THE CAILLOUET KELLAWAY CHRONICLES: THE EARLY YEARS – 1100-1600

A précis version of the original treatise

by John Warwick Kellaway[1]

EDITOR'S COMMENT

This article is itself an abstract from an original, much longer research report on the early history of the Kellaway name and its variants. No further abstract is therefore provided, nor are detailed source reference citations given. Information on the key sources used is given in the preceding article (see p.57-59). Anyone wishing to obtain further details of the research and the sources consulted is invited to contact the author at the address shown in the footnote[1].

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The name Kellaway/Kelleway/Kelloway/Kelway/Callaway/Calloway/Callway, and other variants seen today, is reasonably considered to derive from the village of Caillouet, in Eure, northern France. As the story of the family has unfolded, it has become apparent that most, if not all, of the names often so different now, are related.

Caillouet

Although located beside a Roman Road, and therefore potentially being much older, the village of Caillouet was probably established after the arrival of invading Viking/Norsemen, who moved up, and settled along, the rivers of northern France about the 9th century. The area came later to be called Normandy. Currently available information about the village begins in those Norman times.

The Beginning

There was initially no evidence that a knight, or anyone from Caillouet, crossed to England with William in 1066, and no reference to the name has been found in the Domesday Book of 1086. The first recorded matching family name so far discovered, is that of Roger de Kaillewi in Gloucester in the reign of King Henry II, about 1120. His name was however also spelt de Cailli, and there was a Guillaume de Cailli, said to have crossed with William. The villages of Caillouet and Cailli are only a few km apart in Normandy, and it appears now that there must have been some relationship between the people of the two villages. Both versions of the name were used for the next two centuries, before the families finally separated.

The variations used of Roger's name indicate the difficulties in determining the family in this and later periods. In the past 900 years there have been probably 200 name variants, some seemingly with no apparent phonetic relevance, and it appears that other

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families today, such as Cayley, who confirm the connection, Kell(e)y, Callow, and Kellaw, are related, or have mixed in some way.

The reasons for the variations are because of the low level of literacy at the time, the language conversion from French to English, French remaining the language at Court for several centuries, and dialectic differences between different parts of the country. Differing versions of the name could occur in the same legal document, even into the 1500s, C and K alternatives of the name, for the same person, even well into the 1800s.

Philip and Hawisa

The first dated recording of the family is in the Gloucester Pipe Rolls of 1165, with Philip de Chailewai holding land in Wiltshire. It can be stated therefore that, because of this fact, and that the family was later to be related by marriage to the House of Plantagenet, while people from Caillouet were in England earlier, the establishment of the family was confirmed with the arrival from Normandy of Henry "Plantagenet"[2] as King Henry III, in 1154.

Somewhere about 1150-65, Hawisa, the widow of Philip de Kayleway, married William, Earl of Gloucester, and cousin of the King. Philip's family therefore must have had some standing at the time.

In 1189, Hawisa and William's daughter Hadwiga/Isabella married Prince, later King, John. She was discarded eleven years later, but Hawisa and Philip had had a son Philip, possibly the man referred to in 1165, and at least one daughter, who therefore became related to the Royal House. Hugh, possibly another son, was recorded with regard to the property of Ayleworth in 1189, the year King Henry died.

The Giffards

Walter Giffard accompanied William the Conqueror at the Battle of Hastings, and the Baronnial Giffard family was to be powerful in England for nearly 300 years. There were at least two family marriages to Giffard daughters in the early years of the 1200s and, after the execution of John Giffard for treason in 1327, John le Calewe was for a time considered his heir. This was as a consequence to forebear Elias de Kaillewey's marriage to Bertha Giffard over 100 years before. The first Elias appears to have held a position of considerable importance around 1200, and there was a series of Eliases and Johns recorded in the family.

Wiltshire and Gloucestershire

The manor of Terintone, Wiltshire, later called Tuderintone/Kaylewent, and other variations, known today as Kellaways, had been the property of the Giffard family from the Conquest. It is presumed to be the manor referred to in 1165, and was held by William and Elias de Kaillewey in the early 1200s. The small castle of Brimpsfield, also

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[2] The epithet 'Plantagenet' is a relatively modern addition to the names of the English kings of the so called 'Plantagenet dynasty'. Although described thus since the 17th century, the first contemporary use (other than Geoffrey of Anjou, the 'head' of the dynasty) was by Richard, Duke of York, c1448. See: C[okayne], G E (1910). *The Complete Peerage*, 2nd ed., London: St. Catherine Press, vol. 1, p.183, note c. - [Ed.]

earlier held by the Giffards, and the manor of Side nearby, in Gloucestershire, probably marriage settlements, were also in family possession until the 1300s.

Devon, Dorset and Durham

By 1240-50, we find other family members established at Muxbere/Mokesbeare in Devon, Dunes Weston in Dorset, and at Durham in the north. It is possible that men at these places were sons, or close relatives, of the first Elias, although it is interesting that two names, Radulphus/Ralph in Dorset, Alexander in Durham, matched others in France about the same time. Mokesbeare, also connected to the Earl of Gloucester, was later confirmed to have a close family relationship with the Wiltshire/Gloucester branch. Family members at Wellington, Somerset, about this time, are presumed to have come from Mokesbeare.

From 1311-16, Richard de Kellawe was the powerful Prince Palatine Bishop of Durham, his family having been in Durham for at least 50 years. The Bishopric was largely temporal, with a standing army to protect the border against the Scots. Richard's brother Patrick was the senior knight in Durham before the 1314 Battle of Bannockburn.

Whether the family generally supported the King or the Barons in the civil conflict before and after Magna Carta, we do not know, but the diverse locations, from Durham to Devon, could have had some strategic significance. It is difficult to determine, but the principal family seems to have moved about, perhaps from Wiltshire to Gloucester, to Devon and then Dorset, by 1300, before returning temporarily to Wiltshire. A younger son went to Stafford Barton in Dolton, Devon. His family is the best recorded in later heraldic pedigrees.

The Name

Names now came to designate the place of abode, rather than the particular family, with, initially, de Stoford in Devon, and de Weston in Dorset. In Devon, the Dolton family became Stoford, then Stafford, and the Dorset family became Weston. Later remnants of the Durham family appear to have assumed the name Kellaw, or Callow. The prefix "le" was used for some reason during the 1300s, causing further name confusion, as "calo" was said in to mean in Old English "the bald". The will of John le Calewe in Dorset in 1308, is the first we have.

The family did not escape the murder and mayhem of the times, and had its share of misfortune and misdeed, as well as honour and success. Elias's daughter Matilda had a hand in the murder of her husband, while William de Kaylweyt received one year's protection from the king in 1269, as did John Calewy for service in Ireland, in 1321.

They became involved in trade and shipping in early times, exporting wool, cloth and tin, and importing wine, in the 1300s. Many joined the Church, as was the custom for younger sons, and the Bishop's Registers of the period may offer more family names than surviving civil records. In 1304, the Church of St Giles was founded at the Wiltshire Parish of Cayllewey, and we have a list of the family Patrons of the church until they left the manor about 1400.

Pears

During the reign of Richard I from 1272-1306, the Court garden contained Cailhou/Caylowel or Cailleway pears. Presumably of French origin, they later appeared on the family coat of arms.

Chawleigh

Edmund de Cayleway, the second to last family Patron of St Giles Church, moved to Chenstone Manor, Chawleigh, Devon, after losing the Wiltshire manor about 1394. After seven generations the family was said to have moved west. He is the presumed father of the Thomas Kayleway, who married Joane Bingham about 1410, thereby acquiring the Bingham and Ramsay inheritances, such as Rockborne in Hampshire, for the family. By this time the family was established at Sherborne Dorset, and Dorset was to figure more extensively in the story from then on. William Cayleway is listed in the Heraldic Pedigrees as the progenitor of the Dorset branch of the family. The prefix “de” was now totally discarded, probably because the family was no longer “from” the manor. It had not been used by the Devon, and other families, who were living away from Wiltshire.

William of Sherborne

The family of William of Sherborne was to be virtually the only branch recorded over the next 200 years, and there were some important people. William himself was a Parliamentary Representative for Dorchester, and Commissioner of the Peace for Dorset. He married heiress Joan Barrett, as his first wife, thereby inheriting properties in Dorset and Wiltshire and, with John, retained close association with the Courtenay family, Earls of Devon. His will was dated 1469.

John Kayleway, presumed brother of William, was present at the burning down of Sherborne Abbey in 1436, and the 40 years of rebuilding could have involved the family with the new stained glass windows.

The family of Thomas, William’s eldest son of his first family, returned to Wiltshire, but to Whitparish and Bapton, not the old manor. Other members went to Stalbridge, Dorset, possibly part of the old Dunes Weston estate, and to Stoford and Lillington, near Sherborne in Dorset. The name Stoford, although geographical in source, seems to have had particular relevance for the family. Apart from Devon and Dorset, there was another in Wiltshire.

Robert

Probably the most important, well recorded person of all, Robert Keilway, was a member of this family, and during his long life became the leading legal man in the country. Although there were confusingly other Roberts at the time, he was, as Surveyor of Wards and Liveries under young King Edward VI, to have joint charge of the Dissolution of the Chantries. Probably Commissioner of the Peace for virtually the whole of south east England, he had many notable positions. He produced important legal treatises. Born in 1497, at his death aged 84, he was Master of the Inner Temple, the highest legal position in England, and left a considerable fortune to his daughter, and other relatives.

The Knights of Rockborne

William of Sherborne's second family however was to receive the greatest fame and notoriety. The eldest son, William, was made Knight Commander of the Bath upon the wedding of the Prince of Wales in 1501. His son and heir, John, was also knighted, about 1530, was Sheriff of Hampshire, and inherited the manor of Rockborne. When he died in 1547, he left extensive property from the Marches in the north to Calais in France.

Sir John's son William attended the Court of King Henry VIII, and was a member of his personal bodyguard. Also a Commissioner of the Peace for Dorset, he was made a Knight Bachelor by Queen Mary at her coronation in 1553. His son ffrancis, and grandson Thomas, however were continually in trouble, and eventually, despite the efforts of ffrancis's brothers, lost the family fortune, and the manor of Rockborne in 1608.

Four Sons

Sir John's second family produced four sons. Gyles was captain of a galleass, and captured a Spanish ship in 1545. He lived at Stroud and Bridport, south Dorset. John settled on the Isle of Wight, and is considered to be the progenitor of families there. Henry was captain of 147 troops, and was also for a time defending the Isle of Wight. He settled at either Berry Pomeroy, Devon, or Ilminster, Somerset. George possibly lived at Ilminster. They all probably benefited considerably from the Dissolution of the Chantries, carried out by cousin Robert.

Coat of Arms

The accepted family coat of arms today dates from about 1450-1500, and comprises four pears between crossed glaziers snippers / grossing irons, thereby combining the craft of stained glass with the variety of pear then popular. Evidence, which now indicates links with other families, suggests that there were earlier arms, of a chevron and three leopards' heads.

John of Cullompton

Among other notable people in the family, John of Colyton/Cullompton in Devon, was a "merchant of the staple", and apparently wealthy, with extensive property in the south. When he died in 1531, he may however have left only a family of daughters, of some 14 children. His widow Jane lived on for a further 53 years, and produced, in all, as many as 20 children.

1600 and After

The Elizabethan Period of 1558-1603 was one of great wealth, power and importance for England, but also saw religious conflict. Following the death of Queen Elizabeth, the new century would not see the same level of importance for the family, as the wealth and property had largely gone, and the descendants, although more numerous, were scattered, principally among the villages of the West Country.

Some were later to leave for other lands.