

and Irish MSS. of the seventh and eighth centuries (see my article on the forms of this letter in *Arch Camb.*, 1846, p. 303). The first s is of the minuscule Anglo-Saxon form, whilst the second is a good Roman capital s.

PLATE XXXVIII. Figs 1 & 2.

TY ILLTYD, OR ILTUD.

This picturesque cromlech or low tumulus stands within the parish of Llanhamllach, on a farm called Mannest Court. A lane runs out of the east side of the Brecon road about 200 yards from the church, and gradually ascends the hill which rises from the river Usk. After ascending about half a mile due east from the church, the farm-house is reached in a grove of fir-trees, and opposite to the farmyard gate of this house is a foot-path to the northwards across the fields, in the second of which, sheltered by a large and very ancient yew-tree, a mound (about 4 yards high, 50 feet long, and 25 feet broad) is found, within which is a kistvaen or chamber open on the north side, by which a person is able to creep into the cell. The top stone is oval and flat, $2\frac{1}{4}$ yards long by $1\frac{1}{4}$ yards broad, and slopes towards the north, on which side the earth has been removed, the tops of the other stones being level with the surface, and on that to the west is inscribed the date 1510. On creeping into the cell with some difficulty, I found a number of small crosses and other marks scratched on the inner surfaces of the upright stones; they vary from 2 to 4 inches in length, placed quite irregularly, and not in a line as represented in Gibson's *Camden*, ii. p. 6, pl. 14, fig. 8, and Gough's *Camden*, ii. p. 476; they have the appearance of having been scratched with a nail or other similar instrument; and it has been suggested that they have been made by some ascetic person who, as a penance, resorted to this narrow and secluded cell. That they are not coeval with the monument itself will I think at once be admitted. Figures of some of these markings given by myself (*Arch Camb.*, 1852, p. 273) and the Rev. H. L. Jones (*ibid.*, 1867, p. 353) are given in the accompanying Plate. The inner chamber is about 6 feet long by 5 feet wide, and about 3 feet high, and it is on the right-hand slab that the cross-like marks occur, with the letters H D at the upper end. Those on the left-hand slab are chiefly letters, viz. H and D joined together, and then H R E , with a cross between H and R which almost looks like a rude E . The end of the chamber is closed by a large transverse slab like the others.

The kistvaen is usually denominated the house or hermitage of Illtyd, Illtid, Iltud, or Iltutus, Ty Illtyd. Within a few paces of it was a circle of stones called Maen Illtid, some of which were remaining in Llwyl's time.

The situation where this monument stands is a remarkable one, being in the centre of an amphitheatre of high hills, the Brecon beacons being the most conspicuous to the west, so that the Druidical rites practised at Ty Illtyd might be observed and telegraphed for a great extent of country from the various stations on the summits of these elevated spots. The reader is further referred to the Rev. H. L. Jones's memoir on this monument in *Arch Camb.*, 1867, p. 347.