
KILQUAN PARISH.

314

This Parish was traversed by A. Curry; notes etc., arranged by T. O'Conor.

SITUATION. This Parish is situated in the Barony of Coshlea and is bounded on the north by the Parish of Effin and by that of Ballingaddy; on the east by the Parish of Kilquan in the Co. of Cork; on the west and on the south by the Parish of Doneraile in Co. Cork.

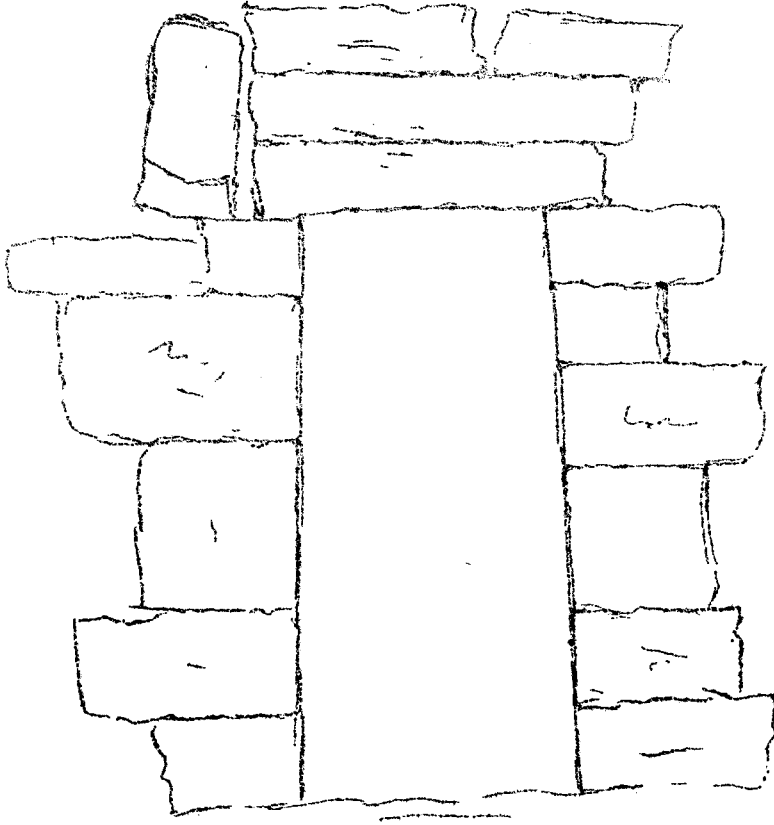
NAME. The Irish name of this Parish is Cill Chúain, which signifies the Church of St. Cuan.

Kilquan old Church is in ruins at the foot of a high hill called Cahir (Cathair). It consisted of nave and choir; none of its architectural features have escaped destruction; only small portions of the walls remain. The choir is fourteen and a half feet in length; the breadth is not ascertainable. The nave measures thirty eight feet by twenty two and a half feet. There is a small doorway on the middle gable, of which nine feet in height remains. The doorway is seven feet seven inches from the north wall in (of) the nave and two feet four inches from the north wall of the choir. Its height three feet ten inches and breadth at top one foot ten inches; at bottom two feet on the nave side.

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See sketch opposite.

It is built with chiselled brown sand stone. The lintel



Doorway of Kulqian old Church

Patrick of which I have spoken above, be the place mentioned at this year (1198) or not.

In north west of Millmount Townland stood a Castle whose site is still observable there. **313**

Wells.

In Ballingaddy North Townland is situated Lady's Well. Toberveheel or St. Michael's Well (Tobar Mhicíl) is situated in Kilmihil Townland. St. Patrick's Well is on Ardpatrick Hill; see above.

This Parish was examined Mr. A. Curry and his notes put into the present form by Mr. Thos. O'Connor.

Brugh na Deise,
August 9th 1840.

Thomas O'Connor.

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See sketch opposite.

It is built with chiselled brown sand stone. The lintel

and the long stones over it are loosened by ivy that has grown on the wall and inserted itself between them. This lintel is two feet three inches long by five inches thick and enters the wall one foot two inches. There are two other stone flags laid across the door inside this one. The one that crossed the door on the choir side has fallen out. The jamb to the right on this side is loosened by the ivy that grows about it. It appears there was no lime used in the cement of this building. The materials are large stones and clay mortar. There is a large grave yard here much in use.

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Wells.

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Toberreendoney or Sunday's Well, in Irish Tobar Rígh an Domhnaigh, is situated in the south of Ballyshaunboy Townland and is still frequented as a holy well.

Lady's Well is situated in Ballyshanedehy Townland and is still visited as a holy well.

Castles.

There was a Castle in a valley in the Townland of Ballymacshaneboy about half a mile north west of the old Church above described. Part of an arch belonging to this building is still remaining.

Cahers, Forts, Carns.

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There is on the top of Caher Mountain, a caher or fort, in Irish called Cathair, which is small and apparently constructed with earth, presenting to the eye of the observer on every side a green grassy sod. It is situated south of Jamestown Townland. The local name for this mountain is Caher.

A great Carn (Carnn) of stones is situated on the hill to the west of the latter place. The local name for this hill is Carn. The people about this place think and say that Shean Buidhe, from whom Ballymacshaneboy in this Parish took its denomination, gathered the heap of stones here for building a Castle which, however, was never erected, Shean having for some reason about which we know nothing, relinquished his design. The fact seems to be that it is a Carn raised over the body of some distinguished personage who, perhaps, fighting bravely with the enemy, was laid prostrate on the field of battle or was by the foe, it may be, treacherously slain, having, whilst marshalling his forces and preparing slaughter and death for his antagonists, received a deadly wound from the skeen (scian) of some one, perchance of inferior rank, an obscure coward, who durst not meet and combat in single fight but who took straight aim and striking the Chief on a deadly spot made him, falling, bite the earth and took away his life.

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