

THE PARISH OF DOONDONNELL.

SITUATION. This Parish is situated in the Barony of Connello Lower and is bounded on the north by the Parish of Kilbradran; on the northeast by Nantenan; on the east and south by Rathkeale; on the west by Cloonagh and on the northwest by an isolated part of Rathkeale.

NAME. Doondonnell is called Dún Dohnaill and signifies **166**
the Dun, i.e., Fort, of Donell.

The old Church of this Parish has fallen to ruin and is situated, according to the Name Book, p.17, in the Townland of Cloghnarold. The two gables were demolished to nearly a level with the ground. Of the north side wall only twenty six feet in length remain at the east end. The walls were about ten feet high and two feet ten inches thick. At the distance of three feet from the east gable is a window on this north side wall retaining no peculiarities of form and two feet from **167** it was another. There was a window on the south side wall at the distance of eight feet from the east gable. On the same wall, sixteen and a half feet from the west end, is the doorway which is broken at top inside where its breadth is three feet seven and a half inches. On the outside it presents to the

observer a round arch where it is six feet four inches high and three feet one inch broad. It is constructed with well chiselled lime stone. The materials of the building were stones of regular size and cement of lime and sand mortar. Its extent was forty five feet by eighteen and a half feet. There was no burial here those thirty years. There are some old ruins of a building near this place which may be supposed to be a remnant of a castle. It is said this is part of the original dún but to state so is all nonsense.

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The antiquities in this Parish were examined by Mr. A. Curry and his notes arranged into the present form by T. O'Connor.