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Interior of the Nave,
LANDAFF CATHEDRAL.

TOPOGRAPHICAL
 AND
STATISTICAL DESCRIPTION
 OF THE
PRINCIPALITY OF WALES.
 PART II.
SOUTH WALES;

Containing an Account of its

Situation,
Extent,
Towns,
Roads,
Rivers,
Lakes,

Mines,
Minerals,
Fisheries,
Manufactures,
Trade,
Commerce,

Agriculture,
Fairs,
Markets,
Curiosities,
Antiquities,
Natural History,

Civil and Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction, &c.

To which is prefixed,

A COPIOUS TRAVELLING GUIDE,

Exhibiting

*The Direct and principal Cross Roads, Inns, and Distances
of Stages, and Noblemen's and Gentlemen's Seats;*

WITH

A LIST OF THE FAIRS,

And an Index Table,

Shewing, at one View, the Distances of all the Towns from London,
and of Towns from each other.

BY G. A. COOKE, ESQ.

Illustrated with

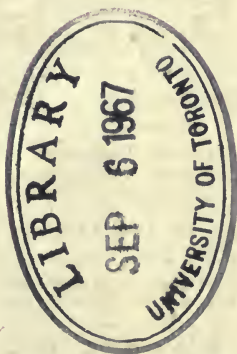
A MAP OF THE PRINCIPALITY.

London:

Printed, by Assignment from the Executors of the late C. Cooke,

FOR

SHERWOOD, NEELY, AND JONES, PATERNOSTER-ROW,
 AND SOLD BY ALL BOOKSELLERS.



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INSPECTION TABLE FOR SOUTH WALES,

Including the Counties of Brecknock, Caermarthen, Cardigan, Glamorgan, Pembroke, and Radnor.

<i>Bounded by</i>	<i>Extent.</i>	<i>Contains</i>	<i>Sends to Parliament</i>	<i>Produce and Manufactures.</i>
Hereford, Mounmouth, and Shropshire, on the east;	Its length, from north to south, is about 99 miles;	6 Counties, 1 City,	11 Members, viz. 2 for Brecon,	South Wales, though not very productive in grain, &c. can boast the richness of its mineral productions. These principally consist of copper, calamine, iron, lead, tin, stone of various kinds, lime-stone, pit-coal, &c. The manufactures of this part of the principality chiefly consist of iron and tin plates; various woollen manufactures, particularly whittles or shawls, blankets, flannels, stockings, &c. Swansea contains manufactories of earthen-ware and soap.
The British Channel, and Caermarthen Bay, on the south;	Its greatest breadth, from east to west, is about 68 miles;	2 Boroughs, 26 Market Towns,	2 for Caermarthen, 2 for Cardigan,	
St. George's Channel, or the Irish Sea, and Cardigan Bay, on the west;	Its circumference is about 350 miles;	42 Hundreds, 527 Parishes,	3 for Pembroke, And 2 for Radnor.	
And the counties of Merioneth, Montgomery, and Shropshire, on the north.	Containing about 2,470,400 acres.	65,581 Houses, And 311,794 Inhabitants.		

South Wales is in the province of Canterbury, and in the dioceses of St. David and Llandaff.

AN INDEX TABLE,

Shewing the Distances from Town to Town in South Wales.
 For Example, to find the Distance from Neath to Crickhowel, look at Neath, on the side or left hand; and then for Crickhowel, on the top or left hand; and the square where both lines meet, gives the distance, viz. 45 miles.

Aberystwyth	Arberth	Brecknock	Bridgend	Buallt	Caermarthen	Cardiff	Cardigan	Cowbridge	Crickhowel	Haverfordwest	Hay	Knighton	Kydweli	Llandaff	Llandovery	Llandeilo	Llangadoc	Llanpeter	Llantrisant	Neath	Newcastle	Newport	Pembroke	Presteign	Radnor	Rhayader	Swansea	Tenby	Tregaron
42	68	47	85	45	3	78	31	66	62	35	64	75	15	75	28	12	24	68	39	19	36	38	78	67	56	29	28	32	
distant from London	216	208	254	168	179	173	160	223	172	154	264	157	156	226	162	184	202	185	204	147	179	216	244	250	151	159	178	206	250
42	68	47	85	45	3	78	31	66	62	35	64	75	15	75	28	12	24	68	39	19	36	38	78	67	56	29	28	32	
42	68	47	85	45	3	78	31	66	62	35	64	75	15	75	28	12	24	68	39	19	36	38	78	67	56	29	28	32	
42	68	47	85	45	3	78	31	66	62	35	64	75	15	75	28	12	24	68	39	19	36	38	78	67	56	29	28	32	
42	68	47	85	45	3	78	31	66	62	35	64	75	15	75	28	12	24	68	39	19	36	38	78	67	56	29	28	32	
42	68	47	85	45	3	78	31	66	62	35	64	75	15	75	28	12	24	68	39	19	36	38	78	67	56	29	28	32	
42	68	47	85	45	3	78	31	66	62	35	64	75	15	75	28	12	24	68	39	19	36	38	78	67	56	29	28	32	
42	68	47	85	45	3	78	31	66	62	35	64	75	15	75	28	12	24	68	39	19	36	38	78	67	56	29	28	32	
42	68	47	85	45	3	78	31	66	62	35	64	75	15	75	28	12	24	68	39	19	36	38	78	67	56	29	28	32	
42	68	47	85	45	3	78	31	66	62	35	64	75	15	75	28	12	24	68	39	19	36	38	78	67	56	29	28	32	
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42	68	47	85	45	3	78	31	66	62	35	64	75	15	75	28	12	24	68	39	19	36	38	78	67	56	29	28	32	
42	68	47	85	45	3	78	31	66	62	35	64	75	15	75	28	12	24	68	39	19	36	38	78	67	56	29	28	32	
42	68	47	85	45	3	78	31	66	62	35	64	75	15	75	28	12	24	68	39	19	36	38	78	67	56	29	28	32	
42	68	47	85	45	3	78	31	66	62	35	64	75	15	75	28	12	24	68	39	19	36	38	78	67	56	29	28	32	
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42	68	47	85	45	3	78	31	66	62	35	64	75	15	75	28	12	24	68	39	19	36	38	78	67	56	29	28	32	
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42	68	47	85	45	3	78	31	66	62	35	64	75	15	75	28	12	24	68	39	19	36	38	78	67	56	29	28	32	
42	68	47	85	45	3	78	31	66	62	35	64	75	15	75	28	12	24	68	39	19	36	38	78	67</					

A TABLE

OF THE

PRINCIPAL TOWNS

In the Southern Division of the Principality of Wales;

Their Distance from London, Number of Houses and Inhabitants, and the Time of the Arrival and Departure of the Post.

Towns.	Dist.	Counties.	Mar- kets.	Houses.	Inhabi- tants.	Post arrives.	De- parts.
Abergwyli	216	Caerm.	—	312	1789	8 m.	4½ aft.
Aberystwyth ..	208	Card.	—	477	2264	5 aft.	4 mor.
Arberth	254	Pemb.	Wed.	388	1779	1 aft.	10 mor.
Brecknock	168	Brecon.	W. F.	718	3196	1 aft.	10 aft.
Bridgend	179	Glam.	Sat.	—	—	8 m.	5 aft.
Buallt	173	Brecon.	Mon.	182	815	9 m.	5 aft.
Caermarthen ..	217	—	W. S.	1139	7275	9½ m.	3 aft.
Caerfili	160	Glam.	Thur.	188	1013	—	—
Camros	267	Pemb.	—	187	953	—	—
Cardiff	160	Glam.	W. S.	472	2457	8 aft.	3 m.
Cardigan	223	Card.	Tu. S.	442	2129	6 aft.	4 m.
Caeo	194	Caerm.	—	335	1696	—	—
Cowbridge	172	Glam.	Tuesd.	158	850	10½ aft.	2 m.
Crickhowel	154	Brecon.	Thur.	137	611	—	—
Dyfryn	162	Glam.	—	136	643	—	—
Haverfordwest ..	264	Pemb.	Tu. S.	630	3093	2½ aft.	8 m.
Hay	157	Brecon.	Sat.	231	1099	11 aft.	4 m.
Kilgeraint	231	Pemb.	—	107	769	—	—
Knighton	156	Radnor.	Thur.	224	952	—	—
Kydveli	226	Caerm.	Frid.	329	1441	—	—
Llandaff	162	Glam.	—	103	504	—	—
Llandeilo	202	Caerm.	Sat.	184	776	6½ m.	4½ aft.
Llandoverly	184	Caerm.	W. S.	—	800	4½ m.	6½ aft.
Llandysul	212	Card.	—	156	983	—	—
Llangadoc	185	Caerm.	Thur.	378	1891	8 m.	6 aft.
Llannon	219	Caerm.	—	238	1199	—	—
Llanpetr	204	Card.	Tuesd.	128	692	10 m.	2 aft.
Llantrisant	147	Glam.	—	246	2122	—	—
Llanwenog	209	Card.	—	153	621	—	—
Neath	179	Glam.	Sat.	580	2740	2½ m.	8½ aft.
Newcastle	216	Caerm.	Frid.	125	679	5 aft.	6 m.
Newport.....	244	Pemb.	—	350	1433	6½ aft.	4½ m.

Towns.	Dist.	Counties.	Mar- kets.	Houses.	Inhabi- tants.	Post arrives.	De- parts.
Pembroke	250	Pemb.	Sat.	481	2415	7½ aft.	6 m.
Presteign	151	Radnor.	Sat.	231	1114	10 aft.	10 aft.
Radnor	159	Radnor.	Sat.	372	1917	12 nig.	8 aft.
Rhayader	178	Radnor.	Wed.	95	446	5 aft.	3 aft.
Swansea	206	Glam.	—	163	867	3½ m.	7 aft.
Tenby	250	Pemb.	W. S.	234	1176	7 aft.	7 m.
Tregaron	204	Card.	Tues.	242	1133	—	—

The price of postage throughout South Wales, varies from 9d. to 11d. for a single letter.

AN ITINERARY

OF ALL THE

DIRECT AND PRINCIPAL CROSS ROADS

IN

SOUTH WALES:

IN WHICH ARE INCLUDED

THE STAGES, INNS, AND GENTLEMEN'S SEATS.

N. B. The first Column contains the Names of Places passed through, and the Inns; the Figures that follow, shew the Distances from Place to Place, Town to Town, and Stages; and in the last Column are the Names of Gentlemen's Seats. The right and left of the Roads are distinguished by the letters R. and L.

FROM LONDON TO MILFORD HAVEN.

Kensington ..	1 $\frac{3}{4}$	1 $\frac{3}{4}$	On R. the palace, Duke of Kent; Holland House, Lord Holland.
Hammersmith .. Windsor Castle Inn.	1 $\frac{3}{4}$	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	Margravine of Anspach, L. R. Ricardo, esq. R. W. Hunter, esq. L.
Turnham Green Old Pack Horse.	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	5	Fairlawn House, — Thompson, esq. R.
London Stile .. At Star & Garter, on L. a T. R. to Kew and Richmond.	1	6	
BRENTFORD .. Cross the Grand Junction Canal and the Brent, whose course on R. is from Hendon; thro' Brent-	1	7	Entering Brentford on L. see Kew Bridge, and the new palace built by His Majesty; through Brentford, on L. Sion House, Duke of Northumberland; on R. Sion Hill,

<i>ford; on L. a T. R. to Hampton Court</i>			<i>Duke of Marlborough; opposite Sion Lodge, Miss Batten; Osterley Park, 1 mile to R. Earl of Jersey.</i>
Smallberry Green	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	8 $\frac{1}{4}$	<i>Spring Grove, Rt. Hon. Sir J. Banks, bart.</i>
HOUNSLOW .. <i>George. Thro' on L. a T. R. to the Land's End; cross Hounslow Heath.</i>	1	9 $\frac{1}{4}$	<i>One mile on L. Whitton Place, G. Gostling, esq.</i>
Cranford Bridge <i>White Hart.</i>	3	12 $\frac{1}{4}$	<i>One mile before, on R. Easton Place, Col Nesbit; $\frac{1}{2}$ mile from, on R. Cranford Park, Countess Berkley.</i>
Sipson Green .. <i>Magpies.</i>	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	13 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Longford <i>King's Head. Cross the old and new roads at a small distance; cross 2 branches of the Colne, and at about 1 mile, again cross the Colne.</i>	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	15	<i>Near on L. Stanwell House, Sir E. F. Stanhope, bart. and Stanwell Place, Sir J. Gibbons, bart. At about 2 miles on R. Fysh de Burgh, esq.</i>
Buckinghamshire.			
Colnbrook <i>One mile beyond on L. a T. R. to Windsor.</i>	1 $\frac{3}{4}$	16 $\frac{3}{4}$	<i>Near on R. Riching's Park, Rt. Hon. John Sullivan; 1 mile on L. Horton House.</i>
Langley Broom	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	18 $\frac{1}{4}$	<i>Ditton Park, Lord Montague, L. Langley Park, Sir R. Bateson Harvey, bart.</i>

Tetsworth Water	1	19 $\frac{1}{4}$	
Slough	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	20 $\frac{1}{2}$	H. Dawes, esq. R. Sir W. Herschell, L. Between Slough & Salt Hill, on R. Baylis, Marchioness of Thomond. On L. see Windsor Castle, Eton College, & Cranbourn Lodge. See also Clewer spire, Sophia Farm, and St. Leonard's Hill, Earl Harcourt.
On L. a T. R. to Windsor.			
Salt Hill	$\frac{3}{4}$	21 $\frac{1}{4}$	See from Castle Inn, Stoke spire, and the seat of J. Penn, esq. Farnham Royal Church; Britwell House, Hon. Geo. Irby; Dropmore Hill, Lord Grenville, and Burnham church and village; and from the Castle Inn Gardens a grand view of Windsor Castle, Eton College, &c.
Castle Inn.			
Maidenhead Bridge	4	25 $\frac{1}{4}$	Near on R. at Taplow, Ld. Riversdale. On the top of the hill, Countess of Orkney, and Taplow Lodge, P. C. Bruce, esq. On L. see Monkey Island, P. C. Bruce, esq.; opposite, Water Oakley, — Harford, esq.; Filbert, C. Fuller, esq. and the Retreat; 1 mile on R. Cliefden, and the beautiful woods belonging to the Countess of Orkney.
Cross the Thames, and enter Berkshire.			
MAIDENHEAD	$\frac{3}{4}$	26	A little before, on R. Lady Pocock; opposite, Sir W. Hearne.
On R. a T. R. to Great Marlow.			

The Folly Fleece Inn. On R. a T. R. to Henley and Ox- ford.	$\frac{3}{4}$	26 $\frac{3}{4}$	At on L. is Ive's House, — Wilson, esq.; on R. Hall Place, Sir Wm. East, bart. and Bisham Abbey, G. Vansittart, esq.
Maidenhead Thicket	$1\frac{1}{4}$	28	Near the entrance on L. at a distance from the road, Heywood Lodge, — Saw- yer, esq.; near the end of the Thicket on L. Woolley Hall, and opposite, Stub- kins, Lady Dorchester.
Kiln Green	3	31	Scarlet, L. Perrott, esq.
Hare Hatch	1	32	Bear Place, Sir Morris Ximenes, R. and Hare Hatch, — Dalton, esq.; on L. Ruscombe House, — Blake, esq.
Twyford, Wilts Cross the Lod- don R. Re-enter Berkshire four miles from Twy- ford; on L. a T. R. to Oakingham.	$1\frac{3}{4}$	33 $\frac{3}{4}$	One mile from, on R. Ship- lake Hill, Mrs. Newell, on L. Stanlake, Sir N. Dakenfield, bart.
READING Bridge over the Kennet; on R. a T. R. to Henley and Wal- lingford, on L. to Basingstoke.	5	33 $\frac{3}{4}$	Three miles on R. Sunning, R. Palmer, esq.; Early Court, Rt. Hon. Sir Wm. Scott; and a little beyond, Woodley Lodge, J. Wheble, esq. On R. Caversham House, Major Marsack; half a mile beyond Read- ing on L. Coley Park, Berkeley Monck, esq.
Calcot Green	$2\frac{3}{4}$	41 $\frac{1}{2}$	Calcot Park, J. Blagrave, esq. R. half mile further, Tyler's Parsonage, Rev. Dr. Routh.

Theal	2	43 $\frac{1}{2}$	On L. Sulhampstead, W. Thoytes, esq. 1 mile from on R. Englefield House, R. Benyon, esq.
One mile from a T. R. on R. to Wallingford, and a little before, Woolhampton on L. to Basingstoke and Whitchurch.			
Woolhampton	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	49	Before, on L. Padworth House, R. Clarke, esq. 1 mile on L. Wasiny House; and 2 miles further on R. Medgham House, W. S. Poyntz, esq.
Thatcham	3 $\frac{3}{4}$	52 $\frac{3}{4}$	
King's Head.			
At about two miles cross the Lamborne road.			
Speenhamland	3	55 $\frac{3}{4}$	Shaw House, Sir Joseph Andrews, bart.
George and Pelican.			
Adjoining Speenhamland on L. is			
NEWBURY			
Speen Hill	$\frac{1}{2}$	56 $\frac{1}{4}$	On L. Goldwell Hall, G. Canning, esq.; further on, R. Doddington, or Chaucer's Grove, J. Bebb, esq. and Donnington Castle House, Col. Stead.
Castle Inn.			
Speen	$\frac{1}{2}$	56 $\frac{3}{4}$	
Benham Park	$\frac{3}{4}$	57 $\frac{1}{2}$	Benham Park, Anthony Bacon, esq. end of Benham Park on L. Hemstead Lodge, Earl of Craven.
Half-way House	2	59 $\frac{1}{2}$	On L. Barton Court, C. Dundas, esq.
Cross the Ken-			

net R. and before
you enter Hun-
gerford, cross it
again.

Hungerford
On R. a T. R.
to Oxford.

4 $\frac{1}{2}$

64

Hungerford Park, J. Wilks,
esq. L.; on R. of Hunger-
ford Bridge, Chilton
Lodge, J. Pearce, esq.;
half a mile from Hunger-
ford on R. Littlecott Park,
Gen. L. Popham.

Troxfield, Wilts
Cross the Ken-
net. Entrance of
Marlborough

2 $\frac{3}{4}$ 66 $\frac{3}{4}$

Forest

4 $\frac{1}{4}$

71

Savernake Lodge, Earl of
Aylesbury.

End of the Fo-
rest

1 $\frac{1}{2}$ 72 $\frac{1}{2}$

MARLBOROUGH
On R. a T. R.
to Swindon, on
L. to Andover.

1 $\frac{1}{2}$

74

Through, on L. the Castle
Inn, formerly a seat of
the Duke of Somerset.

Manton

1 $\frac{1}{2}$ 75 $\frac{1}{2}$

Fifield

1 $\frac{1}{4}$ 76 $\frac{3}{4}$

Overton

1

77 $\frac{3}{4}$

Lockridge House, J. Burton,
esq. and Kennet Hall, —
Mathews, esq.

West Kennet ..
Cross the Ken-
net R.

1 $\frac{1}{2}$ 79 $\frac{1}{4}$

Half a mile beyond, on R.
Silbury Hill, a remark-
able barrow; at some dis-
tance on R. is Avebury or
Abury, noted for the stu-
pendous remains of a
Druid's Temple, and Au-
bery House, — Jones, esq.

Silbury Hill ..
Beckhampton

 $\frac{3}{4}$

80

Inn
On R. a T. R.
to Highworth; on

 $\frac{3}{4}$ 80 $\frac{3}{4}$

<i>L. to Devizes.</i>				
<i>Cross the Downs</i>				
<i>to</i>				
Cherril	3	83 $\frac{3}{4}$		<i>On L. a white horse cut out on the hill, a remarkable landmark; further on R. Compton Bassett House, Mrs. Heneage, and on L. Blackland House, J. Merewether, esq.</i>
Quermerford ..	2 $\frac{1}{4}$	86		
<i>Bridge over a branch of the R. Marden.</i>				
CALNE	1	87		<i>Castle House, Mrs. Bendry, L.</i>
<i>About one mile from Calne, cross a branch of the Wilts and Berks Canal, and the Calne R.; on R. a T. R. to Wotton Bassett; on L. to Devizes.</i>				
Studley	2 $\frac{3}{4}$	89 $\frac{1}{4}$		<i>On L. the beautiful seat of the Marquis of Lansdown.</i>
Derry Hill	$\frac{1}{4}$	90		
<i>On L. a T. R. to Devizes; cross the Wilts and Berks Canal, and a branch of the Avon.</i>				
CHIPPENHAM	2 $\frac{1}{4}$	92 $\frac{3}{4}$		<i>Through on L. Ivey House, R. Humphreys, esq.</i>
<i>Cross the Avon R. on R.; a T. R. to Malmsbury, Sodbury, and Marshfield,</i>				

beyond on L. to Melksham.				
Pickwick On L. a T. R. to Devizes.	$4\frac{1}{4}$	97		Within one mile on L. Cors- ham House, (containing a superb collection of paint- ings), P. C. Methuen, esq.; at on R. Hartham Park, — Jay, esq.; and Pickwick Lodge, C. Dick- enson, esq.
Box	$2\frac{3}{4}$	$99\frac{3}{4}$		One mile from on R. Shock- erwick, F. Wiltshire, esq.
Ashley Green Entrance of Bath Easton; on L. a T. R. to De- vizes.	$\frac{1}{2}$	$100\frac{1}{4}$		
Bath Easton, Somersetshire	3	$103\frac{1}{4}$		Bath Easton Villa, Brod- belt; R. Hampton House, G. Allen, esq.; and Lam- bridge House, Dr. Gay- garth L.; Bailbrook Lodge, Col. Tuffnell, R.
Walcot	$1\frac{1}{4}$	$104\frac{1}{2}$		
Bath	$1\frac{1}{4}$	$105\frac{3}{4}$		
Situated on the Avon.				
Twiverton	2	$107\frac{3}{4}$		One mile beyond, on L. New- ton St. Looe Park, W. G. Langton, esq.
George. One mile beyond on L. a T. R. to Wells and Frome.				
Keynsham	$5\frac{3}{4}$	$113\frac{1}{2}$		Through on R. Hanham Hall, — Crisick, esq.
Brisslington ..	3	$116\frac{1}{2}$		One mile on L. Half-way House, — Mackay, esq.; and Arno's Vale, J. Marie, esq.
White Hart.				

BRISTOL	$2\frac{1}{4}$	118 $\frac{3}{4}$	Near on L. Red Lodge, — Townsend, esq.; the Hot Wells are one mile below the city, close by the ri- ver.
Gloucester Inn. Cross the Avon. On L. a T. R. to Shepton Mallet, Wells, and Bridgewa- ter; on R. to Marshfield, Sod- bury, and Glou- cester.			
Westbury	$3\frac{3}{4}$	122 $\frac{1}{2}$	Cole House, J. Wedgwood, esq. L.; and further, Blaze Castle.
ComptonGreen- field	$3\frac{1}{2}$	126	Over House, J. Gordon, esq. R.; and further, Knowle, S. Worrall, esq.
Two miles be- yond, a T. R. to the Old Passage.			
New Passage	$3\frac{1}{2}$	129 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Cross the Se- vern R.			
Black Rock Inn, Monm.	3	132 $\frac{1}{2}$	
From Black Rock Inn, a T. R. to Chep- stow.			
Portescauet	1	133 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Crick	$1\frac{1}{2}$	135	Crick House, Maj. M'Bean.
On R. a T. R. to Monmouth.			
Caerwent	$1\frac{1}{4}$	136 $\frac{1}{4}$	
On R. a T. R. to Usk.			
Penhowe	$3\frac{1}{2}$	139 $\frac{3}{4}$	Wentwood Lodge, Duke of
Cat's Ash	$1\frac{3}{4}$	141 $\frac{1}{2}$	Beaufort, R.; Pencoyd

1½ mile from on R. a T. R. to Caerleon.			Castle, Sir M. Wood, bart.; Llanwarran, Sir R. Salusbury, bart. L.
Christ's Church On R. a T. R. to Usk; cross the Usk R.	3¼	144¾	Between and Newport on L. Maindee, G. Jones, esq.
NEWPORT	2½	147¼	
On R. a T. R. to Pontypool and Caerphilly; cross the Monmouth Canal. About one mile from New- port, cross the iron railway, and ½ mile further the Ebwy.			
Castle Town ..	4½	151¾	
St. Mellon's .. Blue Bell.	2	153¾	
Rumney	1½	155¼	
Royal Oak.			
Roath	1¾	157	
Glamorgan.			
Cardiff	1½	158½	
Angel Inn.			

From Cardiff to Arberth, 94¼ miles, see page 24; and from Arberth to Milford Haven, p. 22, 23, 18 miles and one quarter, making from London to Milford Haven, 271½ miles.

FROM ABERYSWYTH TO PRESTEIGN, THROUGH RHAIDERGWY.

ABERYSTWYTH At Aberystwyth on R. T. R.'s. to Caermarthen and Cardigan.		About three miles from Aber- ystwyth, on R. Nanteos, W. E. Powell, esq.; and on L. Y Vronvraith House, J. J. Bonsall, esq.
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Piccadilly	2	2	
Esgynallt	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	Crosswood, — Vaughan, esq. R.
<i>Four miles farther, on L. a T.R. to Devil's Bridge, on R. to Tregaron, by Yspytty Ystwyth.</i>			
Cwm Ystwyth	6 $\frac{3}{4}$	15 $\frac{1}{4}$	Between Cwm Ystwyth and Rhaiadergwy is Rhydolog, or Rhydoldog, John Oliver, esq.
<i>Cross the river Wye.</i>			
<i>On L. a T. R. to Llanidloes, on R. to Buallt.</i>			
RHADERGWY	14 $\frac{1}{2}$	29 $\frac{3}{4}$	
Pen-y-bont ..	10	39 $\frac{3}{4}$	The mineral wells of Llandrindod, R.
Llandegle	1 $\frac{3}{4}$	41 $\frac{1}{2}$	
<i>Four miles beyond Llandegle, on R. a T. R. to Buallt.</i>			
Llanvihangel			
Nant Melan.	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	46	On R. a mineral well, called Blunedaw, and between the mountains a fine waterfall, called Water-break-its-neck.
New Radnor	2 $\frac{3}{4}$	49 $\frac{1}{4}$	
<i>On R. a T. R. to Kington.</i>			
Kennerton	2 $\frac{3}{4}$	52 $\frac{1}{2}$	Grove Hall, John Boddendam, esq. L. and at Evenjob, Hon. Mrs. Harley, R.
Beggar's Bush	3	55 $\frac{1}{2}$	
PRESTEIGN ..	2	57 $\frac{1}{2}$	
<i>On L. a T.R. to Ludlow & Knighton, and thence to Shrewsbury; on R. to Kington.</i>			

RHAIDERGWY TO CARDIFF, THROUGH BRECON.

RHAIDERGWY			
<i>Keep the river Wye on the R. to Ithon Bridge ..</i>	9	9	
<i>Cross the Ithon river. Near Buallt cross the river Wye.</i>			
BUALLT	5	14	<i>Before Buallt, Llanelwedd Hall, M. T. H. Gwynn, esq.; half a mile to the left of which is Wellfield House, D. Thomas, esq.</i>
<i>At Buallt on R. a T. R. to Llandoverly; on L. to Hay.</i>			
Upper Chapel	7½	21½	
— — —			<i>Castle Maddock, Rev. H. Price, L.</i>
Lower Chapel	3¾	25¼	
Llandyveillog ..	2¼	27½	
BRECON	2¾	30¼	
<i>At Brecon, on L. a T.R. to Aber- gavenny and Hay. Cross the Usk river. On R. a T.R. to Llandoverly, Llangadoc, and Neath.</i>			
Capel Nant Tav	11¾	42	
Coed y Cumber	4½	46½	
MERTHYR TYD- VIL	2	48½	<i>Near Merthyr Tydvil, on R. Cyvarthva, R. Craw- shay, esq.; and beyond, ½ mile on L. Pen y Daran, W. Tait, esq. and — Thompson, esq.</i>
Quaker's Yard Tavern	8	56½	
<i>Near the Duke of Bridgewater's Arms, on R. a T. R. to Lantri- saint.</i>			

Bridgewater's Arms	5	61½	<i>Near Bridgewater's Arms, a fine bridge of a single arch, across the Tav river; the span is 140 feet.</i>
<i>Cross the Cardiff Canal.</i>			
Whitchurch ..	7¾	69¼	
CARDIFF	3¼	72½	
<i>At Cardiff, on R. a T. R. to Cowbridge; on L. to Newport.</i>			

HAY TO MILFORD, THROUGH LLANDOVERY.

Hay			
<i>At Hay, on R. a T. R. to Kington.</i>			
Glasbury	4	4	<i>Within a mile of Glasbury, on the north bank of the Wye, Maesloch Hall, W. Wilkins, esq. Near Glasbury, Tregoes, Lord Viscount Hereford. A mile to the L. of Glasbury, Gwernallt Lodge, H. Allen, esq. Farther to the L. see Talgarth Church, Hill, and Forest, where are the remains of an ancient castle. Four miles to the R. of Glasbury, Langoed Castle, J. Macnamara, esq.</i>
<i>Beyond Glasbury, on R. a T. R. to Buallt; on L. to Crickhowel.</i>			
Brwynllys, or Brynllys, ..	4	8	<i>On L. Tregunter House, Mrs. Hughes. Through Brynllys, on R. Pontwell Hall, T. Phillips, esq. About a mile on L. of Brynllys, Aberenyg Place, the late H. Allen, esq.</i>
Melinvach	3	11	

BRECON	4 $\frac{1}{4}$	15 $\frac{1}{4}$	At Brecon, the castle and priory.
<i>At Brecon, on R. a T. R. to Buallt; on L. to Merthyr Tydvil, and Neath.</i>			
<i>Cross the Usk river.</i>			
Llanyspydded	2 $\frac{1}{4}$	17 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Penpont	3	20 $\frac{1}{2}$	P. Williams, esq. R.
<i>Cross the Usk river to</i>			
Rhyd-Briw	3 $\frac{1}{4}$	23 $\frac{3}{4}$	Dywynoc, or Devynock,
Trecastle	2 $\frac{1}{4}$	26	Rev. H. Payne, L.
<i>At Trecastle, on L. a T. R. to Llangadoc and Llandeilo; on R. to</i>			
Llywel	1	27	
Y Velindre . .	1	28	
LLANDOVERY . .	7 $\frac{1}{4}$	35 $\frac{1}{4}$	
<i>At Llandovery, on L. a T. R. to Llangadoc; on R. to Buallt.</i>			
<i>A mile beyond Llandovery, cross the Towi river.</i>			
<i>On R. a T. R. to Llanbedr; on L. to</i>			
Llwynhowel . .	1 $\frac{3}{4}$	37	
Croesyceilog . .	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	40 $\frac{1}{2}$	— Rice, esq. R.
Maesgoed Inn	2	42 $\frac{1}{2}$	
— — —			
Abermarlais . .	1	43 $\frac{1}{2}$	Taliaris, Lord Robert C.
Pencevnglasvryn	1	44 $\frac{1}{2}$	Seymour, R. and on L.
Cledwylch	2	46 $\frac{1}{2}$	Richard Foley, esq.
<i>One mile and</i>			

<i>a quarter beyond Cledwylch, on R. a T. R. to Llanbedr; on L. to Rosmana</i>	$1\frac{3}{4}$	$48\frac{1}{4}$	
LLANDEILO			
<i>Vawr</i>	$1\frac{1}{4}$	$49\frac{1}{2}$	<i>Gurry, W. Jones, esq. R.; Tregib, W. Hughes, esq. L. Three miles on L. of Llandeilo Vawr, in the road from Llangadoc, Manoraban, S. Hemming, esq. Beyond Llandeilo Vawr, on L. Dinevor Castle and Newton Park, Lord Dinevor. Dinevor Castle was generally the residence of the princes of South Wales.</i>
<i>At Llandeilo, on L. u T. R. to Swansea.</i>			
<i>Rhaiader</i>	$2\frac{1}{2}$	52	<i>On L. near the village of Llangathan, Berithlandwall, a fine seat of Richard Jones Llwyd, esq., also Aberglasne, Capt. Dyer; and farther to the L. Golden Grove, Lord Cawdor.</i>
<i>Cross Inn</i> . . .	$2\frac{1}{2}$	$54\frac{1}{2}$	<i>Courthenay, — Dyer, esq.</i>
<i>Cothi Bridge</i> . .	$3\frac{1}{2}$	58	<i>R. and at a distance, on the summit of a hill, Penylan, Wm. Davies, esq.</i>
<i>White Mill</i> . .	$2\frac{3}{4}$	$60\frac{3}{4}$	<i>Between Cross Inn and Cothi Bridge, Dryslwyn Castle is a conspicuous object on the L. for two miles.</i>
<i>Abergwyli</i>	$1\frac{1}{2}$	$62\frac{1}{4}$	<i>Merlin's Cave, R.; the Palace of the Bishops of St. David's, L.; also Clis-tandy, R. Thomas, esq.; and Castle Piggin, Thomas Blome, esq.</i>

CAERMARTHEN On R. a T. R. to Newcastle; on L. to Kydweli.	2	64 $\frac{1}{4}$	At the entrance of Caermarthen, on L. iron & tin mills, belonging to J. Morgan, esq. and the smelting house belonging to Lord Cawdor.
Stony Bridge ..	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	65 $\frac{3}{4}$	
St. Clare's Bridge On R. a T. R. thro' Whitland, to Haverfordwest. Cross the Tar river. On L. a T. R. to Llaugharn.	8	73 $\frac{3}{4}$	
Llandyvrwr	2	75 $\frac{3}{4}$	
Tavernspite ..	5	80 $\frac{3}{4}$	
Prince's Gate ..	3	83 $\frac{3}{4}$	
On L. a T. R. to Ludchurch.			
Cold Blow	1	84 $\frac{3}{4}$	
On L. a T. R. to Templeton.			
ARBERTH	1 $\frac{3}{4}$	86 $\frac{1}{2}$	Famed in British history
Robboston	1 $\frac{3}{4}$	88 $\frac{1}{4}$	for being the residence of Pwyll, chieftain of Dyved, a principal hero in the ancient romances, called the Mabinogion.
On R. a T. R. to St. Clare's Bridge —on L. to			
Caniston Bridge Cross the river Cleddyf.	1	89 $\frac{1}{4}$	Half a mile on R. Ridgway, J. H. Foley, esq.; and a mile farther, on R. Lla-whaden House, F. Skyrme, esq.
Mid County House	2 $\frac{3}{4}$	92	A mile beyond, on L. Picton Castle, Lord Milford; and half a mile further, on R. at Wiston, Lord Cawdor.
Within a mile of Haverfordwest, on R. a T. R. to Kilgeraint, Car- digan, Newport,			

and Abergwaen,
or Fiscard.

Cross the Cuch
river.

HAVERFORD-

WEST $5\frac{1}{4}$ 97 $\frac{1}{4}$

At Haverford-
west, on R. a T.R.
to St. David's.

Merlin's Bridge 1 98 $\frac{1}{4}$

On R. a T. R.
to Tiers Cross,
thence to Hubber-
stone, and thence
to Hakin on Mil-
ford Haven; on
L. to Pembroke,
cross the Ferry.
The middle road
leads to

Johnston 3 101 $\frac{1}{4}$

On L. Lord Kensington,
and between that and
Stainton, Harmestone, D.
Hughes, esq.

Stainton 2 103 $\frac{1}{4}$

At Robbeston, H. Scourfield,
esq. R.

MILFORD $1\frac{1}{2}$ 104 $\frac{3}{4}$

NEW RADNOR TO TREGARON, THROUGH BUALLT.

NEW RADNOR ..

Llanvihangel

Nant Melan .. $2\frac{3}{4}$ 2 $\frac{3}{4}$

Half a mile far-
ther, on R. a T.R.
to Aberystwyth.

Near Buallt,
on R. a T. R. to
Llandrindod,
Wells, and Rhai-
adergwy.

Two miles off, on L. a mine-
ral well, called Blaenedw,
and between the mountains
a fine waterfall, called
Water-break-its-neck.

<i>Cross the river Wye, and enter Brecknockshire.</i>			
BUALLT	11 $\frac{1}{4}$	14	<i>Llandrindod Wells, R.</i>
<i>On L. a T. R. to Hay and Brecon.</i>			
Llanavan	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	18 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Llangammarch	3 $\frac{3}{4}$	22 $\frac{1}{4}$	
<i>On L. a T. R. to Llandovery; on R. to</i>			
Bryngwyn	3 $\frac{3}{4}$	26	
Llanvihangel			
Abergwesin	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	28 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Dol Goch	6	34 $\frac{1}{2}$	
TREGARON	11	45 $\frac{1}{2}$	

**CARDIFF TO ARBERTH,
THROUGH CAERMARTHEN.**

Cardiff			<i>The Castle, Earl of Dumfries. A mile from Cardiff, on R. Llandaff, Court, — Jones, esq.</i>
<i>On R. a T. R. to Merthyr Tydvil.</i>			
<i>Cross the Taw river.</i>			
<i>On R. a T. R. to Llandaff, thence to Llantrisant; on L. to Dinas Powis.</i>			
Elai Bridge	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	
<i>Cross the Elai river.</i>			
St. Nicholas	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	6	<i>Coitredy, Miss Gwynnett, R. Dyfryn House, Hon. B. Grey, L.</i>
Bolvinston, or Tresimon	2	8	
— — —			<i>Llantreuthid, or Llanrithid Park, Sir John Aubrey, bart.</i>

Staten Down ..	2	10	
COWBRIDGE, OR Pont y Von	2½	12½	Beyond, on L. St. Lythian Castle; and half a mile further, on R. Pen Lin Castle, Miss Gwynnett.
At Cowbridge, on R. a T. R. to Llantrisant; on L. to St. Athan's and Gilston.			
Corntown	5¼	17¾	
A quarter of a mile beyond Corn- town, on L. a T. R. to St. Athan's and Gilston.			
Ewenni Bridge	1	18¾	Ewenni Abbey, P. Turbe- ville, esq. R.
Cross the Ewen- ni river. On R. a T. R. to Brigend.			
Newbridge	2	20¾	Across the Ogwr, or Ogmor e river, Ogmor Castle.
At the 9th mile- stone from Cow- bridge, on R. a T. R. to Bridgend, through Laleston.			
Pyle Inn	4½	25¼	
Margam Park ..	1¾	27	Margam House, — Talbot, esq.
Taibach, Somer- set House ..	3¾	30¾	Near Taibach are extensive works of coal and copper.
Cross the Avon river.			
Aberavan	1	31¾	
— — —			Baglan Hall, — Franklin, esq. R.
Briton Ferry ..	3	34¾	Earl of Jersey.
NEATH	3	37¾	On an eminence near Neath, Gnoll Castle, Henry J. Grant, esq. Within about
On R. a T. R. to Brecon.			

Cross the Neath river.

On R. a T. R. to Brecon; and a mile beyond

Neath, on R. to Llandeilo Vawr, and to Caermarthen, through

Bettws; and $\frac{1}{4}$ of a mile farther, on L. to Swansea Bar.

Morrison Bridge $5\frac{1}{2}$ 43 $\frac{1}{4}$

Cross the Swansea Canal.

Forward to Croes Eion, through Llan-gevelach. Leaving Swansea on the L. on L. to SWANSEA, or

Aber Tawe .. 3 46 $\frac{1}{4}$

On L. a T. R. to Rosilly. Returning from Swansea, on R. to Llandeilo Vawr, through Llan-gevelach; and a little farther, on L. to Llychor Ferry; forward to

Cadley 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ 49 $\frac{3}{4}$

Croes Eion .. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ 51 $\frac{1}{4}$

On R. a T. R. to Neath.

Pont ar Dulas, or

half a mile of the town of Neath, on the L. of the Swansea road, are the ruins of its once splendid Abbey, built by Laley, an architect brought over by Richard Cour de Lion, on his return from the Crusades, and who gave his name to the village of Laleston, near Bridgend.

Clasemont, Sir John Morris, bart. R.

In and near Swansea are many elegant houses, as Belvue, Cuthbert Johnson, esq.; Heathfield Lodge, Sir Gabriell Powell; St. Helen's, Captain Jones; Marino, Edward King, esq.; Sketty Lodge, — Phillips, esq.; and Oystermouth Castle, the property of the Duke of Beaufort.

Pentregaer, G. Llewellyn, esq. R.

Pont ar dulas .	4	55 $\frac{1}{4}$	
<i>Cross the</i>			
<i>Llychor river,</i>			
<i>and enter Caer-</i>			
<i>marthenshire.</i>			
<i>On L. a T. R.</i>			
<i>to Llanelli.</i>			
Ceubren Llwyd	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	56 $\frac{1}{2}$	<i>Forest Hall, Arthur Da-</i>
Brynmain	$\frac{3}{4}$	57 $\frac{1}{4}$	<i>vis, esq. R.</i>
Llannon	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	59 $\frac{3}{4}$	
Pontyburem ..	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	63 $\frac{1}{4}$	
Llangyndeyrn ..	4	67 $\frac{1}{4}$	
<i>Three miles be-</i>			
<i>yond Llangyn-</i>			
<i>deyrn, on L. a</i>			
<i>T. R. to Llanelli.</i>			
CAERMARTHEN	5 $\frac{1}{4}$	72 $\frac{1}{2}$	<i>At the entrance of Caermar-</i>
<i>then, on L. iron and tin</i>			
<i>mills belonging to J. Mor-</i>			
<i>gan, esq.; and the smelt-</i>			
<i>ing house, the property of</i>			
<i>Lord Cawdor. One mile</i>			
<i>from Caermarthen, R.</i>			
<i>Job's Well, D. Edwardes,</i>			
<i>esq.</i>			
<i>On R. a T. R.</i>			
<i>to Llandeilo</i>			
<i>Vawr, on L. to</i>			
<i>Kydweli.</i>			
Stony Bridge ..	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	74	
St. Clare's Bridge	8	82	
<i>On R. a T. R.</i>			
<i>thro' Whitland,</i>			
<i>to Haverfordwest.</i>			
<i>Cross the Tav</i>			
<i>river.</i>			
<i>On L. a T. R.</i>			
<i>to Llaugharn.</i>			
Llandyvrwr	2	84	
Tavernspite ..	5	89	
Prince's Gate ..	3	92	
<i>On L. a T. R.</i>			
<i>to Ludchurch.</i>			
Cold Blow	1	93	
<i>On L. a T. R.</i>			
<i>to Templeton,</i>			
<i>thence to Tenby.</i>			
ARBERTH	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	94 $\frac{3}{4}$	

LLANDOVERY TO ST. DAVID'S,
THROUGH CARDIGAN.

LLANDOVERY			<i>Henlys, Captain D. Williams, R.</i>
Pumsant	11	11	<i>Dol Cothi, John Johnes, esq. R. and $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile beyond Brunant, Rev. J. Lloyd.</i>
Llanbedr Mountain	$4\frac{1}{2}$	$15\frac{1}{2}$	
On L. a T. R. to Llandeilo Vawr, by Llan-sawell.			
Cross the Teivi river.			
LLANBEDR	4	$19\frac{1}{2}$	
On L. a T. R. to Caermarthen; on R. to Aberystwyth, and to Tregaron.			
Rhydowen	$9\frac{1}{2}$	29	
Four miles and 3 quarters farther, on R. a T. R. to Cardigan; on L. to			
NEWCASTLE IN EMLYN	$9\frac{1}{2}$	$38\frac{1}{2}$	
On L. a T. R. to Kilgeraint.			
CARDIGAN	10	$48\frac{1}{2}$	<i>Within two miles of Cardigan, at Llangoedmor, or Llangadmore, Rev. Mr. Millingchamp.</i>
At Cardigan, on R. a T. R. to Aberystwyth; on L. to Haverfordwest.			
St. Dogmael's	$1\frac{1}{4}$	$49\frac{3}{4}$	$1\frac{1}{2}$ mile from, is Castle
Y Velindre ..	$6\frac{1}{4}$	56	<i>Malgwyn, late J. Hammet, esq.</i>
NEWPORT	3	59	

FISCARD, OF ABER GWAEN	7	66
<i>At Fiscard, on L. a T. R. to Haverfordwest.</i>		
Merthyr	6	72
Gwrid Bridge ..	$8\frac{1}{4}$	$80\frac{1}{4}$
ST. DAVID'S ..	$1\frac{3}{4}$	82

MERTHYR TYDVIL TO COWBRIDGE,
THROUGH LLANTRISAINT.

MERTHYR TYD- VIL			
Quaker's Yard, <i>Tavern</i>	8	8	
New Bridge ..	$4\frac{1}{4}$	$12\frac{1}{4}$	
<i>Cross the river Tav.</i>			
Pont Rontha ..	$\frac{1}{4}$	$12\frac{1}{2}$	
<hr/>			
<i>Over the moun- tains to</i>			
LLANTRISAINT	$4\frac{3}{4}$	$17\frac{1}{4}$	
<i>At Llantrisant, on L. a T. R. to Cardiff, and a mile and a half farther, on R. to Bridgend.</i>			
Ystradowen ..	$4\frac{3}{4}$	22	<i>Ash Hall, R. Aubrey, esq.</i>
Aberthin	$1\frac{1}{2}$	$23\frac{1}{2}$	<i>R. On L. Hensol, S. Ri- chardson, esq. Between Ystradowen & Aberthin, on R. Newton House, W. Gibbon, esq.</i>
COWBRIDGE ..	$1\frac{1}{4}$	$24\frac{3}{4}$	<i>Llantreuthid Park, Sir J. Aubrey, bart. L.</i>

**ABERYSTWYTH TO CAERMARTHEN,
THROUGH LLANBEDR.**

ABERYSTWYTH to Piccadilly <i>On L. & T. R.</i> to Rhaiadergwy. Cross the <i>Ys-</i> <i>twyth</i> river.	2	2	
Llanrhystyd .. <i>On R. & T. R.</i> to Cardigan.	$7\frac{1}{2}$	$9\frac{1}{2}$	<i>Ystrad Teilo, Rev. Isaac Williams, L.; near which, Mabwys, J. Lloyd, esq.</i>
Pontyperris	$11\frac{1}{2}$	11	
Dyfryn	$21\frac{1}{2}$	$13\frac{1}{2}$	
Talsarn	$41\frac{1}{4}$	$17\frac{3}{4}$	<i>Abermenick, D. Edwards, esq. L.</i>
King's Head ..	1	$18\frac{3}{4}$	
Fos Gwy	$31\frac{1}{2}$	$22\frac{1}{4}$	
LLANBEDR	$23\frac{3}{4}$	25	
<i>On R. & T. R.</i> to Cardigan. Cross the <i>Teivi</i> river. <i>On L. & T. R.</i> to Llanymdoverly and Llandeilo Vawr.			
Pencareg	$31\frac{1}{2}$	$28\frac{1}{2}$	<i>Llanvaughan, J. Thomas, esq.</i>
— — —			
Llanbyther	$\frac{3}{4}$	$30\frac{1}{4}$	
Plagebach	3	$33\frac{1}{4}$	
Troed y Rhiw ..	2	$35\frac{1}{4}$	<i>Perth y Berllan House, Thos. Saunders, esq. L.</i>
Gwyrgrug	$1\frac{3}{4}$	37	
Brechva	1	38	
Langwyli	3	41	
Rhydgaeo	$21\frac{1}{2}$	$43\frac{1}{2}$	
CAERMARTHEN	$41\frac{1}{2}$	48	

END OF THE ITINERARY.

FAIRS IN SOUTH WALES.

BRECKNOCKSHIRE.

Brecknock.—First Wednesday in March, May 4, July 5, September 9, November 16, for leather, hops, cattle, and all sorts of commodities.

Buallt.—June 27, October 2, December 6, for sheep, horned cattle, and horses.

Capel Coch.—Sept. 28.

Crickhowel.—January 1, May 12, for cattle, sheep, goats, and horses. August 21.

Dyovynog.—April 16, May 9, August 12, October 6, December 5.

Hay.—May 17, August 10, October 10, for sheep, horned cattle, and horses.

Llangynud.—April 20, October 7, December 1, Wednesday before Christmas.

Talgarth.—February 9, March 12, May 31, July 10, September 23, November 2, December 3, for cattle, sheep, and horses.

Pont Nedd Vechan.—First Saturday after March 12, Saturday before May 12, Saturday before July 5, Saturday before August 26, September 21, November 14.

Penderyn.—April 15, November 12, 13.

Trecastle.—January 17, April 5, May 21, August 14, October 14, November 13, December 14, for sheep, cattle, hogs, and horses.

CARDIGANSHIRE.

Cardigan.—February 13, April 5, for small horses and pedlar's ware; August 26, September 8, December 19, ditto and cattle.

Aberaeron.—November 13.

Aberarth.—July 5, December 11.

Aberystwyth.—Monday before January 5, Palm-Monday, Whit-Monday, May 14, June 24, September 16, Monday before November 11.

Capel St. Silin.—February 7, for pigs and pedlar's ware.

Capel Cynon.—Ascension day, Thursday after St. Michael, September 29, for cattle, horses, sheep, &c.

New Quay.—November 12.

Llanwyddelus.—May 9, for pigs and pedlar's ware.

Llanpetr.—Whit-Wednesday, July 10, October 19.

Llandewi Brevi.—May 7, July 24, October 9, November 13.

Llandysul.—February 11, Palm Thursday, small horses, sheep, and pedlary; September 19, cattle, horses, and sheep.

Llanarth.—January 12, March 12, June 17, September 22, for horses, cattle, &c. October 27.

Llangaranog.—May 27.

Llanrhystyd.—Thursday before Easter, Thursday before Christmas.

Llanwynon.—December 13, cattle, horses, cheese, and pedlary.

Llanwenog.—January 14, for cattle, horses, and pigs.

Lledrod.—October 7.

Lluest Newydd.—September 23, October 8, second Friday after October 10.

Rhos.—Whit-Thursday, August 5 and 26, September 25, for cattle, horses, wool, and pedlary.

Talsarn.—September 8, November 7, for cattle, horses, and pedlary.

Tregaron.—March 16, for horses, pigs, stockings, cloth, flannel, wool, and pedlary.

Trevrhedyn in Emlyn.—June 22, July 1, November 22.

Ystradmeirig.—July 2, for pigs, wool, and pedlary.

CAERMARTHENSHIRE.

Abercynnen.—May 5, November 22.

Abergwyli.—June 23, October 2 and 27, for cattle, horses, and pedlary.

Bol y Castell.—June 24.

Caermarthen.—June 3, July 10, August 12, September 9, October 9, November 14, 15, for cattle, horses, and pedlary.

Caco.—May 10, August 21, October 6, cattle, horses, and pedlary.

Cynwyl Elvod.—November 21.

Cross Inn.—March 23, 24.

Dryslwyn.—July 1, August 13, for cattle, horses, and sheep.

Llanbeudy.—September 18.

Llanborn.—May 6.

Llandarog.—Monday after May 20, September 27.

Llandeusant.—October 10.

Llanarthne.—Monday after July 12.

Kydweli.—May 24, August 1, October 29, for cows, calves, cattle, and pedlary.

Llanedi.—November 8, for cattle, horses, and pedlary.

Llanelli.—Ascension-day, September 30, for cattle, horses, and pedlary.

Llandybie.—Whit-Wednesday, cattle, horses, and pedlary; July 16, December 26.

Llandovery.—Wednesday after Epiphany, Wednesday after Easter week, Whit-Tuesday, July 31, Wednesday after October 10, November 26, for cattle, pigs, stockings, &c.

- Llandeilo Vawr*.—January 8, February 20, Palm-Monday, June 4, cattle, horses, sheep, and wool.
- Llandeilo Vach*.—June 12.
- Laugharn*.—May 6, called St. Mark's Fair, September 28.
- Llangädoc*.—March 12, horses and pedlary; last Thursday in May, July 2, first Thursday after 11th of September, cattle, horses, and sheep; second Thursday after old Michaelmas, cattle and pedlary.
- Langyndeyrn*.—August 5, for cattle, horses, and pedlary.
- Llangenyeh*.—October 23, for cattle, horses, and pedlary.
- Lannon*.—July 6, December 12, for cattle, horses, and pedlary.
- Llanvynydd*.—May 6, July 5, September 28, November 19.
- Llangathen*.—April 16, September 22.
- Llangynin*.—January 18.
- Llanllwch*.—September 29.
- Llansawel*.—First Friday after May 12, cattle and pedlary; July 15, October 23, cattle, horses, and pedlary; first Friday in November.
- Llanvihangel*.—May 12, October 10, cattle, horses, and sheep.
- Llanybydder*.—June 21, July 17, for pedlar's ware; November 1 and 21, for cattle, sheep, horses, and cheese.
- Meidrim*.—March 12, for cattle, horses, and flannel.
- Newcastle in Emlyn*.—March 23, May 10, June 22, July 20, August 20, September 10, November 22.
- Myddvai*.—October 18.
- Newcastle in Rhos*.—June 22, for cattle, horses, and sheep.
- New Inn*.—January 10, June 2, July 21, August 19.

Penybont.—December 5, for cattle, tallow, and pedlary.

Rhos Cil Maen Llwyd.—May 17, July 19, September 27, October 30.

Tal Ychain.—June 22, September 20.

Ty Gwynar Dav.—February 13, April 3, August 28, September 19, December 19.

GLAMORGANSHIRE.

Aberavan.—November 10.

Brigor by Ewenni.—October 16.

Bridgend.—Ascension day, November 27, for cattle, sheep, and hogs.

Capel Creunant.—Whit-Mond. September 29, November 20.

Cardiff.—July 10, August 26, September 19, December 11, for cattle.

Caerfili.—April 5, June 6, July 19, August 25, October 9, November 16.

Cowbridge.—May 4, June 21, September 29.

Dyfryn Golych.—August 21, cattle.

Elai.—July 22, cattle, December 11.

Llancarvan.—Wednesday before Easter.

Llancyvelach.—March 1.

Llancynwyd.—May 1.

Llanrydan.—Palm-Monday.

Llandaff.—February 9, Whit-Monday, for cattle and stockings.

Lantrisant.—May 21, August 12, October 28, for cattle.

Llychor.—October 10, for cattle, sheep, and hogs.

St. Mary's Hill, near Cowbridge.—August 26, cattle.

Merthyr Tydvil.—May 14.

Neath.—Trinity Thursday, July 31, September 12, for cattle, sheep, and hogs.

St. Nicholas.—December 8, for cattle.

Penrice.—May 17, June 20, July 17, September 17,

Penrhyn.—December 11.

Y Waen.—May 13, June 2, July 1, September 2, November 20.

Swansea.—May 2, July 2, August 15, October 3, and the two following Saturdays, for cattle, sheep, and hogs.

PEMBROKESHIRE.

Aberarth.—March 21, June 4, July 5, August 10, September 26, December 11.

Aberdau.—April 1 and 16, August 10, September 13.

Camros.—February 13, cattle, horses, sheep, &c.

Eglwysrw.—Ascension-day, first Monday after November 22, for cattle, horses, sheep, &c.

Fisgard.—February 5, Easter-Monday, Whit-Monday, July 23, August 28, November 17.

Henveddau.—May 13, September 17, October 30.

Herbranston.—August 12.

Haverfordwest.—May 12, June 12, July 18, September 23, October 18, for cattle, horses, sheep, &c.

Kilgeraint.—August 21, November 12, for cattle, horses, and pedlary; a large fair.

Llanhuaden.—October 23, November 22, for cattle, horses, sheep, &c.

Maenclochog.—March 10, May 22, August 5, Monday before October 29, for sheep, a few cattle, &c.

Mathri.—October 10, for cattle, horses, and pedlary.

Monckton.—May 14, November 22.

Newcastle in Cemaes.—May 6, July 10.

Newport.—May 14, June 27, cattle, horses, and sheep.

Pembroke.—May 14, Trinity Monday, July 16, September 25, cattle, horses, sheep, and cloth.

St. David's.—August 9, December 11.

Tenby.—Whit-Tuesday, May 4, July 1, October 2, December 1, cattle, horses, and sheep.

Trev Bevard.—August 12.

Trevin.—November 22.

Wiston.—Oct. 20, for cattle, horses, and sheep.

RADNORSHIRE.

Castell y Maen.—July 18, November 13.

Hawau.—Saturday before February 11, Saturday before May 11, and Saturday before November 11, sheep, horned cattle, and horses.

Knighton.—Thursday before Easter, May 17, October 2, last Thursday in October, Thursday before November 12, sheep, horned cattle, and horses.

Pain's Castle.—May 12, September 22, December 15, sheep, horned cattle, and horses.

Pont Rhyd y Cleivion.—May 12, September 27, October 26, for sheep and horned cattle.

Presteign.—June 25, December 11, for sheep, horned cattle, and horses.

Radnor.—Tuesday before Holy Thursday, August 14, October 25, for sheep, horned cattle, and horses.

Rhaiader.—August 6 and 27, September 26, December 3, commonly called Dom Fair, for sheep, horned cattle, and horses.

END OF LIST OF FAIRS.

TITLES CONFERRED BY THIS PART OF THE PRINCIPALITY.

Caermarthen gives the title of Marquis to the Osborne family. The village of Brewse gives the title of Baron to the families of Howard and Bulkeley, and Dinevor the same dignity to the De Cardonnel, late the Talbots. Pembroke gives the title of Earl to the Herberts, and Haverfordwest and Castle Morton that of Baron to the Beresfords and Campbells. The family of Pleydell Bouverie derive their title of Earl from Radnor, and the Lennox's that of the Earl of March, from the Marches in South Wales: the Brudenells derive their title of Earl, from the county town of Cardigan.

QUARTER SESSIONS,

Are held at Caermarthen twice in the year, with the Great Session, for the trial of felonies, &c. At Cardiff, the Epiphany Quarter Sessions, and the County Assizes. At New Radnor, in the second week after Epiphany; at Easter, on the 7th of July, and at Michaelmas. At Neath, on Tuesday and Wednesday after the translation of Thomas à Becket. At Cardigan twice in the year. At Swansea, the Michaelmas Quarter Sessions are held; and at Presteign the Assizes for the county.

SEATS AND VIEWS IN SOUTH WALES.

Aberystwyth.
 Abbey Cwmhir.
 Bishop Gower's Palace.
 Bridge Castle.
 Briton Ferry.
 Cardigan, Carew Castle, Cardiff, Caermarthen, Caerphilly Castle, Careg Cennen, Crag y Dinas, Coetty Castle.
 Dinevor Castle, Devil's Bridge, Dyndryvan.
 House, Fishguard.
 Havod, Haverfordwest.
 Kydweli Castle, Knoll Castle.
 Llangattock Place, Llanstephan Castle.

Llyn Savaddan, New Radnor New Bridge, Margam Abbey, Merthyr Tydvil, Morelai Castle, Offa's Dyke, Neath Abbey, Ogmore Castle, Oystermouth Castle.

Pembroke.

Penlin Castle, Picton Castle.

Plas Grug, Pumlumon.

Pont y Pridd.

Presteign.

Radnor, New and Old.

Rhaiader.

St. David's.

Stackpool Court.

Swansea.

Tenby.

Water-break-its-neck, Ystrad Flur Abbey, Ystrad-meirig.

GLOSSARY OF WORDS

*That occur most frequently in the construction of
Welsh Names of Places ;*

From the Cambrian Traveller's Guide.

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|---|--|
| <p><i>Aber</i>, the fall of a lesser water into a greater.</p> <p><i>Avon</i>, a river.</p> <p><i>Al</i>, power, very, most.</p> <p><i>Allt</i>, the side of a hill, a woody cliff.</p> <p><i>Ar</i>, upon; bordering.</p> <p><i>Aren</i>, a high place, an alp.</p> <p><i>Bach</i>, little; small.</p> <p><i>Ban</i>, high; lofty, tall.</p> <p><i>Banau</i>, eminences.</p> <p><i>Bedd</i>, a grave, a sepulchre.</p> <p><i>Bettws</i>, a station; a place between hill and vale.</p> <p><i>Blaen</i>, the end or extremity.</p> <p><i>Bôd</i>, an abode, a dwelling.</p> <p><i>Bôn</i>, the base.</p> <p><i>Braich</i>, an arm.</p> <p><i>Bron</i>, a breast, a swell.</p> <p><i>Bryn</i>, a mount or hill.</p> <p><i>Bwlch</i>, a hollow or break.</p> <p><i>Bychan</i>, little, <i>fem.</i> Bechan; if following a vowel, Fechan.</p> <p><i>Cad</i>, defending.</p> <p><i>Cader</i>, a fortress, or stronghold, a chair.</p> <p><i>Cae</i>, a hedge, a field.</p> <p><i>Caer</i>, a wall or mound for defence, a fort or city.</p> | <p><i>Cantrev</i>, a division of a country.</p> <p><i>Capel</i>, a chapel.</p> <p><i>Carn</i>, a prominence, a heap.</p> <p><i>Carnedd</i>, a heap of stones.</p> <p><i>Careg</i>, a stone.</p> <p><i>Cevn</i>, the back, the upper side, a ridge.</p> <p><i>Ceryg</i>, stones.</p> <p><i>Castell</i>, a castle, a fortress.</p> <p><i>Cil</i>, a retreat, a back, a recess.</p> <p><i>Ciliau</i>, recesses.</p> <p><i>Clawdd</i>, a dike, ditch, or trench.</p> <p><i>Clogwen</i>, a precipice.</p> <p><i>Coch</i>, red.</p> <p><i>Coed</i>, a wood.</p> <p><i>Cors</i>, a bog.</p> <p><i>Corsydd</i>, bogs.</p> <p><i>Craig</i>, a rock.</p> <p><i>Creigiau</i>, rocks.</p> <p><i>Croes</i>, a cross.</p> <p><i>Cwm</i>, a dale or glen.</p> <p><i>Cymmer</i>, a confluence.</p> <p><i>De</i>, the south.</p> <p><i>Dol</i>, a holme, a meadow.</p> <p><i>Dau</i>, two.</p> <p><i>Dinas</i>, a city or fortified hill.</p> |
|---|--|

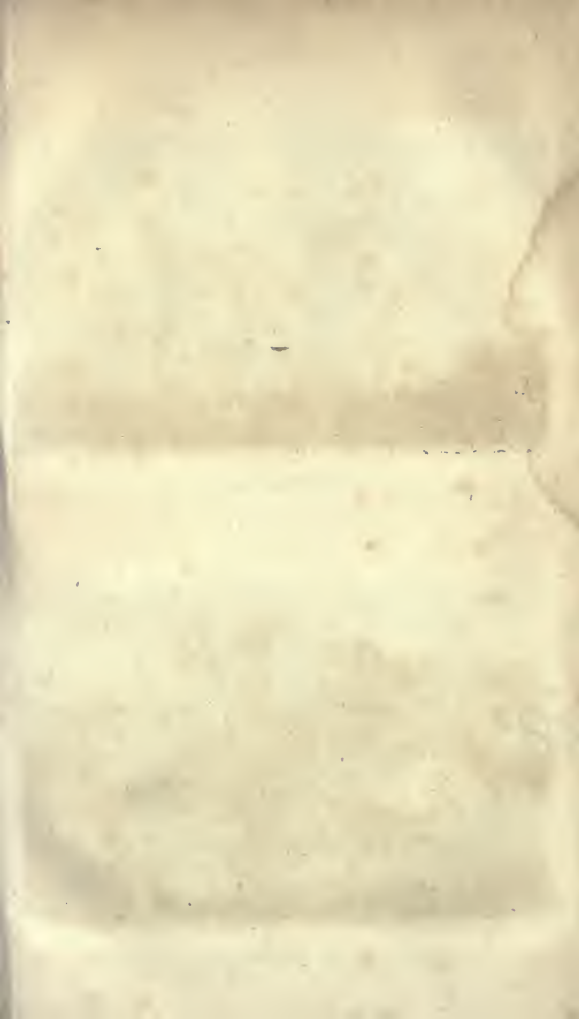
- Du*, black.
Dwr, fluid, water.
Drws, a door, a pass.
Dyfryn, a valley or plain.
Eglwys, a church.
Erw, a slang of arable land, an acre.
Esgair, a long ridge.
Fynnon, a well or spring.
Gaer, see *Caer*.
Gallt, a woody cliff.
Garth, a mountain, or hill that bends.
Gelli, the grove.
Glan, a brink, a side or shore.
Glás, blue, grey, green, verdant.
Glyn, glen, a valley.
Gwaelod, a bottom.
Gwern, a watery meadow.
Gwydd, wood, woody, or wild.
Gwyn, white, fair, clear.
Havod, a summer dwelling.
Hen, old.
Hendrev, the old residence.
Hir, long.
Is, lower, inferior.
Isav, lowest.
Llan, a church, an enclosure.
Llech, a flat stone or flag, a smooth cliff.
Lle, a place.
Llwyd, grey, hoary, brown.
Llwyn, a wood or grove.
- Llyr*, the sea water.
Llys, a palace, hall, or court.
Mach, a place of security.
Maen, a stone.
Maenor, a manor.
Maes, a field.
Mall, bad, rotten.
Mawr, great, large.
Melin, a mill.
Moel, a peak, naked, bald.
Moned, an insulated situation.
Mynach, a monk.
Mynydd, a mountain.
Nant, a brook, river, ravine, glen.
Newydd, new, fresh.
Or, border, the edge, seats, views, &c.
Pant, a hollow.
Pen, a head, top, or end.
Penmaen, the stone end.
Pentrev, a village, a suburb.
Pistyll, a spout or entrance.
Plas, a hall.
Pont, a bridge.
Porth, a gate.
Pwll, a ditch, a pit.
Rhaiadyr, a cataract.
Rhiz, an ascent.
Rhos, a moist plain or meadow.
Rhúdd, red.
Rhyd, a ford.
Sarn, a causeway.

Tavarn, a tavern.
Tal, the head, the front.
Tal, a towering.
Tir, the earth, land.
Tomen, a mound.
Traeth, a sand.
Trev or *tre*, a house, a home.
Tri, three.
Troed, a foot.
Trwyn, a point.

Twr, a tower.
Ty, a house.
Tyddyn, a farm.
Tyn, a stretch.
Tywyn, a strand.
Uwch, upper, higher.
Uchav, highest.
Y, of, on, the.
Ym, in or by.
Yn, in, at.
Ynys, an island.

LITERATURE, AND LEARNED MEN.

GIRALDUS CAMBRENSIS was born at Manorbeer, about the year 1146. In his studies he was favoured by his uncle, David Fitz Gerald, then Bishop of St. David's. The writings of this zealous churchman are numerous, and his Itinerary has been much admired. Caradox, the Welsh Annalist, was born at Llancarvan, in Glamorganshire, and flourished about the middle of the twelfth century; his Chronicle is continued from A. D. 686, to his own time. Passing by the rest of the ancient Bards, &c. we must notice, that John Dyer, the author of "Grongar Hill, the Fleece, &c." was born at Aber Glasney, in 1700. Vavasor Powell was born at Cwmclas, in Radnorshire. Edwards, the self-taught architect, was also a native of South Wales; as was Howel Harris, and many others, whose memory is recorded in the "Cambrian Biography," and other works. The first Welsh Magazine was published in 1770, by the late Rev. Josiah Rees, of Gelligron. Two newspapers are printed in South Wales, "The Cambrian," at Swansea; and at Caermarthen, "The Caermarthen Journal."



SOUTH WALES.



Aberswyth.



Brecknock.

SOUTH WALES.



Palace at S^t David's.



Kidwelly Castle.



GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF
SOUTH WALES.

SITUATION, BOUNDARIES, AND EXTENT.

SOUTH WALES is situate between $51^{\circ} 18'$, and $52^{\circ} 25'$ of northern latitude, and 3° and $5^{\circ} 30'$ of western latitude from Greenwich: it forms the most central of the three grand western promontories of South Britain; being separated from those of Devon and Cornwall on the south-east, by the Bristol Channel; and from the promontory of Lleyrn, in Caernarvonshire, on the north-west, by that part of St. George's Channel, called Cardigan Bay. In shape it is somewhat triangular, similar to that of North Wales, having the land mere on the east for its base, the sea coasts of the two channels for its sides, and St. David's Head on the west for its apex. On the east, it is bounded by the counties of Monmouth, Hereford, and Salop; on the north by Montgomeryshire, and part of the river Dyvi separating it from Merionethshire. The length of this land boundary, from the mouth of the Romney, near Cardiff, to the Kerry hills, on the confine of Montgomeryshire, and from thence to the sea, at the mouth of the Dyvi, is estimated at about 120 miles; and its marine boundary from thence to St. David's Head, tracing the zigzag windings of the coast, is about 350 miles. Its area, as estimated by Templeman, is 3860 square miles, or 2,470,400 acres.

CLIMATE AND SOIL.

The Vale of Glamorgan having the Bristol Channel to the south, and being screened from the north by the high mountainous coal tract; and having a good sound soil upon a bottom of limestone, is consequently highly salubrious: hence the size and deli-

cacy of its native domestic animals, sheep and cattle, and the frequent longevity of its inhabitants. Pembrokeshire being more exposed to the south-western winds of the Atlantic, than any other Welsh county, is more humid, and severe frosts are seldom experienced. The Vales in the counties of Caermarthen and Cardigan experience a variety of weather: hence the complaint of farmers of their crops of grain. The open counties are more exposed, than mountain valleys, to those easterly and north-easterly winds in winter, usually attended with frost; but lying open fully to the sun, they have a warmer and more genial summer. With respect to soil, South Wales is divided into four tracts: slate, red soil, limestone, and coal.

NAME AND ANCIENT HISTORY.

South Wales comprehends the modern counties of Brecknock, Caermarthen, Cardigan, Glamorgan, Pembroke and Radnor.

The territory now included under this name, though with some difference in its boundaries, &c., was anciently denominated *Gwent* and *Dyved*, subdivided into *Upper* and *Lower Gwent*, *Morganwg*, *Esyllwg*, and *Seisyllwg*, or *Garth Madryn*. The Roman Generals having subdued a large proportion of the population of England, first of all directed their forces to the conquest of the Britons, who inhabited South Wales; but the Roman legions were baffled in this quarter, till the hopes of the Britons had received their death-blow, by the defeat and capture of their celebrated leader Caractacus, who effectually defied the Roman generals for nine years. South Wales was subsequently invaded by the Saxons, the Normans, and others, with various success; but the greatest settlement was made by the Normans, and the country was also a prey to its own intestine divisions, for several ages, till the whole principality came under the dominion of England.

POPULATION.

This, according to the official returns from the six counties, in the year 1811, was three hundred and twenty-eight thousand nine hundred and eighty-one.

RIVERS AND CANALS.

The navigable rivers are not numerous; but among these Milford-Haven is reckoned the first, its Welsh name being *Aber-dau-gleddau*, the mouth or estuary of the two Cleddau; the two principal rivers composing it being so called. The western branch, called Cleddau *wen*, or white, fair, &c., rises near Fishguard, and runs southward about 13 miles to Haverfordwest, where it becomes navigable, and continues so for 21 miles, to St. Andrew's Point. The eastern branch, Cleddau *Dhu*, or the black, rises in the Pencelli mountains, and for some space serves as the boundary of the counties of Caermarthen and Pembroke. The Towy (Tywi) rises in the wildest part of Caermarthenshire, and after a course of about 27 miles, reaches the metropolis of the county, where it becomes navigable. From Caermarthen it winds more southward, and arrives at the grand reservoir of all rivers, near Llanstephan. The Towy abounds with salmon, sewin, trout, &c. *Llychor* rises from a spring, issuing out of a limestone rock, near the eye of Llychor, and is a good channel for the transit of coal, iron, &c. The Teivi rises out of a small lake, called Llyn Teivi, north of the Abbey of *Strata Florida*, and is navigable from Cardigan Bar, to Llechryd bridge, about seven miles. The fish of the Teivi are salmon, sewin, trout, &c.

RIVERS.

The Dyvi rises in Merionethshire; at Llyfnant it becomes a semi-South Wales river, and from thence to its outlet at Aberdyvi: it is the boundary between Cardiganshire and Merionethshire.

The Romney runs on the eastern limit of Glamorganshire, and enters the Bristol Channel east of the town of Cardiff. The *Tav*, little and great, rise in

the most elevated mountains of South Wales, and enters the Bristol Channel at Penarth.

The river *Elai* contributes with the Tav, to form the harbour at Penarth. The *Daw* or *Dawon*, rises north of Llansannwr March, and runs through Cowbridge into the sea at Aber Ddaw.

The Ewenni runs into the Ogmore, near their joint entrance into the sea, near Ogmore Castle: the river Ogmore is much commended by dyers for its remarkable softness. The *Avan* rises near the Ogmore, and falls into the sea at Aber Avan, near the Margam copper works. The *Neath* and the *Tawy* both rise in Brecknockshire and fall into Swansea Bay. The rivulets of *Gower*, a dry and limestone tract, are few and small, viz. *Penarth Pill* and *Burry*.

In Caermarthenshire are the *Gwendraeths*, which rise in the lime and coal tract, and fall into the Bay of Caermarthen; and the *Tav*, rising in the Llanvernach mountains; that after a course of 24 miles, forms a good port at Llaugharne.

In Pembrokeshire we meet with Newgall, a rivulet separating the *Englishery* and *Welshery*, &c.: the *Solva* forming a harbour for coasting vessels, of 100 or 150 tons, and both falling into St. Bride's Bay. The *Gwaen* rises in the mountains, and after a course of about 20 miles, falls into the Irish Channel at Fishguard, or Aber Gwaen. The *Nevern*, after running 15 miles, falls into the channel at Newport.

In Cardiganshire, we meet with the *Aeron* flowing through a beautiful valley, and falling into the sea at Aber Aeron; the *Arth*, the *Gwyre*, the *Ystwyth*, and the *Rheidiol*.

In Radnorshire, the *Wye*: the subject of romance, painting, and poetry, enters this county from Montgomeryshire, and becomes the boundary of Radnor and Brecon, for 30 miles, down to the Hay, where it enters Herefordshire. Here is also the *Tame*, the *Lug*, and the *Somergill*; the latter rising in the

Forest of Radnor; escaping thence forms a cascade, called *Water-break-its-neck*.

In Brecknockshire, we meet with the *Usk*, which receives a number of tributary streams. The continuous range of the Eppynt, on the north of the *Usk*, turns all the water of the hundred of Buallt into the *Wye*.

Besides the salmon, &c., these rivers produce cod, mullet, whittings, flat-fish, turbot, bret, samlets, soles, flukes, &c. Shell-fish and oysters are most abundant on the southern and south-western coasts of the limestone tract. Swansea is supplied with the following varieties: turbot, bret, soles, plaice, flounder, skate, doree, oysters, lobsters, crabs, salmon, sewin, mackerel, cod, hake, basse, whiting, horn-fish, mullets, gurnard, dog-fish, conger eel, and trout.

River fences are made by jetties. A jetty is a strongly planked timber frame, filled with stones. The torrent in meeting such an obstruction, generally undermines the projecting end, unless it rests upon a rock: the jetty is placed so as to form an obtuse angle across the near side of the stream, and the more obtuse the angle, the less is the resistance given to the torrent, and consequently the less it will undermine. Some proprietors, when the waters come down, curse the streams, and leave them to take their course; others erect jetties, and turn the torrent like a battering ram against their neighbour's land on the other side, who in his turn erects other jetties to turn back the stream: so that, in time of flood, the torrent is buffeted alternately from one side to the other; but in general it takes ample revenge on both parties.

The canals of South Wales are owing entirely to its productive mines of coal and iron, and within 24 years during the late war, upwards of six score miles of canals were completed within it. *Kydwelli* canal was made by the late Thomas Kymer, esq., with railways and wharfs. *Cremllyn* canal, is also private property, made to expedite the conveyance of coals from the pits to the mouth of the river *Neath*. The

Monmouthshire canal commences on the river Usk, at Newport, and in less than a mile divides into two branches. The Brecon and Abergavenny canal runs through the red sand-stone tract, from Clydach to Llangynydr bridge, and from thence to Brecon. This canal has only one tunnel; 62 stone, and 14 wooden bridges, and 11 aqueducts. Swansea and Neath canals run parallel, from south-west to north-east. The Aber Dar, Penclawdd, and Llanelli canals, have their uses in commerce.

LAKES AND FISHPONDS.

Small lakes are numerous in the mountainous parts, forming the sources of rivers, as Llyn, Tawy; and the highest summits of mountains have frequently lakes at their base. The most extensive lake, and the second in Wales, is Llyn Savaddan, in the parish of Llanvihangel, in Brecknockshire. This lake, different from the others, which are in dreary situations, is surrounded with beautiful prospects. It is about two miles long, one broad, and from five to six in circumference. Its general depth is from four to five yards; and its greatest depth, from twelve to fifteen yards. The pike in this lake weigh from 30 to 40lbs.; the perch weigh from a few ounces to 3lbs.; and the eels are of such an enormous size, as to give rise to the adage, "as long as a Savaddan eel."

ROADS, BRIDGES, &c.

The first act of parliament for the repairing of roads, about the middle of the sixteenth century, did not affect Wales, where the roads were then of two kinds, deep in the centre of the plain, or valley, and steep up the brow of the hill; in the former case, they were *ditches*, and in the latter, *step-ladders*. Many of the first improvements in South Wales, originated in the exertions of the Agricultural Society, in Brecknockshire, about 1755, and measures similar to these have been since carried on with very little intermission, the county of Radnor excepted. However, the public are much indebted to the proprietors of iron works, for a considerable number of

improved roads, through the coal and iron tract, in the counties of Monmouth, Glamorgan, and Brecon; among others, a shorter cut from Abergavenny and the northern part of Monmouthshire, to Swansea, has been opened with a good carriage road. This new road to Merthyr Tydvil, is 20 miles; from Merthyr, through the picturesque Valley of Neath, to Swansea, is 31 miles, in all 51. The old road, through Brecon, over a rugged hilly course, to Pont Nedd Vechan, was 57 miles: the circuitous road, through Newport and Cardiff, is scarcely less than 78 miles. These new roads are the more grateful to strangers, as they intersect a most romantic tract, interesting to the admirers of nature, in its wildest forms. To these we may add scores of miles of iron rail-roads, made in different parts of South Wales. The Great Mountain, and the Black Mountain, being intersected by new roads, the communication will be opened between the Vale of Towy and the navigable river Lloughor, or Burry, throughout a mineral tract, abounding with lime or coal. The new road from the confines of Brecknockshire to the Llandovery road, and from Pont ar Lechan to the lime kilns, on the Black Mountain, and from thence to the collieries on the west of the Tawy, to the canal, and by that to Swansea, and the Bristol Channel, is, in an agricultural point of view, one of the most profitable roads ever proposed. The new road from Caermarthen to the confine of Glamorganshire, on the river Lloughor, avoids every hill, and saves four miles. Another road from Caermarthen to Fishguard, proposes a saving of ten miles, besides several leagues of sailing across the channel. A rail-way from Swansea to the Mumbles, along the sea-shore, the distance of five miles, serves for the carriage of coals, manure, and limestone. A car upon tram wheels, carrying about 16 or 18 persons, goes and returns twice every day during the summer, from Swansea down to the Mumbles, each passenger paying 1s. fare. In about seven or eight years after the first introduction of rail-roads

into South Wales, they were superseded by others, that by way of distinction, are called *tram* roads.

The best formed bridges are in the southern parts, where freestone quarries occur. William Edwards was the *Pontifex Maximus* of his day: his segment arches have been imitated by other masons, who succeed well, where the materials are appropriate. In Glamorgan, bridges are still wanting. Between Llandaff and Newbridge, the Tav flows ten miles without any means of crossing it on foot; but upon the Teivi there are thirteen bridges, from Strata Florida to Cardigan.

CATTLE.

The present stock in South Wales are divided into four kinds; three apparently native, and one foreign, viz. the coal blacks of Pembrokeshire, the brownish blacks, or dark browns of Glamorgan; the black runts of Cardiganshire, Caermarthenshire, and the western parts of the counties of Brecon and Radnor; and lastly, the introduced breeds from Herefordshire and Shropshire. The sheep are also divided into four classes: the mountaineers are said to turn out very profitable to the buyers.

HORSES.

Under the Welsh laws, horses were allowed to harrow, but not to plough, which was exclusively the province of oxen. The value of every article in rural and domestic economy, was fixed by law: that of a stallion was 1*l.*; a pack-horse 10*s.*; and a palfrey 13*s.* 4*d.* These *palfreys* composed formerly the cavalry of Wales; for it should be known, that the Welsh had cavalry as well as infantry, during their hard-fought struggles for independence. General Elliot was the first officer who saw the advantages arising from employing squadrons of light horse. The palfreys were light and exceedingly active, and many a time did they lead the heavy dragoons of the invaders of their pastures into bogs and swamps, never to be seen any more. The Cardigan Society give premiums to the breeders of the best horses of the cart kind.

FARM HOUSES, BUILDINGS, AND COTTAGES.

Farm houses and offices of *recent erection*, are well planned, and built in every part of the district; and those of late years have been upon a progressive increase: a minute description of them would be useless, as they are erected on plans and principles known and adopted in every part of the kingdom, where improvement has taken place. However, the situation of farm houses, in the counties of Caermarthen and Pembroke, is frequently very bad. Gentlemen's seats are mostly distinguishable from cottages, not only by their sizes or plans, but also by their colours. In Glamorganshire, where the cottagers generally whitewash their dwellings, gentlemen mix ochre with lime, to make their seats of Isabella yellow. In the north of Pembrokeshire, the taste is reversed, the cottages are of a very dingy colour, and gentlemen's houses whitewashed!

Cottages in South Wales are divided into three sorts: the cottages of the Vale of Glamorgan, those of the Fleming race in Pembrokeshire, and those of the Welsh Dimetæ, in the three counties of West Wales. The antiquity of the cottages is a strongly marked feature in Glamorganshire. There is little doubt that many of them are as ancient as the castles to which they were attached. The pointed doorways and windows sufficiently evince their date; and though Welsh towns are censured for the inelegance, and inconvenience of their houses, the direct reverse is the fact, with respect to the habitations of the peasantry here. The ancient Gothic cottages have a venerable exterior, and a portion of interior room, with comfort, and security from the elements, rarely enjoyed by their equals in any other part. In many cases, it may be truly said, the labourer is better lodged than his employer. These cottages are constructed of stone, well laid in mortar, and universally thatched with wheat straw. The continuing predilection of the Flemish cottage builders for mud walls,

after a lapse of 600 years, with round wattles, and daub chimneys, is really surprising; and these generally start up from the front wall close to the door. The inhabitants of Gower, though of the same Netherland race as their neighbours in Pembrokeshire, have well-built houses of stone, regularly white-washed; and they are besides cleanly and neat in their persons, and cheerful in their demeanour. The Dimetian cottages are known by the mud wall, about five feet high, a hipped end, low roofing of straw, with a wattle daub chimney, kept together with hay rope bandages, and not unfrequently in a declining posture.

RENT, AND SIZE OF FARMS.

Few very large farms are to be met with in South Wales: there are some from 800 to 1000 acres. From 500 to 300 acres, they are numerous; and from 200 to 100 acres still more so. The general run of the smaller farms is, from 30 to 100 acres, and the size of the latter is reckoned the most beneficial. A farm of 50*l.* a year is too small for any regular system. The rents of the larger farms are not so high in proportion as the smaller; the latter having always the greatest number of bidders. Farms on the best soils let from 1*l.* to 35*s.* per acre, lowering as the soil and situation decrease in value, down to 10, 7, and 3*s.* per acre.

TITHES.

Tithes in this quarter are the property of lay impropiators, corporate bodies, rectors, vicars, &c. Where tithes are farmed out by whole or entire parishes, they are generally re-let very high; but this is seldom the case where the resident clergy are concerned. In some places they are raised in kind; in others, a composition or modus is paid, as 1*d.* for hay, 1*d.* for garden, &c. Commutation is the general cry, and it is a consummation devoutly to be wished. A rector or vicar, it has been observed, exacting nearly his due, will find his church deserted without any communicants, or at least very few.

LEASES.

Not to grant leases to good tenants of an industrious, improving turn, betrays a tyrannical disposition; while at the same time, by granting leases to tenants of a contrary character, the landlord must have the mortification of seeing his estate diminish in value; and that he has so far alienated his own property, as not to have it in his power to improve it. Upon the whole, the general granting of leases would be an evil; but granting none at all would be a greater: where tenants keep their farms in good order, and their soil in proper condition, upon the expiration of their leases, it is an act of equal justice and policy to give them a substantial proof of the preference they hold in the landlord's esteem, and if larger offers are made for the farm than it may fairly be deemed worth, they ought *not* to be listened to. The man who has improved the farm, is more likely than any other to set a proper value upon his former labours, and to keep the lands up to what he has brought them to. The best lease is that for one life only. The common covenants and restrictions in leases vary little in general.

IMPLEMENTS.

The ploughs may be divided into three classes: The old Welsh plough, the old Welsh, or long plough improved, and modern ploughs of all descriptions. The first are still in use in a great part of the Dimeitian counties of Cardigan, Pembroke, and Caermarthen. Since the introduction of the modern short ploughs, the long plough has been generally considered as a sure mark of either ignorance or obstinacy in those who persist in using it. It has, however, its use, and those among impartial judges, use both kinds occasionally on their farms, as circumstances require. Of modern ploughs, that which has obtained the earliest trial, the greatest circulation, and the most general credit, is the well known implement, called the *Rotheram Swing*; and with little or

no variation of construction, it goes by different names in different parts, as the *North Patent*, the *Whitchurch*, and the *Crickhowel* plough.

HARROWS.

There are no implements of greater variety, with so many of them nearly useless here, as harrows. In harrowing, the drag is generally drawn by oxen, and the finishing harrow by two horses a-breast, with a boy mounted on one of them. The horses are frequently of very unequal size, so that the harrows, instead of steadily working the ground and covering the seed, are continually thrown about by the alternate jerks of the angles. Gentlemen in every part of the district have a variety of the modern advertised harrows; some performing their work well; others of the nick-nack kind, that make their exit almost as soon as their entry, upon experimental utility.

For weeding, bended hooks about two inches long with wooden forks, are used; wooden pinchers to draw up root and all, with the well known pronged lever to eradicate docks; chaff-cutters of various kinds are used. There is one at the Pendaron iron-works, worked by a large water-wheel, supplying with provender seventy horses working in the mines of coal and iron. The more peculiar implements of Glamorganshire are, the *rakes* and *shovels*. The tine are double the length of those of common rakes, being driven through the head, so as to be of equal length of each side. The head makes a bevel with the angle, and not a right angle, like the common rakes of other countries. At work, the acute angle formed by the head and handle, is always next the person using it; and the advantage of it is, that he need not step his foot backward at every reach, &c. The *pala* of the Romans is still preserved in the Welsh *pâl*, from the verb *palu*, to dig. It consists of a cleft of tough wood, formed into a handle, and a square head edged with steeled iron. The iron tined rakes, that cost about 10s. 6d., are called *Hell rakes*: some say, because they *devilishly* rob the poor.

CARRIAGES, CARS, CARTS, &c.

The primitive vehicles without wheels are still in being, in the steep mountainous parts, where no wheel carriages can possibly approach; these consist of two kinds of cars, the *sliding*, and the *dorsal*; the latter is the most common, with the shaft upon one horse, and the heels sliding along the ground. The first improvement upon these vehicles, is the *wheeled car*. Its fore part slides along the ground, and under its middle is a pair of low wheels. The Welsh cart, Mr. Hassall says, is a bad one; but, owing to the general narrowness of the bye roads, they are confined in the length of the axle tree. This cart carries about 16 bushels, and is drawn by two oxen, and two horses a-breast. Irish cars are common in Brecknockshire. The old carts have the sides of the base frame of one piece with the shaft. Of late the shafts are detachable parts, like those of tumbrils or dung carts; the body being fastened by means of hasps or staples, are let loose at once, to tumble out loads of stone, lime, or coal.

WASTES.

That six or eight millions of acres of waste lands should remain in an uncultivated state, without the least improvement, from the invasion of Julius Cæsar, it has been observed, would have been scarcely credited, if told to a stranger coming into Wales; more especially when he was told the prices we pay for all the necessaries of life, and that thousands of people were starving for want of employment, and these men of a mechanical genius; but who, from the great decay of trade, are put out of all manner of means of acquiring food and raiment for themselves. It is still hoped, that a *General Enclosure Bill* may again be presented, and that every county in the kingdom, without one exception, will petition for its success.

ENCLOSURES.

The enclosed tract includes the counties of Brecon, Caermarthen, Glamorgan. and Radnor, with

the more eastern parts of the counties of Cardigan and Pembroke. The fences are of three kinds: quick hedges; stone walls; and naked sod fences; or stones and sods in alternate layers, called *bald fences*. Staggard fencing is the most common method in the woody tracts of North Wales; in the counties of Radnor, Brecknock, and the mountainous parts of Glamorganshire, and in Caermarthenshire. Dry stone walls are most common in the red sand-stone and coal tracts.

AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES.

The Brecon Agricultural Society, is the earliest institution of the kind in Wales, their articles being printed in 1755; their first medal was distributed in 1759. The second Society, in point of time, was that of Glamorgan, some years subsequent to that of Brecon. The Society for the Encouragement of Agriculture and Industry, for the county of Caermarthen, offered several premiums in 1802, as did also that for Cardiganshire in 1813; this was founded in the year 1784. The Farmers' Club, or Sheep-Shearing, annually held several years at Arberth, at length gave way to "The Society for the Encouragement of Agriculture and Internal Improvement, in the county of Pembroke." Another agricultural society commenced in Radnorshire several years since, but has been since transferred to Presteign and Pen y bont.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

Native commodities are only bought and sold by the provincial weights and measures. Of wool, half a todd, or the English stone, with 1 lb. ingrain, is the most common stone of wool, sold to staplers and others; but the home dealers buy and sell wool by the several provincial stones of 4, 5, 6, 7, 11, 13, 14, 15, 17, 18, 21, 22, 24, and 26 pounds. Salted butter in firkins, tubs, &c., is sold by the pound avoirdupoise of 16 ounces. Fresh butter varies from 16 to 24 ounces in different markets. Coal is sold by the ton, or barrel measure. The most common stone of butchers' meat, 12 lb. The provincial mea-

asures for corn, is the bushel of 40 quarts; the llestraid of 80; the teal 160. In Montgomeryshire and Radnor, the provincial bushel is called a *strike*; in Brecon it varies in its subdivisions from those of North Wales.

Land measure, owing to its almost infinite variety, is still more perplexing than the corn measure, as in some parishes there are no less than three in-use. The chain acre, the *cyoar y brenin*, the king's plough acre, as the statute measure is called by the common farmers, is coming gradually more into use; most of the tenantry take their farms by it; the agricultural societies regulate their premiums by it, and most gentlemen use it in setting their task-work, in mowing, reaping, and threshing. The perch, rod or rood, is six yards in the north of Pembrokeshire, seven in Brecknock, and eight in Cardigan.

MINERALS.

The metallic ores in this district are principally lead and iron; iron in the coal tract, and lead in the slate and white limestone tracts. Though there is no iron ore, strictly speaking, in South Wales, there is *iron stone* apparently, in inexhaustible abundance. The iron mines of the northern and eastern sides of the mineral basin, are chiefly worked; on the southern side of the basin, the iron-stone, &c. are equally good, if not superior, to those of the northern side; but, owing to circumstances, have been neglected, excepting at Neath and a few other places.

Copper ores are neither frequent nor plentiful in South Wales. The only one at present at work, is that of Ynys Cynvelyn, which yields lead ore, copper, and quartz, in the proportion of one part of lead for every ten parts of quartz, and one hundredth part of copper. Escair hir, consists of lead ore, hard spar and quartz, one tenth of lead ore, one tenth of spar, and the rest quartz; Allt y Crib yields lead ore with little quartz. Among the *silver mines*, Cymysmlog claims priority of notice, from its connexion with the name of Sir Hugh Myddelton. Every ton of ore

raised here yields thirteen hundred weight of lead, and every ton of lead, forty ounces of silver; two-thirds of the whole is quartz. A ton of ore from Llanfair, yields twelve hundred and a half of lead, and a ton of lead produces one hundred ounces of silver: this is an old mine.

CIVIL AND ECCLESIASTICAL DIVISIONS.

The Ecclesiastical Division is in two dioceses, St. David's and Llandaff, both subject to the Metropolitan See of Canterbury. The dioceses are subdivided into deaneries, and these again into parishes.

The Civil Division by Henry VIII. was into six counties, each county having a Lord Lieutenant, and other inferior officers of the crown. The counties are divided into hundreds, hundreds into parishes, and these again into townships, hamlets, parcels or petty constablewicks. Parishes are of very unequal extent, some below 300 acres, and several from 400 to 800; whilst others are from ten to twenty, and even thirty thousand acres.

TOPOGRAPHICAL DESCRIPTION OF SOUTH WALES.

RADNORSHIRE.

THIS county, called in Welsh, *Swydd Maesyfed*, is bounded on the north by Montgomeryshire, on the east by Shropshire and Herefordshire, on the south and south-west by Brecknockshire, and on the north by Cardiganshire. Its form is nearly triangular, growing narrower southwards, where it is about twenty-six miles broad, and from east to west thirty-one long; divided into six hundreds, which contain four market towns, fifty-two parishes, within the diocese of St. David's, and about 21,050 inhabitants.

The county of Radnor has proportionally more cultivated land than many of the Welsh ones; particularly the eastern and southern parts, which being tolerably level, are more productive of corn, and good pastures; but the remainder is rude and mountainous, therefore chiefly devoted to the rearing of cattle and sheep. The latter are remarkably numerous, and very beneficial to the county, being the chief support of the industrious poor, who are mostly employed in manufacturing coarse cloth and flannels. The north-west angle of this county is an absolute desert, and almost impassable, so that the inhabitants are scarcely able to raise a small produce of rye, barley, and oats, for their immediate use. Still Radnorshire possesses every advantage of water, particularly the rivers Wye, Tame, Ithon, and Somergill; likewise several copious streams, as the Dulas, Clywedog, Marteg, and Cymaron, which run nearly through the centre of the county, and are much praised by the angler and epicure, for an abundance of excellent salmon, trout, and grayling; also several standing lakes, particularly Llyn Gwyn, near Rhaiader and Glanhilyn, on Radnor Forest, both of which afford plenty of fish.

In the Vale of Radnor are numerous lime kilns, supplied with an abundance of calcareous stone; but coals are not found any where in the county, though at Llandrindod, a brown or blackish earth, plentifully mixed with a mineral bitumen, the certain effect of coal, is very conspicuous, but no attempt has ever yet been made to discover that valuable fossil.

In this district are many mineral springs of great celebrity. The woods and hills are not less celebrated for game.

Two members represent this county and borough in the imperial parliament.

Journey from Rhaiader to Presteign; through New Radnor.

Rhaiader, or Rhaiadr-Gwy, is situated 178 miles

from London, on the river Wye, near a cataract, from whence it takes its name, Rhaiadr, signifying a cataract, and Gwy, the name of the river, in the Welsh language. It was formerly the chief village in Maelienydd, but at present is a considerable market town, divided into four streets like a cross; a plan common to most towns in North Wales. At this place the quarter sessions were held in the time of Henry VIII., according to an act of parliament passed in that reign; but soon after repealed, on account of its poverty, or inability to afford the necessary accommodation and dignity required by the judges, who then resided at an old house, called Pen-y-Porth. The county gaol, since erected in Presteign, was also kept here, on the site of the present meeting-house, as appears by some massive stone pillars, and iron rings found on the spot. In the centre of the town stands the hall, a handsome, modern, square building, erected about 1768. The church is likewise a modern structure, built in the form of an oblong square, with a quadrangular stone tower and turrets: the latter rebuilt in 1783. The internal part consists of a nave and chancel.

In ancient times, Rhaiader derived considerable importance from its castle, which stood on a nook of the river Wye, at the extremity of Maes-bach, a small common near the town, and close to the river Wye. Of the superstructure nothing remains, but the original foundation may be traced, especially on the south-east, where it has still a deep trench cut out of a hard rock, leading to the river. There is another trench more to the south, forming three sides of a quadrangle, and about eight feet deep: there also appears to have been left originally, between the two trenches, a narrow space, by which the town might hold a communication with the castle, and is at present the only entrance.

Immediately below the latter is a deep foss, about sixteen feet deep, and twelve wide, running along the foundation of the old fortress, until it communi-

cates with a steep precipice, the bottom of which is even with the bed of the river. Adjoining this foss, at irregular distances, are several barrows for purposes unknown; and at the distance of two furlongs below the site of the castle, there is a large tumulus, called Tomen Llan St. Frêd, and near it, on the other side, are two more, but smaller, called Cevn Ceido, where it is supposed a church formerly stood, from an adjoining piece of ground, named Clydwr Eglwys. To elucidate the form and strength of its primitive fortress is impossible at this remote period, when not even a stone remains, to assist our conjectures; however, we are enabled to fix its origin as a military station in A. D. 1177, and to ascertain its having been first built by Rhys, prince of South Wales, as a check to the depredations and cruelties of his Norman neighbours, who were very troublesome to the Welsh at that period. Caradoc of Llancarvan, in his Chronicle of Wales, briefly mentions, that it was completed in the same year; but in 1178, we find the sons of Conan (the latter an illegitimate son of Owen Gwynedd), having joined their forces, marched to attack this castle, but without success, as they raised the siege, and returned to North Wales greatly disappointed.

In 1192, Maelgon formed a conspiracy against his father, and burnt this castle, which prince Rhys rebuilt in 1194; but soon surrendered to Cadwallon, who after several battles was defeated by Roger Mortimer, and dispossessed of all his estates in Maelienydd.

From this period, hostilities appear to have ceased, and no mention is made of Rhaiadr castle, until the time of Henry the Third, when it was burnt to the ground, by Llewelyn ab Iorwerth, and probably not since rebuilt.

About four miles westward from Rhaiadr, is CWM-ELAN, the seat of Thomas Grove, esq. of Fern, in Wiltshire, who some years since purchased 10,000 acres of land, called the Grange of Cwm-Deuddwr, then a rude uncultivated waste; but is

now, under the direction of its proprietor, brought into a good state of agriculture.

The name of Cwm-Elan is derived from the little torrent Elan, which runs through the cwm or valley, in which Mr. Grove has erected his elegant mansion, in the modern style of architecture, and defended on all sides by hills, some of which are wooded to the very water's edge. The approach to the house is over a handsome wooden bridge, leading to a fine verdant lawn, which expands itself from the house to the bridge, and forms a curve with the river Elan, uniting a singular combination of natural and artificial beauties, of wild scenery and elegant ornament, of a foaming river and rugged rocks, perpendicular precipices and lofty mountains, contrasted with rich meadows, neat enclosures, leaving apparently nothing deficient to complete this singular and romantic scene.

In following the course of the Elan through Mr. Grove's estate only, we are often struck with its numerous beauties, particularly one mile from the house, where the pedestrian crosses a rude alpine bridge, formed of the branches of trees thrown from rock to rock over the Elan, dashing between them, at the depth of thirty feet.

At this place, the bed of the river is a schistus rock, full of huge excavations of every conceivable shape and magnitude, of a milk-white hue, rendering the profound gulph of water which they contain more dark and horrible; particularly after rain, when swelled with the mountain torrent, its fury is terrible, as it rolls through a channel which offers so many obstacles to the progress of its impetuous course. The Elan preserves this wild and irregular channel for several miles, confined within a rocky chasm, the sides of which are perpendicular, and at times of great height, discoloured with drippings, tinted with mosses, and crowned with mountain ash, birch, and wych-elms; the whole forming a more wild and grotesque appearance than can be described.

Abbey Cwmhir, the only religious house of this kind in the county, is situate in a delightful bottom, seven miles north-east of Rhaiadr-Gwy, on a fertile bank of the Clywedog. The hills appear extremely grand, forming an amphitheatre round its fertile bottom, wherein this venerable monastery stood, in a situation well calculated to inspire devotion. The stupendous hill to the north is 1511 yards high, with a gradual ascent on one side, called the Park, which was formerly nine miles in circumference, and stocked with above 300 deer. The foundation of two deer houses are still visible.

According to Leland, Abbey Cwmhir was founded by Cadwallon ab Madawc, in 1143, for sixty Cistercian monks, but never finished. The walls remaining are very considerable, and shew an area of 255 feet long and 73 broad, which is certainly very disproportionate to the length; but what the superstructure might have been is impossible to discover from the remaining walls, only a few feet above the surface, composed of some common stone, from a quarry in the Great Park, without a single mark of the chisel. This renders it difficult to determine of what species of architecture this great monastery was originally composed, having neither door, window, arch, nor column now remaining: yet the refectory may be traced, with a few square apertures in the north side, about two feet from the ground, but for what purpose these were originally designed is very uncertain, being too low and small for windows, though possessing every requisite for the admission of air. Amid the fallen fragments, on the north-east side, the monks' habitations are supposed to have been, and is probably the same which Leland calls the third part, but never finished.

“ How many hearts have here grown cold,
 That sleep these mould'ring tombs among;
 How many beads have here been told,
 How many matins here been sung.

On these rude stones, by time long broke,
 I think I see some pilgrims kneel,
 I think I see the censer smoke,
 I think I hear the solemn peal.

But here no more soft music floats,
 No holy anthems chaunted now ;
 All hush'd, except the owl's shrill note,
 Low murm'ring from you broken bough."

It is much to be regretted, that we have such an imperfect account of this place, which Leland briefly mentions, was destroyed by Owen Glyndwr in 1401, in his rebellion against Henry the Fourth. In the reign of Henry the Eighth, the revenues of Abbey Cwmhir were 28*l.* 17*s.* 4*d.* per annum, which, according to Tanner, were granted to Henley and Williams ; but how it descended, or by what means it came to the family of Sir Hans Fowler, bart. are unknown ; but it continued in his possession till 1771, when the baronet dying without issue, the title became extinct, and the greater part of the estate, which formed the revenue of this abbey, was sold, except what belonged to Thomas Hodges Fowler, esq. a descendant, and the possessor of Abbey Cwmhir, where the few fragments that have escaped the ruthless hand of time may be seen. The antiquary (if we may admit the tradition of the country) will find some specimens of the architecture of this abbey, still in good preservation, in Llanidloes church, consisting of six arches, surrounded with small columns, ending in capitals of palm leaves, which, according to a date on the roof, were brought from Abbey Cwmhir, in 1542, and which corresponds with the general dissolution of monasteries in this kingdom*. Some mutilated specimens are likewise

* In Llangynllo is an antique farm-house, called Monachty, or Monk's house, which tradition distinguishes as having been a monastic habitation, and some years ago, stone coffins were dug up in the ground adjoining, but they bore no inscription. The

to be found about the dwelling and outhouses on the farm, particularly the chapel* contiguous, founded by Sir William Fowler, in 1680, and endowed with a small charge on each of his tenants in Llanbister, whose church is also reported to have been erected with the stones purloined from the old abbey: so is Y Vaner, or Devanner, one mile from the latter, as the building will testify. This place was many years the residence of the Fowlers, commencing in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, as appears by the style of building. The former importance of that family cannot be better expressed, than by introducing the subsequent adage:

There's neither *park* or *deer*, in Radnorshire,
Or a man worth five hundred a year,
Except *Sir William Fowler* of Abbey Cwmhir.

Carn, Carneddau, or Carnedd, are heaps of stones common on the Radnorshire mountains, and many other places in Wales. The most perfect that are to be seen in this county, is one on Camlow, near Abbey Cwmhir, and another on Gwastadwyn Hill, near Rhaiadr-Gwy. These consist of stones to

date of the present structure is uncertain, but evidently is not so remote as the religious institutions of those times, being chiefly composed of timber and lath, the interstices filled up with mortar. Its secluded situation and name renders it probable, that when Henry VIII. dissolved the monastic establishments of the kingdom, a number of the Cistercian monks, from Abbey Cwmhir, transferred their establishment to Monachty, and maintained privately their former religion and habits, in opposition to the recent innovations of Luther and Calvin. A colony from Cwmhir, according to Mr. Vaughan of Hengwrt, founded the Abbey of Cymmer, in Merionethshire.

* A chapel of ease to Llanbister, and only remarkable for a small monument, erected to the memory of Sir Hans Fowler, bart.

the amount of 30 or 40 cart loads, thrown down promiscuously to form what is termed a carn. The origin and use of such memorials have often been discussed, and generally admitted to have been sepulchral monuments, erected by the Britons, in commemoration of their hero, or chieftain, who fell in battle. For those unaccustomed to see these little memorials of the dead, a more general description may be useful and satisfactory. These heaps are found in various situations, and of different dimensions; but the largest does not much exceed 60 feet in diameter, and about seven feet deep in the middle, where the carn is always most protuberant, to conceal the chest, or stone coffin, which is usually found in this part, covered with a large stone. It frequently happens, that a circular range of large stones are pitched an end on the outside of the heap, while the stones contained within are piled loosely in circles about the tomb, and the interstices filled up with lesser stones. Some of the carns are covered with earth, almost conical, and approach near the form of a tumulus. In many of these carns, the stones bear marks of ignition, being remarkably red and brittle, by the action of fire, which appears to have been so vehement in some, that the stones are in a great measure vitrified. To a perfect carn, there is always a large stone, placed endwise, within 10, 20, 30, 40, or 50 yards of it, and such as want them at present, may be supposed to be deprived of them since their first erection. There is likewise some small distinction to be observed; for instance, the tumulus and carn appearing together, prove the interred to be some ancient chief; while the sepulchres of the commonalty are always found on the hills, where there is a small declivity and hollow to be seen, of an oblong form, with the earth heaped like a small hillock. When these are opened, a stratum of ashes, blackish, or red burnt earth, is discovered; but in digging a little deeper, we soon perceive a difference, and come to the native soil.

Returning from this digression, on leaving Rhaidr, we proceed in an easterly direction, and at the distance of about nine miles, pass through Pen-y-bont, formerly called Rhyd-y-Cleivion, a small hamlet, by the side of the river Ithon, which takes its course from Llanbadarn Vynydd, and passes by this place. The houses are few and small, excepting two recently erected; one by H. Severn, esq., and the other by Middleton Jones, esq.; particularly the latter, which is situated on a fine ascent, facing the hamlet; and does, with its lawn and young plantations, form its principal beauty. Here is likewise a good inn, built by the late Mr. Price, which affords excellent accommodation, and better than is to be found at some places in this county.

Three miles north from Pen-y-bont, is LLANDEWI YSTRADENNY, a small village, situate in a narrow vale near the river Ithon, containing a few straggling houses; and the church, a tolerable structure, consisting of a nave and chancel, with two small tablets, in commemoration of Philips and Burton; the latter of whom, an eccentric character, resided in a large old house here, and possessed a considerable estate in the neighbourhood; which, to the exclusion of his relatives, because they were poor, he devised to a wealthy provincial. In this district are several vestiges of antiquity, particularly the Gaer, or fortification, which occupies the summit of a high hill, close to the village, and apparently a camp of great extent, being inaccessible on the Ithon side; the remainder is defended by two parallel intrenchments, probably the work of some of the Mortimers, or Cadwallon, in the twelfth century. On a hill opposite is Bedd Ygre, or Ugre's Grave, a large mound or tumulus of earth, encompassed by a small moat like Caersws. Of this description were all the monuments which the Ancient Britons erected in honour of their chiefs or great men; and these continued many ages after the introduction of Christianity; but when the custom of burying in churches and church-

yards became general, they were condemned, and afterwards chiefly used for criminals.

Two miles hence, on a small elevation, stood Castle Cymaron, of which not a fragment of the superstructure remains; the site and moat are still visible. This fortress is supposed to have been erected by the Normans, in the eleventh century, but soon after destroyed by the Welsh, and again rebuilt by Hugh, the son of Randolph, earl of Chester, in 1142, when all Maelienydd became subject to the Normans.

In 1174, Cadwallon ab Madawc obtained this castle and lordship, for which he did homage to Henry; but Roger Mortimer, having raised a considerable force in 1194, entered Maelienydd, and after various battles dispossessed Cadwallon of all his lands in this district, and fortified the castle of Cymaron.

In this family it evidently continued for ages, as we find, near two centuries after Roger Mortimer, in 1360 died, possessed of the castles of Cruclas, Gwyrthrynion, Cwmdeuddwr, Maelienydd, and Pilleth, in the same lordship, which perhaps, on the demise of Prince Llewelyn, in 1282, Edward the First confirmed as a legal inheritance. Henry the Eighth, however, being of a Welsh extraction, curtailed the power and ambition of the provincial lords, and redressed many grievances to which the Welsh were before subject:—he divided the principality into counties and hundreds, with the same laws and privileges as his English subjects; since which the Cambrians have proved themselves peaceable and loyal; and as zealous in defence of their liberties and country, as the best of their fellow subjects.

About four miles southward from Pen-y-bont is Llandrindod Wells, situate on a common, five miles in length, and one broad. The country adjoining this place is rural, and gradually ascending, till it encompasses a spacious plain, with moderate high and steep hills, so that the air cannot stagnate, nor the plain be incessantly watered with a deluge of rain. The soil, or surface of the earth, about

these wells, is of a blackish brown, particularly rich; and on examination, is found to be plentifully mixed with a mineral bitumen, which is certainly the effect of coals, and an evidence that they exist here; yet no attempt has hitherto been made to discover that valuable fossil, though much wanted here, and in the vicinity of Llandrindod.

When these waters were first used for their medical virtues is uncertain, but are generally believed to have been introduced to public notice about 1670, and then used indiscriminately: however, at all times since 1750, a great number of people have resorted here to use the waters, on many occasions, and with success.

The increasing fame of Llandrindod Wells, ultimately induced a Mr. Grosvenor, of Shrewsbury, in 1749, to make some alterations and improvements, for the reception of the annual visitors. For that purpose, he took a lease of several houses, and repaired them, adding other buildings, particularly one, spacious enough to contain several hundred visitors, besides affording them every accommodation and amusement that could be wished, during a residence at this place.

The waters, three in number, are all within a short distance of each other, yet without either participating in the qualities of the other, and are thus distinguished: 1. The rock-water; 2. Saline pump-water; and 3. Sulphur-water, of which a brief account, and their medicinal characteristics, may be useful to the traveller. The rock-water issues out of a slate rock, which contains a vast quantity of iron earth, salts and sulphur. A glassful of this water, taken from the rock on a clear day, appears like common spring water, and as clear as crystal, without the appearance of any mineral particles in it; but after standing a short time, it changes into a pearl colour; before this change, a chalybeate taste and smell are very predominant. In many diseases this water has had a beneficial effect, but is usually prescribed in

chronical diseases, which proceed from a weakness in the fibres; also in scorbutic eruptions, weak nerves, palsies, or a laxity of the whole frame, and in agues, where bark proves ineffectual; likewise diseases in women, and seminal weakness in both sexes. The best time for drinking the rock-water is between six and seven in the morning, before breakfast, or the sun gains too great an ascendancy, and in the following quantities:—three quarters of a pint is enough to begin with, adding each morning another quarter, until it comes to a quart, which is the utmost, and ought to be drank within two hours. After this a gentle walk is advisable, with another glass of water before dinner, and two more on going to bed.

The saline pump-water is about 100 yards north of the sulphurous water. This lay many years after its discovery useless, being unfit for domestic purposes, and not being known to possess any medicinal quality. About 1736, it began gradually to be introduced into notice in the county, and since that period has been of great service in various diseases, particularly in the scurvy, and other eruptions; in hypochondriac disorders, proceeding from too great a quantity of the juices; also fevers, particularly those that affect the spirits, and in stone or gravel. Those who wish to benefit by the saline water, should drink it from about the middle of March to November, it being then in its greatest perfection. Bleeding is generally recommended previous to using this water, which is prescribed in the following quantities, viz. half a pint before breakfast, half a pint between breakfast and dinner, and another on going to bed.

The sulphur-water, or black water, so named from the strong smell it emits, and the black dye of the current in its passage through; if taken up immediately at the spring it is as clear as other water, and 25 grains lighter in a pint than common water. When thrown on hot iron it emits a blue flame, and smells like brimstone. Silver leaves have been

changed in less than six minutes into a fine yellow gold colour.

This water is best adapted for an artificial bath, or any external use designed for the relief of chronic diseases; it is likewise very beneficial when used as an internal medicine, but is chiefly recommended in the subsequent cases: viz. venereal diseases, old sores, diseases of the head, stone and gravel, rheumatism, and gouty complaints. The scrophula has often been cured by an internal and external use of the sulphureous water. Whoever wishes to drink this water medically, should remember that it is a purgative, therefore some preparation is necessary; for this, like other mineral waters, must be drank in the morning upon an empty stomach, or else between breakfast and dinner; on no account in the afternoon, unless used at meals, mixed with brandy or rum, or about half a pint when going to bed. Indeed the dose cannot be well ascertained, without a previous knowledge of the patient's disease; therefore it is best to begin taking from a pint to a quart in the morning, at short intervals; and in moderate draughts, gradually increasing the quantity as the constitution will permit; but walking far, or riding much after drinking this water, should be avoided.

Returning to our road, at the distance of about three miles, we pass through the village of LLANDEGLE, or LLANDEGLEY, remarkable for its antique church, and its rural situation. Contiguous to this place is Blaen Edw Wells, containing a sulphurous vitriolic water, which rises in a field near the road. The spring is conducted into a dilapidated building, which serves also for a bath; the water is covered with a brown scum, appears rather blackish, and emits an abominable stench, but has not an unpleasant taste.

At the distance of four miles beyond Llandegle, is the village of Llanvihangel. About two miles beyond which is NEW RADNOR, or Maesyved-newydd, situate near the head of the Somergill, at the narrow

entrance of a pass, between two high pointed hills, called Radnor Forest, and covered with verdure to the very summit, which is the characteristic of this district.

New Radnor was formerly the chief place in the county, and is at present the borough town, consisting of a few miserable houses, forming an irregular street, without a single object to attract the notice of a traveller, excepting an old building like a barn, for the county hall, where the borough election and county courts are held, with a court of pleas for all actions, without being limited to any particular sum. The church, a respectable edifice, extending 114 feet in length by 33 in width, with a large square tower at the west end, stands on an eminence above the town. In ancient times this place was evidently of greater importance than it is at present, being originally enclosed by a square wall, with four gates, which appear to be Roman, from the similarity they bear to the stations at Caerlion and Caerwent. Here was also a castle, built on an eminence above the town, probably a fortress of considerable strength, having an entire command of the town, besides defending a narrow pass leading to it between two hills. Owen Glyndwr, according to Caradoc, defaced the town in the reign of Henry IV. and burnt the castle; he afterwards ordered sixty of the garrison to be immediately beheaded in the yard. Camden mentions, that the castle was in ruins in his time; and much neglected, except a piece of the gate, which was then repaired. Some of the walls still remain resting upon rows of small Gothic arches.

Near New Radnor, but in a very obscure situation, is a cataract called "Water-break-its-neck," so nominated on account of its precipitous descent into a vast hollow, surrounded by craggy declivities of loose fragments of schistus, which are frequently set in motion by the wind, and roll down in all directions, making the amazed spectator almost tremble for his safety. This cataract would appear to

much greater advantage if it was in the vicinity of good plantations, with rich and verdant prospects; instead of this, the whole has a poor barren appearance. New Radnor still retains its corporate privileges. The corporation consists of a bailiff, twenty-five capital burgesses, two aldermen, a recorder, coroner, town clerk, sergeants at mace, &c. The bailiff and aldermen are elected annually out of the capital burgesses, and while in office, are justices of the peace, within the jurisdiction of the borough: the bailiff retains his commission as justice, for one year after he goes out of office. The qualification for a burgess of New Radnor, is a *bonâ fide* residence within the jurisdiction at the time of his election. The whole number of burgesses, with those of the contributory boroughs, is from 12 to 1400.

At the distance of about six miles from New Radnor, we arrive at PRESTEIGN, or Llan-Andrew, once a small village, but by the countenance of Martin, Bishop of St. David, it rose to such a degree of elegance as to eclipse the borough town of Radnor.— It was in Leland's time noted for a good market of corn, where many from the Cantrev of Maelienydd resorted to buy and sell. The town is pleasantly situated near the river Lug, and may be properly called the modern capital of Radnorshire; and here the county gaol is situated. This place likewise exhibits strong marks of having been formerly of much greater extent; indeed the few streets it now contains are neat and well formed. From here the little vale inclosing Presteign, and watered by the river Lug, may be seen to great advantage; as may also Stapleton Castle, an ancient Gothic mansion, rising from a rock in its centre.

The chief object is the parish church, which contains a few tablets for the families of Owen, Price, and Davies, with an altar-piece of tapestry, representing Christ's entry into Jerusalem.—The walls are decorated with figures of Moses, Aaron, Time, and Death, all of which are well executed. On the west

of the town is a beautiful little eminence, or site of an ancient castle, now called Warden Walk, a donation of Lord Oxford to the inhabitants. From here an agreeable walk leads to the summit of a bowling-green, on which is erected a neat pavilion. A small bridge over the Lug, close to the town, connects the counties of Hereford and Radnor.

*Journey from Knighton to Pain's Castle; through
Old Radnor.*

KNIGHTON, or Trev y Clawdd, is so called from Offa's Dyke, which runs below it, raised to separate the Britons from the Saxons, A. D. 760, and extends from the mouth of the Dee to that of the Wye, being an extent of eighty miles, of which Joannes Sarisburcensis, in his Polycraticon, says, Harold made a law, that if any Welshman passed this boundary, the king's officer should cut off his right hand.

At certain distances there are still marks or sites of forts, forming a boundary between the Welsh and English. Camden and other authors have confounded this celebrated boundary with Watt's Dyke, which runs parallel to it in North Wales. The utility of the latter is very uncertain, unless it was made by the Danes in time of peace, for purposes of traffic; hence the space between the dykes might have been considered neutral ground.

Knighton is situated at the head of a deep vale, and is the handsomest town in the county, descending in several steep streets, which present very picturesque objects to the adjacent country. The inhabitants of Knighton are estimated at 952, and the petty sessions for the hundred are held here. This romantic vale is surrounded by high hills, and well clothed with wood and verdure; likewise considerably enriched by the winding course of the river Teme.

A little to the north of Knighton is Caer Caradoc, a hill much honoured in former times, as the place

which Caractacus fortified in A. D. 53, with a rampart of stones, against the Romans, under Ostorius, (whose camp is visible opposite) till the rude mass was broken through, which compelled the Britons to retreat, when their leader, betrayed by Queen Cartimandua, was carried in chains to Rome.

On Bryn Glas, a mountain near Pilleth, a little south-west of Knighton, a bloody battle was fought in 1402, between Sir Edmund Mortimer and Owen Glyndwr, in which the former was defeated, with the loss of 1100 men. Beyond Knighton on the left, is *Dol y Velin*, late the seat of John Pritchard, esq. deceased. And about two miles above Knighton, on the banks of the Teme, is the little borough of *Cnwclas*, which formerly had its castle, built by Roger Mortimer, and it was also the birth-place of the celebrated Welsh Non-conformist, the Rev. Vavasor Powel.

About nine miles to the north-west of Knighton, is Castell Timboth, or Daybod; situated on a steep hill called Crogen, above the river Ithou, in the parish of Llananno. The situation is extremely wild and elevated, but the site is naturally strong, and almost inaccessible on all sides but one, where entrenchments are still visible. Of the old structure little remains, except a confused heap of thick walls; still the site and a piece of the keep may be traced, having a deep moat round the whole. Of its history nothing is known, except that it was destroyed by Llewelyn ab Gruffydd, Prince of Wales, in the year 1260.

Cevn Llys Castle, is situated in the borough of that name, and stands on a bank of the river Ithou, which almost surrounds it, except on one side, where it communicates with the common. The site of this castle appears strongly fortified by nature, and so admirably situated for a place of defence, as to be almost invulnerable before the invention of artillery, except on the north side, where one hundred men might defend it against a thousand.

In the year 1262 a detachment of Prince Llew-

elyn's men took this fortress by surprise, and made the governor prisoner; but most of the garrison were put to the sword. The same year Sir Roger Mortimer retook it, when he repaired it, and appointed a garrison for its defence. Camden describes it as in ruins in his time.

Returning to our road, at the distance of about twelve miles from Knighton, after passing through the villages of Norton and Kinnerton, we arrive at OLD RADNOR, or Maesyved Hen, frequently called Pen-craig, from its situation on the summit of a high rock. This castle was entirely demolished by Rhys ab Gruffydd, in the reign of King John.

This was probably the city Magos, called by Antoninus, Magnos; and where the Notitia Provinciarum inform us, the commander of the Pacensian regiment lay in garrison, under a lieutenant of Britain, in the reign of Theodosius the younger. Most writers of the middle age call the inhabitants of this county Magaseta. Charles the First, after the battle of Naseby, and during his flight from the parliament forces, slept, on the sixth of August, 1645, at the priory-house in Brecon, and dined with Sir Henry Williams of Gwernyved; hence he continued his route to Old Radnor, where he supped on the seventh, and was perhaps the only royal guest who sought accommodation in this ancient city.

This, like many Welsh towns, must be respected more for what it has been, than any thing it can at present boast of: for at this time the houses are few and mean. The church, however, certainly has the appearance of some antiquity. It is a large stone building, consisting of a nave and chancel, with monuments for the family of Lewis of Harpton Court, whose seat lies contiguous.

Calcareous stone is very plentiful in this neighbourhood, and many kilns are continually burning, to supply the county with this valuable species of manure.

On leaving Old Radnor, we proceed, in a southerly

direction, and, at the distance of about seven miles, arrive at Pain's Castle, situated in a small hamlet of that name, containing a few good houses, and where an annual fair is held. It is supposed to have received its name from Paganus, or Paine, a Norman, who built the castle, which was besieged and taken by Prince Rhys, in the year 1196, and kept until William de Bruce humbly desired of him peace and the castle: which Prince Rhys granted. In 1198, Gwenwynwyn besieged this castle, and after laying before it three weeks, was obliged to raise the siege. In 1215, according to Caradoc, Giles de Bruce, Bishop of Hereford, bestowed the castle on Walter Vychan, the son of Einion Glyd; and this is the last account we have of it in history.

The remains are very inconsiderable, being little more than the site, and a few loose fragments of its outer walls, which shew that there was formerly a building on the spot; but as to its form or extent, we have neither history nor tradition, to assist our conjectures upon the subject.

About four miles to the north-west of Pain's Castle, is Castle Collwyn, or Maud's Castle; it is situated in Colwent, and stands on the Forest Farm, south-east of Aberedw, in the parish of Llansaintfred. This castle was anciently very famous, and belonged to Robert de Todney, a man of considerable rank in the time of Edward the Second. It is supposed to have taken its name from Maud de St. Valery, the wife of William Breose, who rebelled against King John, it was afterwards destroyed by the Welsh, but rebuilt in 1231, by Henry III. on his return to England, after a fruitless attempt against the Welsh. Of the original fortress nothing now remains to shew its situation, except a grass plat, the site of the old castle. There is also a tradition, that Vortigern had a fortress here, where he resided, when his castle caught fire, or as the monks have rendered it, was destroyed by lightning, in which he is said to have perished. This legend is not worthy of any serious regard.

Camden says, this prince terminated his existence in a fortress in Radnorshire, which is clearly a mistake, as will appear to the reader, by referring to an account of Nant Gwrtheyrn, or Vortigern's Valley, in the county of Caernarvon.

BRECKNOCKSHIRE,

AN inland county, the Welsh name of which is *Swydd Brycheiniog*, is bounded on the north by Radnor, with the counties of Cardigan and Caermarthen on the west, Hereford and Monmouth on the east, and Glamorganshire on the south. Its form is irregularly triangular, narrowing northwards; in length, twenty-nine miles, the breadth of its southern basis thirty-four, containing 900 square miles, and near 600,000 acres. It is also divided into six hundreds, four market-towns, and sixty-one parishes, in the diocese of Saint David, with 37,735 inhabitants. Brecknockshire is a very mountainous country, affording a variety of sublime scenes, being every where interspersed with hills, cultivated to their very summits. The soil on the hills is for the greater part barren and stony; however, there are numerous springs that issue from the rocks in such plenty, as to render the valleys abundantly fruitful in grass and corn.

Upwards of five hundred years ago, Giraldus Cambrensis, who was archdeacon of Brecon, said, "It is a land abounding in corn, pastures, woods, wild deer, and fish of a superior sort, particularly trout, in the Usk, called Umbroe."

It is enclosed on all sides, except the north, by high hills, having on the West Cantrev Bychan, and on the south Cader Arthur, which has a noted spring on the summit.

The most considerable rivers are the Usk, Honddu, Irvon, and Wye. These, and all its rivulets, abound with fish of various kinds; but the Wye and Usk, are particularly noted for fine trout, and the best of salmon. The principal commodities of the

county, are cattle, sheep, wool, and corn, with considerable manufactures of coarse cloth and stockings. This county returns two representatives to the British senate, viz. one for the county, and one for Brecon.

Journey from Brecon to Hay; through Glasbury.

BRECON, or Brecknock, is the chief town in this county, situated 168 miles from London, in a very romantic place, abounding with broken grounds, torrents, dismantled towers, and ruins of various kinds. It was formerly well walled, with four gates, namely High-gate, West-gate, by the Blackfriars, Water-gate, and East-gate. Beside these, there was one without, in the suburb, called Porthene S. Mariæ. At present it consists principally of three handsome streets, in the most spacious of which stand the county-hall and market-place. Its compact form and neatness gives it an advantage over most towns in Wales, while its interior beauty renders it not less striking. The Welsh call it Aber Honddu.

Several good private houses here are occupied by very respectable and opulent families. The public walks hold a principal rank among the accommodations of the place. One lies along the shore of the Usk, under the old town wall, and commands a fine view to the southward of that river: the other is of a more sequestered character, being laid out with great taste through the priory woods, which overhang the Honddu, and add greatly to its romantic beauties. The town contains three parishes: St. John the Evangelist and St. Mary; and on the opposite side St. David's, where the Usk is crossed by a long narrow bridge. According to the returns of 1811, the number of houses was 757, and that of the inhabitants 3196. Hats, and some inferior cloth, are the chief articles manufactured here; but the new canal promises to give fresh life to the place, by opening new markets. Brecknock also possesses some noble ruins of a castle, which stand on a hill to the east, commanding the

whole town. Leland says, part of the castle was built by Lady Marabrunne; but it is more probable that Bernard de Newmarch, a Norman nobleman, who won the lordship in 1090, built it himself, to secure his new conquest. The castle is divided from the town by the river Honddu.

There are still some remains of the keep and Ely tower, so named from Dr. Morton, bishop of Ely, who was confined here by order of Richard the Third, and committed to the custody of Henry Stafford, Duke of Buckingham, who some time before procured the crown for Richard; but the Duke being disappointed in his expectations of reward from the king, in concert with the bishop, his prisoner, planned, within the walls of this castle, the famous union of the two houses of York and Lancaster, which afterwards brought Henry the Seventh to the throne of England. The castle has been very large.

On an ascent close to the Usk is the priory, situate amid the gloom of trees, exhibiting a profusion of rich Gothic workmanship, and forming a pleasing contrast with the feathering foliage that float around the ruins, chiefly composed of the grey stone of the country. The approach to the venerable remains of this priory is over a good stone bridge, almost joining an embattled wall, formerly belonging to this edifice.

The priory was originally founded for Benedictines, by Bernard Newmarch, in the reign of Henry the First, and valued at 112*l.* 14*s.* The mansion-house, now called the priory, belongs to the Marquis of Camden, who makes it his occasional residence. The south and east sides of the cloisters, with the refectory, are still entire, with other offices. The church of St. John the Evangelist occupies a part of the same eminence, and once appertained to the priory. The present edifice owes its erection to Bernard Newmarch, but from the Saxon font, and some other relics of the same character, which are still preserved, this has been conjectured to have been built on the site of another church which had fallen into decay.

The church, when first constructed, was most probably exactly cruciform, but has been considerably disfigured by Guild chapels in the interior, and private oratories on the outside. The nave measures 137 feet in length, by 29 in breadth. At the western end, the transept is divided into two chapels, called the chapel of the Men of Battle, and the chapel of the Red-haired Men, (the Normans). The chancel is now divided from the body of the church, by a gallery, formerly the rood loft. This and the nave are ceiled, and divided into compartments, adorned with paint. On each side the chancel are three rows of light, beautifully clustered columns, broken off just above the corbels, though they shew parts of the ribs springing to support the roof. The steeple, which is a lofty and massive structure, ten yards square within the walls, is raised over the centre or intersecting point of the cross, and contains six bells. This fabric is near 200 feet high, and 60 broad. On the north side is a paved cloister, which opens into the church, and joins it to the priory-house and refectory. East of the church is the ambulatory, where the monks used to walk, now called the Priory Walks, which are shaded by noble trees, and watered by the river Honddu, which rolls at the feet of them, but almost hidden by the thick wood on each side. The most remarkable part of this structure is the steeple, more ancient than the body of the church, 90 feet in height.

The college, once a Dominican priory, stands at the east end of the town, and apparently by the present remains, both within and without the chapel, is as old as the time of Bernard de Newmarch, who is said to have been the founder.

There still remains part of its old gateway, built in a quadrangular form; likewise a cloister, and the refectory of St. Mary's chapel, with the ancient choir, and nave for burying. Henry the Eighth converted this place into a college, by the name of the "College of Christ Church, Brecknock," and joined

to it the college of Abergwyli. It still remains, and consists of the bishop of St. David, who presides as dean, a precentor, treasurer, chancellor, and 91 other prebendaries.

Here were buried three bishops of St. David's, namely, Mainwaring, Lucy, and Bull. In the town, and fields contiguous to the castle, have been found several Roman coins, and there are now several large entrenchments to be seen on the hills about Brecknock; but the most remarkable is Y Gaer, or fortification; two miles north-west from the town. This is indisputably of Roman origin, and situate on a gentle eminence, near the river Wysg. Part of the walls still remain; and within the camp some square Roman bricks were found, all inscribed LEG. II. AUG. corresponding with those discovered at Caerleon. Close to this camp, in the middle of a highway, is a remarkable monument, called Maen-y-Morwynion, a rude pillar, about six feet high.

About eleven miles north-east from Brecon, in our road, is the small village of Glasbury, in the neighbourhood of which are the following gentlemen's seats: Tregoed, Lord Visc. Hereford; Maeslough Hall, W. Wilkins, esq.; Gwernallt Lodge, Sir Edward Williams, bart.; Gwernoved Lodge, H. Allen, esq.; and between the village and Buallt, is Derw House, Sir C. Morgan, bart; and on the left is Langoed Castle, J. Macnamara, esq.; beyond which is Pen Careg, T. Thomas, esq.

At the distance of about four miles from the village of Glasbury, we arrive at HAY, or Tregelli, called also Haseley, a small town, built in a pleasant situation, near the river Wye, and seems to have been well known to the Romans, whose coins are frequently found here, and some remains of walls. It gradually fell into decay about the time of the rebellious Owen Glyndwr, who, amid the devastations committed on his country, burnt this place; but Leland says, there was in his time the remains of a

strong wall, with three gates. Here was formerly a very superb castle, but by whom built is uncertain. We find in the year 1215, that Llewelyn ab Gruffydd dispossessed Giles de Bruce, Bishop of Hereford, of it, in consequence of his conspiracy against him; but when Llewelyn, in the year 1216, refused King John his assistance against the French, he marched from Hereford here and destroyed the castle. This fortress was composed principally of Norman architecture, and occupied the highest land of the river's bank, near the parish church; and since its first erection, was removed to near the centre of the town: a Gothic gateway here is very perfect; but a large house, of the reign of James the First, occupies the ancient site of the castle, and the few remains are converted into a modern house belonging to the Wellington family. Within the town were the remains of a gentleman's residence, called Wallwine, by whose means it is said Llewelyn was taken in the neighbourhood of Buallt. The whole of this small town formerly belonged to the Duke of Buckingham. Hay suffered a great loss in the winter of 1794, when the resistless torrent of the Wye carried away its handsome stone bridge. The view from the church-yard is extremely grand and beautiful.

Dinas Castle, situated on the top of a high hill, one mile from Blaen Lleveni, and about nine south from Hay, is now entirely in ruins, and almost level with the ground; yet there are the appearance of three wards walled about. Contiguous were three parks and a forest; the former is down, but had formerly a great number of red deer. The people about Dinas burnt the castle, to prevent its falling into the enemy's hands, and so becoming expensive and troublesome to the country, as a regular fortress.

*Journey from Buallt to Crickhowel; through
Brecon.*

BUALLT* is a neat market town, pleasantly situated on a little plain, surrounded by wood, and mountains, with a handsome stone bridge, which divides it from Radnorshire. This small town is singularly built, having two parallel streets, which form irregular terraces on the side of a deep declivity. The principal of these streets is very near the river Wye, but extremely narrow, and ill shaped; and the houses, for the greater part, mean and irregular. Still Buallt has long been extolled for the salubrity of its air, and the singular beauty of its position on the banks of one of the finest rivers in South Wales, and encompassed by such magnificent scenery, that many gentlemen have been induced to fix their residence in its vicinity, as some good houses lately built will testify: it has beside the benefit of Llandrindod Wells, only seven miles off. This town has also a claim to great antiquity, being the same that Ptolemy calls the Ballæum Silurum of the Romans. In the neighbourhood are several entrenchments, in which, we are informed, have been found Roman bricks with this inscription: LEG. II.; but the most remarkable and best preserved of entrenchments in these parts, is near the road leading from Buallt to Brecon. In recurring to the Chronicle of Caradoc, we find this place suffered considerably by the Danes in 893, who, being persecuted by Alfred, sailed to Wales; and after destroying the country about the coast, advanced to Buallt, which they likewise demolished. The same fatal consequences happened in 1216; for when Reynold de Bruce peremptorily broke off his alliance with Llewelyn ab Iorwerth, to make peace with Henry the Third, the former destroyed all Buallt, except the castle. This castle was built by the Bruces or Mortimers;

* Signifying *Ox-cliff*, or *Oxen-holt*.

but, being out of repair in 1209, Gilbert, Earl of Gloster, fortified it for his own use. About 1215, we find it in the possession of Giles de Bruce, bishop of Hereford; but when he formed a conspiracy against Llewelyn ab Gruffydd, the latter came in person to Buallt, and had the castle delivered to himself; however it reverted again to Reynold Bruce, who was besieged in it by some Welsh barons in 1220, but before it could be taken, Henry the Third raised the siege.

In 1256 we find it in the possession of Rhys Vychan, whom Llewelyn ab Gruffydd defeated, and forced out of Buallt; he afterwards conferred the same on Meredith ab Rhys, but he was soon dispossessed of it by Roger Mortimer, with whom it continued till 1260, when Llewelyn retook it without opposition, and found within a plentiful magazine. Of the town and castle nothing more is mentioned, till the unfortuate event which put a period to the independency of the Welsh, and their royal line of princes, occasioned by the death of Llewelyn ab Gruffydd, who was here basely betrayed by the inhabitants of Buallt, on Wednesday, December the 11th, 1282.—The minute circumstances preceding and following this great event are no where recorded, except in the following account, preserved by tradition among the inhabitants of this place.

Llewelyn had posted his army on a hill near Llechryd, a village below Buallt, on the south side of the Wye. On the north side of the river, two miles below Buallt, the prince had a house, called Aberedw, to which he came for the purpose of conferring with some chieftains of the country. During his stay there, he was alarmed by the approach of some English troops, who probably had intelligence of his situation. The prince, to extricate himself from the danger that threatened, caused his horse's shoes to be reversed, to deceive his pursuers, as the snow was on the ground: but this cir-

cumstance was made known to the enemy, through the treachery of the smith; and they followed so closely, that Llewelyn had but just time to pass the draw-bridge at Buallt, which being drawn up secured his retreat. In the mean time, the English troops posted at Aberedw, had information of a ford a little lower down, called Cavn Twm Bach, which they crossed, and by that means came between Llewelyn and his army stationed at Llechryd. The only means of safety that now offered was to secrete himself; but the enemy were so diligent in their pursuit, that the Welsh prince was soon found in a narrow dingle, in which he had concealed himself, three miles north of Buallt, and about five miles from his army; which place, from this event, was called Cwm Llewelyn. After Llewelyn was killed, they cut off his head, and buried his body in a field, called Cafan, about two miles from Buallt; and at some subsequent period, a farm house was erected over his grave, which goes by the name of Cevn-y-Bedd.

A little below Buallt are the remains of Aberedw Castle, having only a stone wall, now overgrown with ivy, but one of the residences of Llewelyn the Great. Two miles further is Cevn-y-Bedd, in Cafan Field; and contiguous, Llechryd, with its ancient castle, now a modern house, surrounded by a moat; but this place and its vicinity is chiefly rendered remarkable, by being the sacred ground where Llewelyn, the last Welsh prince, lineally descended from the Cambro-Britons, lost his principality and his life.

At Buallt they preserve several traditions concerning the death of Llewelyn, prince of Wales, in the year 1282. He considered his position on the west side of the Wye, above Buallt, as secure, so long as the bridge at the town was defended; but when the ford was treacherously pointed out to the enemy, the prince was unexpectedly attacked, and he, taken by surprise, fell by the hands of one Adam Franck-

ton. A descendant of this A. Franckton, and of the same name, now, or lately lived at Salop, who preserves the memorial of this deed.

About one mile north-west of Buallt, are some saline springs, called Park Wells; and about six miles from Garth, is Llanwrtyd Well, situate in a parish of that name. It was first discovered by a clergyman, about one hundred and fifty years ago, who, it is said, wrote a tract on its virtues. Its situation is between two hills, in a romantic vale, which the river Irvon meanders through, with a picturesque view of hanging woods, impending rocks, contrasted with rich land and barren hills. It has also veins of lead ore, from which some tons have been formerly dug, and sold for 12*l.* per ton. About three hundred yards from Dol-y-Coed, or the house of accommodation, is this remarkable spring, called in Welsh, Fynnon Drewllyd, or fœtid well, which smells strongly of sulphur, and changes silver almost instantaneously into a gold colour. This well was opened in 1774, to investigate its source, and after removing the stones and rubbish which covered its channel, some black turf, twelve inches thick, and a stiff clay of a very dark colour, mixed with marl, were discovered; and under the latter a light gravel. The water does not spring from under the gravel, as at first supposed, but flows perpendicularly from a bog, or morass. The water is very transparent, and never loses its taste or smell, nor is it ever impregnated with rain water, even in the wettest season. As soon as it is received into a glass, it sparkles, and you may see the air bubbles rise gradually, till they are disseminated through the whole, and remain so for hours.

This water is very light and perfectly soft, for when you wash your face and hands in it, you feel the same sensation as when soap and common water are used. It sits easy in the stomach. The efficacy of Llanwrtyd Wells has been proved in various

cases, particularly in gravel, nervous affections, and scorbutic eruptions.

Returning to Buallt, we proceed in a southerly direction, and at the distance of about eleven miles pass through Brecon; three miles to the south-west of which, on the left of our road, is LLYN SAVADON, generally called Llangors Pool, or Brecknock Meer, called by Giraldus, Clamosum, from the terrible noise it makes, like thunder, upon breaking of the ice in winter. This lake is two miles broad, about the same in length, and thirteen fathoms deep. In this meer have been found otters, eels, pikes, and perches, in great numbers, also trout from the Lleven. Llyn Savadon is described by Giraldus as surrounded by houses, with gardens, corn-fields, and orchards. On the river Lleven, Ptolemy places Lovintium, of which there are, however, no remains.

Marianus calls this place Bricenaic Mere, which was reduced by Edelfleda in 913; but whether he means this or Blaen Lleven Castle, in the neighbourhood, is uncertain; however, the latter appears to have been the chief fortress in this barony. A good view of this lake may be had from a hill above Buallt.

About eleven miles to the west of Brecknock is TRECATTLE, a miserable village, enclosed by wild mountains at the upper vale of the Wysg, which soon expands itself, after passing the groves of Dyvynog and Lluchyn Tiron, or Lluchyn Tyron. Trecastle was formerly a large borough and market town, but is now fallen into decay; still it shews the ruins of a castle. On the top of a hill, near this place, was dug up a stone, containing an inscription, which shews it to have been a military way.

This village is now chiefly distinguished for a good inn, and a number of gentlemen's seats in its neighbourhood.

Returning to our road, at the distance of thirteen miles from Brecon, after passing through the village

of Llansaintfred, we arrive at CRUGHYWEL, or Crickhowel, a small market-town, pleasantly situated on the river Usk, over which there is a bridge of fourteen arches. The town is in the direct road from London to South Wales and Milford-Haven; it is supposed to have been built in the time of Howel Dda, who flourished about the year 940.

The Town-hall here is over the market-place, but this has been sometimes degraded, being used as a prison. The parish church is cruciform, having a chancel, nave, and two transepts, named after two estates in the vicinity. The rood loft is still entire, but the church has been considerably reduced from its original size. Two side aisles, pulled down in 1765, were ornamented with the insignia of several trading companies, carved in wood. A lancet window remains with three divisions, over the principal entrance at the west end. The tower, containing five bells, is remarkable, as being the only one in the county surmounted by a spire. The chancel contains some ancient monuments of illustrious families, the mutilated figure of a knight, &c. The old custom of singing carols in the church at cock-crowing, or the earliest dawn of the morning, on Christmas-day, is still continued here, but is more entitled to any other appellation, than to a *religious* rite.

The river here abounds with excellent fish, and the neighbouring hills with game; it is also in high repute for goats' whey, and much resorted to by valetudinarians.

Of the castle the remains are few, yet its original plan may be easily traced, and much of its ancient architecture found in the neighbouring cottages, whose stones are evidently purloined from the old castle. The keep appears to have been a very secure building, seated upon a lofty artificial elevation, and displaying the foundation, a thick substantial wall.

Near this place are the remains of an ancient encampment, with a double ditch, called by Leland, Cragus Hoelinus. Opposite is the pleasant village of

Llangattock, and the elegant seat of the late Admiral Gell; and three miles north-west is Tre Twr, a neat town, situated among lofty hills, with the remains of a round tower.

The houses in the neighbourhood of Llangattock are particularly entitled to notice, from the beauty of their situation, and their prospects are, Glanwysg, the seat of Frederick Fredericks, esq. Tan y Park, and Tan y Graig, situated still farther down the vale. The Brecknock canal is carried over the river Clydach, by an aqueduct of a truly tremendous appearance, being no less than eighty feet in height above the level of the stream. In ascending this vale, we meet with the cataract or fall, named Y Pistyll Mawr, or the great cascade. It is romantically embosomed in a luxuriant wood, and exhibits some of the most beautiful features of this class of picturesque objects. The parish of Llangattock has acquired some historical celebrity, from the great battle fought on the hills of Carno, in the year 728, between the Saxons and the Welsh. This spot is marked by two large collections of stones, or *carnau*, in one of which was found a *cist vaen*, or stone chest, that probably contained the body of some British leader, who fell in that conflict. These *cist vaens* consist of four upright stones, placed at right angles, with a fifth laid over them as a cover.

GLAMORGANSHIRE.

THIS county is called by the Welsh, *Morganwg*, and Gwlad Morgan; it is bounded on the north by Brecknockshire, on the east by Monmouthshire, on the south by the Bristol Channel, and on the west by Caermarthenshire; it is about forty-eight miles from east to west, and twenty-seven from north to south.—The greater part of the sea coast forms a semicircular sweep, the western extremity being formed into a narrow beak between the open chan-

nel on the one hand, and an arm running round to the Caermarthenshire coast on the other. In the time of the Romans this county was part of the district inhabited by the Silures, and had several Roman stations; as Boverton, a few miles south of Cowbridge, which is supposed to be the Bovium of Antoninus, Neath to be his Nidum, and Llacharn, to the west of Swansea, to have been his Leucarum. On the north and north-east sides, this county is very mountainous, and the soil of the hills extremely varied. In some parts they are absolute rocks, in others full of coal and iron. The surface over these mines produces plenty of fine wood. What corn grows in the county is principally between the south side of the mountains and the sea, in a spacious vale, or plain, open to the latter. The roads over the mountains are excessively steep, stony, strewed, as well as the heaths on each side of them, with stones of various sizes, detached from the rocks by the winter rains. The air on the north side is sharp, occasioned by the long continuance of the snow on the hills; but on the south side mild and temperate, improved by the sea breezes. Such is the profusion of coal and limestone, that lime is the general manure of this county. The plenty of coal, and the convenience of exportation, brought a large copper work to Swansea; the soil near which is likewise rich in other mineral treasures and good pastures.

The principal rivers are the Tav, the Nedd, or Neath, the Tawe, the Ogmore, and the Rumney. The least considerable streams are the Elai, Ewenni, Melta, Trawgath, and Twrch, all of which produce an abundance of excellent fish, particularly salmon, sewin, and trout, of a peculiar fine flavour. Glamorganshire is divided into ten hundreds, or 118 parishes, containing 17,017 houses, which are occupied by 85,067 inhabitants, viz. 41,365 males, and 43,702 females. Two members are returned to the British parliament; viz. one for the county, and one for the town of Cardiff.

*Journey from Swansea to Merthyr Tydvil; through
Cowbridge.*

SWANSEA is a pleasant well-built town, on the river Tawe, and situated near the centre of a most beautiful bay, on an angle between two hills, which defend it from the north-west to the north-east, while the southerly winds, blowing over a vast expanse of sea, render the air mild; besides, having a gravelly soil for a considerable depth, makes its situation not only pleasant, but extremely healthy. The town has a very handsome appearance, from the road approaching to it being built on a semicircular rising bank near the mouth of the Tawe. It is populous, has good houses, wide streets, and apparently considerable trade. The market-house, which is very commodious, is said to be covered with the lead from St. David's cathedral, given by Cromwell to a gentleman of this town. The old mansion-house of the lord of the manor, built round a quadrangle, and standing near the castle, has been used as a warehouse and stables, and had over the gate the arms of William Earl of Pembroke, in the time of Henry VIII. The castle is situated on an eminence in the middle of the town; a lofty circular tower is all that is not concealed by houses, and this is surmounted by an elegant parapet, with arched openings, commanding a fine view. The apartments, yet habitable, are converted into a poor house, and a gaol, principally used for the confinement of debtors. Among the improvements here, a street has been opened through the court, and part of the buildings of the old manor house, and forms the communication between Castle Bailey and Goat street.

The whole of Swansea is comprised in one parish. The church, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, is a handsome modern edifice, with a middle aisle, and two side aisles, separated from it by two rows of pillars, with a large square tower at one end, being in length 72 feet, by 54. Of the old church, which

fell in the year 1739, some remains are visible, north-east of the church-yard. In the new church are most of the monuments that were in the former edifice. One of the altar-kind, richly decorated, but now much mutilated and defaced, commemorates Sir Matthew Cradock and his lady. In the chancel is a curious brass tablet to the memory of Sir Hugh Johns, with the figures of himself, his wife, five sons, and four daughters. Near the upper end of the town, is another small church, dedicated to St. John, having formerly been a chapel belonging to the Knights of Jerusalem. Here are several places of worship belonging to various denominations of dissenters; and the Presbyterian meeting-house is one of the oldest in South Wales.

Swansea at this period enjoys many advantages not to be found in any other part of Wales. Here the tide ebbs and flows a considerable way over a flat sandy shore, and up the river Tawe, which runs through the town, and is navigable for vessels of considerable burden for about two miles. This place has also, within these twenty years, become a considerable mercantile town, particularly in copper, coals, lime, iron, brass, spelter, tin, and earthenware, which employ no less than 1,900 sail of vessels annually. The quantity of coals only, that is on an average exported yearly, amounts to upwards of 114,000 chaldrons. Exclusively of its intercourse with London, Bristol, Cornwall, and Ireland, it has had of late years a considerable share of foreign trade to the Baltic and West Indies, from which, perhaps, it might appear that few places in this kingdom have had so great and rapid an increase of trade as Swansea in a few years, as will appear by the following statement made from their books:

<i>Years.</i>	<i>Vessels.</i>	<i>Tons.</i>
1768 employed	694 consisting of	30,681.
1798 - - - - -	2021 do.	120,713.
1800 - - - - -	2590 do.	154,264.
1810 - - - - -	2717 do.	177,672.

But since the peace of 1814, the trade of this town has suffered some diminution.

In 1791 a bill passed, empowering the corporation to repair and enlarge the harbour of Swansea, by turning the river through the western channel; by which the entrance into the harbour has been rendered shorter, safer, and deeper. The corporation has likewise expended a considerable sum of money in enlarging, and making the bathing-house commodious for company resorting annually to Swansea for the benefit of sea-bathing, which at present affords every thing that is necessary for the comfort or amusement of the stranger. Here are many good lodging-houses, pleasantly situated, particularly Mr. Sardon's, which is neatly fitted up, with an excellent warm sea-water bath.

Half a mile from the town is another, on the beach, rendered very commodious for visitors, with an excellent bail-room, from which is a fine view of the bay. Near the Cambrian pottery is Mr. Hayne's cold and hot sea-water baths, with pump and shower baths for temporary bathing, on very reasonable terms. The only mineral spring in the county is at Swansea, which has an acid styptic taste like alum, though the predominant salt is a vitriol. It turns blue with vinegar, but will not curdle with milk. A gallon of this water yields forty grains of sediment, of a highly acid, styptic, vitriolic taste, and light brown colour, which will ferment with spirit of harsthorn, and oil of tartar. It is recommended in a diarrhoea, and will stop blood externally, when applied to wounds. The vicinity of Swansea affords a number of agreeable walks and rides, while the bay, which may be regarded as one of the finest in Europe, furnishes the means of abundant gratification to those who prefer aquatic excursions. For some unaccountable reason, the corporation have deprived the inhabitants and visitors of one of the pleasantest promenades belonging to the place, by enclosing the burrows with a lofty wall. In the midst of improvements,

which the corporation have been prosecuting with great spirit, this measure appears the more surprising.

North of Swansea is the canal. There are no less than 36 locks on this canal, in the space of 16 miles, from an elevation of 372 feet, and several aqueducts. Adjoining are some smelting copper-works, the iron forge, brass and tin works, a fine copper rolling mill, iron furnaces, and foundry, and a most stupendous steam engine at Glandwr, which cost the proprietors upwards of 5000*l.* to complete. This machine throws up from a vast depth, 100 gallons of water each stroke, which is repeated twelve times a minute, making 78,000 gallons an hour. This was made by Messrs. Bolton and Watts, of Birmingham.

The town-hall is a spacious and handsome modern edifice, built on a part of the castle enclosure. A few years since a very commodious theatre was erected in one of the principal streets, which is well attended during the summer season. It was built by tontine shares of ten pounds each, the survivor of the holders to become the sole proprietor. Some public rooms have been since erected upon a similar scheme, but the taste of the architect appears to have been justly censured. A respectable weekly newspaper has for several years been published here by Mr. Jenkins. The public library has also proved a great acquisition.

The mail-coach from London to Milford passes through Swansea every morning at six, and goes from Milford to London every evening at the same hour. Two other coaches run from hence to Bristol and Gloucester on alternate days. The Mackworth Arms inn, is one of the best in the principality.

The free-school at Swansea was endowed by Dr. Hugh Gore, bishop of Waterford and Lismore, in 1684. The corporation have added 20*l.* a year to the endowment. The mastership is in the presentation of Lord Jersey, as the holder of the Briton Ferry estate. Here are also several Lancasterian and other schools,

that cannot fail to be eminently beneficial in their effects on the morals of the rising generation among the lower orders.

Swansea shares the privilege of Cardiff, as a contributory borough in the return of the member for that place. The corporation consists of a portreeve, twelve aldermen, two common attornies or chamberlains, and two sergeants at mace. By its charter it is empowered to hold two markets every week, though in fact it has but one, which is held on a Saturday, and is one of the best attended in the principality.

In a conspicuous situation, about three miles from Swansea, on the Tawe, is Morris Town, a newly-created village; and on the summit of a steep hill is the castle, a quadrangular building, which owes its origin to Mr. Morris, a proprietor of the leading works at this place.

Oystermouth Castle is a bold and majestic ruin on the coast, about five miles north from Swansea, near the promontory of Mumbles Head, which, terminating in high hills, and stretching out far into the bay, affords a safe anchorage to ships passing up and down the channel. It is situated on an eminence, having its principal walls but little injured, and most of the apartments may be yet easily distinguished. The general figure is polygonal; the ramparts lofty, but not flanked with towers, except just at the entrance. This building is ascribed to the Earl of Warwick, in the reign of Henry the First.

The grand gateway is still nearly perfect, and other parts of the building are in good preservation. The castle is at present the property of the Duke of Beaufort. The village of Oystermouth is pleasantly situated on the sea shore within the Mumble Point, a bold rocky projection running some distance into the sea. An excellent light-house, built at the extremity, has been essentially serviceable to the navigation of the Bristol Channel. At a short distance

from Oystermouth, are some remains of Penarth Castle, supposed to have been another of the Earl of Warwick's fortresses.

About eight miles west from Oystermouth is **PENRICE**, a sea-port, seated on the Bristol Channel. It has a good harbour for ships, and carries on a small trade in exports and imports for country purposes. Its ancient castle has been a superb edifice, defended by bastions and turrets. The market is well supplied with provisions at a moderate price, and it has four annual fairs for cattle and sheep.

Returning to our road, on leaving Swansea, we proceed, in an easterly direction, and at the distance of about seven miles arrive at **NEATH**, a market-town, seated at the bottom of a valley, on the banks of the river Nedd. The streets are extremely irregular and narrow, and the houses, with few exceptions, ill built, and inconvenient. The town used to be covered with the smoke of the copper works in its neighbourhood; a circumstance which must render it a very unhealthy place of residence, though its population is estimated at near 3000 inhabitants.

The church is a large and handsome structure, divided into two aisles by a range of pillars, which support the arches of the roof, having a chancel at one end, and at the other a substantial square tower, surmounted by an embattled parapet.

A few ruins of its old castle, built probably by Richard de Granville, a Norman, still remain, comprising part of the walls, and one of the gateways, which has a massive round tower on each side. In 1231 Llewelyn ab Iorwerth, being offended at Hubert Burgh's conduct on the marches, burnt this castle to the ground. There is no manufactory here entitled to notice; the copper works at Melin Crythan, about a mile from Neath, are discontinued, and the collieries have long lain in a state of inactivity. However, the mineral treasures of the adjacent county, still create a considerable trade here, much promoted by the construction of a navigable canal from the up-

per part of the vale, to a shipping place at Briton Ferry, and communicating with the iron works at Aberdare. The country about Neath is enlivened by several gentlemen's seats, and among these one of the principal is Gnoll Castle, the ancient residence of the Mackworths, but now that of H. J. Grant, Esq.

About one mile west of the town of Neath, near our road, stands Neath Abbey, called by Leland the fairest in all Wales. It is styled by the Welsh, *Abaty Glyn Nedd*, or the Abbacy of the Vale of Neath; for Nedd is properly the name of the river running through it, being descriptive of the gentle course of its stream, compared with most of the neighbouring waters. This abbey was founded for Cistertians, by Richard de Granville, and Constance his wife, who gave their chapel in Neath Castle, likewise the tithes belonging to it, and a large tract of waste land, with other possessions in *temp.* Henry I. to endow the same, which was dedicated to the Holy Trinity. About the time of the dissolution it contained only eight monks, and valued at 132*l.* 7*s.* 7*d.* per annum; but, according to Speed, 150*l.* 4*s.* 9*d.* and granted 33 Henry VIII. to Sir Richard Williams, alias Crumwell. The ruins are on the west side of the river, with lancet windows, which form the north side of a quadrangle. The gates, hall, and gallery, still remain, having in front of a contiguous room, in stone, the arms of England and of John of Gaunt, with three chevrons quartering three horsemen's crests—Granville. In this abbey the unfortunate Edward II. sheltered himself till he was taken. The remains of it were inhabited by some poor families belonging to the workmen employed in the neighbouring metal works. The ichnography of the old church, which was of excellent architecture, and immense size, may easily be traced.

The great western window of the Abbey Church, fell down within these few years, and a large part of the side walls have since shared the same fate. No adequate idea can be formed from the present remains, of the original extent and magnificence of this edifice.

Foundations of buildings are to be traced in the adjacent grounds for a considerable distance, and some of the houses in the village were evidently connected with the main building.

A navigable canal has been made to communicate with all the interior parts of the county to Pont Nedd Vechan, in Breconshire, about twelve miles off. A little north of Neath is a beautiful cataract, falling nearly 150 feet perpendicular.

About four miles southward from Neath is **ABERAVAN**, a small village, situated at the mouth of the river Avan. It is governed by a portreeve, and has 40 burgesses, who have votes for parliament. Here is a small haven for light vessels, which carry on a considerable trade in the iron, copper, and tin works in the neighbourhood.

LLYCHWR, a poor village, eight miles from Neath, is situated on a river of the same name, which is fordable at low water. It has the ancient or outward walls of a square castle, which was fortified by a treble trench, but destroyed by Rhys ab Gruffydd in 1215, when he brought this county into subjection.

The ancient town and church are supposed to have stood near the river, on the other side of the castle. On the north-east of the town, at a place called Cevn-y Bryn, is a vast stone of 20 tons weight, commonly called Arthur's Stone, said to be fixed there by that hero. There is a tradition, that a well under this stone ebbs and flows with the sea. From here are numerous collieries, and a ford to Llanelli, a small irregular town, containing an old seat of Sir John Stepney, which having been long deserted by the family, was converted into habitations for numerous poor tenants, falling fast into decay. The church has a high square embattled tower, remarkable for being wider at its base than upwards, forming a cone.

This district is very picturesque and fertile, having adjacent the base of Margam Hill, which is beautifully shaded with groves of majestic oaks.

Contiguous is Briton Ferry, remarkable for the

elegant seat of the Earl of Jersey, which is environed by fertile land, and spacious plantations.

Margam Abbey, situated about four miles southward from Aber-avan, was founded by Robert Earl of Gloucester, in 1147, for white monks, and valued at 181*l*. The house appears to have been one side of a quadrangle. Among the offices are some remains of a beautiful circular chapter-house, fifty feet by twelve diameter, with twelve pointed windows, the roof resting on a single central clustered column; But in January 1799, the dome fell in, and the whole building became a ruin. Behind it are the cloisters, which joined it to the abbey, now serving for the parish church; but which if it had not been repaired by the late Mr. Talbot, would have shared the fate of the chapter-house.

The stables and offices retain many marks of antiquity, particularly the doors. In 1761 the tomb of an abbot was to be seen here, which then laid over a drain. The park, which is well wooded, and abundantly supplied with deer, is still preserved, and considerable attention is paid to the pleasure-gardens, and ornamental part of the grounds. In the midst of the park stands an elegant Doric edifice, built by Mr. Talbot, in 1787, for a green-house, or conservatory, for the reception of a large collection of orange trees. It is 327 feet in length, by 81: a square room has been parted off at each end, containing some curious cork models of remarkable buildings in Italy, and several fine statues and other antiquities of exquisite workmanship. In summer the orange trees, one hundred and ten in number, are removed to the lawn, exhibiting a rich and luxuriant grove, several of the trees being eighteen feet in height, and remarkably handsome.

A good specimen of the Anglo-Norman architecture appears on the west front of the church, but the inside is plain and unadorned, except a few marble monuments for the Mansell family, and one for Sir Lewis Mansell, dated 1638, which is well executed.

There is also in the village, a curious stone cross

about eight feet high, richly carved and ornamented with fret work. By the road side, and forming the foot bridge over the brook that issues out of the park, near the old entrance, are two other relics of the same kind, the crosses being circumscribed by a circle. The inscriptions upon these crosses have been nearly obliterated.

On the top of an adjoining hill is a stone, mentioned by Camden, called Maen Llythyrog, and on the west of Margam Hill is a Roman camp, and many old entrenchments lie contiguous to it and the abbey.

Resuming our road, on leaving Aber-avan, we proceed in an easterly direction, and at the distance of about eleven miles, we arrive at BRIDGEND, Pen-y-Bont, a populous town, situated on the river Ogmore. The town is divided into three parts, called Old Castle, New Castle, and Bridgend, the two first having the remains of castles. The soil around is exceedingly fertile and well cultivated, and the town is in a state of considerable improvement. The river Ogmore, divides the town into two parts, which are joined by a good stone bridge.

A woollen manufactory here produces annually considerable quantities of flannel and Welsh shawls. Bridgend contains a large proportion of good houses, occupied by families of great respectability. The division called Old Castle, derives its name from an ancient fortress which stood near the chapel. The present tithe-barn, is built on a part of the ruins.

Two miles east of Bridgend is the village of Coetty, where are the remains of a castle, built by Paganus de Sourberville, in 1091. The Earl of Leicester, by marriage with Barbara, heiress of John Gamage, Esq. lord of Coetty, came possessed of this castle, and his estate in Wales. The ruins of Coetty Castle are among the most extensive and magnificent of any in South Wales; the present walls are probably the remains of the edifice built by Sir Payne Turberville, to whom this lordship was assigned, in the Normau Fitzhamon's division of the county.

At a small distance from Bridgend is Ogmores Castle, situated on a plain ground near the road, and one mile above the mouth of the rivers Ogmores and Ewenni. It is undoubtedly of considerable antiquity, being mentioned by Caradoc, as early as the reign of William Rufus, where it is recorded that the manor and castle were bestowed by Robert Fitzhamon on William de Londres, one of the twelve Norman knights who, in the year 1091, assisted him in the conquest of Glamorganshire. It appears to have been entire when Leland wrote his Itinerary; but at present only the keep and some outer walls remain; the former has a great resemblance to the keeps at Rochester, Dover, and the Tower of London. A small distance south-east of the castle are several pits, or shallows, filled with water, said to have sunk spontaneously. One of them is deemed unfathomable, being circular, and seven feet in diameter, with a railing, to prevent accidents.

NEWTON, a small village near Bridgend, and situate north-west of the Ogmores, has lately been exalted into the rank of a watering-place.

The bathing-house is small and incommodious, situate very low on the beach, with sand hills in almost every direction, which prevent a view of the water; still it is become a place of fashionable resort, with a bathing-machine about a mile below the house. The beach is well sheltered by limestone cliffs, but the walks, over coarse drifting sands, render it extremely unpleasant, and destitute of walks or verdure for pleasure or repose, presenting a continual sameness and sterility.

The shore is curved, and forms a small bay, where ships in distress, often shelter. The inhabitants of this village are chiefly employed in raising limestones, which are carried in small vessels to the opposite coast, and sold on the spot.

Returning to our road, on leaving Bridgend, we proceed in a north-easterly direction, and at the distance of six miles, pass through the town of

Llantrisant, or the church with three saints, situated near the summit of a cleft, in one of the high hills which bounds the Vale of Glamorgan. It is an ancient borough, abounding in lead ore, the property of the late Marquis of Bute, who enclosed the manor. Here was a castle, now nearly destroyed, excepting a fragment of its lofty round tower, and the vestiges of outworks, which are nearly concealed by numerous shrubs. A new market-house and town-hall were erected by that nobleman, within the precincts of the old castle. The streets are steep and narrow. The church is a large Norman edifice, on a situation which commands a delightful prospect of the surrounding country, in one of the finest situations in South Wales, being placed on the brow of a lofty hill, overlooking an extensive range of the most beautiful and fertile parts of the Vale of Glamorgan.

Two miles south-east, are the remains of Castell Crug.

A good road has lately been made from this place to the famous Pont-ty-Pridd, or the New Bridge, which is only a few miles distant, and situate in a beautiful vale, with very extensive views. It is a stupendous arch thrown across the river Tav. This extraordinary structure is a perfect segment of a circle, the chord of which is one hundred and forty feet, and the height, from the key-stone to the spring of the arch, thirty four.

The bridge was undertaken at the expence of the county, by one William Edwards, a common stonemason of Glamorganshire, who likewise contracted to ensure its standing for a certain number of years. From the width and rapidity of the river, he failed in his first attempt; for, after completing a bridge with three arches, a flood, with the natural impetuosity of the river, carried it away completely.—He then conceived a noble design of raising a single arch over this ungovernable stream, which he accordingly completed; but the crown of the arch being very light and thin, it was soon forced upwards by

the heavy pressure of the butments, which were necessarily loaded with an immense quantity of earth, that the ascent of the bridge might be more practicable. Not yet discouraged by these failures, he again, in 1750, boldly dared to improve on his second plan, and executed the present surprising arch, in which he lightened the butments, by making three circular tunnels through each of them, which effectually answered the purpose, besides giving a lightness and elegance to the structure, that may now bid defiance to the most unruly floods that can possibly rise in this river, and seems calculated to endure for many ages. To view this arch as an external object, it can scarcely be sufficiently admired, as crossing the vale abruptly it appears to connect the opposite hills, while with its light and elegant curve, it does in a manner almost produce the effect of magic, and will be a lasting monument of the abilities and genius of its untutored architect. The bridge, on account of the high ground on each side, is not visible from the turnpike, and many travellers have in consequence passed by it unawares. In ascending the vale, it is approached by a road which turns abruptly to the left, over the canal, a short distance from the Bridgewater Arms, a comfortable inn, about midway between Cardiff and Merthyr.

About twelve miles beyond Pont-ty-Pridd, after crossing the Cardiff canal, we arrive at MERTHYR TYDVIL, situated near the borders of Brecknockshire. The spot on which the town stands, and the immediate neighbourhood, was the fortunate purchase of Mr. Crawshay, and cost him only 800*l.*, which in ground rents alone has increased more than the yearly rent of 1000*l.*

The whole district, abounding with coal and ore, extends about eight miles in length, and four in breadth. Two ranges of hills bound this place, with a valley between them, in which stands the town of Merthyr.

Scarcely any thing can be conceived more awfully grand, than the descent on a dark night into the Vale of Merthyr, from any of the surrounding hills, where on a sudden, the traveller beholds as it were numberless volcanoes breathing out their undulating pillars of flame and smoke, while the furnaces below emit through every aperture a vivid light, which makes the whole country appear in flames; nor do the immense hammers, the wheels, the rolling mills, the water-works uniting together their various sounds, add a little to the novelty and magnificence of the scene. The number of workmen employed by the different iron masters is very great. Mr. Crawshay has employed between two and three thousand men, and the other gentlemen an equal proportion; so that the whole population of this town has been estimated at ten thousand persons.

Here are four establishments on a large scale, viz. Pendarren, having three blastfurnaces; Dowlais, having four blast furnaces; Plymouth, having also four blast furnaces; and Cyfartha, having six blast furnaces. It seldom happens that all the furnaces are in blast at the same time, one at least being usually extinguished and under repair. One furnace will commonly yield about fifty tons of iron in a week; and instances have occurred, in which, from favourable circumstances, a single furnace has produced a hundred tons in that interval. The furnaces at the Cyfartha works, are blown by means of a steam-engine of fifty horse power, and by the overshot water-wheel of equal power. This wheel was formed by Mr. Watkin George, formerly a mechanic employed about the works, but since deservedly rewarded for his talents. It consumes twenty-five tons of water in a minute; it is above fifty feet in diameter, and made entirely of cast-iron, and cost above 4000*l*. The water that turns it is brought from a stream in the hills about five miles off, on a platform of wood, supported chiefly by stone pillars, except in one place, where it crosses a bridge on supporters of wood, for the

space of about three hundred yards, and elevated eighty feet above the bed of the river, the whole of which forms a very singular appearance.

To avoid interruption in the transportation of the produce of the Merthyr works in dry seasons, when the canal is scantily supplied with water, a rail-road has been constructed at the upper end, for the distance of about eight miles, along which the iron is conveyed in waggons constructed for the purpose. It was once intended to continue this rail-road the whole length of the canal. Glamorganshire is intersected by a number of good roads, which afford easy and convenient communications between the different towns and villages. The high road to Milford runs through its whole extent, in an east and west direction, from Rumney Bridge to Pont Arddulais, on the river Loughor. A mail coach to and from the metropolis passes this way daily; and two other coaches, one from Gloucester, the other from Bristol, proceed as far as Swansea on alternate days. Stage waggons are unknown in the country.

Journey from Bridgend to Cardiff; through Cowbridge.

ON leaving Bridgend, which we have already described, our road lies in an eastward direction, and at a short distance we pass through Ewenni, a cell founded by John Londres, lord of Ogmores Castle, but formerly belonging to Gloucester Abbey.

This place appears to have been founded about the year 1140, and valued at 87*l.* per annum. The church, from the solidity of its structure, has not suffered from time so much as might have been expected, as it is indisputably of greater antiquity than any other building in Wales. It is said to have been finished before the year 1100, or soon after the conquest of this county. The arches are all circular, the columns short, round and massive, with the capitals simple, but corresponding. The tower is of a moderate height, and supported by

four fine arches, upwards of twenty feet in the chord, from their respective springs. The roof of the east end of the choir is original and entire, not diagonal, but formed of one stone arch, from wall to wall, with a kind of plain fascia, or bandage of stone, at regular distances, crossing and strengthening the arch.

Under this roof, and against the north wall in the chancel, lies an ancient monument of stone, with an ornamental cross raised on it, by which it appears, from an inscription, to be the sepulchre of Maurice de Londres, grandson to the founder, and a kinsman of Payne Turberville, conqueror of Glamorganshire, who has likewise a monument here. This family long inhabited the mansion-house, an ancient building in this county, remarkable for its large and spacious hall.

This old mansion has lately been thoroughly repaired by the present proprietor, R. Turberville, esq., and converted into a comfortable residence. On the same side of the river Ewenni, lower down the stream, at its junction with the Ogmore, stand the remains of Ogmore Castle.

Two miles eastward from this place, on the left of our road, is Penline Castle, an ancient structure, but by whom built is uncertain; however, like some other elevated spots, it affords a kind of prognostic for the weather, and is thus described by Iolo Morganwg.

When the hoarse waves of Severn are screaming aloud,
And Penline's lofty castle's involv'd in a cloud,
If true the old proverb, a shower of rain
Is brooding above, and will soon drench the plain.

Adjoining are the ruins of an old mansion, not inhabited since the Revolution.

About three miles to the south of Penline Castle is LLANILLTYD, or Llanwit, in British and Norman times a town of great consequence.

Here are the remains of the celebrated school

founded by St. Illyd, A. D. 508, in which many nobles are said to have been educated; the ruins of other buildings, and several streets, in different directions, still retain the names of former ages, though the houses on each side are now demolished. An old building of stone yet remains, called the Hall of Justice, wherein the lords' court was held, or the Norman Judicial Rights (the *jura regalia*) exercised, which made the nobles thus privileged almost independent of the crown. Under the Hall of Justice is a strong arched chamber, which seems to have been destined to receive prisoners, who were tried and condemned in the apartment above. The tradition of the village is, that Llanilltyd owed its origin to the Flemings, who settled along the coast of Glamorgan-shire, in the early part of the reign of Henry II., and that one of their chiefs made this his place of residence.

The monastery or college founded here by St. Illyd, received at one time seven sons of British princes, besides five bishops afterwards. The students of this college had for their habitations four hundred houses and seven halls; in fine, it was the principal university in Britain till the Norman Conquest. In two mandates from Pope Honorius to Urbanus, 1125, and a decree of Pope Calixtus in 1118, it is denominated among the first churches, which continued in high repute till, probably, superseded by the English universities.

The walls of the school are still standing behind the church, and the remains of the monastery are yet visible north-west of the school. By the ruins of the eastern door is the vestibule of the church, now roofless, also a considerable burial place, but now in a state of slovenly disorder. Amid the fragments are two monuments, the one in relief, of an ecclesiastic reclining on a cushion, with his feet resting on two globes, containing an inscription for William de Richelieu, a Norman; the other, a small

figure, is broken in the middle. The church, from its style of architecture, is very ancient, though much of the present appears of Norman origin. In a niche of the east wall, are the broken remains of a statue of the Cambrian legislator, Howel Dda, and under it the figure of a woman in basso-relievo.

The town of Lantwit exhibits numerous vestiges of its ancient extent and consequence. Several streets and lanes may be traced by foundations and ruined buildings, and are still known by their ancient names. Its former populousness is also indicated by its spacious church and cemetery; the latter of which, from the number of human bones dug up in the adjacent fields and gardens, appears to have been of very large extent. The Town Hall is yet standing, and the gaol has not been demolished many years. From the name of *Gallows Way*, given to a road leading from the town, this is thought to have led to a place of execution. The town lost its corporate privileges in the reign of Henry VIII. The ruins of the College House are situated in a garden adjoining the church-yard on the north.

In the church-yard, on the north side, are two remarkable stones. The first, close by the church wall, a pyramidal, seven feet long, adorned with ancient British carvings. On one side, from top to bottom, it has a remarkable furrow or groove, about two inches deep and four wide, which seems plainly to have been a cross. The other stone is curiously carved, and serves as a pedestal to a cross. On one side is an inscription, shewing that one Samson erected it for his soul: on the other it appears Samson dedicated it to St. Illtyd. Against the wall of the porch is another for Ithiel, abbot of Llanilltyd, in the sixth century.

One mile hence is St. Dunawd, or Donat's Castle, situated within 300 yards of the shore. The castle is a large irregular pile, bearing many marks of ancient magnificence, and still in some degree inhabited; but most of the state apartments are in a very decayed

condition. It was defended by a ditch, and in some places by a triple wall: it had also a park, well stocked with deer, and gardens with terraces to the Severn. The present building seems to have been erected by the Stradlings, about 1091, or the fifth year of William Rufus, and was the family seat six hundred and forty-eight years; but on the extinction of that family, it came to Bussey Mansel, esq. in 1740. The castle is a large turreted edifice, but built on a very inelegant plan. What has been added to the original structure at different periods, forms an irregular whole, whose parts are dissimilar, unconnected, and every way displeasing. The greatest curiosities here are in the principal court, which is of a polygonal shape, and disproportionately low, and ornamented with a few small round recesses in the walls, having within them the busts of Roman emperors and empresses, which appear to have been formerly sumptuously painted and gilt. The state apartments are much ornamented, and contain several specimens of heavy wood work, greatly in vogue during the reigns of Elizabeth and James I. The view from its principal room in the tower is really magnificent, looking straight across the channel, which is near twenty miles broad, to the hills of Somersetshire above Minehead.

In the park are the ruins of a watch-tower, for the observation of distressed vessels during stormy weather, for the purpose of securing their cargoes for the lord, in the event of their being driven on shore.

A few miles from the last-mentioned place is Din Dryvan House, or Castle, situated on a headland, jutting into the sea, and forming a point, nine miles from Cowbridge. The present mansion, raised on the site of the ancient edifice, is elegant and spacious, but built in the pointed style, by Thomas Wyndham, esq. the present proprietor.

Dunraven, called *Dindryvan* in Welsh history, is probably the oldest residence in Wales. It is certain that Caradoc, the celebrated Caractacus of British and

Roman history resided here, as did also his father Brân ab Llyr. After the capture of the British hero, the Lords of Glamorgan continued to reside here occasionally, till the conquest of this part, in the time of Iestyn ab Gwrgant.

Returning to our road at the distance of about three miles from Penline, we arrive at Cowbridge, being a translation of its Welsh name of Pont-y-Von. It is seated in a low bottom, but the soil is remarkably fertile. The streets are broad and paved. It has a good market, well supplied with corn, cattle, sheep, and other provisions; here is likewise a handsome church and town-hall, where the quarter sessions are held.

Cowbridge is governed by two bailiffs, twelve aldermen, and twelve common council, and sundry other inferior officers. The neighbourhood is remarkable for a number of castles, and the town for an excellent grammar school, where many literary characters were educated, particularly the late Dr. Price, and others much celebrated in the republic of letters. The school is at present well supported, and in great repute.

Three miles from Cowbridge is LLANCARVAN, where St. Cadoc, or Catwg, is said to have founded a monastery, about A. D. 500. Here Caradoc the historian, and cotemporary with Geoffrey of Monmouth, it is said was born. His "History of Wales," or rather the Chronicle, was translated into English by Humphrey Llwyd, and published with additions by Dr. David Powel, in quarto, 1684; by Wynne, 1697; 1704, in octavo; and afterwards by Sir John Price, knight, in 1774, with a description of Wales prefixed.

Trev Walter, or Walterston, was the residence of Walter de Mapes in the twelfth century. He built the present church of Llanancarvan, and also the village of Walterston, with a mansion for himself. Though his father was one of the Norman invaders, the son, by an act of unusual generosity, restored a considerable proportion of his lands to the native proprietors.

Morlai Castle, near Morlai Brook, is situate in a very fruitful valley for grass and corn. Amid the ruins

of the castle was discovered an entire room, circular, and about thirty feet in diameter, the sides adorned with twelve flat arches for doors and windows, and the roof supported by a central pillar, like the chapter-house in Margam Abbey.

This room, although one of the greatest curiosities, on this side of the country, is so buried in the ruins, as to leave scarcely any appearance of it above ground. Llewelyn granted this castle to Reginald de Bruce, in 1217, who committed it to the care of Rhys Vychan, but it was destroyed soon after by order of Llewelyn. It was in ruins in Leland's time, and belonged to the king.

Resuming our road, at the distance of eleven miles from Cowbridge, we arrive at Cardiff, or Caerdyv, so called from its situation on the junction of two rivers, the great and little Tâv, and the plural of Tâv being Tyv, hence Caerdyv, and which united stream runs along the west side of it, and falls into the Severn, three miles below. It is handsome and well built, enclosed by a stone wall, in which were four gates, and a deep ditch or mound, with a watch-tower still to be seen. The town is pleasantly situated on a fertile flat, two miles and a quarter from the eastern extremity of the county, where it is joined by Monmouthshire. There is a good bridge of five arches over the river Tav, and vessels of two hundred tons burthen come up to the town. Between the town and the Severn is a fine level tract of moor land, which used to be frequently overflowed with spring tides; but now well secured by a sea wall, which has turned an extensive piece of salt marsh into fresh land. The town-hall, a respectable modern erection, stands in the middle of one of the principal thoroughfares, and near it is the county gaol, built upon the plan of the late Mr. Howard. Since the completion of the canal to Merthyr, the town has been increased by several handsome houses. Three miles below the town is a harbour called Penarth, which is very commodious for ships and vessels detained in the Bristol channel by westerly winds. The inhabitants of this town and neigh-

bourhood carry on a considerable trade to Bristol, and send thither great quantities of oats, barley, salt butter, and poultry of all kinds; beside exporting annually not less than eight thousand seven hundred and eighty tons of cast and wrought iron for London and other places; the bulk of it made at Merthyr Tydvil, and brought down from thence by a curious navigable canal, the head of which, at Merthyr Bridge, is five hundred and sixty-eight feet five inches higher than the tide lock at Cardiff.

The only manufacture here consists of iron hoops; however, in consequence of the numerous collieries up the vale, the iron works at Merthyr, Melin Gruffydd, &c. the produce of which is conveyed here for importation to Bristol, with shop goods, the trade here is considerable. The new cut to the town quays on the canal, admits ships of 200, and 300 tons to take in their loadings, and complete their cargoes by means of barges. The mail coach for Milford arrives here from Bristol every evening, about eight, and the mail for the metropolis passes through Cardiff about six in the morning. The inns are numerous; but the two principal are the Cardiff Arms and the Angel.

Cardiff contains two parishes, St. John's and St. Mary's, though at present there is but one church; for, by a great inundation of the sea, in 1607, the church of St. Mary, with many buildings in that parish, were undermined and swept away. The church of St. John stands near the middle of the town, in a street of the same name. It is a plain Norman structure, supposed to have been erected in the thirteenth century. The arch of the west door is rich and handsome. The tower, of more modern date than the body, is a lofty square building of great beauty, having at the corners, open pinnacles or lanterns, greatly admired for their elegance, and exquisite workmanship; these have been lately repaired in a manner highly creditable to the artist. Here are no objects of antiquarian interest in the interior of the church.

The castle still forms an interesting object: the

western front has a remarkably fine appearance from the road approaching the town on that side. The interior was repaired and modernized some years since for the residence of Lord Mounstuart, Lord Bute's eldest son, when the accidental death of that nobleman put a stop to the design; but the additions do not harmonize with the ancient architecture. The Black Tower had been assigned as the prison of Robert Courtoise, under Henry I. The ditch that formerly surrounded this building has been filled up, and the whole of the ground laid out in a fine level lawn. The rampart, within the external wall, has been planted with shrubs, and on the summit a terrace-walk extends the whole length, affording a delightful prospect.

In the reign of Charles the First, Cardiff espoused the cause of that injured king, and was closely besieged by Oliver Cromwell in person, with a strong party, who bombarded the castle from an entrenchment something better than a quarter of a mile to the west of the town. The cannonade was kept up for three days successively; and Oliver, in a book of his own writing, called the *Flagellum*, says, "He should have found greater difficulty in subduing Cardiff castle, had it not been for a deserter from the garrison, who conducted his party in the night-time through a subterraneous passage into the castle." The lordship and castle of Cardiff then belonged to the Earl of Pembroke, and from that family by intermarriages it devolved, with many castles and lordships in Glamorganshire, to that of the Windsors.

In this town Robert, Earl of Gloucester, who died in 1147, founded a priory of White Friars, and another of Black ones, which continued till the general dissolution of religious houses by Henry the Eighth, in 1536. A great part of the shell of the White Friars is now to be seen, and the Black Friars' house is inhabited by fishermen.

Near Melin Gruffydd, in the neighbourhood, is Castell Coch, consisting of a circular tower and a few entrenchments, on the brow of a perpendicu-

lar rock, supposed to have been a fortress of the Britons.

Three leagues south of Cardiff are two islands, called the Flat, and the Steep Holmes; on the former is a lighthouse, and a good dwelling, where pilots frequently wait to conduct ships up the Bristol Channel; this island contains 60 acres of land, and is well cultivated.

A little to the westward of these are Sully and Barry islands, situated scarcely three miles from the mouth of the river Tav, in the winding of the shore, divided from each other, and also from the land, by a narrow frith. Sully is so denominated from Robert de Sully; the other called Barry, from St. Baruch, who lies buried there.

On a gentle elevation, about two miles north-west of Cardiff, is Llandaff, which is called by the Welsh Llandav, from its situation on the Tav. This is at present a miserable village of mean cottages, with the exception of a few gentlemen's houses. It depends mostly for the supply of its necessaries from Cardiff; only two miles distant: of course here is no market. Still the great object here is the cathedral, partly Saxon, and partly Norman, though the prevailing style is, what is commonly called Gothic. The western front is remarkably handsome, being ornamented with lancet windows of various sizes. Immediately over the principal entrance, and underneath the arch, is the figure of a Bishop, with one hand moderately raised, the other holding the pastoral staff. Above, over the upper range of windows, near the centre of the building, is another carved figure, in a sitting posture, holding a book in one hand. The whole is surmounted by a very ancient cross. On the north side is a very rich Saxon door-way. At the west end were formerly two magnificent square towers, of which that at the north angle alone remains. This was built by Jasper Duke of Bedford, in 1485; the pinnacles were damaged by a storm, in 1703. Two sides of this tower are raised on two light arches, which spring from a single pillar. In the interior some elegant

Gothic arches separated the nave from two side aisles. The entire length of the church is 300 feet, and the breadth 80. At the west end is a chapel, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and on the south side stands the chapter-house. The ancient structure having fallen into decay, a new edifice was raised within the old walls, about the year 1751. The body of this is in length, from east to west, two hundred and sixty-three feet, the distance from the west door to the choir is one hundred and ten, and the length from the latter to the altar seventy-five; the body of the church sixty-five, and the height, from the floor to the top of the compass-work of the roof, the same. The choir is very neat, but there is no cross aisle, although common to almost every other cathedral in England and Wales. The new addition, on which large sums have been expended, is a mixture of Grecian and Gothic, and the portico of a Grecian Temple projects over the altar. The building is upon the whole ridiculously disfigured with Venetian windows, Ionic pillars, and almost every imaginable impropriety. The modern church noticed separately is singularly situated, and formed mostly within the walls of the old cathedral. In the midst of these defects in architecture, the neatness in which the church is kept, however, deserves no small portion of commendation, particularly the great care apparently taken of the numerous remnants of antiquity, monuments, &c. that are to be found in this ancient edifice. Near the cathedral are some remains of the ancient castellated mansion of the Bishop. The destruction of this building, with the principal portion of the church, is attributed to Owen Glyndwr. The early history of this see is involved in considerable obscurity. St. Tewdric the Martyr, who lived in the fifth century, and was the grandfather of the celebrated Arthur, seems to have been the builder of the first church, and Dubricius, the golden-headed, the first Bishop in the sixth century.

About five miles north from Llandaff, and seven from Cardiff, is Caerfili Castle, situated among a row

of hills that run through the middle of Glamorganshire towards Brecknockshire. The town is neat and clean, with many respectable houses; but the castle is the chief building, and probably one of the noblest remains of antiquity in the kingdom, situate on a small stream which runs into the Rumney.

It consists of one large oblong court, with an entrance by a gateway, and two round towers to the east and west. On the north is a dead wall, with loop holes, and on the south a magnificent hall. At each angle was a round tower of four stories, communicating with others by a gallery in the second story. The south-east tower, next what is called *the Mint*, stands eleven feet out of its perpendicular, resting only on one part of its south side; it is seventy or eighty feet in height.

The hall is a stately room, about seventy feet by thirty, and seventeen high, the roof of which is vaulted, and supported by twenty arches. On one side are two stately windows, continuing down to the floor, and reaching above the supposed roof of the room: the sides are ornamented with double rows of triple leaved knobs or husks, bearing a fruit like a round ball, and in the centre, an ornament common in buildings of the fourteenth century. On the side walls of the room are seven clusters of round pilasters, about four feet long, each supported by three busts, varied alternately. In the south, at equal distances, are six grooves, about nine inches wide, and eight high, intended to place something, of which nothing remains. The doors are placed on the east end, eight feet high, opening into a court or castle yard, which is seventy yards by forty, with another on the south side; on the east are two more, bow-arched, and within a yard of each other. The inner buildings, or main body of the castle, is entirely surrounded by an immense wall, supported by strong buttresses, and defended by square towers, communicating with each other by an embattled gallery, and over it a pleasant walk. In the east end gate of the

castle are two hexagonal towers, and at right angles with this gate, is a square tower, with three grooves for portcullises, and an oven.

Between the outer wall and the moat were the offices: the mill-house is still remaining. Without the walls of the castle are several moated entrenchments, with bastions at the angles. The origin of this noble fabric cannot be traced. Some Flemish pieces have been discovered here with an image of our Saviour; and about the same time, coins resembling the Venetian, with a brass one, like those of the middle ages, but without a syllable of inscription to assist our conjectures in endeavouring to elucidate the origin of one of the largest buildings in Britain.

This castle formerly belonged to the Clares and Earls of Gloucester, then the Earl of Pembroke. On a mountain called Cevn y Gelli Gaer, near the castle, on the road to Marchnad y Waen, is a remarkable monument, known by the name of Y Maen Hir, consisting of a rude stone pillar of a quadrangular form, and eight feet high, with an inscription inserted in Camden. Close at the bottom is a small entrenchment.

But amongst the various conjectures as to the origin of this castle, the greatest probability is, that the first Norman settlers, Lords of Glamorgan, enlarged and strengthened the edifice which had previously stood on this site, and gradually raised it to that splendour and magnificence, which yet excite our wonder and admiration. It is obvious, that even the principal buildings of the interior were erected at different periods; the two grand entrances, the gates on the east side, being the work of a different age from that on the western side.

CAERMARTHENSHIRE.

THIS county, called by the Welsh *Swydd Caer-yrddin*, is bounded on the north by Cardiganshire, on the east by Brecknockshire, on the west by Pembroke-shire, and on the south by Glamorganshire, and part of

the sea. It extends from east to west above 45 miles, but in the contrary direction little more than 20. The general surface of Caermarthenshire is hilly; and in the northern and eastern parts the hills rise into mountains. The vales for the most parts are narrow, and the hills rise abruptly from the skirts of small vallies, with which this district is almost every where intersected; but the vale of Tywi is the principal of the level tracts, extending 30 miles up the country, with a breadth of two miles, and abounds in picturesque beauties. The principal rivers are the Tywi and Tav; the former rises in Cardiganshire, and enters Caermarthenshire at its north eastern-corner, and takes its course to the south. The climate of Caermarthenshire is not favourable to wheat, barley succeeds better; but the most profitable crop is oats, of which large quantities are exported annually to Bristol and other places.

Numbers of black cattle are bred in the county, and much butter exported yearly. It has been extremely well wooded, but great waste has of late years been made of the timber; coals and limestone are plentiful, with a few lead mines.

Caermarthenshire is divided into six hundreds, containing six market-towns and 87 parishes, within the diocese of St. David, and the province of Canterbury, with 77,217 inhabitants. It returns two members to the Imperial parliament; one for the county, and one for Caermarthen.

*Journey from Llandovery to St. Clare; through
Caermarthen.*

LLANDOVERY, or Llanymddyvri, is situated on a bank of the river Tywi, over which is a handsome bridge. The town is rather a mean, straggling place, and very irregularly built, encompassed by streams in almost every direction. It lies near the head of the upper vale of Tywi, and is bounded by a range of wild hills, which divide it from Cardiganshire. In Leland's time it had but one street, and that poorly built of thatched houses, with the parish church on a hill, near which, several roman bricks have been found.

On a mount between Boran river and Ewenni brook, are the remains of a small castle, consisting of two sides, and a deep trench, but by whom built, is uncertain. In 1113 we find it in the possession of Richard de Pws, and about that time besieged by Gruffydd ab Rhys, who, after burning the outworks, raised the siege, and retired with considerable loss. Subsequent to this, many trifling circumstances occurred, but the last action, mentioned by Caradoc took place in 1213, when Rhys, the son of Gruffydd ab Rhys, with an army of Welsh and Normans, encamped before this place with an intention to besiege it; but the governor thought it more prudent to surrender, on condition that the garrison should be permitted to march out unmolested, which was granted.

On leaving Llandovery, our road lies in a south-westerly direction, and at the distance of about eight miles, we pass on our left the town of LLANGADOC, situate between the rivers Bran and Cothi. The town is small, but lately much improved in its buildings: it is said to have been once a large town, and Thomas Beck, bishop of St. Asaph, attempted to make its church collegiate in the year 1233. In this parish is an iron manufactory, called The Beaufort Works. Here are four blast-furnaces and forges; about 250 people have been generally employed at a time. The ore is raised at the distance of half a mile, and conveyed thence by tram-roads.

Most of the neighbouring farmers and cottagers clothe themselves, with their home-made woollen cloths, striped and plaided, and woollen stockings, and have a great deal to spare to sell to more indolent counties. In the neighbourhood was an ancient castle, now entirely demolished.

About twelve miles from Llandovery, in our road, is LLANDEILO, a considerable market-town, pleasantly situate on a rising ground by the river Tawy, over which is a handsome stone bridge.

In 1213 Rhys Vychan, being fearful that Faulke, lord of Cardigan, would dispossess him of this town,

caused it to be burnt to the ground, and then had himself recourse to the woods and desert places in its vicinity.

A decisive battle is said to have been fought here in 1281, between Edward I. and Llewelyn the Great, in which, by Mortimer's manœuvre, the Welsh were defeated.

Dinevwr Castle, one mile from Llandeilo, is the grand seat of the Rice family, lately ennobled by the title of Lord Dinevor. It occupies an eminence immediately above the town, covering several undulating hills with its rich groves and verdant lawns. The castle was built by Rhys ab Theodore, in the time of William the Conqueror, who removed hither from Caermarthen, the former residence of the princes of South Wales. Its original form was circular, fortified with a double moat and rampart, having on the left side of the ascent a bulwark, with a large arch, which fell down many years ago. South of the castle are shewn the ruins of a chapel, between two round towers, and on the east side a dungeon, at the bottom of a ruined tower.

In the year 1145, Cadell, the son of Gruffydd ab Rhys, took this fortress from Gilbert, Earl of Clare. Giraldus mentions it being demolished in 1194, but soon after rebuilt with its ruins, only made to occupy a smaller extent of ground. After this, in 1205, we find it in the possession of Rhys, the son of Gruffydd ab Rhys; but in 1257, Rhys Vychan, having procured assistance, marched with an English army from Caermarthen against this fortress, which valiantly held out until Llewelyn ab Gruffydd came to its relief, when a battle ensued, wherein the English lost 2000 men, besides many barons and knights who were taken prisoners. But the demolition of this castle was completed in the Civil Wars, though not till after two batteries failed to make any impression on its garrison; a third being erected, it was reduced. The ruins were granted to Sir Rice ab Thomas, by Henry VII. for the great assistance given him on his landing

at Milford Haven, and Bosworth Field, which procured Henry the crown of England. Henry VIII. on a false charge of treason, seized this castle, but again restored it to Rhys, an ancestor of the present Lord Dinevor, who is a lineal descendant from the princes of South Wales.

In the centre, amidst rich groves and verdant lawns, stands the house, a plain modern structure; but the scenery about it is beautiful, consisting of a profusion of woods, principally of the finest oak, with some large Spanish chesnuts, descending abruptly to the bed of the river Tywi, where all the striking beauties of this enchanting tract may be enjoyed in full display of romantic scenery, while the high chain of rude unequal mountains, crossing the road at right angles, form three separate vales, widely differing from each other in form and character.

Three miles eastward from Llandeilo is Careg Cennin Castle, strongly situated on the point of a high craggy insulated rock, three sides of which are wholly inaccessible, and surrounded at moderate, but equal distances, with mountains, and roads leading to it, scarcely passable. The fortress, of which a great part is still extant, does not occupy an acre of ground, the rock scarcely admitting of that extent; but the ruins, when seen from the road between Bettws and Llandeilo, appear uncommonly singular.

This was doubtless an ancient British building; and a proof of its great antiquity may be deduced from its plan, for approaching it from the east side, we do not find the gateway, as is usual, between two towers in front; but a strong covered-way on the brink of the rock, which leads to the gates on the south side. The well in this castle is also of a singular kind; for, instead of a perpendicular descent, here is a large winding cave bored through the solid rock, with an arched passage on the northern edge of the precipice, running along the outside of the fortress, with an easy slope, to the beginning of the perforation, which is in length 84 feet. This perfo-

ration is of various dimensions; the breadth of it at the beginning is twelve feet, and in some places less than three; but at a medium, it may be estimated to be from five to six, and the height of the cave ten feet, but varying, that the whole descent through the rock is 150 feet.

There is no account or mention of this castle till 1284, when, according to Caradoc, Rhys Vychan won it from the English, to whom a short time before it was privately delivered by his mother. In 1773, some coins were turned up here by the plough, of the reigns of Elizabeth, James, and Charles I., probably concealed during the civil dissensions of the latter reign. In this neighbourhood are some remains of Llangadog and Llanymddvri Castles, frequently mentioned in British history.

At the distance of fifteen miles from Llandeilo, after passing through Abergwyli, we arrive at Caermarthen, or Caervyrddin, from its being situated on the conflux of a brook, called Byrddin, and the Tywi, on the western bank of the Tywi; and being partly on a considerable elevation, it has a striking appearance, and a commanding prospect. All the principal streets contain a large proportion of good houses, and though the streets are not regular, it is not a whit more objectionable on this ground than many of the old towns. The principal thoroughfare in the middle of the town, besides being very steep, is exceedingly narrow. The actual length of the town is about three-fourths of a mile, and about half a mile wide; it was formerly surrounded by a high wall, with fortified gates, &c. The communication with the country, on the eastward, is formed by a substantial stone bridge, of several arches, over the Tywi. A beautiful public walk at the upper end of the town, is called the Parade, which commands an extensive view of the vale. The Guildhall is situated in the middle of the town; it has a grand staircase in the front, which is highly ornamental to the structure. The county gaol occupies a part of the site of the castle, and was built on the well-intended,

but injudicious plan of the philanthropic Howard. The excellent market-place is, with great propriety, placed a small distance from the town. Since the year 1803, water has been conveyed in iron pipes into the town, from some excellent springs in the neighbourhood. There are here no manufactories of consequence, though in the vicinity are some iron and tin works on a tolerably extensive scale. Besides a fabrication of coarse hats, Caermarthen supplies the neighbouring country with shop goods of various descriptions, to a very large annual amount, and carries on an extensive export trade in corn, butter, &c. to Bristol and other ports: vessels of about 300 tons burden, are admitted to the town, and a very handsome and substantial quay has lately been built. The inns here are numerous, and some of them very good. The Ivy Bush, formerly a gentleman's residence here, may be ranked among the best inns in the principality. A very respectable newspaper has been published here for some years past. Caermarthen is a borough-town, and sends one member to parliament. Some of its privileges are very ancient, and of unknown origin, and no doubt derived from the Welsh princes, who had their chancery and exchequer here.

Caermarthen contains but one parish, and the church is dedicated to St. Peter. It is a large plain edifice, consisting of two aisles and a chancel, with a lofty square tower at the western end. The neatness of the interior is greatly improved by a handsome, fine-toned organ. The most remarkable monument here, is that of Sir Rhys ab Thomas, and his lady, on the north side of the chancel, though they were buried in the adjacent priory, where this monument was originally erected. Nearly opposite to this is another monument, bearing a most grotesque figure of a female, in the act of kneeling, and underneath a singular inscription.

Sir Richard Steele was buried in the cemetery of the Scurlocks, with whom he had been connected by marriage. His want of a monument is said to have

been owing to his dying request. Caermarthen contains several places of worship, belonging to different classes of Dissenters, and the Presbyterians have here a very respectable collegiate institution for the education of young men, for the ministry, supported by a public fund in the metropolis. Dr. Abraham Rees, the learned editor of the *New Cyclopædia*, has for a long period been one of the visitors. The priory here, was situated north-east of the church, in a part which formerly constituted a township of itself, called Old Caermarthen. The house stood in a large quadrangular court, entered on the north by an arched gateway, part of which still remains in Priory-street; but though this Priory existed before 1148, neither date nor founder is known. At the other end of the town, stood a house of Grey Friars; and behind the Guildhall was a church or chapel, dedicated to St. Mary, not used since the dissolution of monasteries. The remains of the castle are very inconsiderable; being taken in the civil wars, by the parliament forces under General Langhorne, it was suffered to go to decay, though till about twenty-five years ago, a part of it was used for the common gaol.

Antiquaries have generally agreed in fixing the Roman city of Maridunum here, from the junction at this point of the two grand branches of the Julian way. Caermarthen is also the reputed birth-place of the supposed Magician, and prophet Merlin. The return of the population of this place in 1811, is estimated at 7275.

About seven miles beyond Caermarthen is the village of St. CLARE, where was anciently a castle. Here was likewise a priory of monks, cell to the Cistercian abbey of St. Martin de Campis in Paris, founded in the year 1291, and given by Henry VI. to All Soul's College, Oxford.

Five miles from St. Clare, stood Ty Gwyn, or White House, the ancient palace of Howel Dda, the first sovereign of all Wales. Here, in 942, he sent for the archbishop of St. David, with the rest of the

bishops and principal clergy, to the number of 140, beside the barons and principal nobility. Thus collected, in the palace of Ty Gwyn, they passed the Lent in prayer and fasting, imploring divine assistance in the design of reforming the laws. At the close of the season, the king chose twelve of the gravest and most experienced men of this assembly, who, in concert with Blegored, a very learned man, and able lawyer, he commissioned to examine the old laws, in order to retain the good, and abrogate those that were improper or unnecessary.

The commission being executed, the new laws were publicly read and proclaimed: three copies were accordingly written; one for the king's own use, the second to be laid up in his palace of Aberfraw, in North Wales, and the third at Dinevwr, in South Wales, that all the Welsh provinces might have access to them; and, as a farther confirmation of the whole, the king, with the archbishop, went to Rome, and obtained of the Pope a solemn ratification of the same, which continued in force till the conquest of Wales, in 1282, by Edward I.

Three miles south from St. Clare is LACHARN, a small village, situated at the mouth of the river Tav. It is irregularly built on a low bank of the estuary, with a ferry to Llanstephan.

Llacharn Castle was built by the Normans, before the year 1214; but fell afterwards into the possession of Llewelyn the Great. It still exhibits the fragments of an ancient keep, situated on an elevation, and surrounded by a deep moat.

Here is supposed to have been the *Lucarium* of Antonianus, called by some ancient authors Loughor, or Larn.

About three miles eastward from the last mentioned place, is Llanstephan Castle, which crowns the summit of a bold hill, whose precipitous base is washed by the sea. Its broken walls enclose a large area, and is encircled with several ramparts, appearing to have possessed considerable strength. The whole

affords a very picturesque appearance, exhibiting a wide estuary, with a rocky promontory opposite, and the boundless sea. This castle is supposed to have been built by Uchtryd, prince of Meirion, in 1138. The village is neat, and well situated in a woody valley, commanding an extensive view of the neighbouring estuary of the Tav, near its junction with the sea.

The castle was built, probably by the Normans, before 1215, and afterwards fell into the possession of Llewelyn.

*Journey from Kydweli to Newcastle; through
Caermarthen.*

KYDWELI is a small but neat town, at a little distance from the coast, and 12 miles from Llychwr, in Glamorganshire. It is divided into what is called the Old and New Town, and only separated by a bridge over the Gwendraeth. The parish church stands in New Kydweli: it is a plain structure, consisting of only one aisle, and two ruined transepts, with a tower at the western end, surmounted by a handsome spire 165 feet in height. Over the entrance is a figure of the Virgin Mary; and in the interior a sepulchral effigy of a priest, with an illegible inscription. On the same side of the river was a priory, founded by Roger, bishop of Salisbury, for Benedictine or Black Monks, subject to the Abbey of Sherborne in Dorsetshire.

The old town, in Leland's time, was well walled, with three gates, having over one the town wall, and under it a prison. In 990 this place was almost destroyed by Edwin ab Einion, and afterwards, in 1093, it suffered considerably by the Normans, who destroyed some of the principal houses, and made a dreadful massacre of the inhabitants. The town is very much decayed, but the castle is well worthy of observation; which occupies a bold rocky eminence on the western side of the river. The exterior is still grand and imposing; the ground plan is nearly square. At each of the angles is a strong round tower; and the walls forming the enclosure, are defended by

other towers of smaller dimensions. Several of the apartments are entire, with their arched roofs unimpaired, and some of the staircases are in tolerable preservation. The principal entrance was from the west, beneath a magnificent gateway between two round lofty towers, which still remain. Caradoc says, the first castle erected here, was built by William de Londres, one of the Norman Knights, who assisted Robert Fitzhamon, who in 1094 led a powerful force into Gower, Kydweli, and Ystrad Tywi. Twenty years afterwards, this castle was taken by Gruffydd, ab Rhys, who invaded the territories of the Norman lord, and made a valuable booty. A few years after, while Gruffydd was in North Wales, his wife Gwenlluant, attended by her two sons, led in person a body of troops into this neighbourhood, where she was defeated and taken prisoner, by the great grandson of William de Londres. After the engagement this heroine and several of her followers were cruelly put to death. In the course of a few years more, 1190, Rhys ab Gruffydd, after winning the castles of Abercorran, St. Clare's, and Llanstephan, made the castle of Kylweli handsomer and stronger than any of his other fortresses.

By the New Town is an ordinary harbour, nearly choaked with sand, so that only small vessels are able to approach its quay. The principal trade is coals and culm.

On leaving this town we proceed northerly, and at the distance of eight miles pass through Caermarthen, 20 miles beyond which we arrive at **NEWCASTLE-IN-EMLYN**, or Dinas Emlyn, on the river Teivi. It contains nothing remarkable, except the site of an ancient castle. In 1215, Llewelyn ab Iorwerth having won the castle, subdued Cemaes. The situation of this town, and the road to it from Caermarthen, is in general dreary and mountainous, which subjects the traveller to considerable danger, particularly from the numerous and interceptible turf pits with which this district abounds.

Crug-y-Dyrn, is a remarkable tumulus in Trelech parish, being in circumference sixty paces, and in height about six yards. It rises from an easy ascent, and is hollow on the top, gently inclining from the circumference to the centre.

This heap is chiefly formed of small stones covered with turf, and may properly be called a *carnedd*. On the top, in a small cavity, is a large flat stone, of an oval form, about three yards long, and twelve inches thick. On searching under it was found a *cist vaen*, or stone chest, four feet long and three broad, composed of seven stones, two at the end, and one behind. About the outside, and within the chest, some rough pieces of brick were found, also pieces of wrought freestone, with a great quantity of human bones. It is supposed to have been the burial place or sepulchre of some British chief, before the Roman conquest.

Bwrdd-Arthur, or Arthur's Tables, is on a mountain near Cil-y-maen-llwyd, consisting of circular stone monuments*. The diameter of the circle

* In the year 1179, the sepulchre of the celebrated King Arthur, and Gwenhwyvar his queen, were found by means of a Welsh bard, whom King Henry II. heard at Pembroke, relate, in a song, the mighty actions of that great prince, and the place where he was buried, which was found in the isle of Avalon, without Glastonbury Abbey. According to the bard, their bodies were found, laid in a hollow elder tree, interred fifteen feet in the earth. The bones of King Arthur were of a prodigious and almost incredible magnitude; having ten wounds in the skull, one of which being considerably larger than the rest, appeared to have been mortal. The queen's hair appeared quite fresh, and of a yellow colour, but when touched fell instantly to dust.

Over the bones was laid a stone, with a cross of lead, having on the lower side of the stone, this inscription:

is about 20 yards, and composed of extraordinary rude stones, pitched on their ends, at unequal intervals, of three, four, six, and eight feet high. There were originally 23 in number, but now there are only 15 standing, eight of the smallest being carried away for private purposes. The entrance, for above three yards, is guarded on each side by small stones, contiguous to each other, and opposite to this passage, at the distance of about 300 yards, stand three more, considerably larger, and more rude than the preceding.

PEMBROKESHIRE.

THIS county, the most western of South Wales, is bounded on the north-west by Cardigan Bay, on the north-east by the county of Cardigan, on the east by the county of Caermarthen, on the south by the Bristol Channel, and on the west by the Irish Sea. It is called by the Welsh, *Dyved* or *Diametia*, and *Penvro*, or the Headland. Its extent, from north to south, is about 35 miles, and from east to west 29; comprehending about 35,600 acres. It is divided into seven hundreds, containing seven towns, and 145 parishes. It is in the province of Canterbury, and diocese of St. David. The surface is, for the most part, composed of swells, or easy slopes, but not mountainous, except a ridge of hills, which runs from the coast, near Fisgard, to the borders of Caermarthenshire. These hills are called the moun-

“ HIC JACET SEPULTUS INCLYTUS REX,
ARTHURUS IN INSULA AVALONIA.”

OR,

“ *Here lies buried the famous King Arthur,
in the Isle of Avalon.*”

King Arthur was slain in the battle of Camlan
A. D. 540.

tains, and the people distinguish the country with reference to the hills; the north side being called above the mountains, and the south side below.

The county is well watered by springs rising in the slopes, so as to give a convenient supply to the adjacent lands in general; but some parts of the coast are in want of water in the summer season, particularly where limestone is found at a moderate depth. The climate is temperate, and it rarely happens that frost continues with severity for any considerable time; nor does snow lie long upon the ground, but generally dissolves the second or third day after its fall. The prevailing state of the air is moist; and there is, probably, more rain here than in any other part of the kingdom, owing to the insular situation, and the high mountains of Caermartheushire and Breconshire, lying eastward, which stop the current of the clouds brought by the westerly winds from the Atlantic Ocean, and occasion thereby torrents of rain to descend in Pembrokeshire whenever those winds prevail. Woods are rather scarce; particularly towards the western coast. The interior part of the country is better wooded, but the growth is for the most part slow, and the oak remarkably full of heart. The commerce of this county is very trifling, and cannot be said to have any influence on its agriculture, unless we allow the exportation of corn when it is cheap, and the importation when it is dear, to be commerce. Upon the occasion of the arrival of some respectable persons at Milford, a few years since as settlers there, some enquiry after the people, called the Welsh Indians, was excited, and the following account of their origin was referred to:

On the death of Owen Gwynedd, prince of North Wales, in 1170, there arose an alarming contention about the succession to the principality between his sons, which involved Wales for some years in a civil war. But Madawg, being of a more pacific disposition than his brothers, perceiving his inability to terminate this hostile disposition, determined to try his

fortune abroad, therefore left Wales in a very unsettled condition, and sailed with a small fleet, which he had prepared for the purpose, to the westward, leaving Ireland upon the north, till he came to an unknown country, where most things appeared to him new, and the manners of the natives different to what he had been accustomed to see in Europe. This country, says the learned H. Llwyd, must have been some part of that vast continent, of which the Spaniards, since Hanno's time, boast themselves to be the first discoverers, and which, by the order of Cosmography, seems to be some part of Nova Hispania or Florida, therefore it is evident that this country was discovered by the Britons near 329 years before the time of Columbus, or Americus Vesputius.

After divesting the subsequent part of some absurd traditions, it is manifest, says the same author, that Madawg, on his arrival, seeing the fertility and pleasantness of this new country, thought it expedient to invite more of his countrymen out of Britain, therefore left those he had brought with him, and returned for Wales.

Having arrived, he began to acquaint his friends with what a fair and extensive land he had met with, and void of inhabitants, while they at home employed their time and skill to supplant one another for a small portion of rugged rocks and sterile mountains, therefore recommended them to exchange their present state of dangers and continual warfare for one with more peace and enjoyment. By such persuasion he procured a considerable number of Welsh to emigrate with him, so gave a final adieu to his native country, and sailed back with ten ships. It is supposed that Madawg and his people inhabited part of that country, since called Florida, as the inhabitants were Christians, and worshipped the cross, before the arrival of the Spaniards, as appears by Francis Loves and Acusanus, authors of no small reputation. The learned Dr. Powell conjectures Madawg landed in a part of

Mexico, for the Spanish chronicles of the conquest of the West Indies, record a tradition of the inhabitants of that country,—that their rulers descended from a strange nation, and came there from a foreign country, which was confessed by King Montezuma, in a speech at his submission to the King of Castile, before Hernando Cortez, the Spanish general. As an additional testimony, many British words might be produced, and names of places, as, Gorando, to listen; a certain bird called Penguin; the island of Cooroso, Cape Bryton, river Gwyndor, and the white rocks of Pengwyn, which manifestly shew it to have been inhabited by Madawg and his Britons. An additional proof is:

The purport of a letter, to Dr. Jones of Hammer-smith, from his brother in America.

In the year 1797, a Welsh tradesman on the river Monangahala, near Petersburg, went down the Ohio, and from thence up the Mississippi to within sixty miles of the Missouri, to a town called Mazores.

In the month of April, as he chanced to be out among some Indians, he overheard two conversing about some skins they had to sell or exchange, and from a word or two, conceived their language to be Welsh; he listened for a few minutes, and became convinced, though much corrupted from its primitive purity.

Notwithstanding, he resolved to endeavour to converse with them, and to his great astonishment, found themselves mutually understood, with the exception of some words either original, or obsolete in Wales. He describes them to be of a robust stature, and dressed from head to foot, in the skins of some animals, but no kind of shirt. Their complexion was of a copper colour, similar to other Indians, with strong black hair, but no beard, except about the mouth.

By them he understood they came from a long way up the Missouri, and had been about three months coming to the place where he found them. In conse-

quence of the preceding, John Evans, a young man, well acquainted with the language, has been in quest of the Welsh Indians, but without success, not having penetrated more than 900 miles up the Missouri before compelled to return, in consequence of a war among the natives. It is conjectured that our Cambro-Indians inhabit a territory nearly 1800 or 2000 miles up that river. A second trial was meditated, but before executed John Evans died, consequently no new discovery has been attempted. A great number of additional particulars, however, are constantly received, proving the existence of the Welsh Indians.

The principal river is the Cleddau, east and west, which, rising in the northern part, unite at a small distance from Milford Haven.

It sends three members to the Imperial parliament, viz. one for the county, and two for the towns of Pembroke and Haverfordwest.

*Journey from Pembroke to Fisgard; through
Haverfordwest.*

PEMBROKE, the borough town, consists principally of one long street, reaching from the east gate to the west, with a short cross street leading to the north gate. It was once surrounded by a lofty wall, in which were three gates; one at each end of the main street, and one on the north, which alone remains with a portion of the wall, flanked with several bastions of very solid masonry. The town stands on an arm of Milford Haven, and built on a rocky situation. The castle was built by Henry the First, and covers the whole of a great mount, which descends in a perpendicular cliff on each side, except towards the town, where it is almost encompassed by one of those winding estuaries, which being fed by some small rivers, penetrate into the county towards Milford Haven. The castle stands near the wall, on a rock, and is very large and strong, besides double warded. In the outer ward is the chamber where Henry the Seventh was born, in remembrance of which a chin-

ney is now built, with his arms and badges. In the bottom of the large round tower, in the inner ward, is a vault, called the Hogan. The top of this tower is gathered with a roof like a cone, and covered with a mill-stone, but the greater part is now in ruins or decay.

The remains are of Norman architecture, mixed with early Gothic, and the principal tower, which is uncommonly high, has still its stone-vaulted roof remaining. The walls of the tower are four feet thick, and the diameter of the space within 25, the height from the ground to the dome 75 feet; but it appears, that its height was originally divided by four floors.

In 1648, Colonels Langhorne, Powell, and Poyer, being displeased with the parliament, declared for the king, and held this town and castle four months; but Cromwell obliged them to surrender, and afterwards dismantled the castle. Some round stones fired for the purpose of shivering the pavement, have been found in the area, now a bowling-green. Many bones of the besiegers, killed in a pursuit, and buried on St. Cyrian's Hills, two miles from Tenby, were found in 1761.

Here was a priory, founded for Benedictines, by the Earl of Pembroke in 1398, afterwards a cell to St. Alban's, and at its dissolution, valued at 57*l*.

There are here two churches, St. Michael's, near the eastern extremity of the town, and St. Mary's, in the vicinity of the northern gate. They are both of them ancient structures, but are distinguished by no peculiarity or excellence. In the suburb of Monkton, to the westward of Pembroke, stands the church of St. Nicholas, the oldest religious edifice probably belonging to the place. Pembroke boasts no manufactory, and notwithstanding it possesses many local advantages for trade, its commercial importance is at this time extremely insignificant. It is perhaps the dullest town in South Wales, and the effect of this on the public accommodations of the place, is sensibly felt by all casual visitors, who have looked in

vain in the metropolis of the county, for a comfortable bed and board for a night.

Pembroke contained in 1811, 501 houses, with a population of 2415 persons. It is a borough town, having separate jurisdiction, and in conjunction with Tenby and Wiston, returns one member to parliament. The mayor is the returning officer, besides whom, the corporation consists of a council, two bailiffs, and sergeants at mace, and about 1500 burghesses. The petty sessions for the hundred are held here.

Near this town is Stackpool Court, the elegant mansion of Lord Cawdor, surrounded with fine plantations; and on the coast contiguous, is the chapel and legendary well of St. Govin, reputed to be miraculous for the cure of various diseases incident to man.

Two miles off is LAMPHEY, a pleasant village, situate on a gentle ascent, but chiefly noticed for the ancient palace of the bishop of St David's, afterwards a seat of the Earl of Essex, and at present tolerably entire, with some features of Gothic elegance.

MILFORD HAVEN appears like an immense lake, formed by a great advance of the sea into the land, for the space of about ten miles from the south to Pembroke, beyond which the tide comes up to Carew Castle. It is sufficiently large and capacious to hold the whole British navy; while the spring tides rise 36 feet, and the neap above 26. Ships may leave this harbour in the course of an hour, and in eight or nine more reach Ireland or the Land's End, and this with almost any wind, day or night.

There is no place in Great Britain or Ireland where nature has bestowed more conveniences for the building of ships of war, and for erecting forts, docks, quays, and magazines than Milford, being of greater extent and depth of water than any port in the kingdom. There are, besides, several places where forts might be erected at a very small expence,

which would render it secure from any attack of an enemy, as on Stack Rock Island, situate near the middle of the entrance, on each side of which the landing is bad, except at high water. This rock may be made impregnable against cannon or bombs, being 30 feet at least above high water. And on Rat Island a small battery would render it impossible for an enemy's ship of war to enter. For his majesty's fleets, cruisers, trading ships, and packet-boats to the West Indies and North America, this harbour is undoubtedly the most proper in Great Britain, because they may go to sea at almost any wind, and even at low water, by the help of the tides of the two channels, and weather Scilly or Cape Clear, when ships cannot come out of the British Channel, nor out of the French ports of Brest and Rochefort.

Another great advantage might be made of this harbour, by a few small transports of 120 or 150 tons burthen, running occasionally from thence to the bay, with live horned cattle, hogs, sheep, and fowls; potatoes, vegetables, and good wholesome beer, plenty of which is to be had in this port, for the use of fleets. This will appear more eligible when it is known to be fact, that the live stock may be conveyed to such fleets in less than one half the time they are driven from Wales to Sussex, and in better condition.

This vast harbour appears perfectly land-locked on all sides, except towards its mouth, where the shores contracting the channel, and turning abruptly to the south-east, present an aperture that might be well defended by judicious planned fortresses.

The first attempt to fortify this harbour was made by Queen Elizabeth, early in the year 1588, to protect this part of the kingdom from the threatened Spanish invasion: two forts were then erected, one on each side of the mouth of the harbour. They were dug in the cliffs, not far above the high water mark, the ruins of which are still visible, and are called Angle and Dale Blockhouses, from where

tradition says, strong chains were thrown across the entrance of the harbour, a distance of about 300 yards.

Since a royal dock-yard, &c. have been formed at Milford Haven, there can be no doubt that government will amply avail themselves of all the advantages of this excellent situation in due time. As for the possibility of an enemy's landing, concerning which, some writers have entertained very alarming apprehensions, they seem to forget, that whilst England maintains her wonted superiority at sea, these, instead of being indulged, ought to vanish "into air, into thin air."

Returning from this digression, on leaving Pembroke, we proceed in a north-easterly direction, and at the distance of four miles, pass Carew Castle, situate on a gentle swell above an arm of Milford Haven. Its remains indicate it to have been a stately fortress, and the work of different ages. The north side of the castle exhibits the mode of building in the time of Henry VIII. but scarcely castellated. From the level of this side the windows are square, and of grand dimensions, projecting in large bows, and internally richly ornamented with a chimney-piece of Corinthian columns, which appears among the latest decorations of this magnificent edifice. The great hall, built in the decorated Gothic style, measuring 80 feet by 30, is much dilapidated, but still a noble relic of antique grandeur. Other parts of the building are of a more remote date, and most of the walls seem remarkably thick, and of solid masonry. It was formerly the property of Girald de Carrio, and his descendants, until Edmund mortgaged the castle to Sir Rhys ab Thomas. It was afterwards forfeited to Henry the Eighth, who granted it to Sir John Perrot, but soon after purchased by Sir John Carew, in whose family it still remains. It was, according to Leland, rebuilt by Rhys ab Thomas, in the reign of Henry the Seventh, consisting of a range of apartments, erected round a quadrangle, with a round

tower at each corner. The north has a noble hall, 102 feet by 20, built by Sir John Perrot, who entertained here the Duke of Ormond, in the year 1553, and afterwards retired to it at the expiration of his deputysbip in Ireland. On the west side of the gateway are the arms of England, Duke of Lancaster, and Carew, with an elegant room contiguous.

About one mile south-west from Carew is the village of LAMPHEY, or Llanfai, where, among some pleasant fields, may be seen the ruins of a palace, which formerly belonged to the Bishop of St. David; but the greater part was built by Bishop Gower in 1315, and destroyed in the civil wars.

Here is a great hall, 76 feet by 20, ascended by steps from without, and another beyond it, 60 feet by 26, with the chancel of the chapel, and a round tower. The whole had a moat round with a bridge, but now, only the south gate remains. Adjoining this place is a fine deer park, belonging to the Lord Marcher, but since, the property of the Owen family of Orielton.

About three miles south-east from Carew is the ruins of Maenorbyr Castle, wildly situate between two hills, whose rocky bases repel the fury of an angry sea. It appears to have been of Norman erection, and fell to the crown in the reign of Henry the First, but granted by James the First to the Bowens of Trelogne; from them it descended by marriage to the family of Picton Castle, and in the year 1740, was the property of Sir Erasmus Philips, Bart. The ponderous towers and massive fragments of the castle, denote its original strength and importance to have been considerable.

Seven miles south-east of Carew is the town of TENBY, or Dinbych, from its being singularly situate on the steep ascent of a long and narrow rock, with the bay on one side, and the western coast on the other, being only divided by a narrow tract of sand, occasionally overflowed by the sea. The extraordinary intermixture of wood, rocks, and houses, together with the lofty

spire of its church, give the place a very romantic appearance; but the extensive sea-views have a still more pleasing effect. The beauty of its situation, and its fine sands, have exalted Tenby from an obscure sea-port into a considerable town, where the influx of company is often very great; in consequence of which it has received great improvement, and is embellished with several good modern buildings, and a commodious hotel.

This town has been well walled, with strong gates, each having a portcullis; but that leading to Caermarthen is the most remarkable, being circled on the outside with an embattled but open-roofed tower, after the manner of Pembroke. It has of late years become a place of considerable resort as a watering-place. During the summer months the convenience for bathing is great, and the accommodation good, which, with the reasonableness of the terms, will not fail to ensure a regular succession of company. The beach is covered with a fine sand, and sheltered by cliffs behind and in front by high rocks, rising out of the sea, affording a desirable seclusion to persons bathing, while it protects the machines in boisterous weather. The public boarding tables and lodgings are better and much cheaper than at Swansea.

Here are public assemblies once a week, balls frequently, with cards, bowling, fishing, and aquatic excursions daily, with a public promenade round the castle, and another called the Croft. The port is small, defended by a short pier, built a few years since, for the defence of fishing smacks, and other small craft moored within it.

In the extremity of the town, stands the castle, which has more the appearance of a nobleman's residence than a place of defence. The walls are very thick, and built with stones of a large size.

The church is a large handsome edifice, of very ancient appearance. The western door exhibits a very curious mixture of the Gothic or Sarcenic style of architecture, and is perhaps one of the largest

buildings in the principality, consisting of three broad aisles, nearly of the same dimension, except the nave, which is rather higher, and prolonged beyond the former two.

A carved ceiling, formed of wood, ornamented at the intersection of the ribs, with various armorial bearings, and supported by human figures springing from pillars of wood, is a remarkable singularity in this edifice. Here are several fine old monuments, particularly two of gypsum, with the sides highly ornamented with good basso-relievos, and at the west end is another, erected to the memory of John Moore, in 1639.

Near Tenby shore are the small islands of St. Catharine and Caldy.

Resuming our road, at a distance of about eight miles from Carew Castle, we arrive at Arberth, or Narbeth, which Leland calls "a little place, a little pretty pile of old Sir Rhys, given unto him by King Henry the Eighth." It is a poor little village, and by it is a small forest.

On entering Arberth, the old castle stands on an eminence on the right, which affords a fine object for the artist. As a piece of romantic scenery, it affords considerable pleasure to the contemplative antiquary, while the turrets which separate the keep from its exterior, evince it to have been extremely grand and cumbrous in its ancient state. By whom or when this castle was erected, is uncertain; but Leland describes it to be in ruins, in his time. From here to Caermarthen the roads are very good; but extremely bad to Kydweli, Llanstephan, and Tenby.

About one mile from Arberth, we take a westerly direction, and at the distance of about eight miles we pass through HAVERFORDWEST, or in Welsh, Hwlfordd, a large town, descending in several steep streets from the top of a high hill to a branch of the haven, from whence it derives its commercial importance, and might be properly called the modern capital of the

county; it is also become, from its great extent and superior decorations, the seat of the grand sessions, besides having the appearance of greater opulence and trade than falls to the lot of most Welsh towns.

The streets are in general very narrow and crooked, and some of them so exceedingly steep, that they cannot be traversed on horseback or in carriages, without danger. There are here a considerable number of good houses occupied by substantial tradesmen, opulent professional men, and families of fortune; these in some measure compensate for the inconvenience of avenues almost uniformly steep and slippery, with the ground floors in some parts overlooking the neighbouring roofs.

The principal public building is the Guildhall, a modern erection situated in the upper part of the town. Here is also a good quay, a custom-house, free school, charity school, and alms-house. Of its three churches, that of St. Mary is the most elegant. There is here no manufacture entitled to particular notice, though the population amounts to upwards of 3000 persons, occupying 652 houses.

The town was formerly fortified by a strong wall or rampart, having on the western summit the shell of an extensive castle, commanding the town, and built by Gilbert Earl of Clare, in the reign of Stephen: a great part is still remaining, lately converted into a gaol. It had formerly an outer gate and two portcullises, and an inner one. The walls were fortified with towers, supposed to have been destroyed in the civil wars. A good parade here commands an extensive view of the neighbouring county, and the ruins of the ancient abbey, extending a considerable way by the side of the hill. At the extremity of this walk are the ruins of an ancient priory of Black Canons, erected before the year 1200, dedicated to St. Mary and St. Thomas, the martyr, endowed, if not founded, by Robert de Haverford, lord of this place, who bestowed on it several churches and tythes within the barony, afterwards confirmed by Edward

the Third. The remains are now very considerable, particularly the chapel, which has still one arch in good preservation, and beautifully inwreathed with a rich drapery of ivy, and some fine specimens of Gothic workmanship.

The river Cleddau, the western stream of that name on which the town is built, is navigable as high as the bridge for ships of small burden. Other commercial facilities are afforded by the situation of the town on the great western road, having the London mail coach passing through it every day. On the northern side of the river lies the suburb of Prendergast, containing the remains of an ancient mansion, formerly occupied by a family of that name: Maurice de Prendergast, who went with Earl Strongbow into Ireland, was the last who held the property. Henry the First gave to a number of Flemish emigrants the headland of Gwyr, in Glamorganshire, and parts of the county of Pembroke adjoining to Tenby.

Four miles south of Haverfordwest are the remains of a priory called Pilla, or Pille Rose, situate in the parish of Stanton, and founded by Adam de Rupe, about the year 1200, for monks of the order of Trione, afterwards Benedictines. At the dissolution it was granted to R. and T. Barlow.

At the distance of five miles south-east is Picton Castle, the seat of Lord Milford, whose extensive domains cover a great tract of country. This residence was built by William Picton, a Norman knight, in the reign of William Rufus. During the civil wars, Sir Richard Philips made a long and vigorous defence in it for Charles the First. The extensive plantations which environ this seat, render the whole a beautiful retreat.

Three miles north from Picton Castle is Weston, a small corporate town, with a good market for corn and other provisions. It was formerly defended by a magnificent castle; but many years neglected, though now rendered habitable, and the internal part mo-

dernised, which renders the whole an agreeable residence.

This little territory, together with Gwyr, or Gower, a headland of Glamorganshire, the English often call "Little England beyond Wales," because their language and manners are still distinguishable from the Welsh; for, in point of speech, they assimilate with the English.

The descendants of the west of Pembrokeshire used seldom to intermarry with the Welsh. The short cloak used, called the *whittle*, is said to have originated here.

Returning to our road, on leaving Haverfordwest, our route lies in a northerly direction; and, at the distance of about eleven miles, we arrive at Abergwaen, or FISGARD, which stands on a steep rock, with a convenient harbour, formed by the Gwaen river, and overhanging an exceeding high mountain, along the side of which is cut a narrow road, scarcely wide enough to admit two horses a-breast, and without any fence between it and the sea.

This port, excepting Holyhead, is the only one from the Mersey to the Severn, whose entrance is bold and safe, not obstructed by shoals or bars, and has been proved to be an object of national attention. Mr. Spence, an engineer from the board of admiralty, has surveyed the bay and harbour, and made an estimate for building a pier, as a means of protecting the trade of the Irish Channel, and much approved of by the Dublin and Liverpool merchants. Fisgard road lies within the Irish Channel, and is the next northernmost place of safety to Milford, except Studwall's Road, which is seventeen leagues farther to the north; but Fisgard is safe from all winds and weather. The extent of the bay, from east to west, is about three miles, and from north to south one and three quarters, and the general depth of water from thirty to seventy feet, according to the distance from the shore. The bottom of the bay is sand mixed with mud, so that

ships of the largest size may anchor in all parts of it in perfect safety, to the number of one hundred sail, large and small. The harbour is of an irregular form, but capacious and easy of access, having neither bar nor rock at its entry, which is about eleven hundred and sixty feet wide, and about two thousand four hundred in length, and only requires a pier to render it commodious and secure.

The principal exports are oats and butter. The imports are shop goods from Bristol, culm, coal, lime, and timber. Here is carried on a general fishery, but not to the fullest extent of which it is capable.

Fisgard is properly divided into the upper and lower town. The upper is situated on a considerable eminence above the harbour, containing the church, market-place, shops, and inns; the lower occupies the eastern side of the river and port, in a single and double row of buildings of a considerable length, from south to north, and bounded by the pier, possessing all the advantages for trade, with about 400 houses, and 2000 inhabitants.

The appearance of this place is very unprepossessing; the houses are generally of a very mean description, and ill constructed, and the streets formed with so total a disregard to symmetry and plan, that they are seriously inconvenient, being scarcely passable for carriages of any description. The road leading from the upper to the lower town, is however an object of some curiosity, being cut in a winding direction along the edge of a precipitous hill, and affording a fine view of the bay and harbour. The church is small, without spire or steeple. The population has been increased by the advantages of the port for fishing, particularly in herrings, which furnishes the major part of them with the means of subsistence.

It has still the ruins of an old castle, built by the descendants of Martin de Tours, wherein Rhys ab Gruffydd, prince of South Wales, was confined.—The castle was demolished by Ilewelyn, when in the

possession of the Flemings, and has now only the gateway left. Between the church and the river is a vast stone of nine tons weight, and about nine feet diameter, resting on others, forming a cromlech. In the neighbourhood are several of the latter, or cistvaens, contained within the circuit of sixty yards, and standing near the road side.

Fisgard is rendered memorable, likewise, by the French invasion, near Llananno church, where they landed on February 22, 1797, to the number of about fourteen hundred men. On this occasion the greatest exertions were used by the chief men of the county, to collect what small force they could, which arrived at Fisgard the same evening; consisting of as under:

The Pembrokeshire fencibles	100
Part of the Cardiganshire militia	200
Fisgard and Newport fencibles	300
Lord Cawdor's troop of cavalry	60
		660

660

These men, though properly trained to the use of the musquet, had never seen one fired in anger, but many of the officers had been long in the service, and were experienced in the art of war. To these must be added a great many gentlemen volunteers and colliers, and the common people of all descriptions, armed and unarmed; the whole of which were very judiciously placed on Goodick Sands, under Fisgard. Fortunately, on the following evening, about ten o'clock, a French officer arrived, with offers to surrender in the morning, which they punctually did, and gave up their arms; from hence they were marched to Haverfordwest, and confined in different places, as the castle, church, and store-houses, but soon after removed to Milford, and put in prison ships. Thus ended this singular expedition, the object of which remains enveloped in mystery; but it is evident something more was intended than effected, by the quantity of powder brought with them, amounting to about

seventy cart-loads, and a great number of hand-grenades.

About six miles east from Fisgard, is NEWPORT, a small corporate town, seated at the foot of a high hill, near the sea-shore.

It contains about two hundred houses, and good paved streets; and the church is a decent structure. Here the river Nevern is navigable, and runs by one end of the town, afterwards empties itself into the Bristol Channel; but the trade of this place is very inconsiderable. In the church-yard and near the town are several Druidical sepulchres and altars, one of which is above nine feet in diameter, of a conical form, and well-preserved, considering in what period it was probably erected.

The castle is an interesting ruin rising in baronial pomp above the town. It was entered by a grand gateway placed between two bastions on the north side; the whole was surrounded by a deep moat. The lord of Cemaes held his courts here, and the town had its corporate privileges, being governed by a mayor, aldermen, recorder, bailiffs, and other inferior officers.

Ten miles east from Newport is Kilgeran, or Cilgeraint, which consists of one irregular street; it stands on a steep hill, at the extremity of a remote corner of Pembrokeshire, and has some remains of an old castle at the extremity of a long street, projecting proudly over the river, which winds beautifully between the steep banks, thickly fringed with wood, and interspersed with rocks, while the opposite seat and groves of Coedmor, add considerably to the natural beauty of the prospect.

The chief remains of this fortress consist of two round towers of large proportions and great strength; there are also fragments of several massive bastions, connected by curtain walls, the direction of which is regulated by the form of the rock on which the castle stands. The inner ward is of great extent, and parts of it are in tolerable preservation. The prevalence

of the circular arch bespeaks the Norman origin of the edifice. History is silent respecting the first construction of this place; but it has been generally supposed that Gilbert Strongbow, on his conquest of Dyved, about the year 1109, raised a fortress here for the defence of his newly acquired possessions.

When this became a military station is not known; but Rhys, prince of South Wales, took the castle in 1164, and razed it to the ground; afterwards rebuilt it in 1165, wherein he was besieged by a numerous army of Normans and Flemings, without success. In 1205 it was surrendered to William Marshall, Earl of Pembroke, and restored to Llewelyn ab Iorwerth in 1215; but on the defeat of Gruffydd, the son of Llewelyn ab Iorwerth, near Kydweli, the Earl again took possession, and began to build a very strong castle: but being recalled to London by Henry the Third, before the completion, it was never finished.

By this village runs the river Teivi, which generally affords the traveller some curious observations, particularly upon the numerous coracles, which stand at almost every door. The construction of this little water conveyance is remarkably simple, and intended solely for the use of fishing. A thick skin, or coarse pitched canvas, stuck over a kind of wicker basket, forms the boat, which one man manages with the greatest adroitness imaginable, using his right hand to the paddle, his left in conducting the net, at the same time holding the line with his teeth. Two of these coracles generally co-operate to assist each other in fishing. These usually measure about five feet long, and four broad, rounded at the corners, which, after the labour of the day, are carried on the fisherman's back to his little cot, and deemed a necessary and respectable ornament to the cottage door.

About seven miles west from Kilgeran, and one mile north-west from Newport, is NEVERN, a small village, possessed of nothing remarkable, except a very curious British cross noticed by Camden, being a single stone of a square form, two feet broad, eighteen

thick, and thirteen high; the whole richly decorated with knots and fretwork, not unlike the cross at Carew. The top is circular, charged with a cross; below it, on the east and west, are crosses; and about the middle an inscription.

On the north side of the same church-yard was another rude, irregular-shaped stone, about two yards high, with the following inscription:

VITATIANI EMERITI.

This evidently belonged to some Roman veteran; but this and the other stone have been removed. The church at Nevern is a venerable pile of building, and one of the largest in the county.

Near Pentre-Evan, in the same parish, is a remarkable cromlech, with many other curiosities of less notice.

Two miles north from Nevern is St. Dogvael Abbey, founded in a vale encompassed by hills, for Benedictines, in the time of William the Conqueror, and valued at 87*l.* 8*s.* 6*d.* Some ruins of the chapel remain. In the latter was found a stone with an unintelligible inscription, but by the characters thought to be British. In the neighbourhood are many barrows, with urns, &c. The most remarkable are in Cemaes barony, and on a mountain, called Kil Rhedyn.

About fifteen miles south-west from Fisgard, and the same distance from Haverfordwest, is the city of ST. DAVID'S, situate in a deep hollow, and well sheltered from the winds which ravage this stormy coast.

However, such is the situation of this place, that in approaching from the eastward, none of the buildings are to be seen at any distance; and while the traveller, calculating his progress by the mile-stones he has passed, is anxiously looking for the object of his search, he finds himself unexpectedly in the middle of the principal street. But as he has on each side of him, only a broken row of miserable cottages, with here and there a structure of more respectable ap-

pearance, he would scarcely suspect that he had reached his destination, were he not presented in front with a glimpse of the top of the cathedral tower, rising from the narrow and concealed valley in which the venerable edifice is situated. Whoever visits St. David's, with such expectations as the ideas usually associated with the title of a city, are calculated to excite, will be sure to experience a most grievous disappointment; for no collection of houses, aspiring to the rank of a town, can exhibit a more wretched and squalid appearance; nevertheless, it still bears marks of its former extent in the names of several streets and lanes that may yet be traced out by the ruins of the houses and the foundations of walls. The modern city, without the cathedral precincts, is principally composed of the High Street, which is one of considerable width. In an open space, near its western extremity, stands an ancient cross, around which the market was held while it lasted. Fairs are still held here annually; but the want of an inn has been generally complained of by travellers, till this was happily remedied in the year 1811, when a neat and comfortable house of entertainment was opened, and provided with the valuable appendage of stabling.

The ground occupied by the Cathedral, the houses of the resident ecclesiastics, with the cemetery, gardens, &c. was enclosed by a lofty wall of nearly a mile in circuit, and was entered by four strong and handsome gateways. The East Gate stands at the bottom of the High-street, and corresponds with its Welsh name of *Porth y Twr*, the tower gate being placed between two high towers. One of these was an octagon about sixty feet, the interior divided into stories. The other tower is thought to have been appropriated to the town corporation. From this spot a delightful view embraces the whole of the Cathedral precincts, with St. Mary's College, the Bishop's palace, &c. The Cathedral is a large Gothic structure, built in the form of a cross, and having a lofty square tower, surmounted by handsome pinnacles at each corner,

rising from the middle at the intersection of the north and south transepts. The common entrance is through a porch on the south side; but the principal one is through a grand door-way at the west end, called the Bishop's door, only used on occasions of ceremony. There is another door-way of Saxon architecture, on the north side at the west-end of the cloisters. The interior comprises a nave, and two side aisles, the choir and chancel: the former is divided from these, by a row of handsome columns alternately round and octagon, five in number, with corresponding pilasters at each end, supporting six elegant Saxon arches. Over these is a range of smaller Saxon pillars supporting other arches of less dimensions, reaching to the roof. The ceiling of the nave is of Irish oak, divided into square compartments, and justly admired for the elegance of its workmanship. The entire length of this part of the church is one hundred and twenty-four feet; the width of the nave between the pillars thirty-two; and the side aisles, eighteen. At the upper end of the nave a flight of steps conduct to the choir, which is entered by an arched passage under the rood loft. The screen is of irregular Gothic architecture, and very beautiful. The choir is placed immediately under the tower, which is supported by four large arches, three Gothic and one Saxon, but all of them springing from Saxon pillars. The west and south arches are now walled up. The organ, instead of being as usual placed on the rood loft, under the western arch, is placed under the northern. The Bishop's throne is near the upper end of the choir on the right-hand side, and is of exquisite workmanship. The stalls, twenty-eight in number, are placed on the north, west, and south sides. The floor is formed of small square tiles of variegated colours. The chancel is separated from the choir by a low screen. On the north side is the shrine of St. David, having four recesses in which the votaries used to deposit their offerings. The north transept was occupied by St. Andrew's chapel, and the south by the Chanter's Cha-

pel. Behind the stalls in St. Andrew's Chapel is a dark room, supposed to have been a penitentiary; in the wall are small holes, probably to enable the culprits to hear the voices of the officiating priests. Adjoining to it, on the east, is the old Chapter House, and over it the public school-room. The aisles north and south of the chancels are roofless, and in a ruinous condition. Beyond the chancel, to the eastward, is the chapel of Bishop Vaughan, built by him in the reign of Henry VIII., and exhibiting a striking specimen of the florid Gothic. St. Mary's Chapel, at the extreme eastern end of the Cathedral buildings, has been roofless some years. This Cathedral is enriched by a considerable number of ancient monuments; some of them curious in their kind, as specimens of art. Bishop Vaughan was buried in the chapel that bears his name; and in St. Mary's chapel, under a rich Gothic canopy, is the tomb of its founder, Bishop Martin; and opposite to this, a monument assigned to Bishop Houghton; but, like several others, they are in a ruinous state.

All that is left of St. Mary's College, on the north side of the Cathedral, is the chapel, sixty-nine feet in length, and about twenty-four in width. The windows were originally ornamented with painted glass; but the chapel being built over a vaulted apartment of the same dimensions, was converted into a charnel-house, which at present wears a most gloomy appearance. At the west end is a square tower, seventy feet high. The houses belonging to the establishment occupied the ground on the north and west, on both sides the river Alan, which washes the western end of the chapel. This collegiate institution was founded in 1365, by John of Gaunt, Duke of Lancaster, and Adam Houghton, then bishop of the diocese, for a master and seven fellows.

The bishop's palace, to the south-west of the Cathedral on the opposite shore of the Alan, seems originally to have formed a complete quadrangle, enclosing an area of one hundred and twenty feet square but only

two of the sides remain. The grand gateway is now in ruins. The hall was sixty-seven feet long, by twenty-five; and at the north end was a large drawing-room, and beyond this a chapel. At the south-end of the hall stood the kitchen; in the middle of which was a low pillar, from which sprang four groins, which were gradually formed into chimnies. This curious work is now a heap of ruins. A noble apartment on the south-west side of the palace, was called King John's Hall, being ninety-six feet long, and thirty-three wide. In the east end of this was a circular window of singular and curious workmanship. Above an arched door-way which was the entrance, are the statues of Edward the Third and his Queen. A chapel attached to the hall stood at the north-west corner; and a small portion of one of the bishop's apartments, covered by a temporary roof, inhabited by some poor people, heightened the picture of desolation which the place exhibits. This palace was erected by Bishop Gower, about the year 1323, and was a noble monument of his taste and liberality. To the west of the large cemetery is a fantastical building, fitted up some years since for a chapter-house, and audit room, and which obstructs one of the finest views of the church. The houses of the resident clergy, are within the precincts; and that of the archdeacon of Brecknock is of an ancient date.

The precise origin of this city, and its cathedral, cannot be ascertained, but it appears to have been of considerable importance in the time of the ancient Britons. The first account of this cathedral commences in 911, when the Danes, under Uther and Rahald, destroyed it, and slew its defender, Peredur Gam. It was soon rebuilt, but again much defaced by Swaine, the son of Harold, in 993, who likewise slew Morgenau, then bishop of that diocese. This appears to have been the last transaction of importance till 1079, when William the Conqueror, entering Wales with a great army, marched, after the manner

of a pilgrimage, as far as St. David's, when having made an offering, and paid his devotion to that saint, he received homage of the princes of the country.

In 1087, a most daring sacrilege was committed at St. David's; all the plate, with other utensils, belonging to the shrine, being stolen.

It is only necessary to add to the history of this celebrated place, that after Bishop Vaughan's death, and his successor, Rawlins, Bishop Barlow, who followed him, commenced a system of dilapidation merely for the purpose of furnishing himself with reasons to lay before the King, to induce him to consent to his removing the see to Caermarthen. With this view he alienated the church lands, stripped the lead from the castle of Lawhaden, and the palace at St. David's, besides other acts of spoliation. The unroofing of St. Mary's chapel was the work of the fanatics in the seventeenth century. Though some of Bishop Barlow's successors have felt properly zealous for the honor of the diocese, there has been ample room for more exertions of this kind. In consequence of the foundation of the north wall giving way, it was some years since found necessary to support it, on the outside, by strong abutments of masonry. The west front of the cathedral was, by order of Bishop Horsley, taken down and rebuilt under the direction of Mr. Nash, the architect. Under the succeeding diocesan, the nave has been new flagged and new paved, and the beauty of the front of the rood loft, greatly improved, by restoring a part that had been concealed by boards. Some curious fragments of antiquity also discovered in removing the old pavement of the nave, have been carefully preserved.



CARDIGANSHIRE.

THIS county, called by the Welsh, *Caredigion*, and now more generally *Swydd Aber Teivi*, is bounded on the north by the counties of Merioneth and Montgo-

mery, on the east by Radnor and Brecknock, on the south by Caermarthen and Pembroke, and on the west by the Irish Sea; being about 40 miles in length, 20 in breadth, and 100 in circumference; containing five hundreds, six market towns, and 64 parishes, in the diocese of St. David, with 50,260 inhabitants.

The sea has made great encroachments on this county, even within the memory of man, and tradition speaks of a well inhabited country, stretching far into the Irish channel, which has been overwhelmed by the sea. Of an extensive tract, formerly *Cantrev Gwaelod*, or Lowland Hundred, nothing now remains but two or three miserable villages, and a good deal of ground, in high estimation for barley.

On the shore, between Aberystwyth and the river Dee, after stormy weather, the trunks of large groves of trees are frequently discovered. In many places the roots appear so thick and uniformly planted in circles, and parallel lines, that the shore resembles much an extensive forest cut down, though black, and hard as ebony. This has been at least a well-wooded and fertile country.

Sea-weed is the manure made use of, and the quality of the grain is such, that it is sent to the adjacent counties for seed-corn. This county may be properly divided into two districts, the Lower and the Upland. Of the lower district, the higher grounds are in general a light sandy loam, varying in depth, from a foot to four or five inches; the substratum, a slaty kind of rock, however, produces when judiciously treated, good crops of turnips, potatoes, barley, and clover; the ground in the vallies is very deep, and, with some few exceptions, very dry; yielding good crops of hay for many years, without surface manure, which is scarcely ever thought of until it is exhausted and becomes mossy, and then it is turned up. The climate is much more mild than the midland counties of England; snow seldom lies long. The soil of the upper district is various, owing to the unequal surface; in the vallies it is chiefly a stiff clay, with a mixture of a

light loam. Barley and oats are the principal grain of the county. Wheat is commonly sown; but in a less proportion than the other two. The exports of Cardiganshire are black cattle, taken to Kent and Essex, pigs and salt butter, besides barley and oats, to Bristol and Liverpool. Of its rivers, the principal are, the Rheidiol, Ystwyth, Clywedog, and Teivi. It also abounds in river and sea fish, of several kinds, and the Teivi is famous for a great plenty of excellent salmon.

These streams, with many others in the mountainous tracts of Wales, are in dry weather mere shallow brooks, yet by rains are often swelled to furious torrents, bearing down every thing before them, and tearing up even the soil of the vallies, which they fill with gravel and stones. Several of them rise in the sides of Pumlumon.

Coals, and other fuel, are extremely scarce; but in the northern parts, and near Aberystwyth, are several rich lead mines, and some silver ore.

*Journey from Cardigan to Aberystwyth; through
Llansanfraid.*

CARDIGAN, or in Welsh, Aberteivi, is pleasantly situate near the mouth of the river Teivi, and protected from the sea by a long projecting hill. The town is tolerably well built, and bears a neat aspect, notwithstanding the declivity of its streets, which are connected with the opposite bank of the Teivi by a handsome stone bridge, where large vessels can easily approach its quay. The town may be called large and populous, and regularly built. At the end of the bridge is a chapel, said to be erected on the spot where Giraldus preached the crusade.

The Town-hall, where the assizes for the county are held twice a year, is a handsome modern edifice, built in the year 1764. In 1793, a new county gaol was erected by Mr. Nash; a very excellent structure, in all respects well adapted for its purpose. Here is also a free grammar school; endowed by Lady

Letitia Cornwallis, who married for her second husband, John Morgan, esq. of this town. The church is a venerable substantial building, with a handsome square tower at the west end. The interior consists of a spacious nave, with an elegant chancel, of considerable older date than the body of the church. It contains no monuments of consequence. Near the eastern end of the church stood the Priory, of which Leland observes, there were only two religious men in it, black monks. It was a cell to the abbey of Chertsey, in Surrey. Its revenues were about 13*l.* 4*s.* and 9*d.* An elegant modern mansion now occupies the site of the house, which in the reign of Charles I. had been the residence of Mrs. Catherine Philips, the celebrated Orinda.

Cardigan Castle, built by Gilbert de Clare, in the reign of Henry the Second, on an eminence near the Teivi, seems to have been an extensive building, and of great importance in the time of our Welsh princes. "In 1176, at Christmas, Prince Rhys, of South Wales, made a great feast at Cardigan Castle, which he caused to be published through England, Scotland, and Ireland, some time previous; accordingly many hundreds of English and Normans came, and were courteously entertained. Among other tokens of their welcome, Rhys made offers of reward to all the bards in Wales who would then attend; and for the better diversion of the company, he provided chairs for them in the hall, in which the bards being seated, were to answer each other in rhyme, and those that did acquit themselves most honourable, were to receive proportionate rewards. In this poetical contest the North Wales bards obtained the victory, with the applause and approbation of the whole company, particularly the minstrels, among whom there was no small strife; but the prince's own servants were observed to be the most expert."

This castle, like many more, suffered considerably at different periods, from the vindictive disposition of our princes, and the ambition of provincials. In

1222, we find it in the possession of William Marshall Earl of Pembroke; but in 1231, Maelgon, the son of Maelgon ab Rhys, having by force entered the town, put all the inhabitants to the sword, and then laid siege to the castle, with an intention to destroy it; but the walls appeared so strong, and the gates so well defended, that it seemed impracticable to reduce it for a considerable time, which would have been the case, had he not fortunately been soon after joined by his cousin Owen ab Gruffydd ab Rhys, and some of Prince Llewelyn's most experienced officers, who directed him to break down the bridge over the river Teivi, which enabled him to invest the castle more closely, so as to batter and undermine the fortifications, which soon gave possession of the whole; however, Gilbert Marshall won it back from Davydd ab Llewelyn in 1234.

During the civil wars, Cardigan Castle was garrisoned for the king, and sustained a regular siege; but at last surrendered to the parliament forces under General Langhorne. The ground is now the property of John Bowen, esq. who has erected an elegant mansion on the site of the keep, the dungeons of which he has converted into cellars. The rest of the remains are not considerable, consisting chiefly of the wall on the river side, and a portion of two towers, by which this part was protected. Though evidently a place of great strength before the use of artillery, it does not seem to have covered much ground. A considerable coasting trade is carried on here; but there is no manufactory for the employ of the poor.

One mile east of Cardigan, at Llan Goedmor, is an ancient monument, consisting of a stone of a prodigious size, half a yard thick, and eight or nine yards in circumference. It is placed inclining; one side on the ground, and the other supported by a pillar of about three feet high. Near it is another of the same kind, but much less. About six yards from it, lies a stone on the ground, and another beyond that, at the same distance.

Meini Cyvrivol, or the numerary stones, near Neuadd, in the neighbourhood of Cardigan, seem to be the remains of some barbarous monument; they are nineteen in number, and lie confusedly on the ground, deriving their names from the vulgar, who cannot easily numerate them.

In the neighbourhood is Llech-y-gawres; that is, the stone of a gigantic woman, which is exceedingly large, placed on four very great pillars, or supporters, about the height of five or six feet, and two others near, pitched endwise under a top stone, but much lower, so that they bear no part of the weight; also three more adjoining, two of which are large, lying on the ground at each end, and are indisputably ancient British monuments.

On leaving Cardigan, our road lies in a north-easterly direction, and at the distance of about twenty-five miles, after passing through the villages of Tremain, Llanarth, and Aberaeron, we arrive at LLANSANFRAID, situate near the sea, and chiefly remarkable for its old church, and a few remains of great buildings, where it is supposed once stood the Abbey of Llanfred, mentioned in a book entitled, "De Dotatione Ecclesiæ S. Davidis." And about three miles north-east stood an old monastery or castle, called Llanrustyd, erected by Cadwalader, brother to Owen Gwynedd, in the year 1148. The village is composed of miserable cottages; but the church, situated on an elevation near, is a neat building.

Seven miles beyond the last-mentioned place, we arrive at the town of ABERYSTWYTH.

In the reign of Queen Elizabeth, a company of Germans reaped a considerable fortune in working the silver mines in the vicinity of this town. Sir Hugh Middleton, after them, was equally successful, and accumulated 2000*l.* a month, out of one silver mine at Bwlch yr Esgair, which enabled him, in 1614, to bring the New River to London. He was succeeded by Mr. Bushell, who also gained such im-

mense profits, that he made King Charles a present of a regiment of horse, and clothed his whole army.

Aberystwyth is situated on that part of the Welsh coast, nearly opposite the centre of Cardigan bay, at the confluence of the rivers Ystwyth and Rheidiol, which here discharge themselves into the Irish sea, or Saint George's channel, and from the first of which rivers the town derives its name; though the greater number of buildings on the side of the Rheidiol might authorize historians to name it from the river last mentioned.

It is said, the present town of Aberystwyth was anciently called Llanbadarn Gaerog; or, The Fortified Llanbadarn, and that the small village of Aberystwyth stood to the westward of the castle. This seems countenanced by the charter, in which it is several times called Llanbadarn, and not once Aberystwyth; when the name was changed, does not appear: but in the grant of the office of weights and measures, in the reign of Elizabeth, to M. Phillips, Esq. Aberystwyth, by the mayor and burgesses, it is every where termed Aberystwyth. Part of the walls are still standing, and may be seen between the house of the late Lady Caroline Price and the Custom-House, and again near the House of Correction. There were many gates; one of which stood in the street leading to Llanbadarn, called Great Dark-Gate; another in the street leading to the Baptist-chapel, called Little Dark-Gate; and another opposite the bridge. The walls formerly went from this last to the lime-kiln, near the castle, where it joined it on the other side of the gate by the mill stream to Great Dark-Gate, thence to Little Dark-Gate, and from thence to the site of the Custom-House and Lady Price's, and thence to the castle.

The buildings are constructed with great durability, and many among them extremely neat and commodious, though mostly devoid of such ornaments of architecture as embellish other more favoured spots

in England and Wales; and which are better visited from being better known.

The streets are tolerably well laid out, and paved with the stones supplied in abundance from the shore;—and the turnpike roads leading to the town much better than the Welsh roads are generally described to be.

The surrounding country is more romantic, and exhibits far greater natural beauties than any other watering place in England or Wales, however well attended, could yet boast of.

The very extensive quarries surrounding the town in its present enlarged state, and from which builders are so amply supplied with slate and stone, furnish the means of erecting additional accommodations with greater facility:—and the industry of the inhabitants appears commensurate with the advantages and encouragement they receive from their yearly visitors, in return for the accommodations afforded them.

The progressive improvement of the place for the last twenty-five years, notwithstanding the pressure of warfare, the scarcity of specie, and the dearth of provisions, has been equalled by few towns, maritime or inland, in the united kingdom,—surpassed by none.

The great concourse of summer visitors, which it is now capable of accommodating, and the increasing number of lodging-houses appropriate for the reception of such votaries of health, pleasure, or fashion, as have already selected this improving spot for their residence, or those who may hereafter be led to experience the salubrious effects of this delightful summer retreat, cannot fail to render it, in course of time, the resort of public estimation, while the acknowledged satisfaction of former visitants must more strongly recommend it to others.

The suburbs adjoining are, by nature, fertile, and exhibit all the variegated charms of hill and dale, wood, and water; whether viewed from the lofty mount or flowery slope, characterizing the delightful

prospect, with views alternate ascending, pre-eminently beautiful, while its extensive mineral productions and health-inspiring springs, afford abundant means of observation and study for the meditation and employment of the mineralogist, the chymist, the physician, or philosopher.

The castle, of which there now remains little more than a confused heap of ruins, is still perhaps one of the most striking objects of attention, to a stranger of contemplative mind. It is stated to have been originally founded by Gilbert de Strongbow, son of Richard de Clare, in the reign of Henry I. A. D. 1107; and to have been also the residence of Cadwalader.

In the reign of Charles I., it was permitted by the then parliament, to be used for the purposes of a mint, by Mr. Bushel: and some of the pieces of money said to be coined therein, are said to have been in the possession of the late Col. Jolmes, M. P. of Havod Ychdryd.

During the period here alluded to, Aberystwyth Castle was considered a place of much more estimation and resort than any other in Wales. During all the Welsh wars, it was deemed a fortress of the very first consequence: and even so late as the civil wars, by which this country was distracted, Aberystwyth Castle was regarded as a place of considerable strength.

The last and most destructive blow it experienced, and from the effect of which it has never recovered, was during the protectorship, when Oliver Cromwell, from a battery erected on Pendinas-hill, a very high mount immediately opposite the site of the castle, the vestiges of which battery are still perceptible, effectually bombarded this ancient pile, and in a few days succeeded in demolishing the works of many years: ever since which bombardment, it has continued in a state of decay and deterioration.

Mr. Meyrick states this castle to have been situated on a rock, jutting out into the sea, and having a most romantic appearance. Its situation was well chosen before the invention of gunpowder made elevated

places of more consequence to protect the town from invasion by sea.

The motives by which Oliver was urged to this act of destruction, are said to have been, to extirpate a banditti, who took up their residence within the castle, from a supposition, possibly, that their abode was more secure, their habitation being rendered by art and nature almost impregnable. These marauders, by continual depredations, having infested the town of Aberystwyth, then in its infancy, excited the vengeance of Oliver, who took this method of evincing his resentment, and displaying his authority, by levelling with the ground the more considerable part of this venerable fortress.

Since that time, it has remained in a state of decay, a picturesque heap of ruins; the gateway, and several towers in the walls, alone marking its former extent.

On the north-west is part of a tower about forty feet high, and an arched doorway is still preserved. A round tower is also existing. Another tower has been repaired, and converted into a kind of observatory.

Round the hill on which it stands, a variety of walks have been cut out and gravelled; near which, Mr. Uvedale Price, of Foxley Hall, Herefordshire, has erected a singularly handsome building, for his summer residence: it is in the Gothic style, and castellated form, consisting of three octagon towers, with a balcony towards the sea.

There is no situation south of Caernarvonshire, from which the Welsh Alps may be seen so advantageously as from this castle, and the surrounding cliffs. The lofty hills rising above the Cardigan rocks, are surmounted by Cader Idris, and its subject cliffs; these are over-topped by the giant mountains of Caernarvonshire; amongst which, in clear weather, the sharp peak of Snowdon itself, may be discerned pre-eminent above the surrounding crags. On the south of Aberystwyth, the coast of Pembroke being less curved,

and not so lofty at the north limit of the bay, appears more uniform.

The remains of Aberystwyth Castle, and the ground on which they stand, are said to belong to the late much lamented Colonel Johnes, of Havod, whose death will be long and sincerely regretted, and his loss severely experienced by hundreds of his countrymen. In his life-time, a lease of the castle-ground was granted to a Mr. Probert, of Shrewsbury, who has since permitted it to be converted into a public promenade. The town of Aberystwyth has therefore most unquestionably been improved by Mr. Price's summer-residence, in addition to many other buildings lately erected: and the inhabitants are not a little indebted to Mr. Probert, for a most delightful walk, pleasant at almost all times of the year, and particularly healthful to many constitutions, from the invigorating sea-breeze continually floating in the atmosphere around.

The beach north of the castle, and near which the several bathing-machines are in use, is composed of loose stone and pebble of various sizes and colours. Hence the water, from being less impregnated with sand, or disturbed by the influx of the tide, more particularly in rainy or tempestuous weather, is of course freed from impurities, and in mild weather, at the distance of several feet from the surface, the bottom is clearly discernable to the eyes of the bather, who can thus select any depth for immersion: while the sloping declivity, down which the bathing-machines may be safely conveyed at the desire of those who make use of them, is free from the tedious descent at other sea-ports of many hundred feet on a sandy shore, before the temporary inhabitants, who hire them for the purpose of receiving benefit from sea-bathing, can possibly arrive at a sufficient depth of water. At the beach of Aberystwyth, during those periods when the tide is in, the longest distance requisite to roll the machine, exceeds not three yards, and even at low water the bathers may here always be accommodated,

at the short distance of five or six yards from the edge of the shore.

The church of Aberystwyth in the year 1787, dedicated to St. Michael, was erected within the precincts of the castle by subscription, at the head of which appears the name of the Rev. Richard Lloyd, to the amount of 100*l.* as a legacy from the late Mrs. Jones. The church is a plain unadorned structure, containing in length from east to west, sixty feet; and in breadth, twenty-six. It is capable of accommodating from seven to eight hundred persons, when the pews are occupied by the owners or by strangers. The church is separated from the walks and ground about the castle by a stone wall, erected and heightened by the inhabitants. The morning service is delivered in the English language, in the afternoon the service is performed in Welsh; and during the summer months, when the town is more full of company, prayers are again read, and service performed in the English language by the vicar of Llanbadarn Vawr, or some other gentleman of the established church.

The gallery erected at the west end of the church, was built at the sole expence of Mrs. Margaret Pryse, in the year 1790, and cost 104*l.* 14*s.* It bears an inscription commemorative of Mrs. Pryse's donation.

The other places of worship in Aberystwyth are Meeting-houses, or Chapels for congregations of Baptists, Independents, Wesleyan, or Arminian Methodists, and Whitfieldian or Calvinistic Methodists, sometimes sarcastically denominated Jumpers. The latter are said to be more numerous than any sect in Wales, and frequently excite the curiosity of strangers to witness their performances. They justify the custom of jumping from the example of David, who danced before the ark; and of the lame man restored by our Saviour at the gate of the temple, who leaped for joy. But the practice is by no means so prevalent, or so generally adopted as heretofore: it seems daily losing ground; is wholly discontinued among the rational members of the society, as an unnecessary form, and

only perceptible in the conduct of the most ignorant and illiterate enthusiasts, who form part of such congregations.

The bathing machines at Aberystwyth are constructed on the same plan as those of Tenby and Swansea, and are by no means inferior to similar vehicles used on the coasts of Kent or Sussex. Nor is the town void of *warm* sea water baths; besides which bountiful Nature has supplied it with a chalybeate spring, in its virtues resembling the waters of Tunbridge.

The mines in the neighbourhood of Aberystwyth were once considered inexhaustible, and calculated to produce 100 ounces of silver from a ton of lead, and to have created a profit of £2000 sterling per month.

Of late years, Mr. Lewis Morris worked many of the Cardiganshire mines, and was of opinion, that if he could have raised sufficient money for carrying on the works, it was in his power to have drawn from them an annual profit of 12,000*l.* In a letter written to his brother about the year 1757, he speaks of Cardiganshire as the richest county he ever knew, with the fewest people in it of ingenuity and talent.

The mines more immediately in the vicinity of Aberystwyth, are Cluernog, Cwmsymlog, and Cwmystwyth.

Great quantities of herrings have been taken here several years since, and cod and mackarel have been sent hence as far as Shrewsbury.

Aberystwyth imports for the use of the country, cast iron goods from Coalbrook Dale, shipped at Bristol, and groceries and grain from Ireland; coals from the southern ports of Wales, and much porter from Bristol. There is here no manufacture entitled to notice, but a considerable coasting trade is carried on with Liverpool, Bristol, and other parts of England. The exports are principally lead, calamine, &c. from the mines; with corn, butter, and oak bark.

The manners of the resident inhabitants of Aberystwyth may be said to have improved, certainly not to

have degenerated, from their more frequent intercourse with strangers; a connection which other towns in Cardiganshire, situated more inland, have not the opportunity of experiencing.

The late Mr. Curran, the celebrated Irish orator and advocate, and universally acknowledged as one of the brightest ornaments of the Irish Bar, in speaking of his own countrymen, characterizes them in terms that are not altogether inapplicable to the people of Wales*. But the town of Aberystwyth, from its locality and diversity of occupants, differs as widely in manners and behaviour, and in some respects in their language, from the people in other parts of Wales, as the inhabitants in the east and west of England, or the east and west ends of the metropolis of England differ from each other in these respects.

The harbour, with respect to vessels, even of middling size, whether outward or homeward bound, is neither sufficiently capacious, nor has it as yet been rendered so commodious, as from the nature of the place it might be.

The marine prospect from the shore is equally fine, with all other sea ports, where the view is bounded only by sea and sky. The rocks on each side, nature's strong bulwarks to the mountains right and left, are in some places very high, of a blackish hue, and excavated towards the bottom from the continued strength of the sea; dashing, with undiminished force and foam, against those flinty barriers of Merionethshire, Cardiganshire, and Pembrokeshire. The view of those mountains from the sea is alike grand, and exhibits a line of natural fortifications to the Welsh

* The hospitality of an Irishman is not the running account of posted and ledgered courtesies; it springs like all his other qualities, his faults, his virtues, directly from the heart. The heart of an Irishman is by nature bold, and he confides; it is tender, and he loves; it is generous, and he gives; it is social, and he is hospitable.

land, drawn with that exquisite sublimity of design, that mark it at once the work of nature's great architect. But the bar at the entrance of the harbour has barely sufficient water at spring tides to permit the passage of vessels of any considerable tonnage, from which many seafaring men and skilful mariners seek freight and employment, on other coasts, though allied by birth, kindred, friends, and family, to the town of Aberystwyth.

Ship-building has been carried on with all the spirit of emulation and industry that could be expected from such resources as are here afforded. Still the want of a sufficient harbour depresses the exertions of individuals, which would otherwise operate as a source of wealth and improvement to their own shore.

The *Custom-House* was erected about the year 1773, near the beach; and the business thereof removed from the port of Aberdyvi.

The *Market*, which formerly used to be held at Llanbadarn, has been removed to the lower part of the Town-Hall, at Aberystwyth; it is sufficiently supplied on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays, with all kinds of butcher's meat, poultry, bacon, eggs, cheese, butter, &c. on reasonable terms. The mutton, though small, is particularly fine and sweet flavoured; poultry very plentiful, and of course much cheaper than in the country towns of England. Fish is by no means so plentiful as might be expected from the situation of Aberystwyth. Though the bay is so well known to abound with a variety of the finny tribe, and the adjoining rivers afford sufficient sport to those who are fond of the amusement of angling with fly or worm, yet the little encouragement given to fishermen of the place induces them to prefer the coasting service to any speculation.

As food for the mind, in the summer season, the town is enlivened by dramatic representations and assemblies.

A new theatre has been proposed to be built; and a

race course talked of: both of which must convey additional attractions, and by many, be regarded as additional improvements to the town.

Here is also a good grammar-school, with other schools for the education of boys, and female schools, where the children of parents, in whatever sphere they may move, may receive the first rudiments of learning, and imbibe the first lessons of scholastic lore, thereby laying the foundation for the display of future genius in a wider field, assisted by more scientific instruction.

Here, though there is no regular establishment of a poor-house, mendicity is seldom seen.

When paupers become old or infirm, they are relieved either at their own dwellings, or sent to board with some person of their own age and sex, the expence of which is defrayed by a rate on the inhabitants, collected and distributed by the overseers of the poor for the time being. The number so relieved are but small; the hospitality of some, and benevolence of others, added to the innate pride of such applicants for parochial relief, who have seen better days, prevent the necessity of any very large establishment for the relief of the poor.

The manner of attending funerals, and paying that last respect to the memory of the deceased, is much more commendable in Wales, than in other countries, where parade and affectation are oftentimes the substitutes for affection, where the semblance of woe too often mocks the reality. A Welsh funeral is much more decent than the hasty interment of the dead in many parts of England, attended by two, three, or half a dozen followers.

Among the poorer orders, it is customary for the friends of the deceased to assemble together on the day of interment, or the night preceding, and to give the relatives a piece of money, according to their circumstances; thus consoling and assisting, when assistance is most wanted.

By the contributions of friends and guests at their

weddings, or biddings, (as they are termed), a young couple, not overburthened with Fortune's store, however rich in that which Fortune cannot always bestow, are enabled, from the gifts and loans of acquaintance and neighbours, to begin the world, in fervent hopes of better days, and ready at a future period in returning such loans, to encourage others entering into the matrimonial state.

These customs, however ludicrous to the eye of fashion, tend to unite the lower orders of society in bonds of amity and love; and whether adopted from the manners of the Flemings, the Normans, or the Saxons, by which Wales has from time to time been governed, they are not less worthy of imitation, encouragement, or reward, and if not immediately conducive to the amelioration of the condition of the people, cannot be supposed as tending in the smallest degree to vitiate their morals or corrupt their hearts.

The costume of both sexes preserve a great degree of similarity in all weathers, and very little variation is made in their dress, either in summer or winter. The women continue to wear mob-caps, chin-stays, and silk handkerchiefs, with black beaver hats, whether in hail, rain, or sunshine, and not unfrequently an extra handkerchief, serves as an additional ornament to their head-dress. The men in general evince by their dress, the same independence of seasons.

The Welsh ladies, however, though they may not be quite so tractable as females of other countries, it must be acknowledged, are not deficient in constancy, affection, or fidelity, or at all inferior in their conjugal and maternal duties to others who may be, or may fancy themselves to be, more polished.

The old-fashioned prejudice and prepossessions, noticed in former days by Cambrian travellers, as springing from the pride of birth or title, or emanating from any other capricious source of Fortune, seems fast approaching to a decline in Wales.

Exclusive of a Circulating Library of many hundred volumes, which are let out to read on the usual terms,

monthly, quarterly, or yearly, there is a Subscription Reading-room, regularly supplied with London and provincial newspapers; and piano-fortes may also be hired for any specified time at the library.

Rules and Regulations for the Observation and Government of the Members of the Reading-room, at Cox's Library, Aberystwyth.

1. That every yearly subscriber pay the sum of one guinea at the time of entrance, (the year to be computed from the 5th day of July), and the like sum per annum, during such time as he shall continue a member.

2. That two London daily newspapers, and at least three provincial weekly papers, viz. the Hereford Journal, Caermarthen Journal, and Shrewsbury Chronicle, be taken for the use of the subscribers to the reading-room exclusively, and not to be taken out of the room on any pretence whatever.

3. That every subscriber shall have the privilege of introducing a friend (being no subscriber) to the rooms, twice, if a stranger to the town; and once, if a resident, but not oftener.

4. That persons visiting Aberystwyth, who may wish to subscribe for a short period, be eligible to become subscribers for three months, on payment of 10s. 6d. or for one month, on payment of 5s.

5. That all the papers taken be filed (separately), and deemed the property of the subscribers, until six months after the end of every year.

6. That a monthly Navy and Army List, and an annual Court Calendar, be regularly purchased, and kept for the use of the subscribers.

7. That any person taking a paper or book out of the reading-room, do forfeit 5s. for each time offending.

8. That the hours of attending the room, be from eight o'clock in the morning until eight o'clock in the evening.

9. That a quarterly meeting of the annual sub-

scribers be held, for the better regulation of the rules of this society, whenever found necessary, viz. on the first Tuesday in the months of September, December, March, and June, in each year, between the hours of twelve and two o'clock; and that no alteration whatever be made in any of the rules, without the consent of a majority of the subscribers present at some or one of such quarterly meetings.

A coach to and from Aberystwyth, goes from the Gogerddan Arms, every Monday and Friday mornings at four o'clock, and returns on the same evening at nine, during the summer season; and in the other times of the year, it leaves Aberystwyth every Friday morning only, by way of Machynllaith, Mallwyd, Can-Office, Llanvair, Welshpool, and Shrewsbury.—Another goes from the Old Black Lion every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday, at four in the morning; returns the same evening about nine, by way of the Devil's Bridge, Llanidloes, Newtown, Welshpool, and Shrewsbury. Those two coaches go from Aberystwyth to Shrewsbury, where they meet the London and other coaches.—A third goes from the Talbot and Royal Hotel every Wednesday and Sunday mornings at seven; returns the same evening about six, by way of Devil's Bridge, Rhaiader, Pen-y-bont, King-ton, Leominster, and Worcester; meets the London, Bristol, and Bath coaches.

Waggons go every week alternate to Shrewsbury, where they meet the waggons to London and elsewhere. One goes to Caermarthen every week.

Letters from London arrive every day except Tuesday, about twelve o'clock in the forenoon.

Letters to London are dispatched every day except Friday, at half past three in the afternoon.

There is a south post departs every Monday, Thursday, and Saturday, at four in the morning, which returns the same days, at seven in the evening. The north post goes out every morning at twelve, and returns at seven in the evening.

The Post-office is in Great Dark-gate street.

The following descriptive analysis of the chalybeate spring, was written by Mr. Richard Williams, of Aberystwyth, Honorary Member of the Physical Society, London, and of the "London Vaccine Institution."

Exclusive of the convenience and goodness of the bathing at Aberystwyth, it possesses, like Scarborough and Brighton, an advantage over many other places on the coast, that of having in its immediate vicinity a fine chalybeate spring, the use of which is applicable to, and will much assist in the cure of many diseases for which the sea is visited. This well was discovered by accident about the year 1779, and is situated a few hundred yards east of the town, upon a common close to the river, and not far distant from a stone quarry.

Some years ago, when the water was directed from the river, for the purpose of clearing away the weeds which had collected there, the well became dry, and a small stream proceeding from the north was observed rising from the bed of the river. Upon covering this over, the flow returned at the usual place.

The neighbouring country abounds in springs of a ferruginous nature, and traces of sulphur have been lately discovered at Penglaise, the beautiful villa of Roderick Richardes, esq.

This spa yields about one gallon in a minute. After rain it runs much faster, and its specific gravity at the temperature of 56 is equal to that of distilled water. During the months of March and April, the temperature varied from 46° to 50°, and did not rise higher when that of the atmosphere was above 60°*.

Before sun-rise, when the degree of heat was 42, that of the well continued 47, Fahrenheit.

Its sensible properties, when first taken up from the well, are—it is quite clear, colourless, and bright; it exhales a chalybeate smell, does not sparkle in the glass, but slowly separates a few bubbles, some of which ascend to the top, and make their escape, while

* In July it reached 53.

others adhere to the sides of the vessel in larger quantities than in common water.

To the taste, it is neither acidulous or saline (except after high tides, when it has been mixed with sea water), but simply chalybeate, and is by no means unpalatable.

When the water has rested for some time exposed to the air, it becomes turbid throughout; an iridescent pellicle encrusts the surface, and in a few hours a brown precipitate falls to the bottom, the water having lost its mineral properties. The same effects take place more rapidly when assisted by heat.

With different re-agents, the following appearances are manifested:

Tincture of galls affords a fine purple approaching to black, but not after it has stood long, or been boiled.

Solution of silver in nitric acid, gives first a pale white, which becomes blue on exposure to the light.

Lime water renders it immediately turbid; and tincture of litmus becomes changed to a light red colour.

Syrup of violets, after standing for some time, becomes very slightly green.

Concentrated sulphuric acid produces no sensible disengagement of bubbles.

Oxalic acid evinces no change.

A solution of soap is curdled both before and after it has been boiled, therefore it may be called a hard water.

Nitrate of barytes does not indicate the presence of sulphuric acid.

Solution of blue vitriol causes a green colour.

Volatile caustic ammonia, and caustic potash, occasion yellowish sediments.

By a careful evaporation, a wine gallon of this water will afford eight grains of solid matter, and occasionally a larger proportion.—The residue has a salt taste; and, by the addition of sulphuric acid, evolves muriatic acid gas.

A small portion being mixed with cold spring water, suffered to rest for two or three hours, then filtered through paper, and a little of the nitrate of silver dropped into the solution, a white cloudiness takes place. This is followed by a blue precipitate, which is not re-dissolved by the nitric or acetic acids.

This water has been supposed to contain a small portion of sulphur, but as yet, I have not been able to ascertain its existence. The acetate of lead, when employed in solution, assumes a faint blue, with a tinge of brown, which is probably owing to the presence of muriatic acid.

From the above experiments, it is evident that this water contains calx of iron, which is suspended by the medium of carbonic acid gas and marine salt; in other respects, I do not find that it differs materially from pure spring water; therefore, it may be termed a simple carbonated chalybeate, and much resembles the Tunbridge waters.

The track over which it flows, is marked by an ochery deposition, and no frogs or small fish are seen within the influence of the fixed air; it being destructive to animal life when respired, and in some instances capable of producing effects similar to those of intoxication.

The medicinal virtues of this spa depend on the carbonic acid, and oxyd of iron, the salts being too inconsiderable to deserve any particular attention.

By proper regulation, it will be found very salutary in all relaxations of the stomach, and intestinal canal, as well as general debility, stimulating the action of the heart and arteries, and increasing the florid colour of the blood;—by perseverance in its use the appetite becomes excited, and the spirits improved.

And in a variety of disorders, where steel may be required, it will prove of considerable service.

On commencing a course of this water, the bowels should be attended to, and an aperient medicine administered, or a small quantity of sulphate of magnesia occasionally combined with it.—The constitution of

the patient should likewise be considered; and if there is any tendency to inflammatory complaints, determination of blood to the head, or pulmonary affection, its use must be either laid aside, or continued with caution.

To persons of a delicate habit, the fresh drawn water may, from its low temperature, occasion an unpleasant sensation in the stomach, which may be prevented by adding a little tincture of cardamoms, or any other cordial, which I think preferable to warming it:* for the carbonic acid is in the latter method too often suffered to escape.

A quarter of a pint should be taken two or three times a day, and it would be most advantageous, for obvious reasons, to drink it at the well about eight o'clock in the morning, and again between breakfast and dinner, gradually increasing the dose according to the age and habits of the invalid.

Chalybeate waters, when first employed, frequently evacuate the bowels, especially if there is any accumulation of bile in them; but their operation ceases so soon as the intestines are restored to their natural state, and the opposite effect is apt to occur.

The requisite duration of a course of steel water extends from three to eight or nine weeks; when it agrees, the whole frame becomes strengthened: the urinary and cuticular excretions augmented, the faces become of a dark colour, a circumstance generally accompanying a course of chalybeate waters, and which it may be proper, the patient should be aware of. When assisted by the warm bath, its power over chlorosis, and other obstructions, will be much more perceptible; but if in this time it fails to regenerate health, a further trial would not be desirable, as little or no advantage could be expected from it.

As a topical application, it has been resorted to,

* This is done by filling a bottle, corking it well, and immersing it in hot water for ten minutes.

with success for various species of ulcers, and sometimes given relief in chronic ophthalmia.

The roads from Aberystwyth to Machynlleth, through Talybont, and from Aberystwyth to Cardigan, by the way of Aberayron, are kept in as good order, for equestrian or pedestrian travellers, as the generality of roads throughout England, and exhibit as great a diversity of rural and marine prospect, as can possibly be discovered in such extent in any other part of the principality, or in any part of the united kingdom.

One mile to the north-east of Aberystwyth is LLANBADARN-VAWR, anciently called Mauritanea, and supposed to be one of the earliest bishoprics in Wales. Here Paternus, in the sixth century, founded a monastery, and an episcopal see, afterwards united to St. David's.

The church was given, in the year 1111, to St. Peter's, at Gloucester, and some time after to Vale Royal, in Cheshire. The present structure has many traces of great antiquity, being large, and built in the form of a cross, with a door of early Gothic architecture, and by its style, was probably erected previous to the itinerary of Giraldus, in whose time the place was an abbey, under the jurisdiction of a layman, the enormity of which he very pathetically lamented.

Its external appearance is large and ancient, erected of common stone. The interior consists of a nave and chancel, formed of rough materials, with a few modern monuments, particularly one for Lewis Morris, well known among his countrymen for a profound knowledge of British history and antiquities, besides the author of a valuable work, entitled "Celtic Remains."

Among the antiquities of Llanbadarn, are two ancient stone crosses, ornamented with some rude carvings and emblematical devices. In the middle of the village is a large upright stone, part of which has been broken off, in consequence of a bonfire having been made upon it.

A recent traveller observes of Llanbadarn, "the vicissitude of human affairs, 'the wreck of matter,'

seems strongly exemplified in the declension of this ancient place. Its cruciform church is supposed to be one of the oldest in Wales. The door and chancel are of early Gothic architecture. In the sixth century, a monastery, with an episcopal see, was here founded by Paturus; which was afterwards united to St. David's. The meat market was formerly kept here, for the supply of Aberystwyth; and the adjoining grounds produced plenty of fruit and vegetables.

“It is now the burying place of several respectable families, and there are a considerable number of marble and other tomb-stones, commemorative of the defunct, in the church and church-yard:—a flat stone in the chancel covers the grave of the late Mr. Lewis Morris, the celebrated antiquarian.

“The remains of former grandeur is but little conspicuous, elsewhere than in the church and church-yard.”

GLAS-GRUG is the site of an ancient British palace, or entrenchment, on the summit of a small hill, in a wide marsh adjacent to Llanbadarn. It was frequently garrisoned by British troops, in their warfare against their Norman and Saxon invaders.

The remains are very considerable, and a square embattled tower appears very perfect, with a narrow passage, leading into another quadrangular division, which has still the outer walls in good preservation. The entrance and hall is immediately opposite the chimney, with a mutilated floor of rough stones, similar to those in its exterior walls. The hearth, and a rustic chimney-piece remaining, afford a good specimen of its antiquity.

The extent of all the original fabric cannot be minutely described; but the apartments have been very spacious and numerous, as the remaining walls are in many places six or seven feet high. A small part of the ruins have been used for a hay-loft; but, like the other parts, has neither a hewn stone or a single letter of inscription.

When this old mansion was erected, is no where to be found in history; yet it appears to have been known to Gruffydd ab Rhys in 1113, when he encamped here, previous to his defeat by the Normans before Aberystwyth Castle. That it has been the residence of our princes, cannot be denied; for it is particularly mentioned by Einion ab Gwgan, who flourished about 1244; for, speaking of Llewelyn the Great, he expresses himself to this purpose:

“ His spear flashes in the hands accustomed to martial deeds;
It kills, and puts its enemies to flight by the palace of the Rheidiol.”

It appears to have been one of the residences of Owen Glyndwr; it is said that a subterraneous passage led from this mansion to the old sanctuary of Llanbadarn, and another to the castle at Aberystwyth, but notwithstanding repeated trials, the remains of either cannot be discovered.

Gwely Taliesin, or Taliesin's Bed, at Genau y Glyn, in the parish of Llanvihangel, stood by the high road, about four miles from Aberystwyth. Tradition informs us this was the sepulchre of Taliesin, chief bard of Wales, who flourished about A. D. 540. It seems to have been a sort of cist-vaen, four feet long, and three broad, composed of four stones, one at each end, and two side stones, the highest nearly a foot above the ground; but no part of this monument is now remaining, some ruthless hand having broken the stones, and converted them afterwards to gate posts.

Journey from Pont-ar-Vynach to Llanbedr; through Tregaron.

THIS bridge over the Mynach, on the road leading from Aberystwyth to Llanidloes, is supposed to have been the work of the monks of Ystrad-flur, or Strata Florida Abbey, in the reign of William Rufus; but being of very early, and generally, of unknown date, has been ascribed by popular tradition, to the devil;

but who ought perhaps to be little suspected of a performance of such public utility. The Welsh, however, in their vernacular language, have given it the descriptive appellation of Pont-ar-Vynach, or Mynach a Monk. It consists of two arches, one thrown over the other. The old bridge is the lower arch. Giraldus mentions passing over this bridge when he accompanied Baldwin, archbishop of Canterbury, at the time of the crusades, in the year 1188. The upper arch was built perpendicularly over it, in the year 1753, at the expence of the county, for the greater safety and convenience of travellers. They span a chasm in a tremendous rock, which, when viewed from the dingle where the stream runs, has an appearance awfully sublime: and the rays of the sun being intercepted by the elevated situation of the trees, which grow impending over this impetuous torrent, add greatly to the sublimity. The cleft in the rock has been greatly enlarged, if not originally caused, by the force of the stream, the rapidity of which is increased by its confinement. The depth of the water on the south-west side is in some places upwards of 12 feet, and from the highest arch to the water 99. On the north-east side, close to the bridge, it measures 114 feet; this difference may be ascribed to the declivity under it, which is very considerable.

The river, bursting from its restrained course, through broken rocks and interrupted by fragments, becomes a more even and translucent stream for about 40 yards north-east from the bridge, till within a few yards of the fall, where it is confined to narrow limits by the rocks, from whence, bursting with terrific roar, it is carried about six feet over the craggy ridge, and descending 18, is received into a bason, along which it flows 24, and then rushes with equal impetuosity to a descent of 60 feet. Here the fall is again interrupted by another receiver, which, like the former, appears to have been worn to an amazing depth. The agitation of the water, and the mist occasioned by the fall, which for some time we took for rain, prevented our

sounding its depth. From this bason it hastens to another descent of near 20 feet, but reaching that extent meets with obstructions of massy rocks and stones of a prodigious size; which it encounters with irresistible violence, and forces its way, about 22 feet, to the precipice of the greatest cataract. The water then uniting, passes with an almost inconceivable force over the brink of the rock, and becomes a large sheet. In that state it falls upwards of 110 feet.

“ Between two meeting hills, it bursts away,
Where rocks and woods o'erhang the turbid stream;
There gathering triple force, rapid and deep,
It boils, and wheels, and foams, and thunders through.”

THOMSON.

The river, for near three miles from this spot, is encircled with hills of prodigious magnitude, some wholly clothed with trees; except an intervention here and there of frightfully projecting rocks, the bottoms of which are very dangerous and difficult of access; but a situation near the brink of the river once obtained, the spectator is amply repaid with a scene the most solemn and beautiful. To describe the various sounds the different breaks in the cataract produce, can best be done by a simile to a variation of the keys in music; and to depict the scenery with which you are here surrounded, elevated woods, rocks, and the rushing of a river, falling more than two hundred and eighty feet, can be more justly done by an accurate drawing, than by the most descriptive pen.

Pont fach ar Fynach a fynwyd,
Uwch eigion, och! agos Gyfarllwyd,
Garwach heb gel ni welwyd,
Oll erioed na'r man lle'r wyd.

ANONY.

The Ystwyth, the Rheidol, and the Mynach, are such interesting rivers, that an account of their rise and meanderings, and the streams connected with them, cannot possibly be uninteresting.

The Ystwyth rises in the mountains, as Leland says, "owt of a mares grounde, caullid Blaine Ustwith, three miles from Llangibike on Wy." The first river it receives is the Duliw, which rises in a mountain about a mile from Llyn Iwan ucha', one of the heads of the Merrin river. It separates part of Montgomeryshire from Cardiganshire, and continues to do so for about seven miles, and then turns inwards to Cardiganshire: here receiving a tributary stream; about a mile and three quarters further on, it falls into the Ystwyth. At the confluence, an elegant stone bridge has been erected, at the expence of the late Mr. Johnes. The Ystwyth continues to flow between tremendous mountains until it reaches Pentre-Briwnant, where it receives the Briw Brook on one side, and another stream on the other. Two streams forming the eastern boundary of Havod fall into it, one on the north, and the other on the south side. In its passage through this terrestrial paradise, it meets with two more streams from the south, the westernmost forming the western boundary of Havod on this side of the Ystwyth. Over this part of the Ystwyth, Mr. Johnes erected another bridge, in the Moorish style. Half a mile below the last-mentioned stream, another from the north flows into the Ystwyth, about half a mile, the other part of the western boundary of Havod. Having now quitted the confines of Havod, it continues its course, overhung by well-wooded mountains, for half a mile further, where a neat stone bridge has been thrown across it, called Pont Rhydygroes; about 200 yards to the west of which, another rivulet falls into the Ystwyth. This comes in a curvilinear course from the north, and has its rise near a village called Blaen Pentre'; a little more than a quarter of a mile before it meets the Ystwyth, another rivulet falls into it, taking its rise not far distant from the other, and curving in an opposite direction, so as to form almost an ellipse. This has two tributary streams. The Ystwyth now takes a southerly direction, and then turns again at nearly right angles towards the west. Here

it receives a brook called Nantycwärel, or quarry brook, which divides its southern bank, and flows in extent about three miles.

The next object of notice on the Ystwyth is the romantic bridge of Llanavan, which, like the others on this river, consists of a single arch, and is built of stone. About a mile and three quarters from this, it receives two brooks, whose mouths are exactly opposite to each other: the smallest comes from the north, the other from the south. This last is called Crognant, and runs down the mountains between Llanwnnws and Lledrod.

The Ystwyth having made an angle just at the stream it met with, after flowing under Llanavan bridge, runs towards the north-west; and the next stream that falls into it after Crognant, comes from the westward. Just below this is a ford called Rhydyceir, used by people coming or going from Llanilar to Llanavan. The northern bank of the Ystwyth is here adorned by the noble park and luxuriant farms of the Honourable Colonel Vaughan's estate, called Cross-wood.

A mile beyond the last stream, comes another rivulet from the north-east, which rising a little above Rhos Rhyd ucha', comes down a valley called Cwm Magwyr; and about a mile from its embouchure, receives a brook about three miles in extent.

About two miles further, the Ystwyth receives another rivulet from the north-east, which rises a little to the north of the high road from the Devil's Bridge to Aberystwyth, between the eighth and ninth mile-stones. This receives five tributary streams, and flows through the village of Llanvihangel y Creuddin.

The next stream the Ystwyth receives comes from the south, passing by the plantations of Castle Hill, the estate of J. N. Williams, esq. and in a cleft it has made in the mountain by its impetuosity, falls into the Ystwyth just by the village of Llanilar.

About two miles beyond it is reinforced by a trifling stream from the north; and a little further, by a larger one called the Maide, from the south, which has been

made by the union of two smaller. Here stands Abermaide; and here the Ystwyth assumes a most picturesque appearance.

Two miles further it receives another brook called Llolwyn, from the south, over which, as well as the Maide, is a stone bridge of a single arch.

About half a mile further on, the Ystwyth, where its curves, uniting with the well-wooded rocks on its banks, contribute to give it a most romantic appearance, stands Llanychaiarn bridge.

Two trifling streams afterwards empty themselves into the Ystwyth from the south-west, where, winding round the base of Pendinas mountain, it falls into the river Rheidiol, just before that river meets the ocean, and gives name to the town of Aberystwyth.

The Rheidiol rises in a lake called Llyn Rheidiol, in the Pumlumon mountains. About a mile and a half from its source it receives a rivulet from the east, containing the boundary of Cardiganshire from the Pumlumon mountains, being to the north of them, and receiving in its passage a tributary stream running out of them.

A mile further the Rheidiol is increased by another stream, flowing from the westernmost of the Pumlumon mountains, and about a mile and a half in extent.

About a hundred yards further, another rivulet falls into the Rheidiol. This also separates Cardiganshire from Montgomeryshire. It rises about four miles and a half to the northward, and receives a stream coming from the Esgair Vraith copper mines, called Maesnant.

A mile further, the Rheidiol receives a small stream from the south; and not quite a mile beyond, the river Camddwr falls into it from the north, so called from its meandering form. Its course is not quite five miles, during which it receives two other small streams on its eastern side.

Just beyond the Camddwr, another small stream falls into the Rheidiol, which receives no other increase for two miles further; when another brook from the east meets it, into which flows another, called Peithnant.

A mile further, another brook called Hirnant, or "Long brook," falls into the Rheidiol.

Also from the east, a mile and a half beyond, a rivulet from the north-west meets the Rheidiol. This is above four miles in extent, and receives five tributary streams; one of which, from the foaming cataract it possesses, gives the names of *Gwenfrwd ucha'*, and *Gwenfrwd isa'*, to two cottages situated on its sides.

About two hundred and fifty yards further, the Rheidiol receives a trifling supply from the west; but a mile and a half beyond, the Castell River falls into it from the east; this also has its bulk increased by five other streams, and flows nearly five miles in extent. A cross road leads over the Castell and over the Rheidiol by means of two bridges. The bridge over the Rheidiol is called *Ponterwyd*, and is one arch of stone, about 36 feet in diameter.

The Rheidiol now curves in the form of an S, and receives a rivulet from the west about three miles long, having two streams flowing into it.

Half a mile further the Rheidiol receives a trifling supply from the west, and is again increased by a stream from the east, which runs by the church of *Ysptyt Cenywn*.

We now approach the grand and tremendous fall of the Rheidiol, the sublime features of which cataract should be viewed, as they cannot well be described. The basin into which it falls is agitated like a sea, by the violence of the shock: the rocks that have planted themselves across the channel are enormous; the hue of the waters is dark; the hills stand upright into the sky; nothing glitters through the gloom but the foam of the torrent; nothing invades the deep silence but its sound. The flashing of the rill from above into the broad cascade adds inexpressible beauty to its grandeur. Opposite to the stupendous object, on a precipice of forests, at the height of more than one hundred and fifty yards, stands the inn called "*The Havod Arms*." The Rheidiol soon meets with the

Mynach, and their junction may be here traced in this bottom. The cascade on the two rivers are not within sight of each other.

The Rheidiol being now reinforced by the waters of the valley, continues its course along the valley for a quarter of a mile, when it receives a small stream falling down from the south-west; and shortly after, another in the same direction, though a little larger. It continues its course down the vale of Rheidiol, till it receives the impetuous Frwd from the south; and about one hundred and fifty yards beyond, another from the opposite side.

It afterwards meanders for two miles further, and there receives another stream from the north; and two miles beyond, another comes into it, which rises near Penbryn, and is about three miles in extent.

About a mile further on, it receives another in the same direction as the last.

About two miles further, just where it forms a right angle, a stream runs from one part of it, and falls into it again, forming the hypotenuse of this right angle. A house situated on this brook is called Nanteirio. By such a disposition of its waters, the Rheidiol forms a triangular island. It now flows on, sometimes in a right line, and sometimes curving, till it approaches Glas-Grug, where the river separates, forming an island not quite two miles in circumference, called y Morva, or the Marsh, which, during the winter, is mostly overflowed. It thence flows under the bridge of Aberystwyth.

Whatever might have been the origin of the English appellation of the Devil's Bridge, or why his infernal majesty should have been considered the builder, is a point which must be left to others more learned on this head, and better acquainted with his works, to determine. There is, however, one incontrovertible fact attending this structure, that the people who first had the use of it, and experienced the benefit of passing over, must have felt themselves considerably obliged to the architect.

The Mynach, or Monks River, rises on the east side of the mountains to the east of Ysphytty Cenwyn, and about half a mile off is replenished by the river Merin, which is formed by the junction of two streams, each issuing from the lakes called Llyn Ivan issa', and Llyn Ivan ucha'. The Rhuddnant is another stream that increases the Mynach, which also receives two small streams from the south, and prepares itself for that astonishing cataract, equalled only by the fall of Narni in Italy. This truly acherontic stream, forces itself through masses and fragments of opposing rocks, hollowing out deep cavities, filled with the awful blackness of unfathomed waters, and thickening the misty gloom of a recess, impervious to sunshine.

At the jut of the lowest fall in the rock is a cave, said to have been once inhabited by robbers, two brothers, and a sister, called *Plant Mat*, or *Mat's Children*, who used to steal and sell the cattle of their neighbours, and whose retreat was not discovered for many years. The entrance being just sufficient to make darkness visible, and admitting but one at a time, they were able to defend it against hundreds. At length, however, they were taken, after having committed murder, for which they were tried, condemned, and executed.

It is however conceived a task nearly impossible for language to describe, or the artist to delineate, the several scenes of this romantic retirement. It must be seen to be understood; every new choice of position rewards the observer with scenes awfully grand and sublime. One excursion (says Mr. Cumberland), to this place, will not suffice common observers, nor indeed many to the lovers of the grand sports of nature. The Mynach coming down from beneath the Devil's Bridge, has no equal for height or beauty, for although a streamlet to the famous fall of Narni in Italy, yet it rivals it in height, and surpasses it in elegance.

After passing deep below the bridge, as through a narrow firth, with noises loud and ruinous into a confined chasm, the fleet waters pour headlong and in-

petuous, and leaping from rock to rock, with fury literally, lash the mountains' sides; sometimes almost embowered among deep groves, and flashing at last into a fan-like form, the fall rattling among the loose stones of the Devil's hole, where, to all appearance, it shoots into a gulf beneath, and silently steals away; for so much is carried off in spray, during the incessant repercussions it experiences, in this long tortuous shoot, that, in all probability, not half the water arrives at the bottom of its profound and sullen grave.

Mr. Hutton's History of the Lower Bridge, as related by Mr. Nicholson is as follows: "An old woman in search of her strayed cow, saw her on the opposite side of the cleft rock, and in this lamentable case the devil appeared, sympathized with her deeply, and offered to accommodate her with a bridge over the chasm, if she would suffer him to take the first who passed it. Reflecting that, as she must be ruined in the one case, she could but be ruined in the other, she desperately complied. A bridge instantly appeared. What a situation! Her cow was dear to her and valuable, but self-preservation was an impulse superior to every other consideration. Fortunately, however, she had a dog, and in her pocket a piece of bread: a glorious thought occurred, of saving herself and cow by the sacrifice of the cur; she took the piece of bread from her pocket, and threw it on the other side. Her dog darted over the bridge to seize it. Satan looked peevishly askance, galled at the thought of being bit by an old woman, hung his tail, and walked off. It must be acknowledged that Mr. Satan behaved very honourably in this case, for he kept his word, which is more than men always do: whether the wisdom of the old lady, the honour of Mr. Devil, or the active obedience of the dog, was, or is the utmost to be commended, is a question left by Mr. Hutton for others to decide."

Just above the Devil's Bridge Mr. Johnes erected the commodious inn, which he caused to be called the Hafod Arms: here travellers may be supplied with

every necessary accommodation, while they are exploring the wouders of the neighbourhood. The house is situated between the road and the valley, and the back windows command a full view of the great fall of the Rheidiol in the gulph below; but its apparent magnitude is greatly diminished by the distance. The Ystwyth pursues hence a most romantic and impetuous course on the left, rushing in foaming cataracts over successive precipices, and filling the narrow vale with the roaring of its waters. On the right lie the celebrated lead mines of Cwm Ystwyth, which, with the dingy hovels of the miners, first indicate our approach towards the habitations of man. A little way beyond the lead mines, the eye, now fatigued by the perpetual recurrence of naked craggs and the desolation of uncultivated wastes, is agreeably relieved by a small hill, immediately in front, crowned by a flourishing plantation, and nearly at the same spot, a sudden turn of the road opens to the traveller a prospect of undescribable beauty and interest. Directly before him the Vale of Ystwyth, gradually widening, bursts upon the view like a scene of the most delightful enchantment. A small village, in this commanding situation, is called *Pentre Briwnant*; and a public house here is called *Pentre Briwnant Inn*, where persons, not too squeamish in the article of beds and provisions, may be furnished with temporary board and lodging. About one mile south of Cwm Ystwyth lead mines, is Hafod, or Havod Uchtryd, the justly beautiful seat of the late Thomas Johnes, esq. Lord-lieutenant, and Custos Rotulorum of the county of Cardigan, and also its representative in parliament. The entrance to the grounds is on the left of the turnpike, and is marked by a neat lodge and gateway. The carriage-road winds hence to the right, partly through groves of young trees, and partly through a forest of majestic oak, and nothing is seen of the house till a turn round a projecting rock at the extremity of the wood brings it in full view.

The elegant and hospitable mansion, first built here by Mr. Baldwin the architect, was burnt nearly down in March 1807, when the fire was so rapid, that Mrs. Johnes, with the assistance of a gentleman then upon a visit to the house, with the greatest difficulty saved the contents of four of the book cases, all the rest of the printed books and manuscripts being burnt: the plate, several pictures, and other valuables were rescued. The fire engine on the premises, owing to the frost, was useless; but happily no lives were lost. However, though only 26,000*l.* could be recovered from the insurance offices, Mr. Johnes, with that enthusiasm which led him to devote his life and fortune to the creation of a paradise out of a wilderness, determined him still to inhabit his Eden. Another mansion has, in consequence, arisen out of the ashes of the former, the greater part of the walls being preserved. Several alterations have been made in the interior; but the apartments now shewn to casual visitors, comprise the principal octagon library; a circular library opening into it; another library consisting of a large room; a parallelogram, a spacious dining room, and a drawing room.

The principal paintings and other works of art, saved from the general wreck, are disposed in these apartments. The octagon library contains busts of Mr. and Mrs. Johnes, by Banks, another of Mr. Johnes, by Chautrey, and one of the late Duke of Bedford, by Nollekens. In the drawing room, over the chimney-piece, is Hogarth's celebrated picture of Southwark Fair; the others, in different apartments, are too many to enumerate here. The whole furniture of these apartments is in a style of elegant simplicity, though some of the marble chimney-pieces, enriched by sculptured devices, touched by a masterly hand, were brought from Font-hill, as were also three magnificent French mirrors in the long library, having been purchased at Mr. Beckford's sale.

Mrs. Johnes established a school at Havod, several years since, for the gratuitous education of poor girls,

who are taught to read and spin. Fine table cloths, used by the family, were at one time made from this home-manufactured thread. In the grounds was also a printing-house; and Mr. Johnes sent from thence his translation of Froissart's and Monstrelet's Chronicles, Joinville, and Le Brocquiere's Memoirs, and some other works.

Leaving the interior beauties of this secluded mansion, we are frequently struck with admiration at the rich plantations round it, and up a great extent of country, which owe their origin entirely to the late Mr. Johnes' industry and particular attention to this department. The trees he chiefly planted were larch and beech, and these with singular success; but he did not confine himself solely to the preceding, as will be shewn. In 1797, the usual number of three hundred thousand was greatly exceeded, which is stated, to give the reader an idea of the Havod plantations, and its annual increase, by a proportionate number.

- 300,000 Larch from the nursery.
- 50,000 Birch and Mountain Ash from the woods.
- 200,000 Larch of different growth from Scotland.
- 1000 Birch, ditto.
- 17,700 Alders, ditto.
- 2000 Mountain ash, ditto.
- 4000 Beech, ditto.
- 22,000 Wych elm.

596,700

The whole number of trees, planted on the estate from October 1795 to April 1801, amounted to two millions and sixty-five thousand, of which one million two hundred were larches, without including the land sown with acorns.

Since this period the plantations have been extended on the same scale with equal spirit, from one to two hundred thousand trees being planted every year.

Upon the whole, many people of the first taste have

considered themselves amply recompensed for the fatigue of long journies, by the delightful prospects they here beheld; and the many elegant descriptions of it given by writers of the first eminence, render it extremely difficult, if not physically impossible, to describe it more emphatically. Those who have yet to see, as well as those who may again review the improvements made by its late owner, must have some estimate of the worth of a man, "whose taste and munificence appreciated and fostered the works of the most exalted genius, while his benevolence stooped to comfort the fire-side of the lowest cottager—the benefits resulting from his designs, his munificence and example will be the living records of him in after times:—while the writings of Mr. Malkin, Mr. Nicholson, Mr. Meyrick, Mr. Evans, and others, descriptive of this elegant residence of departed worth, will convey, with all the force of language, the several beauties of nature, embellishments of art, and operations of genius, taste, and science, here combined to captivate, fascinate, and enchant, the spectator.

Mr. Cumberland's masterly hand has furnished the following elegant description: Havod is a place in itself so pre-eminently beautiful, that it highly merits a particular description. It stands surrounded with so many noble scenes, diversified with elegance, as well as with grandeur; the country, on the approach to it, is so very wild and uncommon, and the place itself is now so embellished by art, that it will be difficult, I believe, to point out a spot, that can be put in competition with it, considered either as the object of the painter's eye, the poet's mind, or as a desirable residence for those who, admirers of the beautiful wildness of nature, love also to inhale the pure air of aspiring mountains, and enjoy that "Santo pace" (as the Italians expressively term it), which arises from solitudes, made social by a family circle. From the porticoes it commands a woody, narrow winding vale; the undulating forms of whose ascending shaggy sides are richly clothed with various foliage, broken with

silver water-falls, and crowned with climbing sheep-walks stretching to the clouds.

Neither are the luxuries of life absent; for, on the margin of the Ystwyth, where it flows broadest through this delicious vale, we see hot-houses, and a conservatory beneath the rocks; a bath; amid the recesses of the wood, a flower-garden; and, within the building, whose decorations, though rich, are pure and simple, we find a mass of rare and valuable literature, whose pages here seem doubly precious, where meditation finds scope to range unmolested.

In a word, so many are the delights afforded by the scenery of this place, and its vicinity, to a mind imbued with any taste, that the impression on mine was increased after an interval of ten years from the first visit, employed chiefly in travelling among the Alps, the Appenines, the Sabine Hills, and the Tyrolese; along the shores of the Adriatic, over the Glaciers of Switzerland, and up the Rhine; where, though in search of beauty, I never, I feel, saw any thing so fine—never so many pictures concentrated in one spot; so that, warned by the renewal of my acquaintance with them, I am irresistibly urged to attempt a description of the hitherto almost virgin haunts of these obscure mountains.

Wales, and its borders, both north and south, abound at intervals with fine things—Piercefield has grounds of great magnificence, and wonderfully picturesque beauty. Downton Castle has a delicious woody vale, most tastefully managed; Llangollen is brilliant; the banks of the Conway savagely grand; Barmouth romantically rural; the great Pistill Rhaiader is horribly wild; Rhaiader Wenuol, gay, and gloriously irregular:—each of which merits a studied description.

But, at Havod, and its neighbourhood, I find the effects of all in one circle; united with this peculiarity, that the deep dingles, and mighty woody slopes, which, from a different source, conduct the Rheidiol's never-failing waters from Pumlumon, and the Mynach, are of an unique character, as mountainous forests, ac-

companying gigantic size with graceful forms: and, taken altogether, I see the sweetest interchange of hill and valley, rivers, woods, and plains, and falls, with forests crowned, rocks, dens, and caves; insomuch, that it requires little enthusiasm there to feel forcibly with MILTON:

“All things that be, send up from earth’s great altar
silent praise.”

There are four fine walks from the house, chiefly through ways artificially made by the proprietor; all dry, kept clean, and composed of materials found on the spot; which is chiefly a coarse stone, of a greyish cast, friable in many places; and like slate, but oftener consisting of immense masses, that cost the miner, in making some part of these walks, excessive labour; for there are places where it was necessary to perforate the rock many yards, in order to pass a promontory, that, jutting across the way, denied further access, and to go round which, you must have taken a great tour, and made a fatiguing descent. As it is, the walks are so constructed, that few are steep; the transitions easy, the returns commodious, and the branches distinct. Neither are they too many, for much is left for future projectors; and if a man be stout enough to range the underwoods, and fastidious enough to reject all trodden paths, he may, almost every where, stroll from the studied line, till he be glad to regain the friendly conduct of the well known way.

Yet one must be nice, not to be content at first to visit the best points of view by the general routine; for all that is here done, has been to remove obstructions, reduce the materials, and conceal the art; and we are no where presented with attempts to force the untamed streams, or indeed to invent any thing where nature, the great mistress, has left all art behind.

The following lines, neatly illustrative of the sovereignty of nature over the intrusion of art, cannot be more properly introduced than in this place, where

they so happily adorn and strengthen the judicious and very respectable opinion of Mr. Cumberland on this subject :

THE GENIUS OF HAVOD.

Formal Slaves of Art, avaunt !
 This is Nature's secret haunt :
 The Genius of the Landscape, I
 Guard it, with a jealous eye—
 Guard it, that no footstep rude
 Upon her privacy intrude.
 Here, with mystic maze, her throne
 Is girt, accessible to none
 But to the highly-honour'd few
 To whom I deign to lend my clue ;
 And chief to him, who in this grove
 Devotes his life to share her love ;
 From whom she seeks no charms to hide—
 For whom she throws her veil aside,
 Instructing him to spread abroad
 Scenes for Salvator—or for Claude.
 Far, oh far hence, let Brown and Eames
 Zig-zag their walks, and torture streams !
 But let them not my dells profane,
 Or violate my Naiad train ;
 Nor let their arrogance invade
 My meanest Dryad's secret shade,
 And with fantastic knots disgrace
 The native honours of the place—
 Making the vet'ran oak give way,
 Some spruce exotic to display :
 Their petty labours he defy'd,
 Who Taste and Nature would divide !

About six miles south of Havod is Ystrad-flur Abbey, or Strata Florida ; it is situate near the source of the Teivi, in the farthest recess of a mountainous semicircle, amid numerous coppices of wood, and cultivated land to the steep declivities, which render the situation very pleasant and desirable. Of this

abbey, called by the Welsh, Mynachlog Ystrad-flur, there are still some remains, but very inconsiderable, and scarcely worth notice, having only a wall on the west end of the church, with a gateway of Saxon architecture, which is of fine proportion, and well preserved. The church is large, with a long and cross aisle, but the foundation appears to have been 60 feet longer than it is at present. Near the large cloister is the infirmary, now in ruins, also a burying-ground, meanly walled with stone, having in Leland's time 39 remarkable large yew trees; but the court before the abbey is spacious and handsome. This abbey was originally founded for Cistercian monks; but Camden says Cluniacs, by Rhys ab Gruffydd, prince of South Wales, in 1164, and burnt down in the time of Edward I. about the year 1294, but soon after rebuilt. At the dissolution of these religious institutions, it was valued at 118*l.* 17*s.* per annum. Within these ancient walls was regularly kept a chronicle of the principal transactions among our British princes; with all the old records complete from 1156 to 1270. It is likewise celebrated as the place of interment of many of our Welsh princes and abbots, but at present not a single fragment of their tombs remains, nor even one solitary inscription any where to be found. Among the illustrious persons interred here, the monk of Llancarvan inscribes the following:

A. D. 1184. Hywel ab Ievan, Lord of Arwystli.

1191. Owen ab Rhys.

1202. Gruffydd, prince of South Wales.

1204. Howel ab Rhys, by the side of Gruffydd, first deprived of his sight, and then treacherously murdered.

Isabel, daughter of Richard Clare, Earl of Hereford, and wife of William Gam, Lord of Gower.

1209. Maude de Bruce, or Breos, wife of Gruffydd ab Rhys.

1221. Rhys ab Rhys Vychan.

1239. Maelgwn, the son of Rhys ab Gruffydd.

A. D. 1235. Cadwallon ab Maelgwn, of Maelienydd.

— Owen, the son of Gruffydd ab Rhys.

1238. Llewelyn ab Iorwerth, who being indisposed, assembled before him at Ystrad-flur, all the barons and lords of Wales, to do homage to his son David, whom he named his successor.

Near the remains of this Abbey is an old mansion, built by John Stedman, esq. of Staffordshire. William Powell, of Nant Eos, esq. married the heiress and brought the property into that family, who are its present owners.

Some years ago, two of the Abbey seals were found in the adjacent lands. One was circular, about the size of a crown piece, and bore the Abbey arms; the other was an ellipse, with a representation of the Madonna and Child. The former was sold by the boy who discovered it, to an itinerant jew.

The Teivi, at this place, appears merely as a diminished stream; but, twenty or thirty miles from hence, near Cilgwyn, and in that neighbourhood, its grand woody banks offer some beautiful scenery, much resembling the views near the Wye, at Chepstow, &c.

From Strata Florida Abbey. the visitor will have the option of regaining the post-road to Aberystwyth, by varying the line back, and leaving Havod to the left, which will bring him to the inn at Pentrev, or Cwm-Ystwyth, where he may pass the night; he may pursue a more direct way from the Abbey, if he has time to reach Aberystwyth the same evening, as he will not find any convenient lodging short of that place. By the latter route, a small circuit would include a view of the fine old mansion belonging to Colonel Vaughan, called Cross-wood; and there is also, in this direction, a great variety of delightful scenery, which will yield ample gratification to the admirer of those beauties which so eminently distinguish this district of the principality.

About seven or eight miles from the Devil's Bridge,

the road to Aberystwyth forms a fine terrace nearly all the way to that place, on the side of a chain of mountains, with the charming Vale of Rheidol on the right, through which the river of the same name is seen winding its course to the sea. This valley presents a very grand and extensive scene, continuing not less than ten miles, among rocks, hanging woods, and varied ground, which in some parts becomes mountainous; while the river is every where a beautiful object, and, twice or three times in its passage through the vale, is interrupted in its course, and formed into a cascade.

The unexpected manner in which this delightful prospect bursts into view, upon gaining the summit of a mountain, naturally arrests the progress of the traveller, who is intuitously rivetted to the spot, minutely to admire the fascinating beauty of the opening scene; which continues to attract his attention until he reaches Aberystwyth.

Here it may not be improper to observe, that the principal lakes in Cardiganshire lie near the summit of the hills which divide this county from Radnorshire, and in the vicinity of Ystrad-flur. Of these lakes, six in number, Llyn Tive is the principal. Its circumference may be about a mile and a half, and it is said not to have been fathomed. The following is the enumeration given by Leland, of the lakes which occur on these hills, including several not noticed by Dr. Malkin. Leland travelled over this county in the reign of Henry the Eighth:

“Thence (from Ystrad-flur), I went a good half mile by Tive Vale, and a mile and a half up the craggy mountains to Llyn Tive, and two miles beyond it to Cragnaulin. If I had gone thence a mile off by a bye hill, I might have seen Penlimmon, then distant five miles. The hills between Llyn Tive and Cragnaulin did not appear so stony as those betwixt Ystrad-flur and that place: Llyn Tive, in compass, is three quarters of a mile. It is fed from higher places

with a little brook, which issueth out again by a small gut: here are good trout and eels, but no other fish.

From Clarduy to Cragnaulin, is a good mile to the east. Standing by a stone on the top of this hill, I saw five pools, the largest being Llin Helignant, which has no fish but trout and eels; some of the former are as red as salmon, whilst others are white: a brook runs out of this pool into the Tive, half a mile above Ystrad-flur.

Llinher, or the Long Lake, is three quarters of a mile in length, and contains plenty of trout and eels.

Llin Gorlan has no outlet.

Llin Gronn has an outlet, and seemed nearly to join Llyn Gorlan.

Llyn Veryddon Vaur has plenty of trout and eels, but no stream running in or out of it.

Llynnyvigin Velin, or the Quaking Moor, is yellow, from the colour of the moss and the rotten grass about it.

Of all these pools, none stand in such a rocky soil as the Tive: the ground all about Tive, and for a good mile towards Ystrad-flur, is horrible, with the sight of bare stones, like Creygereyri (Snowdon).

Llinllanebeder is within half a mile of Llanbeder, and contains trout and eels.

Llynrydde, two miles from Ystrad-flur, has a small issue or brook.

Llyn Cregnant, is a large pool full of trout and eels. It is three miles west of Ystrad-flur, towards Llandovery.

Llin Duy, or the Black Lake, is very deep; this is three miles south of Ystrad-flur, towards the lordship of Buallt.

Llyn y gorres; gorse in Welsh, and a meer in English, abounds with eels and trout.

Llynngynon is upon a high mountain, three miles from Ystrad-flur, to the south-west. It has an outlet into the brook of Llin Helignant.

Llincreg Cloydon, is five or six miles from Ystrad-

flur, towards Powis land : an outlet from it runs into Elan, or Alan Water. Llin Winge is almost joined to Llancreg Cloydon, but has no outlet. There are, besides these, several small lakes scattered over the high lands in different parts of the country, some of which have been incidentally mentioned as the sources of particular rivers."

The northern districts of Cardiganshire are very mountainous, and detached hills of considerable elevation occur in other parts. The towering summit, which bears the name of Pumlumon, stands in Montgomeryshire; but a large proportion of the lofty hills, which compose its base, spread into Cardiganshire, and bound the Vale of the Teivi on the east, through nearly the whole of its course. On the west, a branch shoots between the Dyvi and the Rheidiol; a third stretches between the Rheidiol and the Ystwyth; another having the Ystwyth on the north-west, and the Teivi on the east, takes a south westerly direction, and terminates at the river Aeron on the south-east; and a fifth runs in nearly a parallel direction with the last on the western side of the Teivi towards Cardigan. The land along the sea-coast, except where the vallies open into the interior, is generally of a very considerable elevation. The Vale of Aeron is the most distinguished in this respect, which spreads, in the neighbourhood of Ystrad, to a tolerable width, containing some rich and well cultivated farms.

Returning to our road, at the distance of seven miles from Pont-ar-Vynach, we pass, on our right; YSTRADMEIRIG, a small village, formerly defended by a castle, which was destroyed in 1136 by Owen Gwynedd, but again rebuilt, in 1150, by prince Rhys, of South Wales. It afterwards suffered considerably, and was probably burnt by Maelgwn ab Rhys, in 1207, to prevent it falling into the hands of Llewelyn ab Iorwerth.

This village, however, is chiefly known for its ancient grammar school, perhaps the best in the prin-

cipality, which, for the knowledge and profound erudition of several of its professors, has justly gained the appellation of the "Welsh College" at Ystradmeirig. Another endowment, granted for a similar school, has been incorporated with it in the adjoining parish of Llanvihangel Lledrod. This has formed, for many years, one of the best classical schools in the principality, and still maintains its reputation. It is one of the schools licensed for the education of young men for the ministry in the Church of England. The school-room is a neat building, of modern erection, in the pointed style; and a library is annexed to it, containing a good collection of books in various languages.

At the distance of five miles from Ystradmeirig, we pass through Tregaron, a poor ill-built straggling town, situated on an abrupt hollow, and watered by an arm of the river Teivi, besides being plentifully interspersed with wood, which forms a pleasing relief to the surrounding dreariness. The church is a respectable old building, and the town boasts the dignity of a mayor; but the general accommodation in this secluded place is very indifferent.

A little to the eastward of the town, once stood a house, called in Welsh, Porth y Ffynnon, or *Fountain Gate*, where was born Thomas Jones, better known in his neighbourhood by the name of Twm Sion Catti. He is said to have been the natural son of Sir John Wynne, of Gwydyr. He flourished about 1590 and 1630, and acquired considerable reputation as a Welsh antiquary and poet: but his fame in the principality is founded chiefly upon a character of a very different nature, and upon pursuits which might be supposed wholly at variance with the cultivation of letters. The traditional history of the county, represents him as a robber of consummate address, who managed, for a considerable time, to prey upon his neighbours with complete impunity. By marrying the heiress of Ystrad-ffin, in the Vale of Teivi, he acquired a large fortune, which gave him sufficient

consequence in Caermarthenshire, to procure his appointment to the shrievalty for that county; and his title was then changed from Twm Sion Catti, to Thomas Jones, esq. of Fountain-gate.

Three miles from this place, in our road, is a large mound, encircled by a moat; but whether it was the site of an ancient citadel or sepulchre, is uncertain.

We now pass, on the left of our road, the village of LLANDEWI-BREVI, seated on the river Teivi. A horn of an ox was kept in its church, of a very extraordinary size, being at the root seventeen inches in circumference, and as heavy as stone; seemingly petrified, and said to have been preserved there ever since the time of St. David, in the beginning of the sixth century. This horn is represented full of large cells and holes, called in Welsh Matgorn-ych-Dewi; to which is added the common tradition or fable of Ychain Banog.

The church is dedicated to St. David. At this place, Thomas Beck, bishop of St. David, founded a college, dedicated to that Saint, in the year 1187, for a precentor and twelve prebendaries; its value at the dissolution was 38*l.* 11*s.* per annum. A synod was held at this place in 522, and at a full meeting, St. David opposed the opinions of the Pelagians. St. Dubricius, archbishop of Caerlion, having assisted at the synod, resigned his see to St. David, and betook himself to Bardsey island, to spend the remainder of his life in devotion. Of this circumstance particular mention is made by Aneurin, an eminent bard of that period.

Pan oedd saint Senedd Brefi,
Drwy arch y prophwydi,
Ar ol gwiw bregeth Dewi
Yn myned i Ynys Enlli.

In the church of Llan Dewi-Brevi, H. Llwyd, the learned commentator on Camden, tells us, he found above the chancel door an ancient inscription on a tomb-stone, now destroyed, and likewise the horn.

Roman coins and inscriptions have sometimes been

found here, with bricks and large free-stone, neatly wrought; for which reason, Dr. Gibson thinks proper to fix here Lovantium, or Levantium, which Ptolemy places in the country of the Dimetia; Mr. Horsley also joins with him in opinion.

At Llan Dewi-Brevi, on a stone near the church-door, on the outside, is an old inscription, perfectly unintelligible, as it seems to consist wholly of abbreviations.

At the distance of six miles from Llan Dewi-Brevi, and nine from Tregaron, we arrive at LLANPEDR, a small town, containing nothing particularly worthy of observation, except the large old seat of Sir Herbert Lloyd, which, built close to the town, exhibits a very striking appearance, with its four great towers, crowned with domes, in the middle of a well-planted enclosure, but it appears to have been long neglected.

Pumlumon, is a dreary mountain, among many others, situate partly in Cardiganshire and Montgomeryshire, about fifteen miles from Aberystwyth. The surface of the lower parts of this mountain is covered with soft mossy turf and low heath, but often broken with rugged and tremendous bogs, or in some places entirely overspread with large loose stones; while in other places the protuberances of white rocks give it a singular appearance on approaching its base. The toil in ascending is very considerable, and generally not advisable, unless the day is remarkably clear and free from fogs.

On ascending the east side of the peak, the view is fine; but the ascent troublesome to a pyramid of loose stones, resembling a carn, with two more on the summit much larger, supposed to have been used formerly as beacons, to give notice of an enemy approaching, by burning a fire on the tops, which might be seen from ten counties.

In a bog, near the first carn, was found, some years since, the blade of a British spear, or pike, called Fonwaew; it was two-edged, and about ten inches long, made of brass, for fastening to the end of a

pole, such, perhaps, as Owen Glyndwr used in 1401, when he posted himself on this mountain, with 130 men, to receive succours from his friends and vassals in North and South Wales. From hence his followers made their plundering excursions, and were the terror of all that refused to espouse his cause. Having attained the summit, on a clear day, the views unfold themselves more wild and extensive than is possible to describe; they exhibit mountains rolling, as it were, over each other, and, under the most sublime forms and beautiful hues imaginable, varying and shifting until they insensibly lose themselves in the horizon: also Cader Idris and Snowdon. After a copious fall of rain, a number of cataracts may be seen beautifully embellishing the sides of this mountain.

The most celebrated characteristic of Pumlumon is, its giving rise to no less than five springs or rivers: and next, that on five of its most conspicuous heights it had so many beacons, whence is derived the name of *Pum-Lumon*; or, Five Beacons.

The Cardiganshire mountains are universally destitute of wood, and exhibit a bleak and dreary appearance. They are, nevertheless, capable of every improvement under judicious management. Philips long ago hazarded this opinion relative to the inhospitable heights of Pumlumon itself.

— Even on this clifty height

Of Penmaenmawr, and that cloud piercing hill,
 Plimlimmon from afar the traveller kens,
 Astonished how the goats their shrubby browze
 Gnaw pendent; nor untrembling canst thou see
 How, from a scraggy rock, whose prominence
 Half overshades the ocean, hardy men,
 Fearless of rending winds and dashing waves,
 Cut sapphire to excite the squeamish gust
 Of pampered luxury. Then let thy ground
 Not be *unlaboured*; if the richest stem
 Refuse to thrive, yet who would doubt to plant

Somewhat, that may to human use redound,
 And penury, the worst of ills remove?
 There are, who fondly studious of increase,
 Rich foreign mold on their ill natured land
 Induce laborious, and with fattening muck
 Besmear the roots; in vain! the nursling grove
 Seems fair awhile, cherished with foster earth;
 But when the alien compost is exhaust,
 Its native poverty again prevails.

The river Wye issues from a spacious hollow in this mountain, where the water falls in a narrow streamlet, several hundred yards, nearly perpendicular, till, meeting with various small currents, it soon forms a cataract, rolling with astonishing rapidity over a rocky course. From the same ridge of mountains, north-east of the top, rises the Severn and Rheidol; the latter empties itself into the Irish Channel, at Aberystwyth, and the former, after an extent of 200 miles, runs into the sea below Bristol. The Llyvnant and Mynach are also considerable streams, but not so important as the preceding.

This and all the adjacent hills and enclosures are destitute of wood, neither has the hand of cultivation yet approached its vicinity, which gives the whole a wild and solitary gloom. At a hovel, near the bottom of the mountain, a guide is sometimes to be had; the ascent without is very precarious and difficult. At Broginin, in this parish, the celebrated poet, Davydd ab Gwilym, was born in 1340, generally styled the Welsh Ovid.

His parents were nearly allied to some of the principal families in South Wales; but his own origin does not appear to have been very honourably distinguished. His mother proving pregnant before marriage, was expelled from her home by her relations; upon which she was united to her lover. During this rupture with the family, she and her husband, probably with their infant son, sought an asylum in the hospitable mansion of her relation, Ifor Hael, or Ifor,

the generous lord of Tredegar in Monmouthshire, from whose nephew, the Morgans of that house are descended. Upon a reconciliation, Dafydd was placed under his uncle, Llewelyn ab Gwilym, a man of talents and learning, and well qualified for his office: little is known of the youthful history of our bard; but it appears, that some of his earliest productions gave offence to his parents, and obliged him, once more, to seek the protection of Ifor: who, on this occasion, appointed him his steward, and invested him with the office of tutor to his daughter. This gave rise to a mutual passion, which being discovered, the lady was sent by her father to a nunnery in Anglesey. Thither she was followed by her lover, who, in hope of gaining admittance to her, hired himself as a servant to a neighbouring monastery: however, being foiled in all his plans, he retired to the house of his patron, who treated him with unabated kindness; and, during his residence here, he was elected chief bard of Glamorgan, and always came off victorious in the poetical contests in his time. Dafydd's fine person rendered him a great favourite with the fair sex; and, if all the tales related of him be true, his amours were not a little licentious. On one occasion, he made an appointment with each of his mistresses to meet him, at the same hour, under a particular tree, to which none of them was a stranger. In order to witness the event of this congress, he hid himself in the branches, where he could hear and see without being seen. The damsels were not a little vexed and surprized at discovering this trick, of which they had been made the dupes, and immediately determined to put the poet to death the first opportunity that offered; but the bard contrived, by some extempore couplets pronounced from his hiding place, to fire them with jealousy, and to excite them to vent their rage on one another. During the confusion that ensued, he escaped with safety.

Dafydd became enamoured of Morfudd, the daughter of Madog Lawgam, of Anglesey, to whom he was

united in a manner, not uncommon in those days, by a bard under a tree. This ceremony not being considered valid by the lady's friends, she was taken away and married to a wealthy old man, with whom she remained till her former lover caused her to elope with him. Being for this thrown into prison, and unable to pay the fine, the men of Glamorgan liberated him. On the death of Ifor and his family, Dafydd retired to his paternal home at Broginin, where he composed some small pieces, admirable for their sweetness and pathos. He was buried at Ystrad-flur Abbey about the year 1400. A collection of his poems was published in 1789, in one large volume duodecimo, by Mr. Owen Jones and Mr. William Owen, the latter of whom has prefixed a Memoir, and Critical Dissertation on his genius and style; from which most of the preceding facts have been taken. His poems of the amatory kind, are chiefly addressed to some of his mistresses.

We cannot conclude our journies through the principality without referring those, who visit this interesting part of the kingdom, to the mode of travelling recommended by Mr. Nicholson.

The plan which Mr. Malkin adopted was that of walking; but he says, "I took a servant on horseback, for the conveyance of books as well as necessaries, without which convenience, almost every advantage of a pedestrian is lost, except economy, and that is completely frustrated by so expensive an addition." Warner made his tours entirely on foot, and carried his own necessaries. He appears to have often walked thirty miles each day. Walking can only be pleasing to those who have been accustomed to that exercise, and when not limited to time. He who takes a horse and saddle-bags, has certainly much the advantage of a pedestrian in most situations; he passes over uninteresting tracts with celerity; surveys, at ease, the attractions of both near and distant objects, and is received with more cordiality at the inns. The latter, though he be at liberty to scramble up a mountain or

a rock, has to suffer more from that addition to his common fatigue. It is true, that he can step aside to botanize and examine the beauties of nature and art, in situations where a horse would be an incumbrance; walking can also be engaged in whenever a person is ready to start, and is the most independent mode of passing on; but when he arrives wet and weary, at an inn, at ten at night, he has sometimes to suffer the mortification of being received with coldness, treated with subordinate accommodations, if not refused admittance; obliged, perhaps, to accept the necessaries of a mere public house; or proceed further. Dr. Mavor says, "The comforts of a carriage are scarcely compensated for, when the numerous inconveniences are taken into the account. The most independent way of travelling is certainly on foot; but, as few have health and strength for an undertaking of this kind, the most pleasant and satisfactory way of making a tour, is undoubtedly upon a safe and quiet horse, adapted to the country through which we are to pass. I would therefore advise persons, who intend traversing Wales, to perform that part of the journey, which lies through England, in regular stages, and to purchase a sure-footed Welsh poney, as soon as they enter the country. They may thus gain time for their researches in the principality, and be exempted from the delays and fatigues incident to any other plan of journeying." Dr. Mavor travelled in an open carriage and two horses, in company with a female friend, and two gentlemen, but he does not describe the vehicle further. In his remarks, however, at Corwen, he says, "we were assembled and ready to start; and though at six o'clock, a crowd was gathered round our carriage, as usual, admiring its singular construction. I have not often noticed this circumstance; but it was a source of continual amusement to us in every place through which we passed, because it amused others." The editor has hitherto travelled on foot, but he has been, like others, subjected to some unpleasant rebuffs, as at MALLWYD. The principal objection to

walking which he can make, is that of carrying the luggage of a change or two of linen and stockings, a small compass, a prospective glass, Hull's Pocket Flora, a portable press for drying plants, a drinking horn, and occasionally some provision more savory or palatable than a penny roll. Where a guide is employed, he will generally relieve you from the incumbrance of such a package, but the most desirable mode of travelling is certainly upon a strong little horse, which you may relieve by walking at intervals. The Editor once met in *Cwm Glas*, a party of four gentlemen on foot, whom a little boy followed upon a small poney, with the joint conveniences of each, in a large wallet; but then how rarely can two persons be found, whose pursuits are similar, and whose desires are alike! The chance of four being so agreed is proportionably more uncertain. Walking becomes exceedingly painful when blisters upon the feet result from this exercise. But this inconvenience may be prevented by wearing strong, pliant, and easy shoes, or those which are made from two lasts to the shape of the feet, as described by Camper; by wearing fine soft flannel or woollen socks next to the skin, and by washing the feet with water before going to bed. If, for want of such precautions, blisters should arise, let out the serum with a needle, without breaking the skin, bathe the part with equal quantities of vinegar and luke-warm water, and apply a thin liniment of wax and oil, with a little sugar of lead; some apply a compress of brandy, with an equal quantity of vinegar of lead, and anoint with oil. "I would strongly recommend it," says Mr. Malkin, "to the traveller of curiosity and leisure, who may take the direct route from England, east and west, to begin with Rumney, from the sea to its source; then adhering to that method, to pursue the banks of each river as far as they will lead him with tolerable convenience, the regular chain of which a good map will point out."

INDEX.

	Page		Page
ABBEY, CWMHIR ..	63, 64	Caerfili Castle	116, 117
Aberavan	99	Caermarthenshire	119
Aberedw Castle	86	Caermarthen, 123—the Guild-	
Aberfraw	126	hall, ib.—the gaol, ib.—	
Abergwaen	144	market-place, 124—inns	124
Aberystwyth, 159—build-		Camddwr	184
ings, 161—quarries, ib.—		Camlow	65
summer visitors, ib.—sub-		Caractacus	74, 110
urbs, ib.—castle, 162, 163		Caradoc of Llancarvan	61, 111
—church, 165—bathing		Cardigan, town of, 157—	
machines, 166—mines, ib.		bridge, Town Hall, ib.—	
—manners, 167—harbour,		Castle	156, 159
ib.—market, 168—paupers,		Cardiganshire	154
169—customs and cos-		— mountains in	204
tume, 170 — chalybeate		Careg Cennin Castle	122
spring	173	Carew Castle	138
Aeron, Vale of	200	Carno, hills of	90
Agricultural Societies	56	Carns, various	65, 66
Alps, the Welsh	163	Carriages and cars	55
Arberth	141	Cascade, the great	90
Arthur, sepulchre of the ce-		Castell Crug	103
lebrated	129, 130	Castell Coch	114
Arthur's Stone	99	Castell Timboth	75
— Tables	129	Castle Collwyn	77
Barrows with Urns	149	Castle Cymaron	68
Beaufort, Works, the	120	Castle Hill	183
Beck, Thomas, Bishop of		Castles belonging to Roger	
St. David	202	Mortimer	68
Bedd Ygre, or Ugre's Grave,		Cataract, a beautiful	99
	67	Cattle	50
Blaen Edw Wells	71	Celtic remains	177
Blaine Ustwith	182	Cevn Llys Castle	75
Brecknockshire	78	Cevn y bed	86
Brecon, or Brecknock 79 to	82	Cevn y Bryn	99
Breos, William	77	Cevn y Gelli Gaer	118
Bridge End	101	Chalybeate waters, their ef-	
Bridge, in the Moorish style		fects	173 to 176
	182	Cist vaen, or stone chest ..	90
— romantic of Llanafan,		Clarduy	198
	183	Cleddau, the river	143
British Cross, a curious ..	148	Coetty, village of, 101—Cas-	
— Spear, blade of ..	203	tle	101
Briton Ferry	99	Contest, a poetical	157
Broginin	205	Coracles, construction and	
Bryn Glas	75	use of	149
Buallt	84	Cowbridge	111
Builing, an ancient British	122	Cragnaulin	198
Burdd, Arthur	129	Cragus Hoelinus	89
Burton and Phillips	67	Crickhowel	ib.
Cadwallon ab Madawc ..	68	Crogen, the	75
Caer Caradoc	74	Crognant	183
Caerdiff, 112—Castle	113	Cromlech, remarkable ..	149

INDEX.

	Page		Page
Crosswood	183, 197	ings, ib.—plantations, 191	
Crug y Dyrn	129	—Mr. Cumberland's mas-	
Cumberland, Mr., description		terly description of 192 to 195	
of Havod, by	192 to 195	Haverfordwest	141, 142
on the Genius		Hay, or Tregelli	82
of Havod	195	Hirnant	185
Cwm Elan	61, 62	Holms, the flat and steep ..	115
Cwm Magwyr, Valley of ..	183	Horn, the, of an ox	202
Cym Ystwyth, lead mines of	189	Hospitality, Welsh	167
Dafydd ab Gwilym	205	Howel Dha, ancient palace of	125
David, a Jumper	165	Illyd, school of St.	108
Devanner	65	Norman remains of	109
Devil's Hole, the	188	Implements	53
Bridge, origin of the	186	Island, triangular	186
history of, by		Islands of St. Catherine and	
Mr. Hutton	188	Caldy	141
Dinas Castle	83	Jumping justified	165
Dinas Emlyn	123	Kilgeran, or Cilgeraint ..	147
Dindryvan Castle	110	Knighton	74
Dinevwr Castle	121	Kydwelli, 127—Castle ..	128
Districts, mountainous 199,	200	Lacharn, 126—Castle	126
Divisions, civil and ecclesi-		Lakes and fish-ponds	48
astical	58	Lakes, various	187
Dol y Coed	87	Lakes, principal, in Cardi-	
Dubricius, Archbishop ..	202	ganshire	198
Duliw, the	182	Lamphey	136
Dunraven	110	Lantwit, town of	109
Edwards, William	103	Lead mines, rich	156
Edwin ab Einion	127	Leases	53
Elan Water	109	Lhech y gawres	159
Esgatr Vraith	184	Literature and learned men	42
Ewenni	106	Llanafan, bridge of	183
Ewenni and Ogmores rivers	102	Llanarth	159
Fairs, a list of	31	Llanbadarn Gaerog	160
Farm houses and cottages ..	51	Llanbadarn Vawr ..	177, 178
Farms, rent and size of ..	52	Llanbedr	180
Fisgard town, 144—harbour,		Llancarvan	111
ib.—church, 146—French		Llandaff, 115—Cathedral ..	115
invasion, ib.—castle, 147—		Llandegle, or Llandegley ..	71
Druidical sepulchres at	147	Llandelio	120
Five Beacons, derivation of	204	Llandewr Brevi, 202—church	
Funerals, mode of attending	169	of	202
Gaer, the	67	Llandewi Ystradenny ...	67
Giraldus Cambrensis	78	Llandoverly	119, 120
Glamorganshire	90	Llandrindod Wells ..	68, 69, 70
Glasbury	82	Llanelli	99
Glas Grug	178, 186	Llanfai	139
Glossary of Welsh names .	40	Llangadoc	120
Gnoll Castle	97	Llangattock	90
Gwely Taliesin	179	Llan Goedmor	158
Gwenfrwd, the	185	Llanilar	183
Gwr, or Gower	144	Llannano	75
Havod Arms, the	185, 188	Llanpedr	203
Havod, the seat of the late		Llanruysted	159
Thomas Johnes, esq., 189		Llansaintfred	89
—burnt down, 190—paint-		Llansanfrid	159







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