

died A.D. 807 (Ann. Camb. and Brut y Tywysog.). And Arthgen, son of Sulien Bishop of St. David's, must have died a few years before or after A. D. 1100. The date seems to exclude the first (supposing him to have existed), and the locality the second, whilst the assumed date of the monument is inconsistent with the third. Sulien's other sons appear to have left St. David's on their brother Rhyddmarch's death, so that Arthgen may well have died in Glamorgan.' Haddan and Stubbs' Councils, i. p. 631.

PLATE II. FIG. 3.

THE INSCRIBED STONE AT THE GNOLL, NEAR NEATH.

The earliest notice of this stone is that given by Edward Lhwyd in Gibson's Camden, p. 620 (copied in Gough's Camden, ii. p. 502, and ed. alt. iii. p. 132), where it is stated that 'in Panwen Brydhin, in the parish of Llangadoc, about 6 miles above Neath, is the Maen dan Lygad yr ych, two circular intrenchments and a stone pillar, inscribed M. CARITINI FILII BERICII.' The stone is about a yard long and 8 inches broad. From a letter, with which I was favoured in 1853, by the Rev. T. Williams¹ of Tir-y-Cwm, Ystrad, near Swansea, it appears that about the year 1835 the late Lady Mackworth, then the possessor of The Gnoll, near Neath, collected together all the curious stones found in the neighbourhood for the embellishment of a grotto she was forming in a terrace about one hundred yards to the south of the house, in the ornamental ground overlooking Neath. Being too heavy it was partially broken before removal, the extremity of the inscription receiving some injury. Shortly after the grotto had been completed the rock-work gave way during a heavy storm of lightning and thunder and the whole was buried from sight.

Fairy influence was believed by the common people to have been at work in revenge for the removal of the stone from the charmed circles, within which the 'fairies had been constantly seen dancing on a fine evening,' but who had disappeared after the removal of the stone, and who were heard laughing heartily when the grotto was destroyed, according to the testimony of the under-gardener, as amusingly narrated by Mr. Williams, who subsequently induced Mrs. Grant, the then occupier of The Gnoll, to have the ruins removed, when the stone reappeared without having suffered any further injury. The place however became neglected, as in 1846 I found the grotto filled with dead leaves and garden rubbish so as nearly to hide the stone again.

The letters of the inscription are very rudely-formed Roman capitals of unequal height. It is to be read²

MACARITIN— FILI BERICI?)

There is certainly a cross bar between the two strokes forming the second part of the

¹ Mr. Williams's letter appears in extenso in my article on this stone in the *Archæologia Cambrensis*, Ser. 3. vol. xi. p. 59.

² By a lapsus calami (easily detected on an inspection of the engraving of the inscription published with my article on this stone in the *Archæologia Cambrensis*, here reproduced in the accompanying Plate II. fig. 3), the first word of the inscription was printed MACARIN— instead of MACARITIN—.

initial M which I regard as forming a conjoined A; the N is reversed in its shape, and the next letter I is horizontal, as is so often the case with the final I in these Welsh inscribed names. The letters FI and LI in the following word are conjoined in the manner also common in these inscriptions, and also in early Irish and Anglo-Saxon MSS. Of the final part of the last word I am in doubt, as the stone has evidently suffered injury since Camden read it BERICI, although his facsimile looks more like BERICI, the first c having the bottom transverse, and the final CI being now wanting on the stone.

Supposing the first letter to be intended for MA conjoined, we have either the proper name Macaritini or Marcus Caritinus, a more genuine Latin name than is usual in the analogous Romano-British inscriptions in Wales, one in fact which would bring the inscription nearer to the period of the Roman occupation than we have been in the habit of regarding the date of this class of stones.

Mr. Williams, in his letter to me in answer to the enquiry who was this Marcus Caritinus, states that in Hughes's 'Horræ Britannicæ' there is mention of a Berice, a prince of the Coditani (the district of the Cotswold), between whom and Caradoc there was a feud. It was he who, going to Rome, informed the Court that Caradoc was raising troops to oppose the Romans; 'and I have somewhere read that he had a son named Marcus Collatinus, who was probably employed in the imperial armies, as he knew the language of the country.' The one objection to this suggestion appears to me to arise from the formula of the inscription being that which we have been in the habit of referring to a later (the sixth to the eighth century), and not according with really Roman inscriptions.

(The singular carved stone, with a figure in the ancient attitude of prayer, also built into the grotto at The Gnoll, is represented in Plate XXV. fig. 3.)

PLATE II. FIG. 4.

THE LLANILTERN STONE.

The little church of Llaniltern (or Llanillteyrn), a village about three miles north of Llandaff, is a comparatively new and very plain structure, but is interesting from having had built into its eastern outer wall an inscribed stone, first described by myself in the *Archæologia Cambrensis*, 1871, p. 260, and which I had accidentally noticed during one of my rambles in that part of the Principality. The inscription itself is 2 feet long and 1 foot wide, formed of two lines of rudely-shaped letters. It is to be read—

veNdvMAZl-
hIC IACIT

The name of the deceased is written in the genitive case, as is so often done on these inscribed stones; the letters are large and coarsely cut, varying from 3 to 4 inches in height, and exhibit a curious mixture of capital, uncial, minuscule, and even cursive writing; the v, n, a, i, and c being capitals, the e and m uncials; the d, l, and h minuscules; and the g and t cursives.