

PLATE LII. FIG. 2.

THE SPITTAL STONE.

In the churchyard of this place, and on the east side of the south porch of the church, stands a tall stone of the porphyritic greensand formation from Preselau, nearly square, with the faces smooth, and bearing an inscription on its southern side, which the late Rev. H. L. Jones, to whom we are indebted for a figure and description (*Arch. Camb.*, 1861, p. 302, and here abstracted), regards as one of the earliest in Wales. The letters are somewhat debased Roman capitals rather finely cut. Several of the letters are conjoined, and the whole is to be read—

EVALI FILI DENO
CVNI OVENDE
MATER EIVS

In the first line the letter o seems to be the last in it, because the sinking away of the surface with an edge running across the stone is evidently older than the letters themselves, and hence Mr. H. L. Jones was inclined to think the word to which this letter belongs was contained [continued] in the second line.

The stone therefore gives three new names: Evalus or Evalius, his father Denocunus, and his mother Ovende, the addition of the words 'mater ejus' to the third name being of very rare occurrence.

The v and a in the first line and the vn of the second line are conjoined in the usual manner.

Spittal derives its name from an hospitium now demolished but once standing on the ancient road from Carmarthen and Whitlands to St. David's; several roads also cross each other in the centre of the village, one of which may be part of the Roman road; another road near the church still bears the appellation of the 'Pilgrim's Lane.' The stone itself may be referred to the fifth or sixth century.

Professor Rhys (*Arch. Camb.*, 1874, p. 332) considers the last portion of the first line to read DENCV—, adding, 'At any rate Mr. Llywarch Reynolds, of Jesus College, Oxford, who assisted me in the inspection of this stone, agreed with me that there can be no doubt as to the v—, which Mr. Longueville Jones had missed. As to reading c instead of his o, I am not certain, and even q might be possible.' And in his *Lectures* (*Pembrokeshire List*, No. 73) he adopts the reading as Dencui, and the whole of the second line as one word.

PLATE LII. FIG. 3.

THE CHERITON STONE.

On the south side of the chancel of the church of Stackpole-Elidyr or Cheriton, restored by the late Earl of Cawdor by Sir G. G. Scott, is a small chantry in which the original