

Newsletter



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Issue No. 110 Autumn 2018

MUSEUM UPDATE

This project has proved to be a test of endurance and persistence but, dare we say it, completion is in sight.

The design and surface finishes of the display cabinet by the Fingal Co. Co. architect have been approved, the hardware selected and, subject to a final meeting to ensure all parties understand their roles, the selected contractor will be instructed to proceed with the manufacture and installation and complete all necessary electrical work.

The Normans are back at Malahide Castle



Upcoming talks

December 12 ***'From Messines to Carrickhill' Writing Home from the First world War:*** Tom Burke

January: ***Analysis of 1901 Census of Malahide and District:*** Gerry Kingston

February: ***Saint Ita's Hospital, Portrane and the Irish Asylum System:*** Brendan Kelly

March: ***Yachting in Malahide:*** Graham Smith

April: ***The Railway and Malahide:*** Oliver Doyle

May: ***Photographs of old Malahide with some new additions:*** Brian Dooley

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The First World War

Hundreds of thousands of Irish soldiers returned home to a largely hostile country following World War I. Their memory was virtually obliterated until recent times when an almost incredible change in attitude has occurred. Now families are researching the experiences of grandfathers, uncles and cousins. Local communities around the country are erecting statues, monuments and memorial walls in remembrance of those who fought. In his last poem Tom Kettle wrote they "Died not for flag, nor King, nor Emperor,..." Even in Midleton in the 'Rebel County' they have recently unveiled a memorial wall !

Local retired Irish Army officer, Bernard Howard, writing in 'Fingal Studies' in 2010 estimated that 121 people from Malahide enlisted and the adjoining fatal casualties were recorded but we know little more about them.

We would be interested in hearing from any locals who lost one or more relatives. Almost 50 females who gave Malahide addresses served, mostly in this country, as auxiliary nurses or VADs.

Our October lecture on the torpedoing of the R.M.S. Leinster mentioned a local casualty, Alfred Henry Boucher, an 18 year old member of Royal Flying Corps returning to UK from leave. He was the son of a Malahide coastguard and is interred in St. Andrew's churchyard.

Our December lecture will feature Michael Wall from Portmarnock who, until his death at Messines in June, 1917, wrote frequently and movingly to his mother at Carrickhill.

Do come along on the 12th.

Malahide area First World War casualties

1. No. 2633 Private Aherne, Francis
2. Stewardess Arnott, Sarah.
3. No. 323272 Pioneer Baker, George.
4. No. 131449 Petty Officer Beauchamp, John.
5. No. 11829 Private Brophy, Bernard
6. Able Seaman Caffney, Joseph
7. No. J/14000 Able Seaman Dunne, Joseph.
8. No. 3614 Lance Corporal Farrelly, Benedict
9. Lt Grayson, John
10. No. 10999 Private Kelly, Matthew
11. No. 9037 Private McClean, Thomas.
12. No. 9634 Private McEvoy, James.
13. No. 15127 Private McGuigan, Michael.
14. No. 7187 Private McKillop, Thomas.
15. No. 23268 Private Moore, James.
16. No. 364525 Private O'Brien, Daniel.
17. No. 11297 Private Spires, George.



The giant 6 metre tall “The Haunting(s) Soldier”, made from old machine and clock parts and on display during November at the Fusiliers Arch on St. Stephen's Green, attracted enormous crowds. Even more were galvanised into visiting and reflecting on the horrors of the Great War after the statue was vandalised.

'The Haunting(s) Soldier' was created by Dorset-based blacksmith Martin Galbavy.

'Killed in action' documents

At least 19,000 Irish-born soldiers served in the Canadian Corps
This is how the Canadian Records Office communicated a death.

R.C.I. 78.26. Cas. 161117.

No. _____
IN REPLYING, PLEASE QUOTE ABOVE NUMBER.

To Mr. F. Douglas
Springvale, Chapelwood
Dublin

CANADIAN RECORD OFFICE,
GREEN ARBOUR HOUSE,
OLD BAILEY, LONDON, E C.4.

Sir. 18th November 1917

It is my painful duty to inform you that a report has this day
been received notifying the death of No. 1018649

Rank Private Name Frank Douglas

Regiment 78th Battalion which occurred at
on the 30th October 1917, and I am to express to you
the sympathy and regret of the Militia Council at your loss. The cause
of death was KILLED IN ACTION

Further information regarding the personal effects and any balance
of pay due to the military estate of the soldier will be communicated
to you in due course by the Estates Branch, Canadian Contingents,
Pembroke House, 133 Oxford St. London W 1, but some time must necess-
arily elapse before these questions can be dealt with. If you do not
receive further communication in six weeks' time, please write to
Estates Branch, quoting Reference No. above, also Regimental No., Name
and Unit of the deceased soldier.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient Servant *H. W. Adams*
Lieut.

A5. R107-5M.
3510-3-9-17.

For Lt. Col. For Officer i/c Records.

See over

An example of the standard British letter notifying a death.

No. K.136
(If replying, please quote above No.)

ARMY FORM B. 104-82.

HOUSEHOLD BN Record Office,
WINDSOR
20. JUN. 1917 191

Madame

It is my painful duty to inform you that a report has been received from the War Office notifying the death of:—

(No.) 1563 (Rank) Spr
 (Name) Wilson J. J.
 (Regiment) HOUSEHOLD B I
 which occurred in the field France
 on the 3rd May 1917.
 The report is to the effect that he was
KILLED IN ACTION

By His Majesty's command I am to forward the enclosed message of sympathy from Their Gracious Majesties the King and Queen. I am at the same time to express the regret of the Army Council at the soldier's death in his Country's service.

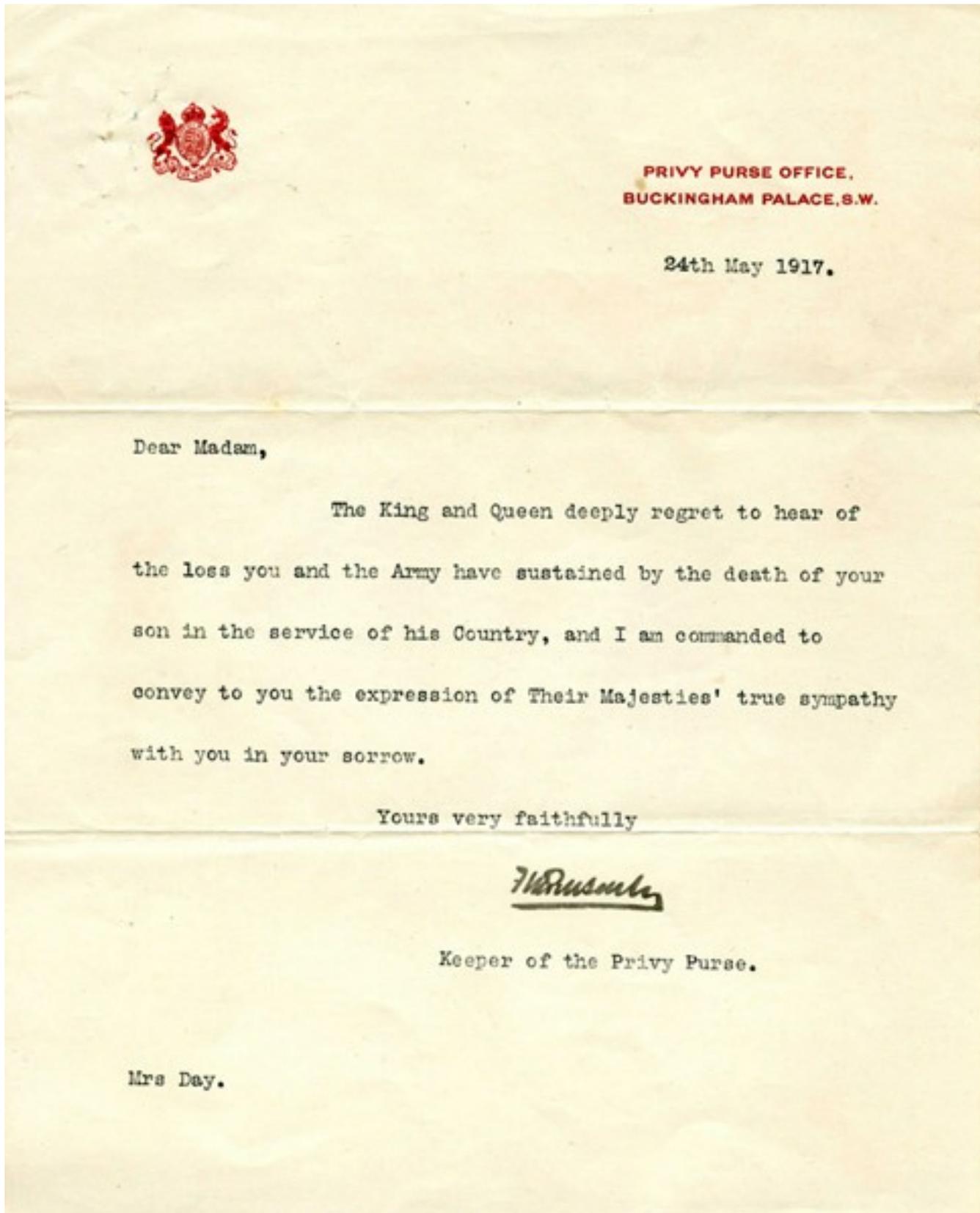
I am to add that any information that may be received as to the soldier's burial will be communicated to you in due course. A separate leaflet dealing more fully with this subject is enclosed.

Mrs J Wilson
30 Westly St
Lytham
Lancs

I am,
Madame
 Your obedient Servant,
ATB Wake Lieut Colonel
LIEUT-COLONEL
 Officer in charge of Records.

18307. Wt. 15146/M 1365. 175m. 2/17. R. & L., Ltd. P.T.O.

The 'message of sympathy' from the palace

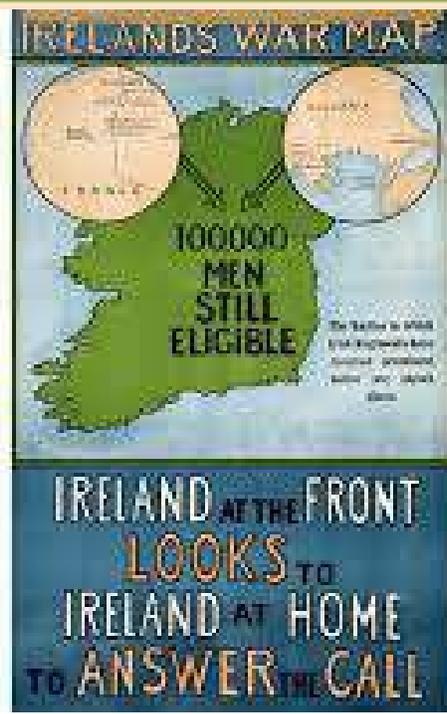
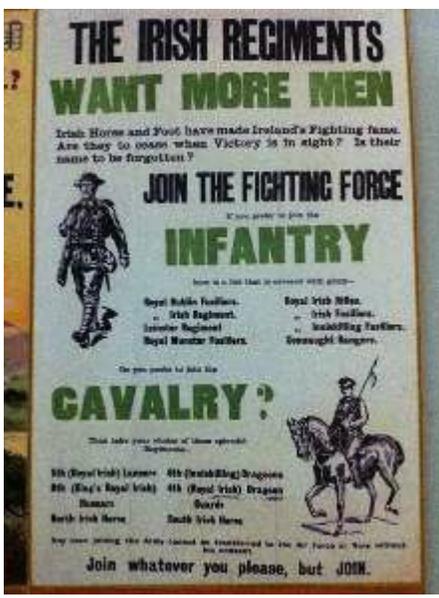


This 'sympathy' letter and the Canadian letter on page 3 are reproduced from originals in the Society's collection.

Examples of First World War Irish recruitment posters



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A selection of World War I memorials around the country



At the Irish National War Memorial in Islandbridge the names of 49,435 Irish war dead are recorded in the memorial volumes.



The Kilkenny Memorial Wall



The Waterford Memorial Wall



The Midleton Memorial Wall

From *The Irish Times* of 22nd January, 1858

Malahide, County Dublin.

Sale of superior Household Furniture, and other Effects, a Magnificent 6¾ Octave Rosewood Cottage Pianoforte, by Charles Cadby (London), Rosewood Music Stool two Phaetons, by O'eill (nearly new), Covered Head and Apron; two Fashionable Outside Jaunting Cars, with Patent Axles, &c.; Seven Sets of Double and Single Harness; Four very superior Saddles and Bridles; about Ten tons of prime feeding Hay, Large heap of Straw; Horses, Pony, Milch Cows, and Heifers, two Store Pigs; a few tons of Seed Potatoes; a large Bathing Box, Winnowing Machine, Beams, Scales, and Weights; a Rope Mangle; one Double Barrel Fowling Piece, Single do, and two largo Duck Guns, by Calderwood and Truelock; a select Library of Books, containing 500 Volumes elegantly bound in leather; Eight Day Clock, by M'aster; twelve inch Terrestrial Globes by Malby, two Brussels Carpets, 22 feet by 18 each; Mantlepiece Glasses in ornamental Frames, Carved and Gilt; a choice collection of rare Engravings and Prints, in Rosewood, Maple, and Gilt Frames, Plated Spirit and Cruet Frames, Plated Salvers and Cover Dishes; Ivory Handled Knives and Plated Forks, Cut Glass Decanters: Claret and Water Jugs; Salad and Celery Stands; Tumblers, Wines, Liquers, etc..

TO be SOLD by AUCTION on TUESDAY 26th January at SEA PARK, MALAHIDE, the residence of John Killen, Esq, who is retiring from the neighbourhood, in consequence of a Family Bereavement,

12 Drawingroom Chairs with Cabriole Legs, carved top rails,&c.; Cabriole Lounger and Easy Chairs, Loo, Sofa and Work Tables, Chiffioniers and Cabinets; a Mahogany Bookcase, six feet long; a set of three Massive Pillar and Claw Dinner Tables a Pedestal Sideboard: 12 Mahogany Parlour Chairs in Leather: 24 ditto in Haircloth and Damask, Easy ditto; a Pedestal Commode, furnished, Upright Reading and Writing Desks; six Hall Chairs; Oak Hall Stand and Table; Child's Chair and Table, short set of Dinner Tables, Portable, Work Box and Dressing Case; Mahogany and Hardwood Bedsteads, Damask Curtains and Palliasses, Prime Feather Beds, Bolsters and Pillows, Curled Hair Mattresses, Blankets, Sheets and Quilts; a Superior full-sized Mahogany Wing Wardrobe, with Pencil Cedar Sliding Shelves, etc., Mahogany Chest of Drawers; Toilet Tables, Basin Stands, Toilet Glasses and Commodes, a polished Birch full-sized Wardrobe, Bedsteads,, Cane seated Bed-room Chairs, Painted Presses and Tables, a Patent Knife Cleaner; Copper Preserving Pans; Kettle, and Stew Pans; Water Barrel and Barrow; Meat Safe; Japanned Plate Warmer; six Iron Racks and Mangers; Bronzed Fenders and Sets of Fire Irons; some Dairy Utensils; Moderateur Dinner Lamps, Stair Carpeting and Brass Rods; two Cast Iron Garden Seats; Morning and Evening China, Dinner Ware, etc.,A Roasting Screen and Jack; Oil Cloth on Hall; Kitchen Dresser; Tables and hairs; Culinary Requisites, with various lots too numerous for insertion.

-Auction fees to be paid by purchaser.

N.B. ---Sale to commence with the Furniture at Twelve o'Clock; the Phaetons, Jaunting Cars, Harness and Saddles, etc. at Two; the Pianoforte and Fowling Pieces at Three; and the Books at Four.

MICHAEL CROOKE, Auctioneer, 10, Lower Ormond-quay.

Freemans Journal , Date: Jun 14, 1875

MALAHIDE, COUNTY DUBLIN

Highly Important to Graziers, Agriculturists, and Others.

Sale of Valuable Leasehold Interest in large Farm of Prime Land, excellent Six-room Dwelling house, extensive Haggard and suitable Farm Offices, Growing Crops of Wheat, Oats, Potatoes, Turnips, Barley, and Meadow, Horses, Cattle, Pigs, Farming Implements, Machinery, Carts, Harness, Outside Jaunting Car, Cushions, and Harness, Poultry, &c, &c.

TO BE SOLD BY AUCTION

On WEDNESDAY, 30th June, 1875

(By directions of Mrs. Mary Ryan, Administratrix of the late Mr. John Ryan),

On the Premises,

which are known as

ROBB'S WALL, MALAHIDE

(About ten minutes' walk of Railway Station),

The INTEREST in the LEASE, eleven years of which are unexpired, of the entire Farm, containing one hundred and eighty-six statute acres or thereabouts, subject to the yearly rent of £480.

The Land is in the highest state of cultivation, having been very heavily manured for many years past, which the appearance of the present crops will show. There are one hundred acres now growing, of the most luxuriant kinds as follows, viz:-

14 acres Wheat, 16 acres Potatoes, 18 acres Oats

2 acres Turnips, 10 acres Barley, 40 acres Meadow

There are nine very superior strong farm and draught horses, choice harness mare, two three-year-old and two two-year-old colts and fillies, and two foals, three milch cows, seven three and two-year-old heifers and bullocks, and one yearling; one sow and nine large store pigs.

The agricultural machinery and implements include one threshing mill, a winnowing machine, two combined mowing and reaping machines, six ploughs, backbands; three iron harrows and swings, two field rollers, two drill ditto, one large-sized grubber, two smaller ditto, seven carts and eight sets harness, haggard ladders, boilers, mash tubs, wheelbarrows, empty sacks, ropes, &c, &c.

The haggard and offices are very extensive. There are large stands for ricks and stacks of hay and corn, potato and store houses three hundred feet long; stabling for sixteen horses, and cattle shed one hundred and forty feet long, granary, barn, piggery, and all other necessary buildings.

Purchasers to pay Auctioneer's Commission.

Sale to commence with the Leasehold Interest at One o'clock, or shortly after arrival of 12 o'clock train from Amiens-street, Dublin. The cattle, horses and pigs at half-past One. Growing Crops at Two o'clock. Machinery, Implements, Carts, Harness &c. at conclusion of Sale.

For statement of title and conditions of sale apply to

Arthur Samuels, Esq., Solicitor, Henrietta-street:

or to

MICHAEL CROOKE,
Auctioneer,
10 Lower Ormond Quay.

THE LATE LORD TALBOT DE MALAHIDE

IMPRESSIVE FUNERAL SERVICE

The funeral of Richard Wogan, fifth Baron Talbot de Malahide, took place yesterday, when the remains were removed from Malahide Castle to the parish church. There were general indications of mourning in the town, the blinds in private and business houses being drawn as the funeral passed. The attendance was large and representative, and reflected the esteem in which his lordship was held. There was a large gathering of retainers and tenantry.

The remains were received at the church by the Venerable Archdeacon of Dublin and the Rev. Mr. McCormack. During the impressive Service the Archdeacon paid tribute to the memory of the deceased nobleman, and said that he was the lineal descendant of a long line of ancestors, who had lived and ruled and owned the soil there for 730 years. Since 1172 kingdoms had risen and disappeared, dynasties had come and gone, but the Talbot family had held its ground there century after century, and had been accorded the people's deference and respect. That in itself was enough to entitle the representative of an ancient line to their honour, but he had other and more personal claims to it. No one who knew Lord Talbot at all, and whose judgment was worth anything could fail to appreciate the sterling qualities of his character. They knew his absolute sincerity and truthfulness, his high and delicate sense of humour, his intense desire to do the right thing. They knew his fidelity and loyalty of friendship, and he had reason to know - better, he thought, than most of his friends - the genuine kindness and the great generosity that Lord Talbot loved to exercise when the need was brought before him. They knew, too his charity in another and higher sense. Never did he say a harsh or bitter word. He liked to think well of all, and his judgments were always charitable. Those who were nearest to him knew the real warm, true affection of his heart for those he loved and the simple unselfishness of his nature. Above all, he was a humble, devout, sincere Christian, and a most faithful member of the Church. Never was his place there vacant on Sundays while his health permitted. He was an example to all for the attention and devotion with which he joined in the Service. Although they lamented his loss, they cherished the memory of a most kindly honourable Christian gentleman, whose example it would be good for all to follow.

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The remains were borne from the church to the family vault in the churchyard, where they were interred in accordance with the solemn rites of the Church.

The chief mourners were-

The Hon. James Boswell Talbot (son), the Hon. Colonel Milo Talbot de Malahide (brother). Sir Eustace Gurney and Samuel Gurney (step-sons).

The attendance included:

Lord and Lady Rathdonnell, Thomas L. Plunkelt, Major Cusack, D.L.; Captain Costelloe, Colonel Hely Hutchinson. Captain Hall, Brigadier-General Twigg, Colonel Kennedy. Sir John and Lady Carter, Lady Mary Corbally, the Hon. Gaisford St. Lawrence, Robert F. S. Colvill, P. Morgan Mooney, John Fairclough, J. A. Ashley-Cooper, John E Walsh, A. D. Pillans, J. Russell Stritch, Alderman J. Hubbard Clark (High Sheriff), Dr. H. C. Groves, C. W. D. Scobell, Elias B. Corbally, W. Trumbell, W. Tomlinson, Mrs. Corbally, Miss Corbally, B. Rusk, Joseph McCready, A. Elliott, R. Kells, Arthur Twigg, James Robinson, J. A. Maconchy, Robert Hall, J. Dickie, J.P., T. McMahon, Gaybrook; E. McMahon, Gaybrook; S. Howard, S. Hogan, W. B. Carson, A. Magan, Michel Wright, Charles Dardis, L. McGuigan, S. Mills. P. Flynn. J. Howard. L. Howard, William Fox, William Colclough, R. Thompson, P. NeCormack, F. Pearson, Joseph Hogan, Richard Sharkey, Michael Markey, M. Thompson, Robert Armstrong, T. E. Denning, John Mulhall, Edward Byrne, Joseph Ellis, T. Elis, Joseph McAllister, John Jenkinson. Matthew Hoey. Simon Doyle.

Wreaths were sent from the following:-

Lady Talbot de Malahide, Lord Talbot de Malahide, the Hon. Reginald and Mrs. Talbot, Colonel the Hon. Neil and Mrs. Talbot, the Hon. Frances Talbot, Miss Mary Talbot, Mr. Samuel Gurney, Sir Eustace Gurney, Lady Ardilaun, Miss Tottenham, Ballycurry, Mrs. Moutray, "uburn" Malahide, Miss White L.L.D, Alexandra College, Sir Arthur and Lady Elliot, Mr. and Mrs. Plunkett, the employees on the estate, household servants, and nurses, etc.

The funeral arrangements were in charge of Messrs Waller.

Note: Interestingly, although Lord Talbot's widow Lady Isabel Talbot sent a wreath she is not mentioned among the chief mourners though her step-sons Sir Eustace Gurney and Samuel Gurney are mentioned.

Richard Wogan Talbot, 5th Baron Talbot de Malahide

Richard Wogan Talbot was born in London in 1846 and educated at Eton. After leaving Oxford University in 1865 he joined the 9th Lancers, attaining the rank of lieutenant but left in 1872. The following year he married, first, Emily Harriet, great grand-daughter of James Boswell the famous biographer of Dr. Samuel Johnson.



Richard succeeded to the title in 1883 following the death of his father in Funchal, Madeira. He inherited 1,893 acres in County Dublin, 1,113 acres in County Cavan, and 547 acres in County Westmeath, in total 3,553 acres at a value of £4,945 a year. In addition, he had from his late mother 2,645 acres in Scotland which were rented for £,279 per annum. This was no inconsiderable sum, but he found the Malahide estate much let down, but had little money to put things to rights. For some years he, his wife and son lived in a house in Malahide, and saved all he could, so as to spend it on putting the castle and estate into order. He became a magistrate for County Dublin. In order to restore the castle to its former glory Richard led a frugal lifestyle and sold off many buildings on the estate and, in 1888, he sold Lambay Island, to James, Count Considine who reconverted it into a hunting estate.

His wife Emily died at the castle in 1898 leaving one son. He and his son then spent much time in travelling and the castle was again left empty for long periods. He married again in 1901, the wealthy Isabel Charlotte, mother of seven surviving children and widow of the late Mr. John Gurney, a Norfolk banker. Her father had served under Wellington in the Peninsular War and lost a leg. On their return to Malahide in 1902, after a honeymoon in Italy, they received a tremendous welcome at Malahide, with tenants removing the horses from the carriage so that they themselves could drag the newlyweds up the drive and present them with an illuminated address whilst the band played "Come Back to Erin".



The Talbot family at the front door of the castle

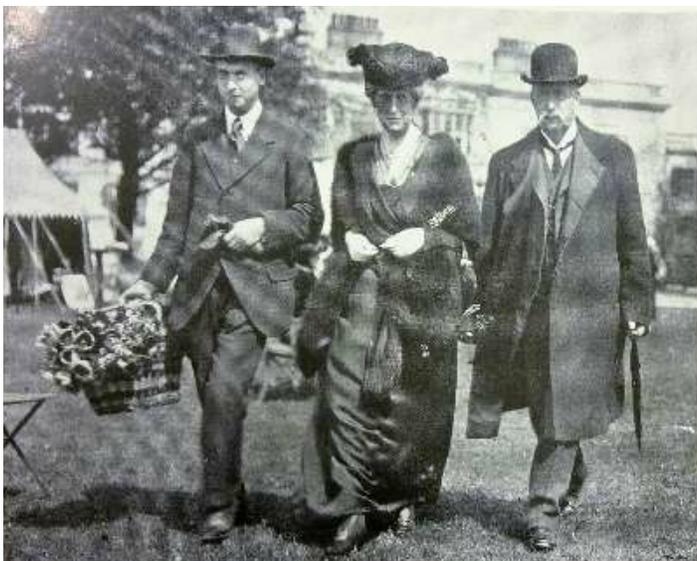
Lady Isabel's presence at Malahide was indeed welcome, where she was given a free rein by Richard.

She set about transforming the place - both the interior and the gardens and each Christmas she would visit every poor family on the estate to give them presents. Lady Isabel became president of the Mother' Union for the Dublin diocese in 1909 and vice-president of the Alexandra College Guild. She became head of the Dublin branch of the Red Cross during World War I and was awarded an O.B.E. in 1920. She was also a talented artist.

Lord Talbot became a Deputy-Lieutenant for the County of Dublin. He made efforts to develop the district, but the attempts to make it a popular watering-place were not as successful as had been hoped. Well acquainted with the needs of the men engaged in Irish sea-fishing, he helped in every movement for the development of this greatly neglected industry.

Immediately after the passing of the Land Act, 1903 Lord Talbot conveyed to his tenants his desire to sell his estate to them. At a meeting of tenants in September the meeting chairman, Mr. J.P. O'eill, Chairman of the Dublin County Council expressed gratitude for the promptness with which Lord Talbot had accepted the principle laid down in the recent land legislation, and also for his suggestion, that a committee of his tenants should be formed for the purpose of taking into consideration his proposal to sell his estate. The chairman noted that Lord Talbot was the first landlord in the Metropolitan county and the second landlord throughout Ireland to offer to sell his estate to his tenants.

He was fond of cricket, and established a club in the grounds of his demesne . He was founder president of Malahide Golf Club. He took little part in politics. With his second wife, he travelled extensively, visiting Europe, Egypt, China, Japan, the USA, Canada and Argentina. The sale of a painting by Franz Hals reputedly financed much of this travel.



He died at Malahide Castle on 4 March 1921, aged 75. He was succeeded by his only son, the Hon. James Boswell Talbot. His widow moved to London and lived to the age of 80.

Lord Richard Talbot with his wife Lady Isabel and her son by her first marriage, Samuel.

The Steamship *SS Portmarnock*



The *Weatherhill* bell

In the early twentieth century, a merchant ship with no obvious connection with the area carried the name of Portmarnock across the world. The steamship *Portmarnock*, with a net tonnage of 1985, (3080 gross), was of steel construction and had an overall length just over 300 ft. Built in 1895 by shipbuilders William Gray, of West Hartlepool, the vessel was initially named the *St Ronald* and then owned by the Liverpool-based Rankin, Gilmour & Co., the so-called 'Saint' line, (which owned numerous vessels named after saints.) With a crew of up to eighty then, the *St Ronald's* voyages took it as far afield as Japan.

In 1903, the *St Ronald* was acquired by the Dublin firm of ship-owners,

John Weatherhill and Sons and re-registered as the *Portmarnock*. In late 1910, the ship loaded a cargo of grain at San Lorenzo, in Argentina, destined for Leith, in Scotland. That October, when off Cape Frio, on the coast of Brazil, the vessel went aground, with the loss of twelve of the twenty-four crew. The disaster was reported in a Brazilian newspaper, *Correio Da Manhã*, of 18-10-1910. This featured two (somewhat obscure) photographs of the twelve survivors, who included the Captain, 'Joseph Whederill' ('Weatherhill?'), under the headline:

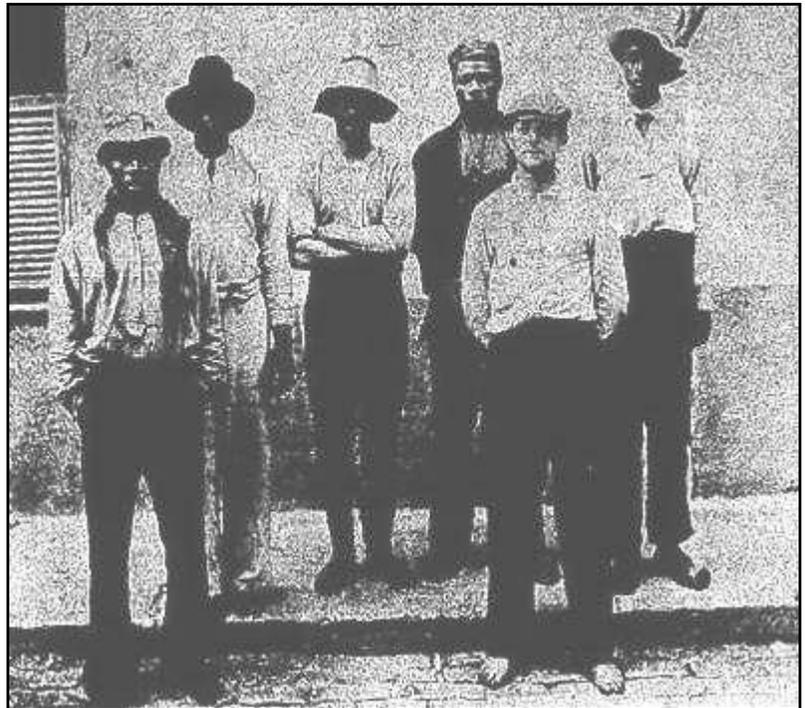


Photo in Brazilian newspaper of six of the survivors from the SS '*Portmarnock*'

'O vapor inglez "Port Marnock" naufraga na praia de Massambaba, morrendo doze marinheros.

The ship's owner, Captain John Weatherill, was the older brother of the vessel's Master, Captain J.B. Weatherill. John was a very early member of Portmarnock Golf Club, which was founded in 1894. In 1905, John Weatherill presented a bell to the club. It prominently carries the word 'Portmarnock' but it was not ever a ship's bell. It became known as the 'Weatherill Bell' and is believed to have been specially cast. It was probably used for some years to sound a message concerning the movements of the boat which then ferried members across the estuary from Baldoyle. That was at a time when a road to the Club had not yet been constructed. Today, the very well preserved bell continues to hang in a position adjacent to the Clubhouse.

The Sailing Ship *The Lady Hobart*

In late January, 1865, one of the largest vessels wrecked in this immediate area went aground off Portmarnock beach. *The Lady Hobart*, an ocean-going, fully-rigged, sailing ship, of 781 tons, had left Liverpool on Saturday, bound for Bermuda with nine-hundred tons of coal. Captain Lewis Richmond had two ship's mates and nineteen other crew. Battered by a violent storm, the ship was been driven towards the Dublin coast, eventually dropping anchor between Howth and Ireland's Eye. The storm caused the vessel to drag anchor and it was driven towards Portmarnock Point, where *The Lady Hobart* went aground on a low tide. About 6pm, distress flares were fired but no small craft dared go out in such seas. The alarm had reached the Coastguard but as all the ship's flares had been used, its position was not clear. The vessel began to come apart and become submerged, with just masts and rigging visible. The desperate crew climbed the rigging and hung on all night, wet and half-frozen. With dawn came the next low-tide and it was then possible to launch the one remaining lifeboat. Nine sailors were brought ashore, where John Jameson seems to have been on the scene. He had them brought to his house and given food and drink. It was reported that '*a brave Coastguard named Benjamin Ruddick*', along with three (equally brave!) local men organised the rescue of the thirteen men still aboard the wreck. (The local men were James and Patrick Reilly and Peter Caulfield). Captain Inglefield of the Coast Guard gave the survivors some money and Sam Stephens, Honorary secretary of the Shipwrecked Sailors' Association, had them conveyed by train to Dublin, where they were housed in the Sailors' Home at Sir John Rogerson's Quay.

At Portmarnock Point, the shattered *The Lady Hobart* lay submerged, its three masts sticking up from the hull. There then ensued some 'cat-and-mouse' between local beachcombers and the Coastguard. Coal continued to be washed along the shore and 'appropriated' locally at low tide. In addition, beams of timber, a cask of sherry, trunks of personal goods, and quantities of bread and flour came from the wreck. The Coastguard, (acting in its role as the Sovereign's Receiver of Wreck,) managed to take much, (but not all!) of these goods into official custody.

Following the shipwreck, no time was wasted in arranging an official enquiry on the loss of *The Lady Hobart*, which had '*got embayed and wrecked on the Irish coast*'. A month later, at Liverpool, a court of enquiry, composed of Mr T.S. Raffles, Captain Harris, and Captain Baker, was instituted. It ruled that the master, Captain Louis Samuel Edward Richmond, had not exercised that nautical skill and seamanship incumbent upon him. Instead of making sail to stay his ship, he should have promptly put his helm up and, when land was first reported, '*wore around to the eastward*'. Captain Richmond's certificate was suspended for a period of six months.

An earlier *Lady Hobart*.

The Falmouth registered Post Office packet *Lady Hobart*, commanded by William Dorset Fellowes, was bound for England from Halifax, Nova Scotia, when, on 26th June 1803, she was attacked by a French privateering schooner which mistook her as defenceless: Fellowes opened fire and instead took the schooner. He sent her to England under a prize crew commanded by two Royal Naval lieutenants who were on board the packet as passengers, and sent off most of his prisoners, with the exception of the French captain, in Newfoundland fishing schooners which happened to be nearby. On 28th June, in fog, the 'Lady Hobart' hit an iceberg at speed and rapidly sank: all those on board, among whom were female passengers and Fellowes' wife, took to the cutter and jolly boat, and survived eight days adrift before being picked up by another schooner that took them to Newfoundland.

A Cable-laying Ship - *Ploughing the Sea*

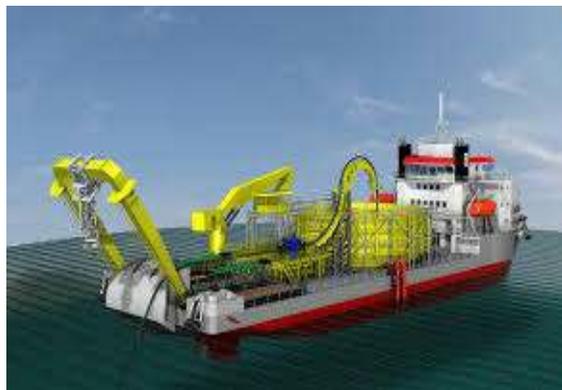
In 1988, Portmarnock beach played a role in the furtherance of modern communications when a vessel quite different from any previously seen along these shores anchored off the sea-front. This cable-laying ship, with backup vessels attending, was not carrying any conventional cargo. Instead, since leaving the Welsh coast, it had been paying out behind an under-water fibre-optic cable, hastening the development of information technology infrastructure in Ireland.

'Ploughing the sea' has for long been a metaphor for progress through the water of the sharp end of maritime vessels. However, this was literally the action involved in the placement of the fibre-optic cable safely in the sea-bed. The sophisticated device used to place the cable within a trench, which had then to be closed over the cable, was actually called 'the plough'. It consisted of a disc-harrow which cut a wedge-shaped section in the sea-floor, ahead of the plough-share. In this delicate and highly technical operation, control was exercised from the ship, using a sophisticated system of cameras and sensors. One essential aspect was the maintenance of the appropriate degree of 'residual' tension throughout. The cable's core was constructed with the fibres set in the helical grooves, free to move therein. The fibres thus had an inherent slack which

Cont. over

permitted a cable strain of up to 1.1% to be applied without this tension transmitting to the actual fibres and potentially damaging the cable.

The 'Portmarnock-Holyhead Optical Fibre Cable System' had reached land close to where the 'Eccentric Orbit' sculpture commemorates the historic flight of the '*Southern Cross*' in 1930. The route of the French-manufactured cable, from Wales to Portmarnock, measured 126 kilometres. Three ships, two tug-boats and three contractors, Irish, British, French, did the job, for which they received nine million punts. The cable-laying ship and its support tugs then sailed off, going their separate ways.



An artist's impression of a cable-laying



Malahide Castle examples of Irish Woodcarver Richie Clarke's work. Based in Mullingar, his special interest is in Celtic Mythology and Fantasy Art. See more examples on his website <http://www.clarkewoodcarving.com/>

**GENEALOGICAL MEMOIR
Of
TALBOT OF MALAHIDE**

18

GENEALOGICAL MEMOIR

Of

THE ANTIENT AND NOBLE FAMILY

of

TALBOT OF MALAHIDE

IN THE COUNTY OF DUBLIN

SHEWING THEIR DESCENT FROM THE COMMON ANCESTOR OF THE NOBLE EARLS OF SHREWSBURY AND TALBOT OF ENGLAND, A POSSESSION OF THE LORDSHIP OF MALAHIDE FOR NEAR SEVEN CENTURIES, AND THE SUMMONS OF SIR THOMAS TALBOT OF MALAHIDE TO THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLIES AND PARLIAMENT OF IRELAND IN THE REIGN OF KING EDWARD THE THIRD, AS LORD TALBOT; AND THAT R. W. TALBOT, ESo. Now OF MALAHIDE, IS THE LINEAL RIGHT HEIR OF THE SAID SIR THOMAS, AND, AS SUCH, ENTITLED TO THE DIGNITY OF LORD BARON TALBOT OF THAT PART OF THE UNITED KINGDOM CALLED IRELAND, IF THE SAID SIR THOMAS TALBOT TOOK HIS SEAT UNDER THE SUMMONS IN 1874. DEDUCED FROM PUBLIC RECORDS AND OTHER AUTHENTIC EVIDENCE.

DUBLIN

**PRINTED BY BENTHAM AND HARDY, 3 CECILIA-STREET
1829**

This seven page document was recently donated to MHS by the library manager at Woldingham School (founded in 1842) in Surrey who does not know how it came to be in the school's possession. The pages are crudely hand stitched between plain brown paper covers and are in a fragile condition. The document sets out the Talbot pedigree commencing with Hugh Talbot of Plessy in Normandy. His great grandson, Sir Richard Talbot, accompanied King Henry II to Ireland in 1184 and was granted the lordship of Malahide. The pedigree ends with Richard Wogan Talbot (1766 - 1849).

The document was printed in Dublin in 1829 and this copy bears the handwritten dedication "Cecil Ives from Talbot de Malahide. Sept 27th 1883".

The document needs to be conserved in some way and if any member can offer any advice or suggestions this would be most welcome.

Email malahidehistoricalsociety@gmail.com.