

CROMLEACS IN COUNTY LIMERICK. (CONCLUSION).

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We have been unable to discover the remains of any other Cromleacs in the County Limerick, though it was hoped, as stated in the last number of the Journal (p. 204), that some remains to which our attention had been called, might, on inspection, prove worthy of notice. However, it should not be supposed that there are no other Cromleacs in the County but these we have described, it is very probable that on some wild mountain side, or in the silent glen, "far from the madding crowd," and beyond the reach of vandalism, some dolmens remain. It only requires a few earnest and observant workers to bring to light these, and possibly other interesting pre-historic monuments. As our descriptions were commenced in the Journal of the Limerick Field Club (vol. II., p. 282), we think it well to again call attention to the list of Cromleacs in County Limerick given by Borlase in the Dolmens of Ireland (vol. I. p. 46), which is as follows :—

No.	TOWNLAND	PARISH	
1	Cappanahannagh	Abington	Near "Lissguaire"
2	Tinnakilla	Kilmoylan	
3	Friarstown N.	Fedamore	
4	Kilpeacon	Kilpeacon	
5	Ballynagallach	Knockaney	"Leaba-na-Muice"
6	do	do	
7	Lough Gur	do	
8	Ardanreagh	Tullabracky	
9	Grilla	do	
10	Cromwell	Ballinlough	
11	Grange	Monasteranenagh	Site only
12	Deerpark E.	Galbally	Duntryleague hill
13	Ballyfroota	Ballingarry	
14	Barna	Galbally	

Of these No. 11 was said to be only the site of a destroyed dolmen, so that the number in the county, as returned by Borlase, may be said to be thirteen. Nothing remains now of Nos. 1 and 14. Nos. 3 and 4 could not be found. No. 6 consists now but of one stone, and No. 9 of two stones, partly sunk in the field, where marked on the Ordnance sheet

No. 32. No. 8, marked on the same sheet, in a field south of the Protestant Church at Tullabracky, is a ruin ; one of the covering stones is laid on some other stones, which formed part of the Cromleac, but no stone appears to be *in situ*. We have described and illustrated Nos. 2, 5, 7, 10, 12, and 13, the only ones of the list now remaining, which were suitable for illustration.

In addition to the list, we have been able to illustrate and describe three other Cromleacs. One at Kilmallock, in a field behind the R. C. Church ; one at Knockfeerina ; and "Leaba Iscur," at Jamestown, near Kilfinane. The latter we consider a most important find, and its construction tends to support the theory advanced by some, that these structures were not alone tombs, but sacred shrines, in which the spirits of the dead were worshipped (1).

Failing further discoveries, we may consider the survey of the County Limerick as closed. Originally promoted by the photographic section of the Limerick Field Club, it owes much of its value to the admirable photographs provided by Dr. George Fogerty.

The records of the County Clare in Borlase's book appear to have been prepared in many cases from personal observation, and he also acknowledges his obligation to our fellow-member, Mr. T. J. Westropp, for his valuable assistance in completing the list and supplying many of the sketches for illustration, so that we should think Clare County does not call for revision.

The list of the dolmens in North Tipperary, as given by Borlase, has recently been revised by Mr. Crawford, B.E., in the Journal of the Royal Society of Antiquaries, Ireland (Vol. XL, p. 38), and has been referred to in our Journal (see p. 199). This revision, though somewhat condensed, is very useful. In this way our entire district may be said to have been dealt with.

The disappearance of five dolmens in North Tipperary, and the destruction of seven in the County Limerick in fifty years, show the great necessity for taking some steps to preserve our ancient monuments. Such power was given to the County Councils by the Local Government Act and the Land Purchase Act, and it is much to be regretted that in this respect, some of them have shamefully neglected their duty.

(1) See page 30 for description of Leaba Iscur.