

THE PARISH OF CROAGH.

SITUATION. This Parish is situated in the Barony of Lower Conello and is bounded on the north by the Parishes of Cappa and Cloonsheer; on the east by Adare, Cloonsheer and Kilfinny; on the south by Rathkeale and Ballingarry and on the west by Rathkeale and Nantenan. There is another portion of it detached lying to the north of the above.

NAME. The name of this Parish is an anglicising of the Irish word Cruach (Cródhach) which signifies a Round Hill.

The old Church of this Parish was originally of the form of a cross, but it is now all in ruins except the choir or chancel, which is roofed and still used as the Protestant Church of the Parish. This part is fifty feet in length. The nave is unroofed and fifty feet in length by thirty in breadth.

There was a Castle attached to this Church at the west end 43 but only its east side and four feet of the north and south walls to the height of about thirty feet remain.

This Church is situated on level ground in the Townland of Adamstown and south of the road from Limerick to Rathkeale. It has a large grave yard attached, which is much used.

In the Townland of Amaganmore are the ruins of a Castle

which measures twenty seven feet in length and twenty one in breadth and about thirty six feet in height. Its walls vary in thickness from five to seven feet. There is a spiral stair case in the north wall leading to the top.

Tradition asserts that James II, after his defeat at the Boyne, slept a night in this Castle, then the residence of ?

In the Townland of Clogh East in this Parish are the ruins of a Castle which gave name to the Townland (for the word Cloch is frequently applied to a stone fortress). From what remains of it one can determine its breadth to be twenty two feet, but its length cannot be ascertained. The east wall is in good preservation and fragments of the north and south walls remain, but the west side is completely destroyed. There is a small edifice built up against the east side of it, measuring twenty feet in length and twelve in breadth. Its walls are in good preservation and even its chimney is perfect. 439

In the Townland of Ballinveara there is a holy well called Tobar Righ an Domhnaigh, i.e., Fons Regis Sabbathi, at which Stations are still performed by the uneducated.

Antiquities examined by Mr. A. Curry.

J. O'Donovan.