

## Lowther(s) in Londonderry, Northern Ireland

The earliest I have found the name in Londonderry is on the 1796 Flax Grower's List:  
*Louther, Edward, Tirkeeran, Clondermot [Glendermot] 2 wheels.*

Following is a quote from [http://www.glendermottpc.org/?page\\_id=94](http://www.glendermottpc.org/?page_id=94)

*"The Barony of Armagh was changed into Tirkeeran about 1639, and comprised the Parishes of Cumber, Clondermot and Faughanvale... So the Parish of Glendermott is part of the Barony of Tirkeeran. It measures approximately nine miles by five miles, and has 173 acres of water. There are over 21,514 acres in the parish of which 4,410 acres is bog, mountain etc. "*

Next are the births/baptisms of the children of John Lowther(s) & his wife Elizabeth Kearns (or sometimes spelled Cairns) as follows:

Sarah Lowthers 11 Oct 1807

John Lowthers 24 Jul 1809

William Lowthers 14 May 1811

George Lowthers 5 Sep 1813

Samuel Lowthers 7 May 1820 / bap. 7 Aug 1822

John Lowthers 16 Feb 1823

Thomas Lowthers 11 Jun 1826

### Also, marriage records as follows...

Date	Groom	Bride	Remarks
16.11.1824	Edward Lowthers age 22	Jane McCrossen age 22	By licence by Rev Johnston
?2.1829	Edward Lowthers	Elizabeth(X) Kilgore	Elizabeth signed with an X In the presence of James Kilgore and Edward McIntire
18.10.1832	Eliezer? Thompson	Elizabeth Lowthers	Lisdillon
28.12.1835	Henry Lowthers	Rebecca Mitchell	Lisdillon In the presence of Edward Lowthers and David Kilgore
26.3.1836	David Mitchell	Esther Lowthers	In the presence of James Lowthers and Sam Hamilton
29.12.1838	James Lowthers of Lisdillon	Jane(X) Devine	In the presence of William Devine and Nixon Lowthers

### Burials starting from 1828 in Glendermott Church of Ireland Graveyard

<b>Date</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Abode</b>	<b>Age</b>
23.11.1850	James Lowther	Lisdillon	Age 80 years
1.3.1851	James Lowthers	Ballyshaskey	Age 20
13.3.1851	Samuel Lowthers	Lisdillon	Age 28
18.10.1851	John Lowthers	Lisdillon	Age 18
24.3.1853	Samuel Lowthers	Lisdillon	Age 10
August 1853	Ellenor Lowthers	Lisdillon	Age 80
November 1853	May Lowthers	Lisdillon	Age 23
26.4.1854	Elizabeth Lowthers	Lisdillon	Age 80
1.7.1854	James Lowthers	Lisdillon	Age 78
2.8.1860	Nixon Lowthers	Ballyshaskey	Age 39
6.11.1863	Henry Lowthers	Altnagelvin	Age 51
29.3.1864	Sarah Lowthers	Clooney	Age 18
15.12.1869	Alexander Lowther	Londonderry	Age 20
Undated (between July- Nov 1870)	James Lowther	Lisdillon	Age 50
6.11.1871	Edward Lowther	Belfast	Age 63
20.11.1871	Henry Lowther	Lisdillon	3 yr and 8 months
24.11.1871	Alexander Lowther	Lisdillon	1 yr and 11 months
31.3.1872	Samuel Lowther	Lisdillon	Age 31
7.8.1880	James Lowther	Lisdillon	Age 66
15.8.1880	Margaret Lowther	Clooney	Age 80
14.6.1883	Alice May Lowther	Clooney	Age 14

**A discussion of emigration of the Irish from Londonderry in 1834 from the Ordnance Survey Memoirs**

" reports to the Commission on the Poorer Classes remark on the young unmarried Presbyterians who were leaving Aghadowey, (24) and the equal number of cottiers and farmers' sons who went from Banagher, (25) while from Lower Cumber they record that among the emigrants there were "few entire families, chiefly labourers and **the sons of small farmers.**"

"Most of the reports on the Poorer Classes in Ireland claimed that the emigrants left without financial help, (29) but two of the leading shipping football predictions today matches agents in Belfast reported in 1834 that one-third of the passages which they arranged were pre-paid in America. (30) The position was similar **at the port of Derry. Agents there indicated that in 1834 half the passages and many of the sea-stores of emigrants going through the port to British America were paid for by relatives who had crossed earlier.** (31) What the reports to the Commission in fact referred to was the absence of landlord or government sponsored emigration."

The case of our Lowthers ancestors proved the above to be true. Family notes explain that 5 Lowthers boys left Derry together and came to Nova Scotia. It is very possible that they were funded by an elderly relative who was already living in Windsor. He was Andrew Lowthers. His burial record in Christ Church Windsor tells us that he died at the age of 81 in 1841, within 1 year of the boys arrival. Perhaps he sent for the young men knowing he was dying and wishing to pass on whatever he had acquired in the new world. Unfortunately, a search of land records has failed to reveal any property that was ever owned by any Lowthers in Hants County! The names of the 5 'Lowthers boys' were William, Andy, George, Edward and our Samuel. We have not made a *definite* connection with the Andrew buried in Windsor and our Lowthers, but certainly, with the existence of the trailing 's' and the name 'Andrew', qualifies him as a genuine relative. Likely an uncle or perhaps even grandfather.

There was an Andrew Lowther who served in the British Army with the Loyal Nova Scotia Volunteers unit during the American Revolutionary War as follows:  
*Andrew Lowther Rank: Private; Date of Commission: 25 Dec 1777; Enlisted by Lt. Green*  
He was no longer on the list when this unit was given land at Ship's Harbour in 1784!

There is also an Andrew Lowther listed in 1748 in the Royal Hospital Chelsea Pensioner Registers of Soldiers Who Served in Canada in the 30th Regiment of Foot as follows:  
*Andrew Lowther - age 45 \_\_\_\_ affected by consumption & rheumatizm . Born at Londonderry a Heelmaker.* This would make him born in 1703! This 30th Regiment of Foot served in Nova Scotia trying to capture Fortress Louisbourg during this time period. Could this also be an ancestor?

Another little mystery is in the person of Elizabeth Lowthers who must have come at the same time. She was born in 1834 in Ireland according to her childrens' marriage/death records. She married Joseph D. Miller in Windsor in 1859/60. In 1840 when the Lowthers boys arrived in Nova Scotia, she would only have been 6 yrs old. I have speculated that the eldest of the 'boys', Edward, was married and bereft of a wife in Ireland and that Elizabeth was a daughter of that union.

(this is a work in progress - to be continued)