THE SISTERS

Lucy and Catherine Mylrea married brothers, John and Robert Quayle, towards the end of the 18th century. These marriages created a large (but relatively short-lived) dynasty, mostly in Castletown although as the generations matured, some found new lives well away from the Isle of Man.

The young women were the daughters of Reverend William Mylrea, and born 12 yearsapart, in 1756 and 1768 respectively. Their family's "patch" was in the north of the Isle of Man, in the parishes of Ballaugh and Andreas. This clan was first recorded in the 1495 Manorial Roll when John Mcgilrea occupied an estate known as the *Dollough* in Ballaugh. As one of the influential families on the island, and over time, several would also be found in the power strongholds of Peel and Castletown. The Mylrea's authority came largely through political influence – as Deemsters, Attorneys General and Churchmen – although over the generations, they also accumulated property and wealth, and important connections.

Their father was a third son so never destined to inherit the *Dollough* estate. However, their mother Ellinor (Gell) was a woman of wealth and William himself was the Archdeacon of Man from 1760 until his death in 1787. As such, the young women were well-placed to marry to advantage, and this they did when they married the Quayle brothers.

Just as the Mylrea clan had a long history in Ballaugh, so too did this Quayle clan have a history in the southern parish of Malew. They were first recorded in the parish in 1602[1] when a forebear acquired the *Ballatrollag* estate. Like the Mylreas, these Quayles had become mostly urban dwellers but unlike the Mylreas, they were engaged in business as opposed to governance. Like the Mylreas, these Quayles were prosperous although the Mylreas less so. At the time of their marriages, the grooms were also engaged in the lucrative brewing business in Castletown and each had inherited extensive property in Castletown and surrounding district from parents Robert and Kath (Kewn) around 1800.

Although the sisters' surname was no longer Mylrea once they married, many of their descendants carried the Mylrea name. Lucy named a son Robert Mylrea Quayle, and Catherine's daughter was Catherine Mylrea Quayle. Also in their family trees were Mylrea Tellet Quayle, Lucy Mylrea Dickson, Lucy Mylrea Crellin and Edward Mylrea Jeffcott

[1] LV Malew 1602: Charles Moore to William Quaile (sic). Rent 19s 10d

The New Dynasty

It is reasonable to suggest that the introduction of the Mylrea sisters into this Quayle clan changed the character of this Quayle family. The marriages brought important island-wide connections and powerful networks not hitherto enjoyed by the Quayles. From those marriages emerged new ambitions and expectations that capitalized on the wealth already held by the Quayles.

By the time of the marriages, the descendants of William Quayle (the original holder of *Ballatrollag*) had a solid economic foundation, probably given impetus under the recent entrepreneurial guidance of the grooms' parents, Robert Quayle snr and Kath Kewn[2]. The brewing trade[3] they conducted would have been lucrative in itself, but Robert snr had also invested in property, mostly in Castletown, of which his holdings were significant. In the LV of October 1793 and May 1793, the extent of the fortune amassed by Robert snr was evident. He left his older son John lands in the treens of Scarlett and Greneby and intack 149. He left his younger son Robert jnr lands in KK Michell (probably *Ballawoods* estate) and Scarlett treems, intack 103 and cottages 8, 11, 16, 21, 22. By this time, John had also embarked on a business partnership with Major John Taubman, acquiring Cottages 2, 4, 6 as well as intacks 116, 149, 153. He had not reached the age of 40, and his brother Robert jnr was not yet 30.

Throughout the generations, Lucy's and Catherine's descendants shared many traits, as might be expected from this branch of the Mylrea family. They were prosperous; their sons and sons-in-law were educated at King William College; several became MHKs, or practised law, or held positions of authority, including Parish Captain, Commissioner of Customs, and military appointments. In the beginning, most remained in Castletown or nearby Arbory yet by the third generation, some had ventured farther afield, travelling as far as Canada, South Africa and Ceylon (Sri Lanka) while those who remained melted into the social landscape of the island.

Each sister had just one surviving adult son who became a parent – John Quayle jnr (son of Lucy and John and b 1794) and Catherine Mylrea Quayle (daughter of Catherine and Robert and Catherine and b 1792). Thus the family fortunes were not immediately diluted by a large number of offspring. This situation changed significantly in the next generation however, when Lucy's granddaughter - Lucy Mylrea Dickson als Quayle had 14 children and Catherine's granddaughter, Catherine Mylrea Crellin, produced 11 children.

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[2] Ann Quayle Moore, niece of John and Robert Quayle via their older sister, Margaret, married William Kermode in 1810. He became a founding pastoralist in Tasmania. His sheep station was named *Mona Vale* from which he sent bales of wool to London, branded with the **Three Legs of Man.** Their daughter, Ann Kermode, was engaged to (but did not marry) John William Jeffcott, an Irishman. Probably connected to the John Moore Jeffcott who married Catherine's grand daughter, Catherine Mylrea Crellin

[3] Coincidentally, brewing had been a trade pursued in Ramsey by the girls' nephews, Daniel and Thomas Mylrea, sons of Rev Daniel Mylrea. In that instance however, their industry was brief because both nephews died at a relatively young age and without issue.

LUCY

(1756-1824)

Lucy, named after her grandmother, was the oldest child in the family of William Mylrea and Ellinor Gell. She was 27 years of age when she married John Quayle in 1783. Their Marriage Contract, mentioned in the wills of both Lucy's father and John's parents has not survived.

> *…. whereas my daughter Lucy Mylrea hath been lately provided for by Marriage Articles and Settlement ……*[4]
>
> *We leave and bequeath to our son John the sum of 100 pounds which he agreed to pay us by his Marriage Contrac……. t*[5]

Lucy might have brought a bible with her when she married John Quayle. It was probably she who inscribed the pages as members of the family were born or died. The bible itself was first printed in 1683 and minute by today's standards, measuring just 12 x 7 cm (5½ x 3 ins)[6] . The first entry is the date of Lucy and John's marriage, followed by the annotation of the births of the children, and the deaths of family members.

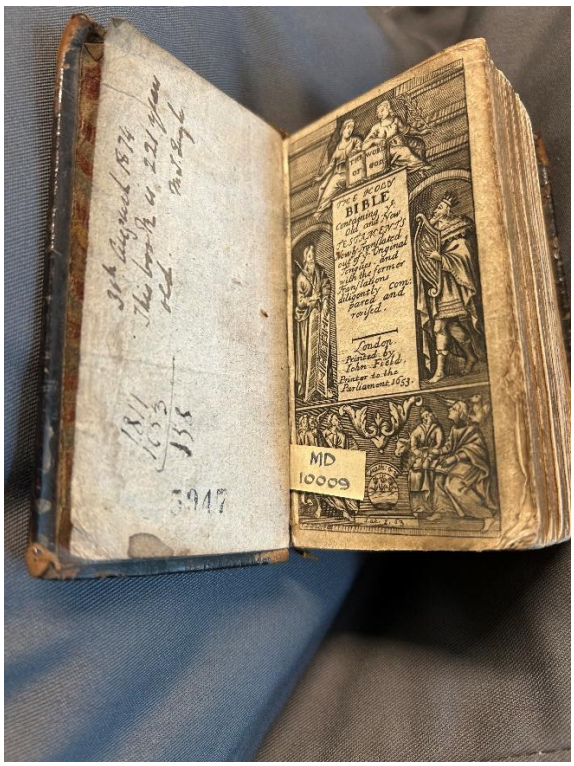
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[4] 1787 Will: Rev William Mylrea

[5] 1793 Will: John & Kath Quayle

[6] MS 05947 MD 10009, MNLA



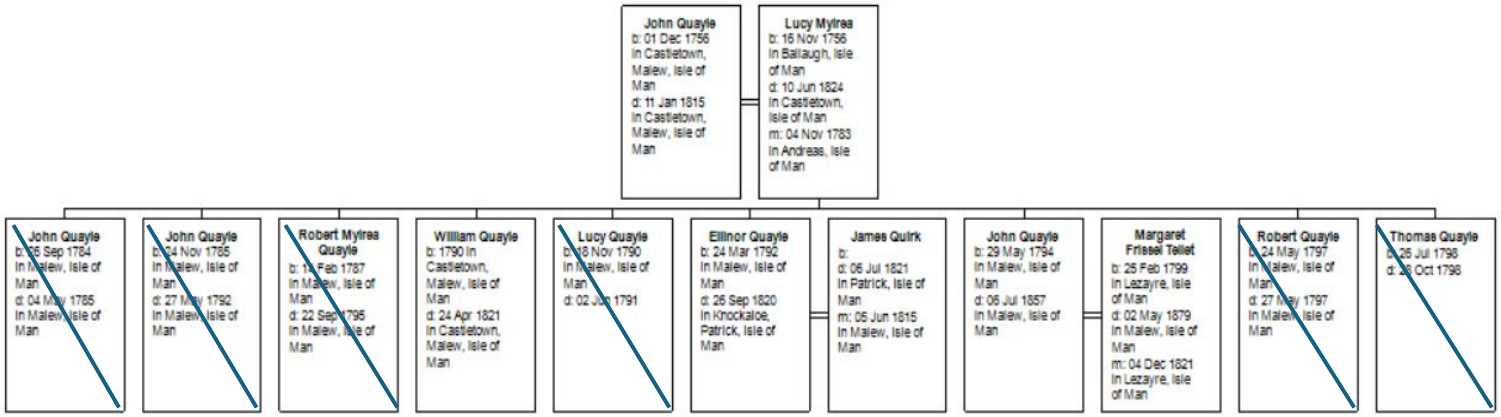


In 1794, John Quayle the brewer (Lucy's husband) was entered into the land records as the steward of the historic *Ballatrollag* estate. This came about, not because his father had died but because his uncle had settled the estate on him. In 1790, his uncle John Quayle, heir at law to the estate but about 70 years of age and childless, settled the lands on his nephew John[7], an action intended to ensure a smooth transition to the next generation. John was always destined to become the steward of *Ballatrollag*, but his father (Robert) was the heir at law had his (Robert's) older brother John snr predeceased him, which he did not.

Lucy's husband John became a substantial landholder in the parish of Malew. By the time he was 40, John held the historical quarterland of *Ballatrollag* with an additional quarterland of *Ballabeg* purchased by his parents, as well as the intack inherited from his father, and also the cottages purchased in partnership with John Taubman. Add the brewing trade to his portfolio and his assets were indeed considerable and valuable.

John and Lucy had a total of nine children between 1784 and 1798, but like so many families of the day, only three survived to adulthood and then only one lived to see his family grow up.

[7] SSS Oct 1793/56 Malew



From those nine children, only John survived while his sister Ellinor died in her 20s and brother William, unmarried, died at the age of 31.

MI Patrick Old & New Yards:

> Sacred to the memory of Mrs ELEANOR QUIRK alias QUAYLE wife of JAMES QUIRKE Esq of Knockaloe who died 26th September 1820 aged 28 years. Also to the memory of JAMES QUIRK Esq of Knockaloe husband of the above who died 6th July 1821 aged 26 years. Also to the memory of their three children John James who died 7th March 1817, aged 9 months John who died in 1820 aged 7 months. And James John who died at Durham, August 1834 aged 16 years

John died in 1815, after just over 30 years of marriage, and did not leave a will. Lucy died in 1824. For all of their good fortune, they were dogged by the early or tragic deaths of many of their children and grandchildren. Only their Dickson grandchildren lived long and productive lives, yet they had very few children carry this Mylrea-Quayle dynasty into another generation. Nevertheless Lucy lived to see her son John jnr marry although she could not have foretold that many of the children of John jnr would also fail to reach adulthood and that the youngest of them would abandon the Mylrea-Quayle legacy and leave the island forever.

John Quayle jnr

John jnr married Margaret Frissel Tellet in 1821. She was born in 1799 in Lezayre, a parish in the north of the island. Her father was Daniel Tellett esq, a man born in England but brought up at *Ballamoore* in Jurby who went to sea and traded to Antigua. He also had letters of marque (1783) in the American War of Independence and retired in 1786[8]. He was a merchant, but unlike the family of his future son in law, Daniel Tellet was very much focussed on interests overseas. By all accounts, his daughter Margaret was a beauty.

[8] Genealogical papers relating to the Tellet (Tillett) family and wider connections. imuseum.im



Mr John Quayle (1793-1857), M.H.K., 1826, Rushen House, Castletown. (*Source imuseum.im*)



Mrs Margaret Quayle (1799-1879) of Rushen House, Castletown. Born to a wealthy Manx family, Margaret Frissel Tellet was married to John Quayle (1793-1857), a member of the House of Keys. They were prominent 19th century society figures on the Island, and she became well known for her charitable and philanthropic works. Margaret was aged 27 at the time of the painting, and her family described it as being a very striking likeness. (*Source imuseum.im*)

Of their nine children,

- four sons served with distinction in the British military, notably John Edward Taubman Quayle, William Frederick Quayle & Mylrea Tellett Quayle in the army, and Daniel in the Navy - none married or had children. John, William and Daniel died in India. Mylrea came home to become an MHK 1874-1877

- son James Wilks Quayle, married barely six months, died in New Zealand at the age of 24

- their remaining two sons, Robert Thomas Quayle & George Parsons Quayle, remained in Castletown and carried on the brewing business; Robert did not marry and died when he was only 38; George married Mary Butler Brown and had four children, of whom only two survived past 20 years of age

- daughters Margaret Frissel Quayle (m Patrick Taubman Cuninghame) had no children while Lucy Mylrea Quayle (m widower Edward John Dickson, a military man) had 14 children of whom only one died at a young age.

George Parsons Quayle

George was the youngest of the brothers, and the longest liver of all of the offspring of John jnr and Margaret. He was named after the vicar at St Mary's where he and his siblings had been baptised.

He married Mary Butler Brown in 1869 and their Marriage Contract laid bare the extent of the wealth that came to them[9]. It identified houses and lands in various parts of the island, as well as funds due to both he and Mary Butler Brown, and legacies from his brothers. This couple were exceedingly wealthy. George had been also a partner in the Quayle's brewing business with his brother Robert Thomas until Robert's untimely death in 1867.

George and Mary soon had four children:

- John Robert (1870)
- George Cuninghame (1871)
- Cecily Frances (1974)
- Margaret Cuninghame (1875)

Two of the children died prematurely, and the other two lived well into old age. Margaret died when she was a child of eight, and George soon after WW1. John Robert left the Isle of Man at an early age to create a life in Ceylon (Sri Lanka). He also maintained a base in Hampshire where he can be found in Directories from 1911 onwards, ultimately going to Hove in his later years. Cecily never married and lived most of her life on Jersey, which might seem a surprising choice but her uncle, husband of Lucy Mylrea Dickson, came from Jersey and the connections might have run deeper than the records reveal.

In 1881, with the death of his brother Mylrea Tellet Quayle, George Parson Quayle became the sole legatee of the Mylrea-Quayle assets, which were considerable and included the *Ballatrollag* estate.

Thus far, George's life path was fairly predictable, marrying, having a family and running the brewing business. However, in the early 1880s, coinciding with his becoming heir-at-law and not yet 40 years old, he began selling off the family assets. Within a decade or so, he and Mary were living on the Isle of Wight.

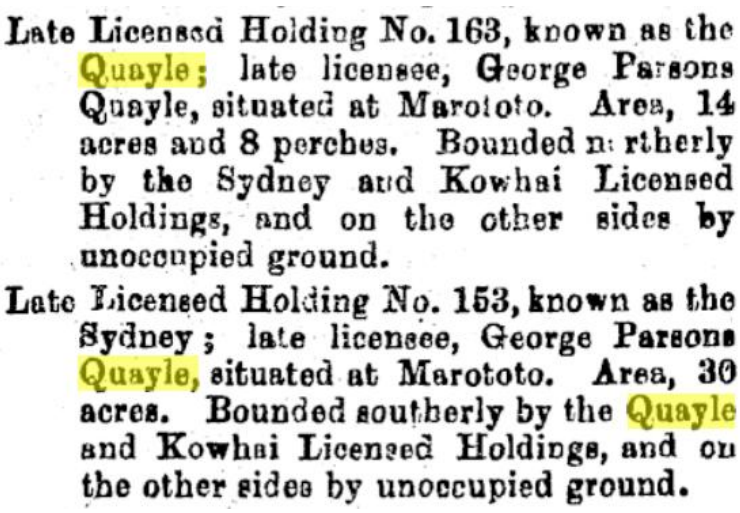
The motivation for leaving Castletown was not immediately apparent but perhaps the death of his younger daughter in 1883 at the age of eight was a catalyst. Between 1880 and 1890, George engaged in as many as 30 transactions, most of which were sales of the lands and dwellings and the occasional hotel that were identified in his Marriage contract. There followed in the next decade another 12+ transactions and several more in the new century. The extent of these sales was a strong indication that George was cutting his ties with Castletown and indeed, the Isle of Man.

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[9] September 1869 #1 Marriage Contract George Parsons Quayle & Mary Butler Brown

The goldmine debacle

In 1889, George was embroiled in a mining scandal. Early in the year, Quayle Mining Company was floated, proclaiming that gold was to be found in the South Island of New Zealand. The story began oddly because the individual who applied for the initial Miners' License in New Zealand was William Quayle, no immediate relation of George Parsons Quayle. A month after the float, the project was abandoned after accusations of it being a swindle, although the reason publicly given by the directors, including George, was that they were "dissatisfied with the value of the property". All monies were returned to the investors, and the assets, such as they were, were sold[10]. Presumably George had invested in some of the preliminary expenses, such as miners' licenses, infrastructure and legal requirements and presumably he lost money on the outcome.



Late Licensed Holding No. 163, known as the Quayle; late licensee, George Parsons Quayle, situated at Marototo. Area, 14 acres and 8 perches. Bounded northerly by the Sydney and Kowhai Licensed Holdings, and on the other sides by unoccupied ground.

Late Licensed Holding No. 153, known as the Sydney; late licensee, George Parsons Quayle, situated at Marototo. Area, 30 acres. Bounded southerly by the Quayle and Kowhai Licensed Holdings, and on the other sides by unoccupied ground. [11]

It is difficult to say that this singular event was the catalyst for George and Mary to leave the Isle of Man although his reputation and financial situation must have taken a serious blow. However, since he had already engaged for almost a decade in the selling off of so many of the family assets, the gold mine disaster might simply have been the final straw.

Isle of Wight

In 1898, he sold the family's brewing assets, namely the buildings and the land on which they stood to the Castletown Brewing Company for £6,000, after leasing it to the Company in 1891. Less than six months later, he sold Rushen House for £500 to Thomas Cowell who on-sold it within days to Thomas Kinvig for £517/10. These two properties were probably jewels in the Quayle crown and their sale coincided with his purchase of the lease on Yarborough House on the Isle of Wight. This was a salubrious dwelling, occupied on previous occasions by Dowager Viscountess Lifford

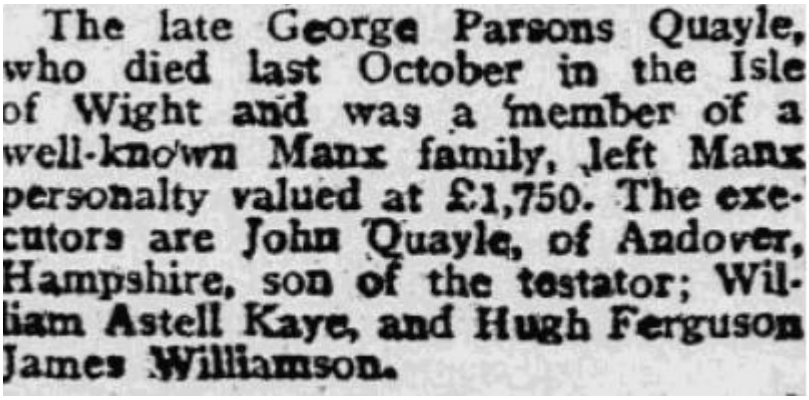
[10] Thames Star, Volume xxi, Issue 6214, 11 March 1889, Page 2

[11] Mining Notices Thames Star, Volume XXI, Issue 6429, 19 November 1889, Page 4

and her two youngest daughters in the 1850s, followed by Prince and Princess Anatole Bariantinsky. The Quayles most likely purchased the lease for Yarborough house from Major-General George Augustus Williams.



By the 1821 Census, and a decade before his death, George was not living at Yarborough House although he was still on the Isle of Wight. Instead, he described himself as a boarder, so perhaps a Care or Retirement facility in Ryde. Obituaries for him make for interesting reading. Clearly almost nothing remained on the Isle of Man of the Quayle legacy …….



The late George Parsons Quayle, who died last October in the Isle of Wight and was a member of a well-known Manx family, left Manx personalty valued at £1,750. The executors are John Quayle, of Andover, Hampshire, son of the testator; William Astell Kaye, and Hugh Ferguson James Williamson.

[12]

And he had taken up a pursuit not necessarily associated with the leisured classes of the Isle of Man, notably sailing

[12] Peel City Guardian 11/2/1933

THE FUNERAL—of Mr. George Parsons Quayle, of Le Blanc, The Strand, a former member of the Royal Victoria Yacht Club, and of the Bembridge Sailing Club, and of the former I.W. Gun Club, took place at the Cemetery on Monday, where the ashes were interred after cremation. The mourners were Mr. and Mrs. John Quayle, Miss Quayle, Capt. and Mrs. Elwes, Mrs. Harris, Mr. Bartlett, Mr. G. Fardell, Mrs. Dyke, and Miss Orton. Mr. C. Langdon was the undertaker.

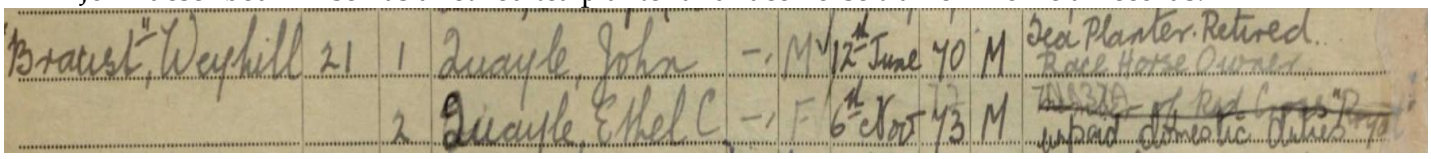
[13]

The children

Cecily was an enigma. When her mother Mary died in 1907, Cecily was her legatee. Both of her brothers also made bequests to her. She never married and resided with her parents on the Isle of Wight in the 1901 census, but not in the 1911 collection (when she was a 35 year old visitor to a couple in London) nor in the 1921 collection. She died at the age of 95 on Jersey in the Channel Isles, having lived there for over 50 years. There is no record of what she was doing there. She left legacies of cash and jewelry, with a little furniture, mostly to friends. Her cousin Mylrea Dickson received several pieces of Quayle memorabilia.

John Robert Quayle was difficult to trace after his baptism in 1870. It turns out that he had become a tea planter in Ceylon (Sri Lanka), probably in his 20s. Records show him as the manager of the Spring Valley plantation from1890-1898 then the manager of New Valley until 1906 when he became the owner of that plantation. His wife was Ethel Coralie Duncombe whom he married in 1900. She was English and they maintained their connections by dividing their time between Ceylon and Andover in Hampshire, not a great distance from the Isle of Wight. They appear on many shipping lists, travelling between Ceylon and the UK.

John described himself as a retired tea planter and race horse trainer in official records.



[14]

He had his father's power of attorney in 1920 when George sold property in Foxdale on the Isle of Man. The signature on the document might well have been John Robert's but

[13] Isle of Wight County Press (Newport, Isle of Wight, England Oct 1932

[14] 1939 England & Wales Register

he did not reside in Atholl Street, nor was he an accountant so it's more likely to be one of several John Robert Quayles on the island who were no relation, but of a similar age[15].

WHEREAS the Vendor by Deed dated the 22nd day of April One Thousand Nine Hundred and Twenty appointed his son JOHN QUAYLE his Attorney with power (inter alia) to sell the property hereby conveyed and described

AND also

Signed and delivered by the Purchaser in presence of :-

John R. Quayle

46 atholl Street
Douglas. accountant.

No mention is made of children in any of the relevant records, including the wills of John Robert and Ethel. John died at the age of 86, and Ethel reached the age of 100. It seems that John Robert still owned the plantation when he died in 1957[16]. Ethel too mentioned interests in Ceylon, which after her death were to be given to St Dunstan's. Curiously, St Dunstan's might have been an Institute for men and women blinded on war service that was located in Hove, where both John robert and Ethel spent their final years.

Presumably the dynasty that had its genesis when Lucy Mylrea married John Quayle of *Ballatrollag* estate in Malew in 1783 came to an end in 1957, not quite two hundred years later. What is somewhat curious is that neither John nor Cecily seemed to possess much Quayle memorabilia. Cecily left the Quayle silver and a portrait of Margaret Frissell Cuninghame to her cousin Edward Mylrea Dickson, and several small items were donated to the Manx Museum but by persons unknown. It is an open question as to what happened to the treasured possessions that had been accumulated by Lucy and John, then Margaret and John.

Ballatrollag Estate

The fate of *Ballatrollag* is unknown. Stewardship of the estate, acquired initially in 1602, eventually descended from John Quayle (Lucy's husband) to their son John jnr after the death of John snr in 1815. When John jnr died in 1857, stewardship became a vexed matter, as one heir at law after the other died at a young age:

- John Edward Taubman Quayle died in 1859 (two years after his father); then
- Robert Thomas Quayle in 1867; then
- Mylrea Tellet Quayle in 1880[17]; and finally

[15] SSS 8 Nov 1920

[16] 1957 John Quayle Will

[17] Mylrea Tellet Quayle was of unsound mind for several years prior to his death

- George Parsons Quayle, the youngest of the brothers, in 1881 and the only one of their sons to have children[18].

JOHN EDWARD TAUBMAN QUAYLE
(1824-1859)



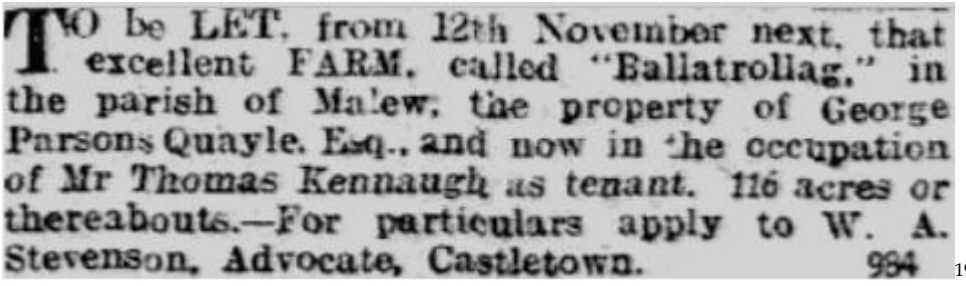
(*Source imuseum.im*)

WILLIAM FREDERICK QUAYLE
(1828-1851)



(*Source imuseum.im*)

A search of the Manx land records does not reveal the transfer of the tenancy to the only surviving son of George Parsons Quayle, John Robert Quayle as heir at law after the death of his father in 1932. Nor do the records list its sale by either George or John Robert. Certainly a 1906 advertisement confirms that the property was still in George's hands.



TO be LET, from 12th November next, that excellent FARM, called "Ballatrollag," in the parish of Malew, the property of George Parsons Quayle, Esq., and now in the occupation of Mr Thomas Kennaugh as tenant. 116 acres or thereabouts.—For particulars apply to W. A. Stevenson, Advocate, Castletown. 934

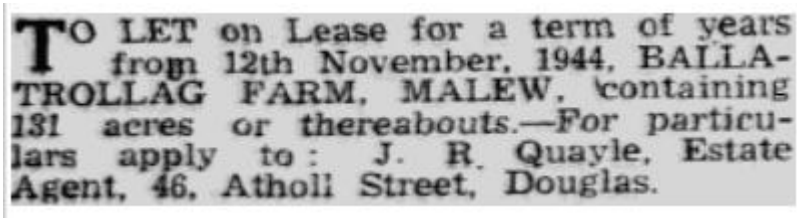
[19]

Lord's Rent was abolished in 1911, probably because record keeping in some areas had become quite poor in the preceding years. The deeds themselves then became legal proof of ownership. It was possible to remove the hereditary nature of a tenancy by sale

[18] Second youngest son James Wilks Quayle had married but died within a year of his marriage

[19] Isle of Man Times, 28/4/1906

to a trusted purchaser who then sold it back to the original owner, a useful means to avoid the obligations and constraints that were imposed on an heir-at-law. With his son John Robert established as a tea planter in Ceylon in the early 1900s, it seems likely that George used this change in legislation to dispose of *Ballatrollag*, given that (a) he was by now living on the Isle of Wight, and (b) John Robert showed no interest in returning to the Isle of Man.


TO LET on Lease for a term of years from 12th November, 1944, BALLA-TROLLAG FARM, MALEW, containing 131 acres or thereabouts.—For particulars apply to: J. R. Quayle, Estate Agent, 46, Atholl Street, Douglas.

Note in the 1944 advertisement above that (a) the farm now comprised 131 acres, probably the result of joining B*allatrollag* with the *Ballabeg* lands and (b) that the contact was J.R. Quayle, not the son of George Parsons Quayle but a real estate agent[20].

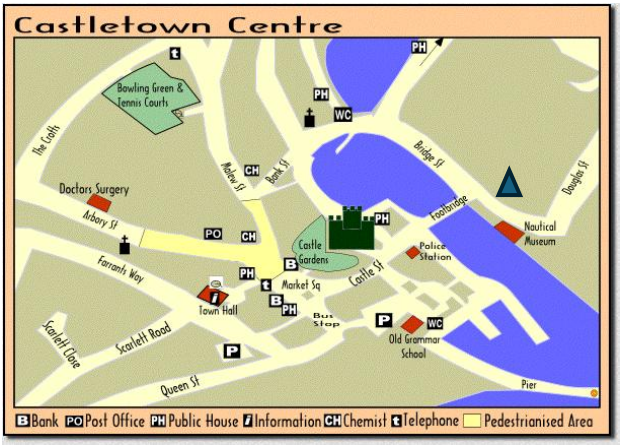
Rushen House

This dwelling was the home of John Quayle jnr and Margaret throughout their lives. Margaret lived there alone after her husband died and her children had gone. In her final years, she had the company of her sister Charlotte. Bachelor son Mylrea Tellet Quayle also lived in the house on his return to civilian life, and later their youngest son, George Parsons Quayle with his family, lived there briefly after Margaret's death in 1879. The earliest record of their residence in the house is 1826, noted in their portraits above.

The house remains standing today. It is at the sea end of Bridge Street (also known as Douglas Street) and across the road from Bridge House, the home of another Quayle clan. It was quite near to the brewery, and adjacent to Lorn House. Rushen House was sold by George in 1898.

[20] Isle of Man Examiner 1/9/1944. Contact name is the same, contact address is the same, but the occupation is different





The Quayle Daughters

Both daughters of John jnr and Margaret had Marriage Contracts. Each trust remained under the control of Quayle family members with clauses that referred to the girls' exclusive use of income, but the intent of these contracts was quite different

- Margaret Frissel Quayle was 18 years old when she married 26 year old Patrick Taubman Cuninghame in 1853. The marriage contract lodged all of Cuninghame's property – which was extensive and spread over several parishes on the island - into a trust, but Margaret was never his heiress (although any children of the marriage would have been). The original contract ran to 13 pages, and identified lands in Arbory, Malew, Rushen, Patrick, Michael and Lezayre, as well as Lorn House[21].

  The Cuninghame family was Scottish and claimed B*allanorris* and *Ballavarish* in Arbory as their principal tenancies on the Isle of Man. The second of five children, Patrick was only five years old when his father died and seven when his mother died. The underage family must have been taken to Scotland where Patrick was educated in Edinburgh, at Merchiston Castle Academy[22]. He apparently excelled in his schooling. His brothers both died in military service, and his sisters never returned to the island.

  At the age of 23, Patrick become heir at law to the family's fortunes when his older brother William died in Halifax in 1850. He was also a JP and an MHK, like his father and grandfather. His younger brother, Robert, was the spokesperson for Margaret's surviving Quirk nephew and years later, Patrick was designated as the guardian of his wife's younger siblings after her father died in 1857.

[21] May 1853 Malew #1

[22] The school continues to function in 2026

Patrick Cuninghame died in 1872, 44 years old, with no children from the marriage. Under the terms of her Marriage Contract, should he die first (which he did), Margaret could enjoy half of the proceeds (rents) that came from the properties in the Trust for life, and would have a life interest in Lorn House.

However, the heirship situation was not straightforward. Patrick's entire estate was entailed and destined for his older sister, Margaret Christian Joanna Cuninghame, since his younger brother Robert had died in 1855. This sister never married and when she died in 1885, her heir at law was her sister's only son, James Stewart-Robertson. Thus, James was also heir to Patrick Taubman's estate[23].

In 1877, five years after her husband died, Margaret married Edward Ferrier, a military chaplain in Castletown, a widower, and the father of 9 children. Ironically, Ferrier and his family were living next door to Margaret's brother, George Parsons Quayle and family in Arbory Road in the 1870s. Just days prior to her remarriage, she negotiated with Patrick's heir at law to leave the assets intact and within the Trust, so as to not split the assets and also to confirm that Edward Ferrier could never lay claim to any of the life interest benefits within the Trust should Margaret predecease him.

Margaret was living in Arbory Road when she died in 1907. She made bequests mainly to her stepchildren, remembering also her remaining brother George Parsons Quayle and her niece Margaret Cuningham Stewart-Robertson to whom she passed their respective family valuables.

Because she held a life interest in Lorn House, Margaret was able to offer a home to her sister Lucy Mylrea Dickson and her very large family in this beautiful mansion. This they did for about two decades. Mother of both Margaret and Lucy, Margaret Frissel Quayle, lived almost next door in Rushen House.

Lorn House

Lorn house was perhaps rebuilt from a former building on the site by the Cuninghame family in 1828. It became part of the legacy that Patrick Taubman Cuninghame brought in his marriage to Margare Frissel Quayle, and where she lived for several decades

> *Robert Cuninghame, son of Wm Cuninghame and Christian Taubman, had the house built and lived there until Robert's early death in 1832; his widow died in 1834. The architect for these alterations was possibly Thomas Brine - much of the work bears a strong resemblance to his other work in Castletown. However, in 1834 the house was empty following the deaths of (sons) Robert and Christian and available for rent to the new Lt Governor Colonel John Ready*[24].

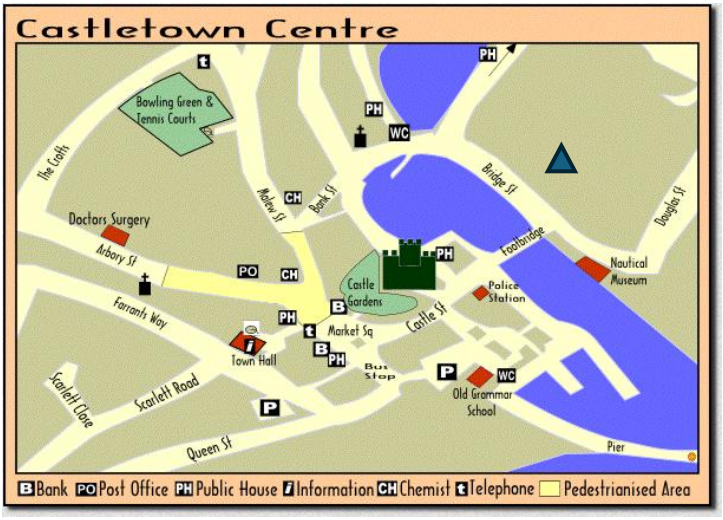
[23] https://www.john-dickson.com/news-article/news-john-dickson-son-february-2026

[24] Manx Notebook



LORN HOUSE

This magnificent Georgian house had many occupants since its revival. It was the governor's residence until Patrick's marriage, and it passed out of Cuninghame hands in1893 to Henry Bloom Noble. It was sold in 1907 to Col Henry Wickham Stevenson, and later served as a holiday camp, then as the offices of commercial enterprises. It was fully restored in about 2007, and in 2026 is on the market for £6.85m.



- Lucy Mylrea Quayle married widower, Edward John Dickson, when she was about 21 years of age. Her contract established a trust that, unlike her sister's, contained only a £2,000 bequest from the Quayle family. Over time, this bequest

was supplemented by inheritances from her mother and from her brothers. The original contract made no mention of any contribution by Dickson. Dickson, a captain when he married Lucy, rose to the rank of Major General during his lifetime.

Lucy Mylrea Quayle and Edward John Dickson had fourteen children, only one dying in infancy. None of their four daughters married, and several sons also eschewed marriage. Perhaps it was the freedom that came from private means, probably Quayle family trusts. Mary Jane, the youngest daughter, died in South Africa during a routine surgical procedure to remove several teeth when she was 24 years of age[25]. One would guess that she was visiting her brother, John Quayle Dickson, a prominent farmer in the Fort Beaufort district in the Eastern Cape Province in South Africa. The other three women were content to live at home with their parents and remaining brothers. For some unexplained reason, Lucy was living with daughters Lucy Mylrea and Margaret Frissel in Paddington in 1911. The three daughters died in England in very different locations, suggesting they did not grow old together.

Of the nine surviving Dickson sons, four became fathers - John Quayle Dickson, Frederick Tellet Dickson, Godwin Gell Dickson and Reginald Jeffcott Dickson. These sons scattered to the four winds – some across the sea to the United Kingdom, others further afield to Canada and South Africa. Of the children born to the four brothers, just one son lived to produce a family, and his family comprised 4 daughters. The Dickson name had disappeared from the family tree of Edward John and Lucy Mylrea.

	Employment	**Notes**	**Children**	**Died**
1. Anna Louisa	Own means			43
2. John Quayle	military	Military – peripatetic	Annie Sarah Edward John Quayle (d 1917)	83
3. Lucy Mylrea	Own means			68
4. Graham Joseph	Military (Major)			84
5. Margaret Frissell	Own means			89
6. James Cuninghame	Bank manager	Died on IOM Left to Ernest Holmes L		68
7. Mary Jane	Own means	Died in South Africa		24
8. Frederick Tellet	Newsagent/ accountant	Wales Left assets to wife	Frederick James Bertram (d 1966)	61

[25] https://www.eggsa.org/newspapers/index.php/grahamstown-journal/grahamstown-journal-1892-11-november

			Irene Louisa	
9. William Poingcleshe	Engineer?	Migrated to Canada 1896 Died in Canada		78
10. Godwin Gell		Died in Canada	Mary Olivia Ruth Quayle	43
11. Ernest Holmes L.	Engineer	Left assets to wife Died after surgery		81
~~2. George Bertram~~		Died in infancy		
13. Reginald Jeffcott	Clergyman	Went to Cambridge	**Edward Mylrea** Reginald Graham (d 1945)	62
4. Henry Bertram	Lawyer?	Migrated to Canada 1912 Enlisted in the USA 1918		76



(*Source: Imperial War Museums*)

John Quayle-Dickson, DSO (10 or 20 November 1860 – January 1945) was a British military officer and Colonial Service administrator.

He was the son of Major General Edward John Dickson of The Green, Castletown, Isle of Man and his wife Lucy Mylrea née Quayle, and educated at King William College in the Isle of Man.

During the Boer War, he was a captain in Field Intelligence and awarded the DSO. From 1903-1909, he was adviser on native affairs to the government of the Orange River Colony. Dickson was posted to the Gilbert and Ellice Islands as resident commissioner in September 1909. Dickson arrived with bumptious confidence and announced that he intended to reform the machinery of government. He was not a success in this post: administrative incompetence, financial ineptitude and the embarrassment caused when he supported the native Banabans against the Pacific Phosphate Company, led the Secretary of State to express his grave displeasure.

He then left for Buenos Aires and South Georgia without making adequate arrangements for a stand-in. On his return he proposed to sack several senior officials: Montague Craigie-Halkett, WA Thompson the colonial treasurer and E B Binnie the magistrate in South Georgia. Dickson was next sent to the Falkland Islands as colonial secretary in 1913. From that month to April 1914, he administered the government during the leave of Governor Allardy[26]. When Allardyce returned he was not amused: Dickson was sent home on 10 June and his services were terminated by the Colonial Office in September 1914.

During World War I, he was commandant of a prisoner of war camp in the Isle of Man (Knockaloe).

His pension was still being paid in 1944.

[26] Source: Wikipedia, *Dictionary of Falklands Biography*