

The walls on south-west side of house are the old walls as far as the crenellated part.

At south-east end are remains of part of old castle. It was once used as a dairy. A turret room is built over this dairy.

Of the inner fortifications are seen the remains of a watch tower, approached by a stairs, with a sentry walk. It now forms the south-east side of the stable yard.

A part of the outer fortifications are to be seen near the avenue and in the haggart.

The present avenue is comparatively new. The old one went through the present stable yard and came out about centre of village.

The drive in front of the halldoor was formerly a part of the inner bailey.

The old castle is at south-west of house, and is in excellent preservation; in it is shown the room in which Lady Roche was imprisoned.

At south-east end of house underground stairs go down to a well near the river.

A masonry bridge of three arches spans the river Awbeg in the pleasure grounds.

For account of the Holy Well at Castle Widenham, see "Castletown-roche Parish (R.C.)"

### Castle Wrixon (Ballinliny or Ballinrahy).

Sheet 8, six-inch O.S.; Sheet 164, one-inch O.S.

Barony of Orrery and Kilmore. Parish of Imprick.

It lies about five miles north of Buttevant.

In 1881 it is recorded—Castle Wrixon, 99a. 1r. 19p. (statute); pop. 11; val. £189 10s. Castle Wrixon South, 867a. or. 26p. (statute); pop. 68; val. £802. (Guy).

Mr. Robert Lysaght informs me that the old Irish name of Castle Wrixon is Crish-la-nōwan.

Mr. James Byrne, J.P., writes:—"Crish-la-howan is Irish for "the cross by the river." The word "cros" also means a hindrance, and "cris," holy; but I do not think these latter words would apply. A great many places in Ireland derive their names from ancient crosses erected by holy persons."

Fiants of Elizabeth 6539 (5258) mentions a pardon to Tho. Roche fitz-James of Ballinlynigh (Co. Cork), 29 May, xliii., A.D. 1601.

Ballinleyneg, 1 plow (?Ballinliny), and Ballingrahy formed part of the property of David Lord Roche, Viscount Fermoy, in 1611. (Pat. 9, James I., P.R.O., Irl.)

Ballinliny is Irish for "townland of the parcel, quantity or number." Ballinrahy is Irish for "townland of the raths or forts" (James Byrne (J.P.)).

This place belonged to the Wrixon family. Colonel Wrixon sold it to Mr. Crofts.

In 1814, John Wrixon, Esq., lived here. The post town was Charleville. (D.N.P.)

The "Southern Reporter and Cork Commercial Courier" of 22nd April,

1823 (Brit. Mus.) gives the following:—"An outrage took place on Friday last, so early as ten o'clock in the morning of that day. About 200 Whiteboys assembled near Castle Harrison estate; then proceeded to Mr. Wrixon's at Castle Wrixon, turned up a field and then went to Mr. David Lynch's at Cahir. A mounted policeman informed Major Maxwell of these outrages, when he immediately ordered out the chief constable, Mr. Lumsden, 5 mounted police and a detachment of the 57th (the Diehards) Regt. under Capt. Logan. They came upon the Whiteboys and surrounded them. The mounted police took six, the 57th took five, and a detachment of the 22nd Regt., coming from Ballyhoura, took one."

Mr. Robert Lysaght, of Castle Wrixon, writes to me in 1911 as follows:

"The whole Castle Wrixon property was purchased from the Wrixons by Sheriff Crofts or his father (probably Wills George Crofts, of Churchtown House, who was High Sheriff for Co. Cork 1822, who died unmarried 1826. He kept a pack of foxhounds at Castle Wrixon. The kennels are still there. He lived in the house in which I am now living, which was formerly a thatched house. He had it slated. He sold it to a Crofts of Velvetstown, who was his agent, for £2,200. After leaving Castle Wrixon he lived at Cregane, near Churchtown.

"My house is in an angle with roads on each side. That on the west side was not in existence in former times. The one on the east was the old coach road.

"The house below me, which is also called Castle Wrixon House, was occupied once by Christopher Crofts. When he went to Velvetstown it was let to a man named Stokes, who sold his interest to James Lane<sup>1</sup> about 1874. Mrs. MacDermot bought the interest of the farm for £1,375. About 1895 they bought it out under a Land Purchase Act.

"Part of the townland was held by Thady Hennessy, who lived at Fort William, near Doneraile, and subsequently at Cregane, above-mentioned. He left the place to Jane Hennessy and her brother, John Hennessy."

Mr. Robert Lysaght was given his farm in 1909 by his father, Mr. William Lysaght, J.P., of Hazlewood, near Doneraile.

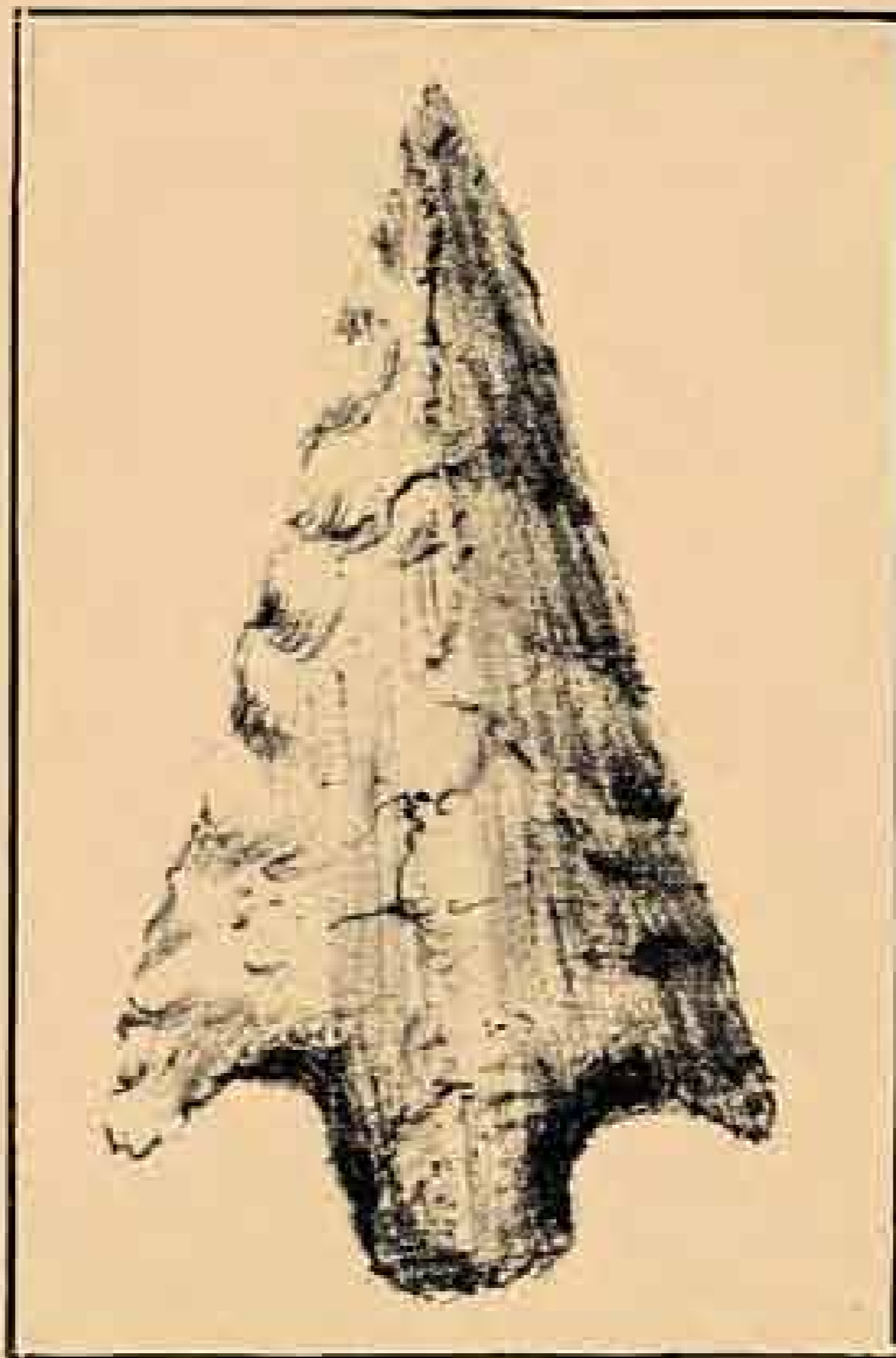
According to Guy, the farmers on the townland in 1911 are—Patrick Flaherty, D. McDermott, Peter McDermott, and Patrick Mahony.

It appears there are six tenants who have purchased under the Ashbourne Act from the landlord, the late Christopher Crofts of Velvetstown.

I have a very perfect flint arrow head found in a potato garden at Castle Wrixon South in August, 1906, by Mr. Michael McDermott.<sup>2</sup> Mr. Robert Day, J.P., writing in the Journal for 1907, p. 197, describes it as "a cream coloured mottled flint, perfect and in fine condition. Arrow heads of this material are rarely met with in South of Ireland, and were probably brought for trading purposes from Ulster, where they are of common occurrence, and are well known to the peasantry, who have an old and widespread belief that they were the chosen weapons of the fairies, who used them in their uncanny freaks, and hence called them 'elf-

<sup>1</sup> Baptism of Samuel William, son of James and Mary Lane, of Castle Wrixon, is entered in Marshalstown G. of I. Parish Register, Diocese of Cloyne.

<sup>2</sup> Mr. Michael McDermott writes that near the spot where he found the arrow head is Imprick churchyard, which, according to tradition, moved a few hundred yards from where it was originally situated to its present site, and as it moved left some big stones behind.



CASTLE WRIXON FLINT ARROW  
HEAD.

*(Sketch by Mr. Robert Day, J.P.)*



CECILSTOWN LODGE.

*(July 24th, 1906.)*

darts.' Should an arrow head be found in a field where cows fell sick, it is at once concluded that the animals have been fairy-struck, and as an antidote the arrow head is placed in a water trough from which the cows drink. This arrow head measures  $2\frac{3}{8}$  inches in length, and belongs to the barbed variety, being  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inches at widest part, having a central tang and projecting wings to secure it to the shaft."

I visited Castle Wrixon in 1907, and was informed by Mr. David McDermott that according to local tradition the old castle formerly stood in a field immediately north-east of his house, which is marked Castle Wrixon House on Ordnance Survey. He informed me that paving and also dressed stone have been found when ploughing a field in front of this house, which probably was part of the castle. He thinks his house was either built or added to by the Crofts family. A Mr. Stokes followed the Crofts, then came a Mr. James Lane, who was succeeded by Mr. MacDermott in 1893.

The large townland in 1907 was occupied by Mr. David McDermott (son of Peter), Michael Mahony, Patrick Flaherty, Michael Haw, Mr. William Lysaght (of Hazlewood), Peter McDermott, William Pine.

Mr. McDermott bought Lane's interest, and he since purchased under the Ashbourne Act, about 1898.

He also informed me that Father John Power, P.P., of Ballyhay, lived in Castle Wrixon House before Mr. Christopher Crofts added to it. Father Power was noted for curing all kinds of diseases by stroking. People came to his house every Friday, some travelling long distances. He is buried in the chapel of Ballyhay.

I see in Buttevant (C. of I.) Parish Register that Christopher Crofts and his wife, Sarah Grace, were living at Castle Wrixon in 1864, and in 1870 Henrietta E. Stokes of Castle Wrixon died.

### Cecilstown Lodge.

Sheet 24, six-inch O. S.; Sheet 175, one-inch O. S.

Barony of Duhallow. Parish of Castlemagner.

It lies a quarter of a mile east of Cecilstown village, which village is the post town. This formed part of the townland of Cecilstown, which was purchased from Lord Egmont about 1770 by Henry Wrixon, Esq. (great-grandfather of Sir John W. Becher, Bart.). He afterwards let for ever, at a small head rent, Cecilstown Lodge, with some 100 acres, to a relation, John Wrixon, whose representative sold it in 1907 under the Wyndham Act (redeeming the head rent) to the widow of Rev. E. G. Jones. She died in 1910, leaving her interest in the place to her eldest son, Major F. G. Jones, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers.

In the Crone Family (Byblox) Papers mention is made of John Wrixon of Cecilstown, gent, 17 April, 1778.

Sir John Becher's grandfather, Colonel Wrixon,<sup>1</sup> lived here.

<sup>1</sup> Sir John Becher, Bart., can recollect as far back as 1836 his grandfather, Colonel William Wrixon, living at Cecilstown Lodge with an unmarried daughter, Miss J. C. Wrixon. Colonel Wrixon died about 1845, when the place was occupied by Mr. Hiffernan as hereafter mentioned.

In 1823, J. C. Wrixon, Esq., J.P. for Co. Cork, resided here. (Journal, p. 204, 1893).

William Wrixon, of Cecilstown, is mentioned in Geary's Cork Almanac of 1827.

John N. Wrixon, Ceclistown Lodge, 1835. (Dublin Almanac).

Lewis mentions that about 1837 W. Wrixon, Esq., lived here. (Under Castlemagner.

The Field Book Or. Sur., 1839, gives: "William Wrixon, proprietor of Cecilstown Lodge." (Ord. Sur. Off., Dub.)

Mr. Heffernan<sup>2</sup> and family occupied the place.

The Rev. W. Stewart, curate of Kilbrin and Liscarroll, resided at Cecilstown Lodge for about 16 years, up to 1869.

In 1869, the Rev. E. G. Jones, Vicar of Kilbrin and Liscarroll, and family came to reside at Cecilstown Lodge. He died in 1903, but his daughters still live here.

See also Ballinbrittick (old name for Cecilstown) vol. i., page 91, of these Notes.

### Charleville Park, alias Sanders Park (Part of Rathgogan North).

Sheet 2, six-inch O.S.; Sheet 164, one-inch O.S.

Barony of Orrery and Kilmore. Parish of Rathgogan.

Charleville Park is situated and forms part of the townland of Rathgogan North. This townland contains 685a. 1r. 26p. statute measure. In 1881 the pop. was 96; val. £726 16s. od. (Guy).

Charleville Park lies immediately NNW. of Charleville town.

By Fiant of Elizabeth, 5066 (6545) it appears that Hugh Cuffe, Esq., obtained a large grant of property, included in which was the castle and lands of Rathgogan, late David encorig, alias McGibbon's lands, 14 Nov., xxix. A.D. 1587.

By Fiant 5535 (6643) it appears that Hugh Cuffe surrendered this property and it was granted (under letters patent of England, 28 Feb. xxxii. A.D. 1590) to William Power fitz Peeter fitz Nicholas, of Kilmeadan, Co. Waterford, gent, and Helena fitz Edmonde Gibbon, grand daughter and next heir of Thomas m'Shane m'Morris alias Thomas ne Scarte, and wife of said William.

In this grant Rathgogan is mentioned as "Queen's land." (P.R.O., Irl.)

By an Inquisition taken at Mallow 7th day of August, 1611, it was stated that Hugh Cuffe had granted unto Thomas Polden, gent, the castle and one plowland of Rathgogan ccc acres in fee farm, on whose death, the same descended to Morgan Polden, gent, his son and heir, who conveyed the same to Lord Audelay, who hath conveyed same unto his son and heir, Sir Morvill. (Vol 14, C. 3. Ord. Sur., Irl., Inq. vol. i., Lib. R.I.A., O'Donovan's Letters).

In a re-grant of property from James I. to David Lord Roche, Viscount Fermoy, it is stated that his lordship had the chief rent of £8 out of Rathgogan. Patent 9 Jac. I., 16 December, A.D. 1611. (P.R.O., Irl.)

Smith (pub. 1750) states: In 1642, the Earl of Inchiquin and Colonel Jephson, with two English troops, entered into Orrery and Roche's country, where they had the good fortune to relieve the castle of Rath-

<sup>2</sup>In 1854 a daughter was born to Thomas and Rose Heffernan, of Cecilstown Lodge (Ballyclogh Par. Reg.).



CHARLEVILLE PARK

gogan, to take Ballyhea, and kill 200 of the rebels, on the 27th February (ii., 74).

In 1642, the Earl of Cork, writing to the State, at Dublin, mentions that his castle of Rathgogan, wherein Sir Pierce Smith's father-in-law, Mr. Robert Mead, is his constable, being besieged and distressed for want of fuel, was relieved by Capt. William Jephson and Lieut. Downing (ii., 313).

In 1659 the townland of Rathgogan contained 4 English and 53 Irish (Petty's Census, so-called, Lib. R.I.A.)

The town of Charleville is situated in the townland of Rathgogan Middle.

Charleville was so named by its founder, the Earl of Orrery, in honour of Charles II. Its ancient name is supposed to have been derived from one of the numerous raths or forts which exist in the immediate neighbourhood. A full account of the town is given in Guy's Cork Directories.

Mr. Robert M. D. Sanders, of Charleville, writes in April, 1911: "This neighbourhood formed part of the lands of the Earls of Desmond, who had a large castle at Broghill. The lands of Broghill and Rathgogan were purchased by Richard Boyle, first Earl of Cork. He handed over this estate to his son Roger, Lord Broghill, who was afterwards created Earl of Orrery, and who obtained a charter creating the property into the manor of Charleville, with liberty to enclose a deer park.

Lord Orrery erected a mansion at Rathgogan, in which he resided while Lord President of Munster. This house was burnt down by King James's army under the Duke of Berwick, and the Boyle family had no residence here afterwards.

The deer park was by deed of 20th September, 1697, conveyed by the Boyles to William Sanders, on a lease for ever. It has since been the abode of the Sanders family, and is now known as "Charleville Park."

According to Burke's "Landed Gentry" (Irl., 1904 ed.), the Sanders family is stated to have been a branch of that formerly seated at Sandersstead and Charlwood, Surrey. It became established in Ireland in the time of the Commonwealth. Its ancestor was attached to Lord Broghill, and settled in the borough of Charleville, as above stated.

The full pedigree of this family is given by Burke under "Sanders of Charleville Park." The present owner is Mr. Robert Massey Dawson Sanders, J.P., High Sheriff for Co. Cork, 1901; M.E. Dublin University, 1862; m. 1899 Hilda Auguste Katherine, youngest dau. of Francis Henry Beaumont, of Buckland Court, Co. Surrey, and has issue,

I. Charles Craven, b. 1889.

II. Terence Robert Beaumont, b. 1901.

Arms—Arg. a chevron gu, between three elephants' heads erased sa, and a chief az. a sword erect ppr, pommel and hilt or, within two bezants.

Crest—Out of a mural crown, an elephant's head ppr. charged with a bezant.

Motto—Nil conscire sibi nulla pallescere culpa.