

The southern edge of the cross has also been stated to be inscribed with letters; but this also is a mistake, repeated by Hübner, the limbs and tail of a quadruped having been given as letters. Although greatly defaced, the various patterns can be tolerably made out, those on the northern edge (fig. *d*) consisting of a St. Andrew's cross pattern at the bottom, over which is a long-tailed, short, twisted-necked quadruped; a twisted ribbon-design followed by an interlaced circle, like that on the top of the west side; two circles linked together; and at the top is a considerable space occupied by a double series of T's set in opposition to each other. The southern edge of the cross (fig. *c*) is ornamented, from the bottom, with a rudely-drawn, long-tailed quadruped (which has been mistaken for letters), followed by some irregular lines in which I could not trace any decided pattern. Above this appears the stunted figure of a man with his arms uplifted; then an interlaced double ribbon-pattern, and at the top a series of interlaced rings.

A tolerably accurate engraving of the cross appears in Gough's Camden, and also in Pennant's Tour in Wales. A more pretentious engraving of it, representing all the four sides, as well as the two small Diserth crosses, was published by Watkin Williams; dedicated to Sir Roger Mostyn, Bart., on whose estate near Gelli Chapel, in the parish of Whiteford, this monument is described to be standing. The engraving was sold at the 'price 4s.;' and surely there never was a more wretched representation of an object of antiquity; and yet a 'N.B.' is added,—'an imperfect description and representation of this pillar may be found in the last edition of Camden's Britannia.' A better figure is given in Williams and Underwood's Illustrations of Denbighshire Village Churches.

#### PLATE XC.

##### THE DISERTH CROSSES.

On the south side of Diserth Church, in the churchyard, stood thirty years ago the small cross (here represented, figs. 1, 2, 3, 4), one of the faces of which was partially hidden by a grave-stone fixed against it. It is nearly 6 feet high, and about 9 inches wide; ornamented on both faces with interlaced double or treble ribbons rudely executed, and wanting the geometrical precision of the South Wales stones. The head is formed into a wheel cross, of which nearly half has been long broken off, leaving two large trilobed incisions between the arms of the cross, and a round central boss in high relief. On one side the head of the cross is surrounded with a row of small circular impressions, and on the other with a narrow interlaced ribbon pattern. On one face the outer limb of the cross is occupied with a double spiral line rudely executed, which on the opposite face is replaced by a quadrangular pattern divided by diagonal lines into four triangular spaces filled in with parallel incised lines, of which design there is also an enlarged example at the base of the same side of the stem of the cross. There is also a narrow projection on the outside of the wheel of the cross, a similar one having doubtless existed on the opposite side and top of the wheel, giving a more decided cross-like effect to the head. The edges of the stem and head are ornamented with narrow interlaced ribbons with raised bosses

in the open spaces (figs. 3 and 4). This cross is stated to have been brought from an adjoining hill, and to have been erected on the spot where Einon son of Ririd Vlaidd was slain by an arrow at the time the castle was destroyed by Llewellyn ap Gruffydd about 1260. The cross is however of a much earlier date, having been ascribed to the eighth century, which is certainly too early. Since my visit to Diserth the cross has been moved, and the base of the design, formerly concealed, has been exposed as it formerly appeared in 1759, when it was drawn and engraved, together with the Maen Achwynfan, in a very unsatisfactory manner by Watkin Williams.

It is also stated that there was an inscription on the cross which, according to Griffith Hiraddwy, was read—

Oc si petatur lapis yste kausa notatur  
Einon oxi Ririd Flaidd filius hoc memoratur.

No trace however exists of such an inscription, nor does there seem to be sufficient space for it on any part of the stone.

In the engraving by Watkin Williams above referred to, another smaller cross is represented, of which I have given a copy in fig. 5, which although much defaced, shows a nude figure standing upon a circle inclosing a Maltese cross surrounded by interlacing ribbons. This stone was subsequently used as a step into the churchyard, the head broken away, and the surface so much defaced that scarcely any trace of the figure remained at the time of my visit, as shown in my fig. 6.

Figure 7 represents an ornamented block of stone, probably used as the base of one of the crosses, or it may have been an early stoup. On three of its sides are ornamental designs of interlaced ribbon-work, and circles inclosing crosses with arms of equal length, having the interstices filled with small bosses or rudely-curved lines. It was brought to light during the recent restoration of the church, and a rubbing of it has been communicated to me by the Rev. D. R. Thomas.

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HOPE. CAERGWBLE CASTLE.—In this parish are various British and Roman remains, *Caer gawr lleon*, an ancient Roman outpost, being supposed to occupy the site on which the castle stood. Here were found various remains of Roman brick-work, including tiles marked *LEGIO XX*; and on the remains of Offa's Dyke in the neighbourhood were found, among many other relics, part of a lamp with the word *NINVS*, and a votive altar with a mutilated inscription. A drawing was made of the latter for the late Mr. James Kyrke, on whose land it was found, but his nephew, Mr. R. V. Kyrke of Nant-y-frith, Wrexham, states (*Arch. Camb.*, 1871, p. 98) that the drawing had been lost.

RHUDDLAN.—About a mile south-east from this place, in the hamlet of Cricin, there is a large tumulus heaped over the remains of St. Eurgain, or Cain, daughter of Maelgwyn and niece of St. Asaph. On the top of the tumulus is the shaft of a cross (*the head of which is said to be now in a pool on the farm adjoining*).

From this tumulus a fine view extending to the Great Orme's Head is obtained, but I found the shaft of the cross to be merely an oblong block surrounded and supported by smaller rude stones.