

(Mayo East)

I.T.A. TOPOGRAPHICAL AND GENERAL SURVEY

NATURAL FEATURES, ANTIQUITIES, HISTORIC ASSOCIATIONS, ETC.

BARONY OF Costello

TOWN OR VILLAGE Charlestown PARISH Kilbeagh COUNTY Mayo

TOPOGRAPHY

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

The parish of Kilbeagh runs from Killatuley in the west, to Glenmullynaha in the east, a distance of 7 1/2 miles. From Bellahy in the north to Tawnyinab in the south is 5 1/2 miles. The lowland and village of Bellahy are in Co. Sligo.

In scenery the area is principally a region of long low rolling hills, peat tracks and craggy rock-strewn belts, and semi-mountainous, heath-covered country. There is little of a specially outstanding attractiveness.

To the south of the parish lies Charlestown, an exceptionally clean, well-planned township - deriving its name from its founders (Charles' town). It has a sizable square and impresses immediately with the corners of the houses

GEOLOGY

Brief notes on unusual geological features, such as caves, eskers, etc. (CONT. ON PAGE 2)

Except for a few very small isolated igneous granitic belts in the Kilgarriff, Luga, and Tawnyinab district, the parish is completely of limestone which is drift covered for a great portion and peat covered in the remainder. A portion of the area is also of a rock-strewn character. In Bannahyva is a narrow ravine, steep sided and about an hundred feet deep which starts abruptly and widens out after an half-mile or so, to a valley between low hills.

MANSIONS, CASTLES AND ESTATES

OF IMPOSING CHARACTER

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

None.

in its principal streets - almost all being two-story. The one-streeted village of Killybegh in Co. Sligo abuts Charlestown's main street - only the railway line separating both centres.

Killybegh and Charlestown lie in an area of low rolling country, fertile for the most part. At the opposite end of the parish are the hills of Kilgariff and Lurga - highest point 704 ft. From here a good view is obtainable of the broad lowlands which sweep away east and north east through Co. Sligo - the ^{north-}western peaks of the Mac range with Knocknashee dominant - the ^{eastern} peaks of which are visible to the east and far away can be discerned the Cittern mountain off lying close to Co. Sligo's east boundary. There would be the Corry mountains... to the north are the Killarney foothills with Snowdon Killarney... the Gosford Hills... which more and attendant peaks. To the west the view is towards Sainford - over craggy heathly country.. Further off and slightly south-west is Slieve Donard - the island south the view goes to the horizon in a succession of low rolling hills, dotted with homesteads and patches of timber and bush.

The east of the parish has the hills of Glenmullynaha. Their highest point (734 ft.) is similar.

The rock-stone part of the parish is best viewed at Bannaclogh Carr and Bannaclogh. At Bannaclogh is a narrow ravine which once held a fine wood but is now sadly depleted. The road to Killybegh from Charlestown skirts the ravine.

Cycle-rides & hikes. Charlestown to Kilgariff and thence to the main Charlestown/Killybegh road at Bannaclogh. Then return to Charlestown by this road via Carr, Cleary, Bushfield. 10 miles.
Charlestown to Glenmullynaha: 4 miles.