

## **Liam Ó Dálaigh**

**Born c. 1700**

### **Life**

This family line starts with William O'Daly, or, as he was known in his native Irish, Liam Ó Dálaigh. His immediate family were the progenitors of the main Daly line found in the Tralee-Killarney area of Kerry, and indeed possibly in the entire county. The many William Dalys born throughout that region from 1780 to around 1810 were his grandchildren, and were named after him.

The only known names of his sons were Con O'Daly and John O'Daly, who were born around 1740, though the names of many of his grandchildren are known. Con settled in Rossmore and John settled in Gurteenroe, both in Molahiffe parish.

### **Origins**

A piece written about this line of Dalys reads:

*It is believed that this Daly Line originally came from Donegal, then re-settled to Bandon, Co. Cork, in the 17th Century, and then was evicted and settled in Killarney, then to the McCarthy-Kilcummin area, then to Gurteenroe.*

Gurteenroe is the townland where Liam's son John O'Daly lived. If what this piece says is true, then it means that the family of Liam Ó Dálaigh were the first of the Daly line to come to Kerry.

The first census of Ireland took place in 1659, and was carried out by Séamus Pender, thus being known as the Pender Census of Ireland. This census is invaluable as it shows that there have been Dalys in the parishes of Molahiffe and Killnanea since the mid 1600s, at least. In the entire barony of Magunihy, which contains the two parishes, there were 17 families of Dalys. Of course, there would only be a few Daly families inhabiting the aforementioned parishes. It is believed that the family of Liam Ó Dálaigh were the main line of Dalys in the county.

It is interesting to note that, in these two parishes, the townlands of Garranerouerice and Gorteene Ruo are mentioned. These are synonymous with the modern townlands of Gurrane and Gurteenroe, with Liam Ó Dálaigh's sons Con and John having land in Gurrane and Gurteenroe respectively. From this, we can conclude that both townlands have been continuously inhabited by our Daly family, for at least 400 years, from the early 1600s, to the current year, 2020.

In 1704, a list of the "Popish" parish priests of Kerry was made out. The piece lists a Tiege Daly as the parish priest of Currens, Killeentierna, and Dysart. Clearly, this Tiege Daly is a relation of Liam Ó Dálaigh, as Currans is the current name of the area where Gurrane is found, and Killeentierna is very near to Gurteenroe. Tiege, translated to English as Timothy, is a recurring family name among Liam's descendants. This Tiege Daly is mentioned as being born in 1652, and being ordained by the Bishop of Ossory in 1680. His address is given as Roghnriogh, which has yet to be identified. Teige Daly would have had to come from a well-off family of Dalys, as it was quite expensive to train priests during the Penal Times.

### **DNA Findings**

Through Y-DNA testing, which tests a male's Y Chromosome, Liam Ó Dálaigh's line can be traced back to ancient times. This is as a man inherits his Y Chromosome from his father, and that father from his, and so on, with very little variation over time in the chromosome's genetic code. A large number of Kerry Dalys were tested in recent years, these Dalys being descendants of Liam Ó Dálaigh. This large-scale testing revealed that Liam was part of the haplogroup (paternal ancestry) R-M269.