

The Descendants of John, Eldest Son of “Tottenham in his Boots”, through the Elder Children from his Second Marriage

B6. The Tottenham – Fleming Branch

NOTE - This branch of the family is here included for the first time, mainly on the strength of a statement supplied to me by Dr. Richard Tottenham (B8f-12). This statement was recorded by his grandmother, Harriet (B8b-10), “being of sound mind and clear recollection”, in her 89th year in 1893. It declares that John Tottenham, after the death of his wife, Elizabeth Loftus, in 1747, married Mary Grey, a Roman Catholic, by the rites of the R.C. Church; and it is from this union that the branch is descended. The statement is corroborated by an old family tree provided by Charles Edward Tottenham (B7g-13), which adds that the marriage took place in the Chapel of the Franciscans in Wexford, where Mary and her two daughters were buried. Other details in the statement and the tree are supported by independent evidence from other sources. Owing to the destruction of records when the Four Courts were burnt in 1922, it is very difficult to produce positive evidence of the marriage. It was inherently probable, because John was only 33 when his 1st wife died; and there is no direct evidence against it. On the other hand, it is quite possible, if not probable, that a “mixed” marriage was not recognised by the rest of the family. In any case, several generations of people calling themselves Tottenham have added some lustre to the name in various walks of life; and I see no reason why they should be excluded from the record, provided that the facts, as above, are clearly stated.

- a) **William Tottenham (-)** lived near Waterford and married the daughter of John Fleming “of Staholmock House, Meath, a descendant of Lord Slane”.
- b) **George Tottenham (- 1862)** made himself a place at Rathangan, Co, Kildare, which he called Tottenham Green, and which is mentioned in Lewis’s “*Topographical Dictionary of Ireland*”, 1837.
- c) **John Tottenham (-)** served in 89th Regiment and was killed at Hyderabad as a Lieutenant.
- d) **George Tottenham (-)** was in 32nd Regt.
- e) **John William Tottenham (-)** first served in the Royal Navy, under a Fleming uncle, and then in Royal Scots Fusiliers. His wife was daughter of John White of Castleford House, Wexford; and he died comparatively young as a result of wounds received in India.
- f) **The Rev. John Tottenham (1808-1864)** entered Trinity College, Dublin, in 1824, at the age of 16, as a Fellow-Commoner. B.A., 1827. He was Rector of Ballysax, Co. Kildare; and a memorial at Rathangan, where he died, says that he was for 21 years Curate, and for 2 years Rector of that parish. He died unmarried, and so this line became extinct.
- g) **William Fleming Tottenham (-)**. One account connects him with “the Tottenhams of Tottenham Green”.
- h) **The Rev. John White Tottenham (1827-1908)**, M.A. (Oxon), when curate of Clapham, made a name for himself as a west-end preacher. When vicar of St. Leonard’s parish church, he gave up the living to start the first ‘expensive and exclusive preparatory school.’ He got some minor royalty as pupils and the school was made. It became large, having a waiting list like a public school, and for many years he made £10,000 a year — a large sum in those days. His sole assets were good looks, great charm of manner, and an Irish way with him, and the good sense to allow his wife to run the school. He confined himself to charming the mothers of pupils, taught divinity, and carried much correspondence in *The Times* on religious arguments with Athelston Riley, Huxley and the Rev. Vallings. He first married Anne Grey, the daughter of John Grey of March who all but ruined himself maintaining a regiment of Yeomanry at the time of the scare of invasion by Napoleon. Anne was an incredible woman. She read Latin at the age of four, and Greek at six. She published a novel in her teens. She engaged all the masters and managed every detail of the school. His second wife, Emma Gettens died in 1922.
- i) **John Grey Tottenham (1858-1925)** died unmarried in 1925. As a result of an accident at the age of six he remained mentally of that age for the rest of his life.
- j) **Amy Tottenham (1859-1946)** was born in 1859 and married John Maynard Pickthall, son of the Rev. W.M. Pickthall (a Cumberland family). She died in 1946, leaving several children, including Brigadier John Patrick Tottenham Pickthall.
- k) **The Rev. Edward Hyacinth Tottenham (1861-1924)** educated at Harrow, B.A. (Exeter College, Oxford) 1890, had a varied career in the Church, including a Curacy in New South Wales (where he edited “The Melbourne Sun” for some time); Chaplaincies at Trincomalee and Karlsruhe; besides being Curate, Rector, or Vicar of various places in England. After being Vicar of Shepreth (near Barrington), Cambridgeshire, 1915-17, his last appointment was Rector of Leaden Roding, 1917-18. He seems to have made himself unpopular both at Leaden Roding and also, later, in Jersey, by his alleged pro-German sympathies. He married Elizabeth Bessel, a ward of Mr. Gladstone, who left her considerable property in Chester. They had no children, but in 1907 adopted a daughter – Barbara Gabrielle Hyacinth. Late in life he became a Roman Catholic and died in 1924.
- l) **Loftus Dacre Tottenham (1862-1920)** educated at Harrow, B.A. (Jesus College, Cambridge) 1884, became a Solicitor, practised for some years in London, and then went to Johannesburg. There he made a name for himself as a lawyer and also as the owner of a string of racehorses. He was said to have died unmarried in 1924, however the 1901 census shows his spouse as Maria Rosa Tottenham.
- m) **Dacre Tottenham (1864-1875)** had a beautiful singing voice and was chosen as a choirboy for Westminster Abbey. Just before he was due to go there he died of heart failure after winning a swimming race at his Father’s school.

B6. The Tottenham Fleming Branch

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1. John Tottenham
 b. 06-Dec-1714
 d. 29-Dec-1786
 m.
Mary Grey
 d. 1787+

9

a

b

4. William
 m.
Letitia Fleming

5. George
 d. 1862

10

c **d** **e**

1. John **2. George** **3. John William**
 m. 1823
Patience White

f

1. John
 b. 1808
 d. 12-Dec-1864

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g

h

1. William Fleming
 b. 1823
 d. 1906

2. John White
 b. 1827
 d. 1908

3. Nelson

I. Patience

m.
Anne Humphreys
 ?

m. Sep 1885
Charlotte Mary Allum

m. Dec 1856 m. Sep 1891

Anne Thompson Gray
 b. 1824
 d. 1887

Emma Gettens
 b. c.1837
 d. 1922

12

1. John Gray **2. Duncan White Nelson** **3. John White**
 b. c.1852 b. c.1854 b. 1888

i **j** **k** **l** **m**

1. John Gray **I. Amy** **2. Edward Hyacinth** **3. Loftus Dacre** **4. Dacre**
 b. 1858 b. 16-Aug-1859 b. 1861 b. 1862 b. 1864
 d. 1925 d. 1946 d. 1924 d. 1920 d. 1875
 m. m. m. Dec 1901 m. 1899

John Maynard Pickthall **Elizabeth Bessel** **Maria Rosa Bini**
 Issue I. **Barbara Gabrielle Hyacinth** **Irene M.K.D.**
 adopted 1907 m. 1928 b. 1899
James E. Bird

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