

Rahanna House Papers, 1855 – 1857

Repository Code:	IE LHA
Collection Reference Code:	PP00024/
Title:	Rahanna House Papers
Dates:	1855 – 1857
Level of Description:	Item
Extent:	1 folder containing 19 items
Name of Creator(s):	George Ruxton, Chichester Hamilton
Bibliographic History:	<p>George Ruxton (1804 – 1869) was the son of John Fitzherbert and Anne Elizabeth Coddington of Oldbridge, County Meath. George Ruxton married Mary Odell. He served as Major in the army and was a JP, DL and in the year 1851, a High Sheriff of Louth. A related article on the Ruxtons of Ardee can be found in the Journal of the County Louth Archaeological and Historical Society vol XXIII, number 4, 1996.</p> <p>Rahanna was originally a two storey country house to the north of Ardee. It was built around 1820 by Charles Ruxton who passed it to his brother George Ruxton. It was left to George's son William who married Arbella Anna Bomford and lived there until it was sold in the 1890s. It is still a private house. For more information on the building itself visit http://www.buildingsofireland.ie.</p> <p>Charge of the Light Brigade is a famous poem by Alfred Lord Tennyson (1809 – 1892) about the charge itself at the Battle of Balaclava (1854) during the Crimean War. At the time of writing this poem Tennyson was the poet laureate of the United Kingdom. It was published in the Examiner in 1854.</p>
Archival History:	These papers were deposited with Louth County Archives Service in April 2001 by the County Louth Archaeological and Historical Society.
Scope and Content:	The main part of the collection refers to the renting of lands at Rahanna, Ardee, County Louth by Chichester Hamilton in 1855 – 1857. There are several copies of ' <i>Agony Farmer</i> ' letters and replies published in a Gazette concerning farming queries. It is unknown who wrote these or if Ruxton was involved with the Gazette. The collection contains a copy of 'The Charge of the Light Brigade'.
Subject Index:	Agriculture; Farming; Gazette; Rahanna, Ardee; Ruxton, George
Appraisal and Destruction:	Retain permanently.
Accruals:	No further accruals are expected.
System of Arrangement:	The collection is arranged into two files and one item. It is arranged chronologically therein.
Conditions of Access:	Open access, by appointment.

Conditions Governing Reproduction:	Contact County Archives staff regarding copying.
Language/Script of Material:	English.
Physical Characteristics:	Paper. Fair – good condition.
Technical Requirements:	Careful handling required.
Finding Aids:	Descriptive list can be found on on-line catalogue available at http://www.louthcoco.ie
Existence and Location of Originals:	Louth County Archives Service
Existence and Location of Copies:	Some digitised documents may occasionally be found on http://www.louthcoco.ie
Related material:	N/A
Publication Note:	Ruxton, William, 'The Ruxtons of Ardee' (CLAHJ, Vol XXIII, No 4, 1996, pp387-92)
Repository Home page:	http://www.louthcoco.ie
Source Material:	http://www.louthcoco.ie
Date of Description:	July 2007 by Robert McEvoy. Revised June 2014 by Nathan Murphy, Lorraine A McCann

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Level Headings

Fonds:	PP00024/ Rahanna House Papers, 1855 – 1857, 19 items
File 1:	PP00024/A/ Rent of Rahanna Land, 1855 – 1857, 12 items
File 2:	PP00024/B/ 'Agony Farmer' Letters to Gazette, 1855 – 1856, 6 items
Item:	PP00024/C Charge of the Light Brigade, [1854 – 1855], 1 item

Descriptive List

Rahanna House Papers, 1855 – 1857

File 1:

PP00024/A/
Rent of Rahanna land
1855 – 1857
12 Items

PP00024/A/001

Note of the survey returned to Major Ruxton of part of his estate at Rahanna, let to (Chichester) Hamilton containing 74 acres, 1 rood and 15 perches. It includes nine divisions of land with names of fields and size of each field.

Oct 1855

1p

Paper

PP00024/A/002

Copy letter of the proposal concerning the lands of Rahanna by Chichester Hamilton, Red House, Ardee to Major Ruxton. Hamilton proposes that he rents the lands at Rahanna from Ruxton at the sum of £4 per acre noting the amount of crops he wishes to take from the fields and if this doesn't suit Ruxton he offers an alternative where he proposes to rent the land at £3 and 10 shillings per acre.

05 Oct 1855

4pp

Paper

PP00024/A/003

Reply letter from George Ruxton, Rahanna to Chichester Hamilton in response to Hamilton's proposed rent of Rahanna, Ardee. Ruxton states that he agrees to all the conditions except those in relation to the 13 acre field and requests £4 per acre.

06 Oct 1855

4pp

Paper

PP00024/A/004

Letter from George Ruxton, 6 Saint James's Terrace, Malahide, County Dublin to Chichester Hamilton. Ruxton states that he is willing to accept the sum of £4 for the lands at Rahanna, Ardee as per the conditions mentioned in Hamilton's letter of 5th October and on the understanding that Hamilton provides grass for Mr Delap's cow during the summer months.

12 Oct 1855

2pp

Paper

PP00024/A/005

Copy letter from Chichester Hamilton, Red House, Ardee to Major Ruxton regarding Hamilton's proposal to rent the lands at Rahanna for £4 per acre as per the conditions mentioned. Hamilton agrees to allow Mr Delap to graze one cow for the six summer months subject to Hamilton's use of the farmyard namely the thrashing mill, barn offices and stackyard.

13 Oct 1855

3pp

Paper

PP00024/A/006

A rough sketch consisting of a circle within a circle possibly outlining the border of lands of Chichester Hamilton.

17 Oct [1855]

1p

Paper

PP00024/A/007

Agreement by Edward Crawley to Chichester Hamilton for serving as herder at Rahanna, Ardee on condition that Crawley receives six shillings per week during the six winter months and seven shillings per week during the six summer months, a free house and cows grass for the calf until it is twelve months old. Crawley agrees to hold himself accountable for any problems with animals. Includes envelope.

01 Nov 1855

4pp

2 items

Paper

PP024/A/008

Letter from George Ruxton, 6 Saint James's Terrace, Malahide, County Dublin to Chichester Hamilton informing Hamilton that he may have the room in the cottage 'with pleasure'.

26 Jan [1856]

1p

Paper

PP00024/A/009

A series of receipts for rent received from Chichester Hamilton due to Major George Ruxton for lands held at Rahanna, Ardee, County Louth.

28 May 1856 – 05 Nov 1857

5 items

Paper

PP00024/A/010

A note containing the list of summer and winter months along with the number of days for calculating rent. Includes the rent for house and cows grass.

[1856 – 1857]

1p

Paper

PP00024/A/011

A note describing the different types and weight of grass seed for one Irish acre.

[1856 – 1857]

1p

Paper

File 2:

PP00024/B/

'Agony Farmer' Letters to Gazette

1855 – 1856

6 Items

PP00024/B/001

'A field injured by turning up too much of the subsoil' – copy of a Gazette reader's letter seeking advice on planting on land which was drained and subsoiled during the Famine of 1848 under the Board of Works. Includes copy of advice provided.

26 May 1855

2pp

Paper

PP00024/B/002

Copy of a request from 'Agony Farmer Ardee' seeking advice on the quantity of farmyard manure to use for planting turnips including the type of seed to use. He also enquires about how much lime to put on land and the average days work for a pair of horsers ploughing and harrowing. Includes copy of advice provided.

02 Jun 1855

2pp

Paper

PP00024/B/003

Copy of a letter from J Armagh for information on grass seeds for laying down land, planting barley, names of grasses and plants and tons of hay per Irish acre for a small farm that he lives far away from. Includes copy of advice provided.

25 Aug 1855

2pp

Paper

PP00024/B/004

Copy of a request from 'Agony Farmer Drogheda' regarding how many horses would be required for a farm of 35 or 40 acres. Also questions in relation to seed, cure for cow blister and the expected outcome of certain amounts of crops. Includes copy of advice provided.

01 Sep 1855

4pp

Paper

PP00024/B/005

Copy of note from Gazette on how to prepare water proof clothing.

30 Aug 1856

1p

Paper

PP00024/B/006

Notes on the production of water proof clothing. It is written on paper embossed with 'Ravensdale Park, Flurrybridge, Ireland.' The Gazette's author may have sought advice from the writer of this note.

Cross-reference to PP00024/B/005

[1856]

2pp

Paper

Item

PP00024/C

Words of 'The Charge of the Light Brigade' as written by Alfred, Lord Tennyson in 1854 to memorialise events in the Battle of Balaclava, 25 October 1854.

[1854 – 1855]

3pp

Paper