

Timeline of Records: Benjamin Fletcher

The records below have been compiled by Pamela Hutchison Garrett, for the Markham of Chesterfield website. They are by no means comprehensive for the life of Benjamin Fletcher. The primary focus here is to assist the identification of possible family members.

1640; Benjamin Fletcher, son of William Fletcher; Christening; 14 May 1640
[source] Records of St Lawrence Jewry London, England (FHL-IGI)

1642 – 1659; List of Persons who drew lands for the barony of Kilkenny (West) co. Westmeath; North Quarter – Elisha Coysh, Richard Shuttleworth, Wm Needham, Lord Commissioner Lisle, Wm Stone, John Searle, Robert Hayles, **Benjamin Flesher**, Richard Crossing and John Martin, George Clarke, assignee of John Allured, Nathaniel Markes, assignee of George and Joseph Vaughan.
[source] Calendar of the State Papers Relating to Ireland: Adventures for land, 1642-1659, Volume 4.

1654, London; Christopher Webster to Jarvis Fibbrand [Fairbane] I beg you, when you hear my son-in-law, Benjamin Flesher, called, to draw for him for a barony in Westmeath. P 1,. (Hol.)
Endd: "Kilkney" [Kilkenny West]. S. P. Ireland 285, 133.
[source] Calendar of the State Papers Relating to Ireland: 1647-1660, and Addenda, 1625-1660, Volume 3; Great Britain. Public Record Office, 1908.

1663; A list of the persons received into his majestie's army in Ireland since 1662: [includes] Benjamin Fletcher, cornet to lord Berkely.
[source] The manuscripts of the Marquis of Ormonde, preserved at the castle, Kilkenny, Vol 1; Royal Commission on Historical Manuscripts, James Edward William Theobald Butler Ormonde (3d marquis), 1895.

1665, July 28; We are pleased that Benjamin Fletcher be entered and allowed in our life guard of horse, instead of captain Christopher Congrave, now captain of the foot company, lately commanded by captain William Rosse, whereof the muster master generall and sir Thomas Harman, knight, captain of the said guard are to take notice, and to enter and allow the said Benjamin Fletcher accordingly.
[source] The manuscripts of the Marquis of Ormonde, preserved at the castle, Kilkenny, Vol 1; Royal Commission on Historical Manuscripts, James Edward William Theobald Butler Ormonde (3d marquis), 1895.

1670; Benjamin Fletcher probably married Elizabeth Hodson, daughter of John Hodson and Abigail Madden, about the year 1670.

1677-78, Jan 24; A List of the Captains of the army with their present quarters. Leinster Life Guard, Kings Company. Benjamin Fletcher (Foot), Jamestown and Carrickdrumruske.
[source] The Manuscripts of the Marquis of Ormonde, Preserved at the Castle, Kilkenny, Volume 2; HM Stationary Office, 1899.

1678, Dec; Connaught Military Circuit; Captain Benjamin Fletcher, Lt William Parson, Ensign Isaac Fletcher, at quarters in Sligo.
[source] The Manuscripts of the Marquis of Ormonde, Preserved at the Castle, Kilkenny, Volume 2; HM Stationary Office, 1899.

1680, July 10; Officers of his Majesty's Army in Ireland and quarters, Leinster Foot – Capt Benjamin Fletcher, Lt William Parsons, Ensign Isaack Fletcher at Jamestown.
[source] The Manuscripts of the Marquis of Ormonde, Preserved at the Castle, Kilkenny, Volume 2; HM Stationary Office, 1899.

1680, October; A Letter from one Mr. Fletcher, to the Lord Bishop of Kilmore, to the same purpose.; My Lord; James Town, Oct, 19,1680. I suppose, my lord of Elphin will be particular with your lordship in the matter of Mr. Young; Mr. Cooke, who was surrogate of Elphin diocese, tells me, he had never letters of orders from that bishop. It is certain, he fled from his cure at Castle Reah, having got a wench with child; and same says, he has two wives besides the last. I am your lordship's, &c. Ben. Fletcher.

1684-85; List of Commissioned Officers; Earl of Granard(?); Captain Benjamin Fletcher, Jamestown, Leitrim.
[source] The manuscripts of the Marquis of Ormonde, preserved at the castle, Kilkenny, Vol 1; Royal Commission on Historical Manuscripts, James Edward William, Theobald Butler Ormonde, 1895.

1685, July; Benjamin Fletcher mentioned in the Will of his father-in-law, John Hodson, county Roscommon Ireland.

1685(?), May; Sir John Temple to the Lords Justices of Ireland; Written from [Dublin]; Transmits, according to their Lordships' Warrant, dated 9 May, 1685, a fiant containing his Majesty's pardon to Owen Mathews, Matthew Baker, Robert Skinner, James Hill, John Recum, John Hoggarty, Thomas Rosse, and James Beckett, private soldiers in Captain Fletcher's company, for the killing of one Turlagh Oge McShane, a proclaimed rebel.
[source] Carte Calendar Volume 61, 1685-1687; Department of Special Collections and Western Manuscripts; Bodleian Library; Broad Street; Oxford, England; MS. Carte 167, p(p). 20.

1689, April 26; for Major Fletcher, Captain Townley, Captain Coote, Captain Nevill, Lieut Rookesby, Lieut Colombier, Ensign More, and eight servants, in Col Beaumont's regiment, to go to Carlisle.
[source] Calendar of State Papers: 13th Feb. 1689-April 1690; H.M. Stationery Office, 1895

1689; from a List of the Infantry Reviewed at Dundalk Camp Oct. 1689 - Princess Anne of Denmark's Regiment of Foot; Captains - 1. Tho. Clent, Grendrs, 2. Jno. Beaumont, Col, 3. Simon Pack, Lt.-Col, 4. Ben. Fletcher Major, 5. Wm. Herbert, 6. Jno. Knyvett, 7. Jno. Jodrell, 8. Hy. Holmes, 9. Wm. Champion, 10. Ant. Townley, 11. Sigismond Erlach, 12. Ralph Nedby, 13. Jno. Pinkney; [note for Benjamin Fletcher] Brevet-Col. 9 Mar. 1692. Succeeded Col. Hy. Slaughter as Govr. of New York and Capt. of an Indep. Cy. of Foot in that Colony 4 Feb. 1692. Held these posts until 2 Apr. 1698, when he was re-called by the Duke of Shrewsbury, and Lord Bellomont appointed Govr. of New York and New England, vice Col. Fletcher.
[source] English Army Lists and Commission Registers, 1661-1714.

1689; an 'Act for the Attainder of Divers Rebels, and for Preserving the Interest of Loyal Subjects' was passed in the Irish parliament. It listed the names of Irish Protestants considered by the government of James II to be disloyal to the king. Most of those listed were members of the landed gentry or freeholders. The names of those attainted (i.e. found guilty of treason) were published in 'The State of the Protestants of Ireland under the late King James's Government' by William King (Dublin, 1713).

note – Benjamin Fletcher is listed twice.

Benjamin Fletcher of Lowbaskin, Gent

Benjamin Fletcher of Jamestown, Esq

[source] <http://www.ancestryireland.com/family-records/names-of-those-attainted-by-james-ii-1689/>

1691, 24 March; Whitehall; Commissions for Thomas Pearse to be surgeon of the first Marine Regiment of Foot, commanded by Peregrine, Earl of Danby; for Francis Napper, gent, to be lieutenant of that company whereof Lieutenant-Colonel Benjamin Fletcher is captain in the regiment of foot commanded by Colonel John Beaumont; for John Fairbrother, gent, to be ensign in the same regiment ; for Peter Mathews, gent, to be quarter-master in the same regiment ; and for Leonard Lloyd gent, to be adjutant in the same regiment. [H .0. Military Entry Book 3, p. 55.]

[source] Calendar of State Papers, Domestic Series, of the Reign of William and Mary, ... Preserved in the Public Record Office, Volume 2; H.M. Stationery Office, 1898.

1691, 1692; . . for Colonel Benjamin Fletcher to be captain of the company of foot, in New York, of which Colonel Henry Slaughter was late captain; for Peter Matthews, gent, to be Lt of the company of foot in New York of which Col Benjamin Fletcher is Captain . .

[source] Calendar of State Papers 1 Nov 1691 - end of 1692;

1692, August 29; Benjamin Fletcher arrives in New York.

1692; In August, 1692, the common council resolved that "a treat be made to welcome his Excellency, Benjamin Fletcher, now arrived in this city to the value of £20 or thereabouts,"

[source] Extract from "Old Taverns of New York", by W Harrison Bayles, 1915.

1692; Aug. 30. Proclamation. Benjamin Fletcher, announcing his appointment as governor, cfcc, and confirming all civil and military officers in their offices, 173

[source] Calendar of historical manuscripts in the office of the secretary of state, Albany, N.Y. (1865)

1692, 2 Sep; Jan Corssen and Metje Craey, a son Benjamin; wit: Benjamin Fletcher and his wife.

[source] Records of the Dutch Church of New York.

1694, 28 May; Stephen VanCourtland and Gertruyt Schuyler, dau Elizabeth; wit: Chudley Broeck and Elizabeth Fletcher, wife of Gov Fletcher.

[source] Records of the Dutch Church of New York.

1694, 1 Aug; Abraham DePeyster and Catharine DePeyster, dau Elizabeth; wit: Chudley Broeck and Elizabeth, wife of Gov Fletcher.

[source] Records of the Dutch Church of New York.

1696-7, September; Freemen of the City of New York; His Excellency Coll Benjamin Fletcher, Governour

1697; 12 Nov Mrs Fletcher and many " gentlewomen of the best quality " obtain a reprieve for four deserters condemned to death.

[source] Calendar of Council minutes (New York) 1668-1783 .. (1902)

1698; May 8 Extraordinary meeting of council. Oath of secrecy administered to the lieutenant governor, also to Edward Randolph and Thomas Weaver who are not members of the council. Investigations into Gov. Fletcher's and Wm Nicoll's connection with pirates. Wm Nicoll suspended from the council and with Capt. Evans put under bail.

[source] Calendar of Council minutes (New York) 1668-1783 .. (1902)

1698, June 25; Henry Beeckman examined as to his connection with an act against unlawful by-laws (bolting act) for which Gov. Fletcher is reported to have received £400. 55

[source] Calendar of Council minutes (New York) 1668-1783 .. (1902)

1698; Oct. 25. Deed. Col. Benjamin Fletcher, of his pew in Trinity church. New York, for the use of the council or other persons of quality traveling to said city; dated, April, 1698, with proof of execution,. . . 141 [In N. Y. Doc. Hist, III, 410.]

[source] Calendar of historical manuscripts in the office of the secretary of state, Albany, N.Y. (1865)

1698, note – Charges were first brought against Benjamin Fletcher in 1697. Lord Bellomont arrived in New York in April 1698. Fletcher left New York for England late in the year 1698. Charges against him were reviewed in England beginning in January 1699. Nothing seems to

have come of the charges. He did not return to New York. Peter Mathews remained in New York.

1698, Nov. 10; A letter from Colonel Fletcher read, asking to be excused from attending for a few days owing to his lady's death.

[source] Calendar of State Papers - Colonial Series . . .; Great Britain. Public Record Office; Longman, 1905.

1698; Copy of a letter from Capt. Evans to Mr. Graham threatening Lord Bellomont. "Those gentlemen whom he has injured with his lame hand by writing will expect right from it. On Monday last we buried the Lady Fletcher. He suffers much by my Lord's clamours against him. The King being in Flanders he has not been yet heard." 1¼ p. London, Nov. 15, 1698. Endorsed as preceding. [Board of Trade. New York, 8A. Nos. 29, 29 I.-V.; and 53. pp. 402-410; and (abstract) 45. pp. 48-50.]

1698; Monuments in St James Church (London) - In the Chancel - On a Pillar South. A Monument for Elizabeth, Wife of Colonel Ben. Fletcher, late Captain General, and Governor in Chief of his Majesties Province of New York in America, and Daughter of Dr. John Hodson, Lord Bishop of Elphin in Ireland, 1698.

[source] Survey of the cities of London and Westminster, borough of Southwark, and parts adjacent . . .; John Stow, John Mottley, 1735.

1699; May 15. Petition and remonstrance of the General Assembly to the governor, reviewing in severe language the administrations of Sloughter, Fletcher and Ingoldesby, praying the payment of £2,700 to the heirs of Leisler ; th.at judges and two or three able council may be sent from England, and that gov. Fleteh-er's arms may be pulled down from the king's chapel in the fort and from Trinity church, " since his birth was so mean and obscure that he was not entitled to bear a coat of arms," 12

[source] Calendar of historical manuscripts in the office of the secretary of state, Albany, N.Y. (1865)

1698 (1699?); Oct. 25. Order of the lords justices in council, approving the removal of William Nicholls, Chidley Brooke, William Pinhorn, Nicholas Bayard and Frederick Phillips from the N. Y. council, and ap-

proving the appointment of Abraham De Peyster, James Graham, Samuel Staats, Robert Livingston and John Corbile, in their stead; directing the prosecution of pirates, vacating extravagant grants

of land, and regulating future grants, 31

[source] Calendar of historical manuscripts in the office of the secretary of state, Albany, N.Y. (1865)

1698 (1699?); Oct. 25. Order of the same in council, referring to the council of trade certain charges against colonel Fletcher, late governor of the province of New York, to hear him thereon and report, 32

[source] Calendar of historical manuscripts in the office of the secretary of state, Albany, N.Y. (1865)

1698, Nov. 24; Heads of charges relating to Governor Fletcher's administration at New York, delivered to him at the Board, 28 November, 1698. (1) That he accepted £700 to permit the ship Jacob, returning from a piratical voyage, to come up to New York, and to grant the crew protection. (2) That he prevailed with the Council to consent thereto under colour of allowing the said pirates the benefit of an Act of New York, to which they were not entitled. (3) That in consequence thereof the ship came up to New York and was accepted by him as a present and sold by him for £800. (4) That he granted protections to other pirates for money. (5) That there is no mention of securities given in the said protections, and that none of the persons so protected appear to have been prosecuted for piracy. (6) That in 1696 he released a chest of money which had been seized from one Rayner, a pirate. (7) That Edward Coates, the pirate, asserted that it cost him £1,300 to obtain Colonel Fletcher's protection. (8) That he granted commissions as privateers to Tew, Hore and Glover, though they had no ship at New York, and spoke openly of making piratical voyages. (9) That he was intimate with the pirate Tew, and received money for the aforesaid commissions. (10) That he granted a like commission to Thomas Moston of the ship Fortune, though intended only for illegal trade. (11) That the bonds which he took from the said pirates on giving them commissions were inadequate, and that one of them was tampered with by his Secretary. (12) That he connived at illegal trade, whereby the revenue of New York has been diminished though the trade has increased. (13) That he granted away vast tracts of land without laying any obligation on the grantees to improve the same or prosecuting them for not improving it. (14) That he granted away a large tract of the Maquas' land without their consent, also the King's Garden and the King's Farm, making it impossible to reward future good service with the gift of land. (15) That he neglected the King's forces and drove them to desertion by deducting a halfpenny a day from their subsistence, and by stopping their subsistence when they were allowed to work; also that he wronged them of the additional fourpence a day voted by the country, and sent home false muster-rolls. (16) That he neglected the fortifications on the frontier, and did not demolish Cadaraqui as desired by the Indians. (17) That he granted letters of denizenation to one Nodin, a Frenchman, in such extensive terms as to be contrary to the intent of the laws of England. (18) That he neglected to write to the Governor of Canada when he sent him notice of the conclusion of peace, which was regarded by the said Governor as a slight. Draft. 5 pp. Endorsed, 24 Nov. Delivered to him 28 Nov., 1698. [Board of Trade. New York, 8. No. 27; and 53. pp. 102-107.]

[source] 'America and West Indies: November 1698, 21-25', Calendar of State Papers Colonial, America and West Indies: 1697-1698, volume 16 (1905), pp. 560-564. Date accessed: 15 February 2008.

1698 (recd 24 Dec 1698); Complaints against Benjamin Fletcher were raised by Bellomont. Fletcher answered to the Lords of Trade in England . . . Whereupon I writ to the Agent of Province in England that when he could recover the vallue...he should remitt it for me into Ireland where my small patrimony of an adventure lay in ashes by the calamity of the late rebellion, where my Lords let me presume to say, that I had my share in the Irish Warr, and do apeale to all the Commanders in that Army as to my behavior in it,a and whether in that year, thirty years service before, ever any complaints were brought against me . . . I submitt to your Lordships if after going with my wife, children and family to so remote a part, going twice from New Yorke to Pennsylvania, once to Connecticut, every summer to Albany, staying there a severe winter and being in every place where danger of the warr called me, whether gaining 3000 pounds for six years care in the best part of my life, be an . . . summer.

[source] 'America and West Indies: December 1698, 16-31', in Calendar of State Papers Colonial, America and West Indies, Volume 16, 1697-1698, ed. J W Fortescue (London, 1905); British History Online.

1698-99; In another report to the Lords of Trade 9 Jan 1698 (1699) Mr Weaver, speaking of Benjamin Fletcher . . . Col Fletchers misfortunes under the common clamity of Ireland may raise pittty, but do not excuse his taking rewards to protect pyrates... Earl of Bellomont the present Gov of NY hath suffered more greater misfortunes in Ireland as well as personall prosecutions even at the time that Fletcher was not disturbed in his patrimony, and from that power that preferred and advanced Col Fletcher . . .

[source] 'America and West Indies: December 1698, 16-31', in Calendar of State Papers Colonial, America and West Indies, Volume 16, 1697-1698, ed. J W Fortescue (London, 1905); British History Online.

1702, Dec; Report of the Earl of Ranelagh to the Lord High Treasurer on the memorial of Col. Benjn Fletcher, Col. Richard Ingoldsby, & Capt. Wm Hyde, captains of three of the independent companies at New York, as to the accounts not being made up for want of muster rolls. Dated 6 Dec. 1702.

[source] Calendar of Treasury Papers, 1556-[1728]: 1702-1707.

1703; Coll Benjamin Fletcher, Late governr of New York, died at Rokingham, near Boyle [county Roscommon Ireland], on 28 May, between 6 and 7 of ye clock 1703.

[source] Irish Pedigrees; OHart.

1703; Abstract of the Will of Benjamin Fletcher of Dublin, Ireland Esq; dated 30 Oct 1701; recorded 1703; includes sketch of Coat of Arms; mentions --- daughter Vincentia Fletcher, daughter Ratham (Catherine?) Fletcher, son Benjamin Fletcher; estate in co Louth, Ireland.

[source] Bethem Abstracts of Ireland; FHL Film #595941, Vol 23 pg 5.

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