



The Dalway Identity

Compiled by David Byers, December 2022

This genealogical journey traces the relationship of the composer Ianthe Dalway (1908-1968), born in India of English parents, to the Dalways of Carrickfergus.

Dalway's Bawn, three miles north-east of Carrickfergus in Ballyhill (also Bellahill or Bella Hill) townland, according to the Northern Ireland Department of Communities website, is 'a well-preserved example of an early 17th century planter's fortified enclosure, built about 1609 by John Dalway, constable of Carrickfergus Castle, to secure his royal grant of land in the area'.ⁱ

This was likely the same John Dalway referred to below (under Marriott Robert Dalway, page 2) which suggests that Marriott R Dalway was a descendant of John Dalway [possibly 1550-1618], a Devonshire gentleman, who accompanied the Earl of Essex to Ireland in 1573, and married Jane O'Bryan (or O'Neill), a daughter or granddaughter of Hugh O'Neill, Earl of Tyrone.

Move on a generation or two to find mention of an Alexander and his father, Col. Robert:

Col. Robert Dalway married the widow of Charles, 1st Lord Shelburne.

Col. Robert was MP for Antrim in 1695. He was succeeded by his eldest son Alexander.

Alexander Dalway, 'son of Robert, Jurisperitus' (= skilled or experienced in the law).

Alexander, born in Carrickfergus, studied at Trinity College, Dublin, from March 1687 (aged 18). B.A. in 1692. M.P. for Carrickfergus 1715-1719.ⁱⁱ

N.B. Col. Robert, described as 'Armiger' (= a squire or one of the gentry) was also father of Henry, born Co. Antrim, who arrived at TCD in 1692, aged 18.

Alexander Dalway (c.1669-1718) m. Anna Helena Edmonstone (marriage on 27 Sept 1695)

Anna Helena was daughter of Archibald Edmonstone, 9th of Duntreath, Stirlingshire. In 1609, William Edmonstone, 7th of Duntreath, had secured a lease of Redhall or Red Hall, from John Dalway: 'for ever to William, eldest son of Sir James Edmonstone, on the usual conditions of finding five able horsemen, properly equipped, to attend for forty days yearly the general hostings of the Lord Deputy; and within five years to build a bawn, namely a fortified mansion of lime and stone, covered with slate, which shall cost in building £300.'ⁱⁱⁱ

Robert Dalway (????-1761)

He lived at Bella Hill, Co. Antrim.

M.P. for Newry in 1727; High Sheriff of Co. Dublin in 1760.

Robert Dalway m. (i) Jane Steele of Craigs Castle, Ballymena (apparently no children from this marriage)

m. (ii) Mary Marriott

Marriott, his heir, was MP for Carrickfergus in 1761. He died in 1795 leaving his estates to his nephew Noah Webb (son of Mehetabella and Noah Webb) who assumed the name and arms of Dalway.

Mehetabella Dalway

(plus four other siblings: Ann, Eleanor, Mary and Robert)

Mehetabella Dalway m. Noah Webb. He lived at Dunshaughlin, Co. Meath.

Noah Webb, their son, later Noah Dalway (c.1746-1820)

He then lived at Bella Hill, Co. Antrim. Gained rank of Captain, R.N.

His name was changed legally to Noah Dalway in April 1795.

He was M.P. for Carrickfergus 1799 and 1800.^{iv}

Captain Noah Dalway m. Eleanor Benning on 22 May 1795.^v

Eleanor was daughter of the Ven. Conway Benning, Archdeacon of Dromore.

They had 10 children: Marriott, Ann, Mary Margaret, Ellen, Millicent Jane, Jane, Noah, John, Henry and George Montagu. Noah is the relevant son in this context (i.e. researching Ianthe Dalway) but the eldest, Marriott, is worth noting for *his* son's prominence in Irish society and Carrickfergus at that time. This is he (Marriott, sen.):

Marriott Dalway (dates?) m. Euphemia Henry on 29 June 1827.

Marriott and Euphemia had two children – a daughter Euphemia and Marriott Robert Dalway (1832-1914).

Marriott Robert Dalway lived at Bella Hill, Co. Antrim. He was High Sheriff of Co. Antrim in 1859 and M.P. for Carrickfergus between 1868 and 1880. He married Elizabeth Barnes on 28 April 1859. Their daughter Elizabeth married Captain Horace William Rochfort in Larne in December 1881^{vi} (see another Rochfort connection below). Dalway, his wife and their sons sold the 300-year-old estate and emigrated to Australia where he died in Lorne, Victoria, on 10 Jan 1914.^{vii} An obituary notice stated that 'He was a descendant of Mr. John Dalway, a Devonshire gentleman, who accompanied the Earl of Essex to Ireland in 1573, and married a daughter of Hugh O'Neill, Earl of Tyrone.'^{viii}

Ann Dalway married Gilbert McIlveen (?-1833) (a key mover and shaker in Belfast, one of the founders of the Society of United Irishmen).^{ix}

Mary Margaret Dalway married Joseph Barnes (brother of Elizabeth above?).

Ellen Dalway married Peter Kirk (1800-1856). M.P. for C'fergus, 1835-1847.

Millicent Jane Dalway married (i) Thomas Millar, (ii) Philip Fletcher.

Jane Dalway married Duncan Daveys Wilson.

Noah – see below.

John Dalway (b.1802) Captain in the 2nd Queen's.

Henry Dalway (b.1803).

George Montagu Dalway (b.1810).

Noah Dalway (1799 – 1840)

Lt. Noah Dalway m. Emily Gibbon (1806-????). They married in 1828. Their daughter Ellen Dalway is the important link to our composer Ianthe Dalway – Ellen was Ianthe's grandmother on her father's side.

Augustus Frederick Benning Dalway (1835-1843) – he died in Liverpool, Lancashire.

Ellen Dalway (b.1840 Carrickfergus, Ireland – d. 04 October 1920, London)

Ellen was listed in the 1911 Census for England as a 71-year-old 'boarder', a widow, with no occupation but 'private means' staying in the Sandringham Hotel, 78 Cromwell Road, St Augustine's, Queen's Gate, S W, London (South Kensington). She had recorded her birthplace as Carrickfergus, nationality as 'Ireland' [sic] and had three children 'born alive' and three 'still living'. Probate records state Ellen Turnbull 'of 89 Brondesbury Road, Kilburn, Middlesex, widow, died 04 October 1920'. Her solicitor was Cecil Bradley Rooke and her effects were £8,144 2s. 2d.^x

Ellen Dalway m. (i) Gustavus Cowper Rochfort (1803-1875)

Their marriage was in St Anne's Parish Church, Belfast, 9 Feb 1858 – her age 18; his c.55. Married by 'the Very Rev. the Dean of Connor, assisted by the Rev. Alfred T. Lee, M.A., Rector of Culdaff, Colonel Gustavus Couper [sic] Rochfort, H.E.I.C.S., to Ellen, youngest daughter of the late Lieutenant [Noah] Dalway, R.N.'^{xi}

1871 census gives GCR as 69 and a Retired Col. Madras Army, born in Bangor, Wales. His father was Henry Rochfort.

Ellen was then (1871) 31, born in Carrickfergus. They had one daughter.

Mabel Wilton Rochfort (1865-1941)

Mabel, then 'a minor', married Charles Alexander Lockhart Robertson, a doctor, at St James, Westminster, on 14 Feb 1884. Her father was listed as George Rochfort, Colonel, Indian Army, deceased. One of the witnesses was G.W. Turnbull, by now Mabel's stepfather (see below).

Ellen Dalway m. (ii) George Wardlaw Turnbull (1832-1895)

Marriage on 28 June 1877 in St Barnabas, Kensington, London. GWT was M.D., Exmouth. Ellen was 'youngest daughter of the late Lieut. Dalway, R.N., granddaughter of the late Noah Dalway, Esq., M.P., and widow of the late Colonel Rochfort.'^{xii} There were two sons of this second marriage.

1881 census gives GWT as 48, Ellen as 41;

GWT is 'Physician. M.D. of Edinburgh'.

1891 census gives GWT age 58, Ellen age 57 (a misreading for 51)
GWT was now listed as a 'Retired Physician /Surg.' Born in Scotland.

The youngest son, for information, first:

Aubrey Marriott Dalway Turnbull (1881-1950) born Exmouth, Devon.

Aubrey Marriott Dalway Turnbull was formerly the Assistant Chief Secretary in Nyasaland. His *Nyasaland – Report for 1913-1914 [-1914-1915]* was published by HMSO in 1915. His diaries, notebooks and photographs are held by the Society of Malawi, Blantyre.

Harold George Dalway Turnbull (1878-1959) born Exmouth, Devon.

Harold George Dalway Turnbull m. Evelyn Lucy Bell Walker (1884-1959), November 1905
She was the daughter of Henry Kershaw Walker (1848-1940), an electrical engineer from Manchester, and his wife, also from Manchester, Frances Elizabeth Bell (1850-1942). They had two sons and four daughters – Evelyn Lucy Bell Walker being the fourth-born child and second daughter.^{xiii}
The marriage, on 6 Sept 1905, was in St Stephen the Martyr, Portland Town, Camden, London. He was 27, a 'Professor', she was 21. The witnesses included Ellen Turnbull [née Dalway], his mother. HGDT, M.A. (Oxon), was appointed professor of English literature, Deccan College, Bombay, on 25 Sept. 1905. He retired in Jan 1924.^{xiv}

Beatrice Ianthe Dalway Turnbull (1908-1968) was their only daughter, seemingly more often noted as Ianthe Beatrice Dalway Turnbull.

Ianthe m. Cecil Dowker Kidd (1908-1978) from Castlewellan, Co. Down, in July 1930.

There appears to have been no children of the marriage.

Please return to the webpage for more about Ianthe Dalway and Cecil Kidd.

ⁱ <https://www.communities-ni.gov.uk/heritage-sites/dalways-bawn>, accessed 01 Nov 2022.

ⁱⁱ *Alumni Dublinenses: a register of the students, graduates, professors and provosts of Trinity College in the University of Dublin (1593-1860)*, George Dames Burtchaell & Thomas Ulick Sadleir, Editors, Dublin, 1924, p.207

ⁱⁱⁱ <https://www.edmonstone.com/Pages/dunredh.htm>

^{iv} <https://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1790-1820/member/dalway-noah-1746-1820>, accessed 01 Nov 2022.

^v <http://www.thepeerage.com/p66932.htm#i669314>, accessed 01 Nov 2022.

^{vi} *Ulster Echo*, Saturday, 03 December 1881, p.4

The marriage of Commander H. Rochfort, R.N., son of Horace Noel Rochfort, Esq., D.L., of Clogrenane, County Carlow, with Elizabeth, only daughter of M. R. Dalway, Esq., D.L., of Bella Hill, Carrickfergus, took place on Thursday at Templecorran Church. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. Hamilton Bennett, vicar of the parish. The bride was escorted by her father and attended by four

bridesmaids. ... The wedding guests adjourned to Bella Hill, the residence of the bride's father. ... The presents were costly and numerous.

vii Read much more about M.R. Dalway and his life in Australia in a fascinating blog by Philip Robinson:
<http://ullansblog.blogspot.com/2011/06/what-happened-when-dalways-of-dalways.html>

viii "*DEATH OF MR. M. R. DALWAY*". *The Register, Adelaide*. No. 20957. 12 Jan 1914, p.4, accessed 01 Nov 2022.

ix This listing is derived, with thanks, from the website The Peerage.com compiled by Darryl Lundy.
<https://www.thepeerage.com/p66933.htm#i669329>, accessed 04 November 2022.

x *Western Evening Herald* – Friday, 05 November 1920, p.2

TURNBULL — Mrs. G. H. Turnbull and family desire to return their sincere THANKS to numerous friends for their kind expressions of sympathy and for floral tributes sent in their recent sad bereavement. [Note: Mr GHT was presumably in India at this time.]

xi *Belfast Mercury*, Friday, 12 February 1858, p.2

xii *Belfast News-Letter*, Monday 2 July 1877, p.1. *Marriages*.

xiii *Clifton Society*, Thursday, 16 February 1911, p.12 (also *Cheltenham Examiner*, Thursday, 16 Feb. 1911, p.8) Feb.11, at St Gabriel's, Cricklewood, EDWARD SPENSER, L.D.S.Eng., second son of HENRY MOORE SAMPSON, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.Edin., formerly of Painswick, Glos., and Upper Tooting, to MARGARET DOROTHEA SARA, third daughter of HENRY KERSHAW WALKER, of Altona, Melbourne.

xiv *The India Office List, 1937*, Record of Services, p.933, London 1937.