

**A BRIEF SKETCH OF JAMES
AND ELIZABETH MOORE:
AND A COMPLETE RECORD
OF THEIR DESCENDANTS**

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A Brief Sketch of James and Elizabeth Moore: And a Complete Record of Their Descendants by Various

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VARIOUS

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A Brief Sketch
OF
James and Elizabeth Moore



AND

**A COMPLETE RECORD OF
THEIR DESCENDANTS**

1908

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1908



BIRTHPLACE OF JAMES MOORE



JAMES MOORE

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The subject of this sketch, JAMES MOORE, was born at Ballyavelin, County Londonderry, Ireland, in the year 1767. Few records of vital statistics were kept at that time in Ireland and what few are extant, are but fragmentary, so it is utterly impossible to ascertain, with any degree of certainty, the names of his father and mother, or those of any of his more remote ancestors. It is reasonably certain, however, that the male line were of Scottish descent and were among the troops of Cromwell, who took possession of Ireland in the seventeenth century and, after reducing the island to subjection, were rewarded by grants of Irish land and, instead of returning to their homes in Scotland, looked with favor upon the fertile valleys and green slopes of Ireland and colonized the northern portion, which has ever since held to the tenets of the Protestant (Presbyterian) faith.

He was the youngest of four sons and it fell to his lot to take care of and provide for his parents, which duty he performed faithfully and well. His brothers had emigrated to America while he was quite young, leaving the responsibility of caring for his aged parents resting entirely upon him. They are buried in the old cemetery of Drumachose

parish, about a mile from the town of Limavady, formerly Newtown-Limavady.

Their graves cannot now be identified owing to the fact that in those days it was only the grand families who could afford monuments and headstones suitably inscribed. The graves of those of humbler origin being entirely unmarked, or at best marked by a plain stone or a rough piece of rock.

In the latter part of the year 1801, he married Elizabeth Canning, who was the second of three sisters—Martha, the eldest having married James Steele, and Nancy, the youngest having married James Smith and emigrated to America, where they settled in Wayne Township, this county.

James Moore, as his father had been for many years, continued a tenant of Lord Waterford, whose estates comprised nearly the entire countryside of Ballyavelin. The farm consisted of forty-two acres, for which he paid an annual rental of \$140. The house, which is situated about four miles east of Limavady, was built by the father of James Moore, about the year 1750. It is still standing and, aside from the fact that the straw-thatched roof has been replaced by one of slate, is unchanged in appearance and is in as perfect condition as when it was built, over a hundred and fifty years ago. It is built of stone and mortar, one-story high and about sixty feet in length and, like the usual Irish cottage, is painted a glistening white. It contains four large rooms and the stable, which occupies one end under the same roof. The present owner has added to the other end of this structure a two-story stone addition, but continues to use the original dwelling for a kitchen, dairy and storage room. The kitchen contains the large old-fashioned fire-place and the crane used by our ancestors, and this is the room most popular with the present occupants, in the winter time, as they gather around the fire of glowing peat.

The house is surrounded by a high whitethorn hedge,

