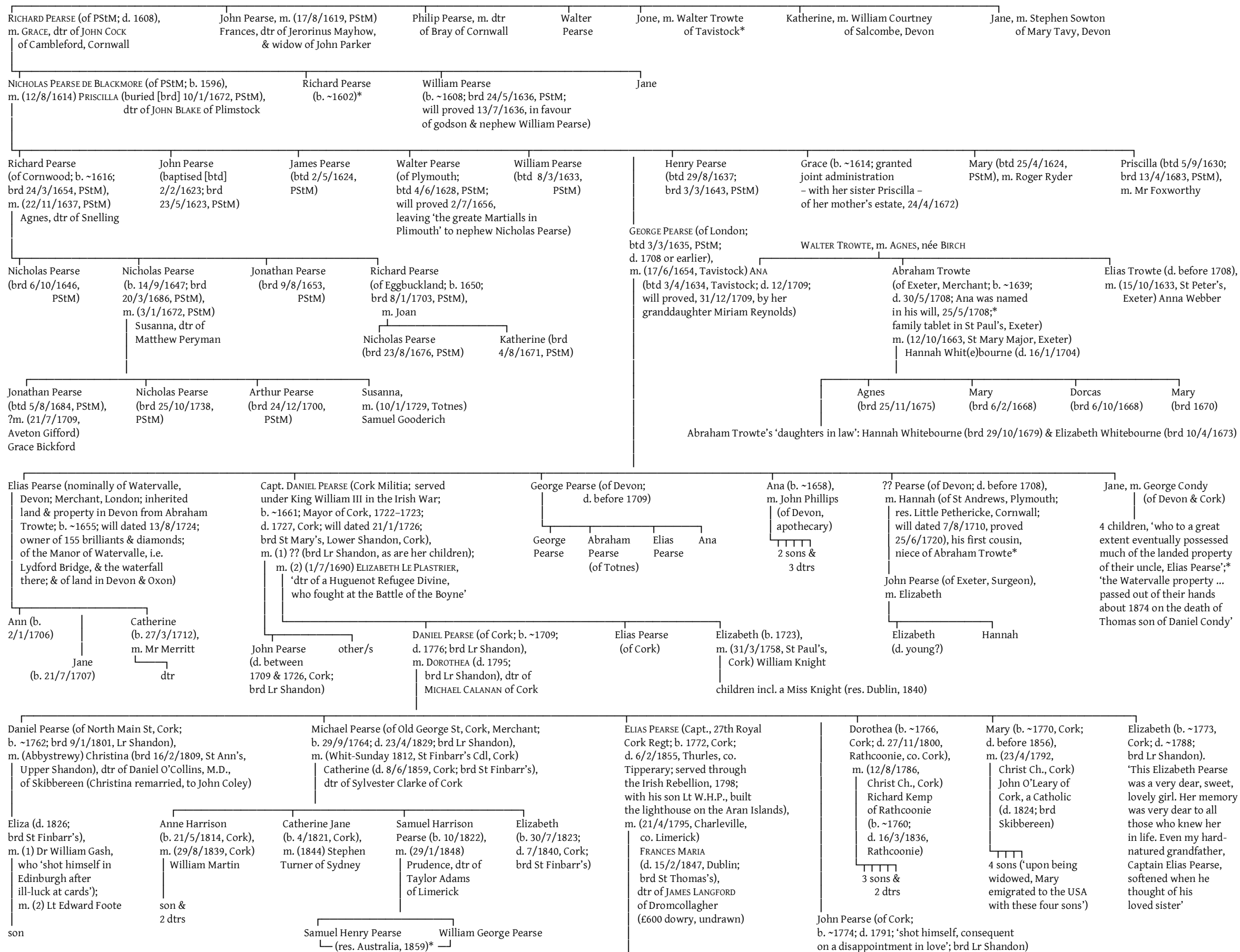


NICHOLAS PEARSE (of Plympton St Mary [PStM]), m. dtr of Mr SMITH (of Bickington, Devon)



William Henry Pearse (Lt, 37th Hampshire Regt of Foot; b. 6/7/1796, Tuam, co. Galway; d. 4/4/1835, Dublin; brd St Thomas's). 'This ... was one of the very sweetest characters that has ever existed. He was attractive beyond degree. He was a poet. He had an early and sadly ending love affair in Canada, when there with his regiment. It saddened and sweetened his life'; 'His constitution was impaired by terrible privations undergone whilst hunting the moose-deer'

Dr GEORGE PEARSE, M.D. (of Edinburgh, later Godfrey House, Cheltenham; Hon. Physician to Queen Victoria; sailed to Madras for the East India Co. on the 'Duke of Bedford', 1824; Inspector-Gen. of Hospitals, Madras Army; b. 2/12/1797, Rothangan, co. Kildare; d. 28/3/1885, Godfrey House; brd Prestbury, Cheltenham), m. (25/9/1818, St Nicholas's, Cork) ANNE SARAH (b. 12/6/1801, Youghal, co. Cork; d. 29/6/1877, Godfrey House; brd Prestbury; tablet in St Mark's, Cheltenham), dtr of JAMES MCCULLOCH, Esq., of Strabane, co. Derry, & sister of James Parsons McCulloch & 14 others who died young*

Eliza (b. 6/9/~1800, Edenderry, co. Kildare; d. 29/8/1879, Dublin), m. (1) (1819) Dr William Kershaw of North Strand, Dublin (d. 1824; brd St Paul's, Dublin); m. (2) (6/1834, St Thomas's, Dublin) Dr James Butler, M.D., a Catholic, of Thurles, co. Tipperary (b. 18/5/1787; d. 1868, Thurles)

Frances Maria (b. 17/9/1815, Cork; d. 21/10/1849, Dublin; brd St Thomas's, Dublin), m. (10/1844, Cullen's Wood, Dublin) Richard Piers, an Officer, of Tristaneh Abbey, Westmeath. 'Fanny, as this, my wild Irish aunt was called, was a being of quite a past age. So full of spirits, with such an exhaustless fund of fun, so strong, swarthy and reckless, she was quite out of the ordinary run of mortals.'

James William George

Anne Sarah (b. 1/10/1820, Cork; d. in childbirth, 30/12/1849, Ferozepore), m. (3/9/1840, Madras) Capt. Robert Cornelis Napier of the Bengal Engineers (later Field-Marshal Lord Napier of Magdala; b. 6/12/1811, Ceylon; d. 14/1/1890, London; brd St Paul's Cdl; statue first at Waterloo Place, now Queen's Gate), son of Charles F. Napier (Maj., Royal Artillery; d. 21/3/1812)

3 sons & 2 dtrs*

James Langford Pearse (ret'd Hon. Maj.-Gen., Madras Staff Corps; 2nd Burmese War, 1852; medal with clasp 'Pegu'; b. 6/5/1823, Cork; btd Christ Ch.; d. 26/1/1892, Ryde, Isle of Wight), m. (2/9/1852, St James's, Sydney)

Emily Jane (b. 1832; d. 1908), eldest dtr & co-heiress of Hon. Mr. William Bradley, Member of Council, Sydney

Georgina (b. 6/7/1824, at sea off Madras; btd St Mary's; d. 30/9/1824, on the march up country to the Northern Circars from Madras)

Zoë Dorothy (b. 24/3/1880, Bangalore; btd 6/5/1880, St Mark's, Bangalore; d. 2/2/1894, London; brd Great Kimble)

George Godfrey Pearse (of Godfrey House; Lt-Gen., Col. Commandant Royal Horse Artillery; Companion of the Bath; Punjab War, 1848-9; N.W. Frontier, 1849-55; Indian 'Mutiny', 1857-9; b. 4/1/1827, Berhampore, Madras Pdcy; d. 5/12/1905),* m. (6/5/1879, Great Kimble, Bucks)

Louisa 'Zoë' Hester (b. 3/12/1845, Wem, Shropshire; d. 28/10/1914), youngest dtr of Rev. John Steward, B.A., vicar of Great Kimble, & sister of Francis William Barrington Steward, who went to Australia; 'The Stewards are of Norman blood, and are of the same strain as the Stuarts of Royal blood. The first English Steward was a cousin of Prince James of Scotland'

Elizabeth Frances (b. 24/9/1828, Berhampore; d. 30/4/1833, Secunderabad, Madras Pdcy; 'A beautiful tomb surmounts the remains of this angel-child Lizzie, as she was called ... All who saw her said or thought that such beauty was for a better world than ours here')

Godfrey Pearse (Lt, 13th Madras Infantry; b. 28/10/1881, Ootacamund; ed. Sandhurst; d. 2/4/1920)

Emma (b. 22/3/1830, Kamptee, Madras Pdcy), m. (3/12/1850, Bangalore) Samuel Lawrence Cox, Surgeon, Madras Horse Artillery (b. 5/4/1810, Coleraine, Ireland; d. of diabetes, 2/3/1865, Magherafelt, co. Derry)

2 sons & 2 dtrs survived to maturity; George d. young & is brd Old Cemetery, nr Horse Artillery Lines, Bangalore

William Henry Pearse (b. 1/12/1832, Kamptee; btd 30/12, Nagpore, Berars; 'the finest and most beautiful flower of the flock'; 'In 1849 (about) he went to Australia, under excellent auspices, but his career was a failure. He probably perished in the Bush about 1857-58. He was 6 feet 4 inches in height, fair, beautiful, clever, gentle, and pure. He was a pleasing rhymist. His doubtful end was a life-long deep grief to his mother')

Robert Edmund Pearse (ret'd Madras Army Medical Department; Brigade Surgeon; China War, 1860, with the Madras Sappers & Miners; b. 5/6/1836, Spenser Rm, Canonbury Tower; btd St Mary's, Islington), m. (9/10/1862, Holy Trinity, Maidstone) Jane Anne (b. 21/8/1834; d. 25/5/1865, Calicut, Madras), youngest dtr of John Wood of Melton Hall, Suffolk

Anne (b. 22/9/1863, Calicut; brought up at Godfrey House), m. (31/10/1885, Madras) Charles Pritchard, Barrister (b. ~1850; d. 12/5/1905, Salem, India)

Albert Elias Pearse (ret'd Lt-Col., 76th Regt of Foot; Resident Magistrate, Bandon, co. Cork; b. 17/11/1839, Madras; ed. Sandhurst; Abyssinian War, 1868; d. 17/7/1904, Ramsgate), m. (15/12/1870, St Phillip's, Cheltenham) Marian Harriott (b. 25/9/1850; d. 23/5/1902; tablet in Bandon ch.), eldest dtr of Col. Archibald Impey (d. 19/6/1897; desc. of Sir Elijah Impey & of le Marquis de l'Etang), ret'd Royal Bengal Engineers, now Impey-Lovibond

Annie Lugard (b. 26/9/1872, Secunderabad), m. (11/6/1896, St Peter's, Kensington Pk) Lt Harry Gordon Benn, 3rd Bombay (Queen's Own) Light Cavalry (b. 2/11/1864, Bahia, Brazil)

Florence Godfrey 'Tossie' (b. 26/11/1873; d. 18/9/1892, Poona)

Hilda Alice (b. 30/12/1875; d. 23/1/1876, Madras)

Edwin Langford Pearse (Madras Civil Service; b. 28/7/1843, Bruges, Belgium; d. 15/8/1878, Negapatam, Madras Pdcy, 'from exhaustion and overwork during the fearful famine then raging')

Emily Elizabeth 'Bessie' (b. 19/8/1853, Bangalore; d. 16/1/1888, Hong Kong), m. (9/1/1875, Bangalore) Capt. (later Col.) Walter Treslove Ellis, 48th Regt (b. 14/3/1843; d. 27/12/1901, London; brd Worpleston, Surrey)

Ralph Dorothy

Napier Langford Pearse (Hon. Col., 45th Regt, the Sherwood Foresters; b. 9/3/1856, Bangalore; ed. Harrow; Egyptian War, 1882; Khedive Star & medal with clasp)

William Bradley Pearse (b. 19/3/1855, Bangalore; ed. Harrow & Merton Coll., Oxon; d. 15/11/1875, London, 'from the accidental discharge of his Deringer pistol'; brd Old Brompton Cemetery)

Edith Anne (b. 27/3/1857, Bangalore), m. (1) (2/12/1879, Folkestone) William Arbuthnot (Col., 14th Hussars; later Maj.-Gen. & C.B.; b. 27/9/1838, Madras; d. 12/9/1893, nr London; brd Brompton Cemetery; desc. of King Edward I of England & King Philip III of France); m. (2) (2/8/1894, New York) the divorced Count Guy de Miremont, i.e. Frank Meredith

Hinda Colonna (b. 6/4/1895, London)

Beatrice Laura 'Nina' (b. 4/9/1868, Bangalore)

James Langford Pearse, Jnr (Maj., 53rd Shropshire Light Infantry; b. 18/12/1859, Bangalore; ed. Harrow; Egyptian War, 1882; Sudan War, 1885-6; Khedive Star & medal with clasp)

CHARLES JOHN PEARSE (Col., Indian Staff Corps; formerly 47th Madras Native Infantry; b. Sunday 20/7/1834, Secunderabad; d. 1918; 'killed 39 tigers, and was in at the death of about 70. He also killed about 70 leopards and panthers, and was in at the death of about 170'), m. (14/4/1859, Ramandroog, Bellary) HARRIET 'HASSIE' EMMA (b. 1/5/1840; d. 28/11/1928), eldest dtr of CHARLES PELLY, Esq., Madras Civil Service, who 'was third son of the first baronet, Sir John Henry Pelly, F.R.S., Governor of the Bank of England, etc. Creation 1840. Pelly Arms.— Or, on a bend engrailed azure, between two trefoils three martlets'

Charles Edward Pearse (b. 22/12/1859, Secunderabad; d. 6/2/1862, Shimoga, Mysore; brd Old Cemetery, Bangalore)

Emma Henrietta (b. 19/6/1861, Bangalore; d. 14/11/1930; brd Northam, Devon), m. (2/2/1881, Mysore) Iver MacPherson, Forest Dept, son of Dr Duncan MacPherson children

George Raymond Pearse (coffee planter, Coorg; b. 4/3/1863, Bangalore; d. 9/1/1926)

Anne Chater (b. 12/3/1868, Toomkoor, Mysore; d. 28/10/1938)

Albert Pearse (Surgeon, L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., British Army Medical Department; b. 15/7/1866, Godfrey House; NW Frontier, 1897-8; 2nd Boer War, 1900; d. 20/7/1943), m. (2) Antoinette (d. 4/1973)

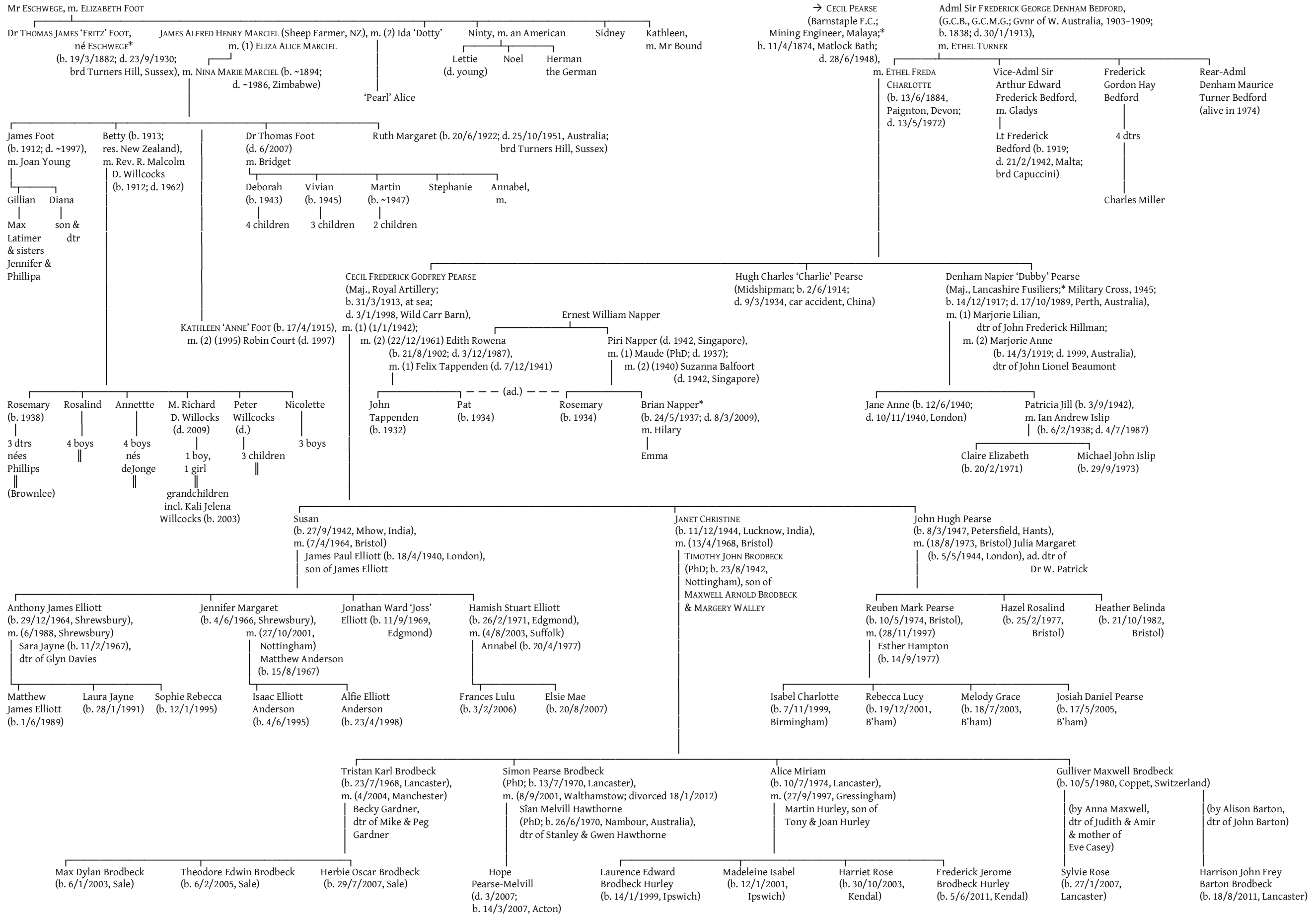
Mary Elma (b. 30/8/1869, Toomkoor; d. 30/1/1951)

Francis Napier Pearse (coffee & tea planter, Coorg & Assam; b. 23/6/1872, Writtle Pk, Essex; d. 28/4/1958), m. Violet Sybil Clare (b. 1892; d. 2/5/1965)

CECIL PEARSE →

Kathleen (b. 22/3/1876, Toomkoor; btd Mysore; qualified as a nurse, St George's Hosp., London, 5/1902; d. 21/3/1963)

Reginald Godfrey Pearse (b. 19/9/1877, Mysore; btd; d. 13/10/1878, Mysore)



Most of the foregoing details are taken from: *The Pedigree of the Family of Pearse, of Plympton St. Mary, South Devon, England; from about A.D. 1530 to 1738. Also a Pedigree of Descendants of the Aforesaid Family, who derive from Daniel Pearse, of Cork, Ireland: A.D. 1690. Also a Biographical Sketch of the Members of the Family for the last 260 years.* By General George Godfrey Pearse (Companion of the Bath; Colonel Commandant, Royal Horse Artillery), of 4 Norfolk Square, London. Published London, 1897. 25 copies; one is British Library shelfmark 9906cc7, also microfilm PB MIC 40525.

This book by George Godfrey Pearse [henceforth 'G.G.P.'] contains two family trees, which I, Simon Pearse Brodbeck, have combined and extended with the aid of the communications of my living relatives, including a document prepared by Charles Miller entitled 'Descendants of Cecil Pearse'. The book by G.G.P. also contains Pearse pen-sketches beginning with George Pearse (b. 1635), 'the first member of the family who left Devonshire'. I have used G.G.P.'s own copy, which contains diverse extra documents, including handwritten addenda and corrigenda. I have omitted many details.

The legend accompanying the first tree reads as follows:

The original of the PEDIGREE of this family of PEARSE of Plympton St. Mary, South Devonshire, England, is to be found in the MSS. Department, British Museum, London; amongst the Harleian MSS. 1164, folio 35B in William Camden's, afterwards Sir William, *Clarencieux*, "Visitation of County Devonshire," of A.D. 1620; which Visitation is one of the chiefest ever carried out by the Heralds' College of Arms. The work of that Visitation was done chiefly by Camden's Deputy, Henry St. George, *Richmond* ...

In 1893-95, Colonel J. L. Vivian published a work, "Visitations of County Devon," wherein he has utilised *all* the Visitations made of that county. Therein he has added all further information obtained by him from baptismal and other registers and sources ...

Our family descends from ... GEORGE PEARSE. The PEDIGREE TREE from him to date is separately given, and is attached hereto. I believe that, save ourselves, there are no male descendants of the PEARSES, of Plympton St. Mary. During the great Civil War, *tempus* King Charles I, George Pearse seems to have left Devonshire for London.

G.G.P.'s *credo* implies the eradication of the Pearse line in Plympton in the 1600s, the line continuing only through George Pearse and his son Captain Daniel Pearse (d. 1727), i.e. the Cork branch.

In this connection I present, firstly, details about the Plympton St Mary workhouse, with which several Pearses were involved during the lifetime of G.G.P. (1827-1905):

Plympton St Mary Union Workhouse

... The Plympton St Mary Union was formed on October 10th 1836, following the passing of the Poor Law Act of that year ... [I]t was decided to lodge all the male inmates at Plymstock Workhouse and the females and children at Ridgeway.

... On April 20th 1838 it was resolved that a new workhouse should be erected, capable of housing 200 inmates ... [A]t the meeting on Friday March 3rd 1839 a resolution was passed that "Butt Side Park", the property of Lord Morley, and an orchard, the property of Miss Catherine Treeby, at Underwood, be purchased as the site for the new workhouse. On July 12th 1839 the Board accepted the tender of Mr William Bartlett junior, of Devonport, in the sum of £3,621, for the construction. The Clerk of Works [i.e. Site Inspector] was Mr William Pearse.

... The Plympton Union Workhouse was first occupied on Monday March 22nd 1841 ... It was managed by a Board of 35 Guardians ... Among the Board members were ... Mr Joseph Pearse, senior, Mr Christopher Spear and Mr Richard Willing, for Plympton St Mary; Mr Thomas Brown and Mr Joseph Pearse, junior, for Plympton St Maurice ...

From April 1st 1930 ... the Local Government Act 1929 came into force and the Board of Guardians was disbanded ... When the National Health Service commenced on July 5th 1948 [the building] became known as the Underwood House Hospital, which was simplified 10 years later to Plympton Hospital.

The old Plympton St Mary Union Workhouse building was demolished in 1974. Plympton Hospital now stands on the site.

(from Brian Moseley's article,

<http://www.plymouthdata.info/Workhouses.htm>, accessed 2010)

One of these two Joseph Pearses would presumably also be the Joseph Pearse named by the Rev. William Isaac Coppard, in his account of the 1832 cholera epidemic in Plympton St Mary, as a member of the Plympton St Mary Board of Health. See *Cottage Scenes during the Cholera: being extracts from a diary written in July and August 1832*, London, F. & J. Rivington, 1848, pp. 71, 84, 124; unproofed reprint Memphis, Tennessee, General Books, 2009; full text at <http://books.google.co.uk/>.

There is evidence of the Plympton Pearses also in census data from the 1800s. Amongst many details about Plympton St Mary and Plympton St Maurice given at <http://genuki.cs.ncl.ac.uk/DEV/indexpars.html#P> are data from censuses of 1841, 1861, 1871, 1891, and 1901, thus spanning most of the Victorian era. I list all the the Pearses (discounting Pearces) named in these online documents (with their ages):

1841

Higher Yeampson: John, farmer (35), and Sarah (25).

Lower Yeampson: Joseph, farmer (60), and Elizabeth (60), with William (25), Thomas (25), Emma (20), and Henry (15).

Underwood: James, agricultural labourer (35), and Elizabeth (30), with William (4), Elizabeth (2), and Mary (6 months).

Underwood: Robert, workhouse master (45), and Ann, matron (40), with Harriot (5) and Ann (2).

Underwood: John, workhouse (75).

Fore Street (Plympton St Maurice): Joseph, butcher (35), and Jane (30), with Joseph (7), John (2), and William Henry (4 months).

1861

Lower Yempstone: Elizabeth, widow (76), with William, farmer (57), and Emma (36), both unmarried, and visitors William (2) and Ann (2 months).

New Barn: Henry, farmer (41), and Sarah (38), with William (9) and Emma (6).

Underwood Hill, north side: Elizabeth, widow and laundress (53), with Thomas, stonemason (17), and Mary (3).

Underwood: William, stonemason (24), and Mary (24), with Amanda (1).

Underwood: William, agricultural labourer and workhouse inmate (61).

Fore Street (Plympton St Maurice): Edward, butcher (55).

Fore Street (Plympton St Maurice): Joseph, baker (27), and Julia (27), with Joseph (4), John (3), William (2), and Jane (4 months).

1871

New Barn: Henry, farmer (51), with William H.T. (19) and Emma (16).

Underwood: William, plate-layer (34), and Mary-Ann (34), with Amanda (11), Maria (9), Kate (7), Harry (4), and Jessie (F, 2).

Underwood: Thomas Wills, railway labourer (27), and Thurza (22), with Lilius Mary (5) and Elizabeth (3).

Dark Street Lane (at the house of William Pitts): Thomas (54), and Elizabeth (49).

Collingwood Cottages (Plympton St Maurice): Louise, mariner's wife, visitor (44).

Fore Street (Plympton St Maurice): Edward, retired butcher (64).

Fore Street (Plympton St Maurice): Joseph, butcher (37), Mary (33), and John (32), with Joseph (14), John (13), William (12), Emma (1), and Sydney (5 months).

1891

Dark Street Lane: Henry, retired farmer (71), and Mary, living on her own means (72).

Woodside: Henry, retired farmer (71), and Louisa (66).

Moor View: Harry, plumber (23), and Amelia A. (22), with Charles C. (3), Lucy W. (2), and Harry (1 month). [This latter Harry became a Corporal in the Devonshire Royal Garrison Artillery (Territorial); d. 12/5/1916, UK, aged 25; brd Plympton St Mary; m. Emma Maud; commem. Plympton War Memorial.]

Barn Cott: John, land surveyor (33), and Elizabeth (34), with Frank W. (3) and Julia E. (1).

Lower Chaddlewood: Joseph, farmer and butcher (57), and Mary M.P., butcher (52), with Emma (21), Edith (15), and Emily (13).

Holland (at the farm of Charles Dewdney, his uncle): Fredrick (11).

1901 (index data only)

Brixton: 2 Pearses. Ermington: 3. Plymstock: 5. Yealmpton: 2.

There are presently (in 2010) a number of Pearses in the Plympton area, some of them presumably descendants of the families listed here.

In G.G.P.'s printed book, the legend accompanying the first tree reads: '... During the great Civil War, tempus King Charles I, *the family* seems to have left Devonshire for London. *I believe they were Parliamentarians*' (italics added by S.P.B.). This has been amended by the later handwriting. As regards the political inclinations of the Plympton Pearses, it may not be wholly irrelevant to note that several Pearses are recorded amongst those who took oaths of allegiance to King George I at The George, Plympton St Mary, on 2-3/9/1723. These public oaths were undertaken in the wake of the (Jacobite) Atterbury plot, foiled in 1722. See <http://www.foda.org.uk/oaths/intro/introduction1.htm>, which links to documents (QS17/2/2/2a and QS17/2/2/2b) recording the names of those who took oaths at The George. The Pearses listed are as follows: Christopher, of Cornwood; Nicholas, of Plympton St Mary; John, of Plympton St Mary; Elizabeth, of Brixton; Nicholas, of Shaugh Prior; William, of Ermington; Maine, of Cornwood; and William, of Charleton. Details of other Pearses who took oaths elsewhere in Devon are also accessible from this site.

The legend accompanying the second tree reads as follows:

The family whose PEDIGREE is here given descends from the PEARSES of PLYMPTON ST. MARY, SOUTH DEVONSHIRE, ENGLAND, from where it branched off in the 17th Century ... The data here given are vouchered by documents in the possession of Lieut-Gen. GEORGE GODFREY PEARSE, C.B., the Compiler. There are no Arms. Armorial Bearing [was] given to the Pearses of Plympton St. Mary, Devon, by Sir William Camden in 1620. It was in the middle of the 17th Century that members of the name took out such. In the middle of the 19th Century, the College at Arms, London, brought to notice that the Arms of this family of Pearse had never been registered either in London or in Dublin. This was accordingly done by Dr. GEORGE PEARSE, M.D. ... father of the Compiler, in the name of his own father, Capt. ELIAS PEARSE, of the Cork Militia ... The Arms are those taken to Ireland, in 1690, by Lt DANIEL PEARSE, of the Cork Militia ... with a slight addition inserted at the recommendation of Sir Bernard Burke, Ulster King-at-Arms, Ireland, for the purpose of particularising the bearers thereof as being of the *émigré* stock to Ireland.

Arms.—*Vert a bend nebulée plain cortised or*, a Canton ermine, thereon a trefoil of the Field.

Crest.—A fern-brake, thereon a pelican in her piety, wings elevated proper, charged on the breast with a trefoil vert.

Motto.—“*nihil amanti durum*,” *i.e.*, “Nothing is difficult to one who loves.”

The *bend nebulée plain cortised or*, or *argent*, is a characteristic armorial bearing of the major part of all the families of PEARSE, PEARCE, PERCY, and such like names, denoting it to have been in Crusading and Mediaeval times their distinguishing Blazon, as the Chequey is of all the STEWARTS, STUARTS, or STEWARDS. The PEARSE Arms, Crest and Motto are full of significance, implying that the first bearer thereof was a Crusader, who gave his life for the redemption of the Holy Sepulchre, as our LORD had given HIS for the Redemption of the World, as does a Pelican for the sake of its young.

In A.D. 912 Golfride, *i.e.*, Geoffry, son of Mainfred of Denmark, with his clan, or following, were baptised on that eventful day when the Normans abjured the worship of Odin and embraced Christianity, obtained Normandy, and entered the Comity of the civilised Powers of European Christendom. With the descendants of Golfride the name Pearse is at once identified. Golfride took the surname of Perse from the name of the Castle which fell to

his lot in A.D. 912, when Rollo the Norwegian was given Normandy by the Frank King Charles the Simple of France. Rollo was baptised Robert, and became the 1st Duke of Normandy ... Certain it is that the Perse Aigue River, the land of Persevalle, the Chateau de Perse, &c., were all places possessed by families of that name in the old Normandy time, *i.e.*, previous to 1066. This surname Perse has remained constant with their descendants for now nearly 1,000 years. There are many, it is said forty, variations in the orthography of the name, the result of time and circumstances. In Normandy, I am told, the name is still (now in 1894) Perse. There is still there a Vicomte de Parseval. At the battle of Hastings in 1066 the Chiefs of the name were Robt. Sieur de Breherval, *i.e.*, Breteuil, his son Ascelin Govel de PERSEVAL, *i.e.*, Perceval. Gml. or Wm. de PERSE, Sieur de PERSE, also written PERSÉ, near Villedieu, *anglice* Lord Wm. Percy. History says they there led 10,000 Northmen warrior followers. After the victory of Hastings a large portion of this formidable clan were planted in the western marshes of England, in Devon and Cornwall. A generation after Hastings a large number again followed their chiefs to the capture of Jerusalem in 1099, under the banner of Robert Courthouse, or Courthouse, Duke of Normandy. The Sieur de PERSE, *anglice* Lord Henry Percy, died there, at Jaffa, in Palestine. There is no doubt that from a Knight of this great Clan or Family of PERSE, descended from Golfride the Dane of 912 and his warriors, the PEARSES of PLYMPTON ST. MARY, SOUTH DEVON, ENGLAND, and the PEARSES here considered, an offshoot of theirs, do descend.

G.G.P.'s addenda include this one, which ‘Showeth how the surnames Perse and Perceval possibly originated with the ancient Celts’:

The remote origin of the surname Perse and its many variants of today may possibly derive from Perseus, for reasons here given..

During the time of the Concert of the great European Powers in 1897, when their Forces partially occupied and held the island of Candia or Crete, it became known that there, there were many families of Persides; called after Perseus, and claiming descent from him.

In the April number of the Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society of Great Britain and Ireland for 1897, pages 205–26, is a remarkable article by the learned Mr Robert Brown, Junior, F.S.A.; entitled “On the Origin of the ancient northern constellation figures.” At pages 216–18 Perseus is

considered. We there read of his great deed at Joppa [i.e. Jaffa] in rescuing Andromeda; of his being brought into the Constellations and into the Zodiac; of his remote Syrian, Babylonian and Egyptian ancestry; of his name signifying in Greek, the Destroyer; that in Phœnician the name is Persée; that in Egyptian Perseus and Per-se is the son of Isis, i.e. of Mother earth.

A careful consideration of Doctor William Smith's several articles in his Classical Dictionary on Perses, Perseus, Persis or Persia, Perses the son of Helios (the sun) and Perse, and brother of Aertes and Circe, Persici Montes i.e. Parsici Montes, Persides or the descendants of Perses; are very noteworthy when considered in conjunction with what is mentioned in the above two paragraphs: also when it is remembered that Homer mentions Perse.

King Arthur of Britain was a Celt, he was killed in Battle A.D. 542 on the Camlan River, Cornwall. Vide Encyclopedia Britannica. One of his chief knights was Sir Parzival.

The Genealogical History of the House of Yvery, 2 Vols: Roy: 8°, London, 1742, mentions that the Parsevalx of the Battle of Hastings, A.D. 1066, were a younger branch of the Dukes of Brittany, i.e. they were Celts. In France now in the 19th Century A.D. the name is Parseval, in England it is Perceval.

The ancient Celts of Western Europe were deeply tinged and influenced by early Greek Art, manners, customs and Cult. Thus Julius Cæsar B.C. 53, combated with the old Greek War chariot in Britain, long after it had ceased to be used militarily in Greece. The chariot on the reverse of the Gold Staters of King Philip of Macedon, B.C. 340, are on the coins of British Kings, centuries after it had ceased to be in vogue as a devise on those of Greece. When Christianity was first adopted by the Celts of Western Europe, their hearts yearned more towards Byzantium than to Rome. Vide that learned Work, Ireland and the Celtic Church, by Professor G. T. Stokes, D.D. 8° London. 1888. And in his learned work. "Greek in Gaul and Western Europe down to A.D. 700. The knowledge of Greek in Ireland." Dublin. 1892. 8° he says "The southern parts of Gaul were in pre-Christian times thoroughly Greek."

Professor J. Kendal Harris in his learned work. "Codex Bezae" published in 1891 as no. 1 of Vol. II in the Cambridge "Texts and Studies" in Chapter XVIII, shows conclusively, by many historical proofs, that the whole of Gaul was permeated by Greek and Oriental influences during the 6th Century A.D.

I deduce from the above that the surname Perse and its 40 variants in orthography of the present day, was introduced into Celtic Western Europe and Britain by Phœnician and Greek influences in a remote past of possibly 30 Centuries ago.

Herodotus mentions a great immigration of Celts into Europe from the regions of the Bosphorus. Modern scholars place it at about B.C. 1,000.

It seems possible that they who by hereditary right bear the name Perceval and its variants in Western Europe, have a claim with the Cretan families mentioned aforesaid, of being Persides, the descendants of Perseus. With others at all events in their faith.

I have in the M.S.S. Department at the British Museum very carefully examined all the old and other M.S.S. from which Bishop Percy and Sir Bernard Burke, culled their information regarding the name Percy and of the early Northmen and Norman members of our Clan. It is a magnificent huge tome. I have come to the conclusion that it was the monkish Chroniclers of Whitby Abbey who brought the two syllable surname of Percy, Persé, Piercey, Pierce-eye &ca. into use. I consider this occurred in the reign of King Henry 2nd of England, A.D. 1,154-1189: or about then, or possibly a little earlier. I have once come across the surname spelt Pearce in that region, it was borne by a lady connected with the Court. And I have once met the surname spelt Pearse in that region, it was of a Knight under the Bellingham Banner in the Norman Invasion of Ireland, A.D. 1,169-72, by Strongbow Earl of Pembroke. Previous to that up to Golfride, who was baptised Geoffry, the Northman of A.D. 912; the name is constant, it is Perse, Parse or such like. The French have more closely kept to the original pronunciation of the name, than we in Britain, have as a rule, done ...

The correct pronunciation of our Surname Pearse is as hearse. i.e. Perse. In A.D. 1,465 during the reign of King Edward IVth of England, A.D. 1,461-1,483, a great compulsory law for all classes to have and to use proper or surnames was enacted. Many Celts having the Christian name of Pierce, the equivalent of Peter, adopted it also as a surname. Thus is seen the necessity for the observance of our name being correctly pronounced.

I have often wondered how it has happened that there is so little mention of the Perses of Devonshire in times subsequent to the capture of Jerusalem in 1,099. There, and at the Battle of Hastings 33 years before, they were well represented.

Duke Robert of Normandy , who had the Perse Clan of Devon at his beck, returned from the 1st Crusade in 1,101, and at once invaded England with a formidable Army, on the 11th July, 1,101. There was a bitter hatred between him and his youngest brother King Henry 1st of England. Robert was reckless, Henry was crafty. After many vicissitudes of Fortune, Robert was taken prisoner on the 11th September 1,106, in battle, in Normandy. Henry blinded him, and kept him prisoner for the remainder of his life of 28 years.

History tells us that Kings William 2nd and Henry 1st of England, behaved ruthlessly to all the friends, adherents, followers and sympathisers of Duke Robert; particularly to those of rank. Doubtless it was in those days that the Anglo-Norman Persees of Devonshire were terribly fined down in power and in numbers.



THE PEARSE ARMS
(by Eddie Geoghegan,
from <http://www.heraldry.ws/>)



THE PEARSE CREST
(monochrome version)

Amongst G.G.P.'s addenda are details concerning the sources by which he built up his two trees:

A note. On Wills, Births, Baptisms, Marriages, Deaths and Burials.—
Shanklin. Isle of Wight. February 1903.—

This may prove a useful note to some, in the coming by & bye.

Regarding Wills. — There is in Somerset House, London; W.C. a collection of the Wills of the Land. Those previous to the reign of King Henry VIII. are as a rule on vellum or parchment. Generally they are written in Latin of a not very classical kind; their calligraphy is sometimes bad, but the reading of old documents is chiefly difficult on account of the multiplicity of abbreviated words, nay even short phrases. It is advisable to have an expert by one, when attempting to solve the difficulties of deciphering Mediæval documents.

The charge for consulting Wills more than 200 years old is much greater than for consulting the more recent ones..

I believe the Herald's College in London attaches more value to data furnished by Wills than by Church Parochial Records and Registers.

Regarding Births, Baptisms, Marriages, Deaths, Burials and Church Registrations.

These were not kept up in Churches till the reign of King Henry VIII. And for 50 years after the order enacting their introduction, the information given by them is fragmentary. In some places they are wanting.

The Cromwellian interregnum was antagonistic to them, comparatively few are entered during the period 1643–60. The Cromwellians purposely destroyed many Registers and Records of the times previous to their arrival on the scene.

Thus we cannot expect much from the church Registers & Records previous to A.D. 1661.

By the joint assistance of Wills and Church Registers and Records it is possible to evolve to some extent Family History to the Reign of K. Henry VIII.

We were a Cork family during the whole of the 18th Century, and for a little time before and after. The Records of our old, and the original church

of St Mary Shandon, Cork: are in the custody of the Deputy Master of the Rolls at the Four Courts Dublin. They go up to 1661. They are quite accessible.

Indian Registers. — Very many members of our family served in India during the 19th Century. There, all Church Registers were copied and sent home whilst the Hon'ble East India Company reigned, to the old East India House in Leadenhall Street, London. Subsequently to the India Office, Whitehall, London. There all information regarding Domestic occurrences in India can be obtained at a moderate charge. —

Visitations by Heralds. — From Norman times, Visitations by Heralds have frequently taken place in England.

The Duke of Norfolk is hereditary Earl Marshal of the country, and is as such head of the Herald's College, London.

To keep himself, the Herald's College, his Sovereign and the country in general 'au courant' with the actual state of men and matters the system of visitations by Heralds sent by the Duke through the Herald's College, London; was instituted.

In a sense, Domesday Book may be considered to be the first visitation since Norman times, but since then they have become as it were a Record and Register of the nobility and gentry made in their respective counties.

Some visitations are more ample and worthy than other visitations. The visitations of 1610 to 20 made by Sir William Camden, Clarencieux; through his deputy, Henry St George, Richmond, of the county of Devon where the Pearse family of Plympton St Mary is entered, is considered a good visitation.

These visitations together with Wills, constitute for Mediæval times a means of acquiring knowledge of the noble and gentle families of the Kingdom.

When the principality of Wales was annexed to England Circa A.D. 1283 the Heralds of London immediately went and recorded the history of every noble and gentle family in it. That Record has proved to subsequent ages of great value. As in this great case so it has proved in all the minor ones. —

* **Richard Pearse**

In *The Visitation of the County of Devon in the year 1620* (Henry St George, William Camden, et al., reprint of 1872 edition, Delhi, Pranava Books, 2008), on p. 362, in a list of persons 'disclaimed at Tavistock 1 Sept. 1620' (*Note.*—The word "Ignobilis," attached', p. 361), under the subheading for the 'Plimpton' hundred, a 'Richard Peirce' is listed, who may or may not be this Richard Pearse. The Pearse tree as given by the 1872 edition of the 1620 visitation (on p. 209) has, as its youngest Pearses, Grace (aged 6 in 1620) and Richard (aged 4), who would be the eldest niece and nephew of this Richard Pearse. The tree is credited to Nicholas Pearse, who is either his elder brother (de Blackmore), or his grandfather. Also mentioned elsewhere in this edition are John Peirce, Bailiff of Exeter; Thomas Peirce of Bigbury, 'disclaimed' in Totnes, 26 August 1620; and Richard Peirce of Gerandes in Cornwall, husband of Margaret Peirce, née Passmere.

* **The Trowte connection**

In the second listed generation, Jone Pearse married Walter Trowte of Tavistock. In the fourth generation, in Tavistock in 1654, George Pearse married Ana Trowte, daughter of (another) Walter Trowte and Mrs Agnes Trowte (née Birch), and sister of Abraham Trowte. When Ana's eldest son Elias Pearse was in his fifties, he 'inherited land and property in Devon from Abraham Trowte', as did most of his siblings. Elias Pearse's nameless younger brother married Hannah, their first cousin, the niece of Abraham Trowte (her surname is unknown), and she had a will; and Elias Pearse's younger sister Jane, though married to George Condy, had children 'who to a great extent eventually possessed much of the landed property of their uncle, Elias Pearse'. G.G.P. writes that 'The Condy's ... bought the Watervalle property rather early in the 18th century', but his conclusion that the acquisition was by purchase is rather recent, for 'all the Pearses of Cork ... believed the Devonshire landed properties had been illegally kept from them. Few can understand what an *ignis fatuus* [i.e. will-o'-the-wisp] it had been to them for 130 years'.

Whereas the inheritance of a surname is by father to son transmission, we see land passing from Abraham Trowte to his sister and her son, and from that son, Elias Pearse, to his sister's son; and we also see that Abraham Trowte's niece (Hannah, the daughter either of Abraham's brother or, perhaps more probably, another unmentioned sister) had a will.

In this connection it is worth recalling that 'The charge for consulting Wills more than 200 years old is much greater than for consulting the more recent ones.'

According to the reconstructed genealogy Elias Pearse had no son, and nor did Hannah's son John Pearse. But although these facts might seem significant in patrilineal terms, they could be coincidental. What we seem to see here is land staying within a community of descent reckoned through women who have diverse surnames. Thus to call the land which passes to the descendants of Jane Condy 'Trowte' family land might well be misleading, since although Abraham Trowte inherited his surname from his father (even as his mother Agnes inherited it upon marriage to her husband), we might suspect that Abraham inherited land through his mother Agnes, née Birch. If that land was ever tracked by a family name, and if that family name is now functioning as a patrilineal surname, then the name – which would now be geographically itinerant – has been turned to a use quite different from the one it once had.

Abraham Trowte may have had no issue of his own to name in his will of 1708, since his own daughters and 'daughters in law' (i.e., I take it, step-daughters) died in the 1660s and 70s; and perhaps (I have not seen Abraham's will, or Ana's) he was as generous to his brother's children as he was to his sister's. Nonetheless, on the basis of the information presented here, we might imagine that the *ignis* mentioned by G.G.P. rests upon a conflict between matrilineal and patrilineal inheritance patterns. G.G.P.'s obvious concern for the Pearse surname is typical of the patrilineal pattern; but if the idea is for inheritance to benefit genetic descendants, then – until the advent of DNA testing, at least – the matrilineal pattern would be inherently more reliable.

* **Res. Australia**

Samuel Henry Pearse and William George Pearse, brothers said to be resident in Australia in 1859, are not to be confused with William Silas Pearse and George Pearse, businessmen brothers who developed Plympton (now part of East Fremantle, in Western Australia), which is presumably named, through them, after Plympton in Devon. Their father, William Silas Snr, is said to have come to the Swan River Colony aboard the *Egyptian* in 1830, as an indentured labourer for William Wall; between 1838 and 1842 he had five sons. For a brief overview of these Pearses of Plympton, see [http://register.heritage.wa.gov.au/PDF_Files/26%20King%20Street%20\(I-AD\).PDF](http://register.heritage.wa.gov.au/PDF_Files/26%20King%20Street%20(I-AD).PDF), pp. 5–6 ('Streets in this area are named after members of the Pearse family'). For details of William Silas Jnr (who was also a politician), see <http://adbonline.anu.edu.au/biogs/A050470b.htm>.

*** Anne Sarah Pearse, née McCulloch**

G.G.P. says of his mother and her line (therein explaining his name 'Godfrey'):

She was a lineal descendant of Brude Mac Ferat or Fergus, called McCulagh or McCulloch, *celtice* son of a Boar; his sept or family crest, borne on his helmet, being a boar. He was the last King of the Southern Picts, and was slain in battle, A.D. 843, fighting against his near relative, Kenneth the Second, Mac Alpine, 69th Scotio-Irish King.

Brude Mac Ferat McCulagh's descendant, Sir Godfrey de McCulloch, fought by Godfrey de Bouillon's side at the taking of Jerusalem, A.D. 1099.

His descendant was honoured by King William the Lion of Scotland, 1165–1214. The McCulagh of Myrtoun, Wigtonshire.

His descendant was James McCulloch, who was given 1,000 acres of land near Strabane, county Londonderry, Ireland, in the Ulster Plantation of 1608–20.

His descendant was Archibald McCulloch, who was one of those who signed the great Protestant Address from Londonderry in 1689, to King William III., and who fought for the Protestant cause there, and at the Boyne the subsequent year.

My mother descended from this Archibald McCulloch ...

McCulloch hath for *Arms*—Ermine, a fretty gules of the shield ; *Crest*—On a wreath an arm embraced in armour holding an arrow proper gold ; *Motto*—“*Sub 'Hac Tuta.*”

And elsewhere:

It was a prevalent custom in Ireland, springing from a remote past, and which survived till about A.D. 1830, for the noble and good families to farm out their offspring for nursing purposes amongst the Irish peasantry: those of the Mountain districts being most favoured. Thereby a woeful waste of infant life ensued. Mrs George Pearse born McCulloch [i.e. G.G.P.'s mother], and her brother James Parsons McCulloch, were the sole survivors of a family of 16 children who were so farmed out.

Major General James Langford Pearse was the last of the Pearses of Cork, who was so farmed out. His first three years of life were spent being fostered by the peasantry, who were mostly Celtic, of the then wild mountains of Cork and Kerry.

*** George Godfrey Pearse**

G.G.P. writes, after inserted photographs of a silver salver:

On the Salver is engraved

Presented to Major George Godfrey Pearse, late Commandant of the 3rd Sikh Irregular Cavalry, by the Native Officers, Non-commissioned officers and Troopers of that Regiment, in testimony of their devotion to, and admiration and esteem for their Commander, who during the memorable year of 1857, when India was convulsed by the Sepoy Mutiny raised the Regiment within the short period of a month, and in the Campaigns of the succeeding year gallantly led it in many a glorious Action. And yet further to mark the deep regret which they entertain for their severance from this brave, generous and humane soldier by the disbandment of the Regiment consequent on the reduction of the Bengal Native Army, in July 1861. A.D.—

And elsewhere:

Odin's Tomb— On the 4th of September 1889, Genl G. G. Pearse and his wife Zoë, ascended the great Tumuli which surmount the remains of those demi-gods of old; of Odin, Thor and Freya.

Together with the members of the great Oriental Congress of that year, they were guests of King Oscar, and the kingdoms of Sweden and Norway. From the summit of the tumulus of Odin, they quaffed mead in his remembrance, from huge regal, magnificent drinking horns.

The tumuli are in the great flat open plain of the University City of Upsala in Northern Sweden, which resembles those that environ Vienna and Moscow.

G.G.P.'s interest in burial tumuli is evident also from his article 'On the Excavation of a large raised Stone Circle or Barrow near the Village of Wurreegaon, one mile from the Military Station of Kamptee, Central Provinces of India', published in 1869 in the *Journal of the Ethnological Society of London* (vol. 1, no. 3, pp. 207–217, accessible via JSTOR), in which he describes the progress of the excavation (in July 1867) and the findings, some of which were presented to the British Museum. G.G.P., whose diaries are in the British Library, also contributed three axes to the Pitt Rivers collection before 1870; they became part of the collection of the University of Oxford Pitt Rivers Museum when it was founded in 1884, though they were apparently not from the Wurreegaon excavation.

*** Descendants of Anne Sarah Napier, née Pearse**

The hereditary peerage denoted by the title 'Baron Napier of Magdala' was created for Robert Cornelis Napier in 1868. Upon the death of Robert Cornelis Napier the peerage passed to his eldest son (by Anne Sarah Pearse II), Robert William Napier (born 11/2/1845, died 11/12/1921), who on 27/1/1885 married Eva Maria Louisa Langham, widow of Capt. Algernon Langham and daughter of the 4th Baron Macdonald.

Upon the death of Robert William Napier the peerage passed to his brother (a middle brother having died in 1914), James Pearse Napier (born 30/12/1849; died 2/5/1935), who was educated at Cheltenham College and Jesus College, Cambridge; who fought with the 10th Royal Hussars in the Afghan War, 1879 (see the accompanying close-up from a photograph taken by John Burke, copied from http://www.hussards-photos.com/UK/UK_10_ALB_Jellalabad.htm); who was made Colonel in 1900; who on 25/7/1876 married Mabel Ellen Parker (died 16/7/1907), daughter of Lt-Col. Windsor Parker, MP, of Clopton Hall, Suffolk, and his wife Elizabeth Mary Duncan, daughter of Gen. Alexander Duncan.



JAMES PEARSE NAPIER (by John Burke)

For four photographic portraits of James Pearse Napier taken by Bassano in 1922, please search the National Portrait Gallery website (<http://www.npg.org.uk/>). There is also an 1863 portrait by Camille Silvy in the National Potrait Gallery collections.

Upon the death of James Pearse Napier the peerage passed to Robert Cornelis Napier's son by his second wife Mary Cecilia Scott, and it is presently held by that son's grandson.

Using data collected from Darryl Lundy's website (<http://thepeerage.com/>), I have compiled a chart of the descendants of Anne Sarah Pearse II; it is presented below, as an appendix.

*** Cecil Pearse**

On p. 16 of *Days Gone By: growing up in Penang*, by Christine Wu Ramsey (Penang, Aureca Books, 2007; also at <http://books.google.co.uk/>), Cecil Pearse is mentioned in connection with the Tambun Mines and the firm Messrs Nutter and Pearse. For photographs of the Tambun Mines and some of the equipment there, see p. 13.

Cecil Pearse's father-in-law, my great-great-grandfather Frederick George Denham Bedford, of H.M.S. Agincourt, is the author of *The Sailor's Pocket Book: a collection of practical rules, notes, and tables, for the use of the Royal Navy, the Mercantile Marine, and Yacht Squadrons*, 2nd edn London and Portsmouth, J. Griffin & Co., 1875. Reprint (from a scanned copy in the University of California Library, Berkeley) LaVergne, Tennessee, Nabu Public Domain Reprints, 2010.

*** Né Eschwege**

In January 1918, Fritz Salo Eschwege changed his name to Thomas James Foot.

*** Denham Napier Pearse**

When the Union Jack was finally lowered at Lucknow on 15/8/1947, the British flag-lowering party was commanded by Denham Napier Pearse. That flag is on display in the Fusilier Museum, Bury, Lancashire.

*** Brian Napper**

For Brian Napper's memoir, 'Escape from Singapore', see

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/ww2peopleswar/stories/65/a6204665.shtml>.

Amongst several interesting unpublished works by Cecil Frederick Godfrey Pearse is a biography of Brian Napper's aunt and adopted mother (i.e. C.F.G.P.'s second wife), entitled *Little Wena*.

C.F.G.P. published *Enjoy Public Speaking* (Worcester, Square One Publications, 1989).



Elizabeth Eschwege, née Foot,
my great-great-grandmother

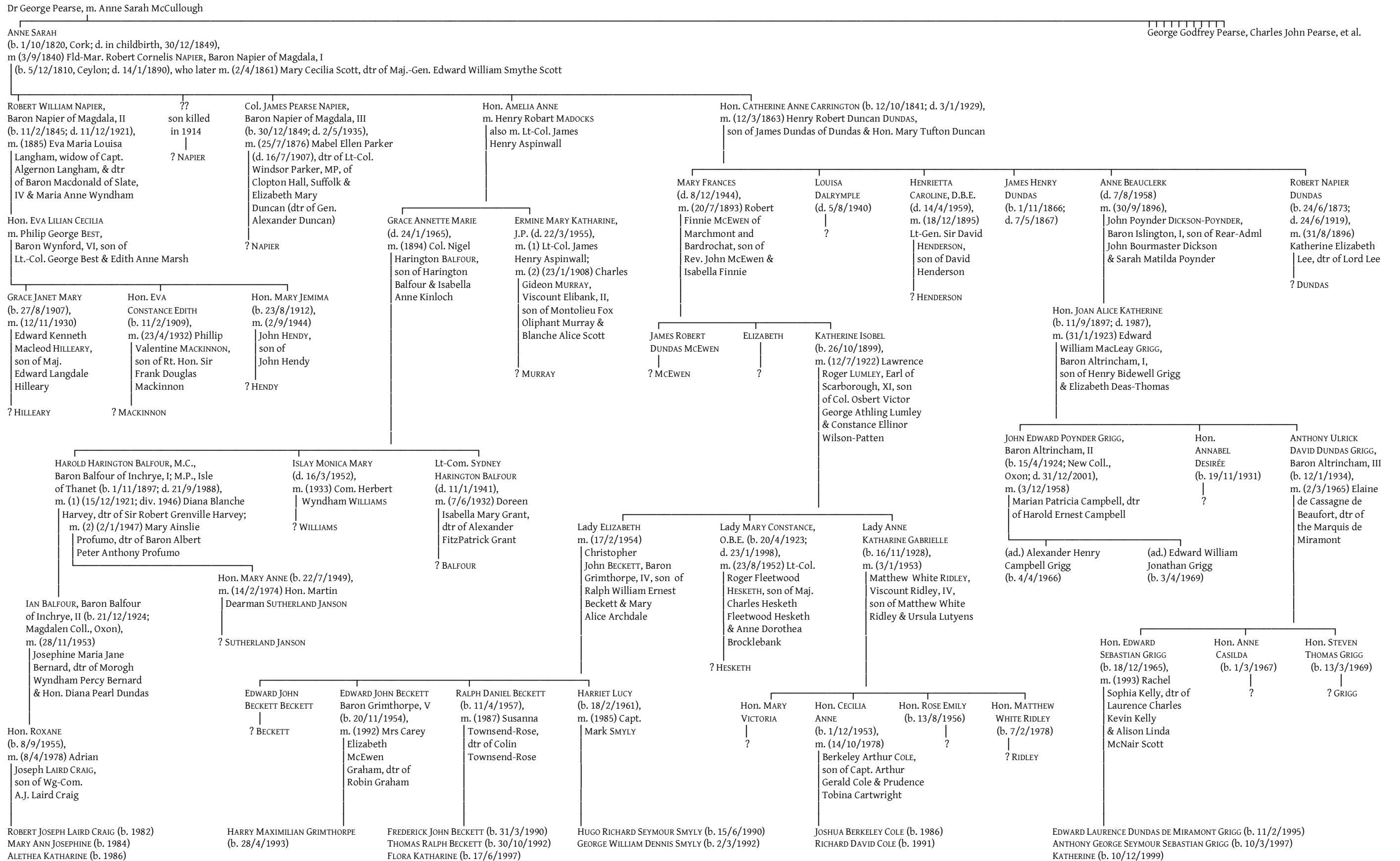


James Alfred Henry Marciel,
my great-great-grandfather



Eliza Alice Marciel,
my great-great-grandmother
(honeymoon picture)

APPENDIX
DESCENDANTS OF ANNE SARAH NAPIER, NÉE PEARSE



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