

MISCELLANEA.

Askeaton Abbey.—On the 30th January, in opening the ground about 12 feet in front of the entrance to Askeaton Abbey, four bells were found. They are now in the possession of the Franciscan Fathers at Limerick. The two larger bells were community bells, one is $9\frac{1}{4}$ inches diameter at base, $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches at top, $7\frac{1}{2}$ inches high, and weighs 18 lbs.; the other is 7 inches diameter at base, 4 inches at top, $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches high, and weighs 8 lbs. The two small bells were Mass bells. One 3 inches diameter at base, $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches at top, $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches high, and weighs 9 ounces; the smallest is 2 inches diameter at base, 1 inch at top, $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches high, and weighs 4 ounces. The bells have no ornament or inscription.

P. J. L.

Literary Notes.

Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland—Vol. XLIII., Part IV., contains some articles of general interest, though having no special reference to this district. Mr. H. G. Leask's notes, with drawings and photographs of a seventeenth century house at Oldbawn, County Dublin, will prove a valuable record of a house of historic interest, which unfortunately is rapidly passing into a state of decay and ruin. In an interesting note Professor Macalister explains away the "VII. Romani" stone on Aran Mór, and asserts that there never were "seven Romans on Aran!"

Vol. XLIV., Part I., is a valuable number containing "Surveys of the Earth-works of Cruachan Ai," by Mr. H. T. Knox. "The Earldom of Ulster," by Goddard H. Orpen. In Mr. T. J. Westropp's continuation of "The Promontory Forts of Mayo," he makes some interesting references to human skeletons found in the

walls of ancient structures. It is worth noting that when the north transept of St. Mary's Cathedral, Limerick, was being newly roofed in 1872, a human skeleton was found built into the west wall of the transept near the top.

Cork Historical and Archæological Society—Vol. XX., No. 101. In this number there is a valuable article by one of our members, Mr. W. F. Butler, M.A., on "Clan and Settler in Ormond." After referring to the divisions of Munster up to the twelfth century, he provides some useful information from the records of the several grants to the Norman invaders, and of the continuous warfare with the Irish on up to the reign of Henry VIII., when the entire north-western half of Tipperary was in the possession of the Irish Clans, and most of the south-eastern portion belonged to the descendants of the Anglo-Normans. Mr. Butler does not admit that the farmers of Tipperary are largely of Cromwellian stock, as has been popularly believed. In support of this opinion he relies on the survival of the Irish names; but it has been explained by some writers that when the Cromwellian soldiers married the Irish girls they dropped their sometimes outlandish names and adopted the wife's name. If this were so, it would tend to modify Mr. Butler's views. There is undoubtedly evidence of a mixture of race in Tipperary, which requires explanation. The entire article is of great interest to our members, dealing as it does with the historical records of an important portion of our district. The *Journal* also contains an interesting article, well illustrated, on "The Seals of the Diocese of Cork, Cloyne and Ross, by the Revd. Canon Webster, B.D. The Society is to be congratulated on this, the 101st number of its *Journal*.

Waterford and South-East of Ireland Archæological Society—Vol. XVII., No. 2. In this number is continued the notes on Waterford families, and deals with the Barrons. Baron was originally a title borne by a branch of the Geraldines (Maurice fitz Maurice) settled in Klikeenny, and known as Barons of Burnchurch; Baron being a title conferred by lords of counties palatine, by Royal privilege. There were many such Barons created in Ireland. How the name survived as a surname in this family alone may

appear in the Pedigree of the Waterford Barrons from 1660, which is not given. "Old Wills, Diocese of Waterford and Lismore," edited by Mr. I. R. B. Jennings, is continued.

Kerry Archæological Magazine—Vol. II., No. 12. This publication appears to increase in interest. Such articles as those on the McEligott family by Dr. McEligott, and the Trant family, by S. M., are sure to be appreciated by Kerry men. Mr. J. F. Fuller contributes some curious verse published by a Kerry poet in 1740. This number of the Magazine is very readable.

P. J. L.

NOTES AND QUERIES.

O'BRIEN'S BRIDGE.

The following correspondence appeared in the *Limerick Chronicle* :—

"Dear Sir—Perhaps some of your readers can tell me the date upon which the bridge at O'Brien's Bridge was built. It is quite clear that the County Limerick half of it is much newer than the County Clare half. But neither half of it can be very old; as when Captain Draper, of Colonel Sadler's Regiment, forced the passage of the river on the 2nd of June, 1651, there was no bridge there, the first bridge erected by Turlogh O'Brien, King of Thomond, in 1506, which was made of wood, had long before disappeared.

Yours very truly,

"INQUIRER.

"1st February, 1914."

"Clonboy, O'Brien's Bridge, Co. Clare,

"26/3/'14.

"Dear Sir—My attention has been drawn to a question asked by a correspondent to your paper as to when and by whom was O'Brien's Bridge built. The six arches at the Clare side were built after the Siege of Limerick (1691) by John Brown, of Clonboy, at a cost of £800, and which was done at his own expense. The other half from the Tipperary side was to have been built at