

The Arklow Hollingsworth Family

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THIRD GENERATION

John³ Hollingsworth. Supposed (by your editor) to be the eldest son of Daniel² and Ellenor (?Spattiswoode?) Hollingsworth. He was born about 1778/79, possibly at Arklow town, Co Wicklow, Ireland; died 21 August 1864, at his house "Arklow Rock House" in the townland of Rock Big, Arklow Parish, aged 85 years. Burial place not known; possibly the old Protestant Cemetery in Main St., Arklow, now a city park. (!) His life's occupation was that of a farmer, though once he is called a road contractor in the marriage record of his son Nicholas. The surname and forename of his wife - or wives - are entirely unknown.

The first record we can discover directly about him is a note of an unregistered lease found in the 1826 Rental of the Proby Estate (Manor of Arklow) in the Proby Papers, National Library, film copy owned by this writer.

"Clonalusk (Cronelusk- Ed.) - 2 August 1811.

John Hollensworth, lessee of 16 acres, 10 perches.

Lease for 21 years, at rent of £32:2:6d per annum,

and 1 shilling & 2 fowl or 10 shillings duties and

receivers' fee, and the life of Robert Thomas Atkins."

Coincidentally, one John Moore obtained a lease granted the same date (2nd August 1811) on a similar portion of this townland, making a total between these men of about 36 Irish Measure acres. If this was not a coincidence, it may be very significant. Thirty-six acres, you may remember, was the size of the original farm held in Cronelusk by William and Samuel Hollingsworth in 1768, for their lives! William expired, and with him the final cestui que vie or life of lease, in late 1807 at age 84. Family tradition in Ireland today maintains the story that one Hollingsworth girl married a Meyler, and her daughter Betty Meyler married John Moore. The scheme of time involved makes it very possible this John Moore of the 1811 lease was the identical man, and the fact he held an adjoining farm to John Hollingsworth is so startling it cannot be passed by lightly. If old William Hollingsworth was, as we suspect, a bachelor, it may be that heirs included John Moore and John Hollingsworth, descendants of his brothers, entitled to claim rights to a lease on the property in equal shares.

The Tithe Applotments, taken 1825, for Arklow Parish shew John Hollinsworth (Hollonsworth) and John Moore still in possession of the land with slightly different assessments.

Townland of Cranlosk:

John Ayers (Ayres)	19 acres	3 roods	30 perch.
Mosses Stafford	20 "	0 "	0 "
John Hollonsworth	15 "	3 "	36 "
John Moore	25 "	0 "	0 "
Total:	80 "	3 "	26 "

Though Arklow Church Registers are lost, those for Inch, County Wexford, beginning in 1726 (film in our possession) make several mentions of the Hollingsworths at Cronelusk up to about 1830. The lease terminated 2 August 1832 and it seems, John and his family removed at that time, to Rock Big. A family tradition told by a great grand-

daughter, Maria Hollingsworth of Coolanearl, Redcross, Co Wicklow, (Letters written in 1964) asserts that John Hollinsworth and his family were ejected (evicted) for hiding a Roman Catholic under the bed "in the troubled times". We haven't confirmed this. The life of the single individual, Robert Thomas Atkins, whose life was used in all

the Proby Leases at that period, would also have a bearing on the length of the lease. We do not know when he died, but if he outlived the 21 year period, the property would be Hollingsworth's until the death of Atkins - or by forfeiture for nonpayment of rents - or some unforgivable transgression - like hiding Catholics on the property!

We have no record of the family at Cronelusk after 1832. The Primary Valuation of 1854 for this Parish shew no Hollingsworths at Cronelusk, but John Hollingsworth at "Big Rock" holding a house and small garden marked "free" which means the title was not good. Maria Hollingsworth in her letter, with no knowledge of this record, says that, after ejection, the family was "given free land at Rock Big."

At Cronelusk the following tenants were valued:

CROWELUSK (Ordnance Sheet No. 45.)

Thomas Stafford	Earl of Carysfort	House, offs. land	32a 1r 10p
Thomas Moore	Same	(Land	5 2 11
		(Ho. offs. land	33 0 36
Lewis Hanagan	Same	Land	27 2 18
John Eyre	Same	Ho. offs. land	32 1 22
		Total . . .	131a 0r 17p

The acreage here is British Statute measure, which nearly matches the some 80 acres of Irish Plantation Measure used in the 1825 Applotments. It appears Thomas Stafford held land as heir of Moses Stafford, from the landlord, Earl of Carysfort (surname Proby), and John "Eyre" the identical John Ayres of 1825 or a relative of similar name, the same plot. Thomas Moore appears to be heir to John Moore, and this leaves us with Lewis Hanagan as the legal successor of the Hollingsworth land. We have not searched for a registered lease "Proby (or Lord Carysfort) to Hanagan" which, if found, might in its recital explain the change of title.

Maria Hollingsworth claims John's mother was the famous "Lady Spottiswoode" on the grounds of tales told her nearly 70 years ago by Annie Tyrrell, a granddaughter of John. However, Maria conceded to the editor that one generation -or two- may have been left out. At any rate, she asserts that she always knew that John had nine sons and only one daughter, from the same source, but in this case she says "I always knew..." which is good enough for us. We are able to make the following sketch of nine of the children with many dates, but are not able to name the ninth son, nor can we offer even a guess as to what the name may be. Sources given as we move along.

Issue of John³ Hollingsworth of Rock Big by _____ his wife.

- (1) William⁴, "eldest", of Pollaphuca, Castlemacadam (Avoca) Co. Wicklow, farmer. Formerly at Springfield and Cronelusk in the 1820s. Born about 1800-01, died 12 Feb. 1871 aged 70. Married 1 Feb. 1824 at Inch, Co Wexford (Registers) Elizabeth Hempenstall, daughter of George & Catherine Hempenstall, Ashwood, Inch, baptized May 16, 1798; died 3 Dec. 1878, at Pollaphuca, ae 80. Issue will be discussed later.

- (2) Samuel⁴ Hollingsworth, born c1803, died 12 Dec. 1865, Traverse City, Grand Traverse County, Michigan, U.S.A. (Estate Papers), aged about 62 years; buried in the city cemetery in the Hollingsworth plot, with no marker and no mention in the ledgers. Married (1) 20 Feb. 1827, Inch Parish Church, Co Wexford, Ellenor Hempenstall, daughter of George & Catherine, of Ashwood, Inch, baptized at Inch 29 Oct. 1807, last known to be alive in 1871, Township of Escott, Leeds County, Ontario, Canada. He married (2) Hannah Dutton, in the lifetime of his first wife, which means a divorced or bigamous marriage. Large family by both wives, to be discussed later. Emigrated with Dan and Tom in about 1836.
- (3) Daniel⁴, born 11 April 1806 (headstone) died 14 April 1884, Escott, Leeds, Ontario, aged 78. Buried Mallorytown Cemetery there. Emigrated about 1836 with Samuel and Thomas his brothers. He

married, in Canada, a widow, Mrs. Anne Eleanor (Manning) Hyde, who was born 12 April 1820 "near Fermoy, Co Cork, Ireland" (her obituary) and died 3 Sept. 1897 near Mallorytown, Ontario, aged 77 and buried beside her husband. Large family, to be discussed later.

- (4) John⁴, (this name and facts following not proved to connect) born about 1808, last known to be living in 1864 when he certified his wife's death. Married, before 1834, Bridget Develin, (possibly daughter of Michael Devlin of Clogga, Arklow, farmer) who was born about 1804 and died at Ballinabarney, Glencaly Parish, Co Wicklow, aged 60, on 5 July 1864. (Death Records, Custom Ho. Dublin - she was first Hollingsworth ever recorded in the deaths.) She was Roman Catholic. John changed his religion when he married her, and he allowed his children to be so reared. The family removed to near Wicklow Town before 1835. Family to be discussed later.

- (5) Thomas⁴, born about 1812, Cronelusk, Arklow; died 1890, Escott, Ontario, Canada, aged about 78. Came to Canada with brothers Daniel and Samuel about 1836. Married Margaret ----- Her maiden name never discovered by our research. Family to be discussed later.

- (6) Michael⁴ (this name not proved to connect to following individual) Born about 1814, (Cronelusk) and died somewhere in America after 1851. Came to New York on ship Alice Wilson, arrived 4 August 1851 (National Archives, New York Port Passenger Lists.) Family included. Wife not named, but called "Mrs." Children as follows:

- a. John Hollingsworth, born c1834, Ireland.
- b. Michael Hollingsworth, born c1836, Ireland.
- c. Thomas Hollingsworth, born c1838, Ireland.
- d. Edward Hollingsworth, born c1840, Ireland.
- e. Joseph Hollingsworth, born c1843, Ireland - believed to be same Joseph at Chico, California, "aged 36 in 1881" when he registered as a voter (See page 47.)

Michael's wife "Mrs." was born about 1816 in Ireland. The ship list shows Hempenstalls, Moores, Meylers, and many others with names identified as Arklow area families. This is our only clue. In Arklow Parish in the 1850 Valuations, Part of Abbey Lands was assessed to a man of this name, who changed later to Nicholas Hollingsworth, who is the same man listed below.

- (7) Nicholas⁴ Hollingsworth, born about 1816; Cronelusk, (proven child) Died 24 July 1885 at Mangan House, Hollyfort, Kilnahun Parish, Co Wexford, Ireland, aged 68. (Civil Records.) Farmer & dairyman. Lived at Arklow and had financial failure there; later moved to Mangan, recouped his losses by good management of a herd of dairy cattle, paid his debts and left his estate to his widow. (Information of granddaughter Maria Hollingsworth Hollingsworth.) Married two times - name of the first wife not known to a living soul. Records never found. Married 2nd, 10 Feb. 1850, *Inch Parish Church, (Registers) Margaret Hempenstall, daughter of Thomas and Mary, of Scarnah, Inch, baptized at Inch 28 April 1826 died 11 March 1898, Mangan, Co Wexford, aged 72. Both are buried (markers, so it is said) at old Kilbride Cemetery in County Wicklow in Kilbride-Ennerreilly Church Parish. By first wife Nicholas had six children; and by second wife supposedly sixteen more, making 22 in all, of whom we find only about eleven by second wife - to be discussed later. *Civil Record: 1851.
- (8) Edward⁴, born about 1821 (proved son) at Cronelusk; died 5 Feb. 1885, Rock Big, Arklow, aged about 63. Inherited Rock Big farm and bequeathed it to his children who held it to this century. Married, 20 January 1852 in Arklow St. Saviours Parish Church, Sarah Freeman, daughter of George Freeman, of Ballyfad, Inch, who

was born about 1830 at Ballyrad; died 10 June 1900 at Rock Big,
aged 78. (Will.) Issue: about eight children, to be discussed
later.

(9) Mary⁴, born probably about 1825 at Cronelusk. Died after 1880 in
Arklow Village. Married, 3 June 1851, at Arklow, John Tyrrell,
mariner, son of Michael Tyrrell. Dates not known. He died, and
she married (2) Martin Byrne. Issue by both marriages, including
the Annie Tyrrell above mentioned, who was by the second husband,
nee Annie Byrne, but who married a cousin Mr. Tyrrell. Annie
claimed she must have some 36 cousins in Canada or America on
the Hollingsworth side. To be discussed later. (Proved child.)

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