
CHAPTER XXXXI

JAMES EWING of INCH ISLAND in LOUGH SWILLY, IRELAND

HIS CHILDREN, BAPTISED IN BURT CONGREGATION

(Said to have come to East Nottingham, Chester Co., PA)

As the Chapters of this book have unfolded through Deeds, Wills, Estate Records, Orphan's Court Records, Land Grants, Tax Records and Church Records I felt it imperative that I write this one last Chapter.

Only a few weeks ago there was made available to me "Introduction to Genealogy" written by John Gillespie Ewing of New York in 1919. I had seen his Charts and some of them were plausible and some had errors in them such as skipping a generation. Other errors were identifying two by the same name as identical. It was re "James of Inch Island" my 16-year search subject!

As early as mid-1981 I had listed the children of the above James Ewing of Inch Island. They were revealed by my organizing the EWING children who were baptised in the Burt Congregation Presbyterian Church, about 5 miles West of Londonderry. (See Chapter III this book especially my statement on page 18 re James Ewing of Inch Island.)

Finley Ewing of Inch Island and Finley Ewing of Fahan proved to be one and the same man, based on those records and children found to be living in America early in the 18th Century. (See Chapter VI)

John Ewing of Inch island and John Ewing of Carnshanaugh proved to be the same person based on family History. (See Chapter XI)

Alexander Ewing of Elagh Beg, son of Robert Ewing and Margaret Ewing was baptised in Burt Congregation on 18 Jan 1679/80. He is the Alexander Ewing, Sr. (we believe) in East Nottingham twp. Chester Co., PA one tax period only, 1729. He was born about 1676/7. He died in 1738 "at age 61". He has proved out to be the uncle of Rachel Porter who married Nathaniel Ewing in the Parish of Templemore in Ireland in 1721. One Robert Ewing lived on Inch Island for a time but we have been unable to connect him to the others, thus far. For Alexander Ewing, Sr. (1676/7-1738) see Chapter XXIII. He lived in Octoraro Hundred, Cecil Co; MD. In my original book, I had the wife of Robert Ewing as Margaret Porter but when questioned I could not find any source for that name.

Throughout this book are the children of James Ewing of Inch Island is my belief. I wish to state what Amos Ewing, Jr. wrote to Robert Dubois, who included it in his biography of Thomas Ewing of Cohansey, N.J. which remained unfinished. Amos Ewing, Jr. is shown in Chapter XXXIII through his grandfather Samuel Ewing, who, I believe to be one of the sons of James Ewing of Inch Island. Amos was partly right and wrote:

"About the year 1700 [He meant during the 1700's] four brothers, John, Alexander, Henry and Samuel migrated from Londonderry leaving several younger brothers at home and settled in [what became] Cecil Co., MD. Alexander settled in East Nottingham." [The "editor" makes changes muddying the water. Amos Ewing, Jr. proceeds to list some of the children of Nathaniel Ewing. However, Nathaniel Ewing settled in Octoraro Hundred (township) Cecil Co., MD and never was in East Nottingham.]

Amos Ewing, Jr. then continues with naming children of an "Alexander Ewing" edited to become "Nathaniel Ewing" and they are the children of Nathaniel. He also names children of one Henry Ewing who proves to be a son of John Ewing and wife, Susannah, who died in East Nottinghsm Township, Chester Co., PA in 1753/4. (Recent charts have "moved this Henry back a generation to his Uncle Henry Ewing subject of Chapter XVII). Editing by F.N. Trevor further complicated the clarity of any of Amos Ewing, Jr. statement.

"Introduction to a Genealogy" by John Gillespie Ewing dated 14 March 1919 at 217 Broadway, New York City is the statement that so nearly matches what I had found years ago. And as before stated I hadn't seen his statement until recently. It reads :

"About 1730 four or possibly five brothers came to and settled in Nottingham township, Chester County Pennsylvania. They were, as is supposed, sons of one James Ewing of Inch County, Donnegal, an Island in Lough Swilly, about ten miles west of Londonderry in Ireland. They were as is supposed: John, Henry, Samuel, Alexander and possibly, Thomas. Alexander died in Nottingham township. His widow, Ann, and son "(sic)" John, had letters of Administration on his estate granted the 23rd of July, 1752."

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[John was his brother and died prior to 6th March 1754 when Administration Papers were granted to Susannah Ewing and Robert Ewing. The same two others, James Cowden and John Hathorn, also signed the Administration bond 23 July 1752 of above Alexander Ewing. James Cowden had married Ester Ewing, their sister, in 1727.]

“He is supposed to be the father of Alexander Ewing, who on April 20, 1771 secured conveyance of certain lands in Fawn township, York Co., Pennsylvania. He died, intestate, there and there is a deed of the date of December 3, 1829 conveying the interest of six of his children to the seventh. His wife was then dead as she does not sign the Deed.”

[NOTE: See Chapter XVII]

“The children were as follows, a. Elanor Ewing, b. Martha Strawbridge, c. James Ewing and Nancy his wife, d. Henry Ewing and Ann his wife, e. Thomas Ewing and Rebecca his wife, and f. John Ewing and Ann his wife, who deeded to Alexander Ewing of Fawn.

“Thomas Ewing of Penna., was born June 12, 1782, and died Mar 20, 1859. Married in 1803, Rebecca Hartman of Maryland. She was born Aug 12th, 1779 died Oct 6th, 1854. They moved to Niagra County New York in 1803.

John Gillespie Ewing
217 Broadway
New York City
Mar 14, 1919

This above quotation was taken from “Journal of Clan Ewing” Vol 1 No. 4 May 1995 pages 10-11.

“On the bottom of the above letter is the following notation with a handwritten date of Aug 25,1927. (Ed note: The above letter has been attached to a number of pages of genealogical information for the children of Thomas and Rebecca Ewing.)”

Following John Gillespie's name, above, is the following notation [Which I have found to be correct except that it leaves out one generation. I show the difference, dating the generations but John Gillespie Ewing did not.]

HIS List	MY Corrected list
1. JAMES EWING and his son (?)	1. JAMES EWING and his son
2. ALEXANDER with ANN his wife with ANN his wife whose son was	2. ALEXANDER (born c1695) with Ann his wife (shows he died prior to July 1752) whose son was
3. ALEXANDER and whose son was	3. JOHN EWING (c1716-1768) whose son was
4. THOMAS EWING	4. ALEXANDER (c1739-c1810 York Co., PA) 5. THOMAS EWING born 1782 in York Co. married Rebecca Hartman 1803 and whose son was 6. ALEXANDER born 22 July, 1804 married Mary Ann Edson

John Gillespie Ewing did not have the information we presented about the above “4” Alexander grandson of the first Alexander who died in 1752 in East Nottingham township, Chester Co., Pennsylvania. THAT Alexander Ewing married in 1768 his first-cousin-once-removed, Frances Ewing, a daughter of his “Uncle Henry Ewing” as recorded in Rev. John Cuthbertson's Diary. Henry is subject of Chapter XVII. Alexander, who died in 1752, tho he was called “Jr.” and “the Younger” was an older brother to “John, Henry, Samuel and possibly Thomas” mentioned above by John Gillespie Ewing. We believe that there was another brother whose baptism was also, never recorded. He was William Ewing who appears on the same East Nottingham twp. Chester Co. Tax Lists from 1729 until he appears in Londonderry twp. Chester Co. prior to his moving, I believe, to Cumberland Co., Pa. William is the subject of Chapter XXXIX.

There was, also, a sister Ester Ewing baptised in the same Church to James Ewing of Inch Island on 24 May 1697. According to Jos. B. Jameson she married James Cowden on 16 June 1724 (probably in Ireland). [Esther Ewing Cowden is the subject of Chapter XVI where I show that James Cowden signed the Administration Bond of both Alexander Ewing who died 1752 in East Nottingham twp. Chester, and of John Ewing who died 1754 in East Nottingham twp. Chester Co. John Ewing is the subject of Chapter XX.

The brother of the above mentioned children of James Ewing of Inch Island in Lough Swilly, Ireland, Samuel Ewing was baptised on the same day as Henry Ewing. It is believed they are twins. There is hardly room for two children to have been born between the baptism of John Ewing on 22 Jan 1698/99 and the dual baptism of Henry and Samuel on 11 August 1701. Samuel Ewing married Rebecca George said to have been a Quaker. Although they married in the First Presbyterian Church of Philadelphia, PA it is said “this marriage disturbed for many years the husband’s strong Presbyterian kindred.”

Five of the supposed children of James Ewing of Inch Island, Lough Swilly, Ireland are subjects of their own Chapters. But, not Thomas nor Alexander Ewing who died in 1752 in East Nottingham twp. Chester Co., PA. We have not proven, with out question, any of them but the preponderance of evidence is too strong to ignore. All of the information below is a repeat of earlier facts but it is neat and together and all in one place. SO: PROBABLE CHILDREN OF JAMES EWING OF INCH ISLAND who were baptised in Burt Congregation Church and are Registered there, and two, not baptised there.

- I. **Alexander Ewing** b ca 1693/4. His baptism is not recorded. I believe he is the man who died in EAST NOTTINGHAM Twp. Chester Co., PA prior to July 1752. His Administration Bond was signed by wife, **Anne**, James Cowden (Believed to be his brother-in-law) John Ewing (believed to be his brother not his son tho he had one) and John Hawthorn. Chapter XV tells something of Alexander Ewing died 1752 and Chapter XXXVI tells of John Ewing, I believe his son.
- II. **Ester Ewing** baptised 24 May 1697 "Parent James Ewing of Inch Island." She married 16 June 1724 **James Cowden** who signed the 1752 Bond of Alexander Ewing, above and of John Ewing's 1754 Bond. They lived in EAST NOTTINGHAM Twp. Chester Co., PA. Chapter XVI tells the story of this family.
- III. **John Ewing** baptised 22 Jan 1698/99 "Parent James Ewing of Inch Island." He married **Susannah**. His Administration Bond 3 June 1754 by wife, James Cowden (believed to be his brother-in-law as lands joined) by James Hawthorn, and by his eldest son, Robert Ewing. They lived in EAST NOTTINGHAM Twp. Chester Co., Pa. The land became a part of Cecil Co., MD when the Mason-Dixon Line was Surveyed. Chapter XX tells the story of this family.
- IV. **Henry Ewing** baptised 11 October 1701 "Parent James Ewing of Inch Island." He married twice and lived, first, in EAST NOTTINGHAM Twp. Chester Co., PA. When township lines changed he was in LONDONDERRY twp." and again when lines changed he was in LOWER OXFORD twp. Chester. He wrote a Will and died prior to 7 January 1782. He signed his Will Henry Ewing Senior. He had a son, Henry, and a grandson, Henry, who died in 1777 at the Battle of the Brandywine. Chapter XVII is about this man and his family.
- V. **Samuel Ewing** baptised 11 October 1701 "Parent James Ewing of Inch Island." He married **Rebecca George** in 1740 in the First Presbyterian Church of Philadelphia, PA. She was a Quaker and it is said he became estranged from the others because of this. He could very well be twin to Henry Ewing "IV" above. He died prior to 10 Feb 1773. He lived in WEST NOTTINGHAM Hundred, Cecil Co., MD. Chapter XXXIII tells the story of this family.
- VI. **Thomas Ewing** baptised 5 Nov 1704 "Parent James Ewing of Inch Island." He left few "tracks" but is believed to be the father of another, John Ewing who was born 27 August 1727 in Chester Co., PA. John married **Sarah Yeates** of Chester, daughter of John and Elizabeth Yeates. Sarah was born 1731 and married about 1750 John Ewing. He died in Philadelphia, PA prior to 11 Nov 1754 and was called "Captain John Ewing". All efforts to find him listed in the French and Indian War have failed. All 3 children were baptised in Christ's Episcopal Church in Philadelphia. We know that Ester Ewing Cowden and James Cowden were Episcopal and that their son, Joseph Cowden was an Episcopal Rector. We have no chapter for Thomas.
- VII. **William Ewing** b ca 1706/7. He was on the 1729 Tax Record of EAST NOTTINGHAM Township, Chester Co., PA then he was in Londonderry Township when it was formed from E. Nottingham. He seems to be one and the same with the William Ewing who went to West Pennsboro twp. Cumberland Co., PA with those named James Gordon and James Graham and others. He was in Tyrone twp. Cumberland Co., PA where he died in 1774. It is believed he had a son, Thomas, by a first wife and sons, Samuel, James and Alexander and daughters Jane and Martha. We have traced them all. See this Book, Chapter XXXIX and Chapter XV.