

## HIDDEN GEMS AND FORGOTTEN PEOPLE

### OLD DROGHEDA SOCIETY



### THE WATER PUMP

The water pump or water fountain was erected at Lower St. Collon as a result of a Mr. John Foster, who was a Member of Parliament in the later 18<sup>th</sup> Century. The Foster family owned large estates in the Collon, Dunleer and Ardee areas of Co. Louth.

Part of their estates was known as the Masserene Estates as the Fosters were descendants through marriage of the first Viscount Masserene in County Antrim, Sir John Clotworthy. Sir John died in 1666 without a male heir.

John Foster made some notable contributions to the people and village of Collon, one of which was the augmentation of a piped water supply installed at the end of the 18<sup>th</sup> or beginning of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, including the erection of the water fountain “to the memory of the late Rev. Bradford, Vicar of Collon in 1822”.