

# Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

Online edition

## **GRATTAN, George**

Dublin 1787/90–1819

He entered the Dublin Society schools at an early age, and received medals in 1797 and 1798, and, in 1800, a gratuity of 10 gns “as an encouragement to his genius”. He exhibited from 1801. His obituary noted that “he executed some drawings in crayons, with great richness and justness of expression. A few of [these] were presented to public inspection, at the exhibition of the works of Irish artists, held in the Parliament house (now the Bank of Ireland).” Strickland, presumably following this, noted that “his early works were chiefly in crayons and watercolours, mostly portraits and landscapes.” Afterwards he painted history and genre subjects. Several versions of his monument in Glasnevin are given: “George Grattan of Cullens Wood”, aged 30, appears in the parish register for 21.VI.1819.

A protégé of General Charles Vallancey, one wonders if he might be responsible for the pastels of Vallancey and his son in Dublin (NGI; *v.* J. R. Smith).

### **Bibliography**

Figgis 2014; Strickland 1913; “Memoir of the life of the late artist George Grattan”, *The Dublin inquisitor*, 1821, I, pp. 349–54ff