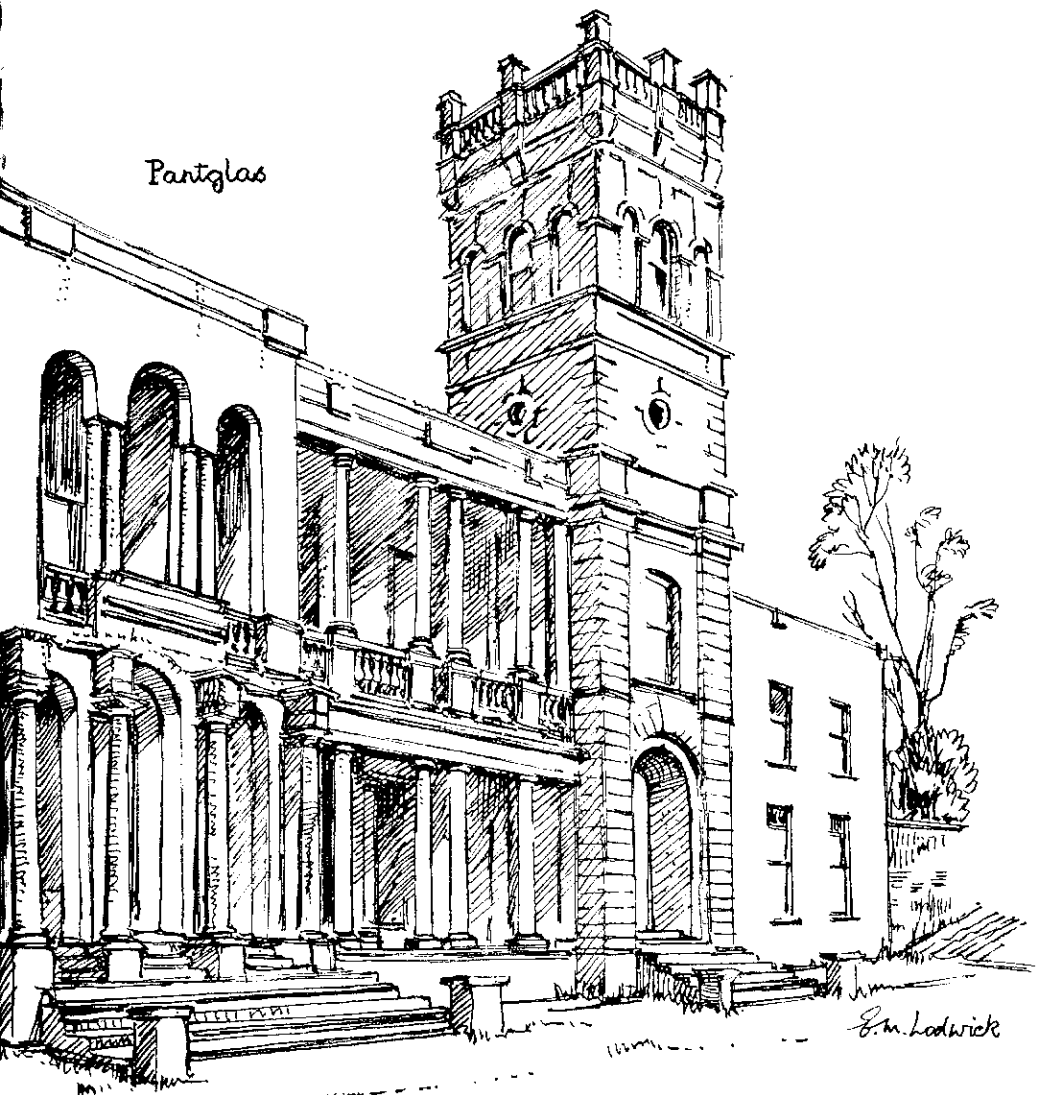


MR.
The Carmarthenshire
Historian



**THE CARMARTHENSHIRE
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Pantglas and the Jones Families

By D. L. BAKER-JONES, M.A., J.P.,
County Record Office, Carmarthen

The history of the occupants of Pantglas in the parish of Llanfynydd can be traced back for several centuries and the founder of the estate was possibly one Siôn ap Gwilym of Penygoidtre. His descendants became connected with the courts and especially with the Council of the Marches which sat at Ludlow. The council, it will be remembered, had been set up to cure the grave disorders within the Principality—lawlessness, strife and confusion—and to centralize and control Tudor government in Wales through the magistrates, high sheriffs and the judiciary. In practice the magnates and gentry often succeeded in using these offices for their own ends, and in this way the Pantglas and many other estates came about along with ancient and prestigious privileges to their owners of holding courts leet and courts baron. But it is also true that social and economic factors, as well as legal processes, led to the consolidation of freehold estates. Primogeniture had taken the place of the old Welsh custom of gavelkind and the tribal society of freemen and bondmen which formerly existed. It is true that landowners were not too scrupulous about amassing wealth, and like the generality of mankind, were eager to fill their purses and extend their broad acres. The complexities of changing law and a more fluid society gave full scope for bullying, intrigue and sharp practice. The Pantglas estate consisted of a number of farms in the parish of Llanfynydd and neighbouring districts.

An early figure in the family annals was Gwilym ap Evan ap Rhydderch, whose son Dafydd of Llanfynydd was the father of one John who married Maud the daughter of William David Rees of the same parish. They had at least three children William, David and Lewis John David. The latter is described as of Penygoedtre whose wife Mary was the daughter of Griffith Jones of Llanfihangel. Their descendants were John Jones, Thomas Jones and their sister Elizabeth. John Jones of Llanfynydd was an attorney in Sessions, and his wife was Sara, daughter and heiress of George Jones of Abercothi. His brother Thomas married Margaret, daughter of William Davies of Maes Ifan in Llanfynydd. John Jones and Sara had many children, five sons and two daughters. The eldest son was John Jones of Pantglas who died in 1715, sixty-seven years of age. In an old register of the parish church of Llanfynydd was an entry that the book was bought for the use of the church by John Jones, described as 'gentleman' of Pantglas.

John Jones was buried in the chancel of Llanfynydd church. He was succeeded by his brother Thomas Jones of Pantglas, another attorney and barrister who died in 1738. Two other brothers, George and Lewis, were clergymen. Thomas Jones was followed by his son John Jones, who died unmarried and was buried at Llanfynydd on 26 December 1761.

A Waif's Inheritance

An interesting story is related of the funeral of John Jones. It seems that an illegitimate child had been born to one of his paramours a few years earlier in 1755 — a boy who was six years of age at the time of his putative father's death. A neighbour of the deceased John Jones, one David Thomas of Bronglyn, had come to the funeral on horseback. Seeing the little boy on the roadside among many spectators of the cortege of the dead squire, he observed that it was a shame for the child to be so neglected. Calling out to a spectator, Thomas had the boy lifted up behind him on his horse, and after the ceremony was over, it was discovered that, according to the deceased gentleman's will, the Pantglas estate and all other property had been left to the poor lad whose former state had been so pitiable. Richard Jones grew up and became a barrister. He also served the county of Carmarthen as clerk of the peace from 1792 until 1799. He married, on 6 January 1779, Alicia Gratiana, a daughter of Capt. Williams of Brynhafod, a niece and heiress of David Lloyd, Esq., of Berllandywyll. During Alicia Gratiana's lifetime she retained the Berllandywyll estate. She adopted the additional surname of Lloyd and her husband became known as Richard Jones Llwyd. Eventually Berllandywyll was absorbed into the Golden Grove estate.

Many letters written by Richard Jones or Richard Jones Llwyd, as he was later called, have survived. The following extracts will illustrate the social life of the period and his activities at the Bar and in the political struggles and intrigues of the time. Jones Llwyd was a magnanimous person in many ways, and felt gratitude and affection for the kind hearted old farmer who had championed his cause on the day of his father's funeral. And it is significant that David Thomas of Bronglyn was a welcome visitor at Pantglas and often shared the generous hospitality of Jones Llwyd. It was at Pantglas that David Thomas breathed his last, some twenty-six years after that chill December day when he felt such sympathy towards the young Richard at his father's funeral.

Jones Llwyd was accepted into gentry circles in spite of the stigma of bastardy, and was also influential in local government affairs. Writing to his 'Ever dear Alicia' from Haverfordwest, on 12 August

1780 he tells of a Ball given by Sir Cornwallis Maude, and attended by Mrs. Vaughan, Mr. John Vaughan, Miss Pryce of Kilgwyn, Mr. Griff Philipps, Mrs. Davies, the family of Coombe, the two Miss Pembertons, and 'all the females of Carmarthen that could beg, borrow or steal a decent gown and clean apron and cap'. Of Lady Maude he said that she was a 'divine woman'. 'She engages every body's attention with such sweetness of manners'. Of her nature he added that "her voice, manner and features strongly indicate a benevolence of heart and a harmony of mind incapable of passion and resentment, tho' liable to be moved and interested by every object of pity and compassion. Miss Maude . . . is by no means handsome, she has a weakness in her eyes that disfigures and the simetry of her features and complexion are by no means favourable". The Misses Pemberton "are alike injured in appearance by the projection of the two fore teeth, and want that peculiar ease of carriage and manner that denote an education in the superior ranks of life . . . Mrs Davies of Penylan did not dance, the only reason I can assign for it is that there was no person whom she thought equal to the honour of being her partner . . . as to the Riff Raff of Carmarthen they were so numerous that it is impossible to send you any account of them. Sir Cornwallis Maude was very attentive to everybody but more so to Mr. Griff Philipps". Of Admiral Lloyd of Frood he commented that "the conditions of the Admiral's friendship are too severe for any long duration nor is he so faithful to his connections as he should be. Any person who would preserve his friendship must put up with gross ill language, and submit all his affairs and conduct to his sole direction and not pretend to sin so much as to pretend to have an opinion of his own".

As there was very little activity in the court at Haverfordwest, he reported: "We put on our gowns and great wigs for form's sake only", and had it not been for a 'declaration' for Herbert Lloyd—"I should not have got enough to have paid for the powder of my wig". Other references relate to Col. Owen as foreman of the Grand Jury and to Lord Milford as foreman of the Town Jury. The presiding judge was Macdonald, who had married Lord Gore's daughter. "He is very young for this office but 'interest' in these times can qualify everything", observed Jones Llwyd. The letter ends with a reference to some rumour concerning "a packett carrying dispatches from General Clinton informing the Ministry of an engagement he had had with Washington, and that he had totally defeated the army under his command. I wish the news may be true, but I shall suspend my belief till the news is confirmed by a gazette".

Cricket on the Common

On 12 July 1783 Jones Llwyd wrote to his friend John George

Philipps of Cwmgwili, suggesting a game of cricket. "I have frequently heard you talk of cricket as a favourite game and that you would willingly make one of a sett at any time," he wrote. The team was to consist of Mr. Wm. Philipps, Court Henry; the Rev. Richard Lewis, Ynyswen; Rev. Thomas Williams, Llanegwad; P. Evans, William Evans and John Evans, Aberlash; Thomas Howell of Kincoed; Richard Lloyd Davies of Pibor; Mr. Wm. Anthony, David Stephenson and Richard Jones [Llwyd]. "There is a very good place on the little common between me [at Pantglas] and Court Henry", he recommended, adding, "We may fix the tent near and dine in it. Batts, balls &c shall be provided by me . . . The dress, if you approve it, may be a swan skin jacket with sleeves edged with coloured ribband, which will not stand each person above 2s/6d or 3s/6d at the utmost, and be of use afterwards."

On 4 April 1787 he wrote to Philipps, this time about the administration of justice: "We had a very heavy Criminal bar at Carmarthen and all persons tried were found guilty, 2 for breaking a Shop at Llansawel, stealing goods worth £60 or £70, 2 for burglary at Llanon, one for horse stealing and my maid for petty larceny . . . The magistrates of the corporation seem to relax . . . The Corporation are determined to cut off the gaol pipe. What will be the consequence I do not know for the gaol is crowded with prisoners." He is afraid of infection breaking out and the dire consequences which might follow. Only one convict is for execution, but concerning the May Quarter Sessions following he wrote that "we transported one and imprisoned two for three months and ordered two for whipping—you see we were busy". On 5 December 1787 he wrote to Philipps about militia matters, returns books from Pantglas to Cwmgwili, and added, "I believe the following books belonging to me are at Cwmgwili. When you lay your hand on them please to return them, viz—Zodiac or the Book of Fate, Moore's Plays, The Times—a comedy, Cook's Last Voyage in octavo, Prior's Poems, Clenice—a play, 1 volume of the Town and Country Magazine, A Tour to France, and a few volumes of Sir Chas. Grandison".

On 2 March 1788 there is a letter from Jones Llwyd to Philipps in which he complains that a "record room is very much wanted indeed", and goes on to say that if a proposed House of Correction should be built on the Royal Oak Common "would it not (exclusive of its being an unhealthy situation) occasion a considerable expence to have all the materials landed at Carmarthen (for I know of no nearer place to land them) and carted down again through the turnpike". He gives an assurance that "My little friend Griffy [Griffith Philipps] is all mirth and gaiety in high health and good spirits. His love duty & respects must be sent you or else the fat is in the fire".

The proposed gaol, which was eventually built by John Nash, is mentioned in a letter of 2 April 1788. "The Grand Jury of both counties and all ranks of people are against placing the gaol and House of Correction below the town in the place mentioned. It will cost nearly £900 more than if built on the site of the old gaol . . . Mr Nash is willing to depose on oath what is averred as to the saving and George the Gardener is willing to bring water into the gaol and to give ample security that it shall be well supplied at all times . . . We had three persons condemned, two for horse stealing, one for stealing goods and breaking into a house in the daytime. This last was the late hangman in the gaol, a person not twenty years of age who had been tried at our bar three times. Not half an hour after he received sentence he hung himself in the gaol".

Of the April 1789 Quarter Sessions he has much to say. "We had a very full Quarter Sessions and a great deal of business. There is a County Meeting to be held . . . for the purpose of considering of some means to rectify the manifold frauds and abuses in the butter trade of this county, and which has rendered it so inferior in reputation that the dealers in Bristol are come to a resolution to take no more unless some steps are taken". The letter ends: "Mears of Llanstephan is dangerously ill, having been taken in the chaise coming into Bath with a paralitick which deprived him of the use of one side".

Whigs and Tories

During the comparatively short time he participated in public life, Richard Jones Llwyd continued to be an ardent supporter of the Philipps Cwmgwili faction in the political affairs of the county and town of Carmarthen. Jones Llwyd acted as election agent for John George Philipps, who was M.P. for Carmarthen borough from 1784 until 1802. The election of a member to represent the borough at Westminster was linked with the power groups on the Common Council of the town itself. In brief, the struggle was between the Whig group, largely led by John George Philipps, John Vaughan of Golden Grove, Jones Llwyd and J. W. Hughes of Tregib, and the Tory element, whose leader was Lord Dynevor. A few other letters from Richard Jones Llwyd to Philipps have survived, and three further illustrate Llwyd's political preoccupations at the time. He had canvassed John Morgan, John Vaughan, Mr. Lewes of Llysnewydd and other proprietors in the county borough and had succeeded in convincing them of the folly and mischief of exempting farmers from payments of toll towards paving and lighting the town of Carmarthen (25 April 1792). On 17 March 1793, when a general election was pending he wrote to Philipps in London, "I this moment have learnt from Mr. Lewes of Llysnewydd that Mr. Hamlyn is to stand as

Candidate on the present vacancy and that he is to be supported by all Mr. Rice's friends. I have not yet engaged my vote for I wish to know your sentiments first; on the other side Mr. Campbell has declared. I confess the bent of my inclination is strongly in favour of the former, and I trust we shall not differ. I think you should return immediately but all events let me know your determination by the return of the post. Whatever threats you have had respecting the Borough have not as yet been put in execution, and before you part with all your former connections I think you should wait for an overt act".

In the event, James Hammett Hamlyn of Edwinstord was duly elected, and on 22 April 1793 Philipps was informed by Jones Llwyd, "Our election went off merrily and stood the candidate in no small sum as I do not believe so much was before drank at any Election for the county. I do not know whether you are acquainted with Mr. Hamlyn, but I think when you are, you will like him. He seems a plain downright country gentleman totally devoid of all pride and affectation, and as I hear he is a good magistrate in Devonshire, I think he will be an acquisition to this County". The letter continued with an expression of hope for the end of the war and "I wish it may be with the establishment of a free and equitable government in France, a limited monarchy is the best; and ours with a few amendments is in my opinion the finest and best in the known world". On a more personal note he asked Philipps to spend about three guineas for him to purchase a good fishing rod, reel, floats, lines, hooks and for them to be sent down by coach from London. He concluded by reporting that the enterprise regarding a proposed Canal had been marred by a drunken meeting at Llandilo where the resolutions of the county committee had been made ineffective. Another letter of 4 May 1793 complained about the provisions of a bill then before parliament for exempting persons "whose rent does not exceed £4 a year from doing their statute labour upon the highways".

Three years later, on 8 April 1796, Llwyd referred to his state of health in a letter to John George Philipps: "I fear I shall never be able to walk again, for five days I have not moved without assistance, and for the last two days I have been carried from place to place, having totally lost the use of any lower limbs and have all the time suffered the most excruciating agonies". Turning to the turmoil in the Common Council of Carmarthen he urged Philipps to assert his position by saying, "Recollect my friend that your success will be remembered for years, your defeat will bear its glory for an equal duration to your disgrace. I lament much to see the exertion of your opponents so much exceed your own".

More letters followed in the same vein. On 19 December 1796 he told Philipps: "To gain the Common Council is now our great object; and depend upon it, the other side will not be wanting in every possible exertion which they can make. Firmness and activity is the order of the day". Judging from some passages in the letters Philipps had adopted a happy-go-lucky attitude. On 4 March 1797 Llwyd wrote to him: "It is absolutely necessary for the preservation of your own Credit and the unity and well being of the Party that the Remainder of your subscription should be forthwith paid and that another subscription should be entered into without delay, as I find the actions of the sheriffs will be given up and that our opponents avail themselves and triumph in our inactivity, I may say apathy. You will therefore order the balance of the money due from you to be paid in, and that you will authorise me to add your name to the future subscription for what you think proper. I presume Mr. Morgans and Mr. Vaughan will put down £200 each."

Turnpike Tolls

On 3 May 1797 agricultural matters occupied his concern in a letter to Philipps: "A double toll upon turnpikes will materially prejudice this county. Most of the Turnpikes in this county were made originally to facilitate the carriage of coal, lime and manure, and they depend upon the conveyance of those articles for their existence. Lime has of late years advanced in price . . . so that farmers can now scarcely afford to buy it. Lay another tax upon it, it puts that article beyond their reach and they have no substitute. Farmyards and composition dung hills being in their infancy; I will venture to say that if lime and manure and coal . . . are not exempted from double toll, it will nearly ruin the agriculture of this county". He hoped, too, that the tax on transfers of personal property would be confined to Bonds and Mortgages. "As to the Tax upon deeds, it may induce the gentlemen of the law to curtail the enormous prolixity of modern conveyances and reduce them to their former conciseness and simplicity. Laymen may then have some guess at their meaning and content".

In the next two years he constantly kept Philipps informed of the events and intrigues in Carmarthen town, and especially of the need to subscribe liberally to the funds of their own party. On 15 June 1797 he said: "Your servant was to be here at 7 o'clock but nobody came. I send you the resolutions herewith as no time is to be lost. Pray send them to Pantglas tomorrow morning with a strong request to Mr. Lloyd that he would go personally to Mr. Vaughan and inform him that there should be a liberal subscription entered into. If it is entered into spiritedly now, we shall succeed, otherwise we must in-

evitably fall. It is a pity it should be so now as our success at next Michaelmas depends on a present liberal subscription. The other party are unanimous, and they never boggle at monies. I wish it be known to Mr. V. that the solicitors concerned on our side of the question charged nothing for their trouble, they contributed at least £150 already in deductions from the agents bills and will continue to do so as they think the cause good".

A week later he wrote to Philipps urging him to come to Carmarthen without delay in order "to spur David Edwardes and Charles Morgan to go off for Golden Grove tomorrow, as no time is to be lost . . . You will dine with me today to meet Citizen Nash and another gentleman".

Some of the letters dealt with mortgages and estate matters of Cwmgwili, and lastly two other letters may be cited. As Clerk of the Peace Llwyd wrote to Philipps at Cwmgwili: "The disbanding of the Provisional Cavalry is a matter extremely necessary and has long been protracted for want of the attendance of Deputy Lieutenants to hold a general meeting, and which I ask you to attend, otherwise it must be adjourned again". This was on 18 May 1799. On the 8 July following he wrote from Pantglas to Cwmgwili that he was "still too indisposed to leave my Chamber. Have made my mind to go to Bath after Michaelmas". But in spite of ill-health he was still solicitous about Mr. Philipps' affairs: "Mr. Williams has been at Edwinsford for some time. Mr. Vaughan called here yesterday and informed me of it. It may be proper and of advantage to you with respect to the money concern to cultivate his acquaintance, calling on him at Edwinsford will at least be polite and civil on your part".

Family of Bankers

Richard Jones Llwyd died in 1799, and was only forty-four years of age. He was buried in Llangathen Church, and as he died intestate and without heirs, much of the estate amassed in the lordship of Tiresgob became forfeit to the Bishop of St. Davids. This included one moiety of Gwaclodymaes, part of Slangrach, Caeperseli, Caegwyn, Caegwyddau, Plasllwyd and certain cottages. Llwyd's widow survived him until 1806 and was buried at Llangathen in her sixty fourth year. A pious and charitable lady, she had made plans shortly before her death to build a chapel in connection with the parish church of Llanfynydd, at a place called Llwynpiod, where at one time two roads converged. Later this was enclosed in Pantglas Park, near the clump of trees about halfway between the mansion and the south lodge. In later years the Pantglas estate reverted to Nicholas Burnell Jones, nephew of Richard Jones Llwyd and high sheriff of

Carmarthenshire in 1814. In 1822 the Pantglas lands and mansion house were sold to David Jones head of the firm of D. Jones and Co. of the Black Ox Bank, Llandovery. But there was no blood relationship between the old family of Jones, and the new owners.

The banking house of Jones was one of many in West Wales, and so far as can be judged the introduction of regular banking to these parts was largely due to the enterprise of merchants and drovers. The Black Ox Bank was established at Llandovery in 1799, in premises known as the King's Head. Its founder was David Jones, and it was about this time that the second family of Jones of Pantglas emerged in the annals of the landed gentry of Carmarthenshire. David Jones was the son of one Evan John, a farmer near Llandovery, and was one of a large family. He started business as a lad of fifteen, and through his enterprise and industry made tremendous headway. He married on 7 January 1785, Anne, the daughter and heiress of Rhys Jones of Cilrhedyn and sole heiress of her uncle the Revd. William Jones of Gwalrhedyn in the parish of Cilycwm and of Jesus College, Oxford. Her dowry was about £10,000 and this portion, along with the capital already acquired, enabled David Jones to found the bank at Llandovery. He was then turning forty years of age, and the enterprise under his control proved to be a profitable venture.

The Black Ox Bank was one of the earliest banks to be established in Carmarthenshire, and in the number of its branches exceeded the scope of any other private bank in the county at this period. Its career was no doubt partly shaken by the financial crisis of 1825, when many banks of mushroom growth issued notes without any check, and as a result failures were frequent and numerous. In 1824 trade had been flourishing; there was a good deal of speculation and over confidence, notes were issued to excess and a collapse was inevitable. It is estimated that over seventy banks failed in a short period of six weeks. But the Black Ox Bank weathered the storm. The success of the bank is clearly indicated by the fact that its founder David Jones, although starting with little more than the proverbial half crown, left at his death considerable real estate, besides £90,000 in consols and £50,000 in cash at the bank. There was probably no bank of its era which enjoyed more local credit than the Black Ox Bank. A story has been handed down which illustrates in a striking way the confidence placed in the bank. At a period when runs on banks were happening all over the country, a timid client entered the Black Ox Bank to withdraw his money. The bank in anticipation of a run, had just received a consignment of Bank of England notes, and the cashier on receiving the cheque, handed over to the client Bank of England notes for the amount due. The depositor, however,

refused to accept the notes tendered, and demanded instead notes of the Black Ox Bank ! From specimens still extant, it appears that the Black Ox Bank issued notes for £1, £2, £5, £5-5s and £20. All the notes bear an illustration of a black ox on the left hand corner. The confidence placed in the bank was naturally a temptation to counterfeiters, and even at an early date an attempt was made to victimize the public by forged notes on the bank.

David Jones had resided at Blaenos, situated on a gentle slope of the vale of Tywi, west of Llandovery. Although the house was not of pretentious appearance, it had the feeling of elegance and ease surrounded by luxuriant and picturesque scenery. Popular and rather fanciful tradition derives the name Blaenos from Blaen-eos, indicating some connection with the nightingale. Probably this is not correct etymology, but it gives a fitting and poetic description to the house and its environs. David Jones was regarded as a figure of some consequence in the county. He was a justice of the peace for Carmarthenshire, and in 1825 high sheriff, offices which in those days especially were the closely preserved privileges of the gentry and nobility. David and Anne Jones had the following children,—

- i. Evan Jones, who was baptised on 28 April 1785 and died unmarried in 1820.
- ii. John Jones, who was baptised on 18 February and died in 1813 in the lifetime of his father. After the death of Anne Jones on 10 April 1820, David Jones was married, secondly, to Catherine, eldest daughter of Morgan Pryse Lloyd of Glansevin. David Jones died on 29 Sept., 1840, and was succeeded by his grandson David Jones.

John Jones married Mary, the daughter of William Jones of Ystrad Walter in the county of Carmarthen, and by her had the following issue,—

- i. David Jones of Pantglas and Penylan, Llanfynydd. He was born on 1 November 1810 at Llwynberllan near Llandovery. He was educated at the Charter house school and on 29 July 1845 married Margaret Charlotte, eldest daughter of Sir George Campbell of Edenwood in the county of Fife. David Jones was M.P. for Carmarthenshire from 1852 to 1868. He was high sheriff for the county of Carmarthen in 1845 and deputy lieutenant for the three counties of Brecon, Carmarthen and Radnor.
- ii. William Jones of Glandennis near Lampeter, who was high sheriff of Cardiganshire in 1860. In 1876 he married Annie Isobella daughter of James Fenton of Dutton Manor, Lancashire and died without issue on 7 January 1897.
- iii. John Jones of Blaenos, Llandovery who was a justice of the peace and deputy lieutenant of the county of Carmarthen, as well as high

sheriff in 1854. Educated for the Bar, he did not practice. His wife was his cousin, Anne, second daughter of Major Thomas of Wellfield in the county of Radnor. The marriage took place in 1842. John Jones succeeded his brother as M.P. for the county of Carmarthen along with Viscount Emllyn until 1880. The three brothers David, William and John continued the banking business originally started by their grandfather, David Jones, who had died in 1839. The elder brother David of Pantglas continued the Llandovery Bank while the brothers William and John, respectively, founded branches at Lampeter and Llandeilo under the title of David Jones and Co.

New Gentry

The time when David Jones was M.P. for Carmarthen county is an interesting one. By the Reform Act of 1832, Carmarthenshire was able to send two members to Westminster to represent the county. When G. R. Rice Trevor was called to the House of Lords as 4th Baron Dynevor, David Jones and David Arthur Saunders Davies of Pentre represented Carmarthenshire. Both were of the new gentry class—the former belonged to a family which had a few generations previously acquired wealth through commercial and business enterprise, while Saunders Davies was descended from the old west Wales family of Saunders and Davies of Llandovery. The latter had made money through trade and the means to enter into the professions e.g. David Davies, M.D. of Llandovery and Carmarthen had married Susannah, only surviving daughter and heiress of Erasmus Saunders of Pentre, Pembrokeshire. Consequently they acquired status in the changing social pattern of the early 19th century. Gradually they ousted the older and once all-powerful families of Cwmgwili, Edwingsford, Dyn-evor and others.

Although Parliamentary reform, the growing tide of radicalism and the demands of the nonconformist conscience, along with a more representative electorate, brought new issues to the fore, David Jones and Saunders Davies were still allies of the old forces, whose strength lay in wealth, land and the privileges of birth and ancient lineage. The dominant belief of these people was in a stratified society, in which a few were born to rule the rest. Alliances were contrived between the old and new gentry in the face of the turbulent days of Rebecca ; the report of the Blue Books (Brad y Llyfrau Gleision) had aroused the ire of the vernacular press, and the English tory landed power-blocs were being attacked from all sides. Thus landlords, gentry and magistrates were regarded with suspicion, if not hatred. Their demeanour, with few exceptions, was haughty, oppressive and insulting.

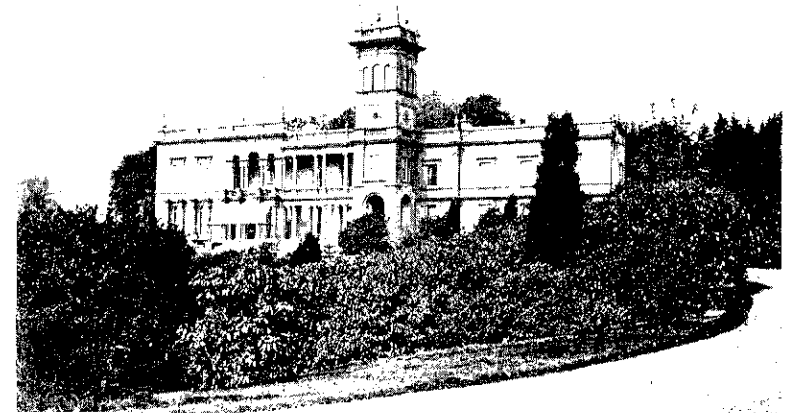
The church journal *Yr Haul* defended the Anglican and tory landlord interest, and generally there was bitter partisan spirit. It was from the pages of *Yr Amserau*, *Y Cronicl* and *Y Traethodydd* that nonconformists had their hopes and ideals moulded. They were urged to return men of their own class to parliament, and to stimulate opposition to the existing oligarchy. And thus through the 1850s and 1860s the struggle continued to secure representation for the radical and 'nonconformist' *gwerin*. This often meant voting against the landlord, who in many cases, was not personally disliked but rather respected, if not revered, as the country squire and benefactor of the inhabitants on his estate and the surrounding countryside. On the other hand, there were the few rascals who would not hesitate to evict their tenants if they dared vote against the landlord's wishes. Gradually there came the realisation that justice and fair play could only be achieved through the ballot, more equitable rents and no recrimination on account of political or religious creed.

Shortly before the 1868 election David Jones was compelled not to contest the seat on account of ill-health, and he was succeeded, as we have seen, by his brother John Jones of Blaenos. David Jones had been a very sick man and had suffered a lingering and painful illness before he died on Friday 1 July 1869 in his sixtieth year. At a time when landlords were attacked on all sides by the radical press, David Jones was held in high regard as a generous friend, kind hearted landlord and considerate master. The account of his funeral on the following Thursday at Cilycwm reflects much of the feeling of the neighbourhood as well as the mourning customs of the day. The cortege left Pantglas at 10.00 a.m. and proceeded to Llandeilo, Llangadog and Llandovery. At each place groups of people showed reverence and respect, and, in the towns and villages, shops were closed and blinds drawn. As the funeral was strictly private and attended only by the family, a few friends and tenantry, processions of leading inhabitants assembled at each town and accompanied the cortege for a short distance and then quietly dispersed. About a hundred tenants wore 'the usual habiliments of mourning and with hat bands and scarves led the van'. Then followed several private carriages of Mrs. Jones' family. The press reporter of the day goes on to say how 'the hearse was gorgeous with sable plumes, covered with embroidered cloth and drawn by four horses' and this was followed by only one mourning coach containing John Jones of Blaenos, the new M.P. for Carmarthen, William Jones of Glandennis and the deceased's two sons, Alfred and Gerwyn. At half past four in the afternoon the church and little village of Cilycwm were crowded with spectators, and David Jones was buried in the family vault on the north side of the church. Thus concluded "the earthly career of a

good, noble and generous hearted soul who never made an enemy but rejoiced in the friendship of both rich and poor". It seems unusual that the funeral of a well-known public figure should be private, without any representatives from the county gentry and general public expected to be present. Perhaps we may look for an answer in the character of David Jones' wife (Margaret Charlotte, eldest daughter of Sir George Campbell of Edenwood, Fifeshire), who was a very colourful and original personality, to say the least. It appears that she circulated privately a book which she had written describing the landed gentry of Carmarthenshire in most scurrilous terms; and there were many tales current years ago of her somewhat daring and unconventional behaviour. Indeed within six months she married Sir George Augustus Levinge, Bart., of Knockdrin Castle in the county of Westmeath. But any marital bliss with her second husband was brief, as she died on 5 November 1871.

Magnificent Splendour

It was David Jones, the younger, who built the new mansion of Pantglas. It was described by an observer a century ago as a 'mansion of considerable magnificence'—at a cost of about £30,000.



Pantglas Mansion

The house was very splendid indeed, and has been described as belonging to the ornamental Grecian or more accurately perhaps the

Italian style of architecture. Its distinguishing features consisted of a central tower and balcony over classical colonnades forming the entrance front. Along the roof was a finely carved stone balustrade broken by finials and acanthus capitals at regular intervals. Many of the windows were in the Venetian style, while pedimented dripstones, ornamental urns and statuary on the terrace balustrade emphasised this grandiose and flamboyant essay in the neo-classical renaissance style. The house was situated on an elevation commanding an extensive 'prospect' over the valleys of the Cothi and the Tywi, and surrounded by a well timbered park of some two hundred acres. In front was the picturesque dingle which gave origin to its name, and whose little streamlet had been utilized for fish ponds and ornamental stretches of water through the grounds. The mansion house was the centre of an estate amounting to about 7,854 acres with an annual rental of £5000. The Joneses had acquired arms and crest which were befitting a family whose wealth had originated in banking and on the prosperity of drovers and the toil of the agricultural community. Their roots were deep in the soil of north Carmarthenshire and an agrarian way of life, and not in martial prowess nor descent from a pugnacious Welsh chieftain or a boastful Norman baron. Thus their arms were argent, on a mount vert, a representation of a Pembrokeshire ox statant proper, a chief gules thereon a falcon argent belled between two stags heads erased or. For the crest: on a mount vert a representation of a Pembrokeshire ox's head in profile proper, bezantee. The motto was *Da ei ffydd*.

David Jones left, by his wife Margaret Charlotte, the following children :

- i. Alfred Campbell Halyburton Jones of Pantglas, a justice of the peace for the county of Carmarthen. He was born on 10 March 1849 and died unmarried on 1 March 1878. He was succeeded by his brother.
- ii. Frederic Arthur Gerwyn Jones, of Pantglas who was born on 17 January 1857 and died unmarried in September 1903. He too was a justice of the peace and deputy lieutenant for the county as well as high sheriff in 1877.
- iii. Mary Eleanor Geraldine Jones, who married on 15 September 1869 Colonel Herbert Davies Evans of Highmead, Cardiganshire.
- iv. Louise Madeline Maria Jones who married in 1871 the Very Rev. Henry Donald Maurice Spence (later Dean of Gloucester).

The ladies of Pantglas did much to relieve the poverty of the inhabitants of the surrounding countryside, and their code of behaviour, as in many other of the county houses of west Wales, was embodied in the adage, 'Welcome stranger, God speed the parting guest'. One

event illustrates the point. On Friday 22 January 1859 there was a gathering at Pantglas when the Misses Jones and their mother provided a Christmas treat for their neighbours and tenantry. Gifts were distributed after a sumptuous meal and included the following,—

'20 black bonnets for the girls,
 20 scarlet cloaks „ „
 27 blue capes for the boys,
 12 shawls to the Sunday School girls of Llanfynydd church,
 whole suits to the labourers at Pantglas,
 1lb of tea and a quantity of sugar to their wives,
 elegant silk gowns to farmers' wives living near Pantglas,
 silk ties to their husbands.'

But to revert to the affairs of the Black Ox Bank. On the death of David Jones in 1869, the business at Llandovery was carried on, in accordance with the provisions of the will, by his brothers William and John as trustees, for the benefit in equal shares of his sons, Alfred and Gerwyn. Later, on the death of William and John, the three banks with their sub-branches became the property of Gerwyn Jones, his brother Alfred having died without issue during the lifetime of William and John Jones. On his death on 20 September 1903, Frederic Arthur Gerwyn Jones devised the banks, with his estates of Blaenos and Glandennis, to his sister Mary Eleanor Geraldine Davies

Evans of Highmead. The business of the banks was then carried on under the direction of her husband Colonel Herbert Davies-Evans and her sons Delme and Herbert Davies-Evans, the former a colonel and the latter a major in the army. In 1909 the goodwill of the banks was sold to Lloyds Bank Ltd., and thus terminated the existence of the last survivor of the old private banks in South Wales. In 1910 the Lampeter Bank Estate was sold, but meanwhile, on the death of Frederic Arthur Gerwyn Jones, Pantglas mansion and estate were acquired by Louise Madeline Maria Spence. The Dean of Gloucester and Mrs. Spence assumed, by royal licence in 1904, the additional name of Jones, and the arms of Spence quarterly viz. or, a lion rampant gules, on a bend embattled counter embattled azure, three mascles of the field. The Spence crest was a maltster habited about the loins with a plaid skirt, sustaining with both hands a malt shovel erect proper.

Scholarly Cleric

Henry Donald Maurice Spence was the eldest son of George Spence, M.P., Q.C., an eminent jurist who was the author of an important work called *The Equitable Jurisdiction of the Court of Chan-*

cery. Son of Thomas Spence of Hanover Square, George Spence, was a graduate of Glasgow University and in 1811 was called to the Bar of the Inner Temple for which he was subsequently Bencher and Treasurer. He represented Reading and later Ripon in parliament, and was a strong advocate of Chancery reform. A pioneer in the cause of legal education, he was an original member of the Society for Promoting the Amendment of the Law. He was married to Anne Kelsall, the daughter of a Chester solicitor. Their son H. D. M. Spence was born in Pall Mall on 14 January 1836. He was educated at Westminster School under Dr. Liddell and afterwards at Corpus Christi College, Cambridge. Before entering the University, Spence spent about two years as secretary to Sir Douglas Galton at the Board of Trade. Spence's University career was one of exceptional brilliance and promise. In 1862 he won the Carus Prize for undergraduates and in 1864 graduated B.A., with a first class in Theology, and was then awarded the Carus and Scholefield Prizes for graduates. In 1866 he proceeded to the degree of M.A., (Cantab) and later to the degree of Doctor of Divinity.

On leaving Cambridge he was ordained by Bishop Connop Thirlwall of St. Davids, and at once took up an appointment as Professor of English Literature and Modern Languages along with a lectureship in Hebrew at St. David's College, Lampeter. And thus began a close connection with Wales which lasted for over fifty years. In 1870 Spence was appointed Rector of St. Mary le Crypt with All Saints and St. Owen in the city of Gloucester. At the request of Dr. Ellicott, Bishop of Gloucester, Spence became principal of the Gloucester Theological College and examining chaplain to the Bishop. In 1877 the vicariate of St. Pancras, London, was presented to him by Queen Victoria, and in the same year he was appointed rural dean of St. Pancras, thereby succeeding Dr. Thorold, who had been made Bishop of Rochester. During this period Spence attracted large congregations by his vigorous and inspired preaching. For the next ten years he was one of the most influential evangelical clergymen in the diocese of London. But Spence still retained an interest in the city and cathedral church of Gloucester, holding an honorary canonry there until his appointment to the Deanery by the Queen in 1887. This office he held until his death, and along with it the Professorship of Ancient History at the Royal Academy in succession to Sir Richard Claverhouse Jebb, M.P. for the University of Cambridge and Regius Professor of Greek. Among the Dean's predecessors in this office were the historian Edward Gibbon and the poet Oliver Goldsmith. Spence was Chaplain of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem, select preacher at Cambridge and frequently occupied the pulpit at St. Paul's Cathedral, Westminster Abbey and the Temple Church.

His literary output was immense. He wrote commentaries on the Bible, including a two-volume exposition of St. Luke's Gospel. He edited the *Pulpit Commentary*, which ran to forty-eight volumes, and contributed chapters on the First Book of Samuel and The Pastoral Epistles to Bishop Ellicott's Commentary; jointly with Dean Howson, he wrote a commentary on the Acts of the Apostles for Dr. Schaff's Anglo-American Commentary. He edited the *Teaching of the Apostles*, a translation from the Greek text with notes and a dissertation. Perhaps the Dean's most popular and imaginative work was his *History of the Church of England* in four volumes, while his *Early Christianity and Paganism* traced the progress of the faith from A.D. 64 to the fourth century with copious usage of contemporary records. In addition, he wrote works on the Talmud, and a Talmudic Commentary on Genesis. His favourite recreation was the study of mediæval ecclesiastical architecture, and while he held the Deanery of Gloucester he lavished his care on the cathedral, which was to him a shrine to be venerated. He regarded with pride that part of the Deanery in which, according to tradition, Anselm met William Rufus. Amongst his more 'picturesque' writings may be mentioned—*Dreamland and History* a chronicle of the Norman Dukes; *Cloister Life in the Days of Coeur de Lion*, *The White Robes of Churches of the Eleventh Century*,—all these and more from a prolific pen, which exhibited a rich literary style and wide culture.

Until his death Dean Spence-Jones was a frequent visitor to Carmarthenshire and played a prominent part in its social life when residing at Pantglas. He was a J.P. for the county of Carmarthen and preached from time to time at St. Peter's, Carmarthen, where large congregations came to hear him. The Dean died on 2 November 1917 and was buried at Matson churchyard near Gloucester. An application to the Local Government Board for permission to bury the body in the Cathedral in accordance with the Dean's wishes was not granted. A large congregation assembled to pay tribute to his memory and special music was composed by the eminent musicians Sir Hubert Parry, Dr. Harford Lloyd and Dr. Brewer in recognition of the Dean's friendship with them.

The Last Phase

Dean Spence-Jones and Louise Madeline Maria left a son Cecil John Herbert, who was born on 30 May 1873. In June 1908 he married Aline Margaret, elder daughter of John Vaughan Colby of Ffynone, Pembrokeshire. Colonel Spence and his wife acquired the surname Spence-Colby in 1920, when the Ffynone estate passed to them. Spence-Colby in turn was a Captain in the Rifle Brigade,

and Lieutenant Colonel commanding the 24 Battalion Pembroke and Glamorgan Yeomanry. He served in the South African War and the Great War of 1914-18 and was a Deputy Lieutenant and a J.P. for Carmarthenshire and Pembrokeshire. One of the most colourful personalities of the Teifi-Side fox-hunting fraternity, he and Mrs. Spence-Colby continued to reside at Ffynone until 1927, when part of the estate and mansion house were sold. Meanwhile the Pantglas estate and mansion house had been sold shortly after the 1914-18 war.

The fragmentation of many large estates had gone on since the end of the previous century and many landlords had found themselves in financial straits owing to social, economic and political factors. Around 1920, agriculture was relatively prosperous (untouched by the depression to come) and many landlords took advantage of the circumstances of the day to sell out. Those who did were able to dispose of land profitably, as later on land prices fell owing to (amongst other factors) the repeal of the Corn Production Act, which had underwritten the price of corn and home production. There was slight trouble when the Pantglas estate was put up for sale. The owners were informed that if the tenants were not allowed to purchase their farms at the valuation of the National Farmers Union, the sale would be opposed. This angered the Estates Gazette, but the affair ended amicably when some ninety tenants of the Pantglas estate bought between them some 7000 acres at prices totalling over £100,000.

Thus ends an important chapter in the annals of one of Carmarthenshire's grand houses. Pantglas was acquired by the Carmarthenshire County Council and used for institutional purposes until it was damaged and vacated as the result of a fire a few years ago.

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The picture of Pantglas on page 15 is from a photograph taken prior to 1871 by C. S. Allen of Tenby, and kindly made available by the Friends of Pembrokeshire Museum. Comparison with the drawing by Mrs. E. M. Lodwick on the cover shows that parapet balustrades, finials and other ornamentation have since been removed.

Journal of a Young Lady of Fashion

Part II

By Major FRANCIS JONES, C.V.O., T.D., D.L.
Wales Herald of Arms Extraordinary

The journal of Agnes Hermione Jennings of Gellideg relating to the years 1865 and 1866 was published in Vol. XI of *The Carmarthen-shire Historian*, together with a biographical introduction. The journal is here concluded with entries relating to the years 1867 to 1872. Although it has been necessary to condense the journal for the later years, the omitted material is largely of a repetitive nature or else of minimal interest and the flavour of the original manuscript is not affected as a result.

1867

Visit to Stradey

Thursday the 10th of January, Mamma and I, with Wakeford and Lewis went to dine and sleep at Stradey. Papa rode over. We started at 2 and called on Mr Malephant on our way. Jerry went lame so we did not arrive till 5½. Found Mr and Mrs Lewis and young Lewis and Papa in the drawing room. Had tea and then went to dress. I had a good big room. Wore white garribaldi and skirt, with scarlet sash. Mr Onslow, Mr Somerset, and Mr Pemberton dined there. I went in to dinner with Mr Onslow. I sang a little in the evening but not well as I had a sore throat. Played vint-un and old bachelor. Mr Somerset got all the money, 8 shillings. Went to bed at 11½. I sat up till 12 to look out for the ghost who promenades the staircase at 12 in a silk dress. Looked out of my door when the clock struck, heard some one coming along in a rustling dress, drew back thinking it might be Mrs Lewis. It passed my door and re-passed it.

Breakfast the next day at 10. We left at 12. The meet of Mr Lewis's beagles at Killymanllwd. Papa and young Lewis rode there. I walked up from the road where we left the carriage with Mamma in it. Fought Mr Rees and two deaf Miss Rees's. Saw the hounds throw off, then walked back to the carriage. The Rees's went with me. Got home at 2½.

Winter evening entertainment at Carmarthen

On Tuesday the 22nd of January, we all (except Richie) went over to Carmarthen to the winter evening entertainment when Papa was to take the chair and lectured as well on "Farrer", the Bishop of St Davids who was burnt. We had dinner at 5 and started at 6½. Arthur on the box and papa, Mama, Louy, and I inside. Richie was to have ridden but it came on to rain so that he gave it up. The roads were in a most extraordinary state. The thaw had just set in, and though it was raining it froze as it fell on the ground and the roads were a sheet of ice. Jerry went home, and the coachman took two hours driving over.

We arrived 20 minutes late, and were loudly applauded by an impatient audience on our entering the room. We were provided with seats in the front row by Latimer Jones. The room was filled with a very respectable audience. The performances began by Papa making a speech. Then a glee was sung by about 30 people, "Here in cool grot". Mr Brooke played the piano. Then Papa gave his lecture on Bishop Farrar which was much applauded. This was followed by a song from Miss Bevan. There were readings by Mr White and a curate. The latter read "Putting on the screw" very badly. There was another glee, then a boyish individual sang "She wore a wreath of roses". Then Latimer Jones proposed a vote of thanks to Papa for presiding which was carried. Papa made another speech and the affair terminated by the National Anthem. We had to wait a long time for the carriage and came home very slowly. Got home at 1.

Visit to Pantglas, balls, etc.

On Wednesday the 23rd of January, Mamma and I went to stay for three days with the Jones' of Pantglas. Mamma was seedy in the morning and was afraid she would not be able to go, but recovered. The fly Papa had ordered from Carmarthen came round at 2, and we started soon after with Arthur who was going with us (in evening costume) as far as Carmarthen and from there working his way on to Aberglasney for the ball in the evening. Wakeford and Lewis went with us. We stopped at Bagnall Davies for some gloves and left Arthur there. We then drove into the yard at the Ivy Bush where we changed horses and proceeded to Pantglas.

We passed Abergwili and Altagogue and after going 7 miles along the turnpike road, we turned off a hill road on the left and went for about 3 miles more to Pantglas. It rained the whole way from home, and when we turned off from the turnpike road we discovered that the fly leaked and that Mamma was sitting in a pool of water,

at which she got rather excited as she had on a new black and lilac velvetine dress. We went along a very pretty but dangerous and precipitous road looking down on a river (not the Towy). After going through the lodge we drove through a mile of park from which we could see the house which looked very large with a flag up. We drove over a bridge which was put up over a small lake of which there were several in front of the house.

When we stopped at the door, the young Gulstons who were all about in the hall, came and let us out. In the hall we met Mr Jones and then the Miss Jones and the youngest boy little Girwin Jones who was about 10, a good-looking child with large prominent teeth. We were then showed into a small room where they were having tea and where we found Mrs Gulston. After tea we were taken to our room, we were to have the same, and were told we were not to dress till after dinner. The room was rather cold and cheerless, the window was just being shut as we came in and the fire only just lighted. There was only one washing-stand and one basin. After washing my hands we went down and found no one but Mr John Jones (Blaenos) and Stepney Gulston who were just going to dress for dinner. Finding no ladies down I decided on going up again and having my hair dressed, and Mr J. Jones showed me the way. Soon after, I came down again, the Gulstons appeared, 8 in number, Father and Mother and 6 children. Then the Jones', Miss Boultee and a Mr Crawshay, and Mr Benson, and Mr and Mrs Drummond the bride and bridegroom. I went in to dinner with Stepney Gulston, after which we dressed for the Aberglasney Ball. I wore a blue silk peplum. We were dressed the first.

We went in the carriage with Horatia and George Gulston, and Alfred and Louise Jones, so we were tightly packed. We drove round to the back entrance at Aberglasney as they danced in the hall. There were about 100 people. It wound up with a cotillon which S. Gulston led with Mrs Harries. I danced it with Mr Drummond. We left at 5. I came back with Stepney, George, and Mr Gulston, Lilla and Louise Jones: they had another supper when they returned but I went off to bed.

Thursday. Wet nearly all day. Came down to a breakfast lunch at 12. Then looked over photo books etc in the boudoir where were Mamma, Mrs Drummond, and afterwards Mrs Gulston who began talking state secrets with Mamma, so I was turned out and went up to my room and read "Hopes and Fears" as most of the others were arranging the charades for the evening, and I was not to know the word. When I went down again I was told by Stepney

Gulston I was to come in, in the first scene, as Lady in waiting to the Queen, the first syllable to be 'court'. I then went into the boudoir and exchanged monograms with Miss Boultee and Mrs Drummond who both gave me some very good ones. Miss Boultee told us a good deal about Gillas whom she knew a little. I looked over Miss B's book of crests.

Later in the afternoon we had music in the drawing room, a handsomely furnished room leading out of the boudoir, but from their never inhabiting it now looked rather cheerless. Miss Boultee played and sang, and then Alfred Jones sang "Champagne Charlie" and "Padelle your own canoc", and we joined in the choruses. Miss Gulston came in from a walk with little Girwin, and later Miss Boultee and I with Mr Benson and George and Arthur Gulston went for a turn round the kitchen garden, but we soon came back again as it came on to rain heavily.

We had tea and then dressed for dinner. I wore my white silk dress with a scarlet sash. I went in to dinner with Mr Benson. Miss Jones was not well and did not make her appearance all day until after dinner. Mr Somerset was staying at Pantglas till Saturday having come back with us from Aberglasney. Mr and Mrs William Morris dined with us. After dinner we went upstairs to see about the dresses for the charades. We found Alfred Jones in Mrs Gulston's room dressed up as a girl with a wig on and capital get up. Mrs Gulston dressed Miss Gulston as Queen with a gilt crown on, Mamma's diamonds, a blue ribbon and yellow train; she had on a scarlet tunic. Mrs Gulston then dressed up Mr Crawshay as Prince with a crown, blue ribbon, and scarlet cloak. I wore Miss Gulston's bandeau of pearls, and Mamma's garnet ornaments and a scarlet train. Lizzie, the other lady in waiting, wore a scarlet and white train.

On going down stairs we were sent by a back way to the library which was the room where the actors assembled. After the audience had taken their seats in the hall (the Aberglasney party who were expected never came) a curtain which had been put up between the hall and the vestibule was drawn up, and Stepney Gulston in plain evening dress read a prologue he had written for the occasion. Then after 10 minutes delay in which he put on a deputy lieutenant's uniform, the first scene opened by the Queen and Prince entering the throne room preceeded by the Lord Chamberlain (S. Gulston) walking backwards and ushering them in. The Queen's train was carried by Girwin, and then followed Lizzie and I as ladies in waiting. The presentations were Miss Louise Jones called the Marchioness of Llandilo, and Miss Boultee as the Marchioness of Tivyside, and Mr

Benson as the Duke of Timbuctoo in a long scarlet cloak. The presentations over we went out, in the same procession as before, but were loudly called for again and cheered and applauded. My part was now over, as was also Horatia and Lizzie Gulston and Louise Jones, so we all came back and took our place among the audience. The next scene was 'ship', all done by the gentlemen, supposed to be on board ship. The next, the word was 'courtship', Stepney Gulston making love to Alfred Jones (Angelina), and Mr Somerset in green goggles and white hat as father, and Mr Benson with a large yellow poke bonnet as mother, rushing in to interfere.

The next charade was 'infancy', the first syllable 'inn'. Mamma was the landlady, and Mrs Somerset a traveller was wanting a great many things to eat which the landlady could not supply, and at last the only thing that could be forthcoming were chops, which it afterwards turned out had been ordered before by another traveller, S. Gulston, who came in, and then a row ensued. The next scene, 'fancy', was Mamma as a nervous fanciful lady and her husband, S. Gulston, as Mr and Mrs Fitzfigget, a newly married couple. Mrs F had taken a fancy to go to Paris for the exhibition, and her husband, refusing, she took refuge in tears which brought Mr F round at last to half promising to go. The word 'infancy' was young Jones as a baby, and Mamma as a nurse, but this scene was spoiled by A. Jones howling so that not a word could be heard. After the charades, the young Gulstons pulled up the carpet in the drawing room, which was a loose one, and we had dancing for an hour. It was 2 o'clock by the time we went to bed.

Friday. Fine day. Came down to breakfast about 11½. Found only Miss Gulston, Mr Somerset, Alfred Jones, and Mr Crawshay, as the others had done breakfast. Afterwards we all (except Miss Gulston and some of the young men) helped to prepare the drawing room for the ball. We tore the green calico in strips and wound it round the candles and the stands for lighting up the ball room. We afterwards had singing, and then made rosettes for the cotillon. Miss Boulbee gave Mr Benson one and engaged him to dance the cotillon. We had luncheon at 1½ after which we went to call at Aberglasney. Mamma and Mrs Drummond and Mr Crawshay went in the carriage with me, and Mr Benson on the box. Miss Gulston drove the other carriage with A. Jones by her side and Mr Somerset and Miss Boulbee and Girwin behind. Louise Jones drove the other carriage with George, Arthur, and Lizzie Gulston. We found all the Aberglasney party in, and afterwards went out on the terraced walk. We then drove on to Llandilo where we stopped at a shop, and the gentlemen bought us lemonade and goodies.

We got back to Pantglas about 5½, and had tea. We were told we were not to dress till after dinner. I gave Miss L. Jones my photo and got hers in return. I went in to dinner with Mr Somerset, and George Gulston was on my other side. Directly after dinner we went to dress. I wore my pink dress with lace over it. Arthur Gulston came in and made me seal a camelia together for him, but got a wiggin from Mamma and was turned out. We had a capital ball, about 80 people came. I danced a good deal. The first I danced with Mr Crawshay. I went in to supper with young Crosse, and the cotillon I danced with Mr Benson as Miss Boulbee threw him over to sit out in the hall with Mr Edmund Vaughne, whom it was reported she was engaged to. After the cotillon there was a second edition of supper, after which we set to work to dance again which we kept up till 6 but which was at last stopped by the band playing "God Save the Queen".

Saturday. We came down to breakfast about 12, as we wished to be off by 1, but we found no one down, and when some of them came down they all remained talking in the boudoir for nearly an hour before they let us have breakfast. We found no one left but the Gulstons and ourselves, as the others had all gone off early; the Drummonds to London, Mr Benson and Crawshay back to their respective places, and Mrs Gulston declared that Mr Somerset had gone in a flie alone with Miss Boulbee, to Carmarthen, but she had insisted on the maid going inside. But we afterwards found out that as soon as they were out of sight they turned the maid out again. Mrs Gulston was very angry with Miss Boulbee about it and abused her very much. We had breakfast at last, about 1, and got off by 2. Mr Jones put some game in our flie. It rained all the way home. Our carriage, with Louy inside, met us at the Ivy Bush. After getting a P. O. Order and some chocolate creams etc, we came home and arrived about 6.

First Hunt Ball at Carmarthen

Tuesday the 5th of February, Mamma and I went to the first Hunt Ball. I wore my blue peplum, and Mamma yellow silk. We were late in dressing and did not start till 9½. The children from the lodge came to see us dressed. We did not get to Carmarthen till 11½ as there was a new leather on the drag chain which made us go slowly. I danced every dance. My partners were Mr H. Peel, Mr Crawshay, Mr Benson, Mr Long Price, Mr Alfred Jones, Mr Somerset, Captain Jones, Mr Williams, Mr Saurin, and all the four Gulstons. The two Stuarts were there, Mr Herbert Evans, and Valentine Davies the latter made himself very absurd by making speeches, etc. The



Hermione Jennings

Duke of Hamilton and Lord Ruthin [Ruthven] were at the ball. We got home about 6.

Dinner party at the Crosses

On Wednesday the 6th of February, Papa Mamma, and I dined at Iscoed. I got up at 4 (having slept since 6 without waking) and dressed for the party. I wore my blue dress with embroidered skirt over it. We met Mr and Mrs Peel and two Miss Peels who were staying at Iscoed, Mrs H. Williams and Lady Hanbury, Mr Onslow and Mr Pemberton. I went in to dinner with young Crosse. Miss Peel sang after dinner a good deal. I did not take my music. They afterwards got up a round game at cards but we did not stay for it, as we were late yesterday and there was a ball tomorrow.

Second Hunt Ball at Carmarthen

Papa, Mamma, and I started at 8½ for the second Hunt Ball. I wore white and pink with pearl ornaments, Mamma white. The Davieses, Jenkins's, and Anthony's came to see us dressed. We got to the ball at 10½. Dancing had not yet begun, but as we went into the room the sets were forming for the first quadrille which Captain Crosse asked me to dance with him to make up a set. I danced most of the partners of Tuesday and young Crosse and a gentleman Mrs Gulston introduced. It was very crowded about 200 people being there, but not at all select as I observed the Reporter for the Carmarthen Journal, Andrews the Photographer, and young Richardson. Several people fell down, and Mrs Owen Wilson fainted.

Our Visit to Pentre

On Monday the 25th of February, Mamma and I with Wakeford and Lewis went to stay with the Saunders Davies's for the Cardigan-shire Hunt Week. We left Gelly-deg at 10.40 and drove to Carmarthen. After we had got about a mile Mamma discovered she had left her diamonds behind. At first she talked of going back for them, but we persuaded her not to, as we should probably have been too late for the train. At Carmarthen we did some shopping and then went to the station where we were half an hour too soon, so Wakeford and I went for a walk through the town, and went to Mrs Jones the pastrycook and had lunch, and Wakeford who felt rather sick coming had a bottle of porter. We then went back to the station and took our places in the train, and after some delay started, there was only one other person in our carriage at first and whom (as discovered by his conversation to another gentleman who afterwards got in) was also going to Pentre.

At Llandissil we got out and took our places in the omnibus (but which calls itself a coach) and waited quite half an hour before we started while a quantity of boxes and hampers were being piled on, the top belonging to the Howells. Mrs Howells (the idol) and two of her maids were inside, also Mr Cochrane (who was going to Pentre) and who began to enter into conversation with Mama. Wakeford went inside and afterwards felt sick again and was obliged to get out and walk up a hill. The omnibus was quite filled inside with commoners. Outside were Colonel and Miss Pryse who were also going to Pentre; Mr Williams and Mr and Miss Howell. The carriage we had ordered met us at Newcastle Emlyn which is about 10 or 12 miles from Llandyssil and five or six from Pentre. We arrived at Pentre about 5½ and had tea. Amongst those in the room were Miss Pugh and Miss Di Phillips who were there last year; Mrs Frederick Edwardes and Miss Shield were calling there and some got up to go. We then were shown into our rooms to dress for dinner. Mama and I had the same room and I had a dressing room beyond. On coming down to the drawing room I found the company consisted of Colonel and Miss Pryce, uncle and niece of her stepfather, Mr Fryer, Mr Cochrane, Miss Evans (sister to Mr Picton Evans), Miss Cope and Miss Borradaile (two cousins), Miss Pugh and Miss Di Phillips. I wore my blue and white dress. Mr Fryer took me in to dinner and I found him very slow. In the evening there was music and dancing. Another gentleman arrived about 10 o'clock, a Mr Barker. We went to bed at 11½.

Tuesday. Came down to breakfast about 10. It was a hunting morning and most of the gentlemen were in scarlet, and Miss Pryce in her habit. It was a misty wet day and none of the nonhunters went out in the morning. The hounds met at Cardigan and it was too far for the horses to go in twice in the day. We sat in the drawing room and worked and talked in the morning. We then played poole. The gentlemen were Colonel S. Davies, Mr Cochrane; the ladies, Miss Pugh, Miss D. Phillips, Miss Evans, and myself. We had lunch at 2. Afterwards we all except the elders walked to call on Mrs F. Edwardes. I walked with Miss Pugh and Miss Borradaile there, and Miss Pugh and Di Phillips back. We saw Mrs F. Edwardes, Miss Shield, and the children three girls. On our return I went a voyage of discovery to the nursery and inspected the babes and sucklings. After tea we went to dress for dinner. I put on my ball dress at once, viz. white tulle with white and pink sash, and pink flowers in my hair. Most of the others came down in white garribaldis and changed after. Mr Cochrane took me in to dinner. The servants came into the hall to see us dressed for the ball. We started in three carriages about 9½. I went with Mrs S. Davies, Mama, and

Miss Pryce. We arrived before the ball had begun as Colonel Pryce was one of the stewards, Mr Owen was the other. I danced with Mr Cochrane, Mr Fryer, Mr Barker, Mr Bishop, Mr Saurin, Mr Owen, Mr Williams, Mr Hughes, and with a Captain Lecch (Miss Cope introduced) and with Mr Stokes, Mr Griffiths, and Mr Hanbury whom Mrs S. Davies introduced. I went down to supper with Mr Cochrane. We left at 4, in the same carriage as we came and had a second supper at Pentre on our return.

Wednesday. I was awake at about 11 o'clock by a brass band playing outside the windows. Got up and came down about 12. Played poole with the same party as yesterday, with the addition of Miss Pryce and Mr Barker. The Jordans of Pigeonsford and Miss Lewis Lysnewedd who had come to luncheon, came and looked on at the game part of the time. A very large party came to lunch and amongst them the Boultsbees. I sat next to Miss Lewis of Lysnewedd. We started for the races about 3. I went in the carriage with Mrs S. Davies, Mama, Miss Borrerdale and little Arty. Colonel Davies drove. It rained in torrents the whole day. We had the carriage opened part of the time while on the course, and Miss B and I went on the box where we saw the starting and winning part very clearly but not the whole course. Mr Howell was the only gentleman rider and was very near winning. We returned to tea at 5½. Miss Evans was the only one who stayed at home. Mrs F. Edwardes and Miss Shield came to dinner, also Mr Saurin and Mr Owen. I wore my blue silk tunic and went in to dinner with Mr Owen. I talked to Miss Shield after dinner. In the evening we had music and dancing. Went to bed about 1.

Thursday. Came down to breakfast at 10. The gentlemen in hunting costume. At 10½ Mrs S. Davies, Miss Evans, and I went to the meet at Cenarth. It rained till 12 and then cleared up. We all three sat under the hood as the carriage would not close. There was a large field and we followed them to Gelydywell (Mr Brigstock's place), but soon they went off to Fynone, and then we returned home at about 12. We had lunch at 1. We stayed at home in the afternoon. I made exchanges of photos and crests. The hunting party came home to tea at 5½. I put on my white garribaldi and red sash for dinner. I went in with that stupid Mr Fryer again, who had a bad cold to add to his charms. After dinner I dressed for the ball. I wore my new green and white tarlatane dress with pearl ornaments. I went in the carriage with Miss Evans, Miss Pugh, Miss Borradaile and Miss Cope; and come back with Mrs S. Davies, Mama, and Mr Fryer. I danced with very nearly the same partners as on Tuesday. We got back about 6.

Friday. Came down to breakfast about 11. Colonel and Miss Pryce and Mr Fryer took their departure about 12. I chaffed Miss Cope about Major Leech. Went to the nursery and said goodbye to the children. We left at 1, and went all the way to Llandissil in the fie. Before we got out of the park, Mamma discovered she had left her muff and boa behind. Lewis went back for them. Got to Llandyssil $\frac{3}{4}$ of an hour before the time, so I wrote a letter to Minnie in the waiting room. The train went at 4 and got to Carmarthen about 5. Did some shopping there. Did not get home till nearly 8.

[In London]

Her London visit in 1867, which she records between 29 March and 10 July, was very much a repeat of her experience the previous year, which meant a constant round of parties and theatre visits. Invariably she attended these festivities accompanied by her parents, except for the rare occasions when Mamma's energy failed. Here are some entries:

Sir Charles Hamilton's dinner

Mon. 15 April. Dinner at 6 $\frac{1}{2}$. "Lady Hamilton was very odd and made a salaam to us when we first came into the room, bowing down to the ground. Sometimes she never spoke for half an hour, but when she once began she went on like a clock, and would talk for half an hour without interruption".

General Hamilton's Dinner

Fri 17 May. "When I was dressing, my dormouse (which I had lost since the day before) jumped out of my petticoat which had been up in Wakeford's room. I caught it and put him in the chest of drawers", and then went to the dinner with Papa and Mamma.

The Fourth of June at Eton

On Tuesday the fourth of June, Papa and I went down to Eton. We started from here at 12 and went by the Metropolitan railway to Paddington, from where we went on without changing trains to Windsor. It was a fine day, but a few showers in the morning. We eat our luncheon in the train and got a bottle of ginger beer at Windsor. We then went and got tickets of admission for the state apartments at Windsor. We then proceeded to the place where absence was being called, and finding that the upper fourth form had been done with, we went to Willy's dame's, where we found him.

But as he had not had dinner yet, we left him for half an hour, while we went to get leave for him from the head master Balston. We found a large party assembled at his house for luncheon, but Balston soon appeared in a cap and gown and told us he did not give leave, but we must go to Willy's tutor. This we did and got leave, and then returned to Willy's room, where he soon came to us, and we rested there for half an hour. His dame soon came in (Mrs Stephens) and pressed us to take luncheon as both the head master and tutor had done before, but which we declined.

We then went into Eton Chapel for a few minutes and also into the school. We then went up a flight of two or three hundred steps to Windsor Castle. As we were going we met Mr Rycroft who was coming away. We then went over the state apartments, and then attended a full choral service at St George's where we heard a beautiful anthem. We then went through the town and up Park Street to the Park where there is a long straight drive of three miles leading to a statue of one of the Georges.

We then went to the station where Papa left me in the waiting room, and where I saw an apparition in black. We next proceeded to a tuck shop where we regaled ourselves on cakes. We then went to look for a shoe shop where I bought a pair of shoes last year. After going to two or three shops we at last found the right one and I purchased another pair of shoes of the same sort. We then went to a field by the side of the river (the Brocas) and after waiting about half an hour we saw the crews get into the eight boats and row off one by one, a little way up the river and then come down past us together, and then all go up in procession to Surley with a band at their head. There were 8 in each boat except the principal one in which there were 10. Benson was captain of the boats, a brother of the one we know, and whom we afterwards met by the river. The dresses were very pretty, each boat's crew having a different colour which was carried throughout their dress which was a striped shirt of their colours, a straw hat with coloured ribbon, and the name of their boat on it, with a silver badge, white trousers, pink silk stockings and shoes with buckles. The different colours were blue, light blue, dark blue, green, pink, violet, etc, etc. The steerers of the three upper boats were dressed as captains in the navy, with cocked hats and swords etc, and large bouquets; and those in the five lower boats, as midshipmen, with bouquets.

As soon as the boats started, most of the boys and Willy among them ran along the banks to Surley, a distance of three miles, and where the boys in the boats had a supper. We did not stay for the

fire works, and so made our way to the station where we were only just in time to catch the train which was just starting.

There was no room in the first class so we were obliged to get into a second class carriage, where two women afterwards got in (one without any bonnet or cloak) who had come from the North as fruit pickers. There were 20 or 30 of them in the other carriages. They were very coarse rough looking women and those in our carriage were half tipsy. They began to insult us because Papa asked the guard when they got in if there was any room in a first class carriage as we had tickets for first class. There was none, and one of the women flew at Papa in a torrent of abuse, and asking what harm he thought they should do us, and if he thought they meant to murder us, and saying they had as good a right to be in the carriage as he had, and they'd paid for their tickets as well as we had, and stay they should. And then she said they were as good as we, for all we thought of ourselves.

And then the other gave tongue and talked religion all the time at us, and said that in the next world we should all be in the same place, and she wondered how we should like it then. In Heaven there would be no first and second class, and the poor would be much more likely to go to Heaven than we should. And then, turning to her companion she said "What does the Bible say? It is easier for a rich man — no that's not it — it is easier for a poor man to get into Heaven than it is for a rich man to get through the eye of a needle". And so they went on the whole time till at the next station Papa got the guard to put us in another second class carriage where there were some ladies. The last thing the women called out as we were leaving their carriage was, "Now then make haste and leave this carriage, we don't want you here". At two stations after this the whole gang of fruit pickers got out, some of them drinking, and our friend (the stormy one) waving her basket over the head and shaking her fist in the guard's face and making a tremendous row about her boxes.

At Paddington we got out and went by the under-ground railway to Portland Street from where we walked home. Mama went to a dinner party at Aunt Fay's.

Her London season continued apace, while all the time she was meeting old acquaintances and making new ones. At the end it must have been a relief to return to the pastoral tranquility of Carmarthen-shire.

[Back in Wales]

Archery Meeting at Llandilo

On Wednesday the 14th of July Mamma and I went to the archery meeting at Llandilo. We started from home about 10½ and after doing some shopping at Carmarthen, we went by the 1¼ train to Llandilo Bridge where we arrived soon after 2. The Prices of Oaklands went in the same carriage with us. The proper time for the shooting to begin was 1, but we had written about a week before to Mr Bishop the Hon Sec to ask him to wait for the 2 o'clock train by which others besides ourselves would come, as if they did not we should have to start at 7 in the morning and wait four or five hours at Llandilo as there was no other train we could come by. The Sec had promised us he would do what he could to delay the shooting. Mrs Gulston had asked us to stay with her for the meeting which we had declined and we had asked her also to keep the shooting back, as we knew she was always at least half an hour late herself and as she was the ruling power there, she could easily have done it if she chose. We had accepted her offer of sending her carriage for us to take us up to the ground, so we found it waiting at the station, but the shooting had already begun, and when I joined the shooters they had shot nearly a dozen arrows. When I proposed shooting my nine arrows (which I had missed) afterwards I received a most decided refusal from Mrs Gulston. I found that she had kept every body waiting 3 quarters of an hour though she had only a few miles to drive in, and she would not let them wait ten minutes more for us, though we had asked her to. Every body else (shooters included) agreed that I ought to be allowed to, and the captain of our target, Mr Phillips, said to me, "When the others have done say you nothing about it, but just shoot on and I will score it for you". This I accordingly did but only got two arrows in as it was rather a trying position with every one looking on and Mrs G looking ferocious. I had been shooting well before, at least making a great many hits though not much by score as they were almost all blacks and whites.

There was no dinner provided by the Cawdor Arms people, but Mrs Gulston had a table provided for her friends, and the Bishops had another. The latter invited me to theirs, while Mamma went to Mrs Gulston's. As soon as we had finished Mrs Gulston came up to me while I was talking to Miss Bishop and asked me why I had not come to her table. I was very nearly saying "because you did not invite me", but I replied that Miss Bishop had asked me to theirs. To this she answered (by way of snubbing Miss Bishop) that she hoped I had had something to eat before. She then went off into a rage about my shooting after the others and quite worked herself into a passion

about it declaring that such a thing had never been heard of before, and that as I had set it a precedent, her daughter who was not always punctual should in future always come as late as she liked and should be allowed to make up her arrows afterwards. To this I replied that as the shooting had not begun punctually at 1, but they had waited 3 quarters of an hour for three who could have come in at the right time if they chose, they might have waited a few minutes more for us, but as they had not done so I was quite justified in shooting my arrows afterwards. Mrs G raised her voice very much and tried to talk me down, and then she began to [talk] about it to Miss Bishop talking at me all the time, till I made my escape leaving her giving tongue vociferously. After shooting at 50 I was told by Mr Phillips that I had got a prize, but in half an hour afterwards I received a severe disappointment on being told there was some mistake and that Miss Bishop would get two instead of our each having one; they had thought before that one person could not get two, but as one was given by a private person it had not the same restrictions as a club prize. My number of hits was only one less than Miss Bishop. The prizes which were a scent bottle and workbasket were won by the two Miss Bishops, and the prize given by Mr E. Bishop was given to the second Miss Bishop who had also got the workbasket. As soon as it was all over we walked to the station and after waiting a long time for the train we got off and reached home about 9½.

Account of Visit to the Biddulphs

Saturday, showery and windy day, Mamma and I started at 12½ in the carriage with Deacon and Williams, drove to Kidwelly station. Mr Maliphant got out of the train as we got in, talked to him a little. Baron de Rutzen was in the same carriage as we were and we soon found that he was also going to Mrs Biddulphs. At Llanelly, Mrs Gulston, Lizzie, her maid and man and 39 articles (viz. luggage and loose packages) were waiting for the train. The two former got into our carriage by Mrs Gulston, so we were a large merry party, all destined (curiously enough) for the same place. The elders, viz. Mrs G. Mrs J, and the Baron were in one compartment; and the juniors, Lizzie, Mrs Pemberton and I in the other. At Llandore we changed for Swansea where we arrived about 2½. We stayed there for about an hour shopping, etc, and I got some capital greengages and very cheap 24 for 6, or 4 a penny.

On coming back to the station we were about to take a flic to Dirwin but Williams (with his usual intelligence) told us he had put all our boxes etc in a carriage that had been sent from Dirwin. We thought there must be some mistake, for they would not have sent one

carriage for so large a party as they expected. However after asking a few questions from the coachman we reluctantly got in. He told us that Mr Biddulph was "in town" and we were to pick him up. After driving about Swansea for a short time and passing the Gulstons once or twice going about shopping, we suddenly came upon Mr and Mrs Biddulph walking. We pulled up and soon learnt that they had come in the carriage to meet some old invalid uncle whom they expected. We then of course insisted on getting out and taking a flic in which we proceeded to Dirwin being told by Mrs B that we should find Miss Chambers there to receive us. This however we did not do and had to ask the servants to show us to our rooms or rather room, and we only had one. On coming down afterwards we found Miss Chambers making tea in the little room where the Gulstons had arrived. The gentlemen came soon afterwards and with them a Mr Phillips who also got into our train at Llanelly but was in another carriage. He and Mr Pemberton slept every night of their visit in a small inn near as Mrs Biddulph could not find room for them in the house. The Biddulphs soon afterwards arrived with Mr Martin the old uncle. Miss Chambers and her youngest brother, and Baron de Rutzen were also staying in the house, so we were a large party. After tea we dressed for dinner. There was a dinner party of 16. We were 12 in the house so only 4 more came. There were some Edens but I forget who the others were. I think Mr and Mrs Wilmot. I went in to dinner with Mr Phillips. There was singing and billiards in the evening.

Sunday. Fine, very bright and warm. We all went to a very pretty church at Sketty in the morning. We went in two carriages and some walked. I went with Mrs Biddulph, Mamma, Miss Chambers and Lizzie, in the waggonette. Sketty church is very pretty indeed. The service and singing is conducted quite like All Saints. There was a large and fashionable congregation, amongst them Lord Cawdor's family who were staying with the Vivians. After we came home some of the party looked over my torture book and many of them answered the questions in it I put to them. This went on after lunch. At 3½ Lizzie, Mr Pemberton and I went for a walk and visited several of the poor people about the Mumbles who were well known to Lizzie as they (the Gulstons) formerly lived in that neighbourhood. We had rather fun at one or two places in passing off Mr P as Lizzie's brother and asking if they did not think him much grown and improved. They generally found great likenesses in him to his family.

At one place we planted a rhododendron flower on a long stem under a glass cover, and then asked the good woman of the house who Lizzie was talking to, what curious plant she had growing there and

assuring her it was a great curiosity. The good woman came to see it and then laughingly told us one of her children had stuck it in there, and then appealing to a little girl who stood near she asked her if she had done it. The child was the most accomodating witness in the world, for she without the slightest hesitation immediately answered in the affirmative and really believed what she said I think. We then went to look at "Woodlands" where the Gulstons formerly lived. It is a nice house built something in the style of a castle and covered with ivy. It was all in a state of repair as the owner (one of the Vivians) was shortly coming to live there.

On returning to Derwin we found all the rest of the party sitting out on the lawn having tea. We joined them and found it very pleasant after our long hot walk sitting there in the cool of the evening. We dined quite quietly at 8, and in the evening we all sang hymns.

Monday. Fine very hot and sultry. Lizzie not very well did not come down till 11. Then she went for a walk with me accompanied by some of the old birds who when they heard we were going out said they would come too ; they were Mamma, Mrs. Gulston and the poor unhappy Baron, who always seemed in a state of chronic melancholy. Lizzie and I tried to escape his company by walking fast, and as his legs were short he could not keep up with us but was obliged to fall back in the rear with the chaperones. We went to two nursery gardeners, where both M and Mrs G made large investments. We came home at 1, hot and weary from our sultry and dusty walk. A lot of visitors called before lunch. At 3½ Mrs B, Mamma, Baron de R, Lizzie and I went in the carriage along the Swansea Road. When we got as far as the Vivian's Park, Lizzie and I got out and walked, the others going on to Swansea where they had some business to do. I forgot to say that Mr Pemberton and Mrs Phillips left Derwin early that morning as they had to remain to their business at Llanelly and Pembrey. Lizzie and I walked through Singleton Park, and home through some lanes. We had great fun with one or two old women we went to see. On returning we joined the tea party on the lawn, and the torture book was brought out and several unhappy people put through their confusions. There was a fresh arrival in the shape of a Mr Vaughne, a very meek individual who, when he talked which was very seldom, spoke in a very low tone of voice. Just as we were dressing for dinner Miss Pryce (whom we met at Pentre in the winter) arrived having driven a pair of ponies 30 to 40 miles that day from her home. She did not appear till after dinner as she had not time to dress. There was a party of 18, singing and billiards in the evening. Went in to dinner with the Baron.

Tuesday. Had an early breakfast with Mr Biddulph at 9, as we had to start early on our journey home. After breakfast played billiards for a short time with Lizzie and some of the gentlemen. Mr Pemberton and Mr Phillips, had, to our astonishment, turned up at dinner time, yesterday. We thought they had left for good, which however they did not do till today going by a later train than we did. We took leave of everybody and left Derwin in a fiee soon after 10 and drove into Swansea where we did more shopping, and I invested in more greengages at the same cheap rate as before. Went by train to Kidwelly where we arrived at 12½. Drove home and found all (my noble Bully included) quite well.

From here on I have precied some of the entries.

Second Archery Meeting at Llandilo

Fri. 27 Sep. Misty. Mamma, Minnie and I got up at 5. went by carriage to Carm. Then by 7.40 train to Llandilo, then by omnibus to Cawdor Arms, where we stayed the morning. Mr C. Bishop came into the room "and broke the monotony of the morning by talking about the Club rows, etc". Ordered a trap by 12 o'clock. It was a dog-cart "We got into the machine which was a matter of some difficulty as the steps were high and I am afraid Mamma made rather an expose or as Louy would say showed a good deal of 'jambeau' ". "We drove up to Dynevor Castle, not the ruin, but the present abode of Lord Dynevor. It is an ugly house and has been patched up lately for the purpose of improving it, in which I think they have not succeeded. There are four funny little turrets on each corner, and the whole appearance of the place is something like a house made out of barley sugar or something of the kind. The view from it and the old castle is I believe splendid but we could not see what it was like on such a misty day. We drove through the park, and back to the Cawdor Arms". Bought a pair of goloshes at Llandilo as the ground was wet. A party of the shooters including the diarist went by omnibus. The driver drove fast and recklessly down a steep hill much to their fear. Arrived at the shooting ground, and found people in the tent. Still drizzling. Minnie shot for the 'Strangers' Prize, a pair of candlesticks, and also "a Miss Lewis a very masculine looking individual". The Cawdor Arms did not provide dinner as it didn't pay. People brought sandwiches, cakes, &c. It rained nearly all the time of the shooting. Mrs Gulston and Miss Young arrived at about 3 from Tenby, but soon left as they had to go back to Tenby to a ball. Prizes — 1st. Miss Bishop. 2nd another Miss Bishop. I got a prize, a very nice seal skin purse lined with blue watered silk. Returned to tea at Cawdor Arms, joined by the C. Morris's, the Long Pryces, Miss P. Pryce, and others. left in

omnibus for station, and went by 7½ train to Carmarthen, and drove home in the open carriage.

Our 2nd dinner party [the first being given the previous evening]

Nov 29. Fri. 14. we were 6 ourselves — the others, Mr and Mrs Thompson, Mr and Mrs Owen Jones, and Mr and Mrs Price. Mrs Saunders Davies sang "Vive la Compagnie" again, and brought in by my request the names of Bully, Sandy and the little "yellow bird, whose voice is seldom heard". She brought in Bully's in this way — "Here's another you'd agree with me fully, Here's to the health of the noble Bully". And Sandy thus — "and now to another whose legs are bandy, Here's to the health of poor little Sandy". Mrs Price, Mrs Thompson and I propounded riddles to one another in the evening. Mrs Saunders Davies told us the story of awful paws (pause).

Dinner Party at the Crosses at Iscoed

Thurs 12 Dec. Papa, Mamma, Arthur and I. 14 at dinner — Mr and Mrs Thompson, Mr and Miss Bishop, and the French Consul. Mr and Mrs Owen Wilson — "he a very vulgar man, and she somewhat resembling an actress and something like Lady Audley with long yellow hair". "Mrs Wilson sang several songs very well but in a peculiar style". "Mr Wilson favoured us with some exceedingly vulgar songs most of which were parodies but very badly done by himself. One was a parody on 'Paddle your own canoe' in which a rising barrister (which I suppose he considered himself to be) was told that if he wanted to get on he must suck up to attorneys, and the refrain of every verse was "and marry an attorney's daughter", which besides been very vulgar was in very bad taste, as there was an attorney and his daughter present, whom he knew very well, viz Mr and Mrs Bishop. Another parody of his in the "Brook" was still worse, at the end of every verse was "I'll flirt on for ever" in which a lady was represented kissing and proposing to a gentleman. He sung another song, not quite so bad as the others, called 'Laura'. The chorus to it haunted me in my mind for some time afterwards — "Laura, Laura, Frederick's come, Put on your bonnet my dear, Never look angry or glum, Wait till you'r married my dear". Left a little before 11, before any of the others.

Here are some precied entries concerning her London visit in 1868 :

Hermione Hamilton's Wedding

Tues 25 Feb. Minnie was married to Mr Walter Rogers at St Paul's church in Onslow Square. I was a bridesmaid. "We had

handsome gold locket given us with the Hermione ship engraved on them. These we wore round the neck with cerise ribbon and a gold chain". [This is a reminder of the recapture of the British frigate 'Hermione' from a Spanish port in 1799 by an ancestor, Capt. Edward Hamilton, later Admiral Sir Edward Hamilton, of Trebinshwn, Breconshire.] Papa, Mamma, Richie, Louy all attended, but Mamma did not go to church owing to her bronchitis and remained at the Hamilton's house in Onslow Gardens. She was given away by Sir Charles Hamilton.

Mrs Darby Griffiths' Party

Wed 25 March. Richie and I went. a large evening party. good music. "the only performer I knew by sight was Brinley Richards". Mrs D. Griffith played the harp, accompanied by Brinley Richards on the piano.

Mrs Barrett Lennard's dinner party

Fri 27 March. Papa and I. "I went down to dinner with Capt Stirling who was captain of the ship the Prince of Wales went to America in before his marriage".

After this London visit she went abroad for 15 months, but was back in England again in the summer of 1869.

1869.

Visit to Crickhowell

Sat 16 - Tues 21 Oct. Mamma and I went to stay with Mr and Mrs A. Traherne at Glan y dwr, Crickhowell. "We drove to Carmarthen and went by the Llandilo railway to Builth Road where we changed for Brecon. Took an omnibus at Brecon station and drove to the Castle Hotel where we took a private omnibus and drove to Crickhowell. Brecon seemed a very nice town and better shops almost than Carmarthen. Crickhowell is about 14 miles from Brecon and we took 2 hours or more driving there besides half an hour which we stopped at Trebinshan where Mamma lived as a girl. We went over the house where a bettermost sort of farmer lives now, and Mamma recognized the rooms she inhabited as a girl. Passed Glanusk Park where Sir Joseph Bayley lives, which is a very fine place with a large extensive park.

Got to Crickhowell "(a pretty well-to-do looking little pleasure town with numerous villas and gentlemen's houses) at about 6".

arrived at Glan y dwr "a pretty little place", and received by Mr and Mrs Traherne. Sunday — went to church a.m. Dined at 1. Had meat tea at 6½. Monday — Mr Traherne drove Mamma and I out in their tea cart. Mrs Alfred Crawshay of Danypark dined here in the evening, and I sang and played chess with Mr Traherne. Tuesday — played croquet in afternoon. Played chess with Mr T in evening. Wednesday — Went to call at Llangattock Court where Mrs Morgan lives. Went in the carriage. Then out to Danypark "to lunch with the Crawshays, the family at home consisted of a stiff proud mother and two awkward ill-mannered daughters". Left at 2. At Crickhowell bought a catskin bonnet. played chess in evening with Mr T. Tuesday — market day at Crickhowell. "Mr T bought Mamma a basket and me a little book as a fairing, and Mrs T gave me a little mug with Welsh costumes on it". Left for Talgarth Station in a hired flic. "The country all round very pretty, the hills much higher and the soil redder than Carmarthenshire : had a good view of Trebinshan and Treberfyd from the distance. Got home about 8 o'clock".

1870

Visit to the Gulstons

Wed 2 Feb. I went to stay at Dirleton for Lizzie Gulston's wedding. "Drove to Carmarthen with Motta and paddled about in the wet there trying to get a bonnet which I could not succeed in doing". Met the Crosses at the station and travelled in train with them and Mrs Herbert Evans. The Crosses got out at Llandilo, and Mrs Evans went on stay with her uncle at Blanos. I got out at Llangadock and got to the Gulstons at 3 in a carriage they had sent to meet me at the station. "A triumphal arch was erected over the entrance to their grounds". Shown into dining room where I found the whole party at luncheon except Mrs G "who was as usual writing letters". The party consisted of Miss Gulston, Lizzie, and Mr Ellis, all the young Gulstons, Mr Kempson the best man "remarkably handsome", Mr. Loppett 2nd best man, Major and Mrs Gavine, Miss Collier (cousin of the Gulstons), young Jones of Pantglas, Mr and Mrs Gulston.

"After lunch, a deputation of servants came in and presented Lizzie with a handsome locket for which she thanked them in a short speech". We then looked at the presents exhibited in the boudoir, very numerous, and ticketed with donors' names. dined and played cards in the evening.

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Thursday — fine. sunny. Woke early by the firing of guns from behind the house which went on at intervals throughout the day. Had "a scrambling breakfast", and I sat next the "happy man who appeared somewhat nervous". At 10 carriages came round and we set out for church. Groups of people cheered along the road. Numerous arches erected along road and in the principal street of Llandilo, about 9 or 10 with mottos and sentences wishing long life and happiness to Mr and Mrs Ellis. The way from road to church was carpeted and covered with awning, and the schoolchildren (dressed in red cloaks and hats given them by Mrs Gulston) stood in rows on each side and scattered flowers before the bride as she entered the church. 7 bridesmaids waited at door, viz — Mrs Gulston, Miss Given and Miss Collier (cousins), Miss Drummond, Miss Wood, Miss Jones (Pantglas) and Miss Peel (a young child). The organ was played by Arthur Gulston, and as the wedding party entered he struck up the 'March of the Priests' from Costa's 'Eli'. Lizzie was led up the church by her father, followed by her bridesmaids, and Mrs G and her eldest son. Service was read by Rev Mr Atkins (uncle of Mrs Gulston) assisted by Mr Griffiths and Mr Williams. Then signing register and congratulations, and we returned, walking 2 by 2 down the church to our carriages, and returned to Dirleton. "The people cheered, the bells rang, and guns were fired as we left the church". Wedding breakfast at Dirleton at 12. Sat with Mr H. Peel, Miss Price (Talley), Miss A Lloyd, and little Miss Peel and little Hugh Drummond. "a good deal of speechifying which was good fun". Lizzie then went to change, and she and Mr Ellis departed to the station "amid a shower of satin shoes" — they were going first to Shrewsbury, then London, Brighton, Paris and finally Algiers. We changed, then a little walk, and dinner and dancing in the evening. Friday — damp showery. "read the flaming accounts of the wedding in the Welsh papers". dinner in evening, about 60 or 70 people. Jones's band played. ended with a cotillon.

Saturday — cold. left Dirleton about 1½, went to station in an open carriage. Then to Llandilo — Carmarthen.

[She had a cold throughout the wedding which limited her enjoyment].

Visit to the Gowers

Tues. 29 March. at Clyn Derwen. Train from Kidwelly to Narberth Road station, and met there at 12½ by Mr and Mrs Gower and drove to the house in their brougham. "The house is red brick and lately built by Mr Gower, everything outside is unfinished but the inside is very comfortable and nice, and the drawing room is a very pretty room". Baron de Rutzen, Captain Gower, and Georgie Gower for luncheon. Later Col and Mrs Leith Hay arrived, she is

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1st cousin to the Gowers. Played bezique in the evening. Wednesday — Fine and bright but cold and windy. After breakfast we all went to Llanboidy races, in carriages, 6 miles off. Drove on to Maesguinne where "there was a great spread in the dining room, and a great many people assembled who at 12 o'clock appeared as eager to devour turkey and to pitch into champagne as though they had not seen food for hours". Lunched by installments. Mrs Powell presided at the feast. Introduced to young Sartoris who was to ride Mr Powell's horses. About 1 drove to the race course. Paid 2/6 to enter the grand stand which had windows all round. Young Jones won one race on his own horse, and Mr Sartoris won one for Mrs Powell. Over at 6. Home after 7. Played chess with Capt Gower.

Thursday — fine. Went to a pigeon shooting match at Maesguinne held at race course. Lunch at Maesguinne. Mrs Powell took us over the stables which are very extensive and contain upwards of 40 horses. We also saw the foxhounds. A race between Mr Morris Owen's horse ridden by Mr Sartoris and Mr A. Jones's horse ridden by himself, was won by the latter. Played chess in evening.

Friday — Fine. Col L. Hay and Georgie went hunting. Grace and I sang in the morning, walked in afternoon with B. de Rutzen, Gracie, and Capt Gower. Mr and Mrs Macauley and a curate came to dinner. Afterwards danced in the hall, and played cards.

Saturday — fine. Baron de R. left at 11 for his home. In afternoon Gracie and I went in carriage "to see a very picturesque castle about 4 or 5 miles off". "Coming back we called on Archdeacon Clark's wife and saw her and her two daughters, wonderful specimens of rusticity dressed in the most rural manner but very strong minded highly educated people". Played chess in the evening.

Sunday — Fine. We went to church at Narberth about 6 miles. Rather a nice town "but a miserable church service very badly performed". Went to see the castle. After lunch labelled and planted the "Hermonia violetta bianca". Capt G. read prayers in the evening at home.

Monday — left and walked to station, got to Kidwelly about 1, met by Mamma and drove home.

Visit to Pentre for the Hunt Week

Mama, Louy and I. Monday — 18 April. Drove to Carmarthen station, Miss Louise Jones and Miss Morris in the train with us, also Mr G. Phillips and Mr T. Morris. A carriage we had ordered met us at Llandyssil, and we drove in it to Pentre, stopping at Cenarth for Louy to see the falls. Arrived at Pentre at 5½. Tea. then

dressed. a large party staying in the house — Captain, Mrs and Miss Stokes, Miss Crymes sister of Mrs Stokes, Major, Mrs and Miss Smith, Mrs Harries of Aberglasney and Miss Pryse, Miss Lloyd, Captain G. Phillips, Mr T. Morris, Mr Richards, Mr Morris Owen, Mr Bishop (Mr S. Davies's medical attendant). At dinner Mr S. Davies sat next to his wife who fed him like a baby, he was quite unable to speak and seemed half paralysed, he had the most dreadful fits of coughing and choking in middle of dinner. Danced in evening, and Mrs S. Davies and Mr Bishop sang.

Tuesday — played croquet a.m. Mr S. Davies was wheeled to the ground in his chair and Miss Lloyd lighted his cigars for him. The gentlemen sat in a group, smoking, on another part of the ground. After dinner went to the ball [? at Cardigan].

Wednesday — Came down at 12. 40-50 to lunch. Afterwards we went to the race course. about a mile away. I walked there with Mr G. Phillips who was in a great state of excitement about his horse "Admiral" who was going to run. We got to the course and mounted the Pentre wagonette and had a good view. "The "Admiral" won the first race, but fell in the next, when Mr Powell's horse won. At dinner "I went in with Mr Scourfield a frightfully absent man who scarcely ever spoke". danced afterwards.

Thursday — Hounds met at Pentre at 11, a large crowd. We followed on foot and I was escorted by Mr Grismond Phillips. On return a large party at lunch. Then croquet in afternoon. Dinner. afterwards went to the ball [at Cardigan?].

Friday — came down at 11½. Looked at Miss Price's torture book. Left Pentre at 1, in the fie that brought us home, drove to Llandyssil, thence home.

[In London]

The Queen's drawing room

Tuesday 10 May. Papa, Mamma, Louy, and I. Louy was to be presented, was in white with apple blossoms in her hair, 2 festoons of it about her skirt. My dress just the same. Mamma wore white corded silk dress trimmed with point lace and a green corded silk train. Papa wore his D.L.'s uniform. "Maggie came to see us dressed and on this eventful day Richie proposed to her while we were dressing, and Major Millett proposed to Sissie at the Academy". Started at ¼ to 1, "but came back from the Regent's Circus for mamma's eyeglass which detained us a little. We found a long line of carriages formed along the bird cage walk (or whatever the drive is called leading up to the Pallace) and we had to wait for nearly an

hour before the carriages began to stir a bit as no one was admitted at the Palace till 2. We went through very nearly the same suite of apartments as before with the same slow state and wearisome waiting penned up in separate rooms. The Queen was gone by the time we arrived, and we were received by the Princess, the Princesses Louise and Beatrice, the Prince of Wales and others. We afterwards met Aunt Fay and Aggie. Gillas who had been presented was gone. We had to wait a long time for our carriage and there was a great crush to get out".

The Bentley's dance

Thurs. June 2. Mamma, Louy, Richie, Maggie, and I. danced in the front room on a drugget and the chaperones sat in the back room. Regi Corbett took me down to supper. I danced with a brother officer of R. Corbett, another was heavy and stolid, and another was handsome but conceited. Left at 2.

Our first dinner

Tuesday 7 June. I went down with Mr Ellis and had a ladle full of mint sauce poured in my lap.

[There follow many entries concerning dinner parties and social visits, some outside London].

Lady Jodrell's Concert

Wed 8 June. about 400, frightfully hot. very little ventilation. singers — Titicus, Trebelli, Bettini, and Sessi, the men — Graziani, Bagagiolo, and Bettini, and Tito Mattei at the piano. Mr Rogers took me down to have an ice in the interval; and Captain Bond the Guardsman whom I met last Sunday and whose name I only discovered this evening, took me down to supper. "He was very nice indeed and I had quite a flirtation for the first time in my life".

Sir James and Lady Hamilton's dinner

Fri. 10 June. "I was taken down by a red-headed youth, son of Lady Catherine Allen who lives in Pembrokeshire; he was a very stupid youth, and the whole party was pompous and heavy".

Sissie's wedding

Wed 15 June. Sissie Watson married Major Millett at All Soul's church. Bridesmaids — Maggie, Rose, Miss Cowie, Miss Bromley, and I. Mr Cowie performed the marriage service. "I was escorted down the church by young Cowie, an intellectual muff, and returned in the carriage with him, and Mrs Haldare, and Col Watson. A standing breakfast.

Uncle William's dinner at the Crystal Palace

Tues. 19 July. We took a party of 11. Met at the Alhambra at 5. "Afternoon I went with Rose in search of my bustle, a new one, I had dropped. I enquired of *a man*, much to Rose's horror, at the lost property department, but did not recover it". Sat down to dinner at 6½: it lasted 2½ hours. Left about 10. The coachman lost his way home and we had to ask numbers of people our way, did not get back till near 12.

Mrs Schewster's party at Roehampton

Sat. 23 July. Aunt Fay, Aggie and I. Among those there were Miss Shiel and Miss Colquhoun, both whom we met at Cannes and whom I cut on principle. band. "capital dancing dogs were exhibited as well as a Punch and Judy Show". left at 7.

Richie's and Maggie's wedding

"On Thursday the 4th of August Richie and Maggie were married at All Soul's Church by Mr Townsend. Richie was calm and composed and read the paper quietly till 10½ when he arranged himself in his wedding garments and left here at 11 and walked to the church. Louy and I dressed ourselves in my room at 10½ and left here with Mamma in our carriage at 11¼. On arriving at the church we found all the bridesmaids assembled in the porch, and several of the wedding party besides. Our bridesmaid's dresses were white tarlatane, trimmed with rose-coloured satin bows, white bonnets and veils and a rose in front, blue enamel lockets given us by Richie and lovely bouquets also given us by him of pink geraniums and white stephanotis. After we arrived came Sissie and Major Millett, Lady Belcher, Mr Stewart and Aunt Louisa and Charles Hayne. Then came our little pink bride looking very "lubly" supported by her father and mother on each side; her mother fell on one side on entering the church, and Posie and I followed close on the bride on her way up to the altar. We were followed by Louy and Fay, and Aggie and Miss Haldane. Mr Townsend then recited the service by heart in rather a peculiar manner and ended with giving as an extempore address instead of the exhortation, which ends with amazement. We then proceeded to the vestry where we signed our names and then, escorted by our respective young men, returned to Harley Street in this order — Maggie and Richie in our carriage, Posie and Arthur, Mr Entwistle and me in the Watson's carriage, and then the other bridesmaids and guests. Willy took Miss Haldane. Mr Ingles junior was to have taken Louy but did not appear in time. Mr Stewart took Fay, and Charles Hayne was to have taken Agnes but no one told him. The Curwens came to the breakfast and

General Hamilton and his daughters, Mrs Admiral Hamilton, Mr Ingles and his son and daughter, Hay Hill, the Trents, Aunt Fay, and Mr Rogers and many others. Loulou and Charles of course came up for the wedding, so it was a regular family gathering. The breakfast was at 12½ and the bridesmaids and their young men were the only ones admitted with the bride and bridegroom. Then we retired with Maggie to dress her up, while Richie returned to Portland Place to change his clothes and to put away the pearls Maggie wore. Her wedding dress was white with silk prettily trimmed with hanging sleeves, and a veil of Isle of Wight lace. The dress she went off in was a light grey silk suit and white bonnet with blue flowers and maraboles. There was a dreadful scene at the parting of the sisters and all wept copiously, especially Sissie who would not see her again before going to India for three years. Richie did not come back for a quarter of an hour after Maggie was ready to go and as that time was spent in tearful adieus to her sisters it was rather miserable. At last Richie appeared again and carried Maggie off in a carriage hired for the occasion. Bird scattered flowers before them on their way to the carriage, and Rose, Louy and I flung our bouquets into the carriage after them. We got home at 1½ and went to the Prince of Wales Theatre in the evening, where curiously enough we found Mrs Watson sitting behind us in the stalls; the rest of the Watson family had gone to a dinner given by Mrs Haldane at the Crystal Palace. The first piece was called "Dearest Mamma", an interfering cantankerous mother in law who can't be got out of her daughter's house. The second piece was 'M.P.', and the last "Quite by Accident". The Prince of Wales was in the theatre during 'M.P.'

[Back in Wales]

Visit to Pentre

Wed. 5 Oct. Mamma, Louy and I, with Bird and George went to stay at Pentre for the Fancy dress ball there. At Carmarthen we met Miss Jones who came in the train with us to Llandissil, Miss E. Morris was also in the train with us, going to stay with her sister Mrs Vaughan. Miss Jones was going to stay with the Macdonalds, she had just come from Dirleton and was full of Mrs Gulston's report of what the ball was to be like. The carriage we had ordered met us at Llandissil, and got to Pentre at 5½. great preparations going on — an awning from one of the windows of the ball room, the interior decorated with festoons of artificial roses coloured lamps in the hall, Prince of Wales feathers, &c, groups of flags. large party staying in house. Major and Mrs Turberville, Miss Beat, Mr and Mrs Tyler, Major Fielden, Mr Scourfield, Miss Lloyd, Miss Pryse, Miss Crymes, Miss Stokes, and Miss Davies. We were packed close. one of us to sleep

with Mamma, and one in 'the barracks' a large room where 3 other girls slept — Miss Beat in one bed, the Misses Crymes and Stokes in another, and I in the third. Not much liking my companions, at least the 2 latter, I did all my dressing and undressing in Mamma's room, and only slept in the barracks. Then dined and had music in the evening.

Thursday. breakfast and luncheon in library. Played croquet, then a walk. Several gentlemen arrived — Mr Richards, Mr Mirehouse, and three officers — Mr Spencer Stanhope, Mr Twyne, and Captain Denny. Mr and Mrs Beckwith arrived. There were 24 staying in the house not counting the Saunders Davies'. Dinner in library at 6½. afterwards dressed for the ball. Guests began to arrive at 9½. "Mamma dressed first and her powdering, patching, and rouging took a considerable time". She wore a handsome old brocaded dress of her great-grandmother. I dressed as Diana in a dress designed by myself and made at home, and looked very effective; a silver and green quiver on my back, and a silver and green bow in my hand: I wore a silver necklacc of 6 rows of small silver heads around my neck and errings to match. Guests arrived and announced by their fictitious titles. Louy was dressed with 3 rows of gold beads and earrings to match as ornaments. Jones's band in attendance, in a tent just outside. The chaperones sat in the drawing room. tea and coffee on the landing of the staircase which was illuminated and hung with roses. Ices and refreshments in the hall. The library kept for cloaks. Supper in the dining room. About 150 altogether, more ladies than gentlemen. I danced with Mr Spencer Stanhope (9 times!), Mr Twyne, Captain Denny, Mr Scourfield, Major Fielden, Mr Beckwith, Captain Saurin, Major Sladen, and Captain Macdonald. Ball went on till past 5. I was so tired that I sent Louy to the barracks and I slept in Mamma's room.

1871

Our Dinner Parties

While Sir J and Lady Hamilton were staying with us we had 2 dinner parties on 16 and 17 Nov. We were 16 on first day.

Carmarthen Races

Tues. 7 Feb. Papa, Louy, and I drove to Carmarthen races, about 3 miles from Carmarthen on the St Clears road. crowded. Went to the second floor of the grandstand which is kept for ladies, the men going on the roof, the lower part kept for refreshments and for a weighing room. Mr Gower, his son and daughters and a friend,

"Capt Bragg" a pompous conceited piece of humanity, the Miss Morris's, Mr Sartoris and his son and daughter, the Powells, Mrs Harries, Miss P. Price, etc. The 1st race, the "Admiral", Capt G. Phillips's horse, won, Mr Powell's horse won another race.

The Carmarthen Ball

Thurs. 9 Feb. Papa, Louy, and I. started soon after 9 and not back till 5½. Badly attended. I danced with Mr Grismond Phillips (one of the stewards), Capt Gower, Mr Scourfield, Mr Twine (who was engaged to be married to Miss Lloyd), Mr Peel of Ferry-side, and a Mr V. Peel who was introduced to me by Mrs Gulston. Capt Bragg, Mr Morgan, &c.

[In London]

Our Visit to Cambridge

Mon. 15 May. Papa, Louy, Edward and I went to Cambridge to see Arthur. left from King's Cross Station. we engaged a room at Bull Hotel, Cambridge, then walked to Jesus College, and groped up a dark low ceiling till we arrived at Arthur's rooms. His bed-maker (a lady in a bonnet which they tell me she never takes off) showed us into his sitting room when the table was laid for lunch and where we found Arthur. He called in two of his friends Mr Wilmot and Mr Baldwin, and then proceeded to partake of Arthur's hospitality . . . We first did Jesus College and inspected the dining hall and the chapel which old and curious . . . we then went to see St Johns College, Trinity Hall, and Trinity . . . crossed over the Bridge of Sighs . . . King's Chapel.

Tuesday — went to see Pembroke College and the chapel at Pater House, Fitzwillian Muscum, &c, &c. went back to London for Lady Belcher's party.

Mr. Pulsford's dinner

17 June. "I went down with a Mr Bowles, a very eccentric individual who had been in Paris during the siege and written a book on the subject and been a correspondent of the Morning Post during that time and who was also the Editor of a newspaper called Vanity Fair".

Our Dinner

23 June. 12. "It was very slow in the evening and Charles (Hayne) fell asleep while I was talking to him".

[Carmarthenshire]

The Crosse's Croquet Party

Aug 10. at Iscoed. played till 7, then had high tea, then music.

Picnic at Kidwelly Castle

Aug 15. The Crosses, Prices, and ourselves got up a picnic at Kidwelly Castle. beautiful day. we were about 50-60, though we had asked a great many more. present — the Crosses, Mr Price, Miss Andrews, Capt and Mrs Leeds, the Peels, Asletts, two Miss Morris's, Mr Rees of Cilymaenilwyd, Mr Maliphant, Mr Dudley Thompson, Mr and Mrs Mansel, &c, &c, dined in the inner court, Jones's band played. we then played croquet in the outer court while the band and servants dined. Then had tea. began dancing at 5½ which we kept up with great spirit till 8. had Sir Roger de Coverley. Mrs Lewis of Stradey and Mrs Morris arrived at 5 but only stayed a short time. All left soon after 8.

Visit to Stradey

Aug 23. Papa, Mamma, Louy and I went, to dine and sleep. Mrs Morris, Mrs Mirehouse and her half brother Capt Lewis staying in the house. Mr Lewis not well enough to appear, after dinner had music and invoked the spirits. Next morning I played billiards with Mrs Morris and played the harmonium. left at 2½.

With the Gowers

21 Sept. I went with Bird to stay with the Gowers. From Kidwelly station at 12 and got to Narberth Road at 1½ where a carriage awaited us. Arrived at Clynderwen. After luncheon, dressed to go to a croquet party and dance, went by the brougham with Grace and Georgie and Mr Gower, for 6 miles to a very pretty place called Henlllys [recte Henllan] where Mr and Mrs Lewis live. Mrs Lewis received us in the hall where she offered us tea or cider cup, and then showed us on to a large lawn under some fine trees where a large number of people were assembled playing croquet, bowls, and other games, and others at archery further off. I recognised Mr Lewis (nephew and heir to our host). Mr and Mrs Macauley, Mrs Clark the archdeacon's wife, played croquet. Then had tea in the house. Mr Lewis introduced me to Mr Longford a clergyman and Oxford friend of his, with whom I danced several times in course of the evening and who was a very good dancer. We danced in the hall after tea, to a small band of a man and two little boys on rather feeble instruments. It was a very jolly dance and there was music and singing between the dances. Mr Lewis' junior sang, and Grace

Gower, Mrs Corbett, and others. The refreshments were beer and cider cup. I danced with Mr Lewis, Mr Longford, Mr A. Lascelles, Mr Yelverton, and others. Mr Leslie asked me twice but I was both times engaged. We left about 12 or 12½. Friday — went for walk, played croquet. Saturday — returned home. at station met Miss Lloyd of Pentre who was going to stay with Mrs Jones of Llanmilo: and Mrs Saunders Davies who had been staying at Williamston.

The Haverfordwest Ball

Nov 22. Papa, Louy and I and Bird. Train Carmarthen to Haverfordwest. The Gowers joined us at Narberth. From Haverfordwest station by omnibus to Castle Hotel where they got bedrooms. After 8 they prepared for the ball, and went to it in the omnibus. very steep stone steps leading into the ballroom. I danced with Mr Lascelles Mr Scourfield senior, ditto junior, Capt Study, Capt Gower, Messers Evans, Leslie, and Spencer Stanhope. left about 4-5. next morning breakfasted at 9½. then did shopping. went by 11 train to Carmarthen where our carriage met us.

Visit to Fynone

Louy and I, and Bird (servant). Mon 4 Dec. Coach to Carmarthen. train 12 to Narberth Road where carriage met them at Iron Duke Hotel to take them to Colbys at Fynone, 16 miles. reached Fynone at 5. On the way we met Mrs S. Davies and her husband in his chair, and Miss Lloyd, Mrs Lewis Clyview, and Miss Brenchley. Had tea in the library at Fynone, those staying there — Capt and Mrs Higgon, Mrs and Miss Clark (her niece), Capt Parry, and Sir Edmund and Lady Hornby. Louy and I had a double bedded room in the bachelor's wing of the house. The Lloyds of Coedmore and Mr Lascelles came to dinner. Music in evening. Mrs Lloyd played and sang: Mrs Lloyd played the violin: Mrs Colby played the harp, and Capt Parry the cornet, and Miss Clark and Mrs Higgon played, and I sang. I played spilikins and dominoes with Sir E. Hornby. Mr Lascelles showed us the watch trick, and Louy and I showed them the yellow dwarf.

Saturday — grey day. Breakfasted at 8, and Mrs Davies read prayers. We left Pentre with Miss Lloyd and Miss Brenchley who were going to stay at Llanmiloe for the hunting. Drove about 2 miles to meet coach which took us to Narberth Road. snowed nearly all the way home. came to Carmarthen at 1. We got into a carriage with Mrs Harries and Mrs Phillips, Mrs Price joined us at next station, she had heard the false report of the Prince of Wales's death which they seemed to have heard at all the stations. drove home from Carmarthen in our carriage.

Our visit to Dynevor Castle

Wed 27 Dec. Papa, Mamma, and I went to stay with Lord and Lady Dynevor. drove to Carmarthen. at Ivy Bush took post horses and drove on to Dynevor. left Carmarthen at 2 and arrived Dynevor at 4. Had tea at 5, at 6 dressed for dinner. Lord and Lady Dynevor, Mrs Rice, 3 young men cousins of Lady Dynevor, and Mr Joyce aged about 15/16 grandson of Lord Dynevor who was spending his holidays at Dynevor. The little Dynevors (Lord Dynevor's 2nd family) sat round the fire while we were at dinner but did not partake of any food and disappeared before dessert. "In the evening it was slow as there was no music and Mrs Rice had no conversation". At 10½ we adjourned to the dining room where all the servants were assembled and where Lord Dynevor read prayers and expounded parts of scripture extempore. Then bed.

Thursday. Lord Dynevor read prayers and expounded scripture extempore at 9¼, in the library. Lord Dynevor's son, aged about 10, the only boy of the second marriage, breakfasted with us. They had a German governess. After breakfast Papa went to a meeting at Carmarthen, and I played battledore and shuttlecock in the dining room with Mr Walters. lunched at 1. afterwards fed the peacocks who all came to the window for their dinner. Walked to Llandilo in the afternoon to see the church, and the younger Mr Walters played the organ. On the way back through the park we went to a quarry to look for trilobites (peculiar fossils found there) we picked up several. Then went to the old castle which we thoroughly explored. Home c. 5. Mr Rice arrived (from Tredegar where he had been staying). after dinner we had puzzles. then prayers.

Friday — left at 11 and drove home.

London

Visit to the Mathesons

Saturday April 27. I went to stay at Lockner Holt near Chelworth for a day or 2. a very pretty gothic house picturesquely situated. On Sunday — went to church. On Monday called on Mr and Mrs Princep about 3 miles away. Mr Princep is quite an artist, paints beautifully and carves splendidly: came home to lunch: in afternoon drove to Lowsley the Molyneux's place about 5 miles away — a beautiful old Elizabeth house: they were out but the butler let us in to see the hall which is very curious and furnished like a drawing room. Then called on a clergyman's wife, and drove to Guildford to buy gloves. On Tuesday we returned to London.

Literary Fund Dinner at St James's Hall

8 May. Mrs Saunders Davies came with us. The attendance of the waiters was very bad as they were all more or less tipsy. We had good places in the front row of the Ladies Gallery opposite the royal party where we could see them very well. The King of the Belgians was in the chair and the President of the Institution on his right. The Duke of Edinburgh, Prince Arthur, the Duke of Cambridge, Archbishop Manning, Disraeli, Cardwell, etc, etc. They all spoke except Prince Arthur. Band played while they were at dinner, and there was singing between the speeches — Edith Wynne, Madam Patti etc sang.

Our Visit to Norfolk

On Thurs 9 May, Louy and I, with Bird, went to stay with the Bulmers at Heydon in Norfolk. by train to Norwich, looked at Cathedral, then off to Heydon where we arrived at c. 6. Heydon Hall is a beautiful old house in the Elizabethan style. A Rev Mr and Mrs Marsh and a Rev Mr Beauchamp came to dinner, the former being the Jodrell's vicar with whom they are not on speaking terms. On Friday — drove around the countryside. On Saturday — walked. On Sunday went to church and sat in "a high square old fashioned pew like a room".

[The End]

Acknowledgment.

The illustration of Hermione Jennings on page 28 is taken from a conté drawing kindly made available by her grand-daughter, Mrs. B. H. Gordon of Tenby, and photographed by M. Douglas Simpson of Llanelli. The original portrait suffered damage by water during the blitz on London in World War II.

Another Star in Glory

By EIRWEN JONES, B.A.

(1)

It was not the lurch of the dog-cart leaving the Llanfynydd by-way for the wider Towy Valley road that made the boy's heart miss a beat. On that colourful October morning in 1850, twelve-year old John Oliver was leaving home. Full realization of the fact engulfed him now. He clutched the wicker basket which held his clothing and blew his nose vigorously. It would not do to let his father, John Oliver, senior, and his friend, William Jones, seated on the front seat of the trap, see that he was already homesick. The trap was speeding on, away from the familiar scenes of his childhood, towards the distant borough of Carmarthen.

The older men were paying no heed to him. William Jones, after a brief respite in his native Llanfynydd, was returning to "the works" and was at that moment extolling life in "Sweet 'Berdare". Bitter-sweet, however, were young John's thoughts. Never had home been dearer. His brother Henry, already a student in Carmarthen, had long since observed that their home, the village shop, had been well-named, White Hall. It was the pivot of life for a wide community, the focal point in social, mercantile, religious and cultural activity for that hill-side agricultural area.

With a capacity for analysis and synthesis far beyond his brief years, John realised this afresh as he travelled. His childhood had been spent in a particularly rich Welsh neighbourhood. Theological discussions of a remarkably high standard were a daily matter. Members of the parish church, the Methodist chapel and the Baptist chapel never agreed to differ in their arguments at the shop counter and syllogisms were ripped and re-shaped when Independent opinion assailed them from the chapel at Capel Isaac. Dramatic preachers, giants of the Welsh pulpit, strong personalities, such as the Rev. John Jones, Llandysul, and Evans, Llwynffortun, were frequent guests at White Hall.

Akin to their dedication to religion was their interest in politics. Radicalism was firing the neighbourhood and John Oliver, senior, was the "dyn hysbys", the local oracle, whose words were weighted with wisdom. Men with discerning minds gathered in White Hall

to listen to him and of an evening they would congregate as avid listeners to hear him read excerpts from *The Welshman* or some article from *Seren Gomer*. Echoes of "Rebecca" still reverberated in their memory. There was, however, no tinge of narrowness in their politics. In the mellow light of the oil-lamp, they discussed theories of nationalism and of democracy as ardently as if they were in the market place of ancient Athens. Incisive and caustic were their comments on European affairs—on Louis Philippe, on Metternich, on Espartero and Nicholas of Russia. So vivid were these international personalities to the boys listening in the shadows that they might have been living in close proximity in the neighbouring parish of Llandeilo-fawr.

Class distinction had no relevance at White Hall. Humanity alone was the hallmark. Romantic Twm Daniel, loquacious Harri Jack, able Dafydd Williams, philosophic Evan Griffith, the weaver, and saintly Thomas Jones, Gwaelod-y-maes—these formed the galaxy which brought its influence to bear on John's upbringing.

As the trap approached Nantgaredig, he was reminiscent, recalling his two special friends, Ebenezer Evans and William Lewis, with whom he had grown up. They were friends in field and fen; together they had played and climbed and chased, carefree in mind and body. The light faded from John's face. This evening they would be at their usual haunt, the forge of Thomas and David Jones. Tonight there would be two, not three.

He sought comfort in thoughts of his mother, she who was ever beautiful, sweet, precious and full of understanding. He failed to control a loud sob. His brother Henry had once read that the Welsh word 'hiraeth' could never be fully translated. The Chinese came nearest to it—the spirit goes wandering. He sighed deeply. He was experiencing that now.

(2)

The shimmering haze of summer hung like a silver veil over Carmarthen town. It was the year 1855 and it was late July. Student John Oliver was climbing Merlin's Hill. He walked with steady gait meandering like a hill-side pony from one side of the road to the other to gain the height in good fettle. He was expecting two of his closest friends, Myrddin and Gwilym Marles, to join him later at the cave of the legendary Merlin.

In the middle distance he could see groups of men at work. These were the navigators, the "navvies", Welshmen and Irishmen,

men of enviable physique who were constructing the remarkable railway line from Carmarthen to Cardigan. Granted a measure of their physical strength, he might have travelled a different road in life. But he was not complaining. The years he had spent in the ancient borough had been richly blessed. It was in the year 1851 that he had entered the preparatory school of the Rev. Titus Evans. He had gone there as a lively boy, industrious and anxious to learn. The reports sent back to his parents declared him to be "a good leader, a good speaker, a wide reader and a sound writer, a good Mathematician and linguist and a scholar who showed a deep interest in literature". He remembered now the sea of doubts and misgivings that had engulfed him as he entered his teens. Independence of thought had always been inculcated in him. His mother was a Calvinistic Methodist, his father was a near Baptist and he had emerged a Congregationalist from the hybrid chrysalis, the Rev. Hugh Jones having received him into full membership at Heol Awst.

His brother Henry, recognising his intellectual potential, had urged his entry into the Presbyterian College at Carmarthen. Despite the fact that he was under age, John had jumped the hurdles of a searching examination. Rules, thereafter, had been made accommodating and he was welcomed warmly and graciously to The Parade by the professors—Dr. Lloyd, Dr. Davison and the Rev. D. Davies, Panteg. These men, in their several spheres, had unwittingly become John's heroes, and his mind would blossom in their presence. Under their guidance he became an established scholar in the classics, in literature and in German. In truth, his spirit loved to wander in the ancient past, conferring readily with minds recognised as great through all time. His fellow-students accepted and indeed extolled his superiority. It was for his surpassing human qualities that they loved him; it was because of his ever-encroaching physical weakness, the ever-present chest complaints that they cared for him tenderly and constantly.

But this day was the high noon of summer. The oral examination of the Presbyterian Board was over. The *viva voce*, conducted by Dr. Davison himself, had proved an unqualified triumph for John. The pitfalls of theology and the classics had been made less hazardous by the bonhomie and the hearty good humour of the don himself and the result had been particularly satisfying. His good friend, his patron and constant benefactress, Mrs Eliza Phillips Hughes, the poetess "Eliza Carmarthen", had sent a message immediately saying that she was holding a celebration dinner in honour of the occasion. He must bring his friends with him to her house in Wood's Row.



John Clough

National Library of Wales

Myrddin and Gwilym were long in coming. John seated himself on a fallen tree trunk. He took a sheaf of papers from his pocket and spread them before him. Yes, he had wooed the Muse and she had responded graciously and tenderly to him. Mrs. Eliza Hughes, an able critic, had encouraged him continuously in his efforts and now Dr Davison had urged him to publish his poems.

John scanned his collection. Several were on theological themes : 'Dafydd, Y Tywysog yr Arglwydd', a long poem on which he had meditated much ; 'Moses', a yet longer ode ; 'Mab Y Weddw o Nain' ; 'Yn Iechydwrïaeth'—The subjects were somewhat hackneyed but his approach and his rhythms were individual. Nature had inevitably inspired him, he a child of the Welsh hills—'Yr Haf', 'Eira'r Cynta'r Gaeaf', 'Mehefin' ; yes, the beauty of Nature had moved him in the full cycle of the seasons.

Merlin's Oak had inspired him to write, 'I Hen Dderwen Caerfyrddin' :

Gwelaist blant yn nwyfus chwareu
Dan dy gangau praffion ir ;
Gwelaist y rhai hyny'n fuan
Yn hynafgwyr yn y tir.
Un genhedlaeth ar ol arall
Lithrai heibio it i'r bedd
Tra'r arosit ti er hyny
'N wyrdd dy ddail a theg dy wedd.

Erbyn heddyw, O hen dderwen
Tithau wyt yn grin a gwyw ;
Mallog dinodd yw dy foncyff—
Adfail o'th orwychder syw.
Ond er llwyted yw dy olwg,
Parcher dy henafol fri,
O hen dderwen fawr Caerfyrddin
Wyt yn anwyl eto i mi !

Some poems reveal the urgency of one who knows he is doomed. In the ode 'The Student' he had written—

In the room
Is naught to catch the stranger's eye save books
On all sides piled together books and papers,
Well may it be the muses' library !
But lo ! there, heedless of all else, a man
Sits in the flickering light of that dim lamp !
He is a youth : but in his face no bloom

Proclaims the spring of life. His hand supports
The weary head which droops and as it rests,
His waving hair falls o'er the slender fingers
Which grasp the long dark curls. His brilliant eyes
Seem like the windows of a heaven of souls.

I *must* be great. I *will* inscribe my name
Upon the world's broad page and with truth's fire
A flame must kindle that will brightly burn,
A beacon on the stormy sea of time !
Away despair ! I am a man and have
A soul which e'er aspires to mighty deeds.
And what is greatness but the just reward
Of high and noble minds ? the glorious crown
Of mighty conquerors in the field of truth ?
Then greatness shall be mine. A soul is mine
Then why not glory too ?

He re-arranged the papers and put them away. He took out his heavy hunter, bequeathed him by his old friends, the blacksmiths, of Llanfynydd, and looked at the massive dial. It told him the time, but how much was there left to him ?

(3)

It was still summer but the year was now 1857. John Oliver and his friend, Myrddin, were on a walking tour through Glamorgan-shire and Monmouthshire. "Sweet 'Berdare" had become, at last, a reality and the hospitality of ageing William Jones had been warm and sincere. Many and amazing were the experiences of the two happy students as they journeyed, their material needs packed within carpet bags strapped on to their shoulders. Pontypridd was a focal point in their journeys along and across the valleys of the coalfields ; there brother Henry lived and there, in his home, they were to rest awhile. Precious, in truth, was the reforging of brotherly love, but the reunion brought a measure of sorrow to Henry. He was deeply concerned about John's health. John looked so wan ; he was, undoubtedly, over-taxing his strength with constant study. But fresh air and human contact, Henry hoped fervently, would restore him to health. Rest, too, would play its part. It was therefore with strong reluctance that Henry allowed his younger brother to continue the walking tour. John, however, had been adamant ; Myrddin must not go on alone. In any case, to remain would have been a complete confession of failure. And so it was that the two young theologians went on in exuberant spirits. Their journey was

now a preaching tour. It was remarkably successful and they recorded the warmth of welcome they received at Groeswen, Mynyddislwyn, Maescywimmer and neighbouring places. But bad weather and rain storms marred the latter part of the tour.

In striving against the elements, John's health deteriorated rapidly and his condition must have become very low. They returned to Mynyddislwyn and but for the outstanding care, kindness and generosity of their friends, Mr. and Mrs. Ellis, John would probably not have survived. When he was strong enough, he travelled to Pontypridd. Henry was overcome by the sight of his brother's weak body. Again he counselled rest, complete rest. The two friends stayed on in Pontypridd and John did his best to rest but his mind and spirit were aflame. Defiantly he wrote 'Life' :

It is not life to live and then to die.
Be great in deed ! Throw lethargy away !
Be active in the world while 'tis to-day !
Alleviate woe ! Bring forth a flame of light !
Make truth more clear to men's darkened sight !
Pour in the balm of kindness to the heart
That with despair and suffering doth smart.
Assist to make love's flame the brighter burn
And wanderers from virtue homeward turn,
Inscribe upon the world the name of God
Then sleep thou calmly 'neath the cold green sod.
Live now, and thou shalt live a bright Eternal Life.

(4)

A mother o' pearl sky spread itself over the borough of Carmarthen on that early Spring evening in 1859. Billowing clouds passed high above the ewes and the lambs in the Five Fields and journeyed onward beyond the river. On the quayside were knots of people preparing to travel with the outgoing tide on the passenger boat to Bristol. Not for them the new-fangled railway with its dirt and splutter and undeniable hazards. The walls of the houses in the vicinity of the Guildhall caught the many opalesque reflections of the evening sky. By strict injunction and as a sanitary precaution against a further outbreak of cholera, they had been newly white-washed, but Red Street and Blue Street, in especial, and in defiance of political attribution, seemed now ablaze with colour in the evening light.

A golden splendour enveloped the gracious lines of the house of Mrs. Eliza Hughes in Wood's Row. Within, Eliza Carmarthen, an accomplished lady of distinguished appearance—she was the

widow of the Rev. J. S. Hughes of Swansea,—was hostess to a group of young people. There were five young students from the Presbyterian College, all frequent visitors to her hospitable home, and two young women, one being her attractive niece, Anne Beddoe of Swansea. Ever and anon there was a sudden lull in the animated conversation, for there was an unmistakable air of expectancy in the room. There was one who was still to come.

Said Gwilym Marles, "He has told Mrs. Hughes he's likely to be late. John and William Davies, Booksellers, have had greatness thrust upon them in having to establish the new Y.M.C.A. in town. The first committee is meeting tonight at Heol Dwr".

"They can bear it", said Myrddin, crossing his long legs with great deliberation; "besides, the town needs their labours".

At a signal from her aunt, Anne Beddoe lit the lamp and Mrs Hughes closed the window shutters, at the same time saying, "Dr Davies, Ffrwd-y-Val was here this morning. He spoke of John's brilliance in the classics, in language and debate. He believes that his patriotism and his love for the town and county will one day bring a rich harvest,—but I am troubled about John. If only he could grow stronger. And this evening air is not good for his chest".

There was a murmur of sympathy and then Gwilym Marles said, "Try not to worry too much Mrs. Hughes; and now I will go to meet him. Perhaps 'twill be best to go by the Dark Gate".

"No need for that tonight", commented Myrddin. "It is not likely John will come by the Dark Gate to-night, nor is he likely to escort William back to Johnstown. Heol-y-Gwyddau tonight". He gave Ann a significant look and added, "The shortest way to heart's desire".

The sound of a door knocker halted conversation; and then life flowed back into the room as Jennet, the little dark-skinned orphan maid, befriended by Mrs Hughes, announced "Mr Oliver". The tall, delicate figure was hailed, welcomed and drawn into the warmth and geniality of the home where he had long since been accustomed to find happiness and comfort.

John's first greetings were to Mrs. Hughes. "My Town Mamma" he called her, a name, which always filled her with great pleasure.

"You shall tell us about your plans for the Y.M.C.A. over supper," said Mrs. Hughes, leading the way out of the room.

John lingered a moment with Anne near the piano.

"I have been practising the music for your song", she said shyly.

"Good," said John and then added tenderly, "but now I have another song, written especially *for you*".

She had only a brief moment to glance at the final stanzas before she folded the missive, and placed it in the folds of her corsage.

We were not born to pine and die
To fade and then depart;
But we have smiles for every sigh
And heart will throb with heart.

Then on life's path trip blithely on
Spread harmony and delight:
And as the sun when he has shone
Wipe all the tears of night.

She took John's arm and they followed the others out of the room.

(5)

In some vivid way, Henry's mind concentrated on the picture, 'The Shepherd's Last Mourner'. He was like the faithful sheep-dog as he stood by the stile leading to the chapel-yard at Llanfynydd, on a beautiful May afternoon in 1866. The verdant glory of early summer was all around him but he saw little save the cruel brown gash in the greensward—his brother John's grave. Behind him at the chapel vestry and in White Hall, the last of the relatives and friends were leaving after the funeral. Their kindness had been long and continuous. To-day they had come to pay their last tribute—'y gymwynas ola'.

Henry's faithfulness had no flaw. Dr. Lewis of Carmarthen had, seven long years ago, strongly urged that John must rest. Henry had been his brother's mainstay, counselling him to leave Carmarthen, however great the wrench, and return to their parents' home in Llanfynydd. The warp and woof of those seven years came to Henry's mind. How difficult it had been for John to rest. At first one lung alone had been affected and, seeking health, John had walked far and wide over the Carmarthenshire hills. He had tried to be a good patient, taking every known remedy and making a sustained and constructive effort to regain strength.

John's mental strength grew progressively even as his bodily strength declined. How very difficult it was to rest, when mental energy was for ever seeking satisfactory expression. Henry knew better than anyone the bitterness that lay behind John's discarded hopes. John had had to set aside positive plans of studying at the University of Glasgow, of visiting Innsbruck, of becoming a pastor at Neath and then later of a bigger church in Swansea. There had been deep emotion in refusing the latter, a charge which would have united him with his beloved Anne Beddoe.

Henry, always amazed at the adaptability of human nature, reminded himself with satisfaction how John had succeeded in immersing himself in Llanfynydd. There was little doubt that the spirit of the locality had helped him with its warmth and active, albeit silent, sympathy. John had been encouraged, too, by the zeal and readiness of private pupils to whom he had been an inspiring tutor. There was also the daily companionship of faithful friends. Ebenezer Evans and William Lewis were still there and soon the years of separation were as though they had not been. The maturer minds of William Morgan, Nantgwilw and the Rev. R. Rees of Capel Isaac brought him the sound insight of *cefn gwlad*. Friends from far a-field often visited White Hall. Henry teased John that he must be the greatest patron of the penny post, for he maintained a steady and methodical correspondence with friends throughout Britain, in America and in Australia. John's literary tendencies also found rewarding expression in eisteddfodau.

There had been periods of hope in that long illness; there had been severe set-backs too. The death of the Rev. R. Rees, Capel Isaac in 1865 had had a marked effect on him. There had been a period of severe illness when John had confided to him that he had been indifferent about holding on to life. Some weeks later when John was stronger, Henry learnt that his brother had received sudden information of the death of his beloved Anne. By a twist of fate, she, too, had suffered from the same fell disease, the destructive and wasting consumption. Ever after, John had belonged less and less to the world around him.

And yet there had been episodes when hope regained a precious footing. Once, in the assurance of such a time, Henry had gone to North Wales to join his friend, Hwfa Mon, at Llanberis, only to be recalled urgently to White Hall, where life was visibly ebbing from John's frail body.

Henry buried his face in his hands as he recalled the final scenes. The wounds were still grievously raw but he must bestir himself to

the challenge of life and assume some of John's courage, the courage of a brother who had been prepared for the end:

When I die
O choose a sweet spot for my grave
Where the rays of dawn may peep—
Where the noon-day breeze may weep
And softly sigh;
And evening dews its flowers leave.
Give me such a grave
When I die.
Rear no memorial,
I shall be loved by all
That loved me whilst I lived. They will not need
The record of a stone to mark my earth.
The violet and the daisy my clay-cover
Will adorn
And the breeze will shed perfume
O'er my silent urn;
And the rain-drops will oft patter on
My bolted door
And the winter snow in purity will say
He is no more.
Thus my grave will be
A soft bed for me
Where the silence shall echo the sheep's bleat
And the birds with joyous notes shall meet
Making melody with the brooklet by
Purling over its shining stones.
Then peaceful quiet I shall have;
And oft to visit the silent grave
Bright angels will descend from high.

There had been lavish eulogies for John that day, but Henry was not altogether deceived by them, for, much as he loved his brother, he knew that John would never be acclaimed as a major poet. Yet all values were relative; the modest way-side violet had its charm and such a flower was John, cut down at the age of twenty-seven. Henry's thoughts were disturbed by the approach of a young girl. Unmistakeably she was Jennet, Mrs. Eliza Hughes' little coloured maid. Her mistress was about to depart from White Hall and wanted Henry to have this missive.

Henry read, recalling how very dear John had been to his "Town Mamma". In the note she had written:
"Behold an Israelite, in whom is no guile".

"Another star in glory. Another spirit gone to cluster with the jewels of the Saviour".

Henry thrust the note into his pocket and told himself he must return to White Hall. His sorrowing parents would need him near and he must see Mrs. Eliza Hughes before she set out. He turned again towards John's grave. The spirit goes wandering, he thought, but now the fragile body is at rest.

A Bishop Who Worked In Chaos

By E. VERNON JONES

A classical historian of high repute who was buried in Westminster Abbey after serving half a life-time as Bishop of St. Davids died a century ago, blind and half paralysed. He was Connop Thirlwall.

Newell Connop Thirlwall, to give his full name, was born in London on 11 February 1797, being the third son of the Rev. Thomas Thirlwall, who had married a Welsh woman with Radnorshire antecedents, Mrs. Connop of Mile End, the widow of an apothecary. The family claimed descent from the barons of Thirlwall Castle in Northumberland. The father, who had held benefices in London, became rector of Bowers Gifford in Essex in 1814 and remained there until his death in 1827. A pious man, he was a scholar who had written a number of published books.

Sired by a learned father and nurtured in a world of books, Connop, not surprisingly, was a precocious child, whose early compositions were published by an admiring father under the title *Primitiae*. Connop was only eleven years old, but in later life he grew so displeased with the memory of these 'first fruits' that he destroyed every copy of the book he could lay his hands on. Despite this predatory exercise, copies still survived to inform us through the preface that 'at a very early period he read English so well that he was taught Latin at three years of age, and at four read Greek with an ease and fluency which astonished all who heard him'. We are further told that his 'talent for composition appeared at the age of seven'.

In 1814 Thirlwall entered Trinity College, Cambridge as a pensioner, having studied privately for a year after attending Charterhouse as a day boy from 1810 to 1813. While an undergraduate he distinguished himself as a speaker at the union, of which he became secretary, and on one occasion in March 1817, during his period of office, the proctors, at the behest of the vice-chancellor, interrupted the debate and ordered the members to leave. That Thirlwall was a capable orator was testified years later by no less a person than John Stuart Mill, who witnessed him in a debate in London and judged him to be the best speaker he had ever heard. Thirlwall graduated B.A. in 1818, winning the chancellor's medal for proficiency in classics and in October of the same year he was elected a fellow of his college.

After graduating, Thirlwall realised his dream of foreign travel and passed several months in Europe, spending the winter in Rome. By the time he returned he no longer felt the urge to enter the Church and instead decided on a career in the law. He therefore entered Lincoln's Inn in February 1820 and was called to the bar in 1825. But it was not long before he discovered that he had made a mistake after all and finding that the work had no appeal for him he abandoned the legal profession to return to Cambridge in October 1827.

Champion of Dissenters

By the end of the year he had been ordained deacon and in 1828 he was admitted priest. During his years at Trinity he became junior bursar, junior dean and head lecturer and examined for the classical tripos. But his academic career was a short one, being brought to a sudden end in 1834 as a result of his unacceptable views on the admission of dissenters to university degrees. The bill in favour of dissenters which had been passed by the House of Commons that year caused much debate in the academic world, the majority faction fearing imagined evils that would follow the mixing of students holding different religious views. Thirlwall took a contrary view in his 'Letter on the Admission of Dissenters to Academic Degrees', arguing that the Cambridge colleges were not theological seminaries, and in developing his argument he came out against the divinity lectures and compulsory attendance at chapel involving the repetition of 'a heartless mechanical service'. The Master called for his resignation from the post of assistant tutor and Thirlwall promptly complied.

But the expression of such views did not prevent Lord Brougham from offering Thirlwall the living of Kirby Underdale in Yorkshire before the year was out. He had no hesitation in accepting and although he had small experience of pastoral work—he had been vicar of Over near Gloucester for a short time in 1829—he discharged his new duties with energy that was attended by eminent success. His worth was soon recognised further, for in 1840 he was given the see of St. Davids by Lord Melbourne, who had been impressed by his learning. Thirlwall might even have been Bishop of Norwich as early as 1837 had Melbourne been able to have his way.

His proficiency in languages—besides Latin and Greek, he had French, German, Italian and Spanish—enabled him to read prayers and even to preach in Welsh within a year of settling in the diocese, though there is reason to believe that because of his accent he was not always readily understood. He found life at Abergwili congenial and when he could tear himself away from his library—he called it Chaos



*Portrait by
C. Phillips*



National Library of Wales

—he enjoyed the country. Here it is appropriate to recall two stories that have been related. The first tells how he refused the offer of a friend (Miss Elizabeth Johnes of Dolaucothi, later Lady Hills-Johnes, the recipient of many letters from the Bishop which were published under the title of *Letters to a Friend*) to restore order to his library with the excuse that it would only be buried again within a few days under 'fresh paper showers' and he would never then be able to find anything. The other story concerns advice given him by his doctor, John Hughes of Carmarthen, who recommended that the Bishop should drive out for two hours each day if he wished to preserve his health. This was irksome advice, but Thirlwall solved the matter by ordering a large carriage fitted with a bookcase so that he could ride and read at the same time. Otherwise the Bishop safeguarded his health with an ice-cold plunge-bath each day, which treatment he believed warded off colds.

He travelled to all parts of his very large diocese, inspected churches and schools, and even augmented small livings from his own resources. It has been computed that he gave £40,000 to various charities while he was bishop. During his term of office a large number of churches were restored, many parsonages provided and educational facilities greatly increased. But although he did his best to be hospitable, he never became popular among his clergy, for his superior learning, although it won him high esteem, made him appear remote and cold. Yet he took a lively interest in the community and the affairs of the diocese, and in the larger scene he was never afraid to express radical views or champion the unpopular cause, both in the House of Lords and outside. Always he strove to be free of bias.

His lack of bigotry, which he maintained throughout his life, is illustrated by a personal triumph in his last years, when he persuaded the House of Lords to change its mind. This *volte-face* he brought about in February 1871, after he had been relieved from attendance at the meetings of the Old Testament Revision Company, to which he had been appointed the previous year. In the same month a resolution moved by the Bishop of Winchester was carried by a large majority of the House of Lords, who agreed 'that it is not expedient that any person who denies the Godhead of our Lord Jesus Christ should be invited to join either Company [one for the Old Testament and one for the New Testament] to which is committed the revision of the Authorised Version of Holy Scripture' and 'that any such person now in either Company shall cease to act therewith'. The following day Thirlwall introduced a motion that 'this House does not intend to give the slightest sanction or countenance to the opinion

that the members of the Revision Companies ought to be guided by any other principle than the desire to bring the translation as near as they can to the sense of the original texts; but on the contrary, regards it as their duty to keep themselves as much as possible on their guard against any bias of preconceived opinions or theological tenets in the work of Revision'. He won the unanimous support of the House and when the resolution was referred to the Commons they not only concurred but made a proposal which had the effect of rescinding the first resolution, a proposal to which the Lords acceded unanimously. Now entirely vindicated, Thirlwall complied with requests to resume his work as a member of the Revision Company, a task to which he devoted a great deal of his time even though he knew that he would never live to see its completion.

Increasing deafness troubled his later years and when this was accompanied by failing sight, which ended in blindness, and partial paralysis, he was compelled to resign the bishopric in May 1874, without seeing the fulfilment of his speculation in 1868, when Irish Disestablishment seemed imminent, that he might 'turn out to be the last Bishop of St. David's who sat in Parliament'. He retired to Bath, where he died, unmarried, on 27 July 1875. But even in his last days he filled the 'vacant hours' by dictating translations in the seven languages at his command.

Chief of Illustrious Group

One of the scholars of his time, Connop Thirlwall wrote books and pamphlets and produced translations of a number of important works, but his output never really matched the vast dimensions of his scholarship. Even so, he was 'the chief of that illustrious group of English scholars who first revealed to this country the treasures of German research, and the insight which that research had opened into the mysterious origin of the races, institutions, and religions of mankind', and his knowledge of the ancient Grecian world made him responsible for 'the first history which brought all the stores of modern learning to bear on that glorious country and its glorious people'.¹

But Thirlwall did not devote his attentions to academic texts to the exclusion of all else; he was a student of the novel, English and European, and possessed one of the largest contemporary collections representing this area of literature. He had a high regard for the work of Mrs. Gaskell and mourned the 'irreparable loss' suffered by 'all intelligent novel readers' as a result of her death. Another of his

1. Dean A. P. Stanley in his funeral sermon reprinted in the preface to *Letters to a Friend* (Richard Burnley & Son, London, 1882).

'special favourites' was Jean Ingelow (1820-97), a poet and novelist who enjoyed remarkable success in her time, but unlike Mrs. Gaskell (why not Elizabeth Gaskell?), who is still read, she is barely remembered now. Of George Eliot's *Middlemarch*, which appeared in 1872, he pronounced that 'it stands quite alone', the depth of its humour never having been surpassed in English literature. Such freely acknowledged admiration for the talents of the female sex is an indication of his lack of prejudice in an age of male dominance and it is not without significance that for many years he exchanged letters with Miss Johnes of Dolaucothi, an accomplished correspondent worthy of his intellect.

His *magnum opus*, the *History of Greece* is a massive work in eight volumes, the first of which appeared in 1835. The task was finished at Abergwili and the last volume published in 1844. Parts of this work were translated into French and German. A coincidence relating to this work is the fact that, unknown to each other, he and his friend, George Grote, had embarked on similar intellectual ventures, although the result of Grote's labours appeared later, the first two volumes in 1846 and the fourth and final volume in 1847. Thirlwall was generous in his praise of Grote's work, which he judged to be superior to his own, and Grote acknowledged Thirlwall's scholarship in the preface to his history. It is not amiss therefore that both should share the same grave in Westminster Abbey where Thirlwall was buried on 3 August 1875. On the stone are inscribed the words 'Gwyn ei Fyd' and he is further commemorated there with a bust by the Carmarthenshire sculptor Edward Davis, who, for this purpose, made a copy of the original which he had produced in 1848.²

* * *

Other Carmarthenshire anniversaries in 1975 are :

Sir Rhys ap Thomas (1449-1525), hero of many battles, including Bosworth, where he fought for Henry Tudor and was knighted on the field. Henry VII bestowed upon him many offices which made him a powerful figure in south Wales, and in 1505 he was made a Knight of the Garter. His tomb is in St. Peter's, Carmarthen.

Humphrey Toy (d. 1575), wealthy Carmarthen merchant and tanner, who owned much property in and around the town. Although he was

2. According to its transactions for 1936, Vol. XXVI, p. 1, the Carmarthenshire Antiquarian Society received the original as a gift from Mr. Ryle E. C. Morris, of Brynmyrddin, Abergwili, where it had been kept from 1875 onwards.

a benefactor who was interested in the Welsh language and culture, it is not likely that he was the Humphrey Toy who paid for the printing of William Salesbury's Welsh translation of the New Testament and Bishop Richard Davies's translation of the Book of Common Prayer. It is much more probable that it was his nephew, also Humphrey Toy, a London printer, who bore these expenses.

James Augustus St. John (1801-75), Carmarthenshire author and traveller, who went to London when sixteen years old and worked as a radical journalist. Later he lived in France and Switzerland, and in 1832 set out for Egypt and Nubia, a journey he accomplished mostly on foot. He was the author of several books, some of which described his travels.

Of Ells and Kilderkins

By T. L. EVANS, B.A.

After more than a century and a half a Carmarthen schoolboy's work-book has come to light. The book belonged to Henry Williams, who lived at Pen-y-bryn, which lies about half a mile from the trunk road A40 (the Turnpike in those days) north of Alltygog between White Mill and Nantgaredig. It shows a great deal of work done during the period it was used and throws light on the standard and methods of arithmetic as taught in the early nineteenth century, when Grammar School pupils in Carmarthen were required to pay between 6s. 0d. and 7s. 6d. a term extra for tuition in the subject. The results of the tuition which Henry received are interesting for the insight they give into the modes of instruction and the light they throw on the social history of the period. The book also provides evidence that boys could be prepared for a career in the business and commercial world as well as the more familiar preparation for the professions.

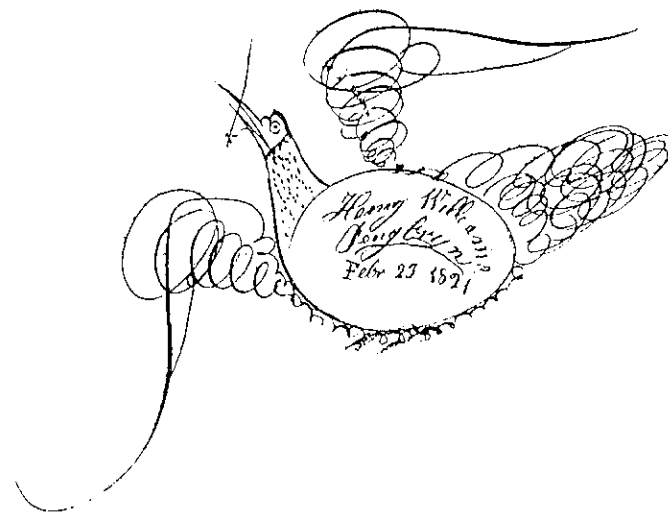
Measuring 8" by 13½", the book was bound by David Morris of Carmarthen and contains paper marked J. Snelgrove 1818. Henry, who 'was born the 9th December 1805, about 8 o'clock in the night', used the book in 1820 and 1821. The first date he entered was 10th August 1820, but it is possible that he used the book before then. One can measure the amount of work done. In 1821, for instance, he did ten exercises in February, fifteen in March, eight in April, six in May, there being an upsurge in the following two months, when he did twelve and fifteen exercises. He seems also to have carried on throughout the winter with sustained application, for Christmas seems not to have been the festive vacation that later generations came to enjoy, if we are to judge from the fact that he was working on December 25, 26, 28 and 29 in the year 1820. Even so, unlike the lads of Dotheboys Hall, he enjoyed the privilege of school holidays. Henry used the book for about a year and it is noticeable how his writing and presentation improved and matured during that time.

In the teaching of arithmetic, presentation was evidently important, the pattern being to begin with the Heading, after which came the appropriate definition, then the Rule, followed by worked examples. During his schooling Henry was taught twenty-eight topics and had to learn many tables. The book began with the 'Multiplication of Whole Numbers' in respect of which it 'Teacheth how to increase the greater of two numbers given as often as there are in the lefs; and

compendiously performs the office of many additions: to this Rule belong these principal numbers, viz. 1 The Multiplicand, or number to be multiplied. 2 The Multiplier, or number by which you multiply. 3 The product, or number produced by multiplying. Rule: Begin with that figure that stands in the units place of the Multiplier and with it multiply the first figure of the units place of the Multiplicand. Set down the units and carry the tens in mind'.

Barleycorns and Ankers

Multiplication was followed by Division and then by Addition of Money, Weights and Measures. The tables of Weights and Measures were comprehensive and doubtlessly had to be learnt by rote. Although readers may still remember them, it is worth repeating some of the tables, which no longer find a place in school curricula. In Troy weight '24 grains maketh 1 pennyweight, 20 pennyweights 1 ounce, 12 ounces 1 pound'. Apothecaries' weight brings to mind some candle-lit shop, with strange bottles on the shelves, where '20 grains maketh 1 scruple, 3 scruples 1 dram, 8 drams 1 ounce, 12 ounces 1 pound'. Less familiar is the Cloth Measure. Who now knows '4 Nails 1 Quarter of a Yard, 3 Quarters 1 Flemish ell, 4 Quarters 1 Yard, 5 Quarters 1 English ell, 6 Quarters 1 French ell'? Though many will remember that in Long Measure '3 miles make a league', there must be few nowadays who can boast the knowledge that '3 barleycorns make 1 inch'.



A Schoolboy's Sign Manual

The schoolboy of 1820 was expected to be proficient in Liquid and Dry Measures and to appreciate that wines came in different quantities from those of ale and beer. Thus in Wine Measure '10 gallons make 1 Anker of brandy, 18 gallons 1 Runlet, 31½ gallons half a Hogshead, 42 gallons 1 Tierce, 2 Hogsheads 1 Pipe or Butt, 2 Pipes 1 Tun'. Ale and beer, however, received different treatment, 4 quarts making 1 gallon, as they still do, but 1 firkin of beer was 9 gallons, whereas 1 firkin of sale was 8 gallons; thereafter 2 firkins equalled 1 kilderkin, 2 kilderkins 1 barrel, 2 barrels 1 puncheon. In Dry Measure 2 pints made 1 quart, 2 quarts 1 pottle, 2 pottles 1 gallon, 2 gallons 1 peck, 4 pecks 1 bushel. Thus far, older people will not be surprised, but it went on and on: 2 bushels 1 strike, 4 bushels 1 comb, 2 combs 1 quarter, 4 quarters 1 chaldron, 5 quarters 1 wey, 2 weys 1 last. Square Measures now all but forgotten included: 30 acres 1 yard of land, 100 acres 1 hide of land. In Solid Measure (cube) 1,728 inches made 1 solid foot, 27 feet 1 yard or load of earth, while 40 feet of round timber or 50 feet of hewn timber made 1 ton or load [a ton in this context being a measure and not a weight].

Some of the problems set are eternal ones like: If 8 men do a piece of work in 12 days, how many days can 10 men perform the same in? But many are more relevant to the times. Some reflect the experience of the Napoleonic period, as with: A privateer of 250 men took a prize which amounted to £125. 15s. 6d. to each man. What was the value of the prize? Or: In an army consisting of 187 squadrons of horse, each of 157 men, 207 battalions, each of 560 men, how many effective soldiers, supposing that in seven hospitals there are 473 sick? Or: An army of 20,000 men took and plundered a city of £12,000. What was each man's share, the whole being equally divided among them?

Other problems illustrate social customs. Of a family of seven persons, one problem says that 'there are drank out two kilderkins of beer in 12 days', and asks, 'How many kilderkins will there be drank out by another family of 14 persons in 8 days?' Although the question fails to provide an essential assumption, it does indicate a staple beverage of the times. Tea had not yet taken its place in the diet of the masses; at twenty-three shillings a pound it could hardly have been otherwise. The importance of the dowry as part of the marriage contract is confirmed by the frequent references to it. For example: 'A Tradesman gave his daughter as a marriage portion a Scrutorie [Henry's spelling is at fault; he meant a scrutoire, i.e. an escritoire or writing desk] in which were twelve drawers, in each drawer were six divisions and in each division there were £50, four

Crown pieces and eight half crown pieces, how much had she to her fortune?' High living is illustrated by the following: 'A Nobleman before he went out of town was desirous of paying all his tradesmen's bills and upon inquiry he found that he owed 82 guineas for rent, to his wine merchant £72-5-0, to his confectioner £12-13-4, to his Draper £47-13-2, to his Taylor £110-15-6, to his Coachmaker £157-18-0, to his Tallow Chandler £8-17-9, to his Cornchandler £107-6-8, to his Brewer £52-17-0, to his Butcher £122-11-5, to his Baker £37-9-5, to his servants for wages £53-18-0. I desire to know what money he had to raise in the whole, when we add to the above sums £100 which he wished to take with him'. Perhaps this smacks more of the 18th century, especially the bill of the Tallow Chandler, as gas had come even to Carmarthen by 1822. Of special interest is the following problem, which suggests that liability for restitution following highway robbery fell upon the parishes: 'A robbery being committed on the highway, an assessment was made on a neighbouring hundred for the sum of £386-15-6, of which four parishes paid each £37-14-2, four hamlets £31-1-2, each and the four townships £18-12-6; how much was the deficiency?'

Sometimes mnemonics were used. The Georgian schoolboy remembered the Rule for Reduction, for instance, by reciting:

When your Reduction must descend
Observe the strictures of a friend
The given number multiply
With each denomination by
Add to each product as you go
The next inferior one below
And when ascending you divide
Just by the same you multiplied
The numbers then reversed appear
And proof each other very clear.

Tare, Tret and Cloff

One hopes that this and other doggerel was effective, as there were many items concerning business and commerce to master. Practice for trade and business had eight rules, and technical terms were clearly defined, e.g. Tare was the allowance made to the buyer of any commodity for the weight of the box, cask, etc containing the same; Tret, an allowance of 4 lb in every 104 lb or 1 lb in 20 lb on account of waste, dust etc.; Cloff, an allowance of 2 lb in every 3 cwt or 1 lb in 168 lb to make the weight hold out when retailed; Suttle weight, when part of the allowance is deducted from the Gross; Neat weight, pure weight when all allowances are deducted. More advanced methods included simple and compound interest, Selling and



One of Henry's Headings

Buying of Stocks, Brokage (allowance to brokers for helping merchants or factors to buy or sell their goods), Discount, Equation of Payments (mean time for paying whole debts), Barter (exchanging one commodity for another, the Traders so proportioning their goods that neither may sustain loss), Alligation Medial (finding the mean price of a mixture of several supplies of different prices and quantity). There were also Alligation Partial and Alligation Alternate. Exchange involved a knowledge of foreign currency; for France, 12 deniers=1 sol [long since more familiar as the sou], 20 sols=1 livre, 3 livres=1 crown (4s. 6d. at par); for Spain, 34 marvedies=1 rial, 8 rials=1 piastre or piece of eight (4s. 6d.), 10 rials=1 dollar; in Venice 6 solidis=1 gross, 20 gross=1 ducat (a ducatoon was worth 4s. 6d. at par).

Problems included: 'At what rate per cent will £540 amount to £734-8-0 in 9 years lent' or 'What is the discount of £85-10 due Sept 8, this being July 4th, rebate at 5 per cent per annum'. Bills made out to various traders included references to commodities of interest to the social historian, although it is possible that the given prices were out-dated. Cambridge butter was 6d a lb, Cheshire cheese 4d a lb, lump sugar 6½d a lb, rice 3d a lb, malaga raisins 5d a lb, fine serge 3/9 a yard, drugget 9/-, superfine scarlet £1-2-0, shallon 1/9 a yard; cambric 12/6, muslin 8/3, painted linen 5/4 a yard; flowered silk 17/4, rich brocade 19/8, sarsanet 3/2, genoa velvet 27/6 a yard; kid gloves 2/2 a pair, fans 3/- each; stockings came in various textiles, the cheapest thread at 3/2 a pair, worsted 4/6, cotton 7/6, and black silk 14/- a pair.

Decimals were known to Henry as well as Arithmetical and Geometrical Progression. He learnt to appreciate geometrical progression by working out the following: 'A country gentleman going

to a fair to buy some oxen, met with a person who had 23; he demanded the price of them, was answered £18 a piece: the gentleman bids him £15 a piece, & he would buy all; the other tells him it could not be taken, but if he would give what the last ox would come to, at a farthing for the first & doubling it to the last, he should have all. What was the price of the oxen?' Henry's answer was £4369 1s. 4d.

The work book concludes with Vulgar Fractions, Square Roots and the application of the theorem that the square on the 'hypothense' is equal to the sum of the square on the other two sides, or the base and the perpendicular, as Henry referred to them.

Henry bade farewell to his schooldays with the brief statement that he 'Left school the 12th Day of August 1821'.

Building The Llanely Railway

By G. F. GABB, M.A.

The Llanely Railway and Dock Company, which originated as early as 1828, was initially concerned with transporting the mineral produce of Llanely's hinterland to the docks. It first laid claim to a wider role when powers were obtained, in 1835, to build a line through Pontardulais to Llandilo. In 1841, the track reached Tiry-dail, but, thereafter, progress was fitful in the extreme. Lacking the energy and foresight of a Brunel, the proprietors continued to think primarily in local terms; the working of the line was entrusted to contractors, insufficient capital was invested in locomotives and the permanent way, and even horse traction was revived in 1841. Even so, in 1861, the company gained approval for branches from Pontardulais to Swansea, and from Llandilo to Carmarthen. But the chance of establishing a prosperous, medium-sized, independent railway had probably already disappeared, for by this time the giant Great Western and London and North Western Companies had come upon the scene, which in time they would monopolise.

Nevertheless, the Swansea Extension, also known as the Dunvant Valley Railway, was completed in January, 1866. As early as 10th November, 1865, the Swansea newspaper, *The Cambrian*, was able to report: "Yesterday (Thursday 9th) the Dunvant Valley Railway Company commenced shipping coal at the Swansea South Dock—their new hydraulic shipping-stages having for the first time been brought into operation." (A barque called *Morning Glory* took a cargo of coal from Padley's Dunvant Colliery). Unfortunately for the Company, the firm building the passenger terminus, Messrs. Watkins and Jenkins, proved most inefficient, and passenger services to Swansea Victoria did not begin until December 14th, 1867.

The branch from Llandilo Bridge to Abergwili Junction, and thence via mixed gauge track laid along the Carmarthen and Cardigan (broad gauge) Railway into Carmarthen itself, opened more promptly. Goods were first carried on 14th November 1864, and passenger services began on 1st June 1865. The time-scale suggests that the basic preparation of the route and laying of the track, on both these branches, proceeded fairly efficiently. However, soon after work was completed, in May 1866, the contractors, the Contract Corporation Ltd., were in financial difficulties, due to the 'reprobate . . . conduct of the directors.' (This failure contributed to the dramatic collapse of the major discount house of Overend and Gurney on May 11th).

The Company was placed in the hands of an official liquidator, and its assets were sold off to satisfy creditors.

The Cambrian of May 4th, 1866, carried an advertisement for two sales of "Railway Contractors' Plant and Materials", much of it still "lying at Llandilo". The sales were to take place on 7th and 8th May at Llandilo, and on 9th and 10th at Swansea. Detailed catalogues were obtainable from the Company's Cannon Street offices and from the auctioneer, J. M. Leeder of Caer Street, Swansea. If one of these survives, it would make interesting reading, but even the mass of equipment listed in the advertisement provides a vivid picture of railway construction methods.

At Llandilo lay 250 narrow gauge earth wagons, 80 tons of temporary rails (35-42 lb per yard), "points of crossings", ballast wagons, 30 dobbin (horse-drawn) carts, 30 double and single-shafted hand carts, a timber carriage, 3 two-horse carts, a Whitechapel dog-cart, 200 barrows, 300 wheeling planks, mortar and pug mills, brick-maker's tables and moulds, "crabs", sheave blocks (a sheave is the grooved wheel in a pulley over which the rope runs), chains, ropes, "a travelling crane to lift 8 tons", a Samson crane with crabs, a "large traveller by Wordsell", a 36 ft. pile engine with crabs, chain and monkey, 2 large derricks, 2 wrought iron girders, double action iron pumps with piping complete, creosoted and other sleepers, 100 balks of timber, a large quantity of larch trees, bar iron and steel earth picks, beaters, bars, screw bolts of various sizes, platelayers', carpenters', joiners', fitters', and smiths' tools, bellows, anvils, grindstones, two pooley's, 20 cwt weighing machines, temporary buildings, firewood, etc. At Swansea lay a lesser conglomeration, including rail lorries, a portable steam engine and saw-table complete, creosoting apparatus, wrought iron standards for wire fencing, "a lot of train wheels", "two horses" and a large quantity of cart and trace harnesses.

On the 18th May *The Cambrian* carried notice of a further auction of seven wooden huts, stores, stables and their contents, "now situated at the side of the Swansea Extension Railway, near the Gower Road [Gowerton] Station on that line . . . a few minutes walk from the Station of the same name on the Great Western Railway".

The scene conjured up is one of intense activity. Earth, for cuttings and embankments, was loosened by men with picks and taken along "wheeling planks" in barrows to carts and horse-drawn wagons on temporary track. Excavation, on lines where there were admittedly no major engineering tasks, remained a job for men aided by horses. (Presumably the rest of the horses had already been sold

off to save on fodder.) Machinery, of a sort, was used for more specialised jobs: "monkeys" were pile drivers and "crabs" were nothing more than windlasses. Such apparatus was constructed out of wood and ropes primarily, and its use would present a decidedly Heath Robinson spectacle to the modern eye.

Until the railway network was complete, the centralised production of building materials was rendered impossible by transport difficulties, and the railway contractor was therefore obliged to find his materials on the spot, as far as he could. Trees which had to be felled were probably sawn up and creosoted, and used for sleepers and temporary buildings. Clay may well have been discovered on site; it was certainly pugged, moulded and fired there to produce the necessary bricks, and mortar was also made as needed. Generally speaking, the craftsmen on the spot solved problems as they arose, one exception being the wire fencing and metal posts, which were perhaps bought in bulk from a supplier in the Midlands or the North.

The Llanelly Company was not injured by the bankruptcy of the contractors, but it was left little time to profit from its new extensions. In the early 'seventies its system was ruthlessly dissected, the L.N.W.R. taking those sections it desired and the G.W.R. absorbing the rest. The Company was formally dissolved in 1889.

SOURCES

Shrewsbury to Swansea, the story of the Railway through Central Wales by D. J. Smith. (Town and Country Press 1971).
The Central Wales, published by the Swansea Railway Circle, 1964.
The Cambrian, 1865 and 1866.

Eliezer Williams 1754-1820

Eliezer Williams, historian and genealogist, was a clergyman who founded a grammar school at Lampeter, where he spent his last years. The eldest son of the Bible commentator Peter Williams, he was born at Pibwrlwyd near Carmarthen and christened on 4 October 1754 at Llandyfaelog Church.

Eliezer went to the free grammar school at Carmarthen and matriculated from Jesus College, Oxford in April 1775, graduating B.A. in 1778 and M.A. in 1781. He was ordained deacon in 1777, when he was licensed to the curacy of Trelech. In December 1778 he was ordained priest at Christ Church, Oxford and became curate of Tetsworth, Oxfordshire. Soon he was appointed second master at Wallingford grammar school in Berkshire, at the same time serving as curate of Acton nearby.

His sojourn at Wallingford was followed by appointment in 1780 as naval chaplain on board the *Cambridge*, commanded by Admiral Keith Stewart, and later he became tutor to Lord Garlies (afterwards Earl of Galloway), the admiral's nephew. In 1782, at the invitation of the Earl of Galloway, he forsook the sea to become tutor in the Galloway household, where he remained for about eight years, during which time he was appointed in 1784, to the living of Cynwyl Gaeo with Llansawel. Among his tasks was an investigation, successfully accomplished, of the earl's ancestry for the purpose of establishing a claim to the English peerage.

Later Williams lived in London, where he became an evening lecturer at All Hallows, Lombard Street and private secretary to a gentleman bearing the name of Blakency. In 1799 he became curate of Chadwell St. Mary's in Essex, at the same time serving as chaplain to Tilbury fort. He returned to Wales in 1805 to be instituted vicar of Lampeter, where he remained for the rest of his life. Not long after his arrival at Lampeter he opened a grammar school, which was highly successful in preparing young men for holy orders.

In 1792 Williams married Ann Adclaide Grebert, a native of Nancy in Lorraine, there being one child, who died in infancy. His wife died in 1796 and at the end of the same year Williams married Jane Amelia Nugent, daughter of St. George Armstrong of Annaduff near Drumona, Co. Leitrim, Ireland. Of this marriage there were

eight children. Williams died on 20 January 1820, his wife having predeceased him. He was buried at Lampeter.

Eliezer Williams was initiated into the world of writing and publishing early in life, for while he was still at Carmarthen grammar school he helped his father in preparing Annotations and Concordance for the Welsh Bible, which appeared as a single volume in 1770, but the work had been published earlier as a series of parts. In 1794 he published *A Genealogical Account of Lord Galloway's Family*, which was followed by three other works relating to his patron's pedigree. In 1801 he published anonymously *Nautical Odes, or Poetical Sketches, designed to commemorate the Achievements of the British Navy*.

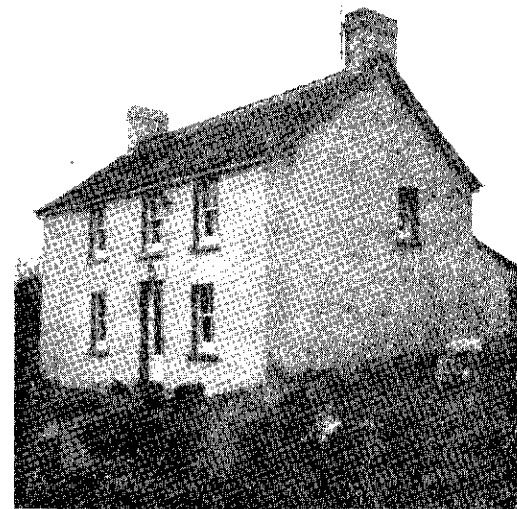
In 1840 his son, St. George Armstrong Williams published his father's English works, together with a memoir. This volume included :

1. 'Hints to Females in High Life,' an unfinished poem. 2. 'An Historical Essay on the Manners and Customs of the Ancient Celtic Tribes, particularly their Marriage Ceremonics.' 3. 'An Historical Essay on the Taste, Talents, and Literary Acquisitions of the Druids and the Ancient Celtic Bards.' 4. 'Historical Anecdotes relative to the Energy, Beauty, and Melody of the Welsh Language and its Affinity to the Oriental Languages and those of the South of Europe.' 5. 'An Inquiry into the Situation of the Gold Mines of the Ancient Britons.' 6. 'History of the Britons.' 7. 'Account of a Visit to the North of Ireland in 1787.' 8. 'Prologues and Epilogues.'

Before It's Forgotten

The Garn-lwyd Owenite Community

It has long been known that, between 1847 and 1855, a co-operative settlement existed at Garn-lwyd, somewhere in Carmarthenshire. *The Bibliography of Robert Owen the Socialist, 1771-1858* (National Library of Wales, 1925) refers to a book, *Co-operative Production* (Oxford, 1894) by Benjamin Jones, containing a short account of the community based on contemporary newspaper accounts. Professor J. F. C. Harrison's *Social Reform in Victorian Leeds* (Thoresby Society, 1954) similarly draws on the socialist newspapers of the period in his short account of the Garn-lwyd experiment.



Garnlwyd

The settlement was established by the Leeds Redemptionist Society founded by David Green, a bookseller, who was convinced that 'associative efforts' through 'a community of interests and of property was the only effectual remedy for the varied evils under which society now labours'. The communitarian ideas of Robert Owen appear to have been the main inspiration and basis of the Leeds Redemptionists.

The settlers, who are stated to have numbered fourteen in May 1851, were mainly engaged in farming, but they also made boots and shoes which were sold to members of the Redemptionist Society in Leeds. Another product was blackberry jam made from the fruit sold to them by 'labourers' children'. When the community was disbanded in 1855 all the debts had been paid leaving some funds for distribution between certain institutions in Leeds.

References to the venture in a Robert Owen bi-centenary lecture in 1971 led to speculation about the location of Garn-lwyd. Enquiries revealed that there was a place of this name in each of six parishes in Carmarthenshire; and the search for the right one was mis-directed for a time as a result of an unfortunate transposition of the distances between Garn-lwyd and Carmarthen and between Garn-lwyd and Swansea, in an account deriving from *The National Instructor* of 28 December 1850. The distances as given in an article in the latter, and particularly the references to 'Porth Rhead, about a mile and a half from the communal farm' and to 'another farm called Gorse' show that the settlement was at the 87-acre farm of Garn-lwyd which lies about a mile-and-a-half (about two miles by road) east-north-east of Porth-y-rhyd, and on the north side of the Gwendraeth Fach (map reference: SN 541164). Information in the Enumerator's Return of the Population Census of 1851 for Llanddarog parish confirms that this was the location.

Establishing the location of the communitarian settlement has itself been a co-operative venture. I am sure that those who so kindly participated—including those who burned midnight oil following his enquiries—will readily agree that special mention must be made of Mr. John S. Davies, Pontarddulais, whose zeal and generosity were unflagging in seeking scraps of information from various sources, near and far.

R. O. ROBERTS,
Department of Economics,
University College of Swansea.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

SECRET SOCIETY

Sir,

The other day, in Brecon Library, I came across a slight mention of the Society of Sea-Serjeants, the secret society with suspected Jacobite leanings which flourished in West Wales in the mid-18th century.

I am endeavouring to research this old Society and, to this end, I should be most grateful if you could supply me with any information concerning it, or give me book references to help me in my research.*

The Sea-Serjeants had drinking glasses on which was engraved the Society's badge—a dolphin within a roundel set on a star. I understand that there are three perfect specimens in existence—one in the Anzano Glass Collection, one in the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford and one in the Glynn Vivian Gallery, Swansea. I wonder if there are any others.

(Mrs.) GWENNE TRAWFORD,
Penmaen, Maesmawr Lane,
Talybont-on-Usk, Brecon.

STILL MARCHING

Sir,

I am researching into the history of 18th century highwaymen in the Bristol area and my enquiries lead to Carmarthen. In *Brief Romances from Bristol's History* by Joseph Lecch, published in 1884, is a reference to one Higgins, a notorious highwayman of Frenchay, near Bristol, who was caught early in the 18th century and executed at Carmarthen. I would be grateful to know if you have any record of Higgins and his trial.*

* Information has been supplied, but interested readers may feel they would like to communicate with these correspondents. We should be glad to hear of other Sea-Serjeants' drinking glasses that may exist, especially any in private possession.—Editor.

I am encouraged to write to you after reading an article by Major Francis Jones in Vol. VIII of *The Carmarthenshire Historian* 1971 entitled "Marching with Thomas Skeel". I was particularly interested in Skeel's visit to the village of Chew Magna near Bristol in search of his two sisters who were in service there. The "Bobelick House" he visited may well have been the Bear and Swan Hostelry, an inn contemporary with Skeel's period, and a recent visit there excited great interest when Skeel's story was told again in the bar parlour by the writer.

LEONARD NOTT,
70, Oldbury Court Road,
Fishponds, Bristol.

HISTORY ON TAPE

A new approach to the study of the Rebecca Riots is provided by D. Cyril Jones and Malcolm M. Jones, who have brought together a selection of source material relating to the period.

Assembled in an illustrated folder, the pack, which is bilingual, appears under the title 'Hel Hanes, History Search. Rebecca' and includes facsimiles of contemporary records and manuscripts, some in Welsh. Accompanying the source material is a set of study cards designed to stimulate critical analysis of the records reproduced, an exercise which provides an exciting alternative to the traditional method of instruction through classroom text-books.

Also available is a tape, on which is recorded a reconstructed episode in dramatic style, as well as the recital of a contemporary ballad, a device which brings a touch of realism to the study exercise.

Although the authors state that the pack is 'an attempt to suggest possible methods of working on the history of the period with classes of school children', no one needing to make a first approach to the study of Rebecca should be put off, and even those familiar with the events recalled will find their interest rekindled.

The price is £1.50 (documentary pack only) or £2.10 complete with the tape. Orders may be placed with the printers, Gwasg Gomer, Llandysul, or with D. Cyril Jones and Malcolm Jones, History Department, Trinity College, Carmarthen.

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