

A Signatory to the Charter of Compact, but not under the title used

By Bro Bruce B. Hogg – Norman B. Spencer Prize Award



he Charter of Compact¹ was the basis for what is now the Supreme Grand Chapter of England and was originally dated 22 July 1766, but later altered to the following year, and bore the signatures of some thirty Royal Arch brethren, or companions as they came to be known, some of whom signed well after the execution of the deed by the original signatories. The signatures are headed by the name of the then Grand Master of the premier Grand Lodge of England, an Irishman named Cadwallader (Blayney), 9th Baron Blayney (1720-1775), who had succeeded to the title at the end of September 1761 and had been exalted on 11 June 1766 and automatically, it appears, became head of the Royal Arch and First Principal of what came to be designated ‘the Excellent Grand and Royal Chapter’, an office which he held for some four years.

He was a regular soldier, Colonel of the 91st Foot 1760-63, Major-General in the Army 1765, Colonel of the 38th Foot 1766-75, Lieutenant-General 1772, Custos Rotulorum of County Monaghan 1761-75, taking his seat in the Irish House of Lords on 10 December 1761 and at the time of his death was Commander-in-Chief, Munster. Because of his military duties he could only attend Grand Lodge during the third year of his rule from 1764-67. But his dedication and energy gave new life to the premier Grand Lodge, for during his term no less than seventy-four lodges were constituted, of which nineteen, bearing honoured names, are still extant, whereas the Antients Grand Lodge, formed in 1751, could only manage twenty during the same period. Although he had been elected Grand Master of Ireland on 6 May 1768, he resigned before 24 June that year and never took office, despite several sources recording his alleged Grand Mastership.²

The signatures of two other peers were made between the testimonium clause on the left-hand side near the bottom of the Charter and the nine signatures and wax seals opposite³ and are those of George (Montagu), 4th Duke of Manchester, who became the Grand Master of the premier Grand Lodge from 1777 to 1782, and the Duke of Pignatelli, the latter of whom may well have been Caesar Pignatelli, and if so, he signed with his patronym rather than his correct ducal title of San Demetrio (sometimes spelt Sandemetrio) and della Rocca, though he appears to have been known also as the Duke of Pignatelli.⁴

The fourth single name and one that may well have been added later, is that of Anglesey⁵ and initially this posed something of a mystery, for there was then – 1766 or 1767 – strictly no one with that title, though this was not appreciated until almost five years afterwards.

The first recorded Earldom of Anglesey had been conferred on 18 April 1623 on Christopher Villiers, the fifth son of Sir George Villiers of Brokesby, whose fourth son, George Villiers, became a month later, on 18 May 1623, the notorious 1st Duke of Buckingham, the favourite of and known as ‘Steenie’ by James I, but the title became extinct in early 1661 on the death from smallpox of his only son of the same name, born in about 1627. The second creation of the title, together with the Barony of Annesley, was made on 20 April 1661, conferred on Arthur Annesley, 2nd Viscount Valentia (1614-1686), son and heir of Sir Francis Annesley, 1st Baronet, 1st Viscount Valentia and 1st Baron [Lord] Mountnorris, all in the Peerage of Ireland, soon after he succeeded to those titles when his father died on 22 November 1660.

The 1st Earl of Anglesey had three sons, the third of whom was Richard Annesley, DD (c.1655-1701), Dean of Exeter 1681-1701, who succeeded his nephew, James George Annesley, to the Barony of Altham,⁶ on his death in 1699 or 1700, as 3rd Baron [Lord] Altham, a year or so

before he died in November 1701, though he never took his seat in the House of Lords, leaving two sons and a daughter. The younger son, Richard Annesley, baptized on 26 November 1693⁷ at St. Peter's Cathedral, Exeter, succeeded his elder brother, Arthur Annesley, 4th Lord Altham (born c.1689), on his death on 16 November 1727 as 5th Lord Altham and his right thereto was acknowledged by his taking his seat in the Irish House of Lords. He also succeeded his cousin, the Tory politician Arthur Annesley, 5th Earl of Anglesey, *PC*, on his death on 1 April 1737, as 6th Earl of Anglesey, 7th Viscount Valentia and Lord Mountnorris, and 7th Baronet, taking his seat in England as an Earl on 10 May 1737 and in Ireland as a Viscount on 4 October the same year. He became Governor of County Wexford before 1745 in which county he had his seat at Camolin Park, Camolin.

Richard Annesley became an Ensign in the Army, but was struck from the half pay list in 1715, about which time, being in needy circumstances, he appears to have sought his fortune by marriage or marriages. He married at Northam, North Devon, at the age of twenty-one, on 25 January 1715, Ann Prust, daughter of Captain John Prust of Monkleigh, near Bideford, Devon. She was of an age with Richard, having been born on 21 September 1694, and is said to have brought him a considerable fortune, to have lived with him at Westminster and at Waterford and Ross, but to have separated from him in 1719, returning to North Devon, where she died without issue and was buried, as Ann, Countess of Anglesey, on 13 August 1741 at Monkleigh, Devon.

However, according to another account, he visited Ireland and was married in the same year 1715, privately at first and afterwards publicly, ostensibly validated by a licence⁸ from the Dublin Consistorial Court, to Anne Simpson, only daughter of John Simpson (†1730), a wealthy clothier of Meath Street, Dublin, she being then about fifteen years old. Anne signed a remarkable document dated 22 December 1726 in which she binds herself never to prosecute her husband for bigamy, which certainly looks as if both parties considered the marriage with Ann Prust to have been binding and legal.⁹ They appeared to live together from 1719, after Richard's separation from Ann, and Anne is mentioned in her father's will under the name of 'Lady Altham'. On his succession to the Earldom Lord Anglesey bribed Ann Prust not to publicize their marriage and Anne was presented after 1737 at the Lord-Lieutenant's Court in Dublin as 'Countess of Anglesey', bore him three daughters and had been compelled by about 1740 to leave his house. As a result, she instigated proceedings against him in the Ecclesiastical Court on the grounds of cruelty and adultery, with the intention of obtaining alimony for herself and their three daughters, among them the writer and poet Lady Dorothea Bois.¹⁰

On 15 September 1741, about a month after the burial of Ann, Countess of Anglesey,¹¹ first named, he married privately at his country house, Camolin Park, Juliana Donovan, daughter of Richard Donovan, a Wexford merchant. This marriage, as both witnesses had died, was acknowledged to have taken place as stated and was again celebrated in the same place on 8 October 1752. Richard, 6th Earl of Anglesey, died on 14 February 1761 at Camolin Park and his Will¹² dated 7 April 1759 was proved in 1761 in the Prerogative Court in Ireland. His widow, Juliana, married, as his first wife, Matthew Talbot of Ballynamony, Carrick-on-Shannon, Co. Leitrim, afterwards Castle Talbot, County Wexford, died at Bath, Somerset, on 26 February 1777 and was buried with her first husband.¹³

They had several children, four of whom survived, three daughters and one son, Arthur Annesley, *styled* Lord Annesley, who was born on 7 August 1744, matriculated at Christ Church, Oxford, on 3 September 1761 and obtained the degree of Master of Arts on 13 July 1763. On coming of age, he succeeded to the Irish peerages following a ruling by the Attorney-General and the Solicitor-General in Dublin in 1765 and confirmed by the Irish House of Lords on 1 June 1772 that they recognized the marriage certificate as valid¹⁴ and therefore he was legitimate¹⁵ and he took his seat as 8th Viscount Valentia in the Irish House of Lords on 5 December 1765 and again on 7 November 1771. However, the Committee of Privileges to whom it had been referred by the English House of Lords, after deliberating from 1770, decided by a majority of

one, thirteen peers being present, on 22 April 1771, in reply to his petition for a writ of summons to the Parliament of Great Britain as Earl of Anglesey and Baron Annesley, that ‘the claimant had no right to the titles, honours and dignities claimed by his petition’, evidently holding that his parents’ marriage was not lawful, whereby both the Earldom and the Barony had become extinct on the death of the 6th Earl.

Arthur, 8th Viscount Valentia, was appointed Governor of County Wexford 1776-78 and sworn of the Privy Council of Ireland on 2 July 1776. He was created Earl of Mountnorris in the Peerage of Ireland on 3 December 1793 and took his seat as such on 21 January 1794. He was elected a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries on 6 June 1799 and of the Royal Society on 18 December 1800.

There is no record of a date of his Initiation but he is listed as already a member of the Somerset House Lodge No. 279¹⁶ (now Royal Somerset House and Inverness Lodge No. 4) according to the list submitted to Grand Lodge in 1768. He does not appear as a member in the first Grand Lodge membership register but appears again in the records of this (now amalgamated) lodge at the meeting on 10 March 1800: ‘Bro Lord Mount Norris [*sic*] who several years back presided over the lodge and had withdrawn himself as a member of account of his leaving the kingdom [presumably when he went to Ireland], visited the lodge this day and, having expressed his wish to be re-admitted a subscribing member, his Lordship withdrew. A motion was then duly made and seconded that out of respect to the situation Lord Mount Norris formerly held in this lodge, his Lordship be readmitted by a shew of hands’. This duly happened and also implies that he had been Master during his earlier period of membership, as he was to become again in 1810.

On 29 March 1800 he was appointed Provincial Grand Master of Huntingdonshire, an office he retained until his death in 1816.

He joined two lodges: on 19 June 1801, the Prince of Wales’s Lodge No. 412 (now No. 259), which then met at Thatched House Tavern, St. James’s Street, London; and on 31 March 1808, the Lodge of Antiquity No. 1 (now No. 2), which met at Freemasons’ Tavern, Great Queen Street, London.¹⁷

On 26 October 1809, he was named in the Warrant for the formation of the Lodge of Promulgation and on 10 April 1810 he was appointed, as Master of the Somerset House Lodge,¹⁸ one of the Committee to formulate the Union between the two rival Grand Lodges.¹⁹

He was exalted at the first meeting of what became the Grand and Royal Chapter on 22 July 1766 by the newly elected Grand Z or First Grand Principal, Lord Blayney, mentioned above, and he became the Grand H or Second Grand Principal on 26 December 1766, at the remarkably modest age of twenty-two, which office he occupied until Rowland Hill succeeded him in 1768.²⁰ He became First Grand Principal in 1801 and continued in office until 1804, when he was succeeded by Francis, Earl of Moira (*later* Marquess of Hastings, *KG*), who had been exalted on 23 June 1803, and was once more appointed Second Grand Principal in 1804 until he resigned in December 1809 and refused to sign any Warrants and was again succeeded by Moira on 30 January 1810.²¹

He was twice married: first, on 10 May 1767, at St. James’s, Westminster, in which church register he is described as ‘Earl of Anglesey’ and signs himself ‘Altham-Anglesey’, to Lucy Fortescue Lyttelton (1743-1783), only daughter of George (Lyttelton), 1st Baron Lyttelton (1709-1773), and his first wife, Lucy Fortescue (*c.* 1718-1747), sister of Matthew, 2nd Baron Fortescue (1719-1785), and daughter of Hugh Fortescue of Filleigh, Devon, and they had four sons and two daughters, the elder of whom, Juliana Lucy (*c.* 1772-1833), married in July 1789, John Maxwell Barry (Maxwell), 5th Lord Farnham, *PC* (1767-1838), the forebear of Sir Barry Owen Somerset (Maxwell), 14th Baronet and 12th Lord Farnham (1931-2001), successively, in the United Grand Lodge of England, Senior Grand Warden 1977-78, Assistant Grand Master 1982-89, Deputy Grand Master 1989-91 and Pro Grand Master 1991-2001.

Whilst still married to his first wife he eloped to Edinburgh in June 1774 with Grace, *alias*

‘Dolly the Tall’, the daughter of an Edinburgh lawyer, Hew Dalrymple. Her parents separated when she was an infant and she was placed in a French convent where she grew up. She had become the wife of the extremely rich and elderly Dr John Elliott (†1786), Physician to HRH The Prince of Wales, who was created on 25 July 1778 Sir John Elliott, 1st and last Baronet.²² Grace eventually received a divorce settlement, with damages against Lord Valentia of £12,000. However her brother kidnapped her and had her confined to another French convent. Lord Cholmondeley,²³ one of her many benefactors, rescued her and brought her back to London where she became mistress and courtesan to several prominent and wealthy men, including the Duke of Orléans.²⁴

He married, secondly, in Dublin, on 20 December 1783 (seven months after his first wife died), Sarah Cavendish (1763-1849), third daughter of The Rt Hon Sir Henry Cavendish, 2nd Baronet (1732-1804), of Cork, and his wife Sarah Bradshaw (1740-1807), created on 14 June 1792 Baroness Waterpark in her own right, daughter and heir of Richard Bradshaw, of Cork, and they had two sons and two daughters, both of whom married well. His widow died at Chesham Place aged eighty-five on 2 January 1849, without surviving male issue.

So it would appear that it must have been Arthur Annesley, 8th Viscount Valentia, 7th Baron Altham and 8th Baronet, who in his twenty-second year, signed the Charter of Compact as ‘Anglesey’ and this is exemplified by the curious way in which he signed the marriage register at the time of his first marriage – Altham-Anglesey – especially as he was the current holder of the Irish Viscounty of Valentia, and that, as we have seen, was an older title than the Barony of Altham. Such marriage took place at about the time of his appending his signature to the Charter of Compact, for it is not clear whether or not he was one of the original signatories or not, but as he was exalted on the same day as the date of the deed it is perfectly feasible that he did so.

Although he probably thought himself to be the rightful Earl of Anglesey, following the judgment of the Irish House of Lords in 1765 regarding his claim to the Viscounty of Valentia in his favour regarding his legitimacy, it later transpired that he had absolutely no right to such title, for his petition to the House of Lords was refused less than five years later.

Arthur Annesley died of apoplexy on 4 July 1816 at his house in the rue de la Madeleine, Paris, aged seventy-one.

His second son²⁵ by his first wife, George Annesley, 2nd Earl of Mountnorris and 9th Viscount Valentia (1770-1844), succeeded in his claim as a Peer of Ireland not only as an Earl but also as a Viscount and the holder of two Irish Baronies, which was decided by the United Kingdom House of Lords on 6 March 1817. This contradicted its own ruling as to the previous petitioner’s legitimacy of 22 April 1771, when however it was only the Great Britain House of Lords and not that of the United Kingdom. On this ground, as the Viscounty and other titles could only have devolved on him from his grandfather, the Lords tacitly admitting thereby the legitimacy of his father’s birth, he petitioned on 30 January 1819 for his Writ as Earl of Anglesey. This was referred to the Committee for Privileges and they began to examine the claim but no decision was reached and no further steps appear to have been taken about such petition. This may well have been a consequence of the creation of the Marquessate of Anglesey in 1815 on a member of the Paget family – see below.

The ramifications of the transfer of some of the titles in the Annesley family remind one of the more far-fetched plots in a Victorian novel, for the curious tale of what happened to the grandson of the quondam Dean of Exeter, Richard Annesley, 3rd Lord Altham, is worthy to be recounted. James Annesley was born at Dunmain, County Wexford, in 1715, the only son of yet another Arthur Annesley, 4th Lord Altham (c.1689-1727), the Dean’s elder son, and the latter’s second wife,²⁶ Mary Sheffield, natural daughter of John (Sheffield), 1st Duke of Buckingham and Normanby, KG,²⁷ whom he married at St. Margaret’s, Westminster, on 22 July 1707 and from whom he separated two years after James’s birth. Thereafter Arthur took Joan Landy under his protection and declared her to be Lady Altham. He died at Inchicore, near Dublin on 16

November 1727, 'so miserably poor that he was actually buried at the public expense'.²⁸

According to his own account James, who was opposed to his father's raising money to fund a spendthrift way of life, was spirited away in 1728 to an obscure and remote school, it being shortly afterwards claimed that he had died. On his father's death, his uncle Richard, who had assumed the title of Lord Altham, sold him as a slave to an American plantation owner. He escaped to Jamaica and thence in September 1740 sailed to England where Admiral Edward Vernon (1684-1757), known as 'Old Grog', of Orwell Park, Ipswich, took him under his care. On 16 September 1743, at a race meeting at the Curragh, Anglesey and his party encountered his nephew, James Annesley, and during the riot that ensued, he was attacked.

James thereupon started an action of ejectment against his uncle, which came on for trial in the Irish High Court of the Exchequer on 11 November 1743. The defence that was advanced was that, though he was the son of the 4th Lord Altham, his mother was not the latter's second wife, but Joan Landy, a spinster. This, however, was refuted and on the fifteenth day of the trial, on 26 November, the jury found for the plaintiff, who accordingly recovered the estates. Anglesey immediately lodged an appeal to overturn the verdict or at least delay it being put into effect and he was alleged at about this time to have planned to defraud an elderly, but wealthy relative, to add to his already questionably gained and rapidly spent fortune. However, James Annesley never seems to have attempted to assume the family honours either in England or in Ireland, where his legitimacy had thus been established. His uncle was found guilty of the assault on his nephew on 3 August 1744 at the Curragh and fined.²⁹

James Annesley was twice married and died at Blackheath on 5 January 1760 and was buried at Lee, Kent, nine days later, as 'James Annesley, Esq.'. He left one son by each wife, but both died, the elder on 6 November 1763 and the younger when aged about five, the following year.

However, it is stated in the petition dated 30 June 1819 of George (Annesley), 2nd Earl of Mountnorris, 7th Lord Altham, for the Earldom of Anglesey, that by a subsequent Chancery suit this 'unfortunate nobleman', James Annesley, was found to be a bastard son of a maidservant named Landy (that is the Joan Landy mentioned in the text).³⁰

When George Annesley, 2nd and last Earl of Mountnorris, 9th Viscount Valentia and 7th Lord Altham died at Arley Castle on 23 July 1844 aged seventy-three and buried at Over Arley, without surviving male issue,³¹ the Earldom of Mountnorris and the Barony of Altham became extinct, the male issue of the first holder of all his brothers having failed, though the Viscounty of Valentia and the Barony of Mountnorris devolved on the heir male of Francis Annesley, 1st Viscount (1584-1660), through his issue by his second marriage. This was his great-great-great-great-grandson, Arthur Annesley, 10th Viscount Valentia (1785-1863), who assumed the title in 1844 but made no effort to establish his right to it and the lesser ones and when he died on 30 December 1863, they passed to his grandson, yet another Arthur Annesley (1843-1927), as 11th Viscount Valentia, *later KCVO, CB, DSO, TD, JP*.

The 11th Viscount was appointed High Sheriff of Oxfordshire 1874, Lieutenant-Colonel commanding Oxfordshire Imperial Yeomanry, Member of Parliament for Oxford 1895-1917, Comptroller of the Household 1898-1905, served in the South African War 1900 and as Assistant Adjutant-General and was mentioned in despatches, Honorary Colonel, Queen's Own Oxfordshire Hussars, a Lord-in-Waiting 1915-24, Chairman of Oxfordshire County Council and High Steward of the City of Oxford 1924, created on 7 May 1917 Baron Annesley.

He was initiated on 14 January 1867, passed on 11 February 1867 and raised on 26 August 1867 in Eureka Lodge No. 47,³² Dundalk, County Louth in Ireland (no longer extant), though is not listed as Master in the Officers' Register.

He joined Churchill Lodge No. 478, Oxford, on 4 May 1885, of which he was Master in 1886 and appointed Past Junior Grand Warden of the United Grand Lodge of England in 1887, one of ten brethren given that rank, all but one being titled, doubtless as part of the celebrations for Queen Victoria's Golden Jubilee that year. On 10 August 1914 he was appointed Provincial

Grand Master for Oxfordshire, which he retained until his death in 1927.

He was exalted into Royal Arch Masonry and in 1890 was appointed Grand Scribe N and on 3 October 1895 Grand Superintendent in and over Oxfordshire, which he retained until his death in 1927.

Only three of the original titles³³ are still extant, the United Kingdom Barony expiring on his second son's death in 1949.

The Marquessate of Anglesey was created on 4 July 1815 for Sir Henry William Paget, 4th Baronet, 10th Baron Paget and 2nd Earl of Uxbridge, *KG, GCB, GCH, PC, KMT, KSG* (1768-1854), who lost his right leg shortly after being involved in the Battle of Waterloo on 18 June 1815. The attribution to 'Marquis of Anglesey' in the Index to Jones, p. 279, as a signatory to the Charter of Compact, is clearly mistaken.

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Acknowledgements

The compiler is most grateful to three most useful sources of information: first, Mrs Diane Clements, the Director of the Library and Museum of Freemasonry at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, London, for copies of the entries in *ODNB* and background masonic detail of Arthur Annesley, 8th Viscount Valentia and self-styled Earl of Anglesey and George James Cholmondeley, 4th Earl and 1st Marquess of Cholmondeley, *KG*, and for readily replying to various queries that arose during the course of the investigations. Secondly, Miss Rebecca Hayes, Archivist to the Grand Lodge of Ireland, at Freemasons' Hall, 17 Molesworth Street, Dublin, for the details of the earlier part of the career of Arthur Annesley, 11th Viscount Valentia. Thirdly, Mr Ronald Patrick Gadd, *MBE, RD, LLM*, a recently retired barrister, who appeared as counsel in several peerage cases, a fellow lawyer and armorer, who readily offered some most helpful advice and background information.

Notes

1. It is described in Appendix II of Hewitt, followed immediately by a transcript of the original document, 127-9; a photograph of the document is reproduced in Jones, opposite p. 48; and it is transcribed in the Appendix thereto, on pp. 272-5.

2. Including *GEC*.

3. These being those of the nine brethren, or companions as they are designated in the deed, specifically named twice therein, first in the second recital and then in the operative part of the deed. They were Lord Blayney, James Galloway, John McLean, Thomas Dunckerley, Francis Flower, John Allen, John Brooks, Thomas French and Charles Taylor.

4. If it was this member of the Pignatelli family, then he became Provincial Grand Master for Naples and Sicily on 25 April 1770 [*MYBHS*, p. 45; Stolper, p. 83]. However, in a note in *AQC* 94 (1981), p. 233, Brother Stolper mentioned that 'the Pignatelli family has many ramifications and many of its members have been freemasons, in several countries. In fact one of the signatories of the Charter of Compact was a Pignatelli', but carefully did not commit himself as to which one it was.

5. Written with the long 's': 'Anglefey'.

6. Created on 14 February 1681 for his elder brother, Altham Annesley, 1st Lord Altham (†1699).

7. As recorded in his entry in *ODNB*, but as 'b. shortly after 1690' in *GEC*, Vol. I, p. 136, under Anglesey, and as 1694 in *BP*, 1999, p. 2870, under Valentia.

8. No such licence exists [*GEC*, Vol. I, p. 137, note b (*ex inform.* G.D. Burtchaell, 1909), in a note by Vicary Gibbs].

9. *Ibid*, note d, *sub nomine* Anglesey; and *ODNB*.

10. Whose *The Divorce* (Musical Entertainment) was produced at Marylebone Gardens, London, in 1771.

11. On 13 August 1741 at Monkleigh, Devon [*GEC*, Vol. I, p. 136, note g; and *ODNB*].

12. In his Will the Earl states: 'Whereas before my intermarriage with my said dear wife Juliana Countess of Anglesey I had several natural children by different women during the time of my living separate from my first wife Mrs. Ann Phrust afterwards Countess of Anglesey that is to say by Mrs Ann Simpson Dorothea Annesley my eldest daughter Carolina Annesley my second daughter & Elizabeth Annesley my third daughter & by Mrs. Ann Saulkeld [*sic; recte: Anne Salkeld*, second daughter of William Salkeld, as recorded in *ibid*, note e, quoted in the *London Evening Post*, 4 April 1722 – seemingly a misprint for 1772, as the newspaper was reporting a claim to the Earldom by the said Richard in 1770] of London dec^d. I had one natural son called Richard Annesley & by Mary Glover late of Newport Pannell [*sic; recte: Pagnell*] Gt. Britain I had one natural daughter Ann Annesley otherwise Glover . . .' [*GEC*, Vol. XII, Part II, pp. 208-9, note b, *sub nomine* Valentia, *ex inform.* C. Roy Huddleston; *ODNB*].

13. *GEC*, Vol. XIV, p. 24, correcting details in the original narrative in Vol. I, p. 137.

14. Both the Earl and Countess of Anglesey testified on their deathbeds that their marriage in 1741 was properly celebrated and it was later proved that the marriage certificate, held in England to be a forgery as it had allegedly been back-dated, as testified by a witness called by Constantine Phipps, 1st Baron Mulgrave (mentioned in note 27, below), who claimed the English estates under the terms of the Will of James Annesley, 3rd Earl of Anglesey (1674-1702), was later validated as the testimony was shown to be perjured [*ODNB*].

15. Despite John Annesley, of Ballysax, the next heir to the Viscounty in 1771, contesting it. The extinction of this line has never been proved and in 1817, according to a pedigree in the office of Ulster King of Arms there were four grandsons of a John Annesley of Ballysax (†1720), who was the son of John Annesley (b. 1616), of Ballysonan Castle, County Kildare, the third son by his first wife of the 1st Viscount. The names of these grandsons were John Annesley and Charles Annesley, sons of the Revd Richard Annesley (†1752) and John Annesley and Francis Annesley, sons of the Revd Maurice Annesley, the other two sons of John Annesley of Ballysax, Richard and John, presumably having no issue. This line is senior to that of the Annesleys of Bletchington who in 1844 considered themselves to be, and very likely were, entitled to the title [*ibid*, Vol. XII, Part II, p. 209, note a; *BP*, 1999, p. 2871, *sub nomine* Valentia].

16. The Old Horn Lodge No. 2 (originally No. 3) amalgamating with Somerset House Lodge No. 219, [No. 279 of 22 May 1762] on 10 January 1774, retaining that name, but becoming No. 2, later amalgamating with Royal Inverness Lodge No. 648 [of 1814] on 25 November 1828, under its present name, retaining the number allotted to it after the 1813 Union in 1814, which number it still bears [Lane, p. 35].

17. The compiler is most grateful to Mrs Diane Clements, the Director of The Library and Museum of Freemasonry, Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, London, for providing the bulk of the information about his Craft activities, especially the quotation from the Minutes of Somerset House Lodge (then No 279) at the meeting held on 10 March 1800, in a series of messages in August and September 2007.

18. The others being the Grand Officers of the year and the Masters of Lodge of Emulation No. 12 (*now* No. 21), Shakespeare Lodge No. 131 (*now* No. 99) (William Henry White, who was Master of both, joint Grand Secretary with his father, William White, 1810-13 and then Grand Secretary of the United Grand Lodge of England jointly with that of the Antients, Edwards Harper, until 1838), Jerusalem Lodge No. 263 (*now* No. 197) (James Deans) and Bank of England Lodge No. 435 (*now* No. 263) (James Joyce), all of whom are named in a Warrant granted by Lord Moira dated 26 October 1809, constituting a 'Lodge of Masons, for the purpose of ascertaining and promulgating the Ancient Land Marks of the Craft' [Gould, Vol. IV, p.499].

19. *Ibid*, who spells the title Mount Norris.

20. As recorded in *MYBHS*, p. 351. Therein he is described as Arthur, 1st Earl of Mountnorris (self styled Earl of Anglesey), as he is in his entry as First Grand Principal on the same page and on the second occasion he became Second Grand Principal, recorded on p. 352

21. The Grand Chapter Minutes for this meeting, held at the Freemasons' Tavern, record 'a Letter was read from

Lord Mountnorris expressing his regret at being under the necessity of declining the office of Grand Master J to which he had been elected at the last Grand Convocation [11 May 1809].

22. According to Horace Walpole (*Letters*, ed. Toynbee, Vol. IX, pp. 6, 11-12) the Doctor 'selected Lord Valentia from several other lords and gentlemen who had been equally kind to the fair one'. The following quotation from *All's Well* is applied to him in *Modern Characters by Shakespeare* (1778): 'For rapes and ravishments he parallels Nessus. He professes no keeping of oaths, and in breaking them is stronger than Hercules. Drunkenness is his best virtue'. This is attributed to Vicary Gibbs, editor [*GEC*, Vol. XII, Part II, pp. 209-10, note d].

23. George James (Cholmondeley), 4th Earl of Cholmondeley (1749-1827), Lord Lieutenant of Cheshire 1770-83 and Chamberlain of Cheshire 1770-1827, Lord Steward of the Household 1818-27, later [22 November 1815] 1st Marquess of Cholmondeley, *KG, GCH*. He was initiated in the Assembly House Lodge No. 78 (warranted on 1 February 1739 as No. 180, which after being erased on 1 February 1786 and reinstated on 7 April 1787, was then renamed Royal Chester Lodge No. 62, being erased again on 5 September 1838 when numbered 71) at a meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Cheshire on 10 June 1771, held at the house of the Deputy Provincial Master, Bro Edward Orme. The Provincial Grand Master, the Hon John Smith-Barry, was present as were all his Officers and the Past Masters and Wardens of the Senior Lodge [Lane, p. 79; *AQC*, Vol. XV, p. 42, which refers to him as 'Charles James, 4th Earl of Cholmondeley'].

24. Louis Philippe Joseph II, Duke of Chartres, known to posterity as 'Philippe Égalité' (1747-1793), son of Louis Philippe, Duke of Orléans (1725-1785), and his first wife, Louise Henriette de Bourbon-Conti (1726-1759), in the summer of 1778 retreated from the Court of Louis XVI to a life of luxury and often visited the Kingdom of Great Britain, and became an intimate friend of the Prince of Wales, afterwards George IV, who introduced Grace Elliott to him in 1784. The couple started an affair and in 1786 he and Grace settled in Paris, for he had become Duke of Orléans in 1785 when his father died. She remained there throughout the Revolution. He actively supported the French Revolution, but was nonetheless guillotined during the Reign of Terror. His son Louis-Philippe became King of the French in the July Revolution of 1830.

25. The eldest son, Arthur Annesley, was born on 2 November 1769, baptized on 19 June 1770 at Over Arley and was buried there on 26 March 1771.

26. His first wife, his cousin, who rejoiced in the curious first name of Phillips, daughter of John (Thompson), 1st Lord Haversham (c.1648-1710), and his first wife, Frances Wyndham (c.1648-1705), widow of John Wyndham and daughter of Arthur, 1st Earl of Anglesey [see above], whom he married on 8 April 1703 at St. Margaret's, Westminster, died in May the following year.

27. (1647-1721), who was thrice married, his third wife, whom he married at St. Martin-in-the-Fields on 16 March 1706, being Lady Katherine Annesley, née Darnley (c.1681-1743), third and youngest surviving natural daughter of James II by Katherine Sedley, Countess of Dorchester in her own right for life (1657-1717), and widow of James (Annesley), 3rd Earl of Anglesey (1674-1702), whom she had married 28 October 1699, but divorced 12 June 1701. She bore him a daughter, Lady Catherine Darnley (1701-1736), who married 25 September 1718, William Phipps (1698-1730), son of Sir Constantine Phipps (1658-1723), Lord Chancellor of Ireland, and they had a son, Constantine Phipps (1722-1775), of Mulgrave Castle, North Yorkshire, who on 3 September 1767 was created 1st Baron Mulgrave of New Ross, the progenitor of the Marquesses of Normanby.

28. Comment by The Hon Vicary Gibbs, Ed, in *GEC*, Vol. I, p. 116, note a.

29. *BP*, p. 2870; *ODNB*. Curiously, there is no mention of the assault in any of the entries for the 6th and last Earl of Anglesey in *GEC*.

30. *Ibid*, p, 115, note b.

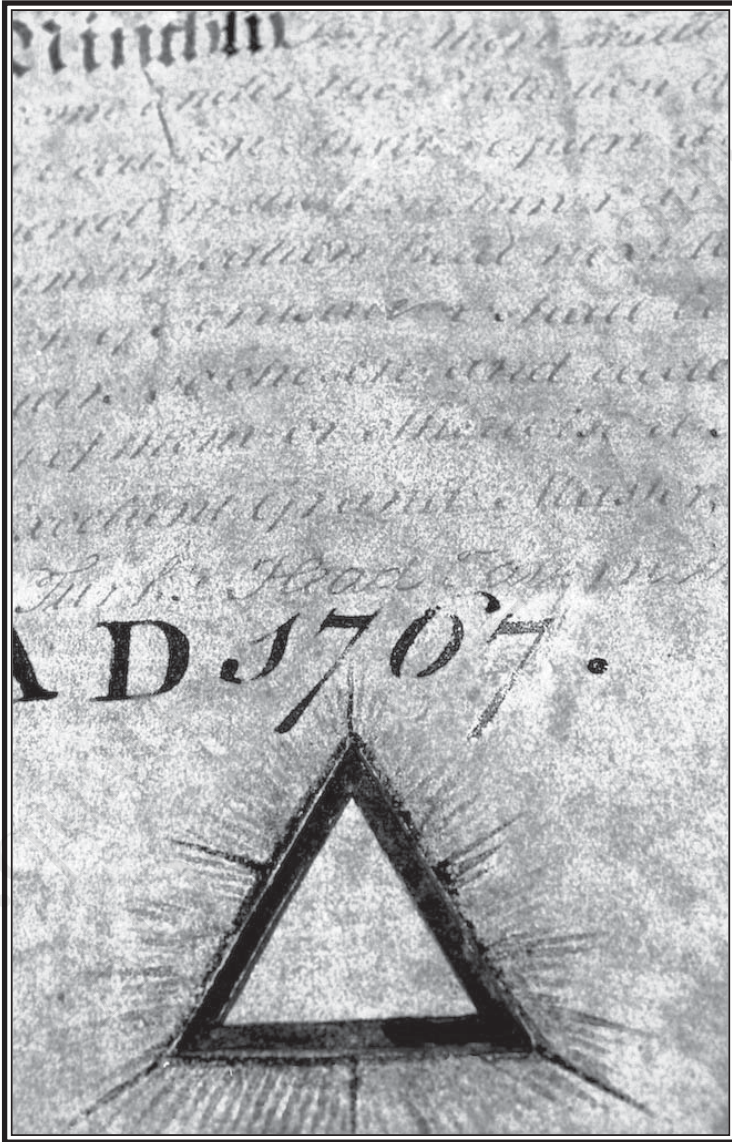
31. He had married on 3 September 1790 at Powderham Castle, Devon, Anne Courtenay (1774-1835), eighth daughter of Sir William (Courtenay), 4th Baronet, 2nd Viscount Courtenay of Powderham Castle and *de jure* 8th Earl of Devon (1742-1788), according to the extraordinary decision of the House of Lords on 14 March 1831, and they had two sons: George Arthur Annesley, styled Viscount Valentia (1793-1841), who married on 21 October 1837 at Brighton, Frances Cockburn Sims, only daughter of Charles James Sims of Jamaica, but they had no children; and William Annesley (1796-1830), who died unmarried, both in the lifetime of their father.

It is reported that in 1796 in the King's Bench Lord Valentia obtained £2,000 damages against (John) Bellenden Gawler, afterwards [5 November 1804] Ker (1764-1842), senior Captain in the 2nd Life Guards 1793, wit, botanist and man of fashion, for criminal conspiracy (adultery) with Lady Valentia. As a result of this affair he also fought a duel near Hamburg on 28 June 1796 with Henry Gawler, younger brother of the defendant, who shot him in the breastbone, while Lord Valentia's bullet passed through his opponent's hat. By Lady Valentia, Bellenden Gawler appears to have had two illegitimate sons: Francis John Courtenay (1801-1859), Rector of North Bovey, Devon (Venn, *Alumni Cantab*) and Frederick Eardley Bellenden Courtenay (1804-18?), Cadet in the Bengal Army 1823 (Hodson, *Officers of the Bengal Army*, Vol I, p. 394; Vol. III, p. 769, *ex inform*. C. Roy Hudleston) [*GEC*, Vol. XIV, Part II, pp. 210, note c, & 211; *BP*, 1999, pp. 835 (*sub nomine* Devon) & 2870 (*sub nomine* Valentia); *ODNB*, biography contributed by B.D. Jackson, revised by Giles Hudson, in which no mention of the alleged adultery or the duel is made].

32. The lodge was founded on 12 October 1848 and returned its Warrant to Grand Lodge on 7 November 1974.

33. In chronological order: the Premier Irish Baronetcy of 7 August 1620, the Irish Viscountcy of Valentia of 11 March 1622 and the Irish Barony of Mountnorris of 8 February 1629 [*GEC*, Vol. XII, Part II, p. 205; *BP*, 1999, pp. 2869-73].

Part of the Charter of Compact showing one of the falsified dates



A photograph of the Charter of Compact was displayed at a meeting of the *Quatuor Coronati* Lodge on 1 May 1959. The above image which is a portion of the Charter, has had the contrast, colour and saturation artificially altered to enable us to see where the original date of 1766 had been altered to read 1767. Other such alterations are suspected to have been made to the original document.

Those who would know more of this matter and the reasons therefor, may refer to the original observations by Bro J.R. Dashwood, a former Secretary of the *Quatuor Coronati* Lodge. They are to be found in *AQC* 62 (1949), pp. 176-182; *AQC* 64 (1951), pp. 136-137; and *AQC* 72 (1959), *passim*.
Ed.