

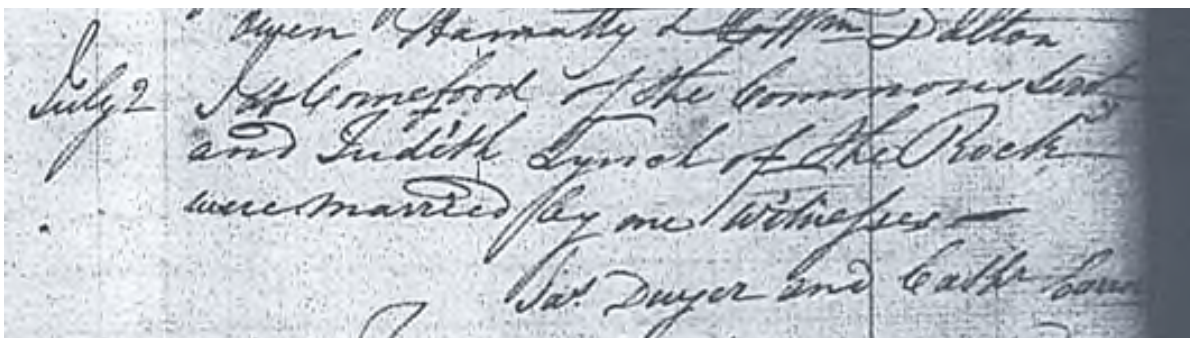
Baptism	14 November 1815, Templemore, Tipperary, Ireland ¹
Parents	James Comerford and Anstice Fogarty
Parent's marriage	
Siblings	John (1809), Mary (1810), Patrick (1812), Eleanor (1813), Bridget (1816)
Wife	Judith Lynch
Married	2 July 1835, Cashel, Tipperary
Children	Son (~1839) Son (~1842)

The family initially lived at Clockile, in the parish of Templemore, where his father was a farmer.

James Comerford, son of James Comerford and Anstice Fogarty of Tubberkeille, was baptised on 14 November 1815. Witnesses were William Kennedy and Catherine Maher.²

James married in 1835:

James Comerford of the Commons, Servt(?), and Judith Lynch of the Rock were married on 2 July 1835 at the Parish of Cashel, Tipperary. Witnesses: Jas. Dwyer and Cath^e Carrol.³



Judith Lynch was probably the daughter of Malachie Lynch and Catherine Buckley, baptised on 13 February 1815 in the Parish of Tipperary. Witnesses were James Lynch and Margaret Looby.⁴

The newspapers reported - A Case of Bigamy:

On Wednesday last, informations were lodged before the Mayor and Magistrates, in the Police-office, against a man named James Comerford, by his wife, for having taken to himself an additional *wife* in the shape of an old cook. The wife produced a marriage certificate, dated 2 July 1835, signed by Rev James McDonnell, Roman Catholic Dean of Cashel, of which city the parties were natives, stating that on that day he had married James Comerford and Judith Lynch.

It appeared from the wife's story that her faithless swain had deserted her eight years ago, leaving with her two children, boys, which were with her at the police office, now of the respective ages of 8 and 11 years. He resided in Waterford since, where he worked as a labourer in the employment of Mr McClelland. About six weeks ago, she heard of his having got married again,

¹ <http://registers.nli.ie/registers/vtls000632693#page/1/mode/1up>

² <http://registers.nli.ie/registers/vtls000632693#page/1/mode/1up> Other entries call the place Tubberkeille.

³ National Library of Ireland, Cashel; County of Tipperary; Diocese of Cashel and Emlly, microfilm 02501/05, p25

⁴ <https://registers.nli.ie/registers/vtls000632772#page/68/mode/1up>

and on coming to Waterford she ascertained that he married an old cook who had some money, and was in the employment of a gentleman in Catherine-street. The first wife, who is rather young and good looking, vowed vengeance against the usurper of her husband's affections, and said she would not prosecute him, badly as he had treated her, if she could bring him home again. The warrant for his apprehension was given into the hands of the police, but we have not heard whether he had been captured or not as yet.⁵

The bigamous marriage:

James Comerford, 35, son of James Comerford, married Jane Brennan, daughter of John Brennan, at Waterford, on 11 April 1850.⁶

James appeared at Waterford Assizes, held at Waterford, in July 1850, and the newspapers reported:

James Comerford, a married man about fifty years of age, was indicted for having married on 11 April 1850, Jane Brennan, he having been married to Judith Lynch, at Cashel, on 2 July 1835, who is still living.

James Power and Mary Woodley proved that they were present at the marriage of the prisoner, with Jane Brennan by Mr George Gibson, the district registrar of marriages for Waterford, on the 11th last April.

Guilty. His Lordship then addressed the prisoner, and said it was his duty to pass upon him the sentence of the law. He regretted to be obliged to do so as he was not, from anything that appeared, otherwise an offender against the laws of the country. He was guilty of a crime utterly at variance with the regular order of human society. He had treacherously, perfidiously, and unmanly seduced a woman who might have been otherwise virtuous, and she had distinctly denied the truth of his allegation that she was a willing accomplice of his crime. If it were even proved by twenty witnesses that she was, it would not lessen his guilt one jot. His Lordship sentenced the prisoner to seven years transportation.⁷

⁵ Clonmel Chronicle, 22 May 1850, p4

⁶ FamilySearch, General Register Office, Dublin; FHL microfilm 101,321.

⁷ Clonmel Chronicle, 20 July 1850, p4