

Brudenell Plummer

BIRTH	1762	Ireland	DEATH	1828 (aged 65–66)	Ireland
BURIAL	Springfield Cemetery		Broadford, County Limerick, Ireland		

Brudenell Plummer

b. 1792; d. 1828; bur. at Springfield, Broadford, Co. Limerick.

m. FRANCES FITZGERALD, daughter of THOMAS FITZGERALD, 22nd Knight of Glin, of Glin Castle, co. Limerick, and MARY BATEMAN, of Oak Park, co. Kerry, d. 13 May 1849, Mount Plummer, 6 children.

Following the custom for a first born son, Brudenell Plummer received his mother's family name as his christian name. He became Justice of the Peace for county Limerick and was High Sheriff of the county in 1808. As the family's only son, Brudenell inherited Mount Plummer upon the death of his father. Today on Glenduff Mountain, part of the old Plummer estate, stand the stone walls of a castle in ruins. These ruins may be what is left of the family home where Brudenell and his family lived, perhaps destroyed in the serious uprisings in county Limerick in the late 1800s and early 1900s . Brudenell's wife FRANCES PLUMMER, lived at Mount Plummer until her death in 1849, and Ada Dibble Buckingham reports that when she saw the ruins in 1963, they appeared old. In any case, during the late eighteenth century and most of the nineteenth century, Mount Plummer was the comfortable home of landed gentry, who shared a zestful life of hospitality, hunting, shooting, and entertainment.

Brudenell and Frances raised five sons and one daughter at Mount Plummer. In the Anglo-Irish gentry, younger sons who would not inherit land were often prepared for either the ministry or the military. These occupations offered a respected position and an assured income. Two of the sons of Brudenell and Frances became clergymen and two married daughters of clergymen. All except their son Charles married and raised families.

Brudenell and Frances Plummer's only daughter, Isabella, scandalized her family when she fell in love with a Catholic by the name of William Croke. To make a living, William's family had opened a general store, because, as Catholics, there were forbidden by the Irish Penal Laws from owning land. Mixed marriages were frowned upon in Ireland, where religion was (and still is) a point of friction.

Isabella's family vigorously opposed her love affair on both religious and social grounds. When she married William Croke, Isabella was disowned and her name stricken from the family records; neither her name nor the name of her descendants appear on any of the published Plummer family records in Burke's Landed Gentry of Ireland (1912) nor in Howard and Crisp's Visitation of Ireland (1973), where her five brothers are listed. Mark Tierney's Croke of Cashel (1976) was our only information on Isabella and her descendants. IN spite of these events, Brudenell and Frances Plummer became grandparents of Archbishop Thomas William Croke of Cashel. Gaughan (1978:78) says, "The evidence available indicates that [they] would have been far from pleased with such a grandson."

Brudenell Plummer died in 1828 at age sixty-six. Frances FitzGerald Plummer lived another twenty-one years at Mount Plummer, until her own death in 1849. Each of her sons lived with her until his own marriage. Soon after her death, her son Edward, our ancestor married and emigrated to America.

*** Information from The Family History of Barry Dibble and Belle Butler Dibble, written and compiled by Ada Dibble Buckingham and Janet Elizabeth Dibble***

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