

A QUAINT OLD CHURCH.

GALLFRUS, county of Kerry, has a quaint little church eleven or twelve hundred years old—said to be one of the oldest as well as one of the smallest in Ireland.

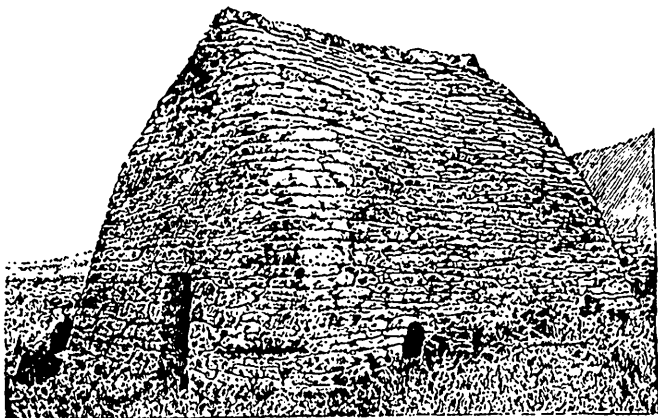
The inside measurements are fifteen feet by eight. The walls are of stone, four feet thick, the only openings being for one window and one door. The outside looks much like an upturned boat.

The church is in perfect condition, although no mortar or cement was used in its construction, for

it was built before the introduction of Christianity when mortar was unknown.

But there are little beehive houses in Ireland which are older even than the church. These also are of stone without mortar, but they are built upon a circular base. They look much like the old Etruscan tombs recently discovered in Italy, wherein had been deposited the ornaments and utensils of a people much more ancient than the Celts.

The church being of stone without mortar links the past with the early Christian era when the rectangular base, the arch, and mortar were used in building.—Forward.



The little Irish Church, more than a thousand years old.

HOW NELLIE GOT RIGHT.

NELLIE, who had just recovered from a serious illness, said: "Mamma, I prayed last night."

"Did you, dear? Don't you always pray?"

"Oh, yes; but I prayed a real prayer last night. I don't think I ever prayed a real prayer before."

I lay awake a long time. I thought what a naughty girl I had been so often. I tried to reckon up all the bad things I had done; there seemed to be such a heap; then I knew I had not remembered them all. And I thought, what if Jesus had come to me when I was ill? Then I thought about Jesus coming to die for bad people, and He delights to forgive them.

"So I got out of bed, and knelt down and tried to tell Jesus how bad I was; and I asked Him to think over the sins that I could not re-

member. Then I waited and gave Him time to think of them; and when I thought He had remembered them all, I asked Him to forgive them. And I am sure He did, mamma, because He said He would."

"Then I felt so happy, and I got into bed, and did not feel a bit afraid of God any more."

"Blessed are they whose iniquities are forgiven and whose sins are covered." (Rom. 4: 7.)—Reformed Church Record.

The home claims an obligation from every member of a family. Our debt to the common interests of the home is more real than our debt to most of the outside affairs that demand so much of our attention. Put home first. We should recognize the home as a divine institution which we dare not neglect. This truth is too much overlooked, and the result is a dangerous decay of the home life.