

KILLEELY AND KILFINANE, THEIR PATRONS.

Killeely cemetery lies half a mile N.W. from Thomond Bridge, just within the Borough Boundary. Of the former church no trace now remains. It is described in that 17th century compilation, White's List of Churches, as "the parish church of Keiliele, whose patron is Lelia, Virgin, and sister of St. Munchin, as it is said, whose festival is celebrated on August 11th." Among the Dalcassian Saints in the "*Genealogiæ Regum et Sanctorum Hiberniæ*" ("*Archivium Hibernicum*," vol. 6) there appears Liadhain, daughter of Diarmuid, and her feast day is given as August 11th. Diarmuid, according to the genealogy, was grandson to that Cairtheann whom St. Patrick baptised at Singland; like St. Munchin, Liadain is descended from Cas, but the saints are not represented as brother and sister.

The Black Book of Limerick gives the oldest extant list of Limerick Churches, a list compiled soon after 1200. In that list (McCaffrey's edition, p. 26) where we should expect to find Killeely, we read Kelliedun. A recent inspection of the original manuscript (now in Maynooth College Library) shows that Kelliedini is a possible reading. It may fairly be inferred then that St. Lelia of Killeely is Liadhain of the Dal gCais.

Among the Eoghanacht saints in the "*Genealogiæ Sanctorum*" appears Fionán of Druim Abrad, whose feast is kept on February 13th or December 8th. The place name puzzled O'Hanlon, who writes "this denomination of Dromhabrad does not appear to be recognisable under any existing form of name shown on the Ordnance Survey Maps of Ireland." It would seem that we should look for Druim Abrad with Cenn Abrad and Bealach Abrad among the Ballyhoura Hills in S.E. Co. Limerick. The range takes its name from Bealach Abrad (alias Bealach Fhebrat, from Febra, who figures in the tales of the Ernai); and the Fenian story of the Giolla Deacair tells us Cenn Abrad is the present Slievereagh, the bold hill so familiar to visitors to the Cush excavations. "Ceann Amhra Sleibhe Caoin ris a raidhtear an Sliabh Riabhac." Druim Abrad would be the hill of Kilfinane, the very name of which recalls the saint. Fionán of Druim Abrad was third in descent from Enna, from whom the Ui Enna, rulers of Eoghanacht Aine took their sept name. Their territory is clearly visible from Kilfinane Hill.