



**m.1654**  
**Elizabeth Denny**  
 b.25.2.1635  
 d.1696 at Tralee;  
 Will dated 1689,  
 pr.1696 PCA  
**[WELPLY p.592]**,  
 requests she be bur.  
 inside St.John's  
 Ashe St. Tralee  
 (C.o.I.) near her  
 bro. Wm Denny

she was dau. of  
 Sir Edward Denny  
 Knt. (1605-1646)  
 of Tralee Castle,  
 Castle (*rebuilding*  
*of which he*  
*completed 1627;*  
*It stood close to*  
*where the Ashe*  
*Memorial Hall*  
*on Denny Street*  
*now stands*)

Elizabeth Denny  
 13th in descent  
 from Edward I  
 ("Longshanks")  
 through families  
 of Plantagenet,  
 de Bohun,  
 Courtenay,  
 Champerowne  
 and Denny;  
 see p.RD 5  
 & "Royal Lineage"  
 by J.FOSTER 1887

**ROYAL**  
**DESCENT**  
**NOTE:** In the old  
 panelled library  
 (now hotel bar)  
 of Elm Grove/  
 Ballyseedy Castle  
 (built 1721) is a  
 wooden panel  
 (woodworm  
 infested but has  
 been over-cleaned  
 & is of uncertain  
 age), carved  
 with arms of the  
 Blennerhassett  
 family impaled  
 with the three lions  
 of England and the  
 date 1627

this panel believed  
 to commemorate  
 the marriage of his  
 parents, John  
 Blennerhassett Sr  
 & Martha Lynn,  
 Martha being a  
 descendant of the  
 Plantagenet Kings  
 of England; this is

Will dated 24.1.1708,  
 codicil 24.1.1708;  
 pr.9.5.1709 [PCA]  
**[WELPLY p.592]**;  
 An executor was  
 Thomas BH, attorney  
 (either B 03 or p.K 14);  
 his codicil witness was  
 a requests she be bur.  
 Richard B'hassett  
 (perhaps a brother ?)

In 1709 Gaelic poet  
 Aodhagan O'Rathaille  
 (Egan O'Rahilly,  
 d.c1729) wrote an  
 Elegy on the Death of  
 John Blennerhassett,  
 dedicated to "...John,  
 son of John, son of  
 John of Ballyseedy..."  
 (included in his  
 "Poems" reprinted  
 by "The Irish Text  
 Society" in 1911)  
**[O'RAHILLY]**

**m. est. c1690**  
**Margaret Crosbie**  
 of Tubrid, Co.Kerry;  
 she bought one of the  
 forfeited estates prev.  
 purchased 1703-20 by  
 Hollow Sword Blade  
 Company of London;  
 Her brothers Thomas  
 & Arthur C. were in  
 1735 implicated in the  
 Danish Silver  
 Robbery scandal (B 09);

**FURTHER LANDS**  
**GRANTED 1666:**  
 In 1666 a crown grant  
 was made to the BH  
 family of 2787 acres  
 in Co.Kerry & 2000  
 acres in Co.Cork;  
 of this grant, John  
 Blennerhassett Jr  
 (d.1677) was granted  
 lands of Curraghmore,  
 Ferrenvorgan,  
 Ardcroanemus,  
 Trogull,  
 Knockloghkin,  
 Gortintle,  
 Castletowne,  
 Ballymacelligott  
 (alias Ballyraghlagh),  
 Roghronane,  
 Gortackleegil,  
 Gurtapopus,  
 Garrynogorah,

she describes him as  
 "a jolly dog; straight,  
 teeth and sight good,  
 bearing a little thick;  
 is polite, cheerful, and  
 even droll; sits to his  
 bottle constantly till  
 nine or ten o'clock,  
 and never wishes to  
 go to bed till one or  
 two in the morning;  
 vastly happy to see  
 us, and mighty fond  
 of his g.daughters..."

High Sheriff of Kerry  
 1717; Resident  
 JP for Kerry 1736;  
 Served on the Kerry  
 Grand Jury 1747 & 55  
 with son John BH &  
 brother William BH

Col. John Blennerhassett was MP for Co.Kerry 1709-13, 1715-27 & 1769-75 (*not 1760-69, see NOTE below*); MP for the borough of Tralee 1713-15, 1727-43, 1743-60 & 1760-69. First elected MP or "Knight of the Shire" for Kerry in 1709, on the death of his father, at about age 17, well under the legal age of 21, having unseated Thomas Crosbie, who had taken his seat illegally (when the High Sheriff of Kerry refused a poll of voters) then lost it after a petition, signed by a Thomas Blennerhassett & others; On 19.8.1709 a petition complaining of the return of John Blennerhassett "by reason of his infancy" was signed by another John Blennerhassett and six others, but not proceeded with

Col. John Blennerhassett's Will dated 19.11.1774 defines the Ballyseedy estate entail in unusual detail; The original was lost in the Dublin Four Courts fire, but a contemporary Ms. copy dated 27.6.1776 survives [SA bundle 4, box 18, Ms. 823 of Leighton Hall Collection, papers of Browne family of Riverstown, Cork]; Mary Agnes Hickson in her "Old Kerry Records" [KEP 19.6.1880] wrote that:  
 "...The Will of Col.John Blennerhassett is a curiosity in its way, from the immense number of Blennerhassetts (nearly a hundred if I remember rightly) named in the entail, including all the then members of the Riddelstown branch and persons in different parts of Ireland, very remotely related to the testator although his namesakes. His grand object seems to have been to prevent Ballyseedy ever going to the descendants of his two daughters, Agnes who married her cousin Sir Thomas Denny, owner in chief of that place; and Mary wife of Lancelot Crosbie of Tubrid..."; This is an odd statement, as the estate was entailed & thus could pass only to male heirs, multiple listing of names of individuals was un-necessary for this; his real objective appears to have been to prevent the Ballyseedy estate passing to descendants of the disinherited male Blennerhassett who was ancestor of the Gortatlea family, this being his nephew Thomas Blennerhassett (B 10 & p.G 01)

**m.1713 Jane Denny**  
 dau. of Col. Edward  
 Denny (1652-1712)  
 MP, of Tralee Castle  
 the nephew  
 of Elizabeth Denny  
 (1635-1696) who  
 married his g.father  
 John Blennerhassett  
 (d.1677)

15th in descent  
 from King Edward I,  
 through same line  
 as Elizabeth Denny,  
 1635-1696  
**ROYAL DESCENT**

**m.2nd 10.4.1753**  
 Frances Herbert  
 b.c1727/8 (issue);  
 of Kilcow & of  
 Muckross, Kerry  
 /  
 d.c17.2.1803  
 "...in the house of  
 Mrs Browne,  
 Gardener St..."  
**["Limerick Chron."  
 19.2.1803]**

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Charles Smith's "The Ancient and Present State of the County of Kerry" in 1752 says John was "...lately one of the governors of this county, and is representative in parliament for the Borough of Tralee, together with his second son Arthur..." also "...his eldest son John is one of the Knights of the Shire for this county..."; **NOTE:** Both [JB/2] & [BIFR p.141] have him in error as MP Co.Kerry 1760-69, but it was his son John Blennerhassett Jr who was MP for Co.Kerry in the 1760 parliament, until he died in 1763; For many years both senior & oldest member of the Irish House of Commons at Dublin, known as "Father of the Irish House of Commons", having represented Co.Kerry or the Borough of Tralee from 1709 to 1775, a period of 64 years spanning the reigns of four sovereigns; His two sons & a grandson were also members of the House

In 1727 signed a dubious "family compact" with Sir Maurice Crosbie, Knt. of Ardfert (knighted 1711/2) & Col. Arthur Denny of Tralee, that sought to partition the county representation among the three families, themselves & their successors; However, this unusual agreement lasted only until Arthur Denny died in 1742; A witness to the signing of this document was his brother Thomas Blennerhassett (B 09); Col. John Blennerhassett was responsible, with Col. Arthur Denny JP, for investigating the "Danish Silver Robbery" of 1731 (B 09); in 1751 he was overseer for the building of the bridge at Cahirmoreaun (Tramore), later renamed Blennerville (p.K 20); this bridge has recently (c2000) been rebuilt

**PALATINES**  
 A large number of German protestant refugees, among those driven out of the Palatinate by Louis the Fourteenth, settled in Ireland. The greatest number, about 1200, were settled 1709-1712 by Sir Thomas Southwell on his estate at Castle Matrix, outside Rathkeale, Co.Limerick and close to the Blennerhassett estate at Riddelstown Park; The newcomers, known as 'Palatines', were industrious and prospered; they introduced wheel ploughs, potato drills and horse hoes to Ireland; Patrick J. O'Connor in "People Make Places: The Story of the Irish Palatines" writes:  
 "...After July 1747 the following families appear to have moved together to the Blennerhassett estate nr Castleisland: BENNER, GROUSE, SHOULDICE, HOFFMAN, POFF, HYFLE, FITZELLE, CRONBERRY and some of the SWITZER's..."; These families were brought to Kerry by "The Great Colonel John" Blennerhassett, who is also said to have brought 16 Palatine families from Co.Limerick to Farmer's Bridge, Ballymacelligott, Castleisland and other places on his Co.Kerry estate in 1776 - this may be the same event, the date being an error for 1747, or refer to a second influx of Palatines; other Palatine families such as HECK and RUTTLE are known to have migrated to Kerry later than 1747

The Co.Kerry Volunteer regiments during the 18<sup>th</sup> Century included the "Kerry Legion", also known as the 'Palatine' or 'Ballymacelligott' corps; c1779-82 under the command of Col. Arthur Blennerhassett of Arabella, Ballymacelligott; This regiment was composed principally of farmers of Palatine descent (or 'Germans' as sometimes called) with a few other farmers and artisans

>> John Blennerhassett Jr. ("the younger") b.c1754; Edu. TCD (SC 1769, BA 1773), "Fellow Commoner of TCD 1773"; of Oak Park, Killeen, Tralee (now renamed "Collis-Sandes House") 1774 - the home of his 1st cousin Letitia Denny Bateman (B 04), and where his g.father "The Great Colonel John" d.1775

still living 19.11.1774, he died "...a few days before 14.12.1774...", age 20 yrs, at Nice, France, ...where he went for the recovery of his health..."; d. unm.; death reported in "Gentleman's Magazine" Dec.1774, p.598 (place of death not stated); "Hibernian Chronicle" printed Cork 29.12.1774 (place of death given as Nice, France); and "Dublin Hibernian Journal" 14.12.1774 (place of death given as Nice, France); A second notice appeared in the "Dublin Hibernian Journal" of 30.12.1774, this giving his place of death as London (almost certainly in error)

**NOTE: This John is probably the source of a legend, documented in 1934 by William Day Blennerhassett of New Zealand (G 31), of an eldest son of the Ballyseedy family who eloped with a Catholic girl to France and married her there; that he became sick and died; and that his wife was not permitted to see him (B 09 & p.G 02);**

**NOTE: This tale appears to have over time become confused with another but distinct family legend, that of the ancestor of the Blennerhassett family of Gortatlea & Blackbriar, believed heir to Ballyseedy but disinherited "for marrying without his father's consent" (see p.B 09 & p.G 02)**

perhaps(?) m. in France to <???)  
 his wife perhaps(?) identical with the "Mrs Blennerhassett" whose funeral was held at Ballyseedy church (C.of I.) & was bur.18.4.1821 in Ballyseedy old graveyard (also on B 19); no other "Mrs Blennerhassett" of Ballyseedy is known to have died then, but need to search more newspaper death notices to make certain of this...  
 also, it is unusual for the burial register not to show her full name;  
 it is also possible they were ancestors of Blennerhassett family of Skahanagh & Clahane (p.S 1 etc), in which John is a recurring name

>> Arthur (Edward?) Blennerhassett; d.post1749, bef.1763; d.young; unm.  
**[BIFR p.141]** has him named Arthur, a family name; **[JB/2]** has him named Edward, but I have found no evidence for this

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Palatine surnames from the Ballyseedy Estate, researched by Heather Groves of Dublin (p.G 37), with spelling variations found in Ballymacelligott, Ballyseedy or Tralee C.of I. parish registers:-  
 Alton (Altimes), Benner (Benner), Cronerberry/Cronenberg/Cronsberry (Cronenberger), Fizzell/Fitzzel/Frizzel/Fitzell/Fitzelle (Fischel), Gleazier/Glazier/Gleasure (Glaser), Groves/Grouse (Kraus), Hoffman/Hofman/Huffman (Hoffman), Miller/Millar (Muller), Poff (Puff), Ruttel (Ruckel), Sparling (Sperling), Twiss (Tys)  
 Original immigrant surnames are shown in ( ); The names Heck, Hyfle, Shouldice and Switzer are believed also to have been at the Ballyseedy estate, but are not found in local parish registers;  
 The Palatine name KRAUS became GROUSE and this appears to have evolved into GROVES, a well known Ballymacelligott name; all GROVES in Ballymacelligott are believed to descend from Michael & Mary Grouse, living in Ballymacelligott by 1749; This name can be confusing because there is also a Groves of English origin that occurs in Co.Cork, but seemingly no connection

*"As I roved out one evening through the woods of Ballyseedy,  
 Whom should I meet on a cool retreat but a Palatine's daughter  
 You'll find gold and silver, oh! and land without tax or charges,  
 And a pretty lass to wed if you choose a Palatine's daughter."*  
**"The Palatine's Daughter" (Kerry Ballad)**





>> Diana Denny >>>> >>> Thomas (John) Collis of Barrow House BARROW  
 /  
 In 1870 he sold Barrow House to Robert McCowen of Tralee  
 m. Thomas Collis /  
 of Barrow House, m. ?4.1836 Millicent (Melicent) Agnes Blennerhassett (p.K 29);  
 Fenit, Co.Kerry b.c26.9.1810 Blennerville ["General Advertiser" 1.5.1810]

>> Letitia Denny >>>> >>>> Archdeacon >>>>>> >>> issue (p.R 03)

of Tralee Castle / Rev. Arthur Blennerhassett **Rev. ARTHUR BLENNERHASSETT ROWAN**  
Local Historian, Genealogist and Atiquarian Writer;  
an accomplished scholar & faithful Minister of Christ

/ m.23.10.1799 / Rowan DD, MRIA  
 Tralee / of Belmont, Kerry;  
 William Rowan (also on p.R 03 & p.K 49)  
 of Tralee /

Barrister-at-Law; / b.?10.1800; as a child lived with his parents at Arabella House, Ballymacelligott, wherer he may have been born

For many years / Curate Blennerville 1824-54 (supported Blennerville Parochial School at his own expense for 25 yrs);  
 Provost of Tralee / Rector of Kilgobbin (Clonfert) & Ballinooher 1854-6; Archdeacon of Ardfert 1856-61;  
 / Surrogate of the Consistorial Court of Ardfert & Aghadoe; Provost of Tralee & later Recorder of Tralee

on 8.12.1801 he /  
 leased Arbela / Treasurer of the County Infirmary 1861;  
 (Arabella) / Chairman of Tralee Harbour Commission & in 1861 Chairman of the Canal Commissioners who built Tralee Ship Canal, opened 1846 (p.F 04);  
 house & townland, /

and Ahane, also in / Kerry local historian, genealogist & antiquarian writer; author of "The Spare Minutes of a Minister" 1837, "Lake Lore" 1853; a pamphlet  
 Ballymacelligott, "Tralee & its Provost, Sixty Years On" 1860; Item in [MGH New Series: Vol 3, p.116]; "Kerry Genealogies" 1846 [NLI Microfilm POS 2786];  
 "for life" / Publisher of "The Kerry Magazine" 1854-6; When he d.1861 he had in preparation a history of Kerry - where is this now?  
 for £300 pa /

Dr Bottom resided / Author of numerous articles in "The Gentleman's Magazine" [GM] as follows:  
 at Arabella 1812; 2nd Series: "Etymology of Smerwick, Co.Kerry" vol.18 pt 2, Oct.1842 p.351-2; "Sir Isaac Newton" vol.18 pt 2, Nov.1842 p.491-2;  
 this is the house "Family of Roper, Baron of Bantry, & Visc. Baltinglass" vol.19 pt 1, Jan.1843 p.2; "Autograph Letter of Q.Elizabeth" vol.32 pt 2,  
 built c1740-50 by Jul 1849 p.31; "Coningsby Family" vol.33 pt 1, Jan.1850 & p.2 Apr.1850 p.346; "Desc. of Rev. Thomas Fuller & Mary Roper"  
 Col. Arthur BH vol.34 pt 2, Oct.1850 p.346; Letter to "Notes & Queries" Series 2, vol.2, 23.8.1856 pp.154-5 (re: Queen Anne's foster-father)  
 Blennerhassett Obituaries pub. in [KEP 14.8.1861]; [PRIA series 1, vol.8, 1861-4, p.91]; [GM Third Series vol.11 pt 2 Nov.1861 p.565-6]

(B 09) and named / NOTE: c1858 (or 1855) he transcribed original c1736 MS of "Black Jack's Book" by Capt. John "Black Jack" Blennerhassett  
 for his first wife; (d.c1738) of Castle Conway (p.K 01), a pedigree of Blennerhassett & related families c1580-1736; This MS he borrowed from  
 Arthur BH had John Hurlly of Fenit House, Tralee (p.K 34); a brief letter of 25.6.1858 from him to Sir Bernard Burke, Ulster King of Arms,  
 ceased residing at discussing this loan is now in a genealogical scrapbook in the library of the IGRS, London; Black Jack's Book was also  
 Arabella House transcribed in [BJB/OKR] by Mary Agnes Hickson (p.K 06), another prominent Kerry local historian; The location of the 1858 Rowan  
 and settled in Bath Ms is unknown, but a photocopy (listed in "Hayes Manuscript Sources for the History of Irish Civilisation") is [NLI Ms.5629]  
 about the time he /

remarried in 1800 / d.12.8.1861; bur. "in the family vault at Ballyseedy"  
 Marble plaque & four brass chandeliers erected to his memory at St.John's Church (C.of I.), Ashe St. Tralee

/ m.16.11.1825 (not 1820/1) Tralee;  
 Alicia "Alice" (not Mira) Thompson of Tralee;  
 b.c1800; d.1876 Tralee;  
 dau. of Anne Blennerhassett of Annadale House & Peter Thompson (p.K 49)

**ARABELLA**  
**HOUSE**

>> Arabella >>>>>>>> >>> issue (B 09)  
 Blennerhassett  
 b.21.12.1726; d.21.1.1795 or 27.1.1795,  
 [BIFR p.141] giving both dates

/"Arabella House" Ballymacelligott built  
 by her 2nd husband & named for her,  
 giving its name to the townland of Arabella  
 (a.k.a. Arbela)

/ m.1st Richard (Thomas) Ponsonby MP;  
 of Crotto, Co.Kerry

/ m.2nd 1764 Co.Cloyne (1st cousin)  
 Col.Arthur Blennerhassett (B 09)

>> Leticia Blennerhassett  
 of Tralee; b.28.2.1728  
 d.post1801 unm.  
 Will dated 27.5.1801 (copy exists)

|                           |                          |   |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| >> Arabella Margaret >>   | >> Charles Fairfield >>  | >>> Letitia Fairfield   |
| Blennerhassett            | b.c1841 Co.Kerry         |   |
| Rowan                     | /                        | >> Winifred Fairfield   |
| b.13.2.1806 Tralee;       | Journalist; gunnery      |   |
| bapt.23.2.06 Tralee;      | instructor with 2nd      | >> Cicily Isabel >>>> >>> Anthony West b.1919 d.1987;                           |
| joined the                | Rifle Brigade,           | Fairfield " <i>Dame</i> author & critic; wrote a biography of his father,       |
| Plymouth Brethren         | "Prince Consort's        | <i>Rebecca West</i> " "H.G.Wells: Aspects of a Life" 1984                       |
| /                         | Own",                    | /   |
| m.1833 Maj. Charles       | serving in Canada;       | b.1892 Kerry d.15.3.1983  |
| George Fairfield          | received his             | of Buckinghamshire  |
| of Co.Kerry;              | commission from          | & London; D.B.E.  |
| /                         | Queen Victoria in        | /   |
| said to be the            | a private audience       | outstanding journalist, novelist & critic (under her pen name "Rebecca West");  |
| illegitimate son          | /                        | joined the staff of feminist paper "Freewoman" in 1911;                         |
| of a Royal Duke;          | witnessed U.S. civil     | reported on Nuremberg War Crimes Trials 1945-46; author of numerous works;      |
| /                         | war battles and was      | friend of Violet Hunt, Ford Madox Ford, Wyndham Lewis, George Bernard Shaw,     |
| a gambler, he lost        | once pressed into        | Charlie Chaplin & Max Beverbrook (proprietor of "Daily Express" newspaper);     |
| two small inherited       | service as a stretcher   | see "Rebecca West: a Saga of the Century" by Carl Rollyson 1995, etc            |
| fortunes;                 | bearer; he ran a saw     | /   |
| d.1853                    | mill in Virginia & a     | /   |
| /                         | mine in Colorado         | /   |
| <i>he previously</i>      | /                        | p.1913-1923 Herbert George "H.G." Wells   |
| <i>m. Frances Crosbie</i> | m. Isabella Mackenzie    | historian, novelist & science fiction writer                                    |
| <i>b.bef.1803</i>         | (they met on board a     | <b>NOTE: In his 1909 novel "Tono Bungay", H.G. Wells introduces a character</b> |
| <i>d bef.1833, dau.</i>   | ship to Australia);      | <b>who "...had been maid to the widow of Sir Roderick Blenderhasset Impey,</b>  |
| <i>dau. of William</i>    | pianist                  | <b>some sort of governor or such-like portent in the East Indies..."</b>        |
| <i>Arthur Crosbie,</i>    | /                        | /   |
| <i>MP for Trim</i>        | m.1930 Henry Max Andrews | <b>H.G. WELLS</b>   |

>>> Digby Fairfield; served in the army; d. aged 25 on leave from India

>> Arthur Fairfield; Civil Servant with Board of Trade

>> Edward Fairfield; Civil Servant

>> Ellen Rowan b.c1818 d.Jun-Mar.1878 Tralee

>> Sophia Denny >>> >>> Sophia Catherine McGillicuddy; b.1813; of Day Place, Tralee; d.17.1.1890 (B 08, p.K 20)  
 d.1832 /  
 / m.22.5.1834 (1st cousin); Rev. Henry Denny; b.20.6.1802; of Churchill; Edu. Oxon (BA);  
 / Rector, Union of Ballinahaglish, Cloherbrien & Annagh, Co.Kerry; d.25.9.1877 (B 08, p.K 20)  
 m.26.8.1811  
 Daniel de Courcy McGillicuddy; of Tralee; b.?2.1775; High Sheriff Co.Kerry (p.K 19);  
 Grandson of Anne Blennerhassett & Denis "Donogh" McGillicuddy "The McGillicuddy of the Reeks" (p.K 19)  
 /  
 his 2nd marriage; he m.1st c13.9.1784 at Tralee (dsp); Elizabeth Blennerhassett; d.24.12.1807 Tralee (p.K 01, p.K 06)

>> Sir Edward >>>>>> >>> Sir Edward Denny, Bart.; 4th Baronet of Castle Moyle; b.c1796 d.1889; unm.  
 Denny  
 3rd Baronet >>> Rev. Robert Day >>> >>> Sir Robert Arthur Denny, 5th Bart. of Castle Moyle; b.23.7.1838  
 of Castle Moyle Denny b.21.8.1800 /  
 b.c1773 d.12.7.1864; m.1872 Jane Kirton (dsp)  
 / Edu. Oxon (MA)  
 of Tralee Castle,  
 Co.Kerry; Vicar of Shedfield, >>> Arabella Elizabeth > >>> Herbert John Denny Salmon b.28.11.1866  
 MP for Tralee Hampshire Denny d.11.6.1914 /  
 1818-9 & 1828-9; / >>> Robert Hugh Salmon b.4.3.1868  
 High Sheriff m.1st 14.6.1833 m.16.11.1864  
 Co.Kerry; Sarah Grant; of Rev. Frederick >>> Reginald Salmon b.7.12.1870  
 Provost of Tralee Soberton, Hants. Thomas Salmon;  
 1794 d.23.9.1839 Rector of Gittisham >>> Frederick Arthur Salmon b.16.8.1872  
 d.1.8.1831 / Devon;  
 / d.18.5.1906 >>> Frances Beatrice Salmon  
 m.26.5.1795 /  
 Elizabeth Day / >>> Eleanor Margaret Salmon  
 of Lohercannon; /  
 d.27.4.1828; / >>> Ethel Salmon  
 dau. of Judge /  
 Robert Day / >>> Margaret Lillian Salmon  
 /  
 >>> <son> Denny / >>> Alice Maud Salmon  
 /  
 >>> <son> Denny / >>> Flora Mildred Salmon  
 /  
 >>> <son> Denny m.2nd 30.1.1849  
 Frances Waller >>>>>> >>> Sir Cecil Edward Denny, 6th Bart.; b.14.12.1850;  
 >>> <son> Denny of Ospringe Capt. Inspector N.W.Mounted Police, Canada; unm.  
 d.6.1.1877;  
 >>> <son> Denny she m.2nd >>> Herbert Champerowne Denny; b.22.2.1852 d.17.2.1900; unm.  
 Rev. A. Boyd  
 >>> <son> Denny >>> Gertrude Honora Frances Denny  
 >>> <dau.> Denny >>> Frances Flora Denny; m.28.10.1879 Rev. James Arthur Kempe, curate of Lew Trenchard  
 >>> <dau.> Denny >>> Constance Mary Sophia Denny





**ASH HILL HOUSE**

Valerie Bary in "Houses of Kerry" (1994) tells us: "...Ash Hill House was built in 1700 by the Blennerhassetts, who lived there for a long time. It is probable that Thomas Blennerhasset & his wife, Alice (sic - in error for Avice) Spring, built this house and that their son, another Thomas Blennerhasset, then inherited..."; also that:

"...In 1814, a Mr.Mason was in residence and in 1821, a Mr.Eager (Eagar), but by 1842 it was a ruin..."; "The house stood in the South-East corner of Ash Hill townland, close to Arabella House & the Killarney Tralee road"

The above may well be true; however, a certain "William and Mary Blennerhasset of Ash Hill" had a daughter Sarah, b.1.1.1833 and bapt.5.1.1833 at Ballymacelligott;

Ash Hill House, Ballymacelligott is "...now a hole in the ground surrounded by trees, next to the school house..."

**THE FAMILY COMPACT**

In 1727 Thomas Blennerhasset was witness to the signing of an unusual "Family Compact" between the Denny family, Crosbie family, and the Ballyseedy branch of the Blennerhasset family (see B 01 for details)

**THE DANISH SILVER ROBBERY**

On 28.10.1730 ([KING] has Oct.1729) the Danish East Indianman "Golden Lyon" accidentally ran ashore on Ballyheigue Strand, to the north side of Ballyheigue Bay; 12 chests of silver bullion & coin were saved, amounting at that time to £15,966 9s 6d; The silver was moved ashore and taken to Ballyheigue House, home of Thomas Crosbie (MP for Dingle; & MP Kerry in 1709) & his wife Lady Margaret Barry, where the chests were placed in the cellar of an old stone tower near to the house & guarded by the Danish crew; Thomas Crosbie died soon after (Will pr.12.5.1731), "...from exposure & fatigue in saving crew and cargo" [BIFR p.302]; Soon after his death, on the night of 4/5.6.1731, the chests of silver were stolen by a party of armed raiders.

Several prominent local people came under suspicion, but most of those charged were acquitted and the Danish owners did not recover their silver; One local tradition has it that the silver was hidden under the floor of "Ardfert Abbey", also a seat of the Crosbie family

Col.Arthur Denny JP and Col.John Blennerhasset were assigned to investigate the robbery; Thomas Blennerhasset (d.1777) was, with Archdeacon Lauder, his wife & son, acquitted in 1734 at Tralee Court House of the charge of complicity in what became known as "The Danish Silver Robbery"; Arthur Crosbie (1688-1768) of Tubrid, Co.Kerry & Dublin (Clerk of the Peace & Commissioner of the Customs for Kerry), the uncle of Thomas Blennerhasset, was also acquitted (at Dublin, 1735) of complicity in the robbery; Arthur's brother Thomas Crosbie, of Banamore in North Kerry, a Colonel in the 19th Regt., was tried in 1735 and was outlawed; David Lawlor, mentioned in the Lawlor Family History as one of the leading perpetrators of the actual robbery, was also acquitted

Thomas >>>>>>>>>>>> John Blennerhasset; b.4.8.1728 Ballymacelligott; [FOSTER] has b.4.9.1728 in error; Blennerhasset dsp bef.1774 - not mentioned in the 1774 Will of his uncle "The Great Colonel John" Blennerhasset (this Will contains the Ballyseedy entail)

b. est.c1695  
d. shortly before  
25.1.1777 near Tralee  
[Ramsey's Waterford Chronicle 31.1.1777]  
[BIFR p.140] has  
d.1.2.1777 in error

of Tralee, Kerry 1736;  
of Listrim, Kerry; later  
of Ash Hill House,  
Ballymacelligott,  
Co.Kerry;  
of Limerick 1756-9;  
Resident JP (magistrate)  
Co.Kerry 1736;  
Surveyor of the Port  
of Limerick 1756

m.c1727  
Avice (Avis) Spring  
daughter of  
Walter Spring and  
Alice Blennerhasset  
(p.K 50),  
daughter of Robert  
Blennerhasset  
of Conway Castle,  
Killorglin (p.K 01)

>>>>>>>>>>>> Col. Arthur >>>>>>>>>> [BIFR p.141] says Col. Arthur "appears to have had issue, Edward Blennerhasset b.1755; d.4.11.1772 (dyp)" Blennerhasset NOTE: I have seen no evidence for this Edward and his 1755 d.o.b. conflicts with his parent's marriage date of 1764

b.5.8.1731 [FOSTER] has b.5.9.1731 in error; Resident JP Co.Kerry 1785, and probably 1797; "...a man of strict honour, particular, prudent..."; of Arabella House, in the townland of Arabella (a.k.a. Arbela), Ballymacelligott (which house he built c1740-50, named after his 1st wife, the townland taking its name from the house) & the lands of Ballymacelligott; In 1799 he succeeded to entailed Ballyseedy estate (restricted to a male heir) including Ballyseedy House, inheriting from 2nd cousin (also his uncle, being his mother's brother) the other Arthur BH (1719-1799; B 03); His 1st wife d.1795; remarried in 1800 at Wells (nr Bath, Somerset), settling at Bath about that time; of 6 (not 8) Russell St., Walcot, Bath 1805-180(9?); shortly before 6.3.1807 he purchased 24 Circus, Walcot, Bath from Richard Milford & resided there 1807-10; his widow Mary continued at 24 Circus until 1821; "The Circus" (aka "Royal Circus"), designed by John Woods Sr & Jr, is one of the most admired buildings of Bath; NOTE: Bath Poor Rate books record his house in the Circus as No.25 from 1807-11 and No.24 from 1812-21; this is odd as it was No.24 when purchased c1807 and at the time of his Will in 1805

He d.20.11.1810 in his house at 24 Circus, Bath ["Bath Journal" 26.11.1810] ["Bath Chronicle" 29.11.1810] ["The Cambrian" 1.12.1810 p.3] [GM Dec.1810 p.594 & Jan 1811 p.183]; bur. 27.11.1810 in crypt of St.Swithin's Walcot (interred row 10 grave 6, against the East wall, as marked on an early crypt floor-plan held at Somerset Record Office, Taunton [ref: D/P/WAL/SW/3/5/7]; there is no inscription for him but on the plan his grave is indicated "Blennerhasset 1810"; he shares this grave with his cousin Arthur Blennerhasset of Ballyseedy who d.1815 (B 11) & that Arthur Blennerhasset's sister Frances Morris d.1818 (B 19); Will dated 15.6.1805, codicil 6.3.1807, pr.13.12.1810 London [PCC]; described in his Will as "...now residing in the City of Bath..."

When Col. Arthur Blennerhasset died in 1810, the entailed Ballyseedy estates & house were inherited, not by the heir of his younger brother Thomas Blennerhasset (b.1736 - as would be expected under an entail but who appears to have been disinherited) but by his cousin Arthur Blennerhasset (d.1815) of Elm Grove, Ballyseedy, who as a result received "...an increase in fortune of £3000 per annum; In the 1774 Will of his uncle "The Great Col. John" BH, Col.Arthur is incorrectly described as the "only son" of his father Thomas BH (d.1777); this presumably to prevent his younger brother Thomas inheriting

MP Kerry 1775-76 & 1776-83 in Irish Parliament; "The election of 1775/6 was a memorable one in Kerry annals, being a trial of strength of Commoners against Lords, narrowly won by the former, after an unexampled struggle of six weeks' duration, for there was then no bounds set to the length of a contest..."; Col. Arthur Blennerhasset won the seat with a majority of 100; c1745-56 he was Captain in the Kerry Militia, in a Regt. of Foot (Regt. name unknown) commanded by Col. John Blennerhasset (B 01) "The Great Col. John"; Arthur was himself Col. commanding the "Kerry Legion" regiment of volunteers c1779-82 (also known as the "Palatine" or Ballymacelligott corps), mostly farmers of Palatine descent (also called "Germans") with a few other farmers and artisans; Their uniform was "Scarlet, faced black, edged white, white buttons"; Regimental Chaplain in 1779 was "Parson Jack", Rev. John BH, Rector of Tralee 1765-1803 (p.K 07); Officers included Maj.William Blennerhasset (B 10) of Elm Grove, Ballyseedy & Capt. Thomas Blennerhasset (K 07) son of "Parson Jack"; In 1782 he undertook to raise regiment of Fencibles for defence of Kerry & in 1783 the 1st Munster Provincial Regt. of Foot (Fencibles) was formed under his command, as Lt.-Col.

**ARABELLA HOUSE (Arabela, Arbela) with its demesne and the lands of Ballymacelligott**

on Arthur BH's death in 1810, Arabella House passed to his wife Mary, for her lifetime, then on her death in 1821 to Arthur's 2nd cousin Frances Blennerhasset Browne (B 01) of Riverstown, Co.Cork who did not inherit her father's Ballyseedy estate because of the entail, it passing to her male cousin; from Frances Blennerhasset Browne, Arabella passed to her son Rev. John Browne of Cheltenham (B 01); Arabella House & townland, also Ahane, Ballymacelligott, were leased by Arthur Blennerhasset to "his kinsman" William Rowan (B 04) 8.12.1801; Dr Bottom resided 1812; Frances Peete resided before 1832; he & his son Hastings F. Peete also at & paid rent for Arabella & part of Coolnadead, 1853; The Peete family acquired ownership following the Irish land acts of 1885 etc; Arabella house sold by the Peete family to the Finegan family in 1970; documents relating to Arabella are in "Leighton Hall Collection" of Browne family papers (823, box 25, bundle 19) at Shropshire Archives, Shrewsbury, England

m.1st 1764 Co.Cloyne; 1st cousin (issue, but see qualifying NOTE: above)

Arabella Blennerhasset (B 04) b.21.12.1726;

d.21.1.1795 or 27.1.1795, [BIFR p.141] gives both dates;

after whom "Arabella House" (built for her by her 2nd husband), and thus the townland of Arabella (a.k.a. Arbela) gained its name;

Her 2nd marriage; She had m.1st Richard (Thomas) Ponsoby MP; of Croto, Co.Kerry

m.2nd 9.1.1800 St.Cuthbert's Church, Wells, Somerset

(Margaret) Mary Coghlan b.c1759; of Wells, Somerset 1800;

dau. of James Coghlan of Cloghan House, Queen's Co. (now Laois); widow of George L'Estrange, of Moystown, King's Co. (now Offaly); of 24 Circus, Bath, Somerset 1807-1821 (but see NOTE above about house No's 24 & 25 recorded in the [Bath Poor Rate books]); she d.7.11.1821 at 24 Circus, Bath; [Bath Journal <date?>] has d.12.11.1821 & [BP] has d.6.11.1821 in error); bur. St.Swithin's Walcot 14.11.1821 (her grave is probably in the crypt, but I could not identify it; perhaps she is in her husband's grave (row 10 grave 6, against the East wall, as marked on an early crypt floor-plan held at Somerset Record Office, Taunton [ref: D/P/WAL/SW/3/5/7]; Will pr.10.12.1821 London [PCC] (dsp)

Mary Coghlan was sister of Capt./Lieut.-Col. Edmund Coghlan (66th Regt. of Foot; Lieut-Governor of Chester, b.1761 d.1828 London) who m. Amelia Bageley (of Dover, d.1833, her 2nd marriage) & had an only child Edmund Blennerhasset Coghlan, of St.Clement, Sandwich, Kent; d.10.2.1832 at Deal, unm. [TIMES 13.2.1832], Will dated 29.4.1829, pr.25.2.1832 London [PCC]; Capt. Edmund Coghlan was, with Richard Frankland, of Great Island, Cork, trustee and executor of the Will of Arthur Blennerhasset in 1810

Mary Coghlan also had brothers James Coghlan, Lt.-Col. Andrew Coghlan (who m. Sarah <???>) & Charles Coghlan; Mary Coghlan had sisters Clarinda Coghlan (who m. <???> Usher), Catherine Coghlan (who m. <???> Keating), <???> Coghlan (who m. <???> Biggs) & <???> Coghlan (who m. <???> Brereton and had daughters Catherine Letitia Brereton & Mary Sarah Coghlan Brereton); one sister was "Miss Coghlan of Bath" whose portrait Gainsborough attempted 3 times to paint (2nd in 1772) but with which he was never satisfied ["Coghlan Records" pp.252-3; TIG vol.4 Issue 6 Nov.1973 p.546]

NOTE: Thomas Gainsborough (b.1727 d.1788) resided at Bath 1758/9-1774, at 14 Abbey Churchyard, 8 Anslie's Belvedere and 17 Circus; Edith Sitwell in her 1932 book "Bath" p.280 has him in error at 24 Circus, the house later occupied by Arthur & Margaret Blennerhasset

(Margaret) Mary Coghlan m.3rd (in two ceremonies)...

to Sir (Valentine) Richard Quin (no issue); 1st Baronet (cr.8.6.1781); Baron Adare of Adare, Co.Limerick (cr.31.7.1800); Viscount Mount-Earl (cr.1816); Viscount Adare (cr.5.2.1822); 1st Earl of Dunraven & Mount-Earl (cr.5.2.1822) b.30.7.1752; d.24.8.1824 (Will 24.8.1824, pr.10.12.1824 [PCC]; Edu. Magdalen Coll. Oxford; MP (Ire.P.) Killmallock 1799-1800; b.30.7.1752; of Bathwick, Bath, Somerset 1816; this was his 2nd marriage (he having m.1st 24.8.1777 Lady Frances Muriel Fox Strangeways d.7.5.1814, dau. of 1st Earl of Ilchester; issue 2 dau. & 2 sons, inc. Windham Henry Quinn, 2nd Earl); (Gentleman's Magazine March 1816; Cork Morning Chronicle 13.3.1816; Ennis Chronicle 16.3.1816; "Complete Peerage" vol. IV, pp 547-8; "Catholicism in Bath vol. II: Registers, 1780-1825")

1st ceremony (R.C.) 24.2.1816 at Bath "...in the presence of the Servants..." ("Bath Journal" 4.3.1816)

2nd ceremony (C.of E.) 26.2.1816 at St.Mary's Chapel, Queen Square, Walcot, Bath (this Chapel demolished 1875); ("Bath Journal" 4.3.1816; "Cork Morning Chronicle" 13.3.1816)

NOTE: this reversed the legal convention of the time for mixed marriages - the C.of E. ceremony should by law have been held first

**ARABELLA HOUSE, Ballymacelligott**

>> Thomas >>>>>>>>>>>>>>> >>> From Thomas Blennerhassett of Ash Hill probably descend the "disinherited" Blennerhassett family of Ash Hill, Gortatlea and Blackbriar Blackbriar **continued on page G 1 of: Blennerhassett of GORTATLEA & BLACKBRIAR, Co.Kerry**

of Ash Hill House, Ballymacelligott; "The Disinherited"

The third son, b.18.12.1736 (d.o.b. from [FRD vol.2 p.692] & [BJB/OKR vol.1 p.49]); probably married c1754 aged about 18 years; His wife's name is uncertain, but may be "Miss Massy (a.k.a. Massey), of Co.Limerick..." as stated in "The Bernards of Kerry" by J.H.Bernard Dublin 1922, pp 6-7 [BK] Recent suggestions that she may have been "Mary Jane Moriarty" or "Annie Chute of family of Chute Hall, Tullygarron, Ballymacelligott" are definitely untrue, but unfortunately both these names have been repeated by others on their family trees and in data entered into the [LDS IGI]

Thomas was third son of Thomas Blennerhassett & Avice Spring of Ash Hill House (p.K 50 & p.G 01); When his elder brother Col.Arthur BH (B 09; who succeeded to the Ballyseedy estate 1799) died at Bath in 1810, aged 79, the entailed Ballyseedy estate was inherited, not by his brother Thomas Blennerhassett or Thomas' heirs, as would be expected under "usual" rules governing inheritance of entailed property, but by his 2nd cousin Arthur Blennerhassett (d.1815 - B 11) son of William Blennerhassett of Elm Grove, Ballyseedy; Thomas (who if living would have been aged 73 when elder bro. Arthur died) was deliberately excluded from the unusually detailed entail contained in the 19.11.1774 Will of "The Great Colonel John" Blennerhassett, the entail stating that his brother Arthur was "an only son", thus implying that Thomas had been disowned by the family or perhaps that his children were illegitimate; Thus Thomas and his heirs were disinherited, his descendants losing all right to Ballyseedy; This agrees with oral tradition passed down in the Gortatlea family, that they descend from "the eldest son of the eldest son" but were "...done out of the property..."

Mary Hickson [HICKSON/OKR vol.2 1874 p.56] wrote that Thomas BH of Ballymacelligott (d.1777), the father of this Thomas (b.1736) & Arthur (1731-1810), "...has no descendants male or female living in Ireland"

however: "Burkes Irish Family Records" 1976 states that this Thomas Blennerhassett (b.1736): "...may have been ancestor of BH of Gortatlea and Blackbriar..."

and also: "...is said to have married without his Father's consent and been disinherited. He is believed to have been the father of Arthur Blennerhassett of Gortatlea and Blackbriar". **This connection is probable but remains unproven.**

The story of the disinheritance, told to this day in varying forms by different branches of the Gortatlea & Blackbriar families, was documented in 1934 by William Day Blennerhassett of New Zealand (p.G 33) who heard it from his father & grandmother; It tells of a Blennerhassett eldest son and heir to the Ballyseedy estate who eloped with an Irish Catholic girl to France & married her there. Doing this is caused him to be disowned and disinherited, the second son becoming heir to the entailed Ballyseedy estates, the eldest given an income for life and two farms, at Gortatlea and Blackbriar, and "...thereafter the Ballyseedy family washed their hands of him..."; Closely associated with that story is another legend, that an eldest son of Ballyseedy fell ill with fever & the family did not permit his wife to see the sick man. On being informed of her husband's death, she is said to have knelt on the steps of Ballyseedy and cursed the family, "...that the heir apparent to Ballyseedy may never see the reigning heir with a grey head..."; and so it was for six generations, until the family became extinct in the male line. Yet another version has the curse "...that the heir shall always die before his 21st birthday...", which is not at all the same thing; One version of the tale has the Lady of Ballyseedy House who refused entry to the widow as being named Chute (presumably of the family of Chute Hall) but as no Chutes married into the Ballyseedy Blennerhassett family, only the Blennerville Blennerhassett family, this cannot be so

William Day Blennerhassett (p.G 33), in his interesting memorandum of family history, wrote that the Ash Hill, Gortatlea & Blackbriar family (G 1 etc) to which he belonged descend from this "French" marriage, but part of the story does not fit well with what we know of Thomas; Thomas Blennerhassett (b.1736), although almost certainly ancestor of this branch of the family, was not an eldest son of Ballyseedy but a cousin who became heir apparent only under rules governing succession of entailed property. Also, the disinherited family remained strongly Church of Ireland, as in the main it does to this day, so if the marriage was to a Catholic girl the children were not raised in her faith

Significant parts of the story better fit John Blennerhassett Jr. born c1754 (eldest son & heir of John Blennerhassett of Ballyseedy & g.son of "The Great Colonel John", B 01) who died of illness aged 20 years at Nice, France, a few days before 14.12.1774; certainly "...the family not permitting the wife to see her husband..." indicates that the couple were very young at the time; However, this John Blennerhassett cannot be ancestor of the disinherited Ash Hill, Gortatlea & Blackbriar family as the dates do not fit, he was not born early enough; Other elements of the story do fit Thomas Blennerhassett (b.1736), who is said to have caused himself and his descendants to be disinherited by "...marrying without his Father's consent..."; **My strong suspicion is that two distinct legends of "inappropriate" marriages within the Ballyseedy Blennerhassett family have become confused over time, later retold as one and the same story**

NOTE: **Genealogist Brian Fitzelle (G 27) makes enquiry about this descent in TIG vol.4 Issue 5 Nov.1972, p.530**

>> Margaret Blennerhassett b.c1740 d.25.11.1827; m.c10.11.1759 at Limerick; Lt./Capt. Thomas Sheldon, of Maj.Gen. Forbes' Regt. (38th Foot); d.1804; of New Court, Lugwardine, Herefordshire; & Aberton (Abberton), Worcestershire ("Faulkner's Dublin Journal" Tues.6.11.1759-Sat.10.11.1759)

? >> perhaps(?) another dau. Elizabeth Blennerhassett b.1738 Tralee who m. Isaac Bernard b.7.10.1734 d.1812 "an old man" (but presently I have her in a later generation, on p.G 1)

**THE DISINHERITANCE, from "Old Tom" Blennerhassett...**

Thomas "Old Tom" Blennerhassett (c1884/6-1971; G 3) of Gortatlea was within the family acknowledged as the repository of Blennerhassett lore & tradition; Sadly, much of what he knew appears to have gone unrecorded, all I know of being a letter to Mrs Pat Lavelle (1965) & two letters to myself (Bill Jehan 1969); Writing 1969 on the subject of his own Gortatlea branch of the family, he relates:- "...we come from the eldest son of the eldest son down along..."; of his ancestor Serjeant Thomas Arthur Blennerhassett he tells that "...his father's name was Arthur and he also a brother Arthur who married a Fenian and was done out of the property for doing so..."; Serjeant Thomas Arthur Blennerhassett did have a brother Arthur, but it cannot have been his bro. Arthur who was disinherited; the disinheritance occurred earlier, before Gortatlea was separated from the Ballyseedy estate

NOTE: Serjeant Thomas Arthur Blennerhassett farmed Gortatlea jointly with his brother Arthur Blennerhassett, as their father Arthur had done before them; It would appear "Old Tom" was missing a generation, understandable considering the passage of time, but we are left with a question, "Why did "Old Tom" believe the name of the disinherited Blennerhassett was Arthur when the evidence points to it being Thomas?" perhaps he was thinking of Thomas' son Arthur Blennerhassett (P.g 1), who married Emily Williams and was the first head of the Gortatlea and Blackbriar farming families? This Arthur Blennerhassett d.c1840 (not 1826), his Will proved 1841 (no copy of the Will is known to survive), the family tomb erected in his memory 10.5.1840 by his four sons may still standing in Ballyseedy Old Churchyard (grave No.81 on Noel Griffin's list)

NOTE: >----> Agnes Blennerhassett Rogers is not mentioned in her father's 1708 Will, but her husband is; she is mentioned in her father-in-law's 1709 Will

>> Agnes Blennerhassett / m.c1706 Robert Rogers of Ashgrove "in the great island" Co.Cork; d.1722 (Will 1709); Merchant MP Co.Kerry

>> John Rogers of Ashgrove, Co.Cork; High Sheriff Co.Cork 1733; d.c26.3.1767 (dsp) "at his seat, Ashgrove, in the great island" ("Finn's Leinster Journal" No.19, 25-28 March 1767)

>> Robert Rogers of Ashgrove; d.30.1.1788 "...at an advanced age..." (dsp) ["Ramsey's Waterford Chronicle" 31.1.1788]

>> William Rogers / >> Anne Rogers

>> Agnes Rogers >>>>> >>>> dau. <??> Frankland; d.15.1.1789 "at the seat of Col. Blennerhassett" ("Arabella", Ballymacelligott); of Ashgrove | m. <??> Trench

m. Dr. Richard Frankland >>> Richard Frankland of Ashgrove, Co.Cork; barrister-at-law; d.??.1811 NOTE: a trustee of the Will of Arthur Blennerhassett (d.1799) of Ballyseedy & Bath (B 03); with Sir John Godfrey (B 11) & Rev. James Archibald Hamilton (B 03), m.29.10.1806 St.Anne's church, Shandon, Co.Cork (2nd cousin); Philippa Godfrey; dau of Agnes Blennerhassett & Sir William Godfrey, 1st Baronet of Bushfield, Co.Kerry (B 11)

>> Pierce "Piercy" Blennerhassett (alias Hasset) b.c1701 Ballyseedy, Co.Kerry; d. shortly after 1732 (believed dsp); Edu. TCD (Pensioner 1719-20) & Middle Temple, admitted 1732; Barrister-at-Law; a tenant of Thomas, 4th Viscount Kenmare, in 1755

>> Robert Blennerhassett; living 1713; d.bef.1736; of Listrim, Kerry (dsp)

MISPLACED Mayor of Cork 1718

**ELM GROVE (Elmgrove), Ballyseedy, near Tralee, Co.Kerry**

b.c1705; of Elm Grove, Ballyseedy, nr Tralee, Co.Kerry; which house he remodelled, this work being completed by his son William Blennerhassett Jr c1788; [HK] tells us that in 1776 "...Young had noted the many improvements on the land made by William Blennerhassett...";

Resident JP for Kerry 1736; High Sheriff Co.Kerry 1739 (& also perhaps 1761 although [BIFR p.140] has this as his son William, which may be correct); Served on Kerry Grand Jury 1747, with brother John BH & nephew John BH; Major in the Kerry Militia c1745-56, in Regt. of Foot (name of Regt. unknown) commanded by Col. John Blennerhassett (B 01) "The Great Colonel John"; there is a reference to William Blennerhassett in [Belfast Newsletter 12.12.1738], not seen

d.27.4.1785 "at his seat at Elm Grove"; aged 80 years; bur.30.4.1785 "...in the family vault at Ballyseedy..."; ["Limerick Chronicle" 5.5.1785] & [HC 9.5.1785]; Will dated 27.10.1783; codicil 26.4.1783; pr.1785; Arthur Blennerhassett (B 03) of London, d.1799, was an executor;

m.1732 at Cork (one source has m.1718 in error); Mary Morley / d.16.3.1775, of pleurisy [AR Ballyseedy bible]; dau. of Alderman John Morley, who was Mayor of Cork 1718

Major in "Kerry Legion" corps. of volunteers 1779, under Col. Arthur Blennerhassett of Arabella (B 09); JP (Magistrate) Co.Kerry 1797; Collector of Customs, Tralee; [BIFR p.140] has him High Sheriff of Kerry 1761, but this may perhaps have been his father William Blennerhassett Sr.; There is a reference (not yet seen) in the ["Belfast Newsletter" 17.3.1761]

He completed the remodelling of Elm Grove started by his father William BH Sr; [HK p.107] tells us that in 1788, three years after his father died, "...building on flat land near the River Lee, of an immense house, was nearly finished..."; this appears to be not a new build, but a rebuilding of the existing house "Elm Grove", built in 1721; see NOTE on Elm Grove & Ballyseedy Castle (B 13)

On his property c1789 was a small flour mill, this perhaps identical with the building, now a ruin, on the south bank of the river Lee at Ballycarty; this now containing the largest diameter ivy plant stem I have ever seen...

m.25.4.1765 Carragline church, Co.Cork; Catherine Johnson; of Cork; The 25 is from [AR Ballyseedy bible], but that record has year 1763 in error "...with a fortune of £8000..."; dau. of Noble Johnson of Cork City ["Faulkner's Dublin Journal" 27.4.1765 - 30.4.1765]; [BIFR p.140] has m.22.4.1765;

d.19.4.1810 at Blennerville, nr Tralee [Cork Morning Chronicle 27.4.1810], ["General Advertiser" 1.5.1810] & ["Ennis Chronicle" 2.5.1810]

**ARTHUR BLENNERHASSETT (b. 1779 d.1815)**

b.4.12.1779 Tralee ["Hibernian Chronicle" 9.12.1779] (not b.17.1.1789); of "Elm Grove", Ballyseedy; also of 12 George Street, Bath, Somerset 1811-12; afterwards Portland Place, Bath until his death in 1815

NOTE: Portland Place is a terrace of large townhouses (perhaps No.9 Portland Place ?) in 1810 Arthur succeeded to the entailed Ballyseedy estate, inheriting from his cousin Col.Arthur Blennerhassett (1731-1810) (B 09) receiving "...an increase of fortune of £3000 per annum..." [GM Jan 1811 p.183]

>> William >>>>>>>>>>>>>>>> John Blennerhassett, eldest son; b.post1733; d. at Tralee, shortly before 19.1.1762 "...of a wound he received in a duel..."; The duel was with James Mahony, fought at night in one of the large rooms of the Tralee market house; It was reported that a lantern had been placed behind John Blennerhassett, to attract his opponent's aim; Death reported in "Faulkner's Dublin Journal" of 19-23.1.1762; Mahony was arrested & charged with murder ["A Guide to Blennerville and the Dingle Peninsula" c1990, by Frank Blennerhassett (G 35) ] [BIFR p.140] has him in error as "d. possibly at Nice, France 1774"; It was his 1st cousin John Blennerhassett Jr, son of John Blennerhassett of Ballyseedy, who d.1774 at Nice - see B 01)

>> <??> Blennerhassett; d. in infancy

>> Maj. William >>>>>>>>>>>>>> John Blennerhassett; b.c1769/70; of Elm Grove, Ballyseedy (also see B 05, B 10 & B 16) Blennerhassett Jr / of Elm Grove, Edu. TCD (SC 1784, BA c1790, MA 1792); MP (Knight of the Shire) for Co.Kerry 1790-94; Ballyseedy; With his brother-in-law John Gustavus Crosbie, he was steward at Tralee Races in 1791; b.post 1733 The Tralee Race Company has a trophy (found in a Dublin antique shop 1992) engraved: "Tralee Races 1791, John Blennerhassett & John Gustavus Crosbie, Stewards" (b.est.c1735); / d.28.1.1797 d. the night of 6.7.1794 at Mallow, Co.Cork "...where he went for the recovery of his health..." Elm Grove aged 24; unm; no Will, administration granted 1800 ["Hibernian Chronicle" 7.7.1794] ["Ennis Chronicle" 10.7.1794] ["Anthologia Hibernica July 1794 p.79]; ["Clare Journal" 6.2.1797]; [MO] calls him in error "John Blennerhassett of Mallow in Ireland" NOTE: there are other Mallow references are on pp. IRE 9 & LL 1 [GM Feb.1797 vol. LXVII pt.I, p.173]

>> Catherine >>>>>>>>>>>>>> Mary Arabella Catherine Crosbie; bap.13.9.1797 at Elm Grove, Ballyseedy; d.young Blennerhassett (not Mary - she appears as "Catherine" in Baptism register & in her g.father's 1783 Will, also in [BIFR pp.140, 298]); b.1.2.1777 [AR Ballyseedy bible]; bap.6.2.1777 Tralee (St.John's C.of I); d.post1840s / m.1st 22.9.1796 Tralee; [BIFR pp.140, 298] has her m.1.10.1796 in error; Col.John Gustavus Crosbie d.1797 (B 05); of Dunloe (Thurloe) Castle & Tubrid, Ardfer, Co.Kerry;

High Sheriff 1770; MP Kerry 1795-7; Col. 22nd Foot; Capt.-Com. Kenmare Cavalry (1796); son of Mary Blennerhassett & Lancelot Crosbie of Tubrid (B 04 & B 05); Steward at Tralee Races 1791 (jointly with his brother-in-law John Blennerhassett; see below & B 05) [BIFR pp.140, 298] shows him as (dsp), in error

m.2nd ?.4.1798 George Rowan >>>>>>>>>>>>>> Catherine Frances Rowan JP; of Rathanny, / Ballymacelligott m.1815 Samuel Raymond; of Ballyloughrane

[FOSTER] & [BIFR p.298] have Rathanny, Co.Limerick, in error; and she was living there as a widow in 1840s; NOTE: In 1850s Rathanny House was occupied by "R. Blennerhassett"

>> Arthur >>>>>>>>>>>>>>>> Capt. Arthur >>>>>>>>>>>>>> Arthur Blennerhassett; b.c2.6.1825 at Dublin; announcement in ["The Constitution" 2.6.1825]; Blennerhassett / Blennerhassett d. bef.21.8.1826 "...at Ballyseedy House, Co.Kerry, the infant son and heir of Arthur Blennerhassett Esq...";

MP; b.1.1.1799 / MP; b.1.1.1799 (obit. in "Southern Reporter" newspaper 26.8.1826); bur.21.8.1826 at Ballyseedy at Elm Grove; / NOTE: [BIFR p.142] confuses this burial with that of Arthur Blennerhassett of Gortatlea, husband of Emily Williams (p.G 01)

[BIFR p.141] / [BIFR p.141] has b.1800; >> Henry Deane Grady Blennerhassett; unm.; of Ballyseedy; b.c1826/8 d.1.1.1850 "in the 24th year of his age" [MC 9.1.1850] has d.3.1.1850 at Edu.TCD (SC1816 / Edu.TCD (SC1816 Ballyseedy House; In Ballyseedy Church, under a stained glass window (St.Luke Ch.VII, V.11-16), is a brass plate erected to his memory BA1820) High / by his brother Thomas Blennerhassett (B 14); of 46 Clarges Street, Westminster (London) in 1841, with his father who was there as MP

**B 12** Arthur BH d.1.11.1815 at his house in Portland Place, Bath age35; bur.9.11.1815 in crypt of St.Swithin's Walcot (Row 10 grave 6, against the East wall, as marked on an early crypt floor-plan held at Somerset Record Office, Taunton [ref: D/P/WAL.SW/3/5/7] with him are interred his sister Frances Morris d.1818 (B 19) & cousin Arthur Blennerhasset of Arabella d.1810 (B 09); Obits: [**Bath Journal 6.11.1815**] [**Bath Chronicle 9.11.1815**] [**Limerick Evening Post 11.11.1815**] [**GM Dec.1815 p.637**]; "...A gentleman who possessed considerable landed property, the produce of which he expended with liberal hospitality, rendering those around him grateful and happy. A numerous young family are left to regret the loss of an indulgent parent, and an afflicted widow to bewail the demise of an affectionate husband in the meridian of life, though long a martyr to the sufferings of a chronic disorder"; At death in 1815 was "...of Elm Grove, Co.Kerry..." also "...formerly of Ballyseedy..."

In "Monument Wood" behind Ballyseedy Castle was a stone monument, now fallen; only 3 moss covered stones remained c1994 and in 2008), one of which has the inscription: **"Arthur Blennerhasset Esq of Ballyseedy - Born Decbr 4th 1779 - Died at Bath Novbr 1st 1815"**; It is believed other stones, now lost, from this monument had inscriptions, but no record

His house "Elm Grove" was renamed "Ballyseedy" by his son Arthur Blennerhasset at the time of the 1821 remodelling, when "old" Ballyseedy house (at the western end of Ballyseedy Wood), ceased to be habitable and fell into ruin [**RM pp.22, 142**]; Elm Grove was again renamed, to "Ballyseedy Castle" at the time of the 1880s remodelling; **HK p.107 in error took Elm Grove & "new" Ballyseedy to be different houses, stating that Elm Grove was "almost opposite Ballyseedy Castle gates", "is believed to have burned down towards the end of the 18th century" and "No trace remains"** The latest date I have seen the name "Elm Grove" or "Elmgrove" in use on any document is 1819; 18th century maps show the location of Elm Grove to be identical with that of the present "new" Ballyseedy Castle, particularly clearly on maps of the roads to/from Tralee in Taylor and Skinner's "Maps of the Roads of Ireland, surveyed 1777" (pub. 1778); also on General Vallancey's "Military Survey of Ireland" pub.1786; These maps place "old" Ballyseedy Castle at the location of the present ruins, and indicate it remained an occupied Blennerhasset seat in 1777-86

**m.4.12.1797** Portpatrick, Wigtownshire, Scotland [**AR Ballyseedy bible**]; **Dorcas Twiss** of Cordell House & Anna, Co.Kerry; [**"Leinster Journal"**] reported the marriage as m.27.1.1798, [**GM**] as April 1798, both in error; she was b.c1775/7

his wife Dorcas d.2.8.1822 at Lakeville, near Killarney; bur.7.8.1822 Ballyseedy

**In Ballyseedy Church under a stained glass window (St.John Ch. IV, V.46-53) are a pair of brass plates, one inscribed "Dorcas Blennerhasset Died 2nd August 1822 aged 47 years" & the other "Erected by her brother Lt. Col. Francis Barry Blennerhasset of Ballyseedy"; The second plate is misplaced, Francis Barry was her son, not her brother; This plate has been accidentally swapped during building renovation with a plate inscribed "Erected by her son Thomas Blennerhasset" now installed in error under a plate dedicated to her daughter Margaret Sheldon Blennerhasset**

#### **ARTHUR BLENNERHASSETT (b. 1799 d.1843)**

In 1821, 100 years after his house Elm Grove" had been new built in 1721, Arthur Blennerhasset completed improvements begun by his father, also named Arthur BH; A gothic north wing was added, with turrets & battlements in the fashion of the day, the house "Elm Grove" henceforth known known as "Ballyseedy House", the original "old" Ballyseedy at the opposite (West) end of Ballyseedy wood having fallen into ruin. Two identical "foundation stones" in exterior walls of the new north wing display a shield with chevron and "A\* B 1821"; 1821 is also the year of Arthur's marriage to Frances Grady but the stones carry only his initials, not those of his wife, so clearly commemorate the building; they may be a memorial to his father Arthur, who commenced the work but died in 1815; The work shows similarities with Glin House, seat of the Knights of Glin, remodelled <when?> in similar fashion by John Francis FitzGerald, 24th Knight of Glin (b.1791 d.1854) and immediately renamed "Glin Castle" (p.R 05); **THE DUEL:** In 1832 Arthur BH fought a duel with Maurice O'Connell (b.1803 d.1853) of Derrynane, a Politician & Lawyer (MP Co.Clare 1831-2; MP Tralee 1832-53; eldest son of Daniel O'Connell, "The Liberator"). The cause was a dispute over Arthur BH canvassing voters, who had previously promised support for Maurice O'Connell, asking them to support his rival candidate Sir Edward Denny; Maurice O'Connell called at Ballyseedy during the evening of 29-Nov-1832, leaving a letter with Mrs Frances Blennerhasset; For involving his wife, Arthur challenged O'Connell to a duel; They met with pistols at 5 am on 30-Nov-1832 but neither man was hurt; this event was reported in [**TIMES 6.12.1832**] and [**"Dublin Evening Mail"**].

**NOTE: Another Blennerhasset - O'Connell duel took place 18.1.1813 at Tralee, between Richard Blennerhasset of Blennerv (b.1772 d.1817) & John O'Connell of Grenagh (1778-1833), brother of Dan O'Connell "The Liberator" (p.K 20)**

Arthur BH was reported [**TIMES 8.2.1843**] to have died on 23-Jan-1843 at Nantes, France but inside Ballyseedy Church is a brass plate under a stained glass window (St.Mark Ch.5 v.25-34), erected in his memory by his nephew Arthur Blennerhasset; this plate has him died 3-Jan-1843, probably correct as would assume the family would know correct date. Arthur and Frances are buried in Ballyseedy old graveyard <which tomb?> .

a Gold snuff box from Ballyseedy Castle, owned by Knight of Glin at Glin Castle but originally "...belonging to the flamboyant Arthur Blennerhasset of Ballyseedy Castle, Co.Kerry...", was lot 285 of about 300 lots, auctioned at Dublin 2.5.2001 by HOK Fine Art, to benefit Castle Leslie Restoration Fund; Catalogued as: "A gold snuff box, marks illegible, possibly Indian, the lid inset with a gold Queen Victoria coronation medallion (of 1838), the lid inscribed "Arthur Blennerhasset of Ballyseedy, MP, County of Kerry", 87 cms wide", it sold for £4000; some lots were from Castle Leslie but others, like this, were donated to benefit the fund

**A watercolour of Ballyseedy Castle as it was following the 1821 remodelling, showing BH arms & crest above and below "The Seat of Arthur Blennerhasset Esq MP Co.Kerry", was formerly at Ballyseedy Castle; now owned privately, a photograph is in the collection of The Knight of Glin at Glin Castle; On the frame back is: "Ballyseedy C.1830 before the refacing by J.F.Fuller in the 1880ies", but c1830 is wrong, as Arthur was Conservative MP for Co.Kerry 1837-41 so is of that date**

m.31.1.1821 at Marrion Square, Dublin [<?> newspaper of 2.2.1821]; Frances Grady (a.k.a. Frances Deane Grady; a.k.a. O'Grady) b.c1800; They were married by the Archbishop of Tuam; Frances was the dau. of

Henry Deane Grady of Mount Eagle, Stillorgan, Co.Dublin & of Lodge, Co.Limerick (MP Limerick City 1801-2) & his wife Dorcas; Frances d. Feb/Mar1834 giving birth to her 9th child Frances Annabella Blennerhasset (B 14); obit. in [KEP 8.3.1834], a fine rectangular half length portrait miniature on ivory (c1821, as young lady before marriage) by Charles Foot Tayler (active 1818-1853) was offered for sale 2008, for £1100

Sheriff Kerry 1821 Succeeded 1815 to "Elm Grove" (known from 1821 as "Ballyseedy House") and the Ballyseedy estate; in 1821 of Ballyludy, Co.Cork

[**"Cork Morning Intelligence"** 3.2.1821]; and of Ballyseedy 1829 [KEP 4.7.1829]

Conservative MP Co.Kerry 1837-41 (defeating sitting member Mullins, a radical reformer; Arthur BH himself defeated in 1841); of 46 Clarges St., London 1841

Capt. Kerry Co. Yeomanry, Elm Grove & Blennerville unit, of which Thomas Arthur BH of Gortalea (p.G 1) was Permanent Serjeant

son of the 2nd Viscount Ferrard and 2nd Baron Oriel; brother of 10th Viscount Massereene & 3rd Viscount Ferrard

>>> Dorcas Blennerhasset; b.bef.1824 (dsp) m.27.5.1845 at Ballyseedy House; Robert Conway Hurly, A.M., J.P.; of Bridge House, Tralee & of Glenduffe, O'Brennan, Tralee b.2.6.1815 d.11.9.1870; of Bridge House, Tralee & of Glenduffe, O'Brennan, Tralee; Barrister at Law; Mem. of Munster Bar (p.K55) Marriage performed by his uncle and namesake, Rev. Robert Conway Hurly; There is a wall plaque memorial to his memory inside St.John's Church (C.of I.), Ashe Street, Tralee; Robert m.2nd 1860 Annie Comyns, dau. of William Comyns of Witheridge, Devon (one source says to <?> Colleton, d. of Sir R. Colleton, Bart.) and had issue; Annie m.2nd 1873 Rev. John Ross, MA, Vicar of Caynam, Shropshire (Salop)

>>> Georgina Blennerhasset; b.30.5.1826; bapt. same day at Ballyseedy; Perhaps died young, as no other reference found

>>> Amelia >>>>>>>>> >>> Chichester Arthur Skeffington b.22.5.1850 Blennerhasset >>> Charles Clotworthy Skeffington b.8.6.1860 of Ballyseedy >>> Thomas Henry Skeffington b.?8.1862

probably b.bef.12.6.1827 [**"Southern Reporter" news-paper 12.6.1827**]; d.3.8.1887 [BIFR p.141]; but [BP] has d.23.8.1887

m.20.12.1845 Dub. [BIFR p.141] & [GM Feb. 1846]; [BP] has in error m.29.12.1846; Hon. Chichester Thomas Foster Skeffington m.23.11.1872 Hamilton m.29.10.1813 Fitzmaurice, 4th Baron Muskerry b.18.5.1854 d.9.6.1929

Served in the RN; DL Co.Limerick; A Representative Peer of Ireland

>>> Lt. Hamilton >>>> >>> Eileen Fitzmaurice b.14.8.1907 (after father's death); Robert Tilson of Faringdon, Berkshire

d.20.12.1902 Grogan Fitzmaurice b.21.11.1873 d.30.7.1907; Royal Irish Regt; Served in S.Africa 1900 m.5.1.1904 Eva Susan Bolton of The Island, Co.Wexford; [BP] has him m.1st, in error (as only one m.); she m.2nd 15.2.1911 Godfrey William Edward Massy >>> Robert Mathew Fitzmaurice; 5th Baron Muskerry; b.14.11.1874 d.12.7.1952 m.1906 (dsp) Charlotte Jane Irvine; b.c1872 d.27.7.1960; of Mervyn, Co.Wexford

>>> Flora FitzMaurice; b.27.4.1882 d.10.3.1929 Served in the RN; DL Co.Limerick; A Representative Peer of Ireland

>>> Cormac Fitzmaurice b.1892; Assistant Engineer RNR; d.27.5.1915 while serving on HMS "Princess Irene", a steam ship built at Dunbarton, Scotland for Canadian Pacific Railway but on completion in 1914 requisitioned by the Royal Navy as a minelayer; while being loaded with mines at No.28 buoy in the River Medway close to Sheerness, Kent, the ship exploded tied to killing all on board but one of 381 men on board, their remains being scattered over a wide area; memorials to those lost in both this and the "Bulwerk" disaster are opposite the Sheerness Railway Station & in Holy Trinity Church, Sheerness; his name is not listed on the CWGC website

>>> Sir Mathew Chichester Cecil Fitzmaurice Deane-Morgan; b.3.11.1875 d.3.5.1954 (dsp) 6th Baron Muskerry, of Muskerry, Cork; 11th Baronet M.; (titles devolved to Matthew FitzMaurice Tilson Deane, g.son of 3rd Baron)

>>> Ada Blennerhasset >>>>> Helen Henrietta Blennerhasset Harman d.11.9.1952 at home in Co.Donegal (dsp) Skeffington >>> m.8.6.1915 (1st cousin); Mathew Chichester Cecil Fitzmaurice b.3.11.1875 d.3.5.1954 (B 12) d.20.1.1923 6th Baron Muskerry, of Muskerry, Co.Cork; 11th Baronet Muskerry m.22.8.1878 Brig-Su Lt-Col. Rodolphe (titles devolved to Matthew FitzMaurice Tilson Deane, g.son of 3rd Baron) Harman MB, AMS;

staff surgeon; >>> Capt. William R.S. Harman, RN; d.5.8.1947 of Co.Cavan; d.1897 m.19.8.1918 (1st cousin) Flora FitzMaurice (B 12)

>>> Henrietta Skeffington, d.3.1.1939 (dsp); m.17.4.1895 Maj. Arthur Dillon Denis Kelly, "The O'Kelly", of Mucklon, Ahascragh, Co.Galway; The Border Regt.; d.14.3.1936

**B 12** portrait miniature on ivory (c1821, as young lady before marriage) by Charles Foot Tayler (active 1818-1853) was offered for sale 2008, for £1100

**NOTE ON "ELM GROVE" & "BALLYSEEDY CASTLE", near Tralee, Co.Kerry**

Ballyseedy, pronounced "Ballysheedy", was originally Baile Ui Soida or "O'Sheedy's Town"  
The Ballyseedy estate was the principal seat of the Blennerhassett family in Ireland 1590-1967

The present "Ballyseedy Castle" began life as a georgian house named "Elm Grove", probably new built in 1721 by "The Great Col. John" Blennerhassett (B 01), remodelled by his brother William BH Sr (1705-1785), this work completed c1788 by his own son William Blennerhassett Jr; [RM pp.22/142] and others suggest Elm Grove was new built in 1760s, but this appears not to be so; The banqueting hall, in the 1821 north wing of Ballyseedy Castle, contains a primitive carved blackoak fireplace surround and overmantle, appearing early 17th century, moved from "old Ballyseedy"; above that fireplace is an unusual "foundation stone" with initials & date 1721; this date appears to indicate the year the present house erected as "Elm Grove"; another 17th century oak fireplace in the library is probably also from "old" Ballyseedy; If [RM] were correct about a 1760s date for the house, would indicate the stone was also from the ruins of "old Ballyseedy", but this appears not to be the case

In 1821 (100 years after Elm Grove believed built 1721) Arthur BH (1799-1843) added the gothic north wing, with turrets and battlements in the fashion of the day, renaming the house "Ballyseedy" ("old" Ballyseedy, at the opposite, west end, of Ballyseedy Wood, by then falling into ruin); two identical stones in the North Wing display a shield with chevron & A \* B 1821

The house at this stage is illustrated by an ink sketch titled "The Seat of Arthur Blennerhassett Esq M.P. Co.Kerry", in the collection of Glin Castle; this sketch dated c1837-41, his years as MP for Kerry; This 1821 work has strong similarities to Glin House, seat of the Knights of Glin, remodelled in similar fashion by John Fraunceis FitzGerald, 24th Knight of Glin (p.R 05) and renamed "Glin Castle"

Arthur Blennerhassett (1856-1939) had Ballyseedy Castle remodelled & refaced once again in 1880s, work of Kerry architect (also Kerry historian & genealogist and Blennerhassett descendant) James Franklin Fuller (p.K 16), this left the house as you now see it, with what had previously been the front face and main entrance now the rear of the house; the house is said to have 365 windows, "...one for every day of the year..."; Following this 1880s remodelling the house began to be called both "Ballyseedy House" and "Ballyseedy Castle" on a more-or-less equal basis

[HK p.107] in error takes Elm Grove and "new" Ballyseedy Castle to be different houses, stating that Elm Grove was "...almost opposite Ballyseedy Castle gates..." & "...Elm Grove is believed to have burned down towards the end of the 18th century...", and that "...No trace remains..."; this is not so, the house "Elm Grove" still stands, renamed first as Ballyseedy 1821, then Ballyseedy Castle c1880, then "Ballyseede Castle Hotel" 1967;

The latest date I have found the name "Elm Grove" in use on any document is 1819

**The greater part of Ballyseedy estate was sold to tenant farmers following Lord Ashbourne's "Land Purchase Act" of 1885; This made state credit available, enticing tenants to purchase the land they worked and landlords to sell it to them; see list of estate townlands on (B 14)**

Ballyseedy Castle sold out of the family, by auction, in May 1967, to Mrs Eileen Sheraton of Galway, who with her husband Arthur converted it into a quality country house hotel standing in its 31 acre demesne, renamed "The Ballyseede Castle Hotel"; an auction of contents, "objets d'art, furniture, antique silver, china, etc" was held at Ballyseedy in June 1967

The hotel was again sold c1986 to Barth O'Connor of Boston, USA, whose forefather had emigrated to the USA from nearby Castleisland, Co.Kerry; He ran the hotel successfully for some years, then offered it for sale at an asking price of 4.5 million Euros

"The Ballyseede Castle Hotel" was purchased c2004 by Marnie Corscadden, who initiated a sympathetic program of renovation, decoration and extension that is bringing back something of the grandeur of this great old house, albeit as an hotel; in 2008 there are plans to build a west wing, for additional guest bedrooms

|   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| >> Charles John >>>>>>>>>   | >>> Major Arthur >>>>>>>>>  | (Nesta) Georgie Blennerhassett, OBE (1920); b.17.5.1883 at Ballyseedy Castle [IT 26.5.1883 p.7]; bapt.17.6.1883 Ballyseedy; confirmed 1900 at Devonport, Devon   |
| Allanson Winn Blennerhassett b.6.7.1830 Ireland; of Ballyseedy (succeeded 1843)   | Blennerhassett (only son) M.B.E. (1917/8) D.L., D.L., JP; of Ballyseedy Castle (succeeded 1859 at the age of 3 yrs) b.26.6.1856 Co.Kerry; bapt.11.7.1856 at Ballyseedy; Edu. Harrow; JP Co.Kerry; High Sheriff Co.Kerry 1876/8  | during WWI Hon. Secretary & Treasurer for Co.Kerry branch of the "Royal Munster Fusiliers Comforts Fund", Co.Kerry branch in WWI [advertisement in TIMES 30.3.1916]; in 1920 she was awarded the OBE in the "Civilian War Honours" list for her "...valuable work in providing comforts for soldiers and prisoners of war..." [TIMES 31.3.1920 p.18]   |
| Edu. Chichester House School, Brighton 1841; Edu. Cheltenham College (Turnbull) Aug.1843-Dec.1844 [CCR]; JP; High Sheriff Co.Kerry 1858   | Major, 4th (6th?) Battalion (mil.) Royal Munster Fusiliers from 1900; mem. British Legion   | m.17.6.1920 St.Peter's, Cranley Gardens, Kensington, London Lt-Col. Verelst T. Worship, DSO; Royal Munster Fusiliers; of Ormsby, Norfolk (dsp) wedding had been planned for Ballyseedy, but instead took place quietly in London "owing to threatened dislocation of traffic in Ireland" [TIMES 6.5.20, 19.5.20, 22.6.20]  |
| d.9.12.1859 St.Anne's Hill, Blarney, Cork (one source has d.10.12.1859); bur. in the family vault, Ballyseedy old churchyard  | In 1873-86 owned 12,621 ac. in Kerry; gross value 1883 £4159, 1886 £4157 [IT 30.8.1886]; In 1900 the family was at Devonport, Devon, England  | >>> Hilda Blennerhassett "Miss Hilda" of Ballyseedy Castle; succeeded 1939, jointly with Vera; b.29.9.1884 Ballyseedy Castle bapt.27.10.1884 Ballyseedy; confirmed 1900 Devonport, Devon; she spoke Irish & English; d.9.12.1965 Ballyseedy Castle; bur. Ballyseedy [IT 10.12.1965]; unm.  |
| some sources say he died following hunting accident (Ballyseedy had a well known pack of hounds) but his obituary in [IT 16.12.1859] reports he "...had been suffering for some time from a painful and exhausting internal disease, which though moderated by, eventually baffled, medical skill..." | Arthur remodelled the house, using Kerry architect James Franklin Fuller (see NOTE to left); after this the house became known as either Ballyseedy House or Ballyseedy Castle  | during WWI Hilda, with her mother & sister Vera, served as nurses with a VAD ("Voluntary Aid Detachment") on board Lord Dunraven's (p.R 05) yacht "Grianaig", in use as ambulance ship in Mediterranean; for her services Hilda was awarded the B.E.F. 1914-15 star (Mons Star), the British War Medal and the Victory Medal   |
| At Ballyseedy Church stained glass windows behind the altar and a brass plate underneath were erected in his memory by his son Arthur BH  | his headed notepaper was printed with "Ballyseedy Castle"   | Hilda was last of the Blennerhassetts of Ballyseedy, residing there until she d.1965; [TA pp.128-129] has a 1904 photograph of Hilda, Nesta & Vera boating on Caragh Lake, Co.Kerry, also verses written by Hilda in 1902  |
| m.26.9.1855 at Tralee; Mary Anne "Marianne" Hickson of The Grove, Dingle, Co.Kerry  | James Franklin Fuller   | Hilda bequeathed Ballyseedy to Sir Adrian Blennerhassett, 7th Bart. of Blennerville, of London (p.K 40); as a child Adrian (b.1940) had spent holidays at Ballyseedy, his mother being a close friend of Hilda, so he knew the house well (see p.G 30); Sir Adrian inherited with the house a leather bound Ms. "Blennerhassett Pedigree" c1911 given to her father by the author, Lt.-Col. Edward Francis Jemmett-Browne (B 01); A microfilm of this Ms. is in [NLI ref. n.4216, microfilmed as POS 3887]; a better quality copy is in the private archives of Glin Castle, Co.Limerick |
| Marianne m.2nd 12.6.1862 at Dublin; Capt. William Walker, Royal Lancashire Artillery; of Wood Hill, Bury [GM July 1862]   | "A well known figure in Irish hunting and racing circles", he acted as official starter for race meetings and inspector of courses to the Turf Club & Irish National Hunt Committee, "in which capacity he gave universal satisfaction"; in Arthur Blennerhassett's time Ballyseedy Hunt was run jointly by Arthur & Francis Chute of Chute Hall (p.K 35); "...their huntsman, wearing an old coat and ill-fitting breeches, would ride up & down the streets of Tralee blowing a horn to advertise that there was to be a hunt..."   | >>> Vera Blennerhassett "Miss Vera"; b.1886 Ballyseedy Castle; spoke Irish & English; of Ballyseedy Castle (succeeded 1939, jointly with Hilda); b.18.11.1885 Ballyseedy Castle; bapt.7.2.1886 Ballyseedy (confirmed 1902 Ballyseedy); d.14.4.1942 Ballyseedy Castle [IT 25.4.1942]; bur. Ballyseedy; unm.   |
|   | "a fine judge of a horse", during WWI he travelled continuously on behalf of British Army Remounts Commission to purchase horses as remounts in USA, Canada, Australia & NZ, performing this role from 1914 to the end of 1918; his first such mission was to Australia, sailing London-Melbourne on P&O Line SS "Morea", departing 31.10.1914; in 1916 he was in Canada and USA, returning New York-Liverpool on Cunard Line SS "Orduna", arriving 28.2.1916; again sailed New York-Liverpool on White Star Line SS "Lapland", arriving 19.12.1916;  | during WWI Vera, with her mother & sister Hilda, served as nurses with a VAD ("Voluntary Aid Detachment") on board Lord Dunraven's (p.R 05) yacht "Grianaig", in use as an ambulance ship in the Mediterranean; for her services Vera awarded the B.E.F. 1914-15 star (Mons Star), the British War Medal and the Victory Medal   |
|   | under Arthur Blennerhassett the Ballyseedy estate was dispersed, land sold to sitting tenant farmers following the Irish Land Purchase Acts of 1885 & 1903 [IT 13.5.1939]; only the demesne & Ballyseedy Castle Farm were retained; The Blennerhassetts of Ballyseedy had a reputation locally as good landlords and neighbours, and "his relations with his former tenantry continued most cordial" [IT 13.5.1939]; this helped protect the house to some extent during the war of independence and subsequent Irish civil war of 1922-23, when so many country houses burned, but he was attacked and severely injured by members of the IRA and much of his agricultural property stolen; Maj. Arthur Blennerhassett was in <??> awarded compensation by the Irish Grants Committee for injury and loss of property [IGC NA: CO762.55.18 No.848] |  |

**TOWNLANDS of the Ballyseedy estate (from GV Co.Kerry 1852)**

spellings taken from the "General Alphabetical Index to the Townlands of Ireland 1851";

**Townlands marked \* are not always shown as such on modern maps**

Townlands shown in **bold** are those appearing in GV Co.Kerry 1852 as part of the Ballyseedy estate, then belonging to Charles Blennerhassett (1830-1859)

**BALLYSEEDY CIVIL PARISH****Ballindooogan (201 acres)****Ballycarty (182 acres)**

Ballymachthomas (395 acres)

**Ballyseedy (440 acres)**

Caherleheen (64 acres) \*

**Clashedmond (186 acres)****Curraghmacdonagh (102 acres) \*****Dromavally (358 acres)****Gortbrack East (178 acres)****Gortbrack, or Gortbrack West (178 acres)****Lissardboola, or West Lissardboola (376 acres)****Poulawaddra (821 acres)****BALLYMACCELLIGOTT CIVIL PARISH**

Ahane (178 acres)

Arabela (154 acres)

**Ash Hill (345 acres)**

Ballineedora (113 acres)

Ballinknock (112 acres)

**Ballybeg (<???) acres** not listed as a townland

Ballyyaukeen (299 acres)

Ballybrannagh (143 acres)

**Ballydwyer East (184 acres)****Ballydwyer Middle (136 acres)****Ballydwyer West (179 acres)**

Ballyfinoge (179 acres)

Ballymacelligott (97 acres)

Ballynahinch (80 acres)

Barrakilla (201 acres)

Bealagrellagh (72 acres) \*

Caherbreaigh (387 acres)

Cahercullenagh Lower (283 acres)

Cahercullenagh Upper (520 acres)

Cahermore (89 acres)

Carrignafeela (81 acres)

**Clashatlea (335 acres)**

Cloghavoola (130 acres)

**Clogher (41 acres)**

Clogherclemin (204 acres)

**Cloghermore (62 acres)**

Coolnadead (124 acres)

**BALLYMACCELLIGOTT CIVIL PARISH cont.****Curraghmacdonagh (25 acres)**

Doonimlaghbeg (158 acres)

**Flemby (518 acres)**

Garraun Beg (87 acres)

Garraun More (232 acres)

Glanageenty (421 acres)

**Gortagullane (68 acres)****Gortatlea (699 acres)** pronounced "Gortaclea"

Gortnaleaha (107 acres)

**Gortshanvally (82 acres)**

Kilbane (291 acres)

**Kilkerry (101 acres)****Kilquane (133 acres)****Knockatarriv (293 acres)**

Knockavinnane (136 acres)

Kylebeg (132 acres)

Lissooleen (28 acres)

**Loughnacappagh (36 acres) \***

Magh East (142 acres)

Magh West (196 acres)

Maglass East (235 acres)

Maglass West (291 acres)

Martara (87 acres)

Mountnicholas (108 acres)

Muingnaminnane (1,019 acres)

Muingnatee (230 acres)

Mweelinroe (38 acres)

Potaley (17 acres)

Rathanny (257 acres)

Reanagowan (1,093 acres)

Rockfield (305 acres)

Shanavally (269 acres)

Tonreagh Lower (157 acres)

Tonreagh Upper (137 acres)

Tooreen (170 acres)

Tooreennastooka (136 acres)

Tullygarran (163 acres)

Tursillagh (580 acres)

**RATASS CIVIL PARISH****Caherleheen (<???) acres)****Camp (<???) acres)**

*"a story is told that during the civil war [when Arthur Blennerhassett was away, with Hilda & Vera at home] members of the IRA arrived at Ballyseedy, at night, threatening to burn the house; they gave the family and servants minutes in which to leave; Hilda said, "fair enough, I can see why you want to do it, and your point while the servants are dressing, and its such a cold night, come in and have a drink while you are waiting". So the potten was broached and drinks poured & they drank 'til 7ish; they sobered up, thanked her & left. The house still stands..." [Brian Blennerhassett, Sligo, 1988]*

In 1920 Arthur BH of Ballyseedy "was awarded £800 compensation for the burning of a house, his property" [IT 9.10.1920]; Was this Ballycarty House, home of the Nash family but a part of the Ballyseedy estate?

member of the Kildare Street Club, Dublin (163 Kildare St. - he was resident there at the night of the 1911 census) and the Royal St.George Yacht Club, Kingstown;

Arthur Blennerhassett d.3.5.1939 at Ballyseedy Castle [TC], [IT 5.5.1939 (2 items) & 13.5.1939];

bur.4.5.1939 at Ballyseedy new (C.o.I.) burial ground, the first of his family to be interred there, previous generations having been interred in the adjacent Ballyseedy old burial ground;

[IT 13.5.1939] reports "Mrs. Blennerhassett was too ill in London to travel to the funeral"; in 1956 a brass plaque was placed inside Ballyseedy (C.o.I.) Church, in memory of him and his family, erected by his daughter Hilda

The "Arthur Blennerhassett Memorial Chase" horse race, held at Tralee races, £150 prize in 1956 [IT 7.9.1956]

**HOUSE SERVANTS:**

at the time of the 31.3.1901 census Arthur Blennerhassett was away from Ballyseedy, with his wife and daughters Hilda & Vera, at (house 3) Liskgnnett East, Coulrus, Co.Limerick accompanied by servants:

Patrick Dowling (b.c1851), Jame Campbell (B.c1861), Ellen McCarthy (B.c1866) & Ellen Lyons (b.c1861);

at the time of the 2.4.1911 census the Ballyseedy House servants were:

Anne Murphy (b.c1881); Catherine Moore (b.c1891); Bridget Kelly (b.c1883)

NOTE: with the death of William Wynne Blennerhassett, (p.W 05), last survivor of the English Blennerhassetts, at Brooklyn, New York 7-May-1894, Arthur Blennerhassett of Ballyseedy became head of the family worldwide, i.e. The most senior of the ancient line of Blennerhassett of Co.Cumberland; at Arthur's death in 1939 this headship passed to (Richard John) Verdon Blennerhassett of Rockfield & Ballyvegan, Co.Limerick. (p.R 10)

m.6.6.1882 at Glin Castle, Co.Limerick

**(Clara) Nesta Ricarda FitzGerald, MBE (1918); b.c1864 Co.Kerry;**

only dau. of (Desmond) John Edmund FitzGerald, Knight of Glin, of Glin Castle;

granddaughter of Clara Ann Blennerhassett of Riddlestown Park, Rathkeale, Co.Limerick (p.R 05)

she spoke Irish & English;

In the hall of Glin Castle (right-hand wall by staircase arch) is a portrait in oil of Nesta in court presentation dress, painted in 1882 on her honeymoon at Rome by Norwegian artist Christian Meyer Ross (1853-1904)

*At the start of WWI the 4th Earl of Dunraven, father of Lady Rachel FitzGerald, wife of 27th Knight of Glin (p.R 05) well known politician, sportsman & yachtsman (who attempted to win the America's Cup in 1893 and in 1895 with his yacht "Valkyrie") offered his home Dunraven Castle, Glamorgan as a convalescent home; he also donated to the war effort his private 390 ton steamship "Greta", used as a hospital ship by the Australian Voluntary Hospital; and his large steam yacht "Grianaig" (built for him to a high standard by Scotts of Greenock 1904), with his personal services as its captain, used as an ambulance ship in the Mediterranean; These ships were were painted white, with a red cross on each side and large red strip around the hull, to deter German submarines; "Grianaig" eventually returned to its owner as "...unsuitable for use as a hospital ship or patrol vessel..., but served again during WWII as the "Lady Shahrazad";*

during WWI Nesta nursed with a VAD (Voluntary Aid Detachment) in the mediteranean on board Lord Dunraven's steamship "Greta" & steam yacht "Grianaig", in use as hospital/ ambulance ships; she and Lord Dunraven becoming close friends;

her dau's Hilda & Vera also nursed on Grianaig; Nesta was awarded the B.E.F. 1914-15 star (a.k.a. Mons Star; awarded to military personnel, & some civilians, who served in France or Belgium between 5.8.1914 & 31.12.1915), the British War Medal (for service abroad) and the Victory Medal (for all military & civilian personnel serving between 1914 and 1918);

For her services Nesta was awarded an MBE 1918; her decorations are displayed at Glin Castle, in a small frame adjacent to her portrait; her official medal record carries the a note that she ...served on Lord Dunraven's Ambulance ships Greta & Grianaig from Aug. [19]14 onwards but [the ships?] only became V.A.D. members April [19]16...

It was widely known that Nesta was the mistress of Lord Dunraven until his death in 1927;

In 1922 she performed the naming ceremony for his new yacht, "Sonya", 554 tons [IT 17.6.1922]

When Lord Dunraven died he bequeathed to Mrs Nesta Blennerhassett £10,000 and "...an annuity of £1,500 during her life...". "...his two silver statuettes (one of himself), other articles, and Kenry House, Putney vale, and lands, and his house, 22 Norfolk Street, Park Lane, London...." [IT 22.1.1927]

d.16.1.1945 Ballyseedy Castle, bur. Ballyseedy new churchyard [IT 27.1.1945]

>> (Georgina) Barbara Blennerhassett  
b.31.8.1857 Ballyseedy (bapt. register has "born Sept 1857" in error); bapt.20.9.1857 Ballyseedy (C.of I.)  
/  
d.11.1.1867 ["**Belfast Newsletter**" **18.1.1867**] but another source has d.7.1.1867

>> Adelaide "Ada" >>>>>> Standish O'Grady b.25.7.1854 d.17.1.1856  
Frances  
Blennerhassett, >>> Cecilia O'Grady >>>>>> Sibil Fermoy  
(Lady Guillamore) b.24/25.6.1855  
b. est.c1830/2 d.?9.1919 Dublin  
d.4.12.1867 /  
/ m.28.4/5.1877  
/ Edward FitzEdmond Burke Roche, 2nd Baron Fermoy;  
/ b.23.5.1850 Twyford Abbey;  
/ acceded 1874;  
m.23.7.1853 d.1.9.1920 (not 17.9.1920) Barmouth  
Standish O'Grady,  
3rd Viscount Guillamore of Cahir Guillamore, Co.Limerick;  
3rd Baron O'Grady of Rockbarton, Co.Limerick;  
b.8.7.1832  
d.10.4.1860 (Succeeded by his brother, but titles now extinct)

>> (Frances)Annabella : >>> Ada Frances >>>>>>>>> issue  
Blennerhassett Alice Wolseley  
"Lady Wolesley" b.27.4.1861 101 Lower Mount Street, Dublin;  
b. Feb/Mar 1834 bapt.17.5.1861 St.Stephen (C.o.I.) Dublin;  
as her mother died d.11.3.1940  
in childbirth /  
/ m.18.6.1885; [**FOSTER**] has m.16.6.1885;  
her mother's obit. in [**Kerry EP 8.3.1834**]  
describes her: "The little stranger doomed  
never to behold a mother's smiles, or feel  
the warm caresses of a mother's care and  
tender solicitude"; of Rockbarton /  
/ Lt.-Col. Charles Bradford Harries Jenkins; 19th Hussars;  
of Cruckton Hall, Shropshire  
/ (later Wolseley-Jenkins, name changed by Royal Licence 15.11.1894)  
d.14.12.1922

d.30.5.1907 at home, 19 Longford Terrace, >>> Amelia Cecilia Louisa Wolseley  
Monkstown, Dublin [**IT 3.6.1907**]  
/  
/ >>> Eva Blennerhassett Wolseley;  
m.6.12.1859 b.9.1.1867 Mount Wolseley, Tullow, Co.Carlow;  
Tullybracky, Kilmallock, Co.Limerick; bapt.5.3.1867 Tullow (C.o.I.) Co.Carlow  
Sir John Richard Wolseley, Bart., JP, DL; /  
6th Baronet of Mt Wolseley, Co.Carlow; m.Apr-Jun.1893 Carlisle, Cumberland  
b.24.6.1834; [**FOSTER**] has b.20.6.1834; to either: Francis William C. Wharton or to George Hodgson  
of Mount Wolseley & of Learass(?)

18th Royal Irish Regt., served Crimea 1854-5 >>> Frances Wilhelmina Blennerhassett Wolseley  
[**GM Feb.1860**]; d.20.6.1874 succ. by his b.1.1.1869 Mount Wolseley, Tullow, Co.Carlow;  
brother Sir Clement James Wolseley, 7th Bart. bapt.4.4.1869 Tullow (C.o.I.) Co.Carlow  
d. unkm.

**Rev. WILLIAM BLENNERHASSETT'S LANDS**

Rev. William Blennerhassett (1800-1860), vicar of Iwerne Minster (pronounced "Uwerne" Minster), Dorset, owned land in these Co.Kerry townlands, all originally part of the Ballyseedy estate [GV Kerry 1852]:

**Parish of Ballincuslane:**

Kilcusnaun;

**Parish of ??? :**

Craggaunoonia; Ballyplimoth

**DORSET****SHANAVALLY**

Edu. TCD (SC 1816, BA1821, MA c1847) Ordained C.of I. 1832; Vicar of Iwerne Minster (pronounced "Uwerne" Minster) Dorset 17.12.1832 to 1860; Iwerne Minster is a large, prosperous, beautiful Dorset village and Rev. William is said to have built the Vicarage at Iwerne c1833 although the style of the building does appear older; he was also Vicar of Wolland, Dorset; and Hinton St.Mary, Dorset [I E] where he employed a curate (Rev. C.J. Nicholl in 1860)

Rev. William BH owned land in Co.Kerry, originally part of the Ballyseedy estate (NOTE, left)

He d.27.4.1860, drowned in a stone "water tank" (also described as "well") in a cellar or outhouse of the old vicarage, this tank being fed by a spring rising in the garden; he is said to have taken his own life (Suicide - verdict "temporary insanity" is recorded in the burial register); bur.2.5.1860 in churchyard at Iwerne Minster, under an evergreen tree (still standing) planted in his memory; a notice of this event appeared in the newspaper [name? issue? - I have a copy somewhere...]; Will pr.7.7.1860 Blandford, Dorset; a stained glass window, under which are two brass plates, erected in his memory at Ballyseedy Church (C.o.I.), Co.Kerry

I first visited Iwerne on 20.1.1969 at which time the vicar, Rev. Rex Wells, resided at the old vicarage, but c1978 a new vicarage was built in the grounds of the old, the old vicarage finding new purpose as Divine House, a boarding house for boys of Claysmore School, Iwerne Minster; Rev. Wells was the last vicar to reside (1951-1977) in the old vicarage at Iwerne Minster; The parish register for the period were at that time kept in the church safe but are now in Dorset History Centre (formerly Dorset Record Office) at Dorchester; Before we viewed the registers he told me the vicarage had been built c1833 by the Rev. William Blennerhassett and that the ghost of Rev. William was said by local people to haunt the vicarage; His own family had personal experience of this, there being a stone tank, well or water reservoir, inside an old greenhouse or outhouse attached to the rear of the house, "...where the family will not go..."; This well was fed by a natural spring, at one time the water supply for the house. Water from the well ran out of the greenhouse to form a pond in the garden, before flowing away as a stream; When himself drawing water from this "well" Rev. Wells had felt hands touching his own hands from behind, when no-one else was present; He also suggested that his wife thought the house haunted, as on hearing any unfamiliar noise or creaking floorboards at night, she would say with some humour, "...there goes old Blennerhassett..."

The well is also described as a "cellar" so presumably was sunk into the ground; the "well" was open to view until sealed, following the sale of the vicarage c1977 to become "Devine House"

NOTE >----> Two brothers, both Anglican Priests in Dorset, married twin sisters, daughters of Francois Jaques Houssemayne du Boulay and Elizabeth Paris; of "Forest", Walthamstow, Essex 1798-1828; He said to have made a fortune on government stocks during the French war; See "Houssemayne du Boulay Pedigree" 1906

m.21.4.1835 (not 12.4.1835) [FOSTER] licence bond is dated 13.4.1835; at Donhead St.Mary, Wiltshire; **Emma Sophia Houssemayne du Boulay** b.6.7.1814 France (twin); British Subject; see NOTE to left

of Donhead St.Mary, Wiltshire 1835; of Hollam House, Fareham, Hampshire 1881-1891 (with daughters Emma Sophia & Agnes); of Hollam Lodge, Titchfield, Hampshire 1897 (her son Arthur BH lived at Hollam Lodge, Fareham 1898-1911)

d.25.12.1896; Will pr.27.2.1897 London

>>> Lt. John du Boulay Blennerhassett; b.28.2.1836 probably Iwerne Minster, Dorset [GM April 1836]; JP Co.Kerry; Lt. Royal Wiltshire Militia to 22.4.1859; Ensign 39th Regt. of Foot (Dorsetshire/Dorset Regiment) from 22.4.1859 [IT 23.4.1859]; resigned 1862 [TIMES 23.4.1859] (NOTE: [TIMES 13.12.1865] has resigned 1852, from the 41st Regt., & that his property was in Co.Limerick, all in error) and settled at Shanavally, Ballymacelligott, to live with uncle Thomas Blennerhassett; John had 1352 acres of his own at Shanavally 1873-6; In 1876 lived at Ballymacelligott; post 1873 lived with another uncle, Lt.-Col. Barry Blennerhassett (B 19) at Edenburn, Co.Kerry

In 1865 he became engaged to Rowena Chute, daughter of Dr Richard Chute of Tralee, but failed to marry her; She sued him for damages of £4000, for breach of promise, and "...the entire courtroom applauded when she was awarded £1000 in costs..." ["Yass Courier" New South Wales, Australia 24.2.1866]; of "Springeld", Derby Road, North End, Portsmouth, Hampshire 1899; d.25.10.1899; Will pr.26.1.1900 London; bur. Kingston Cem., Portsmouth; unkn.

>>> Marianne (Mary Anne, Maryann, Marian) Blennerhassett; bapt.19.4.1840 Iwerne Minster, Dorset; in school at 2 Terrace, Weymouth, Dorset 1851; a "visitor" at Iwerne Minster 1861; of Hollom House, Fareham, Hampshire (with mother; & sisters Emma Sophia & Agnes) 1881-1891; of The Grange, Osborn Road, Fareham (with siblings Emma Sophia, Agnes, Arthur) 1926-8; d.13.7.1928 unkn.; Will pr.7.12.1928 London [PPR]; executor: distant cousin Emily Mary Eliza de Courcy 1856-1934 (p.K 17);

>>> William Blennerhassett; b.23.8.1845 probably Iwerne Minster, Dorset; edu. Eton 1858-1860 (dsp); **INDIAN CIVIL SERVICE** Indian Civil Service; graduate of "Bengal Civil Service" 1869; co-author of "Report of the Regular Settlement of the Hardoi District, 1872-77, effected by E.O. Bradford, reported by A.H. Harrison and William Blennerhassett" (pub. Allahabad 1880)

District & Sessions Judge (NW Provinces) 1889; High Court Judge, India (Central Provinces) 1896; Acting High Court Judge (NW Provinces) 1896; Second Additional Judicial Commissioner of Oude, India 1899; In 1873 Indian Civil Service Officer "5th Class" (4 years' standing); Most of his life spent in India; retired to England, a pensioner on "Bombay Civil Fund Register" **a street in Jubbulpore, north of Nagpur in the Central Provinces (now Jabalpur in the State of Madhya Pradesh) was named for a Blennerhassett; the street is located in the Traffic Lanes area, close to the Allahabad bank; I am unsure if was named for William Blennerhassett or for Sir Arthur C.F.B. Blennerhassett, Assistant Commissioner, Indian Civil Service - Central Provinces (p.F 02)**

of South Stoneham, Hampshire 1911; of "Netley Firs", Netley Firs Road, Hedge End, Botley, Hampshire 1907-17; **This Georgian house, owned c1844-59 by Keans/Keane family, said to have been demolished 1937 & a new house "Copper Beeches" built on the site; but another source says "Netley Firs" still stands as the "Southern Counties Conservative Club;** "...The entrance to the house was through a stone porch into a hall, with a light coloured parquet floor. The first floor reached by way of a fine stone staircase. As with most large residences of the period, there were also servants quarters. After demolition, the wine cellars were intact - but, doubtless, empty. A small cottage in the grounds had possibly been used by a gamekeeper. In WWII, some of the timber from the woods was used in Southampton during the blitz, to making ramps to protect fire hoses..." ["The Changing Face of Hedge End, Hampshire" by Joyce B. Blyth];

In 1860 William Blennerhassett inherited a good part of his father's lands in Kerry (see left), becoming an "Absentee Landlord", a species not universally popular in Kerry; "The Kerry Sentinel" 17.9.1904 published a sarcastic letter (headed "The Blennerhassett Property", & signed "A Friend", Castleisland), about high rents charged his tenants through his land agents, "...the well-known firm of philanthropists, Hussey, Denny & Huggard...; The letter also makes uncompromising references about his uncle Tom Blennerhassett's (B 14) behaviour as a landlord "half a century ago", calling him "Thomashen na Ghark" ("Little Tom Rooster") & "...arch-rackreter of Ireland..."; This contrasts strongly with the local view of the larger but usually "resident landlord" Blennerhassett estate at Ballyseedy, which was generally regarded as a good landlord; d.22.6.1917 Hampshire [TIMES 27.6.1917]; Will pr.30.8.1917 London

m.26.5.1904 Isabella Sara Ancketill; b.c1855; dau. of Maxwell Ancketill of Leatherhead, Surrey; of Windmill House, Bursledon, Hampshire 1923-37; d.9.2.1937 at Windmill House

>>> Capt. Arthur "Art" Blennerhassett RN (Cadet 1862, Lt. 1879, Lt.Cmdr 1881, Capt.1898); b.13.3.1847 [BIFR] (not 13.5.1847) Iwerne Minster, Dorset; of Hollam Lodge, Fareham, Hants 1898-1911 & The Grange, Osborn Rd, Fareham (with sisters Emma Sophia BH & Agnes BH) 1926; (sisters Emma BH & Agnes BH were at Hollam House, Fareham 1881-91; brother William Blennerhassett was nearby at Hedge End 1907-17)

joined Royal Navy 12.3.1861; Naval Cadet on HMS "Black Prince" 1862 (the second ocean-going iron-hulled armoured warship, following HMS "Warrior" in the two-ship Warrior class, these two, briefly, the most powerful warships in the world) [TIMES 5.7.1862]; Acting Lt. on HMS "Dryad" (149 crew) 1871; commanded HMS "Nautilus" 1879, from its commission [TIMES 9.7.1879]; At HM Naval Base Devonport 1881 (1881 census lists him twice, on HMS "Nautilus" but also on HMS "Impregnable"; he commissioned the gunboat HMS "Stork" (built 1882, 4465 tons, 360 hp, 2x64 pounder & 2x20 pounder guns) at Sheerness 3.1.1883, attached to "Chatham Steam reserve" [TIMES 25.12.1882 & 4.1.1883]; in command of "Stork" at St.Helena 12.8.1883 [TIMES 30.8.1883]; Subscriber to the book [Plymouth Armada Heroes - The Hawkins Family" by Mary W. S. Hawkins, 1888]

**Coastguard at East Cowes, Isle of Wight 1895; Appointed to succeed Capt. Carpenter, RN as commander of the Coastguard on the Isle of Wight, following Capt. Carpenter's retirement; in the interim period the duties were carried out by Mr Rogers, chief officer [Isle of Wight County Press 8.6.1895 p.5 - report from East Cowes]**

d.12.8.1926 unkn.; Will pr.14.12.1926 London [PPR]; executor: distant cousin Emily Mary Eliza de Courcy 1856-1934 (p.K 17);

>>> Francis "Frank" Housemayne Blennerhassett; b.20.1.1850 Iwerne Minster

>>> Emma Sophia Blennerhassett; bapt.28.9.1851 Iwerne Minster; of Hollam House, Fareham, Hampshire (with mother & sis. Agnes) 1881-91; of The Grange, Osborn Rd, Fareham (with siblings Agnes & Arthur) 1926; d.29.12.1925; admn. 7.8.1926 & 25.9.1926 London [PPR]; unkn.



|  
 |>> Agnes Blennerhassett; bapt.18.2.1853 Iwerne Minster; of Hollam House, Fareham (with mother & sis.Emma Sophia) 1881-91;  
 | of The Grange, Osborn Rd, Fareham (with sis. Emma Sophia & bro. Arthur BH) 1926-27;  
 | d.10.11.1926; admon. 8.4.1927 London [PPR]; unnm.; executor: distant cousin Emily Mary Eliza de Courcy 1856-1934 (p.K 17)

|>> (Gustavus Ad. Frederick Freke.) Crosbie Blennerhassett; of Ballyseedy; b.10.10.1803 Co.Kerry; d.24.2.1834; Edu. TCD (Pensioner 1823); unnm.;

**NOTE:** this d.o.b. does not fit well with that of his brother John Blennerhassett b.3.3.1803

/

***In Ballyseedy Church under stained glass window (St.John Ch.V, V.1-16) erected to his memory, is a brass plate "Gus. Ad. Fred. Freke. Crosbie Blennerhassett";***

***NOTE: Directly underneath and touching that is a second brass plate with date but no name, inscribed "Died 28th July 1877 aged 63 years";***

***This is the date of death of his brother Maj./Lt-Col. Barry Blennerhassett b.1814/5 d.28.7.1877 (see p.B 19);***

***This inscription appears to be a reject engraving, the plate reused installed blank side up, but now the engraved side has been exposed in error;***

/

**NOTE:** There was another Crosbie Blennerhassett at Tralee in 1875; who was this?

**Rev. JOHN BLENNERHASSETT:**

A portrait in oil of Rev. John Blennerhassett hung in schoolroom at Ryme Intrinseca, presented to the school in his memory by his children, to mark his devotion to the school and to the village children; When the village school closed the portrait was placed in the church, where it hangs on the west wall. A photograph of the portrait is in the Stockwell Collection at the Dorset Record Office, Dorchester [**DRO Catalogue Ref. D1733**]; a label on this portrait says in error that he was rector 50 years, but he was incumbent 60 years (two of these as curate)

also at the Dorset Record Office are three copies of a draft conveyance for a piece of land, added by John Blennerhassett to the churchyard at Ryme Intrinseca in 1890; this is in the Fooks & Darlington (Sherbourne Solicitors) archive **D/FFO**

The Parish Registers of Ryme Intrinseca, held at the Dorset Record Office, have at the front of the volume for "Baptisms 1813-1992" a note that "John Blennerhassett was inducted to Ryme in 1832 and Hermitage in 1834"

John Blennerhassett had a strong interest in the welfare and condition of Dorset farm labourers

**REV. JOHN BLENNERHASSETT'S inheritance from the Ballyseedy estate**

Rev. John Blennerhassett (1803-1890) of Ryme Intrinseca, Dorset in 1876 owned 2374 acres in Co.Cork (**GV Co.Kerry 1852**):-

**Parish of Clondrohid, Co.Cork:**

Kilmountain, Lacktifym

**Parish of Clonfert, Co.Cork:**

Killowen

**RYME INTRINSECA**

One of Dorset's most poetic village names, Ryme Intrinseca evolved from two adjoining manors at Rima or Rym, known as "Ryme Intrinseca" (inner) and "Ryme Exteinseca" (outer); the latter has long since disappeared as a place name [**SHRI p.2**];

The church at Ryme Intrinseca is one of two in England dedicated to Saint Hippolytus, the dedication appearing on a 1298 grant by Edward I to Humphrey de Beauchamp; St.Hippolytus was the goaler in charge of St.Lawrence and it is said that the example set by this man during his imprisonment so impressed Hypolite that he became converted to the Christian faith [**RICG p.3**]

NOTE >----> Two brothers, both Anglican Priests in Dorset, married twin sisters, daughters of Francois Jaques Houssemayne du Boulay and Elizabeth Paris; of "Forest", Walthamstow, Essex 1798-1828; He said to have made a fortune on government stocks during the French war; See "Houssemayne du Boulay Pedigree" 1906

**THOMAS BLENNERHASSETT'S LANDS**

Thomas Blennerhassett (1805-1878) of Shanavally owned land in these Kerry townlands, all originally a part of the Ballyseedy estate [**GV Kerry 1852**]; These lands were mostly let to tenant farmers, see notes to right >---->

**Parish of Ballincuslane:**

Kilcusaun;

**Parish of Ballymacelligott:**

Gortshanvally (Gortshanavalla); West Ballydwyer; Cloghmore;

**Parish of Killiney:**

Killiney townland;

He also had lands at: Inch (probably Inch House, Ballinvoher), Inch Island (Annagh) & Ardrae; at Dromin, Dunmasicheen, Dungeel, Lismacfinan, Auglouta, Toorcennasligaun, Glennagillah, Muingaphuca, Coomnafarider, Kilcurtna & Riverville; He leased further lands from his nephew Charles BH of Ballyseedy Castle, at Ballymacelligott, West Ballydwyer, Clohermore, Gortatlea, Gortshanvally/Gortshanavalla, Kilkerry and at Ballyseedy

The greater part of these lands were sold to tenant farmers following Lord Ashbourne's "Land Purchase Act" of 1885; This made state credit available, to entice tenants to buy land & landlords to sell it to them

**DORSET**

Blennerhassett  
b.3.3.1803 Elm Grove, Ballyseedy Edu. Hyde Abbey & TCD (Pensioner 1821, BA, MA)

Ordained 1826; first Curate (1830-32) then 58 yrs Rector (1832-90) of St.Hippolytus, Ryme Intrinseca, near Sherbourne Dorset; Vicar of Hermitage, Dorset from 10.7.1834, appointed c26.6.1834 following death of Rev.Hobson [**IE**][**TFP 26.6.1834**] to 1885

JP (Magistrate) for Dorset 1871-5; Commissioner of Land Taxes 1889; In 1876 owned 2374 ac. in Cork (see left) in [**Pigot's Directory for Dorset 1830**]; [**Cheltenham Looker-on" vol.II No.19 6.9.1834**] reports him recently arrived & staying at 21 Glyde's Terrace, Cheltenham [**"Kelly's Directory of Dorset" 1889**]

d.5.9.1890 Ryme Intrinseca; Will pr.16.3.1891 [**PPR**]; admon.14.9.07 Lond. bur. in family vault at Ryme Intrinseca; Inside the church are two memorials, erected by his widow and parishioners

**m.21.10.1834 Heddington, Wiltshire; Elizabeth Houssemayne du Boulay**

b.6.7.1814 France (twin); British Subject; see NOTE to left

of Heddington, Wiltshire 1834; of 4 Charlotte Row, Weymouth, Dorset 1881 as widow, of Chesterfield House, Esplanade, Weymouth 1895-1904

[**"Kelly's Directory of Dorsetshire"**]

d.4.2.1904 Weymouth; Will pr.9.4.1904 Blandford, Dorset; bur. in family vault at Ryme Intrinseca; in the church is brass wall plaque erected by her daughter Bunnie, Lady Headley

**SHANAVALLA****LODGE****Shanavally**

>>> Thomas "Tom" Blennerhassett, "Mr Tom"; b.18.10.1805 at Elm Grove, Ballyseedy; d.25.5.1878; of Ballyseedy and of Shanavalla Lodge, Shanavally, Ballymacelligott; also of Inch on the Dingle Peninsular; both in Co.Kerry; Edu. TCD (Pensioner 1823); Gentleman farmer

Thomas Blennerhassett had houses & property at Tralee & extensive lands in other parts of Kerry, in 1873/6 owning 5995 acres; In 1873 his nephew John du Boulay Blennerhassett lived with him at Shanavally & had a further 1352 acres there; Shanavalla Lodge (Shanavally) was built as a hunting lodge by the Blennerhassetts of Ballyseedy, mainly for the shooting around Castleisland; The lodge was later sold by the Blennerhassetts to the Burns family, who remain there

"The Kerry Sentinel" 17.9.1904 published a sarcastic letter (headed "The Blennerhassett Property", signed "A Friend", Castleisland), about high rents charged tenants by Tom's nephew William BH (B 13); This letter also makes uncomplimentary references to Tom's role as a landlord "half a century ago", calling him "Thomashen na Ghark" ("Little Tom Rooster") & "...arch-rackrenter of Ireland..."; This contrasts strongly with the popular view of the Ballyseedy estate & other Blennerhassett landowners, regarded as good landlords

"Mr Tom" was a good friend to neighbouring farmers John Arthur Blennerhassett (1829-c1896) of Gortatlea & Glenageenty (see G 30) and his brother Arthur Blennerhassett (b.1825) of Gortatlea (see p.G 30); John Arthur Blennerhassett, after his younger brothers Tom (G 34) and William Arthur (G 36) went to New Zealand c1875, found it necessary to put in excessively long hours of hard labour & travelling between the three properties, over several years, to keep their farms going as well as his own and to pay off mortgages that he guaranteed on their properties (This continued until brother Tom returned to his farm from NZ c1881; William Arthur stayed in NZ); In this endeavour John Arthur was actively helped both by his brother Arthur and by their friend "Mr Tom" Blennerhassett of Shanavally; The two brothers were at Mr Tom's bedside the night before he died (25.5.1898), when Tom signified an intention to assist his friends in their difficulty with a bequest; At the suggestion of Parson Foster, the matter was "deferred until tomorrow"; but tomorrow was too late

*In Ballyseedy Church he placed, under windows, brass plates in memory of his mother Dorcas BH, d.2.8.1822, & his brothers Henry & Barry*

>>> Rev. John >>>>>>>>> Elizabeth Blennerhassett; bapt. 26.6.1836 Ryme Intrinseca, Dorset; bur.30.5.1837 Ryme Intrinseca

Blennerhassett  
b.3.3.1803 Elm Grove, Ballyseedy Edu. Hyde Abbey & TCD (Pensioner 1821, BA, MA)

Ordained 1826; first Curate (1830-32) then 58 yrs Rector (1832-90) of St.Hippolytus, Ryme Intrinseca, near Sherbourne Dorset; Vicar of Hermitage, Dorset from 10.7.1834, appointed c26.6.1834 following death of Rev.Hobson [**IE**][**TFP 26.6.1834**] to 1885

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of Heddington, Wiltshire 1834; of 4 Charlotte Row, Weymouth, Dorset 1881 as widow, of Chesterfield House, Esplanade, Weymouth 1895-1904

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>>> (Elizabeth) >>>>>>>>> Sir (Arthur) >>>>>>>>> Sir (Augustus George) Digby Warren, Bart; 7th Baronet (succeeded 1914); MBE (1945) Augustus Riversdale b.23.10.1898 d.20.1.1958 Switzerland; unnm.; Edu. Harrow & RMC Sandhurst; John Blennerhassett Served in both WWI & WW2; WWI Lt. 7th Hussars 1917-25; Warren, Bart; WWII from 1939 Major 17th/21st Lancers, serving in N.Africa & Italy; 6th Baronet succeeded as Bart. 1914 by his cousin Col. T.R.P. Warren of Cahir, Co.Tipperary (succeeded 1893); 25th birthday reported in [**IT 23.10.1923**]

b.11.3.1865; [**FOSTER**] has 1868; 6th Baronet of Warren's Court, Co.Cork; landowner; JP Co.Cork; Lt. 3rd Battalion, The Royal Munster Fusiliers (**Rifles?**); d.28.8.1914; His obit. in [**IT 3.4.1914**] mistakenly gives data all relating to his father, not to him !

m.12.1.1898 Agnes Georgina Ievers; of Inchera, Co.Cork; d.?.10.1950 She m.2nd 21.5.1924 George I. Hartt of Whitehill, Riverstown, Co.Sligo

m.28.4.1864 Ireland; Major Sir Augustus Riversdale Warren Bt edu. Cheltenham College & Oxford; 5th Baronet of Warren's Court, Lissada, Co.Cork; succeeded 1863; b.24.8.1833 d.1.4.1914; 20th Regt of Foot, joined 1852; served in Crimea, Russia 1854-55 and during the Indian Mutiny 1857-58; wounded at Lucknow; Major 1863; Hon. Col. 4th Battalion, Royal Munster Fusiliers (Special Reserve); DL Co.Cork; JP Co.Cork & Co.Kerry; High Sheriff Co.Cork 1867; his 1st m.; he m.2nd 5.2.1898 Ella Rosa Chichester d.26.10.1946 (dau. of Gen. J.O.Chichester; divorced wife of Col. F.W. Clarkson, 39th Regt.)

>>> Geraldine >>>>>>>>> Geraldine Mabella Wingfield-Digby; d. an infant

de Courcy Blennerhassett; bapt. 24.12.1843 Ryme Intrinseca, Dorset; d.17.1.1913 at Chetnole House; bur. Ryme Intrinseca (headstone inscription has d.17.1.1914 in error; another source d.17.12.1913 in error)

m.10.8.1869 at Ryme Intrinseca Major William George Digby Wingfield-Digby, JP; of Thornford & of Chetnole House, Sherbourne, Dorset; b.18.7.1834 Geashill, Ireland; d.27.2.1907 at Chetnole; Major in 2nd Warwickshire Militia

>>> Elizabeth "Bessie" > >>> Avis Millicent >>>> >>> Avis Irene Crosse; b.12.2.1897

"Bunnie" Blennerhassett Allanson Winn >>> <dau.> Llewellyn Blennerhassett b.4.9.1868 >>> <dau.> Llewellyn b.29.4.1936 Chelsea m. Lt.-Cdr. Kenneth M. Fardell, RN [**London Gazette 2.3.1923, p.1492**]; 32 years in RN

d.?.10.1928 London; m.1st 27.4.1896 Herbert Dudley Hinton Crosse; of Newell House, Sherbourne, Dorset, d.18.10.1908 bur.30.10.1928 Ryme m.2nd 29.11.1911 (or 29.4.1911?); Dr. R. Llewelyn Jones Llewellyn MB, MRCS, LRCP; d.19.4.1934

m.31.10.1867 London; Charles Mark Allanson Winn; b.4.12.1845 (B 03); 10th Baronet of Nostell, Yorks; 4th Baronet of Little Warley, Essex; 4th Lord Headley, Baron Allanson & Winn of Aghadoe, Kerry; of Aghadoe Hse, Killarney & 44 Digby Mansions, Hammersmith, London; Representative Peer for Ireland; succeeded his father in his titles 1877 (was succeeded by Rowland George Allanson Winn, 5th Baron); used (without Royal Licence) the surname of Winn; DL & JP Co.Kerry, JP Essex & Middlesex; owned 12,769 acres in Co.Kerry 1876; Lt.-Col. Commanding 4th Battalion The Royal Munster Fusiliers, and Capt. Commanding Light Horse HAC; d.13.1.1913 in 1880 unsuccessfully contested Marylebone (as Conservative)

>>> (Ada) Dorcas Blennerhassett; bapt.18.3.1848 Ryme Intrinseca, Dorset; of Ryme Intrinseca 1848-74; m.10.2.1874 Ryme Intrinseca; Capt.(Maj.) William Frederick (Edward?) Chapman KDG; b.22.2.1843; of London; 1st Dragoon Guards

**History of HMS "Lightning" (18 guns)**

1829 Launched at Pembroke;  
 1829 Capt. T. Dickinson, Plymouth then South America Station  
 (Mate Nevinson De Courcy Blennerhassett, see right)  
 1832 Returned home, crew paid off at Portsmouth;  
 1832 Renamed HMS "Larne", the name "Lightning"  
 being needed for a steam vessel at Woolwich;  
 1832 Capt. William Sidney Smith, North Sea Station, where  
 she grounded; then the West Indies & Halifax Station  
 1836 Portsmouth;  
 1837-1844 Capt. P.J.Blake, East Indies  
 1844 Capt. John Brisbane, Coast of Africa  
 1848 Sheerness;  
 1866 broken-up at Charlton;

**History of HMS "Alecto" (3 - 32 pounder guns)**

1845-47 Cdr.Francis Austen, S.E. Coast of America Station  
 (Mate Nevinson de Courcy Blennerhassett)  
 1847-49 Cdr. Vincent A. Massingberd, S.E. Coast of America Station  
 (joined "Alecto" 17.11.1846; Captain from 18.10.1847)  
**Other officers of "Alecto" on this commission were:**  
 Lt. James B.Ballard (8.3.1848)  
 Lt. Nevinson de Courcy Blennerhassett (18.10.1847)  
 Master John Dillon (15.11.1845)  
 Surgeon Andrew Moffitt (acting) (8.3.1848)  
 Purser Thomas Pidcock (15.11.1845)  
 Late 1849 Out of Commission;  
 See "Ships of the Old Navy" by Michael Phillips, at  
<http://www.cronab.demon.co.uk/marit.htm>

**ROYAL NAVY**

>> Lt. (Nevinson) de Courcy Blennerhassett, R.N.; of Ballyseedy House, Co.Kerry;  
 b.6.8.1811 at parent's house 12 George Street, Bath, Somerset [**"Bath Chronicle" 15.8.1811**] [**FOSTER has 1806 in error**]

Joined Royal Navy; Appointed Mate 2.8.1831; A Mate was at that time rated as Petty Officer, so not being included in "Navy List" until 1842 when Mates became commissioned officers; Listed in error as "Mate M.D. Blennerhassett" in "Marshall's Royal Naval Biography" 1833; Promoted Lt. 18.10.1844 but continued to serve as Mate until 18.10.1847 (Re: Navy List 1847) then as 2nd Lt. 1847-1850

Served on HMS "Lightning" (18 guns) c1829-32 (Mate from 2.8.1831), which ship "...was refitting at Rio after a trip to the Pacific when news was received on 5.12.1830 of the loss on Cape Frio of frigate "Thetis" bound for England with gold and silver bars and other treasure. After striking the cliffs she had drifted along the coast, finally breaking up in a small cove. The general opinion was that the treasure was irrecoverable, but this was not shared by Capt. Dickinson who, 'a gentleman of considerable mechanical talents', offered his services..."

A British civil engineer, Mr Moore, who was residing in Rio, improvised diving bells using iron tanks from "Warspite". These were suspended at first from a massive derrick built by the carpenter, Mr Jones, and after, when that was smashed to pieces in a gale which produced waves to a height of nearly 100 feet up the cliffs, from ropes stretched across cliff tops. While the derrick was being prepared, Richard Hearn, carpenter's mate of "Lightening" & George Dewar, a seaman, went down in a small bell suspended from a launch belonging to "Warspite". They found only pieces of wreckage and nearly lost their lives when the bell was dashed against rocks and overturned. Then, on 1.4.1831 a few dollars were discovered and then a little gold. By the time "Lightning" was relieved in March 1832 he and his people had recovered 600,000 dollars which had been scattered over a rocky bottom at depths of up to 75 feet. Mr Moore and Mr Linzee, mate of "Adelaide", were drowned in an accident with a boat on 10 June. Capt. De Roos in "Algerine" continued the salvage and brought the total to 747,909 dollars by the time he finished operations in July; "Lightning" returned home & was paid off at Portsmouth 13 Sept. The ship's company presented a sword & epaulettes to their commander and also rings to Lt. Thomas Forbes, Master Charles Pope and Mate "M.D." Blennerhassett, in gratitude for his care of them off Cape Frio..."

Promoted Lt. 18.10.1844 but on 6.12.1845 appointed Mate of HMS "Alecto" on S.E. coast of America station, under Cdr. Francis Austen (Re: RN "List of Ships and Stations" 1846); On 18.10.1847 appointed 2nd Lt. on "Alecto" under new Captain, Cdr. Vincent Massingberd, still on the S.E. America station; "Alecto" was a wooden steam driven paddle sloop of 200HP, built in 1839 at Chatham Dockyard, armed with three 32 pounder guns; She was the paddler used in 1845 for the well known tests with the screw steamer HMS "Rattler", of the same power; When the two vessels were fastened stern to stern, and with both steaming at their best, "Rattler" towed "Alecto" at 2.5 miles per hour

In 1849, year of the California Gold Rush, the "Alecto" was on a commission to S.E. coast of America; she sailed from New York to California, stopping at Boston for repairs & at Rio de Janeiro, Brazil for supplies; while at anchor in bay of Rio, on 23.4.1849 Nevinson wrote a letter to a friend (Samuel Lyon of Northcastle, Westchester Co., N.York) describing the trip so far & their friendly meetings with other California bound ships; In the company of two such ships, on 22nd Feb., his ship fired a mid-day 21 gun salute with its 32 pounders, in honour of "Gen. Washington's birthday"; arrived at Rio on 20th March & while there he visited U.S. Warships anchored in the bay, meeting their officers, some already old friends; He records his excitement at the prospect of reaching California & perhaps finding gold; NOTE: In 1850 the flagship of the U.S. Commodore in Rio was a frigate, USS "Congress"; The letter is in "Gold Rush Letters" collection of Charlie Hill, Lotus, California; In the 1850 Navy List he is one of four "Junior Lieutenants" listed with no seniority date

d.13.3.1853 unnm.; bur.17.3.1853 Ballyseedy; **in Ballyseedy Church under a stained glass window (St.John Ch. IV, V.46-53) is a brass plate inscribed: "Nevinson de Courcy (sic) Blennerhassett died 13th March 1853 aged 41 years. Erected by his brother Lt.-Col. Francis Barry Blennerhassett"**

>> Margaret Theodora Sheldon Blennerhassett; of Nice, France and later of Sherborne, Dorset (near Ryme Intrinseca, home of her bro. Rev.John Blennerhassett); Probably identical with Margaret Blennerhassett, b.c1811 Bath, Somerset, who was unnm. & a lodger at Exeter Road, Holdenhurst, Hampshire 1871; d.24.8.1876 at the Digby Hotel, Sherborne, Dorset [**Limerick Chronicle 31.8.1876**]; Will pr.23.11.1876 Blandford, Dorset; unnm.

**in Ballyseedy Church under a stained glass window (St.Luke Ch.VIII V41,42,49,56) are a pair of brass plates, one inscribed: "Margaret Sheldon Blennerhassett" and the other "Erected by her son Thomas Blennerhassett"; The 2nd plate is misplaced; She had no children and Thomas was her brother, not her son; This plate has been accidentally swapped during building renovation, with the plate inscribed "Erected by her brother Lt. Francis Barry Blennerhassett of Ballyseedy" installed in error below the plate dedicated to their mother Dorcas Blennerhassett, d.2.8.1822**

**INDIAN  
MUTINY  
1857-1858**

>> Lt.Col. (Francis) Barry Blennerhassett b.c1814/5 ( [Foster] has b.1805 in error); of Blennerville & of Edenburn, Co.Kerry; Ensign 1836; Lt. 1838; with 71st Regt. of Foot (Highland Light Infantry) in Canada, Antigua (Resident Battalion in Canada); Crimean War & Indian Mutiny; Capt. 1854 in Canada (returning to Liverpool 12.10.1854 on Royal Canadian Mail steamer "Cleopatra", he & other officers signing a testimonial for the Captain); on arrival the 71st Highlanders "were billeted here last night and will embark in a day or so for the seat of war in the east" [**"Northern Daily Times" 13.10.1854**]; Capt. during Crimean war (served at Sebastopol 20.12.1854 to 13.2.1855 - distributed by Queen Victoria in person at Horse Guards Parade 19.5.1855), returned from Crimea via Malta on P&O ship "City of London" Feb.1855 [**TIMES 2.3.1855**]

Major (from 26.12.1857) during Indian Mutiny; on return journey arrived at Bombay 24.12.1858 on medical certificate from Mhow [**"Bombay Times" 27.12.1858**] then departed Bombay "on leave to England" [**"Bombay Times" 28.12.1858**]; [another "**Bombay Times**" of 1858, no precise date] has Major Blennerhassett departing for Alexandria; awarded the "Indian Mutiny 1857-1859" medal [medal roll]; retired from army 7.12.1858 as Lt.Col. [**TIMES 8.12.1858**]; In 1871 he lived at Blennerville, near Tralee and in that year he subscribed to "A History of the Kingdom of Kerry" by M.F.Cusack; unnm.; His nephew John du Boulay Blennerhassett (B 16) lived with him at Edenburn post1873

**At Ballyseedy Church he erected brass plates in memory of his sister Margaret BH and brother Nevinson de Courcy BH; also at Ballyseedy Church, under a stained glass window (St.Luke Ch. VII, V.1-10) is a brass plate erected to his memory by his brother Thomas Blennerhassett; An additional brass plate (under window for his bro. Crosbie BH; B 14) is also inscribed with date for Barry BH, "Died 28th July 1877 aged 63 years"; This inscription is a reject engraving, the reused plate installed blank side up hiding the inscription, but subsequently the engraved side exposed in error**

d.28.7.1877 Blennerville; bur. Ballyseedy; Will with two codicils pr.6.10.177 Cork & 4.2.1878 England

NOTE: The name "Elm Grove" was used in 1819 on Fanny's death notice (she died late 1818), the latest occurrence of the house name I have seen; The use of the name Elm Grove (Elmgrove) appears to have ceased about 1821 when the house remodelling was completed, it being given the name "Ballyseedy" from the old house at the other end of Ballyseedy Wood, by then falling into ruin

>> Georgina Blennerhassett; b.c1801; of Ballyseedy, Co.Kerry;  
d.11.12.1826 at Nice, France; bur. Nice; memorial inscription on Denny tomb at Derryvullan New Churchyard, Irvinestown, Co.Fermanagh m.1823 (1st cousin) Edward Denny (below) b.1.1.1801; of Moorstown; & of Derryvullan, Co.Fermanagh 1826/7;  
Officer 3rd Buffs; High Sheriff Co.Fermanagh 1823; d.11.11.1838 Rome, Italy; bur. Protestant cemetery, Rome, tomb. No.1745;  
memorial inscription on the Denny tomb at Derryvullan New Churchyard (an altar tomb with inscriptions on four sides, mostly now illegible)

>> Frances "Fanny" >>> Edward Denny >>> >>> Anthony Denny >>> >>> Rev. Edward >>>>>> >>> Anthony Denny;  
Anne Wilhelmina | b.1.1.1801 Ireland; | of Moorstown | Denny SE, MA | b.13.7.1879 d.21.2.1880  
Blennerhassett | of Moorstown; | b.11.10.1823 | b.4.8.1853 |  
of Elm Grove; | & of Derryvullan, | Officer in the | / | >> Edward Maynard Resident Battalion in Canada  
bapt.30.6.1783 | Co.Fermanagh | 7st Regiment; | of Moorstown, | Coningsby Denny  
Tralee (C.of I.) | 1826/7; | d.5.4.1857 | Co.Tipperary; | b.4.3.1883  
/ | Officer 3rd Buffs; | Haverford West, | & of Drumlone, |  
d.20.12.1818 age35 | High Sheriff Co. | Pembrokeshire, | Co.Fermanagh; | >> Barry Maynard Rynd  
Cheltenham, Glos. | Fermanagh 1823 | South Wales; | Edu. Pembroke | Denny; b.2.1.1885  
[Bath Chronicle | / | bur. Denny tomb | Coll. Oxford |  
31.12.1818] | d.11.11.1838 Rome; | at Derryvullan | (MA 1880); | >> John Maynard Denny  
[Limerick Chron. | bur. Protestant | New Churchyard, | Vicar of Kempley | b.3.9.1886  
2.1.1819] | Cem. Rome, Italy | Irvinestown, | and of St.Peter's, |  
/ | tomb. No.1745; | Co.Fermanagh | Vauxhall, London | >> Maynard Henry  
bur.29.12.1818 in | (he & wife have | (an altar tomb; the | / | Blennerhassett Denny  
one of the two | mem. inscriptions | only person bur. | m.1.7.1875 at the | b.6.6.1888  
Blennerhassett | on Denny tomb at | there but are mem. | temporary church, | d.10.1.1907 unm.  
vaults in crypt of | Derryvullan New | inscriptions for | Cheltenham | >> Mowbray Charles  
St.Swithin Walcot | Churchyard, | three others) | Alma Mary | Maynard Denny  
Bath (she has no | Co.Fermanagh) | / | Chesshyre | b.20.8.1891  
inscription) with | / | m.21.9.1852 | / |  
her cousin Arthur | m.1823 (1st cousin) | Sarah Jane | of Bennington, | >> Michael Maynard  
Blennerhassett | Georgina | Lockwood, of | Cheltenham, | Denny; b.3.10.1895  
d.1810 (B 09); | Blennerhassett; | South Hackney, | Gloucestershire |  
& brother Arthur | b.c1801; | Middlesex | [The Cheltenham  
BH of Ballyseedy | of Ballyseedy, | d.3.10.1902 | Chronicle  
d.1815 (B 11) | Co.Kerry (B 20); | d.11.12.1826 at Nice, France; bur. at Nice | 6.7.1875] >> Alma Margaret Mary  
/ | >> William Denny | Denny; b.20.7.1876  
m.1st 1799 | >> William Denny | >> Murial Mary Denny  
Anthony Denny | d.5.10.1886; Col. 71st Regt.; | b.9.1.1878  
b.c1770; | m. Everetta (Ewretta?) Richardson | >> Clare Innocentia Mary  
bap.19.3.1773 | of Montreal, Canada (dsp) | Denny; b.28.12.1880  
/ | >> Mary Denny >>>>> >>> William O'Malley | >> Joan Champerowne  
MP for Tralee; | d.1883 | Mary Denny; b.5.2.1890  
of Moorstown. | / | >> Katherine Mary Monica  
Co.Tipperary & | m.1823 Charles O'Malley QC; | Denny; b.25.8.1893  
of Derryvullan | of Hawthorne Lodge, Co.Mayo |  
(Derryvolane) | d.19.12.1849 | >> Doris Mary Georgina  
& Drumlone, | >> Doris Mary Georgina | Denny; b.15.12.1894  
Co.Fermanagh | >> Doris Mary Georgina |  
/ | >> Doris Mary Georgina |  
(son of Col. Edward Denny of Tralee & Mary Rynd, | >> Doris Mary Georgina |  
heirress of Derryvullan); | >> Doris Mary Georgina |  
d.1806 but [Foster/Lodge/King] have d.1818 in error; bur. Denny | >> Doris Mary Georgina |  
vault No.40 under Old Derryvullan Ch., Irvinestown, Fermanagh | >> Doris Mary Georgina |  
(mem. inscription on Denny tomb at Derryvullan New Churchyard) | >> Doris Mary Georgina |  
/ | >> Doris Mary Georgina |  
m.2nd 1814 | >> Doris Mary Georgina |  
Col. Sir (Edward) > >>> Theodosia Morris | >> Doris Mary Georgina |  
George Morris | b.30.7.1854 | >> Doris Mary Georgina |  
KCB, DL, JP; bapt.19.3.1773 Tralee; | d.17.1.1893 | >> Doris Mary Georgina |  
Lt.-Col. 3rd Regt. of Foot (Old Buffs); "Usher of the Black Rod | / | >> Doris Mary Georgina |  
of the Order of St.Patrick" at Dublin Castle; d.21.5.1858 | m.22.11.1882 | >> Doris Mary Georgina |  
Clara Richardson; of Springfield, Co.Down

>> Mary >>>>>>>>> >>> issue de Courcy (p.K 14) >>> Rev. Arthur Lockwood Denny;  
Blennerhassett | >>> issue de Courcy (p.K 14) | b.16.3.1856; of Hatfield House, Lowestoft  
b.post1783; of Elm Grove, Ballyseedy, Co.Kerry; | >>> issue de Courcy (p.K 14) |  
d.19.1.1873 | >>> issue de Courcy (p.K 14) |  
/ | >>> issue de Courcy (p.K 14) |  
m.10.8.1810 (cousin) | >>> issue de Courcy (p.K 14) |  
(but cannot be as the marriage license is dated 7.8.1811) | >>> issue de Courcy (p.K 14) |  
Capt. Nevinson Blennerhassett de Courcy, RN; b.20.2.1789; | >>> issue de Courcy (p.K 14) |  
Lt. 29.1.1806; Commander 26.1.1809; Captain 7.6.1814; | >>> issue de Courcy (p.K 14) |  
awarded the KTS (Knight of the Portuguese order of the Tower and the sword); d.1.11.1845; | >>> issue de Courcy (p.K 14) |  
son of Anne Blennerhassett of Castle Conway & Hon. Capt.Michael de Courcy (p.K 14)

NOTE: "A Naval Biographical Dictionary" by William R. O'Byrne 1849, in error names Nevinson de Courcy's wife as Catherine Blennerhassett instead of Mary



**DISCONNECTED BALLYSEEDY REFERENCES...**

John Blennerhassett of Ballycarty (Will 1681)  
 John Blennerhassett of Ballyseedy (Will 1685)  
 John Blennerhassett of Ballyseedy (Will 1714)  
 John Blennerhassett of Ballyseedy (Will 1716)

These four do not seem to fit; Not sure how reliable these are,  
 or if these dates represent a Will dated or proved...

Mrs Alice Blennerhassett; d.1765, there was a memorial  
 (in old Ballyseedy Church ?) (Will 1765 - Ardferf & Aghadoe diocese)

Mrs Blennerhassett; bur.18.4.1821 Ballyseedy old graveyard (C.of I.) - also B 03

Eliza Blennerhassett; bur.9.8.1821 Ballyseedy old graveyard (C.of I.)

Robert Blennerhassett; bur. 21.3.1826 Ballyseedy old graveyard  
 (NOTE: Robert is a family name of the Killorglin Blennerhassett family)

Mrs Anne Blennerhassett bur.19.12.1827 Ballyseedy old graveyard (C.of I.)

Arthur Hassett >>>>>> Arthur Hassett bapt.1.11.1861 Tralee (RC)  
 of Ballyseedy

m. Anna Hogan  
 (see also p.G 53)

Lt. William Blennerhassett; served in the army; Ensign on 27.7.1855 and in 1856  
 (presumably to 10.9.1858) with the 39th Regt. of Foot (Dorset/Dorsetshire Regt);  
 Lt. 10.9.1858 with 21st Regt. of Foot (Royal North British Fusiliers), with four years of paid service

Thomas Blennerhassett; served in army in Australia with the 39th Regt. of Foot  
 (Dorset/Dorsetshire Regt.)

**Who are these two? they do not appear to be from the Dorset family at Ryne Intrinseca  
 or Iwerne Minster; also on p.E 1**

>> Christina Godfrey d.9.3.1902;  
 /  
 m.3.8.1850 Sir Richard Wood GCMG, CB; d.21.7.1900 (issue)  
 >> Helen Isabella Godfrey; d.7.7.1895 unnm.  
 >> Emily Godfrey unnm.

>> Rev. John Godfrey; d.1849 unnm.

>> Henry Alexander >>>> dau. Godfrey  
 Godfrey  
 b.24.8.1803; >> dau. Godfrey  
 72nd Highlanders  
 d.1888

/  
 m.10.7.1827 Mary Wood; of Woodville, Co.Sligo; d.1882

>> Robert Godfrey b.6.10.1807; unnm.

>> James George Godfrey JP; b.4.6.1808; d.1894;

/  
 m.31.3.1843 Mary Isabella Maunsell

>> Richard Frankland Godfrey; b.10.3.1810; unnm.

>> Anne Godfrey d.1889 unnm.

>> Agnes Godfrey; unnm.

>> Eleanor Godfrey >>>> issue  
 d.12.1.1854

/  
 m.26.8.1934; very Rev. John Godfrey Day, Dean of Ardferf; d.1878 (issue)

>> Rev. William >>>>>> >>> Edward Godfrey; of Kilburn House, Milltown, Co.Kerry; d.1872; b.18.4.1803

Godfrey  
 b.22.12.1764  
 Elm Grove [AR  
 Ballyseedy bible]

>> Barbara Godfrey

/  
 Rector of  
 Kenmare,  
 Co.Kerry;

m. James Hickson;  
 of Lansdown House, Co.Kerry

d.6.4.1847  
 Kenmare

>> Agnes Godfrey

/  
 m.1796 Lucy Day  
 b.c1770 d.1861

>> Lucy Margaret Godfrey

/  
 m.1st John Curry of Milltown, Co.Kerry

/  
 m.2nd Rev. Charles Peter Thomas

>> Eleanor Godfrey

>> Maj. Luke >>>>>> >>> Elizabeth Godfrey

Godfrey  
 b.c1766  
 d.22.6.1836

m. <??> Barnes, of Dublin

>> Isabella Godfrey

/  
 m. Susanna  
 Colles-Meredith;  
 dau. of Sir Barry  
 Colles-Meredith,  
 Baronet

>> Agnes Godfrey; b.1772 d.16.10.1854

>> Barbara Godfrey; d.?11.1817 Killarney

**Probably descended from this family is:**

John Blennerhassett Godfrey, b.c1814 Kilkenny;  
 moved to London; Surgeon, of 3 Mount Place,  
 Whitechapel Road, London 1841;  
 author of "The Means of Preventing the Downfall  
 of the British Empire" pub. London 1882;  
 In May 1841 charged with assaulting Mr Thomas  
 Godfrey, his cousin [TIMES 20.5.1841];  
 In July 1856 charged with "letting off fireworks on  
 the night of 4th July, being the first Friday of July,  
 the day of Firllop Fair" [TIMES 21.7.1856]

>> Leticia "Letty" >>> >>> Horatio de Courcy :>>> Edward Horatio >>> >>> ?????????????????? >>> ?????????????????? >>> Christine Allan-Johns of Upper Hutt, New Zealand  
 Godfrey | Martelli | de Courcy Martelli;  
 b.c1768/9 | ? / b.c1843 Milltown, Co.Kerry  
 Co.Kerry | ? m. <??> /  
 d.1.6.1850 | | m. <??>  
 / |>> Agnes Martelli  
 / |  
 m.19.10.1789 | m.c1836 Robert Crawley  
 at Bushfield;  
 Capt. (Norton) Charles Martelli;  
 b.c1761;  
 of Lismore House, Ratass, Tralee (which house he built);  
 Lt. & Capt. 69th Regt. of Foot;  
 d.13.2.1819 Tralee;  
 |  
 >> Philippa Godfrey  
 /  
 m.29.10.1806 St.Anne's church, Shandon, Co.Cork (2nd cousin);  
 Richard Frankland of Ashgrove, Co.Cork; barrister-at-law; d.?2.1811  
 son of Dr Richard Frankland & Agnes Rogers;  
 grandson of Agnes Blennerhassett & Robert Rogers (B 10)  
 /  
 NOTE: a trustee of the Will of Arthur Blennerhassett (d.1799) of Ballyseedy & Bath (B 03);  
 with Sir John Godfrey (B 11) & Rev. James Archibald Hamilton (B 03)  
 |  
 >> Catherine Godfrey  
 |  
 >> Margaret Godfrey  
 /  
 m.24.11.1801 John Mahony  
 of Dromore, Co.Kerry; d.1818  
 |  
 >> Elizabeth Godfrey  
 /  
 m.1.6.1800 Jacob Mark  
 of Cork; a Quaker; b.12.11.1774; d.21.10.1826 at Rutland Street, Cork  
 |  
 >> Arabella Godfrey; b.1776 d.1853  
 /  
 m.11.8.1798 Rev. John Day,  
 Rector of Killallagh; d.26.5.1817 Waterville, Co.Kerry