

height of the wall remain. It was about fifty one feet long and eighteen feet broad.

It is noticed in the Name Book, which adds: "site of Abbey and site of castle a little to the west of Church ruins." None of the Abbey now remains nor is tradition very clear as to its former existence. An old man on the spot told us he heard it said that the monks of this place had a connection with Tullow and that when in a line they extended in length the entire distance. This is a common tradition in several places; in the present case it was told as a mere faint vestige of tradition. Bones are said to have been found here.

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The walls of the castle were in existence in the memory of man, ten feet high in parts; at present there is nothing but what might have been part of the external wall surrounding the building. The site is called the High Haggard; it is said that Cannon balls were found here.

In the same Townland is St. Patrick's Well, of which mention is made in the Name Book. Thorn bushes grow over it.

The Cromlech in this Townland is thus described in the Anthologia Hib., Vol.IV, p.(q? 105).

"There is a small Cromlech at Haroldstown in the County of Carlow supported by a single stone. The covering stone is rather singular, being in the form of the lobe of the liver of animals; the under surface is plane and smooth, but the upper is convex, in which are a number of channels proceeding from the same trunk, and resembling veins, but whether natural or artificial it is difficult to determine, though most probably the latter, as no such stones are found in the neighbourhood. This species of ancient monuments were numerous throughout the northern countries of Europe and were erected by our barbarous ancestors, both as sepulchres and altars of sacrifice. This under consideration seems to have been the latter, as on digging under it in opening a gravel pit, no remains of interment was discovered. The tradition among the country people supposes it an altar on which goats and sheep were sacrificed. The throat of the victim was cut over the trunk or main channel and as the blood flowed from thence into the branches, the divinations were made, every branch having a separate and distinct signification. This tradition receives some support from Tacit l.14 and Diodor, Sec.1, 5, who informs us that the Druids and Heathen Priests of antiquity divined by the fibres and blood of victims in Germany, Gaul and Britain."

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Ryan, in Hist. Co. Carlow, places it erroneously in the adjoining Townland of Tobinstown, Parish of Rathvilly.