

O'Shea Origins

Several writers, and amongst them the industrious O'Heerin, deduce that the descent of the Kerry O'Sheas (Hibernice O'Seaghda) from Conary, Monarch of Ireland, son of Megh Lamha, through his son Cairbre Musc; O'Halloran, who is followed by John T. O'Flaherty, Esq., in a learned essay on Ancient Ireland, published in Cork in 1842, states that their correlatives, the O'Connells, descend from Cairbre Riada, the brother of Cairbre Musc, which is evidently incorrect; whilst the Munster Annals and other trustworthy records, draw their line of descent from Olliol Ollum, king of Munster, through his eldest son, Eoghan More, ancestor of the Eoghanachta of that province. The truth seems to be that there were in Desmond two families of this name, who were of a totally different race, viz. the O'Sheas of Iveragh, descendants of Corc, son of Cairbre Musc, son of the monarch Conary, and the O'Sheas of Corcaguiney, who derived their descent and surname from the Seaghda, of the line of Eoghan Mor. Very few notices of the notices of the Corcaguiney family are preserved by the analysts. In A.D. 1095, Mahon O'Shea, lord of Corcaguiney died, and in the year following, Mahon, chief of the same country. In 1580, Philip O'Shea, a native of Kerry, a religious was brutally murdered, on the 6th of April, at Lislaughten, on account of his faith. A branch of the sept settled in the county of Tipperary in very early times whence Robert, son of Richard O'Shea, moved to Kilkenny, in A.D. 1480. The following is the pedigree off his line of descent, John Power O'Shee, Esq., of Garden-Morris, in the county of Waterford, and Sheestown, in Kilkenny:-

John Power, son of
Richard Power, son of
John, son of
Marcus, son of
Richard, son of
Marcus, son of
Sir Richard, Knt., son of
Robert, son of
Richard, son of
Robert, son of Richard, son of
Robert