

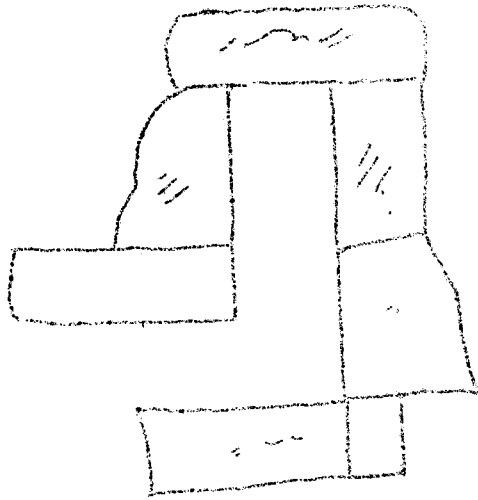
BALLINGADDY PARISH.

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SITUATION. This Parish is situated in the Baronies of Coshma and Coshlea and is bounded on the north by the Liberties of Kilmallock in the Parishes of St. Peter and St. Paul and that of Effin; on the east by the Parishes of Kilbridey Major and Particles; on the south by the Parishes of Kilqnan and Particles and on the west by -- -- ?

NAME. The Irish name of this Parish is Baile an Ghaoidhe which signifies the Town of the Thief. His name from whom the denomination was taken is still remembered and is said to have been in Irish Ao Gadaidhe Dubh Ua Dubhain, which rendered into English is, the Black Thief of O'Duane. The name Balling addy is not of ecclesiastical origin. It seems Ardpatrick was the original name of the Parish.

The old Church of Ballingaddy stands in ruins in the Glebe in Ballingaddy North Townland. It had a nave and choir; the



*Outside form of Window on the West Gable,
old Church of Ballingaddy*

east and middle gables have been razed to their foundations. The choir measures twenty nine feet by seventeen and a half feet; the nave thirty nine feet four inches by twenty three feet. There was a window on the south wall ten feet from the east gable; its characteristic features have become effaced. There were two on the part of this wall which belongs to the nave and they both have been destroyed. At the distance of eleven feet eight inches from the west gable was placed, on this wall, the doorway, which has been destroyed also. The west gable has a quadrangular window on it, which is partly destroyed and measures six feet eight inches by three feet ten inches on the inside. On the outside it is seven feet from the ground and measures two and a half feet by eight inches. Outside form.

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See sketch opposite.

The lowest stone of the side to the left is out of its place. The north wall of the nave had a window on it, which is also destroyed. The walls of this building are about ten feet high and three feet four inches thick, being built with stones (not quarry ones) of regular size and cement of lime and sand mortar. There is here a large grave yard much in use. The locality is high ground.

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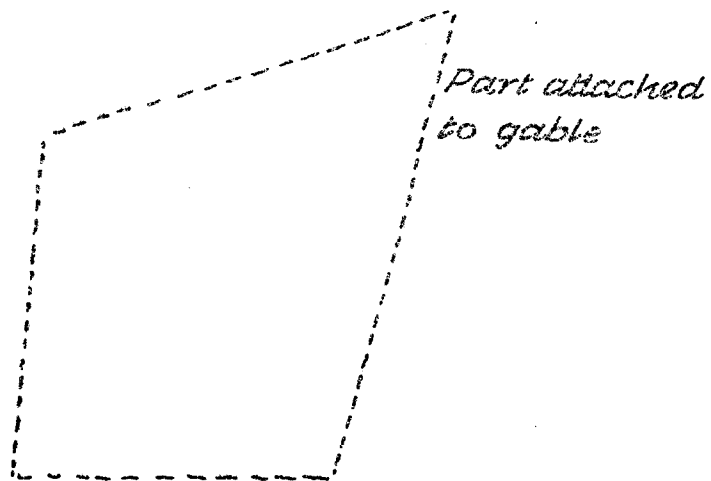
The "Liber Regalis Visitationis" placing Ballingaddy in the Deanery of Killocta alias Kilmallock, has these words:-

Capella de Ballingaddy - Idem nulla Ecclesia Samuel Pawe Curatus.

An old Church stands in ruins on the summit of Ardpatrik Hill, which is round and high. The east and west gables have fallen into utter ruin. Thirty three feet in length of the side walls at the east end fell to ruin also. The length of the building was eighty five feet and breadth twenty four feet. No window is visible on any of the walls that remain. There is a doorway on the north wall at the distance of twenty one and a half feet from the west gable (end) which is six and a half feet high and four feet four inches broad on the inside where there is a flat arch (i.e., a small segment of a large circle) at top, which is built with hammered brown sand stone. This doorway had on the outside two arches attached to each other, the outer one semicircular and the inner pointed. The outer or semicircular one was built with chiselled brown sand stone. Only four stones of the arch now remain on the west side. The remainder and the shafts that supported it, and partly formed the sides of the doorway, have been entirely destroyed. This arch was a structure even with the wall of the Church on the external. The pointed arch and the sides on which it rests are built with chiselled lime stone. It

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*Form of projecting Side Wall, old Church
Ardpatrick hill*

(the arch forming the doorway) is five feet four inches in height and three feet two inches in breadth. One of the stones has been removed from the east side next the ground. The semi-circular arch and the side wall with which it was on a level on the external, as has been just now remarked, projected beyond this pointed one, one foot eight inches in the lower part of the sides, one foot four inches at the lowest stone of the semi-circular one that now remains and one foot one inch at the fourth stone, which is the one directly over the pointed arch. The side walls are about eighteen feet high and five feet thick. Materials are large blocks of red stone and cement of lime and sand mortar. There are some stones seen in the lowest part of the walls, which are no less than one and a half tons in weight each. The side walls projected six and a half feet beyond the west gable. Here follows the form of the projecting part of one of them; it is eight feet thick. It is sloped in the upper part.

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See sketch opposite.

There was a building attached to the north east corner of this Church, extending in a northerly direction. Some small portions of the walls still remain. The length of this edifice was twenty five feet and breadth eighteen feet six inches. The walls were three feet eight inches thick. The stones used in constructing it were not so large as those in the Church just described.

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At the distance of thirty nine feet from this old Church to the north west, stands a portion of a round tower, which does not exceed eleven feet in height on north and east sides and six feet on west side. The remainder of the wall has been destroyed to within five feet of the ground. The inside is filled up with rubbish. At the height of five feet from the ground the circumference is fifty six feet.

Fitzgerald in his History of Limerick, Vol.I, p.390, speaks of this town in these words:-

"At Ardpatrick stood a fine round tower, the greater part of which fell a few years since."

At the Church above described is a large grave yard much in use.

St. Patrick's Well is situated twenty yards south west of the Church. It is enclosed with a wall of stone work, built to an equal height with the surface of the ground and forming there a square whose side is two and a half feet. Its waters do not rise higher than within ten or twelve feet of the surface of the ground, or in other words, the summit of the wall just mentioned.

Here are annexed the references to this place to be had in our documents:-

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Ardpatrick - Annals 4 Masters.

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A.D. 1114. Fobhar Feichín, Clúain Ioraird, Ceall Ben-eóin, Cunga, Ceall Chuilind, Ceall Caindigh agus Ard Pátraicc, do loscadh uile an bhliadhainsi.

A.D. 1129. Ceallach comharbha Patraicc mac oighe agus airdespug iarthair Eorpa aincheand ro riarraighsiot Goill agus Gaoidhil laeich agus clerigh Ereann iar noirdneadh epscop, sacart agus aosa gacha graidh archeana, iar ccoisreccadh team-pall, agus reilgheadh niomdha iar ttiodhnacal séd agus maoine, iar nearail riaghla agus shoibhes ar chach etir tuáith agus ecclais iar mbeathaidh aoin tigh ernaigh thig, celeabhartadh, oiffreandaibh, iar nongadh agus iar naithrighe tochcaidhe ro fáidh a spirat do cum nimhe in Ard Pattraicc isin Mumhain an céd lá dapríl dia Luain do shondradh isin caeccatmhadh bliadhain a aoisi. Rugadh tra a chorp dia adhnacal isin ccédaoin ar coind go Lios Mór Mochúda do reir a thiomna budhdein agus ro friothaireadh co psalmaibh, agus imnaibh, agus canticibh, agus ro hadhnaiceadh co honorach i niolaidh na nepscop Dia Dardaoin ar abharach.

A.D. 1114. Fore-Feichin, Clonard, Kilbannin, Cong, Kilkullen, Kilkenny and Ardpatrick were all burned this year.

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A.D. 1129. Celsus, successor of St. Patrick, a son of purity and Archbishop of the west of Europe, the only head obeyed by the Danes and Irish, both Clergy and Laity; after having ordained Bishops, Priests and persons in every ecclesiastical degree; after having consecrated many Churches and cemeteries; after having bestowed jewels and wealth; after having established wholesome regulations and morals among all classes, both Clergy and Laity; after having passed his life in fasting, praying and celebrating the divine ceremonies; after having worthily received the Sacraments of Extreme Unction and Penance, yielded him his spirit to Heaven at Ardpatrick in Munster on Monday, the first day of April in the fiftieth year of his age and his body was conveyed on the Wednesday following to Lismore in accordance with his own will and he was waked there with psalms, hymns and canticles and he was interred with honors in the tomb of the Bishops on the next day, Thursday.

A.D. 1602. *** *** *** ***

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When O'Sullivan lost his Castle (Dun-Baol) he retired with his cows, herds and people and all his moveables behind his rough headed hills into the wilds and fastnesses of his

country. The Earl (Thomond) and his army and O'Sullivan and his forces continued their attacks and contests until Christmas. The two armies were encamped face to face in Gleann Garbh, which was O'Sullivan's most impregnable retreat. His people now began to abandon O'Sullivan without consulting him and first of all (went) Captain Tyrrell. On Christmas Day O'Sullivan himself was obliged to go away without the knowledge of and unperceived by the Earl. By the first day's march he went from Gleann Garbh to Baile-Muirce; on the second night he arrived on the borders of the countries of O'Keefe and Mac Auliffe; on the third night he arrived at Ardpatrick; on the fourth night he reached Sulchoid; on the fifth and sixth night he remained at Baile na Coilleadh; on the seventh night at Leathaich and on the eighth night at Baile Achaidhcain. He was not a day or night during this period without receiving fierce assaults and battles, all which he sustained and responded to with manliness and vigour. etc. 305

Ardpatrick - Chronicon Scotorum.

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A.D. 1127. Mór chobhlach le Teirdealbhach O'Conckubhair nochad ar chéad long a líon do inradh a's do fhásúghadh Múmhan go Sliabh Coain agus go h-Ard Pátraig agus go h-Ibh Connail Gabhra go ttárad il-tháinte agus gurbharbh imadh daeine ann.

A.D. 1129. Ceallach Comarba Pattruig, uasal Eascop Eirinn, agus an mac oighe, dég a h-Ard Pátraig agus a adhlacadh a Lios Mor.

A.D. 1127. A large fleet amounting to the number of one hundred and ninety ships, was brought by Torlogh O'Conor to plunder and devastate Munster which Province he overran as far as Sliabh-Coain, Ardpatrick and Hy-Connail Gabhra, so that he drove off numerous herds and slew many people on the occasion.

A.D. 1129. Ceallach, Coarb of St. Patrick, noble Bishop of Ireland and son of purity, died at Ardpatrick and was buried at Lismore.

Gough's Camden:—

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At Ard Patrick, nineteen miles south from Limerick, is said to have been a Monastery founded by St. Patrick (Archd. 809, Farrar 433).

Archdall's Mon. Hib. Vol.II, R.I.A., opposite p.418.
Ardpatrick Abbey.

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In the Barony of Coshlea and four miles south east from Kilmallock, St. Patrick founded an Abbey here.

A.D. 1129. Ceallach, Primate of Armagh, died in this Abbey 1st April in the 50th year of his age and was interred at Lismore (4 Masters).

The Inquisition 11 March XXXII Q. Elizabeth, finds that the lands of Ballingawsee, Ballecowsynye and Ballynanyaye and Balligertayne, containing forty acres of the great measure, annual value besides reprises 6s. 8d., were parcel of the possessions of this Abbey (Chief. Remem.).

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Corbeship.

By two Inquisitions of the 11th of August XXXIX Queen Elizabeth it was found that the bill named Ardpatrik, containing three acres of great measure and making twenty one acres of small measure, was in former times granted to the Corbeship founded in the Church of Ardpatrik and that the rent of 6s.8d. was payable annually thereout to the Bishop of Limerick, that the said office had continued by succession, from time immemorial, in the Sept of the Langanes and that Maurice Langane, who was in right thereof enjoyed the said lands, was at that time possessor (Id. MS.).

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Inquisition 20th May XXI Queen Elizabeth finds that Mac Brian of the Country of Ogonagh in the Co. of Limerick, being seized in fee of ye Townland of Kiltyle alias Kylgyles in this County containing 60 acres of arable land with ye appurtenances did 20th June I K. Henry VIII, grant ye said lands to Bernard O'Kernye, then one of ye Clerks of St. Patrick, commonly called St. Patrick's Clerks and to his successors, Clerks of St. Patrick for ever, contrary to the Statute of Mortmain; ye said premises are of the annual value of 16d Irish money and are still in ye occupation of the said Clerks of St. Patrick.

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The "Liber Regalis Visitationis" has these words:-

Ardpatrick - "Spectat ad Donaghmore Prebendam - Vicaria Vacat per Valoris."

This is the Deanery of Killocta or Kilmallock.

Castles.

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We find the following statement in Smith's "Miscellaneous Limerick Papers" (MSS. R.I.A., Annals from Ware) namely, that a Castle was built in the twelfth century at Ardpatrik. The words are:-

"A.D. 1198. The English this year built the Castle of Ard Patrick in Munster" (Qu. where?).

I am not able to determine at present whether the Ard

Patrick of which I have spoken above, be the place mentioned at this year (1198) or not.

In north west of Millmount Townland stood a Castle whose site is still observable there. **313**

Wells.

In Ballingaddy North Townland is situated Lady's Well. Toberveeheel or St. Michael's Well (Tobar Mhicíl) is situated in Kilmihil Townland. St. Patrick's Well is on Ardpatrik Hill; see above.

This Parish was examined Mr. A. Curry and his notes put into the present form by Mr. Thos. O'Conor.

Brugh na Deise,
August 9th 1840.

Thomas O'Conor.