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RAILWAYS
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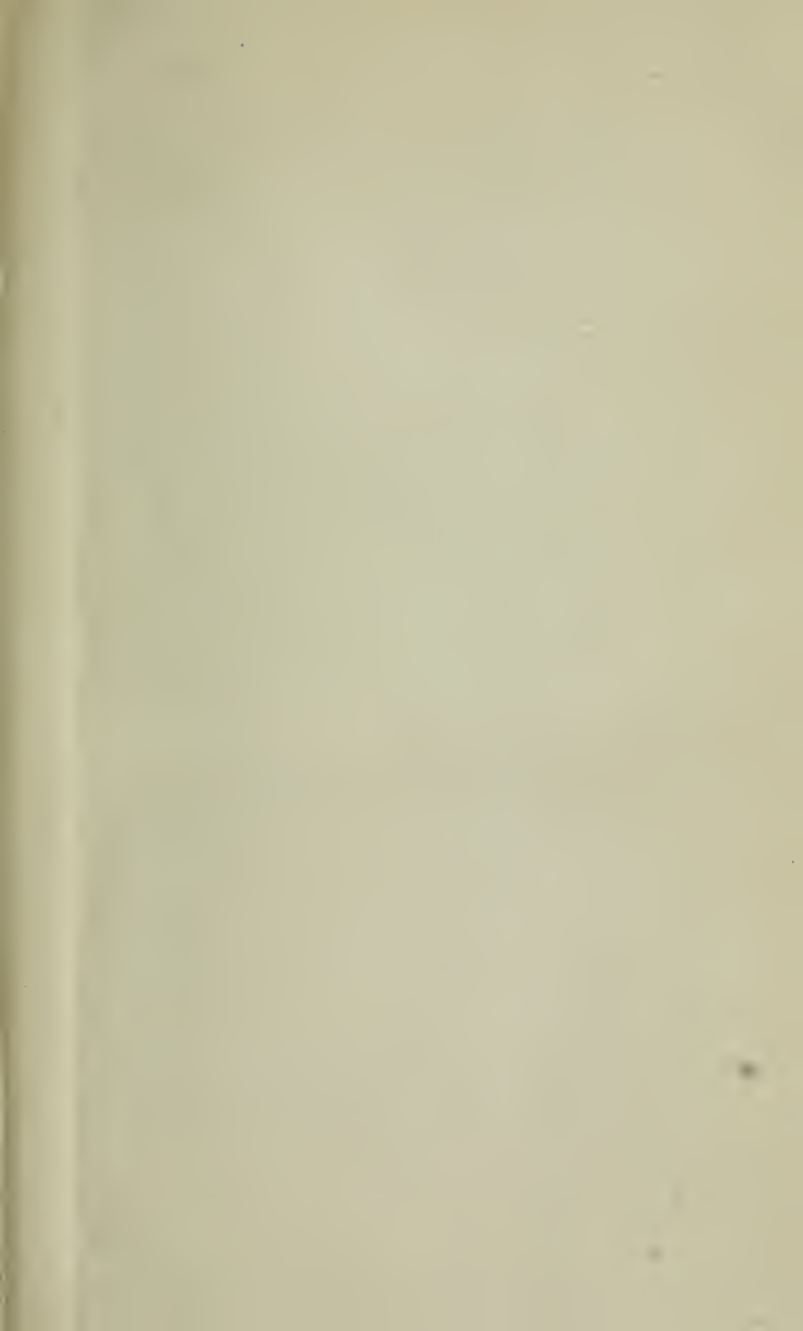


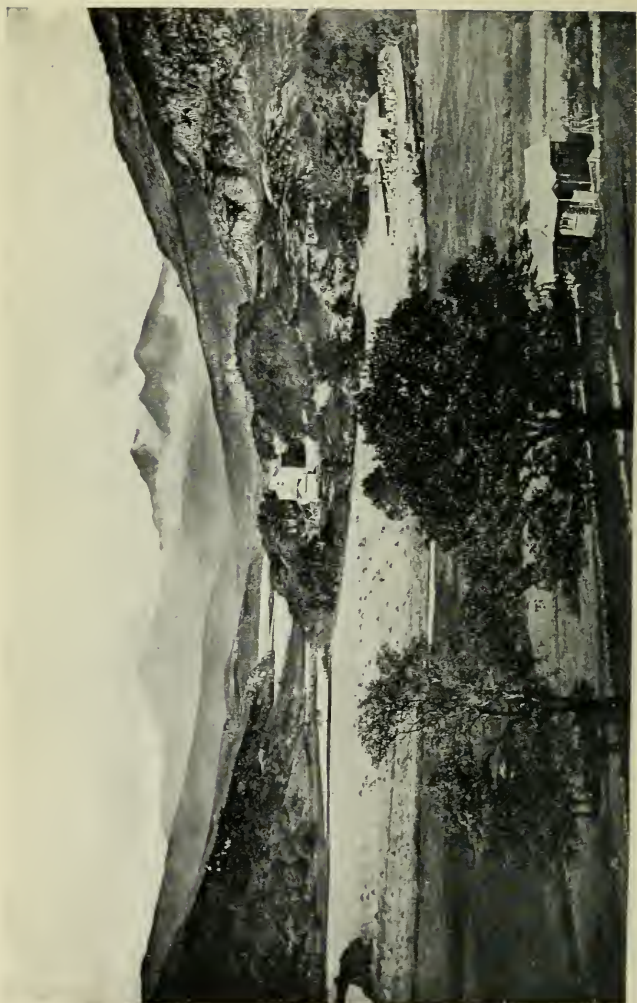
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NORTH WALES

THE LITTLE GUIDES

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VIEW FROM THE MOUNTAINS

8871n

NORTH WALES

By
home
ALFRED T. STORY

*With Thirty-two Illustrations and
Two Maps*

“ A hundred hills their dusky backs upheaved
All over this still ocean ; and beyond,
Far, far beyond, the solid vapours stretched,
In headlands, tongues, and promontory shapes,
Into the main Atlantic, that appeared
To dwindle, and give up his majesty,
Usurped upon far as the sight could reach.”

WORDSWORTH.

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MENAI STRAIT

INTRODUCTORY

I. SITUATION, EXTENT, AND BOUNDARIES

NORTH WALES, which is bounded on the N. by the Irish Sea and the river Dee, on the E. by Cheshire and Salop, on the S. by the Welsh counties of Radnor and Cardigan, and again on the W. by the Irish Sea, is divided into the counties of Anglesey, Caernarvon, Denbigh, Flint, Merioneth, and Montgomery. Anglesey (anciently Mona) has the sea on three of its sides, while on the E. it is separated from the mainland by the Menai Strait, which is 14 m. long, and varies in breadth from a few hundred yards to 2 m. Near Bangor the strait is crossed by the famous Suspension Bridge, commenced in 1819 and opened to the public on January 30th, 1826. A mile lower down the once world-famed Tubular Bridge carries the L. & N.W. Railway across on its way to Holyhead.

This insular county, which measures from E. to W. about 28 m., and from N. to S. about 20, owes its importance in large measure to the circumstance that it has proved for long years the most convenient point from which to reach Dublin. Its general aspect is unattractive, being comparatively flat, subject to fogs, in parts barren and waste, and with a notable lack of trees. Its coast is in parts, especially on the N. and W., characterised by high,

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rocky cliffs, while on the S. it is low, and subject to inroads of the sea.

Caernarvon, which adjoins Anglesey on its western border, is the most characteristic, as well as the most diversified of the Welsh counties. It is irregular in shape, forming a sort of large triangle, the broad base line of which extends from Great Orme's Head, along Menai Strait, to the top of the Lleyrn promontory. Its eastern boundary is formed in the main by the river Conway, and its southern by Cardigan Bay and the river Dwyryd. To it belongs the distinction of containing within its border the most elevated tract of Wales, and, indeed, of S. Britain, being largely overspread by the Snowdonian Mountains. These majestic heights are for the most part destitute of vegetation, except in the cwms or hollows, where a coarse herbage grows. Level and fertile tracts, though they occur here and there, form but a very small proportion of the 365,986 acres which constitute the superficial area of the county. The largest extent of cultivable soil is found in the valley of the Conway.

Denbighshire, a border county on the E., and the most populous division of N. Wales, has a short northern coast line, but considerable extension inland. Though it has much of the mountainous character of the Principality generally, its ruggedness is much softened by many tracts of quiet beauty and fertility, especially in the vales of Clwyd and Llangollen. The county is about 40 m. long and 20 broad, and contains 426,084 acres.

Flintshire is by much the smallest of the six N. Welsh counties, its total area being 163,025 acres. It consists of a narrow maritime tract, 30 m. long by 10 broad, having the estuary of the Dee and

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the sea on the E. and N. respectively, and the river Clwyd and the Clwydian Hills on the W. Besides this main portion of Flint there is a detached area, a sort of enclave between the counties of Chester and Salop, and touching Denbigh on the W. It is 10 m. long and 5 broad, and is known as the Hundred of Maelor (by the Welsh called Maelor Saesneg, as being, as they think, more Saxon than Welsh).

Merionethshire is bounded on the N. by Caernarvonshire and Denbighshire, N.E. by the latter, E. and S.E. by the county of Montgomery, and S. and S.W. by Cardigan and its bay. It is 46 m. in length by 29 in breadth, and has 427,810 acres of surface. Its soil is poor, and suitable only for pasturage. Though it has a long coast line, its only harbours are those of Barmouth and Aberdovey.

Montgomeryshire, the largest and the one wholly inland county of N. Wales, belongs almost entirely to the basin of the Upper Severn, which descends from the side of Plinlimmon on its S.W. border. It includes an area of 510,111 acres, and is for the most part rugged and mountainous, although with considerable stretches of fertile valley towards the English border, where it touches the county of Salop, having Radnorshire to the S.

II. GENERAL PHYSICAL FEATURES, CLIMATE, AND SCENERY

N. Wales is not only notable for its scenery, but for the great variety it presents in that respect. This arises from the extremely diversified character of its surface, as well as from its climate, which from its general mildness in winter, and the bracing

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quality of its air in given localities, has fringed the coast with seaside resorts. The mean annual temperature, like that of the greater part of England, is about 50 F., while at some of the watering-places (like Criccieth—pronounced “Criketh”—with its southerly aspect and protection from northerly winds, like Barmouth and Towyn, also with their shelter N. and E.) it compares favourably with towns on the S. coast like Brighton, Bournemouth, and Torquay. At Barmouth, for instance, the spring temperature ranges from 50 F. in April to 70 F. in June, while in the autumn months it has been found to harmonise very closely with that of Pau. At Towyn the climatic conditions are much the same. The rainfall—with a mean for the whole country of 45 in.—varies considerably at different places. Thus at Barmouth the average annual rainfall is 40 in., while at Portmadoc it is 50, at Dolgelly 60, and at Ffestiniog 100. Ffestiniog owes its pre-eminence in this respect to its position among the mountains, in whose higher valleys the rainfall is naturally the heaviest, unfitting them on that account for agricultural pursuits.

Anglesey is the only one of the six counties that is not of a mountainous nature. All the others have mountain ranges of a distinctive character, and all, with the same exception, have rivers of some size, which naturally add greatly to the scenery of their respective districts.

As regards mountains, Caernarvonshire holds the pre-eminence both as regards the extent covered and the number and height of its peaks. Before the existing division into counties took place, nearly the whole of what is now Caernarvonshire was

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called by the English "Snowdon Forest." The name did not necessarily signify a place covered with trees (although there is reason to believe that many of these mountains, now so bare, were at one time well wooded), but a wild and uncultivable district. Pennant gave it the name of Snowdonia, and the whole of the long range stretching from the towering headland of Penmaenmawr to the Rivals (or Yr Eifl), in the Lleyrn promontory, may be fittingly included under that designation; although the Snowdon range, properly so called, must still comprise only the block of mountains bounded roughly by the Pass of Llanberis, the valley of the Gwynant, and a line drawn from Beddgelert (pronounced Bethgelert¹) through Llyn Cwellyn to Llanberis, with Snowdon as the central peak.

¹ The Welsh alphabet contains 27 characters: A, B, C, D, E, F, Ff, G, Ng, H, I, L, Ll, M, N, O, P, Ph, R, S, T, Th, U, W, and Y. No letter has any variation of sound except the vowels â, ê, ô, û, and w, which, when accented, are more prolonged. They are always pronounced, there being no mutes. A has the same sound as the English open "a" in "man," never as in "table"; E has the sound of "e" in "men"; I as "i" in king, never as "i" in kind; O as "o" in "gone"; U as "i" in limb or "u" in busy. W is a vowel, and has the sound of "w" in "wind," "oo" in "soon," or "o" in "who." Y has two sounds: (1) in the last syllable of a word and in monosyllables it is pronounced like "i" in "sin"; (2) in other syllables it has more the sound of "u" in "must" or "o" in "honey." B and P are used interchangeably, as in "pont" or "bont," a bridge. C is always hard, as in "Cymmer," pronounced "Kimmer." Dd has the sound of "th" in "thus," "that." F is sounded like "v" or like "f" in "of." Ff like "f" in "fell." G is always hard, as in "go," never as in "gentle." Ng has the sound of "ng" in "tongue." Ll is peculiar to the

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Within this triangle, or closely bordering upon it, is included some of the wildest and most beautiful scenery in the country, as we shall see when we come to speak more particularly of its geological characteristics.

To the E. of the Snowdonian range, beyond the valley of the Conway, another long stretch of hills is seen, running N.W. and S.E. These are the Hiraethog Mountains (Mynydd Hiraethog in Welsh), which begin on the bank of the Dee N.W. of Corwen, and running without a break along the E. side of the Conway valley to Eglwys Fach, there turn E., and follow the N. bank of the Elwy to within about 3 m. of the Clwyd. The escarpment of the range lies along the river Conway, its eastern face presenting gentle slopes, with long ridges of hills stretching towards the Clwyd, separated by pleasant vales. The highest peak of the range, Moel Eithin, is 1742 ft. above the sea. In the ridge N. of the Elwy, Molfre Uchaf reaches 1250 ft. and Molfre Isaf 1038 ft. Some of the summits on the ridges branching off to the E. attain a somewhat higher elevation, as Bronbanog, 1656 ft. These mountains consist chiefly of flags and grits, known as Denbighshire grits, interstratified with slaty shales. But on the E. slopes these are found mingled with limestone rocks, and show the beautiful rounded outlines and characteristic flora of that formation.

Welsh tongue, and has the sound of "thl," Llangollen being pronounced *Thlangothlen*. R is always aspirated at the beginning of a word. Th is sounded as in "thank," never as in "thus," "thine." V is sometimes used instead of "f." Like B and P, C and G are often used interchangeably.

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The southern extremity of the Mynydd Hiraethog is contiguous to a range of lofty heights extending E. and W. along the river Dee, and very near its banks, from Corwen to Trevor and Ruabon. It comprises summits of considerable elevation—ranging from 1804 ft. (Moel Morfydd) to 1897 ft. (Moel-y-Gamelin)—and may be considered an offshoot of the Hiraethogs, with all their charm—under a sunny sky—of quiet beauty and haunting wistfulness. Its more noteworthy outlines almost “touch hands” with the southern end of the Clwydian range, which, beginning near Dyserth (2 m. E. of Rhuddlan), runs due S. to Llandegla.

The Clwydian range, composed of mountain limestone, owes most of its characteristic features to that constituent rock, which prevails also on the opposite side of the Vale of Clwyd, running up past Denbigh to St Asaph and thence to Abergele, Colwyn, and the promontory of Orme’s Head, the country of the Elwy, the Dulas, and a score other delightful streams which the nature lover knows so well. A similar range of limestone hills of moderate elevation, known as the Halkin Mountains, intersects the county of Flint from N.E. to S.W., having the Dee on its eastern side and being rich in coal. This makes it specially worthy of the attention of the geologist.

Travelling S. of these main ranges of Denbighshire and Flint, we come to another extensive and very beautiful chain of mountains—that, namely, of the Berwyns. It begins to the N. of Chirk Castle, near the confluence of the Dee and the Ceiriog, the pretty valley of which is one of the gems of the Berwyns country. At Moel Fferna (2070 ft.)

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the range bends to the S.W., and continues in that direction in a somewhat zigzag line past Bala to the Pass of Bwlch-y-groes, the summit of which reaches the notable elevation of 1950 ft. The pass is so called because a wayside cross once crowned the height, placed there to remind the wayfarer of the thanks due to the Unseen Power that guides and protects poor travellers through the wildernesses of this world. And from the Bwlch-y-groes the eye wanders over a wild and desolate wilderness indeed.

Here the Berwyn range unites with that of the Arans, and so continues on to Cader Idris, which on a clear day may be seen looming up, gaunt and grey, in a south-westerly direction. Among the higher peaks of this long stretch of heights are (S. of Moel Fferna) Cader Ferwyn and Moel Sych, both a little over 2700 ft. in height; Aran Benllyn, some 200 ft. higher; and Aran Mawddwy, 2970 ft., the two last named grimly overlooking the long stretch of Bala Lake from the S.

To the E. of this magnificent range, the source of many streams and the two largest of Welsh lakes, lie the alluvial plains of the Severn, bordering which, near where it makes a decided bend E. to get finally into England, rise the pleasing mammilliform Breidden Hills, including the picturesque Moel-y-golfa on the right bank of the river, and Long Mountain, isolated portions of a range that runs S. into Radnorshire, and as the Kerry Hills stretches towards Llanidloes. W. of this quiet little town (noteworthy for the beautiful interior of its church), we reach the bluff slopes and boggy environment of Plinlimmon, whose northern shoulder only protrudes itself into N. Wales.

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Two other striking ranges of hills need to be mentioned in order to complete the mountain systems of this northern half of Wales. The first and most prominent of these may be said to start from Tremadoc, whence trending away first E. and then S.E., and finally bending round so as to form a rough half-circle, it includes Moelwyn (2566 ft.), the Manods, the Migneint Hills (which give rise to the Conway), the bleak Arenigs, and lumpy Rhobell Fawr, thus linking up, so to speak, with the Arans and Cader Idris, whose precipitous northern escarpment limits the view S.

Then, within the arc of this crescent, another interesting range, marked everywhere with the life-prints of prehistoric men, extends in a southerly direction from Maentwrog to Diphwys (pronounced *Dif-foois*), and thence, bending a little W., to Barmouth. Craig-ddrwg, with 2100 ft. of elevation, the two Rhinogs (Fawr and Fach), and Diphwys (2462 ft), the northern buttress of the Llawllech ridge, form the highest summits. It is a land of beautiful lakes and streams, of history, too, the like of which has not been written, if we could but read it.

There was a time, untold ages ago, when the whole of N. Wales was submerged, when bit by bit it began to emerge from the sea, the higher peaks appearing first as little dots of islands, then the secondary heights, and so on, until the central peaks of Snowdonia would form a sort of tableland, while numberless islands, formed by the higher summits of the ranges above named, would spangle like emerald gems the encircling sea. Only by following, as it were, with the mind's eye through successive operations of this kind—the

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gradual submergence of the land and then its re-emergence again and again repeated—can we comprehend, and then but dimly, the age-long process of building up the earth's crust as we now see it in this section of Wales, stratum after stratum, formation after formation, through a period of time in which a thousand years are truly but as a day.

First, after the fundamental Archæan rocks, came the Lower Cambrian formation and then the Upper Cambrian, the assemblage of these beds forming, as Sedgwick found, the main feature of the earth's crust in N. Wales. Following these we next come upon the Ordovician, or Silurian, and the Upper Silurian systems, respecting which it is necessary to point out that the Geological Survey found the upper beds of Sedgwick's Cambrian formation identical with the lower layers of Murchison's Silurian. These early rocks, however, as Harrison well observes, is "most complicated and very difficult to decipher." The wandering student, therefore, must not lose heart if he finds the geological nut rather hard to crack. He will find guidance in the discoveries of Dr Hicks, who is of opinion that in Wales there exist rocks older than either the Silurian or Cambrian strata (coeval, possibly, with the Laurentian rocks of Canada).

In these pre-Cambrian beds, which are of enormous thickness, Hicks distinguishes three divisions: (1) the lowest, consisting of granitoid and gneissic rocks, he names Dimetian; they are overlaid by (2) compact felspathic and quartzose beds, called the Armorican group; and lastly (3) we have the Pebidian strata, schistose slaty rocks, usually of a green colour, volcanic agglomerates, and breccias. These pre-Cambrian stratifications

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form more than one-half of Anglesey. They may be seen and studied to perfection between Bardsey Island and Nevin on the W. side of Lleyn, as also between Bangor and Caernarvon. Nothing in the way of fossils has been discovered in these beds.

The Cambrian system is well exhibited in Caernarvonshire and Merioneth. In the latter county the Llawllech ridge runs N. and S. nearly in the centre of the Cambrian anticlinal, and affords a fine field for the study of the system. The rocks are mostly greenish-grey grits, with some beds of slate, traversed here and there by dykes of igneous rock. The fossils, of marine origin, are confined to worm tracks and worm borings.

Following in order after Cambrian and Silurian strata we get the Old Red Sandstone—not much in evidence, as we shall see, in N. Wales; then the Carboniferous Limestone; the Coal Measures (developed, as we have noted, in Flintshire, and present also in Anglesey); the Permian, the New Red, and the Lias. These, however, do not succeed each other with the regular sequence which they present in the books, but each step upward in the building, so to speak, is marked by interruptions, upheavals, breaks of various sorts, sometimes of the most cataclysmic character. These changes, it is thought, may at times have been caused by astronomical happenings, that is, by variations in the inclination of the poles to the sun. The temperature of this or that zone would in the course of ages be vastly altered, and with it, by a process which it would take too long to explain here, the depth of the sea over a given area, the result being that a certain section of land, like N. Wales, would be gradually submerged to the

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extent, it may be, of hundreds of feet. Along with this piecemeal submergence would come about the coincident lowering of temperature. Bit by bit the country would be subjected to conditions of Arctic rigour, causing the higher peaks of the islands we have described to be capped with perpetual snow, and their sides to be ploughed and gouged and chiselled by down-sliding ice and the rocks and stones embedded in it. The effect of such ploughing and chiselling is still visible—a script for all to read who care to—in many parts of N. Wales, and especially in the Snowdon region.

But after a period of this kind there would be a gradual recovery. The seas would recede and the Arctic climate give place to a more temperate one, with the result that the towering peaks, in place of being grooved and scored by glaciers, would be clothed with vegetation, while the vales below would be scenes of almost tropical luxuriance. All this we know has come and gone many times; but we know also that this orderly sequence, consequent upon the varying relation of the earth's axis to the sun, has from time to time—we know not how often—been interrupted by more cataclysmic changes, by earthquakes that have rent the stratified crust of the earth, often tilting it up edgewise, and thrusting up between its courses of hard slaty schists or ashy conglomerates vast wedges of igneous rocks, felspathic traps or greenstone, basalt, etc. Evidences of such action, as well as of the more specific operation of volcanoes, are to be seen in all the more prominent ranges of N. Wales, thus accounting in some measure for the confused and often conflicting records which its geology presents.

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The coal tract already referred to extends from the Dee estuary southwards through Denbighshire to Oswestry, and is overlaid on the E. by Permian beds and New Red Sandstone, while beneath it, on the W., millstone grit and carboniferous limestone are found. The coal measures of Anglesey, which stretch from Malldraeth Bay on the S. to near the Holland Arms Inn, present similar conditions to those of the eastern field, being overlaid by beds of Permian, while beneath they show millstone grit and mountain limestone. There is also a narrow band of coal on the Anglesey side of Menai Strait, extending from the bridge to Caernarvon, as well as on the opposite shore.

New Red Sandstone skirts the Denbighshire coalfields in the vicinity of Wrexham and Oswestry. It is in evidence also in the Vale of Clwyd, beginning in the N. at the base of the hills lying a little back from the coast E. and W. of Rhyl and extending as far as Llandegla. The entire vale, indeed, so fertile and beautiful, has for its substratum the New Red, covered by glacial drift, and bounded by carboniferous rocks and high Silurian hills. The mountain limestone, which underlies the eastern coal measures and grit, extends S. to the Trevor and Eglwyseg ridge, where it disappears for a space, to reappear in the direction of Oswestry and Llanymynech in a much narrower band.

Speaking of this Eglwyseg ridge, Mr G. H. Morton has remarked that it presents one of the grandest and most accessible exposures of the Lower Carboniferous series in an unbroken sequence from the Old Red Sandstone to the millstone grit. This is a fact to be borne in mind by visitors to Llangollen and Ruthin, where there is another out-

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crop of Old Red, stretching from Llysfalen to the near vicinity of that town.

The chief characteristics of Denbighshire scenery, as also much of that of Montgomeryshire, are derived from the Upper Silurian, which extends over large areas in those counties. This system was first worked out by Sir Roderick Murchison in his "Siluria," wherein he divides the rocks of that system, as we have noted, into Upper and Lower, the former comprising in ascending order the *Lingula* beds (so named from a characteristic fossil shell), the Tremadoc slates, the Llandeilo flags, and the Caradoc or Bala beds. The *Lingula* beds rest conformably on, and in fact pass by gradations into the Cambrian rocks. They are best developed in Merioneth and Caernarvonshire, and consist of black and grey slates with beds of grit. Above this lies a great series of volcanic rocks, consisting of felspathic lavas and ashes, commonly known as the green slates and porphyries. With them are associated the Llandeilo flags, while above and passing into these lie the Caradoc or Bala beds.

The upper strata of the Silurian series, the Ludlow rocks, are not so much in evidence in the parts of which we are speaking as the Wenlock beds that come next in order, but are seen in the strata of Long Mountain, N. of Montgomery, and in their prolongation, the Kerry Hills, dividing Montgomeryshire from Radnorshire. But while the Ludlow rocks are conspicuous by their absence, the Wenlock series present themselves over large though irregular areas. Shales of this period, beginning on the sea-coast of Denbighshire, extend with little interruption to the Dee, where it crosses

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the country from W. to E., practically stamping the geological character of the country W. of Denbigh to the Conway, including of course the Hiraethog Hills, whose higher levels are so often lonesome and desolate, yet possessed of a beauty and charm distinct from anything else in Wales. "Heather-stained and bird-haunted," one friend calls them.

Wenlock shales are again to be found between the Clwydian range and the Halkin Mountains, as also in broad belts and patches between Llanfyllin and Llanerfyl, in the pleasant vales of the Cain and the Banw respectively, on the one hand, and Welshpool and Montgomery (stretching as far S. as Bishop's Castle) on the other; in Long Mountain, W. of Welshpool, exhibiting "a transition from the calcareous development of Shropshire to the calcareous types of Denbighshire."

The beauty of geologising in Wales is that so much is laid open to the eyes and that a sturdy walker can run through so many chapters of nature's book, to examine and compare, in the course of two or three days, nay, between the sunrise and sunset of one. Thus in a brief holiday one may study at first hand the flags and grits (Denbighshire grits), which, interstratified with slaty shales, form the base of the Wenlock series, as they appear in the valley of the Conway, and stretch thence as far S. as Melenydd. E. of Bala Lake this interesting band lies in a deep trough "from 2 to 4 m. wide, and the Tarannon shales and other rocks of the Berwyn Hills rise from underneath their eastern boundary," while N. of the Berwyns, between Corwen and Llangollen, "the Denbighshire grits, more shaly in character, overlies the Tarannon

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shales, and in the valley of the Vyrnwy, and eastward of Welshpool and Long Mountain, the sandy character of the base of the formation disappears." So says Ramsay.

The Denbighshire grits are here underlaid by the Bala beds, which Dr Hicks divides into Upper and Lower, the Upper consisting of shales, flags, and limestone, the Lower of sandstone, shales, calcareous bands, and interbedded volcanic ash. The beds vary much in different districts, consequent on the uneven distribution of interbedded volcanic rocks, and are characteristically developed at Bala, Snowdon, and in Anglesey.

As to holidays, a long week-end could not be better spent than in the valley of the Tarannon River (q.v.), and in the mountains above it, studying the shales that are so peculiar a development of this part of N. Wales. Murchison was the first to discover and describe them. "Occasionally" (he says in his "Siluria") "they are of hard slaty character and of various colours—in some places so pale a grey as to have been termed pale slates." He adds that "fossils are rare, and those which occur do not absolutely determine whether the bed should be classed with the upper Llandovery rocks or with the Wenlock formation."

But the most characteristic features of this eastern section of Merioneth and Montgomeryshire, through which run the Berwyn Mountains, owe their existence very largely to the Lower Silurian or Ordovician series of rocks, which include the Bala, Llandeilo, Lingula, and Arenig formations. The Lingula beds here, as more westerly, in the Harlech, Maentwrog, Dolgelly district, consist chiefly of black and grey micaceous slates and

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sandstones. They abound in worm tracks and have yielded several trilobites (many of which have been obtained in the Ffestiniog slate quarries).

For Llandeilo slates the eastern slopes of the Berwyns may be searched. Here they abound in considerable stretches. They lie with much general uniformity beneath the carboniferous sandstones of the Caradoc or Bala age, and at one place at least a limestone is present rich in the typical fossils of the formation.

For the Lower Llandeilo or Arenig beds, which consist of grit and black slates, we must go to the W. side of the Arenig ranges, where they lie unconformably on the beds beneath. Those remarkable fossils named graptolites, of which several species have been found, first occur in those beds, which yield likewise many trilobites.

Above the Arenig slates are found more slates and flaggy sandstones, generally in beds of enormous thickness, sometimes rendered all the thicker because of interbedded masses of volcanic ash and lava. It is these strata, three thousand and more feet thick, that are mainly concerned in the formation of Cader Idris, Aran Mawddwy, the Arenigs, and Moelwyn, a crescentic chain that holds nearly all Merioneth in its concavity. E. of this range the Llandeilo flags dip under newer rocks to reappear, as we have seen, on the farther side of the Berwyns (at Graig-y-Glyn, for instance). They are typically evidenced in the formation of the ever-attractive Breidden Hills. *Orthoceras*—a long straight shell—is the characteristic fossil.

In the valley of the Vyrnwy, as well as in that of the Tanat (where the rocks may be examined

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in a splendid exposure along a ravine above Llanrhaiadr), the beds show a "transverse slaty cleavage."

W. of this district we come upon the band of Denbighshire grits, above referred to as extending from the valley of the Conway, and lying to the E. of Bala Lake "in a trough from two to four miles wide." These grits, allied with the Wenlock slates, break the connection between the Lower Silurian series of Merioneth, where we get the development of this formation in its most striking shape, that is, broken up by igneous rocks and extending from the northern peaks of Snowdonia to the Arenigs and Cader Idris.

After the display of volcanic activity which occurred in N. Wales during the period to which the Llandeilo flags owe their deposition, there appears to have been an epoch of tranquillity; and it was then that on the shallow sea-bottom was deposited the sediment that went to form the black and blue slates comprising the Lower Bala beds. Later, there was a renewed outburst of volcanic energy, supposed to have been submarine, and fresh beds of ash and lava on a large scale attest the force and duration of the cataclysm. The formation resulting from these igneous agencies, says Harrison, "can be traced from Towyn and Aberdovey, N.E. by Dinas Mawddwy to Bala; then it curves round to Bettws-y-Coed and Criccieth." In this stratification two thin beds of limestone occur, called respectively, from the places where they typically occur, the Rhiwlas of Bala and the Hirnant limestones. From these limestone bands large numbers of fossils have been obtained. They include branchiopod shells, star-

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fishes, crinoids, and trilobites, the last named in specially large quantities.

The period of these limestone beds is one of great importance in the geological history of N. Wales, and cannot be too carefully studied. Their eastward dip, S. of Bala, carries them under a long strip of Silurian rock, on the E. of which they reappear and form the range of the Berwyns, at the same time giving the dominant character to its scenery and largely influencing its flora. In this district, while the Hirnant limestone has disappeared, the Bala limestone is still present.

During the epoch which produced these beds, the Snowdon region appears to have been the scene of enormous volcanic activity, and the lava and ashes then poured out are to be traced in prominent and striking characters on every hand.

“North of Moel Siabod,” says Ramsay, “the Bala beds assume a markedly different character from that which they possess between Dinas Mawddwy and Dolwyddelan, for they contain a much greater number of interbedded felstones and volcanic ashes, which range northwards to Conway, and thence southwards along the higher Caernarvonshire mountains. Carnedd Llewelyn, Carnydd Dafydd, Y Glyder-faur, Snowdon, and Moel Hebog are the chief mountains in the wildest and grandest part of N. Wales; and these, like the ranges of Cader Idris, the Arans, and Moelwyn, consist in a great degree of volcanic products.”

Snowdon itself owes its premier position among Welsh mountains to several circumstances. Among these may be enumerated the extreme hardness of the beds of rock of which it is composed, and the

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position in which they lie, bent into a synclinal curve that has greatly reduced the effects of rain, frost, and ice. This base of the mountain is formed of the slates and fossiliferous grits of the Bala beds. On these lie three extensive beds of felspathic porphyry. Still higher are beds of felspathic, sandy, and volcanic ashes; while, highest of all, are seen the remains of a stratum of felspathic lava, here and there, in outlying portions, showing interstratifications of ashes.

The way in which these various stratifications have been acted upon by the agencies of water and weather in the form of glaciers and allied phenomena, the reader will find referred to in the list of places under "Snowdon," the "Pass of Llanberis," "Nant Ffrancon" (pronounced "Frangon"), etc.

On the western flanks of the Caernarvonshire range we come upon the Cambrian grits and slates. The term Cambrian has been used somewhat differently by different geologists. The purple grits and slates, to which the name was restricted by Murchison, form the greater part of the hills that lie immediately E. of Cardigan Bay. They are likewise well seen in the anticlinal W. of Snowdon, where the famous slate quarries of Dinorwic, Nantlle, and Bethesda lie in the Cambrian strata, and where, it may be worth noting, a courteous application to the respective managers will generally result in permission being given to go over the quarries, so full of interest to the geologist.

In most places these Cambrian grits and slates are unfossiliferous (or but doubtfully fossiliferous); albeit at St David's, among the lower beds of this series, numerous fossils in purple shales have been

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found, including a small bivalve crustacean and two brachiopods, while in higher strata of the series two sponges and various trilobites have rewarded the search of investigators.

These Cambrian slates are overlaid by the Lingula flags, and they by the Llandeilo beds, which, with porphyritic intrusions, again lie below Caradoc or Bala strata. The same series is continued with little variation into Merionethshire, where the Cambrian prevails from Maentwrog to Barmouth, W. of the southern road from Trawsfynydd (pronounced "Trowsvunith") to Dolgelly. It rises in what has been described as a dome, from which Lingula flags radiate on every side, rising from the interbedded igneous strata of the Llandeilo age.

Of this important series Ramsay says, "These volcanic rocks belong to two sections of the Cambrian period, for the felstone-porphyrries and felspathic ashes, and perhaps even the intrusive greenstones of Merionethshire, were formed during the deposition of the Llandeilo strata, while the same species of thick-bedded traps and ashes on Snowdon and the surrounding mountains are high in the Bala or Caradoc series. In both cases they form the highest mountain ridges in Wales, not from the upheaval caused by the intrusion of igneous masses in special areas, but simply from the circumstance that long after their formation, and after the volcanoes had become extinct, the whole of the rocks of the area had been disturbed, and the igneous masses now rise so high because they have better withstood disintegration than the solid rocks with which they are interbedded."

It is possible that these notes on the geology of

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N. Wales may at first sight appear somewhat dry and fragmentary, as all scientific details must, unless the reader bring a sympathetic mind to their consideration; but let the holiday-maker, with the needful equipment for research, select any of the districts herein named, and with even these imperfect notes as guide (though only designed to awaken interest), he will soon find the dry bones begin to stir and the whole subject glow and kindle with life.

III. PHYSICAL FEATURES AND SCENERY (CONTINUED) —LAKES AND RIVERS

The rivers of a country are the sure guides to its most secret and picturesque recesses, and this is particularly the case in N. Wales. It may be truly said that he who knows the rivers of the country is acquainted with its rarest beauties and charms. These indeed, to a very large extent, the water-courses make. A well-known artist has said that clouds are the expression of landscape; with equal truth it may be affirmed that water is its life. Take the great landscape paintings, and it will be found that 90 per cent. of them owe their beauty and vitality to the water depicted in the view. No one, of course, is better aware of this than the artist, whose pencil and brush have left few of the Welsh streams untouched.

The rivers of N. Wales are not large. There is but one among them of the first importance, and that belongs to N. Wales only in its upper reaches. Beauty, however, is an attribute that allies itself with the small and medium-sized more often than with the big, and hence in these N. Welsh streams

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we often find a delightsomeness and charm almost in an inverse ratio to their size.

It is not for us to say which is the most beautiful of these rivers. Each has its special features that ally it to the beautiful: one in its broad and placid flow amid scenes of quiet and almost domestic fruitfulness; another in its savage wildness; a third in its combination of the two extremes. Many of the Welsh streams show this, the last-named, quality. Others, like the Severn and the Clwyd, are almost uniformly sylvan and idyllic in character. These two in particular have been singled out as presenting English rather than Welsh characteristics. The first is, of course, in much the larger half of its course, an English river; but the Clwyd is wholly Welsh; yet the vale through which it flows, a strip, as we have seen, of new red sandstone, looks like a bit taken out of one of the near-lying pastoral counties of England and planted amid the older and more rugged formations of Cambria. "Seen," says Sir A. C. Ramsay, "from the heights above Bryn Eglwys (about 6 m. S. of Ruthin), there are few scenes in Wales more lovely than the wooded plains of the Clwyd. Overlooked on one side by the barren range of Moel Fammau, and on the other by the limestone cliffs of Denbigh and Abergele, the fertile lowland forms a marked contrast to the wildness of the hills amid which it lies, while far in the distance the plain merges at length into the low alluvial marshes that skirt the shores of Rhyl."

The Clwyd has its source on the slope of Bronbanog, near the border of Merionethshire. It flows as a small rivulet through Gors Clwyd, and passes thence under the bridge Pont-y-Breteille,

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where it forms the boundary of Denbigh and Merioneth. A little farther on it turns N.E., and runs close to Nant Clwyd. Flowing thence N., it is joined by the Heskin at Pont-Newydd-Eyarth, and after a course of 2 or 3 m. reaches Ruthin. Up to this point the valley of the Clwyd is narrow, and abounds in beautiful scenery. N. of Ruthin it enters upon a wide vale, "celebrated" (says Lewis the Younger) "for the richness of its soil, the luxuriousness of its produce, and the cheerful beauty of its scenery." Passing now between the villages of Llanychan and Llanynys, it is presently joined by the Clywedog, flowing from the slopes of Bwlch Ddu, a little to the N. of Llandyrnog. Flowing now with steady broadening current in a N.W. direction to St Asaph, picturesquely situated between the Clwyd and its tributary the Elwy, the two unite their waters a couple of miles above Rhuddlan, whence through the wide and fertile flat of Morfa Rhuddlan the brimming stream takes its way to the Irish Sea, which it enters immediately W. of Rhyl.

The Dee, the largest river in N. Wales, and the most esteemed, has its source in the parish of Llanuwchllyn, under Dduallt Hill, some 4 or 5 m. S.W. of Bala Lake. It is here known as the Dyfrdwy, "the Water of the Divinity," the name which the Welsh still bestow on the whole of the river. Other derivations of the name are current, but the one here given seems most in keeping with the great veneration in which the stream was anciently held by the natives, who, when about to engage in battle, would devoutly bend down and kiss the earth, and then drink of the sacred flood.

Before entering the lake the Dee is joined by

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two other steams, the Lliw and the Twrch, the three uniting their waters a little below the village of Llanuwchllyn, and flowing into the lake at its S.W. extremity, near Caer Gai, an old Roman station. There was formerly a stronghold belonging to Cai Hir ap Cynyr, or, as Spenser has called him, Timon, the foster-father of King Arthur, who spent his youth here. The poet describes the place in the beautiful lines—

“ His dwelling is lowe in a valley greene,
Under the foot of Rauran (Yr Aran) mossy hore,
From whence the river Dee, as silver cleene,
His tomling billowes rolls with gentle rore.”

Bala Lake, Llyn Tegid, or Pimblemere, as it is also sometimes called, is about 4 m. in length, with an average breadth of half a mile. Next to Lake Vyrnwy it is the largest in Wales. The scenery around it is mountainous, though not of a character to render it particularly striking. Still, under fitting conditions it is very beautiful, reminding one somewhat of Windermere. As in the case of many other lakes, the waters of Llyn Tegid traditionally cover a city—Old Bala, as it is sometimes called—that was overwhelmed for its sins. The fishing (for trout and pike) in the lake is good, and is free over most of the N. section. A phenomenon that used to be the source of much inconvenience to dwellers on the lower reaches of the Dee, namely, the sudden rise of the lake under a S.W. wind, and its consequent overflow into the river, has been remedied of late years by the construction of self-acting sluices. Tennyson, who spent some time in the neighbourhood while engaged on his poem of “Geraint and Enid,” refers to this peculiarity in the much-admired simile—

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“ Her constant motion round him, and the breath
Of her sweet tendance hovering over him,
Fill'd all the genial corners of his blood
With deeper and with ever deeper love,
As the south-west that blowing Bala lake
Fills all the sacred Dee.”

The river, which, according to popular superstition (supported by so eminent an authority as Giraldus Cambrensis), passes through the lake without mingling its waters therewith, emerges at the N.E. corner, where it is spanned by a bridge, not far from Bala, called Pont Mwnwgl-y-llyn (“the Bridge at the Neck of the Lake”), near which are to be seen traces of a former stronghold known as Castell Gronw (erected 1202). When the river issues from the lake it is (notwithstanding the superstition) as a greatly augmented stream, and it is still further increased in volume before it has gone very far, first by the Tryweryn, near Bala, and later, just before it reaches Corwen, by the Alwen (q.v.). After quitting that town, it descends 300 ft. within a distance of 10 m. Crossing then the county of Denbigh from W. to E., it takes its final northerly course soon after leaving the beautiful Vale of Llangollen, and after many a bend and turn at last mingles with the tide a little above Chester, having in the meantime been joined by the Ceiriog and the Alyn (q.v.).

While the Clwyd and the Dee have a northerly course, the Severn, beginning with an E. and then an N.E. course, finally flows S. to the Bristol Channel. As a Welsh river, however, its general direction is north-easterly. It has its rise in a small spring on the N.E. side of Plinlimmon, just above Blaen Hafren, and as the Hafren flows E.

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to Llanidloes, where it is joined by the Clywedog. Its course then becomes more northerly till Caersws is reached. It is here but a narrow stream a few yards in width, winding along a vale much flatter and more highly cultivated than is common in the interior of Wales. Caersws is an old Roman station of considerable note, supposed to have taken its name from a famous queen named Swsan. The site of the ancient encampment is still well marked, showing a quadrangular rampart, with traces of a fosse on the N.W. side.

Caersws is situated in the midst of a valley watered by three other streams besides the "princely Severn," namely, the Tarannon, the Ceryst, and the Carno, all of them considerable affluents. From Caersws the river pursues a winding course almost due E., "'tween sedgy banks," as far as Newtown, where it turns more to the N. and reaches Abermule. Half a mile short of this place, on the N. side of the river, the ruins of Castell Dolforwyn are to be seen on the summit of a lofty hill, commanding the whole of the surrounding country. From it a wide view of the Vale of the Severn may be obtained, and of the river as it winds through it, amid a varied landscape of woody hill and lowland meadow.

At the foot of the hill is the village of Dolforwyn, which means "the Meadow of the Virgin," a name supposed to have reference to the legendary story of Sabrina, of which Milton makes such beautiful use in his "Comus."

From Abermule the Severn takes a more northerly course, passing Berriew, where it is joined by the Rhiw, and a little farther N. by the Camlad, or Camlet, which enjoys the distinction

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of being the only river that flows from England into Wales. From thence a slightly more easterly course is followed until Llandrinio is reached, where the stream turns due E. and quickly crosses the border into England, being joined by the Vyrnwy (or Fyrnwy) just before it quits the Principality.

The river Vyrnwy has its rise in the lake of that name, which is situated some 6 m. S.E. of Bala Lake. Prior to 1881 the valley in which Lake Vyrnwy now reposes was the bed of a stream of comparatively small dimensions, the Vyrnwy, whose waters were supplied by a number of feeders having their sources on the slopes of Moel-y-cerrig (2049 ft.), Allt-yr-Erydd, Carreg-y-big (1937 ft.), and other summits of the Berwyn range, forming the watershed between the counties of Montgomery and Merioneth. But in that year the Liverpool Corporation, having obtained the necessary powers, began the work of converting the valley into a huge reservoir for the supply of that city with water. It was a stupendous task, but was carried out with entire success (thanks to the ability of Mr G. F. Deacon and Mr T. Hawksley, the engineers); the result being a lake nearly 5 m. in length (about 1 m. longer than Bala), and about half a mile in breadth, with an area of 1120 acres.

The crucial feat of this great undertaking was the construction of a dam across what we may call the outflow neck of the valley, whose trend is from N.W. to S.E. This dam or causeway (for it is both) is 1172 ft. in length, and its total height 161 ft., 60 ft. of it being buried in the foundations. At its base it measures 120 ft. in thickness, its width gradually decreasing to a roadway of 20 ft. between the parapets. This roadway is carried



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over thirty-three arches, the middle ones serving as outlets for flood water. In dry weather there is little if any overflow; but when the rains come down and there is anything like a torrential rush from the hills, then the sight of their surplus waters coming over the dam in a cascade nearly 600 ft. wide and something like 80 ft. in depth is superb in the extreme.

The water thus stored up is conveyed to Liverpool, a distance of 75 m., by means of an aqueduct, in parts underground, going by way of Oswestry (where it is filtered through sand) and Malpas to the local reservoirs at Prescot, the total supply, when required, being calculated at 40,000,000 gallons per diem. The work connected with this gigantic undertaking includes a tower standing in the lake some distance from the shore and rising 113 ft. above the water, its purpose being to give the water, before starting on its course, a preliminary filtering through copper wire gauze; a tunnel $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. long at the outflow from the lake at Hirnant; a carriage road of $13\frac{1}{2}$ m. round the lake, and in addition a fine hotel at the S.E. end of it, overlooking the near village of Llanwddyn (q.v.). The hotel is well placed, high above the lake, and commands a fine view, both of the Vyrnwy Valley and the splendid stretch of water that fills it, and of Aran Mawddwy and other heights in the distance. It is worthy of note that Vyrnwy, the largest lake in Wales, has nothing of the artificial about its appearance. It looks as natural as Bala, and though different in its surroundings, is quite as beautiful an object. There is good fishing to be had in the lake, trout being fairly abundant.

The river Vyrnwy emerges from the lake at its

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S.E. end, and after flowing first S. and then E. for some distance (taking the name, along one stretch, of the Bechan), it finally adopts a N.E. course, passing Meifod and Llansantffraid-y-Mechan (at the latter place turning E.), and after a meandering run of some miles joining the Severn at Molverley.

Next to the Dee, perhaps the most important river of N. Wales is the Conway (written "Conwy" by the natives), forming through nearly the whole of its extent the dividing line between Caernarvonshire and Denbighshire. It has its source in Llyn Conway, a peculiarly shaped lake on the summit of a high hill, at the point where the counties of Caernarvon, Denbigh, and Merioneth meet. The lake is situated amid a wild confusion of rocks, is well-nigh surrounded with bogs, and has for background on nearly every side one or other of the Snowdonian peaks. Flowing swiftly over its rugged mountain course, the river soon reaches Ysphyty Ivan.

Below this place, after passing Pant Glâs, it descends into a deep wooded glen, wherein its course is nearly choked with rocks, over which it rampages with much noise and fury, finally reaching Pont Rhyd Llanfair, where there is much fine woodland scenery, backed by some of the Snowdonian summits. From this bridge the Conway pursues its course between rugged banks, gradually increasing in elevation as it nears the mouth of the Machno, where it is marked by a deeper channel and larger masses of impeding rock.

Increased in volume by the waters of the Machno—which rises on the rocky Bwlch Carreg-y-fran and, descending N.E. through a mountain gorge,

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passes Penmachno, and thence hurries to extinction—the Conway, making a rapid turn, shoots with great velocity over a mass of rock in two narrow falls, over which towers a lofty rock known as Craig-y-Ddinas. About a mile below the falls the river is joined by the Lledr, when, turning due N., it continues its course amid most beautiful scenery, in which mountain and woodland are charmingly blended, until Bettws - y - coed is reached. Here the Conway is joined by the Llugwy. The scenery now becomes tamer and more sylvan in character, though in parts still very beautiful; and as the vale widens and cultivation increases, as is the case when Llanrwst is reached, the scene presented on all sides is one of almost romantic peace and quiet. The same features persist as the river flows on, past Trefriw and Caerhun, to its outlet into the sea by Conway town.

During its course of about 30 m. the Conway receives, besides the streams already mentioned, the waters of the Ceirw, the Cletur, the Afonddu, the Porth-lwyd, the Dilyn, etc. In its upper reaches the river abounds with trout, and has many favourite resorts for anglers; while its mouth has been celebrated from the earliest times for the pearl mussel, which still has its seekers as of old, though it does not appear to be a very profitable industry. For some 10 m. from its mouth the Conway is a tidal water, and is navigable by steamers and other craft up to a hundred tons burden.

The Ogwen, a purely Caernarvonshire river, has its source in Y Tryfan, that immense pile of bare rock in the heart of Snowdonia, whence, flowing under a wooden footbridge, it enters Llyn Ogwen.

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The river emerges from this long and somewhat gloomy expanse of water at its western extremity, when, after passing under a small bridge, its waters are augmented and its velocity increased by the inrush of a mountain torrent descending through a cleft in the rocks from Llyn Idwal. The Ogwen now dashes forward amid rocks and stones, bounding from ledge to ledge till, after a descent of some 200 ft., it reaches the narrow valley of Nant Ffrancon (said to signify the Beaver Glen), 3 m. in length. Here its turbulence is reduced to a calmer flow, as it winds its way amid green meadows at the foot of stupendous heights. An excellent road runs through the vale to Bethesda and Bangor, passing on its way Ogwen Bank, a shooting seat belonging to Lord Penrhyn. Lower down, the valley of the Ogwen broadens out, and as Bethesda is approached signs and sounds of slate quarrying are more and more seen and heard, until the traveller finds himself in the midst of a scene as busy and striking as any to be witnessed in the country.

It is well-nigh impossible to give the reader an idea of the almost stupendous nature of the scenery he encounters in pursuing his way along the valley of the Ogwen. The height of the mountains, especially to the S., the grandeur of their outlines, the immense fragments, *roches moutonnées*, as the geologist calls them, everywhere visible on the mountain sides, and looking as though they might come down at any moment—all combine to create in the mind of the observer a feeling of wonder and astonishment not unmingled with awe. The impression is in some respects deepened when he reflects upon the forces that have been at work

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through the ages scooping out the vales and hollows on either hand, and perching gigantic fragments on dizzy slopes, which one thinks a breath might topple down and bring crashing to the bottom. Nowhere in N. Wales are there more striking evidences of glacial action than those presented in Nant Ffrancon and some of the cwms opening into it. "From Ogwen Bank to the ground opposite Ty'n-y-maes," says Professor Ramsay,¹ "for a distance of a mile, all the low ground of the river is occupied by smoothly glaciated, undulating rocks, marked by numerous smaller mammillations, and dotted with erratic blocks, chiefly of felspathic porphyry." Moreover, "any one who will take the trouble to ascend Cwm Ceunant will also find striæ in the lower part of the valley running in the same direction" (that is, a little W. of N.); "and what is more remarkable, on the ice-worn Cambrian grits that form the shoulder of Bron Llwyd, at a higher level than the Penrhyn slate quarries, well-marked striæ follow the same course about 700 ft. above the river, probably intimating that at a certain period the ice of the glacier was here at least of that height."

Similar phenomena are to be seen on every hand throughout this wonderful vale, but nowhere more strikingly than in Cwm Graianog, in which, "at the mouth of the valley above the steeper descent to Nant Ffrancon, a small but beautifully symmetrical terminal moraine crosses the valley in a crescent-shaped curve."

Many other of the N. Welsh river valleys present

¹ In his "Old Glaciers of Switzerland and North Wales."

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similar phenomena, including that of the Seiont ; but it must suffice in this section to refer to the Mawddach, with its tributary the Wnion, and the Dwyryd. The last-named, which flows through the N.W. district of Merionethshire, has its name from *dwy*, two, and *rhyd*, a ford or passage—the Cynfael and the Rrurry, which at their junction become the Dwyryd, being both fordable at that point. The Cynfael rises in the mountains to the E. and rushes with great impetuosity through a deep and narrow glen, forming two or three considerable cascades and a number of smaller ones in its course. The principal ones, which are within an easy walk of Ffestiniog, are well worth a visit, as is also Hugh Lloyd's Pulpit, concerning which there is an amusing legend, probably more than half apocryphal. The Rrurry is formed by the united waters of several mountain torrents, the two leading ones coming down from Llyn Tigil and a lakelet on the side of Moelwyn named Cwm Orthin. Ffestiniog is situated at the junction of the two streams, both of which are crossed by bridges close to their confluence. From that over the Rrurry a most pleasing view is obtained.

After leaving Ffestiniog the Dwyryd flows tranquilly amid delightful scenery to Maentwrog, where is a bridge uniting that place with Tan-y-Bwlch and its noted inn, the "Oakley Arms." Below Maentwrog the river is joined by the Felenryd, which rises in the hills beyond Trawsfynydd, and on its way to the Dwyryd forms the celebrated falls known as the Raven and the Rhaiadr Du (the Black Cataract). The Dwyryd now enters the sands of Traethbach, and its waters are soon lost in Cardigan Bay. The whole of this

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famous vale, with its neighbouring cwms and hollows, is full of geological interest, and in especial Cwm Orthin, which Professor Ramsay particularly recommends "all walking tourists" to visit, in order to see and examine the "series of magnificent *roches moutonnées* and *blocs perchés* below the mouth of the lake, which are best seen looking down the valley."

The Mawddach has its source in the parish of Llanuwchllyn, deriving its first waters from Llyn-yr-y-Wann. For some miles it flows through a dreary and uninteresting country, with the bold crags of Rhobell Fawr overlooking it to the S., and bare, heather-covered hills to the N. For the first 4 or 5 m. of its course it runs due W. Then it bends a little more to the S., and just below the Morgan Gold Mines descends a series of rocks in a beautiful fall (much marred by the stream being partially diverted to turn a large water-wheel connected with the mines). In spite of the works, however, the cascade is a very fine one, being broken into three distinct portions by projecting rocks. The ravine, moreover, through which the river forces its way, being well wooded, adds greatly to the effectiveness of the picture. Immediately below the fall the Mawddach is joined by the Cain, and, continuing its southerly course, successively receives the tribute of the Eden and the Camlan, the former coming from the vicinity of Y Graig-ddrwg, the latter from the hills to the W. A little below its confluence with the Camlan the river takes its course through the Glanllwyd Valley, and presently reaches Dolgelly, to be there united with the Wnion in the woods of Hengwrt.

The Wnion has its rise on the N. slope of Aran Benllyn, 3 m. S.W. of Bala Lake. Thence it

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passes Drws-y-Nant, and, pursuing a S.W. course, enters a rocky gorge and, making a number of cascades, finally arrives at Pont Newydd, a stone bridge of a single arch. The scenery through which the increasing Wnion now flows is of a most magnificent character. "The river, meandering among verdant meadows, is accompanied on the S.E. by a hill covered with wood feathering down to the water's edge, above which is a heathy plain, succeeded by wide-spreading masses of barren rock or heath, the whole crowned by the great craggy peaks of Cader Idris." Pursuing its course, the river, approaching Dolgelly through a delightful vale, turns more to the W., skirts the town on the N., and passing beneath a handsome stone bridge, hastens to its junction with the Mawddach.

The extensive slope of hill and moorland marked by the valleys of the Mawddach and the Wnion, though on a scale so much larger, is no less interesting geologically than the valley of the Ogwen. All the striations in the valley of Dolgelly and the estuary of the Mawddach, says Sir Andrew Ramsay, follow the south-westerly trend of the valley, the glacier that filled it when at its greatest being fed by the snows of the slopes of Cader Idris and Aran Mawddwy, and those of the tributary valleys that joined it from the N. From a central low watershed, near the sources of the Wnion, another branch passed north-easterly into and far beyond the region now occupied by Bala Lake.

The evidences of this glacial action are to be seen in the rocks exposed among the sands at low tide in the Mawddach estuary and in the marshy

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flats opposite Barmouth, as well as in all the valleys of a westerly trend in the Merioneth mountains; and those interested in such matters may spend days and even weeks, with no less pleasure than profit, in the examination of these wonderful "records of the rocks."

IV. FLORA AND FAUNA

The botanist will find in N. Wales a fine field for his studies, and this for the reason that he has not only the sea-shore and the plains, with their varied plant life, for his researches, but the mountains also, with their different forms of vegetation, their lakes, and their bog-lands. Perhaps the mountainous parts present the most of interest to the botanically minded, and yet it may be doubted whether the experienced hand in these matters would not give the palm to Anglesey, the flattest of the six N. Welsh counties. For Anglesey having an extensive range of coast, with much sandy beach, marsh and bogland, affords exceptional conditions for variety of flora. What is more, in comparison with some districts, like that of Snowdon, it is as untrodden ground, and thus has not been denuded of its rarities by the hands of the unscrupulous collector. The sands and marshy flats between Aberffraw and Newborough, on the S.W. coast, are particularly rich in certain sea-grasses, rushes, and the like. Among other rarities that may be found there are *Arenaria peploides* (Sea Purslane), *Arenaria tenuifolia* (Fine-leaved Sandwort), *Phleum arenarium* (Sand Timothy Grass), *Crabe maritima* (Seakale), *Erigeron acris* (Fleabane Erigeron), *Silene maritima* (Sea Champion),

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Mathiola sinuata (Sea Stock), *Rupia maritima* (Tassel Pond Weed). Another interesting plant found here, especially about Newborough Sands, is the Sea Matweed or Maram (*Psamma arenaria*), the weaving of which into mats, etc., forms quite an industry in the neighbourhood. In the same vicinity (Maes - y - Porth Woods) is, or was, found the pretty Star of Bethlehem (*Ornithogalum umbellatum*).

Among other plants which find a favourite habitat in Anglesey are the Yellow Water-lily (*Nuphar lutea*), found in slow rivers and ponds; the Spotted Rock-rose (*Helianthemum guttatum*); the Marsh Gentian (*Gentiana pneumonanthe*); the Marsh Cinquefoil (*Potentilla palustre*); the Narrow-leaved Speedwell (*Veronica scutellata*), which loves swamps and pond sides, as does likewise *Lysimachia vulgata* (the Yellow Loosestrife). The Blue Fleabane (*Erigeron actis*) is, or was, found on the little island of Llanddwyn (pronounced "Thlanthooin" —q.v.), and the Sea Bindweed (*Convolvulus soldanella*) on sandy coasts (as well as in Merioneth and Caernarvonshire). The beautiful Flowering Rush (*Butomus umbellatus*) affects the rivulets and ditches, on whose banks may frequently be found *Apium graveolens* (Smallage or Celery).

Asparagus officinalis (Common Asparagus) is found on sandy banks by the sea, near Aberffraw; also, on the same coast, *Beta maritima* (Sea Beet). *Statice arenaria* and *S. limonium* (Common and Lavender Thrift) are found on the N.E. coast (the former especially at Dulas Bay), as well as on the Merioneth coast. It is noteworthy, too, that *arenaria* is found on Snowdon. *Smyrnum olusatum* (Alexanders) and *Iris fatidissima* (the

Purple Iris) have made a home for themselves on the island of Priestholm, the latter at the foot of the old tower. Both *Salicornia herbacea* (Marsh Samphire) and *Crithmum maritimum* (Rock Samphire) are found in Anglesey, the latter being also found in Lleyn (between Clynnog and Nevin), and on the Merioneth coast.

Other shore plants, which, though not common, are met with in different localities are *Scilla verna* (Vernal Squill—cliffs in Anglesey, Gloddaeth, and Barmouth); *Eryngium maritimum* (Sea Holly—Harlech); *Mertensia maritima*, or Sea Lungwort (found on Orme's Head, in Anglesey, and in Lleyn); *Euphorbia segetalis*, or Portland Spurge (sandy coasts in Caernarvonshire, Anglesey, and Merioneth); *Glaucium luteum*, the beautiful Yellow Horned Poppy (between Caernarvon and Llanfaglan, about Llandudno, and in Merioneth); *Glaux maritima*, the Sea Milkwort (near Conway and at Dulas Bay, Anglesey). The Evening Primrose (*Oenothera biennis*) is found at Barmouth; also the brilliant Vipers' Bugloss (*Echium vulgare*); the pretty Sea Stock (*Matthiola sinuata*); and the somewhat rare Speedwell, known to botanists as *Veronica hybrida* (found likewise on the Breidden Hills in Montgomeryshire).

But we are now getting on to flowers which, though found on the seaside, are not specially shore plants. Thus, while the delicate Butterwort (*Pinguicula vulgaris*) may be met with in marshy spots along the wild Merionethshire coast, it is not uncommon on boggy wastes among the Caernarvonshire mountains. The same may be said of the Welsh Poppy (*Meconopsis Cambrica*), said to be very rare now about Barmouth, though formerly

plentiful, which is, or was, to be found near Llanberis and on Breidden Hill; also of the Common Borage (*Borago officinalis*), found, among other places, on Harlech Marsh and about Llandudno.

We sadly want a "close time" for plants, if not everywhere, at least in districts like Snowdon, the promontory of Orme's Head, Barmouth, etc., where the thoughtless visitor is liable to spoil everything he can lay his hands on. All these parts have suffered from this mania for gathering, but especially the central district of Snowdonia. For this reason, therefore, in the following notes on the flora of Snowdon and its vicinage we shall refrain for the most part from giving precise localities. There is no harm, however, in saying that three species of Cotton Sedge (*Eriophorum vaginatum*, *E. polystachion*, and *E. angustifolium*) may be found near Llyn Idwal (the first also near Llyn Aled). In much the same area are to be seen *Plantago maritima* (Sea Plantain), *Galium boreale* (Cross-leaved Galium), and *Lobelia Dortmanna* (Water Gladiole); while near Llanberis both *Campanula rotundifolia* and *C. hederacea* (the Common Harebell and the Ivy-leaved Campanula) are not uncommon. The first named has not yet been extirpated from Snowdon itself. In the same district are to be found the delicate Grass of Parnassus (*Parnassia palustris*); the Round-leaved and the Oval Sundew (*Drosera rotundifolia* and *longifolia*); the Mountain Safron (*Antherium serotinum*); the Bog or Lancashire Asphodel (*Narthecium ossifragum*), which may be met with also in the neighbourhood of Barmouth; Rosebay Willow-herb (*Epilobium angustifolium*); Mountain Thalictrum (*Thalictrum*

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Alpinum); and several interesting Saxifrages. There is no harm, perhaps, in saying that the always delightful Globe Flower (*Trollius Europæus*) is to be met with in the Vale of Llanberis and in moist nooks about Barmouth, or that *Solidago Cambrica* (Welsh Goldenrod) may be seen "in season due" on the slopes of Glyder.

This list of Snowdon and district plants might be largely extended, but it will be enough to show that there is a rich field for the earnest botanist—the one who, it is to be hoped, will more and more bear in mind the lines of the song:—

"You may look, but you must not touch—
Keep your hands off!"

Our survey so far has been confined in the main to Anglesey and Caernarvonshire, with excursions into Merioneth, but there is no reason to suppose that the other counties are less rich in species than these. How rich is Merioneth may be gathered from the fact that one flower-lover alone has made a list of nearly 700 species, and it refers to the district about Barmouth only. Most of these, of course, are the common wild flowers that deck every wayside, every meadow and wood. For the more uncommon sorts we must wander a little off the beaten track. Thus if we search some of the turf bogs of Merioneth we may come across the somewhat rare *Rubus Chamæmorus* (Cloudberry). It is found only among the hills. In the Berwyns it is known in Welsh as Mwyar Berwyn, these mountains being rather a favourite habitat for it. As the Berwyns are known for Cloudberry, so Cader Idris is known for the Red

Whortleberry (*Vaccinium Vitis-idaea*), which affects dry heathy moors and open woods. There is another *Vaccinium* fairly common, not only on the mountain heaths and woods of Merioneth and Caernarvonshire, but on the other mountains, namely, *V. Myrtillus* (the Bilberry, Blaeberry, or Common Wortleberry). *Vaccinium Oxycoccus* (the Cranberry) is likewise occasionally met with in peaty bogs in Merioneth and Caernarvonshire.

Of the Saxifrages, the starry variety (*S. stellaris*), is found on Cader Idris as well as in the district about Snowdon, while the Purple Saxifrage (*Saxifraga oppositifolia*) is met with about Barmouth. These do not exhaust the list of Saxifrages, but space will only allow us to select.

Llyn Tecwyn Isaf, between Tan-y-bwlch and Harlech, is not the only place in Merioneth in which the White Water Lily (*Nymphaea alba*) may be seen, but it grows (or did grow) there in great profusion, and very beautiful it looked. It is found also in Llyn Mwyngil between Dolgelly and Machynlleth (pronounced "Mahuntleth"). This is of course the Cader Idris region, where may also be met with *Thalictrum minus* (the Lesser Meadow Rue), the pretty *Genista pilosa* (Hairy Greenweed), and, gemming the springy turf with its pretty golden calices, the tiny Tormentil (*Potentilla Tormentilla*). Among rarer Merioneth species we may mention the delicate Butterfly Orchis (*Habenaria bifolia*), found in moist spots around Bala; the Clammy Groundsel (*Senecio viscosus*), noted for its fly-catching properties, a very rare plant, but met with on the shores of Bala Lake; Perennial Knawel (*Sceleranthus perennis*), between Corwin and Bala; and the palc,

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rosy-flowered Floating Water Plantain (*Alisma natans*), found at the S. end of Llyn Tegid.

There are a number of places noted for certain flowers. Thus at Valle Crucis Abbey grows the Deadly Nightshade (*Atropa Belladonna*) and Sweet Cicely (*Myrrhis odorata*); while amid the ruins of Basingwerk Abbey, Flintshire, are found the beautiful blue Evergreen Alkanet (*Anchusa sempervirens*), the Greater Snapdragon (*Antirrhinum majus*), and the handsome Soapwort (*Saponaria officinalis*), with its pale pink or nearly white flowers. The last named grows also between Llanrhaiadr and the cataract of Pistyll Rhaiadr in Montgomeryshire. Equally noted for several rare plants is Breidden Hill in the same county. There is found the Viscid Lychnis or Catchfly (*Lychnis viscaria*), the Rock Potentilla (*Potentilla rupestris*), and the beautiful white-flowered Beam Tree (*Pyrus Aria*). This is found also on Penmaenmawr and at Gloddaeth, where are to be seen also Wild Madder (*Rubia peregrina*), the Spring Potentilla (*Potentilla Verna*), the Hoary Rockrose (*Helianthemum canum*), and the Nottingham Catchfly (*Silene nutans*). This last named is found also at several places in Flintshire, and the Rockrose at Dyserth Castle in the same county, where grows also the Lady's Fingers Kidney Vetch (*Anthyllis vulneraria*.)

Among other Flintshire rarities may be mentioned, *Vinca minor* (the Lesser Periwinkle), about St Asaph; *Gentiana Amarella* (the Autumnal Gentian), at Holywell and Rhuddlan; *Gentiana campestris* (Field Gentian), in the same localities; *Alisma ranunculoides* (Lesser Water Plantain), near Prestatyn; *Chlora perfoliata* (Yellowwort),

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at Holywell; *Chrysosplenium alternifolium* (Alternate-leaved Golden Saxifrage), near Mold; *Polygonum Bistorta* (Great Snakeweed), near the same place; *Stellaria nemorum* (the Broad-leaved Stitchwort), on the bank of the Clwyd between St Asaph and Rhuddlan; *Arenaria verna* (Mountain Sandwort), between St Asaph and Holywell; *Linaria Cymbalaria* (Dry-leaved Snapdragon), near Mold; *Astragalus danicus* (Purple Astragal), about Caergwre Castle and vicinity.

Astragalus glycyphyllos (Milkvetch) — not so handsome a plant as the foregoing, though interesting — is found at Yspytty, Denbighshire; and in the same region, that is, the one covered by the Hiraethog Mountains, largely composed of Denbigh grits, may be found the following, among others: *Centunculus minimis* (Bastard Pimpernel); *Rhamnus catharticus* (Purging Buckthorn); *Viola palustris* (Marsh Violet); *Andromeda polifolia* (Wild Rosemary), both near Llyn Aled; *Stellaria uliginosa* (Bog Stitchwort) and *Malva moschata* (Musk Mallow), both near Llanrwst; *Calamintha Acinos* (Basil Thyme), near Henllan; *Linaria minor* (Lesser Linaria) and *Antirrhinum orontium* (Lesser Snapdragon), both near Abergele; and *Vaccinium uliginosum* (Bog Bilberry), in the woods about Llanrwst.

Denbigh itself is a good centre for botanising, and within a short radius of the town are to be found many rare and interesting plants. Among the number may be mentioned, *Lithospermum purpureo cæruleum* (Creeping Gromwell); *Jasione montana* (Hairy Sheep's Scabious); *Convallaria majalis* (Lily of the Valley); *Adoxa Moschatellina* (Tuberous Moscatel); *Daphne Laureola* (Spurge

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Laurel); and *Helleborus viridis* and *fatidus* (Green and Fetid Hellebore). *Adoxa* is found also near Llyn Idwal.

The valley of the Severn is rich in characteristic types, but we have space to name only a few. *Reseda luteola* (Wood or Dyer's Rocket) is met with about Castell Dolforwyn (as likewise in spots in Anglesey); *Rosa villosa* (the Downy Rose), about Llanidloes and district; *Rosa Pimpinellifolia* (Burnet or Scotch Rose), near Llanymynech (and, with the former, in parts of Merioneth); *Hottonia palustris* (Water Violet), about Pool Quay and Welshpool; *Linum usitatissimum* (Common Flax), near Montgomery, where also is found *Potentilla argentea* (Hoary Potentil).

In former times the whole of the Snowdon district was thickly wooded. It was known to the English as Snowdon Forest, and it was on this account that its fastnesses were so formidable to the invaders. The chief growth of these hills and vales was the oak. That, however, is a thing of the past, and though there are still well-wooded demesnes in Caernarvonshire, as in Denbighshire and Merioneth, it is Montgomeryshire that has the reputation of being the best timbered county in N. Wales. Formerly it was a leading source for the supply of oak for the Navy, and it may be that the cessation of that demand is the cause of timber being less cultivated than formerly. Most of the common British trees thrive well, including the beech, the ash, the willow, the mountain ash (*Pyrus aucuparia*), the hawthorn, the holly, and especially the yew, of which many of the churchyards present marvellous old specimens.

The general fauna is much the same as in other

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parts of the island. There are evidences, as well as records, of the beaver having been a denizen of some of the Welsh streams; but that, of course, was many centuries ago. The chief four-footed animals still found in a wild state are the fox, the otter, and the badger, the last named being occasionally met with in the less cultivated parts, while the otter in a good many of the rivers competes with the angler for their finny prey.

Of the feathered tribes, although a stray eagle is occasionally seen and shot, it can hardly be said to be a denizen. Some of the *Falconidæ* are found among the mountains and—more plentifully—along rocky parts of the coast. In this respect Anglesey and parts of Lleyrn may be designated a veritable bird paradise. Here—and notably at S. and N. Stacks, Priestholm, and the cliffs about Aberdaron—not only the commoner sorts of seabirds, such as gulls, guillemots, cormorants, razor-bills, curlews, etc., may be seen in tens of thousands, but rarer kinds also, as divers, pigeons, stormy-petrels, puffins, gannets, and among others the peregrine falcon (see S. and N. Stacks and Priestholm). The marshy flats on the S. coast of Anglesey, as likewise along the coast of Merioneth, are also favourite haunts of some of the rarer species of gulls, the heron, plover, etc.

V. INDUSTRIES AND POPULATION

Population and industry go together in N. Wales as elsewhere. Where agriculture is the main occupation, population is sparse; where mining, manufacturing, and other industries are established, there population increases. Thus Caernarvonshire, with

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its enormous slate quarries, has a population of upwards of 125,000, showing a very considerable increase since the beginning of the 19th cent., when it was calculated to be 16,800. The counties that stand next in population are Denbigh and Flint, the latter, with 81,485, being the largest according to area. Flintshire has always been noted for its mining and allied industries, and hence, as being the most densely populated of the N. Wales counties, its increase in this respect being less marked than that of Denbighshire. But while Caernarvonshire increased sevenfold and Denbighshire well on to fourfold, Montgomeryshire barely doubled its population. This county, with Anglesey, is the most purely agricultural, but the population of the island county has considerably more than doubled since 1806, owing no doubt in large measure to the development of Holyhead. Merionethshire has in the same time increased from 20,000 to nearly 49,000.

While the chief industry of Anglesey is agricultural, it does an active trade in the raising and export of mineral products. Parys Mountain has been noted for centuries for its copper-ore, and though its yield in this respect is not so great as formerly, it is still considerable. A useful grey marble and granite are also quarried, and the coal seams have been worked to some extent. The island produces likewise lead, a little silver, potter's clay, magnesia, and sulphur. As regards agriculture, it has greatly improved during the last generation or two through the introduction of better methods, and now, besides a considerable export of cattle, it does a large trade in butter, cheese, hides, etc.

Although Caernarvonshire has some extent of

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cultivable surface (in the various cwms and hollows of the hills and in the valley of the Conway), which sustains a hardy race of sheep and herds of small black cattle, yet the wealth produced by these and other products of the soil is as nothing compared with the yield of the mines and quarries. The quarries of slate in particular, as at Bethesda, Nantlle, Dinorwic, and other places, employ tens of thousands of men, and bring enormous wealth into the country. In addition, copper, lead, and zinc are found in considerable quantities.

Like its neighbour county Caervarvon, Denbigh is rich in minerals. Coal, iron, lead, and slates are its chief mineral products, and they have given rise to extensive ironworks and other manufacturing industries, carried on chiefly at Wrexham and Ruabon. A fair proportion of the over 400,000 acres of surface, however, is devoted to agriculture and the rearing and tending of sheep, the latter chiefly on the bare uplands of the Mynedd Hiraethog.

The soil of Merioneth is poor, and suitable only for pasturage; its farmers are raisers of cattle and sheep, and the county is famous for its breed of ponies. Its chief minerals are slate, lead, manganese, and gold (the last named obtained at the Morgan and other mines near Dolgelly) in small quantities.

Montgomeryshire, with its wide fertile valleys, its beautiful woodlands, and its extensive moors, is noted alike for its tillage and for its countless flocks of sheep. It has considerable manufactures of flannel, is famous for its breed of small horses, and does some business in lead-getting and coal-mining, the latter on the confines of Shropshire.

ROADS AND RAILWAYS

Although five of the counties of N. Wales can boast of a seaboard of some extent, none of them possesses a port of the first rank. Holyhead is the most important from the point of view of the tonnage that passes through it (chiefly to and from Ireland); but as regards foreign-borne trade it is outclassed by both Caernarvon and Portmadoc, whence are shipped so large a quantity of the slates derived from the neighbouring quarries.

It would not do to close this section on population and industry without referring to the wealth and increase that have been added to the country through the development of its watering-places and the tourist traffic generally. This is one of the results of what has not very prettily been called "railwayism," and is a very modern feature. Fifty years ago Llandudno, the largest and most fashionable of N. Welsh watering-places, was but an insignificant village with a single inn; now it counts a permanent population of upwards of 9000 inhabitants—a number which is probably trebled during the summer season. Rhyl, with hardly a thousand less of population, repeats the same story. In 1830 it was a mere fishing village, and so late as 1844 was but a township of Rhuddlan. And these are only two of the many coast and other towns and villages that annually derive profit and something of the stir and throb of the outer world from the come and go of tourist and visitor traffic.

VI. ROADS AND RAILWAYS

N. Wales is well provided with both roads and railways. The chief lines of railway that serve the needs of the country are the London & North-Western, the Great Western, and the

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Cambrian systems. The two former are, of course, main lines from London; both have stations at Shrewsbury, which is perhaps the most convenient point from which to get to all parts of N. Wales by those travelling from the S. Both lines, too, have a joint station at Chester, which is naturally the special gate to Wales from the N. The main line of the L.N.W.R. runs *via* Flint, Rhyl, Conway, and Bangor to Holyhead. It has also a branch line from Llandudno Junction to Blaenau-Ffestiniog; also a continuation from Bangor to Caernarvon and Afonwen (between Criccieth and Pwllheli). The Great Western main line runs *via* Whittington, Chirk, and Ruabon to Llangollen, Corwen, and Bala to Dolgelly, where it meets the Cambrian system, which has a line N. to Harlech, and thence *via* Portmadoc to Criccieth and Pwllheli (pronounced "Poolth-hely"); also an extension S. to Towyn and Aberdovey. The Cambrian main line connects these places with Oswestry, *via* Machynlleth, Cemmes Road (whence there is a branch line to Dinas Mawddwy), Moat Lane Junction, Newtown, and Welshpool. The Cambrian has a continuation also from Oswestry to Ellesmere and Whitchurch (Salop), where it joins the L.N.W.R. for Crewe, etc. We must not forget the Great Western line from Bala to Ffestiniog.

In addition to these various main lines there are a number of other shorter lines that serve special districts, as, for instance, that from Chester, *via* Boughton and Hope, to Mold and Denbigh; the one from Wrexham to Flint, *via* Holt; and the line from Chester to Wrexham and Ruabon, for

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Llangollen, Corwen, etc. From Wrexham there is also a mineral line to Holt. From Shrewsbury, besides the line (joint L.N.W. and G.W.) running to Buttington (where it joins the Cambrian), there is the G.W. line *via* Whittington and Gobowen for Chirk and Ruabon. This crosses the Cambrian at Whittington. Several short branches are thrown off from the Cambrian betwixt Oswestry and Newtown. One of these starts from Llyncllys, a few miles S. of Oswestry, and runs *via* Blodwell Junction (whence is a short branch to Llanymynech) to Llangynog. (At Llan-y-blodwell note the church with the detached tower.) Another runs from Llanymynech to Llanfyllin (q.v.)—for Lake Vyrnwy (6 m. distant by road). A third branch runs from Welshpool to Llanfair Caereinion, and a fourth from Abermule to Kerry (q.v.).

The narrow-gauge railways from Machynlleth to Corris and Aberllefenny, and from Towyn to Abergynolwyn (for Talyllyn), will be found referred to under their respective heads. The N. Wales narrow gauge runs from Dinas Junction (q.v.) to the Snowdon station at Rhyd-ddu ($3\frac{3}{4}$ m. from Beddgelert). Of all the narrow-gauge railways, however, the Ffestiniog "Toy" Railway was the first, and is still, perhaps, the most wonderful. It runs from Portmadoc to the slate quarries at Blaenau (pronounced "Bline-ey") Ffestiniog and Duffws, and was originally intended for the slate traffic only. The waggons descended by gravity, and were hauled back by horses. Later locomotive power (in the form of the bogie engine) was introduced, and in 1865 passenger traffic commenced.

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It remains only to mention the L.N.W. branch line from Caernarvon to Llanberis and the Central Anglesey Railway from Gaerwen to Amlwch.

As regards roads N. Wales is well provided. Apart from its great main arteries the country is traversed in every direction by branch roads and mountain byways. We do not propose to plan tours for those who wish to see the country, or part of it, either afoot or by cycle. This is a matter that anyone can arrange for himself with a little knowledge of the roads and with a good map before him. We cannot do better, therefore, than give a few notes about the main roads, beginning with the great western road from Shrewsbury to Holyhead, already referred to, which runs *via* Whittington (where there is an old castle), Gobowen, and Chirk to Llangollen, and thence by way of Corwen, Cerrig-y-Drudion, Bettws-y-coed, Capel Curig, and Bethesda to Bangor. George Burrow walked from Llangollen to Bangor in a day, and his account of the journey forms one of the most interesting bits in his book on Wales. From Bettws-y-coed the road follows the course of the Llugwy, past the Swallow Fall for some distance, and then, after skirting the S. side of the Llyn Ogwen, goes off in a N.W. direction through the vale of Nant Ffrancon and the valley of the Ogwen. The road is not, of course, all smooth going; there are "humpy and lumpy" portions, and a good many stiff ascents and rapid descents; but as a cyclist, who had just run over the road, said the other day, "the views pay for all."

At right angles to this great western road are two important roads running on either side of the

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Conway, both good and both well worth going over for the views they present and the interesting places they pass through. Cyclists often make the run from Llandudno to Bettws-y-coed and back in the day, going by one road and returning by the other. A favourite way is to make the outward journey through Deganwy to Glan Conway on the E. bank of the river, and so on *via* Tal-y-Cafn and Llanrwst to Bettws, which is entered by way of Waterloo Bridge. In case of need, the railway *via* Bettws-y-coed to Ffestiniog, to Caernarvon, etc., is always at hand to fall back upon.

For the return journey, Pont-y-pair (a bridge over the Llugwy at a very beautiful part of its course) is crossed, and the road—not always of the best—pursued past Gwydir Castle to Trefriw. Dolgarrog and Porth-lwyd, with their waterfalls, are next passed, and Caerhun reached. A little beyond the last-named place the Conway must be crossed to Tal-y-Cafn for a straight run back to Llandudno, or the road may be followed by Tyny-groes and Gyffin to Conway; but this part of the run is tough and difficult.

A still finer run, or tramp, as the case may be, is to follow one of the Conway valley roads to Bettws-y-coed, then take the road following the course of the Lledr to Dolwyddelen, passing on the way some of the finest scenery on that stream. From Dolwyddelen the road ascends, by way of the Bwlch-y-gerddinen (1236 ft.), to Blaenau-Ffestiniog (s.), and thence to Ffestiniog. The road is exceedingly arduous, and not a little dangerous to cyclists: in short, it requires care and pluck, and only “gritty” cyclists should attempt it; but it is not beyond the powers of any pedestrian

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with ordinary endurance. The next flight in the journey is from Ffestiniog to Caernarvon, *via* Beddgelert. This is a most interesting jaunt of 10 m. The road descends the beautiful vale—properly the Vale of Maentwrog—to the village of that name, thence it ascends steeply to Tan-y-bwlch (s.), but soon after passing Gareg it becomes fairly level, albeit nothing to boast of as to quality, to Pont Aberglaslyn. Even the most impatient of cyclists will be content to walk the mile and a half through the pass to Beddgelert. From this charmingly situated village there is a gentle rise to Rhyd-ddu (whence one of the ascents of Snowdon is made); then follows a sharp descent to Llyn Cwellyn (463 ft. above the sea), which the road skirts on the N. side. The station and the Ranger Hotel (famous as a starting-point for Snowdon) are passed, and Nant Mill, with its old bridge and waterfall, reached. The pretty Gwrfai stream is then followed to Bettws Garmon (s.) and Waenfawr (s.), whence it is a short and easy run to Caernarvon.

For anyone doing this round it would perhaps be best to go the other way about—that is, making first for Caernarvon and proceeding thence to Beddgelert, Ffestiniog, etc. By this means the wayfarer would have in front of him, instead of behind, one of the admittedly finest views of Snowdon to be had, namely, that which is presented to the eye as the famous peak is discovered filling the distance between Moel Eilio (2382 ft.) and Mynydd Mawr.

The finishing stretch, from Caernarvon to Llandudno, is a very pleasant one, affording an almost endless succession of charming views. At first the

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road runs along the Menai shore, with kaleidoscopic sights of the Snowdonian summits to the E. At Port Dinorwic (s.) the strait is left, Vaynol Park being skirted on the W. to Treborth (s.), and Bangor is soon after reached on a good and easy road. After leaving the pleasant university town, the model village of Llandegai, at the entrance to Penrhyn Castle, is presently passed, and the river Ogwen crossed; then there is a straight road to Aber, and fairly level, except here and there. Here the view is again open W. and N. to the Lavan Sands and Beaumaris Bay. There is a gentle ascent to Llanfairfechan (s.), after which Penmaenmawr (s.), the great bulk of whose mountain (1550 ft.) has been looming up in front for some time, is gained by a long rise. From Penmaenmawr to Conway there are two roads, one following the line of the coast, which is the easier, and the other by way of Dwygyfylchi (pronounced "Doo-e-guv-ulkhi") and the beautiful Sychnant Pass. By this route there are some stiff ascents and, for the cyclist, caution-requiring descents; but, as our friend remarked, "the views pay for" them. From hence Conway is soon won, and the remainder of the spin or jaunt to Llandudno, *via* the Conway Suspension Bridge, is a mere bagatelle.

Bangor is a good point from which to make excursions into and about Anglesey, which has one good high road, that, namely, to Holyhead, which runs through Gwalchmai and Valley (s.). An often-made round from Bangor is that starting by the Ogwen valley and going on to Capel Curig, then taking the road up Nant-y-gwryd to the hotel at the head of the vale, and thence by the Pass of Llanberis (q.v.) and the valley of the Seiont to

Caernarvon, and so back to Bangor. Or a short cut may be made from Cum-y-glo (s.) to Port Dinorwic, and thus save some miles by avoiding the run or walk *via* Caernarvon to Dinorwic.

The round may be lengthened by continuing the jaunt from the hotel at Pen-y-gwryd through the charming Vale of Gwynant, past the lake of that name and Llyn Ddinas, and thence to Beddgelert, Caernarvon, etc. We have referred to the road through the Pass of Llanberis in speaking of the pass itself, and the Nant Gwynant road is well-nigh, if not every bit, as good. It is, however, like most of the others of which we have been speaking, a mountain road, and a mountain road signifies a "mounting" road, which must naturally have its descents as well.

We might write a chapter on the old road from Chester to Conway and Bangor, with its numberless historical associations and points of scenic interest, but space forbids. Suffice it to say that, on the whole, the road is a thoroughly good one, although, like the path of life, it presents many ups and downs and not a few zigzags and awkward twists and turns that are for ever pulling one up and bidding one "mind." It follows very closely (accompanied by the main line to Holyhead) the Dee estuary and the line of coast as far as Colwyn Bay, where it turns inland and, crossing the suspension bridge, reaches Conway town. The chief towns passed *en route* are Hawarden, Flint (s.), Bagillt (s.), Prestatyn (s.), Rhyl (s.), Abergele (s.), and Llandulas (s.). At these and many other places on the route are roads opening inland to spots of exceptional interest or beauty.

From Rhyl there is an excellent road (and rail)

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through the Vale of Clwyd to Corwen, and thence to Bala, etc., which is well worth the attention not only of any stout-limbed Viator with an eye to beauty of landscape, but to any open-air loving Piscator also. For the road has the company of the Elwy or the Clwyd a good part of the way, and the Clwyd and its tributaries are notable rivers for fish. The first stage of the journey is over the marshy flat between Rhyl and Rhuddlan (s.). At this village the Clwyd is crossed and the river followed to its confluence with the Elwy, when the road has that stream on its L. to a point a little below Trefnant, where it is crossed, continuing thence through undulating country to Denbigh (s.). At Llanrhaidr (s.), interesting for its old church with Jesse window, rising ground is encountered, affording a fine view (E.) of Moel Fammau; then the Clywedog, a tributary of the Clwyd, is skirted for some distance, and is finally crossed near Rhewl Station, a couple of miles N. of Ruthin.

A little S. of Ruthin both road and river (as well as the railway) run through the gorge of Eyarth, a narrow pass in the limestone, and soon after river and road finally part company, the latter continuing S. to Gwyddelwern (s.) and thence to Corwen, the road throughout being among the best in the country.

The journey may be continued through Corwen (a good centre both for exploring and fishing) to Bala. The Holyhead road is followed to the Druid Inn ($2\frac{1}{2}$ m.), where the Bala road turns off in a S.W. direction, passing Cefn Crwyni, and Bethel. At the former place there is an ancient camp or entrenchment. This is the shorter route to Bala. The more interesting and beautiful one

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follows the course of the Dee (and the railway), going by way of Llangar, Cynwyd (s.) and Llandrillo (s.), and having some of the higher peaks of the Berwyn range on the L. all the way. The road is of the type popularly known as "switchbacky."

Bala is another capital centre. From here the Cambrian Railway runs to Barmouth and the Great Western to Ffestiniog. The road from Bala to Ffestiniog is a very stiff one and in parts extremely rough. Cyclists who attempt it have a good deal of walking to do, but for those whom difficulties do not daunt it is exhilarating. It need hardly be said that sturdy walkers will enjoy the stretch. The road and the railway keep company a good part of the way, and until Rhyd-y-fen is passed the river Tryweryn (q.v.) is never far distant. To Frongoch (s.) the way is good and easy; then the road begins to rise, and it grows rougher and steeper as it ascends. Arenig Bach and Arenig Fawr are passed on the R. and L. respectively, and the highest point (1507 ft.) is reached a little beyond Rhyd-y-fen (s.), when a gradual descent to Ffestiniog begins. The views from this part of the road are very grand, the Snowdonian mountains being "in the picture" to the N., and those of Merioneth to the S.

For pedestrians who care to make the venture there is an additional tramp—of great interest—open to them by taking the road S. *via* Maentwrog (s.) and Trawsfynydd (s.) to Dolgelly, and thence by way of Pont Newydd (s.), Drws-y-nant, and Llanuwchllyn (s.) back to Bala. We cannot recommend the road, or track (for it is little better in parts), from Maentwrog to Dolgelly for cyclists,

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but the sturdy walker will find much that is of interest along or within easy reach of the road, Tomen-y-mûr, for instance, the waterfalls of Pistyll Cain and Rhaiadr Mawddach, Cymmer (pronounced "Kummer") Abbey, etc. The remaining part of the round, namely, the road from Dolgelly to Bala, though rough in parts, is quite negotiable with the cycle. There is a level run to Bont Newydd, then a fairly easy ascent to Drws-y-nant Station through the beautiful valley of the Wnion (pronounced "Oonion"—q.v.), followed by some rough ups and downs to Llanuwchllyn. Thence *via* Caer Gai and Llanycil to Bala the road is as nearly as possible level, and there is an equally good road on the other (*i.e.* the E.) side of the lake.

An alternative route from Ffestiniog may be taken *via* Maentwrog, Talsarnau (s.), and Harlech. It is, on the whole, a better road than that by way of Trawsfynydd, but still it is none of the best. The beautiful Vale of Ffestiniog is followed to Maentwrog, then the Dwyryd River is skirted a good part of the way to Talsarnau. On this part of the journey there is not much to complain of, but for the remainder of the stretch one cannot say much, except that the road follows the railway very closely, that the sea is near at hand and mostly in sight, and that on the E. the eye has an ever-moving panorama of mountains, hills, and vales, with glimpses here and there of beautiful lakes and babbling and tumultuous streams.

Those who know this road well recommend the traversing of it from S. to N. rather than the reverse way; for then, after passing Harlech, the wayfarer has all Snowdonia in front of him, and when the

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weather is favourable the eye cannot well have a finer feast.

It makes a pleasant and interesting extension of the journey if, instead of continuing on to Ffestiniog, a mile and a half beyond Talsarnau, a road be taken to the L. leading to Penrhyn-deudraeth (s.), and thence to Portmadoc and Pwllheli. The road from Portmadoc to Criccieth (s.) is passably good, beyond so-so. The way back, either to Portmadoc or Ffestiniog, may be made through a variedly interesting country, by taking the road *via* Llanaelhaiarn and Clynnog to Caernarvon, and thence to Portmadoc by way of Beddgelert and Aberglaslyn. Of the latter section we have already spoken. That from Pwllheli to Caernarvon is poor rather than bad. The ground is often covered by cyclists; and as there are repairing shops to be met with here and there on the route (as on most of the roads described), the inexperienced may start without much concern. S. of Llanaelhaiarn there are fine views of Tremadoc Bay and the Merionethshire hills, including Cader Idris. The Rivals are passed on the L., also Tre'r Ceiri (q.v.), then there is a long stretch along the coast through Clynnog, and so by Llanwnda (s.) to Caernarvon.

There are other interesting and important roads about which we might say much, including that from Abergele, through what we may call the Elwy country, to Llanrwst, which is in parts very picturesque; and, we may add, the road from Dolgelly to Towyn, *via* Penmaen-pool (s.), Abergwynant, Arthog (s.), and Llwyn-gwriil (s.), an up-and-down track, with rough bits, though not on the whole bad. But perhaps we have said

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enough to indicate the general character of the roads of N. Wales, and what pedestrians and cyclists alike have to expect in footing and pedalling them. Little or nothing has been said of the more easterly roads, those, for instance, traversing the country between Oswestry and Lake Vyrnwy, and between that place and Montgomery and Newtown. But the tourist wishing to plan out a route cannot do better than get sections of the Ordnance Survey Map (1s. the section), and, with it and the charts and notes on places herein given, he will be able to gather all the information he requires. He may always expect roughish and lumpy roads when he gets into hilly districts, and especially when the populous places are few and far between. To the pedestrian this does not so much matter, but it matters a good deal to the cyclist, especially if he happen to be in a region remote from railways.

VII. HISTORY

Our notes upon the history of N. Wales must be brief, sufficient only to make references in regard to places intelligible, and possibly to make readers go to other sources for fuller knowledge on a most interesting subject. It is the more interesting to English people because we get in Wales a more concentrated amalgam, as it were, of the racial influences that went to the making of England as a whole. The bed-rock race, if we may so put it, of these islands was a small, swarthy people, to whom the name Iberian has been given. They used stone implements, and their religion was probably

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the cult of ancestors, to whom they raised rude stone monuments—the cromlechs, kistvaens, and carnedd, of which we shall have to make so much mention in the following pages.

History is absolutely silent as to when these short, dark-haired people arrived in England, but they had become thoroughly settled and acclimatised when another race, the Celts, appeared upon the eastern coasts and contended with them for the possession of the domains they had made their own. We know little or nothing of the contest, save that in the end the invaders prevailed, chiefly, as would appear, from their knowledge of the use of iron, of which they made their tools and implements of war. They were a fair-haired people, and spoke a dialect of the great Aryan speech, which gradually superseded the language of the Iberians, who were non-Aryan.

These Celts were divided into two branches, the Goidels and the Brythons, each speaking a different dialect, albeit with resemblances and affinities that made it possible for a man speaking in one tongue to understand a person making use of the other. The Goidels, or Gaels, came first, and appear to have overspread the whole of Wales, and possibly a part of Ireland, before the Brythons, or Britons, made their appearance and began to oust them as they had done the Iberians. This we know from the evidence of place-names, which show us where the Goidel influence prevailed and where the Brython. For it must be borne in mind that in these successive conquests there was never a clean sweep made of the conquered people, a large substratum always remaining to amalgamate with the new people. Thus it is that to

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this day traces remain of the dark-haired Iberic race as well as of the fair-haired Celt—traces of other races too, though to a less extent.

The evidences of language in place-names testify that the Brythons, or Britons, subdued both N. and S. Wales, while the Gaels prevailed N. of the Tweed and in Ireland. When the Romans finally appeared upon the scene this conquest by the Brythonic Celts had long been complete, at least over the greater part of Wales. In N. Wales the ruling tribe was the Ordovices (the Ardudwy), a brave and warlike people; further S., in the region between the Severn and the Wye, were the Silures, a non-Celtic race, while Anglesey, or Môn, as it was then called, was peopled by a remnant of the Iberic stock. It took the Romans many years to overcome the resistance of the Ordovices; but in the year 78 Julius Agricola overthrew them in a great battle among the mountains, and so nearly annihilated their fighting men that practically all resistance ceased. This having been done, Agricola passed over the Menai Strait into Mona to complete the subjection which Suetonius Paulinus eighteen years before had only partly accomplished, though he had succeeded in putting to the sword the Druid priests and their followers, who had made the island their headquarters and stronghold. The passage of the Roman troops under both generals took place near Moel-y-don, the very threshold, as it were, of the Druid fastnesses, as may be seen to this day from traces of their works and habitations yet remaining.

During the subsequent centuries of the Roman occupation the Cymry, as the people of Wales now began to call themselves, learned something of

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Latin civilisation, became acquainted with letters, and in course of time were converted to Christianity, or at least partially so. When the Gospel was first brought to Britain and by whom we do not know ; but there is strong presumptive evidence that there were Christian churches in Wales as early as the 2nd cent., and that between the 3rd and 4th there arose a regular ecclesiastical organisation.

During the period of Roman domination the native princes and rulers were not interfered with so long as they confined themselves to local affairs and paid the tribute due to Rome. They were not allowed to interfere in imperial concerns, that is, in matters relative to defence against foreign foes, and so forth, except under the authority of the *Dux Britanniaë*, that is, the Roman general or governor, whose business it was. The result of this was weakness, and when the Roman power began gradually to fail and, finally, was withdrawn altogether, the country fell into a state of anarchy from which there was no single hand strong enough to save it. The trouble arose from the fact that there were still large numbers of Goidels, or Gaels, in Wales who would not submit to the Brythons, or Cymry, and in their struggles against the latter they were aided by large accessions of Gaels from Ireland, as well as by sections of the ancient inhabitants, or Iberians. The condition of things was so critical that a Cymric prince named Cunedda came with his eight sons and a great host of followers from Cumbria, where another body of the Brythonic stock had settled, and having driven the Gaels out of Gwynedd (corresponding broadly with the counties of Caernarvon, Denbigh, Flint, and Merioneth) and

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Anglesey, and then subdued those in S. Wales as well, he remained as King of Gwynedd and Gwledig or overlord of the entire country, including Cumbria.

The story of Cunedda is somewhat legendary, and we know nothing very precisely about either him, his sons (although one is said to have given his name to Merioneth, another his to Cardigan, and others to other districts), or their descendants for over a hundred years. But then (about the middle of the 6th cent.) a great king arose in N. Wales who was a direct descendant of Cunedda. His name was Maelgwn, and he was King of Gwynedd and overlord like Cunedda. One of his descendants, who occupied the throne and had his chief residence at Aberffraw, in Anglesey, was Cadfan, and in the neighbouring church of Llangadwaladr is an epitaph to him (probably of the 7th cent.), in which he is described as "the wisest and most renowned of all kings."

It was during the reign of this prince that the battle of Chester took place between the Britons of Gwynedd, supported by their fellow Cymry of Powys (corresponding with Shropshire and the counties of Montgomery and Radnor), under their prince Brochmael, and the Northumbrians under Ethelfrith. The Britons were defeated, and the monks of Bangor Iscoed, 2400 in number, were well-nigh annihilated and their monastery destroyed, because a large body of them accompanied the fighters to the battlefield and prayed for their success. Only about 50 survived, and most of them, it is supposed, found their way to St Mary's Abbey, Bardsey. Politically this great battle (613) resulted in cutting off the Welsh, as they now began to be called, from

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their brethren of Cumbria and Strathclyde. Chester (Deva) was taken but not held by Ethelfrith, and so it continued in the hands of the Kings of Gwynedd, being a strong border fortress.

The struggle against the Saxons was continued by Cadwaladr, who died during a visitation of the plague, called the Yellow Death (664-683), and was the last British prince to bear the title of King of all Britain. The leadership of the North Welsh then fell on Rhodri Maelwynawg. The fight, however, still went against the Cymry. During Rhodri's reign the South Welsh attacked Offa, King of Mercia (763), and gave the Saxons much trouble. Offa retaliated by colonising the country along the Severn and the Wye, and causing the great rampart and dyke known by his name to be made from the Dee to the Wye. Up to this time Shrewsbury, or Pengwern, as it was called, had been the capital of Powys, but was now so no more, the princes of that kingdom henceforth making Mathrafal (in Montgomeryshire) its capital.

The Welsh greatly resented the construction of this dyke, and on St Stephen's Day they gathered after dark and broke down the wall and filled up the ditch. This, of course, brought Offa down on them again, and after some skirmishing led to the fierce battle of Rhuddlan Marsh (795), when the Welsh not only suffered a terrible defeat, but saw all those who were taken slain in cold blood. Soon after this Offa died (796), and the Saxons, having their hands full with the inroads of the Danes, left the Welsh alone. The Welsh, however, showed themselves then, as for long years afterwards, incapable of any sort of unity for the common weal. Instead of favouring a strong

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central power, they split up the land into a number of petty sovereignties, and then wasted their strength by fighting one against another. We cannot say exactly with Milton that the record of their strivings are of no more interest than the contests of kites and crows; yet the record is a painful, and for the most part a very pitiful one.

This state of things obtained when, in 828, Egbert invaded N. Wales, and compelled the Welsh to submit and acknowledge his overlordship. About the same time the Mercians ravaged S. Wales and, following up their success, got possession of Powys. A period of peace followed, but in 844 a great battle was fought at Cyveiliog (Montgomeryshire), when Mervyn, the King of Gwynedd, lost his life, and the rulership of that kingdom fell into the hands of a strong man, Rhodri Mawr, or Roderic the Great. Rhodri was the contemporary of Alfred of England, and like him "he stemmed the torrent of Danish invasion and beat the sea-rovers in their own element." He was sovereign over the whole of Wales, having received the government of Gwynedd and Powys from his father, while he succeeded to the crown of S. Wales through his wife. Thus, by his strength and wisdom, he was enabled to consolidate and introduce improvements; but on his death (877) matters went back much into their old condition, his son, Anarawd, becoming King of Gwynedd and overlord of the country generally, while to Mervyn was assigned the principality of Powys, and to Cadell, a third son, Deheubarth (which embraced S. Wales with, probably, the exception of Gwent). Fighting and disunity were the result, and they continued until another strong and good man came to the helm.

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This was Howel Dha, who was not merely King of Gwynedd, but, like Rhodri, overlord of all Wales. We do not know precisely when he came to the throne; but we know that his reign began (over S. Wales) in the time of Edward the Elder of England (901-925), and that it continued into that of Edred (946). It is supposed that he died in 950. Howel the Good was on friendly terms with the Kings of England contemporary to him, and recognised their suzerainty, although, it is said, only in a nominal way. His chief contribution to the welfare of his people, however, was in that he had the ancient laws of Wales written down, amended, and codified.

On the death of Howel, the country was again divided into North and South, and the old state of things followed. Towards the close of the century the Danes invaded Anglesey, and Idwal perished in the conflict (992). Again there was a period of confusion, and then Llewelyn-ap-Scisyllt, after some fighting, brought peace and well-being. He died in 1021 and was succeeded by his son Griffith, who, during his reign of 24 years (1039-1063), had much heavy fighting to do. In the first year of his reign he fought the Mercians at Rhyd-y-Groes on the Severn and defeated them, and in 1041 he crushed the opponents of Welsh unity at Pencader. He died in 1063—slain by traitors—after having been defeated in the Snowdon region by Harold, the last of the Saxon kings.

After the Norman Conquest the Welsh found they had a very different foe to deal with—in short, with a foe practised in scientific warfare. It may be said that with the Normans there was no going back. What they gained they held, and held the

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tighter because they nailed down their acquisitions, as it were, with a castle. William the Conqueror seized Chester and raised a castle there. Then he put Hugh Lupus in command with the title of earl, and this cruel and rapacious Norman soon extended his dominions by conquering the district now known as Flintshire. This was the method uniformly pursued by William I. and his successors. A strong position was secured, a castle was built thereon, and a baron put in possession of it and the land around. Thus his stronghold and his domain served as a *point d'appui* from which to extend his dominion and that of the king. From Chester Castle the Norman earls, as we have seen, acquired Flintshire and held it by means of other castles. Among these were Holt, Hawarden, Ewloe, Flint, and Rhuddlan. In the kingdom of Powys the same process went on. The castle of Montgomery, now in ruins, affords a striking illustration. The town and castle were founded by Baldwin, who was William I.'s warden of the Marches. The town was called by the Welsh Faldwin, after his name. It afterwards fell into the hands of the Welsh, and was in 1092 re-captured by Roger de Montgomery, Earl of Shrewsbury, who strengthened the fortress. Two years later the Welsh again took it and put the garrison to the sword. Then William II. appeared upon the scene with an army, and replaced the Earl of Shrewsbury. Subsequently the castle appears to have fallen into a ruinous state, for in the year 1221 Henry III. erected a new one and granted it to his justiciary, Hubert de Burgh. Then, ten years later, it fell into the hands of Llewelyn the Great and was burnt. Such were some of the fluctuations of fortune the place under-

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went, until, in 1644, it was finally destroyed by the Parliamentary forces.

This is an instance of the kind of warfare that went on between the English, as we must now call them, and the Welsh, until, in 1282, Edward I. brought the long, stormy scene to a close. During these years several princes worthily led the Welsh of N. Wales, which was now "reduced to Anglesey, the counties of Meirionydd, and Caernarvon, with parts of Denbigh and Cardigan." The two who were the strongest and in whom the most interest centres were Llewelyn-ap-Iorwerth, or the Great, and his nephew Llewelyn ap-Gryffydd, under whom the final conquest of Wales took place. The first rose into power in 1194 and reigned until 1240. It was a long and important reign, but need not be described here, because, under him, Welsh doings become a part of English history, a remark that applies to his great namesake, Llewelyn-ap-Gryffydd, who held the reins of power from 1246 to 1282, when he lost his life, as is generally held, by treachery. David, his brother, continued the struggle; but he and his family were betrayed, and he was put to death in a most cruel and vindictive manner. Thus ended the long struggle of the Welsh for Independence.

VIII. FAMOUS MEN

The history of a country is imperfect that does not give an account of the famous men—heroes, poets, divines, and workers—who did their little in the cause of human well-being. It would be impossible, however, in the space at our disposal

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to do more than touch upon the fringe of a vast subject, the great and noteworthy men and women of N. Wales being as numberless as the crags on its mountain sides or the rills that tumble down them into its vales. To tell about its heroes we should have to refer to Griffith-ap-Conan and Griffith-ap-Rees, both of the line of Cunedda, whose lives were spent fighting against the Normans; also of Owen Gwynedd and the Lord Rees, sons of the foregoing, whose activities filled a large section of the 12th cent.; and, still greater, of Owen Glendower (d. 1415), whose story is one of such romantic and pathetic interest and comes up again and again in our pages.

Next to the heroes in the country's annals come her poets. In Wales these have been more part and parcel of the national and common everyday life than has ever been the case in England. They have kept alive the national spirit; they have vivified and sustained the national ideal; and it is they who, in more senses than one, have been the country's educators and inspirers. To the majority of English ears the names of these poets are unknown, or at least all but one or two. Some may have heard of Taliessin; but who outside Wales knows anything of Llywarch Hen (prince as well as poet), of Dafydd-ap-Gwilym, or of Goronwy Owen, Iolo Goch, Lewis Morris (born at Trev-y-Beirdd, Anglesey), Edmund Prys (who assisted Dr Morgan in his translation of the Bible), Huw Morus (Hugh Morris), Thomas Edwards ("Tum o'r Nant), etc.? Yet in their own country, and in their own tongue, they are living voices. To the number, of course, could be added many more, some of them—singers of sacred song—known

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perhaps only to those of their own sect or Church, but none the less potent for inspiration in their way.

Of those whom we class under the old name of "divine" N. Wales numbers a host. One of the most notable, Dr Wm. Morgan, the translator of the Bible into Welsh (1588), has already been mentioned. He was Bishop of St Asaph. Two other prelates of the same see, equally noted for their piety, were Dr Isaac Barrow and Bishop Beveridge. Then, among others, may be named Dr South, rector of Llanrhaidr-yn-mochnant; Dr Jeffery Glyn, founder of the Bangor Grammar School; Dr Lloyd, Dean of St Asaph; Gabriel Goodman, Dean of Westminster, who was a native of Ruthin and another of Dr Morgan's helpers in the work of translating the Bible. Another famous Welsh ecclesiastic was John Williams (born at Aberconway, 1582), who became Lord Keeper of the Great Seal under James I., and Archbishop of York under Charles I. He was the last Churchman to hold a high office of state. His monument, showing him in his vestments in the attitude of prayer, is to be seen in the church of Llandegai. Another Welshman who rose to the episcopal bench was John Thomas, the son of a brewer's porter of Dolgelly, who became, first, Bishop of Lincoln and then Bishop of Salisbury (1761).

If the Episcopal Church shows a host of shining lights, Dissent can produce as many or more. No body of men has had such an influence on Welsh character and Welsh thought as the leaders of the Methodist, the Baptist, and the Congregationalist Churches. They may almost be said to have made the Wales of to-day. The type is seen in the Rev. Thomas Charles of Bala ("Charles of Bala"),

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who, struck by Griffith Jones of Llanddowron's idea of circulating schools, followed it up by establishing a system of Sunday-schools that was quickly taken up by the whole nation. To this great work he added that of preparing two editions of the Welsh Bible, besides a monumental scriptural dictionary in the vernacular tongue.

To give an account of the writers who have been associated with N. Wales by birth or residence would take up a volume. They include George Herbert (said by Izaak Walton to have been born in Montgomery Castle), Thomas Pennant (author of the famous "Tours"), Ellis Wynne of Glasynys (q.v.), Philip Yorke (author of "The Royal Tribes of Wales"), Samuel Warren (author of "Ten Thousand a Year"), Frances Power Cobbe (who presented her valuable library to Barmouth), the Rev. Henry Rowlands (author of "Mona Antiqua Restorata," etc.), Sir Theodore Martin, Mrs Hemans, Sir H. M. Stanley, William Owen Pughe (the lexicographer and antiquary), Aneurin Owen (son of the last named), A. N. Palmer, etc., etc.

We might speak of many others, famous in various walks of life—of Sir Hugh Myddelton, of New River fame, for instance; of W. H. Madocks, the friend of Shelley and founder of Portmadoc; of Mrs Jordan, the actress (said to have been born at Nantglyn, near Denbigh); of Sir Pryce Jones, of Newtown; and, to name one much greater who was born and died at that place—the famous Robert Owen. And then there are the Vaughans, the Mostyns, the Wynnes, the Ellises, the Pughs, the Trevors, and the Tudors (who gave a name and a strain to our Royal Family)—all families of note

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that have in various ways given light and guidance to the destinies of the country.

IX. ANTIQUITIES

N. Wales affords a great deal that is of interest to the antiquary. The whole country is thickly studded with remains and monuments of one kind or another, taking the mind back, some of them, to prehistoric times; others, as we may say, within the reach of our early national annals, to which they serve as illustrative survivals. Of this latter class are the castles, with which N. Wales is exceptionally well provided. Four of these (of which an account is given in the Alphabetical List of Places) are held to have been planned by the same architect, Henry de Elreton, in the time of Edward I. They are Caernarvon, Conway, Harlech, and Beaumaris. These, however, are of modern date compared with some others, such as Dolbadarn, Dolwyddelan, Dinas Brân, etc. Others date back to the time of William Conquestor and his sons. Among these may be named Ewloe, Castell Lleiniog, Rhuddlan, possibly Powys, etc. Chirk, Criccieth, Denbigh, Dyserth, Flint, Hawarden, Montgomery, and Ruthin are of later date.

Many of these fortresses were built on the site of former fortified camps or hill forts, strongholds of the native peoples. A large number of them still remain, and may be traced with considerable exactitude. Among these the best preserved are Caer Gybi (Holyhead); Bwrdd Arthur (Arthur's Round Table), the largest camp in Anglesey; Moel-y-Gaer, near Bodfari, Flintshire; Moel Arthur, Pen-y-

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cloddiau, Foel Fenni, and those on other summits of the Clwydian Hills, with Pen-y-gaer, near Cerrigy-drudion, and Pen-y-Gardden, near Ruabon, all in Denbighshire. In Caernarvonshire are ancient camps at Dinas Dinorwic, Dinas Emrys, Dinas Dinlle, Caer Carregyfran, near Cwm-y-glo, Castell Caer Seion, on a spur of Penmaenbach, near Conway, Porth Dinllaen, near Nevin, and Caer Boduan, with its famous *Cyttiau* (see *Nevin*). Others among the camps named show traces of these circular cyttiau or huts, but none present so striking an example of them as Tre'r Ceiri, on Yr Eifl. All these, and others in Montgomeryshire and Merioneth—as, for instance, Cefn Carnedd, Caer Digoll, Gaer Fawr, Craig-y-Ddinas—are referred to in our alphabetical list.

Of equal interest to these prehistoric sites are the vestiges that remain of Roman stations, and the roads connecting them one with another. It is not possible to identify all; but some we know with certainty. Of these the most important is undoubtedly *Segontium* (q.v.), near Caernarvon. *Conovium* (Caerhûn); *Maglona* (Machynlleth or Pernal); *Heriri Mons* (Tomen-y-mûr) were likewise stations of importance, from which roads led to different points of the compass. It is thought also that Bangor Iscoed may be the site of the station named *Bonium* or *Bovium*, and Mathrafal, near Welshpool, the site of *Mediolanum*. Some, too, regard Bodfari, at the confluence of the Clwyd and the Chwiler (Denbighshire), as the ancient *Varæ*. Roman antiquities have been found in the neighbourhood, and it is known to lie on the Roman road from *Deva* (Chester) to *Conovium*.

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Caerwys, 2 or 3 m. N.E. of Bodfari, is likewise held to have been an important station, the plan of it, the streets at right angles to each other, being on the Roman model. Caersws and Caergai are also referred to as Roman centres in the list of places. At both traces of roads have been found, more especially, however, at Caersws, whence roads diverged to a number of different stations.

Reference has been made under Heriri Mons and Dolwyddelan to the old road or causeway known as Sarn Elen, which can be traced in parts from the first-named station to *Conovium*, as also S. as far as Dolmelynlyn, while indications of a continuation are discernible over Cader Idris to *Maglona* (*i.e.* Machynlleth or Pennal). From Heriri Mons there was likewise a road *via* Beddgelert to Segontium, whilst a continuation of the road from Chester to Caerhûn (*Conovium*) is traceable to Aber over the Bwlch-y-ddeufaen (q.v.).

Of equal interest with these Roman roads and stations are the cromlechs (or *cromlechau*, to give the Welsh plural), and allied prehistoric remains, whereof Bingley furnishes a list of thirty in Anglesey alone. Of these several no longer exist, but enough remain to make the island a place of extreme interest to the antiquary. One district alone, that is the S.E. corner, between the river Briaent and Menai Strait, especially in the neighbourhood of Llanedwen and Llanidan, is full of such remains. Formerly many diverse opinions were held respecting the various monuments with which we are now concerned. The most common of these (at least in N. Wales), the cromlech, consists of three upright stones with a flat one on top. This was at one time held to be an ancient

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altar, on which sacrifices, sometimes even human sacrifices, were offered by the Druids, to whom they were supposed to belong. These views are now thought to have been erroneous, the cromlech being held to be nothing more than a burial-place, a tomb. Artificial mounds, or barrows, have been uncovered by antiquaries, and such stone monuments disclosed beneath them, containing skeletons of human beings. Some of the skeletons have been found in a recumbent position, others in a sitting posture. At the time of these last interments it was the custom to sleep in this position, and so the dead were buried thus. Such at least is the inference of antiquaries.

These sepulchral monuments are of different size and shape, some long and others round, some single, others double. The long barrows are found to contain the skeletons of a small race of men with comparatively long heads. The round barrows, on the other hand, contain the remains of men of larger size having round heads. Occasionally, however, the two types have been found in the same cromlech. Careful examination has tended to the inference that the long barrows are the more ancient, and belong to what is known as the Stone Age, while the round barrows, less remote in date, and containing bronze implements, are held to belong to the Bronze Age.

We have referred in the historical section to the Iberians, the aboriginal inhabitants of Wales, and their small stature. These, it is held, are the neolithic peoples who buried in the long barrows; while the Celts, who largely displaced them, made the round barrows for their last resting-places. The two peoples did to some extent, as

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we have seen, live together after the Celtic conquest, and so became mixed in their tombs.

Although their barrows and cromlechs are not specifically Druidic monuments, as was so long thought, they are often associated *in situ* with the remains of that worship, as, for instance, in stone circles, foundations held to be Druidic, etc. This is particularly the case in the S.E. corner of Anglesey, above referred to, where are to be seen two exceptionally good specimens of cromlechs, a fine cistvaen (pronounced 'kistvaen'), and vestiges of ancient buildings. Traces of the Roman occupation also are visible, it having been here (at Porthamel, q.v.) that Suetonius effected a landing (A.D. 60)—and was followed by Agricola some years later—intent on extirpating the Druids, whose headquarters were in the woody fastnesses hereabout.

The two cromlechs are in Plâs Newydd Park, a little to the R. of the stables. The top or table-stone of the larger is about $12\frac{1}{2}$ ft. long by just upon 11 ft. broad, and rests upon other stones, 5 or 6 ft. in height. The smaller cromlech, which is near the other, has a table-stone measuring 7 ft. by 5, and rests upon four uprights. About $\frac{1}{4}$ m. from the cromlechs is the cistvaen above referred to. It is close to a path leading to Llanedwen Church, behind a green knoll, and consists of a large capstone, 7 ft. square, supported by rough slabs at the sides and back. There is a smaller capstone behind the larger, while another stone partially fills the entrance. This cistvaen is one of the most noteworthy in N. Wales.

Of the other cromlechs in Anglesey the most interesting are those of Henblas (3 m. N.E. of Bodorgan Station), which is the largest, though in

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a ruinous condition; Ty Newydd (2 m. N.W. of Ty Croes); Bryn-celli-ddu ("Yr Ogof," in the Ordnance map), a fine specimen; and Bodowyer (in Bodedern parish), where are also many other interesting remains.

The larger proportion of these cromlechs are to be found in elevated positions near the coast. Cefn Amlwch (in Lleyrn)—notable for its peaked table-stone—is one so situated. The Clynnog cromlech—remarkable for its cup-marks—is between the village and the sea, and there are others similarly situated on the same coast and on that of Merioneth. The Dyffryn (q.v.) cromlechs in the latter county are amongst the most interesting in N. Wales, and, being close to the village, are easily reached and examined. Other noteworthy specimens of these curious relics of antiquity are those near Capel Garmon, Criccieth, Glan Conway (with a very large capstone), Molfre (on Llugwy farm), Anglesey, and Rowen (N.W. of Caerhûn), Caernarvonshire.

The cistvaen at Plâs Newydd is held to have been a tomb of more than common importance, and others of the kind have been discovered, notably at Bronwen on the bank of the Alaw in Anglesey, where a cistvaen—a rude chest formed of slabs—was found in a tumulus. This is one form of the *bedd*, or grave, sometimes marked by upright stones, sometimes by a heap of stones or "carnedd." Instances of these are the Beddau Gwyr Ardudwy (graves of the Men of Ardudwy), near Ffestiniog, Bedd Porius, near Trawsfynydd, and the Bedd Emlyn at Clocaenog (q.v.).

When a tumulus was raised it was doubtless a monument to some considerable personage, whose

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remains it covered, or else to the slain in a battle. But there are instances of tomens, or tumuli, that have been raised for other purposes, sometimes possibly as lookouts (as in the case of that which gives its name to Tomen-y-mûr), or for defensive purposes. Newmarket Cop, in Flintshire, is an instance of the sepulchral tumulus, and is said to be the largest but one in the kingdom; and Capel Towyn, near Holyhead, is another. Of those which have been used for other, and perhaps various, purposes examples may be found in Tomen-y-Bala (for which see Bala), Tomen-y-Rhodwy, near Llandegla, and Tomen-Ddreiniog, near Towyn.

Both tumuli and cromlechs are, as already said, sometimes associated with ancient stone circles, of which only a few, however, are now to be found in N. Wales. One of the most remarkable is that known as Y Meini Hirion, about $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. from Penmaenmawr (q.v.). One of the upright stones, from its supposed resemblance to the human figure, is popularly styled "the Deity Stone," while another having a cup-like cavity on the top is named "The Stone of Sacrifice." Other circles are to be seen at Penbedw (in the Hall grounds), near Nannerch, in the Llawllech range, near Llyn Irddyn, etc.

When we come to the sculptured and inscribed stones—of which there are many specimens in N. Wales—we touch matters of a wider and deeper interest. Of these memorials Westwood, in his "Lapidarium Walliæ," says they "are in fact the only unimpeachable proofs which exist in Wales of the extent to which religion, literature, and science were there cultivated from the 3rd to the 12th

century.” One of the most interesting of these stones is that of St Cadfan at Towyn (q.v.). Another notable stone of the kind is Eliseg’s Pillar, near Valle Crucis Abbey (q.v.), which has been the subject of much speculation. Among others are the Catamnus stone in Llangadwalader churchyard; the Lavernus stone at Llanfaglan; the Vinnemagli stone at Gwytherin, where was the abbey of which St Winifred was the head; the Culidorus stone at Llangefni (Anglesey); and the stones (of 6th cent.) at Penprys, near Llanor, 2 m. N.W. of Pwllheli; the Romano-British stone at Llangian, near Abersoch; that in the churchyard of Llanerfyl, Montgomeryshire; and those at Llanrug, 3 m. E. of Caernarvon, and at Llanfihangel-y-Traethau, near Harlech. Besides these there are other stones, without inscription, intended, no doubt, in many cases, as memorials of something or other, while in other instances they may simply stand as boundary marks. Among the former must be included the Llech Idris stone, near Trawsfynydd, and the pillar stones near Llanbedr, in Merioneth.

With these may be mentioned the stone crosses, which, though rare, are of exceptional interest. The most notable is that (of the 12th cent.) standing in a field near Whitford (q.v.), and known as the Maen Achwynfan (or Maen-y-chwnfan, as some write it), a column 11 ft. 3 in. high, supporting a wheel-cross, and having all its four sides richly carved. Anglesey counts three, one at Llanfihangel Tre’r Beirdd; another (mutilated) at Llanfair-mathafarn-eithaf; and a third, a very singular one, with compartments representing the mockery of the Saviour by the Roman soldiery,

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at Penmon. These and the lofty cross in Newmarket churchyard, the carved one in Dyserth churchyard, and that in Derwen churchyard, 13 ft. high, a most perfect specimen, almost exhaust the list.

As regards ecclesiastical antiquities, N. Wales presents a fine field for lovers of such things. Although its two cathedrals are not of the first rank, and present little of the rare beauty manifest in such poems in stone as York and Salisbury Cathedrals, yet both are extremely interesting, especially St Asaph's, with its fine central tower, grand though simple in design. Of ancient abbeys N. Wales can only boast four, but one of the number, Valle Crucis, is as beautiful as anything of the kind in the country, its E.E. windows being particularly worthy of note. Basingwerk suffers from its proximity to the dirt and "trade" of Holywell; while Llanddwyn, exposed to the wild blasts and almost wilder waves of the Atlantic, can only show a few bare walls of its former self. Cymmer is still interesting, though it presents but little of the exceptional beauty of Valle Crucis, save as regards its situation.

With respect to the churches, the following is a list of those that present special features of interest:—

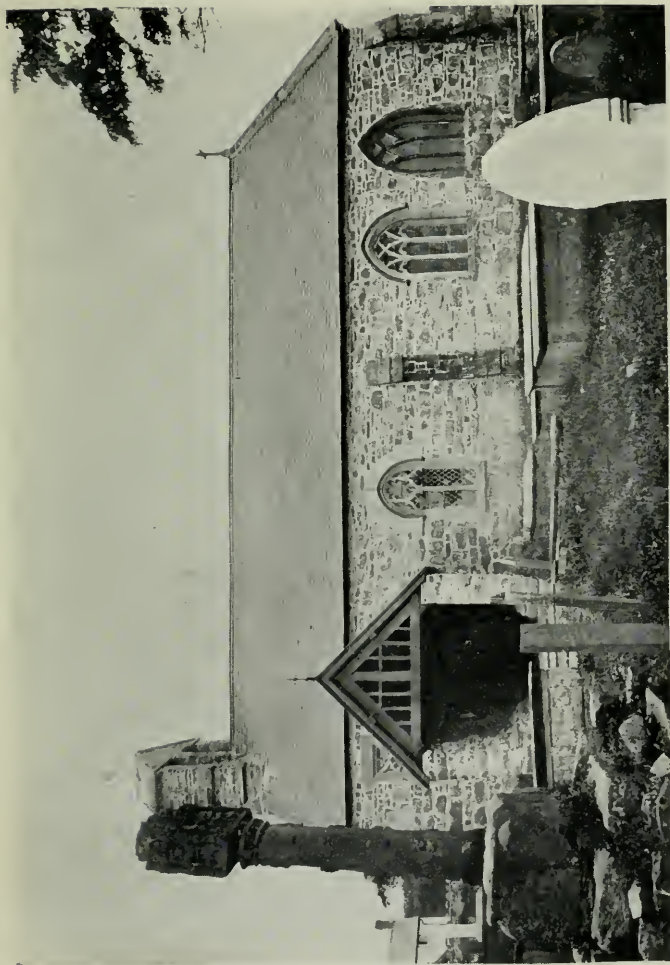
Aberdaron: Circular-headed doorway and Perp. E. window (restored).

Aberffraw: 12th-cent. doorway and 14th-cent. font.

Beaumaris: (13th cent.). Monuments; carved wood-work.

Beddgelert: Old and rude, part of early priory.

Cerrig-ceinwen: Circular 12th-cent. font; tombstone over door.



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- Cilcain : Carved oak roof.
- Conway : Rood-loft and screen ; monuments.
- Clynnog : Good specimen of late Perp. ; roof, rood-loft.
- Effenechtyd : Remarkable wooden font.
- Gresford : Monuments, grotesque sculpture, tower, and stained glass (Perp.).
- Guilsfield : (Restored), many interesting features.
- Hanmer : (Tudor), monuments.
- Holyhead : Chiefly 15th and 16th cent.
- Kerry : Monuments.
- Llanaber : E.E. (13th cent.) ; many interesting features, including beautiful S. doorway.
- Llanarmon : Monuments ; chandelier, with figure of Virgin.
- Llanallgo : Very early, said to be of 7th cent.
- Llanasa : Stained-glass window.
- Llandegai : Monuments.
- Llanddwywe : Monuments.
- Llanddyfnan : Sculpture of the Crucifixion.
- Llanegryn : Norm. font ; rood-loft.
- Llanfair-y-cwmwd : 12th-cent. font, grotesquely carved.
- Llanfwrog : Arcades.
- Llangadwaladr : Beautiful stained glass window.
- Llangollen : Mostly modern, with Perp. roof.
- Llangwyfan : Curious E. Perp.
- Llanidloes : Roof, with carved figures.
- Llaniestyn : 12th cent. font, and slab of 14th, supposed to represent St Iestyn (E. Perp.).
- Llanrhaiadr (Vale of Clwyd) : Perp. E. window (Jesse) ; monuments.
- Llanvihangel Tyn Sylwy : Movable pulpit.
- Llanvihangel-y-Pennant : Norm. font.

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✓ Llanrwst : Rood-screen, Gwydir chapel, monuments.

Llanuwchllyn : Monument (1370).

Llanwenllwyfo : Brass (elaborate) of 17th cent.

✓ Meifod : Norm. arcades ; sculptured stone.

✓ Mold : Perp.

Newborough : 12th-cent. font and E. window.

Newtown : Modern, with old wooden screen and font ; monuments.

✓ Northop : (Perp.). Tower, monuments, stained glass.

Penmon : Norman (restored).

Penmynydd : Effigies of Tudor family.

✓ Pennant-Melangell : Carved wood-work.

✓ Ruabon : Monuments.

✓ Ruthin : (Perp.). Oak roof, carvings, monuments.

Towyn : E. Norm.

✓ Welshpool : Monuments.

✓ Whitchurch : (Late Perp.), monuments.

✓ Wrexham : Tower, monuments, mural paintings, apsidal chancel. (Perp.).

Yspytty Ivan : Monuments.

As regards most of these places fuller particulars will be found under their respective heads in the list of places.

DESCRIPTION OF PLACES IN NORTH WALES, ALPHABETICALLY ARRANGED.

NOTE.—The position of places may, as a rule, be ascertained by reference to the guide maps. When a place has no railway station the distance to the nearest station is invariably given.

The following abbreviations are employed in describing the architectural styles of churches:—

Norm. = Norman, the style introduced from France at the Norman Conquest, which prevailed until towards the end of the 12th cent.

E. E. = Early English, or the general style of the 13th cent.

Dec. = Decorated, or the style of the 14th cent., though its inception was a little earlier.

Perp. = Perpendicular, practised during the 15th and early part of the 16th centuries.

Abcr (s.), a delightfully situated village, 5 m. E. of Bangor, at the mouth of a narrow valley famed for its two waterfalls. The larger one (2 m. distant) is known in Welsh as Rhaiadr Mawr (the "Great Cataract"), and after heavy rains it is a fine spectacle, its lower portion presenting an unbroken sheet of water 60 ft. in height. The lesser fall is about $\frac{1}{4}$ m. distant. Immediately W. towers the great mass of Moel Wnion (1902 ft.). Near the village a mound is pointed out which is reputed to have been the site of a palace of Llewelyn the Great.

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Aberangell (s.), a pretty village 1 m. S. of Dinas Mawddwy, at the confluence of the Angell and the Dyfi. Near the station the Angell presents several falls.

Aberdaron, a small village at the end of the Lleyrn promontory (Caernarvonshire), $15\frac{1}{2}$ m. by road from Pwllheli, whence an omnibus runs daily except Sunday. It was formerly a halting place for pilgrims bound for Bardsey (q.v.). It has an interesting old church (restored) consisting of N. and S. aisles, with several interesting features, including a good Perp. E. window, a circular-headed doorway, etc. In the parish are a number of interesting antiquities.

Aberdovey (s.), a pleasant and busy little port and watering-place on the N. bank of the estuary of the Dyfi or Dovey, 4 m. S. of Towyn. The scenery on both sides of the estuary is very fine, the mountains in the background seeming to give it a touch of their own grandeur. Noted for its fishing facilities.

Abererch, a village $1\frac{1}{4}$ m. N.E. of Pwllheli, with a picturesque old church, noted for its long N. aisle and bell-tower.

Aberffraw, a decayed village at the mouth of the Ffraw, on the S. coast of Anglesey, 2 m. S.W. of Bodorgan station, on the line to Holyhead, noted as the ancient seat of the princes of N. Wales. Here, Roderic Mawr (the "Great") had his palace in the 9th cent., and the place continued to be a royal residence until the reign of Llewelyn (d. 1282). Little if any trace of the old palace is now to be seen. Here it was that the famous code of Laws framed by Howel the Good (940) were constantly kept. The church

(restored) shows some interesting features, notably a 12th-cent. doorway in the S. aisle, and a 14th-cent. font. The village is a favourite resort for anglers seeking sport in Llyn Coron ($1\frac{1}{2}$ m. distant).

Abergele, a market town on the N. coast, 5 m. W. of Rhyl, with pop. 2083. As a watering-place it is somewhat eclipsed by Pensarn (which see). The church, dating from the reign of Henry VIII. (restored 1879) has two equal aisles, interesting remnants of old stained-glass in the E. window, a 13th-cent. stone cross let into the floor, a square tower, etc. To Abergele churchyard attaches a mournful interest in that it contains memorials of a number of persons who lost their lives in two sad accidents that occurred in the vicinity. Seven of the 178 persons who lost their lives by the burning of the *Ocean Monarch* in Abergele Bay, August 24th, 1848, lie buried here, while near by stands a granite monument to the memory of the 33 victims of the terrible railway accident near the town in 1868.

Aberglaslyn. See Pass of.

Abergynolwyn (s.), a pretty village in the Dysynni valley, 7 m. N.E. of Towyn, chiefly inhabited by quarrymen, and the terminus of the short narrow-gauge or "toy" line from Towyn, known as the Talyllyn Railway. Here vehicles are generally in readiness to convey tourists to the lake (3 m.). Cader Idris may be ascended from Abergynolwyn. The distance is about 8 m.; this is considered the most gradual ascent, and takes about $3\frac{1}{2}$ h. The path joins the Dolgelly pony track near two stone pillars.

Aberllefenni, 2 m. N. of Corris, terminus of

the "Toy Railway" from Machynlleth (q.v.), with important slate quarries.

Abermule, junction for the short-branch line up the valley of the Mule to Kerry (q.v.), 4 m. S.W. of Montgomery.

Abersoch, a pleasant little fishing-village and watering-place on St Tudwal's Bay, off which lie St Tudwal's Islands (which see). A coach runs daily from Pwllheli to Abersoch in connection with the Cambrian Railways. There is much beautiful scenery and many objects of interest in the vicinity, including the quaint village of Llanengan (q.v.).

Afon Wen, on Cardigan Bay, 19 m. S. of Carnarvon, $4\frac{1}{2}$ m. E. of Pwllheli; junction of the L. & N.W. and Cambrian lines.

Aled, the, is a tributary of the Elwy, having its rise in Llyn Aled, a small lake in the Hiraethog Hills (Denbighshire), whence it starts on its northward course through a picturesque dingle in which it makes two pretty waterfalls, Llyn-yr-Ogo and Rhaiadr Mawr, about 5 m. S. of the village of Llansannan, where the river turns E. for a short distance and then again flows N., finally joining the Elwy at Pont-y-Gwyddel. About 2 m. N.E. of Llyn Aled is the pretty Llyn Llymbran.

Alwen, the, a tributary of the Dee, issues from Llyn Alwen, a small sheet of water, in the Hiraethog mountains, near the source of the Aled, which runs N. to the Elwy, while the Alwen flows S.E., and has upon its R. bank the village of Llanfihangel - Glyn - Myfyr, and upon its L. bank that of Bettws-Gwerfyl-Goch. It thus enters Merionethshire, where it is joined by the

ABERMULE—AMLWCH

Geirw issuing from Cerrig-y-Drudion. This tributary forms a considerable cascade in its passage through Glyn-diffwys, where a bridge of one arch crosses a chasm 50 ft. wide. It finally joins the Dee opposite Llangar, S.W. of Corwen.

Alyn (or *Alun*), the, has its rise among the hills about Llandegla, and flowing N. along a narrow vale, passes the villages of Llanarmon and Llanferras, and enters Flintshire in the vicinity of Moel Fammau, "the Hill Queen of the Clwydian range." The *Alyn* now pursues a S.E. direction, and at Hesp *Alyn*, on its way to Mold, the river takes a turn upon itself, and then follows an underground course for half a mile, happily referred to by Drayton in the lines—

"Then Alen makes approche — who, earnest to be there,
For haste twice under earth her crystall heade doth runne."

In its further progress from Mold to Hope and Caergwrlle the stream washes the foot of the eminence on which the house known as Hartsheath is built, the scenery about which is of a most romantic character. Again entering Denbighshire, the *Alyn* continues its S.E. course for some distance, then turns N.E., passes the pretty village of Gresford, and finally enters the Dee at Holt.

Amlwch—pronounced *Amloocho*—(s.), a busy seaport on the N. coast of Anglesey, 17 m. from Gaerwen Junction, where the Anglesey Central Railway branches off from the L. & N.W. to Holyhead. Although a place of some importance

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it has fallen off both in business and population owing to the diminishing productivity of the copper mines in the near-lying Parys Mountains (q.v.). It has a good harbour, cut out of the solid rock to accommodate the vessels necessary for carrying on the copper trade, and is protected by a breakwater. Population 3086.

Arans, the, a mountain range in Merionethshire running nearly due N. and S., a little S. of Bala Lake of which Aran Benllyn (2901 ft.) and Aran Mawddwy (2970 ft.) are the highest peaks. The ascent of both is best made from Llanuwchllyn, though the peaks may be reached also from Dinas Mawddwy and Drws-y-nant. On the N.E. slope of Benllyn lies the small Llyn Lliwbran, noted for its fishing.

Arenigs, the, a group of mountains in Merionethshire, midway between Maentwrog and Bala. They are best ascended from Arenig Station, 8 m. W. of Bala. The top of Arenig Fach (2264 ft.) may be reached from a little inn, Rhyd-y-fen ($\frac{1}{2}$ m. from stat.) under the hour. Arenig Fawr (2800 ft.) may be climbed in about the same time by proceeding along the old road to Ffestiniog until a farm called Milltir-Gerrig is reached, and there asking for directions. The surrounding panorama on a clear day is very fine, Bala Lake being seen E. and the sea W., while Snowdon and Cader Idris are visible N.W. and S.W. respectively.

Arenig Station, on the line from Bala to Ffestiniog, 8 m. W. of Bala, lying about midway between the Great and Little Arenigs, that is, Arenig Fawr (S.) and Arenig Fach (N.). To the E. of the mountain lies Llyn Arenig.

ARANS—BALA

Arthog (s.), a village $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. S.W. of Dolgelly, on the S. side of the Mawddach estuary, visited for its waterfalls and beautiful scenery. It consists of little more than the chapel and a few houses. A few miles from Arthog are the twin Creigenen Lakes under the shadow of Cader Idris. There are delightful walks in the neighbourhood. Among others one to Llys Bradwen, an ancient manor house, held to have belonged to Ednowain of Bradwen (12th cent.).

Bagillt (s.), a populous village, with lead-smelting and other works, on the Dee estuary, 2 m. N.W. of Flint.

Bala, a small market town, at the N. end of the lake of that name, consisting for the most part of two main streets, with a population of 1537. At the end of High Street is the station of the Bala-Ffestiniog line, between which station and Bala Junction—at which trains to and from Barmouth stop—are frequent trains. Omnibuses also ply between the two. Bala is interesting chiefly for its lake, the second largest in Wales. It has little history and no manufactures, but has for years been a centre of religious and educational activity. Its Grammar School, founded two centuries ago, is now a county school, governed by the Act which provides for intermediate education in Wales. It has also a Theological College, formerly for Calvinistic Methodist students only, but now for all sects. Chief among the other buildings of the place is Christ Church, a modern Gothic structure, and subsidiary to the parish church, which is situated at Llanycil, about a mile distant, on the side of the lake. Near the station is a tumulus, or tomen, supposed by some to have been a Roman

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encampment, but held by others to be an ancient Moot Hill. It is curious and interesting, and well worth a visit, if only for the view to be had from its summit.

Another interesting object in the town is the monument to the Rev. Thomas Charles, a man who in his day was the light and life of Dissent in Wales, and one of the founders of the B. & F. Bible Society. It stands in front of the Calvinistic Methodist Church in Tegid Street. Within a few years (1903) Bala has been enriched by a second statue (in bronze) to a local celebrity, namely, Thomas E. Ellis, for some years member for Merioneth and chief Liberal Whip, who was born at Cynlas, a few miles distant.

But though these exhaust the matters of special interest in Bala itself, there are many attractions within easy reach of the town, first and foremost of them all being the lake.

There are a number of objects and views in the immediate vicinity of Bala that are well worth an hour or two's stroll. One of them, of course, is the outflow of the Dee from the lake. Another is Rhiwlas, on the opposite side of the Tryweryn from Bala, whose grounds are very delightful; and finally, not to make too long a list, no one should miss seeing the Vron Stone Quarry. It is on a hill-side close to the town, and presents a very singular rock-temple-like appearance.

Bangor, one of the oldest cities in Wales, is beautifully situated on the Caernarvonshire side of Menai Strait, and has a population of upwards of eleven thousand. Its name is derived from Ban Chor ("the high or beautiful choir"), a conventual establishment founded here about A.D. 525, by

BANGOR

Deiniol, son of the Abbot of Bangor Iscoed, in Flintshire, who became the first bishop of the diocese. It consists of two portions, Upper and Lower Bangor. The latter, or older, portion lies in a valley which stretches down to Garth Ferry, and constitutes the business centre of the town. Upper Bangor spreads itself out on higher ground, is modern in appearance, having well laid-out streets pleasantly shaded with trees, and is much resorted to by visitors, chiefly, however, by those who come for a more or less lengthy stay, the place not being so much a centre for the tourist element as some others. Nevertheless there are few towns in North Wales more conveniently situated for excursions through and about the Snowdonian mountains, as well as into Anglesey and Lley. It is the railway junction for Bethesda, and for the Caernarvon and Afonwen line, with branches to Llanberis and Rhyd-ddu (for Snowdon). Though not so busy a port as Caernarvon or Portmadoc, Bangor does considerable trade in that line, being the chief haven for the shipment of the slates from the Penrhyn quarries. It is also a place of call for the Liverpool and Llandudno steamboats.

By its selection as the seat of the University College for North Wales, Bangor has become the leading educational centre of that part of the Principality. Originally housed in the old Penrhyn Arms Hotel, commanding delightful views of the Strait with its wooded slopes and shores, it has recently seen the foundation laid of a more commodious home in Bishop's Park. Other educational establishments in Bangor are Friar's Grammar School (now under the Welsh Intermediate

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Education Act), which dates from 1537, when it was founded by Dr Jeffery Glyn; the University College Hall, for women; the North Wales Normal College (for training teachers of elementary schools); the Church of England Training College for Schoolmistresses; the Independent College and the Baptists' College—an array of institutions which brings a large number of young people to this beautiful town for their training.

Among the more notable buildings in the place may be mentioned the municipal offices and the Free Museum and Reading Room, in connection with which is a good library.

The chief building, however, is the cathedral, situated, of course, in the old town, and, like St David's and Llandaff, in a hollow. Of the original structure built by Deiniol (*i.e.* Daniel) there are naturally no remains, nor of several successive erections, one of which was destroyed by the English in 1071. After a subsequent destruction in 1211 it was again partially restored, to be once more greatly injured about 1247, during the wars between Henry III. and the Welsh. Finally it was burned down in 1402 by Owen Glendower, and for upwards of ninety years remained in ruins. The choir was rebuilt in 1496, and the west tower and nave in 1532 (according to an inscription, at the expense of Bishop Sheffington).

It is a handsome Gothic structure, cruciform in character, with a central and a W. tower, though not much larger than many parish churches. The nave is 114 ft. in length, and has six Perp. arches. In each side are six three-light windows, those in the N. circle being Perp., those of the S. Dec. The clerestory windows (of triple lights) are

BANGOR

without foliation. The W. tower, of three stages, is 60 ft. in height. The larger portion of the church, up to the time (1866) when Sir Gilbert Scott undertook its restoration, was Perp. in character, with fragments of 13th-cent. work. Under his direction the transepts regained their original Dec. style, in accordance with portions found built into the crumbling 16th-cent. walls. The choir (attributed to Bishop Deane, in 1496) was restored. The Perp. windows were left unaltered, but the roof was raised to its older and higher pitch, and now consists of a fine timber vaulting richly gilt and coloured. New carved stalls and pavement were added, as also a reredos, presented by Mrs Symes of Gorphwysfa, in memory of a brother.

The monuments in the cathedral are more interesting than numerous. There are two 14th-cent. tombs (Dec.) in the choir, one (S.) thought to be that of Bishop Anian (d. 1328), the other (N.) held to be that of Tudor ap Grono ap Tudor. In the S. transept is a wall inscription to Owen Gwynedd, whose remains are said to have been buried near by, and in the N. transept is a mural tablet to the Anglesey poet, Goronwy Owen. S. of the choir is a white marble altar-tomb to the memory of Bishop Morgan and his daughter (1671-82).

In the Chapter House (above the muniment room) is stored the cathedral library, which contains some rare works, including the Pontifical of Bishop Anian, the so-called "Bangor Use," or service-book. Among other relics, generally of chief interest to visitors, is a pair of tongs formerly used for removing dogs from the church. Near

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the cathedral is the old Bishop's Palace, the Deanery, and the Canonry.

It need hardly be said that the views from Bangor are varied and beautiful, and not the least pleasing point from which to enjoy them is the pier, which stretches two-thirds of the way across the Strait.

Bangor Iscoed, or Bangor on Dee (so called to distinguish it from Bangor in Caernarvonshire), a small village 5 m. S.E. of Wrexham, was formerly the site of the oldest conventual establishment in the kingdom. It was founded in the 2nd cent. A.D., and, according to Speed, numbered, in the year 596, no fewer than 2400 monks. Not long afterwards the place was attacked, and 1200 of its unarmed monks slain by Ethelfrid, King of Northumbria, who left the place wellnigh a ruin. A few remains of the conventual buildings are still traceable. The place is held by those learned in such matters to have been the Bovium of Antoninus.

Bardsey Isle, lying off the point of the Lleyn promontory, from which it is a little over a mile distant (7 m. from Aberdaron), was so named by the Saxons (Bards Ey) because of its being a favourite retreat of the bards or saints. On account of the swift tidal flow which runs between it and the mainland, and in bad weather used formerly to interrupt communications for weeks together, it was called by the British *Ynys Enlli*, the island of the current. Bardsey is nearly 2 m. long by about $\frac{3}{4}$ broad at the northern end. On the N. side are the ruins of St Mary's Abbey, founded by Cadfan about 516, though little now remains except part of a tower and some traces of a chapel or oratory.

BANGOR ISCOED—BARMOUTH

According to the old chronicles, those of the monks of Bangor Iscoed (q.v.) who escaped the swords of Ethelfrid of Northumbria, fled to Bardsey, and in due course helped to make up the total of 20,000 saints said to have laid their bones there. For generations it was regarded as a place of peculiar sanctity, and so attracted a countless stream of pilgrims. The total population of the island does not exceed seventy, including the personnel of the lighthouse situated near the southern point of the island. Some of the people are engaged in agriculture, others devote themselves to fishing, and find a good market at Aberdaron for the crabs and lobsters which they are able to catch in abundance.

Barmouth, a sea-port town on Cardigan Bay, at the mouth of the Mawddach (or Maw), which has of late years become one of the favourite watering-places in Wales. It is most romantically situated and within easy reach of a large number of places and objects of interest and attraction, including Harlech Castle, Llanaber Church, the Panorama Walk, Cader Idris, Llyn Bychan, etc., which give something to occupy the time for weeks together. The town faces S.W. and is well sheltered from N.E. winds by the lofty cliffs which back it on that side and upon the slopes and terraces whereof many of the older houses are built. The more modern parts of the town, however, are on the flat at the foot of the crags. There is the one main business thoroughfare. Near it is the station, and close at hand the harbour and the quay, with the hotels and residential quarters wherein visitors chiefly foregather, and whence they may obtain glorious views and breaths from the wide-spreading

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bay. The sanitation of the town is good and there is an excellent supply of water, brought from Bodlyn Lake, some miles distant.

The objects of interest in Barmouth are not many. There are two churches, both extremely modern, one, dedicated to St John (consecrated 1890), built on the hillside, while at the end of High Street is St David's Church, a chapel of ease to the old parish church, which is situated at Llanaber ($1\frac{1}{2}$ m. distant). Note in St John's the white marble font in the form of an angel holding a shell. Worthy of note, also, as the chief antiquity of Barmouth is an old house on the quay known as *Ty gwyn yn Bermo*, traditionally associated with the plots of Jasper Tudor, Earl of Pembroke, for the invasion of England, but of which little of the old structure remains. To most, however, the chief delights of the place will ever be the Mawddach and the beautiful estuary, with the bridge (nearly $\frac{1}{2}$ m. long), crossing it and the river, and the wellnigh unsurpassable views obtainable at every point of vantage. One of them, not readily equalled, may be enjoyed from the bridge (over which there is a footway, toll 2d.), whence the view of Cader Idris, the estuary, and the surrounding hills generally, especially about sunset, is not easily forgotten. At the Barmouth end of the bridge is the little harbour of Aberamffra, while near by, at the mouth of the estuary, lies *Ynys y Braudd* (Friar's Island), forming a natural breakwater, and a favourite resort for swimmers.

Finally, for the nature lover and student, it may be said that there is not a better place in the whole of N. Wales for botanising, or for the



BARMOUTH VIADUCT AND CADER IDRIS

BASINGWERK ABBEY—BEAUMARIS

study of practical geology, than Barmouth and vicinity. (Population, 2106.)

Basingwerk Abbey. These ruins are situated on an eminence near to Hollywell station. They consist of portions of the S. transept and S. aisle, with one pier and half an arch of the nave. On the E. side of the cloister enclosure is part of the sacristy door; also portions of the dormitory, while on the S. are remains of the refectory, and on the W. part of the gate-house. The prevailing style throughout is E.E. It is not known who was the original founder of the Abbey, but a religious house is known to have existed here prior to 1119 and that it came under the Cistercian rule in 1131. The Abbey was dissolved in 1535, but was reopened for a season under Queen Mary, and for a long time after the grounds were used by Roman Catholics as a place of sepulture. Near the ruins are traces of what are held to be Watt's Dyke, which is known to have terminated on the N. coast somewhere hereabout.

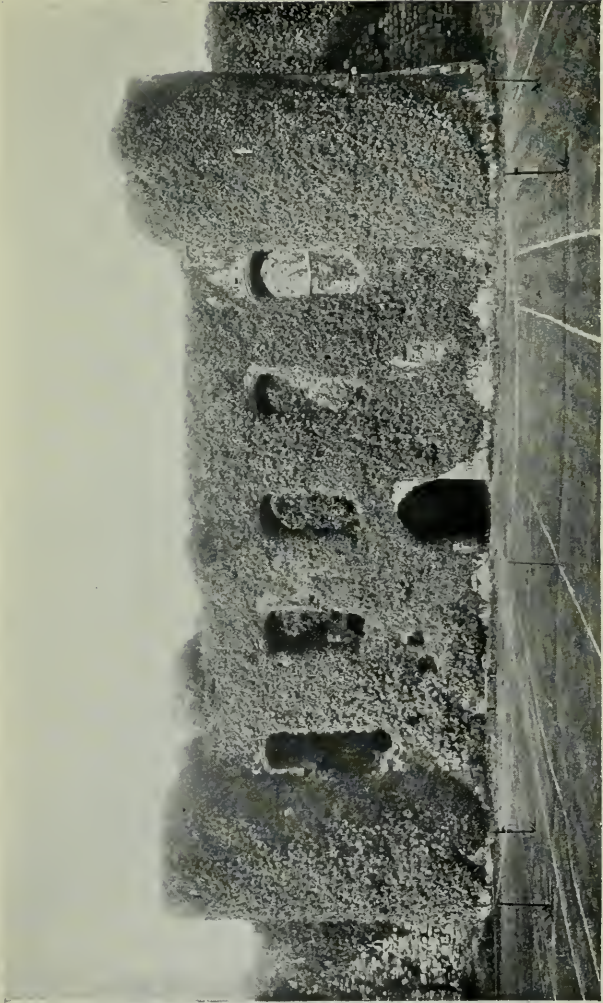
Beaumaris, the county town of Anglesey (pop. 2310), is situated at the N. end of Menai Strait, $6\frac{1}{2}$ m. from Bangor by road and 3 by water. Its first charter dates from 1283, the year in which the Principality was annexed to the English Crown by Edward I., who changed the name of the place from Bornover to Beaumaris. He also built the castle (1295) that dominated that side of the Strait and now forms one of the chief attractions to visitors, apart from the beautiful situation and charming surroundings of the place. It formerly had some importance as a business centre, but all that has departed, and it is now a place of residence only, noted for its bracing air, its facilities for

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sea-bathing and yachting, and for many other conveniences, including that of economy in living. The town is clean and well built, and though it has as yet no railway, it is easily reached by 'bus and by steamboats from Bangor, and by the latter from Llandudno and Liverpool occasionally in the summer season.

Among the attractions of the town are the pier and the green, which is close to the pier and, equally with it, presents to the eye a varied and never-wearying prospect of mountain and sea, the view embracing the Great Orme's Head, Penmaenmawr, Aber, Bangor, Penrhyn Castle, and (in the distance) many of the peaks of Snowdonia.

The parish church, dedicated to St. Mary, stands on a slight eminence in the centre of the town, and consists of channel, nave, N. and S. aisles (chapels of St. Mary and St. Nicholas), with an embattled tower, carrying a peal of six bells. The main part of the structure dates from the close of the 13th cent.; the roof of the nave is 15th cent., and the upper part of the tower modern. The carved woodwork and sedilia are particularly worthy of note, presenting heads of varied type and character, carefully worked out, and evidently of greater antiquity than the existing chancel (16th cent.) and thought to have come from some supposed religious house. Very quaint, too, are the rustic figures on the Miserere seats. Among the older monuments, note (in the vestry) an alabaster altar-tomb (15th cent.) with recumbent figures of a knight and lady; also (in the chancel) memorials to the father of Sir Philip Sidney and to five knights (16th cent.). There are also in the chancel several monuments to



BEAUMARIS CASTLE

BEAUMARIS

the Bulkeley family of later date: one in white marble to the wife of Sir R. B. Williams-Bulkeley, and another (by Westmacott) to Baron Bulkeley.

Baron Hill, the seat of the Williams-Bulkeley family, stands on a beautifully wooded eminence overlooking the town, and is surrounded by a fine park, to which the public have free access. The Bulkeleys have been in possession of the estate since the time of Queen Elizabeth. The house dates from the time of James I. It was built with a view to the reception of Prince Henry when on his way to Ireland, but his untimely death so affected Sir A. Bulkeley, the builder, that he had no heart to carry out his original design, and so remained content to live in the part already finished. In the grounds N.E. of the mansion may be seen the sculptured sarcophagus of the Princess Joan, daughter of King John and wife of Llewellyn the Great, who was buried at Llanfaes (q.v.). Behind Baron Hill, on rising ground, stands an obelisk to the memory of Sir Richard Bulkeley, the defender of Beaumaris Castle in the time of Charles I.

The Castle is the chief object of interest connected with Beaumaris. It stands at the N. end of the town, and covers a considerable extent of ground. In plan it is altogether different from the castles of Conway and Caernarvon, presenting an outer wall protected by low "drum" towers, and a main structure within, nearly quadrangular in form, with a strong round tower at each corner. The banqueting hall, with five large windows, and other rooms of state, the domestic offices, and the chapel are all distinctly traceable. There are many other

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details of the structure that are well worthy of notice, but need not be entered into here, as, for instance, the galleries in the wall that seem to have led round the entire circuit. The Castle was surrounded by a fosse, which communicated with the sea by means of a canal, designed to enable vessels to approach and supply the garrison with provisions and other necessities.

Beddau Gwŷr Ardudwy ("the Graves of the Men of Ardudwy") are situated about $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. N.E. of Ffestiniog. They consist—or did, for little of them now remains—of stones standing upright in the turf about $\frac{1}{4}$ m. N. of the road to Bala. They are interesting on account of the legend connected with them.

The story is that the Men of Ardudwy, being in want of wives, made a foray into the Vale of Clwyd and carried thence the women they required. When they reached the point where are the *Beddau* (graves) of the ravishers they were overtaken by the enraged fathers and lovers of the women, and in the battle that ensued were all killed. Sad to relate, the women had become so enamoured of their captors that they could not bear the thought of surviving them, and rushed in a body to the sheet of water (a little to the E.) called after them "The Maidens' Lake" (*Llyn-y-morwynion*), and throwing themselves into it were drowned. The old Roman road, named *Sarn Elen*, which runs from *Heriri Mons*, through *Dolwyddelen*, in the direction of *Bettws-y-coed*, passes through the site of the "Graves," which some hold to be the last resting-place of Roman soldiers. There is another *Llyn-y-morwynion* on the N. side of the *Bwlch-y-Tyddiad* (q.v.), one of the famous passes

BEDDAU GWŶR ARDUDWY

leading into that part of Merioneth known as Ardudwy.

Beddgelert, a picturesque village 7 m. N. of Portmadoc, on the Caernarvon side of the river Colwyn, takes its name, say some, from the story of Gelert and Llewelyn's hound, but by others, and with more truth, from a saint named Kelert. It lies in a beautiful vale, shut in on all sides by mountains, at the junction of three valleys, the streams from two of them (the Colwyn and Gwynant) forming the Glaslyn, which, cutting its way through a stupendous gorge, finds its outlet to the sea over the Treathmawr. Though so finely situated, with Moel Hebog (nearly 2600 ft.) on the W. and the Aran peak of Snowdon (2473 ft.) on the N., the village itself contains little that is of interest save the curious old church (Early Pointed), the remnant of a priory of Augustine's for both men and women, the oldest monastic establishment in Wales except that of Bardsey (q.v.). As its archives, along with the destruction of the edifice by fire, were lost, little is known of its history; it is known, however, that it had a munificent patron in Llewelyn-ap-Iorwerth (12th cent.), as also in the last of the name, his grandson.

Beddgelert (pronounced "Bethgelert") is a convenient point from which to ascend Moel Hebog and Snowdon, and to explore other fine scenery along the course of the Colwyn, the Gwynant, and the Glaslyn. One path to Snowdon mounts under the wooded heights of Dinas Emrys, connected by tradition with the memory of Merlin and likewise with that of Vortigern, the remains of whose walls and ramparts are still to be seen on its summit.

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One of the objects to visit, of course, is Gelert's grave, pointed out in a field near the church, and marked by a group of stones, though, truth to tell, both the grave and the legend of Llewelyn and his faithful hound are alike devoid of foundation. For the facts see the Rev. A. Elvet Lewis's "*Bedd Gelert: its Facts, Fairies, and Folk-Lore*" (1899).

Bedd Gwrtheyrn. See *Nant Gwrtheyrn*.

Berriew, a picturesque village 2 m. N.W. of Montgomery, on the river Rhiw, which here falls into the Severn. A little above the village is a pretty waterfall.

Berwyn, a village at the head of the Ellesmere Canal, where the Dee is spanned by a chain bridge. Above the bridge is a weir which has been much celebrated as the "Horse Shoe Falls," while below the river tumbles through a narrowing channel amid a wild disorder of rocks and stones till it comes to what is known as the Robber's Leap (*Llam-y-Lleidr*). Near-by is *Llantysilio* (q.v.).

Bethesda, a town of considerable size (pop. 10,000), 6 m. S.E. of Bangor, consists in the main of one long street, about midway of which stands the Methodist chapel from which the place takes its present name, it having been originally called *Glanogwen*, from the name of the river on which it is situated. It owes its growth and importance to the slate quarries, which, next to *Ffestiniog*, are the most considerable in Wales. The quarries on the mountain side present a busy scene, and are well worth a visit. *Bethesda* is a convenient place from which to make the ascent of the peaks *Carnedd Llewelyn* and *Carnedd Defydd* (S.E.), and to visit *Llyn Ogwen*.



BEDDELEERT BRIDGE

BETTWS-Y-COED

Bettws-Abergele, a pleasing little village $4\frac{1}{2}$ m. S. by W. of Abergele.

Bettws Garmon (s.), 5 m. E. of Dinas Junction, on the n.g. line to Snowdon, with the lofty height of Moel Eilio dominating the village on the E. and the smooth slopes of Mynydd Mawr rising a little E. of S.

Bettws-y-Coed (s.), a village on the high road to Holyhead, on the L. bank of the Conway, a little below its junction with the Lledr, and at the point where it is joined by the Llugwy. It has been called "the Paradise of Wales," and in truth the whole neighbourhood for miles round is surpassingly beautiful. But it has become spoiled by its beauty; during the season it is overrun with tourists, so that it is hard to enjoy it because of the penny-peep show character it has taken on. Still even this cannot destroy the charms of the place, and as it lasts for but a couple of months in the summer, there are ten months in the year when nature is left pretty much to herself, and her works and ways may be seen and felt to perfection. *Bettws-y-coed* may be said to have been discovered by David Cox; at least he and the many other artists who like him painted in and about it made the place famous, and so attracted visitors and tourists, until now the artist has left it to the angler, the golfer, and the excursionist.

The old church (restored) is one of the oldest in the Principality. It contains, besides an ancient font, a recumbent effigy in full armour of Griffith ap David Goch (c. 1380), the grandson of the unfortunate Prince David who died with his brother Llewelyn after a last "forlorn hope" for Wales at the hand of the common executioner. There is a

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world of pathos in the inscription, well-nigh illegible, of the tomb:—

“Hic jacet Gruffydd ap David Gôch
Agnus Dei, miserere mei.”

The old church is now disused, save as a mortuary chapel, having been replaced by a modern Gothic structure, whose beautiful font is specially worthy of note. The village, most of whose houses, as well as the hotels, are devoted to the service of hospitality, stretches from Pont-y-pair, an old stone bridge dating from the 15th cent., that crosses the foaming Llugwy on four lofty arches, to the newer iron bridge over the Conway, named after Waterloo, in whose year it was opened. The distance is nearly a mile, and from end to end there is hardly an object that has not been painted and painted again, the old ivy-covered bridge a thousand times, and all the beauty spots for miles round almost as often. To point them out is almost a work of supererogation, they lie so thickly in every direction along the streams hastening to commingle their waters at Bettws and, as it were, behind every rock and bryn; but note may be made of the Swallow Falls (Rhaiadr-y-Wennol), the Miners' Bridge, the Fairy Glen, the Falls of the Conway (q.v.), Capel Garmon (whence a fine view of the Snowdon range may be obtained), the Machno Falls, and Llyn Elsi, a silent pool (s.) amid low hills, at an elevation of 275 ft., whence Moel Siabod (pronounced “Shabod”) is seen—all within a mile or two of the village. (Pop. 881.)

Blaenau-Ffestiniog, the junction of the G.W.R. and the L. & N.W., 3 m. N. of Ffestiniog;



THE SWALLOW FALLS, BETTWS-Y-COED

BRAICH-Y-DDINAS

modern and uninteresting in itself, but in the midst of interesting scenery, at the head of the valley of the Dwyryd. (Population, 6741.)

Blaen Hafren, the source of the Severn, about $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. from Llyn Bugeilyn, N.E. of Plinlimmon (q.v.).

Bôdelwyddan, 6 m. S. of Rhyl, a little W. of St Asaph, noted for its beautiful marble church, built by Lady Willoughby de Broke as a memorial to her husband, the spire of which, 200 ft. high, forms a conspicuous landmark. The interior decoration of sculptured marble, carvings, and stained glass attracts many visitors to the church. It stands near the gateway of Bôdelwyddan Hall, the seat of the Williams family, descendants of Sir Wm. Williams, Bart., one time Speaker of the House of Commons; noted for its collection of ancient armour.

Bodfari (s.), 4 m. N.E. of Denbigh, on the Clwyd, noted for its fishing; a good point from which to ascend Moel-y-Parc.

Bodorgan (s.), Anglesey, on the line to Holyhead, the nearest station for visiting Newborough and Aberffraw (q.v.). Near-by is Llyn Coron, a favourite resort of anglers, affording good sport.

Bont-ddu, 5 m. E. of Barmouth, on the Dolgelly road. Here is the Halfway House, in the grounds of which is a small waterfall.

Borth-y-Gest, a favourite seaside village for boating and bathing, $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. S. of Portmadoc.

Braich-y-Ddinas, the ruins on the summit of Penmaenmawr of one of the strongest of old British fortifications, with remains of walls 12 ft. high, of immense thickness, and showing ancient cells in which the garrison lived.

NORTH WALES

Breidden Hills, the, a conspicuous group of three peaks on the Shropshire border, about 4 m. N.E. of Welshpool, of which Breidden (1202 ft.) is one. Moel-y-Golfa, the highest (1300 ft.), is the most southerly. Between the two rises Cefn-y-Castell, on which are traces of a considerable encampment. Breidden is crowned by Rodney's Pillar (commemorative of his victory over the French in 1782), behind which is *Caer Digoll*, a remarkable earthwork, consisting of an enclosure surrounded by a high bank and broad ditch. Here was fought a battle (1292) between the Welsh and English, in which Madoc, a cousin of Llewelyn, commanded the former.

Bryn Eglwys, 4 m. N.E. of Llansantffraid, interesting to Americans because of its ancient parish church and Yale Chapel, and the near-lying family seat of Plas-yn-Yale, whence, in the troublous days of the Pilgrim Fathers, the father of Elihu Yale, who gave his name to Yale College, went to New England. Subsequently Elihu acquired great wealth in the East Indies, and, returning to England, came in due course to be buried in Wrexham churchyard, where his tombstone bears this quaint inscription:—

“ Born in America, in Europe bred,
In Africa travelled, in India wed,
Where long he liv'd and thriv'd, in London dead;
Much good, some ill he did; so hope all's even,
And that his soul through mercy's gone to heaven.”

Bull Bay, a pretty little bathing-place, $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. N.E. of Amlwch, on the N. coast of Anglesey.

Buttington (s.), $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. N.E. of Welshpool, the junction of the L. & N.W. and G.W. joint line

BREIDDEN HILLS

with the Cambrian. The little church, with curious old font, is interesting.

Bwlch Cyfrwydrym, a pass leading to the summit of Carnedd Llewelyn.

Bwlch Drws Ardudwy. See *Drws Ardudwy*.

Bwlch Oerddrews, about 4 m. W. of Dinas Mawddwy, on the road to Dolgelly. From the top of the pass (1065 ft.) there is a fine view of Cader Idris and the country towards Barmouth.

Bwlch Rhiwfelen, 10 m. S. of Ruthin, on the road to Llangollen, is the highest pass (1300 ft.) in this part of Wales. The journey over the pass discloses some fine views, the sea by Rhyl being visible N. on a clear day, the Snowdon ranges W., with Moel Famau in the near distance.

Bwlch Rhiw Hirnant, 3 m. N.E. of the N. end of Lake Vyrnwy, on the R. from Lake Bala. The descent on the S. side of the Berwyns, which the pass crosses (1641 ft.), is exceedingly fine.

Bwlch - y - Ddeufaen ("The Pass of Two Stones"), 3 m. S.E. of Llanfairfechan, 1403 ft. in elevation. From here an old Roman road leads to Aber.

Bwlch-y-Groes, or "Pass of the Cross," from a cross that formerly existed there, 5 m. S.E. of Llanuwchllyn, on the R. to Dinas Mawddwy, one of the wildest and most solitary passes in N. Wales (1950 ft.), presenting a wide view over desolate moorland and bare hill country.

Bwlch Tyddiad, a defile between Rhinog Fawr and Graig Dhu, 1294 ft. above the sea, and $7\frac{1}{2}$ m. E. of Llanbedr. In ascending the "bwlch" the tiny lake, Llyn-y-morwynion (the Maidens' Lake) is passed.

NORTH WALES

Bwrdd Arthur (Arthur's Table—one of the many to be met with in Wales), between Penmon and Llanddona (on Red Wharf Bay), E. coast of Anglesey, is the largest ancient British camp in the island. It presents remnants of strong walls, with a deep fosse, and shows traces of cells. The view from the elevation is very fine. The eminence is known also as Dinas Sylwy.

Cader Idris, a range of mountains in Merionethshire, running in a direction from E.N.E. to W.S.W., whose N. base presents a rugged line of precipices 4 m. in length. The S. side is less precipitous in character, except at the eastern end. The highest point of the range towers to a height of 2929 ft. (see Section II.). Geologically, Cader Idris is built up of igneous rocks, composed chiefly of amygdaloidal greenstone, underlaid by felspathic trap and long lines of greenstone, interbedded with slate. This may be seen in the precipitous N. cliff of the mountain.

Caer Drewyn, an ancient British fort on the L. bank of the Dee, 1 m. S.W. of Corwen, marked by a great rampart of loose stones half a mile in circuit, held by antiquaries to be one of the most wonderful of its kind in all Wales. Of course, no one can say with certainty to what misty period it may not date back; but we know that Caer Drewyn served worthily the purpose for which it was constructed, when Owen Gwynedd, and later Owen Glendower, here assembled their forces to withstand the forces of Henry II. and Henry IV. respectively.

Caer Gai, a hill near the upper end of Bala Lake, where are evidences of an ancient stronghold.

BWRDD ARTHUR—CAERNARVON

Caereinion Valley, $4\frac{1}{2}$ m. S.W. of Welshpool.

Caergwrle (s.), 6 m. N. of Wrexham, 5 m. S. of Hawarden, now an insignificant village, though formerly a place of importance, near which are remains of Caergwrle Castle, fragments of walls and a tower; also traces of a British stronghold.

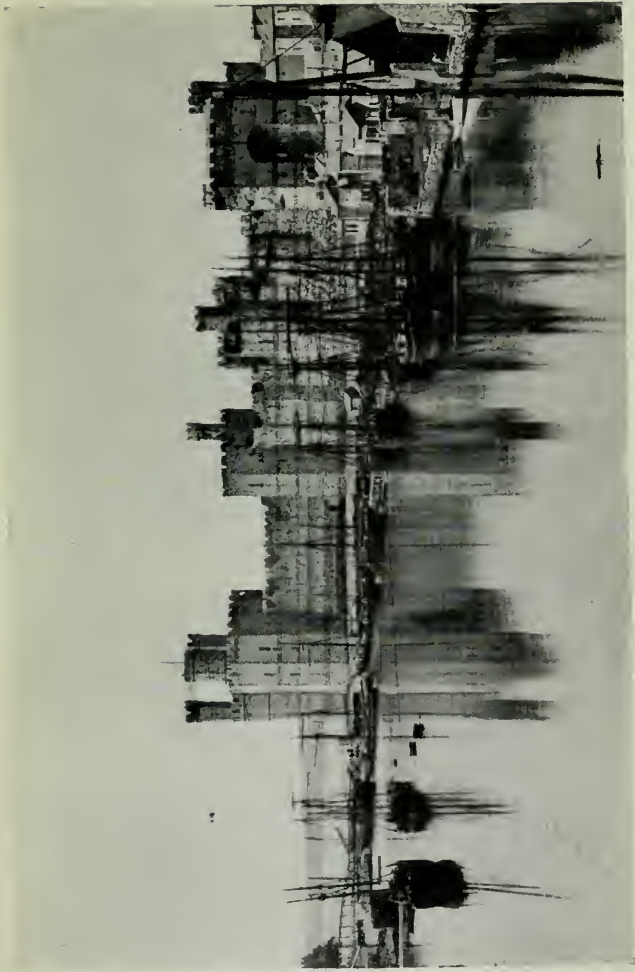
Caerhûn (s.), on the river Conway (Caernarvon side), 4 m. S. of Conway, where are remains of the ancient Roman station of Conovium. Vestiges of Roman buildings have been found, including a *therma* (or bath). These lie near the churchyard towards the river. The churchyard contains some fine old yew trees. From Caerhûn vestiges of the old Roman road, which formerly led from Tal-y-Cafn to Aber, by way of the Bwlch-y-ddeufaen (pronounced "Book-i-Theuvaen"), are distinctly traceable.

Caernarvon (s.), at the mouth of the Seiont, near the S. end of Menai Strait, is a considerable town and port with a population of 9119, and being finely situated for exploring the Snowdon district, is a favourite centre for tourists. It is, besides, a place of great historical and antiquarian interest, being one of the few towns in England in which the old walls are still to be seen; and the old castle remains externally entire, as in the days of its feudal strength. It has been said that, taken as a whole, Caernarvon may be regarded as the most beautiful town in N. Wales; and there is, in truth, much to be said in favour of the claim. A finer situation for a town could hardly be conceived. On the W. and N. it has the Menai Strait, opening into Caernarvon Bay; on the S.,

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with woods on one side and a busy quay on the other, flows the Seiont, a tumultuous mountain stream, almost to the confines of the town; and on the side from whence it comes—the mountains! These stretch away also to the S. and S.W., ending in the latter direction in the craggy steeps of Yr Eifl and Carreg-y-llam (“The Rock of the Leap”).

The chief attraction of Caernarvon is, of course, the castle, which rises above the strait at the point where it is joined by the Seiont, and has water on three of its sides. Seen from the water side it has a wonderfully imposing appearance—an impression which is strengthened rather than otherwise by a closer examination. The walls enclose an area of just upon three acres; they are nearly 8 ft. thick, having a gallery within their substance for the purpose of defence, and are flanked and strengthened by thirteen strong polygonal towers. Of these the principal is the Eagle Tower (W.), which guards the mouth of the Seiont, and is surmounted by three square turrets. It has its name from three defaced eagles which formerly adorned its battlements. This tower is the only one that can be ascended, a stairway to the top having been kept in good repair; so that those who care to enjoy the view over the neighbouring island of Anglesey, over the mountains, and over the sea as far away as the Wicklow Mountains, can do so. In one of the rooms of the Eagle Tower, barely 12 ft. by 8, Edward II. is reputed to have been born. Unfortunately for the tradition, however, this portion of the castle (commenced by Edward I. in 1284), is proved not to have been built until many years later, and by Edward II. himself.



CAERNARVON CASTLE

CAERNARVON

The main entrance to the castle, known as the King's Gate, is on the N. side, and is approached by a bridge over what was formerly the moat. It is flanked on either side by strong towers, the one on the R. being known as the Well Tower and that on the L. as the Granary Tower. Above the gateway, which was defended by portcullises, is a canopied statue, traditionally said to be that of Edward I., though it is generally held to represent Edward II. A second entrance on the E. side is called the Queen's Gate. The S.W. tower is used as a meeting-place by Freemasons; but the structure is, for the most part, a mere shell, that requires a vivid imagination (and not a little knowledge) to re-create and people as in the days of its might.

The old fortress has seen stirring times. In 1294, in an insurrection of the Welsh, headed by Madoc, one of the chieftains of the country, it was suddenly attacked during the fair, and after the surrender the town was burned, and all the English in the place put to death. A little more than a century later, Owen Glendower twice laid siege to the castle, though in vain; and during the civil turmoil of the 17th cent. it three times changed hands. Finally (in 1660) an order was issued by Parliament for its demolition, but it was only partially carried out; and so this ivy-clad ruin has come down to us to give an added charm to a scene already full of beauty.

Below the castle is the Castle Quay, a favourite walk in fine weather for the enjoyment of the sea air. At the N. end of this promenade are a pier and large dock; at the S. end the Custom-House, from which, along the side of the Seiont, extends

NORTH WALES

the quay, invariably busy with the receiving and shipping of slates from the Llanberis and other quarries near-by. These are carried to all parts of England and the Continent, as well as to America. Copper ore is likewise shipped hence, chiefly to Cardiff, and there is a fine general shipping trade.

The town walls, with their round towers, are still well-nigh entire, and though they cannot be walked round, as at Chester, their presence helps to give an air of quaintness to the place quite in keeping with its antiquity. The streets within the walls, narrow and old fashioned, are equally characteristic. High Street, the main thoroughfare, is spanned by the arch of Eastgate, which has been adapted to the purposes of a Town-Hall, while one of the old towers is used as a prison. The parish church of Caernarvon is half a mile distant, at Llanbeblig (a name derived from St Publicius, son of the Emperor Maximus and Helena, daughter of Octavius, Duke of Cornwall); but there are several modern Episcopal and other churches in the town, as also a Training College for teachers, an Institute, a Free Library, Theatre, and other public buildings. Caernarvon is a corporate town, with a charter (granting many privileges) dating from the time of the founder of its castle.

A natural feature connected with the place that has not yet been mentioned is Twt Hill. It overlooks the town on the W., and though barely 200 ft. in height, the view from its summit is one of the finest, embracing Menai Strait, a considerable portion of Anglesey, the Snowdonian Mountains from Penmaenmawr to Yr Eifl, Caernarvon Bay—in short, a circuit of nearly 40 m. of land and sea.

CAERNARVON—CAPEL CURIG

The site of Segontium (q.v.) lies half a mile S. of Caernarvon on the Beddgelert road. The old station covered an area of seven acres. Through it passed the road known as Sarn Elen, still visible in places, which led from the fortified port of Dinas Dinlle to Dinas Dinorwic.

Caersws (s.), at the confluence of the Carno and Severn in Montgomeryshire, about 6 m. W. of Newtown, once an important Roman station, held by some to be the Mediolanum of Tacitus. Traces of the ancient encampment may still be seen, covering a large area, and on the high grounds in the vicinity are the remains of other camps and strongholds. Several Roman ways converge at Caersws, and among them that of Sarn Sws. Caersws is said to take its name from a British princess or queen named Susan, who met the Roman forces here and was defeated; but when she went before the Roman general and asked to be put to death, he forgave her, saying she was too brave to deserve such a fate.

Caerwys (s.), a little N. of the road from Mold to Denbigh, and 1 m. N. of the railway station, now an insignificant place, was formerly of some importance, dating, as is thought, from Roman times. It was at one time noted for its Eisteddfodau, the earliest of which there is any record having been held here, by royal commission, in the reigns of Edward I., Henry VIII., and Elizabeth. The church, with square embattled tower, is interesting. E. lie the Halkin Mountains, which, honeycombed with mines and quarries, shield the vale from the easterly winds. The whole country round about is full of interest and charm.

Capel Curig, $5\frac{1}{2}$ m. W. of Battws-y-coed, a

NORTH WALES

straggling village on the Llugwy, long famous as a centre for mountaineering in the Snowdon district, as also for fishing in the Llugwy and the two Mymbyr lakes, a little to the S.W. Although the fishing is preserved, tickets of permission may be obtained from the hotel-keepers. In every direction there are points of interest for the tourist and visitor. Along the Llugwy, particularly at Tan-y-Bwlch and Pont-y-Cyfyng, are some fine cascades. The village is a good point from which to make the ascent of Moel Siabod (q.v.), a little S. of Capel Curig, as also the two Glyders (Glyder Fawr, 3275 ft., and Glyder Bach, 3000 ft.), etc. The church is dedicated to St Curig, a British saint. Hence the name of the place, which shows traces of Roman occupation.

Capel Garmon, 2 m. S.E. of Bettws-y-coed, on the main road from Llanrwst to Pentre Voelas. From the church—note its ancient yew trees—there is a splendid outlook, which includes the Snowdon range, though not Snowdon itself. Three-quarters of a mile S., at Tan-y-Coed, is a noteworthy cromlech within a walled enclosure. Capel Garmon is an easy walk from Bettws by way of the Waterloo Bridge.

Capel Lulo. See *Dwygyfylchi*.

Carreg-y-gwalch (the Rock of the Falcon). See *Gwydir Castle*.

Carmel Point, the extreme N.W. point of Anglesey, about 2 m. from the Sherries.

Carn Boduan, a peak (918 ft.) near Nevin (q.v.).

Carno (s.) Montgomeryshire, a village at the junction of the river of that name with the Severn, 8½ miles W. of Moat Lane Junction. The

CAPEL GARMON

Knights of Jerusalem once, it is thought, had an establishment here. It is a place known to anglers not only for the fishing in the rivers named, but in several near lying lakes, Llyn Mawr, Llyn Tarw, Llyn Du, and the streams flowing from them.

Castell Cidwm ("the Wolf's Castle"), the remains of an early British fortress situated on the cliffs of Craig-Cwm-Bychan, at the N.W. end of Llyn Cwellyn. Tradition connects this place with the death of a brother of Constantine the Great. It is said to have been the fastness of a robber chieftain named Cidwm, who, as the young prince was passing below with some soldiers on the way to meet his mother, shot him with an arrow. Helena (Elen in Welsh), when met near Tan-y-Bwlch by a messenger bearing the tidings of her son's death, cried out in her anguish, "Croes awr i mi!" ("O, bitter hour for me!") Whence the name of the place of meeting is to this day called Croesor.

Castell Dinas Brân ("Crow Castle"), an ancient fortress situated on a conical hill (1062 ft.) on the N. side of the town of Llangollen (q.v.), and forming a conspicuous landmark in the neighbourhood. It is a good half hour's walk from the town. The hill takes its name from the stream called Brân which washes its base. Wordsworth's description of it is—

"Relic of kings, wreck of forgotten wars,
To the winds abandoned and the prying stars."

Castell-y-Bere, formerly one of the largest castles in Wales, now in ruins, 1 m. S.W. of Llanfihangel, at the head of the Dysynni Valley.

NORTH WALES

Castell Lleiniog, on the S.E. coast of Anglesey, between Tre'r Castell and Penmon Priory, consisting of a quadrangular keep, with a round tower at each corner, surrounded by a moat, and dating from the invasion of Anglesey by Hugh Lupus, Earl of Chester, and Hugh, Earl of Shrewsbury (1098).

Castell-y-gaer. See *Llwyngwriil*.

Cefn Mawr, a village on a hill above Acrefair, 2 m. S.W. of Ruabon.

Ceiriog Valley (Glyn Ceiriog). See *Llan-saintffraid*.

Cemmaes Bay, 4 m. W. of Amlwch, Anglesey, a resort for sea-bathing.

Cemmes Road Junction, 5 m. N.E. of Machynlleth at the junction of the Dovey and the Twymyn. The village is a little way from the station. The neighbouring valley of the Dovey is very pretty, and there is good fishing (preserved) in the river between Cemmes and Machynlleth.

Cerrig-y-Drudion, a lofty ridge behind Penmacmawr.

Chirk (s.), a village 6 m. S. of Ruabon, on the N. bank of the Ceiriog, which forms the boundary between the counties of Denbigh and Salop. (Population, 4557.) In the church are monuments of the Trevors, also of the Myddeltons of Chirk Castle. The Vale of Ceiriog was the scene of a fierce encounter between the Welsh forces under Owen Gwynedd and those of Henry II., when the latter, suffering great loss, was obliged to retreat over the border. Chirk Castle, or Castell-y-Waen ($1\frac{1}{2}$ m. W.), on a commanding elevation, with the Berwyn mountains as background, was an extremely strong frontier fortress, dating from 1013. It is quadrangular in form, with strong corner

CASTELL LLEINIOG—CILCAIN

towers. The entrance gateway is on the N. front. The interior has been much modernised, so as to bring it into keeping with latter-day requirements. Few still inhabited houses embody so much history or are associated with so many famous names, the castle having from Roger Mortimer (*temp.* Edward I.) passed successively into the possession of the Arundels, Mowbrays, Beauchamps, etc., finally coming into the hands of Lord St. John of Bletsoe, from whom it passed by purchase (1595) to Sir Thomas Myddelton, Lord Mayor of London, brother of Sir Hugh Myddelton, of New River fame. The castle saw some lively times during the Civil Wars, Sir Thomas Myddelton having been successively besieger and besieged, and being eventually obliged to surrender to the Parliamentary forces. The Duke of Wellington used to spend his holidays here while at Eton; his grandmother, Lady Dungannon, being a Trevor. Offa's Dyke runs through the park, which is beautiful with ancient trees and a fine lake.

One of the sights of Chirk is the aqueduct, 250 yds. long, and consisting of ten arches, 65 ft. high, which carries the Ellesmere Canal across the Vale of Chirk and over the river Ceiriog. Equally worthy of note is the viaduct between Chirk and Cefn carrying the railway across the valley of the Dee. Its length is 1508 ft., and there are nineteen arches of 60 ft. span, with a height of 150 ft. From Chirk there is a short branch line to Glyn.

Chwilog (s.), on the line from Caernarvon to Afonwen (1 m. N. of the latter), where is the junction with the Cambrian Railway.

Cilcain, or Cilcen, a village about 4 m. N.W. of Mold, whence is an easy ascent to the summit

of Moel Fammau (1845 ft.). The church is worthy of a visit on account of its richly-carved oak roof, said to have been taken from Basingwerk Abbey, and other features.

Clocaenog, a village $3\frac{1}{2}$ m. S.W. of Ruthin. Here, on the summit of Bryn-y-Beddau, upon a tumulus popularly known as Bedd Emlyn, formerly stood an inscribed stone, supposed to mark the grave of some prince. Part of the inscription is in Ogham characters, the only one of the kind in N. Wales. The stone was removed to Pool Park (where it may still be seen) many years ago.

Clun Forest, a wild and rather desolate range of hills, running E. of the Kerry Hills in the direction of Bishop's Castle, Shropshire. Offa's Dyke skirts its E. border.

Clwydian range of mountains. See *Moel Arthur*.

Clynnog, a pretty village on Caernarvon Bay, $9\frac{1}{2}$ m. S.W. of Caernarvon, with a rich background of hills and woods. The church, dedicated to St Beuno, is one of the most interesting in Wales. Dating from *temp.* Henry VII., it is supposed to occupy the site of an older edifice founded by St Beuno in 616. Cruciform in plan, with nave, chancel, and sacristy, two transepts, and a tower (W.), it is a fine specimen of the style of its period (late Perp.). Between the chancel and the nave is a richly-carved rood-loft. The carved timber roof is likewise worthy of note, also the three-light windows of the nave, the middle one ogee-headed, and the porch with its muniment room. The sacristy (N. of chancel), with groined roof, contains St Beuno's chest, made out of a solid piece of oak, with an aperture for the reception of

CLOCAENOG—COLWYN BAY

offerings. It is secured by three locks, and was thought to have been so strong as to have originated the saying, "As well try to break St Beuno's chest," when something impracticable was suggested.

From the porch a vaulted passage leads to the chapel of the saint, all that remains of the once existing monastery. St Beuno's well (a cursing and wishing well), enclosed by a wall, lies on the L. of the road, $\frac{1}{4}$ m. from the church. Among other interesting objects connected with Clynnog, mention may be made of the Bachwen cromlech a little W. near the sea, and the waterfall of Dibbin Mawr, not far away.

Clywedog, the. See the Torrent Walk, Dolgelly.

Clywedog, the, a tributary of the Severn, which, taking its rise to the S. of Bryn Bedwen (1784 feet), falls into the Severn at Llanidloes.

Clywedog, the, a tributary of the Clwyd, entering it 2 m. S.E. of Denbigh.

Colwyn (s.), known as Old Colwyn, to distinguish it from Colwyn Bay, 11 m. W. of Rhyl, is on the highroad, a little distance from the sea. It is a quiet little place, with more of rural charm than its neighbour, though equally noted for its bracing air.

Colwyn Bay (s.), a picturesque watering-place of quite modern date, noted for its mild winter climate. Its streets are spacious and well planted with trees, its drainage good, its water supply—drawn from Llyn Cowlyd—pure and soft. Quite recently a pier (350 yds.) and pavilion have been added to the other attractions of the place, and the Esplanade—lighted throughout by electricity—extended, on the one hand, to Rhos-on-Sea, forming

NORTH WALES

the western headland of the bay; on the other to Old Colwyn, near Penmaenrhos, forming its eastern horn. Colwyn Bay forms a convenient centre from which to visit most parts of N. Wales, while in the immediate neighbourhood there are numberless places and objects of interest. (Population, 12,630.)

Colwyn, the, has its rise in Llyn Cwellyn, and joins the Glaslyn at Beddgelert.

Conovium, a Roman station. See *Caerbûn*.

Conway town (pop. 5242) is the most interesting, at any rate from an antiquarian point of view, of any in the Principality. Beautifully situated on the W. bank of the Conway, near where it falls into the Irish Sea, it is known to the Welsh as Aberconway. The river is somewhat more than half a mile in width at this point at high water, at which time the estuary has the appearance of a noble lake. The town occupies a gentle slope, and takes somewhat the form of a triangle, the broad base whereof rests on the harbour, the S. horn of which is taken up by the castle, built on the edge of a precipitous rock, and having one side bounded by the river, a second by a narrow creek, while the others face the town. The town itself is surrounded by a wall upwards of a mile in length, some 12 ft. thick, with four gates and a series of semicircular towers. Both wall and castle date from the time of Edward I., and have been said on good authority to represent the high-water mark of 13th-cent. military engineering.

The castle has been pronounced the most perfect of all Welsh fortresses. It was built about the same time (1284) as Caernarvon and Beaumaris, the object of all three of course being to overawe



CONWAY

COLWYN—CONWAY

the newly subjected natives of this part of the country. The walls are of great thickness and are flanked by circular embattled towers, which must originally have been of great strength. Each of the towers was surmounted by a smaller one, which, ascended by a spiral stairway, served as outlook; most of them, however, have disappeared. The castle had two entrance ways—one by a narrow flight of steps, cut out of the rock, formed a means of communication with the river; the other, the grand entrance, on the land side, was approached by a drawbridge across a deep moat. This gate had flanking towers, known respectively as the King's and the Queen's Towers, for the reason, probably, that they served as their private apartments when the Royal pair resided in the castle. The interior was divided into two courts, on to which gave the entrances to the different apartments. The great hall (on the S. side) was 130 ft. long, 30 ft. wide, and 20 ft. high, and lighted by nine E. E. windows, six of them lancet-shaped, overlooking the creek, and three larger opening on to the court. The roof was supported by eight stone arches, only one of which now remains. Underneath were extensive vaults for stores. One of the features specially worthy of note is the little chapel or oratory in the Queen's Tower, with groined roof, polygon E. end, and lancet windows. Note also the vault under the companion tower, the King's, the only entrance to which is by a trap door in the roof—doubtless a dungeon.

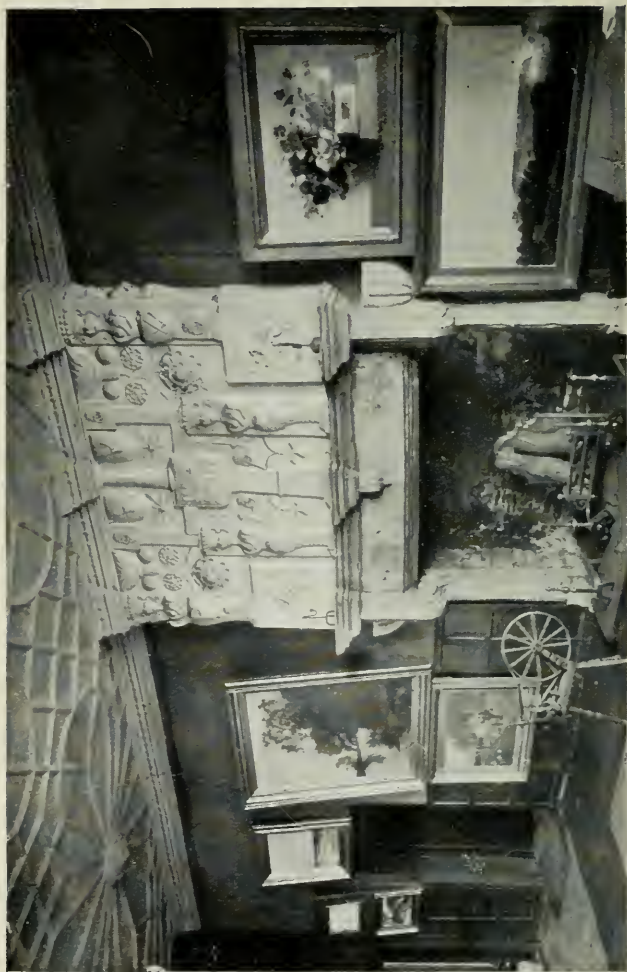
The castle in past times went through some lively episodes. On one occasion while Edward I. was holding festivity there the Welsh came down in force from their mountain fastnesses and must

NORTH WALES

have compelled the royal garrison to surrender through famine but for the timely arrival of a vessel with supplies. In most of the movements and alarms in those parts in subsequent years Conway had its share. By the time of James I. the castle had fallen into "ruin and decay." During the Civil Wars of the succeeding reign, however, it was put into a defensible condition by Archbishop Williams, who first held it for the King, and then, changing sides, took part with General Mylton in his attack upon the town in 1646. These troubles past, Conway Castle again fell upon evil days under the hands of the Earl of Conway (to whom it was given by Charles II.), who, in 1665, dismantled it of well-nigh everything that could be carried away, and left it a beautiful desolation.

Besides the castle and the walls Conway can show a number of other buildings of great antiquarian and æsthetic interest. Chief among these is the church, which stands in the centre of the town. It originally formed part of the Cistercian Abbey founded (1185) by Llewelyn-ap-Iorwerth, but of which few traces now remain. The main points of note in the interior are a well preserved rood-loft, some good panel work, and a fine screen. The ancient font also is worthy of attention; as is likewise the tower (Dec. with Perp. additions). For the rest there is little but modern work and restoration, except as regards the monuments, which are interesting, especially a slab with an inscription in memory of "Nicholas Hookes, of Conway, Gent., who was the forty-first child of his father, William Hookes, Esq., by Alice, his wife, who was himself the father of twenty-seven children; he died 20th





PLAS MAWR, CONWAY

CONWAY—CORS-Y-GEDOL

March 1627.” The nave has a couple of canopied tombs and a bust of John Gibson, the sculptor, who was a native of Conway (d. 1866).

The streets of Conway present some pleasing specimens of ancient domestic architecture, but none of them more quaint and curious than the *Plâs Mawr* (“the Great House”), built by Robert Wynne, of Gwydir, in the time of Queen Elizabeth. The interior is well worth seeing, if only for its spacious rooms, its panelled walls, and its coats of arms, in which are to be seen the initials E. R. and R. D., standing for the Queen and her naughty favourite Leicester.

Cop yr Leni, a famous tumulus, one of the largest in N. Wales, situated on the top of a hill, $\frac{1}{4}$ m. above Newmarket, Flintshire, and covering about an acre of ground.

Corris (s.), a village of about 2000 inhabitants, 5 m. N. of Machynlleth, at the junction of the river Dulas and the Corys (whence the Welsh name *Abercorys*), and on the “Toy” railway from Machynlleth to Aberllefenni. The district is noted for its slate quarries, as likewise for its exceptional beauty.

Cors-y-Gedol, the ancient seat of the Vaughan family, 2 m. E. of Pensarn station, with gate-lodge said to be after designs by Inigo Jones. The parish church (*Llanddwywe*) contains some monuments of interest. Near at hand is the cromlech known as Arthur’s Quoit (*Coetan Arthur*) reputed to have been thrown by him from the top of the neighbouring *Moelfre* (1932 ft.), and in the act impressed with his finger prints! There are two other cromlechs near the village of *Dyffryn*, the larger having a space beneath the top stone

NORTH WALES

big enough to shelter at a pinch four or five persons.

Corwen (s.), a market town with a population of about 2856, pleasantly situated on the S. bank of the Dee, near where it is joined by the Alwen, and at the foot of the Berwyn mountains, whose most northerly point, Moel Fferna (2050 ft.) rises frowningly in the vicinage. It is an important railway junction, the Rhyl-Corwen line joining here the Ruabon-Dolgelly branch of the G.W.R. The place itself presents little of special interest. The church (restored) has an old roof and an ancient Norman font with cable moulding. On the lintel of the S. door is a curious cruciform mark, said, according to the legend, to have been made by Glendower throwing his dagger at the town or townsfolk from the height across the river known as Pen Pigin, or Glendower's Seat. This spot, marked by a cairn, is much resorted to by visitors on account of the fine view it affords of the Vale of Corwen and the adjacent mountains. In the churchyard is an ancient stone pillar, somewhat pointed in form, and bearing an incised dagger, which is popularly known as Glendower's sword. W. of the Dee, 1 m. distant, on rising ground, is a wide circle of loose stones, marking the site of an old fortified post (Caer Drewyn), one of a series that stretched from Dyserth to Canwyd. The outlook hence is very fine, including the Berwyns and Cader Idris in the far S.W. The Dee at Corwen affords good fishing.

Cowarch, the, a tributary of the Dyfi (Dovey), which it joins 1 m. N.E. of Dinas Mawddwy. It has its source on the S. slope of Aran Mawddwy. At Aber Cowarch is a pretty cascade.

CORWEN—CRICCIETH

Craig-y-Mwn, a lead-mine in the Berwyn range, near Llangynog (q.v.), famous for its productivity.

Craig-y-Ddinas, an eminence $\frac{1}{4}$ m. from the Menai Tubular Bridge, on the Anglesey side of the strait, on which stands the column (100 ft.) erected to the memory of the Marquis of Anglesey of Waterloo fame. The colossal statue in bronze which crowns the summit was the work of Noble.

Creuddyn (the Bloody Fort), remains of an ancient British fortification on an eminence above Llandudno called Dinas, or Pen-y-ddinas. The name *Creuddyn* was likewise given to the whole peninsula, some dozen miles in area, on which Llandudno stands.

Criccieth (s.), a town of some antiquity, and a watering-place (pop. 1376), situated on the S. coast of Caernarvonshire, fronting Cardigan Bay. Many of its old houses remain, though they have been put somewhat into the shade by more modern erections, run up of late years for the accommodation of visitors, brought thither to enjoy the sea-bathing and boating, and by the fame of its genial climate. *Criccieth* alone of Welsh watering-places boasts a due south aspect, and as the land slopes in the same direction, the town gets the full benefit of its position. As a proof of the mildness of its air, it may be said that the fuchsia grows to perfection in the open, sometimes to the height of 10 or 12 ft., while along with it such plants as the hydrangea and myrtle are often seen in bloom till quite late in the year. One of the charms of the place is its semi-rural character—a charm enhanced by the magnificent views presented to the eye on every hand. Turn seawards, and there, beyond the bay, are the

NORTH WALES

mountains of Merioneth; turn landwards, and behold the serried peaks of Snowdonia!

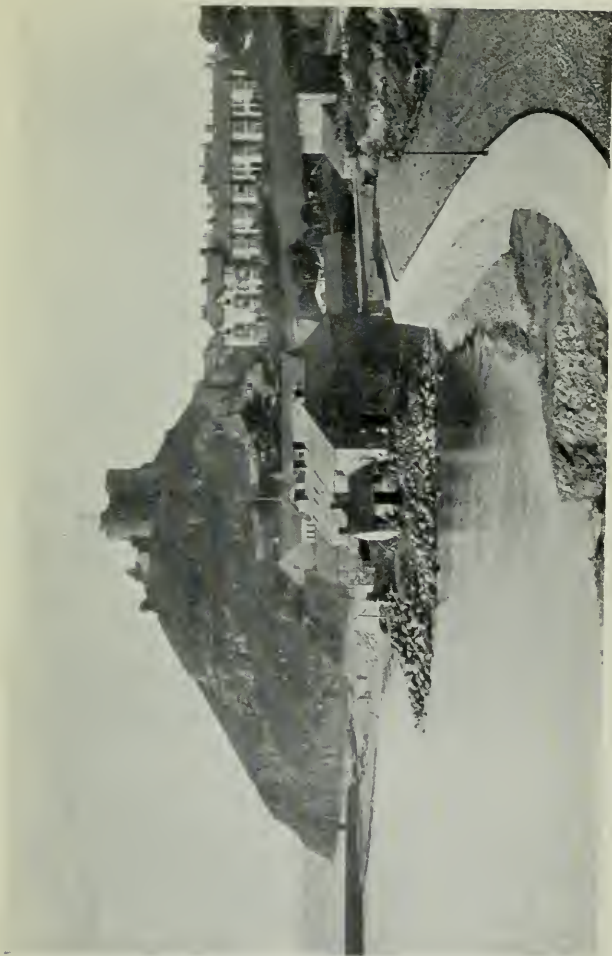
The chief object of interest in the place is the old castle, which stands on an eminence running out into the sea, and dividing the beach, as it were, into two parts. Some considerable portions, including two rather massive round towers, flanking the main entrance, still remain, while much of the general plan of the fortification may be clearly made out—the double fosse and vallum, for instance, and other features. The fortress is said to have been built by Edward I. (1286), but it is more likely, say authorities on the subject, that he only repaired and strengthened it. The whole country round Criccieth is full of scenes and objects of interest, enough to occupy visitors for days and even weeks together. Within a walk of a mile or two are the Yetyrn Cegid and the Rhos-y-llan cromlechs, the latter having a “mushroom-shaped” table-stone.

Croesor, a cwm, running S.W. of the peak Cnicht (2370 ft.), from which this mountain and also Moelwyn Fawr (2527 ft.) are often negotiated. (See Castell Cidwm.)

Criggion, a village lying at the foot of the most northerly summit of the Breidden Hills (q.v.), crowned with Rodney's Pillar, erected in commemoration of his victory over the French fleet (1782).

Cross Foxes Inn, $3\frac{1}{2}$ m. E. of Dolgelly, at the point where the road to Dinas Mawddwy branches (L.) from that to Towyn, which follows the brook of the Torrent Walk (q.v.).

Cwm Bochlwyd, a valley just below the Glyder. In it is the Llyn of the same name, said by geolo-



CRICCIETH

CROESOR—CYSSYLLTAU AQUEDUCT

gists to be the best example in the district of a glacier lake.

Cwm Brwynog, one of the largest of the glacier valleys that stretch down from Moel y Wyddfá. At the head of the cwm is the Llyn Du'r Arddu.

Cwm Bychan, $5\frac{1}{2}$ m. N.E. of Llanbedr, shut in on all sides except the one from which the Artro issues. The lake of Cwm Bychan is about $\frac{1}{2}$ m. long, desolate and almost savage in appearance, from the absence of wood. The craggy front of Craig-y-Saeth (the Rock of the Arrow) overshadows it on the S. Its N. shore is followed to reach the Roman Steps (q.v.).

Cwm-y-glo (s.), on the mineral line from Caernarvon to Llanberis, near the W. end of Llyn Padarn.

Cymmer Abbey (pronounced "Kimmer"), the remains of a Cistercian house (founded by Meredith and Griffith, sons of Cynan, about the year 1200) at the junction of the Wnion with the Mawddach, 2 m. N. of Dolgelly. The place is known locally as Y Vanner (the House of God). Of the abbey church there are some considerable remains, including the lower portion of the W. tower and some remnants of nave and choir. The walls of the E. end are the best preserved, showing three long lancet windows. Against the S. wall are vestiges of arcades, a pointed piscina, etc. Near the tower is the Abbot's lodging, forming part of a farm-house. There are a number of other details which will be interesting to the antiquary. The whole ruin, ivy-clad and most charmingly situate, as it is, breathes as it were an air of romance and peace that is not soon forgotten.

Cyssylltau Aqueduct, which carries the Llan-

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gollen branch of the Ellesmere Canal, at a height of 126 ft., across the Valley of the Dee, about 1 m. S.W. of Acrefair Station. The valley at this point is 2600 ft. in width, and the water-way is carried over it by means of an embankment 1500 ft. in length, supplemented by eighteen arches resting on sandstone piers and two abutments, the height of the piers above low-water being 121 ft. The whole forms a magnificent piece of work. It was built by Telford, and took ten years to complete, being opened in 1805.

Cynfael, the Falls of, on the river of the same name, about $\frac{1}{2}$ m. S.E. of Ffestiniog.

Cynwyd (s.), $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. S.W. of Corwen, on the line to Bala. Near it, on the N. Trystion, is a pretty cascade in a charming little dingle.

Deganwy (s.), a village and watering-place, about $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. S.W. of Llandudno at the mouth of the Conway estuary, where is a quay for the shipment of slates from Ffestiniog and other quarrying centres. On a lofty hill behind the station are to be seen the remains of the once important castle of Deganwy, built originally by Maelgwn Gwynedd. Ultimately destroyed by lightning, it was rebuilt by Hugh Lupus, Earl of Chester (11th cent.), to sustain many hard knocks and changes of fortune during the next two hundred years, being finally (1260) razed to the ground by Llewelyn the Great, not, however, before Henry III. had suffered great distress from famine whilst undergoing close siege within its walls. The ruins of Deganwy are said to have been used by Edward I. as a quarry for the building of Conway Castle.

Denbigh (s.), a pleasant town pleasantly set upon a hill, overlooking the fair Vale of Clwyd,

CYNFAEL—DENBIGH

and dominated by the ruins of what was one of the most considerable fortresses in N. Wales, is not a place to be lightly passed by either by tourists or visitors. It is the county although not the assize town, is a busy market centre (with a pop. of 6872), and as the junction of the line from Chester, Rhyl, and Corwen sees a good deal of come and go as regards passenger traffic. It is better known, however, to the angler than to the mere sight-seer, the fishing in the Clwyd and the Elwy being of the best. The main thoroughfare mounts the hill from the station, leading through the Market Place, by a bye-lane, to the Castle, a monument to a local worthy (Dr Evan Pierce) being passed on the way.

The old Castle ruins are well worth a visit and a little study. There are remains of two walls, those of the Castle proper and those of the old town, the latter, when standing, being nearly a mile in circuit, and having several gates with protecting towers. The only one now left is the Burgesses' Tower, which is the best preserved portion of the old fortification, with machicolations and portcullis grooves almost intact. The Castle gateway shows a fine pointed archway, and over it a niche holding a statue, thought to be that of Edward I., in whose time the fortress was built, or else of Henry de Lacy, Earl of Lincoln, the builder, to whom the lordship was granted by Edward, after the defeat of David, brother of the last Llewelyn. The grand entrance was flanked by two octagonal towers; but the whole is now in so utterly ruinous a state that only the most vivid imagination can recreate and see it as it was. The thing that remains, still unspoiled, is the view, and

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this can be enjoyed to the full from the ruiinate walls and towers, to which wooden stairs and galleries give easy access.

Within the space once enclosed by the old town walls, and not far from the Castle gate, is the church of St Hilary, supposed to have been the garrison chapel; the old parish church of Denbigh being at Whitchurch (q.v.), about 1 m. from the town, on the road to Ruthin. Near to the chapel (a plain uninteresting structure), in private grounds, are to be seen the remains of an ambitious project of the Earl of Leicester, who having come into possession of the lordship and castle, designed to build here a cathedral to take the place of St Asaph's. The best laid schemes of mice and men, however, as we know, gang aft agley, and Elizabeth's favourite, occupied with other turmoils, forgot his holy edifice.

During the Civil Wars Denbigh stood out valiantly for the Royal cause. After his defeat at Rowton Moor, Charles I. took refuge here for several days, and the following year (1646) the Castle sustained a protracted siege under Colonel William Salusbury of Rug, but was finally surrendered, with the king's consent, to the Parliamentary Army under General Mylton, the doughty defender going out with the honours and pomps of war.

Among the public buildings worthy of special note are St Mary's Church (1874), in the lower part of the town, a handsome Gothic structure, about whose reredos, with its Crucifixion, a lawsuit arose soon after its erection; the Howell School for orphan girls, and the Grammar School, founded by subscription in 1727.

DENBIGH—DINAS EMRYS

Derwen (s.), about 4 m. N. of Corwen, on the line to Ruthin and Denbigh, which here enters the Vale of Clwyd. The church contains a fine rood-loft (15th cent.), and in the churchyard is a beautiful stone cross (early), 13 ft. in height, and in perfect condition.

Diflas, the, a small stream flowing into the Dovey from the N., near Machynlleth.

Diffwys, or *Duffws* (s.), a slate-quarrying village at the head of the valley of the Dwyryd, and at the terminus of a narrow-gauge railway, 3 m. N. of Ffestiniog. The slate here is chiefly obtained from underground workings.

Dinas, or *Pen-y-ddinas*. See *Creuddyn*.

Dinas Brân. See *Castell Dinas Brân*.

Dinas Dinlle, a small watering-place on Caernarvon Bay, about 3 m. S. of Caernarvon and $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. from Llanwnda Station. Here, on an elevation overlooking the sea, are the remains of a Roman encampment or fortress of great strength, which was connected with Segontium by a road or causeway. It is held to have been a British post prior to the Roman occupation. The position is one of great natural strength and has been much improved by art, there being a double range of escarpments, with strong walls.

Dinas Emrys, a wooded eminence near the lower end of Llyn-y-Ddinas, in the Vale of Gwynant, traditionally connected with Merlin. Here, according to the legend, Vortigern dwelt before his final retreat to Nant Gwrtheyrn, near Nevin (q.v.). He gave the place to Merlin Ambrosius, his counsellor and soothsayer, and hence it was known ever after as *Dinas Emrys* (*Emrys* being a corruption of *Ambrosius*), or the

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“Fort of Ambrosius.” On the summit of the height are still to be seen traces of ramparts and of a small stone building. Here Vortigern heard—

“ . . . Wise Merlin first relate
The destinies’ decree of Britain’s future fate,
Which truly he foretold proud Vortiger should lose.

And from the top of Britt, so high and wondrous
steepe,
Where Dinas Emrys stood, shew’d where the ser-
pents foughte,
The white that tore the red; from whence the
Prophet wroughte
The Britain’s sad decay then shortly to ensue.”

—DRAYTON’S POLYOLBION.

Dinas Mawddwy (s.), a small market-town or village at the junction of the Geryst and Dovey valleys, 12 m. N.E. of Machynlleth, and about 8 m. S.E. of Dolgelly. The village is $\frac{1}{2}$ m. N. of the station. The place depends very largely upon the slate quarries, which are rather extensive in the vicinity. Dinas Mawddwy is the centre of a most beautiful district, with Cader Idris to the W., and Aran Mawddwy (2970 ft.) rising above it almost due N.

Dinas Junction, $3\frac{1}{2}$ m. S. of Caernarvon, on the L. & N.W.R., whence a narrow-gauge line runs up the valley of the Gwrfai for Snowdon.

Dinorwic Slate Quarries, about $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. N.E. of Llanberis, on the other side of Lakes Padarn and Peris. They are, after those at Bethesda (q.v.), the largest and most important in Wales, employing something like 3000 men. For the conveyance of the slates there is a special line of

DOLFORWYN CASTLE

railway to Port Dinorwic (q.v.) on Menai Strait, $4\frac{1}{2}$ m. S. of Bangor.

Diphwys, the highest peak of the Llawllech range (2462 ft.), which it terminates N. (see chap ii., also Barmouth, from which it forms a fine walk).

Dolbadarn, the ruins of an ancient castle, overlooking the lower end of Llyn Peris. Designed to defend the pass into the interior recesses of Snowdonia, and for many early centuries the scene of strifes and broils innumerable. All that is left of it is the lower stage of a round tower, with traces of two others, and a spiral stair. It is held to have been in existence for a favourite stronghold of Maelgwn Gwynedd as early as the 6th cent. For 23 years Owen Gôch was immured here for rebelling against his brother, Llewelyn-ap-Iorwerth.

In Edward I.'s time the castle was besieged by the Earl of Pembroke, who compelled Dafydd, the brother of Llewelyn-ap-Gryffydd, to surrender it after a short resistance, and in the long struggle which Owen Glyndwr sustained against Henry IV. and Henry V., it changed hands several times, being now in the possession of one side and now of the other, as the chances of war befell. The old ivy-clad ruin is doubly interesting as having been the only important fortress in the heart of Snowdonia.

Dolforwyn Castle, $3\frac{1}{2}$ m. N.E. of Newton, Montgomery, stands on a wooded hill above the Severn. The fortress was built about 1420 on the site of an ancient British fort. The chief interest of Dol-Forwyn ("the Virgin's Meadow") lies in the circumstance that legend connects it with the death of "Sabrina fair."

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“ Rocky Dolforyn,
Sabrina’s early haunt, ere yet she fled
The search of Gwendolen, her stepdame proud,
With envious hate enraged.”

Dolgelly, the chief town of Merioneth, is beautifully situated in the midst of a broad and fertile vale, in the angles formed by the rivers Aran and Wnion, near the junction of the latter with the Mawddach, and at the foot of Cader Idris, which rises above it almost due S. Though very old, the place has little of historical interest connected with it. If we may judge from the old Roman road passing it, and from the finding of coins bearing the imperial stamp and superscription, it was not unknown to the Cæsars. In 1404 Owen Glendower held his Parliament here, and an old house, now demolished, used to be pointed out as its place of meeting. It was, however, the one-time residence of Judge Owen, who met with so tragical a death as a result of his condemnation of the Dinas Mawddwy outlaws. Here it was, too, that Glendower contracted his alliance with King Charles of France.

Although some changes and improvements have taken place in the town, arising from modern needs, and especially in connection with the railway—it being the junction of the Cambrian and the G.W. lines—*Dolgelly* still retains much of its old-world character, not only in its narrow and irregular streets and lanes, but in its old-fashioned houses of grey stone, built, some of them, as would seem, for all eternity. The old bridge over the Wnion, enlarged and thoroughly repaired, dates from 1638, the church (though attached to an older tower) from 1726. The latter, which stands on rising



DOLGELLY AND CADER IDRIS

DOLGELLY—DOLWYDDELAN

ground in the middle of the town, has little to commend it to the eye, but it retains among its interior monuments the stone effigy (14th cent.) of an armed knight, "Meuric filius Ynyr Vychan"—one of the Vaughans of Nannau, in short. Close to the church are almshouses established by Bishop Rowlands in 1616, and at the S. entrance to the town—founded some fifty years later—the Grammar School. For the rest there is nothing in the way of public buildings of particular note. And with such eternal buildings and splendours round about, it can do without them. There is indeed enough of this sort to keep the visitor busy for weeks; but for these—Cader Idris, the Torrent Walk, Llyn Cynwch, Cymmer Abbey, etc.—the reader must turn to other pages. The town has manufactures of tweed and leather, and a population of 2160.

Dolgoch (s.), a village about midway between Towyn and Abergynolwyn, on the Talyllyn Railway, where, amid charming surroundings, is a picturesque waterfall, with a natural tunnel through the rock.

Dolwyddelan (s.), a village chiefly inhabited by men engaged in the slate quarries, on the L. & N.W. line from Bettws-y-coed to Ffestiniog, $5\frac{1}{2}$ m. S.W. of the former place. The valley of the Lledr is here crossed by the Sarn Elen, the old Roman road, which can be traced running across the hills N. and S. towards Conovium (Caerhŷn) on the one hand and Heriri Mons (Castell Tomeny-mŷr) on the other. The church (modernised) dates from the 16th cent., and was built by Meredydd-ap-Ivan, to whom (d. 1525) and his wife Alice there are mural tablets. The chief attraction of Dolwyddelan, however, is the remains

NORTH WALES

of its castle, a rude square tower, with fragments of a second, crowning a bold precipitous rock, wonderfully in keeping with the rugged majesty of the surrounding mountains. It is of uncertain date, though undoubtedly an ancient British erection, designed, like Deganwy and Dolbadarn, to guard one of the approaches to the inner sanctuary of Snowdonia. Iorwerth Drwyndwn, who was refused the throne because of his broken nose, made the castle his residence, and here Llewelyn the Great (reigned 1194-1240) was born. Later (*temp.* Henry VII.) the castle came into the hands of the Meredydd-ap-Ivan, the builder of the church, who appears to have sought in this lone retreat, though infested with outlaws, the safety he could not enjoy in the neighbourhood of his turbulent relations. The old town, very effective in its isolation amid isolation still greater, like that of Moel Siabod, seen to the N.W., has often been painted —by Linnell and John Varley, among others.

Dovey, the, or *Dyfi*, rises in a small lake under the cone of Aran Mawddwy, whence it pursues a turbulent course to the little village of Llan-y-Mawddwy, and thence to Dinas Mawddwy, where, making a fine bend S., it passes beneath Pont Fynnant, an ivy-clad bridge of two arches, and so to Pont Vallwyd and the charming village of Mallwyd (q.v.). A mile or two below, at Cemmes, the Dovey is joined by the Twymyn, and winds through a pleasing though less picturesque valley, past Llanwrin and Penegoes, the birthplace of Wilson the painter, near which place the river is joined by the Dulas, and so round Dinas Rock to Machynlleth (q.v.). Below Machynlleth Bridge the plain again opens out and Derwen Las, the

DOVEY—DRWS ARDUDWY

port of Machynlleth, is reached. Near the village of Pennal the Dovey is joined on the E. by the Llyfnant (q.v.), the augmented stream then flowing past the village of Carreg, where, sweeping round a headland, it becomes an estuary and joins Cardigan Bay below the port and bathing-place of Aberdovey. The total length of the Dovey is about 30 m.

Downing, the seat of the Earl of Denbigh, famous as the birthplace and residence of Thomas Pennant, author of "Tours in Wales," whose granddaughter married Viscount Feilding, afterwards Earl of Denbigh (1 m. S. of Mostyn Station). The house, built in 1627, contains a large library, in which is included the Pennant collection of manuscripts, besides numberless works of art and antiquarian treasures.

Druids' Circle, or Y Meini Hirion, situated near the summit of Penmaenmawr, $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. behind the town, consists of a double row of stones, the outer one very much broken, the inner comprising ten or eleven large stones, with smaller ones between, fairly complete. The stones, of course, are much weathered.

Drws Ardudwy, or the Ardudwy Gate, a pass (1255 ft.) between the mountains Rheinog Fawr and Rheinog Fach, leading down into the Vale of Ardudwy, as the district S. of Harlech is called. It is about 8 m. E. of Llanbedr. Steps similar to those known as the Roman steps, though less numerous, are visible here as in the neighbouring pass. Near the summit of the pass are two upright stones, known as Meini Gwyr Ardudwy, supposed to be memorials of a battle, possibly for the possession of the gap.

Dulas, the river, a tributary of the Dovey, the two uniting their waters at the town of Machynlleth. There is another river Dulas in Anglesey, which empties its waters into Dulas Bay, on the N.E. coast of the island.

Dulyn, the, a feeder of the Conway, which has its source in two small tarns named Llyn Dulyn and Llyn Melyn.

Dyfrdwy, the river. See the river *Dee*.

Dwygyfylchi, a pleasant village and seaside resort on Beaumaris Bay, 3 m. W. of Conway, watered by a little mountain stream, up the course of which lies the Fairy Glen (q.v.).

Dyffryn (s.), $4\frac{1}{2}$ m. N. of Barmouth on the railway to Harlech. The village is $\frac{1}{2}$ m. from the station, and near it are a pair of exceptionally fine cromlechs

Dyfi, the. See *Dovey*.

Dyserth, a village 2 m. W. of Newmarket, Flintshire, and about $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. from Prestatyn Station, is chiefly notable for the remains of its castle, on a height commanding a wide view. The fortress was one of a series extending S. as far as Llandegla, maintained by the British to protect themselves from their Saxon neighbours. It was strengthened by Henry III. in 1242, but was destroyed by Llewelyn the Great some twenty years later. The parish church has an interesting Jesse window, said, like so many others, to have come from Basingwerk Abbey. In the churchyard is a pillar of curious workmanship and unknown date, thought by some to have marked the spot where justice was administered in ancient times, though, in truth, the thought is but a guess. A little way from the church and opposite the village inn is a "waterfall," which may be read about in Dr Johnson's diary of his Welsh tour in 1774.

Dysynni, the, is a small stream in the southern part of Merionethshire, formed by the waters which flow from the eastern and southern declivities of Cader Idris. These collect at Talyllyn in Llyn Mwngil and pass thence through the delightful vale of Abergynolwyn to Llanfihangel-y-Pennant. A little to the N. of Ynys-y-Maengwyn, the seat of the Corbett family, the *Dysynni* receives the Mathew tributary; the enlarged stream then, after a course of a few more miles, mingling its waters with those of Cardigan Bay. The estuary of the *Dysynni* is noted for its bass-fishing, while salmon, sewin (the Welsh name for a variety of *Salmo trutta*), and trout abound higher up stream.

Eden, the, a stream which, having its source in the hills south of Trawsfynydd, flows S. through the vale of that name, and with the rivers Cain and Camlan, forms the Mawddach. Just above its junction with the last-named river the Eden is crossed by the bridge Pont-ar-Eden. The whole of the vale is very beautiful, and on a fine day well repays a walk through it.

Efenechtyd, a picturesque village 2 m. S. of Ruthin, with an interesting old church containing a good rood-loft. Noteworthy, also, is the old wooden font. Above the village on Pen-y-gaer, is an ancient encampment.

Eglwys Fach, a village on the road from Machynlleth to Aberystwyth, 8 m. S.W. of Machynlleth.

Eglwys Fair, a small village near Braich-y-Pwll, the extreme point of the Lleyn promontory—the Canganum Promontorium of Ptolemy—with vestiges of an ancient church.

Eglwys Rhos, an ancient church (restored) at

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Llanrhos, in the valley below Deganwy, formerly the burial-place of the Mostyns, and containing monuments to members of that family. Its old oak roof and carved font are worthy of note. In the windows over the altar are fragments of old stained glass (with much that is new).

Eglwyseg Manor, otherwise known as Plâs Uchaf, one of the oldest houses in Wales, situated about 4 m. N. of Llangollen, in the heart of the range of hills known as the Eglwyseg Rocks (q.v.), and surrounded by woods. An inscription over the door says that it formerly belonged to the "Lords of Powys." The house contains many interesting mementoes of the past, including an old oak bedstead in which Llewelyn the Great is traditionally said to have slept, also a fine portrait of Cromwell by Lely, etc.

Eglwyseg Rocks, a range of limestone mountains, commencing a little N. of Castell Dinas Brân and running almost due N. and S. with a northern bend W. It is peculiar among Welsh mountains for the regularity of its stratification. The view from the summit of the Rocks well repays the climb, the Berwyn Mountains especially being well displayed to the E., while away to the S.W. the Arans may be distinctly seen on a clear day. The view from the top of the Eglwysegs (ranging from 1400 ft. to 1648 ft. at the highest point) is wide and striking, including the plains of Shropshire as far as the Wrekin.

Egryn Abbey, 1½ m. N. of Llanaber Church, the parish church of Barmouth (q.v.). Nothing is known of the abbey, of which the remains are scant.

Eifl Mountains, the, generally called the Rivals





ELISEG'S PILLAR

EGLWYSEG MANOR

(from the Welsh Yr Eifl), are situated near the coast of Caernarvonshire, almost due N. of Pwllheli. They consist of three conical heights of varying altitudes, the middle and loftiest peak rising to a height of 1866 ft., while that in the S.E. is only 1400 ft. This lower peak is particularly interesting for the reason that beneath its shadow lies the fortified camp or town called *Tre'r Ceiri* (i.e. "the town of the fortress"), covering a space of 5 acres, enclosed by walls and showing traces of cell-dwellings and other indications of primitive habitation and defensive engineering. On the summit of the hill is a carnedd, while below are the remains of a cromlech. The road from Clynnog to Pwllheli crosses the Eifl by the Pass of Llanaelhaiarn (q.v.).

Einion, the, a river which unites with the Bechan to form the Vyrnwy (q.v.). With its affluents Twrch, Banw, and Nant-yr-Eira, the Einion has its rise in the hills E. of Mallwyd and Dinas Mawddwy.

Elidyr Mountain, consisting of Elidyr-fach (2564 ft.) and Elidyr-fawr (3030 ft.), lies immediately N. of Llyn Peris.

Eliseg's Pillar, situated in a meadow above Valle Crucis Abbey, and about $\frac{1}{4}$ m. from it, was erected, according to the original inscription, by Concenn-ap-Cadell-ap-Brochmael, to the memory of his great-grandfather Eliseg, Prince of Powis, who fought in the battle of Bangor Iscoed (q.v.), in the year 603. The column was originally 12 ft. high, but was thrown down and broken during the Civil Wars, and when replaced on its pedestal by Mr Trevor Lloyd in 1779, was little more than half its former height. The

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grove in which it stands is known as Llwyn-y-Groes, or "Grove of the Cross," and hence the Pillar is supposed originally to have been cruciform.

Ellesmere Canal, the, properly the Ellesmere and Chester Canal, has a branch to Berwyn, above Llangollen.

Elwy, the, an affluent of the Clwyd, rises in the Hiraethog Hills in the vicinity of Llanrwst, and about 2 m. from its source passes the village of Gwytherin, and then, after a few more miles' travel, that of Llangerniw, in the churchyard of which are two pairs of upright stones, one pair with an incised cross. Subsequently changing its direction from N. to E., and passing by the pleasant village of Llanfair-Talhaiarn, it receives the waters of the Aled. The affluent makes some pretty cascades S. of Llansannan. After its junction with the Aled, the Elwy pursues its course for some miles, and then turns N. in its approach to St Asaph (q.v.). Near the river at Wigfair, in a dingle, is a copious spring called Y Fynnon Fair. At this place the river is spanned by the bridge of Pont yr Allt-Gôch, and a little below St Asaph it joins the Clwyd.

Erbistoch, a pretty village in the valley of the Dee, between 3 and 4 m. W. of Overton, on the road to Ruabon.

Erddig Hall, $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. S. of Wrexham, a seat of the Yorke family, noted alike for the beauty of its situation on a wooded knoll, and for its valuable collection of antiquities, works of art, etc. These include many Welsh manuscripts, formerly the property of Philip Yorke, author of "The Royal Tribes of Wales."

Ewloe Castle, or the ruins of it, lie 2 m. N.W.

ELLESMEERE CANAL—FFESTINIOG

of Hawarden, on the road to Flint. Portions of two towers and some crumbling walls constitute all that is now to be seen, and these not easily on account of the dense wood in which they are hidden from sight. Little is known of the castle beyond the fact that in its vicinity part of Henry II.'s army was routed by Cynan and Dafydd, sons of Owen Gwynedd, in 1157.

Fairbourne (s.), sometimes called South Barmouth, $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. from Barmouth Junction, on the S. shore of the estuary—a new town with a good stretch of beach for bathing, and backed by Cader Idris.

Fairy Glen, the (or Ffôs Noddyn), a name given to a rocky chasm through which the Conway forces its way, about $1\frac{1}{4}$ m. S. of Bettws-y-coed. The confining cliffs show interesting marks of erosion from stones carried down by the turbulent stream. There is another Fairy Glen in the Valley of Dwygyfylchi, in the upper part of which a small stream rushes through a deep “clough” or “nant” between wooded hills, and with much turbulence dashes over obstructing rocks and stones.

Felinhen (“the Old Mill”), a station on the Bethesda line, 3 m. from the latter.

Ffestiniog (s.), a town in Merionethshire, whose population (9654) is devoted almost wholly to slate quarrying, the neighbouring mountains swarming with men who cut and carve and fracture their sides to get this important commodity. It is situated on the Dwyryd, which may be seen from it meandering through the beautiful vale named after the town to Maen-

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twrog and Portmadoc. Words fail to do justice to the charms of this delightful vale, at the head of which, 2 m. N., is the village of Blaenau Ffestiniog (q.v.). Near the town are the falls of the Cynfael, a feeder of the Dwyryd. Roscoe, writing of these "terrific falls" nearly a century ago, describes the upper one as rushing "over three projections of dark rocks, which rise like steps one above another into a deep black basin, rendered still darker by the shadowing precipices." The second fall "is much less extensive than the other, and precipitates itself in a small stream down a shelving rock about 40 feet in height. It then bounds along a narrow chasm, and, struggling across the many-coloured rocks, reflects a variety of tints as it falls from slope to slope till, finding a more even bed, it at length meanders through the vale and mingles with the waters of the Dwyryd." A little way below the first fall is a bold columnar rock rising from the bed of the river, known as Hugh Lloyd's Pulpit, about which an amusing legend centres.

The parish church of Ffestiniog, dedicated to St Michael, stands on the edge of a crag overlooking the vale, and is worthy of a visit, if only for the views to be obtained therefrom of the valley of the Dwyryd and the mountains to the N.W. Ffestiniog claims for itself the honour of being the birthplace of Rhys Gôch, or Red Rhys of Snowdon, a noted bard of the days of Owen Glendower. Ffestiniog is on the G.W.R. from Bala, while Blaenau is the junction of the G.W.R. and the L. & N.W.R. lines.

Ffraw. See *Aberffraw*.

Ffridd-Faldwyn, a well-wooded hill a little to

FRIDD-FALDWYN—FLINT

the N.E. of Montgomery Castle, noted for the remains of an old encampment.

Ffrwd Fawr, the waterfall of. See *Twymyn*.

Ffynnon Asa, or St Asaph's Well, a spring about a mile from Dyserth, once, as its name implies, held sacred, and much resorted to on account of its reputed healing powers, but now devoted to more secular uses.

Ffynnon Elian, or "The Cursing Well," situated at Llanelian, 3 m. S.E. of Colwyn Bay, was once so dread a terror to the superstitious that the very mention of it is said to have frightened people to death. The idea was that by writing the name of a person on a piece of paper, sticking a pin through it, and then throwing it into the well, the individual thus implicated would be cursed in body and goods.

Ffynnon Fair ("Our Lady's Well") is situated in a dingle by the river Elwy, near Wigfair. Adjoining the well are the ruins of a cruciform chapel (15th cent. and Late Perp.), partly overgrown with ivy. Well and chapel are apostrophised by Mrs Hemans in the line, "Fount of the chapel with ages grey!"

Flint (s.), a borough and seaport on the estuary of the Dee, 14 m. N.W. of Chester, is one of the least interesting of Welsh towns. Formerly its sea-borne trade was of some importance, but now it does little in that line, its population (5472) being mainly occupied in lead and coal getting and alkali-making. There are evidences of Roman activity in the neighbourhood, chiefly in the form of dross and slag heaps from their smelting-works, and it was in all likelihood a place of note throughout the Middle Ages. Its castle, a dilapidated and desolate

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ruin by the sea, is said by Camden to have been begun by Henry II. in 1157; but there is external evidence to prove that the great castle-builder, Edward I., either greatly restored or wholly rebuilt it. Here Edward II. met Piers Gaveston on being again admitted to his favour after banishment to Ireland; and here, as we know from Shakespeare's famous scene, took place the treacherous betrayal of Richard II. into the power of Bolingbroke (1399):—

“Go to the rude ribs of that ancient castle;
Through brazen trumpet send the breath of parle
Into his ruined ears, and thus deliver:
Henry of Bolingbroke upon his knees
Doth kiss King Edward's hand.”

Every one knows the rest. In the Civil Wars the castle was held for the king by Sir Roger Mostyn, who, however, was compelled to surrender after a long siege (1643). In 1647 it was dismantled by order of Parliament.

The crumbling ruins of this once important fortress stand a little to the N.E. of the town. They show that it originally consisted of an area an acre in extent, enclosed by double walls of great thickness, with circular towers at each angle. The keep, a strong detached tower at the S.E. corner of the pile, was connected by a drawbridge. It is formed of two concentric walls, each 6 ft. thick, the diameter of the outer one being 40 ft. In the curtain on the W. side are several windows with pointed arches. The church is modern, and of no special interest.

Foryd, the estuary. See *Rhyl*.

Ffôs Noddyn. See *Fairy Glen*.

Foxes' Path, the, or, in Welsh, *Llwybyr*

FOXES PATH—THE GIANT'S NOSE

Cadnaw, a well-known track from Dolgelly to Pen-y-Gader, the highest peak (2929 ft.) of the Cader Idris range. It is usually preferred for descending rather than ascending.

Frongoch, the first station on the line from Bala to Ffestiniog (so called from a farmhouse), is at the opening of a narrow valley running N. among the hills and watered by the Mynerch, a tributary of the Tryweryn, affording good trout fishing.

Gaerwen Junction, on the Holyhead line, where the Anglesey Central Railway branches off to Amlwch on the N. coast.

Ganllwyd Valley, the, is that through which flows the Mawddach before it reaches Barmouth. It is overlooked from the Precipice Walk (q.v.).

Gamalt, a curiously shaped height that rises above the pretty village of Abergynolwyn.

Gardden, a height about 1 m. N.W. of Ruabon, on the top of which is a circular fortified camp, showing traces of old-time dwellings, or "cyttiau." Offa's Dyke passes near it. There is a similar circular rampart (area about 70 yards) overlooking the village of Llanerfyl, Montgomeryshire (q.v.).

Garth Ferry, on the Menai Strait, near Bangor, by which it is 4 m. to Beaumaris.

Geirw, the, a tributary of the Alwen that has its rise in the hills about Cerrig-y-Drudion. At Pont-y-Glyn the river rushes over a rocky obstruction to its course, thus forming a striking and picturesque cataract right under the bridge, which, with an arch of 50 ft., spans a chasm 60 ft. deep—"a kind of devil's bridge flung over the deep glen and its foaming water," Borrow calls it ("Wild Wales," chap. xxiii.).

Giant's Nose, the. See *Mynydd-y-Gader*.

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Gimlet Rock, in Welsh Carreg yr Imbill, a curious formation at the mouth of the harbour of Pwllheli (q.v.).

Glanconway, the first station on the line from Conway to Bettws-y-coed, $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. from Llandudno Junction. The river here at high water resembles a wide-spreading lake. Near the village is a fine cromlech. The full name of the place is Llansantffraid-Glan-Conway.

Glandovey (or Glandyfi) *Junction*, on the Cambrian Railway, 4 m. S.W. of Machynlleth. The N. branch goes to Towyn and Barmouth, the S. branch to Aberystwyth. Three counties meet here. The junction is in Montgomeryshire, which is divided from Merioneth by the Dovey, while the village of Glendovey (1 m. S.W.) is in Cardiganshire.

Glanywern, a pretty village 2 m. W. of Denbigh, on the Clwyd, which is here crossed by a bridge.

Glaslyn, the, which serves as the dividing line between Caernarvonshire and Merioneth, has its rise in Llyn Llydaw, a little E. of Snowdon, and, entering Nant Gwynant through a narrow gorge, follows the windings of that delightful vale (q.v.) to Beddgelert, by which time it has become a considerable stream. At Beddgelert its waters are joined by those of the Colwyn, and the united stream, turning S., empties into Cardigan Bay, near Tremadoc. From its source down to the Pass of Glaslyn the river maintains the character of a lively mountain stream, confined between lofty precipitous rocks, and often making itself heard in miniature cataracts and falls as the descent becomes more rapid. At one point in its course is

GIMLET ROCK—THE GLYDERS

a rock to which has been given the name of the Chair of Rhys Gôch, a bard of Owen Glendower's days, who made himself famous by his patriotic songs. See *Pont Aberglaslyn*.

Glendower's Mount, 3 m. E. of Corwen, on the road to Llangollen, is a mound about 30 ft. high, covered with trees, said to have been the site of a house in which Owen Glendower lived. From it a good view may be obtained of the Dee and the country round about.

Glendower's Seat, so called, is on a tree-clad eminence above the town of Corwen, named Pen-y-pigyn, where a cairn marks the spot known as the "Seat."

Gloddaeth, a seat of the Mostyn family, situated on a well-wooded hill on the road from Conway to Llandudno, and within easy reach of the latter. The house is Elizabethan in style, but is said to be on a still older foundation. It contains pictures and many historical relics of great interest. The grounds are thrown open to the public with great liberality, and the mansion on certain days.

Glyders, the, two peaks rising a few miles N.E. of Snowdon. Glyder Fawr, the higher of the two (3279 ft.) lies to the S.W. of Glyder Fach (3262 ft.) They may be ascended from the Pen-y-gwryd Hotel, on the road from Llanberis to Capel Curig. Another route to Glyder Fawr ascends from Cwm Llyn Ffynnon, a little to the N.W. of the Hotel. Glyder Fach and Glyder Fawr are connected by a series of precipices. Immediately N. of Glyder Fach is the long ridge of Y Tryfan, scalable without much hardship on the W. side. Speaking of the summit of the Glyders, Roscoe says: "Rocks, bare, cloven, and jagged,

lie crossing each other in different directions, while the huge pointed Tryfaen, with its sharp angular projections, height above height, seem like some huge monster; these and a magnificent natural carnedd of enormous blocks, fit crown to the grandest crag and block scene in Britain, are special attributes of Glyder Fach." It need hardly be said that the view from all these peaks is far reaching and impressive.

Glyn Ceiriog, the valley of the Ceiriog, a tributary of the Dee, extends from Chirk beyond the little village of Llansantffraid Glyn Ceiriog, 2 m. S. of Llangollen. The Ceiriog is crossed by the aqueduct of the Ellesmere Canal, and also by the railway viaduct, both noble and picturesque works, which add to the interest of the landscape at this part of the vale. A tram line, 6 m. in length, runs from Chirk as far as Llansantffraid, in the vicinity of which are important slate and other quarries. See *Llansantffraid*.

Glyn Cywarch (or Cowarch), the glen of the little Cywarch stream, a tiny feeder of the Dovey, which has its rise in Hen Cwm, on the S. side of Aran Mawddwy. There is a pretty fall at Aber Cowarch, where the stream joins the Dovey.

Glyndyfrdwy (s.), the valley of the Dee between Corwen and Llangollen, a most beautiful stretch of country, the road through which is carried along the side of the Berwyn range, at some elevation above the river, of which it gives an extensive view. The Glyn is intimately associated with the life and doings of Owen Glendower, who owned a large domain in it and therefrom took his name of Glendower (*Glyndyfrdwy*) (see *Glendower's Mount*). The village of Glyn Dyfrdwy

GLYN CEIRIOG—GT. ORME'S HEAD

(s.) is on the S. bank of the Dee, 4 m. W. of Llangollen.

Glynllifon Park, a seat of the Newborough family, 5 m. S. of Caernarvon on the road to Clynnog. Here was in former times the stronghold of Cilmin Troed Du.

Gloywlyn, a small lake on the N.W. side of Rhinog Fawr, noted for its fine trout of a bright golden colour. Near it is the Maidens' Lake (Llyn-y-morwynion).

Gogarth, on the W. side of St Orme's Head, where are remains (fragments of walls, a chimney stalk, etc.) of a religious house of an early date. It is referred to by Leland in his Itinerary, but practically nothing is known either about it or its history.

Gorphwysfa ("the Resting Place"), a level open space at the summit of the Pass of Llanberis (1200 ft.), whence starts one of the tracks to the top of Y Wyddfa. From the same point also Y Glyder Fawr may be ascended. There is a good inn and a group of cottages. The outlook hence is bare and desolate, though very striking.

Graves of the Men of Arduwy. See *Drws Arduwy*.

Great Orme's Head, a long promontory running out into the Irish Sea and forming the extreme N. point of Caernarvonshire. It is about 6 m. in circuit, and rises at its highest point to some 700 ft. Above the town of Llandudno (q.v.), on a hill named Pen-y-Ddinas (or simply Dinas), are remains of an old British fortress, showing vestiges of walls and circular cells or huts. Near it is a stone known as the Cradle of St Tudno (Cryd Tudno), whose church, the old parish church of

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Llandudno, is to be seen on the N. side of the Head.

Gresford (s.), a village delightfully situated at the head of the beautiful vale of the same name, through which flows the R. Alyn, a feeder of the Dee, 3 m. N. of Wrexham. The church is ancient and full of interesting memorials and associations. Its square tower, 90 feet high, with a peal of twelve bells noted for the purity and richness of their tone, was formerly accounted one of the seven wonders of Wales. Among its monuments is a sculptured stone to Gronow ap Iorwerth (1320), a knight in coat of mail (1331), besides a number of others. The stained-glass windows, as well as the sculptured font, are said to have been brought from Basingwerk Abbey. Worthy of note also is the carving of the rood-screen, the stalls, and the ends of the benches in the choir. In the churchyard are some ancient yews, and near by, on the W. bank of the Alyn, is a petrifying spring. Quarter of a mile away—and well worth the walk to examine—is a mound known as the Roft, evidently at one time a fortified place, with remains of trenches, etc. *Gresford* is noteworthy too as being the birthplace of Samuel Warren, author of “Ten Thousand a Year,” and the scene of “The Angler” in Washington Irving’s “Sketch-Book.”

Guilfield, a pretty village 3 m. N. of Welshpool, pleasantly situated among wooded hills, with an interesting old church (restored). About 1 m. N. is an ancient encampment named Gaer Fawr.

Gwaenynog, 1 m. W. of Denbigh, a former seat of the Myddleton family, having associations with Dr Johnson, whose friend Dr Myddleton, the

GRESFORD—GWYDIR CASTLE

then owner, he visited there, and who erected a monument to his honour. At Ystrad, in the vicinity, over the door of a cottage, is an inscription said to have been written by Dr Johnson. Under it is the date 1768. The Doctor's Welsh tour took place in 1774.

Gwrfai, the, a small river which has its rise in Llyn Cwellyn some 3 m. W. of Snowdon, and flowing thence N.W. till Moel-y-Tryfan is passed, it bends suddenly W., and after a course of a few miles, empties into Foryd Bay some 4 m. S. of Caernarvon.

Gwrtheyrn. See *Nant Gwrtheyrn*.

Gwrych Castle, a modern structure built on an old foundation, $\frac{1}{2}$ m. W. of Abergele (q.v.), the seat of Lord Dundonald. It presents an imposing appearance against its background of wood and cliff. Mrs Hemans spent some of her early days in the old house which this castellated dwelling has replaced.

Gwryd, the, a little river that feeds the Mymbyr Lakes, S.W. of Capel Curig, and gives its name to the Pen-y-gwryd Hotel, at the junction of the roads leading to the Pass of Llanberis, Capel Curig, and Beddgelert.

Gwydir Castle, situated on the W. side of the Conway, $\frac{1}{2}$ m. from Llanrwst, on the road to Bettws-y-coed, dates in part from the year 1555. A great part of the house, however, was done away with in 1816 and the present edifice built in its place. It is on a smaller scale, though much of the old character of the house is maintained, as well as a great deal of the old furniture, fittings and decorations, including several carved-out bedsteads of Elizabeth's days and a screen said to have

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been worked by Mary Queen of Scots. The house was originally built by a Wynne, and it remained in the Wynne family until late in the 17th cent., when by marriage it passed into the Ancaster family. It is now the property of Lord Carrington. The park and surroundings are very beautiful, and include, among other natural objects, a small lake and a waterfall named Rhaiadr-y-Parc-mawr.

Gwynant, the, has its source in the little tarn of Glaslyn, lying right under the summit of Y Wyddfa, and making its way through Nant Gwynant over a series of falls, it enters Llyn Gwynant, one of the most charmingly beautiful of Welsh lakes, richly wooded at its lower end, and about 1 m. in length. Pursuing then a S.W. course, the river passes through the small Llyn-y-Ddinas, and so on to Beddgelert, where it is joined by the Colwyn, the two streams forming the Glaslyn (q.v.). Within easy reach of Llyn Gwynant are several small lakes with a good name for plenty of fish. They are Llyn Edno, Llyn Llagi, Llyn-y-Adar, and the two Llyniau Cwn, all E. of Gwynant.

Gwytherin, a village on the Elwy, where was formerly a religious house for nuns, over which St Winifred presided for a number of years, and at length died there. Four upright stones are still pointed out as marking her grave. See *Holywell*.

Gyrn-ddu (1712 ft.), one of a group of peaks, including Gyrn Gôch and Penllechog, N. of Yr Eifl, of which they form a part.

Halkin, a village situated in the range of mountains of that name, 3 m. W. of Flint. Here is Halkin Castle, a seat of the Duke of Westminster.

GWYNANT—HARLECH

Halkin Mountain has a general direction N.W. to S.W., beginning in the vicinity of Holywell and extending to near Mold. It is noted for its rich lead and silver mines. Moel-y-gaer, its most southerly point, is noted for its perfect British fortified post.

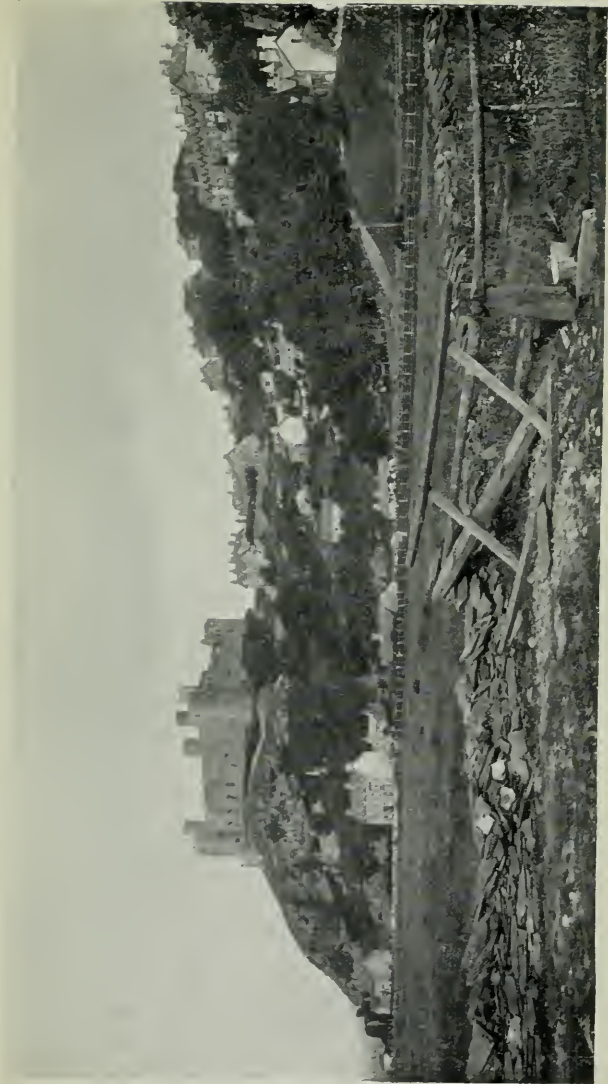
Hanmer, a village in the S. (detached) section of Flintshire, 2 m. N. of Bettisfield, having a Tudor church, dating from the time of Henry VII., with carved oak ceilings, etc. There are also monuments of the Hanmer family, from which Owen Glendower took his wife. Hanmer Mere is a notable "beauty spot" in this part of the country.

Harlech (s.), though formerly a place of some importance and still nominally the county town of Merioneth, is but a village of about a thousand inhabitants. It is beautifully situated, however, overlooking the sea and having a magnificent view of the Caernarvonshire mountains and of the S. coast of Lleyn. Its chief drawback as a watering-place is that it is a good half mile from the sea, although, as would appear, at one time situated close to it. But here, as at other places on this coast, the sea has withdrawn, leaving sands and marsh where formerly was good salt water. The chief object of interest connected with Harlech is its ruinate castle, one whose commanding position singles it out as second to none in this respect in the whole of Wales. Tradition says that there was a fortress on this bold precipitous rock as early as the 3rd cent., and that this was replaced by a still larger and stronger one in the mid years of the 6th cent. But whether such was the case or not—and it would be hard to believe that either

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the Cymry or the Romans neglected so natural a stronghold—there is no doubt that the existing structure dates from the time of Edward I. It is said to be the work of the same military genius who designed the Castle of Caernarvon; but whether such be the case or not, it is inferior alike to that fortress and to Conway in all save position. Still it presents some notable features and must have been a place of enormous strength for those days. Quadrangular in form, the sides measuring from 200 to 220 ft., its walls were of enormous thickness and were further strengthened by massive round towers at the angles, as well as flanking the main entrance, which faced E. towards the town. From some of these, if not all, sprung stair towers, or turrets; but these have mostly disappeared. On the side next the sea the Castle was protected by its sheer inaccessibility, while on the land side E. and S. a broad ditch was cut out of the solid rock. Over this, a draw-bridge, protected by an advanced bastion led to the chief gate. There are evidences also of the existence of a water-gate on the S.W. side, likewise strongly fortified.

Few ruined castles are so well worth a visit as that of Harlech, which, besides its many points of interest to the student of the past and its wonderful outlook, has a stirring history behind it that only needs the pen of a Welsh Scott to make it live again in the pages of romance. In 1404 it fell into the hands of Owen Glendower, who was, however, after a few years possession, turned out by Prince Henry. Some years later (1460) it became the refuge of Margaret of Anjou and her son, on the defeat of her husband King Henry VI.



HARLECH CASTLE FROM THE MARSH

HARLECH—HAWARDEN

During these wars it was the scene of stirring events, as was mostly the case when anything in the way of arms was stirring at all. At this time, one Dafydd-ap-Ivan-ap-Einion held the place for the Lancasterians, and a deal of trouble he gave Edward IV. and his strong men before it was finally wrested from him. When Lord Herbert, afterwards Earl of Pembroke, who was sent against him, summoned him to surrender, Dafydd-ap-Ivan made answer that he had formerly held a castle in France so long that he made all the old women in Wales talk about it, and he now proposed to hold Harlech Castle until he set all the gossips in France talking about it. He did indeed make a stiff defence of it, and was only compelled to yield at last by the pangs of famine. This famous siege and the honourable capitulation that ended it, gave rise, it is said, to the well-known air, "The March of the Men of Harlech." During the Civil Wars Harlech was again a focus of turmoil and change, passing more than once into the hands of each party, and being at last surrendered to Colonel Jones of Maes-y-garnedd, the brother-in-law of Cromwell.

From the coins, etc., which have from time to time been found at Harlech, it is thought that it may have been a fortified post during the Roman occupation—a possibility of which there can, we think, be little doubt. Reference has been made to the withdrawal of the sea from Harlech. An extensive stretch of sandy dune has thus been laid bare, known as Morfa Harlech, or Harlech Marsh, which, if for no one else, is a favourite place of resort for botanists and golfers.

Hawarden (pronounced "Harden"), an old

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market town, is 7 m. W. of Chester and 22 m. from Broughton Hall station. It stands on high ground overlooking the Dee, and is a busy and thriving place. The chief interest connected with it, however, lies in its associations with the late William Ewart Gladstone, who by marriage with a Glynne came to have his residence at Hawarden Castle. This noble mansion is a modern erection, albeit in the castellated Gothic of an earlier age. It was built about the middle of the 18th cent., but was altered and added to in the early part of the 19th. The well-wooded park in which it stands is both extensive and picturesque, and is open to the public except during forenoon church on Sundays. The main gates to the castle are opposite the Glynne Arms Hotel, at the E. end of the village. In the grounds near the house are the remains of a real old-time castle, dating back to pre-Norman days. Under the Conqueror it came into the possession of Hugh Lupus, Earl of Chester ; but after many vicissitudes, on the sequestration of the estates of the Earl of Derby, subsequent to the Battle of Worcester, it fell by purchase into the hands of Serjeant Glynn, afterwards Lord Chief-Justice, and has continued in that family ever since. Little remains of the old building save some crumbling fragments round the old circular keep, which is still tolerably complete, a sturdy memorial of the work of Edwardian days. Standing as it does on elevated ground, its summit affords a splendid outlook on the surrounding country, the view including the estuaries of the Dee and Mersey, the mountains to the W., and the great plain of Cheshire. (Population, 6490.)

The church (E.E.) has been twice restored,



THE OLD CASTLE, HAWARDEN

HAWARDEN—HIRAETHOG HILLS

the last time (1878) by the famous statesman whose place of prayer it was for so many years, and of whom the E. window is a memorial. In 1906 (July 30th) a beautiful memorial of William Ewart Gladstone and his wife, the work of Sir William Richmond, was unveiled. The monument represents two figures lying in a winged boat ploughing its way through the sea of life. Like the castle, the church occupies a fine position on rising ground, and near it, striking monuments to the man who reared and endowed them, stand St Deiniol's Library and the hostel connected with it, designed to afford rest and therewith studious ease to clergy and others of straitened means.

Henblas (in the parish of Llangristiolus), 3 m. N.W. of Gaerwen Junction, Anglesey, near which (S.) are the remains of the largest cromlech in Wales, the upright stones of which are 10 ft. in height. At Dinas, W. of Henblas, is another cromlech, with a menhir.

Hengwrt, a seat belonging to the Vaughan family, situated near Cymmer Abbey, about 1 m. N. of Dolgelly, and adjoining the grounds of Nannau. The famous literary collection known as the Hengwrt MSS. was formerly stored here, but was transferred hence to Peniarth (q.v.) for safer keeping.

Henllan, a village near Trefnant, 3 m. S. of St Asaph, has an interesting old church, of which the oldest portion is a detached square tower standing on higher ground.

Heriri Mons. See *Towen-y-mûr*.

Hesp-Alyn. See *Alyn*.

Hiraethog Hills, or *Mynydd Hiraethog*, a long and rather desolate range of hills in the

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western section of Denbighshire, composed for the most part of Cambrian and Silurian rocks, and devoted chiefly to the pasturage of sheep. The Holyhead road traverses its southern slopes. The range, which has its highest points in Moel Eithin (1660 ft.) and Bronbanog (1572 ft.), is the source of many beautiful streams, including the Elwy and Aled, feeders of the Clwyd, and the Alwen, which gives its water to the Dee.

Hirnant, a village in the picturesque cwm or valley of that name, $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. S.W. of Penybont, near the N. end of the tunnel through which the waters of Lake Vyrnwy make the first $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. of their journey to Liverpool. The river Hirnant, which flows through the cwm, is a tributary of the Tanat.

Holt, an ancient borough, $5\frac{1}{2}$ m. N.E. of Wrexham, is situated on the Denbighshire bank of the Dee, an old narrow stone bridge over which connects the town with Farndon, in Cheshire. The place was formerly of much more importance than at present. Of its Edwardian castle few traces remain. It was built by Earl Warren, reverted to the Crown under Edward VII. through the attainder of Sir Wm. Stanley, and saw its share of the turmoil of the Civil War. The parish church (restored), dedicated to St Chad, is both a fine and a picturesque edifice, dating, like the bridge, from the 14th cent. The borough is proud of its charter, dated 1410, the gift of Thomas, Earl of Arundel, at that time Constable of the Castle.

Holyhead, the largest and busiest town in Anglesey, is situated on an island off the W. coast, is some 7 m. long and from 1 to 3 m. in

HIRNANT—HOLYHEAD

width, and is connected with the mainland by a causeway $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. in length. The town owes its importance in the main to its being the port through which passes the chief passenger traffic to and from Ireland. There is some other business of a minor sort; but the population of the place (10,636) depends for the most part on the harbour and railway, which employ thousands of men, and are a scene of never-ceasing toil and bustle, what with the arrival and departure of trains and the coming and going of steamships, all so thronged with busy and important people that it would seem as though the whole world were on the move. At great national cost the harbour was improved, and by the construction of an immense breakwater, 7860 ft. in length, the exposed bay was converted into a secure haven or harbour of refuge, available for vessels of the largest size, and in all winds and all states of the tide. A promenade extends along the breakwater, and is protected by a parapet on the seaward side. Within this harbour is an inner one, with quays for the arriving and departing boats, and sidings for the convenience of passengers going to or coming from Ireland.

The town itself is dull and uninteresting, though the church, dedicated to St Gybi, should prove worthy of a visit. It dates from the 14th century, but is in the main of a later period (15th and 16th century). Cruciform in character, with nave, aisles, and transept, it has also a square tower with a low truncated spire. A new church, in the Gothic style, was opened in 1854. W. of the town, and looking down upon it, rises Pen Caer Gybi, or Holyhead Mountain, 700 ft. high, on which are traces of British and Roman fortifications. From

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here was obtained the blocks of stone for building the breakwater and pier. The view from the summit includes the Skerries (N.), with their lighthouse. N.W. of Caer Gybi is the North Stack, an isolated rock, where is a coast-guard station. S.W. of this, at the most westerly point of the island, is the islet known as South Stack, separated from the shore by a narrow chasm, which is spanned by a chain bridge, giving easy access to the South Stack lighthouse. Both South and North Stack are well worth a visit, if only to see the caves worn into the rock by the action of the waves. Many of them are of enormous size, and give shelter to myriads of sea-fowl. Indeed, the whole of these rocky headlands are the haunts of many varieties of birds, pigeons, gulls, cormorants, guillemots, razor-bills, herons, and even on the higher crags the lordly peregrine falcon may often be seen. And because they give warning to ships in foggy weather by their hoarse and strident cries, they are not allowed to be shot. Which is as it should be.

Holywell (s.), one of the most important towns in Flintshire, with manufacturing and mining industries (coal and lead being found in the vicinity), is situated on rising ground overlooking the estuary of the Dee, 15 m. N.W. of Chester. It takes its name from the Well of St Winifred, the most copious in the country, estimated in former times to discharge one hundred tons of water per minute, but now reduced to about twenty tons. It is very little affected by long droughts or excessive rains (except that in the latter case it shows a slight change of colour), varies but slightly in temperature, and is usually so clear that the minutest object at the



SOUTH STACK LIGHTHOUSE, HOLYHEAD

HOLYWELL

bottom of the basin may readily be seen. In former times it was a noted resort for the cure of bodily disease and infirmity. For long years, however, the repute of the well, or at least the number of pilgrims to it, greatly fell off, but for some time past there has been a resurgence of faith in its curative powers, and the number of maimed and halt who resort to it has greatly increased. The "Feast of St Winifred" is celebrated in the Catholic Mission at Holywell in June and November, when some bones of the saint are brought out and exhibited to the devout, and between thirty and forty years ago a hospice was erected for the accommodation of poor pilgrims to the miraculous waters.

The well is enclosed in a deep crypt, over which is an elegant chapel built by Margaret, mother of Henry VII. It is of late Perp. work, and exhibits not a few features worthy of note. The well is the property of the Duke of Westminster, but the Roman Catholics of the place have for some years past had a lease of it. Much has been done not only to improve the chapel, but to turn the well to the best account in the shape of baths (hot and cold, shower and douche, etc.).

The story of St Winifred is of the usual pattern of such mediæval legends. According to the one in question Winifred, who lived about the beginning of the 7th cent., was sought in marriage by a chieftain named Caradoc. Having taken vows of chastity she of course refused him, whereupon he tried to take her by force. Winifred fled, pursued by her tormentor, who in his fury slashed off her head with his sword. The decapitated member went bounding down the hill to the church, and on the spot where it finally came to rest a spring of

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delicious water sprang up. Winifred's uncle, who was officiating at the church, took the dissevered head, and in answer to his prayers it was reunited to the body, and the holy virgin restored to life. She survived about fifteen years, and having taken the veil at Gwytherin (q.v.), she died abbess of that foundation.

About 2 m. from Holywell is the village of Pantasaph, where is a Franciscan monastery, besides other Roman Catholic institutions, including a convent with school and an orphanage, all gathered about a church, built some fifty years ago by the late Earl and Countess of Denbigh.

Hope (s.), a village 9 m. S.W. of Chester, to which, as a place of some importance, Edward the Black Prince gave a charter. Near it is Hope Junction, whence a line runs to Connah's Quay on the Dee, Hawarden, etc., and (S.) to Wrexham.

Horseshoe Fall. See *Llantysilio*.

Huw Morus's Chair. See *Pont-y-Meibion*.

Jubilee Tower, the, a column crowning the summit of Moel Famau (q.v.), erected in honour of George III. completing the fiftieth year of his reign. Partly blown down 1862.

Kerry (s.), a pretty village situated at the foot of the Kerry Hills, on the road from Bishop's Castle to Newtown, and about 3 m. E. of the latter. A branch line from Abermule has its terminus at Kerry Station, $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. E. of the village. The church, partly Norman, restored in 1875, contains a marble monument to Richard Jones, founder of a school here. A curious story is related in connection with this edifice by Giraldus Cambrensis, the annalist. He was at the time (1196) Archdeacon of Brecon, and a dispute

HOPE—LITTLE ORME'S HEAD

having arisen between him and the Bishop of St Asaph as to Episcopal jurisdiction in regard to Kerry, the two came to blows, and the matter was ended by a regular *mêlée* in the sacred precincts—the bishop and his party (as might be inferred from the source of the story) getting the worst of the fray.

Kerry Hills, a wild and somewhat desolate range of mountains S. of Kerry, and together with Clun Forest (q.v.) extending E. as far as Bishop's Castle.

Kimmel Hall, a little W. of Bodelwyddan and S. of the village of St George, traditionally associated with the famous fight between the town of that name and the Dragon.

Lavan Sands, the, stretch for an extent of 3 m. between Aber and Beaumaris, and at low water may be traversed to within a short distance of the Anglesey coast.

Little Orme's Head forms the E. horn of Orme's Bay, beautifully crescent-shaped, with excellent facilities for boating and fishing. The head has an elevation of about 400 ft. A road to Colwyn Bay runs over it, and there is another, in excellent condition, along its base, by means of which its three interesting caves may be reached; also (E.) an old Tudor house, now a farm, called Penrhyn, an outer wall of which bears the date 1685 and the initials W.P. This place for long years belonged to the Pugh family. They were in possession in Elizabeth's time, and being jealous Catholics got into serious trouble with their neighbours of the reformed faith. The story goes that, with other Papists of the Creuddyn peninsula, they hatched a plot to exterminate their Protestant neighbours. A day was fixed for the awful deed;

but the secret was let out by a domestic whose lover was a manservant at Gloddaeth near by ; and the Protestant squires, making a rally with their retainers, surrounded the Penrhyn house, where was a secret chapel (still discernible among the farm buildings), and demanded that the priest who conducted service therein should at once be given up. The bird, however, had flown, and was only discovered later through the issuing of smoke from one of the Little Orme caves, whence the poor man was taken and summarily executed.

It is a grim story to be told of a Christian manor house, but another still more sordid attaches to the same dwelling. It is one that affords fitting material for the pen of a Poe, but must be told here with brevity. At a much later period than that of the alleged Catholic plot Penrhyn came into the hands of two maiden ladies, whose brother, the heir, went abroad when young, and was not heard of again until his sisters had been long in possession, and were loth to give place to a ragged and broken down man who happened to turn up and claim the inheritance. The man showed proof, however—very singular proof—and was thoroughly believed in by the neighbours. But his sisters would have none of him and, in short, retained possession to the end of their days—and that for the simple reason that their brother suddenly disappeared, leaving no sign. Neighbours believed that the ladies of Penrhyn had done away with him, openly said so, and kept coldly aloof from them as murderesses. Other evils fell upon them, murrain, loss of crops, and the like, so that finally they died in extreme poverty, and the house came into other hands, when, in a disused lime-pit or cleft of rock, a

LITTLE ORME'S HEAD

skeleton was discovered—that of the murdered brother (said the neighbours), whose perturbed spirit, now that his bones were fittingly interred, ceased to haunt the place.

Llan-y-Lleidr, or the Robber's Leap. See *Berwyn*.

Llanaber Church, $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. N. of Barmouth, of which it is the parish church, is a beautiful specimen of E.E., dating from the 13th cent., and consists of nave (with clerestory), two side aisles and chancel, with a single lancet for the E. window. The pillars, of varied design, are worthy of particular note; as is likewise the S. doorway, so beautiful in its workmanship. Note also the curious alms-box, with three locks, carved out of a block of oak, and the inscribed stone (which lay for a long time on the beach) bearing the words CAELEXTI MONEDO REGI (held by some to signify Coelextus, King of Mona), which stands by the N.W. door. The church, long in a ruinous condition, was restored in 1881.

Llanaelhaiarn, a small village with a fine old church, on the high road from Clynnog to Pwllheli, about 5 m. N. of the latter, at the head of the pass over the Eifl Mountains (q.v.).

Llanarmon, a village on the Ceiriog, 3 m. beyond Pont-y-Meibion, whence the summit of Cader Fronwen, in the Berwyn Mountains, may be ascended. Remains of earthworks are to be seen in the hill to the N.

Llanarmon in Yale, a village on the Alyn, just before it enters the county of Flint. Its church, dedicated to St Germanus, possesses much to interest; among other objects (in a niche of the outer S. wall) the carved effigy of a bishop, and a

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chandelier bearing a figure of the Virgin. The latter is supposed to have been derived from Valle Crucis Abbey, as likewise the recumbent figure of a knight (14th cent.), completely armed, with the legend, "Hic jacet Gruffydd ap Llewelyn ap Ynyr." Near the church is a mound which goes by the name of Tomen-y-fardre.

Llanasa, or *Llanasaph*, a village $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. S.E. of Prestatyn station, with a church containing stained glass, said to have been brought from Basingwerk Abbey. Worthy of note, also, are some curious gravestones in the churchyard.

Llanbabo, a small village about 3 m. N.W. of Llanerchymedd, Anglesey, with a church containing a sculptured slab (ancient) representing St Pabo.

Llanbadrig, a village about 1 m. N. of Cemaes, Anglesey, where is an old church on a cliff overlooking the sea, said to have been founded by St Patrick on his way to Ireland.

Llanbeblig, a village $\frac{1}{2}$ m. S.E. of Caernarvon, where is the mother-church (restored) of that town. It is dedicated to St Peblig, and has in the interior some fine monuments. The churchyard affords a fine view of the country round about, and is a favourite resort on that account. Note the stepped battlements of the church.

Llanbedr, a village on the Conway (Caernarvon side) about $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. S. of Caerhûn, and near the confluence of the Dulyn and the Conway.

Llanbedr (s.), a pretty village in Merioneth, some 3 m. S. of Harlech, in the picturesque valley of the Artro. In a field near the village is a cromlech, and other similar monuments and memorials are to be seen in the vicinity. The

LLANASA—LLANBERIS

station (Pensarn and Llanbedr) is about 1 m. from the village.

Llanbedrog Bay, a village 4 m. S.W. of Pwllheli, where the mansion and grounds of Glyn-y-Weddw have been converted to public purposes in the form of a People's Palace, with pleasure gardens, a gallery of art, etc.

Llanberis (s.), one of the most famous villages, grown now almost to the dimensions of a town, in the Snowdon region, and a favourite resort of those who wish to make acquaintance with Y Wyddfa and its neighbouring giants. It consists in reality of two villages, the old and the new, 2 m. apart, and lying along the N.W. foot of Snowdon, with the lakes Padarn and Peris bordering them on the N.E. side. The one long main street consists, for the most part, of cottages inhabited by the workmen engaged in the Dinorwic slate quarries (q.v.) on the other side of the lakes and the stream (the Seiont) that connects them, but it includes also many houses of a better class, with hotels, shops, etc.; and, along the shores of Llyn Padarn and Llyn Peris, some charming villas. (Pop. 2912.)

The old village of Llanberis is nearly 2 m. from the L. & N.W.R. station (around which the new part has grown), and is situated at the head of Llyn Peris, near the entrance to the Pass of Llanberis. Here is the old parish church (restored), dedicated to St Peris, an anchorite who is said to have dwelt here about the middle of the 6th cent. It shows portions of a Perp. character, has an old timber roof (15th cent.), and some remnants of a screen that are worthy of note. The well of St Peris, in the vicinity of the church, was for long years held in superstitious reverence for its supposed

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healing virtues, and for its reputed power of revealing future events through the agency of a silver fish which from time to time appeared in its waters. A little E. of Old Llanberis the road to Capel Curig enters the Pass of Llanberis.

Llanberis is one of the best points from which to ascend to the summit of Snowdon. The distance is about 5 m., which, for those who count distance by heart-throbs, may be reduced to nil by taking the electric tram line, that now follows very closely the old track. This starts near the Victoria Hotel, and, passing through a wood and by the waterfall Ceunant Mawr (60 ft.), gradually ascends the slope of Llechog or Lechwedd-y-Ry, which overlooks Cwm Brwynog, one of the five great glacier valleys descending from Y Wyddfa. At the head of the cwm is the Llyn du'r Arddu, lying at the foot of a stupendous rock, well-nigh perpendicular, named Clogwyn Du'r Arddu. The ascent of Lechwedd displays wider and wider views of the Vale of Llanberis and the country as far as Caernarvon. From the top of this bold shoulder the road runs S.W. to a well, whence the highest point of Snowdon, now full in view, is about a mile distant. The path now becomes more steep, and somewhat erratic, albeit tolerably smooth. Passing now under the second peak, connected by a ridge with the higher, a few more minutes suffices to land the climber on the topmost peak of Y Wyddfa.

Only from the summit can one properly note the curious building up of Snowdon, so to speak, in ridges, between which are great chasms or cwms, each with its lake or tarn, some with more than one. The sight on a fine day is wonderful in the extreme, and still more wonderful when, like



LLANBERIS AND SNOWDON

LLANBERIS--LLANDDWYWE

Wordsworth, the spectator has the good fortune to see, at sunrise, a hundred heights islanded in an ocean of mist. No less striking is the distant view, which, in a clear atmosphere, includes not only the mountain giants around Snowdon, the Menai and its bridges, the Great and Little Ormes and the sea, but the Isle of Man, the Cumberland hills, Caernarvon Bay as far as Barmouth, and the bold ridges of Cader Idris.

Llanbrynmair (s.), a small village on the Twymyn and a favourite resort of anglers, 2 m. from the station of the same name on the line from Newtown to Machynlleth. There are several lead mines in the parish, a very large one, which is, moreover, noted as being the birthplace of Dr Abraham Rees, editor of the Encyclopedia that bears his name. Newydd Fynyddog, to the E., is noteworthy for its three stone circles, the most perfect of which is named Yr Allor (the Altar).

Llandanwg, the former parish church of Harlech, 50 ft. in length and in a ruinous condition (not long since given a roof by the P.A.M. Society), is situated opposite the N. end of Mochras Island, 2 m. S. of Harlech.

Llanddona, a village picturesquely situated on Red Wharf Bay (E. coast of Anglesey), 4 m. from Beaumaris. Bwrdd Arthur, the largest camp on the island, 1 m. distant.

Llanddwywe, a village 5 m. N. of Barmouth, on the road to Harlech. The church, a little distance from the village, contains some interesting monuments of the Vaughans of Cors-y-Gedol. Near it the Ysgethin falls into the sea. In the parish are several cromlechs, including one known as Arthur's Quoit (Coetan Arthur), on the upper slab of which

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are indentations popularly said to have been made by his fingers when he threw it from Moelfre.

Llandecwyn, a village in Merioneth, about 3 m. S.W. of Maentwrog, situated on high ground midway between the two Lakes Llyn Tecwyn-uchaf (highest) and Llyn Tecwyn-isaf (lowest), the two being about a mile apart. The whole district round about Llandecwyn is extremely interesting, and though off the beaten track, worth visiting. The outlook from the village churchyard is exceedingly fine, including the Caernarvonshire mountains, the intervening vale, and Tremadoc Bay.

Llandegai, a "model village" at the entrance to Penrhyn Park, $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. E. of Bangor. The church, standing on a wooded eminence, contains some interesting old and modern monuments, including one to Lord and Lady Penrhyn by Westmacott. The memorial (mural) to Archbishop Williams (of York) is famous. (See Section VIII. of Introduction.)

Llandegla, a village near the source of the Alyn, $8\frac{1}{2}$ m. S.E. of Ruthin, with a "miraculous" well, once noted for its cures of epilepsy, but more notable for the extraordinary way in which they were, or were supposed to be, effected.

Llandinam (s.) a village $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. S. of Moat Lane Station, on the line from Newtown to Aberystwyth, picturesquely planted on the edge of a cliff overlooking the Severn. Near by is Cefn Carnedd, a hill on which is an extensive old-time camp or fortification commanding the upper vale of the Severn and likewise that of the Carno.

Llandrillo-yn-Rhos (called also Rhos-on-Sea) 1 m. W. of Colwyn Bay. It takes its name from

LLANDECWYN—LLANDUDNO

St Trillo's Well on the road to Little Orme's Head. About a mile inland from the village is the church of Llandrillo, claimed to be one of the oldest in Wales (in the main Perp. with an E.E. font). A few minutes' walk distant are ruins said to be the remains of the palace of Maelgwn Gwynedd, a British king of the 6th cent., while on an eminence near, called Bryn Euryn, may be traced an early encampment, possibly of that chieftain.

Llandrillo (s.), a village on the Dee, 5 m. S. of Corwen, at the foot of Cader Fronwen (2564 ft.), one of the highest peaks of the Berwyns, which may be conveniently ascended from this place. There is good fishing in the Dee here, especially for grayling.

Llandrinio, a village on the N. bank of the Severn, 10 m. W. of Shrewsbury on the road to Llandysilio, with a church having a Norman arch and font. The carved pulpit is likewise worthy of note.

Llandudno (s.), seated near the base of Great Orme's Head, and noted for its beautiful bay and equable climate, occupies the middle portion of the Creuddyn Peninsula, and has a population of 10,469. It takes its name from the ancient church of St Tudno, a tiny edifice perched up among lonely rocks on the N. side of Orme's Head and dating, so far as the original foundation is concerned, from the 7th cent., when the saint built an oratory on the spot; the main body of the existing edifice (to which was subsequently added a Perp. chancel) following four or five centuries later. Fifty years ago Llandudno was but a tiny village with a couple of inns; now it is a place with well on to ten thousand inhabitants, with handsome streets, fine hotels and shops, a pier, a drive unequalled almost in extent

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for the beautiful views it discloses, and all the other necessary accompaniments of a popular watering-place. This rapid growth it owes, in the first instance, to the opening of the railway from Chester to Holyhead; and in the next, to its almost unrivalled advantages as a sea-bathing and health resort. Its smooth shelving sands are splendid; it is well protected from easterly winds by Orme's Head, and it is further said in its praise that the Snowdonian mountains are in the habit of drawing up the rain-clouds to themselves, and so sparing the residents from the inconvenience of much wet weather. There is, of course, a good deal of truth in the assertion, although Llandudno has its rainy days all the same. Still, however much rain may fall, the ground soon dries; there is ever a breeze a-blowing, and the place is undoubtedly bracing, besides affording a mild winter resort, equal, 'tis said, to Torquay, with less of moisture.

Not the least of the advantages enjoyed by Llandudno is that of its convenient position, which makes it a good centre from which to make acquaintance with so much that is interesting in that part of N. Wales, Conway (whose bay is, as it were, at its back door), Bangor, Caernarvon, Beaumaris, the mountains, a thousand things and places of beauty, in short. Of these, not a few are in the immediate neighbourhood—the caves, for instance, in the face of the promontory, the ruins of Gogarth Abbey (q.v.), St Tudno's Church, etc. Of the latter, a portion of the W. wall is held to have formed part of the church built in the 11th or 12th cents., the rest of the old work belonging to the 15th cent. In 1839 a storm carried away the roof, and did so much other damage to the building that no



LLANDUDNO

LLANDUDNO—LLANDYSILIO

effort was made to repair it; a new edifice, dedicated to St George, being built up in its stead in a more convenient position for the village folk. Thus it remained until, some fifteen or sixteen years later, a Birmingham gentleman (Mr H. Reece) had it thoroughly restored. It is but a tiny affair (67 ft. by $16\frac{1}{2}$ interior measurement) with little of noteworthy about it except an ancient circular font, once carried away and used as a pump trough, and two incised coffin lids of the 13th cent.

Llandulas (s.), about 6 m. W. of Rhyl and $3\frac{1}{2}$ N.W. of Abergele, a pretty village at the mouth of a glen opening on to the Irish Sea, with limestone works and kilns. Llandulas is supposed to be the place where Richard II., of unhappy memory, was betrayed by the Earl of Northumberland into the hands of Bolingbroke, his rival to the throne. Seeing himself suddenly surrounded by a troop of armed men, he tried to get away; but Percy, seizing the bridle of his horse, had him taken to Rhuddlan Castle, whence he was removed to Berkeley Castle, and there put to death.

Llandwrog (s.), 5 m. S. of Caernarvon, on the road to Pwllheli, distinguished by a most beautiful church, rebuilt by Lord Northbrook (at a cost, it is said, of £40,000), with a private chapel in the chancel, in which are preserved some of the old Wynne monuments.

Llanddyfnan, a village $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. W. of Pentraeth (Anglesey), with an interesting church (restored), having a sculpture of the Crucifixion over the door. A maenhir stands in an adjoining field.

Llandysilio: on a small islet in Menai Strait, near the Suspension Bridge, on the Anglesey side, connected with the shore by a causeway, is the

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little church of that name (restored), said to be the oldest in Anglesey.

Llandysilio, a village on the Dee, 2 m. N.W. of Llangollen, and about 1 m. distant from Valle Crucis Abbey, has an interesting old church (restored), with an old-style wooden roof. There is another Llandysilio on the Vyrnwy, a few miles from its junction with the Severn, with a modern church by Street, replacing a 17th cent. edifice.

Llanegryn, a village in the Dysynni Valley, 4½ m. from Towyn. The church, in good repair, contains a screen of E. Perp. work and a highly carved rood-loft, said to be one of the most perfect in the country (lacking only the cross). The altar (modern) is formed of a slab of slate on stone pedestals. A little N. of Llanegryn is the Wynne mansion of Peniarth, possessing a splendid library, comprising the famous Hengwrt Collection of Welsh MSS. See *Hengwrt*.

Llanelian, 3 m. S. of Colwyn Bay. The church, with interesting carvings, is a conspicuous object on a hill above the village. Near it, in the vale below, is the once famous, or infamous, Ffynnon Elian, or Cursing Well, the dread of which in times past is said to have terrified many persons to death.

Llanelltyd (so called from its church dedicated to St Illyd), 2 m. N.W. of Dolgelly, is beautifully situated at the point where the Mawddach enters the vale that bears its name, offering a striking contrast to the narrow "clough," or glen, through which it had just been flowing. Close to the village the Mawddach is crossed by a fine stone bridge, often painted by artists. The church contains several interesting monuments.

Llanengan, 7 m. S.W. of Pwllheli, overlooking

LLANDYSILIO—LLANFAGLAN

Porth Nigel, or Hell's Mouth, with a fine old church (restored), containing a richly-carved rood-screen, thought by some to be the most ornamental in the principality. The church bells are said to have been brought from Bardsey.

Llanerchymedd (s.), in the centre of the island of Anglesey, on the line from Gaerwen to Amlwch, with the wells of St Seiriol and St Kybi a mile or so E. of the station. Here the two holy men used to meet, as Matthew Arnold reminds us, in the "bare mist of Anglesey." The church (restored) has one or two interesting features, and notably a bell-gable fitted on to the E. parapet. To the people of these parts the place is chiefly noted for its cattle fairs.

Llanerfyl, a village on the Banw, in Montgomeryshire, taking its name from St Erfyl, the patron saint of the parish church, which contains several interesting mementos of the past, including a Tudor communion table, a carved shrine, and some painted panels. In the churchyard is a Romano-British inscribed stone, and on a height overlooking the village, named Gardden, is a circular camp, girdled by a rampart, enclosing an area of some seventy yards.

Llanfaes, a village about 2 m. N. of Beaumaris, memorable as the scene of a battle fought between the Welsh and the Saxons (A.D. 819). Llanfaes Priory (or Friary) formerly stood near the village, but no trace of it is now to be seen.

Llanfaglan, 2 m. S.W. of Caernarvon. Over the entrance into an old and disused church there was a stone, 5 ft. long and 15 in. wide, bearing the inscription "Fili Lovernii Anatemori." It was removed into the interior in 1854. There are also

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two old crossed stones in the porch on the N. side of the church.

Llanfair Station, the first after passing the Britannia Tubular Bridge into Anglesey. Near the village and above the bridge in the direction of Caernarvon is the colossal statue of Lord Nelson, designed by Lord Clarence Paget and executed at Plâs Llanfair, his residence. Llanfair (St Mary's) is a somewhat common name in Wales, and so has generally an additional name to distinguish it from others; but to this Anglesey Llanfair, when given in full, is attached a set of syllables which to the ordinary Saxon look like "printers' pie," and would hardly come into a line of this print. Four m. N. of Llanfair is Plâs Penmynydd, noted as having belonged to the royal house of Tudor, and reputed to have been the birthplace of Henry VII.'s grandfather.

Llanfair Caereinion, a clean little town in the pretty Caereinion Valley, through which flows the beautiful Einion stream, fed, a little above Llanfair, by the Banw; about 7 m. W. of Welshpool, on the road to Dinas Mawddwy, the Einion joins the Vyrnwy at Meifod, 4 m. N. of Llanfair. There is good fishing in all three streams, and Llanfair is, in consequence, a favourite resort of anglers. The parish church is thought to have been an offshoot from Meifod. Little of the original edifice, however, remains, except the open oak roof of nave and chancel and the S. door. The effigy of a knight, recumbent in chain armour, is worthy of note. A branch line from Welshpool was opened in 1903.

Llanfair Dyffryn Clwyd (s.), a charmingly situated village 2 m. S. of Ruthin, on the road to Wrexham, with an old church containing a 14th cent.

LLANFIHANGEL TYN SYLWY

altar-tomb and some ancient stained glass. There is another Llanfair, 1 m. S. of Harlech, with a station on the line from that place to Barmouth. Near it is the little estuary of the Artro. The chief thing of interest about Llanfair is the beautiful view it affords looking back towards Harlech.

Llanfairfechan (s.), a pleasant watering-place on Beaumaris Bay, about midway between Penmaenmawr and Aber.

Llanfair-Methafarneithaf, between 5 and 6 m. W. of Llanerchymedd (Ang.), the birthplace of Goronwy Owen, a famous Welsh poet. The churchyard contains a mutilated stone cross.

Llanfairtalhaiarn, a village delightfully situated on the R. bank of the Elwy, 5 m. S. of Abergele. Two m. below the Elwy is joined by the Aled. In the churchyard repose the remains of John Jones ("Talhaiarn"), known as the Welsh Burns. The place is a favourite resort of anglers.

Llanfechell, a village 3 m. S.W. of Amlwch (Ang.), with valuable quarries of serpentine marble. It has an interesting little church, and there are some noteworthy antiquities in the vicinity, including three pillar stones or *meini-hirion*.

Llanfihangel-y-Pennant, a village at the head of the Dysynni Valley, about 2 m. from the lower end of Talyllyn. Llanfihangel is a good point from which to make the ascent of Cader Idris, the distance therefrom to the summit being about $5\frac{1}{2}$ m.

Llanfihangel Tyn Sylwy, on the E. coast of Anglesey, $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. W. of Penmon. It lies at the foot of Bwrdd Arthur or Arthur's Round Table (q.v.). The small church here has a movable pulpit. There are two other Llanfihangels in

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Anglesey, both on or near the line from Gaerwen to Amlwch. One is Llanfihangel Ysgeifiog, immediately E. of Malldraeth Marsh (drained to some extent by the tidal river from Llangefni to Malldraeth Bog); the other is Llanfihangel Tre'r Beirdd, some miles further N., and a little to the E. of Llanerchymedd. Has an early cross in the churchyard.

Llanfyllin (s.), a small market-town in Montgomeryshire, pleasantly situated on the banks of the Cain, a tributary of the Severn, 8 m. W. of Llanymynech (Salop), and the terminus of the line from that place. Population 1632. From the fact that Roman coins have been found here, it is supposed to have been a Roman station. The church, an uninteresting 18th cent. structure, is noted for its peal of bells, said to be the sweetest toned in the county. Llanfyllin is proud of a charter given to it by Llewelyn ap Gruffydd (*temp.* Edward II.). It is noted, too, for its ale, respecting which there is a local proverb that says, "Old ale fills Llanfyllin with young widows."

Llangadfan, a pleasant village on the Banw, 2 m. W. of Llanerfil, named after St Cadfan, to whom the church is dedicated. On the opposite side of the river, on the road to Dinas Mawddwy, is the famous old inn named Cann Office, a favourite resort of anglers. Close to Llangadfan the Nant y Eira, having its rise in the hills S., unites with the Banw.

Llangadwaladr, a small village 2 m. E. of Aberffraw (Anglesey), and within $\frac{3}{4}$ m. of Bodorgan Stat. on the Holyhead line, with an Early Perp. church, consisting of nave and chancel,

LLANFYLLIN—LLANGOLLEN

with N. and S. chapels (1660). Over the S. door of the nave is a stone with a Latin inscription (7th cent.). The church contains also a beautiful stained glass window of three lights.

Llangedwin, a village on the river Tanat, about 6 m. W. of Llanymynech, on the road to Lake Vyrnwy, famous as having been the home of Owen Glendower, for particulars of which the reader would do well to refer to Borrow's "Wild Wales" (chaps. lxxv. and lxxvi.).

Llangefni (s.), a small town pleasantly situated on the Anglesey Central Railway, and watered by the Cefni, which is here crossed by two bridges. The Vale of Cefni is noted for its fertility and the prosperity of its farmers. One mile distant is the old mansion (now a farmhouse) of Tregarnedd (q.v.).

Llangelynin Church, 3 m. from Penmaenmawr (to the S.E.), is one of the oldest and rudest churches in Wales (said to have been built in or about 1350). It stands at a height of 927 ft. above the sea, and is well-nigh shut in by mountains. On Cerrig-y-ddinas, N.E. of the church, are to be seen traces of ancient fortifications. The old church may be reached either from Penmaenmawr or from Caerhûn.

Llangerniew. See *Elwy*.

Llangybi (s.), a village on the Caernarvon and Afonwen line—a good point from which to reach Yr Eifl (the Rivals). There is a mineral spring there.

Llangollen (s.), a town of some 3249 inhabitants, situated on the Dee, here a broad though shallow stream, crossed by a 14th cent. bridge, noted for its clean and tidy streets, and for the

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idyllic beauty of its surroundings. A century ago, when the greater part of the scenery of Wales was still regarded as "savage," Llangollen was celebrated for its "loveliness." Ruskin says of it—and he only reiterates in more charming phrase what others had said before: "The whole valley, when I once got up past the works (whatever the accursed business of them), on the noble hillside seemed to me entirely lovely in its gentle wildness, and struck me more because our Westmoreland ones are mere cliffs between disorderly humps of rock; but the Vale of Llangollen is a true valley between ranges of grandly formed hills, peculiar above Vale Crucis in the golden mosaic of gorse on their emerald turf, where we have nothing but heath and ling. The Dee itself is a quite perfect mountain stream, and the village of Llangollen, when I first knew it fifty years ago, one of the most beautiful and delightful in Wales or anywhere else."

The principal part of the town lies on the S. side of the river, whose turbulent waters often (until prevented by self-acting sluices) rose several feet in a few hours, occasioned by a S.W. wind blowing over Bala Lake. The bridge, formed of four irregular pointed arches (to which one was added for the railway, on the N. side, to pass under), was long included among the Seven Wonders of Wales. It was built about the middle of the 14th cent. by the Bishop of St Asaph, and was a simply beautiful structure until widened in 1873 (and added to by the railway). The view from it, both up and down stream, is very delightful.

The town itself presents nothing of special importance. White houses with slate roofs are a



THE BRIDGE, LLANGOLLEN

LLANGOLLEN

chief characteristic. It has a town-hall of some pretensions, a number of good shops (mainly in Castle Street), and a church (dedicated to St Collen), which, though chiefly modern, has two or three features of antiquarian interest. Its oak roof, said to have come from Valle Crucis Abbey, is exceedingly fine ; it has some good stained glass, and a noteworthy S.W. door (Dec.), near which is to be seen a triangular monument, marking the graves of the one-time famous "Ladies of Llangollen," and their faithful friend and attendant, Mary Caryl.

The ladies in question were Lady Eleanor Butler and Miss Ponsonby, who in 1779 took up their abode at Plâs Newydd, and there, after an exceptional friendship of fifty years, died, the one in 1829, the other in 1830. They were peculiar old ladies, greatly famed in their day, and visited by all the celebrities who passed that way. Wordsworth, among others, did them the honour of a call, and annoyed them by referring to their abode as a "low-roofed cot"—

" Faithful to a low-roofed cot,
On Deva's banks ye have abode so long,
Sisters in love, a love allowed to climb,
Even on this earth, above the reach of time."

They affected the Welsh costume of the time (with an added touch of masculinity), and struck most strangers as they did Mathews the actor (the elder), who thus describes them as seen in the Oswestry Theatre: "Oh, such curiosities ! I was nearly convulsed. I could scarcely get on for the first ten minutes after my eye caught them. As they are seated there is not one point to distinguish them from men ; the dressing and powdering of the

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hair; their well-starched neck-cloths; the upper part of their habits, which they always wear, even at a dinner-party, made precisely like men's coats; and regular black beaver hats. They looked exactly like two respectable superannuated old clergymen." Borrow gives some interesting particulars of them ("Wild Wales," chap. li.).

It should be said that, so far as Llangollen's industries are concerned, its business activities centre in the production of slate, flannel, and beer, to which may be added that of catering for visitors, who in the season bring much grist to the mill. Of late years the place has greatly increased on the N. side of the Dee, where many modern villas have been built. There, carried along an embankment, is the Ellesmere Canal (which starts from Berwyn, 2 m. W.).

As already indicated, the surroundings of Llangollen are very beautiful, although somewhat tame in comparison with the more mountainous scenery of Caernarvonshire and Merioneth. The most notable object in the immediate neighbourhood (N.) is the range of cliffs known as the Eglwyseg Rocks, with its connected eminence of Dinas Brân and its castle (q.v.). S. of the Dee, a favourite resort is Moel-y-Geraint (1068 ft.), popularly known as Barber's Hill, from the unfounded tale that a Llangollen barber was gibbeted there for the murder of his wife. The view from the summit is exceedingly fine, including the peaks of Snowdonia. On the way to the top enchanting glimpses are obtained of the Vale of Llangollen, with the Canal Viaduct, and of Valle Crucis.

Llangurig, a village delightfully situated in the Vale of the Wye, and a good point from which to

LLANGURIG—LLANIDAN

ascend Plinlimmon. The church (restored by Mr Lloyd of Clochfaen, author of the "History of Powys Fadog") contains interesting modern windows.

Llangwyfan, a singular little church (E. Perp.), situated on a small island on the S. coast of Anglesey (W. of Aberffraw Bay), and connected with the mainland by a narrow causeway, which at high water is often submerged, and so the regular performance of service interfered with.

Llangybi (s.), a village about $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. N. of Afonwen, with a station on the line between that place and Caernarvon, the nearest for Yr Eifl.

Llangynog (s.), a village pleasantly situated on the Tanat, at its junction with the Rhiwarth, about 4 m. W. of Llanrhaiadr-yn-mochnant. It gets its name from the British saint Cynog, who suffered martyrdom in the 5th cent. In the range of hills lying between the Tanat and the Rhaiadr (which unite near Llanrhaiadr) are some rich lead mines, notably that of Craig-y-mwn, which was discovered in 1692, and for forty years yielded the Powys family an annual revenue of £20,000. Then an inrush of water stopped the workings, but after a while it was taken over by a company and successfully worked. This mine is about 2 m. from Llangynog; nearer the village are other mines, also some productive quarries of blue slate. The Tanat, which flows through a beautiful vale for many miles, is noted for its fine trout. The Tanat Valley line viâ Llyncllys and Llanymynech terminates here.

Llanidan, a village on the Anglesey side of Menai Strait, about 3 m. N. of Caernarvon, interesting as having within a short radius many Druidic and other remains.

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Llanidloes (s.), a busy little market-town, with a population of 3769, situated on the Severn, which is here joined by the Clywedog, and on the Mid-Wales Railway. It is one of the chief centres of the Welsh flannel manufacture. The only object of special interest in the town—though the confluence of the two streams near the bridge will repay a visit—is the old church, dedicated to St Idloes, which is one of the most characteristic structures of the kind in Wales. The nave and aisle are separated by pointed arches, the piers of which have delicately carved capitals. A similar description of adornment characterises the oak roof, which is said to have come from the Abbey of Cwm Hir in Radnorshire. The finishing-off of the hammer-beams is particularly worthy of note, as is also the old tower.

There are several places of interest within an easy walk of the town. Some $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. N.E. is Llan Ebyr, a small lake partly surrounded by woods, abounding in trout, perch, and pike. About the same distance N.W. are the Van lead mines, once famous, while on the Van Hill above them (1580 ft.) is an old British camp. In parts the valley of the Clywedog is exceedingly pretty.

Llaniestyn, a small village about $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. N.W. of Beaumaris, with an E. Perp. church, chiefly interesting because of its 12th cent. font and an inscribed slab of the 14th cent.—a memorial, as is thought, of the patron saint, Ies'yn.

Llanrhaiadr (s.), a village in the vale of Clwyd, $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. S. of Ruthin and 1 m. from the station of the same name. Its church (restored) is famous for its beautiful stained glass window (15th cent.) representing the Root of Jesse. It is in excellent

LLANIDLOES—LLANRHYCHWYN

preservation, which is explained by the fact that it was found buried in an oak chest in the churchyard, placed there, as is supposed, during the Civil Wars to keep it from the hands of the destroyer. Tradition says it was brought from Basingwark Abbey; but a more credible account is that it was paid for out of the votive offerings of persons who had benefited from the miraculous well of Ffynnon St Ddyfnog, near the church. The chest in which the window (E.) was found—to be seen in the church—is worth noting, as is likewise the timber roof. In the churchyard are several curious and interesting monuments.

Llanrhaiadr-yn-Mochnant (s.), a village at the mouth of the picturesque valley of the Mochnant, through which flows the Rhaiadr, an affluent of the Tanat. It is on the Tanat Valley Railway connecting Oswestry, *via* Llanymynech, with Llanrhaiadr and Llangynog. $4\frac{1}{2}$ m. N.W. is the famous waterfall of Pistyll Rhaiadr, the loftiest and most picturesque in N. Wales (q.v.). The church (restored) presents little of special interest save an old font and a monumental stone bearing a cross. Dr Morgan, bishop of Llandaff and then of St Asaph, the first translator of the Bible into Welsh, was for a time incumbent here.

Llanrhudd, a small village about $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. E. of Ruthin, with an ancient church (restored) containing several old-time monuments, notably one of the 16th cent., to John Thelwall of Bathafarn and his wife, with their fourteen children, who are represented kneeling behind them.

Llanrhychwyn Church, at the mountain village of the same name, $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. N.W. of Llanrwst Stat., is locally known as Llewelyn's Old Church. It

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has been described as "one of the rudest and most primitive" edifices of the kind, and it certainly is all that, having an interior length of but 40 ft., and being as regards walls, windows, and roof of very primitive design and construction. The walls are extremely thick, the roof timbers rough and unlike anything else of the sort usually met with, and quite as rude, if not as rough, is the old oak double-panelled door (evidently coeval with the roof). It is a double-aisled structure, the N. aisle being undoubtedly the older. Speculation is at a loss as to its age. There is, however, a rectangular font of the type usually assigned to the 8th cent., and this may approximately date the church. Tradition says that Llewelyn-ap-Iorwerth, who had a residence at Trefriw, (q.v.), used to attend service here until his wife complained of the distance, when he had a church specially built at that place.

Llanrwst (s.), an old-fashioned market-town (population 2519) on the Denbighshire side of the Conway, 4 m. N. of Bettws-y-coed, was formerly noted as the wool market of Wales, and earlier still for the manufacture of Welsh harps. It consists in the main of one long street, grey and still, except on market and fair days, when it shows life and colour enough. Its old church stands on the bank of the river, a little aside from the High Street and near the bridge, built by Inigo Jones (1636). Formerly dedicated to St Grwst, it dates from the 15th cent., when it took the place of an older one. It contains some old and interesting monuments, and has a richly carved screen and roodloft, said formerly to have belonged to Maenan Abbey. In the S. transept is the Gwydir chapel,

LLANRWST—LLANSANTFFRAID

erected (1634) by Inigo Jones for Sir Richard Wynne, to whom there is a monument (1649) containing a long pedigree of the Wynnes, tracing the family from Owen Gwynedd. Among the other monuments are five brasses, each presenting a portrait of one of the Wynne family; also the stone coffin of Llewelyn the Great, transferred in the first place from the old tomb at Aber Conway to Maenan Abbey, when that establishment was moved in Edward I.'s time, and from Maenan to the Gwydir chapel at or soon after the Dissolution. A still more notable monument is that of Howel Coetmore, a former owner of the lands hereabout, who fought at Poitiers at the head of a hundred men of Denbigh, and died later fighting in Flanders. Note also the curious sculptured stone let into the churchyard wall representing the Lamb of God. At Llanrwst are shown the remains of Plâs Isaf, the one-time house of William Salesbury, the first translator of the New Testament into Welsh.

Llansannan. See *Aled*.

Llansantffraid Glyn Conway (s.). See *Glyn Conway*.

Llansantffraid Glyn Ceiriog, a pretty village on the Ceiriog stream, 6 m. W. of Chirk, Denbighshire, with slate and stone quarries, is the terminus of the Glyn Valley tramway from Chirk, and a favourite resort of anglers for the trout fishing in the Ceiriog. The Ceiriog Valley is notable as the scene of a battle (1165) in which the forces of Henry II. were defeated by the Welsh under Owen Gwynedd.

Llansantffraid (s.), a village in the valley of the Vyrnwy, on the railway from Oswestry to Llanfyllin, *via* Llanymynech, much frequented by

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anglers. The church (dedicated to St Ffraid) contains several interesting details of architecture, including a Norm. font, a Dec. ogee window, and some remnants of carved woodwork. Noteworthy also is the curious wooden steeple. There is another Llansantffraid on the N. bank of the Dee, not far from Carrog Stat., about 2 m. E. of Corwen.

Llantysilio, a little village beautifully situated on the N. side of the Dee, 2 m. N.W. of Llangollen, in the little church of which is a monument to the late Helen Faucit, erected by her husband, Sir Theodore Martin, whose residence, Bryn Tysilio, is on the hill above, overlooking the artificial cascade, where the Dee supplies water to the Ellesmere Canal, known as the Horseshoe Fall.

Llanuwchllyn (s.), a village at the southern end of Lake Bala, with an interesting church, in which is the figure of a knight in armour. It is 5 m. to Bala by the N.W. shore of the lake, and 6 by the S.E. shore. The river Dee has its rise in the parish of Llanuwchllyn.

Llanwddyn. The old village of that name now lies at the bottom of Lake Vyrnwy (q.v.). In its place a new church, with vicarage, and a few houses were built near the dam. The church was opened in 1888.

Llanycil, the parish church of Bala, about 1 m. from the town, on the W. side of the lake, is chiefly interesting because in its beautifully-situated graveyard lies the remains of "Charles of Bala," one of the founders of the Bible Society, of the Rev. Evan Lloyd Jones of Fron, a once popular poet, and others.

LLANTYSILIO—LLEDR

Llan-y-Mawddwy, a quiet little village on the road from Bala to Dinas Mawddwy, 14 m. from the former place. In private grounds here, on the Pumrhyd stream, are two picturesque falls, known by the name of the village; the higher makes a fall of 80 ft. The village is about 4 m. N.E. of Dinas Mawddwy.

Llanymynech, an important railway junction just over the Shropshire border. The village is prettily situated on rising ground above the Vyrnwy. A branch line of the Cambrian Railway runs hence to Llanfyllin (q.v.). A short branch to Blodwell Junction connects it also with the Tanat Valley line to Llangynog (q.v.).

Llanystumdwy, a pretty little village 2 m. W. of Criccieth, at the junction of the Dwyfach and Dwyfawr (or Dwyfor), with a picturesquely situated modern church.

Llawllech Range. See Introduction, Section II.

Llech Idris, a large upright stone, 10 ft. high, about 3 m. N. of the waterfall, Rhaiadr Mawddach, reached by an old Roman road. Close by is the Bedd Porius ("the grave of Porius"), marked by an inscribed stone, thought to date from the 6th cent. Gibson, the editor of Camden, makes the inscription: PORIUS HIC IN TUMULO JACIT HOMO PLANUS FUIT.

Lledr, the, a tributary of the Conway, which it joins about $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. above Bettws-y-coed, has its source in Llyn Edno, takes then a N.E. direction, watering one of the most singular and romantic valleys in the Principality. In its course it passes Dolwyddelan Castle, whose small remains occupy the peaked summit of a craggy knoll on the N. side of the river. The scenery at this point is

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highly romantic. N.W. of the river the perpendicular front of Moel Siabod rears its lofty head, and the valley seems shut in by its girdle of mountains. A little farther down the stream passes beneath a bridge into a tiny plain in which stands the church of Dolwyddelan and the straggling cottages of the little village. The Lledr proceeds hence in a tranquil stream until, rushing furiously down a rocky steep under the wooden bridge at Pont-y-pant, it forms a number of broken cascades in its descent. From this point its course, until it joins the Conway, is amid a succession of rocks.

Llethr, a peak N. of the Llawllech range, which runs up from Barmouth, about $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. N. of Diphwys (in which the above range ends). Height, 2475 ft.

Lleyn Promontory, the, of Caernarvonshire stretches in a S.W. direction from the Eifl Mountains to Pen-y-Cil. It is marked by numerous hills and woods, but for the most part appears tame compared with the wildness and grandeur of the Snowdonian highlands.

Llithfaen, a village 4 m. N.E. of Nevin (*Lleyn Promontory*), on the road to Llanaelhaiarn, whence the Rivals may be conveniently ascended.

Lloyd's Pulpit. See *Ffestiniog*.

Llugwy, the, a tributary of the Conway, starts from a small lake called Ffynnon Llugwy, which lies in a deep cwm E. of Carnedd Dafydd. It takes its course S. by a narrow channel directly opposite to the rugged Tryfan, and not far from Llyn Ogwen, but upon reaching the vale turns E. After a few miles it makes a short turn S., and then, rushing through a bridge of one arch, it reaches Capel Curig, with its bridge of two arches and backed (S.) by lofty Siabod. Here are the

LLETHR—LLYFNANT VALLEY

two small Mymbyr lakes, through which flows the Gwryd to the Llugwy. Passing from Capel Curig in an easterly direction, the Llugwy is soon shut in by precipitous rocks, and in about a mile forces itself through a narrow cleft where, shooting under Pont-y-Cyfyng, a bridge of one arch, it foams down a rapid steep in broken cascades to a depth of 100 ft. Meadows follow, and some delightful scenery, after which the Llugwy becomes more rapid and tumultuous, and plunging over a ledge of rocks, forms the Swallow Fall (*Rhaiadr-y-Wennol*), notable for width and volume rather than height. Arrived at the bottom of the descent, it roars over huge boulders that obstruct its path, while its banks on either side are shaded with foliage. Again a stretch of charming scenery ensues, and then, amid rocks and stones, it makes its way to Bettws-y-coed, where, dashing under the creeper-clad bridge of Pont-y-pair, it loses itself in the Conway.

Llwyngwern (a station on the Cambrian line), 4 m. N. of Machynlleth.

Llwyngwril (s.), a large village on the line from Barmouth to Towyn, 6 m. S. of the former place. It is in the parish of Llangelynin, whose church, 2 m. S. on the old coast-track to Towyn, is now disused, a new edifice at Llwyngwril supplying its place. In the village is an old Friends' burial-ground, dating from 1666, and on a hill near is the ancient British camp, Castell-y-gaer. In the vicinity are also other ancient remains.

Llyfnant Valley, the, $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. S.W. of Machynlleth, beginning at Glaspwll and extending W. as far as Pont Llyfnant, on the road from Glandovey to Machynlleth. The stream running

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through this beautiful vale forms the dividing line, so far as it goes, between the counties of Cardigan and Montgomery. A little S. of the pretty village of Glaspwll is an exceedingly picturesque double cascade, worth the whole journey to see. An added pleasure, however, may be gained by ascending the vale for another mile, when Cwm Rhaiadr is reached and the striking waterfall of Pistyll-y-Llyn (q.v.) is seen in the distance.

Llyn Aber, known also as Llyn-an-afon, about 3 m. (as the crow flies) S.E. of Aber, is a small sheet of water noted for its fishing. It is reached by way of Bwlch-y-ddeufaen (1368 ft.).

Llyn Aled, the source of the river Aled, is about $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. N.E. of Llyn Alwen.

Llyn Alwen, a considerable sheet of water in which the river Alwen has its rise, about 5 m. N. of Pentrevoelas. It is preserved and contains fine perch and pike.

Llyn Aran, under the N. cliffs of Cader Idris, about $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. S. of Dolgelly; source of the Aran, which flows direct to Dolgelly.

Llyn Arenig, a fine sheet of water, on the E. slope of the Arenigs (q.v.) and 1326 ft. above sea level; about 1 m. from Arenig Stat. and 6 from Bala, which draws a part of its supply of water thence. Noted for its trout and perch.

Llyn Bach (known also as Llyn-y-tri-graieny, the three pebbles) is on the E. slope of Cader Idris, about 2 m. S.W. of the Cross Foxes—862 ft. above the sea.

Llyn Barfog, about $4\frac{1}{2}$ m. from Towyn, a little S. of the Happy Valley route to Pennal.

Llyn Bodric (Anglesey), about 1 m. N.E. of Ty-croes Station on the line to Holyhead.

LLYN ABER—LLYN CORON

Llyn Bochlwyd (1805 ft. above the sea), is a little N. of Glyder-fawr and directly S. of Llyn Ogwen, and with its cwm is exceedingly wild in character. Llyn Idwal lies due W.

Llyn Bodgynwydd, more commonly designated Llyn Bod, is a small tarn S. of Llyn Geirionydd (which is $4\frac{1}{2}$ m. from Capel Curig).

Llyn Bodlyn, a fine sheet of water romantically situated at the foot of Diffwys, the highest point of the Llawllech range, and the source of the river Ysgethin. From Bodlyn (1240 ft.) Barmouth derives its water supply. Noted for its char fishing. Within a short distance of Bodlyn is Llyn Dulyn, a smallish tarn with good fishing.

Llyn Bugeilyn, 1 m. S. of Llyn Glaslyn, in the Plynlimon range, 10 m. S.E. of Machynlleth. The Severn has its source a little over a mile from Llyn Bugeilyn.

Llyn Bychan, a small lake lying between Capel Curig and Llyn Geirionydd.

Llyn Caws lies in a small cwm at the base of Cader Berwyn. It is the source of the Rhaiadr, on which is the famous Pistyll Rhaiadr waterfall (q.v.).

Llynclys (s.), about $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. N. of Llanymynech on the line to Oswestry, near which is a small lake—Llynclys Pool—connected with which is a tragic legend of a king of that part who was swallowed up because he declined to listen to an early missionary from Gaul.

Llyn Conway lies a little to the N. of the mountain tract, lying to the E. of Ffestiniog, to which the name of Migneint is given. See *Conway*, the.

Llyn Coron, situated close to Bodorgan Station

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on the line to Holyhead, is the fountain head of the river Ffraw, which falls into the sea at Aberffraw. The llyn is of good size and noted for its fishing.

Llyn Cowlyd is a narrow sheet of water $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. in length, 1164 ft. above the sea, $4\frac{1}{2}$ m. W. of Trefriw. From its N. end flows the Afon Ddu, a feeder of the Conway, on whose course, near Dolgarog, are the Dolgarog Falls. The lake lies between Pen Llithrig (W.) and Craig Eryrod (E.). From it Conway and Colwyn Bay are supplied with water.

Llyn Crafnant lies midway between Capel Curig and Trefriw, with *Llyn Cowlyd* to the N.W. and *Llyn Geirionydd* to the S.E. The stream issuing from Crafnant to the last-named lake enters the Conway at Trefriw. *Llyn Crafnant* is the property of Llanrwst and supplies that place and Trefriw with water.

Llyn Cwellyn, or *Quellyn* (463 ft. above the sea), source of the river Gwrfai, is situated a little W. of Snowdon and between it and the two beautiful Nantlle lakes to the S.W. It is about $1\frac{1}{4}$ m. long and $\frac{1}{3}$ m. broad and lies between the foot hills of Moel Gôch and Moel-y-cynghorion on the N. and N.E. and Mynydd Mawr (2290 ft.) on the W. On the N. side of the lake is the Cwellyn Lake station of the Narrow Gauge Railway from Dinas Junction. Here also is the Snowdon Ranger Inn, whence proceeds the shortest route to the top of Y Wyddfa ($2\frac{1}{2}$ m.), ascending by the Bwlch Cum Brwynog and Clogwyn Du'r Arddu. To the right in the latter cwm are seen the four small mountain lakes, named *Llyn Glâs*, *Llyn Côch*, *Llyn-y-Nadroedd*, and *Llyn Ffynnon-*

LLYN COWLYD—LLYN DULYN

y-gwâs. They all contain fish except Y Nadroedd. On the other side of the path is the Llyn Du'r Arddu. Llyn Cwellyn is known for its good fishing. It contains trout and char (Welsh "torgoch," redbelly), but is strictly preserved. S. of Llyn Cwellyn is the tiny Llyn-y-Dywarchen.

Llyn Cwm Bychan, a small mountain lake or large tarn (527 ft. above the sea), situated in a narrow glen, amid wild surroundings to the N. of Rheinog Fawr. From it flows the beautiful little river Artro, which empties itself into the sea at Llanbedr, which is the most convenient point to start from to visit the llyn (distance $4\frac{1}{2}$ m.). Above it towers the precipitous Craig-y-Saeth.

Llyn Cwm Ffynnon is situated under the Glyders and has Nant-y-gwryd to the E. and Gorphwysfa immediately S. It is 1253 ft. above the sea.

Llyn Cwm Mynach, a small mountain lake at the head of the charming Cwm Mynach glen, and directly to the E. of Diffwys, in the Llawllech range.

Llyn Cwm Ystrallyn. See *Moel Hebog*.

Llyn Cynwch, a picturesque tarn, lying at the foot of Moel Cynwch, which towers above the vale of the Mawddach. Height above the sea 729 ft.

Llyn Dulyn, the Black Lake, so called doubtless on account of the dark and gloomy rocks that come down to the water's edge, is situated a little N. of Melynllyn, both of which lie under the frowning brow of Carnedd Llewelyn, a path to whose summit lies between the two. Foel Frâs (3091 ft.) towers above the lake to the N. Dulyn and

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Melynllyn and their watersheds have been acquired by the Llandudno Urban Council, which carries thence the supply for the town (a distance of 16 m.).

Llyn Du'r Arddu. See *Snowdon*.

Llyn Dywarchen, a small lakelet immediately S. of Llyn Cwellyn, on the E. slope of the Pass of Drws-y-coed.

Llyn Eiddew Mawr, a beautiful sheet of water situated a little N. of Cwm Bychan, at the foot of Craig Ddrwg, containing excellent trout. Near it is Eiddew Bach, and within the distance of an easy tramp several other small lakes, noted both for the wild and beautiful scenery surrounding them and for their fishing potentialities. Among the number may be mentioned Llyn Caerwych (N. of Cwm Bychan), Llyn Dyarchen, Llyn Du, Llyn-y-fedw (at an elevation of 1064 ft.), Llyn Pryfyd (1200 ft.), 2 m. N.E. of Cwm Bychan (q.v.).

Llyn Eigiau (1219 ft.), at the foot of the N.E. slope of Carnedd Llewelyn, Pen-llithrig lying directly S. It is traversed by the Porth-lwyd, a tributary of the Conway, noted for its beautiful fall, a little way above Pont Porthlwyd.

Llyn Geirionydd (see *Llyn Crafnant*), immediately to the E. of which Geirionydd lies, about $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. S. of Trefriw. At the lower end of the lake is a monument to the bard Taliessin, placed there in the belief—erroneous it is said—that his home was on its shores.

Llyn Glaslyn. See *Llyn Bugeilyn*, which lies to the S. of it.

Llyn Gloywlyn, a small lakelet well up on the flank of Rhinog Fawr, about 1 m. S.E. of which is Llyn Du.

LLYN DU'R ARDDU—LLYN IDWAL

Llyn Gwernan is $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. S.W. of Dolgelley, on the old road to Towyn. Opposite the lake the pony track, or Foxes' Path, turns off to Pen-y-Gader and Tal-y-Llyn. In a little over a mile Llyn Gafr is reached, and less than half a mile further on Llyn-y-Gader, lying directly under the Pen (2927 ft.), a beautiful mirror reflecting the deep blue sky, if the day be favourable. On the other side of the ridge, more than a thousand feet below, lies Llyn-y-Cau, almost as beautifully placed as Llyn-y-Gader, whose surroundings none can fail to admire.

Llyn Gwynant. See *Gwynant*, the river.

Llyn Howel is a small lake or tarn, suggestive of an exhausted crater, high up amid the precipitous cliffs of Llethr (2475 ft.), near Perfeddau. Near Llyn Howel, separated only by a ridge, is Llyn-y-bi.

Llyniau Craigenen, twin lakes situated, as we may say, between the N.W. knees of Cader Idris, 800 feet above the sea. Above them (N.) towers the so-called Long Ridge (Pared-y-cefn-hir), while to the S.E. rises the threatening crest of Tyrau Mawr. A visit to these splendidly placed lakes, *viâ* Arthog (2 m.), makes a pleasant day's outing from Barmouth.

Llyniau Mymbyr. See *Llugwy*, the river, and *Capel Curig*.

Llyn Idwal, lying to the S.W. of Llyn Ogwen, is one of the wildest and most tragic-looking of Welsh lakes. It is 1223 ft. above the sea, and has for near neighbour the precipitous flanks of Glyder Fawr. No one within walking distance should fail to see it—least of all the geologist, so much is there to be learned from it respecting the action of

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ice in the great Ice Age, under the guidance of Ramsay and others. Pennant tells us that the lake gets its name from Prince Idwal, a son of Owen Gwynedd, who was slain here by Dunod, his foster-father. Llyn Bochlwyd lies within easy walking distance of Idwal. A little to the S. and W. of Idwal is the lakelet Llyn-y-cwn (the Lake of the Hounds), a small stream from which finds its way through the chasm at the N. end of the lake, known as Twll Du (Black Hole), or the Devil's Kitchen, as English tongues give it. Llyn-y-cwn is about 2200 ft. above the sea, and from it Glyder-fawr (2975 ft.) may be ascended in about three-quarters of an hour.

Llyn Irddyn, a lake of considerable size on the W. slope of the Llawllech range, 3 m. E. of Talybont, which is reached by following the course of the Ysgethin. On the W. side of L. Irddyn are unmistakable traces of an ancient town. Near it, on the further side of a stream emptying into the Ysgethin, which drains the lake, is the fortified hill, Craig-y-ddinas. Near by is the Carnedd Hengwm, which antiquaries hold to have been connected with the town as a burial-place.

Llyn Lliwbran. See *Arans*.

Llyn Llugwy. See *Llugwy*.

Llyn Llydaw, a fine sheet of water over a mile in length, situated on the E. slope of Y Wyddfa, 1415 ft. above the sea, its southern end lying under the precipitous cliffs of Lliwedd (1527 ft.). Less than a mile W. is the Glaslyn tarn (1970 ft.), right under the very peak of Snowdon. It need hardly be said that the views hence are magnificent in the extreme. L. Llydaw is about $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. S. of Gorphwysfa.

LLYN IRDDYN—LLYN PADARN

Llyn Mawr, a small sheet of water between 3 and 4 m. N.E. of Carno (q.v.), wherein is good fishing, as likewise in Llyns Tarw and Du near by and the streams flowing from them.

Llyn Ogwen, the source of the river Ogwen, is a long narrow lake nearly a mile in length, narrowing still more to its W. end, where it is gathered up into the gorge known as the Pass of Benglog, and rushes thence over a series of falls (making a descent of 100 ft.), when, as the river Ogwen, its waters flow in a N.E. direction through Nant Ffrancon. The llyn has the distinction of having around it several of the highest peaks in Wales. S. is Tryfan (*i.e.* three-headed) and Glyder Fach, N. Braich Du, a ridge of Carnedd Dafydd, while right in front (W.) towers Foel Gôch, with Y Garn companioning it to the S. The Ogwen has long been noted for its fishing, yielding trout and cels, though not so plentifully as aforetime, and that for the reason, say anglers, that, because the lake is free, it has been over-fished. The high road to Bangor and Holyhead runs along the S. shore of L. Ogwen.

Llyn Padarn and *Llyn Peris*, lakes in the Vale of Llanberis, fed by the Seiont. The former, the larger of the two, is about $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. in length, but is inferior in beauty to Llyn Peris, which, though smaller in extent, is encompassed by rugged hills, outliers of Moel Eilio and the Elidyr, that come down to the water's edge. At the lower end of Llyn Peris rises the lonely tower of Dolbadarn, a picturesque feature of the Vale. Green meadows stretch between the two lakes, along the connecting Seiont, here crossed by a bridge leading to the quarries. See *Llanberis*.

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Llyn Pen Rhaiadr, a small lake on the N.W. slope of Plinlimmon, 7 m. S. of Machynlleth, containing good trout. The Llyfnant has its rise in Pen Rhaiadr, and soon after its start dashes over a high ridge, making the fine fall of Pistyll-y-llyn, whose wild and solitary surroundings invest it with peculiar grandeur.

Llyn Peris. See *Llyn Padarn*.

Llyn Pryfyd (1200 ft.), 2 m. N.E. of Cwm Bychan.

Llyn Quellyn. See *Llyn Cwellyn*.

Llyn Tecwyn Isaf and *Llyn Tecwyn Uchaf* (508 ft.). See *Llandecwyn*. Both lakes are good for sport. The larger (Uchaf) is drawn upon for the water-supply of Portmadoc.

Llyn Tigid. See *Bala*.

Llyn Teyrn, a small tarn to the left of the track from Gorphwysfa to Snowdon, about a mile distant, and near the N. end of Llyn Llydaw.

Llyn Tryweryn, a small lake lying to the left of the road from Bala to Ffestiniog, in the valley of the river Tryweryn. It is seen from the railway to Ffestiniog, which at this point reaches an elevation of 1279 ft.

Llyn-y-cwm, a small tarn to the W. of Glyder-fawr, whence there is an outfall to Llyn Idwal, barely 1 m. N.

Llyn-y-Ddinas. See *Llyn Gwynant*.

Llyn-y-Gader. See *Llyn Gwernan*. There is another Llyn-y-Gader near Beddgelert.

Llyn-y-morwynion. See *Beddau Gwŷr Ardudwy*.

Llŷs Bradwen, the remains of a palace or mansion, supposed to have belonged to a Welsh chief named Ednowain-ap-Bradwen (12th cent.),

MACHYNLLETH

a little S. of Arthog. Within a short walk are the Creigenen lakes.

Llys Dinorwic, the remains of an ancient mansion of uncertain date, near Dinas Mawr, an ancient hill fort, between 3 and 4 m. E. of Caernarvon.

Llysfaen (s.), a village situated between Llandulas and Penmaen Rhôs, a few miles E. of Colwyn Bay. From the hill above the village a fine view is obtained of the mountains to the W.

Loggerheads Inn, an old-fashioned road-side tavern halfway between Mold and Moel Fámmau, with a sign representing two loggerheads and bearing the legend, "We Three Loggerheads be." The sign is said to have been painted by Wilson the artist, whose father was rector of the parish.

Machno, the, a feeder of the Conway which, having its rise in the hills above Penmachno, descends in a series of cascades till it meets the formidable rocks which it has to take at a giant leap, thus forming the Machno Falls. These are situated but a little above the junction with the Conway, and so near the Conway Falls (q.v.) that they can be visited in one jaunt.

Machynlleth, a borough and market-town, situated in a fine valley, near the junction of the Dulas and Dovey (or Dyfi), 4 m. N.E. of the mouth of the latter, has a pop. of about 2000. It is more regularly built than most places in the Principality, its two wide main streets being planted on either side with trees. It does a little in the manufacture of woollen goods and also in the tanning of hides, but, as the innkeeper's wife said, its chief industry "is tourists." It certainly forms a convenient centre for these, as also for anglers, for whom the streams named and others in the

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vicinity afford excellent sport. In the Dulas the fishing is free from Corris.

Noteworthy buildings in Machynlleth are (1) a picturesque old black and white cottage in Maengwyn Street, with dormer windows, and an inscription which reads: "1628 | OWEN PVGH | O VXUR"; (2) a house, with traces of an old porch and an arched window or two, which is pointed out (though doubted by some) as the "Senate House" wherein Owen Glendower (in 1402) met the nobles and commons of Wales, and induced them to recognise and crown him as Prince of Wales. Machynlleth is held by Camden to be on or near the site of the Maglona of the Romans.

Maelgwn Gwynedd, a ruin so named, said to have been the palace of a British king of the 6th cent., near Llandrillo yn Rhôs (q.v.).

Maenan Abbey. See *Llanrwst*.

Maentwrog, a village on the S. bank of the Dwyryd River, 1 m. S.E. of Tan-y-Bwlch and 3 S.W. of Ffestiniog, gets its name from a large monumental stone ("maen") in the churchyard, reported to have been raised to the memory of Twrog, a British saint of the 7th cent. Within an easy walk of Maentwrog are the Rhaiadr Du and the Raven waterfalls. Archdeacon Prys, a noteworthy poet of his time, whose translation of the Psalms is still the commonly used version in Wales, was rector here and lies buried in the churchyard (d. 1624.) Maentwrog Road Station (on the Ffestiniog and Bala line) is about 2 m. distant.

Maes Garmon, 1 m. W. of Mold; the scene of a battle in the 5th cent. in which native Christians, under their bishop, Germanus, obtained a signal

victory over an army of Picts and Scots, by merely lifting up their hands like Moses and crying out "Alleluia!"—a very beautiful and not wholly improbable story.

Maes-y-Garnedd, a farm-house near the foot of the pass known as Drws Ardudwy, celebrated as being the birthplace of Colonel Jones, one of the "Regicides" executed in 1660.

Malldraeth Bay, on the S. coast of Anglesey. Stretching inland from the bay are extensive sands called by the same name, and beyond them the desolate tract known as Malldraeth Marsh. This has been much improved by the embankment of the Cefni River (tidal), which, after flowing in a S.W. direction for some miles, falls into Malldraeth Bay.

Mallwyd, a village $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. S. of Dinas Mawddwy, on the Machynlleth Road, beautifully situated, and a favourite resort of artists and anglers. The church, small but interesting, has for altar a slab of stone. Over the porch (dated 1641) are suspended some very large bones, said by Pugh ("Cambria Depicta") to have belonged to a whale caught in the Dovey. The graveyard has some fine yews.

Mathrafel, on the Vyrnwy river, 3 m. N.E. of Llanfair (Mont.), with remains supposed to have been the residence of the Princes of Powys.

Mawddach Estuary. See *Barmouth*.

Meifod, a village in the vale of the same name, about 7 m. N.W. of Welshpool, on the river Vyrnwy. Meifod was formerly the archdeaconry of Powysland, and its church (dedicated to St Tysilio) the place of sepulture of its princes. The church presents some interesting features, notably

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an arcade (Norm.) disclosed during its restoration (1871) and an embattled tower (13th cent.). Meifod is a favourite resort for anglers, there being two good inns, and the Vyrnwy and other streams in the vicinity affording good sport.

Meini Hirion. See *Penmaenmawr*.

Meini Gwŷr Ardudwy, two monumental stones, so-called, near the head of the pass known as Drws Ardudwy (q.v.).

Menai Strait. See Section I.

Minffordd Junction, on the Narrow Gauge Railway to Ffestiniog, 1 m. from Penrhyn (Deudraeth).

Moat Lane Junction, about $4\frac{1}{2}$ m. W. of Newtown, where the Mid-Wales Railway starts for the S., *via* Llanidloes. Near Moat Lane is the "Moat" from which the station takes its name. It surrounds a mound of some elevation, and near it is an ancient British encampment.

Mochnant Valley. See *Llanrhaiadr - yn - Mochnant*.

Mochras Island—sometimes, on account of the beautiful shells found there, called Shell Island—lies just off the shore at the mouth of the Artro, $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. S. of Harlech. It may be reached at low water by a narrow isthmus on its eastern side. Pensarn is the nearest station.

Moel Arthur, one of the notable entrenched peaks of the Clwydian range of hills that runs S. from Dyserth through the Vale of Clwyd. Near Dyserth we have the first of the series in Moel Hiraddug. Then follows Pen-y-Cloddiau, the most remarkable of these entrenched peaks. Moel Arthur comes next, nearly due E. of Whitchurch, defended by two dykes of great depth; then Moel

MEINI HIRION—MOEL HEBOG

Fammau (1823 ft.), the highest summit of the range, with its stump of the Jubilee Tower of 1810 (on the border of Flint and Denbigh); then Moel-y-gear, a little to the S.W.; and finally Moel Fenlli (S. of Bwlch Pen Barras), the most southerly of the entrenched peaks. All these heights consist of Silurian rocks, except the first-named, which is of mountain limestone.

Moel Cynwch. See *Precipice Walk*.

Moel Eilio, "the Frosty Hill," a little to the E. of Bettws Garmon, having an altitude of 2382 ft. There is another Moel Eilio (1273 ft.) above Dolgarog, in the valley of the Conway.

Moel Fammau. See *Moel Arthur*. Fammau may be ascended from Mold in a walk of about 6 m.

Moel Ferna, the most northerly peak of the Berwyns, with a height of 2070 ft., overlooking Glyn Dyfrdwy (N.).

Moel Forfydd—"Morfydd" on Ordnance map—(1750 ft.), one of the peaks of the Berwyn range, with Valle Crucis to the E. N.E. of it is Moel-y-Gamelin (1897 ft.), and N. of that Moel-y-gaer. The ascent of Gamelin may be commenced near Valle Crucis Abbey. From the summit the view is very fine, including many of the Snowdonian peaks and the Vale of Clwyd as far as the sea—weather, of course, being propitious.

Moel Gôch, a peak immediately N. of Llyn Cwellyn, along whose E. side goes one of the ascents to Snowdon (q.v.).

Moel Hebog (2566 ft.): the peak is about 2 m. S.W. of Beddgelert—the best place from which to make the ascent. Here Owen Glendower took refuge when pursued by the English. S. of Hebog is the little lake of Cwm Ystrallyn

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Moel Offrwm. See *Nannau*.

Moel Senigl (1019 ft.), a low hill 2 m. E. of Harlech, noted for the enchanting view to be obtained from its summit, which includes (N.) the Traeth Bach and the Snowdonian Mountains, on the W. Cwm Bychan, and, still further to the right, the Rhinog range.

Moel Siabod (2860 ft.), about 6 m. E. of Snowdon as the crow flies, and a little W. of S. of Capel Curig, from which it is usually ascended. It is a difficult climb, on account of its precipitous sides, but the splendid view it affords over the neighbouring peaks and vales, as well as of the coast and the Irish Sea, well repays the effort.

Moel Sych, one of the Berwyn heights (2713 ft.), immediately S. of Cader Berwyn (or Ferwyn). N. of the latter rises Cader Fronwen (2564 ft.), always to be distinguished by the cairn on its summit. The outlook hence includes the Clwydian range, the Breidden Hills and Long Mountain, Bala Lake and the Arenigs (W.), and N.W. Snowdonia.

Moel Tryfan (1350 ft.), 3 m. N. of Nantlle, noted for its quarries, and worthy of a visit by the geologist on account of the post-tertiary sea-beach near its summit, containing shells. It is reached by taking the narrow gauge from Dinas to Snowdon, and changing at Tryfan Junction, whence a branch runs to Bryngwyn, on the slope of Tryfan "mountain."

Moel Wnion (1902 ft.). See *Aber*.

Moelwyn (2527 ft.), directly S. of Cnicht, marks the highest point of the range on the opposite side of the valley from Ffestiniog, from which it lies between 4 and 5 m. to the N.W. It is

MOEL OFFRWM—MOLD

within easy walking distance of Tan-y-grisiau Stat. (on the Ffestiniog line), which is at an elevation of 2000 ft. The side of Moelwyn is cut and defaced with quarries. Moelwyn Fach, of lower elevation, is a little S. of its namesake.

Moel-y-Gaer. See *Halkin Mountain*.

Moel-y-Gamelin. See *Moel Forfydd*.

Moel-y-Geraint (or "Hill of the Kindred"). See *Llangollen*.

Moel-y-Gest, a hill (861 ft.) 1 m. W. of Portmadoc, which gives a fine view over Cardigan Bay. Near it is the village of Penmorfa (q.v.), with a church containing some remarkable old monuments.

Moelfre Bay, 4 m. N. of Red Wharf Bay (scene of the wreck of the *Royal Charter*), a tiny watering-place. Near Moelfre, on Llugwy farm, are the remains of a cromlech.

Mold, the assize town of Flintshire, on the Alyn (pop. 4873), with a handsome 15th-cent. church (restored) containing a number of interesting monuments and some good stained glass, also a memorial window to Richard Wilson, the landscape painter, whose remains lie in the churchyard. On the N.W. side of the town is a high mound known as Bailey Hill. It was called Mons Altus by the Romans, and from the corruption of that name Mold is supposed to have been derived. The eminence (in part artificial) appears to have been fortified at an early period, and this circumstance, together with the numerous tumuli in the vicinity, bears testimony to the obstinacy with which the district was defended by its Cymric inhabitants. About 1 m. W. of the town is Maes Garmon (the "field of Germanus") (q.v.).

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Montgomery (pop. 1034), a small borough and the county town, close to the English border, has its name from Roger de Montgomery, Earl of Shrewsbury (*temp.* William Rufus), who built upon an ancient foundation the castle, the remains of which crown an adjoining eminence. It is a quiet, sleepy place, $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. S.W. of the station that bears its name, and consists of little more than one long street, running steeply up the hill on which, at the edge of a bold rock, the old castle still dominates the town. This once famous fortress, now but a heap of ruins, in former days played an important part in border strife and warfare. Twice it was destroyed by Llewelyn, and as often rebuilt, during those stormy times. In the 16th cent. it came into the possession of the Herberts of Cherbury, who long held it as their principal residence. The famous Lord Herbert, remembered chiefly for his learning, and his no less celebrated brother the poet, had their early home here. During the Civil War Lord Herbert held it for the king, but surrendered it to Sir Thomas Myddelton in 1644. Being obliged to retreat, however, the castle was invested by Lord Byron, who was thereupon attacked by Myddelton and defeated. The fortress was then destroyed by order of the Parliament.

The parish church of Montgomery (ded. to St Nicholas) presents a few interesting features. It is of cruciform design and still shows portions of an early date, notably a fine carved rood-screen and a good timbered roof. There are also some good monuments—one to the father of Lord Herbert, of Cherbury, others to members of the Mortimer family (once in power here). But to the popular mind there is more interest in the churchyard than in the church.

MONTGOMERY—MYNYDD-Y-GADER

There, according to the legend, a man named Newton was buried, who had been hanged for highway robbery and murder. On conviction he warmly protested his innocence, and predicted that, in proof of the injustice of his sentence, grass would never grow on his grave. The prediction, it is said, was fulfilled, and the "Robber's Grave" is still pointed out to the curious.

In the vicinity are many antiquities and other objects of interest, including Offa's Dyke, which may be traced for a considerable distance, and, a little N.E. of the castle ruins, the wooded hill known as Fridd Faldwyn, the site of an old British camp, whence a delightful view is obtained.

Morfa Rhuddlan. See *Rhuddlan*.

Mostyn (s.), on the estuary of the Dee, 3 m. N. of Holywell, with iron-works and some coasting trade. (Pop. 1762.) Near it is Mostyn Hall, seat of Mostyn family, and a veritable museum of Welsh MSS. and antiquities. The latter include the golden torque found near Harlech Castle, a silver harp, once an Eistedfodd prize, and the original commission under the hand of Queen Elizabeth to hold the Eistedfodd at Caerwys in 1568. The MSS. (catalogued for the Hist. MSS. Commission) are held to constitute one of the best collections in Wales after Peniarth. Mostyn Hall is interesting as being the scene of the escape of the Earl of Richmond, afterwards Henry VII., from a body of his rival's troopers, who disturbed him while at dinner, necessitating a hasty retreat through a back window still known as the King's Window.

Mynydd-y-Gader ("the Giant's Nose"), a peak due S. of Dolgelly, the form whereof explains the name it bears.

NORTH WALES

Nanhoron, a village in Lleyrn, about 8 m. S.W. of Pwllheli, on the road to Aberdaron. The Nanhoron Valley, through which flows the Bodlas, presents a rare scene of sylvan beauty, with its background formed of Carn Madryn or Fadryn (1221 ft.).

Nannau, the seat of the Vaughan family (who claim descent from Roderic Mawr, King of N. Wales), about 3 m. N.E. of Dolgelly, is said to stand on higher ground (800 ft.) than any other country seat in Great Britain. The original hall, which was replaced by the present mansion some years ago, was the residence of Howel Sele, the lifelong enemy of Owen Glendower. The lofty hills *Moel Orthwrn* and *Moel Cynwch* (q.v.) rise on either side of the park, and like trusty henchmen keep careful watch over it. The summit of the first named to the E. is ringed round by a rampart (supposed to be British) of loose stones.

An aged oak, 28 ft. in circumference, at one time stood in the park, and was known as the Haunted Oak. The reason for its being so called is thus given by the historian Pennant: "Howel Sele, of Nannau, in Merionethshire, first-cousin to Owen, was an adherent of the House of Lancaster. Owen and this chieftain had been long at variance. I have been informed that the Abbot of Kymmer, in hopes of reuniting them, brought them together, and to all appearance effected his charitable design. While they were walking out, Owen observed a doe feeding, and told Howel, who was reckoned the best archer of his day, that there was a fine mark for him. Howel bent his bow, and, pretending to aim at





NANT FFRANCON

NANHORON—NANT FFRANCON

the doe, suddenly turned and discharged his arrow full at the breast of Glyndwr, who fortunately had armour beneath his clothes, and received no hurt. Enraged at this treachery, he seized on Sele, burnt his house, and hurried him away from the place; nor could any one learn how he was disposed of till forty years after, when the skeleton of a large man, such as Howel, was discovered in the hollow of a great oak, in which Owen was supposed to have immured him in reward for his perfidy."

Sir Walter Scott refers to the tree and the legend connected with it in a note to the sixth canto of "Marmion." The tree was destroyed by lightning on the night of the 13th July 1813. The spot where it stood is marked by a sundial, bearing a brass plate with an inscription and a representation of the old oak.

Nannerch (s.), a village on the Mold and Denbigh line, near the source of the Wheeler (or Chwiler), whence fine views are obtained of the Clwydian Hills.

Nant Ffrancon, or "the Vale of Beavers," about 4 m. N.W. of Capel Curig. Through the vale meanders the river Ogwen, bordered by a narrow strip of meadow land, with lofty mountains on either hand, Carnedd Dafydd standing up boldly in the E., and the Glyders seeming to bar the way S. This famous valley was—we do not know what vast ages ago—the bed of a glacier, the marks of whose action are still plainly to be seen, as well as in some of the cwms that open into it. The high road from Capel Curig to Bethesda and Bangor runs through Nant Ffrancon, and one presenting scenes of more savage grandeur it would be hard to conceive. See Section III.

NORTH WALES

Nantglyn, a beautifully situated village about 4 m. S.W. of Denbigh, noteworthy as having in its churchyard the remains of three famous Welshmen, William Owen Pughe, the antiquary; Aneurin Owen, his son, editor of "The Ancient Laws and Institutes of Wales" (d. 1851); and Robert Davies, known to his own countrymen as "Bardd Nantglyn." The churchyard is noted for its fine yews.

Nant Gwrtheyrn, or Vortigern's Valley, lies W. of the Eifl Mountains, near Llithfaen. The glen is open on one side to the sea, on the others it is dominated by mountainous cliffs and peaks. It owes its name to the legend that connects it with the death of Vortigern. The story goes that he had a castle at this place, and that when the resentment of his people for having invited the Saxons into Wales became too strong for him he fled to it for refuge. It is further said that both he and his dwelling were destroyed by lightning. Another tradition, however, says that when his people discovered his retreat he leapt into the sea and was drowned. The rock that is pointed out as the one from which he took his leap, Carreg-y-Llam by name, rises sheer from the water to a height of 450 ft. A grass-covered mound near this spot is said to be the site of Vortigern's castle, while a tumulus near by is pointed out as the place where he was buried. This is called Bedd Gwrtheyrn, and some colour is given to the tradition that here was "the Grave of Vortigern" by the fact that more than 100 years ago a stone coffin was discovered on the spot containing the skeleton of a man above the ordinary stature.

NANTGLYN—NANTLLE

Nant Gwynant, or "the Valley of Waters," running in an N.E. direction from Beddgelert to Pen-y-gwryd ($7\frac{1}{2}$ m.), where it joins the road from Llanberis to Capel Curig. A short distance from Pen-y-gwryd the Glaslyn, a small mountain stream, taking its rise in Llyn Llydaw, enters the valley by a wide gorge, and on its way to Beddgelert, where it joins the Colwyn, a respectable stream, flows through two small lakes, Llyn Gwynant (1 m. in length) and Llyn-y-Dinas. The valley is justly celebrated as one of the most beautiful in Wales, and affords splendid views of Moel Siabod, Moel Hebog, and Aran, one of the peaks of Snowdon. A noteworthy object about 1 m. from Beddgelert is the wooded eminence known as Dinas Emrys, connected by tradition with Merlin and Vortigern, who is reported to have had his residence here prior to his retreat to Nant Gwrtheyrn (q.v.).

Nantlle (s.), a mining centre on the N. side of the two lakes of that name, and almost directly S. of Moel Tryfan. A branch line 2 m. in length connects it with the L. & N.W. Railway at Pen-y-Groes. Nantlle and the whole district seem to be devoted to slate and slate-getting, and the wounding of nature, which is the effect at first produced on the traveller, greatly mars the enjoyment of the scene. Even the two lakes, otherwise very beautiful objects, appear to suffer from the same cause. But one gets the better of this impression in time, especially if we consider that this quarrying also is a part of nature's operations. From Nantlle, proceeding along the N. side of the lakes, which occupy well-nigh the whole of the vale, the hills rising in frowning cliffs on either side, is a good

NORTH WALES

route to Snowdon (6 m.). The lakes once passed, a wonderfully fine view is obtained of the central peak; some—following Wilson, the artist, who painted his celebrated picture from this vale—think it the best. The most direct route leaves Llyn-y-dywarchen immediately to the L., Rhyd-ddu being then reached in a mile. It need hardly be said that the whole of the ascent presents a series of panoramic views hardly to be surpassed.

Nant-y-Belan ("the Marten's Dingle"), a deep ravine of the Dee in Wynnstay Park (q.v.), the seat of Sir Watkin Williams Wynn, Bart., near Ruabon, above which a tower was built by a former baronet to commemorate the soldiers of the Cambrian regiment who fell in the Irish Rebellion of 1798. From the platform of the tower there is a fine view of the Dee Valley Viaduct, the Vale of Llangollen, Castell Dinas Brân, and the surrounding mountains.

Nant-y-Ffridd, a famous gorge with three cascades at the base of Hope Mountain, 3 m. from Caergwrle.

Nevin, a fishing town with a population of 1755, on the N. side of the Lleyn Promontory, 7 m. N.E. of Pwllheli. It lies at the foot of Carn Boduan (918 ft.). In 1284 Edward I. held a famous tournament here, the site of the lists being still pointed out. A mile W. of Nevin is Morfa Nevin (where, from the shore, a splendid view of Yr Eifl is to be had), and a mile farther on is Porth Dinllaen, with traces of earthworks. On Boduan are to be seen remains of an ancient encampment, with huts known as Fishermen's Huts (Cyttiau Gwyddelod).

Newborough, Anglesey, an ancient decayed

NANT-Y-BELAN—NEWTOWN

borough (charter by Edward I.), which at one time, like Aberffraw, boasted a royal residence, is situate about 1 m. E. of Malldraeth Sands. S. of the village stretches a wind-blown sandy flat, known as Newborough Warren. It is useless for cultivation, though rich in maritime plants, one of which, *Ammophila arenaria*, grows in such abundance as to afford many of the inhabitants a means of livelihood, ropes, nets, and mats being made from it, and finding a ready sale at Caernarvon and elsewhere. There is an interesting little church at Newborough that is well worth a visit.

Newmarket, a village with a weekly market, nearly midway between Holywell and Rhyl, and about 3 m. S.E. of Prestatyn station, noted for its tumulus, one of the largest in the kingdom, situated on the top of the hill *Copa 'r Leni*, $\frac{1}{4}$ m. from the village. Popular tradition says it is the burial-place of Queen Boadicea—a remarkable proof of the value of tradition. In the churchyard is a tall stone cross of great antiquity, with a square shaft, terminated by a Gothic canopy, on each side whereof is sculptured a presentment of the Crucifixion. In the neighbourhood is much else of antiquarian and other interest, among other things a cave (not far from the tumulus), in which, when disclosed, were found human and animal remains, together with pottery, etc., of the Bronze Age.

Newtown (s.) on the Severn (served also by the Montgomery Canal), 14 m. S.W. of Welshpool, noted for its manufacture of Welsh flannel, with a population, including Llan-llwchaiarn, of 6500. The new parish church, built in 1847, and containing some of the adornments of the old church, now a ruin (including an ancient font), is

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well worth a visit. The beautifully carved rood-screen from the old church is preserved at the rectory. Newtown was the birthplace of Robert Owen the Socialist, and founder of New Lanark, and to the old place he returned to die (1858), his grave in the churchyard being lovingly pointed out by admirers. The town is noted for its flannel manufacture, and visitors interested in industrial works could not do better than seek permission to go over the flannel warehouse and factory near the station associated with the name of Sir Pryce Pryce-Jones, the founder of the world-famed business.

Northop, 3 m. N. of Mold and about the same distance from Flint. Its church (built by the mother of Henry VII.) has a fine tower and some interesting monuments (14th and 15th cent.), 3 m. W. of Northop is Moel-y-Gaer, an ancient hill fortress (q.v.).

Offa's Dyke, built in the 8th cent. by Offa, King of Mercia, stretched from near the mouth of the Dee, through the counties of Flint, Denbigh, Salop, Radnor, Hereford, and Monmouth, to the mouth of the Wye. The Welsh resented the raising of this rampart, and on St Stephen's Night rose as one man and destroyed it. This led to Offa's sending an army to punish them, and after some skirmishing the two hosts met on Rhuddlan Marsh, where (795) the brave Caradoc died in defence of his country. A terrible massacre followed, the sad memorial of which is still preserved in the plaintive air known as "Morfa Rhuddlan." The course of Offa's Dyke is much the same as that of Watt's Dyke, the two at times being within sight of each other.

NORTHOP—PANTASA

Ogwen Falls (and river). See *Llyn Ogwen*.

Orme's Bay, between Great and Little Orme's Heads, crescent-shaped, and about 2 m. in extent, is one of the most beautiful inlets on the N. coast, and affords good facilities for sea fishing and bathing.

Orme's Head, Great and Little. See *Llandudno*.

Oswestry, although within the Shropshire border, has much of the character of a Welsh town, and Welsh may generally be heard spoken there on market days. Both Offa's and Watt's Dykes run near it. The Cambrian Railway has extensive works in the borough, which is a good centre from which to get to most parts of Wales.

Overton (Flintshire), a village beautifully situated on the Dee, which here winds through a deep vale. The view from the churchyard, with its fine old yews (once considered one of the seven wonders of Wales), is exceedingly fine.

Owen Glendower's Mount, a mound about 30 ft. high, covered with trees, 3 m. E. of Corwen, on the road to Llangollen, reputed to have been the site of that chieftain's residence.

Owen Glendower's Seat, a spot near Corwen, formerly used as an encampment by Glendower, and from which a good view of the Vale of Corwen is obtained. See *Corwen*.

Owen Glendower's Tomb. See *Bangor*.

Pandy Mill, close to the Falls of the Machno (q.v.), once a favourite object for the pencil and brush of artists, and still much bepainted.

Panorama Walk. See *Barmouth*.

Pantasa (or *Pantasaph*), a small village 2 m. from Holywell, where is a Roman Catholic church built by the Earl and Countess of Denbigh (1852),

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and other Roman Catholic institutions, including a Franciscan monastery.

Parys Mountain, a rugged mass of whitish quartz and coarse aluminous shale, nearly 500 ft. in height, 2 m. S. of Amlwch, Anglesey (q.v.), famous for its copper-mines, once extremely rich, but now considerably dwindled in output.

Pass of Aberglaslyn. At Beddgelert the rivers Colwyn and Gwynant unite to form the Glaslyn, which flows thence, a distance of a few miles, to Portmadoc, the first $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. of its course being through the beautiful Pass of Aberglaslyn—a defile which, for the mingling of sylvan charm with the awe-inspiring and stupendous, is almost unequalled in Wales. The stream, which serves as the boundary between the counties of Caernarvon and Merioneth, is soon so shut in by the encroaching crags of Moel-Hebog on the W. and Craig-y-Llan on the E. that there is hardly room enough left for it to find a way amid the debris of rocks and stones of which its bed is formed, and over which, especially after heavy rains, it rushes with much turbulence and din. At the narrowest part of the defile the enclosing cliffs are of a dizzy height, the crags on the W. rising to something like 800 ft. of sheer precipice.

The road follows the W. bank of the stream, and it is well to foot it at leisure and take note of the lesson of the rocks, which indicate by the coincidence of their strata that the rent must have been made by a tremendous upheaval of some kind. But, in addition, there are groovings, striations, and other equally striking evidences of glacial action, worthy of careful examination. On the rocks to the L. is a conspicuous white stone, to which has been given the name of the White Lady, while not



THE PASS OF ABERGLASLYN

PASS OF LLANBERIS

far away is a peculiarly shaped rock which tradition points to as the Chair of Rhys Gôch, a bard of Owen Glendower's day, who composed songs to inspire his countrymen with a love of liberty and a fiery zeal against the Saxon foe. The pass ends at the beautiful Pont Aberglaslyn (q.v.).

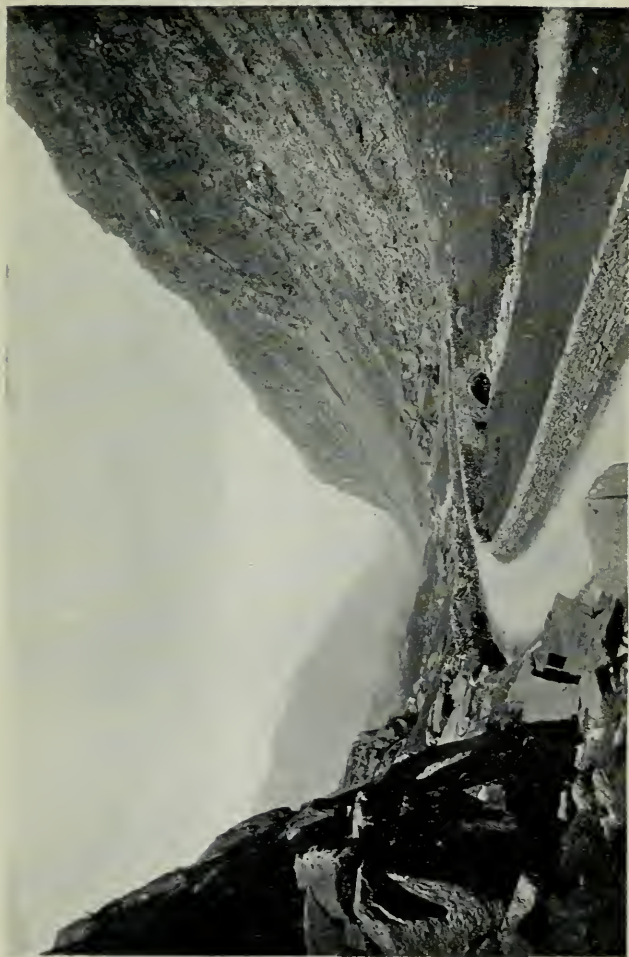
Pass of Llanberis, the grandest and most desolate of N. Welsh mountain ways. Leaving Llanberis at its E. end, it enters the grim defile separating the lower ridges of Glyder Fawr from those of Y Wyddfa. It is only necessary to read the accounts given of this wild pass by some of those who made their way through it during the earlier years of the past century, when it could only be done afoot or on the hardy ponies of the country, to see how deep an impression its savage grandeur made upon minds still fresh to such experiences. To-day we travel by a smooth and well-beaten track, rarely in solitude; and though the climb is steep and the surroundings terrific, we are not greatly impressed with the danger or difficulty of the undertaking. Possibly on that account we are the better able to appreciate the wonderfulness and sublimity of the scene, aided by the means science has placed in our hands to understand the gigantic forces that have been at work to produce the spectacle before us. The rugged and precipitous sides of the mountains, often 2000 ft. in height, press close upon each other as though begrudging the narrow way, while the dark rocks that bound the view, without a tree to soften their outline, frown threateningly on either hand. Huge fragments too, torn from the parent rock, lie scattered upon the mountain sides and at their base in wildest disarray, making the Seiont in its descent to Llyn

NORTH WALES

Peris a tangled and difficult course, down which it rushes with much noise and fury. About midway up the pass the road crosses the river at Pont-y-gromlech, which takes its name from a large block of stone, dropped from the side of Glyder Fawr, and left in such a position, resting on other fragments, as to look like a cromlech. Beneath it, one hears, an old woman named Hetty once had her abode while tending sheep and cattle in the summer months, and hence it got the name of Ynys Hettws (Hetty's Island); but it is now usually called the Cromlech.

At this point the full grandeur and desolation of the scene develops itself. The whole of the pass is displayed to view from the top to Dolbadarn, a view not to be paralleled in Wales. On the S. the deep hollow of Cwm Glâs is seen, with the terminating ridge of Crib Goch and Crib-y-ddysgyl close under the summit of Snowdon, which may be ascended by way of the cwm. To the geologist this grim defile, and indeed the whole pass, are profoundly interesting, showing as they do at every turn the marks and vestiges of glacial action in the shape of striated rocks, boulders, moraine heaps, and other tell-tale records of nature's workings.

From Pont-y-gromlech, $1\frac{1}{4}$ m. of stiff climbing brings the pedestrian to the hotel at Gorphwysfa, or, as the place is more commonly called, Pen-y-Pass. Opposite the inn the road strikes off for Y Wyddfa; on the other side (W.) is the path for the Glyders. N.E. the eye presently travels along the descending Nant-y-gwryd Vale towards Capel Curig, with Moel Siabod on the one hand and the Glyders on the other. Pen-y-gwryd, the head of the vale, is reached about a mile from Gorphwysfa,



THE PASS OF LLANBERIS

PASS OF LLANBERIS—PENMACHNO

and near it the road passes S. through Nant Gwy-nant.

Pen Caer Gybi, or Holyhead Mountain, a rugged elevation of about 700 ft., dominating the town and harbour of Holyhead (q.v.), with traces of British and Roman fortifications.

Pengwern Hall, $\frac{1}{2}$ m. from Plâs Newydd, Anglesey, an old mansion which belonged about 924 to Tudor Trevor, ancestor of the Mostyns. Later it appears to have been a convent for nuns, but is now a farm-house. Very little remains of the old building, though several of the windows are interesting.

Peniarth, a residence of the Wynne family, on the R. bank of the Dysynni, near the village of Llanegryn (Merioneth), with a splendid library, among whose treasures is the famous "Hengwrt" collection of Welsh MSS., which includes the early collection of Welsh poetry known as the "Black Book of Caermarthen," the "Book of Taliessin," and the Welsh version of the *Sant Greal*.

Pen-llithrig-y-wrach (meaning the "Top of the Hag's Slide") is an easily ascended peak (2621 ft.), immediately W. of Llyn Cowlyd and E. of Llyn Ffynnon, and within a comparatively short walk of Capel Curig. From its top a wide and all-round view is obtained, including Llyn Eigiau (very near, to the N.), Conway and Llandudno, Rhyl and the Vale of Clwyd; then, swinging round more to the S., the Berwyns, the Arenigs, the Arans; then to the S.W. the sea at Portmadoc, Y Wyddfa, and the other peaks around it; and, close at hand, Lakes Idwal and Ogwen.

Penmachno, a village $4\frac{1}{2}$ m. S. of Bettws-y-

NORTH WALES

Coed, the church of which contains a memorial window to Bishop Morgan, the translator of the Welsh Bible, also an inscribed stone with the Christian XP monogram, the only one in Wales.

Penmaenbach, a lofty headland overlooking Beaumaris Bay and terminating the Snowdon range N.

Penmaenmawr, a precipitous headland 1550 ft. high, rising almost sheer from the water's edge; also the seaside resort of the same name, lying between it and Penmaenbach to the E., $4\frac{1}{2}$ m. from Conway. (Pop. 4042.) The name signifies "the head of the great rock." The railway from Chester to Holyhead passes through it by means of a tunnel. The old high-road ran along a terrace cut in its side, and was considered in its day a great engineering achievement. Before its improvement the road, what with the beetling rocks on the one hand and the foaming waves on the other, was a great terror to travellers. Dr Johnson, among others, tells us how frightened he was at the sight of it.

The town of Penmaenmawr (s.) is one of the pleasantest resorts in N. Wales, both on account of its position on the Irish Sea and for the beautiful valley which lies behind it. This is bounded landwards by the ridge known as Cerrig-y-drudion (the Stones of the Heroes), with Moel Llys on the E., and on the W. the frowning mass of Penmaenmawr. At the foot of the latter lies the quarrying village of Penmaenan, whence there is a path to the summit. On the way thither is passed the druidical circle, Y Meinir Hirion, showing a double row of stones, the outer one much broken, but the inner one nearly complete.

PENMAENBACH—PENMON

Not far away two other small circles may be traced.

Other ancient British remains are to be seen in the neighbourhood, among them being the ruins of the old fort, Braich-y-Ddinas, the scene of a sanguinary battle between the Britons and Romans, situated on the summit of Penmaenmawr. The view from this elevation embraces a wide stretch of land and sea, including the Hill of Howth, Ireland, the Isle of Man, the Cumberland Hills, and, nearer hand, Menai Strait with its two bridges, Bangor, Penrhyn Castle, etc.

Penmaen Pool (s.), a village 2 m. W. of Dolgelly, at the head of the estuary of the Mawddach, and situated in the midst of delightful scenery.

Penmaen Rhôs ("the Headland of Rhôs"), a rocky point jutting out into the sea midway between Lysfaen Station and that of Colwyn. The old high-road ran beneath this headland, and Pennant speaks of the passage round it as "infinitely more terrible and dangerous" than Penmaenmawr.

Penmon, a little village at the N.E. extremity of Anglesey, $4\frac{1}{2}$ m. from Beaumaris. Here are the remains of a priory, founded, according to some authorities, by Maelgwn Gwynedd, according to others by Einion Frenhin, who placed over it his brother Seiriol. It is said to date from the 6th cent., but the oldest remains are of a Norm. character. The church (cruciform) was restored about fifty years ago. The older transept (S.) shows Norm. arcades, and there is some beautiful Norm. moulding in a sculptured arch. S. of the church (attached to a farmhouse) is the 13th-cent. refectory, over which was the dormitory, all in a

NORTH WALES

ruinous state. A few hundred yards away on the hill above the church and conventual buildings is an ancient cross of curious and even remarkable workmanship. To see this alone is worth the journey from Beaumaris. From the priory a walk of a quarter of an hour brings one to the lighthouse, which is situated opposite Puffin Island, called also by the Norse name of Priestholme, and in Welsh Ynys Seiriol, or the Island of St Seiriol, who, as already said, is reputed to have founded the priory in the 6th cent.

Penmorfa, a village 3 m. N.E. of Criccieth, with a church containing some remarkable ancient monuments, besides one to Sir John Owen Clenenacy. Between it and Tremadoc the remains of a Roman villa were discovered not very long ago.

Pennal, 4 m. from Machynlleth, on the road to Towyn, where are Roman remains. At Cefn Caer near by, Roman coins have been found, also Roman remains, and in the vicinity are traces of Roman roads.

Pennant Melangell, 2 m. W. of Llangynog, on the Tanat (q.v.), noted as the burial-place of St Melangell (or Monacella), the patroness of hares. In the church are to be seen grotesque carvings of these animals. The story of St Monacella and the hare that took refuge with her from the hunters, and of how Prince Brochwel gave her land on which to build a sanctuary for all who fled there, is to be read in Pennant. From this time St Monacella became the patron and protector of hares; "and," says Pennant, "till the last century so strong a superstition prevailed that no person would kill a hare in the parish."

Penrhyn Castle. See *Llandegai*.

PENMORFA—PEN-Y-GAER

Penrhyn Slate Quarries. See *Bethesda*.

Pensarn (s.), a village noted for its facilities for sea-bathing, 4 m. W. of Rhyl and $\frac{3}{4}$ m. E. of the old town of Abergele (with a population, including Abergele, of 2083). In the neighbourhood are many ancient encampments, one of the best preserved of which, Castell Cawr (*i.e.* Giant's Castle), is within an easy walk of either Abergele or Pensarn.

Pensarn (s.), 8 m. N. of Barmouth, at the mouth of the Artro, a convenient station from which to visit Mochras Island (q.v.) and other places in the vicinity.

Pentrefoelas, a small village at the junction of the roads from Denbigh, Ffestiniog, and Llanrwst, and on the little river Merddwr, a feeder of the Conway, hence resorted to by anglers. Behind the old mansion of Voelas, on a small tumulus called the Voel, stands a rough unhewn stone pillar 8 ft. high, bearing an inscription very difficult to decipher. It is supposed to be the burial-place of Llewelyn-ap-Sysyllt, slain 1021.

Penybont (s.), a village on the Tanat, 3 m. W. by S. of Llanrhaidr-yn-mochnant, on the road to Lake Vyrnwy.

Pen-y-cloddiau, one of the peaks of the Clwydian range, 1 m. S. of Caerwys, believed to have been a Roman station. See *Moel Arthur*.

Pen-y-Ddinas, a fortified hill 2 m. S.W. of Craigy-Ddinas, near Talybont.

Pen-y-gaer, a peak about 1 m. W. of Aber-soch, Lley'n Promontory, whence a good view may be obtained of Porth Nigel, or Hell's Mouth, the Rhiw Mountain, and Bardsey Island.

Pen-y-gaer (named also *Pen-y-gerwyn*), a lofty

hill (1136 ft.) 1 m. E. of Cerrig-y-Drudion, where Caractacus is said to have been betrayed to the Romans.

Pen-y-gwryd, at the head of the Gwryd Valley, where is a solitary house of call (907 ft. above the sea) at the junction of the roads to the Pass of Llanberis, Capel Curig, and Beddgelert ($7\frac{1}{2}$ m.). See *Pass of Llanberis*.

Pen-y-Pass, a level spot (1179 ft.) at the head of the Pass of Llanberis (q.v.), known also as Gorphwysfa ("the Resting-Place").

Pen-y-Pigyn. See *Corwen*.

Pistyll Cain, a waterfall over 150 ft. in height on the Cain (q.v.) near its confluence with the Mawddach.

Pistyll Rhaiadr, a fine waterfall on the river Rhaiadr, which divides the counties of Denbigh and Montgomery, about 4 m. N.W. of Llanrhaidr-yn-mochnant. The river, after flowing along a narrow valley of the Berwyn range, glides over a shelving projection of rock, and then is launched over a perpendicular rock to a depth of nearly 200 ft.; when, breaking through a projecting mass of limestone, and so forming a natural arch, it descends into a deep basin. The total length of the fall is 230 ft. From this point the Rhaiadr pursues its way along a pleasantly wooded dell till it joins the Tanat, a little below the village. Just below the fall a feeder, the Nant-y-llyn, joins the Rhaiadr from the small Llyn Llyncaws.

Pistyll-y-llyn, a waterfall on the river Llyfnant, not far from its source in Llyn Pen Rhaiadr, on the N.W. slope of Plinlimmon.

Plâs Newydd, the seat of the Marquis of Anglesey, on Menai Strait, $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. S. of the

PEN-Y-GWRYD—PLINLIMMON

Tubular Bridge. The park is noted for its cromlechs. (See section on Antiquities.)

Plâs Penmynydd, about 3 m. N.W. of Llanfair station (Anglesey), reported to be the birth-place of the grandfather of Henry VII. The present house, however, though old, is not the one existing in Owen Tudor's day. In Penmynydd church (about $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. E. of the Plâs) is a beautiful monument to the memory, it is thought, of members of the Tudor family.

Plinlimmon, 2469 ft. in height, is more a South Wales mountain than a North, although its northern slopes come sufficiently within our province to make it necessary to give some particulars about it. It consists of three huge masses, the loftiest of which is further divided into two peaks, each marked by a huge heap of stones or cairn, whereto every Welshman ascending these heights adds his quota. Near the summit five rivers have their source: they are the Rheidol, the Llyfnant, the Yswith, the Wye (or Gwy), and the Severn (or Hafren), the two last (barely 2 m. apart) at an elevation of upwards of 2000 ft. Drayton in his *Polyolbion* brings but three of them into his verse:—

“To princlie Severne first; next to her sister Wye,
Which to her elder's court her course doth still apply.
But Rydol, young'st and least: and for the other's pride,
Not finding fitting room vpon the rising side,
Alone vnto the west directlie takes her way,
So all the neighbouring hills Plinllimmon obey.”

The mountain may be ascended with comparative ease from Llanidloes, whence a good road for vehicles runs along the course of the Severn to Blaen Hafren, where the young stream takes its

first leap over a ledge of slate. A little S. of Blaen Hafren ($\frac{3}{4}$ m.), on the boundary line between the counties of Merioneth and Cardigan, is the first peak of Plinlimmon (2427 ft.), and on S.W. of it the source of the Wye. The highest peak (2469 ft.)—in Cardiganshire—lies another 2 m. to the S.W. An easier route to the peaks from Llanidloes is by way of Rhyd Dibenwch, from which the lower summit is about $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. This is a good way to make the ascent, returning by the Wye Valley to Pont-rhyd-galed, and thence by road to Llangurig. In making the ascent from Machynlleth the Llyfnant (q.v.) is followed, and thence to Llyn Pen Rhaiadr (7 m.), from which point Plinlimmon lies 4 m. S.W.

It is not wise for the inexperienced to attempt the ascent of Plinlimmon without a guide. The sides are boggy and in parts almost pathless, and so dangerous to the unwary. Hardly anywhere in Wales are there solitudes so vast and so deeply felt, hardly anywhere such stretches of brown heath left to the browsing of sheep and the joy of ling and gorse, as upon the sides and slopes of Plinlimmon.

Pont Aberglaslyn, a bridge over the Glaslyn at the bottom of the pass of that name (q.v.), $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. S. of Beddgelert, rendered famous by many a noted pencil. The bridge consists of a single arch at no great height above the stream; but the combination of wood, stream, precipitous rocks, and this graceful work of human hands, form a picture that enchants by its simple mingling of the sylvan with the stupendous and sublime.

Pont-y-cyfyng (where is a fine cascade). See *Capel Curig*.

PONT ABERGLASLYN—PORTHAMEL

Pont-y-gromlech (i.e. "the Bridge of the Cromlech"). See *Pass of Llanberis*.

Pont-y-Meibion, a village in Glyn Ceiriog, 2 m. W. of Llansantffraid Glyn Ceiriog, where, in a plantation near a farm-house, may be seen—or at least was seen by Burrow—the stone chair of the bard Huw Morus, who was known as the Ceiriog Nightingale (Eos Ceiriog). Morus, or Morris, was born in 1622, and died in the reign of Queen Anne, and as the poet of royalty under the Stuarts was highly popular throughout Wales.

Pont-y-pair ("the Bridge of the Cauldron"), a bridge crossing the Llugwy at Bettws-y-Coed—one of the most notable in N. Wales, painted a thousand times by as many artists, and never loses its charm.

Pont-y-pant (s.), a wooden bridge across the Lledr, about $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. N.E. of Dolwyddelen, in the midst of beautiful scenery. Especially delightful is the vale between the Pont and Bettws. Here the old Roman road, known as Sarn Elen, comes over the hills and joins the Capel Curig road not far from Bettws.

Port Dinorwic (s.), a busy little place on Menai Strait, $4\frac{1}{2}$ m. S. of Bangor, so called because it is the port whereto the Dinorwic slates are conveyed (by rail from Llanberis) for shipment. About $4\frac{1}{2}$ m. to the S.E. is Dinas Dinorwic, where is an ancient British fortified post.

Porthamel, a village near Moel-y-Don, on the Anglesey side of Menai Strait, said to be the point at which Suetonius, the Roman general, effected a landing when he made such a disastrous onslaught upon the Druids. Later Agricola chose the same "trajectus" for his troops.

NORTH WALES

Porth Ceiriad (or Keiriad), a bay at the S.E. extremity of the Lleyn promontory, E. of Porth Nigel, very largely shut in by lofty precipitous rocks.

Porth Dinllaen, a fine natural harbour on the N. coast of Lleyn, a little W. of Nevin, near which are remains of ancient earthworks.

Porth-lwyd. See *Llyn Eigiau*.

Porth Nigel (in Welsh, Neugwl), or Hell's Mouth, a wide sandy bay at the S. extremity of the Lleyn promontory, dangerous to mariners, especially with the wind in certain quarters, by reason of its currents.

Portmadoc (s.) is a most interesting town. (Population, 3177.) Its existence is due to the enterprise of one man, Mr W. A. Madocks, who, in 1791, purchased the Tan-yr-Allt estate, and a few years later (1800) set to work to reclaim the land on the W. side of the river Glaslyn, which here flows through the Traeth Mawr. A large tract having thus been won, he next set himself the task of saving from the sea the flooded acres of the Traeth itself—a gigantic undertaking which could only be entered upon after an Act of Parliament had been obtained. This (1807) gave him possession of the sea-drowned waste of land as far as Aberglaslyn, and in order to reclaim it he built an embankment right across the estuary. By its means—albeit not so successful as had been hoped—some 7000 acres were won from the sea (at a cost of £100,000). The Glaslyn is crossed by a stone bridge, beneath which are strong flood-gates to keep out the tide when at flood, and of course to let out the river water when the tide is low. Besides this huge dyke about 1 m. in length, embankments



PORTMADOC

PORTH CEIRIAD—PRECIPICE WALK

were constructed along the Glaslyn, so as to protect the adjoining lands from flooding.

All this, together with the growing slate industry at Ffestiniog, tended to give importance to Portmadoc, which grew in consequence rather than its sister town, Tremadoc, situated a mile farther N. Its population is now between two and three thousand, and is steadily increasing. Portmadoc is served by the Cambrian line, which runs here from Criccieth, and goes, *via* Mynffordd Junction, to Harlech and Barmouth. But besides the Cambrian station, it has, at the W. end of the town (on the embankment), the terminal station of the so-called Miniature Railway to the slate quarries of Duffws and Ffestiniog. The view from the embankment as the train crosses it to Mynffordd Junction, especially of the Snowdonian peaks, is very fine.

Portmadoc contains little of interest save its quay, noteworthy for the quantity of slates shipped from it, and the busy life that is everywhere manifest about its streets. It is, however, more a place to pass through than to make a stay at, although it is a centre from which many interesting points may be made, especially on the Ffestiniog line, up the Glaslyn Valley, etc.

Powis Castle and Park. See *Welshpool*.

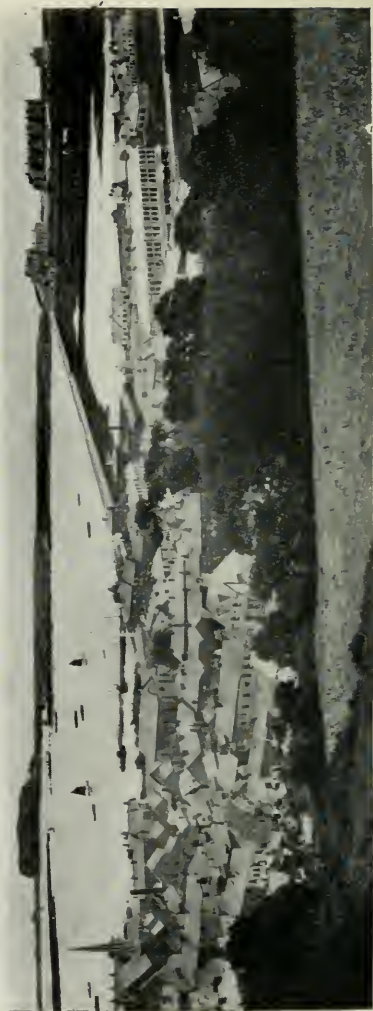
Precipice Walk, the, a footway passing along the W. face of Moel Cynwch, from which a fine view is obtained of the Ganllwyd Valley, the Mawddach Estuary, Cader Idris, etc. It is about 3 m. from Dolgelly (N.). The best way to get to the Walk is to follow the E. shore of Llyn Cynwch (which lies to the E. of the Moel), then, at the end of it, turn L. and ascend by a path

through a wood to the bare mountain side, along which the Walk goes, at a dizzy height (800 ft.), very trying for any but strong nerves.

Prestatyn (s.), a seaside resort in Flintshire, with good facilities for bathing, 4 m. E. of Rhyl. Hence it is an easy walk ($2\frac{1}{2}$ m.) to the ruins of Dyserth Castle, and not much more to Moel Hiraddug, the first of the fortified peaks of the Clwydian range, which stretches S. for a distance of 20 m., terminating at Llandegla.

Priestholm, or Puffin Island, a small rocky islet just off the most easterly point of Anglesey and directly opposite Orme's Head. It is situated $\frac{3}{4}$ m. from Point Trwyn Du, and is about $\frac{1}{2}$ m. in length. Near the centre of the rock is an old quadrangular tower, some 40 ft. high, with a peculiar conical roof, thought by good authorities to date as far back as the 7th cent. Giraldus Cambrensis refers to a monastic establishment here at an early date, and tradition (and the Welsh name of the islet, Ynys Seiriol) associates it with the priory of Penmon (q.v.). There is a lighthouse on the S.W. point of the island, built since the wreck of the *Rothsay Castle* there on the night of August 17, 1831, when over a hundred persons perished. The keepers are the only inhabitants of the island, if we except a few sheep and the tens of thousands of sea and other birds that frequent it in the summer season to breed and feed. These winged denizens include the puffin (from which it takes its name, and always more or less in evidence), cormorants, guillemots, razor-bills, divers, curlews, gulls, stormy petrels, and with them for about four months during the breeding season comes the *Alea Arctica*, or puffin-auk, making, with the innumerable





PWLLHELII

PRESTATYN—PWLLHELI

rabbits that share with the sheep the tender browsing afforded by the grass-covered surface, a sort of natural history paradise.

Pwllheli (s.). There are two Pwllhelis, an old and a new, the one some distance from the beach, the other a recent growth along it. (Population, 3791.) The beach is nearly 4 m. in length and excellent for bathing. The harbour is nearly landlocked, a rocky barrier ending in Carreg-yr-Imbill, or Gimlet Rock, further strengthened by splendid embankments, protecting it from the encroachment of the sea on the S. On the seaward side of this neck is the beach, which extends W. to Llanbedrog (q.v.), with its Pleasure House and grounds. The station (terminus of the Cambrian Railway) is on the E. side of the harbour, some minutes' walk from the old town; but the place is well supplied with 'buses and corporation trams to convey visitors and others to the new town, the beach, and W. as far as Llanbedrog.

Pwllheli is a corporate town (its charter dating from the time of the Black Prince), with a resident population of 3675. It is the centre of a brisk coasting and other trade, and has a growing reputation as a salubrious and reasonably cheap place of summer resort. While the town possesses little of exceptional interest in itself, there is much near at hand to give zest and variety to a holiday spent "within its gates." Carn Madryn (1217 ft.) is about 8 m. W. by N. affording (as need hardly be said) a fine view of the Caernarvon and Merioneth mountains, Lleyn as far as Bardsey Isle, etc.; Four Crosses (whence the water supply of the town), is about 3 m. distant (N.E.); Bodvean (or Boduan) Woods, 4 m. on the road

to Nevin. Near them is Bodvel Hall, where Mrs Piozzi, the friend of Dr Johnson, was born. A little to the R. of the Nevin road is Llanor, near which, at Penprys, the antiquarian-minded may examine some inscribed stones (6th cent.). The least pedestrianly-inclined should ascend the heights close to the town (N.) for the sake of the view, paying at the same time a visit to the old parish church at Deneio.

Raven Waterfall, a pretty cascade in a glen of delightful wildness on the upper reaches of the Felenryd, a feeder of the Dwyryd. A little way below it is the Rhaiadr Du (or Black Cataract), more beautiful than the other because of the volume of water (especially after rain) precipitated over three projecting rocks (see *Dwyryd*). The falls are reached by following the Harlech road from Maentwrog, and then, reaching the bridge over the Felenryd, taking a mountain road up the glen.

Red Wharf Bay, on the E. coast of Anglesey, noted for its fine scenery and for its quietude as a summer resort.

Rhaiadr Cwm, a waterfall on the river Cynfael, which may be seen on the R. of the road to Bala, 3 m. from Ffestiniog.

Rhaiadr, the, an affluent of the Tanat, on which is the famous waterfall of Pistyll Rhaiadr (q.v.).

Rhaiadr Du. See *Raven Waterfall*. There is another Rhaiadr Du a little above Ty'n-y-groes Inn, on the Camlan, just before it joins the Eden. In an afternoon's walk from Dolgelly this and the waterfalls of Pistyll-y-Cain and Rhaiadr Mawddach may with comparative ease be included.

RAVEN WATERFALL—RHIWARTH

Rhaiadr Mawr, a waterfall on the upper waters of the Aled (q.v.).

Rhaiadr-y-Wennol, or Swallow Fall, a cascade on the Llugwy (q.v.).

Rheidol, one of the five rivers having their source in Plinlimmon (q.v.).

Rhinog Fach (2333 ft.), and *Rhinog Fawr* (2382 ft.), two peaks N.E. of the Llawllech range, to the E. of Llanbedr, Merioneth. See *Draws Ardudwy*.

Rhiw, a village between the mountains of that name and the W. end of Porth Nigel, on the S. coast of the Lleyn promontory. It is situated on high ground, and affords a fine view of the long stretch of Hell's Mouth (as the Porth is called).

Rhiw, the, a considerable stream which flows into the Severn at Berriew (from Aber Rhiw, *i.e.* the mouth of the Rhiw), a couple of miles N.W. of Montgomery.

Rhiw Hirnant Pass, at the head of Cwm Hirnant, 1641 ft. above the sea, about $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. W. by N. of the N. end of Lake Vyrnwy. The view of the lake disclosed as the descent is made towards Rhiwargor is distinctly fine. At the summit of the pass a stone marks the dividing line between the counties of Merioneth and Montgomery.

Rhiwarth, the, an affluent of the Tanat, flowing through the charming valley of that name, at the head of which is the pass known as Milltir-gerrig ("the Stony Mile"). On the E. side of the river, overlooking Llangynog, is Craig Rhiwarth, or Rhiwarth Mountain, upon a slope whereof—of interest to the antiquary—is to be seen a cluster of

ancient hut dwellings (described in "Archæologia Cambrensis," 1880).

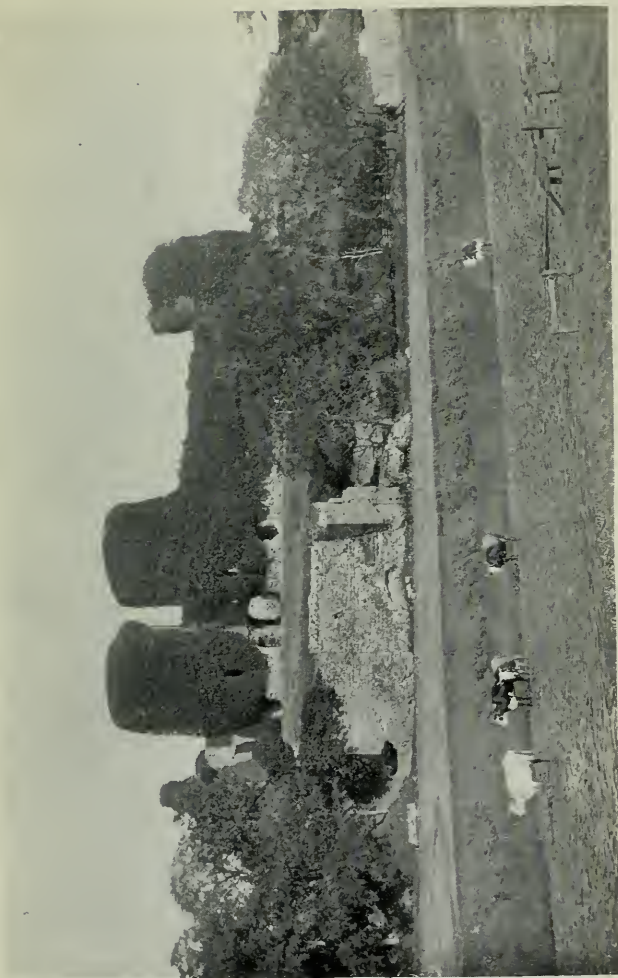
Rhobell Fawr (2313 ft.), a little to the N.E. of Llanfachreth, not difficult to ascend, and from whose summit (otherwise not interesting) a good view of Snowdonia, the Berwyns, Cader Idris, the Rhinog, etc., may be obtained.

Rhoscolyn, a small village 3 m. S.W. of Valley Station, on the line to Holyhead. Close to the village is Rhoscolyn Head, where there is some picturesque rock scenery, including a natural archway, by means of which the sea passes through the Head.

Rhosneigir, a quiet little watering-place (with links) $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. W. of Ty-croes station, on the Holyhead line.

Rhôs-on-Sea. See *Llandrillo*.

Rhuddlan (s.), a famous place in Welsh annals, and formerly a town of some importance, is now but a village with one main street. It is situated on the Clwyd, about $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. from Rhyl. The river, navigable here for small craft, is crossed by an old stone bridge. S. of the village is the castle, a place of some note in earlier centuries. Founded in the 11th cent. by Robert de Rhuddlan, a nephew of Hugh Lupus, it was rebuilt or strengthened in the next century by Henry II., and during many generations to come saw not a few hard knocks given and received, besides witnessing some scenes of a more peaceful turn. Here Edward I., who left so many marks of his sovereignty on the Principality, issued the code of laws known as the Statute of Rhuddlan. Here, too (in 1399) came poor Richard II. a prisoner. The last days of its importance befel during the Civil War, when it



RHUDDLAN CASTLE

RHOBELL FAWR—RHUDDLAN

was garrisoned for the king, but surrendered to General Mylton in 1646, and was then dismantled.

At present the castle is but an ivy-covered shell, little of it remaining but the outer walls and parts of the stone-faced moat. It is of quadrangular form, with six massive flanking towers, two of them at opposite angles, while gates at the two other angles divided the remaining four between them. A little way from the castle, on a commanding elevation known as Abbot's Hill, a more ancient fortress, it is said, once stood, and not far away to the S.E., are the remains of an old Dominican Priory, now a farm, in whose out-buildings may be seen traces of the old convent, including the figure (in a wall) of a knight of the 13th cent. Other interesting relics of "the olden time" may be found in and about the village, which, moreover, claims, according to an inscription on the wall of a house, to have been the scene of a parliament under Edward I. The claim, however, appears to be a mere idle tradition.

The parish church, near the bridge, has been carefully restored, but presents nothing of greater interest than the old tower, which, as was formerly so often the case with churches near the coast, appears to have been designed to serve as a landmark for home-coming vessels, Rhuddlan having in former days been a busy little port.

Between Rhuddlan and the sea lies the long stretch of marsh, now largely drained, known as Morfa Rhuddlan, where, in or about 796, a terrific battle took place between the Cymry, under their king, Caradoc, and the Saxons, commanded by Mercian Offa. The former were defeated with

NORTH WALES

great slaughter, and the misery and suffering of the terrible overthrow is said to have given rise to the plaintive national air of "Morfa Rhuddlan."

Rhyd-ddu, where is the terminal station on the Snowdon line. It is 630 ft. above the sea, and two hours' walk from the top of Y Wyddfa.

Rhyd Dibenwch. See *Plinlimmon*.

Rhyd-y-mwyn (S.), between $2\frac{1}{2}$ and 3 m. N.W. of Mold on the line to Denbigh, whence runs a good way (5 m.) to the summit of Moel Famau. A pleasant walk from the station to the Loggerheads Inn, called the Leet, follows the bank of the Alyn, which is several times seen to disappear and then appear again. The place on that account is called Hesp Alun (the Dried-up-Alyn), connected with which is a fanciful Cymric legend.

Rhyl is purely a sea-air resort—a sort of Midland Margate, with all the attractions of that popular holiday haunt, and, according to the verdict of those who should know, not a whit less bracing and salubrious. It possesses no other points of interest, barring that within a convenient walk or drive are a number of places worthy of a visit, as Rhuddlan, St Asaph, Dyserth, the Cefn Caves (on the banks of the Elwy: q.v.), Gwrych Castle, etc., etc. It has a good pier, a fine promenade and marine drive (in the direction of Prestatyn), with golf links on the dunes. W. is the Foryd (as the mouth of the river Clwyd is called), where is some shipping, and whence occasionally sea-trips to various places may be made. There are good hotels, fine streets, and an abundance of boarding-houses. The place is

RHYD-DDU—ROMAN STEPS

noted generally for its reasonable charges, and is, in consequence, a favourite resort for pater- and mater-familias with the Scriptural quiverful. For there the sands are broad and firm, and the sea—when it comes in from its mile-away retreat—safe and refreshing. In addition, there are enclosed baths for those who prefer them, and—at the Foryd end of the town—a large artificial lake for the convenience of those who like pontoon bathing. There, too, boating may be enjoyed, as likewise in the Foryd, much resorted to for sea-fishing. The town is in a good sanitary condition, and has an excellent supply of water, brought from Llanefydd (some 8 m. S.W.), above which rises Moel Fodiar (1022 ft.). Rhyl was, in 1830, but a fishing village with a few straggling houses; it is now a town with a resident population of 8473, and an important railway junction.

Rhythallt, another name for the river Seiont.

Rivals, the. See *Yr Eifl*.

Robber's Leap. See *Berwyn*.

Roft, the, an eminence near Gresford, the site of an ancient British camp. See *Gresford*.

Roman Bridge Station between Dolwyddelan and Ffestiniog, so-called because of a supposed ancient Roman bridge across the Machno.

Roman Steps, a long flight of steps leading to the summit of the Bwlch Tyddiad Pass (1294 ft.), between Rhinog Fawr and Graig Dhu. It is 2½ m. from the commencement of the steps to the top of them. They are not continuous, there being here and there intervals of level path. Though called Roman, it is not really known whether they are of Roman or of Cymric origin. They

NORTH WALES

show such excellent workmanship, however, as almost to convince the learned in these matters that they are Roman.

Rowen, a village 2 m. W. of Talycafn Stat., chiefly noted for its fine cromlech, the top stone, 9 ft. by 8 ft., in the widest part, and having four supports.

Ruabon (s.), a small town about 5 m. S.W. of Wrexham, situated in the midst of an extensive coalfield, and hence surrounded by collieries, as well as by ironworks, brick, and tile works, etc. Although the town itself numbers only 3387, the district surrounding it is very populous on account of the various industries there carried on. The older part of Ruabon (from Rhiw Mabon, it is thought) is situated upon a pleasant eminence, at the foot of which flows a small stream, the Eithaf. The chief part of the town, however, lies in the direction of Wrexham, the line from which branches off here for Llangollen, Corwen, and Bala.

The church, of ancient foundation (attributed to Mabon ap Tegonwy in the 6th cent.), is worth inspection, if only for the monuments, chiefly of the Wynn family, which it contains. Among these are a marble effigy of Sir Watkins Wynn (d. 1749), by Rysbrach, and a very beautiful statue in memory of Lady Henrietta Watkins Wynn, his wife, by Nollekens. In the "Wynn Chapel" (N. of chancel) is a monument to an early Wynn, with kneeling figures of his son and daughter, and an altar-tomb (1526), with recumbent figures of a knight and a lady of the Eyton family in the costume of the time. Of some antiquarian interest also is a fresco on the S. wall, laid bare during

ROWEN—RUG CHAPEL

the restoration of the church in 1870, and thought to represent the Day of Judgment.

Wynnstay, the ancestral residence of the Wynn family, is situated close to the town, and constitutes its chief attraction. The house is modern, having been built on the site of an old one destroyed by fire in 1858. Although many pictures, books, and valuable Welsh MSS. were burnt with the house, yet the present mansion contains some good family portraits (by Vandyke, Kneller, Reynolds, etc.), and, among other antiquities, a gold torque found on Cader Idris. The grounds of Wynnstay are very extensive, and need to be seen to be fully appreciated. They include many objects of interest, not the least noteworthy of which is the Nant-y-Belan Tower (q.v.). There is a second tower in the park, built to commemorate the battle of Waterloo and named after it; also a monumental column, 101 ft. high, to the memory of the second Sir Watkin Williams Wynn, from both of which an extensive view may be obtained over the adjoining Vale of Llangollen and of the Dee Valley after it leaves that vale. The main avenue of Wynnstay is over a mile in length, bordered by magnificent trees, one of the finest of which, named the "King Oak," is 36 ft. in circumference.

Wynnstay—formerly called Wattstay, by reason of Watt's Dyke running through the park—was in early times the home of Madoc ap Gruffydd Maelor, the founder of Valle Crucis Abbey. It came into the possession of the Wynns by marriage during the reign of Charles II., and has remained with them ever since.

Rûg Chapel, an ancient chapel attached to the mansion of that name on the N. side of the Dee,

NORTH WALES

about $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. from Corwen. Rûg was, before his attainder, the property of Owen Glendower, but afterwards came into the possession of the Vaughans, by whom the tiny private chapel appears to have been built or restored. Parts of it are said to be extremely old. Though in a very dilapidated condition, it still bears traces of the beautiful fresco-work and carving with which it was decorated. Near Rûg is Ffynnon Sulien (St Sulien's Well), whose water was once held more sacred than that of the Dee.

Ruthin (s.) is a pleasant little borough and assize town of Denbighshire, with a population of 2824. Its original Welsh name is said to have been Rhudd-ddin, *i.e.* the Red Fortress (so called from the red sandstone of which the Castle is built). Gilpin speaks of the place as being set "on a rising ground in a dish of mountains," not an inappropriate description of its situation on the summit and slope of a "fair eminence" in the upper part of the Vale of Clwyd, and on the right bank of the river of that name, here a somewhat small and sluggish stream running due N. Not only is its position picturesque, but the town, in its older parts at least, is quaint, with something of a foreign air. This is particularly the case as regards the market square, which tops the hill, having the Castle on one hand and St Peter's Church on the other, and one or two houses in particular stamped of the olden time. The most striking of these (restored) has dormer windows in the roof at four different elevations. Then, to add to the air of antiquity which somewhat marks the place, there is in the midst of the square a block of limestone known as the Maen Huail, notable from the cir-

RUTHIN

cumstance that, according to tradition, Huail, brother of Gildas, the historian, was beheaded upon it by order of King Arthur. The tradition, however, is of doubtful value, the earliest annals we have (12th cent.) recording the death of Huail as having taken place in the Isle of Man. We have nothing of historic value concerning Ruthin prior to the reign of Edward I., who (1282) made a grant of the Castle and demesnes to Reginald de Grey, first Lord Grey of Ruthin.

The old Castle is said to have been built in this reign. It, as well as the tower, had its share of hard knocks in the subsequent centuries; but the worst of Ruthin's tribulations appear to have fallen upon it on the 20th September 1400, when—on a fair-day, too—Owen Glendower burst upon the town with a posse of his followers, and, having plundered all and sundry, set fire to the place in revenge for wrongs, real or imaginary, suffered at the hands of Lord Grey of that ilk. The latter, however, or his *locum tenens*, appears to have successfully defended the Castle against Owen's assault. It was not so fortunate during the Civil War, when, after being held for the King for a period of two months, it was then compelled to surrender (1646), and was subsequently dismantled by order of Parliament. Only some ivy-clad walls and towers of the old fortress now remain, the main portion of the present Castle (the residence of Colonel Cornwallis West, Lord-Lieutenant of the county) being new.

The church, on the N. side of the square above referred to, originally conventual, "was made collegiate and parochial" by Lord Grey in 1310. In the course of time it suffered detriment and loss,

NORTH WALES

and was given a new aisle (s.), with a chancel, in the 18th cent., and in 1885 it underwent considerable alteration, a lofty spire being added in place of the old tower. A noteworthy feature of the interior is the handsome Perp. oak roof of the N. aisle, which is ornamented with a large number of elaborately carved panels, each containing a device or representation of some kind. There are also a number of mural tablets and brasses that are worthy of note. According to the following lines, the founder of the church was buried within it; but, if so, there is no trace of his tomb:—

“A church there is at Wrythen at this day,
Wherein Lord Grey, that once was earle of Kente,
In tombe of stone within the chauncel laye.”

Near the church are the Parsonage, which formerly constituted part of the cloisters, and Christ's Hospital, founded by Dr Gabriel Goodman (*tempo* Queen Elizabeth), who also gave the town its Grammar School (now housed in a more commodious building), and whose bust is one of the adornments of the church.

Our account of Ruthin and its various antiquities and objects of interest would be incomplete if it did not note also the fact of its chief industry at the present time being connected with the manufacture of mineral waters.

St Asaph (s.) lies due S. of Rhyll and is 6 m. distant by rail. It is situated between the rivers Clwyd and Elwy, which here run parallel to each other for some distance, finally uniting their waters a little above Rhuddlan. Both streams are crossed by handsome stone bridges. The Welsh name of the village city (the pop. of which is only 1833)

ST ASAPH

is Llan Elwy (the church on the Elwy), its English name of St Asaph not being known until the 12th cent. This it got from Asa or Asaph, the successor of Kentigern, Bishop of Glasgow, who, being driven from his own see, fled to N. Wales, and founded here (650) a college or monastery for 965 monks. The original edifice, of wood, was destroyed in Henry III's reign, and again, after being rebuilt, in Edward I.'s time (1282). Again rebuilt, it was for the third time destroyed in 1402, this time by Owen Glendower, who set fire to it and almost burned it to the ground. Part of the existing edifice dates from the reign of Henry VII. (1482). It suffered some indignities during the King *versus* Parliamentary Wars at the hands of Cromwell's soldiery, being used as a hospital and some say a stable. Since that time it has been much added to and restored, the choir being rebuilt in 1770, and Sir Gilbert Scott putting his renovating hand to it in various ways about a hundred years later. Among the improvements and additions made by him are a new roof to the nave, a handsome new reredos, and a bishop's throne and pulpit, the style adopted in restoration being E. Eng.

St Asaph's is the smallest Cathedral in Great Britain, being only 182 ft. in length and 68 across the nave. It is cruciform in character, with a central tower of plain but dignified appearance, a landmark for miles around, and commanding a fine view of the Vale of Clwyd. The objects most worthy of notice in the interior (besides those mentioned) are the E. window, an imitation of one at Tintern, the organ, said to be one of the best in Britain, and various monuments and

memorials. Not the least interesting of the latter is the mural tablet to Mrs Felicia Hemans, the poetess, who lived for the greater part of her life at Bronwylfa and Rhyllon, near St Asaph. In the S. transept is a recumbent figure in episcopal robes, *tempo* Edward I. ; there is also a full-length figure (seated) of Dean Shipley, in white marble, by Ternouth, likewise altar-tombs to Bishops Barrow and Luxmore, and a monument to Sir John Williams of Bodelwyddan, by Westmacott. In front of the Cathedral there is a monument to Bishop Morgan, the principal translator of the Bible into Welsh ; it is 30 ft. in length and includes, besides his own, the effigies of the seven others who assisted him in the work of translation.

There is little else of interest about St Asaph, except its lovely situation. The Cathedral is usually closed when service is not being held, but it may be seen by applying to the verger, when, by ascending the tower, the full beauty of the city's surroundings may be enjoyed.

St Asaph's Well. See *Dyserth*.

St Cadfan's Stone. See *Towyn*.

St Cynog, or *Cunnog*, generally known as *Merthyr* (*i.e.* Martyr) *Cynog*, who was put to death in the 5th cent. He gives his name to *Llangynog*.

St Deiniol's Library. See *Hawarden*.

St Mary's Abbey : *St Bardsey Isle*.

St Monacella, or *Melangel*, the patroness of hares. See *Pennant Melangel*.

St Peris' Well. See *Llanberis*.

St Tudnos' Church. See *Llandudno*.

St Tudwal's Bay and *Islands*. *St Tudwal's Bay* lies on the E. side of the *Lleyn* promontory,

ST ASAPH'S WELL—SEGONTIUM

S. of Llanbedrog Point, and the islands are situated just below its southern horn. The Bay forms the only good roadstead between Holyhead and Milford Haven, and in rough weather may often be seen thronged with vessels that have taken refuge there from the storm.

St Winefred's Well. See *Holywell*.

Sarn Badrig, or St Patrick's Causeway, is a narrow ridge of rock stretching in a S.W. direction from the coast of Merioneth, opposite Dyffryn, for a distance of about 20 m. It is about 24 ft. in breadth, and at ebb tide 9 m. or more are left dry. The Sarn is said to owe its name to the circumstances that along it St Patrick used to make his journeys to and from Ireland.

Sarn Elen, an old Roman road which crosses the valley of the Lledr at Dolwyddelan.

Sarn Sws. See *Caersws*.

Sarn-y-Bwch, like Sarn Badrig, is a long natural ridge, or causeway, near the river's mouth at Towyn, and extending out to sea for a distance of 5 m. Like St Patrick's Causeway, it is traditionally associated with the Cantref-y-gwaelod, or the Lowland Hundred, along which these causeways were supposed to run.

Segontium (Caer Seiont), the site of this ancient Roman city, which grew out of the camp founded by Ostorius Scapula and Suetonius Paulinus to defend their conquests, was at Llanbeblig, on the outskirts of Caernarvon. Many Roman remains have been discovered there, and parts of old walls are to be seen. It is thought that Edward I. built his Castle at Caernarvon out of the material supplied by the ruins of the old city.

NORTH WALES

Seiont, the, has its rise in the Snowdonian mountains, and after taking its troubled course through the Pass of Llanberis, flows through Llyn Peris and Llyn Padarn, and thence finds its way past Dinas Mawr to Caernarvon (q.v.).

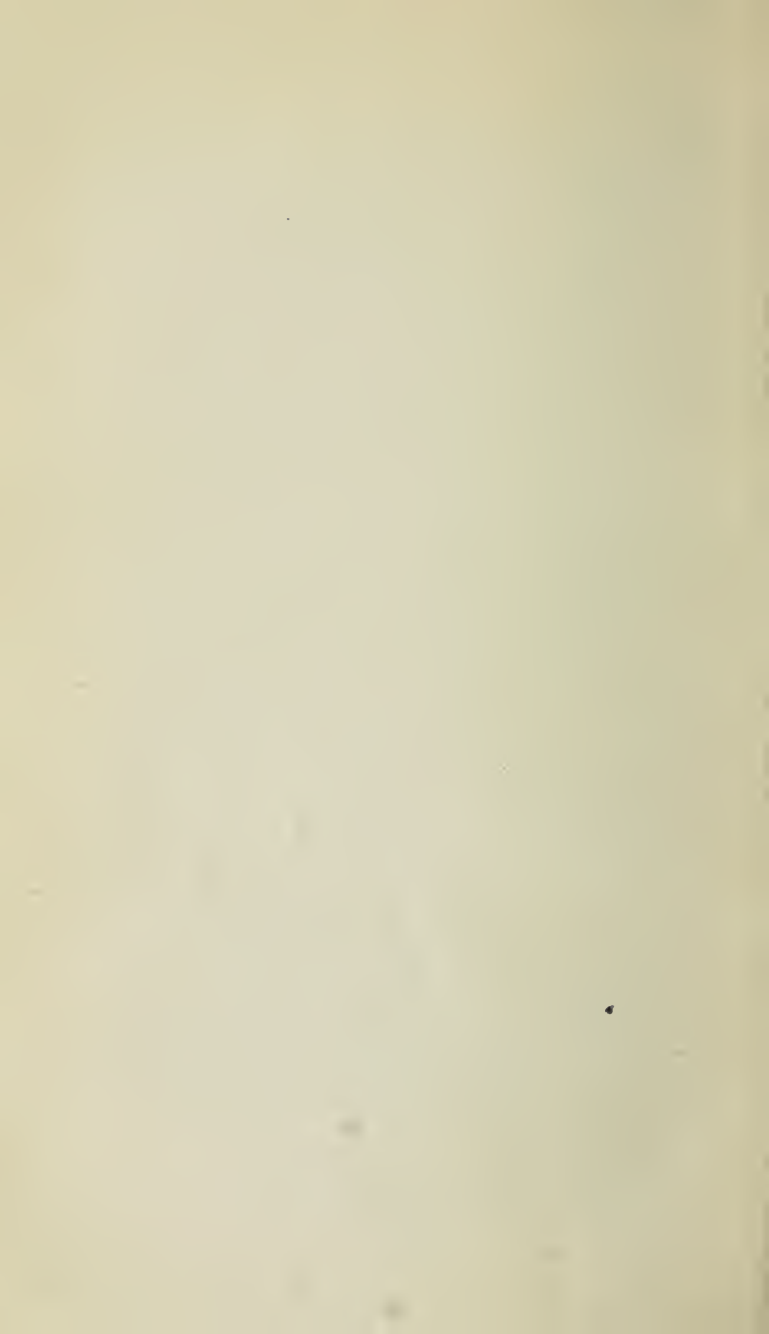
Scler Ddu, or the Black Cellar, a tiny valley below the crags of Bwlch Mawr (1665 ft.) filled with huge blocks of stone. In it rises the river Dwyfach, which unites with the Dwyfawr near Criccieth. About 1 m. S. of Scler Ddu are the remains of the hill fort or town of Pen-y-gaer, in a wild isolated summit.

Seven Wonders of Wales, these were the Steeple of Wrexham Church, Llangollen Bridge, St Winefred's Well, Overton Churchyard, Gresford Bells, Pistyll Rhaiadr waterfall, and Snowdon—all it will be observed in N. Wales.

Snowdon. We have been referring to Snowdon, speaking of its surroundings, describing its various ascents, and showing generally how it dominates the country almost from the beginning; but it is necessary here to concentrate a little and go into some few details that have not hitherto come into the reckoning. Snowdon proper is only part of a larger whole to which is given the name of the Snowdon Range, which may be roughly described as occupying a triangular area whose base line runs from Capel Curig, by Llyn Ogwen, the Llanberis Pass, and the *Seiont*, to Llanrug, and whose sides are formed by lines drawn respectively from Capel Curig through Pen-y-gwryd and Nant Gwynant, on the one hand (E.), and from Llanrug through Bettws Garmon, on the other, to Beddgelert, which forms the third point of the triangle. The lines of demarcation are not, of course, drawn so strictly as



SNOWDON FROM LLYN LLYDAW



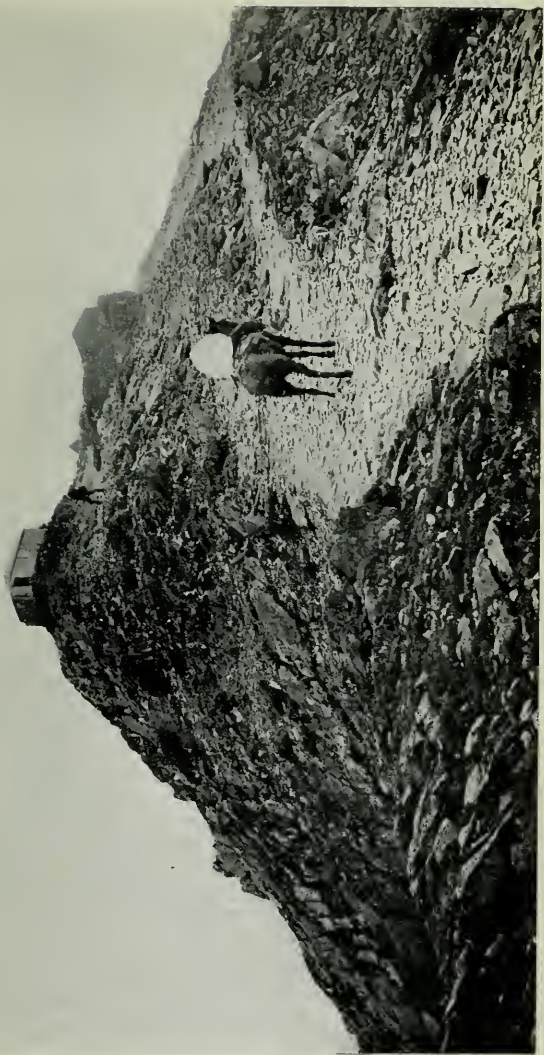
SNOWDON

this; if they were Moel Hebog would be cut off from the Snowdon range proper, of which it undoubtedly forms a part. But the figure will give some idea of what is understood when we speak of the block of mountains which surround, and as it were, buttress the central peak of Moel y Wyddfa. When we speak of Snowdonia, however, we mean more than this central hub of mountains, the name including the whole of the district from the Conway to the sea and having as its outposts the frowning precipices of Penmaenmawr on the one hand, and the lofty peaks of Yr Eifl on the other. Within these limits are comprised, in the order given, the following notable summits (going from N.E. to S.W.): Y Drogol (2483 ft.), a little S. of the Aber waterfall; Carnedd Llewelyn (3484 ft.) and Carnedd Dafydd (3426); Y Tryfan (3010 ft.); Glyder Fach (3262 ft.) and Glyder Fawr (3279 ft.); Y Wyddfa (3560 ft.), the highest of the Snowdonian peaks; Yr Aran (2451 ft.); Moel Hebog (2566 ft.); and Yr Eifl (or the Rivals), of inferior elevation, terminating the series to the S.W., on the shores of Caernarvon Bay.

But for the present, under the head of Snowdon, we will confine our attention to what we have described as the Snowdon range proper, which, we may add, would include Cnicht, overlooking the Pass of Aberglaslyn, and Moelwyn, nearer Tan-y-bwlch. It will be seen that by following the high road from Llanberis, through the Pass to Pen-y-gwryd, and thence by way of Nant Gwynant to Beddgelert, and thence N.W. to Llyn Cwellyn, we may, as old Burton could have put it, "circumbilivaginate" the whole base of Snowdon, saving a short stretch on the N.W., not more than 3 m. in

extent. By so doing—and it is often done by coach—a good idea is obtained not only of Snowdon and its immediate surroundings, but of the entire range. For those who have the time to spare, it makes a fitting preparation for the ascent of Y Wyddfa and for a fuller comprehension of its position and the lie of its various cwms and ridges. Of these something has been said in speaking of several of the paths up to the summit, but it may be well to add a few further particulars.

By one standing on the platform of Snowdon—a fairly broad one, with refreshment houses and a small hotel (for the convenience of those wishing to see the sunrise)—it will be seen that the peak is strongly buttressed by various spurs and ridges, and that between them are great cwms or hollows, in some cases of enormous depth. It is along these ridges that the main ascents are made. That from Llanberis, already described, runs along the slope of Llechog, and at a great elevation passes beneath the threatening crags of Clogwyn Du'r Arddu, which trends away westward towards the heights of Moel-y-cynghorion and Moel Gôch, to the S. of which begins the ascent from Llyn Cwellyn. Near the E. end of Clogwyn D'ur Arddu rises the ridge of Crib-y-ddysgyl, running easterly to Grib Gôch (3023 ft.). Immediately after passing the highest point of Crib-y-ddysgyl ("The Toothed Dish") the route from Llanberis is joined by what is known as the Miner's Track from Pen-y-gwryd, which crosses the N.E. end of Llyn Llydaw and then zigzags along the N. side of that lake and the Glaslyn tarn (1970 ft. above the sea). The ridge of Bwlch-y-maen, or "The Saddle" (S.W. of Glaslyn), is the one traversed for some distance by



SNOWDON--THE LAST HALF MILE

the Beddgelert route, until it divides, one part of it going S. to Bwlch Cwm-y-llan and Yr Aran. Then (S.E.) there is the ridge of Bwlch-y-saethau (the "Pass of Arrows"), which is continued by the rugged cliffs of Lliwedd, ending in Gallt-y-Wenallt, just over Llyn Gwynant.

The cwms that divide these ridges are, on the N.W., Cwm Brwynog, with its dark tarn Llyn Du'r Arddu; on the W. the abyss of Cwm Clogwyn, containing several lakes, all of which may be examined on the route from Llyn Cwellyn (q.v.); then S.W. we have Cwm Creigiog and S. Cwm-y-llan, forming in fact one great cwm. To the E. is Cwm Dyli—held by some to be the finest of the Snowdon valleys—with its lakes Glaslyn, Llydaw, and Teyrn, up which ascends the path from Pen-y-gwryd; and then finally, to the W., Cwm Glâs, lying between Crib Gôch and Llechwedd, with its small supplementary hollows of Cwm Glâs Bach opening into the Pass of Llanberis.

These five great hollows scooped out of the sides of Snowdon, which in ages past served as the beds of glaciers, present from the summit a most imposing, at times even a stupendous spectacle, for much, of course, depends on the weather when the ascent is made. It is rare to hit upon a perfect day in this regard. Sometimes every feature will be hidden by mist; at other times only a partial view will be revealed, a ridge here or there, a glimpse down this chasm or that, no wider sight disclosed. But now and again, as in the case of Borrow's visit, a happy chance opens the whole to view. "Peaks and pinnacles and huge moels stood up here and there, about us and below us (he

NORTH WALES

writes), partly in glorious light, partly in deep shade. Manifold were the objects we saw from the brow of Snowdon, but of all the objects which we saw, those which filled us with most delight and admiration, were numerous lakes and lagoons, which, like sheets of ice or polished silver, lay reflecting the rays of the sun in deep valleys at his feet."

Pennant, on one of his visits to the summit, enjoyed a very different scene to that described by Borrow. "A vast mist (he says) 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 vista 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 open again, and flee in wild eddies round the middle of the mountains, and expose in parts, both tops and bases, clear to our view." It may happen—though how rare the chance!—that by going up early in the day, and remaining on the top of the mountain till sunset, well nigh every phase of the giant's various moods may be enjoyed. Then indeed it is the treasured remembrance of a lifetime.

On perfectly clear days the view from Y Wyddfa includes the Wicklow Mountains; the Isle of Man; the Cumberland and Westmorland Hills; some elevations in Yorkshire; and, of course, Anglesey laid out like a map; the S.W. running promontory of Lleyn, with Bardsey Isle at its extreme end;

SNOWDON

the mountains of Merioneth; and E. and N. a whole circuit of Welsh hills. But when the eye has satisfied itself with its wider outlook, it presently sets itself the task of picking out and distinguishing the nearer heights that lie around, each with its own particular mark and character, its own peculiar and individual link with Snowdon.

And of these the first of all to claim attention is Carnedd Ugan (3476 ft.), with which is joined the ridge of Crib-y-ddysgyl (forming the lesser of the two heads of Snowdon). The latter connects it with "fiery red" Grib Gôch, that looks down on the Pass of Llanberis. To the R. of these rises the frowning ridge of Lliwedd, whose precipitous cliffs loom grimly over dusky Llydaw; and then, as the eye turns more to the S., the stately peak of Yr Aran, in a line with Beddgelert, come into view. These are all prominent buttresses, as Pennant calls them, of Snowdon; and another, one of an outlying group, Moel Eilio, is seen to the N. of Llyn Cwellyn, one of the twenty or more sheets of water that may be counted from Y Wyddfa; it lies almost due W. Then turning our looks N., we see beyond Grib Gôch the towering peaks of the Glyders, and beyond the Glyders, Y Tryfan, the double-sentinelled guardian of Nant Francon.

It is a wonderful spectacle, and gave rise, as some think, to the idea of Arthur's Round Table and his company of knights, who were ever around him, guardians of his majesty and his state. "To the poets of modern Europe," says Borrow, Snowdon is "almost what Parnassus was to those of old." Bingley ("A Tour Round North Wales") refers this sacred character of the mountain to the ancient Britons, and says, "They have a proverb

NORTH WALES

extant to this day, that whoever sleeps on Snowdon will awake either a poet or a madman." To-day, however, it is not the sleeping on the mountain that produces this effect, but the sleeping on a certain huge stone situate near the little lake, Llyn Du'r Arddu, a very different matter.

Snowdon Railway. Reference has already been made hereto under the heading Llanberis (q.v.). The work on this railway, which is on the ratch-wheel system so successful in Switzerland, began towards the close of 1894. It was opened on Easter Monday 1896, when, unfortunately, a bad accident occurred, resulting in the loss of one life. Since then there has been an uninterrupted service on the line in connection with the L. & N.W.R. trains. The line, which is $4\frac{3}{4}$ m. in length, begins close to the Victoria Hotel at Llanberis, and passes so near to the Ceunant Mawr waterfall as to give passengers a fine view of it from the carriage windows. The vale of Cwm Brwynog is then mounted, and the Llechog ridge reached, along which the train runs until the terminus is gained just below the summit. There are four stations or stopping-places—the Waterfall, Hebron Chapel (900 ft.), Half Way (1700 ft.), and Clogwyn (2600 ft.). The seats are so arranged as to give passengers the best possible opportunity of viewing the changing scene, the ascent being made in a little over an hour.

Snowdon Ranger, the name of an hotel on the N.E. side of Llyn Cwellyn, close to the station of that name on the North Wales Narrow Gauge Railway, running from Dinas to the Snowdon Station at Rhyd-ddu ($3\frac{3}{4}$ m. N. of Beddgelert). "Ranger" is the old name for a guide in the Snowdon district.

SNOWDON RAILWAY

Snowdon Station. See *Rhyd-ddu* and last paragraph.

Stacks, North and South. North Stack is the name given to an isolated rock just off the N.W. point of Holyhead Island. Above it is a coastguard station, where large guns are constantly being fired in foggy weather as a warning to vessels approaching this dangerous coast. South Stack (where is a lighthouse) is the name given to the S.W. corner of the same island (see Holyhead). Anyone may look over the lighthouse, which contains a powerful air-siren for foggy weather, and is well worth seeing. But the "thing to see" on and about these rocks, are the countless sea-birds that make these inaccessible cliffs and caves their home and breeding-place.

Strata Marcella, or Ystrad Marchell, the name of an abbey which formerly existed near Pool Quay, 3 m. N.E. of Welshpool, but whereof only the scantiest traces remain (at a spot called Abbey Field). It was a Cistercian house and is said to have been founded by Owain Cyfeiliog in or about 1170.

Swallow Waterfall, the. See *Bettws-y-coed*.

Sycharth, a village where Owen Glendower had a residence, is situated about 2 m. from Llansilin Road station on the Tanat Valley Railway. Borrow, in his "Wild Wales," gives a description of Sycharth and the double-moated "monticle" whereon the one-time residence stood; also a translation of the poetical account of the place composed by the bard Iolo Gôch, on the occasion of a visit paid to his patron, Glendower.

Sychnant Pass, the, is on the old road from

Conway to Penmaenmawr, which traverses a wild moorland tract and descends to Dwygyfylchi between Penmaenbach and Allt Wen. Near the top of the Pass there is a notable echo.

Talerddig (s.), a village on the line from Machynlleth to Mont Lane Junction, midway between Carno station and that of Llanbrynmair. Talerddig is chiefly notable for the deep rock cutting (113 ft.) through which the line runs at this point. The valley of the Tal in which the village is situated shows some very pleasing scenery.

Tafolog, the, an affluent of the Ysgathan, which joins the Dyfi near Mallwyd.

Talsarnau (s.), a village on the E. side of the Traeth Bach (q.v.), between 3 and 4 m. N.E. of Harlech. From it the lakes Tecwyn Isaf and Tecwyn Uchaf can be visited in an easy walk. About a mile S.W. of Talsarnau is the little church of Llanfihangel-y-Traethau, noted for a stone in its burial-ground bearing a Latin inscription supposed (by some) to refer to Owen Gwynedd.

Tal-y-bont (1) a village on the road from Barmouth to Harlech (4 m. from the former), where it crosses the Ysgethin. On the bridge here is an old milestone with the inscription, "I Bermo IV. I Ddolgelle XIII." (2) There is another Tal-y-bont, on the road from Towyn to Tal-y-llyn (2 m. N.E. of Towyn), where the Dysynni is crossed by a bridge. (3) The third Tal-y-bont is situated about $\frac{1}{2}$ m. S.E. of Llanbedr, on the Afon Duly, a little above its junction with the Conway: a resort much favoured by artists on account of its romantic and picturesque surroundings.

Tal-y-Cafn (s.), a village on the Conway,





TAI-Y-LLYN LAKE AND PASS

TALERDDIG—TAL-Y-LLYN

3½ m. S. of the town of that name, where was formerly an important ferry across the river, here, of course, a tidal stream. Opposite the station is a mound, supposed in Roman times to have been the site of a post for the defence of the crossing. The ferry was replaced by a bridge in 1897. A good centre from which to visit many interesting places in the district.

Tal-y-fan (2000 ft.) is one of the more northerly heights of Snowdonia, situated about 2½ m. almost due S. of Penmaenmawr, from which place it is readily reached. The ascent is easy. On the summit are two cairns. *Bwlch-y-ddeufaen* ("The Pass of the Two Stones") lies to the S.W., and the descent may be made through it to Llanfairfechan.

Tal-y-foel, a village in Anglesey, near the W. end of Menai Strait, between which and Caernarvon there is a steam ferry.

Tal-y-llyn, a beautiful sheet of water on the S. side of Cader Idris, 1½ m. long by ¼ m. broad, held by many to be the most delightful in Wales. It is 10 m. N.E. of Towyn and about 3 m. from the Toy Railway station at Abergynolwyn; or it may be reached from Corris railway station (on the Narrow Gauge line from Machynlleth), 2½ m. distant to the S.E. The lake is much resorted to by anglers, and there are two good inns in the village at its S. extremity, the older one, *Pen-y-bont*, by the bridge over the *Dysynni* near its out-flow. On account of the two railways, *Tal-y-llyn* is rather a favourite starting point for the ascent of Cader Idris, the path leading by the cwm at the end of which is the tiny *Llyn-y-cau*, one of the gems of the Cader district.

Tanat, the, an affluent of the Vyrnwy, with which it unites a few miles before its junction with the Severn. See *Llangynog* and *Llanrhaiadr-yn-mochnant*.

Tan-y-bwlch (s.), a small village on the line from Portmadoc to Ffestiniog, 8 m. by road from Pont Aberglaslyn and barely 1 m. from Maentwrog. The neighbourhood is rich in fine scenery. The village is a good point from which to ascend both Moelwyn and Cnicht.

Tan-y-grisiau (s.), a village on the Portmadoc-Ffestiniog line, 3 m. (by road) from Ffestiniog, whence Moelwyn and Manod Mawr may be easily reached. A delightful walk may be made hence to Beddgelert (10 m.) by way of Cwm Orthin lake (1059 ft. above the sea) and Cwm Croesor (between Moelwyn and Cnicht).

Tarannon, the, an affluent of the Severn which joins that river near Caersws, has its rise in the mountains near Llanbrynmair. It flows through a pleasant vale, overlooked in its upper parts by Tarannon mountain, which gave its name to the shales of that name. "The Tarannon shales," says Sir R. Murchison (in "Siluria"), "occasionally of hard slaty character, and of various colours . . . form a geological band of great persistence, which, beginning in small dimensions near Llandovery, expands in its course through Radnor and Montgomery. It is largely and clearly exhibited about New Bridge and at Tarannon, between Llanbrynmair and Llanidloes."

Tomen-y-Bala. See *Bala*.

Tomen-y-mûr ("The Mound of the Wall"), or Castell Tomen-y-mûr, lies $1\frac{1}{4}$ m. S.E. of Maentwrog Road station, and marks the site of

THE TANAT—TOWYN

important Roman station of Heriri Mons, so called, though we do not know how it was named by the Romans themselves. The place gets its name from a large mound (500 ft. in length by 350 in breadth) within the enclosure of the old camp, which is of considerable area. Here the Sarn Elen or Helen (q.v.), on its way N. and S., was joined by other Roman roads. Near Tomen-y-mûr is a large amphitheatre and other remains of special interest to the antiquary.

Torrent Walk, the, a favourite resort, 2 m. E. of Dolgelly, where the Clywedog stream, skirting the Dinas Mawddwy road, after running through a rocky clough or dell, falls into the Wnion. The Walk, which passes through the private grounds of Caerynwch, follows the line of the stream, and, beautifully shaded by trees, is a delightful stroll in the summer-time, when the ferns and flowers are at their best, and the waters of the brook, dashing over their rocky bed, make a pleasing and appropriate music.

Towyn (s.): the name (Welsh, Tywyn) means a sandy shore, but the town itself—the old town, that is—lies $\frac{3}{4}$ m. from the beach, where, however, a new town has of recent years sprung up and attracts a good many visitors by its splendid sea-front and extensive sands. These are beautifully firm and smooth, and stretching for a distance of 6 m., form an incomparable promenade either for riding or walking. From them a fine view is obtained of Cardigan Bay, and likewise of the grand array of mountains that form a distinct background to the town; for the town itself is built upon an alluvial flat, near the mouth of the Dysynni, which looks as if it might, at no very

NORTH WALES

remote period, have been covered by the sea. Between Towyn and the Dysynni is a stretch of marshland (Morfa Towyn), not very inviting to the general, albeit much resorted to by the botanically minded.

As for the town itself, it has the reputation of being extremely healthy, likewise cheap, and hence suitable for many-numbered families. The sanitary arrangements are good, and there is an excellent supply of water, derived from the hills above Rhyd-yr-onen (2 m. N.E.). The Urban Sanitary Board (whose district includes Aberdovey, with a united pop. of 3744) is very careful in these matters, being anxious to keep up and even enhance the reputation of the place. Excellent fishing may be had in the neighbourhood, the Dysynni affording good sport; also Talyllyn Lake (10 m. to the N.E.). For Talyllyn the Narrow Gauge is the best means of access as far as Abergynolwyn (7 m.), whence there is a 3 m. walk. The station for this line is at Pendre, on the N. side of the town, some little distance from the main line (Cambrian), which lies between the old and the new town. Aberdovey (3 m. S.), where are golf links and fine opportunities for boating, is easily reached by train, and there are other places of interest and delight within easy access.

The only object of antiquarian interest in Towyn is the old parish church (St Cadfan's). St Cadfan was a monk who came over from Armorica in the 6th cent., accompanied by a number of "religious" like himself, and, after remaining in Bardsey Island for a time, settled at Towyn, where he established a mission and built a church. The church, called after him, is held to be one of the oldest in Wales.



DYSVNNI VALLEY, TOWYN

It is cruciform in structure and of considerable size, having a nave, with chancel, aisles and N. and S. transepts. The nave is early Norm., with rude, massive pillars supporting round arches, which divide it from the aisles. The clerestory also is Norm. Other parts show marks of E.E. The edifice was restored in 1881 and, among other alterations, the position of the tower changed. In the chancel are two interesting old monuments, one of a knight in armour (*temp.* Edward III.), the other of a priest in canonicals. Noteworthy also is an ancient font, to be seen near the door. But the most interesting object in the church is St Cadfan's Stone. This is a quadrangular pillar about 7 ft. in length, with two of its sides 10 in. broad, the other two not more than 6 in., each side being inscribed with rude characters (thought to be debased Roman), all attempts to interpret which have hitherto proved unsatisfactory. The language is undoubtedly Welsh, though of an age centuries earlier than the oldest Welsh MSS. extant. Experts generally, however, agree that the Stone appears to be commemorative of St Cadfan. It formerly stood in the graveyard, but now lies on the floor of the church.

Traeth Bach, the estuary of the Dwyryd (q.v.), situated to the S. of Traeth Mawr, from which it is separated by the Deudraeth promontory. Traeth, it may be explained, signifies a tract of sand covered by the sea at high water and bare when the tide is out.

Traeth Mawr, the larger stretch of sandy flat N. of Traeth Bach, much of which was reclaimed by the building of the embankment at Portmadoc (q.v.).

Trawsfynydd (s.), a small straggling village on elevated ground, $4\frac{1}{2}$ m. S. of Ffestiniog (on the line from that place to Bala). Here is the watershed which divides the streams Traeth-wards, or in the direction of Barmouth. Although its immediate surroundings are somewhat bare and bleak, Trawsfynydd commands some exceptionally fine views, especially of the mountains to the W. Good fishing is to be had in the river Prysor and in other neighbouring waters, most of which, like Llyn Tryweryn (E.), are well stocked with fish (trout, pike and perch). An almost straight road runs from Trawsfynydd, S. to Dolgelly and N. to Maentwrog, and nearly parallel with it on the E. may be seen the old Roman road known as Sarn Elen, which, about $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. N. of Trawsfynydd, passes the Roman station of Hiriri Mons (q.v.). This and other ancient remains to be found in the vicinity are of extreme interest to the antiquary.

Treborth Station, on the line from Bangor to Caernarvon, a few hundred yards from the Tubular Bridge.

Trefeglwys, a village on the Tarannon (q.v.), here joined by the Trefeglwys stream, up which a railway was laid to the formerly famous Van mines.

Trefnant (s.), a village midway between St Asaph and Denbigh, with a handsome modern church, built from designs by Sir Gilbert Scott. Within an easy walk (2 m.) are the Cefn Caves on the Elwy. On the way the well of Ffynnon Fair, with its ruined chapel, is passed. At this and other similar wells, we are told, clandestine marriages used to be "solemnised" at night.

Trefriw (s.), a large and pleasant village and

watering-place (with strong chalybeate springs and a pump-room) on the W. side of the Conway, $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. N.W. of Llanrwst, with which it shares a station (1 m. distant). It lies at the opening of the Crafnant Valley, where, about $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. distant, is a waterfall formed by the two streams coming from Lakes Crafnant and Geirionydd. The church, pleasantly shaded by yews, is popularly said to be as old as Llewelyn the Great, by whom, according to tradition, it was built (see *Llanrhychwyn*). The whole neighbourhood is full of interest, and many pleasant days may be spent exploring it. A walk that none visiting Trefriw should miss is one to the head of Llyn Geirionydd and thence to Capel Curig, where, on a fine day, a most magnificent view may be obtained of Snowdon, Moel Siabod, and the Glyders.

Tregarnedd, an old mansion (now a farmhouse), near Llangefni (Anglesey), of the time of Henry VII., once the fortified residence of Ednyfed Vychan, a friend and counsellor of Llewelyn ap Iorwerth (13th cent.), from whom was descended in a direct line Owen Tudor (b. 1386), who married Catherine, widow of Henry V., one of whose sons by him was the father of the Earl of Richmond, afterwards Henry VII. In a field near the house is a large carnedd (or heap of stones), from which the place no doubt took its name.

Tremadoc, a large village about 1 m. N. of Portmadoc, lying under some fine wooded cliffs, but otherwise of little interest. Close to Tremadoc, on the road to Snowdon, are the mansion house and grounds of Tan-yr-allt, the one-time residence of the Mr. Madocks who gave his name

to both Tre and Port Madoc. Tan-yr-Allt was so called after an earlier house of the name which is said to have stood at the village end of the grounds of the present mansion. This was the house wherein, as a friend of Mr. Madocks, Shelley for a time lived, and from which he was finally driven by one of the most inexplicable incidents in his erratic career—the alleged attempt on his life in the garden at midnight. The walk hence to Portmadoc is a very pleasant one, opening up some striking views, not the least interesting of which is that of the church, built by Mr. Madocks, lifting up its quaint spire amid the trees of a rocky elevation at the end of the village.

Tremeirchion, a village in the Clwydian hills, $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. N.E. of Trefnant and about the same distance from St Asaph. In the church are two interesting effigies, one of them said to be that of a man who was vicar of the parish about the middle of the 14th cent. Another figure of the kind and the head of a cross which stood in the churchyard have been removed to St Beuno's College, a Roman Catholic seminary, situated on the Dyserth road, about a mile from the village. In the parish is the well of St Beuno (Ffynnon Beuno) and two caves, in which, many years ago, were found the bones of reindeer, rhinoceros and other animals, as well as a quantity of charcoal. Near the village is Brynbella, the house built by Mrs. Piozzi, Dr Johnson's friend, and for some time occupied by her.

Tre'r-Ceiri. See *Yr Eifl Mountains*.

Tre'r Castell, a farm-house on the sea-shore of Anglesey, a little N.E. of Llanfaes, occupying the site of an ancient castellated residence of the

Tudors, some slight traces of which are still to be seen.

Trevor (s.), a village on the line from Ruabon to Llangollen, overlooking the vale of Llangollen, having the once famous railway bridge across the vale to the E. and the Pont-y-cyssylltau Aqueduct fronting it on the S.

Tryfan or *Trivaen* (3010 ft.). See *Snowdon*. One of the best ascents is from Llyn Ogwen. Tryfan gets its name from Tri Vaen, from three tall stones formerly standing upright on its summit (now reduced to two, one having fallen), which from below had the exact appearance of three men, and were often taken for such.

Tryfan Junction, the station on the North Wales Narrow Gauge Railway from Dinas to the Snowdon station Rhyd Ddu at which the branch lines go off to Bryngwyn on the slopes of Moel Tryfan.

Tryweryn, the, an affluent of the Dee, which it joins just after its outflow from Lake Bala, has its rise in Llyn Tryweryn, a little to the W. of the Arenigs, between which it takes its way through a beautiful vale, until, passing Frongoch, it turns in a more southerly direction and close to Bala adds its waters to those of the "sacred Dee."

Tudwal's Isles. See *St Tudwal's Isles*.

Twll Du. See *Llyn Idwal*.

Twrch, the, a tributary of the Dee (q.v.)

Twymyn, the, an affluent of the Dyfi or Dovey, having its source on the N. slopes of Plinlimmon. On its upper waters are several fine waterfalls, the uppermost of which, Ffrwd Fawr, has a perpendicular descent of 130 ft. and is particularly striking after rain. A little below the main fall the waters

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take another leap, the two from a distance looking like one. The surroundings are grand in the extreme and add greatly to the effect of the cascade.

Ty-croes (s.), a village on the Holyhead line, about 3 m. N.W. of Aberffraw and not far from Llyn Badrig, which lies N.E.

Ty'n-y-groes, a favourite resort of artists and anglers, 5 m. N. of Dolgelley. It is on the W. bank of the Mawddach, a little below its confluence with the Cain and the Camlan, and is reached by the Maentwrog road from Llanelltyd, which runs along the right bank of the Mawddach, and hence up the beautiful Ganllwyd Valley. Near *Ty'n-y-groes* is the Glasdir copper mine, and a little above the inn (Oakley Arms) is a wooden bridge over the river. The falls of Rhaiadr Du, Pistyll-y-Cain, and Rhaiadr Mawddach are all within easy walking distance of the inn.

Tyrau Mawr (2167 ft.), one of the peaks of the western flank of the Cader Idris, whose bold precipitous crags overlook the Creigenen lakes.

Uffern, a place on the coast, near the Point of Air, at which Offa's Dyke terminated.

Vale of Clwyd, the. See *Clwyd* (the river). Properly speaking what is known as the Vale of Clwyd extends from Derwen, about 5 m. S.W. of Ruthin to the Flintshire coast, having a length therefrom of nearly 23 m. Its breadth varies from 2 to 6 or more. It is bounded on both sides by mountains, on the E. by the Clwydian range, and on the W. by the Mynydd Hiraethog, a long, desolate range of hills whose highest points are to be found in Bronbanog (1572 ft.) and Moel Eithin (1660 ft.). The whole of the valley is subject to

TY-CROES—VALLE CRUCIS ABBEY

extensive floods; but while these at times cause great destruction, they on the other hand pay rich tithes in the wonderful fertility thus imparted to the wide-spreading fields. Everywhere the scene is one of fruitfulness and content, and though the visitor may at times be disappointed as regards the famed beauty of the Vale, he cannot but be pleased by its many charms, often bordering on the idyllic. There are many points, like the tower of St Asaph's Cathedral or Denbigh Castle, from which good views of the Vale may be obtained, but none are equal to that to be had from the churchyard of Llangwyfan, 5 m. E. of Denbigh, from which, on a clear day, the valley may be seen well nigh from end to end, from the sea on one hand to Eyrarth cliffs on the other.

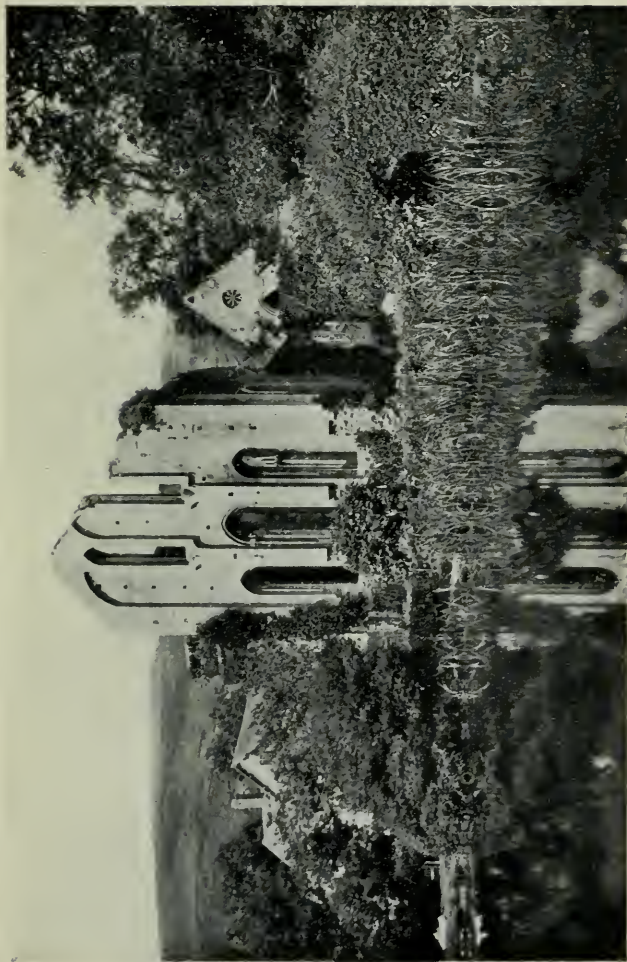
Vale of Edeyrnion, the, a beautiful stretch of country in the N.E. part of Merionethshire, beginning to the S.W. of Corwen, and following the course of the Dee until it bends W. towards Bala Lake. It is bounded on the S. by the Berwyn Mountains.

Valle Crucis Abbey, the Abbey of the "Valley of the Cross," is supposed to take its name from an ancient cross (thought by some to be the neighbouring "Pillar of Eliseg," which may be seen from the Abbey door), and dates from about the year 1200, when it was founded by Madoc of Gryffydd Maelor, Prince of Powys. It is about 2 m. N. of Llangollen, in the R. of the road to Ruthin, and forms one of the most perfect and interesting ecclesiastical ruins in N. Wales. The abbey was not large, and the church, which is the most considerable portion remaining, consists of naves (of five bays) with aisles, choir, and two

transepts, each of which had an aisle and two chapels. The W. front, with its pointed doorway, its three double-light windows, and above them, in the gable, a later circular or marigold window, is perhaps the most beautiful part that remains. The style of it is E. Eng. Above the lancet windows an inscription, greatly mutilated, records that "Abbot Adam" *fecit hoc opus* ("had the doing of this work"). In the nave the side walls and portions of the piers remain, and between the nave and the choir are fragments of a rood-screen, with a stair on the S. side. The E. windows also remain—three lofty lancets and two smaller ones above, and strike one as being the oldest part of the edifice. Portions of the transept likewise are still standing, and both here and in other parts of the ruin details occur that are well worthy of note.

S. of the church, adjoining the sacristy, is the old chapter-house, stone-vaulted, with four pillars for supports, which was at one time used as a farmhouse, but is now restored to itself, a memento merely. On the side towards the cloister, long since cleared away, the chapter-house was lighted by a window of striking Flamboyant design, evidently a late addition. S. of the entrance is a small door giving admission to a stair leading up to the dormitory, which was above the chapter-house. Bingley, in whose time it was still a farm dwelling, notes that the floors of the dormitory are "so thick, from their being arched underneath, that when the doors are shut, and the men were threshing corn in the barn over the kitchen, they cannot be heard below."

Valle Crucis Abbey was a Cistercian house, dedi-



VALLE CRUCIS ABBEY

cated to the Virgin Mary. It was dissolved about the year 1535, when its revenues were valued, according to Dugdale, at a hundred and eighty pounds, eight shillings, and by Speed at some twenty-six pounds more. It was a rich foundation, having, besides a number of livings, three hundred acres of "plough land." But now, notwithstanding the care bestowed on it, it is a waste—a shadow cast down through the ages of a condition that was, beautiful in its decay, with nature asserting her sway and imparting her loveliness, but still a shadow.

Valley Station, the last on the Holyhead line on the mainland of Anglesey. Shortly after quitting it the railway crosses the Stanley Embankment ($\frac{3}{4}$ m. in length) to the small island on which Holyhead stands. Over the embankment the high road also is carried.

Van Lead Mines. See *Llanidloes*.

Vanner Abbey. See *Cymmer Abbey*.

Vaynol Park, the finely wooded demesne of the Assheton Smith family, on the Caernarvon side of Menai Strait, between Treborth station and that of Port Dinorwic.

Vigra and Clogau Gold Mines, the, are situated between Bont-ddu and Llanelltyd, about 5 m. N.E. of Barmouth. For a short time, forty years or so, the yield of the precious metal was very great (in 1862 £24,000), but of late years it has been small.

Vortigern's Valley. See *Nant Gwrtheyrn*.

Vron Cyssylltau, a village about 1 m. S. of Trevor station, on the line from Ruabon to Llangollen, from which the Cyssylltau Aqueduct across the Dee Valley takes its name. Pont-y-cyssylltau

is on the other side of the river. See *Cyssylltau Aqueduct*.

Vyrnwy, the. See Section III.

Waen-fawr, a station on the Narrow Gauge Railway midway between Tryfan Junction and Bettws Garmon, in the valley of the pretty Gwrfai stream.

Waterloo Bridge. See *Bettws-y-coed*.

Waterloo Tower. See *Ruabon*.

Watt's Dyke. Of this ancient defensive work less is known than of Offa's Dyke (q.v.). Some suppose it to have been a second or afterthought of Offa's. Watt's Dyke began at the sea-coast near Basingwerk Abbey, running thence in a southerly direction, past Halkin, Northop, and Hope, to Wrexham, Ruabon, and Wynnstay (formerly called Wattstay from its running through the park), being traced thence through Gobowen (where it is known as the Devil's Dyke) to Oswestry and Maesbury, being finally lost in the lowlands N. of the Severn. It has been conjectured that the ground lying between Watt's and Offa's Dyke may have been neutral territory, whereon Cymry and Saxon might meet for the peaceful purpose of trade and what not. Churchyard the poet, in his "Worthiness of Wales," refers to this "free ground":

"There is a famous thing,
Cal'de Offa's dyke, that reacheth farre in length,
All kind of ware the Danes might thither bring,
It was free ground and cal'de the Britaine's strength.
Wat's dyke likewise, about the same was set,
Betweene which two, the Danes and Britaines met
And traffic still, but passing bounds by sleight,
The one did take the others pris'ner streight."

Welshpool (s.), on the Severn, is in reality, though not nominally, the county town of Mont-

gomeryshire, the assizes being held here, and much other shire business concentrated within its bounds. It was granted a charter by James II., and has from an early period been a place of importance. Its name is said originally to have been called Poole (no doubt by reason of its proximity to the tiny lake Llyn-dû, now within the enclosure of Powis Park), and that "Welsh" was added thereto by way of distinguishing it from Poole in Dorsetshire; but it is curious to note that in Leland's "Itinerary," it is referred to as "Welschpole."

Welshpool was formerly a centre of the flannel trade, but is so no longer, its four thousand odd inhabitants depending for their livelihood on many manufactures and industries that arise out of its position on the Montgomeryshire Canal and the railway, and as a market-town. It is very English in appearance, having wide and regular streets, with houses for the most part built of brick, while English is heard spoken much more than Welsh. The only building of importance in the town (after the old church) is the Town Hall, a rather fine modern building. Here the assizes are held, the court-room being distinguished by a statue of Justice, holding her sword in the left hand and her balance in the right, and in consequence much laughed at; but the sculptor evidently knew what he was about. In his view the accurate balancing of right and wrong should come first, punishment second.

The parish church, dedicated to St Mary, is situated at the higher part of the town, which overlooks the pleasant valley of the Severn. It is chiefly remarkable for its massive tower, large nave (with which has been incorporated the S. aisle),

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and the Dec. E. window of the chancel, part, as is thought, of the original structure. In 1871 the church was restored and much altered. It contains some good Powys monuments. In the churchyard is a large boulder stone, known locally as the "Wishing Stone." It was brought hither from the Abbey of Ystrad Marchell, was allowed to rest for long years inside the church, although held to have been formerly a Druidical altar, but was finally turned out of doors.

There is much of antiquarian and other interest round and about Welshpool that might detain the curious for several days, and notably a Tomen, or moated mound (now used as a bowling green), which in all likelihood once guarded the passage of the Severn. To the passing visitor, however, the chief attraction of Welshpool will always be the sylvan glories of Powis Park, the entrance to which lies immediately S. of the town, and Castell Côch (or Powis Castle), seated in the midst of it. A fortress of the same name, which means Red Castle, so called from the red sandstone of which it is built, was begun here, the centre of the old lordship of Powysland, as early as 1110. A little over a century later (1233) it was taken and dismantled by Llewelyn the Great. Subsequently it came into the possession of Hawys Gadarn, daughter of Owain Gwenwynwyn, who married Sir John Charlton, and in the family of Powys (Sir John being created Baron of Powys) remained for several generations. The barony and title went afterwards to Sir John Grey by marriage with Jane, eldest daughter of Edward Lord Powys, with whose descendants it continued till the reign of Henry VIII., when the title became extinct.

WELSHPOOL—WHITCHURCH

The estate subsequently came into the possession (by purchase) of Sir Wm. Herbert, second son of the Earl of Pembroke, who was created Earl of Powys by Charles I. In the Civil War it was taken for the Parliament by Sir Thomas Myddelton, but was handed back at the Restoration to the Herbert family.

Leland and Camden both speak of two castles here within one wall. The words of the former (who wrote *temp.* Henry VIII.) are: "Welschpole had two Lords' Marchers Castles with one wall, the Lord Powys namid Greye, and the Lord Dudley caullid Sutton; but now the Lord Powys hathe bothe in his hand. The Welschpole (Castle) is in compas almost as much as a little towne."

The present castle is a patched-up, heterogencous structure of many periods, although its salient features are those of an Edwardian keep, with four massive round towers. It occupies a commanding position on a natural platform of sandstone rock, portions of which have been cut away to form terraces. In the early part of last century the place was much altered and modernised by Sir Robert Smirke; at the same time "Capability" Brown put his hand to the gardens and grounds generally, doing much to make the demesne the delightful pleasure place it is. Words are useless to describe it—it must be seen to be enjoyed. In the house, which may be seen when the family is away, are many art and other treasures.

Wheeler (or *Chwiler*), the. See *Nannerch*.

Whitchurch, a village 1 m. E. of Denbigh, where is the old parish church of that town. It is dedicated to St Marcella, and is now used as a cemetery chapel only. It contains some inter-

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esting architectural details, including a hammer-beam roof with large corbels, two parallel aisles divided by octagon pillars, above which is a cornice with much sculptured detail. But the feature which will probably most interest the lay visitor is a brass in the porch to Richard Myddelton, Governor of Denbigh Castle under Edward VI., Mary, and Elizabeth, and his wife Jane, with their nine sons and seven daughters. The sixth son became the famous Sir Hugh Myddelton, the Lord Mayor who brought the New River to London. There also lie buried other notable men, including Humphrey Llwyd, the Welsh historian, and Thomas Edwards ("Twm o'r Nant"), noted for his witty dramatic "Interludes," a native of the district.

Whitford, a village about 3 m. N.W. of Holywell and just S. of Mostyn Park. Near it is Downing Hall, at one time the home of Thomas Pennant, the historian and antiquary, now the property of Lord Denbigh. In Whitford Church Pennant was buried. In a field by the side of the road leading to Newmarket is the famous *Maen Achwynfaen* (the "Stone of Lamentation"). It is close upon 12 ft. high, and 27 in. wide at the base. The head is circular, enclosing a cross, and the whole surface of the shaft is richly wrought with ornamentation. Barely a mile W. of Whitford is Garreg Hill, noted for its round tower, held by Pennant to have been erected by the Romans as a *pharos*, or lighthouse, to guide vessels to and from the Dee.

Wrexham (population, 18,377), a busy market town and railway centre, has, from its size and



WREXHAM CHURCH

importance, been designated the metropolis of N. Wales. It contains many fine and some old buildings, and the country round about is so delightful as to have induced many to fix their residence in its vicinity. In the Saxon chronicles the place is referred to under the name of Wrightelsham, while in Beaumont and Fletcher it appears as "Rixum." The chief object of interest in the town to the tourist, however, is the parish church, one of the finest in the Principality, and accounted in former days among the Seven Wonders of Wales, because of its magnificent tower, 135 ft. in height. The tower is in truth deserving of all the praise that has been bestowed upon it. It consists of several stages, panelled throughout, and richly adorned with statues of saints (among them that of St Giles, to whom the church is dedicated) in niches of the buttresses. The whole is surmounted by an open-work balustrade, wherefrom spring four lantern-shaped turrets, in keeping with the balustrade.

The edifice (a fine type of Perp.) dates from the year 1472, when it was built to replace one destroyed by fire. It comprises a nave, aisles, and spiral chancel (polygonal in shape), with a pointed E. window of five cinquefoiled lights. The columns separating the nave from the aisles are octagonal, with moulded capitals and bases. The clerestory has windows of two cinquefoiled lights, and there is an open timber roof of low span. The W. window is similar to the E., having five cinquefoil lights. Above the chancel arch and fine N. porch remains of mural paintings were disclosed on the restoration of the church (1867). Noteworthy also are the handsome 16th-cent.

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metal screen and brass lectern in the chancel, the octagonal font (restored to the W. end of the nave from the garden of a neighbouring hall), and the grotesque carving over the pillars.

Among the monuments are two by Roubiliac, one of which, in memory of Mary, daughter of Sir Richard Myddelton (d. 1747), is particularly fine. She is represented rising from the tomb at the sound of the last trumpet. The other work by the same sculptor consists of two medallion portraits of the Rev. Thomas Myddelton and his wife. Hugh Bellot, Bishop of Bangor and Chester (d. 1596), has an effigy in the chancel, and there is also a monument to Sir Richard Lloyd, Governor of Holt Castle for Charles I. Note likewise (in N. porch) the figure of a knight in complete armour with lion (or dog) couchant, and shield with lion rampant, bearing the inscription, "Hic jacet ap Howell" (found by workmen when digging to make repairs).

The altar-piece (representing the institution of the Sacrament) was the gift of Elihu Yale (son of one of the Pilgrim Fathers), after whom Yale College in America is named, and whose tomb (restored by the authorities of the college in 1874) may be seen in the churchyard (W. of tower). The tombstone bears the inscription :—

"Born in America, in Europe bred, in Africa travelled,
in Asia wed,
Where long he lived and thrived, in London dead.
Much good, some ill he did, so hope all's even,
And that his soul through mercy's gone to heaven."

It remains to be said of Wrexham that in the old vicarage (now no more) Heber wrote the celebrated hymn, "From Greenland's icy mountains,"

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while on a visit to his father-in-law, Dean Shipley ; that the infamous Judge Jeffreys was born at Acton House, 1 m. N. of the town ; and that at Erddig, 1½ m. S., lived Philip Yorke, author of "The Royal Tribes of Wales."

The town owes its prosperity to its breweries, to the mining and brickmaking carried on in the vicinity, and to the fact of its being a busy railway centre, the Great Western and the Central, from Lancashire and Cheshire, having each a station here, while a third serves the two, from one or other of which it is an easy matter to get to any part of Wales.

Wye (or *Gwy*), the. See *Plinlimmon*.

Wynnstay. See *Ruabon*.

Yale. Immediately S. of where the Vale of Clwyd ends, and a little to the N.W. of Valle Crucis, is the old manor of Plâs-yn-Yale, noteworthy because of its connection with the University of Yale in America. Here Yales have lived for many generations, descendants presumably of the family of the same name who held the old lordship of Yale-in-Powys ; and hence went one of the Pilgrim Fathers who gave such a start and a stamp to the New England across the seas. He in due course gave to the world a son, "Eliugh Yale," after whom, on account of his benefactions, Yale College was named. Elihu Yale died in England, and was buried in Wrexham churchyard, where his tombstone (restored by the authorities of the College in 1874), with its curious inscription, may still be seen. About 2 m. from Plâs-yn-Yale, in the interesting little church of Bryn Eglwys, is a transept known as the Yale Chapel, wherein for generations upon generations

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the Yales of that ilk have cultivated the spirit which in the "Eliugh" of Wrexham churchyard left its mark on America for all time. (See *Wrexham*.)

Y Garn (2063 ft.), a prominent peak a little to the E. of Diphwys, the terminal point of what is known as the Llawllech range, running N.E. from Barmouth.

Y Lâsynys ("the Green Isle"). An old farmhouse, *Lâsynys-fawr*, which stands here, on the L. of the road to Talsarnau, about 1 m. N. of Harlech, was for many years the home of Ellis Wynne, a famous Welsh author, whose life spread over thirty years of the 17th cent. and as many over the 18th, and whose "Visions of the Sleeping Bard" ("*Gweledigaethau y Bardd Cwsg*") is still held in high repute.

Ynys Enlli. See *Bardsey Island*.

Ynys Seiriol. See *Puffin Island*.

Ynys y Maengwyn, a handsome mansion of the Corbett family, on the S. bank of the Dysynni, a little to the N.E. of Towyn. The gardens and the grounds generally are very delightful.

Yr Eifl (The Rivals), a group of mountainous peaks in Lleyn, overlooking Caernarvon Bay, between Clynnog and Nevin. There are three principal summits, of which the highest is 1849 ft. above the sea. Betwixt it and the sea is a precipitous bulk known as the Lesser Eifl, while on its landward side (S.E.) is a lower elevation of 1400 ft., which is of exceptional interest, because within its recesses are contained the remains of the most important fortified camp or town in N. Wales. It is known as *Tre'r Ceiri* (Englished by some as the 'Town of the Fortresses, by others as *Giants'*

Town), and is situated about 1 m. from the village of Llanaelhaiarn, at some elevation above the road to Lithfaen. "It consists," says the *Arch. Cambrensis*,¹ "of several groups of cells or 'cyttiau,' surrounded by a wall enclosing upwards of five acres, being more than 300 yds. from W. to E. The inner wall, which is very perfect, is in many places 15 ft. high, and in some 16 ft. broad, and has a parapet and walk upon it. There are nine groups of cells of various forms—round, oval, oblong, square, and in some instances a combination of hexagonal chambers leading to a circular one." In all there appear to have been over a hundred cells or huts. The only entrances were on the W. side.

Of this ancient construction, as of the many others in different parts of N. Wales, history has nothing to say, and we are left to conjecture for all we know of it. In the summer of 1903 the Rev. Baring Gould and a friend explored some of the cells, and were fortunate enough to find a few articles of interest, including, besides pieces of pottery, two porcelain beads, held to be of Egyptian manufacture. The conclusion arrived at by the explorers was that the buildings were Celtic, probably British, and that they were of the 1st or 2nd cent. It is supposed the "town" was only used for occasional habitation, and in all likelihood as a place of retreat or defence in case of invasion. In the vicinity are a *carnedd* and a *cromlech*.

Ysgethin, the, has its rise in the mountains immediately N. of Diphwys, and drains the lakes Bodlyn and Irddyn (q.v.), and, after a westerly

¹ For 1855, p. 256.

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course of a few miles, empties into the sea at Afon Ysgethin, about 1 m. W. of Talybont.

Yspytty Ivan, a village on the Conway, $2\frac{1}{4}$ m. S.W. of Pentre voelas, where, in olden days, was an hospital of the Knights of St John of Jerusalem (dissolved by Henry VIII.), and where, in the old church, are monuments commemorative of members of the Rhys family of Tudor times.

Ystrad Marchell, or Strata Marcella Abbey, was situated near Pool Quay. Little trace of it remains. It is said to have been founded by Owen Cyveiliog in the year 1170, and received benefactions from Madoc-ap-Gruffyth Maelor. In Edward III.'s reign the Welsh monks were removed from Ystrad to English abbeys, and English monks put in their place, the abbey at the same time being made subject to the abbot and convent of Buildwas, in Shropshire.

Y Wyddfa, the central peak of Snowdon (q.v.). Height, 3560 feet.

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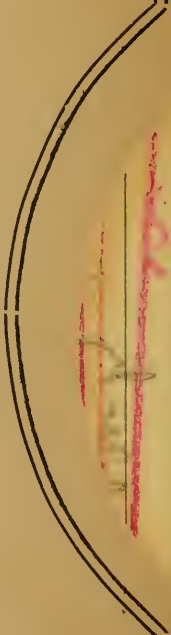
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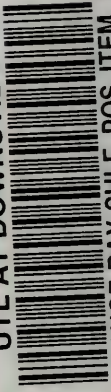
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