

PLATE LXVI. FIG. 2.

THE PONT VAEN STONE.

The stone here represented was found during the Lampeter Meeting of the Cambrian Archæological Association in August, 1878, embedded into the wall of the south-west angle of the cottage at Pont Vaen, half a mile west of Lampeter, just where the road to Aberaeron branches from the Newcastle Emlyn road. It is about 6 feet high, half being buried in the angle of the wall of the cottage, and the other half forming part of the wall of the adjoining enclosure, into which it had evidently formed one of the gate-posts, one of the staples still remaining on the north side of the stone, below which is the figure of a cross formed of simple double incised lines, the left-hand limb of which is hidden in the wall of the cottage. It is said to have been brought from the neighbouring Peter Well. It was first mentioned and figured by Mr. Worthington Smith in the *Gardener's Chronicle*, September 21, 1878.

PLATE LXVI. FIGS. 3, 4, 5 & 6.

STONES AT LLANDEWI BREFI.

The parish of Llandewi brefi (Llan Ddewi brevi) is memorable in the annals of the ancient British Church as the place where a synod of the clergy was held in the year 519 for the suppression of the Pelagian heresy, which at that period was spreading rapidly through the Principality. This synod was presided over by St. David, to whom Dubricius, then Archbishop of Caerleon, who was present at the meeting, resigned his archiepiscopal see and retired to Bardsey Island. In 1187 a college was founded here by Thomas Beck, Bishop of St. David's, but the early monumental stones here figured, with those represented in Plates LXVIII, LXIX, and LXXI, are evidently prior to the latter of these two dates.

In the *Archæologia Cambrensis*, 1861, p. 311, will be found an account of a visit to this place by a party of archæologists, in which its lamentable condition was described by 'one of the party' (the Rev. H. L. Jones). Since that time the church, like so many others in this part of Wales, has been partially rebuilt, and it is during this restoration that we have to regret the careless destruction of some of the ancient monuments. Of the three crossed stones figured in Plate LXVI, figures 3 and 5 now stand erect near the south-west angle of the church. The second (fig. 3) is marked with a plain slightly-incised cross 10 inches high, with a small cross-bar at the top for the 'titulus.' That represented in fig. 5 is a larger irregular block, on which the cross is 25 inches high and 15 inches wide, the three upper limbs terminating in trefoils, whilst the stem of the cross terminates below in two recurved branches. The stone (fig. 4) is much shattered, and stands in the middle of the churchyard towards the south of the south transept; it is copied from a sketch by the Rev. H. L. Jones, made before the destructive restoration of the church took place. Figure 6 is copied from Sir R. Meyrick's Pl. V. fig. 4, representing a stone

stated by him to be used as the east gate-post of the churchyard, 3 feet 10 inches high and 1 foot 2 inches wide. No trace of it was however found either by the Rev. H. L. Jones or the members of the Cambrian Archæological Association in their visit to the church in August, 1878. This is to be regretted, as the inscription as given by Meyrick is illegible, although it may be suggested that the four terminal letters in the second line are intended for FI(LI)VS , the other letters in such case representing the name of both father and son. Careful search should be made for this stone. Hübner (*Inscriptiones*, p. 42, No. 119, reads the inscription (from Meyrick's figure) 'Daluc dusnelvi?'

PLATE LXVIII. FIG. 3.

THE IDNERT STONE, LLANDEWI BREFI.

This stone was first noticed by Edward Lhwyd in a communication to Bishop Gibson, p. 644 (*Gibson's Camden*, ii. p. 40, *Gough's Camden*, iii. p. 158), as then fixed over the entrance to the chancel, and as bearing an inscription, 'Hic jacet idnert filius I qui occisus fuit propter p . . . sancti' In Meyrick's *Cardiganshire*, Pl. V. fig. 2, the inscription is given as entire, 'Hic jacet idnert filus iacobi qui occis fuit propter predam Sancti,' and in Hübner's *Inscriptiones*, p. 42, it is further amplified into 'Hic jacet ianert filius J(acobi?) qui occisus fuit propter p(redam?) Sancti (David?).'

In the recent destructive restoration of the church this stone was removed, broken up, and portions of it inserted in the north-west angle of the outside wall of the church, the most important part being placed upside down about 10 feet from the ground. In the accompanying figure I have represented the pieces as joined together, and indicated the now lost parts by dots. The first two words, *Hic jacet*, are broken through and nearly defaced; the name Idnert is clear, the second letter being a minuscule d with the second line elevated above the top of the o. After the word filius is the letter I, followed by marks which may possibly represent the letters AC or AG.

The inscription has been supposed to refer to Idnerth, the last Bishop of Llanbadarn, who was murdered in A. D. 720. See *Giraldus Cambrensis*, *Itin. Camb.*, ii. 4, p. 863; *Haddan and Stubbs*, i. 146 and 625. 'The identity of Idnerth with the murdered Bishop of Llanbadarn seems to be a conjecture, although a not improbable one.' (H. and S., l. c.)

Dr. John Jones states that the inscription had been moved from over the chancel door and placed over the window on the north side of the chancel, and gives its translation as, 'Here lies Idnerth son of Cadwgan, who was put to death for violating the sanctuary of St. David.' (*Hist. Wales*, p. 318.)

PLATE LXIX. FIG. 2.

ST. DAVID'S STAFF, LLANDEWI BREFI.

This tall slender stone now stands, with the two represented in Plate LXVI. figs. 3 and 5, near the south-west entrance into the church of Llandewi brefi. It is described and