

ARKLOW, a town in Ireland, in the barony of Arklow, county of Wicklow, 46 miles south of Dublin, on the road to Wexford, in $52^{\circ} 48' N.$ lat., $6^{\circ} 10' W.$ long., from Greenwich. It is on the south bank of the Ovoca, or Avoca, about 500 yards from the sea, and has a main street, running nearly parallel to the stream, with a gentle descent towards the sea: this forms 'the Upper Town.' At the upper end of this is a barrack with a walled yard, connected with an old tower partly destroyed by Oliver Cromwell. Towards the lower end of this street, the road by the coast from Wicklow, which leads by a bridge of many arches over the Ovoca, enters the town; and a little below this is the part denominated the Fishery, consisting of mud cabins, built very irregularly. There is a handsome modern church, on a rising ground about the centre of the town, and a square chapel on an open and convenient spot in the Upper Town. The shore is skirted by a line of sand hills. Some steps have been taken to improve the haven, which is bad and little used, except by the fishermen. The herring fishery employs a number of boats, which have usually six hands in each. In the intervals between the herring seasons, the men dredge for oysters on the beds off the coast; they carry their oysters to Liverpool, and bring back earthenware and coals. Their children in the mean time make nets. This fishery is the chief occupation of the inhabitants of the town, who amounted in 1821 to 3808, and in 1831 to 4383. Arklow has a fever hospital and a dispensary. There are four fairs, at which are sold cloths and woollens of different descriptions, also black cattle, pigs, &c.

The parish of Arklow is a rectory and vicarage in the diocese of Dublin, episcopally united from time immemorial to the vicarage of Enorely, or Ennerily, and the curacies of Kilbride, Killahurler or Kilmain, and Temple Michael, all contiguous. Besides the ruins of the castle above-mentioned, there were the remains of a monastery for Cistercian friars, founded in the thirteenth century by Theobald Fitzwalter, fourth butler of Ireland (a former officer of state); but these are now removed.

In the rebellion of 1798, Arklow was the scene of a very severe contest. On the 9th of June, a body of insurgents (whose numbers are variously given at 'above 20,000, of whom 4000 or 5000 carried guns,' and at 31,000) advanced against the town, which was defended by nearly 1600 men, under the command of Major-General Needham and Colonel Skerrett. The assailants advanced with great impetuosity, and succeeded in entering and burning the part of the town nearest the sea—the Fishery, which consisted then, as now, of thatched cabins, inhabited by fishermen. The contest, however, was severest at the upper end of the town, and was maintained with great courage, the Durham Fencibles especially distinguishing themselves in the defence. Ultimately, about nightfall, the rebels were repulsed, and retired, without being pursued, towards Gorey, after suffering considerable but not well ascertained loss. (*Carlisle's Top. Dict.*; *New Stranger's Guide*; *Musgrave's Memoirs of the Rebellion in Ireland*; *Gordon's Hist. of Ireland*; *Shaw Mason's Stat. Account of Ireland*.)