

David Haslam's reference book to tenancies on Irish estates in the ownership of Thomas Taylour, 2nd Marquess of Headfort, Kells, County Meath.

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**Published by John Nelson, Kilmainham Kells, Co. Meath
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© *John Nelson 2014*, ISBN 978-0-9929079-2-1.**

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David Haslam lived in Cannon Street, Kells, County Meath, and worked as a Bailiff and Steward on Headfort Estate. During the tenure of his office he kept a reference book detailing some information on Estate business and holdings.

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Original Folio numbers are retained in this publication which is presented in print and original script. [218 pages excluding cover].

The book appears to have been compiled in the 1860's with entries in a column entitled 'Observations' continuing up to 1871 (folio 31), however, one entry in folio 133 refers to a lease which was to run from March 1872. The book index may not provide insight into all its content, e.g. Index 15/16 which refers to Censuses taken on the Cavan Estate in 1860 and 1862 are enhanced by a summary of these Censuses which include one taken in 1864. Folio 75 has a reference to a Census taken in 1858. The book lists the names of people who held properties from Headfort Estate under yearly rent or leases. These properties were located in Cavan, Meath, and Dublin.

Terms of the leases are listed in a column entitled 'Observations. Some Cavan leases are for lives of Emigrants living in America and Queensland. Tenants with holdings on the Dublin Estate held leases from 91 years to 300 years. One entry records the granting of a 99 year lease on the 30th October 1871 for premises in King Street Dublin. The previous lease was given in 1801. Some of the script in the column entitled 'Observations is difficult to decipher and may not be included in the printed format. In the 'Observations column where David has the following 'not A. M.L. one should read, not A Male Lessee. A table listing the number of individual farms in Headfort Estates in Meath and Cavan is included under the following headings, number under 5 acres, number over 5 and under 10, number over 10 and under 20, number over 20 and under 50, number over 50 and under 100, number 100 acres and over. Details of tenancies of farms on Headfort's holdings in Ardagh near Kilmainhamwood County Meath are also listed as are Headfort bogs.

The book contains a 'Tabular statement of annuities and other expenses' on the Headfort Estate. David Haslam's wages are recorded as £20 per annum while Headfort's chief agent G. T. Dalton Esq. draws a salary of £600 per annum. The Earl of Bective received £500.