

- General Register Office Costs Revealed by Minister
- New Queries Received
- "Pay for View" Report Published by Heritage Council

The Gene Gazette

The Newsletter of the
Genealogical Society
of Ireland
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March 2000

Welcome
to the
World of
Genealogy

INTERNATIONAL "GENEALOGY" STAMP

"Call to celebrate the world-wide interest in Family History with a Postage Stamp"

"FAMILY HISTORY" POSTAGE STAMP?

Recently on the Internet suggestions made about the US Postal Authority issuing a postage stamp to feature the growing interest in genealogy has caught the imagination of others outside the States. We too, here in Ireland should consider a similar issue or is it time to think globally? In Ireland, we pride ourselves on our genealogical links with over seventy million people throughout the world. Yet, to just highlight Ireland's genealogical heritage in isolation would ignore the other genealogical links shared by most of that seventy million in their own countries overseas. With the increased mobility of our peoples, not only in the European Union, but across the globe, we have an opportunity to jointly celebrate our common humanity, especially, our shared genealogical heritage. Indeed, the international Postal Union could organise a global competition for a shared international symbol to mark our global genealogical heritage and the importance that all communities attach to their genealogical heritage. In western countries the tradition is to depict genealogy with reference to an oak tree, however, who knows what new and exciting symbolism exists for Family History in other cultures. A new symbol linking all cultures could be depicted on each nation's stamp, whilst, highlighting their own genealogical heritage and resources. Ireland could, for example, depict our oldest genealogical records. Marks on stone indicating relationship and descent - our Ogham Stones or

highlight events like the "Irish Genealogical Congress" to be held in Trinity College Dublin in September 2001. In asking our extensive overseas readership, especially on those many hundreds visiting our Website daily, to take up the baton in their own countries and within their genealogical organisations. We in Ireland, hopefully, can do our part by urging *An Post*, at the General Post Office, Dublin 1 to take up the challenge to champion the issuance of an "International Family History Stamp" by the Postal Authorities in the European Union, United States, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa and others to mark the growing world-wide interest in the subject and to highlight Ireland's ancient genealogical heritage. "*Genealogy links Millions*" - why not a postage stamp to do likewise?

RMS LEINSTER - 1918

On the 10th October 1918 - R.M.S. "Leinster" was sunk by a German Submarine. 501 people died in the greatest ever loss of life in the Irish Sea. Was a relative of yours on board? I am researching, for publication by the Society, the 501 people who died and the 271 people who survived the sinking of the "Leinster". The City of Dublin Steam Packet Company ship was sunk by UB 123 shortly after leaving Dún Laoghaire, (then Kingstown), Co. Dublin. The sinking resulted in the highest ever death rate on an Irish ship. As well as the crew, the ship was carrying Postal Sorters and civilian passengers, but most of those on board were military. I would love to hear from you if you have any information or photos etc. on any of the passengers. All information given will be acknowledged when my research is published by the Society as part of its very successful

"Irish Genealogical Sources" series. This is an opportunity for your relative's story to become known to a wide readership. Please contact: PHILIP LECANE, 77, Windsor, Drive, Monkstown, Co. Dublin, Ireland OR, via the Hon. Secretary of the Genealogical Society of Ireland Michael Merrigan - E-mail: GenSocIreland@iol.ie or address below.

ANCIENT LINKS FOSTERED

Thursday 2nd March 2000 was a milestone in Scottish history when a Minister rose to his feet and spoke in the Gaelic language in a Scottish Parliament, possibly, for the first time in six hundred years. As befits such an occasion, the ancient Gaelic links between Scotland and Ireland were the subject of the first Gaelic debate in the Scottish Parliament. The Deputy Minister for Highlands and Islands and Gaelic moved SIM-607—"That the Parliament welcomes the Scottish Executive's programme of action in support of the Gaelic language, in particular its support for Gaelic-medium education; recognises the cultural, economic and social contribution of Gaelic to Scotland; supports the Scottish Executive's participation in the Columba Initiative (Iomairt Chalum Chille) to strengthen the links between the Gaelic-speaking communities of Scotland and of Ireland, and commends the work of local authorities, schools, colleges, universities and voluntary bodies in making available Gaelic-medium education at all levels from pre-school to tertiary and continuing education and in promoting the Gaelic arts." This motion was passed overwhelmingly and no doubt, we'll see Mr. Morrison as a frequent visitor to our Minister for Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht and the Islands, Ms. Síle de Valera, T.D. as this "ancient link" is strengthened over the coming years. Mr. Alasdair Morrison MSP, Minister for the Highlands & Islands and Gaelic, can be contacted c/o The Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh, EH99 1SP, Scotland.

THE LOCAL SOCIETIES WITH MONTHLY MEETINGS IN IRELAND

Ballinteer FHS, Co. Dublin - Info: Chris Ryan, 29, The View, Woodpark, Ballinteer, Dundrum, Dublin 16.

Blessington FHS, Co. Wicklow (west of the County) Info. etc. Maureen Phibbs, Blackrock, Blessington, Co. Wicklow.

Cork Gen. Soc., Cork City -Info: Michael O'Connell, 4 Evergreen Villas, Evergreen Road, Cork.

Dún Laoghaire Gen. Soc. - meetings organised by the Genealogical Society of Ireland - see DIARY DATES

North of Ireland FHS - meetings arranged by various branches throughout Northern Ireland and Donegal (Rep. of Ireland). Info. Hon. Sec., NIFHS, c/o Dept. of Educ., QUB, University St., Belfast, BT7 1HL

Raheny HS, Co. Dublin - Info: Joan Sharkey, 68, Raheny Park, Dublin 5.

Wexford FHS, Co. Wexford - Info: Mr. Hilary Murphy, 24, Parklands, Wexford Town, Co. Wexford.

Wicklow C.G.S., Info. Declan Byrne, 22, Wesley Lawns, Dublin 16.

COSTS OF THE GRO AT ROSCOMMON ROCKET?

In Dáil Éireann on the 15th December 1998, **Deputy Enda Kenny T.D.**, Fine Gael, tabled three Parliamentary Question to the then Minister for Health & Children, Brian Cowen, T.D. In PQ no. 329.(of a series of three) - Mr. Kenny asked the Minister for Health and Children "if he will approve the transfer of archival material over 70 years old on microfilm to the National Archives or to the National Library in view of the cost cutting measures being sought within the General Register Office; his views on whether free public access to the microfilm records of births, marriages and deaths prior to 1928 in the National Archives or the National Library or regional archives throughout the country would permit the General Register Office to function effectively as a registration and certification service; and if he will make a statement on the matter." In a very long and detailed answer, published in Vol. 7 No. 4 (1998) of the DLGS Journal, the Minister, outlined amongst other matters, the cost of the General Register Office in Dublin as follows. "The number of civil servants employed by the General Register Office is 67 and, in addition, there are 40 part-time trainees employed on the project in Roscommon. The annual personnel costs of the General Register Office is Ir£1.1 million and, in addition, there are annual trainee costs, including grants for some materials and training of Ir£267,000. Non-pay costs are of the order of Ir£365,000, but this figure does not include some shared

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costs which could not be isolated, or certain one-off costs for technology." On the 29th February 2000, **Deputy Liz McManus, T.D.**, Labour, in a Parliamentary Question to Mr. Cowen's successor at the Department of Health & Children, Micheál Martin, T.D., (PQ No. 184) asked the costs to date of the work undertaken at the General Register Office in Roscommon; the expected date of completion; the costs estimate at completion; his views on this facility; and if he will make a statement on the matter. The Minister, Mr. Martin, T.D. in a written reply stated - "The work which is being carried out at the General Register Office in Roscommon involves the computerisation of all the historical records of the office dating back to 1845. The cost of the work undertaken to date amounts to £3.355 million. The present projected completion date is about mid-2002 and the estimated cost at completion is £6.225 million. I am satisfied with the progress of the project to date having regard to the volume and complexity of the work involved." Whilst, thanking Deputy McManus for obtaining this information, considering that the "projected completion date" is constantly moving further into the twenty-first century, is it not time to seek a "Value for Money Report" on the facility and activities at Roscommon in the Public interest?

DIARY DATES

Monday 13th March 2000

Evening Open Meeting - **Dún Laoghaire Club**, Eblana Avenue, Dún Laoghaire. 20.00 hrs. - 22.00 hrs. Buses 7, 8, 46A, 75 & 111 - DART Dún Laoghaire station. Speaker:- Risteard Mulcahy. Topic:- "The Life & Times of his Father".

Monday 10th April 2000

As above - Speaker:- Pat Callery - TBA
Weds. Mar. 22nd & Apr. 26th 2000
 (Discussion Group on Irish Family History)
 Morning Open Meeting - **The Port View Hotel**, Marine Road, Dún Laoghaire. 10.30 hrs. - 12.30 hrs. Buses 7, 8, 46A, 59, 111, 75 - DART Dún Laoghaire Station.

Our Society's Archive

Located at 14, Rochestown Park, Dún Laoghaire. Open (Members only) **Saturdays** 14.00 hrs. - 17.00 hrs and **Mondays** (excluding 2nd Monday) 19.00 - 21.00 hrs. **Closed Bank Holiday Weekends.**

KEATINGE & POTTINGER LINES SOUGHT

Patricia. F. Iseke from Auckland, New Zealand,, E-mail: (with Hon. Sec. GSI) wrote - I am a member of the New Zealand Genealogy Society and found your address in our monthly magazine. I was firstly attracted to an article in our magazine this month giving details of the GSI's Hon. Vice Presidents, especially, Mr Stuart Rosenblatt, P.C. of the

Irish Jewish Genealogical Society, Dublin. - congratulations to him. My great great grandfather was Chief Justice of Probate Court of Ireland **Rt. Honourable Richard Keatinge**, 1793 - 1876. He was son of Maurice Keatinge of Narabeen. Our records indicate, and we believe they are correct, that he married Harriet Augusta Joseph, (1792-1869) a Jewish lady, probably about 1814. I have copies of their portraits, in my possession. Their 2nd son was **General Richard Harte Keatinge**, VC (Indian Mutiny) and my great grandfather. I am currently involved with transcribing Richard Harte's personal letters to his sister spanning 1841 - 1900. - obtained, at great cost, from the British Army museum. His wife, my great grandmother, was Harriet (née **Pottinger**), half sister of Eldred, "Hero of Herat" etc.. I am seeking information on the period when my great great grandfather Rt Hon. Richard Keatinge was in office, which I could include in any material I collate. You will realise perhaps that the POTTINGER family were in themselves quite a renowned family, tracing their ancestry from Mt. Pottinger in Ireland back to 12th century (Burke's) Sir Henry Pottinger, brother of my great great grandfather was Governor of Hong Kong and later Natal, South Africa. My great great grandfather, by his 1st wife had Eldred, who distinguished himself in the Afghan war and there were books written about him "The Hero of Herat" etc. He was of course only a 1/2 brother of my great grandmother Harriet, although the second wife, my great great grandmother wife of my great great grandfather, brought up Eldred as her own. The Christian name "Eldred" has been handed right down through generations to even as recent as 30 years ago. Harriet Keatinge (nee Pottinger) died in Assam, India in 1873 where her husband, my great grandfather, was 1st Governor. Because of her early death we actually, apart from the historical heroism of Eldred, have never known much of the Pottinger side. We had always been told all about the Keatinge side. Particularly we know about the Rt. Honourable Richard Keatinge, Chief Justice of Probate Court of Ireland etc., Major General Richard Harte Keatinge VC 's second son was my grandfather, Captain Eldred Pottinger Keatinge - grandson of the Chief Justice of Probate and the Jewish lady, was appointed a Torres Strait Pilot in 1884. They escorted the ships and mail boats from Brisbane, Australia through the treacherous Great Barrier Reef to Thursday Island and return. He married my grandmother in London before their departure to Australia. My mother was the youngest of four children in Brisbane, the only girl, and married my father, a New Zealand farmer in 1920. It is through my mother who died in 1951, her possessions, that we have scanty records and pictures etc. My sister and I were brought up in a very remote

farming community in New Zealand, during depression years (1930s) a good family, but never time to ask of our ancestry - more is the pity. My fathers family, Harty, also came from Cork, Ireland and that's my next project!!! I married a German - hence surname ISEKE. Best regards, Patricia

CHECKOUT THE WEBSITE

<http://welcome.to/GenealogyIreland>
Membership, Projects, Publications etc.

GUILD OF ONE NAME STUDIES

The Guild of One Name Studies in London has appointed Michael Merrigan as the Guild's Regional Representative in Ireland. In view of the fact, that few members of the Guild presently exist in Ireland, news and views from the Guild will be featured in "The Genie Gazette" until a new "Irish One Name Studies" newsletter is published. The first issue of the new Journal of the Genealogical Society of Ireland will feature an article on the subject of Irish One Name Studies and whether a new definition of the subject is required to embrace our Gaelic patronymic surnames. Information on the Guild is available at the Website <http://www.one-name.org> or by writing to the address below.

WICKLOW HISTORICAL SOCIETY Annual One Day Seminar

Saturday 25th March 2000 - The Grand Hotel, Wicklow Town, Co. Wicklow. Registration 09.15 hrs - Price IRP10.00 EUR12.70 (incl. Morning Coffee) Lectures - 09.30 - 16.00 hrs. Theme: "**Literature & Local History**" Prof. Andrew Carpenter, Dep. of English, UCD. - "*Irish Local Verse in 18th & 19th Centuries*". Dr. Máire Kennedy, Librarian, Gilbert Library, Dublin - "*Printers, Postboys & Peddlers - The Spread of the Printed Word in the 18th and early 19th century Ireland*". Dr. Pat Bourke, Dept. of English, St. Patrick's College, Drumcondra, Dublin - "*Brian Friel's Sense of Place*". Dr. Carla King, Dept. of History, St. Patrick's College, Drumcondra, Dublin - "*Post-Famine Fiction and the Land Question*". Rob Green, Musician, "*Wicklow in Song & Ballad*". For further details contact: John Finlay, Chairman, Wicklow Historical Society, 32, St. Patrick's Avenue, Wicklow Town, Tel 0404 67887.

ANCESTORS IN THE BRITISH ARMY?

Kevin Asplin, British Researcher, E-mail: Kevin.Asplin@tesco.net is a keen military historian and genealogist. He is a member of the Orders & Medals Research Society (OMRS) and contributes articles to various magazines dealing with medals and military research. Unlike the majority of his fellow enthusiasts, Kevin prefers not to concentrate on the 'big picture' of the campaign and the

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General officers, but instead on the smallest cog in the military machine, the soldier. There exists in the records of the British army a mass of records on these men who generally remain nameless and faceless in such mammoth campaigns as the Crimean War, Indian Mutiny and other such wars that involved tens of thousands of men. Kevin began his passion by buying and researching medals of soldiers of the Victorian era, the depth of information available on these men proved to be amazing. A life of a soldier who never reached above the dizzy heights of private or gunner could be brought to life by a few hours of work at the Public Record Office in Kew. It became obvious to Kevin however that in order to trace men in the era from 1854-1883 it was required to know the regiment in which the man served, so 3 years ago he began to database men he came across. In an 8 month period he wrote and published *The Indian Mutiny Medal Roll, 1857-59 (British Army)* which listed 50,700 men from the British Army who fought in this campaign. The book was listed A-Z by surname and contained details of full names, regimental numbers, deaths (both in action and disease) and wounds and all medal entitlements. He has since used this book to find dozens of men who had remained untraceable until that time because the regiment was unknown. Kevin's database is now 160,000 strong and continues to grow, he is currently working on the Boer War rolls to the Imperial Yeomanry. He recently published the medal rolls for the Cavalry for the Boer War (1899-1902), 25,000 men, listed again by surname. In order to finance the travelling costs and costs incurred with copying rolls, Kevin undertakes research projects from people unable to access the Public Records Office material. He does not charge by the hour, nor does he insist on a huge deposit before he starts the work, but will normally quote a flat fee and will charge nothing if he fails to find the subject in question. He is currently charging Stg£10 to find, copy and post soldiers documents (a one off payment) and Stg£30 to build a complete soldiers career from musters and other sources, often a time consuming operation. Kevin is happy to send examples of this work via e-mail. Mail may be forwarded via the Hon. Sec. at the address below. (Include 2 x IRCs for a reply). His research has taken him into the world of the Royal Navy and Royal Marines, whose records are, if anything, better than those of the British Army. Kevin can also search these files, again for a flat fee. He is not listed as a professional researcher because he does not do this work for a living and hence can charge only small fees. This does not mean that his work is sub-standard, he does this work because he enjoys it and because he is very good at what he does, to date he has had no unsatisfied customers.

"PAY-FOR-VIEW" REPORT PUBLISHED

The long awaited report into genealogical practises in Ireland commissioned by Mr. **Michael D. Higgins, T.D.** as Minister for Arts, Culture & the Gaeltacht in 1996, has just been published by the Heritage Council. Unfortunately, what was produced by the Heritage Council was NOT as requested by the Minister and indeed, the present Minister, Ms. **Síle De Valera T.D.** has indicated in Dáil Éireann on the 20th Oct. 1999 in reply to a PQ by **Deputy Seán Barrett, T.D.**, that she does not favour the Report's "Pay-for-View" proposals. (TGG Vol. 4 No. 11 - 1999) The Report - "*The Provision of Genealogical Services in Ireland*" (ISSN 1393-6808) priced at Ir£10.00 (€12.70), has fundamentally strayed from the essence of the original request by the Minister. It totally ignores the activities of the voluntary sector in Ireland, whilst, giving extensive coverage to similar organisations overseas. This suggests that no organised genealogical research nor promotional activity, outside that of those concerned with the commercial aspect of genealogy, exists in Ireland. "*The Genie Gazette*" in September 1999 (TGG Vol.4 No. 9) roundly rejected this "Pay-for-View" proposal. Some of the Report's findings have merit, however, its narrow commercial focus and its illusory second phase consultation process with a plethora of organisations with broadly similar membership and commercial interest, and its total failure to consider the contribution of the voluntary and non-commercial sector in Ireland, renders this Report ultimately flawed. The GSI urges the Minister to be resolute in her rejection of this "unsolicited" and expensive Report.

NEW E-MAIL ADDRESS

Hon. Secretary, Michael Merrigan
E-mail address: GenSocIreland@iol.ie

QUERIES RECEIVED

Sharon Smith E-mail:- (with Hon. Sec. GSI) Wrote re:- Catherine Gargon Only know that she was Irish and lived and died in Liverpool. Someone did send me a Catherine, approx. right age, as a pupil at Upper Moss Convent (age 14) in Hulme, Lancashire, but have nothing to tie this to in order to prove it's my great grandmother. Thanks so much, Sharon
Linda Lewis, looking for Longs, E-mail: lindalewissc@webtv.net Wrote:- Researching the Longs of Limerick. Im looking for John & Elizabeth Long in years 1850-60 any info..
Dee Seadler from Maryland, USA E-mail:- deeseadler@erols.com Wrote:- Searching for info. on the Mackie (MacKey, Mackey, McKay) clan, who immigrated from Newbawn, Wexford, Ireland. Clan includes

Patrick Mackie (born before 1781) who married Mary Myers. Children of Patrick Mackie and Mary Myers are: Patrick Mackie, b. abt 1816 (Newbawn, Wexford) - died March 4, 1870 - Prince Edward Island; James Macke - born circa 1818 - Wexford - died April 9, 1893, PEI; Catherine Mackie - born circa 1824 - married Patrick Cahill and Bridget Mackie - born circa 1826 - Wexford died circa 1881. Any info. most appreciated.

Rosala M. Curtis from Canada, E-mail: sister.curtis@sk.sympatico.ca Wrote - We have the Curtis', the Smiths, and the Browns who were Scot-Irish as our ancestors. Our dream is to find where in Ireland they came from and to find our other relations in Ireland. John James Smith came over in the late 1700's, Joseph Brown came over in the late 1700's and William Curtis came over in the 1700's and settled in Middle Tennessee. Any info. please.
Treava Snyder from Missouri, USA, E-mail: btsnyder@iland.net Wrote:- I seek information concerning my Great Grandmother, Mary Neville, born in Wexford. I am not sure exactly when she emigrated to the US but, possibly 1881. I found her in Chicago, Illinois. According to her death certificate, her date of birth is 12 May 1860 in Co. Wexford.. Any help please.

Carolyn Lucas, E-mail: clucas@gatewaybbs.com.au Wrote- Looking for two sisters born in 1840's - 1850's to Roger Lacy & mother unknown. Jane Lacey born Kingston, (Kingstown?? - now Dún Laoghaire) Ireland emigrated to Australia in 1859. Ellen Agnes Lacey born Wicklow, emigrated to Australia? Possibly, another sister Mary Lacey who married an Edward McDonald either in Ireland or England c. 1870. Any info. please.

Nikki Brown, E-mail: (with Hon. Sec. GSI) Wrote:- Looking for info. on Hannah Emerald Hobson. Born on a ship returning to Ireland from the United States about 1850. Help!!

Pat Salis from Texas, USA, E-mail: SPH1538@SPH.uth.tmc.edu Wrote - I am researching families from Kingstown/Dún Laoghaire: Plunkett, Kelly, O'Halloran, possibly White. Including the origins of Plunkett families in Kingstown/Dún Laoghaire and south Dublin. My great grandfather was Andrew Plunkett, born 1864-66 possibly in Kingstown, married Josephine Mary Kelly 30 Jan 1885 at Church of St. Andrew in Dublin, died 9 Sep 1888, Kingstown, buried in Dean's Grange. Andrew's occupation was - coal porter & labourer. He and Mary had three children: Andrew (died age 4 months), Thomas, and Julia. Thomas and Julia emigrated to the U.S., and both died in Brooklyn. After her husband Andrew died, Josephine Mary married John Carey in Kingstown, where they lived until John died. She eventually emigrated to Brooklyn also, with a number of her Carey children. Seeking info. on my great grandfather Andrew's parents. Possibly, Andrew Plunkett

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and Margaret White, not sure that these names are accurate. Corresponded with Plunketts living in Dun Laoghaire without much success.
John M. Kelly from New Jersey, USA, E-mail: jmk 07628@yahoo.com Wrote:- I'm trying to find some individual that can help me find out what British or Irish Militia Regiments were stationed in Mullingar in 1842. I am looking for info. on my great-great-grandfather, Michael Kelly, who, according to family tradition, was a soldier & killed in a skirmish location unknown. Since his son, Peter Kelly, was born in 1842 in the nearby Townland of Meeden (English Meedian), I assume he was stationed in Mullingar. Also, does anyone know if there are any local histories of the Townland of Meeden/Meedian, the Civil Parish of Clonfad, the Catholic Parish of Rochfortbridge, the Barony of Fartrullah? These are all in Co. Westmeath. Even though 160 years have elapsed, distant unknown cousins still living in the general area.
Aurele Thériault from Canada, E-mail: martinland64@hotmail.com Wrote re. Michael McGrath or McRaw, an ancestor who was born in County Cork in 1747. Apparently Michael was in Québec City in 1761. He was co-founder of the Tracadie area in the Province of New Brunswick, Canada. I do not know where in County Cork he was born, however, he married a French girl and the children were baptised with French names. I would be very pleased with any info. concerning grand-papa Michael. Aurele Thériault, 96 ch. St. Raymond, Pont Landry, New Brunswick, Canada E1X 2T4

Pat Dowling 223 Pinecrest Dr. Pt. Townsend, Washington State, USA, 98368 - E-mail: dowling@olympen.com Wrote that her Family Bible records show John Dolan 1818-1858 came from Cork Co., Ireland. We have no proof, except John Dolan's wife, Dorothea Abigail Lyons, born circa 1820, Co. Cork. Ireland, died circa 1877 at Glenn's Falls, New York, here again no written proof, except Bible records. They sailed to America on the ship "Jersey" from Liverpool, England arriving in New York harbour 21. Aug. 1849. This recorded on page 514 "The Famine Immigrants" listing - John Doolan, 28, Farmer, Dorah, 27., Mich. 10, Marg. 6, Martin 00 infant. - my husband's grandfather, who always went with the last name of "Dowling. Interesting half the family went by Dowling the other siblings "Dolan" they all had the same parents. Appreciate any info. please.

Vivien Meadows, E-mail: -vlm@lineone.net Wrote re: Meadows in Ireland - My search began with the appearance of a 1949 letter that told me of the history of my father's family. The letter said that they had fled from Ireland about 300 years before & settled in the village of Longborough in the Cotswolds, England. The letter said that there had been papers but an elderly spinster destroyed them as they

would give pretentious to plain yeoman farmers. They were tenants of a family called Shuckborough when they arrived in England. I have found records of the family back to 1704 & probably 1686. This has been added to when I contacted Gloucester Family History Society their treasurer Nigel M. was a part of the same extended family. In Ireland I found Meadows in Wexford at the same time & occasionally Dublin. Someone recently sent me a coat of arms of Meadows Ireland via the Internet & I am in the process of checking this out. In England as tenants of the Shuckborough family who perhaps had involvement in Ireland too. They ended up farming a piece of land which was granted to this family as a result of Shuckborough joining the Royalists after meeting King Charles I by accident when hunting the day of the first battle of the English Civil War. The farmland was also the site of the last battle of the war. This seems to have a lot of coincidences attached to it but that is what I have found out. Any info. please.

CALL TO BOMBARD MINISTERS DEPLORED

The various calls over the Internet News-Groups to lobby the Ministers for Health & Children and Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht & the Islands over the General Register Office in Dublin have been totally rejected by the Genealogical Society of Ireland. The GSI encourages its members to totally ignore such irresponsible calls to literally "bombard" these Government Departments with E-mail messages. Nothing, whatsoever, can be gained by disrupting the day-to-day business of these Departments to the possible detriment of public accessibility by E-mail to the Department of Health and Children and to the Department of Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht and the Islands. The GSI urges those behind this ludicrous campaign to desist and think of the disruption and harm such an irresponsible campaign can cause to the general public.

MARTELLO TOWER PROJECT

New Genealogical Archive - The Society plans to restore the *Martello Tower* at Seapoint, Co. Dublin, to house its growing archive. This new facility - *An Daonchartlann*, will be a major visitor attraction just south of the City of Dublin complementing the *Joyce Museum*, *Dalkey Heritage Centre* and the *National Maritime Museum*. If you would like to make a donation to the Building Fund - possibly, in the name of an ancestor or loved one, please make cheques (Ir£25.00 or equivalent in US\$, CAN\$, Stg£, AU\$, NZ\$ or Euros) payable to GSI Building Fund and send to: GSI at the address below.

The Editor of "The Genie Gazette" wishes all our readers a very **Happy St. Patrick's Day** - the day we all celebrate our "Irish Roots".