

48 Upper Mount St.

Dublin 2.

12.12.73

Dear Phyllis

Many thanks for your recent letter. I was interested to hear you had actually been in Dublin in 1971, even for one day. You seem to have had a good time, although a bit hectic. Enniskerry & Sally's Bar are really lovely, but need a good day to see them at their best. I was round there in June of this year & fortunately the weather was good. I note you don't like flying. I don't mind it but am always glad to get both feet on terra firma. The "Hail Marys" seem to have worked for you as you got there & back safely in spite of Seat 13.

Well since writing to you I have been doing a good bit of research on the family & actually went down to "Fancroft" one Saturday. It is only about 2½ hrs by train from Dublin. The day I posted the letter to you with the death notices that evening I saw a lorry in a very unfrequented part of Dublin & the name on the side was Thomas Whitten Clarence Bivv. So I got off my bike & spoke to a youngish man who evidently had loaded it. He told me he was the T Whitten referred to & when I mentioned about the Whitten deaths he said they were his mother & father. He also said Fancroft was about 2 miles outside Roscrea & that it could be reached by train & back in the one day. So I wrote to him after a few days giving him my ~~the~~ address & I fixed to go to Roscrea for the day. He said his Aunt Marjorie hadn't been well but was all right. She had had shingles & didn't look very well when I saw her but she made me very welcome. Frances & her son met me at Roscrea station & you would never guess who else was there - Robert from Vancouver. He had arrived a day or two before on a Wardair Charter flight non-stop from Vancouver to London & was staying 5 weeks. The four of us went to a hotel for lunch as Marjorie wasn't well enough to cope. Frances then brought me round the

town of Roscoe as I hadn't been ² before. We saw the Round Tower
& also the Church of Ireland Church which was very nice. It
was quite large I thought for a country church & very well
kept. It was most interesting. We then went to Farncroft
& I saw the sheep of what it is which you mention in your
letter. Mayoni said the house was built about 300 years ago
which means it must have been about Cromwell's time. I was
very taken with the tree trunk right across the kitchen
ceiling. Mayoni had the Bible open at the place where
all the births were ~~written~~^{recorded} but I couldn't get any
connection. She also showed me the paintings of the Fallot
& I saw some scraps of you when you were there.
Frances said the Whittons had married a good deal with
the Haslam family & there is an ^{R.}Whitten Haslam in the
Phone book living in Birn so he must be a connection.

In your letter you mention meeting John Whitten
when you were in Roscoe in 1955. You also mention his
daughter by his first marriage. Well she married a man
named Joe & I have met ~~her~~ their daughter who is a
lovely girl tall fair & soft spoken. Her name is Stephanie
& she is staying in the YWCA where I go for my lunch. I
have had a few chats with her. Stephanie has a brother
who has just finished training at Swanton Agricultural
College & he is helping his father in the farm. There is
another young girl about 8. Stephanie is doing English.
I did a history at University College Dublin. She couldn't
get into Trinity. Apparently, the courses were full. I had in
a small flat quite near the YWCA so Stephanie & a friend
Valerie are coming to me for an evening after Christmas.

I have a widowed sister living across town about
4 miles away & I visit her occasionally. I was telling
her about meeting your husband in Vienna & also the
letter I had from you. She was quite interested & when I
was gone suddenly remembered a Parcel of papers being
sent to her 30 years ago by a cousin after an Aunt died

in 1940. She had never opened the parcel & she had to search for it. However she found it all right & spent the next 3 evenings looking through all the papers.

She saw copies of Wills & receipts receipts for payments for various members of the family. The next time I was there she gave them to me & the other two copies of some of them may interest you. You will notice Robert Whitten married an Amelia Shaw & the strange thing is that my grandfather also married a Shaw but I don't know whether or not she was any connection of Amelia. You will also see that the 3rd & 4th children were girls. Now one or both of these went to America & which one married a Brown I don't know but if the man that flew the Atlantic was born in 1886 & @ US Parents one of these was probably his grandmother. My grandfather was in America but came back. They must have stayed some time as they buried 2 children out there. It is awful the way our generation seemed to use the same Christian names. It is nearly impossible to sort them out. You mentioned your great great grandfather Anthony had two brothers Edward & Robert. The Edward who became a bankrupt would be my great great grandfather, but whether this man was Anthony's brother I don't know. However looking through it all I imagine we are cousins somewhere names removed.

I am also wondering about the Edward Whitten whose marriage certificate was with the Papers. If he was married in 1776 he could have been the bankrupt as the General Revolution was about 1784, but his address on the certificate is Exeter St Southen. As the girl Ann Parks attended St Ann's Church in Brandon St he may have come out from Tiptonbury & only stayed in a hostelry in Exeter St. However I know all Poyntz the present

Vicar of St Ann's + he may be able to tell me if another address was recorded. ^{I hope I have it right as most of the S's were F's.}

I don't know whether or not you will be ~~too~~ bored with all this. The copy of letter to ~~Mr~~ Mr J. F. Dwyer is only put in because of the address Elmville Clonmel. It looks as though somebody was asking my Aunt about her Pedigree. I have no further correspondence along this line.

I am just in from Choir Practice. We are working for our Carol Service next Sunday. The "messiah" is on next Friday + I hope to go although I have heard it many times. The Church I belong to is a Methodist Mission one + we had two flag days last week to raise money for Christmas Parcels fuel vouchers etc for the poor. We collected £6000 in the two days on the streets of Dublin + we are very pleased. I don't go out collecting but I help to count the money. It is quite exciting watching the amount grow.

I have ordered the Crest but it will take some time as the name is unusual + then it will go surface mail. I don't want any payment or return. I would like you to accept it as a gift from the "Old Country" + also perhaps from a newly found distant cousin.

The weather here is cold wet + windy at the moment so I envy you having your Christmas probably in sunshine. We often have snow at this time of the year, but so far we have had ~~no~~ none.

Wishing you all the Very Best for Christmas + the New Year.

Sincerely Yours
Mabel

P.S. I don't think you gave me your father's Christian name ~~Was~~ Was it Anthony?

ROBERT WHITTEN married AMELIA SHAW. April 1808.

The following are Their Issue.

- 1st. EDWARD WHITTEN born 19th July 1809.
- 2nd. ROBERT RICHARD WHITTEN born 9th Feby. 1812.
- 3rd. MARY ANNE WHITTEN born 18th Augt. 1814.
- 4th. JANE WHITTEN born 27th April 1817.
- 5th. WILLIAM WHITTEN born 12th May 1819.
- 6th. GEORGE WHITTEN born 14th Sept. 1821 (Died Decr. 1821. Buried
Bride's Church, Co. Kildare).
- 7th. GEORGE FREDERICK WHITTEN born 6th Jany. 1823.
(Grandfather of Mabel Whitten - That's me).

The above information is written on a torn out page of
the Apocrypha; out of a Bible.

The following information seems to indicate that my part of
the family had land in Tipperary which was sold. Unfortunately
there is no date and no actual name given to the holding except
that it was in Tipperary and King's County (Now Offaly):-

" Edwd. Whitten eldest son divided the County Tipperary and King's
County holding with his brother Robt. Some time after said Edwd.
levied fines on his part before said Robt. was of age and in the
course of some years afterwards said Edward became a Bankrupt and
then died leaving Male Issue. Said Edward's Creditors sold his the
said Edward's part. Robert Whitten second eldest son has died within
this last year without issue.
There are now surviving Male Issue from said Edwd. and also Male
Issue from William Whitten a younger brother of said Edward and
Roberts. Said William is also dead. - Query. had said Robt. a
power to will his late divide to whomsoever he pleased?
Query. Which Issue are entitled to said Roberts late divide?
Query again. If said Robert died without making a Will which Issue
are entitled to said Roberts divide as Heir at Law? And Query again.
Had said Edwd. a power of levying fines, the property being a
Freehold and had said Creditors a power of disposing of said Freehold
property for a longer term than until said Edward's eldest son
became of AGE. age? "

My Aunt copied this document in May 1911. She
probably got it in George Frederick Whitten's papers. He died in
1908. On her copy she wrote:- The above mentioned Edward Whitten
was Grandfather of the late Mr. George Whitten, who was my
Grandfather, so it looks as though there is definitely a connection.
The Robert Whitten ~~mentioned at the top~~ mentioned at the top of this
page must have been one of the male issue of Edward Whitten.

Copy/ of Letter written by my Aunt to a Mr. Thomas F. Dwyer Elmville,
Clonmel dated 25th May 1911.

"Since you called here I have been speaking to some of my relatives who appear to know about my pedigree etc., but they have asked me to ascertain from you the exact nature of the information you require so that they can be able to look into the matter fully. Will you therefore kindly let me know the exact nature of the particulars and information etc., you want and I shall be happy to make further inquiries etc., and will afterwards write to you again.

(Sgd.) E.J. Whitten.

COPY/ OF A MARRIAGE CERTIFICATE.

John by Divine Providence, Archbishop of Dublin, Primate and Metropolitan of Ireland. To our beloved in CHRIST the Reverend Thomas Leland Clerk Doctor in Divinity Vicar of the Parish of Saint Ann, Dublin or to his Licensed Curate Assistant, GREETING; WHEREAS Edward Whitten of Exchequer Street in the City of Dublin Gentleman and Ann Parks of the Parish aforesaid Spinster are contracted in lawful Marriage (as is alledged) and are very desirous of having the said Marriage solemnized in the Face of the Church. WE therefore do grant our Licence and whole Authority to You, in whose Fidelity We confide, to solemnize the said Marriage in the Canonical Hours, Time and Place, between the said Edward Whitten and Ann Parks Provided they have obtained the express Consent of their Parents or Guardians, and by Reason of any Pre-contract, Consanguinity or Affinity, there be no lawful Impediment in this behalf IN TESTIMONY whereof We have caused the Seal of our Consistorial and Metropolitan Court of Dublin to be hereunto affixed, the fifteenth Day of October in the Year of our Lord, One thousand, Seven Hundred and Seventy-six.

(Sgd.) James Lyndon.

I certify that I married Mr. Edward Whitten to Miss Ann Parks the 17th of October 1776.

(Sgd.) Irvine Whitty.
