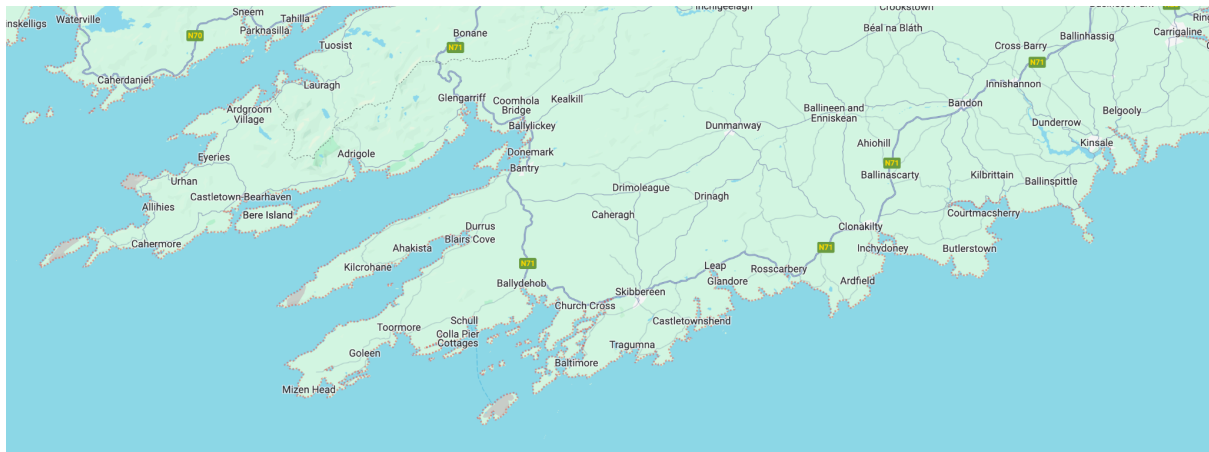




Fane Becher was granted over 12,000 acres in county Cork, p.1

The English Caribbees in the Period of the Civil War, 1642-1646, p. 2

St. Kitts in 1639 arrived penniless one Phance Beecher, p.7

Slaving, Tobacco, Sugar, the Irish Connections from Dr. Jane Ohlmeyer, p. 10

Beecher Magistrates, West Cork, p. 12-19

Beecher/Becher Landed Estates, p. 19

What started as a listing of Beecher Magistrates in West Cork from the end of the 17th century turned into something more elaborate. I was reading Dr. Jane¹ Ohlmeyer, book on Ireland and empire and saw a reference to Phane Beecher granted lands in Bandon and Governor of St. Kitts. In fact these are two separate people but probably of the same family. I was assisted by a Beecher descendant who provided considerable information on the mid 17th century Caribbean, then the epicenter of England slave colonies growing sugar. I had not realized that forfeit Irish Land as well as producing revenue was used to give collateral security to fund slavery and sugar and tobacco enterprises. It seems that many of the grantees of Irish Land were associated with London networks such as the Thompson family heavily involved in the East India Company. Later in the end of the 17th century they were also probably involved in the Hollow Blade Company, a consortium of London merchants who financed Parliament in its war against the English King and surprise surprise they were repaid in grants of Irish confiscated land. In the same book she described in forensic detail the Irish involvement of both Irish Catholics and Protestants in the slave trade and tobacco and sugar plantations.

Beecher/Becher²

¹ Erasmus Smith's Professor of Modern History (1762) at Trinity College Dublin, MRIA, FRHS, FTCD

² <https://landedestates.ie/estate/2436>. Empire and imperial frameworks, policies, practices, and cultures have shaped the history of the world for the last two millennia. It is nation-states that are the blip on the historical horizon. This book re-examines empire as a process – and Ireland's role in it – andon&source=bl&ots=pJSE17aoFr&sig=-gOx2F8ebLUKPkPUtlduc5qiOqk&hl=en&sa=X&ei=28n7U9uwKufy7AbZ9oGQBQ&ved=0CCgQ6AEwBjgU#v=onepage&q=apothecary%20bandon&f=false

Burke's "Irish Family Records" and Smith both indicate that the Beechers were originally a Kent family. **Fane Becher was granted over 12,000 acres in county Cork** during the reign of Elizabeth I. Henry Beecher was granted land in West Carbery in 1669 and is recorded as the purchaser of land from Lord Kingston and Sir William Petty. The reference in Dr. Ohlmeyer's book to Fane Beecher of Bandon raised a number of issues. Firstly it is assumed that the later Beecher are in some way connected. From Jenny Stiles: That Phane Becher is one of my mysteries. I have not been able to work out for sure who he was [I do have a short list of possibilities]. I am interested to see your article describes him as "of Bandon" as it has been suggested he was one of the English cousins of the Irish Bechers. There are candidates among the early Irish Bechers too, although whichever one he was, he does claim kinship to Sir William Becher. It is not clear if he is the same Phane Beecher granted large tracts of land around Bandon. This is from Jenny:

The English Caribbees in the Period of the Civil War, 1642-1646

J.H. Bennett

The William and Mary Quarterly, 3 rd Ser. Vol 24, No. 3 (Jul 1967)

p. 361" "The First rebellion" as it was later called, began in St. Christopher at the beginning of

December 1641.... A second rebellion was (p 362) soon precipitated in St. Christopher by the

execution of a man named Short....On February 11, 1642, a day that was later celebrated as "Plantors Holliday" on St Christopher, Warner granted a general pardon to the insurgents.

Apparently the Governor also made other concessions at this (p 363), for it was in February or

March that the "country" elected an assembly of burgesses. This, then, is the solution to the old

mystery of how and when the Leeward Islands received the first of their representative

assemblies. According to the Receiver General Johnson, four of the twenty-four members –

Ensign Phance Beecher, Lieutenant William Sommers, Lieutenant Ralph Blackwell, and Ensign

John Jesson- completely dominated the new assenbly. Almost all the members were presumably

through the lens of early modernity. It covers the two hundred years, between the mid-sixteenth century and the mid-eighteenth century, which equates roughly to the timespan of the First English Empire (c.1550- c.1770s).

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planters and probably young-“fine youthes” as Johnson scornfully called them. [among the other

members was a George Butler who was described as being “almost although not as altogether as

bad as bragging Beecher”. Phance Beecher was a merchant as well as a landowner).

Johnson identified Phance Beecher, who made himself virtually “sole governor of the

Island”, as the most notorious knave of all.”. It seems clear that Beecher had been a loyal member

of Warner’s Council at the time of the first rebellion- when he reportedly was “the first person that gave sentence of death against” Short – and only turned on the Governor during the second

rising. The insurgents, knowing of Beecher’s kinship with Sir William Beecher, Clerk of the King’s Privy Council, expected him to do much to plead their case for them in England; but in William Johnson’s view he was an unmitigated knave:

This most arrogant and now sawcy proude fellowe, came to the Island about some three years

past, not bringing with him either servant or any Comodities haveinge but one shirte to his

back....he brought a letter from ...Sir William Beecher to the noble Liutenant Collonel John

Jeffreson in behalf of him the said knave, whose then seeming shewe of honestie soe much

deceived the good Liutenant Collonell that he was the sole meanes that out Liutenant genrall

made him [one of the] Counsell of warr and state and since [then] by his Cutthroate dealing of

comodities and selling of plantations, as also by putting [selling]

of Comoditys...at unconscianable rates, as playing Cards which cost not above 3d at 20 [pounds]

...of tobaccoe p[er] paire (so,me say at 30 ...) pins, neadles, linnen, canvas and other Comodities

at like rates...[he] doth nowe vaunt himself to be worth as it is said three hundred thousand

pounds of tobaccoe all men paide; but for as much as he was knowne in Ireland only by the name

andon&source=bl&ots=pJSE17aoFr&sig=-gOx2F8ebLUKPkPUTlduc5qiOqk&hl=en&sa=X&ei=28n7U9uwKufy7AbZ9oGQBQ&ved=0CCgQ6AEwBjU#v=onepage&q=apothecary%20bandon&f=false

of lying Beecher and since (p. 364) his arrival heere hath persisted in the same trade of lying, I

daire not believe him...

Establishing himself as the "prime lawmaker of saint Christophers", Beecher compelled

Warner to grant all the major demands of the "country" before March 10, 1642. These included

Warner's admission, in the face of his own beliefs, that the proprietary rents had never been validated by the people. Beecher and the Assembly also proceeded to put the laws of the island

"into a better form." It appears that the rebels were hostile to the old laws for the regulation of imports; "their desire of havinge a free trade and that noe marchants goods shall be any more

rated, " wrote Johnson, "hath undone the Countrey, for where before wee had shewes at 12 [pounds]... and shirts, cassocks and drawers at the same price, and likewise other comodities

according from the dutch upon tyme, nowe the countrey payes 40 and 50 [pounds]....ready tobaccoe for the like." There was also legislation to give temporary relief to debtors who had bound themselves during the cessation years to pay for goods within six months of the resumption of plantation. In March 1642, Beecher demanded at a meeting of the Governor, Council, and Assembly "that the debts due the first of April.... should not be paid until the first of

July, and that those which had tobaccoe should keepe it by them untoill the saide day," except for

fifty pounds per" head for cloathing for their people." When Warner and the Council made it plain that they "utterly disliked" the measure, Beecher replied "that it was the only thinge the Countrey desired, which if not granted, they would rise in Armes." After "that savage speech" Beecher agreed to a compromise worked out by four members of the council acting with the assembly : only the "truly poore" were to have the respite of three months; others were to pay

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their debts on time , “reserving only the 50 [pounds].. p[er] head for servants cloathes as aforesaid.”

Although the popular leaders succeeded in setting up a representative assembly, drafting new

laws, and blocking the payment of rent to the Lord Proprietor, they did not have everything their

own way. When they attempted to prosecute Lieutenant Colonel John Jeaffreson, Lieutenant

Colonel Thomas Powell, and Warner’s son Edward for some obscure “treason pretended against

them, “ the Governor and Council secured a verdict of not guilty in the key case against

Jeaffreson. It was on this occasion that “the said sawcye Beecher, “ Johnson reported,

“confronted (p. 365) our Liuetenant genrall and Counsell in face of the whole Court, by making

comparison that he was as well discended and also as good as any man there, And further said

that all the witt did not consist in graye haies.”Beecher also failed to secure Governor Warner’s

warrent for levying a duty of ten pounds of tobacco per head of population to finance the sending

home a delegation to defend the revolt in England; but the Assembly went ahead with its

collection of the tax, publishing mandates to that purpose in the parish churches. And when some

persons on the leeward side of the island were backward in paying the duty, the rebels, it was

said, threatened to set fire to their houses.

Sir Thomas Warner was not the man to accept defeat gracefully. At the beginning of April

1642, when the Assembly was about to send Beecher, Sommers, Blackwell, and Nowell to

England to represent them, Warner wrote to Carlisle and the trustees to ask that the delegates be

given “Condign punishment” and that a proclamation of rebellion be issued against the insurgents

in St Christopher. "I had rather, " he declared, "bee a poure Souldier in the Low Countreys than

to bee a Governor over all those that will not bee obedient to lawfull Commannd." The rebels must be crushed, "or els, " he wrote, "it will be Such an ensample that all forraigne [colonial] governments will goe to ruin."

No letter from St Christopher seems to have survived from the period between April 4 and December 24, 1642. On December 24, William Johnson wrote of the twenty-four burgesses having been earlier"discharged from there meetings, untill further order. " and that of "the runaways" having been "executed and thereby the Island brought into some Conformity".

Whether Phance Beecher and his three fellow emissaries were among the executed "runaways,

" or whether they reached England in safety, remains an unsolved mystery. The fate of some of

the other burgesses is known, however. George Butler, one of the rebel leaders who may or may

not have been a burgess, "ran off[f] his Island to santa Cruse, and intised others to do the like, [and

they] dyed miserably in the woods there". Burgess John Powell was sent to England in irons for

having been heard to say "there is noe Lawes in England, and therefore wee will have noe laws

here. Burgess John Jesson, who was said to have begun the first rising but was protected from

this offence by the governors general pardon, was banished from the island when it was learned

that he had formerly changed his name from Faux to Jesson and was observed to behave with a

"sawsy carriage". Rumour had it that Jesson, or Faux, was the son of Guy Fauxes of the

Gunpowder Plot.

p. 213 [The Munster Plantation?] ..A wilder figure was Phane Becher descended from the Munster undertaker who

had left Ireland & his nickname of Lying Becher in 1639 for St Christopher in the Caribbean where he proceeded to

organise a rebellion against the authorities there in 1642..[note it is not clear who this Fane Becher is but the best

match is one of the Bedfordshire Bechers, son of Sir William Becher]

Meanwhile, on Barbados by 1638 was Thomas Verney, son of Sir Edmund Verney

(Penson, Colonial Agents, p. 12). On St. Kitts in 1639 arrived penniless one Phance

Beecher, a kinsman of the clerk of the Privy Council, regarded as a trashy, saucy

upstart, who later led "a rebellion" against Governor Warner. Dunn, Sugar and Slaves,

p. 120.

Found on this website

Chapter 13 - The Business of Slavery

On **St. Kitts in 1639 arrived penniless one Phance Beecher**, a kinsman of the clerk of the Privy

Council, regarded as a trashy, saucy upstart, who later led ...

www.danbyrnes.com.au/business/business13.html - 43k - Cached

“Sugar and Spice – The Rise of the Planter Class in the English West Indies”

By Richard S Dunn Pub 2000

p.120

“The social scene in the 1630’s and 1640’s was crude to say the least.....The Governor of Nevis,

Anthony Hilton having narrowly escaped being murdered by his servants as he slept, tried to burn

down the house of the Deputy Governor of St Christopher, Edward Warner. The governor of

Antigua, Henry Ashton, enraged at a woman who resisted his advances, chopped off her long

hair, which so shamed the lady, she left the island.

andon&source=bl&ots=pJSE17aoFr&sig=-gOx2F8ebLUKPkPUtlduc5qiOqk&hl=en&sa=X&ei=28n7U9uwKufy7AbZ9oGQBQ&ved=0CCgQ6AEwBjgU#v=onepage&q=apothecary%20bandon&f=false

A conspicuous figure among the Pioneer Planters of St Christopher was one Phance Beecher,

known to his critics as “lying Beecher” or “Bragging Beecher” who arrived about 1639, a penniless youth, without servants or luggage and quickly built up what passed for a fortune “by

his cutthroat dealings” in such items as playing cards, pins, needles and canvas. Beecher was

elevated to the Island Council because he was a kinsman of the clerk of the Privy Council, and in

1642 “this most arrogant and now sawcye proude fellowe” led a rebellion against Governor Warner that convulsed St Christopher for a year” 1

House of Commons Journal Volume 2

14 January 1643

Die Sabbati, 14 Januarii, 1642.

PRAYERS.

Island of St. Christopher’s.

UPON the humble Petition of Wm. Somner and Ensign Beecher, employed from the Island of St.

Christopher’s, to complain of the Oppressions the Inhabitants are under there, and to desire a

Redress; and setting forth, That one Robinson has, by false Pretences and Suggestions to his

Majesty, got a Writ of Rebellion against the said Inhabitants and Petitioners; and is gone to

Plymouth with it; and intends there to embarque himself for St. Christopher’s.

It is Ordered, That the said Robinson be stayed, and not permitted to embarque himself: And that

he be enjoined and required not to leave the Kingdom, till the Matters may be heard and

determined, and that the House take farther Order. From: ‘House of Commons Journal Volume 2:

andon&source=bl&ots=pJSE17aoFr&sig=-gOx2F8ebLUKPkPUtliduc5qiOqk&hl=en&sa=X&ei=28n7U9uwKufy7AbZ9oGQBQ&ved=0CCgQ6AEwBjgU#v=onepage&q=apothecary%20bandon&f=false

14 January 1643', Journal of the House of Commons: volume 2: 1640-1643 (1802), pp. 926-28. URL:

<http://www.british-history.ac.uk/report.asp?compid=6499&strquery=beecher>. Date accessed: 30

October 2006.

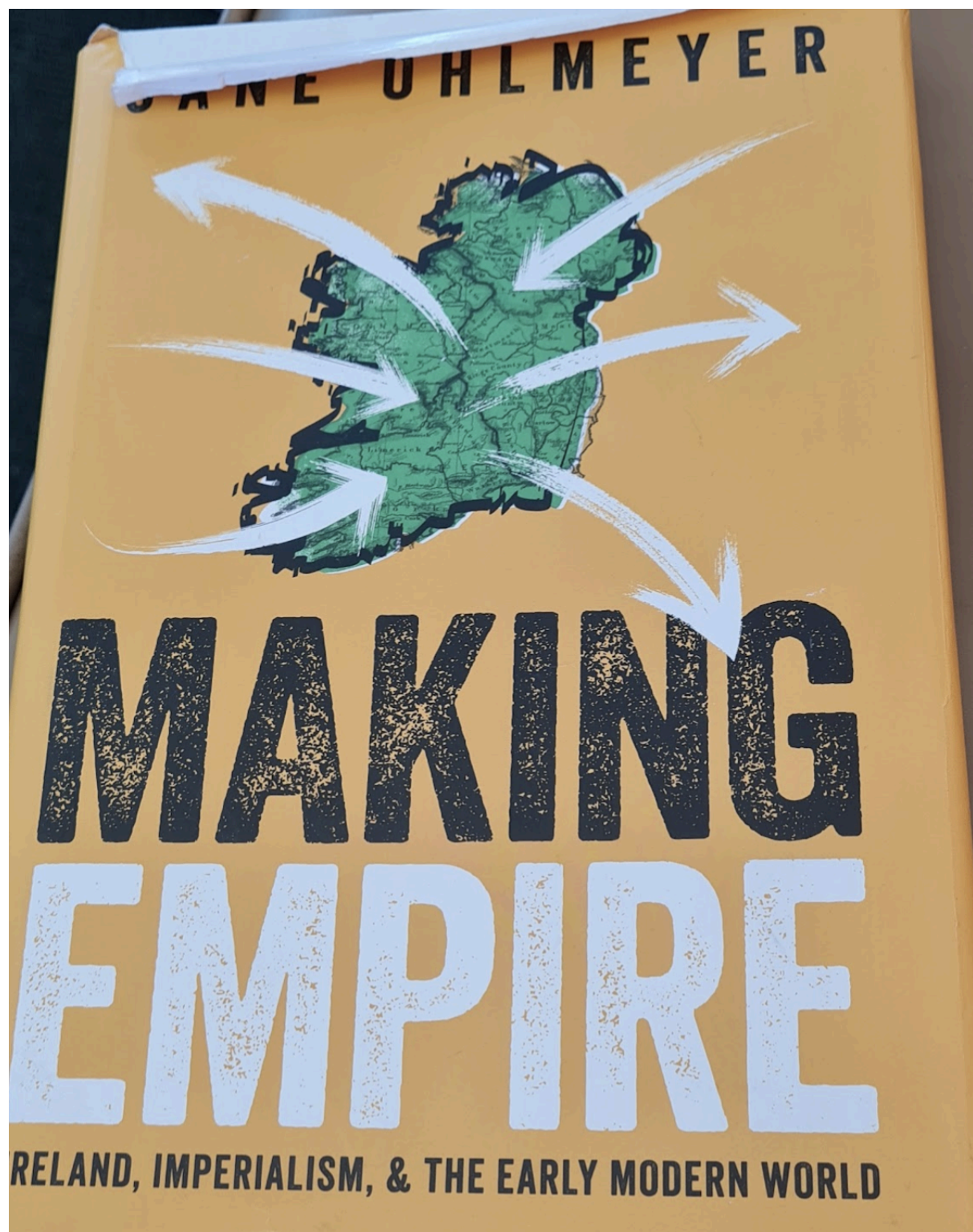
Agents of Empire p.121

Phane Beecher of Bandon had been the founding Governor of St Kitts which, by 1638, numbered 'six hundred Irish of both sexes'. Many only spoke Irish and probably included those who had been forcibly trans-Planted during the 1620s. Though this figure could well have been inflated, the community shrank with the passage of time as settlers died or relocated to other settlements in the area. The 1687 census suggested that only 187 Irish men (but no women or children) lived scattered across the island)Table 4.1). Gaelic surnames associated with Munster and the west of Ireland (McSweeney, Murphy, O'Brien, O'Connor, O'Donovan O'Driscoll, and O'Sullivan) predominated, along with Old English names (Butler, French, Lynch, and White).

The Phane Beecher referred to here is not the one granted land in the Banon area; he was dead at this stage.

...women, and 120 children... of the white population.
 Phane Beecher of Bandon had been the founding governor of St. Kitts which, by 1638, numbered 'six hundred Irish of both sexes'. Many only spoke Irish and probably included those who had been forcibly transplanted during the 1620s.¹⁵⁵ Though this figure could well have been inflated, the community shrank with the passage of time as settlers died or relocated to other settlements in the region. The 1678 census suggested that only 187 Irish men (but no women or children) lived scattered across the island (Table 4.1). Gaelic surnames associated with Munster and the west of Ireland (McSweeney, Murphy, O'Brien, O'Connor, O'Donovan, O'Driscoll, and O'Sullivan) predominated, along with Old English names (Butler, French, Lynch, and White). The absence of Irish women is striking given the reported numbers in 1638 and the high number of English women in 1678 (409).¹⁵⁶ Perhaps this was an oversight and the figures have been conflated or maybe significant intermarriage had occurred with English men, thus rendering for statistical purposes the Irish women 'English'. Interestingly, the census of 1707–8 of St. Kitts did not list ethnic origin but names like 'Honor Murphy' suggest the presence of Irish women.¹⁵⁷ A significant number of the Irish men served as rank-and-file soldiers in the 'English' forces in St. Kitts, Nevis, and especially Montserrat, and, according to Stapleton, 'there is great difference between them and the English in trust and valour'.¹⁵⁸

Slaving, Tobacco, Sugar, the Irish Connections from Dr. Jane Ohlmeyer.



Dr. Ohlmeyer's book makes the connection between land in Ireland forfeit for rebellion' and the relationship between the grantees and various mercantile networks in London. Included here would be the Thompson family significantly involved in the East India Company. Apart from rents accruing, timbers and other materials taken the Irish land played a valuable role in providing security for money advance toward slaving and other ventures. It is believed that the same families were involved in the London Hollow Blade Company which in the late 1680s onward finance the English Parliament was against the English King. They were rewarded with a huge land grant in Ireland. In the Bandon/Macroom area later in the early 18th century land was acquired off the company by Francis late Judge Benard of Bandon and formed part of the later Estate of the Earls of Bandon.

Ireland did not have colonies but was in the peculiar position of both being a colony and Irish people both Catholic and Protestant of all classes being complicit in slavery. This was not just with the English but with all colonial powers. Dr. Ohlmeyer cites a number of examples, the Danes had a small colony in the West Indies but no commercial network to sell the sugar from the slave plantations. Apparently their Lutheran religion proved no barriers to using Irish Catholic merchant networks on the Continent to sell their sugar. The Irish Catholic Carroll family had extensive plantation in Maryland and slaves. Charles Carroll³ of the family signed the American Declaration of Independence.

Richard Boyle the Great Earl of Cork acquired much of the land granted to Phane Beecher around Bandon. The iron from his works were used to bribe African Chiefs to sell their own people into slavery. The McCalmont family of Co. Derry had extensive plantations in Barbados and multiple slaves. when slavery was abolished⁴. From the compensation they received they invested in West London real estate and initially leased Mount Juliet in Co. Kilkenny from the Butler family eventually acquired it outright.

The Munster ports⁵ (like Bristol) were heavily involved in the Atlantic 'Triangular Trade' and that was explicitly tied into securing and transporting slaves, and dealing in the products that then came from their work....cotton, indigo, rice, sugar and molasses etc. Of course Munster butter, bacon and beef (the Provisions Trade) partly went to feed those enslaved too. Behind all were the investments, security on loans and profits coming back. The big houses,

³ Born in [Annapolis, Maryland](#), Carroll inherited vast agricultural estates and was regarded as the wealthiest man in the American colonies when the [American Revolution](#) commenced in 1775. His personal fortune at this time was reputed to be 2,100,000 pounds sterling, the equivalent to £338,402,985 in 2023 (US\$375 million). In addition, Carroll presided over his manor in Maryland, a 10,000-acre estate, and claimed as his property approximately 300 slaves. Though barred from holding office in Maryland because of his religion, Carroll emerged as a leader of the state's movement for independence. The young Carroll was educated at a [Jesuit](#) preparatory school known as Bohemia Manor in [Cecil County](#) on Maryland's [Eastern Shore](#).^[14] At age 11, he was sent to France, where he continued in Jesuit schools, first at the [College of St. Omer](#) in Northern France and later the [Lycée Louis-le-Grand](#) in Paris, graduating in 1755. He continued his studies in Europe and [read law](#) in London before returning to Annapolis in 1765.^{[14][15]}
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Charles_Carroll_of_Carrollton

⁴ Britain abolished slavery throughout its empire by the Slavery Abolition Act 1833 (with the notable exception of India), the French colonies re-abolished it in 1848

⁵ Thanks to Ian Coombes

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fine streets, public buildings and squares didn't only come from Irish rents! There is no getting away from widespread complicity.

Linen being woven poor quality in Dunmanway for slaves in Brazil⁶ Weaving Vittory Linen Cloth in Dunmanway, West Cork, 1813 for Brazilian Slaves

fourteen. The school is divided into five classes, and is conducted principally by the Usher, who has the usual allowance, and by the Master's son, who supplies his father's place, who attends to the farm and the work of the children. They are taught to weave, and are in general apprenticed to weavers at Bandon, Kilbrittan, and Clonakilty, where the cotton trade is flourishing. The Visitor, the Reverend Mr. Tuckey (whom I waited upon) informed me that they had more applications for apprentices than they could supply, that he seldom consented to apprentice any in Dunmanway, because the business carried on there, was making Vittory, (a poor species of linen, which sells for 5 d. and 6 d. per yard, and which is bought by the Cork merchants to be exported to the Brazils to clothe the slaves) is so very poor a trade that the masters could not afford to feed and clothe the apprentices as he could wish, and as they had been accustomed to ; but he apprenticed them in Cork, Bandon, Kilbrittan, and Clonakilty, to cotton weavers mostly ; that the inclinations of the boys were always consulted before they were apprenticed to a trade or service. Their parents come frequently to see some of them ; two boys parents, who lived in Bandon, had been to see them, as they told me, the day before I was there. The boys are also employed in the garden, and at the lighter labours of the farm. At one o'clock I saw them dine on potatoes and milk ; each boy had about 2½lbs. to 3lbs. on his trencher, and a large porringer of milk. The Master said he had discontinued to give stirabout, as the meal was at this season musty. I found here, that all the boys also preferred potatoes to bread.

Beecher Magistrates, West Cork

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6

<https://books.google.ie/books?id=xC9bAAAAQAAJ&pg=PA90&lpg=PA90&dq=apothecary+bandon&source=bl&ots=pJSE17aoFr&sig=-gOx2F8ebLUKPkPUtlduc5qiOqk&hl=en&sa=X&ei=28n7U9uwKufy7AbZ9oGQBQ&ved=0CCgQ6AEwBjgU#v=onepage&q=apothecary%20bandon&f=false>

John William Becher, 1855, Castle Hyde, Fermoy, Usually Resident, £432. Subscriber Hollybrook as D.L. 1861 Rev. Gibson's History of Cork. I⁷ have John William Becher as born 20 Jan 1849 and baptized 16 Feb 1849 at Abbeystrewry, Co Cork, the son of Richard "O'Donovan" Becher & Bessie Hungerford. In 1881 he married at the Catholic chapel at Skibbereen to Ellen Young. He was a farmer/farm servant. Still living in 1911.

Edward Beecher, 1767, Ballicallen. This is most likely Edward Becher, son of Lionel Becher & Catherine Dunscombe. He was of Bally Cotton & died at Crookhaven in July 1797. He married Jane Bousfield in 1756 & Ruth Herrick in 1761.

SIR JOHN WRIXON-BECHER, 3rd Baronet (1828-1914), JP DL, High Sheriff of County Cork, 1867, who espoused, in 1857, the Lady Emily Catherine Hare, daughter of William, 2nd Earl of Listowel. His son Sir Eustace William Wyndham Wrixon Becher (1860-1934) Bart, DL, 1915, Creagh, Skibbereen, Ballygiblin, Mallow, listed 1922. Executor of his father Sir John Wrixon Becher, M.A., D.L., (1828-1914), £11,299.

Sir Eustace William Wyndham Wrixon Becher (1860-1934) Bart, DL, 1915, Creagh, Skibbereen, Ballygiblin, Mallow, listed 1922. Executor of his father Sir John Wrixon Becher, M.A., D.L., (1828-1914), £11,299. 1911 living Roxboro, Co. Limerick living off land income, wife born London, 8 servants. His father was the third holder of the baronetcy created in 1831 for Sir William Wrixon-Becher and to his death passed to his son Sir John. He married, in 1907, Constance, daughter of Augustus, 6th Baron Calthorpe, and had issue, WILLIAM FANE, his successor.

Henry Becher (1664-, TCD in 1683 aged 19, son of Thomas Sherkin Island, 1705, witness to 1717 deed with Emanuel Moore. Henry Becher was Thomas Becher's eldest son. He married Henrietta Owen in 1698. His heir was John Becher. Henry died in 1738.

Henry Beecher, (1759-1780)⁸, 1779, Creagh/Creaford, Skibbereen. 1765 11 July Cork City Newspapers. "To be Let, part of the estate of Henry Becher (aged 5) during his minority. Lands of Gortadrohid, Ardnagreena on harbour of Baltimore etc. contact Michael Becher guardian. 1779 Hibernian Magazine Dec 1779 "**Henry Becher** of Creaghtford to be a J.P. of the Peace for the Co of Cork". 1780 Hibernian Chronicle 25 Dec 1780 "Died Thursday last, **Henry Becher** at Creagh near Baltimore." The guardian Michael Henry Becher [1735-1778 was his uncle & my 4 x Great Grandfather. He was married to Catherine French. Poor Henry is the one who died after a shooting accident on his 21st birthday.

⁷ I am indebted to Jenny Stiles in Australia for additional information, she is a Beecher descendant.

⁸ 1779 Hibernian Magazine Dec 1779

"**Henry Becher** of Creaghtford to be a J.P. of the Peace for the Co of Cork"

John R. Becher, Hollybrook, Skibbereen, listed 1856, sitting Skibbereen 1861. 1856 Ballydehob⁹ Presentment sessions. May have married, incorrect, Catherine Jermyn only child of Henry and Mary of Aughadow, 1805 he assigned property to Richard Hungerford and Becher Fleming to provide £225 pa should she survive him. The Becher who married Catherine Jermyn was Henry Owen Becher. Catherine died 30 Sep 1815 & Henry Owen Becher 21 Mar 1841. John Richard Hedges Becher [1825-1901] was a son of Henry Owen Becher & his second wife Ellen Jervois.

John Townsend Becher, 1760, Anne Grove, 1755 Faulkner's Dublin Journal 22 Feb 1755 "17 Feb¹⁰ Married last Thursday John Townsend Becher Esq To Miss Donovan, d Rev. Morgan O'Donovan, Magistrate, Ballinacalla, with £5000. Died 1761, at her lodgings near South Gate, Mrs Beecher, relict of John Townsend Beecher of Ann Grove". Possibly, 1771 Limerick Chronicle 10 Oct 1771, "Thursday last at Cork Colonel John Becher of Hollybrook to Miss Bab. Townsend of Skibbereen [this is a different John Becher]."¹¹ **Michael Beecher**¹², 1777, Creagh, Skibbereen, member Atlantic Society literary society. Subscriber of 1766 'The History of the Irish Rebellion', Cork, 1766. 1778 Dublin Hibernian Journal Aug 24 1778, "Died-Near Bandon Michael Beecher of Creagh Esq." 1789 Cork Evening Post 12 Jan 1789, 'Last Sat George Pigott Rogers Esq. to Mary Twogood Becher, dau of the Late Michael Becher of Creagh, Esq'. John Townsend Becher was the son of Colonel John Becher & Mary Townsend. He was born in 1734 & died in Nov 1760¹³ at Dunmanway.

Michael Alleyne Richard Becher (1838-, 1875, Ballyduvane, Clonakilty, Resident, £130, 1870, 2,101 acres, listed 1916. Landed proprietor, widower 1901. 1884, signed¹⁴ a protest against the dismissal of Lord Rossmore, Head of Orange Order, Monaghan. **Sampson T.**

⁹ 1858 Cork Grand Jury Presentments GJ/CO/PR?23 (1)

¹⁰ 1755 Faulkner's Dublin Journal 22 Feb 1755, "17 Feb Married last Thursday John Townsend Becher Esq To Miss Donovan with £5000"

¹¹ 1761 7 Feb 1761. Faulkner's Dublin Journal

¹² <http://landedestates.nuigalway.ie/LandedEstates/jsp/family-show.jsp?id=2442>

¹³ Gazetteer Saturday November 29 160

"Died in Ireland about a fortnight ago, at the Seat of Richard Cox, Esq in the Co of Cork, John Townsend Beecher, Esq. of Anne Grove"

Faulkners, Dublin 18 Nov-22 Nov

"Last week at the seat of Richard Cox, Esq: Co Corke, John Townshend Beecher [sic] of Anne Grove, Esq."

¹⁴ Express, 11th January 1884. Quoted by Tim Healy, Q.C., M.P.

andon&source=bl&ots=pJSE17aoFr&sig=-gOx2F8ebLUKPkPUtIduc5qiOqk&hl=en&sa=X&ei=28n7U9uwKufy7AbZ9oGQBQ&ved=0CCgQ6AEwBjgU#v=onepage&q=apothecary%20bandon&f=false

Beamish, (1871-, 1895, Kilmaloda ¹⁵House, Timoleague, mother Mannah Madras¹⁶, listed 1922. Land owner and farmer. Officer¹⁷ Clonakilty Agricultural Show 1901. 1901 Subscriber¹⁸ Clonakilty Agricultural Society. Vice Chairman, 1904 Timoleague Athletic Sports. Michael Alleyn Richard Becher [Oct 1838-30 June 1918], son of Michael Alleyn Becher & Elizabeth Sherard. He married on the 10th Nov 1864 to Helen Hicks.

Lyonell Beecher, 1728, Skibbereen. (1686-1770) Dunalong Castle, Sherkin Island, where he ran a rich fishery with his son in law Randall Westropp [married to daughter Peniel]. Lionel married in 1712 Catherine Dunscombe, daughter of William Dunscombe and Catherine Meade. They had issue, an elder son [who was not named in Lionel's will, but may have been named Lionel George Becher. The unnamed son was named Thomas¹⁹ Becher. Lionel George Becher is a descendant of his other son Edward Becher], Edward [described as younger son in Lionel's will, he had two sons named Edward & Michael], Catherine, Peniel [married to Randall Westropp & had issue] & Harriet Becher. 1725, Randal Warner, Lissacrineen, to be buried under communion table, Lisle, wth wife and son. Overseers, Captain Lionel Beecher, Samuel Jervois, Richad Hungerford, Junior.

¹⁵ Kilmaloda House near Timoleague, Co Cork, was built as the country seat of the Beamish family 210-year-old country house near West Cork's Timoleague, as well as some smashing stone and slate outbuildings dotted around, plus a walled garden, it's a retreat where time has taken a bit of a toll, and where much of its once extensive lands that merited extensive extra buildings and staff, have been sold off. It was once the centre of a large estate of prime land around Timoleague and by the Argideen river, within easy striking distance of Kinsale, Bandon and Clonakilty, with Cork city and its airport a 40 minute commute. Extras 'thrown in' to the equation include 15 acres of land, 200-year-old hardwood trees and some ornamental gardens, stone courtyard buildings and stores, an old flax mill building, butter-cup strewn paddock, plus two acres of overgrown walled garden. There's also the outline of the old croquet lawn down stone steps from the front drive, and a quaint mid 1900s garden/croquet house with ornate pebble geometric features inset to a cast concrete pagoda. The good news is the amount of original features still here, from sash windows and shutters to old floors, flagstones, tiles, fireplaces and matching fanlight windows, one over the front door, with a slightly smaller counterpart in the entrance hallway, by a very elegant cantilevered staircase and arched rear window. The old servants' bells still give the occasional ring, in memory of times past.

The less-good news is the sheer amount of space needing new purposes, from the many utterly original basement rooms to the enormous attic rooms under hefty original beams and slates, home to old nursery toys and suitcases that could be a century old.

Back in its heyday, and into the early 1900s when owned by Sampson Beamish, Kilmaloda had up to six indoor staff and 10 estate workers. Irish RM writer Edith Somerville, in a diary entry, describes going by train "to hunt with Dick Beamish's hounds at Kilmaloda". Subsequent owners included the McCarthy Morrogh family, members of the Burnett family of the London White Satin gin dynasty

¹⁶ Descended also from Evansons of Durrus.

¹⁷ <https://clonakiltyagrishow.com/show-history/>

¹⁸ Southern Star, 3rd August 1901. Among those were Magistrates, E. Barry, M.P., S. T. Beamish, Kilmaloda, M. A. R. Beecher, Ballyduvane, T. J. Canty, Bence Jones, Evans B. Croke, Lettercollame, J. Fitzpatrick, Savage French, Cobh, R. E. Hodson, Bandon, H.T. Hungerford, Cahermore, W. Hungerford, Sunmount, R. Bence Jones, Lisselan, H. Longfield, Sea Court, C. McCarthy, Clonakilty, M. O'Hea, Rock Cottage, T. S. Reeves, Glandore, Colonel Shouldham, Captain W. T. Townsend, Rosscarbery, A. H. Smith Barry, Fota, F. V. Johnson Travers, appointed later, Butlerstown, H. B. Travers, Ballymacowen, R. Travers, Timoleague, J. Sullivan, Carrigroe.

¹⁹ **Memorial** Deed 383 533 254795 Dated 9 March 1780 names Thomas Becher as the eldest son of Lionel Becher & having deceased without leaving male issue

andon&source=bl&ots=pJSE17aoFr&sig=-gOx2F8ebLUKPkPUtlduc5qiOqk&hl=en&sa=X&ei=28n7U9uwKufy7AbZ9oGQBQ&ved=0CCgQ6AEwBjU#v=onepage&q=apothecary%20bandon&f=false

Michael Beecher, 1709

Richard Hedges Becher, Pre 1830 Hollybrook, Skibbereen,. 1779 Hibernian Chronicle Thursday 26 Aug 1779, "This morning at St Nicholas, Richard Beecher Esq of Hollybrook to Miss Alleyn dau of Thomas Alleyn Esq." 1779 Hibernian Magazine Dec 1779. Shown 1788 as owner of adjoining lands estate map of Sir John Freke, Bart. Cork Summer Assizes 1828. Listed 1835. Castletownbere 1839, voted 1850 for Denis Galwey as High Constable for Ibane and Ballyroe (Clonakilty). Holder of rent charge at lands 1835 at Cahergal granted to George Caulfeild Beamish and Richard O'Donovan Beecher entitling the to vote. Richard Hedges Becher [1747-8 Feb 1825] was the son of John Becher & his first wife Frances Hedges. He married twice; Letitia Hungerford 9 Sep 1769 & Mary Alleyn 26 Aug 1779. He had issue with both wives.

Richard Henry Hedges Becher Esq., (1799-1882), Appointed 1838²⁰, Hollybrook, Skibbereen, sitting Skibbereen, 1835, Came into possession pre 1833 very neglected set about improving. In re organising compensated tenants according to Ulster Custom. Engaged in road building. Abolished rundale system. Grand Jury Presentment Sessions Schull²¹, 1834. Subscriber Lewis Topographical Dictionary of Ireland 1837. Attending Protestant Conservative Society meeting 1832. Bandon Brunswick Constitutional Club 1828. Non resident Freeman voting in Cork 1837 election. 1842 Grand Council²² Dinner of the Royal Agricultural Improvement Society of Ireland. Chairman Lord Viscount Bernard, Daniel Connor, Manch, John I. Heard, Kinsale, Horace Townsend, Woodside, Arthur P. Alymer, Castlefreke, Thomas Hungerford, The Island, Jonas Travers, Butlerstown, Cuthbert Kearney, Richard H. H. Beecher, Hollybrook, Thomas J. Hungerford, John Wheeler Junior, Robert Belcher, Bandon, Henry Newman, Betsborough, Alexander O'Driscoll, Skibbereen. Attending Dunmanway²³ Conservative and anti Repeal Meeting 1845. 1845 promoter Bandon to Bantry Railway. 1843 Freemason, Skibbereen. Anti-Repeal Meeting, Dunmanway 1845. Chaired Tenant Right meeting in Skibbereen²⁴ 1847 encouraged the adoption of methods suggested by Sherman²⁵ Crawford (1780-1861), MP, an improving landlord from Co. Down who had recently visited Skibbereen. Skibbereen 1847 distress meeting. Presentment sessions Ballydehob 1845. 1849 contractor new road Schull to Dunbeacon through Mount Gabriel Gap, Ballydehob Petty²⁶ Session Court told labourers had not beeb

²⁰ Kerry Evening Post, 13th June 1838.

²¹ 1834 Co. Cork Grand Jury Presentments, Some 1831 Contracts. Summer Assizes Cork Archive, GJ/CO/PR. Alos, CSO/RP/1830/288. Letter from Richard HH Becher, Hollybrook, [Skibbereen, Co. Cork], to William Gregory, [Under Secretary, Dublin Castle], referring to a memorial by him and other gentlemen memorial about the road from Skibbereen to Crookhaven, Co. Cork, and now adjoining support from Mr Robinson, Board of Inland Navigation for its completion; enclosing copy correspondence between Becher and Richard Griffith, civil engineer, between February and November 1829, Griffith saying that the intention was merely to render the old road passable; that funds were not available. Also includes four maps by [Cornelius] Donovan (Jan 1829-Jan 1830) 'of the unmade part of the Government Road from Skibbereen to Crookhaven', at a scale of 20 feet/1 inch, showing both the old and unmade part of the new road, adding sections and cross sections of both, with estimated costs [by the engineer] and comments by Beche

²² Cork Constitution, 23rd July 1842.

²³ Kerry Evening Post, 15th January 1845.

²⁴ Cork Examiner 29th November 1847.

²⁵ <https://www.bangorhistoricalsocietyni.org/DATABASE/ARTICLES/articles/000025/002597.shtml>

²⁶ 4th February 1846, Kerry Evening Post.

andon&source=bl&ots=pJSE17aoFr&sig=-gOx2F8ebLUKPkPUtlduc5qiOqk&hl=en&sa=X&ei=28n7U9uwKufy7AbZ9oGQBQ&ved=0CCgQ6AEwBjgU#v=onepage&q=apothecary%20bandon&f=false

paid for 16 weeks. Signed 'No Popery Petition 1851'. Supporter ²⁷ Nicholas Leader, Conservative, 1865 County Cork Election. 1866 Freemason Skibbereen 15th Lodge. Long litigation with Lord Bandon added to financial woes over the townland of Rathooragh near Mount Gabriel. Imprisoned²⁸ but later freed by his creditors 1848. The Hollybrook estate was sold in the Encumbered Estates Court in 1851, 17,000 acres, 42 townlands, 8 parishes, debts in 52 charges amounting to £52,275. The sale realised £52,080. It was estimated that the rent of £4,500 per annum represents only 25% of the value of market rents but two thirds were given long leases on low rents with a capital sum in 1794 to families such as the Ballydehob Swantons. 1839 Freeman's Journal 15 Feb 1839 "Marriages~On Tuesday last, in Cork, **Richard H H Becher**, Esq of Hollybrook in that Co., to Melian, daughter of the Rev Morgan O'Donovan of Montpelier (Ronayne's Court, Douglas, Cork). Freeman of Cork. Melian, daughter of the Rev Morgan O'Donovan of Montpelier (Ronayne's Court, Douglas, Cork). Freeman of Cork. He became the O'Donovan as did his son Henry Winthrop. He became the O'Donovan as did his son Henry Winthrop. Niece Susan Emily Becher Hungerford, informant of death, probate to Richard Becher Hungerford, £217. Richard Henry Hedges Becher was born 1799 & died 3 Sep 1882. He was the son of John Becher & Susannah Hungerford. He married twice [Melian Towgood O'Donovan 12 Feb 1839 & Mary Hungerford Somerville 2 Aug 1861] but had no issue.

Richard Becher, Ballydevane, Clonakilty, subscriber Dr. Daniel Donovan 'History of Carbery, 1876. Attending 1898, enormous funeral of Dan O'Leary, JP, aged 71, Clonakilty, probably draper Respectable Farmers had to Mix Sand and Gravel with Their Corn to Counterbalance Deduction for Beamage Evidence to Parliamentary Enquiry Skibbereen on and tolls of Richard Becher, Justice of the Peace 1852. I don't have a Richard Becher at Ballyduvane, so not sure who this is.

Thomas Beecher, (1640-will proved 1709). TCD 1665. Colonel Thomas Becher²⁹ (1641-1709), Baltimore. Thomas Becher was born in 1640 at Baltimore, Co. Cork, Ireland, the son of Henry Becher and Elizabeth Notte. By the time he was one, Ireland was embroiled in a civil war, with the Irish Catholic uprising. Along with many other Irish Protestants, Thomas's father Henry fled to "Bristol". He presented a petition to the House of Commons in 1641, requesting assistance. It seems fairly unlikely that he left his wife Elizabeth and very young children behind in danger. There are accounts of 400 of them staying in Bristol. In 1643 there are shipments of food being sent to Ireland from Bristol, including peas, fish, meat & butter. The confederate war was not over until 1653, and there are accounts of property being restored to Protestants as late as 1655.

²⁷ Cork Examiner, 17th July 1865.

²⁸ Father Hickey, famine in

West Cork, p 301.

²⁹ Jenny Stiles, Becher Genealogy.

andon&source=bl&ots=pJSE17aoFr&sig=-gOx2F8ebLUKPkPUTlduc5qiOqk&hl=en&sa=X&ei=28n7U9uwKufy7AbZ9oGQBQ&ved=0CCgQ6AEwBjgU#v=onepage&q=apothecary%20bandon&f=false

Thomas Becher married in about 1665 Elizabeth Turner, born c1650 at Bandon, daughter of Henry Turner & Dorothy Boyle. They had a large family, at least nine sons and six daughters. In 1666 Thomas was an officer in Lord Orrery's militia, in the Cavalry, along with Colonel Bryan Townsend, Captain Richard Hull and Quarter Master Edward Townsend. In 1668 he was Commissioned by the Duke of Ormond, as an Ensign under the command of Major Richard Maguire. Will 1697, William Warner, Bandon, overseer friend Colonel Thomas Beecher. Deceased in 1714 deed³⁰ showing him as having taken a mortgage of lands at Farrinamanagh, Kllcrohane, from Donogh O'Daly, Gent.

Sir John Wrixon Becher, Eton, Oxford, M.A. D.L., (1826 -1914), Creagh and Ballygiblin, Mallow, Son Sir William and Elizabeth O'Neill, Rugby, William Wrixon, of Ballygiblin, Esq., William Wrixon, Ballygiblin, father to Sir William Wrixon Becher, in his 91st year in 1847. Deputy Lieutenant 1832. Member Commission on Magistrates 1838. Trinity College, Cambridge High Sheriff, Co. Cork, 1867, m Emily Catherine d William Earl of Listowel (Hare), 14 children. Member The Irish Amelioration Society: for Employing the Peasantry in Reproductive³¹ Labour 1848. Listed 1875-6 at Castlehyde. Daughter Elizabeth m Major William Norton Barry, J.P. their son William b 1859 also J.P. Deputy Lieutenant, Co. Cork. In the 1870s the Skibbereen and North Cork estates amounted to 18,933 acres. Becher, Sir Henry Wrixon, Bart, (Unit. Kgd, 1831), D.L. Co. Cork, late Lieut. Rifle Brig, [eldest son of the late Sir William, 1st Bart, and Elizabeth, daughter of John O'Neill, esq.]; b.1826 ;s. His father, Oct. 1850. Res.—Ballygiblin, near Mallow ; Creagh, near Skibbereen co. Cork ; Army and Navy Club, S.W. 1858 Liverpool Mercury Friday 9th April 1858 "We are happy to be able to record an act which shows a freedom from sectarian prejudice that we are always delighted to recognise in our Protestant fellow-country men. On Friday last, the foundation stone of the new Catholic Church of Castlemagner was laid by Sir Henry W Becher, of Ballygiblin." [From Cork Examiner]

Sir John Wrixon Becher, Bart., MA. Cantab., D.L., Mallow, 1911 Council member Cork Historical and Archaeological Society

W. A. R. Becher, 1899, Ballyduvane, Clonakilty. Officer³² Clonakilty Agricultural Show 1901.

Sir William Wrixon Becher/Beecher Bart, D.L. 1832, MP (1756-1847), 1832³³ cholera. Pre 1831, Ballygiblin, Kanturk/Mallow, sitting Cecilstown 1835, m Elizabeth O'Neill celebrated

³⁰ <https://irishdeedsindex.net/mem.php?memorial=6183>

³¹

https://books.google.ie/books?id=qmWb9HjFjQEC&pg=PP6&pg=PP6&dq=Lieutenant+Colonel+William+Ford+Longbourne.&source=bl&ots=tSzBRWcjY_&sig=ACfU3U21thfeZIP6FBMMWe9kOrsARlkhmQ&hl=en&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwj_psOzjJviAhVjpHEKHb4UAvo0Q6AEwCnoECAGQAQ#v=onepage&q=cork&f=false

³² <https://clonakiltyagrishow.com/show-history/>

³³ CSO/RP/1832/4808. Resolution of a meeting of the inhabitants of the parish of Tullagh and Cape Clear Island, [Co. Cork]. That cholera has appeared on the island of Sherkin within the parish. That an application be made to the Lord Lieutenant to organise a Board of Health within and for the Parish of Tullagh and the island of Cape Clear. Signed: Sir William Wrixon Becher, Bart
andon&source=bl&ots=pJSE17aoFr&sig=-gOx2F8ebLUKPkPUtlduc5qiOqk&hl=en&sa=X&ei=28n7U9uwKufy7AbZ9oGQBQ&ved=0CCgQ6AEwBjgU#v=onepage&q=apothecary%20bandon&f=false

actress³⁴ 2nd son Sir John Wrixon-Becher, Creagh and Ballygiblin, b 1828. 1822 Cork Trustee for The Encouraging Industry in Ireland. Commissioner with Sergeant Lloyd 1822-3 for Insurrection Acts 1822-3 Co. Cork. 1826 member Grand Jury Cork Co. Assizes. 1828 seeking reform of the House of Commons. 1830 subscriber³⁵ Robert O'Callaghan Newenham 'Views of the Antiquities of Ireland'. Member 1832 Cork Friendly Club. Cork Yacht Club 1833. Subscriber Lewis Topographical Dictionary of Ireland 1837. 1844 evidence of Rev. John Wright³⁶ of Creagh who acted as his receiver since 1806, his brother Beecher manages his estate. Rev. Wright spoke of large scale improvement in the estate. His son John (1828-1914), Inner Temple 1845. 1845 wholesale clearances on Creagh estate.

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Beecher/Becher Landed Estates³⁷

Burke's "Irish Family Records" and Smith both indicate that the Beechers were originally a Kent family. Fane Becher was granted over 12,000 acres in county Cork during the reign of Elizabeth I. Henry Beecher was granted land in West Carbery in 1669 and is recorded as the purchaser of land from Lord Kingston and Sir William Petty. In 1778 Mary daughter of John Townshend Becher of Creagh and Annisgrove, county Cork, married William Wrixon of Cecilstown, county Cork. She succeeded to the estates of her brother Henry Becher of Creagh. Their eldest son William Wrixon of Ballygiblin assumed the name of Becher and was made a baronet in 1831. He married an actress, Miss O'Neill, and had a number of children. Griffith's Valuation records Sir William Wrixon Beecher holding an estate in the parishes of Castlemagner, Clonfert, Kilmeen, Knocktemple and Subulter, barony of Duhallow, county Cork. Sir Henry Becher, who succeeded his father in 1850, was among the principal lessors in the parishes of Castlehaven, Aghadown, Creagh and Tullagh in the barony of West Carbery, county Cork. Sir William Becher also held land in the parish of Kilvellane, barony of Owney and Arra, county Tipperary. The estate of Sir Henry Wrixon Becher of Ballygiblin amounted to 18,933 acres in county Cork and 358 acres in county Tipperary in the 1870s. Michael A Becher held townlands in the parish of Kilmeen, barony of

³⁴ 1872 The Belfast News-Letter Thursday 31 October 1872, " Death of Lady Becher-We have to record the death, at a very advanced age of Lady Becher, widow of the late Sir William Becher, of Ballygiblin, Co Cork. She was the celebrated Actress Miss O'Neill, who from 1814 for many years held the highest possible position on the tragic stage. Miss O'Neill was of ancient Irish descent, and her husband Sir William Becher was head of an old Irish family. Miss O'Neill's first appearance was as Juliet, in Covent Garden Theatre as early as 1814. She adorned the stage & both in her professional and private life merited and obtained the very highest respect and esteem. Her death, even at her advanced age, will be deeply lamented by a very large circle of friends." [other papers add that she was 82, died on the 29th October & was interred at Castlemartyr on Nov 1.]

³⁵

[https://books.google.ie/books?id=sCPH_PyPmqkC&pg=PP11&lpg=PP11&dq=william.+viscount+ennis+more+\(hoare\)&source=bl&ots=-oJJKC6Dpp&sig=ACfU3U1nRizWE-qPzmHtTkcl4HrU6knZOQ&hl=en&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwiTwymuvjhAhX6ShUIHSWJB8AQ6AEwDHoECAYQAQ#v=onepage&q=william%20C%20viscount%20ennismore%20\(hoare\)&f=false](https://books.google.ie/books?id=sCPH_PyPmqkC&pg=PP11&lpg=PP11&dq=william.+viscount+ennis+more+(hoare)&source=bl&ots=-oJJKC6Dpp&sig=ACfU3U1nRizWE-qPzmHtTkcl4HrU6knZOQ&hl=en&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwiTwymuvjhAhX6ShUIHSWJB8AQ6AEwDHoECAYQAQ#v=onepage&q=william%20C%20viscount%20ennismore%20(hoare)&f=false)

³⁶ <https://www.dippam.ac.uk/eppi/documents/11941/pages/282497>

³⁷ <https://landedestates.ie/estate/2436>

[andon&source=bl&ots=pJSE17aoFr&sig=-gOx2F8ebLUKPkPUtlduc5qiOqk&hl=en&sa=X&ei=28n7U9uwKufy7AbZ9oGQBQ&ved=0CCgQ6AEwBjgU#v=onepage&q=apothecary%20bandon&f=false](https://www.dippam.ac.uk/eppi/documents/11941/pages/282497)

East Carbery and in the 1870s Michael R. A. Becher of Ballyduvane, Clonakilty owned over 2,000 acres in county Cork. In 1854 lands and mining interests, the property of Edward Baldwin Becher, were offered for sale in the Encumbered Estates Court, and includes a report on the mines of Coolaghmore and Coolaghbeg. The Freeman's Journal provides details of the purchasers of lots sold at auction, though it indicates that some lots were sold by private contract. In the 1870s the Becher estate in Cork (a combination of the Wrixon and Becher estates) amounted to over 18,000 acres while he also held lands in Tipperary. The estate of the representatives of the late John Beecher amounted to over 1600 acres in the 1870s. At the time of Griffith's Valuation, Edward and George Beecher were among the principal lessors in the parish of Kilcoe while Richard Beecher was the lessor of townlands in the parish of Skull. Eliza Beecher held several townlands in the parish of Kilgarraff, barony of Ibane & Barryroe, at the same time. In October 1851, 17,000 acres, the estate of Richard H. Hedges Beecher, was offered for sale in the Encumbered Estates Court. Lot 1 included the owner's house at Hollybrook. A sale of the remaining lots took place in February 1852 and included the house at Lakelands, leased to Richard O'Donovan Beecher. In April 1858, the house and demesne at Hollybrook were again offered for sale. The Freeman's Journal reports their purchase, in trust, by Robert Johnson. An extensive family history of both the Becher/Beecher and Wrixon families is given by Grove White and published in the "Journal of the Cork Historical and Archaeological Society" (1907) under Ballygiblin. The spelling Becher and Beecher are used almost interchangeably throughout the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries.

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