ARCHÆOLOGIA HIBERNICA. A HAND-BOOK OF IRISH ANTIQUITIES, PAGAN AND CHRISTIAN: ESPECIALLY OF SUCH AS ARE EASY OF ACCESS FROM THE IRISH METROPOLIS

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WILLIAM F. WAKEMAN

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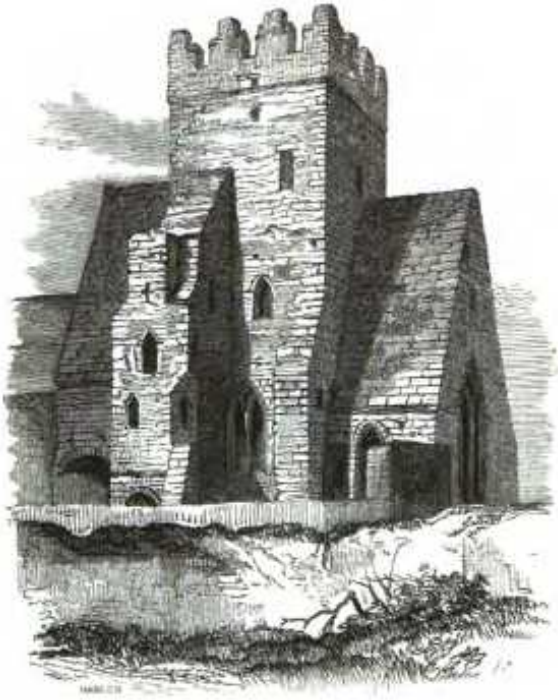

St. Doulough's Church.

Archæologia Hibernica.

A HAND-BOOK

OF

IRISH ANTIQUITIES,

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FROM

The Irish Metropolis.

By WILLIAM F. WAKEMAN.

WITH NUMEROUS ILLUSTRATIONS.

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TO

GEORGE PETRIE, LL.D., R.H.A., V.P.R.I.A.,

THIS VOLUME IS INSCRIBED,

BY HIS AFFECTIONATE FRIEND

AND PUPIL,

THE AUTHOR.

PREFACE.

MANY as are the political jealousies among the Irish, there are few true natives of the soil who would not resent any charge of coldness or indifference to the welfare of their country, or of *wilful* ignorance upon the subject of her history or antiquities, which might be urged against them. Yet most of our travelled countrymen are better acquainted with the appearance of the Rhine than with that of the Shannon; with the windings of the Thames than with those of the Boyne; their knowledge of these Irish rivers being probably just so much as may be acquired out of a school geography, while they have steamed down the

Thames, and visited the chief points upon the Rhine.

We may venture to say that in like manner there are, even among our Tipperary gentry, many better skilled in the fortifications of the Rock of Gibraltar, than in the exquisite monuments of ancient Irish piety and art remaining upon the Rock of Cashel, in their own county; many who, in England, Scotland, Wales, and upon the Continent, have sought mountain air and scenery, while the Galtees, the Reeks, and the sublime range of the Mourne Mountains, had never cost them a thought. It would be at least out of place, in a volume such as we now present, to trace to its source this feeling, or rather want of feeling, by which so many Irishmen are ruled. It must be granted that Ireland,—though generally rich in every point attractive to the tourist, whether the mere pleasure-seeker or artist, antiquary or geologist,—has generally been described by book-makers as a country wherein, if indeed a man might pass in safety, he would still suffer so much from want of accommodation, &c., that, unless he possessed