



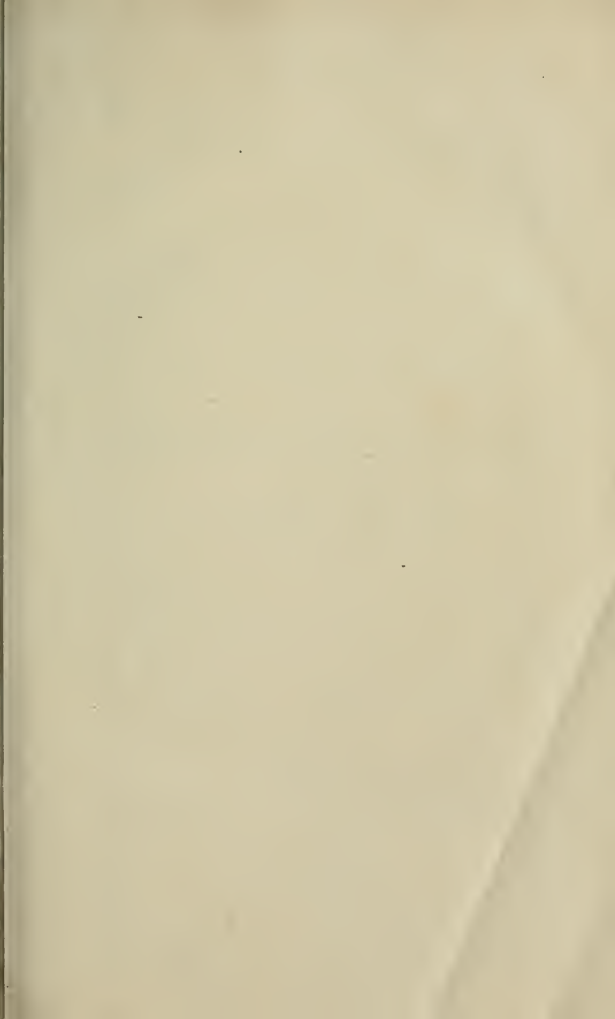


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1832

TOPOGRAPHY  
OF  
**Great Britain,**  
OR,  
**BRITISH TRAVELLER'S**  
*POCKET DIRECTORY;*  
BEING AN ACCURATE AND COMPREHENSIVE  
TOPOGRAPHICAL AND STATISTICAL DESCRIPTION  
OF  
ALL THE COUNTIES  
IN  
England, Scotland, and Wales,  
WITH THE  
ADJACENT ISLANDS:  
ILLUSTRATED WITH  
*MAPS OF THE COUNTIES,*  
WHICH FORM  
A COMPLETE BRITISH ATLAS.

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*BY G. A. COOKE, ESQ.*

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VOL. XV.  
CONTAINING  
NORTH WALES AND SHROPSHIRE.

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**London:**

*Printed, by Assignment from the Executors of the late C. Cooke,*  
FOR  
SHERWOOD, NEELY, AND JONES, PATERNOSTER-ROW;  
AND SOLD BY ALL BOOKSELLERS.

THE

AMERICAN

WELFARE

OF THE

PEOPLE

OF THE UNITED STATES

AND

THE

WELFARE

OF THE

PEOPLE

OF THE UNITED STATES

AND

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WELFARE

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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.

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Illustrated with

A MAP OF THE PRINCIPALITY.

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**BARNARD AND FARLEY,**  
*Shinner-Street, London.*



### *EDITOR'S ADDRESS.*

**I**N 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 journeys 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-

ications 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.

\* Skrin.

*Rhaiadr-Gwy,* }  
*Rudnorshire.* }

# 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. 611,969 Inhabitants. 5,200,000 acres.</p>	<p>24 Members, <i>viz.</i> One for each county, &amp; one for the principal town in each county, except that of Mertoneth, 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, &amp;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 Bishoprics 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.

Aberconway.....		Distant from London .....										Miles,																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																									
Abergeley.....	19	Abergeley.....	20	9	St. Asaph.....	16	40	40	Bala.....	16	28	36	43	Bangor.....	15	30	37	46	5	Beaumaris.....	25	44	45	45	10	15	Caernarvon.....	25	11	5	35	35	50	15	Caerwys.....	40	55	60	34	31	34	20	60	Cruccaith.....	22	14	7	32	36	36	46	5	54	Denbigh.....	60	68	54	20	58	58	60	60	44	50	Dinas Mawddrwy.....	55	65	60	21	60	65	45	60	35	54	11	Dolgellau.....	38	20	16	40	52	50	18	15	68	20	60	60	Flint.....	45	50	62	34	40	48	46	63	16	55	33	22	61	Harlech.....	46	32	4	38	55	55	67	16	66	25	56	57	10	64	Hawarden.....	50	35	30	25	55	60	62	30	55	24	46	46	32	52	32	Llangellon.....	40	90	84	50	85	98	75	84	70	50	34	35	90	55	78	65	Llanidloes.....	55	55	56	24	55	80	73	60	55	53	26	28	55	57	52	28	36	Llanwyllin.....	70	8	74	33	66	74	57	68	50	64	14	15	70	35	72	52	22	38	Machynllaith.....	40	30	22	36	57	56	67	14	60	20	55	55	8	60	5	26	75	45	68	Mold.....	75	70	65	42	82	82	83	70	76	60	35	42	60	64	60	39	26	19	40	53	Montgomery.....	43	60	68	47	30	37	25	75	16	66	60	48	70	36	82	70	82	70	64	85	90	Nevyn.....	30	44	50	50	14	17	5	58	24	50	62	49	64	38	68	65	86	75	60	68	83	26	Newburgh.....	82	80	77	44	90	98	82	77	75	68	32	39	72	60	66	48	16	24	30	63	10	89	87	Newtown.....	50	55	55	35	34	40	27	68	5	60	50	40	82	34	70	60	73	60	55	65	78	10	27	53	Pwllheli.....	32	25	15	23	46	45	52	15	50	8	44	45	15	48	17	16	75	38	59	12	52	65	59	60	55	Ruthin.....	70	65	57	35	75	80	75	60	70	55	30	40	57	60	56	30	32	12	36	45	8	88	52	17	70	45	Welsh Pool.....	50	40	35	35	64	64	75	25	70	32	58	56	20	65	20	11	68	34	70	12	45	87	75	52	73	21	35	Wrexham.....

## 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.	Mar- kets.	Houses	Inhabi- tants.	Post arrives.	De- parts.
Aberconway .....	230	Caernar.	Frid.	218	1053	10 $\frac{1}{4}$ m.	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ aft.
Aberfraw .....		Anglesea.		175	1054		
Abergeley .....	244	Denbigh.	Sat.	399	1944		
Almwch .....	275	Anglesea.		926	4210		
St. Asaph .....	209	Flint.	Sat.	309	1520	6 $\frac{1}{4}$ m.	5 $\frac{1}{2}$ 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	1112		
Clynnogfawr .....	262	Caernar.		305	1508		
Corwen .....	202	Merion.		288	1417		
Cruccaith .....	237	Caernar.	Wed.	94	459		
Denbigh .....	218	Denbigh.	Wed.	617	2716	8 $\frac{1}{2}$ m.	2 $\frac{1}{4}$ 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		
Llanelian .....	210	Denbigh.		108	554		
Llanfechell .....	279	Anglesea.		167	795		
Llangellon .....	192	Denbigh.	Sat.	1357	6649		
Llanidloes .....	190	Montgom.	Sat.	470	2386	12 n.	6 aft.
Llanrhaiadr .....	218	Denbigh.		317	1692		
Llansannon .....		Denbigh.		257	1221		

Towns.	Dist.	Counties.	Markets.	Houses	Inhabitants.	Post arrives.	De-parts.
Llanshiad Dyffin							
Clwyd .....	218	Denbigh.		206	1044		
Llanufydd .....	220	Denbigh.		192	910		
Llanusochlyn ...		Merion.		280	1309		
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.....	245	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>
WOUBURN .....	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	42 $\frac{1}{2}$	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 .....	3 $\frac{3}{4}$	46 $\frac{1}{4}$		<i>Hoare. esq; and the Rev.</i>
Broughton ....	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	48 $\frac{3}{4}$		<i>Mr. Fisher, L.</i>
NEWPORT PAG-			Inns--	<i>The Sergeant and</i>
NELL .....	2 $\frac{3}{4}$	51 $\frac{1}{2}$		<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 ..	$\frac{3}{4}$	52 $\frac{1}{4}$		<i>Ward, esq. R.</i>
Stoke Golding..	3 $\frac{1}{4}$	55 $\frac{1}{2}$		<i>Beyond, Salsey Forest,</i>
On R. a T. R.				<i>Earl of Euston, L.</i>
to Olney.				
Horton .....	4 $\frac{1}{4}$	59 $\frac{3}{4}$	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.	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	61	T. Mercer, esq. L.	
Queen's Cross..	4	65	Delapre Abbey, Hon. Ed-	
On L. a T. R.			ward Bouverie.	
to Stony Strat-				
ford.				
NORTHAMPTON.	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	66 $\frac{1}{4}$	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	68 $\frac{1}{4}$	Lady Care, L.	
On R. a T. R.				
to Harborough.				

Chapel Bramp-			
ton .....	$2\frac{1}{2}$	$70\frac{3}{4}$	
Upper Creaton.	$3\frac{1}{2}$	$74\frac{1}{4}$	Within one mile on L.
Lower Creaton.	$\frac{1}{4}$	$74\frac{1}{2}$	Holmby House, where King Charles was im- prisoned by the parlia- ment forces.
Thornby .....	$3\frac{1}{4}$	$77\frac{3}{4}$	Thornby Grange, J. W. Roberts, esq. R. 2 miles beyond Thornby on R. is Naseby Field, said to be the centre of England.
Welford.....	$3\frac{3}{4}$	$81\frac{1}{2}$	Inn—Talbot. Dr. Orton, Salby Lodge, Lord Bar- nard.
<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	Inn—Red Lion. Beyond, Misterton House, J. H. Franks, esq.
<i>Near Lutter- worth on L. a T. R. to Rugby.</i>			
LUTTERWORTH..	$1\frac{3}{4}$	$89\frac{3}{4}$	Inns—Denbigh Arms & Hind. The Rev. H. Johnson, L.
<i>On R. a T. R. to Leicester on L. to Coventry.</i>			
Botteswell .....	$1\frac{1}{4}$	91	
Ullesthorpe ....	$2\frac{1}{2}$	$93\frac{1}{2}$	Inn—Swan. — Goodacre, esq. R.
Upper Clay-}			
brook ....}	$\frac{1}{2}$	94	Christopher Saverland, esq. L; Claybrook Hall, T. Dicey, esq. R.
Lower Clay-}			
brook ....}	$\frac{3}{4}$	$94\frac{3}{4}$	Inn—Bull's Head.
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</i> , between <i>Hinckley and Witherley</i> , <i>Lindley Hall</i> , Hon. Mr. <i>Keppel</i> , R. and <i>Wed-</i> <i>dington Hall</i> — <i>Crawford</i> , esq. L.
On R. a T. R. to <i>Ashby de la</i> <i>Zouch</i> , one mile from <i>Hinckley</i> , cross the <i>Ashby de</i> <i>la Zouch Canal</i> , about a mile and a half farther on	7 $\frac{1}{4}$	107 $\frac{1}{2}$	<i>Caldecot Hall</i> , Hon. Mr. <i>Bowes</i> , <i>Oldbury-Hall</i> , — <i>Okeover</i> , esq. L.
L. a T. R. to <i>Nuneaton</i> . <i>Witherley</i> .....			
On L. a T. R. to <i>Coventry</i> Cross the <i>Anker R</i> .	1	108 $\frac{1}{2}$	Inn— <i>The Red Lion</i> , <i>Ather-</i> <i>stone Hall</i> . The <i>Baro-</i> <i>ness Grey de Ruthyn</i> , R. beyond <i>Merwale Hall</i> , <i>D. S. Dugdale Guest</i> , esq.
ATHERSTONE, } <i>Warw</i> ..... }			
On R. a T. R. to <i>Burton</i> ; on L.	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	114	Between <i>Wilnecote</i> & <i>Faze-</i> <i>ley</i> , <i>Dartshill House</i> , <i>W.</i> <i>Dickinson</i> , esq. L.
to <i>Coleshill</i> . <i>Wilnecote</i> .....			
On L. a T. R. to <i>Coventry</i> ; on	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	115 $\frac{1}{2}$	Inn— <i>The White Lion</i> , <i>Drayton Park</i> , Sir <i>Ro-</i> <i>bert Peele</i> , bart.
R. to <i>Tamworth</i> . <i>Fazeley</i> .....			
On L. a T. R. to <i>Coleshill</i> , cross the <i>Coventry Ca-</i> <i>nal</i> , and just be-			
fore <i>Tamworth</i> cross the <i>Anker R</i>			
TAMWORTH, } <i>Staff</i> ..... }	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	116 $\frac{3}{4}$	Inns— <i>Castle and King's</i> <i>Arms</i> .
Cross the <i>Tame</i> .	2 $\frac{1}{4}$	119	Inn— <i>The Red Lion</i> , one
<i>Hoppas</i> .....			
Cross the <i>Bir-</i>			

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 $\frac{1}{2}$

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

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.*  
*Oakhedge, Mrs. Hanson.*  
*Rev. G. Levett, L.*

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

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

Weeping Cross.. 1 140

Cross the Staf-  
fordshire and

<i>Worcestershire</i>			
<i>Canal, on R. a</i>			
<i>T. R. to Walsall.</i>			
Radford .....	$\frac{3}{4}$	140 $\frac{3}{4}$	
<i>Cross the Penk</i>			
<i>R.—Near the</i>			
<i>Sow R ; on L. a</i>			
<i>T. R. to Wol-</i>			
<i>verhampton and</i>			
<i>Newport, cross</i>			
<i>the Sow, R.</i>			
STAFFORD.....	1	141 $\frac{3}{4}$	Inns— <i>The George, Star, &amp;</i>
<i>Through on</i>			<i>Swan ; two miles from,</i>
<i>R. a T. R. to</i>			<i>on L. is Creswell, T.</i>
<i>Leek.</i>			<i>Whitby, esq.</i>
Great Bridge- }	$\frac{1}{4}$	145 $\frac{3}{4}$	
ford .....			
<i>Cross the Sow</i>			
<i>R.</i>			
Walton .....	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	147	
ECCLESHALL ..	2	149	Inn— <i>The Royal Oak,</i>
<i>On L. a T. R.</i>			<i>Hillcot Hall, F. Eld,</i>
<i>to Stone and</i>			<i>jun. esq. R. Sugnal-Hall,</i>
<i>Newport</i>			<i>— Rowland, esq. L.</i>
			<i>through Eccleshall, on</i>
			<i>R. is the Castle, the resi-</i>
			<i>dence of the Bishop of</i>
			<i>Lichfield and Coventry.</i>
Croxton .....	3	152	
Wetwood .....	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	153 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Broughton .....	$\frac{3}{4}$	154 $\frac{1}{4}$	<i>Broughton-Hall, C. D.</i>
<i>Three miles</i>			<i>Broughton, esq.</i>
<i>from, on L. a T.</i>			
<i>R. to Newcastle,</i>			
<i>and on R. to</i>			
<i>Drayton.</i>			
Muckleston ....	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	157 $\frac{3}{4}$	<i>One mile from, on L. Oak-</i>
			<i>ley Park, Sir J. Chet-</i>
			<i>wode, bart.</i>

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.--The Swan.
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--The Crown; Dorfold Hall, H. Tomkinson, esq., one mile on L.
On L. a T. R. to Drayton. Cross the Wever River.			
Acton . . . . .	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	171	
Cross the Ches- ter & Ellesmere Canal.			
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--The Golden Lion.
The Lanes Ends	2	178 $\frac{1}{4}$	
On L. a T. R. to Whitchurch; on R. to Nort- wich.			
TARPORLEY . . . . .	1	179 $\frac{1}{4}$	Inn--The Swan.
On R. a T. R. to Northwich.			

Clotton. ....	2	181 $\frac{1}{4}$	
Duddon .....	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	182 $\frac{1}{2}$	<i>Duddon Hall, Sir J. Egerton, Bart. Stapleford, John Calveley, esq. one mile on L.</i>
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	<i>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.</i>
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	<i>Inns—The Coach and Horses, and the Feathers, Hop Pole, Hotel, Pyed Bull, and White Lion.</i>
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 $\frac{1}{2}$	<i>Broughton Hall, J. Richardson, esq. one mile on L.</i>
Beyond on L. a T. R. to Mold.			
HAWARDEN ....	3	196 $\frac{1}{2}$	<i>Hawarden Castle, Lady Glynn, R. Hawarden Ease, W. Boydell, esq. L.</i>
Euloe Castle ....	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	99	<i>Beyond on R. Aston Hall, —Dundas, esq.</i>



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. Kimmel 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	
.. ..			Gwrych, R. Hesket, esq.
Llandulas .....	2 $\frac{1}{4}$	227 $\frac{1}{4}$	one mile beyond L. Ty-
Cross the Con- wy river.			mowr, Llysvaen, Edw. Lloyd, Esq.
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-
Pass Penman Mawr Mountain, to			liams, esq. R.
Aber .....	9 $\frac{1}{4}$	245 $\frac{3}{4}$	Dyganwy, Lord Viscount
On R. across the Lavan Sands and Ferry, to Beaumaris,			Kirkwall.
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-
Cross the Me- nai Strait, and enter Anglesea.			ry Jones, esq. L.
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 ....	5 $\frac{1}{4}$	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	270 $\frac{1}{2}$	
.....			<i>At Barron Hill, Presadded, Lord Bulkeley, R.</i>
Llanynghenedl ..	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	271 $\frac{3}{4}$	
<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 ....	7 $\frac{1}{4}$	279	<i>Inn—Eagle and Child.</i>

## FROM LONDON TO HOLYHEAD,

THROUGH OXFORD, BIRMINGHAM, AND SHREWSBURY.

LONDON to KensingtonGravel Pits.....		1 $\frac{1}{2}$	<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	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	3	<i>— Shirley, esq. L.; just beyond the fourth mile stone Lady Strange, R.</i>
Acton.....	1 $\frac{3}{4}$	4 $\frac{3}{4}$	<i>Burrymead Lodge, J. Acres, esq.; just before on L. — Cook, and — Dax, esqs. R.; &amp; further n R. in Horn Lane, N.</i>

			<i>Selby, esq. and the Hon. Mrs. Hervey; &amp; 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. &amp; — 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 &amp; 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 ....	$\frac{3}{4}$	$32\frac{1}{4}$	
<i>A little before Stoken Church a T. R. to Great Marlow.</i>			
Stoken Church, Oxon.....	4	$36\frac{1}{4}$	<i>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.</i>
Postcombe ....	$3\frac{3}{4}$	40	<i>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.</i>
<i>On R. a T. R. to Thame.</i>			
Tetsworth .....	$2\frac{1}{4}$	$22\frac{1}{4}$	<i>Inns—Royal Oak &amp; Swan. Thame Park, Miss Wick- ham, one mile and a half on R.</i>
Hutt .....	$2\frac{1}{4}$	$44\frac{1}{2}$	<i>Rycote Park, Earl of Abingdon, R.; and one mile on R. of 46th mile stone, Waterstock, — Ashurst, esq.</i>
<i>On R. a T. R. to Thame, on L. to Wallingford; from Hutt, cross the Thame River</i>			
Wheatley .....	$3\frac{3}{4}$	$48\frac{1}{4}$	<i>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.</i>
<i>On L. the old road to Oxford over Shotover Hill, and about 1 mile further on R. a T. R. to</i>			

<i>Chipping Norton.</i>			
Forest Hill ....	$1\frac{3}{4}$	50	
Headington ....	$2\frac{1}{4}$	$52\frac{1}{4}$	<i>W. Finch, E. Lock, and E. Tewney, esqs.; and a little further the Rev. T. Whorwood.</i>
Headington Hill 1		$53\frac{1}{4}$	
<i>On L. the old Road to Wheatley over Shotover Hill.</i>			
St. Clements ..	$\frac{1}{2}$	$53\frac{1}{4}$	
<i>On L. a T. R. to Henley, cross the Charwell River.</i>			
Oxford .....	$\frac{3}{4}$	$54\frac{1}{2}$	<i>Inns—Angel, King's Arms, Roe Buck, and Star.</i>
<i>One mile from on R. a T. R. to Bicester &amp; Deddington.</i>			
Wolvecot .....	$2\frac{3}{4}$	$57\frac{1}{4}$	
<i>Cross the Oxford Canal.</i>			
Yarnton .....	$1\frac{1}{2}$	$58\frac{1}{2}$	
Begbrooke ....	$1\frac{1}{4}$	$60\frac{3}{4}$	<i>Bletchington Park, A. Annesley, esq. three miles on R.; and one mile beyond is Kirtlington Hall, Sir H. W. Dashwood, bart.</i>
<i>One mile from Begbrooke on L. a T. R. Whitney.</i>			
WOODSTOCK ..	$2\frac{1}{4}$	63	<i>Inns—Bear and Marlborough Arms. Blenheim House and Park, the Duke of Marlborough.</i>
Kiddington ....	$4\frac{1}{4}$	$67\frac{1}{4}$	<i>Within one mile on R. Glympton Park, Lloyd</i>
<i>On R. a T. R.</i>			

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. Upper Norton, H. Daw- kins, esq. L.
On R. T. R. 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...	$\frac{3}{4}$	$81\frac{3}{4}$	Thomas Snow, esq. R.
SHIPSTON ....	$1\frac{1}{2}$	$83\frac{1}{4}$	Inn—the George.
Treelington, On R. a T. R. to Warwick on L. to Moreton, in the Marsh.			Honington, T. G. Town- send, esq.; — Peach, esq. R.
Newbold .....	$1\frac{3}{4}$	$87\frac{1}{4}$	
Lower Eating- ton. ....	$\frac{1}{2}$	$87\frac{3}{4}$	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 &amp; Buckingham, cross the Avon R.</i>					
STRATFORD ON AVON. ....	2½	93¾	Inn— <i>White Lion.</i> <i>Half a mile beyond is Clifton House.</i>		
<i>On R. a T. R. to Warwick, &amp; on L. to Alcester; within half a mile of Wotton Waver cross the Stratford Canal and Alne River.</i>					
Wotton Waver	6½	100¼	<i>Wotton Hall, Lady Smythe, R.</i>		
<i>Near Henley on L. a T. R. to Birmingham.</i>					
HENLEY IN ARDEN .....	1¼	101½	Inn— <i>The Swan.</i> <i>Barrells House, — Knight, esq. two miles on L.</i>		
<i>Within half a mile of Hockley cross the Stratford Canal.</i>					
Hockley .....	4¾	106¼	Inn— <i>The White Lion.</i> <i>Umberslade, Miss Archer, L.; Rev. H. A. Pye, R. About one mile on R. of Hockley, Packwood House, C. Featherstone, esq.</i>		
<i>On R. a T. R. to Warwick.</i>					
 <i>Monks Path</i>					
Street .....	2½	109¼			
Shirley Street..	1¾	111			
<i>Three miles from Shirley Street on R. a T. R. to Warwick.</i>					
Grange .....	4	115	<i>At Moseley on L. — Anderson, esq.; — Gateley,</i>		
<i>Near Birming-</i>					

ham on R. a T.  
R. to Coventry.  
and on L. to Al-  
cester. Enter-  
ing Birmingham,  
cross the Thame  
River.

esq.; and Mrs. Guest.

BIRMINGHAM ..  $1\frac{3}{4}$  116 $\frac{3}{4}$

On R. a T. R.  
to Lichfield on L.  
to Bromesgrove  
and Kiddermin-  
ster. Cross the  
Birmingham Ca-  
nal Navigation.

Inns—The Castle, Hen and  
Chickens Hotel, Nelson  
Hotel, and Swan.

Shotbrook House, — Long-  
worth, esq. R.; Francis  
Egginton, esq. one mile  
and a half on L.

Hockley Brook.  $1\frac{1}{2}$  118 $\frac{1}{4}$

On R. a T. R.  
to Walsall.

Soho, Staff....  $\frac{1}{2}$  118 $\frac{3}{4}$

Sandwell Park, Earl of  
Dartmouth, R.

Bromwich

Heath ..... 3 121 $\frac{3}{4}$

Holloway Bank. 2 123 $\frac{3}{4}$

WEDNESBURY .. 1 124 $\frac{3}{4}$

On R. a T. R.  
to Walsall, and  
on L. to Dudley.  
Near Darlaston  
on R. to Walsall,  
and on L. to Bir-  
mingham.

Darlaston ....  $1\frac{1}{4}$  126

Cross the Bir-  
mingham Canal  
Navigation.

Bilston .....  $1\frac{3}{4}$  127 $\frac{3}{4}$

On R. a T. R.  
to Walsall. At  
about a mile and

Inn—The Bull.

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 Tettenhall. ....

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

*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.*

About three miles from Boningale cross the Worf River.

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	<i>B 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 $\frac{5}{4}$	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 $\frac{1}{4}$	<i>Attingham House, Lord Berwick, R.; beyond on R. Robert Burton, jun. esq.; and further, Longnor, R. Burton, esq.</i>
Bridge over the Severn.			
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 $\frac{1}{4}$	lans—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- vyllin.			Lovett, esq.
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 Whitchurst
			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 Brân,
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 Dinas Brân, or Brân

			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 Llandysilio Hall, T. Jones, esq.
Llan St. Fraid, T. G. Merionethshire.	7 $\frac{1}{4}$	198 $\frac{3}{4}$	Glyndyrdwy Park, 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 $\frac{3}{4}$	Rhagad, Edward Lloyd, esq.; Rug, Sir Robert Vaughan, Cevn Rug, Mr. Jones, and near two miles beyond Corwen, on R. Rug, and on L. Cevn Rûg. About five miles from Corwen, Maesmor, T. Lloyd, esq. Glanceirw, W. Lloyd, esq. R.; Glyn Nanneu, John Lloyd, esq. L.
Ceryg y Druidion ..... Denbighshire.	10	211 $\frac{1}{2}$	Within half a mile of Ceryg y Druidion, 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 Caractacus. At Ceryg y

			<i>Drudion, on R. Rev. Mr. H. Rawlands.</i>
Cernioge Mawr. <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. At two miles on R. a T. R. to Llanyrwst.</i>	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	214 $\frac{1}{2}$	<i>Glan y Gors, Robt. Jones, esq. R., &amp; 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>
Pentre Voelas.. <i>On R. a T. R. to Aberconwy.</i>	3	217 $\frac{1}{2}$	
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>
Beltws-y-Coed.. <i>Caernarvonsh.</i>	1 $\frac{3}{4}$	225 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Capel Ceryg....	$\frac{1}{4}$	229 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Ogwen Lake....	$\frac{1}{4}$	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.. <i>Cross the Menai Strait, and enter Anglesea. At this ferry are some dangerous rocks, called the Swelley.</i>	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	245	<i>Gorphwysva, Thos. Parry Jones, esq. L. and Plás yn Llanvair, Col. Peacock.</i>
Baint .....	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	247 $\frac{1}{2}$	
<i>At Baint, a Road to Beaumaris.</i>			



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

FROM LLANGEDWYN TO GWINDY,  
THROUGH BALA AND CAERNARVON.

Llangedwyn....			
to			
Merionethshire,			
Three milcs be-			
yond Llanged-			
wyn, on R. a T			
R. to Llan-			
rhaidr. 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.....	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	36 $\frac{1}{2}$	ben, esq. a mile to the R.
Maentwrog ....	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	39	of which, on the north
At Maentwrog,			bank of the Dee, is ed-
on L. a T. R. to			wenni, R. Evans, esq.
Harlech and Dol-			
gellau.			
Tan y Bwlch Inn	1	40	Tan y Bwlch Plás, William
At Tan y Bwlch			Oakley, esq.
Inn, on L. a T.			
R. to Cricasth.			
Pontaberglaslyn	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	46 $\frac{1}{2}$	Pontaberglaslyn is a ro-
Beddgelert,			mantic bridge, commonly
Caernarvonskire	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	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.*

*Cywellyn Lakes, L.*

.....  
Bettws ..... 7 55

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

.....  
*Near Caernarvon, on L. a T.R. to Pwllheli.*  
CAERNARVON ... 5 60  
Llanvairiscaer... 3 63

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

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

**FROM MONTGOMERY TO CAERNARVON,**

**THROUGH WELSH POOL, LLANVAIR, AND HARLECH.**

MONTGOMERY to  
*At Montgometry, on R. a T. R. to Shrewsbury.*  
Forden ..... 3 $\frac{1}{4}$  3 $\frac{3}{4}$

*Inn.—The Dragon. Lymore Lodge, Earl of Powis, R.*

Severn River .. 2 5 $\frac{1}{4}$

*Nantcribba, Lord Viscount Hereford, R.*

*About  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a mile beyond on L. a T. R. to*

Newtown, on R. to .....			Powis Castle, Earl of Powis.
WELSH POOL... At Welsh Pool, on R. a T. R. to Oswestry; and about four miles farther, on L. a T. R. to Caer Einion.	2½ 8¼		Inn.—Royal Oak.
LLANVAIR.... At Llanvair, on R. a T. R. to Oswestry; on L. to Newtown.	7½ 15 ¾		
Llanervul..... Cross the Ewyr- nwy river.	5 20¾		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.
Cann Office (Inn) 2 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.	22¾		Four miles to the R. of Cann Office Inn, is Llwydiarth Park.          Caernwch, Chief Baron Sir Richard Richards, knt. R.

<i>to Machynllaith.</i>		
DINAS MAWDD- WY.		
<i>Merioneths.</i>	13	$35\frac{3}{4}$ Inn.— <i>Red Lion.</i>
<i>At Dinas</i>		
<i>Mawddwy, on R.</i>		
<i>a T. R. to Bala ;</i>		
<i>on L. to Towyn.</i>		
DOLGELLAU ....	9	$44\frac{3}{4}$ Inn— <i>Golden Lion.</i>
<i>At Dolgellau,</i>		<i>Hengwrt Hall, Griffith</i>
<i>on R. a T.R. to</i>		<i>Howel Vaughan, esq. L.</i>
<i>Bala.</i>		<i>about four miles to L.</i>
		<i>Cader Idris Mountain.</i>
Llanelltyd ....	$1\frac{1}{2}$	$46\frac{1}{4}$ <i>Nannau Hall, Sir Robert</i>
<i>At Llanelltyd,</i>		<i>Vaughan, bart. R.</i>
<i>on R. a T. R. to</i>		
<i>Maentwrog ; on</i>		
<i>L. to Abermaw,</i>		
<i>or Barmouth.</i>		
Llandwywau.....	$10\frac{1}{2}$	$56\frac{3}{4}$
Llanbedr .....	$3\frac{1}{2}$	$60\frac{1}{4}$
<i>At Llanbedr,</i>		
<i>on L. a T. R. to</i>		
<i>Barmouth.</i>		
Llainvair .....	2	$62\frac{1}{4}$
HARLECH. ....	1	$63\frac{1}{4}$
Llanvihangel-y-		
traeth.....	3	$66\frac{1}{4}$
<i>Cross the Sands.</i>		
<i>Junction of the</i>		
<i>road from</i>		
<i>Maentwrog.....</i>	$2\frac{1}{2}$	$68\frac{3}{4}$
<i>On R. a T. R.</i>		
<i>to Maentwrog,</i>		
<i>cross the great</i>		
<i>embankment to</i>		
<i>Tremadoc, pas-</i>		
<i>sable for horse</i>		

and foot passen-  
gers.

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

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 $\frac{1}{2}$

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 5 $\frac{1}{2}$

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

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

Trawsvynydd ..	5	13
Maentwrog ....	5	18
At Maentwrog, on R. a T. R. to Bala, on L. to		
The Sands .....	4½	22½
Cross the Sands to		
Penmorva ....		
Caernarvonsh.	3¼	26¼
At Penmorva, on R. to Caernarvon, on L. to		
CRUCCAITH ....	3½	29¾
Abereirch ....	7	36¾
At Abereirch, on R. a T. R. to Caernarvon.		
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, L. Two miles beyond Whitehurst, T. G. on the north side of the river Dee, Trevor Hall, Mrs. Thomas.
At Whitehurst, T.G. on R. a T. R. to Wrexham; and about a mile farther, on R. to Llangollen, by the north bank of the Dee, a mile circuitous; on L. to			
LLANGOLLEN....	5	7	Inn—The Hand.
At Llangollen,			Dinaz Brán, or Brán Castle,

on L. a T. R. to  
Corwen.

Cross the river  
Dee.

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.

Inns—White Lion, Cross  
Keys.

13½ 20½

4½ 25

3½ 28½

Llanrhaiadr Hall, Richard  
Wilding, esq.

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, *Flintshire* .....

5 $\frac{1}{4}$  33 $\frac{3}{4}$

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

FROM OVERTON TO ABERCONWY,  
THROUGH WREXHAM, MOLD, AND DENBIGH.

OVERTON, *Flintshire, to*

*Cross the Dee river, and on L. a T. R. to Ruabon.*

EYTON, *Denbighshire* .....

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 $\frac{1}{4}$

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

Inns—*Eagles, Red Lion. About a mile east of Wrexham, 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 Williams, esq.; 6 miles Plás Têg, — Roper, esq.*

CAERGWRLE, *Flintshire* ....

5 $\frac{1}{4}$

12 $\frac{1}{2}$

HOPE .....

3 $\frac{3}{4}$

13 $\frac{1}{4}$

*Five miles be-*

*The Ruins of the Castle, L.*

*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 $\frac{3}{4}$

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

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

*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 $\frac{1}{4}$

35 $\frac{1}{2}$

Inns—*Bull, Crown.*

*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 <math>\frac{3}{4}</math> 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 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Cyuwyd.....	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 Dee. 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 $\frac{1}{4}$	<i>The ruins of the Castle, L.</i>
Hope .....	$\frac{3}{4}$	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			

<i>L. a T. R. to Ruthin.</i>			
.....			<i>Llwyn Egryn.</i>
Northop .....	$3\frac{1}{4}$	$82\frac{1}{4}$	<i>Lower Sychden, Rev. John Conway Potter, and beyond it Middle Sychden Hall, John Wynn, esq. R. At Kelstreton, near the sea, John Edwards, esq. and near it, W. Dukes, esq. R.</i>
<i>At Northop, on R. a T. R. to Flint.</i>			
Halkin .....	$2\frac{3}{4}$	85	<i>At Halkin, Earl Grosvenor, L. and a little farther, Robert Hughes, esq.</i>
<i>Half a mile beyond Halkin, on R. a T. R. to Flint.</i>			
HOLYWELL ....	$3\frac{3}{4}$	$88\frac{3}{4}$	<i>Inns—White Horse, Red Lion.</i>

FROM UPPINGTON TO TOWYN,  
THROUGH WELSH POOL.

Uppington, <i>Montgomery,</i> to			
Bullington Hall,	$1\frac{1}{4}$	$1\frac{1}{4}$	
Bullington (Church) ....	$\frac{3}{4}$	2	<i>Ambler Hall, L.</i>
<i>At Bullington, on L. a T. R. to Montgomery.</i>			
<i>Cross the Severn by a wooden bridge.</i>			
<i>On R. a T. R. to Oswestry.</i>			
WELSH POOL ..	$1\frac{1}{2}$	$3\frac{1}{2}$	<i>Inn—Royal Oak.</i>
<i>Six miles beyond Welsh Pool,</i>			<i>Powis Castle and Park, Earl Powis, L.</i>

<i>on R. a T. R. to Llandvair.</i>			
Plâs Iolyn.....	8	11½	
<i>At Plâs Iolyn,</i>			
<i>on R. a T. R. to Llanvair; on L. to Newtown.</i>			
Cevn Coch ....	4	15½	
<i>At Cevn Coch,</i>			
<i>on R. a T. R. to Llanvair; and 7 miles farther, on L. a T. R. to Newtown.</i>			
Llanbrynmair..	11	26½	
<i>Eight miles beyond Llanbrynmair, on R. a T. R. to Dinas Mawddwy.</i>			
Penegos .....	9	35½	
MACHYNLLAITH	2	37½	Inn— <i>The Eagles.</i>
<i>At Machynllaith, on L. a T. R. to Llanidloes; near a mile beyond on R. a T. R. to Dinas Mawddwy and Dolgellau.</i>			
Penal .....	4	41½	<i>Talgarth, L. Edwards, esq. L.</i>
TOWYN, Merionethshire ...	8	49½	Inn— <i>The Raven.</i>

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— <i>Royal Oak.</i>
<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 $\frac{1}{2}$	<i>Vaener, Captain Windhus, R. and a little farther on, R. — Howell, esq.</i>
<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 ....  $3\frac{1}{4}$   $9\frac{1}{2}$

.....

LLANIDLOES ...  $6\frac{3}{4}$  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.*



A

# LIST OF ALL THE FAIRS AND MARKETS

IN

## NORTH WALES.

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### 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.

*Lannerchymed*.—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.

*Bettws*.—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.

*Cloeaenog*.—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.

*Eglwvach*.—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.

*Llansanffraid*.—Feb. 14, May 1, Aug. 1, Nov. 1.

*Llanellidan*.—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.

*Llanellian*.—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.

*Llwyngwriile*.—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 23, 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 cattl, and horses.

*Meinod.*—Jan. 20. Last Tuesday in April, Sept. 23.

*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. Gredington 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.

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BOUNDARIES, SITUATION, EXTENT,  
CLIMATE, &c.

**T**HE 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, &amp;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 Lley, 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 or 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 Meirionyddshire, 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 *Mertlins*, 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 84,000*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 *paladr* 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 Edirynion 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, &amp;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.

**N**UMEROUS 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 Monaw, 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 carn 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.†

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\* 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.

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#### 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-gywn, 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 BODEDERN. 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.

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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-hir, 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 13



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 Parhus 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 crumblng 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-

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\* 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-hîr 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. Eliau 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. Eliau'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 englen.

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 Plâs-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 stones, 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 trifurcated 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.

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## 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.

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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.\*

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\* 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 UCH; always pronounced U, vowel, until recently strangely metamorphosed, whence we find it now ICH, though the word UCH 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 200*l.* 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

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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 14000*l.* per annum as *Duke of Cornwall*, and 4680*l.* 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 Dhâ, 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 buttresses, 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.

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\* *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 Beddelyart, 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 vein. 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:

	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
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 Radlañd 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 1436, 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 situated 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 neighbourhood are some quarries, and several remarkable rocks, well worth the traveller's observation.

The Irish mail coach road now runs by Capel Cûrig 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 descending a steep valley, with the falls of the Conway 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 Cûrig, 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-Caean 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 Burrel, 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 200*l.* a year, in the gift of Jesus College, Oxford. The vicarage is worth about 50*l.* 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 Fedogaid-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 Gimlet, 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 100*l.* 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 Bwch. 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 Wédnesdays.

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 Enlli, 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.

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### 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.

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#### 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.

LLANRHAIADR, 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 trees 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 Denbighshire, 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 widestreet 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 GRYFFYDD*. 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 banqueting-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 banqueting-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-yawr, 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 nigat 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 Grif-fith Maclor, Prince of Powis, about 1200, for Cister-tians, 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 Llanrhaiadr 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 IEUAN, 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 Ieuan, we come to a respectable farmhouse, 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 Sion Dafydd, The Welsh Assizes, Shenkin Morgan's Wedding, &c. &c. &c.\**

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\* 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.

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### 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 Médd, or mead. The mountains contain coal, lead, free-stone, 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-Brenuin, 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 *Morfa 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 Eineon 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 ddim, 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 XXII 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 basin, 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 semicircular, 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 150*l*. 7*s*. 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

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\* 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.

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#### 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 Hammer 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 Hammer, 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 *cantrevs*, 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, yarn, 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

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\* 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 BALA-LAKE, corruptly put down in maps, Pimple Meer, from the five parishes bordering thereon, called in Welsh *Pam-Plwyf 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-Iddris. 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 *Bwlch-y 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-dochan, 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 TRA-  
IAN," 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. Illtutus, 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 Cwmhîr, 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 Dinas 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 Garan-hir, 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 Duly; 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.

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### 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 20,000*l*.

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 Llanvllin 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 Llanvllin 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 Ewyrnwy; 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 Cyveillog*, 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 Llanyniynneich, Pool, and Beriŵ, 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 Lanskrome 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 panes; 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 sequesered, 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 Eyrnwy, 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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A  
**TOPOGRAPHICAL**  
 AND  
**STATISTICAL DESCRIPTION**  
 OF THE  
**COUNTY OF SALOP:**

*Containing an Account of its*

Situation, Extent, Towns, Roads, Rivers,	Minerals, Fisheries, Manufactures, Trade Commerce,	Agriculture, Curiosities, Antiquities, Natural History,
--	--	---

Civil and Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction, &c.

TO WHICH ARE PREFIXED,

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

ALSO

A LIST OF THE MARKETS AND FAIRS,

*And an Index Table,*

Exhibiting at one View, the Distances of all the Towns from London  
 and of Towns from each other:

*The whole forming*

A COMPLETE COUNTY ITINERARY.

---

BY G. A. COOKE, ESQ.

---

SECOND EDITION,

Illustrated with a

MAP OF THE COUNTY,  
 AND FOUR INTERESTING VIEWS.

---

**London:**

*Printed by Assignment from the Executors of the late G. Cooke,*

FOR

SHERWOOD JONES, & CO. PATERNOSTER-ROW.  
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## ADDRESS.

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FOR the numerous additions, corrections, and communications, which we have received for the present edition of this work, we gratefully express our acknowledgements and obligations to several of our friends and patrons resident in the county; especially those to whom we are indebted for all the advantages that "local habitation" can confer upon a publication of this description.

To such of our friends in this or in other counties, who would wish to encourage the spread of topographical knowledge, we beg leave to submit the following

### QUERIES: viz.

**POLICE and ADMINISTRATION of JUSTICE.**  
—Magistrates, when and where sitting? and if there is an Officer sitting during the Night?

**TOWN.**—How watched, lighted, and paved,—and how supplied with Water?

**STREETS.**—Their Names, Peculiarities, &c.?

**SESSIONS.**—And if any Court for the Recovery of small Debts?

**FAIRS—MARKETS—HORSE-RACES, &c.**

**CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS—HOSPITALS—DISPENSARIES—ALMS HOUSES?**

**PUBLIC SCHOOLS—CHARITY SCHOOLS.**—Whether the National, or Dr. Bell's, the Lancastrian, &c.?

**LEARNED and AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES—**  
**and CORPORATE BODIES?**

**EMINENT MEN and REMARKABLE PERSON**  
—Anecdotes of?

**EXTENSIVE LIBRARIES,**—Public and Private?

**THEATRES—ASSEMBLY ROOMS—READING**

**ROOMS — MUSICAL MEETINGS — EXHIBITION of PICTURES, &c. — PUBLIC GARDENS — and other PLACES of ENTERTAINMENT?**

**BEST INNS?**

**POST OFFICE.**—Time of the Arrival and Departure of the Post? and if there be a **PETTY POST?**

**MANUFACTORIES?**

**PUBLIC BUILDINGS, PRIVILEGES, TENURES?**

**CHURCHES?**

**CATHOLIC and other DISSENTING PLACES of WORSHIP.**—What Denominations?

**BRIDGES — CANALS?**

**BANKS.**—Hours of Attendance, with the Names of the Houses they draw upon in London?

**HACKNEY COACHES — LOCAL PECULIARITIES or DIVERSIONS — CUSTOMS — MODE of CONVEYING the DEAD, &c.?**

**SEALS of the COUNTY, and TOWN?**

**GENTLEMEN'S SEATS** in the Environs of the Town, or any other Part of the County, with the **RESIDENTS' NAMES?**

**LITERATURE of the COUNTY — NEWSPAPERS; &c.?**

# A TABLE

## OF THE

### PRINCIPAL TOWNS

#### IN THE

## COUNTY OF SALOP;

*Their distance from London, Markets, Number of Houses and Inhabitants, with the time of the arrival and departure of the Post.*

Towns.	Dis.	Mark.	Hos.	Inha- bits.	Post arrives	Post depts.
Bishop's Castle ...	169	Friday	364	1880	8½ M.	12 N.
Bridge North ...	139	Satur.	988	4345	7½ Aft.	7½ M.
Cleobury Mortimer	137	Thurs.	328	1602		
Ellesmere ... ..	176	Tues.	1143	6056	6 M.	5 Af.
Hales Owen ... ..	127	Mon.	1472	8187	3 Aft.	8 M.
Ludlow ... ..	142	Tues.	1006	4820	6¼ Aft.	6 M.
Newport ... ..	140	Satur.	478	2343	8 Aft.	6 M.
Oswestry ... ..	182	Wed.	3346	17189	10½ M.	2½ Af.
Shrewsbury... ..	155	W.Sat.	3999	21695	7¼ Aft.	7 M.
Wem ... ..	172	Thurs.	694	3608		
Wenlock ... ..	148	Friday	3503	17265	9 Aft.	6 M.
Whitechurch ...	160	Friday	1071	5376	1½ M.	5¼ Af.

The Price of postage for a single letter varies from 8d to 10d. throughout the County.

# INDEX OF COMPUTED DISTANCES FROM TOWN TO TOWN WITHIN THE COUNTY OF SALOP.

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

	Bishop's Castle	Distant from London	Miles	
Bridge North ...	28	Bridge North ...	...	159
Cleobury Mortimer ...	30	Cleobury Mortimer ...	...	139
Ellesmere ...	35	Ellesmere ...	...	137
Ludlow ...	14	Ludlow ...	...	176
Newport ...	35	Newport ...	...	142
Oswestry ...	28	Oswestry ...	...	140
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# INSPECTION TABLE FOR THE COUNTY OF SALOP.

This County is included in the Oxford Circuit, the Province of Canterbury, and Diocese of Hereford.

<i>Bounded by</i>	<i>Extent.</i>	<i>Contains.</i>	<i>Sends to Parliament.</i>	<i>Produce and Manufactures.</i>
Cheshire and Flintshire on the north.	In length 50 miles.	15 Hundreds.	12 Members,	Wheat, coal, iron, limestone, lead, &c.
On the east by Staffordshire.	In breadth 40 miles.	17 Market Towns.	<i>viz.</i>	
On the south by Worcestershire and Herefordshire.	In circumference computed 160 miles.	38,663 Inhabited Houses.	2 for the county,	Manufactures : flannels, white broad cloth, Welch cottons, mineral tar, cast iron, &c.
		206,153 Inhabitants.	2 for Shrewsbury,	
			2 for Bishop's Castle, -	
			2 for Bridge-north,	
			2 for Ludlow,	
			And 2 for Wenlock.	
		About 890,000 acres of land.		

The name is derived from the county town Shrewsbury, the appellation of which was derived from a Saxon word Scrobbesberig, signifying a town surrounded with shrubs.

# AN ITINERARY

## OF ALL THE

### DIRECT AND PRINCIPAL CROSS ROADS

#### IN

#### SHROPSHIRE.

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 show 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.*

### LONDON TO SHREWSBURY.

From Hicks's Hall to Islington Ch. <i>About half a mile before Holloway turnpike, a T. R. on R. by High- bury, Crouchend, Muswell-hill, and Colney Hatch, and falls into this road again at Whetstone</i>		1½		<i>Near Holloway Turnpike, at Highbury, Highbury House, E. Knight, esq. Highbury Hill, — Wil- son, esq.; and Highbury Lodge, — Haslope, esq.</i>
Holloway turnpike	1	2¼		<i>Archway, J. Hunter, esq.</i>
Junction of the Kentish Town Road — —	1½	3¼		
<i>On L. a T. R. to Kentish Town</i>				
Highgate Archway	¼	4		<i>Fitzroy Farm, A. Robarts, esq.; and Caen Wood, Earl of Mansfield, L.</i>
Green Man —	2½	6½		<i>Beyond, on L. Elm Place, A. Murray, and Moss Hall, T. H. Andrey, esq.</i>

				<i>half a mile on R. Wood House, Sir N. Conant, bart.</i>
Whetstone	—	$2\frac{1}{4}$	9	<i>On L. at Totteridge, E. Arrowsmith, esq. and the Priory, F. Holbrook, esq.</i>
Green Hill Cross	1	10		<i>Underhill, Keane Fitzgerald, esq. L. Green Hill Grove, R. Nichol, esq.; Lion's Down, A. Reid, Esq.</i>
BARNET, Herts	1	11		<i>Through, at Hadley, Col. Stapleton; and Hadley House, Mrs. Vere, R. Inns—Green Man,—Red Lion</i>
The Obelisk, <i>Mid-</i> <i>dlesex</i>	—	$\frac{3}{4}$	$11\frac{3}{4}$	
<i>On R. a T.R. to Hat-</i> <i>field and Hert-</i> <i>ford, on L. to</i> <i>Kitt's End</i>				
Kitt's End	—	$\frac{1}{2}$	$12\frac{1}{4}$	<i>Derem Park, J. Trotter, Esq.; L. New Lodge, Mrs. Baronneau; and Wrotham Park, George Byng, esq. R.</i>
South Mims	—	$2\frac{1}{2}$	$14\frac{3}{4}$	<i>Before, see Laurel Lodge, Capt. Ellis; L. entrance of South Mims, Bridge-foot, E. Vincent, esq. R. Inn—White Hart</i>
Ridge Hill, Herts	$1\frac{1}{4}$	16		<i>Near, on R. Potterells, Sir William Weller Pepys, Bart. 1 mile distant, on L. Shenley Parsonage, Rev. Thomas Newcome; L. at 17 m. Tittenhang-cr Park, Earl of Hardwick, R.</i>

London Colney <i>Cross the Colne River</i>	1 $\frac{3}{4}$	17 $\frac{1}{4}$	Beyond, Colney House, P. Haddow, esq.
ST. ALBANS <i>On R. a T. R. to Flatfield and Luton, on L. to Watford</i>	3 $\frac{1}{4}$	21	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ mile before New Barns, J. Timperton, esq.; at St. Albans, Holywell House, J. Reid, esq.; and at 23 miles, Gorbambury, Earl Verulam, L. 2 miles beyond St. Albans, in the road to Luton, Childwick House, J. Lomar, esq. Inns—Angel, White Hart, Woolpack.
Redburn — — <i>At the 26 milestone a T. R. on L. to Hemel Hempstead</i>	4 $\frac{1}{4}$	25 $\frac{1}{4}$	1 mile distant, on R. Rot-hamstead, J. B. Lawes, esq. opposite the 27 m. s. on L. Flamstead House, J. Lambert, esq.
Market Street	4	29 $\frac{1}{4}$	Near, on R. Market Cell, late J. Howell, esq. 1 m. distant, on L. Beechwood Park, Sir John Sebright, bart. Inn—The Sun.
DUNSTABLE — — <i>On L. a T. R. to Berkhamstead, by the Earl of Bridgewater's new Road</i>	4 $\frac{1}{4}$	33 $\frac{1}{2}$	Beyond, on L. see Houghton House, H. Brandreth, esq. Inns—Crown, Sugar Loaf.
Hockliffe — — <i>On R. a T. R. to Woburn, on L. to Leighton Buzzard</i>	3 $\frac{1}{4}$	37 $\frac{1}{4}$	Hockliffe Grange, R. Gilpin, esq. L.; beyond, Battlesden Park, Sir Gregory Osborne Page Turner, bart. <i>West of Hockliffe the road has been levelled, and con-</i>

siderably im- proved				
BRICKHILL, Bucks	6	48 $\frac{1}{4}$	Great Brickhill House, P. Duncombe, esq.; and Stockgrove W. H. Han- mer, esq. L.	
Cross the Grand Junction Canal; at Brickhill the Road has also been turned and improved.			Inns—George, White Lion	
Fenny Stratford	1 $\frac{3}{4}$	45		
Shenley	—	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	48 $\frac{1}{2}$	Whaddon Hall, W. S. Lowndes, esq. L.
STONEY STRAT- FORD — —	3 $\frac{3}{4}$	52 $\frac{1}{4}$		
Cross the Ouse Ri- ver, and the Grand Junction Canal, on R. a T. R. to North- ampton				Before, at Great Linford, see Linford House, J. Uthwatt, esq. R.; at, on L. Thornton Hall, Sir J. Sheppard, bart.
LD STRATFORD, Northampton	2	53		Inns—Bull, Cock
At Cattle Mill a safe new road passes a little to the southward of the mill.				Cosgrove Hall, T. C. Man- sell, esq.; Cosgrove Pri- ory, Lord Lynedoch; and Cosgrove Cottage, Col. Griffiths, R.
Potter's Pury	—	2	55	1 m. distant see Wakefield Lodge, Duke of Grafton, R. Near this is Lilling- stone Dayrell, R. Day- rell, esq.
Heavencote	—	4	59	Stoke Park, Levison, Ver- non, esq. R. Near Hea- vencote, at Whittlebury, Shelbrook Lawn, Hon. Gen. Fitzroy, L.
TOWCESTER	—	1	60	Easton Neston, Earl of Pomfret, R. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles dis-
On L. a T. R. to Brackley.				

*Cross the Tone R.  
on R. & T. R. to  
Northampton;  
between, a new  
Road is in pro-  
gress*

*tant Braden House, C.  
Ives, esq. L.  
Inns—The Talbot, White  
Horse*

Foster's Booth —  
On R. & T. R. to  
Northampton, on  
L. to Brackley.

21½ 62½ 2 miles distant, Bugbrooke,  
Rev. H. B. Harrison, R.

Weedon Beck —  
Cross the Grand  
Junction Canal,  
proceed along the  
Watling Street  
Road; on R. &  
T. R. to Ather-  
stone and North-  
ampton.

5½ 68 Stowe, Rev. — Crawley,  
L. Flower, Miss Kirby,  
R. 2 miles from Weedon  
Beck, at Brockhall, T.  
N. Thornton, esq. R.

DAVENTRY —  
On L. & T. R. to  
Southam and  
Banbury, on R.  
to Lutterworth

4¼ 72¼ Norton, Mrs. Botfield, and  
1½ mile beyond, at Wel-  
ton, Welton Place, T. P.  
Clarke, esq. R.

Braunston —  
Cross the Oxford  
Canal, at the  
commencement of  
the Grand Junc-  
tion Canal; a  
new line of road  
avoids the steep  
and dangerous  
hill at Braunston

Inns—Wheat Sheaf, Sara-  
cen's Head

WILLOUGHBY,  
Warwickshire

Dunchurch —  
On R. & T. R. to  
Rugby, on L. to  
Southam

1¾ 76¾ Beyond, at Bilton, Bilton  
House, Edward Vernon,  
esq.; and Bilton Lodge,  
A. Hume, esq. R.

Inns—Dun Cow, Star,

Dunsmoor Heath, or Stratton upon Dunsmoor	5	85	Birdingbury Hall, Sir T. Biddulph, bart. L. Inn—the Black Dog
Cross the Fosse- way to Knightlow Cross	$\frac{1}{4}$	85 $\frac{1}{4}$	Woolston House, Mrs. Scott
Ryton — —	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	86 $\frac{1}{2}$	Combe Abbey, Earl of Craven, R.
On L. a T. R. to Southam Cross the Avon Ri- ver			
Willenhall —	1 $\frac{3}{4}$	88 $\frac{1}{2}$	Near, at Baginton, Bagin- ton Hall, Mrs. Price, L.
Whitley Bridge	1	89 $\frac{1}{2}$	Whitley Hall, Lord Hood, and near it, Stiorehall Hall, Col. Gregory, L.
Cross the Sow Ri- ver			
COVENTRY —	1 $\frac{3}{4}$	91 $\frac{1}{4}$	Hawkes Hall, F. Parrot, esq. R. and the Charter House, Edw. Inge, esq. R.
On R. a T. R. to Lutterworth, Nuneaton, and Tamworth, on L. to Kenelworth, and thence to Warwick			Inns—Craven Arms and King's Head
Allesley —	3 $\frac{3}{4}$	94	Allesley Park, J. Beck, esq. L.
Meriden —	3	97 $\frac{1}{2}$	Meriden Hall, Sir John Hill, L. Inn—Bull's Head
The Road over Me- riden Hill has been improved			
Stone Bridge —	2 $\frac{1}{4}$	99 $\frac{3}{4}$	Before, see Packington Hall, Earl of Aylesford, R. Inn—the Inn
On L. a T. R. to Warwick, on R. to Coleshill			
Wells Green —	4 $\frac{1}{4}$	104	
BIRMINGHAM —	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	109 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 mile distant on R. Aston Hall, J. Watt, esq. Inns—Castle, Hen and
On R. a T. R. to Coleshill, Tam-			



worth, Sutton, and thence to Lichfield; on L. to Bromesgrove, Kidderminster, Sturbridge, and Dudley				Chickens Hotel, Nelson Hotel, Swan.
Hockley Brook — On R. a T. R. to Walsall, thence to Wolverhampton	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	110 $\frac{1}{4}$		Packwood House, — Featherstone, esq. R.
SOHO Staff.	$\frac{1}{4}$	111		
New Inn —	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	112 $\frac{1}{4}$		
Sandwell Green	$\frac{1}{4}$	113		
Bromwich Heath On L. a T. R. to Bilston, by Horsley Heath. Here the Road has met with considerable improvement	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	114 $\frac{1}{2}$		Sandwell Park, the Earl of Dartmouth, R.
WEDNESBURY On R. a T. R. to Walsall, and to Bilston, by Darlaston.	3	117 $\frac{1}{2}$		
Cross the Birmingham Canal				
Moxley — —	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	118 $\frac{3}{4}$		
Bilston — —	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	120		1 mile before see Bradley Hall, Ed. Anson, esq. L.
On R. a T. R. to Walsall. Cross the Birmingham Canal. At Bilston the Road is now rendered quite direct, level and smooth				
WOLVERHAMPTON	2 $\frac{3}{4}$	122 $\frac{3}{4}$		Inns—Lion, Swan

On R. a T. R. to Walsall, and to Stafford, by Can- nock, and by Penkridge, on L. to Dudley, Stour- bridge, Kidder- minster, and to Bridgenorth.				
Cross the Stafford- shire and Wor- cestershire canal				
Tettenhall —	2	124 $\frac{3}{4}$		Rev. G. H. Thursley; F. Holyoake, esq. J. Pear- son, esq. and T. P. Hinckes, esq. R.
On R. a T. R. to Ivetsey Bank. The Road here has also been much improved				
The Wergs —	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	126		At, R. Fryer, esq. R. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles beyond, on L. Wrottesley Park, Sir John Wrottesley, bart. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ m. beyond, Pattishall, Lieut. Gen. Sir George Pigott, bart.
BONINGALE, Salop	3 $\frac{3}{4}$	129 $\frac{1}{4}$		Hatton, G. Plowden, esq. L. Neach Hall, — Bishton, esq. and Bosco- bel House, T. Evans, esq. between Boningale and Upton, Tonge Castle, G. Durant, esq. R.
The Road here has been considerably improved				
Upton	4 $\frac{3}{4}$	134 $\frac{1}{2}$		
Shiffnall	$\frac{1}{4}$	135 $\frac{1}{4}$		Inns—Jerningham Arms, Red Lion, Talbot
On L. a T. R. to Shrewsbury, by Leoly and by Colebrook Dale, to Much Wen-				

<i>lock and to</i>			
<i>Bridgenorth</i>			
Prior's Leigh	3	138 $\frac{1}{4}$	
<i>Cross the Shrop-</i>			
<i>shire Canal</i>			
Ketley iron works	2 $\frac{3}{4}$	141	
The Cock Inn,			
Watling Street	$\frac{3}{4}$	141 $\frac{3}{4}$	<i>Beyond is Orleton, W.</i>
<i>On R. a T. R. to</i>			<i>Cludde, esq.</i>
<i>Wellington</i>			<i>Inn—the Cock</i>
Tern Bridge	7 $\frac{3}{4}$	148 $\frac{1}{2}$	<i>Attingham Hall, Lord</i>
<i>On L. a T. R. to</i>			<i>Berwick</i>
<i>Colebrook Dale,</i>			
<i>cross the Tern</i>			
<i>River</i>			
Atcham Bridge	$\frac{3}{4}$	149 $\frac{1}{4}$	<i>1<math>\frac{1}{2}</math> mile beyond, Longnor,</i>
<i>Cross the Severn</i>			<i>Robert Burton, esq. R.</i>
<i>River</i>			
Lord Hill's Co-			
lumn	2 $\frac{3}{4}$	152	
<i>Cross the Severn</i>			
<i>River to</i>			
SHREWSBURY			<i>Inns—Fox, Lion, Raven</i>
<i>Corner of the Town</i>			<i>and Bell, Talbot</i>
<i>Hall</i>	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	153 $\frac{1}{4}$	

## NEWPORT TO BANGOR,

## THROUGH BLETCHLEY.

NEWPORT to			<i>Inn—Red Lion.</i>
<i>At Newport, on L.</i>			<i>A mile and a half beyond New</i>
<i>a T. R. to Wellington.</i>			<i>port, the seat of — Lloyd,</i>
<i>Cross the Strine</i>			<i>esq. L.</i>
<i>River.</i>			
<i>On R. a T. R. to</i>			
<i>Eccleshall, on L. to</i>			
<i>Shrewsbury</i>			
Stanford Bridge	4	4	<i>Stanford Hall, Thos. Sand-</i>
Hinstock	2	6	<i>ford, esq. L.</i>
<i>On R. a T. R. to</i>			
<i>Drayton.</i>			

Shakeford	2	8	
Sutton Heath	2	10	
<i>Cross the river Tern.</i>			
Tern Hill, Queen's			
Head	2	12	
<i>On R. a T. R. to</i>			
Drayton, on L. to			
Shrewsbury.			
Bletchley	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	13 $\frac{1}{4}$	
Sandford	2 $\frac{3}{4}$	16	
<i>On L. a T. R. to</i>			
Hodnet.			
<i>Within half a mile</i>			
<i>of Great Ash, on L.</i>			
<i>a T. R. to Shrews-</i>			
<i>bury.</i>			
Great Ash	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	19 $\frac{1}{2}$	
<i>Near Whitchurch,</i>			
<i>on L., a T. R. to</i>			
<i>Wem.</i>			
<i>Cross the Ellesmere</i>			
<i>Canal.</i>			
WHITCHURCH	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	21	
<i>At Whitchurch, on</i>			
<i>R. a T. R. to New-</i>			
<i>castle-under-Line.</i>			
Bangor	11	32	
<i>Cross the river Dee,</i>			
<i>and enter Wales.</i>			
			<i>Sandford Hall, T. Sandford,</i>
			<i>esq. R. Hawkstone Hall,</i>
			<i>Sir John Hill, Bart. L.</i>
			<i>Near Ellesmere, Bettisfield</i>
			<i>Hall, Sir Thos. Hanmer,</i>
			<i>Bart.</i>
			<i>Inns—George, White Lion</i>
			<i>2 miles beyond, on R. Iscoed,</i>
			<i>Miss Congreve, and three</i>
			<i>miles farther, Hanmer Hall,</i>
			<i>Mrs. Hanmer, L.</i>
			<i>Brynypys, Richard Price, esq.</i>
			<i>L.</i>

## PEPPER-HILL TO SAINT MARTIN,

## THROUGH SHREWSBURY AND ELLESMERE.

Pepperhill to			<i>Pattishall, Lieut. Gen. Sir</i>
			<i>George Pigot, Bart. L.</i>
Bouingale	1 $\frac{3}{4}$	13 $\frac{3}{4}$	<i>Hatton, G. Plowden, esq. L.</i>
— — —			<i>Tong Castle, George Durant,</i>
			<i>esq. and Neach Hall, —</i>
			<i>Bishton, esq. R.</i>
Upton	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	
SHIFFNALL	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	6 $\frac{1}{4}$	
<i>At Shiffnall, on L.</i>			
			<i>Inns—Jerningham Arms, Red</i>
			<i>Lion, Talbot.</i>

<i>a T. R. to Shrewsbury, by Colebrook Dale.</i>			<i>Aston Hall, John Moultrie, esq. R.</i>
Prior's Leigh	3	$9\frac{3}{4}$	
<i>Cross the Shropshire Canul.</i>			
Oaken Gates	$1\frac{1}{4}$	11	
<i>On R. along the Roman Road to Weston-under-Lizard, on L. to Ketley Iron Works</i>	$1\frac{1}{4}$	$12\frac{1}{4}$	
Watling Street	1	$13\frac{1}{4}$	
<i>On R. a T. R. to Wellington.</i>			
Royal Oak	$1\frac{1}{4}$	$14\frac{1}{2}$	<i>The Wrekin, one of the highest hills in Shropshire; on R. Orleton, Wm. Cludde, esq.</i>
<i>On L. to Shiffnall by Lealy.</i>			
Uppington	$2\frac{3}{4}$	$17\frac{1}{4}$	
Uckington	1	$18\frac{1}{4}$	
<i>One mile and a half beyond, on L. a T. R. to Shiffnall by Colebrook Dale.</i>			
Tern Bridge	2	$20\frac{1}{4}$	<i>Attingham, Lord Berwick, R.</i>
<i>On L. a T. R. to Colebrook Dale.</i>			
<i>Cross the Tern river.</i>			
Atcham	$\frac{1}{2}$	$20\frac{3}{4}$	
<i>Cross the Severn river.</i>			
Chilton	$\frac{1}{2}$	$21\frac{1}{4}$	
— — —			<i>Longnor, Robert Burton, esq. R.</i>
St. Giles	3	$24\frac{1}{4}$	
<i>On R. a T. R. to Much-Wenlock.</i>			
Abby Foregate	$\frac{3}{4}$	25	
<i>On L. a T. R. to Church Stretton, on R. to Newport.</i>			
<i>Cross the Severn river to</i>			
SHREWSBURY	$\frac{1}{2}$	$25\frac{1}{2}$	<i>—Near, on the London road,</i>

			<i>Whitehall, — Wingfield esq.</i>
			<i>Inns—Fox, Lion, Raven and Bell, Talbot</i>
Albrighton	3 $\frac{3}{4}$	29 $\frac{1}{4}$	1 <i>mile from see Lee Hall, L. the seat of Sir T. T. Jones, Bart.</i>
Harmer Hill	2 $\frac{1}{4}$	31 $\frac{1}{2}$	
On R. a T. R. to Wem.			
Middle	1 $\frac{3}{4}$	33 $\frac{1}{4}$	
Burlton Grove	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	34 $\frac{3}{4}$	
— — —			<i>Petton Hall, W. Sparling, esq. L. and farther, Sian Hall, Stephen Dunston, esq.</i>
Cockshut	2 $\frac{3}{4}$	37 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Near four miles beyond, on R. a T. R. to Shrewsbury, by Wem.			
ELLESMERE	4 $\frac{1}{4}$	42	<i>Inn—Royal Oak</i>
At Ellesmere, on R. a T. R. to Wrexham, on L. to Oswestry. Forward to			<i>Oakley Park, — Mainwaring, esq. R. and near it, Hard wick, Sir John Kynaston</i>
St. Martin	4 $\frac{1}{4}$	46 $\frac{3}{4}$	<i>Powell, Bart.</i>
Cross the Ceriog River, and enter Denbighshire.			

## SHREWSBURY TO GOBOWEN,

## THROUGH OSWESTRY.

SHREWSBURY to Shelton	1 $\frac{3}{4}$	1 $\frac{3}{4}$	<i>Ross Hall, F. K. Leighton, esq. Berwick House, Mrs. Powys, and Upper Berwick, Mrs. Betton, R.</i>
Montford Bridge	2 $\frac{1}{4}$	4	<i>Preston Montford, Sir Fran. Hill, Bart.</i>
Cross the Severn River.			
Ensdon House	2	6	<i>Ensdon House is a hunting seat belonging to the Earl of Powis.</i>

Nesscliff	$2\frac{1}{4}$	$8\frac{1}{4}$	On R. at Great Ness, J. Edwards, esq. Beyond see Ruyton Hall, Col. Proctor, R. At 10 m. from Shrewsbury, see on L. the Beedon Hills, and the pillar erected thereon in honour of Lord Rodney.
Two miles farther on L. a T. R. to Llanfyllin.			
Felton T. G.	$4\frac{3}{4}$	13	
On L. a T. R. to Ellesmere.			
Ellesmere Canal, T. G.	1	14	
Here you may turn on R. to Gobowen, leaving Oswestry on L.; or L. to			
— — —			
OSWESTRY	$3\frac{1}{2}$	$17\frac{1}{2}$	Aston Hall, W. Lloyd, esq. L. 1 mile from Oswestry, Peshington, the seat of Ormsby Gore, esq. Swan Hill, Mrs. Lloyd. Pentrepant, George Warington Carew, esq.
At Oswestry, on L. a T. R. to Welch Pool; and half a mile beyond, on R. to Ellesmere.			Inns—Cross Foxes, Cross Keys.
Gobowen	$2\frac{1}{2}$	20	
Cross the Cering river, and enter Denbighshire.			

## SHREWSBURY TO BROCTON.

## THROUGH PONTESFORD.

Shrewsbury to Hanwood	4	4
Cross the river Rea.		
Pontesford	$2\frac{1}{2}$	$6\frac{1}{2}$
Pontesbury	1	$7\frac{1}{2}$
Minsterley	$1\frac{3}{4}$	$9\frac{1}{4}$
Brocton	$4\frac{3}{4}$	$13\frac{1}{2}$



## SHREWSBURY TO CHIRBURY,

THROUGH WESPRY.

Shrewsbury to Cructon	3 $\frac{3}{4}$	3 $\frac{3}{4}$	<i>The seat of Thomas Harris, esq. L. and farther, J. Nic- cols, esq.</i>
Nox	1	4 $\frac{1}{4}$	
Yockleton, or Lock- erton	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	6	<i>Whilton, R. Topp, esq. R.</i>
Stretton	1	7	
Wespry, or West- bury	1 $\frac{3}{4}$	8 $\frac{1}{4}$	
On R. a T. R. over the hills, to Welch Pool, on L. to — — —			
Worthen	3 $\frac{1}{4}$	12	
Brocton	1	13	<i>Nanteribba, Col. Davis.</i>
On L. a T. R. to Shrewsbury, by Pon- tesbury.			
Wilmington Marton	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	15 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Chirbury	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	18	

CLEOBURY MORTIMER TO BISHOP'S  
CASTLE,

THROUGH LUDLOW.

CLEOBURY MORTI- MER to On L. a T. R. to Tenbury, on R. to Bridgenorth.			<i>Inn—Eagle and Serpent. Mawley Hall, Sir Ed. Blount, Bart. L.</i>
Hopton	2	2	
Near three miles farther on R. a T. R. to Ludlow by Henley; on L. to			<i>Hopton Court, J. Bolfield, esq. R.</i>
Hope Baggot	5 $\frac{1}{4}$	7 $\frac{1}{4}$	
Cairnham	2 $\frac{1}{4}$	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	
A little farther on			

L. a T. R. to Leominster.

LUDLOW

Cross the Corve river.

On R. a T. R. to Much Wenlock, on L. through Bromfield to Knighton.

3½ 13

2½ miles before Ludlow, Herley Court, Sir John Knight, and at Ludlow, the Lodge, Arthur Salway, esq.

Ludford Park, N. L. Charlton, esq.

Inns—Angel, Crown

2 m. beyond Ludlow, on L. on the banks of the Teme river, Oakley Park, Earl Powis, and just beyond it, Stone House, Earl of Powis.—About 4 miles to the L. of Oakley Park, in the road to Knighton, Downton Castle, the noble mansion of Rich. Payne Knight, esq.

Onibury

5 18

Inn—Craven Arms.

Ferney Hall, Mrs. Sitwell, L.

Newton Green,

3 21

Guide Post

On R. a T. R. to Felhampton.

Stoke Castle. The farm house contiguous, R. Harper, esq. L.

From Newton there are two roads to Bishop's Castle; that through Walcot is the newest, and was made for the purpose of diminishing the steepness of the hills.

Basford, T. G.

3½ 24½

Edgeton Farms

1½ 25

Red House, a Farm

1½ 26½

Walcot Park, Earl of Powis, L.

BISHOP'S CASTLE

3½ 30

Inn—Castle.

## ALAM BRIDGE TO SHREWSBURY,

THROUGH BRIDGENORTH.

Alam Bridge to

Quatt

2½

2½

Coton Hall, L. Lee, esq. R.

Quatt Hall, W. Whitmore, esq. L.

Quattford	2	$4\frac{1}{2}$	
BRIDGENORTH.	2	$6\frac{1}{2}$	Inns—Castle, Crown
On R. a T. R. to Wolverhampton.			
Cross the river Severn.			
On R. to Much Wenlock, and a little farther on L. to Cleo- bury Mortimer.			
Morvil	3	$9\frac{1}{2}$	Morvil Hall, Henry Acton, esq. L. Half a mile beyond Morvil, on R. Cecil Forrest- er, esq.
Muckley Cross	2	$11\frac{1}{2}$	
MUCH WENLOCK	$3\frac{1}{4}$	$14\frac{3}{4}$	Inn—Swan and Falcon.
On R. a T. R. to Bridgenorth, by Broseley, on L. to Ludlow.			
Harley	2	$16\frac{3}{4}$	
Cressage	2	$18\frac{3}{4}$	
Cound	2	$20\frac{3}{4}$	On R. Cound Hall, J. Cresset Pelham, esq. and farther to the R. Eyton, Rev. E. Wil- liams.
Weeping Cross, T. G.	$4\frac{1}{4}$	25	
St. Giles	$2\frac{3}{4}$	$27\frac{3}{4}$	
On R. a T. R. to Shiffnall.			
Abby Foregate	$\frac{3}{4}$	$28\frac{1}{2}$	
On L. a T. R. to Church Stretton, on R. to Newport.			
Cross the Severn river.			
SHREWSBURY	$\frac{1}{2}$	$29\frac{1}{2}$	

## SHIFFNALL TO SHREWSBURY,

THROUGH MADELY MARKET.

Shiffnall to Hem	2	2
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MADELEY MARKET	2	4	
Colebrook Dale	2	6	Colebrook Dale, J. Reynolds, esq. R.
On L. across the Iron Bridge, to Much Wenlock			
Cross the Canal.			
Buildwas	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	7 $\frac{1}{4}$	Near, see West Coppice, Miss Smitherman, L.
Adney	1	8 $\frac{1}{4}$	
Leighton	1 $\frac{3}{4}$	10	The Wrekin Hill, R.
— — —			On L. on the banks of the Severn, Leighton Hall, J. Kinnersley, esq.
			Between Leighton and Tern Bridge, Charlton Hill, R. Jenkins, esq.
Tern Bridge	5	15	
Cross the Tern river.			
Atcham	$\frac{1}{2}$	15 $\frac{1}{2}$	
SHREWSBURY	4 $\frac{3}{4}$	20 $\frac{1}{4}$	

## WELLINGTON TO WHITCHURCH,

## THROUGH PELOW.

Wellington to The Shrewsbury Canal	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Crudington	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	4	
On R. a R. to New- port, on L. to Shrews- bury.			
Cross the Strine river.			
Sleap	$\frac{1}{2}$	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Near a mile beyond, on R. a R. to Waters Upton, turn on L.			
Cross the Tern ri- ver to			
Cold Hatton	2	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Peplow	3	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	Peplow Hall.
Entrance of Hod-			

net, on L., to Shrewsbury.			
Hodnet	2	11 $\frac{1}{2}$	Hodnet Hall, Rev. R. Heber, esq. L.
On R. a R. to Drayton.			
Marchamley	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	13	Hawkstone, Sir John Hill, L.
Fawles	2	15	
Darliston	$\frac{1}{2}$	15 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Sandford	1	16 $\frac{1}{2}$	Sandford Hall, Rev. Thomas Sandford.
Great Ash	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	20	
Entrance of Whitchurch, on L. a T. R. to Wem.			
Cross the Ellesmere Canal.			
WHITCHURCH	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	21 $\frac{1}{2}$	

## SHREWSBURY TO PERLOGUE,

## THROUGH BISHOP'S CASTLE.

Shrewsbury to Nobold	3	3	
Cross the Meole river.			
Castle Pulverbach	6 $\frac{1}{4}$	9 $\frac{1}{4}$	
Stitt	3 $\frac{3}{4}$	12 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Norbury	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	17	Linley; Robert Moore, esq. R.
BISHOP'S CASTLE	4	21	
At Bishop's Castle, on R. a T. R. to Montgomery; on L. to Ludlow.			
Coleback	1	22	Walcot Park, Earl of Powis, L.
Bury Ditches	2	24	
Division of the Road	1 $\frac{3}{4}$	25 $\frac{3}{4}$	
On L. a road to Ludlow.			
Cross the Clun river.			
Clun	$\frac{1}{4}$	26	
Perlogue	3	29	

## SHREWSBURY TO DRAYTON,

## THROUGH HODNET.

Shrewsbury			
Over Shawbury			
Heath to			
Shawbury	$7\frac{1}{4}$	$7\frac{1}{4}$	Shawbury Park, Sir Andrew Corbet, Bart. R.
Cross the Roding river.			
Edgeboulton	$\frac{3}{4}$	8	
Hodnet	5	13	
On R. to Wellington, on L. to Whitchurch.			
Cross the Tern river.			
Tern Hill	3	16	Between Tern Hill and Drayton, on R. Buntingsdale Hall, Wm. Tayleur, esq.
On R. to Newport, on L. to Whitchurch.			
DRAYTON	3	19	Inn—Talbot. Tunstall Hall, P. S. Broughton, esq. L. Adderley Hall, J. Corbet Corbet, L. Spavington, Lord Kilmaroy, L.

## NEWPORT TO SHREWSBURY,

## THROUGH HADLEY.

Newport to		
Lilleshull Hill	$2\frac{1}{4}$	$2\frac{1}{4}$
Dunnington	1	$3\frac{1}{4}$
Trench Lane	$1\frac{1}{2}$	$5\frac{1}{4}$
Hadley	$1\frac{1}{4}$	$6\frac{1}{2}$
Watling Street	$1\frac{1}{4}$	$7\frac{3}{4}$
On L. to Shifnal, on R. to Wellington.		
Royal Oak	$1\frac{1}{4}$	9
Shrewsbury, as before	11	20

## LUDLOW TO SHREWSBURY,

THROUGH CHURCH STRETTON.

Ludlow to			Ludford Park, N. L. Charlton, esq. L. About 2 miles beyond Ludlow, on L. Oakley Park, — Mainwaring, esq.
Bromfield	$2\frac{1}{2}$	$2\frac{1}{2}$	
Onibury	$2\frac{1}{2}$	5	Stone House, Earl of Powis, L.
Newton Green	3	8	Sibton Castle, James Fleming Baxter, esq.
On R. a road to Whettleston, on L. to Bishop's Castle.			
Fell Hampton	$4\frac{3}{4}$	$12\frac{3}{4}$	
Little Stretton	$2\frac{1}{4}$	15	
CHURCH STRETTON	$1\frac{1}{2}$	$16\frac{1}{2}$	
On R. a R. to Much Wenlock.			
All Stretton	$1\frac{1}{4}$	$17\frac{3}{4}$	
Lebotwood	$2\frac{3}{4}$	$20\frac{1}{2}$	
Longnor	1	$21\frac{1}{2}$	Longnor Hall and Park, Archdeacon Corbet, R. A little farther, Orleton, Wm. Cludde, esq.
Dorington	$1\frac{1}{2}$	23	Condover, W. S. Owen, esq. R. and Pilchford Hall, Hon: C. Jenkinson, R.
Pulley Common	$3\frac{3}{4}$	$26\frac{3}{4}$	
SHREWSBURY	$2\frac{3}{4}$	$29\frac{1}{2}$	

## LUDLOW TO SHIFFNALL,

THROUGH BROSELEY.

Ludlow to		
Rey Felton	$1\frac{3}{4}$	$1\frac{3}{4}$
Stanton Lacey	$2\frac{1}{4}$	4
Culmington	$1\frac{1}{4}$	$5\frac{3}{4}$
Fiefton	$\frac{1}{4}$	$6\frac{1}{2}$
Three quarters of a mile farther turn short		



<i>on the R. over Fiefton</i>		
<i>Forest to</i>		
Munslow	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	11
Broadstone	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	13 $\frac{1}{2}$
Shipton	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	15
Brocton	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	16 $\frac{1}{2}$
Bourton	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	18 $\frac{1}{4}$
MUCH WENLOCK	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	20 $\frac{1}{4}$
<i>At Much Wenlock,</i>		
<i>on R. a T. R. to</i>		
<i>Bridgenorth, on L. to</i>		
<i>Church Stretton.</i>		
BROSELEY	3	23 $\frac{3}{4}$
<i>On R. a T. R. to</i>		
<i>Bridgenorth.</i>		
<i>Cross the Severn by</i>		
<i>the Iron Bridge to</i>		
Colebrook Dale	2	25 $\frac{3}{4}$
<i>On L. a R. to</i>		
<i>Shrewsbury.</i>		
MADELY MARKET	2	27 $\frac{1}{2}$
<i>A mile farther on</i>		
<i>R. a R. to Bridge-</i>		
<i>north.</i>		
Hem	2	29 $\frac{1}{2}$
SHIFFNALL	2	31 $\frac{1}{2}$

— John Pritchard, esq. and,  
Caughley Place, — Brown,  
esq. R.

2 miles distant the newly erect-  
ed residence of Lord Forester.  
Francis and Richard Darby,  
esqrs.

## LUDLOW TO BRIDGENORTH,

## THROUGH WRICHTON.

Ludlow to		
Rocks Green	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	1 $\frac{1}{4}$
<i>A little farther on</i>		
<i>R. a R. to Cleobury</i>		
<i>Mortimer, by Henley.</i>		
The Ledwick Brook	1	2 $\frac{1}{4}$
— — —		
The Moor	2 $\frac{1}{4}$	5

*On R. at Henley, Henley Hall,*  
*Rev. S. J. Knight.*

*At Bitterley, Bitterley Court,*  
*Rev. J. Walcot, R. On L.*  
*on a Hill, Downston Hall,*  
*Sir Charles W. Edw. Rouse*  
*Broughton, Bart.*

Clee Hills	3	8	Beyond, at North Cleobury,
On L. a R. to Bur-			Cleobury Park, T. Mytton,
warton, on R. to			esq. R.
Botterell Aston	2½	10½	On L. at Burwarten, Lord
			Boyne.
Wricton	½	11	
— — —			At Faintree, T. Purton, esq.
Down	4½	15½	
Hubbat's Mill	1	16½	
Cross Mar Brook.			
A little farther on			
R. a R. to Cleobury			
Mortimer.			
BRIDGENORTH	2½	19	

# LIST

OF

## BANKING HOUSES IN THE COUNTY.

Name and Place.	Firm.	On whom they draw in London.
Bridgenorth	C. Cooper & Co.	Williams & Co.
Ludlow	Coleman & Wellings	Lubbock & Co.
Ludlow	G. E. & J. Prodders	Marsh, Sibbald, & Co.
Newport	Parsons & Son	Fry & Chapman
Newport	Hordern & Co.	Sansom & Co.
Oswestry	Croxon & Co.	Masterman & Co.
Shrewsbury	Rock, Eyton, & Co.	Curtis and Co.
Shrewsbury	Beck, Dodson, & Co.	Masterman & Co.
Wenlock	Collins & Co.	Spooner & Co.
Wellington	Reynolds & Co.	Masterman & Co.

# FAIRS

IN

## SHROPSHIRE.

*Albrighton*.—May 23, July 18, November 9, for horned cattle, sheep, and swine at the proper season.

*Battlefield*.—August 2, for horned cattle and sheep.

*Bishop's Castle*.—Friday before February 13, Friday before Good Friday, first Friday after May day, July 5, September 9, November 13, for sheep, horned cattle, and horses. The day preceding the last three fairs is for sheep and pigs.

*Bridgenorth*.—Thursday before Shrove-tide, horned cattle, horses, sheep, hops, cheese, wick-yarn, linen and woollen cloth; May 1, June 30, ditto, and sheep's wool, considerable; August 2, ditto, and lamb's wool; October 29, horned cattle, horses, sheep, butter, and cheese.

*Broseley, near Colebrook-dale*.—Easter Monday.

*Cleobury Mortimer*.—April 21, October 27, for horned cattle, sheep, and pigs.

*Clunn*.—Whit Monday, November 22, for sheep, horned cattle, and horses.

*Ellesmere*.—Third Tuesday in April, Whit Tuesday, August 25, November 14, for horses, sheep, and horned cattle.

*Hales-Owen*.—Easter Monday, for horses, toys, &c. Whit Monday, horses, cattle, sheep, and cheese.

*Hodnett*.—May 15, and October 20, inconsiderable fairs.

*Lanymyneck*.—May 29, September 29, for sheep, horned cattle, and horses.

*Ludlow*.—Monday before February 13, and Tuesday before Easter, Wednesday in Whitsun week, horned cattle, horses, woollen and linen cloth, and pigs; August 21, September 23, December 6, ditto, hops, and fat hogs.

*Market Drayton*.—Wednesday before Palm Sunday,

September 19, October 24, for horned cattle, horse-sheep, hempen and woollen cloth, and pigs.

*Newport*.—Saturday before Palm Sunday, May 28, July 27, for horned cattle, horses, and sheep; September 25, cattle, sheep, and hogs; December 10, ditto, and fat cattle. When the 10th happens on a Sunday, it is kept on Saturday the 9th.

*Oswestry*.—March 15, for horned cattle, horses, sheep, pigs, home-made linen cloth, &c. great fair, May 12, ditto, and pedlary, and particularly oxen, Wednesday, before Midsummer day, ditto; August 15, ditto; Wednesday before Michaelmas-day, ditto; December 11, ditto, tub-butter.

*Powder Batch*.—September 27, for horned cattle, horses, and sheep.

*Ruiton*.—July 5, for horned cattle, horses, and sheep.

*St. Kenelm's*.—July 28, for cheese.

*Shiffnall*.—August 5, for horned cattle, horses, sheep, and swine; November 22, for ditto, and hops.

*Shrewsbury*.—There are twelve fairs in every year, one held on the *Second Wednesday* in every month, for horned cattle, horses, pigs, cheese, linen, sheep, lamb's wool, and butter.

*Stretton-church*.—May 14, September 25, for horned cattle, horses, and sheep.

*Wattlesbury*.—August 5, horned cattle, horses, and sheep.

*Wellington*.—March 29, June 22, November 17, for horned cattle, horses, sheep, and swine.

*Wem*.—May 6, Holy Thursday, for horned cattle, horses, sheep, linen, and flax-seed; June 29, November 22, for horned cattle, horses, linen-cloth, pigs, and swine.

*Wenlock*.—May 12, cattle, horses, and sheep; July 5, sheep; October 17, December 4, horned cattle, horses, sheep, pigs, and swine.

*Westbury*.—August 5, for sheep, horned cattle, and horses.

*Whitchurch*.—Whit-Monday, October 28, for sheep

horned cattle, horses, swine, flaxen and hempen cloth, and some woollen.

*Titles bestowed by the County.*

Shrewsbury, the County town, gives that of Earl to the Talbots—Ludlow, that of viscount to the Clives—Oswestry, that of Baron to the Howards—Ellesmere, the same to the Egerton family—Clunn, the same to the Howards—Cherbury, the same to the Herberts—Harley, the same to that of Harley—Bradford, the same to the Bridgmans. The Clive are barons of Walcot; the Hills are barons of Berwick—Lord Hill is baron of Hawkstone, and Onslow gives the title of Earl to the Onslow family.

*Quarter Sessions and Assizes.*

Four general quarter sessions and the assizes are held at the County hall, Shrewsbury, in the course of the year; and the Mayor and some of the Aldermen, who are magistrates, attend in the Exchequer here, every Tuesday, to administer Justice.

*Civil and Ecclesiastical Divisions.*

Shropshire is divided into 15 hundreds, viz. Oswestry, Pimhill, North Bradford, South Bradford, Shrewsbury Liberty, Ford, Chirbury, Condover, Wenlock, and Franchise, Brimstrey Purslow, Munlow, Ouers and Stoddesdon; containing the following market towns, Shrewsbury the county town. Bishop's Bastle, Bridgnorth, Ludlow, Wenlock, Broseley, Church Stretton, Cleobury, Drayton, Ellesmere, Madeley, Newport, Oswestry, Shiftnall, Wellington, Wem, and Whitchurch; and 615 villages; and 32,111 houses, occupied by 34,501 families. Shropshire is included in the Oxford circuit the province of Canterbury, and diocese of Hereford.

# GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE COUNTY OF SHROPSHIRE.

## SITUATION, BOUNDARIES, AND EXTENT.

**S**HROPSHIRE is an inland county, bounded on the north by Denbighshire, the detached part of Flintshire, and by Cheshire; on the west by Radnorshire, Montgomery, and Denbighshire; on the east by Staffordshire, and on the south by Worcestershire and Herefordshire. It is about 50 miles long, and 40 broad, and contains 1328 square miles, or, 849,940 acres; or, according to Dr. Halley, 89,000 acres, or about a 45th part of England and Wales. The shape of this county is an irregular parallelogram; and as to the circumference of what is contained in indented lines, it is useless to enquire, as the statement may mislead, and can rarely inform.

## NAME, ANCIENT HISTORY, &c.

Shropshire took its name from the county town, in Saxon written Scrobbesberig, signifying a place surrounded by shrubs; it being situated on a hill, formerly covered with trees and shrubs. It is also called Salop, which name it received from the Normans. Its primitive inhabitants were, by the Romans, called Cornavie, and their territory made a part of the province of Flavia Cæsariensis; under the Saxons it belonged to the kingdom of Mercia. As frontier to Wales, besides the several towns, it had no less than 32 castles; the county towards Wales, was called the Marches, and governed by some of the nobility, who were called Lords of the Marches, who acted with an authority nearly approaching to royalty, and generally exercised with great rigour.

## CLIMATE AND SOIL.

The climate is so far altered by the irregularity of its surface, &c. that there is a considerable difference



in several parts; however, it is generally healthy in every part; even the coal and iron mines are no exceptions to the salubrity of the air of Shropshire.—The variety of soil is certainly very great.

The south portion of this county assumes the mountainous character peculiar to the counties of Denbigh and Montgomery, whilst the northern half approaches more nearly to a level, agreeably relieved by a few single hills and romantic valleys, finely wooded.

#### POPULATION.

This, according to the returns in 1821, consisted of 206,153 persons, viz. 102,056 males; females 104,097, of which 18,414 were employed in agriculture, and 17,485 in trade, manufactures, and handicraft, making a total of 206,153 persons.

#### RIVERS AND CANALS.

The Severn, the second commercial river in the kingdom, rises at the foot of the Plinlimmon, in Montgomeryshire, and flowing north-north-east, passes the towns of Llanidoes, Newtown, Montgomery, and Welspool; quits the county at Molverley, having received the waters of many smaller rivers in its course. Hence it runs east to Shrewsbury, where it suddenly turns to the south-east, flowing through Colebrook Dale and passing the town of Madeley market, and Bridgenorth, it pursues the same course out of the county and enters Worcestershire at Bewdley; here it again turns south, and passing through Worcester and Upton, enters Gloucestershire near Tewksbury; where uniting its waters with the upper Avon, and pursuing a south west course, it traverses a wide vale-arch in pasturage, and in some places abundantly wooded. About a mile above Gloucester it divides into two streams; these again unite a little below the city, forming the tract of land called Alney Island. Soon after this junction, its depth and width are increased by several streams. At a bend of the Severn, near Framilode, commences the Stroudwater Canal, uniting the navigation of



this river with the Thames; at this place it forms nearly a semicircle of ten miles to the village of Frethorn, and flowing again south west, grows wider gradually, till it receives the Wye near Chepstow, and the Avon from Somersetshire, thus forming the Bristol Channel. Between Tewkesbury and the sea, there is only one passage over this river by bridge, which is at Gloucester: the other passages are by boats at the upper Lodge, one mile below Tewkesbury; at lower Lodge, six miles above Gloucester; at the Aust or Old Passage, and at the New Passage. The Severn is remarkable for its tide, which rolls in with a head of three or four feet high, foaming and roaring in its course; this peculiarity arises from its receiving the tides from the great Atlantic Ocean, which pours its waters with such considerable violence as to fill the channel of the river at once; and the opposition it meets from the strong current of fresh water, causes the dashing of the waves, commonly called the Eagre, probably from the Norman *Eau guerre*, or water-war.

Next to the Severn is the Tern; this rises in the north part of the county, and flowing south as far as the village of the same name, receives the waters of the Strine from Newport; and, turning south-west, unites with the Rodon, and flows into the Severn near Brompton Ferry. The Rodon rises also in the north part of the county, and running south, joins the Tern near Walcot.

The contributory rivers to the Severn in the County, are, 1st. the Camlet, which rises on Corn-don Marsh. The river Perry runs into the Severn, a little below Montford-bridge. At Shrewsbury the Meole brook runs into the south side of the Severn, which is joined on the north about four or five miles east of Shrewsbury, by the river Tern. Between Cund and Bridgenorth, the Severn receives west five or six smaller brooks, and on its east side two of the same description. The Teme, is celebrated for grayling, and has plenty of trout.

The Lakes in this county are neither numerous nor extensive. Marton Pool 640 yards by 510, contains 45 roods 15 perches. Ellesmere Lake adjoining the town of that name, covers 116 acres. Whitemere 62, Colemere 87. North of Severn is another, Marton pool, from 40 to 42 acres. At Walcote and Hawkestone, are artificial lakes or rivers of very considerable extent. The water in Acton-Burnel Park, covers 25 acres, and that at Aston 11.

The fish found in the Severn, as it passes through Shropshire, are 1st. Salmon, which come up the river with the first flush of water after Michaelmas, and are in high season till May. 2d. Flounders, reckoned a delicate fish from this river. 3d. Pike, is rather scarce in the Shropshire part of the river, but more plentiful in Montgomeryshire, and most excellent. 4. Trout. 5. Grayling. 6. Perch. 7. Eels. 8. Shad. 9. Bleak; by some supposed to be young shad. 10. Gudgeons in plenty. 11. Chub. 12. Roach. 13. Dace. 14. Carp, in some deep parts of the river. 15. Some Lampreys. 16. Ruff. 17. Bull-heads. 18. Loach, Botling, Lamperts; in the whole twenty-two sorts of fish.

#### CANALS.

*Shrewsbury Canal* commences at Shrewsbury, and winding with the Severn, passes Uffington, from thence it runs parallel with the river Tern, and passes Upton Forge, Withington, Rodington, where it crosses the river Roden, and shortly crosses the Tern River at Long Mill; passes Landon and Eyton, and crosses Ketley Brook, at Rockwardine Wood, in Shropshire, and there joins the Donington and Shropshire Canals, being in length  $17\frac{1}{2}$  miles, with 147 feet rise in five miles, between Langdon and Wormbridge. The remainder is level. The number of coal and iron mines in the neighbourhood of the whole line of this canal is immense.

The Shrewsbury Canal Company, purchased about a mile in length of the north end of this ca-

nal: at the termination of this purchase, they erected an inclined plane of 228 yards in length, and 75 feet of fall: from the bottom of this inclined plane, the canal passes on by Eyton-mill, to Long-lane, being a distance of about  $4\frac{1}{4}$  miles, and in which there is a lockage of 79 feet; from thence it passes on to Long, where it crosses a valley of considerable length, and over the river Tern, at the height of 16 feet above the level of the surface of the meadow, by means of an aqueduct and embankment; near to this place it crosses the turnpike-road, which leads from Wellington to high Ercall, Shrewsbury, and Wem; from this road it goes on to Rodington, where it crosses the River Roden, on an aqueduct and embankment, at the height of twenty-one feet above the surface of the river there; from this place it passes on through Withington to near Actham, where it crosses a turnpike-road, and at half a mile to the north of the road enters a tunnel of 970 yards in length; from the north end of the tunnel it passes on under Haughmond-hill to Pimley, where it crosses a valley on a small aqueduct and embankment: from thence it passes along the banks of the river Severn, and terminates in a large basin and coal-yard, at that entrance to the town of Shrewsbury, called the Castle Foregate.

There are several circumstances which are peculiar to this canal—one is, that the communication between the higher and lower levels is partly by means of an inclined plane, and partly by locks: a second is, that as small boats are used upon this canal, the locks are so formed as to admit of either one, three, or four boats passing at a time, without the loss of any more water than what is just necessary to regulate the ascent or descent of the boat or boats then in the locks. This is accomplished by having gates that are drawn up and let down perpendicularly, instead of being worked horizontally; and each lock has three gates, one of which divides the body of the lock so as to admit of one, three, or four

boats at a time. A third, and perhaps the most striking circumstance, is, that the canal passes over the valley of the Tern, at Long, for a distance of sixty-two yards, upon an aqueduct made all of cast iron, excepting only the nuts and screws, which are of wrought iron; this was the first aqueduct, for the purposes of a navigable canal, which has ever been composed of this metal. It has completely answered the intention, although it was foretold by some, that the effects of the different degrees of heat and cold would be such as to cause expansion and contraction of the metal, which not being equal to, extend or draw back, the whole mass of the aqueduct would operate upon the separate plates of iron, so as to tear off the flanches which connect the plates lengthwise and break the joints; but, after the trial of summer-heat, and the hard frosts of winter, no visible alteration took place, and no water passed through any of the side or bottom joints.

*Ellesmere Canal.*—This canal joins the river Severn on the north side of Shrewsbury, at Bagley-bridge, and, taking a northerly course, passes Newton, Walford, Baschurch, Weston, Lullingfield, and Hordley; here a cut branches to the west, called the Llany-mynech branch, and goes to the town and lime-works of that name, being a distance of 12 miles; the canal then passes Francton-common, whence a branch goes to the east, called Whitchurch branch, and passes Ellesmere, Welchampton, Whitchurch, and finishes at Prees-heath; this cut is 14 miles long; the canal is then continued, and passes the Ridges, Old Martin, crosses the river Morlas, and soon after the river Ceriog: it then passes within a short distance of Chirk castle, and crosses the river Dee at Pontoysylle, by means of an aqueduct; it then proceeds by Rhuabon, Newhall, Bersham, Wrexham, where a branch goes to the west called the Brombro' branch, which is three miles and a half long; the canal then passes Gresford, whence a branch

of four miles goes to Holt; from thence, in nearly a direct line, it passes Pulford, Leach-hall, and crossing the river Dee, passes on to 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.

*Kington Canal*, begins at Kington, and passing eastward by Stanton Kingsland, where it crosses the Lug, and makes a bend to Leominster, whence it turns and goes between Eye and Berrington, by Orleton Brimfield, where it crosses the river Teme by little Hereford, Burford, Tenbury, Rochford, Knighton; there crosses the Rea, and runs to Lindridge, Low, Pensax, through a tunnel to Jones's hole, and by Arley, there falling into the Severn.

*Donnington Wood Canal*.—This canal, the private property of the Marquis of Stafford and Thomas and John Gilberts, eqrs. was made about 39 years ago; the length is six miles, and level. It begins at Donnington-wood iron-works, in the parish of Lillishull, and proceeds to Paved-line near Newport, all in this County.

*Dudley Extension Canal*.—This canal joins the Dudley Canal near Netherton, and making a bend to the south-west, round the high ground, comes to Windmill-end, and taking a course south-east passes through Combes-wood by Hales-Owen, and at the foot of that enchanting spot the Leasowes; soon after which it enters a very long tunnel, and proceeds by Weoley-castle to Selly-oak, where it joins the Birmingham and Worcester canal, making a course of ten miles and five furlongs, and all level. There is a short tunnel near Combes-wood of 17 chains, but the tunnel beyond Hales-Owen is nearly two miles long. There are two collateral cuts from the canal at Windmill-end, towards the town of Dudley, with a fall of sixty-four feet.

## ROADS.

These, both turnpike and private, were for a long time complained of as generally bad; the private

ones in particular, in the clayey country, used to be almost impassable to any but the inhabitants. Both have been considerably improved, in consequence of various acts of parliament enacted for that purpose. The Watling-Street Roman road enters the county at Boningale near Albrighton, from whence it passes to Shiffnel, Ketley, Wellington, and to Wroxeter, where it passes the Severn in a southerly direction to Pitchford, Acton Burnell, Church Stretton, and enters Herefordshire at Lentwardine.

#### RENT AND SIZE OF FARMS.

The size of both the estates and farms here are various, several belonging to noblemen and opulent commoners, cover from 10,000 to 25,000 acres each; while there are an infinite number of freeholders and yeomen's estates of inferior sizes—but the misery of a small farmer, generally speaking, is extreme. He has not constant employment for himself and family (if large) upon his farm; he is often above working at day labour, is unable to exert himself and improve his poor pittance of land, and sits by the fire-side with his family, great part of winter, lamenting the smallness of his farm and capital, and often brooding nothing but discontent.

But, whilst the advantage of large over small farms are admitted, the benefit and comfort that the common workmen receives from sufficient grass land being attached to his cottage, for keeping a cow in summer and winter, should never be lost sight of. The landlord will also receive benefit, as well as self-satisfaction, from being the cause of the plenty that the produce of a cow makes in a large and poor family.

#### FARM HOUSES AND COTTAGES.

The inconvenience of having the farm buildings in villages is severely felt, as the lands being distant, this reduces the value, in some instances, two shillings an acre. The farm houses and buildings, in general, have been noticed as very inconveniently situated, and ill-constructed; many of them being at one



extremity of the farm. Those, too, not in villages, are mostly built in some low situation, by which means, the farmer loses entirely the drainings of his fold-yard, which, being turned over his land, would prove extremely serviceable. The cottages, till of late years, generally speaking, have been liable to much the same objections as the farm-houses; but both are now in a progressive state of improvement.

To almost every farm house there is a small plot of land called the hemp-yard, and to many of the best cottages, a peck of hemp seed, Winchester measure, which, if it costs two shillings, will, on an average, sow ten perches of land. This will produce from two to three dozen pounds of tow, when dressed and fitted for spinning, each dozen pounds of tow will make about ten ells of cloth, generally sold at about three-shillings an ell. Thus, a very good crop on ten perches of land, or a very middling crop on fifteen perches, will produce about 4l. 10s. the profits of which, may be about 2l. 5s. after the rent of the land seed, dressing, whitening, and weaving expenses are defrayed.

## LEASES.

These have, of late years, been exploded by many gentlemen of landed property; many of whom, having formerly granted them for very long terms, have been induced, by the injury they have thereby sustained, and some other reasons, to object to any lease. This being a contrary extreme, the Rev J. Plymley formed a lease, which was so fortunate as to meet with the approbation of both landlords and tenants in general, the landlord being left, in some degree, at liberty, and the tenants made confident of having an allowance made for their improvements before they quit. Leases are granted for seven, fourteen, or twenty years.

## TITHES AND TENURES.

About one-twentieth part of the income of this county may be paid in tithe, by composition to the



parochial clergy, as scarcely any is gathered. Without including the tithe, about 15s. per acre has been reckoned as a high valuation for the county throughout. The average of the compositions for tithes here, does not, perhaps, exceed the tithe of the rent, or two shillings in the pound, though a few extreme cases may be pointed out.

There is much copyhold tenure, but of easier customs than in the neighbouring counties. The lords of some of the manors have enfranchised the copyholders upon receiving an equivalent in money. The customs of the greater number are preserved and acted upon. In the manors of Ford, Cundover, Wem, and Loppington. In the manors of Cardington and Stretton the lands descend to the youngest son, and, in default of sons, the daughters are co-heiresses. The fines and heriots, also, in these two manors, though somewhat different, are so fixed and easy, that it may be doubted whether the tenure is not preferable to freehold.

#### CATTLE.

The neat cattle of this county cannot be referred to any of the distinct breeds enumerated by writers on live stock; probably, they are much the same as that spread over Warwickshire and Staffordshire. The old Shropshire ox was remarkable for a large dew-lap. For many years past, numbers of cattle have been reared here from improved breeds. The Herefordshire breed were long preferred on the south confines of Shropshire. Lord Clive, many years ago, had a male and two female zebus from Madagascar; each of these had a calf; they themselves were considerably less than the smallest Scots; but their calves, at six months old, were nearly as large as their dams, and endured showers of rain, at which their old ones run to shelter. Neat cattle, on the north-east side of the Severn, were some time since an inferior sort of the Lancashire long-horn, in general for the dairies. Cows in this county are every where housed and tied up during the winter.

## SHEEP.

The breeding of flocks are few and small, where there are no commons, but various in their sorts; there being specimens here of most in England, &c. from the Welsh of 6 pounds per quarter, to the Leicestershire of 30 pounds. There is scarcely an instance of folding sheep. The old Shropshire sheep are horned, and have black or mottled faces and legs; they are nearly as large as the Southdown sheep, but the neck rather longer, and the carcase, perhaps, not so compact. They are extremely hardy; never have any dry food given to them in winter, except in great snows. They are not attended by a shepherd, nor folded, and do not, generally, drink: the farmer thinks those seen to drink, are rotten or tainted. Upon the hills, near Wales, the flocks are white-faced and without horns, and are rather shorter in the legs than the Longmynd sheep, and have heavier but coarser fleeces.

## HORSES AND OXEN.

There is no particular breed in this county; the supply is chiefly from Derbyshire and Leicestershire. Still there are many small, hardy, compact, and very useful horses for working, bred in Shropshire. The waggon-horses, belonging to the more considerable farmers, are in general strong black ones; and some years ago, before the absurd practice of docking was discountenanced by the most judicious farmers, were condemned to undergo that unnatural operation, notwithstanding the free use of their tails are so great an advantage to animals so much teased and harassed by flies.

The practice of setting the horns of oxen is pretty generally exploded by persons who listen to the dictates of humanity, as a paramount consideration to any fanciful or useless ornament. Oxen are much used in teams, &c. by those farmers who calculate upon the advantage of ox-teams above those of horses.

## HOGS.

It has been made a question whether any county

of the extent of Shropshire, grows so many, or rears or fats such a number of hogs. The original hog of this county was a high-backed, large-eared animal, since crossed by various breeds, and rarely to be met with unmixed,—Pork and bacon are much used among the poorer people when they can procure them, and a greater portion of labourers used formerly to feed a pig than at present.

One reason assigned by Archdeacon Plymley, why labourers have not a pig so frequently as before, “may arise from their buying flour or bread instead of wheat. Farmers who refuse to sell wheat in small quantities act very improperly; for the labourer who *can* buy wheat, gets better bread than he can otherwise procure, and has the bran towards feeding a pig.

#### IMPLEMENTS.

Double ploughs with wheels, single ploughs with and without wheels, waggon, tumbrils, carts, and other implements of husbandry, are so various, that it is almost an impossibility to describe them accurately, but they are nearly the same as are used in the adjacent counties. The thrashing machines erected in Shropshire, differ in construction. Some of the best judges prefer the Suffolk swing ploughs to those used with wheels, who think swing ploughs are best for skilful ploughmen, while a wheel plough is best for others. Wheat, in general, is reaped here with broad hooks. Barley and Oats are mowed. Pease are cut up, or *bagged* with a bill or *bagging* hook. In some places wheat is mowed, and profitably, if a man has one assistant to place, another to gather, and a third to bind. A cradle is put on the scythe when wheat is mowed.

#### MINERALS.

There are mines of good lead ore on the western side of the county. The Bog mine in Wentnor parish, and the white grit mine in Shelve and Worthen parishes adjoin the Stiper stones: these high hills resemble the ruins of walls and castles, and

contain a granulated quartz, harder than common sand-stone. A solid lump of pure ore of 800lbs. has been gotten up from the Bog mine. One ton will run 15 cwt. of lead besides slag. The vein is in some parts three feet thick, and generally bedded in white spar. The ores at the white grit mine are the common galena, and the steel grained ores; they produce from 10 to 13 cwt. of lead besides slags, from a ton of ore, and rarely more. Lead has been obtained from Trailbach, nearer Shrewsbury, for a long time. The vein was in some parts four yards wide. The vein-stones are heavy spar, mixed with calcareous spar and quartz; and the ore here is the common galena, and the steel grained, and sometimes the white spatous ore. As far west as Llanymynech, lead is found in small quantities, and copper, which the Romans are said to have worked at a great expense. Tools, judged to have been Roman, have been found in these mines, and some of them are preserved in the library at Shrewsbury free-school. Calamine is also met with here. The rock at Pimhill is strongly tinged with copper, and symptoms of this and lead appear also in the Cardington hills, many miles south-east. Lead also is found at Shipton, in the road from Wenlock to Ludlow.

Coal of an excellent quality is found in the parishes of Wellington, Lilleshal, Wrockwardine, Wombridge, Sterchley, Dawley, Little Wenlock, Barrow, Benthall, and Brosely, South of these works, and on the other side of Bridgenorth, coal appears again; also on the Cleve hills is found the canal or kennel coal. Mr. Pennant, in his voyage to the Hebrides, remarks, that the name is probably *candle* coal, from giving a light, which in poorer houses supersedes the use of candles.

## WASTES.

In comparison with many other counties this may have been considered as an enclosed one for many years, particularly in respect to field land. The Morf, near the town of Bridgenorth, was for a long

time considered as one of the most considerable commons in the county, till it was enclosed about the year 1815. This was originally five miles in length, and two or three in width. The chief district of moor land at present surrounds the village of Kinnersly, principally inhabited by miners.

#### WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

Wheat, barley, and pease, are sold by the strike or bushel, which, in Shrewsbury market, is 38 quarts, and in some others 40. The 38 quarts of wheat should weigh 75lbs, and the 40 quarts 80lbs. In other markets in the county, the bushel of wheat does not weigh more than 70lbs; this is chiefly understood of the eastern district. The bushel of flour is every where 56lbs. Thirty-eight quarts of barley weigh about 65lbs. A bushel of oats means three half bushels of the customary measure of Shrewsbury, and should weigh better than 98lbs. In other markets it means  $2\frac{1}{2}$  bushels, sometimes heaped, sometimes stricken, and sometimes a medium between both. A bag of wheat is three bushels customary measure. The quarter bushel is called a hoop, or peck; and the fourth of that a *quarter*. Butter fresh has 17 oz. to the pound. Salted 16 oz. A *gawn* of butter, in Shrewsbury, signifies 12 lbs. of 16 oz. and 16 lbs. of 16 oz.; at Bridgenorth, cheese is sold by the hundred; 121 lbs. at Shrewsbury, and 113 lbs. at Bridgenorth. Coals are sold by the ton, or 20 cwt. of 112 lbs. at some ports, and 120 at others. Hay is sold by the ton of 20 cwt. of 112 lbs. Home-made linen cloth is sold by the ell, which measure a yard and a half. The acre is the statute acre; and the workman's rood, in digging, is eight yards square; in hedging, eight in length.

#### AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES.

There were none of this description during a long period in this county. There are at present two, one at Drayton, upon the north-east borders, and the other at Shifnall, upon the east borders;

these districts are adjacent to each other, and are connected with Staffordshire.

EMINENT AND LEARNED MEN.

Shropshire may undoubtedly compete with any part of England, of the same dimensions, for the number of persons who have distinguished themselves by the diversity of their genius and talents, in different ages, in the field, in the regions of fancy, the pursuits of science, and in various branches of literature. Thomas Churchyard, Tom Brown, William Shenstone, Wycherly, &c. are not in the least esteem as poets. To William Caslon, and the late Alderman Boydell, letters and the fine arts are considerably indebted; to whom may be added, the names of several learned theologians, as Baxter, Whichcote, Farmer, and Hyde; lastly, Mr. Samuel Lee, who raised himself into notice a few years since by his uncommon proficiency in the Oriental languages, acquired by his own unassisted efforts. But the patronage that generally attends upon merit was not long withheld from him. The Rev. S. Lee, of Queen's College, Cambridge, was elected Professor of Arabic in 1819; where, in the summer of 1822, the editor of this work had the pleasure of being a witness to his profound erudition and the urbanity of his manners.

But to avoid any unnecessary deviation in our Biographical sketches, they will be found with the description of the towns, &c. that has given birth to these ornaments of their native soil.

Here we may properly refer to the just eulogium passed upon the liberality of the Salopians. See "Beauties of England, for Shropshire, page 143." They who have visited our principal literary establishments in the metropolis, such as the London Institution, the British Museum, &c. must have experienced great inconvenience from the strict regulations which regard not only the admission into the libraries, but the use of the books they contain. In the London Institution the stranger is, in the first



instance, to write down the titles of the works he may have occasion to refer to, and he is entirely prohibited from taking down and replacing other works, which might casually aid him in collating authorities. No doubt these limitations have been rendered highly necessary by the many depredations from time to time committed upon this most valuable species of public property. But a more effectual, and not much more expensive mode of prevention, would be to increase the number of attendants in the several apartments, which would at the same time multiply the means of accommodation. Such a practice prevails in similar institutions in Paris; but, without going so far for an example, we may say, "they order these things better in Salop." An attendant is always in waiting at the library at the Town-Hall, in Shrewsbury, for the purpose of receiving and exchanging the books of the subscribers, and for preventing any improper use of the volumes by those who come there to read. A stranger of decent appearance, is not required to go through the formality of a written introduction, and he is at liberty to consult any of the books that are at hand, and to stay as long as he pleases, while the library is open.

The following Newspapers are printed in this county, Shrewsbury Chronicle, and Salopian Journal.



# TOPOGRAPHICAL DESCRIPTION OF THE COUNTY OF SALOP.

*Journey from Norton to Newport; through  
Drayton.*

THE village of Norton is situated at the north-eastern extremity of the county, on leaving which we proceed southerly, and at the distance of about three miles, after passing through the village of Betton, we arrive at DRAYTON, a neat agreeable town, situated on the banks of the Tern, and supposed to have been one of the Roman stations, though no coins, pavements, or other antiquities, have been dug up at it. The town at present doth not contain any thing remarkable, only that the church is a good modern structure. This place has a market on Wednesday, and consisted, according to the late population act, of 612 houses, and 3162 inhabitants, viz. 1494 males, and 1668 females.

Near this town, during the heat of the civil wars between the houses of Lancaster and York, was fought a battle very fatal to the Cheshire gentry. For, though it was almost a drawn battle on both sides, yet they being divided, and adhering to their respective parties with such animosity, were slain in great numbers.

In the neighbourhood of this town is a village called Atherley, which was formerly a place of great repute, but is now fallen to decay.

At the distance of seven miles to the south of Drayton, we pass through the village of Hinstock; about five miles beyond which, after passing through Chetwynd, where is a seat of T. Lloyd, Esq. we arrive at NEWPORT, a small market-town, situated on a plain, near the borders of Staffordshire, by the Roman way called Warling-street. It is a place of great antiquity, and has been a corporation ever since the reign of Henry I. The church is a stately Gothic structure, built by a Mr. Draper in the reign

of Henry VI. and was formerly collegiate, but it is now a perpetual curacy in the gift of the inhabitants. The nave is lofty, and there are side aisles, with a chancel, and a tower at the west end, in which is a clock, with a ring of six good bells.

Here is a noble free-school, founded by Sir Thomas Adams, where youth are qualified for the University : it is a stately brick building, with a library for the use of the scholars. At the south end is a neat house for the residence of the master, who has a handsome salary ; and at the north one are lodgings for the usher. Near the school are two alms-houses, built and endowed by the same benevolent gentleman, who gave 550*l.* towards building a town house.— Charles II. being informed of the great liberality of Sir Thomas Adams, he sent for him, and asked whether he had not greatly injured his fortune ; to which he answered, that it rather increased it ; and if his majesty would procure him an act of parliament to exempt his estate from taxes, he would give him 1000*l.* We are not informed whether the king accepted the offer ; but the act passed, and all the estates left by Sir Thomas for the support of his charitable foundations, are still exempted from taxes. The town received considerable damage by a fire that happened here on the 18th of May, 1665. It consumed 160 houses, the loss of which, with the goods, furniture, &c. was estimated at 30,000*l.* Here is a weekly market on Saturday, and the town consisted, according to the late population act, of 323 houses, and 2,337 inhabitants, viz. 1,171 males, and 1,136 females. Newport gave the title of baron to the late Earls of Bradford, and the Earls of Shrewsbury and Gower are joint lords of the manor.

Thomas Brown, of facetious memory, was a native of this town, but his wit being greater than his prudence, brought him frequently within danger of starving.—Toward the latter part of his life, however, we are informed, by Mr. Jacob, that he was in favour with the Earl of Dorset, who invited him

to dinner one Christmas day, with Dryden, and other gentlemen celebrated for ingenuity; when Brown, to his agreeable surprize, found a bank note of 50l. under his plate: and Dryden, at the same time, was presented with another of 100l.—Brown died in London in the year 1704, and was interred in the cloister of Westminster Abbey, near the remains of Mrs. Behn, with whom he was intimate in his life-time. His whole works were printed in 1707, consisting of "Dialogues, Essays, Declamations, Satires, Letters from the Dead to the Living, Translations, Amusements, &c." in four volumes. Much humour, and not a little learning, are scattered everywhere throughout them; but those who think that they want delicacy have certainly abundant reason on their side.

In the neighbourhood of Newport is a pleasant village called Lilleshull, famous for a rich convent, founded in the reign of King Stephen. A part of this ancient building still remains, from which it appears to have been originally a magnificent structure.

The great western entrance of the abbey is a fine round Norman arch, richly recessed with ribs and running foliage; this seems to have been the lower portion of a western tower. The church has no other remains but its windows and doors, the pillars and arches of the nave being totally destroyed. The south door, which communicated with the cloister, is one of the most highly adorned early Norman arches in the kingdom; clusters of slender shafts, some spiral, others overspread with lozenge work, and having the intermediate spaces embellished with mouldings, support a semicircular arch overspread with ornaments, peculiar to the Saxon and early Norman architecture. The north and south windows of the choir are narrow, plain, and round headed; but the east window is large, with a beautiful pointed arch of the fourteenth century, within which are some remains of tracery. The area of the cloister, now a

farm-yard, is attached to the south side of the nave. The walls of the refectory are converted into a good dwelling house for a farmer. The boundary wall of the precinct may be traced a considerable way from the present remains of the abbey. The church was in the form of a cross. The estate is now in the possession of the Marquis of Stafford.

*Journey from Shiffnall to Cleobury Mortimer;  
through Bridgenorth.*

Shiffnall lies in the direct road to Holyhead, but is a town of little note; it has however a market on Friday, and two annual fairs, as mentioned in our list. In the church is an inscription, setting forth, that "William Wakeley was baptized at Idsall, alias Shiffnall, May 1, 1591, and buried at Adbaston, Nov. 28, 1714; his age 124 and upwards; he lived in the reigns of eight kings and queens." (viz. Elizabeth, James I., Charles I. and II., James II., William and Mary, Anne and George I.) Here is a small charity school.

Thomas Beddoes was born at Shiffnall, about the year 1754 or 1755. His relatives were respectable and opulent people, but nearly all engaged in trade. The father was a tanner, but determined in early life that his son should receive a superior education. After spending a proper period in the provincial schools he was sent to Oxford, where his settlement was entrusted to the care of an uncle. On entering the grand mart of learning, with which, as well as its inhabitants, he was utterly unacquainted, he instantly presented himself, along with Thomas, at the gate of St. John's, and, ringing the bell, asked, "If there was any good education to be had there?" The porter, perceiving, perhaps, the actual situation of affairs with a single glance of his eye, like a prudent man, introduced them to the master, and the usual fees being paid, the young student's name was actually registered on the books!

But the adventure did not conclude here; for the master, struck with the novelty of the circumstance,

kept them both to dinner, when, in the course of conversation, it came out that the two strangers were provided with letters of recommendation to Dr. Surgrove, master of Pembroke, and that the uncle had imagined there was but one college in the University. On this the money was returned with great politeness and liberality, and young Mr. Beddoes matriculated in due form at Pembroke, according to his original destination.

As it has generally been supposed, that a modern medical education is incomplete without a visit to Scotland, Dr. Beddoes accordingly repaired to Edinburgh, about the year 1781, or 1782, in pursuit of those liberal attainments by which both himself and the public were afterwards to profit. While there, he attended the lectures of the most famous professors of the day, was noticed as a youth of great promise, and, if we are not greatly misinformed, lived in intimacy with the celebrated Dr. Brown, whose new system for a while seemed to bear down every thing before it. Sir James Mackintosh, who was also intended to be a physician, and actually took a degree for that purpose, was one of his contemporaries and friends.

It may be necessary to state here, that chemistry had always been a favourite study with the subject of this article; and that after having first viewed it merely as a branch of medicine, he afterwards addicted himself to this pursuit, with a more than ordinary degree of avidity. His reputation, indeed, as well as his acquirements, in this very elegant and very useful department of human knowledge, must have been very extensive; for in 1786, we find him acting as reader of chemistry to his "Alma Mater:" there was no professorship of this kind established at that period, or, indeed, until 1803, at Oxford, although one had been founded so early as 1706, at Cambridge.

In the course of 1787, he visited France, and appears to have been for some time resident at Dijon.

While at Paris, he of course became acquainted with Lavoisier, whose reputation was, at that period, at its height, and not only acquired his esteem, but also carried on a scientific correspondence with him after his return.

Towards the latter end of 1792, he voluntarily resigned his readership, of which he had been in possession about six years, and was succeeded by Robert Bourn, M. D. It was now time for him to settle in life, but a considerable period elapsed before he could finally determine on so important an object. His eye was naturally fixed at first on the metropolis, as presenting an ample field for a man ambitious of fame, and addicted to the pursuit of science. But he soon perceived that all the important stations were already occupied; and that for years he could only aspire to a secondary rank among the eminent practitioners of the capital.

On this he pitched on Bristol, where, in consequence of the vicinity of the Hotwells, which still continue to attract some of the first families in the kingdom, and the swarm of rich citizens settled both in the town and its neighbourhood, there appeared to be full scope for an honourable and successful career.

It is pretty evident, that for some time, at least, he attempted, like the celebrated Dr. J. Jebb, occasionally to unite politics with medicine; and while acting as a physician, resolved not to omit those duties which appertained to him as a man. We accordingly find him attending a committee, which had been convoked preparatory to a general meeting of the inhabitants of Bristol, during the progress of Mr. Pitt and Lord Grenville's "restrictive bills." Soon after this (1796,) appeared an "Essay on the Public Merits of Mr. Pitt," by Thomas Beddoes, M.D. printed for Joseph Johnson, St. Paul's Church yard. It is dedicated as follows:—

"To the House of Commons,  
An Assembly



Whose Acts, for the last Twenty Years,

No Man  
Who feels for  
Asia, Africa, America,  
or Europe,  
Can regard,

Without the profoundest emotions."

As an introductory motto to Chap. i. we find the following couplet:

"Penn'd be each pig within his proper sty;  
Nor into state-concerns let Doctors pry."

In 1802 appeared, "Hygæia, or Essays Moral and Medical, on the Causes affecting the Personal State of the Middling and Affluent Classes." This work, which was printed at Bristol, consists of three volumes, and contains a variety of papers on personal prudence, and prejudices respecting health; on personal imprudence; British characteristics; on the use of tea; exercise; clothing; schools; infancy; a more advanced age; catarrh; scrofulous constitution; consumption; liver complaints; gout; disorders, called nervous; febrile contagious diseases, &c. &c.

In 1803 he published "A Letter to the Right Honourable Sir Joseph Banks, Bart. P.R.S. On the Causes and the Removal of the Prevailing Discontents, Imperfections, and Abuses in Medicine," with the following motto: "Take Physic, Physic." On this occasion he appears to join in the "hue and cry raised against incompetent professors of diplomas," and affects somewhat of that superiority over the M.D.'s of the Scottish metropolis, which they themselves are said to evince, "while looking down on the sons of Aberdeen and St. Andrew's, with as much pride as was felt by Mars when he was seated at the right hand of Jupiter."

In August, 1808, he transmitted two cases of hydrophobia, which were inserted in the "Medical and Physical Journal" for September; in the number for November appeared another paper, giving an ac-



count of some dissections; and, we believe, he was a frequent contributor to that periodical work.

Of his other literary labours, we have only space to enumerate the title-pages, viz.

1. The History of Isaac Jenkins.
2. Instructions for Persons of all Capacities, respecting their own Health and that of their Children; which, like the former, passed through many editions.
3. Manual of Health; and
4. Researches concerning Fever.

We must here conclude the life and career of this extraordinary man at the same time. The physician, whose mind was ever on the stretch to extend the confines of medical science, and discover the efficacious remedies for the relief of others, at last became a patient himself. He had, for some time anterior to his death, exhibited manifest symptoms of dropsy, but never considered his end as so near. His dissolution, perhaps, was hastened by the rigour of the winter; for he complained frequently of cold at his extremities, and actually sent to London for an ingenious mechanic, who had undertaken to warm his apartment to an equable temperature, by means of steam. His death occurred on the 24th of December, 1808, and on being opened, it was discernible that the machinery had been worn out, and that the animal functions were necessarily suspended from the progress of disease. The left lobe of the lungs was found to be in a morbid state, and, as might have been easily predicted, a lodgement of water had also been effected.

Thus died, after he had attained the fifty-second or fifty-third year of his life, Thomas Beddoes, a man who possessed a warmth, a zeal, an ardour, for the pursuit of medical science, which had seldom been equalled by any, and was assuredly excelled by none. His whole life was devoted to experiment, to inquiry, to correspondence with men of talents, and to the instruction of himself and others. He pos-

essed a fine genius for poetry, and had the happy faculty of viewing every subject on its most brilliant side. His language was glowing, figurative, and sometimes even sublime. He despised quackery, and pretensions of every kind; and was accustomed to detect and expose these to the full as freely in his own as in other professions.

In all the social relations of life his conduct uniformly bore testimony to the excellence of his heart; for he was a good friend, a good father, and a good husband. He married Miss Edgeworth, a lady of a respectable literary family in Ireland, by whom he left four children.

About three miles to the east of Shiffnall is a considerable village called Tong, anciently Tòang; and before the conquest belonged to Morcar, Earl of Northumberland; here is an ancient seat, called Tong Castle, new built of brick, by Sir Henry Vernon, who died in the year 1515. The church, which was built in the reign of Henry IV. is a fine Gothic structure, and consists of a nave with two side aisles, and a cross in the middle, resembling a cathedral. It was made collegiate for a warden, four priests, and thirteen poor people, by Dame Isabella Penkridge, and others, in 1440. In the centre of the building is a lofty tower with a spire, and in it are six bells, with a small one to summon the people together to worship, and a very large one, seldom rung, which weighs 4,800 pounds. There are many ancient monuments in this church, particularly one to the memory of Sir Thomas Stanley, son of the Earl of Derby, and his lady; but although cut out of the most curious marble, yet it has been greatly defaced by the injury of time, and some of the figures have been broken off.

At the west end of the church is a neat almshouse for six poor widows, who have an annual allowance.

At a short distance from the village of Tong is Boscobel House, a place that has been, and ever will be, celebrated in history, for having afforded an

asylum to king Charles the Second, after the fatal battle of Worcester. He lay in a house here all night, and early in the morning hid himself in a large oak tree, where he saw a troop of horse that had been sent in pursuit of him, coming towards the tree; but an owl having frightened one of their horses, they turned to the other side, and so left the king, who remained there till evening, when proper disguise was procured for him, with which he travelled to the south of England, and then escaped to France.

After the restoration a wall was built round the oak, which is almost decayed by reason of people cutting off pieces to keep in memory of that event; but a young one has sprung up, which is still called the Royal Oak. There is a flat stone over the gate of the wall (which is also much decayed,) with a Latin inscription to the following import:

“ Basil and Jane Fitzherbet recommend to posterity this most fortunate tree, which the All-gracious and Almighty God, by whom kings reign, ordained here to grow, that it might be the asylum of the most potent prince, King Charles II. and have surrounded it by a wall, to transmit at once to posterity the remembrance of so great an event, and bear testimony of their firm allegiance to kings.

“ The oak beloved by Jove.”

King Charles remained at Boscobel two days; endeavoured to escape thence, and went as far as Madely, guided by a miller of the name of Pendrell, whose brother occupied the house at Boscobel: finding the ford over the Severn at Madely guarded, he returned to Boscobel, and was conveyed from thence, by Pendrell and his three brothers, to Mosely Hall, in Staffordshire; after one night's repose he was conducted to Bentley Hall, the seat of Colonel Lane, near Walsall; from thence he rode before Mrs. Bridget Lane, the daughter of Colonel Lane, in the disguise of a servant, to her sister's house near Bristol; here he was recognized, but not betrayed, by the

butler, who lived in the family; and finding many of his most determined enemies in the house, as well as in the neighbourhood, he repaired to Trent House, near Yeovil, the seat of Colonel Francis Wyndham: Colonel Wyndham attended him to Lyme, in Dorsetshire, from whence he made an ineffectual attempt to escape: being prevented, he repaired to Heale House, near Salisbury, where he remained till he was conducted to Brighthelmstone, from whence he sailed in an open boat to France.

The house of Boscobel is exactly in the same state as when the king found refuge in it, and his places of concealment are still shewn.

About three quarters of a mile from Boscobel, is White Ladies, a picturesque ruin in a sequestered spot. The date of this monastic establishment is uncertain, but it was founded for white or cistercian nuns, as early as the reign of Richard I. or John. The circular arches in the walls, without pillars, indicate it to be of Saxon origin. The place is extra parochial, and the area of the church is still used as a burial ground, chiefly for Catholics.

Returning from this digression, on leaving Shiffnal, passing through the villages of Brocton, Sutton, Maddock, and Norton, we arrive at Bridgnorth. This town was built by Robert Belesme, the third Norman Earl Palatine of this County, between the years 1097, and 1102—who peopled it from the Saxon colony at Quatford. The grand object of this Earl was its locality for self-defence, which could be so easily fortified and rendered impregnable. The castle he erected on the south-west extremity, on the opposite side of the small vale, to that in the Lordship of Oldbury, whereon stood the castle built by Queen Ethelfleda, now called Panpudding Hill.—The castle grounds he subdivided into two wards, at the end of which he erected the church of Saint Mary Magdalene, afterwards called the King's Free Chapel. These two wards, consisting of the east and west Castle streets, with a part of the upper town, he sur-

rounded by immensely strong high walls, altogether considered one of the best fortifications in England ; part of their ruins are yet visible. In 1102 Earl Robert quarrelled with the king (his relation) and declared himself in favour of Robert, duke of Normandy, as to the succession to the English throne, and having plentifully provisioned this castle, with those of Shrewsbury, Tickhill or Tickenhill, and Arundel, he hoisted the standard of rebellion. The king hastened to this town in person with a numerous army, sufficient to have destroyed a less defended place, and annihilated every vestige, but such was its immense strength, that after being stationary here for three weeks, he made no impression upon any part, nor could he have gained possession by any other means than starvation or bribery. The latter plan he adopted, and through the means of William Pantolph, governor of Stafford Castle, presented earl Robert's confidant, Ioworth ap Blethrim, the Welch chief, (and relation of Pantolph) and his soldiery, with secret presents, by reason of which alone the king became possessed of the castle, banished Earl Robert the kingdom, and confiscated all his English domains. At this siege, Sir Ralph de Pichford, at the head of the family at Pichford, in this county, exerted himself so nobly, that the king granted to him the little Brug, being the western suburbs.

This castle, in the reign of Stephen, was placed under the care of Hugh de Mortimer (an ancestor of the Earls of March, and all the subsequent sovereigns of England from Henry VI.), who upon the accession of Henry the Second, openly opposed that monarch, but was obliged to surrender, made his submission, and received a pardon. After this conflict the castle was reduced to a heap of ruins as a mark of the sovereign's vengeance, for his narrow escape with his life. An arrow having been directed at the king, whilst standing in the well meadow, near St. James's, was intercepted by his attendant,



Sir Hubert de St. Clere, constable of Colchester, who received the shaft, and died of the wound.

From this period, the castle lay in ruins till a short time previous to the 16th of John, when the present edifice (terrific as it now appears) was built on the site of the former structure. The square tower, a part of which is the only relic left, was about 70 feet high, the interior from north to south is 24 feet 9 inches, by 20 feet 3 inches. From the above period till the latter end of the reign of Henry the 7th, a governor was regularly appointed, and generally from amongst the first nobility of the land. In the 27th of Henry the 8th, an act of parliament passed for rebuilding this castle, with some others. On the 2nd of October, 1629, King Charles the First granted it, with other property, to Gilbert North, Esq. one of the gentlemen of the Privy Chamber, who on the following day conveyed it to Sir William Whitmore, knight, of Apley Park, near this town, and his descendant is the present possessor, and also a descendant of the mighty Belesme, its first founder. In March, 1646, the committee of the Rump Parliament in this county, sent a detachment of forces, part of which came out of the garrison of High Ercale, and summoned the king's party to surrender, who treated the summons with contempt, but it was almost immediately stormed in three places, and taken after a skirmish, in which about twenty of the royalists lost their lives, with Colonel Francis Billingsley, of Astley Abbots, and some gentlemen of note. The King's garrison in the castle held out till the 27th of April following, and in the meantime committed great devastation in the town, and at length set fire to it, the college, and the church of Saint Leonard, then the magazine of the Parliament forces, when the whole of the roof of the latter was consumed, with the treasury chest belonging to the corporation, in which their charters and many very valuable documents were destroyed. The garrison holding out a month after the town was taken, and

being in great want of ammunition, surrendered to Colonel Andrew Lloyd, of Aston, near Oswestry, and were permitted to march with their arms to Worcester.

The castle was soon afterwards, by the orders of Parliament, directed to be demolished, which was carried into effect by springing a mine; this dreadful explosion took place between 5th August, and 25th of February following. The bridge is a handsome structure, consisting of six arches, but lately of seven, has undergone considerable repair, by the late Thomas Simpson, of Shrewsbury, architect, at a considerable expense, but has since been completed and widened by Mr. John Smallman, of Quatford. At the east end, stood for ages its gate-house, and draw portcullis, with a prison above for confinement of debtors, which was taken down in 1795. To this structure, at the time of the Reformation adjoined the chapel of St. Syth, or Osyth, long since removed.

Bridgenorth is a small Borough Town, most romantically situated on the eastern confines of the County of Salop, and intersected by the River Severn the part standing on its eastern banks being called the Low Town, and that on the west, the High Town. This latter extends itself along the flat of the hill, and rises sixty yards above the level of the river, a connexion is made by a stone bridge of six arches, and the whole town is within a franchise or liberty, exempt from all county contributions and services.

The Low Town consists of four avenues or streets. Mill-street, so named from its approach towards the town mills, (granted by King Henry the Third to the burgesses of this place) in which are many respectable looking houses. Bridge-street, at the south-east extremity, leads into St. John's-street, so named from its having had, in the reign of Richard 1st an hospital, which in Rome's religious days was afterwards changed to a Priory, and dedicated to the



Holy Trinity, the Virgin Mary, and St. John the Baptist. The South end of this avenue opens into another, called Spital street, from an ancient hospital or leprous house, standing at the southern extremity, and dedicated to St. James, so far back as the reign of Henry 1st.

The western end of the bridge opens into Underhill-street, in which stands a very large ancient half-timbered mansion, built in 1580, in which Dr. Percy, the late bishop of Dromore, was born, and afterwards became its proprietor. This avenue winds around the eastern side of the hill, whereon the high town appears so commanding. This part of the borough, comprehending the castle wards, is subdivided into other avenues, viz. High-street, Lesley-street, Hungary-street, Little Brug, or Bridge, now frequently called Pound-street, Whitburne or Raven street, Church-street. The High-street, in very early times called Great street or Brug, is a spacious and well formed avenue, about twenty-six yards in width and 320 yards along the level of the hill; here are two posting-houses or inns, one called the Crown or Royal Hotel, and the other the Castle, formerly the Pig and Castle. In the centre stands the Town or Guildhall, erected in 1655. In Hungary-street was formerly an old chapel, dedicated to the Virgin Mary; some vestiges are yet to be seen. On the north-east side are the remains of an old stone castellated structure called the half-moon battery, it is octagonal, and probably a watch tower of considerable strength and great importance, to this almost defenceless part of the town.

There are alms-houses, re-erected in 1792, for the accommodation of 12 poor women.

Also an hospital for 10 poor widows, endowed by the Rev. Francis Palmer, Rector of Sandy, in the County of Bedford. On one side of the cemetery of St. Leonard, stands the free grammar school, founded by the Bailiffs and Burgesses, (to which are annexed three valuable exhibitions to Christchurch College,

Oxford,) in or prior to the reign of Henry 7th, for the sons of burgesses.

Here is also lately established a school for the education of the poorer classes, on the plan of Dr. Bell, for girls and boys, affording many advantages besides learning to read, to a considerable proportion of the children of the poor of the town; great attention is at the same time paid to their habits, cleanliness, and moral instruction.

Here is established a very respectable subscription library; the books are various and well chosen, and remain for permanent accumulation. Here is a dissenting chapel, belonging to the Baptists, also a Presbyterian Chapel, called Independents. Many of the meanest houses are excavated out of the red sandy rock, under the brow of the hill, with several caves of the primitive inhabitants, now made convenient to the present generation; over these, in many instances, are walks and gardens amid the steeps. There is a curious but gloomy path leading from the High Town to the bridge, cut deep in the rock, forming a ravine in some places twenty feet deep, and made easy by steps and rails.

The sitting of the magistrates is once a fortnight. The town is governed by two bailiffs elected annually from twenty-four aldermen, who have served all offices; by a jury of fourteen men, with forty-eight common council men, a recorder, town clerk, &c.

The air of Bridgenorth is healthy, and its prospect delightful. The hill of the upper town rises sixty yards from the west bank of the river; many of the houses are founded upon the rock, and most of the cellars are caves hewn out of it. On the roofs of some of the caves gardens have been laid out, and pathways are made over them, so that persons may walk over the tops of several of the houses without difficulty. There are two parish churches in Bridgenorth, viz. St. Leonard's, a handsome building of red stone, near the north extremity of the town. The church-

yard has a delightful prospect over the Severn. The lower church of St. Mary Magdalen, near the ruins of the castle, is a handsome stone structure, with lofty tower, and a clock. Here is also a ring of six bells.

Bridgenorth has sent members to parliament *ab origine*; the right of election is in the burgesses and freemen; within and without the borough, the number of voters is about three thousand; returning officers, the bailiffs.

The town contains a manufactory for carpets, which employs a considerable number of hands, and a newly-erected iron foundry upon a small scale.

The market is on Saturday; the number of houses are about one thousand; and the inhabitants, according to the returns of the year 1821, 4345.

The Severn separating the upper and lower divisions of the town, affords the various conveniences of navigation. A handsome stone bridge connects the upper and lower town. This has lately been much improved at the expense of about 4000*l.* under the direction of Mr. Smallman, an architect, who has also evinced very considerable talent by the various respectable mansions planned and executed by him in the vicinity. The country round Bridgenorth is extremely romantic, particularly the high rocky ridge on the borders of the Morf.

Close to the walk are the remains of the castle, with its huge tower apparently falling; it is a singular fine specimen of the kind, inclining many degrees from the perpendicular, and which the strength of the masonry keeps entire, though the one side appears sunk so deeply, and the other exhibits a yawning fracture, which gives the idea of immediate separation of the huge fabric. From this castle walk, towards the east, over the Severn, is seen the high ground of what was once the forest of Morfe, in Leland's time a "forest or chace having deer—a hilly ground well wooded;" its sylvan features have long disappeared. In it king Athelstan's brother is said to have led an

an hermit's life in a rock; the place is still called the hermitage, wherein are several caves of great antiquity, which excite much curiosity.

Part of the ruin of the castle is in such a leaning position, that it appears absolutely falling, and is well worthy remark.

The high rock is a very striking feature of native grandeur, rising about two hundred feet, and presenting its precipitous front almost over the Severn.

On one of the eminences are still visible the remains of a camp, supposed to be Saxon. The whole of Morf was enclosed about the year 1815, amounting to between 5 and 6000 acres.

About 2 miles from Bridgenorth, on the opposite bank of the Severn to Apley, is Stanley Hall, the residence of Sir Tyrwhite Jones, Bart—an old mansion lately restored and enlarged—a mansion of comfortable elegance, exhibiting the outward character and style of the days of Elizabeth. It is situated on elevated ground, and sweetly embosomed in woods and plantations, sloping off on all sides, into vales and dingles, and overlooking, at times, the whole of the grandeur of Apley Terrace and part of the Park, together with the grand steep ridge towards the Morf, including the high rock, Severn, and romantic outline of Bridgenorth; on this account the situation of Stanley is peculiarly fortunate, having the command of an extent and variety of scenery indescribably beautiful.

About three miles to the north, and up the Severn, is Apley, the elegant seat of Thomas Whitmore, Esq. who has sat for Bridgenorth in several successive Parliaments. The house is a castellated mansion of white sand-stone, lately built, and seated on a gentle eminence on the banks of the Severn, and enclosed by the parks and pleasure grounds, which contain a rich combination of beauty and grandeur. Nature has here done so much, that little is left to art: Mr. Whitmore is satisfied and grateful to the high artificer. His domain extends to the high ridges of the Morf,

which he has caused to be planted with variety of forest trees, suitable to their stations, and which are now beginning to give an effect of forest scenery of great extent. The park is bounded on the north-east by a fine elevated terrace, about a mile long, richly wooded. From this drive or ride, which will admit six carriages abreast, the prospects said to be the finest in England, are rich and extensive, and varied in a high degree, with almost endless changes of landscape and scenery. The magnificence of the mansion is seen from different points to great advantage, situated in the nether park, in the midst of which, is finely undulated scenery of ancient woods, and through which, the windings of the Severn are discovered for some miles accompanying; from below the terrace elevation rises precipitous, and presents a bold front of rock and wood, of apparently boundless extent, consisting of high projecting steeps and wooded recesses, mingling their various masses and elevations with imposing grandeur, filled up beneath with wild varieties of underwood, and thickets of brakes and thorns. The opposite side of the Severn accords well with the scenery of the parks and terrace, consisting of abrupt and bold eminences and dingles, well wooded, and interspersed with cultivated inclosures.

About five miles north eastward from Bridgenorth, stood the very ancient mansion of one of the oldest families in England, the Gatacres, of Gatacre, possessors in an uninterrupted time from the period of Edward the Confessor. The ancient mansion, unique of its kind, was built of a dark grey freestone, and coated with a thin greenish vitrified substance, transparent, about the thickness of a crown piece (a most effectual preservative), without the least appearance of any joint or cement, to unite the several parts, so that it seemed all one entire piece. The wall has nearly an exact square, and most remarkably constructed; at each corner, in the middle of each side, and in the centre, was an immense

oak tree, hewed nearly square, and without branches, set with their heads in large stones laid about a foot deep in the ground, and with their roots uppermost, which roots, with a few rafters, formed a complete arched roof, the floor was of oak boards three inches thick, not sawed, but plainly chipped. This account was published in the *Archæologia*, vol. 3, by Owen Salisbury Brereton, Esq. soon after he had visited it. It is much to be lamented that this remarkable piece of antiquity was pulled down to make room for a modern and, no doubt, an inconvenient structure.

About five miles eastward from Bridgenorth, at the village of Chesterton, is a Roman camp, called the Walls, an elevated flat of about twenty acres, enclosed on all sides by rocky declivities, except the north-east, where an artificial rampart has been raised. The form is nearly square, with four gates or entrances, one in the north, another west, a third in the south-east, and a fourth north-east. On the east side, a passage leads down to a rivulet below, called Stratford Brook. The west side has been doubly fortified with a deep trench cut out of the solid rock between two ramparts; to the north it has only one bank of the height of the innermost on the west; no coins or antiquities have been found here; it was, probably, æstiva to Uriconium and Pennocrucum, which are within a day's march.—*R. Gale's letter to Dr. Harewood.*

About 15 miles to the south-east of Bridgenorth is **HALES OWEN**, a town belonging to this county, though separated from it by Staffordshire and Worcestershire. It is situated in a valley surrounded by hills, and is in general, a very good town, well inhabited, and has many genteel houses, there being several people of fashion constantly residing in it. It was principally noted in former times for its fine abbey, founded in the reign of King John. Great part of the walls of this abbey are yet remaining, but most of them are overgrown by bushes and weeds. The church is a fine Gothic structure, built in the



form of Salisbury cathedral, with a beautiful spire, supported by four curious arches, and many of the family of the Littletons were formerly buried in it; and we learn from the will of Sir Thomas de Lyttleton, justice of the common pleas, and author of the celebrated Treatise on the Tenures, that when he died, in the year 1483, he left two books, written by himself, one on the manners of the Romans, and the other on the canons, said to be chained up in this church for the use of the priests: but it does not now appear what is become of them.

The principal manufacture of the town, consists in making nails, with various sorts of hardware; and there is a poor weekly market on Mondays.

Hales Owen contains 1472 houses, and 8187 inhabitants.

Adam Lyttleton, D. D. was a native of this town, being born here in the year 1627. He received his education under the famous Dr. Busby, in Westminster school, after which he became a student in Christchurch, Oxford. He suffered so much for his loyalty during the civil wars, that in order to procure a subsistence, he was obliged to become an usher to his old master at Westminster; but at the restoration he was appointed one of the chaplains in ordinary to the king, rector of Chelsea, minister of St. Botolph, Aldersgate-street, and subdean of Westminster. He enjoyed all these till his death, which happened in the year 1694.

A short distance from Hales Owen stood the Leasowes, once the property and seat of the celebrated poet Shenstone, afterwards that of — Hamilton, Esq. The beauty of Mr. Shenstone's grounds, statues, urns, and inscriptions, have been the frequent themes of poetry and prose. These beauties and ornamental landscapes exist no longer: a line of canal close to the place has interfered with its rural quiet, and brought with it all the disagreeable accompaniments of rude traffic, and vexatious depredation.



Mr. Shenstone, whose flowing imagination and free taste created this earthly paradise, was the eldest son of a plain uneducated gentleman in Shropshire, who farmed his own estate. The father, sensible of his son's extraordinary capacity, resolved to give him a learned education, and sent him a commoner to Pembroke College, in Oxford, designing him for the church; but, though he had the most awful notions of the wisdom, power, and goodness of God, he never could be persuaded to enter into orders. In his private opinions he adhered to no particular sect, and hated all religious disputes. But whatever were his own sentiments, he always shewed great tenderness to those who differed from him. Tenderness, indeed, in every sense of the word, was his peculiar characteristic; his friends, his domestics, his poor neighbours, all daily experienced his benevolent turn of mind. Indeed, this virtue in him was often carried to such an excess, that it sometimes bordered upon weakness; yet, if he were convinced that any of those ranked amongst the number of his friends, had treated him ungenerously, he was not easily reconciled. He used a maxim, however, on such occasions, which is worthy of being observed and imitated: "I never," said he, "will be a revengeful enemy; but I cannot, it is not in my nature, to be half a friend." He was in his temper quite unsuspecting; but if suspicion was once awakened in him, it was not laid asleep again without difficulty.

He was no economist; the generosity of his temper prevented him from paying a proper regard to the use of money; he exceeded, therefore, the bounds of his paternal fortune, which before he died was considerably incumbered. But when one recollects the perfect paradise he had raised around him, the hospitality with which he lived, his great indulgence to his servants, his charities to the indigent, and all done with an estate of not more than three hundred pounds a year, one should rather be

led to wonder that he left any thing behind him, than to blame his want of economy. He left, however, more than sufficient to pay all his debts, and by his will appropriated his whole estate for that purpose.

It was perhaps from some considerations on the narrowness of his fortune, that he forbore to marry, for he was no enemy to wedlock, had a high opinion of many among the fair sex, was fond of their society, and no stranger to the tenderest impressions. One, which he received in his youth, was with difficulty surmounted. The lady was the subject of a sweet pastoral, in four parts, which has been so universally admired, and which, one would have thought, must have subdued the loftiest heart, and softened the most obdurate.

His person, as to height, was above the middle stature, but largely and rather inelegantly formed: his face seemed plain till you conversed with him, and then it grew very pleasing. In his dress he was negligent even to a fault; though, when young, at the university, he was accounted a beau. He wore his own hair, which was quite grey very early, in a particular manner; not from any affectation of singularity, but from a maxim he had laid down, that, without too slavish a regard to fashion, every one should dress in a manner most suitable to his own person and figure. In short, his faults were only little blemishes, thrown in by Nature, as it were, on purpose to prevent him from rising too much above that level of imperfection allotted to humanity.

His character, as a writer, is distinguished by simplicity with elegance, and genius with correctness. He had a sublimity equal to the highest attempts; yet, from the indolence of his temper, he chose rather to amuse himself in culling flowers at the foot of the mount, than to take the trouble of climbing the more arduous steeps of Parnassus: but wherever he was disposed to rise, his steps, though natural, were noble, and always well supported, In the

tenderness of elegaic poetry he hath not been excelled ; in the simplicity of pastoral, one may venture to say, he had very few equals. Of great sensibility himself, he never failed to engage the hearts of his readers ; and, amidst the nicest attention to the harmony of his numbers, he always took care to express, with propriety, the sentiments of an elegant mind ; in short, there is no doubt but that he will ever maintain an eminent station among the best of our English writers.

He was born in the year 1714, and died in 1763, and was buried in Hales Owen church-yard ; and within the church is a handsome urn erected to his memory.

Mr. William Caslon, the great improver of the art of letter founding, was born at Hales Owen in 1692. He was not even brought up to that business, but served a regular apprenticeship to an engraver of ornaments on gun-barrels, which trade he carried on in Vine Street, near the Minories, London, where he also employed himself in making tools for bookbinders. Mr. Bowyer accidentally seeing some books in a shop, a book uncommonly neatly lettered, by Mr. Caslon's tools, sought him out, and after some short time procured him the loan of 500*l.* for the purpose of setting him up in the letter-founding line. Mr. Caslon, who had previously assured Mr. Bowyer that he was confident that he could execute the business ; not only did so, but far surpassed the expectations of his friends. He was employed by the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, to print for the use of the churches in the east, the New Testament and Psalter, in the Arabic language, and at length arrived to such perfection, that he not only freed us from the necessity of importing types from Holland, but in the beauty and elegance of those made by him, he exceeded the productions of the best artist. He removed about 1735, into Chiswell Street, near Moorfields ; and having acquired opulence in the course of his profession, was put

into the commission of the peace for the County of Middlesex, in which office, he died in January, 1766.

Returning from this digression, on leaving Bridgenorth, we proceed southerly, and at the distance of six miles, we pass through the village of Billingsly; nine miles beyond which we arrive at CLEOBURY, or Cleobury Mortimer, so called from its having formerly belonged to the noble family of that name. It is pleasantly situated, and consists of one large street, in which are some good houses, but little trade is carried on, so that it is not at present very populous. There was formerly a strong castle in this place, built by one of the Montgomerys, but no remains of it are now left, it having been totally razed by Henry the Second, soon after its erection.

There are no public buildings in the town that merit a particular description, except the church, which is a venerable Gothic structure, and formerly belonged to one of the mitred abbeys. The chancel is extremely curious, and in it is a monument that merits the attention of every traveller, not for the elegance of the workmanship, but the words of the epitaph, which conveys to the mind the most feeling sentiments of unfeigned duty from an obedient son to an indulgent parent. It is as follows:

“The Rev. Mr. William Edwards, late vicar of this church, departed this life, Feb. 16, 1738, aged 77.

The ritual stone thy son doth lay

O'er thy respected dust,

Only proclaims the mournful day

When he a parent lost.

Fame will convey thy virtues down,

Through ages yet to come;

'Tis needless, since so well they're known,

To crowd them on thy tomb.

Deep to engrave them on my heart,

Rather demands my care;

Ah! could I stamp in ev'ry part

The fair impression there!

In life to copy thee I'll strive;  
 And when I that resign,  
 May some good-natur'd friend survive,  
 'To lay my bones by thine."

On the north side is a free-school, founded by Sir William Child, one of the masters in chancery, who left 3500*l.* for supporting it, besides a handsome salary to the master. On the east side of the school are the remains of a Danish camp, but by whom it was thrown up does not appear. This town has a weekly market on Thursday, and contained, according to the late population act, 328 houses, and 1062 inhabitants.

*Journey from Whitchurch to Shifnal; through  
 Hodnet.*

WHITCHURCH is a handsome town, situated on the northern extremity of the county, on the road leading to Chester; and although not a place of any trade, yet the number of people constantly passing through it to and from Ireland makes it very populous. That it is a place of considerable antiquity appears from there having been some religious houses in it before the reign of Henry the Third, though not the least remains of them are now to be seen.

But what principally engages the notice of a traveller in this town is its fine church, a noble structure of the Tuscan order, built by act of parliament, in the year 1722, on the spot where an old Gothic one formerly stood. The whole edifice is built of fine free stone, and at the west end is a stately square tower, surrounded by battlements at the top, in which are eight good bells, with a clock and musical chimes. The whole building is very regular, consisting of a large nave, with side aisles, having galleries contrived in the most convenient manner, with a fine altar piece, and several ancient monuments, among which is one to the memory of the great John Talbot, first Earl of Shrewsbury, who was called the English Achilles, and who was so renowned in France,

that no man in that kingdom dared to encounter him single-handed.

Here is also a dissenting meeting-house; likewise an excellent free-school, with houses for the master and usher, besides exceeding good salaries; and many eminent persons have had their education in it. There is likewise a charity-school for children of both sexes, and six alms-houses, endowed by Samuel Higginson, for women, who are all allowed four guineas per annum. Here are frequent horse-races. The weekly market is on Friday, and the town consists of 1071 houses, and 5376 inhabitants.

When Charles the First removed his standard from Nottingham to Shrewsbury, it is said that this town raised a whole regiment for his service.

At the distance of about eight miles and a half from Whitchurch, we pass through the village of Marchamley, to the west of which is Hawkestone, the beautiful seat of Sir John R. Hill, Bart. long the residence of the ancient and respectable family of the Hills; a spot much celebrated for an extraordinary portion of natural beauty, added to and much improved by the power of opulence and the hands of taste. Its brilliancy is indeed superabundant and the marks of the chisel are often seen. It is an elysium formed out of a sandy waste with so much taste that its features can scarcely receive justice from the most vivid description. The elegance of the Mansion-House is exceeded by few; the hospitality of the owner by none. It is an elegant modern edifice, situated upon a beautiful inclination upon the north side of a romantic hill. The two wings and many improvements were added by Sir Rowland Hill, Bart. father of the present possessor. To the west is a fine portico, the columns are of the composite order, lofty and graceful. The saloon, chapel, and library, are particularly worthy of examination. In the ceiling of the chapel is an emblematic painting representing Truth appealing to Time for bringing her to light, and Falsehood flying away. The saloon contains among other



paintings, the siege of Namur, with king William, elector of Bavaria, duke of Marlborough, count Cohorn, and the right honourable Richard Hill, great uncle to the present Sir John Hill, all taken from the life. An easy ascent through the selvage of a wilderness of lofty trees leads to the Summer-House, a neat octagonal structure of freestone, decorated within with paintings in fresco, representing the four seasons. From the windows appear a grand piece of water with verdant meadows and a distant view of the Broxton Hills and Delamere Forest. A new farm-house, among the trees by the water side, bears the representation of an abbey or priory, till the emblems of a farm-house appear to set the observer right and betray the intended deception. Under the summer-house is a spacious cold bath. A beautiful lawn leads hence to the edge of a deep valley called the Gulf, along which is an ascending walk upon the side of a rock agreeably clothed with shrubs and trees, admitting at intervals a view of distant water. We then reach a stupendous cliff in the rock, along the bottom of which the road gradually ascends to a passage, whence the light is excluded for about 100 yards. This terminates in the Grotto, which is a vast cave dug in the solid rock, and is superior to every thing of this kind in the kingdom. Pillars of stone are left as supporters, and the sides are set with costly shells, petrifications, and fossils. The light is admitted through small windows of painted glass. A colonnade of rude pillars leads through a west door to the verge of an awful precipice, whence are seen the towering oaks, overhung with huge rocks tinged with copper. Descending by a flight of steps, the path winds round this detached mass of free-stone, affording at every point new objects of admiration. Among the enormous shelves which overhang this road there is a place cut through the rock with two seats, one opposite the other, called the *Vis a Vis*. Many eminent persons have expressed their admiration to these scenes. General Paoli, who visited



Hawkestone, declared that in all his travels he had seen no prospect which had afforded him so much delight. This spot has since been distinguished by the name of Paoli's Point. Leaving the grotto hill we proceed along rugged and grotesque cliffs to a natural cave, named The Retreat. This contains an automaton in the figure of a Hermit sitting before a table, upon which are a skull, an hour-glass, a book, and pair of spectacles, the guide contrives to make this machine rise, lift his hand, and appear to answer questions. The spectator is next conducted to a singular crag of a pyramidic form, finely clad with ivy and trees, called the Fox's Knob, from the circumstance of a fox being unkennelled there, which leapt into the valley beneath. The fall occasioned his death, at well as that of some of the dogs which followed him. There is a sinuous perforation in the rock called St. Francis's Cave, the entrance to which is under the fantastic roots of an old yew-tree. After passing through some distance in total darkness, you emerge into the blaze of day, and are presented with a prospect the most magnificent. A part the most romantic in the domain, is ascended to between two rugged rocks of white free-stone, at the entrance of which is a finger post inscribed upon one side. "To a scene in Switzerland," and on the other "Au Pont Suisse." The way leads over an alpine bridge thrown across a yawning gulf. Descend to the left into another deep and solemn glen or cleft, dividing two high and abrupt rocks. The resemblance between this scene and some of the wild landscapes in the Grisons is striking. The Terrace is a most agreeable walk, covered with the finest verdure and lined on each side with various sorts of forest trees, in which are openings to distant scenery. Upon a spot near the highest part of the terrace is a grand column or Obelisk, built of white free-stone, in height about 112 feet. A staircase within leads to an open gallery round its capital, whence is a magnificent prospect extending in a clear day to a range which comprises

12 or 13 counties. The summit is crowned with a statue of Sir Rowland Hill, Knt. lord mayor of London, in the second year of Edward VI. 1549 and 1550. An inscription upon the pedestal expresses that the pillar was erected by Sir Richard Hill, from motives of respect to the memory of that great and good man. It contains an eulogiac sketch of his life. Upon a high projection to the south-west side of the terrace stands the Tower, which commands a view of the town of Shrewsbury, the Wrekin and Stretton hills. To the west appear the Welsh hills, particularly the Breidden, the Cefney Castell, and Moel y Gofa. About one mile from the tower is a beautiful and romantic wood called Bury Walls. Here are the remains of a roman Camp, encompassing about 20 acres of high ground, bounded by an inaccessible rock on three sides, and defended on the other by a triple entrenchment. A retired walk leads hence to the Tower Glen, bounded by a range of grotesque rocks, interspersed with large trees and underwood. At the end of this sequestered dingle there is a seat, whence opens a charming expanse of lawn, hill, wood, and water. In a rock within this glen is an extraordinary cavern. Near it is an Urn erected by Sir Richard Hill, Bart. in 1784, as a token of affection to the memory of his ancestor, Rowland Hill, Esq. of Hawkestone, who being a royalist hid himself in this glen during the troubles of the reign of Charles I. He was discovered and imprisoned in the castle adjacent, called Red Castle, now a heap of ruins. The site is remarkably strong and imposing, being the summit of a lofty hill consisting chiefly of red rock, covered on every side with large trees and thick wood. The erection of this castle is, by Dugdale and others, dated from a licence granted by Henry III. to Henry de Aldithle, or Audley. [See Gough's Camden, iii, 30.] One of the most curious parts of this hill is an excavation called the *Giant's Well*. The circular walls which surround it are immensely thick. A passage is cut near this place through the

solid rock, at the end of which is placed the figure of a lion, with some bones scattered upon the ground near him. In one of the valleys below the Red Castle is a low building of sticks and reeds, constructed from a print in Captain Cooke's Voyages. The interior is fitted up in a corresponding style, and adorned with bows, arrows, horns of animals, idols, masks, caps of red feathers, shell necklaces, and two canoes. This spot is called a Scene in Otaheite. Several plants from that island grow at the door of the dwelling. There is a fine walk round the top of the valley. A magnificent piece of water, resembling a wide navigable river, extends about two miles in length. The terminations are concealed. Passing through a delightful plantation, at the entrance to which are two large whale-bones, we arrive at Neptune's Whim. This whim or cottage is built in the style of the houses in North Holland, with a windmill upon the opposite bank, painted exactly after the Dutch fashion. The interior is ornamented with prints, &c. Behind this cottage, at the river head, is a fine colossal statue of Neptune, in hewn stone, holding an urn from which the water falls over broken pieces of rock. Nereids placed below are made to throw up the stream to a considerable height. In the district of these splendid grounds is a spot called Amphitrite's Flower Garden, in the middle of which, during summer, a curious tent is pitched, which was brought from Egypt by colonel (now Lord) Hill, nephew of the late Sir Richard, and son of Sir John Hill. The following inscription appears over an entrance. "This tent was brought by colonel Hill from Egypt to England. It originally belonged to the famous Murad Bey; was taken at the battle of the Pyramids, by the French; and taken from the French when Grand Cairo surrendered to the English, 25 June, 1801."

Breidden, the hill before alluded to, or, as it is spelt by the Welsh, Craig-ap-Wridden, has given rise to

a convivial society, who call themselves the Breidden-ites, and who meet annually here on a day in June or July. They consist of a large and select party of ladies and gentlemen, chiefly Salopians; from whom are annually elected a president, who finds dinner, wine, &c. and acts as captain of the day, with a branch of oak in his hat; he is also vice president the succeeding year. Here also is a lady of the hill, who wears laurel and dances with the president; a poet Ferneat, who annually supplies some new song, ode, or recitation, and is crowned by the lady with fern; and a recorder who enters in a journal all proceedings, records, poetry, &c. They meet at one o'clock to dinner, near the well in the valley, and afterwards adjourn to the pillar on the summit of the mountain, where the glass, song, and dance, go merrily round; the annual composition of the poet is recited. All strangers are admitted as guests for the day, but not as members till introduced by some one of them to the president, and by him to the society. All party and political toasts are excluded, and nothing encouraged that is not conducive to social festivity and friendship. This society has no connexion with that for the common oration of Rodney upon the same hill.

But to return to Hawkestone; from this hill, and other Welsh mountains, are seen the recent additions to the curiosities of this seat of the hills; and many of the prospects are rendered far more striking and magnificent as they are attained by passages cut in the rock, emerging from which, being totally dark, they cause the astonished visitor more fully to enjoy the effect of the contrast. The attached grounds are also celebrated for their extraordinary combination of natural and artificial beauties.

Sir John Hill, who succeeded his brother Sir Richard, has supported the dignity of the family in the true old English way, and has had the happiness to see his numerous progeny rise to distinction in various

branches of the state. Lieutenant-General Sir John Hill, for his bravery in the peninsula, during the late war, has been elevated to the peerage. At the extremity of the village of Hawkestone, and upon the edge of the grounds, stands Hawkestone Inn and Hotel, an elegant and spacious house, with bowling-green, &c.

About one mile and a half to the south east of the village of Marchamly, the birth-place of the late alderman Boydell, we pass through the village of Hodnet, about one mile to the east of which is the village of Stoke, where are the remains of a castle, built by Theobald de Verdun. It remained in great splendour many years, and was in possession of the noble family of Ferrers, to whom it came by marriage; but it afterwards belonged to Lord Craven, and part of the castle, with some modern additions, is now converted into a country seat.

At Hodnet is Hodnet Hall, the seat of Richard Heber, Esq. The Rectory, a new and very handsome building, in the Gothic style, is the residence of the Rev. Reginald Heber, the author of *Palestine*. The Rectory is valued at 2000*l.* per annum.

About ten miles south from Hodnet we pass through WELLINGTON, a small neat town, with a good market on Thursdays. It was at this place that, in the beginning of the civil wars, King Charles the First assembled his army in his way to Shrewsbury, and here published his orders for strict discipline, and made a protestation, that if he conquered, he would maintain and preserve the liberties of the people, and privileges of parliament, and govern by law, as well as defend the established religion, &c.—The church has been lately rebuilt, supported on cast-iron pillars, and the frames of the windows are of the same materials, which gives a lightness to the building, and has an exceedingly good effect: one of the frames of the window is fifteen feet high. Here is no manufactory, the inhabitants being chiefly employed in getting coal, lime, and iron-stone. There

are two furnaces worked by a steam-engine, one of the largest in England.

About two miles to the south-west of Wellington the lofty mountain, or hill, called the Wrekin, is seen at a great distance, and the prospect from it is as extensive as can be imagined. This venerable eminence presents a sublime object in the landscape, and from its summit much more: namely, a magnificent panorama, composed of hills, dales, and woods, beautifully interspersed with cultivated grounds, and skirted by a bold outline of hills. The summit is occupied by one of those rude specimens of fortification found in so many parts of this county. The bleakness of the situation seems only calculated for the hardihood of the ancient Britons, and it was, probably, one of their strong holds. It is composed of two ramparts and trenches, one about forty yards above the other, and both entered by one narrow opening, guarded by a mound of earth on each side; the circuit of the outer rampart is about one mile, and it seems calculated to afford protection to about 20,000 men. At one corner of it, towards the bottom, is a pleasant village, called Bildas, or Buldwas, where one of the bishops of Chester founded a convent for monks of the order of Savigny, about the latter end of the reign of Henry the First. Many parts of this edifice is still standing, from the appearance of which it must originally have been a stately and magnificent structure.

Resuming our road, at the distance of about one mile from Wellington, we pass through Watling-street, a village standing on the Roman road of that name, which was one of the Prætorian or Consular highways, made by the Romans for the march of their armies, &c. of large stakes, and lesser wood between them to keep up the earth and stones, called by the Saxons wattles. It begins at Dover, and runs to St. Alban's, Dunstable, Towcester, Atherstone, and Shrewsbury, and ends at Cardigan, in Wales, being very firm in some counties for several miles.



One mile to the south-east of Watling-street is another village, called Okengate, where there are coal-pits, which supply Shrewsbury with that necessary article.

At the distance of half a mile beyond Okengate, we pass through the village of Prior's Leigh, three miles beyond which we arrive at Shiffnall, a description of which has been given in the former part of our volume.

*Journey from Whitchurch to Shrewsbury ;  
through Wem.*

At the distance of two miles to the south of Whitchurch we pass through the village of Tilstock, about five miles beyond which we arrive at WEM, a considerable town, pleasantly situated near the source of the Roden. It is a very ancient town, and is supposed by some to be the Rutunium, named in the Itinerary. It consists of one large open street, with some smaller ones, and the church is a handsome structure, with a fine chancel and a lofty tower. At the north-west corner of the church-yard is Haley Castle, an oval, much levelled and converted into a garden. Here is a free-school, founded by Sir Thomas Adams, lord-mayor of London, in the year 1645, who gave the house in which he was born here for that purpose.

Wem was the title bestowed by king James the Second on his worthless and wicked lord chancellor, Judge Jefferies.

In the year 1676 the greatest part of the town was burnt down ; but, according to the late population act, it consisted of 582 houses, and 3608 inhabitants.

Mr. John Ireland, author of the " Illustrations of Hogarth," and several other works, was born at French farm near Wem, in a house that had been the birth-place and residence of Wycherly the poet. His mother was the daughter of the Rev. Thomas Holland, and great grand-daughter of the Rev. Philip Henry. Mr. Ireland discovered a strong predilection for letters and painting at an early age ; but his friends



thought he had also a turn for mechanics. While very young he married an amiable and estimable young woman, of a mind and temper congenial with his own, and engaged in an extensive business with every prospect of success. In this he was not successful, though his knowledge of his art was indisputable. For pictures and prints he had an enthusiastic fondness, and especially the works of Mortimer and Hogarth; he had a well selected collection; and a well chosen library of books. He lived in terms of intimacy with many eminent men in the arts, at the bar, and the church. Mr. Ireland was the first protector of Henderson; and in his house that popular actor resided many years; as a friend and a brother, before he was permitted to try his strength on the stage. With Gainsborough he was also on the most friendly terms. Mr. Ireland's *Life and Letters of Henderson* were published in the year 1786. The next publication with his name prefixed was "*Hogarth Illustrated*," in two volumes. The book abounds with anecdote, which the author's long connexion with men conversant with such subjects enabled him to supply. These are generally told in an easy and agreeable style, and always have a general relation to the subject. For several years Mr. Ireland was afflicted with a complication of disorders, which rendered society irksome; and his latter days were clouded with pecuniary difficulties. He died at the close of the year, in the vicinity of Birmingham.

Wycherly one of the best comic poets in Charles the Second's time, was born at a farm house, called French farm, one mile from Wem. When he was about fifteen years of age, he was sent over to France for the improvement of his education. Here he continued some time, during which he was often admitted to the conversation of the most accomplished ladies of that court. A little before the restoration of Charles the Second, he returned to England, and became a gentleman commoner of

Queen's College, in Oxford; and was entered in the public library in July, 1660. After some time, he quitted the University, and entered himself a student in the middle Temple; but, being much addicted to pleasure, he forsook the study of the law before he was called to the bar, and engaged himself in pursuits more agreeable to his own genius and the gallant spirit of the times.

Upon writing his first play, entitled, "Love in a Wood, or St. James's Park," acted at the Theatre Royal, in 1672, he became acquainted with several of the most celebrated wits, both of the court and town; and likewise with the Duchess of Cleveland. The circumstance that gave rise to his acquaintance with this lady was as follows:

One day as Mr. Wycherly was riding in his chariot through St. James's Park, he was met by the duchess, whose chariot jostling against his, she looked out, and said very audibly, "You, Wycherly, you are a son of a w——!" and then burst into a fit of laughter. Mr. Wycherly was at first very much surprised at this, but, on recovering himself, he recollected that it was spoke in allusion to the latter end of a song in his "Love in a wood."

During Mr. Wycherly's surprise, the chariots driving different ways, they were soon at a considerable distance from each other; when Mr. Wycherly, recollecting himself, ordered his coachman to drive back and overtake the lady. As soon as he came near enough, he addressed her as follows: "Madam, you was pleased to bestow a title upon me, which generally belongs to the fortunate; will your ladyship be at the play to night?" "What if I should be there?" replied she. "Why then," answered he, "I will be there to wait on your ladyship, though I disappoint a fine woman who has made me an assignation." "So!" said she, "you will disappoint a woman who has favoured you, for one who has not?" "Yes, replied he, "if she who has not favoured me is the finer woman of the two: but he who will be

constant to your ladyship, till he can find a finer woman, issure to die your captive."

In consequence of this compliment the duchess was that night in the first row of the king's boxes in Drury-Lane Theatre, and Mr. Wycherly was in the pit under her, where he entertained her during the whole play; and this was the beginning of a correspondence between those two persons, which made a great noise in the town.

In 1673, Mr. Wycherly wrote a comedy, called "The Gentleman Dancing Master," which was acted at the Duke's Theatre, and received with universal applause. In 1678 he wrote his "Plain Dealer;" and in 1683 the comedy of "The Country Wife." These plays raised him high in the esteem of the world, and recommended him to the favour of the nobility, among whom his greatest friend was the Duke of Buckingham. King Charles, likewise shewed him more respect, perhaps, than was ever known to take place from a sovereign to a private gentleman. Mr. Wycherly happened to be very ill at his lodgings for some time, during which the king did him the honour of a visit, when, finding his body weak, and his spirits depressed, he commanded him to take a journey to the south of France, and to remain there during the winter season; at the same time the king assured him, that when he was able to undertake the journey, he would order 500*l.* to be paid him to defray the expenses. Mr. Wycherly accordingly went to France, and returned to England the latter end of the following spring, with his health perfectly restored. The king received him with the utmost marks of esteem, and soon after told him that he had a son whom he would deliver to his care for education, and that for this service he should have 1500*l.* a year allotted to him: the king also added, that when the time came his office should cease, he would take care to make such provision for him, as would place him above the malice or contempt of the world.

These were golden prospects for Mr. Wycherly ; but they were soon, by a singular accident, rendered abortive. Soon after his Majesty's promise, Mr. Wycherly went to Tunbridge, to take either the benefit of the waters, or the diversions of the place ; when, walking one day upon the Wells-walk, with his friend Mr. Fairbread of Gray's Inn, just as he came to the door of a bookseller's shop, the Countess of Drogheda, a young widow, rich, noble, and beautiful, came to the bookseller, and enquired for the " Plain Dealer." " Madam," said Mr. Fairbread, " since you are for the Plain Dealer, there he is for you ;" pushing Mr. Wycherly towards her. " Yes," says Mr. Wycherly, " this lady can bear plain-dealing ; for she appears to be so accomplished, that what would be a compliment to others, when said to her, would be plain-dealing."—" No, truly, Sir," said the lady, " I am not without my faults, I love plain-dealing ; and never am more fond of it than when it tells me of a fault."—" Then, Madam, said Mr. Fairbread, " you and the Plain Dealer seemed designed by Heaven for each other." In short, Mr. Wycherly accompanied her on the walks, waited on her home, visited her daily at her lodgings, and in a little time obtained her consent to marry him. This he did by the advice of his father, without acquainting the king, who, when informed of it, was highly offended ; and Mr. Wycherly, from a consciousness of having acted imprudently, seldom going to court, his absence was construed into ingratitude.

This was the cause of Mr. Wycherly's disgrace with the king, whose favour and affection he had before possessed in so distinguished a degree. The countess settled all her estates upon him ; but his claims to them being disputed after her death, the expense of the law and other incumbrances so far reduced him, that he was not able to satisfy the impatience of his creditors, who threw him at last into prison ; so that he, who a few years before was flou-

rishing in all the gaiety of life, flushed with prospects of court preferment, and happy in the most extensive reputation for wit and parts, was condemned to suffer all the rigours of want. In this severe extremity he fell upon an expedient, which no doubt was dictated by his distress, of applying to his bookseller, who had got considerably by his Plain Dealer, in order to borrow 20*l*. but he applied in vain; the bookseller refused to lend him a shilling: and he remained in that distress for seven years, when he obtained his release at the instigation of King James, who, seeing his Plain Dealer performed, was so charmed with it that he gave immediate orders for the payment of the author's debts, adding to that bounty a pension of 200*l*. per annum while he continued in England.

On the death of his father he became possessed of a considerable estate, but it was clogged with so many limitations that he never enjoyed any great advantage from it. In his advanced years he married a young lady of fortune; but only survived his nuptials eleven days. He died in the month of September, 1715, and was interred in the vault of Covent Garden Church.

He was a man of great sprightliness and vivacity of genius. He is said to have been handsome, formed for gallantry, and was certainly, in a particular manner, respected by the ladies, a felicity which even his wit might not have procured without exterior advantages.

Sir Thomas Adams, was also born at Wem, in 1586. He received his education at Cambridge, but was afterwards brought up to the business of a draper in London. He was strictly prudent in his conduct, and happily successful in his undertakings. He received all the honours the city of London could bestow, and in 1646 discharged, with the greatest integrity, the office of chief magistrate. He was afterwards, for his loyalty and unbiassed honesty, sent to the Tower, divested of all his public employments,

and banished the kingdom. During his exile he remitted to Charles II. 10,000*l.* and in the 73d year of his age was sent commissioner, by the City of London, to Breda in Holland, with General Monk, to congratulate and attend the king home; and on the 13th of June, 1660 (a few days after his Majesty's return,) he was made a baronet of England. He died on the 4th of February, in the 82d year of age.

Among many other noble works, he established a professor of Arabic in Cambridge; and was at the sole expense of translating the gospel into the Persian tongue, in order, as he said, to throw a stone at the forehead of Mahomet.

Seven miles beyond Wem we pass through the village of Albrighton; about one mile to the east of which is Battlefield, a village seated on a plain, and distinguished by the famous battle fought here between Henry the Fourth and Henry Percy, surnamed Hotspur. Henry, having with difficulty put a period to the slaughter and abated the ardour of pursuit, halted to return thanks for his victory on the field of battle; which he sanctified and commemorated by decreeing the erection of the collegiate church at Battlefield. It had formerly a college for secular priests, founded in memory of that event, which was endowed with several lands, on condition that the priests should say mass for the souls of such as were slain in the battle. Part of it is in good preservation, and used for divine service. Near Albrighton, is Lee Hall, a very ancient mansion, belonging to T. T. Jones, Bart.; a room is still shewn in which it is said Richard the Third slept.

About one mile to the south of the last-mentioned place is Haghamon, a very pleasant village, formerly noted for a convent of Augustine monks, founded in the reign of Henry the First. It received many benefactions both from the princes of North Wales, and the lord of the marshes; and when suppressed its annual revenues amounted to 294*l.*



Resuming our road, at the distance of three miles and a half from Albrighton, we arrive at

### SHREWSBURY,

The capital of this county, a very ancient and flourishing town. It is pleasantly situated on the banks of the Severn, which encompasses it on all sides, except the north, and is generally supposed to have risen out of the ruins of a Roman city that stood either on the same spot or not far distant from it. The Britons called it Penguerne, that is, a brow of elders, there being many of them growing on the spot; and the Saxons called it Scrobbesbyrig, or a town encompassed with shrubs.

That this town is of great antiquity appears from various historical records. The first mention we have of it, however, as a place of repute, is in the reign of Ethelred the Second, when it was cruelly harassed by the Danes, who had gained a settlement in this part of the kingdom, and exercised the most horrid barbarities on the English. At this time England was torn in pieces by intestine divisions, and consequently unable to make head against the common enemy; but that deficiency was made up by policy: Ethelred projected a scheme for destroying all the Danes in the kingdom in one night; to effect which he sent a commission to every town and city, enjoining the people to fall on them on the 13th of November, 1002, which was executed with great punctuality, few of the Danes escaping with their lives,

In consequence of this the following year the Danes invaded England, under Sween their king, murdered all the inhabitants they met with, and destroyed or carried with them their property. Ethelred was at this time at Shrewsbury, and after consulting his nobles what measures to take in opposition to these invaders, it was agreed to purchase a peace with them. They were offered 30,000*l.* weight of silver, which they accepted, and left the kingdom; but they returned soon after, and at various times



perplexed the English; nor were they quiet till they had placed Canute, their king, on the English throne.

At the Norman conquest, when Domesday-book was written, this town was of great repute, as appears from its paying Gelt, i. e. money for 200 hides of land.

During the civil wars between king Stephen and the Empress Matilda, the governor of Shrewsbury declared for the empress, and it held out against Stephen some time, but it was at last taken by assault, and all the governor's estates forfeited; but that baron, whose name was Fitz-Allan, escaped to the empress, and when her cause declined in England, he went over to France, and remained there till the accession of Henry II. when he came over to England, and had all his estates, with the government of Shrewsbury, restored to him.

When the wars broke out between Henry the Third and the great barons, the latter being declared traitors, fled into Wales, where they were joined by a great body of forces, with which they marched to Shrewsbury, and after having laid all the marches desolate with fire and sword, they burnt part of this town, which at that time was one of the most flourishing in the kingdom. A reconciliation, however, was soon after effected between the king and the barons, and things returned to their former state of tranquillity.

In the reign of Richard the Second, a parliament was held here, at which it is said the king sat with the crown on his head. But the most remarkable occurrence that ever happened in this place was the following:

Some disputes having arisen between King Henry the Fourth and Percy earl of Northumberland, concerning the ransom of some prisoners who had been taken at the battle of Holmedon, and the earl having let drop some expressions that offended the king, he was forbid the court, under pain of being

declared a traitor. The soul of Percy took fire at such treatment; he could not bear such contempt without thoughts of revenge, and as it was chiefly owing to his assistance that Henry came to the crown, he thought that it was still in his power to take it from him. It was necessary that the earl and his adherents should set up some other pretender to the crown, and their first scheme was to publish to the people, that king Richard was still alive, but that having been disproved, they set up Mortimer, earl of March, who was descended from the third son of Richard the Third, and consequently had a better title than Henry, who was son of John of Gaunt, the fourth son of Edward. Mortimer however was in too depressed circumstances to assert his title, and therefore obliged to submit to his more powerful cousin of Lancaster, till the earl of Northumberland sent to him, and offered to assist him not only with all the men he could raise in the north, but also to call in the earl of Douglas from Scotland. The proposal was readily accepted by Mortimer, and a solemn league was entered into between him and the young Percy, who was to bring a great army to the marches, whom the Welsh were to join. The earl of Worcester, brother to Northumberland, was also brought into the scheme, and with many other lords, he joined the rebel army; whilst Percy, in order to oblige the Scots, set all their prisoners at liberty.

Henry Percy, son of the earl of Northumberland, and commonly called Hotspur, from the violence of his natural temper, marched in company with the earl of Douglas, and joined his uncle, the earl of Worcester, and the Welsh near Shrewsbury, after which they published a manifesto, enumerating all the grievances which the people laboured under from the king's tyranny, declaring that they came to force him to put up with the duchy of Lancaster, and restore the crown to Mortimer, the true lawful heir.

The king published an answer to their manifesto, and offered them all a free pardon, if they would lay down their arms; but the Earl of Worcester, who had lived in the reign of Richard the Second, looked on such promises as snares laid for the unwary, and therefore persuaded his nephew, and the other lords, to set the king at defiance, being convinced that his army was inferior to theirs.

The king was accompanied by his favourite son, Henry, Prince of Wales, and when the morning arrived, the rebels saw the royal banners displayed. The king, however, was still afraid to engage, and rather than venture his crown on the fate of a battle, he employed the Abbot of Shrewsbury to offer peace to the rebels, and the whole day was spent in messages between them, but without coming to any agreement.

The next morning, when the two armies prepared to engage, and Hotspur was told of the king's approach, he drew up his men in order of battle, telling them that they must either conquer or die an ignominious death; to which they answered with loud shouts of applause.

The king disposed of his army to great advantage, and the battle began with a dreadful discharge of arrows from both the front lines. The Scots, who were too impatient to fight at a distance, rushed with great fury upon the front line of the royal army, and put them into some confusion, so that they would have been totally ruined, had not the impetuosity of Hotspur defeated his own intentions. He fought with such undaunted courage, seconded by the brave Douglas, that a way was opened into the centre of the royal army, but his men were unable to follow. Heaps of dead bodies lay scattered on every side, and victory was beginning to declare for the rebels, when the king brought up his reserve which soon turned the scale. The rebels were put in confusion, but Douglas and Percy continued

to fight with such courage as surprised all who saw them.

At last the victory became general, the rebels fled in great confusion. Douglas was taken prisoner, but Hotspur, resolved to sell his life as dear as possible, rushed into the hottest part of the battle, and was killed. Many thousands were killed on both sides, and the Earl of Worcester being taken prisoner, was with some other lords instantly beheaded. The body of young Percy was found among the slain, and being cut into quarters was placed on the gates of Shrewsbury and other towns. The Earl of Douglas was set at liberty, and it appeared that during the battle, he had killed with his own hands four persons who were dressed like the king.

The old Earl of Northumberland, who had raised an army to support his son, went and joined the king, telling him, that it was his design to suppress the rebellion; and although Henry had no great reason to believe his sincerity, yet he thought it best to take no farther notice of it, and therefore restored him to his honour and fortune.

King Edward the Fourth, who had many paternal estates in Shropshire, often kept his court here; and when Henry, Earl of Richmond, arrived in England, and was marching against Richard the Third, he was joined at Shrewsbury by Sir Gilbert Talbot, high sheriff of the county, who had raised 4000 men to assist him.

In the month of April, 1551, a disorder broke out in this town, called the sweating sickness, which afterwards spread all over the kingdom; but whether it was an epidemical distemper, imported from some part of the continent, or was originally peculiar to this county, is not certainly known.

But this town will for ever be distinguished for the reception it gave to king Charles the First, who after setting up his standard at Nottingham, and finding no encouragement there, removed to Shrewsbury, being invited by the gentry of the town and country

round; where he was received with such general affection and hearty zeal, that his majesty recovered himself from the discouragement of his first step at Nottingham, and raised and completed a strong army in less time than could be imagined; insomuch that, to the surprize of the parliament, and indeed of all the world, he was in the field before them, and advanced upon them so fast, that he met them two-thirds on his way to London, and gave them battle at Edge-Hill, near Banbury. But the fate of the war turning afterwards against the king, the weight of it fell heavy upon this town, and almost ruined it. It is now fully recovered, and is one of the most flourishing towns in England. The walls and gates are yet standing, but useless; and the old castle is gone to ruin.

Mr. Camden says, that in his time this was a fine populous trading town, much enriched by the industry of the inhabitants, their cloth and manufacture, and their commerce with the Welch, who brought their commodities to this place, as to the common mart of both nations.

Near the castle there is one of the largest schools in England. It was first founded and endowed by King Edward the Sixth, by the name of the Free Grammar School. Queen Elizabeth rebuilt it from the ground, and endowed it more largely. It is a fine stately fabric, with a very good library, a chapel, and spacious buildings, not inferior to many colleges at Oxford and Cambridge; in which last university several scholarships are founded in its favour. Besides hospitals, and St. George's, St. Chad's, and other alms-houses, here are also several charity-schools, where a hundred and forty boys, and forty girls, are taught and partly clothed.

The Abbey was built in the year 1085, and dedicated to St. Peter and Paul. It was suppressed at the general dissolution, of which nothing now remains but the west part, from the cross aisle to the west tower, and the stone roof of this part fallen down. In a garden near it is St. Winifred's pulpit,



a neat Gothic stone structure, said to be a masterpiece of the kind.

St. Chad's church, said to be the oldest in the town, stands on the site of a palace, belonging to the princes of Powis, burnt down by the Saxons. This church was destroyed by an accidental fire, in the year 1893; but was rebuilt soon after. This building, which was a Norman Gothic structure, was under repair in July, 1788, when its decayed tower suddenly fell down, while the workmen were gone to dinner, and in a great measure destroyed the whole of this venerable fabric. This church was rebuilt in 1796.

St. Mary's, the other collegiate church, was founded by King Edgar, and is exempted from the jurisdiction of the bishop. The spire of this church, which stands upon an elevated part of the town, and is seen at a great distance, has been several times damaged by high winds.

St. Alkmond's church was an old structure, with a high spire, and is an irregular square pile of Norman architecture. This church was also rebuilt in 1796, in a style of modern elegance. It was anciently the custom to ring or toll the great bell of St. Alkmond's, in Shrewsbury, at six in the evening, twelve at night, and four in the morning, which was called Halliwell's knell, having been instituted in 1557. The custom of tolling this bell is said to have arisen from the necessity of directing travellers by the sound of bells during the darkness of long nights, when great part of the country was wild and uninclosed, and the roads little better than obscure paths. It is still usual in dark and foggy weather to ring the bell of the little church of Aber, in Caernarvonshire, to prevent travellers who cross the dangerous sands between that village and Beaumaris from wandering from the line they ought to keep. This custom has also been supposed to have arisen from the necessity of marking the hours in times when watches were articles of expensive luxury,

and among the common people hardly known, or when, perhaps, there were not more than one public clock in a town, though it might contain several churches.

St. Julian's church is a modern structure, built in the year 1748, except the tower.

Besides these churches, there have been several religious foundations in this town, and at present there are several dissenters' meeting-houses. All the parishes, except St. Mary's, which is a royal peculiar, are in the diocese of Litchfield and Coventry.

The market-days for corn, cattle, and provisions, are Wednesdays and Saturdays; and every Thursday is the market for Welsh cottons, friezes, and flannels.

King Charles the First incorporated the bailiffs and burgesses of this town, by the name of mayor, aldermen, and burgesses, and the government thereof consists of a mayor, recorder, steward, town-clerk, twenty-four aldermen, and forty-eight common-council-men, who have their sword-bearer, three serjeants-at-mace, and other inferior officers. The corporation has a power of trying causes within itself, even such as are capital, except for high treason. The burgesses qualified to choose its members of parliament are about four hundred and fifty. The right of election in this town was anciently popular and free; so late as the year 1709, we find, by the journals of the house of commons, the franchise extended not only to the burgesses inhabiting within the town, paying scot and lot, but also to those inhabiting six other parishes, and forty-six villis in its suburbs and neighbourhood. These were, however, disfranchised by a subsequent resolution of the house, on the 9th of April, 1723, and the right was limited to the burgesses inhabiting the precinct of the borough only.

The streets of this town are wide and large, and the houses tolerably well built. It is said, that



Charles the Second would have erected this town into a city; and that the townsmen, refusing this honour, were afterwards called the proud Salopians. It was first paved in the year 1254; and it is now, in consequence of an act passed in 1756, well paved and lighted.

Shrewsbury has been many years famous for its delicate cakes, and its excellent brawn. There is such plenty of provisions of all sorts here, especially salmon and other good fish, both from the Severn and the Dee, and the place itself is so pleasant, that it is generally full of gentry, who have assemblies and balls here once a week all the year round.

The staple trade of Shrewsbury is in fine flannels and Welsh webs. The flannels are bought at Welsh Pool, in a market holden for that purpose every Monday. Most of these flannels are made in Montgomeryshire, and some are made, and more spun, in the neighbouring parts of Shropshire. The flannel in Pool market has been sold from 9d. to 4s. per yard, in pieces of 100 yards long, upon an average. They are chiefly re-sold to London merchants, who are the exporters. The webs are fabricated in Merionethshire and Denbighshire, and brought to Shrewsbury, where they used to be sold in a close market, that is, in a hall where none but the members of the Drapers' Company can enter; but for several years past much of this market has been anticipated by buyers in the country, which forced the Shrewsbury dealers to send them there themselves. Webs are about 200 yards long, and have been rated from 1s. to 20d. per yard. The webs made in Merioneth are about seven-eighths of a yard wide, and are called the *strong*, or *high country cloth*. Those made in Denbighshire, are called *small*, or *low country cloth*. The former, after they are bought by drapers, have the wool raised and sheered by persons at Shrewsbury, called sheermen, or they are sent to the fulling-mill to be thickened, and are then exported in bales of different sizes, some con-

taining even 2000 yards. The ultimate markets used to be Holland, Germany, and America. The small cloth is about one-eighth narrower than the other; but the web is the same length. Many of these are sold at Oswestry market, and generally dyed before exportation, mostly to the West Indies and South America. The manufacture in Wales has been greatly increased by the use of *jennies*, introduced into farm houses and others, so that the wool of the country is insufficient for the manufacture. Coarse linens and linen-thread have been largely manufactured in the north suburbs of Shrewsbury.

One great orrument of this town is that called the Quarry, from stones having been dug there formerly, but since converted into one of the finest walks in England. It takes in at least twenty acres, on the south and south-west side of the town; between its walls and the Severn, it is shaded with a double row of lime-trees, and has a fine double alcove in the centre, with seats, one side facing the town, and the other the river. There was a very noble gate upon the Welsh bridge, over the arch of which was the statue of Llewellyn, their last Prince of Wales, this being the town where the ancient princes of Powis Land, or North Wales, used to reside. The castle is ruinous; but the walls, built soon after the conquest, on that side of the town which is not enclosed with the Severn, are yet standing, with their gates, though houses are built on some part of them.

Near the town-hall is the market-house, built in 1595, over which is held a market for Welch cloths. The cross is a building, erected with arches supporting a reservoir of water, from whence the town is supplied, and which contains one thousand barrels of water. The present structure was erected in 1755, of arched groin work, to support the bed of the cistern. Here are several halls belonging to the trading companies. The twelve incorporated trad-

ing companies, every year, on the Monday fortnight after Whitsuntide, repair in their formalities to a place called Kingland, on the south side of the town, and on the opposite bank of the Severn, where they entertain the mayor and corporation in arbours or bowers, erected for that purpose, each of which is distinguished by some motto or device, alluding to their several arts.

English is the usual language spoken in the town, though it is inhabited both by English and by Welsh; but on Thursday's market day, the chief language is Welsh.

A dreadful fire broke out in Shrewsbury on the 1st of April, 1774, which consumed fifty dwelling-houses, besides barns, stables, &c. The town, according to the late returns made to Parliament, consisted of 2861 houses, occupied by 3,800 families, consisting of 14,739 persons, viz. 6,647 males, and 8,092 females, of which number 6,692 were returned as being employed in various trades, and 1372 in agriculture.

During the extraordinary dearness of provisions at the beginning of the year 1796, the liberality of Sir Richard Hill, M. P. for the county, most nobly relieved the poor of Shrewsbury by the sale of about 12,300lbs. of flour weekly, for a certain time, at 1½d. per lb. Fifteen hundred and thirty-nine families and three hundred and five single persons, amounting to 6,037 individuals, partook for several weeks of this most seasonable supply.

Here is a visible and remarkable appearance of the great ancient road, called Watling Street, which comes from London to this town and goes on from hence to the utmost coast of Wales. Remains of a stone-bridge are to be seen at the bottom of the river, when the water is low. This road is raised a good height above the soil, and so straight that upon an eminence it may be seen the distance of ten or fifteen miles, over many hills-tops, answering one another as a vista of trees.

In the month of May, 1773, a very remarkable accident happened at a place called the Birches, between the Colebroke-dale and Builders' bridge, where a high bank, that lay by the Severn, slipt quite across the river, entirely stopped up the channel, and turned the course of the river over a meadow that lay on the other side. That part where the river ran instantly became a high bank, with twenty lofty oaks standing on it; and where the ground divided, a chasm was left seven or eight yards wide, and five or six deep. The depth of the earth that moved, appeared to be twenty yards, and the quantity of land rather more than twenty acres. The turnpike-road was removed several yards, and turned up edgeways. As soon as the bank had stopped up the bed of the river, the vessels below were left dry at the bottom of the channel, and the water took its course over the meadow. About 400 yards from the river's bank stood a house, where a family dwelt: the man got up about three o'clock in the morning, and hearing a rumbling noise, and finding the ground shake under him, he instantly called up his family. They perceived the ground begin to move, but knew not which way to run for safety. However, they hastened off the spot, and just as they had got to a neighbouring wood, the ground they had left, separated from that on which they stood. The house was left standing, but a barn, that stood near it was thrown down.

Thomas Churchyard was a native of Shrewsbury; but at what period he was born is not certainly known. He wrote a book in verse of the Worthies of Wales, which at that time was greatly esteemed. Mr. Camden in his remains has preserved a copy of his epitaph, written by himself, by which it appears that he was very poor, as poets sometimes are. The epitaph was as follows:

Come Alecto, lend me thy torch,  
To find a church-yard in a church porch;  
Poverty and poetry his tomb doth enclose,  
Wherefore, good neighbours, be merry in prose.

It is conjectured that he died about the 11th year of the reign of Queen Elizabeth, in the year 1570.

Before we finally take leave of the district south-east of Shrewsbury, it is proper to notice some sepulchral remains discovered at a place called Burcott, in the parish of Worfield, about two miles and a half from Bridgenorth.

In the latter part of the month of April, and the beginning of May, 1809, Mr. John Bell Hardwick, of Burcott, in the parish of Worfield, in the county of Salop, having occasion to remove a great mass of accumulated soil from the base of an irregularly-terminating rock, and the precipice above it, over his meadow-ground adjoining; on May 9th, his workmen found the remains of a large semicircular cave, in which were discovered many human bones, particularly the vertebræ, two finger-bones, a leg-bone, the arm-bone which connects itself with the shoulder, and several ribs scattered about in various directions. At the north end of the interior of the cave, about five feet from the level of the ground, on the ledge of the rock (18 inches wide), were found two human skulls near together, deposited sideways, and the scalp-bone of a child; as also the skull and jaw-bones of a dog, the lower-jaw of another dog, and those of a sheep and a pig, and one of some small animal, which likewise lay in the same position, at a short distance of each other. In the latter were many teeth, but not so sound as those in the human skulls. Many other bones of animals were also discovered, among which were the shanks of a deer: some of the animal-bones had been broken to pieces, in all probability previous to their having been laid there. At the same time, there was perceived an hearth, with an appearance of ashes, reduced to an extremely fine powder, with a very few scraps of charcoal lying about, seemingly produced from the oak; and two small pieces of flint, for procuring fire, were also found. The human skulls and bones, with some of the bones of the animals, were completely

immured in a kind of chalky substance, which ran perpendicularly through a chink or cleft of the rock in a narrow stratum; the skulls were filled with it, and such of the bones as it surrounded or covered were well preserved; the roof-bone of the mouth, with the teeth in these skulls, were sound, and the enamel of the teeth nearly as perfect as of a healthy person recently dead. The teeth appeared to be all complete except three or four in the front. The upper-jaw of the first skull found, with the roof-bone, were accidentally broken off and destroyed by a person using a mattock to bring down the soil at the time of the discovery. This skull having been covered in part with common earth and chalk, was not quite so perfect as the other.

On the following day Mr. Hardwick, after having had the whole space within the cave cleared out, discovered another human skull lying on its side, upon the ledge of the rock, at the inner extremity of the cave, about the same distance from the ground as the others. It appeared as if forced into the rock by violence; and being also overwhelmed with chalk, its preservation may be attributed to that incrustation. Within this skull were many small snail-shells, and a quantity of the chalky substance: the teeth were equally as sound and perfect as those found on the preceding day, with the exception only of the two in front. The wise-teeth were just approaching above the jaw-bone, considerably lower than the others, tending to show that this must have been a young person; the palate, or roof of the mouth, was also well preserved; so that the little irregularities therein were clearly to be seen of a bright or polished surface. It is singular that no part of the lower jaw-bone of the human subject was in any one instance to be found in the cave.

This discovery has led to much conjecture, in the absence of any possible evidence of fact.

Some have presumed, from the situation of this cave, facing the eastern sun, and from its extent,



being thirty feet in front from south to north, and from the entrance to the farthest part of the interior twelve feet, as well as the ashes observed there, and the irregular disposition of the bones, that it must have been a place of druidical worship and sacrifice. The Pagan rites being confined to the groves and large woods of oak, are circumstances affording some probability that it might have been a place of this description, as no doubt there was a wood at the back, and another at a short distance to the front. A spreading oak, now hovering over, seems as if protecting this supposed temple of heathen superstition. One of the necessary facts to assist in aid of this conjecture is, whether this chalky substance could preserve these bones entire for so long a space, as from 1150 to 2000 years ago; about the former period there is little doubt but the Pagan superstition and worship had existence in these parts. Upon the introduction of Christianity, the Pagans were forced to give up their ancient temples, and betake themselves to such places as were more privately situated, to celebrate the mysteries of their religion; and it is probable that this cave must have been of the latter description.

Some conceive that this place was a cottage in Saxon times, and demolished by a sudden convulsion, and the downfall of the rock and soil above. The two skulls lying by the side of each other, as if belonging to a man and woman, and that of a third person at a distance, and the scalp of a child, all of whom may be supposed to have retired to rest previous to the event, afford some probability to this conjecture; but how far this may be supported, when nothing else can be found but these skulls, and a part of that of a dog, the jaw-bone of another, those of a sheep and a pig, as also some small bones, with the jaw, probably belonging to some small animal, also the appearance of an hearth, some ashes, a little charcoal, and two pieces of flint to strike fire only, is left to the better judgment of the antiquary. The an-



cient proper name, *Bourncote*, which, in the Saxon language, means the cote or dwelling near to the river, of which this cave is within a few paces, rather serves to show that it might probably be the identical cote which assisted to give name to the township.

Others presume that the bones found here must have been those of some wood-rangers, who had been employed in felling trees and in charcoaling wood, and made use of this cave occasionally to eat their victuals in, attended by their favourite animals; but the quantity of particles of charcoal to be found being so small, makes it very improbable; and, if this latter were the case, the accident must have happened long before the reign of Elizabeth, as several circumstances which took place here in her reign have been handed down to the present day in the Sadlers' family, which lived here from 1592 till lately. But, if this last presumption is admitted to prevail, it is most likely that the disaster happened when this township had scarcely any inhabitants; for, had the downfall taken place in times when villages were well peopled, these persons would have been sought after by their neighbours; and, if not saved alive, their bodies would have received Christian burial, and not been suffered to remain here.

It is also surmised, that this cave might have been the hiding-place of a hoard of robbers, or barbarians, who lived here in very early times, and secreted themselves and their booty from public view, till the accident happened which overwhelmed them in its ruins.

It is certain that no utensils of druidical worship, or for household purposes, or implements of the woodman, or even coins, were found: and it is possible that this cave, whose summit hung over so far, might have been thrown down by violence upon the introduction of Christianity, to prevent the Pagan sacrifices and worship from being sacrificed here. After the enormous weight of rock and soil had fallen, the moisture from the elements must have washed

the chalky substance into and round about these skulls and bones, and also round the inside of the cave, so as to give it nearly the appearance of a white-washed apartment.

The ancient bridges at Shrewsbury were fine specimens of the architecture of the times, and the mode of fortification then used. And those that have succeeded them have an ample share of the improvement of the art in their construction.

The Welsh Bridge was frequently of old called Saint George's, from the adjoining hospital of that Saint, and hence on the curious seal of the Corporation which represents a prospect of the town from this quarter, and of which an engraving is given, a shield charged with Saint George's cross appears on one of its gates. At what period this bridge was erected does not appear. The old structure, which as tradition asserts, and the appearance of the spot corroborates the assertion, succeeded to a bridge placed somewhat higher on the stream, and leading from the bottom of Roushill-lane to a house now called the Stew, was a stately specimen of the fortified bridge of ancient days. It consisted of seven arches, which having often been repaired with stone of different colours, had been mellowed by age into one rich and venerable tint. The gates at each extremity were of the finest kind of castellated building. That on the Welsh side, was secured by a strong out-work, and to annoy an enemy who might attempt to pass the ford below, the battlements of the bridge nearest it were pierced with loops, and were more than usually bold and lofty. Over this gate was a massive square tower, with its herse and machicolated battlement.—The chamber above it in modern times, served as a guard-house for soldiers. This tower was taken down about the year 1770. The gate nearest the town stood on the bridge within one arch of its extremity, and was of uncommon beauty. Its arch on the north side was in the most graceful manner of the pointed style, and was fur-

nished with a portcullis and doors studded with iron; above was, as usual, a chamber lighted by a narrow window, and over it, a machicolated battlement peculiarly deep, and projecting much over the walls. In the centre of this, in a canopied niche, was the statue of a knight in complete armour, having one hand lifted on his breast, the other pointing to the device on a corbeil below, which was three roses carved on a stalk. When the tower was demolished, this statue, with the arms, &c. were removed to the end of the Market-house, where it now remains, but the corbeil was destroyed. The surtout was emblazoned with the arms of France and England quarterly. Erroneous traditions have long prevailed concerning the person whom this statue was intended to represent. Some have given it to the Black Prince; others, (and this has been the most general opinion) to Llewellyn, the unhappy Prince of Wales; or to his Brother David, executed here; and some even to Prince Arthur, eldest son of Henry VII. It is to one of these opinions that Roger Coke alludes, where, speaking of General Monk's design to restore Charles II. he says, in his quaint manner, "and the end for which a free parliament was to be called, was interpreted by hanging out the King's picture, which was no less gazed upon by the Londoners, than by the Welshmen at King Taffy's effigies at the Welsh Gate at Shrewsbury." But these embellishments will help us to discover, for whom the statue was really designed. This, it is conceived, we shall find in Richard Duke of York, the father of Edward IV. That celebrated chieftain of the white rose, was once the popular favourite and patron of Shrewsbury. The three roses issuing from one stem, probably denote his three sons, Edward, Earl of March, afterwards King; George, afterwards Duke of Clarence; and Richard, Duke of Gloucester. This device is found in the seals of the Duke, exactly as it was represented on the corbeil of the statue, and he was certainly the only Prince of his family who ever used it, which

circumstances alone amount to a proof that it was designed for him. The arms clearly ascertain, that the figure could not have been meant to represent Llewellyn, or David. Besides, had it been designed for either of those Princes, or for the Black Prince, it would have been clad in linked mail; the plated armour of this statue, was the invention of a later æra. On one side of the niche, was a shield with the arms of England and France quarterly, and on the other, those of the Corporation. Attached to each angle of the tower was a singularly elegant turret, the bases of which rested on the piers of the bridge. These were round, until they reached the lower parts of the parapet over the gate; they then spread into octagons, supported on corbels carved as cherubs, with a small pointed window in each compartment, and were finished with a machicolated or projecting battlement. The side of this gate which faced the town was not less beautiful, though in a style entirely different, having been perhaps one of the earliest attempts that had yet appeared in the kingdom, towards the revival of the architecture of Greece and Rome. The great opening was square, without an arch. Above was a lofty embattled tower, with its front adorned by two composite twisted columns, rudely designed, resting on scrolls, having a circular-headed niche between, and supporting a regular entablature, frieze, and cornice. On the left hand, on a mantle, was a shield with the arms of the Corporation, well carved, inclosed within fluted pilasters, and opposite, a patera charged with the cross of St. George. This front was erected in the year 1539; the other must have been earlier, for the styles were so perfectly dissimilar, that the whole edifice could not have been the production of the same period. The Welsh side was probably built by Edward IV. The style of architecture, the statue of his father, and the great affection that Prince had for the town, seem to point out this; and it is further confirmed by his device of the three roses, as that was the whole number

of the Duke's eight sons who were then living, Henry, William, John, and Thomas having died young, and Edmund Earl of Rutland having been slain at the battle of Wakefield. In the year 1791, under an unhappy prejudice that it endangered the safety of the bridge, this beautiful and curious gate, the chiefest architectural ornament the town possessed, was demolished by order of the Corporation, to the regret of every person of taste, and every lover of antiquities acquainted with the transaction. The statue and shields were spared, and placed in their present situations at the end of the Market-house. The destruction of the bridge itself soon followed.

During the mayoralty of John Bishop, Esq. 1790, the Corporation offered to sell to the public, their tolls of all marketable goods passing through the gates, for 6000*l.* which sum having been raised by a subscription, they were purchased, and immediately abolished. A further contribution was soon afterwards set on foot for rebuilding the Welsh bridge, which, although an interesting monument of antiquity, was always inconvenient, and was then become ruinous. Towards this good work, the Corporation gave 4000*l.* and the whole sum called for, amounting to about 8000*l.* was procured in a few months.

The first stone of the new bridge was laid in the spring of 1792, and it was finished in 1795. The design, which was given by Messrs. Tilly and Carline, stone-masons of the town, does them credit. It is a very convenient, substantial, and handsome edifice, consisting of five elegant arches, the length being 266 feet, the breadth 30, and the height 30. A quay faced with stone adjoins the extremity nearest to Mardol, accommodated with warehouses. It is however to be regretted, that the funds were not sufficient to enable the trustees to complete the approaches to the Welsh bridge; that especially on the Frankwell end, is still in a state of deformity and inconvenience, very unsuitable to so respectable a building.



The English or East Bridge, often also called the Stone Bridge, was probably built by the Abbots and Burgesses conjointly, but at what period is not known. After various litigations between the town and the Abbey, it was at last agreed, that the end nearest the Monastery should be repaired by the Monks, and that adjoining the town by the Burgesses. This old bridge, extended both over the main stream of the Severn and the arm, now filled up, which, crossing the present road from the eastern extremity of the new bridge, joined the brook of Meole, under the Abbey precinct. It was constructed on seventeen arches in the whole, in different styles, and of various dimensions. That part which stood over the principal course of the river, rested on six large arches, with a deep angular recess formed by the spandril of each. Within two arches of the eastern extremity, was a gate, and strong embattled tower, with its chamber and portcullis, and beyond it a draw-bridge. Over the arch of the gate, on the western side were the arms of the Earls of Shrewsbury, the crest of the Prince of Wales, and the arms of the Corporation. When the tower was taken down in the year 1765, it appeared to have been repaired with materials from the ruins of the neighbouring Abbey. On the back of a stone on which was emblazoned the arms of France and England, were three-tabernacled niches in high preservation, having a figure of the Virgin Mary in the centre, on one side St. John, and on the other a mitred Abbot giving the benediction.—The stone is now in the garden of a gentleman of the town.

As this bridge was not more than twelve feet wide, and was also encumbered with houses which stood upon nearly the whole of the northern parapet, it was an highly inconvenient, if not a dangerous passage: a subscription was therefore, in the year 1765, set on foot for widening it, according to a plan given by Mr. Mylne, the architect of Black friars bridge, and some progress was made in the work. But con-

tributions flowing in more freely than was expected, chiefly by the unwearied exertions of that active and liberal friend of every public improvement, the late Roger Kynaston, Esq. of Hardwick, it was determined to remove the ancient edifice entirely, and to erect a new bridge, which should be equal to the dignity of the county, and the noble river it was to adorn. The plan was the production of Mr. Gwyn, a native of Shrewsbury. The first stone was laid with much solemnity on the 25th of June, 1769, by Sir John Astley, Bart. who gave 1000*l.* towards the building. The whole expense amounted to upwards of 16,000*l.* Thus, while cities of the greatest commercial importance, have not been able to erect bridges, without the aid of tolls and forced contributions, the town of Shrewsbury may boast, that it has accommodated the public with two noble structures of this kind, at no great distance of time from each other, and the neighbouring country has been for ever freed from a vexatious tax, which acted as a check upon its trade, and was the constant source of animosity, at the expense, altogether, of full 30,000*l.* the whole of which was raised by a voluntary subscription of the inhabitants of the town and country:—a splendid but rare instance of provincial liberality!

This bridge, which extends 400 feet, is built of the beautiful stone of Grindshill quarry, on seven semi-circular arches, and crowned with a fine ballustrade. The central arch is 60 feet in width, and 40 in height, from the low-water mark; the two arches at the extremities being 35 feet wide and 20 high. The breadth between the ballustrade is 25 feet. The embellishments are light and graceful, and it perhaps is not too much to say, that its elevation claims a place among the most elegant modern structures in the kingdom. The best view of it, is from the approach on the Ludlow road. The whole edifice is there seen without obstruction, while a handsome, though somewhat irregular row of houses which covers the de-



clivity of St. Mary's Friars, with the bold summit of the Castle Mount, the remains of that ancient fortress, and the venerable structure of St. Mary's Church, appear finely elevated beyond, and form a picturesque, and almost unique back-ground to it. At the same time it cannot be denied, that too little attention has been shewn in the preservation of the ornaments, and to the neatness and embellishment of the appendages of this fine structure. The extremities are terminated and disgraced by mean brick walls. An offensive common sewer is suffered to remain, without an attempt at concealment, close under the beautiful architecture of one of the piers, and the adjoining banks are general receptacles of filth. The northern front is obscured and deformed by a water-wheel, and the unsightly wooden cases of its machinery, which entirely block up one of the principal arches. Were these excrescences removed, what a fine effect would be produced by this bridge from the high grounds around the Castle! It must be confessed, that this edifice, in point of usefulness, does not merit equal praise with that due to the uncommon beauty of its architecture. The great height of the centre arch, renders the ascent disagreeably steep, and the breadth is certainly inadequate to modern notions of convenience. The architect's meaning in giving so unusual a loftiness to the centre, was probably, to afford a freer passage to the prodigious floods that often inundate the country, and block up arches of common size. In the memorable flood of 1795, even this great arch was not more than capacious enough to receive the torrent that rushed against it.

#### HOSPITALS AND CHARITABLE FOUNDATIONS.

The piety of our ancestors not only shone forth in their magnificent foundations for divine worship, but also in their numerous hospitals and charitable institutions for the diseased and indigent. Hospitals were originally designed for the relief and entertainment of travellers on the road, and particularly pil-

grims, and therefore were generally built on the road-side; but in later ages they were always founded for fixed inhabitants, were incorporated by royal patents, and made capable of receiving gifts and grants of land. Besides the poor, there were usually in these endowments two or three religious; one to be Master or Prior, and one or two to be Chaplains and Confessors. These priests were generally Canons of the order of St. Augustine, the rule of which the poor also in some degree observed, in addition to their own local statutes. Among the various humane and charitable purposes to which such foundations were devoted, none were more common in early times, than Lazar-houses, Spitals, or Hospitals, for the maintenance of persons afflicted with leprosy, which being deemed infectious, the houses were always at the extremities of towns, and generally dedicated to St. Giles, as we find in London, Edinburgh, Oxford, Northampton, Cambridge, Hereford, Durham, &c. Anciently the maintenance of these wretched people arose from the liberty which was given them of begging corn on every market-day, with a dish called a *clap-dish*; whence our old proverb, *I know you as well as a beggar knows his dish*. Their horribly loathsome appearance, and the dread of infection, in process of time caused them to be confined to their hospitals; but they were still permitted to send the procurator or purveyor of their house, who, with his box, appeared at the doors of the churches and monasteries during divine service, to collect the alms of the congregation. Many of these houses were richly endowed with lands: the most opulent was the hospital of Burton-Lazars, in Leicestershire, which also had the pre-eminence of all the Lazar-houses in the kingdom. The hospital of St. Giles in the Abbey-foregate was of this kind, and existed as early as the reign of Henry II. who, if not the founder, was a benefactor to it. For the support of the lepers, that king granted to their hospital the toll of all corn and meal

sold in Shrewsbury market, and an annual pension of thirty shillings out of his rent of the county of Salop. A charter of King John confirms the donation of his father, and defines the toll which was allowed to the hospital to be a handful of both hands out of every sack of corn coming to market, but out of every strike of wheat a handful of only one hand. Henry III. in the 16th year of his reign, added the privilege of a horse load of dead and dry wood to be taken from his royal wood, of Lythwood, every day, by the hospital.

This ancient foundation still exists in some degree. The lepers are succeeded by four poor persons, who inhabit the same number of alms-houses, nearly adjoining the church of St. Giles, which was doubtless the chapel of the old hospital. They were re-built nearly a century ago. By what means the lands charged with their maintenance came into the family of Prince does not appear; but their connexion with it was as early as the beginning of the 17th century, when Walter Wrottesley, Esq. of Wrottesley, whose daughter married Sir Richard Prince, bequeaths 100l. thereunto, and the said Sir Richard Prince occurs as "Master of the hospital of St. Giles," in 1632, and the same office is now held by the Earl of Tankerville, probably as possessor of certain estates. His Lordship nominates the alms-people, to each of whom he pays 1s. 6d. per week, with a certain allowance of coals and an upper garment annually, the whole payment amounting to 19l. per annum. The original donation by Henry II. of thirty shillings per annum, is still paid by the sheriff of the county, and is allowed to him in his "cravings" at the exchequer.

#### ST. JOHN'S HOSPITAL.

The hospital of St. John the Baptist and St. George, stood at the extremity of the Welsh bridge, just without the gate leading to Frankwell suburb, in a place since called the *Stew*. Not a fragment remains to mark the spot where the house stood.

St. Chad's Alms-Houses were founded in 1409, on the south-side of the cemetery of St. Chad's church, for decayed old men and women, by Bennet Tupton, a public brewer. The following account of them is from Dr. Taylor's MSS. so often quoted:

"This yere 1409, one Bennett 'Tupton, beinge a common Beere Bruar, and dwellinge in St. Chadd's Churche Yarde in Shrousberie, now callid the Colledge, founded the Almeshouses in the sayde St. Chadd's Churche Yarde in Shrousberie, beinge then a Man at that tyme of 60 yeares of age."

The next mention of the founder of these poor alms-houses is curious, and affords a strong representation of the piety of the times, as well as a melancholy picture of the forlorn state of persons afflicted with leprosy, then one of the severest scourges of mankind, the effects of which neither opulence nor art could assuage, and which, like every grievous calamity of life, could receive effectual support only from religious confidence, and its consequent duties.

"1424. 'This Yere and in the seconde Yere of King Henry the 6th, one Bennet Tupton, Beere Bruar, dyed, who dwellyd in a brue howse in St. Chadd's Churche Yarde in Shrousberie, which afterwards was, and nowe of late days, ys callid the Colledge, and was buried in St. Chadd's Church; who laft behynd hym a daughter of his namy'd Blase 'Tupton, who cam by chance to be a Leeper, and made the Oryell which goythē alonge the west syde of the sayde Churche Yarde, and so cam a Loft to heare Servys through a Doore made in the Church Walle, and so passy'd usually uppon the Leades unto a glasse wyndowe through which she dayly sawe, and hard dayly Servys as longe as she lyvy'd."

The present allowance to the poor is not more than 16s. per annum, including two shillings and two-pence annually paid by the company of mercers.

These alms-houses were wretched hovels, and by their projection into the street, are great inconve-

nience to the public. The habitations were originally thirteen in number, but as there is no fund for keeping them in repair, some of them have fallen to decay.

St. Mary's Alms-Houses at the west end of the church-yard, were founded about 1460, by Degory Watur, draper, (son of John del Watur) who was buried in the chapel of the Holy Trinity, in St. Mary's church, 28th of July, 1477, and by his will gives twenty shillings apiece to the three convents of Friars, whom he calls the Preachers, Minors, and St. Austin's. Tradition relates that the founder, who must have been an aged man, as he was admitted to his burgesship in 1404, lived himself in the centre house, among the poor people, and it was his " custom to go wyth them dailye to our Lady's chirch, and to kneel wyth them in a long pew in the quire made for them and himself."

The following rules were agreed upon respecting these houses, 1587:

" The Wardens of St. Mary's parish to name four poor people upon every vacancy, and the Master of the Draper's Company, and the said Wardens, to chuse one of the four.

" Their age to be above 50.—To be single persons, except in the hall house, where there must always be a man and his wife, and at the death of one of them, the survivor to go into a common house, and another man and his wife to be chose for the hall.

" Each person admitted, to bring with them a winding sheet, with fourpence wrapt up in it to pay for their burial.

" Each of the fourteen houses to have nine load of wood yearly, the hall house twelve load, and a bushel of corn every month."

The poor people, who must be parishioners of St. Mary's, have each 2l. 6s. 10½d. allowed them annually, by quarterly payments, from the draper's company, and an upper garment once in two years.

The houses were sixteen in number, and, if possi-



ble, more wretched and filthy than those of St. Chad's.

Millington's Hospital, stands on an eminence at the extremity of Frankwell, or rather Frankville suburb, called Chapel Yard, probably the ancient site of a religious building denominated Cadogan's chapel, adjoining which was a stone cross.

The hospital was endowed by Mr. James Millington of Shrewsbury, draper, who in 1734 bequeathed nearly his whole fortune to it. After his decease, the landed estate was disputed in chancery, and went to the heirs at law, the personal property was assigned to the support of the charity. The trustees afterwards very advantageously purchased an estate at Llanfair Waterdine, in this county, the produce of which is now upwards of 600*l.* per annum.

This charitable institution consists of a schoolmaster and mistress, who have each a house and 30*l.* per annum, and the master an additional 10*l.* for keeping the accounts. A chaplain, whose duty it is to read prayers every day, with a stipend of 25*l.* per annum. Twelve poor men or women chosen from the single housekeepers of Frankwell, or the part of St. Chad's parish nearest it, to each of whom is allotted an apartment in the hospital, consisting of two comfortable rooms, a small garden, a gown or coat given on St. Thomas'-day, a load of coals on All-Saints-day, and an allowance of six pound per annum. Gowns or coats, and forty shillings each, are also dispensed every year to ten poor single housekeepers resident in Frankwell, and when a vacancy happens in the hospital, the person who has longest received the garments, is of course elected to it. The hospitalers and out-pensioners have also two two-penny loaves weekly. Twenty poor boys, and as many girls, born in Frankwell, are completely clothed twice annually, and receive their education in the hospital. When arrived at the age of fourteen, the boys are apprenticed; seven pound ten shillings is given with each, and two pound ten shillings is laid out in

clothing: a gratuity of five pound is presented besides as a reward to those, who, at the expiration of the first year's apprenticeship, can bring certificates of their good behaviour. The girls are allowed five pound on going out apprentices.

Two exhibitions of forty pound a year each, are founded for students of St. Mary Magdalen's college, Cambridge. Those who have been originally scholars on the hospital foundation, claim the preference, or one born in Frankwell, and educated at the Free Grammar School, is most eligible.

The hospital is a respectable brick building. Over the pediment in the centre is a turret, in which is a clock. In this part is the chapel, used also as a school-room, and houses of the master and mistress. The rest is taken up with the apartments of the poor people.

The Salop Infirmary is in St. Mary's church-yard, and was originally intended for a mansion-house by Corbet Kynaston, Esq. who erected it on the town-wall, of which he had obtained a grant from the corporation; it was formed in 1745, though a period of great public difficulty and danger, and opened on the 25th of April, 1747, having the honor of being one of the earliest institutions of its kind in the kingdom. The first treasurer, William Tayleur, Esq. assisted by a committee, drew up those rules under which, after some alterations rendered necessary, as change of circumstances took place, it has now eminently flourished nearly 80 years with increasing utility.

This Infirmary is maintained, like most others in the country, by voluntary subscriptions and benefactions.

A treasurer is annually chosen from among the subscribers of five guineas and upwards; and the ordinary concerns of the house are regulated by twelve directors, who generally consist of the trustees resident within the town, six of whom go out of office in rotation half-yearly. The domestic eco-



nomy is regulated by a matron, who has a salary of twenty pound, for whom and the house surgeon a table is kept. The secretary, whose office it is to manage, under the inspection of the board of directors and deputy treasurer, the pecuniary concerns of the institution, receives a salary of thirty guineas per annum. Besides the physicians and surgeons of the town, who afford their gratuitous assistance in rotation, a surgeon, retained at a handsome salary, makes a part of the establishment, and resides in the house, that medical aid may be wanting on no emergency. The clergy of the established church resident in the town, officiate by turns, as chaplains: and some useful religious tract is given to every patient capable of making use of it, at his entrance into, and dismissal from, the house. The Friday of the race week is always the anniversary of the institution, when the contributors attend the treasurer to church, where, after the sermon, a collection is made, on which occasion the plates are held by two ladies and two gentlemen of distinguished rank or fortune.

This asylum of indigence and disease is a plain respectable building of brick, with a handsome portal of stone. Two wings were added in 1789. The windows towards the country command a prospect of great beauty. The walls of the board-room are covered with tables of occasional benefactions, to which this charitable foundation has been indebted for no small proportion of its support: and its cornice is decorated with a series of the armorial bearings of the annual treasurers.

House of Industry plans for employing and maintaining the poor in a general work-house were adopted as early as the reign of James I. An order of the corporation appears in the year 1604, for "raising a sum of money for settinge the poor to worke;" and the castle, then probably very ruinous, was ordered to be repaired and fitted up for the purpose. This institution either not answering, or that ancient structure having been wanted for other uses, the

Jersey-house, at the bottom of Barker's Street, afterwards St. Chad's work-house was appointed for a general work-house in the year 1628, and we find various corporation orders relating thereto, during a great part of Charles I.'s reign. Our records from that time are silent on the subject; it is therefore probable that the scheme was abandoned, and that the management of the poor reverted to the usual channel of parochial officers, till the establishment of the House of Industry.

A house for the reception of orphans from the Foundling Hospital in London, was first opened in the street called Dog Lane, as early as the year 1759. The ardour with which that institution was supported, induced the governors to enlarge their colony at Shrewsbury, and for this purpose the building, now the House of Industry, was erected at their sole charge. It was begun in 1760, and finished in about five years, at an expense of more than 12,000*l*. Thomas Coram, the benevolent patron and contriver of the Foundling Charity, was born at Lyme, Dorset, about the year 1668. Having an early attachment to a maritime life, he became master of a trading vessel to America, and in the course of his occupation, occasionally took up his residence in the eastern part of London, where he had many opportunities of witnessing scenes of distress; but none which affected him more forcibly, than the lamentable situation of exposed and deserted young children. His zeal for the public welfare, and the shocking spectacles he had too often witnessed, induced him to form a plan, one of the most compassionate that human nature ever witnessed; the erecting of an asylum for the succour and education of the neglected innocents, known by the name of the Foundling Hospital. To accomplish this purpose, he had to obtain the patronage of the great, and the assistance of the powerful; he had also to combat that greatest of all difficulties, popular prejudice.

After the foundling was established in London,

children were sent down from London in great numbers, during their earliest infancy, and put out to nurse with the neighbouring cottagers, under the inspection of the gentlemen in the vicinity. At a proper age they were brought into the house, where they were employed in the branches of a woollen manufactory, and afterwards placed out apprentices. At one time there were more than 400 orphans in the hospital, under the care of a governor, matron, chaplain, schoolmaster and mistress.

The history of two of these girls is so singular and romantic; that the reader will pardon the introduction of it at some length in this place, which shall be done chiefly in the words of Mr. Keir, the biographer of the benevolent but eccentric Mr. Day, and of Miss Seward, in her life of Mr. Darwin. "A youthful and active mind," says Mr. Keir, "inflamed with the enthusiasm of virtue, but undirected by the wisdom which experience alone can give, could not avoid falling into some of those delusions which have been created by heated imaginations, or by the sophistry of hypocrites. It is no wonder then, that at this period he was led, like many others, by the seductive eloquence of Rousseau, into worlds of fancy respecting education. According to the notions of this celebrated writer, society is an unnatural state in which all the genuine worth of the human species is perverted; and he therefore recommends, that children should be educated apart from the world, in order that their minds should be kept untainted with, and ignorant of its vices, prejudices, and artificial manners. Nothing surely can be more absurd than the principle of this plan of education, or more impracticable in execution. Nevertheless, Rousseau has thrown over his opinions on this subject a speciousness which unguarded minds may easily take for the light of truth; whereas it is but an *ignis fatuus* of the fancy, fanned by the breath of an eloquence peculiarly persuasive. These notions sunk deep into Mr. Day's young and sensible mind, a soil where no seed

fell unproductive; and began to expand into schemes, which on account of the impracticability of their execution, were the subject of his own pleasantry in his maturer age. The most singular of these projects was an experiment on female education, in which he proposed to unite the purity of female virtue with the fortitude and hardiness of a Spartan virgin, and with a simplicity of taste that should despise the frivolous vanities, the effeminate manners, and the dissipated pleasures, which, according to Rousseau's declamation, constitute the characters of the present age. There was no finding such a creature ready made; philosophical romance could not hope it. He must mould some infant into the being his fancy had imagined. With this view Mr. Day, attended by his friend Mr. Bicknel, a barrister, journeyed to Shrewsbury to explore the Foundling Hospital. From the little train, Mr. Day, in the presence of Mr. Bicknel, selected two girls of twelve years of age each; both beautiful; one with flaxen locks, and light eyes; her he called Lucretia. The other, a clear auburn brunette, with darker eyes, more glowing bloom, and chesnut tresses, he called Sabrina. These girls were obtained on written conditions, for the performance of which Mr. Bicknel was guarantee. They were to this effect; that Mr. Day should, within the twelvemonth after taking them, resign one into the protection of some respectable tradeswoman, giving one hundred pounds to bind her apprentice; maintaining her, if she behaved well, till she married, or began business for herself. Upon either of these events he promised to advance four hundred pounds more. He avowed his intention of educating the girl he should retain, with a view to make her his future wife;—solemnly engaged never to violate her innocence; and if he should renounce his plan, to maintain her decently in some creditable family, till she married, when he promised five hundred pounds as her wedding portion.

Mr. Day went instantly into France with these

girls; not taking an English servant, that they might receive no ideas, except those which himself might choose to impart.

They teized and perplexed him; they quarrelled; they sickened of the small-pox; they chained him to their bedside, by crying if they were ever left alone with any person who could not speak English. He was obliged to sit up with them many nights; to perform for them the lowest offices of assistance.

They lost no beauty by their disease. Soon after they had recovered, crossing the Rhone with his wards in a tempestuous day, the boat overset. Being an excellent swimmer, he saved them both, though with difficulty and danger to himself.

Mr. Day came back to England in eight months. Sabrina was become the favourite. He placed Lucretia with a chamber milliner. She behaved well, and became the wife of a respectable linen-draper in London. With Sabrina he actually proceeded during some years in the execution of his favourite project. The experience which had at first been wanting to him, at length gave him convincing proofs of the impracticability of this mode of education, while his acquired knowledge of mankind suggested doubts of its expediency, and after a series of fruitless trials, Mr. Day renounced all hope of moulding Sabrina into the being his imagination had formed. Finding himself obliged to relinquish his project of forming Rousseau's children of nature in the centre of England, he nevertheless continued these children under his protection and maintenance; ceasing to behold Sabrina as his wife, he placed her at a boarding-school at Sutton Coldfield, in Warwickshire. She remained at school three years; gained the esteem of her instructress, grew feminine, elegant, and amiable. When Sabrina left school, Mr. Day allowed her fifty pounds annually. She boarded some years near Birmingham, and afterwards at Newport, in Shropshire. Wherever she resided, wherever she paid visits, she secured to her-



self friends. Beautiful and admired, she passed the dangerous interval between sixteen and twenty-five, without one reflection upon her conduct,—one stain upon her discretion.

Mr. Day corresponded with her parentally, but seldom saw her, and never without witnesses. In her twenty-sixth year she married Mr. Bicknel, the same gentleman who had accompanied him to Shrewsbury.

But to return to the House of Industry. About the year 1774, the managers of the Foundling Hospital in London, finding even their large revenues inadequate to the extensive plan of branching out the charity into various counties, ceased to send children to the provincial hospitals, and the Shrewsbury house was consequently shut up, and remained so during some years. Afterwards, having been partly used by Messrs. Baker as a woollen manufactory, it was taken by government, who, in the American contest, converted it into a place of confinement for prisoners of war, chiefly Dutch.

The rapid increase of the parochial rates of Shrewsbury, which then threatened a still heavier pressure, impelled the inhabitants to endeavour at least to check the progress of so great an evil, by a new mode of maintaining their poor, and for this purpose, in the year 1784, they obtained an act of parliament to incorporate the five parishes of the town, and Meole-Brace, as far as concerned the poor, and to establish a general House of Industry. The late Orphan Hospital immediately presented itself, as the most eligible situation that could possibly be fixed upon; it was ready built to their hands; the governors of the Foundling charity were anxious to get rid of it at a price much below its value, and it required no considerable sum to repair the injuries it had sustained while a prison. The house and other buildings, with twenty acres of good land, were purchased for 5500*l.* and about 770*l.* was expended in repairing and fitting it up for the pur-

poses of its new destination. In December, 1784, the house was opened for the reception of the poor, who having been accustomed to a maintenance from regular or occasional weekly pay, at first evinced great reluctance in accepting the mode of relief prepared for them; but on experiencing the plenty and comfort of the new institution, the mildness of its regulations, and the benevolent attentions of the directors, their prejudices gradually subsided, and they in a great degree became reconciled to it.

The first set of directors chosen for carrying the act of parliament into execution were, John Oliver, Esq. William Smith, Esq. Thomas Lloyd Anwyl, Esq. John Maddock, Esq. Robert Jeffreys, Esq. John Bather, Esq. Mr. Joseph Gittins, Mr. John Lloyd, Mr. Charles Bage, Mr. John Jones, Mr. Thomas Hotchkiss, Mr. George Lloyd. To the indefatigable exertions and unwearied perseverance of these, and of the gentlemen who immediately succeeded them, the inhabitants of Shrewsbury are chiefly indebted for those excellent regulations and judicious laws which have rendered their House of Industry, a model to almost all succeeding institutions of the kind throughout the kingdom.

Such of the inhabitants of the six united parishes as are rated and assessed, and possessed of property to the amount of thirty pounds per annum, or are rated at fifteen pounds, are by the act incorporated as guardians of the poor: from these are chosen twelve directors, four of whom go out of office every year, and four more are elected in their stead; by which provision there always remain eight persons in the direction who have had some experience in its duties, and thus every director serves three years. To the board of directors the management of the whole concerns of the poor is entrusted. They meet at the house in a handsome room appropriated to their use twice in the week: on Mondays, to receive the various applications of the poor, and on Thursdays, to audit the accounts, and regulate the internal



economy of the family. The chaplain, steward, a clerk, and the matron, are appointments to which salaries are annexed.

The proportion of money paid by the parishes is fixed and ascertained according to the average expenditure of each for twelve years prior to the passing of the act, and which amounted in the whole to 2761l. 16s. 8½d. per annum, viz.

	£	s.	d.
St. Chad - - - -	1276	15	11½
St. Mary - - - -	479	18	5½
St. Julian - - - -	314	3	8
St. Alkmund - - - -	271	0	6½
The Holy Cross and St. Giles,	303	12	0½
Mccole-Brace - - - -	116	5	11½

The average number of poor in the house, including children, is about 275. Their employment consists principally in preparing their own clothing, which they do from the raw material to its finished state. Work-rooms are also set apart for shoemakers, tailors, &c. where the paupers, who have been brought up in these occupations are employed, and where some of the boys are taught to work. The girls are by rotation employed in the kitchen, and instructed, as much as possible, in washing, cooking, and such other work, as may best qualify them for service. To encourage the exertions of the poor, an allowance is made them of a sixth-part of their earnings, as a gratuity. The utmost cleanliness is constantly preserved. All the paupers breakfast, dine, and sup in the dining-hall, a long room 115 feet by 20. They are classed at separate tables,—the men, the women, the boys, and girls, have their respective stations. The quantity allowed for breakfast, is a pint either of broth or milk-porridge to each adult; and to the children in proportion. For dinner, the grown-up persons have six ounces of solid meat after boiling, a trencher full of potatoes or greens, and a pint of beer. Working children have each three ounces of solid meat, with roots or greens.

The children drink water. At supper, the adults are allowed a pint of broth or soup, and six ounces of bread; and the children in proportion. The other suppers consist of a trencher full of potatoes mashed with milk, and a pint of beer. The steward and matron attend at the meals, to see that the meat is properly distributed.

Parallel with the hall is a plain decent chapel, in which divine service is performed twice every Sunday, and the children are at other times instructed by the chaplain in the principles of religion. Prayers are also read to the whole family every morning and evening.

At a little distance from the house is an Infirmary, where the sick and infirm are lodged in proper wards under the care of nurses, and attended by the apothecary of the house.

The principal advantage obtained from this institution, is the check which has been given to the great frauds and abuses that prevailed in the old system of parochial expenditure by an indiscriminate allowance of weekly pay. Here the aged pauper who is destitute of a home, or of a friend or relative to assist him when helpless and infirm, finds an asylum where his wants are supplied,—and those who are incapable of providing for themselves, from natural weakness of intellect or long habits of debauchery, are maintained, and by the mild discipline of the house, at once restrained from further irregularities, and in some degree rendered useful and industrious.

A rigorous adherence to the principle of withholding every kind of relief except that offered by the house, is by no means observed; those poor who labour under temporary distress or disability, are liberally assisted and relieved in their own houses; and even regular pay is granted in some cases, where great age or infirmity can meet with the constant attention of a child or other near connexion at home. The out-pay allowed by the directors from Aug. 1799, to May 1800, was 412*l.* 10*s.* 3*d.* from

Aug. 1800, to May 1801, it amounted to 851l. 9s. 9d. The former was a period of plenty,—in the latter, provisions were excessively dear. The difference is 438l. 19s. 6d. which shews at once the liberality of the directors, and a proper discrimination in the distribution of their assistance.

A considerable advantage is also derived from the improved management of children. Infants thrown on the parish from their birth are put out to nurse, where they remain till they are of age sufficient to be admitted into the house. The nurses are occasionally required to bring them before the directors, that they may observe what care is taken of them, and that the children may be identified, and those frauds guarded against which have not unfrequently been practised. When taken into the family, the children are placed under the care of the house-nurses, the boys in one nursery, and the girls in another. As soon as they are capable, they every morning and afternoon attend the school-room, where they are taught to read—Many attempts have been made at employing the children and some of the adults in a woollen manufactory, conducted by servants under the inspection of the directors, and although the project was so far crowned with success, that cloths of a good quality and in considerable abundance were produced by their labours, it turned out a very losing concern to the real interests of the institution, from the unavoidable ignorance of the directors in the various branches of a complicated machinery, and the consequent necessity of delegating its entire management to inferior agents. At present, the children are furnished with knitting, or other employments which may easily be superintended and controuled, merely to prevent habits of idleness. As soon as their ages will admit, they are put out parish apprentices.

The House of Industry is a spacious and handsome structure of brick, and stands on an eminence as salubrious as it is beautiful. The north front

commands a noble reach of the Severn, which flows immediately beneath it; beyond is the town, skirted with gentlemen's houses partly hid by the foliage of the Quarry, over which the towers of the castle and the church steeples appear.

“Bosom'd high in tufted trees.”

On the right, the suburb of Abbey Foregate stretches far with its two venerable churches, backed by Haghmond-hill, the Wrekin, and other more distant mountainous tracts. From the other front is seen almost the whole range of Shropshire, Montgomeryshire, and Denbighshire mountains, connected by a great expanse of fertile plain country.

The earliest seminary in this town, of which any record remains, was in the ancient Saxon College or Monastery of St. Peter, in which, as hath been observed, one of the best of our very early English historians, Ordericus Vitalis, received his education. He was the son of Odelirius, a Priest of Attingham (Atcham), where he was born in 1074. At five years old he was sent to the seminary in the church of St. Peter, at Scrobberig, to which his father was a large benefactor. Here he remained until he attained his tenth year, when he was placed in the Benedictine Abbey of Uticum, in Normandy, in which at eleven, he received the tonsure of the order, and was then called Vitalis, because this his first acceptance of the rule of St. Benedict happened on that saint's day. He appears to have been a person of curious and various research. His great work, which is entitled an Ecclesiastical History, is in effect an history of his own times. A fragment of it was published by Camden, in the collection of English historians sent to the press by him from Frankfort, in 1603. That learned editor calls it the Caen Fragment, and supposed it to have been written by William de Poitou, Archdeacon of Lesieux. The whole work was printed by Du Chesne, in his grand and accurate edition of Norman writers.

From the conquest until the dissolution, the Benedictine abbey, aided by the other ecclesiastical foundations, doubtless, afforded opportunities for such education as the kingdom then possessed.\* So ex-

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\* There were very few schools before the reformation, youth were generally taught Latin in the monasteries, especially the Dominicans, Franciscans, or Augustine Friaries, in which they officiated as choristers, and where, (as Erasmus says) "they had not above a month's time allowed them for learning grammar; and then were posted away immediately to sophistry, logic, suppositions, amplifications, restrictions, expositions, resolutions, and a thousand other quibbles, and so on to the mysteries of divinity. But if they were brought to any classic author, Greek or Latin, they were blind, they were ignorant, they thought themselves in another world. Yet the age began to grow wiser, and to be versed in grammar was thought a matter of greater importance by all who were well-wishers to real learning." Many young men of rank were brought up in the families of the great ecclesiastics, in which they were employed as pages. Young women had their education in the nunneries, where they learned reading, writing, needle-work, confectionary, and even surgery and physic, apothecaries being at that time very rare.—*Antiq. Repert.* We read in an old French book (*Le Grant voyage de Jherusalem*, printed at Paris, 1517,) that Dame Bertha, mother of the Emperor Charlemagne, taught her daughters spinning, embroidery, and other arts, to employ them, that they might not be idle, "that idleness might not be the cause of sin," says the old writer. The first great school founded in England, was the celebrated college of Bishop William of Wykeham, at Winchester, in 1382. It is said that the munificent prelate was induced to this pious act to remedy the evils then felt in the nation for want of an educated clergy, for the great plague which a little before raged throughout the kingdom swept away nearly one half of the people, and nine parts out of ten of the clergy. Colleges and schools were shut up,—abbeys, priories, and churches, for the most part deserted, and left without divine service; so that out of mere necessity, great

tremely rapacious were the agents of Henry VIII. at the suppression of the monastic and collegiate foundations, and above all, the ministers of Edward VI., that scarce a pittance was left to the parochial ministers of many churches which had been collegiate, or impropriations in abbeys, for the regular performance of divine worship, much less for the support of literature. This important object, however, soon after became a measure of general policy. By letters patent, bearing date the 20th day of June, in the second year of his reign, Edward VI. constituted and assigned Sir Walter Myldmaye, Knt. and Robert Kelway, Esq. his commissioners "to take diverse orders for the maintenance and continuance of scollers, priests, and curates, of necessitie for the service of cures and ministration of the sacraments, and for manie and other thyngs to be continued to be paide to the poore, and for diverse other thyngs to be appointed." Under the authority of this commission, the regulation of schools was comprised; for the commissioners, by virtue of these letters patent, did, on the 20th of July following, proceed to assign and appoint that a grammar school, which had long been kept at Wellington in this county, should be there continued, and that the master

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numbers of illiterate laymen, who had lost their wives in the plague, though they could hardly read, much less understand the scriptures, were admitted into holy orders. This noble impulse of christian charity in the founding of schools, was one of the providential means of bringing about the reformation. And it is therefore observable, that within thirty years before it, there were more grammar schools erected and endowed in England than had been in three hundred years preceding. After the reformation was established, the piety and charity of Protestants ran so fast in the channel of founding schools, that in the next age there wanted rather a regulation of grammar schools than an increase of them.—*Knight*, p. 100.



should have an annual fee of 4l. 17s. 6d. as had of old been used, which should be paid by the receiver of the court of augmentation.

Encouraged by this change in affairs, the total want of some public institution for the education of youth in this town was represented to the King, in 1551, by Hugh Edwards, mercer, in London, afterwards of the college in Shrewsbury, and Richard Whitacre, then bailiff of the town, and a considerable portion of the estates of the two dissolved collegiate churches of St. Mary and of St. Chad were solicited for the maintenance of a Free Grammar School. The King readily acceded to their suit, and the tithes of Astley, Sansaw, Clive, Leaton, and Almond Park, (anciently *Aldmere*), the property of St. Mary's, together with those of Frankwell, Betton, Woodcot, Horton, Bicton, Calcot, Shelton, Whitley, and Welbach, prebends once belonging to St. Chad's church, the whole then valued at 20l. per annum, were given for the endowment of a school, with the title of the Royal Free Grammar School of King Edward VI. Two schoolmasters were appointed, and the Bishop of Lichfield, with the bailiffs and burgesses, were nominated governors. Queen Elizabeth greatly augmented her brother's donation, by giving the whole rectory of Chirbury, which had formed part of the revenues of the priory of that place, the advowson of the church, with the tithes of Albrington, and certain estates at Shelton, Astley, and Sansaw, prebends in St. Mary's. Even the profits of the Easter-book, and the small tithes of that parish, made parts of this gift. These different estates now produce a very considerable income.

The second liberal donation was made by Queen Elizabeth at the instance of the excellent Thomas Ashton, who was at the whole expense and labour of laying the affair before her majesty, and obtaining her letters patent. Mr. Ashton had been a fellow of St. John's college, Cambridge: he was probably descended from the ancient family of that name in

Lancashire, and might have been fixed upon as schoolmaster here by its patron Whitacre, who it may be conjectured was of the same county. Under Ashton the school flourished eminently,—we are told that he had 290 scholars, a number which the great foundations of Westminster, Eton, and Winchester, rarely exceed. Besides the children of the gentry of this county and North-Wales, many of the first people of the kingdom sent their sons here. “They are the best filled,” says Camden, “in all England, beinge indebted for their flourishinge state to provision made by the excellent and worthie Thomas Ashton.” Among his scholars we find the sons of Edwyn Sandys, Archbishop of York, Sir Henry Sydney, lord deputy of Ireland and president of the Welsh Marshes, whose son, the heroic Sir Philip Sydney, laid here the seeds of that exemplary friendship which he maintained through the whole of his short but splendid career, with the celebrated Sir Fulk Greville, Lord Brook, who was entered at these schools the same day. For the improvement of his scholars, many of whom were destined to act a conspicuous part on the theatre of the world, Mr. Ashton instituted occasional dramatic representations.

This noble foundation having been, from a variety of causes, in a declining state, which was attributed in part to defects in certain of the ancient rules and ordinances, a bill was brought into parliament and received the royal ascent in 1798, “for the better government and regulation of the Free Grammar School, of King Edward VI.” By this act, the management of the revenues, and the removal or discharge of the school-masters who are reduced from four to two, is vested in the Bishop of Lichfield and Coventry, as visitor, and thirteen trustees or governors, of whom the mayor for the time being is one. The appointment of masters rests solely in St. John’s college, Cambridge.

The school is a large and lofty structure of freestone, surrounding two sides of a court, with a square

pinnacled tower in the angle. The first school-room was of timber, and the present chapel, tower, and library, were added to it in the year 1595. The chapel was consecrated in 1617, by John Overal, D. D. Bishop of Lichfield, and the sermon preached by Dr. Sampson Price, who, for his hatred of popery, was called "the maule and scourge of Hereticks." He was son of Thomas Price, M. A. Minister of St. Chad's. The wooden building which contained the original school-room was taken down, and the present stately edifice of Grindshill stone arose in its place, and was finished in 1630. In the centre of this part is a gateway, adorned on each side with a Corinthian column very rudely designed, upon which stand the statues of a scholar and a graduate, bare headed, and in the dress of the times. Over the arch is a Greek sentence from Isocrates,

Ἐὰν ᾗς φιλομαθὴς ἔσῃ πολυμαθής.

Importing that a love of literature is necessary to the formation of a scholar. Above are the arms of Charles the First. The south end is terminated by a large window with a pointed arch and mullioned tracery, in the pure pointed style of the fourteenth century. The other windows are all of the square form introduced in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, or perhaps earlier. The parapet is singular, and probably a clumsy imitation of that beautiful kind of battlement consisting of a series of curled leaves and pinnacles often found in our finest pointed architecture, especially on stalls, screens, and canopies of monuments. This structure is a fine specimen of the fashionable mode of building in the 16th and 17th centuries, and probably was one of the latest erected in that mixed style, if it deserves the name of one, "wherein the Grecian and pointed, however discordant and irreconcilable, are jumbled together, and compose a fantastic species hardly reconcilable to any class or name." The ground floor, on one side the gateway, contains a room originally used as the accidence

school; and on the other, the third master's house, now given to the head-master, who places his assistant in it. In the middle story are comprised the lodging-rooms of the assistant's house, and the lower master's apartment, which has been for many years converted into a writing school. The principal school-room, which occupies the upper story, is 80 feet by 21. It was originally divided into three rooms, by partitions adorned with carved work, in which were folding doors. These are now removed, but the arches remain. Over the entrance to this spacious room was once perhaps a music gallery, as was customary in ancient days. This is rendered probable by an order of the corporation in 1651, which directs "that a musicke master be appointed to maintaine a musical exercise in the free schole."

The practice of musick was certainly much more generally cultivated in England in early times than at present:—and this even among the common people. Thus in Chaucer, the parish clerk Absalom, serenades his mistress with his *citterne*.

The chapel is on the ground floor of the other part of the building, and is divided from the anti-chapel by a handsome open screen of oak, very richly embellished with the grotesque carving of Queen Elizabeth's days, as are the pulpit and bible-stand. The ceiling was in 1798 adorned with embossed fret-work, consisting of a variety of foliage, devices, and rebusses, preserved from the ruins of St. Alkmund's church. The arms of the founders, and of the first and present masters, are placed along the middle, which altogether have a good effect. The dimensions are 63 feet by 22. Prayers are read here twice on school days by the head-master, who is chaplain and catechist, for which he has a distinct salary of 20l. a year. The first mention of this office in the year 1603, when the corporation order, "that 6l. 13s. 4d. be given out of the revenues of the schoole to a minister to read prayers and catechise the scholars in the schollars chapel." This office seems after-

wards to have been united to the preachership of Chirbury, for in the 13th of James I. it is ordered that "20l. be given annually to a person to take the place of catechiser of the scholars and to preach at Chirbury."

Over the chapel, and of the same size, is the library, which, from its early erection, was probably intended as a public recompense for the loss of the various ecclesiastical libraries in the convents and colleges of the county. This venerable room now contains a most valuable collection of books, and in size and decoration is in no respect inferior to the greater number of those in the Universities. The ceiling is adorned in a manner similar to that of the chapel, and with the arms of the founders, visitors, and the thirteen first trustees. The two principal windows were at the same time embellished with stained glass. That towards the north contains the arms of Edward VI. Queen Elizabeth, St. John's college, Cambridge, the See of Lichfield and Coventry impaling those of Cornwallis, and this town:—in the opposite window are those of the four principal benefactors, with Latin inscriptions, Englished thus:

- "At the supplication of Henry Edwards and Richard Whitaker, King Edward VI. laid the foundation of Shrewsbury school."
- "Queen Elizabeth augmented this foundation at the instance of Thomas Ashton, a man pious, learned, and prudent,—within these walls ever to be revered."
- "The library was increased more than double by the testamentary bequest of John Taylor, LL. D."

In front of the Schools on the town side, is a play-ground, inclosed from the street by iron railing. A grant of this was made by the corporation in 1630, and is described to be "so much of the streete called highe pavemente, over against the newe schole-house, lyinge to a house of Sir Andrew Corbet, Knight, towards a house of Richard Breese,"



&c. A lofty stone wall was erected round the playground, and two handsome gateways, one of which remains at the bottom of the School-Lane; the other, which was similar, stood opposite to the portal of the schools, where the iron gates now stand. This wall was unfortunately demolished about the year 1790, under an idea of improving the prospect of the school buildings from the town, and iron railing substituted; but the privacy of the playground, and its almost entire seclusion from the street, have thus been destroyed, and the venerable character of the structure itself injured. A considerable piece of land is also allotted for a playground at the back of the schools, open to the country, and entirely shut out from the town.

Two large houses most delightfully situated, contiguous to the schools, belong to the masters, with every accommodation for the reception of boarders.

Upon the whole it may truly be said, whether we consider the handsome appearance of the edifice, the internal decorations of the school-room, library, and chapel; the noble collection of printed books and MSS. the excellent houses of the masters, the salubrity and beauty of the situation, or its numerous exhibitions and ample revenues, to which may be added, without suspicion of flattery, the distinguished learning and talents of the masters,—few seminaries can, in these respects, boast a superiority over the *Free Grammar School of King Edward the Sixth, in Shrewsbury*.

Many persons of eminence received their education in this school. Beside Sir Philip Sydney and Lord Brook, some celebrated heads of the law, and of the church, of the former, was the Lord Chancellor Jefferies.

A Court of Conscience for the recovery of small debts was granted to this town and liberty, by Queen Elizabeth; and in 1783, an act of parliament was passed for establishing a Court of Requests for the



recovery of debts in a summary way, not amounting to forty shillings, and exceeding two shillings.

The market-house is exceedingly spacious, and magnificently built in 1595. The market is extremely well supplied; and here is a fish-market in a narrow lane, called Fish Street.

The public halls do great credit to this ancient town. The theatre, according to Philips, is part of the ancient palace of the Princes of Powisland, and the council house has frequently been the Court of the Lords Presidents of Wales, during their visits to Shrewsbury. The White Hall, a *red* stone-house and the bell stone-house, are ancient and curious structures. The old timber and half timber buildings are still pretty numerous in Shrewsbury; but the depot erected by Government in 1806, does credit to the skill of the late Mr. Wyatt, who was employed as the architect. Besides magazines, offices, houses, &c. here is room for 25,000 stand of arms. The Free and Charity Schools in Shrewsbury are laudable Institutions.

*The New County Gaol.* This structure superseded the old one, and was completed in 1793, after the plan of Mr. Howard. It is entirely separated from the town; and a little detached from the castle, is a brick building, spacious, airy, and well supplied with water. Over the arch of the gate is a fine bust of Howard, by Bacon. The internal regulations of this prison, correspond with the neatness of its exterior. All prisoners are classed according to the nature and measure of their crimes, and males and females kept separate. Here are no dark and dreary dungeons—no damp and noxious cells.—Clothes and implements of labour are given to those who, on quitting the prison, are found worthy to receive a written certificate of their industry, penitence, and good behaviour. Bibles, prayer-books, and other religious works, are put into their hands; and every possible exertion is made to reclaim the wanderer and relieve the wretched.

The House of Correction or County Bridewell, is within the new prison, and partook of the benefits of its government and regulations, till the prisoners of the town gaol were incorporated with those of the county.

Even the great private manufactories in Shrewsbury, partake of the same moral government that pervades the public institutions.

We particularly allude to what has been called "The Coleham Cotton Manufactory," established during the late war, by Messrs. Hulbert. The premises known by the name of the Coleham Cotton Manufactory, were originally intended for an extensive woollen concern; but that failing, after remaining long unoccupied, they were disposed of and fitted up as desired. Houses being very scarce in Shrewsbury, the lower parts of the building were afterwards converted into very neat and comfortable cottages. There is an excellent house and shop adjoining. Mr. C. Hulbert, also built himself a very neat dwelling-house, after the model of a castle. Still room enough was left upon the ground for employing 200 work people, should trade ever require them.

Dr. John Thomas, Bishop of Salisbury, was a native of Shrewsbury. Of this prelate some curious particulars are recorded by Bishop Newton. "There were" said he, "at that period, two Dr. Thomas's who were not easily distinguished: for somebody was speaking of Dr. Thomas, when it was asked, which Dr. Thomas do you mean? Dr. John Thomas. They are both named John. Dr. Thomas, who has a living in this city. They have both livings in the city. Dr. Thomas, who is Chaplain to the King. They are both Chaplains to the King. Dr. Thomas, who is a very good preacher.—They are both very good preachers. Dr. Thomas who squints.—They both squint. They were afterwards both Bishops." Dr. Thomas was Chaplain of the English factory at Hamburgh, and was accustomed to go from thence

to wait upon George II. at Hanover, on that King's frequent visits to his electoral dominions. After some time, the King asked him whether, if he could obtain some preferment from the crown, he would not gladly leave Hamburgh to settle in England? He replied, that his Majesty's father had made him the like gracious offer, and he had declined it, because there were many eminent merchants with whom he lived much at his ease, and who were very kind and liberal to him: but now the case was altered, a new race was springing up, and he should think himself very happy under his Majesty's patronage and protection. He was desired to mention the preferment that would be most agreeable to him, and he pointed out one of the royal prebends. His Majesty intimated that it was not in his power to "get him any such thing, because his ministers laid their hands upon them all as necessary for his service," but he proposed to make him his Chaplain, and to give him a living, and promised the next time he came to Hanover, to take him over as his Chaplain; "and then," said the King, "if a Deanery or Prebend should fall, you will have a good chance of it."—Dr. Thomas, agreeably to this plan, returned to England, had the living of St. Vedast, Foster-lane, was appointed one of the King's Chaplains, and in the spring ensuing, when the King was making preparations for Hanover, he sent word privately to the Doctor to prepare himself, and to have every thing in readiness to put on board by a particular day. The minister having been informed of the King's order, assured Dr. Thomas that he could not go, as another person had been fixed upon for that appointment long before. Dr. Thomas answered, that he had received his Majesty's express command, and should certainly obey it: he accordingly attended the King, and not the clergyman who had been nominated by the minister. It happened that during the summer, the Deanery of Peterborough became vacant, and Dr. Thomas kissed the King's

hand for it; at the same time, the Duke of Newcastle wrote to him from England, that he had engaged that Deanery, and if the Dr. would waive his turn, he would certainly procure for him a better. Dr. Thomas wrote in answer, that as the King had been graciously pleased to give him the Deanery, he could not, with any decency, decline his Majesty's royal favour, but his Grace might vacate it by giving him a better thing, as soon as ever he pleased. In 1743, he was nominated to the See of St. Asaph, but before consecration removed to Lincoln in 1744, and translated to Salisbury in 1761. He is buried in the cathedral of Salisbury, in which is a monument to him. He was a very pleasant, facetious man, but had the misfortune of being deaf. Dr. Thomas was of Cambridge, and always attended the Duke of Newcastle in his visits to that University, where he was remarkable for his good sayings. He was concerned in writing the celebrated periodical paper, called the Patriot, when at Hamburgh, being considerably versed in the German language.

The Rev. John Taylor, LL. D. Canon residentiary of St. Paul's, Chancellor of the diocese of Lincoln, and Archdeacon of Buckingham, a learned critic and philologist, was born in Shrewsbury, and baptised at St. Alkmund's Church on the 22d day of June, 1704. His father followed the humble occupation of a barber, and this his son was designed for the same business. But a strong passion for letters, which early displayed itself, being providentially fostered by the generous patronage of a neighbouring gentleman, enabled young Taylor to fill a far higher station in society than that to which he was entitled by his birth. The steps which led to this happy change in his situation, are worthy of notice. Taylor the father, being accustomed to attend Edward Owen, Esq. of Condover, in his capacity of a barber, that gentleman used to enquire occasionally into the state of his family, for what trade he designed his son, &c. These enquiries

never failed to produce a lamentation from the old man, of the untoward disposition of his son Jack, whom, said he, I cannot get to dress a wig or shave a beard, so perpetually is he poring over books. Such complaints often repeated, at length awakened the attention of Mr. Owen, who determined to send him to the University, chiefly at his own expense. St. John's in Cambridge, which has an intimate connexion with the free-school of Shrewsbury, naturally presented itself as the place of his academical education; and Mr. Taylor was doubtless assisted by one of the exhibitions founded in that college for the youth of our school. Under this patronage he pursued his studies in the University,\* and regularly took his degrees,—that of B. A. in 1724, and of M. A. in 1728. Thus employed in his favourite occupations, the periods of his return into his native country, were the only times which threw a transient cloud over the happy tenor of his life. On such occasions he was expected to visit his patron, and to partake of the noisy scenes of riotous jollity exhibited in the hospitable mansion of a country gentleman of those days. The gratitude of young Taylor taught him the propriety of making these sacrifices of his own comfort: but it could not prevent him from sometimes whispering his complaints into the ears of his intimate friends. A difference of political opinion offered a more serious ground of dissension. A great majority of the gentry of Shropshire was at that period strenuous in their good wishes for the abdicated family. Though educated at Cambridge, Mr. Taylor retained his attachment to toryism, but he did not adopt all its excesses: and he at length forfeited the favour of his patron, without the hopes of a reconciliation, by

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\* In the *Gent. Mag.* 1779, p. 250, is a copy of Latin verses on the death of a Mr. Eyles, a fellow of St. John's, "made by a pretty modest lad, one Taylor, a junior Soph."



refusing to drink a Jacobite toast on his bare knees, as was then the custom. This refusal effectually precluded him from all hopes of sharing in the great ecclesiastical patronage at that time enjoyed by the Condovery family, and inclined him, perhaps, to abandon the clerical profession for the practice of a civilian. But, however painful to his feelings this quarrel with his benefactor might prove, he had the consolation to reflect, that it could not now deprive him of the prospect of an easy competence. His character as a scholar was established in the University; he was become a fellow and tutor of his college; and on the 30th of January, 1730, he was appointed to deliver the Latin oration, then annually pronounced in St. Mary's, before the University on that solemn anniversary; and at the following commencement, he was selected to speak the Music Speech. This annual performance was supposed to require an equal share of learning and genius: for, besides a short compliment in Latin to the heads of the University, the orator was expected to produce a humourous copy of English verses on the fashionable topics of the day, for the entertainment of the female part of his audience: and in the execution of this office (derived like the *Terræ filius* of Oxford, from the coarse festivities of a grosser age) sometimes indulged a licentiousness\* which surprises one on perusal. The

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\* Dr. Long the astronomer, then Mr. Long, being appointed to deliver the music speech in 1714, chose for his subject the complaint of the ladies for not being permitted to sit in the seats of the Doctors, or Heads of Houses, in St. Mary's church, called the *THRONE*; and for being obliged to descend from that eminence to places assigned them in the chancel. The following are extracted from this whimsical performance.

“ Some here, since scarlet has such charms to win ye,  
For scarlet gowns have laid out many a guinea.  
Though I should think you had far better wed  
The young in sable, than the old in red.



music speech of Mr. Taylor is sufficiently free; and, though it does some credit to his poetical talents, is not very civil to his contemporaries of Oxford, (whom he openly taxes with retaining their fellowships and wives at the expense of their oaths) or of Trinity college, in his own University, whom he ironically represents as the only members of Cambridge who could wipe off the stigma of unpoliteness imputed to them by the sister University.

—If the picture be'nt exactly true,  
 The thanks to white-glov'd Trinity is due.——  
 What though our Johnian plead but scanty worth,  
 Cold and ungenial as his native North,——  
 The *Jesuit* cloister'd in his pensive cell,  
 Where Vapours dark with Contemplation dwell,——  
 Though politics engross the sons of Clare,  
 Nor yields the state one moment to the fair,——  
 Though Bennet mould in indolence and ease,  
 And whisk prolong the balmy rest of Kays,  
 And one continued solemn slumber reigns  
 From untun'd Sidney to protesting Queens.  
 Yet, O ye fair!  
 Let this one dressing, dancing rare atone,  
 For all the follies of the pedant gown:  
 The 'Templar need not blush for such allies,  
 Nor jealous Christ-Church this applause denies.

This speech was printed by his young friend and fellow collegian, Mr. Bowyer, and the publication concludes with an ode *designed* to have been set to

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There's one among our doctors may be found,  
 Values his face above a thousand pound;  
 But if you stand, he'll something bate, perhaps,  
 Provided that you don't insist on sharps;  
 Some of our dons, in hopes to make you truckle,  
 Have for these two months laid their wigs in buckle.  
 If clear-starch'd band and cleangloves won't prevail,  
 Can the lac'd gown or cap of velvet fail?  
 What, though the squire be awkward, yet and simple,  
 You'd better take him here than from the TEMPLE."

music. In March 1732, he was appointed librarian,\* which office he held but a short time, being in 1734 appointed registrar of the University.

After he had been appointed Registrar, Cambridge became his principal residence, and if he had ever entertained serious thoughts of practising as a Civilian, it does not appear that he carried his intentions into effect. He was, however, resident in London in the year 1739: at which time his celebrated edition of *Lysias* appeared. This edition, which evinces his intimate knowledge of the Greek language and Attic law, is executed as to the external embellishments of type and paper, in a manner which reflects great credit on the press of Mr. Bowyer, from which it proceeded; but is certainly inferior in that respect to Mr. Taylor's subsequent publications, all of which issued from the university press of Cambridge. A smaller edition of *Lysias*, in 8vo. in the following year, 1740, is the first of his Cambridge publications. In 1740 he took his degree of LL. D. The subject which he chose for his act is curious, and worthy of our author. A. Gellius had related on the authority of the ancient jurists, that by the laws of the ten tables the body of the insolvent debtor was cut in pieces and distributed among his creditors. Dr. Taylor undertook to set this in a new light, and to shew that it was the *property* and not *person* of the debtor that was liable to this division; and if he did not succeed in producing complete conviction, his

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\* He used to relate that whilst Librarian as he was shewing the library to a young Nobleman, whom from his silence and attention he guessed to be very learned and to enter deeply into the topics on which the Doctor entertained him, he produced to him the famous MS. of the Gospels, and was relating its history at length, till his Lordship suddenly interrupted him with, "*Pray, sir, are we in Cambridgeshire or Hertfordshire?*" Taylor, it may be supposed, shut the book, and finished his story at once.

treatise was at least calculated to increase the opinion already entertained of his erudition and ingenuity. It was published 1742, under the title of *Commentarius ad legem decemviralem de inope debitore in partes dissecando*, with an appendix of curious papers. A late writer has represented our author as a practitioner in Doctors' Commons, but this is believed to be a mistake. It is certain, however, that about this time there was a design to employ his talents in a civil station, as it was in agitation to make him Under Secretary of State to Lord Granville.

In the following year the learning and critical abilities of Dr. Taylor, were again called forth. The late Earl of Sandwich, on his return from a voyage to the Greek islands, of which his own account has been published since his death, and which shews him to have been a nobleman of considerable learning, brought with him a marble from Delos. That island, "which lay in the very centre of the then trading world," (to use the words of our learned countryman, Mr. Clarke,) "was soon seized by the Athenians and applied to the purposes of a commercial repository: and this subtle and enterprising people, to increase the sacredness and inviolability of its character, celebrated a solemn festival there once in every olympiad." The marble in question contained a particular of all the revenues and appointments set apart for that purpose. From the known skill of Dr. Taylor on all points of Grecian antiquity it was submitted to his inspection, and was published by him in 1743, under the title of *Marmor Sandvicense cum commentario et notis*; and never, may we say, was an ancient inscription more ably or satisfactorily elucidated. In the same year he also published the only remaining oration of Lycurgus, and one of Demosthenes, in a small octavo volume, with an inscription to his friend Mr. Charles Yorke.

This volume is printed on the same type with, and was intended as a specimen of, his projected edition of all the works of that great orator; a task which

“either the course of his studies, or the general consent of the public, had,” he says, “imposed upon him.” While he was engaged in this laborious undertaking he received an accession of dignity and emolument; being, in the beginning of 1744, appointed by the Bishop of Lincoln, Dr. John Thomas, to the office of Chancellor of that extensive diocese, in the room of Mr. Reynolds. For his introduction to this prelate he was indebted to the kindness of his great patron Lord Granville, as we learn from the dedication of the third volume of his *Demosthenes*, which came out in the spring of 1748, the publication of the first volume being postponed, that the life of the great orator and the other prolegomena might appear with more correctness.

The only prefatory matter prefixed to this third volume is a long and elegant dedication to Lord Granville, a patron worthy of the edition and of the work; as that nobleman was himself an admirable scholar. The following passage is curious, not only for the sentiments which it contains, so applicable to the present times, but also for the mention of a battle which does not make quite so conspicuous a figure on the page of history, as it does in the Latin of the dedicator. After having observed that the genius of English oratory approaches much nearer to the Demosthenic than the Ciceronian model, and having drawn the parallel between Demosthenes employed in the business of exiting Athens and her allies to a vigorous resistance of Macedonian influence, and his patron Lord Granville engaged in an opposition to the depotism of France;—he proceeds,—“the Athenian orator openly declared that he would never consent to make peace with Philip till he had lost not merely his animosity, but his power of doing hurt. And shall we, so nearly resembling that state in the posture of our affairs, differ by the weakness and inconstancy of our councils? Or shall we, equal as we are to them in the glory and authority of our dominion, superior in felicity and fortune, shall we

estimate at a lower rate than they, the dignity of our country, the welfare of our people, the security of our allies, the freedom of our constitution? No! By those, who oppressed by numbers, but unsubdued in spirit, died for the general liberty of Greece in the plains of Chæronea! No! By those, who with better success, under the command of his Majesty, repelled the common enemy of Europe in the field of Dettingen!" Had our editor intended to conciliate the favour of his Sovereign by this eloquent apostrophe, nothing could have been more misplaced. No one was more insensible to every kind of literary merit than George II. who looked upon a drill serjeant as a much greater character than all the writers that ever existed. But our doctor had no such design; occupied with studies which were at once his employment and delight, and provided with an income far beyond his wants, he was alike exempt from the calls of avarice and ambition.

In April, 1751, Dr. Taylor succeeded the Rev. Christopher Anstey, D. D. in the Rectory of Lawford, in Essex, a living belonging to St. John's college, and the only parochial cure he ever enjoyed; in January, 1753. he became Archdeacon of Buckingham. After he took orders he was esteemed a very eminent and successful preacher. Two of his sermons are in print: one preached August 22, 1749, at the school feast at Bishop's Stortford, (of which his townsman, Mr. Mawle, was head master) from Num. xi. 29:—the other at St. Margaret's, Westminster, on the fast-day, February 11th, 1757, from Judges xx. 23, before the House of Commons. There is nothing in the latter of these compositions to distinguish it from the ordinary herd of discourses on similar occasions; but the school sermon is every way a considerable performance, elegant, learned, judicious, and affecting.

When the late Marquis of Bath and his brother were sent to St. John's, they were placed under the care of our author, by his patron, Lord Granville,

maternal grandfather of these young noblemen. This charge led to his work on the *Elements of Civil Law*, in quarto, 1755, and which was formed from the papers drawn up by him to instruct his noble pupils in the origin of natural law, the rudiments of civil life, and of social duties. If the work as published, partakes somewhat too much of the desultory character of such loose papers; if its reasoning is occasionally confused, and its digressions sometimes irrelevant, it is impossible to deny it the praise of vast reading and extensive information on various subjects of polite learning and recondite antiquity. It quickly came to a second edition, and has also been published in an abridged form. It did not, however, escape without some severe animadversions.

The learned world at Cambridge was, at that time, divided into two parties: the polite scholars and the philologists. The former, at the head of which were Gray, Mason, &c. superciliously confined all merit to their own circle: and looked down with fastidious contempt on the rest of the world. It is needless to observe, that Dr. Taylor belonged to the latter class. A member of the former, a writer of celebrity, and eminent for his attachment to Warburton, of whose "school" he was a distinguished disciple, in a most unjustifiable pamphlet, published the same year, 1755, and directed against the amiable and modest Jortin, steps out of his way to express his contempt of Taylor, "There are several ways," says he, "of a writer's expressing his devotion to his patron, without observing the ordinary forms of dedication: of which, to note it by the way, the latest and best instance I have met with is, "A certain thing prefatory to a learned work entitled the "*Elements of Civil Law*." This was but the prelude to a more severe attack from the "master" himself, who with learning much inferior, but talents much greater, than those of Taylor, exercised an insolent despotism over the republic of letters. Our author in his *elements* had expressed his opinion that the persecutions



which the first Christians experienced from the Roman emperors proceeded not from any peculiar disapprobation of their tenets, but from a jealousy entertained of their nocturnal assemblies. In expressing this opinion, Taylor did not mention, and perhaps did not even think of Warburton: but as the latter in his *Divine Legation* had derived these persecutions from another source, the absurdities of Pagan religion and the iniquities of Pagan politics; the holding, and much more the publishing, of a contrary notion by any contemporary, was too great an offence for that haughty dogmatist to pass with impunity. His prefaces and notes were, as was wittily observed of him, the established places of execution for the punishment of all who did not implicitly adopt his sentiments,—and having occasion soon after (in 1758) to publish a new edition of that celebrated work, he seized that opportunity to chastise Taylor, with all the virulence, wit, and ingenuity of distortion which he could command.

An attack so insolent and unprovoked could not injure the established character of Dr. Taylor, or ruffle his temper. He was sensible that it could be detrimental only to its author, and wisely abstained from taking any notice of it. Indeed, he was better employed: as the second volume of his *Demosthenes* appeared in May, 1757: and in the following July he was made a Canon residentiary of St. Paul's. For this appointment, which was the summit of his preferment, he was indebted to his steady and active patron Lord Granville, who was now a member of administration.

In consequence of this dignity, he resigned the office of registrar, in 1758, in favour of his friend Mr. Hubbard, of Emanuel, and quitted Cambridge to reside in London. The rewards of merit and industry had, it is to be feared, somewhat of their usual influence upon Dr. Taylor, though they did not produce an absolute intermission of the great work which he had undertaken. He still proceeded to collect

and arrange the materials for the first volume of his Demosthenes: but the expectations of the learned were frustrated by his death, which took place on the 14th day of April, 1766, before he had prepared his volume for the press.

Dr. Taylor used to spend part of his summers in his native county, taking for that purpose a ready furnished house, in which he might enjoy the society of his friends. For several years he rented the curate's house at Edgemon, his equipage in the mean time standing at livery in the neighbouring town of Newport.

As Dr. Taylor had been for many years in the receipt of an ample, and even splendid income, it might have been expected that he should die in affluent circumstances. But this was by no means the case. He lived in a handsome style, and expended a large sum of money in books. His library at the time of his death was large and valuable. This, with the residue of his fortune, for the support of an exhibition at St. John's, he bequeathed to the school where he had received his education; reserving, however, to his friend and physician, Dr. Askew, all his manuscripts, and such of his printed books as contained his marginal annotations.

In private life, Dr. Taylor's character was extremely amiable: his temper remarkably social, and his talents fitted to adorn and gladden society. The even tenor of his employments furnished him with an uninterrupted flow of spirits. Though he was so studiously devoted to letters;—though, as an intimate friend and fellow-collegian of his informs us, “if you called on him in college after dinner, you were sure to find him sitting at an old oval walnut table, covered with books—yet when you began to make apologies for disturbing a person so well employed, he immediately told you to advance, and called out, *John, John, bring pipes and glasses,* and instantly appeared as cheerful and good humoured, as if he had not been at all engaged or in-

errupted; suppose now you had stayed as long as you would, and been entertained by him most agreeably, you took your leave, and got half way down the stairs, but recollecting somewhat that you had to say to him, you go in again; the bottles and glasses were gone,—the books had expanded themselves so as to re-occupy the whole table,—and he was just as much buried in them as when you first came in.”\*

He loved a game at cards, and we are told that he played well. He was also an excellent relater of a story,—of which he had a large and entertaining collection. But like most story-tellers, was somewhat too apt to repeat them. His friend, the facetious and good-humoured Henry Hubbard, of Emanuel, with whom he greatly associated, would sometimes in the evenings which they used to pass alone together, use the freedom of jocosely remonstrating with him upon the subject, and when the Doctor began one of his anecdotes, would cry out “Ah, dear Doctor, pray do not let us have that story any more, I have heard it *so* often;” to which Taylor often humourously replied, “Come, Harry, let me tell it this once more,” and would then go on with his narration. After this representation of our critic’s social and convivial turn, the reader will be surprised by the following tale which Dr. Johnson related of him. “Demosthenes Taylor, as he was called, (that is, the editor of Demosthenes) was the most silent man, the merest statue of a man, that I have ever seen. I once dined in company with him, and all he said during the whole time was no more than *Richard*. How a man could say only Richard, it is not easy to imagine. But it was thus: Dr. Douglas was talking of Dr. Zachary Grey, and ascribing to him something that was written by Dr. Richard Grey. So to correct him, Taylor said, (imitating his affected sententious emphasis and nod,) ‘*Rich-*

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\* Nicholls, p. 66.

*ard."* It is not intended to impeach the veracity of Johnson, or the authenticity of his biographer, and therefore the only inference deduced from this anecdote is, that Taylor did not like his company that evening; possibly he might be disgusted by the dogmatic overbearing rusticity of the lexicographer, so opposite to his own placid and polite manners; and might have expected more deference than he received, from one so much his inferior both in rank and learning.

One mile from Shrewsbury, on the London road, a very fine column has lately been erected in honour of Lord Hill. A fine colossal statue of his Lordship is placed at the top of it.

The village of Sutton is a little more than two miles south-east of Shrewsbury. The air of this place, as might be expected from its open, elevated situation, is dry and wholesome. The site commands a rich and highly-variegated prospect, bounded on one side by the magnificent group of Freyddin and Moel y Gofa, with a long range of Welsh mountains rising in full majesty beyond them, and on the other by their no mean rivals, the Wrekin and Stretton Hills. The view of Shrewsbury, betwixt the branches of the adjoining wood, particularly when the setting sun gilds every object with his mellowed light, is greatly and most deservedly praised. The walk from Shrewsbury is pleasant and picturesque, and being in the neighbourhood of a reasonable and abundant market, is no trifling object, when compared with the extravagant prices, and scanty accommodations of many of our remote watering-places.

*Journey from Ellesmere to Market Madeley, through  
Shrewsbury.*

ELLESMERE is a market-town of Saxon origin, and takes its name from the water, which was called Aelsmere, or the greatest mere, being the chief in

this part of the county. This lake is 101 acres in dimensions, and is exceedingly well stocked with fish. The environs have two advantages superior to other lakes: a good town borders on one side; and the fine park of Oatley, the seat of Mrs. Vaughan, is a great ornament to another. This is the ancient seat of the Kynastons. The house appears to be very old, and stands low; but the park is a very fine one, having the greatest quantity of the finest elm-trees perhaps to be seen in any part of England.

This town has little to boast of except its situation. The principal trade is that of malt, the barley of the neighbourhood being remarkably good. Near the Mere is a house of industry for the poor of five parishes, from which is a delightful prospect; and on the Castle Hill there is one of the finest bowling greens in the kingdom; nine different counties may be seen from the green. A new canal is cut to this town, called the Ellesmere Canal.

The houses in general are neat, and the streets well paved, in the principal one of which is the church, an ancient Gothic building, consisting of a nave, chancel, and side aisles, with a lofty square tower at the west end, wherein is a ring of eight bells.

Here was formerly a strong castle, but little of its ruins are now to be seen, it having been destroyed during the civil wars, in the 17th.

The market is on Tuesday, and the town consisted, according to the late return, of 1143 houses, and 6056 inhabitants.

The country, from Wem, a town situated to the south-east, is, for the greatest part of the way to Ellesmere, flat, dirty, and unpleasant. On the approach to the town, however, it becomes more agreeable, breaking into most beautiful risings, fertile, and finely wooded. The bottoms are, indeed, destitute of rivers, but frequently filled with little

lakes, called here meres, elegantly bordered by the cultivated hills. It is singular that none of them are the parents of streams ; their increase from rain and springs, and their loss by exhalations, keep such equal pace.

On leaving Ellesmere, our road lies in a southerly direction, and at the distance of four miles and a half, we pass through the village of Cockshut, four miles beyond which is Middle, where was formerly an ancient castle, belonging to Lord Strange, of Knocking, which was demolished by an earthquake in the year 1688.

At the distance of eight miles beyond the last-mentioned place, we pass through the town of Shrewsbury, five miles beyond which we pass on our right the village of Wroxeter, originally a Roman city ; and it is generally thought to have been the station called by the Romans Uriconium, or Viroconium. It was the second, if not the first city of the ancient Cornavii, and fortified by the Romans, to secure the ford of the Severn. The wall was about three miles in extent ; and from some fragments of it that still remain, the foundation appears to have been nine feet thick. It had a vast trench on the outside, which is still, in some places, very deep.

Here are also other remains of Roman buildings, now called the Old Works of Wroxeter. There are fragments of a stone wall, about 100 feet long, and 20 feet high in the middle ; and some years ago was discovered under ground, a square room, supported by four rows of small brick pillars, with a double floor of mortar, built in the nature of a sudatory or sweating-house, much in use among the Romans. Great numbers of Roman coins have frequently been dug up in and about the town : among the coins are a few of gold ; those of silver are very common, and there are others of brass and mixed metals ; but scarce one in ten of the inscrip-



tions is legible, or has an image upon it that appears plain and distinct. Several Roman urns have also been found here.

When or how this considerable town was demolished is not certainly known; but it is remarkable that among the great number of coins found here there has not yet been discovered one single piece of Saxon money. However, from the blackness of the soil, and the defaced appearance of most of the coins, it is probable that this place was consumed by fire, and that it was done before the arrival of the Saxons, or in their war with the Britons; for had it been destroyed by the Danes, there would certainly have been Saxon coins mixed with the Roman.

At the distance of about nine miles to the south-east of the last-mentioned place, we arrive at Madeley Market, a town, the market of which was long discontinued, owing to the civil wars, but it was revived in the year 1763, by the spirited encouragement of a private individual, and is now become considerable, having been removed by the lord of the manor to the foot of the iron-bridge, two miles from the original market-place.

In digging a foot-road pit in this parish in the year 1788, there rushed out a spring of native tar from several holes, one of which was as thick as a man's thigh, and several hogsheads per day were caught for a long time, but it is now almost exhausted.—A navigable canal, completed some years since, from Ketley iron works, through several coal works, and through this parish to the river Severn, is of no use but to the coal and iron masters.

The market is on Friday, and the parish contained, according to the late returns made to Parliament, 112 houses and 659 inhabitants.

Colebrook, situated about a mile from Madeley Market, is a winding glen, between two vast hills, which break into various forms, with beautiful hanging woods. Here are the most considerable

iron works in England: "The noise of the forges, mills, &c. (says Arthur Young,) with all their vast machinery, the flames bursting from their furnaces, with the burning of coal, and the smoke of the lime-kilns, are altogether horribly sublime." A bridge, entirely made of cast iron, which has been thrown over the Severn, gives these scenes a yet nearer resemblance to the ideas in romance.

This famous bridge was built in the year 1779, the whole being cast in open sand, a large scaffold being previously erected, each part of the rib was elevated to a proper height by strong ropes and chains, and then lowered till the ends met in the centre. All the principal parts were erected in three months, without any accident to the work or workmen, or the least obstruction to the navigation of the river. On the abutments of stone work are placed iron plates, with mortises, in which stand two upright pillars of the same. Against the foot of the inner pillar the bottom of the main rib bears on the base plate. This rib consists of two pieces, connected by a dovetail joint in an iron key, and fastened with screws. Each piece is 70 feet long. The shorter ribs pass through the pillar at apertures, left for that purpose, and are mortised into the top bearers, and into the base plate and pillar, the back rib in like manner, without coming down to the plate. The cross stays, braces, circle in the span-drills, and the brackets connect the larger pieces, so as to keep the bridge perfectly steady, while a diagonal and cross stays, and top-plates, connect the pillars and ribs together, in opposite directions. The whole bridge is covered with iron top-plates, projecting over the ribs on each side, and on this projection stands the balustrade of cast-iron. The road over the bridge, made of clay and iron slag is 24 feet wide, one foot deep. The span of the arch is 100 feet six inches, and the height from the base line to the centre, 40 feet. The weight of the iron

in the whole, is 378 tons, 10 cwt. : each piece of the long ribs weighs, 5 tons, 15 cwt. On the largest and exterior rib, is inscribed in capitals:

“ This bridge was cast at Coalbrook, and erected in the year 1779.”

From the same manufactory another handsome bridge has been erected over the Severn, at Buildwas, about two miles higher up the river, and close by the abbey ruins. It consists of one handsome arch of 150 feet span, and the rise 24 feet, and is highly ornamental to the surrounding scenery. Close by on the banks of the Severn, are the ruins of Buildwas Abbey. At Coal port, lower down the Severn, has for some years been established a China Manufactory, now very respectable. ‘ Their works will speak highly in their favour,—an inspection of them and their elegant and valuable stock will be interesting to the travellers who may visit Colebrook dale.

Here also have been made most of the cast-iron bridges erected in different parts of the kingdom.

In the dale is a manufactory for obtaining fossil, tar, or petrolium, from the condensed smoke of pit-coal ; besides which, there are some springs of native tar, and also a brinespring.

The parish of Dawley, situated about two miles to the north of Madeley, has two large coal and iron works.

Broseley, a market town, is parted from Madeley by the river Severn on the south-west, and is a very populous parish, coals and iron being its chief manufactories, as it is situated among the coal-mines. Here is also a manufacture of glazed tobacco-pipes, garden pots, and other vessels of a coarse fabric are made here. At Caughley, in that neighbourhood, is a China manufacture of great excellence, where the blue and white, and the blue, white, and gold, are more like the real China than many other. At Coal port, coloured china of all sorts and of exqui-

site taste and beauty has been made. Here is also a manufacture of ropes and one of chains.

The market-day is on Wednesday; and by the late population act, the town contained 1019 houses, and 4814 inhabitants.

In the year 1711, a burning spring was discovered here, the most remarkable indeed, of which any particular description remains upon record. The following account of this spring was given by the Rev. Mr. Mason Woodward, professor at Cambridge, dated Feb. 18th, 1764. "The well for four or five feet deep, is six or seven feet wide; within that is another less hole of like depth, dug in the clay, in the bottom whereof is placed a cylindric earthen vessel, of about four or five inches diameter at the mouth, having the bottom taken off, and the sides well fixed in, the clay rammed close about it. Within the pot is a brown water, thick as puddle, continually forced up with a violent motion beyond that of boiling water, and a rumbling hollow noise, rising or falling by fits five or six inches; but there was no appearance of any vapour rising, which, perhaps, might have been visible, had not the sun shone so bright. Upon putting a candle down at the end of a stick, at a quarter of a yard distance, it took fire, darting and flashing after a very violent manner for about half a yard high, much in the manner of spirits in a lamp, but with great agitation. It was said that a tea-kettle had been made to boil in about nine minutes time, and that it had been left burning for forty-eight hours, without any sensible diminution. It was extinguished by putting a wet mop upon it, which must be kept there for a little time, otherwise it would not go out. Upon the removal of the mop, there arises a sulphureous smoke, lasting about a minute, and yet the water is cold to the touch."

In the year 1755, this well totally disappeared by the sinking of a coal-pit in its neighbourhood — The cause of the inflammable property of such

waters is, with great probability, supposed to be their mixture with petrolium, which is one of the most inflammable substances in nature, and has the property of burning on the surface of water.

*Journey from Oswestry to Much Wenlock; through Shrewsbury.*

OSWESTRY is a market-town, situated near the borders of Denbighshire, and stands on ground much higher than any other town in the county; it is surrounded with fertile lands, and is only five miles from a navigable part of the river Verniew.

This town was anciently surrounded with walls, strengthened with towers, and towards the north side was formerly a castle, which has long been a heap of ruins, and the place on which it stood is now converted into grazing land, which, together with the field, called Castle Field, (wherein the intrenchments are yet visible,) comprise about five or six acres of land. The town-gates, which were fixed in the four cardinal points, are all down, and but little vestiges of the walls are to be seen.

The church, which was built without the walls, is remarkably large, having a handsome plain tower; but it is of no great antiquity; Leland, however, says, that it was formerly the chapel of a monastery.

In the year 1673, Richard Pope was elected first mayor, after the renewal of the charter, in the 23rd year of the reign of Charles II. who was succeeded by Sir John Trevor, the then master of the rolls.—The body corporate consists of twelve aldermen, and fifteen common-council. The high-steward and town-clerk are in the appointment of Earl Powis, who is lord of the manor; the mayor, recorder, and murenger, are elected by the body corporate; and the coroner for the town, is an annual office, held the year succeeding the mayoralty. The quarter sessions are held on Friday, in the weeks after Epiphany, Easter, Thomas-a-Becket, and Michaelmas. The market is on Wednesday.

This parish, according to the late returns, consisted of 692 houses, and 3613 inhabitants.

The town of Oswestry takes its name from Oswald, King of Northumberland, who was slain here, in a field called the Chapel-field, about the middle of the seventh century, by Penda, King of Mercia. It was his practice to erect a cross on the field of battle, as a standard, at the foot of which, he and his army, the moment before the trumpets sounded the charge, practised the pious devotion of kneeling, appealing to heaven for the justice of his cause, and imploring its assistance to confound the insolence of his enemies. It is still called by the Welsh, *Croes Oswald*, Oswald's-cross; formerly, in English, Oswald's-tree, but now Oswestry. The barbarian victor, cut the body of Oswald into pieces, and stuck them on stakes dispersed over the field, as so many trophies; but, according to others, his head and hands only were thus exposed. A prince so dear to the church as Oswald, and so attached to the professors of the monastic life, received every posthumous honour they could bestow. He was raised to the rank of a saint, and his sanctity confirmed by numberless miracles. His reliques, which were afterwards removed, were believed to be efficacious in all disorders incident to man or beast. The very spot on which his pious corpse had lain, imparted its virtue by mere contact. The horse of a traveller, wearied by excess of labour, stopped here, lay down, and, rolling about in agony, is said luckily to have tumbled on the place where Oswald fell. No sooner had he touched the ground than he sprung up in full vigour! His master, a man of great sagacity, marked the spot, mounted his nag, and soon reached his inn, where he found a young woman ill of the palsy. He told the adventure of his horse, persuaded her friends to try the same remedy, and caused her to be carried thither, when she instantly found the same benefit.

Oswestry is situated between Watt's and Offa's



dyke, which run parallel to each other at about two miles distance. The latter reaches from coast to coast; it was made by Offa king of Mercia, about the year 780; "to mark (says Warrington) the confines of each country, or to give greater security to his own, he caused it to be made from the water of the Dee to the mouth of the Wye, and is an evidence of the ignorance and barbarism of the age, having been raised with immense labour, but directed to no important use." That space of ground between the two dykes was considered by both nations neutral, both trading therein. The town, being situated on that ground, was much harassed on any irruption between the kingdoms, previous to the conquest of Wales by Edward the First.

In the year 1216, on the refusal of Llewellyn to unite his forces with those of King John against Lewis the dauphin of France, who had invaded England by the solicitation of the malcontent barons, John set fire to the town. It was again rebuilt, and again destroyed by Llewellyn in the year 1233.

Two miles to the north-east of Oswestry, is the village of Whittington, where are the remains of a castle, anciently belonging to the Fitzwarrens. It had once a market, but it is now lost.

A little to the south of Whittington is the village of Halston, where was a preceptory of Knights Templars, and afterwards of the Knights Hospitallers, which was granted by Queen Elizabeth to William Horne.

Resuming our road, on leaving Oswestry, we proceed south-easterly, and at the distance of eight miles we pass through the village of Ness Cliff, so called from a cliff which overhangs the place, in which is Kynaston's cave, said to have been the retreat of a famous robber of that name, but really, (says Phillips) of the spendthrift son of Sir Roger Kynaston, who ascended to it by 24 narrow ill-guarded steps with his horse, who stabled in an apartment adjoining to his master. It serves now as a cottage.

Continuing our journey, at the distance of two miles, we pass the village of Shrerewarden, where was a castle, which belonged to John Fitz-Alan, of Clunn, father of the first earl of Arundel. There was also another castle, now belonging to Lord Clive, but the remains of both are small.

At the distance of five miles from the last-mentioned place we arrive at Shrewsbury, nine miles beyond which we pass through the village of Cressage, and one mile farther the village of Harley; one mile and a half beyond which we arrive at MUCH WENLOCK, an ill-built but an ancient corporation town: situated on the Phoo Brook, and principally consists of two narrow streets, divided into the form of the letter T. The church is a spacious structure. The inhabitants are chiefly employed in quarrying and burning limestone. The corporation consists of a bailiff, recorder, two other justices of the peace, and twelve bailiff peers, or capital burgesses. Here was a convent of nuns, founded about the year 680, by St. Milburga, daughter of King Merwald, and niece of Wulper, king of Mercia, who presided over it as abbess. It was destroyed by the Danes, but restored by Leofric, earl of Chester, in the reign of Edward the Confessor, and being again decayed and forsaken, it was re-built and endowed by Roger de Montgomery, earl of Arundel, Chichester, and Shrewsbury, who, in the reign of William the Conqueror, placed in it a prior and monks of the order of Cluny, as a cell to the abbey of la Charité, in France. In the reign of Richard the Second it was made indigenious. At the general suppression it was granted to Augustine de Augustine's. Here was likewise an hospital dedicated to St. John.

The ruins of Wenlock Abbey are remarkably picturesque and extensive. The Prior's apartments are still habitable, they belong to Sir W. W. Wynn.

This town was, in the reign of Richard the Second, as famous for copper mines, as it is now for quarries of limestone.

In the steeple of the church are six bells, as also a clock and chimes.

This insignificant borough is the first that ever sent members to Parliament by virtue of a charter from the crown, which was granted by King Edward the Fourth, on the 29th of November, 1478, who by his authority delegated to them the power of sending one member to parliament.

Much Wenlock according to the late population act, consisted of 481 houses, and 2200 inhabitants. The market-day is on Monday.

*Journey from Bridgenorth to Ludlow ; through  
Botterel Aston.*

On leaving Bridgenorth, we proceed south-west by Chetton, Faintree, Neenton, North Cleobury, Burwarton, Celee Dawnton, the More, and to Ludlow. At North Cleobury the Brown Clee is immediately on the right, and rises to upwards of 1700 feet. Iron, stone, limestone, and coal, are produced, but it principally consists of a very hard, black porphyry, or trap, fractured and dispersed upon, and all round the base ; some of these fragments have the basaltic pentagonal form. The highest part presents an extended flat within a vast rampart of these rude and broken materials, of an oblong form, and near a quarter of a mile in length. Within the area of the outward work, are a great number of remains of circular structures of the same rude materials, about 12 to 15 feet in diameter, and in a few instances these circles touch upon and intersect each other. The whole is of peculiar character, and deserves investigation. There is a more recent British Camp on another less elevated division of the Brown Clee, from the summit is an interesting prospect, which, if the traveller is fortunate in seeing on a fine day, will be highly gratifying and impressive. Four miles farther on the left, rises abrupt the Titterstone Clee hill, its highest summit about 1600 feet. Coal in abundance is produced here, but lying under a vast stratum of

basalt, it is very expensive to get at. The highest summit on the western side, presents a vast heap of ruins, consisting principally of fragments of a structure of huge basaltic columns, and which now lie scattered around in wild confusion. Nearly adjoining are the remains of another ancient encampment on a large scale.

Continuing our journey, at the distance of ten miles from Botterel Aston, we arrive at LUDLOW, a market town, formerly called by the Welsh Dinan and Lhystwasoc, that is, the prince's palace (probably from the castle); it is seated on a hill at the confluence of the Teme or Temd, and Corve, commanding an extensive prospect of the adjacent country, except towards the west, where the view is intercepted by lofty eminences. It is a very clean well-built place, and is the residence of many people of rank and fortune. The principal street is that which leads from the bridge to the town-house, an elegant structure of hewn stone; the next is that which leads to the horse course. It receives great advantage by its thoroughfare to Wales, and the education of the Welsh youth of both sexes.

The town is divided into four wards, and has seven gates in its walls. The river Teme has a good bridge over it, several weirs across it, and it turns a great many mills. Provisions are very cheap here; and at the annual horse-races there is the best of company.

The church is an ancient venerable stone edifice, in the upper part of the town, with a lofty tower, steeple, and eight bells. In the choir is an inscription relating to Prince Arthur, brother to King Henry the Eighth, whose bowels were deposited there. In the same choir is a closet called the God's House, where the priests used to keep the consecrated utensils; and to this church the Earl of Powis gave a new organ, which cost one thousand pounds. Ludlow gives the title of Viscount to that nobleman, who has a seat at Oakley Park, near the town. West of

the church was a college, now converted into a private house. There was likewise a rich priory out of the town, on the north side of which are but few ruins to be seen, except a small church, which formerly belonged to it.

The town has an old castle, great part of which is in ruins; some apartments are, however, entire and furnished; the battlements are very high, thick, and adorned with towers. The only part of the castle now inhabited, is Mortimer's Tower, occupied by a mechanic, and keeper of the keys. It has a neat chapel, in which are the coats of arms of several of the Welsh gentry, and over the stable doors, are those of Queen Elizabeth, the Earl of Pembroke, and others. The walls of the castle are said by some to have been originally a mile in compass; but Leland in this measure, includes those of the town. Its situation is delightful, before it was a lawn, extending nearly two miles, a considerable part of which is now inclosed. The country round it is exceeding pleasant, fertile, populous, and the soil rich; nothing, indeed, can be added by nature to make it a place fit for a royal palace. It is built at the north-west angle of the town, upon a rock, commanding a delightful prospect northwards; and on the west it is shaded by a lofty hill, and washed by the river. That half which is within the walls of the town, is secured with a deep ditch; the other is founded on a solid rock.

Ludlow Castle was built by Roger de Montgomery, soon after the Conquest, all the country thereabouts having been given him by the Conqueror. It was however afterwards seized by Henry the First; its owner, Robert de Belesme, son of Roger de Montgomery, having joined the party of Robert de Courthose against that king. It remained in the possession of the crown at the accession of King Stephen; but was nevertheless garrisoned and held out against him by Gervase Pagnel, during the contest with the Empress Maud. Stephen besieged,

and, as some write, took it in the year 1139; but others assert, that he was obliged to raise the siege. In one of the attacks, Prince Henry, son of David, king of Scots, newly created earl of Northumberland, rashly approaching too near the walls, was snatched from his horse by a kind of grappling iron; from this danger, however, Henry was delivered by the king, who himself with great risque and difficulty, disengaged him.

It remained in the crown till the succeeding reign, when Henry the Second bestowed it on Fulk Fitz-Warine, called de Dinan, together with the vale below it, which lies on the banks of the river Corve, called Corve Dale. It was again in the possession of the crown in the 8th year of King John, who granted it to Philip de Albani, from whose family it came to the Lacies of Ireland, the last of that house. Walter de Lacy, dying without issue male, left the castle to his grand-daughter Maud, the daughter of his deceased son Edward, and wife of Peter de Geneva, or Jenevile, a Poictevin, and as some say of the house of the Duke of Lorain; from whose posterity it descended again by a daughter to the Mortimers, from whom it passed hereditary to the crown. But one moiety of the manor of Ludlow, upon the division of the estate of Walter de Lacy, fell to Margery, another daughter of the before-named Edward, who married John Verdon; by whose daughter Isabel, it passed by marriage to William de Ferrers, of Okam. During the troubles between King Henry the Second and his barons, in the year 1264, this castle was taken by Simon de Montford, Earl of Leicester.

In the 30th year of the reign of Henry the Sixth, 1451, it belonged to Richard duke of York, who there drew up the declaration of his allegiance to the king, pretending that the army of ten thousand men he had assembled in the marches of Wales, "was for the public wealth of the realme." This declaration, Stowe says, he subscribed as follows:



“ In witness whereof I have signed this scedule with my signe manuall, and set thereunto my signet of arms, written in my castle of Ludlow the 9th of January, the 30th yeere of the raigne of my Sovereigne Lord King Henry the Sixt.” Another apology, much to the same effect, was likewise dated from this castle by the same duke eight years afterwards; when Lord Audley had been defeated at Blore Heath in Staffordshire, by the Earl of Salisbury, and Andrew Trollop and John Blunt had withdrawn themselves from his party. Notwithstanding which he, with divers others, were attainted of treason at a parliament then held at Coventry; where (says the last cited authority) “ their goods and possessions escheted, and their heires (were) disinherited unto the ninth degree; their tenants spoiled of their goods, bemained and slain; the towne of Ludlowe, belonging to the duke of York, was robbed to the bare walls, and the Dutchesse of York spoiled of her goods.” Hall says, “ the castle was likewise spoyled, and that the king sent the Dutches of Yorke with her two younger sonnes to be kept in ward, with the Dutches of Buckyngham her sister, where she continued a certain space.”

It came again to the crown in the reign of Edward the Fourth, whose eldest son Edward for a while kept his court here under the tuition of Lord Anthony Woodvile, and the Lord Scales; being sent by his father, as Hall says, “ for justice to be dooen in the marches of Wales, to the ende that by the authoritie of hys presence the wilde Welshmenne and evil-disposed personnes should refrain from their accustomed murthers and outrages.

In the reign of Henry the Seventh this castle was inhabited by Prince Arthur, that king's eldest son, who died here in the year 1502, aged only sixteen years. His bowels, as before mentioned, are buried in the church of this town; and, it is said, his heart, contained in a leaden box, was taken up some time ago. The particulars of his funeral are printed in

the last edition of Leland's Collectanea, where the following remarkable circumstance occurs: "All things thus finished (says this account) there was ordeyned a great dinner: and in the morne a proclamation was made openly in that citie, that if any man could shew any victuals unpaid in that country, that had been taken by any of that noble prince's servants before that daye, they should come and shewe it to the late steward, comptroller, and cofferer, and they should be contented." This proclamation does great honour to Henry the Seventh, especially considering the avaricious temper attributed to him.

From the reign of Henry the Eighth, when the court of the marshes of Wales was instituted, it seems to have remained in the crown; the court being held in the castle, and the lord president of the marshes residing there.

It was in repair in the time of Charles the First, and inhabited in the year 1634 by the Earl of Bridgewater, at that time lord president; when Milton's Masque of Comus was represented, the principal parts being performed by his lordship's sons and daughter; in which masque the castle was represented in one of the scenes.

During the civil war of that reign, Ludlow was for a while kept as a garrison for the king; but on the 9th of June, 1646, it was delivered up to the parliament.

The castle now appertains to the principality of Wales, and is the property of the Prince of Wales.

Ludlow is an ancient borough, governed by two bailiffs; the high bailiff is justice of the quorum.—There are two more justices, twelve aldermen, and twenty-four common council-men, who have the authority, by several charters, to elect burgesses for the borough. It sends two members to parliament. It was incorporated by King Edward the Sixth, and first sent to parliament in the twelfth year of that king's reign; the right of election is in all the resident common burgesses, as well as the twelve and

twenty-five.—The sons of burgesses of Ludlow, and those that marry the daughters of burgesses, have a right to be made burgesses of the said borough; every person having a right to be made a burgess of the borough of Ludlow ought to demand such his right by petition, signed by the petitioner, according to the bye-law made in the year 1663, and not otherwise. The number of voters is about five hundred. The two bailiffs are the returning officers.

The quarter sessions are held here before the recorder and justices of the town, who have in former times passed sentence of death; but the recorders of late years not being barristers at law, all persons liable to be tried for capital offences are removed by habeas corpus to the county gaol: here is held weekly, every Tuesday, a court of record of judicature, to which court the recorder and bailiffs sit as judges upon every trial at law; here is also a chief constable, who is one of the common council, and a coroner.

There are a great many lands and estates in various parts of the county which belong to this town and corporation. In the town are the following public buildings, viz. a large market-house for grain, with commodious assembly-rooms over it; a spacious hall, where the members of parliament are elected, and the quarter-sessions and the court of record held; a gaol; two alms-houses, with sums which are paid weekly by the corporation to whom they were left in trust, for the support of their decayed inhabitants; a large school-house, and two commodious houses and gardens for two masters, with a donation for their salary, in which a certain number of boys are taught Latin, &c.; also a blue-coat school, kept in a commodious and grand stone building over the butter-cross. Here are five corn-mills on the river Teme, by the town-side. The river Corve enters the town by the town-side; both rivers are well stored with greyling, trout, jack, and a variety of scale-fish. Here are four conduits supplied with spring water, and a river-engine which fills a reservoir, from which

water is conveyed to any house. There are several canals north of the town, by which it derives very great benefit.

The general market is on Mondays, and that for butter on Wednesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays.

The town of Ludlow consisted, according to the late population act, of 1039 houses, and 4820 inhabitants.

Seven miles from Ludlow, near the confluence of the Clunn and Teme, is a small village, called Brompton Bryan, where there is a lofty hill, on which are the remains of an ancient fortification, supposed to have been raised by the brave British prince Caractacus, who withstood, with the most invincible courage, the whole power of the Roman army, till he was basely betrayed to Ostorius, the lieutenant, by the Queen of the Brigantes.

When the renowned chief was brought prisoner before the Emperor Claudius at Rome, Tacitus tells us, that he delivered his sentiments to the monarch in the following manner, which will ever do honour to his good sense and most undaunted spirit, as it procured him the favour of all the Romans.

“Had my moderation in prosperity been adequate to my family and fortune, then had I entered your city rather as a friend than a captive: nor would you, Sir, have disdained an alliance with a prince descended from illustrious ancestors, and the chief of many nations. My present condition to me is dishonourable; to you is glorious! I was master of horses, men, arms, and riches. No wonder then I was unwilling to lose them. For though your ambition is universal, does it follow that all mankind are obliged to submit to the yoke? Had I been sooner betrayed, I had neither been distinguished by misfortune, nor you by glory. And had I fallen, oblivion had been the immediate consequence of my fate. But if you now save my life, I shall be an eternal monument of your clemency.”

The emperor generously granted the hero his re-

quest, and he remained long after in the highest esteem at Rome. The remains of this camp shew it to have been a place of great strength, surrounded by a very deep ditch, but for all that it was not sufficient to oppose the regularity of the Roman discipline.

There are the remains of some other camps in the neighbourhood, which plainly appear to have been Roman works, and doubtless thrown up by the lieutenant Ostorius, from which we are naturally led to believe, that those ambitious adventures did not find Britain so easy a conquest as Tacitus, Suetonius, and some other writers, would make us believe.

In the neighbourhood of Ludlow is a village called Hopton, where there are still the remains of a strong castle, built in the reign of Edward the First, by one of the Mortimers, Earl of March, and in the reign of Charles the First, it made a gallant defence for the royal party, nor did the garrison submit till they were reduced to the last extremity.

On the 19th of March, 1642, soon after the king had displayed the royal standard at Nottingham, the Earl of Northampton, who concealed a body of his forces, came up with the army of the parliament near this place, and a bloody battle ensued, which was disputed with bravery on both sides for several hours ; at first the horsemen belonging to the parliament were put to flight, but the brave earl was killed on the spot, after he had displayed the most signal acts of courage, and his men seeing their leader killed, were discomfited and fled.

*Journey from Shrewsbury, through Dorrington, Longnor, Lac Botwood, All Stretton, Church Stretton, Craven Arms, Stokesey, Onybury, and Bromfield.*

In proceeding in a southerly direction from Shrewsbury to Ludlow, we pass through the village of Dorrington ; the birth place of Mr. John Boydell, an artist himself, and a patron of them ; he was born in 1719. He was brought up as a land surveyor



under his father, but happening to meet with some landscapes, he apprenticed himself to an engraver. In 1745, he published some small landscapes for the use of learners, which encouraged him to persevere in engraving. He did not confine himself to prints, but had the honour to establish an English School of Historical Painting, or the Shakespeare Gallery. He also presented to the Corporation of London, some fine pictures for ornamenting the Council chamber in Guildhall. In 1791, he served the office of Lord Mayor of London. But this worthy man sustained such losses by the French Revolution, and the war that followed, that he was under the necessity of soliciting for an act of parliament for authority to dispose of his pictures and prints by way of lottery. He died in 1804.

Three miles to the east of this place is Pitchford, and Acton Burnel; at the latter place is the seat of Sir Edward Smith, and a fine romantic park adjoining. Not far from the mansion are the remains of the castle.

At Pitchford is the noted spring of water, collected in a large open reservoir, which, from time immemorial, has emitted from the bottom a quantity of pitch, or bituminous matter, which rises to the top and collects in small pieces. From this substance is extracted Betton's British oil, famous for relieving the pains of burns, bruises, rheumatism, &c. The sand-stone rock hereabouts is strongly impregnated with this bituminous substance. A fine specimen exists entire here of the style of Ancient Hall, frequent in Shropshire and Montgomeryshire, the half timbered mansion—this, situate in a wooded dale, is upon a large scale and much ornamented, black and white, and the residence of the Hon. C. D. Jenkinson, furnished and fitted up in very handsome and appropriate style. This mansion, with considerable estates, belonged to the Offley's, and lately passed to the present owner. Acton Burnel, is a village remarkable for a castle built soon after the conquest,



where, in the reign of Edward the First, a parliament was held, in which several statutes were made, and considerable grants allowed the king to carry on the wars against the Scots. In the history of Shrewsbury, lately published, the Rev. Author does not believe the great building in which the commons are said to have sat, to have ever been designed for a barn, but as a great hall erected for the entertainment of the Sovereign, or other such occasions. Neither the size of the Burnel estate, nor the state of husbandry in Shropshire at that time would demand a barn of such ample dimensions. Many of the Welsh nobles, who had taken up arms, were pardoned by this parliament; and the famous act, called "The Statute Merchant," was made here, by which debtors in London, York, and Bristol, were obliged to appear before the different mayors, and agree upon a certain day of payment, otherwise an execution was issued against their goods.

A great part of this castle is still standing; the walls are exceeding strong and adorned with fine battlements and rows of windows, with curious carved work. The building is square, and in many places entire, having suffered less from the injuries of time than most others in the kingdom; and, from the whole of its appearance, must originally have been a noble and magnificent structure.

At Longnor the vale contracts, and the road on each side, bounded by hills, lofty and precipitous; on the left rises the Lawley of green pasture and conic summit, next succeeds the Caer caradoc, about 1200 feet high, the whole summit has been occupied by an ancient camp, chiefly guarded by its steep ascents, and strengthened by double, triple, and deep entrenchments. This, no doubt, was one of Caractacus's holds, but not, as some imagine, where he made his last stand. Tacitus's description, particularly, much better agrees with the strong camp, near Leintwardine. On the right of Church Stretton commences a series of lofty hills and vales,

stretching to the Stiper stones. Amongst these the Longment, a long and high elevation, commanding a great variety of extensive and interesting prospects. Farther on the road passes the Craven Arms, an excellent Inn, and a mile farther Stokesay and Castle, the property of Lord Craven. Opposite on an abrupt and steep lime-rock elevation, is another vast camp, occupying many acres, and strengthened by deep fosses and ramparts, it is called Norton's Camp; little or nothing is known of its history. The whole of the road from Shrewsbury to Ludlow, presents a great variety of pictursque and interesting scenery.

At the distance of five miles beyond Dorrington, we arrive at CHURCH STRETTON, a market-town, pleasantly situate on the Roman prætorian highway, called by the Saxons Watling Street. On the hills which nearly surround the town, an immense number of sheep are fed, which produce large quantities of good wool, which is sold to the dealers in Yorkshire, and there manufactured into narrow cloths. The malting business is carried on here very extensively. The poor of the town are chiefly employed in making a coarse linen cloth for packing hops and wool.

Several fine rivulets running from the hills here, produce excellent trout, and the air is remarkably healthy. The market-day is on Thursday. The ruins of Brocard's Castle, near this town, are surrounded by verdant meadows, once fish-ponds. Four miles from Church Stretton is the village of Fell Hampton, and eight miles further, that of Bromfield, to the right of which is Oakley Park, which, since the death of Lady Clive, has belonged to Earl Powis.

*Journey from Shrewsbury to Perlogue ; through  
Bishop's Castle.*

On leaving Shrewsbury our road lies in a south-westerly direction, and at the distance of eight miles we pass the village of Pulver-Batch, which had for-

merly a castle built in the reign of William the Conqueror. It has been long in ruins, but a sufficiency remains to shew that it was once a place of considerable strength.

A little below is Huckstow Forest, extending a great way among mountains—the most remarkable is called the Stiper-stones—so named, it is presumed, from clustres of lofty and precipitous crags, which rise abruptly on its summit; besides these, it is over-spread with a vast assemblage of enormous loose fractured fragments of quartzose rock, of which the mountain is principally composed. Its elevation is about 1600 feet, from its summit, and commands very extensive and grand prospects into Shropshire and the adjoining counties on one hand, and into North Wales on the other. Lead is procured in considerable quantity from various parts of the Stiper-stones, chiefly from the Hope and Snelbach mines. Bishop's Castle is seen about three miles distance in the fertile vale below; and at a short distance rises the Corndon, another lofty hill on the borders of Montgomeryshire, interspersed with numerous fertile vales and streams of water; the whole forming landscapes richly variegated.

Continuing our journey, at the distance of ten miles from Pulver-Batch, after passing through the village of Norbury, we arrive at BISHOP'S CASTLE, a very ancient town, and is so called because the bishops of Hereford had formerly a castle in it, which was generally the country residence of those prelates. The castle has been long demolished, but the town is still a flourishing place, and contains many handsome buildings. The town-house is an exceeding neat structure. This town is an ancient corporation, consisting of a bailiff, recorder, and fifteen aldermen. The market is on Friday, is noted for cattle, and is much frequented by the Welsh, as are likewise its fairs. The town is situated 157 miles from London, and contains, according to the late population act, 241 houses, and 1076 inhabitants.

Four miles and a half beyond Bishop's Castle we pass through Clun, an agreeable village; three miles from which we arrive at Perlogue. From Shrewsbury, proceeding south-westerly, we pass through Hanbury, Pontesbury, and Westbury; three miles to the north of which is Winnington, the parish in which old Parr was born, in the year 1488. He died in 1635, at the age of 152 years, nine months, and some days. His father was an husbandman, and sent him at the age of seventeen to a neighbouring farmer, with whom he lived till the year 1518. He held his father's farm 63 years, and at the end of the third year took a fourth for life. By his wife Jane he had a son and a daughter, who died young. At 122 he married a Welsh widow, and at 125 (singular as the fact may appear) he did penance for seducing his maid servant. Thomas, Earl of Arundel, that great lover of antiquities, brought him to London in a horse litter, and introduced him to Charles the First, being then blind and decrepid. Being asked by Charles the First what was the most remarkable thing that he could remember in so long a life, he singled out the feat himself had performed at 125. "Fie, old man," said the king, "can you remember nothing but your vices?" He ended his life six weeks after, probably shortened by change of air and living, and was buried in Westminster Abbey. He was the longest-lived Englishman except Jenkins in Yorkshire.

Eight miles from Pontesbury is Cherbury, which conferred the title of Baron upon the famous Lord Herbert.

From Sutton Maddock we pass through Bridgenorth, and Quatford, to Alam Bridge, situated at the eastern part of the county.

In concluding this topographical description, we may be permitted to add, that "no where can be found a more interesting picture of the genuine English character than that exhibited in the state of society in Salop. Its proximity and relation to Wales

probably contributes to preserve the tone and heighten the colouring. The gentry are not, perhaps, wholly free from that species of pride, which consists more in dignity than in haughtiness; it may indeed be termed a failing, but can hardly be deemed a vice; especially, if it does not tend to impede, but rather to encourage the exercise of those social virtues which meliorate the condition of the lower orders. The middling classes partake of the character of the higher orders; they are hospitable and intelligent, and their example has great interest in improving the habits of the labouring classes. The numerous charitable institutions, and the various respectable societies, fully attest the truth of this eulogy."

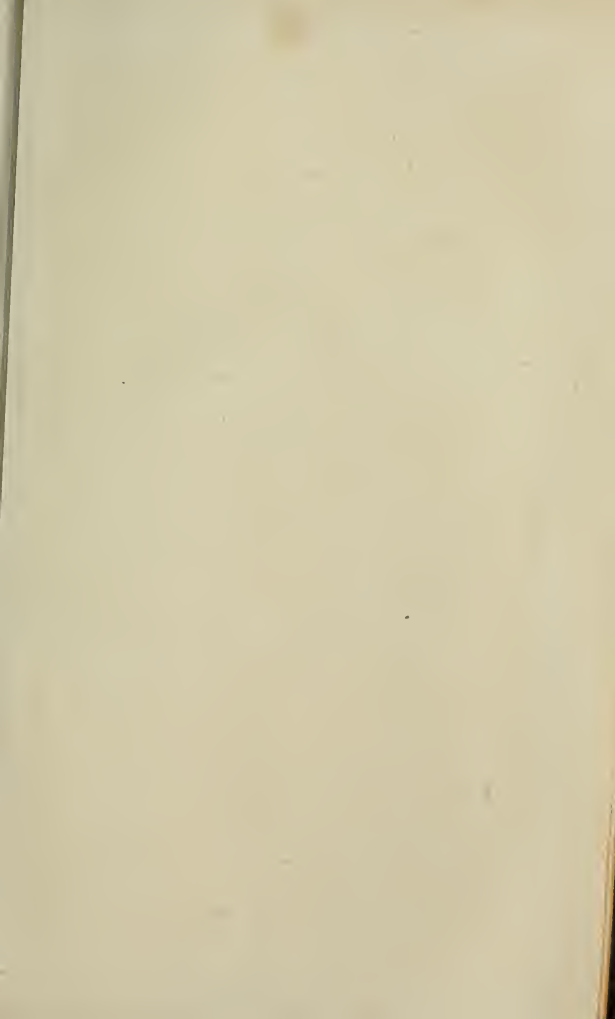
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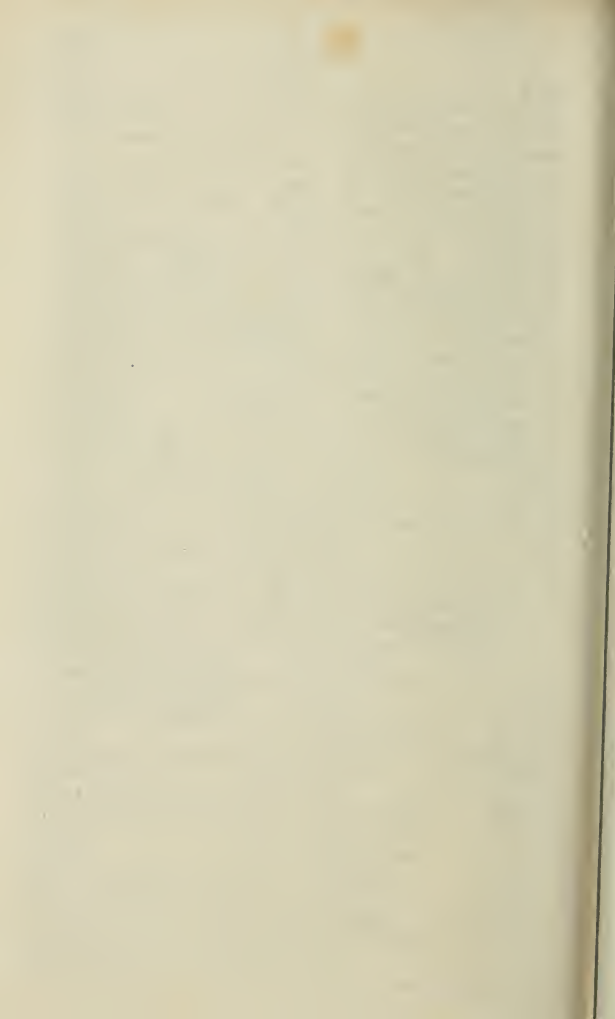
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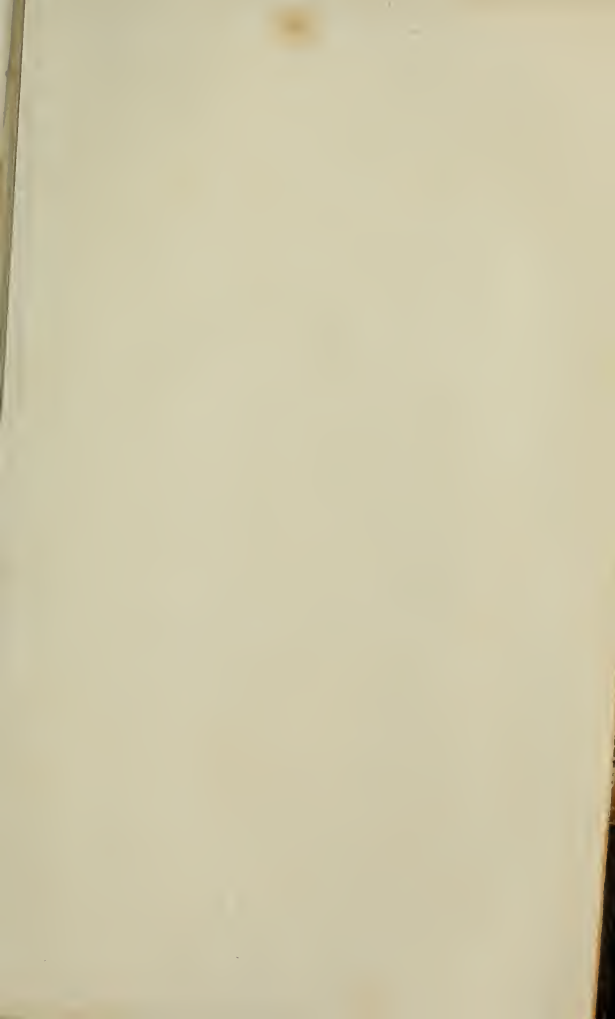
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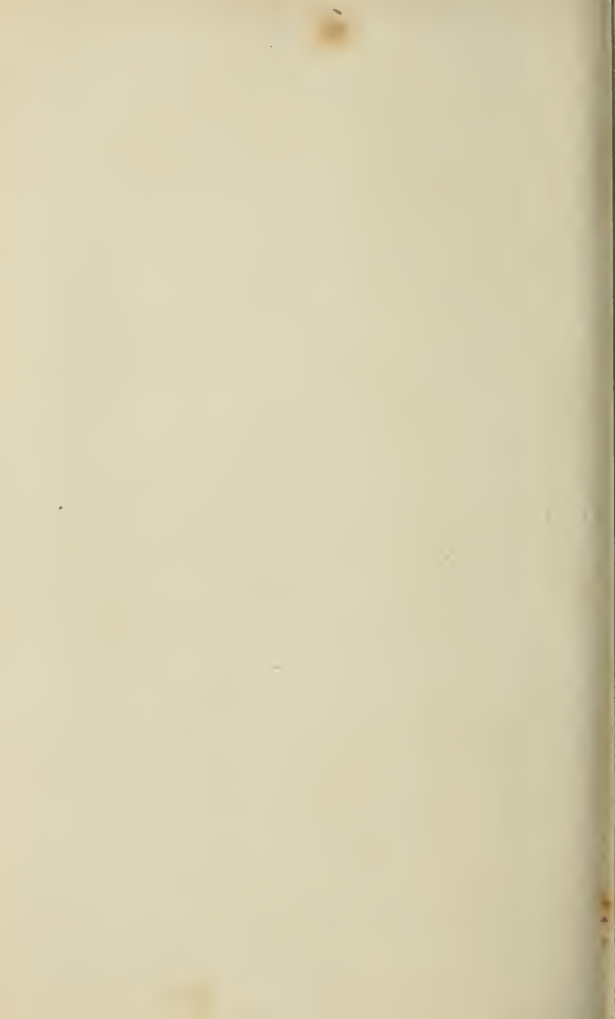


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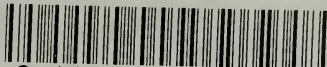




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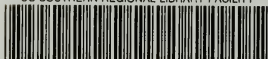
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