

I.T.A. TOPOGRAPHICAL AND GENERAL SURVEY

NATURAL FEATURES, ANTIQUITIES,
HISTORIC ASSOCIATIONS, ETC.[BARONY OF OWNEY ARRAB.~~Town or~~ VILLAGE KILLOSCULLY PARISH BALLINAHINCH COUNTY TIPPERARY.

TOPOGRAPHY

Brief description of outstanding scenic views in the district, natural attractions, or unusual topographical features.

From within two miles NE of Birdhill the parish of Ballinahinch stretches along the Birdhill-Kengagh Rail-line for about three miles and extends E. to include the famous Shive Kinalta or Keper Hill. Its SW extremity extends to within three miles of Newport village and the Silvermine mtns. bounds it to the N.E.

SEE PAGE 2.

GEOLOGY

Brief notes on unusual geological features, such as caves, eskers, etc.

Ballinahinch parish is a very mountainy district. Bof-lands are plentiful. Keper Hill consists of a nucleus of Clay-slate surrounded by sandstone, except on the N. near the village of Silvermine where the clay-slate comes immediately into contact with the limestone of the flat districts extending nearly to Lough Derf. The surrounding sandstone in some

MANSIONS, CASTLES AND ESTATES SEE PAGE 3.

OF IMPOSING CHARACTER

Location and brief description. Owner. Past associations. Libraries or art collections?
Gardens? Open to visitors? Admission charge?

NONE.

ANTIQUITIES

Abbeys, Castles, Fortresses, Round Towers, Early Churches, Sculptured Crosses, Stone Circles, Ogham Stones, Cairns, Souterrains, Pillar Stones, Cromlechs, Forts, Raths, Moats, Tumuli or ancient monuments of any kind. Exact location of each with short description, noting condition, etc. Relate local legend or tradition associated with building or object. State if in charge of Office of Public Works. Right of way to public? Admission charge (if any). Name and address of caretaker, or where key is kept.

STONE CIRCLE: There is a stone circle situated in the townland of Glancullo, three or four hundred yds. S.E. of Glancullo National School on the side of Keepers Hill about three miles E. of Killoscully village. It may be approached from the "Gleann" Road which runs between Keepers to the S. & the Silvermans to the N.

The circle which is about 30' in diameter is formed with standing stones, three or four feet apart. The highest stone is about 6' & the others range from one foot to two feet six inches. There is no burial mound within the circle or convenient to it. There is a "cairn", however, on the summit of Keepers.

STANDING STONE. In Mr. O'Meara's land Killoscully on the slopes of Keepers Hill there is a Standing Stone about 6' in height.

2. TOPOGRAPHY

PARISH-BALLINAHINCH: BARONY-OWNEYDARRA: TIDDERARY.

It is a very hilly district, rising to 2,279' to the E. at Keeper. Its prettily wooded valleys & picturesque glens in contrast to the bare heather capped hills make the parish rather attractive.

The western & north-western limits of the parish are comparatively level, and as one drives to Kenagh from Killoscully there is a striking contrast of scenery. To the left a beautifully wooded valley stretches past the Birdhill-Kenagh Road on to the Bora Mtns. northwards, and across the Shannon to the Slieve Bernagh in County Clare, while rising from the very roadside to the right are the bare Silvermine Mtns.

Ciamalta - one ml. S. of Killoscully village is a very beautiful spot which is extensively planted & traversed by neat walks. The Mulkeir river winds its way through the wood where the hues of the ash, oak, elm, copper-beech & spruce blend delightfully.

The Gloun road is a very interesting drive & here again contrast is the chief attraction. The Mulkeir river meanders through a deep wooded valley, to the N. of which rises steeply the Silvermines to over 4,500', and to the S. Keeper Hill.

The view from the summit of Keeper is the chief attraction of the parish & the mountain is much frequented in Summer by the lovers of mountaineering and of distant vistas. About one hundred miles of the Shannon, including Lough Derg, can be seen with the naked eye, stretching out like a silver thread; the four corners of Limerick appear

like the four corners of a Billiard table underneath, and about twelve counties are visible - the farms & homes for miles around appear insignificant & a feeling of contempt & indifference takes possession of the mind for mere property, but the grandeur of nature fills the mind with admiration.

PARISH — BALLINAHINCH: BARONY — OWNEY & ARAA: CO. — TIPPERARY.

parts forms a red coarse conglomerate, similar to that of Lyons and Donabate near Dublin; and is quarried for mill-stones.

The land is mostly unarable. The valleys are however capable of a fairly high degree of cultivation. Root crops are mostly grown. Corn, oats & little barley are also grown. The valleys are well wooded with beech, ash, yewmore, sally & whitethorn.

PARISH - BALLINAHINCH: BARONY - CUNNEYARRA: CO. TIPPERARY

the news to Sarsfield, Limerick's gallant commander. Led by O'Hofan, Sarsfield with 500 picked horsemen, stole out of Limerick at the Clare side in the dead of night; on to Killaloe, where they crossed a dangerous ford at Ballyvalley, under the site of Kincora; on through Killoscully in Ballinahinch parish; down into Gloun at the foot of Kesper which they reached at dawn. Here they hid & rested all day. (Gloun is due E. of Killoscully & in Ballinahinch parish also). When darkness fell they skirted Kesper, & spurred towards Ballyneety, where they expected to intercept the siege train. Ignorant of the approaching danger, & feeling secure at being so near the Williamite camp, the convoy set a small & not too alert ~~neighbour~~ watch. Down on them stole the Irish. The watchword of the English was learnt hours ago as darkness fell. By a strange coincidence it is "Sarsfield". At three o'clock on Tuesday morning the great deed is done. The drowsy English sentry challenges & demands the countersign from the horsemen. It comes in a ringing voice & accompanied by a sabre cut: "Sarsfield is the word & Sarsfield is the man". Five hundred chargers leap in among the sleepers and 500 thirsty sabres are at work amongst the panic stricken soldiery who come hurrying from their tents. Through the camp & back again & once more from end to end sweep the riders of Limerick. The gunners are cut down, or flying & the siege train is at Sarsfield's mercy. The battle was short; and soon the terrific explosion of the whole train told William that he had been outwitted. Despite the greatest vigilance of

the English, who watched every ford to prevent his return, O'Hogan led Sarsfield & the 500 back to Limerick in safety.

According to local tradition - the famous Rapparee who conducted Sarsfield from Limerick to Ballyneety - had one of his retreats in a retired spot at Johnstown, Puckane. He had another retreat at Labodial, Killaloe.

After the Treaty of Limerick an amnesty was proclaimed, & according to Storey - the Williamite historian - Galloping O'Hogan took advantage of the amnesty, and for doing - was murdered near Roscrea by some Rapparees who had not submitted.

But local tradition says that Galloping O'Hogan did not submit & that he was hanged at Clonmel. When about to die he asked if anyone was present from Clash, Toomevara. No one was there who knew of Clash and so the treasure, the whereabouts of which he was anxious to reveal, is still undiscovered.

"They have sent for fresh artillery,

The guns are on their way,

God help our hapless Limerick

When dawns another day."

Thus speaks the gallant Sarsfield,

As sadly he recalls

The famine & despair that lurk

Behind those crumbling walls.

And yet one blow for freedom -
One daring midnight ride:

PARISH - BALLINAHINCH: BARONY - DUNEYDARRA: TIPPERARY

And William may be humbled yet,

For all his power and pride!

"Go bring to me the Galloper,"

To Highway Hofan say,

"His Ireland hath need of him,

And him alone to-day!"

The soldier & the Highwayman

Are standing face to face,

The fearless front, the eagle eye,

In both of them we trace.

"Hofan! the night is dark & dread,

Say, canst thou lead the way.

To Keeper Mountain's black ravines.

Ere dawns another day?"

"Can the eagle find his eyrie?

Can the fox forget his den?

I can lead ye as none other

Of Shliabh Camailte men.

The black mare knows it blindfold,

It's not by the stars she'll steer,

Ye'll be tonight on Keeper's height -

And dawn will find ye here."

"Lead on!" and well he lead them,

Though the Shannon ford ran deep,

And though the white-lipped flood ran fierce
Around O'Brien's Keep.

The sentinel on Killyaloe

Looked out but failed to see -

Five hundred silent horsemen ~~to~~ ride

Behind the Rapparee.

That night by Ballyneety's towers

The English gunners lay.
King William's camp and safety lies
But twelve short miles away.
What need of further caution?
What Irish wolf would dare
To prowle around our camp to-night,
So near the lion's lair.

An Irish wolf is near them now,
And Irish stars have heard
The chosen watchword for the night—
And "Sarsfield" was the word.
A tramp of horse: "Who's there? The word?"
~~to tramp~~ Sarsfield the answer ran,
And then the sword smote downwards,
"Aye, and Sarsfield is the man!"

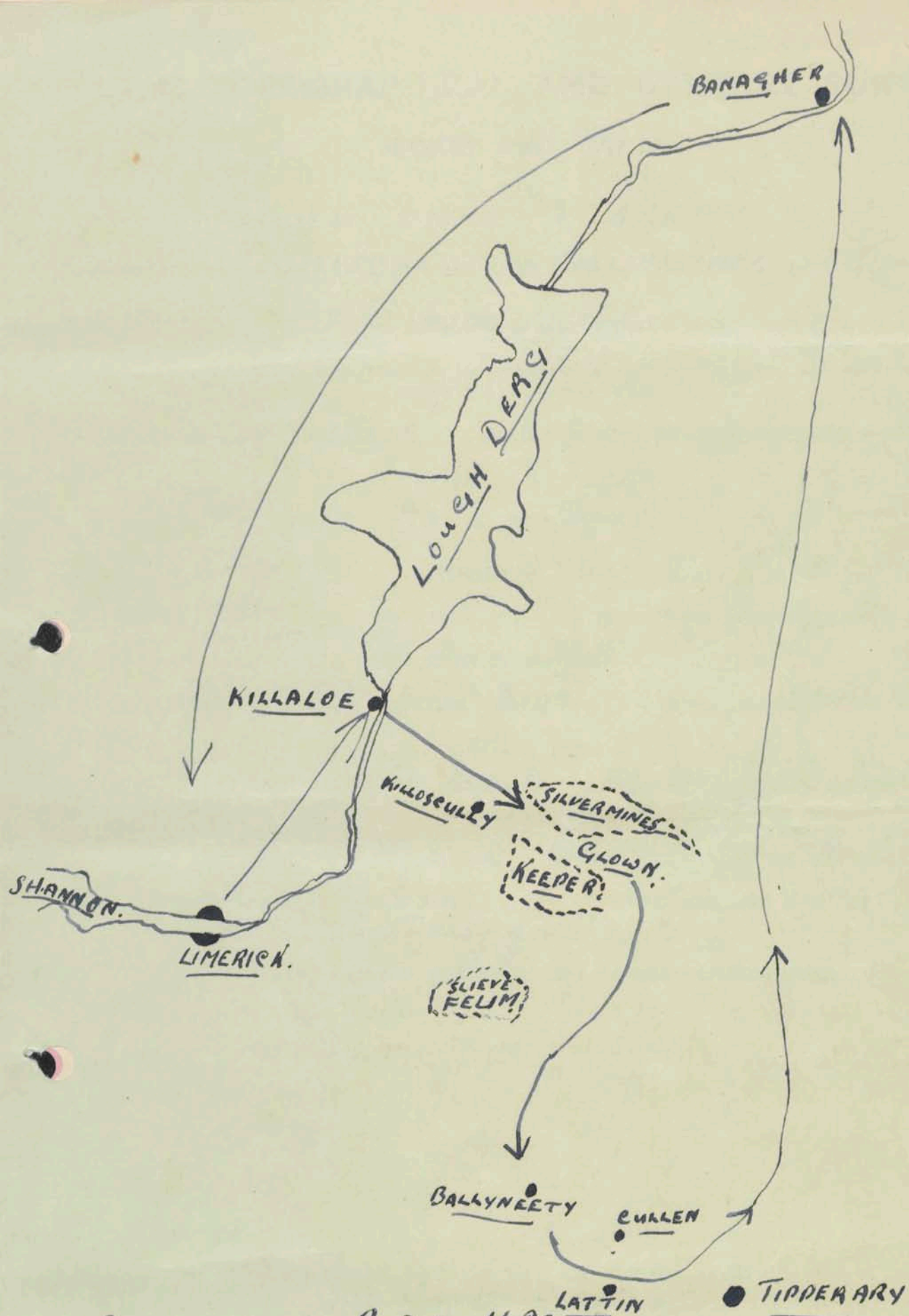
"To arms! the foe!" Too late, too late,
Though Villier's vengeful blade
Is met with the Hogan's life-blood,
As he leads the ambuscade.
Then foot to foot, and hand to hand,
They battle round the guns,
Till victory declares itself.
For Erin's daring sons.

"Oh! for those guns in Limerick now,
Placed on the city walls!
We'd bid King William breakfast
On his own black cannon balls!
It may not be but trebly charged,
And filled with shot & shell,
They'll toll the soldier's requiem,
And sound the soldier's knell."

Oh! sudden flash of blinding light!
Oh, hollow sounding roar!
Down history's pages in Irish ears
It echoes evermore.

And Ballyneety's blackened tower
Still marks the famous place
Where Sarsfield staked his all to win,
And won that midnight race!

The above is from the "Spirit of Tipperary" a collection of
Poems & Ballads published by "The Guardian" Co., Nenagh, Co. Kyp.



SARSFIELD'S RIDE 1690

From Limerick to Killaloe, across the Shannon and on to Killoscully (BALLINAHINCH PARISH) & by the GLOWN Road between Keeper (BALLINAHINCH) & The Silvermines to BALLYNEETY.

I.T.A. TOPOGRAPHICAL AND GENERAL SURVEY

SPORTS AND GAMES

BARONY OF DWNEY & ARRA.TOWN OR VILLAGE KILLOSCULLY PARISH BALLINAHINCH COUNTY TIPPERARY.

ANGLING (Fresh water)

If there is only one river or lake in the parish this form (B) will suffice. For additional waters Form Ba to be used.

RIVER OR LAKE MUSKEIR Nearest point to town (distance) 1/2 mile.

KINDS OF FISH HELD :

SALMON & BROWN TROUT.

AVERAGE WEIGHT OF :

Salmon 7 lbs. Sea trout — Brown trout 1/2 lb.

BEST SEASONS FOR :

Salmon August & Sept. Sea trout NONE. Brown trout April to June.

SUITABLE FLIES :

Salmon Silver Doctor: Orange Grouse: Jack Scott.Sea trout —
Brown trout Orange Grouse: March Brown: Hare's Ear.State if angling is—"entirely free"; "free except on preserved stretches"; etc.
"Entirely free".

Preserved stretches with names and addresses of Proprietors :

Owners of boats for hire, and charges per day :

no Boats Required.

Convenient angling centres (where accommodation is available) :

kenagh — 9 mls.
Newport — 5 mls.Local Angling Club none. Membership Fee —Secretary (and Address) —

SEA ANGLING

Brief notes on fishing grounds :

none

Kinds of fish to be caught :

Owners of boats, type of boats, and charges per day :

Bait available locally ?

no

Fishing tackle ?

no

Representative of B.S.A.S. or other sea angling Assn.

GOLFING

Name of Club

none

No. of holes

Situation and brief description of course :

Name of Professional

Is there a clubhouse on course ?

Licensed ?

Green fees (Visitors) : Per day

Per week

RACING

(Including "Point-to-Point" and "Flapper" meetings)

No. of meetings normally held during the year NONE.

Under which rules?

Situation of course

HUNTING

Hounds which hunt in the district:

Foxhounds NONE.

Harriers do.

Beagles do.

COURSING

Name of Club NONE. Meeting held annually? —

GREYHOUND RACING

Name of Company NONE.

Races on (nights) —

SHOOTING

Brief notes on shooting areas, stating kinds of wild fowl or game, and if free shooting is available:

Kiper mountain is a good Grouse area. Partridge & cock are also available on heepes. Along the Muskeit River & at Ballynalinch few Duck are found. The Grouse & Partridge are the chief attraction.

If preserved, give names of landowners or lessees and addresses:

NOT PRESERVED.

Shooting Club NONE. Secy. —

CLAY PIGEON SHOOTING

Name of Club NONE. Competitions held? —

ROWING AND SAILING

Rowing or yacht clubs, with address of club-house.

NONE.

GAMES AND RECREATIONS

Name of Club or Committee concerned with the following :
(In each case give location of sports ground or recreation hall)

Gaelic Football NONE.

Hurling "Knockmel Rovers": no Hurling field available.

Handball YES at Killoscully. Handball alley? YES near Gardai Bks. Killoscully.

Soccer NONE

Rugby do.

Cricket do.

Hockey do.

Bowls do.

Bowling (on public roads) do.

Lawn Tennis do. Kinds of courts —

Croquet do.

Billiards do.

Badminton do.

Table Tennis do.

Bridge Club do.

Other games or recreations (inc. "Cross Roads" dancing) Pitch & Foss.

ATHLETICS AND CYCLING

Name of Club none Events held under rules of —

do. —

ANNUAL EVENTS

Give list of annual events held in the town or parish, naming promoters (Clubs, etc.) in each case. Include pilgrimages and patterns.

NONE Promoters —

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

DATE 14/9/44

(Signed)

James Henchy
Surveyor.

I.T.A. TOPOGRAPHICAL AND GENERAL SURVEY

AMENITIES AND GENERAL INFORMATION.

TOWNS AND VILLAGES (Other than Seaside)

BARONY OF OWNEY & ARRA.TOWN OR VILLAGE KILLOSEULLY PARISH BALLINAHINCH COUNTY TIPPERARY.

Location and brief description.

Population 18.

A little country village consisting of a national School, a Catholic Church, a Post Office and a few thatched farm houses. It is situated on the newport - kenagh road - 5 miles NE of newport & 2 miles S.W. of kenagh to the N.W. of keepe mountain.

no Accommodation available.

Is there a Town Hall? NO. Location —

Parks, Gardens and Recreation Grounds. Brief description:

Brief comments on water supply and sewerage:

no water supply or sewerage system.
The water is drawn from Spring wells.

PUBLIC SERVICES

Nearest station Shallee Distance 2 miles Bus? NO.Public lighting by—Electricity? NO. Gas? NO.

DANCING

Dance hall NO. Proprietor —

CINEMAS AND THEATRES

Cinemas — Pictures shown —
(nights)Theatre — Kind of shows —
(Drama, Comedy &c.)

LIBRARIES

Public Libraries NONE.

Private Lending Libraries NONE.

CHURCHES AND SERVICES

Church Killoscully Catholic Church Services (Sundays) 10 A.M.

BALLINAHINCH Catholic 10 A.M.

POSTAL FACILITIES

Location of Post Office In Killoscully village

Business (? M.O., Telegraph, Telephone) Stamps & Postal Orders only.

BANKING

Banks NONE.

SPORTS AND PHOTO SUPPLIES

Sports Dealers NONE.

Photographic Stores NONE.

SWIMMING POOLS AND BATHS

Swimming Pool? NONE Location /

Public Baths? / Location /

SOCIAL CLUBS, CULTURAL SOCIETIES, &c.

Social Clubs.....

NONE

Cultural Societies.....

INDUSTRIES AND HANDCRAFTS

Industries.....

NONE

Handcrafts or Cottage Industries (Give names of craftsmen, employer, &c.):

NONE

PUBLIC MONUMENTS

(Brief description ; inscription to be quoted)

NONE

IMPORTANT PUBLIC BUILDINGS

(Give brief notes on architectural features)

*Killoscully Church is a small L-shaped Gothic church without any architectural value worthy of note.
Ballinablack is also of Gothic architecture.*

SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES

*Ballinahinch National
Killoscully do.
Glencolton do.*

HOSPITALS

None

FAIRS AND MARKETS ; HALF-HOLIDAY

Monthly fairs and markets..... NONE

Weekly market day..... NONE Half-holiday..... NONE

GARAGES AND PETROL STATIONS

none

CONVEYANCES FOR HIRE (Owners) :

Taxis..... none

Motors (Touring)..... none

Boats (State type)..... NONE

Bicycles..... NONE

Caravans..... NONE

Horses..... NONE

CAMPING SITES

(At principal holiday resorts)

Location..... NONE Landowner.....

Local Improvements Committee..... none

Secretary.....

(Signed) James Henchy

Surveyor.

Juvena Press, Ltd., Dublin.

SEE SKETCH ATTACHED.

HISTORIC SITES

Royal Seats, scenes of historic events—battles, mass meetings, historic festivals, &c. Location.

Landowner. Historical or traditional notes.

"GALLOPING" O'HOGAN and SARSFIELDS RIDE. In August 1690, William besieged Limerick with a powerful army. He needed heavy artillery to batter down the walls, and boats to cross the river. These were on their way to Limerick seemed doomed. "Galloping" O'Hogan the famous north Tipperary Rapparee, got word of the approaching siege train before it reached Cashel. Learning the Williamites scouts he brought ("The Spirit of Tipperary" published by the Guardian Co., SEE P. 44 Co. Liph. P. 30 etc. T HISTORIC HOUSES: BURIAL PLACES. "RAMBLES IN IRELAND" P. 240 etc. By William Bulfin.)

(a) Birth places or one-time residences of distinguished Irishmen or other personalities. Location and description. Present owner or occupant. (b) Burial places of distinguished personalities.

NONE.

SPAS OR MINERAL SPRINGS

Spas formerly in use. Location and present condition. Access. Right of way to public? Mineral content and curative properties so far as known locally.

NONE

CURIOSITIES

Curious objects, structures, monuments, landmarks, sights, etc. For example, Wishing stones or "chairs," freaks of nature (i.e. grotesque rock formations)—in fact, any scene or object which may be regarded as queer, quaint or mirth-provoking. Location and description.

Any story or legend to be related.

"The Eagle's nest." near the summit of Keepers Mtn.
on the north-western side there is an Eagle's Nest which is a curiosity to the climbers of the mountain.

CUSTOMS, PATTERNS, ETC.

Brief account of old customs, traditional cures, etc., still practised in the district. Pilgrimages to Holy Wells, Shrines, etc. Patterns.

The customs of St. Martin's Day, Shrove Tuesday night, November's night & May Eve are the only old customs still practised in the district.

(Signed)

James Henchy.
Surveyor.

DATE

11.9.44