

MONTGOMERYSHIRE.

PLATE LXXII. FIG. 4.

THE LLANERFYL STONE.

In the Gentleman's Magazine for 1791, p. 13, Pl. III. fig. 3, is given an account and figure by Mr. Lewis Morris of an inscribed stone standing in the churchyard of Llanerfyl, or Llanervil, between Llanfair and Garthbibio, of which a rubbing has been forwarded to me by the Rev. D. R. Thomas of Meifod, one of the Secretaries of the Cambrian Archæological Association. The stone is 26 inches high by 20 inches broad, and 8 inches thick. It is much slit and broken, especially at the top, the inscription occupying 21 inches by 19, being in Roman capital letters.

HIC (IN ?)
 TVMVLO IA
 CIT R(?)STÆ
 CE FILIA PA
 TERNINI
 ANIXIIIIN
 PA [CE]

Cracks in the surface of the stone render it difficult to assert that the second letter of the name in the third line is an A¹, and whether the marks after the x in the sixth line are three numeral i's². There is not however the slightest ground for reading the letter before the x as a L, as has been suggested by Hübner (*Inscriptiones*, p. 43, No. 125).

The name of the female commemorated on the stone has been hitherto read R(E)STECÆ; and Professor Rhys (who calls the Latinity of the latter part of the inscription a puzzle) adds that 'Restece stands of course for Restecæ, meaning the body of Resteca or (as I suspect the nominative should be) Restica, which seems to be a derivation from the feminine Rest (*Myv. Arch.* 484), the Britons having had nearly allied names, such as the masculine Restoi and Restue (see the *Cartulaire de Redon*).' *Arch. Camb.*, 1874, p. 335.

It is clear however from several rubbings before me that the E at the end of the third line is preceded by a straight upright stroke near the first stroke of the E, which seems intended for a diphthong Æ, making the name R(E?)STÆCE.

In addition to the stone at Llanerfyl above described, it would appear from William Jones's *Statistical Account of the Parishes of Llanerfyl, Llangadfan, and Garthbibio* (*Camb. Reg.* ii. 369, 1791), that there was another stone in the first-named parish, since

¹ It is however certainly not an E, as read by Hübner.

² The Rev. D. R. Thomas proposes to read VI after the x (i.e. AN. IX. VI[XIT]), according to the ordinary sepulchral formula, but it appears to me that the stroke which he considers to be the first slanting stroke of the v is only a crack in the stone, extending from the middle stroke of the first N in the fifth line to below the sixth line. Prof. Rhys (*Arch. Camb.*, 1876, p. 245) says, 'Perhaps neither an. IXIII nor an. LXIII is correct, for it may possibly be ani. XIII for annis XIII.' The o following the three i's is very minute, and seems scarcely intended for a letter.

'on the north side of Llyn Hir, in dry seasons, is to be seen a flat stone, whereon is cut this inscription, MET. II. 1430. It lies about 7 feet from the bank, whereby it appears that the water encroached no more than 7 feet in 360 years.' Mr. Jones evidently took it for a boundary stone.

PLATE LXXII. FIG. 1.

THE MEIFOD CHURCH STONE.

This figure represents a very remarkable stone in the church of Meifod, for rubbings, drawings, and photograph of which I am indebted to the Rev. D. R. Thomas. It is 4 feet 10 inches high from the floor of the church, and is 16 inches wide at the bottom and 1 foot 10 inches at the top. The ornamentation is very peculiar, since in addition to the large cross in the middle of the stone decorated with interlaced ornaments, there is a wheel-cross in the upper part, within which is very rudely carved the figure of our Lord crucified, with raised pellets in the spaces between the limbs of the cross. In addition to the various interlacements there are on the right side of the stone several small ill-shaped quadrupeds, one with a wide gaping mouth. There is no inscription on the stone, but I apprehend, from its general appearance, that it is considerably older than the twelfth century, during which century it is recorded 'that here, besides the earlier princes of the families of Mervyn and Convyn, were interred at a later period Madoc ap Meredydd, Prince of Powys, in 1159, and his eldest son Gruffyd Maelor in 1190.'

PLATE LXXII. FIG. 3.

THE STONE WITH MASONS' MARKS (?), MEIFOD.

I am also indebted to the Rev. D. R. Thomas for rubbings of a stone in the south-east wall of the church of Meifod, about 15 feet from the ground. It is 2 feet 4 inches long and 4 inches wide, and is covered with a variety of small crosses, some enclosed within oblong-oval spaces, and other marks apparently cut with a knife or chisel, the object of which it is not possible to determine, unless they can be considered as masons' marks.

MAES LLYMYSTYN, in the parish of Garthbeibio.—In the *Archæologia Cambrensis*, 1856, p. 329, it is recorded by the Rev. D. R. Thomas that 'there is an erect stone at the distance of about 100 yards from the path leading across the fields to the farmhouse, and in the second field from the river, having an inscription (although illegible) on the east side. The top has evidently been broken off, and near the foot of it lie fragments, which with little trouble, and as little expense, may yet be restored to their original position. I am inclined to think a cross will be found inscribed upon it.'

PENNANT MELANGELL, NEAR LLANGYNOD.—In the churchyard, in addition to the sculpture in front of the gallery representing the history of St. Monacella, is her effigy, together with the effigy of a male figure inscribed HIC JACET ETWART.