



Public Record Office
of Northern Ireland

INTRODUCTION

STEWART OF TYRCALLEN PAPERS

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Stewart (of Tyrcallen) Papers (D3319)

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Summary

The Stewart papers comprise c.2250 documents (including some volumes) and c.25 outsize maps. They derive from the Tyrcallen branch of the Stewarts of Killymoon, Cookstown, Co. Tyrone: in particular, to Henry Stewart of Tyrcallen, Stranorlar, Co. Donegal (1743-1840), younger brother of James Stewart of Killymoon, MP for Co. Tyrone, 1768-1812. For further information about the family, see the calendar of the Stewart of Killymoon papers (D3167), one section of which was also deposited by Mr H.W.B. and Mr G.P. Stewart. For another related collection, see T3007.



Background

Henry Stewart's wife, Elizabeth, was a daughter of the 2nd Lord Longford and a sister of the Duchess of Wellington. For this reason, some sections of these papers consist, of letters to, as well as from, members of the Longford/Pakenham family, 1755-1846. The letters from the Duchess of Wellington run from 1813 to 1831, and there are earlier 'Grand Tour' letters from Mrs Stewart's and her brother, the 2nd Earl of Longford, 1793-1795. Henry Stewart himself was a land agent - perhaps 'accountant' would be a better word - who managed the estate affairs of a number of families, on a basis which was professional by the standards of the day, from an office in Clare Street and then at 6 Leinster Street, Dublin. The bulk of the archive relates to his clients' (and his own) estate and business affairs.



The Papers: Palmerston Estate

His most important clients were the 2nd and 3rd Viscounts Palmerston, who owned Irish estates mainly in Cos Dublin and Sligo. Henry Stewart was not appointed to this prestigious agency until 1784, so the majority of the papers were actually inherited by him from his predecessor, John Hatch. They include: case papers, 1757-1792, about the debt due to the 1st Viscount Palmerston, grandfather of the 2nd, by Robert Roberts of Dublin, who had been the 2nd Viscount's deputy as Chief Remembrancer of the Court of Exchequer in Ireland (an office held by the 1st Viscount from 1727 until his death in 1757, closely followed by that of Roberts). When the 1st Viscount's executors came to settle accounts with his successor as Chief Remembrancer, it was found that there were outstanding balances to the amount of well over £20,000. A long legal battle then followed, and in the end - in 1785 - all Roberts's estates were conveyed to the 2nd Viscount Palmerston. The title deeds to these estates go back to 1693, and the estates consisted of property in Hanbury Lane (Earl of Meath's Liberty) and Ballsbridge, Co. Dublin, and in Drumcondra, Dublin City, and at Garrynew, Co. Wexford. Included among the title deeds are a copy Prerogative probate (1756) of the will (1755) of Joseph Maddock, Captain in Colonel Stewart's Regiment of Foot, together with a grant of administration (1758) to the will (1757) of Robert Roberts himself.

Other Palmerston estate papers include: a rental, with observations, of the ancestral Palmerston estate in the county and city of Dublin (the residue of Palmerston itself, Chapelizod, Oxmantown Green and Hill and various houses), c.1805; a rental and account, with observations, for the entire county and city of Dublin property, 1821; accounts, 1813-1815, between James Walker, the local receiver of the Co. Sligo rents, and Stewart & Swan (Henry Stewart and his partner, Graves Chamney Swan) for receipts and disbursements on the 3rd Viscount's account; and letters and papers, 1820, 1826, and 1841-1845, all relating to the Sligo estate of the 3rd Viscount.



Other Clients Papers

Papers relating to the estates of other clients include: rentals and accounts, 1822-1851, between Stewart & Swan and their successors, on the one hand, and successive Earls of Longford and Viscounts de Vesci, on the other, relating to the Longford/de Vesci joint estate in Dunleary, Co. Dublin, and in Cos Cork (Ballyhindon, Glandore and Monkstown) and Limerick; set of detailed accounts, 1797-1800, between the 'Hon. Colonel King [Robert King, later 1st Viscount Lorton] as sole executor to his father, Robert Earl of Kingston, and residuary legatee ... with Henry Stewart Esq., from 24 November 1797 to 30 June 1800'; title deeds, leases and other papers, 1688-1812, about the Co. Limerick property (Ballymorelly, Ballyroan, etc) of Serjeant Richard Benson Warren of Dublin; receipts, rentals, accounts, surveys, correspondence and a notice (1818) about tree-planting, 1800-1824, all relating to the Fartagh estate of James Butler Stopford in the barony of Galmoy, Co. Kilkenny, with a rental of £1,356 per annum in 1823; title deeds, leases, rentals, accounts, surveys and correspondence, 1764-1882, about the estates of Mrs Gertrude FitzGerald, née Lyon, at Watercastle, Queen's County, and Mount Blakeney, barony of Coshma, Co. Limerick, including a copy of the will (1802) of her father, Thomas Lyon of Watercastle; leases, deeds, rent ledgers, receipts, accounts, correspondence, etc, 1765-1850, all relating to the estates of the Nugent family of Castlerickard, Co. Meath, in Cos Meath and Westmeath; and papers and voluminous correspondence, 1814, 1827, and 1844-1846, about the estate and financial affairs of the 2nd and 3rd Earls of Howth, and the development of the Howth Castle estate, Co. Dublin, particularly in the mid-1840s.



Business Records of Stewart & Swan

Papers relating to the running of Stewart & Swan's land agency business include: voluminous, usually biannual (and also with some duplication) balance sheets of the firm, 1804 and 1807-1824, recording the identity of the clients and the huge sums which passed through the books of the firm (presumably the then equivalent of turnover) and which could amount to £90,000 or even £175,000 during the half-year; a printed advertisement for the 'New Brighton' development on the Longford/de Vesci estate between Seapoint and Dunleary, Co. Dublin, c.1820; and copy testimonials to Stewart's efficiency as a land agent from satisfied clients, including the 3rd Viscount Palmerston, 1834.



Papers about the private affairs of Henry Stewart and G. C. Swan

Papers relating to the private estate and financial affairs of Henry Stewart himself and of his partner, Graves Chamney Swan, include: accounts, 1786-1801, between Henry Stewart and George Whitelocke, Wokingham, Berkshire,

all relating to their joint purchase of the Tyrcallen estate, Stranorlar, Co. Donegal, from the Rev. Oliver McCausland in 1789 and the subsequent receipts from and disbursements on that property; subsequent Tyrcallen estate papers, 1808, 1819 and 1836-1850, including correspondence about the sale of the estate in the second half of the 1840s; receipts, receipted accounts, vouchers, etc, 1823 and 1828-1840, to Henry Stewart and other members of his family for all sorts of things, among them work on Tyrcallen House (1828), a carriage (1829), work and other expenses relating to Stewart's business office at 6 Leinster Street, Dublin, at various times, his funeral expenses (1840), etc; an original bundle of 'Vouchers of the Hon. Mrs [Elizabeth] Stewart's accounts from 1 February 1843 to 31 January 1848 ...'; and deeds, bonds, judgements, accounts and correspondence, 1739 and 1774-1844, about the estates of Graves Chamney Swan in Drogheda, at Kildavin and Ballypierce, Co. Carlow, and at Bolecreen and Balinlecka, Co. Wexford, and those of the Graves, Chamney and Graham families in Drogheda, Cos Louth and Meath, Cos Carlow, Wexford and Wicklow, and Dublin City and County, 1668-1799, including 'A rent roll of the real and personal estates of John Graham of Plattin ...', Co. Meath, 1763.

[See Also D3167 and T3007].

