



NICHOLAS MYLREA jnr

1747-1823

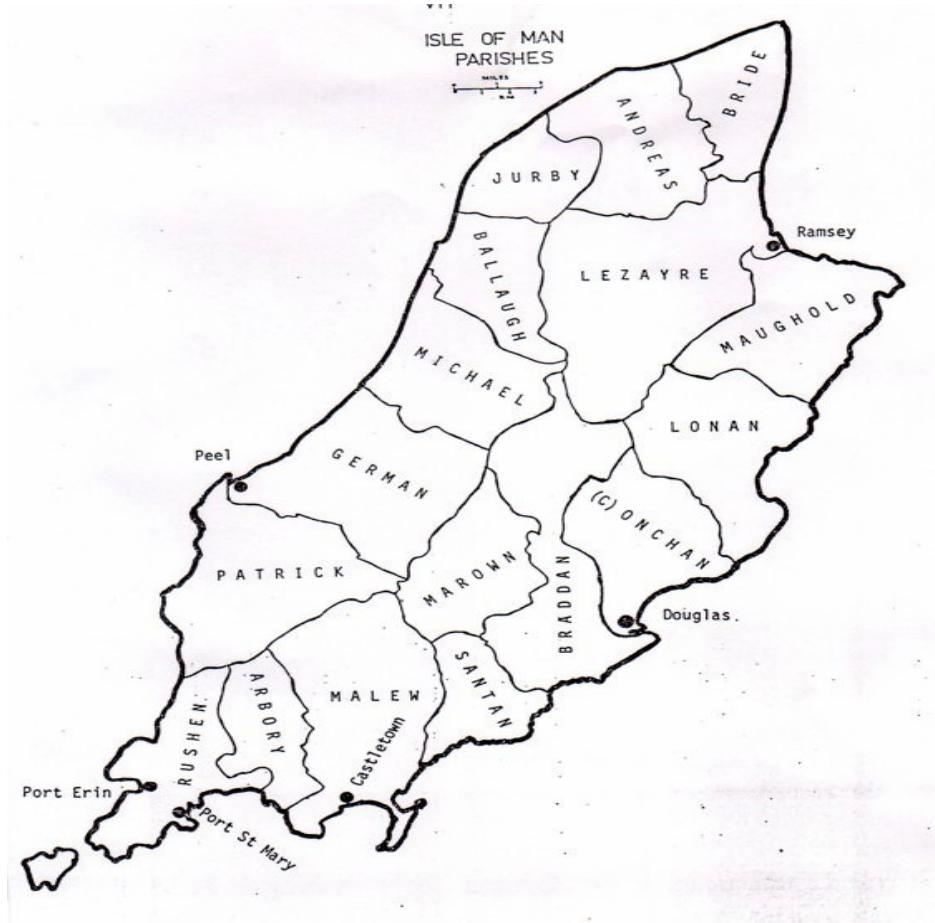
Ballaugh
Isle of Man

<http://www.mylrea.com.au>

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Source: <http://woodsatlas1867.webs.com>

NOTE: The spelling of the name *MYLREA* is a major stumbling block in all Mylrea genealogy. So far, I've come across more than 30 variations included *MYBREA*, *MYHEA*, *MYBRED*, *MYBRIA*, *MYLRIA*, *MYBREA*, *MYBREY*, *MILRAY*, *MEYLREA*, *MCYLREAN*, *MILREA* and *BYLREA*.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Diana Banks is a Mylrea through her mother's family. Several years ago, she began writing the biography of her great great grandfather, John Mylrea, who was born on the Isle of Man in 1823, and in the course of researching John's story, she became an accidental authority on the variety of Mylrea strands. The result has been a series of short histories of these different Mylrea families, partly to celebrate their lives and also to look for the links that might bind them together. These histories are showcased on the website <http://www.mylrea.com.au>

The online collection is regularly updated when new information comes to light. Today, the following histories can be found there:

- William Mcylrea (Ballaugh) 1627-1692
- The Fatally Flawed Family of Fildraw 1600-1800
- The Mylreas of Douglas & District 1600-1900
- Fathers & Sons: One Mylroie Clan (Lonan) 1653-1900
- Edward Mylrea snr (Lonan) 1743-1784
- Nicholas Mylrea jnr (Ballaugh) 1747-1823
- Three Daniels & a Thomas 1761-1934
- Thomas Mylrea, Farmer (Braddan) 1788-1860
- Basil Mylrea, Mariner & Publican (Peel) 1791-1865
- Philip Mylrea, Stone Mason (Douglas) 1793-1861
- Frederick Thomas Mylrea, Military Man (London) 1803-1862
- John Mylrea 1852-1921
- The Brushmen of Bethnal Green
- Mylreas in 19th Century Lancashire

The subject of this narrative, Nicholas Mylrea jnr, was my ancestor and the evidence suggests very strongly that he was a rather feckless and profligate fellow, with little regard for his family's wellbeing. He started life in a relatively privileged position yet he died with nothing, worse he left a family crippled by debt. This story owes much to the Manx National Library & Archives where the many documents used to piece together Nicholas's story are housed.

Diana began her professional life as a teacher in central Queensland, went on to become a scholar at several Australian universities, and later a senior bureaucrat in Federal government circles. She has postgraduate qualifications from both Melbourne University in Australia and Harvard in the United States and is an experienced writer and researcher, although the Mylrea narratives are her first foray into biography. Her book about her great great grandfather is published in the USA with the title: *On Some Lonely Shore: John Mylrea in Australia*¹

1. Publisher: <http://www.lulu.com>

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A FINE HERITAGE

Nicholas Mylrea jnr was baptised in the parish of Ballaugh on the Isle of Man in 1747. He and his forebears were farmers and their lineage can be traced back to the early 1500s.

Lineage through land

Ballaugh parish records were kept from the very late 1500s, and from the surviving registers, the family historian finds the earliest Mylrea burials were for Christian Illerea on the 2nd January 1599, another two Christian Illireas, a John Meylrea, and an Ann Inelerea in 1600, Ellin and Richard McYlrea both in November 1600, Philip McLerea in 1601, and Donald 1602. Apart from Ellin, wife of Raynold McYlrea snr, and Donald Mcylrea, an infant, these individuals might have been adults; they might have been children – the Register does not say. Unfortunately birth records are only available from the 1620s (because previous entries in the Register have been “worn out”) while the earliest marriage record was from 1695 (this time perhaps because nearly a century of registers has been lost/destroyed). Nevertheless the registers show a Mylrea presence in Ballaugh in the late 1500s and early 1600s.

More evidence of 16th century Mylrea occupation is the collection of Manx Mylrea wills. While they might not all be from Ballaugh – the records don’t note the parish of the deceased – the recurrence of the name “Donald” gives some confidence that some of the wills are for Ballaugh residents. These wills, written in the old script, are very difficult to decipher but transcriptions are included in Attachment 2:

1574 Patric Ilrea	1577 Jonie ine Shymmeyn (now Ilrea)
1576 Ann Mc Illerea	1595 Johanis Mc ilrea
1576 Gilbert Mc Ylrea	1595 Gomie Mc Ilrea
1576 Gulielum Mc lrea	1598? Donald Gilroy
1576-1577 Gilbert Mc Ylrea	

For instance, in 1576, Gilbert identified several siblings – Margaret and Christian, Thomas, Donald and John while in 1577, Jonie ine Shimmeayn (now Ilrea) appointed her children John Mc ylrea, William Mc ylrea, and Jenett Mc ylrea as her executors. Thus in those two years, from these two wills alone, eight Mylreas of the one generation were mentioned, showing that there were plenty of Mylreas on the island.

While the parish registers are demonstrably incomplete, and only begin in about 1600, a far richer resource for the Manx family historian exists in its entirety, and dates back a century before the introduction of parish registers. These are the land records, essentially rent books across the centuries when Manx land holders were all tenants, and their landlord was the Lord of Mann who had – not surprisingly - an abiding interest in his income:

- Manx Manorial Roll
- Libri Vastarum
- Lib Assedationis
- Knowsley Lease Books
- Composition Books

The earliest entry of interest to the story of Nicholas Mylrea jnr is in the 1515 Manx Manorial Roll for Ballylagh where a record mentions the wife of John Gilrea and son Donald²:

Balycane

*From the Wife of John Gilrea with Donald, son, for 1 tenement and half a quarter of land
1s And for a 4th part of one quarter of land 5/- demised to them. 16s*

Decades later, the 1575 Libri Vastarum³ for Ballaugh mentioned John Mcilrea and Ranold Mcilrea, Ranold most likely the son of John, and John perhaps the son of the aforementioned Donald.

*1575 Intack 0 0 6
OLD ENTRY John Mcilrea
NEW ENTRY Ranold Mcilrea {3d} John Mc cowley {3d}*

The largest number of entries of interest comes from the Libri Vastarum which, when supplemented with entries from the other land records⁴, tell of the evolution of four Mylrea “clans”, all descended from the John Gilrea mentioned in the 1515 Manx Manorial role who presumably had died by 1515 and who might have been born in the 1470-80s. The four “clans” can be grouped according to the lands they occupied:

1. *The Dollough* – possibly three centuries of land occupation by the one family through hereditary title, starting with John Gilrea. Lib Vast shows the intergenerational transmission of the lands until they came into the possession of Captain William Mylrea who was born in 1627 and died in 1692. He was the individual best described as the patriarch of the Mylrea line that produced Deemsters, Attorney Generals and Archdeacons for the Isle of Man. The *Dollough* estate remained in the family for

2. <http://www.isle-of-man.com/manxnotebook/fulltext/manroll/bh.htm>

3. A Register of the changes of tenants of the Manx fields

4. Attachment 1 is a chronological listing of the land transactions which involved the Myreases in Ballaugh during the 1500s and 1600s: *Lineage Through Land*.

- another 75 years after William's death. In 1777, it was broken up and sold by his great, great grandson.
2. *Ballacooiley* - might have come into the possession of the Mylrea family through a Marriage Contract or Settlement involving a younger Mylrea son family, and his wife, Alice Gawn whose grandfather was at least in part responsible for the lands passing to the Mylreas. Lib Vast shows the transmission of the estate during the 1600s, and Composition Books show continued Mylrea possession of the estate until Thomas in 1711. Subsequent records reveal that in the late 1800s, *Ballacooiley* left Mylrea hands as a result of debt and bank foreclosure. Nicholas jnr was descended from a branch of this "clan".
 3. *Ballatersin* - Jony born in 1632 was an heiress who inherited land when her mother, Annas Cowley als Illerea, died in 1636, who had in turn inherited it from her father, Donald. The dates of Annas's children's baptisms suggest that she had been born in the early 1600s, which would make her a contemporary of the children of John Mylrea and Alice Gawne of *Ballacooiley*. Jony sold the land to her father, Philip Cowley, in about 1656 and thus it was lost to that branch of the Mylrea family forever. Annas's precise lineage is unknown because there were two Donalds living in Ballaugh at roughly the same time. These men were probably cousins as the name Donald (in its various forms) was common amongst the descendants of the "original" John.
 4. The origins of this "clan" are unclear but there was a Thomas, who was mentioned in the 1576 will of his brother Gilbert McYlrea, then in a Lib Vast entry in 1598 with his daughter Christian. A later transaction, in 1628, by a Thomas Mc ylrea might indicate that there was not one person but two or even three, generations in the same line perhaps, named Thomas. The earlier Thomas might have been a brother of *Ballacooiley* John Mc Ylrea – certainly the name Thomas was commonly used in each generation of the *Ballacooiley* clan.

Like most others on the island, these early Mylrea farmers followed a tradition of mixed and small scale agriculture. They were not literate, probably because there was little time left (or a need) for formal learning in the life of a farmer, relentlessly driven by the seasons. However, given the extent of their land holdings, these Mylrea were comfortable.

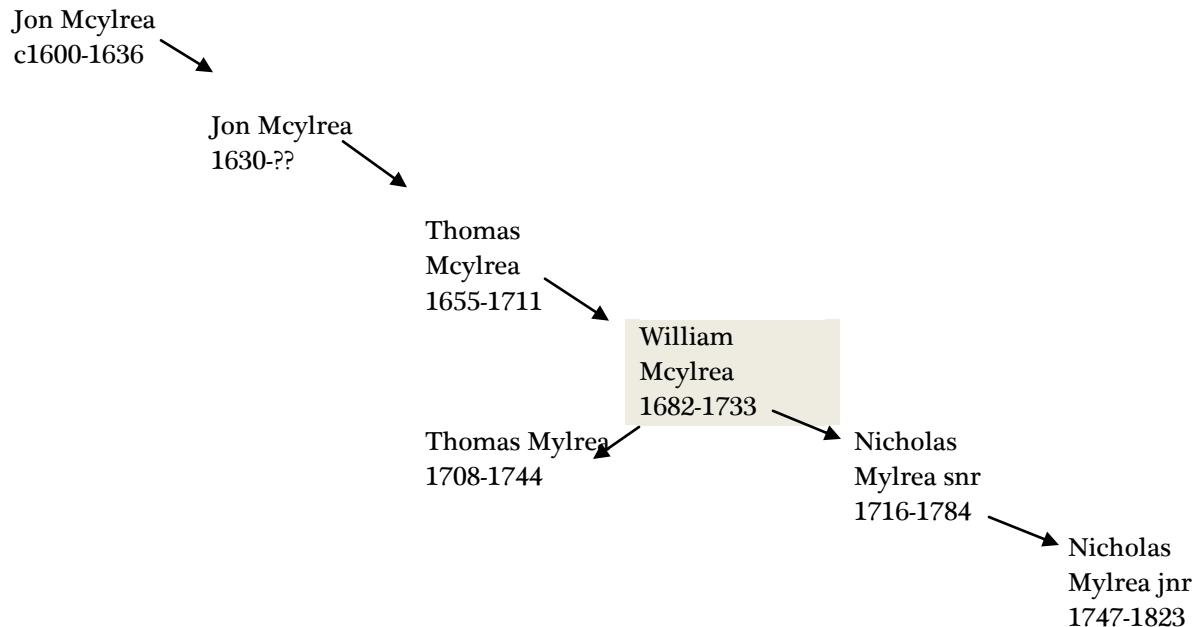
Ballacooiley

By the early 1600s, the ancestors of Nicholas jnr occupied an estate that covered about 100 acres in a narrow strip stretching from the north-west coast of the island into the middle of the parish of Ballaugh, and comparatively large by the standards of the day. Its name, *Ballacooilley*, is Manx for "the farm of the nook". The baptism of Ann, daughter of Thomas Mcylrea, who was the great grandfather of Nicholas jnr, was recorded:

Ann flvea, daughter of Thomas Ballanecooley, baptised 4 Sept., 1678⁵

The name of the estate on Ann's baptism record, *Ballanecooley*, was spelled in many different ways over the years, including: *Ballna ny quooley*, *Ballaquooley*, *Ballacooley*⁶, and *Balna cooleh*⁷. These variations appeared on birth and death registers, and in census records. For about 250 years, until the mid-1800s, the estate was always occupied by a Mylrea.

Nicholas jnr derived from the *Ballacooiley* clan:



Ballacorrage

Nicholas Mylrea jnr, named after his father, was the oldest of eight children. As the oldest son, he was heir-at-law to the family's estate. However, this was not the farm known as *Ballacooiley*, for that had passed to his father's older brother, Thomas, on the death of their father, William in 1733.

Rather, it was another, much more recently purchased estate that went to Nicholas jnr. His father had been resourceful enough to create a legacy for his son even though he had received nothing at all in his father's will⁸, nor did he receive anything from his mother Catherine Cowle over twenty years later⁹ - although in both cases, he was named as an executor to their wills.

5. Ballaugh Parish Register

6. Broderick, George. (2006). *A Dictionary of Manx Place-Names*. Nottingham. English Place-Name Society.

7. Sale - Thomas Mylrea to Nicholas Mylrea. (1740). <http://www.mylrea.com.au/Deeds>

8. Will - William Mylrea.(1733). <http://www.mylrea.com.au/Wills>

9. Will - Catherine Stephen als Mylrea als Cowle. (1759). <http://www.mylrea.com.au/Wills>

In 1740, Nicholas snr purchased from his brother Thomas “*certain parcels of the Quarterland of Ballacorragie with a small parcel of Intack lands in the curragh*” for £11¹⁰. The purchase of the *Ballacorragie* land might serve as an indicator of Nicholas snr as a man of substance. He was 24 years old and marriage to Joney Cowin was still some years away, yet he had independently secured his own future. Further evidence of his character was his guardianship of his nephew, John, who was only 6 years of age when his father, Thomas the steward of *Ballacooiley*, died when only 36. Nicholas snr ensured that the estate continued to run efficiently, and helped the boy consolidate the debts left by his father¹¹. Perhaps a testament to Nicholas’s guardianship is that the *Ballacooiley* estate would be productive for the next hundred years or so, largely under the guidance of John after he came of age, until he died at the age of 76.

Family of Nicholas jnr

The eight children of Nicholas snr and Joney Cowin, including a set of twins, enjoyed what were the most frequently used of all Mylrea first names:

- ☞ Nicholas (1747)
- ☞ William (1749)
- ☞ John (1752)
- ☞ Daniel (1752)
- ☞ Mary (1754)
- ☞ Ann (1756)
- ☞ Katherine (1759)
- ☞ Thomas (1762)

The three sisters of Nicholas jnr were Mary, Ann and Katherine. Each married – Mary to Robert Clague, Ann to Matthias Oates, and Katherine to William Quayle. As was commonplace in those days, several did not survive their childhood, and in this family it was three boys - the Christmas Day twins, John and Daniel - who died of smallpox at the age of about 3 months, and William who died when he was 16 years of age and was buried in the Old Ballaugh Church Yard where his Memorial Inscription reads:

*Hereunder lyeth the body of WILLIAM MYLREA who died the 12th of Janry.
1765 aged 16y.¹²*

Thomas, Nicholas’s only surviving brother, went to Liverpool, probably after the death of his father Nicholas snr in 1784. His mother, Joney, left Thomas’s children a legacy in 1795¹³ although this is the only evidence of his existence and the existence of his children. Nothing further can be definitively established.

10. Sale - Thomas Mylrea to Nicholas Mylrea. (1740). <http://www.mylrea.com.au/Deeds>

11. Mortgage - Nicholas Mylrea snr & John Mylrea snr to Robert Siddleton. (1742). <http://www.mylrea.com.au/Deeds>

12. Memorial Inscriptions Ballaugh Old & New. IOM Family History Society.

13. Will - Joney Mylrea als Cowin. (1795). <http://www.mylrea.com.au/Wills>

NICHOLAS jnr

1747-1823

The most common means of passing land from one generation to the next on the Isle of Man, and always to the oldest son, was through the Marriage Contract for, or a Settlement upon, that son. So it was on 13th December 1774 that Nicholas snr and his wife Joney committed in the Marriage Contract for their oldest son, Nicholas jnr, to provide:

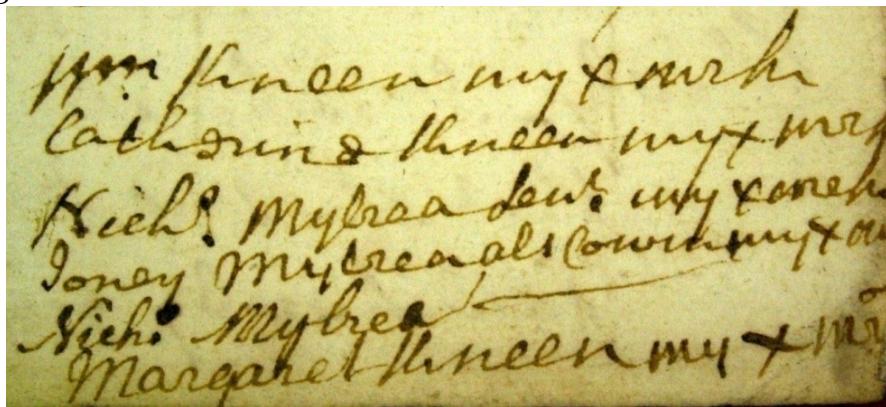
all and singular our whole estate of houses, garden and garden lands, buildings and edifices thereupon erected at present or hereafter may be erected thereon with all and every appurtenances and privileges appertaining to their said estates with Quarterland and Intack land situated in the parish of Ballaugh¹⁴

Family Life

Nicholas jnr married Margaret Kneen when he was 27 years of age. The other party to their Marriage Contract were Margaret's parents, William and Catherine (Cowley) Kneen, who gave a land endowment comparable to the Mylrea's:

all and singular their property and interest in & unto their whole Intack land situate in theforesaid parish the sum being three distinct parcels commonly known and distinguished by the names Ellan Beg, another of Croit e Churry and the third by the name of Cooilne Isingun Nigh

Not unexpectedly, neither the Mylreas nor the Kneens could sign their names to the 1774 Marriage Contract, and instead made their marks.



SIGNATURES ON THE MARRIAGE CONTRACT:
NICHOLAS MYLREA jnr & MARGARET KNEEN (1774)¹⁵

14. Marriage Contract – Nicholas Mylrea jnr & Margaret Kneen. (1774). <http://www.mylrea.com.au/Deeds>
15. Marriage Contract - Nicholas Mylrea jnr & Margaret Kneen. (1774). <http://www.mylrea.com.au/Deeds>

Nicholas jnr was fortunate enough to marry a woman whose family had something substantial to contribute, a sign perhaps that there was no male heir in this Kneen family (or economically comfortable enough to have bought land which they were entitled to give in a Marriage Contract to a daughter). Thus, the young couple embarked on married life with ownership of land (and some bedding and a cow), and the prospect of more land to come when their respective parents died. Thus Nicholas jnr and Margaret controlled significant land holdings in Ballaugh with an estimated value of about £300, a considerable amount in 1774. It was however small in comparison to the proceeds of the sale in 1777 of a neighbouring Mylrea estate, The *Dollough*, when nearly £3,000 was brought in¹⁶.

Over the next two decades, seven children came into the family of Nicholas Mylrea jnr and Margaret Kneen, six of whom survived to adulthood:

- ☞ William (1777)
- ☞ Margaret (1778)
- ☞ William (1781)
- ☞ Catherine (1784)
- ☞ John (1786)
- ☞ Thomas (1789)
- ☞ James (1792)

Margaret died in December 1810 when she was 59. By that time, the oldest three children were married and had children of their own:

- ☞ Margaret married John Moughtin (a farm worker) in 1803;
- ☞ Catherine married James Kneen (a blacksmith) in 1805; and
- ☞ William married Elinor Caine in 1806.

The girls and their husbands lived in the nearby parish of Andreas while William and his wife resided in Ballaugh, presumably with Nicholas jnr and Margaret at *Ballacorrage*. The three youngest of the family were still bachelors, James aged 18 when his mother died.

Animus

When, in 1784, Nicholas snr died, his will revealed that he held his oldest son in very low regard. He bequeathed Nicholas jnr two pairs of breeches and a coat, forgave his son's debts to him (which included money and corn) and further:

if in case his said eldest son Nicholas Mylrea would make any disturbance with the Executive in respect to any matter or thing that he was to be excluded in the legacy that was left him.¹⁷

16. See Frederick Thomas Mylrea, Military Man. (1803-1859). <http://www.mylrea.com.au/Stories>

17. Will - Nicholas Mylrea snr. (1784). <http://www.mylrea.com.au/Wills>

On first sighting, the rancour towards Nicholas jnr in his father's will is bewildering. The Marriage Contract for Nicholas jnr and Margaret Kneen had established the orderly transmission of the family's lands so in many respects, there was nothing left for Nicholas snr to say. Yet he chose to use his will to make his attitude towards his oldest son perfectly clear. He "put it on record", so to speak.

Another decade passed and his mother, Joney died in 1795. Her will was a three page affair, itemising many, many bequests to family and friends yet she left her son Nicholas jnr just sixpence, the smallest legacy to anyone on her list¹⁸. Joney died in Peel where she lived with her daughter Ann Oates, having abandoned her Ballaugh home after her husband's death even though she was entitled to remain at *Ballacorragie* and to be cared for by Nicholas jnr and Margaret.

What had happened to turn his parents so strongly against him? Had there been a serious family falling out? What had caused such profound displeasure to be directed towards Nicholas jnr? The best guess is that Nicholas jnr turned out to be a sore disappointment to his parents. Given the apparent resourcefulness of Nicholas snr in acquiring his own lands once his older brother had inherited *Ballacooiley*, the source of his parents' antipathy must have had their roots in some fairly bad behaviour.

Fifteen years on and, in 1810, the will of Nicholas's wife, Margaret, makes interesting reading. Her first bequest was to John, her fourth child (the second son in the family), to whom she left "*her part of the boat and her part of the herring nets*". She left her daughters Margaret and Catherine her clothing and the wool and feathers in the house, and to her niece Ann Kneen, she left the spinning wheel. The two youngest sons, Thomas and James, were left "*all the rest of her goods and effects moveable and immoveable*". Husband Nicholas was executor but left nothing of substance by his wife. William, her oldest son, and mentioned at the end of her will, was to receive one shilling (the same amount she left to each of the witness of her will) and such a bequest more a token than a slight for reasons that will soon become evident. Margaret clearly had, or had acquired, other assets in the form of part ownership of a fishing boat and she chose to distribute all of her possessions to her children and niece rather than leave them to her husband, an unusual decision. Perhaps Margaret too was disenchanted with Nicholas jnr and let her will speak for her.

Debt

To say that Nicholas jnr was a poor money manager would be an understatement. To say he was wilful, feckless and profligate might be nearer the mark. Within five years of his father's death, the first mortgage on the *Ballacorragie* estate was taken out. As time went on, new mortgages were followed by land sales, probably to clear the mortgages when

18. Will - Joney Mylrea als Cowin. (1795). <http://www.mylrea.com.au/Wills>

interest payments fell behind. Over the next twenty years, the pattern was impossible to ignore.

1789	Mortgaged <i>Nich Mylrea's Flatt</i> , part (or perhaps all) of Nicholas's dowry, to Thomas Teare for £32 ¹⁹ . This land contained the home in which Nicholas jnr and Margaret and their young family lived, and a condition of the Deed was that they continued to live there. This mortgage was repaid in 1808, the year Nicholas Mylrea jnr conducted two separate sales of <i>Ballacorrage</i> land for a total of £180.
1795	Mortgaged <i>Ellan Beg</i> to Thomas Kermode for £24 ²⁰
1805	Mortgaged <i>Croite e Curry</i> to William Mylechraine for £20 ²¹
1806	Mortgaged <i>The Flatt</i> to James Taubman for £60 ²²
1806	Mortgaged <i>Nicks Fields</i> (several parcels of land) to John Cowley for \$42 ²³
1808	Sold <i>Ellan Beg</i> to Daniel Cowle for £86 ²⁴
1808	Sold the <i>Croit & the Acre</i> to John Cain for £94 ²⁵
1810	Sold <i>Kneensland</i> to James Bennett for £12/12/- ²⁶

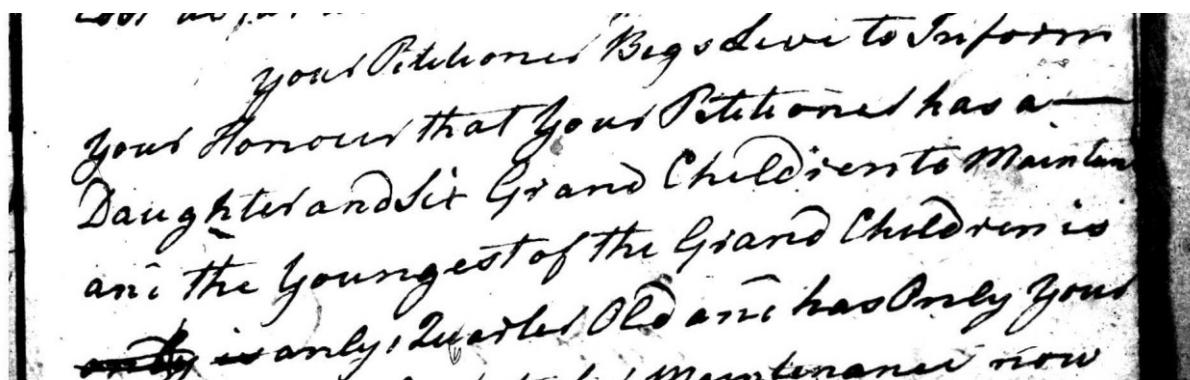
The land sales in 1808, and the later sale in 1810, disposed of the holdings that were the Kneen's contribution to the 1774 Marriage Contract. It is questionable how much land this Mylrea family possessed that was not mortgaged by the time Margaret died at the end of 1810. Perhaps what was left was a considerably reduced estate and as time would show, still carried one mortgage.

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- 19. Mortgage – Nicholas Mylrea jnr to Thomas Teare. (1789). <http://www.mylrea.com.au/Deeds>
 - 20. Mortgage – Nicholas Mylrea jnr to Kerrmod. (1795). <http://www.mylrea.com.au/Deeds>
 - 21. Sale – Nicholas Mylrea jnr to Mylechraine. (1805). <http://www.mylrea.com.au/Deeds>
 - 22. Mortgage – Nicholas Mylrea jnr to John Cowley. (1806). <http://www.mylrea.com.au/Deeds>
 - 23. Mortgage – Nicholas Mylrea jnr to James Taubman. (1806). <http://www.mylrea.com.au/Deeds>
 - 24. Sale – Nicholas Mylrea jnr to Daniel Cowle. (1808). <http://www.mylrea.com.au/Deeds>
 - 25. Sale – Nicholas Mylrea jnr to John Cain. (1808). <http://www.mylrea.com.au/Deeds>
 - 26. Sale – Nicholas Mylrea jnr to James Bennett. (1810). <http://www.mylrea.com.au/Deeds>

The earlier mortgages would tend to suggest that the family was battling financially almost from the start. Perhaps the words in the will of Nicholas snr where he forgave Nicholas jnr “..... *whatsoever money his said son Nichs owed him and whatsoever corn his said son owed him*” bespeak the fact that his father had always propped Nicholas jnr up or bailed him out, with the consequence that Nicholas jnr did not have to mortgage or sell land to get funds for whatever was causing financial distress of the dimensions that required so many mortgages – that is, until his father died.

William, the oldest son of Nicholas jnr and Margaret, became caught up in the deadly debt spiral. As the heir-at-law to *Ballacorrage*, he was a key player in a convoluted process in 1808 intended, no doubt, to keep the estate out of the hands of the mortgagees. Before long though, William was obliged to take mortgages himself to continue to shoulder the debt burden.

In 1817, never long out of the limelight, Nicholas jnr found himself in jail in Castle Rushen for (no surprise!) debt. He owed Ann Kegg £8, but still had the temerity to appeal to the Chancery Courts for liberty, on the grounds that his daughter (actually his daughter-in-law) and the children needed him²⁷.



Nicholas jnr died in 1823. His children had all left Ballaugh one way or another. Three were living in Andreas, a fourth had gone to Bride and two had died in tragic circumstances.

Even after his death, Nicholas jnr was able to cause more trouble. He died intestate, and his widowed daughter-in-law, Elinor, was left to settle his estate. Predictably, he was in debt, when his assets amounted to £55/13/4 while his debts were £113/19/2. Elinor had no recourse but to seek the Court's permission to encumber her 12 year old son's already heavily mortgaged *Ballacorrage* land with yet another mortgage in order to settle Nicholas's obligations of about £58/-/-.

In death, as in life, Nicholas continued to squander beyond retrieval, the estate that his father had established in 1740. Although it's not possible to divine when Nicholas's

27. Petition - Nicholas Mylrea jnr to Chancery Court. (1817) #72. <http://www.mylrea.com.au/Deeds>

problems began, nor indeed what they were, it is possible to say that they did not die with him. Instead, the consequences travelled on through the life of his oldest son and heir-at-law, William, and into the life of his grandson, William jnr.

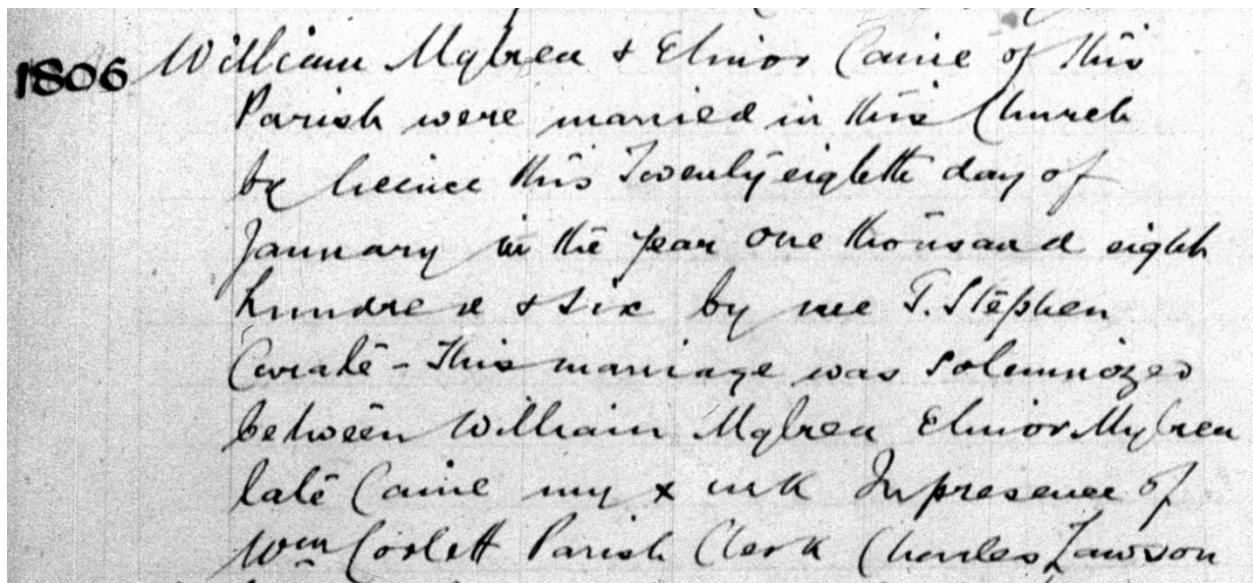
WILLIAM

1781-1816

Was William the hapless victim or a willing accomplice to his father's financial irresponsibility? The oldest of four sons of Nicholas Mylrea jnr, he was heir-at-law to the *Ballacorragie* estate in Ballaugh, purchased originally by his grandfather Nicholas Mylrea snr in 1740, and passed on to Nicholas jnr via his Marriage Contract in 1774.

Family Life

When he was 25, William married Elinor Caine in Ballaugh. While we know a lot about William's Mylrea heritage, we know nothing at all about Elinor's family. Several young women of that name were born in Ballaugh and surrounding parishes between 1780 and 1785, the most likely window for her birth, although without other information, it is impossible to identify which might have become William's wife.



BALLAUGH PARISH REGISTER - MARRIAGES

William and Elinor had six children in the ensuing decade:

- ▲ Anne (baptised 1st February 1807)
- ▲ Jane (baptised c1809)
- ▲ Elinor (baptised 5th December 1811)
- ▲ Margaret (baptised 25th July 1813)
- ▲ William (baptised 13th June 1815)
- ▲ John (baptised 15th March 1817)

Jane has no surviving parish record, and a William Mylrea was baptised in 1815 and noted as the son of William Mylrea and Ellinor Cannel in the Ballaugh parish register, but there can be no doubt that the child was in fact the son of William and Elinor Caine and that the entry was an error on the vicar's part. Legal papers associated with their father's estate named them all, except John who was born after his father's tragic death, moreover they were named in order – William, Ann, Jane, Ellinor and Margaret. William as the heir-at-law would have been mentioned first even though he was the youngest child, and then the girls in birth order, placing Jane between Ann (b1807) and Ellinor (b1811).

Ballacorraige

As the oldest son, William snr was always destined to receive the family estate which comprised at the time of his parent's marriage, the lands contributed by the Mylreas and also those contributed by the Kneens. The holdings had been somewhat diminished by the sales conducted by Nicholas jnr but there is no record of a Marriage Contract for William when he married Elinor Caine in 1806. Then four years later, in May 1810, and six months before his mother died, his parents were the parties to a Deed of Settlement in which they "gave" to William:

the whole of our estate both Quarterland and Intack, all and every our whole estate of houses and gardens situate on said estate in present possession

This estate was implicitly valued at about £500, which was nearly double the value of what had been contributed by the Mylreas and Kneens in 1774²⁸. On the surface then, it would appear that in the 36 years since Nicholas jnr and Margaret had married, the family had prospered and their holdings had become more valuable. But nothing could have been further from the truth.

What makes this 1810 Settlement even more peculiar is that two years earlier, in 1808, Nicholas jnr sold a large parcel of *Ballacorraige* land for \$345. Such a big price-tag suggests a lot of land, and one might guess that it was the entire Mylrea estate of *Ballacorraige*. The purchaser was Ann Crow and the financial transaction was for

"sixty pounds British thereof to be paid on the 12th day of May next and the remainder part of the said consideration money on 12th November next"²⁹.

This was probably not such an unusual arrangement when a large sum was involved. However, two months after the sale to Crow was executed, on 6th July 1808, William Mylrea purchased from Ann Crow her

28. Settlement - Nicholas Mylrea jnr to William Mylrea. (1810). <http://www.mylrea.comau/Deeds>

29. Sale – Nicholas Mylrea jnr to Ann Crow. (1808). <http://www.mylrea.comau/Deeds>

*"proportion and part of the Quarterland of Balla Corraige situate in Ballaugh and lately purchased by me from Nicholas Mylrea and Margaret Mylrea otherwise Kneen by a Deed of Sale"*³⁰.

William paid the same amount - £345 – so Ann Crow made no profit on the deal and in this second Deed of Sale, Ann Crow referred to William Mylrea as her nephew so she was in fact the sister of Margaret Mylrea als Kneen.

What was the significance of these dual transactions? Ann Crow was evidently an obliging participant in some kind of Grand Plan. Perhaps it was a means of protecting William's inheritance from Nicholas's creditors? Then curiously, in 1810, Nicholas jnr and Margaret "settled" the family estate on William, an estate which William had apparently already "bought" in 1808!

This sequence of events lacks an obvious logic but perhaps the answer to why they took place at all lies in their timing?

1808, 30th April	Nicholas jnr sold the whole of our part of the Quarterland of Ballacorraige to Ann Crow for £385
1808, 6th th July	William purchased all and singular the whole of my (Crow's) proportion and part of the Quarterland of Ballacorraige situate in Ballaugh aforesaid and lately purchased by me (Crow) from Nicholas Mylrea from Ann Crow for £385
1810, 3 rd March	Nicholas settled <i>Ballacorraige</i> (presumably) the whole of our estate of lands both Quarterland and Intack all and every our whole estate of houses and gardens situate on said estate in present possession on William & Elinor

So, having apparently come into possession of *Ballacorraige* twice, in a matter of two years, William was saddled with the debts associated with the estate. The first thing he did after the 1810 Settlement was borrow £200 from Thomas Kelly, with the intention perhaps of consolidating the mortgages held over the estate (and any other debts) into one transaction. That might not have been enough however, for in 1816, William sold off two pieces of the estate:

1816, 5 th January	Sold <i>Nicholas Mylrea's Flatt</i> to Thomas Cowle for £11
1816, 6 th February	Sold land to John Craine for £10/10/-

30. Sale – Ann Crow to William Mylrea. (1808). <http://www.mylrea.comau/Deeds>

It was one thing to consolidate debt into one parcel; it was quite another to be able to meet the interest payment thereon. These two sales, small in comparison to the size of the mortgage with Kelly, might have been to defray the mounting interest bill. There is no evidence of what Nicholas jnr was up to at this time. Now that his son, William snr was responsible for the family estate, Nicholas did not appear on any sale or mortgage contract after 1810. However, we know that he was in jail for debt in 1817 so he had not mended his ways at all.

Then absolute disaster struck.

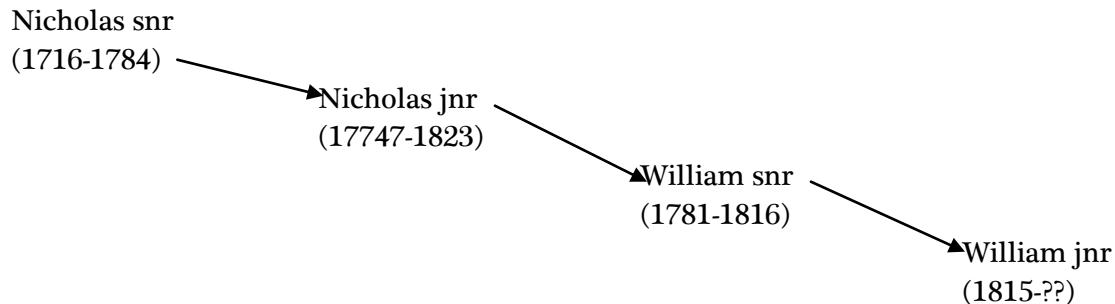
The Felicity

It was quite common for Manx farmers to go fishing in winter when the weather rendered farm work nearly impossible. The family, after all, still needed an income.

On the night of October 23, 1816, William Mylrea was drowned, lost when the fishing smack, *Felicity*, foundered off the coast of Andreas. It seems a reasonable proposition that the smack might have been the vessel left by Margaret to her second son, John? Also on board were six young men from Ballaugh, including William's youngest and newly-married brother, James, and his cousin's husband, John Callister. All three of their wives were expecting babies, in two cases their first child.

Debt

William jnr, William's heir-at-law, was not yet 2 years old when his father died in the wreck of the *Felicity*. The infant's legacy was *Ballacorragie*.



As was the practice on the Isle of Man, guardians were appointed for the boy to ensure the proper conduct and protection of his inheritance. The Spiritual Court named Thomas Kermeen and William Cain, William perhaps Elinor's brother, to shoulder this responsibility.

While the guardians had some oversight of the estate, they had no obligation to pay the bills. So in 1821, the widowed Elinor was obliged to return to Thomas Kelly to take an addition mortgage, this time for £25, against her own equity in the heavily mortgaged

Ballacorragie. She had to keep trying to protect her son's inheritance, even if paying the annual interest on loans was all that could be achieved. So, by 1821, her family was burdened with:

- the mortgage taken out by Nicholas jnr over *Nicks Fields* in 1806 for £42
- the mortgage taken out by William snr over *Ballacorragie* in 1810 for £200; and
- the mortgage taken out by Elinor over her part of *Ballacorragie* in 1821 for £25

All this while there were no adults to keep the estate in a productive state, and Elinor with six young children to care for.

In 1824, the guardians of William jnr applied to the Chancery Court to encumber the estate in order to clear mortgages that were about to lapse, the most pressing the one for £200 to Thomas Kelly taken by William Mylrea snr in 1816. They went again to Thomas Kelly and borrowed £284, for this was another debt consolidation exercise, similar to what Nicholas jnr had done in 1752 for the *Ballacooiley* estate and what William snr had done in 1810, where multiple mortgages were paid out and a single new mortgage was put in place. William jnr had still not reached double figures in age and his legacy was indebted to the tune of £284!

To compound what must have been the enormous pressures on Elinor, the dead hand of Nicholas jnr continued to lie heavily over this Mylrea family. When he died in 1823, intestate, the burden of settling his debts was left to his widowed daughter-in-law, Elinor. There was £57/5/10 owing after his meagre assets had been taken into account so yet again, in 1827, Elinor returned to the Courts for permission to borrow further against the already heavily mortgaged *Ballacorragie* land³¹. While the Court's permission was granted, no-one was willing to extend more funds so Elinor was in Court three months later seeking permission to sell some of the inherited land that was the legacy due William jnr. Her assessment of the situation was:

the lands being subject to a mortgage to Thomas Kelly for the sum of two hundred and eighty-four pounds British in whose possession the said lands and premises now are to pay and discharge the interest, and are so deteriorated and reduced in value that the rent is scarcely more than sufficient to pay the annual interest³²

There is no record of a *Ballacorragie* land sale in 1828 but presumably this posthumous debt belonging to Nicholas jnr was paid out in that way.

In 1832, William jnr went to Court to have guardians appointed over him (he would have been 17 years of age and still a minor). His petition said he was "*desirous to have guardians assigned over him for the protection of his property*" from which one must

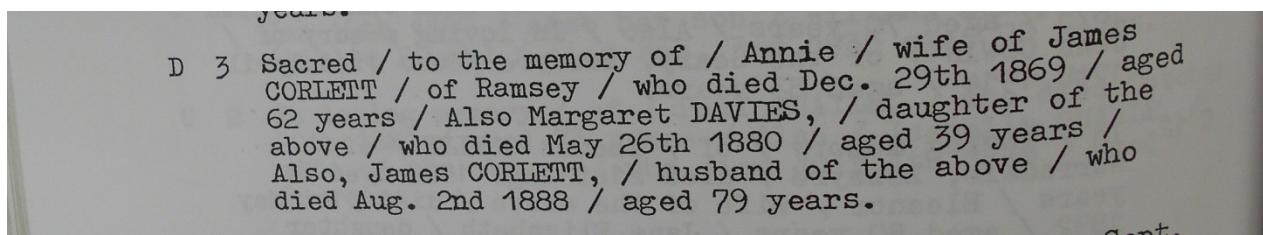
31. Petition - Eleanor Mylrea to Chancery Court. (1827). #18 <http://www.mylrea.comau/Deeds>

32. Petition - Eleanor Mylrea to Chancery Court. (1828). #41 <http://www.mylrea.comau/Deeds>

assume that Kelly had not foreclosed. His mother and Thomas Caine were duly sworn in and in 1851, nearly two decades later, someone paid out the 1825 mortgage to Thomas Kelly:

Know all men by these presents that I Thomas Kelly of Ballamanaugh in the parish of Jurby do hereby own and acknowledge to have received and be fully paid the principal interest, cost and charges due³³

Unfortunately, Kelly did not name the individual who had released *Ballacorraige* from bondage. However, the individual who paid the debt was unlikely to have been a Mylrea. When the first census on the Isle of Man was conducted in 1841, none of this Mylrea family was living in Ballaugh. No burials were registered for them in Ballaugh, nor marriages, although perhaps the oldest child, Ann, married James Corlett in 1836 and lived in Lezayre³⁴. The others, including Elinor, left Ballaugh without a trace.



Established in 1740 by Nicholas snr when he purchased the land from his older brother, the *Ballacorraige* estate was enlarged in 1774 by the dowry of Margaret Kneen when she married Nicholas Mylrea jnr. From then on however, it was steadily eroded and the family struggled to keep their heads above water, continually close to drowning in a sea of debt that must have inevitably washed over them.

33. Mortgage – William Mylrea jnr to Thomas Kelly. (1824). <http://www.mylrea.comau/Deeds>

34. 1836 marriage Ann Mylrea & James Corlett in Lezayre; 1844 baptism for John James Corlett, son of James Corlett and Ann Mylrea; 1861 census Ann Corlett (wife of James) aged 54, born Ballaugh

JOHN

1786-1877

John Mylrea was the second son of Nicholas Mylrea jnr and Margaret Kneen. He was born in 1786 in Ballaugh, and married Elizabeth Garrett in Andreas on 18th April, 1819. Elizabeth's father was Ewan Garrett, a tailor in Andreas and John might have learned his trade from his future father-in-law. John might also have needed to establish himself before he could ask Elizabeth to marry him or perhaps he had to wait for her to achieve the age of consent for she was eleven years younger than he was.

There is no way of knowing when John went to Andreas. However, the reasons behind his migration were probably multiple. His father's antics would have made living in Ballaugh untenable; as the second son, he had no inheritance to look forward to; his older sisters living in Andreas could have encouraged him to go their way (in real terms, a journey of only a few miles); younger brother Thomas might have already been there; and the death of his other two brothers in the wreck of the *Felicity*, which could have been the fishing smack left to him by his mother in 1810, might have given him a pressing need to start afresh somewhere else. Or he might simply have arranged an apprenticeship with a tailor in Andreas. Whatever the motivation, his migration marked a shift from life on the land to the “soft” trades, away from outdoor work and into indoor work.

John and Elizabeth had ten children who came along at regular 2-year intervals between 1819 and 1840³⁵:

- ▲ James (baptised 2nd November 1819)
- ▲ Catherine (baptised 8th August 1821)
- ▲ John (baptised 28th September 1823)
- ▲ Jane (baptised 30th January 1825)
- ▲ Elizabeth (baptised 11th September 1827)
- ▲ Eliza (baptised 24th March 1830)
- ▲ Susan (baptised 5th August 1832)
- ▲ Mary Ann (baptised 18th January 1835)
- ▲ John (baptised 10th September 1837)
- ▲ Margaret (baptised 11th December 1840)

35. Up until the late 1800s on the Isle of Man, the first official record of a child's existence was their baptism. The problem with a baptismal record is that the ceremony might have been conducted on the day a child was born or years later, so a baptism date is a poor indicator of date of birth – but it is all we have for John's family

Today there is no sign of the house that John snr, the tailor, and Elizabeth his wife and their large family occupied. From census records, it seems to have been along the Bayr ny Hayray (Road to the Ayres), about 2 kilometres south of the village of Andreas and near Ballachurry farm³⁶. Their neighbours were a mixture of individuals - farmers, farm workers, even the surveyor of highways - who lived in a small collection of five or six houses. Today, all except Bird Cottage have gone, or are in an advanced state of dereliction.



A DERELICT COTTAGE ALONG BAYR NY HAYRAY

Family Pathways

Susan Mylrea, born in 1832, died when she was 5 years old and just before a second John was baptised in the family of John snr and Elizabeth. For a family of 10 children, it is a testament to the care that they received that the other nine Mylrea offspring all reached adulthood.

The pathways of the six Mylrea girls in the family have not all been easy to uncover:

- ▲ **Catherine** married John Quirk in 1845 and the family soon migrated to England. There were at least eight children.
- ▲ **Elizabeth** probably married William Moore (a tailor at the time) in 1854 and lived her life in Ramsey. She also had at least eight children.

36. Today, there are two Ballachurry farms on the map. The other one is a kilometre away from the Ballachurry district in which John Mylrea snr lived.

- ▲ Mary Jane had a child out of wedlock in 1857 in Ramsey and died later that year. The infant lived with her Mylrea grandparents for a time then went into service in Liverpool where she died in a workhouse while still in her 20s
- ▲ Jane *might* have married John Thompson in 1846
- ▲ Eliza and Margaret left no discernable trace

The story of the oldest Mylrea son is straightforward. **James** left the Isle of Man in his 20s, between 1841 and 1844, and went to the USA. On arrival in America, he lived with a James Garrett, in Rochester in upstate New York. Rochester in those days was a boom town, specialising in the clothing industry, and thus a major destination for tailors and dressmakers. Both Jameses worked as tailors for the same employer for several years after James Mylrea's arrival in Rochester. James's cousin John (son of Thomas) also lived in Rochester at the time so it is feasible that the two young men had planned their migration together, although John Mylrea (five years older than James) arrived in the US several years before James. James married Elizabeth Adams and the couple had two children, Elizabeth and Alfred. The family remained in the Rochester area but after the death of Elizabeth's two unmarried daughters, this little twig of the Mylrea tree died off.

The story of the second Mylrea son, named **John**, is somewhat clouded. This infant was baptised in 1823, and another child also named John was baptised in 1837. Such a situation would normally signify that the first John had died. However, there is no record of such a burial in Andreas and now it has been demonstrated that the first John had gone to Australia, probably when he was about 14 years of age, about the time that the second John was born.

In Australia, John Mylrea became a wealthy man during the Victorian gold rushes of the 1850s, and later a pioneer pastoralist in the northern frontier of the colony of New South Wales. He had 11 surviving children, and many of his descendants can be found in the central Queensland district today. On his death certificate, his birth was recorded as March 1823 and his homeland as the Isle of Man.

Thus it seems that the explanation for naming a second John in the samily lies in his parents' belief that their first John was as good as dead, gone to the other side of the world. The Manx might very well have had a similar attitude to that of their Irish neighbours who, when their children migrated to America, held a wake because their departure usually meant they would never see these children again. Thus, when another male child was born, he was given the family's traditional name of "John".

The third son in the family, **John II**, became his father's apprentice after James (who was his father's apprentice until that time) left for the USA. It is reasonable to think

that James's departure was expressly to make way for John II as his father's apprentice. John II became a tailor, married Jane Elizabeth Kewley in 1868, and had 10 children. His family remained in Andreas then disbursed as all families do, two of his sons making their way to Australia but by then their uncle, John I, had died.

John & Elizabeth continued to live in Andreas, where John died in 1877. He was 90 years of age. Elizabeth died two years later, in 1879. She had been living in Ramsey, in all probability with her daughter Elizabeth.

THOMAS

1789-1869

Thomas Mylrea was the third son of Nicholas Mylrea jnr and Margaret Kneen. He married Jane Teare in Andreas on 21st April, 1814 at the age of 25. In all probability, he had already left Ballaugh to make his home in Andreas where his older sisters, Margaret and Catherine, had both married over a decade previously. Catherine's husband, James Kneen, was a blacksmith so perhaps Thomas went to Andreas because James had offered to teach him the blacksmithing trade.

The first child of Thomas and Jane, John, was baptised in Andreas on 15th December 1814. Some time after John's birth, Thomas and Jane went north to the parish of Bride and there they had a second son, William, baptised on 17th October 1820.

Both sons left the Isle of Man, and went to the United States of America. Thomas and Jane did not go. Jane died in 1860 in Andreas, and the following year Thomas was living and working as a farm labourer in Maughold. In 1869, at the age of 80, he died in Andreas where his older brother John, the tailor, was still living with his wife Elizabeth although their two older sisters Margaret and Catherine had since died.

John

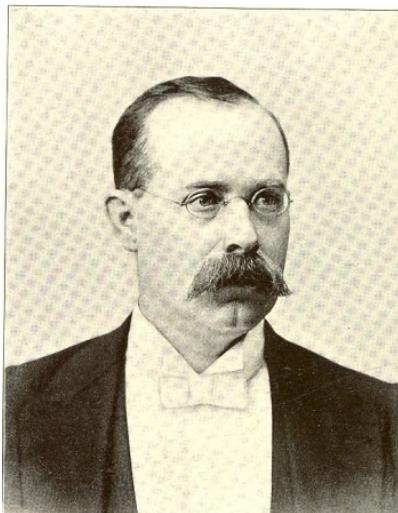
Thomas's older son, John, went first to the United States in the early 1840s. He was a blacksmith like his father and listed in the 1844 Rochester Directory. Later, as MILREA, he was listed in the 1847 and 1849 Directories. His cousin, James Mylrea, was also living in Rochester by that time. In the 1840s, Rochester was America's first boom town and home to a boom industry, the manufacture of clothing - so John as a blacksmith and James as a tailor would have easily found work.

These Mylrea cousins had not set off together for the brave new world because, in the 1841 census, James was still living in Andreas while John was no longer on the island. He was five years older than James and so it is more likely that he had set out first.

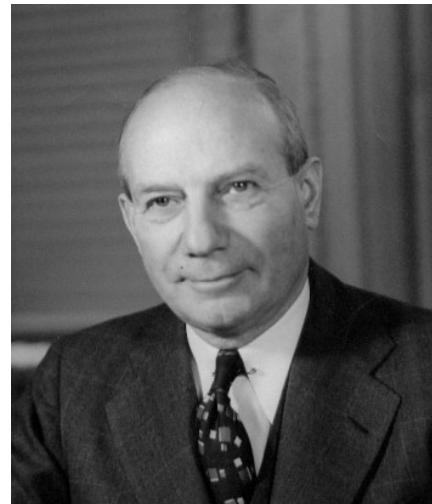
At the age of 36, John returned to the Isle of Man and married Catherine Quayle in Bride in May 1850. The young couple went almost immediately to the United States on the *Ellen*, arriving in New York on 13th July³⁷. They travelled on to Rochester where John was subsequently listed in the city Directories as a machinist. Their first son, William Henry Mylrea, was born in Rochester in 1853 and another son, Charles E., arrived the following year. The couple then moved to Wisconsin in 1856 where their daughter Susan was born.

This change in John's occupation in the 1850s might have been a hint that he harboured an ambition to be "something better".

- Son, **William Henry Mylrea**, received a university education and went on to be a renowned lawyer, politician and businessman³⁸. In three generations, this particular Mylrea branch had gone from Manx blacksmith to Wisconsin Attorney General. William Henry married Minnie Ostrander in about 1884, and they had two children, John Dudley and Susan. John Dudley did not have children and so the Mylrea name no longer flourished from this branch of the Mylrea tree. William Henry Mylrea died in 1916.



William Henry Mylrea
1853-1916



John Dudley Mylrea
1885-1963

- **Charles E.** did not marry, and lived with his parents in Wisconsin until their deaths after which he went to live with his sister, Susan, who had married and was living in Los Angeles.

37. MYBEA (ancestry)

38. http://www.lib.ncsu.edu/specialcollections/forestry/schenck/series_vi/bios/Mylrea.html,
http://www.wisconsinhistory.org/dictionary/index.asp?action=view&term_id=2251&letter=M

- Susan had also received a university education, an extraordinary gift in those days from parents who themselves must have been extraordinary people.

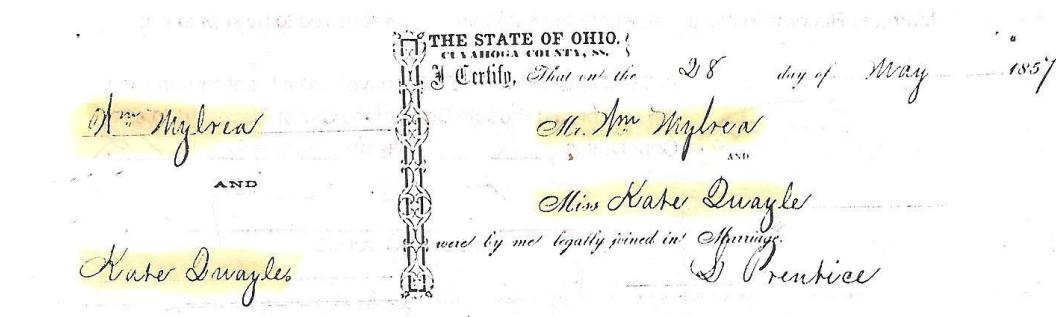
John Mylrea, born in Bride in 1814, and father to John and William, died in Wisconsin in 1901 at the age of 87. He was described in the local press "*In all his life, social and business relations, the name John Mylrea was a bond of integrity and sterling manhood*".

William

William, the second son of Thomas and Jane, also married a Kate Quayle. He did so in 1857 in the state of Ohio when he was 37 years of age.

In 1850, Kate³⁹ was in the USA, and living in Rochester, New York. Another resident in the same house as James Milroy, a tailor. The census record showed that both had been born on the Isle of Man, Kate in 1832 and James in 1820. The head of the household was another Manxman, William Stanford, and Kate and James were both boarders,. There can be no doubt that Kate was the future wife of William Mylrea from Bride, and that James was William's cousin from Andreas.

William and Kate married in Ohio, a state to the south of New York. How they met, and why they married in Ohio can only be guessed at. William's older brother John had been in Rochester in the early 1850s then gone to live in Wisconsin. William would also go to Wisconsin so the Ohio sojourn might have been brief.



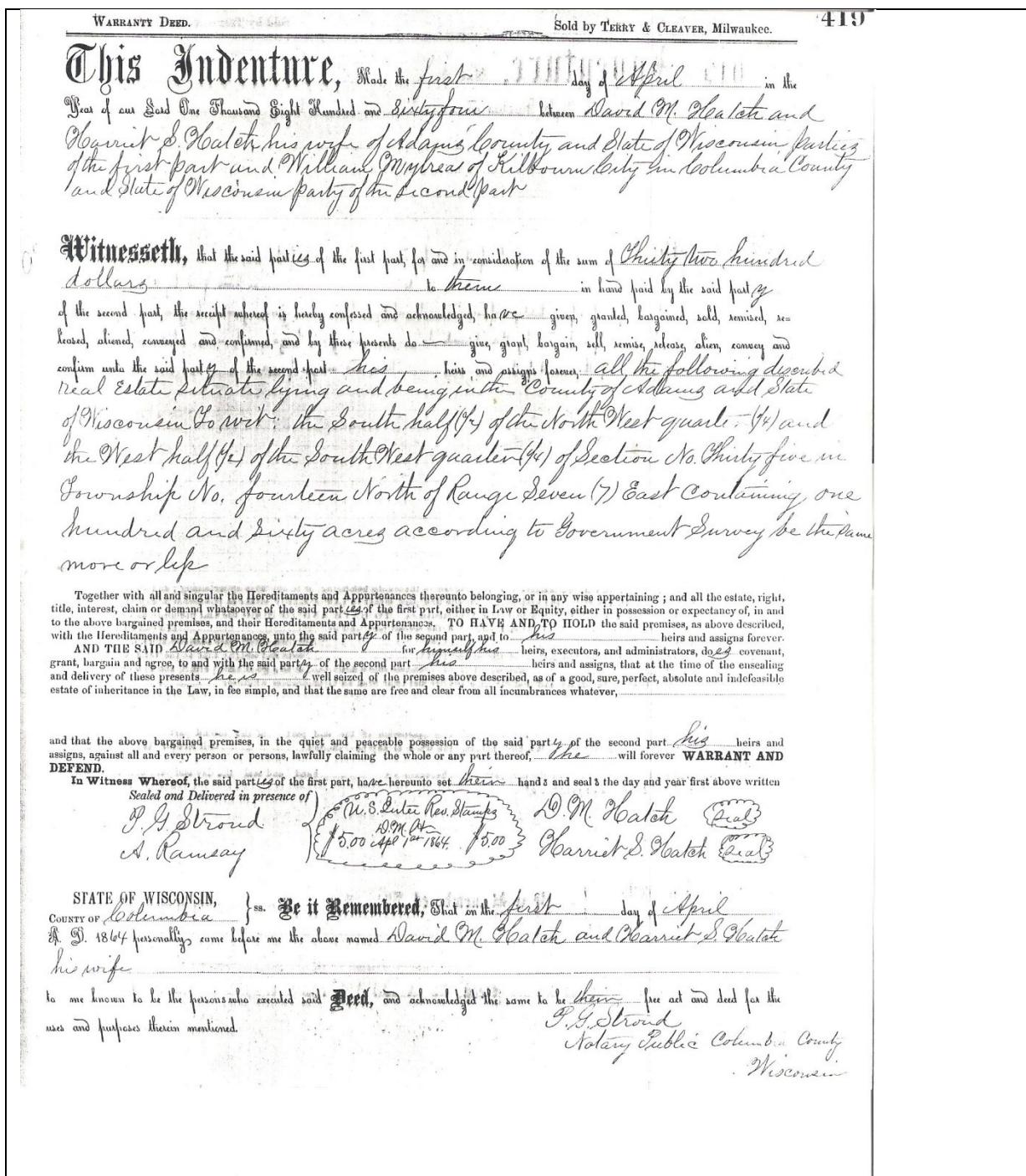
MARRIAGE RECORD FOR WILLIAM MYLREA & KATE QUAYLE, 1857

While his brother John chose a life of manual labour as a blacksmith, William became a farmer. He purchased land in Adams County, Wisconsin for \$2,600 (a not inconsiderable amount in those days) in 1864, around the time that their second son, Harrison Duncan, was born⁴⁰.

39. In the 1850 Federal Census, Cate Quail as she was listed has been transcribed on the ancestry site as Cate LUARL

40. A child named William was born in 1859, but must have died because he is not recorded again.

Another boy, Walter, had been born into the family in 1863, and he and Harrison followed in their father's footsteps to become farmers. Walter did not marry but Harrison had seven children, and several of his sons passed on the Mylrea name which flourishes today in the United States. Their father transferred the farm to them in 1889 nine years after Kate died in 1880.



William lived into his 80s, and when he died, the local press described him: *He was known far and wide as a model farmer by everybody, Mr Mylrea was regarded to be an upright, honourable man and by those who knew him well, was most highly esteemed.*

JAMES

1792-1816

James was the fourth and youngest son of Nicholas Mylrea jnr and Margaret Kneen. He was 24 when he married Catherine Kelly on 24th June, 1816, the wedding taking place in Jurby which hints at the possibility that James, like older brothers John and Thomas, had already left Ballaugh. Four months later, James was dead, drowned in the wreck of the *Felicity* with his oldest brother William and his cousin's husband, John Callister. Others on board were Daniel & Thomas Boyd, James Corlett and John Cowell and they too died that night. The only one of these men to have a burial record was James, confirming the newspaper report that only one of the bodies of those aboard had been found.

During the night of the 24th ultimo, a herring-boat, belonging to Ballaugh, in proceeding from Peel to Ramsey, was lost on a sand bank off Kk. Andreas, called Keltach eh rue, when, melancholy to relate, her crew, consisting of nine persons, were unfortunately drowned; this calamity is the more lamentable, as we understand, six of these unfortunates belonged to three families.— Hitherto only one of their bodies have been found.

James would not have known that he and Catherine were expecting a child, a little boy who was born the following year as was John, the son of William, another victim of the wreck of the *Felicity*. James's little boy was named James, and although his mother remarried in 1820⁴¹, James jnr retained the name Mylrea. He married Eleanor Caley in 1839, and the couple had eight children. They made their home in Lezayre where James jnr had a farm in Slieumanagh.

Their surviving sons James Arthur and John Thomas both married and lived well into their 70s, still in Lezayre and still farmers. They had 11 children between them, the great grandchildren of James Mylrea who drowned in the wreck of the *Felicity*. Today, several of his descendants still live on the Isle of Man. In the nearly 200 years since James drowned, this tiny twig on the Mylrea family tree continues to survive.

41. She married William Killip 17th June, 1820 in Jurby

A Postscript

Nicholas Mylrea jnr has not been portrayed favourably in this story yet there exists the possibility that erroneous conclusions have been drawn, especially relating reasons for to his severe financial circumstances. The implication has been that Nicholas jnr was either a poor manager or blighted by bad habits, perhaps gambling. Without more personal information, such as letters or observations by him or others, it is impossible to be categorical about the root causes of his misadventures.

Mylrea indebtedness was not unique to Nicholas jnr. His uncle Thomas had died prematurely and left his family estate, *Ballacooiley*, with outstanding debts which Nicholas snr helped bring under control since Thomas's heir-at-law was just six years old. That heir-at-law was John Mylrea, the cousin of Nicholas jnr, and John too took his estate into a degree of indebtedness, but not sufficient to lose the family estate altogether. That dubious honour went to John's grandson who, in 1868, was forced to surrender the *Ballacooiley* estate to the bank.

It is quite possible that this Mylrea family did not have some underlying personal problem that plunged them into debt, rather they were victims of the farming life. Perhaps in the case of Nicholas jnr, he tried desperately to hold on to *Ballacorragie*, the estate that his father had established, ignoring common sense that whispered that the estate was economically unviable. Thus, by hanging on for too long, Nicholas jnr created a financially impossible situation for himself and his family. His oldest son, William snr, perpetuated the lost cause. Perhaps he too was desperately hanging on to the estate for his son, William jnr, in defiance of increasing debt. William jnr then found himself mired in debt by the subsequent actions of his mother and his guardians who might have been trying to keep *Ballacorragie* afloat for William jnr after his father's untimely death.

On the other hand, the wills of Nicholas's parents and his wife are not kind to him which strongly suggest that he had caused significant problems in their lives.

While William's family has disappeared from the pages of history, the lives of Nicholas's other three sons have remained visible to the present day; John's descendants are in Australia and in the UK, Thomas's descendants are in the United States, and James's remain on the Isle of Man. In each of these three families, some returned to farming.

1. Lineage through Land

Robert Cannell's extensive site, The Manx Manorial Roll⁴², provides transcriptions of early Manx land records. His interest is firmly centred on the parish of Michael but fortunately for the Mylrea family historian, there is a small number for Ballaugh. Those entries that were (a) about Ballaugh Mylreas, and (b) seemed to be within-family transactions have been copied from Cannell's site and:

- arranged in *chronological order*, with the few relevant items from Lib Assedationis and Composition Books interspersed, while extracts from the Knowsley Lease Books are footnoted; and then
- grouped into what might approximate "*lines/clans*" in order to detect the lines of transmission, as the lands passed from one generation to the next.

The links drawn between these entries are somewhat speculative and under no circumstances should they be regarded as confirmatory. Quite the opposite, not all of the information fits together logically. For instance, there is irrefutable evidence of two Donalds, one of whom died in 1631, leaving sons Donald, John William and a member of the *Dollough* line while the other was the father of Annas. The latter Donald, of the *Ballatersin* line, had no male children to whom he could pass on his land or his daughter, Annas, could not have inherited. However, where this second Donald comes from within the Mc Ilrea/Mc Ylrea family is far from certain.

Rightly or wrongly, some assumptions have been made, based not only on the land records but also on Mylrea wills from the 1500s. In the case of the wills, they are not always decipherable in their entirety, leaving a level of uncertainty about the precise nature of relationships with individuals mentioned – father, son, brother etc. A couple of these assumptions are:

- Raynold, such an extensive landholder, doesn't "fit" generationally yet he is clearly in the main *Dollough* line in land transactions
- John Mylrea, the husband of Alice Gawne and father of John jnr, might have been the brother of Raynold⁴³, based on the Gawn connection in a 1604 land transaction

One mediating factor in this enterprise is that there are wills for Mylrea individuals who don't "fit" the schema, meaning that there were more families at the time than those depicted in this analysis. Thus, a reader embarking on a study of the groupings that follow should do so with a degree of skepticism and an eye to re-interpretation.

⁴² <http://www.manxmanorialroll.com>

⁴³ See 1595 Will of Johannis Mc Ilrea which mentions sons Donald & John

JOHN → RANOLD → DANOLD → DONALD jnr

JOHN → WILLIAM

The Dollough

1575	1575 Intack 0 0 6 OLD ENTRY John Mcilrea NEW ENTRY Ranold Mcilrea {3d} John Mc cowley {3d}	JOHN Mc ilrea RANOLD Mc ilrea
1576	1576 Balimon OLD ENTRY John Mc gawen {} John Mc ilrea {} NEW ENTRY Danold Mc gawen {5s} Thomas Mc brewe {5s} Ranold Mc ilrea {5s}	"
	1576 Balimon OLD ENTRY John Mc ilrea {} John Mc ilrea {} NEW ENTRY Ranold Mc ilrea {16s} Ranold Mc ilrea {2s} Willm Mc Crayne {2s}	"
	1576 Balimon OLD ENTRY John Mc ilrea {} John Mc ilrea {} NEW ENTRY Ranold Mc ilrea {18d} Ranold Mc ilrea {6d}	"
	John Mc Ilrea died in the period 1575-1588 (no surviving will)	
1588	1588 Intacks OLD ENTRY John Mc ilrea NEW ENTRY Raynold Mc ilrea fils {4s}	"
1592	1592 Ballymony 00 15 04 OLD ENTRY Thoms Brewe John Gowan NEW ENTRY John Brewe Phillip Saile {5s 3d} Ganold gawan {5s} Ranold c ylrea {5s}	
	1592 Intacks 00 00 16 OLD ENTRY Rannold Mc ylvorry NEW ENTRY Raynold Mc ylrea	RAYNOLD Mc ylrea
	1592 Intacks 00 03 00 OLD ENTRY John Mc ylrea NEW ENTRY Raynold Mc ylrea	JOHN Mc ilrea RAYNOLD Mc ilrea
	1592 Intacks 00 00 06 OLD ENTRY John Mc ylrea NEW ENTRY Raynold Mc ylrea	"
	1592 Intacks 00 00 04 OLD ENTRY John Mc ylrea NEW ENTRY Raynold Mc ylrea	"
	1592 Intacks OLD ENTRY ux [LATIN=widow of] John Mc ylrea {2d} NEW ENTRY Raynold Mc ylrea {2d}	"
1595	1595 Balimony 00 15 04 OLD ENTRY Jonny Brewe Phillip Sayle {5s 4d} NEW ENTRY Christian Brewe {4d} Katherin Brew jun {5s} Dollin Gowen {5s} Raynold Mc ilrea {5s} p magn [?]	RAYNOLD Mc Ilrea

1600	Raynold/Donald died?? No burial record but has will⁴⁴
1601	1601 Ballycane 00 18 00 OLD ENTRY Raynold Mc ylrea {18s} NEW ENTRY Danold Mc ylrea p qter Entered for that he is the sonne of Raynold, his father deceased
	RAYNOLD Mc ylrea DANOLD Mc ylrea
	1601 Ballycane 00 02 00 OLD ENTRY Raynold Mc ylrea {2s} NEW ENTRY Danold Mc ylrea p [cloms?] "Entered being sonne of Raynold deceased
	1601 Intacks 00 00 16 OLD ENTRY Raynold Mc ylrea {16d} NEW ENTRY Danold Mc ylrea entered being sonne of the sayd Raynold dec "
	1601 Intacks 00 03 00 OLD ENTRY Raynold Mc ylrea {3s} NEW ENTRY Danold Mc ylrea fil "
	1601 Intacks 00 00 04 OLD ENTRY Raynold Mc ylrea {4d} NEW ENTRY Danold Mc ylrea fil "
	1601 Intacks 00 04 00 OLD ENTRY Raynold Mc ylrea {2d} Patr Corleod {4d} Wm Kissage {2d} Wm Kissage {3d} NEW ENTRY Danold Mc ylrea fil {2d} Tho: Corleod senr fil {4d} Finlo Kissage fil {5d} cu ceter (<i>LATIN=with the others</i>) "
	1601 Intacks 00 04 00 OLD ENTRY Raynold Mc ylrea {4s} NEW ENTRY Danold Mc ylrea {4s} "
1602	entered being the sonne of Raynold dec 1602 GD Carndall 2 00 21 03 OLD ENTRY John Quaill {10s 7 1/2d} sup quatnor Ins Assed {} NEW ENTRY John Quaill {10s 7 1/2d} Finlo Kneene {2s 7 3/4d} Patr Stephan {2s 7 3/4d} Raynold Mc ylrea {2s 8d} Patr Garrett {2s 8d}
1603	RAYNOLD Mc Ylrea 1603 GD Intacks 00 00 16 OLD ENTRY Danold Mc ylrea {16d} NEW ENTRY Phillip Corleod md that Danold Mc ylrea sonne of Raynold Mc ylrea dec is drawen by vertue of a recovry had against him in the [comon?]lawe by John Gawen senr & Jo: Gawen junr. And Phillip Corleod is entred tennant for the same by vertue of sevrall bills of Sale under the hands of the said John Gawnes and their wives
	DONALD Mc ylrea 1603 Carnedall 2 00 21 03 OLD ENTRY Finlo kneene {} patr Garrett {} NEW ENTRY John quail {10s 7 1/2d} Patr Stephan Ric Mc ylrea Thomas mc ylvorry Wm brew Senr Patr Callister Thomas Coraige Gilbt Crayne John Kneene John quaill Junr Patr Corleod Thomas Corleod Finlo Kneene and Patr Garrett are drawn and these others are sett in by the setting quest for 10s 7 1/2d rent to be pd amongst them RIC Mc ylrea

⁴⁴ The wills of Raynold and his wife Ellin were dated 1600, and while there's no burial record for Raynold, there is one for Richard – perhaps a vicar's/transcription error?

1604	<p>1604 GD Carndall 2 00 21 03 OLD ENTRY John Quaill {10s 7 1/2d} Patr Stephan Ric Mcylrea Tho: mcylyorry Wm Brewe Sent Patr Callister Tho: Corriage Gilbt Crayne Jo: Kneene Jo: quaill Jnr Patr Corleod Thomas Corleod NEW ENTRY John Quaill {10s 7 1/2d} [Germod?] Teare John Corkill dabold moughton dollin Kelly Robt Garrett Robt Lowy All the sayd ps ons drawen have delivred it up by the strawe and it is sett ppon the sixe ps ons now entred to be equally payble for the rent od 10s 7 1/2d amongst them all</p>	RIC Mc ylrea
	<p>1604 Ballymony 00 15 04 OLD ENTRY Dannold Dawen {5s} Raynold Mcylrea {5s} NEW ENTRY Dollin Gawen {5s} Danold Mc ylrea {5s} cu ceter Dollin Gawen is entred in regard his father Wm gawen was the sonne of Danold Gawen & Danold Mc ylrea entred in the right of Raynold his father</p>	RAYNOLD Mc ylrea DANOLD Mc ylrea
	<p>1604 Intacks 00 00 06 OLD ENTRY Raynold Mc ylrea {6d} NEW ENTRY Danold Mc ylrea</p>	"
	<p>1604 Ballycane 00 02 00 OLD ENTRY Danold Mc ylrea {2s} NEW ENTRY Danold Mc ylrea {8d} Danold Quaill {16d} p claus Danold Mc ylrea sonne of John Mc ylrea is entred in the right of Danold his grandfather and hath joyned wth him Danold Quaill for 2 pts of ground acknowledging to have sould the same to him</p>	DANOLD Mc ylrea snr (grandfather)
	<p>1604 Intacks 00 03 00 OLD ENTRY Danold Mc ylrea {3s} NEW ENTRY Danold Mc ylrea junr {12d} Danold Quaill {2s} Danold the grandfather is drawnen & Danold the nephew entred joyning wth him for 2 pts Danold Quaill</p>	DANOLD Mc ylrea snr (grandfather) DANOLD Mc ylrea jnr
1610	<p><i>Composition Book Ballalaugh</i> <i>To Donell Mc ilrea severall pcells of Intacks in the myres</i> <i>Rented at fyne paieable for the same is</i></p>	
	<p><i>Composition Book Ballalaugh</i> <i>To Danell Mc ilrea & Donell Quayle one close in the myres</i> <i>Rent and another close there rented at -</i> <i>The Totall of the Rents</i> <i>The fyne due to be paide by agreemt</i></p>	
1614	<p>1614 Intacks 00 04 00 OLD ENTRY John Gawn {12d} NEW ENTRY Danold Mc ylrea {12d} cu ceter Jo: Gawn hath acknowledged it sold to Danold ylrea</p>	JOHN Gawn DANOLD Ylrea
	<p>1614 Intacks 00 03 11 OLD ENTRY Willm Caloe {6d} NEW ENTRY Nicho: Quarkin {3d} Mugh Mocrey {2d} Danold ylrea {1d} Sr Hugh Cannell {6d} cu cetr The setting quest avouch that thees entred for pte of Nicho: Quarkin's Rent are payable accordingle and Sr Hugh Cannell is entered for the reason afforesaid</p>	DANOLD ylrea
	<p>1614 Intacks 00 00 02 OLD ENTRY NEW ENTRY Phillip Corleod {1d} Danold ylrea {1d} Danold ylrea is joyned wth Phillip Corleod half and half by his owne consent and</p>	DANOLD ylrea

	Mr ylrea is to use the way wholie uppon his porcon of the ground	
1615	1615 Intacks 00 00 06 OLD ENTRY Danold Mc ylrea {6d} NEW ENTRY Hugh Morrey Danold acknowlegeth it sold to Hugh Moorey	DANOLD Mc ylrea jnr sells land to HUGH Morrey
1617	1617 Ballycane 00 02 00 OLD ENTRY Danold ylrea {} Danold Quaill {16d} ⁴⁵ NEW ENTRY Danold ylrea {12d} Finlo Quaill {12d} Danold (<i>Quaill</i>) is dead, and his sonne Finlo entred and by both the consents of the now tenants, they are joyned half and half in the whole	
1628	1628 Intacks 00 00 02 OLD ENTRY Phillip Corleod NEW ENTRY Danold ylr Phillip Corleod Danold ylrea ut supra [<i>LATIN = as above</i>]	DANOLD ylrea
1631	Danold Mc Ylrea dies (will)	
1633	1633 Ballacayne 00 18 00 OLD ENTRY Donald Mc ylrea NEW ENTRY John Mc ylrea ut sup [in loco part]	DONALD Mc ylrea jnr JOHN Mc ylrea
	1633 Intacks 00 03 00 OLD ENTRY Donald Mc ylrea NEW ENTRY John Mc ylrea the father deade the sone entered ut sup	"
	1633 Intacks 00 02 08 OLD ENTRY Donald Mc ylrea NEW ENTRY John Mc ylrea ut sup	"
	1633 Intacks 00 00 04 OLD ENTRY Donald Mc ylrea NEW ENTRY John ylrea ut sup	"
	1633 Intacks 00 04 00 OLD ENTRY Donald Mc ylrea {2d} NEW ENTRY John Mc ylrea cu ceter ut sup	"
	1633 Intacks 00 04 00 OLD ENTRY Donald Mc ylrea NEW ENTRY John Mc ylrea ut sup [<i>the name of Tho Quayle is crossed out above this entry</i>]	"
	1633 Intacks 00 03 11 OLD ENTRY Donald Mc ylrea {1d} NEW ENTRY John Mc ylrea cu ceter ut sup [THIS ENTRY CROSSSED THROUGH]	"
	1633 Intacks 00 00 02 OLD ENTRY Donald Mc ylrea NEW ENTRY John Mc ylrea {1d} cu ceter ut sup	"
	1633 Intacks 00 00 16 OLD ENTRY John Curleod NEW ENTRY John Mc ylrea	JOHN Mc ylrea acquires land

⁴⁵ Leases Agreed 1610: To Donnell m'Ilrea & Donnell Quayle. one close in the myres. Rent vjs. And an other close there
rented at xvjd. the total rents p an vijs iiijd. The fyne xxx; 1610 Balalaugh To Donnell mc Irea, several pcels of
Intacks in the mires rented at xiijs iiijd p an. the fine} xxvjs viijd

	John Mc ylrea entred for this 16d rente by virtue of a recoverie against John Corleod	
1638	1638 JOHN Mc ylrea dies (will)	
1642	1642 Intacks 00 03 00 OLD ENTRY Danold ylrea {18d} Avricke Quaile {1d} Tho: Stephan Tho: Stephan Tho: Stephan NEW ENTRY Danold ylrea {18d} Avricke Quaile {6d} Tho: Stephan {12d} The Quest avouch yt ye names are rightly entered as now they stand	DANOLD ylrea
1643	<i>1643 Ballacaine treen Composition Book</i> <i>The Dollough was composed for by Thomas Cowley on behalf of William Mylrea, confirming that (1) William's father John was dead, (2) William was under-age and not entitled to compose on his own behalf</i>	Thomas Cowley was presumably an adult relative.
1645	1645 Ballamony 00 15 04 OLD ENTRY John Mc ylrea {5s} NEW ENTRY Wm Mc ylrea {5s} cu ceter the father deade the sune entered	JOHN Mc ylrea WILLIAM Mc ylrea
	1645 Ballacayne 00 18 00 OLD ENTRY Jo: Mc ylrea NEW ENTRY Wm Mc ylrea The father deade the sonne entered	"
	1645 Intacks 00 03 00 OLD ENTRY Jo: Mcylrea NEW ENTRY Wm Mcylrea ut sup	"
	1645 Intacks 00 02 08 OLD ENTRY Jo: Mcylrea NEW ENTRY Wm Macylrea ut sup	"
	1645 Intacks 00 00 20 OLD ENTRY Jo: Mcylrea NEW ENTRY Wm Mcylrea ut sup	"
1648	1648 Intackes 00 04 00 OLD ENTRY Jo: Mc ylrea NEW ENTRY Wm Mc ylrea entred ye father beinge deade	"
	1648 Intackes 00 00 16 OLD ENTRY Jo: Mc ylrea NEW ENTRY Wm Mc ylrea ut ante <i>[LATIN=as before]</i>	"
1672	1672 Intacks 00 00 14 OLD ENTRY Jo: Quayle & Thom Kinley {1¾ d} NEW ENTRY Patr Cally {1¾d} cu eo et ceter The half of this 1¾d charged on the names of Jo Quaile & Tho Kinley as their propotion (the quest avouching the same) being in the right of Jo Mcylrea by the marriage of his wife Kath Cally (as also averred by ye sd Quayle hath sould his part of ye sd 1¾d to the sd Patr Caly (the other prt still remains on the name of Thom: Kinley) as appaers by bill of sayle confirmed by the officers	<u>1663 Michael Deed</u> John Mcylrea & wife Katherine Cally sells land to Patrick Calley
1676	1676 Ballacayne 00 21 00 OLD ENTRY John Corraige {19s 3d}	<u>1675 Ballaugh Deed</u>

	<p>NEW ENTRY Wm Mcylrea {20d} Jo: Casmt {10d} cu eo et cetrus</p> <p>The sd Wm Mcylrea & Jo: Casmt is entred for ye sd rents by vertue of two sevrall bills of Sayles from ye sd Corraige confirmed by ye officers whereunto relacon is to bee had In respect of my Lord's Intrest wch is always to bee observed</p>	
1679	<p>1679 Ballacayne 00 21 00</p> <p>OLD ENTRY John Corraige {16s 9d}</p> <p>NEW ENTRY Tho: Cowley {12d} Wm Mcylrea {6d} cu eo et cetr</p> <p>The sd Tho Cowley & Wm Mcylrea are entred by vrtue of their sevrall bills of sayles from ye sd Corraige & his sone confirmed by ye officers</p>	<u>1678 Ballaugh Deed</u> William Mcylrea purchases land from John Corraige & son
1680	<p>1680 Ballacayne 00 21 00</p> <p>OLD ENTRY Jo: Corraige {15s 3d}</p> <p>NEW ENTRY Wm Mcylrea {5d} cu eo et cetr</p> <p>Entred by vrtue of a bill of Sayle from ye sd Corraige confirmed by ye officers reserving my Lords Intrest as it is in ye confirmacon</p>	
1690	<p>1690 GD Ballacaine 00 21 00</p> <p>OLD ENTRY Jon Corraige {10s 4d} Thoms Cowley {2s 6d} Thom Cowley {12d} Thomas Cowley {12d} Wm Mc ylrea {5d} Thomas Cowley {12d} Wm Mc ylrea {6d} Wm Mcylrea {20d} Jon Casement {10d} Wm Killip {12d} Jon Casement {6d} William Crenilt {3d}</p> <p>NEW ENTRY Jon Corraige {4s 2d} Thomas Cowley {11s 9d} Capn William Mcylrea {3s} William Killip {20d} Jon Craine {2d} Jon Crenilt {3d} Jon Corraige son to the above Jon Corraige now drawn haveing petconed [the]Court in the last Sheading Court week at Peeletowne that his sd father Jon Corraige had sold and alienated severall parcells of his tenemt to the above nameds psons and had sett but a very small rent on each paercell soe that agreat pte of the Rent remained upon him and had but a small pcell of the land in his hands, not near pporconable to the rent paid by him^ \[?] [?] whereof the Setting Quest of that parish were ordered to vew & [?] parte or porcon of the Tenemt and to equalize the Rent according to each holding wch they have done accordingly now in Court, and the sd psons [?]now in possession of the sd land are entred in theire porcon of rent over [][...] in charge in that maner for the future.</p>	WILLIAM Mc ylrea
1691	<p><i>1691 Composition Book Ballaugh</i></p> <p><i>Wm Mcylrea formerly ?at??: tWm? Mcylrea aged 60, Donald Mcylrea renewed 1666 his son aged 45 & Tho Xtian age 33 yeares</i></p>	William Mc ylrea Patriarch of the Deemsters, Archdeacons, etc
1692	William McYlrea dies (will)	

2 . JOHN & ALICE → JOHN jnr → JOHN jnr

Ballacooiley

1600	John Mc ylrea dies 22nd July, 1600 (will)		
1604	1604 Intacks 00 00 20 OLD ENTRY John Gawen {20d} NEW ENTRY Alice Gawen et Jo Mc ylrea junr Entered for that Jo Gawen was grandfather to Alice & great grandfather to Jo: Mc ylrea junr ⁴⁶		JOHN Gawn ALICE Gawn+ JO: Mc ylrea jnr
1615	LIB ASSED - Alice une Gawn		<i>Alice GAWN</i>
1618	1618 Brogard 00 14 06 OLD ENTRY Alice yne Gawn {14s 6d} NEW ENTRY John Mc ylrea ⁴⁷ Alice is dead and Jo: Mc ylrea hath recovered it by accon in the lawe against Wm Kewsh in his owne Right ⁴⁸		ALICE Gawn JOHN Mc ylrea
	1618 Intacks 00 00 20 OLD ENTRY Alice Gawn {} Jo: Mc ylrea junr {} NEW ENTRY John Mc ylrea {} ut antea [<i>LATIN=as before</i>]		ALICE Gawn+ JO: Mc ylrea jnr JOHN Mc ylrea
1630	LIB ASSED Jo: Mc ylrea		<i>John McYLREA</i>
1643	<i>Composition Book</i>		
1645	1645 Brongygargel 00 14 06 OLD ENTRY John Mcylrea NEW ENTRY John Mcylrea junior The father deade the sonne entered		JOHN Mc ylrea snr JOHN Mc ylrea jnr
1652	LIB ASSED John Mylrea junior		<i>John McYLREA</i>
1655	1655 <i>Composition Book</i> <i>Jo: mc ;ylrea Ballnagewley pays rent, lives of John & son Tho: mcylnrea (& Jo: Curleod)</i>		<i>John Mylrea & son Thomas of Ballacooiley</i>
1660	1660 Intacks 00 00 20 OLD ENTRY Wm Mc ylrea NEW ENTRY Donald Teare {2d} Jo: Mc ylrea {18d} Wm is deade & John his brother is entred as next heyre thereuntoas the Quest avouch wch John hath now soould 2d of ye sd 20d rent unto the sd Donald Teare by bill of Sayle acknowledged by ye sd Jo: in Court		WM Mc lrea JOHN Mc ylrea (brother)
1676	LIB ASSED John ylrea junr		
1691	1691 <i>Composition Book - Ballaugh</i> <i>Tho Mcylrea formerly Jo: Mcylrea expired</i>		JOHN McYlrea THOMAS McYlrea
1709	1709 Ballacaine 00 42 00 OLD ENTRY Jo Cowle {3s} NEW ENTRY Wm Mcylrea & Kath his wife {3s}		<u>1707 Ballaugh Deed</u> Marriage Contract

⁴⁶ Thus Alice & John jnr were descendants of John Gawn, the father of Ellin?, who was the wife of Raynold.

⁴⁷ 1630 John Mc Ilrea sevrall pcells of Intacks in the mires of the yearlye rent of xvs iijd ffine } xls; John Mc Ilrea one closure of Intacke in the myres rent xxd p ann ffine }xs; To John Mc Ilrera a pcell of Intacke called **Cordells Close** pte of Philipp Curleod's tenement of the yearlye rent of viijd ffine} xijs iiijd

⁴⁸ 1613 Wm Kewsh, in the behalf of Alice & John mclrea, for one close in the myres. rent - xxd. the fine } xxs

	the said Wm Mcylrea and Kath his wife daughter of ye sd Jo Cowle are entered by contract from the sd Jo Cowle confirmed by ye officers fine 8d	
	1709 atient intack 00 00 12 OLD ENTRY Jo Cowle {3s} NEW ENTRY Wm Mcylrea & Kath his wife Entered as before	1707 Ballaugh Deed Marriage Contract
	1709 intack 00 00 11 OLD ENTRY Jo Cowle NEW ENTRY Wm Mcylrea & Kath his wife Entered as before	1707 Ballaugh Deed Marriage Contract
	1709 cottages 00 00 11½ d OLD ENTRY Jo Cowle NEW ENTRY Wm Mcylrea & Kath his wife entered as before fine for the above 2 rents 11½d	1707 Ballaugh Deed
1711	Thomas dies (will)	
1712	1712 00 29 00 OLD ENTRY Thomas Mcylrea NEW ENTRY John Mcylrea his son the father is dead and ye son is entered as right heyre according to law Fine 10s	
1733	William dies (will)	
	1712 00 00 18 OLD ENTRY Thomas Mcylrea NEW ENTRY John Mcylrea his son Entered as before fine 3s	
1743	1743 Ballacain 00 42 00 OLD ENTRY Thomas Mcylrea 18d NEW ENTRY Nicholas his brother 18d	1740 Ballaugh Deed
	1743 Ballacain 00 42 00 OLD ENTRY Thomas Mcylrea & Cath his mother 3s NEW ENTRY Nicholas Mcylrea & Cath predict 3s Nicholas is entered in place of Thomas by vertue of a bill of sale dated the 10th Feb 1740 confirmed by the officers. Fine for both is 9d	1740 Ballaugh Deed
	1743 Intacks OLD ENTRY Thomas Mcylrea & Cath his mother 6½ d NEW ENTRY Nicholas Mcylrea & Cath predict 2d Entered as before Fine 1d	1740 Ballaugh Deed
1740	Thomas dies (will)	

DONALD → DANOLD → ANN → JONY

Ballatersin

1584	1584 Baltersn OLD ENTRY Danold Mc ylre junr NEW ENTRY Thomas Twatch {20s 4d}	DANOLD Mcylrea jnr <u>sells</u> to Twatch
	1588 Intacks OLD ENTRY Danold Mc ilvory Danold [Balyist?] NEW ENTRY Danold Mc ilvory for all	DANOLD Mc ylrea DANOLD Mc ylrea
1602	1602 GD Ballitersin John Crayne et Finlo Corleod pledge p Danold Mc ylrea	DANOLD Mc ylrea
1603	1603 Ballytersin 00 13 08 OLD ENTRY Danold Mc ylrea {6s 10d} NEW ENTRY Danold Quaill {6s 10d} Entred half & half wth Dannold Mc ylrea by his owne consent in Court	DANOLD Mc ylrea takes a partner
	1603 Intacks 00 00 16 OLD ENTRY NEW ENTRY Dannold Mc ylrea {8d} Danold Quaill {8d} Dannold Quaill is joyned half & half wth Danold Mcylrea by his consent in Court	"
1604	1604 Ballytersin 00 13 08 OLD ENTRY Danold Mc ylrea senr {6s 10d} NEW ENTRY Danold Mc ylrea jun {4s 6 1/2d} Danold Quaill {9s 1 1/2d} Danold Mc ylrea being dead, Danold his sonne is entred for 4s 6 1/2d and the rest he is contented to be entered on the name of Danold Quail	DANOLD Mc ylrea snr DANOLD Mc ylrea jnr ⁴⁹
1616	1616 Ballitersin 00 13 08 OLD ENTRY Danold Mc ylrea junr {4s 6 1/2d} Danold Quaill {9s 1 12/d} NEW ENTRY Danold Mc ylrea junr {4s 6 1/2d} Finlo Quaill {9s 1 12/d} The (<i>Quaill</i>) father dead & the sonne entred	DONALD Mc ylrea jnr
	1616 Intacks 00 00 16 OLD ENTRY Danold Mc ylrea {8d} Danold Quaill {8d} NEW ENTRY Danold Mc ylrea {8d} Finlo Quaill {8d} ut	
	1616 Intacks 00 03 00 OLD ENTRY Danold Mc ylrea {} Danold Quaill {2s} NEW ENTRY Danold Mc ylrea {18d} Finlo Quaill {18d} The Setting Quest avouch that the rent ought thus to be divided	
	1617 Ballitersin OLD ENTRY NEW ENTRY Danold ylrea jun {6s 10d} Finlo Quaill {6s 10d} entred half and half as afforesd	
1630	1630 Ballatersin 00 13 08 OLD ENTRY Danold Mc ylrea NEW ENTRY Ann ylrea et Finlo Cowley {6s 10d} cu ceter Danold Mc ylrea dead and Anne his daughter entred wth her husband	DANOLD Mc ylrea jnr ANN Mc ylrea (Cowley) Ann died 1636

⁴⁹ Danolde Mc Ilrea one pcell of lande acres 4 rent ijs 29 July 32 Eliz valewe xvjs, two yeres unexpired

1636	Ann Cowley als Illerea dies (no will?)	
1641	1641 Intacks 00 03 11 OLD ENTRY Danold ylrea {1d} NEW ENTRY James Sayle {1d} cu ceter [Ja]mes Sayle is entred wth consent of Phill Cowley in Co[u]rt who came by ye same by mariadge wth ye daughtr of ylrea[?] heyre thereof, as ye Quest avouch	
1655	1655 Intacks 00 03 11 OLD ENTRY Donald ylrea {2d} NEW ENTRY Wm Kelly & Bahy Sayle {1 1/2d} Issabell Sayle {1/2d} cu ceter The Quest avouch that this 2d rent came to Phill Cowley in the right of his wife Ann ylrea unto whome the same fell due by executor[shi]pp and afterward the said Phill passed over the same piece unto the said pties now entred in consideracon of another pcell of ground	
1656	1656 Ballacayne 00 00 12 OLD ENTRY Donald Mc ylrea NEW ENTRY Jony Cowley Donald is dead & Ann his daughter unto whome the right did descend as the Quest avouch beinge deade alsoe the right of this ground hath now fallen unto Jony Cowley as her right by Inheritance	DONALD Mc ylrea to ANN COWLEY als Mc ylrea JONY Cowley
	1656 Ballatersin 00 13 08 OLD ENTRY Ann ylrea {6s 10d} NEW ENTRY Jony Cowley {6s 10d} cu ceter entred upon the reasons afforesaid and the said Jony wth her husband John Cotter have soould the same [?] unto Phil Cowley father to the said Jony for the consideracon betwixt them agreed upon whose name is to come forth in chardge for the same.	DONALD Mc ylrea to ANN COWLEY als Mc ylrea JONY Cowley
	1656 Intacks 00 00 16 OLD ENTRY Don: ylrea {8d} NEW ENTRY Ann: ylrea {8d} cu cetera Ann: ylrea is entred by way of heireshipp now Ann: ylrea is dead and Jony Cowley is entered for that 8d by heireshippoe as the quest avouch, whose name is to come forth in chardge	DONALD Mc ylrea to ANN COWLEY als Mc ylrea JONY Cowley
	1656 Intacks 00 03 00 OLD ENTRY Don: ylrea {18d} NEW ENTRY Ann: ylrea {18d} cu cetera Ann: ylrea is entred by way of heireshippe And now Ann: ylrea is deade and Jony Cowley is entred for that 18d by way of heireshippe as the quest avouch whose name is to come forth in charge	"
	1656 Intacks 00 OLD ENTRY Don: ylrea {18d} NEW ENTRY Ann: ylrea {18d} cu cetera Ann: ylrea is entred by way of heireshipp now Ann: ylrea is dead and Jony Cowley is entered for that 8d by heireshippoe as before	"
1658	1658 Ballatersin 00 13 08 OLD ENTRY Phill Cowley {6s 10d} NEW ENTRY An Cowley et Finlo Quayle {3d} cu eo et ceter Phill hath given this 3d single rent in hand-fastinge bargain to the said An his daughter wth ye sd Finlo her husband, wch ye sd Phill alsoe acknowledged in Court	??? maybe not this family
1667	1667 Intacks 00 00 01 OLD ENTRY Jo: Cottier NEW ENTRY Jo: Gawne et user {1/2d} cu eo	

	entered as ye Quest avouch for ye 1/2d rent by executorsp wch his wife came in as one & this is acknowledged in Court by John Cottier
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3. THOMAS

1598	1598 Intacks 00 02 00 OLD ENTRY Wm Kelly {16d} Tho: Mc ylrea {8d} Christian Mc ylrea his daughr {8d} NEW ENTRY Willm Kelly {16d} and Wm Radcliff {8d} note the sayd Wm entred by a bargaine and sale from the sayd Christian Mc ylrea	THOMAS Mc ylrea CHRISTIAN Mc ylrea
1628	Intacks 00 00 12 OLD ENTRY Finlo Cowley {6d} NEW ENTRY Tho: Mc ylrea {6d} cu ceter ⁵⁰ Entred by the consent of Finlo Cowley and acknowledged in Court to be sould for ever	FINLO Cowley THOMAS Mc ylrea
1639	Intacks 00 00 12 OLD ENTRY Tho: ylrea {6d} NEW ENTRY Adam Cayne {6d} cum cetr It is avouched by ye Settinge Quest that he ought to be entered for it for yt ye said ylrea hath sould it to ye said Cayne	THOMAS ylrea

An enormous debt of thanks is due to Robert Cannell for his unstinting assistance as I tried to unravel these Mylrea strands, cautiously picking my way through the language of the 1600s, as it has survived in these old records, and for Robert's generosity in transcribing the Ballaugh records for me while his interest is firmly focused on the Michael images. All of the facts belong to Rob, and the interpretations (right or wrong) are all mine. DB

⁵⁰ 1630 Thomas Ilrea certaine Intacke of the yearlye rent of xxjd ffine; ijs;

2. Early Mylrea Wills

1574

[MMR]	<p>Patric Mc Ilrea who died 8th of March Ralyorony Mcylrea John Mcylrea Note</p>
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1576

[MMR]	<p>(no burial record) Testament Ann Mc Illeria who died the 7th August. Item bequeathed in the 1 Bequeathed Ine Corlett Item Will and constitute John and Thomas Kissage Item and direct and William and son Finlo William Cassell Probatum et solvit 15d</p>
[MMR]	<p>(no burial record) Testament Gulielum Mc lrea who died December. Constituted Robert, William and Patric Executors. Probatum et solvit 3s</p>
[MMR]	<p>(no burial record) (no children?) The testament of Gilbert Mc ylrea who died the 22 of October and constituted his brother Thomas Mc ylrea his lawful executor. Item he bequeathed to Christian his sister 10s Item to Margaret rea his sister 10s Item to Thomas Mc Cowen 3s, to William Mc Cowen 2s with others [2s wch to them? is owed?] To Donall..... 2 sheep To Christian ine Ryee 2 sheep and 2s To Christian ine rea 2 sheep and 2s To William Mc ilrea 2 sheep and 2 lambs To John Mc ilrea 2 sheep and 2 lambs and 1 mare with colt [between them?] To [Ales ine coriake 15s?] To the vicar 15s and to the clerk 15s To the poor 1 bowl malt, 1 firlett wheat and 3 sheep Note that he willed [his sister Margaret Rea to be</p>

	<p>delivered?] to Thomas Mc ylrea his brother and executor [6l 6d] of lawful money of England [which she has in keeping of his] Item Russle helle 10s Item Willia[m] helle 5s, Willia[m]alister 14s</p> <p>Sr Donald Chrahan } testes William danyell clerk }</p> <p>probatum est et solvit 12d</p>
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1576-1577

[MMR]	<p>Testament Gilbert Mc ylrea who died (might be another version of earlier will) - this one still to be transcribed</p>
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1577

[MMR]	The testame[n]t of Jonie ine hymmeyn wch dy[ed] the 26 of maye : bequeth to the poore 1 wether. Item to [...]mc ylrea his sonne 2 sheppe. Item constituted John mc ylrea, Willm mc ylrea & Jenett mc ylrea her chil[ren] exec. Item bequeth to the poore 3 firlets malte & a firlet wheate. Witnes Sr Donald Chrahan, William mc [nell?]clerk. pbat et solv 12d Invent } 5 shepe, 1 ewe, 2 lambes, 1 calfe a yere olde vs in money
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1577-98

[MMR]	<p>(no burial record) (father of Christian & John?) (Margaret second wife?) Donald Gilroy died the 15th of March untested and the ordered his daughter Christian his daughter administrix wife Margaret ine ilroy Probatum est et solvit 12p</p>
[MMR]	Hosai Mc Ylrea

1595

[MMR] Robert	The Testamtn Johanis Mc ilrea qui obijt 12th day [in]testat[] ix eccletia [libeccos?] d[]..... vide Willm, Johanis et Jonet Item constituted and directed William .. dm acatci []yeth suer sons Donald mc ilrea et Johanis [Inv]ent 21 sheep, 5 lambes, 1 cewe, 1 ox and a foal two years ould, 1 calffe in the hands [of] William mc ilrea pbatn est
[MMR]	(no burial record) (mother of John & Christian) (wife of ??) Testament of Gomie Mc Ilrea [Jonie, Jane??] and constituted her husband and her John ilrea, Christian ine ilrea and ilrea

1600

April (image)	(burial record Christian Meylrea last of April 1600) (Presumably unmarried) The Testament of Christian Ilera who departed this life the 19 th of April Anno 1600 First bequeathed her soul into the hands of the Almighty God Creator and Redeemer and her body to be buried at St Mary Church of Ballalaugh Item bequeathed to the poor at Allhallowtide 1 Malt, 1 firlett wheat, and 2 sheep Item in the hands of her half brother John whereof ... bequeathed to viz. the to be paid to her Item to her uncle John McIlrea 7d bequest Item to .. Cannell the money that is in his hands ... of the of should be and for her sister to the the 3s 3d of Item constituted her aunt Jonie Cannell and Thomas Cirlod to be the said Jonie executor of (no more text)
July (image) Robert	(burial record John Meylrea 22/7/1600) Could he be the son of Johanis who died 1595? And the husband of Ann Gawne? John Mc ilrea died the 22 nd day of July untestad the church hath ordered his child administrat sup[ervisior] Donald Mc ilrea their uncle pbatm est et solvit Invent ut supra befor candlemas next written the 23 rd of octobr 1600 one oxe i horse, i bullocke i coalte of 8 year olde ij ptes of a cewe ij sheepe and one barrell

Aug (image)	<i>(burial record Ann inelerea 31/8/1600) (will, but no clues as to husband/child/children)</i> Ann Mc Ilrea died the 30th of August untested [= intestate] whereof the Court having knowledge that there was of goods but 2 partes of one? oxe? and one laboring horse and in regard of the consideration?? of the said child for 7 yeres the said goods is given to her mother in compensation thereof . Probatum et solvit 5d
Nov [MMR]	<i>(burial record 2/II/1600) (Donald, Allis, Jane, John)</i> The testament of Ellin Gawen als illerea who died the first of November [untestate?] First? She bequeathed her soul to the Almighty God-Creator and Redeemer and her body to be buried in [St Mary Church?] of Ballalagh Item to the poor [.. bowl?] wheat and malt, 2 bowls and sheep at discretion. Item to her son Donald her part of the crop giving unto his two sister Allis & Jane either of them six firlets of corn betwixt wheat and barley Item to her son John a young horse. Item to her brother John a firlet wheat Item a feather bed due to Stewie Mc Tears children to be given to them Item to the parson one mutton Item to her two daughters married betwixt them a heifer after culling. Item to Arnab?.... a frock & a waistcoat. Constitute her executors Donald, William, Allis and Jonie her children. Testes Phillip Kissack, Mallowny Kermoat & John Mc Lerea junior Probatum est et solvit 15 jurati
Nov [MMR] Robert	<i>(burial record 12/II/1600 named Richard) (Donald, William, Alice Jane, Margaret)</i> The testament of Ranold Mc illerea who departed the 9 th of November First He bequeathed his soul to the Almighty God the Creator and Redeemer and his body to be buried within the parish church of Ballalagh Item To the poor betwixt his wife and his self 2 bowls malt, a bowl wheat and crop at the discretion of his executor Item to Donald his son 3 oxen and his riding horse out of the whole Item to William, Allis and Jane every one six sheep out of the whole Item to his 2 daughters Allis and Jane either 6 firlet of corn and William to get have his portion of the crop

	<p>Item to the said William half of or else 30s in money</p> <p>Item To Christian her for bargain of hand fasting or els her portion at her</p> <p>Item to John Mc Lerea de Ballacrosse 1 firlot wheat or barley</p> <p>Item To John his son a sheep</p> <p>Item to Jony and Margaret his 2 daughters each a sheep joint</p> <p>Constituted his executors Donald, William with Jane as his children</p> <p>Testes Sr Nicholas Thompson</p> <p>John mc [?] senior [? ?]</p> <p>Probatum est et solvit 12s</p>
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1628

Joyce Oates	<p>Archdeacon Will 1628A #62 Lezayre, of Edward Mylrea, son of Donold / Daniel Mylrea, died November 1628 intestate, has siblings, parents are alive: (628 burial register has not survived)</p> <p>Anne Inillrea undr wrytten hath given in her pledge to answer for ye 5s & to secure ye office sub pena ----[torn] A childe of one Donold Mallarae depted y----[torn] of 9ber called Edward, untestate the Church haveinge Intelligence hereof hath Decreed ----[torn] 2 bretheren & sister Administrat: The ----[torn & dark] at yeares sworne Supervisor Salvo temen vi----[dark & torn] Invent before May Decretum est et Solvit ----[dark] [torn & dark]----ena prdicta The mother Xpian C----tm---- [?Caistment] [dark]----ho deposeth there is no -----[dark area] [dark area]---- ye ----- but ---s -----</p>
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1631

April Joyce Oates	<p><i>Burial record Donold Maclerea Dollough, (2/4/1631)</i></p> <p>ArcheaconWill 1631A #83 Ballaugh, of Daniel / Donold Mylrea, died 2 April 1631, intestate</p> <p>Donold McYlvaye depted this liffe the 2th of Aprill 1631 untestate the Church havinge intelligence thereof hath decreed his ----[dark] daughter Margret Ylrea his adminstratrix Salvo tamen vincuig Suo jure</p>
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Decretum est et Solvit 2s 3d

inventorie at or before the next chapter in payne of 3s 4d y
Invent on ye othr syde follow
ad usum Dmi: inge: vide

for as much as there hath beene a contraversie betwixt the
---[dark edge] of Donold McYlrea & the exec of his wyffe
concerneing money that was conveyed awaye before the death o
the sd Donold's wyffe wth there one mutuall consentt they on
hath given an oyth to the other that they never conveyed mor
of that money away

Invent: of Donold McIllRea of Ballaugh

1 cowe & 2 qters of a cowe, xxs[20s] in money;

Item 7s 6d wch is in ye hands of Jo: McIllRea of Ballaugh
pish;

Item 4s wch is in the hands of Robte Edger;

Item 4s 6d wch in ye hands of Katherin Christin, wife to Wm
Curlet;

Item: from Robte Moore of Dowglasses 18d;

Item due from John Oates xijd;

Item: from Jo: Shittletowne xvijd;

Item: from Rich: Hunter of ye Peelle xvijd; Item due from
the exec of Wm: Christin of Dowglasses 3s 6d;

Item: 6s wch is in ye hands of ye Administratrix;

Item: xxxs[30s] wch ye sd Administratrix alledgedeth is in the
hands of her brother John;

Item: thirteen[?] betwixt sheep & muttons; 4 blankets; 1
fledge; dj a fitherbed; one cart her pte of ye carte 1 barrel
----[fold] a barrel:

The Administratrix at lawfull yeares hath bond
her selfe sub pena Double valew to secure ye office

Item: her pte of ye cropp Delivered to ye eldest sonne D
[fold]

the fathr in his ---- tyme & not due to the Administratrix
The ----- ----- [light, difficult to read]

Note yt ye xxxx alledged ----- ----- ----- [light,
difficult to read] by ye Administratrix to bee due unto her
by ye Death of her fathr was ye prce of an oxe, wch ye
Deceased Donold McYllRea gave unto his sonne Jo: to buye an
oxe, wch he bestowed ---di---glie, and ye same oxe was due
unto him ye said John wth five---ore, for the plough as
appeareth was Decreed &ordeined at ye Death of Annas Carrat
wife to ye sd Donold wth his owne consent & allowed by the
Courte: The sd Annas dyed in Anno 1602 as apeth in the booke
of Decrees: bide et quere: &c:

1636

April (image)	<p><i>Burial record 6/4/1636</i> (Margaret b 1625 (fa=Phill), Ffinlo 1627 (fa=Phillip), Jony 1632 (fa=Phillip))</p> <p>Testament of Annas Illyrea als Cowley who departed this life the [fifth April?] in the year 1836. First she bequeathed her soul to God and her body to Christian burial.</p> <p>Item To the poor, 1 firlot of malt and 1 firlot wheat [wheat?]</p> <p>Item to her two daughters a and a lamb</p> <p>Item to Cry on quarter? Of a young</p> <p>Item to her husband [Phillip Cowley?] out of the</p> <p>Lastly she her three children Philip, Jony and Margaret Cowley her joint executors of all of her goods moveable and immovable</p> <p>Probatum est et solvit</p> <p>Gubon Cowley, Finlo</p> <p>✉ ½ sister of Nicholas Quackin (see his will 1628) 1625 Averick Cry - wife of Donald McYlrea of Ballacroshy (in Ballatetersin)</p>
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1638

May (image)	<p><i>(Burial record 9/5/1638)</i> (William + 3 others)</p> <p>Ballaugh</p> <p>The last will and testament of John McLerea who departed this life the 9th of May in the year 1638. First he bequeathed his soul to God and his body to Christian burial.</p> <p>Item To the poor one bowl malt and firlett wheat and a firlett of oat meal</p> <p>Item To Mr Parson Thompson one mutton.</p> <p>Item To Finlo Cowley his swine he [owed?] him</p> <p>Item He left to his eldest son William a team of oxen with all the gears of husbandry thereto belonging [viz six] oxen as he himself got from his father whereunto his wife [gave] her full and free consent [also] he left him her his half of the crops of corn equally to be divided amongst them and this he said he though was well for his eldest son and so left the rest of his substance viz his goods moveable and immovable to his three younger children and his wife to have the tuition of his children and their goods until they come lawful years although the decedant named no executors the Court finding him to have left all his 3 children aforenamed hath decreed them executors and a mare and foal to the wife as a legacy the next of kindred on the fathers'</p>
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	<p>side supervisors.</p> <p>Probatum est et solvit 12d</p> <p>Debts owing to the said testator from John Corlett</p> <p>From Finlo Cowley forty shillings</p> <p>From John Corlett ten shillings</p> <p>From Hugh Cannell of five shillings</p> <p>From Donald Corrage two shillings</p> <p>From Hugh Corrage five shillings</p> <p>Inventory of the goods of John Mcylrea as examined by 4 sworn men</p> <p>..... William Corlett, John Corlett, And John Corlett</p> <p>.....</p> <p>..... Of executor as followeth</p>
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1643/4

	<p>Ballaugh Will</p>
Feb	<p>1644 e 256 ILLREA Jaine CANNELL d 1? Feb 1643; ch Wm, Tho, Jo: + Ellen Illrea[Myclrea] admrs - some ua;inv (Manx NoteBook)</p>
image	<p>Balaugh</p> <p>The last will and testament of who departed this life 164*</p> <p>First she committed her soul to God and her body to Christian burial</p> <p>Item she left to her</p> <p>Item she left to her brother</p> <p>..... James Cannell her lawful executor</p> <p>Testes Cowley, Christian]</p> <p>jurati</p> <p>Probatum est et solvit 4d</p>

1645

	<p>(Burial record Alice ine lerea 7th June 1645)</p> <p>(Ballaugh will)</p>
June	<p>1645 e 442 CORLETT Alice InELREA d 7 Jun []; ch Jo: + Wm Corlett jt admrs; inv 4s (Manx NoteBook)</p>

1653/4

	<p>(Ballaugh will)</p> <p>(might be the Jane Inerea who was buried 18th Feb 1853?)</p>
Joyce Oates	<p>The last will and testament of Jaine Mc ylrea first committed her soule to God and her bodie of Christian burial.</p> <p>Item left a firlett of corn to the poor.</p> <p>Item she left to her sonne John Coraige all her part of</p>

the household stuff and her part of the oats that was
in his own hands.
Item she left to Jony Casement a wheele;
Item she constituted and ordained her daughter
Margarett her true and lawful executor of all the rest
of her goods whatsoever
probatum est et solvit
Testes Jo: Cowley Jo: Corraige} Jurati

Tho: Cowley hath past his word thaan inventory shall be
brought in within 14 days

sub pena double value