

**Leabharlann Náisiúnta na hÉireann
National Library of Ireland**

Collection List No. 102

McCarthy PAPERS

(MSS 35,700-35,701)

(Accession No. 5398, 5212)

Papers relating to the descendants mainly in England and Wales of Daniel
McCarthy of Kilfadda More, Kilgarvan, Co Kerry.

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McCarthy Papers

(MSS 35,700-35,701)

Introduction

The collection relates to the descendants mainly in England and Wales of Daniel McCarthy of Kilfadda More, Kilgarvan, Co Kerry. It consists largely of correspondence between the different branches of the family, the greater part of which is devoted to family matters and social activities. The collection also includes hand-written poems, a small note book, and newspaper cuttings relating to Daniel McCarthy's daughter, Mary Downing (the poet 'Christabel'). Much of the remaining material relates to Daniel's son, Eugene McCarthy, who served in the British army in India in the 1830s, and Daniel's granddaughter, Martha McCarthy Jones, who married a Thomas Jones in 1873.

Arrangement

The papers are assembled as correspondence in chronological order. There are approximately 100 items dating from 1800 to 1905, plus a letter dated 1977 addressed to Margaret McCarthy Jones, a direct descendant of Daniel McCarthy. There are also four deeds and leases relating to family property.

Provenance

The collection was presented to the National Library in two donations by a member of the family Mrs Sheila King of Trowbridge, Wiltshire. The first accession was in February 1998 and the second in May 1999.

I Family Correspondence and Miscellaneous Items

MS 35,700/ 1

Genealogical material mainly relating to the descendants of the McCarthys of Kilfadda More, Co Kerry. The material includes family trees for the McCarthy, Howell, Jones and Rees families, a newspaper cutting relating to Kanturk Castle, Cork, home of the McCarthy clan in the time of Queen Elizabeth, and the pedigree of Jones of Gaithmill (through the male line of descendants from the Prince of Powis to Rees Jones of Gaithmill - the first to adopt the surname Jones). There is also a Mortimer pedigree, which includes various Lords of Kerry, and a written memoir of Rev. Thomas Jones MA (1756-1807) by his pupil Edward Marsh, 1808.
7 items.

MS 35,700/ 2

Material relating to Daniel McCarthy of Kilfadda More, Co Kerry; includes letters to Daniel McCarthy, Kenmare, Co Kerry, from his son Bombardier Eugene M. McCarthy (1st Company, 2nd Battalion, Artillery) Bhoos in Cutch [Kutch], India. The letters mainly relate to conditions in the army, letters of recommendations for advancement, family matters (including reference to his sister Mary - 'Christabel', and the death of his brother Tom), and Daniel O'Connell; there is also an obituary for Helena McCarthy, who died 1851, aged 101 years, the mother of Daniel McCarthy.
9 items; March 1837- August 1838, -1851.

MS 35,700/ 3

Material relating to Eugene and Daniel Quill McCarthy (brothers of 'Christabel'); includes letters to Eugene McCarthy from his brother Daniel Quill McCarthy, on the occasion of Eugene's departure to India, offering advice and prayers for his brother's safety in such a far distant country. There is also a written piece titled 'Poor Dans description of Eugene' (n.d.), and a death notice of Daniel Quill McCarthy (n.d.).
4 items; c.1836-37.

MS 35,700/ 4

Material relating to Mary Downing (the poet 'Christabel', 1815-81), daughter of Daniel McCarthy of Kilfadda More, Co Kerry. It mainly consists of newspaper cuttings (7) and manuscript poems (6). The newspaper cuttings include the poems 'The gypsy', 'A ballad plaint' and extracts from the published volume *Scraps from the Mountains* (1840). One article (*Kerry Examiner*) mentions the tributes received by Christabel from Lord Morpeth and the Duke of Devonshire. An article (*Evening Press*, 5 Dec 1891), titled 'A neglected Kerry poetess, Mrs Mary Downing', includes a number of unpublished poems and her best-known poem 'The grave of McCarthy'. The article also refers to 'an experience in 1848

which proved her patriotism'; this involved the escape of James Stephens and Michael Doheny. The manuscript poems include 'Greenwich Hall' and 'Baby May'. Another notable item is a piece entitled 'An appeal', which mentions a sermon given by Bishop Moriarty and a speech by Lord Naas in the House of Commons. There is also a small blue note book, signed by [?M.J.] McCarthy, containing various verses.

15 items; c.1840-91.

MS 35,700/ 5

Material relating to Martha McCarthy Jones, Wales; mainly consists of correspondence from family members. The collection includes letters (5) from her sister Mary Emma Pike (nee McCarthy), Temple Mungret, Limerick (one in Welsh); from her brother William McCarthy (1851, 1858); from Martha Hickey (wife of William, often known as Mary) congratulating Martha on her marriage (1873); and from her mother, Martha Howell (in Welsh). The material also includes several letters written by Martha to her husband Thomas, signed Mattie; to 'Grandmama and sister' signed with her full name Martha Thomasina; and to Martha Hickey on the death of her husband William (1901). There are also letters (4) from unknown correspondents, and material relating to the Establishment for Young Ladies, Liverpool, and the School For Ladies, Belsize House, Aberystwyth.

19 items; c. 1851-1901.

MS 35,700/ 6

Material relating to the Howell family, mainly consists of correspondence to Hannah Howell, London, from members of the McCarthy family in Ireland and Wales; including Mary Emma McCarthy (1) Temple Mungret, Limerick (8 Apr 1866), and Martha McCarthy [Jones?] (5). Three letters are signed M. Griffiths, Portland Cottage [?Martha nee Howell, the wife of William married secondly a Mr Griffiths], and a letter from William Howell McCarthy to 'My dear grandmother' (1864), whom he has never met before. There is also a name card for a [?] Howell.

11 items; c. 1860.

MS 35,700/ 7

Material relating to Margaret Jones (mother of Thomas Jones); includes letters (2) from [? Llanfair] to her son Tom, and a photograph of Margaret Jones.

3 items; 1871-72.

MS 35,700/ 8

Material relating to the children of Thomas and Martha McCarthy Jones in Wales. It includes a letter to 'Christabel' from her father, one from her mother on her 21st birthday, and one to [?Gwil, son] from Martha. There is also a memorial card for their son Thomas Sydney McCarthy Jones, who died in 1881, aged 2 years.

4 items; 1881-83.

MS 35,700/ 9

Material relating to Thomas and Martha McCarthy Jones, consisting of a marriage certificate (1873), locket photographs of Thomas and Martha, and material [possibly from her wedding dress]. It includes printed pamphlets (2) from the Presbyterian Church of England, Finchley, with notices of the death of Thomas and Martha, memorial cards, name card and newspaper cuttings on their death. There is also a funeral address by the Rev J. Peddie for Mr McCarthy Jones.

12 items; 1904-05.

MS 35,700/ 10

A typed letter to Margaret McCarthy Jones from Eileen Barr, Kent, England, descendant of the McCarthys of Kilfadda More, Kilgarvan, Co Kerry. The letter mentions the family papers and the family tree, which they have both tentatively put together.

1 item; March 1977.

MS 35,700/11

Miscellaneous material relating to Irish/Welsh legends, including a written page titled 'Legend of St Monacella'; a separate page gives details of the Tudors and Owen Tudor of Wales. It also includes instructions on making a lace collar, a recipe for (?), and several name cards for members of the McCarthy family.

10 items; n.d.

MS 35,700/ 12

Envelopes and pages containing notes on the collection.

II Deeds and Leases

- Ms 35,701 Deeds relating to property transactions of Daniel McCarthy of Kilfadda More and Kenmare, Co Kerry. Includes lease by Daniel McCarthy of Kenmare, Co Kerry, to James Walsh of Carrigbane, Co Cork, of part of the lands of Carrigbane in the County of Cork, 18 June 1838.
- Lease by Daniel McCarthy of Kenmare, Co Kerry, to James Conen of Lackabawn, Co Cork, of part of the lands of Lackabawn in the County of Cork, for 35 years at the yearly rent of £13.6.8, 30 March 185[4/5?].
- Lease by Daniel McCarthy of Kenmare, Co Kerry, to James Quill and Cornelius Cronin both of Carrigbawn, Co Cork, of part of the lands of Carrigbawn in the County of Cork, 2 April 1855.
- Assignment of interest under the will of Daniel McCarthy deceased, between William Dawe and his wife Eliza (nee McCarthy) and John Hogan (husband of Catherine McCarthy), 27 January 1862.
- 4 items