

circumstance may throw a little light upon the employment of the adverb *TUNC* in the present case¹.

With the exception of the letter *τ*, which occurs in the first and third lines of the inscription, and which is of an uncial form, it will be observed that all the letters are Roman capitals, tolerably well formed, although irregular in size. We may therefore, I think, safely refer its date to a period but little, if indeed at all, more recent than the departure of the Romans from the Principality.

The letters average $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches in height; the entire stone being 30 inches long and 12 inches wide. The engraving has been made from a drawing by the camera lucida from a rubbing kindly communicated by Mr. Mason of Tenby. (J. O. W. in Arch. Camb., 1856, pp. 49-51.)

PLATE LX. FIG. 2.

THE GURMARC INSCRIPTION.

My attention was first directed to this stone by the Rev. J. Jones (Tegid). It is marked with a wheel-cross of not inelegant design, and bears an inscription in Anglo-Saxon or Hiberno-Saxon minuscule letters. It is now used as a gate-post at the entrance of the farmyard called Pen Arthur, half a mile north of St. David's, lately in the occupation of Mrs. Roberts. It was stated to have been found on a moor not far distant from its present locality², and the tradition current among the country people is that the stone commemorates a battle fought in the neighbourhood about some lands to which the Cathedral of St. David's laid claim. As placed at present the inscription is uppermost, and in this reversed position our late friend, in his zeal for the Hebrew origin of Welsh literature, fancied he saw a very clear Hebrew inscription. By placing the drawing however in its proper position, we have treble evidence that the stone is a genuine early British Christian production. In the first place, the ornamental figure represents and is intended as a symbol of the Crucifixion, although all the four branches of the cross are of equal length; secondly, we find on the upper right-hand angle the letters *Xp̄s*, which are the ordinary Greek mode of contraction of the name of Christ, and which was adopted and kept up throughout the middle ages by the Latin Church; whilst the inscription beneath the cruciform ornament is cut in letters of the peculiar character which was common throughout the Anglo-Saxon period in England, Wales, and Ireland.

The drawing has been taken by the camera lucida, from rubbings kindly communicated by John Fenton, Esq., and Mr. Mason of Tenby, and it will be seen that the cross is not quite correct in its drawing, whilst the ribbon-like ornament within the outer circle is quite peculiar, and seems intended to represent a rope or twisted cable. The name inscribed

¹ Dr. John Jones (Hist. Wales, p. 340) made a wonderful translation of this inscription, which he read 'Tunece taceux sordaar hic jacit, i. e. Be uncovered and silent, the Chamberlain lies here. Penforst signifying in Welsh "Chief Knight or Master of the Ceremonies."'!!

² More recent information states that this and the two other stones next described were originally placed upright around a holy well two fields distant from the farm-house of Pen Arthur (Arch. Camb., 1864, p. 352).

beneath the cross is Gurmarc (Зурмарс). Of its date it is difficult to speak with anything like precision. I apprehend, however, that it may range between the eighth and eleventh centuries. The diameter of the cruciform design is 25 inches, and the average height of the letters is 2 inches. (J. O. W. in Arch. Camb., 1856, p. 51.)

PLATE LX. FIGS. 3 & 4.

THE TWO CROSSED STONES AT PEN ARTHUR.

My attention was directed to these two stones by the Rev. Canon James Allen, Chancellor of St. David's, during a pleasant visit after the Carmarthen Meeting of the Cambrian Archæological Society, and by whom careful drawings and rubbings have subsequently been forwarded to me. With the Gurmarc stone these two monuments are said to have originally been placed upright round a holy well at two fields' distance from Pen Arthur farm-house. One of these stones (fig. 4) has an ornamental cross with equal-sized arms formed of a pattern of diagonal lines bent at different angles and terminating in small triangular incisions, the interspaces forming a never-ending labyrinth, the whole surrounded by a circular cable-like border. The cross is 15 inches in diameter, and the stone is now fixed at the base of the fence-wall on the east side of the road, not 100 yards from the farm-house of Pen Arthur.

The other of these two stones (fig. 3) is ornamented with a cross somewhat smaller than the preceding, the outer circle being only 12 inches in diameter. The cross itself is formed of interlaced ribbons, each having a longitudinal incised line and arranged so as to form a continuous figure, the angles of which meet in the centre of the cross; the whole surrounded, as in the other two stones, with a cable-like circular moulding. This stone stands at present close within the entrance of a field on the east side of the road, a short distance north from the farm-house of Pen Arthur, being fixed on the north side of the southern fence wall or hedge of the field, the entrance to the field being close to the south-west corner of the field. Neither of these stones bears an inscription.

PLATE LXI. FIG. 6.

THE PEN ARTHUR LATIN CROSSED STONE.

This stone, for a knowledge of which, accompanied by rubbings and drawings, I am also indebted to the Rev. Canon Allen of St. David's, stands close to the Pen Arthur farm-house, forming the gate-post of the field close within which the last described stone is found, the present cross not having been observed until last year, when the bank which had previously concealed it was repaired. The cross itself is found on the west face of this western gate-post into the field, and is 15 inches high and 9 inches wide, formed of triple incised lines, the middle one in each limb being forked at its extremity, and the outer lines following the lines of the middle strokes at the distance of an inch apart. It is desirable that these four Pen Arthur stones should be rescued from their unseemly position and removed to the cathedral of St. David's, where a lapidary museum might well be formed.