

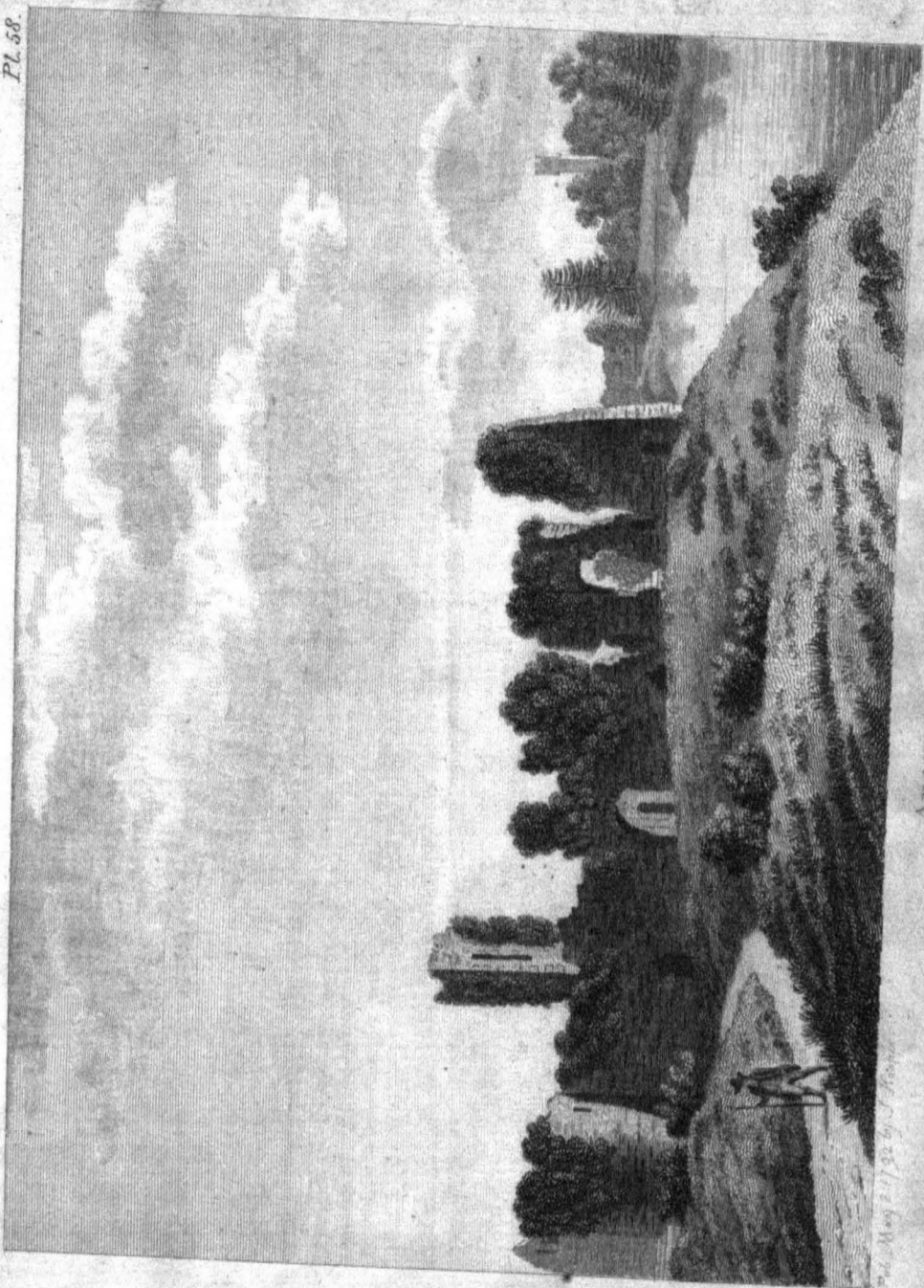
round tower adjoining it is a beautiful object. We see here six Gothic arches and as many buttresses. The north side of the steeple is levelled with the ground, said to have been beaten down by a battery planted against it in the rebellion 1641. The south wing is in ruins, it was formerly a chapel, and in it are two statues in *alto relievo*. One represents a bishop in his robes, a pastoral staff in his right hand, and a mitre on his head, supported by two monkeys. As there is no inscription, it is conjectured to belong to Edmund Lane, Bishop of Kildare, who was buried here A. D. 1522. The other is a monument of Sir Maurice Fitz Gerald of Lackagh, curiously cut in armour, with an inscription and five escutcheons differently emblazoned.

THE round tower is 132 feet high, adorned with a battlement, and not far from this is the fire-house. Henry de Loundres, Archbishop of Dublin in 1220, put out the fire, but it was re-lighted after, and continued to burn till the suppression of monasteries. One miracle attendant on this fire was, that notwithstanding its perpetual consumption of fuel, ashes never increased: nor was the fire ever to be blown by human breath for fear of contamination, but by vans or bellows.

THIS View was taken from a drawing by Dr. Wynne.

### ADARE CASTLE, LIMERICK.

ADARE is an ancient town, eight miles from Limerick, and has a good bridge over the river Maige, which is navigable for large boats. Here the Earl of Desmond had a strong castle, which very much incommoded the English settlers in those parts, and was frequently taken by them. In 1579, Sir John of Desmond, with four hundred and fifty horse and foot, besieged Adare, so that the garrison dared not to peep abroad till their victuals failed them, and then necessity whetted their courage, and made their swords as sharp as their stomachs, so that Sir John was forced to retire. The English had but one small cot, which would hold about eight men,  
and



ADMIRAL CASTLE. Co. Limerick.

Pub. May 27/32 by J. H. Moore

and by the help of it an hundred and twenty men of the garrison were wafted over the river into the Knight of Glenn's country, and being unexpected there did great execution. However, they staid so long, that the Knight of Glenn and Sir John collected thirty horse and four hundred foot, some Irish and some Spaniards, and coming up with them, a sharp skirmish for eight hours ensued; the English made good their retreat into Adare without any considerable loss, and killed about fifty of the enemy. Captain Carew commanded in this expedition.

IN 1581, when Munster seemed to enjoy a state of quietness on the death of Desmond, Lord Kerry suddenly broke into rebellion, and took the castle of Adare, and put the garrison to the sword; but Colonel Zouch marching from Cork into Clanmaurice made him abandon the town. Captain Plowdall was left in it with a small force, and Zouch pursued Lord Kerry, and overtaking him near Glanflisk, defeated his forces, and took a prey of 800 cows, 500 horses, besides money, clothes, and victuals; with these he supplied the English garrisons, and returned to Adare. During this war Adare was alternately in possession of the Irish and English.

HERE are some large and perfect remains of a Trinitarian friary. The steeple resembles a castle, and is supported by a plain arch, with four diagonal ogives meeting in the centre and stair leading to the battlements; there is also a Gray friary in Adare, whose possessions, with those of the Trinitarians and Augustinians, were granted to Sir Henry Wallop.

THE demesne of Wyndham Quin, Esq. here, is beautifully variegated with wood and water. The meadows sloping on each side of the river Maige, the abbies nodding their venerable heads over the silent stream, the extensive vistas through aged trees, the shaded walks, where many a saint and many a hero trod, present a most pleasing scene to the contemplative mind.

THIS View was taken from a drawing by Dr. Wynne.



## CHURCH TOWER AT DUNDALK, LOUTH.

**DUNDALK** is an ancient town, seated on the Irish Channel, with a bay and harbour. It was well fortified, and almost the only buildings were castles and towers; these were necessary to protect the English colonists, the town being the extremity of the English pale.

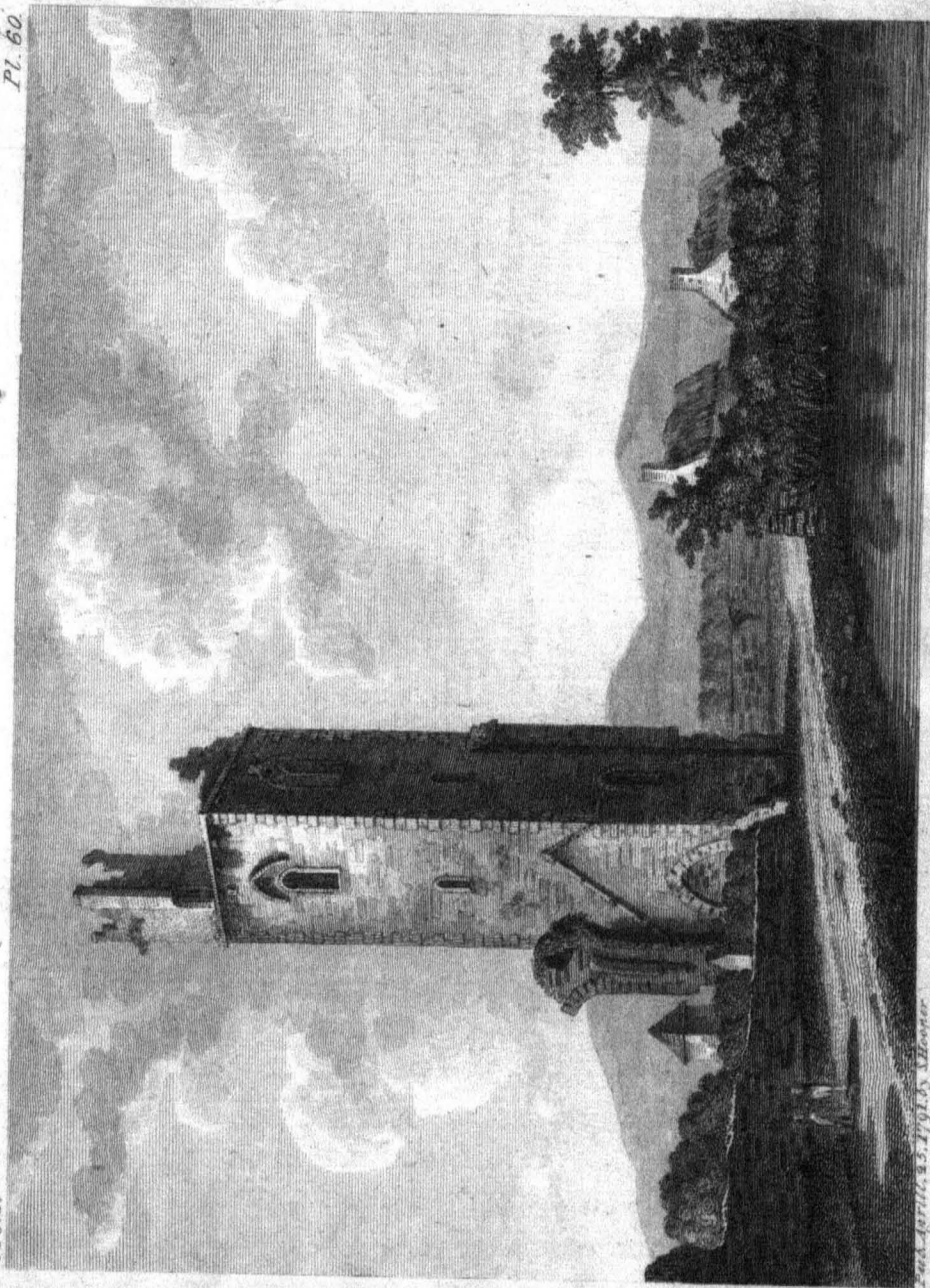
IN 1315, Edward Bruce invaded Ireland, landing at Carrickfergus with a large body of Scots. Being joined by the Irish, they marched to and took Dundalk the 29th of June, which they burnt. The next year, Bruce growing insolent from success, spared neither churches or abbies, nor did women or children find mercy; he caused himself to be crowned king of Ireland at Dundalk. Soon after this O'Hanlon, an Irish rebel, came for contribution to Dundalk, but was so warmly received by Robert Verdun, the governor, that he left 200 of his followers behind him.

LORD Deputy Sydney, in 1558, marched from Dublin to Dundalk to fortify the English pale. He sent from thence to Shane O'Neal to come to him, but he refused, unless he consented to be his gossip, which the necessity of the times obliged the Deputy to agree to. In 1566, O'Neal besieged Dundalk, but it was so valiantly defended, that they were obliged to raise the siege. He after made another attempt on the town, but with no better success.

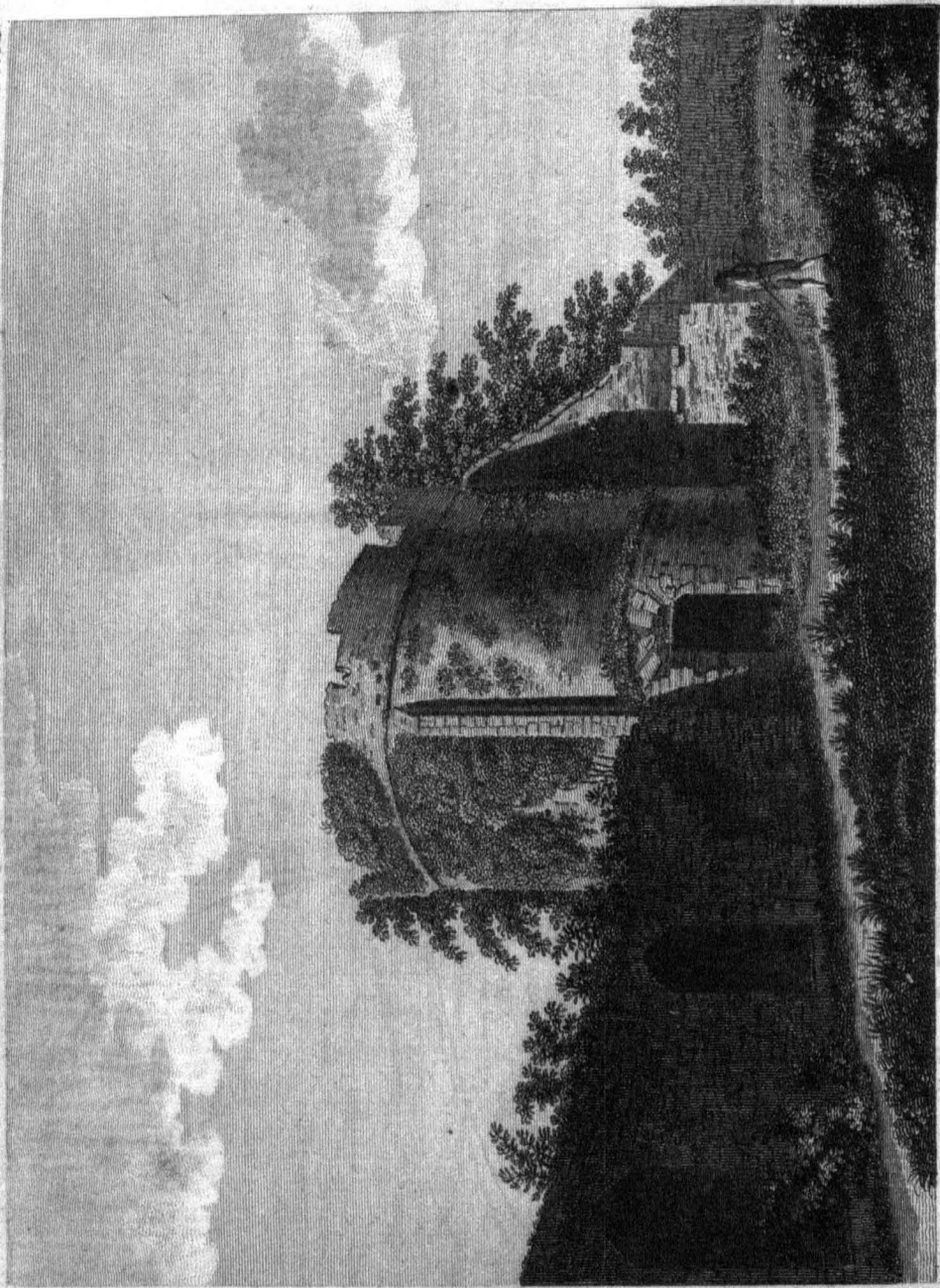
IN 1641, Sir Henry Tichborn assaulted Dundalk, which at this time had a double wall, double ditch, and marsh ground on one side, and the sea on the other. The Irish made a stout resistance, but the place was taken. Colonel Monk was governor of Dundalk in 1649, which Lord Inchequin obliged him to surrender.

THERE were two monastic foundations here, one for Cross-bearers, which Bertram de Verdun, Lord of the town, erected about the end of Henry II.'s reign; they followed the rule of St. Austin, and their patron was St. Leonard. This was after converted into an hospital.





OLD CHURCH TOWER, DUNDALK, CO. LOUTH.



Enb June 5 1792 by S. Hooper

BASTION in KILKENNY,

W. Sparrow sc.

THE other was the Gray-friary, which was built at the east end of the town in the reign of Henry III. by Lord John de Verdun; the east window of which was admired for its curious and elegant workmanship. The tower given in the plate is part of this building. It is a square battlemented steeple in good repair. In the west side is a Gothic window, over which is a projecting stone cut into a grotesque head. The terminations of the arch of the window are similarly ornamented. The prospect around is fine and extensive.

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

### CASTLE OF KILKENNY.

RICHARD STRONGBOW, by his marriage with Eva, daughter of Dermot, King of Leinster, came into possession of a great part of the province of Leinster. Henry II. confirmed his right, with the reservation of the maritime parts. On being appointed Lord Justice of Ireland, in 1173, he laid the foundation of a castle in Kilkenny, but it was scarcely finished, when it was demolished by the insurgent Irish. However, William, Earl Marshal, descended from Strongbow, and also Lord Justice, in 1195, began a noble pile on a more extensive plan, and on the ancient site: a great part of this fine castle has survived the convulsions of this distracted kingdom, and continues at this day a conspicuous ornament of the beautiful city of Kilkenny.

A RISING ground was chosen, which on one side has a deep and abrupt descent to the river Nore, which effectually protects it on that quarter by its rapid stream: the other sides were secured by ramparts, walls, and towers, and the entrance is through a lofty gate of marble of the Corinthian order. The area thus inclosed afforded the noble possessor not only accommodations for himself and his domestics, but also caserns for a strong garrison. The Earl in his charter to St. John's Priory, A. D. 1211, provides, That if he be absent, the monks of that house shall serve his castle chapel; but if resident, then his own domestic chaplains. In the same record



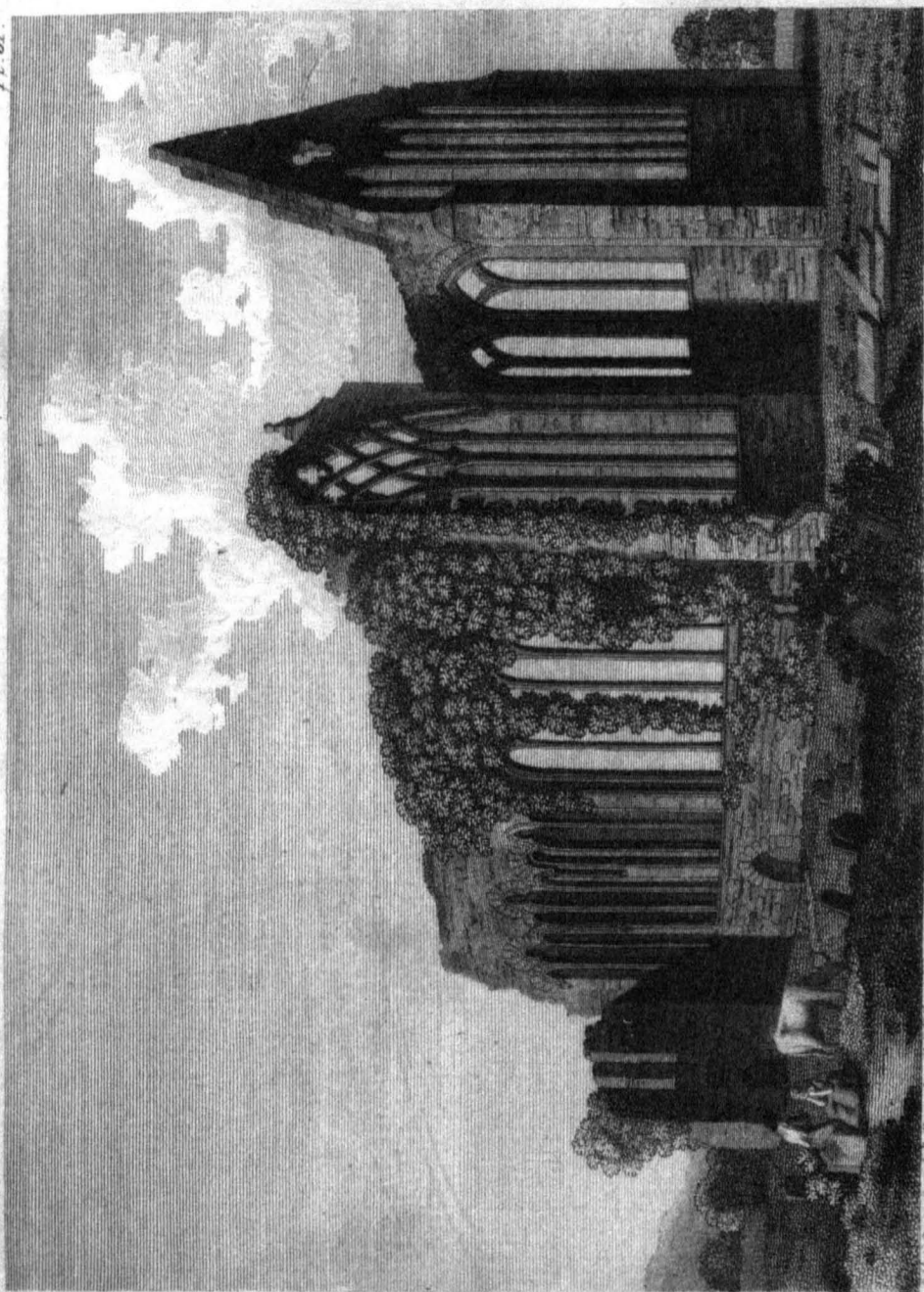
cord his barns lying beyond the bridge are mentioned, with other circumstances indicating a regular court and household.

HUGH LE DESPENSER, who obtained the castle by marriage, in September 1391, conveyed it and its dependencies to James, Earl of Ormond. These dependencies comprehended the castle with the mills; the borough of Rosbercon with the mills; the manors of Dunfert and Kildermog; the Serjeancy of Iverk; all his tenements in Callan le Hill; 33l. 15s. 3d. in Callan, and the advowson of the church; with all the lands, tenements, advowsons, and knights-fees in Iverk, Rosbercon, Logheran, Killaghy, Rossana, Knocktopher, the New Town of Jerpoint, Killamery, Ardreston, Lydfonfy, Kilfeacamaduff, and Thollenabrogue. In this city parliaments were frequently held, and the castle was always considered as the bulwark of the English pale in those parts. Mottraye, an ingenious foreigner who visited this country, and published his travels at the Hague in 1730, thus speaks of the castle:

“The principal ornament of the town is the Duke of Ormond’s palace; it was a building of his ancestors. Some remains of the ancient castle still appear, which show that it was one of the strongest of the time. The Duke rebuilt it magnificently a little before his retreat, but the inside was not finished, nor does it appear that it ever will, being now so neglected, that the rain comes in every where. It is inhabited only by the gardener and his family, who only takes care of his own apartment; and as to the gardens keeps up only what is useful, such as the fruit-trees, vegetables, &c.

“This palace is beautifully situated on an eminence, at the foot of which runs the Nore, after having washed the park and the town. This river runs with rapidity over sand and gravel, and is so clear, that it is one of the three things of which Kilkenny boasts, water without mud, air without fog, and fire without smoke.”

SINCE Mottraye writ, the castle has been much improved. On entering the court yard, you turn to the left into the dining parlour, in which are many valuable portraits. In the breakfast room is tapistry, exhibiting the History of Decius: it is admirably executed  
and



ST. JOHN'S ABBEY. CO. KILKENNY.

and the colours fresh and lively. The alcove, or presence chamber, is also hung with tapistry, and has a chair of state, raised a step from the floor. The ball room or gallery is of great length, but unfinished. It contains a fine collection of battle-pieces and portraits; many of the latter family ones, and not a few of the beauties of Charles the Second's Court. The Countess of Ormond's dressing room is a small Octagon in one of the towers. Besides these there are the countess's bed-chamber, the chapel and evidence-chamber; the last extremely interesting to the historian and antiquary, as there are here the most authentic documents relative to the political state of Ireland, from the arrival of the English, in which the house of Ormond bore a conspicuous part. This room furnishes ample materials to illustrate the household expences of a great Irish Baron, and throws uncommon light on the modes of living, the dress, and an infinite variety of curious particulars in remote times. No use has been hitherto made of this room but the trifling collections by Carte for his lives of the Ormonds.

WHOEVER wishes for a more copious account of this ancient city of Kilkenny, may find it in the ninth number of *Collectanea de Rebus Hibernicis*, page 349.

THIS View was taken from an original drawing by J. G. Brien, in the collection of the Right Honourable William Conyngham.

### ST. JOHN'S ABBEY.

THE foundation of this religious house will be best explained by translating the original record relating to it, which may be seen in the second volume of the *Monasticon Anglicanum*.

"THE priory or hospital of St. John the Evangelist of Kilkenny, founded about the Year 1220. [Mr. Archdall makes it nine years earlier.]

"J. William Marshal, Earl of Pembroke, &c. have granted to St. John the Evangelist, a certain place at the head of the small bridge of Kilkenny, to wit, that between the small aqueduct of the way that  
that



that leads from my Carns to Loghmaderan, and sixteen acres of free land, on the same side of the said aqueduct, with their appurtenances, to build a religious house, in honour of God and St. John, for the support of the poor and indigent. I have also granted the whole parish beyond the bridge of Kilkenny, towards the east and contiguous to said bridge, with its appurtenances without any reservation. Also the whole ecclesiastical benefice of my land of Donfert, so far as belongs to the patron, and the ecclesiastical benefice of my old land of Loghmaderan, in like manner with its appurtenances in tithes, oblations, and obventions, and the tithes of my mills, fisheries, orchards, and dove-cotes, in Kilkenny.

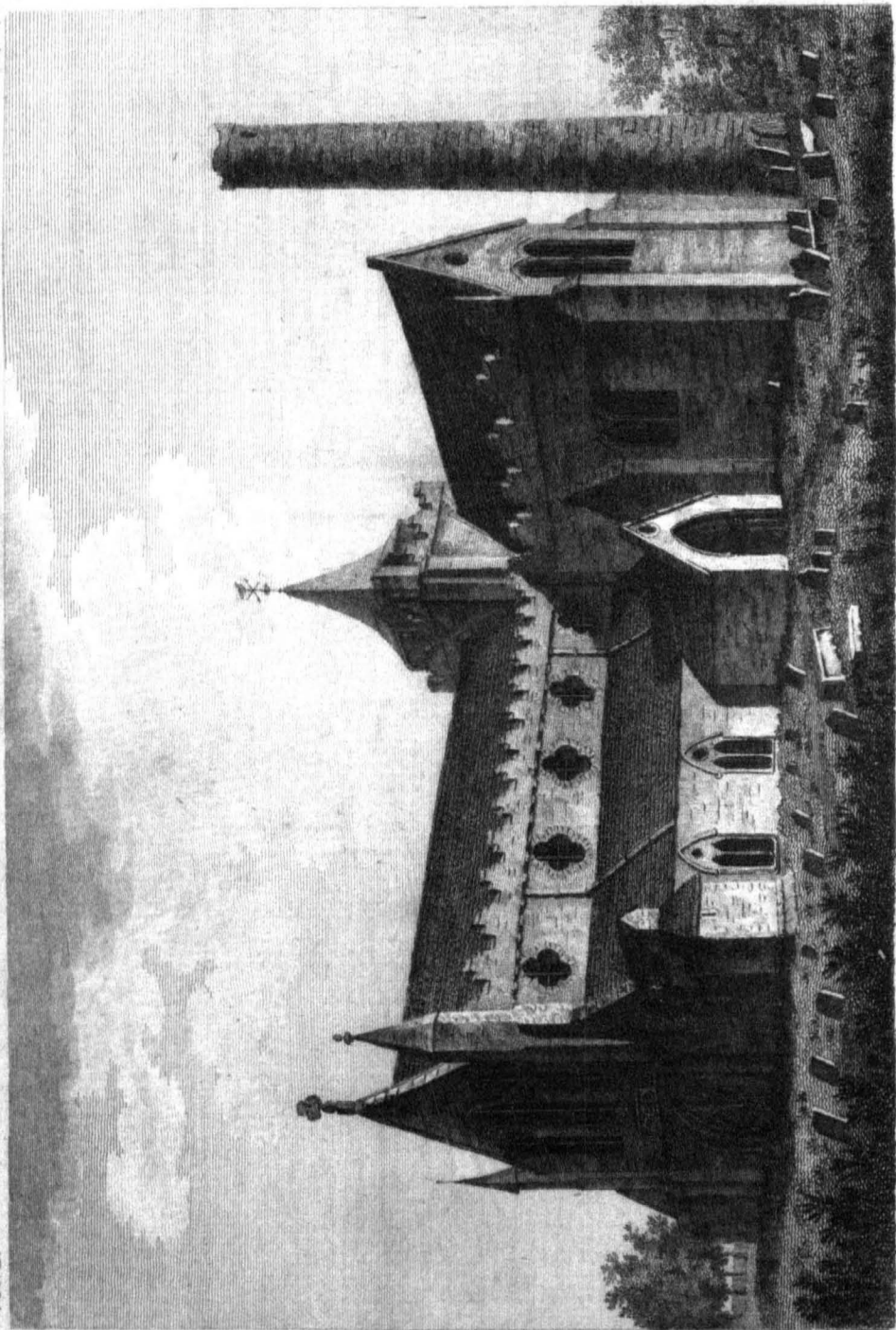
“MY will is, that the aforefaid brethren shall serve in the chapel of my castle of Kilkenny, and for such shall receive all oblations and obventions during the absence of me or my heirs; but when resident, then my domestic chaplains shall receive such dues.

“I HAVE granted besides a place at the head of the great bridge, where originally the brethren first began their house, paying annually to me and my heirs three shillings in lieu of all services. They may also peaceably have and hold the revenue of the Burgages in Kilkenny, which were or shall be given them there, saving their service to me and all my other rights.

“MOREOVER I have granted the Church of Hagamon, and the Church of Newtown, with the whole benefice of the Old Town, with all appurtenances belonging to said churches; moreover, I have given the tithes of all my mills and hay, in the aforefaid parishes. I give thirty marks of silver, the produce of my courts, to my treasury in Kilkenny, and besides these, one carrucate of land with its appurtenances, viz. that which Thomas Drake held, near Kilkenny, and which shall be free of all services.”

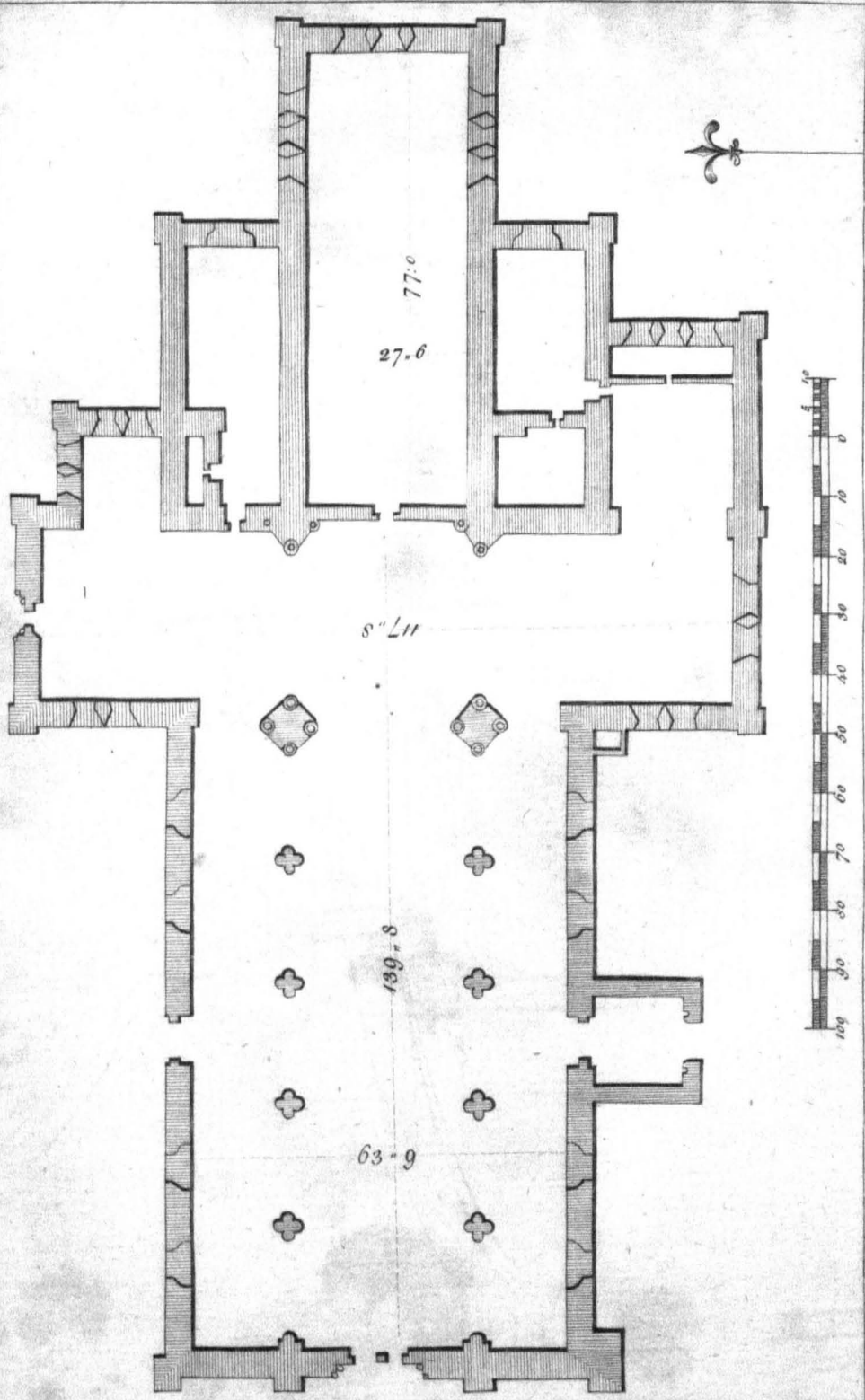
THIS priory thus greatly favoured soon increased in riches. At the reformation, this house and its possessions were granted to the Mayor and Citizens of Kilkenny.

IN 1645, when the monastic orders were repairing their abbeys and monasteries, the Augustinians, to whom this priory originally belonged, endeavoured to possess themselves of it, but were opposed by  
the



ST. CANICE'S, CO. KILKENNY.

Engraved by J. G. H. H. H. H.



S<sup>T</sup>. CANICE'S CATHEDRAL, KILKENNY.



the Jesuits, who set up a fictitious grant from the city, and in this they were supported by Rinuccini, the pope's nuncio. However the city disclaimed any such grant.

GREAT part of this priory was demolished to make room for a foot barrack, yet its ruins declare its former splendour. For about fifty-four feet of the south side of the choir it seems to be almost one window. The eastern window is about sixteen feet wide and thirty high; it is divided by delicate stone mullions. There are some sepulchral inscriptions and other remains, which may be seen in the *Collectanea* before cited.

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

### CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. CANICE.

FROM the confused and imperfect account of the origin of this structure we can only conjecture, that Felix O'Dullany, or Delany, began it in 1180, by erecting a small church near the round tower. Hugh Rufus, who was probably elected to this see through the influence of the Earl Marshal, laid the foundation of a noble edifice, to bear pace with the other magnificent ecclesiastical constructions, at that time raising every where by the English. Bishop Mapilton in 1233, and St. Leger, who succeeded him, completed the fabrick. The style of architecture here used, seems to confirm what has been advanced, St. Leger died towards the end of Edward I's. reign, when, according to Bentham, the prevailing taste was an immoderate length in the windows, rising as high as the vaulting, and ornamented with coloured glass. The windows of this cathedral are in this style, but have been shortened, the eye, however, quickly discovers and traces the barbarous change.

THIS church is built on an eminence, with a descent all round it. You enter the church-yard from the town by a flight of marble steps: it is planted with trees, and to the west is a handsome terrace walk, from whence is a beautiful prospect of a fine country. The

church is in the form of a cross: the length from east to west in the clear is 226 feet, and the breadth of the cross from north to south is 123, being perhaps the largest church in the kingdom except St. Patrick's and Christ's churches, Dublin, and in beauty it excels both. There are two lateral and a centre aisle. The roof of the nave is supported by five pillars, and a pilaster of black marble on each side, upon which are formed five neat arches. Each lateral aisle is lighted by four windows below, and the central aisle by five above: they are in the shape of quatrefoils. The steeple is low, but broad, taking up the space of thirty-seven feet, it is supported by four massy columns of black marble, and its floor rests on a great number of springers; rising from the columns they spread over the vaulting, and are each divided into a small moulding like beads.

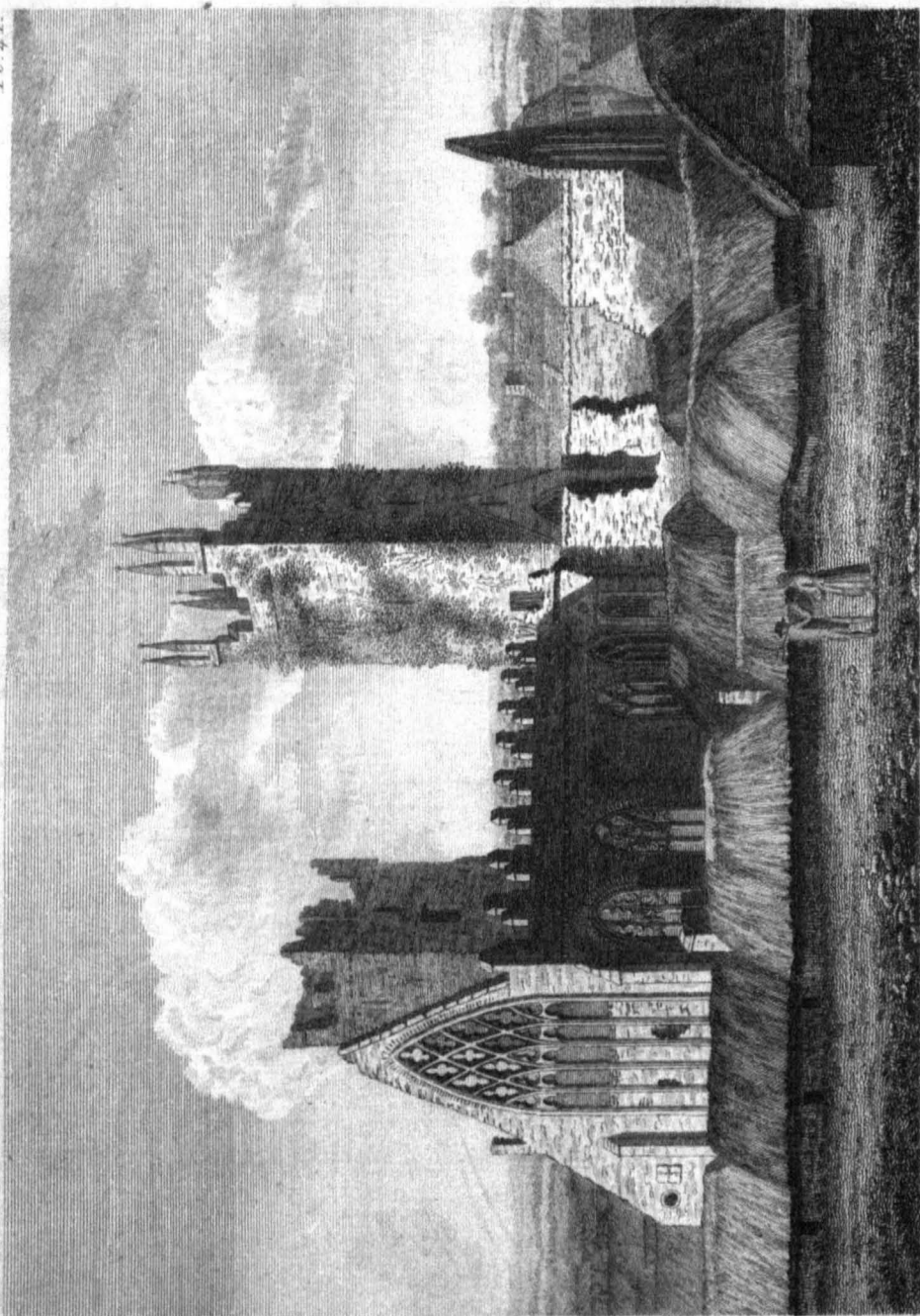
THE pillars were, about sixty or seventy years ago, whitened by an absurd and ignorant economist. There are four entrances, one at the west end, two in the nave opposite each other, and one at the end of the north transept. The seats of the choir and gallery are of oak varnished, and the whole plain, but remarkably neat. The compass ceiling is adorned with fret work, and has many modillions, and in the centre a group of foliage, festoons, and cherubims.

IN the north transept is St. Mary's chapel, and near this is an oratory wherein were heaped, during the usurpation, numberless beautiful sepulchral monuments, which Bishop Pococke, an excellent prelate and learned antiquary, drew from ruin and obscurity, and placed in the nave and aisles.

BISHOP Ledred, in 1318, fitted up the windows of the cathedral, and particularly the eastern one, in so elegant a manner, and adorned it with such curious workmanship, as left it unrivalled in this kingdom. This will not appear exaggerated, when we are informed, that Rinuccini, Archbishop of Firmo, and nuncio from the Pope to the confederate Catholics in 1645, who came from the natal soil of the fine arts, was so much struck with its beauty, that he offered for it the large sum of 700l. and esteemed it not unworthy Rome itself, whither he intended to send it. But neither the

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Pl. 41.



BLANCH ARBUTHNOT, Co. Kilkenny. Ph:



the high rank or influence of the Prince of Firmo, nor the distresses of the times could prevail on the Bishop or chapter to accede to the nuncio's wishes. The window contained the history of Christ from his birth to his ascension: the other windows, though much inferior, were enriched with various figures and emblems. This exquisite piece of art at length fell a sacrifice to the savage barbarism of the times; it was demolished by the fanatics in 1650, urged on by that infamous regicide Colonel Axtel, who was the governor of Kilkenny.

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

### DOMINICAN OR BLACK ABBEY.

WILLIAM, Earl Marshal, about 1225 founded this monastery for Dominican friars, and dedicated it to the Holy Trinity. The founder was interred here in 1231, and in three years after his brother Richard, who was slain in a battle with the O'Mores and O'Conors on the Curragh of Kildare.

HUGH, Bishop of Ofsory, who had been a great benefactor, was interred near the high altar, and four general chapters of the Dominican order were held here. In 1437, Henry VI. made the following grant to this monastery: "The King to whom these presents shall come, &c. Our beloved the Prior and Convent of the Friars, preachers of Kilkenny, having humbly represented unto us, that they are continual orators for our happiness, and the souls of our noble progenitors, kings of England, and that they cannot support themselves by the alms of the city of Kilkenny, nor of the county, because it is spoiled and wasted by our own nation, as well as the Irish in rebellion. We, having considered the premises, and willing to grant their humble supplication, do, with the assent of the venerable Father in Christ, Richard Archbishop of Dublin, Justiciary of our kingdom of Ireland, and of our Council of the same, by the manucaption of John Nauyler of Trim and Thomas Clopham of

Havan, grant to the said Prior and convent two parts of all the tithes, oblations, commodities and profits whatever of the Rectory of the church of Mothil in said county, now in our hands, to have and to hold the said two parts so long as they shall remain with us, paying yearly to our Exchequer of Ireland eight pence on the Feasts of St. Michael and Easter, in equal portions. Witness our said Justiciary at Dublin, the 25th day of July, 15 Hen. VI."

By an inquisition in the Chief Remembrancer's Office it appears, that Peter Cantwell, the last prior, was seized of said priory, and within its precincts a church and belfry, a small castle near the church, a dormitory, and beneath it the chapter-house; another chamber called the king's chamber, and adjoining it a small turret, with much other property in lands and houses, within and without the city of Kilkenny.

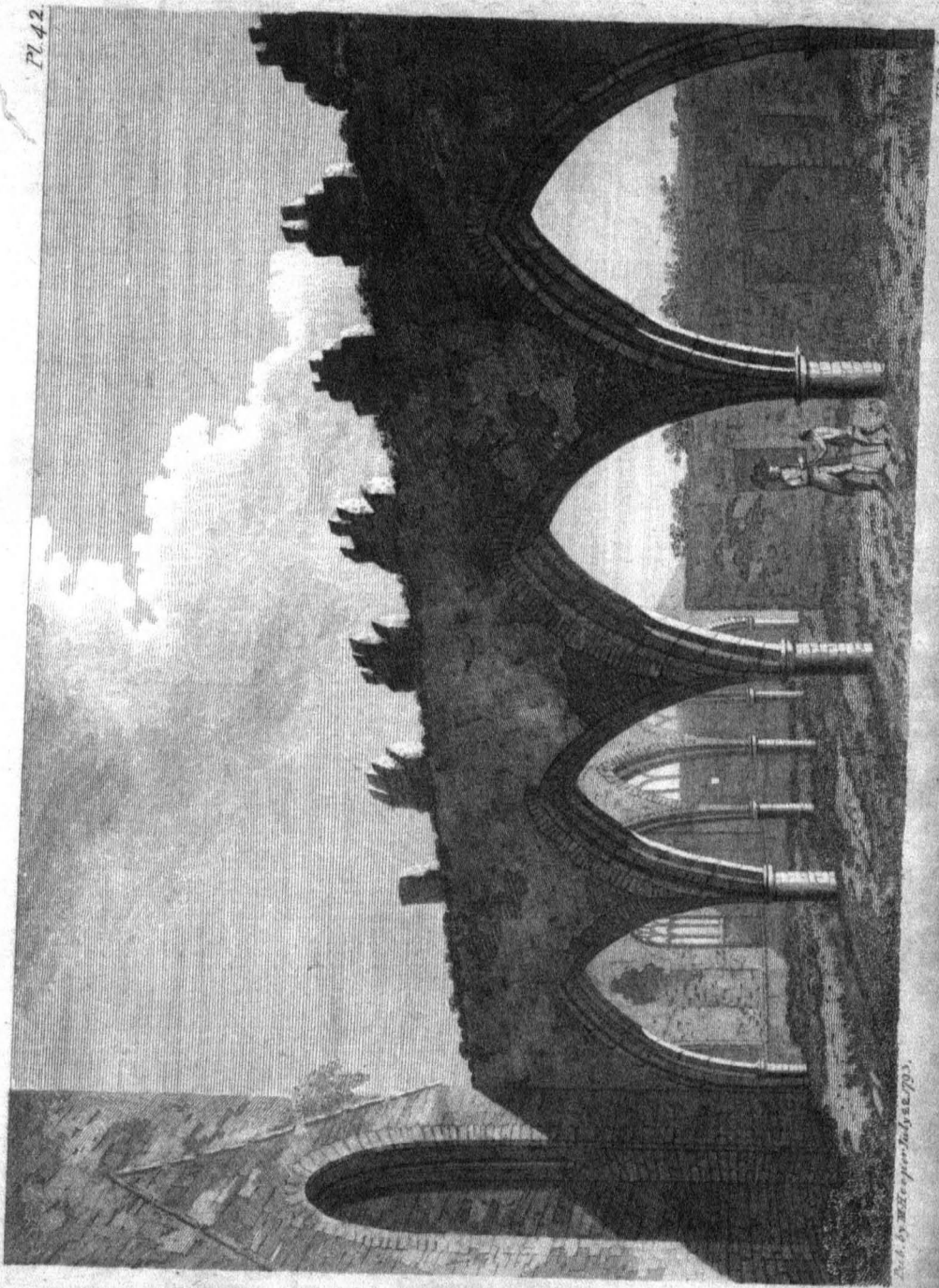
HENRY VIII. granted this monastery to the sovereign, burgeses and commonalty of Kilkenny, at the yearly rent of 12s. 4d. Irish. In the time of the elder James it served for a shire-house, and in 1643, it was repaired and a chapter of the order held in it. Its towers are light and elegant, and some of the windows executed with a masterly hand.

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

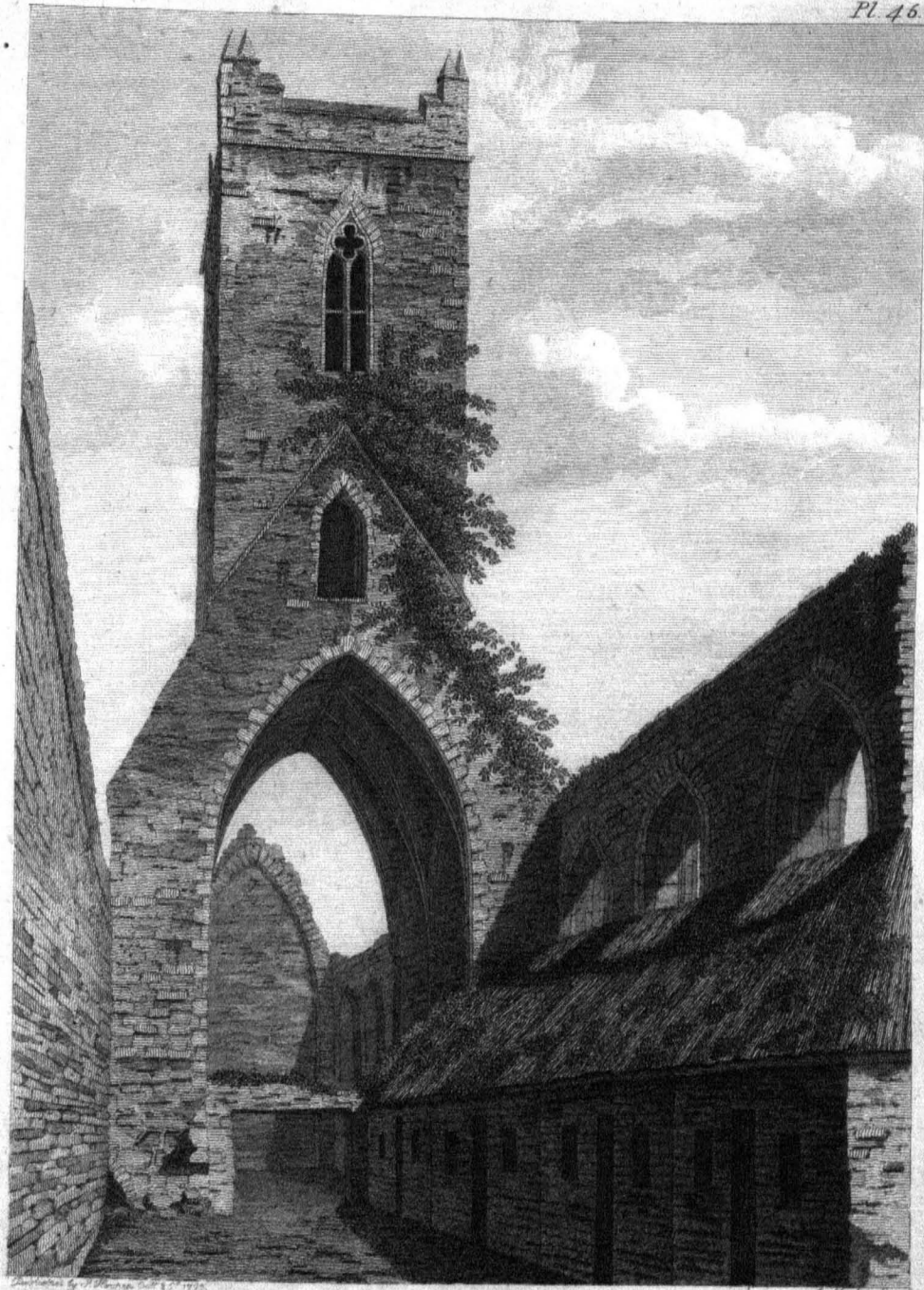
(PLATE II.) This shews an inside View of the Abbey.

### FRANCISCAN ABBEY.

WE have every reason to place the foundation of this monastery previous to the year 1230, for "in the chore of the friars-preachers, says Stanihurst, William Marshal, Erle of Pembroke, was buried, who departed this life in the yere 1231. Richard, brother to William, to whom the inheritance descended, within three years after deceased at Kilkennie, being wounded to deathe in a field in the heath







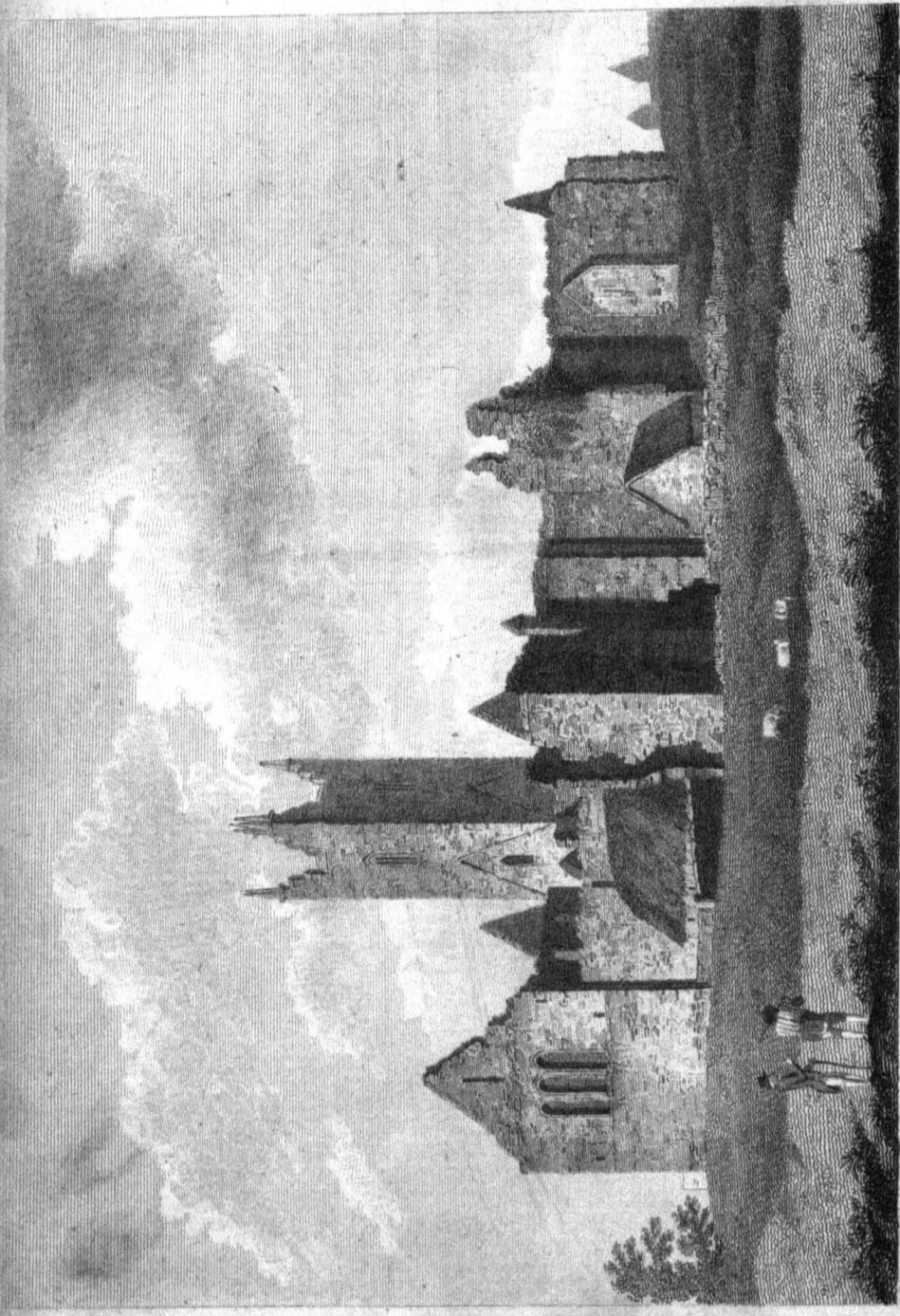
Engraved by J. H. P. 1835.

J. H. P. 1835.

ST. FRANCIS ABBEY. CO. KILKENNY.

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Vol. 1.



Engraved by J. Maclean.

Engraved from a drawing by J. Maclean.

Price 2/6

JERPOINT ABBEY. CO. KILKENNY.

heath of Kildare in the year 1234, the twelfth of April, and was interred with his brother according to the old epitaph here mentioned.

“ Hic comes est positus, Ricardus vulnere foffus,  
Cujus sub foffa, Kilkennia continet offa.”

THE new choir was not completed before 1321, when the great altar, a marble table of amazing size, was consecrated, and in ten years after, the Bishop of Waterford consecrated the cemetery. A great flood in the river Nore destroyed all the bridges and mills in Kilkenny, but dared not approach, if we believe tradition, the high altar of this church. Nor were the friars of this house less successful in forging other miracles, and getting them credited. Elizabeth Palmer, who built at her own expence the forepart of the choir, and was interred therein, died a virgin at the age of seventy, though she had been married young and to several husbands.

St. Francis's well, belonging to this church, was famous for miraculous cures, and still among the superstitious preserves some degree of reputation. Henry VIII. granted this monastery and its possessions to the corporation of Kilkenny; part of it is now a horse-barrack. It was an elegant building, as its surviving remains evince.

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

### ABBEY OF JERPOINT.

THIS abbey is situated on the river Nore, two miles above Thomastown, and was founded in 1180 by Donogh, King of Offory, for Cistercian monks, and dedicated to the Virgin Mary. The monks, on the arrival of the English, had interest sufficient with king John to get a confirmation of all the lands bestowed on them by the King of Offory, and Edward III. in the 34th year of his reign, at the instance of Phillip, then abbot, granted him an inspeximus and confirmation of former charters.

THE abbot sat in parliament, an honour sometimes found inconvenient;



venient; for in 1375, the abbot of Jerpoint petitioned Edward III. and stated, that as the house was dependent on the abbot of Baltinglass who attended parliaments and answered for the abbots under his care, yet the abbot of Jerpoint was often compelled by writ to appear in parliament, to his great loss and distress, and to the great expenditure and costs of his house; he therefore prayed an exemption, and the king by a writ dated October 28th at Kilkenny, did for the future exonerate him from such attendance.

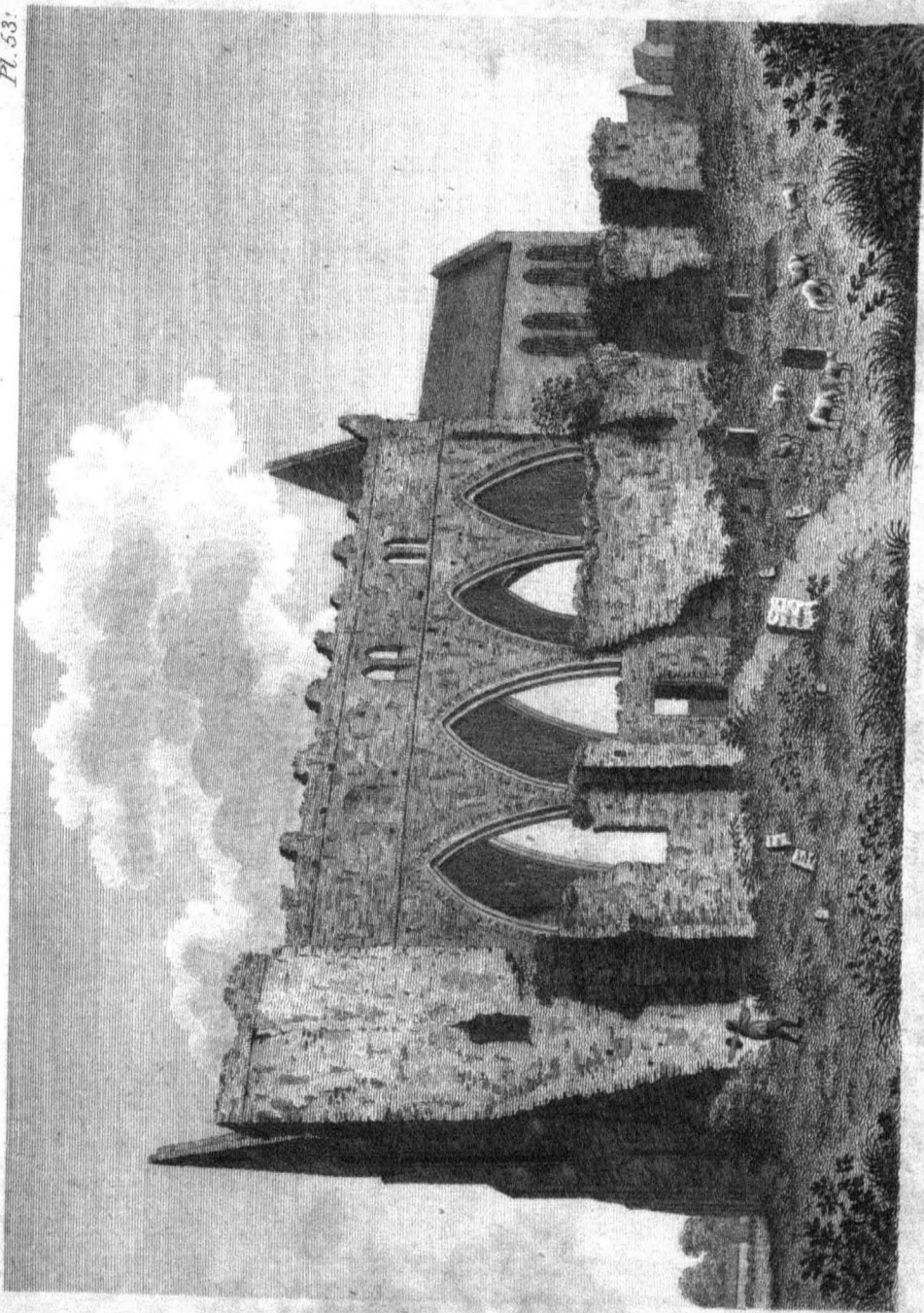
OLIVER Grace, the last abbot, surrendered this abbey the 18th of March, the 31 Henry VIII. It then possessed above 1500 acres of arable and pasture, three rectories, the alterages and tithes of thirteen other parishes; all these were granted, 5 and 6 Philip and Mary, to James Earl of Ormond and his heirs male to hold *in capite*, at the yearly rent of 49l. 3s. 9d.

THE ruins are extensive and beautiful, and the style the same as the other Cistercian abbeys of the same date.

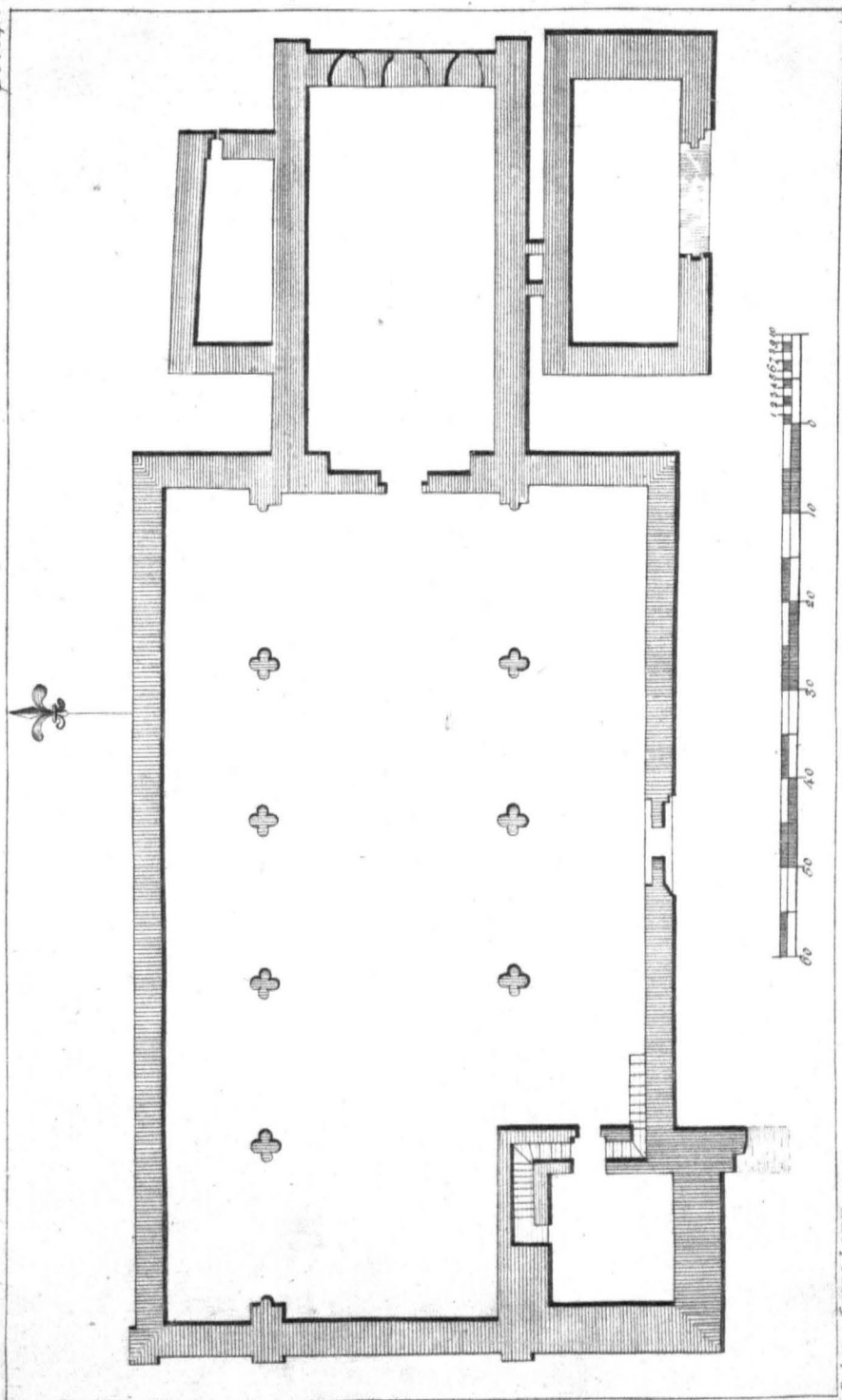
THIS View, which represents the south west aspect, was taken from an original drawing by J. G. Brien, in the collection of the Right Honourable William Conyngham.

### THOMASTOWN MONASTERY.

THIS is a very antient town, being built by Thomas Fitz Anthony, who accompanied Henry II. in his Irish expedition. It is in the barony of Gowran on the river Nore, and eight miles from Kilkenny. There are no indisputable documents to assure us that a Dominican monastery was erected here, and yet Burke, the historiographer of that order, has adduced some evidence not destitute of probability. He says, that in the year 1720 there was a meeting in Dublin of the fathers definitors of the order. Edmund Burke, Peter M'Dermot, Patrick Diamond and Stephen M'Egan, where Thomastown is expressly mentioned as wanting a superior to superintend the Dominican convent there. He adds, that at a general meeting of the order at Rome, A. D. 1656, the Irish Dominican convents amounted



THOMAS TOWN ABBEY, CORKILL, KENT.



THOMAS TOWN ABBEY.

Pub. May. 6. 1793. by M. H. Rogers.