

THE PARISH OF KILFINNAN.

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SITUATION. This Parish is situated in the Barony of Coshlea and is bounded on the north by the Parishes of Emlygrynin and Glenbrohaun; on the east by the Parish of Darra; on the south by that of Kilflin and on the west by the Parishes of Bulgadin and Particles.

NAME. The name of this Parish is in Irish Cill Fhionain, which signifies the Cell or Church of St. Finan, whose festival was formerly kept in the Parish, but is so long retrenched that I could meet no one that remembered his day. His well is still in existence but no Stations performed at it.

No part of the original Church of St. Finán is now in existence, its site being occupied by a small Protestant Church of no great antiquity.

On the south side of the little Town of Kilfinnan stands a conspicuous green moat surrounded by three circumvallations. The moat is nearly flat at top and measures sixteen paces in diameter. The ramparts are fully developed on the west side but they have been nearly effaced on the north and east sides. The ramparts are about fourteen feet in height from the bottom of the trenches and about thirty feet asunder.

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Dr. Lanigan asserts that this Kilfinnan is the Kilfintan of the Irish authorities, but this is very doubtful. I cannot however speak with certainty on this subject until I shall have examined the Barony of Coonagh. It is not impossible that this moat is the Dun Cinn Abhra mentioned by Keating as having been erected by Brian Boru but I have not data enough yet to prove it.

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This Parish was examined by me.

J. O'Donovan.
