

cut away to fit it for its present unworthy position. It is a cross of the Maltese form, with nearly circular impressed spaces between the limbs, and with a four-lobed boss in the centre. The cross measures 18 inches in diameter.

PLATE LXXIII. FIG. 2.

THE BRYNGWYN CROSSED STONE.

I am also indebted to Richard W. Banks, Esq., for a rubbing of a crossed-stone at Bryngwyn, made by the rector, the Rev. J. Hughes. It stands in the churchyard near the solitary yew-tree, and is a block of sandstone embedded 2 feet in the earth and standing 5 feet 8 inches above ground, probably an erratic boulder, the front of which has been carefully dressed, rounded off at its angles, and deeply incised with crosses. The stone may possibly have been a British *maen-hir*, decorated at a subsequent, although very early, period with an incised cross having roundels at the extremity of each arm. (R. W. B. in *Arch. Camb.*, 1876, p. 215.)

From the accompanying figure it will be seen that each of the terminal roundels incloses a small boss, as is also the case with the centre of the cross, and that there are four small plain crosses introduced between the limbs of the cross, which is 30 inches high and 20 inches wide.

PLATE LXXIII. FIGS. 3 & 4.

THE LLOWES CROSS.

In the *Archæologia Cambrensis*, 1873, p. 321, is contained a memoir and figure of a singularly carved crossed-stone in Llowes churchyard, Radnorshire, communicated by Ernest Hartland, Esq. It is a large block of stone standing erect about 7 feet 6 inches above the surface of the ground, 3 feet wide at the base, and gradually diminishing upwards to 27 inches across and 10 inches thick at the top and 10½ at the bottom. On the side facing the east (fig. 3) is a cross of irregular geometrical lozenge-shaped patterns, filled up with semilunar and triangular compartments arranged symmetrically, but by no means regularly. The upper part of the stone containing the top arm of the cross is mutilated, and the lower part of the stem is plain; the semilunar compartments forming the connexions between the arms of the cross are carved to the depth of two inches, being deeper than the rest of the pattern. On the opposite or west side of the stone (fig. 4) is a Latin cross cut to the depth of 3 inches, increasing in width downwards. The stone is a limestone-block partly overgrown with lichens, and has suffered much on its west face as well as on the south side of the east face from exposure to the weather.

In the edge of the stone on the north side is a curious small hole 2 inches across and 3 inches deep. The stone is known by the name of Moll Walbec, and the original British appellation was *Malaen y Walfa*, i. e. 'the fury of the Enclosure.' The name Moll Walbec, however, appears to have also been applied by the common people to the female corbel-head

now on a cottage, taken from Huntington Castle, as well as to any carved corbel in the neighbourhood of Hay.

In the 'History of Radnorshire,' by the Rev. Jonathan Williams, is contained a most fanciful description of this stone, which he describes as carved 'into the similitude of a human body; on its breast is delineated a large circle divided into four semilunar compartments separated by rich sculpture. In the centre of the circle is a lozenge. Its arms have been broken off by accident or violence, or by the corroding hand of time:' adding, 'that some, among whom was the late Theophilus Jones (author of the History of Brecknockshire), supposed this formidable figure to represent the Malaen, the British Minerva, the goddess of war;' (1) and that a female figure of gigantic strength, called Broll Walbec, threw this immense stone out of her shoe across the river Wye from Clifford Castle, which she had constructed, distant about three miles.

It appears, moreover, that there was an old Breconshire family of the name of Walbeof, now long since extinct, whose name may have been corrupted into that given to this stone.

The paper by Mr. Hartland, and another by Howel W. Lloyd, Esq., in Arch. Camb., 1874, p. 83, contain observations on the lozenge-shaped ornamentation of this stone, and of other monuments in which it is supposed to have been repeated, without however any satisfactory result being arrived at.

ABBEY CWM HIR.—In Lewis's Top. Dict. of Wales it is stated that a gravestone had lately been found among the ruins of the monastery bearing an ancient inscription in rude characters, but in the careful description of the abbey published in the Arch. Camb., October 1849, a description of the stone is given, whence it appears to have been the memorial of a lady named Mabli, its date having been assigned to the reign of Edward II, or the former part of the fifteenth century.

VALE OF RADNOR.—Here are four large upright stones in the centre of the Vale, and in the church of Old Radnor a curious carved font.

PARISH OF CWM DAUDDWR (Llansantfraid).—On the top of the hill not far distant from the Turbary is a huge stone set erect on the ground, and having upon it the figure of a cross. It is supposed to commemorate the base assassination of Eineon Clyd, regulus of Elfael, brother of Cadwallon, regulus of Moelynaidd, by the Flemings and Normans on his return from Cardigan, where he had assisted at the festivities instituted by his father-in-law Rhys, Prince of South Wales. (Arch. Camb., 1858, p. 543.)

On the confines of the same parish, at a place called Abernant-y-beddau, is a huge stone set erect on the ground and bearing upon it the following inscription:—

'Mae tribedd tribedog
Ar Lannerch dirion feillionog,
Lle claddwyd y tri Chawr mawr
O Sir Frecheiniog
Owen Milfyd, a Madog.' (Ibid.)