

PLATE LXI. FIG. 3.

ST. BRYNACH'S NEVERN ROCK CROSS.

NeVERN lies on the pilgrim's route from Holywell in Flintshire to St. David's, and was their last halting-place before reaching Menevia, two pilgrimages to which were considered equally meritorious with one to Rome itself.

'Roma semel quantum bis dat Menevia tantum.'

From the Roman inscriptions found at NeVERN, described above, it was evidently an important station, and St. Brynach or Byrnach, an Irish missionary contemporary with St. David, founded the church here.

On the southern face of the rock near the church is carved a plain cross in relief with equal-sized limbs, with a corresponding hollow below cut out to serve as a kneeling-place. It is on the right-hand side of a narrow road running at right angles to the line of the main road, and at present leading nowhere, being now blocked up, and there being some doubt whether this was the actual pathway of the pilgrims. The cross, however, visited by myself and Tegid, and also by the members of the Cambrian Archæological Association during the Cardigan Meeting in 1859, is dedicated by common tradition to St. Brynach¹, and it is figured and described by the Rev. E. L. Barnwell in the *Archæologia Cambrensis*, 1873, pp. 370-374.

PLATE LI. FIG. 3.

THE LITTLE TREFGARNE INSCRIBED STONE.

This stone was accidentally discovered in September, 1875, by J. Romilly Allen, Esq., by whom it is described and figured in the *Arch. Camb.*, 1876, p. 54, used as a gate-post on the road leading up to Little Trefgarne, a few hundred yards from the farm-house a mile and a half from Trefgarne bridge, near the brow of the hill forming the east side of the pass over Trefgarne rocks. There are two inscriptions, one in debased Roman capitals differing somewhat in character from the majority of the Carmarthenshire stones. Thus the first letter I regard as a κ rather than η , many Anglo-Saxon and Irish inscriptions and MSS. showing that form of the κ ; the third letter σ is also unlike both the ordinary ζ and the Carmarthenshire formed σ 's. The inscription will therefore be read

¹ The church of NeVERN is dedicated to St. Brynach or Byrnach, and Tegid states that this Rock Cross is also called Croes Byrnach, and a well about a quarter of a mile N.E. of the latter is called Ffynan Byrnach, and the adjoining fall of a small rivulet into the sea is called Pistyll Byrnach. Another well in the neighbourhood is called Ffynon Ddovn, but which Tegid states should be Ffynon Dwynven or Ffynon Dwyn, from Dwynwen, daughter of St. Brynach, to whom a church is dedicated, whilst Llanvrynach in Pembroke-shire is dedicated to St. Brynach. A holy well is also dedicated to St. Brynach near to Henry's Moat, or Castell Hendre, on the east side of the road leading from Cardigan to Haverfordwest, a few miles south of the Preseleu mountains. Close to the well is an upright stone marked with a cross, and the ruins of a chapel dedicated to the saint. St. Brynach's fold on Carnau Melbion, on the side of the mountain by the highway, is described in Fenton's *Pembroke-shire*, p. 355.