

## PLATE LXXXV. FIG. 2. 4

## THE LLANGFNI INSCRIPTION.

The stone here figured is a schistose breccia slab (commonly found as boulders in that part of Anglesea), and stood for a while in the churchyard at the south-east side of the church, but is now moved into the vestry room. It is about 3 feet 8 inches long, 18 inches broad, and from 5 to 8 inches thick. It was first noticed by the Rev. H. L. Jones (*Arch. Camb.*, 1847, p. 42), and subsequently by myself (*Arch. Camb.*, 1856, p. 145). It is said to have been found in 1824, on taking down the old church. The inscription is at the upper end of the stone, preceded by a double line enclosing a series of www-like marks as an ornament. The inscription is very rudely carved, and the letters are very irregular in size, varying from  $1\frac{3}{4}$  inch to  $3\frac{1}{4}$  inches in height. They are all rude Roman capitals, and are to be read—

CVLIDORI IACIT ET ORVVITE MVLIER SECVNDI.

Mr. Jones adds that there are other letters on the stone beneath the lower line, but they are so indistinct that nothing can be made of them, nor did any trace of them appear in the rubbing from which my figure was taken. In Lewis's *Topographical Dictionary* the stone is mentioned and the inscription read CVLIDON IACIT SECVND.

## PLATE LXXXV. FIG. 3. 2

## THE PENRHOS LLUGWY INSCRIPTION.

In the churchyard of Penrhos Llugwy, close to the south-west end of the church, is to be found a rude stone bearing an inscription in debased Roman characters,

HIC IACIT MACCV DECCETI,

the v having a bar over it and the d being reversed. It was first noticed by Rowlands (*Mona Antiqua*, pp. 156, 157, Pl. VIII. fig. 3), who gave a rude sketch of it, and observed that 'Mechell or Macutus, as in the Roman Calendar, was the son of Ecchwyd, the son of Gwyn, who was grandson of Gloyw-gwlodlydan, Lord of Gloucester, in the time of the Saxon massacre at Stonehenge. He was made Bishop of St. Maloe's in Little Britain. His church or cloister was called from his name Llanvechell. He died it seems in the Isle of Anglesea, and was buried, not at his own church, but at a neighbouring church called Penrhos Lligwy, in whose churchyard there is an old-fashioned grave-stone with an inscription which, by the form of the letters, seems to be genuine.'

In *Arch. Camb.*, 1846, p. 166, it is stated that no traces of this inscription could be then found, but in *Arch. Camb.*, 1861, p. 296, it is stated by the Rev. H. L. Jones that the stone was there, and bearing the words HIC IACIT MACCVDECETI, omitting the bar of contraction and the last c. In *Arch. Camb.*, 1864, p. 105, Lord Boston gave a careful

figure of the inscription, here copied, having, as he states, lately rediscovered the stone which had been partly hidden by a modern grave and partly overgrown with turf.

At the Holyhead Meeting of the Cambrian Archæological Association in August, 1870, a paper by the late Mr. R. R. Brash was read (published in *Arch. Camb.*, 1871, p. 266), in which the writer contended that the letters *MACCV̄ DECCETI* should be read *MACCVI DECCETI*, 'showing a mixture of Latin and Gaedhelic forms. The *Maccui* is the genitive case of *Mac*, a son, and is here given in the form in which it is found upon a vast number of Ogham monuments. The inscription simply commemorates the son of *Decet*. What then becomes of the *Macutus* theory? The father of the latter, according to the usual authorities, was *Echwyd*, and not *Deccetus*.' This opinion was supported by three Ogham inscriptions found in different parts of Ireland: the first, from *Gortnagullanah*, County Kerry, inscribed with the Ogham reading *MAQQI DECEDDA*, being identical with the *Penrhos Llugwy* inscription; the second, from *Ballintaggart*, with the Ogham inscription *MAQI DECCEDA H|AD|NI CONAS*; and the third, from *Cilleen Cormac*, County Wicklow, inscribed in Oghams *MAQI|D DECCEDA MAQI MARIN*. And Mr. Brash adds, 'That the sepulchral monument of a Gaedhil should be found in this lone churchyard of *Anglesea* is not at all surprising when we remember that ancient Welsh authorities record an occupation of certain districts in North Wales by the *Gwyddel*, and their expulsion by *Casweillon Law Hir*.'

Professor Rhys (*Arch. Camb.*, 1873, pp. 198-200) opposes this opinion of Mr. Brash, examining the etymological principles involved with much skill and care, and 'preferring to read the inscription *Hic jacit Maccivd*, i. e. *Macciud Ecceci*. Here lies *Machudd* the son of *Echwyd*;' thus maintaining the *Macutus* theory. To this Mr. Brash rejoined (*Arch. Camb.*, 1873, p. 286): 'Mr. Rhys has laboured very learnedly and very ingeniously to torture this inscription into that which it is not, moved evidently by a strong national prejudice which should have nothing to do with antiquarian research.' Sir S. Ferguson, referring to the identity of names on old Welsh and Irish Ogham inscriptions, adduces the *Penrhos Llugwy* inscription and another now at *Tavistock* bearing a like legend (*Arch. Camb.*, 1874, p. 92, and *Proc. Royal Irish Acad.*, 1871, iii. p. 3), and reading '*Sarini Fili Macco Decheti*<sup>1</sup>.' Probably influenced by this discovery, Professor Rhys (*Arch. Camb.*, 1874, p. 334) retracts his former analysis of the *Penrhos Llugwy* inscription, regarding it as '=*Maccu-decceti* for *Maqui-decceti*,' and comparing it with the *Maqui-treni* of the *Cilgerran* stone, *Decceci* standing for a præ-Celtic genitive *Deccetjas*.

The death of Mr. Brash has put an end to this controversy.

PLATE LXXXV. FIG. 4. 3

THE LLANGADWALADR INSCRIPTION.

This very interesting stone forms the lintel of the southern doorway in the nave of the church at *Llangadwaladr*, being the only portion of the former church which originally

<sup>1</sup> In *Arch. Camb.*, 1875, p. 361, Prof. Rhys gives the correct reading of this stone:—

SAB (OF ? R) IN- FIL- MACCHO DECHET-.

LLANENEON FREMHIN.—According to Rowlands (*Mona Antiqua*) there is or was a curious inscription on the steeple of the church of this place, of which however I have not been able to obtain any information.

LLANDDONA.—In the outer wall of the nave of the church in this parish, rebuilt in 1846, on its northern side is a stone with a zigzag or chevron pattern on it, being a relic of a much earlier building. It would be desirable that this stone should be figured (*Arch. Camb.*, 1847, p. 323).

TREVOLLWYN.—In the *Antiquitates Parochiales* of the Rev. H. Rowlands (*Arch. Camb.*, 1849, p. 265) it is stated, ‘*sacellum olim habuit, sancto cuidam Heilino dicatum, jam temporis injuria, antiqua frigescente pietate in rudera collapsum, inter quæ lapidem longiusculum, OSORII nomine exaratum aliquando deprehendi.*’ Is this stone lost?

LLANGAFFO.—I have been informed that a portion of the cross at this place (part of which is now used as a sun-dial, *ante*, p. 187) was built into a wall, but has been removed to Denham by the Rev. Hugh Prichard, where it is at present.

LLANVAES FRIARY.—Here was long preserved (previous to its removal to the park at Baron Hill) the beautiful monumental slab of the Princess Joan, natural daughter of King John, and wife of the founder of the monastery, Llewelyn ap Jorwerth, Prince of Wales, shortly before his death. A beautiful engraving of this slab, engraved by J. H. Le Keux; is given in *Archæologia Cambrensis*, 1855, opposite p. 80. Here also is a coffin-lid of a very unusual design (apparently of the twelfth century), also represented opposite p. 79 of the same volume. In the upper part is a Greek cross within a circle, the spaces between the arms filled with foliage, below which is an elegant interlaced design formed of a double circle interlaced with a double ribbon-pattern.

PENRHOS LLUGWY.—In addition to the inscribed stone (described above, p. 189), a second stone inscribed with very rude and antique characters is mentioned by Rowlands (*Mona Antiqua*), of which no more recent account has been published. In the churchyard also stands the lower portion of the cross on three square stones.

PEN Y BONC.—In the *Archæologia Cambrensis*, 1874, p. 287, an account is published by the Hon. W. O. Stanley of a mould with letters inscribed, similar to that at Llandderfel (see *ante*, p. 170). It is figured in the supplemental Pl. XIV. fig. 5 of the republication of Mr. Stanley’s memoir, originally published in the *Journal of the Archæological Institute*, vol. xxvii.

LLANGRISTIOLUS.—In the account of the cromlech in this parish, south of the old mansion of Henblas, published by the Revs. Hugh Prichard and H. L. Jones (*Arch. Camb.*, 1866, p. 466), no mention is made of a semi-cylindrical stone near a well close to the front of the house, of which I received a rubbing from the latter gentleman, but of which I cannot decipher what appear to be a number of letters placed very irregularly, respecting which Mr. Jones’s letters were also silent.

NEWBOROUGH.—The font of this church is much older than the building in which it is preserved, and appears to me to be earlier than the Norman period. Its four sides are ornamented with broad interlaced ribbons, which, from being overlaid with repeated coats of whitewash, it is difficult to follow. On the north side the square compartment is divided by diagonal