

TUOGH PARISH.

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SITUATION. This Parish is situated in the Barony of Own-eybeg and is bounded on the east by the Parish of Doon; on the north and west by Abbington and on the south by Grean Parish.

NAME. The Irish name of this Parish is Tuagh, which signifies, strictly, a district.

The east gable and twenty six feet in length of the south

wall joined to it are the only remains of the old Church of this Parish. The foundation of the rest of the building is not traceable. Its breadth is eighteen feet; the side wall is about twelve feet high. On the gable is a window which on the inside is stopped up with a flag stone placed over a grave. On the outside it was divided into two compartments, each having a curvilinearly pointed top. The mullion that divided it has been removed. The whole window measures on this side three feet eight inches in height by one foot three and a half inches in breadth, each compartment measuring six inches in breadth. It is constructed of chiselled lime stone. 448

There is a small building attached to the south side of this ruin, which is on a line with the east gable and runs southwards. It is closed up as a burial place and measures on the outside thirty feet by seventeen feet eight inches. The entrance, which is on the south wall, is modern brickwork and has an iron gate placed in it. A window faces the east on this structure, of the same form with the one just described and constructed of the same kind of stone similarly dressed and in the same condition with it. The side walls are about ten feet high and three feet thick. The materials are large and small field limestones and cement of lime and sand mortar. This appears to be coeval with the Church whose ruins have been just now described, the brickwork in it above mentioned, being alone excepted. Here is a large grave yard much in use, which is enclosed by a wall of mason work. Locality is the summit of a hill in Mr. Loyd's Demesne in Tuogh Townland. 449

This hill is called Tower Hill, which name is also extended to the Townland of Tuogh and which the hill obtained, it is said, from three towers that formerly stood on it, whose site is occupied by Towerhill House, the seat of Wm. Loyd, Esq., built in 1800 at the expense of £1500. These towers probably were yokes or follies, erected either as ornaments or as objects of no consequent utility, but for the purpose of employing, during the building of them, such persons as were in a state of extreme want and had no daily engagements in work, which might afford them a means of obtaining the necessaries of life. 450

Situated in the west extremity of the Townland of Pallisbeg, within an orchard, is a small burial place for children which is called Cill Móire, that is, Mory's Burial Ground. 451

Toberbreeda, in Irish Tobar Bríghde, that is, St. Brigid's Well, is situated in the east part of Tuogh Townland, within a short distance to the north of the road running through this townland.

The following description is given by Fitzgerald in his History of Limerick Vol.I, p.289, above referred to at Abbing-ton, of this Parish. He says:-

"The Parish of Tuogh Island in the Union of Abington is in the Diocese of Emly and contains 1067 acres of land. In this Parish, situated on the River Mulchair, was the ancient mansion of the Hayes family and also Tower Hill, a fine house and demesne belonging to the Revd. Richard Lloyd." 452