

EXCERPTS FROM TRAVEL DIARY OF AGW.

VISITS TO IRELAND

1912-13.

Tuesday 30th July 1912.

----- At 8pm set sail for Dublin by Kilkenny boat, had a fairly rough and sick passage. We landed in Dublin early in the morning. Learning rain

Wednesday 31st

----- At 3pm we left for Roscrea landing there at 5.21pm. Ned Whitten met us and drove us to "Fancroft" - almost the same as it was 50 yrs ago. After tea we talked. He married a Miss Wallace and they have seven children. Old kettle, gun, pot, strainer, clock. Coat of arms, furniture pictures.

Thurs 1st Aug.

After breakfast we went to Handlin's Mill and saw old farm of 25 acres & old Mill stream. After dinner we visited Joseph Whitten and Robert Whitten, both of whom married two Drouts, two widows. They live about 1/2 miles away. We also visited Ballybrit Castle where Mrs Drouit and two daughters live. Willie Drouit her step-father was a cousin of father's and died 1900, his son dying the following year. Good farm. Aunt Matilda Drouit an old maid died on the way to the poorhouse. The youngest girl is much like Father. Her father was a great jockey.

Friday 2nd

Saw the old grindstone, did some writing. Then we went to Nathaniel and Sarah Little's for dinner at Splints old shop. Boot shop is at Rudd's old place. [Mary Rudd was Grandfather's sister - PAH.] They have a butchery, bakery, grocery and bookshop combined. After

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for dinner at Splints old shop. Boot shop
is at Rudd's old place. [Mary Rodd was Grandfather's
sister - PAH.] They have a butchery, bakery,
grocery and bookshop combined. After
seeing the nine children we went for a
drive to Elliott's old place (Lilli's Father)

thence to Lucas where Grandmother Whittens
brother was shot and Aunt committed suicide
These two houses remain intact as they
were 60 yrs ago. Old gate the same. Then we
drove to the large St Joseph monastery where
Hutchinson's used to live in Eaton Estate
now brought by the R. Catholics. After tea we
met John Pole Mason, son of Robert Giles
Mason who was a brother of Dick Mason
father of Mother & Giles. He is a widower
with five in family, one of whom is in
Hamilton Victoria Australia). He is the last
one left - 72 yrs of age.

Then to Luttrell's for music and afterwards
to "Fancraft."

Saturday 3rd

Another drive to Handlin's mill to see the cattle.
In the afternoon we visited old William
Jackson 83 who married Kate & aunts ① Lily
Gardner our cousin ② Miss Wallace ③
Joseph Whitten married a daughter of Kate
Davis who was Mrs Drout. He spoke of old
times with father, especially hunting days.
Then we went forking hay till dark.

Sunday 4th

11 am attended Meth. church Roscrea and
heard Rev Harris preach, then at 12 went to the
Church of Ireland and heard a good sermon
from a curate. Afternoon sang and talked.
Evening took the service for Rev Harris
1 Cor 13th. Good congregation, good singing.
Fair time in pulpit. Met Kate Blockwell (old
maid knew Father.)

Monday 5th

Fair time
maid knew. (Father.)

Monday 5th

In the morning went out to Joe Whittens
and had dinner. He has 145 Irish Acres of land.

In the afternoon we went to Robert Whittens

and saw his place 45 acres. (Irish acres are $1\frac{1}{4}$ acres) Had tea there and met Francis Roche who asked us to her place.

Tuesday 6th

went into town and had a good look through the large corporation bacon factory Killing, scraping, singeing etc. Then we called on John Mason once more. Had dinner at Luttrell's called on Daley the Caf & curate who was out. Back to tea at the Luttrell's where we met old Mrs Drent who knew Father well. After tea, we went to the old Roscrea Castle. This seems to be a very old stronghold from the top of which we could see all the district round about. Singing and home.

Wed 7th quiet morning at "Fancroft". Afternoon shooting. Evening chatting at home.

Thursday 8th

Attended the Fair at Roscrea. It seemed strange to see cattle, sheep and horses, pigs in the streets and the buyers and sellers, chatting and driving a hard bargain. There was a fine little mob of Irish ponies rounded up in the streets. 42 publicans in Roscrea object to the Fair being changed to yards. Dinner at Luttrell's. In the afternoon we drove out to Killan Brohan to see Wallace's. Had a happy time, met Mr & Mrs Ramsay. On return called and saw Dick Grant and Fanny and also the old Grants - Very wet.

Friday 9th

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Sat 10th

Left Rourke's for Galway arrived 2.30. Spent

afternoon sailing on Galway Bay was very sea-sick. Drove back, stayed at Anderssons.

Sunday 11th

11 a.m. went to hear Dr Clarke Pres. of Galway.

Small congregation. good sermon but read.

Afternoon went up River which was very beautiful

Monday 12th

Went to St Nicholas church 11.00 A.D. very strongly built - formerly a R.C. Church but taken by Queen Elizabeth 1st and given to the Episcopalians. Later on Cromwell besieged Galway, made a stable of this church and destroyed the images. The old confessional is still intact - the marble carvings are exceptionally artistic. Baptismal fonts are very rustic. Went to the boat and saw on the other side the Claddagh Village. This is a small race of people, descendants of a lot of Spanish fishermen - now numbering 500. Until recent years they did not intermarry with any people. We went to see Bishop's College and Queen's College the latter being in the university grounds. The loughs are exceptionally fine. Salmon in abundance in the rivers sometimes amounting up to 60 lbs. Salmon go up to spawn when they come down again they are spent and poisonous to eat. No one knows where the salmon goes after it leaves the river. 4.25 train for Lullamore. Galway is a strongly built city and seems to have been at its prime about 2 or 300 years ago. About 98% of the people are R.C. Arrived at Lullamore 8.30. Home to Rourke's.

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home that Ned Whitten lived in for 20 yrs and
who would have had it willed to him
except for drunkenness. John McBride married
Margaret Lark who lived with John Whitten

after he was married for 3 mths.

John Mc Bride went to America with Father about the year '60. Father worked in St Charles town in Missouri in USA for William Mc Bride 2 yrs. Saw the old town of St Charles now shifted 2 miles up the river.

Wed 14th Wet all day

Thurs 15th Quiet morning. Afternoon visited John Smith cousins of Rourke's.

Fri 16th Visited Rourke's brother Mike left Clonmore for Rosslare passing through Waterford. At Rosslare we took the boat St George to Fishguard arriving in Fishguard about 5 am. Train to Newport then on to Crosskeys at 8.30 a.m.

Sat 17th Left Crosskeys in the evening and arrived in London at 10 pm.

Saturday 24th

Morning booked passage to New York. Afternoon went to Poplar met Whitten and Harry Rudd. Whitten has a big hauling garage 38 engines & 38 waggons costing £650 each. He broke the strike, making for a while £1000 per week - 125 men working. We went by motor to Romford & met wife. Beautiful home just near golf links.

25th

----- saw Bob Rudd off at the station

26th

In the morning went into London in the motor with Harry & Whit Rudd

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E W Rudd Limited.