

the 9th Earl. Piers died in 1539 and Margaret in 1542.

They were buried together in St. Canice's Cathedral and their monument can be seen in the south transept. Both their sons, James 9th Earl of Ormonde and Richard 1st Viscount Mountgarret, are also commemorated by stone effigies in the Cathedral.

The Castle remained in the hands of the Ormonde family until at least 1641 when James 12th Earl 1st Duke of Ormonde was returned as tenant under the King. In the Cromwellian wars it was strongly garrisoned for the King and commanded by Capt. Butler. Col. Axtell despatched a party to reduce it, but they returned without accomplishing their orders, whereupon Axtell himself marched out with two cannon and secured its surrender after having partly demolished it. The destruction initiated by Cromwell's soldiers was carried on by the surrounding peasantry until the Castle came into the possession of a family called Roche from Limerick, presumably some time in the 18th century. The second member of that family to occupy it one George Roche, arrested the decay and did some repairs in 1824. The Board of Works did considerable repairs about 1925.



1855

THE CITY LAMPS

It affords us much pleasure, as well as to the public an evidence of the interest and anxiety felt by the new Mayor for the well-being and improvement of the city, to find that His Worship, at yesterday's meeting of the Town Council, took up the subject of the defective lighting of our streets and expressed an intention of actively exerting himself for its amendment. Perhaps there are few subjects of a purely local interest, of more importance than this to the citizens of Kilkenny; for scarcely anything can detract more seriously from the safety of both the persons and properties of its inhabitants, than an inefficient lighting of the streets. That this is but too plainly the case in Kilkenny, we need not say; and nothing surprises a stranger on entering it more than that such a thing should be suffered to exist, when many towns of only one-third its extent and population are lighted in a far more perfect manner. We trust our excellent Mayor, who has already given proof of his concern in the matter by lighting John Street perfectly at his own expense, will not allow the present state of things to rest long.

K. J.