

pile was consumed by fire. This misfortune being represented to Pope John XXIII. then present at the council of Constance, he issued the following Apostolic letters:

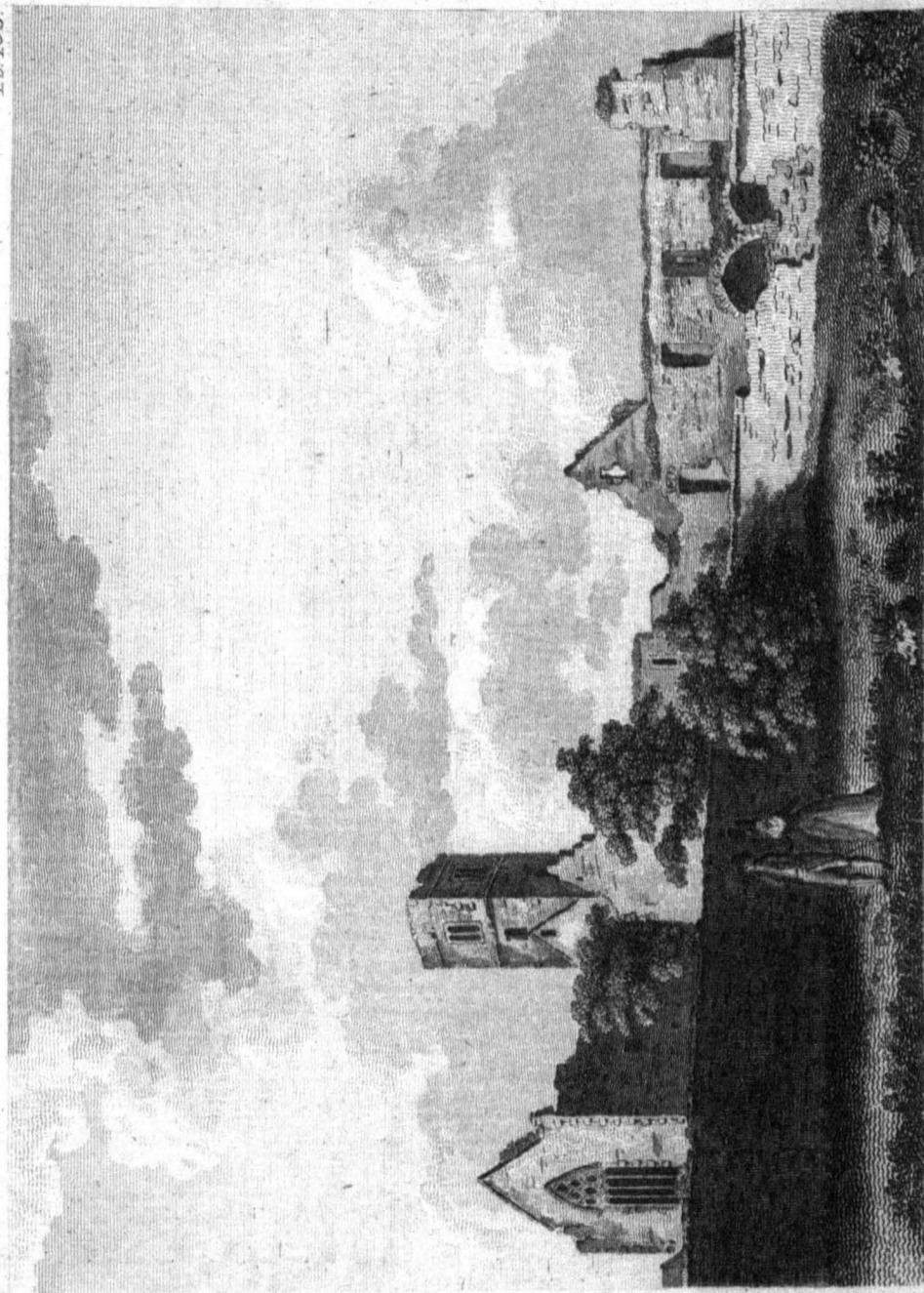
“JOHN, Bishop, servant of the servants of God, to all christian believers who shall see these present letters, salvation and apostolic benediction.

“It having been represented unto us, that the church and house of Dominicans at Sligo, in the diocese of Elphin, in which it is affirmed twenty brothers have long devoutly served God, were lately burnt by fire, and that the prior and some of the brethren of the order desire to repair said church and house, a work of considerable expence, the means to defray which they do not possess. We, consulting the honour of said church, and willing that it should be repaired, that the faithful may resort thither more freely for devotion, and be desirous to contribute more liberally towards its repairs when they shall find themselves replenished with celestial gifts: relying, as we do, on the mercy of the Omnipotent God, and by the authority of his blessed apostles Peter and Paul, do compassionately relax ten years, and as many forty days of penance (*decem annos et totidem quadragenas*) enjoined on all penitents and those who have confessed, who on the feasts of the assumption of the blessed Virgin Mary and St. Patrick shall devoutly visit the aforesaid church, and contribute to its repairs.

“OUR will is, that if there is any indulgence, either for ever or a certain time, granted by us, to those who shall visit or assist in repairing said church and house, that it shall from henceforth be null and void. Dated at Constance, the 16th of the Calends of February, in the 5th Year of our Pontificate A. D. 1415.”

THIS View, which represents the south-west aspect, was drawn by T. Cocking, Anno 1791.

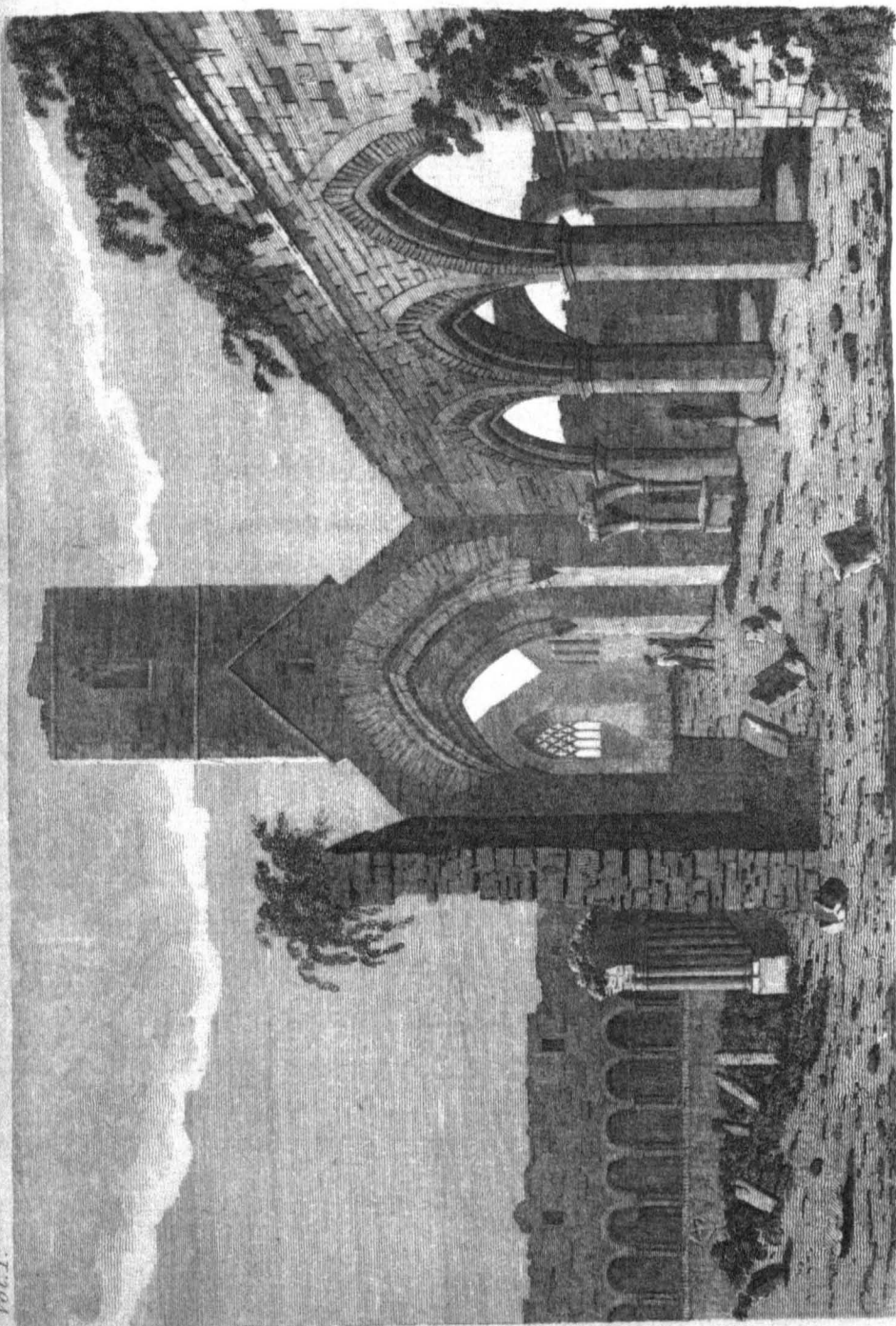
(PLATE II.) THE present building was now begun in a very superior style of sculpture and architecture. Among its principal benefactors were O’Conor, Lord of Sligo, and Pierce O’Timony, a man of considerable wealth and property, whose statue was placed



Published Nov 14. 1795 by J. Cooper

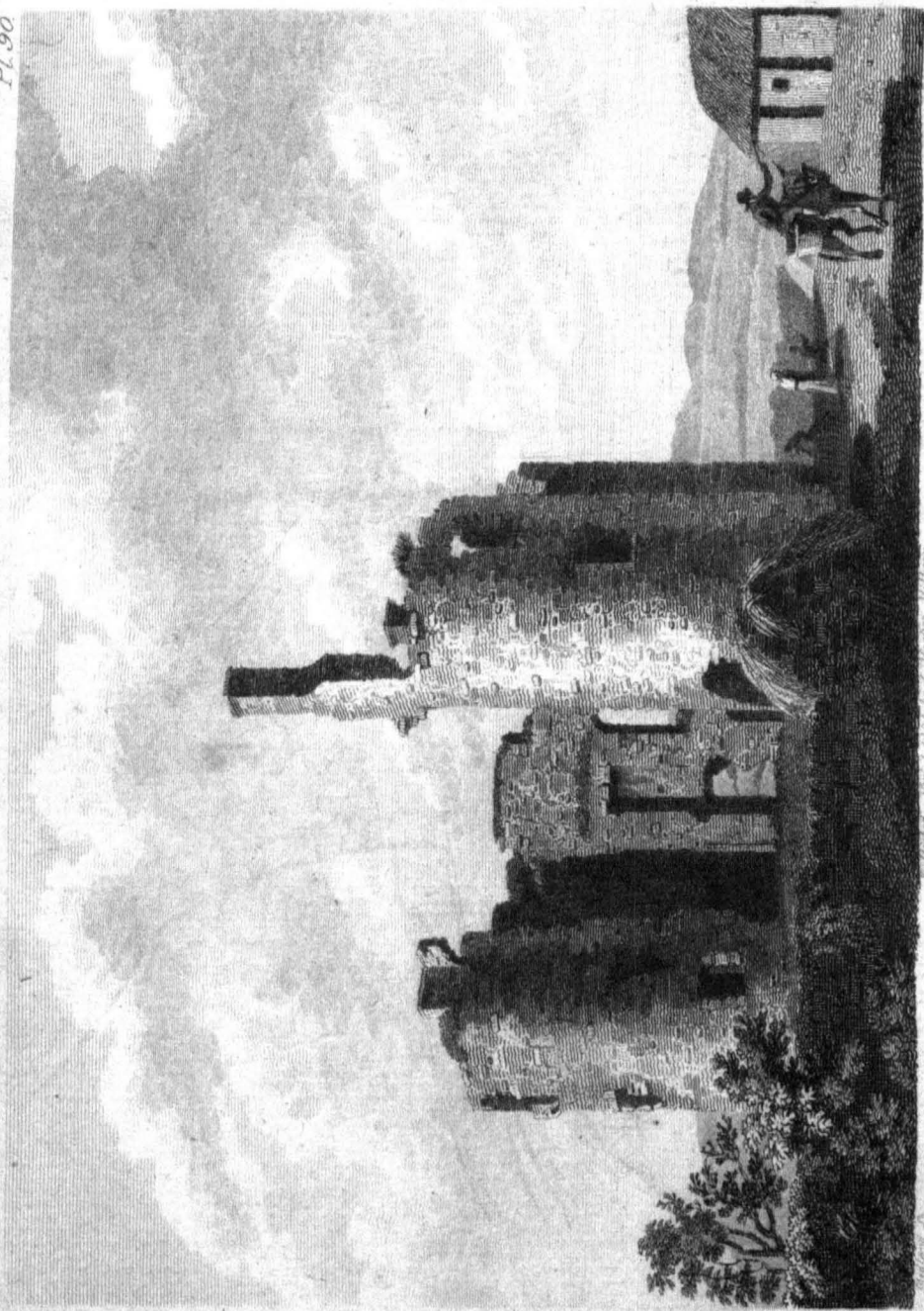
SLIGO ABBEY. Co. Sligo. Pl: 1.

Engraved by J. Cooper



ST. LEO ABBEY CO. SLIGO, PLAS.

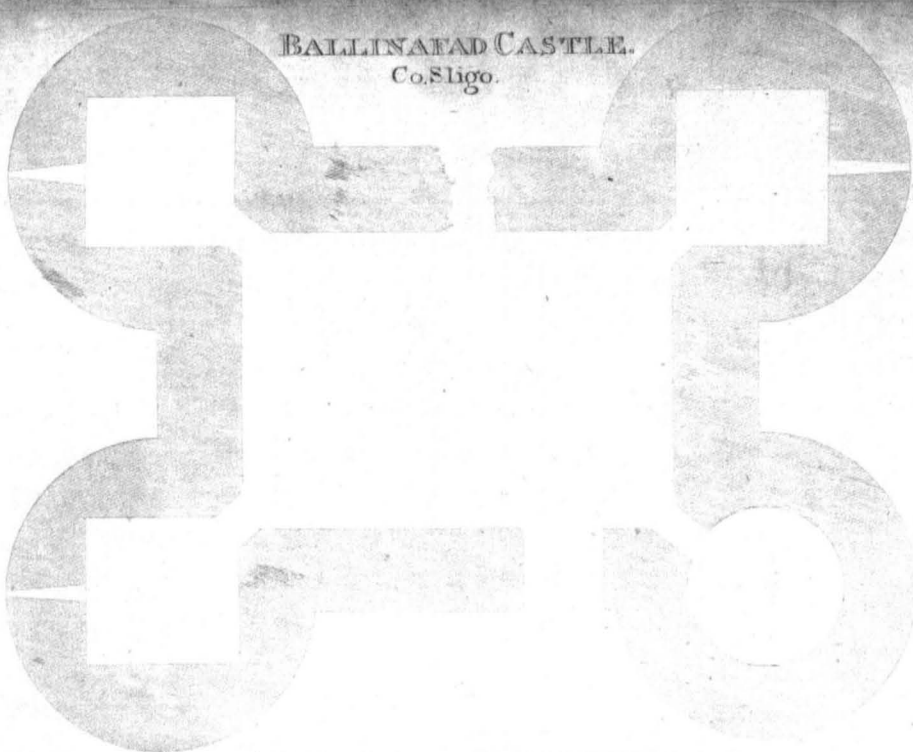
Pub by M Hooper, 212 High Holborn, Oct. 21. 1793.



CASTLE of BALLINAFAD, Co. Sligo.



BALLINATAD CASTLE.  
Co.Sligo.



BALLYMOTE CASTLE, Co:Sligo.



placed in the cloister. There are two large chapels, divided by a square belfry: the tower is entire, except the battlements at the top. The arches are lofty, and enriched with foliage and angels. The three sides of the cloisters are covered by an arched roof. The front and sides of the altar are ornamented with Gothic arches, foliage, and tracery, and there are pedestals for statues. The eastern window is very beautiful, and a stone gallery surrounds the nave. Several feet from the ground, is the tomb of O'Connor and his lady kneeling on each side of an altar. The Gothic arches, fluted pillars, and multiplicity of minute and curious ornaments, make us wonder at the high degree to which the arts of sculpture and architecture were now carried, and particularly how money could be procured for the accomplishment of such a work in a country torn by rebellion and domestic dissention, as was the case with Ireland at this time. These difficulties will hereafter be solved when I come to speak of our architectural antiquities, in which a View of this beautiful monument of O'Connor will be given.

AN inquisition, of the 27th of Elizabeth, finds this monastery had a church, a steeple, cemetery and two other stone-buildings, a fishing weir, with some parcels of land.

THIS View, which represents the north-east aspect, was drawn by T. Cocking, Anno 1791.

(PLATE III.) THIS View, which represents the inside of that magnificent building, with part of the cloisters, was taken from an original drawing by Bigari, in the collection of the Right Honourable William Conyngham.

### BALLYNAFADD CASTLE

WAS formerly the property of the sept of the M'Donoughs, and was erected by them. It stands on a small eminence near the road from Boyle to Sligo. The shape of the castle is an oblong square, defended at the angles by four round towers, which have machicolations.

lations. The walls are four feet and a half thick, and constructed of a reddish stone.

FROM the castle are seen the Curlew Mountains to the east, and to the north Lough Arrow, and to the south a stream winding through a valley. In the year 1641, Bealanfad, as it was then written, had an English garrison, which bravely resisted the assaults of Hubert Boy Burke, Sir Ulick Burke, and other rebels, who attempted to take it and the other castles in Connaught. Ballynafadd held out a long time, till the want of water obliged it to surrender.

THIS View, which represents the east aspect, was drawn by T. Cocking, Anno 1791.

### BALLINDOWN ABBEY.

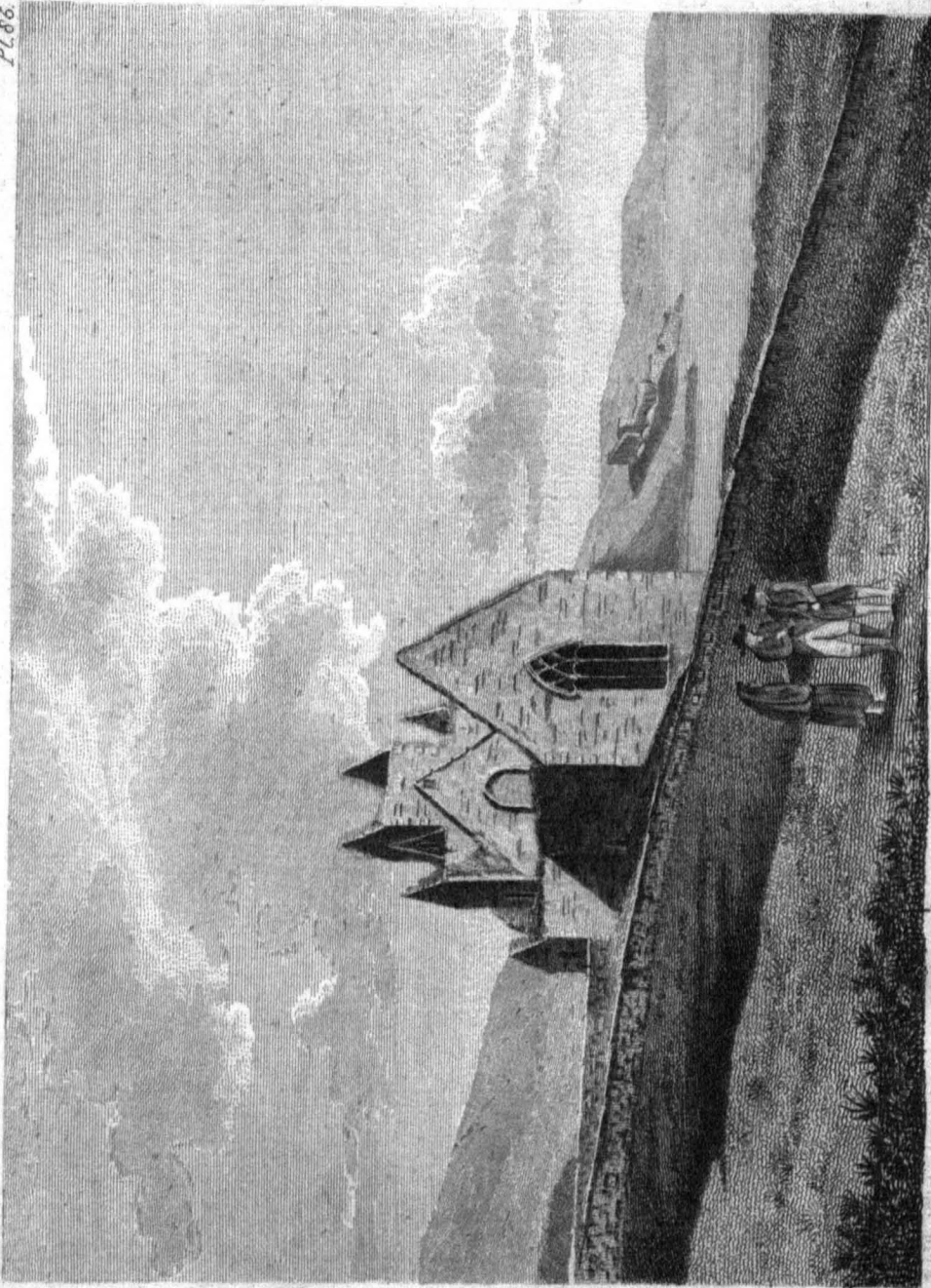
ON Lough Arrow, seven miles north of Abbey Boyle, the M'Donoughs founded the monastery of Ballindown, about 1427, in honour of the Virgin Mary, for Dominican nuns.

THERE are two chapels, divided by a belfry. The eastern and western windows are Gothic, the other arches elliptical. The tower, part of which only remains, was supported by three arches. Two large consoles stick out over the piers of the arches, to support probably statues.

AN inquisition, of the 27th of Elizabeth, finds the possessions of the monastery to be, a church, a cemetery with half a quarter of land. These were granted to Francis Crofton, who assigned them to Edward Crofton.

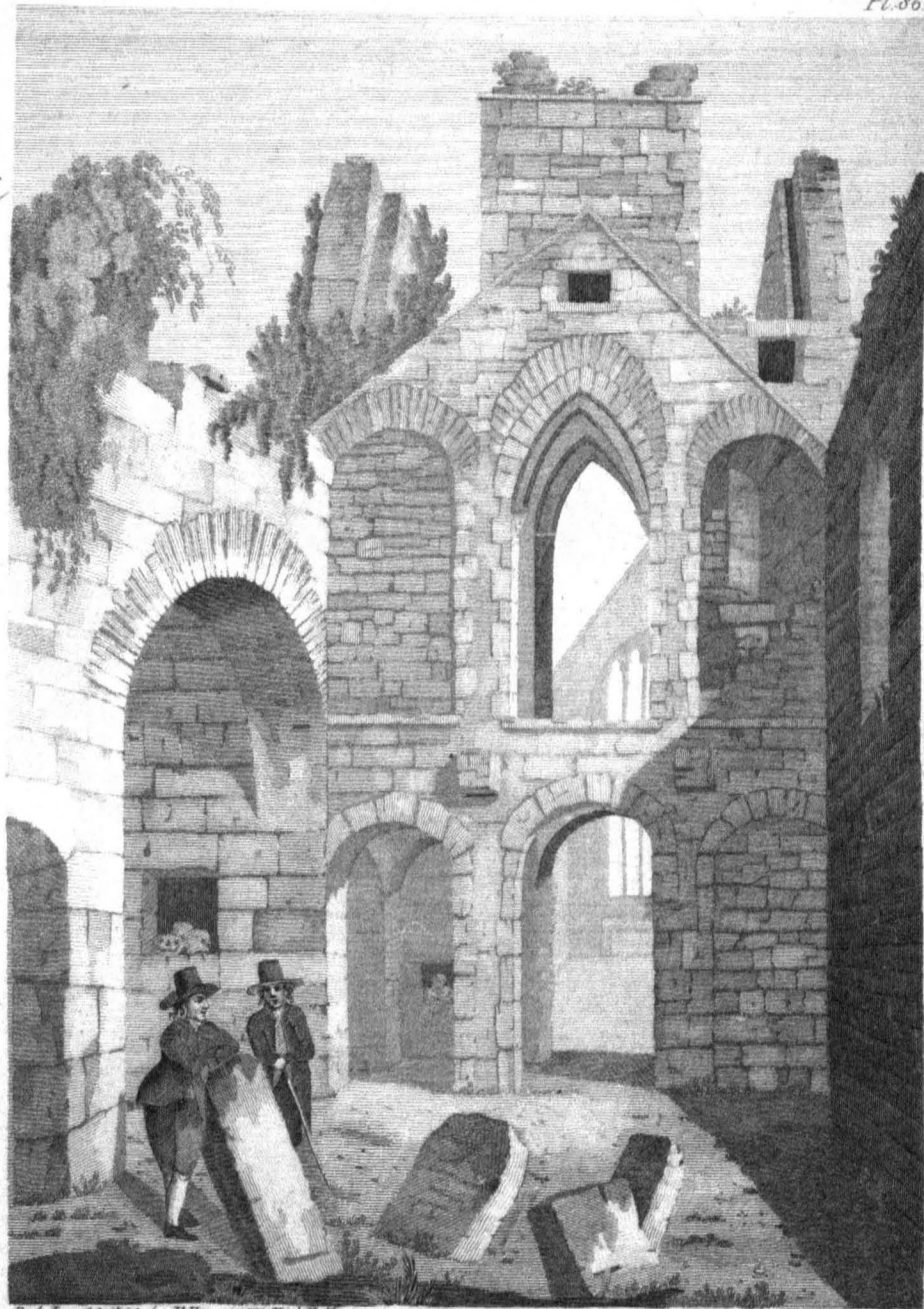
THIS View, which represents the north-west aspect, was drawn by T. Cocking, Anno 1791.

(PLATE II.) THIS View, which shews the inside of the building, was taken from an original drawing by Bigari, in the collection of the Right Honourable William Conyngham.



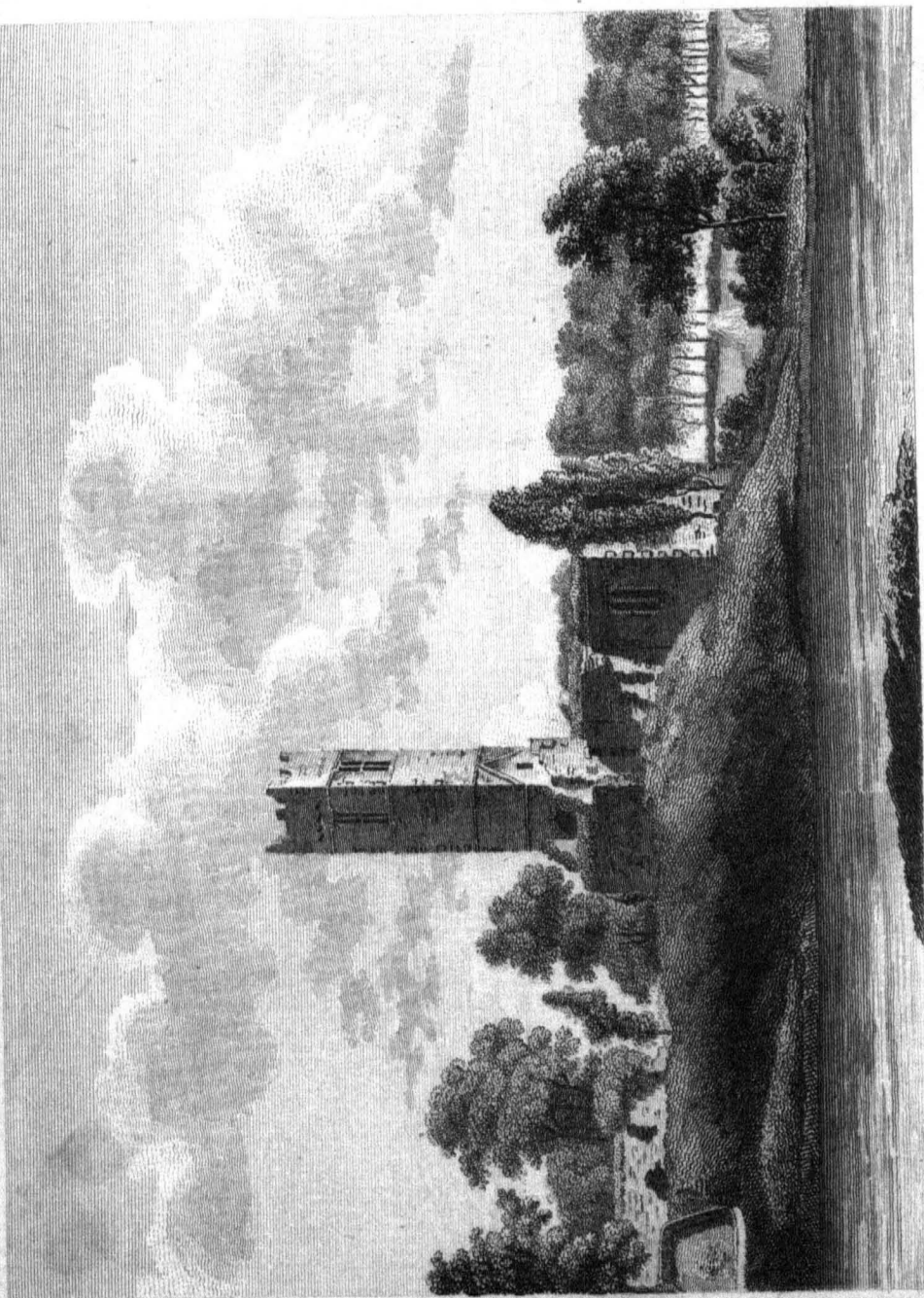
BALLINDOWN ABBEY. CO. SLIGO. PL. I.

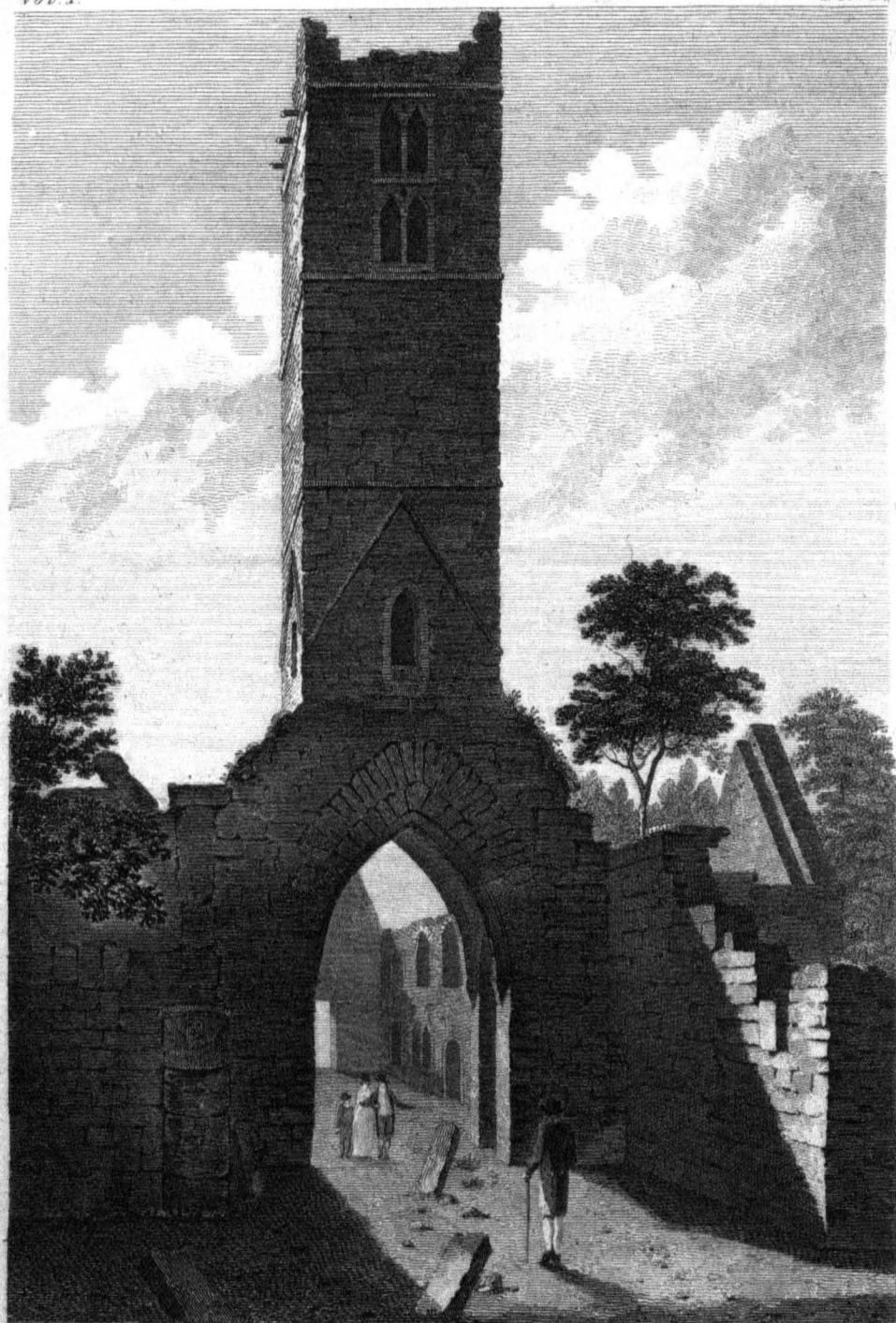




*Pub Jan. 20. 1799. by M. Cooper. 575 High Holborn.*

BALLINDOWN ABBEY. CO. SLIGO. Pl 2.



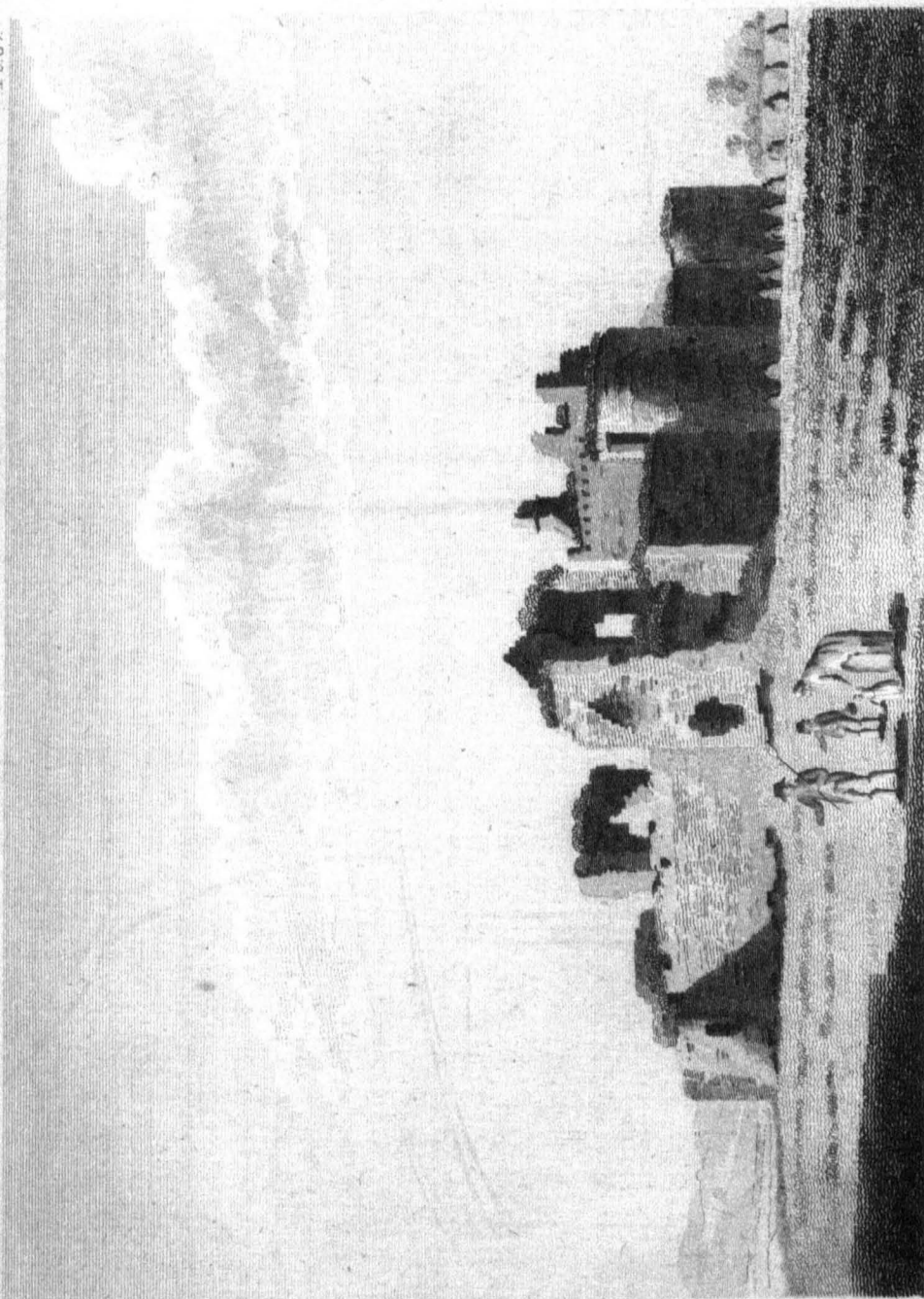


Engraved by Del.

Published Nov. 1792 by J. Hooper Holborn

Medford St.

BENNADA ABBEY, Co. Sligo. Pl. 1.



*Spencer Sc.*

BALLYMOTE CASTLE, PL. Co. Sligo

*Pub. Jan. 28. 1792. by J. B. G. 1792.*



## BENNADA FRIARY.

THIS edifice, seated on the river Moy, is five miles west of Achonry. It was founded in 1423, through the exertions of a religious of the order of Austin hermits, under which rule it was, and it was dedicated to Corpus Christi. The building is of regular square-hewn stone. The tower is seventy feet high, the top broken, and is supported on one arch. The eastern window is neat, and not crowded with work. In the thickness of the wall, on the left entrance of the door, is a basin for holy water. No cloisters remain, though the area where they stood can be traced. There are two handsome antient tombs in the church.

THIS View, which represents the south-east aspect, was taken by T. Cocking, anno 1791.

## BALLYMOTE CASTLE

WAS built in the year 1300, by Richard de Burgh, the second Earl of Ulster, from his complexion, commonly called The Red Earl. This nobleman, the first for possessions and power in the kingdom, after most magnificently entertaining the parliament of Ireland in Kilkenny, in 1326, retired to the abbey of Athassel, in the county of Tipperary.

THIS castle was large and strong, flanked by six round towers, the top of the highest fifty-three feet from the ground. The walls are nine feet thick, and seem to have had a gallery or covered-way all round. On the top is a parapet of two feet thick, and a foot-way round. The entrance was defended by out-works, a few vestiges of which remain. The inside is a large area or bawn, so that the garrison must have dwelt in the towers.

THE castles of Ballymote and Sligo being in the hands of the Irish, much impeded the reduction of Connaught; but Ireton joining with

Sir Charles Coote, who was the soul of the army, re-took them in 1652.

THIS View, which represents the south-west aspect, was drawn by Lieutenant Daniel Grose, anno 1791.

(PLATE II.) THIS View, which represents the south-east aspect, was drawn by T. Cocking, anno 1791.

### O'GARA'S CASTLE.

A BUILDING of considerable strength and extent, constructed by one of the O'Garas, which family were antient barons of Knocmore, in this county, and also founders of the Dominican Monastery of Knocmore.

THIS View was drawn by T. Cocking, anno 1791.

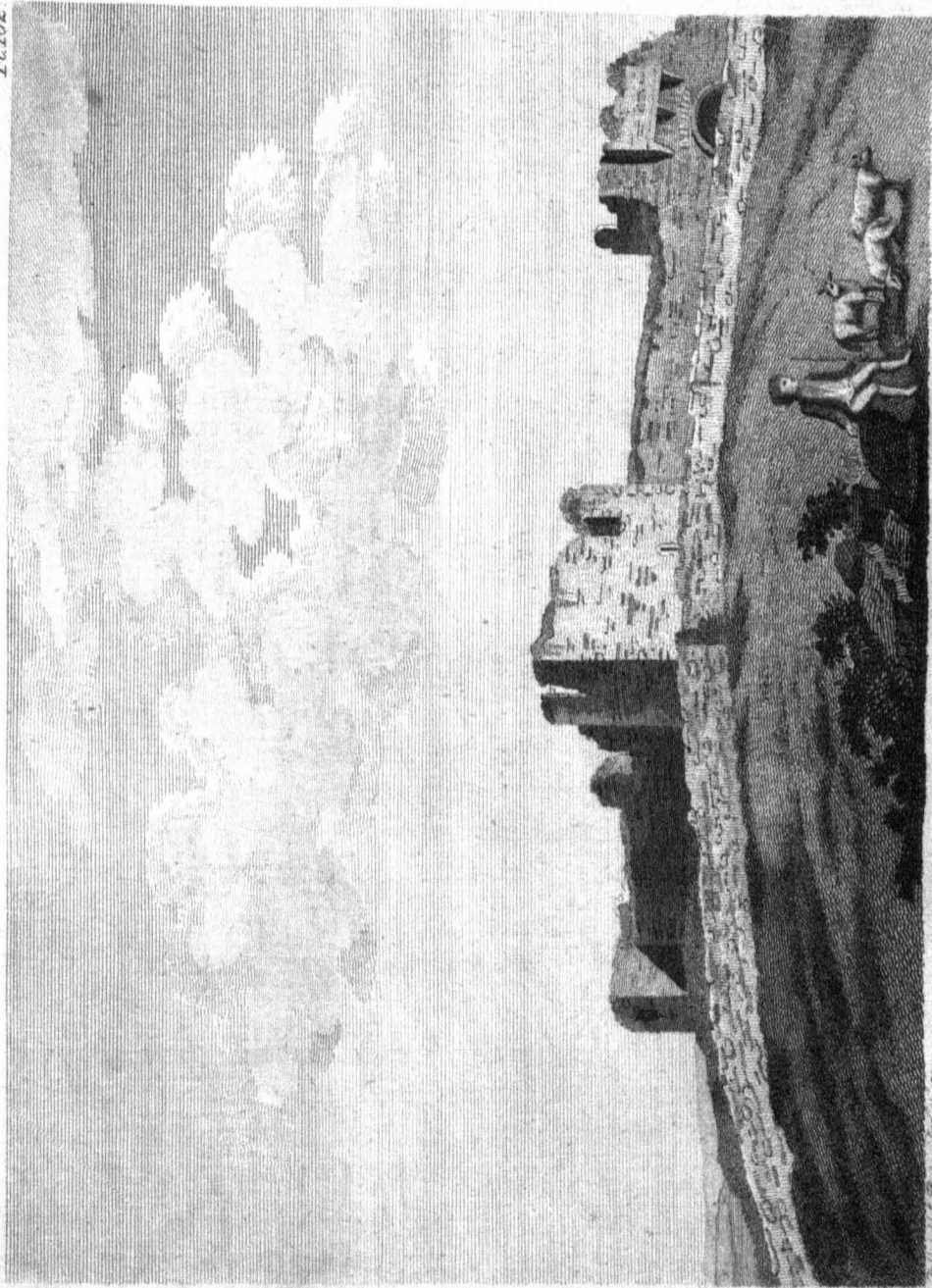
### MEEMLEEK CASTLE.

THIS castle is situated in the midst of bogs, and very difficult of access. Part of a square tower alone remains.

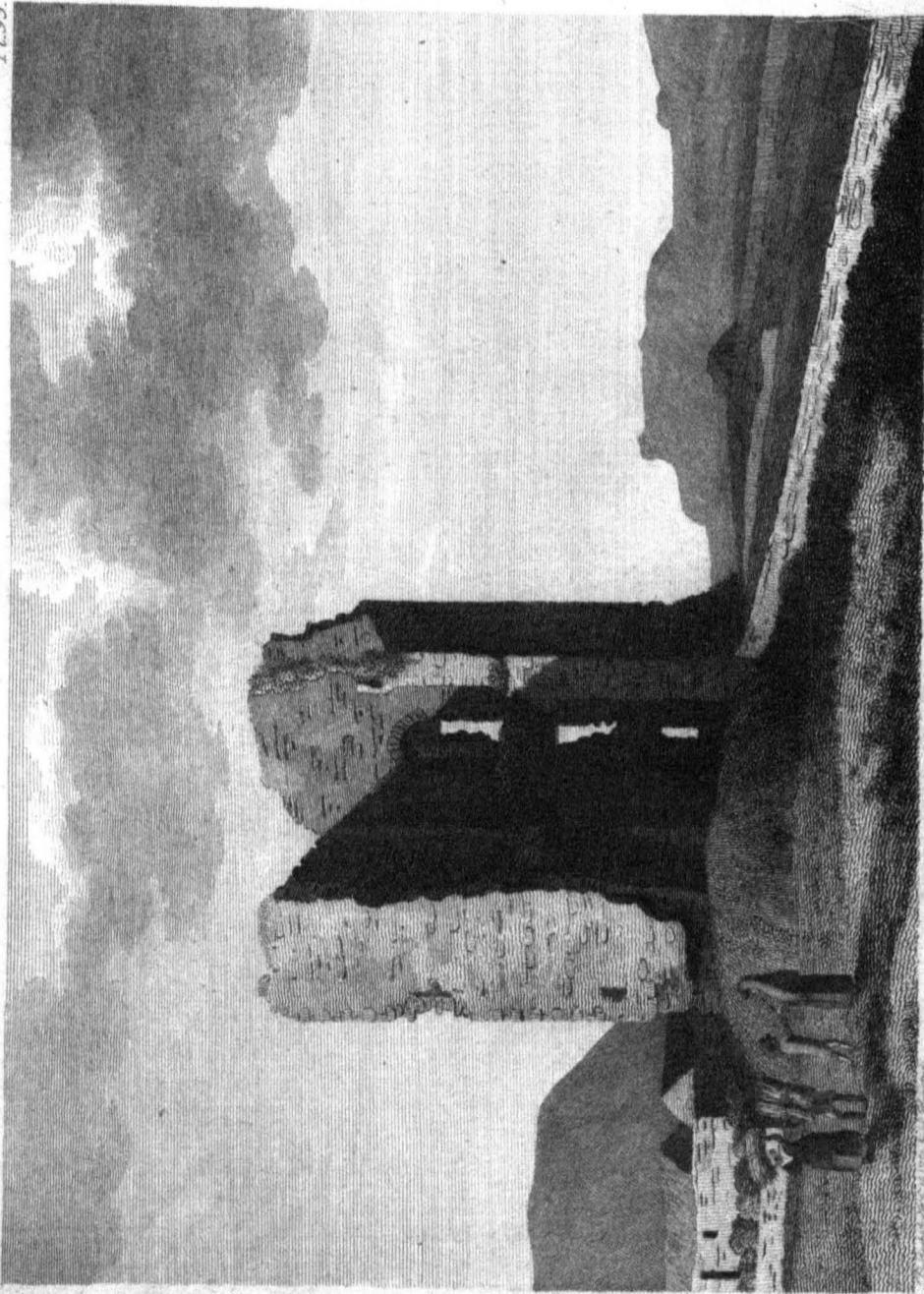
THIS View, which represents the south aspect, was drawn by T. Cocking, Anno 1791.

### CHURCH, IN CHURCH ISLAND.

THIS island is usually called Innismore, and is situated in Lough Gill and barony of Carbury. Colgan says, St. Loman founded a church here in the time of Columba. Whatever the tradition may be, it was certainly one of the old establishments of the Culdees, whose hostility to Romish tenets and innovations made the writers devoted to them deprive them of the honour to which their learning, sanctity, and zeal had just claim.

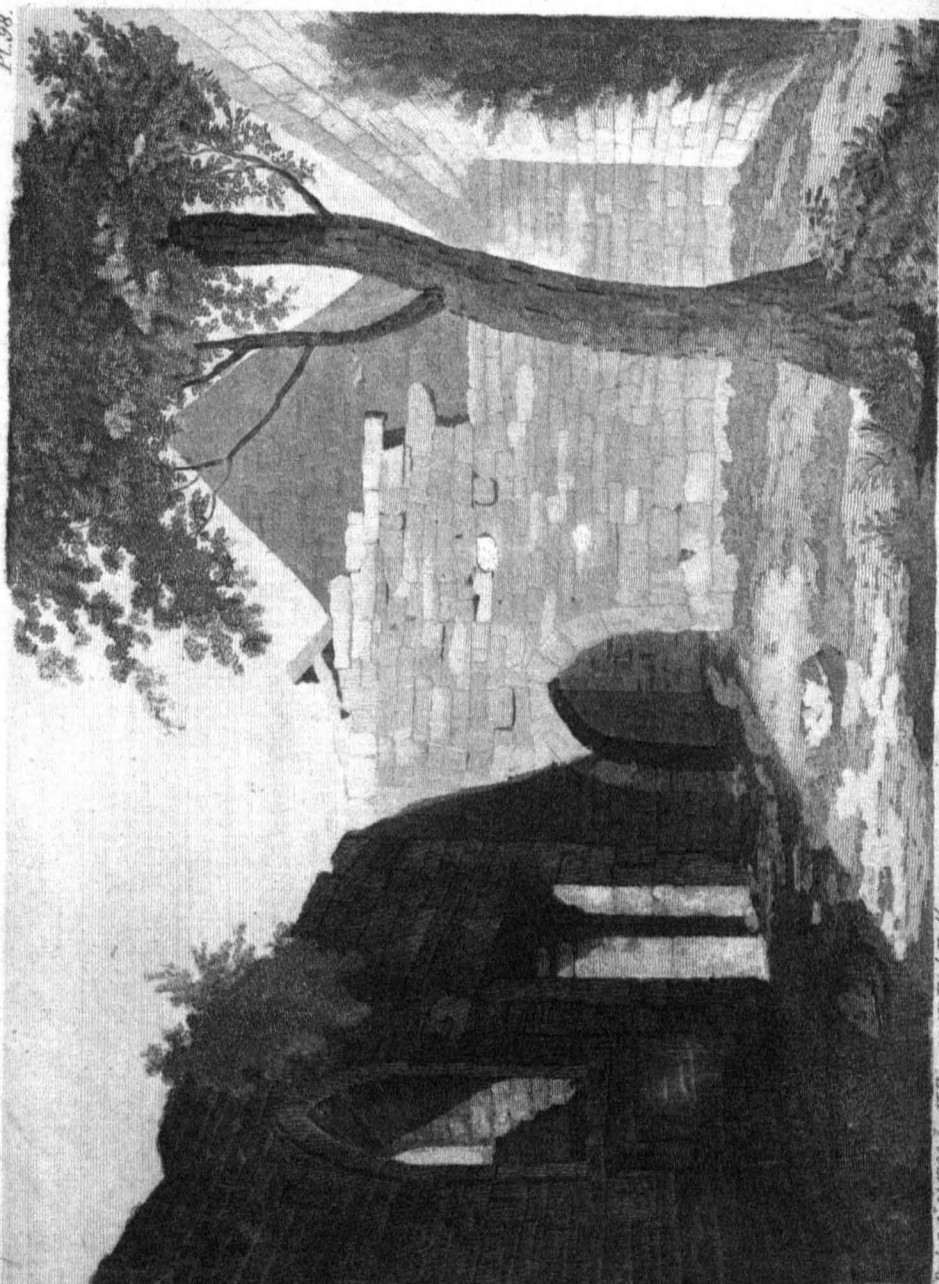


O'GARRA CASTLE. Co. Sligo.



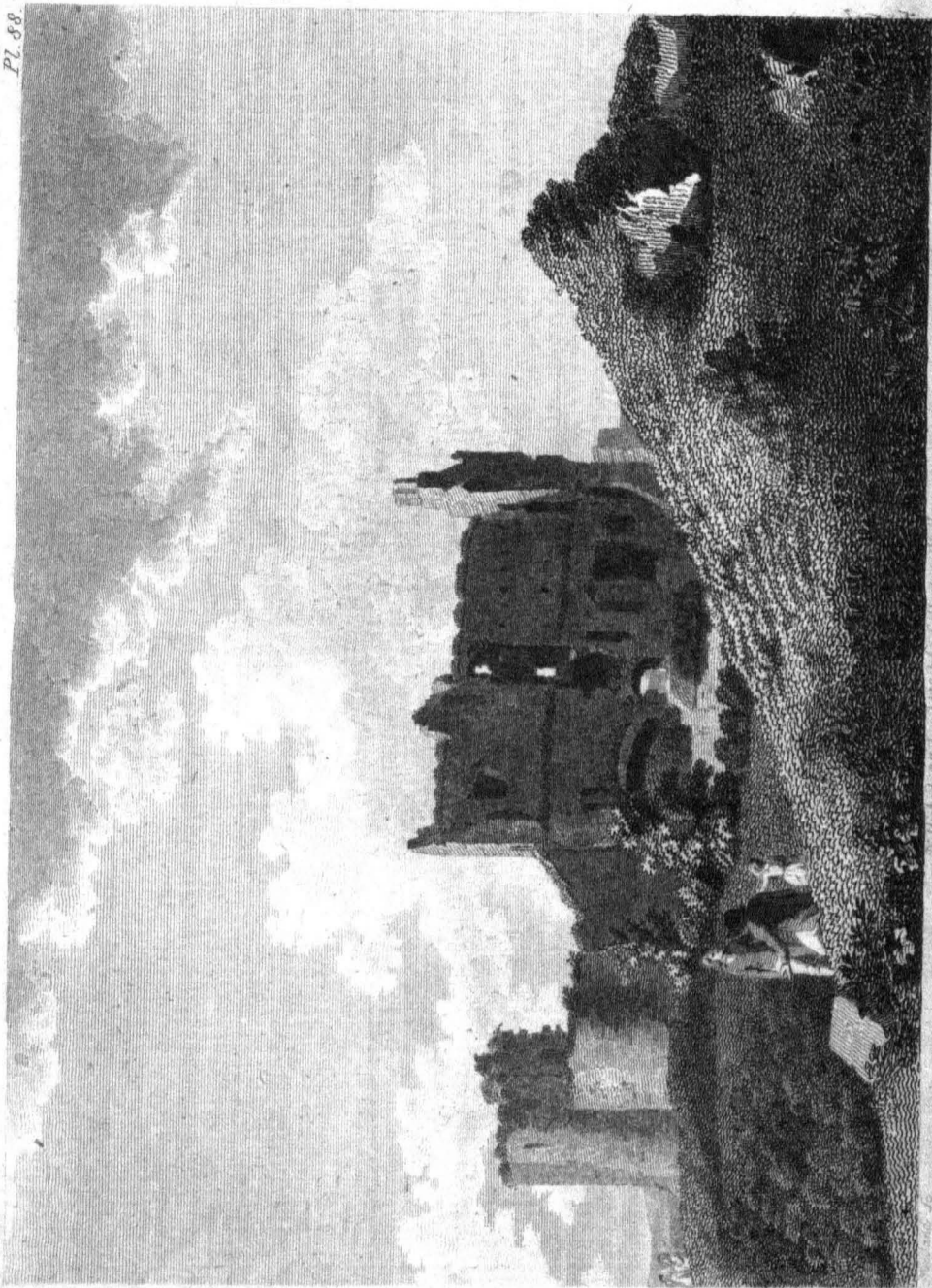
MEENLEEK CASTLE. Co Sligo





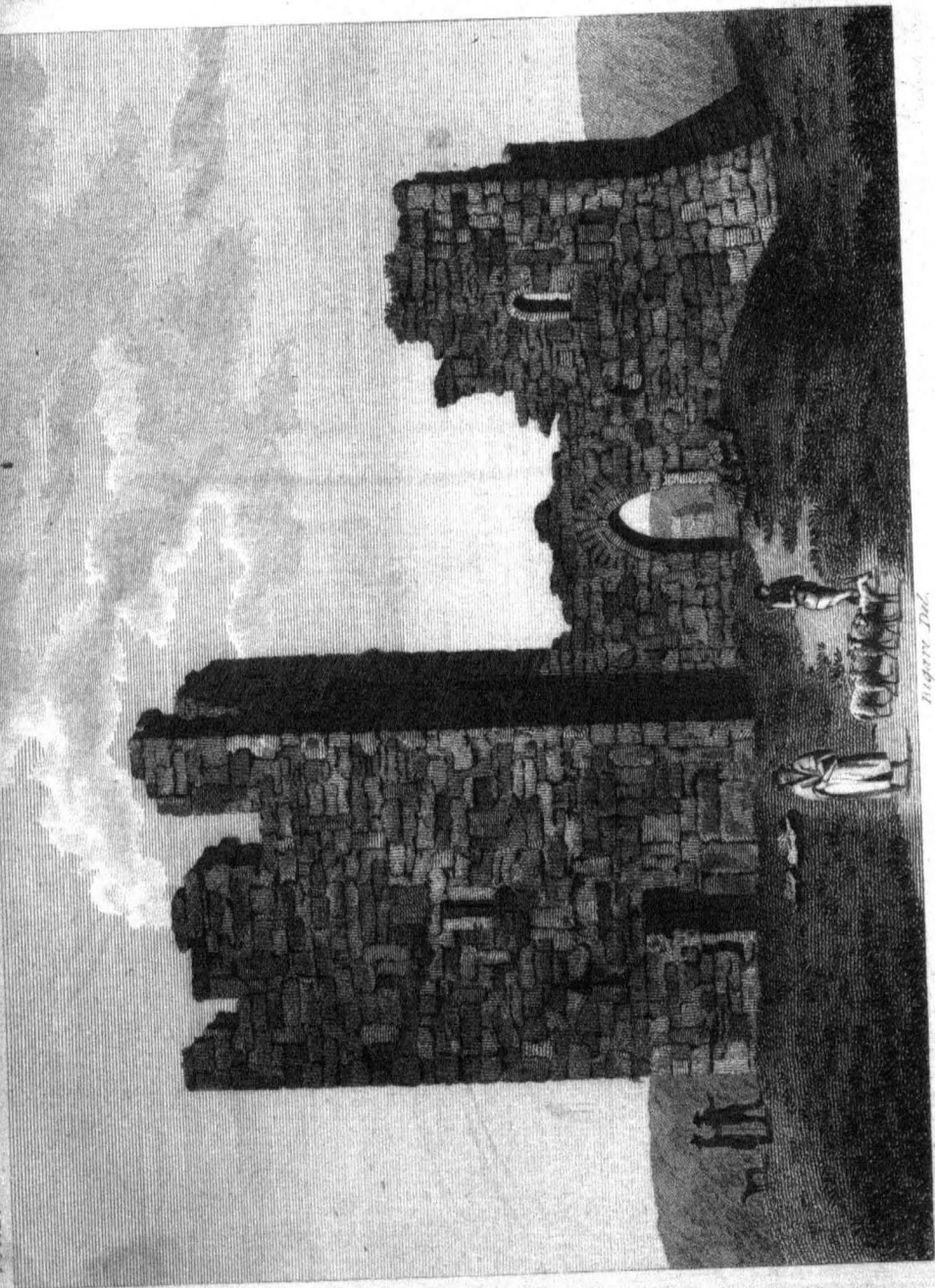
Pal. Oct. 1873. by William Henry Bell.

CHURCH IN CHURCH ISLAND, CORSICA.



Engraved by James H. & Co. Dublin

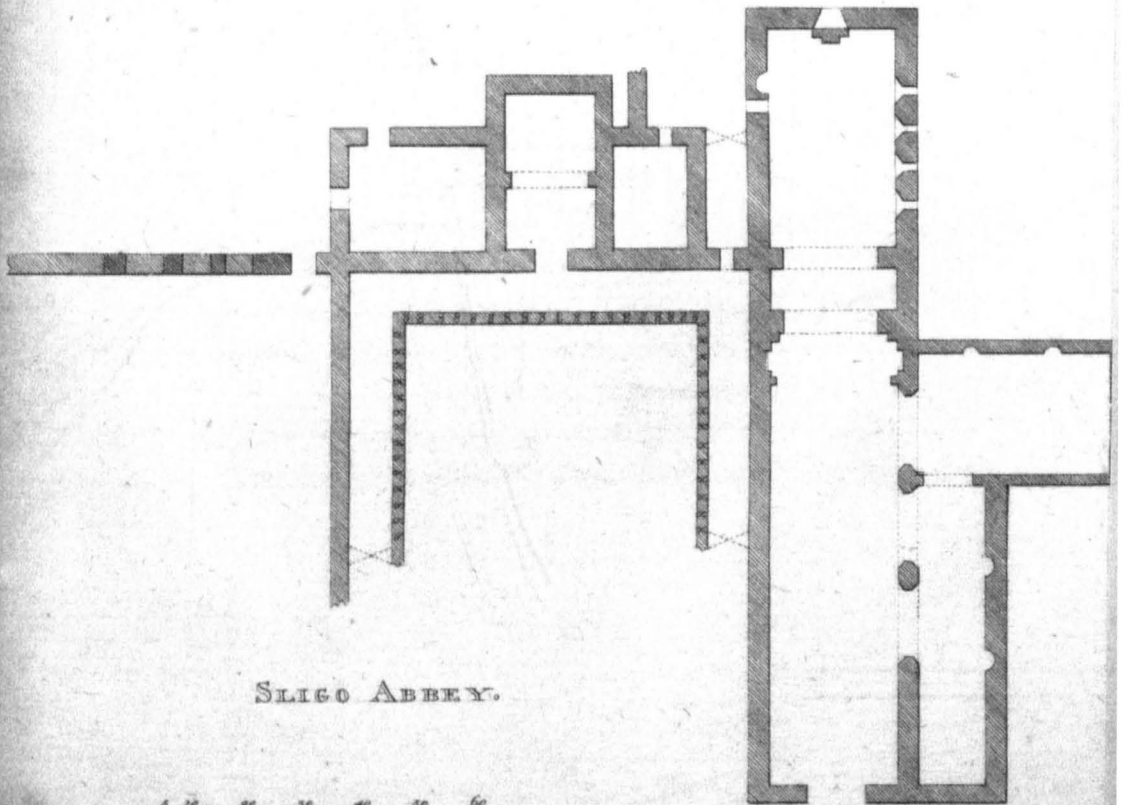
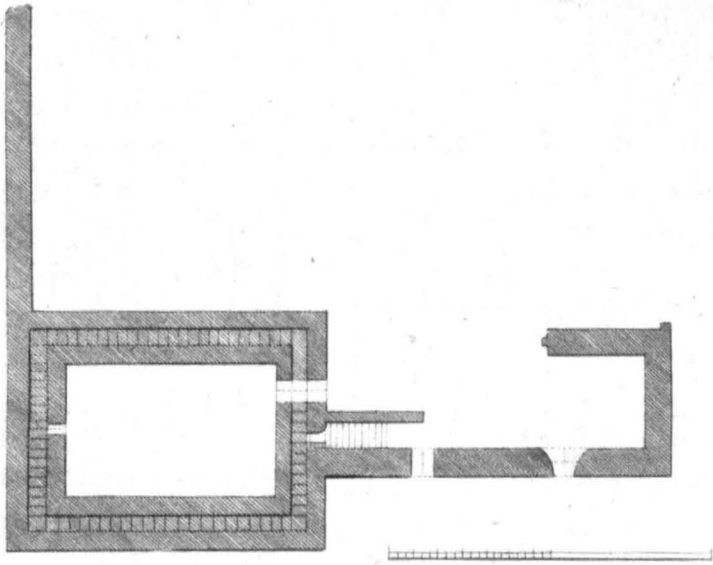
BALLYMOTE CASTLE Pl. 2. Co. Sligo.



Engraved by J. D. L.

ROSS LEE CASTLE, Co. Sligo.

ROSS LEE CASTLE. CO; SLIGO.



SLIGO ABBEY.



IN the year 1416 the abbey was destroyed by an accidental fire, in which the annals of the four masters mention some valuable MSS. of O'Curnin were destroyed. He was a religious of that church. The isle is about two miles long, and in some places half a mile broad; the abbey is at the east end of it, and in former ages was the burial-place of the parish of Calry. In a rock near the door of the church is a cavity, called our Lady's Bed, into which pregnant women go, and turn thrice round, which they believe prevents their dying in labour; at the same time they repeat certain prayers. Both rock and church are now covered with ivy.

THE church is an oblong, with a few loophole windows, which most of the very old Culdean edifices have. There is a recess at one end, lighted by a similar window. The door has some rude carving like dentils.

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

## ROSLEE CASTLE

STANDS on the shore of the Atlantic Ocean, in the barony of Tyreragh. It is but of indifferent workmanship, the stone black. The castle was larger than it now appears; the part which remains has stairs, in the thickness of the walls, all round, and is near a rivulet. Tradition says, there was a weir here to catch salmon, the door of which had a bell communicating with the kitchen, by which they were apprized when a fish was secured.

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

### ABBEY OF ATHENRY.

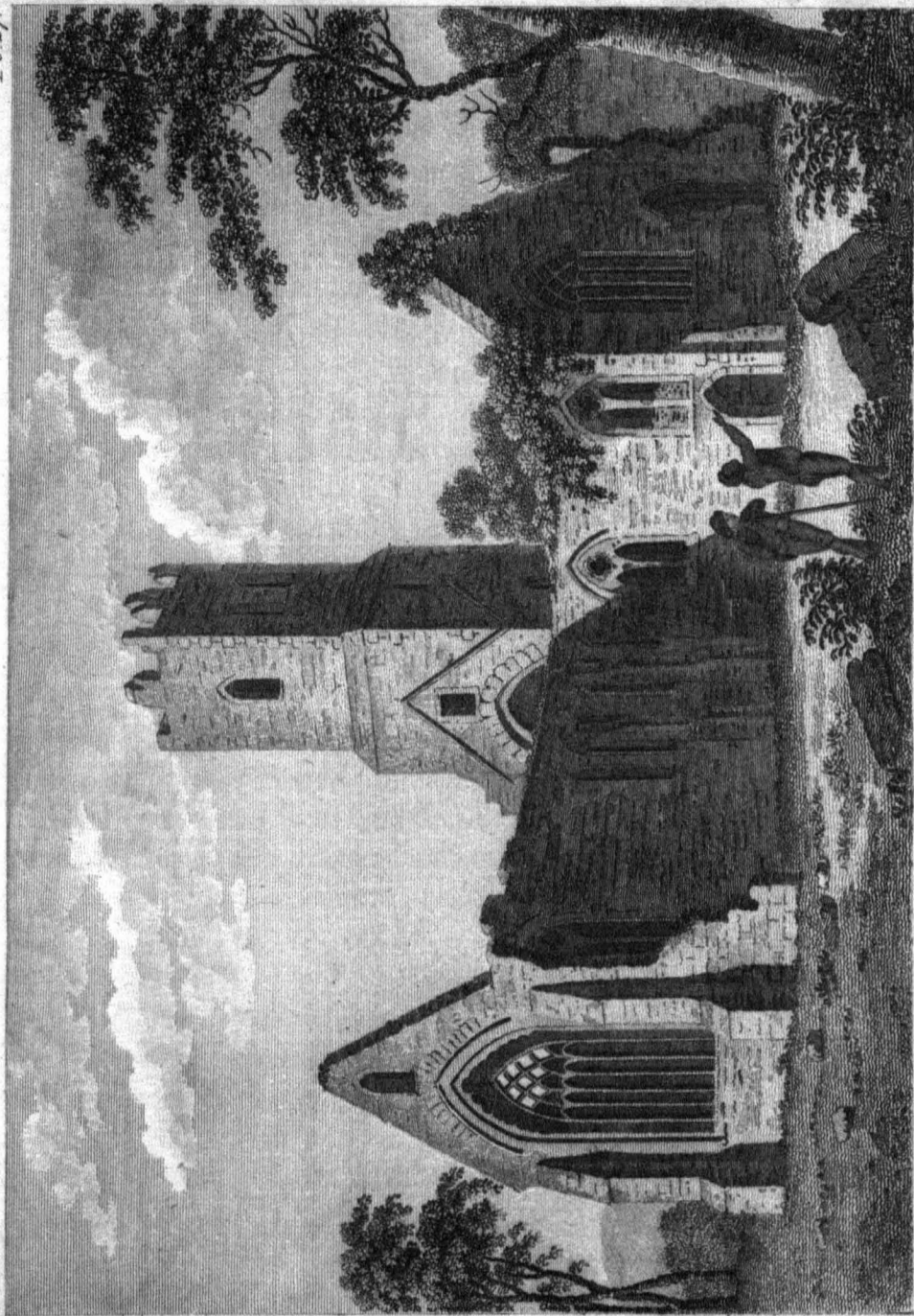
ATHENRY was formerly an handsome town, surrounded by walls by King John in 1211. Meyler de Bermingham, second baron of Athenry, granted land to build a Dominican monastery on, and one hundred and sixty marks. St. Dominick, it is said, writ to Bermingham for this purpose, and a noble fabrick was erected in 1241. Florence O'Flin, Archbishop of Tuam, Thomas O'Kelly, Bishop of Clonfert, Walter, Earl of Ulster, William de Burgh, and others, were great benefactors to this church.

IN 1400 Pope Boniface IX. granted a bull of indulgence to those who visited and contributed to the repairs and preservation of this monastery. An accidental fire having consumed the church in 1423, Pope Martin V. issued another bull for its reparation, and in 1427 William Ryedymer and Richard Golber, and other Dominicans, having represented unto the said Pope Martin, that there was a want of religious men to instruct the natives in the Catholic faith, petitioned him for licence to found two chapels or oratories, with a belfry, bell, cemetery, house, cloisters and other offices (*cum campanili, campana, cæmeterio, domo, clauistro & aliis officiniis*). Where these chapels were built is not well known, but it is supposed they were at Tombeola, at the head of Roundtown bay, in the barony of Ballynahinch, and at Ballindown, in the county of Sligo.

POPE Eugene IV. in 1445, renewed the bull of Pope Martin for the repairs of the church, at which time it had thirty monks; and in 1644 it was erected into an university (*studium generale*), with four others for the Dominican order, by order of a general chapter held at Rome.

THE little dependance to be placed on Monkish inscriptions and antiquities, when the honour or interest of their order is concerned, will evidently appear from the following certificate:

“WE, the underwritten, do, by these presents, testify to our posterity and future ages, that we saw and read with our eyes this  
inscription,



ATHFENNY ABBEY, Co. Galway.



inscription, placed over the door of the refectory of Dominicans, of Athenry.—*Carolus manus rubræ me fieri fecit:*—As time will erase these letters, we have given this testimony this 24th day of October 1725.

Thomas Power Daly, of Carrownokelly, Esq.  
 Dennis Daly, of Frenchbrook, co. Mayo, counsellor at law.  
 Peter Daly, of Quansbury, co. Galway, counsellor at law.  
 James Browne,  
 Andrew Semper, } Athenry.  
 Andrew Browne,  
 Michael Berny, deputy portrieve of Athenry.  
 R. P. Fr. Raymundus de Burgo.  
 R. P. Fr. Augustinus de Burgo."

WITHOUT doubt, these respectable persons saw what they testified, but the inscription is a palpable forgery, and allowed to be such by the historiographer of the Dominican order. "For," says he, "how could Cathal Crovderg, the person alluded to, who was titular King of Connaught, and died in 1224, cause this refectory to be made in 1241, the true time of its building."

THE cemetery of this monastery was a great place of interment: in it were laid the de Burghs, M'Davocs, O'Heynes, Killikellies, Moghans, Brownes, Lynches, Colmans and Dalies.

IN the 16th Elizabeth this monastery, with its appurtenances, thirty acres of land in Athenry, and twelve in the town of Ballindana, were granted for ever, *in capite*, to the portrieve and burgessees of the town of Athenry, at the yearly rent of 26s. 4d. Irish money.

THE remains of this monastery shew it to have been a noble, extensive pile; part of them are converted into barracks, and the barrack-yard was the ground where the cloisters stood. The tower is unequal, the lower being larger than the upper part. The eastern window is in a good style.

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



## CASTLETOWN CASTLE.

FROM the ruins of this structure, it appears to have been very considerable formerly, though situated in a part little noticed; the founder or time of building is not known. It stands about seventeen miles south of Galway, and was strongly fortified. A large area before it, has been inclosed with a rampart of great breadth and thickness. Two strong towers and a portcullis guard the entrance. Large masses of masonry lying scattered about prove the strength of the building.

ON one side the castle is washed by a river, which sinks into a cavern some hundreds of paces below it. It is remarkable, that this river, in the course of a few miles, loses itself five different times before it mixes its waters with a lake.

THERE is a tradition, that this castle had been founded by a chieftain, named M'Raymond, who rendered himself odious to his vassals by every species of tyranny and oppression. A few years since some labourers employed in erecting a wall, about a quarter of a mile west of the castle, discovered the remains of an iron gibbet, on which he is said to have executed the unhappy objects of his resentment. Within the castle are some souterrains. A detachment of Cromwell's army, in the middle of the last century, took this fortress, and, after putting the garrison to the sword, burned it, since which it has been suffered to decay.

## DUNMORE ABBEY

IS six miles north of Tuam, in the town of the same name. Tradition ascribes the construction to the lords of Athenry. An early religious foundation was made here, as it is said, by St. Patrick, which was called Donnack Phadruig, and St. Fullartach was appointed bishop of it. A friary of Austin hermits was constructed

on