



TOPOGRAPHICAL
AND
STATISTICAL DESCRIPTION
OF THE
PRINCIPALITY OF WALES.

PART I.
NORTH WALES.

Containing an Account of its

Situation,	Mines,	Agriculture,
Extent,	Minerals,	Fairs,
Towns,	Fisheries,	Markets.
Roads,	Manufactures,	Curiosities,
Rivers,	Trade,	Antiquities,
Lakes,	Commerce.	Natural History

Civil and Ecclesiastical Jurisdictions, &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.

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EDITOR'S ADDRESS.

IN justice to Thomas Evans, Esq. author of the Cambrian Itinerary, we think it necessary to state, that we are wholly indebted to his interesting communication, for the accurate description of the Principality of Wales, which forms the contents of our present volume. Indeed the only labour which has devolved upon us has been to make the necessary arrangement of it into journeys, and to add the itinerary, and list of fairs, agreeably to the former parts of the work. In the perusal of it, the reader will not fail to appreciate the talents of a gentleman who has so agreeably and usefully combined whatever may be of service to the Cambrian tourist, whether for pleasure or occupation. In short, nothing but a conformity to our original plan would have prevented that gentleman's name from appearing as the author, to which appellation he is indeed justly entitled, and by which name we insert his preliminary remarks.

AUTHOR'S ADDRESS.

“THE design of the following sheets is to give a general and impartial account of the former importance and remaining antiquities of my native country, once so renowned in the annals of this island; but whether my endeavours will be satisfactory or not, depend on the nature of my reader's studies and pursuits; however, to those fond of antiquarian researches I do not wholly despair of giving amusement, and much local information.

“As to myself, I shall always look back with pleasure on the large portion of time employed in travelling and collecting materials, as spent in a manner the most agreeable to my own decided taste and wishes; but such of my readers as look for highly polished periods, and that perfect accuracy in a work of *general description*, must be informed, it is absolutely unattainable; therefore will probably on reflection be content with an inferior degree of merit in a production of assiduity and diligence.

“The distinction, also, that I have observed between minute and superfluous illustrations, will not, I trust be deemed improper—for had I deeply engaged myself in enumerating the several vicissitudes of each town, village, hamlet, castle, and lordship, or been minute in having the genealogies and histories of the several families inserted to which they have at different periods appertained, or scrutinized the origin of every local custom, dived far into antiquity, revived vulgar traditions, or pointed out the errors and defects of my predecessors, every county would, at least, have required a volume of itself.

“Notwithstanding, I have endeavoured in the present volume, to describe with brevity, accuracy, and perspicuity, every pleasing prospect or ruin which occurred to me in my several journies through the principality, I can with confidence assert, there is nothing left undescribed in either North or South, which is deserving the attention of a traveller. In accomplishing this, many obligations are due to my friends, who voluntarily assisted my inquiries, particularly their numerous communi-

cations relative to *South Wales*, which have enabled me to render that division of our principality considerably more complete than any thing previously offered to the public.

"In general, as might have been expected from my peculiar connexions in the principality, I have declined either eulogium or reflection on the inhabitants—it appeared indeed almost unnecessary, for civility and hospitality have been universally admitted as an affection peculiar to the Welsh, and so fascinating to strangers, that its influence adorns the rugged mountains, which otherwise seem impervious to the haunts of men*!

"Still some tourists, with more apparent prejudice than justice, have given *existence* to innumerable defects among the Welsh—which, if they could substantiate, would not tarnish their characteristic of universal philanthropy, but on the contrary appear like shades in the national character of a brave, generous, and hospitable people, consequently have faded imperceptibly beneath their prosperity; while the arts, manufactures, and commerce with other countries, have produced a regular progress to improvement, which want only years to render permanent, and confirm to future ages the ancient energy and respectability of the *Cambro-Britons*.

"I have only to add, that my hopes are not very sanguine, nor my views extensive, consequently no disappointment to apprehend from whatever reception this volume may obtain—still I hope, for public good, and without soliciting unmerited adulation, that my labours will be productive of information and utility, without incurring from the cheek of modesty a blush. Being thus reconciled to the result, by the most satisfactory and patriotic intentions, I shall, without hesitation, rely on the candour of the public, and with respectful silence submit to their decision."

T. E.

* Skrine.

Rhaiadr-Gwy,
Radnorshire. }

INSPECTION TABLE FOR THE PRINCIPALITY OF WALES.

<i>Bounded by</i>	<i>Extent</i>	<i>Contains</i>	<i>Sends to Parliament</i>	<i>Produce and Manufactures.</i>
<p>The Irish Sea on the west and north.</p> <p>On the east by Cheshire, Shropshire, Herefordshire, and Monmouthshire.</p> <p>And on the south by the river Severn, and the Bristol Channel.</p>	<p>In length about one hundred and fifty miles, from north to south.</p> <p>In breadth from fifty to eighty miles.</p>	<p>12 Counties, 751 Parishes, 58 Market Towns. 611,965 Inhabitants. 5,200,000 acres.</p>	<p>24 Members, <i>viz.</i> One for each county, & one for the principal town in each county, except that of Merioneth, in the room of which 2 towns in Pembroke each send one member.</p>	<p>The agricultural produce is chiefly cattle, sheep, and butter. There are several mines in different parts of the principality, which produce great quantities of copper, lead, iron, &c.</p> <p>The manufactures are principally confined to cloths, flannels, stockings and gloves. There are also some considerable iron-works in the principality.</p>

Wales is under the Province of York; the Bishopsrics of St. David's, Bangor, Llandaff, and St. Asaph.

AN INDEX TABLE

Of the Distances from Town to Town, in
North Wales.

The names of the respective Towns are on the top and side, and the square where both meet gives the distance.

	Distant from London										Miles,
Aberconway.....	19	19	20	20	21	21	22	22	23	23	230
Abergeley.....	19	19	20	20	21	21	22	22	23	23	244
Asaph.....	20	20	21	21	22	22	23	23	24	24	209
Bala.....	20	20	21	21	22	22	23	23	24	24	202
Bangor.....	16	28	36	43	50	57	64	71	78	85	251
Beaumaris.....	15	30	37	46	55	64	73	82	91	100	249
Barnarvon.....	25	44	45	45	10	15	20	25	30	35	250
Barnarvon.....	25	11	5	35	35	50	45	50	55	60	212
Barnarvon.....	40	55	60	34	31	34	30	60	55	50	237
Barnarvon.....	22	14	7	32	36	36	46	5	54	Denbigh	218
Barnarvon.....	60	68	54	20	58	58	60	44	50	Dinas Mawddwr	202
Barnarvon.....	55	65	60	21	60	65	45	60	35	54	209
Barnarvon.....	38	20	16	40	52	50	18	15	68	20	204
Barnarvon.....	45	50	62	34	40	48	35	63	16	55	229
Barnarvon.....	46	32	4	38	55	55	57	16	66	25	197
Barnarvon.....	50	35	30	25	55	60	62	30	55	24	192
Barnarvon.....	50	90	84	50	85	98	75	54	70	80	190
Barnarvon.....	55	55	56	24	58	80	73	60	55	53	186
Barnarvon.....	70	8	74	33	66	74	57	68	50	64	200
Barnarvon.....	40	30	22	36	57	56	67	14	60	20	207
Barnarvon.....	75	70	65	42	82	82	83	70	76	60	169
Barnarvon.....	48	60	68	47	30	37	25	75	16	66	249
Barnarvon.....	30	44	50	50	14	17	5	58	24	50	257
Barnarvon.....	82	80	77	44	90	96	82	77	75	68	175
Barnarvon.....	50	55	55	35	34	40	27	68	5	60	245
Barnarvon.....	32	25	15	23	16	45	52	15	50	5	210
Barnarvon.....	70	65	57	35	75	80	75	60	70	55	177
Barnarvon.....	50	40	35	35	64	64	75	25	70	32	186

A TABLE

OF THE

PRINCIPAL TOWNS IN NORTH WALES,

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

Towns	Dist.	Counties.	Markets.	Houses	Inhabitants.	Post arrives.	De-parts.
Aberconway	230	Caernar.	Frid.	218	1053	10½ m.	1½ aft.
Aberfraw		Anglesea.		175	1054		
Abergeley	244	Denbigh.	Sat.	399	1944		
Almwch	275	Anglesea.		926	4210		
St. Asaph	209	Flint.	Sat.	309	1520	6½ m.	5½ aft.
Bala	202	Merion.	Sat.	579	2365	aft.	7 m.
Bangor	251	Caernar.	Wed.	456	2383	9 m.	11 m.
Beaumaris	249	Anglesea.	W. S.	295	1810	5 aft.	7 m.
Beddgelert	238	Caernar.		129	747		
Caernarvon	250	Caernar.	Sat.	961	4595	4 aft.	5 m.
Caerwys	212	Flint.	Tues.	207	863		
Ceryg y Drudion..	212	Denbigh.		201	941		
Chirk	185	Denbigh.		206	1142		
Clynnogfawr	262	Caernar.		305	1508		
Corwen	202	Merion.		288	1417		
Cruccaith	237	Caernar.	Wed.	94	459		
Denbigh	218	Denbigh.	Wed.	617	2716	8½ m.	2½ aft.
Dinas Mawddwy.	202	Merion.	Frid.	128	667		
Dolgellau	209	Merion.	Tues.	537	3064	3 aft.	5 m.
Flint	204	Flint.		293	1433		
Harlech	229	Merion.	Sat.	62	389		
Hawarden	197	Flint.	Sat.	832	4436		
Holt	183	Denbigh.		161	813		
LlanarmoninYale	184	Denbigh.		287	1397		
Llandelchud	250	Caernar.		259	1470		
Llanellian	210	Denbigh.		108	554		
Llanfechell	279	Anglesea.		167	795		
Llangellon	192	Denbigh.	Sat.	1357	6649		
Llandidloes	190	Montgom.	Sat.	470	2386	12 n.	6 aft.
Llanrhaiadr	218	Denbigh.		317	1692		
Llanusannon		Denbigh.		257	1221		

Towns.	Dist.	Counties.	Markets.	Houses	Inhabitants.	Post arrives.	Departs.
Llanishiad Dyffin							
Clwyd	218	Denbigh.		206	1044		
Llanufydd	220	Denbigh.		192	910		
Llanusochlyn ...		Merion.		280	1509		
Llanvyllin	186	Montgom.	Tues.	291	1508		
Machynllaith....	200	Montgom.	Mon.	291	1252	3 aft.	5 m.
Mold	207	Flint.	Sat.	1026	5083	3 m.	4 aft.
Montgomery	169	Montgom.	Tues.	188	932	7 m.	2 aft.
Nevyn	249	Caernar.	Sat.	277	1177		
Newburgh	257	Anglesea.	Tues.	178	750		
Newtown	175	Montgom.	Sat.	421	2025		
Overton	183	Flint.		296	1563		
Penmorva	239	Caernar.		213	1004		
Penystreet in							
Trawsfynydd ...	223	Merion.		244	1481		
Pwllheli	243	Caernar.	Wed.	232	1143		
Rhuddlan	220	Flint.		126	831		
Ruabon	221	Denbigh.		257	1137		
Ruthin	210	Denbigh.	M. S.	267	1292	10 m.	1 aft.
Towyn	217	Merion.		472	1941		
Welsh Pool	177	Montgom.	Mon.	694	3440	4 m.	5 aft.
Wrexham	188	Denbigh.	Th.M.	650	3006	4½ m.	7 aft.

The price of postage for a single letter varies from 10d. to 11d. throughout the six counties of North Wales.

AN ITINERARY

OF ALL THE

DIRECT AND PRINCIPAL CROSS ROADS

IN

NORTH WALES.

IN WHICH ARE INCLUDED

THE STAGES, INNS, AND GENTLEMEN'S SEATS.

N. B. The first Column contains the Names of Places passed through; 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 and Inns. The right and left of the Roads are distinguished by the letters R and L.

FROM LONDON TO HOLYHEAD,

THROUGH DUNSTABLE, CHESTER, HOLYWELL, ABER-
CONWAY, AND BANGOR.

London to			
Islington		1½	
Holloway	1	2½	
One mile and a half beyond, on L. the New Road to Kentish Town; on R. over Finch- ley Common to Whetstone.			
Highgate	2½	4½	Major Arden, R.
On R. a T. R. to Enfield, on L. to Kentish Town, over Finchley Common recent- ly enclosed to Whetstone Green	4½	9	A little before — Walsam and Nicholson, esqs. R. just through, Belmont Grove, J. Knight, esq.; one mile beyond Green Hill Grove, — Nichols, esq. R.
Barnet	2	11	Inns—Green Man and Red Lion.
.....			A little before Barnet, Rev.

Over Hadley Green to Barnet Pillar	$\frac{3}{4}$	11 $\frac{3}{4}$	Sir Robert Sheffield, bart. L; — Lea, esq. and Mrs. Keate; R.
On R. a T. R. to Hatfield and Hertford, Kitt's End	$\frac{1}{2}$	12 $\frac{1}{4}$	New Lodge, Mrs. Baron- neau; Wrotham Park, G. Byng, esq. on R; Dyrham Park, J. Trot- ter, esq. L.
South Mims....	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	14 $\frac{3}{4}$	Inn—White Hart. North Mims, Henry Browne, esq. R.
Ridge Hill, Herts	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	16	Shenley Parsonage, Rev. P. Newcombe, R; a lit- tle beyond Salisbury, — Snell, esq. L.
Colney Bridge .. Cross the Colne river.	1 $\frac{3}{4}$	17 $\frac{3}{4}$	Tittenhanger, Earl of Hardwick, R; Colney Park, — Simpson, esq. L.
ST. ALBANS On R. a T. R. to Hatfield and Luton, on L. to Watford, cross the Colne R.	3 $\frac{1}{4}$	21	Inns—Angel, White Hart, Woolpack. Just before St. Albans, St. Stephens, Mrs. Howard; at Holy- well House, Earl Spencer.
Redburne	4 $\frac{1}{4}$	25 $\frac{1}{4}$	Inn—Black Bull.
Within 1 mile of Redburne, cross the Colne river twice.			
Market Street..	4	29 $\frac{1}{4}$	Inn—Sun. Market Cell, Joseph Howell, esq. R.
DUNSTABLE, Bedfordshire.	4 $\frac{1}{4}$	33 $\frac{1}{2}$	Inns—Crown, and Sugar Loaf.
Hockliffe	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	38	Hockliffe Lodge, Mrs. Glos- set, & Hockliffe Grange, R. Gilpin, esq. L; beyond
On L. a T. R. to Fenny Stratford.			

				<i>Battlesden House, Sir G. O. P. Turner, bart. L; and Milton Bryant, Sir Hugh Inglis, bart. R.</i>
WOEBURN	4½	42½	Inns--	<i>George and Goat.</i>
On R. a T. R.				<i>Just before, Woburn Abbey,</i>
to Bedford.				<i>the Duke of Bedford.</i>
Wavenden,				<i>Wavenden House, H. H.</i>
Bucks	3¾	46¼		<i>Hoare. esq; and the Rev.</i>
Broughton	2½	48¾		<i>Mr. Fisher, L.</i>
NEWPORT PAG-			Inns--	<i>The Sergeant and</i>
NELL	2¾	51½		<i>Swan. Near, at Chi-</i>
On R. a T. R.				<i>cherly, C. Penfold, esq.</i>
to Wellingboro',				<i>and the Abbey, P. J.</i>
Lathbury Inn ..	¾	52¼		<i>Ward, esq. R.</i>
Stoke Golding..	3¼	55½		<i>Beyond, Salsey Forest,</i>
On R. a T. R.				<i>Earl of Euston, L.</i>
to Olney.				
Horton	4¼	59¾	Horton House,	<i>Sir G. W.</i>
				<i>Gunning, bart. R; two</i>
				<i>miles on R. is Castle</i>
				<i>Ashby, the Marquis of</i>
				<i>Northampton.</i>
Huckleton,				
Northamp.	1¼	61	T. Mercer, esq. L.	
Queen's Cross..	4	65	Delapre Abbey,	<i>Hon. Ed-</i>
On L. a T. R.				<i>ward Bouverie.</i>
to Stony Strat-				
ford.				
NORTHAMPTON.	1¼	66¼	Inns--	<i>Angel and George.</i>
Junction of				
Road from Co-				
ventry. On R.				
a T. R. to Wel-				
lingboro', on L.				
to Daventry.				
Kingthorp	2	68¼	Lady Care, L.	
On R. a T. R.				
to Harborough.				

Chapel Bramp- ton	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	70 $\frac{3}{4}$	
Upper Creaton.	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	74 $\frac{1}{4}$	<i>Within one mile on L. Holmby House, where King Charles was im- prisoned by the parlia- ment forces.</i>
Lower Creaton.	$\frac{1}{4}$	74 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Thornby	3 $\frac{1}{4}$	77 $\frac{1}{4}$	<i>Thornby Grange, J. W. Roberts, esq. R. 2 miles beyond Thornby on R. is Naseby Field, said to be the centre of England.</i>
Welford.....	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	81 $\frac{1}{2}$	<i>Inn—Talbot. Dr. Orton, Salby Lodge, Lord Bar- nard.</i>
<i>Cross the Avon beyond on R. a T. R. to Leices- ter, and near North Kelworth, or R. to Market Harboro'.</i>			
North Kilworth —Leicester.	3 $\frac{1}{4}$	84 $\frac{3}{4}$	
Walcote	3 $\frac{1}{4}$	88	<i>Inn—Red Lion. Beyond, Misterton House, J. H. Franks, esq.</i>
<i>Near Lutter- worth on L. a T. R. to Rugby.</i>			
LUTTERWORTH..	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	89 $\frac{3}{4}$	<i>Inns—Denbigh Arms & Hind. The Rev. H. Johnson, L.</i>
<i>On R. a T. R. to Leicester on L. to Coventry.</i>			
Botteswell	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	91	
Ullesthorpe	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	93 $\frac{1}{2}$	<i>Inn—Swan. — Goodacre, esq. R.</i>
Upper Clay-} brook	$\frac{1}{2}$	94	<i>Christopher Saverland, esq. L; Claybrook Hall, T. Dicey, esq. R.</i>
Lower Clay-} brook	$\frac{3}{4}$	94 $\frac{3}{4}$	<i>Inn—Bull's Head.</i>
High Cross	1	95 $\frac{3}{4}$	

Smockington...	1	96 $\frac{3}{4}$	Inn— <i>Grey Hound.</i>
Burbach	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	99 $\frac{1}{4}$	
On R. a T. R. to Leicester.			
HINCKLEY	1	100 $\frac{1}{4}$	Inn— <i>Bull's Head, between Hinckley and Witherley, Lindley Hall, Hon. Mr. Keppel, R. and Wed- dington Hall—Crawford, esq. L.</i>
On R. a T. R. to Ashby de la Zouch, one mile from Hinckley, cross the Ashby de la Zouch Canal, about a mile and a half farther on	7 $\frac{1}{4}$	107 $\frac{1}{2}$	<i>Caldecot Hall, Hon. Mr. Bowes, Oldbury-Hall, — Okeover, esq. L.</i>
L. a T. R. to Nuneaton.			
Witherley			
On L. a T. R. to Coventry Cross the Anker R.	1	108 $\frac{1}{2}$	Inn— <i>The Red Lion, Ather- stone Hall. The Baro- ness Grey de Ruthyn, R. beyond Merwale Hall, D. S. Dugdale Guest, esq.</i>
ATHERSTONE, } Warw..... }			
On R. a T. R. to Burton; on L. to Coleshill.	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	114	<i>Between Wilnecote & Faze- ley, Dartshill House, W. Dickinson, esq. L.</i>
Wilnecote			
On L. a T. R. to Coventry; on	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	115 $\frac{1}{2}$	Inn— <i>The White Lion, Drayton Park, Sir Ro- bert Peele, bart.</i>
R. to Tamworth.			
Fazeley			
On L. a T. R. to Coleshill, cross the Coventry Ca- nal, and just be- fore Tamworth cross the Anker R.			
TAMWORTH, }	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	116 $\frac{3}{4}$	Inns— <i>Castle and King's Arms.</i>
Staff. }			
Cross the Tame.	2 $\frac{1}{4}$	119	Inn— <i>The Red Lion, one</i>
Hoppas			
Cross the Bir-			

mingham and
Fazeley Canal;
and just before
you enter Lich-
field, cross the
Wyrley and Es-
sington exten-
sion.

mile; on R. *Wigginton*
Lodge, Dr. Clarke.

LITCHFIELD.... $5\frac{3}{4}$ 124 $\frac{3}{4}$

Inns—George and Swan;
within two miles, on L.
Freeford Hall, Mrs. Dy
ott.

On R. a T. R.
to Burton, Ash-
born and Uttox-
eter on L. to Co-
leshill, Birming-
ham and Walsall.

Longdon $3\frac{3}{4}$ 128 $\frac{1}{2}$

Miss Timsons, R. Beaude-
sert Park, the Marquis
of Anglesea, one mile
and a half on L.

Brereton $2\frac{1}{2}$ 121

Rev. G. Talbot, and one
mile and a half beyond
R. Reveing Hill, Colonel
Mada.

RUDGLEY $1\frac{1}{2}$ 132 $\frac{1}{2}$

Through is Hagley, Vis-
count Curzon, L.

Wolseley Bridge 2 134 $\frac{1}{2}$

Inn—Wolseley Arms, near
is Wolseley Hall, Sir
Wm. Wolseley, bart. L.
at Briston Hall, J. Spar-
row, esq. R. beyond on
R. is Wolseley Bridge
House, Sir Wm. Wolse-
ley, bart. beyond; on L.
Oakledge, Mrs. Hanson.
Rev. G. Levett, L.

Cross the Grand
Trunk Canal, on
R. a T. R. to
Stone.

Milford..... $3\frac{3}{4}$ 138 $\frac{1}{4}$

Walton $\frac{3}{4}$ 137

Weeping Cross.. 1 140

Cross the Staf-
fordshire and

Worcestershire
Canal, on R. a
T. R. to Walsall.
Radford

$\frac{3}{4}$ 140 $\frac{3}{4}$

Cross the Penk
R.—Near the
Sow R; on L. a
T. R. to Wol-
verhampton and
Newport, cross
the Sow, R.

STAFFORD 1
Through on
R. a T. R. to
Leek.

141 $\frac{3}{4}$

Inns—The George, Star, &
Swan; two miles from,
on L. is Creswell, T.
Whitby, esq.

Great Bridge—
ford

4 145 $\frac{3}{4}$

Cross the Sow
R.

Walton 1 $\frac{1}{4}$
ECCLESHALL 2
On L. a T. R.
to Stone and
Newport

147

149

Inn—The Royal Oak,
Hillcot Hall, F. Eld,
jun. esq. R. Sugnal-Hall,
— Rowland, esq. L.
through Eccleshall, on
R. is the Castle, the resi-
dence of the Bishop of
Lichfield and Coventry.

Croxton 3

152

Wetwood 1 $\frac{1}{2}$

153 $\frac{1}{2}$

Broughton $\frac{3}{4}$

154 $\frac{1}{4}$

Broughton-Hall, C. D.
Broughton, esq.

Three miles
from, on L. a T.
R. to Newcastle,
and on R. to
Drayton.

Muckleston 3 $\frac{1}{2}$

157 $\frac{3}{4}$

One mile from, on L. Oak-
ley Park, Sir J. Chet-
wode, bart.

Winnington	$\frac{3}{4}$	158 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Knighton	$1\frac{1}{4}$	159 $\frac{3}{4}$	
Through on R. a T. R. to Stone, and far- ther on to New- castle.			
Woore	$1\frac{1}{2}$	161 $\frac{1}{4}$	Inn.— <i>The Swan.</i>
Bridgemore Chesh.	$1\frac{3}{4}$	162	One mile from Doddington Hall, Lieut. Gen. Sir J. D. Broughton, bart.
Walgerton	$2\frac{3}{4}$	165 $\frac{3}{4}$	
Stapeley	$1\frac{3}{4}$	167 $\frac{1}{2}$	James Bailey, esq. R. J. Briscoe, esq. L.
On R. a T. R. to Newcastle.			
NANTWICH	$2\frac{1}{4}$	169 $\frac{3}{4}$	Inn— <i>The Crown; Dorfold Hall, H. Tomkinson, esq., one mile on L.</i>
On L. a T. R. to Drayton. Cross the <i>Wever River.</i>			
Acton	$1\frac{1}{4}$	171	
Cross the <i>Ches- ter & Ellesmere Canal.</i>			
Holston	$1\frac{1}{4}$	172 $\frac{1}{4}$	
Stoke	1	173 $\frac{1}{4}$	
Wardle	1	174 $\frac{1}{4}$	
Barbridge	1	174 $\frac{1}{2}$	Crew Hall, Lord Crew, L. and one mile and a half from, on R. Calveley Hall, Earl of Dysart.
Highway Side...	$1\frac{3}{4}$	176 $\frac{1}{4}$	Inn— <i>The Golden Lion.</i>
The Lanes Ends	2	178 $\frac{1}{4}$	
On L. a T. R. to Whitchurch; on R. to North- wich.			
TARPORLEY ...	1	179 $\frac{1}{4}$	Inn— <i>The Swan.</i>
On R. a T. R. to Northwich.			

Clotton.	2	181 $\frac{1}{4}$	
Duddon	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	182 $\frac{1}{2}$	Duddon Hall, Sir J. Eger- ton, Bart. Stapleford, John Calveley, esq. one mile on L.
Tarven	2	184 $\frac{1}{2}$	
On R. a T. R. to Northwich and Warrington.			
Home-street .	1	185 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Stamford Bridge	$\frac{3}{4}$	186 $\frac{1}{4}$	
Vicar's Cross .	1 $\frac{3}{4}$	188	In Christleton, half a mile from Vicar's Cross, are seats of the Bishop of Chester, T. Ince, esq. T. Claveley, esq. and the Rev. Griffyd Lloyd.
On R. a T. R. to Frodsham Cross the Chester and Ellesmere Canal.			
Little Brough- ton	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	189 $\frac{1}{4}$	
On L. a T. R. to Whitchurch, CHESTER	$\frac{3}{4}$	190	Inns—The Coach and Horses, and the Fea- thers, Hop Pole, Hotel, Pyed Bull, and White Lion.
On R. a T. R. to Frodsham and Liverpool, and further on L. to Wrexham.			
Cross the Dee River, and over Saltney Marsh to Bretton or Broughton, } Flintshire.	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	193 $\frac{1}{2}$	Broughton Hall, J. Ri- chardson, esq. one mile on L.
Beyond on L. a T. R. to Mold.			
HAWARDEN	3	196 $\frac{1}{2}$	Hawarden Castle, Lady Glynn, R. Hawarden Ease, W. Boydell, esq. L.
Euloe Castle....	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	99	Beyond on R. Aston Hall, —Dundas, esq.

Northhop	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	201 $\frac{1}{2}$	Lower Sychtin, Rev. John Conway Potter; and beyond Middle Sychtin Hall, — Bankes, esq. L. At Kelstreton, near the Sea, John Edwards, esq. and near it W. Dukes, esq. R.
At Northhop, on R. a T. R. to Flint, on L. to Mold.			
Halkin	2 $\frac{3}{4}$	204 $\frac{1}{4}$	Halkin Hall, Earl Grosvenor, and a little farther, Robert Hughes, esq. L.
A mile beyond Halkin, on R. a T. R. to Flint.			
HOLYWELL	3 $\frac{3}{4}$	208	Inns—White Horse, Red Lion.
At Holywell, on L. a T. R. to Denbigh.			
— — —			Downing, D. Pennant, esq. R. About a $\frac{1}{4}$ of a mile farther Old Downing, T. Thomas, esq.; and a mile beyond, near the sea, Mostyn Hall, Sir T. Mostyn, bart.
Brick Kiln	5 $\frac{3}{4}$	213 $\frac{3}{4}$	
ST. ASAPH	4 $\frac{1}{4}$	218	Inn—White Lion.
At St. Asaph, on L. a T. R. to Denbigh.			The Bishop's Palace. On ascending the hill, beyond on L. Edw. Lloyd, Esq. of Ceven: on R. Rhyddlan Castle, and farther on, Sir John Williams. Two miles on L. Plus Henton, John Henton, Esq. About four miles beyond St. Asaph, on R. Kinmel Hall, Colonel Hughes; and a little beyond, on L. Adwynt, J. Roberts, esq.
Cross the Elwy river.			
On L. another T.R. to Denbigh.			

LlanSt.Sior, or St. George's, Denbighshire. }	4 $\frac{3}{4}$	222 $\frac{3}{4}$	
ABERGELEY.....	2 $\frac{1}{4}$	225	
Llandulas	2 $\frac{1}{4}$	227 $\frac{1}{4}$	Gwrych, R. Hesketh, esq. one mile beyond L. Ty- mowr, Llysvaen, Edw. Lloyd, Esq.
Cross the Con- wy river.			
ABERCONWY ..			Inns—Bull and Harp.
Caernarvonsh.	9 $\frac{1}{4}$	236 $\frac{1}{2}$	Near the Conway river, R.
At Aberconwy, on L. a T. R. to Llanrwst.			Mart, the late T. Wil- liams, esq. R.
Pass Penman Mawr Mountain, to			
Aber	9 $\frac{1}{4}$	245 $\frac{3}{4}$	Dyganwy, Lord Viscount Kirkwall.
On R. across the Lavan Sands and Ferry, to Beaumaris,			
Llandegai	3 $\frac{3}{4}$	249 $\frac{1}{2}$	Penrhyn, Dawkins Pen- nant, Esq. R. about a mile from Llandegai, Lime Grove, B. Wyatt, esq. R.
BANGOR.....	2	252	Inn—Eagles.
At Bangor, on L. a T. R. to Caernarvon.			
Bangor Ferry....	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	253 $\frac{3}{4}$	Gorphwysva, Thomas Par- ry Jones, esq. L.
Cross the Me- nai Strait, and enter Anglesea.			
Braint	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	255 $\frac{3}{4}$	
About 2 miles beyond Braint, a T. R. to Beau- mauris.			

.....			<i>Hirdrevaig, Mrs. Lloyd.</i>
Llangevni	5½	261	<i>L. and half a mile farther Tregarnedd, Samuel Grindley, esq. L.</i>
<i>At Llangevni, on R. a T. R. to Llanerchyd d.</i>			
Gwindy, or Half-way House ..	5	266	
Bodedern	4	270½	
.....			<i>At Barron Hill, Presadded, Lord Bulkeley, R.</i>
Llan yngenedl ..	1½	271¾	
<i>Here the road divides; if the tide be out, you may keep to the right over the sands, otherwise turn to the left to</i>			
HOLYHEAD	7¼	279	<i>Inn—Eagle and Child.</i>

FROM LONDON TO HOLYHEAD,

THROUGH OXFORD, BIRMINGHAM, AND SHREWSBURY.

LONDON to Kensington Gravel Pits	1½		<i>Through, — Davidson, esq. and Col. Lowther, R.; Holland House, Lord Holland, L. opposite the second mile stone on R.; Norland House, H. Drummond, esq.</i>
Shepherds Bush ..	1½	3	<i>— Shirley, esq. L.; just beyond the fourth mile stone Lady Strange, R.</i>
Acton	1¾	4¾	<i>Burrymead Lodge, J. Acres, esq.; just before on L. — Cook, and — Dax, esqs. R.; & further on R. in Horn Lane, N.</i>

				<i>Selby, esq. and the Hon. Mrs. Hervey; & Heathfield Lodge, J. Winter, esq.; at the end of Acton Bank House,—Roberts, esq. R.</i>
Ealing Common	1	5 $\frac{3}{4}$		<i>J. Wood, and — Graham, esqs. R.; at the further end of the Common on R. Castlebear Hill,—Cocker, esq. and H. R. H. the Duke of Kent.</i>
Ealing Church	$\frac{3}{4}$	6 $\frac{1}{2}$		<i>Gen. Knollys, R.; Thomas Soames, esq. L.</i>
Old Hats	1	7 $\frac{1}{2}$		<i>A little beyoad on R. of the Common, B. Hodges, esq. —Whittingham, esq. and —Cormerell, esq.; on L. Osterley Park, the Earl of Jersey.</i>
Hanwell	$\frac{1}{2}$	8		<i>Hanwell Park, and at Hanwell Bridge a White House, John Gordon, esq.</i>
On L a T. R. to Brentford.				
Southall	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	9 $\frac{1}{4}$		<i>Inns—Red Lion and White Hart.</i>
Cross the Grand Junction Canal, and a little further the old River				<i>Southall Park, Rev. Dr. Collins, L.</i>
Hayes	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	11 $\frac{3}{4}$		<i>At Little London, — De Salis, esq.; and Drayton, F. de Burgh, esq.</i>
Cross Hillingdon Heath				
Hillingdon	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	13 $\frac{1}{4}$		<i>—Primate, esq. & —Hussey, esq. R.; on L. at Drayton, G. W. Morse, esq.; further on R. at Little Hillingdon House, —Cox, esq.</i>
UXBRIDGE	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	14 $\frac{3}{4}$		<i>Inns—King's Arms, Three Tons, and White Horse.</i>
Cross the Colne				

<i>River and the Grand Junction Canal, and enter Bucks.</i>			<i>Belmont House, T. Harris, esq. — Avery, esq. R.; and a little further the Mount, Sir Charles Hamilton, bart.; at the 16th mile stone, Harefield Place, Mrs. Parker, Denham Court, R.; Thompson and Denham Place, Mrs. Way.</i>
Reel Hill	2 $\frac{1}{4}$	17	<i>Denham Mount, — Snell, esq.; and Oak End, R. Sewell, esq. R.</i>
<i>At the 18th mile stone T. R. to Amersham & Aylesbury.</i>			
Tatling End....	1	18	
Gerard's Cross	1 $\frac{3}{4}$	19 $\frac{3}{4}$	<i>Inn—The White Hart. Bulstrode, Duke of Somerset, L.</i>
BEACONSFIELD	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	22 $\frac{1}{4}$	<i>Inn—The Saracen's Head. Wilton Park, near on R.; and beyond on L. Great Hall Barn, the ancient seat of the Poet Waller, Rev. Edward Waller.</i>
Hotspur Heath	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	24 $\frac{1}{2}$	<i>Inn—King's Head.</i>
Loudwater	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	26	
Wycombe Marsh	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	27 $\frac{1}{4}$	
High Wycombe.	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	28 $\frac{3}{4}$	<i>Inn—Red Lion.</i>
<i>On R a T. R. to Amersham on L. to Marlow.</i>			<i>Wycombe Abbey, Lord Carrington, L.; Lady Cunningham, R.</i>
West Wycombe	2 $\frac{3}{4}$	31 $\frac{1}{2}$	<i>On L. of West Wycombe, Sir John Dashwood King, bart. At the top of a hill on R. is West Wycombe Church, on the tower of which is a ball that will contain twelve</i>

people, and may be seen
beyond Beaconsfield.

Ham Farm 3 32½

*A little before
Stoken Church a
T. R. to Great
Marlow.*

Stoken Church,
Oxon 4

36½

*Wormsley, John Fane, esq.
one mile on L. From
Stoken Church Hill, see
on R. in the bottom, As-
ton Rowant, P. Wycomb,
esq.; and on L. Lewknor
Grove, Mrs. Grove, and
Mrs Davis.*

Postcombe 3½ 40

*On R. a T. R.
to Thame.*

*From the 39th mile stone,
Sherburn Castle, Earl of
Macclesfield; and from
the 41st, Wheatfield
House, Lord Chas. Spen-
cer; and Adwell Place,
Mrs. Jones, L.*

Tetsworth 2½ 22½

22½

*Inns—Royal Oak & Swan.
Thame Park, Miss Wick-
ham, one mile and a half
on R.*

Hutt 2½ 44½

44½

*On R. a T. R.
to Thame, on L.
to Wallingford;
from Hutt, cross
the Thame River*

*Rycote Park, Earl of
Abingdon, R.; and one
mile on R. of 46th mile
stone, Waterstock, —
Ashurst, esq.*

Wheatley 3½ 48½

48½

*On L. the old
road to Oxford
over Shotover
Hill, and about 1
mile further on
R. a T. R. to*

Inn—the Crown.

*Waterperry, H. Curzon,
esq. R.; Cuddeston, Bi-
shop of Oxford, L.; Hol-
ton Park, E. Biscoe, esq.
R.; and one mile on L.
Shotover, T. Schutz, esq.*

Chipping Nor-
ton.

Forest Hill $1\frac{3}{4}$ 50

Headington $2\frac{1}{4}$ $52\frac{1}{4}$

W. Finch, E. Lock, and E. Tewney, esqs.; and a little further the Rev. T. Whorwood.

Headington Hill 1 $53\frac{1}{4}$

On L. the old Road to Wheatley over Shotover Hill.

St. Clements .. $\frac{1}{2}$ $53\frac{1}{4}$

On L. a T. R. to Henley, cross the Charwell River.

Oxford $\frac{3}{4}$ $54\frac{1}{2}$

One mile from on R. a T. R. to Bicester & Deddington.

Inns—Angel, King's Arms, Roe Buck, and Star.

Wolvercot $2\frac{3}{4}$ $57\frac{1}{4}$

Cross the Oxford Canal.

Yarnton $1\frac{1}{4}$ $58\frac{1}{2}$

Begbrooke $1\frac{1}{4}$ $60\frac{1}{4}$

One mile from Begbrooke on L. a T. R. Whitney.

Bletchington Park, A. Annesley, esq. three miles on R.; and one mile beyond is Kirtlington Hall, Sir H. W. Dashwood, bart.

Woodstock .. $2\frac{1}{4}$ 63

Inns—Bear and Marlborough Arms.

Blenheim House and Park, the Duke of Marlborough.

Kiddington $4\frac{1}{4}$ $67\frac{1}{4}$

On R. a T. R.

Within one mile on R. Glympton Park, Lloyd

to Wheatley.

Wheate, esq.; at Kid-
dington, C. Brown, esq.;
and about one mile on L.
Ditchley House, Earl of
Normanton.

Enston 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ 69 $\frac{1}{4}$ Near is Heythorp, Earl
of Shrewsbury.Chapel House.. 3 $\frac{3}{4}$

73 Inn—Shakspear's Head.

On R. T. R.

Upper Norton, H. Daw-
kins, esq. L.

to Deddington,

Buckingham, &

Banbury, on L. to

Chipping, Nor-

ton, Stow, and

Burford.

Little Rolright. 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ 75 $\frac{3}{4}$

Long Compton,

Warwick. 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ 77 $\frac{1}{2}$

Rev. Francis Ellis, R.;
and one mile and a half
from, on R. Weston
House, R. Sheldon, esq.

Birmingham 3 $\frac{1}{2}$

81

Cross the Stour

River.

Tidmington,

Worcester... 3 $\frac{1}{4}$ 81 $\frac{3}{4}$

Thomas Snow, esq. R.

SHIPSTON 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ 83 $\frac{1}{4}$

Inn—the George.

Treelington,

On R. a T. R.

Honington, T. G. Town-
send, esq.; — Peach,
esq. R.

to Warwick on

L. to Moreton,

in the Marsh.

Newbold 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ 87 $\frac{1}{4}$

Lower Eating-

ton. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ 87 $\frac{3}{4}$

Evelyn Shirley, esq. R.;
Tolton, Miss Parker, L.

Alderminster . 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ 89 $\frac{1}{4}$

Atherston..... 2

91 $\frac{1}{4}$

Alcot Park, J. West, esq.
and Rev. Mr. Angelo, L.

Near the Avon

on R. a T. R. to

<i>Banbury & Buckingham, cross the Avon R.</i>					
STRATFORD ON AVON.	2½	93¾	Inn—White Lion.		
On R. a T. R. to Warwick, & on L. to Alcester; within half a mile of Wotton Waver cross the Stratford Canal and Alne River.			Half a mile beyond is Clogston House.		
Wotton Waver	6½	100¼	Wotton Hall, Lady Smythe, R.		
Near Henley on L. a T. R. to Birmingham.					
HENLEY IN ARDEN	1¼	101½	Inn—The Swan.		
Within half a mile of Hockley cross the Stratford Canal.			Barrells House, — Knight, esq. two miles on L.		
Hockley	4¾	106¼	Inn—The White Lion.		
On R. a T. R. to Warwick,			Umberslade, Miss Archer, L.; Rev. H. A. Pye, R. About one mile on R. of Hockley, Packwood House, C. Featherstone, esq.		
Monks Path					
Street	2½	109¼			
Shirley Street..	1¾	111			
Three miles from Shirley Street on R. a T. R. to Warwick.					
Grange	4	115	At Moseley on L. — Anderson, esq.; — Gateley,		
Near Birming-					

<i>ham on R. a T. R. to Coventry, and on L. to Alcester. Entering Birmingham, cross the Thame River.</i>		<i>esq.; and Mrs. Guest.</i>	
BIRMINGHAM ..	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	116 $\frac{3}{4}$	Inns— <i>The Castle, Hen and Chickens Hotel, Nelson Hotel, and Swan.</i>
<i>On R. a T. R. to Lichfield on L. to Bromesgrove and Kidderminster. Cross the Birmingham Canal Navigation.</i>		<i>Sholbrook House, — Longworth, esq. R.; Francis Egginton, esq. one mile and a half on L.</i>	
Hockley Brook.	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	118 $\frac{1}{4}$	
<i>On R. a T. R. to Walsall.</i>			
Soho, Staff....	$\frac{1}{2}$	118 $\frac{3}{4}$	<i>Sandwell Park, Earl of Dartmouth, R.</i>
Bromwich			
Heath	3	121 $\frac{3}{4}$	
Holloway Bank.	2	123 $\frac{3}{4}$	
WEDNESBURY ..	1	124 $\frac{3}{4}$	
<i>On R. a T. R. to Walsall, and on L. to Dudley. Near Darlaston on R. to Walsall, and on L. to Birmingham.</i>			
Darlaston	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	126	
<i>Cross the Birmingham Canal Navigation.</i>			
Bilston	1 $\frac{3}{4}$	127 $\frac{3}{4}$	Inn— <i>The Bull.</i>
<i>On R. a T. R. to Walsall. At about a mile and</i>			

a half, cross
the Birmingham
Canal.

WOLVERHAMPTON.

2 $\frac{3}{4}$ 130 $\frac{1}{2}$ Inns—*The Lion and Swan.*

On R. a T. R.
to Walsall, Cannock, & Stafford.

On L. to Dudley
and Stourbridge,
and at the end
of the Town to
Bridgenorth.

Chapel Ash $\frac{1}{2}$ 131

Merridale House, T. B. Herrick, esq. one mile to the L.

Cross the Staffordshire and
Worcestershire
Canal.

King's Tetterhall. 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ 132 $\frac{3}{4}$

Francis Holyoake, esq. & John Pearson, esq. R.

On R. a T. R.
to Ivets Bank.

The Wergs 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ 134 $\frac{1}{4}$

Wrottesley Park 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ 135 $\frac{3}{4}$

Wrottesley Park, Sir John Wrottesley, bart.

Boningale Shrop. 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ 138

About three
miles from Boningale cross the
Worf River.

Between Boningale and Upton two miles on R. are Tong Castle, G. Durant, esq., and Neach Hill, G. Baylis, esq. About one mile and a half on L. is Pattehull, Sir G. Pigot, bart.

Upton 4 $\frac{1}{4}$ 142 $\frac{1}{4}$

Shiffnall. $\frac{3}{4}$ 143

Inns — *The Jerningham Arms, Red Lion, and Talbot.*

On L. a T. R.
to Broseley, and
through Lealey
to Shrewsbury.

Aston Hall, J. Moultrie, esq. R.; Manor House,

				<i>Sir G. Jerningham, bart. L.; near on R. are Decker Hill, W. Botfield, esq. and Haughton Hall, — Benyon, esq.</i>
Priors Leigh.	3	146	B	<i>Rowley, esq. and G. Bishton, esq. R.</i>
Shropshire				
Canal.....	1	147		
Oaken Gates ..	$\frac{1}{4}$	147 $\frac{1}{4}$		
On R. a T. R. to Coventry.				
Ketley	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	148 $\frac{1}{2}$		
Watling Street.		149 $\frac{3}{4}$	Inn—	<i>The Cock.</i>
On R. a T. R. to Newport and Whitechurch.				
Street Lane....	$\frac{1}{2}$	150 $\frac{1}{4}$		
Hay Gate	$\frac{3}{4}$	151	Inn—	<i>The Falcon.</i>
				<i>Beyond on R. Orleton Hall, Cludde, esq.</i>
Clodley Brook.	$\frac{1}{4}$	151 $\frac{1}{4}$		
Burcott Brook	$\frac{3}{4}$	152		
Uckington	2 $\frac{3}{4}$	154 $\frac{3}{4}$		
Norton	$\frac{3}{4}$	155 $\frac{1}{2}$		
Tern	$\frac{3}{4}$	156 $\frac{1}{4}$		
Bridge over the Tern. On L. a T. R. to Broseley.				
Atcham	1	157 $\frac{1}{4}$	Attingham House, Lord	
Bridge over the Severn.			Berwick, R.; beyond on R. Robert Burton, jun. esq.; and further, Longnor, R. Burton, esq.	
St. Giles's	2 $\frac{3}{4}$	160		
On L. a T. R. to Much Wenlock.				

Abbey Foregate.	$\frac{3}{4}$	160 $\frac{3}{4}$	
On L. a T. R. to Church Stret- ton and Bishop's Castle. Cross the Severn.			
SHREWSBURY ..	$\frac{1}{2}$	161 $\frac{1}{2}$	Inns—Fox, Lion, Raven, Bell, and Talbot.
On L. a T. R. to Drayton, Whitchurch and Ellesmere. Cross the Severn Ri- ver; and on L. a T. R. to Mont- gomery, and fur- ther to Welsh- pool.			
Shelton	$1\frac{3}{4}$	163	Rossall Cecil Forester, esq. the Isle of Up Rossall, Rev. Humphrey Sand- ford, and Berwick, R. Betton, esq.; one mile and a half on L. Onslow, J. Wingfield, esq. and further Denthill, T. Wingfield, jun. esq. and Preston Mountford, J. Parry, esq.
Mountford	$2\frac{1}{2}$	165 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Great Ness	$3\frac{1}{2}$	169	J. Edwards, esq. R.
Nescliffe	$\frac{1}{2}$	169 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Beyond on L. a T. R. to Llan- vyllin.			
West Felton....	$4\frac{3}{4}$	174 $\frac{1}{4}$	Pradoc, Hon. T. Kenyon, R. Wood House, W. W. Owen, esq. R.: and a mile beyond Aston Hall, W. Lloyd, esq. L.

Queen's Head.	1	175 $\frac{1}{4}$	
On R. a T. R.			
Whittington,			
Cross the Elles-			
mere Canal.			
OSWESTRY.....	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	178 $\frac{3}{4}$	Inns—Cross, Foxes, and
On R. a T. R.			Cross Keys; beyond Os-
to Ellesmere;			westry on R. the Park,
on L. to Welch			C. Kinchant, esq. and R.
Pool and Llan-			Lovett, esq.
vyllin.			
Gobowen.....	2	181 $\frac{1}{2}$	
On L. a T. R.			
to Brony Garth.			
Cross the Ches-			
ter and Elles-			
mere Canal; and			
then the Ceiriog			
River.			
Chirk	3	184 $\frac{1}{2}$	Chirk Castle, Miss Middle-
Denb. on R. a			ton.
T. R. to Elles-			
mere.			
Whitehurst ...	2	186 $\frac{1}{2}$	Wynnstay, Sir W. W.
			Wynn, bart.; two miles
			beyond Whitthurst
			Gate on R. at a quar-
			ter of a mile on R. is the
			grand newly erected
			Aqueduct, Pont Casullte
			over the River Dee, and
			near it Trevor Hall,
			— Hollinshed, esq.
LLANGOLLEN ..	5	191 $\frac{1}{2}$	Inn—The Hand; Din Brán,
Denbighshire.			Foster Cunliffe, esq.;
At Llangollen,			Plas Newydd, Lady E.
a T. R. across the			Butler, and Miss Pon-
Dee to Wrex-			sonby.
ham			Caer Linas Brán, or Brán

				Castle, R. about two miles from Llangollen, in the road to Ruthin, on R. <i>Valle Crucis Abbey</i> . The pillar <i>Elyseg</i> is a little beyond the abbey; and two miles and a quarter from Llangollen, on R. are the ruins of the Palace of Owen Glyndwr, and <i>Llandysilio Hall</i> , T. Jones, esq.
Llan St. Fraid, T. G. Merionethshire.	7 $\frac{1}{4}$	198 $\frac{3}{4}$		<i>Glyndyrvdwy Park</i> , Captain Salisbury, R.
CORWEN Nearly two miles beyond Corwen, on R. a T. R. to Wrexham;—and one mile farther on L. a T. R. to Bala.	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	201 $\frac{3}{4}$		<i>Rhagad</i> , Edward Lloyd, esq.; <i>Rug</i> , Sir Robert Vaughan, Cevn Rug, Mr. Jones, and near two miles beyond Corwen, on R. <i>Rug</i> , and on L. <i>Cevn Rûg</i> . About five miles from Corwen, <i>Maesmor</i> , T. Lloyd, esq. <i>Glanceirw</i> , W. Lloyd, esq. R.; <i>Glyn Nanneu</i> , John Lloyd, esq. L.
Ceryg y Druidion Denbighshire.	10	211 $\frac{1}{4}$		Within half a mile of <i>Ceryg y Druidion</i> , on R. is a British circular camp on a commanding eminence, attributed by the antiquaries of the neighbourhood to the Druids, who never made use of camps, and subsequently as occupied by <i>Caractacus</i> . At <i>Ceryg y</i>

			<i>Drudion, on R. Rev. Mr. H. Rawlands.</i>
Cernioge Mawr.	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	214 $\frac{1}{2}$	<i>Glan y Gors, Robt. Jones, esq. R., & the birth place of a Welsh Poet of great celebrity of the name of J. Jones; but better known by the name of J. J. Glan y Gors.</i>
<i>A mile and a half beyond on L. a T. R. to Bala, and half a mile farther on L. a T. R. to Maentwrog.</i>			
<i>At two miles on R. a T. R. to Llanyrwst.</i>			
Pentre Voelas..	3	217 $\frac{1}{2}$	
<i>On R. a T. R. to Aberconwy.</i>			
Rhyd Llan- vair Inn .. }	4	221 $\frac{1}{2}$	<i>Havod y Maidd, Mrs. Lloyd, R.</i>
Capel Voelas ...	2 $\frac{1}{4}$	223 $\frac{3}{4}$	<i>Voelas Hall, Hon. C. Finch, R.</i>
Bettws-y-Coed..			
<i>Caernarvonsh.</i>	1 $\frac{3}{4}$	225 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Capel Ceryg....	4	229 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Ogwen Lake....	4	233 $\frac{1}{2}$	
BANGOR.....	10	243 $\frac{1}{2}$	<i>Inn.—Eagles.</i>
<i>At Bangor, on L. a T. R. to Caernarvon.</i>			<i>At Bangor, the Cathedral, and Bishop's Palace.</i>
Bangor Ferry ..	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	245	<i>Gorphwysva, Thos. Parry Jones, esq. L. and Plás yn Llanvair, Col. Peacock.</i>
<i>Cross the Menai Strait, and enter Anglesea. At this ferry are some dangerous rocks, called the Swelley.</i>			
Baint	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	247 $\frac{1}{2}$	
<i>At Baint, a Road to Beaumaris.</i>			

Ceint	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	250 $\frac{3}{4}$	Hirdrevaig, Mrs. A. Lloyd, L.; and further Treganedd, J. Williams, esq.
Llangevni	2	252 $\frac{3}{4}$	Four miles from, on L. are Bodorgan, Owen Putland Meyrick, esq. Trevilier, Charles Evans, esq.; and Trefygof, Rev. Mr. Evans; on R. are Tre-cucan, W. Meyrick, esq.; and Bryngoleu, H. Wyan, esq.
Gwyndy	5	257 $\frac{3}{4}$	Inn—The Inn.
Trefor	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	259 $\frac{1}{4}$	One mile beyond on R. Trejorwerth, Rev. Hugh Wynn Jones; and near one mile beyond Trejorwerth, on R. is Pres-added, Viscount Bulkley.
Boddedern	2 $\frac{3}{4}$	262	
Llanyngecdl.	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	263 $\frac{1}{4}$	About three miles on R. is Llinon, Herbert Jones, esq. and a mile and a half on R. Carreglwyd, Holland Griffith, esq.
FourMileBridge	3	266 $\frac{1}{4}$	Boclair, J. Lewis, esq. one mile on L. near Holyhead, on L. are Penrhos, Lady Stanley;—Penrhos Bradwen, John Jones, esq. and Llanvair, Mrs. Vickers.
HOLYHEAD	4	270 $\frac{1}{4}$	Inn—The Eagle and Child.

FROM LLANGEDWYN TO GWINDY, THROUGH BALA AND CAERNARVON.

Llangedwyn....			
to			
Merionethshire,			
Three miles be-			
yond Llanged-			
wyn, on R. a T			
R. to Llan-			
rhaiadr. On L.			
to Llanvyllin.			
Llangynog	9	9	
.....			
Near Bala, on			Llechweddgarth, T. Thomas,
L. a T. R. along			esq. L.
the Bala Lake,			
to Dinasmdawd-			
wy.			
BALA	10	19	Inns.—Bell, Bull,
At Bala, on L.			
a T. R. to Dol-			
gellau.			
.....			
Bwlch y Buarth	8	27	Rhiwedog, W. Lloyd Dol-
Ffestiniog.....	9½	36½	ben, esq. a mile to the R.
Maentwrog	2½	39	of which, on the north
At Maentwrog,			bank of the Dee, is Bed-
on L. a T. R. to			wenni, R. Evans, esq.
Harlech and Dol-			
gellau.			
Tan y Bwlch Inn	1	40	Tan y Bwlch Plâs, William
At Tan y Bwlch			Oakley, esq.
Inn, on L. a T.			
R. to Cricasth.			
Pontaberglaslyn	6½	46½	Pontaberglaslyn is a ro-
Beddgelert,			mantic bridge, commonly
Caernarvonshire	1½	48	called the Devil's Bridge,

the foundation, of which is on two rocks, the one in Merionethshire, the other in Caernarvonshire; near this bridge is a famous salmon leap.

.....
Bettws 7 55

.....
Near Caernarvon, on L. a T. R. to Pwllheli.
CAERNARVON ... 5 60
Llanvairiscaer... 3 63
Moel-y-Don-
Ferry 1 64

Here you may go forward to Bangor Ferry; but by crossing at this place you avoid the Swelly Rocks.

Gwindy 9 73

Cywellyn Lakes, L.

Glangwnna, Thomas Lloyd, esq. R. and about one mile farther Nant Hall, Sir Robert Williams, R. Inn—The Hotel.

A mile from Caernarvon, Coed Helen, Price Thomas, esq.

FROM MONTGOMERY TO CAERNARVON, THROUGH WELSH POOL, LLANVAIR, AND HARLECH.

MONTGOMERY to
At Montgomery, on R. a T. R. to Shrewsbury.

Forden 3½ 3½

Severn River .. 2 5½

About ¾ of a mile beyond on L. a T. R. to

Inn.—The Dragon.

Lymore Lodge, Earl of Powis, R.

Nanterribba, Lord Viscount Hereford, R.

Newtown, on R.
to

.....

WELSH POOL... 2½ 8½

At Welsh Pool,
on R. a T. R. to
Oswestry; and
about four miles
farther, on L. a
T. R. to Caer
Einion.

LLANVAIR.... 7½ 15 ½

At Llanvair,
on R. a T. R. to
Oswestry; on L.
to Newtown.

Llanervul..... 5 20½

Cross the Ewyr-
wy river.

Cann Office (Inn) 2 22½

Beyond Cann
Office Inn, the ri-
ver Twrch must
be forded twice,
and after heavy
rains is some-
times too deep;
it is therefore ne-
cessary to make
inquiry at the
inn.

.....
Within a mile
of Dinas Mawdd-
wy, on L. a T. R.

Powis Castle, Earl of
Powis.

Inn.—Royal Oak.

Llysin, a seat and exten-
sive park of the Earl of
Powis, formerly the seat
of the Lords Herberts,
ancestors to the Earls of
Powis.

Four miles to the R. of
Cann Office Inn, is
Llwydiarth Park.

Caernyweh, Chief Baron
Sir Richard Richards,
knt. R.

to Machynllaith.
DINAS MAWDD-
WY.

Merioneths.

13 35½ Inn.—Red Lion.

At Dinas

Mawddwy, on R.
a T. R. to Bala;
on L. to Towyn.

DOLGELLAU

9 44½ Inn—Golden Lion.

At Dolgellau,
on R. a T. R. to
Bala.

Hengwrt Hall, Griffith
Howel Vaughan, esq. L.
about four miles to L.
Cader Idris Mountain.

Llanelltyd

1½ 46½ Nannau Hall, Sir Robert
Vaughan, bart. R.

At Llanelltyd,
on R. a T. R. to
Maentwrog; on
L. to Abermaw,
or Barmouth.

Llandwywau.....

10½ 56½

Llanbedr

3½ 60½

At Llanbedr,
on L. a T. R. to
Barmouth.

Llainvair

2 62½

HARLECH.

1 63½

Llanvihangel-y-
traeth.....

3 66½

Cross the Sands.

Junction of the
road from

Maentwrog.....

2½ 68½

On R. a T. R.
to Maentwrog,
cross the great
embankment to
Tremadoc, pas-
sable for horse

and foot passengers.

Penmorva

Caernarvonshire $3\frac{3}{4}$ 72 $\frac{1}{2}$

At Penmorva,

on L. a T. R. to

Cruccaith, on R. to

Dolbenman 3 75 $\frac{1}{2}$

Llanllyvni 6 81 $\frac{1}{2}$

From Llanlly-

vni, Wilson took

his celebrated

view of Snowdon;

from hence the

mountain is seen

from its base.

About four

miles and a half

beyond, on L. a

T. R. to Nevyn,

on R. to

Llanwnda 5 86 $\frac{1}{2}$

CAERNARVON .. 3 89 $\frac{1}{2}$

Near Dolben man, Bryn-
thire, — Huddent, esq.

Inn—The Hotel.

FROM DOLGELLAU TO NEVYN,

THROUGH PENMORVA AND CRUCCAITH.

DOLGELLAU

Merionethsh. to

Llanelltyd 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ 1 $\frac{1}{2}$

At Llanelltyd,

on L. a T. R. to

Barmouth.

Pont-ar-ganva .. 4 51 $\frac{1}{2}$

Dolmelynllyn .. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ 8

On R. Nannau Hall, Sir
R. Vaughan, bart.

Trawsvynydd ..	5	13
Maentwrog	5	18
<i>At Maentwrog,</i>		
<i>on R. a T. R. to</i>		
<i>Bala, on L. to</i>		
The Sands	4½	22½
<i>Cross the Sands</i>		
<i>to</i>		
Penmorva		
Caernarvonsh.	3¼	26¼
<i>At Penmorva,</i>		
<i>on R. to Caernarvon, on L. to</i>		
CRUCCAITH	3½	29¾
Abereirch	7	36¾
<i>At Abereirch,</i>		
<i>on R. a T. R. to</i>		
<i>Caernarvon.</i>		
Pwllheli.....	2	38¾
Nevyn	6	44¾

FROM CHIRK TO ST. ASAPH,
THROUGH DENBIGH.

Chirk			Chirk Castle, Miss Middleton, L.
Denbighshire, to			
Whitehurst T.G.	2	2	Cevnywern, Rev. D. Price,
<i>At Whitehurst,</i>			L. Two miles beyond
<i>T.G. on R. a T.</i>			Whitehurst, T. G. on the
<i>R. to Wrexham;</i>			north side of the river
<i>and about a mile</i>			Dee, Trevor Hall, Mrs.
<i>farther, on R. to</i>			Thomas.
<i>Llangollen, by</i>			
<i>the north bank of</i>			
<i>the Dee, a mile</i>			
<i>circuitous; on</i>			
<i>L. to</i>			
LLANGOLLEN....	5	7	Inn—The Hand.
<i>At Llangollen,</i>			Dina; Brân, or Brân Castle,

on L. a T. R. to
Corwen.

Cross the river
Dec.

On R. a T. R.
to Wrexham;
and 6 miles from
Llangollen, on R.
a T. R. to Wrex-
ham; on L. to
Bala; and a mile
farther, another
R. to Wrexham.

....

RUTHIN.....

At Ruthin, on
R. a T. R. to
Mold.

From Ruthin
there is now a
good road which
leads thro' Ceryg-
y-Drudion to
Keiniogau, eigh-
teen miles, and
saves a distance
of 8 miles going
round by Corwen.
Llanrhaiadr

DENBIGH.....

At Denbigh,
on R. a T. R. to
Holywell.

R. and two miles beyond,
near the road on R. Valle
Crucis Abbey; on L. the
pillar Elyseg.

Plas Newydd, R. Parry,
esq. L.

13½ 20½ Inns—White Lion, Cross
Keys.

4½ 25 Llanrhaiadr Hall, Richard
Wilding, esq.

3½ 28½ Inns—Bull, Crown.
The Castle; opposite to
Denbigh, R. B. Clough,
esq.; Llewenny, Colonel
Hughes; Brynbella, —
Salisbury, esq.; and
about two miles beyond
Denbigh, on L. Plas Hea-

ST. ASAPH, *Flint-*
shire 5 $\frac{1}{4}$

33 $\frac{3}{4}$

Inn—

John Heaton, esq. ;
and one mile further, on
R. Llanerch, Rev. White-
hall Davies, & Y Garn,
J. W. Griffith, esq.

White Lion.

FROM OVERTON TO ABERCONWY,

THROUGH WREXHAM, MOLD, AND DENBIGH.

OVERTON, *Flint-*
shire, to

Cross the Dee
river, and on L.
a T. R. to Ru-
abon.

EYTON, *Denbigh-*
shire 3

3

MARCHWIAL 2

5

At Marchwial
on R. a T. R. to
Whitechurch.

.....

A mile beyond Overton, on
R. Edward Webber, esq.
half a mile farther, Bryn-
y-Pys, R. Price, esq. and
P. L. Fletcher, esq. ; two
miles beyond Overton, on
L. Rose Hill, Mrs. Boates,
& Eyton, Edward Eyton,
esq.

Erddig, Simon Yorke, esq. L.

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

7 $\frac{1}{4}$

Inns—*Eagles, Red Lion.*

At Wrexham,
on R. a T. R. to
Chester ; on L. to
Oswestry.

About a mile east of Wrex-
ham, Cevn, G. Kenyon,
esq. Menchervial Hall,
S. Ryley, esq. ; a mile
beyond Wrexham, near
the road from Wrexham
to Chester, Acton, Sir
Foster Cunliffe, bart. ; 3
miles from Wrexham,
Gwersylt Park, John Wil-
liams, esq. ; 6 miles Plás
Tég, — Roper, esq.

CAERGWRLE,
Flintshire 5 $\frac{1}{4}$

12 $\frac{1}{2}$

HOPE 3 $\frac{3}{4}$

13 $\frac{1}{4}$

The Ruins of the Castle, L.

Five miles be-

*yond Hope, on R.
a T.R. to Chester.*

Mold 6

*At Mold, on L.
a T.R. to Ruthin,
on R. to Flint.*

.....
Nannerch 6

*About 3 miles
beyond Nan-
nerch, on R. a T.
R. to Holywell;
and 2 miles far-
ther, a T. R. to
Caerwys.*

.....
Bodfari 6

Pont Ryffyth .. 1
*Cross the Clwyd
river.*

DENBIGH, Den-
bighshire 3 $\frac{1}{4}$

*At Denbigh,
on R. a T. R. to
Holywell.*

Henllan Steeple 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ 37 $\frac{3}{4}$

Llannevydd 3 $\frac{1}{4}$ 41

Pont y Gwyddel 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ 43 $\frac{1}{4}$

*Cross the Elwy
river.*

Bettws 3 $\frac{1}{4}$ 46 $\frac{1}{2}$

Dolwen 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ 47 $\frac{3}{4}$

Groesfordd ... 5 52 $\frac{3}{4}$

Aberconwy Fer-
ry House, 2 54 $\frac{3}{4}$

*Cross the Con-
way river.*

ABERCONWY,
Caernarvonshire 3 $\frac{1}{4}$

19 $\frac{1}{4}$ Inns—*Black Lion, Griffin.*

1 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles *Rhuall.*

Penbedw, Mrs. Williams, L.

25 $\frac{1}{4}$

*Maesmynnau, Sir Thomas
Mostyn, bart. R.*

31 $\frac{1}{4}$

*Pont Ryffyth Hall, Sir Ed-
ward Lloyd, bart. R. on
L. Llewenny Hall, Colo-
nel Hughes.*

32 $\frac{1}{4}$

Inns—Bull, Crown.

35 $\frac{1}{2}$

*L. Caed Coch, J. L. Wynne,
esq.*

55 $\frac{1}{2}$

Inn—Bull and Harp.

FROM MACHYNLLAITH TO HOLYWELL,
THROUGH BALA AND WREXHAM.

MACHYNLLAITH, <i>Montgomery-</i> <i>shire, to</i> <i>About $\frac{3}{4}$ of a</i> <i>mile beyond Ma-</i> <i>chynllaith, on L.</i> <i>a T.R. to Towyn.</i>			
Esgairgeiliog ..	4	4	
Pontabercorus ..	1	5	
<i>Three miles</i> <i>beyond Pontaber-</i> <i>corus, on L. a R.</i> <i>to Towyn; and</i> <i>within two miles</i> <i>of Dolgellau, on</i> <i>R. a T. R. to Di-</i> <i>nas Mawddwy.</i>			
DOLGELLAU, <i>Merionethshire</i>	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	14 $\frac{1}{2}$	Inn— <i>Golden Lion.</i> <i>Cader Idris Mountain, L.</i>
Drwsynant	9	23 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Llanuwchllyn ..	4	27 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Llanycil.....	4	31 $\frac{1}{2}$	
BALA	1	32 $\frac{1}{2}$	Inns— <i>Bull, Bell.</i> <i>Rhiwedog, William Lloyd</i> <i>Dolben, esq. R. and three</i> <i>miles beyond Bala, on R.</i> <i>Bedwenni, Robert Evans,</i> <i>esq.</i>
<i>At Bala, on R.</i> <i>a T. R. to Cor-</i> <i>wen; on L. to</i> <i>Caernarvon.</i> <i>Cross the river</i> <i>Dee.</i>			
Llandrillo.....	8	40 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Cynwyd.....	2 $\frac{1}{4}$	42 $\frac{3}{4}$	
<i>Within a mile</i> <i>of Corwen, on L.</i> <i>a T. R. to Aber-</i> <i>conwy.</i>			

CORWEN	2 $\frac{3}{4}$	45 $\frac{1}{2}$	Inn— <i>New Inn.</i> <i>Owen Glyndwr Rug, Sir R. Vaughan. Cevn Rug, L. Ragad, Edw. Lloyd, esq. L.</i>
..... Llan St. Fraid, T. G.	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	48	
LLANGOLLEN, Denbighshire At Llangollen, on R. a T. R. to Oswestry. Cross the river Dce. On L. a T. R. to Ruthin.	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	55 $\frac{1}{2}$	Inn— <i>The Hand.</i> <i>Dinas Brân, or Brân Castle, L. and farther to the L. in the road to Ruthin, Vale Crucis Abbey.</i>
Ruabon	6	61 $\frac{1}{2}$	
At Ruabon, on R. a T. R. to Ellesmere.			<i>Wynnstay, Sir Watkin Williams Wynn, bart. R. Erddig, S. York, esq. R.</i>
WREXHAM.....	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	67	Inns— <i>Eagles, Red Lion.</i> <i>About a mile east of Wrexham, Cevn, H. G. Kenyon, esq.; and a mile beyond Wrexham, near the road from Wrexham to Chester, Acton, Sir Foster Cunliffe, bart.</i>
At Wrexham, on R. a T. R. to Ellesmere; on L. to Oswestry.			
Caergwrle, Flintshire....	5 $\frac{1}{4}$	72 $\frac{1}{4}$	The ruins of the Castle, L.
Hope	2 $\frac{3}{4}$	73	
About 5 miles beyond Hope, on R. a T. R. to Chester.			
MOLD.....	6	79	Inns— <i>Black Lion, Griffin.</i>
At Mold, on			

L. a T. R. to Ruthin.

.....

Northop 3 $\frac{1}{2}$

*At Northop,
on R. a T. R. to
Flint.*

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

*Half a mile be-
yond Halkin, on
R. a T. R. to
Flint.*

HOLYWELL 3 $\frac{3}{4}$

82 $\frac{1}{2}$

Llwyn Egryn.

*Lower Sychden, Rev. John
Conway Potter, and be-
yond it Middle Sychden
Hall, John Wynn, esq.
R. At Kelstreton, near
the sea, John Edwards,
esq. and near it, W.
Dukes, esq. R.*

85

*At Halkin, Earl Grosve-
nor, L. and a little far-
ther, Robert Hughes,
esq.*

88 $\frac{3}{4}$

*Inns—White Horse, Red
Lion.*

FROM UPPINGTON TO TOWYN,
THROUGH WELSH POOL.

Uppington,
Montgomery,
to

Bullington Hall, 1 $\frac{1}{4}$

Bullington

(Church) 2

*At Bullington,
on L. a T. R. to
Montgomery.*

*Cross the Se-
vern by a wood-
en bridge.*

*On R. a T. R.
to Oswestry.*

WELSH POOL .. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$

*Six miles be-
yond Welsh Pool,*

1 $\frac{1}{4}$

2

Ambler Hall, L.

3 $\frac{1}{2}$

*Inn—Royal Oak.
Powis Castle and Park,
Earl Powis, L.*

on R. a T. R. to
Llandvair.

Plâs Iolyn..... 8 11½

At Plâs Iolyn,
on R. a T. R. to
Llanvair; on L.
to Newtown.

Cevn Coch 4 15½

At Cevn Coch,
on R. a T. R. to
Llanvair; and 7
miles farther, on
L. a T. R. to
Newtown.

Llanbrynmair.. 11 26½

Eight miles be-
yond Llanbryn-
mair, on R. a
T. R. to Dinas
Mawddwy.

Penegos 9 35½

MACHYNLLAITH 2 37½ Inn—The Eagles.

At Machyn-
llaith, on L. a T.
R. to Llanidloes;
near a mile be-
yond on R. a T. R.
to Dinas Maw-
ddwy and Dol-
gellau.

Penal..... 4 41½ Talgarth, L. Edwards, esq.
L.

TOWYN, Meri-
onethshire ... 8

49½ Inn—The Raven.

FROM LLANDYSILIO TO NEWTOWN,
THROUGH WELSH POOL.

Llandysilio, Montgomery- shire, to <i>A little beyond Llandysilio, on R. to Llanvyllin; on L. to Shrews- bury.</i>			
Llanymynech Canal.....	1 $\frac{3}{4}$	1 $\frac{3}{4}$	
<i>On R. a T. R. to Welsh Pool; by Guilsfield; on L. recrossing the Canal, to New Quay</i>	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	5 $\frac{1}{4}$	
<i>About 2 miles and a quarter be- yond New Quay, on L. a T. R. to Shrewsbury.</i>			
WELSH POOL ..	3 $\frac{1}{4}$	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	Inn—Royal Oak.
<i>At Welsh Pool, on R. a T. R. to Dolgellau; on L. to Montgomery.</i>			<i>A mile beyond Welsh Pool, on R. Powis Castle, Earl of Powis; and near For- den, in the road from Welsh Pool to Montgo- mery, Nantcribba, Lord Viscount Hereford.</i>
Berhiew	5	13 $\frac{1}{2}$	Vaener, Captain Windhus, R. and a little farther on, R. — Howell, esq.
<i>Or you may go forward through the river in dry weather to Glanhavren</i>	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	16	

*Cross the Canal
twice, and the Se-
vern river.*

Montgomery

Road..... 1 17

*On L. to Mont-
gomery, on R. to*

NEWTOWN 5 22

*At Newtown,
on L. a T. R. to
Bishop's Castle;
on R. Machyn-
llaith.*

Inns—*Red Lion, and Bear's
Head.*

*Newtown Park, Richard
Shaws, esq. L.*

FROM KERI TO LLANGURIG,

THROUGH LLANIDLOES.

Keri, Montgo-
meryshire, to

NEWTOWN 3 3

*At Newtown,
on R. a T. R. to
Montgomery.*

Penystrywad .. 3 6

.....
Llandinam 3½ 9½

.....

LLANIDLOES ... 6¼ 16

*At Llanidloes,
on L. a T. R. to
Machynllaith.*

Llangurig 4 20

Inn—*The Sign, or Herbert
Arms.*

Inns—*Red Lion, and Bear's
Head.*

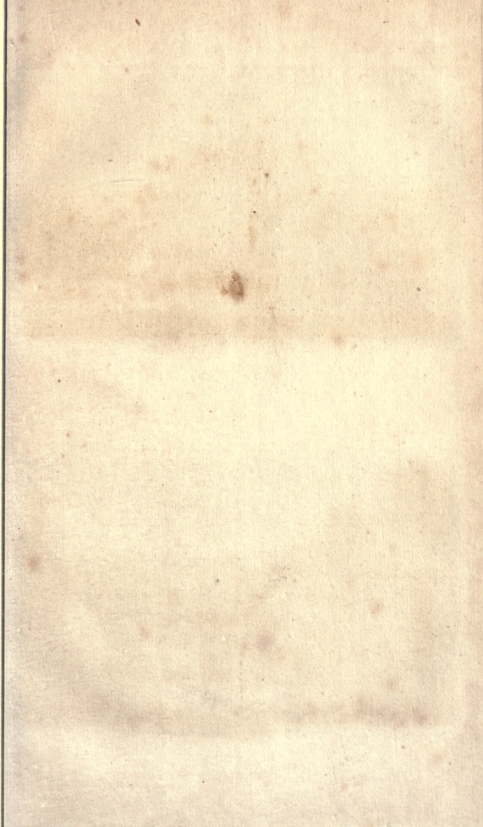
*Newtown Park, Richard
Shaw, esq.*

*Maesmaur, P. Davies, esq.
R.*

*Berth-dû, M. Stephens, esq.
L.*

The New Inn.

END OF THE ITINERARY.



NORTH WALES



Caernarvon Castle.



St. Asaph.

NORTH WALES



Bangor Cathedral.



Chirk Castle.



LIST OF ALL THE FAIRS AND MARKETS

IN

NORTH WALES.

SHIRE OF ANGLESEA.

Aberfraw.—March 7, Wednesday after Trinity, October 23, and December 11, for cattle.

Amlwch.—November 12, for cattle.

Beaumaris.—Saturday, February 13, 'Holy-Thurs-
day, September 19, and December 19, for cattle.

Bodedern.—March 13, April 16, May 5, June 9,
Whit Tuesday, Aug. 16, Sept. 14, Oct. 1 and 22.

Lannerehymed.—Wednesday, February 5, April 25,
St. Mark, May 6, Thursday after Trinity for
cattle.

Llan Denioel.—Thursday before May 12, and two
Thursdays after November 13.

Llangevni.—Friday, March 14, April 17, June 10,
Aug. 17, Sept. 15.

Llanvechell.—February 25, August 5, November
5, and November 26, cattle.

Newburgh.—June 22, August 10 and 21, Septem-
ber 25, November 11, for cattle.

Penmynydd.—Easter Monday.

Pentraeth.—May 5, Friday after Trinity, August
16, October 3, November 12, for cattle.

Porthaethwy.—August 26, September 26, October
24, November 14, for cattle.

CAERNARVONSHIRE.

Aberconwy.—Friday, April 6, September 4, Octo-
ber 10, November 8, for cattle.

Aberdaron.—June 26, Aug. 12.

Aberwyngregyn.—August 18, October 26, Nov. 21, for cattle.

Bangor.—April 5, June 25, October 28, for cattle.

Beddgelert.—August 18, September 23, for cattle.

Bethws.—May 15, December 3, for cattle.

Bettws Garmon.—Aug. 17, Sept. 22, 26.

Borth.—August 26, October 24, for cattle.

Caernarvon.—Saturday, February 25, May 16, August 4, December 4, for cattle and pedlars' ware.

Pontnewydd, by Caernarvon.—May 1, Nov. 1.

Capel Curig.—Sept. 28.

Clynog.—August 18, September 25, for cattle.

Conway.—April 6, Sept. 4, Oct. 10, Nov. 8.

Cruccaith.—May 23, July 1, October 18, for cattle.

Dolbenman.—Aug. 26.

Dolwyddelen.—April 16, Aug. 15, Sept. 20.

Llanbedr.—April 16, Aug. 16.

Llanystumdwy.—April 17.

Llanllechyd.—October 29, for cattle.

Llanberis.—Sept. 18, 27.

Llangian.—June 28.

Llannon.—April 12, Oct. 18, 29.

Nevyn.—April 4, Saturday before Whitsuntide, August 25, for cattle.

Penmachno.—August 23, September 21, for cattle.

Penmorva.—August 20, September 25, November 12, for cattle.

Pwllheli.—Wed. May 13, Aug. 19, Sept. 24, Nov. 11, for cattle.

Rhydlanvair.—June 29, for cattle.

Rhyd y Clavrdy.—April 8, June 29.

Sarnvoldyrn.—June 27, for cattle.

Talybont.—May 7, September 3, November 7, for cattle.

Tremadoc.—Easter Monday, March 6, May 14, Aug. 20, Sept. 25, Nov. 12.

Trevrhiw.—May 12, September 3, November 7, for cattle.

Y Ro Wen.—Apr. 18, Aug. 19, Sept. 27.

DENBIGHSHIRE.

Abergeley.—April 2, the day before Holy Thursday; August 20, October 9, for cattle.

Bettws.—Feb. 20, May 8, Aug. 15, Nov. 20.

Cloeagenog.—Easter Tuesday, October 24, for cattle.

Cerig-y-Drudion.—April 27, August 27, October 20, December 7, for cattle.

Chirk.—Second Tuesday in February, second Friday in June, November 12, sheep, horned cattle, and horses.

Denbigh.—Wednesday and Saturday, May 14, July 18, September 25, for cattle and small pedlary.

Derwen.—Feb. 11.

Eghwvach.—February 24, May 11, August 24, November 24, for cattle.

Gresford.—Second Monday in April, last Monday in August, first Monday in December, for cattle.

Gwythrein.—May 6, for cattle.

Holt.—June 22, October 29, for cattle.

Llandegla.—March 11, St. Mark, April 25, June 23, August 4, October 26, for cattle.

Llandyrnog.—Feb. 11, Nov. 20.

Llanvair Talhaiarn.—May 20, June 27, Sept. 20.

Llangwm.—May 8, April 18, Aug. 11.

Llansanfraid.—Feb. 14, May 1, Aug. 1, Nov. 1.

Llanelidan.—Thursday before Palm Sunday.

Llanarmon Glyn Ceiriog.—First Monday after April 11, Aug. 13, Oct. 19.

Llansulian.—Easter Tuesday, July 10, Oct. 2.

Llanymynech.—June 8, Sept. 23.

Llanelian.—Monday after Easter-week, July 26, October 5, December 8, for cattle.

Llangernow.—March 29, May 16, June 29, September 29, November 29, for cattle.

Llangyllen.—Last Friday in January, March 17, May 31, August 21, November 22, for sheep, horned cattle, and horses.

Llanrhiade Dyfryn Clwyd.—October 17, for cattle.

Llanrhaiadr Mochnant.—First Friday in March, May 5, July 24, September 28, November 8, for sheep, horned cattle, and horses.

Llansannan.—May 18, August 17, October 26, November 30, cattle.

Llanarmon in Ial.—July 30, October 19, for cattle.

Llanrwst.—April 25, June 21, August 9, September 17, December 11, for cattle and small pedlary.

Llannevydd.—March 18, May 12, August 14, November 20, for cattle.

Nantglyn.—May 6, October 27, for cattle.

Ruabon.—Last Friday in February, May 22, November 20, for cattle.

Ruthin.—Monday, March 19, Friday before Whitsunday, August 8, September 30, November 10, for cattle and small pedlary.

Yspytty.—May 21, July 3, September 27, October 23, December 2, cattle.

Wrexham.—Monday and Thursday before March 23, Holy Thursday, June 6, September 19; for cattle, hardware, Manchester ware, horses, hops, and all sorts of seeds in March.

FLINTSHIRE.

St. Asaph.—Saturday, Easter Tuesday, July 15, October 16, December 26, for cattle.

Caergwrle.—Shrove-Tuesday, May 16, August 12, October 27, for cattle.

Caerwys.—Tuesday, Mar. 16, last Tuesday in April, Trinity Thursday, first Tuesday after July 7, September 9, for cattle.

Flint.—February 14, June 24, August 10, November 30, for cattle.

Hawarden.—October 1, December 24, for cattle.

Holywell.—Friday, April 21, first Tuesday after Trinity Sunday, September 21.

Mold.—February 3, March 21, May 12, August 2, November 22, cattle, Ascension Eve.

Newmarket.—Last Saturday in April, third Satur-

day in July, fourth Saturday in October, second Saturday in December, cattle.

Northop.—March 14, July 7, October 12, cattle.

Overton.—Monday before Holy Thursday, June 11, August 29, October 8, for cattle.

Ruddlan.—February 2, March 25, September 8, for cattle.

MERIONETHSHIRE.

Bala.—May 14, July 10, September 11 and 28, October 24, November 8, for sheep, horned cattle, and horses.

Bettws.—March 16, June 22, August 12, September 16, Dec. 12, sheep, horned cattle, and horses.

Barmouth.—Oct. 7, Nov. 21.

Cynwyd.—Oct. 21, sheep, horned cattle, and horses.

Corwen.—Tuesday, March 12, May 24, July 21, October 10, December 26, for sheep, horned cattle, and horses.

Dinas Mawddwy.—June 2, September 10, October 1, November 13, sheep, horned cattle, and horses.

Dolgellau.—May 11, July 4, September 20, October 9, November 22, December 16, for sheep, horned cattle, and horses.

Drwsynant.—Oct. 23.

Harlech.—Thursday after Trinity, June 30, August 21, December 11, for cattle.

Llandervel.—August 17, sheep, horned cattle, and horses.

Llandrillo.—February 25, July 5, August 28, November 14, for sheep, horned cattle, and horses.

Llanwchllyn.—April 25, June 20, September 22, October 16, for sheep, horned cattle, and horses.

Llanddwywan.—Mar. 5, April 18.

Llanvachreth.—April 22, June 30, Aug. 15.

Llanynydd.—Whit Monday, Nov. 20.

Llanvihangel Glyn Myvyr.—Feb. 16.

Llanycil.—June 3, Sept. 11, Oct. 2.

Llwyngwreile.—First and last Saturday in Lent, May 9, July 1, Oct. 7, Dec. 24.

Penystreet in Trawsvynydd.—August 17, September 21, for cattle.

Festiniog.—May 24, Friday after Trinity, July 2, August 22, September 26, October 19, November 13, for cattle.

Towyn.—May 13, sheep, horned cattle, and horses.

Trawsvynydd.—April 23, Sept. 18, Oct. 22.

MONTGOMERYSHIRE.

Cemaes.—May 1, Sept. 9, Nov. 24.

Llanbrynmair.—Friday before second Monday in March, May 31, Sept. 16, Nov. 25

Llanidloes.—First Saturday in April, May 11, July 17, first Saturday in September; October 28, sheep, horned cattle, and horses.

Llanvair Caereinion.—Saturday, Shrove Tuesday, last Saturday in Lent, May 18, July 26, Oct. 3, Friday before Christmas day.

Llanvyllin.—Thursday before Easter, May 24, June 28, Oct. 5, for sheep, horned cattle, and horses.

Llanwyddyn —May 8, Oct. 2.

Llanervul, May 7.

Llanvihangel-y-Gwynt.—May 9.

Machynllaith.—Wednesday, May 16, July 9, September 18, November 25, for sheep, horned cattle, and horses.

Meivod.—Jan. 20. Last Tuesday in April, Sept. 22.

Montgomery.—Thursday, March 26, first Thursday in May, June 7, September 4, November 14, sheep, horned cattle, and horses.

Newtown.—Last Tuesday in March, first Tuesday after New May-day, June 25, last Tuesday in August, October 22, December 16, for sheep, horned cattle, and horses.

Welch Poole.—Second Monday in March, first Monday before Easter, June 5, first Monday after July 10, September 12, and November 16, for sheep, horned cattle, and horses.

END OF THE LIST OF FAIRS.

TITLES CONFERRED BY COUNTIES, &c. IN NORTH
WALES.

Anglesea gives the title of Marquis to the Earl of Uxbridge, as does Caernarvon to the Marquis of that name ; Gwydir gives the title of Baron to the family of Burrell ; the borough of Denbigh that of Earl to the noble family of Fielding ; and Ruton, that of Baron to the Yelverton family ; the county of Flint gives the title of Earl, conjoined with the county Palatine of Chester, to the Prince of Wales, and that of Viscount to the family of Ashburton. Greddington is a newly created Barony for the family of Kenyon. Powis Castle gives the title of an Earldom to the family of Clive, and Montgomery to that of Herbert.

QUARTER SESSIONS.

The Assizes and Quarter Sessions are held as follow : at Mold in Flintshire, the Lent and Summer ; at Welshpool, in Montgomeryshire, the same ; as also at Ruthin in Denbighshire, at Beaumaris in Anglesea, and at Caernarvon. At Aberconwy the Lent and Summer Assizes are alternately held, as they are likewise at Bala and Dolgellau. The great Sessions for North Wales, are held at Ruthin in Denbighshire, probably on account of its central situation.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF
THE PRINCIPALITY OF WALES.

BOUNDARIES, SITUATION, EXTENT,
CLIMATE, &c.

THE principality of Wales is bounded on the west and north by the Irish Sea; on the east by Cheshire, Shropshire, Herefordshire, and Monmouthshire; and on the south by the river Severn and the Bristol Channel. It is in length about 150 miles from north to south, and in breadth from 50 to 80 miles; comprehending an area of 8,125 square statute miles, equal to 5,200,000 acres of land. It appears that 900,000 acres are arable, and 2,600,000 in pasturage, leaving 1,700,000 acres in a state of waste, of which quantity about 700,000 are capable of being brought into a state of cultivation.

Wales was long an independent and separate sovereignty from England, and it is strongly marked out by Nature as a detached district, being an almost continued range of mountains more or less wild and lofty, and intersected by vallies more or less extensive and fertile. The language, manners, and customs, are also widely different from those of England.

The ancient internal dimensions of Wales have been contracted, by taking from it the whole county of Monmouth, and a part of several of the adjacent English counties. In point of population and fertility, the district of South Wales has by far the superiority over the North; and, although the whole is very mountainous, its produce is fully sufficient for its inhabitants.

Those counties bordering on the sea coast have a mild climate, but are very wet; and the interior parts have the usual sharpness of other mountainous regions. The cattle in general are very small,

but the flesh is particularly good, and provisions are tolerably reasonable. Numbers of goats are wild among the mountains.

NAME AND ANCIENT HISTORY.

The inhabitants of Wales are the remains of a people who originally overspread the whole island; and when subdued by the Romans, the names of their principal subdivisions were the Silures, Dimetii, and Ordovices; names still existing for the same districts to which they were applied in the Roman topography of the country; but the patronymic appellation by which the Welsh have always called themselves is the *Cymry*. The superior divisions of Wales, according to its laws and history, were Deheubarth, Gwynedd, and Powys, whether governed by one supreme prince, or by several. Llewelyn ap Gryffyth was the last prince who exerted himself for the independence of Wales; he was subdued by Edward I. in the year 1283, and fell in the field of battle. From that time Wales has been annexed to the English crown, but the union was not complete till the reign of Henry the Eighth, when the government and laws were formed agreeably to those of England.

RIVERS.

The principal rivers of Wales are the Dee, the Wye, the Usk, the Conwy, the Clwyd, and the Tegid, or Teivi.

The Dee originates in two spring-heads in the eastern part of Merionethshire, which uniting and running through the lake of Bala, the stream passes through Denbighshire, washes the walls of the city of Chester, and falls into the Irish Sea; by inland navigation, the Dee communicates with the rivers Ribble, Mersey, Ouse, Trent, Derwent, Severn, Thames, Humber, and Avon.

The Wye rises in Cardiganshire, within half a mile of the source of the Severn, and running south-east, separates Radnorshire and Brecknockshire

from each other; it then passes through Herefordshire, and parting Monmouthshire from Gloucestershire, falls into the Severn near Chepstow, in Monmouthshire.

The Usk is so called by a small variation of the British name Wysg, which signifies a main stream. It rises at the bottom of a hill south-west of Brecknock, on the borders of Caernarvonshire, and running south-east, through the town of Brecknock, and being joined by several less considerable rivers, passes into Monmouthshire, near the town of Abergavenny.

The Conway, the name of which is a variation of Conwy, signifying, in the ancient British language, the straight-forward stream, rises in a lake called Llyn Conwy, where the counties of Caernarvon, Denbigh, and Merioneth meet, and running northward, through the vale of Conway, falls into the Irish Sea, at Aberconwy. This is one of the most considerable rivers in Europe for its length, which is but twelve miles from its source to the sea; but receives so many small rivers and brooks, that it is navigable for ships of considerable burden within four miles of its spring.

The Clwyd rises at the bottom of a hill south-west of Ruthin, in Denbighshire, and running north-east, and passing by Ruthin, directs its course nearly north-west, by St. Asaph, a city of Flintshire, and falls into the Irish Sea, a few miles north-west of St. Asaph.

The Teivi rises near Tregaron, in Cardiganshire, and running south-west, and separating Cardiganshire from Caermarthenshire and Pembrokeshire, falls into the Irish Sea, near Cardigan, the county town of the shire of that name.

CANALS.

ELLESMERE CANAL.—This canal joins the river Severn on the north side of Shrewsbury, at Bagley Bridge, and taking a northerly course, passes New-

town, Walford, Baschurch, Weston, Lullingfield, and Hordley; here a cut branches to the west, called the Llanymynech branch, and goes to the town and lime works of that name, being a distance of twelve miles; the canal then passes Franc-ton Common, whence a branch goes to the east, called Whitchurch branch, and passes Ellesmere, Welchampton, Whitchurch, and finishes at Press-heath; this cut is fourteen miles long. The canal is then continued, and passes the Ridges, Old Martin, crosses the river Morlas, and soon after the river Ceiriog; it then passes within a short distance of Chirk Castle, and crosses the river Dee at Pontycyllty by means of an aqueduct; it then proceeds by Ruabon, Newhall, Bersham, Wrexham, where a branch goes to the west called the Brombro' branch, which is three miles and a half long; it then passes Gresford, whence a branch of four miles goes to Holt; from thence, in a nearly direct line, it passes Rudford, Leach Hall, and crossing the River Dee, passes on the west side of Chester, and then by Backford, Chorlton, Croughton, Stoke, Stanney, Whetby, and there joins the river Mersey, being a distance of 57 miles, with 537 feet of lockage.

MONTGOMERY CANAL.—This canal commences at the lime-works of Portywain, in the parish of Llanblodwell (where it joins a branch of the Ellesmere Canal), from whence it passes near the village of Llanymynech, and crosses the river Ewyrnwy, near which it joins another branch of the Ellesmere Canal; it then continues its course by Gwernfelû (where a branch goes to the village of Guilsfield,) to Welsh Pool; the canal then runs parallel with the river Severn, past Berriew, through Garth-Mill, to the river Severn, on the east side of Newtown. The length of this canal is 27 miles, exclusive of the branches, with 225 feet of lockage; the branch to Guilsfield is three

miles and a quarter, and level. By the junctions of this canal with the Ellesmere, a direct communication is formed with Chester and with Shrewsbury.

ABERDAR CANAL.—This canal joins the Glamorgan Canal just at the fork made by the union of the river Cynon with the river Taw, and proceeds through a beautifully wild country, parallel with the Cynon to Aberdar; the first part is level. From Aberdar there is a rail-road, which crosses the river Cynon at Aberdar, and taking a westerly course joins the Neath and canal at Abernant, being a distance of eight miles and a half.

THE SWANSEA CANAL.—The line of this canal commences at the town of Swansea in the county of Glamorgan, passes Llandoor, the copper-works of — Morris, Esq. at Morris-town, and running parallel with the river Tawe, crosses the river Twrch, and finishes at Hen-neuadd, about four miles beyond Ystradgunlais. The length of this canal is 17 miles, with 323 feet rise.

BRECKNOCK CANAL.—This canal joins the Monmouthshire canal, eight miles and a half from Newport, and about one from Pontypool; it crosses the river Avon, where it passes the high ground by means of a tunnel, 220 yards long, and inclining towards the river Usk to the town of Brecknock; making a course of near 33 miles, with 68 feet rise to Brecon. There is a rail-road from Abergavenny to the canal, one mile long; and from the canal at Cwm Clydoc to the coal and iron-works at Wain Dew, which is four miles and three-quarters long. There is also a rail-road from the canal to Llangroiney, which crosses the river Usk, and is in length one mile and a quarter.

LAKES, FISHPONDS, &c.

In comparison with those of Scotland or Ireland, the Welsh Lakes are small; the largest is Llyn Tegid, or Bala Mere, in Meirionyddshire, be-

ing nearly twelve miles in circumference, and from 55 to 120 yards deep. Twenty-six lakes are said to be within view of the Peak of Snowdon.

SPRINGS, &c.

Here are two springs strongly impregnated with hepatic air, and a third, whose water is extremely limpid; the former is near New Town in Montgomeryshire, and the latter more ponderous than common spring water is in the parish of Meivod, in the same county. This has been found efficacious in curing the scrophula and obstinate ulcers. Some of the faculty smile at the simplicity of the afflicted who make trials of its healing virtues; but their patients have the greatest cause to smile, since, by the use of it, they get rid of their complaints without getting rid of their money. Chalybeate-springs are too frequent to be enumerated, and many of them deposit an ochry sediment.

St. Winifred's Well in Flintshire, seems to be one of the most copious springs in nature; according to an accurate experiment, it emits water at the rate of 120 tuns a minute; and the strong ebullition necessary to perform such a discharge, accounts for pebbles of an ounce weight being continually suspended, or rather supported aloft in the stream. The distance from the source of the fountain to the marsh, where it enters the Dee, is not a mile and a half; and in this short space it turns no less than eleven mills of complicated machinery, for the grinding of corn and the manufacture of copper and brass, cotton, &c.

ROADS.

Sixty years back, there were comparatively but few miles of good travelling roads, within the whole of North Wales. The general turnpike act was a happy one for agriculture, commerce, and every species of internal improvement; and to the credit of the country, it appears that the inhabitants of a mountainous district, have in a

short period, either formed new roads, or improved old ones to the extent of more than *one thousand* miles. In Anglesea, the Irish mail road running the whole length of the island, from the Menai to Holyhead, and the roads connecting the principal towns and places of note, are in good repair. Lord Bulkeley's new road, along the beautiful bank of the Menai, from Bangor Ferry to Beaumaris, has added beauty to utility. Even the fruitful promontory of Lleyln, was in a manner introduced into the world by means of new roads. The road from Caernarvon to the noted Salmon Leap at Aberglaslyn, upwards of twelve miles in extent through the romantic wilds of Snowdon, was new modelled by subscription; till then, it was extremely difficult to pass. The traveller was either obliged to get a guide over the Traeth Mawr Sands, liable to be overtaken or detained by the tides, or he was forced to climb and descend the mountains; but the new road from the boundary of Caernarvonshire, to Tan y bwlch, is now one of the most pleasant and diversified roads in the principality. Lord Penryhn's road from his quarries at Dolowen, and his iron rail-way are among the most useful improvements. During the enclosure of wastes in Denbighshire, fifteen miles of new roads were formed within its boundaries; good reasons have been assigned for the ancient state of the roads in Wales. Almost every valley or dale had its road winding along its bottom to its very extremity, and then the rock or mountain was to be ascended like a step ladder, all at once. These steep ascents were adapted to the state of society; they covered their retreats in times of invasion or domestic broils: and good roads would have hastened the annihilation of their liberty, which as long as they were able they naturally defended.

ESTATES.

Since the custom of gavelkind has been abolished in Wales, as being too minute a division of property, and causing equality and poverty to go hand in hand, an accumulation of lands has been the necessary consequence, though not without some fluctuation. Incomes are now said to fluctuate from thirty shillings to thirty thousand pounds per annum.

TENURES.

Only two copyhold tenements have been noticed in the whole district of North Wales, all the other estates are held either mediately or immediately *in Capite*, of the king by a kind of mixed tenure, between the feudal and allodial, going under the common appellation of freehold: if the former, as in the *marches* of Wales, the *Chieftly* is paid to the lord of the manor, and personal attendance twice a year is also required at his courts; if the latter, as in the interior and western extremity of the district, a small chieftly is annually payable into the Auditor's Office.

LEASES.

Though these in theory appear absolutely necessary, in this district they seem to do but little good. On the other hand, that tenants after having been induced by fair promises, to undergo great expenses in improvements, should be afterwards forced to quit at six months notice, without equitable reimbursements and without any other cause than the whim of the landlord, or the venom of his bailiff, are circumstances that must fill a benevolent mind with indignation. However, universal opinion and stubborn facts are against the general practice of granting of leases in this district. But though it is agreed that a check ought to be laid upon some farmers, to prevent

their grasping at farms too extensive for their capitals; the very circumstance that renders the Welsh leases ineffectual is the *want of capital*, and this evil has been enhanced by the ignorance of many farmers, in the application of what they have.

HOUSES AND FARM HOUSES.

The seats of the nobility and gentry, exhibit some fine specimens of military and civil architecture. Among the former, are Powys Castle, in Montgomeryshire, Penrhyn in Caernarvonshire, and Chirk Castle in Denbighshire. In civil architecture, there are edifices displaying varieties of orders from the gaudy Composite to the plain Tuscan, many gothic and some of the nondescript class. Such houses as are adjacent to the coal range from Wynnstay, on the east, to Bodorgan, in Anglesea on the west, are built of freestone. In parts of Montgomeryshire, where the hills consist mostly of shale, houses were formerly built of massy timber; and now most commonly of brick. Some very compact and economical farm houses, and farm yards, adapted to the size of the farms, may be seen on the enclosure in Saltney Marsh, in Flintshire. Among the best contrived of these farm yards, the thrashing floor, with a spacious bay, fronts the entrance: behind them lies the stack-yard: the two wings contain sheds for cattle, and stables. The sheds are very airy, having rail gates instead of close doors. Between the cattle, and the fodder binn, is an alley for the feeder to walk in from one end of the shed to the other. The receptacle for the dung is a puddled cavity, in the centre of the yard, where absorbent mould is first thrown to imbibe the superfluous moisture. The urine is conveyed in covered pipes, to a common reservoir, &c. Some of these farm yards have been constructed at an expense of 1000l.

RENT AND SIZE OF FARMS.

The largest farms of cultivatable land in North Wales have not been above 600 acres. Others contain 300, and next to these in the best vales, the farms are from 60l. to 400l. a year; in the smaller dales and the hilly parts, the average rent is from 10s. to 50s. per acre. It has been lamented that the larger farms are generally found in the vales, and the smaller ones in the uplands, whereas in good policy, the reverse of this should take place.

Farm rents seldom exceed 20s. per acre, but detached pieces in favourable situations, have been advanced by competition to various rents, from one guinea, to six guineas per acre. Rents used to be always paid in money at two half yearly payments; but in several instances the first payment is not made till the second is due.

TITHES.

There are several tithe-free farms, and even tithe-free parishes in North Wales; but these, it is said, cannot boast of superior cultivation. Hay is tithed in kind in some places; in others an easy composition per acre, or per pound rent, is accepted. A modus of 2d. or 4d. per farm frequently precludes the tithe owner's claim; even where the crop may be worth from 100l. to 200l. In fact, as not above one-twentieth, or from that to one-thirteenth, of titheable articles is exacted, the clergy, as it may be expected, live upon friendly terms with their parishioners.

COTTAGES.

A great part of the counties of Anglesea, Merionydd and Montgomery, have been disgraced with some of these, where one smoky hearth, which could not be called a kitchen, and one litter cell, not a bed room, were frequently all the space allotted to a labourer, his wife, and four or five children; but near the limeworks, mines, collier-

ies, &c. the example of one neat cottager has been followed by others. Three sets of cottages are described as a striking contrast to those of the first description. The late Arthur Blayney, Lord Penrhyn, and others, built a number of comfortable cottages for the labouring classes.

ENCLOSURES, FENCES, &c. The common fences are banks of sods four feet and a half high, with a foss on each side. Other enclosures consist of stone walls coped and several feet high: others again, are formed of flattish stones, and they lock each other effectually. Quick fences protected by posts and rails, are used where there is wood enough to support them. The season for fencing with quicks extends from October to April. The gates properly so called, are framed either of sawed of cleft oak, and are hung to strong posts by iron hinges. Here are also hurdle gates, and in the uplands, another species, called *clywd*; it consists of two cleft bars, with upright studs, either close enough to keep out pigs, geese, or wider set, and wattled with rods.

WASTES.

Some years since the commons or waste lands in Anglesea were very considerable. Out of these *Maldreath Marsh* must now be deducted, from whence many hundred acres of rich pasture having been gained, it has expelled agues and fevers from the spot, and facilitated the working of the coal pits in the vicinity. In Caernarvonshire and Meirionnyddshire, the improvement of the wastes have not been so considerable, but in Denbigh, Flint, and Montgomery shires, they have been enclosed to the best effect, and to a considerable amount.

IMPLEMENTS.

The first in importance is the plough, and that which was universally used in North Wales prior to the introduction of the "*Lummas Plough*"

about 1760, long bore the preference in Anglesea, Caernarvon, and Meirionyddshires.

In the counties of Denbigh, Flint, and Montgomery, this implement is scarcely known, except by the name of the *old fashioned plough*, to distinguish it from the later introduced Lummas. Another plough drawn by two horses abreast, and called the Scotch plough, has also been much in use, and the mould board of this has given general satisfaction. The other ploughs used for fancy or experiment, have been, the Norfolk, the Kentish and Sussex; turn wrests, single and double wheeled; Duckets wheel and flay; Shropshire swing, &c. Among the Harrows the old triangular one is generally excluded, and several varieties introduced, mostly copied from agricultural publications. Scarificators, tormentors, cultivators, couchrakes, and other implements, forming a long list of articles in improved culture, have also been introduced.

CARRIAGES.

The farmers that have tried waggons, will not return to carts, or vehicles upon one pair of wheels, or their former method of carriage. The locking pole, invented by Mr. Thomas Colley, has been found extremely useful in moderating the pressure of loaded carts in coming down steep declivities. The original vehicles of corn and hay are still used in several parts of the uplands, consisting of, 1st. *wheeled cars*, having one sliding on the ground, and the other mounted on a pair of low wheels; 2d. the *drag car*; 3d. the *dorsal car*; the sliding part, as in the two former vehicles, shod with thick wooden slippers, and a shaft suspended on the horses back.

CATTLE.

The Anglesea runts agree in most points with those of a Roman ox, and Mr. Bakewell admitted, that in some points, they were nearer his idea of perfection in shape, than any other he ever saw.

Some bred in Caernarvonshire, are in some degree similar to these ; and from this part the consumption of England has been annually supplied with between 40 and 50,000 head.

The largest of the native breeds of sheep are those of Anglesea, and the annual exportation from thence to England has been from five to seven thousand. They have white legs and faces, and are generally without horns. Three other kinds in Montgomeryshire, &c. are well known to the breeders ; but the flavour of those feeding upon the Llanymyneich and Porthywaen lime rocks is reckoned very delicious by the nice palated pupils of the Epicurean school ; and their wool is nearly as fine as any in England. The introduction of the Merino breed of sheep has also had its advantages in this part of the island.

The Anglesea horses are still capable of amelioration. The ponies reared in great numbers in Meirionydd and the hill parts of Montgomeryshire, commonly called *Merlins*, are exceedingly hardy, having during winter as well as summer only the range of the hills, whence they are never brought down till three years old, and fit for sale. They are driven from the hills to the fairs like flocks of wild sheep, and the place of sale exhibits in some degree, an amphitheatre where manhood and ponyhood strive for the victory. When a chapman has fixed upon his choice at a distance, the wrestler, being generally the seller's servant, rushes into the midst of the herd and seizes the selected animal ; which never before touched by human hand, struggles with all its might to disengage itself ; and in some particular situations, both have tumbled topsy-turvy from the summit of a steep hill down into a river beneath ; the biped still continuing his grasp, and the quadruped disdaining tamely to submit.

Another breed somewhat larger than these, will

ascend and descend the "mountainous staircases" here, with the greatest agility. The larger kind of them are excellently adapted for the team, on small or steep mountainous farms, where the great strength and sluggishness of the heavy kind of horses would be egregiously misapplied. The vales of Montgomery have long been noted for an excellent breed, supposed to have originated with a stud kept by Queen Elizabeth at Park in the vale of Severn.

HOGS.

The original Welsh breed had small ears, which probably by a cross with the Berkshires, produced the slouch-eared hogs. By various crossings with the Chinese, two species have since been procured, only one of which, the largest, have been preferred. Their bacon is sweeter than the slouch-eared animal, and are more prolific, having brought 30 pigs before they were full two years old. The number of various sorts sent to the English markets every year, has been reckoned to produce 34,000*l.* per annum. The excellent breed called the New Leicester, has proved the most valuable of any.

MINERALS AND FOSSILS.

Ores of tin, lead, and iron, have been raised in this island from very remote antiquity, by the native Britons. The ancient British smelting hearths, where the ore and wood fuel were intermixed, are still discovered by their slag contents; some of them covered with trees and underwood. They are sometimes found in parts where no other traces of mining now appear. The Romans improved upon British smelting, by erecting furnaces on the spot for the purpose. In the reign of Queen Elizabeth, the art of metallurgy was revived; societies were formed for the encouragement of providing materials, by royal authority. According to the language of miners, sometimes mines "crop out to the day," and a

rustic by chance may discover them. Llangynog vein, is said to have been discovered by a shepherd running after his flock, and treading upon the slippery surface of a flake of ore, when the moss giving way under his wooden shoe, the glossy ore appeared. The great Grosvenor mine, at Halkin, is said to have been discovered by a peasant cutting a ditch fence. The *rake veins* are seldom perpendicular, but incline variously from 50 to 80 degrees. *Pipe veins* are of two kinds, vertical and horizontal. The *Ogo*, or ancient level at Llyanmynech, is of the latter description. It consists of caverns of unequal size and shape, connected originally by strings of ore, which served as guides for the miners to pursue the ore from one cavern to another.

A great part of the Paris mountain seems once to have been an entire mass of ore. Here are but few shafts and levels, tracing small veins, as in common mines; but vast excavations, some of them 300 feet deep, and several yards square. In the midway of these, men hung on slings, suspended from elastic scaffolds, have pecked at the ore, and whistled away many a perilous hour, before this work declined. There is no iron ores in any quantity in North Wales, excepting the accompaniments of the coal ranges; but the semi-metals, the carbonate of zinc or calamine, is copiously raised in several parts of Flintshire and elsewhere; besides calcareous substances mixed with carbonic acid.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

The evil arising from a variety of these in North Wales, is more imaginary than real.—The measure in Anglesea and Caernarvon is in fact the same as the Winchester measure, and only expressed by rather different denominations, as Gallon, Kiben; Bushel, Stored Hobed, Peget, &c. The Anglesea and Caernarvonshire *Hobed*, is equal to four Winches-

ter bushels. The Denbighshire, Flintshire, and Meirionyddshire *hobed*, is different, though called by the same name, containing only 80 quarts. In Montgomeryshire, a cylindrical vessel containing 20 quarts, is called a *hoop*, two of which make a *strike* or measure, and two strikes make a bushel of eighty quarts, equal to a Denbighshire *hobed*. A bushel of oats at Welshpool is seven hoops, or half strikes heaped. A bushel of malt is nine-tenths of the corn measure. In different markets the *hobeds* vary from eighty to eighty-four quarts. Some strikes are said to be only seven-eighths of the forty quarts. In the vale of Clywd, and a part of Flintshire, though grain be nominally sold by the *hobed* measure, yet it is virtually sold by weight, excepting barley to the maltsters, which is always measured, allowing a *scorage*, or 21 *hobeds* for 20. When farmers sell their wheat to the Liverpool dealers, it has been generally weighed in sacks of one *hobed* and a half each; and if such a sack do not weigh 13 score, the deficiency is noted, and a drawback is accordingly made in the payment.

The vulgar notion of a Welsh mile is both extravagant and indefinite, though according to the definition of *Dyfnwal* it is equal to three miles, six furlongs, twenty-seven poles, and fifteen yards English. The Welsh acre has been variously represented, however, 4320 yards seem to be the true dimensions. In paring and burning, this acre is in use to this day, and is called a '*stang*'. The subdivisions of a '*stang*' are four square yards and a half to the pole, provincially called a quart; and 160 quarts to a '*stang*', being somewhat above two-thirds of a statute acre. The *cyvar*, or small acre, now in common use, in the agricultural phrase of Meirionyddshire and the western part of Montgomeryshire, &c. like the '*stang*', consists of four and a half yards square to the quart, and 120 (instead of

160) quarts to the *cyvar*. By this *cyvar* the common farmers regulate their sowing, liming, &c. in those parts. The Anglesea and Caernarvonshire acre is of equal quantity with the *'stang*, but differently named. There, four and a half yards square make a *páladr* or perch; 30 perches a *llathen*, and $5\frac{1}{2}$ *llathen* a *cyvar* or acre of 3240 square yards.

Hedging, ditching, draining, and such work, when done by task, is generally by the rood or eight yards. A yard of cloth in Anglesea and Caernarvonshire is 40 inches.

Hay is frequently sold in both counties by the yard of 33 inches in length. About Dolgellau and other places a stack of hay about three yards wide and from three to four high, has been generally sold at about 50s. per yard of 36 inches in length, and so on; but this random mode of business has gradually given way to the more certain method of selling by the hundred or ton weight.

A ton of coal on the sea coasts is eight-ninths of a chaldron, weighing about 24 cwt. A ton of lime measures but one half of a ton of coal, or 16 Winchester bushels; a peget of lime in Anglesea is one half of a peget of grain, or 32 instead of 64 gallons. A stone weight is generally 14lbs. excepting that of wool, which varies in different parts from 4lbs. to 15lbs. avoirdupois.

AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES.

Those who are called the modern Druids of Anglesea, claim the lead in priority of institution. They find the inn at Beaumaris, where they quaff the purple juice of the grape, more congenial with the sentiments of modern Druidism, than the sacred groves of the Menai reeking with the blood of human sacrifices. At this inn, the Arch Druid and his Conclave decide upon the claims of competitors, to prizes proposed by them the preceding year, for various improvements; and instead

of destroying men like the ancient Druids, to the credit of their philanthropy, they have given premiums for saving sufferers, in cases of shipwreck upon the Anglesea coast.

The Farmers Club have for some years met monthly in the Vale of Clywd, to report progress for reciprocal information. They established an annual wool fair at Denbigh, and changed the time of hiring servants, from the 1st of May to the 1st of January.

Another Agricultural Society was established at Wrexham, in 1796, under Sir W. W. Wynn. As an auxiliary to this, the patriotic Baronet in 1806, instituted an annual show of cattle at Wynnstay, where premiums have been adjudged for the best of every species of stock.

In 1802, the Agricultural Society, called the Meirionyddshire, was founded at Dolgellau, under the patronage of Sir R. W. Vaughan, Bart. member for the county. To these may be added the Penlynn and Edyrnion Agricultural Society, the Caernarvonshire, and the Anglesea Agricultural Society, instituted in 1808, but exclusive of public encouragement, annual premiums for the promotion of agriculture, are given by many private individuals, among the most enterprising and deserving of their tenants. As the most imposing, that of the Dean of St. Asaph, distributed among the farmers of the parish of Rhyddlan, cannot be passed over. He has given five guineas for the best crop of turnips; and three guineas for the best crop of wheat upon a fallow, manured only with lime compost; all the competitors partake of a feast on the day of decision, and the victors, beside their premiums, have the honourable distinction of being crowned with the garlands of Ceres, by some of the ladies present. This stimulus has had great effect in exciting a spirit of improvement. In fine, the new Agricultural Soci-

eties very laudably enter into the economy of the dunghill, which with good roads and good ploughing, compose the leading triad in agriculture.

An Agricultural Society in Flintshire, has been lately established, under Sir Thomas Mostyn.

LITERATURE.

The literature of North Wales, and Welsh literature in general, it is hoped, will be restored to its due splendour, by the indefatigable labours of Mr. Owen Jones, a native of *Tyddyn Tyder*, near *Cerig y Druidion*, who has made this his study for many years, and his recreation from the cares of an extensive trade. His work, which is likely to prove an important illustration of the early history of Cambria; is called the *Myvyrian Archaeology*; three volumes have been printed in the Welsh language, the 1st contains the poetry of the Welsh Bards; 2nd the Triads; Genealogy of the British Saints; Chronicle of the Kings of Britain; Chronicle of the Princes; Chronicle of the Saxons; Life of Gruffydh ap Cynan from 1079 to 1137; Divisions of Wales; Parishes of Wales; 3rd, Ethic Triads and Proverbs; Triads of Law, and the Principles of Government of the Ancient Britons; Ancient Music copied in an obsolete notation. Mr. Jones's expenses in obtaining materials for this elaborate work, have of course been very heavy; he having within a series of four years procured transcripts of all the works of the Poets, from about the year 1300, to the close of the reign of Queen Elizabeth. This collection is said to amount to sixty 4to. volumes, of about 450 pages each. With respect to more modern illustrations of the genius and ability of the inhabitants of the principality, the mere list of the names of persons who have distinguished themselves in the different walks of Literature and Science, would exceed the limits of this work.

POPULATION, &c.

The principality of Wales returns 24 members to Parliament, viz. one for each county, and one for the principal town in each county, except that of Merioneth, in the room of which two towns in the county of Pembroke, each send one member. The population, according to the returns of 1811, consisted of 611,968, of these, 291,653 were males, and 320,649 females.

CIVIL AND ECCLESIASTICAL DIVISIONS.

The principality of Wales, is divided into North and South Wales, containing 12 counties; the division of North Wales, comprehending the counties of Anglesea, Caernarvon, Denbigh, Flint, Merioneth, and Montgomery; and South Wales, the counties of Brecknock, Cardigan, Caermarthen, Glamorgan, Pembroke, and Radnor. The whole of which contains 751 parishes, 58 market towns, and according to the late returns of the Population Act, 119,398 houses.

North Wales includes the bishoprics of St. David's, Bangor, Llandaff, and St. Asaph; and is divided into four circuits, viz. the Chester circuit, for the counties of Chester, Flint, Denbigh, and Montgomery; the Northern circuit, for Anglesea, Caernarvon, and Merioneth; the South-eastern circuit, for Radnor, Brecon, and Glamorgan, and the South-western circuit, for Pembroke, Cardigan, and Caermarthen.

Having thus given a general account of the principality of Wales, we shall commence our topographical description with that part of the principality, denominated North Wales, comprehending the counties of Anglesea, Caernarvon, Denbigh, Flint, Merioneth, and Montgomery.

NORTH WALES.

MONA ANTIQUA;

OR,

Ancient Anglesea.

NUMEROUS are the given etymologies of this island by those but slightly acquainted with the ancient British tongue; and much has likewise been said respecting its primitive inhabitants, but nothing superior to the abstruse origin of every other country.

Môn, as an abstract term, implies what is separate, a part or any individual; a producing agent; also a cow. So that *Môn* in a topographical sense is an island: thus Anglesea is in old writings called *Môn Vynydd*, to distinguish it from the Isle of Man, called *Môn Aw*, and *Manaw*. *Môn Vynydd* being *Môn* of the mountain, and *Mônaw*, the *Môn* of the Water, or off in the sea. Sometimes it is denominated *Ynys Dowell*, or the shady island, alluding perhaps to the groves, and other solemn places among the Druids. The Saxons called it *Moneg*, until conquered by Edward I. when we find the name of *Englesea*, or the English island, now generally written *Anglesea*; equally known to the Welsh by the appellation of "*Môn mam Cymry*," i. e. *Môn*, the nursery of Wales; being an ancient and common proverb, because in times of scarcity, this fruitful island supplied the principality with corn, and other necessities.

It will next be asked, why the Druids chose this island for their establishment, during the progress of the Romans in the subjection of Britain?—

In answer, we may say, its lonesome and retired situation rendered it the fittest place, because less liable to be incommoded with the affrights and tumults of war; therefore a favourable retreat to the muses, and to afford every requisite security to druidical knowledge. It was also a pleasant island, of a temperate soil, in the flower and vigour of nature, finely diversified with hills and vallies, plentifully purled with springs, numerous rivulets, and a wholesome air, so congenial to the wished longevity of man:—and above all, as the nature of the soil inclines us to believe, they found it enriched with the numerous bounties of sea and land, particularly spacious groves of the admired and beloved oak, which they held in the highest estimation. The Pren Awyr, or misletoe, was also held in great veneration, in which they placed a very high mystery, and cut down in great solemnity with a golden consecrated instrument, and carefully received on a white garment, and preserved with the highest veneration and worship. In these groves they had their sacred erections and apartments; i. e. their mounts, or hillocks, called in Welsh, Gorseddau, wherefrom they pronounced their decrees and sentences, or their solemn orations to the people. In the Llwyn or grove, they frequently erected pillars, as memorials of their deified heroes; or they had in them a heap of stones, called earn or carneddau, for they had a peculiar mode of worship by throwing and heaping of stones. They had also altars, on which they performed the solemnities of sacrifice, and their sacred rules of divination: in some large or more eminent groves, pillars and heaps of stones were enclosed together, or near, as are to be seen to this day, but from the devastation of time often found separately, particularly heaps and columns.

This island has been represented as under the command and government of the DRUIDS, with

their establishment, authority, and religion, after the order had been driven from the plains of Wiltshire, which had always been their metropolitan station; now it remains to be shown how these religious societies came to be dissolved and rooted out of the island by the Romans, under whose sceptre it continued some hundred years after the defeat of Caractacus, and sending him prisoner to Rome.

The Ordovices, or North Wales-men, though deprived of their chief, made frequent attempts to shake off the galling yoke of a severe and unaccustomed subjection, therefore made this island a place of refuge whenever they became harassed by the Roman legions; whence it has been called the Isle of Heroes, and the refuge of the distressed Britons. At this time it appears Suetonius Paulinus was governor of Britain, and plainly saw there was no quelling the restless spirits of the bold and daring Ordovices, while this island, the fountain of their courage, remained untouched. Convinced of the truth, he fitted out a little armada, while the Britons with their Druids were at their altars, uttering loud invocations, and curses, and sacrifices, that the screams of dying victims were heard to echo one another from the hollow resounding groves in every quarter, and altars smoking with the horrid burnings of the bodies of men, women, and children; of rogues, profligates, and captives.

This was the state of the island when the Romans made to their boats, and were even swimming their horses over the Menai, with a concurrent tide, without the least opposition from the Druids, who were no way prepared for their reception, *except* the curses of their holy religion, which they expected would do greater execution on the daring assailants than the sharpest British darts or weapons. In this, indeed, they were not

quite deceived, for it is bravely acknowledged by the Roman authors, that the very sight of their mad ceremony for some time stupefied the Roman soldiers, more than the blows they received from their misguided enemies, until Suetonius called to his legions "to drive away the foolish multitude, whose vain imprecations and silly gestures thought to stop the progress of the Roman arms, although it had already conquered the greater part of the then known world."—Now the enraged Romans having got to land,* the conquering sword took its fill of British blood, while these giddy Druids stood still, without the array of battle, to see their sacrifices and oblations prove ineffectual on these fearless Romans. In this distressing situation of affairs, we are told the Druids nimbly slipt away to their woods and coverts, leaving their people to be miserably cut down and slaughtered by the advancing Romans, who, without pity or moderation, hacked and hewed down on all sides the unfortunate Britons, augmenting the flame of their unhappy sacrifices with the fuel of their slain and wounded bodies.†

* The place of their landing, and their routing of this religious army, we have no exact account of; but it is generally supposed to have been near Porthamel, between Pwll-y-fuwch and Llanidan. For Tacitus says that the horses swam it at the ford, which is a shallow just under Llanidan.

† Near Llanidan, there is at present a mount or tumulus, in the centre of a field, about three bows-shot from the sea, which seems to have been the place of this great sacrifice: and where the Druids took up the firebrands in their hands, brandishing them like furies about the army; and where the Romans involved the taken and slain Britons in the devouring flames of their own sacrifices.

After this conquest, those who escaped the general carnage, or were concealed in holes and caves, made their escape to the sea, and were never after heard of, leaving the Romans in absolute possession of the island, and the sacred things and places, which they unmercifully demolished, and threw prostrate under their insulting feet, or devoted to the most gross and barbarous purposes.

To render the conquest permanent, Suetonius settled a garrison over the separate districts and townships of the whole island, which secured to the Romans a peaceable possession, until their affairs became precarious at home, which compelled them to relinquish Britain once more to the sway of the ANCIENT BRITONS. The succeeding transactions, and the introduction of the Saxons into the island of Britain, need no illustration to shew the subsequent government and history of Anglesea, therefore for the sake of brevity are omitted.

MODERN DIVISIONS, DELINEATION, AND PRODUCTIONS OF ANGLESEA.

This island, which constitutes one of the counties of North Wales, is situated to the north-west of Caernarvonshire, in the Irish sea, and only separated from the main land by a strait or narrow channel called the Menai. It is of a rhomboidal shape, but deeply cut and indented on three of the sides. Its northern, eastern, and western points are sharp and narrow, the southern angle is more rounded, being in the whole twenty miles long, seventeen broad, and seventy in circumference.

In remote periods it was divided into seven districts, called Cymydau, or communities, being the usual subdivisions of the Cantrev or hundred, whence is also derived, the term Comot, which were parcelled into townships, again subdivided into hamlets, each containing several tenements.

Its modern divisions are the following comots, Aberfraw, Menai, Dindaethwy, Talebolion, Llivon, and Cemaes. According to a late estimate, Anglesea contains about two hundred thousand acres of land, divided into seven hundreds, seventy-four parishes, and four market towns, situate within the diocese of Bangor. The number of houses were estimated at 7183, the inhabitants 17,464 males, and 19,601 females, making a total of 37,045 persons. In regard to the air, it is in general good, except when the thick fogs arise from the Irish Sea, which in autumn is very cold and aguish. The soil, though it appears somewhat disagreeable to the eye, being rocky and mountainous, is more fertile by far than its rough aspect promises, as may be proved by the number of cattle and great quantities of corn sent annually to England: notwithstanding this, much of the land lies undrained, and full of turfy bogs, or pointed rocks, yet there are some farms in the interior, and along the coast, in the richest taste, particularly on that part opposite Caernarvonshire. The general face of the country is low, flat, and disagreeable, being in want of that variety which is always found where there are woods and mountains.

It is conjectured, that Anglesea was once joined to the continent of Wales, but from the continual working of the ocean, has in course of time been severed from the main land; at length a contract for a suspension bridge over the Menai Straits, has been taken by Mr. Straphen, builder of the column, in honour of Lord Hill, at Shrewsbury. The bridge, it is said, will be 500 feet in the span, and superior to any thing of the kind hitherto erected in Europe. The work commenced in August, 1818. To the products of Anglesea, in favourable years, may be added, large quantities of barley and oats, which are exported by sea; and several

thousand head of cattle, besides multitudes of sheep and hogs that annually cross the Menai. The increasing wealth and population of Anglesea have lately received a great increase, from the discovery of the famous copper-mines on Paris Mountain, perhaps the largest bed of that metal in the known world. A lead ore, rich in silver, is also found in the same mountain. In the north-western part of the island is a quarry of green marble intermixed with abestus.

Anglesea sends two members to the Imperial Parliament, one for the county, and one for Beaumaris.

TOPOGRAPHICAL DESCRIPTION OF ANGLESEA.

Journey from Beaumaris to Holyhead; through Bodyden.

BEAUMARIS, whose original name was Porth Wygyr, the principal town in the island, is finely situated on the northern bank of the Menai, where it opens into Beaumaris Bay. It is in general neat and well-built, with one remarkable good street, and considerable remains of the wall surrounding the town.

The castle, built by Edward I. in 1295, stands in the estate of Lord Bulkeley, quite close to the town, and covers a considerable space of ground, but from its low situation fails to attract particular attention. It is surrounded by a ditch, with an entrance on the east, between two embattled walls, with round and square towers. The gate opens into a court of 57 yards by 60, with four square towers, and on the east an advanced work, called the Gunner's Walk. Within these was the body of the castle, nearly square, having a round tower at each angle, and another in the centre of

each face. The area is an irregular octagon, about fifty seven yards from north to south, and sixty from east to west. In the middle of the north side is the hall, twenty yards long, and twelve broad, with two round towers, and several about the inner and outer walls, built of a bluish stone, intermixed with square stones, which produce a pretty effect.

There has been a communication round the buildings of the inner court by a gallery two yards broad, at present nearly entire. In recesses in different parts of the sides of this are square holes, which seem to have had trap doors, or openings into a dungeon beneath. The two eastern towers served also as dungeons, with a narrow and dark descent, as were the galleries round them.

On the east side of this building are the remains of a very small chapel, arched and ribbed with painting and intersecting arches; likewise some Gothic pilasters, and narrow lancet windows and various compartments, with closets gained out of the thickness of the wall.

When Edward I. built this town, and made it a corporation, he endowed it with lands and privileges to a considerable value, in order to secure more firmly his possessions in this island. He at the same time changed the name of the town from Bonover, as it was then called, to Beaumaris, in allusion to its pleasant but low situation; he also cut a canal, in order to permit vessels discharging their lading beneath the walls, as is evident by the iron rings affixed to its walls, for the purpose of mooring ships. The church is a handsome building, with a lofty square tower, and has contiguous to it a good Free-School, founded in 1603, likewise an Alms-house.

Beaumaris is situated 252 miles from London, and consists, according to the late returns, of 249 houses, and 1810 inhabitants. Its markets are on

Wednesdays and Saturdays, which are well supplied with all sorts of provisions.

To the preceding account we cannot omit the Bay of Beaumaris, which forms so fine an opening before the town, and where ships may lie secure in the most boisterous weather. The water is under the town six or seven fathom deep when the tide is out. This deep channel extends for more than a quarter of a mile in width, to the village of Aber, which is one continued bed of sand, called the Lavan Sands. This continual encroachment of the sea renders Beaumaris extremely unpleasant as a place of residence.

About one mile from Beaumaris, near the shore, is Llanvaes Abbey, founded by Llewelyn ab Iorwerth, in the year 819, on the supposed spot where a battle was fought between the Saxons and the Welsh. This abbey was founded in honour of Llewelyn's wife, daughter of King John, who at her own request was buried here in the year 1237. A stone coffin, thought to be hers, now serves as a watering trough for cattle, at a farm called *Friers*, on the coast, one mile north of the town.

The few remains of this abbey form at present a part of the walls to a barn. The church was dedicated to *St. Francis*, but was with the other buildings destroyed, soon after the death of Llewelyn, in an insurrection, headed by his relation Madoc, but soon after restored; and again nearly ruined by Henry IV. in consequence of an insurrection against him by Owen Glyndwr.

At the dissolution of monasteries, Henry VIII. sold it, with Cremlyn Monach, to one of his courtiers. The family of Whyte, now extinct, afterwards became possessed of it, and built a respectable house, since enlarged and modernised, and the grounds much improved, by Sir Robert Williams, Bart. M. P. for the county of Caernarvon. Over an arched gateway, erected in 1623, are still

to be seen the arms of Collwyn ab Tangno, lord of Eivionydd and Ardudwy, founder of one of the fifteen tribes of North Wales. Near this place was fought a severe battle in the year 819, between the Welsh and the Saxons, under Egbert, who for the first time gave the name of Anglesea to the island. In this battle the Saxons, it appears, were victorious; but were after many bloody contentions, expelled the island by Prince Mervyn Vrych.

Two miles from the north of Llanvaes Abbey, or four from Beaumaris, is PENMON, or Glenarch, a priory of black monks, founded or richly endowed by Llewelyn ab Iorwerth, about the year 1221, and at its dissolution in the reign of Henry VIII. was valued at 40*l.* 7*s.* 9*d.* Previous to this, it is recorded to have been burnt by the Danes in 971. It at present consists of little more than a ruinous refectory, and a part of the church. In this neighbourhood are some large quarries of mill-stones, and for the kilns an abundance of limestone. Near Penmon is a well, surrounded by a wall and stone seats, with two spaces, or places of entrance. On the walls are initials, supposed to belong to one of the family of Bulkeley, who probably repaired the walls.

About a quarter of a mile from hence is a fine park, and a rude cross, belonging to Sir Robert Williams.

Returning from this digression, on leaving Beaumaris, we proceed in a westerly direction, and at the distance of about five miles we pass Plas-gwyn, the seat of Paul Panton, Esq. two miles to the south of which is Pen-Mynydd, chiefly remarkable for being the birth-place of Owen Tudor, the great ancestor of a line of English monarchs; who, according to Gray's Bard, restored the sceptre of England to the Welsh, the original possessors.

“ But oh ! what solemn scenes on Snowdon’s height,

Descending slow, their glittering skirts unroll !
Visions of glory !—spare my aching sight,

Ye unborn ages crowd not on my soul !

No more our long lost Arthur we bewail ;

All hail, ye genuine kings—Britannia’s issue hail !

This Owen Tudor married Catherine, dowager of Henry V. but fighting against Edward IV. in the battle of Mortimer’s Cross, he was taken and beheaded, and afterwards buried in the Grey Friars at Hereford. Part of his house, with the gateway and chimney-piece, still remain in a farm-house, also some specimens of coats of arms and escutcheons.

The Tudor family became extinct in Richmond Tudor*, who died in the year 1657, and the estate

* In the time of Edward III. lived an eccentric character, styled *Sir Tudor Vaughan ab Grono*, a person as to state, power, and interest, the most popular in North Wales. Upon some motive of ambition or fancy, he assumed to himself the honour of *knighthood*, requiring all people to style him *Sir Tudor ab Grono*. King Edward being informed of such unparalleled presumption, sent for *Sir Tudor*, and asked him with what confidence he dared to invade his prerogative. *Sir Tudor* replied, that by the laws and constitution of *King Arthur*, he possessed that liberty by having *three* qualifications, which whosoever was endued with, could by those laws assume the honour of a *knight*. First, *He was a gentleman*. Second, *He had sufficient estate*. Third, *He was valiant and resolute*, and concluding, “ *If my valour and resolution be doubted, here I throw down my glove for proof of courage, and stand ready to encounter any man !*”

belongs to Lord Bulkeley. In the church is one of their monuments, removed from Lanvaes Abbey at its dissolution.

Returning from this digression, at the distance of fourteen miles, we pass through the village of BODEERN. One mile and a quarter beyond this place, is the small village of LLANYNGENEDL, where the road divides; and if the tide be out, there is a road across the sands; otherwise by turning to the left, at the distance of seven miles and a quarter, we arrive at HOLYHEAD, or Caer-Gybi, situated in an island at the extreme point of Anglesea. It has lately been rendered more populous from its having been for some years past the chief resort for passengers to and from Ireland. The distance from hence to Dublin is about 20 leagues, but there are six packets continually ready, which go over to Ireland every day except Thursday, and return the next morning. In stormy weather the packets have been kept at sea for two or three days, but in favourable weather the passage is performed in twelve hours, and sometimes in six only; which is by far shorter and less dangerous than from either Liverpool or Parkgate.

Near the extremity of the town, on a rock close above the sea, is the Church, or where St. Cybi, in A. D. 380, founded a small monastery, but afterwards succeeded by a college of presbyters, founded by one of the lords in Anglesea the beginning of the twelfth century, and valued at 24l.

The king smiled and approved much his manly forwardness and confidence, therefore required not much persuasion to *confirm* the honour upon him. From this *Sir Tudor* was lineally descended Henry VII. King of England, who was the son of *Edmund* Earl of Richmond, the son of *Sir Owen Tudor*, son of *Meredith*, who was the son of this *Sir Tudor Vaughan ab Grono*.

per annum. The church belongs to Jesus College, Oxford, and is a handsome embattled edifice, built in the form of a cross, with this inscription on a pediment of the north transept: "Sanctæ Kyb. ora pro nobis." The walls of the church-yard are built of stone, with a round tower at the north-east corner next the sea, ascribed to Caswallon Law-hîr, lord of Anglesea in 450. It is in form of a quadrangle, and about 220 feet by 130. Three sides are enclosed by walls 17 feet high, and six thick: the fourth is nearly open to the sea, having only a parapet defended by steep rocks. It is asserted by some writers, that this church-yard was a fortification, erected by Caswallon in 450. Along the walls are two rows of round holes, four inches in diameter, hollowed through, and merely plastered over. There are also two rocks opposite the church, with ruins on them, called Ynys-Cybi and Ynys-Rug, under the mountain that overhangs the town, called the Head: it is a large cavern in the rock, supported by natural pillars, called the Parliament House, accessible only by boats. On its summit stands Caer Twr, a circular stone wall, without mortar, and about ten feet in circumference, probably a pharos.

Though Holyhead is much resorted to by company to and from Ireland, it possesses very few attractions for the traveller on pleasure; yet, notwithstanding the small extent of the island on which Holyhead stands, it exports annually from its harbour alone 40,000 bushels of excellent grain to various parts of England and Ireland.

Holyhead is situated 269 miles from London, contains 563 houses, and 2,132 inhabitants. Its market is on Saturdays.

Journey from Beaumaris to Amlwch; through Llanerchymedd.

On leaving Beaumaris we proceed in a north-westerly direction, and at the distance of about 15

miles, arrive at LLANERCHYMEDD, a considerable market-town, supported chiefly by its neighbourhood to the vast works at Paris Mountain. Its market is on Wednesdays.

Between this town and Amlwch, which is situated about six miles to the north, are several ridges of the green abestine slate; the road runs also along a ridge of aggregate rock, containing quartz, iron, foliated magnesia, and clay. To this succeed breccias and lime, in a clay cement, then several ranges stretching to the coast, of limestone and breccia. In most of these the pebbles inclosed in the calcareous cement, are of quartz alone, a circumstance not easily accounted for. The whole of this county bears evident marks of having been under water; indeed the rocks themselves afford ample proofs of the action of water on their surfaces, as is also the upper stratum of the soil commonly full of shells, and other marine exuviae. From hence may be discovered the green abestine rock terminating Anglesea, at Bangor Ferry.

About five miles beyond Llanerchymedd we arrive at AMLWCH, situated on the sea coast, and a place where much business is done. This was originally a small hamlet occupied by fishermen; from its connexion with the Paris Mine, it became a town of considerable population. It has a port consisting of a large chasm between two lofty rocks, which will only permit two small vessels to ride in abreast, but furnishes length and breadth sufficient to accommodate thirty sloops and brigs. The Paris Mountain copper mines, are one mile distant: the principal inhabitants are miners, or families who have concerns in that work. The church is a neat modern structure, dedicated to Elaeth, a saint of the British calendar.

Not far from hence is the port, to which the ore is brought from Paris mines, and transported to Liverpool or Swansea: it is a place extremely well

adapted to the convenience and business of exportation. This port is chiefly artificial, being a chasm cut out between two rocks with great labour and expence, which runs far into the land, but rendered sufficiently large to receive 30 vessels of 200 tons burthen each. It is yet, notwithstanding every expence, greatly exposed, and dangerous of access during high northerly winds, which drive a heavy sea up the rock of this harbour.

The two companies, or proprietors of the copper-mines, employ generally fifteen brigs, from 100 to 150 tons burthen, besides sloops, in exporting the produce of these mines, being principally as follows :

1. Coarse copper from the smelting houses.
2. A richer copper ore.
3. Dried precipitate of copper, from the vitriol pits.
4. Refined sulphur.
5. Ochre.
6. Alum.
7. Green vitriol.

The town of Amlwch, which thirty-five years ago had only about half a dozen houses in the whole parish, now consists of 926; inhabited by 4210 persons : its market, which is considerable, is generally thronged with miners, and the country people.

About two miles distant from Amlwch is PARIS MOUNTAIN, or Mynydd Paris, also Pres Parbus and Trysglwyn; the two last names implying the thicket mountain, besides various other conjectures relative to the right etymology of this mountain, which has unexceptionably the most considerable copper-mines in the world, and generally believed to have been known to the Romans, from the vestiges of their operations, and some ancient stone utensils which have frequently been found on the spot.

This celebrated mountain is easily distinguished from the rest, for it is perfectly barren from the summit to the plain below, not a single shrub, and

hardly a blade of grass, being able to live in its sulphureous atmosphere :

“ No grassy mantle hides the sable hills,
No flowery chaplet crowns the trickling rills ;
Nor tufted moss, nor leathery lichen creeps
In russet tapestry, o’er the crumbling steeps.”

DARWIN.

From the time of the Romans till 1764 these mines seem to have been entirely neglected ; till about this period, some copper was accidentally found here, which induced Messrs. Roe and Co. of Macclesford, to take a lease of a part of Paris Mountain, from Sir Nicholas Bailey, father of Lord Uxbridge, which expired some years ago. Considerable sums of money had been spent by the company, in making levels to drain off the water, without any hopes of success ; indeed they had nearly given up all further attempts, but their agent was determined to make a final experiment in another part of the mountain. This succeeded, for in less than two days, ore of almost pure copper was found, and within two yards of the surface, which proved to be that vast bed since worked to such great advantage. The day of this discovery was the 2nd of March, 1768, and was ever after observed as a festival by the miners. The Rev. Edward Hughes, who was owner of another part, in consequence of this success, began a like adventure, which succeeded beyond his most sanguine expectations. The bed of ore in this mountain was in some places 24 yards in thickness, from which the proprietors are said to have raised annually from 6 to 7,000 tons of mercantile ore, worth about three to six pounds a ton, which may enable the reader to form an idea of the wealth of these mines, when it is known that

the Macclesfield Company have had frequently on the bank at one time, 14,000 tons, Mr. Hughes, 30,000 ; which on an average of four pounds a ton, was worth to the proprietors, 176,000*l*. The ore was got from the mines partly by picking and partly by blasting ; after this it was broken by hammers into small pieces, by women and children, armed with iron gloves. It was then piled in kilns of great length, and about six feet high, and set on fire in different places, to undergo the process of roasting ; for as the ore in its natural state contained a great quantity of sulphur, it was necessary that this should be separated from it by roasting, before it could be fluxed into copper. The sulphur sublimed to the top of the kiln, from whence it was conveyed by a flue connected with it to the sulphur chamber, a place built to receive it, where it condensed, and became the flower of sulphur sold in the shops. It was afterwards taken from hence, melted in large copper pans, and cast in moulds for sale.

After the ore had been thus roasted, which was rather a tedious operation, taking from three to ten months, according to the quantity in the furnaces, but generally from 300 to 1000 tons, it was afterwards taken to the slacking pits, places constructed of stone, about six yards long, five wide, and two feet deep, to be worked and made merchantable. Besides this, the proprietors have an artificial method of producing copper, by means of iron, a method first discovered, and practised in Germany, but discovered to us merely by accident. To enumerate the minerals this vast mountain contained*, and the various preparations for sale, would be too tedious for the generality of travellers ; therefore, I will only, in a brief man-

* From Paris Mountain springs a mineral water, which turns the syrup of violets red, without any signs of chalybeate contents.

ner, insert the following as the principal and most vendible :

1. The yellow sulphurated copper ore. 2. Native copper, in small quantities. 3. Sulphate of copper, both crystallized and in solution. 4. Sulphate of lead, containing a small portion of silver. 5. Black ore, containing copper with galena, calamine, and some silver. 6. Native sulphur.

The number of hands employed in these mines were upwards of 1000, who either worked by the day at the rate of one shilling and two-pence, or else received so much a ton for getting the ore. Exclusively of their pay it is worthy of notice, that the mine companies supported a great number of poor people by their voluntary donations, amounting to about 800*l.* yearly, besides employing a great number of children, of the aged and infirm, in light and easy work, at an additional expence of 300*l.* a year, also paying surgeons and apothecaries bills of nearly 700*l.* making an annual deduction of about 1,800*l.* per annum, from the aggregate amount of their princely revenues.

It is no less remarkable that the Paris Mines since 1768 increased in an astonishing degree the value of lands in this parish, from about 1,400*l.* to 5,000*l.* a year and upwards; the number of houses from two hundred to upwards of one thousand, and the increase of population, in the short period of only thirty-two years, from nine hundred to eight thousand. The Paris Mountain is now, however, nearly exhausted.

About two miles to the east of Amlwch, near the coast, is the village of LLANELIAN; the church of which is of a very ancient foundation, being originally founded, before the year 540, by Elian Ceimid, to whom Caswallon Law-hir gave many lands about this place; which (according to *Rowland's Mona Antiqua Restaurata*) are held in his

name by freeholders of them to this day. The church is rather a handsome building, and contains portraits of St. Elian and the Apostles; adjoining the church is a chapel, which has in one of its walls a polygonal closet of wood, and another at the back of it; from which the villagers relate, that in the time of popish superstition, the priest returned oracular answers to those inquiring. The front closet, called St. Elian's chest, used to contain the offerings; but now employed for other purposes by the superstitious of the country. *Llan-Eliau* was formerly a sanctuary, or place of refuge, and confirmed by a charter from Caswallon Law-hir; of this charter, two copies are yet extant. In the Church-yard was discovered some years ago, a deep trench, running for about twenty yards transversely across, and found filled with human bones; whence we may suppose it to have been the place of interment after some sanguinary battle.

At the distance of about eight miles from Amlwch, at Camlyn Bay, are some excellent marble quarries.

Journey from Aberfraw to Beaumaris, through Newburgh.

Aberfraw is a village situated at the south-west part of the island, near the Irish Sea. It is rendered famous as being the residence of the princes of North Wales from the time of Roderic Mawr, in the year 843, to the death of Llewelyn the Great in 1282. Their palace was at Aberfraw, but is now much degraded, and its remains used as a barn; however the walls and hewn stones shew better workmanship than is commonly found in Anglesea. In this palace was kept a copy of the celebrated code of laws, founded by Howel Dda, in the year 940, for the better government of Wales, of which two transcripts were made

for the use of the public and the distribution of justice.

Near the palace of Aberfraw are frequently found the Glain Naidr, or Druid glass rings. Of these the vulgar opinion is, that they are produced by snakes joining their heads together, and hissing, which forms a kind of bubble like a ring about the head of one of them, which the rest by continual hissing blow on, till it comes off at the tail, after which it immediately hardens and resembles a glass ring. It is a common tradition, that whoever finds one of these will prosper, in all his undertakings. This idea of the vulgar, concerning the generation of snake stones, is no other than a relic of the superstition, or perhaps the imposture of the Druids. Mr. Pennant says, this wonderful ring seems to be nothing more than a bead of glass, used by the Druids as a charm to impose on the vulgar.

At the distance of about seven miles to the north-east of Aberfraw, we pass through the town of Newburgh, or according to Mr. Davies, the late rector, *Rhosvair*, in confirmation of which he adds the following eugen.

Mae llys un Rhosvair, mae llyn,
Mae ur-gloch, mae Arglwydd Llewelyn,
A gwyr tâl yn ei galyn;
Mil myrdd mewn gwyrdd a gwyn.

Here has been an ancient residence of one of the princes of Anglesea; the foundations of the palace were visible in Mr. Rowland's time, and a little south of the church is supposed to have been its chapel.

Edward I. made this place a corporation, from which originated the present name of Newburgh. Its principal manufactures are mats and ropes, made of sea reed grass, a plant very common here. Newburgh was famous for John Morgan, an old

blind musician, who alone, it is said, preserved the ancient instrument called Crwth, the original of our present violin. Two miles north-west of Newburgh is Llan Gadwalader, a church which had lately over its door a coffin lid, with an inscription for a prince who governed North Wales about the sixth century, and active in the battle of Bangor-Iscoed, between the Britons and Saxons.

About three miles to the north-east of Newburgh, on the right of our road, is Llanedwen, a village, where Rowland, the learned author of *Mona Antiqua Restaurata*, was interred. He was instituted to the vicarage of Llanedwen, in 1696, and died in the year 1723.

At the distance of about four miles to the north of the last mentioned place, and on the right of our road, is Plâs-Newydd, a modern mansion, though built like a castle; it is situated at the bottom of a wood, commanding a fine view down the Menai, and of the opposite shores on the edge of the park. The plantations, which are grand, consist chiefly of venerable oaks and the noblest ash in the country: in the midst of these is the noble edifice, now much improved by recent additions of modern architecture. The whole is built, stables included, in a gothic, castellated form, of a dark slate-coloured stone: but on entering the vestibule, it has much the appearance of a chapel, having the ceiling on gothic arches, with a gallery suitable to it, and several niches cut in the side of the walls. Beside the preceding, here are a long suite of apartments, formed from good designs, which appear equally convenient and elegant. The landscape from the gothic window is beautiful, with a fine plantation of trees, and the winding strait of the Menai, where vessels pass and repass continually.

The house, situate near the sea, is well protected from its encroachments by a strong parapet

embattled wall: in short, few mansions are more magnificent than Plás-Newydd, the property and residence of the Marquis of Anglesea.

At a little distance from the house is one of the largest and most entire cromlechs in the whole principality. It is double, and consists of a greater and a less: the greater is twelve feet long by twelve broad, six high, and the upper edge two feet thick. This cromlech rested originally on five stones, but one being detached or thrown down, four only bear its weight at present, leaving a space between, of five feet high, and six square. The smaller adjoins closely to the narrow end of this, and is six feet square, resting on three stones, the fourth having fallen down. Not far from hence, is a large carnedd, part of which being removed, discovered a cell, seven feet long and three wide, covered with two flat stoues, and lined with others. On the top of one of these stones were two semicircular holes, large enough to take in the human neck, which evidently prove it to have been the place of interment of some great personage.

ISLANDS.—Priestholm, or Ynys Seiriol, is a small island about a mile north of Anglesea shore.

The channel or sound between is very deep, and the common passage for ships to and from Beaumaris. This island is about a mile long, and extremely lofty, bounded by precipices, except the side towards Penmon, where the ascent is likewise very steep, with the land sloping from the summit to the edge. The island is supposed to have been once belonging to the monastery, of which some fragments of a square tower remain. The Welsh have a tradition extant, that when the Lavan Sands were habitable, and formed part of Caernarvonshire, they had a bridge across the channel, by which a communication with the continent was maintained. An ancient causeway is still shewn

to travellers made from this island to the foot of Penman Bach, near Conway. Priestholm is inhabited by an immense number of different birds, particularly a rare species called Puffin Auk. They are birds of passage, but annually resort here in myriads, from April to August, where they breed, that one part of the island appears at times almost covered with them. On their arrival they first form burrows, and lay one white egg, which is generally hatched by the beginning of July. Their noise when caught is horrible, resembling much a dumb person. Their chief food is sprats and sea weeds, until the time of their emigration, which is about the middle of August.

The channel between Priestholm and Anglesea has produced some very uncommon fish, particularly the Beaumaris Shark, a trifucated Hake, the new Mussel, Alerganders or Smirnum olusatrum, and the fœtid Gladwin, which is frequently made into a poultice with oatmeal, and said to be serviceable in the quinsy.

To the west of Priestholm are three more small Islands, each called Yns Lygod.

The Skerries or Isle of Seals, is situated at the north-western point of Anglesea; it is a rocky little island, possessed by a few sheep, rabbits, and puffins, with a good light-house, of great use to mariners.

From this coast are plainly seen the town of Caernarvon, the straits of Menai, with some high and grand mountains, and Snowdon at a distance; scenery which must at all times convey an idea of elegance and dignity.

CAERNARVONSHIRE.

This county is generally called Arvon by the natives. It is the most rugged and truly alpine district in

all Wales, surrounded by the sea on all sides except the east, where it joins Denbigh, and a small part of the south contiguous to Merionethshire. Its figure is very irregular, with a great peninsulated point running out to the south-west, or Irish Sea, and separated from Anglesea by the straits of Menai, its length, measuring from north to south is 45 miles, in breadth, it is exceedingly various. It is divided into ten hundreds, viz. Creuddyn, Dinlleyn, Evionydd, Isav Gyffyllogion, Isgwyrvai, Menai, Nant-Conwy, Uchav, and Uwchgwyrvai, which are subdivided into 68 parishes. It is included in the diocese of Bangor, and Province of Canterbury.

The general surface of the county is very mountainous, and the vales for the most part narrow, with hills rising abruptly from the skirts of small vallies into stupendous mountains, intersecting each other in all directions, affording however an ample sustenance for numerous herds of cattle and sheep, which are fed in great numbers on the mountains, tended by their owners, who for the season reside in temporary huts, wherein they make butter and cheese, which with a little oatmeal, and the produce of the dairies, constitute their daily food.

The prospects around are rude and savage in the extreme, yet not entirely destitute of some mixture of beauty, particularly the vales, which admits the common varieties of wood, water, and meadows. In some of the lakes, are found the *Char*, with the *gyniad*, another alpine fish; besides many rare vegetables, found on the most elevated parts of Snowdon. Some parts of the county afford lead, copper, and some excellent quarries of stones for hones and slates; while other parts are celebrated for the produce of oats, barley, and black cattle, of which vast numbers are annually exported; with great quantities of fish, especial-

ly herrings. On the westerly point lies the small island of Enlli, or Bardsey, famous in ancient times for its convent, which was for many years the seat of learning, and the resort of many monks.

This county and borough returns two members to the Imperial Parliament.

TOPOGRAPHICAL DESCRIPTION OF THE COUNTY OF
CAERNARVON.

*Journey from Caernarvon to Beddgelert; through
Llanberies.*

CAERNARVON, or CAER-YN-ARVON, is the ancient *Segontium*, mentioned by Antoninus as a Roman station in the time of Constantine. Mathew Paris informs us that the body of Constantius, the father of that emperor, was found buried here in 1283.

It was afterwards the seat of some of our British princes, particularly Roderic, in A. D. 750. The town is built in form of a square, and enclosed on three sides by an embattled stone wall. The streets are at right angles with the principal one, wherein is the old town-hall. The chief object which attracts our attention is the noble castle built by Edward I. and probably the town at the same time, with the revenues of the see of York, then vacant. The castle defends the town on the south, with a narrow deep ditch in front, or north side. In its west wall are three round towers, and two more on each side, with a narrow gate or entrance, over which is placed a bare-headed figure in flowing locks, holding in his left hand a sword, which he draws with his right, or perhaps is sheathing, in allusion to the termination of the Welsh war, and a defaced shield under his feet. This gate leads to a narrow oblong court. At the west end is a polygon tower, with three hexagon towers above, on the embattlements of which are eagles;

whence it had the name of Eagle Tower. In a room of this tower, eleven feet by seven, the unfortunate Edward II. the first *English Prince of Wales* was born, April 25, 1284: a passage only separates this room from another semicircular apartment, called the nursery.*

* REMARKS ON THE PRINCE OF WALES' MOTTO.—The origin of the motto ICH DIEN is generally attributed to *Edward*, commonly called the Black Prince, who in leading the vanguard of his army to the battle of Cressy, fought on the 26th of August 1346, slew John of Luxemburgh, King of Bohemia, and then deplumed his casque of those *ostrich feathers*, which in memory of this victory became his cognizance, sometimes using one feather, others three, as appear on his seals and tomb, with scrolls containing this motto, ICH DIEN; but the ancient arms of the Princes of Wales, while they were sovereigns were *quarterly, gules and or*, four lions passant counterchanged. The charter of Edward I. to his son, the first English Prince of Wales, is dated the 24th of March 1305. I am sensible ICH DIEN is pretended to be *German*, and translated—*I serve*; but I cannot conceive the reason why our first British princes should adopt the language of provincials for their *motto*, when with the people they had little or no connexion, especially as the words appear derived, and of excellent signification in our own. The words ICH DIEN are not understood in the principality by any I ever conversed with; notwithstanding, in my humble opinion, they are genuine *Welsh*, by correcting the improper orthography of the first word, which ought to be written uen; always pronounced U, vowel, until recently strangely metamorphosed, whence we find it now ich, though the word uen is indisputably its etymology, and understood to the most illiterate Welshman; signify-

On the south side, next the river Seint, are three hexagon and octagon towers, with three others on the north. To the east is a magnificent entrance, with a lofty round arch, and towers communicating all round by noble galleries, several of which are surrounded by small towers, peculiar to this castle. In the north-east corner is a deep well, now nearly filled up, having near it a round tower, formerly a dungeon.

Such is the external delineation of Caernarvon Castle, founded on a rock, and now almost entire. The outer walls are of white hewn stone, with an edging of red about the corners and windows, which have a very pretty effect; notwithstanding it has suffered considerably at different times, being in 1294 burnt by the Welsh, and besieged by the Parliament 1646. The constable of the castle is dignified with the honour of being mayor, having under him an alderman, two bailiffs, with an appointment of 200l. per annum to keep the castle in repair.

On the outside of the town walls is a broad and pleasant terrace along the side of the Menai, extending from the quay to the north end of the town

ing *superior*, or *above*. The word *DIEN*, though an original, is nearly obsolete in South Wales. Yet we have its derivative common in the north, viz. *Dihenydd*, our departure, or as Dr. Rhys Davies translates it, *hora mortis necis*, the hour of death; so, with submission to superior knowledge, I shall venture to translate *ICH*, or properly *UCH DIEN*, *Triumphant in Death*, a motto highly becoming a Christian prince.

The revenues of the *Prince of Wales*, about 400 years ago was estimated at 14000l. per annum as *Duke of Cornwall*, and 4680l. the *Principality*; but since considerably augmented, and the aggregate is not correctly known. T. E.

walls, and in the evening a fashionable promenade for persons of all descriptions. The court-house, wherein all the county business is done, stands nearly opposite to the castle gates, and is neatly fitted up within a small space. The port of Caernarvon is rather dangerous, from the extensive banks near; but the harbour is very commodious, that vessels of six or seven hundred tons ride in security: the quay is also peculiarly convenient, as large vessels can ride close to it, and deliver or take in their cargoes.

Near the quay is the custom-house, a very indifferent building, but well situated for vessels trading in slates, of which many thousands are exported to different parts of the empire, and procured from quarries in the mountains of Llanberis. The hotel, built a few years ago by the Earl of Uxbridge, stands on the outside of the town walls, a little below the Menai, and is a very elegant stone building, built on a very extensive scale, affording excellent accommodation, with good apartments; but the charges are high, nearly the same as in London. From the top of a rock behind the hotel is a fine view of the town and castle; and on a clear day the Isle of Anglesea, Holyhead, and Paris Mountains, may be distinctly seen, like a good map before the eyes. On the east end of the town is a large suburb, with a wide street leading to the bridge and ditch, sided with two round towers, and over the gate an assembly room. On the opposite side of the river Seint, about half a mile from the town, are the ruins of a Roman fort, with the walls entire on three sides, built of rough stones, strongly cemented together, ten feet high by four thick, enclosing an area of about eighty yards from east to west; but the west side, which overhangs the steep bank of the river, has no traces of a wall. The remains of a Roman road are still visible

from this place to Dinorweg, and a single stone still bears this inscription S. V. C. probably, *Segontium Urbis Constantine*.

Here Helena, the wife of Constantius, had a chapel, and her name is preserved, in a well, half a mile below, on the river side. Near this place was found, some years ago, a pot full of coins, buried under a tree; but to what they referred is not ascertained, neither is it known to whom the coins were given.

In the year 1817, on clearing some earth, for levelling the ground on the N. E. of the castle, the workmen came to the remains of very firm masonry, and in the foundation they found a small silver box, enclosing an elegant gold ring, the bezil being a flat surface, whereon was engraved the half-length of a female, the costume apparently Roman, the arms straight down by her sides as bearing something in each hand. The circumference of the ring had 12 small square compartments, with the appearance of one or two characters on each. It is now the property of a Mrs. Edwards of this town.

Caernarvon is only a township and chapelry to Llanbeblig; it is situated 250 miles from London, and consists, according to the late returns, of 961 houses, and 4595 inhabitants. Its market, which is on Saturday, is well supplied.

On leaving Caernarvon, we proceed in an easterly direction, and at the distance of about ten miles pass through the small village of Llanberis, commonly called Nant-Peris. The vale of Llanberis is strait, and nearly of an equal breadth throughout, with two small lakes or pools. The upper is about one mile in length, and half a mile over, wherein the char fish used to be caught; but the copper works carried on here have long since destroyed them.

The vale was formerly covered with woods, but

at present few remain, though within the memory of old people there were extensive woods of oak, and Leland in his Itinerary makes particular mention of it. In the time of Howel Dhá, Prince of Wales, in the year 940, the whole county was nearly covered with wood, for we find it ordered in the Welsh laws, founded by him, that whoever cleared away the timber from any land, should possess the ground so cleared for five years, independent of the owner. The mountains also abounded in deer, which continued in great quantities until the end of Henry the Eighth's reign.

On a rocky eminence, below the two lakes, stands an old building, called Dolbadern Castle, consisting of a round tower of twenty-six feet in diameter within, and still shews a few fragments of the walls and offices on the summit of a steep hill. The construction of this castle evidently proves it to be of British origin, perhaps as early as the sixth century, being mentioned then as in the possession of Maelgwn Gwynedd, prince of North Wales, during his contention with the Saxons. In this fortress Owen Goch was confined twenty years, for rebelling against his brother Llewelyn ab Iorwerth. The Earl of Pembroke took this castle from the Welsh in 1238, after a short resistance. A little south of the latter is a tremendous cataract, called Cunant Mawr, in height about sixty feet, from which precipitates a mountain stream amid numerous rocks, until it falls into a deep black pool below. North-east of the village is a high perpendicular mountain, called Glyder-Vawr; the ascent is very steep and tiresome, because of numerous paths, continually obstructed by rocks and wet, which render the whole slippery and dangerous. This mountain is acknowledged to be the most lofty in Caernarvonshire, Snowdon excepted. In a flat, about half a mile up its ascent, is a small pool,

called Llyn y Cwn, or the pool of dogs, rendered remarkable by Giraldus, for a singular kind of trout, perch, and eels, which were all monocular, *i. e.* wanting the left eye; but at present the pool seems destitute of fish of any description. Near the above is Glyder Vach, having the summit covered with groups of columnar stones of vast size, with others lying horizontally on them. Several pieces of lava have also been found here, which Mr. Pennant conjectures might have been originated in some mighty convulsion of nature, which probably left this mountain so rough and strangely disposed.

A little to the south of Llanberis is Eryri, or Snowdon, the etymology of the name of which mountain has given rise to several ingenious conjectures; but Snowdon is evidently derived from the Saxons, implying a snowy hill, or hill covered with snow, which is not uncommon here even in the month of June. H. Llwyd maintains the signification of Eryri to be eagles rocks; the ingenious Mr. Pennant derives it from a compound of Welsh words: as Cereig yr au-Eira, or snowy cliffs; and perhaps both have an equal claim to originality.

From the greatness of the object before us, it is almost impossible to give an adequate description; but, according to the best authorities, Snowdon is from the quay at Caernarvon to the highest peak, one thousand three hundred yards in perpendicular height above the level of the sea, and chiefly composed of a very hard stone, with large coarse crystal, a general attendant on alpine countries. The Welsh have also a tradition that these uncouth and savage mountains formerly abounded with woods, and that they were felled by Edward I. on account of affording a secure retreat to the natives, also convenient for their detached and ambuscading parties. This idea is con-

futed by Giraldus Cambrensis, in his description of this mountain, written nearly one hundred years before the time of Edward I. besides, perfectly corresponding with its present appearance. Sir John Wynne, in his History of the Gwydir Family, says, "Snowdon was in ancient times a royal forest;" and still farther asserts, that "not only Nantconwy was wooded, but all Caernarvon, Merioneth, and Denbighshire, were originally but one forest." This is evidently too general an assertion, for, according to this author, Owen Glyndwr destroyed the whole in 1400.

The distance of the summit of Snowdon from Caernarvon is rather more than ten miles, but from Dolbadern Castle, in the vale of Llanberis, where the ascent is gradual, a person mounted on a Welsh poney may, without much difficulty, ride up nearly to the top. To accomplish this, the traveller should go from Caernarvon to Dolbadern Castle, and after keeping on the side of a lake, turn to the left for Ceunantmawr, a noble cataract; from thence ascend up a mountain to a vale called Cwm-Brwynog, a very deep and fertile spot, with little corn, but its principal produce are cattle and sheep. From here pass through Bwlch Cwm-Brwynog, where the ascent becomes so steep and difficult, that timid travellers are frequently obliged to clamber on foot among rocks, till by keeping to the right they arrive at Llyn-Glas, Llyn-Nadroedd, and Llyn-Coch, where the spaces between the precipices form a very agreeable isthmus, leading to a very verdant plain, where the traveller generally rests a short time. After this a smooth path leads almost to the summit, called Y-Wyddva, or the conspicuous place, or place of presence; here a tomb or monument rises to a point, leaving a small space for a circular wall of loose stones, within it travellers usually take their repast. The mountain from hence seems

propt by four bultresses, between which are four deep cwms or vallies, with three lakes, and almost a boundless view; taking in a great part of the counties of Chester and York, part of the north of England, Scotland, and Ireland, with a clear view of the Isle of Man and Anglesea, appearing like a good map before our eyes. From the same situation is a view of between twenty and thirty lakes, chiefly in this county and Merionethshire. Of mountains, let it suffice to say the most noted are, Moel-y-Wyddva, Y-Glyder, Carnedd David, and Carnedd Llewelyn, which are properly British Alps, having lakes and rivers, high and craggy precipices, covered with snow a considerable part of the year, and producing Alpine plants. The hills appear as it were heaped one on the top of the other, for after climbing up one you come to a valley, and most commonly to a lake, and passing by that, ascend another, and sometimes a third or fourth, before you gain the summit. The greater part of the rocks which compose these mountains are schistose, hornblende, mica. granite, and porphyry, enclosing considerable blocks of quartz. The plants and animals are nearly the same as are found about Cader Idris.

To conclude, permit us to say, with Mr. Bingley, that were the traveller's expectation to soar above all former ideas of magnificence, this mountain will infinitely surpass all conception, as it baffles all description, for no colour of language can paint the grandeur of the rising sun, observed from this eminence, which is thus beautifully described by Mr. Pennant.

“ I took much pains to see this prospect to advantage; therefore sat up at a farm-house on the west till about twelve, and walked up the whole way. The night was remarkably fine and starry; towards morn the stars faded away, and left a short interval of darkness, which soon dispersed by the

dawn of day. The body of the sun appearing most distinct, with the rotundity of the moon, before it arose high enough to render its beams too brilliant for our sight. The sea, which bounded the western part, was gilt by its beams, at first in slender streaks, but at length it glowed with redness. The prospect was disclosed to us, like the gradual drawing up of a curtain in a theatre. We saw more and more till the heat became so powerful as to attract the mists from the various lakes, which in a slight degree obscured the prospect. The shadow of the mountain was flung many miles, and shewed its bicapitated form; the *Wyddva* making one, *Crib y Distill* the other head. The day proved so excessively hot, that the journey cost me the skin of the lower part of my face before I reached the resting-place, after the fatigue of the morning."—Another time, when Mr. Penant was on Snowdon, he says: "A vast mist enveloped the whole circuit of the mountain. The prospect down was horrible. It gave an idea of numbers of abysses, concealed by a thick smoke furiously circulating around us; very often a gust of wind formed an opening in the clouds, which gave a fine and distinct visto of lake and valley. Sometimes they opened only in one place; at others in many; at once exhibiting a most strange and perplexing sight of water, fields, rocks, or chasms, in fifty different places. They then closed in at once, and left us involved in darkness; in a small space they would separate again, and fly in wild eddies round the middle of the mountains, and expose in parts, both tops and bases, clear to our view. We descended from this various scene with great reluctance; but before we reached our horses, a thunder-storm overtook us; its rolling among the mountains was inexpressibly awful; the rain uncommonly heavy; so that we remounted

our horses, and gained the bottom with great risk of being swept away by these sudden waters."

Returning from this digression, at the distance of about seven miles to the east of Llanberis, we arrive at BEDDGYLART, or Gelert, a small village, completely embosomed in mountains, forming a fine contrast with the luxuriant meadows of the vale below.

From Beddgelert, a beautiful road leads to Capel Curig, a distance of twelve miles; passes by Dinas Emrys; and leaving Snowdon to the left, affords a variety of the finest and wildest mountain scenery.

The houses are few and irregular, but the church is remarkably neat: of the origin of which, we have a singular tradition, which assigns the following:—"At a period when *wolves* were so formidable and numerous in Wales, Llewelyn the Great came to reside here for the hunting season, with his princess and children; but while the family were one day absent, a *wolf* entered into the house, and attempted to kill an infant that was left asleep in the cradle. The Prince's faithful greyhound, named *Celert*, that was watching by the side, seized the rapacious animal, and killed it; but in the struggle, the cradle was overturned, and lay upon the wolf and child. On the Prince's return, missing the infant, and observing the dog's mouth stained with blood, he immediately concluded *Celert* had murdered the child, and in a paroxysm of rage, drew his sword, and ran the faithful animal through the heart; but how great was his astonishment, when on replacing the cradle, he found the wolf dead, and his child alive! He, however, caused the grateful creature to be honourably interred, and as a monument to his memory, erected this church on the spot, as a grateful offering to God for the preservation of his child."

BEDDGELERT:

OR, THE GREYHOUND'S GRAVE.

THE spearman heard the bugle sound,
And cheerly smil'd the morn,
And many a brach, and many a hound
Attend *Llewelyn's* horn :

And still he blew a louder blast,
And gave a louder cheer ;
“ Come, *Gelert*, why art thou the last
“ *Llewelyn's* horn to hear ?

“ Oh where does faithful *Gelert* roam ?
“ The flower of all his race ;
“ So true, so brave : a lamb at home,
“ A lion in the chase.”

’Twas only at *Llewelyn's* board
The faithful *Gelert* fed ;
He watch’d, he serv’d, he cheer’d his lord,
And centinel’d his bed.

In sooth, he was a peerless hound,
The gift of *royal John** :
But now no *Gelert* could be found,
And all the chase rode on.

And now as over rocks and dells
The gallant chidings rise,
All *Snowdon's* craggy chaos yells
With many mingled cries.

That day *Llewelyn* little lov’d
The chase of hart or hare,
And scant and small the booty prov’d,
For *Gelert* was not there.

* *Gelert* was given to *Llewelyn* by King John,
in 1205.

Unpleas'd *Llewelyn* homeward hied,
When, near the portal seat,
His truant *Gelert* he espied,
Bounding his lord to greet.

But when he gain'd his castle door,
Aghast the chieftain stood ;
The hound was smear'd with gouts of gore,
His lips and fangs ran blood !

Llewelyn gaz'd with wild surprise,
Unus'd such looks to meet ;
His favourite check'd his joyful guise,
And crouch'd, and lick'd his feet.

Onward in haste *Llewelyn* past,
And on went *Gelert* too ;
And still where'er his eyes he cast,
Fresh blood-gouts shock'd his view !

O'erturn'd his infant's bed he found,
The blood-stain'd covert rent ;
And all around the walls and ground,
With recent blood besprent.

He call'd his child ; no voice replied ;
He search'd with terror wild ;
Blood, blood he found on ev'ry side,
But no where found the child !

" Hell-hound ! by thee my child's devour'd !"
The frantic father cried ;
And to the hilt his vengeful sword,
He plung'd in *Gelert's* side.

His suppliant, as to earth he fell,
No pity could impart ;
But still his *Gelert's* dying yell
Past heavy o'er his heart.

Arous'd by *Gelert's* dying yell,
Some slumberer waken'd nigh ;
What words the parent's joy can tell,
To hear his infant cry !

Conceal'd between a mingled heap,
 His hurried search had miss'd:
 All glowing from his rosy sleep,
 His cherub boy he kiss'd!

Nor scratch had he, nor harm, nor dread;
 But the same couch beneath,
 Lay a great *Wolf*, all torn and dead,
 Tremendous still in death!

Ah, what was then *Llewelyn's* pain,
 For now the truth was clear,
 The gallant *Hound* the *Wolf* had slain,
 To save *Llewelyn's* heir.

Vain, vain was all *Llewelyn's* woe;
 "Best of thy kind, adieu;
 "The frantic deed which laid thee low,
 "This heart shall ever rue!"

And now a gallant tomb they raise,
 With costly sculpture deckt;
 And marbles storied with his praise,
 Poor *Gelert's* bones protect.

Here never could the spearman pass,
 Or forester unmov'd;
 Here oft the tear-besprinkled grass,
Llewelyn's sorrow prov'd.

And here he hung his horn, and spear;
 And oft as evening fell,
 In fancy's piercing sounds would hear
 Poor *Gelert's* dying yell!

And till great *Snowdon's* rocks grow old,
 And cease the storm to brave,
 The consecrated spot shall hold
 The name of GELERT'S GRAVE.

Mr. William Spencer is the author of this Poem.

At Beddcylart, was a priory of Augustine monks, founded by Anian, bishop of Bangor, in the 13th century, and is supposed to be the oldest religious

house in Wales. In 1280, this monastery was much damaged by fire, but rebuilt soon after with money obtained by Anian, for absolving such as sincerely repented of their sins, by remitting the usual penance of forty days. The value of the revenues at its dissolution, according to Dugdale, was 70l. 3s. 8d. but there is no relic whatever of this place remaining. It is much to be lamented that so fine a vale should want the necessary accommodation for travellers, which is by no means to be had here, to render one evening comfortable in either entertainment or lodging.

Along this vale runs the new road to Capel Curig, a distance of 12 miles.

Near the village is a beautiful vale, called Gwynant, about six miles long, and affords a great variety of wood, lakes, and meadows, bounded on each side by lofty mountains, which add considerably to the beauty of this romantic place. On the left, half a mile up the vale, is a lofty rock, called Dinas Emrys, the Fort of Ambrosius, and where, tradition says, Vortigern retreated, after calling in the Saxons, by which he for some time avoided the persecution and odium of his country. It is probable that on this insular rock, he erected a temporary residence of timber, which lasted him till his final retreat to Nant Gwrtheyrn, or Vortigern's Valley, near Nevyn.

Journey from Aberconwy to Bangor, through Aber.

CONWAY, or Aberconwy, is a large picturesque town, situate near a river of that name, which was formerly noted for being a pearl fishery, even in the time of the Romans. Suetonius says, the chief motives alleged by them for the invasion was the British pearls. One presented to the Queen of Charles II. by Sir R. Wynne, of Gwydir, is now honoured with a place in the regal crown. This town is strongly fortified in the ancient style, and surrounded by lofty walls, one mile and a half in

circumference, defended by twenty-four round towers, and four gates, called, Porth-ucha, Porth-issa, Porth y castell, and Porth y velin. From the side towards the river, ran two curtains, terminating with watch towers, one of which only remains.

The entrance to the castle from the former is by a narrow paved gallery, with round towers, leading to the high street, which terminates at a similar gate. The walls are all embattled, and twelve or fifteen feet thick, built on a solid rock, but has no towers to the north. The castle, built by Edward I. in 1284, stands on a high rock, commanding the river, with eight round towers in its circuit, and a wall 11 feet thick. The principal entrance was from the town, to the north over the bridge, leading into a large oblong area, with a spacious terrace on the west. On the south, near the river, is an elegant hall, 139 feet by 32, and 30 high, with a chapel at one end. Its roof was supported by eight fine gothic arches, and warmed by a great fireplace at one end, and another on the side, and lighted by nine windows, having underneath some spacious vaults for ammunition.

Near the east end the stranger passes into a square court, surrounded by galleries and small apartments. On the north is the King's Tower, a vaulted room, with a recess or cell of seven pointed and groined arches; three are open, having under them more arches, with a basement all round. This is called the King's Seat, the other is named the Queen's Tower. On the south side of the castle half a tower is fallen from its foundation, leaving the upper part suspended, occasioned by the inhabitants digging slate from its foundation. Many of the towers have smaller ones rising from them, as at Caernarvon.—The castle appears to have been of considerable importance in the reign of Charles I. when we find it strongly fortified, and it had the principal effects of the county lodged

within its walls; however Colonel Mytton, a parliament general, got possession of it in 1646; but it was again restored to the owner. It is now held of the crown.

The church is a very plain structure, with a few good monuments of the Wynnes. In the street leading to the castle are some remains of a Cistercian abbey, founded by Llewelyn ab Iorwerth in 1285, now converted to a stable, called Stoney; but may be easily distinguished by its vaulted stone roof, and a Saxon door-case.

Here are likewise some remains of a college, founded in the reign of Edward I. now in complete ruins, but still shews some specimens of curious workmanship, with several sculptured arms. Among other curiosities of this town, is shewn an antique house, built in a quadrangular form by the Wynnes, in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, now inhabited by four families, and adorned in the fantastic fashion of that period. The roof is singularly carved with a profusion of ornaments, and the front decorated with the arms of England, and some curious crests, with birds and beasts, bearing the date of 1585.—Over the door facing the street is carved the arms of Queen Elizabeth.

The present trade of Conway is rather increasing, having excellent conveniences; in short, there does not exist within the principality a spot which contains within itself, more seeds of future opulence and prosperity than this vale and river. The latter being 24 miles in length, of which one half is navigable to the village of Trevriw, and receives in that short space the contributions of as many rivers.

The chief exports at present consist of corn, potatoes, timber, bark, pot-ash, slates, and minerals, as lead, calamine, pyrites, and copper, from the mines near Llanrwst. Its imports are limestone and shell sand, for agricultural purposes, with coal, groceries, and iron. The following returns from the

custom-house at Conway, may serve to illustrate its increase of commerce.

Years.	Vessels.	Tons.
1791	67	2,217
1792	68	2,251
1793	85	2,864
1794	52	1,669
1795	60	1,603
1796	54	1,598
1797	69	2,420
1798	73	2,440
1799	46	1,531
1800	50	1,488
1801	77	2,702

The town of Conway is situated 236 miles from London, and consists of 218 houses, and 1053 inhabitants.

At the east side of this town runs a beautiful river, of about half a mile over, crossed by a ferry ; in doing which many impositions are practised upon strangers, therefore, for the information of the latter, the following charges may be useful as a criterion against frequent imposition :

	s.	d.
For every person on foot - -	0	1
A man and horse - - - - -	0	2
For a wheel carriage - - - - -	2	6

Dyganwy, or Gannoc, once a famous fortress, but being destroyed by lightning in 816, was never afterwards rebuilt, so that the name now only remains, with a tradition that Conway rose out of its ruins. Many battles are said to have been fought here between the Britons and Saxons ; and about ninety years ago a number of brass belts were found under a great stone, placed heads and points. At present the only remains of this ancient place

are on two hills, near the shore of Conway; the space between crossed by the walls running up the sides. Dyganwy is now the residence of Lord Kirkwall. On the summit of one are the vestiges of a round tower, and a few foundations of walls scattered on its accessible parts. In 1088 Robert Radland was here overpowered by the Welsh, and slain; soon after, Llewelyn ab Gruffydd destroyed the castle, but it was again rebuilt in the year 1210, by Randolph, earl of Chester. King John also lay under its walls in 1211, but was afterwards reduced to great distress by Prince Llewelyn; as was Henry III. on the same spot. The castle was however entirely destroyed by Llewelyn ab Gruffydd. Near this place, on a low hill, are the remains of an ancient round tower, 20 feet high, and only 12 inches in diameter.

After leaving Aberconwy, at the distance of four miles, we pass through the village of Dygyvylchi, a little to the south of which is *Penman-Mawr*, a most stupendous mountain, being 1400 feet perpendicular from its base, and to traveller extremely dangerous. In 1772, a good turnpike road was attempted to be carried over the middle of it; but from its situation, close to a frightful precipice, was found impracticable to render it permanent and secure, therefore a stone wall, in many places 140 feet high, was erected, to defend the traveller from the dangers of the horrid precipice below, and the sea, which breaks just before the wall close to the road. When proceeding up the side of this mountain, among numerous fragments of stones, fallen or starting through the rugged surface, the perpendicular declivity to the sea is happily concealed from us by a wall five feet high, erected on arches of stone bedded in strong mortar, but with such little foundation, that a large portion of it is continually falling into the Irish sea, or obstructing the road. A more horrific situation it is impossible to depict, or

the imagination to conceive, for every moment threatens unavoidable destruction.

On the summit stands Braich y Dinas, an ancient fortification, encompassed with a strong treble wall, and within each wall the foundation of at least 100 towers all circular, and of equal size, being about six yards in diameter within, in other places two yards thick, or sometimes only three. The castle seems to have been impregnable, there being no way to assault it, because the hill is so high, steep, and rocky, and the walls so uncommonly strong. The way or entrance to it ascends by many turnings, that 100 men might defend themselves against a legion; yet there appears room for 20,000 men within its ruinous walls. At the summit of the rock, within the innermost wall, is a well, affording plenty of water even in the driest summer. Tradition makes this the strongest retreat the Britons had in Snowdon; while the magnitude of the works shew it to have been a princely fortification, strengthened by nature and art, and seated near the sea on one of the highest mountains in Caernarvonshire.

Mr. Pennant, in his examination of this place, discovered four very distinct walls, placed one above the other, one of which was six feet high, and one and a half thick. In most places the facing appeared perfect, but all of dry work. Between the walls, in all parts, were innumerable small buildings, mostly circular, regularly faced within and without, but not disposed in any certain order; though in some places the walls were intersected with others equally strong, and very judiciously calculated to cover the passage into Anglesea, being apparently impregnable to every thing but famine.

About one mile from Braich y Dinas, is *Y Meini Hirion*, one of the most remarkable monuments in all Snowdon. It is a circular entrenchment of 80 feet diameter, with ten stones standing on the out-

side, placed endways; the whole enclosed by a stone wall. Near this are four other circles, but smaller, one of which shews the remains of a cromlech.

This tract has certainly been much inhabited, for all round there are the remains of small buildings, made of rounded stones, suited to the rude simplicity of former ages. Tradition says, a bloody battle was fought here between the Romans and Britons, and that the *carneddau*, now visible, are the several graves where the vanquished Romans were buried.

Returning to our road, at the distance of about six miles from Dygyvylchi, we pass through ABER, a celebrated little village, situate at the entrance of a deep glen, which runs about two miles, bounded on one side by a mountain covered with wood, and on the other by a tremendous slate rock, called *Maes y Gaer*. At the extremity of this glen a mountain presents a concave front, in the centre of which a vast cataract precipitates itself above 60 feet down the front of a rugged rock. Near the village is a conical mount, on which formerly stood a castle, once the residence of Llewelyn the Great, and where he received a summons from Edward I. to deliver up the principality to the crown of England, with the offer of 1000*l.* per annum in the latter; which, like a patriotic prince, he instantly rejected. Some foundations of this castle are still remaining on a summit; but the superstructure is entirely destroyed.

This place is chiefly noticed for its vicinity and easy ascent to the vast promontory of Penman Mawr. It is also one of the ferries to Anglesea, with a pleasant walk of four miles over the Lavan Sands.

From Aber at low tides, the Lavan Sands may be crossed to Anglesea. Lord Bulkeley has lately given a large bell to Aber church to be tolled continually, in case of a fog arising; lives have

been frequently lost on the Lavan Sands, by sudden mists coming on and concealing the shores.

At the distance of four miles beyond Aber we pass through the village of Llandegai; a little to the north-west of which is ABER-CEGID, or PORT PENRHYN, a small creek, fordable at low water, and from whence are annually imported many millions of slates. The quarries are at Dolawyn, near Nant Francon, a small distance from the river Ogwen, the property of Lord Penrhyn, who has added greatly to the population of the county, by his great improvements in the slate business, and in the roads, that now above 100 carts are constantly employed in carrying slates to the port, amounting to about 16,000 tons annually, for Liverpool, Hull, Ireland, and West Indies. At this port his lordship has also established a neat manufactory of writing slates, which before were all imported from Switzerland, now exported from Port Penrhyn to the amount of 136,000. These quarries are well worth the attention of the curious traveller, and if within a few miles should not be omitted.

The slates are of all sizes, from large tomb-stone slabs down to the smallest size and for roofing, which are here distinguished according to their respective sizes and qualities, and sold at the following prices.

				<i>l. s. d.</i>
Duchesses	-	-	per 100	3 10 0
Countesses	-	-	do.	2 0 0
Ladies	-	-	do.	1 0 0
Doubles	-	-	do.	0 11 0
Singles	-	-	do.	0 5 0
Patents	-	-	per ton	1 6 0
Rags	-	-	do.	0 18 0
Kiln Ribs	-	-	per yard	0 0 3

Near this new port is the manufacture of cy-

phering-slates, ink-stands, and other fancy articles, which are distinguished as under :

		<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
Large cyphering-slates	per gross	5	0	0
Small ditto	- - -	2	6	0

At a small distance from the port is a handsome building, containing an elegant set of hot and cold sea-water baths, with dressing and tea-rooms, constructed under the directions of the ingenious Mr. Wyatt. This building, terrace, &c. is said to have cost Lord Penrhyn 30,000*l.*

From a hill contiguous is a charming view of his Lordship's seat, called Penrhyn.

Returning to our road, at the distance of about one mile from Llandegai, we arrive at BANGOR, which though a city, consists of only one street, in which is the market-house and inn.—The cathedral is the principal structure in this place, and supposed to have been erected in the fifteenth century: the choir was built by Bishop Dean, about 1496, but the tower and nave by Bishop Skivington, 1532, as appears by an inscription over the west door. The nave is 110 feet long by 60, the transepts 60 by 25, and the choir, 54 by 26.

The service of this cathedral is performed with true reverential decorum, and a regulation was made by Dr. Warren, to accommodate the inhabitants and environs, by having the service performed in Welsh at seven in the morning, English at eleven, and Welsh again at four in the evening. The chapter consists of a dean, three archdeacons, two precentors, two vicars, eight canons, six lay clerks and eight choristers, with an income of 200*l.* per annum.

Here are the monuments of bishops Glynn, 1558, Morgan, 1673, Robinson, 1584, Vaughan, 1597, and another with a cross on the south transept, as-

ascribed to Owen Glyndwr, buried at Monington, in Herefordshire; but Mr. Pennant, with apparently better reason, ascribes it to Owen Gwynedd. Here are also the remains of a palace, built by Bishop Skevington, surrounded by an embattled wall, in the garden of which is a mineral spring of common chalybeate. The dean's house still remains, but the rest, with St. Mary's church, are said to be built by King Edgar in 972. The old castle has been down many years ago. Without stands the Black Friars, now converted into a free-school, by Dr. Glynn, in 1557, and has long been in high repute as a training seminary for Oxford and Trinity College, Dublin. Since the foundation a very handsome school has been erected, under the present Rev. P. Williams of Christ Church, Oxford, with an income of 400*l.* per annum.

Over the chimney is a monument for one Gruffydd, who is supposed to have been the founder of the former ruins.

Bangor is the oldest episcopal see in Wales, founded 516; but the present edifice appears to have been built at different times, having none of its parts very ancient. It is valued in the King's books, at 13*l.* 16*s.* 3*d.* but the real revenue is 1200*l.* per annum. The church was burnt by the rebellious Owen Glyndwr, in the reign of Henry IV. The whole of the present fabric is of the Gothic architecture, with no particular ornament to distinguish it from a parish church, except some very picturesque beauties around its ancient foundation.

The city of Bangor is situated 253 miles from London, and consists, according to the late act, of 456 houses, and 2383 inhabitants; the present bishop is Dr. Majendie. The market is on Wednesday.

At a small distance from Bangor is one of the

six ferries into Anglesea, called Porth, which is more used than any other.

*Journey from Bangor to Bettws y Coed, by
Capel-Curig.*

On leaving Bangor we proceed in a south-easterly direction, and after passing through the vil-
of Llandegai, where Dr. Williams, the bishop of
York, was interred, and Talybont, at the distance
of about 14 miles, pass on our right CAPEL-CURIG,
a small village, containing little more than a
church and public-house. It is delightfully si-
tuated in a vale bounded by Snowdon and its
surrounding mountains, which afford one of the
most picturesque landscapes in the whole country,
consisting of a great variety of wood and water,
which are frequently wanted in our Cambrian
vales, to render them completely picturesque.
Here are also two large pools, near one of which
Lord Penryhn has built a very large comfortable
inn, from a design of Mr. Wyatt. In the neigh-
bourhood are some quarries, and several remark-
able rocks, well worth the traveller's observation.

The Irish mail coach road now runs by Capel
Curig to Bangor; two miles from Ceiniogau
Mawr (a single inn) it turns off to the left of the
old road which leads through Llanrwst, and de-
scending a steep valley, with the falls of the Con-
way to the left, far below, crosses Pont y Pair;
and passes through the small village of Bettws-y-
Coed; it leaves Rhaidr y Wennol to the right,
and proceeds to Capel Curig, a distance of 14
miles from Ceiniogau: it then proceeds by Llyn
Ogwen, through the magnificent pass of Nant
Franc, and passes Mr. Dawkin's Pennant's (late
Lord Penrhyn's) slate quarries, before it reaches
Bangor.

A short distance from Capel Curig is Rhaiadr
y Wennol, a celebrated cataract; the scenery

round which is extremely grand, particularly the upper part, where the water is thrown in a sheet down a rock almost perpendicular, after which it varies its course, and becomes smooth and beautiful, taking its direction between high wooded banks, entwined by different tints of oak, birch, and hazel, which hang from the impending rocks.

About four miles to the south-east of Capel Curig, on the right of our road, is Dolwyddelan Castle, situated on a high enclosed rock, with square towers of 40 feet by 25, each containing three floors. The walls of the court, once six feet thick, are now entirely destroyed, and only a small part left of the other buildings. Mr. Rowland supposes this castle to have been built as early as the time of Maelgwn Gwynedd, who lived in the sixth century, afterwards the residence of Iorweth Drwyndwn, and where his son Llewelyn the Great was born. The materials of this castle are the common stone of the country, well squared, and the masonry extremely good.

The village of Dolwyddelan, stands about a mile from the castle in a very secluded situation, among mountains; the inhabitants are remarkably reserved and timid, and few of them appear to know a word of the English language. The village is very small, being composed of little more than a few small cottages.

Near this village is Pont-y-Pair, a singular five arched bridge, erected over the river Llugwy. On the right, across the river Conway, is Rhyd y-Cacan Hall.

About two miles to the north-east of Dolwyddelan and 20 from Bangor, is BETTWS-Y-COED, a village, containing 79 houses and 350 inhabitants. In the church is an ancient monument to the memory of Davyd, brother to Llewelyn, the last prince of Wales. Here the road leads into the

luxuriant vale of Llanrwst, in the neighbourhood of which are a number of gentlemen's seats, the principal of which is Gwydir House, an ancient family seat of the Wynnes, built at the foot of a lofty rock called Careg-y-Gwalch, well clothed with wood. It is situated about two miles to the north of Bettws-y-Coed, and consists of an antique edifice, erected round a greater and lesser court, having over a gateway I. W. or John Wynne, with the date 1558. Gwydir derives its name from gwaed-dir, or the bloody land, in allusion to the battle fought here by Llywarch Hên about the year 610. On a rock above the lower Gwydir stood another, called the upper, built in a beautiful situation, amidst rich meadows watered by the Conwy.

The mansion was erected by Sir John Wynne in 1604, with true classical taste. On the walls were many inscriptions, particularly over the entrance, where was read this panegyric:

Bryn Gwydir gwelir goleu adeilad

Uch dolydd a chaerau

Bryn gweilch adail yn ail ne':

Bronwen Henllys brenhinlle.

The entrance has been of late demolished; but the family chapel, standing near the site of the old house, is still preserved, and has service performed in it four times a year. This ancient seat continued in the family of the Wynnes till 1678, when it first passed into that of Ancaster, by marriage of Mary, the heiress of Sir Richard Wynne, to the Marquis of Lindsey, and afterwards possessed by Sir Peter Burrell, Knight, in right of his wife, the Baroness Willoughby, eldest daughter of the late Duke of Ancaster, in whose family it now remains under the title of Lord Gwydir.

About two miles to the north of Gwydir house,

is the village of Trevriw, chiefly remarkable for a mineral containing common salt, which with a solution of silver, becomes in a small degree milky, another of the same kind is supposed to be near, stronger and more saline. At this village Llewelyn had a palace; and some hewn stones have been found in ploughing a field contiguous, called Gardd-y-Nevodd. He also built the church for the convenience of his princess.

A short distance from hence, between two mountains, are some capital mines belonging to two brothers of the name of Floyd. The surrounding rocks are also slate, bituminous shale, and trap or whin, the matrix of the ore quartz, and calcareous spar; the product lead and calamine, mixed with iron, ochre, and pyrites. The lead and calamine are sent raw to Conway, and the produce to Flint and Bristol. The lead is sold from 7l. to 10l. which is rather a reduced price, and the expences considerable, in consequence of the soil being a wet peat-moss and full of springs, which has nearly proved fatal to the proprietors.

*Journey from Caernarvon to Pwllheli, through
Clynog Vawr.*

On leaving Caernarvon, we proceed southerly, and at the distance of about nine miles pass through CLYNOG VAWR, a small village, rendered remarkable by being the place where Beuno (the son of a nobleman of Powis Land) settled in 616, and raised St. Winifred to life. He built the church, which was conventual, also first abbot. It has the remains of being a very magnificent stone building, one hundred and thirty-two feet, but chiefly supported by oblations at Beuno's tomb on Trinity Sunday, until the decayed state of the roof made a brief necessary. The chancel windows were adorned with pictures of Beuno and Winifred, but now reduced to three whole length saints. By the steeple on the south side

is a very ancient vault, covered with great flat stones, likewise Beuno's chapel, measuring forty-one feet by twenty-four; in the middle is his monument, a plain altar tomb, on which country people lay their children after bathing them in his well.

There were formerly brought to it lambs with Beuno's mark, either redeemed or left for the abbot: this custom is still continued to the churchwardens, but greatly reduced in number, as is the money, kept in an old chest called Cyf St. Beuno, which used to be applied to repairs for the church. It is now a sinecure, worth 200l. a year, in the gift of Jesus College, Oxford. The vicarage is worth about 50l. per annum.

Near Clynog, the seat of Lord Newborough, is Glynllivon.

About six miles from Clynog, we pass through the village of Llanaelhaiarn, six miles to the south-west of which, on the right of our road, is

NEVYN, a small town contributory to Caernarvon, bestowed on Nigel de Lohareyn by Edward the Black Prince, and made a free borough, with a hall and every privilege attendant on free boroughs. He also gave it a grant of two fairs annually, and a market on Sunday. Here Edward I. in 1284, held his triumph on the conquest of Wales, and, in imitation of ARTHUR, held a round table, with a dance and tournaments: the concourse of nobility and gentry that assembled here on this occasion was prodigious.

Near Nevyn is NANT-GWRTHEYRN, or Vortigern's valley, an immense hollow, where Vortigern is said to have fled from the rage and persecution of his countrymen, for inviting the Saxons into Britain, and where, the monks inform us, he and his castle were consumed by lightning! Indeed fancy cannot frame a place more fit for a retreat from mankind, embosomed in lofty mountains, with an opening only to the sea.

The glen is at present only tenanted by three families, who raise oats, and keep a few sheep and cattle, produced and maintained with great difficulty. Just above the sea is a verdant mount, natural except the top and sides, which appear worked on by art; having the first flatted, and the sides worked or marked with eight prominent ribs, from top to bottom. On this might have been the residence of the unfortunate Vortigern, of which time had destroyed every other vestige, till about the beginning of the last century, when a tumulus of stone, within and externally covered with turf, was to be seen here, and known by the name of Bedd-Gwrtheyrn, tradition having regularly delivered down the report of this having been the place of his interment.

The inhabitants of the parish, some time since, dug into the cairn or tumulus, and found within it a stone coffin, containing the bones of a tall man. This gives a degree of credibility to the tradition, especially as no other bones were found with it, neither is there any other tumulus near the spot: which is at least a proof of respect to the rank of the person; and that the place was deserted after the interment of our royal fugitive, in the year 465, is highly credible.

Near Vortigern's valley, is TREV-Y-CEIRI, OR THE TOWN OF FORTRESSES, which runs from one side of the *Eivl* mountains to the other, and consists of an immense rampart of stones, or perhaps the ruins of a wall made to block up a pass, and appears to have been a very strong British post. The accessible side is defended by three walls; but the lowest is very imperfect, the next tolerably entire, with a magnificent entrance. This wall in one part points upwards toward the third wall, which runs round the top of the hill: the second wall unites with the first, which running into a point, joins the highest in a place where

the hill is inaccessible. The facings on the two upper walls are in good preservation, especially that of the uppermost. The space on the top is an irregular area; one part is steep, the other flat, and in most places covered with heath, but the whole is almost filled with cells, which are best seen from the summit, where they appear disposed with much art and of various forms; round, oval, oblong, and square, lying scattered about the plain, others contiguous to the wall, but all on the inside. The upper wall was in many places fifteen feet high on the outside, and often sixteen broad.

The plan of the town is plainly to be seen from the remains. Many of the walls of the small houses, or cells, are 4 and 5 feet high, and the openings of the doors and windows still remain.

On the south of Trev-y-Ceiri is Moel-Carn-y-Guwch, a hill of conic form, having on its summit a prodigious heap of stones, seemingly a shapeless ruin, called by the country people Fedogaidd-y-Gawres, or the Apron full of stones, flung down by the Giantess; a tradition very common among the Welsh.

Returning to our road, at the distance of about eight miles from Llan Aelhaiarn, we arrive at Pwllheli, a considerable market-town, and magazine for goods, which are sent from hence to most parts of this county: it has also a good harbour for vessels of about sixty tons. Edward the Black Prince made this place a free borough, by charter dated in the twelfth year of his principality, and granted the fee-farm of it and Nevyn to one of the gentlemen of his bedchamber.

At the entrance of Pwllheli harbour, is the Ginlet, a large rock, which forms a prominent feature in every view of Cardigan bay. Within the last three years, a large tract of land has been recovered from the sea by means of a strong

embankment, which has also rendered the road to Cruccaith passable at all times; before this embankment was made, the tide frequently overflowed the first mile from Pwllheli.

Pwllheli is situated 245 miles from London, and contains 232 houses, and 1143 inhabitants. The market, which is on Wednesdays, is generally well supplied with corn.

About five miles distance is Carn-Madryn, a strong fortress of the sons of Owen Gwynedd: the bottom, sides, and top are filled with cells of different shapes, once covered, many of which are now pretty entire, and the wall which surrounded the summit, is in many places visible.

Half way up Carn-Madryn, is Madryn, the seat of Jones Parrey, Esq. Three miles from Nevyn is Porth yn Lley, a small town situated in a bay, which in beauty may compare with the celebrated bay of Naples. Several gentlemen of the Principality endeavoured to prevail with government to establish the Irish packets here, instead of the accustomed station at Holyhead; but the scheme failed for want of money. Porth yn Lley is particularly adapted for sea bathing.

Seven miles from Pwllheli, Plâs Llên, Sir T. Mostyn. Gwynvryn, D. Ellis Nanney, Esq. One mile farther, Trevan Hall, Mrs. Priestley.

About three miles to the north-east of Pwllheli, at LLANGYBI, is a good mineral water, the peculiar qualities of which are a sure remedy for all diseases of the eyes, and has for these sixty years past performed some wonderful cures. It has been used time immemorial by the people of this neighbourhood with success; for the discovery of which we are indebted to a worthy clergyman, then resident in this neighbourhood.

The qualities of this mineral are briefly these: 1. It is heavier than common water, and lighter than sea water. 2. It is mixed with a great por-

tion of mineral spirits. 3. Contains a mineral alkaline salt. 4. And lastly, it contains a fine white metallic earth, which I do not know in what class to place; therefore the future experiment of some able chemist may render a peculiar service to the public, and elucidate many qualities in this excellent mineral, at present but little known.

Journey from Pwllheli to Penmorva, through Cruccaith.

At the distance of three miles to the east of Pwllheli, we pass through the village of Abereirch, about eight miles beyond which is CRUCCAITH, a market-town, and borough, united with Caernarvon, and governed by two bailiffs.

The castle has been its chief importance, though only a small building, and at present in a very ruinous condition. It is situated on an eminence jutting into the sea, from whence is a fine view across the bay towards Harlech, and its once magnificent castle. From the architecture of this castle we may pronounce it to be of British origin, although Edward I. is the reputed founder; but he seems to have done no more than build the two towers at its entrance, and afterwards appoint William de Leybourn constable, with the salary of 100l. out of which he was to maintain 30 men, a chaplain, surgeon, carpenter, and mason. From what now remains it appears originally to have consisted of four square courts; and on each side the entrance a round tower; it had also the honour of being the residence of the valiant Sir Howel y Vwyall, who disputed the honour of taking the King of France prisoner at Poitiers with a Knight of Artois.

The Black Prince made him constable of this castle, with several privileges, and a guard of

eight yeomen, at eightpence per day, from the king; since given to the poor.

This old road is no longer used, and a new and most excellent one is made, which keeps nearer the coast, and leaving Penmorva to the left leads to Tree Madoc, a town built by Mr. Madocks at the mouth of the Traeth-Mawr: a noble embankment was also undertaken by Mr. Madocks, the object of which was to unite the two counties of Caernarvon and Merioneth, by closing the entrance of the Traeth-Mawr; by this 4000 acres would have been gained from the sea; by what has been effected, the lives of hundreds will be preserved, since so dangerous are the sands of the Traeth-Mawr, that a winter seldom passed without many persons having been drowned in crossing them. The embankment, nearly a mile in length, was intended to form a carriage road: for want of funds to complete it, this truly noble work is but half finished; the tide still continues to flow through the bank, and it is not yet wide enough to admit carriages to cross with safety; horse and foot passengers, however, pass over it. From Tree Madoc, a road of singular beauty, winds along the shores of the Traeth Mawr, and at the distance of 8 miles reaches Pont Aberglaslyn, and then making a short angle to the right, leads into the road from Beddgelert to Tan y Bwlch. The town of Tree Madoc is neatly built, and has a handsome market house, a large church, with an elegant spire, a manufactory for flannel, and contains many good houses: a very beautiful house, in the cottage style, called Tan y ralt, was also built by Mr. Madocks, on a steep rock, overhanging the town. Previous to undertaking the great bank across the Traeth, Mr. Madocks had recovered a very considerable tract of land from the sea, on which the town is built; the land, which had been

covered by the tide, became excellent pasture in three years. The plan of closing the Traeth was a favourite idea of Sir Hugh Middleton, so well known as the projector of the New River water-works, and a curious letter of his on the subject, is printed in Pennant's Tour in Caernarvonshire.

The town of Cruccaith is situated 237 miles from London, and consists of 94 houses and 459 inhabitants. Its market is on Wednesdays.

At Cruccaith we *turn northward*, and at the distance of five miles arrive at Penmorva, a small wood-clad village, situate in a very romantic spot, on the western bank of Traeth Mawr, but somewhat out of the common route of tourists, therefore seldom visited. The church is small, and dedicated to St. Beuno, having within a monument to the memory of Sir John Owen, a general and supporter of Charles I.; but on the execution of his royal master, he was condemned by the parliament to lose his head. Sir John Owen owed his life to Cromwell himself; several gentlemen were condemned to suffer at the same time, and much interest was made to save them. Cromwell observing that Sir John Owen had no friend to plead for him, exclaimed; "What does no one try to save this poor Welshman? Well then, I must stand his friend," and gave orders for his release. From Penmorva is a ford across Traeth-Mawr and Traeth-bach to the road leading to Tan-y-Bwlch and Harlech.

The shape of this town is an oblong square; over the market-house, are good assembly rooms. On the other sides of the areas, are arranged the recently well-built houses. A small church in the pointed style, is situated upon one side of a new street; and upon the other is a neat place of worship for protestant dissenters. Mr. Madocks has established a bank for commercial purposes; nor has he been inattentive to the traveller, for

the Tremadoc Arms is a respectable and comfortable Inn.

ISLAND.

Bardsey Island, called in Welsh Ynys Eulli, or Island in the current, is situated about a mile from the southern point of Caernarvonshire. It is a remarkable fertile plain, about two miles in circumference, and well cultivated. It is venerable for the remains of its ancient abbey, which was originally a large stone building, now inhabited by several families. Not far from the Abbey is a singular chapel or oratory, consisting of a long arched building, with an insulated stone altar near the east end, where one of the inhabitants often reads prayers. It was founded in the year 516, and was valued at the dissolution at 46*l.* per annum. Here Dubricius, the archbishop, retired after his resignation of the see of Canterbury. This Island was granted by Edward VI. to Sir Thomas Seymour, and afterwards to the Earl of Warwick. The spiritual concerns are now under the care of a single rustic; but formerly afforded an asylum to 20,000 saints for life, and after death graves for as many bodies; on which Dr. Fuller judiciously observes, "It would be more facile to find graves for as many saints, than saints for so many graves." The slaughter of the monks at Bangor, about 607, is supposed to have contributed to the population of Bardsey, for many pious Britons fled here to avoid the persecution of the Saxons.

DENBIGHSHIRE.

THIS county runs parallel to Flintshire, and is bounded on the north by the Irish Sea, on the

east by Cheshire and Shropshire, on the south by Merionethshire, and on the west by Caernarvonshire. From the last it is only separated by the river Conway. The extreme length is forty-eight miles, its greatest breadth not above eighteen, and in the middle much less.

It comprehends about 410,000 acres of land, almost the whole of which is in a state of cultivation: and may be computed at 150,000 arable, and 250,000 of pasturage. It is divided into six hundreds, viz. Bromfield, Chirk, Isaled, Isdulas, Ruthin, and Iâl; and contains one borough town, Denbigh, and five market towns, viz. Abergely, Llangollen, Llanrwst, Ruthin, and Wrexham; fifty-seven parishes; 13,078 houses, and 64,420 inhabitants. Its principal rivers are the Clwyd and Conwy; the former passes through the vale of the same name; the latter is the boundary between this county and Caernarvonshire.

Denbighshire is situated within the diocese of St. Asaph, excepting the vale of Clwyd, which is in the diocese of Bangor. The air of this county is very salutary, but being continually agitated by the winds which blow over the snowy mountains, is thought sharper than that of its neighbouring districts. The soil is various in Denbighshire, but the rugged and mountainous character of Wales is conspicuous, though softened by a considerable mixture of fertility and beauty; but the west side is in a manner entirely barren. At the south-eastern extremity the banks of the Dee afford fine pasture and meadow land, where cheese is made equal to the best Cheshire. Northward is the hundred of Iâl, hilly, productive of grass, and abounding with cattle, yet bare and dreary to the view. On the western side, the county becomes more uniformly alpine, with frequent small lakes and deep narrow vales interspersed amidst naked mountains. The northern

part towards the sea is more level, forming part of the extensive plain of Rhuddlan.

The products are chiefly corn, cheese, and cattle; it also participates with Flintshire in some lead mines, near its borders, and has others in the south-western part, together with coals, besides is well wooded with old plantations, and extensive new ones, which promise in a few years to render their possessors rich, and the numerous estates as valuable as they are at present beautiful. Of manufactures wool is the principal, and from it a great quantity of fine and coarse cloths are made, and likewise stockings.

Denbighshire has two representatives in the British senate, viz. one for the county and one for the borough of Denbigh.

TOPOGRAPHICAL DESCRIPTION OF THE COUNTY OF DENBIGH.

Journey from Groes Fordd to Wrexham; through Denbigh and Ruthin.

Groes Fordd is a small hamlet (situated at the north-western extremity of the county), on leaving which we proceed in a south-easterly direction, and at the distance of about eight miles, pass through the village of Bettws, four miles to the north of which is ABERGELEY, a market-town, situated near the sea, and much frequented for bathing. Its market is on Saturday, and it contains 399 houses, and 1944 inhabitants.

Returning to our road, at the distance of about nine miles from Bettws, we pass through the village of Henllan, where formerly stood a priory of white friars; little of it however remains, except a part of the church, now converted into a barn.

About one mile farther we arrive at DENBIGH,

the county town, situate on the side of a craggy hill, near the middle of the beautiful and fertile vale of Clywd; but being deserted in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, a new town was built, on a much larger scale, at the foot of the hill, called by the Britons Caledvryn yn Rhos, or the craggy hill in Rhos. This part of the county was given by Edward I. to David ab Gruffydd, brother to Llewelyn, the last prince of North Wales, who being afterwards beheaded for high treason, it was given to Lacy, Earl of Lincoln, who fortified the town with a strong wall and castle; but his only son being unfortunately drowned in the well of this castle, his grief was so great that he left it unfinished. After the Earl's death, it went, by the marriage of Alice, his daughter, into the possession of the house of Lancaster. Edward II. gave it to Hugh Spencer; in Edward the Third's reign, Roger Mortimer became the possessor, and fixed his arms on the chief gate; but he being some time after executed for treason, it went to Montague, Earl of Salisbury, but was soon after restored to the Mortimers. After many changes it came to the house of York, and now belongs to the crown. It was delivered up to the parliament army in 1646, and appears to have been a place of such strength, that after the Restoration it was thought advisable to blow it up. The ruins are still to be seen on the summit of a rock, sloping on all but one side, which is a precipice.— It was built in the year 1280. Charles I. resided in it some time. The grand entrance was through a large gate, with a pointed arch, flanked by two octagonal towers. The breaches about this building shew that the manner of its construction was by two walls occupying the extremities of the intended thickness, built in the ordinary manner, with a vacuity between them, into which was poured a mixture of mortar and rough stones of

all sizes, forming when dry a mass, as hard as stone itself. The castle was likewise almost impregnable, from its advantageous situation. The prospect from it is most enchanting, particularly along the vale of Clwyd, and the banks of the river, decorated with seats; it overlooks also the towns of Ruthin and St. Asaph, with the mountains rising at a distance, forming a most delightful view.

About the time of Henry III. Adam Salusbury founded and endowed an abbey of black monks, of the Benedictine order, now in ruins. Denbigh is governed by two aldermen, a recorder, and two bailiffs acting as sheriffs, and twenty-five capital burgesses, who form a common-council. The aldermen are justices, and hold quarter-sessions in the same manner as the county sessions are held, by statute. The resident burgesses are voters for the borough member. The political influence of this place is entirely in Richard Middleton, Esq. of Chirk Castle, whose ancestors have represented it, in various parliaments, from the 33d of Henry VIII. to the present time. The number of voters is about 500; returning officers, the bailiffs.

The town is not large, but well-built in general, and carries on a considerable trade in shoes and gloves, and other articles in the leather way. Near the castle stands the chapel of St. Hilary, the common place of worship for the inhabitants of the town; it being rather remarkable, that the parish church and burial place stand a full mile off in the bottom of the vale.

Denbigh has a good town-hall, and several other buildings, with a handsome street. It is situated 219 miles from London, nearly in the centre of the beautiful vale of Dyfryn Clwyd, which has always been much admired by travellers for its luxuriant fertility. Its market is on

Wednesdays, and the town consists, according to the late population act, of 617 houses, and 2,716 inhabitants.

On leaving Denbigh, we pass through Dyfryn Clwyd, or the vale of Clwyd, extending through the centre of Denbigh to the mouth of the river Clwyd, which springs from a spot above Ruthin in Hiraethog mountain, and runs through the centre of Dyfryn Clwyd. It is in length from north to south twenty-six miles, and from five to eight broad, bounded by high mountains to the east and west, and almost shut up by them to the south, except towards the Irish Sea, where it terminates in a marsh at Rhuddlan.

To the natural beauties of this vale might justly be added its present advanced cultivation, most enchantingly diversified by a mixture of corn and pasture ground, with here and there woodlands gently sloping down the declivity of its hills, besides interspersed with churches and pleasant villages, particularly those near the river Clwyd, where the land in every part swells into a constant variety of inequalities, with numerous enclosures, producing an agreeable variety of pasture and arable lands, which in beauty almost exceed the natural richness of the soil. Through the Clwydian hills is a remarkable pass, called Bwlch Agricola, supposed to have been the usual route to Anglesea. That the Romans were resident in these parts is evident from the number of coins found in the parish. In this vale Caradoc mentions a dreadful conflict in 1115, between Howel ab Meredith and Howel ab Ithel, which, after a great slaughter on both sides, terminated in favour of the latter. David ab Owen, a prince of North Wales, in 1164, invaded Flintshire with success, and carried away the chief men of the county; and afterwards drove their cattle to Dyfryn Clwyd, otherwise Ruthyn Land.

Whitchurch, which is situated one mile to the south-east of Denbigh, contains little worth our notice, except St. Mascellis church, which has many monuments for great persons, particularly Sir John Salusbury, of Lleweny, who died in 1578; Humphry Llwyd, 1568; and Richard Middleton, 1575, governor of Denbigh Castle under Edward VI. Mary and Elizabeth, and father of Sir Hugh Middleton, who planned, and chiefly at his own expense brought the New River from Ware to London. Whitchurch had a house of white friars, founded by John Salusbury, who died in 1289. The chapel, though still entire, has long since been converted to a stable.

LLANRHAIDR, or Village of the Fountain, is situated on a small eminence, in the middle of the vale, between Ruthin and Denbigh. The Church is rather a handsome structure, with a large and elegant east window, remarkable for a fine painting of the genealogy of Christ, from Jesse, executed about the year 1533. The patriarch is represented upon his back, with the genealogical tree springing from his stomach. In the church-yard is a tomb-stone, with an inscription for John ab Robert, of Perth, a descendant of Cadell, king of Powis, who died in the year 1643, at the advanced age of 95. Here were some, alms-houses, for eight poor women, founded by a Mr. Jones, a native of this place, in 1729. In Leland's time Llanrhaiadr parish was celebrated for good corn and grass, but at present the south-west is extremely barren and boggy.

Returning from this digression, at the distance of about six miles from Denbigh, we pass through RUTHIN, a large and populous town, most delightfully situate on a considerable eminence, nearly in the centre of the vale of Clwyd. On entering the town by the west, over a good bridge, we have a fine picturesque appearance, but a broad ill-built

street leads to the market house, near which stands the town-hall, at right angles with the church. The latter is a handsome building, with a monument and bust of Dean Goodman, who died 1601; also a cross for his father, who died 1560, aged 84; and his mother, 1583, aged 90. John, son of Reginald Grey, made this church collegiate in 1310, for seven regulars, but now it is only a chapel to Llanrydd. Adjoining the church were the apartments of the priests, part of which has been repaired, and serves as the mansion of the warden; but the tower is clearly of a later date than the other parts of the building. Leland mentions a house of white friars in this town, which stood probably in Prior's-street, but there are now no remains. Here was an hospital and free-school, a good building, founded by the Goodmans; the latter is still in great repute, and has, much to its honour, produced some of the first classical scholars in the kingdom. At this place is the county gaol for Deubighshire, a neat well constructed pile, and where the great sessions are held, probably on account of convenience and its central situation.

On the top of Moel Vama, the highest of the Clwydian mountains, is a large tower built to commemorate George III. having completed the 50th year of his reign.

Of its castle, north of the town, only a few foundations of walls, and the fragments of one or two of the towers remain, which, from the great thickness, manifest original strength. The stones used in building it are red, whence it has been called Rhudd-Ddin, or the red fort. The area of the castle is now a meadow, and another part a bowling-green. The castle and town walls are supposed to have been built by Reginald Grey, to whom Edward I. in 1281, gave nearly the whole of Dyfryn Clwyd, for his actual services against

the Welsh. It was afterwards sold to Henry VII. but being neglected, soon fell to decay. At present, the east walls, built within the town, and its principal front on the west, are nearly entire, with a gate, square tower, and battlements. On this and the south side were formerly five handsome round towers, which were well garrisoned in the civil wars for the king; but surrendered to General Mytton, in 1645, after a siege of two months, and in the same year dismantled by order of the Parliament. In act of revenge on Lord Grey, Owen Glyndwr, in 1400, during a fair held at Ruthin, set fire to the town, and destroyed the greater part, and having plundered the effects of the merchants, retired among the mountains.

Near Ruthin is the neat little village of Llan Dyvnog, remarkable for a well, to which we pass through the churchyard by an almshouse, to a plantation of trees, with a broad gravel walk, almost concealed from day-light by thick foliage. Within this place is the fountain, enclosed in an angular wall, forming a bath of considerable size. Many wonderful qualities are attributed to this water, but it is more particularly celebrated for curing the rheumatism.

At this place was formerly a chapel dedicated to St. Dyvnog, in the lower part of which were some images of the twelve apostles.

About three miles to the east of Ruthin is LLANARMON, a considerable village, where great pilgrimages were formerly made, with offerings to St. Garmon. In the church is a monument, inscribed, *Hic jacet Gruffyd ab Llewelyn ab Ynyr*, with five bloody fingers on his shield, and a dog at his feet, carved on the lid of a stone coffin.

In this parish are many tumuli, some composed of loose stones and earth, under a layer of soil, two feet thick, and a coat of turf; in these tu-

multi were discovered several urns reversed, and a flat stone without urns, besides considerable fragments of burnt bones. An entire skeleton, placed between flags of a proportionate size, was also found in or near one of these *carneddau*.

Returning to our road, at the distance of about 15 miles, after passing through the village of Llandegla, we arrive at WREXHAM, a populous market-town, and from its size and consequence not improperly denominated the *metropolis* of North Wales. The buildings are in general good, and the country around it very beautiful, which has induced many families to fix their residence in its vicinity. It appears to have been a place of some antiquity, being well known to the Saxons by the name of *Wrightesham*.

The church, according to Leland, formerly collegiate, is an elegant structure of 178 feet in length from east to west, and 62 from north to south. The tower, dated 1506, is to the top of the pinnacle 135 feet, and 22 square, adorned on three sides with rows of 25 statues. The south is unusually low, with an entrance called the Wedding Door: the organ was destroyed in 1641. The inside is very spacious, having over the pillars much grotesque carving, and over the arches the arms of many of the British and Saxon princes; it is not, however, loaded with carvings as many of the Gothic churches are, but is plain, and kept extremely neat.

Here are two good monuments, the work of Roubiliac; the one in memory of Mary, the daughter of Sir Richard Middleton, who died in 1747, is particularly fine.—She is represented bursting from the tomb, and with a countenance truly angelic, where the mixture of surprise and admiration is so firmly and strongly expressed, that it is almost possible to fancy it more than stone. In

the back ground an ancient pyramid, falling to pieces, is excellently represented, which must afford delight to every admirer of fine sculpture. The other monuments are to the memory of the Rev. Thomas Middleton and Arabella his wife. Opposite to the former, is a recumbent figure of Hugh Bellot, bishop of Bangor, who died in 1596. Under the belfry is an antique monument, found about sixty years ago, in digging a foundation for the iron gates to the church-yard. It represents a knight in complete armour, with his feet resting on some kind of animal, his legs extended, and a long sword parallel with them; the hilt in the right hand. On the left arm is a shield, with a lion or wolf rampant, and round it some large Saxon characters, not legible, on account of its dark situation under the staircase. The altar-piece was brought from Rome, and given to the church by Elihu Yale, Esq. who was interred in the church-yard in 1721, with the following inscription on his tomb:

Born in America, in Europe bred,
 In Afric travell'd, and in Asia wed;
 Where long he liv'd and thriv'd—in London died,
 Much good, some ill he did, so hope all's even,
 And that his soul thro' mercy's gone to heaven!
 You that survive and read this tale, take care
 For this most certain exit to prepare.
 When blest in peace, the actions of the just
 Smell sweet, and blossom in the silent dust.

The present church, except the tower, was finished before 1472, the former building having been destroyed by fire, but the tower, according to the date upon it, was completed in the year 1506. In 1647, during the civil wars, this church was made a prison by Cromwell, in which several of the committee men were confined by the parliament soldiers.

Here is an excellent free-school, and a convenient town-hall, situate in a wide street in the centre of the town. Its markets are on Thursdays and Mondays, but the former is the principal; and in the month of March there is a noted annual fair held here, which lasts nine days, and is frequented by tradesmen from almost all parts of the kingdom. The commodities brought by the Welsh are chiefly flannels, linen, linsey-woolsey, horses and cattle in abundance. Traders from other parts bring Irish linen, Yorkshire cloths, Manchester goods, and Birmingham manufactures of all descriptions. This fair, which is usually held on two acres of land contiguous to the town, supplies nearly all the shopkeepers in North and South Wales.

Wrexham is situated 176 miles from London, and contains 650 houses, and 3,006 inhabitants.

About five miles to the north-east of Wrexham is Holt, once a considerable market-town, and a place of some importance, but at present only an obscure village, on the west bank of the Dee; though, according to ancient custom, it is still governed by a mayor and alderman, agreeable to the charter granted by the Earl of Arundel, in 1410.

The villages of Holt, and Farndon in Cheshire, are divided only by the Dee, but have a communication by a bridge of ten arches, built in the year 1345. The church, or more properly the chapel, is built of red stone, and seems to be of the same antiquity as the bridge. The scenery about this village is not very pleasant: it consists chiefly of the river Dee, which takes its course through low and uninteresting meadows.

Of the castle little remains, except its site, consisting of a solid rock, and a moat, near the river, which originally formed a small outpost to Deva: some famous out-works are yet visible

about it; and on the opposite side of the river Roman coins have been found, being the same situation as Camden calls the ancient *Castrum Leonis*, a name probably obtained from the 20th legion, when stationed near this place. The castle was defended on three sides by a trench, forty or fifty yards wide, cut out of the solid rock:—indeed, from the colour and grit of the stones used in the building, the whole was probably taken from this trench to erect the superstructure. The fortress consisted of five bastions, four of which were round, and the remaining one next the river square, having its entrance by a drawbridge, over the trench on the west side; but by its present appearance it is impossible to form any idea of its ancient strength or mode of defence.

In the reign of Henry III. and the beginning of Edward I. the castle and lands about it were the property of Madoc ab Gruffydd, but upon the murder of his two sons, granted by Edward I. in 1281, to Earl Warren and his successors. Richard II. on his departure for Ireland, deposited here his jewels, to the value of 200,000 marks in money, which on his deposition were surrendered to the Duke of Hereford, in 1399. Henry VIII. in 1534, gave this lordship to his natural son, the Duke of Richmond; but Thomas Seymour, brother to the Protector, had it in the next reign, and formed here a magazine of stores, which were forfeited to the crown at his execution. Holt Castle was garrisoned for Charles I. in 1643, but besieged by the Parliament in 1645, and with four others entirely demolished. The lordship now belongs to the crown, under the direction of a steward, an office at present filled by Sir Watkin Williams Wynn, Bart.

Three miles north-west of Holt is the village of GRESFORD, chiefly noticed for its beautiful church, and six bells. It stands on a rising ground at the

end of the village, built of free-stone, in length 123 feet, 59 broad, with a quadrangular tower, 90 feet high, and on one side a fine statue of Henry VII. The east window, which is 21 feet by 14, has been full of beautiful groups, appearing to be the history of the several saints to whom the church is dedicated, with a few figures of the Virgin Mary in the middle, and under each group sentences in her praise: her history is also in the east window of the north aisle. In the south aisle is a figure completely armed with mail, a surcoat, and round helmet; his legs are not across, but he has a lion at his feet and likewise on his shield, with this inscription on the ledge of the tomb: *HIC JACET MADOC AB LLEWELYN AB GRYFFYDDO*. There is a similar figure in the north aisle, but the inscription is entirely concealed by the pews. Against one of the pillars is an inscription for a Mr. John Robinson, who died in 1681. Near Gresford, is the Rofts, a strong British camp, treble trenched, having at one corner a vast mount or keep.

Gresford Lodge, the seat of Rev. G. Warrington.

Journey from Wrexham to Llangollen, through Ruabon.

On leaving Wrexham, we proceed in a south-westerly direction, and at the distance of about one mile, pass on our right, Erddig, the seat of Simon Yorke, Esq. bounded by two little vales, well wooded and watered. The approach to Erddig is through a fine wood, overhanging the banquetting-room, which is placed on the edge of a murmuring brook, that skirts a large verdant meadow, of peculiar richness and beauty. The walks through the wood, and round the banquetting-room, are traced out with distinguished taste and elegance, but infinitely inferior to the works of nature about Ruabon. Watt's Dyke is the most distinguished remains of antiquity in this district, and runs along one side of the bank between these vales;

at the extremity, and impending over them, are several small intrenchments, particularly one of a pentagon form, and beyond it a green mount. These compose what is called the Roman Fort, though no coins, or other pieces of antiquity, have ever been found here or contiguous. Some fragments of a wall, cemented with mortar, yet remain, and some traditional accounts, the only evidences in support of this assertion, which is very dubious to the antiquary, if not entirely disbelieved.

Returning to our road, at the distance of about five miles from Wrexham, we pass through Ruabon or Rhiwabon, a pleasant village, situated on a small eminence, which abounds with coal, and round the residences of several gentlemen of fortune. The church is a very antique building, with a good organ, given it by the late Sir Watkin Williams Wynn. It has also several monuments, particularly an ancient table of marble, with two recumbent figures, having round its edge an obsolete Latin inscription, indicating it to have been erected for one John ap Ellis Eyton and his wife, who died in 1524 and 1526. There are likewise four other marble monuments for the following persons: Henry Wynn, Esq. of Wynnstay, who died in 1718; Sir Watkin Williams Wynn, Bart. 1749; and Lady H. Wynn, the wife of Sir Watkin, who died 1769. Dr. Powell, the celebrated Welsh historian, who translated into English the *Chronicle of Caradoc of Llancarvan*, was instituted to this vicarage in the year 1571.

About half a mile to the south of Ruabon, is Wynnstay, anciently the residence of Madoc ab Gruffydd, Maelor, founder of Valle Crucis Abbey, near Llangollen. It formerly bore the name of Wattstay, from Watt's Dyke, an ancient rampart, which runs through this estate; but when it came into the possession of the Wynn family, the name

was changed to its present appellation of Wynn-stay. It consists of an old mansion, pleasantly situated on a hill, in a good park, well wooded, and stocked with a great number of red deer. Part of the present structure appears to have been built in the sixteenth century, by Sir John Wynn, and a part erected by the late Sir Watkin, which gives the whole an irregular appearance.

The grounds adjoining the village of Ruabon are very extensive, being nearly eight miles in circumference, and in general well-wooded, particularly its park, wherein is erected to the memory of the late Sir W. W. Wynn by his mother, a handsome column of 100 feet high, the base 16, and the top nine, built with free-stone, fluted. Round the top is formed a gallery, with a handsome urn in bronze, after an elegant design cast in London. The base of the column has round it wreaths of oak leaves, in the beaks of four eagles, cast in the same metal. On the south-west side is a door, with a well-staircase, leading to the gallery at the top, which affords an extensive prospect, but by no means beautiful. On the other three sides is carved an appropriate inscription, in English, Welsh, and Latin.

The present Sir Watkin W. Wynn made a beautiful drive through his woods, leading to a romantic spot overhanging the Dee, called Nant y Celyn.

Near the old house, is a good turnpike road, running for about two miles on a bank, called Clawdd-Offa, or Offa's Dyke, thrown up as a boundary between the Saxons and Britons, in 763. It is ten feet high, and broad enough to admit two carriages, for a long space of ground, called Llwybyr-y-Gath, or the Cat's Path. Near it is a remarkable tumulus, besides a fine view of the Dee, and its course through a deep and delightful valley.

At the distance of six miles beyond Ruabon, we arrive at LLANGOLLEN, a neat market-town, seated in a vale of the same name. Here the river Dee, foaming over rocks in a wide and deep channel, is crossed by a beautiful bridge of five large pointed arches, the largest being above 28 feet in diameter, but the river running through one only, has formed a deep black chasm 24 feet deep. It is erected on the ledge of a rock, where it seems impossible to fix a good foundation, therefore accounted one of the wonders of Wales, and ascribed to John Trevor, bishop of St. Asaph, in the year 1400; but repaired in 1656. The town is situated in a delightful vale, through which the Dee rolls over cataracts at almost every ten yards, but beautifully diversified with meads, woodland, and hills, finely interspersed with houses. Llangollen has long been the subject of much admiration, both in prose and verse, though in richness it cannot bear comparison with the vale of Clwyd; neither is it equal, in picturesque scenery, to the vale of Festiniog. The Glwyseg rocks, a formal range of limestone crags on the north-east side, greatly disfigure some of its most beautiful scenes; but the prospect towards the plain of Salop and upwards, is uncommonly striking and beautiful. On the whole it is a very desirable situation for those who wish to retire from the noise and bustle of large towns. Such are the attractions that induced Lady E. Butler and Miss Ponsonby to fit up, in a true characteristic style, an elegant little cottage, at the west extremity of the town. The two rooms, which are allotted for the inspection of strangers, are very handsomely furnished, and the dining-room ornamented with numerous drawings of some of the most favourite scenes in its vicinity. The window commands a prospect of the mountains, which are very beautiful in front; and the study, containing

a good selection of modern books, looks on the well-arranged plantations adjoining. The whole, though thus veiled in obscurity, is an enviable retreat, well worth the attention of travellers, particularly those who move in the higher sphere of life, amid the follies and dissipation of a metropolis.

The town of Llangollen is situated 192 miles from London, and contains, according to the late returns, 1,357 houses, and 6,649 inhabitants.

About two miles to the north of Llangollen is VALLE-CRUCIS, or Llan Egwestl Abbey, situated in the centre of a small verdant meadow, at the foot of Bron-vawr, a high hill in the township of Maestyr-Ychain, and only two miles south-west of Llangollen. It is perhaps one of the most beautiful and secluded situations in the kingdom, surrounded by high mountains and abrupt rocks, towering rudely into the air, with a bottom in many places covered with wood, besides a fine winding river, verdant meadows, and in front an ancient and truly majestic ruin, affording some elegant specimens of gothic architecture, which Miss Seward describes thus, in numbers finely poetical and descriptive :

—On the brink of Deva's wandering flood,
Your rich arch glimmering thro' the tangled glade,
Your gay hills towering o'er your night of wood,
Deep in the vale's recesses as you stand,
And desolately great the rising sigh command.

Of all this ancient pile, the church only is in any state of preservation, and the body of that is nearly choked with the ruins; this circumstance, with the addition of several large trees rising among the fragments, render it very difficult to take a measurement: it appears to have been one hundred and eighty feet long, the nave thirty-one broad, and the side aisle thirteen. This abbey,

acknowledged to be the finest remains of antiquity in North Wales, was founded by Madawc ab Grifith Maclor, Prince of Powis, about 1200, for Cisterrians, and dedicated to the Virgin Mary, with a revenue of 188*l.* per annum; but since its dissolution, appropriated to the tithes of Wrexham and Llangollen. Of the magnificence of this ancient monastery no adequate description can possibly be given by what remains; consisting of two gables and the south transept. The west front has also a handsome round-arched door, with two of its mouldings adorned with a kind of nail-head quatrefoil, and over it in a round arch are three lancet windows, with a circular or marigold one above, containing eight divisions and this mutilated inscription: AD..ADAM..DNS .. *fecit hoc opus pace beata quiescat*,—underneath M. D... The west gable has three long lancet windows from the ground, and over them two others, with a singular kind of pilaster dropping from them. The north transept had an east aisle, and at its north end an arch like a tomb. The south-east pillars of the nave are still standing, but every thing to the north is destroyed.

Tradition says, this monastery had a number of chapels, governed by their priests, and so distinguished that the service of one did not disturb the other. The cloister on the south side is now converted into a dwelling-house, with two doors and two windows, one of which is remarkable for its rich tracing. Three rows of groined arches, on single round pillars, support the dormitory, now converted into a hay-loft, approached by steps from without. A chimney, in one of the bedrooms, has the relic of a sepulchral monument, with this broken inscription:—*Hic jacet* ARVRVI.... The floors are remarkably thick, and partly supported by rows of Gothic arches. After viewing the whole of this ancient fabric, we

cannot reconcile our ideas in language more descriptive and sublime than what Mr. Bingley has expressed himself in on this occasion.

“In this solemn and peaceable retreat, how grand must have been the deep-toned organ’s swell, the loud anthem of a hundred voices rolling through these roofs, and penetrating the hallowed grove! What devotion would not rise upon enthusiasm’s wings, when it heard the toll of a vesper bell undulating with the breeze. Even now, when all these heaven-inspiring sounds have ceased, does memory recur to them, and fancy peoples the gloom with all its former inhabitants.”

In a meadow, about two fields from the abbey, is the pillar of Eliseg, erected about a thousand years ago, to the memory of Eliseg, the father of Brochwel, Prince of Powis, who was slain in the battle of Chester, 607. It also gives a name to the vale, and was originally twelve feet long, but having been thrown down and broken, some time during the civil wars, it lay neglected, until Mr. Lloyd, of Trevor Hall, in 1779, caused this valuable remain of antiquity to be raised from obscurity and erected on its pedestal, though only the upper part of the original shaft. It bears some characters of an old inscription, but too illegible to decypher.

Facing Castle Dinas Brân, is Dinbrân, the beautiful seat of Foster Cunliffe, Esq.

DINAS BRAN Castle is situated on a vast conical hill just opposite to Llangollen, and one mile from Valle Crucis. The hill towards the summit is so very steep on every side as to render the ascent dangerous and fatiguing, notwithstanding the narrow path, which runs under an arch from its eastern point. The area consists of little more than ruins of a large building, which appears to have been about 300 feet long, and 150 broad, occupying the whole summit of the mountain; and from

its extremely elevated situation must have been a place of great strength. On the side where it is the least steep, it was defended by trenches cut out of the solid rock, having on the inside a building with two windows as of a chapel, and some fragments of a tower, which with a few scattered walls constitute the whole of its present remains.

Of the origin of this castle there has been some dispute; however, several distinguished Britons bore this name, and several rivers are so called, and there is Nant Brân, a river in its vicinity, and the style of its architecture, are indisputable proofs of it being founded by the Britons; but antiquarians and sage tradition attribute it to Brennus, the Gallic general, who it is said came into Britain to contend with his brother Belinus; but this story is evidently ill-founded, as is that of its having been the residence of the Lords of Iâl. Notwithstanding the preceding contradictions, we do not pretend to fix a period when this became a military station; however, the present ruins will justify the assertion of this structure being of the time, and probably erected by Gruffydd ab Madoc, who resided in these parts, and was deeply engaged in the interests of Henry the Third. After this we have several trifling circumstances recorded, but when or by whom it was finally demolished is equally abstruse as its origin. Tradition reports it was destroyed by fire as early as the tenth century: Leland mentions seeing some considerable ruins of it in his time.

From Dinas Brân, the views are extensive and beautiful, and perhaps no where more so, except Snowdon or Cader-Idris. It is remarkable, considering the perpendicular height of this hill, which is nearly 600 yards, that the two wells within the castle walls are never deficient of water. The springs are probably supplied from the ad-

jacent mountains of Glwyseg, which are considerably higher than the castle; and even detached from it by an immense, deep, and long vallum. The declivity is much steeper towards Glwyseg rocks, than Llangollen, but even this side cannot be approached on horseback nearer than a quarter of a mile. Within that space the castle walls were defended by long and deep intrenchments of earth, while immediately under appears a deep foss, excavated from the solid rock: the materials were probably used in erecting the fortifications, with two entrances by a draw-bridge over the foss.

About six miles to the south-east of Llangollen, is the village of Chirk, situated on the brow of a hill, and carrying on a considerable trade in coals. The Ellesmere canal passes within half a mile of this village, and is to be carried over the river and vale Ceiriog, by a long aqueduct, now nearly finished. Half a mile off is Chirk Castle, which, like Powys, still retains a mixture of the castle and mansion. It is supposed to stand on the site of Castell Crogen, and is situated on the summit of a high hill, commanding an extensive view into seventeen counties, besides surrounded with hills, woods, and a cultivated country. The river Ceiriog runs below the castle to the west and south, giving name to the vale and Chirk village—Chirk being the English corruption of Ceiriog. This vale was guarded by two mounts, still remaining on each side of the road through the vale; but rendered more remarkable as being the place where the famous battle of Crogen was fought in 1165, when Henry the Second made a most inglorious retreat from Owen Gwynedd. The place is still called Adwy-y-Beddau, or passage of the graves. The external part of Chirk Castle retains much of its antique aspect, being a square building, with four towers, one at each corner, and a fifth in the front, nearly fifty feet, which give the

whole a clumsy and heavy aspect. Within is an elegant court-yard, 165 feet long, and 100 broad, with a handsome colonnade on each side.

The dungeon, down a flight of forty-two steps, is said to be as deep as the walls are high. The chief apartments are a saloon, drawing-room, and gallery, with many fine paintings, principally family portraits. The present castle was probably the work of Roger Mortimer, who died in the Tower, after an imprisonment of four years by Edward the Third. On the death of Mortimer, it reverted to the crown, and was then granted to Fitz-Allan, Earl of Arundel; it afterwards passed to Thomas Mowbray, Duke of Norfolk, but was again resumed by the crown, and granted to William Beauchamp, Earl of Abergavenny. likewise the Nevilles, Stanleys, and ultimately granted by Queen Elizabeth to her favourite, the Earl of Leicester, from whom it came to Lord St. John, who in 1595, sold it to Sir Thomas Middleton, in whose family it still continues.

Chirk Castle, and the estates annexed, now belong to three heiresses, the sisters of the late Mr. Middleton—the Honourable Mrs. West, Mrs. Middleton Biddulph, and Miss Middleton.

According to a paper, communicated by John Middleton to the Society of Antiquarians, the castle was begun in 1011, and finished in 1013;—the repairs of one of the wings in Cromwell's time cost nearly 28,000*l*. The front is 250 feet long, the court 165 by 100, with five round towers of fifty feet in diameter; but when Sir Thomas Middleton, in the civil wars, revolted from the Parliament, this castle was besieged, and one side, with three of its towers, were thrown down, but again rebuilt in one year, at the expense of 80,000*l*. The entrance is now between two round towers by a narrow arch, near the centre of the front, which had formerly a pair of iron gates,

wrought in so rich and costly a style as to be honoured with the appellation of one of the wonders of the county.

In the road side, surrounded by the high lands belonging to Chirk Castle, is St. Peter's Well, formerly walled, and a bason erected, into which the water issued forth; but at present the well is out of use, and the bason in bad repair. This well was in great repute for its medicinal qualities about the year 1726.

About twelve miles to the south-west of Chirk, is Llanrhaidr Mochnant, a mean village, situate in a deep hollow, surrounded on all sides by mountains, with the summits nearly obscured in clouds. The houses are extremely irregular and old, but being overgrown with vegetation, appear from many points highly picturesque. The church is a tolerable good building, a rich vicarage, and a populous parish, situated partly in this county and partly in Montgomeryshire, consisting of 17 townships. The celebrated Dr. Morgan, who translated the Bible into Welsh, was vicar of this place, but soon afterwards rewarded with the bishopric of Llandaff, and in 1601 that of St. Asaph, where he died in 1604.

The first translation of the Scriptures into Welsh, since the reformation, was the New Testament only, chiefly done by Mr. Salesbury, a gentleman of this county, and printed in London 1567. Previous to this, there was a M.S. translation of the Pentateuch into Welsh, extant about 40 years before; but the whole of the Bible was not printed until 1588, and principally by Dr. Morgan. The next edition was revised by Dr. Parry, and printed in 1620; the original is now in the British Museum.

At the extremity of this vale, about four miles from the village, is Pistyl-Rhaiadr, the most remarkable waterfall in North Wales. Here the

river Rhaiadr falls from a perpendicular black crag 210 feet high, thence it rages through a natural arch, between two prominent sides, into a small bason at its bottom, whence it rolls over small rocks, through a woody vale into the Tanad, a branch of the Severn. Nothing can be imagined more dreary than the scenery of the hills and rocks enclosing this fall, and the masses of stone contiguous to its bason; but the whole cataract is destitute of wood, yet have such an appearance of simple grandeur, that trees seem to injure instead of heightening the effect. The upper part of the cataract, when the sun shines upon it, is visible to a great distance, while its silvery and linear appearance gives a degree of singularity to many of the views. Near the foot of the rock is a small room built by Dr. Worthington, for the use of visitors, or strangers, who bring refreshments with them, and is of great utility in these dreary regions.

*Journey from Llanrwst, through Ysbytty Ieuan
to Cerig y Drudion.*

LLANRWST is a market town, pleasantly seated in a very luxuriant vale, divided by the river Conwy, which frequently overflows its banks, and enriches the meads on both sides, while cultivation gives the appearance of plenty, and presents the richest hues that ripened corn and green meadows can possibly impart, besides which numerous seats, interspersed around the vale, give an air of civilization to this happy spot. The town is finely situated on the eastern bank of the river Conwy, but has nothing in itself that deserves particular notice, for the streets are narrow, and the houses irregular. The church is a plain ill-looking building, dedicated to St. Rystyd, who was bishop of London, about the year 360. Adjoining the church is a chapel, built in the year

1633 by Sir Richard Wynn, from a design of Inigo Jones. Against the wall, at the west end of the latter, are five brasses, chiefly remarkable for the excellence of their execution; each, besides an inscription, contains a portrait of the person to whose memory it was erected, and are in number as under:

Sarah Wynne, wife of Sir Richard, who			
died in	-	-	1671
Sir John Wynne	-	-	1626
Sydney Wynne, his wife	-	-	1632
Owen Wynne	-	-	1660
Mary, the wife of Sir Roger Mostyn	-	-	1653

To this chapel has been removed an ancient monument of Hoel Coytmor, which used to lie in the church, under the stairs leading to the gallery. It is an armed recumbent figure, with his feet resting upon a lion, and this inscription: "Hic jacet Hoel Coytmor ab Gruffydd Vychan ab Gruffydd Arm." Near this place is a large stone coffin, supposed to have been that of Llewelyn ab Iorwerth, who was interred in the abbey of Conwy in 1240, but removed here upon the dissolution of that abbey, about 26th of Henry VIII. There are no other monuments deserving of notice, except one, which has a long and curious inscription, containing the pedigree of the Wynne family, from Owen Gwynedd to Sir Richard Wynne, who died in 1649.

Llanrwst is situated 226 miles from London, and consists, according to the late population act, of 452 houses, and 2502 inhabitants.

Between the town and Gwydir is an elegant bridge thrown over the Conwy, constructed in 1636 by the ingenious Inigo Jones, who was a native of this place. It consists of three arches, connected with the ancient mansion of Gwydir. The length is one hundred and seventy yards, the

breadth five, the chord of the centre is sixty-one feet, the height twenty-four: the other two are only thirty feet wide, and fifteen high. One of the arches falling into decay, has evidently been rebuilt since Jones's time, which is easily discovered by its visible inferiority. According to an inscription marked in relievo on the parapet, this bridge was built at the expence of Sir Richard Wynne; but from a record of the quarter sessions for Denbigh, the bridge was directed to be rebuilt in the ninth year of Charles I. by a letter from the privy council, and Inigo Jones nominated surveyor of the works; his estimate amounted to 1000*l.* which was levied on the two counties of Denbigh and Caernarvon.

Two miles from Llanrwst, a seat of Lord Newborough, called Maenen Abbey.

About four miles to the south-east of Llanrwst is Gwytherin, an ancient nunnery, where St. Winifred was buried. In the church yard they shew four rude upright stones, particularly one, shaped like a prism, with an old inscription. The box in which her reliques were kept is shewn in the church, but her chapel on the south side is totally destroyed.

At Maenen, about a mile from Llanrwst, is a spring of high repute, and frequently used with good effect as a cold bath. The water is of a wonderful softness, and impregnated with ætherial spirits. With spirit of sal volatile it turns milk white, and with the oil of tartar turns to a pearl colour. Vitrioline acid causes an effervescence, and increases its whiteness.

In this part of the county is likewise the famous Glydir Mountain, mentioned by Bishop Gibson in his *Continuation of Camden*.

Returning to our road, at the distance of eight miles from Llanrwst, we pass through the village of Capel Voelas; about five miles beyond which

we arrive at YSBYTTY LEUAN, a small village, situate about three miles below Llyn-Conwy. This was once an hospital of St. John of Jerusalem, and a manor belonging to the knights of that order, and also their sanctuary until their abolition, when it became the residence of thieves and murderers, who committed great cruelties in the county, but were afterwards extirpated by the bravery and prudence of Meredydd ab Evan, in the reign of Henry the Seventh. Captain Richard Vaughan founded here an almshouse for six poor men, now rather neglected. In the church are monuments for Rhys ab Meredydd, who was appointed by Henry the Seventh standard-bearer at the battle of Bosworth; likewise, another for his wife Lowry, and a third for his son Robert, cross-bearer and chaplain to Cardinal Wolsey.

About three miles between Cerig-y-Drudion and Ysbytty leuan, we come to a respectable farm house, called Giler: it was built by Baron Price, who resided here occasionally; he bore the reputation of a man of considerable abilities and inflexible integrity. He was born at Bwlch, near Cerig-y-Drudion, in Denbighshire. On the 14th of January, 1653, his father Thomas Price, Esq. placed him in the grammar school at Wrexham, from thence he was admitted of St. John's college, Cambridge: in 1673 he entered himself student of Lincoln's Inn; in 1677 he went abroad on a tour with the Earl of Lexington and Sir John Meers; in 1682 was chosen M.P. for Weobly in Herefordshire, and the same year made Attorney General for South Wales. In 1689 he delivered his memorable speech in the House of Commons, in opposing a grant of 3 or 4 lordships in North Wales by King William to his court favourite, the Earl of Portland, those lordships being then, and are now, the property of the Prince of Wales; at this time no Prince of Wales was in existence.

In 1700 he was made Judge of Brecknock, and in 1702, Serjeant at law and one of the barons of the Exchequer; about this time he built six almshouses for six poor people, and amply endowed them at Cerig-y-Drudion. On his return to London from paying his last visit to his native country, he alighted from his carriage at Bwlch Gwyn, near Wrexham, and with the help of his servants walked about a mile to a summit of a mountain, then taking off his hat, and making three low bows, he spake in the ancient British language, Farewell, *I Wlad y Nganedigaeth*. He died at Kensington, near London, 2d of Jan. 1732, aged 79.

Near Giler is Plas Iolyn, an ancient mansion. Dr. Thomas Pryse was born here, and was armour-bearer, at the battle of Bosworth Field, to Henry Earl of Richmond, afterwards Henry VII. He was an excellent poet. About two miles further on towards Cerig-y-Drudion, stands *Kerniogie Mawr* inn, a posting house of some note; and between that and the village on the left hand, is a respectable farm house, called *Glan y Gors*. A poet of some celebrity was born here, and his brother, Mr. R. Jones, still occupies this farm. Mr. John Jones, the bard, better known by the name of the farm (*Glan y Gors*), is by far the best writer of *comic and satirical songs* that Wales ever produced, and notwithstanding the gloomy fustian and hypocrisy of methodism, his songs are sung in every corner, both in North and South Wales, and in London at every convivial meeting of the Cambro-Britons, but more particularly at the *Gwyneddigion* and *Cymreigyddion* Societies in London, where the author himself launched his songs with shouts of applause and approbation; and sad indeed must be the heart which cannot smile at his—*Dic Sôn Dafydd, The Welsh Assizes, Shenkin Morgan's Wedding, &c. &c. &c.**

* See Parry's Welsh Melodies.

Cerig-y-Drudion is a neat village, and has a handsome church, built in 440, by Evanus Petercus, who dedicated it to Mary Magdalen; it was augmented about 1100, Johnus a Probyn then rector. There are no less than five different roads pass through this village, namely, *London* to Holyhead; from Ruthyn to Holyhead, or Bala; from Bala to Denbigh, Ruthyn, Bettws Corwen, Holyhead, or London.

FLINTSHIRE.

This county is the smallest in the principality, and is bounded on the north by the Irish Sea, on the north-east by the river Dee, on the east by Cheshire, and on the south-west by Denbighshire. It consists of a narrow slip of land, running south-east, about twenty-seven miles in length, and only ten broad, being in many places much less. A detached part belongs to it, at some miles distance from the rest, separated by the interposition of Denbighshire, and almost encircled by Shropshire and Cheshire; this part is about eight miles long, and ten broad; and the whole of the county comprises 160,000 acres of land, of which 110,000 acres are pasturage, and only 20,000 acres arable. The county, including the detached part, is divided into five hundreds, viz. Coleshill, Maelor, Mold, Prestatyn, and Rhyddlan; and contains one city, St. Asaph; four market-towns, viz. Caerwys, Flint, Holywell, and Mold; and 28 parishes, which are partly in the diocese of St. Asaph and partly in that of Chester. It consists of 8816 houses, and 46,500 inhabitants.

The air is cold, yet generally healthful; but, like other parts of the Cambrian territories, Flintshire is full of hills, particularly near the shore of the Dee, where the land rises rapidly, forming a ridge of hills, running a considerable way parallel

to that river, intermixed with a few vallies, generally fruitful, producing great plenty of wheat and rye, while the low parts, though of a clayey soil, produce sufficient grass for numerous cattle. Here is likewise an abundance of honey, from which a pleasant liquor is made, called Mêdd, or mead. The mountains contain coal, lead, freestone, and a vast strata of limestone.

The commercial importance of Flintshire is almost solely derived from its mineral productions, particularly the lead ore, which is smelted upon the spot, and the metal exported from Chester. Some kinds of the ore contain silver enough to repay, with profit, the expence of separating it from the lead; and several ounces of silver have been annually extracted in this county, which is chiefly used by the manufacturers of Birmingham and Sheffield.

The calamine is partly exported, and some used in a brass foundry at Holywell. From the coal-pits, in the south part of the county, the city of Chester is chiefly supplied. To these may be added some considerable potteries, established near Northop, from whence large quantities of coarse earthenware are exported to the Welsh coast and Ireland.

The most remarkable river in this county is the Alun, which near Mold sinks under ground, and is lost for a considerable space. The rivers of the vale of Clwyd have likewise their exit in Flintshire, including the Elwy and Wheeler, which supply the epicure with delicious fish.

This county returns two representatives to the British Senate, viz. one for the county, and one for the town of Flint.

TOPOGRAPHICAL DESCRIPTION OF THE COUNTY OF
FLINT.*Journey from Flint to Caergwrle, through Mold.*

FLINT is the county town, incorporated by Edward I. and a place of great antiquity, but small, and irregularly built, near the sea. It is much resorted to by the neighbouring gentry as a bathing place, though the marshy coast, on which the sea frequently flows, renders it extremely disagreeable. The church, or rather the chapel of ease, to Northop, is far from a handsome building, having a boarded turret. The county gaol stands in the church-yard, on a fine healthy situation, and built similar to Ruthin; but the assizes for the county are held at Mold.

This town was formerly enclosed with a vast ditch and double wall of earth, which at the east end unites in one, having four entrances. The castle, built of a red stone, stands close to the sea, on a rock enclosing a space of about three quarters of an acre, treble ditched, or divided in three parts by as many ditches. The first is formed by the high bank of the town and castle, beyond which is a large square area; another ditch separates this from a smaller square court, with round towers. One side of the court is entire, with several pointed windows. The castle is defended by three round towers at three of the angles, and at the south-east by a fourth, larger than the rest, detached from a wall called the double tower or dungeon, to which Richard II. retreated. It is formed by two concentric walls, each six feet thick, with a gallery eight feet broad and fourteen high, arched with another over it, having four doors opening into the circular area, in the centre, of twenty feet diameter. Towards the west end of the south side, in the ditch, is a draw-well, com-

municating with the second story. From the south side runs a double wall, enclosing a considerable area, with earth on the outside piled up to the top. Richard II. soon after his return from Ireland, stopped here, where he slept and dined, in 1399, but was afterwards invested with 10,000 men, commanded by the Duke of Lancaster, with whom he had an interview in this castle. In 1647 this castle was dismantled by the parliament, and stood two long sieges during the Civil Wars. It now belongs to the crown, who appoint a constable, who is also mayor.

The town of Flint is situated 204 miles from London, and consists of 832 houses, and 1433 inhabitants.

About a mile from the town, on the lower road to Chester, stood Atis Cross, where tradition places a large town in ancient times, and where it is said foundations of large buildings are often discovered. It was undoubtedly a Roman station, by the number of coins and other fragments found there and contiguous.

On leaving Flint, we proceed southerly, and at the distance of three miles pass through NORTHOP, a considerable village, consisting of 496 houses, and 2,542 inhabitants.

About three miles beyond the last-mentioned place, we pass through MOLD, called in Welsh YR WYDDGRUG, or the Conspicuous Barrow. It is a small market-town, consisting of one long street, wider than most belonging to North Wales. The church is a neat building, ornamented all round the top walls with Gothic carvings of animals; the pillars in the interior are light and elegant, having between the arches figures of angels bearing shields, with arms on them, probably borne by the benefactors of this church. Among the monuments is an elegant one for Richard Davies, Esq. of Llanerch, who died in the year 1728.

Mold had an ancient castle on a hill, with a keep on the north side, and at the south end a long square area, both divided from the former by a deep ditch; while another surrounds the whole, dividing it into three parts, until demolished by Owen Gwynedd in 1144. It was again rebuilt; but Gruffydd ab Gwenwynwyn, in 1263, closely besieged it, and burnt the fortress. Near the church, built in the reign of Henry VIII., was found a gold coin of Vespasian. In the south chapel is a small niche, with a statue for Robert Warton of Parfew, bishop of St. Asaph from 1536 to 1554, which, according to the inscription was erected by one John ap Rhys; and against a pillar of the nave is a singular inscription for William Wynne, of Tower, D.D. having these expressive words; "Heb Dduw heb ddim." The pillar is called the Hallelujah monument. See Pennant's Tour for the Season.—Near Mold is Maes-Garmon, or German's Fields, from a victory obtained by the latter over the Pagans, Picts, and Saxons; in commemoration of it, an obelisk was erected in 1730 by Mr. Griffith, on the supposed spot.

Mold is situated 207 miles from London, and consists, according to the late population act, of 1026 houses, and 5083 inhabitants.

About five miles to the north-west of Mold, in the vale of Nannerch, is Pen Bedw, the seat of Mrs. Williams, who possesses some remains of Sir Kenelm Digby's library, with a superb pedigree of that family, illuminated with a drawing of all their arms and tombs. In the meadows below the house are part of a druidical circle, and a small tumulus.

On the summit of one of the mountains, at a great height above the house, is a very strong British post, called Moel Arthur, with two deep ditches, and suitable dykes on the accessible sides. This is one of the posts that defended the Ordo-

vices and their successors from the incursions of the Romans; these stations are very numerous in this county, and easily distinguished by their conforming to the shape of hills, and generally unprovided with water.

Returning to our road, at the distance of about six miles from Mold, we pass through HOPE, or Queen Hope, a small village, which, with the parish, formerly belonged to the crown. The ground is rather hilly, but the vallies are fertile in corn and grass.

At the termination of the village are some picturesque remains of its ancient castle, in which the queen of Edward I. lodged on her way to Caernarvon. The king soon after bestowed it on her; from whence it took the name of Queen's Hope. Here is a fine old bridge over the river Alun, near the extremity of the village, from whence may be had a fine view of the place, said to have been a Roman station, forming a slope to the river, having three broad parallel streets, intersected by three others at right angles. Some Roman bricks were lately found in the ruins of an old house in the village, and large beds of iron cinders, supposed to be from the works of the Romans at Caer Estyn, in this parish.

A Roman road likewise points from the village towards Mold, and is visible more than once in the fields near Plas-Têg, with an artificial mount close on its course.

About one mile to the west of Hope, is Plas-Têg, the ancient seat of the Trevor family. The building is ascribed to Inigo Jones in the year 1610, and had formerly a handsome hall in the centre, 43 feet by 23. This seat belongs to — Roper, Esq. and has lately been much enlarged at a great expence. It is erected round a square court, with four towers at the corners, having in

each a room 23 feet by 19, with closets 15 feet and a half in circumference.

Returning to our road, at the distance of one mile, we arrive at CAERGWRLE, once a flourishing town, and continued such until Wrexham became so frequented, which has been the means of reducing this place to its present state. It is by the learned asserted, that Caergwrle was formerly a Roman station; probably an out-post to Deva, as some tiles with this inscription were found here many years since, LEGIO XX. which proves it to have been a Roman station.

The ruins of a castle are yet to be seen on the summit of a high rock, a little distance off; but the remains are few and not important; yet such as sufficiently indicate the building to have been of great extent. The rock on which this fortress was built is a composition somewhat singular, being a grit stone, so exceedingly coarse, as to have much of the appearance of pebbles among mortar. The founder of this castle is not known, although by its construction we might, without hesitation, pronounce it to be of British origin, and probably built by Gruffudd Maelor, in the reign of Owen Gwynedd, between 1137 to 1169. Edward I. bestowed the castle on David ab Gruffydd, brother to the last Prince of Wales; but when David took up arms, in conjunction with his brother, against Edward, in 1282, it was invested, and surrendered to the king after a fortnight's siege: not long after this reversion it appears to have been burnt by a casual fire, but again rebuilt, and given by Edward II. to Sir John Stanley.

In this parish are some extensive lime quarries, in which are frequently found a species of the fossil called *entrochi*, in shape somewhat cylindrical, about one inch long, and formed of a number of round joints.

*Journey from Rhuddlan to Holywell, through
Newmarket.*

Rhuddlan lies on a flat, in the middle of the vale of Clwyd, and on the eastern bank of the river two miles from its influx with the sea, where it is sufficiently wide to permit small vessels at high-water to ride up to the bridge. This was once a considerable town, but now only a small borough, which with those of Rhuddlan contribute to elect a representative for Flint.

Rhuddlan derived much importance from its elegant castle, wherein Edward I. kept three Christmases. It is a square building, erected with a red stone, surrounded by a double ditch on the north, with a strong wall and foss all round. Below the hill, on the river side, is a square tower, called *Twr-y-Brenin*, or the King's Tower.

The walls enclose an irregular square, with galleries and apartments all round: the north appears much shattered, but the other two are pretty entire. To the south of the castle they show a mount, called *Tut-hill*, from whence the inhabitants say it was battered; but it appears a more ancient fortification, surrounded by a deep ditch, including the abbey. It may have been the residence of our ancient Welsh princes, perhaps burnt by Harold in 1054, and the ships in the harbour destroyed at the same time. The castle was built by Robert de Rodelent, but soon after burnt by Gruffydd ab Cynan, Prince of Wales, and Randal, Earl of Chester.

Subsequent to this, Henry II. rebuilt or fortified this castle, where Giraldus Cambrensis says he was nobly entertained: Queen Eleanor was also delivered of a princess here in 1283. Northumberland seized this castle in 1399, previous to the deposition of Richard II. who dined here, and his retinue, on their way to Flint castle.

At a private dwelling in this village they shew the gable of a house, where it is pretended Edward I. held the parliament that passed the statute of Rhuddlan, about 1284, which is no more than regulations made by the king in council for the future government of Wales, which in the preamble he informs us was then totally subdued. Of this place only one Gothic window remains to distinguish it from a neighbouring barn, while the hall that once contained the parliament of England is now filled with bark, to supply a tan-yard.

There is another old house on the north side of the castle, where they say the king resided, when one Gruffydd Llwyd ab Rhys brought him information of the queen's safe delivery at Caernarvon castle; for which the king immediately knighted him. More to the south are the remains of a priory of black monks, founded before 1268. Below the town, on a large marsh, was fought the famous battle, in 794, between prince Caradoc and the Saxons, under Offa king of Mercia, in which the latter was killed, and a great number of his army slain. On this occasion the fine plaintive Welsh tune, called *Morva Rhuddlan*, was composed, descriptive of the sanguinary battle on this marsh.

Here is a bridge, consisting of two arches, built or rebuilt in 1595, with an impression of the arms of Hughes, bishop of St. Asaph, on one of the battlements.

Two miles and a half north-east of Rhuddlan is Disserth, a small village, situate among hills, from whose tops fall a beautiful cascade, rising from a small well called Fynon-Asa, or St. Asaph's well, in a dingle in Cwm parish, one mile off. Its perpendicular height is seventeen yards, concealed between two arches of the rock, behind which it has worn itself a passage. In a romantic bottom, and finely overshadowed with yew trees, stands the church, or chapel, dedicated to St. Bridget, with

some good paintings in the east window; and on the south window of the chancel is cut, Sir John Conway, 1636; likewise this inscription on the porch: 1603. A. Reg. 45.

In the church yard is an ancient cross, adorned with wreaths, another with some traces of a human figure, now placed as a stile: on the altar tomb is cut a rude cross and sword. To the north of this village are some small remains of Cerri Castle, or Castel y Craig, which appears to have been fortified by Henry III. in 1246. At the siege of this castle was slain Eioneon ab Ririd Vlaidd, to whom some attribute the cross erected on the spot, called Croes Einion, supposed to form the stile before mentioned.

Near the road Golden Grove, the seat of E. Morgan, Esq.

Returning to our road we proceed in an easterly direction, and at the distance of about five miles, we pass through NEWMARKET, a small town, almost the entire creation of its then owner, John Wynne, Esq. of Gop, who died in the last century. The ancient name of this parish was Trelawnyd. The church is a very antique building, with a handsome old cross in the church-yard. It has likewise a good charity school, founded by Dr. Williams in 1726, with an endowment of 8*l.* per annum, now increased. From the town is an ascent, called Copar 'leni, on whose summit is an enormous carnedd or tumulus, formed of limestones.

It was probably the site of a specula, a memorial of some chieftain, or it might have been a place for signals by fire, to announce the approach of an enemy by sea. The tract from hence to Caerwys was certainly a field of battle, for no place in Wales exhibits an equal quantity of tumuli, and all sepulchral; perhaps in this place was the slaughter of the Ordovices, by Agricola, when that gallant people was nearly extirpated.

About six miles from Newmarket, and nearly two to the left of our road, is Downing, situated among woods in the parish of Whitford, but principally known to the world as the seat of the late Thomas Pennant, Esq. to whose indefatigable researches the natural history and topography of Great Britain are under many obligations. Downing is also the principal house in the township, and built about the year 1627; but the present name is evidently a corruption of Eden-Owain, or the township in which it stands. The house was founded by John Pennant of Bychton, who marrying a rich heiress of this place, erected an elegant mansion, with stone brought from a dingle called Nant-y-bi, opposite the modern edifice. The present structure is erected in the form of a Roman H; a mode of architecture common in Wales at that period, with this ancient and pious motto on the front: "Heb Dduw heb ddiin, a Dduw digon." signifying, "Without God there is nothing: with God enough." The grounds are very extensive, with walks along fine swelling lands beneath the shady depth of glens, or through the contracted meads which meander quite to the shore; with delightful views towards the hills, and the ancient Pharos on Gareg. Over the channel of the Dee are the Hilbree Isles, on one of which are some remains of a cell of Benedictines; but the sea view is still more animated with the sight of numerous fleets entering and sailing out of the port of Liverpool. Below the house are the ruins of the abbey of Malandina, which add considerable beauty to the view.

The house, much improved by Mr. Pennant at different times, consists of a hall and library, with a large parlour adjoining, and a smoking room most antiquesly furnished with ancient carvings, and the horns of all the European beasts of chase. Above stairs is an elegant drawing-room and a tea-room.

The library, which, if minutely described, would fill a handsome volume of itself, contains a numerous and choice collection of books, chiefly of history, natural history, and many scarce editions of the classics, with a great collection of MSS., being solely the labour and industry of the late Thomas Pennant, Esq. among which are his MS. volumes of "THE OUTLINES OF THE GLOBE," IN XXIII VOLUMES FOLIO, on which uncommon expence has been bestowed, in transcribing, ornaments, and illuminations. In the hall are some very good pictures, by Peter Paillou, an inimitable painter of animals and birds: the parlour is embellished with portraits and paintings, mostly reduced from originals by the ingenious Moses Griffith, an untaught genius of North Wales, who accompanied Mr. Pennant in most of his tours through England, Scotland, and Wales.

The estate abounds with coal works, as do the environs with lead mines, particularly one hill, on which is a cavern, supposed to be made by the Romans when they worked these and the neighbouring mines.

MYNYDD-Y-GAREG, a high hill, situated about two miles to the north-east of Downing, in a very conspicuous part of the country, has on its summit a Pharos, erected by the Romans to conduct navigators to and from the Deva. It is tolerably entire, and built of lime-stone bedded in hard mortar, of a circular form and considerable height. The inner diameter is 12 feet, the walls three thick, with the doors or entrances opposite each other, and over them square funnels like chimnies, opening on the outside about half way up, and on each side a window. About four feet from the ground are three circular holes through the whole wall, lined with mortar, very frequent in Roman buildings. Within are traces of a staircase, leading to the upper story, in which are eight small

square openings, cased with free stone, each separated by wooden pannels, the grooves of which only remain. In each of these partitions were placed the lights, which the Romans thought necessary to keep distinct, lest the seamen should mistake it for a star.—See Pliny.

To this building is evidently a broad raised road pointing from the east, and near its upper end are marks of a trench round the whole.

About one mile and a half to the north of this building is MOSTYN-HALL, a seat belonging to a family of that name, lineally descended from *Tudor Trevor*, earl of Hereford, before the conquest, and first settled here in the reign of Richard II. though they did not assume the name till the reign of Henry VIII. The old mansion has rather an ancient appearance, and the park small, but beautifully broken, and clothed in various parts with fine oaks and magnificent beeches. The ground around slopes finely to the sea, facing the north-east, where trees grow even close to the water edge, and with great vigour, though often assailed by winds and storms, yet appear unhurt.

The house is placed about half a mile from the shore, and built on so singular a plan, that it is almost impossible to describe this curious structure. It consists of an old hall for servants, but had formerly a chapel on the outside, now converted into bed rooms. On the porch, said to be rebuilt in 1628, are the arms of the four great alliances of the family, rudely cut in stone, which seem to have been copied from an original on the great chimney-piece in the hall. When the house was built is uncertain, but it is supposed in the early time of Henry VI. perhaps more ancient. In many places the walls were furnished with ancient militia guns, swords, pikes, helmets, breast-plates, funeral achievements; and a variety of the spoils of the chase, particularly a falcon, which is nailed

against the wall of the room, with two bells, one hung to each foot.

At one end of the gallery is a great room, remarkable for being the place where Henry earl of Richmond laid the foundation of his plan to overthrow the house of York: but while he was at Mostyn, Richard the Third's party arrived, so that he had but just time to leap out of a back window, and make his escape through a hole, called to this day the King's window.

In 1631, Sir Roger Mostyn, Bart. made a very handsome addition to the house by erecting a large square appendage, containing six bed-chambers, a handsome eating room, and a drawing room, with a large bow window in the middle of each. Opposite to one of the windows is an elegant fire place, and above are the arms of the numerous alliances of the house, beautifully executed in stucco, dated 1632.

To the preceding might be added a long catalogue of paintings, executed by some of the first artists, besides an extensive and valuable library of ancient classics, medallie histories, gems, and a variety of every species of polite literature, nowhere else to be found, particularly manuscripts, beautifully written and illuminated.

Returning from this digression, at the distance of about eleven miles from Newmarket, we pass through HOLYWELL, a handsome well-built town, 207 miles from London, consisting principally of one long street, running from east to west. It is chiefly noticed for its celebrated spring, called St. Winifred's Well, which breaks out with great rapidity from under a hill, discharging 22 tons of water in a minute. It rises in a long bason, twelve feet by seven, containing two hundred and forty tons of water, four feet deep, surrounded by a stone wall, with pillars supporting the roof, forming a walk all round to the chapel. The roof over

this well is exquisitely carved in stone, with the legend of St. Winifred, and seven sculptures, alluding to the house of Stanley, who erected it, and the beautiful Gothic chapel built over it in the time of Henry VII. by the Countess of Richmond. The roof is likewise hung round with crutches and hand-barrows, said to have been left by persons who have received a perfect cure.

At the bottom of the well are several round stones with red spots, which they pretend were stained with Winifred's blood; but a person of this place recollects them being privately taken up and painted red, that some degree of sanction might be given to the tradition. The inner part of this well is set apart for bathing, and the outer for common use.

On the hill above stands the parish church, dedicated to St. Winifred, who was the daughter of Thewith, a nobleman of these parts, and instructed in the christian religion by her uncle St. Beuno; but being remarkably beautiful, Caradoc, the king's son, fell desperately in love with her, whom finding one day alone, he solicited to comply with his wishes. Astonished at the request, she fled out of the back door to the church built by her uncle Beuno, but before she got down the hill, the prince overtook her, and in the violence of disappointed passion, with his sword struck off her head, which falling to the ground, caused this stream of water to gush from the place where the head rested; the moss around diffused a fragrant smell, and her blood spotted the stones, which like the flowers of *Adonis*, annually commemorate the fact, by assuming colours unknown to them at other periods.

For thee, blest maid, my tears, my endless pain,
Shall in immortal monuments remain;
The image of thy death, each year renew,
And prove my grief, to distant ages true.

As soon as Beuno recovered from his surprise at seeing this stream and the bleeding head, he immediately took hold of it, and ran up the hill, sending the murderer to the devil by his curses, while by his powers he raised to life the murdered maiden! After this she took the veil, and maintained here a company of virgins, besides being assured by her uncle Beuno to have two immortal privileges, namely,

1. *That the blood should never be washed out of the stones.* 2. *That her merit should be prevalent all over the world!*

Seven years after this, we are told, she removed to Gwytherin in Denbighshire, where she was buried; and that four rude upright stones are now shewn there as Winifred's Tomb.

This legend is generally ascribed to the invention of the monks of Basingwerk Abbey, founded about the year 1312.

Exclusive of the preceding, this fine spring is now equally esteemed by the manufacturer, as it has been for its miraculous healing powers, and is in its short course to the Dee made subservient to the purposes of manufacture, by turning water-mills for cotton works, forges, smelting works, and other machinery. The ore found here is chiefly lead, galena, and steel ore, which contains silver, and a considerable quantity of calamine. Near the town upon a stream from the well, are some copper and brass works belonging to the Anglesea company. The refined copper is received here from Swansea in solid blocks, and afterwards applied to the making of various articles.

The whole of the manufactured copper and brass is shipped on the Dee, and sent to Liverpool; four cotton mills are also regularly employed, and the work much esteemed for its quality and fine texture.

About one mile to the east of Holywell, is Basingwerk Abbey, or Maes-Glas, frequently called Greenfield Monastery; it is beautifully situated in a meadow between two hills, on the eastern side of the mouth of Holywell river.

The ruins stand on a gentle eminence, commanding a fine view of the Chester Channel, and surrounded with rich pastures, besides a happy disposition of ancient groves of trees, on every side, and a profusion of sycamores; but the greater part of the walls now standing, do not appear to be as old as the original foundation. The doors, and some of the lower arches, are semi-circular, simple, and unornamented; the windows long, narrow, and pointed. The south wall of the cross aisle, with a door-way, and one pointed arch, are all that remain of the church, which stood on the east side of the abbey; but the foundation shews several specimens of mixed architecture, or what is generally termed Saxon and Gothic. Some Prince of Wales is said to have founded the abbey for Cisterrians, in 1131, and others assert Henry II. to have been the founder, in 1150. Within these few years a great part of the refectory and dormitory were to be seen, likewise a shell of a chapel belonging to the knights templars, with several lancet windows to the west, the whole of which is now almost destroyed, and what remains converted into a barn. The abbey was valued at 150l. 7s. and its abbot honoured by being summoned to Parliament five times by Edward I. A part of this abbey inhabited within these eighty years past, was pulled down, by order of Lady Mostyn, to build a house near the ruins. Here is still to be seen an old brick barn, strengthened with timber, said to have been the monks' granary, and where is kept an epitaph on George, the son of Lord Petre, who died at Wexford, in 1647. It is

worthy of notice, that the monks of this abbey have the honour of being the first inventors of the fable of St. Winifred, which brought great riches to the monastery, as indulgences were granted by the Roman pontiffs, in 1240, to all who would make a pilgrimage to the holy well.

Near the south walls of the abbey runs Watt's Dyke.

Journey from St. Asaph to Hawarden, through Northop.

ST. ASAPH, OR LLAN-ELWY, is a small town or city on the banks of the river Elwy; the houses are mostly built of brick, forming a single street, regularly raised on the side of a hill, but as a city, this must be considered as one of the smallest in the kingdom; though the diocese comprehends nearly all Flintshire, Denbighshire, Montgomeryshire, with three hundreds in Monmouthshire, and a small part of Shropshire.

The most remarkable edifice is the cathedral, built chiefly since 1441, being in length one hundred and eighty-two feet, and in breadth fifty. The west tower is ninety-three feet high, but on the whole appears a simple inelegant building, containing nothing worth our inquiry except three monuments, for bishops Owen, who died in 1512, Griffiths, 1666, and Barrow, in 1680. The dean and chapter, out of a fund vested in them for that purpose, have rebuilt the choir, the eastern window of which is copied from Tintern Abbey. The members of this chapter are, the dean, the arch-deacon, who is also bishop, six prebendaries, and seven canons.

It is, perhaps, peculiar to St. Asaph, that the cathedral is not used for a parish church, like all the other Welsh cathedrals; but the parish church stands at a little distance from it, within the town, and has two aisles, called Eglwys Asaph, and

Eglwys Cyndeyrn, from the saints Asaph and Kentigern, frequently mentioned in the Welsh calendar.

At the dissolution of monasteries in the twenty-sixth of Henry VIII. this bishopric was valued at 202l. 10s. 6d.; but after some deductions, clear 187l. 11s. 6d. At present, the real annual revenue is 1500l.

St. Asaph is situated 209 miles from London, and contains 309 houses, and 1520 inhabitants.

Five miles to the south-east of St. Asaph we pass on our right to CAERWYS, a market-town, consisting of 207 houses, and 863 inhabitants; the name of this place is derived from *Caer*, a fortress, and *gwys*, summons, and appears to have been a place of judicature, and particularly a Roman station. It now consists of four spacious streets, crossing each other at right angles, in which Roman coins have frequently been found, besides a stone with this inscription: *HIC JACET MULIER BO.... OBIIT*, and many tumuli round it, and in the neighbourhood.

Caerwys is also celebrated as the place of *Eisteddfod*, or British Olympics, where the sessions of bards and minstrels were often held. In this contest none but bards of merit and skilful minstrels were permitted to exhibit before the appointed judges, whose approbation could decide on their abilities, and confer suitable degrees and rewards, with permission to exercise their talents before the princes, nobility, and gentry of the principality; without which no one was admitted to that distinction.

The judges were appointed by a commission from the prince, and after the conquest of Wales by Edward I. the English kings sanctioned their *Eisteddfod*, as an institution likely to soften the manners of a fierce and warlike people. Previous

to this we find Gruffyd ab Cynan, contemporary with King John, enacted, that no person should follow the profession of a bard or minstrel who was not regularly admitted by the Eisteddfod, which was held once in three years; neither were they allowed to degrade the profession by following any other occupation.

In 1568, a commission was granted by Queen Elizabeth for holding an Eisteddfod at Caerwys, which is still in the possession of Sir Roger Mostyn, together with a silver harp, containing strings equal to the number of the muses, and such as was generally bestowed on the first of the faculty in ancient times.

The last meeting at Caerwys was in consequence of a notice published by the gentlemen of the Gwyneddigion, or North Wales Society * in London, which fixed the congress, or Eisteddfod, to commence on Tuesday, the 29th of May, 1798, and according to ancient custom, was proclaimed twelve months and a day prior to the day appointed. On this occasion the town-hall was neatly prepared for the reception of a numerous and respectable company. The subjects were fixed upon by the Gwyneddigion Society, which, as might be expected, when originating from that respectable body, produced numerous candidates, whose productions were animated, and of considerable merit. The number of bards who attended at this Eisteddfod amounted to twenty, of vocal performers eighteen, and of harpers twelve, all of whom acquitted themselves so extremely well, that several connoisseurs in music, who were present during the three days it continued, declared that they never recollected a contest of this

* Instituted for the encouragement of Welsh literature.

nature to be better maintained, or afford more rational amusement.

At the distance of about eight miles from Caerwys, we pass through the village of Northop; six miles beyond which, we arrive at Hawarden, a large well-paved town, with the ruins of an old castle, at the east end, called in Welsh Pen-y-Llwg, or vulgarly, Penardd-Lág, and commanding an extensive prospect towards the Dee. It was built soon after the Norman conquest, and has been very strong, situate on a high hill in Sir William Glynn's park, and surrounded by a double ditch, and a wall on the innermost side. On the summit is half a round tower, commanding an extensive prospect, but only a small part of the outer one remains. Henry VI. granted it to Sir Thomas Stanley, in whose family it continued till the civil wars; but after the execution of Thomas Stanley, Earl of Derby, it was purchased by Sergeant Glynn, whose descendants are now possessors. It was surrendered to the king's troops, in 1643, but retaken after the battle of Chester, in 1645. On some disturbances arising between the parliament soldiers, in 1647, it was dismantled, but entirely spoiled by Sir William Glynn, in 1680. At present, little more than the walls and the keep remain, particularly the latter, which is more elevated and perfect than the other parts of the building, and has had within these few years a room elegantly fitted up in the modern style, with some painted statues, the whole of which does but ill accord with the shattered ruins round them.

The modern castle is a very handsome building in the Gothic style.

West of the church, by the road side, is a mount called Truman's Hill, with a cavity on its summit like a small camp.

About one mile to the north-east of Hawarden is

Eulo Castle, situated on the road side, two miles from Northop; it has a small double fortress, with a square area and two round towers.

In the adjoining field and wood, called Coed-Eulo, Henry II. received a severe repulse, after he attempted to cut off the retreat of Owen Gwynedd, who was retiring to a place near St. Asaph, now called Cil-owen, or Owen's retreat. This small place is chiefly noted for its manufacture of earthen ware, which is carried on to a very great extent, and employs several poor families.

DETACHED PART OF FLINTSHIRE.

BANGOR ISCOED is situated in that detached part of the county separated by the interposition of Denbighshire, two miles from Overton, on the banks of the Dee, which flows under a handsome stone bridge of five arches; but Bangor is chiefly celebrated as having been the site of one of the most famous monasteries in the kingdom, founded, as is supposed, by Lucius, son of Coel, the first Christian king in Britain, established for the increase of learning, and preservation of the Christian faith in this realm, about the year 180.

It was originally founded for an university, but afterwards converted into a monastery by Cynwyl, about 530, who was made the first abbot. This monastery was remarkable for its valuable library, which, from its great age, and number of learned men, was truly acknowledged (says Speed) to be the mother of all others in the world. Nennius, who wrote the History of Britain, extant at this day, was one of the abbots, and when Augustine the monk was commissioned by Gregory the First, about 596, to convert the English Saxons to Christianity, the monastery of Bangor was reported to be in a very flourishing state, containing not less than two thousand four hundred monks, one hun-

dred of which, in their turns, passed one hour in devotion; so that the whole twenty four hours of every day were employed in sacred duties.

After the battle of Chester, fought by the victorious Ethelfred, King of Northumbria, a great number of this religious society were slain, which proved almost fatal, as the monastery appears to have gone into gradual decay after this event; for William of Malmsbury, who lived soon after the Norman conquest, reports, that in his time there remained only a few relics of its ancient greatness; but there was then an immense heap of rubbish, the like of which was no where else to be found. In Leland's time the site appears to have been ploughed ground, and for nearly a mile round it, the plough often turned up bones of the monks; and in digging, pieces of their clothes were found in sepulchres.

This place is supposed to have been the site of Bovium, or Bonium, a famous Roman station; but there are at present not the least remains of a monastery, city, or Roman station.

Two miles from Bangor, is Emral, the seat of Sir Richard Puleston.

The meadows near Bangor are so rich in pasture, that they have been let for eight, and sometimes nine pounds per acre.

A few miles to the south-west of Bangor is Hanmer Lake, containing about fifty acres, near the town of that name, which is beautifully situated between the church and a seat of the Hammers, a modern brick building. The church is a handsome structure of the time of Henry VII. with monuments of Sir Thomas Hanmer, Bart. knight of the shire, and Speaker of the House of Commons in the reign of Queen Anne.

MERIONETHSHIRE,

In Welsh, Meirion, or Meirionydd, is bounded on the north by Caernarvon, on the north-east by Denbigh, on the east and south-east by Montgomery and the estuary of Dyvi, with the bay of Cardigan on the west. Its length from east to west is forty-five miles, and from north to south, thirty-four broad, and contains 500,000 acres of land, of which 350,000 are pasturage, and 50,000 arable. The original divisions of this county were three *cantreys*, or hundreds, *Dinodig*, *Penllyn*, and *Meirion*, but it is now divided into five hundreds, viz. Ardudwy, Edeyrnion, Ystumanner, Penllyn, and Talybont; and contains thirty-seven parishes, and part of three others; four market-towns, *Bala*, *Dolgellau*, *Harlech*, and *Dinas Mawddwy*, and 6022 houses, inhabited by 30,924 persons, viz. 14,308 males, and 16,616 females. This county, as to its ecclesiastical government, is included within the diocese of Bangor.

The face of this county is varied throughout with a most romantic mixture of all the peculiar scenery belonging to a wild and mountainous region, but less dreary than Caernarvonshire, being much better clothed with wood, yet not less fertile in objects which impress the mind with astonishment. The air of Merionethshire is very sharp in winter, on account of its vast number of high and barren mountains, and the soil in general is extremely poor; however, it affords sustenance to large flocks of sheep, and numerous herds of horned cattle, which find provender chiefly in the pastures and vallies. Among the commodities may be reckoned iron, cotton, fowls, herrings, varn, stockings, and gloves; some of the lakes afford excellent char, and singular crooked-backed trouts. This county abounds with exten-

sive sheep-walks, which furnish many manufactures with wool for stockings and flannels.

Beneath the lofty Berwyn hills spreads a fine vale, with the infant Dee, although it only receives the name on leaving Bala lake; yet some trace its head higher, even to the lofty Aran, which Spenser makes the residence of Timon, the foster-father to Prince Arthur.

“ His dwelling is full low in valley green,
Under the foot of Aran’s mossy hoar,
From whence the river Dee, as silver clean,
His tumbling billows rolls with gentle roar.”

South of this spot begins an Alpine region, of narrow and deep vallies between high, verdant, and precipitous hills, with moors affording peat, almost the only fuel of the county, while the Dyfi, a considerable river, rolls in the bottom, and at last forms the southern boundary of Merionethshire.

This county returns only one member to parliament, while all the other Welsh counties, including the boroughs, send two.

TOPOGRAPHICAL DESCRIPTION OF THE COUNTY OF MERIONETH.

Journey from Corwen to Dinas Mawddwy; through Dolgellau.

CORWEN is a small town, built on a vast rock at the foot of Berwyn Hills, and approached by crossing a handsome bridge over the Dee. This place is become of late a great resort for anglers, who merely frequent it for amusement, being well stocked with trout, grayling, and many species of fish, particularly salmon, which is much esteemed by the epicure.

Corwen is also remarkable for being the rendez-

vous of the Welsh forces under Owen Gwynedd, and where he stopped the invasion of Henry II. in 1161. The place of encampment may be easily distinguished by a mount of earth, and the sites of the tents are plainly seen from the church, southward of the village of Cwynwyd. On the south side of the church is cut a very rude cross, and shewn to strangers as the sword of Owen Glyndwr. Near the parish stands a pointed rude stone, called "Careg-y-big yn y fach rewlyd," which it is said directed the founder where to erect the church. Here was an almshouse, founded in 1789 by William Eyton, of Plas Waryn, in Shropshire, for six clergymen's widows of Merionethshire, and endowed with lands amounting to 60*l.* per annum. It is almost unnecessary to observe, that the lands about Corwen are in a high degree fertile, and finely variegated with four deep and narrow vales on each side, verging towards it as the central point of a star, while the naked and intervening hills gradually expand themselves before our eyes till terminated by the horizon.

About one mile to the north of Corwen is CAER-DREWYN, an ancient British post, on a steep hill, which commands a fine view of the vales of Glyn-dyrdwy * and Edeyrnion. This post is circular, about half a mile in circumference, and defended

* This vale is much celebrated as the residence of Owen Glyndwr, whose memory is still highly revered in its neighbourhood, as being the scene of his great exploits and hospitality. The family name of this extraordinary character was Vychan, but in history styled *Glyndwr*, from Glyn-dyrdwy, his small patrimony or possessions in Glyn-dyrdwy, now commonly called Llangollen. Some remains of his private palace are still visible at a place called Sychnant, about three miles from Corwen.

by a single wall, mostly in ruins; yet in some places the facing remains, and in the thickness of the walls are evident marks of stately apartments. It had apparently two entrances, near the north-east, with an oblong square added to the main structure, where the ground is flat, besides being strengthened with a great ditch and wall. Within this are the foundations of rude stone buildings, one of which is circular, and several yards in diameter: the ditch is carried much farther than the wall, and seems an unfinished addition. It is conjectured that Owen Gwynedd occupied this post when Henry II. lay encamped on the Berwyn hills, and afterwards used by Owen Glyndwr.

Two miles from Corwen, on the Capel Curig road, turn to the right to a new road constructed to Wrexham, which runs at the foot of the mountains at the head of the vale of Clwyd, and joins the Ruthin road to Wrexham at Llandegla.

Pont Glyn Diphwys, or the Bridge of the Precipice, is six miles from Corwen, on the road to Llanrwst and Capel Curig. This bridge stands at the head of a woody glen with prominent rocks, almost obscured by the surrounding foliage. It consists of a single arch thrown over the rugged bed of a precipitous river, where among immense masses of rock the stream foams most furiously. The cataract is not very high, but situate immediately under the bridge, where its white foam dashing among dark opposing rocks, with pendant foliage on each side, forms a scene finely picturesque and elegant. The bridge stands upon two nearly perpendicular rocks, of about sixty feet high from the bed below, which if viewed from the centre of the arch appears grand and tremendous!

To the south of Corwen are the Berwyn Mountains, a long chain of hills commonly so called. This ridge occupies the eastern side of Merionethshire, and branches into Denbigh and Montgome-

ryshire. Its northern boundary is the Dee, its southern the Tanad, being in length from north to south sixteen miles, in breadth from five to ten. Cader Berwyn are the most elevated points. This district is but thinly inhabited, but the air is very salubrious and congenial to longevity, which accords well with the old aphorism of Churchyard in 1587.

“ The *mountayne men* live longer many a yeare
Than those in vale, in playne, or marrish soyle ;
A lustie hart, a cleane complexion cleere
They have, on hill that for hard living toyle.
Withewe and lambe, with goates and kids they play,
In greatest toyles, to rub out wearie day :
And when to house and home good fellowes drawe
The lads con laugh, at turning of a strawe.”

These mountains are chiefly composed of primitive schistus, or such as does not contain iron pyrites, or any impression of organized bodies, the position of the strata being generally perpendicular to the place of the horizon. The greater part of the schistus is in thick irregular laminæ, intersected with veins of quartz. The only metals found in these mountains are lead and calamine, whose matrix is coarse quartz schistus. There are no lakes in the whole extent of these mountains, nor streams of any consequence, except Ceiriog, which flows by Chirk. The soil is peat with some bogs of a grey clay, formed probably from the decomposition of the rock, but the drier parts are covered with heath. The bogs or turberries, supply the inhabitants with fuel, which would otherwise be extremely scarce here and in its vicinity. Of quadrupeds the fox is the chief, and commits frequent depredations, while an extensive and almost unoccupied territory affords him a secure retreat. Many rare mountainous plants are also found here, whose fruit is grateful food for grouse.

Towards the western extremity of these mountains is Llandervel, a village formerly remarkable for the wooden image of St. Derfel Gadarn, concerning which the Welsh had a prophecy that it would set a whole forest on fire; to complete which it was brought to London in the year 1538, and used as part of the fuel which consumed Forest the friar, in Smithfield, for denying the Pope's supremacy.

Returning from this digression, on leaving Corwen we proceed in a south-westerly direction, and at the distance of about nine miles, pass through LLANVOR, or the church of St. Mor, formerly of considerable importance, and now rendered remarkable as the supposed place of interment of Llywarch Hên, a Cambrian prince, and a most celebrated bard and warrior, in the seventh century, who, after a long life of misfortunes, died at the advanced age of one hundred and fifty. Dr. Davies mentions an inscription, in his time to be seen, on the wall under which he was interred; but it is now so completely covered with plaster, as to be invisible, if such there ever was. Near this place is a circle of stones, called Pabell Llywarch Hên, or Llywarch's Tent, where tradition says he had a house wherein he spent the latter part of his life. His valour in opposing the encroachments of the Saxons and Irish is well known in British history, wherein we are informed he lost his patrimonial possessions, and 24 of his valiant sons, who fell nobly in the field of battle. After this irreparable misfortune and distress, some historians say he retired to a hut near Machynllaith, to sooth with his harp the sorrows of old age, which were numerous and distressing, as he pathetically describes in his elegies on that subject.

At the distance of about one mile from Llanvor, we pass through BALA, a populous market-town

in Llanycil parish, consisting chiefly of one wide street, situate at the bottom of a large pool, called Llyn-Tegid, or the fair lake. This place carries on a considerable trade in wool and yarn stockings, and is the residence of many genteel families, also the place where the county assizes are held alternately with Dolgellau.

Close to the town, south-east, is a great artificial mount, probably Roman, called Tomen-y-Bala, one of the chain of forts in this county, among which is Tomen-y-Castell, on a mountain in the road to Ruthin, and another on the opposite side of Bala Lake, perhaps Bala Castle, founded by Llewelyn ab Iorwerth in 1202, now cut through by the road, as well as Caer Crwyni, a small camp near the vale of Edeyrnion. In the garden at Rug is another camp and tumulus.

The town of Bala is situated 202 miles from London, and is governed by two bailiffs and a common council. The market is on Saturday.

A little to the south-west of this town is BALALAKE, corruptly put down in maps, Pimple Meer, from the five parishes bordering thereon, called in Welsh *Pum-Plwyv Penllyn*, by far the largest lake in all Wales. This fine expanse of water is nearly four miles long, four hundred yards broad, and forty six deep, with three yards of mud. The water rises sometimes nine feet, and overflows the vale of Edeyrnion, consequently has greatly extended its boundaries on the north-east shore. It is also well stocked with fish, particularly perch, pike, roach, trout, eels, and shoals of that alpine fish called Gwyniad, so called from the whiteness of its scales, common to most of the alpine parts of Europe. It is a gregarious fish, of an insipid taste, and dies soon after it is taken, therefore should be dressed directly: the largest weighs about four pounds, and taken in nets, by reason of keeping close to the bottom of the lake,

and feeding chiefly on small shells, and other plants peculiar to these lakes. The water, like that of most rocky lakes, is so pure, that the most delicate chemical tests detected scarcely any perceptible quantity of foreign mixture: sometimes, in severe winters, it has happened that the lake has been completely frozen over, and when covered with snow has been mistaken by strangers for a wide vale or plain. The shores of the pool are extremely diversified, and from every point of view present an agreeable and striking prospect of corn fields and cultivated meadows, bounded with rich verdure, accompanied by water, which discharges itself from the lake forming the river Dee, then takes its course by a rocky hill of considerable elevation, and covered with an old wood, until it terminates in the lofty summit of Aran Penllyn, almost shrouded in clouds; while rising high in the distant horizon, is seen the treble head of the majestic Cader-Idris. From the north-eastern corner of the lake (as before noticed) issues the river Dee, called *Dwy vawr* and *Dwy vach*, the great *Dwy* and little *Dwy*; *Dwy* implying the sacred stream. The appellation arose from the two sources of the river. The lake and fishery formerly belonged to Basingwerk Abbey, but is at present the sole property of Sir Watkin Williams Wynne, Bart. of Denbighshire, who has a seat on the banks of the lake.

To the left of Bala Lake a road leads to Dinas Mawddwy, of a most alpine character: it passes between the Aran Penllyn and Aran Mawddwy over a pass, called *Bwlchy Groes*; the enterprising traveller would be well repaid his labour in taking this road by the magnificent scenery which presents itself the greatest part of the way: it shortens the distance from Bala to Dinas Mawddwy at least ten miles. The common road passes through Dolgellau.

Half a mile from Bala is Rhiwlas, the seat of R. Price, Esq.

On the left of the lake a villa belonging to Sir Richard Hoare.

Proceeding along the western shore of the lake, at the distance of seven miles from Bala, we pass through the village of Llanuw'llyn, where are the ruins of an ancient castle, called Castell Corn-dochen, standing on the top of a very steep rock, at the bottom of a pleasant valley.

It shews considerable ruins of a wall, which enclosed a square, a round and oval tower: the mortar is mixed with cockle shells, brought thither by land carriage about fourteen miles off. It is supposed to have been built by the Romans, about the same time as Castell Prysor, in Trawsvynydd parish.

At the distance of about ten miles beyond Llanuw'llyn, we pass through DOLGELLAU, a respectable market town, and the place where the summer assizes for the county are held. It is seated in a wide and fertile vale, between the river Gwynion, which joins the Maw and Mawddach, about a mile below, and surrounded on all sides with high mountains, some of which were well wooded. The streets are irregular, and the houses in general ill-built. Among the buildings the town-hall is most respectable, but not much superior to the other houses in the town.

The church has a decent external appearance, but little better within than a large barn, with a covered roof, supported by two rows of rude oak pales, and a bare earth floor, a thing common to many country churches in Wales. Within is an antique monument of an armed knight, with a dog at his feet, and a lion passant, guardant on his shield; on it is inscribed, "Hic jacet Mauric, filius Ynyr Vychan."

Here are considerable manufactures of Welsh

flannels, which, from the number of the hands employed, make the town very populous.

This town appears to have been known to the Romans, although there are at present no remains to justify the assertion, except some Roman coins found at a well in its vicinity, called Fynon-Vawr, bearing this inscription: "IMP. CAESAR TRAIAN," which is evidently Roman, and gives in some degree a sanction to the hypothesis.

Dolgellau is situated 209 miles from London, and contains 537 houses, and 3064 inhabitants. Its market is on Tuesdays.

About one mile to the east of Dolgellau, on the right of our road, is Llanelltyd, or St. Illtut, a small village, containing several good houses, beautifully situate on the river Mawddach, which serves as a port to Dolgellau, and where many small vessels are built; but large vessels are unable to get out of the shallow passage from Cardigan to Barmouth harbour, except they take advantage of the equinoctial tides. On the river side are many lime-kilns, where the hard stone is chiefly burnt, with some wikle shells, which, when well calcined, afford an excellent lime for manure. Farther down the river is a beautiful prospect, affording a picturesque effect scarcely equalled; while the wide æstuary of the Maw is filled by the tide, and enlivened here and there by a barge or pleasure boat. The banks on each side run out alternately in steep promontories, and wooded to the water's edge, so as to completely hide the termination of the river, and cause it to resemble a broad and beautiful lake, while on the south behind the banks, rise abruptly, vast and craggy cliffs, which surround and almost conceal the summit of the celebrated Cader-Iddris.

About one mile to the north of Llanelltyd is Cymmer Abbey, frequently called Kemmer, Cymner, Cromner, Kinner, Kinmer, Kymmer, and in

Welsh Vanyer ; it is situate in a verdant bottom, near the banks of the Mawd. It was so named from its being on the junction of the two rivers, *Cymmer* being literally a conflux.

At Hengwrt is a library of very curious Welsh manuscripts.

The ruins of this ancient abbey are fine specimens of its former grandeur, but by whom erected is uncertain. It consisted of the Cistercian order, and founded, perhaps, in the year 1198 by Meredith and Gruffydd, descendants of Owen Gwynedd. According to Mr. Vaughan of Hergwrt, it was dedicated to St. Mary, and first founded by some monks, who sojourned here from Abbey Cwmbîr, Radnorshire, to which it appears to have been a colony. In the *Notitia Monastica* of Bishop Tanner, it is mentioned as founded by Lleweline, the son of Gervase, about 1200, which is evidently erroneous; however, he seems to have been a benefactor, and, as Prince of North Wales, to have confirmed the donations of others in 1209, as well as his own: but there does not appear any reason whatever to think him founder, nor is the time of the foundation clear.

It seems to have been in a flourishing condition in 1231, for Henry III. in marching against Llewelyn ab Iorwerth, would have burnt it, had not the abbot ransomed it by paying three hundred marks, and some other recompence, for the injury done the king by his late treachery. In the year 1291, according to an ancient record in the augmentation office, the abbey had, in yearly revenues arising from granges, pastures, and other temporal possessions, 11*l.* 14*s.* 11*d.* and previous to its dissolution, in pursuance of the statute 27 Henry VIII. the commissioners reported it to be worth, in spiritualities and temporalities, 51*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.*

Of the old fabric there are still considerable remains, but in length very disproportionate for the width, being between thirty and forty yards long,

and not above eight broad. The east end is the most perfect, covered with ivy, through which are seen three small lancet windows: against the south wall are a few small Gothic pillars and arches, with an aperture in the wall, where was probably kept the holy water. In this part of the building was a semicircular door, opposite to some small arches, and near them a mutilated stone, representing the head of a human figure. Part of the church of this monastery is yet to be seen, with the refectory and abbot's lodgings, adjoining the farm-house. The other parts are much shattered, and in many places badly patched with modern work, to render it useful to the farmer on whose ground it stands. The site and ruins remained in the crown for many successive reigns, and not granted away till Queen Elizabeth bestowed it upon Robert Earl of Leicester, about the twentieth year of her reign; but how it has since descended, or who is the present possessor, is not generally known.

Near this abbey stood Cymmer castle, built by Uchtryd ab Edwyn, but the spot at present is not precisely known. It was demolished in 1116 by Einion ab Gruffydd, and the property divided.

About two miles from Cymmer Abbey, is DOL-Y-MELYNLLYN, where the river Camlan falls from various rocks till it reaches a lofty precipice among trees, called Rhaiadr-du, or the Black Cataract, situate in the grounds of William Maddocks, Esq. It is a double fall, about sixty feet high, where the water foams with a thundering noise down some black rocks, giving to the scene a singular appearance, which is increased by being covered in many places with a pure white lichen. The torrent falls into a small deep bason, from whence it dashes itself along its rugged channel. Here Mr. Maddocks has been at the expence of making a good foot-path both to the bottom and upper part.

of the fall, which gives to the traveller every means of seeing it to advantage.

About one mile from this is another cataract, called Rhaiadr-y-Mawddach, situate in a river of that name, where the water forces itself down a rock of about sixty feet high, in which the stream is three times broken in its fall to the bason; the rocks and trees form an amphitheatre around it: but the upper part of the rock is too much hidden by intervening obstructions. Near the latter is Pistyll-y-Cain, which is by far the highest and most magnificent of the three: it consists of a narrow stream, rushing down a vast rock of at least 150 feet high, whose horizontal strata runs into irregular steps through its whole breadth, forming a mural front, but the regularity in a great measure spoils its picturesque beauty. The immense fragments of broken rocks, scattered around in every direction at the foot of the fall, communicate a pleasing effect, which is farther heightened by the agreeable tints of oak and beech foliage, and as a whole it possesses much local beauty and romantic scenery.

A few miles from this place is the Nannau, the ancient family seat of the Vaughans, formerly the residence of Howel Sela, an inveterate enemy of Owen Glyndwr. Above Nannau, on a high rock, is a dike of loose stones, called Moel Orthrwm, or the hill of oppression, a supposed British post, and now in good preservation.

In the park of Nannau, stood, till the year 1814, an aged oak, in the trunk of which tradition recounts the body of Howel Sela was concealed, after being murdered by Owen Glyndwr: the tree was of great magnitude, and called the Haunted Oak.

Returning to our road, on leaving Dolgellau, we proceed in a south-easterly direction, and on our right pass Cader-Idris, a lofty mountain, so called from a tradition of its having been a fortress

belonging to Idris, who is supposed to have been a prince of these parts in ancient times. It is also said that Idris was a great poet, astronomer, and philosopher, and that the summit of Cader-Idris was his favourite seat and observatory. This mountain extends above a mile in length, and is 1000 feet high, and very rocky towards the summit, which is covered with huge fragments of discoloured rocks, very rugged, and cemented by a semivitrified matter, of volcanic appearance. On this mountain are several pools, particularly Llynau Cregynan and Llyn-y-Cau, and near it the supposed chair of Arthur, a natural cavity in the rock. Along one side, where the hill recedes, is a stupendous precipice, forming a kind of theatre; and on the opposite side Craig-y-Cau, a great rock, with a lake below lodged in a deep hollow. Descending from the Cader to Cyfrwy, the whole space for a considerable way is covered with loose stones, like a stream of lava, many of them columnar, but not jointed, lying very disorderly in all directions, and of a great thickness. Pen-y-Gader is about 950 yards above the green near Dolgellau, and the other mountain called Aran-Penllyn, 740 yards above Llyntegid. Beneath Tyrau-Mawr, one of the points of Cader Idris, and on the right, are some remains of circles of upright stones, with many carns, and several meini-hiron, or rude upright columns. At a small distance beyond these, near the river Creg-y-nan, are the remains of Llys Bradwen, or the palace of Ednowain, chief of one of the fifteen tribes of North Wales about the reign of Gruffydd ab Cynan, measuring near 30 yards square, having an entrance seven feet wide, with a large upright stone on each side as a door-case: the walls are rude and uncemented. The peak of Cader Idris is 2,850 feet above Dolgellau, and the beginning of a chain of primitive mountains extending in a north-east direction towards the Arans and Are-

nigs. It is likewise much loftier, and more craggy than the slates and secondary mountains which surround it, and consists of siliceous porphyry, quartz, and felspar, enclosed in a green paste, with siliceous schistose porphyry, intersected with veins of quartz and argillaceous porphyry in a mass, and a dark grey paste. Several rocks contain the component parts of granite and porphyry, with a great proportion of white greasy-looking quartz. In several specimens the felspar being decomposed has fallen out, and given the quartz a porous appearance, which Mr. Pennant, by mistake, calls the porous lava, found about the summit of Cader Idris.

The views from this mountain are very distant and beautiful, particularly Bala pool and its adjoining mountains; while towards the south is seen the county of Montgomery, and Pumlumon. On the west Cardigan bay, and from St. David's quite round to Caernarvonshire.

A new road now runs from Dolgellau to Machynllaith, of singular beauty; it passes at the back of Cader Idris by the Pool of the Three Grains. The whole offers a beautiful succession of the wildest mountain scenery, and, to the lover of the sublime, is far preferable to the old road which leads through Mallwyd and Dinas Mawddwy. The distance is also less, the former being 15, and the latter 22 miles.

At the distance of nine miles beyond Dolgellau, we arrive at Dinas Mawddwy, an inconsiderable market-town, with nothing to recommend it to notice except the church, which is a handsome building; but the houses scarcely rank above the common cottages of the country. The market, which is well supplied, is held on Fridays, in the broadest part of the town, at a place called High-Street. Here is a handsome stone bridge over the river Dyvi, built by Mr. Mytton, to whom the greater part of Dynas Mawddwy belonged.

Journey from Festiniog to Barmouth, through Harlech.

FESTINIOG is a small village, situate at the head of Cwm-Maentwrog, and much celebrated by the elegant pen of Lord Lyttleton in 1756; indeed every person will admit that few vales afford such lovely prospects as this, being bounded by high mountains, shaded with lofty oaks, and richly cultivated, with the placid river Dwyryd in the centre, and the sea at a distance, which terminates our view.

About a mile east of this village are two remarkable waterfalls, called Rhaiadr Du, on the river Cynvel, one about 300 yards above, and the other below a rustic bridge thrown over the river, to which the path leads. The upper fall consists of three steep rocks, over which the water foams into a deep black bason, overshadowed by the adjoining rocks: the other is formed by a broad sheet of water, precipitated down a rock forty feet high, and darkened by numerous foliage around it, almost to the edge of the stream. Between the cataract and the bridge is a tall columnar rock, called "The pulpit of Hugh Llwyd Cynvel," and situate in the bed of the river, from whence, sage tradition says, a magician used to deliver his nocturnal incantations. At the north-east extremity of this vale stand the little villages of Maentwrog and Tan-y-Bwlch, with another beautiful situation in the same vale, on a small but rich tract, scarcely three miles long and one broad, but finely decorated with surrounding woods, which seem even to vegetate on the bare and most lofty rocks.

Near Festiniog ran the ancient military way, paved with stones, along the steep inaccessible mountains, called Sarn Helen, or Helen's Way, who was the wife of the Emperor Maximus.

About seven miles to the west of Festiniog is Pont-Aberglaslyn, a bridge which unites the counties of Merioneth and Caernarvonshire. It consists of one wide stone arch across the torrent of the Colwyn, and connects two perpendicular precipices with its semicircular arch, being in diameter 30 feet, the crown about 40 feet above the water, with an impending cliff, at least 800 feet high, projecting from every part, forming a broken front of a most capricious form, and shadows a roaring cataract among huge ruins that have fallen from the mountains. Just above it the whole river falls down a craggy break of about twelve feet high, forming what is called the Salmon Leap.

The scenery round is very grand, and soon attracts our admiration, with the road winding along a narrow stony vale, between dark perpendicular cliffs on each side, as only to leave room to pass at the bottom, which leads to an impetuous stream rolling close by its side. A few yards above the bridge is the noted salmon leap before mentioned, measuring from the bed of the river about thirteen feet, but after much rain only eight or nine. This cataract is only a few miles from the sea, but has long been remarkable for the great number of salmon which come up the river in the beginning of October, in order to deposit their spawn on the sandy shallows contiguous. It is not uncommon to see, in the course of an hour, twenty or thirty attempting to pass the cataract, but seldom succeed.

A wall has been built, by which the Salmon Leap is very much injured, and it is very rare now to see any fish attempt to leap.

In the reign of Henry the Fourth this was a royal weir, and is supposed to have belonged to some of the Welsh princes before that period.

Round the base of a neighbouring mountain is

a copper-mine, belonging to Sir W. W. Wynn, from which issues a stream of water, strongly impregnated with the sulphate of copper and iron, which must injure the fishery considerably, particularly in dry seasons.

Two miles from Harlech is Glynn, the seat of Mrs. Ormsby Gore.

Returning to our road, at the distance of about eleven miles, after passing through the villages of Maentwrog, and Llan Tecwyn, we arrive at HARLECH, formerly called Twr-Bronwen, and one of the principal towns in the county, though now considerably reduced, and dwindled into a small and insignificant village, containing not more than four or five hundred inhabitants. The castle, which stands on a very high rock, projecting into the Irish Sea, is yet entire, defended by a deep foss on the east, the only pregnable side. It consists of a square building, each side measuring about seventy yards, having at every corner a round tower. From each of these issued formerly a round turret, all now destroyed, except one or two. The entrance is between two great towers, like Caernarvon, but the chief apartments appear to have been over the gateway, in a building which projected into a court, and at each corner of the building a round tower: these fortifications, fosses, and situation on the verge of a perpendicular rock, rendered it almost invulnerable.

Our Welsh histories attribute this castle to Maelgwn Gwynedd, prince of North Wales, about the year 530, so that Edward I. founded the present on the ruins of the former, some part of which is now distinguishable from the modern work. In 1404, Owen Glyndwr seized the castle from Henry IV. but it was again retaken in 1408, and sheltered Margaret of Anjou, after the battle of Northampton in 1460. In 1468, after a short siege, it was taken by the Earl of Pembroke, of whom Sir John

Wynne, in his "History of the Gwydir Family," quotes the following British lines, expressive of the ravages committed by him in the counties of Merioneth and Denbigh:

Harlech a Dinbech,
Pob dor yn cynneu
Nanconwy yn farwor,
Mil a phedwarcant mae Ior,
A thrugain ag wyth rhagor.

Among the many tempestuous scenes Harlech castle has experienced, the last happened in 1647, when William Owen, with a garrison of only twenty-eight men, surrendered it to Oliver Cromwell's forces under General Mytton, but not till every castle in Wales had deserted the royal cause.

Of this castle nothing of importance occurred since, and the town, which Edward I. formed into a borough, gradually degenerated in importance. In 1692, an ancient golden torques was dug up in a garden near the castle, which is described as a wreathed bar, or three or four rods twisted together, and about four feet long, flexible, but bent in the form of a hat-band, with hooks at each end, neither sharp or twisted, but plain and cut even, of a circular form, about an inch in circumference, and weighs eight ounces. This valuable relic of antiquity is at present in the possession of Sir Roger Mostyn, Bart. Several Roman coins have likewise been found in and near the town, which prove its origin to be of great antiquity.

It is evident that the sea has receded from Harlech above a mile since the castle was built.

The town of Harlech is situated 229 miles from London, and has a small market on Saturday. This neighbourhood, in 1694, was annoyed by a very singular phenomenon, in appearance like a prodigious fire, or kindled exhalation, proceeding

from the sea, which set fire to sixteen stacks of hay and two barns. In this destructive manner it lasted about twelve days, ravaging the country about Harlech, and poisoning the grass with its stench. The flame, which was peculiarly destructive in the night, had a weak blue appearance, and easily extinguished, without injuring the people, who frequently ventured to it, and often in it, to save their effects; yet it was of that infectious nature, that it absolutely killed the cattle which fed on the grass; not only the time it lasted conspicuous to the eyes, but for three years afterwards it caused a great mortality among cattle, horses, and sheep.

Mr. H. Llwyd attributes this strange phenomenon to locusts, that arrived here about two months before, which, being drowned in the sea, or dying of extreme cold on land, are supposed to have occasioned this infection: this hypothesis is founded on the number of locusts found dead near the sea shore. It appeared chiefly in stormy nights, and sometimes in calm evenings, but any great noise, such as sounding of horns, firing of guns, &c. did repel it, and often extinguish the same; which means are said to have saved much hay and corn from its baneful effects.

Two miles from Harlech, lies Llanvair, a small village, and the parish church of Harlech, being one of six churches in the short distance to Barmouth. Half a mile further we leave Llandanwg on the right, the sea washing into the churchyard, close to the river Artro, which is here formed into an estuary, by the small isthmus of Mochros. Opposite to this point lies Sarn Badrig, or Patrick's Causeway, being the remains of an old embankment, part of which, nine miles in length, lies dry at low water; but its extreme length is traceable twenty-one miles in a south-west direction, enclosing a district called Cantrev-y-Gwaelod, which is

said to have been overflowed in the sixth century. In "The Genealogies of the British Saints," this tract is said to be the domain of Gwyddno Garanbir, whose sons, in consequence of that catastrophe, entered into religious communities, some of whom had churches dedicated to them.

About eight miles from Harlech, we pass on our left Cors-y-gedol, an ancient seat of the Vaughans, now Sir T. Mostyn's. Near this seat, on Craig-y-dinas, is a hill surrounded with a vast heap of stones, and contiguous the ruins of a wall, which in many places retain a regular and even facing, with an oblique entrance, faced with stone at the sides. One mile further are three lakes, called Bodlyn, Urddyn, and Dulyn; and in the same neighbourhood Llyn-Cwm-Hywel, noted for a race of trout with flat heads like toads, first noticed by Giraldus Cambrensis. On a plain beyond Llyn Urddyn, are two circles of stones forming a hill, with upright columns, five yards from each other; and contiguous smaller ones, of a similar form. Half a mile from these, are two oblong carneddau, composed of loose ones, with large stones in the centre, of fifty feet long and twelve high.

At the east end is a great cromlech, composed of two sloping stones, one placed over the edge of the other, or five flat stones placed upright, the highest measuring seven feet ten inches, and the lowest not less than four feet ten. Adjoining to these are many more, particularly Meini hirion and other cromlechs.

At the distance of about four miles from Cors-y-gedol, and twelve from Harlech, we arrive at Abermaw, or Barmouth, a small town at the bottom of a steep hill near the sea, and at the mouth of the Mawdd, where the tide at high water forms a bay of about one mile over, but the entrance is hazardous, on account of the sand-banks. From its situation near the bottom of some high moun-

tains, the houses are placed on the steep side, one above another, in such a manner as to give the upper an opportunity of seeing down the chimnies of their next adjacent neighbours. The town derives its name of Abermaw, from its being the efflux of the river Maw, which has been whimsically turned into Barmouth. Within these few years there were the remains of an ancient tower, in which Henry, Earl of Richmond, used to conceal himself, when he came over to consult his friends about the proposed revolution, and is celebrated in a poem of those times, comparing, in point of strength, this place with Reinallt's tower, near Mold.

Barmouth is a considerable bathing place; has a good hotel, where a public table is kept through the summer, and several comfortable private lodging-houses.

This town is the port of Merionethshire, and where the principal manufactures are flannels, which the inhabitants some years ago exported to the amount of 40,000*l.* besides 10,000*l.* worth of stockings yearly.

Near Barmouth is Arthog, the seat of Sir T. Wynne; and near Towyn is Peniarth, belonging to the same gentleman; and Ynys Maengwyn, the seat of V. Corbett, Esq.

At the distance of about twelve miles to the south of Barmouth is TOWYN, a neat village, situate about a mile distant from the efflux of the Dysyni river, and of moderate size, with some respectable dwellings, chiefly built of a coarse schistose stone. It is frequented as a bathing-place in summer. Its situation is pleasant, surrounded by several populous hamlets, and some new and comfortable farm houses; but the soil is rather poor, and the situation in winter cold, being much exposed to the influence of the western winds. Of public edifices the church is most re-

markable, with several good monuments, particularly one of a priest. In the church-yard were two rude pillars, one called St. Cadvan's stone, shaped like a wedge, and about seven feet high, with a cross, and inscription; but a gentleman of eccentric taste caused it to be removed some years ago to decorate his grotto, in the neighbourhood. Cadvan had, at the north-east end of the church-yard, a free chapel, the walls of which some old people remember: but the green site only now remains. St. Cadvan, who some say lived about the year 450, is supposed to have been buried inside of this church, so that probably the stone or monument above-mentioned is the only fragment of his tomb.

Contiguous to the west side of the church-yard is a large square *well*, said to be efficacious in cutaneous diseases.

The vale of the Dysini, from the lake of Mwyn-gil to the sea, is one of the most beautiful in all North Wales, about twelve miles in length. It begins at the half way of the road from Dolgel-lau to Machynllaith.

During the bathing season this place is well supplied with provisions, and cheap, so that many genteel families frequent it in preference to Aberystwyth. The beach is situated about half a mile from the village, and very pleasant, with a flat sand along the sea side for near three miles, extending from Aberdyvi to the Dysyni, affording a pleasant promenade. On the beach a machine is stationed, but seldom used. Private lodgings are obtained at a moderate expense; but many families prefer the Raven Inn, for its superior accommodations and cheapness.

On the road to Aberdyvi lies Bottalog, the seat of Capt. Scott.

About four miles to the south of Towyn is ABERDYVI, a small sea-port or hamlet, on the

northern bank of a river of that name, a little above its entrance into Cardigan Bay, where it separates the latter county from Merionethshire. The houses are few and small, being chiefly inhabited by fishermen and their families, who appear to have some small trade with Towyn and Aberystwyth; and situated convenient to import shop goods from Bristol and Liverpool, to Machynllaith. The communication from hence to Aberystwyth, is facilitated by a ferry-boat over the Dyvi.

From hence to Aberystwyth is a very pleasant ride of three miles over Booth Sands, and another similar to Towyn. Seven miles from hence is Cargreg, a small trading village, formerly noted for its smelting works, but now disused; it still partakes with Aberdyvi in the export trade of flannels, Welsh webs, and other productions of the vale of Dyvi.

Near Aberdyvi is the Lodge, the seat of Pryse Pryse, Esq.

MONTGOMERYSHIRE.

THIS county is bounded on the north by Merionethshire and Denbighshire, on the north-east and east by Shropshire, the south by Cardiganshire and Radnorshire, likewise Cardiganshire, with a part of Merionethshire, on the west. It extends 40 miles in length, and 37 in breadth, and contains 500,000 acres of land, having about 60,000 arable, 180,000 pasturage, and about 250,000 uncultivated, including woodlands. It is divided into nine hundreds, viz. Cawrse, Deuddwr, Llanvyllin, Llanidloes, Machynllaith, Mathraval, Montgomery, Newtown, and Pool; containing 7 market-towns, 47 parishes, 9349 houses, and 51,931 inhabitants. It sends two members to parliament, and lies in the dioceses of St. Asaph, Bangor, and Hereford.

The air is mild and salubrious, but the county is barren and mountainous in many parts, yet perhaps affords a greater variety of fertile vale and plain than most of our Welsh counties.

The riches of Montgomeryshire proceed from its sheep, wool, and flannels, with other coarse cloth manufactured from this annual produce; for the hills are almost entirely sheep-walks, while the farms, situate in small vallies, appear only appendages for their winter habitations and provision. The manufactures are collected through the county, once or twice a-year, and sent to Welsh Pool, whence in a rough state they are carried to Shrewsbury, to be finished and exported; which traffic Dyer describes thus:

The northern Cambrians, an industrious tribe,
Carry their labours on Pygmean steeds,
Of size exceeding not Leicestrian sheep,
Yet strong and sprightly: over hill and dale
They travel unfatigued, and lay their bales
In Salop's streets, beneath whose lofty walls
Pearly Sabrina waits them with her barks,
And spreads the swelling sheet. FLEECE.

This county also affords mineral treasures, particularly a rich lead-mine at Llanganog, in the northern angle, and near it a large slate quarry; but coals are no where to be found within the county, consequently the inhabitants are obliged to use wood or peat as a substitute. A considerable part, particularly the vallies and level tracts, are well-watered by many brooks and rivulets, and some rivers, of which the Severn is the principal; to these might be added some large streams, as the Firnwy and Taned, remarkable for a variety of fish, particularly salmon, which penetrate up the Severn almost to Plinlimmon.

TOPOGRAPHICAL DESCRIPTION OF THE COUNTY OF
MONTGOMERY.*Journey from Llangynog to Llanymynech, through
Llanvyllin.*

LLANGYNOG is a pretty sequestered slip of fertile land, enclosed on all sides by the Berwyn Mountains. A little distance from the village is a lead-mine; the rock is a coarse slate, abounding with white opaque amorphous quartz, with considerable quantities of lead and calamine; both of which are sent raw to the foundries near Ruabon.

Two miles from Llangynog is a remarkable lead-mine, discovered in the year 1692, called Craeg-y-Mwn, which afforded formerly a considerable revenue to the Powis family. It is situated on a mountainous ridge that divides the vales of Rhaiadr and Tanad, but is at present filled with water. The vein of ore in this mine was three yards thick, and worked to the depth of one hundred, before it was choaked with water, and yielded annually 4,000 tons, at seven pounds per ton, producing a clear profit of about 20,000l.

Opposite this mine, on the other side of the village is the lofty and perpendicular rock of Llangynog, which supplies the neighbourhood with a considerable quantity of coarse slate, generally sold for six to twenty shillings per thousand.

This village is also celebrated for delicious trout, taken in the river Tanad, which flows through the vale of Llangynog, and is enclosed by the Berwyn Mountains.

Returning from this digression, on leaving Llangynog we proceed in a south-easterly direction, and at the distance of about four miles pass through the village of Pengarnarth, three miles beyond which is LLANVYLLIN, a market town of

considerable note, first incorporated by Llewelyn ab Gruffydd in the time of Edward I. It is governed by two bailiffs, chosen annually, who beside other privileges granted by Charles II. are justices of the peace within the corporation during their office.

Many Roman coins have been found here; still the learned contend that it was not a Roman station; saying, it was not customary with the Britons to prefix *Llan*, or church, to the name of Roman cities, but generally *Caer*, signifying fort or fence; therefore the old Mediolanum, said to have been here, is generally disbelieved, and supposed, for many reasons, to have been at Meivod.

The town of Llannyllin is situated 186 miles from London, and contains 291 houses and 1058 inhabitants. Its market is on Tuesday.

About seven miles to the south-east of Llan-vyllin is Mathraval, once a splendid place, but now only a small farm-house, erected on the site of its stately castle, which occupied nearly two acres in Powis land, guarded on one side by the river, and on the other by a vast rampart of stone and earth, with a deep foss, and a high keep at one corner.

The original fortress, according to Caradoc, was built by Robert Uspont, in the year 1211, and soon after besieged by Llewelyn ab Iorwerth and his confederate army; but King John being informed of their intention, collected an army and marched to Mathraval in time to raise the siege, and to prevent the Welsh possessing themselves of it; however, this did not suffice, for he immediately ordered the castle to be burned to the ground, and then returned to England; which is the last and only action recorded. On the opposite side of the river, in Gwern-ddu wood, may be seen a circular entrenchment, and in the field beyond a

round moat, supposed to have been a winter station of the Romans.

MEIVOD is situate one mile below Mathraval, and said to have been the archdeaconry of all Powis land. It had formerly two churches, the principal was the burial place of the great men of Powis, likewise their princes; among whom we find the two following; in 1158, Madoc ab Meredith ab Bleddyn, prince of Powis; and 1191, Gruffydd Maelor, lord of Bromfield. In the village, and places adjoining, were found several remarkable monuments, indicating it to have been a considerable town; but at present there remains only one church, with a yard nearly nine acres, and a small village, though several old people remember the ruins of two more churches! At Erwy-Porth, and adjoining fields, labourers have at different times discovered causeways, foundations of buildings, floors, and hearths; but no inscription has hitherto been found to develope its abstruse history, much less an elucidation of its distant origin, which some antiquarians have honoured with the appellation of the Mediolanum of the Romans.

Returning to our road at the distance of about ten miles from Llanvyllin, we arrive at Llanymynech, or Monkton, situate on the northern bank of the Eryrwy; but we do not find that any religious foundation was ever established in the neighbourhood. At present this hill is valuable for the plenty of copper which it affords, besides zinc, lead, calamine, and a quantity of limestone sufficient to supply the whole county, and the greater part of Shropshire. Its copper mines seem to have been well known to the Romans, who for a considerable time worked them to great advantage: some Roman coins, particularly one of Antoninus, and one of Faustina, were found here, with the

skeleton of a man, having on his left arm a bracelet, and by his side a battle-axe; besides some burnt bones and ashes found on several parts of the hill. At this time it derives considerable advantages from trade, particularly lime, which employs continually 150 men in summer to burn it, and about fifty in winter, to raise and break the stone ready for the kilns.

On the slope of this hill, extending from top to bottom, runs a stupendous rampart of loose stones, with a foss at the foot of it; and at a small distance are two others, running parallel, cut in many places through the solid rock and supposed to be British. By the hill runs likewise another rampart, called *Clawdd-Offa*, or *Offa's-Dike*, thrown up by the King of Mercia in 763, to prevent the incursions of the Welsh, and form their boundary; which continued so till the conquest in 1282. Two miles north-west of *Llanymynech*, on the bank of *Evyrnwy*, once stood the castle of *Careg-Hwva*, of which no vestige remains, except the foss on the east. There is but little account of this refuge in history, save that in the year 1162, it was taken and spoiled by two cousins, *Owain Cyveilog*, and *Owen ab Madoc*, in whose possession it continued twenty-five years; but at the termination of that period, the latter was besieged and slain by *Gwenwynwyn* and *Cadwallon*. Within half a mile of this castle lies *Gwern-y-vign*, where a battle was fought about the year 1202.

Journey from Llanvair to Machynllaith.

LLANVAIR is a small town, situate between hills on the banks of the wide flowing *Evyrnwy*, seven miles and a half from *Welsh Pool*. The river is remarkable for its variety of fish, particularly salmon, trout, grayling, perch, carp, tench, roach, dace, gudgeon, chab, lamprey, and flounders; therefore justly entitled to the classical appella-

tion of *amnis piscosus*. These finny tribes afford considerable profit and amusement to the inhabitants, who are peculiarly dexterous in the use of the spear and harpoon. The town itself contains nothing very interesting, except the church, which is rather an antique edifice. The market-house is tolerably handsome for a structure chiefly composed of wood.

Seven miles westward is Cann Office, a single public-house, which tradition says had its name from Cannon's Office; for in the time of Cromwell, cannon were planted before the house. There are still remaining marks of intrenchments on which trees are now planted. Behind the house is a barrow, seemingly of great antiquity, flat on the top, under which the body of a chieftain is supposed to have been buried. Several copper tools have been discovered here, and in its vicinity.

On leaving Llanvair, we proceed south-westerly, and at the distance of about 12 miles after passing through the village of Llanllygan, pass on our left Carno Mountain, rendered remarkable by several battles fought there, and the hills contiguous, particularly in the year 949, when Ieuav and Iago defeated the sons of Howel-Dda, and wasted Dyved; likewise in the year 1097, when a bloody battle was fought between the princes of North and South Wales, wherein Trahaiarn ab Caradoc, prince of the latter, was slain, and Gruffydd ab Cynan put in possession of the throne.

At the distance of about fifteen miles from Carno Mountain, we arrive at MACHYNLLAITH, a neat well-built town, preferable to most in North Wales, and the supposed Maglona of the Romans, and where, in the name of Honorius, a lieutenant was stationed to awe the mountaineers. On the highest part of the hill was the *main fort*, built in a quadrangular form, and encompassed with a

strong wall and broad ditch of an oval form, excepting that towards the valley, where it extended in a direct line. On the outside of the river Dyvi the foundation of many houses may be discovered, and on a low mount stood a small fort, supposed to be built of bricks, from the number found at different times. All the outer walls were built of a rough hard stone, carried thither by water from Tal-y-gareg, distant about seven miles.

From the fort to the water-side is a hard broad way of pebbles, with other stones, continued in straight lines through meadows and marsh grounds for 200 yards in length, and twelve broad. This fort is thought to have been destroyed previous to the building of Pen-yr-allt church, as we find in the walls of that building several bricks mixed with the stones. Some silver coins of Augustus and Tiberius have been found near the main fort.

In this town is shewn an old building, constructed of the thin slaty stone of the country, where Owen Glyndwr summoned the nobility and gentry of Wales in 1402.

The old senate house is likewise still remaining, but distinguished only by its size and a spacious entrance.

Journey from Welsh Pool to Llanidloes, through Newtown.

WELSH POOL is a large and populous town, situate on a low hill, with uniform streets and good buildings, while its vicinity to England gives it much the appearance of an English town, both in the language and manners of its inhabitants. The appearance of opulence is very predominant throughout the place, perhaps owing to the trade in Welsh manufactures, which are carried on here to a great extent, particularly flannels, mostly made in Merionethshire, and used in great quantities for soldiers' clothes.

In the centre of its principal street is the new County Hall, erected by subscription, comprising apartments above for the distribution of justice, and below for the purposes of trade.

It has an elegant front, with colonnades and pilasters of stone, the whole forming an ornament to the town, and a proof of the liberality and spirit of the county. The church is an old Gothic structure, singularly situate at the bottom of a hill; and so low, that the upper part of the yard is nearly on a level with the roof, and not remarkably elegant; but has among its ornaments a beautiful chalice of pure gold, containing the measure of a wine quart; and a Latin inscription, indicating it to be the gift of Thomas Davies, who held the office of governor-general of all the English colonies on the west coast of Africa. The chalice is formed of Guinea gold, to the value of 168*l.* bestowed upon this church, as a sacred and grateful offering to God for his preservation in that obnoxious clime.

About half a mile from the town the Severn contributes to increase its importance, and is navigable for small barges to Pool Stake, where it is then joined by a rivulet called Gledling, from hence taking its direction northwards, receiving in its course the rivers Firnwy and Tannad, then empties itself into the channel below Bristol, and 200 miles from Pool.

Independent of this conveyance, a new canal is forming which is to join the Ellesmere, near Hordley, passing through Llanyniyeich, Pool, and Beriw, to Newtown.

Along a pleasant road, one mile from hence, is Powis Castle, a seat of the late earl, but now the property of Lord Clive. It is of a very ancient origin, being the residence of many of our Welsh princes. Before King Offa's time, the lordship of Powis reached eastward to the rivers Severn and

Dee, and in a right line from Broxton Hills to Salop, comprehending all the country between the Wye and Severn, which was anciently the estate of Brokwel Yscithroc; but after the throwing up of Offa's Dike it was contracted, and the plain country towards Salop inhabited by the Saxons and Normans, that the length was afterwards north-east to Pulford Bridge in Llangurig parish, on the confines of Cardigan south-west; and the breadth from Cyfeilioc westward to Ellesmere on the east. This principality Roderic the Great gave (at the great division of Wales, between his three sons) to his youngest son Merfyn, in whose posterity it remained entire till the death of Bleddyn ab Cynvyn, by whom the present castle is said to have been built, about 1108, in the reign of Henry I. The Welsh call it Castell Coch, or the red castle, from the colour of the original structure; but in order to keep it in a state of repair, the whole has of late years been so plastered over with a coat of red lime, that at present very little of the red stone is to be seen, it having more the appearance of brick, and the antique grandeur of the building is completely destroyed by the contrast between the modern walls and the newly-plastered sash windows.

The ascent to the castle is up a long and laborious flight of steps, much out of repair, with the chief entrance through a gateway between two large round towers. This edifice is kept in repair as the habitation of Lord Powis, though he very rarely comes. The furniture in most of the rooms is in the ancient style of elegance, and in some of them the old and faded tapestry is yet left. In a detached building of a more modern date than the castle, are several paintings, particularly some sent hither by Lord Clive, and a small collection of antiques, some of which are very scarce and valuable.

In the centre of the building, through a small court, is a covered walk, supported by four or five pillars. Opposite, on entering, is a figure of Hercules, and on the left a handsome staircase whose walls and ceiling were painted by Lanscrome in 1705. The ceiling represents the coronation of Queen Anne; the figures are well formed, particularly a horse and man in armour; the walls are mythological and allegorical, consisting of the figures of Neptune, Amphitrite, Apollo, Venus, Poetry, Painting, Music, &c. At the bottom of the staircase is a curious marble figure of Cybele, sitting and holding a globe, about three feet high, placed on a pedestal of the same height, brought from Herculaneum. The under part of the staircase is painted with a figure of Aurora, by the same artist. On the left is a small parlour, on the right a room with the pictures of St. Catharine receiving a ring from Christ, and Sampson betrayed by the Philistines, both excellent paintings, but now much injured by careless usage. Up stairs, in the tapestry room, over the door, is a fine painting of Cleopatra dissolving the pearl, and another, well executed, of Venus and Cupid, as also a Salutation, very fine, and said to have cost 500 guineas. The tapestries of the Sextagon bed-chamber represent several parts of Nebuchadnezzar's life. Here is also a noble gallery 117 feet by 20, in the window of which is an elegant inlaid marble table, very large, representing birds, &c. also busts of the twelve Cæsars, brought from Italy, larger than life, the vests of composite marble of a yellowish cast, besides a curious copper bust of the famous Lord Herbert of Cherbury. Out of the gallery is a state room, intended for King Charles, whose cyphers are in gold letters in the door and window pannels; but the state bed having gone to decay, has been removed. In the drawing-room, which

is of considerable dimensions, is a handsome ceiling of the plaster of Paris, representing the twelve signs of the Zodiac, with Phœbus in his chariot in the centre: at the corners are the coronet and arms of the family. In a small breakfast room are several pannels painted with different subjects on canvas, particularly one of David playing on the harp before Saul; the expression of jealous rage in the countenance of the latter is remarkably well executed. The ball-room is spacious, but detached from the house. Lord Lyttleton appears to have been particularly delighted with this place, and observes, that 3000*l.* judiciously laid out, would render Powis Castle the most august place in the kingdom.

The gardens are laid out in the French taste, with parallel terraces, squared slopes, and water works, but now shamefully neglected and out of repair, in consequence of his lordship seldom visiting this residence. The prospects from hence are extensive, the situation commanding a beautiful and spacious country, intersected by the Severn and the distant Breiddyn hills, having beneath Snowdon and Cader Idris, with a great part of the well-cultivated and woody county of Shropshire.

The Earl of Powis, first created so by Charles I. obtained this castle (on which seventeen manors in the county are still dependent) by purchase, in the reign of Queen Elizabeth. In October 1644, Powis Castle was attacked and taken for the parliament by Sir T. Middleton, and its owner, Piercy, Lord Powis taken prisoner, and all his estates sequestered, on account of his attachment to the king's party.

At the distance of six miles from Welsh Pool a road on our left leads to MONTGOMERY, situate on a gentle ascent, at the back of which is another, called Town hill, whereon stood the castle. The

town is clean and well built, inhabited chiefly by persons of small fortune, who lead a life of retirement. This town, in 1756, was little more than a village, though now capable of affording all the comforts of life, without any of the bustle of large towns. It is situate in a fertile vale, decorated with lively scenery, indicating population and fertility.

The town of Montgomery derives its name from Roger de Montgomery, earl of Shrewsbury, who in 1092 entered Powis Land, and took this place, then called Trevaldwin, or Baldwin's Town, from a lieutenant of that name in the service of William the Conqueror; which continued until the earl took it, who shortly after fortified the same, and called it Montgomery, after his own name. The church is a handsome cruciform structure, dedicated to St. Nicholas, but does not possess any thing remarkable except a monument for Richard, the son of the first Lord Herbert of Cherbury, who died in 1577, and father of the famous Lord Herbert. The castle is the principal edifice belonging to this place, situate on an eminence north of the town, and appears to have been a very grand building; but at present so much demolished, that the foundation cannot be traced with any degree of accuracy. It stood on a rock quite precipitous on one side, and sufficiently high to command the whole place; but now the only remains are a small part of a tower, at the south-west corner, with a few low and broken walls. In the old tower are several small holes, intended to fix poles in to support a scaffold for building or repairing the walls.

The first authentic account we have of this fortress, is, it being besieged by the Welsh in 1094, and completely ransacked. It was afterwards, in 1228, closely invested by Llewelyn ab Iorwerth, and would have surrendered, had not

Henry III. marched in person with an army, and raised the siege; however, Llewelyn took it in 1231, and put the whole garrison to the sword. In this castle, 1268, Ottobonus, Pope Clement's legate in England, interposed between Henry the Third and Llewelyn ab Gruffydd, and concluded a peace, on condition that the prince should give Henry thirty thousand marks, for which the king granted Llewelyn a charter, from thenceforth to receive homage and fealty from all the barons, nobility, &c. of Wales, and farther, that the aforesaid could hold lands of no other than Llewelyn; accordingly, from this time, he was lawfully styled Prince of Wales.

In the civil wars between Charles the First and his parliament, this castle, under its governor Lord Herbert of Cherbury, held out for the king, but was taken by the parliament in 1644, and soon after dismantled by their order. It appears to have been divided by four fosses cut in the rock, with a small fortification on the vale contiguous; likewise on a hill near the castle there are some remains of a stupendous British post, the approach guarded by four great ditches, with two or three entrances towards the main work, and two fosses running across the hill, guarded by the steep ascent.

By the castle bank stands the county gaol, a strong stone building, erected a few years since; and in the upper part the Guildhall, a handsome building, where the sessions are held alternately with Pool.

At the bottom stood a large old mansion called Blackhall, an old seat of the Herberts, long since destroyed by fire, but a deep foss shews its ancient site.

Near this town is the famous mountain called Cevn Digoll, celebrated for having been the spot where the last contested battle was fought be-

tween Freedom and Oppression, or where the heroes of the fallen principality gave their expiring groans.

The town of Montgomery, according to the late returns, consisted of 188 houses, and 932 inhabitants.

BREIDDYN HILL, on the border of Shropshire, occupies a great space between Montgomery and the vale of Severn. It consists principally of a coarse argillaceous schistus, which is in some places mingled with small rhomboidal crystals, and a calcareous spar. It is also remarkable for a fine view near Rodney's Pillar, on the summit of Breiddyn, which, perhaps, affords one of the most delightful prospects that is any where to be found on the confines of Wales; for here are plainly seen the vales of the Severn, Ewyrnwy, and Tanad, and from its superior height the view extends over as far as Pumlumon, Cader Idris, and Aran Penllyn, whose pointed tops finely diversify the extensive line of horizon. Breiddyn, or Craig-breiddyn, is mentioned by Mr. Evans in his "Specimens of Welsh Poetry," as a favourite situation of Llewelyn the Great, about 1240.

At the foot of this hill are the ruins of a Cistercian monastery, called Strata Marcella, or Ystrad Marchell, founded by Owen Cyveiliog, in 1170. It was richly endowed with the lands adjoining by Gwynwynwyn, in 1201, and some additional grants from Madawc ab Gruffydd, in the reign of Edward III. It afterwards became subject to the visitation of Buildas Abbey, in Shropshire, and worth at its dissolution, according to Speed, 73*l.* 7*s.* 3*d.*

About three miles to the south-west of Montgomery, on the left of our road, is **CASTELL DOLVORWYN**, or the Meadow of the Virgin, about three miles from Newtown. It stands on a woody steep, on the north-west bank of the Severn, and commands the whole of the surrounding country.

The castle was erected by Bleddyn ab Cynvyn, between 1065 and 1073, and built in a quadrangular form, of no great extent, being about fifty yards long and twenty-five wide, with walls nearly four feet thick. A small part of the north wall, with some trifling remains of the interior, are yet left; but the south and east walls are entirely demolished, and the other parts now standing are in so shattered a condition that a strong wind would probably level the whole with the ground. About four years ago, as some persons were digging round the ruins, they met with a few reddish earthen vessels, and some coins; but the date is not known.

In a valley, not far from this place, is Bettws Church, dedicated to St. Beuno, and formerly belonging to Llanbigan, a Cistercian nunnery, founded about 1239, and valued at 22*l.* 14*s.* The steeple is very handsome for these parts, and built by J. Meredith in 1531.

Returning to our road, at the distance of about eight miles from Montgomery, we pass through NEWTOWN, or Trenewydd, a neat town, built after the Welsh fashion, and situate in a beautiful valley, enriched by the Severn, with meadows and pastures, and bounded on each side of the river by moderate hills generally mantled with wood, which cannot fail to render it a delightful situation for a residence, possessing every requisite for good society and amusements, without the bustle, luxury, and dissipation of larger towns.

Thus far from *cities* let me fly,
Far from the crowded seat
Of folly, pageantry, and power,
To this obscure retreat.

Here plenty sheds with liberal hand
Her various blessings round;

Here pleasing mirth delightful roves,
And roseate health is found !

MISS JAMES.

There are several woollen manufactures in and contiguous to this town, and many new dwellings ; but those of tradesmen are mostly formed of wood and laths, having the intermediate parts secured with mortar or plaster, yet are warm and durable.

Of public buildings the church is the principal ; it is rather an antique edifice, consisting of a nave and chancel, having in the latter a marble table, and in the wall contiguous a small monument for Sir John Pryce, Bart. Near it is an elegant gilt partition in the church, containing various curious devices, and an antique font, reported to have been brought from Abbey Cwmhîr, Radnorshire.

Near the town is an extensive park, and the ancient seat of the Pryces, who were the lineal descendants of one of the royal tribes of Wales. Newtown Hall came to this family about the time of Henry VI.

KEERY, or Ceri, is a small village three miles south-east of Newtown, pleasantly situate on a gentle eminence in the Vale of Ceri, encompassed by hills, rich vallies, fruitful fields, good pastures, and extensive plantations, both useful and ornamental.

In the centre, and along a gradual ascent to the opposite declivity, are erected, in one tolerable street, the houses, which constitute the village, having its venerable church contiguous and parallel with the principal habitations. The superstructure consists of a quadrangular tower or belfry, terminating in regular turrets, from whence may be had an extensive view of the country, finely

diversified with wood, water, and its picturesque concomitants. The internal part has two aisles, divided by three or four heavy Gothic arches, and opposite some pointed windows. Of its monuments one only claims attention, which is of white marble, and erected in the chancel to perpetuate the memory and donations of Richard Jones, Esq. late of Greenwich, in the county of Kent, formerly a purser in the royal navy, but a native of this parish. He was born at Black Hall, in Ceri, 1723, and died November 3, 1788.

Of Ceri, in the turbulent times of our princes, Caradoc of Llancarvan records, that Henry the Third, having raised a well-disciplined army, to prosecute the quarrel between Marshall Earl of Pembroke and Llewelyn ab Iorwerth, advanced into the marches in 1228, and encamped on a small common close by the village of Ceri. In this station several skirmishes took place, succeeded by a general engagement, in which the English were completely vanquished, but not without dreadful slaughter on both sides. Some old intrenchments, intersecting the modern enclosures, are to this day visible, with several small tumuli, wherein the slain were probably interred.

CAER-SWS, now only a small hamlet, situate on the Severn about five miles above Newtown, appears to have been a town of considerable antiquity from the streets and lanes about it, with some remains of hollow arched fosses.

The Roman road, called Sarn Swsan, runs here, pointing to Meivod, and may be distinctly traced to the banks of the Ewyrnwy, near Llysin. Few, if any, Roman coins have ever been found here; but that it was a Roman station is highly probable, from the fine hewn stones for building, and several bricks, common in Roman cities or places possessed by them when in Britain.

The lords of Arwystli had a castle here, but its

extent at present is not known. The form of three camps still remain: one called Gwyn-Vyn-ydd, the second called Rhos-Diarbed, and another in Llandinam parish, of a very uncommon form, having at the south end a large conic mount surrounded by a deep foss.

In the north part of this foss is an oblong area, seventy yards wide, with a high rampart and an outer ditch. In the south-west angle of the quadrangular encampment, of about one hundred and fifty yards square, were dug up about twenty years ago, some Roman bricks and mortar; which were afterwards used in building a chimney of a neighbouring public house. One brick had the following inscription in alto-relievo: CICIPB, which some have read, Caius Julius Cæsar imperator.

Returning to our road, at the distance of about nine miles from Newtown, we arrive at LLANIDLOES, or the CHURCH of ST. IDLOES, a small town, pleasantly situate near the Severn, with a few spacious streets; but the houses are mostly built of laths and mud, filled in the intermediate spaces of the timber frames. These are in general built very irregularly, and the whole town contains but very few good houses. This place, like most towns in North Wales, is built in the form of a cross, indicating a Roman origin, having its market-house in the centre, a most ill-looking building, and the avenues extremely dirty, even obnoxious, in consequence of a common practice of throwing their dirt in heaps before the doors of their respective dwellings.

Over the Severn is an old wooden bridge, much decayed, but only used in time of flood, as the river here is generally fordable.

Of public buildings, the principal is its ancient looking church, the body resting on six arches, surrounded with neat pillars, ending in capitals of palm leaves; these the inhabitants affirm were

brought from Abbey Cwmhîr, in Radnorshire. There is a date on the roof of 1542, after which soon followed the dissolution of monasteries in Great Britain. Independent of the preceding, Llanidloes has a considerable market for wool and yarn, which is manufactured to a great amount, and carried to Welsh Pool for sale. Near the town are several extensive sheep-walks, and in the neighbourhood an excellent quarry of coarse slate.

In the vicinity is Berthlwyd, an old mansion belonging to the ancient family of Lloyds; and on the north side is a small lake called Llyn yr Avanc, or Lake of Beavers, which are said to have been very numerous here. Wolves, roebucks, wild boars, and bears, were also formerly found in Wales.

END OF DESCRIPTION OF NORTH WALES.

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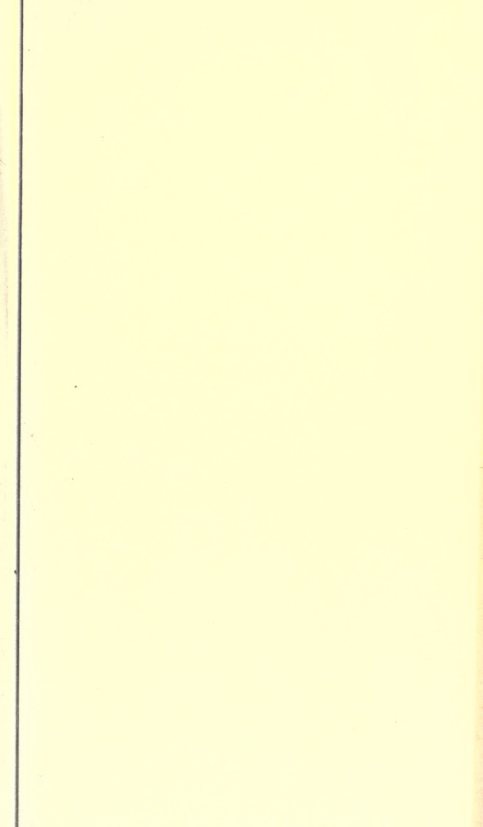
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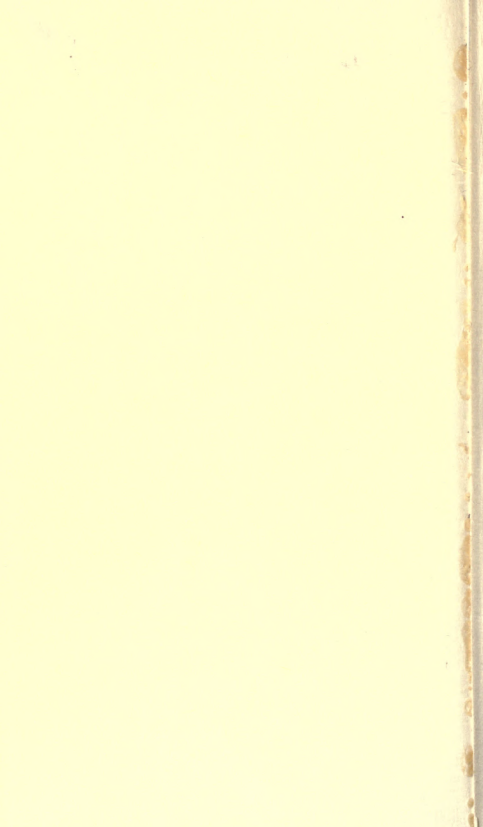
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Cooke, George Alexander
Topographical and
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