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HISTORY OF THE COUNTY OF DUBLIN

PART III

F. ELINGTON BALL



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A HISTORY
OF THE
COUNTY DUBLIN:

THE PEOPLE, PARISHES AND ANTIQUITIES FROM THE EARLIEST
TIMES TO THE CLOSE OF THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY.

PART THIRD

Being a History of that portion of the County comprised within
the Parishes of

TALLAGHT, CRUAGH, WHITECHURCH, KILGOBBIN,
KILTIERNAN, RATHMICHAEL,
OLD CONNAUGHT, SAGGART, RATHCOOLE,
AND NEWCASTLE.

BY

FRANCIS ELRINGTON BALL.

DUBLIN:

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1905.

PREFACE TO THE THIRD PART.

To the readers who have shown so gratifying an interest in the progress of my history there is due an apology for the time which has elapsed since, in the preface to the second part, a hope was expressed that a further instalment would soon appear. The postponement of its publication has been caused by the exceptional difficulty of obtaining information of historical interest as to the district of which it was proposed to treat, and even now it is not without hesitation that this part has been sent to press.

Its pages will be found to deal with a portion of the metropolitan county in which the population has been at no time great, and in which residences of importance have always been few. Such annals of the district as exist relate in most cases to some of the saddest passages in Irish history, and tell of fire and sword and of destruction and desolation. To invest such scanty records with life would require a more skilful pen than mine, and I can only commit the pages which follow to the forbearance of my readers as necessary to the completion of the history of the county as a whole.

Considerable material for the fourth part has been already collected, and its publication may be expected next year.

It is again my pleasing duty to acknowledge assistance kindly and generously given. The Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland, in the pages of whose *Journal* some of the information in this part has already appeared in a paper on "Rathmichael and its Neighbourhood," and in the itineraries for two excursions made by its members, has not ceased its help and encouragement. The Council of the Royal Irish

Academy has given its permission in this, as in the previous parts, for the reproduction of drawings in its possession. The Deputy Keeper of the Records, Mr. James Mills, and Mr. C. Litton Falkiner have read the proof sheets and have once more given me the benefit of their historical knowledge; Mr. Thomas J. Westropp has lent me the aid of his pen and pencil in describing the little known objects of archæological interest in the district; Dr. P. W. Joyce has supplied me with the derivation of place names; Mr. Tenison Groves and the Rev. William Reynell have continued to furnish me with transcripts of ancient documents and references to authorities; and amongst others who have aided me in this part I must especially mention the Most Rev. Dr. Donnelly, Bishop of Canea, Mr. M. J. McEnery, Mr. G. D. Burtchaell, Rev. P. Dineen, Mr. E. Clarke, Mrs. Knox, and Mr. W. H. Robinson.

The records in Ulster's Office have been placed at my service by the kindness of Sir Arthur Vicars, and research has been made pleasant in Trinity College Library by Mr. Alfred de Burgh; in the National Library by Mr. T. W. Lyster; and in the Royal Irish Academy by Mr. J. J. McSweeney. To the officials in the British Museum and Bodleian Libraries my thanks are also due. The Controller of His Majesty's Stationery Office has permitted me to make use of the Ordnance Map for the purposes of the frontispiece, and the blocks from which some of the illustrations have been produced have been lent me by the Council of the Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland.

F. ELLINGTON BALL.

Dublin,

December, 1904.

CONTENTS.

	Page
PARISH OF TALLAGHT.	
The Village of Tallaght,	2
Jobstown,	14
Belgard,	15
Newlands,	19
Kilhamanagh,	20
Tymon,	21
Templeogue,	23
Knocklyon,	29
Killininny,	30
Old Bawn,	31
The Tallaght Hills,	37
Ecclesiastical History,	41
PARISH OF CRUAGH :	
Killakee and its neighbourhood,	48
Ecclesiastical History,	53
PARISH OF WHITECHURCH :	
Marlay and the Whitechurch neighbourhood,	55
Ecclesiastical History,	63
PARISH OF KILGOBBIN :	
Kilgobbin and its Castle,	65
Ecclesiastical History,	69
PARISH OF KILTIERNAN :	
Kiltiernan and Glencullen,	73
Ecclesiastical History,	77

	Page
PARISH OF RATHMICHAEL :	
Shankill and Shanganagh,	79
Ecclesiastical History,	90
PARISH OF OLD CONNAUGHT :	
Little Bray and its neighbourhood,	98
Ecclesiastical History,	108
PARISH OF SAGGART :	
The Village of Saggart and its neighbourhood,	111
Ecclesiastical History,	116
PARISH OF RATHCOOLE :	
The Village of Rathcoole and its neighbourhood,	118
Ecclesiastical History,	125
PARISH OF NEWCASTLE :	
Newcastle Lyons,	127
Ecclesiastical History,	136
INDEX,	140

INTRODUCTION TO THE THIRD PART.

THE parishes included in this part of the history form the southern border of the metropolitan county. They are situated in the baronies of Rathdown, Uppercross, and Newcastle, and are bounded to the east by the sea, to the south and west by the Counties of Wicklow and Kildare, and to the north by the parishes of Killiney, Tully, Taney, Rathfarnham, Crumlin, Drinnagh, Clondalkin, Kilbride, and Kilmaetelway. Within their limits lies the range of hills known as the Dublin mountains, and owing to their situation they differ in their circumstances from the parishes already treated of in this history. A great extent of the lands which they contain is unprofitable or of little value. In the remainder, instead of a vast increase of population, there has been a diminution in the number of the inhabitants, and, instead of advancing prosperity, a loss of importance in the villages and country residences.

When our history opens this district, then portion of the country of the people of Cualann, was held in much veneration and was chosen as the burial place of chiefs and warriors whose deeds were commemorated by the cromlechs, cairns and pillar stones which are still to be found in exceptional numbers in the Dublin mountains. Later, under the Celtic Church, sacred edifices began to be built and monastic establishments, like that of Tallaght, were founded. The Scandinavian invasions with their devastating effects next ensued, and left their traces on a large tract in the south-eastern portion of the district, which became the possession of Scandinavian proprietors known as the sons of Thorkil.

Then came the Anglo-Norman Conquest with its far-reaching settlement. It found the district under the rule of a Celtic chief called MacGillamocholmog, to whom and whose descendants some portion of the lands was left for a time, but with this comparatively unimportant exception the district was then divided between the Crown, the Archbishop of Dublin as representing the Church, and an Anglo-Norman magnate, Walter de Rideleford, whose castle at Bray—for more than a century the principal dwelling to the south of Dublin—bespoke his power.

At first the lands divided into manors were worked after the custom of England by the owners, by free tenants, and servile occupiers, and notwithstanding difference of race comparative concord reigned amongst the inhabitants. But before long the Irish tribes rebelled and the days of the Pale began. Then the castle of Tallaght was erected as a house of defence, and the villages of Saggart, Rathcoole and Newcastle were enclosed with walls and fortified; and afterwards castles were built at Tymon, at Belgard, at Shanganagh, at Shankill, and in many other places. The opening of the seventeenth century saw these castles converted into country residences, and houses like Old Bawn, in which comfort was more consulted, designed.

The rebellion of 1641, and the ensuing disturbances greatly affected the district and left terrible traces; but a hundred years later the parishes under review had recovered in some measure from its effect and attained to prosperity which in the course of the last century has continuously waned. Especially was this the case in Tallaght, where the Archbishop of Dublin's palace, the spa and residence of the Domville family at Templeogue, and various shooting lodges in the mountains contributed to the welfare of the inhabitants.

AUTHORITIES.

The authorities whose titles have been condensed, and the places of preservation of the manuscripts referred to, are as follows:—

Journal R. S. A. I. refers to the Journals of the Kilkenny Archæological Society, of the Historical and Archæological Society of Ireland, and of the Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland, following the consecutive numbering of the volumes.

Chartularies of St. Mary's Abbey refers to "Chartularies of St. Mary's Abbey, Dublin," edited by Sir John Gilbert in the Rolls Series.

Fiants refers to the Calendars of Fiants in the 7th to the 22nd Reports of the Deputy Keeper of the Records in Ireland.

Christ Church Deeds refers to the Calendar of Christ Church Deeds in the 20th to the 26th Reports of the Deputy Keeper of the Records in Ireland.

Patent Rolls refers to "Rotulorum Patentium et Clausorum Cancellariæ Hiberniæ Calendarium," vol. i., part i.

Chancery Inquisitions refers to "Inquisitionum in Officio Rotulorum Cancellariæ Hiberniæ Asservatum Repertorium," vol. i., under Co. Dublin.

Fleetwood's Survey refers to "A Survey of the Half Barony of Rathdown," made by order of Lord Deputy Fleetwood; printed in Lodge's "Desiderata Curiosa Hibernica," vol. ii., p. 529.

Archbishop Bulkeley's Report refers to "A Report on the Diocese of Dublin," by Archbishop Bulkeley, printed in *The Irish Ecclesiastical Record*, vol. v., pp. 145-166.

Sweetman's Calendar refers to "Calendar of Documents relating to Ireland, 1171-1307," edited by H. S. Sweetman in the Record Publications.

Liber Niger refers to a copy of the Register of Archbishop Alan, commonly called the Liber Niger, made by Bishop Reeves, and preserved in the Library of Trinity College, Dublin.

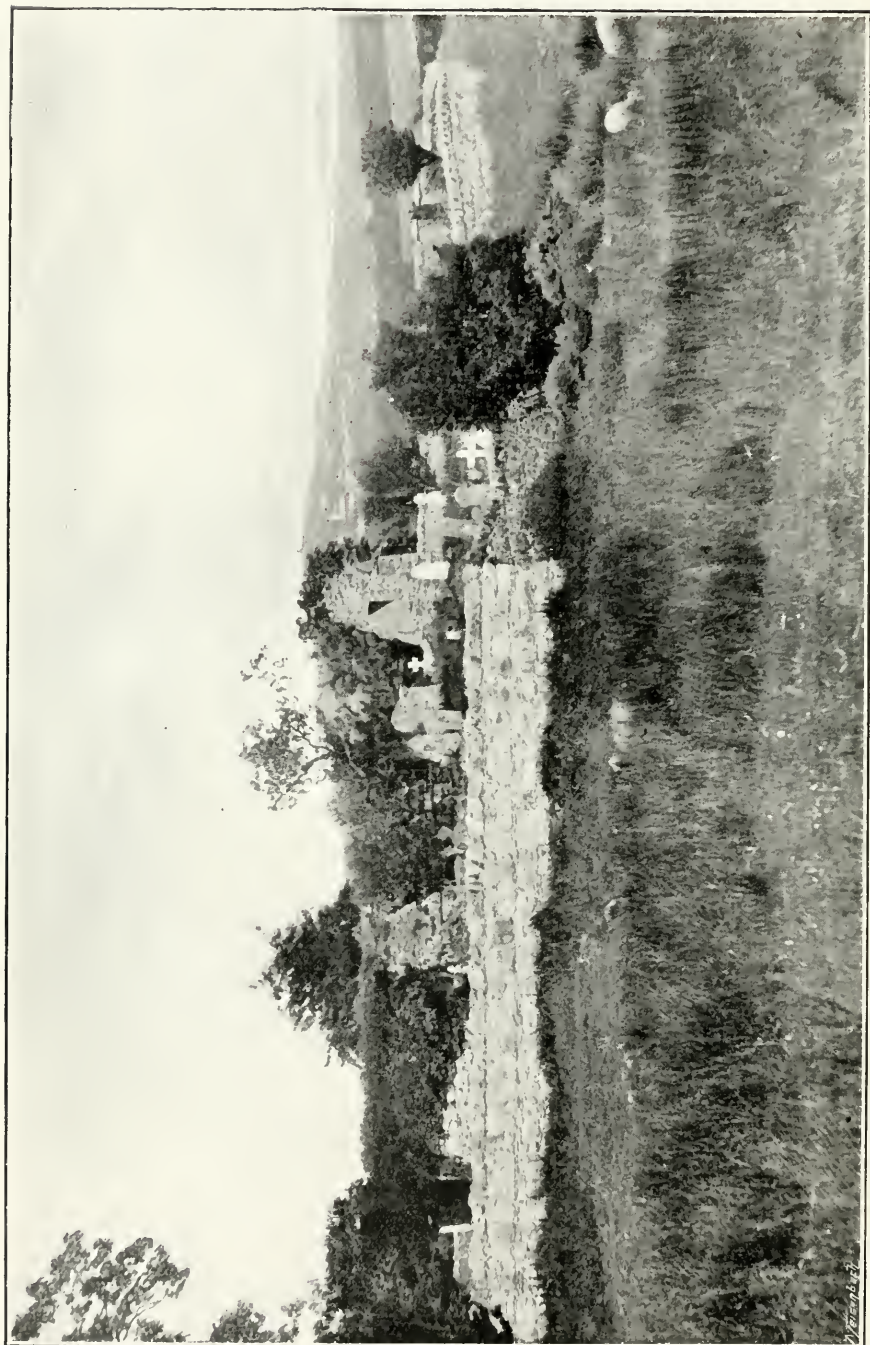
The Down Survey Maps, Hearth-Money and Subsidy Rolls, Rolls of Innocents, Exchequer Inquisitions, Regal Visitation of 1615, Religious Returns, Wills, Grants, Justiciary, Plea and Memoranda Rolls, Crown Rentals, Survey of Upper Cross and Newcastle, List of Transplanted Irish, and the Tallaght and Rathcoole Parish Registers are preserved in the Public Record Office of Ireland.

Cooper's Note Book refers to MSS. of Austin Cooper, F.S.A., in the possession of Mr. Mark B. Cooper.

The Depositions of 1641 are preserved in Trinity College Library, Dublin.

The Census of 1659 is preserved in the Royal Irish Academy.

The Carte Papers are preserved in the Bodleian Library, Oxford.



Rathmichael Church and Killincy Bay.
From a photograph by Mr. Thomas J. Westropp.

Parish of Tallaght

(*i.e., Taimhleacht, or the Plagae Monument.*)

The Parish of Tallaght appears in the seventeenth century as containing the townlands of Friarstown, Ballinascorney, Templeogue, Killinarden, Jobstown, Whitestown, Belgard, Cookstown, Tallaght, Knocklyon, Oldcourt, Killinenny, Oldbawn, Kiltalown, Corballis, Newhall, Newlands, Gibbons, Carranstown, Glassamucky, Tymon, Brittas, Aghfarrell, and Kilnamanagh.

It now contains the townlands of Aghfarrell (*i.e.*, Farrell's field), Allagour (*i.e.*, the cliff of the goat), Ballinascorney (*i.e.*, the town of the gorge) Lower and Upper, Ballyeragh (*i.e.*, the town of the preys), Ballyeullen (*i.e.*, Cullen's town), Ballymahee (*i.e.*, this town of the hill), Ballymana (*i.e.*, the middle town), Ballymorefinn (*i.e.*, Finn's great town), Ballyroan (*i.e.*, Rowan's town), Belgard, Belgard Deepark, Bohernabreena (*i.e.*, the road of the court), Brittas (*i.e.*, the speckled lands) Big and Little, Castlekelly, Cookstown, Corbally (*i.e.*, the odd town), Corrageen (*i.e.*, the little rock), Cunard (*i.e.*, the high head ?), Friarstown Lower and Upper, Garranstown (*i.e.*, the town of the horses) or Kingswood, Gibbons (*i.e.*, the town of Gibbon), Glassamucky (*i.e.*, the stream of the swincherd), Glassamucky Brakes and Mountain, Glassavullaun (*i.e.*, the stream of the little summit), Gortlum (*i.e.*, the bare field), Jobstown, Killinarden (*i.e.*, the church of the little height), Killinenny (*i.e.*, the church of the daughters), Kilnamanagh (*i.e.*, the church of the monks), Kiltalown (*i.e.*, the church of the elm woods), Kiltipper (*i.e.*, the church of the well), Knocklyon (*i.e.*, Leinster hill), Lugmore (*i.e.*, the great hollow), Mountpelier, Mountseskin (*i.e.*, the bog of the marsh), Newland's Demesne, Oldbawn (*i.e.*, the old cattle enclosure), Oldcourt, Piperstown, Tallaght, Templeogue (*i.e.*, St. Malog's or Molagga's house), Tymon (derived from Erachtomothan or the O'Mothans' inheritance) North and South, Whitehall, Whitestown.

The mountains and hills in the parish are:—Mountpelier; Slievenabawnoge, or the mountain of the lea; the hill of Ballymorefinn, or Finn's great town; Slievebane, or the white mountain; the mountain of Glassavullaun, or the stream of the little summit; Kippure, or the trunk of the yew tree; the Black hill; Seeghane, or the seat; Carrig (*i.e.*, the rock); and Bryan's hill.

Amongst objects of archaeological interest dating from primeval times there are in the townland of Ballinascorney a rath called Raheendhu, or the black fort, and two stone circles enclosing the remains of a cromlech called the cairn of the second rock or the red hero ?; in the townland of Ballymana a place of sepulture called Knockanvinidee, or the rennet hill ?; in the townland of Mountseskin a place of sepulture called Knockannavea, or the ravens' hill, and a mound called the bakinghouse hill; and in the townland of Glassamucky a place of sepulture called Knockanteedan, or the little hill

of the blasts or gusts ; while in the townland of Castlekelly there are a number of sepulchral mounds including three known respectively as Meave's hill, the hill of the rowan tree, and the red hill, as well as a cromlech and some stone circles ; and on the hill called Seeghane, or the seat, there are a cairn and two cromlechs.

Amongst the wells in the parish are the following :—St. Paul's well, in the townland of Kiltalown ; Moling's well or the Piper's well in the townland of Corbally ; the Fairy well, near Tymon Castle ; the Lime Kiln well at Balrothery ; the Chapel well, on the brink of the Dodder near Tallaght village ; and St. Columkille's well in the townland of Oldcourt.

Other objects of antiquarian interest are the belfry of the Church, a font in the churchyard, a tower near the Dominican Monastery, and a seventeenth century house called Old Bawn ⁽¹⁾.

THE VILLAGE OF TALLAGHT.

THE village of Tallaght lies about seven miles to the south-west of the City of Dublin on the high road, now traversed by a steam tramway, from the metropolis to the town of Blessington in the County Wicklow, and forms the centre of the largest parish in the County Dublin. This parish, which bears the same name as the village, extends from the parish of Rathfarnham to the boundary of the County Wicklow, and embraces a considerable extent of mountainous country. In this portion of the parish the River Dodder has its source. It flows down to the low lands through the valley of Glenasmole, or the glen of the thrushes, where the township of Rathmines now draws from the river its water supply ; and, passing not far from the village of Tallaght, takes its course through the parishes of Rathfarnham and Donnybrook to the sea.

The village, which is still recollected as the site of the country house of the Archbishops of Dublin, although nearly a century has elapsed since they ceased to reside there, has been dominated in turn by a Celtic monastery, by a mediæval castle, by an eighteenth century house called the Palace of Tallaght, and by a monastery belonging to the Dominican Order which is the chief feature of the place in the present day. Of the mediæval buildings

⁽¹⁾ Further information as to the antiquities of Tallaght Parish will be found in letters written by Mr. Eugene O'Curry in connection with the original Ordnance Survey which are preserved in the Royal Irish Academy, and in "The History and Antiquities of Tallaght," by William Domville Hancock (2nd edition, Dublin, 1899).

the only relic is a small rectangular tower which stands in the grounds of the modern monastery. Near this tower there is a walnut tree of most remarkable size, which must be the growth of many centuries, and in its vicinity there have been found such relics of the past as old coins, a papal seal, a font, and a stone cross. In addition to the tower near the monastery there is at the entrance to the village, coming from Dublin, the base of a small fortified dwelling known as Baneroff's Castle; and Mr. Eugene O'Curry, when making an examination of the district for the Ordnance Survey, discovered on a stream which flows by the village an ancient mill so small as to be only capable of grinding four barrels of wheat in twenty-four hours⁽¹⁾.

The name Tallaght means the plague grave, and from numerous places of sepulture which have been found within the parish it is evident that the neighbourhood was extensively used in pre-historic times as a burial place. Tallaght is spoken of by a Celtic writer as one of the chief cemeteries of ancient Erin, and the origin of the name has been attributed to the interment there of a number of the descendants of the first colonists of Ireland. These colonists are said to have come not long after the Flood to the Irish shores from Migdonia, in Greece, under the leadership of a hero called Partholon, and their descendants, who according to tradition were carried off a few centuries later by plague in one week, are stated to have numbered nine thousand⁽²⁾.

In the eighth century of the Christian dispensation, or about 350 years after the time of St. Patrick, Tallaght became the site of a Celtic monastery which was founded by an Irish saint called Maelruain. This monastery consisted, doubtless, like other religious establishments of the time, of some small round huts grouped round a primitive church and enclosed by a high bank. But so great was its influence in the year 811 that the monks, as a protest against some infringement of their privileges, were able to prevent the celebration of a national assembly at Teltown in the County Meath. During the two succeeding centuries, notwithstanding the periods of anarchy resulting from the Danish invasions, the

(1) See Ordnance Survey Letters in Royal Irish Academy, pp. 57-62, 71; and for description of Baneroff's Castle, "The Lesser Castles of the County Dublin," by E. R. M'C. Dix, in *The Irish Builder* for 1898, p. 157.

(2) "Annals of the Four Masters," under A.M. 2820; Keating's "History of Ireland," edited by John O'Mahony, p. 114; O'Curry's "Manners and Customs of the Ancient Irish," vol. iii., p. 523.

monastery maintained its importance, and it is not until the beginning of the twelfth century that the deaths of its chief members cease to be recorded ⁽¹⁾.

To this monastery Cellach son of Dunchadh, a chief of the same line as the founder of St. Mary's Abbey, mentioned in the history of Monkstown, gave the lands surrounding the village of Tallaght as an offering "to God and St. Michael and St. Maclruain in perpetual freedom." After the Anglo-Norman conquest these lands were confirmed by King John to the Church. They were granted by that monarch to the Archbishop of Dublin, and in the thirteenth century Tallaght gave name to one of the manors into which his estate was divided. This manor was farmed after the custom of that time, in part by the Archbishop himself, in part by tenants known as free tenants who paid their rent in money, and in part by tenants known as betaghs who discharged their obligations partly by money and partly by work done for the Archbishop on the lands retained in his own hands. It was then one of the least valuable of the Archbishop's manors, the chief being Swords on the northern, and Ballymore Eustace on the southern side of Dublin, and the buildings at Tallaght, which were in charge of a bailiff, were small and unimportant. In an account rendered during a vacancy in the See of Dublin from 1271 to 1277 it is stated that the receipts included rent from freeholders, betaghs, householders and cottagers, and profit from demesne, meadow and pasture land, from the work of the betaghs and cottagers and from tribute beer and hens given in lieu of rent ⁽²⁾. Only one tenant, Thomas de Monte Alto, is mentioned by name. Although in these accounts there is no mention of its existence the monastery seems to have still survived. About that time we find letters of protection granted for Brother Simon, Abbot of Tallaght, and later on the title of Abbot is sometimes applied to Richard White, whose family, then the most important in the district, has left its name impressed on a townland in the vicinity of Tallaght village ⁽³⁾.

Although many of the free tenants, as well as all the betaghs and cottagers were natives of this country, a state of comparative concord existed for a considerable time after the Anglo-Norman

⁽¹⁾ "Annals of the Four Masters," under A.D. 769 and 811; "Annals of Ulster," under A.D. 811.

⁽²⁾ Gilbert's "History of Dublin," vol. i., p. 404; Liber Niger, p. 260; *Proceedings of Royal Irish Academy*, vol. v., pp. 145-162.

⁽³⁾ Sweetman's Calendar, 1252-1284, p. 561; 1285-1292, p. 188; 1293-1301, pp. 205, 281.

invasion between the original inhabitants and the new settlers; but in the latter part of the thirteenth century, as has been already mentioned, the Irish tribes, the O'Byrnes and O'Tooles, who had retreated to the mountains, began to make serious incursions on lands situated like those of Tallaght, and were joined in their forays by many of their lowland brethren. Before the year 1276 the Manor of Tallaght had in consequence decreased in value more than a third, and in that year, when an attempt was made to subdue the enemy by sending an army to Glendalough, John de Alta Ripa, with three armed horsemen and the bailiff and posse of Clondalkin, then a walled town, were necessary to keep the peace in the Tallaght neighbourhood (1).

The fourteenth century is remarkable in the history of Tallaght for the erection of the Castle which for three centuries afforded a country residence for the Archbishops of Dublin. In an engraving which is here reproduced, executed long after its demolition, the



The Castle of Tallaght.

From the engraving executed for William Monck Mason.

Castle is represented as an edifice of great magnificence, but the pile of buildings depicted by the artist was probably the result of his imagination (2). Contemporary records tend to show that the

(1) *Proceedings of the Royal Irish Academy*, vol. v., p. 162; Pipe Roll, 5 Edw. I., No. 6.

(2) This engraving was executed for William Monck Mason, the learned author of the "History of St. Patrick's Cathedral," for a projected history of Christ Church Cathedral. See *Journal, R.S.A.I.*, vol. x., p. 39. The proof engraving is in the Dominican Monastery at Tallaght, and a reproduction of it appears in Archbishop Moran's edition of Archdall's "Monasticon Hibernicum."

importance of the Castle was due more to its superiority over other buildings as a house of defence than to its fitness for episcopal occupation. It originated in the state of continuous war between the Anglo-Norman settlers and the Irish which had resulted from the Scottish invasion under Edward Bruce—an invasion which gave the Irish tribes fresh courage and led to their taking possession of much land which had been enjoyed from the time of the conquest by the Anglo-Normans. In 1326 the Manor of Tallaght presented a pitiable spectacle. The Castle had been begun, but no more than the first storey had been erected, and of the original buildings there were only left to the Archbishop a chamber for himself and a small chamber for the clergy. The lands in the Archbishop's hands included 377 acres of tillage land, of which less than a third was sown, and a large tract of nineteen carucates, or over 2,000 acres, of pasture land, for which, however poor it may have been in quality, fifty-nine head of cattle and seven horses can hardly have been an adequate stock. The description of the lands held by tenants is no less appalling. Only four of the betaghs remained, and, although some of the lands formerly held by them had been let to more independent but less profitable tenants, a number of holdings are described as waste for want of tenants, or valued at nothing because no tenants would stay on them owing to their proximity to the Irish. The population of the village was larger than might be expected in those distracted times, but we find the Seneschal's court for the manor then held at Clondalkin, and, although mentioned as sources of revenue, the receipts from a water mill and market tolls can only have been precarious ⁽¹⁾.

The Castle of Tallaght was completed some time before the death of its builder, Archbishop Bicknor, which occurred in 1349, and from the fact that nectar was sent to Tallaght for his use it may be presumed that he sometimes stayed there ⁽²⁾. To what extent his successors for the next hundred years occupied the Castle is not apparent, but its utility as a house of defence must have been often tested. While it was being built enemies of English rule were found in the village of Tallaght itself, and a few years later, in 1331, on the eve of St. Mark's day, a raid by the O'Tooles resulted in a scene of dreadful bloodshed there, during which one of the

(1) *Liber Niger*, p. 728; *Memoranda Roll*, 17 Edw. II., m. 24.

(2) "Account Roll of the Priory of the Holy Trinity," edited by James Mills, pp. 112, 183.

Whites and "other honest men" of the neighbourhood were killed. The severity of these incursions in the middle of the fourteenth century may be judged from the organised measures taken to resist them. Watchmen, for whose support the Constable of Tallaght Castle, one Walter Russell, was ordered to levy a rate on the inhabitants from Donnybrook to Newcastle Lyons, were kept on the mountains to give warning of the approach of the hillmen, and the frontier from Tallaght to Bray was regularly guarded by soldiers placed at set stations. Besides men supplied by John Hacket of Stillorgan, and militia whose attendance the Sheriff enforced, we find, on the principle of setting a thief to catch another, an arrangement made with one of the O'Tooles to furnish light horsemen and infantry to defend "the English frontier and the English people between Tallaght and Windgates near Bray" from the incursions of the O'Byrnes. The latter part of that century was not attended with any improvement in the condition of the district, and in 1381 the owners of lands near Tallaght were ordered to go armed to the frontier, as O'Toole, "Captain of his nation," was out in insurrection (1).

In the fifteenth century, owing to the Wars of the Roses, English rule in Ireland became greatly relaxed, and Archbishop Tregury, on succeeding to the See of Dublin in 1449, just a hundred years after the death of Archbishop Bicknor, found the castles on the See lands much in need of restoration. The Castle of Tallaght, which stood close on the southern side to the barrier then erected round the Pale, was, owing to its position, one of the most important of these castles, and to it Archbishop Tregury devoted special attention. It became his favourite residence, and two of the occurrences recorded during his rule as Archbishop relate to strife with his neighbours at Tallaght—one being his imprisonment by the Harolds, who shared with the Walshes and the Archbalds the southern border lands of the Pale, and the other an accusation of assault brought against him by one of his own tenants. It was in his Castle of Tallaght that he died in 1471, and amongst the possessions mentioned in his will are a habit with a suitable hood in the keeping of the Constable of Tallaght and two stacks of corn in the haggard there (2).

(1) Patent Rolls, pp. 31, 55, 57, 62, 63, 110; Memoranda Roll, 26 Edw. III. m. 18; Calendar of Carew State Papers, Book of Howth, p. 157; Chartularies of St. Mary's Abbey, vol. ii., p. 374.

(2) "Register of Wills and Inventories of the Diocese of Dublin, 1457-1483," edited by Henry F. Berry, and published by the Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland, pp. xxi., 24, 25.

During the sixteenth century, in spite of the advance of civilization, Tallaght did not always enjoy the blessings of peace. At the time of the rebellion of Silken Thomas it was found necessary to place a regular garrison there to defend the neighbourhood against the Geraldines, and some years later, when the Castle was represented as one of the best strongholds for restraining the O'Tooles and the O'Byrnes, the advantage of placing hardy marchers, capable of resisting those tribes, on the lands was strongly urged. About the middle of that century the district was called upon to provide many men to take part in the expeditions into Ulster against Shane O'Neill and the Scottish invaders, and we find the Archbishop contributing no less than eight mounted archers, besides a share of the carts required for transport. In the latter part of the century the Irish tribes were, according to Archbishop Loftus, "never more insolent." Confirmation of the Archbishop's statement is found in the fact that in 1573 one of his nephews and many of his servants were slain at the gate of Tallaght Castle (1).

As a result of the improvements effected by Archbishop Tregury the Castle was frequently made use of by his successors as a residence. In 1514 Archbishop Rokeby dated a letter from it, and in 1539 the well-known Archbishop Browne for a time found it his only dwelling, as his enemy, Lord Deputy Gray, took possession of the Palace of St. Sepulchre "to the great hindrance and debilitating of the word of God." In compelling him to live at Tallaght Archbishop Browne suspected the Lord Deputy of a design to secure his destruction. He had made the O'Tooles "his mortal enemies," and four servants and a chaplain, all his household comprised, were, as he says, a slender company to oppose malefactors who could muster 200 fighting men. Subsequently he appears to have established on the Tallaght lands a number of his relatives, and towards the close of the reign of Edward VI. he leased the manor to Sir Ralph Bagenal (2). When Archbishop Loftus succeeded to the See of Dublin in 1567, a similar lease was in the hands of a Mr. Brereton, but, notwithstanding that fact, Archbishop

(1) Letters and Papers of Henry VIII., vol. viii., No. 382; vol. xii., pt. ii., No. 383; State Papers of Henry VIII., vol. ii., p. 451; Manuscripts of Charles Halliday, published by the Historical Manuscripts Commission; Calendar of Irish State Papers, 1509-1573, p. 503.

(2) Calendar of Irish State Papers, 1509-1573, p. 2; State Papers of Henry VIII., vol. iii., pp. 122-132; Fiant Edw. VI., No. 472; Memoranda Roll, 7 Edw. VI., m. 18.

Loftus took up his abode at once in the Castle, and for many years spent much of his time in it. His occupation of the Castle was not interrupted by the murder of his nephew; and shortly afterwards we find his friend Walter Devereux, Earl of Essex, the first colonizer of Ulster, supping and lodging with him at Tallaght. It was not until Viscount Baltinglas' rebellion broke out that Archbishop Loftus determined to remove his residence to Rathfarnham, leaving Tallaght to provide a home for some of the Purdons, his wife's relatives ⁽¹⁾.

During the first half of the seventeenth century the Castle continued to be occupied by the Archbishops—by Thomas Jones, the ancestor of the Viscounts Ranelagh, who succeeded Archbishop Loftus both as Archbishop of Dublin and as Lord Chancellor of Ireland, and by Lancelot Bulkeley, who was appointed to the See in 1619, on Archbishop Jones's death. It is "to the Lord Archbishop of Dublin's house at Tallaght" that on a cold February day in the year 1634 we find the great Earl of Cork proceeding in his coach and four, accompanied by the good Primate Ussher and attended by his son-in-law, Lord Digby, to procure from Archbishop Bulkeley his letters and certificates touching that great subject of dissension, the Countess of Cork's tomb in St. Patrick's Cathedral, and it was while returning from Tallaght that the Earl of Cork had the misfortune to lose Grey Barry, one of his coach horses, which fell dead at "the town's end" ⁽²⁾. During the rebellion of 1641 this district suffered severely, and in the summer of 1642 the Council directed that twelve musketeers should be sent to Tallaght to protect the Archbishop's house. A year later, however, the inhabitants sustained great losses in cattle owing to raids made by the Irish forces, and while making a sally from the Castle to resist an attack of this kind, a Captain Bret, who was then in command of the garrison, was surprised in an ambuscade, in which nine of his men were killed and he himself mortally wounded ⁽³⁾. During the troubled times which preceded the establishment of the Commonwealth, Archbishop Bulkeley attended occasionally the meetings of the Council in Dublin Castle, and when the siege of Dublin by the Irish army was expected in 1647 he was given

⁽¹⁾ Calendar of Irish State Papers, 1509-1573, pp. 405, 416; 1574-1585, *passim*; "Sydney State Papers," vol. i., p. 480; Fiaants Eliz., No. 6768.

⁽²⁾ Calendar of Irish State Papers, 1608-1610, p. 32; Lismore Papers, ser. i., vol. iv., p. 11.

⁽³⁾ Carte Papers, vol. iii., f. 189; vol. iv., f. 441; vol. v., ff. 533, 589.

licence to send cattle to Tallaght and to go there himself as he thought fit. As soon as the rule of the Commonwealth began he retired altogether to Tallaght, with the permission of the Governor of Dublin, who was very gracious to him and to the poor, and "without whose aid he would have been shattered," and there his death, which occurred in 1650, is said to have taken place (1).

When a survey of the parish of Tallaght was made a year or two later the Castle appears to have been unoccupied; but in the village there were over 200 inhabitants. The principal resident was Mr. John Jones, who is described as a cook and innkeeper; and amongst the other inhabitants we find two weavers, a smith, "a sneezing merchant," a tailor, a butcher, a maltster, a carpenter, and a beggar. The occupation of a mendicant was then apparently considered a legitimate one. On a map the village, which was then approached from Dublin through Crumlin by the road over the Greenhills, is represented figuratively as consisting of only seven houses and the church, and the soil in the parish is stated to have been considered generally of good quality, but in the southern part so mountainous and grown over with heather as to be useless for pasture (2).

Some eighty years appears to have elapsed before Tallaght could again count the Archbishop of Dublin amongst its residents. There is no mention of the occupation of the Castle, which was rated as containing eight hearths, by any of Archbishop Bulkeley's successors in the seventeenth century, and the Castle was probably allowed to fall into disrepair. During the first quarter of the eighteenth century it seems to have been uninhabitable. Archbishop King, who then held the See of Dublin, expresses regret that he had no convenience to indulge a taste for planting and gardening, and, as already stated, he made use occasionally of Mount Merrion as a country retreat (3). When Archbishop Hoadly, already referred to under Rathfarnham, succeeded to the Dublin See in 1729, on the death of Archbishop King, the Castle was in ruins. He lost no time, however, in providing himself with a country house, and within a year of his appointment built with the remains of the Castle what afterwards became known as the

(1) Carte Papers, vol. xxiv., f. 138; vol. clxiv., f. 505.

(2) Survey of Uppercross and Newcastle; Down Survey Map.

(3) Hearth Money Roll; Sloane Manuscripts in British Museum, 4049, f. 70.

Palace of Tallaght. In spite of his reputation as an improver he did not display much taste in the design, and the Palace was pronounced by Austin Cooper, the distinguished antiquary, to be the poorest thing of the kind which he had ever seen. It cost, however, £2,500, and contained some large apartments, including the hall, which was two storeys high, the dining room, in which there was a handsome chimneypiece bearing the arms of Archbishop Hoadly, and an inscription stating that the house had been built by him in



The Palace of Tallaght.

From a woodcut in Hancock's "History of Tallaght."

1729, the drawing room, in which hung a portrait of the builder, and the library, which commanded a fine view of the surrounding country (1).

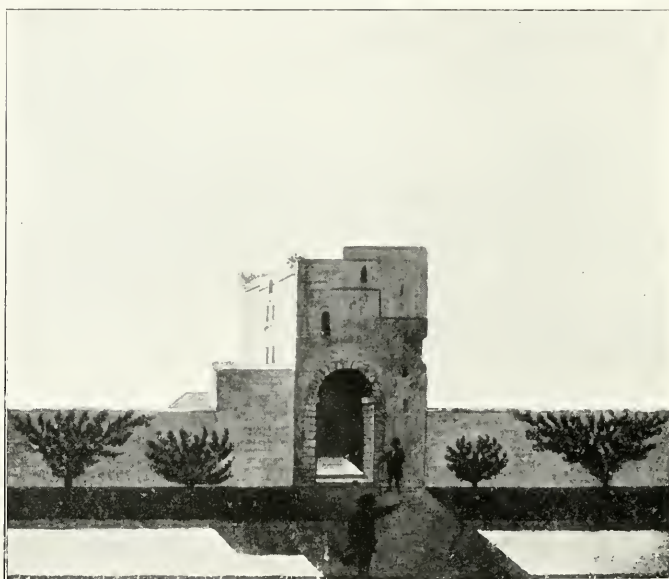
Until 1742, when he was promoted to the Archbishopric of Armagh and purchased Rathfarnham Castle, Archbishop Hoadly constantly resided at Tallaght. In its church his only child was married, and he was buried himself with his wife and his wife's mother, who had been previously interred there (2). His successor, Archbishop Cobbe, who possessed a fine residence of his own at Donabate, made little if any use of the Palace, and Archbishop Carmichael, who succeeded him, found it in need of repair. His death within six months left little time for restoration, but the next holder of the See, Archbishop Smyth, although he only partly completed what his predecessors had begun, and owned a seat near the Phoenix Park, appears to have made the Palace habitable and to have sometimes resided there. Three years after his appointment

(1) Cooper's Note Book; Brewer's "Beauties of Ireland," vol. i., p. 269.

(2) Tallaght Parish Register.

his niece was married from it, and in his will, besides leaving money for the poor of Tallaght, he bequeathed to his successors the portraits and tapestry in the Palace (1).

During the episcopate of Archbishop Cobbe an English tourist who visited Tallaght describes the Palace gardens, which were intersected by a little river and several pleasant canals, as handsome, and, although he considered the situation low, the general effect led him to speak of the Palace as a fine old seat and an elegant retirement for the Archbishop of Dublin. But some years later a French tourist was not so favourably impressed, and dismissed



The Tower in Tallaght Palace Garden in 1770.

From a sketch by Gabriel Beranger.

the Palace with the observation that it was not worthy of remark. The village, the latter writer adds, was then very inconsiderable, consisting of two tippling houses and about ten poor cabins (2). Towards the close of that century Tallaght was spoken of as a large village or town (3). It then numbered amongst its residents

(1) Cooper's Note Book ; Tallaght Parish Register ; Will of Arthur, Archbishop of Dublin.

(2) "A Tour through Ireland, by Two English Gentlemen," London, 1748 ; "Journey through Ireland by a Frenchman," in *The Repository* (Dublin, 1763), p. 65.

(3) Lewis's "Dublin Guide," p. 244.

a centenarian, a Mrs. Warren, who died in 1798 at the age of 112, leaving great-great-grandchildren nearly twenty years old (1).

On his appointment to the See of Dublin in 1779 Archbishop Fowler made many so-called improvements in the Palace grounds, in which little reverence for antiquities was displayed, and the Palace itself received "a universal dashing and white-washing." In his time the gardens were brought to a high state of perfection, and he appears to have made Tallaght his constant residence until the death in 1793 of his wife, who was buried in Tallaght Church. In the autumn preceding the rebellion of 1798, during the absence of the Archbishop, the Palace was visited late at night by a party of men in hackney coaches accompanied by others on foot, and the porter was forced to give them five guns which had been lately brought to the house and some blunderbusses (2). Archbishop Fowler's successor, the well-known Charles Agar, Earl of Normanton, did not consider Tallaght Palace a dwelling worthy of his position, and in spite of his great wealth is said to have built up the windows and fireplaces in it, to avoid paying the tax then assessed on them (3). Although Archbishop Cleaver, who was appointed to the See of Dublin in 1809 on the resignation of Archbishop Agar, is said to have opened the windows and hearths and to have dispensed in the Palace princely hospitality, his occupation of the place, owing to his ill health, cannot have been long, and his successor, Lord John George Beresford, found it in 1821 in such a state of decay as to be unfit for habitation. It was then sold, together with the demesne, to Major Palmer, who, in accordance with the conditions of sale, levelled the Palace with the ground, the only relic of it now known to exist being the dining-room chimneypiece. This adorns the church of Tubrid, in the diocese of Lismore, to which it was brought by the Palmer family. The demesne and a house built by Major Palmer were subsequently sold to Sir John Lentaigue, and passed from the latter into the possession of the Dominican Order (4).

(1) Her brother is said to have died two years before at the age of 120. He is stated to have sown wheat where Grafton Street now stands, and to have then held some 700 acres at 2s. 6d. an acre. On the day of the Battle of the Boyne some of his father's carts which he was driving were impressed for the service of King William.—Newspaper Cuttings relating to Ireland in the British Museum.

(2) Cooper's Note Book; Papers of the Earl of Donoughmore, pp. 316, 317, and Mrs. Stopford Sackville's Manuscripts, p. 65, published by the Historical Manuscripts Commission; Tallaght Parish Register; *Hibernian Magazine*, 1797, part ii., p. 381.

(3) "Tour in Ireland in 1813-1814, by an Englishman," pp. 188-190.

(4) Handcock's "History of Tallaght" (2nd edition), pp. 26, 32.

JOBSTOWN.

THE lands of Jobstown, which lie to the west of the village of Tallaght, formed portion of the manor of the Archbishop of Dublin, and were for centuries the site of the residence of a branch of the Fitzwilliam family already mentioned in connection with the history of Merrion, Baggotrath, and Dundrum. Of the castle which in their time stood upon the lands no trace now remains.

So early as the year 1266 a member of the Fitzwilliam family, Joseph Fitzwilliam, took lands known as Ballyslatter, or Clonart, within the tenement of Tallaght, but the first mention of the family in connection with Jobstown, which was also known as Rathmintin, is in the year 1326, when it is stated that Richard Fitzwilliam had acquired it from one Ralph Aubry. Amongst subsequent owners of Jobstown we find, in 1442, Stephen Fitzwilliam, who then committed its custody to his brother, John Fitzwilliam, and a chaplain called John Elliott; in 1463 Stephen Fitzwilliam, who in that year accused Archbishop Tregury of taking a halbert from him by force on the high road from Ratoath to Dublin; in 1514 John Fitzwilliam, who was then granted a reduction in his rent; in 1531 Stephen Fitzwilliam, who was an official in Dublin Castle; and in 1557 William Fitzwilliam, who married Margaret Goulding, and who in his will, made shortly before his death in 1578, mentions amongst his possessions a silver salt cellar of sixteen ounces weight and two riding horses, which he left to his cousins, the Fitzwilliams of Merrion (1).

Towards the close of the sixteenth century the Fitzwilliams of Jobstown were included amongst the men of name in the County Dublin; they acted as commissioners for the muster of the militia, and in 1593 they sent a mounted archer to the hosting at Tara (2). Amongst those who succeeded William Fitzwilliam, we find, in 1583 his son Stephen Fitzwilliam; in 1605 William Fitzwilliam, who in that year, shortly after his marriage, died of the plague at Merrion and was buried at Tallaght; and in 1632 Stephen Fitzwilliam, in whose time a most minute survey of the boundaries of Jobstown and the adjacent lands was made under a writ of

(1) *Liber Niger*, pp. 728, 751, 897; *Exchequer Inquisition*, Eliz., No. 209; Berry's "*Wills of Dublin Diocese, 1457-1483*," p. xxi.; *Memoranda Roll*; Will of William Fitzwilliam.

(2) "*The Description of Ireland in 1598*," edited by Rev. Edmund Hogan, p. 38; *Faints Eliz.*, 3118, 4148; Trinity College Library MS., F. 1, 18, p. 177.

perambulation issued by the Court of Chancery. The Fitzwilliams of Jobstown had then begun to decline in prosperity; an illegitimate branch had for some time existed, and several mortgages had been effected on the lands. Under these mortgages Jobstown came into the possession of Gerald Archbold, a grandson of Richard Archbold of Kilmaeud, who in 1664 was residing in the Castle, which was then in good repair and rated as containing two hearths; the other inhabitants on the lands numbering twenty-six and occupying six cottages. Subsequently, before the close of Charles II.'s reign, the ownership of the lands passed to the Whitshed family, which retained it throughout the eighteenth century⁽¹⁾.

BELGARD.

THE house known as Belgard, the residence of the late Sir Henry Hayes Lawrence, Bart., is situated to the north of Jobstown and north-west of the village of Tallaght, on the road from the latter place to Clondalkin. The house, which is an eighteenth century structure, stands on a hill, and occupies the site of a castle which stood, like Tallaght Castle, close to the barrier of the Pale.

The castle of Belgard, which was built on lands belonging to the See of Dublin, was for several centuries the seat of a branch of the family of Talbot of Malahide. It is first mentioned at the close of the fifteenth century, and was then the residence of Robert Talbot, son and heir of John Talbot, of Feltrim, near Malahide. As the owner of much property in widely scattered parts of the County Dublin, Robert Talbot, who married Margaret Eustace, occupied a high position, and served, like many of his ancestors, as Sheriff of the metropolitan county. In the disputes between the Geraldines and the Butlers which then rent Ireland, he was prominent on the side of the latter, and was regarded with deadly hatred by the Geraldines, "who surmised that he kept a calendar of all their doings and stirred the coals that incensed brother against brother." On one occasion, when the Earl of Kildare of that time had "by craft and policy" induced Talbot, with a number of Dublin citizens, to meet him on Oxmantown Green, Talbot only escaped

⁽¹⁾ Fiant Eliz., 4148; Funeral Entries; Chancery Decree, Charles I., No. 342; Decree of Innocents, Roll 1, m. 56; Down Survey Map; Hearth Money and Subsidy Rolls; Census of 1659; Grants under Commission of Grace, p. 16.

with his life through the spirit of his horse, which is said to have carried him over a wall twenty-five feet high. Some historians add that his death, which took place in 1523, was due to the Geraldines, and that he was murdered by their followers near Ballymore Eustace, when on his way to spend Christmas with his friend, the Earl of Ossory.

His successors in the ownership of Belgard, which was accounted one of the principal castles in the County Dublin, acted as commissioners for the muster of the militia, and served in person, besides contributing an archer, in the expeditions to Ulster. They included Robert Talbot's son, Reginald, who married in 1536 Rose, daughter of Richard Luttrell; his grandson Robert, who married Elizabeth, daughter of Walter Goulding; and his great grandson, Gilbert, who married the daughter of their kinsman and neighbour, Mr. Justice Talbot, of Templeogue. Soon after Gilbert Talbot had succeeded to Belgard in 1580, we find a party of horse under the Earl of Kildare and Sir Henry Harrington assembling there, before setting out to rescue the country around Rathmore, in the County Meath, from the depredations of the rebels in the rising under Viscount Baltinglas, and thence some years later "the heir of Robert Talbot" sent an archer on horseback to the hosting at Tara (1).

After Gilbert Talbot's death in 1626, Belgard came into the possession of his second son, Adam Talbot, who is mentioned by Archbishop Bulkeley as one of the chief Roman Catholics in the district. In the years that followed we find his son, John Talbot, active on the Irish side; and after the establishment of the Commonwealth he was tried and sentenced to death for shooting a man at Chapelizod. He was successful in obtaining a remission of the sentence on the plea that the act was done in discharge of his duty as a soldier, and he is said to have subsequently distinguished himself in the war in Flanders. During his absence Belgard, then described as an old castle made habitable, was occupied by a grandson of Sir Dudley Loftus of Rathfarnham, Adam Loftus, a young gentleman of twenty-two years of age, who

(1) Exchequer Inquisition, Henry VIII., No. 24; Philip and Mary, No. 13; Memoranda Roll, 6 Edw. VI., m. 61; Campion's "History of Ireland," p. 161; Calendar of Carew State Papers, Book of Howth, p. 177; "The Description of Ireland in 1598," edited by Rev. Edmund Hogan, p. 37; Fiant's Philip and Mary, 129, Eliz. 260, 646, 3637, 4118; Manuscripts of Charles Haliday, published by the Historical Manuscripts Commission; Calendar of Irish State Papers, 1574-1585, p. 253; Trinity College Library MS., F. 1, 18, p. 177.

with his wife, Penelope Street, his wife's family, and his household of five servants, found in it a comfortable home. The other inhabitants on the lands, amongst whom were two shoemakers, numbered then some thirty persons (1).

After the return of Charles II. the Talbots, in the person of John Talbot, described as a lieutenant, were restored to Belgard, "for reason known unto the King in an especial manner meriting



Belgard.

From a photograph by Mr. Thomas Mason.

his grace and favour." During the Revolution, Colonel John Talbot of Belgard was prominent in the service of James II., sitting in that monarch's Parliament as representative of Newcastle Lyons, and taking part as an officer of Tyrconnel's Horse in most of the important engagements. After the surrender of Limerick he was allowed to retire to Belgard, and while living there in 1693 gave security for his loyal behaviour (2). He died before the close of the seventeenth century, and was buried in Tallaght Churchyard,

(1) *Communia Rolls*; Archbishop Bulkeley's Report, p. 155; Depositions of 1641; D'Alton's "History of the County Dublin," p. 708; Down Survey Map; Survey of Uppercross and Newcastle; Lodge's "Peerage of Ireland," edited by Mervyn Archdall, vol. vii., p. 258.

(2) D'Alton's "King James's Irish Army List," pp. 30, 40, 51, 65, 88, and "History of County Dublin," p. 708; Calendar of Irish State Papers, 1593, p. 16.

where there is a tombstone, now much broken, to his memory ⁽¹⁾. By his wife Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Henry Talbot, of Templeogue, he left three daughters—Margaret, who married first Sir Peter de Bathe, Bart., and secondly, a namesake of her father's, John Talbot; Catherine, who married, in 1694, Colonel Thomas Dillon, a great grandson of the first Viscount Dillon, of Costello Gallen; and Marianne, who married in 1696, Christopher Dillon, of Lungmore, in the County of Mayo, a younger brother of Colonel Dillon ⁽²⁾.

In the beginning of the eighteenth century Belgard was occupied by Colonel Thomas Dillon and his wife, and after his death in 1721, we find the latter living there with her family and her sister, Lady de Bathe. Subsequently it came into the possession of Colonel Dillon's eldest son, Henry Dillon, who married a Miss Moore. He was a man of very considerable wealth, and probably a tradition of unbounded charities, expenditure of a princely fortune, and great hospitality, which has been attributed to his father, should be applied to him. By him or his son the deer park and shooting lodge called after them, which are still to be seen in the Tallaght Hills, near Ballinascorney, were constructed. After Henry Talbot's death, about 1772, Belgard, which is described then by Austin Cooper "as a small high square tower with a house and other improvements," passed successively to his eldest son Thomas, and his second son John. The latter went about the year 1796 to reside in London, and after his death a few years later, Belgard came into the possession of the descendants of Mr. Dominick Trant, who had married a daughter of Mr. Henry Dillon ⁽³⁾. Subsequently it passed to Dr. Evory Kennedy, a distinguished Dublin physician ⁽⁴⁾, and, through the marriage of his daughter to Sir Alexander Lawrence, became the property of its late owner.

⁽¹⁾ Under date 23rd April, 1780, Austin Cooper thus notices the tomb:—"Tomb in Tallaght Churchyard—The Honourable Colonel John Talbot, of Belgard, died 10th September, 1697, aged 73; his arms are on the tomb, viz., crest, a Talbot proper; arms, two Talbots rampant parted from pale." See also *Journal of the Association for the Preservation of the Memorials of the Dead*, vol. iii., p. 456, where the date is given wrongly.

⁽²⁾ Wills of Thomas Dillon, Margaret Talbot (commonly called Lady Bathe), and Sir Peter Bathe.

⁽³⁾ D'Alton's "History of the County Dublin," p. 709; Wills of Henry Dillon and John Dillon.

⁽⁴⁾ See *The Irish Builder* for 1886, p. 321.

NEWLANDS.

THE residence known as Newlands, which adjoins Belgard to the north, is still recollected as the home of Lord Kilwarden, the Chief Justice of Ireland, who fell a victim to Robert Emmet's rebellion, and is now occupied by his present successor, Lord O'Brien. The demesne is partly in the parish of Clondalkin, and the entrance is on the coach road to the south of Ireland, which intersects that parish.

About the time of the Restoration the lands now comprised within the demesne of Newlands came into the possession of Sir John Cole, a baronet, and a collateral ancestor of the Earls of Enniskillen, who, although he had served in the army of the Parliament, was one of those most anxious for the return of Charles II. On these lands he erected a residence for himself. In this house, which was rated as containing nine hearths, he continued to reside until his death, some thirty years later, and in its ownership he was succeeded by his eldest son, Arthur Cole.



Newlands.

From a photograph by Mr. Thomas Mason.

Through his mother, Arthur Cole was related to the notorious Earl of Ranelagh, and after the death of that nobleman he was created a peer, with the title of Baron Ranelagh—a peerage which became extinct, together with the baronetcy inherited from his father, on his death in 1754 (1).

(1) Hearth Money Roll; Will of Sir John Cole; Cokayne's "Complete Baronetage," vol. ii., pp. 234-250; Carte Papers, vol. lxxviii., p. 159.

It was towards the close of the eighteenth century, about the year 1782, that Newlands became the residence of the ill-fated Arthur Wolfe, Lord Kilwarden, then an eminent King's counsel, who was probably induced to settle there owing to its being situated on the same road as the seat of his family in the County Kildare. After a distinguished career in Parliament and as a law officer, Wolfe was appointed, on the death of Lord Clonmell in 1798, to the Chief Justiceship of Ireland. While he was Attorney-General, his wife, a daughter of Mr. William Ruxton, of Ardee, had been created a peeress in her own right as Baroness Kilwarden, and after his elevation to the bench he was himself first created a baron and subsequently a viscount, with the same title. At the time of the Emmet rebellion he was residing at Newlands, and it was when driving from there to the Castle on the evening of July 23rd, 1803, that he was murdered in Thomas Street. Lord Kilwarden was succeeded in his titles by his eldest son, but the latter never married, and on his death in 1830 the titles became extinct (1).

After the death of the first Lord Kilwarden, Newlands was for a time occupied by the Right Hon. George Ponsonby, who was for a short period Chancellor of Ireland in Fox's Ministry, and who became leader of the Liberal party in the House of Commons in succession to that statesman (2).

KILNAMANAGH.

THE lands of Kilnamanagh, which lie to the east of Belgard, and north of the village of Tallaght, were the site of a religious establishment, and it has been suggested that this establishment was a monastery with which St. Eugene, patron of the diocese of Derry, was connected (3). Remains of ancient buildings have been found on the lands, and traces of a burial place (4).

(1) *Journal of the Association for the Preservation of the Memorials of the Dead*, vol. iv., pp. 33-34; "The Wolfes of Forenaght," by Lieutenant-Colonel R. T. Wolfe; *Dictionary of National Biography*, vol. lxii., p. 294.

(2) Sleater's "Topography of Ireland"; *Dictionary of National Biography*, vol. xlvi., p. 82.

(3) See Papers on "Loca Patriciana" by Rev. J. F. Shearman, in *Journal R.S.A.I.*, vol. xiv., p. 89. He states that Kilnamanagh was identical with a place called Aeadh Finnech, or the field of the limpid water, near the river Dodder. But the latter was a distinct place, see "Topographical Poems," published by the Irish Archaeological and Celtic Society, p. xiv.

(4) See Ordnance Survey Letters in Royal Irish Academy, pp. 62, 63.

A building known as the cell of Kilnamanagh, as well as a castle, existed on the lands in the seventeenth century, but long before that time the lands were in lay hands, and before the death of Robert Talbot, in 1523, they had come into the possession of the Belgard family, by whom they were held under the Crown *in capite* by Knight's service. Subsequently they appear to have reverted to the Crown, and early in the seventeenth century they were granted by James I. to Sir William Parsons, well known as one of the Lords Justices of Ireland at the time of the Rebellion, and a collateral ancestor of the present Earl of Rosse, who then acquired much property in the neighbourhood. Under his descendants we find the lands held about the time of the establishment of the Commonwealth by Gerald Fitzwilliam; but before the Restoration Fitzwilliam, who was allied to the Irish side in the rebellion, had given place to one Robert Hawkins. The latter occupied a house rated as containing three hearths, and the other inhabitants numbered some thirty persons occupying eight houses (1).

TYMON.

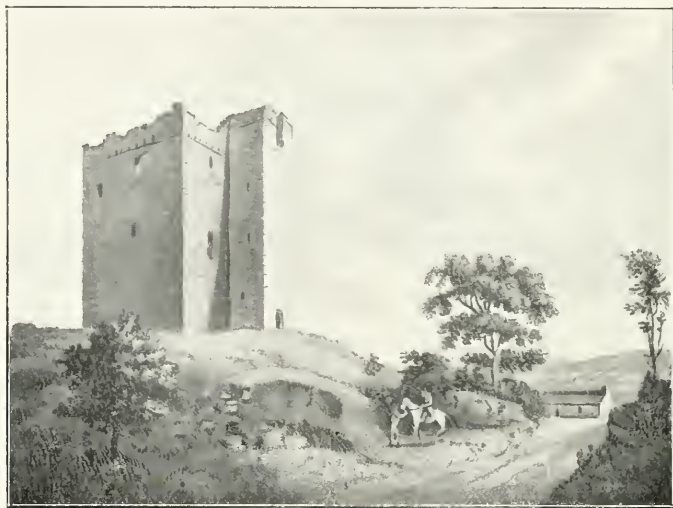
THE ruined castle of Tymon, which lies to the south-east of Kilnamanagh and north-west of the village of Tallaght, stands on rising ground. It was built for the protection of the surrounding lands, which formed the corps of the Prebend of Timothan in St. Patrick's Cathedral, and was a small rectangular building with a projection on the western side containing the staircase and the entrance, which was guarded by a machicolation (2).

Before the Anglo-Norman Conquest the lands of Tymon were possessed by a tribe known as the O'Mothans, and the name Tymon, or Timothan, is a corruption of the words Erachtomothan, or the inheritance of the O'Mothans. At the beginning of the thirteenth century the lands were included amongst the property of the Crown in the Vale of Dublin, the rent being assigned to the Archbishop of Dublin, to recoup his losses through the erection of Dublin

(1) Exchequer Inquisition, Philip and Mary, No. 13; Calendar of Patent Rolls, James I., p. 526; Survey of Uppercross and Newcastle; Census of 1659; Hearth Money Roll.

(2) "The Lesser Castles of the County Dublin," by E. R. M'C. Dix in *The Irish Builder* for 1897, p. 53.

Castle; but soon afterwards the lands were granted for the endowment of a stall in the newly founded cathedral of St. Patrick. At the close of that century the lands, which were valued at £10, were returned as worth nothing on account of war, and probably the castle was erected not long afterwards. A tradition that a church existed near it does not appear to be well founded. On the suppression of St. Patrick's Cathedral, towards the close of the



Tymon Castle in 1791.

From a plate in Grose's "Antiquities of Ireland."

reign of Henry VIII., when the castle is mentioned as being in a ruinous state, the lands passed into lay hands, being leased by the Crown in 1550 to Bartholomew Cusack, and in 1553 to James Segrave, the tenant of Rathgar⁽¹⁾.

In the seventeenth century the lands were in the possession of the descendants of Archbishop Loftus; the castle, which was then rated as containing two hearths, being occupied by a family called Rely. In 1638 Barnaby Rely, a devout Roman Catholic, died there, directing in his will that he should be buried at Tallaght, and leaving a silver cup to one of the younger sons of his landlord, Sir Dudley Loftus; and at the time of the Commonwealth Nicholas Rely was living there with a household of fourteen persons,

⁽¹⁾ Mason's "History of St. Patrick's Cathedral," p. 56; 5th Report of the Deputy Keeper of the Records, Ireland, p. 29; Sweetman's Calendar, 1171-1251, No. 1790, 1302-1307, p. 237; Christ Church Deeds, No. 150; Fiant Edw. VI., No. 1189; D'Alton's "History of County Dublin," p. 770.

including ploughmen, cowherds, and gardeners. The other inhabitants numbered some thirty-five persons, and amongst them were carmen, furze cutters, and a swine herd. In the eighteenth century the lands were sold, together with Rathfarnham, by Archbishop Loftus' descendant, the Duke of Wharton, to Speaker Conolly, and before the close of that century the castle had become a ruin; the observant Austin Cooper records that in 1779 he found it partly occupied, but that in 1783 he noted it was waste and uninhabited ⁽¹⁾.

TEMPLEOGUE.

THE lands of Templeogue, which lie to the south-east of Kilnamanagh and north-east of the village of Tallaght, are intersected by the modern road from Dublin to the latter place, but in past ages were approached from the metropolis by a road which branched off from the great southern high road at Crumlin. On the lands there are a village, and two handsome seats, Templeogue House, the residence of Mr. William Alexander, and Cypress Grove, the residence of Mr. Charles King, besides a ruined church. The church is nearly destroyed, and now only featureless fragments of the western half of the south wall and portion of the end walls remain.

Within a century after the Anglo-Norman invasion Templeogue had become well known. Its church, which is said to have been erected after that event in place of the mountain church of Kilhasantan, which became useless owing to the incursions of the Irish tribes, was built before 1294 ⁽²⁾. But a work which attracted more attention to Templeogue was the diversion from the River Dodder, at a point not far from the village, of the original water supply to the City of Dublin, the construction of which was undertaken about the middle of the thirteenth century. The course of this supply, on which Dublin relied for the next five centuries, is still to be seen; it starts at a place known as Balrothery, between Templeogue and Tallaght, flows beneath the Tallaght Road to

⁽¹⁾ Archbishop Bulkeley's Report, p. 155; Will of Barnaby Relly; Survey of Uppercross and Newcastle; Hearth Money Roll; Cooper's Note Book.

⁽²⁾ Mason's "History of St. Patrick's Cathedral," p. 75; Christ Church Deeds, No. 150.

Templeogue, skirts the wall of the churchyard, and passing through the grounds of Templeogue House pursues its way to Harold's Cross. The channel was tended with great care, and husbandmen and yeomen living in its neighbourhood were appointed to keep it clean ⁽¹⁾.

The lands of Templeogue, which were part of the Archbishop's Manor of Tallaght, and were held at the beginning of the fourteenth century by some of the Harold clan, appear not to have been occupied by any one of importance until the sixteenth century. They became then the site of the residence of Richard Talbot, who, during portion of the reigns of Queen Mary and Queen Elizabeth, was second Justice of the Common Bench, a position to which he had been promoted from the office of Justice of the liberty of Wexford. He was the founder of the family now seated at Mount Talbot, in the County Roscommon. At Templeogue we find the judge discharging the ordinary duties of a landowner of that time, acting as a commissioner of the muster and contributing a mounted archer to the militia, and in addition, undertaking for the citizens of Dublin the care of the water course, for which he was granted as recompense a tribute of corn paid by mills drawing their power from the course. Judge Talbot, who was a son of William Talbot of Dublin, and who married one of the Burnells of Balgriffin, was succeeded at Templeogue by his son, John Talbot, who died about the year 1580. John Talbot was in turn succeeded by his son Robert, who married Eleanor Colley, and who died in 1616. Robert Talbot was one of the men of name in the county, and in 1601 his house afforded a home to the Earl of Thomond's son. After his death Templeogue passed successively to his eldest son, John, who died in 1627, and to his second son, Henry ⁽²⁾.

The Talbots belonged to the Roman Catholic Church; both Henry Talbot and his mother, who occupied separate dwellings, had its services celebrated in their houses; and Templeogue Church, as there was no one to attend the services of the Established

⁽¹⁾ "The Water Supply of Ancient Dublin," by Henry F. Berry, in *Journal, R.S.A.I.*, vol. xxi., p. 57.

⁽²⁾ *Liber Niger*, p. 728; Fiant's Philip and Mary, Nos. 85, 123, 192, Eliz., 13, 164; Burke's "Landed Gentry," under Talbot of Mount Talbot; Manuscripts of Charles Haliday, published by the Historical Manuscripts Commission; Chancery Bill of 8th April, 1616; Calendar of Carew State Papers, 1601-1603, p. 39; "The Description of Ireland in 1598," edited by Rev. Edmund Hogan, p. 37; Will of John Talbot.

Church, had fallen into a ruinous state. The payment of the corn dues which had been granted to the judge was the subject of constant contention between his successors and the citizens, and in 1635 the King directed Strafford, who was then Lord Deputy, to settle the dispute, as Henry Talbot had represented that the Corporation were too strong for him to coerce in the ordinary way. In the years that followed, Henry Talbot, who in 1639 was returned to Parliament as a representative of Newcastle Lyons, but who was subsequently expelled for non-attendance, was an object of suspicion to the Government. It was stated that when the rebellion broke out, instead of offering his assistance against the rebels he left his house at Templeogue at their mercy and retired to the County Kildare to live with his brother-in-law, Sir John Dongan. Subsequently he proceeded to England, and there rendered services to the King for which he was knighted. After the Commonwealth was established he appears in the list of those ordered to transplant into Connaught (1).

At the latter time there were about forty inhabitants in Templeogue, including Theobald Harold, who is described as steward of the town; and besides the castle, which was in good repair, and some cottages, there was a substantial dwelling which was out of repair, and a cloth mill. After the Restoration the castle, which was rated as containing five hearths, and which for a time had been held by a Mr. Roger Brereton, was placed in charge of a caretaker, who was paid by the Crown; but a few years later Sir Henry Talbot was restored to his ancestral home - a favour which he owed probably to the fact that he was married to a sister of Dick Talbot, afterwards Earl of Tyreconnel (2).

Through mortgages executed on the lands by Sir Henry Talbot's son, Colonel James Talbot, the castle of Templeogue passed at the close of the seventeenth century into the possession of Sir Thomas Domville, the first baronet of his name, already mentioned in the history of Loughlinstown as second son of Charles II.'s Irish Attorney-General. On the site of the castle Sir Thomas Domville erected a handsome mansion, in which he incorporated some portion of the ancient building, and which is said to have been built of red brick with a gable roof. Sir Thomas Domville, who

(1) Archbishop Bulkeley's Report, p. 151; Calendar of Irish State Papers, 1633-1647, p. 211; Return of Members of Parliament; Carte Papers, vol. lxviii., pp. 465, 469; List of Transplanted Irish, pp. 160, 175.

(2) Down Survey Map; Survey of Upperross and Newcastle; Hearth Money Roll; Decree of Innocents, Roll. I., m. 8; Eighth Report Historical Manuscripts Commission, App., pp. 501, 523.

represented Mullingar in Parliament for some years, was married three times; first, to a cousin of his own, Miss Lake, by whom he had a daughter, who married Henry Barry, third Baron of Santry; secondly, to a daughter of his neighbour, Lord Ranelagh of Newlands, by whom he had no issue; and thirdly, to a granddaughter of Spencer Compton, second Earl of Northampton, by whom he had a son Compton, and a daughter Elizabeth, who married Christopher Pocklington. On his death in 1721, Sir Thomas was succeeded by his son, Sir Compton Domvile⁽¹⁾, who represented the County Dublin in Parliament for over forty years and was created a Privy Councillor. At Templeogue the latter made further improvements, adorning the house, it is said, with a representation of himself, and laying out the grounds with great magnificence. In his time the gardens excited the admiration of John O'Keeffe, the actor, and are described by that writer as intersected with artificial cascades in the Marlay style, with statues and urns arranged on either side of the water falls⁽²⁾.

It was after the Domviles came to Templeogue that the virtues of the mineral spa, which enjoyed a short celebrity in the first half of the eighteenth century, were discovered. The discovery cannot have taken place long before 1712, for in that year Swift asks Stella, who intended to drink the waters, where the place is. The name Templeogue excited the Dean's ridicule, and he expressed the opinion that its being so near to Dublin was a disadvantage, as he thought a journey to a spa contributed towards the cure. A few years later good lodgings near the well were advertised, and about the year 1730 the spa had attained the summit of its fame. The well was open from April to September, and those unable to come to it could obtain the waters fresh every day in Dublin. The doings of the gay crowd that resorted to its healing waters were in 1728 chronicled in the pages of a journal called *The Templeogue Intelligencer*, which made its appearance each week; and from *The Templeogue Ballad*, which was printed at the Cherry Tree, Rathfarnham, it appears that in 1730 dances attended by the Dublin fashionable world took place each Monday at Templeogue. Subsequently assembly rooms, in which "a band of city music" performed under the direction of a master of the

(1) Portraits of Sir Thomas Domvile and Sir Compton Domvile have been reproduced in the History of Loughlinstown.

(2) Exchequer Inquisition William and Mary, No. 8; Claims at Chichester House; Handcock's "History of Tallaght" (2nd edition), p. 119; Cooper's Note Book; O'Keeffe's "Recollections of his Life," vol. i., p. 117; Return of Members of Parliament; Wills of Sir Thomas Domvile and Dame Anna Domvile.

ceremonies, were advertised in connection with an inn called "The Domvile Arms and Three Tuns." Before long, however, fashion deserted the spa, which before the middle of the century had lost its reputation, and Templeogue was left as a place of resort for votaries of boxing matches and cock fighting. At the time when the spa enjoyed its greatest fame an announcement appeared that coal had been found at Templeogue, but the colliery, in which men were then stated to be at work, was probably soon abandoned (1).

As owners of Templeogue the Domviles claimed the same rights over the watercourse as the Talbots. Rents payable in respect of it by the Chapter of St. Patrick's Cathedral and the Earl of Meath, as well as the yearly tribute of corn from the mills, had been bequeathed to Sir Compton Domvile by his father, and it is said that by a threat of cutting off the water supply from Dublin Sir Compton obtained a pardon for his nephew, the last Lord Santry, who was sentenced to death for murder (2).

In Sir Compton Domvile's time the house which is now known as Cypress Grove, and which was built by a man called Paine, became the residence of Sir William Cooper, a Master in Chancery and Member of Parliament for Hillsborough, who, a few years before his death in 1761, was created a baronet. After his death the house was taken by the then Dowager Countess of Clanbrassil, widow of the first Earl of Clanbrassil and daughter of the first Earl of Portland. During her occupation Austin Cooper describes the house as an old irregular building, and the grounds as small, but laid out in exquisite taste with gardens, shubberies, and ponds. The house contained some good paintings, as well as urns and other ornaments of marble, ivory, and amber, which the Countess had made herself. On her death the house passed to her grandson, then Viscount Jocelyn and afterwards second Earl of Roden, and in an attack made upon it by some burglars, one of his sons, a lieutenant in the navy, displayed great valour (3).

Sir Compton Domvile succeeded in 1751 to Santry Court, on the death of his nephew, the last Lord Santry, but he continued to use Templeogue House as one of his residences. He never married,

(1) "Swift's Works," edited by Sir W. Scott, vol. iii., pp. 33, 39-44; Handcock's "History of Tallaght" (2nd edition), pp. 102-116; *Dublin Gazette*, April 22-26, 1718; *Dublin Weekly Journal*, June 27 and August 15, 1730, April 22, 1732, April 6, 1734; *Dublin Journal*, No. 1861; Haliday Pamphlets in Royal Irish Academy, vols. lxxxviii. and xevi.

(2) Will of Sir Thomas Domvile; Handcock's "History of Tallaght" (2nd edition), p. 120.

(3) Cooper's Note Book; Will of Sir William Cooper; Handcock's "History of Tallaght" (2nd edition), p. 123.

and on his death in 1768, he was succeeded by his nephew, Mr. Charles Poeklington, who took the name of Domvile, and was afterwards created a baronet. The latter appears at first to have constantly occupied Templeogue House⁽¹⁾, and it was not until about the year 1780, when Austin Cooper mentions that scarcely sufficient was done to prevent Templeogue House falling into ruins, that he went to reside at Santry Court. Subsequently everything



Templeogue House.

From a photograph by Mr. Thomas Mason.

that it was possible to take from Templeogue, including a temple of great beauty, was removed to Santry, and in the early part of the nineteenth century Templeogue House was pulled down. Some of the walls of the ancient castle, however, resisted the house-breakers, and were again incorporated in the present residence, which was built in the first half of the last century. All trace of the appurtenances of the Queen Anne mansion has now disappeared, but when the present house was occupied, about 1843, by Charles Lever the novelist⁽²⁾, it is said that the former magnificence of the place was attested by a great courtyard with impregnable high walls, Dutch waterfalls, terraced walks, gigantic grottoes, extensive gardens, and a sweeping avenue with massive iron gates⁽³⁾.

(1) Between 1771 and 1782 four of his children were baptized in Tallaght Church. See Tallaght Parish Register.

(2) Tradition states that some of Lever's novels were written in the tower which appears on the left side of the picture of Templeogue House.

(3) Fitzpatrick's "Life of Lever," vol. i., p. 323.

KNOCKLYON.

To the south of the lands of Templeogue and south-east of the village of Tallaght lie the lands of Knocklyon, on which, in addition to a castle now converted into a modern dwelling, are situated a village called Fir House and several country houses, including Sally Park, the residence of the late Mr. William Domville Hancock, author of "The History and Antiquities of Tallaght."

After the Anglo-Norman conquest the lands of Knocklyon, together with a great quantity of the adjoining lands now comprised in the south-eastern portion of the parish of Tallaght, were granted to Walter de Rideleford, already mentioned as owner of Merrion and Donnybrook, but seem to have before long reverted to the Crown. Amongst the subsequent owners we find the Burnells of Balgriffin, the Bathes of Drumcondra, the Nugents of Westmeath, the Talbots of Belgard, Anthony Deering, and Sir Dudley Loftus of Rathfarnham⁽¹⁾. The castle of Knocklyon, which in the sixteenth century was stated to be in a ruinous condition, was occupied in the early part of the seventeenth century by Piers Archbold, son of Richard Archbold, of Kilmacud, and father of Gerald Archbold, of Jobstown. He married a daughter of Barnaby Relly, of Tymon, and like his father-in-law, was in religion a Roman Catholic, and maintained on his lands a schoolmaster of that faith to teach his children. He died in 1644, and in accordance with a direction in his will was doubtless interred with his family in the churchyard of Taney. About the time of the Restoration the residents on the lands of Knocklyon are stated to have numbered nine persons of English, and ten persons of Irish descent, occupying seven houses⁽²⁾. At the beginning of the eighteenth century the name of Fir House, then written Fur House, first appears as the residence of a family called Fieragh, some of whom were employed in the timber trade with Norway. It has been suggested that the name Fir House is a corruption of their name, and also that it had its origin in an inn, bearing the sign of a tree, which formerly stood in the village, but it seems more probable that the name arose from the connection of the Fieragh family with the timber trade⁽³⁾.

(1) Sweetman's Calendar, 1171-1251, No. 469; Exchequer Inquisition, Henry VIII., Nos. 102 and 147, Philip and Mary, No. 32; Fiant's Philip and Mary, No. 249, Eliz., Nos. 21, 3126, 4575; Chancery Inquisition Jac. I., Co. Dublin, No. 33.

(2) Archbishop Bulkeley's Report, p. 155; Will of Piers Archbold; Census of 1659; Hearth Money Roll.

(3) Wills of Maurice Fieragh and Ann Fieragh, and tombstone in Tallaght Churchyard; under date 23 April, 1780, the latter is thus noticed by Austin Cooper:—"Tombstone in Tallaght Churchyard—Patrick Fieragh, of Furhouse, died 2 April, 1715; William, his son, 28 August, 1736; and Maurice, 31 November, 1743, aged 64." See also *Journal of the Association for the Preservation of the Memorials of the Dead*, vol. i., p. 353.

KILLININNY.

ON the lands of Killininny, which lie to the west of Knocklyon and south-east of the village of Tallaght, stands an eighteenth century house called Allenstown, which is said to occupy the site of a Celtic religious establishment. It is suggested by Mr. Eugene O'Curry that this establishment owes its foundation to the four daughters of Michiar, Dairinnioll, Darlinog, Caelog, and Caemgeallog, whose festival falls on October 26th; but Canon O'Hanlon attributes its foundation to the five daughters of Leinin, already mentioned in connection with Killiney Church. These holy women had a sister called Bridget, and Canon O'Hanlon thinks the latter may have resided at one of the two places and her sisters at the other. Remains of ancient buildings are to be found adjoining Allenstown, and a walnut tree somewhat similar to the one at Tallaght formerly stood there, but these can have had no connection with a religious house, as Killininny has been in lay hands since the Anglo-Norman conquest⁽¹⁾.

Like Knocklyon, it was then given to Walter de Rideleford, and towards the close of the thirteenth century was in the hands of his descendant, Christiana de Marisco⁽²⁾. At that time a mill existed in the neighbourhood, known as the mill of Tachnanenny, and after Christiana de Marisco had transferred her Irish property to the Crown we find Thomas, son of Laurence Cosyn, Thomas of London, and Edusa Immaulouz paying rent for it⁽³⁾. In the next century the lands were in the possession of Walter de Islip, of whom we have seen as well as Walter de Rideleford under Merriion, and subsequently passed to Elias de Ashbourne, a Justice of the Common Bench and a leader of several expeditions against the Irish tribes, and to his son, Thomas de Ashbourne, and then to the various persons mentioned as owners of Knocklyon⁽⁴⁾.

At the time of the Rebellion of 1641 Sir Thomas Newcomen, the third baronet of that name, had a residence at Killininny, and was

(1) Ordnance Survey Letters in the Royal Irish Academy, pp. 72-75; O'Hanlon's "Lives of the Irish Saints," vol. iii., pp. 196-198.

(2) "Thirty-fifth Report of the Deputy Keeper of the Records," p. 29; "The Norman Settlement in Leinster," by James Mills, in *Journal, R.S.A.I.*, vol. xxiv., p. 173; Sweetman's Calendar, 1171-1251, No. 2200, 1252-1284, p. 561.

(3) Sweetman's Calendar, 1285-1292, pp. 307, 479, 515, 1293-1301, p. 251, No. 825. Sweetman suggests that Tachnanenny may be Taney, but there is no doubt from its situation near Saggart that it must have been Killininny.

(4) Liber Niger, p. 116; Mills' "Account Roll of the Priory of the Holy Trinity," p. 152; Patent Rolls, p. 73.

farming these lands as well as an extensive tract in the County Wicklow. He was owner of a great flock of native sheep, which he was endeavouring to improve by the importation of English rams, and his losses during those troublous times were very considerable⁽¹⁾. About the time of the Restoration the inhabitants on the lands numbered some fifty persons, the chief being Gabriel Briscoe, whose dwelling had four hearths; and the widow of Charles Cottle, whose dwelling had two⁽²⁾. About the middle of the eighteenth century Sir Timothy Allen, Knight, who was Lord Mayor of Dublin in 1762, came to reside at Killininny, which henceforth became known as Allenstown. During his year of office as chief magistrate it is related by a Dublin journal that "our worthy Lord Mayor" was upset out of his chaise while driving to town from his country seat with his wife, but although his lordship was very much cut and bruised an anxious public was informed that his wounds were not dangerous. Sir Timothy Allen was in his time one of the chief supporters of Tallaght Church, and there, on his death in 1771, he was buried⁽³⁾.

OLD BAWN.

THE most notable event in the history of the parish of Tallaght in the seventeenth century was the erection of Old Bawn House, one of the few remaining houses in the County Dublin which mark the transition from dwellings in which protection was the first consideration to those in which convenience and comfort were consulted. It was built on lands which adjoin, and originally formed part of, the Knocklyon and Killininny estate, and lies about a mile to the south of the village of Tallaght. It was erected during the Viceroyalty of the Earl of Strafford, at the same time as Sir George Radcliffe's stately mansion at Rathmines, and is said to have cost £3,000. The builder was a dignitary of the Church, a son of the Archbishop of Dublin of that time, the Venerable William Bulkeley, whom his father had appointed Archdeacon of his diocese. He is said to have been "a person of great virtue and piety, one who made it his employ only to serve the Church, and

(1) Depositions of 1641 (Sir Thomas Newcomen, of Dublin, and Thomas Whittell, of Killininny).

(2) Census of 1659; Hearth Money Roll.

(3) Tallaght Parish Register and Vestry Book; Handcock's "History of Tallaght" (2nd edition), pp. 38, 138, 149.

his diversion only to improve and adorn his estate with plantations which, from a desolate and wild land, he brought to a most delightful patrimony." In the old house at Old Bawn there is ample evidence of his skill as a builder. The external appearance of the house, which forms three sides of a square, with its pointed gables and high fluted chimneys, at once attracts attention, and a



Old Bawn.

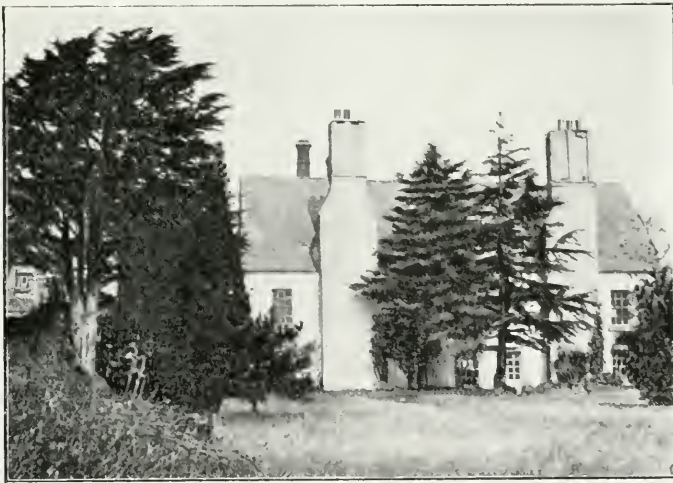
From a photograph by Mr. Leonard R. Strangways.

curious plaster chimneypiece which adorns the dining room, has become widely known. This chimneypiece, which bears the date 1635, and which reaches to the ceiling of the low room, represents the building of a gateway or castle, and as some of those engaged in the work are armed it has been suggested that the subject is the building of the walls of Jerusalem under the direction of Nehemiah. In addition to this remarkable relic there is some handsome carved woodwork, and the staircase is a quaint Jacobean structure resembling those in the library of Trinity College (1).

Old Bawn House was not long built when the rebellion of 1641 broke out, and Archdeacon Bulkeley's improvements not only there.

(1) Patent Rolls, 4 Charles I., pt. iv., m. 47; Lodge's "Peerage of Ireland," edited by Mervyn Archdall, vol. v., pp. 14-29; Handcock's "History of Tallaght" (2nd edition), p. 58.

but also at Dunlavan, in the County Wicklow, where his father had bought another estate for him, were laid waste. The depositions of the Bulkeleys' servants and tenants, in most cases like themselves, of Welsh birth, give a deplorable picture of the damage. Old Bawn House, with its offices, garden, and orchard were stated to have been completely ravaged, and at Dunlavan, we are told, the destruction of a house only just completed and of a garden and orchard newly surrounded with quick-set hedges was lamentable to behold. At Tallaght cows and horses belonging to the orphan children of a brother of Archdeacon Bulkeley, and cattle and sheep belonging to the Archdeacon himself, were either stolen or sold at a sacrifice, and at Dunlavan great iron-bound carts, building materials, and a bell intended for the church were carried off. It is rather startling to find in these depositions a claim put forward for the entire cost of Old Bawn, although the damage does not appear to have been irreparable. A still more remarkable claim



Old Bawn.

From a photograph in the Collection of the Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland.

for compensation was suggested by the Archdeacon, who stated that his mother-in-law, having continued a widow for many years, had been forced to marry again against her will during the rebellion, and that "he firmly believed in his conscience" that his wife had lost thereby a legacy which her mother had intended to leave her.⁽¹⁾

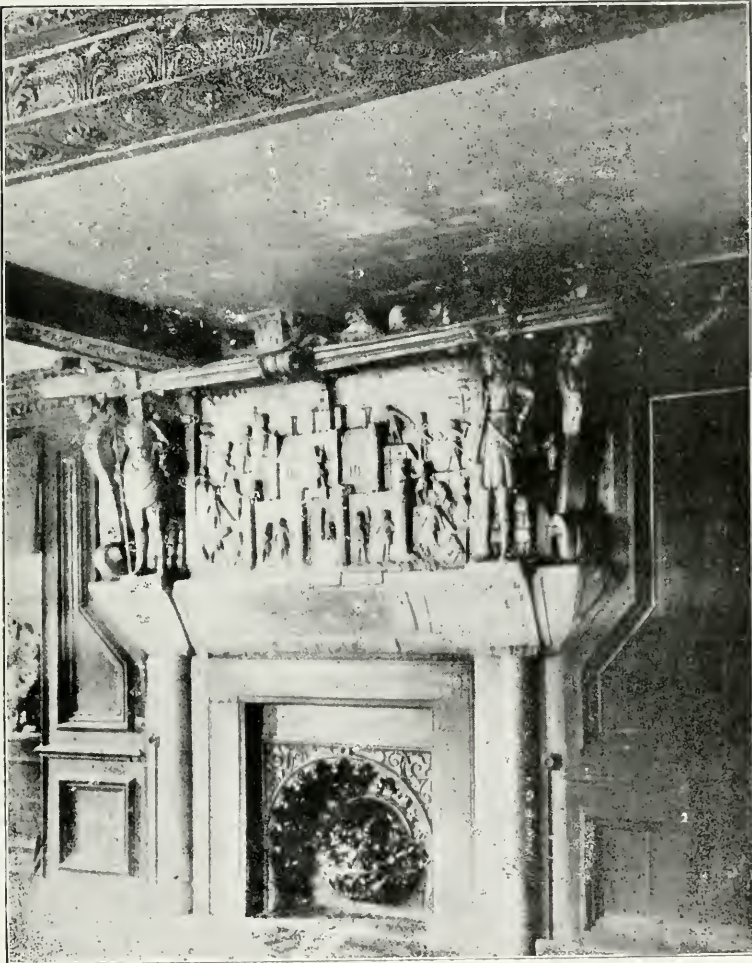
⁽¹⁾ Depositions of 1641 (Archdeacon Bulkeley, Robert Williams, William ap Roberts, William Parry, Myles Williams, Thomas Howell, William Myles, and Richard Burnett, of Tallaght and Dunlavan).

When the survey of the parish was made after the establishment of the Commonwealth, Old Bawn, which appears before this to have completely recovered from the effects of the rebellion, was the only house within the parochial limits occupied by a family of position. The account of the household numbering no less than thirty persons is not a little curious. It included the widow of Archbishop Bulkeley, then an old lady of 83 years, who on account of her age was granted leave to eat lamb, then a penal offence; the Archdeacon, who, we are told, was 53 years old and a man of middle height and slender build, with brown hair and a grey beard; his wife, who was tall and slender, with a long visage and brown hair; her sister, Miss Mainwaring; the Archdeacon's son, then a youth of seventeen attending Trinity College; his daughter, his cousin german, Rowland Bulkeley, who was actively engaged in agriculture; a cookmaid, a dairymaid, a porter, a brewer, an under brewer, a cook boy, a scullion boy, two plough drivers, a stable or garren keeper, a horse boy, a footman, and boys to tend the cows, swine, sheep and lambs. Besides their domestic servants the Bulkeleys had in the village of Old Bawn, which contained more than 100 inhabitants, many other retainers, including a steward, a gardener, and a sentry or foreman, and doubtless the tradespeople, who comprised a smith, a tailor, a brogue maker, a carpenter and miller, a carman, and a fowler, lived principally upon their custom ⁽¹⁾.

For the remainder of the seventeenth century Old Bawn House, which was rated as containing twelve hearths, continued to be the chief residence in the parish. It was occupied by Archdeacon Bulkeley until his death in 1671, and afterwards by his son, Sir Richard Bulkeley, who was created a baronet and represented Baltinglass in Parliament. Sir Richard, who was a man of great worth and integrity of character, had travelled much in early life, but afterwards found congenial occupation in superintending a stud of horses of which he was the proud owner. He was twice married, first to a daughter of the Right Hon. John Bysse, Chief Baron of the Exchequer, and secondly to a daughter of Mr. Henry Whitfield. On his death in 1685, he was succeeded at Old Bawn by his eldest son, who bore the same name. Sir Richard Bulkeley the second, who was deformed, was a man of learning, and graduated both at Dublin, where he was elected a Fellow of Trinity

⁽¹⁾ Survey of Uppercross and Newcastle; Lodge's "Peerage of Ireland," edited by Mervyn Archdall, vol. v., p. 21; Will of Alice Bulkeley.

College, and at Oxford. He became a Fellow of the Royal Society, and in its transactions there are papers by him on a self-propelling chariot which he invented, on the Giant's Causeway, and on a scheme for improving Ireland by the cultivation of maize. Amongst his friends we find John Evelyn and the antiquary, Humphrey Wanley, who was secretary to the Society for Promoting



Chimneypiece in Old Bawn.

From a photograph in the Collection of 'Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland.'

Christian Knowledge. Sir Richard was a man of deep religious feeling, and towards the close of his life was carried away by some religious enthusiasts known as French prophets, who he believed would cure him of his deformity. Although he represented the

borough of Fethard in the Irish Parliament, he resided principally in England, where he had a handsome seat near Epsom. He was married to a daughter of Sir George Downing, but at his death, which occurred in 1710, left no children, and the baronetcy became extinct (1).

At that time Old Bawn was occupied by that much-married judge, the Hon. William Worth, already mentioned in connection with Rathfarnham, who married as his third wife the widow of the first Sir Richard Bulkeley, and who took as his fourth the widow of the second baronet. Baron Worth, who died in 1721, was succeeded at Old Bawn by a son of his second wife, who was a daughter of Sir Henry Tynte, of the County Cork. This son took the name of Tynte, and in addition to the connection with the Bulkeleys through his father, became related to them through his marriage to a daughter of a younger son of the first baronet. The Right Hon. James Tynte, as he became, was a prominent politician, and his son Robert, who succeeded him in 1758, and who died two years later, married a daughter of another great legislator of that time, John Stratford, first Earl of Aldborough (2).

Towards the close of the eighteenth century Old Bawn was considered a house "quite in the old style," but the offices were of later date, and probably had been built about the year 1727, the date which a clock in a cupola over the stable originally bore. The house, which was approached by a great avenue of trees and was surrounded with large plantations, orchards and gardens, was then occupied by the widow of Mr. Robert Tynte and her son, who was created a baronet. Sir James Stratford Tynte, as her son became, was active in the Volunteer movement, and on his death, which occurred in 1785, was interred in the family burial place at Donnybrook with military honours. His baronetcy, like that of his ancestors the Bulkeleys, became extinct on his death, and after the death of his mother Old Bawn does not appear to have been occupied by any one of importance (3).

(1) Wills of Archdeacon William Bulkeley and Sir Richard Bulkeley; Hearth Money Roll; Return of Members of Parliament; Dictionary of National Biography, vol. vii., p. 233; British Museum, Harleian MS., 3777, ff. 282-285.

(2) *The Irish Builder* for 1894, p. 222; Wills of William Worth, Henry Tynte, and James Tynte.

(3) Cooper's Note Book; Will of Sir James Stratford Tynte; Blacker's "Sketches of Booterstown," *passim*.

THE TALLAGHT HILLS.

THE Tallaght Hills, amongst which the River Dodder gathers volume from various mountain streams, including those known as Mareen's brook, Allison's brook, and the cataract of the brown rowan tree, abound in remains of pre-historic ages. The valley of Glenasmole is thought by some persons to have been identical with the place of that name mentioned in Ossianic or Fenian literature, where the giant Fionn Mac Cumhaill and Ossian, a hero of the Court of Tara, wandered, and the discovery there of huge ivy leaves now preserved amongst the Ordnance Survey papers in the Royal Irish Academy (1), such as Ossian showed to St. Patrick's emissary, has been taken as confirmation of this theory (2). Boher-nabreena, or the road of the court, has also been identified by other authorities as the site of the mansion of Da Derga, the demolition of which is recounted in the book of Lecan' and the book of the Dun Cow, and it has been suggested that the Boher Cualann, or great road from Tara to the Country of Cualann, ran through these hills (3).

Near Glenasmole lies Kilnasantan, or the Church of St. Anne as it is misnamed, which is said to have been the site of a Celtic Monastery founded by Bishop Sanctan. The only record in connection with the monastery is the statement that in 952 one of its abbots, Caenhom-raic by name, died. Some remains of the

(1) The letters from Mr. Eugene O'Curry about this district, which are preserved in that collection, and which were written in the summer of 1837, are full of interest. He obtained much information from an old resident, William Rafter by name, who was then eighty-four years of age, but who possessed more activity and buoyancy than his son, a man of fifty. Rafter was born and lived in a house built on the site of an old castle which Mr. O'Curry thought was the original Castle Kelly. He spoke excellent Irish, as did also a sister of his called Una, and told Mr. O'Curry that forty years previously the carmen who went to Dublin were almost the only persons who spoke English in the Glen. Amongst the place-names obtained from him by Mr. O'Curry, and which have not been already given, may be mentioned the great wood, the fairy mound, the brakes? of the noble hound, the stony mountain, the narrow pass, the foot of the three streams, Mary's cliff, the black stream, and the ravens' hollow. Recollection of the supposed connection of Fionn Mac Cumhaill with the district is preserved by several large rocks called Finn's stones, on one of which an inscribed slab, recording that he carried it on his shoulder, was placed. See Handcock's "History of Tallaght," p. 85.

(2) Transactions of the Ossianic Society, *passim*; also *cf.* Transactions of the Royal Irish Academy, vol. xxxi., p. 567, where another Glenasmole in Co. Kilkenny is mentioned.

(3) Mills' "Norman Settlement," p. 171.

church of Kilnasantan are still to be seen, but the church was returned in 1294 as waste, and has since so remained (1). Besides Kilnasantan the learned author of the "History of St. Patrick's Cathedral" says there were in this district two chapels called Kilbride, one dependent on Tallaght and the other on Kilnasantan. But all trace of these has disappeared (2).

After the Anglo-Norman conquest these mountain lands were divided between the Archbishop of Dublin and Walter de Rideleford, who was succeeded by the persons mentioned under Knocklyon and Killinenny. The Archbishop's portion of the lands was comprised in two manors, called, respectively, Kilnasantan and Brittas. Besides rents from freeholders, betaghs, and cottagers, and profits from demesne lands and work of the betaghs, the Archbishop received from Kilnasantan "a customary cow," and from Brittas tribute beer and meat. In addition to the church at Kilnasantan there was one at Brittas, which was possibly one of the chapels already mentioned, or the church of Kilbride, near Blessington, in the County Wicklow, and their advowsons were a source of revenue. From the year 1270, owing to the incursions of the Irish tribes, there was no profit from these manors, and in 1276 it was necessary to employ John de St. Peter with five armed horsemen and fifteen followers, as well as the bailiff and posse of Clondalkin, to keep the peace in the mountains of Kilnasantan. Fifty years later the lands of Kilnasantan, on which there was a wood, and which had been partly held under the Archbishop by the Priory of St. John of Jerusalem, were returned as being in the Irish territory and worthless (3).

In the sixteenth century land in this district, which had belonged to the House of the Friars Minor of Dublin, was granted to the Luttrell family; and a large tract in it was also given to the Talbots of Belgard; while the lands of Kilnasantan were held from the Archbishop of Dublin by Patrick Barnewall (4). In the next century English residents were to be found there, and after the rebellion of 1641 two of them made depositions which

(1) O'Hanlon's "Lives of the Irish Saints," vol. v., pp. 137-144; Christ Church Deeds, No. 150; Annals of Four Masters, A.D. 952; *Journal, R.S.A.I.*, vol. xiv., p. 89.

(2) Mason's "History of St. Patrick's Cathedral," p. 75.

(3) Sweetman's Calendar, 1171-1251, No. 2200; *Proceedings of Royal Irish Academy*, vol. v., pp. 157, 162; Pipe Roll, 5 Edw. I., No. 6; Liber Niger, p. 728.

(4) Fiauts Henry VIII., Nos. 315, 526; D'Alton's "History of County Dublin," p. 772.

show that they were substantial farmers⁽¹⁾. After the Restoration, besides the Luttrells, the Talbots and the Archbishop of Dublin, the owners of these lands included Sir Adam Loftus, of Rathfarnham, Sir William Parsons, Archdeacon Bulkeley, and the Allens of St. Wolstan. At Oldecourt there were then some forty-six inhabitants, at Kiltalown sixteen, at Corbally fifty-eight⁽²⁾, at Glassamucky sixty-nine, and at Ballinascorney twenty-eight — one of the latter, Henry Hackett, inhabiting a house containing four hearths⁽³⁾.

The opening of the eighteenth century found this district still very wild and uncivilized, and the old coach road to Blessington, which passed over Tallaght Hill, was a great resort of highwaymen. At the foot of this hill, on the Blessington side, there stood an inn, called the Red Cow, which, in the month of December, 1717, was the scene of a sanguinary encounter between a party of rapparees, who seem to have had the surrounding country at their mercy, and the forces of the Crown. The rapparees, who are said to have been recruited from the descendants of the O'Byrnes, although their leader was known as Captain Fitzgerald, fortified themselves in the inn and for twelve hours set the soldiers at defiance, wounding many of the latter, and only surrendering on their ammunition running short. In a curious broadsheet issued at the time it is stated that crowds stood upon the road from Crumlin to Dublin, then the route from Tallaght, to see the prisoners brought to town. The writer adds that the rapparees were "so bent on blood and mischief that they would take example by nothing until they were made an end of," and congratulates the hemp merchants on the trade which they had given them that year⁽⁴⁾.

To the hills of Tallaght, as is related in the newspapers of the day, in the year 1733, rode Dean Swift with his friends the Earl of Orrery and Dr. Sheridan, and there they found a stream which flowed into a subterraneous cavern from which there was no exit. Swift, with a milking pail, measured the flow of water, and made an elaborate mathematical calculation which showed that in three

⁽¹⁾ Depositions of 1641 (Edward Polland, of Glassamucky, and Robert Williams, of Castlekelly).

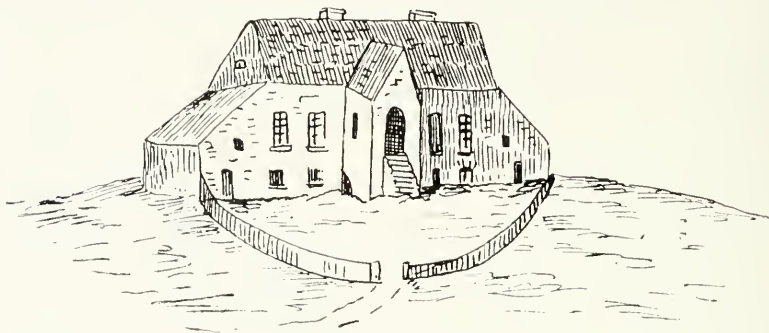
⁽²⁾ An ancient inhabitant in 1837 gave Mr. O'Curry a wonderful account of the former importance of this place, but there is no record to support the tradition. See Ordnance Survey Letters, p. 95.

⁽³⁾ Book of Survey and Distribution; Census of 1659; Hearth Money Roll.

⁽⁴⁾ "A Journey through Ireland by a Frenchman," in *The Repository* (Dublin, 1763), p. 65; Irish Pamphlets in Trinity College Library, vol. i., p. 2.

years time the accumulated waters must burst the mountain under which the stream disappeared, and that an inundation would take place which would endanger Dublin. The account of this discovery makes, as one of Swift's friends observed, a very fine figure in print, but as Sir Walter Scott says, it is difficult to know what credence is to be given to it (1).

In the early part of the eighteenth century the house on Mountpelier Hill, popularly called the Hell Fire Club—from the



"Hell Fire Club."

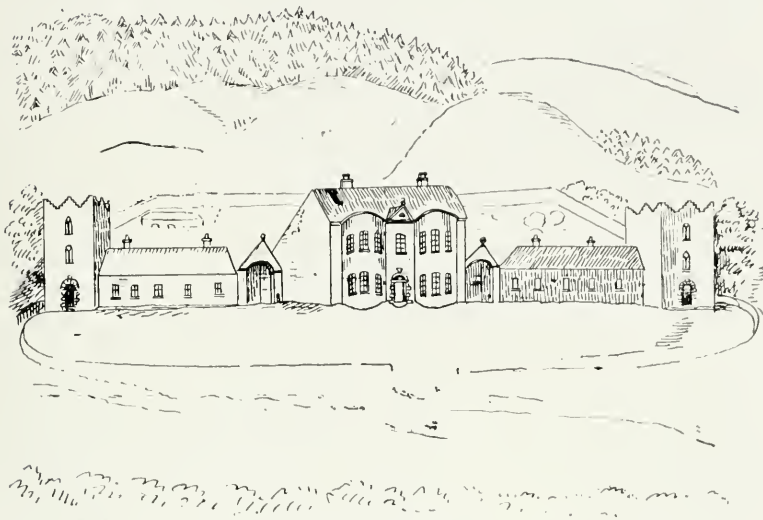
From an old sketch in possession of Mrs. Knorr.

tradition that the members of the club often met there—was erected. It was a strongly-built residence with a vaulted roof, and contained two large reception rooms, besides some smaller apartments. It was built by the Conollys of Castletown (who then owned the surrounding land, and enclosed a considerable extent of it as a deer park), with the idea, it is said, of its being a point of view from Castletown. The only indication of its occupation is an announcement of the death at Mountpelier, in July, 1751, of Mr. Charles Cobbe, the elder son of the Archbishop of Dublin at that time. In 1779 the house was visited by Austin Cooper, who says that it had been built on the site of a cairn and stone circle, and was found by him out of repair.

Later on in the eighteenth century, as stated in the history of Belgard, the shooting box known as Dillon Lodge was built and the adjacent park enclosed. Towards the close of that century a large house was erected at the foot of Mountpelier Hill, extensive ruins of which still remain, and in the construction of which stones

(1) "Swift's Works," edited by Sir W. Scott, vol. xviii., p. 130.

taken from the lodge on the hill are said to have been used. It bears the arms of the Earls of Ely, and the name Dollymount, by



"Dollymount."

From an old sketch in possession of Mrs. Knorr.

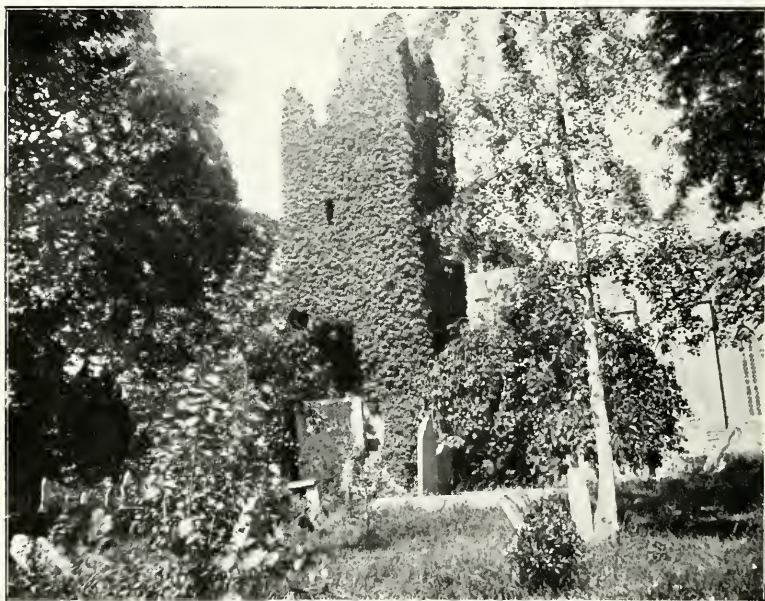
which it has been sometimes known, suggests that it was intended for the occupation of the lovely Dolly Monroe⁽¹⁾.

ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY.

THE present church of Tallaght is a modern structure dating from the year 1829, but on its southern side, and connected with it by a passage, there is a picturesque belfry tower which belonged to a church erected in mediæval times. The architectural features of the tower do little to fix its date, but it seems earlier than the fifteenth century. It is ten feet six inches square inside and seventeen feet outside. At the south-east angle is a boldly constructed stair turret corbelled out to a seemingly dangerous extent and buttressed by a later wall. The lower floor serves for a vestry and is modernised; the second is reached by a modern flight of steps outside the wall; the entrance is also modern. Ascending the

(1) *Exshaw's Magazine* for 1751, p. 447; Handcock's "History of Tallaght" (2nd edition), pp. 86-92; Cooper's Note Book.

spiral stairs (of which the steps are variant in height and usually made of several thin slabs) a lintelled door into the third storey is reached at the eighth step. This room has oblong windows, now closed, and, like the one above it, had a wooden floor resting on large beams let into the wall. At the eighteenth step a door leads into the fourth storey: it has a domed vault of corbelling skilfully constructed. The windows are oblong and lintelled, save to the east, where are two round-headed lights, or, rather, bell opes. At the thirty-sixth step the stone roof of the main tower is reached, the staircase, as is often the case, making a half turn up to the blank south wall, as if it had been intended to continue it to the top of the side turret. Six more steps lead to the turret roof; it, like the tower, is fenced with stepped battlements, and overlooks a fine open view to the foot of the hills. There are three bell opes



Belfry of Tallaght Church.

From a photograph by Mr. Thomas Mason.

to the east. The height from the ground to the roof of the tower is about fifty-nine feet, to the roof of the turret six feet—in all, about sixty-five feet. As has been proved by the discovery of ancient foundations, the mediæval church occupied the site of a primitive Celtic church, and in the churchyard there are the remains of a stone cross and a huge font which doubtless date

from Celtic times. They are known locally as St. Mollrooney's loaf and griddle and St. Mollrooney's losset—Mollrooney being the form into which the name of St. Maelruain has been corrupted by the country people under the idea that their patron saint was a female (1).

St. Maelruain, "splendid sun of the Isle of Gael," the founder of the monastery of Tallaght, flourished, as has been already stated, in the eighth century. During his rule of the monastery St. Ængus the Culdee joined the community, and "The Martyrology of Tallaght" is said to have been originally compiled by them. In the "Annals of Ulster" it is stated that in 792, Maelruain of Tallaght, bishop and soldier of Christ, slept in peace. Until about thirty years ago his festival was celebrated each year on the 7th July, when it was the custom to carry about in procession a pole (which was preserved from year to year) decked with flowers called a garland.

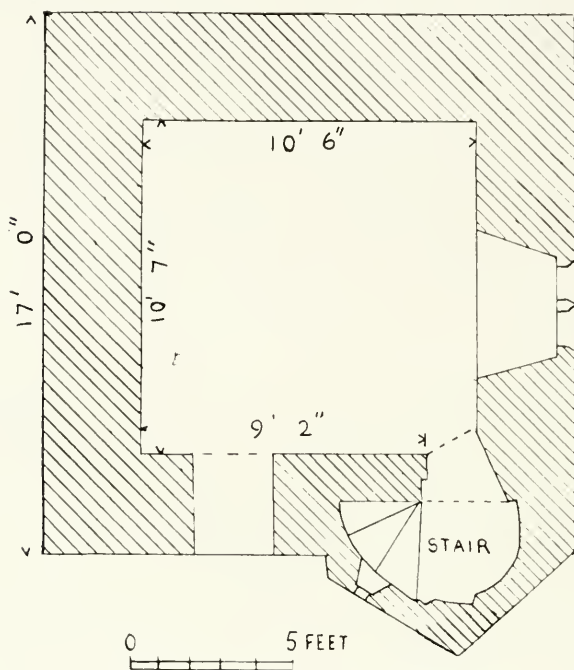
Amongst the holy persons connected with Tallaght we find St. Joseph, a bishop; St. Croine, a virgin; St. Airfhindan, an abbot, who died in 803; Aedhan, an abbot, who died in 823; St. Eochiadh, a bishop and anchorite, who died in 812; Echtghus, an abbot, who died in 825; Conmhál, a prior, who died in 863; David, abbot of Glendalough, as well as of Tallaght, who died in 866; Comhgan Foda, an anchorite, who died in 868; Torpaidh, an abbot, bishop, and excellent scribe, who died in 872; Mácoige, an abbot, who died in 873; Seachnasach, an abbot, who died in 894; Scannlan, an abbot and bishop, who died in 913; Maeldomhnaigh, an abbot, who died in 937; Martin, an abbot and anchorite, both of Glendalough and Tallaght, who died in 957; Cormac, a bishop, who died in 962; Crunnmhael, abbot and lector, who was drowned in 964; Erc na Suailen, a bishop and abbot, who died in 966; and MacMaeilesuthain, chief lector of the west of Ireland, who died at Tallaght in 1126 (2).

After the Anglo-Norman conquest the church of Tallaght was granted with the lands to the See of Dublin, and on the resignation of Lawrence, rector of Tallaght, was subsequently annexed to the Deanery of St. Patrick's—the holder of that

(1) Handcock's "History of Tallaght" (2nd edition), p. 38.

(2) Annals of the Four Masters; O'Hanlon's "Lives of the Irish Saints," vol. i., pp. 70, 468, vol. ii., pp. 455, 705, vol. iii., p. 294, vol. vii., p. 98, vol. viii., p. 167; "The Martyrology of Tallaght," by Rev. Matthew Kelly; Annals of Ulster.

dignity having the right of presentation to the vicarage. At the close of the thirteenth century the vicarage was returned as worth nothing on account of war⁽¹⁾. Amongst the vicars



Plan of Belfry of Tallaght Church.

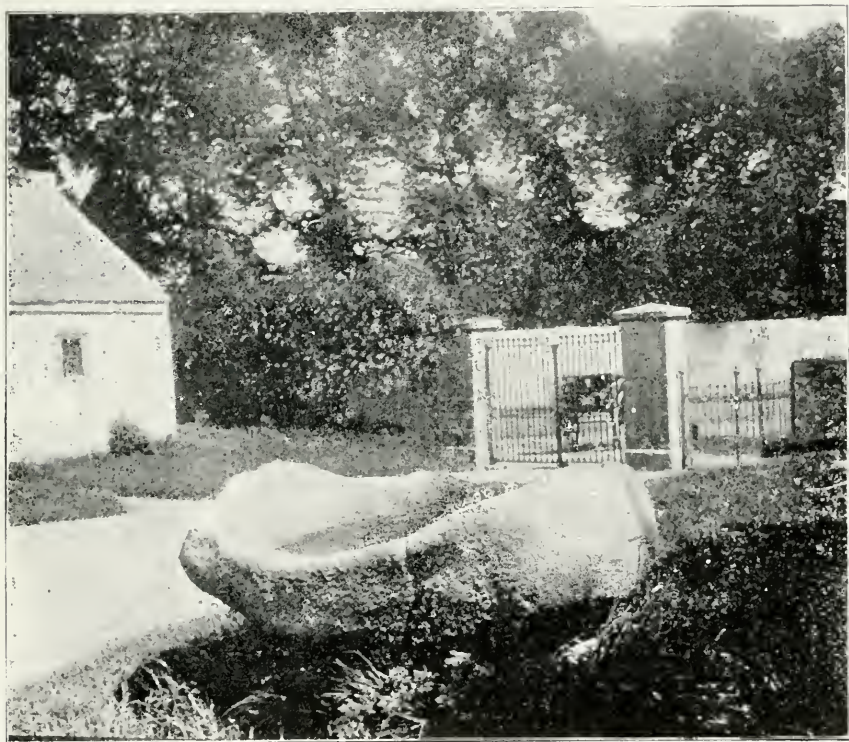
By Mr. Thomas J. Westropp.

in the next three centuries we find, in 1302 John of Tallaght; in 1374 John Colton, afterwards Archbishop of Armagh, and author of the well-known Visitation published by the Irish Archæological Society; in 1391 John Young; in 1428 Patrick Prene; in 1479 Simon Gower, who covenanted to pay the Dean of St. Patrick's eight silver pence yearly, to build on the glebe a house of four couples, which he was to keep stiff and staunch, and to make new ditches; in 1523 Simon White; in 1549 Simon Walter, and in 1567 Christopher Browne, who obtained a decree against the occupier of Belgard for six loads of furze due to him in right of his vicarage. At the beginning of the fifteenth century, in 1402, the tithes of the parish were seized for the Crown by the corn keeper of the Lord Lieutenant. Later on in that century we find Thomas Sueterby, and his wife Johanna St. Leger,

⁽¹⁾ Liber Niger, p. 6; Christ Church Deed, No. 150; Mason's "History of St. Patrick's Cathedral," p. 26.

bequeathing land to Tallaght Church; and a Tallaght farmer, Patrick Lawless, directing that he should be buried in the cemetery of St. Maclruain's Church (1).

At the beginning of the seventeenth century, when Thomas Drakeshaw was vicar, the church of Tallaght was in good repair and provided with books, and fifteen years later, when John Hogben was vicar, there were "between three and four score that frequented divine service and sermon." The value of the cure, which included



Font in Tallaght Churchyard.

From a photograph in the Collection of the Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland.

Templeogue, was £25 a year. In 1637 Richard Ellis, who afterwards became Archdeacon of Ferns, was the vicar, and so remained until the establishment of the Commonwealth. In his time

(1) Sweetman's Calendar, 1302-1307, p. 25; D'Alton's "History of County Dublin," pp. 763-764; Patent Rolls, pp. 148, 166; Memoranda Rolls, 7 Henry VI., 24 Henry VIII.; Exchequer Inquisitions, Eliz. No. 23, Henry VIII., No. 24; Fiaints Edw. VI., Nos. 234, 1095; Chartularies of St. Mary's Abbey, vol. i., p. 27; Christ Church Deed, No. 298; Repertory of Chancery Decees, vol. i., p. 110; Berry's "Register of Wills of Dublin Diocese, 1457-1493," p. 145.

ordinations were frequently held in the church by Archbishop Bulkeley. During the Commonwealth, about the year 1651, when the church was in perfect order, having been recently furnished "with convenient pews, font, pulpit, and other necessities, as well as paved with hewn stones at a cost of £300," a Captain Aland came to Tallaght with a troop of horse, and during his stay there pillaged the church. It is stated that in addition to carrying away the timber and slates to the County Kildare, paving his house in Dublin with the flags and converting the pews to his own use, he committed the sacrilegious act of feeding his horses in the font.

During the next 150 years the succession of the Vicars was as follows:- In 1679 John Cuff, in 1685 Edward Hinde, in 1690 Hugh Wilson, in 1727 Zachary Norton, in 1730 John Gill, in 1731 Zachary Norton (for the second time), in 1737 Robert Trotter, in 1738 John Gill (for the second time), in 1740 John Jones, in 1743 Owen Sheill, in 1769 John Elton, in 1784 William Bryan, and in 1790 Robert Cochrane (1).

Tallaght was one of the churches restored through the exertions of the good Archbishop King, who was successful in obtaining in the year 1708 handsome subscriptions towards the cost from two of his brethren, Edward Smyth, Bishop of Down, and Thomas Lindsay, Bishop of Killaloe, who had been connected with the parish as Deans of St. Patrick's (2). About the middle of the century, in 1744, the ceiling was renewed, and other needful repairs were executed. About that time the annual merrymaking on the festival of St. Maelruain is referred to by the French tourist already mentioned, who says that it had taken the place of a custom, which existed before the Reformation, of offering turf on that day at the shrine of the patron saint. It is also recorded by the same writer that on a certain Ash Wednesday, apparently not long before his visit, a tall and slender woman appeared in the church, and having taken up her station in the aisle remained there, without altering her position or taking sustenance, as he was told, until the following Easter Sunday, when she went away as mysteriously as she had come. Thousands came from Dublin to see her, and the French tourist says that

(1) Regal Visitation of 1615; Archbishop Bulkeley's Report, p. 154; Handcock's "History of Tallaght" (2nd edition), pp. 13-24.

(2) Archbishop King's Correspondence in Trinity College Library under date September 7, 1708.

he does not know whether it was a deceit or not, but that there is no doubt the concourse she drew to the town "turned to the advantage of those that sold liquor" (1). Towards the close of the eighteenth century, in 1779, the church was visited by Austin Cooper and pronounced by him to be a handsome building. Besides the tombs to Colonel John Talbot of Belgard, and the Fieraghs of Fir House, he mentions tombs to Richard Reilly, of Saggard, who died in 1673; to Maurice Walsh, who died in 1685, and to a family called Brown, of Jobstown; and also one on the north side of the church to Timothy M'Dermott, of Merriem, a great sportsman, who died in 1759, and who desired to be buried on the north side of the church "in order that he might hear the hounds going out in the morning" (2).

The succession of Roman Catholic clergy in charge of the parish of Tallaght has been already given under Rathfarnham. In the year 1731 it is mentioned in a parliamentary return that a chapel was erected at Tallaght during the reign of George I., and that there was a resident priest. Thirty years later, in a parliamentary return made in 1766, it is stated that there were three Roman Catholic clergymen connected with the parish, and that two of these were resident within its limits. The families professing the Roman Catholic faith numbered at that time 400, while those of the Protestant religion are returned as only numbering 60. An occurrence worthy of note in connection with the Roman Catholic church in the district took place in the year 1792, at the Easter Vestry of the parish, which was held in Tallaght church. At this Vestry it was almost unanimously decided that a tax of one penny an acre should be levied, in order to rebuild the Roman Catholic chapel. Whether this was done there is no record to show (3).

The Vicars of Tallaght during the last century have been, in order of their appointment, in 1813 Thomas Goff, in 1822 William Trocke, in 1830 William Robinson, and in 1887 Eugene Henry O'Meara.

(1) "A Journey through Ireland by a Frenchman," in *The Repository* (Dublin, 1763), pp. 65, 66.

(2) Cooper's Note Book, and for further inscriptions, see *Journal of the Association for the Preservation of the Memorials of the Dead*.

(3) Parliamentary Returns in Public Record Office; *Dublin Chronicle*, 1791-1792, p. 1192.

Parish of Cruagh

(Formerly called Crecvagh, and derived from Cruabhach, a bushy place.)

The parish of Cruagh in the seventeenth century appears as containing the townlands of Killakee, Jamestown, Cruagh, Woodtown, and Tibbradden, besides land described as mountain.

It now contains the townlands of Cruagh, Glendoo (*i.e.*, the black glen), Jamestown, Killakee (*i.e.*, the blind man's wood), Newtown, Orlagh (*i.e.*, the gold hill?), Tibbradden (*i.e.*, the house of Braddan or Britain), and Woodtown.

Within its limits are the hills or mountains known as Tibbradden, Killakee, Glendoo, and Cruagh.

The only objects of archaeological interest are a cromlech in the townland of Woodtown, and a beehive hut and cairn on Tibbradden Hill.

KILLAKEE AND ITS NEIGHBOURHOOD.

KILLAKEE, the seat of Lord Massy, gives, in the present day, importance to the mountainous parish of Cruagh, which lies to the east of the parish of Tallaght and extends, like the latter, from the parish of Rathfarnham to the County Wicklow. Killakee is, however, entirely modern, as are also the other houses in the parish. These include Woodtown, which in the reign of William IV. was the residence of the Right Hon. Henry Joy, then Chief Baron of the Irish Exchequer (1); Tibbradden, the seat of a branch of the Guinness family; and Orlagh, which was built by Mr. Lundy Foot, and is now a college belonging to the Augustinian Order (2).

The only objects of antiquity in the parish, besides a fragment of the church, are remains of pre-historic times. There are two of these—a cromlech in a place called Mount Venus, and a stone building, which has generally been described as a cairn, on the summit of Tibbradden Hill. The cromlech is one of the largest in the County Dublin. Only one end of the immense roofing stone is now raised from the ground, but two pillar stones lie beside it, and

(1) Chief Baron Joy died at Woodtown on June 5, 1838. See *Annual Register*.

(2) See Handcock's "History of Tallaght," 2nd edition, p. 93.

Mr. Borlase, in his important work on the "Dolmens of Ireland," says that if the roof rock was ever raised on them the cromlech must have been one of the most magnificent megalithic monuments in the world (¹). A drawing by Gabriel Beranger, whose skill in portraying these monuments has been remarked, is here reproduced, and shows several more stones round the monument than are now



Mount Venus Cromlech in 1781.

From a drawing by Gabriel Beranger.

to be seen. In a curious note in his sketch book Beranger puts forward a theory that this cromlech was overthrown by an earthquake which is recorded to have been felt in Dublin in 1690 (²). The building on Tibbradden Hill, from which an urn preserved in the National Museum is said to have been taken, appears to have been originally a bee hive hut, such as has been found on the west coast of Ireland. On this, at a subsequent time, a cairn was erected, and the roof of the hut has given way under its weight. No trace of a fortified dwelling is to be found within the parish, and it is probable that none ever stood upon the lands, which

(¹) See Borlase's "Dolmens of Ireland," vol. ii., p. 382, and for elaborate drawings, plan, and description, a paper "On the Orientation of some Cromlechs in the neighbourhood of Dublin," by Professor J. P. O'Reilly, in the *Proceedings of the Royal Irish Academy*, ser. iii., vol. iv., p. 600.

(²) Gabriel Beranger's Sketch Book in Royal Irish Academy.

became a hinterland of the Pale, and formed part of what was known as the Harolds' country. Of this clan, which has been already several times mentioned, more will be seen under the parish of Whitechurch, where, eventually, their headquarters were established.

After the Anglo-Norman conquest we find the lands of Killakee in the possession of that great proprietor, Walter de Rideleford, whose lands in Tallaght parish adjoined them, while the lands of Tibbradden were part of the property of the Priory of St. John of Jerusalem at Kilmainham, and the lands in the neighbourhood of the church, then known as the lands of Cruagh, were held by the family of St. Michael, already mentioned as owners of Roebuck. For a time, as in the case of the mountain lands of Tallaght, the owners enjoyed some benefit from their possessions, and under the St. Michaels the lands of Cruagh were constituted a manor, to which Roebuck was made subservient. Amongst the members of that family, whose chief residence was in the County Kildare, connected with Cruagh, we find Robert de St. Michael, who was a brother of Thomas de St. Michael, the owner of Roebuck; David, son of Robert de St. Michael; Richard, son of David de St. Michael; and David de St. Michael, who, before the year 1247, assigned his interest in the lands to Sir Waleran de Wellesley, a justice itinerant. The lands were then held under the St. Michaels by the Canons of All Saints' Priory, and a house near the church was occupied by one John de Wodeloc (1).

Towards the end of the thirteenth century the lands of Killakee passed with the remainder of the de Rideleford estates to the Crown. During the next two centuries these lands must have been completely under the dominion of the Irish tribes, and the owners of Tibbradden and Cruagh can also have derived little profit from their property. Tibbradden still remained the property of the Kilmainham Priory, and amongst the owners of Cruagh we find John Bermingham, James, fourth Earl of Ormonde; Thomas Butler, Thomas Wallis, Roger Finglas, and Patrick Finglas, of Dunsoghly, and Richard FitzGerald. In the sixteenth century the district still remained wild and uncivilized, and in the reign of

(1) Mills' "Norman Settlement," pp. 164, 169; "Chartularies of St. Mary's Abbey"; Sweetman's Calendar, 1171-1251, *passim*; "Historic and Municipal Documents of Ireland," edited by Sir John Gilbert in the Rolls Series, p. 539; Christ Church Deeds, Nos. 56, 60, 61; Butler's "Register of All Hallows," p. 72.

Queen Elizabeth, as we have seen, Sir Thomas Fitzwilliam, of Merrion, was appointed seneschal of the Harolds' country, in the hope of reducing it to obedience. By Henry VIII. the lands of Killakee had been given to Sir Thomas Luttrell, one of the Irish judges, and soon afterwards the lands of Cruagh and Tibbradden, which had come to the Crown through the rebellion of Silken Thomas and the dissolution of the religious houses, were granted to Peter Talbot, of Bullock, who was a son of Robert Talbot, of Belgard⁽¹⁾.

An improvement in the condition of the district took place in the seventeenth century, when the lands now comprised in Cruagh parish came into the possession of the Loftus family, Cruagh and Tibbradden being sold by the Talbots early in that century to Sir Adam Loftus, and Killakee, on its forfeiture by the Luttrells, being granted by the Parliament to Sir Adam's son, the learned Dr. Dudley Loftus. After the rebellion of 1641 several yeomen, described as British Protestants, including Thomas Price, John Whyte, and William Thomas, deposed to heavy loss of goods and cattle, and after the Restoration we find Mr. Richard Greene living at Cruagh in a house rated as containing three hearths, and Mr. Samuel Browne, at Newtown, in a house with two. At the latter period the population on the lands of Cruagh is returned as thirty-seven, on those of Woodtown as twenty-seven, on those of Killakee as twenty-one, and on those of Newtown twenty-eight; while on the lands of Tibbradden and Jamestown there were seven cottages. Early in the eighteenth century, at the same time as Rathfarnham, the Loftus property in Cruagh parish was sold to Speaker Conolly, and towards the close of that century it passed into the possession of Mr. Luke White, of Woodlands, from whom it has descended in a female line to Lord Massy, its present owner⁽²⁾.

(¹) Patent Rolls, pp. 163, 172, 232; Exchequer Inquisition, County Dublin, Henry VIII., No. 127; Charles I., No. 39; Philip and Mary, No. 8; Chancery Inquisition, County Dublin, Eliz., No. 1; Fiaints Henry VIII., Nos. 148, 283; Eliz., Nos. 3991, 4280.

(²) Chancery Inquisition, Co. Dublin, James I., Nos. 42, 50; Depositions of 1641; Hearth Money Roll; Census of 1659; Crown Rental; Book of Survey and Distribution; D'Alton's "History of County Dublin," p. 797.



Rockbrook in 1795.
From a plate drawn by F. Jules.

ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY.

THE graveyard which surrounded the church of Cruagh lies not far from a village called Rockbrook. The only relics of the church are portions of the end walls, standing thirty-three feet eight inches apart. The western gable retains the northern side of a window splay, and is of large coarse blocks with an abundance of spawled work, marking either late construction or repair. The church was probably demolished to build a low and now thickly-ivied tower which stands partly on its site. This tower, which is nearly round, contains a vaulted under-storey several feet lower than the ground and an upper room, between which there is no communication. According to tradition it was built for the use of men guarding the graveyard from body snatchers. To the south of the site of the church there is a nearly square basin cut in a square block measuring twenty-eight inches by twenty-six inches, with a rim six inches thick, and containing a drain hole; and in the graveyard an early tombstone with concentric markings was found by Dr. Petrie (1).

The church of Cruagh was in existence at the time of the Anglo-Norman conquest, and it has been suggested by Canon O'Hanlon that its foundation may have had some connection with St. Dalua, of Dun Tighe Bretan, or Tibbradden as the Canon supposes, whose festival is celebrated on January 7th. After the conquest the church was granted to the See of Dublin, and was subsequently assigned to the Kilmainham Priory as owner of the lands of Tibbradden. After the dissolution of the religious houses the rectory fell into lay hands, but at the beginning of the seventeenth century, when the fabric was in good repair, the church was served by the Vicar of Tallaght, who was obliged to bring books with him, as the church was unprovided with them. Some years later the cure was united to Ballyfermot and Palmerston, and given to John Lenox, who held, also, a prebend in the Kildare diocese; and afterwards Henry Brereton is mentioned as the rector. During the troublous times that followed, the church doubtless

(1) See paper on "Christian Sepulchral Leas in Dublin Half Barony of Rathdown," by P. J. O'Reilly, in *Journal R.S.A.I.*, xxxi., p. 135.

fell into ruins, and it does not appear to have been again used. After the Restoration the spiritual care of the parish was entrusted for a time to the Vicar of Tallaght, and subsequently was transferred from him to the Archdeacon of Dublin as Rector of Rathfarnham. At the beginning of the eighteenth century an attempt seems to have been made to revive Cruagh as a separate cure, and in 1701 Fleetwood Fisher, a scholar of Trinity College, was appointed rector. The cure soon reverted, however, to the Archdeacon of Dublin, and later on, after the tithes had been purchased from the lay owners for the Church by Archbishop King, it was again given to the Vicar of Tallaght⁽¹⁾.

⁽¹⁾ O'Hanlon's "Lives of the Irish Saints," vol. i., p. 97; "Crede Mihi," edited by Sir John Gilbert, p. 136; Fiant's Eliz., Nos. 1591, 5810; Regal Visitation of 1615; Patent Rolls, James I., p. 280; "Liber Munerum," vol. ii., pt. v., p. 108; Visitation Books; Handcock's "History of Tallaght," 2nd edition, *passim*.

Parish of Whitechurch.

In the seventeenth century the parish appears as containing the townlands of Grange, Edmondstown, and Kilmashogue.

It now contains the townlands of Ballyboden (*i.e.*, the town of O'Bodan), Clarkstown, Edmondstown, Haroldsgrange, Kilmashogue (*i.e.*, the church of St. Mosaomhog or Mashoge), Slackstown, Taylorsgrange, and Whitechurch.

There is a hill called Kilmashogue Mountain within the parish.

The only objects of archaeological interest are a rock monument known as the Brehon's Chair in the townland of Taylorsgrange, and a cromlech in the townland of Kilmashogue.

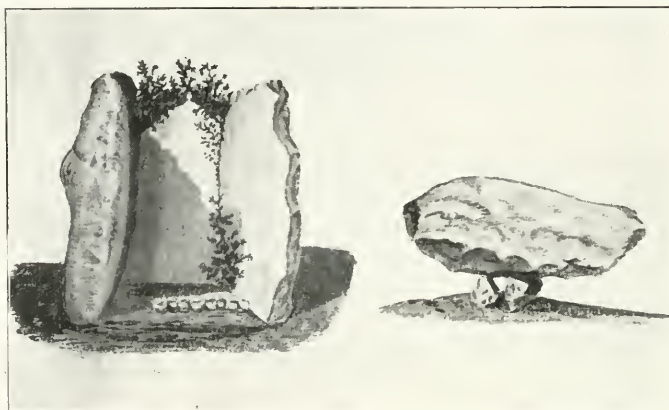
MARLAY AND THE WHITECHURCH NEIGHBOURHOOD.

THE parish of Whitechurch, which adjoins that of Cruagh to the east, and extends from the parish of Rathfarnham to that of Kiltiernan, contains the demesne belonging to Marlay House, formerly the seat of a branch of the La Touche family. This house is now owned and occupied by Mr. Robert Tedcastle; and another house on the demesne called Marlay Grange, which was built in recent years by the late Hon. Hercules Rowley, is occupied by Sir Robert Holmes, K.C.B. Within the limits of the parish are also to be found Glensouthwell or the Little Dargle, St. Columba's College, and Hermitage. Glensouthwell was built by a member of the Southwell family, from whom it obtains its name; St. Columba's College is partly accommodated in a residence called Hollypark, built by Mr. Jeffrey Foot; and Hermitage was successively the residence of Mr. Edward Hudson, father of Mr. William Elliott Hudson, the generous patron of Celtic studies⁽¹⁾, and of the Right Hon. Richard Moore, sometime a Justice of the Queen's Bench. The latter place abounds in what have been not inaptly called modern antiques, and was at one time known as the Fields of Odin, the deity worshipped by the Norsemen, to whom it was

(¹) See Transactions of the Ossianic Society, vol. iv., p. v.

intended that the erection of the stone temple which Hermitage contains should be attributed.

As in the neighbouring parish of Cruagh, two undoubted relics of its primitive inhabitants still remain in the parish of Whitechurch. One of these, which stands in the grounds of Glensouthwell, is called from its shape the Brehon's chair; it formed, originally,



The Brehon's Chair at Glensouthwell in 1776.

From a drawing by Gabriel Beranger.

like the judgment seat at Killiney, portion of a cromlech, and, though long broken up and removed, there was formerly near it, as shown in the reproduction of a sketch by Beranger, what was evidently the covering stone⁽¹⁾. The other relic, which is at a place called Larch Hill, consists of an overthrown cromlech and an upright pillar stone⁽²⁾. The outlying lands of the parish known as Kilmashogue, near Kilmashogue Hill, where St. Columba's College stands, were supposed, until lately, to have been the site of a sanguinary battle, described in "The Annals of the Four Masters," between the Norsemen and the Irish, but modern research has fixed the site of the battle as being near the River Liffey⁽³⁾.

⁽¹⁾ Beranger's Sketch Book in Royal Irish Academy; Borlase's "Dolmens of Ireland," vol. ii., p. 393.

⁽²⁾ See Borlase's "Dolmens of Ireland," vol. ii., p. 394, and for a drawing, plan, and description, Professor J. P. O'Reilly's paper "On the Orientation of some Cromlechs in the neighbourhood of Dublin" in the *Proceedings of the Royal Irish Academy*, ser. iii., vol. iv., p. 603.

⁽³⁾ "Annals of Four Masters," under date A.D. 917.

After the Anglo-Norman conquest the lands on which Marlay House stands, then called Balgeeth, or the windy town, were granted to Thomas the Fleming, and subsequently passed into the possession of Robert de St. Michael, of Cruagh, whose son David married Margery, daughter of Thomas the Fleming, and widow of one Robert Bigarz. But before the close of the twelfth century, through the religious zeal of David de St. Michael and one Milo Stanton and their wives, the Abbey of St. Mary the Virgin, the owner of lands adjacent to Whitechurch at Kiltiernan, as well as of Monkstown, became owner of Balgeeth. In the next century the outlying lands in the parish, having passed through the hands of various owners, amongst whom we find Adam the forester and his son Richard, were also given to a religious establishment, the Priory of the Holy Trinity, and under it they became known as the manor of Ballyardor and Kilmashogue. From these lands the Priory obtained turf for fuel, and in a lease of the manor made in 1335 to Robert, son of Geoffrey de Moenes, a member of the Rathmines family, described as a merchant of Dublin, it is provided that the occupants of the lands should give assistance in cutting the turf and the use of their pack horses to carry it home (1).

But it was with their occupation by the Harolds that the lands now comprised within Whitechurch parish are most closely identified. That portion of them, on which Marlay now stands, and which was for a time called the Grange of the March, became known as Harold's Grange, and as we have seen under Cruagh, the surrounding district was known as the Harolds' country. This clan, which has been thought by some to have been Danish in its origin, but which may have been descended from Saxons who came over with the Anglo-Norman invaders, first appears in connection with the neighbourhood in the persons of two prominent men. About the year 1247 we find Sir John Harold, Knight, witnessing a deed with regard to the outlying lands in Whitechurch parish, and mentioned as owner of the lands of Kilgobbin; and towards the close of that century we find Sir Geoffrey Harold, Knight, also witnessing deeds referring to the same locality and acting as collector for the Crown in the Vale of Dublin. Then at the beginning of the next century Peter, son of Geoffrey Harold, is mentioned as owner of Ely-Haroldstown in the Coillagh,

(1) Mills' "Norman Settlement," p. 169; "Chartularies of St. Mary's Abbey"; Christ Church Deeds.

and of the church of that town. Subsequently, as we have seen, members of the clan occupied the lands of Rathfarnham and Templeogue, and at one time the territory under their dominion seems to have extended so near to Dublin as Harold's Cross. Like the Walshes of Carrickmines, the Harolds became responsible for the protection of the Pale in the neighbourhood of their home, and doubtless from self interest they discharged faithfully their trust. But they were themselves a lawless people, who did not scruple to levy blackmail at times on those whom they were supposed to protect. Thus we find, in 1462, three of them imprisoning the Archbishop of Dublin, Michael de Tregury, and in the following year another of them descending on the lands of Dundrum, and after killing eight of the king's lieges, driving off 600 cows, 40 plough horses, and 100 sheep ⁽¹⁾.

The barrier of the Pale ran across the northern side of Kilmashogue Hill, where remains of it were to be seen in the eighteenth century, and under the hill, near St. Columba's College, there are still ruins of a castle, which was doubtless the stronghold of the chief of the Harolds. There probably resided, in 1462, Geoffrey Harold and his sons, Thomas and Edmund, who laid violent hands on Archbishop Tregury; in 1482 Edmund Harold, who was then described as of Kilmashogue; in 1518 John Harold, "captain of his nation," who built a watermill on the Kilmashogue lands; and in 1567 Redmond Harold, whose son Edmund probably gave his name to the adjoining lands of Edmondstown, on which, in 1582, he was residing ⁽²⁾.

After the dissolution of St. Mary's Abbey the lands then known as Harold's Grange, on which there were a small castle and a watermill, were granted by Henry VIII. to Barnaby Fitzpatrick, Baron of Upper Ossory, whose son occupied the unenviable position of companion for correction, or whipping-boy, to Edward VI. Lord Upper Ossory's residence was far from Dublin, and it was, we are told, "for the relief of his horses on his repair to Dublin from the country" that the possession of Harold's Grange was desired by him. At the close of the sixteenth century, owing to

⁽¹⁾ Christ Church Deeds; Calendar of Irish State Papers; Calendar of Liber Niger, by Professor Stokes, in *Journal R.S.A.I.*, vol. xxiii., p. 311; "Rathfarnham Castle, its Site and History," by John P. Prendergast in *The Irish Times*, May 19, 1891; Plea Rolls, 11 Edw. II., m. 17; 13 Edw. II., m. 20.

⁽²⁾ Christ Church Deeds; Fiant's Eliz., No. 4027.



View of the mountains near Kilmashogue in 1795.
From a plate drawn by F. Jukes.

the absence of the owner, the tenants of Harold's Grange suffered severely from the visits of soldiers, who rifled their houses "beyond mercy." This treatment was due to the non-payment of county charges, for which Lord Upper Ossory claimed that the lands, as originally monastic property, should be free, and in 1599 the third Baron sent a petition to Lord Burghley's son, afterwards the first Lord Salisbury, praying redress. This petition was recommended to Burghley's son by a gift of fifteen marten skins, all Lord Upper Ossory could afford at the time, "owing to the calamity of this woeful kingdom," and was supported by a letter from the notorious Archbishop Miler Magrath, whom the messenger, one of the Harold's Grange tenants, met when on his way to London (1).

The chief of the Harold clan, then a boy—Lawrence, son of Walter Harold—is mentioned by Lord Upper Ossory as being his principal tenant at Harold's Grange; he appears amongst the men of name in the county, and is said by Lord Upper Ossory to have been allied to many residents in the Pale. But his clan gave frequently much trouble to the Government; in 1566, as we have seen, a seneschal, with power to execute martial law, was appointed over their country, and about the time Lord Upper Ossory sent his petition to London many of them joined the mountain tribes in rebellion and proved "noisome neighbours to Dublin both by burning and preying" (2).

Although the Harolds continued to hold the lands of Kilma-shogue until the rebellion of 1641, when they were forfeited by John Harold, the proprietor at that time, the lands of Harold's Grange appear before then to have undergone a change of occupiers owing to the ownership having passed, through a mortgage, from the Fitzpatricks to Sir Adam Loftus of Rathfarnham. At the time of the rebellion William Bridges seems to have been the chief tenant; he deposes to heavy losses, and relates how he was forced to bring his cattle to Dublin for safety, and was robbed of his clothes and sword by the Irish fowler of Sir George Radcliffe, of Rathmines. At the same time losses of an exceptionally severe character, estimated in value at £2,570, befel the tenant of Ballyboden, one Matthew Bentley, a gentleman who held the position

(1) Exchequer Inquisition, Co. Dublin, Henry VIII., No. 139; Calendar of Irish State Papers, 1599-1600, pp. 263, 325; 1608-10, p. 263; 1611-1614, pp. 409, 410.

(2) "The Description of Ireland in 1598," edited by Rev. Edmund Hogan, p. 38; Calendar of Irish State Papers, 1509-1573, p. 296; 1599-1600, p. 437.

of messenger to the Council Board in Ireland. These losses Bentley attributes to "the rebellious soldiers and followers of Colonel Luke Toole, the sons of Phelim M'Feagh, and divers others of the O'Tooles and O'Byrnes, whose names he cannot express," and mentions that his brother and another man were wounded "so as both of them died" in defending his property ⁽¹⁾.

At the time of the Restoration the Harolds' castle at Kilmashogue, which is stated to have been thatched, was in ruins, and there was on the lands now comprised within the parish of Whitechurch, then owned by the families of Loftus and King, no house rated as containing more than one hearth. On the lands of Harold's Grange there were eleven houses, the chief resident being Darby Burgoyne, on those of Kilmashogue ten, on those of Edmondstown seven, and on those of Ballyboden one ⁽²⁾.

At the beginning of the eighteenth century the lands of Harold's Grange, or Marlay, began to assume their present appearance, under the improving hands of Mr. Thomas Taylor, an eminent agriculturist of his day, to whose memory there is a tombstone in Kilgobbin graveyard ⁽³⁾. After his death in 1727, the Grange, as Marlay was then called, was occupied by his sons. One of them, Alderman Thomas Taylor, was a prominent citizen of Dublin, where he filled the mayoral chair. When events in Scotland excited alarm in 1745, we read that Captain Thomas Taylor, of the Grange, and of the Lord Mayor's Regiment of Foot, mounted guard in Dublin with his company, which made a very handsome figure, and that, as the result of a feast which he gave the members, they were ready to follow him even to battle, and in the announcement of

⁽¹⁾ Chancery Inquisition, Co. Dublin, Jac. I., No. 30; Depositions of 1641.

⁽²⁾ Chancery Inquisition, Co. Dublin, William and Mary, No. 4; Down Survey Map; Hearth Money Roll.

⁽³⁾ The inscription is as follows:—

"Here lieth the body of Mr. Thomas Taylor of Harolds Grange who departed this life the 22nd of November 1727. Underneath lie the remains of Samuel Taylor esq. who departed this life the 22nd of April 1881 aged 79 years and six months leaving only one daughter married to the Rev Dr Vesey of the city of Dublin. Mrs. Anna Taylor who departed this life Feb 22nd 1821 aged 66 years daughter of John Eastwood esq. of Castletown eo Louth wife of Mathew Beresford Taylor esq. who died the 8th March 1828 aged 74 years. Mrs Isabella Taylor who departed this life 1st March 1830 daughter to Sir Barry Colliers Meredyth bart. wife of John Keatinge Taylor esq. aged 36 years Capt 8th Hussars who died 3rd March 1836 aged 52 years. His widow Mary daughter of William Poole of Ballyroan esq. died 28 January 1892. Isabella their eldest child died 1834 aged 2 years."

his death, which took place at the Grange in 1763, he is said to have been a gentleman of the fairest character, whose decease was deservedly lamented (1).

Soon after the death of Alderman Taylor the Grange became the residence of the Right Hon. David La Touche, one of the most prominent politicians of his time. He married a daughter of the Right Rev. George Marlay, Bishop of Dromore, and from him the Grange received the name of his wife's family (2). In the Taylors' time a good house had been built and ornamental grounds had been laid out, as well as a deerpark, which was enclosed on the lands of Kilmashogue, near St. Columba's College; but to these improvements Mr. La Touche added everything that wealth and taste could accomplish. The demesne was much admired by Mr. Austin Cooper, on his visiting it in 1781, when an addition was being built to the house, and he mentions as deserving of remark the ponds with their islands, water-falls, and rustic bridges, the gardens with their hothouses and greenhouses, an aviary and a menagerie, and some elks' horns, which adorned a gateway. Mr. La Touche had many children, one of whom, the beautiful Countess of Lanesborough, has been mentioned in connection with Booters-town. They greatly delighted in private theatricals, and at Marlay, in the year 1778, the "Masque of Comus" was performed, with a prologue by the well-known Dublin schoolmaster Samuel Whyte, and an epilogue by Henry Grattan, who was Mrs. La Touche's first cousin. In the newspapers of the day we read that in 1789, amidst bonfires, illuminations, and every other demonstration of joy in the surrounding country, Mr. La Touche's eldest son returned to Marlay after a long absence, and that in the following year Mr. La Touche entertained at breakfast there the Lord Lieutenant and the Marchioness of Buckingham—the situation of his seat, the fineness of the day, and the brilliancy of the company combining, we are told, to form a banquet of delight and happiness (3).

Towards the close of the eighteenth century other country seats began to be erected within Whitechurch parish. In 1787 an

(1) Cooper's Note Book; Wills of the Taylor Family; *Dublin Journal*, No. 1941; *Pue's Occurrences*, vol. ix., No. 102.

(2) See for obituary notice of Mrs. La Touche *Annual Register* for 1805, p. 483, and for obituary notice of Mr. La Touche *Ibid.* for 1817, p. 146.

(3) Cooper's Note Book; Burke's "Landed Gentry," edition 1847, p. 693; *Dublin Journal*, Nos. 2582, 2653; "The Poetical Works of Thomas Moore," vol. i., p. ix.; *Dublin Chronicle*, 1789-1790, p. 652; 1790-1791, p. 152; "Post Chaise Companion," 4th edition, p. 412.

account of the beauties of Glensouthwell, then the residence of Captain William Southwell, appeared; it is spoken of in the most extravagantly eulogistic terms, and the writer dwells on the delights of a breakfasting room called Merlin's cave, in the glen. About the same time, on land to the north of Marlay, John Philpôt Curran settled down in a house now levelled with the ground. There the club known as "The Monks of the Screw," over which he presided, is said to have sometimes met, giving to the place its name of the Priory, and there the great tragedy of Curran's life, the discovery of his daughter's engagement to Robert Emmet, took place⁽¹⁾.

ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY.

To the west of the demesne of Marlay, on the road from Rathfarnham to Kilmashogue, and nearly opposite the modern church, lies the ruined church of Whitechurch parish. It is a small building, now overgrown with ivy, and consists of a nave thirty feet by sixteen feet three inches, and a chancel twenty-two feet four inches by thirteen feet six inches internally, the walls being about three feet thick. There are two plain window slits with lintelled splays in the western gable, and similar slits to each side of the pointed chancel arch, which is only four feet wide. The south wall of the nave and both sides of the chancel are gone, as well as the pier between the chancel arch and the slit to the south. The north wall of the nave has a late pointed doorway, chamfered, with a buttress to the east, and a defaced window. The east window light is gone, and the splay is only slightly arched. There is a hole to each side of the door for a sliding bar. Near the church a curious hollow stone, called the Wartstone, is to be seen on the side of the county road⁽²⁾. Within the limits of the parish on the lands of Kilmashogue, at the foot of the hill, another ruined church was discovered sometime ago by Dr. Joyce, who found it after some search, and speaks of it as a venerable little building.

⁽¹⁾ Lewis' "Dublin Guide," p. 275; Brewer's "Beauties of Ireland," vol. i., p. 213; Trotter's "Walks through Ireland," p. 6.

⁽²⁾ See "Christian Sepulchral Leas in Dublin Half Barony of Rathdown," by P. J. O'Reilly, in *Journal R.S.A.I.*, vol. xxxi., p. 248.

The first record respecting the parish church states that early in the thirteenth century, after the lands of Balgeeth, on which it stood, had come into the possession of St. Mary's Abbey, it was confirmed to that establishment under the name of Kilhunsin, or the White Church. A few years later, it was again confirmed to the Abbey, with a saving clause as to a compromise with the Priory of the Holy Trinity—an establishment which, as we have seen, was then asserting its right to the neighbouring church of Rathfarnham. After the dissolution of the Abbey by Henry VIII. the rectory became inappropriate, and at the beginning of the sixteenth century was in the hands of Sir Adam Loftus. The cure of the parish was then vested in the Vicar of Tallaght, and the church and chancel are stated to have been in good repair. Later on it was in charge, like Cruagh, of Henry Brereton. During the eighteenth century the parish was again in charge of the Vicar of Tallaght, but the church was then in ruins. Archbishop King, in a letter written in 1728, mentions that some of the parishioners refused to pay tithe to the Vicar, and that they alleged, what he felt certain could not be the case, that their landlord, Speaker Conolly, who had acquired the Loftus property, encouraged them in their action. At one time Archbishop King had an idea of uniting Whitechurch with the parishes of Tipper and Rathmore, in the County Wicklow—a union which, he says, would have made a competency for a beginner, but it is not surprising to find that the idea was dropped ⁽¹⁾.

(1) "Chartularies of St. Mary's Abbey," vol. i., pp. 176, 188; "Crede Mihi," edited by Sir John Gilbert, p. 136; Regal Visitation of 1615; Visitation Books; Correspondence of Archbishop King in Trinity College Library under date April 12, 1728, and August 22, 1726.

Parish of Kilgobbin

(*i.e. the Church of St. Gobban*).

The parish appears in the seventeenth century as containing the townlands of Kilgobbin, Jamestown, and Ballyedmonduff.

It now contains the townlands of Ballybrack (*i.e.*, the speckled town), Ballyedmonduff (*i.e.*, the town of black Edmund), Barnacullia (*i.e.*, the top of the wood), Jamestown, Kilgobbin, Newtown Little, and Woodside.

The mountains known as the Three Rock and the Two Rock are within the parish.

There are wells known as St. James' Well and St. Patrick's Well in the parish, and one known as the Eye Well formerly existed near the church.

The objects of antiquarian interest which have been found within the parish are, places of sepulture known as giants' graves in the townlands of Ballybrack and Ballyedmonduff, a high cross and a ruined castle in Kilgobbin, a cross in Jamestown near Stepside⁽¹⁾, and a cairn known as the Fairies' Castle on the Two Rock Mountain.

KILGOBBIN AND ITS CASTLE.

SUCH history as is possessed by the mountainous parish of Kilgobbin, which lies to the east of the parish of Whitechurch, and extends from the parish of Taney to that of Kiltiernan, centres round its castle. The ruins of this castle are still to be seen in the village of Kilgobbin close to the road from Dublin to Enniskerry. They show the castle to have been one of the ordinary upright castles of the Pale—a strongly built oblong structure, two storeys over the basement in height, with a square projection containing the staircase at one corner⁽²⁾.

It is, however, probable that, like the other parishes in this district, Kilgobbin saw many generations of inhabitants before

⁽¹⁾ See for description by Mr. P. J. O'Reilly, *Journal R.S.A.I.*, vol. xxxi., p. 252; and for drawing, volume of Sketches by W. F. Wakeman preserved in the Royal Irish Academy.

⁽²⁾ See "The Lesser Castles of the County Dublin," by E. R. M'C. Dix in *The Irish Builder* for 1897, pp. 86, 95.

the erection of a castle. Two early places of sepulture, called locally giants' graves, have been discovered within its limits⁽¹⁾, and a cairn known as the fairies' castle is marked on the Ordnance Map⁽²⁾. After the Anglo-Norman Conquest the Harolds



View of the Three Rock Mountain in 1780.

From a sketch by Gabriel Beranger.

appear as the first owners of Kilgobbin, and in the middle of the thirteenth century, as mentioned under Whitechurch, Sir John Harold, who is described in a deed as Lord John Harold of Kilgobbin, was in possession of the lands. At the same time adjoining lands then called Balyofryn were given to All Saints' Priory by one Claricia, a daughter of Gilbert, and wife of a descendant of the chiefs called MacGillamocholmog. At the beginning of the fourteenth century the Harolds were still in possession of Kilgobbin, and prolonged litigation then took place between the guardians of Peter, son of Geoffrey Harold, Isabella, widow of Geoffrey Harold, and Margaret, wife of Thomas Spencer and widow of John Harold, as the representatives of Sir Geoffrey Harold. Subsequently the ownership of Kilgobbin passed from the Harolds to the Hackets, one of whom, Sir William Hacket, had acted as guardian to Peter Harold; and members of

(1) See Borlase's "Dolmens of Ireland," vol. ii., pp. 385, 387. Both these graves have disappeared. The one in Ballybrack used to be known as the greyhound's bed.

(2) Beranger (Sketch Book in the Royal Irish Academy) thought that the rocks on the summits of the Three Rock and Two Rock mountains were placed there by artificial means.

the Howell family are mentioned as being in occupation of portion of the townland. About the same time we find the Derpatricks of Stillorgan holding the lands of Balyofryn, and a family called Dawe occupying the lands of Jamestown (1).

A branch of the Walsh family of Carrickmines, the Harolds' comrades in the protection of the Pale, later on settled on the lands of Kilgobbin. To that family was doubtless due the erection of the castle. Amongst its successive occupants were, in 1482 Morris Walsh, in 1509 Pierce, son of Morris Walsh; in 1578 John Walsh, in 1599 Edmond Walsh, in 1615 Christopher Walsh, and in 1620 Patrick, *alias* Pierce Walsh, a son of John Walsh, in whose time a court was held by order of the Exchequer at Kilgobbin, and certain persons were found guilty of non-attendance by a jury composed of the Walshes and their neighbours. The lands of Balyofryn, on the dissolution of the religious houses, had come into the possession of the Corporation of Dublin, and in the reign of Queen Elizabeth we find Jacques Wingfield, the tenant of Stillorgan, holding them and covenanting to build a castle upon them (2).

Before the rebellion of 1641 Sir Adam Loftus, of Rathfarnham, had become possessed of the Walshes' interest in Kilgobbin, and under him it was then occupied by one Matthew Talbot. Talbot became an officer in the Irish army, and an unfortunate widow who lived near him on the lands of Murphystown relates in a deposition how he deprived her of all her possessions, and how in the castle at Kilgobbin she besought his mother, "a woman not moved with compassion," to restore her a pittance to buy corn for her children. In the following January, on the same day as that on which Dundrum Castle was taken, a party of horse proceeded to the Castle of Kilgobbin, and on their approach were met by a fusillade from the muskets of the occupants which killed one of the soldiers and mortally wounded another. Some prominent leaders of the Irish are said to have been in the castle

(1) Butler's "Register of All Hallows," pp. 70, 98; Plea Rolls, 33 Edw. I., m. 16, 19, 32; Memoranda Roll, 18 Edw. III., m. 22.

(2) Christ Church Deeds; Butler's "Register of All Hallows"; Wills of the Walsh Family; Exchequer Inquisition, Co. Wicklow, Jac. I., No. 8; Chancery Inquisition, Co. Dublin, Jac. I., No. 35; Rolls of Exchequer Fines, Co. Dublin, 16 Jac. I.; "Calendar of Ancient Records of Dublin," edited by Sir John Gilbert, vol. ii., pp. 124, 266, 328, 336.

at the time and to have afterwards escaped. Subsequently the castle was taken possession of by General Monk, and was garrisoned, as well as Loughlinstown Castle, by his company (1).



Kilgobbin Castle.

From a photograph by Mr. Thomas Mason.

After the establishment of the Commonwealth the castle, which, though its roof was only a thatched one, contained as many as four hearths, became the residence of Dr. John Harding, an ex-fellow of Trinity College, Dublin. He was one of the greatest political apostates of his time. A native of Staffordshire and graduate of Cambridge University, he was in 1637 imposed on Trinity College as an upholder of absolute monarchy, and to him the Earl of Strafford and Strafford's friends, Sir George Radcliffe and Christopher Wandesforde, entrusted the education of their sons. Six years later he was as vehement in support of the Commonwealth, preaching sermons and publishing pamphlets against kingly rule until imprisoned and subsequently banished to England. Next he appears with Cromwell's army before the walls of Drogheda trying

(1) Book of Distribution and Survey; Borlase's "Irish Rebellion," App. p. 31; Depositions of 1641 (Alice Poore or Hogg of Murphystown); MS. in Trinity College Library, F. 2, 11; "Ormonde Papers," vol. i., p. 136, published by Historical Manuscripts Commission.

to induce that staunch old royalist, Sir Arthur Aston, to surrender. Afterwards he acted as trustee of the College estates, and finally we find him settled down at Kilgobbin, where in 1665 he died (1).

About the middle of the eighteenth century Kilgobbin, which had passed through the hands of various owners, including the Eustaces of Harristown, the M'Donnells of Antrim, and Richard Nutley, one of Queen Anne's Irish judges, was, like Loughlinstown, a resort of fox hunters. There, as mentioned under Mount Merrion, was kennelled the pack of hounds with which Lord Chancellor Jocelyn's son, who became Earl of Roden, used to hunt. The kennel and hounds were carried away one winter by a mountain torrent, and their sad fate has been told in an elegy written in 1748, and inscribed to Mr. Jocelyn by one William Chamberlain, whose poetic soul pours itself out in lines of somewhat doubtful merit. The other events during that century at Kilgobbin, where the quarrying of granite was, as at present, the principal industry, are few and unimportant. During the famine of 1740 a cart laden with oatmeal was overturned, causing the death of two men; in 1751 a terrible fire took place at a dairyman's house resulting in the destruction of fifteen cows and injury to the dairyman and his servants; and robberies are occasionally recorded. Towards the end of that century that indefatigable antiquary, Austin Cooper, paid two visits to Kilgobbin Castle. He found it then much out of repair, and mentions that it was locally reported that Dublin people had shortly before been digging there at night and had found buried treasure (2).

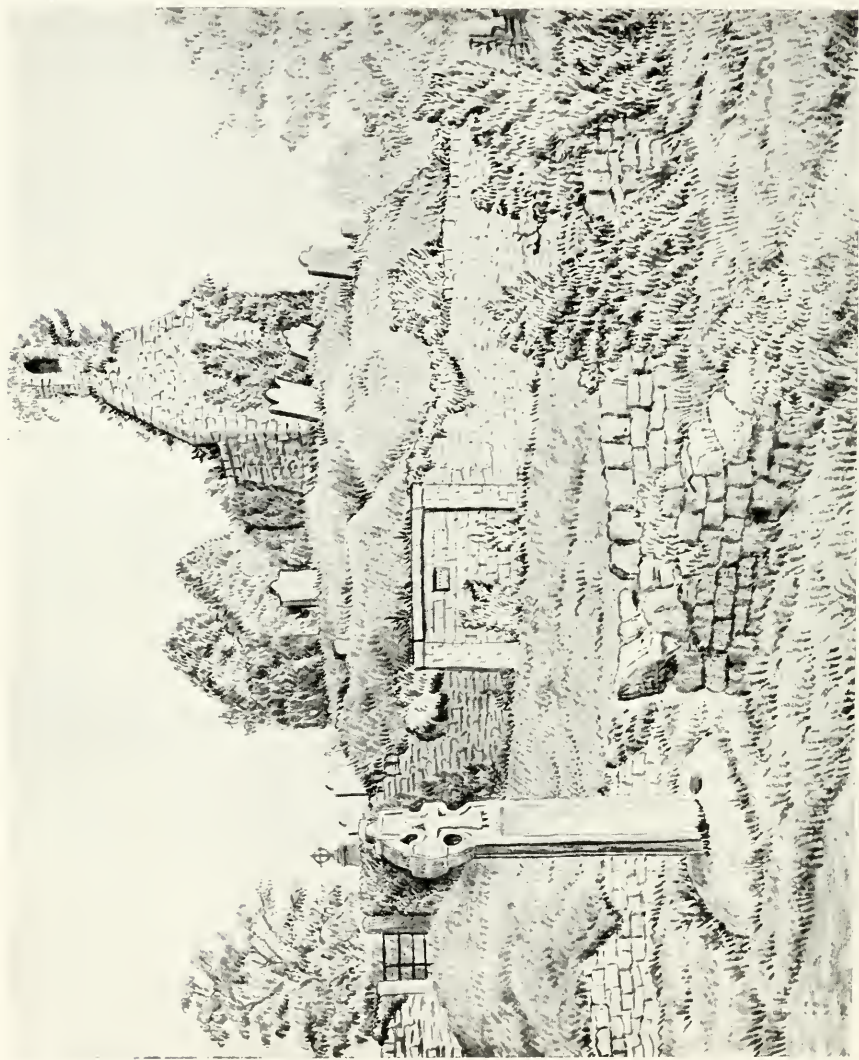
ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY.

THE ruined church of Kilgobbin, which is situated on a small hill and forms a prominent object, is a building erected just two hundred years ago. It occupies, however, the site of a church which stood at Kilgobbin at the time of the Anglo-Norman invasion,

(1) Fleetwood's Survey; Hearth Money Roll; "An Epoch in Irish History," by Professor Mahaffy, *passim*; Stubbs' "History of the University of Dublin," p. 74; Will of John Harding; Carte Papers, vol. vii., f. 516, vol. ix., f. 83, vol. x., f. 710, vol. xii., ff. 508, 513, 556, 603, 609, vol. xiv., ff. 180, 577, vol. xv., f. 99, vol. xxv., ff. 505, 508; Cotton's "Fasti Ecclesie Hibernicæ," vol. ii., p. 56, vol. v., p. 92.

(2) Exchequer Inquisition, Co. Dublin, 1 Wm. III., No. 2; Mason's "History of St. Patrick's," p. 10; *Pue's Occurrences*, vol. xxviii., Nos. 25, 45; vol. xxxvii., No. 66; vol. lxii., No. 6418; *Dublin Journal*, No. 2487; *Dublin Chronicle*, 1787-1788, p. 246; Cooper's Note Book.

and near it stands a fine and typical specimen of the plain high cross—now defaced and crumbled by the weather. It is cut out of a piece of grey granite eight feet high, one foot four inches broad,



Kilgobbin Church.
From a drawing by Mr. Thomas J. Westropp.

and eight inches thick. It was originally three feet eight inches over the arms, but the southern arm, with the segment of the circle on that side, is broken off and lost. The cross had a small roll moulding round the edges, but not carried round the ring. On each face we can dimly see the figure of our Lord in the long garment reaching to the ankles, which marks the early period of

Irish art, and with the excellent proportion of the cross suggests an age nearly, if not over, a thousand years for the monument. The shaft is carefully fitted into an oblong mortice in a shapeless base stone, which measures four feet nine inches across, and has a bullann, or shallow basin, one foot in diameter cut in its surface.

The church of Kilgobbin is said to owe its foundation to St. Gobban, whose festival falls on April 1st, and whose name appears in "The Martyrology of Tallaght," as well as in "The Martyrology of Donegal." After the Anglo-Norman Conquest Kilgobbin was granted to the Archbishop of Dublin, and was subsequently assigned to the Archdeacon of Dublin, becoming, as mentioned under Taney, one of the chapels subservient to the church at that place. Before the seventeenth century its use was given up, and in 1615 both chancel and nave were in ruins. When Archbishop King was promoted to the See of Dublin in 1703 he found the parishes of Taney and Cruagh, as well as that of Kilgobbin, unprovided with churches, and at once set about the erection of a church at Kilgobbin, which he intended to serve for the three parishes. The church was completed before 1707, and was served until 1720 by that over-worked man the Rev. Walter Thomas, the curate of Donnybrook. Then it was made a separate charge. For more than thirty years it was served by the Rev. Thomas Gascoyne, and after Gascoyne's death in 1753 the Rev. Mervyn Archdall, the renowned antiquary, was appointed to the cure. While at Kilgobbin Archdall appears not to have neglected the antiquities of the neighbourhood, and it was to him that Gabriel Beranger was indebted for guidance to the Brehon's Chair at Glensouthwell. To Archdall succeeded, in 1758, the Rev. Jeremy Walsh already mentioned under the parish of Taney, but after the erection of the church of Taney he was relieved of Kilgobbin. Then for a few years the Rev. Andrew Downes was in charge⁽¹⁾. He was succeeded in 1772 by an extraordinary character, the Rev. Patrick Crawley, who had the distinction of being the tutor of Sir Jonah Barrington. Crawley is described by his pupil as a man in knowledge excelled by few, but singular in his movements from his immense size and peculiarity of dress. In his time the collection

⁽¹⁾ O'Hanlon's "Lives of the Irish Saints," vol. iv., p. 8; "Crede Mihi," edited by Sir John Gilbert, p. 136; Regal Visitation of 1615; Mant's "History of the Church of Ireland," vol. ii., p. 204; Visitation Books; *Dublin Journal*, No. 2758.

of tithe was not unattended with danger, and although content to accept less than his due Crawley nearly lost his life on one occasion while out with his collector ⁽¹⁾.

Under the Roman Catholic Church Kilgobbin was included until the nineteenth century in a union of parishes embracing all the country from a little south of Blackrock to Bray river. In the eighteenth century clergy of that church are occasionally mentioned in connection with Kilgobbin. In 1731 it is stated in a parliamentary return that a priest was attached to the parish, and in 1779 a Roman Catholic clergyman, the Rev. Mr. Mulvey, who was then dangerously wounded by robbers, was residing at Sandyford, near Kilgobbin ⁽²⁾. In 1829 Sandyford, Glencullen, Kilgobbin, and Kiltiernan were made a separate charge, and the succession of parish priests since then has been—Rev. Patrick Smyth, Rev. Charles O'Connell, and Rev. James Canon Leahy.

Under the Established Church Kilgobbin Church continued to be used until the erection of the present church at Kiltiernan in 1826, when the parishes were united, and the succession of vicars of Kilgobbin after the death of Mr. Crawley was—in 1803 the Rev. Hayes Phipps Queade, in 1813 the Rev. Matthew Campbell, and in 1817 the Rev. Henry Kearney.

⁽¹⁾ Barrington's "Personal Recollections," vol. i., p. 58; *Dublin Chronicle*, 1787-1788, p. 584.

⁽²⁾ Parliamentary Returns in Public Record Office; *Exshaw's Magazine* for 1779, p. 318.

Parish of Kiltiernan

(*i.e., The Church of Tiernan*).

The parish was stated in the seventeenth century to contain the townlands of Kiltiernan, Ballybetagh, and Glencullen.

It now contains the townlands of Ballybetagh (*i.e.*, the town of a family or man named Betagh), Boranaraltry (*i.e.*, the road of the height ?), Brockey (*i.e.*, the badger warren), Glebe, Glencullen, Glencullen Mountain, Kiltiernan, Kiltiernan Domain, Kingston, Newtown.

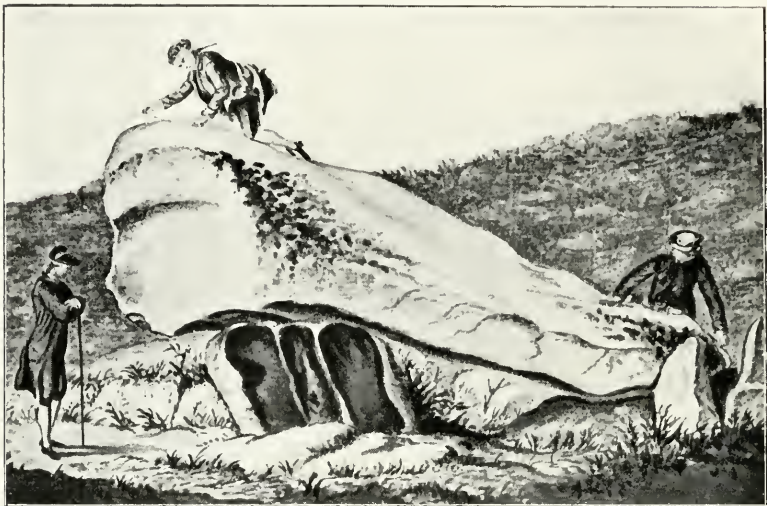
The mountains or hills of Kiltiernan, Glencullen, and Newtown lie within the parish. There is a well, called the butter well, supposed to possess curative qualities, in the townland of Glencullen.

Amongst numerous objects of archaeological interest dating from primeval times which have been found within the parish are—in the townland of Kiltiernan Domain a cromlech, in the townland of Glencullen a pillar stone and a rock known as the stone of the hounds, in the townland of Ballybetagh a place of sepulture called a giant's grave, and several enclosures and mounds, and on Newtown Mountain a cromlech, a pillar stone, a tumulus with a fosse and several stone circles and lines of stones. Besides these there are the interesting remains of the primitive church of Kiltiernan.

KILTIERNAN AND GLENCULLEN.

THE parish of Kiltiernan, which adjoins to the north the parish of Kilgobbin, to the west the parish of Cruagh, to the east the parish of Tully, and to the south the County Wicklow, is intersected, like Kilgobbin, by the high road from Dublin to Enniskerry, and adjoins the remarkable natural chasm in the mountains called the Scalp, through which that road passes. Numerous traces of primeval times are to be found within its limits. The most remarkable of these is a cromlech almost equal in size to the one at Mount Venus. It lies not far from the ruined church. As in the case of the Mount Venus cromlech the roof rock rests partly on the ground, and Beranger has suggested that its position is due to the earthquake which, according to his theory, overthrew the roof rock of the Mount Venus cromlech. Besides this cromlech there is, on the townland of Ballybetagh, a place of sepulture known as a giant's grave, and Mr. Eugene O'Curry, when investigating the neighbourhood for the Ordnance Survey, found on Newtown Mountain several stone circles and a cairn known as Ossian's

grave, and on the mountain of Ballybetagh traces of an ancient road, which he had no doubt led, in prehistoric times, to the mansion of a king, or some other person of importance ⁽¹⁾.



Kiltiernan Cromlech.

From a drawing by Mr. Vispré in Gabriel Beranger's Sketch Book.

At the time of the Anglo-Norman conquest Kiltiernan and Glencullen were portion of the territory of the Irish chiefs known as MacGillamochoilmog, already mentioned under Monkstown as founders of St. Mary's Abbey, and were included amongst lands which the chief of that line at the time of the Conquest was allowed to retain. Before long, however, they were granted by him to one of the invaders, William de Carew, and were subsequently given by the latter to the Abbey of St. Mary the Virgin—a gift which had ready confirmation from John, son of Dermot, the direct descendant of the chief who founded that establishment. At Kiltiernan the white monks erected a manor house, which they occupied from time to time, and it was probably in connection with their residence there that at the close of the thirteenth century an accusation was brought against the Abbot of working his will with wild beasts in the neighbouring royal forest of Glenree, and of using nets, other engines, and greyhounds, to the great injury of his Lord the King. Although in the succeeding centuries Kiltiernan can have been only of little profit to the Abbey owing to the frequency of the invasions from the Irish, the Abbots were strict in preserving their rights.

⁽¹⁾ Borlase's "Dolmens of Ireland," vol. ii., p. 388; Beranger's Sketch Book and Ordnance Survey Letters in Royal Irish Academy, pp. 9, 22.

At the beginning of the fourteenth century the Abbey was involved in the dispute between Peter Harold and his relatives, mentioned under Kilgobbin, and at the beginning of the fifteenth century an inquisition was held at Kiltiernan to determine the boundaries of Kiltiernan and those of Carrickmines (1).

At the time of the dissolution of the religious houses by Henry VIII. a castle and some cottages are stated to have stood on the lands of Kiltiernan and Glencullen, but only sixteen acres are mentioned as being tilled. There were three old hamlets, known as the Old Grange of Kilcullin, Betaghton, and Ballycakan, within the townlands, but except in the first, in which two cottages had been built the year before, there were no buildings fit for occupation in them. Probably in the hope of securing them for the Abbey, the lands had been shortly before leased to Walter Goulding, a much privileged friend of Lord Deputy Gray. This lease was, however, broken, and the lands were granted by the Crown first to Walter Peppard and afterwards to Edward Bassenet, Dean of St. Patrick's, who is said to have sometimes occupied the castle. After the death of Bassenet the lands were sold by his son in 1577 to Sir Thomas Fitzwilliam, of Merrion, and remained in possession of Sir Thomas's descendants for more than a hundred years. In connection with the litigation between the first Viscount Fitzwilliam and his brothers a charge on these lands is often mentioned, and only for the advice and aid of that great money lender, the first Earl of Cork, Viscount Fitzwilliam would have been committed to Dublin Castle for contempt of court in not paying it off (2).

Before the Commonwealth the castle, described as having been a fair stone house, had become ruinous, and shortly after the Restoration there were only six houses on the lands of Kiltiernan and eleven on those of Glencullen, none of them having more than one hearth. The principal farmer appears to have been William Nally, of Roebuck, and amongst the residents of Glencullen "Murtagh ye ploughman, Walter ye carman, and Joseph ye sieve-maker," figure large (3). The Fitzwilliams parted with their interest in the lands before the close of the seventeenth century, the lands

(1) Mills' "Norman Settlement," p. 166; "Chartularies of St. Mary's Abbey"; "The Royal Forest of Glencree," by T. P. Le Fanu in *Journal R.S.A.I.*, vol. xxiii., p. 270; Plea Rolls 3 Edw. II., m. 12.

(2) "Chartularies of St. Mary's Abbey"; Mason's "History of St. Patrick's Cathedral," pp. 149-151; Lismore Papers, ser. i., vol. iii., p. 176.

(3) Fleetwood's Survey; Down Survey Map; Census of 1659; Hearth Money Roll; Subsidy Roll.

of Glencullen passing to Mr. Thomas FitzSimon, ancestor of the present owner, and the lands of Kiltiernan to the Johnson family. The latter is a family which has attained to much distinction in our military annals, and on two of its members baronetcies have been conferred. At Kiltiernan a manor house, as well as a mill, was erected by its new owners, and amongst its occupants we find Christopher Johnson, who died in 1706; his only son, also Christopher, who died unmarried in 1730; and his brother, Lieutenant Allen Johnson, who died in 1747, leaving a widow (who married secondly General Edward Pole) and several children ⁽¹⁾.

About this time, the middle of the eighteenth century, Kiltiernan became the home of a mighty Nimrod, Johnny Adair, whose exploits in the hunting field are commemorated by Thomas Mozeen in the song of "The Kilruddery Hunt." He was the eldest son of a famous wine merchant, Robert Adair, of Holybrook, near Bray, who represented Philipstown in the Irish Parliament, and as a wealthy bachelor Johnny Adair devoted himself to a life of sport and enjoyment. He was, we are told, the prince of good fellows, and his house was famous for its bumpers, beef, and good cheer, which he obtained on emergency from his neighbour, Owen Bray, the innkeeper of Loughlinstown. O'Keeffe, the actor, mentions that Johnny Adair, who was noted for his tremendous hoarse voice, was a very large muscular man, and a place at the Scalp known as Adair's leap indicates his powers as an equestrian—not in being able to take the leap, which certainly he could not have done, but in the fact that according to tradition he was able to wheel his horse round when he was on the very brink of the precipice. Possibly this horse was an old bay hunter which he leaves in his will to his brother-in-law, directing him not to hunt his favourite more than once a week, and to feed him constantly on oats three times a day ⁽²⁾.

Later on the eldest son of Lieutenant Allen Johnson, Sir John Allen Johnson, M.P. for Baltinglass, whose political career gained for him a baronetcy, became the chief resident at Kiltiernan. He raised and commanded in the time of the Volunteers a corps called the Rathdown Light Horse, the troopers in which were elegantly mounted on fine hunters, and made a great show in scarlet uniforms

⁽¹⁾ Burke's Peerage under Johnson of Kiltiernan and Johnson of Bath; Wills of Johnson Family.

⁽²⁾ O'Keeffe's "Recollections of His Life," vol. i., p. 178; Mozeen's "Collection of Miscellaneous Essays"; Will of John Adair; Fitzpatrick's "Sham Squire," p. 170.

faced with black, white waistcoats, and red plumed helmets. Subsequently a Captain Richard Anderson came to reside at Kiltiernan, and seems to have been active also in raising volunteer troops. In March, 1799, it is announced that a corps of yeomanry called the Kiltiernan Rangers, consisting of fifty-two privates, besides officers, had been raised in the parts of the County Dublin near the County Wicklow, to protect the long-suffering inhabitants, and in 1803 Captain Richard Anderson was stated to be in command of the Kiltiernan Yeomanry establishment, which then consisted of sixty-five infantry ⁽¹⁾.

ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY.

Nor far from the village of Golden Ball lies the ruined church of this parish. It is a structure of a very early date, and consists of a simple oblong building without a chancel. Externally it is said



West end of ruined Church of Kiltiernan.

From a photograph by Mr. Thomas J. Westropp.

(1) *Post Chaise Companion*; *Exshaw's Magazine* for 1779, p. 654; *Hibernian Magazine* for 1799, p. 205; State Papers in Public Record Office.

to measure forty-eight feet by twenty-four feet, the walls being two feet nine inches thick. The chief features are a square headed doorway in the west end, a pointed doorway in the north wall, and a round headed light in the east end. A font has been found near the church⁽¹⁾.

The foundation of the church has been attributed to a saint called Tiernan, whose festival is celebrated on April 8, but of him nothing is known. During the ownership of the Kiltiernan lands by the monks of St. Mary's Abbey the church was doubtless served by one of their number, but there is no record of its use after the dissolution of the Abbey. In 1615 the parish is stated to have been sequestrated and the church unprovided with books or curate, and in 1630 the nave and chancel are said to have been down. All the parishioners were then stated to be recusants, but the Vicar of Bray, Simon Swayne, was nominally in charge of the parish, and later on the curate of Monkstown, Thomas Davis, was appointed to the cure. After the Restoration the parish was placed under Bray, and so remained until the nineteenth century⁽²⁾.

(1) See "Primitive Churches in County Dublin," by W. F. Wakeman, *Journal R.S.A.I.*, vol. xxi., p. 699.

(2) "Lectures on Parochial History," by Professor Stokes in *Irish Ecclesiastical Gazette*, May 22, 1896; Regal Visitation of 1615; Archbishop Bulkeley's Report, p. 160; Visitation Books.

Parish of Rathmichael

(or the Rath of Michael).

This parish appears in the seventeenth century as containing the townlands of Shanganagh, Shankill, and Ballycorus.

It now contains the townlands of Annaghaskin (*i.e.*, the morass of the eels), Ballycorus (*i.e.*, the town of Mac Theorais or Bermingham), Barnaslingar (*i.e.*, the summit of the slingans or flat stones), Glebe, Johnstown, Loughlins-town (*i.e.*, the town of O'Melaghlin or O'Loghlin) Commons, Rathmichael, Shanganagh (*i.e.*, the place of shangans or ants), Shankill (*i.e.*, the old church).

Within its limits is the mountain of Carrickgollogan (*i.e.*, the rock of Ollaghan).

The objects of archæological interest are cromlechs and cairns on Carrickgollogan, a rath near Rathmichael, the ruined church and round tower of Rathmichael, "Puck's Castle" (*i.e.*, the castle of the pooka), Shanganagh Castle, and Shankill Castle.

SHANKILL AND SHANGANAGH.

THE parish of Rathmichael, which lies between the parish of Kiltiernan and the sea, possesses the finest prospect in the County Dublin—a prospect which for combination of beautiful sea and



Cromlech near Carrickgollogan.

From a sketch by W. F. Wakeman.

mountain scenery has few rivals in the British Isles. Standing on the elevated ground on which the ruined church of Rathmichael rests, and looking over the rich and well wooded country by which

it is surrounded, one sees to the east the lovely bay of Killiney and the blue waters of St. George's Channel, to the north the white hill of Killiney and the green island of Dalkey, and to the west and south the dark mountains of the Counties Dublin and Wicklow, terminated by Bray Head and forming a diversified although almost continuous range. But apart from its charm of situation the parish of Rathmichael is interesting on account of its historical associations. Many remains of past ages, marking the different periods into which Irish history may be divided, either exist or have been found within its limits. These include cromlechs at



Supposed Cromlech on Carrickgollogan.
From a sketch by W. F. Wakeman.

Carrickgollogan and Shankill; a rath or caher near Rathmichael⁽¹⁾; three churches of Celtic foundation—namely, those of Rathmichael, Shankill, and Kiltuck; the base of a round tower; and four castles dating from the time of the Pale—namely, those of Shankill, Shanganagh, Ballycorus, and Rathmichael, the latter being commonly called Puck's Castle⁽²⁾.

Of the chiefs under whose sway the rock monuments and caher were erected nothing is now known, and it is only from the existence of the base of the round tower and from traces of an ancient enclosure that the importance of Rathmichael as the site of a Celtic religious establishment has become apparent. To the

⁽¹⁾ See Borlase's "Dolmens of Ireland," vol. ii., pp. 392, 393; also Ordnance Survey Letters, p. 35, and volume of Sketches, by W. F. Wakeman, preserved in the Royal Irish Academy. The Shankill cromlech has long disappeared.

⁽²⁾ See for descriptions of these castles "The Lesser Castles of the County Dublin," by E. R. M'C. Dix, in *The Irish Builder* for 1897, pp. 75, 115, 129, 157.

influence of this establishment was doubtless due the fact that by the thirteenth century the greater portion of the lands now comprised within the parish had passed into the possession of the Church and had been divided between the Archbishop of Dublin, the Cathedral of St. Patrick, and the Priory of the Holy Trinity. The lands owned by the Archbishop included Shankill, and this place became the centre of one of his manors, which embraced not only the lands immediately surrounding it, but also a large extent of country towards Powerscourt now within the County Wicklow and such property as belonged to the Archbishop at Dalkey. At Shankill a manor house of considerable importance was erected, and round it there was a small village containing seventeen tenements and a church which stood on the left hand of the gateway leading up to the present castle. The manor house, to which were attached a garden and a park planted with oaks and other trees, afforded from time to time a residence for the Archbishop, and there in the beginning of the thirteenth century we find Archbishop Luke signing a lease of some of his Tallaght property. At Dalkey, which lies about four miles to the north-east of Shankill, the Archbishop owned some thirty-nine tenements, and in the country towards Powerscourt, which lies about the same distance from Shankill as Dalkey in the opposite direction, the Archbishop owned a village called Kilmacberne, which contained the same number of tenements as Shankill. In Archbishop Luke's time there were within Shankill manor lands which were still covered with primeval forests. In 1229 that prelate was given license to clear these lands, and the advance of civilization in the district is shown by the establishment in 1234 of a weekly market at Powerscourt. As in the case of Tallaght and the other manors belonging to the See of Dublin the lands within Shankill manor were farmed partly by the Archbishop, partly by the betaghs or villeins who worked his portion as well as their own, and partly by free tenants. The old place names have nearly all become extinct, and it is impossible to identify the lands; but one of the largest holdings in the manor lay near Powerscourt, and others of more than ordinary size at Killegar, near the Scalp (1).

At Shankill the Archbishop of Dublin's seneschal held periodically a court in which persons were tried for crimes of the first magnitude. During the time of Archbishop Luke, from 1228 to 1256.

(1) "Liber Niger," pp. 743-748, 1068; Sweetman's Calendar, 1171-1251, Nos. 1757, 1769; "Crede Mihi," edited by Sir John Gilbert, p. 43; Mason's "History of St. Patrick's," p. 65.

there were three trials for murders. One of these murders, that of an Irishman by an Englishman, occurred at Kilmacherne; another, the murder of an Irish miller by an Englishman, took place in the gate of the town of Shankill, and the third, in which both the murderer and the person murdered were Irishmen, took place in Dalkey. Trials for theft are also recorded. In two of these cases the mediæval form of trial by duel or single combat was resorted to. In the first, the theft by an inhabitant of Castlekevin of a cow, the property of an inhabitant of Glencree, the defendant was overcome and was taken to the gibbet of the Archbishop; but in the second the defendant slew his accuser. In other cases of theft the defendants were fined and pardoned. There is also mention of persons guilty of murder and theft flying to sanctuary in the adjacent churches, where they obtained protection until able to leave the Archbishop's jurisdiction. We find an Englishman who had stolen a horse flying to the church of Killegar; a sailor who had stolen an anchor escaping to the chapel on Dalkey Island; an Irishman who was guilty of theft flying to the church of Shankill; and an Englishman who had also been guilty of theft taking refuge in the church of Killegar. The bailiffs of the manor acted as coroners, and during the time of Archbishop Luke we find them ordering the interment of two merchants who were found dead within the manor, and of two carpenters who were killed by a fall of timber at Shankill, as well as of those who were murdered within their jurisdiction (1).

To the east of the manor of Shankill lay the district known as Shanganagh. In the thirteenth century one portion of this district, then called Rathsalchan and Kiltuck, on which now stands the modern Shanganagh Castle, belonged to the Priory of the Holy Trinity, and another portion, known as the seigniory of Shanganagh to the Vicars-Choral of St. Patrick's Cathedral. Subsequently, the Dean and Chapter of the latter establishment became tenants to the Priory of the Holy Trinity for the adjoining lands of Rathsalchan and Kiltuck, and ultimately the Economy Fund of the Cathedral became the absolute owner of these lands, on which there was then a castle (2).

(1) "Historic and Municipal Documents," edited by Sir John Gilbert (in the Rolls Series), pp. 147-150.

(2) Christ Church Deeds; Mason's "History of St. Patrick's Cathedral," pp. 44, 70, 89.

To the west of the manor of Shankill lay the lands of Ballycorus. These lands formed part of the property granted after the Conquest to the owners of Dundrum, the family of de Clabull. But before 1239 they came into the possession of Geoffrey de Tureville, then Archdeacon of Dublin and Chancellor of Ireland, and before 1282 into that of John de Walhope, already mentioned as tenant of Balally. On the lands of Ballycorus Walhope proposed to build a house, for which purpose he sought leave to cut timber in the royal forest of Glencree, but he did not long enjoy his residence, if it was ever built, as his death took place a few months after his petition was made, and the lands passed to one Ralph le Marshall, under whom they were occupied by a family called le Rue⁽¹⁾.

During the greater part of the thirteenth century Shankill and its neighbourhood were peaceful and prosperous. This is indicated by the fact that the prebend of Rathmichael during that period more than doubled in value from twenty marks to fifty marks; but even more striking proof is to be found in the accounts kept during the vacancy in the See of Dublin from 1271 to 1277, which show that the manor was considerably more valuable than that of Tallaght, and that the expenditure on buildings and on bailiffs was six times more than in the latter place. The revenue was mainly derived from the same sources as in the case of Tallaght, and included the rents of freeholders, betaghs, and cottagers at Shankill, Kilmacberne, and Dalkey, and profit from the demesne lands and from the pasturage of Dalkey Island, as well as from, amongst other things, a cottage near the gate of Shankill, tribute fish taken at Dalkey, and the goods of an Irishman who was killed⁽²⁾.

The manor of Shankill was, during the vacancy in the See of Dublin, suffering like Tallaght from the raids of its troublesome neighbours the Irish tribes in the Wicklow hills, and a large deduction for decrease of rents and profits added to the expenditure on the manor almost entirely absorbed the estimated revenue. The raids made at that time were, however, not lasting in their effect, and the manor seems to have quickly recovered from them. Archbishop John de Saunford, who succeeded to the See of Dublin after

⁽¹⁾ Sweetman's Calendar, 1171-1251, No. 2475; 1252-1284, Nos. 2002, 2069; 1285-1292, p. 169, *et passim*.

⁽²⁾ Mason's "History of St. Patrick's Cathedral," p. lxiv.; *Proceedings of the Royal Irish Academy*, vol. v., pp. 145-162.

the vacancy, sometimes resided there, and it is from Shankill in 1289 that we find him writing to the Bishop of Bath and Wells on behalf of his archdeacon, Stephen O'Bragan, who had been nominated to the See of Cashel, and whom the Archbishop declares to be one of the most discreet and worthy men in the bosom of the Church (1).

Not many years after the Archbishop had penned this letter at Shankill, the reign of fire and sword which eventually devastated the district began. In 1294 the prebend of Rathmichael was returned as worth only five marks, and as contributing nothing to the State, and the church of Shankill was stated to be not sufficient for its own support. Later on, at the time of the Scottish invasions under Edward Bruce, the Irish tribes laid waste ail before them. Of the condition of the manor of Shankill an inquisition made in 1327 presents a sad picture. All the buildings at Shankill and in the whole manor, except those at Dalkey, had been overthrown, and the lands lay uncultivated, the outlying portion of them being occupied by the Irish, and the portion round Shankill being subject to frequent incursions (2).

Towards the middle of the fourteenth century, as we have seen under Tallaght, steps were taken to keep the Irish tribes within bounds, and for the protection of the district between Bray and Dublin a military garrison was stationed at the former place. The lands of Shankill and its neighbourhood began to be again let, but at prairie value and in much larger quantities, the tenants being, as in other places, stout English yeomen skilled in the use of arms and able and willing to defend their property by force. At first the tenants were members of the family of Lawless—a family mentioned so early as the thirteenth century in connection with Ballycorus. In 1408 Thomas Lawless held the seigniorship of Shanganagh from the Vicars-Choral of St. Patrick's Cathedral; in 1409 Aveline, daughter of Richard Lawless, was owner of another portion of the Shanganagh lands, as well as of lands in the adjoining parish of Old Connaught; in 1432 Richard Lawless is described as of Shanganagh, and in 1482 John Lawless was tenant of Shankill. Meantime, however, a branch of the family of Walsh of Carrickmines had settled in the parish, and by degrees the Walshes

(1) Sweetman's Calendar, 1285-1292, No. 468.

(2) Christ Church Deeds, No. 150; "Liber Niger," pp. 743-748.

supplanted the Lawless family. They appear first in 1447 at Shanganagh in the person of Edmund Walsh, to whom the seignior of that place was leased in that year by the Vicars Choral of St. Patrick's Cathedral. Some twenty-five years later, in 1473, legal proceedings were instituted against Edmund Walsh for refusing to pay rent and continuing to hold the lands after the expiration of his lease, but the dispute was settled, and we find amongst the subsequent owners of Shanganagh, in 1482 Charles Walsh, in 1509 Richard Walsh, and in 1521 Charles, son of Richard Walsh (¹).

The castles at Shankill and Shanganagh, of which remains are to be seen, as well as a fortified dwelling called Puck's Castle, near Rathmichael, were probably erected in the fifteenth or sixteenth

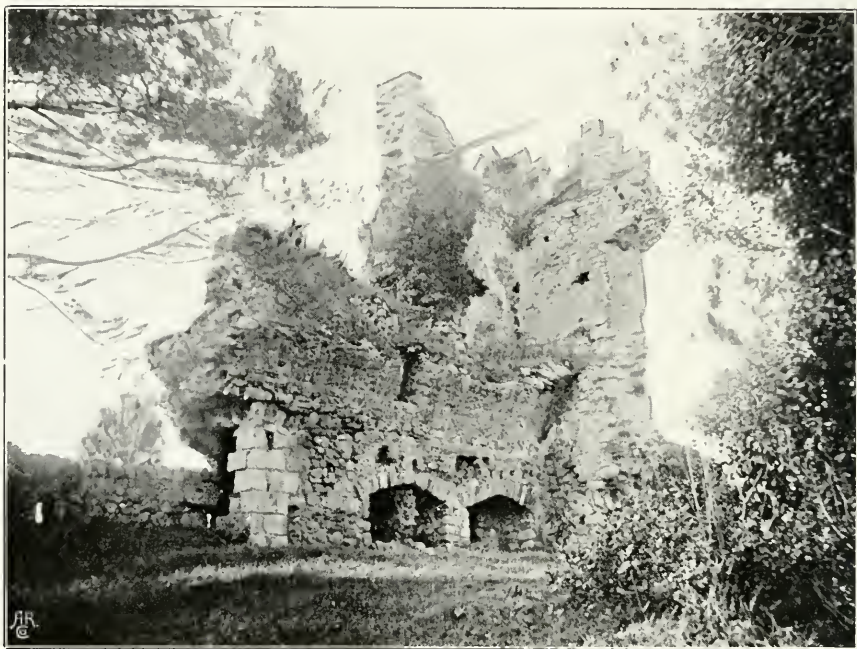


"Puck's Castle."

From a photograph by Mr. Thomas Mason.

(¹) Sweetman's Calendar, 1293-1301, p. 10; Mason's "History of St. Patrick's Cathedral," pp. 70, 89, 90; Patent Rolls, pp. 190, 252; Christ Church Deeds, No. 333; Exchequer Inquisition, Henry VIII., Co. Dublin, Nos. 47, 115.

century. Shanganagh Castle, which stands close to Loughlins-town river, in the valley near Ballybrack, was the largest of the three, and possibly some portion of it dated from 1408, when Thomas Lawless undertook to build a castle on the lands. Under



Shanganagh Castle.

From a photograph by Mr. Thomas Mason.

the Walshes it was doubtless enlarged, and it became a residence of importance. Charles Walsh, who died in 1521, was succeeded successively by his son, Walter Walsh, who died in 1551, and by his grandson, John Walsh. The latter, who is included amongst the men of name in the County Dublin, and acted as a commissioner for the muster of the militia, owned at the time of his death in 1600, lands in the country of the O'Tooles and O'Byrnes, as well as the lands of Shanganagh and lands in the adjoining parish of Old Connaught (1).

The castle known as Puck's Castle, on the lands of Rathmichael, which is in unusually perfect condition, seems to have been built as a place of defence rather than as a dwelling. It stands on bleak mountain pasture, which would hardly have been selected

(1) Fiant's Edw. VI., No. 542; Eliz., No. 4149: "The Description of Ireland, in 1598," edited by Rev. Edmund Hogan, p. 38; Will of John Walsh.

as the site of a residence by persons whose only object was agriculture, and is placed in such a position as to command the approaches over the mountains from the County Wicklow. Possibly it was erected by that valiant defender of the Pale, Peter Talbot, already mentioned in connection with Bullock and Cruagh. He is sometimes described as of Shankill, and was closely interested in the neighbourhood as owner of the lands of Ballycorus and of the manor of Rathdown, within which the lands of Shanganagh lay. In 1537 it was suggested that the Crown should assist Peter Talbot and the Walsh clan in building castles towards the territory of the O'Tooles, who were then causing so much annoyance to the inhabitants of the Pale, and it seems not improbable that Puck's Castle may have been the outcome of this recommendation (1).

The Castle of Shankill, which was occupied as a dwelling until recently, and in which the original vaulted ground floor and large fire-places are still to be seen, was held under the Archbishop of Dublin in the middle of the sixteenth century by a branch of the Barnewall family. Its occupant in the latter part of that century was Robert Barnewall, who, in 1571, when still a minor, had succeeded his father, Patrick Barnewall. He married a sister of his neighbour, Theobald Walsh of Carrickmines, and was, like his brother-in-law, and his kinsman, John Walsh of Shanganagh, a man of good position holding a considerable extent of lands, and owning, besides his castle at Shankill, a house in the town of Dalkey (2).

Until the close of the sixteenth century the Irish tribes continued to give trouble, but during the first forty years of the seventeenth century the Shankill neighbourhood enjoyed tranquillity and the inhabitants prospered in a corresponding degree. The two principal houses, the castles of Shanganagh and Shankill, were good residences of that time. Shanganagh Castle had attached to it a hall, which, although only roofed with thatch, was of considerable dimensions, and round it lay an orchard, garden and ornamental plantations, doubtless extending down to the Loughlinstown river, on which the Walshes had a mill; while Shankill Castle was large enough to accommodate a household of some twenty persons. But into this district, as into other places, the rebellion of 1641 brought great

(1) Fiant Edw. VI., No. 268; Exchequer Inquisition Philip and Mary, Co. Dublin, No. 8; D'Alton's "History of the County Dublin," p. 914.

(2) Fiant Eliz., No. 1780; Exchequer Inquisition, Eliz., Co. Dublin, No. 227; Will of Robert Barnewall.

discord. In depositions subsequently made, William Hickson, of Ballycorus, which had passed from the Talbots to the Wolverstons of Stillorgan, and Thomas and Hugh Campion, of Crinkin, who are described as British Protestants, detail heavy losses of cattle and goods—losses which they attributed, in part, to the Barnewalls and their servants (1).

Then came the Commonwealth, and soon after its establishment the Barnewalls and the Walshes were compelled to find new homes. What such a change meant for the district is exemplified in the former case. The member of that family last mentioned, Robert Barnewall, who had died in 1594, had been succeeded by his son, Patrick Barnewall, and the latter, on his death in 1627, had been succeeded in his turn by his eldest son, Robert Barnewall. They were earnest and devout Roman Catholics; and in Robert Barnewall's time a friar and a nun, in the person of his own sister, were supported at Shankill. Besides being extremely charitable to their poorer brethren they gave large employment as the owners of a great stud of horses which grazed on the Castle lands. Robert Barnewall died before the establishment of the Commonwealth, and when the order to transplant into Connaught came Shankill Castle was occupied by his widow, a sister of Robert, the 7th Baron of Trimlestown, and their five children. In her immediate household she had thirteen retainers, including a bailiff and a gardener, and in the village which then lay near the castle there were twenty-two residents, including two shoemakers, a weaver, two carpenters, a smith, a ploughman, a rabbit hunter, and a fisherman, who doubtless lived largely on the employment given by the lady of the castle (2).

Upon the Restoration both the Barnewalls and the Walshes were restored to their possessions. The population of the lands, now within Rathmichael parish, is then returned as being on the lands of Shanganagh, eleven English and sixty-three Irish inhabiting twenty-seven houses; on the lands of Shankill, seven English and thirty-three Irish inhabiting twenty-two houses; on the lands of Rathmichael, two English and one Irish; and on the lands of

(1) Fleetwood's Survey; Survey of Uppercross and Newcastle; Depositions of 1641.

(2) Chancery Inquisition, Car. I., Co. Dublin, No. 19; Will of Patrick Barnewall; Archbishop Bulkeley's Report, p. 158; Decree of Innocents Roll, ix., m. 23; Survey of Uppercross and Newcastle.

Ballycorus, which were then farmed by Edward Buller, of Laughanstown, six English and two Irish, occupying three houses (1).

The lands of Shanganagh, which had been occupied under the Commonwealth by John and Henry Baxter, were restored by the Commissioners of Settlement to John Walsh. He was a direct descendant of the last-mentioned owner (the John Walsh who died in 1600), who had been succeeded in turn by his son James Walsh, by his grandson John Walsh, who married a daughter of Sir Robert Kennedy, Bart., of Newtownmountkenedy, and by his great-grandson Edmond Walsh, the father of the claimant at the Restoration. The claimant was only a youth, but his cause had influential supporters in his grandfather, Sir Robert Kennedy, and his uncle, Sir Richard Kennedy, who was one of the Barons of the Exchequer. He died in 1671, and was succeeded successively by his son, Edward Walsh, and another, John Walsh, who in 1705 was licensed as a loyal Roman Catholic to keep a sword, a case of pistols, and a gun. The Walshes' occupation of Shanganagh did not cease until the middle of the eighteenth century. The lands of Shanganagh, together with the Walshes' property in Old Connaught parish, passed then into the possession of the family of Roberts, now represented by Captain Lewis Riall, and in 1763 the castle of Shanganagh was destroyed by a disastrous fire (2).

The lands of Shankill, which had been held under the Commonwealth by Owen Vaughan, were restored by the Commissioners of Settlement to Christopher Barnewall, a son of Robert Barnewall. He died in 1673, and was succeeded by his son Robert Barnewall. Subsequently the lands passed into the possession of the family of Lawless, who appear once more in the district as its occupants. In the castle died in 1743 Mrs. Lawless, "one of the greatest farmers in the kingdom," who was universally esteemed for her hospitality, charity, and other virtues; and in 1751 Mrs. Clare Lawless, "a young gentlewoman of many valuable qualities"; while in 1795 we find Mr. Barry Lawless, of Shankill, serving on the County Dublin Grand Jury (3). Austin Cooper says that in 1782 the

(1) Census of 1659; Hearth Money and Subsidy Rolls.

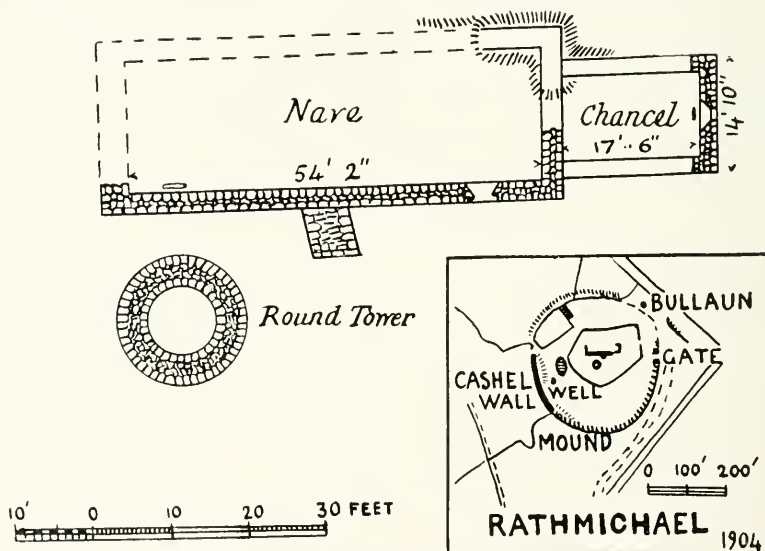
(2) Decree of Innocents; Chancery Inquisition, Co. Dublin, Car. I., No. 73; Jac. II., No. 2; Ormonde Manuscripts, vol. ii., p. 475, published by Historical Manuscripts Commission; Registry of Deeds, Lib. 158, p. 78; *Pue's Occurrences*, vol. ix., No. 23.

(3) Decree of Innocents Roll, ix., m. 23; Will of Christopher Barnewall; *Dublin Journal*, Nos. 1838, 2487; *Anthologia Hibernica* for 1793, p. 323; Cooper's Note Book.

castle was in a very ruinous state, and describes it as a low square castle built of the mountain stone, with a dwelling house adjoining, which was also in need of repair.

ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY.

THE ruined church of Rathmichael occupies the site of what was doubtless an important Celtic religious establishment, and although the ancient remains have suffered extremely from destroyers, and even from those who intended to preserve them, there are still sufficient traces of that establishment left to make Rathmichael, with its fine position and wide outlook, the most attractive site of a Celtic religious foundation to be found in the southern portion of the County Dublin. Extensive remains of the circumvallation, partly of earth and partly of stone, by which the Celtic establishment was surrounded, were to be seen early in the nineteenth



Plan of Rathmichael Church.

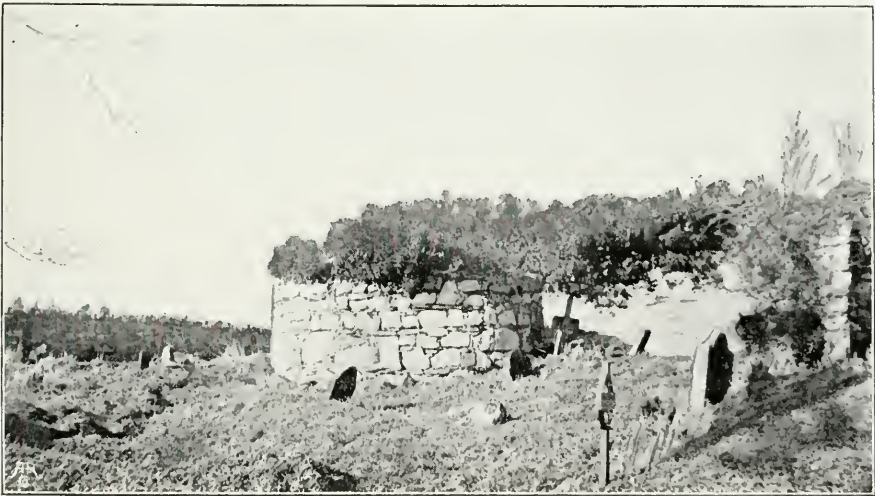
By Mr. Thomas J. Westropp.

century. Dr. Petrie, who mentions that the entrance to the cashel was eight feet in width, formed then the opinion that there had been an arched gateway⁽¹⁾. Within this enclosure originally lay, probably, a small quadrangular church, and a number of huts, the residences of the ecclesiastics and of such wayfarers as sought their

(1) Petrie's "Essay on the Round Towers of Ireland," pp. 443, 447.

hospitality, and in the terror of the Danish invasions, as a place of refuge, a round tower was begun, but whether it was ever completed is still a subject for speculation.

The great ring wall and mound in the centre of which the ruined church lies, is about three hundred and fifty feet in diameter. Its character and exceptional size, with the fact that a single church alone occupies its garth, suggests that some early chieftain gave his caher, which had the advantage of a well in its enclosure, to the Church. The best preserved portion of the ancient wall lies to the south-west of the church, along a slight ridge, but furze-grown mounds indicate its line to the south and north east of the graveyard. At a point about one hundred and forty-two feet from the eastern gable of the church, and a little to the south, are two large stones in line, evidently the foot blocks of the northern jamb of the principal gateway, which faces east-south-east. More to the north, where the ancient laneway passes round the cashel, we find in the natural rock a small bullaun or basin. The foundations of numerous enclosures and houses lie between the modern wall of the graveyard and the cashel, but the houses were evidently comparatively modern erections. The inflow of water from under the ridge to the north-west and from the well already mentioned, fill a



Rathmichael Church—Nave and Round Tower.

From a photograph by Mr. Thomas Mason.

small pond not far from the west end of the ruined church. The church has been half demolished. It now consists of the south wall of the nave, fifty-four feet two inches long inside, and a later

chancel with a plain round headed window seventeen feet six inches by eleven feet two inches inside. There is an utterly defaced window six feet four inches from the east end of the nave. The chancel arch has fallen, but enough remains of the angle to the north-east of the nave to show that the nave was seventeen feet four inches wide. A crooked and clumsy buttress props the middle of the north wall on the outside. Between the buttress and the west end, little more than five feet from the church, is the base of a round tower. The base is in circumference fifty-one feet three inches, its walls are four feet four inches in thickness, and its height from six to eight feet. It is built of rough large blocks set in courses, with smaller stones in the spaces. There is no trace of a plinth or of a door, which, however, in round towers was usually placed further from the ground than the present height of the base. Several slabs with concentric markings, a large holed stone⁽¹⁾, and a granite font have been found in the graveyard, and in the lane leading to the church from the east there is the base of a cross, which is marked on the Ordnance Map as a cromlech⁽²⁾.

Of the church or chapel of Shankill which existed in the thirteenth century no trace remains, but, as already mentioned, it is said to have stood on the left hand side of the gateway leading to Shankill Castle. It is supposed to have been identical with a church known at the time of the Anglo-Norman conquest as Cill Comgail, which, it has been suggested, was founded by St. Comgall, an abbot of Bangor in the County Down⁽³⁾.

Within the demesne of the house now known as Shanganagh Castle, near Crinkin, on the lands formerly known under the name of Kiltuck, are to be seen some traces of the church which originally stood there. The outline of the foundation in the sod, a few stones, and a cross with a figure in high relief, are now all that remains; but when the site was visited by Eugene O'Curry in connection with the Ordnance Survey, there was a considerable portion of the walls standing, and the owner of the modern Shanganagh

(1) See "Christian Sepulchral Leases of the Dublin Half Barony of Rathdown," by P. J. O'Reilly in the *Journal R.S.A.I.*, vol. xxxi., pp. 137-140.

(2) See paper on "The Primitive Churches in the County Dublin," by W. F. Wakeman in the *Journal R.S.A.I.*, vol. xxi., p. 700; also cf. "Rathmichael," by John S. Sloane in *The Irish Literary Gazette*, vol. ii., p. 102, and Ordnance Survey Letters in Royal Irish Academy, p. 70, where the existence of an underground passage is mentioned.

(3) O'Hanlon's "Lives of the Irish Saints," vol. v., pp. 152-184.

Castle at that time, General Cockburne, was anxious to have the church restored and again used for divine worship. O'Curry mentions that human bones had been found near the church,



Site of Kiltuck Church.

From a photograph by Mr. Thomas Mason.

and that to the south-east of the structure there had been another small square building, and describes as well as the cross some cut stones, which he found near the church, and part of another

cross which had been built into one of the lodges. The foundation of the church is attributed by O'Curry to a saint called Tucha, and it is mentioned in the Bull of 1179, which defines the extent of the dioceses of Dublin and Glendalough, as being in the former diocese (¹).

Rathmichael, which, it has been suggested, derives its name from a saint called Mac Tail, and which was confirmed after the Anglo-Norman conquest to the See of Dublin, became before the year 1227 the second subdiaconal prebend in St. Patrick's Cathedral. Of its early prebendaries little is known. The first mentioned is Godfrey de Insula, who died in 1274. He had been appointed by the Archbishop of Dublin, with whom the patronage rested; but his successors, Iter Bochard and Adam de Wedenhale, were appointed by the Crown owing to the See of Dublin being vacant. They had important duties of State to perform which entailed visits to England, and probably their prebendal church saw little of them (²).

In the beginning of the fourteenth century, as we have seen, all the buildings in the district were burnt and overthrown. It seems not improbable that the round tower was then reduced to its present dimensions, and the church of Shankill, to which in 1309 John de Malton had been appointed by the Crown during a vacancy in the See of Dublin, doubtless disappeared in the general conflagration. In the middle of the same century the prebend of Rathmichael, together with other preferment, was granted to the Sub-Dean of the distant Cathedral of York, William Retford, but his revenue from his Irish possession can have been, if of any, only of small amount. The fifteenth century saw the church of Rathmichael restored and used for divine worship, and in 1478 we find the parish curate of Rathmichael, together with the curate of Killiney, suspended from office for dereliction of duty in connection with the legal proceedings against Edward Walsh concerning the lands of Shanganagh. During the sixteenth century the church continued to be used. There the Walshes of Shanganagh and the Barnewalls of Shankill were buried, and at the close of Queen Elizabeth's reign we find Robert Barnewall, although a Roman Catholic, bequeathing £20 for its repair. During the

(¹) Ordnance Survey Letters preserved in the Royal Irish Academy, p. 68; "Analysis of the Dioceses of Dublin and Glendalough," by Bishop Reeves.

(²) See "Sepulchral Leases of the Dublin Half Barony of Rathdown," by P. J. O'Reilly, *Journal R.S.A.I.*, vol. xxxi., p. 152; Mason's "History of St. Patrick's Cathedral," p. 65; Sweetman's Calendar, 1252-1284, 1285-1292, *passim*.

dissolution of St. Patrick's Cathedral William Walsh, of Carrickmines, to whom the prebendal lands and tithes were leased by the Crown, was under a covenant to find a fit chaplain for the church, and after the restoration of the Cathedral establishment legal proceedings were taken against the prebendary, Thomas Lockwood, for non-residence (1).



Rathmichael Church—East end.

From a photograph by Mr. Thomas Mason.

When the visitation of 1615 took place John Parker, "a sufficient preacher," was returned as the prebendary and incumbent of Rathmichael, and the parish was stated to be served by a curate, one Henry Sheppard. Some years later, the chancel was found to be in ruins, and the nave, although in good repair, was stated not to be in decent order. The church was then served by Simon Swayne, the Vicar of Bray, already mentioned as being in charge of Tully parish. He resided in a house which he had built upon the glebe belonging to Rathmichael. This glebe, which was then called Karraigin, lies near the village of Loughlinstown, but only about a hundred perches to the north of the church, and Swayne's family was an important addition to the congregation, which only

(1) Patent Rolls, p. 24; Calendar of Papal Registers Petitions, vol. i., pp. 313, 349; Berry's "Wills of the Dublin Diocese," 1457-1483; Wills of Walshes and Barnewalls; Fiant Edw. VI., No. 214; Exchequer Inquisition, Co. Dublin, Philip and Mary, No. 17.

numbered eight persons without them. About a month after the outbreak of the rebellion of 1641 a party of the rebels attacked and plundered Swayne's house. Swayne was absent from home, and it is stated that the rebels, who, it is alleged, included the Barnewalls and other neighbours, as well as sixty men from the County Wicklow, uttered many menaces against him, and said that they would rather than a horse load of gold and silver that they had found him. Subsequently Swayne, with a number of his flock, took up their abode in the castle of Loughlinstown after it had been deserted by the Goodmaus, and in a deposition made a year later he gives in a further deposition a graphic account of an attack made upon that castle by the Irish insurgents, headed, as he believed, by Robert Crehall of Laghuanstown, Robert Barnewall of Shankill, and James Goodman the younger, of Loughlinstown. After many shots were fired on both sides the insurgents, who called Swayne's company Parliament rogues, and uttered repeated threats against him, set fire to the castle, and five of Swayne's companions lost their lives, one being burnt to ashes. Swayne himself only escaped after being terribly burnt and losing the sight of one of his eyes⁽¹⁾.

During the Commonwealth the church of Rathmichael probably fell into its present state of ruin, and after the Restoration there is no record of its use for service. From the latter time until the erection in the nineteenth century of the modern churches at Crinkin and at Rathmichael, the care of the parish was vested in the vicar of Bray, although from time to time difficulty arose owing to the prebend of Rathmichael and vicarage of Bray being held by different persons. About the middle of the eighteenth century, Dr. John Lyon, the guardian of Swift and a distinguished antiquary, who then held the prebend of Rathmichael, built a house which still remains on the glebe. He was succeeded in the prebend in 1764 by the Hon. William Beresford, afterwards Archbishop of Tuam, and Lord Decies, and in 1768 by Dr. Thomas Leland, author of the *History of Ireland*, who is said to have planted the trees by which the glebe house is surrounded⁽²⁾.

(1) Regal Visitation of 1615; Archbishop Bulkeley's Report, p. 159; Depositions of 1641; Mason's "History of St. Patrick's," p. 65.

(2) Visitation Books; D'Alton's "History of the County Dublin," p. 928; "Correspondence of James 1st Earl of Charlemont," vol. i., p. 290, published by the Historical Manuscripts Commission.

Under the Roman Catholic Church the parish of Rathmichael was included until the nineteenth century in a very large union of parishes. This union was arranged at the time the reconstruction for the purposes of administration took place in the seventeenth century, as mentioned in connection with Donnybrook. It embraced the district now covered by the Roman Catholic churches of Monkstown, Kingstown, Glasthule, Dalkey, Ballybrack, Cabinteely, Little Bray, Glencullen, and Sandyford. Amongst the parish priests in charge of this union of parishes, which was variously styled the parish of Rathmichael, of Loughlinstown, of Cabinteely, and of Kingstown, we find in 1615 Rev. Turlough Reilly; in 1680 Rev. John (Canon) Talbot; in 1733 Rev. Peter Cashell; in 1761 Rev. John Byrne; in 1769 Rev. Denis Doyle; and in 1786 Rev. Patrick Doyle. In the nineteenth century, in 1829, as already stated under Kilgobbin, Sandyford and Glencullen were separated from the union, and the remaining parishes, known as the parish of Kingstown, were subsequently in charge of the Rev. B. Sheridan. On his death these parishes were again divided, and since then Kingstown, Monkstown, and Glasthule have formed one union, and Dalkey, Ballybrack, and Little Bray another. The succession to the former, that of Kingstown, has been in 1863 Rev. James (Canon) Kavanagh; in 1865 Rev. Edward M'Cabe (afterwards Cardinal and Archbishop of Dublin); in 1879 Rev. Andrew (Canon) Quinn; in 1885 Rev. Nicholas (Dean) Walsh; and in 1903 Rev. William (Canon) Murphy. To the latter, that of Dalkey, the succession has been in 1863 Rev. John (Canon) Harold; in 1868 Rev. Patrick M'Cabe; in 1880 Rev. George (Canon) Harold; and in 1894 Rev. Joseph Murray.

Parish of Old Connaught.

This parish is returned in the seventeenth century as containing the townlands of Little Bray, Ballyman, Connaught, Cork, and Phrompstown.

It now contains the townlands of Annaghaskin (*i.e.*, the morass of the eels), Aske (*i.e.*, the stream track), Ballyman (*i.e.*, the town of the women), Bray Commons, Cork Great and Little, Little Bray, Old Connaught, Phrompstown (*i.e.*, the town of Fromp), and Ravenswell.

There are several wells in the parish, including St. Charles's well, Broderick's well, Ravens' well, St. Kevin's well, and Vallombrosa well.

The objects of antiquarian interest include the ruined churches of Ballyman and Old Connaught, and a castle in Little Bray ⁽¹⁾.

LITTLE BRAY AND ITS NEIGHBOURHOOD.

THE handsome residences, Old Conna Hill, the seat of Captain Lewis Riall, D.L., and Old Connaught House, the seat of Lord Plunket, are in the present day the principal objects of interest in the parish of Old Connaught—a parish which extends from the parish of Rathmichael to the river of Bray and the County Wicklow, and is bounded on the eastern side, like Rathmichael parish, by the sea. But in the century following the Anglo-Norman Conquest, Little Bray, which is now overshadowed by the modern town of Bray on the County Wicklow side of Bray river, was the site of a great feudal castle, and in the succeeding centuries became a place of military importance in the conflict between the inhabitants of the Pale and the Irish tribes.

The name Bray is said to be of Irish origin, derived from the word *bri*, a hill, and the discovery in the grounds of Old Connaught House of a sepulchral mound containing human skeletons, bones of animals, and earthen vessels indicates that in pagan days the neighbourhood was on one or more occasions the scene of a funeral feast ⁽²⁾. Tradition has it that Cork Abbey, the seat of Sir Edward

⁽¹⁾ See "The Lesser Castles in the County Dublin," by E. R. M'C. Dix in *The Irish Builder* for 1838, p. 133.

⁽²⁾ See papers by W. F. Wakeman in the *Journal R.S.A.I.*, vol. xxiv., pp. 54-64, and vol. xxv., pp. 106-114; and papers by Dr. D. J. Cunningham and Dr. C. R. Browne in *The Proceedings of the Royal Irish Academy*, 3rd ser., vol. iii., pp. 421-427.

Wingfield Verner, Bart., close to Little Bray, occupies the site of a Celtic monastic establishment. O'Curry, who was shown in 1837 what was supposed to be a burial place near the modern house, suggests that the lands of Cork may have been the site of a monastery founded by St. Curcagh of Cill Curcaighe, whose festival is celebrated on July 21st⁽¹⁾.

After the Anglo-Norman conquest Bray became the seat of manorial government for the possessions near Dublin of that brave and noble warrior, Walter de Rideleford, Lord of Bray, of whom we have heard so often in connection with the history of Merrion and other places. Together with Bray, that great Anglo-Norman invader, who as one of the magnates of Ireland exercised all the rights and privileges of a peer, was granted a great tract of adjacent country described as the lands of the sons of Thorkil, one of the Scandinavian invaders. This territory appears to have originally embraced Tully Church, which was granted by the sons of Thorkil to the Priory of the Holy Trinity, as well as Glencullen, and probably embraced Balally, a name which, as we have seen, has a Danish origin. It extended, doubtless, to the lands owned by Walter de Rideleford in the parishes of Cruagh and Tallaght. Where the town of Little Bray now stands Walter de Rideleford built a castle which must have been, in his time and in that of his descendants, one of the chief fortresses of the County Dublin. He had another castle, which appears to have been his principal residence, on the lands of Castledermot, in the County Kildare, and a house in Dublin; but doubtless Bray Castle was from time to time visited by its owners, and afforded accommodation for their household, which at one time included Roger the chaplain, Master Alexander the doctor, a gate keeper, a hall keeper, and two armour bearers.

Although Walter de Rideleford's castle stood on the northern side of Bray river the larger portion of the town of Bray appears then, as now, to have lain on the southern side of the river, which was crossed by what was known as the long ford. In the southern part of the town several religious houses, including the Abbeys of St. Thomas, St. Mary the Virgin, and St. John of Tristledermot, had tenements, which had been granted to them by Walter de Rideleford. These tenements were used by the monks to carry on traffic with the Irish inhabitants in the mountains, and for this traffic a weekly market held on Thursdays gave facilities. In the

⁽¹⁾ See Ordnance Survey Letters in possession of the Royal Irish Academy, p. 67.

case of the Dublin houses, the Abbeyes of St. Thomas and St. Mary, one of the chief commodities procured appears to have been firewood, which was conveyed to Dublin by sea, probably in small boats, which could navigate the shallow waters of the River Liffey and land their cargoes near the monasteries (1). Bray was then a corporate town, and amongst its rulers in the thirteenth century we find one Robert Chapman mentioned as bailiff of the town, and one Philip Makagan, whether a clergyman or not does not appear, mentioned as dean of the town. The residents included a lawless fishing community, for whose misdeeds the town sometimes suffered, and on one occasion a fine was levied on the inhabitants owing to bodies having been buried without an inquest and wreckage having been concealed. An Irish family seems to have taken its cognomen from the place, and towards the close of the thirteenth century one of its members, Robert de Bray, who supplied the viceroy with skins and sent wine to Wales for the use of the English army, filled the office of mayor of Dublin (2).

The lands of Cork, which extended along the sea shore from Little Bray to the lands of Shanganagh, then called Kiltuck, were in the year 1200 owned by the Crown, and were held under it by Fulk de Cantilupe. A few years later there were unsuccessful negotiations for their purchase from him on the part of the chief governor of Ireland, Meyler FitzHenry, a natural son of Henry I. Afterwards the Crown resumed possession of the lands, and they were leased for a time to the Priory of the Holy Trinity, then the owner of the adjoining lands of Kiltuck, and subsequently, towards the close of the thirteenth century, to Geoffrey de Lysenham, who was a subject of the King of France. On the western side of Little Bray, beyond the lands of Old Connaught, which were part of Walter de Rideleford's manor, lay the lands of Glenmunder or Ballyman, on which, in a lovely wooded glen close to a stream, some remains of a church are still to be seen. These lands were held in the thirteenth century by the Knights Templars, who then had a house near Dublin at Clontarf (3).

The manor of Bray was included in the possessions assigned to the Crown by the de Ridelefords' descendant, Christiana de Marisco, already mentioned under Merrion, and before 1290

(1) Mills' "Norman Settlement," p. 163; Sweetman's Calendar, 1171-1251, Nos. 355, 471; "Register of the Abbey of St. Thomas," and "Chartularies of St. Mary's Abbey," edited by Sir John Gilbert, in the Rolls Series.

(2) Sweetman's Calendar, *passim*; Pipe Roll, 55th Henry III. to 1st Edward I.; "Register of the Abbey of St. Thomas," vol. i., p. 149.

(3) Sweetman's Calendar; "Liber Niger."

the manor had been granted to Sir Theobald Butler, an ancestor of the house of Ormonde, who was then owner of Arklow, for the service of an armed horseman to be sent when required fully equipped to the gate of Dublin Castle. Amongst the largest tenants in the manor of Bray in 1284 were the Knights Templars, who held lands granted to them by John de Lisbon and J. de Howth; William le Deveneis, who has been mentioned as succeeding the de Ridelefords at Merrion; John Clements; Robert the Baker, whose holding adjoined the castle; Walter de Belinges; and the Vicar of Bray, "Sir John the father," who rented the fishery⁽¹⁾.

At the time of the Bruce invasion, in 1313, Bray, as well as Arklow and Newcastle M'Kynnekan, was burned by the O'Tooles and O'Byrnes, who, as we are told, then warred openly against the King, and the lands around the town lay waste for many years. Sir Hugh de Lawless, a member of the family which, as stated under Rathmichael, became all powerful in the district, was appointed by the Crown in 1314 Constable of Bray manor, but resigned his commission five years later, stating that the lands, which, on the arrival of the Scotch enemies of the King, had been invaded, burned and totally devastated by the Irish of the mountains, were still unprofitable and uncultivated. His only personal advantage from the custody of the manor had been a gift of two salmon, but on his remitting such rents as he had received for the Crown they were returned to him as some compensation for his efforts to uphold English rule⁽²⁾.

Subsequently, as we have seen under Tallaght, in order to protect the inhabitants of the district, a line of military stations was maintained between Bray and that place. At Bray, where the Pale seems to have been specially open to attack, a fortress was constructed out of the ruins of Walter de Rideleford's castle, which had not escaped the general destruction, and Geoffrey Crump, who was in 1334 given a lease of the manor, was freed from rent for two years on condition that he completed that work. For the garrison at Bray a militia force was raised, as has been mentioned, by a levy on the land owners between Dublin and Bray, including the Priory of the Holy Trinity in respect of Kill of the Grange, and the Abbey of St. Mary the Virgin in respect of Monkstown. Heavy as well as light horsemen and archers were supplied, but

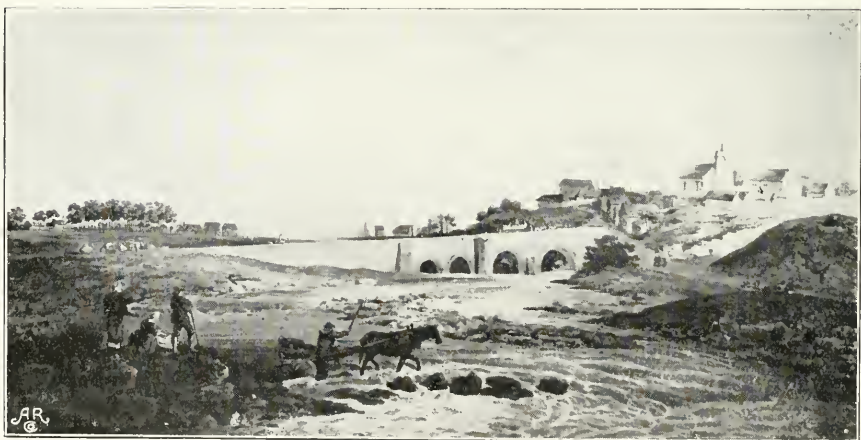
(1) Sweetman's Calendar, 1252-1284, No. 2340, 1285-1292, p. 315.

(2) Calendar of Carew State Papers, Book of Howth, &c., p. 134; "Historic and Municipal Documents," edited by Sir John Gilbert, in the Rolls Series, p. 456.

at times the militia proved inefficient, and in 1355 the garrison at Bray, finding themselves unequal to keeping the enemy in check, was replaced by chosen mounted men at arms, twenty light horsemen, and forty archers, under the command of Sir John de Bermingham (1).

The Archbolds, who are classed as protectors of the Pale with the Walshes of Carrickmines and the Harolds of Whitechurch, appear in that century at Bray as tenants of the town on the southern side of the river then called Much Bray. Maurice Howel, in the early part of that century, had accounted to the Crown for the Bray rents, but in the latter half of the century the Archbolds and the Lawlesses seem to have been the chief inhabitants. Maurice Lawless, William Archbold, and James Lawless are successively mentioned as farmers under the Crown of Bray manor, while in 1368 Hugh Lawless was tried for unjustly ejecting William, son of Thomas Lawless, from the lands of Old Connaught (2).

The state of war still continued. William Lawless was, we are told, slain about 1394 while protecting the frontiers of the Pale; but the necessities of the time required that guard should not be relaxed, and at her own expense his widow, Katherine Fitz Eustace,



Bray in the Eighteenth Century.
From a print in the British Museum.

maintained the men who were serving under her husband at their post. Several expeditions were organised at the beginning of the fifteenth century against the Irish, and advanced from Bray into

(1) Patent Rolls, pp. 39, 56.

(2) Memoranda Roll, 5 & 6 Edw. III., m. 11; 57 & 48 Edw. III., m. 76; Justiciary Roll, 42 Edw. III., No. 216; Patent Rolls, p. 124.

the wilds of the country now comprised in the County Wicklow. In 1402 the Mayor of Dublin, John Drake, mentioned already in connection with Simmonscourt, encountered with a strong force the Irish near Bray, and is said to have killed 500 of them—a service for which the Corporation of Dublin received the privilege of having a gilt sword carried before them; and in 1429 an army of 1,100 men, with a hundred loads of provisions and machines for hurling stones, assembled there before setting out against the O'Byrnes and O'Tooles (¹).

The lands of Old Connaught and Cork, as well as those of Shanganagh, were at the beginning of the fifteenth century owned by Aveline Lawless, and later on by Hugh Lawless, and seem to have been occupied by the Harolds, as in 1460 custody of the property of one Walter Harold, at Old Connaught, was granted to John, son of Reginald Talbot. The lands of Ballyman had before that passed from the Knights Templars into the possession of the Priory of St. John of Jerusalem at Kilmainham, and in 1336 we find one of the Harolds indicted for stealing timber from the house of the Prior at Ballyman, then called Glenmunder (²). In the sixteenth century all the lands in the parish of Old Connaught came into the possession of the Walshes, excepting those of Ballyman. These, after the dissolution of the religious houses, were granted to Peter Talbot, the defender of the Pale mentioned under Rathmichael. The Walshes of Shanganagh were in possession of the lands of Old Connaught and Cork, while the Walshes of Carrickmines occupied those of Phrompstown. Members of these families resided upon the various lands, and we find on Cork in 1566, William M'Shane Walsh and Edward Walsh, in 1590 Walter Walsh, and in 1599 Edmund Walsh, who died in that year, desiring to be buried at Rathmichael; and on Phrompstown, in 1609 Edmund Walsh, who died in that year, desiring to be buried at Tully.

The manners and customs of the time are curiously illustrated in a pardon granted in 1566 to a number of the inhabitants of the neighbourhood. This document recites that William Walsh, of Cork, described as a gentleman, assisted by a kern, had taken from an Irish widow at Glenree a brass pan, two gallons of butter, three sheep, a night gown, two gowns, and a cloak; for which

(¹) Patent Rolls, pp. 81, 249; Joyce's "Short History of Ireland," p. 331.

(²) Plea Roll, 9 Edw. III., m. 10; Memoranda Roll, 6 Henry V.

offence William Walsh had been arrested at Old Connaught by the sub-sheriff. As the latter was bringing his prisoner along the highway to Dublin he was set upon near Shanganagh and his prisoner taken from him by a number of the neighbours, described as gentlemen, yeomen, horsemen and kerns, and including John Walsh of Shanganagh, James Goodman of Loughlinstown, and Edmund Walsh of Cork. The services of these delinquents were too valuable to the Crown to be lost; the offence was treated as a light and trivial one, a free pardon was forthwith issued to all concerned, and almost immediately afterwards two of the principal offenders, John Walsh and James Goodman, were appointed commissioners for the muster of the Militia (1).

On the lands of Old Connaught the Walshes of Shanganagh erected in the seventeenth century a dwelling which is shown by the fact that it had five chimneys, to have been a large house, although the roof was only of thatch, and which was surrounded by an orchard, garden, and grove of ash trees. In it James Walsh, already mentioned as one of the owners of Shanganagh, was residing in 1630, when Archbishop Bulkeley made his report on the Dublin diocese, and in it he maintained, the Archbishop states, several priests and friars. With the exception of fourteen poor labourers all the inhabitants of Old Connaught were Roman Catholics, and for the education of their children Walsh supported in the village a schoolmaster of that faith, one Garret Warren (2). After the rebellion of 1641 the few English settlers were driven away, and the lands within the parish came under the rule of the Confederate party. In depositions made after the rebellion William Pigeon, of Ballyman, relates how, on coming down one day from the old castle which then stood there, he was assaulted "by three score lusty rebels," and forced to flee to Dublin; and Frances Tuke, of Phrompstown, relates that her servants were unable to protect her cattle and goods from the assaults of the insurgents. In the year following the rebellion the neighbouring castle of Fassaroe, in the County Wicklow, was stormed and taken by the English, but the cannon which had been employed were afterwards removed, and subsequently one of the stations occupied by the Confederate troops was Much Bray, which at the close of

(1) Fiant Henry VII., No. 832; Eliz. No. 856; Christ Church Deeds, No. 1391; Wills of Walsh Family.

(2) Fleetwood's Survey; Hearth Money Roll; Archbishop Bulkeley's Report, p. 159.

the sixteenth century had been returned as one of the principal villages near Dublin, and whose owners, the Archbolds, were then stated to be men of name in the county (1).

After the establishment of the Commonwealth the Walshes' property in Old Connaught parish, including the lands of Old Connaught, Cork, and part of Little Bray, was leased to Major Henry Jones, of whom we have seen under Stillorgan, but subsequently came, together with the other lands in the parish, into the possession of John Baxter. The other lands included Ballyman, which at the time of the rebellion belonged to Colonel Ponsonby, and the remainder of Little Bray, which at the time of the rebellion was divided between the Earl of Meath, Viscount Fitzwilliam, and William Wolverston of Stillorgan—the old castle of Little Bray being on the land owned by the last-named. At the close of the Commonwealth period we find on the lands of Phrompstown ten Irish inhabitants, on the lands of Little Bray eleven English and fifteen Irish, on the lands of Old Connaught ten English and sixty-seven Irish, the chief person connected with that place being then Edward Billingsley; and on the lands of Ballyman six English and thirty-one Irish, the chief person connected with that place being Henry Bennett (2).

Some years after the Restoration the Walshes' house at Old Connaught was occupied by John Baxter, and in the village there were thirty-one householders, including "Thomas ye weaver." In Little Bray the Widow Rooney, whose house had two chimneys and two hearths, and Isaac Grey, whose house had two chimneys and one hearth, were the principal householders; and there were eight others, including "William ye carman," and "Thomas ye weaver." In the old castle of Ballyman, which had a thatched roof and two chimneys, William Walsh was residing, and there was near it a small village containing eleven cottages. After the restoration of their property to the Walshes more members of the family appear in the district. In 1665 we find Mrs. Mary Walsh at Cork, and in 1698 Edward Walsh, a brother of John Walsh of Shanganagh, died at Old Connaught House. But about the year 1684 the Walshes' interest in Little Bray was purchased from

(1) Depositions of 1641; Carte Papers, vol. iii., p. 306; Calendar of Irish State Papers, 1633-1647, pp. 540, 710; "The Description of Ireland in 1598," edited by Rev. Edmund Hogan, p. 38.

(2) Crown Rental; Book of Survey and Distribution; Fleetwood's Survey; Census of 1659.

them by Jeremy Donovan, a prominent member of the Irish parliament of James II., and owner of a house in Dublin called "Donovan's Arms" in Back Lane⁽¹⁾.

At the time of the Commonwealth the river of Bray—then described as a fair river called Bray water—was still crossed by a ford, which was "a very difficult pass" after any great rain; but before the close of the seventeenth century a bridge appears to have been erected, and we are told that after the battle of the Boyne James II., on his flight to Waterford, left two troops of horse at Bray to protect the bridge and prevent pursuit. Fifty years later, in 1741, it is mentioned that one end of Bray bridge had been carried away during a great fall of rain, and the other end had been so shaken that it was expected the whole structure would be borne away by the floods. In spite of the increased facility for intercourse the neighbourhood of Bray on the Wicklow side of the river was then looked upon as a disaffected district, and barracks were built near Bray church, in which a company of soldiers was kept until the close of the eighteenth century⁽²⁾.

Residents of importance began to settle in the parish of Old Connaught near Little Bray early in that century. Chief amongst these were Mr. Arthur Bushe, who resided at Cork, and Richard Earl of Anglesey, whose house was near Bray Commons. Mr. Arthur Bushe, who was a collateral ancestor of the famous orator and lawyer, Chief Justice Bushe, was an officer in the revenue department, where he enjoyed the friendship of Sir Robert Southwell, and for many years represented the borough of Thomastown in the Irish Parliament. He was succeeded at Cork by his younger son, the Rev. John Bushe, who was for some years vicar of Bray, and who died in 1746 at Cork⁽³⁾. The Earl of Anglesey was the defendant in the well-known Annesley peerage case, and his life at Bray, as disclosed after his death in proceedings before the House of Lords with regard to fresh claims to his titles, must have been the occasion of great scandal. He resided there a good deal, and we find announcements in 1741 of his organising great rejoicings, and distributing beer amongst the soldiers and other

(1) Hearth Money Roll; Subsidy Rolls; Will of Edmond Walsh; "Commission of Grace," p. 18; Gilbert's "History of Dublin," vol. i., p. 243.

(2) Down Survey Map; Clarke's "Life of James II.," vol. ii., p. 402; Steele's "Notes on Ireland"; Bodleian MS., 18316, p. 5; Bowles' "Geographical Description of Ireland" (London, 1720).

(3) Will of Arthur Bushe; Burtchaell's "Members of Parliament for Kilkenny," p. 94; Southwell Papers, Trinity College, Dublin, MS., 1181; *Dublin Journal*, No. 2030.

residents at Bray, in celebration of the victory of the British arms at Cartagena, and in 1743 of his setting out from Dunleary, where he had landed from England, for his seat at Bray. That Lord Annesley's establishment was considerable may be inferred from the fact that in 1751 as many as 150 dozen of wine were stolen out of his cellars there (1).

The family of Roberts, now represented by Captain Lewis Riall, D.L., appear about the middle of the eighteenth century as owners of the Walshes' property in Old Connaught parish, which, as already mentioned, passed to them with the Walshes' possessions at Shanganagh. The first of the family connected with Old Connaught was Mr. Lewis Roberts. He was the eldest son of the eminent doctor of laws and member of Parliament for Dungarvan, Dr. Robert Roberts, already mentioned as a resident of Monks-town, and was a cousin of Dr. William Roberts, who resided at Coldblow near Donnybrook. They were descended from an ancient Welsh family, of which the father of Dr. William Roberts appears to have been the first member to come to Ireland. After obtaining possession of the Old Connaught property, Mr. Lewis Roberts, although he does not appear to have resided on them, reclaimed the lands, and in 1765 the thanks and gold medal of the Dublin Society were voted to him for preserving some 38,000 forest trees which had been planted at Old Connaught in the previous fifteen years (2). He was succeeded there by his son, Mr. John Roberts, who built Old Conna Hill, and it is through the marriage of Mr. John Roberts' daughter in 1801 to Mr. Charles Riall that the estate has come to its present owner (3).

Towards the close of the eighteenth century, in the year 1776, the Walshes' old residence, Old Connaught House, then occupied by Alderman Willoughby Lightburne, was the scene of a disastrous fire, which entirely consumed the house, although fortunately no lives were lost. Subsequently, in the year 1783, the lands on which the house had stood were purchased by the Right Rev. William Gore, Bishop of Limerick, who rebuilt the residence, but did not live to enjoy it, as his death took place in the following year (4).

(1) "Dictionary of National Biography," vol. ii., p. 7; "Proceedings before the Lords Committees for Privileges upon the claims of the titles of Viscount Valentia," Dublin, 1773; *Pue's Occurrences*, vol., xxxviii., No. 42; vol. xl., No. 71; vol. lx., No. 23; *Dublin Journal*, No. 2520.

(2) *Dublin Society Proceedings*, vol. i., p. 187.

(3) Burke's "Landed Gentry," under Rialls of Old Conna.

(4) *Ershaw's Magazine* for 1776, p. 384; *Dublin Journal*, No. 6808; Will of William, Bishop of Limerick.

Amongst other residents besides Mr. John Roberts we find about this time Sir William Hawkins, Ulster King of Arms, who resided in a house called Bolton Hall, the Right Hon. Theophilus Jones, who resided at Cork, and the Right Hon. John Monck Mason, an uncle of the historian of St. Patrick's Cathedral, and himself an author as well as a politician, who resided at Thornhill (1).

ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY.

WITHIN the parish of Old Connaught there are the remains of two churches, one situated close to the village of Old Connaught and the other standing on the lands of Ballyman. Mr. Eugene O'Curry formed the opinion that others had existed within the parish, but no trace of them is now to be found. Old Connaught



Old Connaught Church—West end.

From a photograph by Mr. Thomas Mason.

Church is a small late oratory thirty-three feet ten inches long and nineteen feet three inches wide externally. The east window has a very flat arched splay badly cracked. There are only small slits

(1) Taylor and Skinner's Map; Lewis's "Dublin Guide," p. 171; "Dictionary of National Biography," vol. xxxvi., p. 433.

in the north and west walls, but in the south wall there are two plain ambries, a small oblong window, and the gap of the defaced door. The west wall is surmounted by a bell chamber. The masonry is poor and late, with many rounded stones. Of Ballyman Church only a fragment stands, consisting of the east and part of the south wall. In the latter there is a window with a lintel made of one of the early tombstones inscribed with concentric markings (1).

Of the history of these churches little is known. Ballyman Church, then called Glenmunder, is twice mentioned after the Anglo-Norman conquest—in 1294 as valued at four marks, and in 1303 as held with the Church of Killegar near the Scalp by Master Richard de Musselwyte, but probably it had fallen into disuse before the Reformation (2). The early history of Old Connaught Church, owing to the extinction of the ancient names in this district, has not as yet been discovered. It first appears under its present name in the regal visitation of 1615, when it was attached to Bray and stated to be in good repair, and it is again mentioned in Archbishop Bulkeley's report in 1630, when it was stated to be in a ruinous state, and only attended by about fourteen poor labourers. Thomas Davis had then charge of the cure, as well as of those of Kiltiernan and Monkstown. During the troublous times that followed the church became unroofed, and does not appear to have been again used for service (3).

(1) "Christian Sepulchral Leases in Dublin Half Barony of Rathdown," by P. J. O'Reilly, in *Journal R.S.A.I.*, vol. xxxi., p. 145.

(2) Christ Church Deeds, No. 150; Plea Roll, 31 Edw. III., m. 1.

(3) Regal Visitation of 1615; Archbishop Bulkeley's Report, p. 159; Visitation Books; Fleetwood's Survey.

Parish of Saggart.

(Formerly called *Tasagart*, i.e., *Teach Sacra* or *Sacra's House*).

This parish appears in the seventeenth century as containing the townlands of Saggart, Newtown, and Coolmine.

It now contains the townlands of Boherboy (i.e., the yellow road), Brownsbarn, Coldwater Commons, Cooldown Commons, Coolmine (i.e., the smooth hill back), Crooksling, Fortunestown, Glenaraneen, Lugg (i.e., the hollow), Moneenalion (i.e., the little bog of the flax) Commons Upper and Lower, Newtown Upper and Lower, Raheen (i.e., the little rath), Saggart, Slade (i.e., the mountain stream).

Amongst the objects of archaeological interest dating from primeval times to be found in this parish are, near the village of Saggart two pillar stones known locally as Adam and Eve ⁽¹⁾; in the townland of Raheen a pillar stone and a cairn known as Rathin bank; in the townland of Glenaraneen a sepulchral mound known as the hungry hill; in the townland of Crooksling a rath known as the place of the kings; and in the townland of Lugg a cairn called the moat of the hill of the burning.

There is also a well called Tobar-na-gcluas, or the ear well, which is supposed to have curative power, and one known as St. Patrick's well.

THE VILLAGE OF SAGGART AND ITS NEIGHBOURHOOD.

PASSING from the parishes on the eastern to those on the western side of Tallaght, the parish of Saggart is next reached. It is bounded to the south and north as well as to the east by the parish of Tallaght, but on the southern side is separated from the Counties of Wicklow and Kildare only by a narrow projecting piece of Tallaght parish. Within its limits are to be found some remains of prehistoric times ⁽²⁾; but the relics of later periods in this parish are few and unimportant, the only one deserving mention being part of a small castle which is incorporated in a modern building in the village ⁽³⁾.

⁽¹⁾ See for a note on these stones, by E. R. M'C. Dix, *Journal R.S.A.I.*, vol. xxix., p. 125.

⁽²⁾ Ordnance Survey Letters in Royal Irish Academy, pp. 53-55.

⁽³⁾ "The Lesser Castles in the County Dublin," by E. R. M'C. Dix, in *The Irish Builder* for 1898, pp. 43, 51.

The village of Saggart, which lies between the villages of Tallaght and Rathcoole, and is approached either from the road from Tallaght to Blessington, or from the great southern highroad near Rathcoole, was situated just within the barrier of the Pale; and the lands of Saggart suffered, equally with those already mentioned in this part of the history, from the war between the Irish tribes and the inhabitants of the Pale. After the Anglo-Norman Conquest, the lands of Saggart, together with those of Newcastle Lyons, Esker, and Crumlin, were retained as Crown property, and became one of the four royal manors now embraced in the barony of Newcastle. Although they bordered on the primeval forests which in 1229 Archbishop Luke was given license to clear, the lands of Saggart were then producing considerable profit, and in 1235 the rental amounted to £75 2s. 4d., which would represent not less than ten times as much in the present day (1).

The lands were leased to middlemen, and towards the close of the thirteenth century we find a number of persons mentioned as paying rent or farm for them to the Crown. A mill at Saggart and the pleas and perquisites of the manor court were also sources of revenue to the royal exchequer. The Court fees were leased like the lands for a fixed yearly sum, and in 1291 two of the Saggart tenants had to find security to keep the peace owing to the opposition which they had offered to the lessee, one Henry de Compton, clerk. The tenants on the royal manors were supposed to be greatly under the dominion of the Crown officials, and on one occasion, in 1290, it is mentioned that the defendant in an action, in which the clerk of the Treasurer of Ireland was plaintiff, challenged the jury on the ground that it was composed of men from the King's demesne of Saggart—conduct which, we are told, the judges saw to be low cunning only worthy of a thief. As in the case of Bray, a leading mercantile family in Dublin took its cognomen from Saggart; in 1282 John and Richard de Tasa-gart were paid for thirteen hogsheads of wine sent to Wales for the King's use, and later on John accounted at Drogheda for duty on wines (2).

The lands of Saggart early felt the effect of the incursions of the Irish tribes, as shown in a recommendation made in 1272 by the

(1) Sweetman's Calendar, 1171-1251, No. 1757; Mills' "Norman Settlement," p. 173.

(2) Sweetman's Calendar, *passim*.

King's serjeant, one Robert Owen, that lands at Saggart "near the land of war" should be exchanged for lands at Newcastle Lyons "near the land of peace." At first, when raids from the Irish tribes were threatened, the Crown carefully guarded its property at Saggart. For the protection of that place we find payments made in 1276 to Geoffrey le Bret of Rathfarnham, and to a man called Garget; in 1277 to Hugh de Cruise, who for his services in the Irish war was afterwards granted the custody of the royal manors; to Wolfran de Barnewall and Reginald Typer; and in 1282 and 1294 to John Riryth, who on the latter occasion guarded, it is said, with an armed force the lands of Saggart and Newcastle Lyons "against the Irish of the mountains of Leinster, felons and rebels." (1)

Amongst the other lands now comprised in the parish of Saggart are those of Coolmine and Newtown. The lands of Coolmine were in the thirteenth century the property of the Bermingham family, but were in 1303 conveyed by Peter, son of James Bermingham, who had purchased the fee from Richard, son of Lord Maurice Bermingham, to Peter Hacket. About twenty years later these lands became the property of St. Patrick's Cathedral, and were assigned by the Dean and Chapter to the Economy Fund, the tenants' interest being conveyed to that establishment by Geoffrey Crump, already mentioned under Old Connaught, and the landlord's interest by Elena le Petit and John Hacket, the widow and son of Peter Hacket. The lands of Newtown, which are completely cut off from the rest of Saggart parish, and form an isolated townland in the parish of Rathcoole, belonged to the Archbishop of Dublin, and constituted the smallest of the manors owned by him. In the accounts kept during the vacancy in the See of Dublin from 1271 to 1277 the receipts from Newtown included, as in the case of the other manors, rents from freeholders, betaghs, and cottagers, and profit from the work of the tenants and from tribute beer, as well as profit from food which the tenants supplied for the Archbishop's seneschal, and from fines paid on the decease of tenants (2).

The reign of fire and sword in the beginning of the fourteenth century reached Saggart as well as other places similarly situated. In the year 1311, on the morrow of St. John the Baptist's day, as

(1) Sweetman's Calendar, 1252-1284, Nos. 930, 1528, pp. 240, 260; 440, 1293-1301, p. 83.

(2) Mason's "History of St. Patrick's Cathedral," p. 76; *Proceedings of the Royal Irish Academy*, vol. v., pp. 154, 162.

we are told, the O'Tooles and O'Byrnes invaded the lands of Saggart and Rathcoole, and although a great army was afterwards sent into their territory to reduce them to obedience, their invasions did not cease for some time. When the survey of the Archbishop of Dublin's property was made in 1326, portion of Newtown was returned as waste and unprofitable, and the work of the tenants was stated to be worth nothing, as the betaghs had all fled; and three years later we find the rent of Coolmine reduced by the Hackets on condition that it was paid punctually whether there was peace or war. In the middle of that century, in the year 1359, there is again mention of raids on Saggart, and, as we have seen under Dundrum, William Fitzwilliam of that place, who was accompanied by one of the Harolds, performed valiant service in rescuing prey which the Irish tribes were carrying off, and in killing five of the King's enemies⁽¹⁾.

Saggart must have been a large village at that time. It was ruled by an official holding the position of a portreeve or sovereign, an office which we find held in 1432 by Richard Aylmer, an ancestor of the Lyons family, and from the fact that a gate, called the common gate, is mentioned in an old deed, was evidently enclosed by walls. The custody of the manor was granted from time to time by the Crown to various persons, but during the fifteenth century the royal manors were greatly neglected, and at the beginning of the sixteenth century the King's lands were stated to be of all others the worst and most wasted. The only events of importance recorded to have occurred at Saggart for the next hundred years are in connection with warfare. In 1535, after the rebellion of Silken Thomas, it was one of the places where war was waged between the forces of the Crown and the Geraldines, who had been granted an interest in the place under the King. Twenty years later, in the reign of Queen Mary, we find four horse soldiers, and the boys by whom they were attended, stationed there. And during the rebellion of Viscount Baltinglas, in 1580, that nobleman, accompanied by Feagh M'Hugh and 500 men, descended on Saggart and burned that village, and afterwards such buildings as stood on the lands of Coolmine⁽²⁾.

(1) Calendar of Carew Manuscripts, Book of Howth, p. 128; "Liber Niger," p. 733; Mason's "History of St. Patrick's Cathedral," p. 75; Patent Rolls, p. 66.

(2) Lodge's "Peerage of Ireland," edited by Mervyn Archdall, vol. viii., p. 44; Calendar Patent Rolls, James I., p. 265; State Papers, Henry VIII., vol. iii., p. 279; Letters and Papers of Henry VIII., vol. viii., No. 382; Calendar of Irish State Papers, 1509-1573, p. 153; 1574-1585, p. 253.



View in the Dublin Mountains in 1795.
From a plate by F. Jukes.

At the close of that century the men of name in Saggart included the Dens, who appear first as residents at Saggart in the reign of Queen Mary, the Founts, and the Prestons; and earlier in that century we catch a glimpse of less important inhabitants in a pardon granted to an Irish kern and a tanner of Saggart for respectively stealing and receiving two brass pots. Amongst the owners of property in Saggart we find the Handcocks, who were prominent citizens of Dublin; and in the reign of James I. Sir Andrew Savage and Sir Henry Ffolliott were granted property there, some of which had been forfeited by one Edward Byrne. The lands of Coolmine, on which there was a castle and which comprised some 250 acres, were then held under St. Patrick's Cathedral by John Allen, to whom a long lease of them had been granted at a rent of £2 a year—a proceeding which caused Dean Swift to characterise the grantors as rascals, knaves, and fools⁽¹⁾.

After the rebellion of 1641, the manor of Saggart, which had been granted in 1620 to Sir William Parsons, already mentioned as obtaining much property in the neighbourhood, and the other lands now comprised in Saggart parish were for a time completely under the dominion of the Irish party. Some of the residents, including a yeoman called Anthony Jenkinson, who sustained great loss, were obliged to leave; and others, including James Allen of Coolmine, and George Graham of Saggart, joined the Irish forces. In the January following the outbreak of the rebellion, the Irish sent 500 men to Saggart and Rathcoole, but they were soon marched off to Drogheda, and before the close of that month the village was burned by a party of 200 horse under the command of Sir Thomas Armstrong, as he afterwards became, who were sent out from Dublin by the Government to deprive the Irish of these places of refuge⁽²⁾.

Before the Restoration the village had recovered some measure of prosperity. It was then stated to contain two castles in repair, and the remains of another castle, as well as some thatched houses and cabins. The soil in the parish was then considered good, except in the southern part of the parish, where it was stated to

(1) "The Description of Ireland in 1598," edited by Rev. Edmund Hogan; Exchequer Inquisition, Philip and Mary, Co. Dublin, No. 17; Edward VI., No. 4; James I., No. 132; Fiant Edward VI., No. 472; Calendar of Patent Rolls, James I., pp. 95, 265; Mason's "History of St. Patrick's Cathedral," pp. 75, 174; Calendar of Irish State Papers, 1606-1608, p. 56.

(2) Calendar of Irish State Papers, 1615-1625, p. 299; Depositions of 1641; Carte Papers, vol. lxxiii., p. 403. †

be coarse and mountainous. The residents in the village and on the lands of Saggart numbered eighteen of English and fifty-eight of Irish descent, inhabiting thirty-one houses, while on the lands of Newtown there were four houses, and on the lands of Coolmine the same number. Throughout the remainder of that century, and in the following century, the Dens continued to be the principal inhabitants in Saggart. In 1682 Thomas Den was given the right of holding a weekly market and three yearly fairs there, and in 1705 John Den, and in 1741 Philip Den, died there (1).

Saggart was visited in the summer of 1780 by Austin Cooper, and is described by him as a small village. He expresses much admiration of the adjoining glen, and mentions that the stream which flows through it was artificial, and was originally brought from Aghfarrel in Tallaght parish to supply power for powder mills. Besides some ruins of the ancient church which were then to be seen, the only object of antiquarian interest was the castle, which was then covered, as it is in the present day, by modern plaster (2).

ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY.

SAGGART was in Celtic times the site of a monastery, and derives its name from St. Sacer or Mo Sacra, the founder or first abbot of that establishment, whose festival is celebrated on March 3rd. A church dedicated to him stood upon the lands, and after the Anglo-Norman Conquest, when Saggart became a royal manor, this church was served by a cleric known as the King's clerk. In 1207 an enquiry was directed to ascertain what lands appertained to the churches of Saggart and Esker and belonged to Bartholomew the King's clerk, and it was ordered that if any houses belonging to the King had been built on them an exchange should be made. Subsequently Saggart, or Tasagart, as it was then called, became a prebend in the Cathedral of St. Patrick. At that time there were two chapels within the limits of the parish subservient to the parent church. One of these was on the lands of Newtown, of which remains, including a font, were found in 1837 by Mr. Eugene O'Curry. Its site is marked on the Ordnance map as a graveyard. The other known as Simon Tallaght was on the lands of Coolmine; its site is also marked on the Ordnance map near what is described as

(1) Down Survey Map; Census of 1659; Hearth Money Roll; D'Alton's "History of the County Dublin," p. 724; Wills of the Den family.

(2) Cooper's Note Book.

the site of a monastery. Of the parent church there is no further record until the reign of Edward VI., when on the dissolution of the Cathedral the prebend of Tasagart, "with the parson's croft," was leased to Archbishop Browne. At the time of the regal visitation of 1615 the church was stated to be in good repair and provided with books, and was then served by the prebendary, the Rev. Roger Danby, "a very sufficient preacher," and his curate, the Rev. Emanuel Bullock. Fifteen years later the church is stated to have fallen down, and the Protestant parishioners, who then numbered about thirty, attended Rathcoole church. The prebend, which was held by the Dean of Kildare, William Cleburne, was valued at £30 per annum, and although there was no church in which to hold service, the prebendary appointed curates to serve the parish. In 1630 the Rev. Robert Jones, the Vicar of Lucan, is returned as the curate, and from 1639 to 1647 the Rev. John Heath, the curate of Crumlin, was in charge. From that time the history of the Established Church in the parish merges in that of Rathcoole, and there is only the site of the church, near which a font was found, now to be seen (¹).

Saggart was joined with Newcastle in the seventeenth century by the Roman Catholic Church for the purposes of administration. In the reign of Queen Mary the prebend had been held by the well-known Archbishop Dowdall, and doubtless from that time Roman Catholic clergy had been appointed to the parish; but it is not for more than a century that the names of the parish priests can be found. Since then the succession is complete, and is as follows:—1670, Rev. William (Canon) Brett; 1714, Rev. Richard (Canon) Purfield; 1730, Rev. Dr. James (Canon) O'Toole; 1760, Rev. Simon Barlow; 1794, Rev. James Harold, who was arrested in 1798, tried by court-martial, and transported to Botany Bay; 1798, Rev. Laurence Byrne; 1810, Rev. Andrew Hart; 1815, Rev. James Campbell; 1832, Rev. John Dunn; 1853, Rev. Christopher (Canon) Burke; 1873, Rev. Thomas M'Cormack; 1876, Rev. Michael Barry; 1884, Rev. James Hunt; 1887, Rev. Michael Walsh; and 1896, Rev. Richard Duggan, the present parish priest.

(¹) O'Hanlon's "Lives of the Irish Saints," vol. iii., p. 99; Sweetman's Calendar, 1171-1251, p. 47; Mason's "History of St. Patrick's Cathedral," p. 59; Ordnance Survey Letters in Royal Irish Academy, pp. 80, 81; Fiant Edward VI., No. 35; Regal Visitation of 1615; Archbishop Bulkeley's Report, p. 153; Visitation Books.

Parish of Rathcoole

(*i.e.*, *Cumhall's Rath*).

This parish is returned in the seventeenth century as containing the townlands of Rathcoole, Westmanstown, Johnstown, The College, Rathereedan, and Calliaghstown.

It now contains the townlands of Badgerhill, Ballynakelly (*i.e.*, the town of the wood), Calliaghstown (*i.e.*, the town of the nuns) Upper and Lower, Carrigeen (*i.e.*, the rocky land), Collegeland, Commons, Crockaunadreenagh (*i.e.*, the little hill of the black thorns), Crockshane (*i.e.*, John's hill), Farmersvale, Glebe, Greenoge (*i.e.*, the little sunny spot), Johnstown, Keatingspark, Rathcoole, Rathereedan (*i.e.*, Creedon's rath), Redgap, Slademoore (*i.e.*, the great slade or mountain stream), Slievethoul (*i.e.*, Tnathal's or Toole's mountain), Tootenhill (*i.e.*, the burnt hill), and Westmanstown.

The Hill of Saggart, or Slievethoul, is within the parish.

Amongst many objects of archaeological interest dating from primeval times to be found in the townlands of Crockaunadreenagh and Slievethoul are cairns called Knockaniller, or the mount of the eagle, and Knockandimny, or the mount of the man ; and a sepulchral mound called the hill of the herd boy.

There are wells known as St. Catherine's well and St. Bridget's well.

THE VILLAGE OF RATHCOOLE AND ITS NEIGHBOURHOOD.

THE village of Rathcoole, which was the first stage on the coach road from Dublin to the south of Ireland, and which lies in one of the most important hunting districts near Dublin, is the centre of a parish called by the same name, which extends from the parish of Clondalkin to the County Wicklow, and is bounded to the east by the parish of Saggart. Besides the village, the only place of interest in the parish of Rathcoole is now Johnstown House, the seat of Sir John Charles Kennedy, Bart., but the townlands of Calliaghstown, or the town of the nuns, which belonged to the Convent of St. Mary de Hogges, already mentioned as owner of the lands of Rathgar, and Rathereedan, on which was a residence of the Scurlock family, have a forgotten history.

Rathcoole is supposed to derive its name from having been the site of a rath constructed by the father of Fionn Mac Cumhall, the

Ossianic hero referred to in connection with Glenasmole, and Mr. O'Curry, when making his explorations for the Ordnance Survey, found near the village what he believed to be remains of a rath (1). After the Anglo-Norman Conquest, the lands of Rathcoole appear as the property of the Metropolitan See, and in the thirteenth century they formed one of the smaller manors belonging to the Archbishop of Dublin. No house of importance then stood upon them, and the principal building was a water mill. Besides the receipts for rents and profits such as have already been mentioned in connection with the manors of Tallaght and Shankill, there appear in the account for the manor of Rathcoole during the vacancy in the See after the death of Archbishop Fulk de Saunford, profits from the wardship of an Irishman called Meldiric, and from land belonging to one Joseph Aubry. A great portion of the lands within Rathcoole manor was under grass, and amongst the lands mentioned within it are the water meadows, the grenouille mead or frog meadow, the middle and north flagges or rushy lands, the midway, the haggard, the curragh, and the ox close, as well as common pasture on the mountain of Slievethoul. Amongst the inhabitants towards the close of the thirteenth century we find members of the family of Marshall, and members of another which took its cognomen from the Rath.

The manor of Rathcoole does not appear to have suffered so much as other manors to the south of Dublin from the incursions of the Irish tribes at the time of the Bruce invasion; but a considerable extent of the lands is returned in 1326 as worth nothing from proximity to the Irish, or from being actually in the Irish territory, or from want of stock. Amongst the unprofitable lands was mountain pasture, called Stacheloch, which was then held by the Priory of the Holy Trinity. As in other manors, the betaghs fled from Rathcoole at that time, but the free tenants remained, and the water-mill, markets, and seneschal's court were all returned as sources of profit (2).

The village of Rathcoole, which was ruled like Saggart by a portreeve or provost, became in the succeeding centuries a place of considerable importance, and contained several fortified houses.

(1) See Joyce's "Irish Place Names," p. 85; Ordnance Survey Letters in Royal Irish Academy, p. 90a.

(2) Sweetman's Calendar, 1171-1251, No. 1787; 1252-1264, p. 391; 1293-1301, p. 333; Christ Church Deeds, Nos. 220, 231; Proceedings of the Royal Irish Academy, vol. v., pp. 154, 161, 162; "Liber Niger," p. 733.

At the beginning of the sixteenth century, in 1510, a legal document is dated at Rathcoole, probably by a travelling legal official; in 1549 a pardon was granted to three inhabitants of the name of Power, described respectively as a gentleman, a horseman, and a horsekeeper; and in 1558 a soldier living at Rathcoole was pardoned for the murder of John Mey, a husbandman of Kilmactalway. Amongst owners of property in the village we find the Vicars Choral of St. Patrick's Cathedral, whose property on the dissolution of the Cathedral was leased to James Bathe of Drimnagh; the FitzGerald's; and the Darlases of Maynooth. The lands of Calliaghstown, after the dissolution of the Convent of St. Mary de Hogges, were retained by the Crown in its own hands, and in 1552 proceedings were taken by the Crown against Reginald Talbot of Belgard and others for grazing cattle, on the lands of Nunscoot, as Calliaghstown was then called (1).

The first of the Scurlocks who appears as resident at Rathcreedan is Thomas Scurlock, who is described about the year 1470 as of that place; and nearly a hundred years later we find the lands in the possession of the heir of Nicholas Scurlock, lately deceased. Towards the close of that century Rathcreedan was in possession of Martin Scurlock, who was returned amongst the men of name in the county, and owned as well as Rathcreedan property at Castleknock and in other places. To him, on his death in 1599, succeeded his son Patrick, who was then only a child of eight years old. As an owner of property the boy became a ward of the Crown, and although his mother was alive, the guardianship of his person was committed to one Pierce Edmonds. In the directions for the boy's education advantage was taken of the newly founded College of the Holy Trinity near Dublin, and it was prescribed that the boy should be educated from his twelfth to his eighteenth year "in the English religion, and in the English apparel," in Trinity College (2).

During the rebellion of Viscount Baltinglas in 1580 the Irish, under Feagh M'Hugh, burned Rathcoole at the same time as Saggart and Coolmine. The soldiers, who were ordered to assemble

(1) Christ Church Deed, No. 328; Fiaints Edward VI., Nos. 38, 343; Philip and Mary, No. 268; Memoranda Roll, 6 Edward VI.; Chancery Decree, Philip and Mary, No. 57; Monek Mason's Manuscripts in the British Museum, Egerton 1773, f. 175.

(2) Memoranda Rolls, 10 and 12 Edward IV.; Fiaints Elizabeth, Nos. 845, 6321; Exchequer Inquisition, Elizabeth, No. 164; "The Description of Ireland in 1598," edited by Rev. Edmund Hogan.

at Belgard in that year, were drawn from Rathcoole, and their defenceless families are said to have been picked out for slaughter. The Master of the Rolls, Nicholas Whyte, was active in trying to save the village, but his efforts were without avail. Nearly twenty years later, in 1596, Rathcoole again suffered in the war with the Irish, and the Auditor of Ireland, Christopher Peyton, who then owned the village, writes that "his poor town lay waste and unmanned, being pillaged by the rebels and burnt by the soldiers." (1)



Rathcoole.

From a photograph by Mr. Thomas Mason.

In the rebellion of 1641 Rathcoole was a stronghold of the Irish. The Lords Justices, when transmitting to England in December the alarming intelligence that the rebels of the County Dublin had spoiled all the English even to the gates of Dublin, and that the rebels of the County Wicklow had assembled at Powerscourt to the number of about 1,500, mentioned that Rathcoole was garrisoned by the Irish forces. From a deposition made subsequently by the portreeve, Richard Crofts, it appears that almost all the inhabitants joined the Irish. Chief amongst them were the family of Scurlock, then represented by Patrick Scurlock, who was M.P. for Newcastle, and his sons Thomas and Martin, and a family called Hetherington; and amongst the others were three persons, including the parish clerk, "who had turned since this rebellion," Crofts says, "from the Protestant religion unto Mass, and were then likewise

(1) Calendar of Irish State Papers, 1574-1585, pp. 263, 265, 269, 274; 1596-1597, pp. 150, 233.

out in actual rebellion." These statements were corroborated in other depositions made by Digory Cory, one of the churchwardens, and a widow called Honor Pooley (1).

Although the Irish force at Rathcoole, as mentioned under Saggart, was somewhat depleted in the following January, Sir Thomas Armstrong, on coming there at the end of the month, encountered in the village some 2,000 of the enemy, and was forced to retire with his troops on to the open highway on the Dublin side of the village. There, however, the soldiers, "having liberty of ground," charged the enemy, "slaying some of them, riding down others, and routing all." The victory was considered only a moderate one, as Armstrong was not in a position to follow it up; but some fifty of the Irish were slain, including a Captain Lee, who was said to be a son-in-law of Lady Carbery. Three months later, towards the end of the month of April, the residents of Rathcoole, headed by the Scurlocks and the Hetheringtons, attacked, about half a mile on the Dublin side of Rathcoole, some Englishmen, with their wives and families, who were being sent by the well-known James Touchet, Earl of Castlehaven, from his house, Maddenstown, in the County Kildare, to Dublin for protection. These Englishmen were supposed to be in charge of four waggons laden with wool, but the insurgents saw through the disguise. The Earl of Castlehaven's brother, Colonel Mervyn Touchet, who was in charge of the party, only escaped by the goodness of his horse, and the insurgents killed four of the party and wounded three others, before they were interrupted by a son of Sir Walter Dungan, who compelled them to bring the remainder of the party with the waggons to his father's castle at Celbridge.

A few days later the Earl of Ormonde sent out a troop from Dublin to avenge the outrage, and at Rathcoole this troop was joined by some dragoons under the command of Sir Arthur Loftus, the Governor of Naas. The inhabitants on their approach fled to a neighbouring hill, which was covered with furze, and the soldiers, having surrounded this hill, exacted terrible retribution for the murders which had been committed by setting the furze on fire, and by burning and killing all, men, women, and children, who had taken refuge upon the hill. About this time Sir William Parsons, who knew the neighbourhood well, drew the attention of

(1) Carte Papers, vol. lxviii., f. 385; Depositions of 1641.

the Earl of Ormonde to the protection afforded to the rebels by the castle at Rathcreedan and a mill close to it. He mentions that the insurgents had issued out of them, seized cattle which were being brought from Naas to Dublin, and had killed three of the men in charge; and begs Ormonde to send some horse from Leixlip to burn and ruin those places, as "they were very offensive." (1)

Subsequently a garrison was placed by the Government at Rathcoole, and in 1648 we find stationed there Captain Sir Thomas Wharton, Lieutenant Thomas Chambers, Ensign Gilbert Nicholson, seven non-commissioned officers, and fifty-three soldiers. Under their protection the village became a thriving one, and in the time of the Commonwealth it is stated to have contained many good habitable houses and cabins, as well as two old castles. The Scurlock's castle at Rathcreedan had been demolished, but there still remained at that place the mill and a chapel in good repair. On Calliaghstown there were no buildings. About the time of the Restoration the inhabitants included thirty persons of English and 123 persons of Irish descent, and the town was still under the rule of a portreeve, James Willion then holding that position. From the Hearth Money Return it appears that Rathcoole was then the most important of the surrounding villages. The principal resident in the parish was Mr. Matthew Barry, a cousin of the illustrious James Barry, 1st Baron of Santry, then Chief Justice of the King's Bench. Mr. Barry was himself a Government official, and is said to have lived to the remarkable age of 105 years. His house was rated as containing three hearths. Amongst the other houses we find one of five hearths inhabited by Thomas Robinson, one of four inhabited by John Robinson, one of three inhabited by Moses Reyly, and seven houses of two inhabited respectively by the Rev. Edward Lovelace, Charles Eaton, Henry Murphy, James Reyly, David Lawler, William Lawless, and John Walsh, besides forty-one cottages of one hearth each. Rathcreedan was then in possession of Richard Harvey and his son Simon, and Calliaghstown of Oliver FitzGerald, who had succeeded a foreigner known as Hermon Miller (2).

(1) Trinity College Library MS., F. 2. 11: "The Earl of Castlehaven's Memoirs," p. 31: Depositions of 1641 (Richard Paget and Oliver Symmes); Carte Papers, vol. iii., f. 106.

(2) Trinity College Library MS., F. 3. 18; Down Survey Map; Census of 1659; Hearth Money Roll; Adam's "History of Santry and Cloghran," p. 98.

Until the ancestors of Sir John Kennedy settled near Rathcoole there was in the eighteenth century no residence of importance in the parish. During the first half of that century, when a grandson of Mr. Matthew Barry, Mr. Clement Barry, was the principal resident, the only references of interest to Rathcoole are in connection with its position on the southern high road. At Rathcoole the eccentric John Dunton, when on his way in 1868 to sell his books at Kilkenny, mentions that he had refreshment—a bottle of cider—as he and his companions thought “a pot in their pates a mile on the way,” and speaks of the place as a little town. Thirty years later a famous traveller, John Loveday, passed through it, and observed that the road was then a very fine made way of considerable breadth, with only one turnpike between Dublin and Naas, at which to his surprise no more than a halfpenny a horse was charged. He speaks of the great poverty of the inhabitants, and mentions that wretched cabins made of mud and thatched with straw were to be found even in the immediate neighbourhood of the metropolis. This continued to be the case all through that century, and in 1779 Philip Luckombe, when making his tour through Ireland, says that the village of Rathcoole was mostly composed of clay huts awkwardly built and irregularly disposed. Accommodation for travellers was, however, not neglected, and in 1789 there was a very good inn in the village kept by a Mr. Leedom (1).

About the middle of the eighteenth century a large house, now used as the rectory, was erected at Rathcoole for the accommodation of one of the schools founded by the Mercer family. Austin Cooper, who visited the village in the summer of 1780, speaks of it as a handsome house, and says there was on the gates the following inscription:—“Mrs. Mercer’s Alms House for Poor Girls. 1744.” At the same time Cooper visited Rathcreedan, where he found some remains of the Scurlocks’ Castle and of their mill, and also the place called the College, where he found remains of a large farm establishment, and was told that the name arose from its being part of the Archbishop of Dublin’s property (2).

(1) Dunton’s “Dublin Scuffle,” p. 386; Loveday’s “Diary of a Tour in 1732,” published by the Roxburghe Society, p. 28; Luckombe’s “Tour through Ireland,” p. 51; Lewis’ “Dublin Guide,” p. 225.

(2) Cooper’s Note Book.

ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY.

THE present church of Rathcoole, which was built about one hundred and seventy years ago, possesses no architectural features of interest. It occupies the site of a church (of the foundation of which nothing is known), which was assigned in the thirteenth century to the Dean of St. Patrick's Cathedral as portion of his corps, and became a chapel subservient to his church at Clondalkin. Within the limits of the present parish there was then also another church, the site of which was discovered in 1837 by Mr. Eugene O'Curry, on the lands of Calliaghstown belonging to the Convent of St. Mary de Hogges. At the commencement of the seventeenth century Rathcoole and Calliaghstown were accounted separate parishes. In Rathcoole the nave of the church was in good repair, although the chancel was in ruins. In 1615 the Vicar was the Rev. Emanuel Bullock, already referred to under Saggart, who was stated to be a graduate and a reading minister; and in 1630 the Rev. John Hughes, who employed as his curate the Rev. Robert Jones, mentioned also under Saggart. In Calliaghstown the church was ruinous, and had been so for thirty years. The tithes were inappropriate in the hands of the executor of Sir Richard Greame, knight, and were farmed by him to Mr. FitzSimon of the Grange, who had swallowed up the vicarage. The Rev. Robert Jones had also charge of this parish, for which he received only twenty-five shillings a year, and all the parishioners were stated to be recusants (!).

Amongst the subsequent Vicars of Rathcoole we find in 1639 the Rev. Christopher Cardiffe, in 1645 the Rev. Henry Birch, in 1662 the Rev. Edward Lovelace, in 1674 the Rev. William Williamson, prebendary of Kilmaclutway; in 1703 the Rev. Thomas Theaker, prebendary of Tasagart; in 1714 the Rev. Edward Drury, prebendary of Tasagart, in whose time the present church was built; in 1737 the Rev. Roger Ford, prebendary of Tasagart, who had as his curate in 1737 the Rev. Coote Mitchell, and in 1752 the Rev. William Ford; in 1756 the Rev. George Phillips, prebendary of Tasagart; in 1770 the Rev. William Blachford, prebendary of Tasagart; in 1771 the Rev. Joseph Elwood, in 1804 the Rev. and Hon. Richard Ponsonby, in 1806 the Rev. Theophilus Blakeley, in 1806 the Rev. Thomas Hayden, in 1856 the Rev. William Johnson Thornhill, prebendary of Tasagart; and in 1888 the Rev. William Francis L. Shea.

(1) Mason's "History of St. Patrick's," p. 27; Ordnance Survey Letters in the Royal Irish Academy, p. 80; "Crede Mihi," edited by Sir John Gilbert, p. 137; Regal Visitation, 1615; Archbishop Bulkeley's Report, p. 154; Parliamentary Returns in Public Record Office; Visitation Books.



The East Window of Newcastle Church.
From a photograph by Mr. Thomas J. Westropp.

Parish of Newcastle.



This parish is returned in the seventeenth century as containing the townlands of Newcastle, Colmanstown, Athgoe, Tobberbirde, Colganstown, Hazlelatch, Loughtown, and Banshee.

It now contains the townlands of Athgoe (*i.e.*, the smith's ford), Athgoe North and South, Banshee (*i.e.*, the hill of the fairies), Bustyhill, Castlewarden, Colganstown (*i.e.*, the town of Colgan), Colmanstown (*i.e.*, the town of Colman), Commons, Commons Little, Cornerpark, Glebe, Hazlelatch (*i.e.*, the hazel enclosure), Highdownhill, Hynestown (*i.e.*, the town of Hynes), Keeloges (*i.e.*, the narrow plots), Lyons, Newcastle Demesne and Farm, Newcastle North and South, Peamount, Ringwood, Skeagh (*i.e.*, the thorn bush), Steelstown, and Windmillhill.

The following are the objects of archaeological interest in the parish :—The church of Newcastle, and the castles of Athgoe and Colmanstown.



NEWCASTLE LYONS.

THE village of Newcastle is the centre of a parish called by that name which lies to the west of the parish of Rathcoole, and forms the south-western corner of the County Dublin. It was originally a fortified town, and at the beginning of the seventeenth century was chosen to be one of the two parliamentary boroughs then incorporated in the metropolitan county. To the superficial observer there is now nothing in the village to denote its former importance; but those who examine more carefully will find remains of a mediæval church of architectural pretensions such as are rarely to be found in the diocese of Dublin, and also remains of two castles in the village, as well as of castles on the adjoining lands of Athgoe and Colmanstown⁽¹⁾.

At the time of the Anglo-Norman Conquest, the lands of Newcastle, which became after that event a royal manor, and which probably owed their name to a fortified building erected on them by the invaders, were included, with the other lands to the south

⁽¹⁾ See "The Lesser Castles of the County Dublin," by E. R. M'C. Dix in *The Irish Builder* for 1898, pp. 72, 85.

of Dublin, in the territory over which the chiefs known as MacGillamochoilmog ruled. The lands of Newcastle adjoined or formed part of a district called in early charters *Lymerhin*—a name possibly derived from some ancient designation of which *Lyons* or *Leuan*, as it used to be spelled, is another corrupt form. This district of *Lymerhin*, together with fifteen carucates in the vale of Dublin and a burgage in Dublin, was granted after the Conquest to the MacGillamochoilmog of that time, and was again granted by King John in 1207 to MacGillamochoilmog's sons, Dermot and Roderic. To these sons King John, in order probably to compensate them for lands taken for the new castle, and to draw them away from a district where they seemed too powerful, had previously given a cantred in the County Limerick, but this grant was revoked on the restoration to them of their father's lands, which was due possibly to the fact that they were not able to establish themselves in Limerick, and that they were found not to be dangerous in their own land. At a later period, in the year 1215, we find the lands of *Kilmactalway*, which formed portion of *Lymerhin*, and were then in possession of the last MacGillamochoilmog's grandson, John son of Dermot, taken for the improvement of the royal manor of Newcastle⁽¹⁾.

During the early part of the thirteenth century the manor of Newcastle was held under the Crown by middlemen, and in 1221, although the other royal manors were then ordered to be taken into the King's own hands, a new lease was made of Newcastle. The lessee was John de St. John, who became Bishop of Ferns and Treasurer of Ireland, and who has left a high reputation as being a worthy prelate and a benefactor of the Church. He appears to have been an improving tenant, for in 1228, when the Crown contemplated taking Newcastle from him, the King ordered that the Bishop, in addition to being allowed the corn crops then in the ground, should be compensated in money for repairing the houses on the manor. Although the Bishop held the manor for some years longer, it was ultimately taken into the King's hands. In 1232 we find its custody committed to one Peter de Revell, and in 1235 the Crown receipts from Newcastle, which included, besides rents and profits from the seneschal's court and mill, considerable revenue from the sale of corn, wool, cheese, sheepskins, and ox hides, show that the demesne lands were being farmed by the

(2) Mills' "Norman Settlement," p. 162; Gilbert's "History of Dublin," vol. i., p. 233; Sweetman's Calendar, 1171-1251, No. 569; Charter 9 John, m. 5; Chartularies of St. Mary's Abbey, vol. i., p. 33.

Crown itself. In the latter year, however, the King directed the Justiciary of Ireland to lease the manor of Newcastle at as high a rent as possible to a middleman, inasmuch as more profit would thus accrue, and later on, in 1260, we find the tenants complaining of the oppression which they suffered under the farmers or middlemen (1).

Towards the close of the thirteenth century the lands of Newcastle were considered, as we have seen, to be in the land of peace, and probably did not suffer in the following century to so great a degree as the lands already treated of from the incursions of the Irish tribes. Their security may be attributed not only to their situation in being further away from the mountainous country of Wicklow, but also to the fact that the town of Newcastle was fortified and guarded with care by an official known as the castellan. Of the inhabitants of Newcastle in that period some information is to be obtained from the Crown accounts. Besides residents of Anglo-Norman, English, and Welsh descent, such as Walter le White, sometimes described as of Athgoe; Yerward the Welshman, also described as of Athgoe; and Elias of Winchester, we find persons of purely Irish birth occupying responsible positions. One of these, William son of Donald, who was granted liberty in 1292 to use English laws, was Clerk of Newcastle; and another, Roger of Newcastle, who was given in 1303 a similar license on account of the good services rendered by his son in the Scottish wars, was an agent of the Archbishop of Dublin. At Newcastle, as at Saggart, Henry de Compton, the lessee in 1291 of the seneschal's court, encountered opposition, and two of the Newcastle inhabitants, Master Maurice and Hugh Godiman, had to find pledges to keep the peace towards him. The Crown occasionally alienated portions of the manor, which embraced lands within the County Kildare. In 1280 a large tract of over three carucates was thus given to the See of Killaloe in exchange for lands at Roscrea, and in 1291 Henry le Marshall, a citizen and merchant of Dublin, whom the royal family regarded with much favour, was enfeoffed in land which he held within the manor in a place known as the rath, inasmuch as the King desired to gratify him, and as buildings which he intended to erect would tend to the security of the neighbouring country (2).

(1) Sweetman's Calendar, 1171-1251, Nos. 998, 1021, 1121, 1598, 1982, 2254; 1252-1284, No. 658; Cotton's "Fasti Ecclesiæ Hibernicæ," vol. ii., p. 332 Mills' "Norman Settlement," p. 173.

(2) "Liber Niger," p. 755; Sweetman's Calendar, 1251-1307, *passim*.

A century later we find a castle, or chief residence, at Newcastle in the occupation of one William Carrick, and a castle, to which a hall was attached, and round which there were orchards and parks, in occupation of a family called Russell. William Carrick, whose possessions included a sword, a doublet of defence, and a hauberk, was evidently a soldier, and in his will, which was made in 1475, he mentions that he had only lately become owner of his castle at Newcastle, which had formerly belonged to one Alson Perys. Amongst the legatees appear two families, those of Clinch and Reynolds, which became much identified with Newcastle. To Richard Clinch and Joan Clinch, married woman of Colmanstown, Carrick left a remainder in his property in the event of the death of his only daughter and child without children, and to Richard Reynolds he left land bounded by the King's highway and the black grove. The Russell property in the early part of the sixteenth century was in possession of Nicholas Russell, and passed from him into possession of his son and heir, John Russell, who was in Holy Orders and Prior of the Minor Canons of St. Patrick's Cathedral. The latter by his will, which was made in 1546, bequeathed a charge on the property to the Cathedral, and this bequest gave rise to prolonged litigation between the Cathedral authorities and his relations⁽¹⁾.

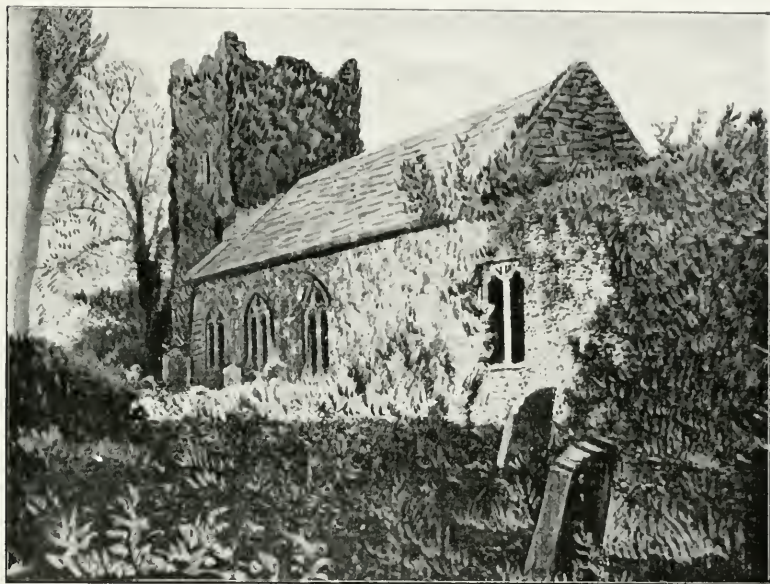
The importance of the town of Newcastle, which is said to have contained no less than six castles, in the sixteenth century is indicated by the fact that the chief magistrate—known there, as in Saggart and Rathcoole, under the name of portreeve—was ordered to contribute in 1566 one mounted archer, and in 1593 two mounted archers to the army. In the early part of that century the Earls of Kildare held, under the Crown, property in Newcastle and Athgoe, and Newcastle was one of the places where a garrison was stationed after the rebellion of Silken Thomas. An occasional glimpse of the inhabitants is to be obtained in pardons granted by the Crown; in 1552 an Irishman, a shoemaker, was murdered on the lands of Colmanstown by one Patrick Ennose, a smith of Celbridge, and in 1562 thirteen cows, the property of William Clinch of Newcastle, were stolen from him by a gallowglass⁽²⁾.

The Lockes of Athgoe and Colmanstown, whose representative in a female line still owns those places, and from whom, also in a

⁽¹⁾ Berry's Register of Wills, 1457-1483, p. 105; Exchequer Inquisition, Elizabeth, co. Dublin, No. 220.

⁽²⁾ Haliday Manuscripts published by Historical Manuscripts Commission; Trinity College Library MS., F. 1. 18, p. 177; Calendar of Carew State Papers, 1515-1574, pp. 63, 131; Faints Edward VI., No. 1028; Eliz., No. 444.

female line, the late Right Hon. John Naish, sometime Lord Chancellor of Ireland, was descended, are first mentioned in connection with the neighbourhood in the middle of the sixteenth century in a will made by Nicholas Clinch of Newcastle. In this will, which was proved in 1559, Nicholas Clinch, after bequeathing his soul to God, the Virgin Mary, and All the Saints, and mentioning amongst others the Aylmers of Lyons, appoints his wife Isabel Locke to be tutor of his children, and refers to his relative, William



Newcastle Church.

From a photograph by Mr. Thomas Mason.

Locke. A castle stood doubtless at that time upon the lands of Colmanstown, in which the Locke family then resided, and soon afterwards they undertook the erection of a castle on the lands of Athgoe. This castle still remains, and bears an inscription showing that it was built in 1579 by William Locke and his wife Katherine, daughter of William Allen, a member of the family seated at St. Wolstans, in the County Kildare. To William Locke succeeded Patrick Locke, who married one of the Sarsfields of Lucan, and who died in 1635 when living at Colmanstown, desiring in his will to be buried in the church of Newcastle, "the burial place of his ancestors." ⁽¹⁾

⁽¹⁾ Burke's "Landed Gentry of Ireland," edition 1904, under O'Carroll of Athgoe Park; Wills of Nicholas Clinch and Patrick Locke; *Journal of the County Kildare Archaeological Society*, vol. ii., p. 390.

At the opening of the seventeenth century Newcastle was considered to be one of the best villages in the County Dublin, and in 1608 license to hold there a weekly market and two fairs each year on the feasts of St. Swithin and All Saints were granted by James I. to his favourite, James Hamilton, afterwards Viscount Clandeboyne. At Newcastle courts for the taking of inquisitions were occasionally held, one of them in 1594 being presided over by Richard Boyle, afterwards Earl of Cork, but then only an humble legal official, and in 1603 a garrison of ten men was placed there. The representatives of the families of Locke, Clinch, Reynolds, and Russell, then resident at Athgoe and Newcastle, are mentioned amongst the men of name in the county at the close of the sixteenth century, and we find members of the Locke and Clinch family serving in the army, as well as members of a family called Rutledge, connected with them by marriage, which was also resident at Newcastle ⁽¹⁾.

The greatest event in the history of Newcastle is the incorporation of the town in the year 1612 as a parliamentary borough. On August 12th in that year one of the Stanyhursts, in a letter dated from Newcastle, sends to the Lord Deputy, Sir Arthur Chichester, the names of the thirteen persons whom he considered fittest to be the first burgesses, and on November 26th the Attorney General was directed to draw up a charter of incorporation for Newcastle, naming as the first portreeve Thomas Reynolds, and as the first twelve burgesses William Parsons, William Rolles, Edward Kenny, Patrick Frend, Robert Davies, George White, William White, William Burton, John Gribble, Thomas Bridges, Edward Rutledge, and John Lushe. This select body at once proceeded to the election of no less than two representatives to Parliament, and chose as best able to serve them, two of their own number, William Parsons, afterwards the well-known Lord Justice of Ireland, and William Rolles ⁽²⁾.

After the outbreak of the rebellion in October, 1641, Newcastle became the headquarters of the Irish forces in the County Dublin. It is evident from depositions made in the following January that

⁽¹⁾ "The Description of Ireland in 1598," edited by Rev. Edmund Hogan; Calendar of Patent Rolls, James I., p. 133; Exchequer Inquisition, Eliz., Co. Dublin, No. 220; Calendar of Irish State Papers, 1603-1606, p. 30; Fiaints Elizabeth, Nos. 6459, 6603; Wills of Richard Clinch and John Reynolds proved 1609.

⁽²⁾ Calendar of Irish State Papers, 1611-1614, pp. 282, 304.

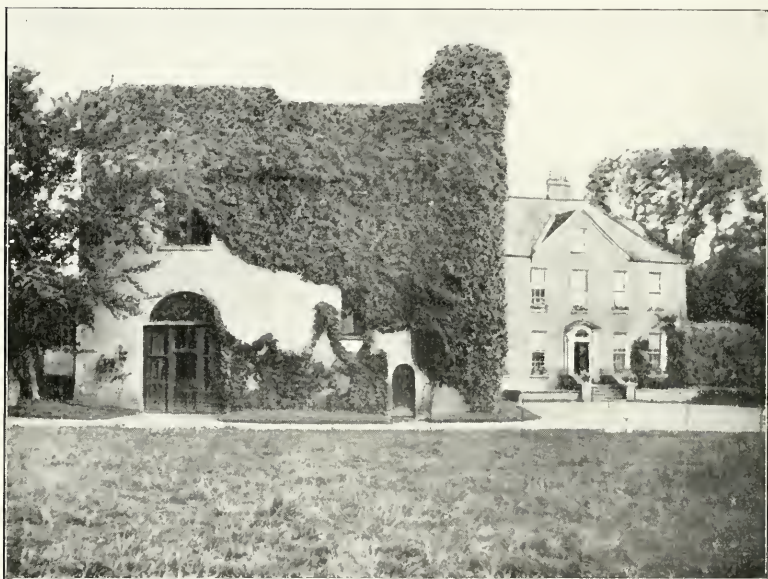
for nearly three months a great number of armed men, estimated by some at 5,000, were assembled there. No less than eight persons with the rank of colonel and nine persons with the rank of captain are mentioned as being seen in the town, prominent amongst them being a Colonel Talbot, and Captain Martin Scurlock and Captain Thomas Scurlock of Rathereedan. The Irish forces took possession of the whole town, and anyone entering it was liable to be arrested and hanged as a spy. One man who went to Newcastle to try to recover a horse belonging to his master, relates how Mr. Richard Nowlan, "a person of great wealth in that town," ordered him to be seized and kept in bolts by the constable for several days, and that he was about to be hanged when he escaped from the constable during a temporary confusion. Another man states that he was taken prisoner before he had even come to Newcastle, and after being examined in the church, where a court of guard was held, was kept in bolts for five days, and would have been hanged only that he managed to escape in the darkness of the night⁽¹⁾.

The Government were in constant apprehension that the Irish forces would advance from Newcastle on Dublin, and the Dublin garrison was frequently kept standing to arms all day. At last, on January 31st, the Government found themselves in a position, owing to reinforcements arriving from England, to assume the offensive, and the Earl of Ormonde, the general of the army, with Lord Lambert, afterwards Earl of Cavan, Sir Charles Coote, and Sir Simon Harcourt, the hero of Carrickmines, in command of 2,000 foot, 300 horse, and five small field pieces, marched on Newcastle. Ormonde expected to find 4,000 of the enemy, but on arriving at Newcastle they discovered that the town had been evacuated, and that the inhabitants had taken all their goods with them. Ormonde advanced the following day, February 1st, to Naas, but, being recalled to Dublin, returned on Candlemas Day, February 2nd, to Newcastle, in spite of a cruel tempest of wind and rain, and surprised the inhabitants, who had brought back their goods to the town. After hanging six or seven of them and pillaging their houses, Ormonde's soldiers set out for Dublin, "rich in plate and stuff and cattle"—pillage which would have been much greater, we are told, only for the severity of the storm during which the cattle were blown away. It was reported that New-

(1) Depositions of 1641 (Richard Dunn, John Murphy, and Tieghe Kelly).

castle had been thoroughly burned, but some four months later we find the Lords Justices requesting Ormonde to send by night two hundred stirring active men to Newcastle "to take, spoil, and kill all rebels." Three years after that time, when the army of the Confederates marched from Kilkenny on Dublin, the whole country in the neighbourhood of Newcastle was found to be devastated, and Owen O'Neill, who was sent to Newcastle, "not being able to live on air," retired as quickly as he came (1).

At the time of the establishment of the Commonwealth there were reported to be in Newcastle only seven old castles, as well as a small old castle on the lands of Athgoe, and a castle and



Athgoe Castle.

From a photograph by Mr. Thomas Mason.

some cabins on the lands of Colmanstown. There must, however, have been then a number of cabins in Newcastle, which was returned as having a population of some hundred and seventy inhabitants. The principal of these were Captain Martin Scurlock, and one Daniel M'Daniel, while the tradesmen of the town included a farrier, two smiths, two broguemakers, a butcher, a carpenter, and two tailors. Towards the close of the

(1) Carte Papers, vol. ii., f. 282; vol. iii., f. 212; vol. lxviii., f. 403; Trinity College Library MS., F. 2, 11; Earl of Castlehaven's Memoirs, p. 81.

Commonwealth, Scurlock and M'Daniel had given place to Robert Scarborough and Morgan Jones. The population of the village had then fallen to one hundred and fifteen, and four years after the Restoration there were only two houses in the village with two hearths; the remainder, forty-two in number, having but one hearth each ⁽¹⁾.

Notwithstanding these troublous times, the Lockes retained their property at Athgoe and Colmanstown. Patrick Locke, who died in 1635, is said to have been succeeded by his son William, who married a member of the Cheevers' family, and William Locke was succeeded in turn by his son John. John Locke, who died in 1684, married Anne, daughter of Mr. Miles Byrne, a member of the family mentioned under Cabinteely, and a relative of Sir Gregory Byrne, one of Charles the Second's baronets ⁽²⁾, and was succeeded by his son, Patrick Locke, who died in 1703 when living in Dublin. At that time Colmanstown was leased to one Patrick Lawless, and Athgoe was held by a Mr. Richard Nowlan, whom Locke calls his brother-in-law. To Patrick Locke succeeded his son John, who married an heiress, one of the Warrens of Corduff, and resided constantly at Athgoe; his grandson, also John Locke; and his great-grandson, Peter Warren Locke, who married a sister of Sir Thomas Esmonde, Bart. Mr. Peter Warren Locke left no issue on his death in 1833. The Athgoe property then passed into the possession of its present owners, the O'Carrolls, who are descended from Mr Peter Warren Locke's sister ⁽³⁾.

Towards the close of the eighteenth century Newcastle is described as a shabby village, honoured with the name of a borough, and attention is drawn to the fact that "this apology for a borough" then returned as many members to "the senate of the nation as the City of Dublin or Trinity College." The village was visited by Mr. Austin Cooper in February, 1780. He mentions the remains of the castle which are still to be seen near the high road. Adjoining these ruins there was then a modern house, which he found uninhabited, but which, he says,

⁽¹⁾ Down Survey Map; Survey of Baronies of Uppercross and Newcastle; Census of 1659; Hearth Money Roll.

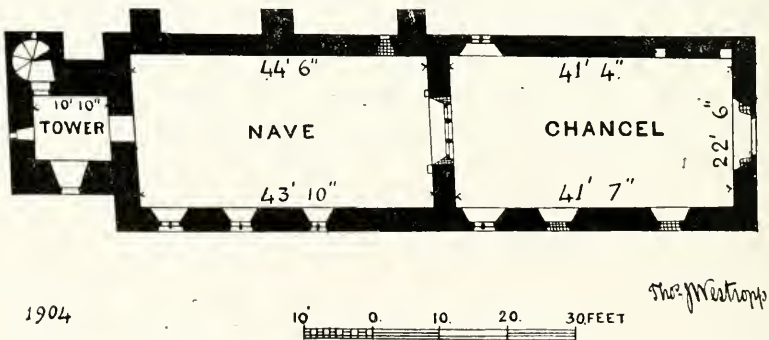
⁽²⁾ See Gilbert's "History of Dublin," vol. i., p. 159.

⁽³⁾ Burke's "Landed Gentry of Ireland," under O'Carroll of Athgoe Park; and Wills of John Locke and Patrick Locke; also *cf.* Burke's "Vicissitudes of Families," vol. i., pp. 399-405.

belonged to one of the Clinches, a family which then still owned much property in Newcastle. Later on in the month of May the castles of Athgoe and Colmanstown were inspected by Mr. Cooper, and an interesting description of them has been left by him. Athgoe Castle he found as it is to be seen to-day—a small square castle having a staircase tower on the south-west side, and adjoining on the east a modern house. The grounds, Cooper says, were then handsomely laid out, and a pond had been recently constructed by diverting the river which flows through the adjoining glen. Colmanstown Castle was, at the time of Cooper's visit, inhabited by a poor peasant. Portion of it, the battlemented part, as he calls it, seemed to him very old, but the remainder looked more modern, perhaps, however, owing to its being dashed. At about eighty yards distance there was another building—the entrance to the castle—with an arched gateway. This Cooper thought to be of the same age as the oldest part of the castle, and he found traces which led him to believe that a deep fosse, which had originally encircled the castle, had started from its base⁽¹⁾.

ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY.

THE Church of Newcastle, which was dedicated to St. Finian, is, as has been already stated, a very interesting mediæval structure. It is well preserved, and the nave is still used for worship. There



Plan of Newcastle Church.

By Mr. Thomas J. Westropp.

is a battlemented tower, twenty-three feet by fifteen, to the west end; it has a turret at its north-west corner, with a spiral staircase

⁽¹⁾ Lewis's "Dublin Guide," p. 191; Cooper's Note Book.

of some seventy-six steps and forty-five feet high. The lower room forms a vaulted porch; above this are a room (with a fireplace and several plain window slits) and an unlighted attic under a second vault. Above this, again, are another room and attic under the vaulted roof. The whole formed a priest's house, and seems earlier than much of the church.

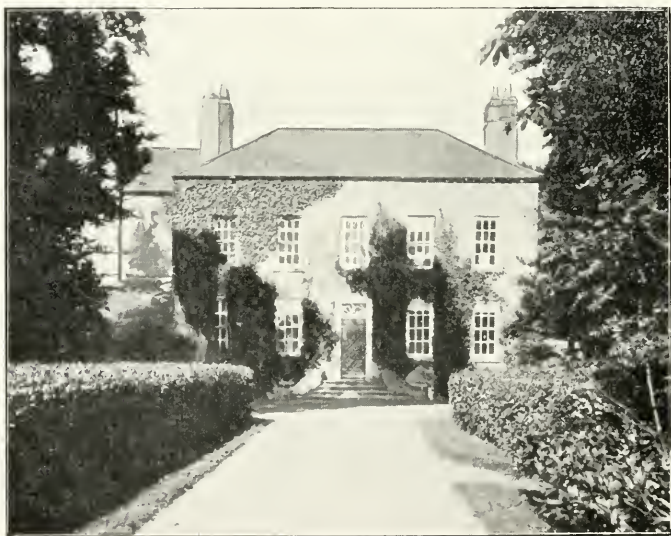
The nave is entirely modernised, but has some good carved wood-work at the east end, probably dating from 1724, which year, with the initials T.S., appears in the leading of the window. The three south windows call for no notice, but the eastern is a beautiful specimen of the fifteenth century decorated Gothic, passing into the flamboyant; it is set in the older chancel arch, and was removed from the great pointed arched splay in the east gable of the ruined chancel. The nave measures about forty-four feet by twenty-two and a-half feet, the chancel forty-one and a-half feet by twenty-two and a-half feet, and the building is, over all, one hundred and eleven feet by twenty-eight and a-half feet measured externally. The chancel has a double trefoil-headed window in each side near the chancel arch, two closed windows in the south, and two ambries (or recesses) in the north wall. A carved face may be noted outside of the south-east angle. The north wall of the nave has three buttresses. In the churchyard there is an ancient cross, and not far off there is a well known as St. Finian's Well. ⁽¹⁾

The primitive church, which the Anglo-Norman invaders found upon the lands of Newcastle, became under the arrangements made after the Conquest a mother church, having a chapel which stood upon the lands of Colmanstown subservient to it, and in a grant made by Henry III. in 1228 an endowment of five shillings a year was given by the King to the church of Newcastle, then designated as "the mother church of the King's manor of Newcastle de Leuan." It became subsequently the corps of a prebend in St. Patrick's Cathedral, and two centuries later, in 1469, this prebend was merged in the corps of the Archdeacons of Glendalough, by whom the parish was held until the nineteenth century, and whose names will be found in Archdeacon Cotton's "*Fasti Ecclesiæ Hibernicæ*." At the time of the dissolution of St. Patrick's Cathedral in 1547, the value of the possessions of the Archdeacon at Newcastle was stated to be £46 10s. They included altarages from

⁽¹⁾ cf. "Notes on Newcastle Lyons" by Rev. C. P. O'Meara in *Journal of the County Kildare Archaeological Society*, vol. iv., p. 63.

Newcastle, Athgoe, Loughtown, and Colganstown, amounting to £3 annually (over and above the stipend of a curate, the cost of wax for the high altar, a chief rent of 3*l.* payable to the Provost or Portreeve of Newcastle, and the repair of the church), and a castle, the ruins of which still remain in the rectory grounds. After the restoration of the Cathedral establishment under Queen Mary, John Standish, who was appointed to the archdeaconry, was proceeded against as rector of Newcastle for non-residence, but under Queen Elizabeth we find licenses granted to him to remain in England for three years⁽¹⁾.

At the beginning of the seventeenth century, in 1615, the church of Newcastle was stated to be in good repair, both as regarded the chancel and nave, and provided with books. There was, however, no resident clergymen owing to the recent death of the curate, John Barlow. When Archbishop Bulkeley made his report fifteen years later, the church was again returned as being in good repair; about thirty-three came to divine service, and the church was served by Robert Jones, the curate of Lucan, who has been already



Newcastle Rectory.

From a photograph by Mr. Thomas Mason.

mentioned under Saggart. To Jones succeeded the Rev. Thomas Bulkeley, and the Rev. Henry Birch, who was in charge at the

⁽¹⁾ Sweetman's Calendar, 1171-1251, No. 1609; Mason's "History of St. Patrick's Cathedral," p. 47; Cotton's "Fasti Ecclesie Hibernicæ," vol. ii., p. 188, 216-221; Exchequer Inquisition, Philip and Mary, Co. Dublin, No. 17; Fiant Elizabeth, No. 190.

time of the rebellion, and who had to report loss not only in goods and money, but also in the death of his wife's father, Derrick Hubert, who was murdered at Skerries (1).

To Archdeacon Williamson, who was appointed to the archdeaconry of Glendalough in 1672, and who held it for fifty years until his death in 1722, the church of Newcastle is indebted for very handsome plate, which he presented to the church in 1696. His successor, Archdeacon Thomas Smyth, built at a cost of £660 (2) the rectory and offices, which bear his initials and the date 1727, and the east window of the church which, as has been mentioned, bears also his initials and the date 1724, was placed in its present position in his time. Amongst his curates we find in 1725 Thomas Blennerhasset, in 1727 George Philips, and in 1735 Loftus Smith (3). Of the subsequent Archdeacons of Glendalough it is only necessary to mention Dr. Gast, a man of great literary attainments, whose virtues as a clergyman are commemorated on a tablet in the church (4). In 1861 the parish was severed from the corps of the Archdeaconry of Glendalough, and the incumbents since then have been in 1861 the Rev. Eugene O'Meara, in 1880 the Rev. Eugene Henry O'Meara, in 1887 the Rev. Charles Peter O'Meara, and in 1904 the Rev. Franc Sadleir.

As has been stated under Saggart, Newcastle, in the arrangements made by the Roman Catholic Church in the seventeenth century, was united with that parish, and the only record with regard to the Roman Catholic Church in Newcastle is a statement made in 1731 that there was then a chapel in the village, which was served by two priests, and also a school under Roman Catholic management (5).

(1) Regal Visitation of 1615; Archbishop Bulkeley's Report, p. 153; Visitation Books; Depositions of 1641 (Henry Birch).

(2) Mason's "History of St. Patrick's Cathedral," p. 48.

(3) Visitation Books.

(4) The following is the inscription:—"In the adjoining church lie the remains of John Gast, D.D. late Archdeacon of Glendalough and Curate of St. Nicholas Without, who departed this life the 25th day of February, 1788. For 23 years and upwards this parish was happy in the fruits of his ministerial labours—affable, cheerful, learned, zealous, charitable—he conciliated the affections of all, and his life presented an engaging example of that Christian practice which with persuasive energy he recommended as a minister of the Gospel. In grateful remembrance of his services his parishioners have placed this stone, a memorial to posterity desirous that their children may venerate the beauty of religion exemplified in a good life, and aspire after the attainment of those virtues which are acceptable with God and cause the dead to be remembered with affection and respect." Cf. also Cotton's "Fasti Ecclesiae Hibernicae," vol. ii., p. 220; Gilbert's "History of Dublin," vol. ii., p. 90; Hughes' "History of St. John's Church," p. 73.

(5) Parliamentary Return.

INDEX.

	Page		Page
Abbey of St. John of Tristledermot, 99; of St. Mary the Virgin, 57, 64, 74, 78, 99, 101; of St. Thomas, 99.		Boyle, Richard, 1st Earl of Cork, 9, 75, 132	
Abbots of Kilnasantan, 37; of Tallaght, 43.		Bray, Robert de,	101
Adair, John,	76	Brereton, Mr., 8; Roger, 25.	
Aland, Captain,	46	Bret, Captain,	9
Allen, Sir Timothy,	31	Bridge at Bray,	106
Allens, The, of Coolmine,	115	Bridges, Thomas, 132; William, 60.	
Allens, The, of St. Wolstans, <i>reference to</i> ,	39, 131	Briscoe, Gabriel,	31
Alexander, William,	23	Browne, George, Archbishop of Dublin,	8, 117
Anderson, Captain Richard, . . .	77	Browne, Family of, 47; Samuel, 51.	
Annesley, Richard, Earl of, . . .	106	Bullauns,	63, 91
Archbishops of Dublin,	6-13	Bulkeley, The, of Old Bawn, 31-36; <i>reference to</i> , 9, 39.	
Archbishops, The, of Bray, . . .	102-105	Burgoyne, Darby,	61
Archbishops, The, of Kilmacud, <i>reference to</i> ,	15, 29	Burnells, The, of Balgriffin, <i>reference to</i> ,	24, 29
Ashbourne, Elias de, 30; Thomas, 31.		Burton, William,	132
Aubrey, Ralph, 14; Joseph, 119.		Bushes, The, of Cork,	106
Aylmers, The, of Lyons, <i>reference to</i> ,	113, 131	Butler, James, Earl of Ormonde, 50; Sir Theobald, 101; Thomas, 50.	
Bagenal, Sir Ralph,	8	Byrne, Edward,	115
Barnewalls, The, of Shankill, 87-89, 96		Cairns,	1, 2, 40, 48, 49, 65, 79, 110, 118
Barnewall, Patrick, 38; Wolfran de, 112.		Carew, William de,	74
Barracks at Bray,	106	Carriek, William,	130
Barry, Matthew, 123; Clement, 124.		Castles—Athgoe, 131-136; Ballycorus, 80; Ballyman, 104; Banercoft's, 3; Belgard, 15-18; Bray, 98-105; Colmanstown, 131-136; Jobstown, 14-15; Kilgobbin, 65-69; Kilmashogue, 58, 61; Kilmanagh, 21; Kiltiernan, 75; Knocklyon, 29; Newcastle, 131-134; Puck's Castle, 80, 86; Rathcreedan, 122; Saggart, 110, 115-116; Shanganagh, 80, 85-89; Shankill, 80, 85-89; Tallaght, 5-10; Templeogue, 25-28; Tymon, 21-23.	
Bassenet, Edward, Dean of St. Patrick's,	75	Cathedral of Christ Church, see under Priory of Holy Trinity; of St. Patrick, 21, 43, 82, 94, 112, 117, 120, 125, 130.	
Bathe, Family of, 29; James, 120; Sir Peter de, 18.		Cellach Dunchadh,	4
Baxter, John, 89, 105; Henry, 89.		Centenarians,	13, 123
Bee Hive Hut,	49	Chambers, Lieutenant Thomas, . .	123
Belinges, Walter de,	101	Chapman, Robert,	100
Bennett, Henry,	105		
Bentley, Matthew,	60		
Bermingham, Family of, 112; John, 50; Sir John de, 102.			
Bigarz, Robert,	57		
Billingsley, Edward,	105		
Boher Cualan,	37		
Boxing-match,	27		

	Page		Page
Churches—Ballyman, 109; Calliaghstown, 125; Colmanstown, 137; Cruagh, 53; Kilbride, 38; Kilgobbin, 69; Kilmashogue, 63; Kilnasantan, 23, 37; Kiltiernan, 77; Kiltuck, 92-94; Newcastle, 136-139; Newtown, 117; Old Connaught, 108; Rathcoole, 125; Rathmichael, 90-96; Saggart, 116; Shankill, 92, 94; Simon Taglaght, 116; Taglaght, 41-47; Templeogue, 23-24; Whitechurch, 63.		Davies, Robert,	132
Clahulls, The, of Dundrum,	83	Dawe, Family of,	67
Clanbrassil, Henrietta, Countess of, .	27	Deer Parks,	40, 62
Clements, John,	101	Deering, Anthony,	29
Clergymen, Succession of, of the Irish Church—Cruagh, 53-54; Kilgobbin, 71-72; Kiltiernan, 78; Newcastle, 137-139; Old Connaught, 109; Rathcoole, 125; Rathmichael, 94-96; Saggart, 117; Taglaght, 44-47; Whitechurch, 64.		Dens, The, of Saggart,	115-116
Clergymen, Succession of, of the Roman Catholic Church—Kilgobbin, 72; Newcastle, 139; Rathmichael, 97; Saggart, 117.		Derpatricks, The, of Stillorgan, . .	67
Clinches, The, of Newcastle,	130-132, 136	Devencis, William le,	101
Coal found at Templeogue,	27	Devereux, Walter, Earl of Essex, . .	9
Cobbe, Charles, Archbishop of Dublin,	11, 40	Dillons, The, of Belgard,	18, 40
Cock-fighting,	27	Domviles, The, of Templeogue, 25-26	
Coles, The, of Newlands,	19	Donovan, Jeremy,	106
College, Orlagh, 48; St. Columba's, .	55	Drake, John,	103
Compton, Henry de,	111, 129	Dungan, Sir John,	25, 122
Conollys, The, of Castletown, <i>reference to</i> ,	23, 40, 51, 64	Dunton, John,	124
Convent of St. Mary de Hogges, 118, 120, 125		Eaton, Charles,	123
Cooper, Sir William,	27	Edmonds, Pierce,	120
Cosyn, Laurence,	30	Elliott, John,	14
Cottle, Charles,	31	Ennose, Patrick,	130
Crehall, Robert,	96	Eustaces, The, of Harristown, <i>reference to</i> ,	69
Crofts, Richard,	121	Ffolliott, Sir Henry,	115
Cromlechs or Dolmens,	1, 2, 48-49, 56, 65, 73, 79	Fieraghs, The, of Fir House,	29, 47
Crosses,	3, 42, 65, 70, 92, 137	Finglases, The, of Dunsoghly, <i>reference to</i> ,	50
Cruise, Hugh,	112	Fishery at Bray,	100
Crump, Geoffrey,	101, 112	FitzGerald, Oliver, 123; Richard, 50.	
Curran, John Philpot,	63	Fitzpatrick, Barnaby, Baron of Upper Ossory,	58
Cusack, Bartholomew,	22	FitzSimonses, The, of Glencullen, .	76
Da Derga,	37	Fitzwilliams, The, of Jobstown, . .	14-15
Dances, Subscription,	26	Fitzwilliam, Gerald,	21
		Fleming, Thomas, the,	57
		Fonts, 2, 42, 45, 46, 78, 92, 116, 117	
		Foot, Lundy, 48; Jeffrey, 55.	
		Forester, Adam, the,	57
		Founts, The, of Saggart,	115
		Fowler, Robert, Archbishop of Dublin,	13
		Freud, Patrick,	132
		Godiman, Hugh,	129
		Goodman, James,	96, 104
		Gore, William, Bishop of Limerick, .	107
		Goulding, Walter,	16, 75
		Graham, George,	115
		Greame, Sir Richard,	125
		Greene, Richard,	51
		Grey, Isaac,	105

	Page		Page
Gribble, John,	132	Kennedy, Dr. J. Evory,	18
Guinnesses, The, of Tibbradden, .	48	Kennedys, The, of Johnstown House, 118, 124	
Hacket, John, 7, 112; Peter, 112; Sir William, 66.		Kenny, Edward,	132
Hamilton, James, Viscount Clendeboye,	132	Kildare, Earls of,	130
Handcock, William Domville, .	29	King Charles,	23
Handcocks, The, of Dublin; <i>reference to</i> ,	115	King, Archbishop William, 10, 46, 54, 64	
Harcourt, Sir Simon,	133	Knights Templars,	100
Harding, Dr. John,	68		
Harolds, The, of Harold's Grange and Kilgobbin, 57-61, 66; <i>reference to</i> , 7, 24, 25, 50, 103.		Lambart, Charles, Earl of Cavan, .	133
Harrington, Sir Henry,	16	LaTouches, The, of Marlay,	62
Harvey, Richard and Simon, . . .	123	Laurence, Sir Henry Hayes,	15
Hawkins, Richard, 21; Sir William, 108.		Lawless, Patrick, 45; William, .	123
Health Resort, Templeogue Spa, 26-27		Lawlesses, The, of Bray, 84, 89, 101, 102	
Hell Fire Club,	40	Lawlor, David,	123
Hetheringtons, The, of Rathcoole, .	121	Lee, Captain,	122
Hoadley, John, Archbishop of Dublin,	10	Leinin, Daughters of,	30
Holmes, Sir Robert,	55	Lentaigne, Sir John,	13
Houses—Allenstown, 31; Athgoe, 136; Belgard, 15, 18; Cork Abbey, 98; Cypress Grove, 23, 27; Dillon Lodge, 40; Glensouthwell, 55, 63; Hermitage, 55; Holly Park, 55; Johnstown, 118, 124; Killakee, 48, 51; Kiltiernan, 76; Marlay, 55, 62; Mountpelier, 40; Old Bawn, 31-36; Old Conna Hill, 98; Old Connaught, 98, 104-107; Orlagh, 48; The Priory, 63; Sally Park, 29; Shanganagh Castle, 92; Tallaght Palace, 11-15; Templeogue, 23-28; Tibbradden, 48; Woodtown, 48.		Lever, Charles,	28
Howell, Family of, 67; Maurice, 102.		Lightburne, Alderman Willoughby, .	107
Hudson, Edward and William Elliott, .	55	Lisbon, John de,	101
Hunting,	47, 69, 76	Lockes, The, of Athgoe,	131-135
Inmanlouz, Edusa,	30	Loftuses, The, of Rathfarnham; <i>reference to</i> , 16, 22, 29, 39, 41, 51, 60, 64, 67, 122	
Inns at Rathcoole, 124; at Tallaght, 10, 12, 39; at Templeogue, 27.		Loveday, John,	124
Islip, Walter de,	30	Luckombe, Philip,	124
Jenkinson, Anthony,	115	Lushe, John,	133
Jocelyn, Robert, 1st Earl of Roden, 69; Robert, 2nd Earl of Roden, 27.		Luttrells, The, <i>reference to</i> , 16, 38, 51	
John, John de St., Bishop of Ferns, .	128	Lysenham, Geoffrey de,	100
Johnsons, The, of Kiltiernan, . . .	76		
Jones, Major Henry, 105; Morgan, 135; Right Hon. Theophilus, 108.		Mae Cumhall, Fionn,	37, 118
Joy, Right Hon. Henry, Chief Baron, .	48	M'Daniel, Daniel,	134
		M'Dermott, Timothy,	47
		M'Donnells, The, of Antrim, <i>reference to</i> ,	69
		MaeGillamocholmog, Chiefs of the line of,	4, 66, 74, 128
		Makagan, Philip,	100
		Manors—The King's; Newcastle, 127-129; Saggart, 110, 119; the Archbishop of Dublin's; Kilnasantan and Brittas, 28; Newtown, 112-113; Rathcoole, 119; Shankill, 81-84; Tallaght, 4-6, 24.	
		Marshall, Family of, 119; Henry le, 129; Ralph le, 83.	
		Mason, Right Hon. John Monck, .	108
		Massy, Lord,	48, 51
		Meath, Earl of,	105
		Mercer's School,	124
		Michaels, The St., of Cruagh, .	50, 57

	Page
Michiar, Daughters of,	30
Miller, Hermon,	123
Moenes, Geoffrey de,	57
Monasteries, Celtic,	2, 20, 30, 99
Monk, General,	68
Monte Alto, Thomas de,	4
Moore, Right Hon. Richard, Justice of the Queen's Bench,	55
Mountains, 1, 37, 48, 55, 65, 79, 118	
Murphy, Henry,	123
Naish, Right Hon. John, Lord Chancellor,	131
Nally, William,	75
Newcomen, Sir Thomas,	30
Nicholson, Ensign Gilbert,	123
Nowlan, Richard,	133, 135
Nugents, The, of Westmeath, <i>reference to</i> ,	29
Nutley, Richard, Justice of the Queen's Bench,	69
O'Bragan, Stephen,	84
O'Brien, Lord, Chief Justice of Ireland,	19
O'Mothans, The,	21
O'Neill, Owen,	134
Ormonde, James, 1st Duke of,	133
Ossian,	37
O'Tooles and O'Byrnes, Invasions of, 5-9, 38, 50, 58, 74, 83-87, 94, 101-103, 111-113, 119.	
Owen, Robert,	112
Pale, Barrier of,	7, 58, 101, 111
Palmer, Major,	13
Parsons, Sir William,	21, 39, 115, 122, 132
Partholon,	3
Peppard, Walter,	75
Peter, John de St.,	38
Peyton, Christopher,	121
Pigeon, William,	104
Pillar Stones,	73, 110
Plunket, Lord,	98
Ponsonby, Colonel,	105
Ponsonby, Right Hon. George, Lord Chancellor,	20
Powers, The, of Rathcoole,	121
Prestons, The, of Saggart,	115
Price, Thomas,	51

	Page
Priory of All Saints, 50; of Friars Minor, 38; of Holy Trinity, 64, 82, 100-101, 119; of St. John of Jerusalem, 38, 50, 53, 103.	
Purdons, The,	9
Ranelagh, Arthur, Lord,	19, 26
Rapparees near Tallaght,	39
Raths,	1, 79, 110, 118
Rebellion of Silken Thomas, 8, 51, 113, 130; of Viscount Baltinglas, 16, 113, 120; of 1641, 9, 25, 30, 32, 51, 60, 67, 87, 96, 104, 115, 121-123, 132-134; of 1798, 13, 77; of Emmet, 19, 77.	
Reilly, Richard,	47
Rellys, The, of Tymon,	22, 29
Revell, Peter de,	128
Reyly, Moses and James,	123
Reynolds, The, of Newcastle, 130-132	
Riall, Captain Lewis,	89, 98, 107
Rideleford, Walter de, 29, 30, 38, 50, 99, 100.	
Ripa, John de Alta,	5
Riryth, John,	112
Roads of prehistoric times,	37, 74
Robertses, The, of Old Conna Hill, 89, 107	
Robinson, John and Thomas,	123
Rolles, William,	132
Round Tower of Rathmichael,	92
Rowley, Hon. Hercules,	55
Rue, Family of,	83
Russells, The, of Newcastle, 130-132	
Rutledges, The, of Newcastle,	132
Saints—St. Aengus, 43; St. Airf- hindan, 43; St. Comgall, 92; St. Croine, 43; St. Dalua, 53; St. Eochiadh, 43; St. Eugene, 20; St. Finian, 136; St. Gobban, 71; St. Joseph, 43; St. Maclruain, 3, 43, 46; St. Sacer or Mo Sacra, 116; St. Tiernan, 78; St. Tucha, 94.	
Sarsfields, The, of Lucan, <i>reference to</i> ,	134
Savage, Sir Andrew,	115
Scandinavian owners,	99
Scarborough, Robert,	133
Seurlocks, The, of Rathcreedan, 120-122, 133	
Segrave, James,	22
Seneschal's Court,	81, 111, 119, 129
Sepulchral Mounds, 1, 2, 73, 110, 118	
Servants,	23, 34, 88, 99

	Page		Page
Southwell, Captain William, . . .	63	Walhope, John de, . . .	83
Street, Penelope, . . .	17	Walnut Trees, . . .	3, 39
Stone Circles, . . . 1, 2, 40, 73-74		Walsh, John, 123; Maurice 47.	
Sueterby, Thomas, . . .	44	Walshes, The, of Carrickmines, <i>reference to</i> , . . .	103-106
Swift, Dean, . . .	26, 39	Walshes, The, of Kilgobbin, . . .	67
Talbot, Colonel, 133; Matthew, 67; Peter, 51, 87, 103.		Walshes, The, of Shangnanagh, 85-89; <i>reference to</i> , 103-106.	
Talbots, The, of Belgard, 15-18; <i>reference to</i> , 21, 29, 47.		Walter, Thomas, . . .	50
Talbots, The, of Templeogue, 24-25; <i>reference to</i> , 16, 38.		Water Supply of Dublin, 23, 27; of Rathmines, 2.	
Tasagart, John de, . . .	111	Wellesley, Sir Walcran de, . . .	50
Taylor, The, of Harold's Grange, 61-62		Wells, . . . 2, 65, 73, 91, 98, 110, 118	
Tedeastle, Robert, . . .	55	Wharton, Duke of, . . .	23
Thomas, William, . . .	51	Wharton, Sir Thomas, . . .	123
Thomond, Earl of, . . .	24	White, George, 133; Luke, 51; William, 133.	
Thorkil, Sons of, . . .	99	Whites, The, of Tallaght, 47; of Newcastle, 129.	
Tombstones with concentric markings, . . .	53, 92, 109	Whitfield, Henry, . . .	34
Touchet, James, Earl of Castlehaven, . . .	122	Whitshed, Family of, . . .	15
Tradesmen, . . . 10, 17, 34, 88, 134		Whyte, Nicholas, Master of the Rolls, 121	
Trant, Dominick, . . .	18	Willion, James, . . .	123
Tregury, Michael de, Archbishop of Dublin, . . .	7, 14, 58	Winchester, Elias of, . . .	129
Tuke, Frances, . . .	104	Wingfield, Jacques, . . .	67
Tureville, Geoffrey de, Chancellor, 83		Wodeloe, John de, . . .	50
Turf for fuel, . . .	57	Wolfe, Arthur, Viscount Kilwarden, 19-20	
Tyntes, The, of Old Bawn, . . .	36	Wolverstons, The, of Stillorgan, <i>reference to</i> , . . .	88, 105
Typer, Reginald, . . .	112	Worth, William, Baron of the Exchequer, . . .	36
Ussher, James, Archbishop of Armagh, 9			
Vaughan, Owen, . . .	89		
Verner, Sir Edward Wingfield, . . .	99	Yerward, a Welshman, . . .	129

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