

THE PARISH OF CAHERCORNEY.

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SITUATION. This Parish is situated in the Barony of Small County and is bounded on the north by the Parishes of Caherelly and Rochestown; on the east and south by Kilkillane and Knockainy and on the west by Monasteranenagh.

NAME. The name of this Parish is pronounced by those who speak Irish Cathair Cóirne, which signifies the Caher or Stone Fort of Coirne, a man's name in Pagan times in Ireland.

The site of the original Church of this Parish is occupied by a Protestant Church still in use.

In the Townland of Rawleystown in this Parish are the ruins of an extensive and respectable dwelling house, said to have been built in the reign of James I by the family of Rawley or Raleigh and afterwards inhabited by the Crokers. Not far from these ruins, to the east, on the summit of a hill called by the natives Knockroe, are slight traces of the

circle of a Caher or circular stone fort; but all the large stones were carried away and the circle itself is so indistinct that I could not ascertain its diameter or thickness of the wall.

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Near the Mill of Ballingoola on the opposite side of the River Camoge, are two fragments of walls said to be remnants of a small Abbey called Mainistir na mBráthar.

Fitzgerald in his History of Limerick says that this was called Baile na mBrathar Beag or Little Friarstown, to distinguish it from Friarstown in the Parish of Feddamore. It was founded for Conventual Franciscans in the 13th century by the family of Clangibbon. In the 35th Henry VIII this Friary, with three acres of arable land in Baile na mBratharbeg, was granted for ever in capite to Robert Browne at the yearly rent of twelve pence Irish money.

I here insert what Archdall has collected of the history of this house:-

Gough's Camden:-

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Ballynebraher near Loughgur in the Barony of Small County, had a house of Conventual Franciscans founded in the 13th century by the family of Clangibbon (Arch. 418).

Archdall's Mon. Hib., Vol. II, p. 418, R.I.A.
Ballynebraher.

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Near Loughgurr in the Barony of Small County. A Friary was founded here for Conventual Franciscans (War Mon.) in the 13th century by the family of Clangibbon (Allemande). February 4th XXXV K. Henry VIII, this Friary with three acres and a stang of arable land in Ballynebraher, was granted forever in capite, at the yearly rent 12d Irish money to Robert Browne (Auditor's Office). See Ballyniwillin.

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James Gould died 6th September in the year 1600, seized of this Priory and of one carucate of land, in free and common soccage (Lib. Inq. in Bibl. Honoratis W. Conyngham). Inquisition taken at Limerick 23rd August 1623, finds that James Gould, late of Limerick, was seized of the site of this Friary and of twenty four acres of land adjacent and of the Castle, town and lands of Corbally.