

# Codd

*From: Families of Wexford, by Henry Murphy*

THE first of the Wexford Codd's who came with the Normans is said to have been Osbert or Osborne, the third son of Walter Cod or Code of Morevale in Cornwall, and his wife, the heiress of the Damerells of Gidleagh Castle, Devonshire.<sup>1</sup> The family became established at Carne where they built castles at Castletown, Clougheast and Ballyfane.

The first definite record of the name in Ireland refers to Hivelot Cod who witnessed a charter of Raymond le Gros about 1175-85. Next there was Hugh Cod who attested a grant to Dunbrody Abbey before 1200.<sup>2</sup>

The earliest record of land held by a member of the family is in 1247 when Martin Cod held Ballywitch in the old parish of St. Helen's (Forth) in 1324. The Codd's also possessed Ballyhine (St. Helen's) before it passed to the Lamberts in the fourteenth century. Around the same time they acquired the manor of Rathaspeck where Osborne Codd built a castle in 1351.<sup>3</sup>

The following names appear in the Seneschal of Wexford's Accounts in the Pipe Rolls: Geoffrey Cod, 1263 to 1272; Osbert Cod, 1287 to 1289; Adam Code, 1289 to 1293; Robert Cod, 1293 to 1298. John, Robert, William and David Codd were summoned on 11th November, 1307, to appear as jurors on the Inquisition taken at New Ross, relative to the lands in Co. Wexford belonging to the Countess of Pembroke.

Laurence Codd was Chief Justice of Assize at Wexford in 1327; Henry Cod was one of the Attorneys in Co. Wexford of Maria Countess of Pembroke in 1324; Raymond, William and Geoffrey Codd were summoned to attend the Lord Justice with horse in 1345; Roger Codd, Abbot of Tintern, died 6th December, 1354; another Roger Cod was Sovereign of New Ross in 1397.

Around the mid-fourteenth century one of the Carne Codd's obtained an estate at Rathaspeck where Sir Osborne Codd built a castle, c. 1351. This family became Protestant in the seventeenth century and the property passed to the Richards family through the marriage in 1680 of Jane Codd to Thomas Richards of Park. Martin Codd of Castletown was summoned with his brother Nicholas in 1476 to appear before Parliament, or lose his title to three ploughlands in Rathaspeck.

Osborne Codd of Castletown, son of Martin, married a sister of Nicholas Comyn, Bishop of Waterford, who was consecrated Bishop of Ferns in St. Paul's, London, in 1509, and later translated to Waterford and Lismore, where he died in 1551. In 1532 Osborne's son Nicholas and Jasper Coddle (presumably of Clougheast) were on the jury to inquire



into the plundering of the town of Felthard by the Bishop of Ferns and his allies the Kavanaghs under their chief, Cahir MacArt.

A seventeenth-century writer relates that 'the family of Codd of Castletown expressed singular loyalty and valour in Queen Elizabeth's wars, several of them being slain' and further that the Codd's in general, who by now had offshoots at Clougheast, Ballyumphane (Ballyfane) and Garrylough (in the Murrows) 'were considered with the Staffords and the Rossiers as the prime gentlemen and freeholders in the barony of Forth'. In 1608, Martin Codd of Castletown and Jasper Codd of Clougheast are mentioned by Carew as among the gentlemen of Forth.

Martin Codd (died 1627) was the first of the family to become a Protestant. He had extensive lands in the Carne area. Buncarrig and Ballyumphane were held by the Barrys and Codd's of a junior line, respectively.

The following Codd's are mentioned at this time: Balthazar of Garrylough, James of Ballyumphane, John of Ballynaclash, Walter of Wexford, Jasper of Sumertown, Carne; Stephen and his son Walter of Newtown, Carne, and David of Buncarrig.

Martin Codd's son Nicholas, who succeeded him, was not only a Protestant but a Cromwellian as well. At the outbreak of the rebellion in 1641, he fled to Wales with others, leaving his house, goods and corn in the charge of his brother William. William Esmond, who was one of the Confederate leaders, and others came armed with muskets and forced themselves into the house and seized a third of Nicholas Codd's corn for the use of the Irish.

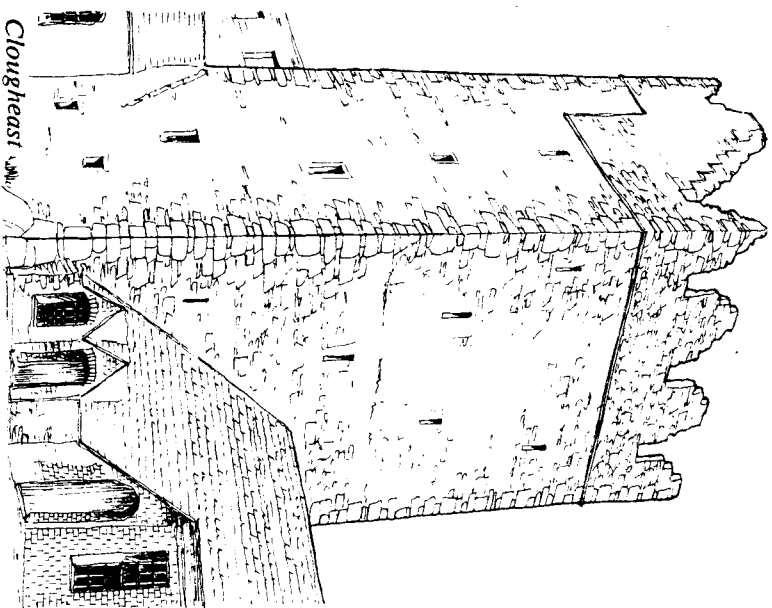
Colonel Nicholas Codd was the last of his family to hold the Castletown estate, which was sold in 1712 to Colonel Thomas Palliser, for £3,597.8s.

The Clougheast, Ballyumphane and Garrylough families remained Catholics and, having participated in the rebellion of 1641, were all dispossessed. James Codd of Clougheast was a captain in the Confederate army in Rossier's regiment, and was killed at Duncannon in 1643, leaving, it is said, an only daughter. The Book of Survey and Distribution of 1655 notes that in 1641 James Codd, an Irish Papist, owned 194 acres in Carne parish, of which 186 acres, including Clougheast, were granted to Edmund Waddy, a cornet in the Cromwellian army. The last of the Waddy family in Clougheast was Dr. John Waddy who died in 1875.

The fate of the Codd's of Garrylough is typical of an Anglo-Irish family in the seventeenth century. This property was situated in St. Nicholas's Parish, Barony of Ballaghkeen, and had been land

confiscated from the native Irish. It was acquired in Elizabethan days, probably through Robert Codd, knight of the shire 1585, and also a Commissioner in 1582 and 1591 to report on the lands of the Kavanagh's and their kindred sept's in County Wexford.

In the report on the Wexford Plantation of 1622, Balthazar Codd is noted as owning 771 acres in the Murrows, and is styled a native. His two



Cloughteast

sons joined the Confederates. Jasper, the youngest became a captain, and was killed at Carrickmines near Dublin. Thomas, the eldest, was a member of the council at Enniscorthy and in 1649 was one of the leading county gentlemen to support Ormonde, being appointed a Commissioner to raise money for the Supreme Council.

By an Inquisition taken at Wexford in 1663 it was found that on 22nd October, 1641, Thomas Codd was seized in fee of Garrylough and other

property amounting to 905½ acres, all in the Barony of Ballaghkeen, and that he was in rebellion. The property was consequently forfeited.<sup>1</sup>

It was the Catholic Cods who survived to form an important segment of Wexford families in modern times. The most distinguished of these was Dr. William Codd, Bishop of Ferns (1918-1938). A native of Wexford town, he had been parish priest of Blackwater from 1912. Previously he had been president of St. Peter's College, Wexford, from 1903.

Another prominent churchman was Monsignor John Codd, Dean of Ferns, who died in 1977, after a period of retirement. He was also from a Wexford town family and had served as Administrator of Enniscorthy and Parish Priest of Ferns for many years.

Other clergy included Rev. John Codd, first pastor of the newly created parish of Rathangan in 1745; Rev. Patrick Codd, curate of Rathangan during the '98 rebellion when his chapel at Newtown was burned; Rev. Nicholas Codd, a native of Denistown (Kildavin), P.P. of Monageer (1818-1839) and later P.P. of Piercestown; Rev. Nicholas Codd, who died curate in Bannow in 1854; his nephew, Rev. Nicholas Codd, Adamstown (son of James Codd, Churchlands, Mayglass); Rev. William Codd, a native of Monmore, Crossabeg, built the present church and parochial house at Poulfur (parish of Tintern); Rev. James Codd, Administrator of Wexford parish from 1922 until his retirement due to ill health when he went to live with his family at Ferrycarrig.

The Cods have been prominently associated with the maritime life of Wexford town, as owners and masters of sailing ships. One of the most intrepid of them was Captain James Codd, master of the Barque, *Hawk Hope*, which was wrecked on a voyage from a Cuban island to Hull. Captain Codd attempted to swim ashore with a line and was seized by natives who threatened him with knives while robbing him. His report of this incident, dated February 4, 1882, from Aux Laves, Coast of Haiti, appears in the Wexford *People* of September 24, 1955.

Captain Joseph Codd, Parnell Street, Wexford, owned the schooner, *Star of Hope*, and the barque *Sallie*, which figured in a famous race from Galatz on the Danube. John Codd, The Faythe, owned several coasting ships and was for many years foreman in the Wexford Dockyard, where he was one of the first apprentices when the yard was opened by John E. Redmond in 1832.

Captain James Codd, who died in 1941, made his first voyages in the old fleet of Wexford schooners which docked in ports all over the world. He became owner of a number of vessels, including the *Harvest Home*.

He joined the Irish Lights Service in 1906 and served in all the lightships around the coast retiring in 1939.

Captain John Codd from William Street, Wexford, who died in Belfast in 1950, served with the British Mercantile Marine during World War I. During the Spanish Civil War, which began in 1936, he evaded a blockade to bring relief to the Catholics in Valencia in the ss *City of Waterford*. In World War Two he was in a convoy of sixty ships, out of which twenty-nine were lost in air and submarine attacks. He commanded the first ship to enter the stricken port of Rotterdam, for which he was feted by the citizens. He began his seagoing career in the Wexford schoners *Harvest Home*, *Alice T.* and *Esperanza*.

A plaque on the front of a house in Cornmarket, in Wexford town, records that this was the home of Anastasia Codd, the mother of the famous Irish poet, Thomas Moore, and daughter of "honest Tom Codd". She lived here to within a few weeks of the birth of her illustrious son, which took place in Dublin. Miss Mary Codd, I.L.C.M., who died in 1964, was one of the most talented musicians in Ireland and was for many years organist and choirmistress in the Church of the Immaculate Conception, Wexford. She was sister of Dean Codd.

The Cods have also made their contribution to public life in modern times. Patrick Codd, Ballinahallen, Scarawalsh, was a Senator from 1974 to 1977 and was elected to Wexford County Council in 1979. Mark Codd, Woodlands, Enniscorthy, who died in 1923, was a member of the old Board of Guardians and Wexford County Council for fifty years. James Codd of this family is presently secretary of the County Wexford Co-operative Farmers Mart, Ltd. Nicholas Codd, Holmestown, Bartown, and James Codd, Churchlands, Mayglass, were also members of the old Wexford Board of Guardians. Cods of Mayglass have been prominent landowners, cattle dealers and horse breeders, having extensive holdings at Churchlands, Mountpleasant, Lingsown and Rathmacknee.

In the sporting field Martin Codd, Askinfarney, Clonroche, won All-Ireland senior hurling medals with Wexford in 1955 and 1956. He later became a celebrated folk musician and recording star. Larry Codd, Enniscorthy, is a former Irish amateur billiards champion. The late John Codd, Churchtown, and his son, Patrick Codd, Ferrycarrig, were masters of the Killinick Harriers Hunt.

1. Lt. Col. Cavanagh, "Castletown and its Owners", *Jr. R.S.A.L.*, 1911.
2. Brook's *Kings' Trees*. Counties Wexford, Carlow.
3. Home MSS. quoted by W. H. Jeffries in "Castles of Co. Wexford".
4. Lt. Col. Cavanagh, *Jr. R.S.A.L.*, 1911. See Codd pedigree.
5. *Ibid.*
6. *Ibid.* pedigree.

## Cogley

THE Cogleys are of ancient origin in Co. Wexford. They appear to be an old Gaelic sept—O'Coigligh—which one authority<sup>1</sup> derives from 'coigeal', denoting a person with unkempt hair. Whilst they do not figure in the history of the county due, probably, to the subjugation of the native Irish by the great Norman overlords, the Cogleys were of sufficient prominence to be named amongst the principal Irish families in the Barony of Bantry when a census was taken in 1659.

They were still occupiers in the Bantry parishes of Adamstown and Ballyhogue when Griffith's Valuation was compiled two hundred years later (1853), but by then the majority of Cogleys were located in the following old parishes of Shelmalier West: Clonmore, Newbawn, Horetown, Ballylannon, Clongeen and Coolstuff. There were other Cogleys at Kilmannon, Ballyconnick and Kilmore (in Bary), St. John's (Wexford town) and Kilmore (in Bary), Owenduff in Shelburne and Templeshannon in Ballaghkeen South.

Rev. Patrick Cogley was pastor of the old parish of Clone (now Monageer) from 1780 to 1802.<sup>2</sup> This included the turbulent period of the 1798 rebellion when his curate was Fr. John Murphy who became a famous leader of the insurgents. On July 1, 1799, the Orangemen burned the parochial house at Monageer and Fr. Cogley had to conceal himself for a time. In 1801 he made an affidavit rebutting allegations by Sir Richard Musgrave that he did not give protection to Protestants.

Fr. Cogley received as a gift from William Wheeler, Esq., Enniscorthy, the holy water font still in use in Monageer Church. According to an account in *'The People'* (10-10-1908) Fr. Cogley had his coffin ready for some time before his death and kept it in the sacristy of the church where it was useful as a receptacle for vestments, etc. In 1802 he was transferred to Duncormick where he died the following year, at 52. He was buried in Coolstuff (Taghmon Parish) where, as we have noted, a Cogley family was still living in 1853. Another priest of the name Fr. James Cogley, is the present curate in Kilmore Quay. He was born at Newcastle, Cleariestown (Rathangan).

A notable old maritime family of Cogley lived in School St., Wexford. Captain Patrick Cogley was pilotmaster for 25 years at the historic Old Fort at the entrance to Wexford harbour which was finally washed away in 1927. His three sons, Christopher, Aidan and Patrick were also mariners. Christopher and Aidan commanded passenger steamers plying between Liverpool and Ireland, Christopher being Commodore Captain of the Coastline Co. vessels for 45 years. Patrick, who died in April, 1957, aged 84, began his sea-going life in the old Wexford sailing ships.