

## Chapter 2

*We review the data on all Elliott families found in Counties Leitrim, Cavan, Tyrone and Fermanagh which may be relevant to our interest in Cloonclare. Alternative ancestors to the known Elliott families of Moneenlum are suggested. Known relationships within these disconnected Elliott families are described. A preferred but unproven ancestry is identified*



he period of greatest uncertainty in our information is that at the end of the eighteenth century and the start of the nineteenth. Many records have been lost and indeed there is no certainty that records were created in the first place covering birth, marriage and death. It would be possible to uncover more information but the return on the investment of time is relatively small.

Earliest records are available from Enniskillen. These are very disjointed as not even all the Church records have survived. Selecting the larger families we quickly become familiar with the limited range of Christian names used, consequently no interconnection between these families is even suggested. Other records available have been kept in a separate database.

| <i>Enniskillen</i> |       |
|--------------------|-------|
| <b>ROBERT</b>      | c1690 |
| & Jane             |       |
| married            | c1712 |
| Kath               | 1714  |
| Margaret           | 1715  |
| William            | 1716  |
| Margaret           | 1717  |
| Thomas             | 1722  |

This family has a reasonable chance to belong somewhere in our family history

| <i>Enniskillen</i> |       |
|--------------------|-------|
| <b>WILLIAM</b>     | c1680 |
| & Margaret         |       |
| married            | c1706 |
| William            | 1709  |
| Jean               | 1711  |
| Robert             | 1718  |
| Deborah            | 1722  |
| Elizabeth          | 1725  |

Another strong contender as ancestors to the Elliotts of Moneenlum.

| <i>Drung</i>     |       |
|------------------|-------|
| <b>JAMES</b>     | c1730 |
| & Helen Stephens |       |
| married          | c1750 |
| John             | 1753  |
| William          | 1755  |
| Catherine        | 1758  |
| Jane             | 1760  |
| Alexander        | 1761  |
| Henry N          | 1768  |

James & Helen have an Alexander in the Family. It would only take two subsequent generations to arrive at the Alexander, born in 1806 who reared his family in Gortnalibert. (See the

family tree in the introduction).

| <i>Fermanagh</i> |       |
|------------------|-------|
| <b>ROBERT</b>    | c1700 |
| & Mary Rainey    |       |
| married          | c1723 |
| William          | 1725  |
| Margaret         | 1726  |
| Robert           | 1727  |
| Mary             | 1728  |
| Grizzel          | 1729  |
| Thomas           | 1730  |
| Ann              | 1731  |
| David            | 1731  |
| James            | 1733  |
| Edward           | 1735  |

The popular names of male children are all present in this family, Robert, James, William and Thomas. David and Edward are not so common in the Elliott families of the 19th century. Grizzel is almost certainly not correct but it is difficult to read some of the handwriting.

| <i>Enniskillen</i>    |       |
|-----------------------|-------|
| <b>THOMAS</b>         | c1775 |
| & Catherine Gilbraith |       |
| married               | c1795 |
| Thomas                | 1798  |
| Catherine             | 1800  |
| William               | 1802  |
| Richard               | 1805  |
| Catherine             | 1807  |

Yet another family with a range of familiar christian names which with the exception of Richard are found in 19th century Elliotts.

| <i>Enniskillen</i> |       |
|--------------------|-------|
| <b>WILLIAM</b>     | 1780  |
| & Margaret Cullen  |       |
| married            | c1800 |
| James              | 1802  |
| William            | 1804  |
| Mary               | 1806  |

The son James in this family is of a time period such that he could be the father of George Elliott of the Coach House, Moneenlum (see chapter 3).

| <i>Enniskillen</i> |       |
|--------------------|-------|
| <b>ROBERT</b>      | c1690 |
| & Elizabeth Brown  |       |
| married            | 1714  |
| James              | 1717  |
| Martha             | 1718  |
| Robert             | 1719  |
| John               | 1721  |
| Andrew             | 1723  |
| Catherine          | 1725  |
| Mary               | 1727  |

Once again the names of the children are very familiar. Just the name Andrew is a little strange as this does not appear in any 19th century Elliott family.

Let us look at the alternatives which are possible for the Elliott family history. The specification passed down within our family is:-

- 1 That George's father is called James (proven fact)
- 2 The father of Elizabeth (wife of Thomas the Boss) is John (proven fact).
- 3 George is said to have had a sister Mary.
- 4 Elizabeth (wife of Thomas the Boss) at the time of her wedding gave Moneenlum as her place of residence however it is thought that Elizabeth was assisting George in looking after his family after his first wife's death.
- 5 George is said to have arrived in Moneenlum at the age of 12 ( with his family) from Blunick.
- 6 John (father of Elizabeth) is said to be a brother to George.
- 7 Robert it is rumoured was a close relative to George and John.
- 8 George's mother is said to be Moffitt.

### Parentage of Elizabeth Elliott (wife of Thomas the Boss)

| <i>Killesher</i>   |       |      |
|--------------------|-------|------|
| JOHN               | 1803  | 1881 |
| & Elizabeth        |       |      |
| married            | c1822 |      |
| Rebecca            | 1823  |      |
| <i>Cherrybrook</i> |       |      |
| JOHN               | 1803  | 1881 |
| & Elizabeth        |       |      |
| married            | c1822 |      |
| Simon              | 1828  |      |
| Jane               | 1830  |      |
| Elizabeth          | 1832  | 1870 |
| Robert             | 1837  | 1840 |
| John               | 1840  |      |
| Thomas             | 1843  |      |

First we should clear up one other story regarding Elizabeth who married Thomas the Boss. It is said that she was very young at the time of her marriage and yet again that she was an only child. It has also been said that she had a brother Simon who married circa 1850. From the facts on the marriage entry of Elizabeth we feel reasonably sure that she is the daughter of John and Elizabeth of Cherrybrook and that in all some six children have been identified. As to being very young when she married, we note that Elizabeth is shown as of full age on her



marriage certificate (at least 21 years), and the birth date found suggests she was about 23 years old when she married in 1855. In conclusion we feel reasonably confident that Elizabeth's parents were John and Elizabeth of Cherrybrook.

Elizabeth Elliott also had a brother Thomas born in Cherrybrook. On the 14th September 1868 Thomas married Elizabeth McCordick daughter of Joseph and Barbara of Upper Ballyboy. Thomas and his wife had two children Hannah and Mary Ann born in Ballyboy. Irene McCordick mentions in her book that Thomas (the Boss) often walked over to Ballyboy with his daughters to visit Joseph and Isabella McCordick of Lower Ballyboy perhaps they also visited his brother-in-law Thomas and family in Upper Ballyboy.

### Parentage of James (father to George), John (father to Elizabeth) and Robert.

| <i>Enniskillen</i> |       |      |
|--------------------|-------|------|
| JOHN B             | 1769  |      |
| & Jane McCracken   |       |      |
| married            | c1789 |      |
| James              | 1790  |      |
| David              | 1800  |      |
| John H             | 1803  | 1881 |
| Robert             | 1804  | 1892 |
| Elizabeth          | 1806  |      |

John B Elliott and Jane McCracken are suggested as the most likely starting point to our family tree simply because of the better fit which this offers regarding the birth dates of a James (father to George), a John (father to Elizabeth) and a Robert. This suggestion fits most of the data except that John (Elizabeth's father) is George's uncle and not his brother. George was born in 1826 and John had to be born before 1812 assuming he married at the age of 16 years. This fact appears to eliminate both the families of

James and Eliza Moffitt and of William and Elizabeth, both of whom had sons John born in the year 1814. It is of course all too possible that we are simply missing sufficient data on which to make a reasonable assessment.

| <i>Blunick</i> |       |
|----------------|-------|
| JAMES          | 1790  |
| & Jane         |       |
| married        | c1820 |
| & Mrs Carson   |       |
| married        | c1840 |
| Jane           | 1822  |
| John           | 1823  |
| Mary           | 1823  |
| .....?         |       |
| James          | 1828  |
| Frances        | 1832  |
| Susan          | 1835  |
| Rebecca        | 1838  |

This approach fits the possibility that George was born to James and Jane of Blunick in the family shown on the left. Certainly it provides him with a sister Mary, it is just a pity we do not know Jane's surname.

Having decided that with the data available George and John may not be brothers it is still possible that James and Eliza Moffitt are the parents of George and that we are simply missing the earlier generation data. This does meet one special requirement in that it fulfils the name Moffitt for George's mother. On the other hand the family of John B

| <i>Blunick</i>  |       |
|-----------------|-------|
| JAMES           | c1780 |
| & Eliza Moffitt |       |
| married         | 1802  |
| William         | 1805  |
| Rebecca         | 1808  |
| James           | 1811  |
| Elizabeth       | 1812  |
| John            | 1814  |
| William         | 1816  |
| Sarah           | 1822  |

Elliott and Jane McCracken provides suitable birth dates for James of James and Jane (father of George), for John (father of Elizabeth) and for Robert whose family was raised in Moneenlum starting about the time in which George and his family are said to have arrived. The family information according George a brother John is based on the fact that George's children referred to an uncle John. As you see we have treated the concept of "Uncle John" as simply meaning that he was an uncle at some level in the direct hierarchy (not necessarily father's brother).

Insofar as we have failed to find the birth of George there is no confident solution to this quandary and hence the dotted connections shown on the family tree in the introduction. Remember from the work in Chapter 1 that the name of Elliott was very common during the James I plantation back in 1620 to 1640 so we have no right to expect to find a simple single focus heritage to our many Elliott "relatives" who lived in and around Moneenlum in the 19th century.

## Other early 19th century Elliott families

| <i>Blunick</i> |       |
|----------------|-------|
| WILLIAM        | c1790 |
| & Elizabeth    |       |
| married        | c1811 |
| Anne           | 1812  |
| John           | 1814  |
| Mary           | 1820  |
| Anne           | 1821  |
| Alexander      | 1822  |
| William        | 1825  |
| Andrew         | 1831  |

Turning now to William and Elizabeth of Blunick and their family of 7 known children from the Killisher records of 1812 to 1831, you will note the name of Alexander. This is relatively rare and leads to a suspicion that the Alexander of Gortnalibert may be connected to William. In fact William may be the son of James and Helen Stephens shown on page 301 in which case he had a younger brother

| <i>Gortnalibert</i> |           |
|---------------------|-----------|
| ALEXANDER           | 1806 1850 |
| & Elizabeth         |           |
| married             | c1830     |
| James               | 1832      |
| Jane                | c1835     |
| Robert              | 1836 1839 |
| John                | 1848 1899 |

Alexander. It would seem that Elliotts were established in Cloonclare for some hundreds of years and that other members of the family (clan) joined them during the early 19th century.

| <i>Gortnalibert</i> |           |
|---------------------|-----------|
| JOHN                | 1848 1899 |
| & Ann J Stephenson  |           |
| married             | 1874      |
| James W             | 1876      |
| Jane                | 1878 1878 |
| Elizabeth           | 1879      |
| Alexander           | 1882      |
| John                | 1885 1885 |
| Robert J            | 1886      |
| George S            | 1889      |
| Annabella           | 1891      |
| Mary Jane           | 1894      |

| <i>Cloonclare</i> |       |
|-------------------|-------|
| ROBERT            | c1795 |
| & Mary            |       |
| married           | c1817 |
| Grace             | 1818  |
| Jane              | 1821  |
| William           | 1824  |
| Susan             | 1827  |
| Mary              | 1830  |
| Robert            | 1832  |

Of the other Elliott families in the area the names of Robert and Simon predominate. We have been unable to connect these families with any certainty but connections there must be. Robert and Mary of Cloonclare, as recorded on the christening of the oldest children, may well have lived on the mountain side. Certainly their son Robert who married Margaret Payne in 1860 gave his address as Knockacullion which lies over the mountain to the South of Moneenlum.

This connection is shown on the tree in the introduction.

In addition to Robert (whom we believe to be a descendent of John B Elliott) and Mary Hamilton who may be found in Chapter 7 there are three more Robert Elliotts all born circa 1800 living in Cloonclare, although which townland is not always identified.

| <i>West Barrs</i> |       |
|-------------------|-------|
| ROBERT            | c1795 |
| & Catherine       |       |
| married           | c1816 |
| James             | 1818  |
| Mary              | 1821  |
| Jane              | 1828  |
| Thomas            | 1837  |

The family of Robert of Glenboy is identified. Daughter Elizabeth, married on the 27 February 1862 a George Anderson and identified her father as Robert and place of residence as Glenboy - the witnesses were John Muir and James Anderson. Her husband George who was 27 years old at the time came from Sligo.

Marianne, would be Mary Anne who married James McKee on the 27 September in 1855. She also identified her father as Robert and the place as Glenboy. The witnesses were William Blair and William McKee.

Hannah married John Hude on 26th March 1860. John came from West Barrs. Sarah married James Lee on 30th December 1872 at which Robert and Simon Elliott were witnesses. James came from Killeen.

| <i>Glenboy</i> |       |      |
|----------------|-------|------|
| ROBERT         | 1807  | 1870 |
| & Sarah        |       |      |
| married        | c1825 |      |
| Elizabeth      | 1827  |      |
| Marianne       | 1835  |      |
| Hannah         | 1840  |      |
| Elizabeth      | 1843  | 1868 |
| Susan          | 1845  |      |
| Simon          | 1846  |      |
| Sarah          | 1849  |      |



*Grave in Manorhamilton*

Whilst we have not identified the birth of any sons to this family, there is a Simon Elliott who in 1878 married Elizabeth Stephenson. He gave his father as Robert and place of residence as Glenboy and most likely belonged to the family of Robert and Sarah as shown.

Simon's daughter Elizabeth married Robert William McCordick the son of Joseph McCordick and Sarah Wallace formerly of Ballyboy. The wedding was registered at Manorhamilton and they lived at Ballyshannon where their first children were born. Later they moved to County Fermanagh, the rest of their children being registered at Irvinestown.

| <i>Glenboy</i>         |      |      |
|------------------------|------|------|
| SIMON                  | 1846 | 1925 |
| & Elizabeth Stephenson |      |      |
| married                | 1878 |      |
| Sarah                  | 1879 |      |
| Mary                   | 1881 |      |
| Robert W               | 1883 | 1906 |
| Elizabeth              | 1885 |      |
| Mary Ann               | 1887 |      |
| Thomas J               | 1889 | 1917 |
| Rebecca                | 1891 |      |
| George S               | 1893 |      |
| James                  | 1896 |      |
| Charles D              | 1898 |      |

| <i>Moneenlum/Knockacullion</i> |       |      |
|--------------------------------|-------|------|
| SIMON                          | 1805  | 1885 |
| & Mary                         |       |      |
| married                        | c1825 |      |
| Anne                           | 1825  |      |
| William                        | 1827  |      |
| Anne                           | 1833  |      |
| Isabella                       | 1835  |      |
| Elizabeth                      | 1836  |      |
| Margaret                       | 1842  |      |

One of the oldest Simon families found is that of Simon and Mary of Moneenlum and Knockacullion. We believe that they may have lived in the house later occupied by James Elliott and Jane McCordick in Upper Moneenlum. Two known daughters gave Knockacullion as their place of residence on their marriage certificates, Isabella who married John Hetherington in 1857 and Margaret on her marriage to George Crawford in 1860. So it would seem the family moved to Knockacullion whilst the children were growing up. A William Elliott who married Mary Jane Hetherington in 1853 gave his father as Simon of Knockacullion and is very likely a son to Simon and Mary. William was aged 70 in the 1901 census. William's son George married Margaret Dennison about 1898 and they had 5 children.

Yet another Simon of Moneenlum and his wife Ann were around in the same time period just to add confusion to the situation. Their daughter Elizabeth Elliott gave her address as Moneenlum, daughter of Simon on her marriage in 1855 to Archibald Stephenson. Later in 1869 a Robert Elliott, son of Simon of Moneenlum married Elizabeth Stephenson. This latter family is shown in the family tree in the introduction.

| <i>Moneenlum</i> |       |      |
|------------------|-------|------|
| SIMON            | c1810 | 1885 |
| & Ann Whitton    |       |      |
| married          | 1835  |      |
| Simon            | 1837  | 1869 |
| Elizabeth        | 1838  |      |
| Jane             | 1845  |      |
| James            | 1847  |      |
| Robert ?         | ....  |      |

Simon Elliott whose children were born in Jamestown has not been connected with the known family. He married into the Nixon family. Their marriage recorded in Mohill is only a few miles from Jamestown in County Cavan.

| <i>Jamestown</i> |       |  |
|------------------|-------|--|
| SIMON            | c1840 |  |
| & Eliza Nixon    |       |  |
| married          | 1860  |  |
| ....             | 1864  |  |
| Eliza Anne       | 1866  |  |
| Margaret         | 1868  |  |

| <i>Ballyboy</i> |       |      |
|-----------------|-------|------|
| JOHN            | c1810 | 1881 |
| & Matilda       |       |      |
| married         | c1830 |      |
| John            | 1831  |      |
| Thomas          | 1833  |      |
| William         | 1835  |      |
| James           | 1837  |      |

| <i>Townyfeacle</i> |       |  |
|--------------------|-------|--|
| JOHN               | c1810 |  |
| & Mary             |       |  |
| married            | c1831 |  |
| William            | 1832  |  |
| Anne               | 1835  |  |
| Patrica            | 1837  |  |

| <i>Moneenlum</i> |       |  |
|------------------|-------|--|
| WILLIAM          | c1800 |  |
| & Anne           |       |  |
| married          | c1822 |  |
| John             | 1823  |  |
| Margaret         | 1827  |  |
| Mary Anne        | 1830  |  |
| Elizabeth        | 1831  |  |
| William          | 1834  |  |

| <i>Moneenlum</i> |       |  |
|------------------|-------|--|
| JOHN             | c1795 |  |
| & Hannah         |       |  |
| married          | c1820 |  |
| Elizabeth        | 1822  |  |

In addition, other couples having children in the period 1823 to 1837 were, William and Anne Elliott of Moneenlum, John and Matilda who lived in Ballyboy, John and Mary of Townyfeacle and John and Hannah of Moneenlum. Serious opportunity for confusion!

Finally there is the one example of the use of the name Joseph in the Elliott family. This name was very common in the McCordick family and there may therefore have been some earlier connection between these families. Joseph and Evy were living in West Bars at the time their children were baptised. Later, at the time of earliest marriage records a William Elliott identified his father as Joseph. William was living at Cherrybrook, where, of course there were other Elliott families.

| <i>West Bars &amp; Cherrybrook</i> |       |      |
|------------------------------------|-------|------|
| JOSEPH                             | 1795  | 1847 |
| & Evy                              |       |      |
| married                            | c1816 |      |
| Mary                               | 1817  |      |
| Elinor                             | 1821  |      |
| Jane                               | 1823  |      |
| .....                              |       |      |
| Elizabeth                          | 1831  |      |

Despite the strong inference that all these families are interconnected with the rest of our known Elliott family, we believe that it is all too likely that any connection may lie as far back as 1770 or even earlier and it is extremely difficult to obtain records relating to this period.

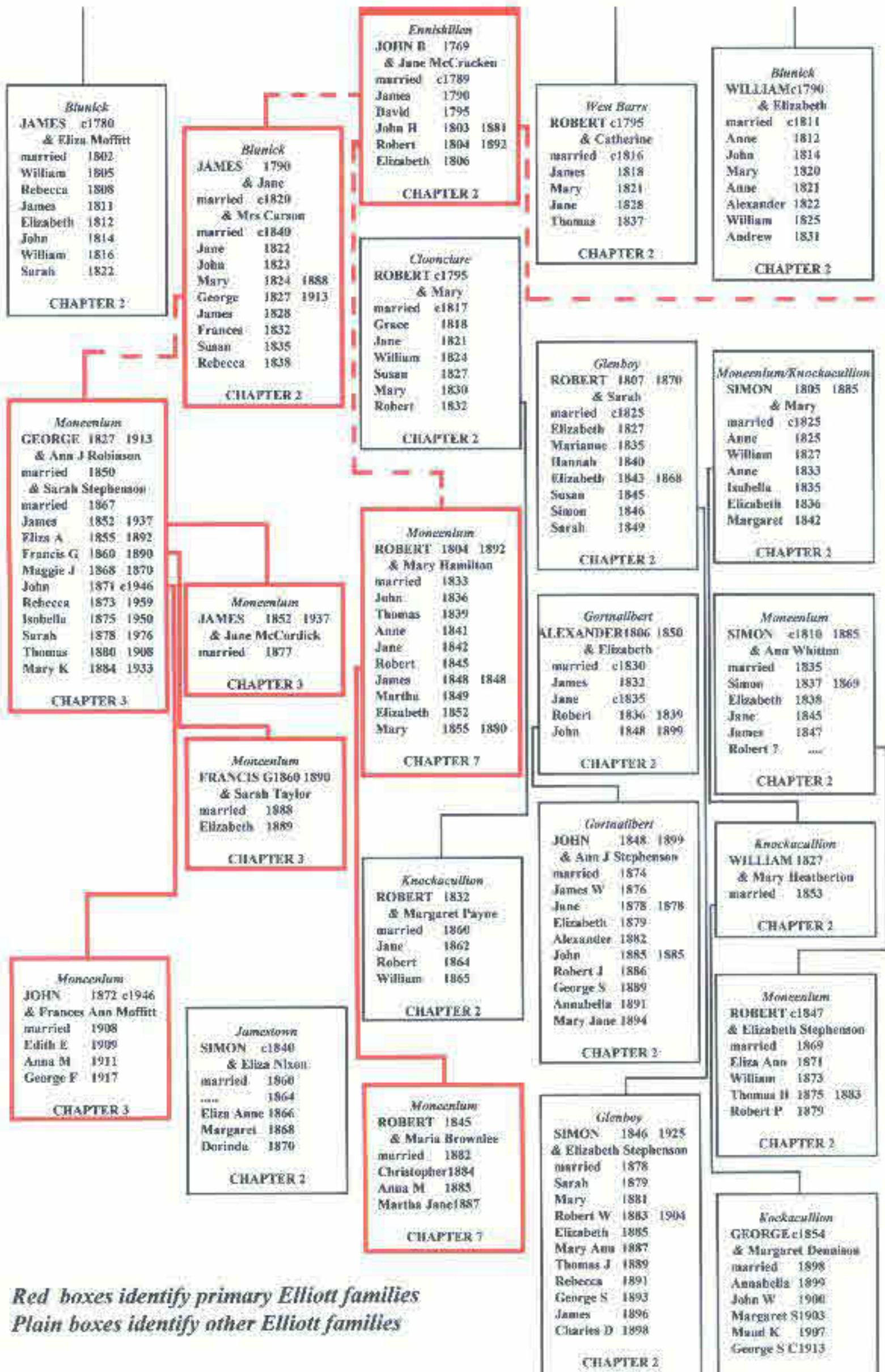
### John B Elliott & Jane McCracken

Let us turn now to our preferred line of descent. John B Elliott and Jane McCracken born about 1770 and commence the data structure which is generally used throughout this book.

|        |     |                        |                              |
|--------|-----|------------------------|------------------------------|
| NAME   | 748 | ELLIOTT John B         | <i>Born</i><br>1769          |
| SPOUSE | 749 | McCRACKEN Jane         | <i>Married</i><br>circa 1789 |
| CHILD  | 700 | ELLIOTT James          | <i>Born</i><br>1790          |
|        | 835 | ELLIOTT David          | 1795                         |
|        | 751 | ELLIOTT John Henderson | 1803                         |
|        | 837 | ELLIOTT Robert         | 1805                         |
|        | 834 | ELLIOTT Elizabeth      | 4 Apr 1806                   |

About 1770 the linen trade was in decline, cotton was in demand but by 1780, what with the poor harvests and the growing incidence of food riots we know that times were rough. From 1784 to 1793 the introduction of Foster's corn laws provided secure prices for the export of grain, wheat, barley and oats and combined with additional taxes on imports of grain living standards may have improved somewhat. Most of the economic advantage went to the landowners as a result of increasing rents. None the less by the time James married Jane McCracken in 1790 they were able to survive better than their parents had done on a fraction of the land. Despite emigration the population was growing rapidly and so sub division of the land was common.

|        |     |                 |                              |             |
|--------|-----|-----------------|------------------------------|-------------|
| NAME   | 700 | ELLIOTT James   | <i>Born</i><br>1790          | <i>Died</i> |
| FATHER | 748 | ELLIOTT John B  | 1769                         |             |
| MOTHER | 749 | McCRACKEN Jane  | circa 1769                   |             |
| SPOUSE | 701 | X Jane          | <i>Married</i><br>circa 1820 |             |
| SPOUSE | 836 | CARSON Mrs      | circa 1839                   |             |
| CHILD  | 859 | ELLIOTT Jane    | <i>Born</i><br>17 Feb 1822   | <i>Died</i> |
|        | 728 | ELLIOTT John    | 11 Dec 1823                  |             |
|        | 750 | ELLIOTT Mary    | circa 1823                   | circa 1888  |
|        | 197 | ELLIOTT George? | 1827                         | circa 1915  |
|        | 860 | ELLIOTT James   | 27 Apr 1828                  |             |
|        | 861 | ELLIOTT Frances | 18 Aug 1832                  |             |
|        | 862 | ELLIOTT Susan   | 26 Apr 1835                  |             |
|        | 863 | ELLIOTT Rebecca | 25 Feb 1838                  |             |



Red boxes identify primary Elliott families  
 Plain boxes identify other Elliott families

# Elliott Family Tree

