



# Famous Ulster-Scots O' Mourne

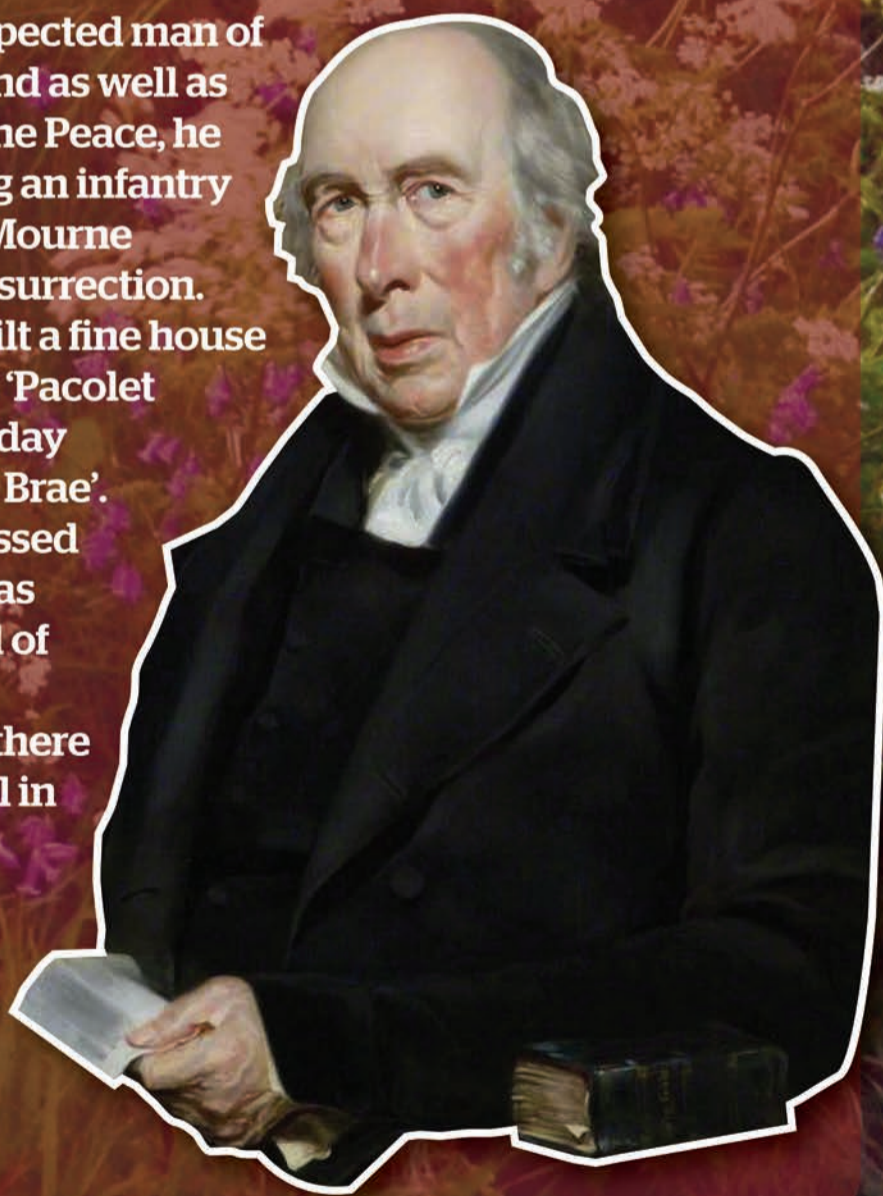
*Captain Alexander Chesney*  
*1756-1845*

**An American Loyalist**

Alexander Chesney was born in the townland of Dunclug in Co. Antrim to Ulster-Scots parents from a farming background. In 1772, as a lad, he emigrated to America with his parents, eventually settling in South Carolina, where as pioneers, they secured a farm close to the Pacolet River. He distinguished himself as a soldier fighting on the Loyalist British side during the American War of Independence gaining much admiration for his exploits and legendary escapes from captivity. He saw action at the famous Battles of Kings Mountains and Cowpens.

For his services to the British cause, Chesney was given a job as a Customs Officer and settled Annalong. Captain Chesney was a central figure to much of what happened in the Mourne area during the late 18th and 19th centuries. He survived several attempts on his life in his war against smuggling, which was very prevalent in Mourne at this time.

Chesney was a well respected man of exemplary character and as well as becoming a Justice of the Peace, he is credited with forming an infantry of Yeomanry to guard Mourne against invasion and insurrection. In his later years, he built a fine house at Ballyardle, known as 'Pacolet House' which stands today overlooking 'Chesney's Brae'. Sadly after Chesney passed away at his home, he was buried in the graveyard of Mourne Presbyterian Meeting House, where there is now a large memorial in his memory.





## The Schomberg Society

Reivers House, 8-12 Newcastle Street, Kilkeel, Co. Down, BT34 4AF

Tel: 028 4176 9678 / 07753222553

Email: [schomberg@schombergsociety.plus.com](mailto:schomberg@schombergsociety.plus.com)

 Find us on Facebook Schomberg Mourne Ulster-Scots

 Twitter @SchombergSoc

