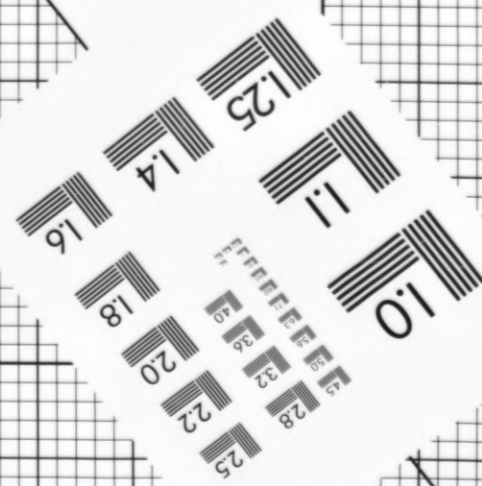
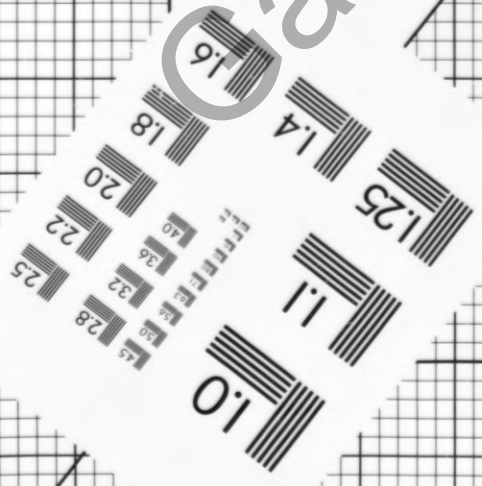
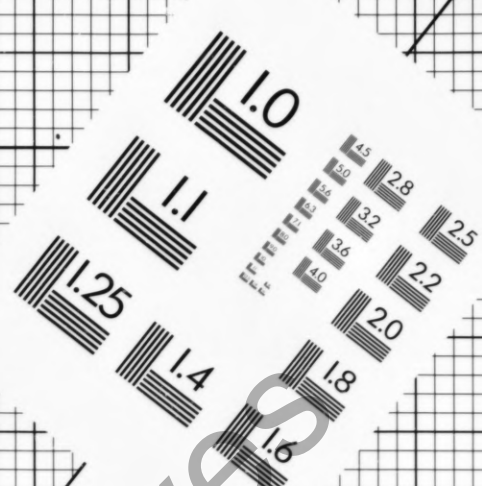
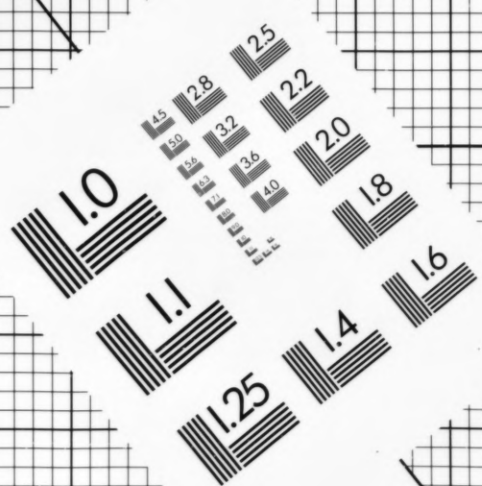
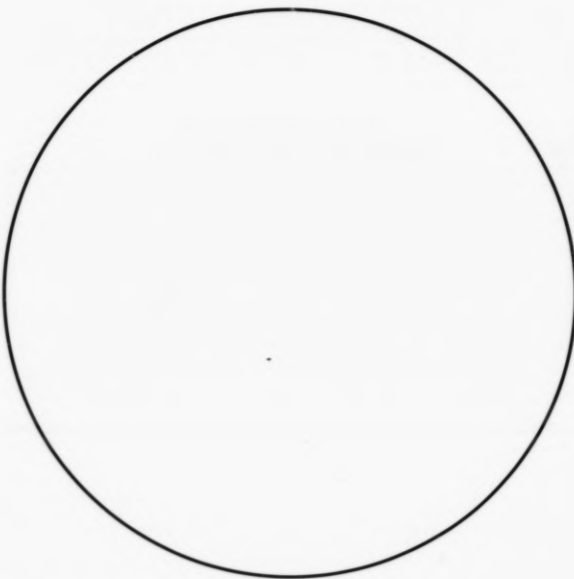




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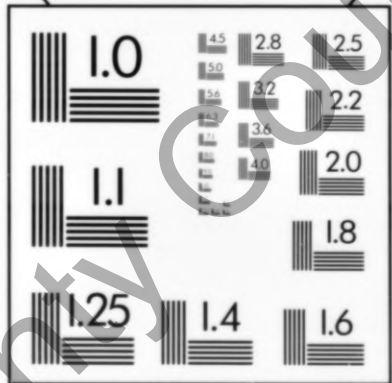
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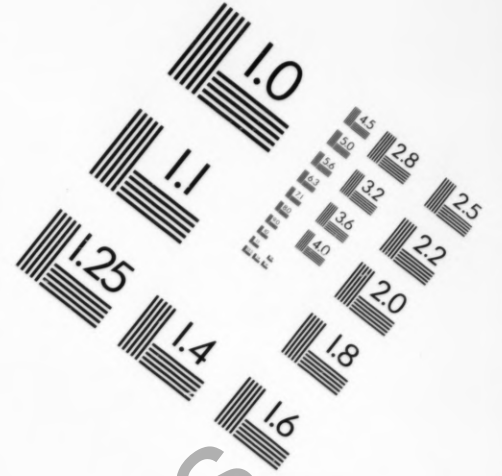
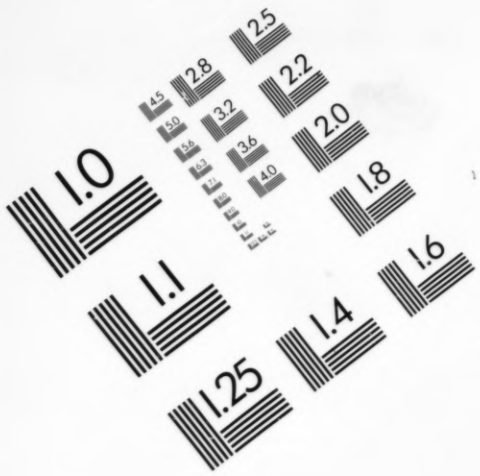
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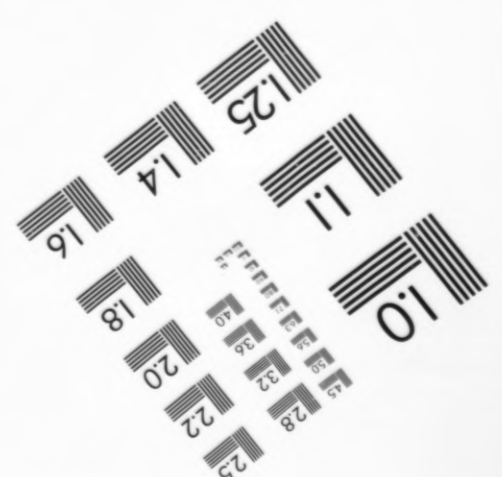
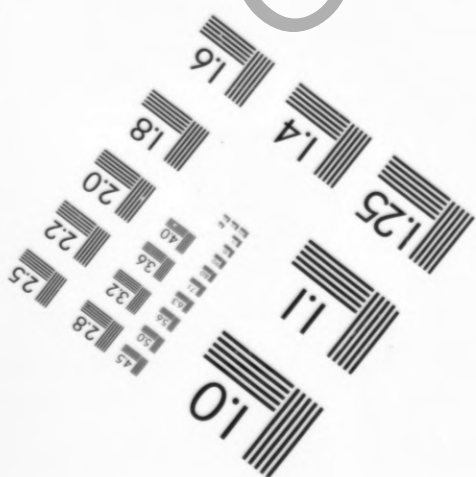
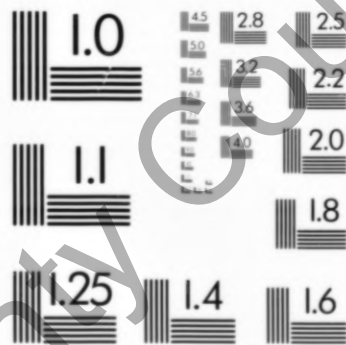


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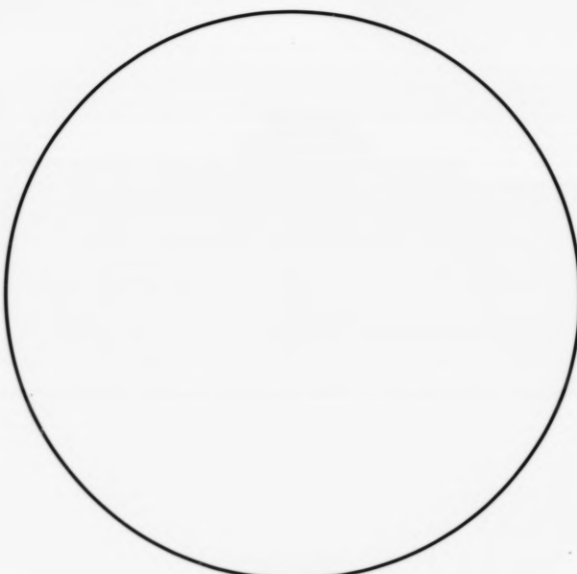
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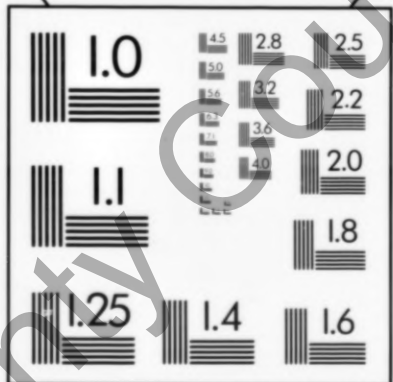
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GP4/

French Papers

Rahasane, County Galway

1765 - 1831

Galway County Council Archives

GP4/

Ffrench Papers

Rahasane, County Galway

1765 - 1831

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Galway County Council Archives



INTRODUCTION

The collection consists of the papers of three generations of a Rahasane (near Craughwell) branch of the extensive Ffrench family of Galway, dating from 1765 and 1831. The family owned lands in the Monivea and Loughrea areas of county Galway and in parts of county Roscommon.

It includes personnel letters, primarily from female siblings to their brother requesting money due them from various legacies and family trusts, records relating to the care and management of the estate, and the collection of rents. It also includes records relating to *C. French & Co. Bank* at Ormond Quay, Dublin, and to bankruptcy charges, together with details of items to be auctioned from the estate (1831).

The collection was acquired by Galway County Libraries many years ago, and was transferred to the Archives Section upon its establishment in 2000.

Administrative History & Biographical Note

The Ffrench family of Rahasane, near Craughwell, county Galway was a Catholic land-owning family, and a junior branch of the Ffrench family of Monivea. It bought Rahasane from the Geoghegans in 1671, who had been transplanted there from Westmeath, and the lands of Cummer (Tuam) and Drumgriffin (Oranmore area) in 1675 and Cargin (Oranmore area) in 1737.¹

The family became indebted in the early 19th century to the rising Smyth family, of Masonbrook, who bought large portions of their estates. Lord Clanmorris had also acquired a substantial interest in the Rahasane estate.²

The family became connected with a wide network of rich Catholic merchant families and made good marriages, as when in 1758 Robert Joseph Ffrench (1695-1786) married a much younger Elizabeth Nagle (1731-1818), who had a fortune of £12,000.³ They had six children of whom Robert Joseph (1762-1811) was the only son.

Elizabeth Nagle was a sister of Nano (Honora) Nagle⁴, who founded the order of the Sisters of the Presentation on 24 December, 1775, and of Joseph Nagle of Caverleigh in Devon. Joseph also owned an estate in Ballygriffin, Co. Cork. Upon his death in 1813 he left his Irish property to his grand-nephew, Robert Joseph Ffrench (17??-1831), and left his English property to Charles Joseph Chischester, husband of his niece, Honora Ffrench. He was a trustee and executor of the will of his brother-in-law (Robert (d.1786) (GP4/43)).

¹ Melvin, Patrick, "The Galway Tribes as Landowners and Gentry" in *Galway, History and Society* (1996)

² Melvin, Patrick, "The Composition of the Galway Gentry", in *The Irish Genealogist*, Vol. 7, No.1 (p91), 1986)

³ *The Cork Evening Post*, 9 February, 1758

⁴ Nano (1718-1784) was born in Ballygriffin, Co. Cork in 1718. Under the Penal Laws it was a crime of treason (punishable by death) to educate the Irish and it was forbidden to practice the Roman Catholic faith. Nano was thus sent to Paris to be educated.



Another Nagle sister, Mary, married Pierce Nagle of Annakissy, Co. Cork. Their grandson, Pierce Creagh, became agent to the Co. Cork estate inherited by Robert Joseph Ffrench (d.1831).⁵

Robert (d.1786) was it seems often in financial difficult, as when in 1766 '*his embarrassments be great and his finance for the present low*' (GP4/2).

Elizabeth outlived her husband by many years, and as it appears in financial strife during her widowhood. She wrote to Thomas Burke in 1791 asking '*...if you would send me the remainder of my dower which you have no right to pay till November... I know my request is unreasonable but a mind like yours to oblige a widow I think will stretch a great point*' (GP4/9).

Her son, Robert Joseph Ffrench (1762-1811), married Margaret Aylmer, of Lyon, Kildare, in 1788. They in turn had one son, Robert Joseph (17??-1834), and three daughters⁶. Margaret was the daughter of an important and well connected house.⁷ Despite this advantageous marriage, the Ffrenches of Rahasane borrowed heavily in the latter half of the eighteenth and early part of the nineteenth centuries and the estate became encumbered with many debts.

The collection includes a letter from Robert to his mother Margaret, addressed 'My Dear Mother', in August 1811 (GP4/68). Joseph Nagle (Robert's Uncle) also makes reference to Margaret in letters to his grand nephew in 1812. There is also reference to a Major Aylmer [Margaret's father] in some letters (such as GP4/35, 46).

In 1802 Ffrench's uncle [David Nagle] appears to have left him some money '*your proportion of my Brother's personal fortune comes to nearly £1,000*' (GP4/27). As mentioned above, he also inherited Joseph Nagle's Irish estate in 1813.

The personal letters to Robert from his sisters and uncle, Joseph Nagle, give a good insight to the lives of the family. Nagle appears to have taken a keen interest in the family's affairs, both personal and financial. As in 1812 when he wrote '*...for since the lamented loss the family at Rahasane sustained by the premature death of my ever dear nephew I have been extremely anxious to learn what provision he had made for his amiable and deserving family in whose welfare I take a very particular interest*' (GP4/43).

Being the only son Robert had responsibility for managing his sisters' family trusts and assets after their father's death. However, he was, it appears, often slow in forwarding them money, much to their distress; '*...you have no idea how distressed your sisters have been by the irregularity of your payments and be assured were it not for their having more resolution and economy than any one could suppose... they would not have been able to hold out for here must keep up your credit or be brought to shame for they have no notion of indulging people as they do in Ireland... you have no idea how few servants the people of the first fashion keep here and very few of them who live in the country keep carriages*' (GP4/34). This interesting 1806 letter from Elizabeth O'Driscoll to Robert also comments on the differences in approach to managing finances in England and Ireland, '*...this I must say is the country to learn economy and punctuality which I am grieved to say is so very little known in Ireland, I hope they will become in that particular English by the Union*' (GP4/34).

⁵ LE7, 'Blake of Ballyglunnin Papers, James Hardiman Library, NUI, Galway, 2000

⁶ Melvin, Patrick, "The Galway Tribes as Landowners and Gentry" in *Galway, History and Society* (1996)

⁷ Basil O'Connell, *The Nagles of Ballygriffin* in *The Irish Genealogist*, 1957, Volume 3



Robert's ill health for a number of years before his death in *circa* late 1811, must have also contributed to the family's weak financial position, '*...as his sickness for the last two years, the going to Dublin consulting Doctors, lodging etc while there, must necessity have been attended with very great expense*' (GP4/70).

Robert's son, also named Robert Joseph, inherited the estate following his death. Joseph Nagle, maintaining a keen interest in the fortunes of the Ffrench family through the various generations wrote to his grand-nephew on several occasions, in particular following his nephew's death, when he wrote in 1812 giving advice on how young Robert should set about saving the estate from financial ruin; '*I thank you for sending me a schedule of your Fathers debts which indeed are very considerable and which you cannot but be sensible that great prudence and much care is required on your part to extricate yourself and the family from embarrassment in order to which you must be very exact in the payment of interest for if you should neglect it, it will inevitability be attended with the total ruin of your estate*' (GP4/71). Nagle goes on to advise that Robert should not live at Rahasane for several years, but reside instead with his Mother and sisters in Bath, '*...it would not be prudent for you to live at Rahasane for at least three years, you might let the grass of the demesne for that time during which you could reside with your mother and sisters...*' (GP4/71).

The young Robert also received advice from his Aunt Mary, when she wrote in 1814 on the dangers of gambling, writing it is '*the ruin of any young man to be on the turf or gamble in any kind of way and such people are never considered people of character and keeping any horses is a ruinous thing for any property but particularly race horses*' (GP4/72).

Robert's second cousin Pierce Creagh, who was his agent for the property in county Cork, is mentioned in several letters relating to banking and estate matters.

Robert married the Hon. Maria Letitia Bingham, daughter of John, 1st Baron Clanmorris in 1815.⁸ But their life was it appears also beset with financial difficulties. Robert's estate was encumbered with many debts, and in 1829 he borrowed £25,000, £10,000 for his own use and £15,000 for the use of his sisters by mortgaging his estates to John, 1st Lord Clanmorris.⁹

Robert made his will on 5 April 1831 and died in May. His wife died the following year. They had no children.¹⁰

Robert was the last Ffrench proprietor of Rahasane. After his death a bill was filed by Henry Blake, brother of Martin Blake Ballyglunnin and other creditors of Ffrench against two of his sisters, Frances Ffrench and Elizabeth Power, in the Court of Chancery, which eventually ordered that the estate be sold¹¹.

Thomas Joyce, grandson of Pierce Joyce of Merview, Galway bought the estate in April 1846. Thomas was forced to sell it in 1871, when it was purchased by Walter Bourke of Curragleagh House, Kilcolman, County Mayo, who was murdered outside the entrance to Castle Taylor, Ardrahan, County Galway in 1882. The house was burned down in 1896¹².

⁸ Clesham, Brigid, *Blake Papers, Ballyglunin (including papers relating to the Ffrench family)*: a descriptive list compiled for the James Hardiman Library, NUI, Galway, by Brigid Clesham (2000)

⁹ Melvin, Patrick, 'The Galway Tribes as Landowners and Gentry', in *Galway History and Society* (1996)

¹⁰ Clesham, Brigid, *Blake Papers, Ballyglunin (including papers relating to the Ffrench family)*: a descriptive list compiled for the James Hardiman Library, NUI, Galway, by Brigid Clesham (2000)

¹¹ *ibid*

¹² *ibid*



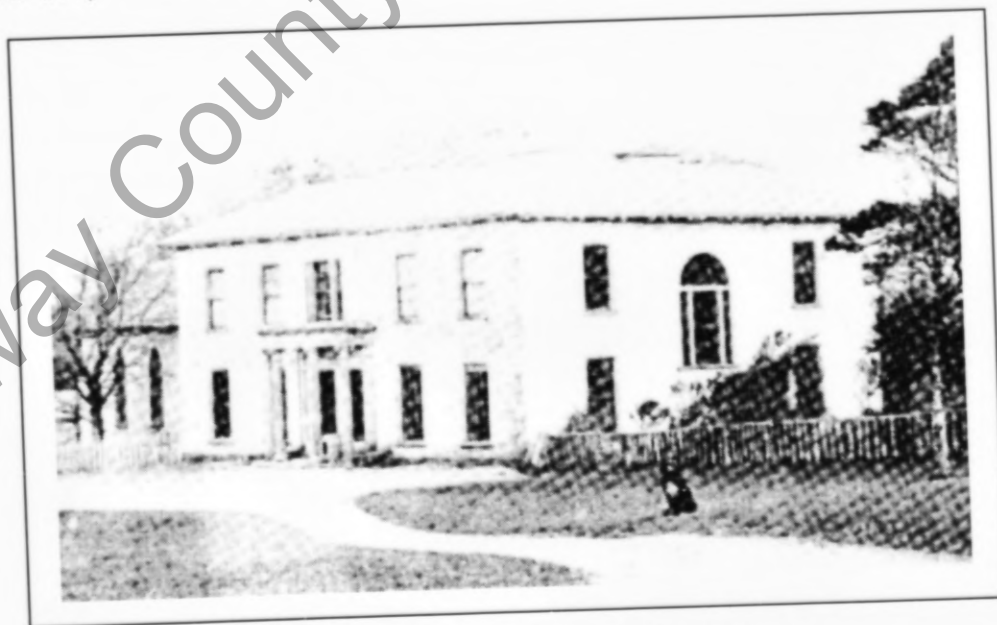
Content & Structure

The collection, containing 77 listed items, spans three generations of the Ffrench family of Rahasane, and therefore is divided into three main sections. Each section contains sub-sections, generally arranged chronologically or in accordance with the most prolific grouping. These sections relate to tenant and estate management, and legal, business and personal letters. Where items are undated the information within was used to as far as possible determine which section the item may rightly belong. The fact that the name Robert Joseph passed down through each generation has, at times, made this a difficult task.

Section A consists of the papers of Robert Joseph Ffrench (1695-1786), relating primarily to tenant and estate matters. It also includes a letter from Robert's widow, Elizabeth, dated 1791. It is interesting to note that Elizabeth appears in all three sections of the collection, having lived a long life, from 1731-1818.

Section B consists of the papers of Robert Joseph Ffrench (1762-c.1811), many of which relate to tenant and general estate matters at Rahasane. The Section also includes business letters, and personal letters from family members relating for the most part to payments due on family trusts.

Section C consists of the papers of Robert Joseph Ffrench (?-1831), with again material relating to tenant and general estate matters, together with letters relating to banking and personal matters. The section also includes personal letters, among these is a letter dated 30 August 1811 (GP4/68) from Ffrench which is addressed to his mother. However, this puts in question the date of Margaret Aylmer's death as given by Basil O'Connell in *The Nagles of Ballygriffin and Nano Nagle* in *The Irish Genealogist*, 3, 2 (1957). He claims that she died in 1804. Finally, this section also contains a notebook from some years later (c. 1830s), with details of items to be auctioned from the estate (GP4/77).



Rahasane (<http://groups.msn.com/TheAthyFamilyofGalway/ffrench.msnw>)



Condition

This collection was originally in a very poor condition with many of the pages stained and damaged. The paper was extremely fragile, thus rendering it inaccessible. However, the whole collection received conservation treatment in 2005. Each item was treated, cleaned and washed, and strengthened by adding one or two layers of Japanese paper as appropriate.

Although the collection is now accessible, it is still quite delicate and requires careful handling.

In some cases there are minor gaps in the text as a result of paper damage (GP4/2, 4, 19, 23, 27, 35- 37, 41, 69, 70, and 73). In two cases the documents have been completely torn in half, each with only one half surviving (GP4/39 and 40). Eleven of the documents have a wax seal either partially or fully intact (GP4/11, 33-35, 45, 46, 57, 61, 69, 74, and 77).

Meanwhile GP4/42 has a watermark dated to 1799 and GP4/41 has a stamp 'Dobbs and Pratt London' on the bottom right hand corner (p4).

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Allied Materials

Blake Papers, Ballyglunin (including papers relating to the Ffrench Family of Rahasane), LE7, A descriptive list compiled by Brigid Clesham for the James Hardiman Library, NUI, Galway, 2000

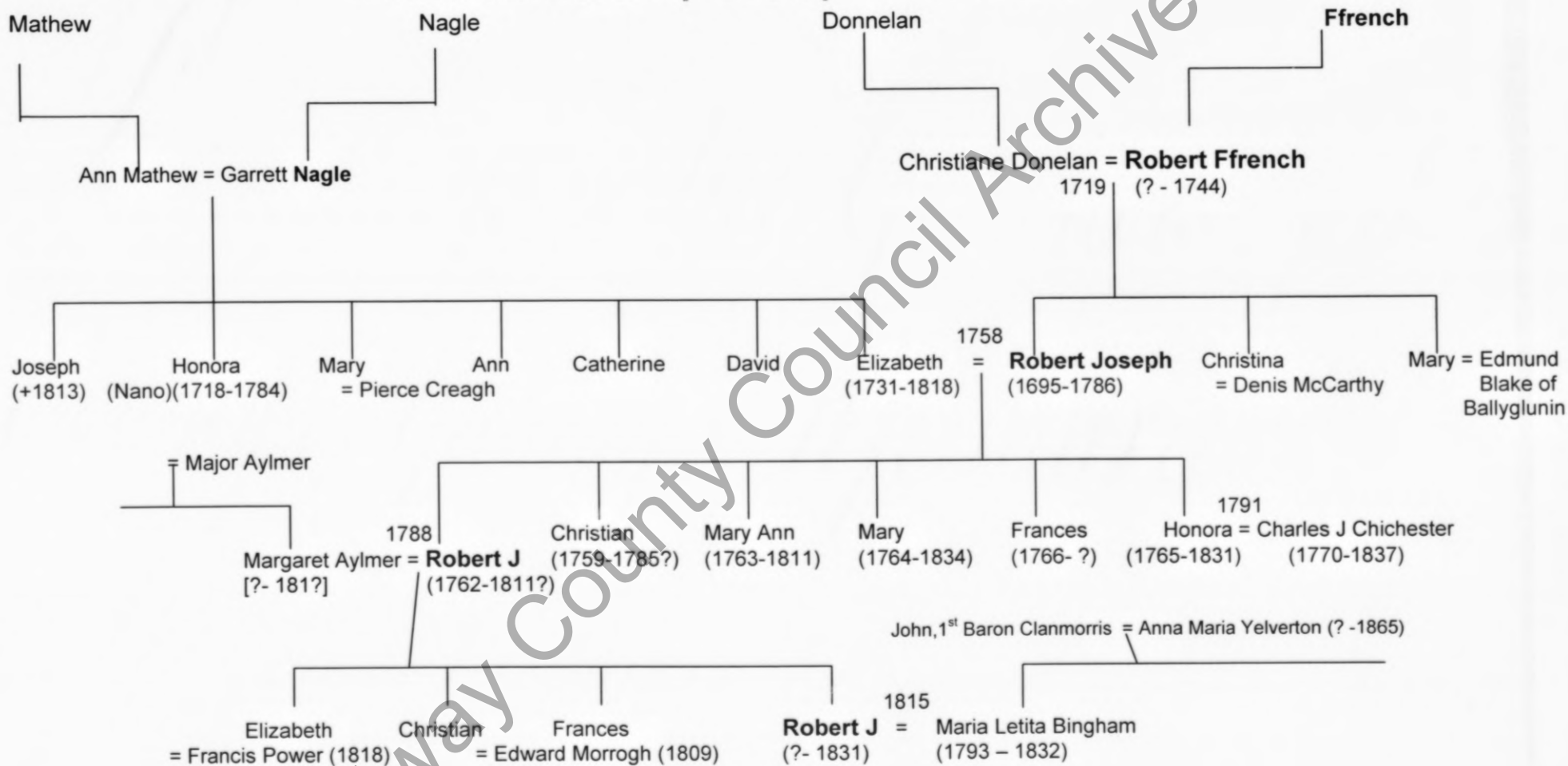
Blake Papers, Ballyglunin, Galway County Council Archives Services

Burke's Landed Gentry and Burke's Peerage

Bingham Daly, Theresa	<i>The Mayo Bingham's</i> (1997)
Blake, Martin J.	"Tabular Pedigree of the family of French of Rahasane, Co. Galway and its branches" in <i>Journal of the Galway Archaeological and Historical Society</i> , 8
Melvin, Patrick	"The Galway Tribes as Landowners and Gentry", in <i>Galway History and Society</i> , eds. Moran, Gerard & Raymond Gillespie, Geography Publications, Dublin, (1996)
Melvin, Patrick,	"The Composition of the Galway Gentry", in <i>The Irish Genealogist</i> , Vol. 7, No.1 (p91), 1986)
O'Connell, Basil	"The Nagles of Ballygriffin and Nano Nagle" in <i>The Irish Genealogist</i> , 3, 2 (1957)



Ffrench Family Tree, 1719-1837





GP4/

French Papers

Rahasane, County Galway

1765 – 1831

Galway County Council Archives



A. ROBERT JOSEPH FFRENCH (1695–1786)

I. Tenant and General Estate Management at Rahasane, 1765–1786

1. 6 December 1765 Letter from J. Loftus, Loughrea, to Ffrench, stating that he is 'sorry he has not it in his power to discharge the contents of his note to Mr. Fitzgerald now', but hopes he will in less than three weeks which he hopes will [be] attended with no inconvenience to Mr. Ffrench, and assures him he never saw the note from the time the bearer presented it to him for payment, 'will pay the £13:6: to no person but Mr. Fitzgerald or Mr. Ffrench's bearer'.
2pp

2. [14] December 1765 Letter from [] to F.W. Burke at the [] Coffee House, London, stating, 'I must answer for Mr French yours of the 17th inst to him, as he is extremely hurried this day. He is vastly obliged to you for the pains you have in the search of the papers in Mr Concannon's office yet still there are two of them missing as you may see by the list I lately sent you and to which you must have recourse upon any further enquiry... and in general any measure that could lend to expedite a law suit in which the worst cause and most litigious parties can be the only [gainers]. Your personal attendance, assiduity and zeal give him the most sanguine hopes of a speedy and happy issue, and will take care although his embarrassments be great and his finance for the present low, to supply you with what may be necessary if others should prove backward. But he prays you to be tender of him, and make use of him only as a last resource. Patrick French (Monivea) did very sensibly in remaining in Dublin. His journey to London would have been of no avail as you have undertaken it and would have inflamed a reckoning already too great. Mr MacCarty's death, as he was a man very capable of managing a suit, has happened unluckily at this critical juncture and the more so as he has received since before your return to Ireland three hundred guineas never yet accounted for, as may appear from his letters yet extant, and particularly one hundred, which he confesses to have in his hands in his letter 7th December last not then expended. Mr. Ffrench prays you will examine into this matter... He recommends also to your care the getting back of the deeds left by you with Mr. McCarthy...'.
Includes a list of these deeds.
2pp



3. 30 August, 1768 - Letter from Ffrench to Lord Clanricarde stating, 'I wait on Mr
31 August, 1768 Mr J Harrod last Sunday and Saturday according to your
Lordships appointment to treat with him about a renewal for the
Granges. Some of the most [] of my friends in the farming business, think that I have
overrated my convenience therein, by the offer I made him of surrendering my present lease
and taking a new one and three lives at half a guinea an acre, which would increase your
rental near a hundred a year for the four years, which are yet unoccupied. However, I am
persuaded of your Lordship's moderation and that [] upon it be a proper [consignment] to my
demesne at Derry[french] in case my son should think to live there I shall be entirely in your
Lordship's judgement to the terms that are to be imposed on me, and shall pray a line by
return...I shall trouble your Lordship to present my respects to Lord Dunkellin and Captain
De Burgh.'

Includes reply from Clanricarde to Ffrench on 31 August 1768, stating, 'If Mr French will give
thirteen shillings an acre on a new survey and commence from last May let it be done'.

4pp

4. 1770? Letter from [] to [] regarding: - a search for a deed, '... we
have made some search but can not find the deed you [mean], I
would be glad to know whether you can proceed without it,
when you come to the country you may possibly find it among his papers', also relating to
advice on appeal, and a survey of lands, '...you further remark that Mr. Patrick Ffrench of
Clogh had an estate of about 35 acres adjoining the demesne of Rahasane which he let to
Mr. Ffrench of Rahasane for the like term of 31 years from May 1767 and of which Mr. Lynch
got possession...'

4pp

5. [17??] Letter from [tenant] to [Ffrench] stating, 'I brought
the lease of Dunkellin (Oranmore) to Dublin last term as my
Lord Clanrickard and you directed I should in order
that it should be produced and that my Lord should miss no apportion in the recovery of his
fines. I told Mr. Killkeny very early in the term that the lease was in town and not
withstanding he could do nothing he said in the matter, now Mr. Hyacinth Daly has applied
to get back the lease as he looks upon it to be his security for his demand upon these
fines, and only gave it that it should be produced on my Lords [] and returned to him
immediately after. Mr Kelly, my Lord's Agent, has sent to me since my arrival from Dublin
for the whole November rent which I am not at all prepared to pay and if insisted upon will
distress me very much as I understood from my Lord and you, when last I had the honour
of seeing you both at Loughrea, that I should be allowed one years interest of the two due
to me upon his Lordship's bond last December out of the rent this prevented my being
prepared to pay the whole and I assure you have some time since paid one years interest



on the money, if I had the money I should make no difficulty to pay but as I had not I told Mr. Kelly I could not resolve what to do till I had the honour of a letter from you. I hope my Lord will get a decree for his demand on those fines next term, which will make this affair safe to us all for I believe I need not tell you that I could have no inducement to advance the money I did but to oblige his Lordship and I never intended judgement on the bond.'

1p

6. 29 January 1780 Letter from James Ferrell, Dublin, to Rev. M. Connolane, Rahasane, regarding the matter referred to him by Peter Kilkerny, following which he 'directed the charge complained of to be struck out and had I received cash for it and had I lived 20 years after I would return it and the interest thereof as it appeared at first sight to me and upon inspecting my accounts to be a double charge which was by some mistake transacted twice - please to inform Mr French that I did not yet enter his Judgement against Mr Kelly, but shall on Monday next, because he hath not done any thing to extricate Mr French indeed I do not think it was in his powers, but the security is very ample, and of course Mr French will be ultimately safe'.

1p

7. 8 May 1784 Covering letter from John Rushe, Dublin, to Ffrench, Rahasane, in relation to an order 'to be served on the tenants of Tooluban and Daniel [Farpy] to make a copy for each tenant on the land not already served or if already served... he must show the original order and enter the day and who he served it must be on the man or wife or children or servants above 16 years and... to give the copy to the proprietor of the house'.

1p

8. 9 April 1786 Letter from Thomas Burke (tenant), to Mrs. Ffrench (Elizabeth), Rahasane, relating to the farming of the land at Cummer (Tuam): '...I cannot but be a little surprised at Mr French relative to this notion that came into his head lately, for I believe he does not forget when I went to Rahasane last May to offer this land to himself that he told me that he would not hinder me to till it any way that I liked as you mention to me Madam, that you are afraid that lands would not be in a proper condition for any other persons, I suppose ye don't like me as a tenant. Though I believe it would be as convenient to me to hold it as any other person which I could get it for the value and also if Mr French looks at the lease of that farm he will see what [] of tillage I have there...I am sure in all probability I wont have near that quantity in tillage so that Mr French is uneasy without cause but I believe he does this on purpose to keep me off as I really expected to get more abatement from him for he may depend in it that it is not on the power of any man to make the rents of lands at present together with the loss of sheep and enormous taxes and county charges...'

2pp



II. Letter from Elizabeth [Nagle Ffrench, widow of Robert], 1791

9. 25 June 1791 Receipt and letter (Dominick St., Dublin) to Thomas Burke stating, 'June 24 1791 received from Mr Thomas Burke of [Cahurhue] Esq. by a bill of sterling of thirty one days right on Mr Gladon... the sum of forty four pounds sterling in part of the thirds of my dowry held by you.'

'I received your very obliging letter yesterday with a bill at thirty one days right for forty four pounds sterling which I send you a receipt for above... I am more obliged to you than I can express for sending me that sum at so unseasonable a time of the year to ask money... I am sensible it is pure goodness in you to pay before November next but the neediness of my said Lord for my house rent is such that he calls as soon as its due my being extremely punctual is my only chance of getting a longer time for which I am very anxious for as its large comfortable warm and as rent goes reasonable as to price. This was my reason for applying to you so early, as I know I would have no chance of getting it in any other channel, I depended on your willingness to oblige me and the power I was here you to draw over for more money. Now Dear Sir if you in a line promise me at the next wool fair that you would send me the remainder of my dower which you have no right to pay till November which without your [] comes £32.6.8 it would make me completely happy as what you pay me annually just makes my half years rent. I know my request is unreasonable but a mind like yours to oblige a widow I think will stretch a great point. My daughters write in assuring you your Sons and Daughter of our kindest compliments...'

2pp

Galway County Council Archives



B. ROBERT JOSEPH FFRENCH (1762 – c. 1812)

I. Tenant and General Estate Management at Rahasane, 1797-1808

10. 16 October, 1797 Letter from Matthew Donellan (agent) to 'Bob' (Ffrench) stating, 'You have your accounts from the first your dealing to the present day enclosed to you. Look them over carefully and you will find them correct - anything you do not recollect I can give you a voucher for except for the account marked NB and you have them vouchers - you will see by the Accounts that you are indebted to me the 10 October 1797 £48.16.9 I have now done business for you for 5 years for which I have received 150 guineas. I acknowledge the money was very acceptable and I trust my services have been of profit to you - as my credit however is for the present quite lost and I can no longer be of use as an agent I think it necessary that I should no longer continue in the employment - should I again recover my credit and you wish to reemploy me I shall be very ready and willing to serve you'. 1p
11. 9 January, 1798 Letter from Roger O'Connor, Galway, to Ffrench stating, '...I am very sorry to have been under the disagreeable necessity of taking these proceedings but surely if you recalled you must blame yourself, how often have I requested a Bill on any tenant made at any time to no purpose, its impossible for me to determine what can be done as I would by no means interfere with the Duty of the High Sheriff who (I am sure) will act as a Gentleman; I would not (even now) be unreasonable, but the time you mention is too far distant, and the person you intend drawing on I have not the pleasure of knowing. The sum due is marked in the Execution £129.15.3...'. 2pp
12. 20 October, 1800 Covering letter from Edmund Kelly, Dublin, to Ffrench in relation to a 'bond which I had taken up as Mr. Connolly paid the last of the bills when due'. 1p
13. 1800? Letter from John Burke to Ffrench detailing the price of wines, 'from the duty being so much increased now half the cost must be paid down in cash before we get permission



to land them and by the late terms of Peace, English vessels are not permitted into the ports of Portugal which will make it the more difficult to get the wine.

I this day received from Mr Joseph Browne by bills £300 for your account which shall be placed to your credit...'

Includes detailed list of dates, quantity and type of wine ordered and prices.

4pp

14. Undated Letter from 'Mike' to 'Bob' (Ffrench) advising him that he has procured the wine requested for which twelve guineas and a half is due.
15. 2 November, 1808 Letter from Edmund [Rosó], Loughrea, to John Connelly, Creggan, stating, 'Having at this time some very pressing calls on me for money I am to request the assistance of my friends. You will oblige me much by letting me have my fees for registering Mr. Ffrenches freeholders. I gave you the certificates on your promise of paying...'

2pp

1p

II. Business Letters to Ffrench, Rahasane, 1786-1808

(a) From Patrick Ffrench (Monivea), 1800-1810

16. 3 October, 1800 Promising 'to secure any balance that may appear on my bond to you'.
17. 15 October, 1810 Stating, 'In consequence of Mr. Powers mentioning you wished of having the lease of Cloghalahard I was determined to get to Rahasane this day for the purpose of making any alternation you may think proper therein from the badness of the day and Mrs Ffrench's being confined to her bed by indisposition I am afraid to venture out however have any Deed or Instrument prepared explaining the transaction and conscious as I am of the mistake in the lease I will most cheerfully sign to it. I wish of all things to have half an hours conversation with you believe me I have not squandered one shilling of the £10,000 but have put it into better hands, the first good day I will certainly go to see you if Mrs Ffrench is better...'

1p

1p



(b) From Michael Burke, Dublin, to 'Bob', 1801-1802

See also no. /42

18. 19 September, 1801 Stating 'I never wrote a letter with more pleasure than I do now to inform you that I have Mr. Kiernan's [Solicitor] authority to inform you that your uncle's estate is certainly left to you. I recommend you strongly not to mention this circumstance to any one but to Mrs. Ffrench...'. 1p
19. 17 May, 1802 Stating, 'I met Kiernan here who told me he had got directions from your Uncle to prepare fines to be levied by him of his Estate... I request you write not to Browne or to any one as Kiernan desired me...'. 1p
20. 19 June 1802 Stating: 'I received yours and immediately called on Kiernan, he has got [Commissioners] names from your Uncle for the purpose of suffering the Recovery and only waits for a more correct return than the one he had got of the several denominations of the estate, and he assured me that he had no doubt of the business being completed in the end of this or early in the next month, as the dissolution will certainly take place in this month I am sure you will now wait to see our friend John returned - I shall proceed on Monday on business to the south but shall take care to attend on the first day of the Election, our friend John deserves the attention of his friends and indeed of the gentlemen of the county in whose cause he has embarked, there has been great pulling here of late for Martin; but there will be soon an end of that business. I am very happy at the [account] you give me of your Uncles letters, which however should be kept as private as possible for though I conceive him to be a steady man, yet it is better not to excite the exertions of those who may wish him not to break the entail of his ancestors. Kiernan considers that your Uncle would be very glad you went over to him after the Elections...'. 1p
21. 25 June, 1802 Stating: 'I went yesterday to Kiernan and have the pleasure to inform you that the [Commissioner] for the levying of the Fines by your Uncle was [] to go over to him last night. I have a matter to tell you which I earnestly request you will not mention to any one for reasons I shall tell you when you trust a Friend of mine desired me send over a



subscription for the purpose of erecting a Statue to Mr Petit I [] with it sent over a subscription of £10 English in your name - I know your opinion of the man as a Minister. I owe much obligations to his administration and the liberty I have taken with your name... that you have on every occasion however to use the same liberty with mine - with best regards...'

1p

(c) *From John Browne (Agent), 1801-1808*

22. 11 December, 1801 Stating, 'Mr. Burke mentioned to me that he would write to you with respect to the mode to be adopted by you to qualify you to make out a [sufficient] Title to the Roscommon Estate but the terms which you would expect for entire of the lands as there are several persons who are anxious to become purchasers.... I have made out the account there appears due to you a sum of £1203.6.11 - a copy of it I sent [] Daly you must return the [] if not immediately paid I also receive the judgement I have not been able to ascertain the amount of the [] [] ...a bond loan which appears among your Father's paper or whether it is founded on a [] [] by Kelly to Mr Lalauch and paid by your father...'

2pp

23. 6 January, 1802 Stating, 'I have [settled] with Mr. Kiernan (T. Kiernan [solicitor]) so far as to adjourn the sale for a fortnight in which time I hope to have the lease executed so as to procure the money to pay Mr. Chichester - but I fear it must be at the expense of sending a special messenger to you [] to sign the deeds of mortgage if possible I will avoid it...'

1p

24. 29 February, 1802 'Stating, '... I received yours enclosing the aforesaid. Mr. Tunville came to town yesterday... He will give you the £200 on your Bond which I will send you...'

1p

25. 8 July, 1802 Stating, '... the sum mentioned in the [] had no reference whatever to your sale to Mr. Sawell - as it only was applicable to the sum due by you to Mr Chichester (Ffrench's brother-in-law) - including the sum of £1,096 paid by me last June - the reason why the mortgage was for the sum of £5875 was that Michael Burke (Ballyduggan, Loughrea) mentioned that the rent to be was short £30 a year - which I was obliged to deduct of the gross sum have the £30 a year is as short I cannot say - if a mistake it can be



corrected. Believe me that [independent] of that duty which I consider every agent built to observe to them I think that I feel very much interested for anything that concerns you. Yet without a letter certain of your [instructions] fear mine might be attended with some delay. That I will by every means in my power endeavour to urge Kiernan to do that - that I really consider his duty... Therefore the sooner you consider of applying the letter I can say Kiernan will second any application on the subject it is a matter of great consequence and therefore ought not to be treated too lightly - if you can... for delays are dangerous'.

26. 15 December, 1808 (Rock Hill) stating: 'I yesterday received a letter from Mr John Connelly informing me of your intention of selling your Roscommon estate, and if I had any wish to purchase the part I hold to write him immediately and his not having mentioned where to direct to him I take the liberty of writing to you on the subject - as my lease is a lease of three lives you may think I would not give the value for it, I will give you two thousand and seventy pounds in [] payment for it, which I think is as much as any fair purchaser will give, if this proposal meets your [] you will please to let me know where to direct to Mr. Connelly, that I may write to him ...'.

2pp

1p

III. Personal Letters to Ffrench, Rahasane, 1802-1811

(a) *From Joseph Nagle (uncle), Caverleigh Court, Devon, England, 1802-1811*

27. 26 April, 1802 Stating, '...I now trouble you with these few lines to let you know that I have settled the account with the representatives of my late sister since I received your last letter and as you therein give me power to act for you the parties concerned on my representation of the business agreed to cut off £810 from Mr. Roche's statement of your account which I suppose is all or nearly all the interest charged by him on what was due from you. I now have only time to tell you that your proportion of my Brother's [David Nagle] personal fortune comes to nearly £1,000 the parts [] of which I shall give you in a few days as the Gentleman is waiting for the letter. £300 in the 3 percent consolidates and £110 Bank stock which will I hope produce at least £450 that you can command at any time and that I will place at Miss Kirwans or any other house you will please to mention for [] use the rest amount to full £500 Irish. I hope you will not object taking my Bond for 5 percent the interest of which I shall be paid half yearly and the entire sum in the course of a couple of years if I live so long. I shall before the end of next week send you an abstract of your account. I flatter myself that you will fulfil your promise of paying me and your friends



here a visit in the course of the summer and that you next may inform me when you intend me that pleasure and whether young Robert will give me and them the satisfaction of accompanying you. Give my most affectionate compliments to Mrs Ffrench and to all your very amiable young family. I am my dear nephew, your very affectionate uncle and humble servant'.

2pp

28. 1 June, 1802

Stating, 'I received sometime passed your very kind letter of the 9th inst. from which I am sorry to find that I am not to expect you and my little friend Robert as soon as I had flattered myself as it is very uncertain when the dissolution of parliament will take place most people here think not till after harvest but I fancy we shall be better informed in a little time. I return you thanks for your very obliging offer of lending money which I am happy to say that I have no occasion for at present and it will be much better employed in paying your Fathers debts and reducing the interest you pay for the same. I propose in my next sending you by Bond for £500 and insist on my paying you the interest at 5 per cent till reimbursed though there is no great necessity of apprehend for a bond as in case of my death before the time I have appointed for the payment of the principal you will be able to pay yourself I unfortunately let slip the time when I could have sold what is in the funds to advantage, thinking they would have rose still higher on account of the peace instead of which they have met with a depreciation of 2 or 3 percent, however I am determined to sell in a few days and will place the amount of your proportion at the house of Messrs. Kirwan for your account. I hope it will not be less than £400. Please to let my nieces Margaret and Elizabeth know that their finely finished pieces of work which came safe to hand some days passed beautifully framed and glazed are now ornamenting my drawing room and that they are much admired by every one that sees them and that they are doubly valuable to me as coming from my Nieces at Rahasane for whom I have had since my acquaintance with them the sincerest affection. They have not been yet shown to their aunts who are all at present at Bath as well as Mr. & Mrs. C. Chichester, be so good as to make my affectionate compliments acceptable to Mrs Ffrench as also to my grand nephew and nieces with grateful thanks to Miss Margaret and Elizabeth and to remember me very kindly to Miss Philips and to Mr. Burke...'

2pp



29. 17 December, 1802 Stating, 'I did not reply to your kind letter as soon as I had intended being informed about that time of your intention to spend three weeks or a month at Lord Kenmares (Kilarney, County Kerry) and was sorry to hear that you had caught a severe cold shortly after you left it which confined you for several days but by the latest accounts from Rahasane I am happy to observe that you were then perfectly recovered. I cannot but be very thankful to you for your very obliging visit last summer which afforded me as well as all your friends here much pleasure and satisfaction. There was lately a debt of Mr. Bryan's of Kilkenny paid in to Mr. Kiernan on account of the Administrators your part of which comes to £26.10.10 but as Mr. Kiernan mentioned that there was a balance due from you to Mr C. Chichester (brother-in-law of Ffrench) of £24.10.10 I desired him to carry that sum to his account and give you credit for the remainder. I am likewise to inform you that we have entered into a compromise with Mrs. Goold, daughter of the late Thomas Roche who had the management of our businesses for a sum of money he had received that was not properly accounted for and for the recovery of which a lawsuit was commenced by us but as there had been an arbitration and an award in consequence and mutual releases Mr Sankey told me when in Dublin that it would on that account be very difficult to get over I therefore thought it advisable to accept of Mrs. Goold's offer to the representatives of my sister of £800 Irish on our giving her a second release than leave it to the uncertain event of a suit at Law the release I shall sign for you agreeable to the power you gave me in a former letter of doing so. Your part of it comes to £160 which I will tell her to remit to Mr Galway of Mallow who will either remit you or you will value on him for the amount when it is paid. I shall write you a line to acquaint you of it...'
- '...assure Mrs. Ffrench of my most affectionate regards and best wishes and also to remember very kindly to Miss Philips and Mr. Burke...'

3pp

30. 13 February, 1807 Stating, 'I had the pleasure to receive your very kind letter some time past from which I was very sorry to learn that my dear young Robert had a return of the jaundice which however I flatter myself has been entirely removed long before this but as change of air and travelling might be of use to his health I should be glad that he and Mr Harte came here till the month of June or July when he might go to Cheltenham for a month or six weeks which would prevent a return in future and after that a little sea bathing would contribute to strengthen his constitution and make him a healthy stout young man probably he might meet his uncle Aylmer at Cheltenham as I am informed that he generally spends some time there every summer. I find the Catholics in Dublin have frequent meetings to discuss the propriety of petitioning parliament. I lately received from them a printed letter desiring the support of the measure and by a letter I received this morning from Counsellor Rice he informs me that a meeting to take place on the 9th was to determine whether the petition was to be presented this session or not and that he was inclined to believe it would be postponed the purpose of it was to let me know that the getting my tenants to register



their freeholds might hereafter be of some service to the cause in procuring as may votes as possible in order to promote in some degree success to the measure. The printed letter from the Secretary mentioned that Lord French in the chair, I suppose you were applied to in the same manner. I made no reply to it though I would willingly give it every support in my power if I thought there was any chance of succeeding. I was much pleased to hear that Mrs Ffrench and my nieces were in good health. I beg you will be so good as to assure them of my affectionate regard and that their welfare and happiness as well as yours and my dear Roberts will ever give me the most sensible satisfaction. I hope Robert has by this received the watch and he likes it...'

3pp

31. 30 May, 1810

Stating, 'I had the pleasure of receiving your very kind letter a day or two past and of learning from it that yourself and family were in good health which be assured afforded me much satisfaction for any thing that can contribute to yours and their happiness and welfare will also in a great degree tend to mine as I interest my self very particularly for every individual of your family. I hope my grand nephew Robert and my niece Margaret will excuse my not answering the affectionate letters they wrote to me a good while since but at that time the days were so short that writing interfered with the usual exercise requisite for the preservation of health and I find it more than I can well do to reply to letters I receive a few upon business far and more on trifling occasions which in point of civility of I am under necessity of talking notice of. I am very glad to hear from all quarters that my niece Morrogh [Christian] likes her situation. And that she has made herself very pleasing to those she is at present connected with and that they all study to make her happy which convinces me that she is of an agreeable disposition, as I am persuaded all your children are and none of them deficient in good sense. I hope Robert will spend some time in the course of the summer at Lord Kenmares as I make no doubt it would be much to his advantage to mix in the company of strangers particularly of such fashionable ones as there are now at Killarney (County Kerry). Mr. & Mrs. C. Chichester are still at Bath. I do not expect them here till about the middle of next month they have got a [] governess for the little girls. I do not hear that Mr. C. Charles is much better he will not I believe be able to attend the duties of his commission in the local militia this summer. Mr. Nagle of Ansksey's son has left Stoneyhurst, he is gone to Dublin to study the law. Charles Chichester wishes are for the army or Navy. The fate of the R catholic petition will be decided on the 1st of June, please to give my love to your amiable young family and to plead my excuse to Robert and Margaret ...'

'...P.S. Of the last money Messrs. Kiernan and Cantwell sent you there is a balance still due of £8.11.5 which will be included in my next payment of interest.'

3pp



32. 28 December 1811 Stating, 'I do hereby agree and consent to any arrangements you have made or may hereafter make conformable to the will of your father to which I am Trustee and Executor and I also am willing to be Executor and Trustee to your will jointly with your son, my Grand Nephew Robert Joseph Ffrench – hoping soon to hear of the perfect reestablishment of your health...'

1p

(b) *From Elizabeth O'Driscoll (family friend), 1802? – 1806*

33. 27 April [1802?] Entreating him to come to England to visit his family there, 'I have repeatedly wrote to you and you have not favoured me with a line. I must now assure you that your dear children's letters gave the highest satisfaction they were indeed remarkably well wrote. There [sic] aunts will thank them in a few days and would have done it immediately but Margaret has been very ill and Fanny was so taken up with her that she had not a moment to herself. Mrs. Chichester (Honora) and Mary came the day before yesterday to us and the little boy and girl. My dear friend why will you not come to England your Uncle wrote to me that he has given you repeated invitations and wishes sincerely your coming and bringing Robert. If I could venture to give you my opinion I think you are rong [sic] not to make your children acquainted with your family in this country a [] I think would be of use to Mrs. Ffrench. I wish from my heart you would consider this matter seriously. I think it ought to be considered as I think your coming may be of serious use for your children at this season of the year it is a thing of nothing. I am truly provoked when I think of your children that none of them are known to their family, for God's sake determine and fix a time for your coming, depend on it that you will do your children the biggest injustice if you do not, reflect on your uncles advanced time of life, and how little it is to be depended on. I wrote to him the other day on a matter that highly concerns you and your family, which I hear by mere accident, which my hearing was a fortunate event for you and Robert, he is constantly wishing for your arrival, a certain person is gaining more and more this must be the case as it must be the highest of weaknesses that first was the occasion of it, and we must at this time not flatter ourselves with the idea of his getting sense, all this makes it more necessary you complying with this desire of seeing you. I wish Mr. Burke would come, I no [sic] your uncle is very fond of him and his Chaplain is going away which I am sorry for, as he was a sensible man, how truly delighted I should be to see you all here, doubly so because I am perfectly convinced it is highly necessary for you to come. Parents are to consider not only the present advantage of their children but the future, you know I cannot possibly have any interest in this matter but your own and family's advantage. Anthony Daly is come here I never saw any man so happy as the poor Major, he is quite another man since he arrived... if Mrs Ffrench don't come with you which I wish sincerely she may. She may depend tho [sic] you should be [] in writing to her. She shall



constantly hear of you but I hope you will prevail on good Mr Burke to come who will be punctual in writing. My best compliments to her ...I remain dear Mr. Ffrench your affectionate servant...'.
4pp

34. 1806 Stating 'I had the pleasure of receiving your welcome letter yesterday and was as usual happy to find that you, Mrs Ffrench and your charming little family were well... I am convinced the total derangement that their [*sic*] appears to be in your affairs must be owing to indolence or your not having a proper person to inspect in to your business which if you could procure that and put your affairs on a proper footing and for a few years to confine yourself to a certain sum and not to go beyond it and then you would have the enjoyment of a clear property. You have no idea how distressed your sisters have been by the irregularity of your payments and be assured were it not for their having more resolution and economy than any one could suppose... they would not have been able to hold out for here must keep up your credit or be brought to shame for they have no notion of indulging people as they do in Ireland which is in my opinion very happy for many here they are not ashamed to curtail in every particular you have no idea how few servants the people of the first fashion keep here and very few of them who live in the country keep carriages, this I must say is the country to learn economy and punctuality which I am grieved to say is so very little known in Ireland, I hope they will become in that particular English by the Union. I think your Uncle was wrong in not informing you that your Uncle made no Will and that as he sais [*sic*] his personal fortune was far short of what the world conceived it to be that Mr Roach had brought himself in eight thousand paid [] debt to the stock Three thousand four hundred ... that was much more than your poor portion of the personal fortune which I dare venture to say will not come to more than two thousand a piece for there is three thousand due on the Ballegriffen Estate [Ballygriffin, Co. Cork] which he intends to pay off and all other debt out of the personal fortune what is very extraordinary he has never said a word of all those affairs to Mr Chichester or his wife or Fanny who is at Caverleigh and the little they know is from us that we picked out of him when he was here... for God's sake my dear Friend endeavour to pay your sisters exactly for I really am afraid he may take a dislike to you, if you do not leave you what I am convinced he mains [*sic*] to leave you which is his Irish estate which is a noble one and [] on a shilling give him no cause not to do you justice he told me he hoped you would put your son to school. I told him no children's education was more closely attended to...I promise you tho he has got such a fortune that he will not diminish one penny of it he did not tell your sisters when he would give them any so that if you don't remit them immediately they will be in the greatest distress for the rent of this house must be paid 10 August...'.
4pp



(c) *From Margaret Maria Ffrench (sister), London, 1803*

35. 11 March, 1803 Stating, 'I hope the Major [Aylmer] gave our package of letters to my [Aunts] Ffrench, Maria desires me to tell you that she thinks it strange of you not to have wrote to either her or any of us since your arrival at Bath it appears with you out of sight out of mind. Mr. Trent gave an account of you from Matt to a friend of mine here. We were glad to hear you were then well and I hope you continue so, all here desire their love to you. I have not one word of news only what you see in the newspapers. Mr Riptory is getting better. We are all Thank God very well here...'

1p

(d) *From Mary Ffrench (sister), Bath, England, 1804-1809*

36. 30 January, 1804 Stating, 'I have been daily in expectation of a letter from you, in answer to the one I have written to you. This moment I have received one from Mr Joyce in which he mentions your refusing to sign the bond which I gave orders to be presented to you, as a security for that sum which is the property of my sister Margaret by my Mother's will, wrote in her own hand witnessed by my Uncle and another gentleman. Now my dear Brother I cannot conceive what objection you have to sign the bond as you know it is the only security my sister can have for it, as for receiving interest on that sum which she is entitled to, she cannot give up that, but if it is your convenancy [*sic*] to pay in the sum all at once it would be rather more agreeable to her, but she would not wish to inconvenience [*sic*] you for it, at the same time she cannot give up the interest on it until it is your convenancy [*sic*] to pay in the entire sum. Mr Joyce also mentions your making some charges to us on account of money paid to Mr Chichester (her brother-in-law through marriage to her sister, Honora) which we have nothing to do with, as my Mother and us always took care to have our accounts separate from him. I request your final answer on all this subject by return of the post. I hope I need not again assure you how happy the hopes we have of seeing you and your family next summer in England makes us. I beg you to assure Mrs Ffrench of every [] affectionate from me and [] our sincere love to my nephew and nieces. Miss O'Driscoll desires every thing that affectionate to you, Mrs Ffrench and all your family, remember us all to Mr. Burke in the kindest manner and believe me my dear brother your affectionate sister'.

3pp



37. 23 May, 1809

Stating, 'I received your kind letter yesterday which made me happier than I can express particularly as I find by it that all dear friends at Rahasane are well. Your account & mine perfectly agree it is exactly £630 we received while I was in Ireland the first remittance was August 20 1808. (Includes a detailed list of dates and amounts to show how she arrived at the above figure) ... I must now compliment you on your exactness in keep[ing] your account, you will find every advantage in so doing for most people are ruined thorough indolence and a want of exactness in keeping their accounts, which I am happy to see will not be your case. My sister Chichester (Honora) had a letter last night from my Uncle Nagle two sides long, all written by himself and very well wrote, tho [sic] not quite as steady a hand as he wrote before his illness, from his letter he seems perfectly well, and in good spirits, he is really a wonderful man of his age. As for Mr. Charles I am sorry I cannot give as favorable an account of him. I think him in a very poor state of health, and has been but poorly since he came here, by the assistance of Doctor Gibbs, he has got better, however he requires great attention to his health, he seems alarmed about his health and is extremely nervous, so we give him every hope of his recovery. Your old school fellow Porter Walsh died suddenly about a fortnight ago at Dawlish in Devonshire, he was in so bad a state of health this time past, that his recovery was scarcely expected, he was always very particular in his enquiries about you. Mrs Porter I hear is inconsolable, I fear he has left his affairs very deranged he was too vain for the advantage of his family. Mr White has been in London for some days to consult about a deafness. Miss White is very poorly the faculty have but a poor opinion of her, she goes to Clifton as soon as she is able to travel. Assure my dearest [] write to her shortly all here send a thousand loves as also to all dear friends at Rahasane as if named I beg you will say every thing that kind from me to Mrs Ffrench, my nephew and nieces....'

3pp

(e) *From George Cuff, Galway, 1808*

38. 20 August, 1808

Regarding monies received as 'part of the yearly increase or interest' due to the Ffrench sisters.

1p

(f) *Part of Letter from [Burke]*

39. [early 1800s?]

Thanking him and his family for their kind hospitality during his stay there with them, '...thankful to you ... as for yours and Mrs Ffrenchs and your amiable young family's attention and affectionate kindness to me whilst at Rahasane which if possible endeared you all the more to me and makes me wish to have it in my power to convince you of my gratitude and your young family how sensible I am of their good disposition and the



pleasure it gives me to see them grow up with such a promising prospect, from their natural inclinations, of future happiness to themselves and comfort to their parents. I cannot however but be rather angry with myself than displeased with them for having been the cause of breaking their rest the morning I parted you... My servants will never forget the kind hospitality they met with at Rahasane. Betty desires me to give her duty and humble respects to each of the young ladies and to Mr Robert. She is for ever talking of them.'

2pp

(g) Letters from [], ?-1808?

40. Undated Congratulating him on his safe arrival.
(Partial letter only, text lost) 1p
41. 4 February, 1808 Acknowledging receipt of his letter, explaining the difficulty of Elizabeth's financial situation at present and requesting him to forward money to pay a Bill due by Margaret for medicines to a apothecary in Dover Street, and bills due by Eliza, which are almost a year old, stating 'this with her Chaplain and many other unavoidable expenses has left her at present without any money except one guinea which she is to give to-morrow to Mr Cline..' (p3), '...she and I are very anxious to pay the poor Man (Chaplain) what is due to him I request on the receipt of this letter that you will send me one of her principals one hundred pounds that I may pay out of it the debts she owes - which she has already been called upon for, in London debts must be paid more duty than in Ireland, ...' (pp4-5), and '...she desires me to tell you with her love that she begs you will send her this hundred pounds directly...' (pp6-7). 8pp

IV. Letter from Mr Kiernan [Solicitor] Custom House, Dublin, to Michael Burke, Ballyduggan, Loughrea, 1806

See also No. /18-21

42. 9 January, 1806 Stating, 'I received your favour of the 6th inst and enclose you the submission as you desired which you'll be so good as to get executed and an affidavit of the Perfection sworn before a Master Extraordinary for taking affidavits in the Court of Chancery, the Affidavit is ready only to fill up [text missing] of the witness who is to swear it. As to any observation that I can make you are fully possessed of that subject, all I can



say is that I wished he had gone to England when he was here, and as I imagined he then intended. Mr Chichester (brother-in-law of Ffrench by marriage to his sister Honora) is pressed for money that he owes, the property that Mr French is possessed of should induce any person that has money to spare to lend it to him without hesitation or reluctance upon an assignment of the Decrees, if the property were in any place where my acquaintances are I think I would not be at a loss in getting money on such a security being far preferable to a mortgage or a Judgement as at any time the lender wanted his money the calling of it in could not be attended with any delay, nor with the raising or procuring the money be attended with any expense to the party as mortgages frequently are, and the delay given by the Borrower often prevents the lending of money one instance of which I have now with Mr Eyre of Eyre Court where he is giving every apportion of delay and [vocation] to valid a Decree, I had a letter this day from Mr Joseph Nagle (uncle of Ffrench), he prefers being over here early in Spring at which time do suppose Mr. Ffrench will take an opportunity of seeing him...'

2pp

V. Letter from Joseph Nagle, Caverleigh, Devon, England, to Rev. William Harte, Rahasane, 1812

43. 21 January 1812

Stating, 'I received your very kind letter in course and I cannot but be very thankful to you for the information you therein give me for since the lamented loss the family at Rahasane sustained by the premature death of my ever dear nephew I have been extremely anxious to learn what provision he had made for his amiable and deserving family in whose welfare I take a very particular interest, though it is a verbal Will if made before witnesses it will I am persuaded stand good in law but ever should it be otherwise I have that opinion of my good nephew, who I am confident inherits the virtues of his beloved Father and of his good father would fulfil is in every point I observe that he has appointed me jointly with my Grand Nephew Trustees and Executors by that measure no other person will have any interference with the family as I can be the acting Executor till he is of age under his and the family's direction of yesterday got a letter from my Grand Nephew but as this is a reply to it and all that I can at present say on the subject I will delay writing to him for some time longer. I am pleased to find that he has made a comfortable settlement for his amiable deserving and dutiful daughters, with most affectionate good wishes for my Niece Ffrench, my Grand Nieces and Nephew...'

2pp



C. ROBERT JOSEPH FFRENCH (17?? – 1831)

I. Tenant and General Estate Management, Rahasane, 1812-1820

44. 22 February, 1812 Covering letter from John Burke, Dublin, to Ffrench in relation to the account of 'your late worthy father, for near 2 years past, and through motives of delicacy to him during his sickness, I did not apply to him for a settlement, having so much confidence in his family and you...It would be my wish to make any settlement as convenient to you as possible and I make no doubt of your inclination to serve me as I have much dealing with Mr Dan. Kilkelly ...'.
- 2pp
45. [1812] Letter from Edward G. [Beytagh] to Ffrench, stating 'I will be in Galway until Wednesday next but think it impossible for you and I to letter until you letter first with Mr. Concannon as the land is not yet divided between us I would not know what part to give you a lease off. I think you ought to get Mr Concannon to join in the lease to you entire and get the leases drawn for twenty one years from December last as that is the longest lease I can give.'
- 1p
46. 29 May, 1812 Letter from Edward Beytagh, Galway, to Ffrench, stating 'I had the pleasure of receiving a letter from you when in Dublin by Major Aylmer. I would have then answered it but was waiting for an answer from Mr. Concannon who I wrote to [relative] to that land on receipt of your letter I have not since heard from him. There is nothing to delay your settling about the land I promised you, a preference of, but your getting Mr. Concannon to agree to the terms I certainly will not address him anymore on the subject as to the rent it will be time enough when you settle with him to pay it'.
- 1p
47. 30 November, 1812 Letter from J. [], Kilroe (Ballinduff, Oranmore), to French advising him of what tress were planted on the lands of Kilroe and its denominations.
- 2pp



48. June, 1813
26 June, 1813
- List of wines packed by John Burke for Ffrench. Delivery docket signed by Thomas Langan acknowledging receipt of wines.
- 3pp
49. 20 April, 1814
- Letter from George Reilly and Co., Derryfrench (Bracklagh, Loughrea) to Ffrench, stating: 'Pardon the liberty we take of troubling you. However with these few lines which your honourable tenants on the lands of Derryfrench and Derrybeg was to get [] leave from the bog of Doolagh to draw home their turf. The Duffys and Ryans leave theretofore got their leases from your honourable late worthy Father of part of the lands of Derryfrench leading from the road to the bog of Doolagh being the passage from your honours tenants to draw home their turf which cost your honourable Father some trouble after until he brought them to rights. The passage for drawing home their turf was settled on by your Honourable late worthy Father, Mr Burke of Ballyduggan and Mr Burke of Spring garden, at Spring garden house and was inserted on the back of Ryans lease which we have been informed said lease was lost or mislaid and that your Honour is to give Ryan another lease and hopes your Honour will order to have passage through said lands for your Honours tenants at Derryfrench to draw home their turf at all times...'
- 2pp
50. April 1820
- Blank copy of an affidavit for bail from Ffrench to the Court, in the case of Anthony Ffrench, petitioner, against Robert Joseph Ffrench, defendant. Robert J. Ffrench states he was arrested 'under and by virtue of a writ' issued by the Courts and requests that the Court will grant special Bail to him in the town of Galway.
- 1p
51. 17 April, 1820
- Letter from Browne [Agent], Dublin, to Ffrench, stating, 'It is a most dreadful thing you could not send me the name of the attorney or the Court out of which the writ issued there is not any attorney of the name of Scanlon you must therefore be in error yet its impossible in the courts to get any information - I beseech of you to write directly to Mr Creagh to send me up all the money he can by possibility get, he writes now to say that of the November gale of rent there is a good deal we really shall be received unless he sends me money. Reilly and the other Bills which shall be sent for directly amounts to above £700 and I am [] Reilly won't give me a moment beyond the settling day of term.'



Swear the affidavit I send you and return it without delay. I think it better to let the Sheriff assign the Bail Bond if there should be any attempt to make you go into custody which by no means whatsoever attempt to do, if the Bail Bond shall be assigned you of course will defend the Bail and you will give us much time as you would by giving Bail. I beseech of you to write to Mr Creagh -... take care above all things not to go into custody'.

3pp

52. Undated (1830's?)

Note from [] to John Connelly requesting him 'to pay the bearer's [] two guineas as he has paid for Mr. Ffrench's messages.'

2pp

II. Material Relating to Banking

(a) *Letters from C. Ffrench & Co. Bank, Ormond Quay, Dublin, to Ffrench, Rahasane, 1813-1814*

53. 22 July, 1813

Stating, 'We are this day in receipt of a letter from Pierce Creagh Esquire your agent handing us the under mentioned bill and three hundred pounds which we have, agreeably to his instructions, placed to your credit.'

1p

54. 5 August, 1813

Stating, 'We are this day in receipt of a letter from Mr. Creagh your agent, handing bill as stated at foot and one hundred pounds which we have agreeably to his instructions, placed to your credit...'

1p

55. 8 September, 1813

Acknowledging receipt of direction from Creagh, to credit French's account with Bill of £22.6.7.

1p



56. 20 September, 1813 Acknowledging receipt of letter and Bill of £50 from Creagh, which has 'as usual been placed at your credit'. 1p
57. 12 October, 1813 Relating to his account, and stating: 'your letter of the above date states that some of your engagements due shortly are made payable with us. May we request from you a description of them as to sum, when due and to whom payable. Those particulars would much oblige us.' 1p
58. 8 December, 1813 Acknowledging receipt of direction from Creagh, to credit French's account with Bill of £150. 1p
59. 15 December, 1813 Assuring him he shall have the bills he has written for in a few days time and acknowledging receipt of direction from Creagh, to credit French's account with Bill of £100. 1p
60. 7 January, 1814 Acknowledging receipt of direction from Creagh, to credit French's account with Bill of £252. 1p
- See also No. 174
61. 26 January, 1814 Stating, 'Enclosed we beg leave to send you Mark Browne Esquire's acceptance to you draft for £164 which we have paid for your account which leaves the balance at £225 to your debit here.' 1p
62. 27 January, 1814 Acknowledging lodgement of £308.17.6 to his account. 1p
63. 31 January, 1814 Acknowledging receipt of direction from Creagh, to credit French's account with Bill of £320. 1p



64. 29 February, 1814 Cover letter enclosing 'the under mentioned bill to your debit in the sum of £100.10.3 ½.' 1p
65. 3 March, 1814 Acknowledging receipt of a cheque for £55 'after which there appears a balance of £439 in our Books to your debit - we have therefore to request the favour of a remittance from you in liquidation thereof.' 1p
66. 24 June, 1814 Stating that he is 'obliged to limit our discounts at this present time, it is out of our power to accede to your request, a circumstance we much regret.' 1p

(b) *Two Orders from Ffrench to [Bank], 1831*

67. April, 1831 Requesting that specified sterling amounts be paid to Lord Clanmorris, Newbrook. 2 items / 4pp

III. Letter from Ffrench, Dublin to His Mother (Margaret Ffrench) at Rahasane, Loughrea, 1811

68. 30 August, 1811 'My Dear Mother, I wrote to Fanny yesterday and hope she received my letter. Egan and Richards say they find my father better in every respect and his [loss] not near as angry as yesterday...'.
'Your affectionate son
Robert Joseph Ffrench'
'P.S. Major Kirwan has resigned his Majority in the Galway Militia and James O'Hara, Bob O'Hara's son, is appointed to it.'

1p



IV. Personal Letters to Ffrench, 1812-1819

(a) *From Joseph Nagle (Grand-Uncle), Caverleigh, Devon, England, 1812*

69. 3 February, 1812
- Following the death of Robert's father stating, 'Your very kind and most affectionate letter came to hand in course from which I observe and I make no doubt that you are all much afflicted for the premature loss of so good a man and so excellent a parent, in this unfortunate event it is no small consolation that in you he has left a successor who inherits all his virtues and merits one on whom the family may depend on his religiously observing and executing his intentions expressed to yourself in the presence of Mr. Harte you may rest assured that I will most readily concur with you in doing everything in my power respecting yours, your Mother's and sisters' welfare and happiness. As I find you have a considerable farm near Tuam (a good country and consequently valuable) out of lease next May I would advise you not to make a promise of preference to any person or to make any bargain over the bottle but in the morning after mature consideration and consulting friends. My Brother when a young man was taken in when half intoxicated by extorting a promise from him of letting 200 and odd acres at 10 shillings per acre on a lease renewable forever near Mallow at present worthy 2 Guineas the acre, which he repented all his life and for which he made ample amends by the purchases he since made. The next observation to be made is at what time the land was leased as the letting farms in this country and I may say all over England have doubled in the course of the last 20 years, in the county Cork it is usual when a considerable farm is to be let to advertise it in the news paper and to direct proposals to be given in writing then you may chase such a tenant as may best suit you for character and responsibility, but this may not be the mode in the county Galway, but certainly notice must be given and proposals received at Rahasane or any other place that you may appoint. I suppose you have not in Ireland persons of character who make a profession of valuing land as is often done in England and some make large fortunes by it [] with such a one that my Nephew Joseph Chichester is at present. Charles by the last account was still at Malta but expects soon to be ordered to Sicily. As to your farm I think it may not be a miss to mention my [] the acting Executor during your minority with best wishes for yourself, mother and sisters...'

3pp



70. 19 February, 1812

Stating, 'I received a day or two past a very kind and most affectionate letter from your dear Mother in which she impresses her love for yourself and sisters and therein informs me of leaving Ireland with her daughters as soon as the family affairs are settled and to go to Bath and to engage you and Mr. Harte to be of the party in which I think she judges very properly for it would be very imprudent of you to remain in Ireland till of a more mature age and you now require living a little more of the world and you generally have there in winter some of the best company in England and you could occasionally make excursion to this part of the country in the summer months and you cannot doubt my being always happy to see you. My Niece further tells me how she is at present circumstanced with respect of the family expenses which she says were still equal to what they were when your Father was living and which she proposes reducing in some degree when she is unable to discharge such servants as are not now wanting in order to which she wishes you to dispose of her coach as soon as a fair price is offered for it, it cost with the late repairs nearly £700 but I think it will be well disposed of if it produces half that sum as second hand articles lose much of there value. She claims no plate nor anything but her jointure. She adds this you would send me a list of his debts when the courts be asserted and also a rental of the estate the debts I fear must be considerable, as his sickness for the last two years, the going to Dublin consulting Doctors, lodging etc while there, the measure taken for the recovery of Mary Anne etc must necessity have been attended with very great expense. I owed him on selling my Brother's estate £500 Irish which I would pay now, that I am persuaded it is much required if I conveniently could but I have no personal property, such as I have being in land and if any was sold it must lessen the value of the estate and ultimately fall upon you however if you can raise £200 or 300 upon my Bond I will willingly pass such a one to accommodate you and them for the purpose intended your mother signifies her resolution [d]isposing of her legacy from her aunt Aylmer to defray the expenses of the journey. I am sorry she should be reduced to that necessity. I beg you will be so good as to assure her of my earnest good wishes for her welfare and happiness as well as that of yourself and sisters and to thank her for me for her very obliging letter from which I am very sorry to learn that her health is somewhat impaired but I hope will soon be re-established. I am my dear nephew....'

'be so good as to let me know what advance you expect on the land near Tuam, whether any offer has been made for it and whether the lease from your father was for a long term.'

4pp



71. 12 March 1812

Stating, 'Since my last I have had no return of the bleeding of the nostril and the only inconvenience I found from it was my being forbid writing letters as the sloping might bring it on again. I thank you for sending me a schedule of your Fathers debts which indeed are very considerable and which you cannot but be sensible that great prudence and much care is required on your part to extricate yourself and the family from embarrassment in order to which you must be very exact in the payment of interest for if you should neglect it, it will inevitably be attended with the total ruin of your estate. I wish you could get some friendly honest person to direct you in the management of you: concerns for not being on the spot it is not possible for me to give you any essential advice. I believe you judge properly in selling the stock and advertising the grass but yet I would not have you do it without consulting better judges that I can be at this distance. I would not advise yourself or Mother and sisters to leave Ireland till you have put everything on a proper footing as first it will be necessary to calculate your expenses and to be certain of your payments as lodgings and house rent are very dear at Bath as well as everything else. I should be glad to know whether the money due from Lord Ormond has been paid by a sketch I have made of your rental and the debts I fear you will not have sufficient left to be able to live at Rahasane at least for some time. I have [] up the family debt of £21,500 at 5 percent I suppose for the rest you will be obliged to pay 6 per cent however on recollection I understand your creditors cannot by law compel you to payment of his debts and of course will be glad to get the interest on your term 5 per cent which will make the balance more in our favour but as I think it would not be prudent for you to live at Rahasane for at least three years you might let the grass of the demesne for that time during which you could reside with your mother and sisters which would be some assistance to them in house keeping and as much economy will be necessary avoid as much as possible all encumbrance and letting the interest run on which would in a few years put it out of your power ever to pay it but with resolution you will find the debt lessen every day and then you will be able to live with comfort at Rahasane or wherever you please. I beg my dear nephew that you will not take [] my giving you my thoughts on this subject as I have yours and family's interest much at heart...'

4pp



(b) *From Mary Ffrench (Aunt), Bath, England, 1814*

72. 13 February, 1814

Stating: 'I wrote you a few lines in my sister's letter and I also wrote you another the next day wherein I begged of you to remit the two hundred and forty nine pounds to

Misses Kirwan, Lime Street, London and you will be so good as in future to desire Mr Creagh (Ffrench's agent) always to remit our money to Mr Kirwan. Mr Creagh has not remitted the above £249 for had he done so Mr Kirwan would have apprised us of it. I beg my dear Robert you will write to him immediately to do so, as we want the money much. I think you ought to be strict on Mr Creagh as it was remiss in him to have delayed so long in fulfilling your orders, there is no being too strict on all agents. Now my dear Robert you want to know the news of Bath and I will begin with what concerns you, there are to [sic] reports concerning you, the one is that you are certainly married to Miss Kearne and her mother is given as an author for it by a letter she is said to have wrote to a Lady in Worcestershire who wrote it to a friend of hers in this town. The report has gained so much credit that people will not believe but that we know something of it however if it is so you are very discreet to us. The second report is that a gentleman in this town had a letter from Dublin mentioning that you won on the Turf £3,000 and that you have a great stud of horses. I know the gentleman received the letter but I hope it was a Dublin report as the £3,000 is a very good thing. I should regret much you won it on the Turf or in any kind of gambling as I think it the ruin of any young man to be on the turf or gamble in any kind of way and such people are never considered people of character and keeping any horses is a ruinous thing for any property but particularly race horses. I am sorry you have not gone to the County Cork to look after your property there as I think it has an odd appearance and may make your agents think you are negligent about your affairs. We all look forward with the greatest pleasure to the happiness of seeing you after the Spring [] and hope you have not changed your resolution of coming here to see us before you go to London as you were so good as to say you intended. I am sure you don't doubt of the happiness it always gives to see you. I came here from Devonshire yesterday with my sister Chichester (Honora) and her family who are come to spend sometime with us and who hopes to have the pleasure of seeing you here when you come. I found my sister Fanny still very low and poorly but we all hope as does her medical people that she will soon get better when the fine weather comes. Bath is very gay I hear as it is generally at this season concerts private ball etc. Sir Richard Nagle and his family are here and goes out a great deal. He makes a very genteel appearance. The Miss Nagles are not pretty are considered in general rather plain. Mr Grant is here and after them but I don't believe he will succeed his being after them is only my own surmise. Joe is to write you a long letter about Miss Metcalfes, her disappointment in regard [] Mr Howard. Your Aunts send you a thousand loves as does Mr Charles and all this circle. Mrs. E. O'Driscoll her affectionate compliments to everything that [] to Mr Harte and which all here joins your affectionate and loving Aunt...'

'Your account in your last letter date January 31, 1814 is perfectly correct but there is no half years interest due in May. The first thousand I mentioned was legacy left us by my Aunt Nano Nagle which my Uncle also borrowed from us the whole makes £3,000 and



which you agreed to pay 6 per cent for to use which we have received £249 you have paid us our entire interest for last year, but you must recollect that you are to pay us this year £30 more which makes in all £730. My uncle interest money the £1000 will be due the first of April and the interest of the bond of £2,000 money he lent will be due.'

4pp

**V. Personal Letters to Mrs. Ffrench (Maria Letitia, wife of Robert),
Rahasane, 1819**

(a) From J. Martin, Ballinahinch, Oughterard

73. 4 May Stating, 'After a lapse of so long a period as it appeared to me since I last heard from you I should find it difficult my dearest friend to describe the emotion with which I received your letter but as it is impossible that I could feel as I do towards you [] corresponding sentiments existed on your part I will leave it to that sympathy which in spite of time, and space, makes us so faithfully to each other to bring conviction to your heart of the delight it gave to mine to secure the dear assurance of your unabated affection. It has been a source of regret to me since your precious little gift to Mary arrived, that I have been prevented by illness from acknowledging your goodness though vexed I am that you should have sent her a thing so costly. I will however preserve it as a memorial of your regard until she is of an age to understand the value she ought to set on it for the sake of her who gave it. I cannot tell you my dearest Maria how much it grieved me to hear of your having determined on going abroad although [*sic*] I know full well that a residence of a few years in countries consecrated in our [] as the scenes where every thing most ennobling to human nature has been exhibited as well as for the vestiges they retain of former greatness, must afford to a mind like yours the higher sources of gratification yet I must plead guilty to certain selfish feelings which prevent me from enjoying the prospect of advantages and pleasure you will derive from such a home; and confess that sorrow for your long absence predominates over every other consideration. One thing however I will hope, that where ever you go you will bear with you the remembrances of a friend whose affection and concern for you will be still the same... I am charged by Maria and Thomas to present their best love and remembrance to you and Mr. Ffrench to which my dearest Maria is added that of your own faithful and attached friend.'

4pp



(b) From [Mark] Browne, 1819

See also No. /61

74. 9 June, 1819

Stating, 'I write you these few lines hoping that you, Robert, the Ladies, the Major (Mrs. Ffrench's uncle, Denis Bingham) and the Doctor are quite well. To you who delight so much in poetry, no offering can be more acceptable than a poetical one. I therefore beg your acceptance of a work I have often mentioned to you at Rahasane 'Campbell's British Poets' and also the last number of the Edinburgh review containing a criticism of the above work. Dublin is getting very empty and consequently stupid. I hope you continue to take long walks about I am afraid now that the seats are finished that there is more lying down than walking about. I spoke to Miss Carpenter who mentioned that she had sent down the bill. If you or the Ladies have any commissions I shall be most happy to execute them. I shall send down the books, I have above mentioned, this evening and hope you will get them safe. I beg to be sincerely remembered to your Robert and all friends at Rahasane. I remain dear Mrs Ffrench your sincerely attached cousin.'

1p

VI. Material Relating to the Loughrea Races, 1815-1830

75. [31] July, 1815

Agreement regarding the races 'The jovial stakes of 25 yards 15 feet to run the second day of the [Rathbouerce] Loughrea meeting 1816... to be fixed by N. [Rathbource] Esq. If no Races at Loughrea that year to be run any day in October following Mr. [R. May] appointing ...'.
Signed by Robert Joseph Ffrench, Dominick Madden, Michael Burke [Ballyduggan, Loughrea], CB [B_] and N. [Rathbource].

1p

76. 18 October, 1830

Letter from R.J. Ffrench to 'Martin' regarding the races and horses.

1p

**VII. Notebook Detailing Items Sold at Auction at Rahasane, 1831**

77. 20 June, 1831 Handwritten details include item number, description of item and amount. Also includes details on total amount of sales (£2,062.4.5) and names of purchasers and amounts received from each, and debit and credit details of 'The Assets of R. Ffrench in account with Mr J. Blake [auctioneer]'.
Items include cows, carriage, horse, ewes, fire irons, pairs lamps, rolling blinds, dinner service, china tea set, Rosewood table, sofa, stools, clock, curtains, carpet, quilt and blankets, book case, plate warmer, and nursery lamp.

34pp

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13x

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FFRENCH PAPERS

GP4/1

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Mr. Loftus's Compliments to Mr. French is highly
 sorry he has it not in his Power to discharge the contents
 of his Note to Mr. Fitzgerald now, but hopes he will in less
 than three weeks, which he hopes will be attended with
 no inconvenience to Mr. French, as since he never
 saw the Note from the time the bearer presented it to him
 for payment; will pay the £13:6: to the person but Mr.
 Fitzgerald on Mr. French's Order.

Douglas 6th December 1765

Mr J. Loftus's letter to Mr W. French relative
to a note paid by him 27th Nov 1766 & payable
Nov following for £15.6s that Mr Gerald told
him inclosed to Mr French, which note was lost
by Mr. Farpy 6th Dec 1765, and Mr Loftus promising
payment of the contents in less than three weeks

Robert French Esq

W



FFRENCH PAPERS

GP4/2

Galway County Council Archives

14th March 1766

924/2

Sir

I must answer for Mr. French your of the 11th inst. to him, as he is extremely hurried this day. He is vastly obliged to you for the pains you have in the search of his papers in the case of Mr. Concession's case; yet still, as he says in the margin that judges there are two of them missing, as you may see by the list I lately sent you, and to which you must have recourse upon any further enquiry. I think the step you took on the rec^t of Mr. Wallis's letter very proper & judicious, and if he could have made bold to direct men of profession in their proper business, would have suggested the same thing, and in general any measure that could tend to expedite a law suit, in which the worst cause and most litigious parties can be the only gainers. Your personal attendance, a sedulity and zeal give him the most sanguine hopes of a speedy and happy issue, and will take care, altho his embarrassments be great and his finances for the present low, to supply you with what may be necessary, if others should prove backward. But he prays you to be tender of him, and make use of him only as a last resource. Mr. French did not possibly remain in Dublin. His journey to London would have been of no avail, as you have undertaken it, and would have expounded a reckoning already too great. Mr. MacCarthy's death, as he was a man very capable of managing a suit, has had no invidious effect, altho' it is a great juncture, and the more so, as what remains you were before your return to Ireland, three hundred guineas never yet accounted for, as may appear from the letters yet extant, and particularly one hundred, which he complains to have in his hands in his letter of the 10th December last not yet expended. Mr. French prays you will examine into this matter, and in your enquiries you will be assisted by the information of the two collectors Mr. Godwin and Mr. Wallis, who, as Mr. Carthy declares, had the disbursement of the money and consequently must know how much, and in what manner. He recommends it to your care the getting back the debts left by you with Mr. Carthy, of which the following is a list taken from his letter of the 5th Feb^r 1765

- 1st The debt of 5th February 1765
 - The marriage articles 10th Feb^r 1764 on the marriage of Marcus French & Anne Blake Hamilton
 - The fines levied 28 Car 2 & Trin. 8 1763
 - The debt 29th June 1766 leading the way of the fine of the 8th Nov 63
 - The lease of 99 years of 22nd Dec^r 1769
 - The settlement by deeds of lease & release of the 16th & 17th March 1762
- All please in your next to let Mr. French know the names and surnames of all the Council for the several parties in the above that on rec^t of this, you will wait on his sister & nephews & his compts and pray their assistance for the above matters true to the late Mr. M.C. Mr. M. Thibon mer. will inform Mr. French will write to his sister or nephew this next on this subject.

Galway County Council Archives

To Mr. J. J. Burke
at the Specimen Coffee
house London



FFRENCH PAPERS

GP4/3

Galway County Council Archives

the present rent £8.15.6
 the Land Glebe was then let at
 5. in a lease which must be accord-
 ing to the above ten. 270. —
 270 at 13 p. a — £175. 10.0
 deduct the old rent — 68. 15. 6
 rise — 106. 15. 6
 there will be a benefit
 of twenty in this

270 at 11 p. a — £157. 10.0
 deduct the old rent — 68. 15. 6
 rise at this rent — 88. 15. 6

my lord

Galway County Council Archives

I waited on Mr. Harwood
 last Friday & Saturday according to your Lord-
 ships appointment to treat with him about
 a renewal for the Granges:

Some of the most judicious of my friends
 in the farming business, think, that I have
 overrated my convenience therein, by the of-
 fer I made him of surrendering my present
 lease, & taking a new one of three years at
 half a guinea an acre, which would increase
 your rent all near a hundred a year for the four
 years, which are yet unexpired.

However, I am persuaded of your Lordships

If Mr Meach will give thirteen shillings as a
renewal of his salary & commencing last Dec let it be done
31 of August 1768
Cantuarke

To John Meach

moderation, if that should be a proper
engagement to my demerit at this time, we
may say, should think to lose them, I shall
be entirely in your Lordships judgment
to the terms that are to be imposed on me,
shall pray a line by return.

I have the honour to be with
great respect

I shall trouble your Lordship to
present my respects & Obedience to your most
humble servant
to Lord Pembroke
& Captain the Surgeon
Robert French

At Glasgow the
30th of August 1768

Galway County Council Archives



FRENCH PAPERS

GP4/4

Galway County Council Archives

The whole of the Lands let by Mr. B.
Lease to Mr. A. Hunt

Daniel Tappin pays	£ 38:13:6
Tenants of Rin	165: 5:10
Patrick Griffin	8:12:6
Tenants of Ballinastagan	86: 8
Mr. Connolly	71
<hr/>	
Acct	369:19:10
	225
<hr/>	
Profit rent on the	144:19:10
Lease of Buncullen	

Galway County Council Archives

As per lease and receipt

The lease rent of Mr. Tappin's farm of 2.14.5
Buncullen am. to 10. 10. 10

Mr. B. Hunt has a receipt



FRENCH PAPERS

GP4/5

Galway County Council Archives

D^r Sir

I brought the Lease of Duhallow to Dublin last term as my Lord flannichard and you directed I should, in order that it should be produced and that my Lord should meet no opposition in the recovery of his fines. I told Mr. Kelly very fully in the term that the Lease was in town and notwithstanding he could do nothing he said ~~he would do nothing~~ in the matter, now Mr. Aquaruth Daly has applied to get back the lease as he looks upon it to be his security for his Demand upon those fines, and only gave it that it should be produced on my Lord's Joyal and returned to him immediately after. Mr. Kelly my Lord's Agent has sent to me since my arrival from Dublin for the whole November past with I am not at all prepared to pay and if insisted upon will dispute me very much as I understood from my Lord and you when last I had the honor of seeing ^{you} both at Loughrea that I should be allowed one year interest of the two due to me upon his Lordship's bond last December out of the rent this prevented my being prepared to pay the whole and I assure you have some time since paid one year's Interest on that money, if I had the money I should make no difficulty to pay but as I had not I told Mr. Kelly I could not resolve what to do till I had the honor of a letter from you, I hope my Lord will get a decree for his Demand on those fines next term, which will make this affair easy to us all for I believe I need not tell you that I could have no inducement to advance the money I did but to oblige his Lordship and I never intend Judgment on the bond

Galway County Council Archive



FFRENCH PAPERS

GP4/6

Galway County Council Archives

Sir

Dublin 29 Jan^y 1780

I was sav^d with yours of the 22^d instant last post but one, & observed what y^e mention respecting the acc^t, concerning what Mr. Peter Kilken - my wife m^r Swales ago^d & she had my an^s. ff return of the post, wherein I direct^d the charge complaind off to be struck out, & had I rec^d the cash for it, & had I lived 20 years after I w^d return it & the interest thereof as it appear^d at first sight to me, & upon inspecting my acc^t to be double^d charge which was by some mistake transcrib^d twice, - please to inform Mr. Trench that I did not yet enter his Judgment against m^r Kelly, but shall on Monday next, because he hath ^{not} done any thing to Evolve Mr. Trench indeed I do not think it was in his power, but the Security is very ample, and of Course Mr. Trench will be ultimately safe, I should have an^s^d that part of y^r Letter w^{ch} deserv^s to ^{know} Mr. Kelly's address - but that I am really as Ignorant of it as y^e are - I heard some - time ago^d that he was in London, but could ^{not} find out where, I pray y^e to present my best respects to Mr & Mrs Trench to whom I long
 Sir -

Yours most obed^t. humble servant,
 James Ferrall

Mr. M. Cornelan

Rev. Mr. Cornelan
 Longford
 Mr. J. Baulie

573:10:11
 3440:0:
 20
 20/04
 20/04
 20/04
 192:3:4
 8:12:21
 100:15:7





FFRENCH PAPERS

GP4/7

Galway County Council Archives

Dr Sir

Dublin 8th May 1784

I enclosed the order to be served on the Tenn^{ts} of Tooluban
& Daniel Farpy to make a copy for each Tenn^t on the land
not already served or if already served the service of this
order now can't start, he must show the orig^l order
& enter the day & who he served it must be on the man or
Wife or Children or serv^{ts} above 16 years & to direct them to
give the Copy to the proprietor of the House I am in haste

Yours
J. J. O'Rourke

a Copy
of the
order



Galway County Council Archives

Robert ...
...

John ...

...

...



FFRENCH PAPERS

GP4/8

Galway County Council Archives

Dr Madam Cahoon April 9th 1786

I have rec^d of fav^r of yesterday, and whoever told Mr. French
 of my wanting the Farm of Sumner has misinform^d him very
 much, for I did not tell any of that Farm but what I tell the
 first year ~~that~~ in the Park, w^{ch} he and every body else that
 saw it & knew wanted it, but that I got six or eight Acres of
 Meads by my Sheep this last year, w^{ch} wanted it as much as
 what was told before, as to leaving the Land I did not
 leave any of it at all, but six or eight poor people that I had
 to whom I gave a part of the coarse ground that is near the
 Road and who have no other kind of Manure but the lew-
 front of it for their Gardens, I cannot but be a little sur-
 pris^d at Mr French's relation to this notion that came into his
 head lately, for I believe he does not forget when I went to
 Bahasaw last May to offer this land to himself, that he told
 me that he would not hinder me to sell it any way that I like
 as you mention to me Madam, that ye are afraid that land
 would not be a proper condition for any other person, I suppose
 ye dont like me as a Farm, tho I believe it would be as convenient
 to me to hold it as any other person while I could get it for the
 Value and also if Mr French looks at the Plan of that Farm
 —

Mrs French
 Bahasaw

7A
 6A
 13A

Galway County



FRENCH PAPERS

GP4/8

Galway County Council Archives

Dr Madam Cahoon April 7th 1786

I have rec^d of fav^r of yesterday, and whoever told Mr French
of my holding the Farm of Sumner has misinform^d him very
much; for I did not till any of that Farm but what I till the
first year ~~that of~~ in the Park, w^{ch} he and every body else that
saw it have wanted it, but that I got six or eight Acres of
Meadow by my sheep this last year, w^{ch} wanted it as much as
what was till'd before, as to lewining the Land I did not
lewin any of it at all, but six or eight poor people that I had
to whom I gave a strip of the coarse ground that is near the
Road and who have no other kind of Manure but to lewin
part of it for their Gardens, I cannot but be a little sur-
pris'd at Mr French's relation to this notion that came into his
head lately; for I believe he does not forget when I went to
Rahosaw last May to offer this land to himself, that he told
me that he would not hinder me to till it any way that I like
as you mention to me Madam that ye are afraid that land
would not be in a proper condition for any other person; I suppose
ye don't like me as a Tenant tho' I believe it would be as convenient
to me to hold it as any other person while I could get it for the
Value and also if Mr French looks at the Plan of that Farm

7A
64
131

Mrs French
Rahosaw

Galway County

He will see what Privilege of Tollage I have there, and If I should
at any time surrender that Farm. I am sure in all probability I wont
have near that Quantity in Tollage so that Mr French is the man
without cause, but I believe he does this on purpose to keep me off
as I really expected to get more Advancement from him, for he
May depend on it, that it is not in the power of any Man to make
the Owners of Land at present together with the loss of Sheep
and Innumerable Taxes and County Charges; presenting again Mr
French and family my best respects I remain D^r Madam
With esteem Y^r most Obed^t Serv^t

M^r. Purtrie

Galway County Council Archives



FRENCH PAPERS

GP4/9

Galway County Council Archives

June 24 1791 received from Mr. Thomas Bush. of
 Cahoon Esq. by a bill of thirty one Days Sight on Mr.
 Gladon new comen of sum of forty four p^{cs} Harling
 in part of the price of my Down held by ~~you~~ you.

Dublin June 25 1791

Elisha both French

I received your very obliging letter yesterday
 with a bill of thirty one Days Sight for forty four p^{cs}
 Harling which I send you a receipt for above, if not
 drawn in due form attribute it to my ignorance, not
 to my want of desire to do it properly.
 I am more oblig'd to you than I can express for sending
 me that sum at so unseasonable a time of the year
 to ask money I am sensible it is your good affair you
 to pay before the next but the necessities of my land lord
 for my house rent is such that he falls as soon as its
 due my being extremely punctual is my only chance
 of getting a longer time from which I am very anxious
 for as its for large comfortable warm & as rents are reason-
 able as to the price this was my reason for applying to
 you so early, as I knew I would have no chance of getting it

Galway County Council Archives

Dublin, Donough-st. 9 June 25 1791

My dear Madam, I beg to inform you that your letter of the 20th inst. is received & that I have the honor to answer it in the most obliging manner. I am very sensible of the trouble you are under, and I am very sorry that I cannot do more for you at present. I have the honor to be, Madam, your most obedient servant.



FRENCH PAPERS

GP4/10

Galway County Council Archives

W Donohue
Rd

Galway County Council Archives

Dear Sir
You have your accounts from the first
of your dealing to the present day enclosed to you. Look them
over carefully and you will find them correct. Any thing you
don't recollect I can give you a voucher for credit for the acc't.
marked A & B. You have them vouchers - you will see
by the date that you are indebted to me the 11 Oct^r 97 - £8.16.4
for money paid for you salary to that day & £503.2.6 for bills
paid for you. This sum I shall require to have paid as I must
if possible be in Dublin in Nov. I think I could make better
of the tenants pay all in Aug. next answer. I have now done
business for you for 6 years for which I have received no quittance
I acknowledge the money was very acceptable & that my
services have been of profit to you - as my credit however is
for the present quite lost & I can no longer be of use as an agent
I think it necessary that I should no longer continue in the
employment - should I again receive my credit & you wish to re-employ
me I shall be ever ready & willing to serve you -
Yours sincerely
Matt. Donohue

Nov 97 -
Dublin -

Matt. Donohue

I could not get Mr. Hill's bill paid in 14 shillings & have returned it
to Mr. Hill -



FFRENCH PAPERS

GP4/11

Galway County Council Archives

Robert Connor
Jan 19: 1798-

Robert Connor Esq^r

Galway

Galway County Council Archives

Sir

I am very sorry to have been under
the disagreeable necessity of taking those
proceedings; but surely if you recollect
you must blame yourself, how often
I requested a Bill on any point
made at any time, to no purpose,
its impossible for me to determine what
can be done as I would by no means
interfere with the Duty of the High
Sheriff, who (I am sure) will act as
a Gentleman; I would not (even now)
be unreasonable; but the time of
mention is too far distant, and the
person you intend drawing on

I

I have not the pleasure of receiving
The sum due is marked on the Execution
£129.15.3 I am

Dear

your Obedient

Humble Servant

W. M. M. M.

Galway 4th Dec^r
1795

Galway County Council Archives



FFRENCH PAPERS

GP4/12

Galway County Council Archives

July

In case you had not taken up Mr. Conroy's point
last night I am sorry to hear that you had not
heard of the same.

Yours truly
Tom Kelly
20th July 1880
Dublin

Robert Handley
Chatham
London

Galway County Council Archives



FFRENCH PAPERS

GP4/13

Galway County Council Archives

profit, & 12 Months credit, not being yet paid for
 from the Duty being so much increased,
 near half the cost must be paid down in cash,
 before we get permission to land them
 by the late terms of Peace. English Wines
 are not permitted into the ports of Portugal
 w^h will make it the more difficult to
 get the Wine

This day rec^d from M^r. J^r. Brown
 by bills £300 — for y^r. acc. w^h
 shall be placed to y^r. credit & am
 with great Esteem
 J^r. most obed^t. Serv^t
 J^r. Burke

64/13

Robert French Esq^r — To John Burke Esq^r

1000	Sept. 20	To one Pipe Port	54	61-06	
		5 Grogs Casks	44	1-1-0	62-10-2
		26 To one Do Cask Sherry	17	1-3	
		Cases		66	
					17-7-9
1004	March 20	To 1/2 Hhd Port Claret	22	15-0	
		" 1/2 Hhd Port	3	1-2-6	
		" 1/2 Do Cask Sherry	17	1-3	
		" Bottles		1-0-9	
		Cases Hoopage		19-6	
		3 Grogs best Casks 5/5		16-3	
					77-3-3
	May 27	To 1 Pipe Port		65-00	
	Aug. 20	To 1 Pipe Do		65-00	
		1 Do Cask Sherry	10	4-0	
		1 Chest best Sausage			
		173-1-5			
		26			
		3-7-9			64-20-16-4
		Casks		1-0-0	
					113-4-4
					£ 335-5-6

1874

Robert French Esq
Rakusan
Loughrea

Galway County Council Archives

Dear Sir

I have your esteemed favor, & agreeable
to it. I have found you the prices of
the wines & ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~same~~, as you may
depend are the lowest that any person
sells at, & I sh^d. be sorry to charge
you more, I have taken off £3:5-
of the pipe from Galway, tho' I have got
£65 - Cash for some of the same here
& I suppose y^r. £64 has been given
here for Lot by persons who sell again
the pipe from y^r. in sep. y^r. were only
charged £61:8:6 w^h left very little



FFRENCH PAPERS

GP4/14

Galway County Council Archives

My dear Bob

I have procured the items
you wished for, for the paper for
which you are the paper teacher
I will send it off as the signing
office is anxious to deliver it

and for it as soon as
convenient they are best

Yours at Newham

Believe me very sincerely yours
E. W. White

Galway County Council Archives

The first part of the document is a list of names and titles, including "The Hon. Mr. Justice" and "The Hon. Mr. Chief Justice". The text is written in a highly stylized, cursive script. The names are arranged in a somewhat regular pattern, with some names appearing on multiple lines. The handwriting is dense and difficult to decipher in many places.

The second part of the document appears to be a collection of signatures or names, possibly representing the members of a council or a committee. These are also written in the same cursive style. Some names are more prominent than others, and there are some markings that could be initials or dates.

The overall appearance is that of a historical document, possibly a list of officials or a record of a meeting. The paper is aged and shows some wear and tear, particularly at the top edge.



FFRENCH PAPERS

GP4/15

Galway County Council Archives

GP4/15

Loughrea Nov 27 1887

Dear Sir

I having at this time some very pressing calls on me for money I am to request the assistance of my friends. you will oblige me much by letting me have my fees for registering the Freeholders. I gave you the last year's rates, will you please to pay me the same for each freeholder. you are to pay me two shillings & your compensation. D. S. will much oblige yours sincerely
Edw. H. H. O.

L. REA 1887

John Connelley Esq

Wexford

Galway County Council Archives



FFRENCH PAPERS

GP4/16

Galway County Council Archives

Mr. St. John's Book

Maharone

Galway County Council Archives

Dear Bob

GP4/16

I promise that I will secure to you any
balance that may appear on my bond to you

I am your obliged friend

Wm. French

Maharone
Oct 3rd 1800



FFRENCH PAPERS

GP4/17

Galway County Council Archives

Wm French Esq Senior

Galway

Galway County

My Dear Bob J. Murreea 15th 1840 GP 4/17

For consequence of Mr Corver mentioning
you wished of having the Lease of Bloagh altered
I was determined to go to Rahasane this Day for the
purpose of making any alteration you may
think proper there in from the back of the Day
and Mr French's being confined to her bed by
indisposition I am afraid to venture out however
have any Deed or Instrument prepared explaining
the transaction and conscious as I am of the mistake in
the Lease I will most cheerfully sign to it
I wish of all things to have half an hour conver-
sation with you believe me I have ^{not} squandered one
shilling of the £1000 but have put it into better
hands, the first good day I will certainly go to see
you if Mr French is better
the Quins men affect regards to you and all our
friends at Rahasane believe me if ever I see you
and affectionate Yours^m

Wm French

I am happy to hear that
my friend Wolt has got a good horse



FFRENCH PAPERS

GP4/18

Galway County Council Archives

My Dear Sir,

Robert G. G. G.
G. G. G.
G. G. G.

Galway County Council Archives

I never wrote a letter with
more pleasure than I do now to inform you that I
have the authority to inform you that
your Uncle's letter is certainly left to you -
I recommend you strongly not to mention this
letter to any one but to Mr. French
with instructions of Secrecy, its being further
known can answer no purpose to you, & may
be injurious, I was as much as I possibly could
with your Uncle which he was here & dined in
company with him at Hillman's who is a very
worthy man, & I am glad to find much in his
confidence, he & I will be still more intimate
than we have been as he has an office in the
Custom House, I am here on a summons
from Mr. Abbott, a Surveyor General's Pleas
is certainly fixed for me - I shall leave Town
on Tuesday, come to me on the 2^d of next month
in your way to the Fair, my best regards
to Mr. French - I am ever most truly
Yours
Dublin Sep. 14. 1801 -

Wm. French



FRENCH PAPERS

GP4/19

Galway County Council Archives

My Dear Bob,

GP4/19

I met Herman here who
told me he had got directions from your
Uncle to purchase being to be levied by him of
his Estate. ^{was suggested by him} ~~to mention~~ the matter to any
one. I request you will not tell Browne or to
any one as Herman desired me. Herman wrote
to him for some names. & to know if he would
buy of all his Estate, as he did not under-
stand by his letter if the whole or part was
to be done. I shall probably hear of his answer
before I leave Town. Herman says you ought
to go over to him, & certainly to bring your
Son, however don't move until you hear
further from me. which recommendation
I believe is unnecessary, both Mr John
sumner & were clearly superior to all their
Divisions, in but regards to Mr French & all
your family, ever most sincerely
yours

Dublin May 17, 1802
Wm. B. W. W. W.

I shall not leave Town before the 22, let me
know if I can do any thing for you.

Galway County Council Archives



FRENCH PAPERS

GP4/20

Galway County Council Archives

My Dear Bob.

GP4/20

I rec^d yours & immediately
 called on Keenan, he has got Connors names from your
 Uncle for the purpose of suffering the Recovery, & only
 waits for a more correct return than the one he has
 got of the several denominations of the Estate, & he
 assured me that he had no doubt of the business being
 completed in the end of this or early in the next
 month, as the disposition will certainly take place in
 this month. I am sure your uncle now want to see
 your Friend John returned. I shall proceed on Monday
 on business to the South, but shall take care to attend
 on the first day of the Election, and Friend John will
 serve the attention of his Friends & instead of
 the gentlemen of the County in whose cause he has
 embarked, there has been great pushing here of
 late for Mastin, but there will be soon an
 end of that business. I am very happy at the
 ant you give me of your Uncle's letter, which however
 should be kept as private as possible, for tho' I con-
 sider him to be a steady man, yet it is better
 not to excite the suspicions of those who are
 with him not to break the trust of his Ancestors,
 therefore consider that your Uncle would be very
 glad you went away to him after the Election, my
 best regards at Princes are, making off
 Dublin June 19. 1802

Wm B. M. M.

Robert Keenan
 Keenan

Keenan

Galway County Council Archives





FFRENCH PAPERS

GP4/21

Galway County Council Archives

Mr. James Esq
Rushmore
Wexford

Galway County

My D^r Bob,

GP4/21

I went yesterday to the room & heard the measure to inform you that the Com^d & for the buying of Times by your Uncle was positively to go over to him last night, I have a matter to tell you which I earnestly request - you wish not mention to any one for reasons I shall tell you when we meet. A friend of mine desired me send over a subscription for the purpose of erecting a Statue to Mr. H. & I have with it sent over a subscription of 40 - English in your name. I know your opinion of the man as a Minister. I owe much obligation to his administration & the liberty I have taken with you ^{never} I have you that you have on every occasion ^{never} the same liberty with mine. with best regards ad P^r the same I am My D^r Bob.

Dublin June 24. 1802.

Wm. B. Burke

I am just going off on an induction to Wexford, pray write to me soon any news of our friend Genl. Bugebe or of the Countess devoted to me ^{Dear Genl} as Tom. Haughey. Dublin



FRENCH PAPERS

GP4/22

Galway County Council Archives

JL

Mr. Burt mentioned to me that he would write to you
with respect to the matter to be solved by you - to qualify you
to make out a Supp. Bill to the Representative States, but the
Terms which you would expect for purchase of the Lands - as there
are several persons who are anxious to become Purchasers -
I am at length informed that the Custom of Kelly the act
that had led since the day - show made out the act &
then appended to you a Sum of \$203.6.11 - a copy of
said Bond & you must return to Custom if not
immediately paid. I also return the Judgment show not
been able to ascertain the amount of the right debt - or
whether the debt now claimed is under a Bond of \$1000
which appears among of Luther's papers or whether it is
founded on a debt now by Kelly to Mr. Leland & paid by
you Luther - whom it will make a close search for it

I think I shall find it difficult to leave by return post
as the gentlemen who wish to become purchasers are
anxious to know the Terms.

11th Decr
1801

Remain yours
J. P. [unclear]

Galway County Council Archives

Robt. [unclear]
J. Robinson
Lynch



FFRENCH PAPERS

GP4/23

Galway County Council Archives

[Handwritten flourish]

I have felt with Mr. Keenan so far as to
 Advise the sale for a fortnight in which time I hope
 have the deed executed so as to procure the money to pay
 Mr. Christie - but I fear I must wait the expense of
 sending a special messenger to you here to sign
 the deed of charge & I hope I will be able to
 search since the year ¹⁸⁰¹ and find my way by
 means of the title of a right of land in the
 County of Cork - therefore would you think it

any other way - As there
 is the necessity of doing it
 quickly - that necessity
 may
 I am
 Yours
 Wm Browne

1040
 my part. I think
 Chancellor is
 Jan 1802

Galway County Council Archives



FRENCH PAPERS

GP4/24

Galway County Council Archives

Robt French Esq
Rathfriland
Longwood

DL

I received your enclosing the afternoon of the 12th inst. I am glad to hear that you are well and hope you will find your journey to the Continent - I would send it this night but could not get the proper stamp -

Remain your
John Brane

29th May 1802

Robt French Esq
Rathfriland

Galway County Council Archives



FFRENCH PAPERS

GP4/25

Galway County Council Archives

to urge them to do that that really can be done
only - you may say - but I want to be no means
having you depend on them - therefore the sooner you
can send of applying the better I can say them or will
send any application on the subject - it is a matter
of great consequence & therefore ought not to be
tried lightly - if you care you can presume
I hope you will not stipulate any
longer for delay or danger

on the 10th
I am
Yours

Wm. J. ...

Galway County Council Archives



FFRENCH PAPERS

GP4/26

Galway County Council Archives

Sir —

Stock Hill 15th Dec. 1808

I yesterday rec^d a Letter from M^r. John Connelly, Informing me, of your Intention of selling your Disconcomen Estates, and if I had any Wish to purchase, the next I hold to Write to him Immediately — & his not having mentioned where to Direct to him — I take the Liberty of Writing to you on the Subject — As my Love is a Case of three Lives you may think I would not give the Value for it, I will give you two thousand & seventy pounds in placing paym^{ts} for it, which I think is so much as any fair purchaser will give, if this proposal meets your Approbation, you will please to let me know where to Direct to M^r. Connelly, that I may Write to him —

I am your Very Assur^d friend
& tenant —

John Burrow

Robert Townshend Esq^r

Essex

Galway County Council Archives



FFRENCH PAPERS

GP4/27

Galway County Council Archives

My dear Nephew

As an opportunity has just offered of sending a letter to the post office I now trouble you with these few lines to let you know that I have settled the account with the representatives of my late father since I received your last letter and as you therein gave me power to act for you the parties concerned on my representation of the business agreed to cut off £810 from Mr Roches statement of your acct which I suppose is all or nearly all the interest charged by him on what was due from you. I now have only time to tell you that your proportion of my Brothers personal fortune comes to nearly £1000 the particulars of which I shall give you in a few days as the gentleman is waiting for the letter. £300 in the 3 per cent Consolidated and £110 Bank Stock which will I hope produce at least £450 that you can command at any time and that I will place at Messrs Kenion or any other house you will please to mention for our use the rest

~~Robert French Esq~~
 Richard
 16
 near Longtree
 Dublin

Galway County Council Archives

amounting to full £500 worth I hope you will
not object taking my Bond for at 5 per cent the
interest of which shall be paid half yearly and the
entire Sum in the course of a couple of years if I live
so long I shall before the end of next week send you
an abstract of your account of flatter myself that you
will fulfil your promise of paying me and your
friends here a visit in the course of the summer and
that your next may inform me when you intend me
the pleasure and whether you will give
me there, the satisfaction of accompanying you
give my most affectionate Compts to Mr French
and to all your very amiable young family and
my dear Nephew

Your very affl Uncle and
humble Servt
Joseph Galt

Colchester near
Dover in Devon
April 26th 1802

Galway County Council Archives



FRENCH PAPERS

GP4/28

Galway County Council Archives

Robert French Esqr

Rahadone

near Longhrea
By Dublin Ireland

9P4/28

My Dear Nephew

I received some time passed your very kind letter of the 9th ult from which I am sorry to find that I am not to expect you and my little friend Robt as soon as I had flattered myself as it is very uncertain when the dissolution of parliament will take place most people here think not till after harvest but I fancy we shall be better informed in a little time I return you thanks for your very obliging offer of lending me money which I am happy to say that I have no occasion for at present and it will be much better employed in paying your Fathers debt and reducing the interest you pay for the same I propose in my next sending you my Bond for £500 and insist on my paying you the interest at 5 per cent till reimbursed though there is no great necessity I apprehend for a Bond as in case of my death before the time I have appointed for the payment of the principal you will be able to pay yourself I unfortunately let slip the time when I could have sold what is in the funds to advantage, thinking they

they would have rose still higher on acct of the peace
instead of which they have met with a depression of
2 or 3 per cent however I am determined to sell in a few
days and will place the amount of your proportion
at the house of Mess^{rs} Kirwan for your account
I hope it will not be less than 1400 - please to
let my Nieces Margaret and Elizabeth know
that their finely finished pieces of work which
came safe to hand some days passed beautifully framed
and glazed are now ornamenting my drawing room
and that they are much admired by every one that sees
them and that they are doubly valuable to me as
coming from my Nieces at Rahadane for whom I have
had since my acquaintance with them the sincerest
affection. they have not been yet shown to their aunts
who are all at present at Bath as well as M^r & M^{rs}
C Chichester be so good as to make my affectionate
Com^{ts} acceptable to M^{rs} ffrench ^{as also} to my G^d Nephew
and Nieces with grateful thanks to Miss Margaret
and Elizabeth and to remember me very kindly to Miss
Phillips and to M^r Burke I am Dear Nephew
Calverleigh 1st of June your most loving Uncle and
1802 humbl^e serv^t Jas: Eagle



FFRENCH PAPERS

GP4/29

Galway County Council Archives

Dear Nephew

I did not reply to your kind letter as soon as I had intended being informed about that time of your intention to spend three weeks or a month at L^d Kenmare and was sorry to ^{hear} that you had caught a severe cold shortly after you left it which confined you for several days but by the latest accounts from Rahasane I am happy to observe that you were then perfectly recovered. I cannot but be very thankful to you for your very obliging visit last summer which afforded me as well as all your friends here much pleasure and satisfaction. there was lately a debt of Mr Bryan's of Kilkenny paid in to Mr Kiernan on account of the Administrators your part of which comes to £26:10:10 but as Mr Kiernan mentioned that there was a balance due from you to Mr C. Chichester of £24:10:0 I desired him to carry that sum to his acct and give you credit for the remainder. I am likewise to inform you that we have entered into a compromise with Mrs Gools Daughter of the late Tho's Roche who had the management of our business for a sum of money he had received that

73

Robert French Esq^r
 Rahasane
 near Loughrea
 Dublin



Galway County Council Archives

was not properly accounted for and for the recovery
of which a Lawsuit was commenced by us. but as there
had been an arbitration and an award in consequence
and mutual releases Mr Sankey told me when in Dublin
that it would on that account be very difficult to get
over & therefore thought it ^{more} advisable to accept of Mrs
Godles offer to the representatives of my sister of
£800 Irish on our giving her a second release than
leave it to the uncertain event of a Suit at Law
the release I shall sign for you agreeable to the power
you gave me in a former letter of doing so. your
part of it comes to £160 which I will tell her to remit
to Mr Galwey of Malton who will either remit
you or you will value on him for the amount when
it is paid I shall write you a line to acquaint you
of it. tell my dear little Robert that I received
his well wrote and very affectionate letter which
I shall have the pleasure of answering as soon as I
have a little leisure I am glad that you found all
your amiable little ^{family} well at your return home
I beg you will say every thing that is kind and
obliging from me to them and that you will
assure Mrs French of my most affectionate

regard and best wishes and also to remember very kindly
to Miss Philips and to Mr Burke and to be persuaded
of the real attachment with which I am my dear Nephew
your affectionate Uncle
Calverleigh 15th Decem^r
1802 Jos: Nagle


all friends write in Love to you Mrs French &
family and in best comp^s to Miss Philips and
to Mr Burke. I was sorry to learn the
death of Mrs O'Brien at Malton by
yesterdays post.



FRENCH PAPERS

GP4/30

Galway County Council Archives


 J. H. Roberts
 Dublin
 W. S. Ragsdale
 Loughrea
 Dublin

1801
 11
 P. 1

My Dear Nephew

I had the pleasure to receive your very kind letter some time past from which I was very sorry to learn that my dear young Roberts had a return of the jaundice which however I flatter myself has been entirely removed long before this but as change of air and travelling might be of use to his health I should be glad that he and Mr. Hart came here till the month of June or July when he might go to Cheltenham for a month or six weeks which would ^{prevent} a return in future and after that a little sea bathing would contribute to strengthen his constitution and make him a healthy ^{stout} young man probably he might meet his uncle Aylmer at Cheltenham as I am informed that he generally spends some time there every summer I find the Catholics in Dublin have frequent meetings to discuss the propriety of petitioning parliament I lately received from them a printed letter desiring

Galway County Council Archives

the support of the measure and by a letter I
received this morning from Counsellor Rice he
informs me that a meeting to take place on ^{the} 7th
was to determine whether the petition was to be presented
this session or not and that he was inclined to believe
it would not be postponed the purport of it was
to let me know that the getting my tenants to
register their freeholds might be hereafter ^{be} of
some service to the cause in procuring as many votes as
possible in order to promote in some degree success
to the measure. the printed letter from the secretary
mentioned the Lord French in the chair I
suppose you were applied to in the same manner
I made no reply to it though I would willingly
give ^{it} every support in my power if I thought
there was any chance of succeeding I was much
pleased to hear that Mrs French and my views
were in good health I beg you will be so good as
to assure them of my affectionate regard and
that their welfare and happiness as well as
yours and my dear Roberts will ever give me
the most sensible satisfaction. I hope Robert

has by this received the watch and that he likes it
believe me my dear Nephew

Yours most loving Uncle
Calverleigh 13th of Feby Jos: Wagle
1807

I beg to be remembered in the kindest manner
to Mr Harb. Mr & Mrs Charles Chichester
and daughters went to Bath some days past.



FFRENCH PAPERS

GP4/31

Galway County Council Archives

My Dear Nephew

I had the pleasure to receive your very kind
 letter a day or two past and of learning from it that
 yourself and family were in good health which be-
 assured afforded me much satisfaction for any thing
 that can contribute to yours and their happiness and
 welfare will also in a great degree tend to mine as I
 interest my self very particularly for every individual
 of your family. I hope my Nephew Robert and
 my Niece Margaret ^{will excuse} my not answering the affectionate
 letters they write to me a good while since but at that
 time the days were so short that writing interfered
 with the usual exercise requisite for the preservation
 of health and I find it more than I can well do
 to reply to letters I receive a few upon business and more
 on trifling occasions which in point of civility I am under
 necessity of taking notice of I am very glad to hear
 from all quarters that my Niece Mavourneen likes her

Alfred Smith Esq
 11 St James
 Leinster
 Dublin

Galway County Council Archives

Situation
and that she has made herself very pleasing
to those she is at present connected with and that
they all study to make her happy which convinces me
that she is of an agreeable disposition, as you persuade
all your children are and none of them deficient in
good sense I hope Robert will spend some time
in the course of the summer at St. Remond as I
make no doubt it would be much to his advantage
to mix in the company of strangers particularly of
such fashionable ones as there are now at Kilmory
Mr & Mrs C. Chichester are still at Bath I
do not expect them here till about the middle of
next month they have got a French governess
for the little girls you will hear that Mr C. Charles
is much better he will not I believe be able to
attend the duties of his commission in the West
militia this summer Mr Wright of Stratford son
has left Stratford he is about to return to study
at Cambridge whether he goes for the army
or Navy the fate of the Catholic petition
will be decided on the 1st of June please to give
my love to your amiable young family and to plead
my excuse to Robert and Margaret be persuaded

of the real regard and ^{affectionate} attachment I have for them
as well as for Mrs French & yourself being ever

your most loving Uncle
Colverleigh 3rd of May 1810
your humble Serv^t
Jos. Wray

It is good as to give my kindest Compts to Mr Harle

of the last money Messrs Kierman
and Lambell sent you there is a balance
still due of £4: 11: 5 which will be
included in my next payment of interest



FFRENCH PAPERS

GP4/32

Galway County Council Archives

GP4/32

Culverleigh 28th December
1811

Robert French Esq

*Rahason
near Longhrea
Dublin*

My Dear Nephew

I do hereby agree and consent to any arrangements you have made or may hereafter make conformable to the will of your Father to which I am Trustee and Executor and I also am willing to be Executor and Trustee to your Will jointly with your Son my Grand Nephew Robert Joseph French - hoping soon to hear of the perfect recovery of your health I am with every affectionate good wish of the season for yourself and family
most sincerely

your very loving Uncle
Jos: Nagle

My letter to my Niece should have been dated the 27th

Galway County Council Archives



FFRENCH PAPERS

GP4/33

Galway County Council Archives

John

984/33

My Dr. M^r French

Mr. Robert French Esqr
Keshane
Ireland
Longford

April the
27

I hope you will be the bearer of
the answer of this depend the sooner you
come the more pleased yr Uncle will be were
you to know him as well as I do you wd
be highly flattered at his asking you so

I have repeatedly wrote to you
if you have not favoured me with a line I must
now assure you that yr Childrens letters
gave the highest Satisfaction the were indeed
wonderably well wrote there Annts will
think them in a few days & wd have done
immediatly but Margaret has been very
ill & Tanny was so taken up with her that
she had not a Moment to her self Mr
Chechester & Mary come the day before
yesterday to us & the little Boy & Girl
my Dr Friend why will you not come
to England yr Uncle wrote to me that
he has given you repeated Invitations
& wishes sincerely yr coming & bringing
Robert if I could venture to give you My
opinion I think you are wrong not to
make yr Children acquainted with yr
Family in this Country a jant I think wd
be of use to yr French I wish from
My Heart you wd consider this Matter
seriously I think it ought to be considered
as I think yr coming may be of serious use

to y^r Children at this Season of the year
it is a thing of nothing I am truly provoked
when I think of y^r Children, that none of them
are known to their Family, for God Take
Determin^e & fix a time for y^r coming, depend
on it, that you will do y^r Children the big
gest injustices if you do not reflect on y^r
uncles advanced time of life, & how little
it is to be depended on, I wrote to him
the other day ^{on a paper} that highly concerns you
& y^r Family, which I heard by mere acci
dent, which my hearing was a Torture
I went for you & Robert, he is constantly
wishing for y^r arrivall, a certain person
is gaining more & more, this must be the
case as it must be the right of Washbaff
that first was the occasion of it, & we
must at his time not flatter our selves
with the Idea of his getting Sense, all
this makes it more necessary y^r com
plying with his desire, of seeing you.
I wish M^r Burth wd come, & so y^r Uncle is
very fond of him, & his Chapin is going a War
which, I am sorry for, as he was a sensible
Man, how truly delighted I should be
to see you all here, & so because
I am perfectly convinced it is highly neces
sary for you to come, Parents are to consi
der not only the present advantage of their

Children but the future, you know I cannot
possibly have any Interest in this Matter
but y^r own, & Thomlys advantage, Anthony
Daly is come here I never saw any man
so happy as the poor Major, he is quite a
notter Man since he arrived, & Anthony
highly pleased with Bath, fault of going
to the Bulls, & Galegriffen is retit since
M^r N returned here, the Man who had
it has got four hundred pd for his Luce
which will be out in thirteen years
& an addition of a pd An Deer, it is Tom
Shall that has taken it, that is a
noble Property, & will have consideral
Rise on it, as you know delightfully
I trusted I hope you will soon set
off you will be charmed with the
Beauty of this Country particularly
the time you will travel thro it
if M^{rs} French dont come with you
which I wish sincerely she may she
may depend tho you should be leave
In writing to her she shall constantly
hear of you but I hope you will pre
vail on good M^r Burth to come who
will be punctual in writing My Best
Compts to her & kiss y^r Children for
me, & remain My M^r French y^r affect
this moment
I got our good Friend Serot & O Driscoll
write to him next port M^r Burths letter & shall