Gran Sexton's Family and The Dalton Line

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Preface

It's difficult to know what, or how much, information to include when writing about people that, in the main, you have never met. I have tried to give a balanced account, but I am well aware that there is still much to discover about those included in the following pages – and those I have yet to discover. So I regard this write up as an interim report only, with hopefully many additions yet to follow. I thank all those who either provided me with information and/or photographs which have been used in this document.

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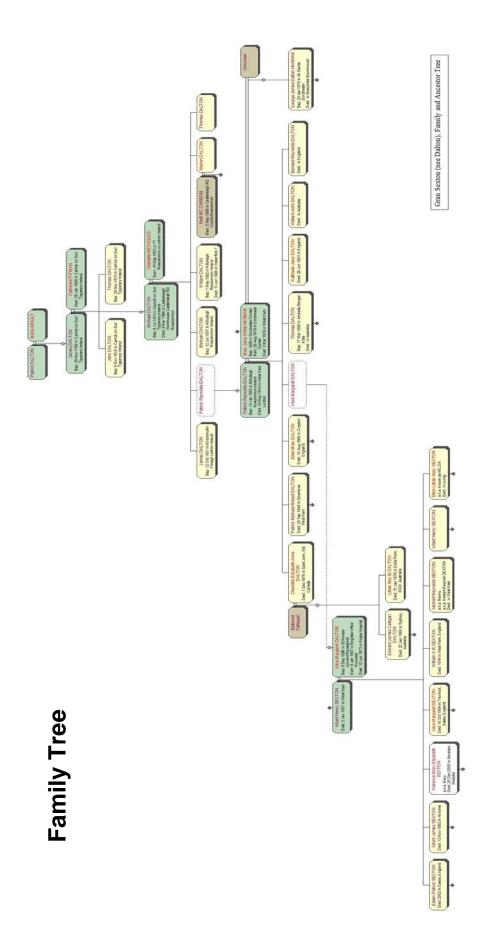




Fig 1 Alice Sexton nee Dalton

The Daltons

My Great Gran Alice Sexton nee Dalton (Fig 1) was born on the 19th July 1886 in Rawalpindi India, (Ref 1) which is now part of Pakistan, and was baptised at the St Honare convent on the 8th September (Ref 2). Alice was one of eight children born to Patrick Reynolds Dalton and Mary Jane Hanham (Refs 1, 3, 4). There is also a half sibling; George James Dalton Hanham (known as Jim) born early 1879 (the year of his mother's marriage to Patrick Dalton) and who appears in later records as a Dalton, but on his baptism certificate (Fig 2) is shown as born to Mary with the name of Patrick entered but then crossed out, suggesting Patrick refused him as his child; his birth certificate does not have a father entered (Appendix 1). Later in life he appeared as Jim Dalton and he figured in a few family stories.

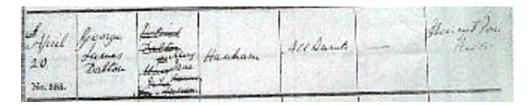


Fig 2 Baptism entry for George James (Dalton) Hanham

Gran Sexton (Fig 3) was the mother of my Nan Mary, and was the only one of my great grand-parents that I really knew or spent any time with as a child. She married on the 9th January 1907 at Woolwich. My Nan's sister Helen wrote that Gran Sexton had met her husband while at work in a factory where he was the foreman, but I never met my Great-granddad Albert Henry (known as Joe) as he had died in 1951, six years before I was born. His grave is in Grange Road cemetery, West Ham, only two rows back and ten graves along from my Great-gran Jane Read's grave; a bit of a coincidence!

I have a copy of his army attestation giving his occupation as 'Explosives worker', probably for Brunner Mond at their Silvertown factory, which on the 19th January 1917 was the site of one of the biggest explosions ever in Britain. The disaster is even mentioned in Drew Road School's log book as having blown the windows out, and which is the school my Nan and her siblings attended.

Helen also wrote that Albert was very intelligent, although he was unable to follow up a scholarship, offered by a teacher, because the family were so poor he had to go out to work; he also loved to play piano. His family is extremely difficult to trace and will, I hope, eventually be covered in another story when I have sourced the information. A photo of Albert is shown at Fig 4.



Fig 3 Gran (Alice) Sexton



Fig 4 Albert (Joe) Sexton

I have early memories of visiting Gran Sexton at 310 Beckton Road, where she lived whilst I was a lad living at my Nan's at Ling Road (it is also the address where my own father was born). I have memories of her visiting us at Ling Road, but mostly I remember her being with us at Christmas, sitting in one of the big armchairs by the fire in the front room. Like many East Londoners my Nan had a front room which was used only for special occasions; even though it would have been useful for everyday activities. Although Gran was in effect relegated to the front room, as it kept her away from the smoky cigarette fug cooked up in the other room by my parents and grandparents. This was when I was between the ages of five to 12 years old and Gran appeared ancient to me – she would have been 76 at my earliest memory, but she was a real stiff lipped old lady, with a sharp mind.

Gran told me and my brother Jerry about some of her early life in India, even occasionally using Hindustani words (Helen says she spoke fluently), and she happily played cards and other games with us. My mother liked Gran Sexton a lot, and even to this day insists she was a 'proper' old lady. Other stories I was told by my Nan Mary reinforced the fact that she was a real product of the Raj period; Alice had even once ridden on an elephant, all so exotic to my young mind. Although it probably was not an everyday occurrence I still have images of her riding elephants in many of my memories. I remember visiting her after Nan's sister Helen had moved her to an old people's estate at the end of the bus route in Barkingside. She never seemed happy there and always looked so sad when visitors left. When we had a birthday party for my brother Roger in June 1973 and Gran Sexton, ignoring my mum, attempted to get down the front step on her own, unfortunately she fell and broke her hip and sadly, died shortly afterwards in hospital.

When I started researching Alice's family shortly after my Nan Mary died, Helen told me of some of the family history, and as I wanted to trace further back, she gave me some notes she had written which she thought might be of help.

Reading a letter that Helen wrote in 1995 to Peter Pike (Appendix 2) it seemed that despite being poor and having at least six children of her own at home, Gran Sexton, who was devoted to her sister Annie, also for a while raised her sister's two illegitimate children, Lillian and Edward James (Fig 8), who were left in England when their mother Annie moved to Canada and married John Wilbert Pike.

I quote "my mother Alice and Annie were sisters devoted to each other, and they corresponded regularly throughout their long lives. It was a labour of love as far as my mother and father were concerned in regard to the rearing and caring of Annie's two children. The family were desperately poor and lived in a small, cramped upstairs flat without hot water, with one outside closet which served not only them (8 children and two adults), but also the family downstairs."

This type of house was exactly the same as the first house of my own parents, just four rooms for one family in one half of a shared house. The family had lived in several houses in this area, including Grey Street, where the Sexton family were living as well. One amusing fact uncovered in researching Alice is that for all her 'proper' staunch behaviour, and the fact she was very critical of my Nan Mary being pregnant when she married, I found out that she too was pregnant when she married, as was her own mother.

Helen wrote that my Nan had been Patrick Dalton's (Alice's father) favourite grandchild, as like him she had fiery red hair and a temper, and that because of this she was allowed to attend his "State Funeral", wearing a velvet cloak and throw flowers on his grave. Apparently, the state funeral happened because he had risen to the rank of Regimental Sergeant Major. It is not certain, but my Nan may well have attended his funeral. The information regarding his rank etc., as we shall see later, was somewhat embellished, as many pieces of information passed down a family line often tend to be.

Also included was the information that he was born in Ireland, and pieces of information on most of Alice's siblings showing several to have been born in India. I became determined to dig up as much information as I could on Gran Sexton, her family and the Dalton's as I was interested to see how much of this was true. I was very new to family research then and unfortunately it did not occur to me to see if any army records for Patrick existed, especially as he seemed to have been a regular and pension records could have existed. Instead I started on 'Ancestry', delving into various census records, and indexes of births, deaths and marriages.

I soon discovered the Dalton family in the 1901 census living at 63 Andrew Street, Silvertown; an address I was already aware of. This told me that Alice had at least seven siblings, of which five were born in India (corresponding in part to Helens papers). I later checked Alice's baptism at the India office of the British Library (Helen's son had already obtained a copy previously and Helen said it had taken place at the St Honore Convent, Rawalpindi) and after some searching I found the baptism of her sibling Thomas in Amballa. I could not find any baptism for the other three siblings born in India. What was also apparent was that George James Dalton was still not present, and was not found in the census. I had however found Charlotte's (Annie) and George's baptism, both born in England, so the first child born in India was Patrick and the last child born in India was William. Bernard was born 1897 in England, meaning the family had returned about 1895-6.

Siblings of Alice Sexton nee Dalton

Although I have carried out some research on Alice's siblings to identify birth, death and marriage details etc., I do not know a great deal about their lives, except perhaps for George James, who, from information researched, is only a half sibling (his baptism certificate gives the name Hanham) and Charlotte (Annie). For three of the siblings, Kathleen, William John and Bernard, I have some information regarding their entry to Drew Road School, Silvertown. This tells me little, but does include the fact that Kathleen attained grade 3 standards and that William previously attended a Catholic school in Silvertown (which makes sense as their father was Catholic). If George is included as a sibling then Alice had a total of eight brothers and sisters. Information on George and Annie is included in the following notes.

George James (Dalton) Hanham

The family story about George James (known as Jim) was that he had gone out to India with his parents when they went with the army, and eventually became chief of police in Bombay. Whilst at the British Library I checked Indian directories for George, and discovered that he really was in the police, but never climbed that far in the ranks, making sergeant only before returning to Britain. From a family contact I have been told that he was never a much liked man. Helen says in one of the papers she gave me that he married an Indian lady of high extraction, with the marriage frowned upon, and that George converted to the Muslim religion; however the wife died in a boating accident. This has never been proven, and certainly it would appear from family information that George's first wife was Florence Reynaud.



Fig 5 George James (Dalton) Hanham



Fig 6 George James (Dalton) Hanham and wife (at left of group)

The photograph at Fig 6 is of George and his wife and was given to me by Helen and her daughter Vanessa. There is a cross marked under the couple to the left of the group, and as this looks like George James in the uniform photograph I can only assume the lady with him is his first known wife Florence Reynaud, by whom he had two children. Jim is believed to have eventually had three wives, and his lines are researched by the wife of his grandson Ian Johnson (from the Reynaud marriage). From my contact with Ian I know the second wife was Bernice Enid by whom he also had two children.

The photograph at Fig 5 was taken in Bombay in 1911 and has a message written on the back which says:

"My dear old dad,

I suppose you are anxiously waiting for the promised letter, I am afraid marriage has made me very lazy so you must take the wife to task for not keeping me up to the mark. I shall expect a long letter in reply to this from you, and then I promise faithfully to send you one of the longest letters you have had in your life. Let me know all about yourself, your work etc. we are both well thank god and trust this finds you the same. With fondest love from us both

Your dutiful son and daughter

Jim and Flo"

The tone of the letter suggests that although George James (Jim) was not registered as Patrick Dalton's son, but that over the years he did have contact and was accepted as such. When I had first found George in a census in England he was with Mary Jane Hanham's parents in Dorchester in 1881 aged two, and as Patrick and Mary had their son Patrick the same year in India, it proved George could not have gone out with the family, again reinforcing that he was not Patrick's son. Research and family input since then shows he actually went to India when aged about 15-16 years old, possibly driven by the fact his mother had left him behind when she went with Patrick. In all events he was possibly sponsored for the journey and would have seen little of his mother prior to the family returning to England around four-five years later. I think he might be excused for being bitter under the circumstances. George himself, I am told, returned to England sometime in the 1960s and lived in Bournemouth (where he is buried).

Charlotte E (Annie) Dalton

Annie, Alice's much loved sister, had met a Canadian and emigrated to Canada, leaving her two children behind with my Gran Alice. The photograph at Fig 7 shows Annie with her son Wilbert and granddaughter. Fig 8 is a photograph of Mary Jane Dalton nee Hanham with Annie's children Edward James and Lillian. I am able to give more detail on Annie because, although I initially wanted to research what had happened to each of Alice's siblings, and had started the research, I came across the work of Peter Pike (mentioned earlier), on Ancestry and although the detail he gave about Patrick was sketchy, and hadn't identified where Patrick was born, it was obvious Peter was descended from Annie. We established contact, and exchanged an amount of information over a period, including many photographs (which are on file) and an old testimonial belonging to Patrick Reynolds Dalton from 1873 (the original of which cannot now be traced, and with no person in Canada admitting ownership). Also he had notes in Annie's own hand, written to 'Jim' of her emigration and her new family in Canada (Appendix 3). Interestingly, the letter is sent to Edward James (Jim) and also mentions the date of birth of her illegitimate daughter Lillian. Annie left England on May 3rd 1907 from Liverpool and died in 1952 in Canada.

I believe Annie probably meant to send for her children later, but a new husband and new family precluded that option, which is maybe why one of Alice's three brothers, who had emigrated later took them to Australia.

Other siblings of Alice Dalton

Patrick Michael Robert had 13 children, and he died in 1940 the victim of a bombing raid on London and is mentioned in war death records. Ellen (Nelly) Mary married and died 1966 in Croydon. Kathleen Jane married Harold Hunnam and died 1921 in London. Thomas married and moved to Australia where he died in 1956. William John also moved to Australia where he died in 1956 moved to Australia where he died in 1926 leaving two children. I have photographs (supplied by various family members) of most of Alice's siblings and they are reproduced on page 14.

I do not know which of the three uncles who moved to Australia took Annie's children.



Fig 7 Annie, son Wilbert and granddaughter



Fig 8 Mary Dalton nee Hanham, with Annie's son Edward James and daughter Lillian



Fig 9 Bernard Reynolds Dalton



Fig 10 Ellen Dalton, husband Richard and her mother-in-law



Fig 11 Thomas Dalton



Fig13 William John Dalton



Fig 12 Kathleen Dalton

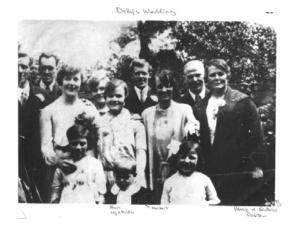


Fig 14 Patrick Michael Robert Dalton (centre)



Fig 15 Welcome to Roscommon

Of the papers and photographs Peter Pike sent to me, several proved to be really interesting. The first was Patrick R Dalton's testimonial (Appendix 4) which was instrumental in tracing where he was born. Although difficult to read in parts, it was signed "pp Patrick McLaughlin" and spoke of Patrick's good hand when writing and suggested he was a clerk or similar, and that McLaughlin signed on behalf of the company. I could make out what looked like Killulagh, and possibly Roscommon. My aunt Gloria had already said she thought Patrick was from Roscommon, so I started looking for Killulagh. After contacting the local Roscommon archives they decided that it was Kiltullagh I should be searching for.

I got in touch with the parish priest, Father Feaney, who searched the register and found Patrick's baptism to a Michael and Charlotte. Michael was a constable in the Royal Irish Constabulary (RIC). There were also two other children's baptisms, a Michael and a William, for which he sent me handwritten standard certificates. Father Feaney informed me that Maclaughlin had been the parish priest, hence pp on the testimonial. A plaque to him exists in one of the churches (Fig 16), he was known as the Right Rev Dean McLaughlin.

Earlier I spoke of Patrick's testimonial, and the fact he had a good hand, this had intrigued me. When talking to Father Feaney it had seemed unlikely he worked in any business locally, but maybe that he had done some work for the RIC via his father, or something similar? Unfortunately I could not find an explanation at the time, but it is explained further on by information extracted from Patrick's army record.



Fig 16 Plaque for P McLaughlin



Fig17 Map of Kiltullagh, Ballinlough

A year or so later in July 2008 I visited Father Feaney and managed to take photographs of Patrick's and his siblings Michael and William's baptisms in the register, all definitely to Michael and Charlotte. Prior to leaving England I had found on the Dalton Genealogical Society site a reference to a Thomas Dalton birth and a female birth to the same parents (in records as 'Female' as no name was given on registration), also the death of the father Michael; which also recorded he had been an RIC member (Appendix 5). I obtained Irish General Record Office (GRO) certificates for all three and the sister was later identified as Mary Ann from Patrick's army records, living at French Park (I have census details for her). I also obtained the certificate for Mary Ann's marriage to another RIC officer, whom she was with in the census for French Park.

Whilst looking for Michael's marriage to Charlotte, via Leitrim research, I also managed to trace a baptism at Fenagh, Knockmullin, Co Leitrim of a James Dalton in 1851 clearly to Michael and Charlotte, but two years before their marriage date of 19th May 1853. This has not been traced in any other records so far. The date of marriage is given in Michael's RIC details and which also clearly states Charlotte is from Leitrim.

I also received an additional baptism at Fenagh around the same time for a Reynolds child baptised at Knockmullin to a Patrick Reynolds, which gives us a small clue on the Reynolds family Charlotte may have come from, but as of yet I have not managed to trace Charlotte's family any further.

Father Feaney was of the opinion that Patrick may have been baptised at the historic church of Kiltullagh (Appendix 6), which even then was a ruin, but it has a stone plinth outside on which baptisms were, and still are, sometimes performed (Fig 18). I visited Kiltullagh church (Fig 19) with Kim Morris, who travelled with me whilst trying to trace further back on the Dalton lines, we also visited the school Patrick may have attended, or even taught at, as it later became apparent from his army records that he had been a teacher.



Fig 18 W Read at baptismal plinth



Fig 19 Kiltullagh Church, Kim Morris

We had obtained Michael's RIC records from the Irish archives whilst in Dublin, although they are also held at Kew, as the RIC was under British control (Appendix 5). On his marriage Patrick had stated that his father was a soldier (perhaps a memory of the RIC uniform?). But maybe at some time prior he had been a soldier, although I have not yet found any information which shows that. We travelled to Tipperary, which is where the RIC records stated Michael was from, and at local archives I purchased searches for any known Michael Dalton baptisms in the area. The only possibility was a Michael from Carrick on Suir. After driving to Carrick, as we wished to see where the family were from, we managed to persuade the new priest to give us access to the register, which until a short while before was not available to view, but was now, except we would have had to return to Dublin to see the micro film of the church records in the archives. This information enabled us to go back a couple of generations (see Dalton Family Tree page 3).

While in Carrick we were also referred by our B&B owner to someone called KT, a Dalton researcher from America, who was into DNA research. I contacted her and eventually had my own DNA done, but as I had direct contact with several living male Dalton descendants she thought it worth me persuading one of them to have his DNA checked, as there is a unique strand in one of the Dalton lines in the Carrick area, and if our Dalton line proved to have the same DNA we could be certain they originated in this area. Duly I asked Terry Dalton, who had his DNA test carried out (Figs 26 and 27) and it was an exact match for the DNA which KT had spoken of, proving at least we had followed the correct trail back to Carrick. It would appear that the DNA line can be followed back to mid or South France and gives a broad idea of the origins of the Celtic Dalton's our line descends from. I now follow the Dalton Genealogical group with interest, hoping it will eventually produce more information or contacts to which our line links.

Patrick Reynolds Dalton

Before leaving England for the Irish visit I had already decided to try and see if Patrick's army record was on file so a short while after my return I visited the National Archives at Kew and inspected WO97, the pension files, not holding out much hope, however I was wrong, and my search was rewarded with 11 pages of information on Patricks service in the army in India and his family details, and included one of the Court Martials in which he was reduced in rank (Appendix 7). Patrick's army records also confirmed his origin as Kiltullagh.

I also re-checked RIC records, as I knew from the Dalton Genealogical Society RIC notes that Patrick's brother Thomas had probably followed his father into the RIC, but I also identified a possible entry for his brother William, this I believe is correct, with the records showing William to have died in 1886. Interestingly my Nan's sister Helen had already told me that Mary Jane Hanham, Patrick's wife, had been a voluntary midwife whilst in India, helping at many births. This wasn't mentioned in his army records, but the records did give the exact dates of birth of Alice and all her siblings, and confirmed (by the absence of any information on him) the fact that George James definitely did not go with the family when they left Britain.

About this time I picked up one of the photographs I have from Peter, which Annie must have taken to Canada, it was notated as being her father and mother, her mother's parents and her brother Robert. I had looked at this rather fuzzy 'copy of a copy' many times before, and in fact, from it, a researcher at the TNA had assured me Patrick was definitely RHA (Royal Horse Artillery) and also that he was a marksman, shown by a crossed rifles badge on his left forearm. This last detail was confirmed in his army record, as he had apparently done well at gunnery when sent to Shoeburyness. What had not previously registered was the obvious fact that two babies were present, one of which, although in a frock (common dress for boys at the time), was George James, the other Annie. From the apparent ages of the children, and knowing when Annie and George James were born, it became obvious that this had to be a family photograph taken just before the Daltons left for India on the 7th December 1880 (Fig 20).



Fig 20 Hanham and Dalton photograph from Annie's album

Patrick's Army Record

Patrick's army record holds a tremendous amount of useful information on both him and his family's lives. Luckily he was in the army for a period of time which entitled him to a pension. I have begun to extract some of this information and, as it gives not only the regiments he was in, but also where he was stationed in certain years, I know that it is possible, with enough time and dedication, to obtain from regimental diaries a lot more detail on the things he was likely to have been involved with. Although I began to do this, I haven't yet had time to revisit the National Archives and follow it up.

The first page of his records, the Attestation, tells us that Patrick joined the army on the 19th November 1873 in Birmingham and, if I read it correctly, was placed in E Regiment of the Royal Horse Artillery. As we have a date on his testimonial when he left Ireland of Sept 20th 1873 we can only assume he travelled to England, either looking for work, which he didn't find, or deliberately to join the army, especially as there is only a two month gap in the dates. It also confirms he is from Kiltullagh, Co Roscommon and gives his description (Fig 21) and details of his first discharge after 14 years 150 days in the army, after which he re-enlisted, agreeing to complete a minimum of 21 years of service. The final page of the document gives his military history, showing a final service time of 21 years 219 days, entitling him to a pension. During this time he is shown as having served in India from 7th October 1886 to the 5th May 1895, another page shows this time was spent in over ten locations, including Rawalpindi (where my Gran Alice was born), Lahore, Poona and Secunderabad, to just name a few.

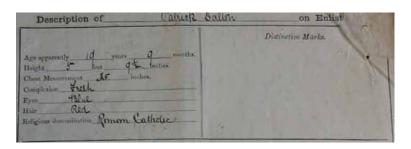


Fig 21 Patrick Dalton Enlistment Description

Following enlistment he was sent to Aldershot which is where he would have begun his training as a Gunner in 1874. In 1875 he was stationed at Woolwich and in 1876 moved to Dorchester which is where he would have met Mary Jane Hanham. In 1878 he was moved to C Brigade. On the 27th February 1880 he attended a course on Gunnery at Shoeburyness range in Essex, which I believe still existed until recently, and is noted as "V Good". In 1880 he was appointed 'Provisional acting Bombardier' whilst in Amballa India, and is eventually moved to B Brigade where he was promoted first to Corporal, and then Sergeant, however by 1886 at his first court martial he was reduced in rank to corporal again, and subsequently at a second court martial in September 1887 to Bombardier. I cannot find any evidence in his record of a further promotion, and it appears there is a small period of his record entries missing. However, on his final discharge he is entered as having the rank of corporal for pension purposes, so I can only assume he was indeed promoted during this missing period between 1889 and 1893.

What is interesting is that elsewhere in his record it tells us he was 'intemperate', i.e. that he was liable to drink. That suggested to me that his court Martials and demotions were probably drink related, and sure enough when I searched and found the one in 1886 it showed it was for being drunk on duty. I haven't been able to find the second offence, but it is almost certain it will be for the same offence. What isn't so easy to understand is why this happened. Historically alcohol, in the form of beer, was commonly used in places like India as the standard refreshment, because it was well known that the water was insanitary, and this practise was encouraged by the army, yet obviously they expected their men to be able to control their intake and the effect it had on them and their duties; possibly a little unfair?

Other entries in Patrick's papers tell us that he completed a third class certificate of education on the 21st November 1875 and was awarded a 2nd class certificate of education on the 15th August 1878, and that he completed a course in Hindustani on the 7th September 1885. Also the papers confirm his religion as Roman Catholic.

His medical history shows his former occupation to have been as a teacher, which I can only assume was at the school near Kiltullagh that Father Feaney took me to. As Patrick was good at reading and writing, as expressed in his testimonial from P McLaughlin, he obviously stayed on to help teach at the school at which he himself was educated. His medical history also tells us that he was vaccinated against Smallpox on his left arm at some time, and that while never wounded in action on a campaign, he did wound himself lifting a gun whilst at Woolwich and also that throughout his service he suffered other cuts and contusions as the result of minor accidents. He was also confined to hospital on several occasions whilst in India suffering from Fever or Ague (an intermittent fever attended by alternate cold and hot fits); most likely this was malaria.

The final page of Patrick's record is extremely valuable as it gives the names and dates of all his children born in India, plus Charlotte born in England. Again no mention is made of George James. It also tells us his next of kin, his sister Mary Ann and his brother Thomas. His father is listed, but crossed through, suggesting he had died, but there is no mention of his mother, who may have died before he left Ireland? Mary Jane Hanham is entered in red as 'wife'.

Patrick was finally discharged on the 25th June 1895 when the officer wrote for his character "latterly good, during the last six years", possibly referring to his drinking? Then, possibly on reflection that it was a little unfair, had crossed out the remark leaving just the word 'good'.

Patrick and Mary Dalton's Internment certificates are shown at Appendix 8.

Siblings of Patrick

From my searches I had established that Patrick had four brothers, James, Michael, William and Thomas, and one sister Mary Ann or Marion (interchangeable). From records of the Dalton Genealogical Society, the RIC at the TNA, and the 1901 census I have been able to establish that it was not just the father Michael who was involved in or with the RIC. On the Dalton Genealogical Society's website I also found the following entries.

Thomas

51839 Thomas Dalton: born Co Roscommon; age 18 and three qtrs., Catholic, no occupation given. Rec'd by District Sgt Wynce. App't 21 June 1886 Allocated Co Cavan. Resigned 5 Oct 1891-charge drunkenness pending.

I followed this up as the age is exactly right for Patrick's sibling, and there are no other Daltons named Thomas found at that time from Roscommon. It seems Thomas was punished at least three more times prior to this offence, and maybe that's why he resigned – as he expected to be thrown out anyway. After his dismissal I have no idea what he did, and I am looking for further information.

William

It seems that I missed an entry on the DGS because in the National archives records for the RIC I found an entry for a William; also an exact match as Patrick's sibling with age and place of birth spot on. William enrolled in the RIC on 16th May 1881 at age 19, obviously also following in his father's footsteps, and he was allocated No 47075 on 9th July 1882 to Waterford, where he served until 16th June 1886 when he was signed off with a gratuity as unwell with an abscess of the groin. He died on the 18th June 1886.

Marion

As mentioned earlier, Marion, who was registered at birth as just 'female', was identified from Patrick's army record where given as next of kin. She appears in the 1901 census at French Park as the wife of Neil Mc Carron, another RIC constable, although they are not living in the RIC barracks. I have not yet managed to trace her family any further.

James and Michael

So far no other information has been found outside of that already included.

Michael Dalton

My first searches for information on Patrick's father, Michael, who was given on Patrick's marriage as a soldier, produced some information from the Dalton Genealogical Society's site which was almost a perfect match for our Michael but he was an RIC constable. This was in April 2007, and a very exciting find, especially as baptisms had shown Patrick's father to be RIC. Following this information, which is in a three-part series on the constabulary by William Dalton, and includes additional information such as the General Records Office (GRO) births etc., which William (who goes under the name Mike!) could relate to the RIC officers extracted. I contacted Mike to confirm and see if I could obtain more details.

The transcription of his original information on the site gave the following (ref Vol 7 No 12 P1).

2742: Michael Dalton: b. Co. Tipperary; age 23, 5'10"; Catholic; occ.:

labourer,Recommended by District Constable Sheils. Appointed 8 Nov. 1837. Allocated to Co. Westmeath; Roscommon 1 Feb. 1844; Pensioned 1 August 1873. Married Charlotte Reynolds of Co. Leitrim on 19 May 1853. Children, daughter 17 Oct. 1864 at Ballinlough, Castlereagh, Roscommon; Thomas 24 Aug. 1867 at Kiltulla, Castlereagh, Roscommon.

Note: Kiltulla and Kiltulagh are one and the same.

The plaque below (Fig 22) is that of the RIC, and is an enlargement of the one shown in Fig 23, which is the RIC station at Roscommon; although it is likely it has been rebuilt in part since Michael's time there, and is now a private house.



Fig 22 Royal Irish Constabulary plaque



Fig 23 Ex RIC Station Roscommon

A further exchange with Mike resulted in more information which he had extracted from RIC records on microfilm. I soon obtained copies of the originals, which are on film at the Irish archives, or the TNA at Kew as Britain was in charge of the RIC (Appendix 5) and this information gave me the following.

Michael, officer No 2742 was appointed under authority 19844D/19796. Originally allocated to Westmeath and subsequently reserve, under authority 3441 SD/34327, and finally allocated to Roscommon, authority No 5782/248, where Patrick and his siblings were born and Michael died. He hadn't had a particularly distinguished career, or so it seems from the fact that under the punishments and rewards section of his record he appears to have twice been reduced in rank to 2nd class constable, but there is no mention of merits. Although one supposes he must have risen in rank at some point for them to be able to reduce it again. I am informed that much paperwork is missing, so I may never trace those details.

He was pensioned, and I obtained originals of some of the pension details from Kew (under PMG48) for 1873 to 1876, these amount to three years of his pension entries. Pensioned 1st August 1873 (coincidently the year Patrick left Ireland), authority C55665/19682, for 35 years and 8 months service he was awarded a pension of 27 pounds. Of the £27.00 pa he seems to have received £26-14-8d for the years October 1873-74 and October 1874-5, and the entry on October 1875 finishes at April 1876. I am not clear what happened to payments beyond this date. Michael ultimately died on the 9th March 1886 at Castlereagh workhouse (Fig 24), which unfortunately no longer exists, the entry for which on the GRO death certificate states "ex RIC constable". I am informed that the pension records should possibly give details if his wife died before him, but unless I can identify where the rest of the records are I cannot be sure whether she died before or after Michael. So far I have not identified whether she died, remarried or just disappeared, as there is nothing to be found in GRO indexes, despite them checking several times for me.

As for Michael dying in the workhouse, although understood to be a place the poor were sent, it was also a hospital, and likely the one to which Michael would have been sent when ill and diagnosed with Haemoleucosis which gives symptoms similar to TB. I suppose it is possible his pension was stopped for some reason, but unlikely, and unless I can find the workhouse records, which has not so far been possible, we will never know the whole story.



Fig 24 Castlereagh Workhouse

Royal Irish Constabulary

Established in 1816 to replace policing by British Militia and agents hired by local landlords, the RIC was an armed force operating from barracks at strategic locations around Ireland. They were disbanded in 1922 during the Irish rebellion. Around 85,000 men served. They were followed by the RIC Garda in the Irish Free State, and RUC in British ruled Northern Ireland. After induction and training in Phoenix Park Dublin the men were allocated to various counties, in case of impropriety, they were obliged to serve in areas away from their county of birth, also if married, away from the county of their wife's birth.

Beyond Michael Dalton

As mentioned earlier, while we were in Carrick on Suir, which is where we managed to trace the birth of Michael Dalton, we were able, by accessing the original church register – which is older than the church it is held in, and which was rebuilt in 1879 (Fig 25) – to go back two more generations on the Dalton family. We obtained copies of all relevant records found at the time, although since then I have obtained a copy of all the existing Church registers and hope to extract further family records to aid further research.

As can be seen from the family tree (Page 3) Michael's parents were James Dalton and Catherine Fitman, both born around 1790. James is definitely in Carrick, as we found his baptism to parents Patrick Dalton and Maria Cangly (possibly Kingly). This takes us back to around the year 1750. Unfortunately Irish records this early are few and far between, which is why I had Dalton DNA tested. Hopefully there is still a lot to discover if and when I can get time to research the rest of the church register. The DNA has helped prove that our Daltons are definitely part of the Dalton clan from around Carrick in Tipperary, and as mentioned earlier, because of a rare DNA strand it helps trace their probable origins. To this end there is a focus group called the Dalton DNA project.

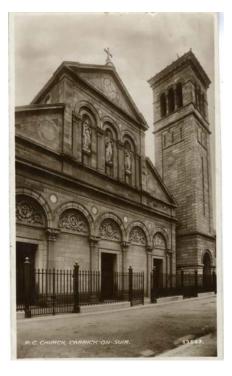
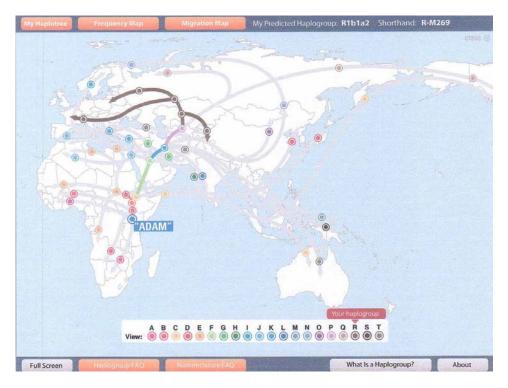


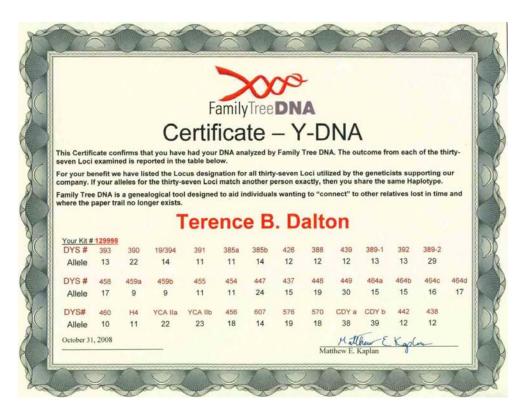
Fig 25 St Nicholas Church, Carrick on Suir

I also have early census material from 1799 for Carrick, extracts from Griffiths valuation 1848 to 1864, other Carrick born Daltons' army records (now available via Ancestry), a variety of later census and other material, and finally pieces of information on other Dalton lines as researched by members of the DNA focus group, from which, in addition with what could be extracted from the church register, hopefully, at some time, I can build an outline of the Dalton families in and around Carrick, which may well lead me even further back into their history...all exciting stuff for future research.

Figs 26 and 27

T Dalton DNA and predicted Haplogroup





T Dalton Haplogroup and DNA



Fig 28 Welcome to Carrick on Suir

Carrick On Suir

Carrick-on-Suir (Irish: Carraig na Suire) is a town in County Tipperary, Ireland. As the name – meaning "rock of the suir" – suggests, the town is situated on the River Suir. Carrick-on-Suir is situated in the south-eastern corner of County Tipperary, 13 miles east of Clonmel, and 17 miles northwest of Waterford. The town lies over three county lines, namely Tipperary, Waterford and Kilkenny. Which marks the Tipperary-Waterford border, the main portion of Carrick-on-Suir north of the river and lying in Tipperary is known locally as *Carrick Mór* (*Big Rock*), though this is rarely used. On the other side of the river is *Carrick Beg.*

History

Carrick-on-Suir (originally called Carrig Mac Griffin) was formed on an island settlement upstream of Waterford. (The town remained as an island until the 18th century, when small rivers were diverted to form dry land north and west of the town.) The earliest known records of a settlement are dated to 1247, when a charter of three fairs per year was awarded to Matthew Fitzgriffin, Lord of the manor of Carrick, and a member of the Anglo-Norman nobility.

By the early 14th century, Carrick Mac Griffin had become home to a prosperous Anglo-Norman family - the Butlers. The first significant leader of the Butler clan, Edmond le Bottiler, became Earl of Carrig in 1315. His son later received the title Earl of Ormonde, and this title would be used henceforth. The most notable members of the Butler clan were Thomas (Black Tom) Butler, the 10th Earl of Ormond who built the Tudor Manor House extension to the Ormonde Castle and James, 12th Earl and 1st Duke of Ormond, who founded the woollen industry of the mid-17th Century. Edmond le Bottiler erected two large, heavily garrisoned castle keeps named the Plantagenet Castle on the north bank of the Suir, just east of what is now Main Street. In the 1400s a four towered castle was erected on the same site, two of which are now incorporated into the Elizabethan Manor House built by Black Tom Butler, c. 1560. The Manor House still stands today, having being extensively refurbished by the State in the 1990s and is open to the public.

In 1649, the town was taken by English Parliamentarians during the Cromwellian conquest of Ireland. They captured Carrick by stealth after discovering an undefended gate as part of operations during the Siege of Waterford. Irish troops from Ulster under Major Geoghegan tried to re-take Carrick but were eventually beaten off with over 500 killed.

In 1670 the Butlers set up a woollen industry in the town. By 1799, the town enjoyed some prosperity from the woollen industry, fishing, basket weaving and other river related businesses - the population reached around 11,000 by this point. Over the next 120 years however, the town suffered from high taxes and levies imposed by the British on the woollen industry, leading to high unemployment, poverty and emigration. The Great Famine also contributed greatly to the depopulation of the town.

With the coming of Independence and the Civil War, Carrick was initially occupied by the IRA until the town fell to the Free State army in 1922. By this stage, industrialisation had reached Carrick with the establishment of cotton factories and a local creamery. Most significant however for the economic development of the town was the arrival of the tanning industry in the 1930s, providing regular, dependable employment in the town for the first time. The local town council also embarked on building social housing projects in an effort to deal with appalling living conditions in the town for those economically disadvantaged. Despite these developments, economic opportunities were limited and poverty widespread - the town saw widespread emigration to Dublin, Britain and further afield, especially during the long recessions of the 40s and 50s.

In 1447 a stone bridge was built, now known as the 'Old Bridge' (Fig 29). An accident occurred at the bridge in 1799, and many years later they were still finding bones of the victims in the river. A new, more modern bridge (later named after John Dillon) was built in the early 20th century. The central part of the Old Bridge (and likewise the Dillon Bridge) was destroyed by retreating IRA forces in 1922 in an attempt to slow the advance of the Free State army, but both were rebuilt by 1927.

Carrick's Town Clock was erected in 1784. A public park was created in the Fair Green in the 1860s. The town fair continues to this day, having been moved from the Fair Green in the 1920s to a new site just west of the Fair Green.



Fig 29 Carrick Old Bridge

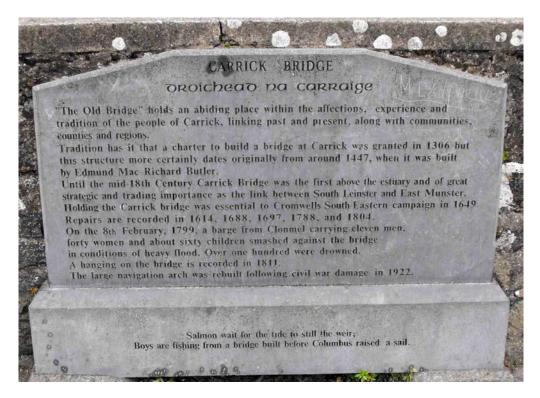


Fig 30 Old Bridge Commemoration

Carrick-on-Suir and Carrick-Beg are home to three Catholic churches. In Carrick Mór lies St Nicholas' church and it is the largest church in the town. This church was built in 1879, replacing an earlier church of the same name built in 1804. In Carrick Beg are the small St Molleran's parish church (parts of which date back to the 1200s) and the larger Franciscan friary. The Franciscan order's presence in Carrick dates back to 1336 with the granting of land for a friary by the 1st Earl of Ormond. However, the suppression of monasteries by Henry VIII led to the closure of the friary. Just prior to the invasion of Ireland by Cromwell, the friars had returned for an 11 year period, before being shut down again and the friars having to go underground to avoid persecution. It was not until 1820 and the onset of Catholic Emancipation that the friars were able to fully return and a new chapel was built. The friars served the local community until the lack of vocations to the order led to the order finally leaving Carrick-Beg in 2006.

The local Anglican community was relatively substantial until independence from the UK, when the majority left for Britain and Northern Ireland. The local Anglican church on Main Street was abandoned until the late 1980s, when the church building and grounds were renovated and now serve as a heritage centre

Period postcards of historical views of the town are shown at Fig 31 and Fig 32, with the modern day High Street shown at Fig 33.



Fig 31 Old view of Carrick High Street



Fig 32 Carrick Castle and River



Fig 33 Carrick High Street today

The End, until research recommences and provides more information!

Appendices

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2	Helen Nelson nee Sexton letter to Peter Pike	35–38
3	Annie's notes to son Edward James about her emigration and family	39–40
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6	Kiltullagh Church history	43
7	Patrick Dalton Army Records	44–50
8	Patrick and Mary Dalton's internment certificates and burial details	51–52

References and Sources

- 1 Patrick Dalton's army record (Appendix 7)
- 2 Baptism of Alice Dalton
- 3 1901 Census and Birth details
- 4 Birth Certificate of George James (Dalton) Hanham (Appendix 1)

George James (Dalton) Hanham birth certificate



G STAN NY CIR CAMEDENS, ROMFORD. . 10.5.95. ESSEY RM375M ENCLAND. Dear Peter, At last I have been able to , glean some information, ackeit Slight, frion my sister Harry . As I am 15 years younger Itan She is, I have no knowledge, poronally, of the family. However, there are several pieces of information which I timit you will find wheresting. Particularly that relating to your grandmather, Charlotte (Annie) My mother, Alice, and Annie were sisters devoted to each oth and thety corresponded regularly throughout their long lives? It was a labour of love as for wo my mother, and my forther, were concerned in regard the rearing and caring of Amic's two children. The family were desperately poor and lived in a small,

Helen Nelson nee Sexton letter to Peter Pike

hot water and one outside closet which served not only them (8 children and 2 adress) but also the family who tided downstairs ~ Despite this poverty and deprivation, Many remembers. with much love and affection and with no small measure of emotion, the halppy childhood they all shared. They were without material things but uch ees with love and secure bromelike. I arrived on the scene late in my parents lives, at a time when my brothers (4 m all) and my sisters (2 of then) were adoptoaching, and in some cases. had reached, young adulthood. .In additions this brood, were of course, Annies two youngsters fullian and James Doctor It would appear that the

history of Annue and no children has something of the "Skeleton in the cupboard" aspect to it, but we must, for chanity's sake, remember that the social climate then was very different from to days. Society was much less tolerant of people's misdemeanouts (as Was then perceived), than perhaps they are today. I understand that when Wilbert learned of this history during his and Alles visit to ivo in 1977, they then decided te visit Australia, where, I believe, they not various relatives, including his half-brother (his half- sister was tragically killed before -they could meet). Hence, I think wiekent is more an faux with the Australian connection written, Peter, Prather suspect

a many resarring continen then of se it apologise most profuseli but please feel face to conta ne again if you so wish. In conclusion, I wish you much good luck and perseverence/an absolute your quest I unagine) in Happy hunting and very kest toishis. Helen and Jim Nickson (and Mary, too) P.S. I hope the attached sheets make some sinse. I have numbered each posson in the hope it well make identification Slightly less difficult for you Also my apologies for my Scribble, I about possess a W.P. and ofter a while cromp sets in, but with luck your won't find it consplictely illegible.

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Annie's notes to son Edward James about her emigration and family

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Michael Dalton Royal Irish Constabulary Records

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Kiltullagh — The Church on the Hillock

The ancient parish of Kiltullagh consists of an area from (and including) Cloonfad to Granlahan and Ballinlough. It is situated about three miles from Ballinlough and Cloonfad and not too far from the Mayo and Galway borders, and is in the Tuam Diocese. All early records of the area were destroyed by invaders in the 16th and 17th centuries.

The parish can claim a long and famous history, because the many ruins in the area confirm the existence of a thriving population back into the past, 2,000 years or more B.C. In the townland of Altore there is one of the best preserved ancient burial grounds in Ireland. It is of the Megolithic period and there are three standing stones which are said to be the outlines of one of the seven Coarf-Ships of Hi-Maine. From Mount Delvin to Boyle a long line of these stones can be traced which formed the boundary of Hi-Maine. In nearby Currisluista there is another wedge grave. In Rathlena can be seen evidence of two large raths and an undergorund cave, which was a Norman settlement of the 13th century.

In the year 440 St. Patrick-arrived in the area and met the local chieftain, Enda, whom he converted to the Faith. The latter gave him land and built a church on a hill which was called Kiltullagh. In those days people lived only in the hills and uplands as the lowlands were covered with trees and swamps. Loman was the first priest of the settlement and Kiltullagh became one of the six Patrician Foundations in Ireland. (Baslick was another). The rath or fort of Enda can still be seen in the townland of Borrinagh.

The early buildings were wooden, but the first stone wall church was built in Kiltullagh about 1190 and the walls and ruins are still standing. It was one of the first with windows but were closed by slabs, as glass did not appear for another 200 years. This church was looted and burned in 1650.

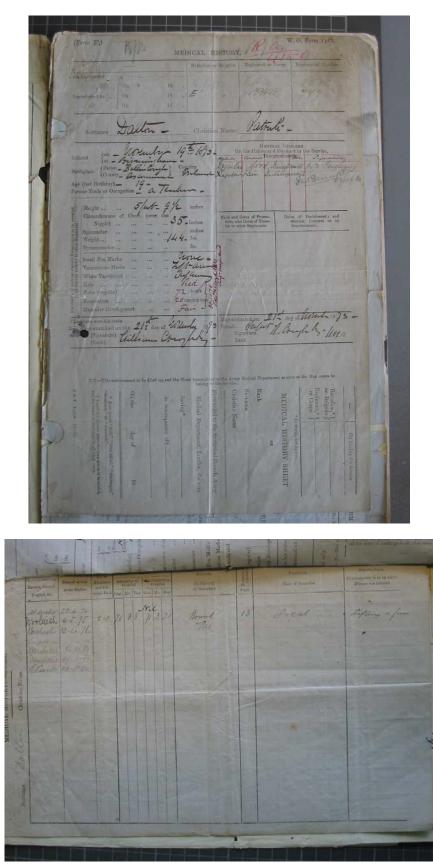
The area around it was used as a burial ground and there are seven priests and one Bishop buried there and two 33 priests were interred inside the walls. Mass was celebrated here last year and lets hope this will be an annual commemoration.

GRANLAHAN

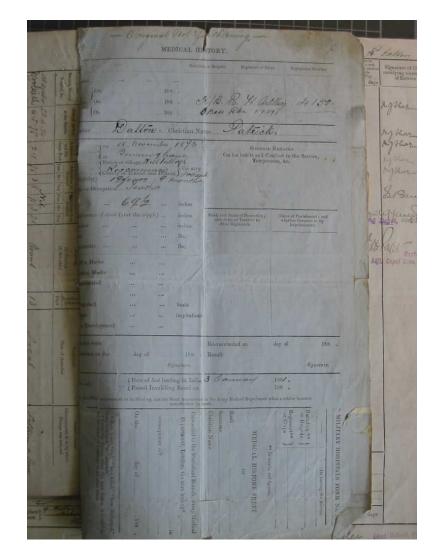
First reference available mentions Granlahamore having a church in 1441, and was still in use in 1830. About that time a storm destroyed it, and the P.P., John O'Rourke, left and took a Rectorship in the Church of Ireland in Ballinlough. When he died a clash occurred at Lowberry over his burial where it was establihsed he had returned to the Catholic Faith before he died. A new church was built in 1839 and still serves the area. There was also a church in Cloonfad around 1900 and the present church was built in 1938 by Fr. Concannon.

In 1844 the Franciscans arrived and built a school in 1848 where they taught the local children 'till 1958 when the school closed. There were 250 boys on the rolls here at that time as they came from all over the parish. A school for girls was established near the Church and was in use until 1965 when the present school was built, and now only 62 pupils (boys and girls) attend. The Brothers finally left Granlahan in 1972 when the monastery was sold.

In a school book for the 1982 Leaving Certificate class entitled "Elements of Physical Geography" by Joseph Lyons there is featured in it a photograph of an esker south of Ballinlough. This is reputed to be a magnificent example of an esker after glaciation and must be of great importance to be used for students edification. It is situated in the Cloonfenian/Ballybane area.



Patrick Dalton Army Records



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- 6.	bear true Allegiance to H	er Majesty, Her H	eirs, and Successors, a	and that I will, as in duty bout	nos, and will observe and	Y
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11	Witness my hand.		Signature of Recruit	sdl. Patracky	lton W NO.	1
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Patrick Salton on Enlist Description of_ Distinctive Marks. Age apparently Id years Q Height Those Q Inches. Chest Missionengut IS inches. Complexion Full. Eyes Halue Hair Red Religious demonination Romon Cathelie MEDICAL CERTIFICATE ON ENLISTMENT. I have examined the above-named Recruit and find that he does not present any of the following conditions, viz_t-Berofulas, plahiais, symplific, impaired constitution: delective intelligence; defects of vision, vize, at hearing; hermins, hemorchicity, various visio beyond a limitive scienci. Invertence existences thereas; chronic ulters; traces or corporal punishment, or evidence of having bean marked with the letters $D_{\alpha} \in R(D_{\alpha})$ contrasted or deformed effect information invitive of spine; or any other disease or physical defect actualized to unit hum for the duries of a soldier. 18 12. Signature of Ad Milliam Creage this 19 day of There MILITARY MEDICAL CERTIFICATE-ON APPROVAL. Re-examined by me at Binningham on the 20. day of_____ Tool 18 13 , and finally approved as fit for Service. Id William Gragh Surgeon Recruiting District, Brigade Depôt, or / Regiment. Norm.—Howait the appending Bergeen avoider the Recruit ands, he will have this Cortificate unsignal, and report the main on W. O. Free 264, in Hoh-Districts to the Officer Commonling the Hinghe Projet, and in Regiments or attacked Dopies to the Officer Commanding, offer estanding the memory of the Principal Holdan Officer, Social March Social and Social and Social Community, the second se Certificate of Superintending Officer or Adjutant. I bereby certify that the above brond mornit Pakuck Ballen was imported for me, and I consider him in every respect fit (or unfit, as the case may be) for Her Majesty's Service, and that I have examined this attentation and find it property filled up. -. Certificate of Approving Field Officer. I certify that this Attestation of the above-named recruit Patrick Sallon is correct, and that the required forms appear to have been complied with. I accordingly approve, and appoint him to Royal Oxtelling , for the period of his Army Service. Date 29 New 71873 Adj. Stenry USSELSH Signature of Approxima Signature of Approxima Signature of Approxing Field Officer. Service Abroad ... Description on Discharge. 14 ym , 50 dys Age III years If months Height 6 logt 0 Complexion 2 rest inches Wounded Blue Eyes_ And Effect of Wounds Red Hair Jeacher A lfes Intended place 7 Hatry Kom 1 Hours Course nu Gunneray 272. 10 of Instru low's Studard Hindustone 7. 9 83

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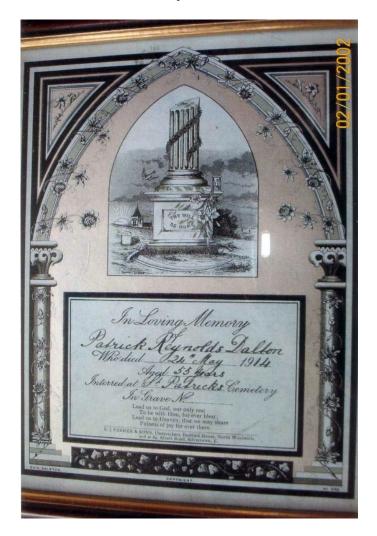
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Internment Certificates and Burial Details for Patrick Reynolds Dalton and Wife Mary Jane 200610

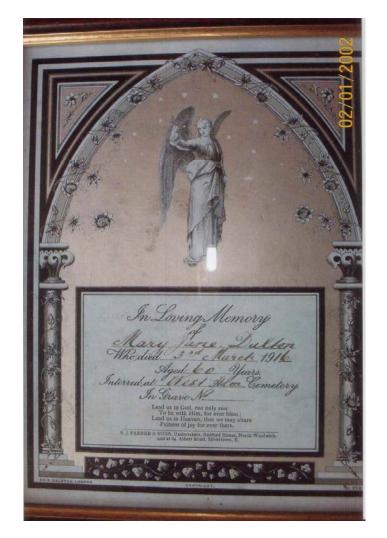


Patrick Reynolds Dalton

ST PATRICK'S CEMETRY, LANGTHORNE ROAD, WEST HAM – ROMAN CATHOLIC CEMETRY

Buried May 1914

Public Grave – Grave 34 Row 73 Plot 11 – No longer exists, sold for use as a private grave



Mary Jane Dalton nee Hanham

WEST HAM CEMETRY

Buried March 1916

Public Grave Headstone No 117954JC - No longer exists, sold for use as a private grave