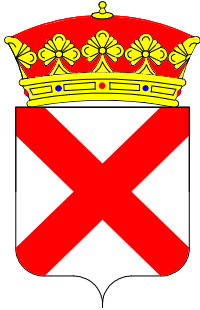


## Leinster



### *Description of Arms :*

Argent, a saltire gules.

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**Principal Title :** Duke of Leinster.

**Creation :** Ireland, 1766.

**Subsidiary Titles :** Marquis of Kildare (1761), Earl of Kildare (1316) and Offaly, etc ... Premier Duke, Marquis and Earl of Ireland. Sits in House of Lords as Viscount Leinster (1747).

**Family Name :** FitzGerald.

**Family History :** With the Fitzgerald family we go right back into the myths of early Irish history. Maurice, the second Baron of Offaly, introduced several orders of monks in the early XIII century. John, the sixth baron, helped Edward I in his various campaigns, around 1300 AD. For his he was raised to the rank of Earl. There is a legend that, while asleep as a child in Woodstock Castle, there was a fire that reduced much of the building to ruins. In the confusion the infant was forgotten ; when the servants returned to retrieve him, he had disappeared. Then a strange noise was heard and the searchers found the small child safe in the arms of an ape, normally kept chained. In gratitude, John adopted the symbol of a monkey as his crest.

Ever prominent in military and political affairs, a low point was reached by the time of the 7th Earl, who was briefly attainted but later restored. He went on to be Lord Justice of Ireland, in 1471. His grandson, the 9th Earl, fared even worse. Sentenced to death, with his five half-brothers, he died a prisoner in the Tower of London in 1534. His son, in turn, on hering that his father was to be beheaded, threw off allegiance to the English crown. He later surrendered, on the promise of a full pardon. Despite this, Henry VIII had him and his five uncles hanged at Tyburn.

Eventually, the family was restored to grace and the return of all its honours. To give an idea of its long life, it was not until the time of the 20th Earl, that the FitzGerald received their dukedom - and have already reached the eighth holder of this title.

Leinster is one of the ancient provinces of Ireland. The saltire, on the coat of arms, represents the cross of St. Patrick, patron saint of Ireland, and is still present in the Union Flag of the Untied Kingdom.

# Leinster

Gerald (?-1203),  
1st Baron of Offaly

John (?-1316), 6th Baron of Offaly,  
1st Earl of Kildare (1316)

Gerald (?-1534), 9th Earl of Kildare  
died a prisoner in the Tower of London

James (1722-1773), 20th Earl,  
1st Duke of Leinster (1766)

William Robert (1749-1804),  
2nd Duke

Augustus Frederik (1791-1874), 3rd Duke  
= (1818) Charlotte Augusta Stanhope, daughter of 3rd Earl of Harrington

Charles (1819-1887), 4th Duke  
= (1847) Lady Caroline Sutherland Leveson-Gower, daughter of 2nd Duke of Sutherland

Gerald (1851-1893), 5th Duke  
= (1884) Lady Hermione Wilhelmina Duncombe (?-1895), d. of 1st Earl of Feversham

Maurice (1852-?)  
4 daughters and 5 sons

Maurice (1887-1922),  
6th Duke

Edward (1892-1976), 7th Duke  
1st = (1913-1930) May (?-1935), daughter of the last Jesse Etheridge

GERALD (1914- ), 8th Duke  
1st = (1936-1946) Joane McMorrough Kavanagh (1915-) and 2nd = (1946) Anne Eustace Smith (1922-)

Lady Pamela  
(1937-1938)

Lady Rosemary  
(1939-)

Lady Nesta  
(1942-)

MAURICE (1948- ), Marquis of Kildare  
= (1972) Fiona Mary Hollick

Lord JOHN  
(1952- )

THOMAS (1974- ),  
Earl of Offaly

Lady FRANCESCA  
(1976- )