

In a subsequent note (Arch. Camb., 1872, p. 355, and see Arch. Camb., 1874, p. 92) Dr. Ferguson partly admits the incorrectness of his reading, especially as regards the Oudoc part of the inscription as pointed out by Mr. Brash, but adduces other peculiarities in support of other portions of his reading. To these again Mr. Brash replied in Arch. Camb., 1873, pp. 103, 285, especially insisting on the prefix Nec instead of Netta.

Prof. Rhys (Arch. Camb., 1873, pp. 76, 197, 386, and 1874, p. 90) adopts the reading of the Oghams—

Nett a Sagrom Maqui Mucoi Greci ;

and subsequently (Arch. Camb., 1874, p. 21)

Nettasagru maqi Mucoi Breци ;

thus thinking 'both Neci and Greci unwarranted;' and in another note (Arch. Camb., 1874, p. 175) the Professor has found a solution of the difficult word *mucoi*, which, under the more ancient forms 'maccu' and 'mocu' and the modern Welsh 'macwy,' is to be translated 'grandson.'

#### PLATE LIV. FIG. 2.

##### THE BILINGUAL STONE AT ST. DOGMAEL'S.

This stone has acquired a celebrity from having been the first discovered in Wales on which the debased Latin inscription was repeated in Celtic in Ogham characters, and having thence been 'considered by Professor Graves, the first authority on the subject, to be as valuable a key to the latter mode of writing as the Rosetta stone was to Egyptian hieroglyphics.' The stone was first made known by the Rev. H. Longueville Jones at the Rhyl Meeting of the Cambrian Archæological Association in 1858 (Arch. Camb., 1858, p. 461). The stone was long used as a foot-bridge at St. Dogmael's Abbey, and is recorded by W. Gambold in Gibson's Camden, p. 638 (Gough's Camden, ii. p. 522; Ed. 2, iii. 152), where the inscription is given as *Sasrani fill Cunotami*. The name Cunotamus is regarded as the Latinised form of Cuneddaf, Kynedha, Kynodha, Cunedda, or Cunetha (A. D. 560), a prince of North Wales, who is stated to have given to his son Ceredig (from whom Cardigan takes its name) a large district in Cardigan and Pembrokeshire, so that the account to a certain extent seemed confirmed by finding in this district the tombstone of one of his brothers. There was a tradition in the neighbourhood that a mystical white lady constantly passed over the stone when used as a bridge at 12 o'clock at night.

In 1858 the stone was standing in a wall adjoining the Vicarage of St. Dogmael's, but on taking down the wall the stone fell and was broken into two pieces, as shown in the figure. The stone had about the end of the seventeenth century been examined and sketched by Edward Lhwyd, the antiquary, who had marked several of the Oghams in his original unpublished sketch, still preserved at Oxford. The Latin inscription is entirely composed of Roman capital letters of a rather narrow form, varying in height, some in the upper line being nearly 6 inches high: those forming the word *fili*, in their much narrower form, in the bar of

the *r* appearing on the left side of the upright stroke, in the upper bar being rather oblique with the end elevated, and in the upright stroke of the *l* elevated a little above the adjoining letters, approach the rustic form. The first *s* is ill formed, with the lower half much larger than the upper, agreeing with many other stones in this respect. The third letter *e*, formed of a semicircle with a short oblique tail scarcely extending below the line, and the *m* in the second line with the first and last strokes splayed outwards, are the only ones which offer any peculiarity, and in these respects they agree with many of the oldest Roman monuments. Hence, were we not guided by the formula, the comparative rudeness of the letters, and the fact of the inscription being carved lengthwise along the stone, we might refer this inscription to the Roman period, so complete is the absence of those minuscule forms of letters occurring in many early Welsh monuments indicating a later period, and in which scarcely any of the letters retain the capital Roman form. Under these circumstances I think we are warranted in assigning a date to this inscription not long after the departure of the Romans, whilst the writing still remained unmodified by a communion either with the Irish or Anglo-Saxon scribes. (J. O. W., Arch. Camb, 1860, p. 133.) The inscription is therefore to be read

## SAGRANI FILI CVNOTAMI

and the Ogham inscription, as read from the bottom upwards and from left to right, being thus—

## SAGRAMNI MAQI CVNATAMI

the word MAQI, or MAC, forming the equivalent of the Welsh MAB and of the Latin FILIVS, the only other variations being the introduction of the *m* into the first name and the substitution of *a* for *o* in the second. The Ogham mark for the *a* between the *r* and *m* is cracked right in twain so as scarcely to be perceptible.

At the Meeting of the Archæological Association at Cardigan the stone was visited, and the Rev. H. J. Vincent of St. Dogmael's, one of the local secretaries for Cardiganshire, undertook the fixing of the stone in the interior of the parish church or some other equally secure situation. (H. L. J. in Arch. Camb., 1860, p. 136.)

My figure of this stone is copied from that published by the Rev. H. L. Jones in his article last quoted, with the assistance of rubbings and sketches made by myself.

The Rev. Robert Williams of Rhyd-y-croesan published an enquiry into the names of the persons commemorated on this stone in the Arch. Camb., 1860, p. 244.

The name of Sagrani commemorated on this stone is evidently found also on the Fardel stone, of which an account and figures are given by Mr. Smirke in the Journal of the Archæological Institute, No. 70, and by the Rev. H. L. Jones (Arch. Camb., 1862, p. 138), on one side of which occurs a name which has been read SASRAMNI by Mr. Smirke, and doubtfully by Mr. Jones as GAGRAMNI. The first letter is a semicircle with a long oblique tail set on at an acute angle, whilst the third is very similar, but with the tail set on less acutely. The fourth letter is a *p* of the Anglo-Saxon minuscule form; the following strokes resemble *hvi*, and I regard them as *n* (of the not unusual Irish and Anglo-Saxon form), *v* and *f*, this letter in p. 137 being represented as slightly *s*-shaped, but quite straight in p. 138. Notwithstanding the irregularity of the first and third of these letters, I would read this name on the Fardel stone as SAGRANVS.

The late Mr. R. R. Brash, in a paper on the Oghams of the Welsh stones, comments on those of the St. Dogmael's and Fardel inscriptions (Arch. Camb., 1869, pp. 155-159); and Prof. Rhys (Arch. Camb., 1873, p. 77) states that the names Sagramni and Sagrom of the Bridell inscriptions are represented in the Liber Landavensis by *Gur-haereu* (p. 191) and *Haarubiu* (p. 194), which stands probably for *Haeru-biu*, and that Cunatami is duly represented in the same work by *Canatam* (p. 228) and *Condaf* (p. 132).

## PLATE LV.

## THE BROKEN SHAFT OF THE LARGE CROSS AT PENALLY.

This large and highly ornamented slab stands in the churchyard of Penally, on the north side of the church, and is not only broken in its upper part, but has also lost a portion of the ornament of the face of the stone, from its having scaled off. It is affixed on a square raised step or base, and is 5 feet 4 inches high, 1 foot 10 inches wide at the bottom and 18 inches at the top, and 18 inches thick at the bottom and 11 inches at the top; the angles of the stone are rounded to represent cables.

The faces are ornamented with various kinds of patterns, the top of one side with diagonally angulated lines forming a very Chinese-like pattern, followed beneath by two dragons<sup>1</sup> with interlacing fore-legs, curling tails, top-knots, and gaping mouths vomiting smaller dragons. Below these beasts a piece of the face is scaled off. The base is ornamented in a very unusual manner with an arabesque of intertwining branches, which are unfortunately very much defaced.

The other side of the stone has a pattern at the top formed of triple interlaced ribbons, beneath which is a series of raised circumvolutions, which seem to arise from the tail of a great animal, of which the head and half of the body are scaled off. The narrow sides of the stone are ornamented with the Z-like Chinese pattern, and with a flowing arabesque of branches, each terminating in three leaves; a character which affords a clue to the date of the stone, which I think cannot be earlier than the eleventh or twelfth century.

## PLATE LVI. Figs. 1, 2, &amp; 3.

## THE SMALL PENALLY CROSS.

These figures represent a very elegant cross which stands near the west end of the church of Penally, and which is here drawn on a scale of an inch to a foot. It is 6½ feet high, and is ornamented on both sides with interlaced ribbon-patterns of an ordinary character on the west side, and on the edges and portion of the eastern side. The latter, however, is

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<sup>1</sup> This is almost the only cross in Wales in which interlaced animals (so common in Anglo-Saxon and Irish work) are represented. The remarkable spiral pattern so distinctive of Irish and Hiberno-Saxon work does not occur, so far as I am aware, on any of the Welsh stones.