

OF THE PARISH OF KILMURRY.

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SITUATION. This Parish is bounded on the north by the Co. of Clare, on the east by the Parish of Killinagarrieff, on the south by those of Derrygalvin and Carrickparson and on the west by St. Patrick's.

NAME. This is the name of many Parishes and old Churches in Ireland. It signifies the Church of Blessed Virgin Mary and is written in Irish Cill Mhuire, i.e., Ecclesia Mariae.

The site of the original Church of Kilmurry, which is in the Glebe, is occupied by the Protestant Church which was built about forty years ago. There is an old grave yard attached which is still much used.

There is another grave yard in the Townland of Killonan (Cella Adamnani) in which children and strangers are interred. It is now called Killeen, i.e., the Little Church, but it should be given as Killonan grave yard on the Ordnance Map.

In the Townland of Kilbane there is a holy well dedicated to St. Mary Magdalene, which is still resorted to by pilgrims for the cure of sore eyes and other complaints.

In the Townland of Castle-Troy on the southern bank of the Shannon there is a Castle which gave name to the Towaland. Its east and north sides are in tolerable preservation, but the other two are nearly destroyed, only ten feet of the west and six feet of the south wall remaining. It measures on the inside thirty one feet six inches by twenty one feet two inches, and the walls are seven feet six inches thick and the sides, which are perfect, about seventy feet in height, and contain windows for five floors (stories). 24

About two miles east of Limerick in the Townland of Newcastle stands on a rock a Castle of the same name. It is all perfect except the west wall which is entirely destroyed. It is fifty seven feet four inches by twenty one feet eight inches and the people assert that it had a square tower at the south west corner which fell, with the west side, about forty years since. The remaining

walls are fifty feet high and five feet six inches in thickness, and have windows and apertures for five stories.

No tradition exists as to the period at which, or the family by whom these Castles were erected. Some suppose that Castle Troy was erected by a family of the O'Treos or Troys, but this is very questionable.

There is nothing else of antiquarian interest in this Parish.

Antiquities examined by Mr. A. Curry.

J. O'Donovan.

July 9th 1840.
