

# THE RISE AND FALL OF THE FIVEY FAMILY OF UNION LODGE

BY HUGH DALY

*When the name William Fivey is mentioned locally now-a-days it is usually in connection with what might be entitled 'The legend of the Phantom Horse of Union Lodge'.*

*It was said that William Fivey of Union Lodge was at one time a very wealthy man and that he was very much involved in horse-racing. However, mainly through gambling, he got into severe financial difficulties. In an attempt to clear all his debts he staked everything he could muster on his favourite horse in a race he felt confident his horse would surely win.*

*When it was beaten, Fivey was ruined. It is said that in a fit of vengeful rage he brought the horse back to Union Lodge, where he had it put into its stable. He then employed a mason to build up the stable door and the poor horse was left to starve to death inside.*

*Some believe that on certain nights a ghostly horse can still be heard whinnying and galloping up the avenue at Union Lodge.*



**Lisnabrague Lodge, formerly 'Union Lodge'**

So who was this William Fivey? Where did he come from?

While for at least 100 years the Fivey family of Lisnabrague were prominent and influential people in the locality, surprisingly little is known about them or of their origins.

What is certainly true is that a branch of the Fivey family lived at Union Lodge in the townland of Lisnabrague, a mile east of Poyntzpass and that they were, at one time, a very wealthy family with extensive property in counties Armagh and Down. It is true, too,

that through mismanagement – mainly gambling - they lost their property around 1850.

When researching this topic, I looked at several possible origins of the Fivey family and at the surname 'Fivey' in the hope that I might find some clue as to where they came from.

As with many other surnames, there are several possibilities as to the origin of the name 'Fivey' Some suggestions are that the name was:

\* derived from an unknown French or Belgian surname

\*a shortened version of the surname Fivefoot which existed in London in the sixteenth century.

\*originally of Scottish origin, possibly from a village called 'Fyvie,' and a nearby castle with the same name, in Aberdeenshire.

\*a County Antrim name. East of Ballymoney there is a townland called Drumnafivey and a road that runs through the townland called 'Fivey Road'. The townland name 'Drumnafivey' is said to mean the 'ridge of the wooded place', associated with the townland of 'Lisnafiffey' which is partly in Seapatrick Parish, and partly in Tullylish Parish. It means 'fort of the long ridge' or fort/enclosure of the green'. Dean Mooney and the Ordnance Survey Memoirs (1834) noted the name of Fivey's Fort in Lisnafiffey. This fort may well be the *lios* from which the townland was named, but the English version of its name is possibly a later interpretation. 'The Northern Ireland Placename Project' contains the following reference to Lisnafinny:

"*Lisnafinny: Tullylish/Seapatrick – Fivey's Fort. The name Fivey in Co Down is often an anglicised form of O'Guaig a Co Derry family by confusion with the Irish 'cúig' – 'five'.*"

This latter theory seems, to me, most convincing - that the name is an English equivalent or 'translation;' of an Irish name. Some surnames common in Ireland today are 'translations' of the original Irish names. A few such are – *Magowan* = Smith; *McGirr* = Shortt ; *Brehony* = Judge; *Begley* = Small

As stated above, the Irish word for 'five' is *cúig*; - pronounced 'qu-igg' and it is accepted that in many cases, the name Fivey is synonymous with the surnames Quigg, Quigley and O'Cuigly. Quigg is an exclusively Ulster name found mainly counties Derry and Monaghan. So it is possible that the Fiveys of Union Lodge were originally Quiggs, an old Irish family established in Ulster long before the plantation.



**The 18<sup>th</sup> Century Doorway of Union Lodge.**

The Christian name 'William' recurs in every generation of the Fivey family and it has been difficult to establish exactly when one 'William' passed away and another 'William' took his place.

In this article I intend to focus mainly on the three generations of the family and on the lifetimes of three 'William Fivey's, who were grandfather, son and grandson, roughly between the years 1710 and 1855. (In the interests of clarity, I shall refer to them as "*William the First, Second and Third*")

### **William the First (1710 – 1775)**

The earliest mention of Fivey in this area, I have found, is of four brothers William, Thomas, John and James Fivey who lived in and around Loughbrickland in the mid-eighteenth century.

William Fivey (born 1710) was a linen merchant, and by all accounts did very well for himself. He was first mentioned in St Mellan's Church records in 1747 when he and his brother David were assigned roads in the area, which they undertook to maintain. William may have owned Greenan Mill and a bleach green at the time. Along with his brothers he was a member of the Linen Board which sat in Belfast in 1758.

William lived in Loughadian townland (exactly where is not certain), and was responsible in 1760 for draining of *Loughadian*, the lake from which the townland derived its name.

Draining this lake, which was slightly smaller in area than the nearby Lough Shark, was part of a deal William negotiated with the owners of the Newry Canal. The development of trade on the Newry Canal, which had been constructed some thirty years earlier, was being greatly hampered at times by a shortage of water at the summit level. By draining Loughadian into Lough Shark, which was the canal's summit-reservoir, this problem was eased as the volume of water in Lough Shark was considerably increased and the water-level raised significantly.

I believe that this action was a major financial boost for William. We can only imagine what Loughadian looked like before it was drained, or how long it would take to fill up again. When the lake was drained in 1760, a variety of stone-age and Celtic implements, such as spear-heads, swords, hatchets and weapons of flint, were found and all became the property of William Fivey.

William's brother **Thomas** lived in Bovennett House in Loughbrickland village, and owned land in the townlands of Greenan, Lisnaree and Tullyear.

Bovennett House was built in the time of Cromwell, and it is strong tradition that William of Orange stayed in it in 1690 en-route to his victory at the Boyne. The tradition is that, as he was short in stature, William used the stepping stone outside Bovennett House to mount his horse. The historic Bovennett House was initially a market house in the village (the Catholic Church was built in the site of the old market).



**Bovennett House, Loughbrickland.**

In his article 'Pre-famine Poverty in the Parish of Aghaderg' (*Before I forget..* No.3 1989) J.J. Sands recorded that in May 1764, Thomas Fivey claimed 5s-3d from Aghaderg Parish 'for burying a foundling child'. Thomas Fivey, also owned a shop in Loughbrickland. He died in 1767.

William Fivey's brother **John** was in the property business in Belfast. He married Hannah McClure from Belfast and several of their children were baptised in St Anne's Church of Ireland, (then on the Shankill Road) now St Anne's Cathedral. His descendants lived in East Belfast. He died in 1762.

William's third brother, **James**, was a business-man in London.

In his will, William Fivey referred to **Archibald Hawthorn** as his 'brother', but I have not been able to establish what exactly this relationship was.

William Fivey had an uncle, Robert Cumming, probably his mother's brother, from whom he inherited land in county Armagh. This bequest was disputed by another member of the Cumming family. The matter ended up in court and, while I could find no record of the outcome, it would appear that William prevailed as the Fiveys owned the property concerned thereafter.

Family memorials in churches and churchyard are usually very helpful in tracing a family's history but oddly, although they were a prominent family and many members of the family were presumably buried there, there are no memorials to the Fivey family in the graveyard of Aghaderg Parish Church in Loughbrickland or elsewhere. A search of many local graveyards from Newry to Portadown proved equally unrewarding.

William Fivey lived in Loughadian and at the time of his death had accumulated a very considerable estate. He owned land in the townlands of Loughadian, Edenderry, Lisnabreague, Killicomain (Portadown), Dromadaferry (Dromore), Ballymoney (Banbridge) and tenement houses in Newry. He also had mills in Greenan, Edenderry and Lisnabreague.

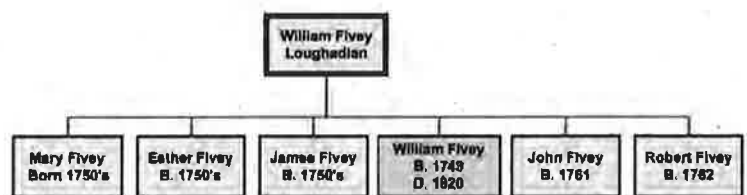
As well as his country house in Loughadian, William also owned a town house in Stafford Street in Dublin. (Stafford Street was also the birthplace of Theobald Wolfe Tone (1763-1798), who was prominent in the 1798 Rebellion. Wolfe Tone's family and William Fivey may well have known each other.)

When William died in 1775, he left a fairly detailed Will.

His wife **Mary** got profits from Edenderry, as long as she didn't remarry (140 acres, £100 per year) and the house in Dublin, contents and his horses and post-chaise carriage. If she did remarry she got just £20. (She didn't re-marry and died in July 1794.)

His daughter **Mary** got £2000 as long as she married someone approved by his executors, - two Dublin gentlemen, Robert Ormsby and James Land, as well as Archibald Hawthorn from Loughbrickland - that's over £125,000 in today's money. In 1776 Mary married William Bristow a Surveyor from Newry, apparently with the approval of the executors.

3. **Esther**, married William Ellison against her father's approval, got £900 for her sole use.
4. His 'brother' **Archibald** Hawthorn (one of the executors) got £15 per annum.
5. His brother **James** Fivey in the city of London £40 per annum
6. His son **James** got the townland of Loughadian
7. His son **William** got Lisnabreague, plus plate, jewels and the furniture of his house in Lisnabreague.
8. His son **John** got Killicomain, a house in Newry (recently purchased) and Dromadafrey near Dromore
9. His son **Robert** got Knocknamuckley and Ballymoney in Seapatrik Parish (which had been left to William by his uncle Robert Cumming) and a house in Market Street, Newry.)



### William the Second (1743 – 1820)

When the American War of Independence broke out in 1775, most of the troops stationed in Ireland were withdrawn and sent to fight in America. This led to fears that the country was unprotected and could be invaded by France. In response to this many local militias called 'Volunteers' were formed. Initially their aim was to guard against invasion and preserve law and order. However, as the threat of invasion passed, they became more interested in political matters. William Fivey was Captain of the Loughbrickland Volunteers. A note on the back of a framed set of colours in St Mellan's Parish

Church in Loughbrickland records that, *“These pair of colours were presented to the company (Loughbrickland Volunteers) in May 1781, by Captain William Fivey on his resigning the command and he received from them a complementary address thanking him for the gift.”*



*The framed colours of the Loughbrickland Volunteers in St. Mellan’s Parish Church, Loughbrickland.*

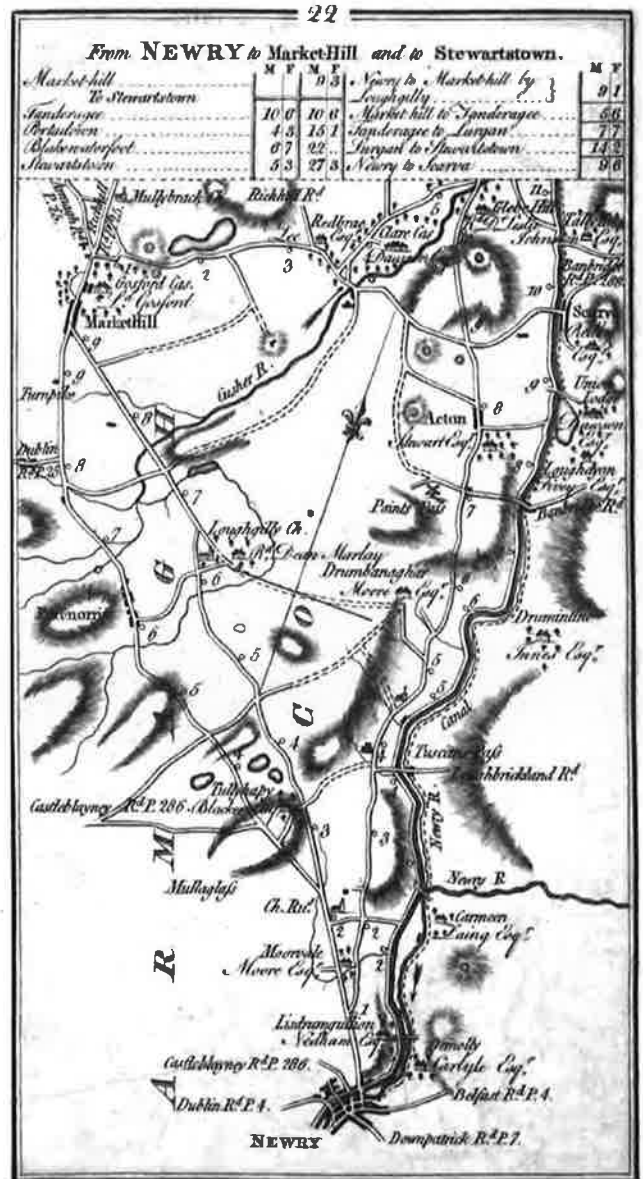
This William Fivey established the family at Union Lodge. Union Lodge may have been built by James Dawson. Like William Fivey, James Dawson was involved in the Volunteer movement. He was Captain of the Second Orier Volunteers and acted as secretary of the Ulster Volunteers at their Convention in 1782. William bought Union Lodge from James Dawson sometime between the years 1777 and 1779. His brother James lived in Loughadian (the original family home) he also had a house known as Woodbank and another outside Dromore. His brother John Fivey owned the land in Knocknamuckly and Killicomain near Portadown. His other brother Robert Fivey lived at Kilbroney, in Rostrevor.

While these Volunteers were not politically aligned one way or the other, they often expressed radical and liberal



*Woodbank House, Gilford*

sentiments. Like his cousin John Fivey, William also spent a little time as a magistrate. *Taylor & Skinner map of 1777, showing that Union Lodge was owned by a Mr Dawson.*



Often when doing research we presume certain things, such as family relationships. This was the case with Reverend James Fivey.

While William Fivey was living in Union Lodge, James Fivey and two others were arrested on the south coast of England and accused of High Treason by conspiring or plotting with the French for an invasion of Ireland. This was in 1796 and you may recall that the will of William (the First), mentioned his brother ‘James in London’.

Alexander Stewart from Acton (High Sherriff of Co Armagh) travelled to England and appeared as a defence witness for James Fivey during this trial in Maidstone in Kent. James Fivey’s address in court was given as County Armagh. So my first thought was, *“Could the accused man be William Fivey’s Uncle*

James?"

However this seems to be incorrect. The man arrested was *Father James Quigley*, who gave the authorities the English version of his name 'Fivey', so as to avoid arrest, or so it was alleged. James was tried along with two others in Maidstone Court House in Kent. More than 100 witnesses were examined. Alexander Stewart testified to the Fivey/Quigley's good character as a law-abiding and law-loving citizen. He was said to have been born at Kilmore in Co Armagh. His co-accused were found not guilty but on the evidence of a piece of paper found in his pocket on the beach (bearing a message from a Secret Committee in England to the Executive Directory of France), *Father James Fivey* was found guilty and hanged. Whether this Quigley/Fivey was related in any way to the Fiveys of Loughadian is far from clear although the involvement of the Fiveys' near-neighbour, Alexander Stewart of Acton in his defence, is intriguing particularly as a branch of the Fivey family owned property at Kilmore, Co Armagh.

Stuart's *'History of Armagh'* states that in 1797 'a golden tiara was found in the drained bed of Loughadian near Poyntzpass and is yet in the possession of William Fivey Esq.' The Ordnance Survey Memoirs of 1834 note that the corn mill in Lisnabrague was built by William Fivey in 1800.

**William the Third (1800 ? – 1855?)**

While the Fivey family were at least as wealthy as their landed neighbours, White of Loughbrickland, Reilly of Scarva, Inness of Dromantine, and Close of Drumbanagher, they don't appear to have ever been accepted as 'gentry.' Whether this was because their wealth came from trade and industry or the fact that their ways always appear to have been unconventional and unorthodox is hard to say. In politics, too, they

didn't really toe the party line.

According to Sir Thomas Wyse (*Historical Sketch of the Late Catholic Association 1829*), William Fivey was a member of the Catholic Association of Ireland, an organisation strongly supporting the Daniel O'Connell campaign for Catholic Emancipation, a stance at variance with most of the local landed gentry at the time. His brother James, who was a graduate of Trinity College Dublin, was more seriously involved in the political issues of the day. He lived for some years at Woodbank near Gilford and was an associate of John Mitchell, the Young Irelander, who was later transported because of his activities. Mitchell had also graduated from Trinity and James Fivey had probably known him there and appears to have shared many of his political views. James, like Mitchell, was an avid supporter O'Connell's campaign to repeal the Act of Union.

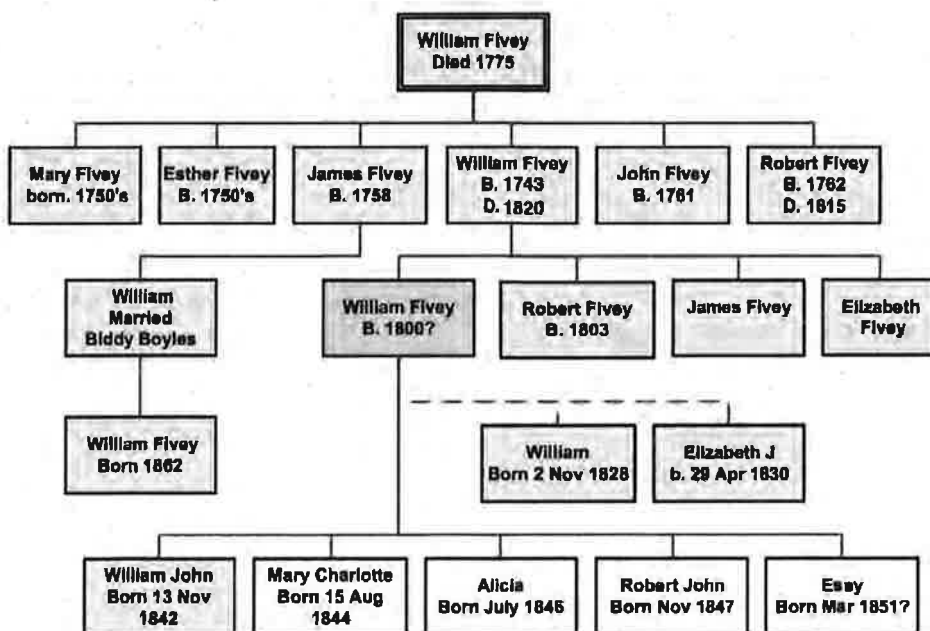
When O'Connell was arrested and imprisoned in 1844 there were widespread protests. A meeting in Banbridge in June 1844, was attended by 'at least 3,000 steady Ulstermen'. The report, in a publication known as *'The Vindicator'* states that most of those present were 'Presbyterians and Protestants', and goes on to say that the chair was taken, "by James Fivey of Woodland (sic), an excellent and most benevolent landlord, who addressed the meeting in a strain of eloquent indignation at the conduct of ministers of the Crown towards Ireland and Irishmen. The chairman was followed by J. Mitchell Esq..."

This meeting passed several resolutions and a letter outlining these resolutions was agreed. Four members were selected to present the address to O'Connell on behalf of the 'repealers of Tullylish, Banbridge and Clare.' They were James Fivey, John Mitchell and two others.

Likewise, the lifestyle of James's brother William Fivey (the third) graphically illustrates the family's seeming

disregard for the opinions or conventions of the landed gentry at the time. While this William never married he had at least five children with his 'partner', Margaret Ann Minnis. William was very much older than Margaret Ann. She was probably from the Loughadian area and may initially have been a maid-servant at Union Lodge, for it would appear that their relationship began when Margaret Ann was still in her teens. Their son William junior was the only one of their five children to survive past early childhood.

In his domestic arrangements, William Fivey was certainly ahead of his time, having a



'partner' instead of a wife but locals seemed to accept that that was just the way he was. In a diary kept by a local woman, Elizabeth Shanks an entry in 1851 refers to Margaret Ann Minnis as "*Mr Fivey's Miss.*" (Elizabeth Shanks's *Diary* is now in the Public Records Office, Belfast.)

There is also a probability that William was the father of at least two more children. The birth certificates of two other children state that the mother was Elizabeth Sands and their father was '*William Fivey*'. Both children were stated to be '*illegitimate*' on their birth certificates, but it's not clear that the father was the William Fivey of Union Lodge, for just to add to the difficulty of research, I found six '*William Fiveys*', in the general area at the time and probably more if we include descendants of Thomas Fivey of Loughbrickland!

In the article by J.J. Sands referred to above, the author stressed the constant threat of famine in Aghaderg Parish. The norm for many of the poorest of the parish was an unending battle just to survive. There were regular crop failures and mini-famines which greatly increased levels of distress. The plight of the poorest tenants on many estates was exacerbated at these times of greatest hardship by the threat of eviction as they were unable to pay their rent. J.J. Sands noted that while Charles Whyte (Loughbrickland), Hugh Trevor (Lisnagade) and James Miles Reilly (Scarva) all evicted several tenants during one such episode, William Fivey appeared to evict none. Whether this was as the result of social conscience or simply poor management is not known.

Like his father and grandfather before him, William was immediately on the scene when some interesting and potentially valuable ancient artefact was discovered in the area, as the following account of a find at Drumsallagh shows.

*"A small hand-bell of the usual pattern of ancient Celtic ecclesiastical bells was found about the year 1835 at the site of the monastery; it was passed into the possession of Mr Fivey, who resided at Union Lodge. Mr Fivey parted with the bell to Mr Bell, engineer and artist Dungannon, who made a collection of Irish objects of antiquity and at Mr Bell's death it went with other curios to the Museum of the Society of Antiquaries in Edinburgh."* (W.H. Lett; *Journal of the Royal Society of Antiquarians of Ireland Vol.35*). This bell is now in the Ulster Museum, Belfast. While earlier generations of the family may well have had some interest in horse racing it was during the lifetime of William Fivey (the Third) that this interest grew to an obsession. He was a man who loved horses and seems to have become addicted to the 'turf'. He was an early patron of the Maze Racecourse and established what was a large racing-stable and stud at Union Lodge. While the racing game is notoriously uncertain and while it appears that he had a lot of success with his horses, it was his addiction to gambling which eventually led to his downfall.

He generally entered his horses in races at Down Royal aka The Maze, and in Armagh at a place called Ballynahone, between the years of 1835 and 1848. He was also a patron and Steward at the Maze for a number of years.

Some of the horses he owned were *White Nose, Brown Nose, Prudence, Barber, Zealot, Wrangler White Legs, Ishmael* and *Coiner*. With these he won a fair share of races at the Maze including the Hunters' Sweepstakes, Royal Corporation Plate, Downpatrick Challenge Cup, Castlereagh Cup, Scurry Sweepstakes and the Downshire Stakes.

In 1845 William Fivey and his horse '*Coiner*' made headlines round the world when William paid a veterinary surgeon, Mr Lambe of Tandragee £100 to remove a tumour from '*Coiner*'. This was regarded as a 'world record' fee for an operation on a horse. *Coiner* was described as "*a valuable racehorse*" and the fee paid was "*a sum we believe unparalleled for a single operation in veterinary practice*". (*Sydney Morning Herald* 19/11/1845)



## **ZEALOT.**

(FULL BROTHER TO PATRON.)

**THE PROPERTY OF WM. FIVEY, ESQ.,**  
*Will Stand this Season at UNION LODGE,*  
*near Loughbrickland. Full-bred Mares, Five*  
*Guineas, and a Crown to the Groom; all others,*  
*Two Guineas, and a Half-Crown to the Groom.*

*Extract from the Commercial Telegraph,*  
*dated Saturday May 29<sup>th</sup>, 1841*

While this payment would suggest that William Fivey was flush with cash, as early as 1811, the Fiveys were having periodic '*cash-flow problems*', it seems. The family papers, now in the Public Records Office, contain details of a bewildering series of mortgages and redemptions, of their property over the next forty years. In bad times they readily mortgaged mills, houses and land and redeemed them again when things got better.

Between the years of 1804 and 1848, the Fivey's mortgaged various lands in Ballymoney townland in Seapatrik, Greenan Townland, Knocknamuckley, Greenan Mill and Mercer's tenement in Newry over and over again.

During this time William lived in Union Lodge and Robert lived in Kilbroney, Rostrevor.

William Fivey advertised the services of various stallions at his stud at Union Lodge and organised a variety of equestrian events. There were regular fox hunts, with his brothers James and Robert accompanied by Arthur Innes from Dromantine and Hugh Carleton

from Rostrevor. They travelled far and wide in pursuit of the fox, often 30 miles from Union Lodge. Regular venues were near-by Loughbrickland, Glasker Mills, Sheepbridge and over the Canal to Jerrettspass. Occasionally these outings led to confrontations with landowners. In December 1825 the three Fivey brothers, William, Robert and James, while hunting near Dromore, entered a clover field belonging to the Mulligan family. Robert Mulligan and his brothers confronted the Fiveys, and following heated words, blows were exchanged. The Mulligans charged the Fiveys with assault and the Fiveys reciprocated by charging the Mulligans with assault. The case was heard at Newry Quarter Sessions in April 1826 and after much to-ing and fro-ing lasting a whole day, both parties were found equally guilty and all were discharged, (*Belfast Commercial Chronicle 12 April 1826*)

But the good times were becoming rarer and the mortgages more difficult to pay off.

It may well be that so taken up were William and family with their equestrian activities that they neglected the main source of income, the land they rented to tenants. While it is generally contended that the great famine of the 1840's was less severe in Ulster than in the rest of Ireland, the poor of Aghaderg would certainly not have agreed. J.J. Sands noted in his article on the subject, that at a meeting held in Loughbrickland in June 1838, "A large committee of every denomination reported that more than 700 individuals in the Parish of Aghaderg were in a state of destitution." Banbridge Workhouse, built to house 800 of the most desperate poor, opened its doors on June 14<sup>th</sup> 1841.

Some credit must go to William because he had the wall built around his Union Lodge land, in order to give some employment to the local poor.

The first major public indication of financial crisis occurred in 1849. A notice in the *Newry Telegraph* of December 29, 1848 announced that property belonging to William and Robert Fivey would be sold on New Year's Day 1849, to meet accumulated debt. The plaintiff was John Madden grocer and baker of Poyntzpass and the defendants were William and James Fivey. To be sold at auction on that day were 13 of the Fivey's best horses and foals, as well as household furniture, farming implements etc. etc.

A year later more of Fivey's property was sold. An advertisement in the *Newry Telegraph* of January 3<sup>rd</sup> 1850 announced:

*"To be sold by auction at twelve o'clock noon on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> day of January 1850 at Lisnabrague (convenient to Poyntzpass) the machinery of an excellent corn mill and several articles of household furniture etc., the property of William Fivey Esq., at present under seizure by the Sheriff of Down by virtue of several writs. Terms cash. Christopher Whyte, Auctioneer, Newry.*

" (John Madden himself was declared bankrupt in in 1860 and was forced to sell his land in Federnagh, and Aughtantaraghan and houses in Poyntzpass village.)

Given their profligate lifestyle and spending there was an inevitability about the fall of the Fivey family and thereafter things went from bad to worse. 1851 was the year when on a number of fronts, matters came to a dramatic head.

One of the repercussions of the Great Famine was that tenants, who had previously somehow managed to pay their rent, were no longer able to do so. As a result of this many landed families became insolvent and their estates became 'encumbered' much the same as 'bankrupt'.

To deal with this crisis the government of the day passed 'Encumbered Estates Acts' in 1848 and 1849. Under these Acts, a creditor could apply to have the debtor's property sold to meet the debt, "where the debts had risen above 50% of the yearly income." Court Commissioners were appointed to deal with such applications.

And so it was that in 1851 such an application was made for the Fiveys and, as a result, their property was declared 'encumbered' and the sale of the assets of William, Robert and James Fivey began the following year. Things were coming to a head it seemed. However the tragedy which befell William Fivey in January 1851 was greater and more traumatic still.

A graphic account of the events leading to the horrific death of William Fivey's partner Margaret Ann Minnis was published in 'The Dublin World' on January 12<sup>th</sup>, 1851 but, in the interests of good taste, I will paraphrase it here omitting the gruesome details that reports of the time often contained:

At around six o'clock on the evening of Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> January 1851, a party of four (William Fivey, accompanied by Margaret Ann Minnis, a young woman called Alicia Vaughan - said to be William Fivey's niece - and 7 or 8 year-old William Fivey, the son of William and Margaret Ann) booked into Gilbert's Hotel at Westland Row, Dublin. They were given a front room on the top floor of the hotel and retired to their room for the night. Early the next morning the body of Margaret Ann was discovered impaled on the railings at the front of the hotel. She had either fallen or jumped from the window of her room forty feet above.

The discovery naturally caused a sensation, the police were soon on the scene and the remains of Margaret Ann removed to Mercer's Hospital where a post mortem was carried out.

William Fivey and Miss Vaughan were taken into custody and questioned. The report in the newspaper stated that the sum of £204 in notes was found in the room, "lying in an open desk." This was a huge sum of money at the time and the fact that it was "lying in an open desk" is in itself, indicative of William Fivey's carelessness.

It was stated that the party had been living at Killiney Lodge for the previous fortnight or so and that Margaret Ann, who was said to be 28-years-old and of 'prepossessing





WESTLAND ROW.

appearance', had been receiving treatment from a Dr Haslar as she was suffering from 'an unsound mind'. The inquest was told that William Fivey and Margaret Ann had been living as man and wife for some years and had a number of children but only one had survived. They were to be married at Monkstown the following day and the necessary licence had been obtained and all arrangements made. The newspaper report stated that Wiliam Fivey aged 51, "was of 'independent means'" and that the unfortunate Margaret Ann was "said to be of an inferior position in society to her companion"

Young William Fivey, described as 'a fine young boy' was questioned at the inquest. He and Miss Vaughan shared one bed while his mother and father occupied the other. He told the jurors he "went to bed at nine o'clock; was asleep before his father went to bed; he woke a good deal of times during the night and his father was always asleep; his mama got up a good many times; she was sitting up in the room doing nothing; did not see her go near the window; whenever papa would move in the bed she would jump in at the foot; his papa was asleep all the time she was up; when he woke in the morning papa inquired where she was and got a servant to look for her; could not tell if the window

was up; there was a candle burning in the room all night and was so every night; mama gave him a good many lifts out of bed to rub candle-grease to his lips tho' they were not sore. The jury found that the deceased had killed herself whilst in a state of insanity."(Dublin World; January 12<sup>th</sup> 1851)

It was said that William Fivey was greatly distressed throughout. The jury added, "We find further that no imputation concerning the death of Margaret Ann Minnis can rest on the character of William Fivey Esq. as his conduct towards, and treatment of her was uniformly kind and considerate for her health."

So in summary, whatever magic the first William Fivey had, it didn't get passed down to his children and grandchildren. Fivey didn't build Union Lodge, and there are no visible headstones or monuments in the local area. So, the only lasting legacy of the Fivey family are:

- a) The story of ghostly horse that runs along the avenue at Lisnabrague Lodge
- b) The emblem in Loughbrickland Church
- c) An empty lake in the townland Loughadian



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