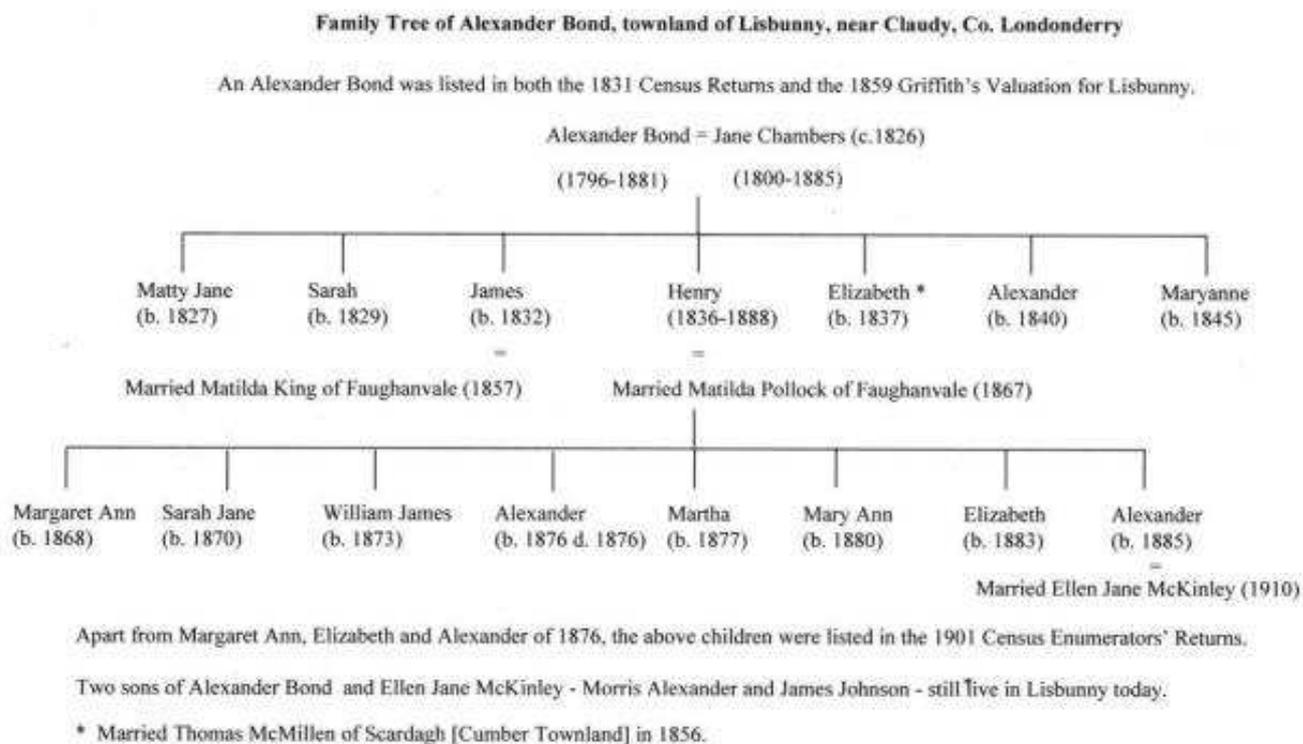


The Family of Alexander Bond of Lisbunny

As the family tree below shows this family was resident in the townland of Lisbunny, near Claudy from, at least, 1831 to the present day.



Alexander Bond and Jane Chambers

Alexander Bond was born c.1796. This date was calculated from his age, 85, given in the burial register of Cumber Upper Parish Church where he was buried on the 1st November 1881. I have no idea where he was born nor can I establish exactly when the family arrived in Lisbunny.

There were Bonds living within the wider area of the parishes of Cumber Upper and Lower in the later part of the eighteenth century as the table below shows. These names were listed in the 1796 Flaxgrowers' List for the county.

Parish	Forename	Surname	Parish	Forename	Surname
Cumber	Thomas	Bond	Cumber	James	Bond
Cumber	Robert	Bond	Cumber	John Sen.	Bond
Cumber	Andrew	Bond	Cumber	Feddy	Bond
Cumber	William	Bond	Cumber	Samuel	Bond
Cumber	John	Bond	Cumber	Frederick	Bond
Cumber	Thomas	Bond	Cumber	George	Bond
Cumber	Thomas Sen.	Bond	Clondermot	William	Bond

Earlier, in the 1740 Protestant Household Returns, a Samuel Bond was listed as living in the townland of Glenlough in the parish of Cumber Upper. However, care must be taken in interpreting this earlier material. The sources containing these names are only extant for a few years in the eighteenth century and even those that do exist do not always record all persons living in a townland or parish.

However, the presence of a locality within this general area known as Bond's Glen suggests that there must have been a sufficient number of persons of that name present at some time in the past to warrant such a place name.

My own suspicion is that this part of the county had to wait until the eighteenth century before sufficient numbers of British families really colonised it. In the 1740 Protestant Householders' Returns only the names of John Rosborough and Wm. Whiteside were listed for Lisbunny.

Certainly the idea that Bonds probably came to this general area during the eighteenth century tends to be borne out by the evidence below which comes from a database of Co. Londonderry Wills, Derry Diocese, 1612-1857. No Bonds were listed in the west of the county before the eighteenth century.

Testators Christian Name	Testators Surname	Residence	Parish	Year of Probate
Andrew	Bond	Clooney, Liberties of Londonderry	Clondermot	1789
Frederick	Bond	Londonderry City	Templemore	1804
George	Bond	Lackagh	Cumber Lower	1791
James	Bond	Glenlock [Glenlough]	Cumber Upper	1733
Thomas	Bond	Ballykellaghan	Cumber	1754
William	Bond	Gortead [Gorteade]	Maghera	1697
William	Bond	Clooney, Liberties of Londonderry	Clondermot	1749
William	Bond	Glenn,	Lower Cumber	1818
William	Bond	Lackagh	Lower Cumber	1833

The name Bond is absent from the Tithe Applotment Book for the townland, dated 1828. An Alexander Bond is listed in the 1831 Census Returns living in a house occupied by 1 male and 3 females which is consistent with the family tree above. Alexander was the male and the three females were his wife and his two young daughters, Matty Jane and Sarah.

We cannot rule out the possibility that Alexander Bond, and indeed John Bond who was also listed in the 1831 Census Returns, were not living in Lisbunny in 1828, or indeed even earlier. Tithe Books only list the leaseholders and the Bonds could have been renting land from one of them. In the 1831 Census Returns the townland was divided between Lisbunny Rosborough [the eastern part of the townland] and Lisbunny Lindsay [the western part of the townland] where the Bonds lived. I suspect this division arose as a result of the way in which the townland was leased during the eighteenth century. It would appear that the townland was let in two lots with the Lindsay family, possibly with others, obtaining a lease of the western part of the townland and the Rosborough family, again possibly with others, the eastern part.

The Griffith's [Tenement] Valuation of 1858 shows that Alexander Bond along with nine other individuals held 113 acres of land jointly within a specific area of the townland [marked on the accompanying valuation map as number 13] as well as a further 132 acres of mountain [No. 14 on the map] held jointly with the same individuals and a few others from the townland.

Here we have an example of a classic clachan with a cluster of houses surrounded by an infield where the land was divided into strips and distributed amongst the farmers in a way that reflected the differing qualities of soil within the settlement. Beyond that was the outfield and the mountain which was held in common. Here the inhabitants of the clachan could graze their animals. The number of animals that they could graze reflected the amount of land that each farmer held in the infield. These strips of land can be clearly seen in the valuation map.

As the printed valuation shows the valuers did not even attempt to assign the acreage held by each household within the clachan. This suggests that the way in which land was held in the infield was so complicated that the valuers took the easy way out and simply entered the total acreage. The value of £4.5.0 assigned to the land held by Alexander Bond suggests that he had a 6% share, the same as John Bond, his neighbour. The largest share, 28%, was held by William Lindsay. Clearly the clachan lay within what had been the Lindsay lease. I suspect that by the middle of the nineteenth century the lease had expired and all the tenants were holding at will.

A copy of the page from the printed Griffith's Valuation and the accompanying map are shown on the next two pages.

Unfortunately it is impossible to identify Alexander Bond's house in the cluster shown on the valuation map. The Griffith's Revision Books show that Alexander Bond continued to live in this house until his death in 1881.

VALUATION OF TENEMENTS.

PARISH OF CUMBER, UPPER.

No. and Letters of Reference to Map.	Names.		Description of Tenement.	Ares.	Rateable Annual Valuation.		Total Annual Valuation of Rateable Property.	
	Towarlands and Occupiers.	Immediate Lessors.			Land.	Buildings.		
				A. R. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
LISBUNNY. (Ord. S. 28 & 29.)								
1 A B C	a	Major Roseborough, .	Trustees James Ogilby,	House, offices, and land,	30 3 25	12 10 0	1 5 0	13 15 0
					21 0 20	10 10 0	—	16 5 0
		Sarah Roseborough, .	Same, . . .	House, offices, & land, }	0 3 35	0 15 0	1 5 0	
					10 2 15	3 15 0	—	
3 A B	a	Bridget M'Donough, .	Sarah Roseborough, .	House, . . .			0 5 0	0 5 0
		John Whiteside, sen.,	Trustees James Ogilby,	House, offices, & land, }	16 1 35	8 10 0	—	10 5 0
4	a	James Roseborough, .	Same, . . .	House, offices, and land,	1 0 0	0 15 0	1 0 0	
		James Roseborough, .	Same, . . .	House, offices, and land,	28 0 10	16 5 0	1 10 0	
5	a	Wm. Roseborough, }	Same, . . .	Land, . . .	6 3 20	1 0 0	—	1 0 0
						1 0 0	—	1 0 0
6 A B C	a	William Roseborough,	Same, . . .	House, offices, & land, }	5 2 25	4 5 0	—	19 5 0
					1 1 15	1 0 0	—	
7 A B	a	John Roseborough, .	Same, . . .	House, offices, & land, }	25 3 10	13 0 0	1 0 0	26 15 0
					1 0 10	0 15 0	—	
8	a	John Campbell,	John Roseborough, .	House, . . .	47 1 20	24 10 0	1 10 0	0 10 0
		John Whiteside, jun.,	Trustees James Ogilby,	House, offices, and land,	27 0 30	12 5 0	1 0 0	
9	a	George M'Grilles,	Same, . . .	House, offices, & land, }	69 0 25	4 15 0	0 10 0	5 5 0
		William M'Grilles,	Same, . . .	House, offices, & land, }		4 15 0	0 10 0	5 5 0
10	a	James Whiteside,	Same, . . .	House, offices, and land,	10 0 5	5 5 0	0 15 0	6 0 0
		Charles Ramsay,	Same, . . .	House, offices, and land,	4 2 30	2 10 0	0 10 0	3 0 0
11	a	David Temple, . . .	Same, . . .	House, offices, and land,	30 2 25	5 15 0	0 15 0	6 10 0
		Major Barr, . . .		House, offices, & land, }		8 5 0	2 0 0	10 5 0
12	a	William Lindsay,		House, offices, & land, }		19 0 0	1 0 0	20 0 0
		Jane Stephenson,		House, offices, & land,		5 5 0	0 10 0	5 15 0
13	a	James Craig,	Same, . . .	House, offices, & land,		1 5 0	0 10 0	1 15 0
		William Ramsay,	Same, . . .	House, offices, & land, }	131 1 15	8 15 0	0 15 0	9 10 0
14	a	Oliver Thomson,		House, offices, & land,		9 5 0	0 15 0	10 0 0
		Wm. Roseborough,		Herd's house & land,		2 15 0	0 5 0	3 0 0
15	a	John Bond,		House, offices, & land,		4 5 0	0 10 0	4 15 0
		Alexander Bond,		House, offices, & land,		4 5 0	0 15 0	5 0 0
16	a	Robert Connell,		Cottier's house & land,		5 10 0	0 10 0	6 0 0
		Major Barr,				2 0 0	—	2 0 0
17	a	William Lindsay,				1 0 0	—	1 0 0
		Robert Connell,				2 0 0	—	2 0 0
18	a	Jane Stephenson,				1 0 0	—	1 0 0
		James Craig,				0 5 0	—	0 5 0
19	a	John Bond, . . .	Same, . . .	Mountain, . . .	132 1 15	0 5 0	—	0 5 0
		Alexander Bond,				0 5 0	—	0 5 0
20	a	William Ramsay,				2 0 0	—	2 0 0
		Oliver Thomson,				1 0 0	—	1 0 0
21	a	Charles Ramsay,				0 10 0	—	0 10 0
		Wm. Roseborough,				0 10 0	—	0 10 0
22	a	Patrick Gormley,	Same, . . .	House, offices, and land,	27 3 10	4 5 0	0 15 0	5 0 0
		John Gormley, . . .	Same, . . .	House, offices, and land,	31 3 15	4 15 0	0 10 0	5 5 0
23	a	Michael Devin, . . .	Same, . . .	Land, . . .	49 3 0	4 5 0	—	4 5 0
		James Devin, . . .	Same, . . .	Land, . . .		4 5 0	—	4 5 0
24	a	Patrick Kirling,	Same, . . .	House, offices, and land,	48 3 20	10 10 0	0 15 0	11 5 0
		James Ellis, . . .	Same, . . .	Offices and land, . . .	84 2 30	13 0 0	0 10 0	15 10 0
Total, . . .					845 2 20	254 0 0	22 5 0	278 5 0



PRONI: [VAL/2/A/5/28 & 29, 1856]

Marriage of Alexander Bond and Jane Chambers

Because this marriage took place before the compulsory registration of protestant marriages from 1845, we have to rely on church registers. Unfortunately when I first began to research this family I had no idea of even the forename of Alexander's wife, nor had I any idea of where she lived. Since most marriages normally take place in the bride's church, having some idea of where she lived is essential. In the end the name of Alexander's wife and the approximate date of the marriage came from the baptismal register of St. Eugene's Parish Church, Cumber Upper.

Births of the children of Alexander and Jane Bond

Since all of their children were born before compulsory registration of births, again we have to rely on church registers. The Bonds were Church of Ireland and fortunately the baptismal registers of Cumber Upper Parish Church are available on microfilm [MIC1/12 & 16] in PRONI. Copies of these microfilms are also available at Coleraine Library. The registers run from 1811-1818 and 1826 to 1872. After that date the registers are in local custody. The following baptisms of seven of Alexander and Jane Bond's children are recorded in the church register. There may have been more that were not recorded. The recording of baptisms in the register improves greatly from 1837 onwards. It was at that point that I discovered that Jane Bond's maiden name was Chambers.

Baptised 30th August 1827 [born same date], Matty Jane, the infant daughter of Alexander and Jane Bond of Lisbunny.

Baptised 31st August 1829 [born same date], Sarah, the infant daughter of Alexander and Jane Bond of Lisbunny.

Baptised 2nd September 1832 [born same date], James, the infant son of Alexander and Jane Bond of Lisbunny.

I think Henry Bond was born c.1836 but his baptism does not seem to be recorded. This was about the time when the method of recording baptisms in the register was changed. This suggests a change of minister. At such times some baptisms can be missed.

Baptised 30th April 1837 [born 23rd April 1837], Elizabeth, the infant daughter of Alexander Bond and Jane Chambers of Lisbunny. Here, for the first time the maiden name of the mother is given.

Baptised 9th April 1840 [born same date] Alexander, the infant son of Alexander and Jane Chambers of Lisbunny.

Baptised 21st August 1845 [born 10th August 1845] Maryanne, the infant daughter of Alexander Bond and Jane Chambers of Lisbunny.

It is interesting to note that in this period babies were baptised on the day they were born or very shortly afterwards. Such baptisms would have taken place in the parent's house. Later in the century there is usually a gap of three months, or more, before a child is baptised.

Alexander Bond died at the age of 85. His burial took place on the 1st November 1881 and is recorded in the Cumber Upper Parish Church burial register. The same register records the burial of his wife, Jane, on the 10th March 1885, aged 85. Note because of the way that the 85 is written in the register, it could easily be read as 35.

Sons of Alexander and Jane Bond

Alexander and Jane Bond had three sons. I do not know what happened to the youngest son, Alexander. As the family tree shows James, the eldest son was married in 1857 and Henry, his younger brother, was married in 1867. Both parents were still alive when these marriages took place. The Griffith's Revision Book [VAL/12/B/32/5C: 1881-1883] shows the name of Alexander Bond stroked out in 1883 and that of Henry Bond added. Clearly, the farm had passed to the second son, Henry. Why had James, the eldest son, not taken over the farm?

Marriage of James Bond and Matilda King

James married a Matilda King in Faughanvale Presbyterian Church on the 7th September 1857. He gave his place of residence at the time of his marriage as Lisbunny. His wife's place of residence was Dunlade Glebe in the parish of Faughanvale. Her father was Samuel King who was a farmer. A Samuel King is listed in the 1858 [Griffith's Tenement] Valuation occupying a farm of c.92 acres. The witnesses were Thomas McMullan and Charles Ramsay. I presume that this is the Thomas McMullan who had married James' sister, Elizabeth, in 1856. [See the McMillen case study.]

The births of their children from 1865 onwards show that James and his wife were living in Dunlade Glebe. Clearly, they were likely to have had children in the preceding ten years - probably four. Unlike the births from 1865 onwards, these births took place before the compulsory registration of births but I would have expected to find them in the baptismal registers of either Cumber Upper or Faughanvale Parish Churches. However, they are not there, so I do not know where they were living between 1857 and 1865. I suspect that they may have been living in Lisbunny.

Marriage of Henry Bond and Matilda Pollock

The marriage of Henry Bond and Matilda Pollock took place in Faughanvale Presbyterian Church on the 20th June 1867. The marriage entry reads - Henry Bond, full age, bachelor, farmer of Tirglassan [Tyrglassan] to Matilda Pollock, full age, spinster of Lisbunny. The father of the groom was given as Alexander Bond, farmer and the father of the bride as William Pollock, farmer. The witnesses were Samuel Montgomery and Mary Jane King. There are a number of interesting points regarding this marriage certificate.

Henry gave his place of residence at the time of his marriage as Tirglassan. Tirglassan is a townland in the parish of Banagher and is situated on the road between Feeny and Claudy. Why was he living there in 1867? Was he a live-in servant on someone's farm in Tirglassan? Need to check Griffith's Revisions for Tirglassan for this date. The witness Samuel Montgomery most probably lived in this general area. There is a James Montgomery listed in the townlands of Knockan and Rallagh, also in the parish of Banagher. His house was in Knockan but his land was in the adjoining townland of Rallagh. Perhaps Samuel was a son of James. I have not investigated this possibility.

Matilda gave her place of residence at the time of her marriage as Lisbunny. Was she a live-in servant in the house of Alexander Bond or some other farmer in the townland? Her father was William Pollock. I am almost certain that this is the William Pollock who is listed in the 1858 Griffith's [Tenement] Valuation occupying a farm of c.36 acres in the townland of Glebe in the parish of Faughanvale. There are three Glebes in Faughanvale - Glebe, Minegallagher Glebe and Dunlade Glebe - sometimes referred to in early records as the Glebes. I am certain that the Pollock family and the King family, who lived in Glebe, knew each other - they may even have been related. Interestingly, one of the witnesses at the wedding was a Mary Jane King.

As you will see below all of Henry and Matilda's children were born in Lisbunny. Given that the first child was born in 1868 suggests that Henry and his wife set up home in the house where he was born. At that time his father would have been aged 71 and his mother 67. If James and his wife had been living in Lisbunny [and I cannot be sure about this] they would have already moved to Dunlade Glebe well before 1867. Check Griffith's Revisions.

Births of the children of Henry and Matilda Bond

Henry and Matilda's children, who were all born in Lisbunny, were baptised in Cumber Upper, Parish Church and I was able to obtain the baptism and birth details of each child from the baptismal register. All of the children were born in Lisbunny.

The fact that the children were all born after compulsory registration of births means that the registration of each of them can be found in the *Ireland, Civil Registration Indexes* database on the LDS website. The results of a search for their children in this index are shown in the table below. Note that I have added the precise dates of births from the baptismal register. This information will enable you to obtain either a verification or a photocopy of the entry in the civil marriage register from either GRONI in Belfast or the GROI in Abbey Street, Dublin or at Roscommon.

I could also get details of each of the births from the Derry ~ Londonderry: Birth Records for Co. Derry online database. This database will contain separate entries for each civil birth and each church baptism. I already have the details from the baptismal register.

Name	Superintendent's Registration District	Local Registration District	Registration Date - Quarter & Year	Date of Birth	Volume No.	Page No.
Margaret Ann Bond	Londonderry	Claudy	1868	8/8/1868	12	199
Sarah Jane Bond	Londonderry	Claudy	1870	12/12/1870	17	209
William Alexander Bond*	Londonderry	Claudy	1873	14/8/1873	12	200
Alexander Bond **	Londonderry	Claudy	1876	11/2/1876	2	218
Martha Bond	Londonderry	Claudy	1877	13/3/1877	2	218
Mary Ann Bond	Londonderry	Claudy	Jan - Mar 1880	10/2/1880	2	204
Elizabeth Bond	Londonderry	Claudy	Apr - Jun 1883	22/4/1883	2	175
Alexander Bond	Londonderry	Claudy	Oct - Dec 1885	21/12/1885	2	152

* This child was registered as William Alexander Bond but is known as William James Bond in the 1901 Census and the Ballyneaner Enrolment Register.

** This child died.

Note that the first Alexander Bond, born in 1876, died that year. A search of the *Ireland, Civil Registration Indexes* for his death produced the information shown in the table below. I have added the Local Registration District.

Name	Superintendent's Registration District	Local Registration District	Registration Date - Quarter & Year	Estimated Birth Year	Age	Volume No.	Page No.
Alexander Bond	Londonderry	Claudy	1876	1876	0	2	188

I have not seen the actual death certificate. Because this death was registered in 1876 it does not give the quarter of the year. This only happened in the indexes from 1878 onwards. Knowing the quarter of the year for both the birth and year would have been helpful in this case.

Note also that William James, born in 1873, was registered as William Alexander but is listed as William James in the Census Returns and in the Ballyneaner School Register. This Register which can be seen at the School Records link in the top menu gives details of children when they first enrolled in the school. The database covers the period 1863-1899. Below are the entries relating to two of Alexander and Matilda Bond's children. Clearly, the Alexander Bond who entered the school in 1895 was Alexander who, according to the civil birth registers was born in 1885. I am certain that the William J or James, listed as a Presbyterian, is the William Alexander Bond who was born on the 14th August 1873. The ages given in the register suggest that he was born in either 1874 or 1875. Given that the school register merely enters an age rather than a date of birth for each child, this can often lead to such discrepancies in age. The 1880 entry relates to his enrolment as an infant. I'm not sure why it appears again in 1883. The 1885 entry, as it says in the register, relates to his transfer from infants to the senior school. I think the listing of William James as a Presbyterian is simply a mistake by the teacher.

Date of Entry [where given]	Year of Entry	Reg. No	Surname of Child	Forename of Child	Age	Religion	Townland	County	Occupation of Father	Other Schools Attended
01/01/1895	1895	220	Bond	Alexander	8	CI	Lisbunny	L'Derry	Farmer	Transferred from Infants
12/06/1885	1885	120	Bond	William J	11	Pres	Lisbunny	L'Derry	Farmer	Transferred from Infants
25/06/1883	1883	120	Bond	William J	8	Pres	Lisbunny	L'Derry	Farmer	
02/08/1880	1880	120	Bond	William James	5	Pres	Lisbunny	L'Derry	Farmer	

1901 Census Returns [Ballymullins DED] [PRONI: MIC354/5/17]

Below are the details of the Bond household in Lisbunny in 1901. As you can see Matilda Bond was by then a widow. Henry had died in February 1888, aged 52. His burial is recorded in the Cumber Upper Parish Church burial register. In 1894 Henry's name was replaced by his wife's name in the Griffith's Revision Book for the townland. This is a glaring example of the discrepancy in dates between valuers' dates and the actual dates of deaths that can occur in the Griffith's Revision Books.

The house is described in the census as being thatched, with two rooms and two front windows. I'm certain that this was the same house that was listed in the Griffith's Valuation in 1858, valued at fifteen shillings.

House No. in Census	Forename	Surname	Relationship	Religion	Education	Age	Sex	Profession	Marriage	Where Born
14	Matilda	Bond	Head of Family	Church of Ireland	Read & write	49	F	Farmer	Widow	Co. Derry
14	Sarah Jane	Bond	Daughter	Church of Ireland	Read & write	28	F	Seamstress	Not married	Co. Derry
14	Wm. James	Bond	Son	Church of Ireland	Read & write	26	M	Farmer's Son	Not married	Co. Derry
14	Martha	Bond	Daughter	Church of Ireland	Read & write	20	F	Seamstress	Not married	Co. Derry
14	Mary	Bond	Daughter	Church of Ireland	Read & write	18	F	Seamstress	Not married	Co. Derry
14	Alexander	Bond	Son	Church of Ireland	Read & write	14	M	Farmer's Son	Not married	Co. Derry

By 1912 the Griffith's Revision Book shows that Matilda had been replaced by her son Alexander Bond who, as the family tree shows, married Ellen Jane McKinley from Donemana on the 6th April 1910.

1911 Census [Ballymullins DED] [NAI: 1911 Online Census]

The 1911 Census Returns shows Alexander Bond living in Lisbunny with his wife and 8 months old daughter, Mary Matilda. There is also a boarder and a servant in the household.

House No. in Census	Forename	Surname	Relationship	Religion	Education	Age	Sex	Profession	Marriage	Where Born
14	Matilda	Bond	Head of Family	Church of Ireland	Read & write	49	F	Farmer	Widow	Co. Derry
14	Sarah Jane	Bond	Daughter	Church of Ireland	Read & write	28	F	Seamstress	Not married	Co. Derry
14	Wm. James	Bond	Son	Church of Ireland	Read & write	26	M	Farmer's Son	Not married	Co. Derry
14	Martha	Bond	Daughter	Church of Ireland	Read & write	20	F	Seamstress	Not married	Co. Derry
14	Mary	Bond	Daughter	Church of Ireland	Read & write	18	F	Seamstress	Not married	Co. Derry
14	Alexander	Bond	Son	Church of Ireland	Read & write	14	M	Farmer's Son	Not married	Co. Derry

Married 2 years – 1 child born alive – 1 child still alive in 1911.

There are two interesting points about the household which appear in Form B1 – the House and Building Return. You can see a copy of this form on the National Archives website.

The first point is that the enumerator has struck out Alexander's name and replaced it with Sarah Jane Bond. Sarah Jane was his sister, yet, as you can see above, she is not listed.

The other point concerns the description of the house that the family was living in. It was a house that had a slated roof, 7 front windows and 3 rooms. Clearly the family had moved to a different house. However there appears to be a discrepancy between the number of front windows, which suggest a two-storey house, and the number of rooms. Certainly there is evidence in the Griffith's Revision Books that the Bonds were taking over other farms in the townland around this period.

Clearly the rest of the family have gone from Lisbunny. A search of the *Ireland, Civil Registration Indexes* for Alexander's mother, Matilda's, death produced the information shown in the table below. I have added the Local Registration District.

Name	Superintendent's Registration District	Local Registration District	Registration Date - Quarter & Year	Estimated Birth Year	Age	Volume No.	Page No.
Matilda Bond	Londonderry	Claudy	Jul - Sep 1910	1850	60	2	101

Certainly the year of birth is consistent with Matilda being 49 in the 1901 Census. I have not investigated this death any further, but I am assuming that Matilda died in the summer of 1910.

Incidentally, the 1911 Census also shows that James Bond [the brother of Henry Bond (1836-1888)] was still alive and living in Dunlade Glebe with his daughters Matilda and Rebecca, and a nephew James Bond, aged 20. Henry was a widower and gave his age as 74. According to the date of his baptism, 2nd September 1832, he should be 79 in 1911. At 74 he was old enough to claim his old age pension which had been introduced in 1908. Shaving five years off his real age may have made him feel young!

The 1911 Census also shows that James' sister, Elizabeth, who married Thomas McMillen in 1856, was still alive and living in Lisbunny in 1911. In the census she was a widow also aged 74. Her age is correct since she was born on the 23rd April 1837 and baptised on the 30th April 1837.

Conclusion

In contrast to his neighbour John Bond, whose farm he had taken over by 1863, it was relatively easy to trace the family of Alexander Bond and his descendants from the early nineteenth century. There are a number of reasons for this. Alexander and his descendants were farmers and therefore landholders in all of the valuation records. The home farm remained in the same location since at least 1831. The key, however, to researching the first half of the nineteenth century was the survival of the baptismal registers. The family attended the local Church of Ireland Church, St. Eugene's, throughout the period and the registers of marriages, baptisms and burials for that church are very good for the early part of the nineteenth century.

A special word of thanks to the brothers, Morris Alexander and James Johnson Bond [sons of Alexander Bond and Ellen Jane McKinley], who supplied more recent information on their family. As you would expect both of them knew of their grandfather Henry Bond and their grandmother Matilda Pollock and they were aware of some of Henry's brothers and sisters. They did not know that their great-grandfather and great-grandmother were Alexander Bond and Jane Chambers. They were not aware of the fact that there were two Bond families living in the townland in the middle of the nineteenth century. I have a suspicion that these two families might have been related but there was no tradition in Alexander Bond's descendants that they had Bond relatives living in the townland in the past and I have not been able to find any hard evidence that the Alexander Bond and the John Bond listed in the townland in 1831 and 1858 were related.

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