

*AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF POLE COSBY, OF  
STRADBALLY, QUEEN'S COUNTY, 1703-1737(?)*

(From a manuscript in the possession of his descendant, Col. Robert A. G. Cosby, of Stradbally Hall.)

Dudley Cosby was married (to Sarah Pole Daughter to Periam Pole of Ballyfin in the Queens County Esq.) the 18th of Aprill 1699.

Sarah Cosby eldest daughter to Dudly and s<sup>d</sup> Sarah was Born the 2nd of Aprill 1700.

Elizabeth Cosby second daughter to s<sup>d</sup> Dudly and Sarah was born 6 March 1701.

I Pole Cosby only son of s<sup>d</sup> Sarah and Dudly was Born 26 minutes after 6 o'clock in the morning of the 14th of Aprill 1708.

Periam Pole Father of my Mother Sarah Cosby, was 3rd son of Sir William Pole Barronet of Shute near Exeter in Devonshire in the Kingdom of England, his eldest brother Sir William inherited his Father's estate and title, and his Grandson Sir

Pole an Episcopal Minister now (1784) inherits y<sup>e</sup> estate and lives at Shute in Devonshire. My Grandfather and two of his Brothers did come over here into Ireland in the year 1660, Nathaniel the eldest of the three purchased a large estate in the County of Meath and built a fine large house at Garrats-town and he lived there till he died which was about the year 1690, he left his whole estate having no issue maile to his next brother (my Grandfather) Periam Pole and his male issue, his (Nathaniel's) eldest daughter married Mr. Richard Segar of Red Castle in the Queens County against the consent of her father and he gave her no fortune y<sup>t</sup> I ever heard of. She dyed in child bed of her first child Susanna Segar who married William Trench of y<sup>e</sup> County of Gallaway but now of Barny Kill<sup>1</sup> in y<sup>e</sup> Queens County by whom she had five sons and two daughters (the sons are Frederick Segar, John William, and Richard, the daughters are Elizabeth and Susanna. Nathaniel's second daughter was left by him (being somew<sup>t</sup> out of her senses) a rent charge on his estate in the county of Meath of £200. per annum. She was married to one Towers, she dyed a widdow of many years anno 1736. William Trench her nephew in law being her nearest relation was by Chancery

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<sup>1</sup> Recte, Ballinakill.

appointed her Gaurdian and he received the £200. per annum and maintained her but scurvily in Dublin for 20 years.

Theophilous the youngest was in the Army and was shot by accident in Dublin in the year or about the year 1675.

Periam Pole my grandfather dyed Summer 1704 and left my Mother a legacy of £400.

Periam Pole my G<sup>d</sup> Fa<sup>r</sup> was marryed to the widdow Sarah Blunt, who was his second wife, (who the first wife was I never heard more than y<sup>t</sup> she was an Englishwoman, y<sup>t</sup> he marryed in England before he came over to Ireland). Periam had by his s<sup>d</sup> wife Sarah, only two children, he was marryed to her anno dom. 1678 on y<sup>e</sup> 19 of January, he had one son and my mother, William his son was born y<sup>e</sup> 10th March 1680, Sarah my mother was born y<sup>e</sup> 21st of July 1682, Sarah my Grandmother was widdow of one Capt. John Blunt of Bolton in the county of Kildare. She was daughter of one Vincent an Alderman of the City of London, who came over to Ireland very soon after 1641 troubles, he had 7 daughters, w<sup>h</sup> he marryed considerably, the eldest to Ld. Blaney Great Grandfather to the present Lord Blaney, the second to Paul Esq. of the County of Carlow, the 3rd my Grandmother Sarah Pole, the 4th to one Col. Prettyman an English gentleman, the 5th to one Captain Bellgrave, the 6th to one Mr. Warren, the 7th to Henry Westenra of Dublin, Esq.

William Pole my mother's brother marryed (anno 1701) Annie Colley eldest daughter of Henry Colley of East Carbery<sup>1</sup> in the County of Kildare Esq and sister of Richard who changed his name from Colley to Wellesly on his Coz Germain Garrett Wellesley's death who left Dangan in y<sup>e</sup> County of Meath and a large estate of £6000 per annum to him in y<sup>e</sup> year 1729. William Pole had by s<sup>d</sup> Anne his wife 3 sons and 4 daughters, viz. Periam, Henry, and William, the daughters, viz. Sarah, Mary, Elizabeth, and Anne, Henry the 2nd son dyed a child, and Elizabeth the third daughter died at Ballyfin September y<sup>e</sup> 11th 1734, she was a maiden about 24 years of age, she left the Bulk of her fortune to her youngest sister Anne. My Uncle William Pole's widdow Anne survived him but a few years, she dyed the 23rd July 1735, she had a joynture but of £300. per annum. Both she and my Uncle were buried by my Grandfather and Grandmother Pole in the Chancel close to the south wall of Clonenagh Church as was Elizabeth their 3rd daughter. Periam Pole eldest son of William my Uncle was born y<sup>e</sup> 21 of December 1702.

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<sup>1</sup> Recte, Castle Carbury.

Paul alias Vinsent, daughter of Alderman Vincient my Great Grandfather was married to Paul of y<sup>e</sup> county of Carlow and by him had two sons viz. Jeffery and Joshua and 4 daughters viz. Rebecca, Hannah, Deborah, and Sarah. Jeffery the eldest son married the Widdow Peg, her maiden name was Annesley sister of Morris & Francis, & John, Annesley, all of the County Kildere & Francis of Ballyshannon in s<sup>d</sup> county. Jeffery never had any children by her and dyed at his seat Ballyragan in the county Kildare Anno 1720, he left his widdow £500 per annum joynture on his estate which he left to his brother Joshua who was a Col<sup>l</sup> in the Gaurds and lived in London, but on his getting the estate came over and lived in this Kingdom, and in y<sup>e</sup> year 1722 married one Miss Pooley only daughter of Pooley the Painter in Grafton Street Dublin. By her he got a very great fortune of at least £1200 per annum, by her he has (now) only one son Pooley Paul born 1723. Rebecca the eldest daughter married Humphry Minchin of Ballynakill in the county of Tiperary and had many children (I think 14) 12 lived to be men and women, there was 4 sons viz. Paul, Humphry, William and George, and 8 daughters, one was married to John Cardin of Templemore in the C: Tipperary, Elizabeth to Capt Mitchell of Stradbally, Hanna to one Counsellor Lucas of the Kings County, Anne to one Barnet of the County of Carlow, the other 4 are maidens. Paul the eldest son married Harriat Bumbury only daughter to Bumbury of Johnston in the county Carlow Esquire and sister to Henry of the same place, by her he has now (1737) 8 sons and one daughter, Humphry married one Miss and lives at Bushelstown in the Kings County, William dyed when he was 21 years old, George married one Miss Hemsworth and kept a Linnen drapers shop now (1737) in Bride Street Dublin.

Deborah my (Great) Aunt Paul's second daughter married Francis Annesley (above mentioned) of Ballyshannon in the county of Kildare Esq. and by her he had 5 or 6 children, only 4 daughters lived, viz. Charity who is still (1737) a maiden, and lives with her Widdow and double aunt Paul, Debora the 2nd daughter, married Robert Doyne of Wells in the County of Wexford Esquire anno 1732, they have young children. Elizabeth the 3rd daughter married Tom<sup>s</sup> Hughes of Archers-town in the County of Tiperary Esqre anno 1722, she died Autumn 1735 and left several sons and daughters behind her. Hannah married one Counsellor Spring of the County of Kerry anno 1733 and has now (1737) no children yt I know of.

Hannah 3rd daughter to my (Great) aunt Paul married

Archdeacon Neale of Mount Neale in y<sup>e</sup> county of Carlow by him she had a son (Cornelius) who dyed about the 15th year of his age about y<sup>e</sup> year 1717, and 2 daughters, viz. Deborah who ran away with and married John Bailey of Debsborough in the County of Tipperary Esq. in 1718, and by him had several children and he dyed anno 1733 and she married again in 1736 Henery Pretty of the Silver Mines. Martha the 2nd daughter married anno 1727 John Stradford of Baltinglass in the county Wicklow Esq. and they have seven daughters and at last anno 1736 one son. Archdeacon Neale died anno 1733 and his estate came to his 2 daughters.

Sarah 4th daughter to my (Great) aunt Paul married the 1st of January 1703 Rich<sup>d</sup> Meredith of Shrowland in the county of Kildare Esq. and she had by him 14 children, 8 dyed young and 6 are now (1737) alive, viz. 4 sons Robert, Paul, Moore, and Joshua, and 2 daughters Margaret, and Elizabeth. Robert y<sup>e</sup> eldest was married to my only sister Sarah Cosby on the 2nd of March 1730, Paul y<sup>e</sup> 2nd son, not very wise still (1737) a Batchelor. Moore y<sup>e</sup> 3rd son a most sensible and very learned man still (1737) a batchelor, he was educated at Westminster School & after at Cambridge. Joshua the 4th son still (1737) a batchelor. Margaret the eldest daughter was married 1731 to Mr. Charles Burton wine marchant, and has now (1737) 3 daughters and a blind son. Elizabeth the second daughter still (1737) a maiden.

That daughter of my Great Grandfather Vincent's that married Col. Prettyman had only one daughter, who married about the year 1698 Digby Barkeley of Ardriston in the county of Carlow Esquire by whom she had 3 sons viz. Henery, John and Digby and 2 daughters, viz. & Elizabeth. Henery had a very good fortune of £700 per annum and in nine years spent it and is now (1737) in a poor condition. John and Digby are still (1737) both batchelors and in the Army.

That daughter of my Great Grandfather Vincents y<sup>t</sup> marry'd Henry Westenra, had but one daughter, who was married to Simon Digby Bishop of Elphin, who both dyed in the year 1720, they had 3 sons and many daughters, John Digby of Landenstown in the county of Kildare Esq<sup>r</sup> is their eldest son, who maryed Mary Marsh niece to my wife, and he has a numerous issue. William y<sup>e</sup> 2nd son a clergyman mar<sup>d</sup> one Col. Frenches daughter and has no issue. Benjamin the 3rd son married Captain Jones of Osberstown's daughter. One daughter maryied one King of Jamestown another maryied one Graves a Minister of Geshill in the Kings County, one maryied Dean Marsh, one maryied one French, one married one Berthes.

The eldest daughter of my Great Grandfather Vincent married Lord Blaney.

That daughter of my Great Grandfather Vincents y<sup>t</sup> maryied Bellgrave had 2 daughters, one married one Richard Segare near Red Castle in the Q County who left two daughters whom I know no more of, and the other daughter ran away with and maryied one Plunkett a Taylor and a Papist and has a numerous issue whom I do not know.

That daughter of my Great Grandfather Vincents who married Warren had a son and 2 daughters, the son's name was Blaney, the daughters I do not know.

My Grandfather Periam Pole had a mortgage of £2000. of the Lordship of Stradbally, which £2000. was given by him for my mothers fortune.

1699. My father when he maryied my mother set up house-keeping at Stradbally and the year after he married he built the Big house that is the Hall, Big Staircase, and Big Parlour. My G-Fr. Pole gave him all the timber and 500 deal Boards to build it. He then planted a good many ditches and trees made the South hedge of y<sup>e</sup> avenue, enclosed y<sup>e</sup> kitchen garden and new orchard and set the hedges round 'em. He kept race horses which my G-Fr. Pole did not like and he gave him £100 on condition he wo'd never keep any more which he never strictly observed.

My eldest sister was born at Ballyfin, my sister Betty and I at Stradbally.

1703. My Fathers circumstances were so bad that it was thought best he sho'd go into the Army and he therefore borrowed £300. from William Doxy of Rahinahole with which he purchased a Capt<sup>s</sup> Commission in        Regiment. In 1704 he brook up house and let Stradbally to Major Lyons and he was sent out of peque by the Late Duke of Ormond (now James Butler) (because he wo'd not vote for him in Parl<sup>mt</sup>) to Spain with recruits, and thereby also got one vote out of the way and my F. chose rather to stay in Spain than return (for fear the Duke sho'd put him on some hard duty) so exchanged his Capts Commission by My Lord Gallaways advice with one Capt. Barry, and so my Father was in Spain till y<sup>e</sup> war was entirely ended, he was at many engagements but particularly at the Battle of Almanza where he very narrowly escaped. there were but 11 men of the regiment he was in but what were killed and two of the 11 were my father and my uncle Loftus Cosby. It must be observed y<sup>t</sup> the day of y<sup>t</sup> Battle my mother happened by chance to fast, and on her fast day she never stirred out of her room, and in the afternoon which

happened to be at the height of the Battle as she was reading, three drops of blood fell from her nose on the Book. She imagined it ominous and so set down y<sup>e</sup> hour and day, and by a letter soon after from my Father she found at that time he was in the greatest danger. My Father was then taken prisoner and was carryed to Dijon y<sup>e</sup> capital of Burgundy where he was for three years (note he was in Spain 2 years) and from there he got leave from y<sup>e</sup> Magistrates on his parole to make little tours to Switzerland Germany Paris and all over France. When my F. went to Spain in 1704 my mother went to live with my G-F. Pole who died as before mentioned July 1704 soon after she went to him. He left her £400 which she by Rich<sup>d</sup> Segar of Red Castle Esq, her trustee, gave to William Hartpole of Shrute Esq in Queens County for ever, to lye dead for two years and then to receive £60 per annum during her life, but if she died within the first two years then the £400 was to be repaid. My mother was to have lived with her Fa<sup>r</sup> whilst my F. was abroad, but he dyed in a short time after my mother went to him, but my Uncle Pole who loved my mother dearly made her wellcome to him during my F's absence and she lived with him most all y<sup>e</sup> summers at Ballyfin, and all y<sup>e</sup> winters at his house in Queen Street Dublin, and he was very kind and affectionate during the whole five years that she lived with him. When my F<sup>r</sup> went to Spain my sister Sarah lived with Cos. Towers who kept her intirely, my sister Betty lived with her nurse, and I was kept with my nurse Eliz: Holdbrook at Ire near Ballyfin till I was six years old and then my father at Dijon wrote to my mother to have my two sisters and me put to Portarlinton to School to learn french and accordingly we were lodged at one Capt Frankforts a frenchman's whose whole family talked french and some of them co'd not speak any English so we three learned french naturally and when we left Portarlinton we spoak it as well as English. My dear mother frequently and often came to see us every Summer y<sup>t</sup> is when she was in the country, Coz. Sulley Segar (after Coz. French) used to come and see us and sent for us to Red Castle where we went for a fortnight, it was after my mother went to England.

1709. My father returned to Ireland summer 1709 and stay'd in the Kingdom but till y<sup>e</sup> Michaelmas following, when he and my mother left Ireland, and went to live in London for cheapness, they went with a resolution to save till they had paid off as many debts as would make them easy. When they went they left us at P<sup>r</sup>arlinton but my sister Sarah was very soon after removed to one Mrs. Antribus a Boarding School in York

street in Dublin, and my sister Betty and I continued at Portarlinton till my F: & M: quitted London July 1710 and went to live at York in y<sup>e</sup> north of England, when they ordered William Lewis of Tullygore in the county Kildare their Agent to send us three over to York to them and accordingly Mr. Lewis sent us and Henery Holdbrook my nurse's husband with us to take care of us, Mr. Lewis provided all necessaries and saw us on ships board in Dublin harbour and we landed in two days at Parkgate near Chester in England, y<sup>e</sup> day we landed we went to Liverpool (the smallpox being at Parkgate) and lay there one night, the next day we traveled (I before Harry, my sister Sarah behind him, and sister Betty behind the guide) to Warrington and the next day to Manchester where my F: & M: met us. We stayd there about a week to rest us and till my F: & M: had settled my two sisters at a very great boarding school in Manchester kept by one Mrs. Hyde and there they fixed my two sisters, and went to York and carryed me with them, they lodged in the Pavement and I went to a reading school just by. They stayed there but one year and then went to lodge in Peter Gate near Boden Bar and I went to a reading school there for about half a year, then my F: was obliged to come over to Ireland to be elected K<sup>t</sup> of the shire for the Q. County and my M: and I came as far as Manchester with him where we stayed for half a year or more with my sisters till he returned, all the while we were at Manchester I went to school to the Colledge, when my father returned we went back to York (and left my sisters behind at Mrs. Hydies) we lodged in the same place as we did before. In about 2 or 3 months after we got to York my father put me to a Lattin and French School one Charles Daubus at Brotherton 20 miles from York and 3 from Pontfrat a very pleasant and large village on the river Air, Mr. Daubus was Minister of the Parish and a man of great learning, and kept but 8 boys at £12 per annum a piece and taught both french and Latin and dyeted washed and lodged for y<sup>t</sup>, here it was I had the smallpox in June 1712. I must tell how my father when he heard of the good fame of this school and resolved to place me there, he came to Mr. Daubus' and greed with him for me, and told him the day he would bring me. On y<sup>e</sup> day fixed he and my M: came with me there, and when we alighted at y<sup>e</sup> gate Mr. Daubus run out and took my father aside and told him y<sup>t</sup> since he had been there the smallpox was come into his house and came out to tell him least I should not have had it, my F: then told my M: and after a short Pause they said being Providence had ordered it so they would trust in it, and so I was left, and in about

a month after I fell ill of y<sup>e</sup> smallpox and my mother immediately came to me as soon as she heard it and stay'd with me till I was quite well.

1714. I was at this schooll till about May 1714 that was near two years, my Father and Mother 1712 lived still at York and my sisters at Manchester but anno 1713 my Father was obliged to come over to Ireland to be elected Knight of the shire for y<sup>e</sup> Q: C:, that is Sir Constantine Phipp's Parliament, and my mother went with him as far as Manchester where she stayed with my sisters during his absence and my sister Betty was very ill all the while and for a long time before with a violent houmour in her lips which was removed and then it went into her eyes, one of which she lost entirely y<sup>e</sup> sight of, and y<sup>e</sup> other was going, and my mother by the advice of Physicians put her in a salivation which she had not strength to go through with and dyed in it the 8th of March 1714. She was handsomely buried in the Collegiate Church in one of the niches on the north side.

1714. My Father returned from Ireland about Aprill 1714 called on my Mother and sister at Manchester and brought them to York to the old lodgings Mrs. Clays near Boden Bar in Peter Gate and as soon as he was a little settled, y<sup>t</sup> was in May, he came to Brotherton and paid Mr. Daubus all due and brought me to York and put me to the great Latin School which the Revd. Mr. Herbert kept in the upper room of the Market House in thursday market. Where I went constantly till May 1716, I also went to the Writing and Dancing School for those two last years. The 1st of August 1714 Queen Anne died (thank God) the news thereof came to York y<sup>e</sup> 3rd, and y<sup>e</sup> 4th early in the morn my father posted to London to see and sollicite for preferment. I must now tell how my father was a Capt and Breviat Major in Brigadier Whitemans Regiment, which was, all this while he was in England, quartered in Scotland, and as all he got by serving so long was Breviat Major, so he thought now the properest and most likely time for him to get something as he ever was a zealous Wig and voted ever in Parliament for the good of his country against the high tory faction, he was four or five months in London dancing attendance on Lord Sunderland then L<sup>d</sup> Lieut of Ireland, and other great Ministers of State, and he at last only obtained, y<sup>t</sup> if he wo'd resign his Capt<sup>s</sup> Commission which he had in Whiteman's Old Regiment he sho'd have a Lieut:-Colonelcy in one of the New regiments which was raised in Ireland, or else he sho'd have the liberty of giveing his Capt<sup>s</sup> commission to his brother Thom<sup>s</sup> Cosby, and have a Majority in one of the new regiments

in Ireland. He chose the latter, and so gave his commission to my Uncle Thomas and got a Majoraty in Brigadier Veseys new regiment in Ireland. This was all he ever got for the great dangers he run by sea, seiges, long marches, and many engagements and battles, and many fategues of a hot scorching climate. At about the end of five months he left London and came over to Ireland to his new post and now by his long absence from his own home, and liveing in a manner as an exile in a parsimonious way, and by lands encreasing in value and leases falling and thereby his estate riteing, he was in considerable circumstances, and so resolved to repair and refit his mansion House of Stradbally, in order to bring home his family and spend his days at home, and so the latter end of 1714, he began to improve Stradbally, he made y<sup>e</sup> avenue that is, planted the trees, he built the Bridges going to it, added the Drawing-room to the big house next to the Big parlour, he winscoted the second floor entirely, floored the garret, built the Back stairs to the big house, built and finished the road to the Big house, made the big stairs, winscoted and floored the little Parlour and finished in a plain way the second floor of the little house, built a Brew house, walled the garden at the N: E: end of the house, also the Partarre, he laid out the new kitchen garden and planted it all with the choicest fruits, and planted the orchard at the N: W: side of the garden, he did all this and a good dail more in about 18 months time, and in Aprill 1716 he came over to York to bring us over, and on the 30th of Aprill 1716, we left York and arrived in Dublin the 7th of May 1716 and at Stradbally the 13th. At this time my Fathers rent roll of the L<sup>d</sup>s<sup>ps</sup> of Stradbally and Timahoe was £1100 per annum and the debts on the estate were £3450 at £8. per cent per annum, y<sup>t</sup> was £276. per annum y<sup>t</sup> he paid interest. The Church at Stradbally at this time was in a most dolefull ruinous condition and my father mostly at his own expense put it in a much better way than it was. When my Grandfather Alexander Cosby dyed the town of Stradbally was no town, no nor even a village, for there were (as before told) but two stone houses in it and those but about six feet high, and a few mud and wattled walled cabins. It was about the year 1698 that William Dod (who was my grandfathers Buttler) built the house that is two stories high on the south east corner of the Market House. In 1700 Mr. Israel Mitchell built the house which Mr. Higgins now (1737) lives in.

My father also about this time built four other small stone houses and got money from the County to build a Bridge over the river next the Church, which he built with 5 arches,

and the Bridge was but ten feet broad and two cawseways on each end very narrow and dangerous, y<sup>e</sup> Bridge next the town over the Mill course was not ten feet broad, it was built in my Grandfathers time, the Mills of Stradbally were Mills time out of mind.

It was about 1697 or 1698 that Mr. Israel Mitchell came to settle and live at Stradbally, he was a Shearman and Cloathier in Dublin and kept a sort of a stuff and cloth shop in Meath street, and used to come down (at first by chance) to buy wooll for his trade, and at last became acquainted with my father, and after some time they came to an agreement for some holdings in this town, and he promised to my F<sup>r</sup> y<sup>t</sup> he would set up the woollen manufactory and w<sup>t</sup> not, but all he did towards it (which was nothing) he built that which is y<sup>e</sup> porch at Mr. Higgins for a shop and brought down all his own goods that he co'd not sell, and made the Porch his shop and when he had sold all that he at first brought down then he kept no more shop but shut it up and so ended the woollen manufactory that he talked and promised so much to my Father. It was about the year 1714 that the said Israel Mitchell built at the Abby, a great part of which he did pull down to build his dwelling house.

1717. There was a little low Hassel Scrub with some few oak and ash behind, which is west of the gardens called Augnecalleigh, and my Father cut it close to the ground, then marked out the walls, stubbed and levelled them and planted them, and 1718 he made y<sup>e</sup> walk from y<sup>e</sup> garden to y<sup>e</sup> wood, and he made some handsome ditches and planted them very well.

In 1716 when we came over from England my Father got one, the Rev. Mr. West, to live in the house to be my Tutor, and so I was in the house learning Latin from Mr. West till Witsontide 1717, and then my father finding me not improve, he sent me to one Mr. John Garnet who kept the Latin School in Athy, and was just then come to Athy, and succeeded Mr. Isaac Dalton who had kept school there for above 40 years. I lodged at said Mr. Daltons who used to examine and instruct me after school time. I lodged with him till 1718 when Mr. Garnet marryed and went to housekeeping, and then I went and lodged with him and continued with him while I stayed in Athy, the chief of my schoolfellows whilst I was here at schooll were Thomas Keightin (Keating) son of Col. Thos. K. of Narraghmore, Robert Pinsent now a Minister, Jn. Doyle now a minister, and schoolmaster of Athy, Emerson Peirce son of Col. H. P. of Seskin in y<sup>e</sup> county of Wicklow, Warner Westenra, Billy, Dick, and Ben

Fish of Toberogan, Joe Ash now of Ashfield in the County of Meath and Dillon his brother, Saywell Stubber's brother Meredith, Hector and Billy Vaughan of Golden Grove, Charly Willington of y<sup>e</sup> Kings County, Coz. Billy Welldon, and Geo. Welldon brother of Arthur Welldon of Rahin, Dick Nuttall and Joe his brother, Billy and Tom Bunbury of y<sup>e</sup> County Carlow and Harry Bunbury who married Miss Pinsent, Harry Ecklin bro. to Sir Arthur, Joseph Paul of Rathmore in the county Carlow, Elias and Weaver Best, Huddy Barnet, Ned Armstrong, who married Miss Holmes, John Short of Grange in the Q: C:, 6 sons all Gerald Fitzgerald sons of Coolenoule in the Q.C. Noll Grace of Skehanagh and two or three of his brothers, Ned and Murray Lyndon, James Lewis, Nehemiah Laban, John King now a Minister, Frank Cosby of Vicarstown, Tom and Ralph Pilsworth, Graham Bradford, Ben Bradford, Tom Thompson now a Minister, John Bradford, Arthur Newburg son of Col. N. of Ballyheys in the County of Cavan, Thomas Brook grandson to Ben: Burton the Banker.

While I was at the school of Athy I did constantly learn to write the first year, of one Mr. Milam and after of one Mr. Ternan Rourke. I also learnt to dance one quarter of one Mr. Michael Commons, afterwards he married at Ballymannus, and another quarter of one Mr. Gold. Whilst I was at this school I frequently used to go (to Coz. Meredith at Shrowland, & the widow Lewis at Tullygory) of a Saturday and stay till Monday, and used often to come home to my prejudice as to learning.

In the year 1718 my Father and M and sister went for a month or six weeks to Dunlavin to lodge there, to drink the waters of Donard, for his gout which now began to be very severe. It first seized him in Scotland in the year 1711 and every year grew worse and worse. He at first thought y<sup>e</sup> Donard waters did him a good deal of good but after he found it had done him none. In summer 1719 he, my Mother and sister went to Dublin to Parliament, they were in town three months and came home with many fine things to what they had before.

From the time my Father came from England he lived very handsomely, more so than anyone in this county except my Uncle Pole, he kept his coach and chariot and six mares and four servants in Livery besides his Butler, and other outservants, as steward, gardner, etc., he kept a very plentiful house and table, his allowance was, 12 beefs a year, 40 muttons, 26 barrels of wheat for bread, 60 barrels of Mault, 2 hogsheds of wine, pork, veal, lambs, Wilde and tame fowls, and all other things in proportion. He continued in this method and never encreased or

decreased, when there was the least company, his table was never covered with less than 5 & 6 but very often with more, he used to have variety of white wines, the Poor never went away empty from his door, for both F: & M: were exceedingly charitable.

My Father was ever doing some improvement or another, for Stradbally, when he came to it in 1716 was but a rough uncouth place.

It was when he was in Dublin Anno. 1719 that he heard of the great fame of the Unaversaty of Lyaden in Holland, and then it was that I sho'd go there. It was about this time that some leases expired which did advance considerably, particularly Rossemullane which he set to Mr. Edmd. Ryan May 1719 for 21 years at £58. per annum which before paid but £25 per annum.

My grandfather Alexander Cosby let y<sup>e</sup> lands of Ballymaddock, Park, Grange, O'Connell, Rathmore, and Carrigine to old John Weaver for a long term at £80 per annum (note they are now (1737) let for £630 per annum) Weaver sold y<sup>e</sup> interest of his lease to one Basil and in the year July 1720 Basil sent one Ball over here to sell it, and my father bought it and gave Mr. Ball £4000. for the 35 years of the lease y<sup>t</sup> was unexpired, my father borrowed y<sup>e</sup> £4000 from Richard Fitzpatrick Lord Baron of Gowran, and it being in y<sup>e</sup> heighth of y<sup>e</sup> South Sea, money was very dear, and Lord Gowran would not let it go under £7 per cent per annum, and obliged my father to keep it for 7 years. By my fathers now borrowing this £4000, the debts on the estates were £7450, viz. to Lord Gowran £4000, to Alderman Page £1150, to Mr. Francis Leigh £400, to the Rev. Mr. Echlin £600, to Capt. Robert Pinsent £300, to Capt. John Walsh of Ballyboy in y<sup>e</sup> Kings County £1000. When my Grandfather Alex Cosby died (as mentioned before) the estate was not quite £900 per annum and the debts on the estate including my Uncles and Aunts portions were some w<sup>t</sup> more than £9000, which at £10 per cent. came to somewhat more than £900 per annum and the estate was not £900 per annum so that the interest was more than the income of the estate, it may be asked then w<sup>t</sup> had he to live on, why five of his brothers and two of his sisters not being of age they lived with him, and so he had the interest of their portions to maintain them and he shared with them.

The way he paid the debts was thus, my Grandfather died 1694 and y<sup>e</sup> Feb: following he married Miss Ann Owens daughter of Sir Andrew Owens of the City of Dublin and with her he got £1,500. which paid off so much, and then he had £150 per annum for himself, and then he owed £7,500. he married my mother 1699 and got with her £2,000. by which then he had

£350. per annum to live on, and his debts were £5,500. in 1700 he sold woods which were on the lands of Vicarstown for w<sup>h</sup> he got £1,000. by which then he had £450. to live on and his debts were but £4,500, and in the time he was in Spain and England there was paid off by Mr. William Lewis his agent, out of the annual income of the Estate £1050. and Mr. Lewis also in that time paid some other debts which was contracted after my Father married my mother, I don't know them all, but I know y<sup>e</sup> £300. which was borrowed for to buy my father's Capt<sup>s</sup> Commission, and £100. y<sup>t</sup> my father was obliged to pay for my uncle Sandy for not serving his apprenticeship out, and £300. which he gave to my uncle Sandy in 1710 and £300. w<sup>h</sup> he gave to my uncle Billy 1710. There were some other small debts which I have heard of but do not remember. Mr. William Lewis was a most extraordinary agent, for he had my Fathers well fare at heart as if he had been his son and did manage for him most wonderfully well and with the greatest honesty, my F: allowed him £80 per annum but he never paid himself but let it go to pay debts, it, after his death, amounted to above £300 and my father paid it to his son Frank, he was father to Mr. Michel Lewis now of Tullygory, he had an elder son than Mick named William who was Agent to my Father after his Fathers death while he lived, he also was a very faithful honest man. He married 1718 Miss Judith Keatinge third daughter to Col. Maurice Keatinge of Narraghmore ag<sup>st</sup> the Col's consent, he ran away with her by night, he dyed of a decay in about a year after his marriage and then my Father rec<sup>d</sup> his own rents.

Anno 1721 y<sup>e</sup> 2nd of May my Father set out with me for Leyden to settle me at the Universaty there. We sailed from Dublin the 14th of May and landed at Hollyhead the 15th we went thence to Chester thence to Shrewsbury and down the Severen by boat in one of the stage Wherreys to Worster, where we hired horses and traveled through the Vale of Hesham and Chipping Norton to Woodstock where we dined and went thence to see the fine house of Blenheim, and went that night to Oxford where we stay'd three nights to see that famous Universaty, what made my Father make Oxford his road was y<sup>t</sup> Coz. Periam Pole was there and had a mind to see him, and on this account he stay'd longer in Oxford than he otherwise wo'd have done. We went in y<sup>e</sup> London stage coach to Uxbridge and there hired horses and went to Stanwell where my uncle Phillip has a very handsome seat, my uncle was at that time at his Government of Placentia alias New Scotland at Annapolis Royall.

My aunt and her daughters were at home and they did receive us with great affection and we stayed there about 10 days and then went to London where we stayed a few days and on y<sup>e</sup> 11th of June 1721 sailed (at 9 o'clock in y<sup>e</sup> morning) from London and landed at Maisland-slucce in Holland, June y<sup>e</sup> 25th (N. Style,) & went in a tractschyt, after we had crossed the Mais, to Delft & from that to Rotterdam, and we stayed there 3 nights & next day set out for Leyden where we arrived y<sup>e</sup> 28th of June 1721 N.S. My Father had recommendatory letters from Mr. Boyle the Prsbeterian Minister of Wood Street meeting house Dublin, and from Dr. Cumming & Mr. Henery y<sup>e</sup> Banker, to the Rev. Mr. Gowan Minister of English Church at Leyden, who was ever a kind good friend to me whilst I was at Leyden & with whom I allways consulted about my studyes and w<sup>t</sup> ever else I wanted. My Father stay'd with me till he had fixed and settled me by y<sup>e</sup> advice of Mr. Gowan in a good house. He consulted with the learned and most famed Doctor & Professor Bourhave about his Gout & did most earnestly begged him to attend me if I shold be sick which he did, My Father left me the 7th of July & made a tour to Amsterdam, Harlem, & some other towns and then called on me again with Mr. Edward Stephens merchant in Rotterdam, & carried me with him to Rotterdam where I stay'd a few days & then returned to Leyden & in a few days after he sailed for England & where he stayed in London & at Stanwell for about 3 weeks & then set out for Ireland where he arrived very safe. And shall now tell of myself till I returned to England and then to Ireland, the latter end of July 1721 it being Vacation, I by y<sup>e</sup> advice of Mr. Gowan made a tour through Holland with two other young gentlemen studients, we went to Delft, then to Rotterdam, then to Dort, then to Gouda alias Targan, then to Uterecht, then to Amsterdam, then to Harlem & so home to Leyden, we were out about 3 weeks & were exceedingly diverted with w<sup>t</sup> we saw for there was nothing curious but what we saw. Colledges began the 17 of Septr. and I gave constant & due attendance for when I had my health I never missed one Colledge all the time I was at Leyden & I constantly went to the English Church both morning and afternoon all the time I was at Leyden, I lodged for y<sup>e</sup> first year I was there in the Broad street near the Nord End on y<sup>e</sup> north side of the street, & my Landlady removed into y<sup>e</sup> Papagraft & I went with her & stay'd with her y<sup>e</sup> rest of the time I was in Leyden. The colledges I took this year was one from Professor Bourman on universall History at 9 a clock in the morning, another from Proffessour Linguard on Logick and a third from Pro. Linguard on Natural Phylosophy. Colledges ended

about y<sup>e</sup> middle of June 1722 & then the Long Vacation began, there are other Vacations at Xmass, Ester and Whitsuntide but they be but short as 14 days, 8 days, & 10 days. The first year besides reading on y<sup>e</sup> subjects that my Colledges were on, I read history of all y<sup>e</sup> countrys in Europe & the Classicks very hard, & I had a french Master, & for 3 months a Dutch master & during this long Vacation I had much time & used it well in reading, but sometimes wo'd with an agreeable companion make a little sortie in one of the neighbouring fine cityes for a day or two & a great amusement was for two of us in an afternoon to hire a chaise which cost us about an english crown & drive to the Hague or some other pleasant place & devert ourselves by seeing some fine gardens & some fine houses, or some curiosaty or another, but often in going from one booksellers shop or another, very often we would go before dinner, sometimes dine at Scevelinge, sometimes at Catwick op See & sometimes at one or other of y<sup>e</sup> Top ordinarys where the best company of y<sup>e</sup> Hague used to dine & so return in evening some other road than we came. Sometimes we wo'd take a walk out to some of the pleaseant neighbouring villages & dine there & drink 2 or 3 glasses of wine & smoke a pipe after dinner & so walk home, & except after y<sup>e</sup> Manner I have told I never was in a Tavern or Publick house, I never was all y<sup>e</sup> while I was in Leyden to drink a glass of wine except a stranger that set up there sent for me (as Mr. Wills & Mr. Noble Spread). The way of dyeting myself all the while I was at Leyden was thus, I got my landlady to buy me a loaf of bread and a pound of butter as I wanted, which served me for my Breakfast with my own Coffee & tea, I dined at a public ordinary for the sake of conversing with people of all nations, for at the french ordinary where I dined the last two years I was at Leyden there were strangers dine there, allmost every day new faces, the first year I dined at an English Ordinary, that is none dined there but English Irish & Scotch studients, but that I did not like, so went to the ordinary as mentioned above & dined there while I stayed. Colledges began again the 17th of September 1722 N.S. & this year I took again Proffessour Bourmans Colledge on Universal History at 9 o'clock in the morning, & his half colledge, (that is a colledge which last but half the year) on Pomponious Mela on Antient Geography which began at 7 a clock in the morning, & his half colledge on the most famous authors that ever wrote & the best editions of their Book, which began at eleven a clock, & Professours Linguards half colledge on Ethicks which began at 2 o'clock in the afternoon & his Colledge on Naturall Philosophy which began at 3 a clock in the afternoon. I this year read very

hard & took all the pains I co'd to improve myself, my amusements & devertions were the same as last year, I laid out all the money I co'd in books, I bought in those two years but one suite of cloaths, for I had not occation for more, wearing my nightgown continually as the custom of the studients is there, I have been often for two or 3 months & have never wore anything but my nightgown, Walk over the town & 2 or 3 miles from the town in it, go to church (with my cloak over it) in it, the way we studients kept company with one an other was thus, we never went to a tavern in the town but used to invite each other to our rooms so that perhaps onst or twice a week I wo'd have 4 or 5 or 6 or 7 or 8 with me to smoak a pipe & drink a glass of wine & we wo'd have for supper some bread butter or cheese, a plate of apples, or some Rockt Beef, or some little thing y<sup>t</sup> was not expensive & perhaps nine of us would not drink in an evenings sitting three bottles of wine & often not two, I never till 2 days before I left Leyden saw an English studient the least in liquor, & it was occasioned at my paying my way. We allways was time for time at each others chambers & perhaps that way I would be 3 evenings in a week in company, we never went to each other till it struck 8 a clock & seldom stay'd longer than eleven, our conversation was not light and frothy, but mostly turned on some useful subject as of what we read, &c. these two first years I spent £120 p. an. As I said I went constantly to the English church which was y<sup>e</sup> Established Church, that is Calvinist, alias Presbyterian, but when I received the Sacrement I went to Rotterdam (10 miles) to the Episcopal church there & would often even in winter go to church there in the morn' & return in the afternoon, this was fatigueing for I used to set out at 4 in the morn' and not get home to Leyden again till half an hour past 10 at night, this journey I took to Rotterdam on this occation not less than 4 times a year but sometimes I would then stay in Rotterdam for a night sometimes longer & mostly at Cos. Ned Stephen's a marchant who was most vastly kind & obligeing. This year y<sup>t</sup> is in July 1722 Mr. James Wills of Irishtown near Clain in y<sup>e</sup> county of Kildare (my fathers most intimate friend & afterwards that is after I was marryed my good friend nay! I may justly say my Father) came to Leyden with his son Godfrey to settle him there & with much ado got him a lodging into the same house y<sup>t</sup> I was in, & this was a great satisfaction to me for Godfrey Wills was agreeable and good humoured & after he came we used to be night about in each others chamber for an hour or two while we were at supper.

I had my health exceedingly well (thank God) from my arrival in Holland till October 1722 when I fell ill of an ague of

which I was extreemly ill for 6 weeks & took very many nations medicines by the prescription of Proffessour Bourhave & Proffessour Osterdick but they would not give me the Jesuits Bark. At the end of 6 weeks the ague left me but I had severall returns of it but did not let it continue long for I used constantly after the first fit to take in 24 hours an ounce of bark. In Aprill 1723 Coz Warner Westenra came to study at Leyden, he had been my schoolfellow at Athy & I was extreemly intimate with him & as glad to see him. All the chambers in my lodgeing was full but got him a very good roome the very next door to me. Before he came I did resolve to take a tour this long Vacation (that began the 11th of June 1723) into Germany & he being an intire stranger & not acquainted with one in Leyden I thought it best he should go along with me, to which he did agree, & so set about preparing for our tour, we furnished ourselves with a couple of new suits of cloaths & everything else that was handsome, the two suits I bought, was one a peach colloured cloath lined with the same colloured shagreen & thickly & richly laced with a very rich silver lace, my other suit was a ciniment coloured Padasway lined with a chaingable scarlet Armesin silk, we had Clockt stockings, tyed & bag wigs & everything else suitable. We hired at Leyden a German servant to interpret for us, who was not to quit us till we returned to Leyden, & so y<sup>e</sup> 28th day of June 1723 we set out to Utrecht & there we joyned and bought a wheeled chair to travel in & the 15th of June we entered into Germany. I shall not here say more than just mention the towns as we went to them because in my velom bound book is a very particular account of this Tour I made through Germany, on the 15th of June we went to Bentheim then to Lingen, to Delmenhorst, to Bremen, to Hambourg, then to Lunenbourg, to Tell, to Hannover, to Brunswick, to Wittenbourgh, to Magdebourg, to Potsdam, to Berlin, to Leipsick, to Steiten, to Dresden, to Prague, Pilsen, to Nurembourg, to Ratisbone, Landshut, to Munich, to Ausburg, to Ulm, Eslingen, to Hailbron, to Heidelberg, to Manheim, to Worms, to Darmsstat, to Frankfort, to Mayence, to Coblentz, to Bonn, to Colne, to Aix Le Chappele, to Mاستricht, to Cleves, to Nimmeguen, to Utrecht, & on the 8th of Sept. 1723 we arrived at Leyden safe & in good health (God be praised) without any one bad accidents befalling us throughout our whole tour save that y<sup>e</sup> ague saized me the night I lef Nuremberg & I had two fits at Ratisbonne, but took an ounce of Bark which cured me so that I had not a fit after till Spring 1731. This whole journey was most delightfully pleasant for everything did happen to our desire, our money held just out,

for after paying our freight from Utrecht our baggage was brought home by a porter & we had not a doit to pay him or the arrears of our servants wages, but borrowed of our Landlady till we got money from Rotterdam. In our tour we left nothing unseen that was worth seeing, we were out 12 week & in that traveled 1550 English miles, we saw very great variety of people & countrys, for we traveled through several different sovereign Princes dominions, saw all the fine towns of Germany that was in the least worth seeing (except Hesse Cassel Strasbourg & Vienna) saw everything curious in every country & city & universaty was mighty civilly & courteously treated by many that were of y<sup>e</sup> countrys that were strangers to us, & the English wherever we met them, that is marchants that were settled & lived in many of the great cities very vastly civil & obligeing & all our Kings ministers at the several Courts they resided at were as civil as possible in entertaining us & introducing us into company & carryeing us to Court & presenting us to the Prince of that country, His Majesty King George the First was at Hannover when we were there as was his R. Highness Frederick Prince of Wales, when I first resolved to Hannover I wrote to my Uncle William to get me letters to recommend me to some Top people at Hannover that I might be presented to the King & Prince & accordingly he did & Lord Townsend presented us to the King & Prince, and we kissed Both their hands & one night we supped with the Prince & I sat next to him on his right hand, we might have sat with him oftener, both at dinner & supper but we avoided y<sup>t</sup> honour not being used to it & being young & Bashful. At Berlin the English Envoy (one Mr. Scot) carried us to the Queens drawing roome at Monbijou & presented us to the Queen (King Geo. the 1st daughter) & we did kiss her hand being subjects of England, for her own subjects only kiss the Hem of her garment, we were as I said before most cively treated by others of our ministers (as Mr. Wych at Hambourg) General St. Saphorin the Hannover Envoy at Prague & Mr. Collman our resident at Prague, and others y<sup>t</sup> I do forget. I bought some few little curiosaties as I passed through Germany. I was entertained at Prague at the Irish monestary with very great civility & four score Irish priests there were as glad & full of joy to see us as if we were their own kin, they have a very large Pile of Building, their church a very noble grand one and very rich & finely ornamented, but the rest is but ordinary & Irish all over, very dirty & the Priests all I did converse with most extreamly ignorant & very zealous of their superstitious religion, many arguments I had with them, it is well they did not destroy me for being an

Heretic, as they often called me, & told me I would be infallably damned, but when we did not talk of religion they were very fond. At Ratisbonne theres a Scotch Benedictine monestary where all the monks of it (which were about 20 at that time) are Scotchmen. The Lord Abbot of it was vastly polite a very fine Reverend old Gentleman, a man of great knowledge & good breeding, he said not one word to us of our religion, entertained us very sumptuously & elegantly & lives so, he sent his chariot his Gentleman & 2 pages to attend us but we wo'd not have them, but one day he deputed one of his monks a very agreeable young Scotch gentleman to wait on us & show us all the curiosaties of the town & behaved in all respects with the utmost civility. At Munich we met with one Talbot an Irish priest who was very civil and obligeing & doing all in his power to show us all the curiosaties of the place. We met with several Irish priests who were joyful to see a countryman. At Darmstat we received vast civilities & were entertained with the utmost affection & Kindness by my Lady Byrne, widdow of Sir Gregory Byrne of Killone in the Queens County, she was married to one *Warren* an Irish Popish gentleman of y<sup>e</sup> county of Carlow, who was Col. of the Gaurds to the Prince of Hesse-Darmstat & she and he lived together in a very handsome way at Darmstat & did entertain us very handsomely for all the time we stay'd in Darmstat.

As I said before, we arrived (from our tour) in Leyden the 8th of Sept. 1723, & Colledges began as usual on the 17th of Sept. this year I took only 3 Colledges Proffessour Vitreavius on Grotius de jure Belli ac Pacis at 10 o'clock, Proffessour Sculten on the institutes of the Civil Law at 11 o'clock, and Proffessour Gravelande's Privatissimum Colledge on his experimental philosophy. A Privatissimum Colledge is a Colledge that a professor gives at the most only to 8 studients, or he will give it to one or 2 or any number to 8, provided he is paid 320 Guilders, there were 8 of us that took a privatissimum from him so that I paid him 40 Guilders being my share of the 320 Gil: Mr. Wills & I took a Colledge this year from one Monsieur Sumbach (who was licenced by the University to give Colledges) on Euclid's Eliments. We went to him every day & we paid him 6 Guilders 6 stivers apiece p. month, the same man came to me for an hour every day to teach us to play on the Spinnet & gave him 6<sup>a. s.</sup> 6 p. month. I learnt of him for 3 months only, which was the last 3 months I was in Leyden, & sorry I was that I did not begin a year or two sooner that I might be able to play on the organ. After I left Leyden I never minded the spinnet more. I this

year bought many books & what I did buy were y<sup>e</sup> very best. I bought as many books while I was at Leyden as cost me 8000 Gilders, that is £80, Irish, & if I had been to buy the same books in Dublin they would have cost me at the very least £120. the Tour I made into Germany cost me £90 ster. and when I was leaving Holland I bought for myself Father and Mother, Cloaths, shirts, cambricks, Lace & edgings and a one horse chair, very handsome one, & many pretty things as came to £100 & I was in Holland almost 3 years & spent £120 p. an. so that my being in Holland stood my father in £550 in all. I paid Professors Masters & every indeividual doit I owed & left Leyden with credit. I forgot to set down how I had an Italian master for a good many months to teach me Italian which was the occasion of my buying Italian books. What furniture & china I had I made a present of them to my good landlady Cornelia, who was very carefull of me in my sickness as carefull & kind as co'd be—I also gave her a present of 10 Gilders. The 14th of April 1721 I was eighteen years old & my father left me in Leyden the June following. His putting me there, was leaving me intirely to my own conduct, & though I was the youngest student in the Universaty still (I praise God) I behaved myself with as much prudence, diligence, sobriety & good conduct as the oldest there, & had y<sup>e</sup> praise of all for my discreet conduct, I say y<sup>e</sup> truth & lye not God knows, but my relateing it may seem vain glorious, but it is truth so hope it won't be deemed ostentatious to speak well of myself when it is nothing but perfect & upright truth y<sup>t</sup> I do relate.

*(To be continued.)*

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