

THIS View, which represents the north-west aspect, was drawn by Lieut. D. Grose, anno 1792.

KERRY.

MUCRUS ABBEY.

THOUGH this is commonly now called Mucrus Abbey, its old appellation was Ivrelagh, or the Building on the Lake. It is in the Barony of Magunihy, on the margin of Lough Lean, or Lake of Killarney. Donald Mac Carty, in the year 1440, founded a friary here under the invocation of the Holy Trinity for Conventual Franciscans: he repaired it in 1468, a few months before his decease. Since that time it has continued the cemetery of the Mac Carty family. Donald, Earl of Clancare, was interred here, as was Patrick, Lord Kerry, the earl's nephew, in 1600.

It was again repaired in 1602, but afterwards suffered to decay. The walks are surrounded by a venerable grove of ash trees, which seem to grow spontaneously from the ruins of the abbey. The choir, nave, and steeple are entire, and there are many decayed tombs. The cloysters are also standing, and consist of several Gothic arches of solid marble, which inclose a small square, in the centre of which stood a remarkably tall yew-tree; its spreading branches, like a great umbrella, overshadowing the niches of the whole cloyster, forming an uncommon and very picturesque covering. A bell, not many years ago, was found in the adjacent lough, and from its inscription it appeared to have belonged to this Abbey. A miraculous image of the Virgin Mary was said to have been formerly preserved here. On the dissolution, the site and revenues of this house were granted to Capt. Robert Collan, who assigned them to bishop Crosbie.

TIPPERARY.

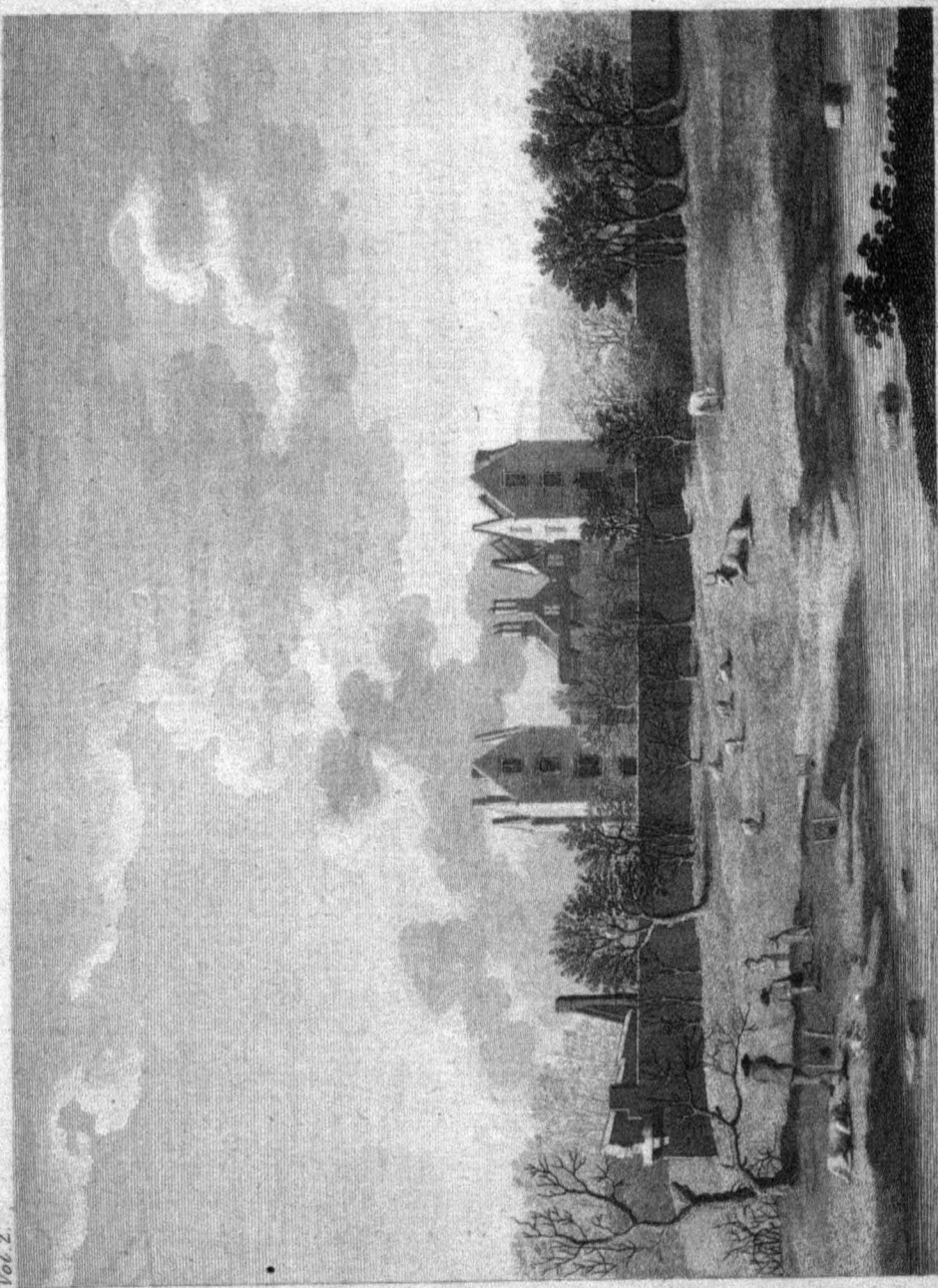
BURNT COURT

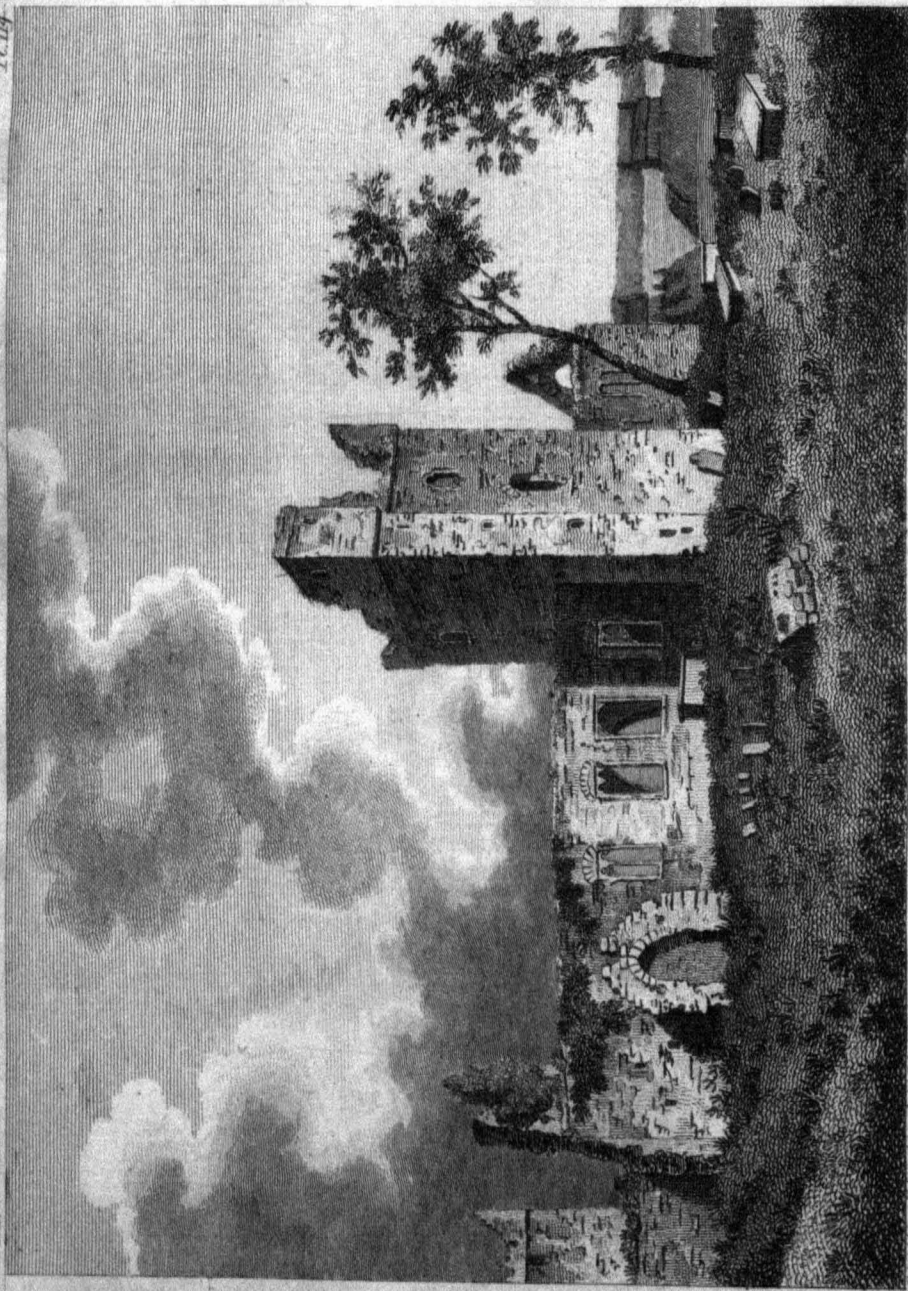
Is a fine specimen of those castellated houses so common in the turbulent periods of Irish history. It is said that a castle was first erected here by one of the barons of Ikerrin: however it changed masters frequently, and was at length besieged and taken by a party of Cromwell's army, but was not so much demolished as many other places that fell into the hands of that fierce republican.

It was surrounded by a high and strong wall, which inclosed a bawn of considerable extent, within which a dwelling house was built by Mr. Anthony Chearnley, who deserves to be remembered for cultivating the art of design, when few pursued it, in 1740, in Ireland. It was he who made this drawing of Burnt Court, and also those in Smith's history of Waterford. He had a large collection of views from ancient remains, which probably lie in private hands, and well deserve to be made public.

THIS View, which represents the south-east aspect, was taken from an original, by Anthony Chearnley, in the collection of the Right Hon. William Conyngham.

PLATE II. This View, which represents the north-west aspect, was taken also from an original, by Anthony Chearnley, in the collection of the Right Hon. William Conyngham.





Engraved by W. H. Barré, Sept. 23, 1794

Barré sc.

S, View of the ABBEY of SELKIES in the TOWN of WEXFORD.

WEXFORD.

SELKSER ABBEY.

THIS was founded for regular Canons by the Danes, and was called the priory of St. Peter and St. Paul of Selksfer. The family of the Roches were its patrons, and munificent benefactors. John, Bishop of Ferns, in 1240, held a synod here on the morrow of the Nativity of the blessed Virgin; they are inserted in the first volume of Wilkins's councils. The priory had large possessions, and was dissolved the 23d of March, the 31st of Hen. VIII. John Heygharne being the last prior.

THE church is constructed in a plain manner of blackish stone, and stands in the town of Wexford. The steeple is much decayed at the top; the arches which support it rest on plain square piers, except one, which is an octagon. The tithes, formerly the property of this priory, now belong to the Earl of Portsmouth.

THIS View was taken from an original drawing by Brun, in the collection of the right Honourable William Conyngham.

LEITRIM.

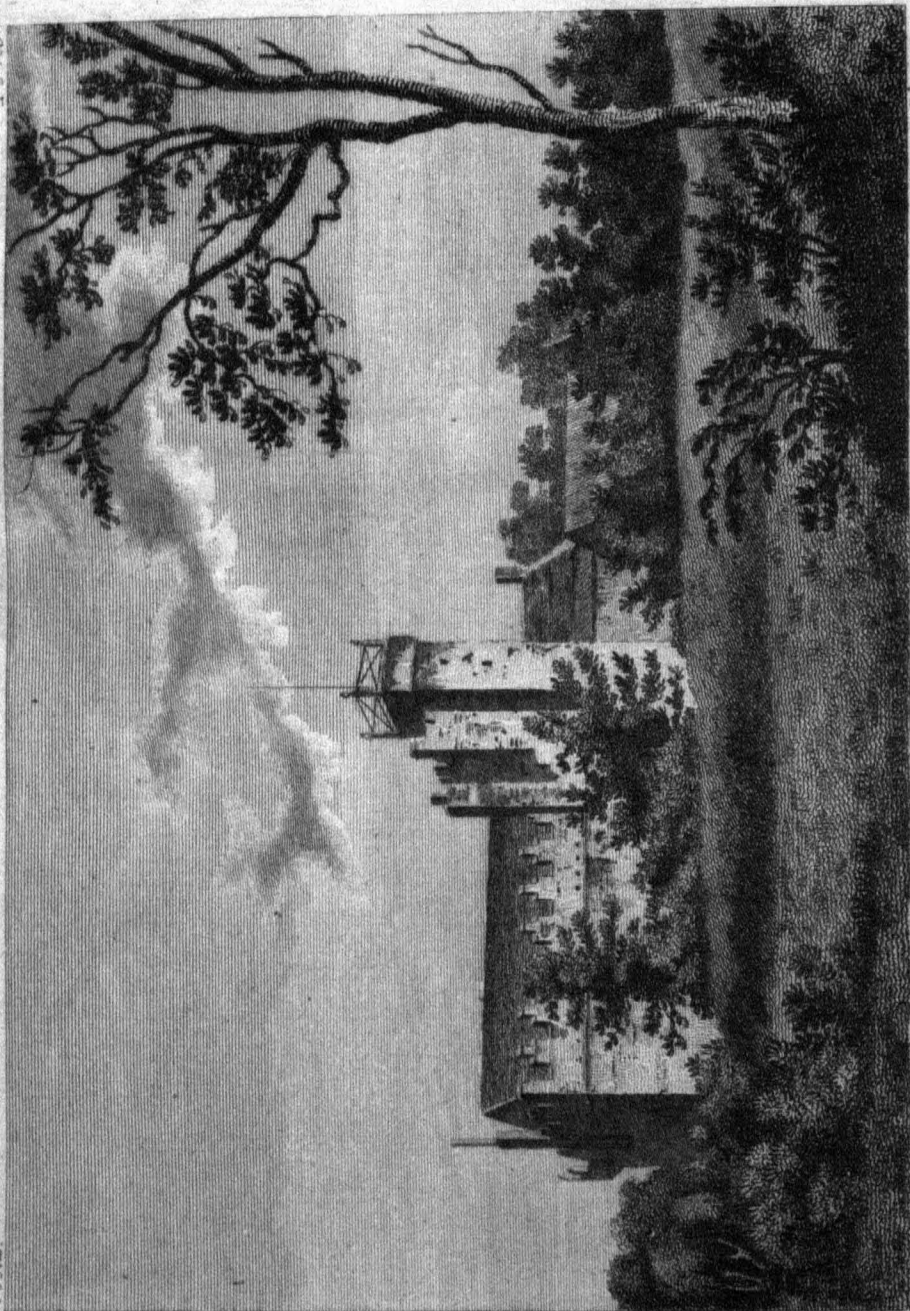
FENAUGH

Is now a parish church in the diocese of Ardagh, and was said to be founded by St. Callin in the sixth century. His festival is observed the 13th of November. It was celebrated in former ages for its divinity school, which flourished greatly under the direction of the Culdees.

THE west end of the church is vaulted, and divine service is performed in it: the eastern window is esteemed of curious workmanship. There is a tradition, that when St. Callin began to build this church, an evil spirit by night pulled down what was erected in the day. The saint enraged at this opposition, resolved to check his mischievous activity, and having blessed some ropes, he drew them every night along the top of the building to prevent his approaching; but Satan, more wicked than wise, attempted to break the holy barrier, and got so entangled among the cords, that he could not disengage himself, and afforded a pleasant spectacle in the morning to the monks, who did not dismiss him without due castigation. To perpetuate the memory of this event, there is a line engraven about the middle of the east gable, which reaches from north to south; and on the north side, about twelve feet from the ground, is also engraven a figure of this evil spirit in the wall, with part of the line in his mouth.

THIS View was drawn by Lieut. Daniel Grose, anno 1792.

WEXFORD.



Engraved by H. Rogers, July 11, 1794. See High's History.

Barmy Castle

BARMY CASTLE, Co. Wexford.

WEXFORD.

BARGY CASTLE.

IF a conjecture may be allowed from the name, Bargy being the Anglo-Saxon Biorg, a fortress, this was a strong hold in very remote times. The jargon spoken in this barony I have shewn, in the Antiquities of Ireland, from the slender surviving materials, to have been Teutonic, introduced in the first age of Christianity, probably earlier, into these parts. The proofs of this, though perhaps not perfectly satisfactory, may, in abler hands, lead to something more certain.

BARGY Castle is the seat of Francis Harvey, Esq. but so altered and modernized, as to render it impossible to trace the original plan: the buildings which surround it are also an insurmountable obstacle. The View here given is taken from the garden side, and exhibits the best idea of its ancient state.

THIS View was taken from an original drawing, by Barralet, in the collection of the Right Hon. William Conyngham.

WICKLOW.

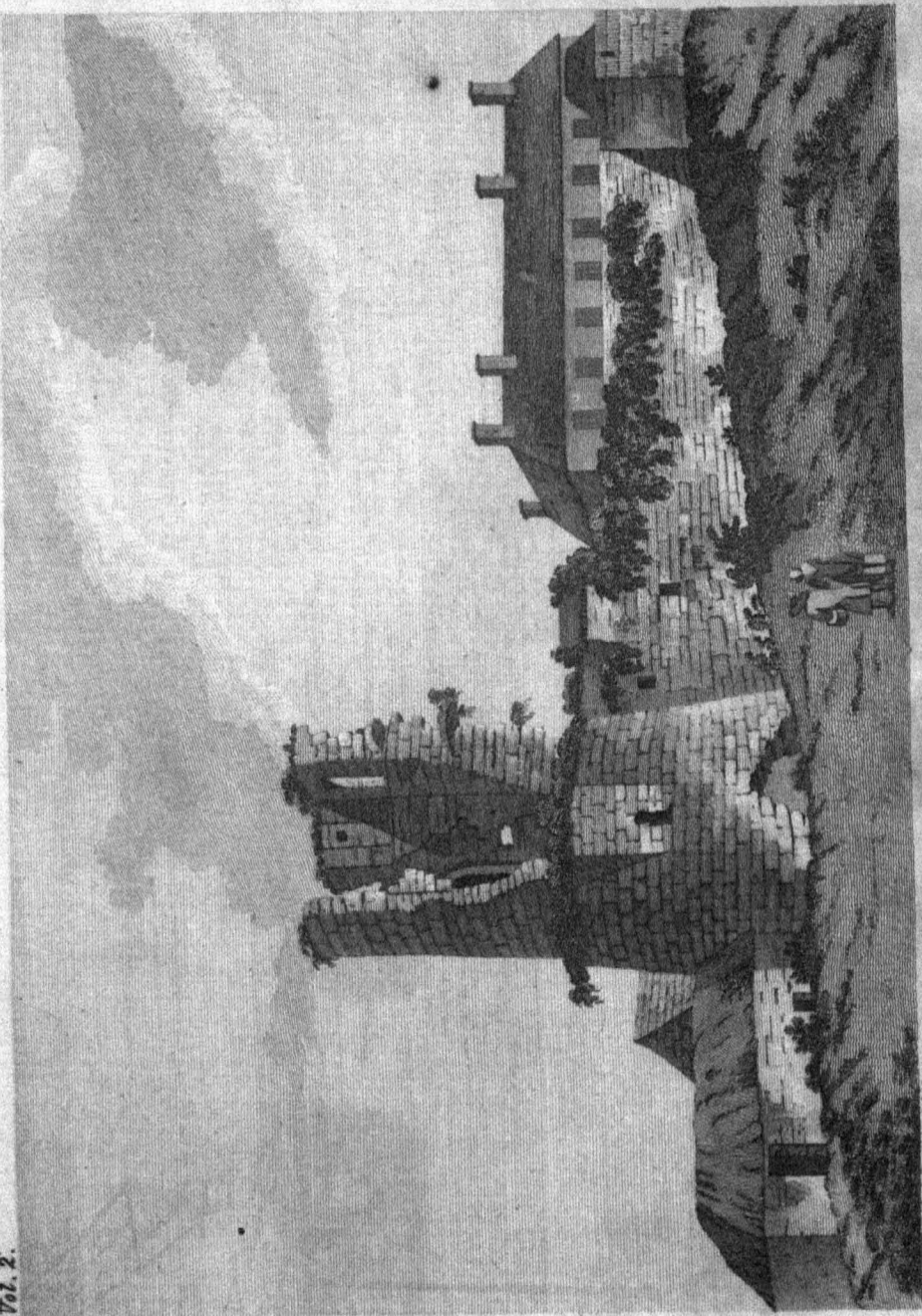
WICKLOW.

ARKLOW CASTLE.

THERE is little more than half of a tower remaining ; it makes part of the walls that inclose the barracks. It was in former ages much contended for by the English and Irish. In 1331, it was strongly fortified and in possession of the first, when it was violently attacked by the latter ; but Lord Bermingham opportunely came to its relief, and with a small party defeated the O'Tools with considerable slaughter. However the Irish a short time after became masters of it, and on the 8th of August, 1332, the English obtained and re-edified it.

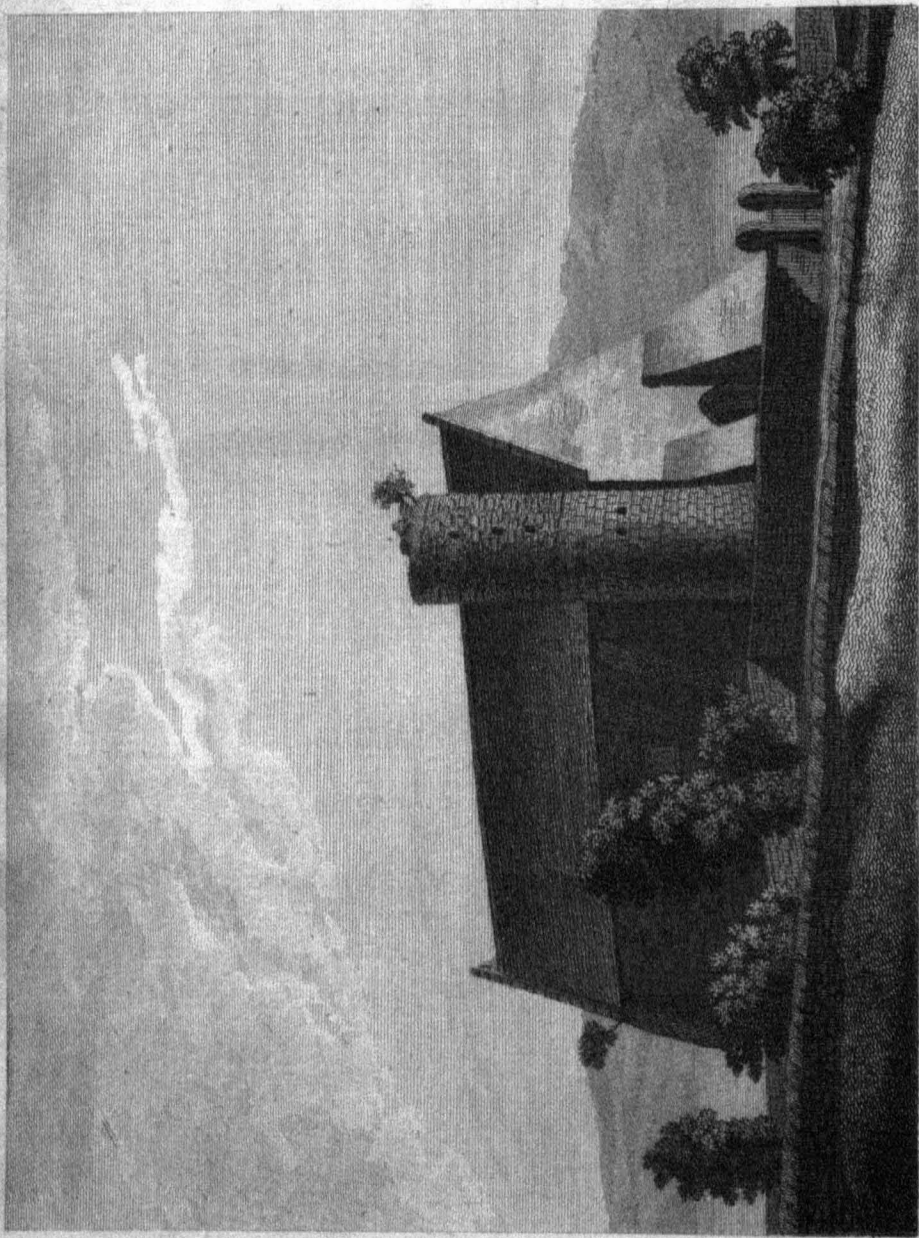
IN 1641, the Irish surprised this castle and put all the garrison to the sword ; they held it till 1649, when it, with the neighbouring fortresses, fell into the hands of Cromwell, who marched from Dublin, in September, with a design to reduce to his obedience the south-east and south parts of Ireland, which he effected in a short time.

THIS View was taken from an original drawing by P. S. Reyley, Esq. in the collection of the Right Honourable William Conyng-ham.

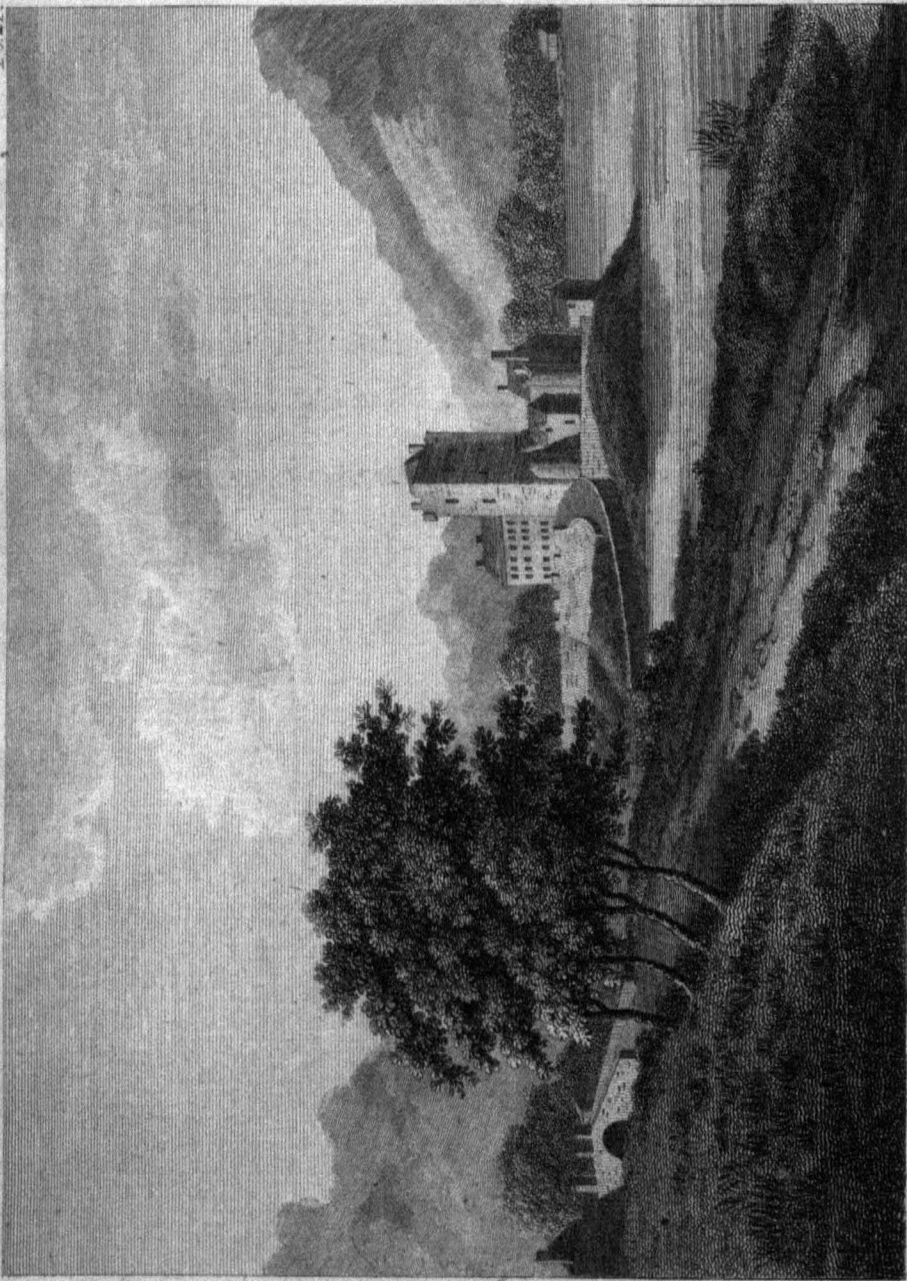


ARKLOW CASTLE. Co Wicklow.

Engr. by M. Cooper. July 26. 1794.



PRIORY of DRUMLANE, Co. Cavan.



Engr. April 29. 1794 by M. Hooper

Spencer's

ROSS CASTLE KILLARNEY. CO. KERRY.

CAVAN.

PRIORY OF DRUMLANE.

THE proper name of this monastery was Dreum Leathan, the broad ridge or back, which has been corrupted into Dramlane and Drumlahan. It is a vicarage in the barony of Loughtee in this county, and on the borders of both Breffnies or Brennies, which comprehended the counties of Leitrim and Cavan. The Church was founded in the sixth century, and dedicated to the Virgin Mary. St. Maidoc, a celebrated legendary personage, was born in it. That the monastery is of great antiquity the round tower declares, and hence it became the burial place of the chieftains of the Brennies. The monastery was totally decayed in the year 1025. Queen Elizabeth granted the church to Hugh O'Reilly of the Brenny, and head of his sept, for the term of twenty one years.

THIS View, which represents the north-west aspect, was drawn by Lieutenant Daniel Grose, anno 1792.

KERRY.

ROSS CASTLE.

ROSS is not properly an island, but rather a peninsula, being separated from the main land by a morass, over which is a bridge. Ross Castle was originally constructed by the ancient powerful sept
of

of the O'Donoghoes, was flanked by round towers, and was of considerable strength. In 1641, General Ludlow, attended by Lord Broghill and Sir Hardress Waller, summoned it, when the garrison surrendered.

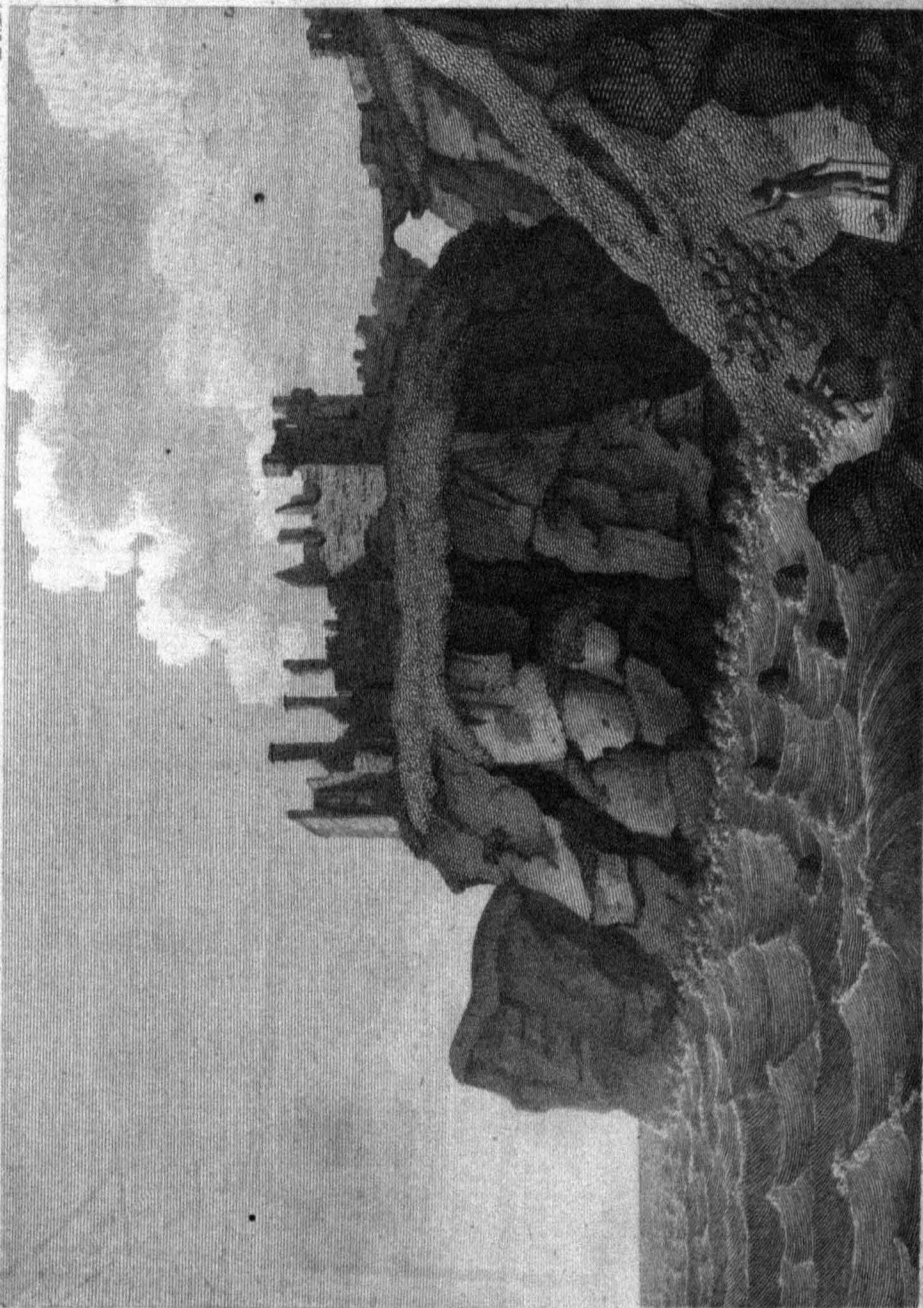
At present there are a few dismounted guns to be seen, and a barrack for two companies of foot. The governor of Ross Castle has been an officer on the military establishment for some years. Few places exhibit more magnificent views of nature or such delightful picturesque scenes than those to be seen from Ross Castle, in the Lake of Killarney. On one side of it are stupendous mountains, whose summits are lost in the clouds. Opposite to this, is a level and beautiful country, with the pretty town of Killarney, the ornamented demesnes and houses of gentry, and a fine expanse of water, spotted with enchanting islands. The pencil of the finest painter, or the pen of the sublimest poet would fail describing the natural charms of this enchanting spot.

THIS View was taken from an original drawing, by the Rev. Dr. Wynne.

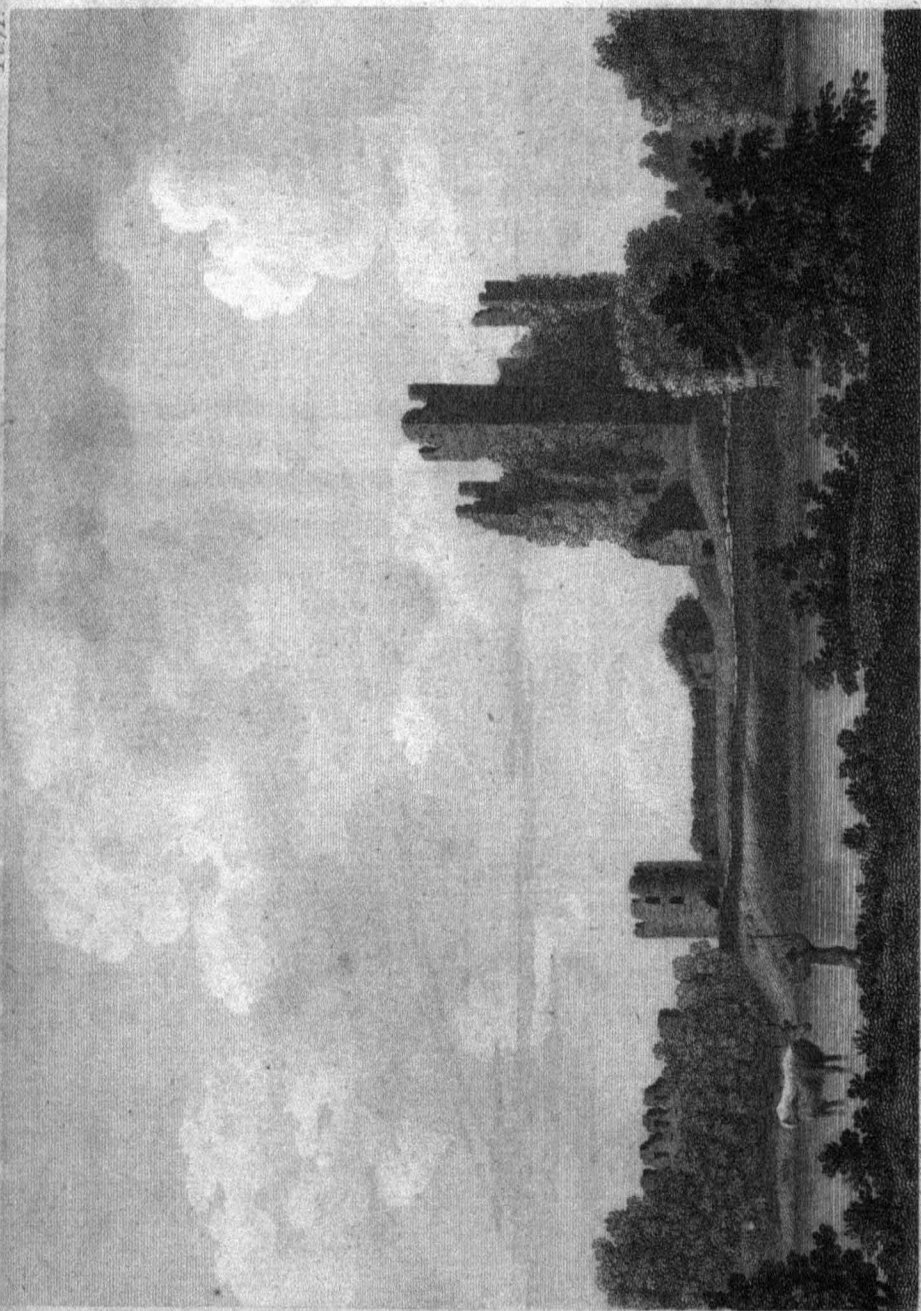
ANTRIM.

DUNLUCE CASTLE.

ON the settlement of the Mac Donnels, afterwards Earls of Antrim, in this county, they erected this strong Castle of Dunluce about the middle of the sixteenth century. In 1601, Sorley Boge Mac Donnel was seated there. Before this, in the time of Sir John Perrot was Lord Deputy, Sorley Boge was in rebellion against the English government, being joined by the O'Cahanes and Carroughs. The Deputy marched into their country, and obliged
O'Cahane



DUNLUCE CASTLE. Co. Antrim.



TRIM CASTLE. CO. MEATH.

Engr. 1794 by M. G. S. & Co. from a drawing by J. G. S.

O'Cahane to give hostages; he then besieged the castle of Dunluce, and sent artillery by sea to Skierries Portrush, from whence it was drawn by men two miles: the Warders soon submitted, and this strong place was given up to the Deputy.

Sir Randal Mac Sorley Mac Donnel, on the 14th of July, 1606, surrendered his lands to the crown, and with them this castle of Dunluce, which was reserved for a garrison, but he was to have the keeping of it. A Saturday's market was granted to be held in Dunluce. On the 21st of June, 1615, the castle of Dunluce was confirmed to him and his heirs, to hold by the twentieth part of a knight's fee, and the rent of five shillings English, with power for the crown, in time of any general war or rebellion, to resume and retain the same for a garrison. In virtue of a commission of Grace, 8th of September, 1629, he received from Charles I. a confirmation of his estates, and Dunluce was erected into a manor. It gives the title of Viscount to this noble family from the 25th of June, 1618.

THIS View was taken from an original, by — Nixon, Esq.

MEATH.

TRIM CASTLE.

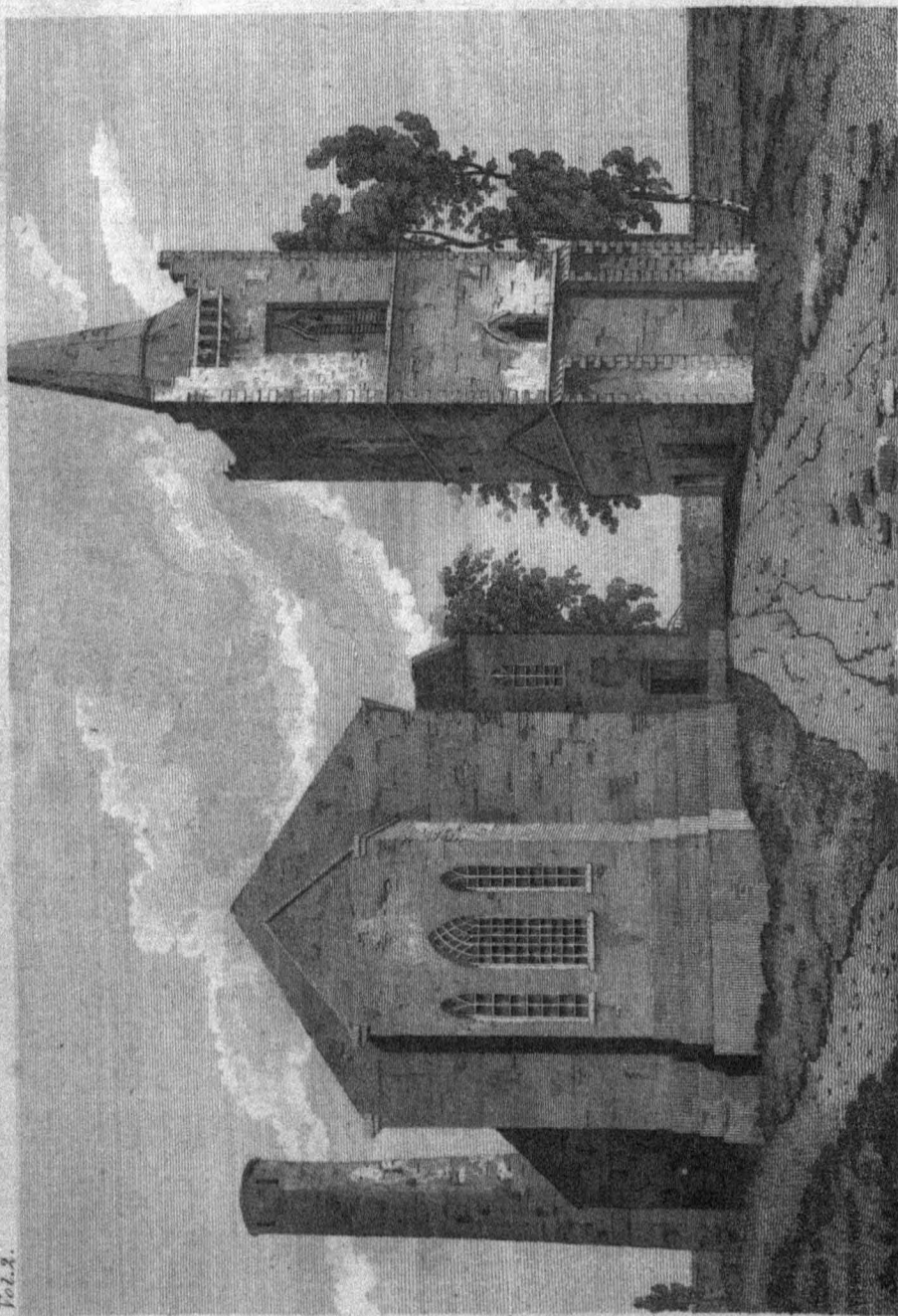
THIS castle was erected by William Peppard, soon after the arrival of the English in this isle. In 1775, the Irish, after submitting, rose in rebellion, and demolished the castles that had been constructed by their invaders; but the next year were suppressed, and the castle of Trim, which had fallen into their hands, was repaired. In 1221, Earl Marshall had great contests with Hugh de Lacy; Meath was

harassed between them, and Trim besieged; but it fortunately escaped being taken; and shortly after a new and much stronger castle was built on the ruins of the old one. In 1399, on the news of the Duke of Lancaster's progress in England, King Richard, who was then in Ireland, imprisoned his and the Duke of Gloucester's sons in the castle of Trim, a place of the greatest strength within the English pale. In 1422, Mortimer, Earl of Meath and Ulster, had the inheritance of Trim, and there died of the plague.

IN 1641, it was surprised by the insurgents, but the next year was taken by Sir Charles Coote. The fortifications had decayed, for at this time it was encompassed with an old ruinous stone wall, through which Sir Charles forced a passage. In the night, the enemy, to the number of three thousand, advanced silently, but the centinel gave the alarm, and Sir Charles, who on expeditions never went to bed, was instantly on horseback. He could only collect seventeen troopers; however with these he advanced to the gates and charged the enemy, whom he threw into disorder, and soon obliged to fly. Pursuing unguardedly in the dark, he received a mortal shot in the body and expired, whether from his own men or the enemy was never known. This end, says the historian, had this gallant gentleman, whose very name was a terror to the Irish. His body was brought to Dublin, and there interred with great solemnity; floods of English tears accompanying him to the grave.

IN 1647, the castle of Trim was fortified, and made very strong; Colonel Fenwicke lay there with a regiment of foot and some troops of horse: it was besieged by General Preston, but relieved by Col. Jones. In 1469, it was taken from the Parliamentarians by Lord Inchequin; in 1650, the Royalists possessed themselves of it, but were dispossessed by Col. Reynolds and Sir Theophilus Jones.

THERE



High Wall, Dub. by M. Hooper, April 24, 1792.

SE. View of the Church and Tower at Kells, Co. Meath.

THERE were many religious houses, and some parliaments had been held in this town.

KELLS CHURCH AND TOWER.

KELLS, from the circumstance of its beautiful round tower, ninety-nine feet in height, was certainly a place of great antiquity; nor is it improbable, as tradition reports, but that it owed its origin to St. Columba in the sixth century, from his founding an abbey there. That he dedicated it to the Virgin Mary is a fable, for I have elsewhere shewn, that the Culdees had not adopted saint worship, and that Dermot Mac Kervail endowed it is more than doubtful, as there are no written monuments of this age. The town was anciently called Kenanus and Kenlis.

IN 806, Cellach, Abbot of Jona, took refuge in this kingdom from the northern Viecingi or Pirates, who now began to alarm the shores of Europe. He naturally betook himself to the Culdean Abbey of Kells, which he repaired, and of which he took the direction: this he continued for seven years, and then resigned in favour of Dermot, returning to Jona, where he died in 815.

IN 918, the northern swarm, known under the name of Danes, pillaged Kells and levelled the church, which was of stone. This last particular, recorded by our annalists, may be true, for Cormac's Chapel, at Cashel, was built of stone fourteen years before. But if Kells Church was of stone, it must have been a building arched with stone, similar to those at Glendaloch, St. Doulachs, Portaferry, and other coætaneous structures. The Danes, while their power continued in this isle, frequently plundered Kells; and after their ravages ceased, it was often consumed by accidental fires.

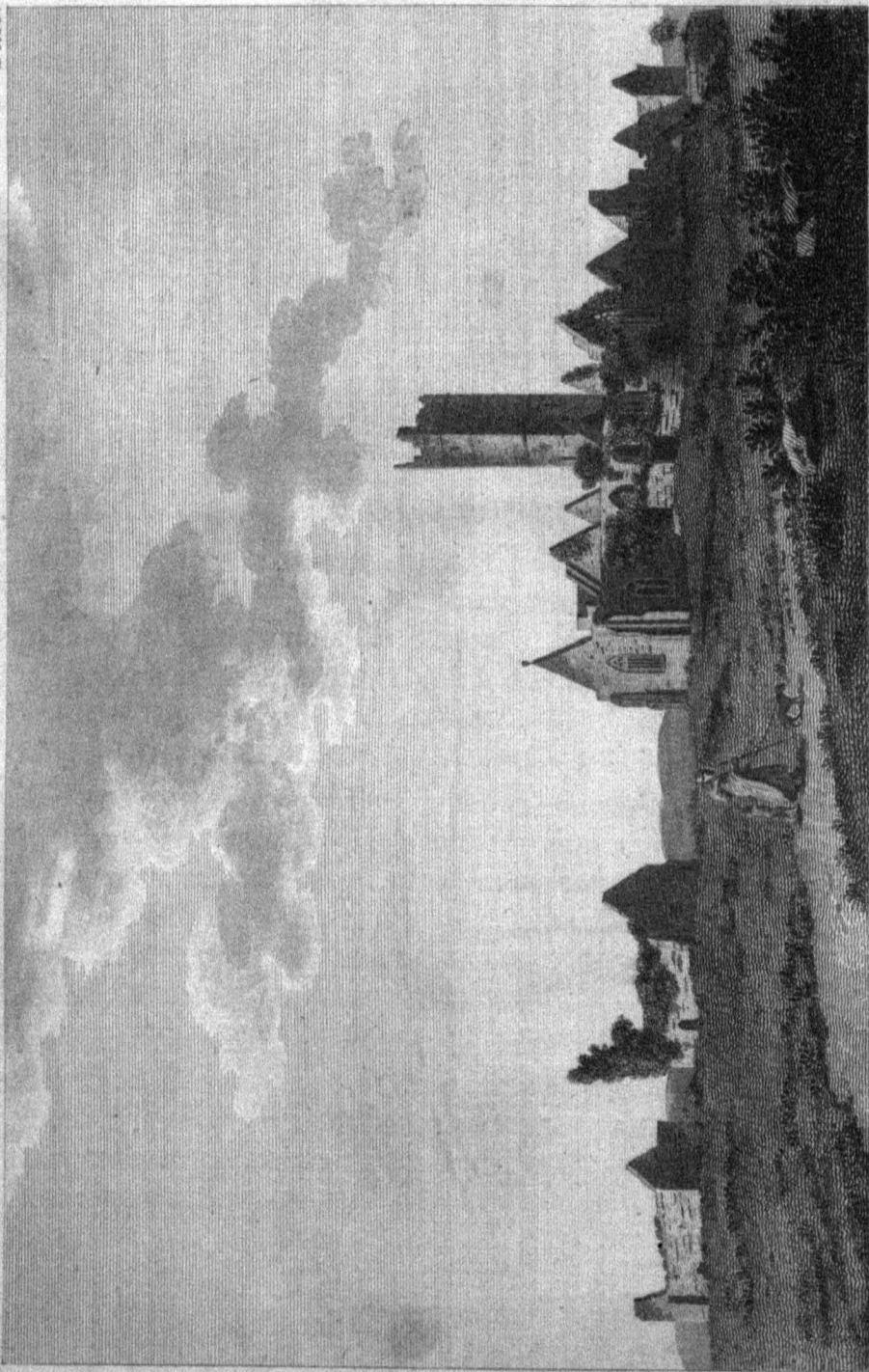
IN 1152, John Paparo, the Pope's legate, held a synod here, to new organize, and render more productive to his holiness, the Irish Church. This was a fatal breach made in our ecclesiastical constitution, which wanted no foreign interference, being regular and independent. He distributed four palls to four newly instituted dignities, named Archbishops.

THE English, who arrived here in 1619 and the subsequent years, with remarkable bravery possessed the most commendable piety, which they displayed in building elegant churches, and richly endowing them. Thus, Hugh de Lacy, Lord of Meath, in 1173, made a large grant of lands to the Abbey of Kells, and a measure out of every brewing of ale in the town. King John, in 1177, confirmed all Lacie's donations. In 1315, Edward Bruce, the Scottish invader, defeated Lord Roger Mortimer near Kells, took many prisoners, and burnt the town. Richard Plunkett, the last abbot, voluntarily surrendered his church and its possessions, in 1541, which was granted, *in capite*, to Gerald Fleming, Knt. at the yearly rent of 6l. 6s. 8d.

THE round tower in Kells, before noticed, is ninety-nine feet high, sixteen in diameter, the clear inside ten, and the walls three thick. There is also a square tower, well built, having four kinds of buttresses at the angles, and a fort of offset about the middle of the height. There is a small round tower at the back of the town, thirty feet high and ten in diameter, perhaps a turret on the town wall. Also a great cross repaired in 1688; and a small stone building arched with flags, called Columcille's Cell, of which it is said the archdeacon is obliged to take possession before he goes to church. This was probably the first Christian oratory erected here, and, like similar crypts, was held in the greatest veneration.

THIS View, which represents the south-east aspect, was drawn by Lieut. Daniel Grose, anno 1792.

CLARE.



Engr. by M. Heape July 18. 1794

QUIN ARBEX. Co. Clare.

Spur on se

CLARE.

QUIN ABBEY.

THIS ecclesiastical foundation is said to be ancient, and to have been consumed by fire in 1278. In 1350, the Mac Namaras, the powerful sept of Clan Cuilleán, new built it for Franciscans of the strict observance, being the first reformed house of that order in Ireland. Mac Namara's tomb is in the church. Bishop Pococke, in his tour in Ireland, now in the British Museum, gives the following account of Quin. This is one of the finest and most intire monasteries I have seen in Ireland; it is situated on a fine stream, with an ascent of several steps to the church. At the entrance one is surpris'd with the view of the high altar intire, and of an altar on each side of the arch of the chancel. To the south is a chapel with three or four altars in it, and a very Gothic figure, in relief, of some saint. On the north side of the chancel is a fine monument of the family of the Mac Namaras of Rance, erected by the founder. On a stone, by the high altar, the name of Kennedye appears in large letters; in the middle, between the body and the chancel, is a fine tower, built on the two gable ends.

THE cloyster is in the usual form, with couplets of pillars; but is particular in having buttresses round it by way of ornament; there are apartments on three sides of it, the refectory, the dormitory, and another grand room to the north of the chancel, with a vaulted room under them all: to the north of the large room is a closet, which leads through a private way to a very strong round tower, the walls of which are near ten feet thick. In the front of the
monastery

monastery is a building, which seems to have been an apartment for strangers, and to the south-west are two other buildings.

THIS View was taken from an original drawing, by Henry Pelham, in the collection of the Right Honourable William Conyngham.

LIMERICK.

CULLUM CASTLE.

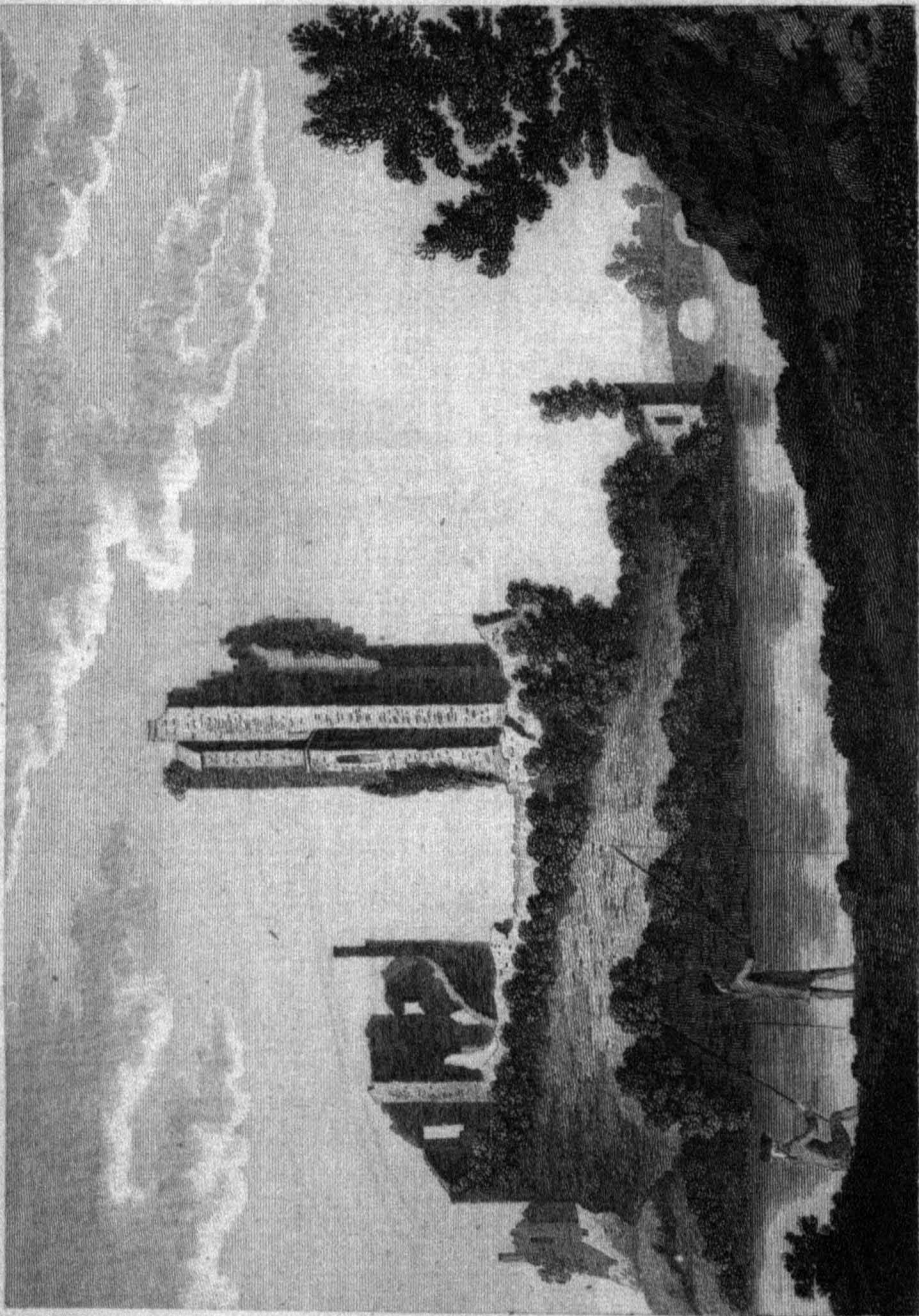
IN a country where every person of property was obliged, by necessity or by the state, to erect some fortrefs to secure his family or property, it is impossible to trace the original founders of many of our castles.

CULLUM Castle was of considerable strength in the civil wars of 1641. Sir Hardress Waller was sent by Ireton, in 1650, with forces to lie before Limerick; in his way he assaulted Cullum Castle, defended by Captain Thady Bourk and a garrison of fifty men. After a few discharges of artillery, called sakers, Bourk capitulated. The soldiers placed in the towers and on the top of the castle, not knowing what was agreed, and seeing a number of the English entering the gate, fired on them and killed two, and wounded Waller in the left arm; he, however, with uncommon generosity, restrained his men from revenging their companions, and contented himself with the pillage of the castle and neighbouring country, which was very considerable, and which he brought safe to Limerick.

THIS



CULLUM CASTLE. COLIMERICK.



Engr. Aug. 16. 1792. by J. Cooper.

ROCKARTON CASTLE, COLIMERICK

THIS castle was soon after in the possession of the Marquis of Clanricard, but at length was dismantled by part of the forces of parliament.

THIS View was taken from an original drawing, by Fisher, in the collection of the Right Hon. William Conyngham.

ROCKBARTON CASTLE

Is romantically situated, and its ruins present a very picturesque appearance. It is said to have been built by one of the family of O'Grady. It was garrisoned by the Irish in 1649, but the year after taken and demolished by Colonel Axtel, who was then Governor of Kilkenny, and marched from thence to assist in the siege of Limerick. The out-works were extensive, and it was capable of a long defence against small arms; for in those rude and barbarous ages there were but few public roads, and these almost impassable, so that with the greatest difficulty artillery could be brought against fortresses: whenever they were, no castle was able long to hold out.

THIS View was taken from an original drawing, by Fisher, in the collection of the Right Hon. William Conyngham.

MONAGHAN.

MONAGHAN.

BLANEY CASTLE.

SIR Edward Blaney was extremely active in the Irish wars in the reigns of Elizabeth and James I. In 1604, he was appointed Seneschal of Monaghan, and had large grants of land in that country. To secure these, he built Castle Blaney. On the 23d of October, 1642, Hugh Mac, Patrick Duff Mac, Coll Mac Mahon, with several others, forcibly seized and plundered the castle and town of Castle Blaney, expelled him from the same, and took his wife, seven of his children, his two sisters, and many of his kindred and servants, prisoners; and received the rents and profits of his other lands, which, when the rebellion began, were worth 1150l. a year, besides 560l. arrears due out of the same. And he was also despoiled of his goods and chattels, consisting of horses (besides his riding horses, worth 237l.) and cattle worth 800l. plate worth 500l. linen 500l. sheep 153l. furniture in his two houses, worth at least 1000 marks; ready money 29l. debts 400l. library 500l. They also burned and plundered his houses to the damage of 7000l. so that at the last his losses amounted to 13873l. and his future loss by the deprivation of his estate to 2250l. until peace was established, and lands came to be of their former value.

THIS View was drawn by Francis Grose, Esq. anno 1770.

PLATE II. The chapel in Castle Blaney was erected by William, the sixth Lord Blaney, about 1690, where the family have been since interred; their cemetery before was the church of Monaghan.

THIS View was drawn by Francis Grose, Esq. anno 1770.

QUEEN'S