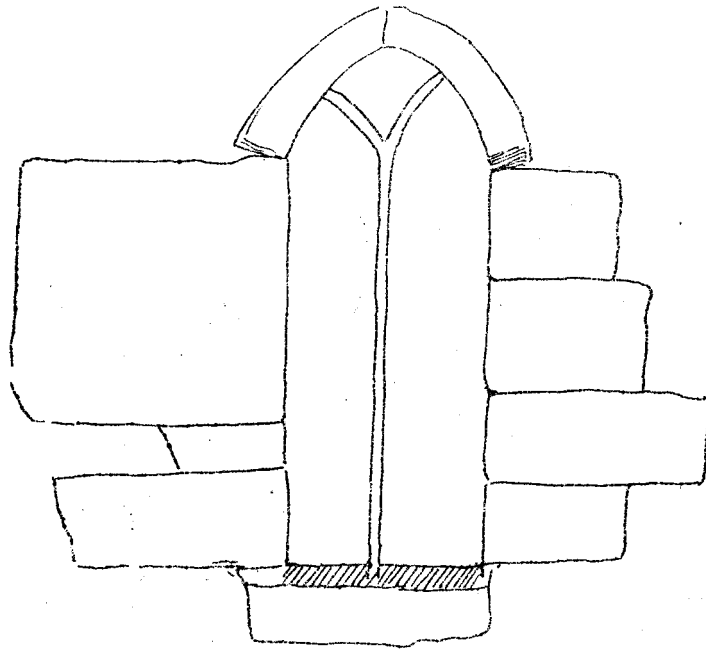


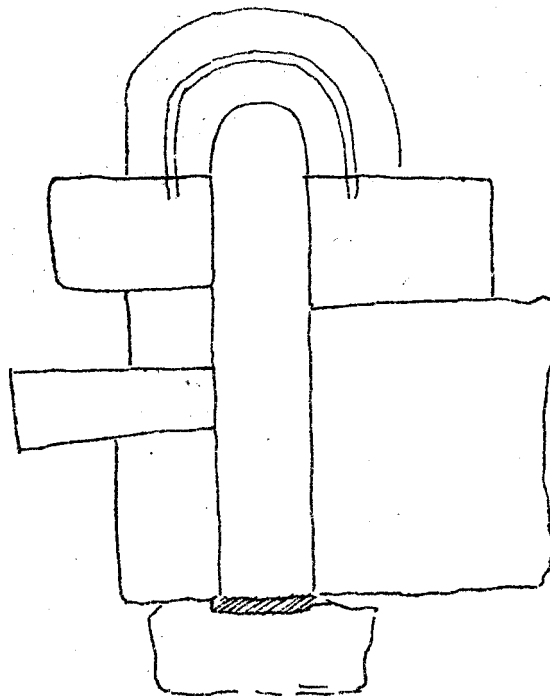
THE PARISH OF MAHOONAGH.

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SITUATION. The nearest part of this Parish is distant two



*Outside form of Window on East Gable
Mahoonagh Old Church*



*Outside form of Window on South side-wall
Mahoonagh Old Church*

miles from the Town of Newcastle. It is bounded on the north by the Parishes of Grange and Clounelty; on the east by the Parishes of Clounelty, Kilmeady, Clouncagh and Drumcullaher; on the south by Drumcullaher, Killanolahan and Killeedy and on the west by the Parishes of Killeedy and Monagay.

NAME. The name of this Parish is in Irish called Math-úmnach, which is probably a corruption of Magh Ghamhnach, i.e., Campus vaccarum lactiferentium. See Letter on Moygownagh Parish in the Barony of Tirawley and Co. of Mayo, where the meaning of this name is fully explained.

Of the old Church of this Parish, which is situated on level ground in the Glebe of Mahoonagh, the walls are still perfect. It is sixty nine feet long by twenty four feet in breadth. The window on the east gable, which is divided by a mullion into two parts, is nine feet high by five feet nine inches on the inside, where it is formed of brown cut stone. The annexed sketch gives the form on the outside, where it is four feet ten inches high by one foot seven and a half inches and four feet four inches from the ground; each division is six and a half inches in width. On this side the window is formed of cut lime stones. In its sides it has holes for cross-bars.

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On the south side wall at the distance of six and a half feet from the east gable there is a window, round topped on each side; it is eight feet high by five feet two inches on the inside and on the outside three feet three inches high by six and a half inches. It is formed of cut lime stone. The annexed sketch shews its form on the outside.

At the distance of six feet from this there is another window but its form is now destroyed. On this wall eighteen feet from the west gable was placed the doorway which is now completely disfigured. There is a window, square on both sides, on this south side wall within one foot of the west gable. It is three feet high by two and a half feet on the inside; on the outside it is one foot eight and a half inches high and in width five inches at top and six inches at the bottom. It is formed of hammered stones similar to those of the walls of the Church. On the west gable there is a window which is disfigured on the inside; on the outside it is about twelve feet from the ground and is two and a half feet high by six inches. The walls of this Church are about twelve feet high, three feet in thickness and built of small and large stones irregularly laid and cemented with lime and sand mortar. There is a large grave yard much in use attached to this Church.

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About three hundred yards west of the old Church is Castle-Mahon Castle which measures thirty five feet by twenty

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four and a half feet inside; the walls are only about thirty five feet high at present and six and a half feet in thickness. This was a strong Castle, but it appears to have had no arched floors in it. Its windows are all broken and disfigured, with the exception of one on the west end, which is pointed and formed of cut lime stone. It is said that there was a Cill or burial ground in Bally-na-Killmore Townland until about ten years ago, when it was dug up and cultivated. For the correct names of wells, etc., in this Parisk see Name Book.

The antiquities of the Parish of Mahoonagh were examined by Mr. A. Curry and his notes put into the above form by Mr. O'Keeffe.

J.O'D.