy; France, now so powerful at sea, may at will land men and arms; Multitudes of Papists, encouraged by their Priests, would fly to the Standard of France, who, no doubt, would publish manifestos full of the most flattering promises that might be thought favourably of by a disgusted People, whose rights are trampled on and withheld by a set of venal Borrough mongers. From all or any of such misfortunes, Good Lord deliver us!

To Daniel Toler,† Esq., Merrion Square, Dublin:—

[*Extract.*]

GREYFORD,

24th Ap^l, 1784.

I am persuaded we shall be heavily taxed, & that one half of the sums laid on the Barony will not be faithfully expended. We had no Barony meeting; they are useless where too many gentlemen, who shou'd be better principled, mainly take part with Jobbers who may have been Fosterers, or anyways dependant or usefull to them; so make the Barony reward them. Till Barony meetings are established by law, they will be useless when grand jurors do not attend to know what roads ought or ought not to be presented.‡

I have serious thoughts on the present times; universal murmuring & discomfort prevails everywhere. All but dependants on the Castle and their connections allow it, and they are not the 50th part of the people; yet they persuade Government it is only the factious spirit of a few, who ought to be chastised. Was not this the case in America? & what fatal consequences ensued! Has not France a great military force, & can we say we now have wooden Walls sufficient to protect us? Have we not a dangerous enemy on our Coasts ready to take advantage of any disunion, and if 50,000 men were landed, & arms for as many more, how quickly might men be found to take them up, & how soon might we be irrevocably lost? I fatallly foresaw, & told many what would ensue on the dismissall of the great Pitt & rejection of the American Petitions. Some of my neighbours who were of a different opinion, now allow I foretold every fact that has occurred, tho', Cassandra-like, I was not believed; and may God, of his infinite mercy, grant that my present thoughts are not predestinated.

* England had to acknowledge the independence of the United States in 1778.

† Father or brother of the first Lord Norbury.

‡ Mr. Stoney was doubtless a magistrate and a member of the county grand jury.

To Gen. Armstrong, 52 Wimpole Street, London :—

[*Extract.*]

Jan. 4, 1785.

Suppressing the spirit of Volunteers has given the White Boys resolution again to begin nocturnall meetings, and severall Tythe Proctors have suffered under their Hands. A few have been taken, and a speciall commission issued, & Judges are sent to Kilkenny, and this day these deluded people are to abide Tryall; & it is generally believed will suffer death.

To Henry Meredyth, Esq., Dublin :—

[*Extract.*]

GREYFORD,

Aug. 3, 1786.

Confusion gains ground in this quarter, & is likely to increase; the deluded, or rather infatuated white boys—or, as they now style themselves, right boys—proceed through every Parrish, swearing the next to them that they shall go to the adjoining Parrish & swear all the inhabitants they can lay hands on to adhere to their Laws and in future to do all that others do hereafter, without explaining what that is to be. They entered this Parrish last Sunday, and this parrish is sworn to go to the next on Sunday, and swear them likewise. They come here unexpectedly, or I would hope, through the aid of our old Volunteers, to keep them out of Borros. As the gentlemen of the King's County met in Birr, two days ago, & have entered into resolutions to oppose their unlawfull meetings, it is possible they will receive some cheque, & happy for themselves as well as for the peace of the country that it may be so. Their manifesto sets forth that the extortions of the Romish Clergy and the tythe Proctors is the grievance & apology for those lawless meetings. As yet, they do not appear under arms in this neighbourhood, but with green boughs in their hands; in Kerry & Limerick it is otherwise. I yesterday saw a letter from a young gentleman in the 9th Dragoons, quartered at Tarbert, giving an account of ten of their Horses being burnt in their stable, & that the Protestants in that quarter think their lives in utmost perill; such multitudes are collected by sound of Horns, &c. Too many of the army cannot be cantooned about Birr, Borrosakean, Nenagh, & so on southward to Limerick & Kerry, and very happy it would have been for the peace and safety of the country that the Militia did not abeat of their first Ardour, which has subsided, and numbers disgusted at the light their well intended loyalty was held in by Government; so that I fear such a spirit will not be revived when wanting, as heretofore. Good and active magistrates are absolutely wanting and necessary.

Bowes in Difficulties.

But the affairs of Mr. Bowes, in the meantime, being full of interest, we beg leave to revert to them briefly :—

Mr. Bowes and Lady Strathmore, in spite of their ample means, were soon in debt and difficulties. Mr. Grey, whom she had jilted, brought

an action for breach of promise, and received £12,000 to compromise. Grey had consented to allow Lady Strathmore's property to be conveyed to trustees for her own separate use, and the requisite deeds were executed on the 9th and 10th of January, 1777—a week before she married Bowes, who then knew nothing of these deeds; but having discovered their existence when Grey commenced his litigation, he induced the Countess to revoke the deeds by an instrument bearing date 1st May, 1777. This gave him control over her income, and he lavished it with a free hand; so that in a few years his expensive style of living, his contested elections, his shrievalty, horse racing, &c., left him deeply in debt. He sold the Countess's beautiful suburban residence at Chelsea, and even the woods of Gibside had to be cut down. The lordly trees still about the mansion, however, attest the place was not completely disfigured. The only substantial return Bowes had for his expenditure was the estate of Benwell Tower (two miles from Newcastle) which he bought for himself from the Shafto family. It was worth £1,300 a year.

Foot gives us a glimpse of Bowes's life at Gibside, and a specimen of his practical joking:—

“He kept an open house. His dinners were good, and his table enriched by massive plate; but there was always a smack of mean splendour about him, as he did not purchase one single new carriage, and his coach horses, originally of high value, were never seen in good condition. He took a Chaplain into his house, and had always somebody about him whom he made a But of.

“One morning whilst I was there, a gentleman was seen riding down the lawn, of whom Bowes told me the following story:—‘Oh!’ says he, ‘it is R—— B——; I never expected he would come here again, after what passed a fortnight ago. He is a spunger,’ says Bowes, ‘and comes for my dinners and my claret. I gave the hint to the rest of the company, and we made him dead drunk. I put him into an arm chair, had his boots taken off, filled them full of water, put a tablecloth round him, tucked in at the collar, as barbers do when they shave. I put on him a nightcap, placed a table before him with a looking glass, floured his face all over with a kitchen drudger, left candles burning, and we all went to bed. He awoke about five in the morning, before the lights were out. He appeared at a loss to know how this could have happened. His consternation being over, he began to dress to go home. He saw his boots ready to his hand; he flounced his leg into the first, but emptied the water out of the second. In this state he put them on, let himself out, went to the stable, saddled his horse, and went home; and I daresay he would not have the smallest objection to be served the very same to-night again.’ Bowes could scarcely finish his story before the stranger rode up to us; Bowes asked him to dinner, which he of course accepted; but he was very shy that day.”

Bowes proved a bad husband, nor was the Countess a model wife. Altercations arose, and things went from bad to worse with the ill-regulated couple, until at length, in February, 1785, the Countess fled from her husband, and instituted proceedings against him for illtreat-

ment in the King's Bench, and one of the tipstaffs of the Court mounted guard over her residence, to protect her from Bowes, who was compelled to give bail for his good behaviour, which he did in the persons of the Duke of Norfolk and the eminent barrister, Mr. Lee. She further instituted a suit in the Court of Chancery, charging Bowes with various acts of cruelty and outrage; and setting forth that the instrument of revocation regarding her property had been extorted from her by compulsion,* prayed the Court to restrain Bowes from receiving the rents of her estates. A long law suit ensued, very unpleasant evidence was given on both sides, but at length Bowes's general character turned the scale against him; the revocation deed was pronounced a nullity, and a receiver was appointed over the estates for the Countess's sole benefit. Elated by success, the Countess then sued for a divorce in the Ecclesiastical Court.

From George Stoney, Esq., to Gen. Armstrong, 52 Wimpole Street, London :—†

[*Extract.*]

GREYFORD, Mar. 4th, 1785.

Your last most obliging and kind letter gave this family infinite pleasure to find that ungracious young man had in some measure acquitted himself to the Publick; but alas! his acquittal was of short duration, as a letter of the 17th ult^o, from Lady Strathmore, addressed to me for my daughter Laurenson, has opened the doleful secret of his conduct; her Ladyship having sent a copy of her affidavit before Lord Mansfield, on which attachments were granted against Mr. Bowes, & she means to sue out a Divorce for bad Treatment and Crim. Con. Her Ladyship's Letter is expressive of Friendship and complimentary inquiries after the Family, notwithstanding the very cruel Treatment she met with from the most ungratefull of men, whose life is a misfortune to the Family, when, had he been a man of virtue, much Honours must have flowed from his exalted station; but he enlisted himself in Lucifer's train, from which nothing can bring him back unless the mighty Lord rescues him out of his Master's Hands. Ridiculous as it is, I am tempted to relate a Dream I had some years ago, about a time that Bowes threatened a Law suit, & sent instructions to an Attorney to proceed, who on writing and receiving my answer, returned his papers & said he would have no hand in such an affair. Methought I saw the Devil flying from the East towards me. I cryed out to the Lord for succour, and he flew severall times round about me, when, turning his Face, I discovered every feature, shape, & gesture, of my unnaturall son, though in the blackest of garb. At length he flew off as he came, & I awaked, trembling. On some occurrences that passed between us I related to him what had appeared to me, and warned him of the danger of serving such a master, more than once. A little common sense & good nature would have made him a great Blessing to himself, and his Family, & Friends, who ever shewed him a good example.

* John Scott (afterwards Lord Eldon) was called as a witness for Bowes, and gave evidence that the married couple were living on cordial terms at the time.

† This and all the following letters from George Stoney are transcribed from his "Letter Book."

From the same to his "dear cousin," the Hon. Michael Scott,*
Granada (West Indies) :—

[*Extract.*]

GREYFORT, Ap^l 9th, 1785.

I have the satisfaction to inform you that all friends here are well, and my family—11 children and 20 grandchildren. Our eldest son, though so lucky in the affairs of this World, I think the most unfortunate of the family, for want of Principles, without which no man can be great; and at this very moment Lady Strathmore is suing out a Divorce for bad treatment and crim. con. I know not what the event may be, but so it is. As soon as her Ladyship made her escape from him, she wrote me a melancholy and obliging Letter, and notwithstanding many severities which she complains of is very affectionate to me and mine, particularly to our Daughter Mary, who spent two years with her, and is now satisfactorily married here to a Mr. Laurenson.

Mrs. Connolly has three fine promising Boys, fat and lusty, like the old Ballingarry Breed. You are all estranged to me, & it is many years since I had a line from any of you. I believe your dear Br John was my last correspondent. I am now very old, & while in this world shall wish you, yours, and all our dear friends, every spiritual and temporal Blessing.

From the same to General Armstrong :—

[*Extract.*]

GREYFORT, 6th July, 1785.

Lady Strathmore has favoured me and daughter with many Letters of late, & even sent me coppys of Letters in Mr. Bowes's handwriting which he compelled her to write to me some years ago. She did this to let me see she had no hand in the unkind words they contained. She also let us know every process of Law she was pursuing for a divorce & recovery of her Estate; but, on the whole, her aim was to prevail on Mrs. Laurenson to go to her & give Testimony of such usage as she knew Mr. Bowes had given her, or at any event to permit her to send a Proctor to take her depositions at home. Tho' we abhor Bowes and his proceedings, yet to join in prosecuting him would be unpardonable in a Sister; I therefore took the blame of Mrs. Laurenson as much as in my Power, by assuring her Ladyship that I could not permit my daughter to accuse her Brother, neither could she commend her for so doing, &c., &c. How unpardonable has been his conduct, and distressing to have a son of so vile Principles! Happy it would have been for his Family, and I fear for himself, that he had never been Born.

Though Lady Strathmore was under the protection of the Court of Chancery, Bowes, thinking he could still exercise his old power over her, and induce her to stay the proceedings, determined to seize on her person. Accordingly, on the 10th of November, 1786, Bowes, having bribed her attendants to drive her in her coach to Highgate, made his appearance there with five armed men, and, entering the coach, sat down beside the Countess and drove as fast as relays of fresh horses could go

* He was probably in some high official post which gave him the title of honorable.

to Streatlam Castle. The towns along the Great Nothern Road were astonished to see the post haste of the coach, whose windows were broken, and from which issued cries of "Murder!" Meantime, Lord Mansfield, judge of the Court of King's Bench, sent two tipstiffs to rescue the Countess, and Bowes being pursued by them to Streatlam Castle, made her mount a horse behind him and rode away with her by night; but the country people joining in the pursuit, Bowes, after continued doubling for some days, was at last hemmed in, and forced, after a stout fight, to give up the Countess, while he himself was brought back in custody to London, where he was taken before the King's Bench. *Quantum mutatus ab illo Hectore?* "He appeared in Westminster Hall dressed in a drab-coloured great coat, and had a red silk handkerchief about his head. Bent double with weakness on account of his wounds, he had to be supported in court by two men."* He was tried for contempt of court and committed to prison in the state apartments, where, however, he soon made himself comfortable, had his plate brought in, and entertained his friends. But the King's Bench was not done with him; before long the Countess took an action against him for the assault, and in her long and venomous affidavit she swore he had, during the period of abduction, threatened to shoot her, struck her with his clenched fist, hit her on the breast with his watch chain and seals, locked her up in a dark press,† &c., &c. The part her ladyship took in the conflict is not recorded, but it appears she was not quite subdued. In the account of the affair, which may be found in the "Gentleman's Magazine" for December, 1786, it is stated that when, at her rescue, Bowes was knocked down with a large hedge stake, "seeing her husband in that situation, she put herself under the protection of the peace officer, and being on horseback, in a kind of womanish exultation, bid him farewell and mend his life, and so left him weltering in his blood."‡ But, be this as it may, in June, 1787, Bowes was sentenced to undergo a further imprisonment for three years.

From George Stoney, Esq., Greyfort, to Gen. Robinson, Marlborough Street, London:—

[*Extract.*]

Aug. 23, § 1786.

Being this day entered into the 74th year of my life, I am convinced it is the last Birthday I shall live to see. You will laugh at what follows. I dreamt, or saw a

* "Gentleman's Magazine," 1786.

† This is probably the foundation of the story which the old lady in Bath afterwards told as having occurred to his first wife.

‡ Bowes's friends gave a different account of rescue, adding, "Bowes was then taken to the house of Mr. B——, attorney, at Darlington, where, notwithstanding his wounds, he knocked down the farmer that stopped him, and had him kicked out of the house."

§ The difference of eleven days between the new and old style will account for the apparent discrepancy in the anniversary of birth.

vision that told me I shou'd die in the 64th year of my age. Before that period I thought I saw a dear friend (as I supposed) standing before me, who told me the Lord had added ten years to my Life; & I believe the Revelation true, and that I shall not see the end of this year, nor do I think a whole life of gratitude, praise, and thanksgiving an adequate return for the Blessings I have had, even in this life.

The account from Capt. Stoney* is most pleasing. I directly let his Brother know it. I pledged myself to the dear old Gen^l† for his good behaviour, & often had heart-felt joy at his good conduct. He was nursed and reared in my house.

From the same to the same :—

[*Extract.*]

Novr. 4th, 1786.

Very unfortunate indeed I think the death of my nephew.‡ I looked up to him with hope that he might one day assist some of our numerous rising generation.

* * * * *

I never had a relation that I thought had merit that I did not recommend, hoping that some might rise in the Family to assist others, as might be the case had G. Stoney lived, or my graceless son been possessed of any Virtue.

* * * * *

I am perfectly reconciled to whatever is the Will of the Most High, and believe the Revelation I communicated to you was a mercy from Heaven, if I take Warning. His Will be mine.

From the same to the same :—

Jan. 10th, 1787.

My son Bigoe makes the fairest promises. I have no fears for him, except going beyond his Pay, to which I shall add 30£ yearly, & that should support him; with more he might be led into extravagancies that I could not bear. I remember our dear old uncle§ told me he often kept his Room as if unwell, that when he went out he might support the character of a gentleman, but never run in debt.

I hear a great character of Mr. Sellers's academy at Chester. My son George is a promising boy, near 13 years of age, writes well, Reading, Virgil, & Greek grammar. He has been at a good school in Banagher, but the mistaken indulgence of too tender a mother would be his ruin if left near Home. This is my motive; besides, he may get rid of our Irish Brogue. With the classicks, he will be taught all the Branches of usefull & Polite Learning necessary in every department in Life at 16£ per annum; French, music, & drawing only excepted.

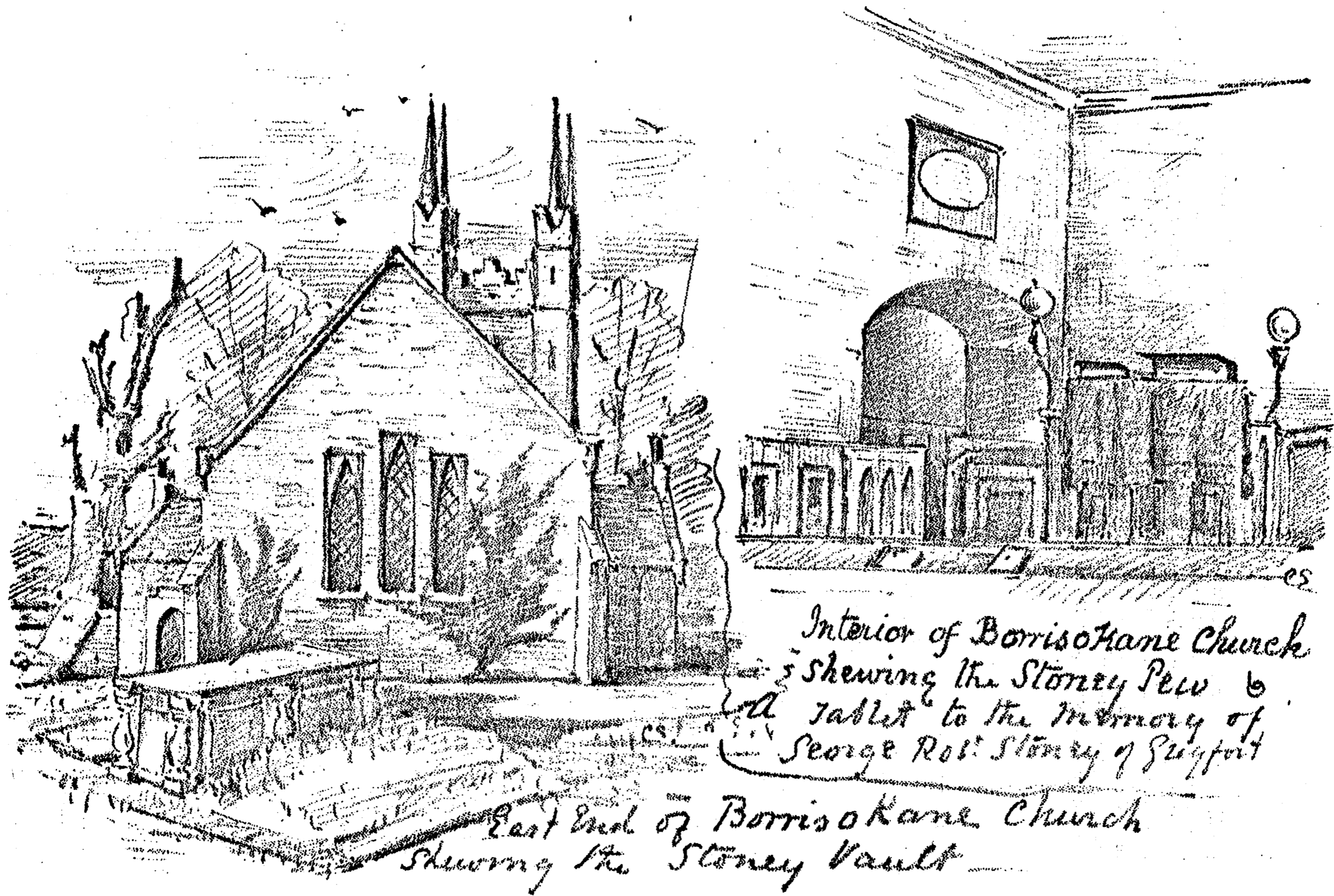
Had not wife prevented, Bigoe would have been in India, where, if not his own fault, he might be a man of consequence.

* Lady Morgan's father. This probably refers to his being appointed to H.M.S. "Ion," in command of which he soon afterwards died.

† Andrew Robinson.

‡ Capt. George Stoney, R.N., above referred to.

§ General Andrew Robinson, on obtaining his first commission, started from his home at Knockshgowna, mounted on a good horse, and with £40 in his pocket. He was attended by a mounted follower, as soldier servant, according to the custom of those times. General Robinson made his own way to distinction, and his memory is still revered by the family.



Strange and unaccountable indeed is Bowes's conduct. Had he principles of Virtue, what a Rise and Honour to his Family he might have been! I have had no correspondence with him for years; lately I received a printed sheet of paper justifying his conduct, and forming heavy accusations against Lady S. I suppose that it might be showed to his friends; the direction is in his Handwriting. Probably he has dispersed many of them. I think the affd^t he made & is filed must be against him. I am in a low state of health, drawing very near my mother earth.

From the same to the same :—

[*Extract.*]

Feb. 17th, 1787.

Lady S. is exerting every possible means to acquit herself of severe charges made against her. There certainly has been many faults on both sides that would not have occurred was the unfortunate Husband possessed of one grain of common sense or gratitude. She expects a Divorce, but it would be a dangerous Precedent when too many noble Family's live discontentedly.

My Nephew, Isaac Stoney, let me lately know he intends sending a son that he is preparing for the sea service to that Academy where General Armstrong's nephew's sons are, and advises that I may send my son there. Nothing is more pleasing to me, if the expense may not exceed that prudence I should adopt; yet, if it even did in a moderate degree, my joy would be compleated to preserve the chain of Family acquaintance in the rising generation.

Death of George Stoney.

George Stoney's dream or revelation—laugh who will—came true; he did not live to see another birthday, having died on the 19th of March, 1787. He was interred in the spacious vault he had provided for himself in Borrisokane Churchyard.

During the five and twenty years preceding his death, he had made several wills and codicils, according as his property increased, and the circumstances of his family altered; but the following is a copy of his last will and testament, which was drawn up in his own hand :—

In His Almighty Name, I, George Stoney, of Greyfort, in the County of Tipperary, do make and Publish this my last Will and Testament, in manner and form following; that is to say :—I order and direct that my Executors herein do pay and discharge all my just Debts and funeral Expenses (which I desire may be moderate) and Legacies as soon after my decease as conveniently they can. And as to the real and Personal Estate and Effects whereof I shall die, seized and possessed of after the payment of my Debts, with which I charge my real and Freehold Estate in case of a deficiency in my personal Fortune, I give and devise the same in manner and form following.

That is to say, I leave and bequeath to my dear Wife, Elizabeth Stoney, in lieu of all Dower and Thirds which she might claim by settlement or otherwise, the

Demesne Lands of Greyfort and part Ballyheedin, together with the remainder of Ballyheedin, and also Ballyrourke, all which lands are the Estate of Richard Saunders, Esq. I leave her also Lisleiaghbeg, the estate of Thos. Pierson Firman, Esq., for and during the term of her Natural Life, Provided she continues a Widow and unmarried, Subject to the same rents and Covenants that I am now under or shall be at the day of my death. But, by particular desire of my said wife, my will is, that in case she shall marry after my decease, she shall then have or receive out of my Estate, Real or Personal, no more than the sum of Forty Pounds Sterg, by the year, during her life, in lieu of the above Lands devised to her, which Forty Pounds yearly she is entitled to by virtue of her Marriage Settlement, which said sum of Forty Pounds a year I desire may be issuing and payable out of Greyfort, Ballyheedin, and Lisleiaghbeg, during the life of my said wife, in case she shall marry after my death.

I also leave and bequeath to my said wife, Elizabeth Stoney, all my household Furniture, house Linen, and Plate, for and during her Natural life; and then, immediately after her death, I give and bequeath the said Lands of Greyfort and part Ballyheedin, together with the remainder of Ballyheedin and Ballyrourke, as likewise Lisleiaghbeg, part Crotta, and all my Estate and interest in said lands, to my son, George Robert Stoney, together with the said Household Furniture, Linen, and Plate, he paying the rents and performing the Covenants in the said Leases of said Lands contained.

I leave also to my said Wife the Sum of £100 to buy Stock, also my Post Chaise, with four of her choice Horses or Mares, Six Milch Cows, six Spayed Plough Heifers, with Fifty Ewes. I also will and bequeath to my son, George Robert Stoney, all my Right, Title, and Interest in the Lands, Houses, Mills, and plots of ground in the Town of Burris O'Kean, part Rathmore, as held by me by Lease from Thomas Towers, Esq. (dec^d), as also the wood of Rathmore or Feiaghmore, containing One Hundred acres (or thereabouts) Commonly called Borros Wood, surrounded by a wall of Lime and Stone, as also the Lands of Bally Casey and Ballyrourke, both the Estate of Henry Meredyth, Esq., and Frances his wife, together with the Lands of Killycross, part Bally M'Egan, also the lands of Ardcroney, together with my rights to the Tithes of Ardcroney Parish, all situate in the County of Tipperary, subject to the yearly Rents and Covenants in the several Leases thereof, for and during the residue and remainder of my Terms and estates in the respective Leases and Lands, with all the Benefits of the renewals thereof; but my will is that the said George Robert Stoney do not receive any part of the Profits of said Lands and Farms till after he shall arrive at the age of 21 yrs., except a sum of £30 a year until he shall arrive at the age of Fourteen years, and the sum of £40 a year from thence till he shall arrive at the age of Twenty-one years, the same to be paid half-yearly from my decease for his maintenance, clothing, and Education, as it is my Will that the profits of my said Farms shall go to enlarge my personal Fortune till the Mayday next after he shall arrive at the age of Twenty-one years, for the uses of this my Will.

I leave and bequeath to my Son, James Johnston Stoney, the Lands of Ballymoney and Feiagh, also the Lands of Breaghmore, *alias* Behine, both situate in the King's County, subject to the Rents and Covenants contained in the Leases thereof, for and during the residue and remainder of my Terms and Estates therein, with all the Benefits of Renewals thereof.

I leave and bequeath to my Son, Bigoe Armstrong Stoney, All my Right, Title, and Interest in the Town and Lands of Raplane, Carhunacunly, and Coolenony, with their Appurtenances, situate near Tarbert, in the County of Kerry, subject to the rents and Covenants in the Lease thereof contained, for and during the residue and remainder of my Term and Estate therein.

I leave and bequeath to my Son, Thomas Stoney, all my Right, Title, and interest in the Lands of Big Portland, subject to the Rents and Covenants in the Lease

thereof contained, together with all Benefits of Renewal, for and during the Residue and Remainder of my Term and Estate therein, on the Special Condition that he, the said Thomas, indemnifies me and my heirs in my security for him to the Executors or Widow of John Bonham, Esq^r, for my joint Security with him in a bond and Warrant of Att^r for the sum of Two Thousand Pounds principal, Money borrowed for his own use, no part of which was for my own Special Account.

I leave and Bequeath to my Brothers-in-Law, Thomas Johnston and Robert Johnston, and Ralph Smith, my Son-in-Law, Esq^{rs}, my Executors hereinafter named, all my right, Title, and Interest in the Lands of Chappell Park, Cullowhill, and Knocknasop, all in the King's County, for and during the residue and remainder of my Terms and Estates in each and every of them, in trust that they shall, as soon as conveniently may be after my Decease, set, sell, or dispose of my Interest or Interests in said several Lands or Farms, the same as they may think proper; As my Will is that such sum or sums of money or such Profits as shall be made of such Lands shall go to and enlarge my Private Fortune, for the Personal uses of this my Will.

And Whereas, on my Marriage with my Wife, Elizabeth, I executed articles in writing, whereby I agreed to leave such children as I should have by my said wife, Elizabeth, the sum of Six Hundred Pounds, in such shares and proportions, and at such times as I should by any deed in writing, or by last Will and Testament, direct, limit, & appoint;

And Whereas I did, on the marriage of my Daughter, Rebecca Palmer, pay the sum of £1,200, as and for her marriage Portion;

And did likewise, on the marriage of my Daughter, Elizabeth Smith, pay a sum of £1,000, as and for her marriage Portion;

And did likewise, on the marriage of my Daughter, Mary Laurenson, pay a sum of £1,000, as and for her marriage Portion;

And whereas I have two other daughters—namely, Catherine Stoney and Frances Stoney—for whom I have not yet made provision;

Now my will is, and I do hereby leave and bequeath to my said two Daughters, Catherine and Frances Stoney, the sum of £299, each of them in full, for their share of the said sum of Six Hundred Pounds, and the remaining £2 of said sum of £600 I leave and bequeath to my said Four Daughters, Rebecca Palmer, Elizabeth Smith, Mary Laurenson, and Sarah Smith (to whom I did likewise on her marriage pay a sum of £1,000 as and for her marriage portion), and to my Son, Andrew Robinson Stoney (otherwise Bowes), Thomas Stoney, James Johnston Stoney, Bigoe Armstrong Stoney, and George Robert Stoney, to be divided between them, share and share alike, in full of their share of the said sum of £600—having otherwise provided for them—which sum of £600 I order and direct to be paid out of my Personal Fortune. I also leave and bequeath to my said two Daughters, Catherine and Frances Stoney, the sum of £701 to each of them, which, with the said sum of £299 to each of them herein before bequeathed to them, make together the sum of 1,000£ to each of them, which I order and direct may be paid out of my Personal Fortune, and the Profits of my said several Farms hereinbefore mentioned, on the respective days of their Marriage, with Interest for the same at the rate of £4 by the Hundred, by the year. But in case they or either of them shall live unmarried till after the age of Twenty-Five years, then they or either of them shall have the disposal of the fortunes above willed to them; and in case my said Daughters, Catherine or Frances Stoney, shall die unmarried, and under the age of Twenty-Five years, then my Will is that the share and proportion of her so dying shall go to the augmentation of my Personal Fortune; and if both should die, their shares to go likewise. And in case my son, Bigoe Armstrong Stoney, shall die without Lawful issue living, my Will is that the Lands and Premises before Willed to him shall go and descend to my Son, Thomas Stoney, free from any Mortgage or Debt due by my son, the said Bigoe Armstrong Stoney, for the use of my said Son Thomas Stoney's younger Children, though this event might not take effect during the life of Thomas Stoney, my son.

And in case my Son, George Robert Stoney, shall die before he arrives at the age of Twenty-Five years, Without lawful issue (Male) then it is my Will that my several Freehold Interests bequeathed to him, the said George Robert Stoney, shall go to and be vested in my Son, Bigoe Armstrong Stoney; he, the said Bigoe Armstrong Stoney surrendering and giving up to my Son Thomas Stoney, or his heirs, for the use of his younger children, free from every Debt, the County of Kerry Lands above willed to said Bigoe Armstrong Stoney; and in case my Son George should die leaving Female Issue, lawfully begotten, then it is my Will that the Chattel Interests willed to the said George Robert Stoney shall go to and be for the use of said Female issue; but should there be no lawful issue, then the said chattel Interests shall go to and be vested in my Son, Bigoe Armstrong Stoney, together with the Freehold Interests as willed to my Son, George Robert Stoney. And it is my will also that if any suit at Law be founded or commenced for any part or parts of the property thus willed by me to my said sons, Thomas Stoney, James Johnston Stoney, Bigoe Armstrong Stoney, or George Robert Stoney, that then, in such case, the full expense or Costs of said suit for defence of the property thus willed by me shall be equally at the cost of my said four several Sons, last mentioned; and if any or either of my son or sons shall refuse to join fully in one-fourth part of the Costs, then, and in such case, the property above before willed by me to said son or sons refusing to join and contribute his or their proportion of said costs, shall go to and be vested in that son or sons so sued at Law, as his or their Lawful Right.

Lastly, I nominate and appoint my Brothers-in-Law, Thomas Johnston and Robert Johnston, Esq^{rs}., and Ralph Smith, my Son-in-Law, Executors and Trustees, for the purpose of Executing this my last will and Testament, hereby revoking all former Will or Wills made; and it is my will and intent that they take into their possession all my goods and chattels and chattel interests, together with all and every of the Freehold Estate and Estates which the Lord in his Bounty has given me, Saving and Excepting those interests willed by me to my affectionate wife, for and until all my just debts and Legacies are Lawfully paid and discharged; they paying and reserving to and for the use of my children unprovided for heretofore by this my last Will the several sums hereby willed to them for their maintenance, until such time and times as my just Debt and Legacies are fully discharged, and after that, then to hand over the share and proportion of each of my sons separately, agreeable to the intent of this my Will for their and each of their separate use and uses, as before Recited.

And be it Remembered that I would have appointed My Son Thomas Stoney one of my Executors, but that I know the Multiplicity of his affairs require all his Power of attention.

Lastly, I order and desire that my funeral Expenses shall be very moderate, as I do not wish to have any unnecessary expense entered into for a poor decaying Worm.

In Witness whereof I have hercunto set my hand and seal this Sixteenth day of October, One Thousand Seven Hundred and Eighty-Six.

(signed)

GEORGE STONEY.

Signed, sealed, Published, and declared to be the last Will and Testament of the Testator, who, at his own instance, and in his presence, and in the presence of each other, have hereunto subscribed our names as Witnesses thereto.

(sig.)

ELIZABETH ROBINSON,
JANE JONES,
THOMAS MEEHAN.

George Stoney's Offspring.

Mr. Stoney, of Greyfort, left five sons and six daughters; the latter were:—

- I.—REBECCA, married to Robert PALMER, Esq., of Shrile, Queen's County.
- II.—ELIZABETH, married to Ralph SMITH, Esq., of Milford (see that family, Burke's "Landed Gentry," 1846 Edition), and had with other issue a daughter, Margaret, who married Joseph Bernard, Esq., and had two daughters, one of whom married James Cusack, M.D., the celebrated Dublin surgeon, and the other Thomas Bunbury, Esq., of Lisbryan.
- III.—SARAH, married to William SMITH, Esq., of Gurteen (brother to Ralph), and had issue.
- IV.—MARY, married to Edward LAURENSEN, of Capponellan, (near Durrow) Queen's County, and had a daughter, Eliza Anne, married in 1804 to Stephen Cassan, of Sheffield, Queen's County (see Burke's "History of the Landed Gentry," 1838), and had with other issue a son, Stephen, High Sheriff of the Queen's County in 1842.
- V.—CATHERINE, married to Bladen SWINNEY, Esq.
- VI.—FRANCES, married to the Right Honourable Arthur MOORE, of Lamberton, one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas in Ireland. Mrs. Moore died in 1854, having survived all her brothers and sisters.

The five sons were—I. Bowes, and II. Thomas (both of whom presently); III. James Johnston, IV. Bigoe Armstrong, V. George Robert.

- III.—JAMES JOHNSTON STONEY, of Oakley Park or Ballymoney, married Catherine, daughter of William Baker, Esq., of Lismacue (see Burke's "General Armory"), and had issue; (1) George, who married Miss Blood, of the County Clare (see Walford's "County Families"), and had with other issue George Johnstone Stoney, F.R.S., the present learned Secretary of the Queen's University in Ireland, Bindon Blood Stoney, the eminent Engineer of the Port of Dublin, and a daughter, married to Dr. Fitzgerald, Lord Bishop of Killaloe; (2) Rev. William Baker Stoney, Rector of Castlebar; (3) Robert; (4) James, M.D.; and four daughters, Mrs. Rathbourne, Mrs. Sayers, Mrs. Cusack, and Mrs. Going.

It is told of James Johnston Stoney that when quite a boy he was sent by his father to Ballymoney, to look after the steward, who was suspected of dishonesty. At the time, the old castle there was used as a dwelling, but was supposed to be haunted by the ghost of a mediæval chieftain. In the middle of the night James was awoke by the clanking of someone in armour coming up the winding stairs to his bed-room; but, nothing daunted, he lighted a lamp, seized a pistol, and confronted the ghost, who fled to the steward's room, closely pursued by James, who there discovered it was none other than the steward himself, encased in a sheet and encircled with plough chains. James's father was so pleased with his brave conduct that he promised to leave him Ballymoney, which he did. James Johnston Stoney died in 1824. The property has passed away from the family.

IV.—BIGOE ARMSTRONG STONEY left the army soon after his father's death, and married Mary, daughter of Colonel Kyllen. He afterwards succeeded to Greyfort, on his brother George's death, and was Major in the Tipperary (or 28th) Regt. of Militia.* He died in 1827, leaving one son, Robert, J.P., who married, first his cousin, Fanny Stoney, *d.s.p.*, and secondly Miss Julian of Kerry (see Walford's "County Families"), by whom he had with other issue Robert Johnston of Pittsburgh, U.S.

Greyfort has passed away from the family, and has degenerated into a farm-house, but there are fine old trees on the property.

V.—GEORGE ROBERT STONEY entered the army, and became Captain in the 22nd Regt. in 1794. He married Joanna, daughter of General Ellis, and sister of the gallant General Sir Henry Ellis, who was killed at Waterloo. (See Burke's "General Armoury"). Captain Stoney died in 1808. By will, bearing date 3rd June, 1800, he left Greyfort and his Irish estates to his brother, Bigoe, and the money and property in England which he acquired by marriage, to his brother-in-law, Major Ellis.

A tablet over the Stoney pew in Borrisokane Church bears this inscription:—

Sacred to the Memory of George Robert Stoney, Esquire, of Greyfort, in this Parish. He died the 8th day of October, 1808, and in the 34th year of his age. He was an affectionate husband, a sincere friend, an honest man. To perpetuate, while these frail materials shall endure, the virtues which distinguished his character, his afflicted widow, Joanna, daughter of the late General Ellis, erects this marble.

Death of Bowes.

Before Bowes's term of imprisonment expired, Lady Strathmore obtained a divorce. He consequently lost henceforth all future claim on the Bowes property, and was left to his own resources. He had still the Benwill estate, some property in Ireland, and his half-pay—enough, in fact, to support him decently, though in a different style to what he had once indulged in. For the remainder of his life, however, he was in difficulties; as he spent every farthing he could spare or borrow on Benwill in litigation with the Countess, and on her death, in 1800, with her heir, the Earl of Strathmore. He carried his suit to the House of Lords, which at first decided in his favour, and he was on the point of recovering about £60,000; but he was finally defeated. On one occasion he was so pressed for money that "he was obliged to part with the remainder of the family plate, with rings, gold snuff-boxes, watches,

* The county, which was not divided into Ridings till 1839, had then only one regiment of militia. B. A. Stoney's commission as Major was dated 13th May, 1801.

and all the rich dresses made up for him when he was in Paris, and which his vanity had kept till now—enough to stock all the theatres, for the Sir George Airies, the Lovemores, the Lord Foppingtons, and the Rangers.”*

He died at his residence, 12 Lambeth Road, London, on the 16th of January, 1810, and was buried on the 23rd in the vault in St. George's Church, in the Borough. He left by the Countess a son, who died young, and a daughter, who died an old maid in Bath, about 1854. He also left some children by a Miss Sutton, the daughter of a gentleman who had run through a large property and had been his fellow prisoner.

Comparing Bowes with the Beauclerks, the Montagues, and other men of fashion in that licentious age whom he aped, we may deal leniently with his memory. We cannot strew flowers on his grave, but we protest against the mud which Foot has thrown upon it. Bowes, who made this obscure doctor's acquaintance at the time of the duel, took him by the hand, treated him with consideration, and brought him into notice. Foot stuck to his patron with the tenacity of a parasite, and records with snobbish pride the distinguished company he mixed with. “I remember,” writes he, “making a third with Bowes and the Duke of —— at the Star and Garter, Pall Mall, in 1783;” and so on. Even after Bowes's downfall Foot attended him constantly, hovered round his dying bed, and followed him to his grave as a chief mourner.

Soon afterwards Foot published a book, in which, betraying the sacred trust of a medical adviser, he reveals the secrets and overwhelms the memory of his dead patron with the greatest and vilest abuse. If Bowes had been such a very bad man as therein represented, why was Dr. Foot so very officious and attentive up to his dying day? The cloven foot appears in the last pages of the book, in which the medical author represents himself as taking a strange interest in the dying man's will; so that one is led to the conclusion he expected a legacy for himself, and—was bitterly disappointed.

But be that as it may, Foot's book has been the standard authority on the lives of Bowes and Lady Strathmore, whose story has been often told since with increasing sensationalism and disadvantage to Bowes, until at length he is painted as a demon of darkness persecuting an angel of light. It may be found, for example, in Howitt's “Visits to Remarkable Places,” and Fordyce's “History of Durham.” It appeared, too, in a recent number of “Household Words,” and we have even seen it related with still greater ignorance and absurdity in a Boy's Penny Illustrated Paper.

* Foot.

Thomas Stoney of Arran Hill and Ennell Castle,

DEPUTY GOVERNOR OF THE COUNTY TIPPERARY.

Thomas, the second son of George Stoney of Greyfort, became head of the family at his father's death, and filled the position most worthily. Following in his father's footsteps, he attended to his affairs with intelligence and assiduity, and added property after property to his estate. As a magistrate and grand juror, he took an active part in local administration, and in 1793 was appointed Deputy Governor of the county. He, too, kept open house, and when his numerous family grew up about him, a right merry house it was. His wife, Ruth, proved a genuine help meet for him, and joined heart and hand in all his pursuits. They had fourteen children, of whom eight sons and four daughters reached maturity. Besides an open house, Mr. Stoney kept a pack of hounds for the amusement of his family and his friends.

He blended business and pleasure in the happiest manner. There was no more sociable house than Arran Hill, nor a better managed property. He loved a timely jest or a racy story, yet stood on his dignity the while in manners which we of this familiar age would consider pompous. Whenever he came to a room, for example, his sons, even when married men and fathers of families, had to stand up, and remain so until he took a seat. His usual morning dress consisted of a blue cutaway coat with gilt buttons, red waistcoat, frilled shirt, and white cravat, buff breeches and top boots. He wore his hair powdered, and with a *queue*, in the George III. fashion. In short, he was a good type of the fine old country gentleman—humourous and hospitable, but dignified and exclusive. The lower classes had great confidence in his justice, tempered as it was by mercy, and had moreover an extravagant idea of his influence, as an old ballad thus testifies:—

“Long life to Mr. Stoney, his praises I will sing,
And to his noble family that lives at Arran Hill;
Sure if he asked for anything, he'd get it from the King,
And happy is the huntsman that lives at Arran Hill.”

And yet, perhaps, his influence was not much overrated from the peasantry's point of view; for at a very critical period he guaranteed the King's pardon to many of them who might otherwise have suffered death. In the great rebellion of 1798 he did not quit his post; but he barricaded Arran Hill against night attacks, and kept the neighbourhood in order with his yeomanry. Then, when the insurrection was put down, there was no magistrate in the country to whom the rebels flocked in greater number to deliver up their arms, nor on whom they depended more for pardon. 'Twas not an uncommon sight of a morning to see a hundred pikes stacked before Arran Hill hall door. The handles were broken or burnt, but what the cautious magistrate did with all the pikeheads is a secret to this day. Some say, however, they were deposited by night in sundry deep bog-holes.

It is to be regretted that through the unpardonable negligence of some of the Protestant clergymen of Borrisokane, all the registers of that parish (previous to about the year 1820) have been lost or destroyed; so that we know hardly any of the dates of the birth of the members of the Arran Hill family. It is to be regretted, too, that we have no diary or letter-book to furnish us with glimpses of life at Arran Hill, as in the case of Greyfort; nor, strange to say, have we even so many original letters concerning the former as we have of the latter.

Arran Hill Letters.

By the Lord Lieutenant-General and General Governor of Ireland:—

Westmoreland.

BY Virtue of the authority to Us given, by a certain Act of Parliament, passed in this Kingdom in the Thirty-third Year of the Reign of His present Majesty, entitled, “An Act for amending and reducing into one Act of Parliament the Laws relating to the Militia in Ireland,” and of all other authorities us thereunto enabling; we have constituted and appointed, and by these Present do constitute and appoint Thomas Stoney, Esqr., Aron Hill, to be a Deputy-Governor of the County of Tipperary, to have and to hold the said office of Deputy-Governor, with all Privileges and Authorities thereunto belonging, the said Thomas Stoney, having delivered in to the Clerk of the Peace his Qualification, pursuant to the said Act.

Given at His Majesty’s Castle of Dublin, the 26th Day of April, 1793.

By His Excellency’s Command.

From Thomas Stoney of Arran Hill, to his brother, Capt. Stoney, 22nd Regt. of Foot, Guernsey:—

DUB.,

15 Sep., 99.

MY DEAR GEORGE,

I was yesterday favored with yours of the 11th, and am surprised to hear that you are ordered to the Cape of Good Hope, as I concluded you would be sent to the Continent to assist our brave troops, which I apprehend will get very hard knocks before they conquer their enemy’s. I fear Richard has now very little chance of getting into your Regt., as I suppose all the vacansys are filled up, and from what I hear of the Cape, there can be no better climate for a young man like him to go to; and his staying out for seven years must give him a vast deal of information; and I should be satisfied to purchase a Lieut^y, if it is to be got, provided he can get into the Regt., or to pay the difference into another, should you get out; as the only inducement I could have for his going into the 22^d was your being in it; and since no person can judge for you better than yourself in respect to getting

out, or your future situation in Life. You know your property, and how it is situated, and can live very comfortable anywhere if it is not your own fault; & I need not tell you how happy I should be in having you settled to your satisfaction near me. I have not heard anything of Moore's opinion relative to the will of my Father, but if we could do anything with Towers relative to the wood, you might shortly be able to purchase rank in the army. He is now at Bushy park, and I shall, the first opportunity, sound him on that subject. I believe I shall stay a week longer in Town, and I have wrote to Croasdaile to forward the Commission for Richard. I expect it would be got for 300 British, I sent £332 10s. 9d. Irish to him; they now want £330 British, but I hope it will be got for the first price. I have been at a vast expence since I came here with Geo., Tom, & the two girls, & I mean to bring Robt up to put him to some business, & I must give Tom some money, to begin a little for himself, so that all together they are driving me hard. Armstrong, his wife, & my mother are at Clontarf, & Mrs. Laurenson. I hear that Tom is to be over directly, & I suppose he spent all he took. Robt is ordained, and very happy at the expectation of getting the Curacy of Borrass. All here unite affectionate Love & Regards with, Dear George, your most Loving

THO. STONEY.

From Judge Moore to his brother-in-law, Thomas Stoney of Arran Hill:—

GREAT GEORGE'S ST.,

Oct^r 15th, 1800.

MY DR. SIR,

Your letter followed me from Dublin to the country, and I at length received it at Mr. John Tydd's.

I agree with you in all respects upon the subject of the address you enclosed, and the audacity of such persons to presume to interfere in the concerns of a country they had entered into a conspiracy to destroy; but of late there has been such encouragement given to the wicked of all descriptions, that the real friends of the peace and happiness of the country seem every where out of temper, while its enemies appear to derive new hopes and spirits from the transactions of the times. The facts that you mention are so infamous that indeed they ought to be made public, if that could be done; but you appear to me, when you desire to have them so, to forget that the loss of a free-press is the first ill-consequence of the loss of our Parliament, and the establishment of martial law, and hereafter you cannot expect to see an Irish news paper anything more than the mean vehicle of ministerial flattery, and the instrument for traducing everything virtuous and honourable. I own to you I am not without feeling a degree of malicious pleasure when I reflect how some of the Union advocates in your part of the country must be annoyed at the little attention paid to themselves and their loyal merits, and the great respect in which the persons you mention are held. But I do not now wish to convert any one, as it is too late; but I think the incident you mention very likely to affect the opinions of some of your neighbours on general politics. But I am tired of politics, and would rather write to you on any other subject, if the stupidity of this place afforded me any, which it does not.

I have a Leicestershire ram of yours for some days, and take the best care I can of him; but as he has no sheep with him, we find it difficult to keep him. The sooner, therefore, you send for him the better.

People in general think we shall not have peace suddenly ; my own opinion is we shall in the course of the Winter on Spring.

Mrs. Moore is very well, and inclined to be as fat and good-humoured as her brother George. She and my sister unite with me in affectionate regards to Mrs. Stoney, and all our young relatives, and believe me,

Very sincerely yours,

ARTHUR MOORE.

In 1803 Capt. Robert Johnston died. He is buried in Bath Abbey. His tombstone, which forms a flag in the floor of one of the main passages of the building, contains this inscription on a small marble slab embedded in limestone :—

Robert Johnston, Esq^{re}, Ammell Castle (*sic*), King's County, Ireland, died the 19th of March, 1803.

By will, dated 10th of August, 1802, Captain Johnston bequeathed all his estates, real and personal, subject to an annuity for his wife, to his nephew, Thomas Stoney of Arran Hill. The landed estates comprised Ballynockane and Killeen, in County Tipperary (now in possession of Sadleir Stoney, Esq., J.P.), and Emell Castle (now in possession of Johnstone Stoney, Esq., J.P.), Rathclough, and Glaskill, in the King's County.

On succeeding to the Johnston property, Mr. Stoney kept up an establishment at Emell Castle as well as at Arran Hill.

From Mrs. Stoney to her husband, Thomas Stoney, Esq., Arran Hill :—

SATURDAY, 6 o'clock, July 2nd, 1803,
(Near Dublin).

I rece'd my Dear's at 12, and went immediately to Mr. Abbott's. He was gone to Court, and Sam B. followed him there and begged he would put off the sale ; he said he could not, and there were five bidders for the properties. Mr. A. says you knew that Milbeg was not to be sold, only Cloughkeating and Ballinavin. My Br Fredk. bid for some body £6,000, Lord Norbury £6,300, and your Lordship £6,400, so it was knocked down to you ; but Lord N. did not attend himself, and therefore if you do not wish to give it up he will call another sale. This is the report of the day. Mr. Sankey says it is a better purchase than Portland ; however, you have it at your option, as Lord Norbury's agent offered Sam a *docur* for his bargain. I understand it's necessary for you to be up about Thursday. I beg you will bring or send me some of my gowns, and a black veil, as I am burnt with the sun, going to the water in a gingle.

You did not mention one word of my dear son George, so I hope in God he is better. Miss Hawkshaw and Mr. N. and Tom Hawkshaw dined here, and are gone to the Play ; M. A. and Fanny with them. Poor Ruth F. is so bad with the toothache she could not go. Mrs. Hawkshaw will buy Mr. Johnston's carriage. I believe she is mad ; her horses are not come up. Sam has sold his jaunting car for 23gs.

All within join in love and duty to you, &c., with your ever affte,

R. STONEY.

From Mrs. Stoney, Arran Hill, to her husband, Thomas Stoney, Esq., Parkville, Clonmell:—

THURSDAY, March 29th, 1810.

MY DEAREST FRIEND,

As I know it will give you more satisfaction to get a line from me than from anyone else, I have the pleasure of telling you, thank God, that I am getting stout. I went to B. Derry yesterday, and sat half-an-hour there; did not get any cold, and intend, as soon as I send this letter to Cloughjordan, to take a drive round B. Casey, which place I hope you will not forget. T. Henry took the Hounds on Tuesday to Gurteen, and I hear they are not to return till to-morrow. Barry could not go yesterday to Tom, nor can I tell if he can this day. I hope poor Mrs. Falkiner is better, and that the Almighty will restore her to health. My love be sure to all Friends at Parkville. Do not forget my shawl—but no scarlet in it—gloves or ribbons for nurse-tenders, cotton for stockings for yr honor, and muslin for stocks. They say the best tea and best salmon in Ireland are got in Clonmell; but this as you like. Remember me affly to Colonel Bagwell* and family. I hope to live to get votes for him yet. All here as you left them. My love to Ralph. I was quite happy you took him with you, as I am uneasy at your travelling now without a son, if I am not with you. God Almighty bless and protect you, and send you safe home to me! All here, big and little, join in duty and love to you, with your ever aff^{te}

R. STONEY.

Died, Wednesday, 19th of Sep^r 1810, Mrs. Stoney, of Arran Hill, County Tipperary, aged 60, highly esteemed by all ranks of people and universally regretted by the poor. Her loss may be felt but never repaid. She was the most affectionate of mothers and the sincerest of friends. She was a woman of the strongest feelings and warmest attachments. Her whole life was one unvaried scene of anxiety and affection for the happiness of others. She discharged the duties of a daughter, sister, wife, and mother in a most exemplary degree. She spent her life in the love and fear of God, and on her death-bed gloried in the pleasing satisfaction of having led thirteen children to the sacrament of the Lord's Supper, eleven of whom are still living, ever to revere her memory and lament her loss.

The above notice was written by her son, the Rev. Ralph Stoney, and published in the newspapers.

Hymn taught by Mrs. Stoney, of Arran Hill, to each of her children, one of whom, the late Thomas Johnston Stoney we have heard repeating it from memory when in his 90th year:—

Bless me with grace and strength to bear
My fortune and my doom,
That I may course and boldly steer
To my eternal home.

Feed me, O Heaven, with wholesome food,
And clothe me from the cold,
While young, preserve me chaste and good,
And healthful when I'm old.

* Colonel of the Tipperary Militia.



T BUTLER STONEY

Oh, grant me goodness to forgive,
And patience to sustain
The injuries I may receive
From base and wicked men !

Let no revenge inflame my heart,
Or anger seize my mind ;
But let me act a Christian's part
Towards God and all mankind.

Let me be friendly to my friends,
To every mortal just ;
True to whatever I pretend,
And faithful to my trust.

In safety, wise ; in danger, brave ;
Be liberal and discreet,
That when I'm dead and in my grave,
My memory may be sweet.

Reminiscences of Arran Hill.

We are indebted to Thomas Butler Stoney, Esquire, for the following reminiscence of his grandfather :—

I recollect being at Arran Hill in 1823. The custom of the house was to have a large dinner party every Sunday. From twenty to thirty people usually dined there ; in fact, every member of the family as well as every intimate friend in the neighbourhood had a *carte blanche*. As the company arrived in the afternoon, they strolled about the place, if the day were fine. Mr. Stoney took great pleasure in showing his guests his deer park, and his herd of Devon cattle, for which he was celebrated, and on some occasions a hundred or more of these fine cattle were driven into the park, opposite the house, while the guests inspected them from the high flight of steps leading to the hall door. The house was seldom without visitors ; for besides the numerous friends of the family, any gentleman posting through Borrisokane—which had only a modest inn—was welcome at Arran Hill, where all guests were treated with great hospitality and kindness as long as they wished to stay, enjoying, if in the hunting season, the sports of the chase with their host's private hounds.

Mr. Stoney was for many years a member of the Farming Society in Ballinasloe, and attended the annual shows there, when his stock usually carried off the first prize. It was a pleasant sight to see about thirty shearers in the month of June shearing his sheep (about 3000 in number), which had been driven to Arran Hill from his outlying farms, on which occasions most liberal potations of home-brewed ale regaled the men after their substantial meals.

Mr. Stoney, being the principal magistrate in the neighbourhood, usually held a petty sessions court on his hall-door steps, and administered justice from a large arm-chair in the porch. There was no regular court-house at Borrisokane in those days.

During the month of August, old Tom Henry, the huntsman, in his scarlet coat, might be seen daily riding his brown mare, with a haunch of venison in a rush basket, which he was conveying, with his master's compliments, to some gentleman living within a radius of ten miles.

John Lavarette, a respectable and portly man, who afterwards kept an Hotel in Borrisokane, was for many years butler at Arran Hill.

Mrs. Stoney* (*née* Julian), widow of the late Robert Stoney of Greyfort, kindly supplies from memory some interesting particulars regarding the Sunday dinner parties at Arran Hill:—

These entertainments were generally confined to the visitors in the house, and Mr. Stoney's family and near relations; though sometimes the rule was digressed from. One day, for example, he asked all his acquaintances who were at church. It was after service the invitations were usually given, and if Mr. Stoney was not there himself, Tom Henry, the huntsman, had orders to say to various gentlemen, "My master expects you, Sir, to dinner;" and many would go on this invitation, others would not, but his board was so well supplied it mattered little whether few or many went. There were always two tables laid—one for the married, and another for the unmarried people. Mr. Stoney had a large family, and it was a standing joke with him, which he usually told strangers, that he had twice thirteen children; which was true in one sense, for he lost his thirteenth child and it was replaced by another.

Besides Lord Ormond and other occasional guests, the following usually gathered round the social board on Sundays:—

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Stoney and son, and Miss Butler from Portland; Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Stoney and daughter from Harvest Lodge; Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Stoney from Oakley Park; Major Stoney; Mr. and Mrs. Robert Stoney; Miss Raymond and Mr. Julian from Greyfort; Rev. Ralph Stoney and Mrs. Stoney from Terryglass; Judge and Mrs. Moore and their daughter, Mrs. Persse, wife of Major Persse; Mr. and Mrs. Barry, and two sons and one daughter from Bellpark; Mr., Mrs., and Miss Falkiner from Mont Falcon; Mr. Smith and two sons from Gurteen; Mrs. Smith and Mrs. Laurenson from Milford; Rev. J. and Mrs. Travers from Aglish; Mrs. Robinson, Ballinavin Castle.

Apropos of dinners, this amusing little anecdote may be worth relating:—

On one occasion Mr. Bagwell, the member for the county, paid a political visit to Borrisokane, and engaged himself to dine with Mr. C., a gentleman of that town, who asked Mr. Stoney of Arran Hill to come and meet him. C. at the same time confided to Mr. Stoney that the M.P. had presented Mrs. C. with a splendred pine-apple, but she did not know how to serve it up. "What have you for dinner?" asked Mr. Stoney. Several dishes were named, and at length a boiled leg of mutton. "Ah! the very thing," broke in he; "slice the pine-apple, and dish it up with the mutton, like turnips." Mr. Stoney presented himself at dinner in due course, and forgot all about his joke until he heard Mrs. C. blandly asking Mr. Bagwell to "have some boiled mutton and pine-apple."

Death of Thomas Stoney of Arran Hill.

Mr. Stoney of Arran Hill died the 20th of October, 1826, and, according to his will, was "interred in the family vault at Borrisokane,

* Since dead (May 1879), aged 85.



KYLE PARK

According to "The Owners of Land in Ireland," 1876 (which does not include lands let to tenants for more than 99 years), the following descendants of Thomas Stoney of Arran Hill still possess the number of acres respectively attached to their names, which formerly belonged to him :—

	acres.	
Thomas Butler Stoney, J.P., Portland	2778	} Co. Tip.
Thomas Stoney (a minor), Kyle Park	1029	
Sadleir Stoney, J.P., Ballycapple	953	
Johnstone Stoney, J.P., Emell Castle	104	
" "	473	King's County.
Thomas George Stoney, J.P., Kingstown	221	Co. Tip.

Although we fixed on the death of Thomas Stoney of Arran Hill as the point for concluding these old annals, we think a brief reference to his offspring will make them more complete. He had the following children by his first wife, Ruth Falkiner:—

I.—GEORGE, born in 1774, married, in 1804, Marianne, his cousin, daughter of William Smith, Esq., of Gurteen, and predeceased his father in 1810, leaving an only son, Thomas George Stoney, J.P., who married Miss Waller of Finoe (see Burke's "Landed Gentry"), and had with other issue the late Captain George Francis Stoney, Tipperary Militia.

* The three places adjoin one another.

- III.—RICHARD FALKINER, married in 1812 Miss Butler, of Castleerine, Co. Clare (see Burke's "Landed Gentry.") He died in 1830, aged 50, leaving four sons—viz., (1) Thomas Butler, J.P., now of Portland, High Sheriff of the County Tipperary, 1855, who married Miss Fannin, and has with other issue Charles Butler (married Miss Kemble), Mrs. Sheffield, and Mrs. Jefferson; (2) James Butler, who married Miss Elwood (see Burke's "General Armory"), and has with other issue four sons—viz., Robert Vesey, J.P., of Rosturk Castle, Co. Mayo,* Butler, a Captain in the Donegal Artillery Militia, Percy, M.D., and Arbuthnot, barrister-at-law; (3) Henry Butler, late Major in the army, who married Miss Wilson, and has issue; (4) George Butler, Major-General, who married Miss Ormond, and has with other issue Captain Ormond Stoney, 21st Fusiliers.
- IV.—THOMAS JOHNSTON, of Harvest Lodge, married Miss Going (see Going of Traverston, Burke's "Landed Gentry"), by whom he had with other issue a son, Thomas Going (father of George Legge Stoney, M.D.) He married secondly Miss Eliza P. Isaac, of Bath. He died at Bath, 1868, in the 90th year of his age. Memorial tablet in Borrisokane Church.
- V.—ANDREW ROBINSON, Ensign 44th Regt., was present at the taking of St. Lucia. *d.s.p.* aged 19.
- VI.—ROBERT PETER SMART (called Smart after his maternal Granduncle, Smart, the poet). *d.s.p.* in Calcutta, 1808.
- VII.—RALPH, Rev. M.A., married Miss Sadleir (see Sadleir of Sopwell, Burke's "Landed Gentry"), and died in 1856, aged 72 (memorial tablets in Borrisokane and Terryglass churches), leaving four sons—viz., Sadleir, J.P. and M.A., barrister-at-law, Rev. George Frederick, M.A., Rev. Ralph Sadleir, M.A., Vicar of Wrea Green, Lancashire, and Franc Sadleir, Major R.A.; Mrs. Talbot of Ashgrove, and four other daughters.
- VIII.—JOHNSTON, of Emell Castle, married Miss Minchin, of Green Hills (see Burke's "General Armory"), and dying in 1849, left issue Johnstone, J.P., now of Emell Castle, and a daughter, Mrs. Archer.

Daughters.

- I.—MARY-ANNE, married Rev. John Travers, Rector of Kinnity, King's County. *d.s.p.*
- II.—ELIZABETH, married Samuel Barry, Esq., and had issue, now extinct.
- III.—RUTH, married her third cousin, Robert Robinson, Esq., of Ballinavin Castle, grandnephew and heir of Lieut.-General Robert Robinson. She had four sons, two of whom—Augustus Robinson, of Cloughkeating, and Thomas Stoney Robinson, J.P., of Riversdale—are still living. Mrs. Robinson survived all her brothers and sisters, and died in 1872, aged 94.

* According to the "Owners of Land in Ireland, 1876," Robert Vesey Stoney owns 6757 acres in Co. Mayo.



RILSTON CHURCH

IV.—CHARLOTTE, died young.

V.—SARAH, *d.s.p.*

VI.—FRANCES, married her cousin, Robert Stoney, J.P., of Greyfort, and died *s.p.*

Inscription on Marble Tablet in Borrisokane Church.

(Coat of Arms as on Title Page.)

Sacred to the Memory

OF

THOMAS STONEY, ESQ.,

Who was Born in Yorkshire, in 1677;* Married Sarah Robinson, of Knockshegowna:

Died 18th August, 1726, and is interred with his wife at Ballingarry.

AND OF HIS ELDEST SON

GEORGE STONEY,

Of Greyfort, Esquire, who was Born in 1713; Married Elizabeth Johnston, of Emell Castle;
and Died 19th March, 1787.

ALSO OF

THOMAS STONEY,

Of Arran Hill, Deputy Governor of the County Tipperary, second son of the said George,
who was Born in 1748; Married Ruth Falkiner, of Mount Falcon: Died
20th Oct., 1826, and lies interred with his parents, wife, and several
of his children in the family vault, adjacent to the
East window of this Church.

The Stoney Coat of Arms.

According to Burke's "General Armory," the arms which the descendants of George Stoney of Greyfort are entitled to bear are a *shield* or. on a bend cotised az., three escallops of the field; *crest*, out of a mural crown ppr. a demi-lion or., holding between the paws a spur erect, ar. winged gu. Motto, *Nunquam non paratus*.

Mrs. George Stoney of Greyfort, having become the representative of the Johnston family on the death of her brother, Captain Robert Johnston, of Emell Castle, without issue, her sons became entitled to quarter their arms with those of the Johnstons; hitherto their arms being the shield, as above described, with a simple demi-lion as crest, and it is said with the motto *Audax*; but this last point is doubtful. Instead, however, of quartering the arms, they blended the crests—demi-lion and winged spur—and adopted the motto *Nunquam non paratus*, and the arms appear registered thus. They have nevertheless an undoubted right to quarter the shield as represented on the title page.

* More correctly, 1676. (See p. 3).

Lines written about 1820 on the motto "Nunquam non paratus," by the late Rev. William Baker Stoney, M.A., Rector of Castlebar.

Presumptuous mortal! dost thou dare
Such motto on thy crest to bear?
Is this thy firm resolve declared,
That thou art never unprepared?—

Never unprepared to meet
Alike the bitter and the sweet;
Firmly to bear misfortune's frown,
Or wear with humble mind a crown?—

Prepared, though it should cost thee blood,
To hate the evil, choose the good;
To bide the test, whate'er befalls,
When honour or when conscience calls?—

Prepared, with honesty unbending,
That knows no art, no mean descending,
To meet thy friend, to speak thy mind,
To live in love with all mankind?—

To walk with purpose firm and high,
And, more than all, prepared to die;
Returned to dust beneath earth's sod,
Art thou prepared to meet thy God?

END.



APPENDIX.

Genealogical Table.

NOTE—The following table, which is compiled principally from Burke's "Landed Gentry," aims only at general accuracy with respect to the present generation.

I. GEORGE STONEY m. MARY MOORHOUSE,
of Kettlewell, 6th Jan., 1675.

II. 1. THOMAS m. Sarah Robinson, of Greyfort, 1712.
2. JOHN. 3. JAMES. 4. GEORGE. 5. ROBERT. 6. LEONARD, and 3 daughters died in infancy.

III. 1. GEORGE m. Elizabeth Johnston, of Greyfort, 14th January, 1745.
2. THOMAS m. Ruth Falkiner, of Arran Hill, 6th May, 1773.
3. JAMES JOHNSTON m. Baker, of Oakley Park,
4. BIGOE m. Mary Kyffen.
5. GEORGE m. Ellis, Capt., d.s.p.

IV. 1. ANDREW ROBINSON m. 1st Hannah Newton, 2nd Countess of Strathmore. (Rowes.)
2. THOMAS m. Ruth Falkiner, of Arran Hill, 6th May, 1773.
3. JAMES JOHNSTON m. Baker, of Oakley Park,
4. BIGOE m. Mary Kyffen.
5. GEORGE m. Ellis, Capt., d.s.p.

V. 1. GEORGE m. M. Smith, 1804.
2. RICHARD m. Jane Butler, J.P., of Portland 1812.
3. THOMAS JOHNSTON m. E. GOING, of Harvest Lodge,
4. THOMAS JOHNSTON m. Minchin, of Emell, 1810.
5. ROBINSON } d.s.p.
6. ROBERT }

VI. 1. THOMAS BUTLER, J.P., of Portland. m. Sarah Fannin, and has issue CHAS. (m. Kemble), MARY (m. Sheffield), EMMA (m. Jefferson), and FLORENCE.
2. JAMES BUTLER, J.P., m. Mary Elwood, and has issue ROBT. VESKY, J.P. (m. Bligh), THOS. BUTLER, Capt. (m. Olphert), PERCY (M.D.), ARBUTHNOT (bar-rister).
3. HENRY BUTLER, Major, m. Wilson, and has issue JAMES, HENRY, and WALTER.
4. GEORGE BUTLER, Major-General, m. Sarah Ormond, and has issue GEORGE ORMOND, Capt. 25th Regt. (m. Chalmers), JANE (m. Smith), and MINNIE.

VI. 1. SADLER, J.P., m. Luby, and has issue.
2. GEORGE, Rev., m. Stoney, and left issue.
3. RALPH SADLER, Rev., m. 1st Drinkwater and 2nd Homan; has issue by both.
4. FRANC SADLER, Major R.A., m. 1st Lawe and 2nd Maynard (née Durrant), and has issue by both:— (1) RUTH m. Rev. B. Talbot, (2) MARGARETTA, (3) ABIGAIL, (4) MARIAN, and (5) LETITIA.

V. 1. GEORGE m. Anne Blood, of Oakley Park, F.R.S., m. Stoney, and has issue.
2. WILLIAM B. m. Going, Rev., of Castlebar.
3. ROBERT m. Smithwick.
4. JAMES JOHNSTON m. Dillon.
5. ELIZA m. Capt. Rathbourne.
6. CATHERINE m. James Sayers, M.D.
7. SARAH m. Sam. Cusack, M.D.
8. LETITIA m. C. Going.

VI. 1. GEORGE JOHNSTONE, F.R.S., m. Stoney, and has issue.
2. BINDON BLOOD, C.E.
3. ANNE m. Dr. Fitzgerald, Bishop of Killaloe.
4. KATE.

VI. 1. WILLIAM.
2. ROBT. (Rev.)
3. FRANCES.
4. ANNE.
5. CATHERINE.
6. CAROLINE.

VI. 1. GEORGE (Rev.) m. Robinson.
2. CHAS. (M.D.)
3. ROBERT (Rev.)
4. HUGH (M.D.)
5. MARGARETTA m. G. Johnstone Stoney, F.R.S.

VI. 1. JAMES JOHNSTON (Rev.)
2. WILLIAM.
3. JOHN.
4. LETITIA.
5. HELENA.
6. JULIA.
7. CATHERINE.
8. MARY.
9. ELIZA.

V. ROBERT JOHNSTON, J.P. m. 1st Frances Stoney, d.s.p. of Killavulla, 2nd Mary Julian.
1. REBECCA m. Palmer.
2. ELIZABETH m. Smith.
3. SARAH m. Smith.
4. MARY m. Laurensen.
5. CATHERINE m. Swinney.
6. FRANCES m. Moore.

VI. 1. BIGOE ARMSTRONG.
2. ROBERT JOHNSTON.
3. GEORGE ROBERT.
4. MARIA m. Raymond.
5. ALICE.
6. BELINDA.
7. EMILY m. Capt. G. F. Stoney.

IV. 1. GEORGE m. ——— Capt. R.N. |
2. THOMAS m. Humphreys. 3. ANDREW m. Jane Robinson, d.s.p.
1. (Twin) ISAAC m. Dunn, of Frankfurt.

V. 1. ANDREW, J.P. m. F. Moffit.
2. ISAAC m. E. Loftie.
3. THOMAS.
4. GEORGE.
5. ROBERT } d.s.p.
1. MARY m. Howard.
2. ANNE m. O'Callaghan.

VI. 1. ISAAC.
2. HOWARD.
3. THOMAS.
4. ANDREW ACRES, J.P. (late Surg.-Major Scots Greys.)
1. FRANCES.
2. ANNE.
3. MARY.
4. KATE.

VI. 1. WILLIAM (C.E.)
2. J. HOWARD.
3. THOMAS.
4. ROBERT.
5. G. ACHESON.
6. H. ANDREW.
7. J. LOFTIE (M.D.)
1. H. ANNE.
2. ANNIE.
3. F. HOWARD.
4. B. LOFTIE.

