

# On the History and Antiquities of the Parish of Dunmore,

IN THE BARONIES OF DUNMORE  
AND BALLYMOE, Co. GALWAY.

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- i.—INTRODUCTION.
- ii.—THE ORDNANCE SURVEY LETTERS.
- iii.—HISTORICAL NOTES.
- iv.—PLACE NAMES.
- v.—RING FORTS, ETC.
- vi.—CASTLES.
- vii.—CHURCHES.
- viii.—MISCELLANEOUS.
- ix.—KEY TO MAP AND PAGE REFERENCE TO TEXT.

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## i.—INTRODUCTION.

THE scope of this paper differs from that of others which have appeared in this Journal concerning parishes in the Barony of Dunkellin, in that the area under observation is the present Catholic parish and not the official parish of Dunmore. The latter, which has now lost even its official administrative importance, was a complex area interdigitating to the N.W. with portions of Addergoole parish, and having several outlying "islands" to the N. and S. The shaded areas in the map indicate bogs and marshes as evidenced by the geological nature of the surface deposits, and are marked because their extent may probably have influenced the choice of site of ancient ring fort, castle and church. Within the limits of the modern parish I have set down every object of antiquarian interest which I could find, as well as the sites of some ring forts which have disappeared since they were mapped by the Ordnance Surveyors in 1838 or thereabouts. Outside the parish limits I have merely copied antiquities from the earliest edition of the Survey and do not know whether the objects marked are still extant.

The Ordnance Survey Letters are so brief that I have transcribed them in full, except a few lines relating to purely official matters.

The materials for a connected history of the parish, if they anywhere exist, are not within my reach, so this branch of the subject is treated in the form of separate notes, in which some repetition has been found unavoidable.

ii.—THE ORDNANCE SURVEY LETTERS.

J. O'DONOVAN to GEO. A. LARCOM.

OF THE PARISH OF DUNMORE.

Tuam, Aug. 30th, 1838.

*Situation.*—This parish is bounded on the north by the County of Roscommon, and the parish of *Teampull a toichum*\* in this county; on the east by the parish of Bweenaunagh† (buidheanach) and Cloonbern; on the south by Cloonbern and the parish of Tuam in which a part of it is isolated; and on the west by the parish of Addragool.

*Name.*—In the ancient Irish Annals, this place is called *Dunmor*, signifying large *Dun* or earthen fort; which is the true name, though present tradition interprets it as if it were written *Dun Moire*, the *Dun* of *Moir*a, daughter of the great navigator Manannan.

*History.*—Tradition says that this place took its name from an earthen fort erected by *More* the daughter of *Manannan*, within which a large castle was afterwards erected immediately after the English invasion of *Haiste*, a distinguished chieftain of the Conquest, the ancestor of the present people called *Hosty*, now numerous in this part of the county. We have now no historical authority to prove when or by whom this castle of Dunmore was erected, but the tradition is vivid and I think true. It has been preserved by Donnell Treacy, who lives at the old Castle, from the lips of the poet Cormac O'Coman,‡ who lived to the age of 110 and who was the living Fintan|| of the history of Connaught in his time.

Dr. O'Connor states in the Stowe Catalogue that the Annals of Connaught are the best authority for the history of the Castles of Connaught. Do they mention this Castle of Dunmore (in Conmaice Kinel Dubhain§) which was in later times called Dun Mor Fheorais?

The tradition¶ preserved by old Treacy from the mouth of the poet O'Coman, is that the noble *Haiste*,\*\* the son of Membric, a distinguished warrior of the Welsh nation, commenced erecting a castle a short distance to the west of where Dunmore Castle now stands, but that the fairy who presides over the place, *Mor ni Mananain*, not wishing that he should erect his fortress there, destroyed by night as much as his masons had erected by day, and that she continued to do so for several nights until *Haiste* consulted a Magician, who told him that *Mor-Ny-Mhanannain* did not wish him to place his fortress there, but that she would be willing to allow him to erect it on the site of her own fort, and *Hasty*, taking the advice of the Sage, and seeing the old *Dun* a favourable position, immediately commenced to build there, and *More*, being delighted to view so lofty a pile towering over the humble mounds of her ancient fortress, suffered no fairy to interrupt the work.

*Hosty* was not long in the quiet possession of this Castle when *Bermingham* came hither from the north, where he was after gaining a great victory, and drove him out of it partly by force and partly by treachery; and his descendants, who assumed the name of *Mac-orish*, maintained possession of it until the wars of Ireland, when Col. Hoath drove them out. This is all that tradition remembers of the history of this fortress.

This Castle stands on a small hill over a rivulet about a quarter mile to the west of the little town of Dunmore. The hill seems to have been origin-

\* Templetogher. † Boyounagh.

‡ Does O'Reilly in his *Irish Writers* mention this Cormac?—O'D.

|| Fountain.

§ Modernised Divaney and Dwane and Divine, still in use.

¶ This tradition is still preserved by Tommie Treacey, grand-nephew of Donal.

\*\* *Hosty Merrick* was killed 1272, *Annals of Lough Ce*, and buried at *Annaghboggan* near *Lake Beltra*, *Burrischoole*.

ally crowned with an earthen *Dun*, from which the name, but it is now so effaced that no idea can be formed of its extent or character. The entire hill was enclosed by a strong wall now almost entirely destroyed, some of it scattered about in massy fragments, and some tumbled into the rivulet.

The Castle itself is a square building, measuring on the inside 45 feet in length, 27 in breadth, and, as well as I could judge by the eye, 60 in height. Walls 7ft. thick. It had three lofts, as appears from the windows and the holes for joists. It certainly does not appear to be the fabric erected by *Hosty-Mac-Membric*. The Four Masters have collected the following annals of this place, from which it appears that it was an ancient Irish Military station before the arrival of the Anglo-Norman and Welsh families.

"1133 Cormac MacCarthy and Conor O'Brien led an army into Connaught, and killed Cathal O'Connor Raydamna of Connaught and O'Flynn, chief of *Sil-moc-bmain*, and they DEMOLISHED Dunmugdorn and DUN-MORE, and plundered a great part of the country."

"1143 Morogh O'Melaghlin, King of Meath, was most treacherously taken prisoner by King Turlogh O'Connor, and confined with other Meathian prisoners in DUN-MORE."

"1159 Murtagh MacLoughlin (presumptive monarch of Ireland) with the nobles of the Kinel-Connell, Kinel-Owen and Oriel, marched an army into Connaught and burned Dun-Mor, Dun-Ciar and Dun na ngall and devastated a great part of the country."

These three notices are antecedent to the period of Hosty Mac Membric. The following are subsequent to it :

"1249 Dunmore was burned by the sons of the King of Connaught."

"1271 Matthew O'Connor was killed by the English of Dunmore."

"1284 Dunmore was burned by Fiachra O'Flynn."

"1569 Sir Henry Sydney took (the Castle of) Dunmore Mac-Feorais and Roscommon."

Archdall is wrong in making this the *Domhnach-padraig* of the Tripartite, as we shall show when treating of the parish of Donagh-patrick. It is sufficient here to observe that the two names are not identical, and that DUN-more is not a corruption of DOMHNACH-more as Donshaughlin in Meath is of *Domnach Seachlainn*. It is possible that it could be a corruption of it, but we know from history that it is not.

We therefore come to the historical conclusion that there was no abbey at *Dun-mor* in *Con-maíne Kinel-Dubhain* until the year 1425, when Walter de Birmingham, Lord Baron of Athenry, erected there a friary for Augustinian Eremites. The remains of this house are in the same state as described by the French artists in 1779 :

"This abbey is in the town of *Dunmore*, and, I believe, was much larger, but cannot be traced as the ground is level and no ruins about, it being a kind of market, the part A. on the plan is a waste, the arches built up and B. is converted into a parish church where service is performed. Over the door C. are arms and an inscription which I copied. Said to be built by the lords of "Athenry."

There is a holy well called *Tobar na croishe naomhtha* in the townland of Cappagh, which is dedicated to the holy Cross of Christ.

In the townland of *Sruthair*, now Shrule, in the eastern extremity of this parish, the original parish church is said to have stood. Tradition says that it was built by Saint Patrick who left the impression of his knee in a stone still to be seen at the place.

There is an old church and graveyard in the townland of *Cill tsuibhne*, called after a *St. Suibhne*, of whom I recollect nothing.

Geraldus states that the sepulchral *cairn* of the antedeluvian *Ceasair* was pointed out in Connaught in his own time. Let me have his very words. I have stood on the *cairn* supposed to be hers but I have not historical evi-

dence enough to prove the identity. Do not the Four Masters place her cairn over the river Boyle? See *Leabhar Gabhal*, and *Catal*; MSS. T.C.D. If they are right—which I doubt—the *Carn Ceasrach* shewn to Cambrensis does not exist; but if O'Flaherty be right in placing it in the barony of Clare in this county, it is still as perfect as that of her husband *Bith* on *Sliabh Beatha*. 'Tis curious to find these cairns still in existence!

### DUNMORE PARISH—Further Particulars of.

Tuam, Septr. 4th, 1838.

There is a remarkable *Sheeoun* or fairy hill immediately opposite the Castle of Dunmore to the S.W. called *Cnoc-Mhanannain*, which should be marked on the map; and not far distant a fort called *Rathcoll*.

At the time that the castle of Dunmore was stormed on Mac Feorish by Col.—?\*, one of Cromwell's officers, the ancestor of the present John Burke of Kilmaine was, with his family, within the castle. The castle was battered and its outer wall almost entirely destroyed before Mac Feorish and Burke surrendered. All their estates were confiscated and Burke's property, containing the townlands of Atty Flynn and Flaskagh, given to a family of the name Purcell. In the year 1821 the Purcells became extinct, and the tenants on the lands aforesaid offered possession to the present John Burke of Kilmaine, the lineal descendant of the Burke who forfeited them about the year 1650. John took the possession and maintained it till the year 1829 by *Law* and feudal force, but in that year he was defeated by a distant relation of the last of the Purcells, aided by three attorneys of the Kelly's. John Burke however has succeeded in obtaining possession of the townland of Attyflynn by *Law and feudal skill*, the tenants, out of old respect for his family, having consented to give him possession of it!

All the old people here assert that Cormac O'Coman was the last bard of Connaught, and that his likeness and poems have been published (by Walker in his *Irish Bards*). I never heard a word about him before. Has Mr. Petrie ever heard of his poems? Old Donnell Treacy who lives at the Castle of Dunmore, says that he saw him about 50 years ago, and that he was then more than one hundred years old. He was a blind man gifted with an extensive and tenacious memory. His poems were published in some Connaught Magazine about 40 or 50 years ago.†

### iii.—HISTORICAL NOTES.†

**Turlough O'Connor.** — Early in the 13th Century the Barony of Dunmore appears to have been granted in fee by Richard de Burgh to the de Birmingham, or MacFeorais, as they were called by their Irish neighbours, and the castle which they

\* Gore.

† Cormac Dall, whose real name was Cormac or Charles Commins, was a blind bard or Shanachee, who lived in Dunmore in the eighteenth century. Born 1703, he died *proxime* 1790. As a superior man of his class, his name still lives in popular memory. His great grandson Pat Commins, who lives at Castlefarm under the shadow of the great castle of the de Birmingham, states that the proper name of the family was Kilcommins and that the *locus originis* was Kilcommin or Hollymount, Co. Mayo.

† A notice of Cormac, the materials of which were collected by Ralph Ouseley, together with his elegy on John Burke of Carrantrilla, may be read in Walker's *Memoirs of the Irish Bards*. An engraving of the bard with a brief essay, based on Walker's notice, by Mr. Francis J. Bigger, appeared in the *Ulster Journal of Archaeology*, Vol. XIII, Pt. 3.

† AUTHORITIES CONSULTED:—Knox (H. T.): *Notes on the Diocese of Tuam*, etc. Dublin, 1904. *The History of the County of Mayo*. Dublin, 1908. Bourke (O. J.): *History of the Catholic Archbishops of Tuam*. Dublin, 1802. Crean (O.S.A.): *History of the Augustinians in Ireland*. Lanteri: *Annals of*

built on the ancient Dun became known as Dunmore MacFeorais. The barony was, of course, part of the dominions of the O'Connors, Kings of Connaught and last Ardrigh of Ireland, who, after the conquest of Connaught by de Burgh, were, at least nominally, confined to five cantreds along the Shannon held in fee from the King of England.\* The great fort itself, as the *oún mór* of Turlough O'Connor, has earlier historical associations.

For fifty years (1106-1156) Turlough stands forth as indisputably the one dominant figure in Ireland. The clansmen who had no allodial independence, followed their leader to battle in every province, and he led them to victory in dozens of hard-fought fields from Cork to Tory Island, from Limerick to Dundalk. Only once, in 1133, did the Southernns invade his territory and destroy his fortress at Dunmore, and for this he made sanguinary reprisals. He again and again invaded Munster, Leinster and Ulster, and fought his last battle off the coast of Inishowen, in which he inflicted a disastrous defeat on the combined forces of the O'Loughlins and the Danes, and returned completely victorious to Connaught, 1156. In the same year he died. He had reigned a king for fifty years, and in that great crisis of our history, when MacMurrough became viciously active, O'Connor alone was competent to meet and defeat him in Leinster in 1153, and compel him to restore Dervorgilla to O'Rourke.

"Peace hath her victories no less renowned than war," and Turlough was great in both. He bridged the Shannon at Athlone and Shannon Harbour and the Suck at Ballinasloe, erected a wonderful stone castle at Tuam, and founded the Abbey at Cong. His artists made the stone cross at Tuam, and the processional cross of Cong, and he established a mint for coinage. Tradition says that he breathed his last in Dunmore, and was waked with solemn obsequies for six days. Blazing bog-deal and rush-lights illuminated the darkness each night until his remains were carried with funeral dirge to his crypt in Clonmacnoise.

**The de Birminghams.**†—Meyler de Birmingham was head of the Connaught clan in 1289, and his son, William, became Archbishop of Tuam. It was about fifty years earlier that this branch arrived in the province, for it is quite beyond the region of doubt that the Norman barons began to spread over Connaught and build castles there in A.D. 1237.

Like other Lords of the Fee, the MacFeorais-de-Birminghams built their massive square tower near the chief fortress of the occupied territory. Dunmore castle was accordingly erected near the great dun of Turlough O'Connor, and it is always referred to

*the Augustinians.* Renehan (Rev. L. F.): *Irish Archbishops.* Dublin, 1861. D'Alton (Dr. E. A.): *History of Ireland.* London, 1912. Record Office: Vol. 9. (R.E.P. S.U.P.). Local Tradition.

\* See Orpen. This Journal, VII, p. 143.

† Knox, *History.*



in the Annals as the Castle of Dunmore. We first find reference to it in the Four Masters under the year 1315, where it is stated that it was razed to the ground by King Rory O'Connor. The following year, 1316, de Birmingham of Dunmore, in retaliation, formed an alliance with Rory's rival, Phelim O'Connor. Mustering his mail-clad warriors in conjunction with his confederate, he inflicted a disastrous defeat on Rory's troops in Williamstown, and Rory himself being slain, Phelim reigned undisputed King of the Irish chiefs and clans.

In the same year, 1316, the fame of the de Birmingham was at its zenith. It was the year of the invasion of Robert Bruce. The English forces mustered in martial array under Edward de Birmingham at Athenry. His army was fully accoutred with every weapon offensive or defensive. The Irish troops, despising mail armour as the garb of cowards, in vain assailed the English army until rank after rank on the Irish side were cut down. When evening fell the flower of the chiefs of Connaught, and 8,000 fool-hardy fellows lay dead on that disastrous day at Athenry. John de Birmingham was equally successful near Dundalk, where he routed Edward Bruce's army. For their joint victories the former was created Baron of Athenry, and the latter Earl of Louth. In 1525 this Earl acquired the Barony of Carra from Nesta MacEvilly, and he was assassinated in 1529 by one of his own countrymen.

The Earl of Louth's descendants must have in some way inherited the Dunmore patrimony of the family. We know that the ownership of the estate was disputed by Walter de Burgo in 1566. In that year the Lord Deputy, Sir Henry Sidney, held a meeting for a general pacification and settlement of disputes. Lord Birmingham, of Athenry, complained to him that Walter, son of John Bourke, withheld the Castle of Dunmore from him. Walter repudiated his claims, alleging that the place belonged to another branch of the de Birmingham, and Sir Henry arranged for a trial of the case. At all events, Lord Louth lived in the buildings, comprising the present barracks, in the eighteenth century, and his name is enshrined in Louthlodge, the name of a village close to the town.

The Lords of Athenry enter largely into the history of Mayo and Galway in the centuries following the disastrous battle of 1316. They took part in various battles and internecine conflicts—sometimes against the de Burgos and sometimes against the O'Connors. Lord Athenry helped Malbie to bring Richard-in-Iarainn to his knees in 1578, and he fought against Richard, the Devil's Hook's son, in 1588. He co-operated in commissions with Fitzwilliam, and assisted, or at least countenanced, the operations of Sir Richard Bingham.

There seem to have been several branches of the de Birmingham clan in Dunmore barony. A village called Birmingham, near Tuam, derives its name from this Norman family. Bir-

mingham, of Dalgan, was descended from Edward Birmingham, whose castle at Milltown was attacked by Teighe O'Flaherty in a foraging expedition A.D. 1589. Writing an account of this raid, Edward states that after destroying sixteen towns in the baronies of Clare and Dunmore, this ferocious O'Flaherty was attacked by the English soldiers in Kilmaine and his forces were scattered and he himself slain. "I struck," writes Edward, "their guidon under his morion with my staff, and ran him through in the face of the battle. I followed another and had him down," etc.\*

In a State paper of 1515 there are enumerated "sixty separate states, some as big as a shire, some more, some less, some as big as a half shire, and some a little less, and in these were sixty chief captains, whereof some call themselves kings, some princes, dukes, archdukes, that live only by the sword, and obey no other temporal person but only him that is strongest, and every one of the said captains makes war and peace for himself, and holds by the sword and has imperial jurisdiction within his limits, and obeys no other person, English or Irish, except only such persons as may subdue them by the sword." Among a long array of names of those that follow these principles occurs the name of Lord Birmingham, of Athenry and Dunmore.

**85.—The Augustinian Abbey.**—The dismantled ivy-clad ruin in Barrack street, which occupies the ground near the great Fort of the O'Kelly's, destroyed by Conor O'Brien in 1133, is a conspicuous and interesting object to the discerning eye of the casual visitor. Built in the Gothic style of the fourteenth century style, a massive square tower supported by two arches separates the chancel from the choir. Inside the tower an unique feature of architecture meets one's view: the interior rubble masonry is built on a stone—a keystone which knits the apex of a dome. The chancel is now the Protestant Church, the choir is roofless, and all traces of the corridors, the refectory, and other conventual appendages which extended across the public thoroughfare, have disappeared.

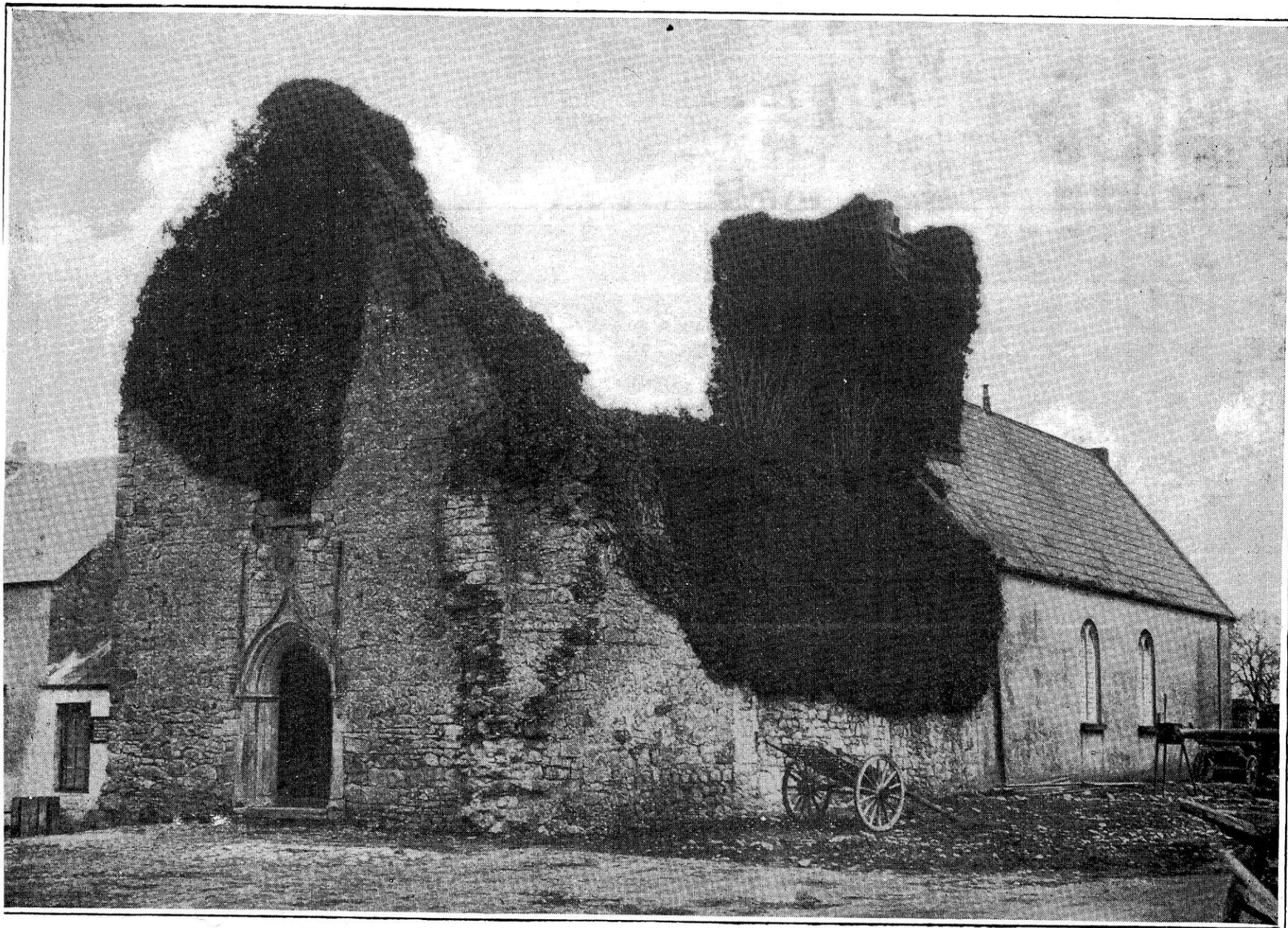
The Abbey was founded for the Hermits of St. Augustine, or Augustinian Friars, in 1425 by Walter de Birmingham, Lord Athenry,† when John Batterley, of Barlay, was Archbishop of Tuam.

The De Birmingham were Norman Barons of powerful influence, who had held Dunmore from the year 1327. At the suppression and dissolution of monasteries in 1541, the then Lord Athenry saved Dunmore House, successfully pleading for its exemption on the grounds that the country was wild, the abbey lands limited, and because it was founded by his ancestors,‡ but the exemption was only ephemeral, and we find the Rector,

\* Knox, *History*, p. 227.

† Knox *Notes*, p. 122. Bourke, p. 75.

‡ Knox, *Notes*, p. 276.



CHANCEL AND CHOIR OF THE AUGUSTINIAN ABBEY CHAPEL.

Cornelius O'Heffernan, and the Vicar, Hilary O'Donelan, in possession after the Cromwellian war had spent its force. John Burke Fitz-Thomas seized the abbey in 1574, but he was again expelled.\*

When the Rebellion of 1641 broke out, the Community of Friars in Dunmore numbered thirty-one—a Prior and thirty Friars. A Protestant, writing in that year, says†—

“The Friars may be met in any of the roads in their distinctive habits. In Dunmore is a house with a Prior and thirty Friars, and they have their oratory, dormitory, and refectory, and they observe the rights of their Order as fully as when they were in Spain.”

The Augustinian novitiates were situated in some of the Spanish University towns; the novices, recruited in Galway, took shipping in the Spanish ships from the City of the Tribes, and returned to their arduous mission after some years abroad, fully professed.

**63.—Dunmore Town and Castle.**—In those days Dunmore was a chartered town, duly incorporated, with power to make by-laws to regulate the townsfolk and all who sought protection or came for business within its walls. By this Urban Home Rule the privileges and immunities of the inhabitants were safeguarded.

In the thirteenth century the Normans in Connaught constructed walled towns in connection with their fortresses.‡ Many of those Norman towns existed in Mayo, “but none of them,” says Knox, “could compare in importance with Dunmore, which had a charter of murage.” The custom of building those feudal castles and of issuing ancient charters was a Continental|| one introduced by the Normans into Ireland. This fighting race began to build feudal castles as early as the reign of Charles the Bald, as places of strength or refuge—entrepôts for their vassals. Wherever they were victorious their hamlets were “begirt with strong and lofty walls, bristling with towers and parapets.” Especially at the fords of rivers and at every vantage point, their castles arose, guarded by warders on the battlements. Ancient charters

\* Knox, *History*, p. 272.

† Bourke, p. 125.

‡ This Journal, Vol. VII, No. ii, 1911, p. 79. From other records we know that there were burgages at Athenry and Dunmore. The former became a strong walled town. The latter got a murage charter and spent 51s. on its walls in 1279-80 (36 Rept. Deputy-Keeper of Public Records, Ireland, App., 39). The wall which enclosed the Castle and the flat top of the mound, whereof fragments are on the slopes, may be the wall then put up. The burgesses of a small town could be packed somewhat tightly inside its walls. This place, Dunmore, deserves examination for traces of this town wall, if it was not the wall which surrounded the castle. The 51s. is not all that was spent, but only an account entered in the Pipe Roll of what was collected and spent in a short time. These were Bermingham towns. All these burgages were under the protection of a castle. Dunmore is still called “Dunmore mac-Oarish” from the Irish patronymic of the de Berminghams.

|| Hallam, *Middle Ages*, I., p. 20 seq.

to construct such walled towns still exist and one diploma, issued as early as 909, specifies and enumerates the various defences :—Castles, towers, entrenchments, fosses, outworks, barbicans, trenches, moats, ramparts, palisades and bastions. One such charter was granted to Dunmore in the thirteenth century.

Just an English mile to the west of the modern town, the Lords of the Fee, the de Berminghams, the victors of Dundalk and Athenry, raised their massive quadrangular fortress in stolid solidity on a huge mound beside the Sinking River. The walls of the ramparts, built of rubble masonry, 20ft. high and 6ft. broad, extended towards the west in a circle of 800 yards, and with such cohesion that to this day a dozen huge blocks of masonry, detached from the walls, still remain intact. Although ramparts, bastions, and outworks have well-nigh disappeared, we can still discern what a great fortress the dismantled castle must have been hundreds of years ago. It was not the hand of time that lay heaviest on this Norman ruin, but the desecrating hands of modern vandals, who, not content with filching the cut-stone frame work from the five doors and ten windows, removed the inscribed mural slab from the centre of the south wall, which would have thrown much light on the history of the castle. High up near the parapets, two windows on this south side, still intact, show the kind of ornate sculptured stone frame-work which has disappeared from the others. Three lime-kilns perhaps contributed not a little to pulverise detachable stone-work. The two gables of the roof arise on the inner sides of the east and west walls, allowing room to the warders to sentinel the battlements. The water from the roof was carried off through grooved stones inserted in the walls three feet down from the parapets. The remains of a causeway, extending from the ramparts or outworks to the river, may still be discerned.

Knox gives the following account of Dunmore Castle in the *Journal of the Royal Society of Antiquaries*, 1912 :—

“The castle mound is partly natural but mainly artificial, certainly in shape. The top is an oblong rectangle, the length being from east to west and was enclosed by a great stone wall without bastions of which only broken fragments remain. A high keep is in the north-west corner. It rises 15 to 25 feet above the plain on three sides : on the west it is cut off from a low swell of land by a ditch probably once much deeper than it is now, which must have been crossed by a bridge, as the gate of the castle is at the end. The plan of the mound is practically that of the Bohola Mote without the terrace and it may be classed as a peninsular mote. It is most likely the site of the ancient Dun Mor. It was a manor of the De Berminghams in the 13th century and remained in possession of the family until after the sixteenth century. Tradition ascribes the building of this castle to Hosty Merrick, who was killed in 1272. He may have been the builder of the original work, but not of the great stone castle—is the great wall that for which Murage was collected in 1820? The town must have been a small place in those days. As this paper deals with earth works I do not further mention the castle. It is evident that it succeeded an early castle of the Mote type which succeeded a Gaelic dun.”



CHALICE AND PATEN, NOW IN ST. MONICA'S PRIORY, HOXTON SQUARE, LONDON.

The Chalice is inscribed—"Malachaeus O'Qualey me fieri fecit pro  
Thadaeo Conal de Conventu Dunmore. 1641."

Dunmore seems to have been under the jurisdiction of the Abbey, as the lands—Abbeylands north and Abbeylands south—comprised the town area. Not infrequently under the feudal system the Abbot and the townsmen clubbed together into a Guild or Friendly Society, petitioned for a charter for self-defence and public order, or for purposes of religion, mutual assistance and trade, and were empowered to collect revenue, exact tolls, and administer landed property.\*

Much of the history of our local ruins lies hidden away in Government offices awaiting illumination from a trained mind and skilful pen. He who is curious in such matters will find in the Record Office, behind the Four Courts, Dublin, a bundle of recondite MSS., dating back to the days of George I., which once lay in the archives of Dunmore Monastery. But our friend must bring to the study of those old papers a considerable knowledge of Latin, Spanish, Irish and English, and an uncommon amount of patience to plod unweariedly through those musty, dusty documents, and raise the curtain that enfolds in darkness the history of the old abbey.

Vol. 9 (R.E.P., S.U.P., 1220-2167) gives a table of contents showing that the items in this bundle of our local annals are of a very varied assortment. There are wills, charters, receipts, dimissorial letters, letters from Spain, from the Island of Antigua, in the West Indies—whither some of the Friars were deported—documents dealing with the internal discipline and domestic affairs of the Conventual body; letters about novices, testimonial letters, and documents dealing with chapters, manual masses, complaints and recommendations.

Some of the letters are worth perusal, and throw light on the current history of Connaught. No. 260, from the Island of Antigua, which complains of the high price of slaves in the West Indies, and makes reference to old Dunmore families, is a curious document. No. 276 complains of the large number of young men sent abroad to Spain to study for Holy Orders. Spain and other countries complained that those batches of young men, sent mostly from the Port of Galway, were despatched to foreign lands unprovided with funds. There are altogether some hundreds of items of which only a small quatum is here indited.

Vol. 9, R.E.P., S.U.P., 1220-2167.

No. 257.—Letter from F. Hanley to Rev. Paul Brehony, recommending a novice, and a will of Bryan Higgins, 1726.

No. 258.—Letter to Rev. Peter Mulligan, complaint against Fr. Brehan.

No. 259.—Ditto. 1728.

No. 260.—Letter from the Island of Antigua, referring to old families of Dunmore and price of slaves, 1725.

No. 261.—Letter from a priest of Dunmore to a Friar in Galway.

No. 262.—Character of Pat Brennan (novice). 1728.

\* Hallam, *Middle Ages*, I., p. 311.

No. 263.—Letter to Revs. Thos. Mulvey, Thomas Reilly, Pat Crehan (Friars), intimating that Pat Kelly was examined and admitted by Rev. Mr. McDonnell, Superior, 1728.

No. 264.—Letter from Dr. Kelly to Rev. Pat Brehon, 1726.

No. 265.—Tutor of Captain Cheevers recommended as a novice to Rev. Fr. Irwin.

No. 266.—Protestant minister writes to Father Brehon, Superior, that the banns of two Catholics had been read, 1731.

No. 267.—Fr. P. Brehon alias Johnson—a tumultuous election.

No. 268.—Letter to Rev. Fr. Johnson about a novice, 1725.

No. 269.—Letter to Pat Brehon recommending a novice, 1725.

No. 271.—John Bermingham writes to Fr. Pat Brehon about the mandate of Bishop O'Hara as to number of daily Masses.

No. 272.—Oliver Smyth, tutor of the Berminghams, recommended to Fr. Pat Judge (viz. Brehon) as a novice, 1725.

No. 273.—Ditto.

No. 274.—Letter to Fr. Johnson about dispute with the Friars.

No. 275.—Letter about a Conventual named Maunion, 1729.

No. 276.—Letter about money collected in Galway, and the great number of young men sent abroad, of which Spain and other countries complain, 1722.

No. 277.—Description of a Chapter, the procedure and President.

No. 279.—To Fr. Brehon about money left to Dunmore by Mr. Ambrose McDonnell and Mr. Forbisby.

No. 280.—From Paris to Fr. Brehon about appeal to Rome.

156.—**Mayfield Hermitage.**—After Ludlow's visit to Connaught only a Prior and four Friars remained—the Cromwellians had spread desolation with fire and sword over Connaught,—and these took refuge in a hermitage at Mayfield, or Louthlodge, within a gunshot of the town. It had been stipulated that, as a condition for exemption, they should adopt secular dress and discard their distinctive hooded habit, and during the Penal times this was all the more necessary. Fr. Brehon was Prior of Mayfield in 1720, and had a commodious chapel and house. About this time a Friar named Thomas Tully was shot at Cloughnakillibeg, and another Friar hanged on a tree midway between the town and Castle.

The hermitage continued to flourish, as we find that in 1785 there was a community of seven, Fathers Patrick Kane, John O'Neill, Michael Hussey, Patrick Kelly, Patrick Mannion, Michl. Nestor, and John Kelly. The connection of the Friars with Dunmore came to a close in 1809, when Dr. French authorised the Friars to translate their foundation, chattels real and personal, to Athlone. A house was purchased from Christopher French, brother of the Bishop, for £200, and Dunmore knew them no more. At this time the Friars were Frs. Michael Hussey, Michael Cahill, Page, O'Hara, Twomey, Jennings, and two Frs. Michael Morris. An old man in the vicinity remembers to have heard the people in the days of his youth, speak of some of those Friars.

The site of the commodious chapel and Friars' house in Mayfield was on a rising upland formerly embowered in trees, with a view towards the river which bisects the town. The place

was all denuded of wood in the year of the turf famine, and only a solitary ash marks the spot. Of the hermitage not a vestige remains.

About this period flourished the famous Gideon Ouseley, his military brother, and Glossop, the tragedian, who were natives of Dunmore.

89.—**Carrantrilla.**—A circular dun, now overgrown with trees, may be clearly discerned to the rearward of the modern house. The ruins of a very ancient building stand on the mound, and it is not improbable that this was the residence of the de Burgos. Oliver Burke states that Carrantrilla was one of their strongholds. One of the chieftains who lived here having been attainted, outlawed, and his property sequestered to the Crown, refused to surrender. Captured and deported to London with his daughter, who defended him with great intrepidity, he was brought before the reigning Queen. She was so struck by his noble deportment and the demeanour of his daughter that she remitted the sentence and restored his property.

**Lord Ross and Sir George Shea.**—The present pile of spacious buildings occupied by the Royal Irish Constabulary—formerly the cavalry barracks—was erected in the middle of the eighteenth century as a manorial residence by Lord Ross—a liberal-minded nobleman. About 1780 Sir George Shea returned from the far east with well-filled money bags. He was out in the halcyon days when immense fortunes were piled up in British India in a few years. As secretary in Calcutta to Warren Hastings, we may rest assured that Sir George participated in the immense wealth extorted from Cheyte Sing and the Begums of Oude. In 1798 Sir George handed over his residence to a military detachment, which was in pursuit of Lynch, the out-law rebel—the Michael Dwyer of these parts. After eluding capture for a long time the fugitive was run to ground in Carrantrilla wood, and hanged in the square of Dunmore.

Merton House, occupied by Mrs. Kirwan, was built by Sir George Shea's sister.

**Cemeteries.**—St. Patrick, in his journey to the far West, travelled this parish, then inhabited by the Conmaicne-Dunmore, from whom sprang St. Benignus, of Kilbannon. Descending Slieve Dart from Clogher, he founded a church at Kiltivna, established another at Shrule on the Derrymore river, crossed the hills to Belwell—Tobar-na-Clug—around which tradition has woven a story about him, and having erected a church at Dunmore on the Sinking River, he proceeded on to Kilbannon.

Kiltivna Cemetery containing the remains of the Patrician foundation referred to above, lies on a rising upland, a few hundred yards due north of Kiltivna Church, and is approached by a passage partly through private property, with a right of way for

funerals. Of Kiltivna, Dr. Healy writes in his *Life of St. Patrick*, p. 221 :—

“As it would be impossible to cross Slieve Dart, Patrick, it would appear, passed from Kiltullagh to the old church at Kiltivna, or rather to the place where it once stood, and near was a blessed well, now dry. The local traditions still tell of the Saint’s prayers at the old church, and of his journey through the district.”

Dunmore old cemetery, situated in Abbeylands North, beside the parish church of St. Nicholas, stands high above the roadway, strongly enclosed, and contains some slight remains of an ancient ruin, concerning which tradition is silent.

Cloc-ma-Kiraun — derivatively Kirwan’s Castle—situate on private property, the lands of Mr. Charles Flattery, contains the remains of an old ruin from which it takes its name. The interments in this cemetery, or in Kiltivna, are very infrequent.

Ardcloon, a well-walled cemetery, lies right on the boundary of Dunmore and Liskeevy parishes,—half in each. Some portions of an old church may still be seen, but no tradition about it is extant.

Cloondergan Church and graveyard are mentioned in old Ordnance Surveys, and tradition says they are more ancient than Ardcloon; that clay was brought from Cloondergan at the blessing of Ardcloon cemetery. The site overlooks a wide-spreading prospect of the Clare river towards Kilvine, but a grove of trees, surrounded by a wall, is all that remains of this ancient foundation.

Shrúle is associated with the name of our National Apostle. The Ordnance maps mark a bullaun, or hollow stone, used as a font, close by the old church, as “St. Patrick’s Stone.” The place still shows the well-defined foundations of a church, surrounded by some scraggy trees. A tradition, similar to that about Cloondargan, states that clay was brought from Shrúle to the blessing of Dunmore cemetery, which would seem to indicate that Shrúle antedates Dunmore. Shrúle is derived from “Shru-Fuil” —blood river—it ran red with blood after a battle in ancient days.

#### **Some Notable Names Connected with Dunmore.—**

I.—The O’Kellys, who had a fort in pre-Norman times near the site of the Augustinian Abbey. The O’Connors — Turlough, Roderick, Cathal—Turlough-Mor, 1106-56, “the Augustus of the West,” had his great fort in Clooneen, where the Norman Castle now stands. The MacCarthy Mor and Conor O’Brien, of Munster, who destroyed O’Connor’s fort, 1133. Murthough O’Loughlin, who demolished the stronghold, 1155. Milo de Cogan, who occupied the fortress, 1176. Hosty Merrick, who founded the Castle and the Walls for which the “murage” tax was collected, 1280. The de Birmingham, Lord Athenry and Lord Louth, who seized the Cantred of Dunmore in the 13th century. Walter erected the Augustinian Abbey, 1425. The de Burgos, whose fort was at Carrantrilla, Walter de Burgo held the castle in 1566,

in which year Lord Athenry claimed it from the Lord Deputy, Sir Philip Sidney. John Burke Fitz-Thomas seized and occupied the Abbey, 1574.

O'Flaherty razed castle and town, 1589, about which time the present castle was erected by the de Birmingham.

II.—The names of the Augustinians which have survived are: James O'Huragain, Rector of Dunmore, 1398; Peter Letman, O.S.A.; Peter O'Chonagh, O.S.A., and Nagonius O'Thudura, 1415, before the Abbey was established.

Priors—Thadaeus O'Connell, secretary to Dr. O'Quaely; Paul Brehon and Prior McDonnell.

Friars—Peter Mulligan, Pat Brennan, Thomas Tully, Thomas Mulvey, Thomas Reilly, Pat Crehan, Augustine Higgins, Patrick Kane, John O'Neill, Michael Hussey, Patrick Kelly, Patrick Mannion, Michael Nestor, John Kelly, Michael Cahill, Page, O'Hara, Twomey, Jennings, Morris.

III.—Lord Ross, Sir George Shea, Colonel Gore, the Bodkins, the Handcocks, the Jennings, the Ouselays—John Gideon and Ralph Ouselay—the last was a Major-General in the Portuguese Army; Boetius Egan, Father Tom Rafferty; Mossop, the tragedian; Dr. Nicholas Lovelocke; Professor Charles Lovelock, Dean Egan, Parson Orr, Eugene O'Cahan, sculptor; Dr. Loftus.

#### iv.—PLACE-NAMES.

The interpretations of the place-names are in the main O'Donovan's, but a large number of names have been superadded to those found in the Name-Book. It will be observed that various ingredients enter into the composition of these words which have been derived from personal, historical and traditional associations, from fairies, animals, trades, physical features and descriptive qualities. The castle, the church, the fort and the ford, the hills, the valleys, the marshes and meadows, the lake, the stream, the pond, the mountain, the cat, the lamb, the carpenter, the horseman, the flax-bleacher, the shrub, the bush, the yew-tree, the oak, the hazel and the willow, the grange, the pin-fold, the wren, the corncrake, the lark, the thrush, the peacock and the bittern—all have been pressed into service in the formation of these picturesque compounds.

Fian or Fiangallion, Mananaun, More or Moira, Coll or Goll, Brodir, Clandaid, Mac Esshinas or Mac Hostys, Mac Oorish or de Birmingham, O'Connors, Blakes, Kirwans, the Gallda and the Ultacs recall the Mythological, Fenian, Ossianic, Danish, pre-Norman, Norman and Plantation periods of Irish history.

Διtte, a cliff: Attyflynn, Διτ-τιγε-ῤτοινν, the site of Flynn's house: Addergoole, Εαδαρ-ζαδαιλ, between the forks or fork-land: Ardcloon, Αρτο-ctuan, high lawn: Altarhill, Cpuacân-ατcôir, Ballydonlan, Βαite ua Όomnatân: Ballintava, Βαite-αν-τσαμα, village of sorrells: Βαite Βαιτέρ, Walter's town, called after Walter Blake: Ballintise, Βαite-αν-τσαδαρ, the liv-

lage of the machine: Ballymoney, *baite ua maínín*, Mannion's town: Ballagh, *beatac-brenós*, road of the sluggish stream: Breunra, *breunra*, dug-out stubble land or malodorous land: Baunoges, *banógaíde*, small green fields: Ballinlass, *baite-an-teara*, village of the fort: Brackloon, *breaac-clúan*, speckled meadow: Ballaghadorrougha, *beatac-doréa*, dark road.

Carrownagur, *ceatramad-na-scóir*, quarter of the herons or cranes: Cruacarath, *cruac-a-rac*, hill of the fort: Carrowroe, *ceatramad-muad*, reddish quarter: Clocmakeeran, *cloc-ma-cíaráin*, Castle of Kirwan's plain: Cloonkeen, *cluan-caoin*, pleasant meadow: Curraghan, *curnocán*, rough hilly land: Cluan-Dáirgáin or *Dalgaín*, Dargin's lawn or thorny meadow: Cloonfane, *cluan-pean*, meadow of the Fians or Fiangallions: Checkerhill, *cnocáin-breaac*: Cruacmananaun, *cruac-mananáin*, Castlefarm, *rairé-a-cairleán*: Clooneen, *cluínín*, small lawn: Cappagh, *ceapac*, a plot: Carrowmanagh, *ceatramad-mead-naac*, middle quarter: Carrownaseer, *ceatramad-na-saor*, quarter of the masons or carpenters: Cloonmore, *cluan-mór*, large lawn: Cluid, *cluid-a-guaitáin*, shoulder corner: Carrantrilla, *ceatramad-trádaite*, quarter of the cornercrake: Carrowmuniagh, *ceatramad-múineac*, shrubbery quarter: Cloonagh, *cluan-eac*, meadow of the steeds: Cruckanewer, *cruac-an-iubáir*, hill of the yew-tree: Carrowcullen, *ceatramad-coitlin*, woody quarter, Carrowpadden, *ceatramad-páirín*, Paddy's quarter: Carrowkeelanahglass, *ceatramad-caol-leuna-glac*, slender quarter of the green meadow.

Dunmore, *dun-mór-ni-mananán*, fort of Mor the daughter of Mananaun: *dun-mór-mic-íeóruir*, fort of the Mac-Oorishes or Berminghams: *dun-mór-mic-oírreana*, fort of the Mac-Esshinas or Mac-Hostys: Darray, *darraríde*, oak-woods: Dunbally, *dun-báite*, fort village: Derrymore, *dáire-mór*, great oak-wood: Drimbane, *drum-bán*, white ridge: Dunblayney, *dun-bléitne*, Blaney's fort.

Falmore, *fat-mór*, a large fence: Flaskagh, *flacac*, land of twigs.

Gortagurraun, *gort-a-gráun—gearraun—gerann*, field of grain or horses or trees; Grange, *grainread*: *gort-na-teara*, fort field: Graigacullaire, *grais-a-coitléir*, the grange of the quarry: Gortnalea, *gort-na-lia*, field of the grey stone or physician: Garrafauns, *garb-fearán*, rough grassy place: Gortnagoine, *gort-na-gcaóan*, field of the barnicle geese: Gortaleam, *gort-a-team*, field of the leap: Gaiter street, *gráir-na-gaiteir*, street of the oaten cakes. Luke and Sally Pinan sold farls of oaten bread in this street; hence the name. Glanismeer, *glan-na-rmeair*, vale of the blackberry: Glanismol, *glan-na-rmól*, glen of the thrushes.

Knockatoura, *cnoc-a-tuairé*, hill of the bleaching ground;

Knockaunamoohallee, Cnocán-na-mbuaacaittí, boy's hill: Knockballyvisteal, Cnoc-báite-mírtéal, hill of Mitchell's village: Kilnalappa, Coill-na-teapta, woodbed: Cnocanawishoge, Cnocán-a-íuireós, lark's hill: Kiltivna, Cill-tSuibne, Sweeney's or Suiney's church: Kilnaslieve, Coill-na-Sliab, wood of the mountain: Knockaunagath, Cnocán-a-ḡ-cac, Cathill or battlehill: Killivoher, Coill-a-bóchair, wood of the road: Kilmurry, Cill-murraíḡ, church of the grassy sward or Murry's church: Cill-luine, Looney's church: Kilclooney, Cill-cluaine, church of the meadow.

Lisnatreeblee, líor-na-otrí-n-ḡlaoir, fort of the three battles; líor-na-otrí-mblaoic, fort of the three shouts; líor-na-otrí-clóir, fort of the three ramparts: Lishivaun, líor-Siubán, Joan's or Julia's fort: Liscasserly, líor-Caireptaíḡ, Lissybrodir, líor-ua-ḡroir: Lissawaura, líor-an-báire, fort of the hurling field: Lisavallaire, líor-an-méallaire, fort of the deceiver, named from Fogeemara or Will-o-the-Wisp: Lisnagranard, líor-na-ḡcrann-áir, fort of the high copse: Lisseachra, líor-eaétra, fort of the plain or bottoms: LisClandaid, líor-clan-daio: Lismulcrone, líor-maolcraon: Lisgarraunagappal, líor-ḡcrann-na-ḡcappaítt, fort of the horse grange: Lisnaseraghna-gall, líor-ná-rearraic-na-nḡall, fort of the foals of the strangers: Lisnagry, líor-na-ḡraíḡe, fort of the pinfold: Lisanon, líor-an-úain, fort of the lamb or cave: Lissachran, líor-an-érrann, fort of the tree: Lisnashragh, líor-an-rreagḡ, fort of the shreagh or swamp: Leacht-a-leaga, leaé-t-a-téíḡe, league monument. It marked site of watch tower, three miles from Dunmore, on top of Checker Hill overlooking Co. Roscommon: Lissyconnor, líor-ua-ḡconubáir, O'Connor's fort: Loorha, luaétra, sedgy place: Laughill, leaé-coítt, half-wood: Leenareeva, léun-a-riobac, grey meadow.

Mealeane, míon-leuna, fine lawn: Mullaghmarkagh, mut-lac-marcaé, horseman's hill: Moneenpollagh, moínín-pollac, hole-pitted bog: Menus, meáonair, middle part.

Pollakeen, pollacín, duck pond: Peacockhill, cnočan-peacós: Pollaphuca, poll-a-puca, fairy or goblin hollow.

Quinultagh, cíung-ultac, swingle-tree of the Ulster man, or cíung-atrac, knotty swingle tree?

Rathcoll, rat-cóill, hazel rath: Roymonahan, rat-monaáin, Monaghan's fort.

Shrúle, Spuáir, stream or rpu-fuít, stream of blood. It was a battle ground: Sylauagraun, raóíḡlán-na-ḡcrann, willow copse: Shanballymore, rean-báite-móir: Sionhill, Síḡean hill: Summerhill, cnočan-an-tSamháir.

Teamplegallda, teampaítt ḡallta, stranger's church: Tober-naclug, tobaíir-na-clós, i.e. Belwell: Toberanara, tobaíir-na-raíte, well of the fort: Toberadosh, tobaíir-na-roíir, well of the bush.

## v.—RING FORTS, Etc.

The number, formation and strategic position of the forts in this parish evidence the existence of a long-vanished martial race of fort-dwellers. A glance at the accompanying map—on which the heights are marked, and a discerning look at the descriptive sketches, will enable one to gauge the military efficiency of any particular fort. The parish practically forms a catchment area for the Sinking River, which bisects it in its Westward course. The Sinking River derives its name from the fact that it sinks under the limestone bed of the old avenue at Killuney. Here the river is diverted into an old mill-race, and the main stream is almost all absorbed in the Summer season. The Slieve Dart range “dark, wasteful, wild,” is a natural, nearly impassable, barrier on the Northern boundary, and only a few forts are found along its sides on the Southern slopes, but many lie along its base. In the bog-girt tongue of land comprised in Slieve, Cloonmore, and Gurteen-bawn, no raths are discoverable, as the position was sufficiently protected by its environment and by the hill forts which compassed it.

Some of the raths present interesting features. The most remarkable of them are the triple raths at Woodbed, Belwell and Carrowpadden; the double raths—Cruac-a-Rath, at Roymonaghan, Donelan’s at Belwell, Lake Fort at Dunblayney, Knockatoura at Ballywataire, Black Fort at Carrowmuniagh, Lismore at Killuney, and Cloonagh Fort, the largest rath in Ireland. In the main, the personal names associated with the forts are modern appellations, but many names are embodied in the titles of the forts from time immemorial, such as Mannanan, Moira, Clandaid, Mulcrone, Conor O’Brien, Hugh Connor, “Owenmacloughlin,” Blayney, Casserly and Brodir. The last is a Danish name. A Dane named Brodir killed Brian Boru at the battle of Clontarf,—Dalton, p. 147. Seven or eight of these names are not now known as personal names in this parish.

Every type of fort is represented:—the triple rath, the double rath, the simple garth, raised or unraised, with a single rampart of earth or stone. The formation of the garth is variable,—in some both scarped and piled, in some following the contour of the hill slopes. A few raths have had stone ramparts rising over scarp and counterscarp, or an earthen rampart has served as the foundation of a stone structure with an outer earthen bank. In the triple rath at Woodbed, the foundations of a wall 3ft. wide is still in situ on the ten-foot scarp of the inner bank. Many of the banks and ramparts are reinforced with stone. Some of the hill-forts are seated on eskers or isolated hills, and formed strong defences against an escalade. I found a few of these elliptical in shape, scarped longitudinally, with banks and ditches at the ends. Many garths disclose the entrances of souterrains, which were roofed with the large flags found in superabundance on the moun-

tains. Some of these souterrains lead away from the forts, "through rampart, ditch and palisade," to uplands, or down to water-courses. I found forts used as haggards, orchards, paddocks, secluded enclosures for bee-hives, and as cemeteries. Some are prettily festooned with briars, hazels, and white thorns, and, as they are regarded as fairy domains and popular imagination has peopled them with those aerial beings, in the great majority of cases they are left severely alone.

From a strategical point of view, it is interesting to note that where the approach is open forts abound, and where an unfordable river or impassable bog intervenes forts are comparatively few or altogether absent. If I correctly assign a military objective to the incidence of groups of forts in country easy of approach, the theory accounts for their unevenness of distribution in a number of instances. It will be seen on the accompanying map that the W. and S. E. sides, on account of their secure position, and the N. mountainous border are practically destitute of forts. The N. E. boundary, where an incursion of pillagers might be expected, was a vulnerable point, and, accordingly one finds on the slopes of Knockaunbrack, and in the immediate vicinity dominated by it, a grouping of thirty forts, and similar clusters occur on the easily accessible S. side. There is an old tradition that watch and ward was kept on the summit of Knockaunbrack.

82.—**Lismore**, Killuney: A circular earthen rath of somewhat unusual design on a hill side facing S. As will be seen from the plate opposite next page, the rampart diminishes in height from 18ft. on the N. side, where the fort is commanded by the higher ground, to only 5 ft. on the S., where it commands the lower ground, with a corresponding reduction of ditch from N. to S. The outer bank, which was about 5 ft. on N., disappears to S. The garth, which is apparently raised by piling on S. side, is on the same plane with the hill slope and was tilled. There is a gangway on S.E. across the ditch, with ope in the rampart, which seems to have been used as a cartway for tillage operations. Although a good deal ravelled, the design of the rath shows much military skill, the banks and ditch being reduced in proportion to the gain in advantage of ground. A souterrain ran S.E. to the Sinking River under the old avenue where for 100 yards the river sinks in the limestone formation. The rath is in sight of Lissybroder on the southern uplands across the river valley. The farm fort Graigacullaire (149), presents the same features of construction, but not on such a large scale as Lismore.

46.—**Knockatoura Fort**, Ballywataire: A very large circular fort near the river in the Belwell valley. Although much ravelled, it is an interesting, well-defined fort and uncommonly large. It seems to have had stone ramparts, as rocks lie all around. Except a small segment on the W. side, the outer bank and ditch are obliterated. The diameter of the garth, which faces S. and is uneven, with a small mound in the centre, reaches 264 feet; inner face of rampart 6 ft.; scarp 10 ft.; ditch 10 ft. at bottom, 22 ft. at top; counterscarp 4 ft.

43.—**Lisnagranard**, Ballywataire: A circular earthen fort situated on a high hill commanding a far extending view to the Connemara mountains. The position is a strong one. It is a much ravelled fort, the rampart, ditch and outer bank having almost disappeared. The diameter of the garth, which has been raised by piling and scarping, is 102 ft.; scarp 12 ft.; ditch 3 ft.; counterscarp 4 ft.; portion of inner face of rampart 6 ft.

42.—**Donelan's Fort**, Tobernaclug: A circular earthen fort quite close to the last, and seated on high ground. It has been raised by piling and scarping. W. by S. there remains the foundation, 3 ft. wide, of a wall which arose over a 15 ft. scarp. The stones are still *in situ*, and it seems to have been a grouted wall. There is a gangway with ope in the rampart S.E. From W. to E. on the garth there is a foundation of a wall as though some ancient building was erected there. The fort also contains a souterrain. The outer-bank is mostly dug away. From the plate opposite one can see that this rath was a stronghold,

41.—**Lisgarraunaggappal**, Tobernaclug: A pretty fort, earthen and circular, surrounded and preserved by hazel bushes. The garth, which has been raised by piling, faces N. The ditch and bank were dug away on E. side, the rest is intact. The diameter of the garth is 102 ft., inner face of rampart 3 ft.; scarp, 14 ft.; ditch 11 ft. at bottom, 25 ft. at top; counterscarp 8 ft.; outer face of bank 8 ft. This fort, Lisnagranard and Donelan's fort almost form a triangle, and are a quarter of a mile apart.

44.—**Lisavallaire**, Tobernaclug: A much-mutilated, circular, earthen rath, half ravelled out and half used as a leacht or burial-ground for children. The garth dips to S. with the hill slope, and its diameter is 120 ft., ditch 10 ft. at base, 30 ft. at top; scarp 15 ft., and counterscarp 8 ft. In the river valley beneath is Tobernaclug, with which the name of St. Patrick is associated.

45.—**Gortnaleasa Fort**, Tobernaclug: A beautifully formed, circular, earthen, triple rath unfortunately half ravelled, but the remaining half is perfect in form. It lies on the same level on Ballywataire uplands as Lisavallaire, and inclines into the valley commanded by Lisgranard and Cruac-a-Wohallee forts. The plate opposite gives a section with measurements of Gortnaleasa, which contains an open souterrain roofed with massive flag-stones.

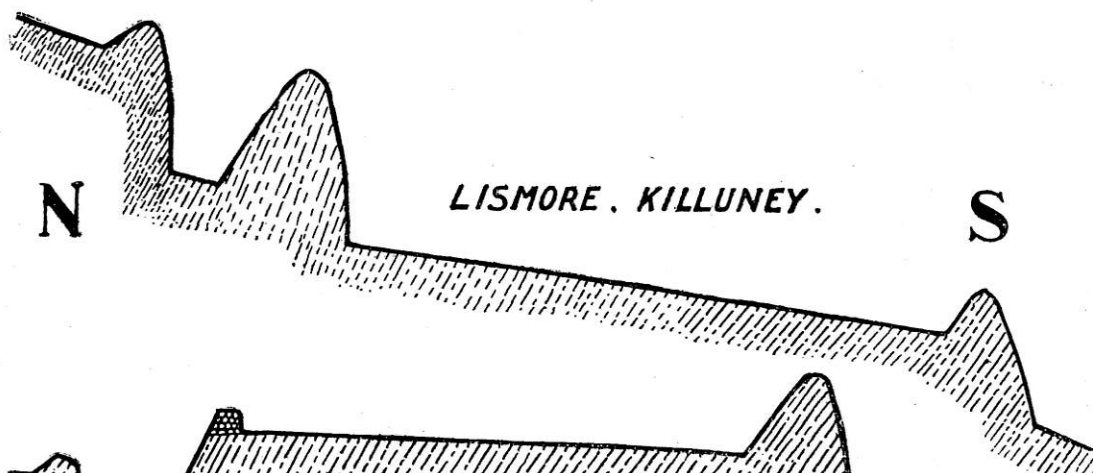
125 —**Lissybrodir**: A circular earthen rath opposite on S. to Lismore. It is in view of Lisgranard, Lismore and Cruac-a-Wohallee forts. The garth has a northward aspect, and has a small mound in the centre, but a segment of it has been cut away on the W. side. The diameter of the garth is 132 ft., inner face of the rampart 9 ft.; scarp 12 ft.; ditch bottom 10 ft., top 25 ft.; counterscarp 11 ft.; outer face of bank 4 ft.

126.—**Lissawaura**, Lissybrodir townland: A circular, earthen fort very much ravelled and raised by piling. It is not of much importance. It lies between the Carrantrilla forts and Lissybrodir. The ditch and bank have almost disappeared. The diameter of the garth, which was tilled, is 120 ft.; scarp 8 ft.; ditch bottom 10 ft., top 25 ft.; counterscarp 4 ft.

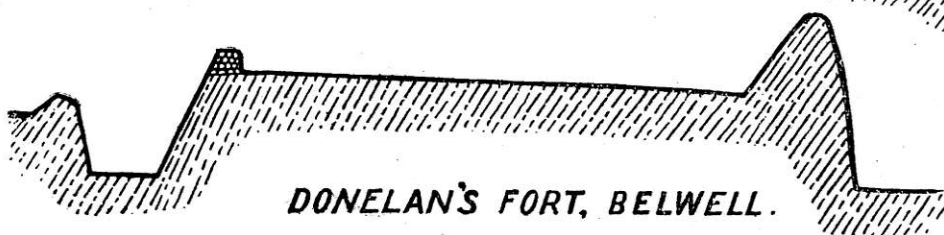
83.—**Carrowkeelanahglass Lisheen**: An insignificant circular, earthen rath, level with the surrounding land. It is simply a garth surrounded by a 3 ft. bank, the diameter being about 120 ft.

82.—**Ballinlass Fort**: A circular, earthen fort, raised by scarping, and situated opposite Lisavallaire and Gortnaleasa with a northern aspect. On the N. side the rampart has slipped into the ditch. Only a small portion of the ditch and bank remains. Tradition says a souterrain, with opening a few hundred yards distant on the southern uplands, ran into this rath. The diameter of the garth is 108 ft.; inner face of rampart 3 ft.; ditch 8 ft. at bottom, 21 ft. at top; scarp 11 ft.; counterscarp 6 ft.; outer face of bank 6 ft.

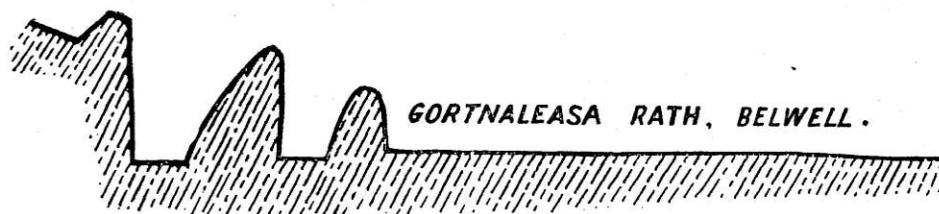
116.—**Lisnatreeblee**, Carrowpadden: A massive, circular, earthen rath much ravelled on the E. side. The rampart is slipped into the inner ditch, and the garth was tilled. It is in a fine position with wide-spreading outlook towards Ballywataire hills and Shanballymore. Tradition says it is called the fort of the Three Shouts, because, in the dim and distant past, a gigantic Dane gave three shouts in the morning, at noon and at sunset from



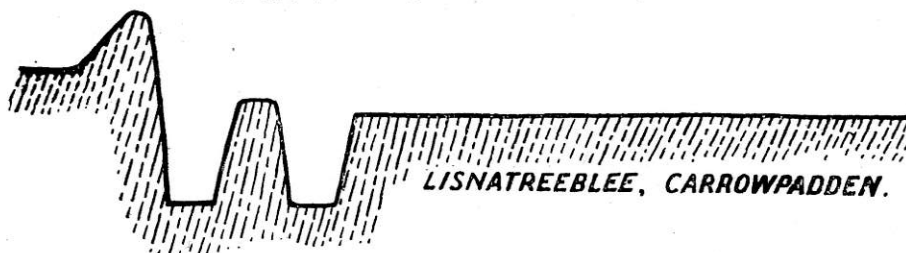
LISMORE . KILLUNEY .



DONELAN'S FORT, BELWELL .



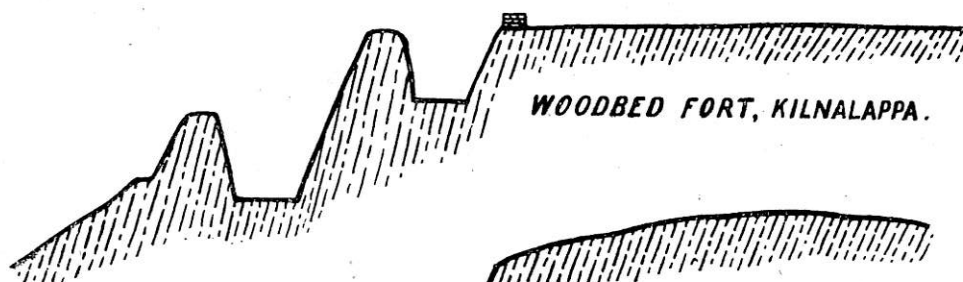
GORTNALEASA RATH, BELWELL .



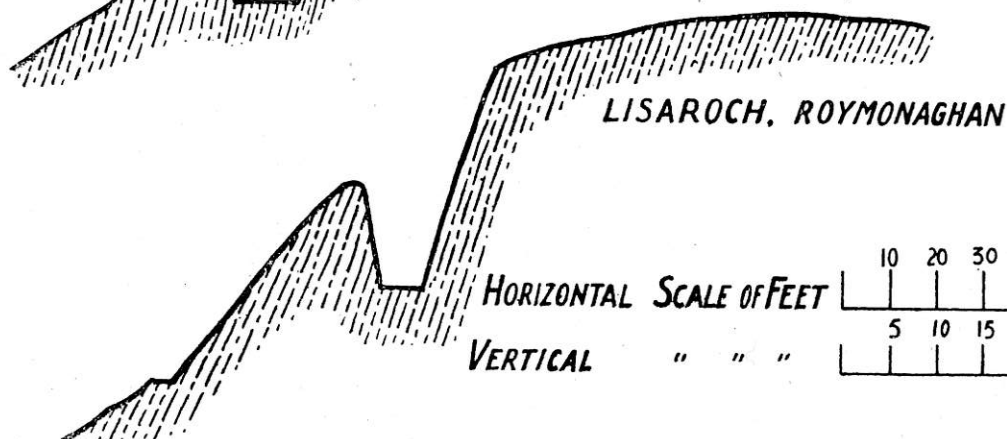
LISNATREEBLEE, CARROWPADDEN .



FORT AT CRUACAMOOHALLEE .



WOODBED FORT, KILNALAPPA .



LISAROCH, ROYMONAGHAN



the rampart of the rath. It may have been a primitive form of the military *réveille*, &c. The photo opposite page 112 gives a section with measurements.

119.—**Kenny's Fort**, Carrowpadden: A circular earthen fort wholly ravelled, of which only a faint design can be traced around the mound which remains. The garth would seem to have had a diameter of over 100 ft., and it lay on the lowlands under Lisatreeblee, which, by the way, the people pronounce Lisnatreemlee. Near this ravelled fort was a *cromlech* (the site of which is marked 120 on the map), on the westward side: the stones were removed years ago.

117.—**Lishibann** or **Lishiwaun**, Carrowpadden: A circular earthen fort very much ravelled. Only a few yards of the ditch and bank remain. The garth is used as a leacht or cemetery. It is situated on the hill slope with a western outlook, and lies quite near Lisnatreeblee and the Mill Fort. The diameter of the garth, which is slightly raised by piling, is 90 ft., inner face of the rampart 3 ft., scarp 6 ft.

118.—**Mill Fort**, Carrowpadden: An earthen, circular rath, situated on the brow of a hill commanding the singular Black Fort of Carrowmuniagh. Tradition says a wind-mill once stood near it. The bank and ditch are obliterated. The diameter of the garth is 120 ft., inner face of the rampart 4 ft., scarp 10 ft.

121.—**Lisvalleybrinoge**, Ballagh: A circular, earthen rath, much ravelled. Only part of the ditch and outer bank remains. It is situated on low-lying ground only about 'three shouts' from Lisnatreeblee. The diameter of the garth is 120 ft., scarp 8 ft., ditch 6 ft. at base, 12 ft. at top, counter-scarp 8 ft.

122.—**Lisheen**, Ballagh: Of this circular, earthen fort only a mound remains, formerly bog-girt. It lies on E. side of Lisvalleybrinoge.

123.—**Hill Fort**, Dunmore demesne: An elliptical earthen fort on a jutting hill scarped longitudinally. A small platform is cut at the base of the N. and S. scarps, and it had banks and ditches at the elliptical ends. It overlooks a pond 150 ft. below and the range of eskers in front on N.W. side. The garth is convex and its greatest diameter is 180 ft., width 80 ft., scarp 12 ft., ditch 12 ft., bank 4 ft. high.

No. 124.—**Heneghan's Fort**, in Dunmore demesne: A circular, much ravelled, earthen fort, but the mutilation leaves the plan intact. It is raised by piling and scarping, and lies on an upland E. of No. 123, with a northern outlook. The diameter of the garth is 150 ft., inner face of rampart 8 ft., ditch 10 ft. at bottom, 25 ft. at top, scarp 12 ft., counterscarp 8 ft. and outer face of the bank 4 ft.

138.—**Grange Fort**: A well-defined, circular, earthen fort with a very perfect ditch, situated on a hill slope on S. side of the Sinking river. It is in view of Rathcoll. The bank was stone-faced. The garth, which follows the hill slope, was tilled, and contains a souterrain. A stone gangway crossed the ditch E. side with ope in the rampart. The diameter of the garth is 120 ft., inner face of rampart 3 ft., scarp, 12 ft., ditch 12 ft. at bottom, 24 ft. at top, counterscarp 12 ft., outer face of bank 5 ft.

No. 80.—**Breunra**: On E. side of Dunmore are three jutting hills crested with pretty clumps of trees, which seem to have had forts formed by scarping on their summits. They lie in arc shape, the central being the largest. Perhaps, they may have formed the great fort of the O'Kellys (F. M. 1133).

139.—**Cloonagh Fort**: A very extensive, circular, earthen rath, embracing with its bank or,—as the owner says—its moons, 3 acres and 3 roods statute measure. It is said to be the largest fort in Ireland. The rampart was slipped into the ditch, which is almost levelled up, but I calculate from a portion taken into an orchard that the bottom of the ditch must have been 12 ft. wide. In its main outline it is a well-defined rath, although, W. and

E. sides, the outer bank has been cut through and piled into a high fence. E. by N. the old ravelled bank remains. It inclines gently to the Sinking River and is in view of Upper Darrary fort. The garth was 356 ft. in diameter. The diameter at present between the banks is over 380 ft. I think it must have been an entrepôt in troubled times, as it is situated on a tongue of land surrounded on three sides by bogs with the river in front. The inner face of the ravelled bank is 6 ft., outer face 5 ft. A souterrain led into the rath from the N. side.

140.—**Cloonagh Small Fort**: Circular, earthen fort on E. side of last. It lay on a hill slope in view of Knockaunagath. It was probably an outpost for the larger fort, which commanded the other sides of this bog-girt island. Unfortunately it is so ravelled as scarcely to yield any dimensions. From a small arc I infer that the diameter of the garth was 120 ft., ditch 10 ft. at bottom, scarp and counterscarp now 4 ft. each.

141.—**Knockaunagath Rath**: An elliptical fort formed by scarping the top of a hill on a line of eskers like that in Dunmore demesne. It commands a wide view S.W. and N. sides, and is in sight of Nos. 139 and 140. It is deeply scarped longitudinally, and the scarp seems to have been reinforced with stone. The E. side is cut by a roadway, but the W. end has a bank and ditch. The diameter of the garth, which is convex, is 130 ft. and 100 ft. wide, ditch 12 ft. at bottom, 25 ft. at top, scarp and counterscarp at ends 12 ft. each and the scarped sides 15 ft.

94.—**Lisroe Rath**: Circular, earthen fort on a hill slope overlooking Slieve and Cloonmore and having wide outlook N. side. The position is a good one. The plan is well-defined. The diameter of the garth, which follows the northern incline, is 150 ft., inner face of rampart 4 ft., ditch at bottom 12 ft., at top 25 ft., counterscarp 8 ft., scarp 12 ft.

93.—**Lisseechra**, Carrowkeel: Circular, earthen fort at a higher altitude and with a wider horizon than Lisroe. It is a much ravelled fort, and is in sight of Brackloon, Kilmurry and two other Carrowkeel forts. The diameter of the garth, which is apparently raised by piling, is 120 ft., inner face of rampart 12 ft., ditch at bottom 4 ft., at top 15 ft., scarp 12 ft., outer bank levelled.

95.—**Donelan's Fort**, Killivoher: An utterly insignificant square earthen lisheen (or moher?) in water-sodden ground. Traces of an outer ditch remain, but the bank has disappeared. The diameter of the garth is 60 ft., inner face of rampart 6 ft., ditch 3 ft.

96.—**Comer's Fort**, Killivoher: Circular, earthen, much ravelled fort, near Timoodaun, where the hill dips towards Clonberne parish. The roadway has interefered with N. side, but the plan is plain, and the outlook is fairly good. The diameter of the unraised garth, which is level, is 120 ft., inner face of rampart 4 ft., scarp 10 ft., ditch 10 ft. at bottom, 25 ft. at top, counterscarp 5 ft.

97.—**Kilmurry Fort**: A circular, earthen, uncommonly large rath in a commanding position with a fine view all around. It is much ravelled on the N. and E. sides. The diameter of the garth, which is level with the vicinity, is 150 ft., the inner face of the rampart is 12 ft., scarp 18 ft., ditch 12 ft. at base, 24 ft. at top, counterscarp 8 ft., outer face of bank 5 ft.

99.—**Flattery's Fort**, Brackloon: A circular, earthen, much-ravelled rath on a hill sloping S., and flanked N. and S. with bogs. The rampart has disappeared. It is deeply scarped on S. side and piled on N. The diameter of the garth, which is convex, is 120 ft., scarp 12-15 ft., ditch 6 ft. at bottom, about 24ft. at top, counterscarp 6 ft.

101.—**Lisgortagurrane**: A circular, earthen, mutilated rath, overlooking a large bog on S. side and Loughmakeeran lake on N.W. The garth, which is raised by scarping and piling and disfigured by clay pits, is 110 ft. in diameter, the inner face of the rampart is 4 ft., the scarp 12 ft., ditch 6ft., outer bank levelled.

103.—**Dunblayney Fort\***: A circular earthen fort, on a hill side near Cruacleembee, Yellow William's Hill. The garth follows the hill side which inclines towards Knockroe on N. It commands a wide horizon N., W. and E. The plan is plain although it is much mutilated by clay-pits. The position is a strong one. The diameter of the garth is 150 ft., inner face of the rampart 8 ft., scarp 15 ft., ditch 10 ft. at the bottom, 30 ft. at the top, counterscarp 15 ft., outer face 6 ft.

192.—**Lake Fort, Dunblayney**: A massive, circular earthen fort, reinforced with stone. It stands on E. side of Lough Agar, now drained, and is in the trough of the hills which shelter it N., E. and W. The garth, which is convex, contains a souterrain. The foundation of a 4 ft. wall is still discernable above the 20 ft. scarp. It formed a caishel around the garth, and the bank was also topped by a strong wall. It is burrowed by rabbits, and contains a fox's earth, where the vixen yearly rears her young far from human habitation. Diameter of garth 140 ft., scarp 20 ft., ditch 8 ft. at bottom, 33 at top, counterscarp 12 ft.: gangway with ope in rampart on S. side.

104.—**Dunblayney Fort**: A circular earthen fort, reinforced with stone, between Peacock hill and Lark's hill. It is much ravelled by burrowing rabbits. It is in sight of the Brackloon, Kilmurry and Gortagurrane forts. The garth and bank seems to have been circled by stone ramparts. The diameter of the garth is 100 ft., scarp 10 ft., ditch 10 ft. at bottom, 15 ft. at top, counterscarp 6 ft. The aspect is Northern.

106.—**Dunblayney Rath**: A circular earthen fort, on a high hill S. W. of Dunblayney house. Diameter of garth 120 ft. It is all levelled out—mere design discernible.

105.—**Dunblayney "Cahir"**: A circular *earthen* fort, near No. 106. Stone-heaps mark the circumference of a garth 100 ft. in diameter.

109.—**Knockroe Rath**: A circular earthen fort, in a good position on high ground. It contains a dug out souterrain 30 ft. long, 12 wide, and 4 ft. deep. The garth is level, and its diameter is 100 ft., the rampart is down, scarp 4 ft., ditch 6 ft. at bottom, 15 ft. at top, counterscarp 6 ft.

112.—**Finegan's Fort, Carraroe West**: A circular earthen fort, on high ground, dominating the country, which is a favourite hunting place for the Galway Blazers. It is of the ordinary type and much ravelled. The ditch and bank are nearly levelled. The garth, raised by scarping, has a diameter of 120 ft., scarp 8 ft., ditch 5 ft.

113.—**Finegan's Fort, Carraroe West**: A circular earthen fort, near the roadway, of which only the garth, raised by scarping, remains. The ditch and bank are obliterated. The garth diameter is about 80 ft., and the scarp 5 ft. The position is not of much importance.

111.—**Black Fort, Carraroe West**: A fine circular earthen fort, with a wide prospect, and covered with a thick screen of hazel bushes. The garth is level, and contains a souterrain. The outer bank is faced with stone. The diameter of the garth is 120 ft., inner face of rampart 6 ft., scarp 12 ft., ditch 10 ft. at bottom, 24 ft. at top, counterscarp 8 ft.

115.—**Orchard Fort**: A circular earthen fort, in very fine form. The garth is perfectly level surrounded by a high rampart, and no trace of outer bank or ditch remains. The garth, which is planted with apple trees and used as a paddock, has a diameter of 150 ft., inner face of rampart 8 ft., outer 9 ft. The position is an open one.

110.—**Gleeson's Fort, Carraroe East**: Circular earthen, much ravelled fort. The roadway cuts athwart it, and the bank is ravelled. It lay in open ground in view of the Carraroe West forts and the fort near Cruacleembee. The diameter of the level garth is 120 ft., inner face of rampart 6 ft., scarp 6 ft., ditch 6 ft.

\* Forts 103, 104, 105 and 106, are all called by the name of the townland.

114.—**Fort near Lough Agar**, Carraroe West: Circular earthen fort, of which only the piled up garth remains. A modern wall, rising above the rampart, encloses it. It inclines E. with hill slope. The diameter of the garth is 100 ft., scarp 6 ft. It lies opposite the Lake Fort, Dunblayney.

108.—**Carnagur Rath**: A circular earthen fort, N. of Knockroe fort, and overlooking Carantrilla. It is much ravelled, only the garth, which seems to have been piled, remains. It inclines S., and has a good outlook. The diameter of the garth is 120 ft., and the scarp 3 ft.

86.—**Carantrilla Fort**: Circular earthen fort, on upland S. of Cloonberne road. It is a much ravelled rath. The bank, ditch and rampart have disappeared. The garth is being gradually ravelled by rabbits. It has a large field of view. Diameter of garth 120 ft., scarp 8 ft.

87.—**Race Park Fort**, Carantrilla: Large circular earthen rath, lying in the bottoms. The rampart is very low, and as it was dominated by two other forts it may have been a pinfold. Diameter 200 ft., rampart 3 ft.

88.—**Demesne Fort**: A large circular earthen, much ravelled fort, seated on a hillside with a wide-spreading N. and W. outlook. The garth dips N. W. It is much ravelled, a wall, the continuation of a sunk fence, has been built into the garth S. W. N. It was formerly used as a burial ground, and is now thickly planted. Diameter of garth 150 ft., N. scarp 15 ft., S. scarp 8 ft., ditch 10 ft. at bottom, 20 ft. at top, counterscarp 6 ft.

89.—**House Fort**, Carantrilla: Circular, earthen rath at back of Carantrilla mansion. The garth is level, but has been raised by scarping E. side. The whole fort is overgrown with trees and shrubs. The rampart, which is almost intact, was a massive one, inner face 8 ft., 12 ft. wide, and it drops 15 ft. on outer E. side. The diameter of the garth is 150 ft.

Right on the rampart of the fort, N. side, there is the ruin of an old building. There is only one grouted wall with a heap of stones. The remaining wall is 4 ft. thick, 8 high and 24 ft. in width. It lay E. by W., and may have been the old dwelling of the de Burgos. Tradition is silent about it.

In the middle of the fort there is an obelisk with an inscription; "Erected to the memory of the amiable and lamented owner of Carantrilla, Anne Handcock, who died Aug, 20, 1818." On the N. side of the obelisk, there is a grave with five quern-stones arranged on it.

91.—**Flahertys Fort**, Carrowkeel: A circular, earthen, half-ravelled fort on a hill-side facing N. It is in conspicuous position. The N. side is scarped, the garth is level and its diameter is 160 ft., ditch 12 at bottom, 25 ft. at top, scarp 10 ft., counterscarp 6 ft.

92.—**Flaherty's Fort**, Carrowkeel: Circular, earthen fort, which has been built over, and almost completely destroyed. Only a segment remains at entrance to the herd's dwelling to show that it was a rath.

90.—**Liscasserla**: Circular, earthen fort, of which only the piled up garth remains, opposite Carantrilla main entrance. It commanded a good view W. and N. It is now overgrown with trees. The diameter of the garth is 120 ft. and the scarp 15 ft.

65.—**Rathcoll** in Cruacmannanaun; Knockatee East: This is referred to in O'Donovan's letters. It is a circular hill fort, formed by scarping. It commands the river valley, and is quite close to the castle of Dunmore. The hillock is about 140 ft. high. Roderick O'Connor is said to have died here. The diameter of the garth, which is convex, is 120 ft., scarp 12 ft., other features obliterated.

156.—**Prospect Forts**: Circular, earthen raths on N. side of Rathcoll, now mere mounds 6 ft. above roadway in Prospect demesne.

72.—**Gilmore's Fort**, Knockatee East. A circular, earthen, ravelled fort, used as a leacht or burial ground. It had an outlook towards Grange and towards the mountains. The diameter of the garth would seem to have been 120 ft., E. scarp 8 ft.

73.—**Gortnaguine Fort**: Circular, earthen fort in low lying ground. The position was not very advantageous. The garth, which was raised by scarping, is convex and much mutilated. Its diameter is 100 ft., scarp 8 ft., ditch bottom 10 ft., top 20 ft., counterscarp 6 ft., outer face of bank 5 ft.

61.—**Lisnaleen**, Cappagh: A large, circular, stone fort with an area of 1 rood 4 perches. The position looks S., on which side it is slightly scarped where it touches the turlough. The garth follows the hill-slope. The rampart is replaced by a modern loose-stone wall.

60.—**Lismulcrone**, Cappagh: A circular, earthen fort much mutilated. It is near No. 61. The ditch and rampart are completely dug away. The diameter of the garth, which commands a good view N. and S., is 100 ft., scarp 10 ft.

59.—**Lisclandaid**, Cappagh: A circular, earthen hill fort wholly mutilated beyond recognition. Several small holdings converged on the fort. No measurements available. These three forts lie at the base of Slieve Dart under the highest point of the mountain.

58.—**Lisheen-Ouseley**: An earthen fort elliptical in shape. The spur of a low range of hills is piled and scarped to form the fort. Its outlook and inclination is S., and it contains a souterrain. The gangway S. seems modern. The diameter of the garth at its greatest is 120 ft., scarp 10 ft.; rampart, ditch and bank have disappeared.

7.—**Lissconnorobrien**, Knockaunbrack: A circular, earthen fort, sloping N., and deeply scarped on that side. It lies S. side of Checker Hill near the roadway. The garth diameter is 115 ft., inner face of rampart 6 ft., scarp 15 to 25 ft., counterscarp 10 ft., outer face of the bank 5 ft.

4.—**Collin's Fort**, Lissyconnor: A circular, earthen fort much ravelled. The bank and ditch have disappeared. The outlook S. is very fine. The garth follows the southward inclination, diameter 105 ft., scarp 6 ft., inner face of rampart 2 ft.

2.—**Falower**, Little Castle. This seems to have been a ravelled hill fort. It was used as a leacht or burial ground, and, tradition says, the King of the castle was buried there. A large rubble-heap is piled in a deep cleft on the brow of the hill, which was embraced by the rath-area.

3.—**Lisduff**, Littlecastle: A circular earthen rath of simplest design on the uplands S. of the roadway. Bank and ditch are absent. A rampart 6 ft. high encloses a garth level with the vicinity and 115 ft. in diameter.

5.—**Rabbitte's Fort**, Lissconnor: A circular, earthen fort in very open ground and much ravelled. It stands on an isolated hillock. The garth, which is level, contains 7 perches of land, surrounded by a 4-ft. rampart.

33.—**Rabbitte's Fort**, Gortaleam: A well-defined, circular, earthen fort overgrown by a thick screen of hazel bushes. On N. side it is mutilated by clay-pits. It has a good Northern outlook, and was deeply scarped on that side. Diameter of garth 120 ft., inner face of rampart 4 ft., scarp 10-15 ft., ditch 4 ft. at bottom, 10 ft. at top, counterscarp 3 ft.

34.—**Peake** or **Cruacamooallee Fort**, Gortaleam: A circular, earthen fort with a very wide horizon. It is situated on the mountain at a high altitude. The view from the top of this hill commands the whole parish. It is a well preserved fort. The bank was surmounted by a stone structure all around. The plate opposite p. 112 gives a section with measurements.

57.—**Lisduff**, Looorha: An elliptical earthen fort on an isolated hillock with a dip S. The garth, which was raised by scarping and was tilled, follows the slope and contains in centre a ruck, the remains of a stone structure. Its situation is open. In area the garth is 120 by 150 ft., inner face of rampart 6 ft., scarp 6 ft., ditch 10 ft. at bottom, 20 ft. at top, counterscarp 6 ft.

54.—**Cruac - an - Newer**, Carramanagh: An earthen fort on an isolated hill in the river valley near Shrulle. It was used as a cemetery, is much mutilated and deeply scarped on S. E. Large stones mark where outward bank lay on S. Its diameter was about 140 ft.

25.—**Cave**, E. of Ballycostello cross roads. It is choked up. Some time ago, it could be traversed in its westward course for a considerable distance. This souterrain marks the site or proximity of a ravelled fort.

13.—**McHugh's Fort**, Kiltivna: Circular, earthen fort S. of Kiltivna church in Templetogher, border of simplest design. The bank, rampart and ditch have disappeared, and only the garth remains, somewhat convex in form.

14.—**McHugh's Fort**, East of Kiltivna church: Circular, earthen ravelled fort on open ground. The garth is slightly convex. A three foot bank was topped by a walled rampart which has disappeared. The diameter of the garth is 120 feet.

12.—**Mullarkey's Fort**, Kiltivna: Circular, earthen strong rath of an interesting type. The garth is raised by scarping and discloses a dug-out souterrain. The rampart was topped by a four foot wall, with foundation stones still *in situ*, which formed a caishel around the garth. It is on an upland N. E. of Checker Hill. There is a gangway on E. side with ope in the rampart. The bank was reinforced and faced with stone. Diameter of garth, which was convex, 100 ft., scarp 12 ft., ditch bottom 10ft., top 20ft., counterscarp 10 ft., outer face of bank 7 ft.

11.—**Murphy's Fort**, Kiltivna: A circular, earthen fort ravelled completely on S. side. A laneway skirts it S. and N., and a wall has been built into the scarp, which is now 6 ft. The segment remaining shows that the fort was 120 ft. in diameter of garth.

10.—**Naughton's Rath**, Kiltivna. High up on side of Knockaunbrack a circular, earthen fort with a wide horizon from St. Mary's, Creggs, around by Mt. Dillon, Roscommon, to Carrach's mountain, Ballinlough. The garth was raised by scarping N.E. side and follows the steep incline. Diameter of garth 90 ft., inner face of rampart 4 ft., ditch 6 ft., scarp N.E. 8ft. There is a gangway S. with ope in the rampart.

9.—**The Monument**, Knockaunbrack: There is a mound on top of Checker Hill called Leacht-a-layiga, so named, tradition says, because it was a league from Dunmore. The generals stood here in war time and kept watch and ward. The view compasses a radius of 40 miles over Mayo, Roscommon and Galway.

18.—**Lisavranny**, Knockaunbrack: A circular, earthen fort high up on Checker Hill, which has quite a number of forts around it. On same altitude as Naughton's rath, it has a very wide field of view, and slopes with the steep fall of the hill. The fort was deeply scarped on N. side, where it has been mutilated by a clay-pit. Diameter of garth 120 ft., rampart, covered with hazels, 6 ft., ditch 4 ft. on E. side, bank ravelled.

6.—**Moore's Fort**, Knockaunbrack: A circular, earthen fort on the E. side of Checker Hill with a vast view over Roscommon and Galway. It commands an horizon of sixty miles. The garth, raised by scarping, is level. A stone rampart, with stones of foundation still *in situ*, arose above the scarp. The bank was reinforced with stone. Diameter of garth 90 ft., inner face of rampart 3 ft., ditch 7 ft. at base 20 ft. at top, counterscarp 10 ft., outer face of bank 5 ft.

8.—**Brennan's Fort**, Lissyconnor: Circular, earthen ravelled fort, a few hundred yards below Moore's, with an almost equally extensive outlook. A section, not mutilated, gives measurements. Diameter of garth 120 ft., inner face of rampart 3 ft., ditch 6 ft. at base 12 ft. at top, scarp 6 ft., counterscarp 8 ft.

26. — **Cartron Fort**: A circular, earthen rath between the line of eskers and the mountain. It has been raised by piling on S. side, where the hill dips, and it contains an open souterrain, not tampered with, which tradition says extends a mile east. It has a good southern outlook. The garth, raised by piling S and scarping N., is level. The ditch and outer bank are levelled. The diameter of the garth is 90 ft., scarp 8-12 ft., inner face of rampart 4 ft.

29.—**Higgin's Fort**, Attyflynn: A circular, earthen fort in a strong position on a conspicuous hill over the Flaskagh river. The garth is raised by piling. The bank and ditch are ravelled. The diameter of the somewhat convex garth is 120 ft. ; scarp 10 ft. ; inner face of rampart 5 ft.

30.—**Higgin's Fort**, Attyflynn: A circular, earthen fort on an opposite hill — of last, E. This one is greatly ravelled, the outline being just discernible. It is 120 ft. in diameter with a 3 ft. scarp on S. and W. sides. The position is commanding.

31.—**Martin's Fort**, Flaskaghbeg: A much ravelled, circular, earthen fort, half obliterated. It lies on high ground, and its line of view takes in Cruac-a-Rath, Woodbed and Lisduff forts. The garth is level and raised by scarping. The bank and ditch have disappeared. The diameter of the garth is 120 ft. ; the scarp 10 ft. Above it on the mountain top due N., there is a cairn, No. 32, a few upright stones with flags over them.

157.—**Addergoole-Beg Fort**: A circular, earthen fort on a low-lying field beside a small stream. It is levelled out and tilled on N.W. and E., but a portion of the S. scarp, 5 ft. high, remains to show its probable form and position. It lay in sight of Hernon's forts, Quinultagh.

68.—**Cloonkeen Fort**: A circular, earthen fort cut on E. side by the village lane. It lies on N. side of Slieve Dart and commands a wide horizon over Mayo and Roscommon. It is much ravelled ; rampart, ditch and bank are down, and the garth, which has a diameter of 100 ft., is raised 6 or 8 ft. above the lane, and slopes E. Slieve Dart from Shanballymore to Clogher is a great karoo of rocks and heather.

75.—**Fort near the Stream**, Darrary N.: An earthen fort, in shape an irregular rectangle. The spur of a hill is cut athwart by a ditch and deeply scarped N.E. and S. On these sides traces of an embankment exist, but so low-lying that the ditch must have been flooded in former days. The area of the garth, which is somewhat convex, is 90 by 70 ft. ; scarp 15 ft. ; ditch 10 ft. at base and on W. side 30 ft. at top ; counterscarp on W. 15 ft.

74.—**Conally's Fort**, Darrary S. A circular, earthen fort on a hill in sight of Cloonagh on S., and Quinultagh forts on the N. The ditch and bank have disappeared. The diameter of the garth, which is level and unraised, is 120 ft. ; inner face of rampart 5 ft. ; scarp 8 ft.

66.—**Gortnalea Fort**: A circular, stone fort high up on the side of Slieve Dart, commanding a wide horizon W., S. and E., and in sight of the hill forts from Knockaunbrack around by Carrowmuniagh to Knockballyvis-teal. The garth, used as a cemetery, is level and raised by piling on S. It contains a souterrain. Only foundations of the stone rampart remain. Diameter of garth 120 ft. A streamlet runs at base of scarp S. side of which is 8 ft. high.

69.—**Hernon's Rath**, Quinultagh. Circular, earthen fort lying well up the mountain side with a vast outlook W., S. and E. sides. The garth, which contains a souterrain, is raised by piling on N. side and by scarping on S. The rampart and bank were stone faced. The diameter of the garth is 100 ft. ; inner face of the rampart 4 ft. ; ditch 10 ft. at base, 25 ft. at top ; scarp 10-15 ft. ; counterscarp 8 ft.

70.—**Hernon's Cahir** ; A circular, stone fort a little W. of No. 69. The garth, level with surrounding land, is a mound 3 ft. high and the stone rampart has vanished. The diameter is 100 ft.

71.—**Hernon's Cahir** ; Circular stone fort in the next field, similar in form and equal in dimensions to last. All three are in a line and close together.

79.—**Cuniffe's Fort**, Curraghaun : Circular, earthen, much-ravelled fort in a line with the other two Curraghaun forts. Its position is insignificant. The garth was raised by scarping and its diameter is 120 ft. ; scarp 8 ft. ; counterscarp 6 ft. ; ditch 10 ft. at bottom, 20 ft. at top ; the rampart is levelled and a sand-pit threatens its extinction.

55.—**The Clish**: Near last, all mutilated, but it was a fort and now yields no measurements.

56.—**The Cahir**, Carrowmanagh: Circular, earthen fort of large design. If it was ever a stone cahir, the stones have been all removed, leaving not a wrack behind, and an earthen bank substituted. The earthwork is raised by scarping and piling, and the mutilated mound is, at its greatest diameter, 150 ft. and 7 ft. high.

53.—**Lisachran**, Carrowmanagh: A circular, earthen fort reduced by tillage operations to a mere mound.

51.—**Comer's Fort**, Shrule: An earthen fort, which was completely dug by the occupying tenant, who had no taste for the antique. He used the large flags of the souterrain for building purposes.

52.—**Drumbane Fort**: A circular, earthen fort in an upland on N. side of the roadway, sloped towards the mountains. The garth follows the hill-slope and contains a rubble-heap, the remains of a stone structure. These central stone-heaps are not infrequent. The diameter of the garth is 150 ft., ditch about 6 ft., but the bank and rampart have disappeared. A section of the ravelled bank shows that it was reinforced with large boulders.

35.—**Woodbed Rath**: A very fine, circular, earthen, triple rath in a strong position on the spur of a hill with a commanding outlook E. and W. along the valley, and S. This powerful fortalice is very perfect in plan. The banks are massive, the ditches wide and the inner rampart was topped by a ungrouted wall 3 ft. in diameter. The garth contains a souterrain, and a gangway led in N. side with ope in the ramparts. The banks were reinforced with stone. The plate opposite page 112 gives a section with measurements.

36.—**Rabbitte's Fort**, Woodbed: A circular, earthen hill-fort S. of No. 35. It is ravelled altogether. It was scarped on N. side. Diameter about 120 ft., scarped side 6 ft. A spoon-shaped hollow appears to indicate a dug-out souterrain.

37.—**Lisnasarangall**, now called **Lisnashreagh**, Ballintava: A circular, earthen fort of no importance N. of Ballintava house. It is situated in sodden ground. Rampart, ditch and bank are levelled. The garth is raised 4 ft. by piling from the Shreagh or water-logged field. Garth diameter 105 ft., outline of ditch 6 ft.

38.—**Demesne Fort**, Ballintava: Circular, earthen fort in the middle of Ballintava demesne. The rampart is ravelled, but the ditch and bank are fairly complete. It lies in open level ground with a good prospect N. and W. The diameter of the garth is 105 ft., scarp 5 ft., ditch 6 ft. at bottom 20 ft. at top, counterscarp 5 ft., outer bank stonefaced 2 ft.

39.—**Demesne Fort**, near Menlena: A circular, earthen fort S. W. of No. 38. It is much ravelled. The garth is raised by scarping. The rampart and ditch were reinforced with stone. The position commands a wide open view N. E. and West. The diameter of the garth is 100 ft., inner face of rampart 5 ft., scarp 11 ft., ditch 7 ft. at bottom 20 ft. at top, counterscarp 6 ft., outer face of rampart 4 ft.

40.—**Crossroad Fort**, Ballintava: A circular, earthen triple rath lower down the mountain than the Cruac-a-moohallee rath. It commands the valley from Attyflynn Westward. Middle ditch was reinforced with stone. A small section of outer bank remains. The level, unraised garth contains a souterrain. Diameter of garth 120 ft., scarp 8 ft., inner ditch bottom 10 ft. top 25 ft., counterscarp 12 ft., outer ditch bottom 12 ft. top 30 ft., counterscarp of outer ditch 12 ft.

48.—**McWalter's Rath**, Carrownaseer: Circular, earthen rath on a hill-slope looking N. It has a wide outlook E. and W. It is very well preserved. The garth is level and raised by scarping on N. side. The diameter is 160 ft., inner face of rampart 6 ft., scarp 12 ft., ditch 10 ft. at bottom, 25 ft. at top, counterscarp 8 ft., outer face of bank 6 ft. There is a gangway E. side with ope in the rampart.

49.—**McWalter's Fort**, Carrownaseer : A circular, earthen fort somewhat ravelled, quite close to No. 48 on N. E. The garth is uneven with a mound, or rather ruck in the centre, representing, doubtless, the remains of a stone structure. The diameter of the garth is 160 ft., inner face of rampart 5 ft., scarp 10 ft., ditch 10 ft. at bottom, 25 ft. at top, counterscarp 12 ft.

47.—**Menlena Rath** : A much-ravelled, circular, earthen fort. The E. side is levelled. The bank is ravelled, but on N. side, where the fort is raised by scarping, the hill-side or plateau on which it is seated drops 15 ft., forming a natural ramp. Diameter of garth 160 ft., scarp 10 ft., ditch at base 15 ft.

21.—**Cave**, Ballaghadorragha : There is here a souterrain probably of a ravelled fort. It is on the spur of land that overlooks Kilnalappa. The entrance chamber is lined with loose-stone masonry, and is roofed with heavy flags. It is at present 5 ft. wide, 9 ft. long, and 5 ft. high. It was very much deeper. The passage led E. at a depth under the surface of five feet, but it has been clogged with sand by burrowing rabbits.

21.—**Ballaghadorragha Rath** : A circular, earthen fort a few hundred yards east of the cave on high ground. It has an open view N. and W. The garth, raised by scarping, has a diameter of 120 feet, scarp 12 ft., ditch 10 ft. at bottom, 25 ft. at top, counterscarp 6 ft., inner face of rampart 4 ft.

16.—**McGuire's Fort**, Kiltivna : A circular, earthen, ravelled fort near No. 21 on N. Diameter of garth 120 ft., scarp E. 10 ft.—all else ravelled.

19.—**Lisadrollaun**, Ballaghadorragha : Circular, earthen rath on N. slope of Checker Hill in a commanding position N. E. and W. It is deeply scarped N., where hill drops abruptly. The diameter of the convex garth is 100 ft., scarp 10 ft., ditch 4 ft. The outer bank is ravelled and scarp reinforced with stone.

25.—**Finegan's Fort**, Ballycostello : Circular, earthen, mutilated rath on an upland near Templetogether. Bank, ditch, ramp, ravelled. Diameter of garth 120 ft., counterscarp 5 ft., ditch 3 ft.

22.—**Lisnagry**, Flaskaghmore : A circular, earthen fort seated on high ground. It was a large fort, but the E. side is ravelled. The garth is level. On the W. side a huge rampart remains. The diameter of the garth is 120 ft., inner face of rampart is 8 ft., but it is 12 ft. wide, and the scarp is 15 ft. on W. side, giving the fort a raised appearance.

27.—**Lis-a-Roch**, Roymonaghan : This is a very interesting rath. It is a circular, earthen stronghold, occupying the summit of an isolated hill so symmetrical as to appear artificial. At a distance, it presents the form of a truncated cone. Bushes grow around the bank at intervals, giving it a pretty appearance from the road N. side. The hill is over 100 ft. high from the bottoms, and is steeply scarped. The hill-slope forms a natural ramp all around. Though deep in the valley, it has a commanding view, and is not easily scaled. A section is shown opposite page 112. Close on W. side is the large full-flowing well called Tobernara, No. 28.

15.—**Lisowemacloughlin**, Kiltivna : A circular, earthen much-ravelled rath on high ground with a good open view. It lies near the old church. Only a small segment of the outer bank remains. The diameter of the garth is 180 ft., inner face of rampart 3 ft., scarp 6 ft., ditch 4 ft., remains of counterscarp 3 ft.

24.—**Fort near Smithy**, Flaskaghmore : Only the outline of a circular, earthen ravelled fort remains. It lay on an upland on border of Templetogether parish. The diameter of the garth would be about 150 ft.

23.—**Lisaloughaun**, Flaskaghmore : A circular, earthen half-ravelled fort of simple design, overlooking the Flaskagh valley. It is a sloping garth 120 ft. in diameter, circled by a rampart 4 ft. high.

78.—**Lisnabanon**, Curraghaun: Circular, earthen rath, inclined S. towards the Sinking river at its junction with the river Clare. It is well-preserved and overgrown with trees. The garth slopes slightly S. with the dip of the hill-side. The diameter of the garth is 120 ft.; inner face of rampart 4 ft.; scarp 6 ft.; ditch 7 ft. at bottom, 20 ft. at top; counterscarp 10 ft.; outer face of bank 5 ft.

77.—**Curraghaun Fort**; A circular, earthen fort further E. on an upland with a gentle slope towards the river. The outlook is S. It is circled by a thick outer bank, and is somewhat ravelled W. side. The garth follows the slope of the hill. The diameter of the garth is 120 ft.; ditch 8 ft. at bottom, 20 ft. at top; scarp 6 ft.; counterscarp 5 ft.; outer face of bank 4 ft. Both Nos. 78 and 77 are alike in form and situation. Usually, in the case of these forts, in proximity to rivers, souterrains lead down towards the river banks, but there is no trace of such here.

128.—**Lisduff**, Carrowmuniagh: Two large forts side by side—one a rectangular, the other semi-circular. The semi-circular work may have been a pinfold. The rectangular fort is piled, as far as I can judge, on N.E. and W. sides, and it slopes S. side. There are ditches and banks on W. and N. side and ditches only on S. and E. A little stream flows on the N. side and it may have been used for flooding the ditches, which are waterlogged at present. The garth of the rectangular fort is somewhat convex, the garth of the other is not raised, is of uneven surface, and, taken by itself, is insignificant. Its rampart, ditch and bank are ravelled. The whole complex work lies in a valley, and, save for the protection afforded by the ditches, appears to be ill adapted for defence.

129.—**Great Fort**, Carrowmuniagh: A circular, earthen fort W. of No. 128. Seated on the hills, it has a wide field of view, but it is very mutilated, as rampart, ditch and outer bank are ravelled. The diameter of the garth was 120 ft.; ditch 8 ft.; scarp 8 ft.; counterscarp 6 ft.

131.—**Small Fort**, Carrowmuniagh: Circular, earthen fort near the Tuam road. Only a segment remains showing 10 ft. scarp; 3 ft. ditch; and 8 ft. counterscarp. It lies in a hollow.

130.—**Round Fort**, Carrowmuniagh: Circular, earthen fort, much ravelled. It lies on high ground with a very wide overview, but it is of no importance in its construction. Diameter of garth 120 ft.; rampart 4 ft. high; ditch 8 ft.

132.—**Gannon's Fort**, Carrowcullen: A rectangular earthen fort, It is on the hill W. side of the road. The garth was raised by scarping. The outlook extends far west, Greatest diameter of garth is 135 ft.; scarp 4 ft.; ditch 6 ft.; counterscarp, 4 ft.

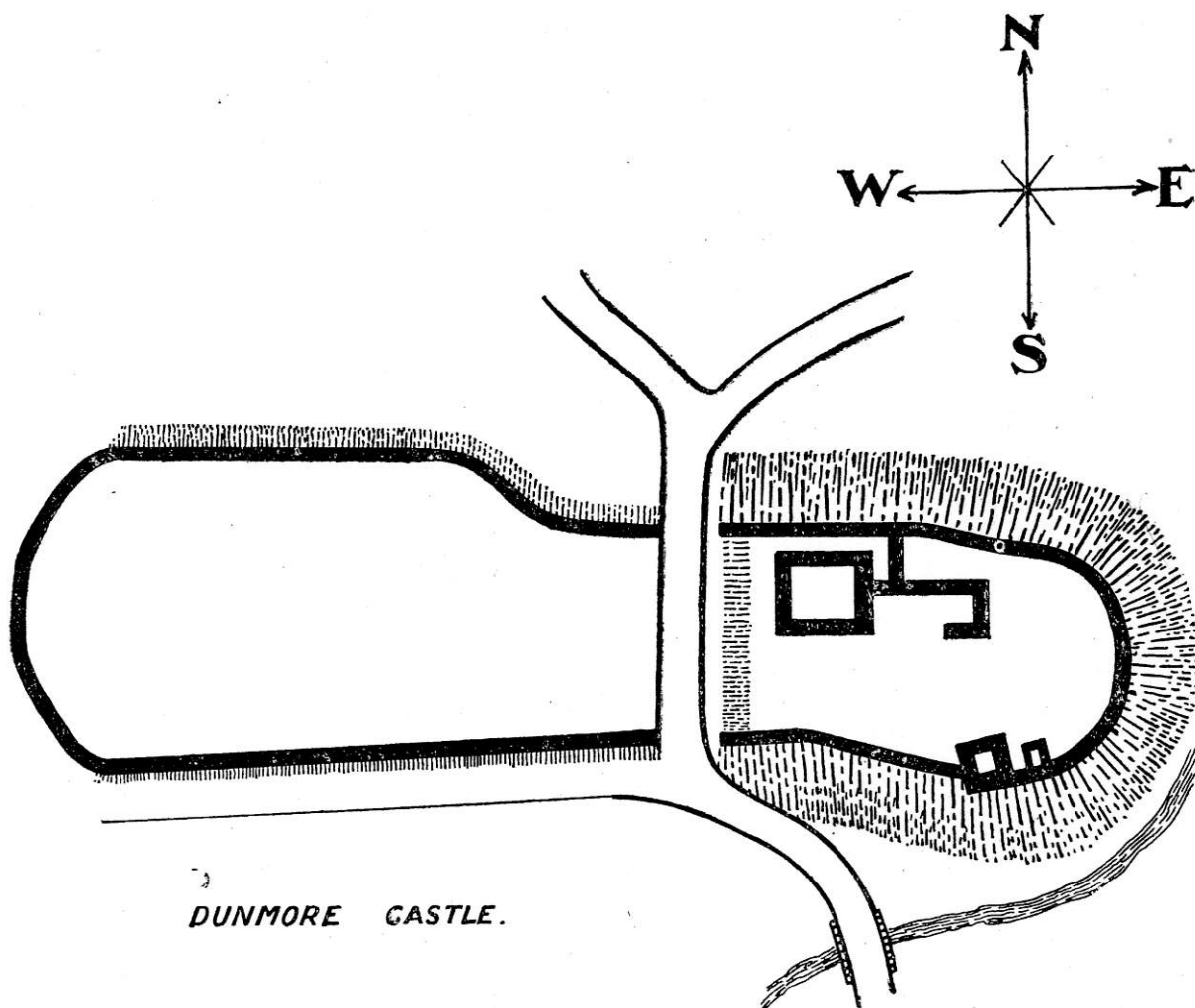
133.—**Killeen Fort**, Carrowcullen: A circular, earthen fort, but only the outline remains. It is a little W. of No. 132. The diameter was 120 ft., segment of scarp S. side 6 ft.

134.—**Water Fort**, Carrowcullen: A circular, earthen fort down the valley near the Sylane border. The sloping garth is piled S. and W. sides. Diameter of garth 120 ft.; scarp 10 ft.; ditch 10 ft. at bottom, 20 ft. at top; counterscarp 8 ft.; outer face 4 ft.

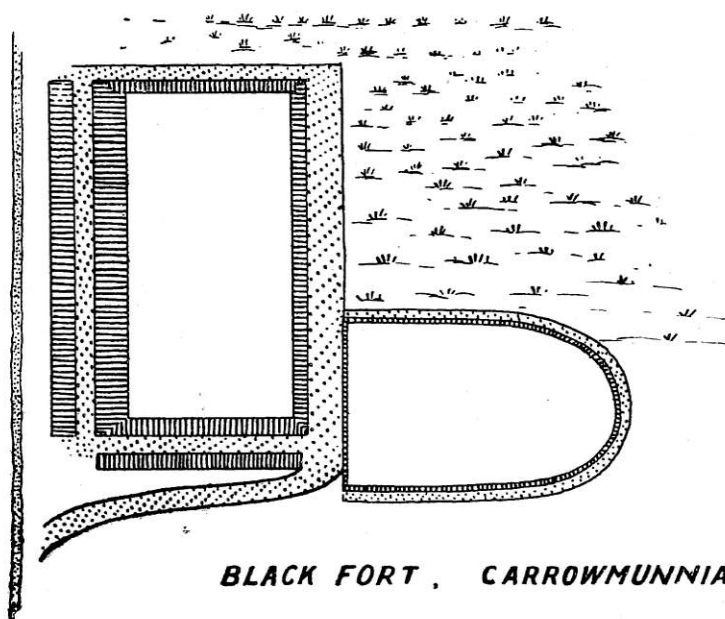
135.—**Aille Fort**, Circular, earthen fort on lowlying ground. The outer bank is ravelled. The greatest diameter of garth, which is oval, is 171 ft.; inner face of rampart 3 ft.; scarp 6 ft.; ditch 5 ft. at bottom.

127.—**Paddock Fort**; Circular, earthen fort on the spur of a hill overlooking Ballagh lowlands. The bank, ditch and rampart have disappeared; only the garth, which is level, remains. Diameter of garth 90 ft.; scarp 3 ft.

136.—**Ballymoney South Fort**; A circular, earthen fort looking N. Its position is not important, and only a segment of it remains. The diameter of the garth would be about 120 ft. There remains a 10 ft. scarp N. side and 10 ft. ditch.



DUNMORE CASTLE.



BLACK FORT, CARROWMUNNIAGH.

STREAM AND DITCHES

BANKS

SCALE OF FEET



137.—**Ballymoney North Fort**; A circular, earthen, well preserved fort with an outlook over Cloonagh bogs W. side. It is a strong fort with inner face of rampart stone-faced and deeply scarped S. side, where the hill slopes to the bottoms. The diameter of the level garth is 120 ft.; scarp 12-15 ft.; ditch 6 ft. at bottom 20 ft. at top; inner face of rampart 5 ft.; counterscarp 5 ft.

145.—**Connolly's Fort**, Knockballyvisteal: Circular, earthen fort on a hill slope looking S. over Graigacullaire bog. The garth follows the slope and is scarped S. side. It is much ravelled. The diameter of garth is 150 ft.; scarp 7 ft.; ditch 6 ft. at bottom 15 ft. at top; counterscarp 6 ft.; rampart ravelled.

146.—**Lyon's Fort**, Knockballyvisteal: A ravelled, circular, earthen fort on an upland W. of No. 145. Half of it has been levelled. It yields same dimensions as last. It has a good field of view N.W. and S.

147.—**Bourke's Fort**, Knockballyvisteal: Circular, earthen, ravelled fort, raised by piling, with a N. outlook over Lurgan bog. The diameter of garth is 100 ft.; scarp 5 ft.; ditch 6 ft.

148.—**Concannon's Fort**, Knock: Circular, earthen, half-ravelled fort. Tillage operations have encroached upon it. The garth was over 100 ft.; scarp 6 ft. The position looks far W.

149.—**Farm Fort**, Graigacullaire: Circular, earthen fort on a hill slope looking E. on which side a gangway crosses the ditch with ope in the rampart. The garth is in same plane with hill-slope. The fort has a high rampart and outer bank where higher ground commands it, and there is a reduction in both with the gain in advantage of ground S. side. The garth is apparently raised by piling E. side. A souterrain led into the fort from a little S. where its opening was some time ago closed. Diameter of garth 120 ft.; inner face of rampart 5 ft.; scarp 9 ft.; ditch 12 ft. at bottom 25 ft. at top; outer face 6 ft. These dimensions are taken on W. side.

151.—**Hill Fort**, Graigacullaire, near Kilnaslieve: An elliptical hill-fort formed by scarping the crest of a low hill all around. The platform, 3 ft., is plainly seen still at base of scarp which is only 4 ft. The garth is irregular, and contains rubble-heaps—indicative of former stone-structures in centre. Greatest diameter 160 ft. The hill lies in bottom land.

144.—**Kelly's Fort**, Lurgan: Circular, earthen, ravelled fort on a low hill. Its diameter was about 100 ft.

153.—**Strawberryhill Fort**, Lurgan: Circular, earthen fort on the kind of isthmus between Lurgan bog and Cloonagh bog. It is unimportant. The bank, ditch and rampart are ravelled, and only a level garth 100 ft. in diameter with a 3 ft. scarp remains.

154.—**Bourke's Fort**, Lurgan: Circular, earthen fort. The garth is level, does not follow the hill slope and is oval in shape. The outer bank is ravelled. Greatest diameter of garth is 140 ft.; inner face of rampart 3 ft.; scarp 8 ft.

152.—**McLoughlin's Fort**, Kilnaslieve: Circular, earthen fort with convex garth looking W., and situated in a valley between the hills—rubble-heaps indicate that the outer bank was a walled structure. The garth is raised by scarping W. and loops somewhat S. E. There is a gangway S. side. Diameter of garth 140 ft.; scarp W. 8 ft.

142.—**Kelly's Fort**, Knockaunagath: Circular, earthen fort, seated on a high hill with a wide horizon N. W. and S. It is banked and ditched on N.W., and deeply scarped on S. where the hill drops. The garth dips S. with the hill slope. Diameter of garth 110 ft.; scarp N. 8 ft., S. 15 ft.; ditch 10 ft. at bottom, 25 ft. at top; counterscarp 6 ft.

80.—**Breunra**.—On an upland, round which the Sinking river circles, there is a rath designated as above. It lies a few hundred yards S. of Breunra groves, and is very large. Bank and ditch have disappeared. Garth in greatest diameter over 200 ft., scarp 4 ft. all around.

## vi.—CASTLES.

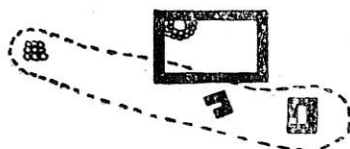
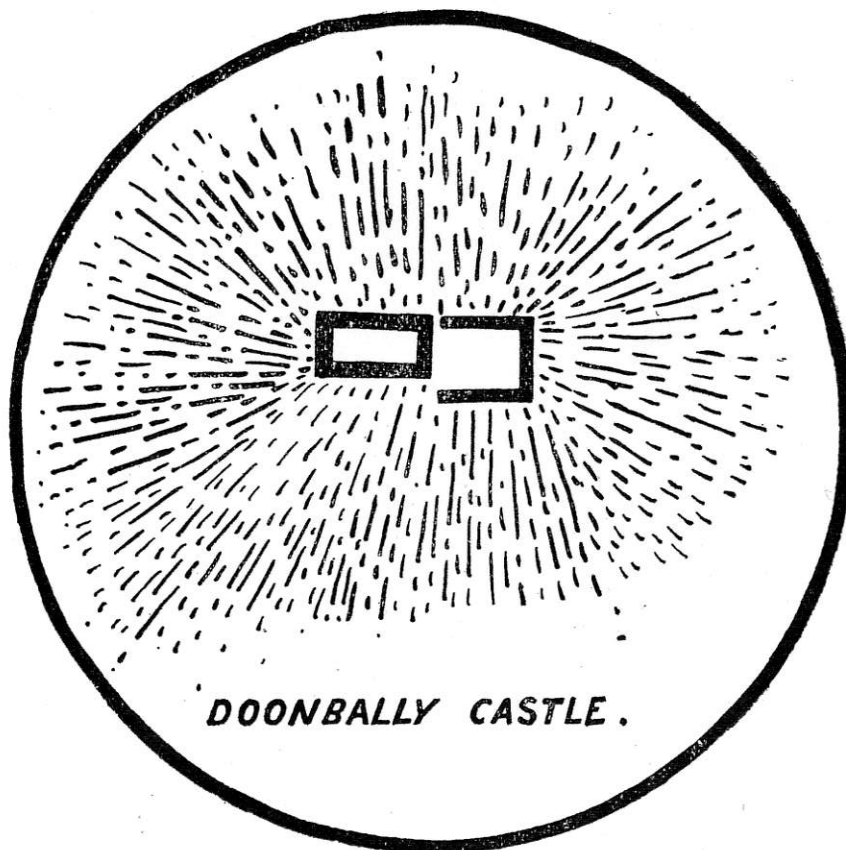
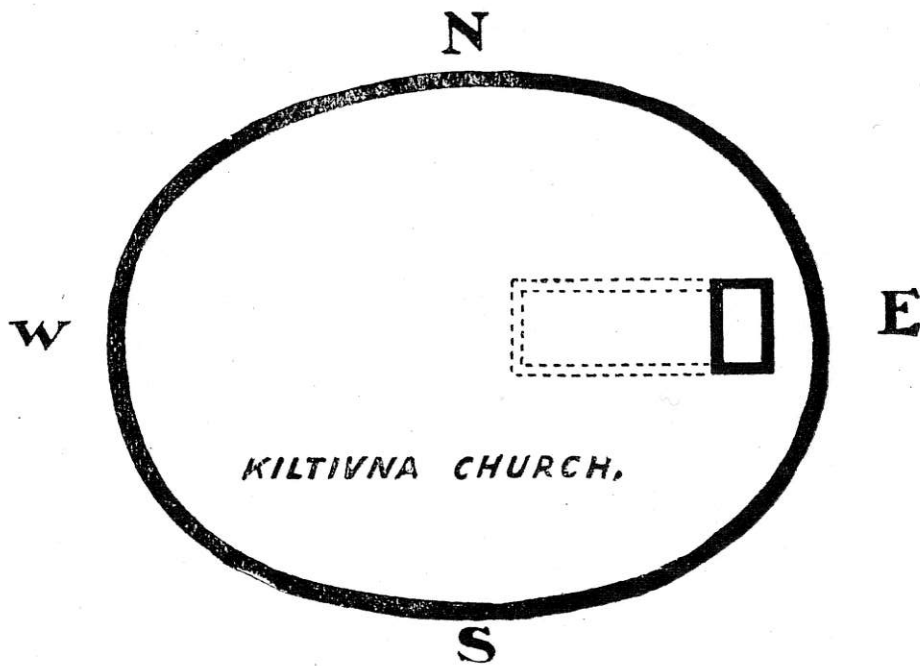
150.—**Doonbally Castle**, Graigaculaire: This castle stood on an isolated mound flanked by spurs of hills N. and S. Nine huge blocks of masonry strewn around and upwards of ten tons each, have kept together with wonderful cohesion. Tradition says the binding material was a compost of animal blood, sand and lime. The state of the ruin suggests that it was blown up. The castle proper stood on top of the mound with a subsidiary building 20 ft. lower down on N. The dimensions are shewn on plan opposite this page. It was surrounded by a ditch or fosse which loops out E. The stabling lay in a field E. where outline of foundations remains. There was an opening to a souterrain in the centre of the castle. Twenty years ago there was a picture of the castle in possession of Mr. Cornelius Bodkin, Kilclooney, showing that this castle was as massive as Dunmore Castle. A little stream runs on S. side, and a gangway led to it S. W. from the base of the mound.

1.—**Caislean Beg or Little Castle**: The ruins of this small square castle stood on a spur of low upland over a tiny stream. The material of construction was rubble masonry, but the castle has been long a quarry, and only the foundation remains, 24 ft. square in plan, walls 4 ft. thick. The openings of two souterrains leading N. E. and S. E. are to be seen in the centre of the castle ruin. Tradition says the castle was occupied by Lochlanni or Danes. Perhaps the castle was erected on a Danish fort.

63.—**Dunmore Castle** (see plan opposite p. 122, and photo opposite p. 98) stands on a mound deeply scarped N. E. and W. and 42 ft. above level ground and above river, which flows on S. side. The mound was originally a spur of land jutting in towards the Sinking river. Huge blocks of masonry, still intact, which are strewn along the river side, have a width of 8 ft. They are portions of the ruined walls which enclosed the fortification. One little section of the enclosure, still standing on the S. side of the tumulus, is 16 ft. high, but the foundations appear in several places. Extending a few feet through the wall on S. side and some feet beyond it, there was a building about 10 ft square, and east of this is a sunk, walled recess  $3\frac{1}{2}$  ft. wide, 5 ft. long and 6 ft. deep. It may have been the entrance of a passage through the fortifications to the river. Foundations of walls appear also as in plan on the surface of the mound. The castle is a square one, with gables rising on inside of the parapets. The pinnacles of the gables are 70 feet above ground-floor of the fortress. The walls are 8 ft. thick. The N. wall has no windows, but it has a chimney on second story, a chimney on third story and a doorway recessed, leading to battlements. There is a recess 8 ft. from ground on W. corner; and the stairway began on E. corner of N. wall. The S. wall has two doorways on ground-floor, 2 windows on second story and two double-lighted windows, still intact, with cut-stone frames, on third story. The E. wall has a small arched doorway, which led to some building outside, a large doorway, a window on first story, a window on second and a window near pinnacle of the gable. The wall had a groundfloor doorway, a small observation window, a few feet raised, a window and chimney on third story and a window high up on the gable. The courtyard of the castle stretched westward with S. slope and its outline is marked by 10 ft. scarp N. side and 5 ft. scarp by roadway S. side. A small portion of the courtyard wall remains at Commin's garden.

## vii.—CHURCHES.

98.—**Kilmurry Church**: This old ruin is situated on low ground which impinges on the broad bog that stretches towards Clonberne. The plan is 81 ft. E. to W., 24 ft. N. to S. The walls are 3 ft. thick, and there is a large doorway in the middle of the N. wall. Bones were dug up in quantities on N. side, and 70 yards N.W. there remains a segment of the old cashel wall or bank. In his History of the Diocese of Tuam, Knox writes of this church,



*CAPPAGH CHURCH AND WELLS*

*SCALE OF FEET* 8 16 24

which belonged to the Dominicans or Black Friars :—" Kilmurry, alias Kilbrenan, in Clonbern P. (?) was a house of Mendicant Friars under a Warder. It owned a cemetery adjoining, containing  $\frac{1}{2}$  acre, 2 cottages and gardens in Kilmurry, 20 acres in Kilmurry, 4 acres arable and 3 acres bog in Lislonbeg. It is in Tuath McWalter, and may be taken to have been founded by that family of Burkes. Kilbrennan and Kilmurry are mentioned in 1574 and 1589 as owning 6 cottages and as owning land in Kilmurry in the other case." The land has been lately distributed under the Land Act of 1909. Let us piously hope that the old ruin will remain untouched.

**100—Clocmakeeran Church:** Only a small portion of the ruins of this church remains, but its foundations can be plainly traced. It stood on a hill overlooking Clocmakeeran Lake, and is surrounded by a small graveyard forming part of a large cashel, the outline of which still remains. In plan the church was 70 ft. E. to W., by 26 ft. N. to S. The walls are 3 ft. thick, and the foundation of a cross wall, 24 ft. from the E., seems to mark the division of nave and chancel. The cashel, of which the wall was 6 ft. thick, is roughly oval, 300 ft. by about 400 ft., perhaps more. Cloghmakeeran was a parish church in 1306, and is mentioned in Sweetman's Calendar of Documents relating to Ireland. It also appears that the Seelands, 1134 acres, attached to this church were Knockroe, Brackcloon and Gortagarrane: Knox, pp. 184 & 195.

**17—Kiltivna Church:** This Church seems co-eval with Clocmakeeran. It is in the same ruinous condition, surrounded by a graveyard of similar dimensions, and the outline of the cashel is traceable. The ruins of one wall of the church still stand 10 ft. high, and some of the stones in the building are 4 ft. in diameter. A ground plan is given opposite, p. 124. I find no mention of Kiltivna in the old Records, but tradition associates the name of St. Patrick with the place, and Dr. Healy mentions it in his detailed description of the Saints' Western itinerary.

**50.—Church and Bullaun, Carrownaseer:** The ruins of this church and of its enclosure lie in the low ground near the Derrymore river. It is said that the stones were taken away to Dunmore for building purposes, and now only the foundations, some feet high, remain. Disintegration arose also from the custom of taking stones to mark the numerous graves within the enclosure. The walls were grouted and built of rough-hewn substantial stones. The enclosure is rectangular, 150 ft. by 90 ft., with walls  $4\frac{1}{2}$  ft. thick. The church itself measures 42 ft. by 24 ft.

I find no mention of this church in the Records, but tradition associates the place with St. Patrick, and a rough boulder of white granite with a spoon-shaped hollow in its face stands in the same field as the church, and is called St. Patrick's stone. The Saint passed from this to Tobernaclug, Ballywataire, where his knee-prints are pointed out on a stone. His itinerary in this parish included Kiltivna, Shrule, Tobernaclug, Abbeylands S., Dunmore, where he founded a church for St. Fularthac and Cathill, where a Screac-Padraig, St. Patrick's bush, grew. The Pagans of Knockannagath demanded a sign, and, tradition says, the Saint caused the bush to speak.

**76.—Ardcloon Church:** Of this ancient church only the W. gable and small portions of the side walls remain. The gable is 24 ft. wide and 25 or 30 ft. high, and contains a one-light, splayed window, 3 ft. high, over which there is a rudely sculptured stone. In the S. wall, near the W. end, is a one-light window, 2 ft. high. The walls are 3 ft. thick. The church was erected on an upland, and is surrounded by a graveyard. There are inlet holes for joists on the inner side of the gable. A rudely-sculptured cross stands in an adjoining field in Addergoole parish.

**64.—Dunmore Old Church:** This old church lay in the graveyard in Abbeylands North. At present nothing remains but a frayed wall, 6 ft. high, which stands 20 ft. above the chapel-yard close by. The 6-inch Ordnance Survey map sets it down as an abbey, but tradition and history are silent about its past. Its orientation and that of the other churches is perfect. They were all pre-Reformation edifices.

67.—**Cloondergan**, 85.—**Augustinian Abbey**, Dunmore, and 155.—**Mayfield Hermitage**, are described in the historical part of this paper.

62.—**Cappagh Church** and **Tobernacroiseneeve**: This place is a very desolate and rugged spot at the base of Slieve Dart, and was once the scene of a large pilgrimmage. It presents now an utterly ruinous appearance. As in Fig. 16, two wells are surrounded by the remnants of walls. The larger was a grouted wall. A semi-circle of loose boulders piled into a wall surround the altar. From a scrutiny of the ground some small sections of foundations about 3 ft. in diameter lead me to believe that a church to which the altar belonged stood E. by W. above the wells. I have depicted the ground-plan and the round of 'stations' opposite p. 124, and I have referred to this place in the notes to Donovan's Letters.

### viii.—MISCELLANEOUS.

The wells, Toberanara, Tobernacroiseneeve, Tobernaclug and Toberna-speereeneeve are mentioned in other sections of this paper and will be found indexed at the end. A monument, Knockaunbrack, and several "caves," *i.e.* souterrains, are treated in the first section. A bullaun is mentioned under Shrute Church. I know of only one cromleach, the site of which is marked 120 on the map. It is mentioned on p. 113. At the place marked 158, on the north side of the mountain road at Quinultagh, are the remains of a Sweating-house, where, in the old times, invalids were treated for various diseases, notably for rheumatism. References to quern stones and an obelisk will be found under No. 89, viz.: Carantrilla House Fort.

### ix.—KEY TO MAP AND PAGE REFERENCE TO TEXT.

Map No.	NAME.	TOWNLAND.	PAGE.
1.—	Caisleanbeg,	... Littlecastle.	... 124
2.—	Falmore Fort,	... Littlecastle.	... 117
3.—	Lisduff,	... Littlecastle.	... 117
4.—	Collin's Fort,	... Lissyconnor.	... 117
5.—	Rabbitte's Fort,	... Lissyconnor.	... 117
6.—	Moore's Fort,	... Lissyconnor.	... 120
7.—	Lissyconnorobrien,	... Knockaunbrack.	... 117
8.—	Brennan's Fort,	... Knockaunbrack.	... 120
9.—	Monument,	... Knockaunbrack.	... 120
10.—	Naughton's Fort,	... Knockaunbrack.	... 120
11.—	Murphy's Fort,	... Knockaunbrack.	... 120
12.—	Mullarky's Fort,	... Knockaunbrack.	... 120
13.—	McHugh's Fort,	... Knockaunbrack.	... 120
14.—	McHugh's Fort.	... Knockaunbrack.	... 120
15.—	Lisowemaccloughlin,	... Kiltivna.	... 119
16.—	McGuire's Fort,	... Kiltivna.	... 119
17.—	Church and Rath,	... Kiltivna.	... 125
18.—	Lissyvranny,	... Ballaghadorrougha.	... 120
19.—	Lisadrollam,	... Ballaghadorrougha.	... 119
20.—	McDonagh's Fort (20 in text)	... Ballaghadorrougha.	... 119
21.—	Cave,	... Ballaghadorrougha.	... 119
22.—	Lisnagry	... Flaskaghmore.	... 119
23.—	Lisaloughaun,	... Flaskaghmore.	... 119
24.—	Fort near smithy,	... Flaskaghmore.	... 119
25. {	Finegan's Fort,	... Flaskaghmore.	... 119
25. {	Cave,	... Flaskaghmore.	... 120
26.—	Cartron Fort,	... Flaskaghmore.	... 120
27.—	Cruac-a-rath,	... Flaskaghmore.	... 119
28.—	Toberanara,	... Flaskaghmore.	... 119
29.—	Higgin's Fort,	... Attyflynn.	... 121
30.—	Higgin's Fort,	... Attyflynn.	... 121
31.—	Martin's Fort,	... Flaskaghbeg.	... 121
32.—	Cairn,	... Flaskaghbeg.	... 121

Map No.	NAME.	TOWNLAND.	PAGE.
33.—	Rabbitte's Fort,	Gortaleam.	117
34.—	Cruac-a-Wohallee Fort,	Gortaleam.	117
35.—	Woodbed Fort,	Kilnalappa.	118
36.—	Woodbed Small Fort,	Kilnalappa.	118
37.—	Lisnascragangall,	Ballintava.	118
38.—	Demesne Middle Fort,	Ballintava.	118
39.—	Demesne Boundary Fort,	Ballintava.	118
40.—	Crossroad Fort,	Ballintava.	118
41.—	Lisgarraunagappal,	Tobernaclug.	112
42.—	Donelan's Fort,	Tobernaclug.	112
43.—	Lisnagranard,	Ballywataire.	111, 112
44.—	Lisavallaire,	Tobernaclug.	112
45.—	Gortnaleasa Fort,	Tobernaclug.	112
46.—	Knockatoura Fort,	Ballywataire.	111
47.—	Meanleana Fort,	Meanleana,	119
48.—	McWalter's Fort,	Carrownaseer S.	118
49.—	McWalter's Fort,	Carrownaseer S.	119
50.—	Church and Bullaun,	Carrownaseer S.	125
51.—	Comer's Fort,	Shrule.	118
52.—	Drumbane Fort,	Drumbane.	118
53.—	Lisnagran Fort,	Carrowmanagh.	118
54.—	Cruac-a-Newer Fort,	Carrowmanagh.	117
55.—	The Closh Fort.	Carrowmanagh.	118
56.—	The Cahir,	Carrowmanagh.	118
57.—	Lissduff Fort,	Lissduff.	117
58.—	Lisheenouseley,	Derrymore.	117
59.—	Lisclandaidd,	Cappagh.	117
60.—	Lismulcrone,	Cappagh.	117
61.—	Lisnaleen,	Cappagh.	117
62.—	Church and Wells,	Cappagh.	96, 126
63.—	Dunmore Castle,	Castlefarm.	124
64.—	Dunmore Old Church,	Dunmore.	125
65.—	Rathcoll,	Knockatee E.	116
66.—	Gortnalea Fort,	Gortnalea.	121
67.—	Cloondergan Church,	Cloondergan	106
68.—	Cloonkeen Fort,	Cloonkeen.	121
69.—	Hernon's Rath,	Quinultagh.	121
70.—	Hernon's Cahir,	Quinultagh.	121
71.—	Hernon's Cahir,	Quinultagh.	121
72.—	Gilmore's Fort,	Knockatee E.	116
73.—	Gortnagoynes Fort,	Gortnagoynes.	117
74.—	Conally's Fort,	Darray S.	121
75.—	Fort near the Stream,	Darray N.	121
76.—	Ardcloon Church,	Ardcloon.	125
77.—	Curraghaun Fort,	Curraghaun.	122
78.—	Lisnabanon,	Curraghaun.	122
79.—	Cunniffe's Fort,	Curraghaun.	121
80.—	Breunra Forts,	Breunra.	113, 123
81.—	Lismore Fort,	Killuney.	111
82.—	Ballinlass Fort,	Ballinlass.	112
83.—	Lisheen,	Carrowkeelanahglass	112
84.—	Addergoole-More Church,	Addergoole-More.	112
85.—	Augustinian Abbey,	Dunmore.	100, 101
86.—	Carrantrilla Fort,	Carrantrilla.	116
87.—	Race-Park Fort,	Carrantrilla.	116
88.—	Demesne Fort,	Carrantrilla.	116
89.—	House Fort,	Carrantrilla.	116
90.—	Liscasserly Fort	Carrantrilla.	116
91.—	Flaherty's Fort,	Carrowkeel.	116
92.—	Ravelled Fort,	Carrowkeel.	116
93.—	Lisseachra Fort,	Carrowkeel.	114
94.—	Lisroe,	Carrowkeel.	114
95.—	Donelan's Fort,	Killivohar.	114
96.—	Comer's Fort,	Killivohar.	114

a. ABBEYLAND SOUTH.  
b. ABBEYLAND NORTH.  
c. BAUNOGES NORTH.  
d. BAUNOGES SOUTH.  
e. MONEENPOLLAGH.

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