

It may be suggested that we have here the gravestone of a person distinct from Vinnemagli, to whose memory the gravestone in Gwytherin churchyard was erected. The names are however evidently identical although differing slightly in spelling. It is evidently to this stone that allusion is made in a note by Iolo Morganwg as existing in a corner of the tower of Llanellteyrn Church, bearing the following inscription—VEN duc-ARTI; the popular tradition founded on this incorrect reading in the neighbourhood being that it was an inscription to the memory of Gwenhwyvar, wife of King Arthur!

PLATE II. FIG. 5.

BROKEN STONE AT MERTHYR MAWR.

During the excavations for the foundation of the elegant new church erected about thirty years ago at Merthyr Mawr, a stone containing portions of a Romano-British inscription was found, of which I published a figure in the *Archæologia Cambrensis* for 1856, p. 319. It is part of a sepulchral stone inscribed in Roman capitals of a somewhat debased form; the letters which remain being

PAVLI
FILI M (...)

The letters average $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches in height, and the fragment of stone measures 12 inches by 8 inches. It is possible that the name in the top line may have been PAULINI, as the stone must have extended further to the right so as to have left room for more letters on that side, and the name Paulinus occurs in several other Welsh inscriptions, as on the Port Talbot stone and the Dolaucothy inscription.

The second letter of the name of the father of this Pauli(nus?) is incomplete; it is slightly slanting and may have been an A, but this is quite conjectural.

The other Merthyr Mawr stones are figured in Plates X, XI, and XII.

• PLATES III—IX.

LLANTWIT-MAJOR.

To the student of the Christian antiquities of Wales, Llantwit is one of the most interesting localities in the Principality. For some time after the introduction of Christianity into these islands, long previous to the coming of St. Augustine, no spot shone more conspicuously; before the expiration of the fourth century a body of Christians was established here under the protection of the Emperor Theodosius, and before the close of the fifth century St. Iltyd or Illutus, to whom the church is dedicated, arrived here in company with Germanus, with the view of extinguishing the then prevalent Pelagian heresy. A school or college was then founded for the instruction of those youths who should afterwards be called upon to fill the important offices of the Church, and thus arose the first Christian school of this

description in the island of Britain, St. Iltyd being appointed the superintendent of the school. Archbishop Ussher,¹ quoting the *Regestum Landavense*, informs us, 'A Dubricio Landavensi Episcopo in loco qui ab illo [Illytus] Llaniltut id est Ecclesia Iltyti accepit nomen, est constitutus. Is locus Morganæ prope mare, nec procul a Lancarvensi Cadoci monasterio ad Bovertonum positus paulo contractius Lan-twit hodie appellatur. Ibi Ecclesiâ primum, deinde monasterio extracto Merchiauno cognomento Vesano Morganæ rege approbante gymnasium aperuit: de quo scriptor vitæ ipsius anonymus, [quoted from the same *Regestum Landavense*]: "Confluebant ad illum scholares plurimi quorum de numero quatuor isti; Samson, Paulinus, (vel Paulus potius) Gildas et Dewi (id est David) studebant sapienter eruditi; alique complures sicut illi." Et vitæ Gildæ scriptor ex Fioriacensi Bibliotheca editus: "In Schola Doctoris Hilduti erudiebantur plurimi nobilium filii; inter quos præclariores erant, tam generis nobilitate quam suorum probitate, Samson videlicet atque Paulus; sed hos quoque mira ingenii sagacitate superabat Gildas beatus. Ex quibus Samson sanctissimus postea Britannorum extitit archiepiscopus; Paulus vero Oxismorum Ecclesiæ præfuit episcopus. Gildas autem non Albanus—hic intelligendus est sed—Badonicus: Samson Dolensis [Dole] et Paulus Leonensis [St. Paul de Leon] in Britannica Armorica episcopi sunt pariter accipiendi.'" Under the charge of St. Iltyd the church, which had been injured by the Irish invaders of South Glamorganshire, was restored to its former glory, and after his death it was dedicated to him by the name of Llan Iltyd Vawr.

Of the early church and other early conventual buildings, the only relic which I was able to meet with was a flat-topped archway about a yard and a half high in the wall of a garden close to the north side of the churchyard, which I was informed had formed part of St. Iltyd's College. This was probably part of the 'large house' from which it is said that the early stones in the church had been brought. Of the present mediæval church and other buildings a full description by Messrs. Freeman and Longueville Jones is given in the *Archæologia Cambrensis* for 1858.

PLATES III & IV.

LLANTWIT. THE CROSS OF ST. SAMSON.

This is one of the most interesting memorials of the early British Church in existence, commemorating as it does not fewer than four of the holy men, some of whose names are amongst the chief glories of the Principality. It stands in the churchyard of Llantwit, on the north side of the church.

It is an oblong block of stone about 6 feet high, its breadth below being about 29 inches, and above about 23 inches, and it is 9½ inches in thickness. The front face has unfortunately been much injured by the scaling off of large portions, nearly the upper half and a portion of the lower division having thus been lost, caused by the climbing of children up the stone. We can only conjecture that the upper part may have contained

¹ De Britann. Eccles. primord. p. 472.