

"Journal of the Association of the Memorials of the Dead of Ireland" Vol. IV that indicates the obelisk-like monument, about thirty feet in height, may have been erected at the time the house was built. It was adorned with the profiles of Empress Maria Theresa and the Emperor Joseph II of Austria, George III plus the arms of the family. The note at the bottom of the drawing reads "Dalton Monument, Rathconrath, Oct 20, 1900" and signed W.E. In 1899, the Rev F. A. O'Reilly, Order of Saint Francis of Dublin, translated from Latin the inscriptions on three sides of the monument as follows.

On the South Side:

"In memory of the Aliton Daton Family which six centuries since with Walter Alton came from France into Ireland and formed its residence in that part of Westmeath afterwards called by its name Aliton, and in the reign of Henry VIII in parliament raised to the title and honour of Baron of Rathconrath who flourished far and wide, and throughout all Westmeath erected at their own charge Abbeys, Churches, and Convents, or enriched those already in existence, (which family) after being afflicted in the Civil Wars, was through the indulgence of the best Princes preserved until the restoration of peace. Richard Dalton, son of Oliver and Catherine O'Reilly of the Cavan stock, Chamberlain and Privy Counillor of their August Majesties, Joseph and Theresa, Proprietor of the Army, Legate of the Augustan Legion, Knight of the Order of Theresa, and on 14 April 1777 raised to be Count of all the hereditary German Kingdoms, of the Lands of the Sacred Caesar, and of the Royal Apostolic Majesty, to the Honour and worth of (that) Most Noble Family.

On the West Side:

"To the Emperor, Caesar, Joseph II Son of Francis Duke of Lorain, nephew of Charles Duke of Hapsburg, grand-nephew of Duke Leopold the Great, (as to) the Excellent, August, Kind, Fortunate, Unconquered Father of His Country, Father of His Army, the Augmenter and Preserver of Public Happiness, Born for Perpretating the Name of Austria, and who hath deserved most highly the Roman Empire, of the ancient Kings of Hungaria and Bohemia, and of every condition of Men. Richard Dalton, son of Oliver Dalton. Devoted to His Majesty on account of the Exceeding benefits conferred upon him and his by the Best and Greatest of Princes (inscribed this monument)

On the East Side:

"Richard Dalton, the son of Oliver, and the whole Dalton family, fostered and favoured by every manner of indulgence and liberality, to their Prince, Prince George III, King of Great Britain, France and Ireland, Victor both by sea and land, Preserver of Public Freedom, Defender of Ireland, the Kind,

Fortunate, Unconquerable, the Father of His County, Born for the Good of the State.

