

as they will escort us to Enniskillen and Fermanagh today. I ride with Hugh and Aidan, of course, with Pat, — and off we go. I discover we are now to pick up Cassie Gallogally who will be waiting for us at the Crooked Bridge — and sure enough she is there — having been brought by her son Cormack (whom I will get to know better later this week).

At 12 NOON we are going thro' Scraghy in heavy rain — and see an old abandoned school with the 1848 date on it — and its new successor across the road. Cassie rides in the back seat and is soon pointing out sites I need to see: — the Glen Lodge — a photo of which I sent Jamie from a news article, and nearly a big farm house. It was the farm that James, "the Australian" bought

with the sovereigns he brought
back in his belt and vest!

Here, is where James lived with
his brother Henry who married the
Margaret McMenamin who was Margaret
Bleakley's mother's sister. Here is
where Jamie's childhood began; he
was one of the five children born to
Henry & Margaret, Henry, who was 50
when he married. The children were
so young to lose their mother; John, the
eldest being only 7. Henry would die
six years later - and James, "the
Australian, the bachelor became their
father and mother until he died,
leaving Uncle Ned in charge for this
farm had been lost and they had
been moved to the old cottage at
Edendreeagh. Johnnie, the eldest, did
not go with the 4 younger children
but went to live with his mother's
people, who were also McMenamins
and (I think) of the sept (branch) Cassie
had arranged to have me meet hosts

Sunday when we went to the Owen McMenamin farm. As we motor on Cassie makes note of several items I need to record, lest I forget. We are passing thro' Edenney; it is her parish. I mention my grandfather having told me of working as a boy - as the only male - in a flax mill. (I wondered at his walking the distance to Castleberg or Swan Mills.) Cassie points out the ruins of an old flax mill near the lane leading into Edeneagh!

It is almost 1 P.M. and we are nearing Enniskillen; we see the St. Angelo air port. I wonder if Pat's father-in-law, Paul Victor, ever landed here in his World War II service. We enter Enniskillen at 1 P.M. passing the Agricultural School on Cornagrade Road where Margaret's husband, Eddie Bleakley works at night. I am about to see the apartment building where my letters have been coming to Margaret since, late 1982 - to 11 E Cornagrade Road.

We are greeted by Margaret, and Mary Cleary - her sister - and soon find ourselves crossing a moat like entrance-way into their entrance way - of their first-floor apartment; the "many" of us in the small living-room diningroom quarters add to confusion but in no way wearies the welcoming. We are soon exchanging photos, gifts, family memorabilia, etc.. and then Margaret calls us to the table for lunch and tea. He lat and in comes Hugh's brother Michael of the local Fermanagh Herald to interview me - and his photographer to photograph us. His editor brother Michael, takes notes in shorthand; he expresses pleasure at various points of our interview, commenting: "Smashing! This is smashing." By 3:30 PM, the interview is over and after Michael leaves, Cassie decides it is time I interview her for further M. Mearns genealogy. I acquiesce willingly, not realizing how helpful Cassie can be.

It is from these notes taken here I later realize Cassie's and Margaret's involvement and interest. Cassie tells me of her McMenamin ancestors from Slavin Glen, and I later realize that she, Margaret Blearley and the Owen M.M. of last Sunday's visit must be of the Roger M.M. sept. (I later learn that these McMenamins are sometimes referred to as "the Rogies" by others.) This conference with Cassie goes on until 4:30 pm. with me enjoying a Smithwick and taking notes.

At 5 pm. Margaret serves more tea and cakes and by 6 pm. we are bidding final farewells to Hugh and Aidan. At 6:30 pm. the Blearleys are escorting Pat and me to our new lodging nearby (chosen by Hugh's brother Michael). They are at the Drumcoo Guest House Cherrymount on Arncliffe Road, 1 mile from Enniskillen's town center - the pleasant Mrs. Farrell, about age 40, the proprietress. Pat & I like it at once.