

# THE KIDDS OF IRELAND

## Part I - The Ulster Kidds

*by Franklin Kidd (1890-1974)*

*Unpublished manuscript typescript in Franklin Kidd's archive;*

*We thank and acknowledge the cheerful cooperation of Mrs Wendy Kidd in making this document available.*

*This version dates from after January 1970, based on a statement made in it on page 3*

### **Conversion of the text**

*this searchable text version made using Omnipage ocr from scanned images obtained by William S F Kidd 7/2012  
(pdf file of the scanned typescript pages is also posted on this website <http://www.kiddgenealogy.net/>)  
with subsequent visual editing to remove typographical recognition errors;  
the pagination of the original typescript is retained in this conversion, in order to facilitate comparison with the original.*

*Most of the underlined text in the original has not been marked in this version. Headings have instead been distinguished by using contrasting font styles. Text indentations similarly have not been retained. If you miss them, or the underlined body text, feel free to take a copy and to surrender the time needed to put them in!*

### **Footnotes**

*I have added labelled footnotes, explicitly marked as added to distinguish them clearly from Franklin Kidd's footnotes, to the pages where I have made a minor change from the original typescript text.*

### **Place Names**

*The only placename change made from the typescript is to substitute Slyguff for Slygust on page 3, for consistency with Part II.*

### **Family charts**

*Three family charts of limited scope were included in the typescript by Franklin Kidd; his annotated version of the much more extensive Keady Kidds chart which he references on page 6 was photographed, and a transcribed version of this has been added to the site (access through a separate link). If anyone can verify any parts of this large chart, please get in touch with Ryan Kidd through the email link on this website.*

### **Other illustrations**

*Maps, a facsimile muster roll, the first Kidd arms illustration, and the photograph of Benjamin Kidd have not yet been located in Franklin Kidd's archive, and so do not appear with this version of the document.*

### **Dates**

*A note to USAians: all numerical dates in this document are in D-M-Y format*

*And one more and important thing to keep in mind about dates – many of the earlier dates he cites, or infers, are marked as approximate, in this format: 1750c or 1750 c. or 1750 c or 1750c.*

*These should not be used as exact year dates; commonly they are uncertain by 5 to 10 years, and in some cases more.*

## THE KIDDS OF IRELAND

by  
Franklin Kidd, C.B.E., D.Sc., F.R.S.

### Part I - The Ulster Kidds

My Irish Ancestors? I did not begin to wonder who they were or what they had been like until I was sixty seven, and retired. I started to sort out and arrange my Father's<sup>[1]</sup> papers, which had been in store for many years with the idea of writing a life. Who were his ancestors?

My Grandfather, Benjamin Kidd, Senior, had been a constable in the Royal Irish Constabulary. He was said to have run away from his home as a boy, to have remembered a large house, and to have had an elder sister, whom he tried to contact in his later years, but without success. He had been an Episcopalian. These seemed good enough clues, and I set out on a search, in the course of which I have amassed a great deal of data of some genealogical interest about the Kidds of Ireland, North and South. But, alas, Grandfather Kidd has escaped capture from documented evidence. As the "raison d'être" of all that follows, I think you may like to see him. The photograph<sup>#</sup> shows him as he used to appear on our doorstep when I was a boy, (plus top hat) heralding as

1. Benjamin Kidd (Dict. Nat. Biography).

*#*[note added by William Kidd] - this photograph not found with the text

often as not some crisis in the Kidd's family affairs. The Kidds of Ireland, you had better know from the start, are a middle class lot, - professionals, traders and farmers for the most part. In 1914 the old man went off on a round trip to visit his children and their families in the U.S.A. and Canada, and died on 3rd October in that year in Winnipeg. To the end he was as upright as a post.

### **How it all began**

I only made one visit to the Green Isle, - in 1959. The rest has been correspondence. I can recommend Ancestor hunting as a first class recreation for the elderly, retired, and sedentary. Your imagination is aroused, you develop a four dimensional sense of community, you live with the excitement of the past which may at any moment bring in a new clue, or dispose of a pet theory. The picture, I was going to say the jigsaw puzzle, grows from the past forwards, and from the present backwards. It is amazing how friendly and co-operative perfect strangers can be when approached on points of possible family relationship. I shall set out the evidence I have for conclusions reached, which are then the subject for revision in the light of further evidence which I very much hope will be contributed to this journal.

There were only two Kidds outside Dublin in the Telephone Directory in 1959, and one was in the far north-west (Ulster, of course, not included). The other, the late<sup>#</sup> Col. Charles Kidd, of Maidenhead, Co. Leix., I rang up from a hotel one evening in Carlow, - "Come right out," he said, "its only seven miles or so. We'll have coffee ready for you!" This same coffee, in a large pot, the clumsy guest, that's me, (not really my fault, of course, as it was put on the floor by the grate and my chair) knocked over, making a god-awful mess. When this was at last mopped up, the Colonel was no-where about, but soon re-appeared remarking "I thought it was a good opportunity to take the dog out!" The place, Maidenhead, had been in their family for generations, and I have had much help from him.

We then called on a Miss Irene Kidd, of Bagenalstown, whom we had heard of by chance. She gave us a hearty welcome, and the outline of her family back to her Grandfather, George Kidd, of Slyguff, and his wife, Bessie, whose portraits we saw at Slyguff, then farmed by her cousin the late George Kidd. Other things she told us turned out useful. A Kidd family of nearby Bohermore with whom I subsequently corresponded, were definitely not of her lot. A friend of hers knew somebody who had married a Kidd woman. An American Kidd had once called hunting for his ancestors, about whom

# [note added by William Kidd - reference to Col. Charles Kidd as "the late" dates this version of the manuscript after January 1970]

all she could remember was that he worked for "Shell", but whom I eventually tracked down, and got useful information from. Some years ago a Dublin solicitor had been advertising for Kidds in connection with an intestacy. A year or two later she found the address of the solicitor when turning out a drawer. The firm turned out to no longer exist, but another had succeeded to their business and had all the papers of the intestacy case, and were kind enough to let me have a loan of them. Quite a few Kidds had given what information they could of their family connections over two or three generations.

In this casual sort of way I established first contacts, out of which have grown over the years a network of friends at home and abroad, without which the disjointed records from such sources as Tithe appplotment books, land valuations, indexes to wills and Parish and Diocesan registers, voters lists, etc., etc., would have been much harder to co-ordinate, and far less interesting. The Kidds of the South finally assembled themselves into the following main branches, the Corbally Kidds, the Cranemore Kidds, the Ballyrankin Kidds, the Ballisland or Ballingale Kidds, the Askamore Kidds, and further afield, the Limerick, Athlone and Dublin Kidds. All these can be plausibly derived from a Richard Kidd who probably came from Yorkshire, married an Irish girl in

Dublin in 1637. The girl died, and he then married her sister, one guesses. The two entries are in the register of St. Micham's, Dublin:

Richard Kidd married Ellen Kelly 10 April 1637.

Richard Kidd married Brichett Kelly 5 Nov. 1640.

From Bagenalstown we went on to Dublin. At the old College of Arms I was welcomed by that remarkable character, Basil O'Connel, who dug out for me a grant of confirmation of Arms made in the early nineties (1891) to a Col. William Archibald Kidd (retired), and all descendants of a Benjamin of Millmount Keady Armagh 1711-1758. But nothing could be found in the way of any family tree of the descendants or the ancestors of this Benjamin Kidd of Keady. My ears cocked at the name Benjamin. Irene has been categorical that she had never heard of any Benjamin Kidd in the south, nor indeed have I yet found one.

### **The First Wild Goose**

The only clue O'Connel had on the files was a letter from a Col. B. Graham Balfour Kidd some 20 or more years old, enquiring about the Arms. I found later that this man had died in 1943, but in the end I succeeded in tracking down one of his sons, Col. T. P. Kidd, from whom I got one morning

a remarkable chart of the whole family tree of what I now term the Keady Kidds of Armagh dated 1930. Benjamin of Millmount, Keady, had six sons, and over forty grandchildren, and the families were followed through down to the sixth generation, - an extensive layout in chart form.

It was the recurrence of the name Benjamin Kidd which particularly interested me in this family, Benjamin Kidd of Millmount had a grandfather named Benjamin, and a son named Benjamin. This son in turn had a son named Benjamin, and a grandson whose father's name was Osborne, named Benjamin. So much for the recurrence of the name, but added to this was the fact that the last of the Benjamins was given as born 1831, and this was near enough the year of my Grandfather's birth. The R.I.C. records in London say he was appointed 16 Nov. 1850 aged 18, and I have a lurking memory that his birthday was in December. But all the charts<sup>[1]</sup> recorded not only birth 1831, but also death 1854, Benjamin 1831-1854 (sic). I supposed one had to accept this; yet as time went on, and on second thoughts, I began to wonder. The earliest chart must have been that of Col. William Archibald Kidd 1890 c. at the time when he applied for confirmation of Arms. The families of the six sons of

1. There were several as I later found, some more extensive than others held by different branches of the family.

Benjamin of Millmount were then still for the most part in and around Armagh, and it seemed to me that his chart would almost certainly have been constructed from family hearsay, and not from documentation of births, deaths, marriages, etc. which was what later various members of the family were trying to establish. It was conceivable that the dated 1831-1854 originated from the father who, perhaps in connection with his will presumed death of his son Benjamin after a disappearance of some years. So let us say my Grandfather "ran away" when 15 or 16 years old in 1846 or 1847, reached Wexford by sea, and some years later, being in the employ of a Col. Johnns, J.P., Wexford<sup>[1]</sup>, was recommended by him for the R.I.C., which he joined in Cork in 1850, Cork being at least two counties away from his stated home in Wicklow-Wexford, as was required by regulations. As to 'the elder sister', well actually there were three, one who died unmarried in 1863 and two others both of whom married, the eldest about the time we assume he left home. It could be suggested that at the time of his marriage my grandfather substituted for his father's real name Osborne, the name Benjamin because he feared the unusual name Osborne might

1. Listed in 1849 Almanac Registry Directory "Lieutenant Colonel Robert Johns, Wexford" Magistrate for Co. Wexford.

give him away.<sup>[1]</sup> I went on looking for confirmation of Benjamin's death 1854, but could get none. And so the matter remained for years.

At length, only last year, I got a letter from Col. T. P. Kidd, with whom I had been in frequent correspondence. He had found the confirmation, day of the month and all. Benjamin Kidd who died 19th December 1854. And where do you think? Right on the tomb of his father Osborne in St. Mary's Church, Armagh, (his father died in 1872), together with similar exact dates for the other two children already dead when their father died. As a last resort, I can only now quote Pooh Bah "Merely corroborative detail, intended to give artistic verisimilitude to a bald and unconvincing narrative". And I hope no one will think me irreverent for, believe me, the strangest things can happen. December 19th. Odd. Was not that his birthday?

#### **From Walter of Scotland to Benjamin of Millmount Keady Armagh - The Massacre**

As a result of my contacts with the "Keady" Kidds, and I should mention that I got to know several of them, I became

1. The register records his father as Benjamin Kidd farmer.

as much interested in the Kidds in the North as in those of the South. They outnumber the Kidds of the South by about five or so to one.<sup>[1]</sup>

Presbyterian Scot immigrants in the north first arrived in numbers after Cromwell's "suppression" of Ireland in 1649, when Monroe landed from Scotland and "settled" Ulster. They entered via the northern ports of Bushmills, near Dunluce, Ballycastle, and Portrush on the border between Co. Antrim and Co. Derry. In 1600 Belfast consisted of 120 mudwalled, straw thatched houses, and in 1662 it was still but a small town of 150 houses surrounded by a dense forest of oaks and sycamores. The important town in the neighbourhood then was Lisburn, eight miles inland, the Cathedral there being built 1623.

1. In the Hearth Money Rolls of Charles the Second's reign we find, for Co. Antrim seven Kids (1669), and one just over the border in Co. Derry 1663. There were no Kidds in Armagh or Tyrone. The Rolls for Co. Down and Co. Fermanagh have been lost. Allow four persons to a family, and we have about thirty two Kidds at that time in the North compared with perhaps five to ten in Dublin.

In a list of Protestant voters in 1740 (no doubt incomplete), twenty three Kidds appear, of which fourteen were in Co. Derry, and eight in Co. Antrim, and still none in Co. Down, Co. Armagh and Co. Tyrone. Again allowing for families this gives approximately one hundred Kidds in the North in 1740. The number I have traced in Dublin and the South at this time is much smaller, in the region of twenty to twenty five, allowing for families.

Between 1845 and 1864 fifteen Kidd marriages are recorded in the South, and eighty six in the North. Between 1864 and 1880 fifty two Kidd deaths are recorded in the South, and 192 in the North.

The total number of Kidds in all Ireland about 1900 was in the order of 1300. Matheson's Report on Surnames in Ireland 1909, gives total of 28 Kidd births and a birth rate of 1 in 45 persons.

The "Keady" Kidd family claimed to derive from a Walter Kid of Dunluce (1570-1635 circa), but the history of the family from this Walter down to Benjamin of Millmount was not all clear, and I think I can add to it.

One of the earliest records is a flat stone in a graveyard at Dunluce on the North Antrim coast. The legend cut on it reads "HEIR LYETH THE CHILDREN OF WALTER KID MARCHANT IN DUNLUCE BURGES OF IRVIN HE MADE THIS STONE THE 10 MARCH ANNO DOMNI 1630". In the centre is a shield with a W cut on one side and a K on the other, below the shield and spaced right across the stone are the letters I.M...K. Sometime in the early days of this century Helen Kidd, a daughter of the George Kidd of Dunmurry (1836-1912), one of the "Keady" clan, had the stone recut and cleaned up.

The next piece of evidence is the following extract from "Dalriada or North Antrim" by William Adams, published by the Coleraine Chronicle in 1906:-

"(1641) Now it was known to the Roman Catholics that the rebel army was going to pay Dunluce a visit, therefore, sometime the night before their arrival the doors of all the Protestant houses were marked with chalk so that they would be known.

There was at this time living in Dunluce a merchant named James Kidd, son to Walter Kidd, a Scotchman, whose headstone can be seen in Dunluce graveyard at the present time. This Mr. Kidd, being a Protestant, of course, his door was marked. Kidd and his eldest son had a suspicion that there was something going to happen and rose long before daylight and were sitting at the fire when they heard the sound of many footsteps on the road near the door. They called to

the rest of the family to get up and escape when the door was broken open by a band of armed men and a terrible slaughter commenced.

Kidd and his son escaped by a back door but the rest of the family were all killed. They were eight in number, including the mother who was also killed. Kidd and his son escaped to a little port below the Castle where they kept a boat which they launched and got into. They saw a small vessel coming from the west on which they got and were carried to the port of Irvine, Scotland. They stopped only a short time in Scotland until they heard of the landing in Munroe in Carrickfergus and that the rebel army was drawn away from Dunluce. Mr. Todd does not mention how many Protestants were murdered, but Manus Roe O'Kane's men set fire to the town after they had cleared it of Protestants. Mr. Kidd and his son came back to Dunluce again and found it all in ruins, only the Castle had not been touched. They went to their own house and found the charred remains of their own family lying as they had been killed and a pot was hanging over the fireplace which had not been touched but the furniture was all destroyed and burned."

Next come the Hearth Rolls of 1669 [1]. We ought to find a James among the seven Kids recorded; and, in fact, we do

1. Co. Antrim 1669. Carey Barony, Parish of Ramoan, Daniel Kid.
- do. Belfast Barony, Upper part of Island of Magee, John Kid, Castletown.
- do. Dunluce Barony, Dunluce Parish, Mr. John Kid, 2 Hearths, Ballyclogh.
- do. Dunluce Barony Ballymoney Parish and town, John Kid.
- do. Dunluce Barony, Lower End of Ballymoney Parish, Thomas Kid, Ballinamore.  
John Kidd Seaconmore.
- do. Antrim Barony Donegore Parish, James Kid, Rathmore.
- Co. Londonderry 1663. North East Liberties of Coleraine Barony, Ballyaghram Parish, John Kid, Crossreagh.

Reference P.R.O. Belfast N.I. T.307.

"Antrim Barony, Donegore Parish, James Kid of Rathmor, Co. Antrim."

The circumstantial detail of the story recounted by Mr. Todd suggests that it must have been handed down by word of mouth from James Kid himself. Mr. Todd, we are told by the author, William Adams, was a respectable farmer near the Giant's Causeway, who lived to over 100 years, and died some time about 1870, and got the tale from his grandfather who also lived to some years over 100. Now, James, when he returned after the massacre, was probably about 40-45 years old, and it seems highly probable that he married again. On dates then, Mr. Todd's grandfather could in turn have been the grandson of a Kidd girl, daughter of James born 1650c by a second wife. It is significant that the name Kidd-Todd occurs in the records.

### **Some geography**

As geography is of importance in conjecturing the spread in subsequent years of the descendants of these early Kidd immigrants, it is necessary to include at this stage a sketch map<sup>#</sup> of the six counties, showing among other things the location of the eight Kids of the Hearth Rolls. James Kid's

*#[note added by William Kidd] - this sketch map not found with the text*

location at Rathmore in the Parish of Donegore is a couple of miles or so to the east of the town of Antrim which lies close to the North East corner of Lough Neagh. The Parishes of Duneane and Drummaul are on the other side of Antrim town to the west. The Parish of Killead is about the same distance to the south. It is recorded by one of the Keady Kidds, that Col. William Archibald Kidd, on what evidence we do not know, once wrote that "the family subsequently moved (from Dunluce) to the Parish of Killead on the borders of Lough Neagh." It is of interest to note here that in the region of Ballymoney, which is a local town lying some 10 miles south of Dunluce, there is to-day on the maps a village of Kidstown (one "d") which no doubt records the location of the John. Thomas, and John Kid of the Hearth rolls, probably a father and two sons. Further down in the Parish of Duneane the maps show a Kiddstown (two "ds") where as we shall see later a group of Kidds was established in 1740.

### **Benjamin Kidd of town and land of Rathmore**

The next link in the chain is provided by a Deed registered 1741. We learn from this that a Benjamin Kidd had leased land in 1730, and was "of town and land of Rathmore of the Parish of Donegore, Co. Antrim", and that in

1735 his widow assigned her title "except that part which she had passed to her stepson James Kidd" to others, two of the witnesses being linen drapers. This Benjamin, then, died after 1730. In the Index to Connor (Antrim) admins up to 1858, there is a Benjamin Kidd 1731. Let us say then he died in 1731 and, he left a widow and a stepson of age to manage land, it is safe to assume that he died an old man.

If he was 75 to 80, he was born 1650-55. On the evidence then of locality and date and recurrence of the name James, this Benjamin Kidd qualifies as a son of our James Kid of Rathmore and presumed son of Walter of Dunluce and Irvine.

The importance of this Benjamin is that in him the tracing forwards from Walter of Dunluce, and the tracing back from Benjamin of Millmount Keady meet. The later chart makers of the Keady Kidd family, supposedly on basis of tradition, state Benjamin of Millmount's grandfather to have been "Benjamin of Knockraven and Ravenhill" or "Benjamin of Bushmills Co. Antrim", who settled at Knockraven about 1641.

Some years before this Benjamin of Rathmore's death there is an entry in the Register of Antrim Parish "Married Dec. 1713 John Kidd of Duneane Parish and Susanna Walker of ye Parish of Templepatrick, Belfast". Later in 1740 we find in a list of Protestant voters in Duneane Parish Co. Antrim, William, Thomas, Charles and Hugh Kidd and a widow Kidd.

In the neighbouring Parish of Drummaul a John Kidd is recorded. It seems reasonable to suppose that the widow was Benjamin of Rathmore's widow, and the John Kidd who married Susanna Walker was another of his sons by his first marriage, and that the others were all sons, or closely related.

### **The Defence of Londonderry**

I next come to a story I had from the late Ada George Kidd (1890-1966), whose father was the well-known Dr. George Hugh Kidd (1826-1895) of Dublin and London, and who was a grandson of Benjamin Kidd of Millmount, Keady and very keen about the family history. She told me that an ancestor of Keady Kidd's had fought under the Rev. George Walker, Rector (1674-89) of Donoughmore, Co. Tyrone, in the famous "No Surrender" defence of Londonderry 1689, and had subsequently married a relative of the Rev. George, possibly a daughter. Well, as we have seen our John Kidd married a Susannah Walker in 1713. Could he have been in Londonderry in 1689? His family was in the linen trade, and he might well have been apprenticed aged say 19, (born 1670) to a firm in that trade in Londonderry, which was at that date a large place as compared with Belfast. The friendship with the Rev. George

and his family continued, and 25 years later John, aged 43, married a Susannah Walker, say 27.

### **The Old Tassagh Stone. Can we believe it?**

The next link in our chain of evidence is a stone in the graveyard of Old Tassagh near Keady, which once stood up but is now laid flat. It is in the centre of the high ground about the middle of the graveyard. The inscription reads "Long dead, but not forgotten. Underneath lie the remains of John Kidd of Ravenhill who departed this life A.D. 1730 aged 50 years (i.e. born 1680). Also of his son Benjamin Kidd who departed this life 25 Feb. A.D. 1760 aged 47 years (i.e. born 1713) This stone was erected by Benjamin Kidd of Armagh 1822".

We have to ask then, - can this John Kidd, father of Benjamin of Millmount be identified with the John Kidd of Duneane Parish (married December 1713<sup>#</sup>) and the John of Drummaul (1740)? How do John's dates on the Tassagh Stone, 1680-1730, match up to this? First, he would have married Miss Walker when he was 33. Second, it definitely rules out John of Drummaul protestant voter in 1740. Thirdly, his son, B. K. of Millmount, on the dates given was born 1713,

*#[Note added by William Kidd - typescript has 1913, a typographical error]*

and the marriage of J. K. of Duneane was in December of that year. Lastly of course he couldn't have taken part in the defence of Londonderry.

Can we trust the stone? In one respect we know it to be in error. B. K. of Millmount's will was dated 25 December 1758 and proved 24 February 1759. Assuming his age 47 is correct, then his birth date is 1711 or 1712, which does not improve matters as far as Miss Walker is concerned. However, it does cast doubts on the veracity of the inscription as a whole.

Let's consider the circumstances. It was erected as late as 1822 in memory of a father who had, according to its inscription, died 62 years before when the author of the inscription was only 12 years old, and a grandfather who had died 92 years ago, i.e. 15 years before the author was born. Its opening words "Long dead but not forgotten" express this situation. We have, too, some indication of the sort of man Benjamin Kidd of Armagh was. He was a "Captain of Yeomanry" and was known as "the Gallant Volunteer". He had a dramatic quarrel with the Presbyterians and joined the Episcopal Church. I see him as an impulsive, temperamental and combative man who erected the stone as a demonstration and a monument to the Kidds, but who had no great concern for accuracy as regards dates. The round figures "1730 aged 50"

may be his guess only as regards his grandfather. Lastly, the stone describes John as "of Ravenhill", (Oddly there is a place marked Ravenhill on the maps on the shore of Lough Neagh near Killead.) I have not seen this stone, and do not know how clear the legend on it is at this date, but I venture the supposition that John was born 1670 and died 1750 aged 80. In that case Benjamin, who erected the stone, might just have remembered his grandfather who would have died when he was five years of age. Also, I think Benjamin Kidd of Millmount Keady was only 45 when he died, and that the family, John Kidd and his son Benjamin, did not move to the neighbourhood of Keady, Co. Armagh, till after 1740. At this point of time the son had married a Miss Young of Pointzpass who had born him a son John born 1737, and then died. The move to Keady was about the time of his second marriage to Miss Jane Elizabeth Haddon (or possibly) Abbot, whose first child Samuel was born in 1741.

We can now summarise what has been argued above as follows:-

1. Walter Kid, a linen merchant of Irvine, Scotland and Dunluce, Ireland . . . 1570c. - 1635c.
2. James Kid, Son of above, first family at Dunluce all killed in 1641 except his eldest son . . . 1600c. - 1670c.  
second family at Rathmore in Parish of Dunagore Co. Antrim after return from Scotland.
3. Benjamin Kidd, Son of above, of Rathmore, (had offspring also a James and possibly also an Elizabeth and an Isaac as will appear later) . . . 1650c. - 1731
4. John Kidd, Son of above, town land of Donegore. Lived first in Parish of Rathmore: Married Susanna Walker 1713. Living then in Parish of Duneane: subsequently moved to Parish of Drummaul and later Killead, all close to Antrim and later again to Knockraven Keady Parish in west of Co. Armagh but probably not before 1740, his son accompanying him. . . . 1670 - 1750
5. Benjamin Kidd, Son of above, of Derrynose. Racarbery and Millmount, Keady. . . . 1713 - 1758  
Married (1) Miss Young of Pointzpass 1736c.  
Mother of John Kidd born 1737 died 1808 aged 71.  
(2) Miss Jane Elizabeth Haddon (or Abbot), 1740c.  
Mother of Samuel b.1741 d.1809 aged 68.  
James b.1744 d.1815 aged 71.  
Benjamin b.1745 d.1823 aged 78.  
William b.1748 d.1814 aged 66.  
Archibald b.1754 d.1833 aged 79.

data from 'Keady' Kidd family chart already referred to.

## The Story of the Kidd Arms and Crest

As to Walter Kid's Scottish ancestors, something perhaps can be deduced beginning with the story of the "Arms". There seems to be evidence that they were used as in figure<sup>#</sup> (1) by the families stemming from James 1744-1815, and from Benjamin 1745-1823. Ada George Kidd had a signet ring given to her father on his 21st birthday, i.e., 1847 by a cousin of her grandfather's who lived to be over 80. This could only be Joseph Kidd (1800-1883), younger son of Benjamin Kidd of Armagh (1745-1823).

The Arms as confirmed in 1891 on the application of Lt. Col. William Archibald Kidd, grandson of Archibald Kidd 1754-1833, are shown in figure (2). It is recorded that the Colonel acted without consulting the two other branches of the family who were using the arms as shewn in figure 1, and that a considerable rumpus ensued. Particular objection was taken to the replacement of a fleur de lys by a rose and it was suggested that the Colonel engineered this, because he had a 'thing' against anything French. I have myself often wondered whether the arms of figure (1) were in fact handed down the generations from Walter, or whether they were adopted for reasons of social prestige as the family got richer and further up the social scale, to be used on silver and on notepaper, etc.? It is noteworthy that figure (1)

*# [note added by William Kidd] - the folder in Franklin Kidd's archive containing coloured figures of arms lacks one corresponding to the description of Figure 1; those of figures 2, 3 and 4 are reproduced at the end of this document.*

approximates to the description of Kidd Arms in Burke's Encyclopaedia of Heraldry 1844. Against this somewhat derogatory suggestion, one can set the fact of the Dunluce Stone with its obvious shield and space for arms and crest, with the initials W. and K. (Walter Kid) on either side. Walter, as we know, came from Scotland. Two Kyd coats of arms were entered in Scotland in the Lyon Court Edinburgh between 1672-1677 during the rush to have Arms recorded (figures 3 & 4). Pre-1672 manuscripts held in the Lyon Court give the Kyd Arms as "Argent, a pine tree eradicate vert, a hunting horn pendant from a branch Or, stringed Gules". The senior (figure 3), according to the Lord Lyon, of those recorded 1672-1677 is that of Patrick Kyd of Craigie, which adds to the above "three martlets of the third. Above the shield one helmet befitting his degree mantled gules doubled argent". The motto is on an escroll QUEM NON TORRET HIENS". The junior is that of William Kyd of Woodhill (figure 4). The motto is changed to "DONEC IMPLEAT ORBEM" and the martlets are replaced by "three mollets of the third, a crescent for difference". One should explain here that a crescent signifies a second son, a mullet a third, a martlet a fourth, a fifth a fleur de lys a sixth and a rose a seventh. One can interpret these arms as follows:-

- (1) An original grantee of Arms.
- (2) His third son adds three mullets on a chief. This crest not entered.
- (3) His fourth son adds three martlets on a chief. Patrick Kidd of Craigie (figure 3).
- (4) The second son of (2) above charges a mullet with a crescent, William Kyd of Woodhill (figure 4).
- (5) A sixth son of (2) above swaps a mullet for a fleur de lys, and incidentally changes the pine to an oak.

### **The Scottish Archers**

At this stage I must tell you of the tradition with regard to the original grantee which provides a basis for the design on the shield of a tree with a horn hanging in its branches. An early Kidd from Scotland was a member of the body guard of the King of France, The King had been thrown from his horse during a boar hunt, and was treed by an attacking boar and sounded his hunting horn to summon aid. The man who arrived, killed the boar and rescued him, Was this Kidd.

So much for the legend. Now for fact. There was a body known as the Scottish Archers which for many years constituted a royal body guard in France, and their records

have been carefully collected and published.<sup>[1]</sup> The muster rolls of Archers were made annually and at more frequent intervals. A facsimile sample is reproduced<sup>#</sup>. Under each Archer's signature (often a scrawl impossible to spell out), a clerkly hand has written the name as he would spell it in French, e.g., for a 'K' a 'Qu'. Further, as many names appear in successive rolls one can infer that a variant of qu. was gu., for example Quetre, Guetre, Guêtre appear in successive rolls. I found a Guilliaume Quid in the muster roll for guard at a Chateau in Milan 1507, and a Jehan Gued (variants Guet, Guête, Gued, Guede) in the 1568-76 rolls. Both these I believe are clearly Kidds. Their approximate dates of birth would be William born 1485, and John born 1550, and it seems not unlikely that they came from the same family.

### **Angus, Dundee and the linen trade**

Now these places, Craigie and Woodhill, the seats of Patrick and William of the Arms quoted above, are in Angus, in which are the towns of Dundee, Arbroath and Forfar on the east coast of Scotland, north of the Firth of Tay. The town of Perth, ancient capital of Scotland, is just over the border of Angus in the south.

1. "Scots-men-at-Arms and Life Guards in France 1418-1820". Two volumes by W. Forbes Leith, published Edinburgh 1882.

*#<sup>[note added by William Kidd]</sup> - this facsimile not found with the text*

George F. Black's "The Surnames of Scotland" 1946 lists Kid, Kidd, Kyd and Kydd as an old Angus surname in Dundee and Arbroath and Forfar. Documentation is quoted for many Kidds, variously spelt, in this region from a Gilchrist Kide 1180-1203 onwards. The family name appears frequently in the Burgh records of Dundee from 1520 up to the present day. Certain entries seem of particular interest in the present connection. "William Kyd was burgess of Perth 1563 (Methven p.66), and in an inquisition was 'retoured' heir of Robert Kyd, son of Master James Kyd of Craigie in the lands of the Parish of Alloa". "Robert Kyd was portioner of Nethermaines 1571 (Retours, Ayr, 708)".

In another place, Vol. 28 of the Scottish History Society, "The Ancient Capital of Scotland, Perth", by Samuel Cowen, a Walter Kyd is documented as included in a list of Cautioners, Roll of 1556-1580. A cautioner is a Scottish legal term for a person who has gone surety for somebody else, a guarantor.

This same Walter Kyd provides a link connecting the Kids of the North of Ireland to a possible origin in Angus. More important is the linen trade upon which the Kidds of Ireland evidently founded their success.

But how came our Walter Kid, or Kyd, from Angus to Irvine on the east coast in Ayrshire? There is a plausible

reason. In the first place the port of Dundee and its hinterland was a linen centre. Dundee, I quote from the Encyclopaedia Britannica "was eminently adapted to be the emporium of a vast trade by land and sea, but its prosperity is due in a far greater measure to its manufacture of jute and linen of which it is the chief seat in the United Kingdom". In the second place, between 1600 and 1700 Irvine was reckoned the third shipping port in Scotland.

The 'linen' trade, from the growing of the Flax to the manufacture of finished articles, was spreading into Ireland with the first plantation of Ulster in 1610 under James the First. The 'shiring' of Ulster, i.e., the six counties, had been carried out in 1585, and served as a basis for the 'plantation'. And here it is also important to realise what the 'linen' trade was like in those days. Prior to 1800c., linen manufacture was one of the most extensive and widely disseminated of the domestic industries. It supported whole villages and districts. Flax is always harvested by pulling. Thereafter follow five successive processes, Rippling, Retting, Drying, Rolling and Scutching, before it passes to manufacture, in which the successive processes are Hackling, preparing, Spinning, bleaching, and weaving. We can plausibly then suggest that Walter Kid, or Kyd, having grown up and learnt the 'linen' trade in Angus, moved to Irvine

circa 1600 to carry on entrepot trade in linen goods of all sorts, the production of which in the North of Antrim had recently begun and was growing fast. He was very successful, became a burgher, and no doubt was followed by other members of his family and relatives.

### **Summary and conclusions from the Story of the Arms**

I can now set out in chart form a scheme on the basis of the above facts of the antecedants of Walter Kid, merchant of Dunluce and Burgher of Irvine. It depends much on dates. I state the assumed date (approximate) of birth in each case.

Master James Kyd  
of Craigie in the Parish of Alloa in Angus born c.1450

William Kyd  
'Guilliamme Quid'

Scottish Archer born c.1480.

(probably of Craige & original grantee  
of Arms.)

William Kyd  
born c.1480

Robert Kyd (of Craigie)

born c.1480

1st son    2nd son    3rd son.  
Arms, 3 mullets, Walter Kyd  
not entered. Cautioner, Perth  
Born c.1515    1556-80.  
               born c.1520 or  
               could be 1st son.

4th son    Patrick Kyd of  
               Craigie  
               Arms 3 martlets  
               born c.1525  
               (Arms must have been  
               entered by a great-  
               grandchild (1672-  
               1677) figure (3)

Robert Kyd  
Partitioner of  
Nethermain  
in 1571.  
born c.1510.

1st son    William Kyd  
(Jenian Guede) of Woodhill  
Scottish Archer born  
c.1545-53.

2nd son    3rd son    4th son  
               Arms a mullet  
               charged with  
               a crescent  
               born c.1550  
               (Arms entered  
               by grandson  
               1672-77.  
               figure (4)

5th son    A Patrick Kyd  
and  
a Charles Guedes  
Archer 1587

6th son    Walter Kid of Irvine & Dunluce  
Arms, a mullet charged with a  
Fleur de Lys, not entered.  
born 1570 circa. figure (1).

The second Patrick, a possible brother of William of Woodhill and of Walter of Dunluce, is introduced on the basis of the following extract from a report on the Name and Family of Kidd compiled by the Media Research Bureau of Washington D.C. some years ago. "Patrick Kyd married Margaret, daughter of Sir Alexander Wedderburn. William Kyd, brother of the above, married Jean Wedderburn, daughter of Sir Alexander and sister of the above mentioned Margaret. William possessed the lands of Woodhall (sic) in Angus".

The two "Archers", William and John, whose dates are definite, served, in the case of William, in the reign of Louis XII 1498-1515 (Louis conquered Milan in 1499 and held it for 12 years), and in the case of John, in the reign of Charles IX 1560-1574, or in early years of Henry III 1574-1589.

I inclined to the view that William was the original grantee of Arms, and that these were acquired in France. The shield showed an Oak, the crest was a crescent, the distinguishing mark of an order of Knighthood Instituted by Rene of Anjou in 1448, and the motto "DONEC IMPLEAT ORBEM" is said to be of that period in France. The Heralds were organised into a corporation in France in 1407, and in England 1484. There was, as far as I can make out, nothing of a similar nature in Scotland, which was not united to England till 1603 (James 1), and it was not until 1672 that the Scots parliament passed a

law which made it necessary for Scotsmen to register their Arms.

Back in Scotland, I suggest that the first generation after William altered the oak to a pine, and one of them, Patrick, the motto also to "Quem non terrat niems" (whom winter does not wither) as being more appropriate in Scotland. They also omitted the crest over the helmet. Then in the next generation Walter with his Irvine connections and no expert guidance returns to the original, omitting only the rather ridiculous helmet. Then in 1672 the experts got busy and tidied up the Scottish Arms, but of course did [not] get asked to do anything about Walter's. That had to wait until 1891, and was handled then by "Blue Mantle" with the result already shown (figure 2).

### **Another look at the Hearth Roll Kids of Antrim 1663-69**

Well, all that may be a pretty dream, but it has been interesting to concoct. I feel sure that further research into the Scottish records would yield many definite facts which may in the end alter all the above. One thing, however, it does is to give us something of a background for the eight Kidds of Antrim of the Hearth Rolls of 1669. Let's

have another look at them. First, Mr. John Kidd of Dunluce Parish with two hearths. Two hearths are exceptional, and he also gets the distinction of being entered as a "gent". I put him as Walter's successor, probably grandson. Near him is Daniel Kidd in the neighbouring Parish in the east, say John of Dunluce's father (retired). Next comes the group of three, a Thomas and two more Johns at what was already perhaps termed Kidstown close to Ballymoney (today a small agricultural centre). These, as I have suggested, could be a father John and his sons, John and Thomas, the family as a whole building up a village linen industry on a suitable site. Much further south at Rathmore in the parish of Donegore near the town of Antrim and Lough Neagh, James and his family are doing the same thing. This leaves two, both again Johns. There is certainly a superfluity of Johns. Both are on the coast. One John Kid of Ballyaghram parish on the east side of the estuary running up to the town of Coleraine, in Co. Derry, just over the borders of Antrim. The other John Kid of Castletown, upper part of the Island of Magee, is far away. The Island of Magee is an odd island, not an island at all in fact. It is just to the north of the great Belfast Lough, and is a strip of land a mile to two miles wide, and seven to eight miles long, separated from the mainland by a long shallow arm of the sea except at its southern end.<sup>[1]</sup> Why

1. I should mention here that the P.R.O., London, is quoted as having Muster Rolls of the Ulster Army 1642. Counties Down, Antrim, Derry, Tyrone and Donegal, and these include a John Kidd, a William Kidd, a George Kidd and a Hugh Kidd.

should we find a John Kid in this spot? I think the answer lies in the port of Larne, which though situated on the mainland is close enough to the north end of the "island" of Magee for a ferry service. Could it be that the three Johns, John of Dunluce, John of Magee, and John of Coleraine estuary are the same man who maintained three trading establishments for an export-import business centred round the growing linen industry? This may be overstraining the evidence. However, Walter of Dunluce, in our construction of his Scottish background, has a brother John, the Scottish Archer, and two other brothers un-named, whose descendants, probably grandsons, could be among the Kids of the Hearth rolls.

### **The first southward spread of the northern Kidds**

In the light of the developing situation as it appears in 1669, we can learn much from the next approximate review, namely that of the lists of Protestant Householders for 1740, two generations later. The following is a list of the 23 names appearing in these lists for Co. Antrim, Co. Derry and

Co. Tyrone, plus one or two others we can include on other evidence. The sketch map<sup>#</sup> shows their distribution.

List of Protestant Householders 1740 and others of approximately this date

County Derry.

Tyrheering Barony, James Kidd of Carrickew T.L., Faughanvale Parish adjacent to Londonderry.

Kennaught Barony, Hugh Kid of Ballykelly, Tamlaght Finlagen Parish adjacent Londonderry

Ennishaven Barony, John Kidd of Tullyardan T.L., Templemore Parish adjacent to Londonderry.

Coleraine Barony, Hugh Kid of Dunluce Walk, Killowen Parish.

Alexander Kid of Dumboe Parish

Samuel Kid of Coleraine<sup>[1]</sup> Parish

William Kid of Macosquin Parish

Samuel Kid of Macosquin Parish.

successive parishes along north east border of Co.Derry and Co. Antrim.

Laughinskille Barony, Samuel Kidd of Killrea Parish

George Kidd of Maghera Parish

Hugh Kidd of Maghera Parish

Thomas Kidd of Ballyscullin Parish

John Kidd of Artrea Parish.

Adam Kidd of Desertmartin Parish

Widow Kidd of Desertlyn Parish.

successive parishes, along south east border of Co.Derry and Co. Antrim.

1. Coleraine is a port at the head of the navigable reach of the river Bann, which flows from Lough Neagh northwards. It has linen factories and dates its prosperity from 1613 when the land was given by James I to the Draper's and other London City Companies.

<sup>#</sup>[note added by William Kidd] - this sketch map not found with the text

County Antrim.

Dunluce Barony, James Kid Ballymoney Parish.  
William Kid Ballymoney Parish.

Torme Barony, William Kid Duneane Parish.  
Hugh Kidd Duneane Parish.  
Thomas Kidd Duneane Parish.  
Charles Kidd Duneane Parish.  
Widow Kidd

John Kidd Drummaul Parish.

### **Other Kidds recorded about 1740**

John Kidd, Commissioner from Moneymore, Co. Tyrone, in 1736. Records of the General Synod of Ulster Vol 11. Also, Will of John Kidd, 'late of Moneymore' 1750. Could be identical with John Kidd of Artrea Parish, adjacent to Moneymore, householder 1740, see above.

William Kidd, Commissioner from Moneymore 1737.

Nathaniel Kidd, Representative elder in Strabane Presbytery 1736. Strabane is on far west of Co. Tyrone on the border with Donegal, 13 miles south of Londonderry.

Abraham and Elizabeth Kidd, Wills proved 1745, of Parish of Aghalurcher in Co. Fermanagh, 40 miles south of Moneymore.

Isaac Kidd of Ringolish Donaghmore Parish, Co. Down, Will 1736. Donaghmore is just over the border from Co. Armagh.

Daniel Kid Magherafret (Co. Derry) Parish Reg. 1721. 'Daniel son of Daniel Kid Baptised in March'

Daniel Kid Voter of Derry Crew Parish of Laughgall Co. Armagh 1753.

James Kidd Freeholder residence 40/- Parish of Ballinderry Co. Antrim 1776 (b.1730c.)

We can see that the movement has been mainly down the fertile lands on the west side, in Co. Derry, of the river Bann which joins Lough Neagh to the sea. Interesting, too, is the fact that those furthest to the south now spell their names Kidd not Kid. There has been a similar but smaller spread and change of spelling along the north coast, and southwards in Co. Antrim. Why do people change the spelling of their name? Kyd in Scotland, to Kid at first in Ireland and then to Kidd, later on to other variations. I put it down to a quirk in the mind, something to do with status and a self-conscious assertion of independence. The Kidds to the south, therefore, I feel are probably the younger generation.

I want to emphasise here that what success I have had in attempting to disentangle the lineage of the Kidds of the north, in spite of fairly fragmentary records, depends on the fact that up to about 1800 there were only relatively few of them and that the linen Industry, with which I think the family was mostly occupied in one way or another, was based

on the countryside and family groups remained localised. From 1750 to 1850 and onwards this simple pattern disintegrates. Numbers increase, the Linen Industry becomes Industrialised, the more successful become businessmen and professionals and drift into the towns and disperse; the less successful sink to the status of labourers, they too mainly find their way into expanding urban districts.

### **The Londonderry family**

This group of the Kidds of 1740 in parishes near Londonderry has some further background in that I have from the Register of Derry Cathedral the following which helps to fill the gap between the Hearth Rolls and the householder lists of some 80 years later.

- (I) 1683 James Kidd married Isabell McNeel, both of Parish of Templemore (immediately to east of Londonderry).
- (II) 1700. Mary wife of James Kidd buried.
- (III) 1684. Isabelle d. of Isabelle and James Kidd baptised.
- (IV) 1691. Jeane d. of do.
- (V) 1695. James s. of do.
- &(VI) in 1667 an Elizth (sic) Kid married a Robert Tease in May.

It is safe to assume that James of Templemore (Derry Register), born c.1655, is the father of the James of nearby Taughavale, householder 1740. He would not have been old enough in 1669 to appear on the Hearth Rolls. Who was the Mary; wife of James Kidd, who died in 1700? She cannot be James of Templemore's wife. She could be James of Templemore's mother, dying an old woman, say born about 1625, in which case James of Templemore's father was also a James, and was most likely, in fact, James of Rathmore (Walter's son), whom we concluded married a second wife on his return to Ireland after the tragedy in which he lost his first wife and children. The dates agree well with this construction.

With so much assumed, we can safely add the two other householders of 1740 close by as also sons of James of Templemore (b.1655c.), i.e. Hugh Kidd of Tamlaght Finlagan Parish, and John Kidd of Tullyarden, Templemore Parish. Also, it seems very likely that one of these three, probably John of Tullyarden, was the father of "Andrew Kidd who in 1754<sup>[1]</sup>

1. This Andrew might be the Andrew Kidd, soldier, who buried a daughter Mary (probably an infant) at Youghal on the south coast of Ireland (Youghal Reg.) 9 Oct. 1762. Regiments were always stationed at Youghal. But dates do not quite fit, if the date of emigration 1754 is correct. The name Mary, however, 'tunes in' positively. Andrew's father could well have remembered her, and she may well have been a character. Also the name John.

came from Co. Tyrone, near Londonderry, with his wife Martha Taylor and first son John, and settled in Newcastle Delaware in North America" before the Declaration of Independence 4 July 1776 [<sup>#</sup>*and later moved to Cecil Co. Maryland*] (see family tree of *Andrew's descendants* in P.R.O., Belfast)<sup>[1]</sup>.

Elizth, the last name on the above list from Derry Cathedral Register, is the earliest in date 1667. I think she fits in as a daughter of James Kid of Rathmore, and a sister of James of Templemore and it is interesting that at this date the name is recorded as Kid, not Kidd. She could have met Robert Tease while on a visit to her brother James who could have been in employment in Londonderry as a young man. Benjamin who succeeded at Rathmore was no doubt the eldest son.

The following chart sets out the above construction.

1. This was compiled by Harry Howell Kidd assisted by two others in 1923, then of 5948 Bryan Parkway, Dallas Texas

#*[Note added by William Kidd] - Franklin Kidd's handwritten edits are shown in italic font*

Walter of Dunluce 1570.c - 1635.c

James of Rathmore 1600.c - 1670.c  
 (outlived by his second wife, Mary, who went to  
 her eldest son, James of Templemore and died 1700)

Elizth Kid  
 m. Robert Tease 1667

James of Templemore Parish b.1650c.  
 married Isabell McNeel 1683 (Derry Reg.)

James of Carrickew  
 J.L. b.1695 Derry  
 Reg. Householder  
 1740. Taughanvale  
 Parish

Hugh of Ballykelly  
 T.L. Householder  
 1740 b.1690.c.  
 Tamlaght Finlagen  
 Parish

John of Tullyarden  
 Templemore parish  
 Householder 1740.  
 b.1690c.

Isabelle Jeane

Andrew. born 1720c.  
 Emigrated with wife  
 and first son John  
 1754 (1764?)

### The Alexander Hunt

I consider next the group of five 1740 householders who have it in common that they all still spell the name Kid, and that they cluster in the N.E. corner of the county around the town of Coleraine. I think these may well be descendants of the John Kidd of Ballyaghram Parish of the Hearth Rolls (1663 for Derry). Among them is the relatively unusual name of Alexander.

By a curious chance I happen to have collected a record of an Alexander Kidd born circa 1766, who had a son Adam Kidd born 1802 at Tullnagee, Co. Derry. This son Adam died July 6 1831 aged 28-29 years in Quebec, Canada. He had been a teacher and a candidate of Holy Orders in the Anglican Church, and was the author of a book of verse entitled "The Huron Chief and other poems" published in Montreal in 1830. His father, Alexander, was present at the funeral, and also a Hugh McQuire Kidd (brother or uncle?). Tullagee is about four miles from Magherafelt (towards southern end of the Derry border with Antrim, and opposite the top end of Lough Neagh and next door to the Parish of Desertmartin. This is where an Adam Kidd, Protestant householder, lived in 1740 (see list above). It seems possible that Alexander (1740), still calling himself Kid, was the father of Adam (1740), now spelling himself Kidd, the former aged 60c. and the latter 30c., giving birth dates of 1680c. and 1710c. On the basis of the recurrence of the two unusual names, Alexander and Adam, and on dates, it would seem most likely that the Alexander born 1766c. (of the Canadian record) and hailing from the same district is a son of the Adam of Desertmartin of 1740 record.

### **The Alexander trail continued**

The next Alexander appears in 1834 In the locality of Kiddstown i.e. Staffordstown, Randalstown and Parishes of Duneane and Drummaul in Co. Antrim where there were four Kidds and a widow in 1740, William, Thomas, Charles, Hugh. In the Tithe Appplotment books of 1834 there appears

Alexander Kidd of Staffordstown, Parish of Duneane.

Alexander Kidd and partner, Moneynick, Parish of Duneane.

and in Griffiths Valuations 1853

Alexander Kidd, farmer, of Moneynick, a house in Aghalaughan 10/- Parish of Drummaul.

So this Alexander was clearly born about 1800, and could well be a brother of the Adam who died in Canada. Three of his children are certainly on record.

William Kidd, farmer, of Moneynick, son of Alexander Kidd, farmer, married at the Church of Randaistown 1/10/1851 Mary McClure; witnesses three McClures.

Andrew Kidd, weaver, of Staffordstown, son of Alexander Kidd, farmer, married at the Church of Ahoghill (seven miles north of Staffordstown, between Postglenone and. Ballymena) Ellen Campbell Witnesses 3 Campbells 9/10/1852.

Agnes Kidd, of Moneymore (in Co. Tyrone) daughter of Alexander Kidd married a William Kidd farmer, of Garriffgeery, son of Charles Kidd, farmer<sup>[1]</sup> In the Registry Office at Antrim. 21/3/1850.

1. This Charles Kidd seems to have had another son, Andrew Kidd, a farmer of Randalstown, who married Agnes Gay 20/8/49 in Belfast Parish Church. In this entry Charles Is described as a weaver. Evidently linen weaving was still at that date being carried on together with farming.

We also have a record of a marriage in 1846 of an Andrew Kidd, aged 23, a farmer of Gariffgeery, Duneane Parish, son of a John Kidd, farmer, to Clare Connor, of Moneynick, of the same Parish. John Connor, witness. (Registration Office).

There are two points of interest here. First, Alexander was evidently a man of substance. Second, there is another family involved. namely, that of Charles Kidd and his two sons, one of whom, William, married Agnes, Alexander Kidd's daughter. Charles is described first as a weaver, and later as a farmer in the marriage records of his sons and the name Charles is a recurrence from 1740.

Besides Alexander in this neighbourhood we have from Griffiths Valuations 1853

John Kidd, Parish of Drummaul - a house 5/- born 1802.

James Kidd, do. - land £ 10.5.0. 12 acres & house £ 1. born 1800.

And in Duneane Parish, Townland of Gariffgeery

Mary Kidd, Land £ 5.10.0. 9 acres & house 15/- born 1792  
Townland of Moneynick.

William Kidd, Land £ 7.5.0. 11 acres & house 10/- born 1800  
Townland of Staffordstown.

James Kidd, House £ 1.0.0. born 1800

George Kidd, Land 7 acres £ 6.15.0., house 15/- born 1800

And earlier in 1834 in Tithe Appplotment books we have James of Moneynick, Duneane Parish; and Mary Kidd of Garriffgeery.

Lastly there is a Benjamin Kidd, married, weaver, of Duneane Parish, who died in 1871 aged 82 (born 1789), a married weaver; and a John Kidd married weaver of Drummaul, who died in 1880 aged 78 (born 1802), and a Mary Kidd, widow of a farmer of Staffordstown, who died 1864 aged 72 (born 1792).

The argument now runs as follows. Alexander has come into the district from the Magherafelt and Desertmartin district of Co. Derry. The others, Charles, John, George, James and Benjamin, all contemporaries of Alexander, are descendants (grandsons) of the group of householders in Duneane in 1740 who in turn were the sons of Benjamin of Rathmore 1650c.-1732. And let us recall here that Benjamin of Rathmore had at least one son by his first wife not included in the 1740 list, i.e., James. I shall assume further that the name Benjamin recurred in these two missing generations.

All this may be of further interest today. There's a living Benjamin Kidd whom I know, whose father was an Alexander, and whose grandfather was a Benjamin born in 1861. The Alexander line and the Benjamin line joined when Alexander of Moneynick's daughter married Charles's son William. It

is not unreasonable to guess on the basis of the above construction that Charles's father may have been a Benjamin, and that his son William who married Agnes, Alexander's daughter, had a son born 1861, whom they christened Benjamin, and who was the grandfather of the Benjamin Victor Kidd of today.

John Kid of Ballyaghram Parish Co.  
Derry 1663. Say born 1610.c.

(x) — Say born 1650.c.

Alexander Kid householder 1740 of  
Dumboe Parish Co. Derry.  
Say born 1680.c.

Adam Kidd householder 1740  
Desertmartin Parish Co. Derry  
Say born 1710.c.

Alexander Kidd of Tullinagee  
Magherafelt Parish Co. Derry  
see text  
Say born 1760.c.

(x)  
Say born 1760.c.

Adam Kidd of  
Tullinagee died  
in Canada Quebec  
1802-1829

Alexander Kidd of  
Duneane Parish Co. Antrim  
Say born 1800.c.

Alexander Kidd of  
Randalstown  
Duneane Parish  
b.1809-d.1869  
married Labourer

Andrew Kidd 1852  
married Ellen  
Campbell he being  
weaver of  
Staffordstown  
Ellen Kidd  
weavers widow died  
1879 aged 71  
Alexander Kidd witness

Agnes Kidd  
of Moneymore Co. Tyrone  
married William Kidd  
1850 (In Reg. Office  
Belfast) farmer of  
Garriffgeery, Duneane  
Parish, and son of  
Charles Kidd, farmer and  
weaver. Duneane Parish.  
(See next chart)

William Henry Kidd  
witness death of

Benjamin Greenwood Kidd  
born 1861 Mullinsallagh  
Portglenone Parish Co.  
Antrim

John Alexander  
Kidd 1770-1877

Alexander Kidd  
b.29/6/1886

Benjamin Victor Kidd  
born 1913.

So much then for the Alexander hunt. There are other chapters in this saga of the Northern Kidds, - the second Benjamin wildgoose and the Daniel trail, the Abrahams of Co. Fermanagh, the Isaacs of Ringolish, Co. Down, and lastly Dr. James Kidd of Aberdeen and the mid-Antrim Group. As for the further history of the large Keady Kidd family of Armagh, it is full of interest as a human document, but I'm sure I should leave it to a member of the family as they are still actively interested.

The arms designated Figure (1) and described on p. 20 of Franklin Kidd's document was not found in the file with the other coloured drawings.

Kidd of Armagh (Figure 2 of Franklin Kidd)

The armorial definition on the back (as carefully lettered as the motto and label on the front).

Arms:- Argent a tree eradicated vert, pendant from the branches a bugle-horn or, stringed gules, an a chief engrailed azure a rose between two mullets of the field.

Crest:- an increscent argent, charged with a rose gules.

the back of this also has a printed label stating (!): "This is an illustration only and must not be regarded as in any way conferring a heraldic right to use the armorial bearings depicted"

Franklin Kidd placed a handwritten note on the front with a line pointing to the scalloped lower border of the blue "chief", saying 'not engrailed inverted' (or invected?), and a sketch showing the scallops the other way up. This annotation and the line has been edited out of the image below.



Patrick Kyd of Craigie (Figure 3 of Franklin Kidd)

Argent, a pine tree eradicated proper, with a bugle horne pendant upon one of the branches or, stringed gules, on a chief azure three martlets of the third. Above the shield one helmet befitting his degree mantled gules doubled argent. The motto is on an Escroll "QUEM NON TORRET HIEMS".

Volume 1, folio 173



William Kyd of Woodhill (Figure 4 of Franklin Kidd)

Argent, a pine tree eradicated proper, with a bugle-horne pendant upon one of the branches or, stringed gules, on a chief azure three mollets of the third, a crescent for difference. Above the shield one helmet befitting his degree mantled gules doubled argent. The motto is in one Escroll "DONEE  
UMPLEAT ORBEM".

Volume 1, folio 343

