

## THE PARISH OF TANKARDSTOWN.

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**SITUATION.** This Parish is bounded on the north by the Parish of Drummin; on the west by Bruree; on the south west by Hackmys; on the south by Kilbreedy Minor and on the east by the Parish of SS. Peter and Paul.

**NAME.** This Parish derived its name from the family of Tankard.

The old Church of this Parish, situated in the Townland of Tankardstown Glebe, is a mere ruin. It is forty three feet long by twenty three feet eleven inches in breadth. The east gable is almost level with the ground. Adjoining the east, about eighteen feet in length of the south side wall retains

the original height (about twelve feet). There is then a large breach on this wall evidently where the doorway was placed. About six feet in height of the west gable and a portion of the north wall adjoining it remain; the remainder of the north wall is almost entirely destroyed with the exception of a small portion adjoining the east, which retains its original height. The walls are about three feet one inch in thickness and their features are so injured as not to be capable of description. Burial is still continued in the surrounding grave-yard.

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The inhabitants say that there was formerly a holy well (the name of which is forgotten) in the Townland of South Tankardstown not far from the old Church. They also state that there was an old Castle, the ancient name of which was "Caisleán Bhaile an Airighthe" in Tankardstown North Townland but not a vestige of it remains at present.

The antiquities of this Parish were examined and described by P. O'Keeffe.

August 4th 1840.  
Kilmallock.

In the south west extremity of this Parish is situated the beautiful hill of Cnoc Samhna on which Eochy the Redhanded, King of Ulster, encamped in the time of St. Fionnchu of Brigowen. The discovery, or rather identification of this hill throws great light upon the ancient topography of Munster. See Book of Lismore, Fol. 70, b.

Cath Samhna I Torchair Cian Mac Ailealla Oloim occurs in the list of battles gained by Cormac Mac Airt over the Momonians in the year 241, as given by the Four Masters in their Annals.

J. O'Donovan.