

# ROYAL COMMISSION ON ANCIENT MONUMENTS IN WALES AND MONMOUTHSHIRE

## Parish of MARFORD AND HOSELEY.

### DIVISION II (EARTHWORKS), SUB-DIVISION E (CASTLE MOUNTS, WITH ENCLOSURES).

167. **The Rofft** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 17A S.W. ; lat. 53° 5' 56", long. 2- 37' 36).

This mount - and - bailey stronghold has lost most of its distinguishing characteristics, but at the period of its construction it must have been of considerable importance by reason of its commanding position. It occupies the furthest point of the high land to the south of the little river Alyn which here drops abruptly about 200 feet to the level of the plain stretching away into Cheshire. The fall to the river is extremely steep, and the position was practically impregnable from the river bottom. Towards the south and east the ridge gradually falls away in a long and gentle slope. The castle mound was placed at the apex of the position, with such enclosures as were appurtenant to it extending along the southern slope. The mound was composed of earth and small stones, and encircled by a moat, but owing to the construction of the Great Western Railway immediately beneath the hill, the ground has been cut away, so that many land slides have taken place and much of the moat has disappeared. The mound still rises from 12 to 16 feet above the surrounding level, and the summit has a diameter of 66 feet. The ditch has largely silted up. The enclosure is easily traced, and here and there the earthen bank and ditch which surrounded are perceptible. Its entire area contained from 30 to 35 acres. The original entrance was probably at the south-east corner, opening upon the old Marford Road; but cultivation, and the causes already referred to, have rendered much of the details of this fine position hypothetical. —Visited, 26th October, 1910.

### DIVISION VII (FINDS).

168. **Coins—Roman.** About 25 years ago a hoard of 433 Roman coins was found in the garden of the Elms, which replaced the old Vicarage House of Gresford.

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\* This mound was once the seat of the lord of the commot of Marford, or of his steward. The commuted dues for the maintenance of the lord's hall, chamber, and kitchen, and thatching them with straw, were levied on the free tenants of Marford commot so late as 1391 (Brit. Mus. *Addit. MS.*, 10013, fo. 76). The township of Marford, to which this site geographically belongs; was servile in tenure, but as the seat of the chief could not be on bond land, the manorial hall and its precincts were attached to the free township of Allington (in Denbighshire). It so remained until the year 1884, when the whole area of about 54.5 acres was merged in the parish of Marford and Hoseley. In late medieval times the place was probably called 'the Castell,' as an old house which stood near its south-western entrance and within its precincts, was called 'Grofft y Castell' ('the castle croft'). The word 'Grofft,' with the definite article, becomes 'Rofft'; hence the origin of the name at present applied to the castle mound, 'The Rofft Mount' (Palmer, *History of the townships of the old Parish of Gresford*, 1905, pp. 132, 136-7).

This hoard was acquired by the late Mr. William Venn, who sold 105 of the coins to Mr. A. Seymour Jones of Wrexham, and these are now lent to the Wrexham Free Library Committee. All are of brass, and form a series ranging from the end of Roman Republic to the close of the fourth century of our era. The remainder is said to have been disposed of to a Liverpool collector.

## Parish of MELIDEN.

### DIVISION III (STONE STRUCTURES—DOMESTIC).

169. **Llys Farm** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. IS.E. ; lat. 53°19'18", long. 3°24'31").

Owners, The Ecclesiastical Commissioners.

'Llys Farm', formerly called 'Llys yr Esgob', represents one of the medieval manors of the bishops of St. Asaph. The large farm-house has a plain round-headed doorway, a mullioned window of three lights on one side of the house, and another window of four lights on the other side; all the remaining windows are modernized. The whole, so far as appearances go, is of the end of the 16th or beginning of the 17th century. Visited, 24th August, 1910.

### DIVISION IV (ECCLESIASTICAL STRUCTURES).

170. **The Parish Church** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 1 S.E.). Ded : St. Melyd. Diocese, archdeaconry, and rural-deanery of St. Asaph ; township of Meliden.

A building consisting of a simple parallelogram, with a south porch (rebuilt), to which have been added an organ chamber and vestry towards the east end of the north side. The walls are of great thickness. Before the restoration of 1884 there seems to have been no distinction of nave and chancel. The south and north (closed) doors are plain pointed. A good Perpendicular window of three lights is in the middle of the south wall, and near the east end a small Tudor window of two lights occupies an older almost square opening. The east window is old, though filled with modern tracery and glass. There is a clumsy buttress against the east end of the north wall. The font in use is dated 1686. The octagonal bowl of an earlier font was found during the restoration of the church in 1884 ; each panel represents a Gothic opening of 14th century character. The pulpit is Jacobean. A fragment of the chancel stalls is of the Perpendicular period. The plain oak chest is dated 1697. Outwardly the west gable of the church has a bell-cote with two openings, but only one bell.

A plainly pointed door in the northern wall, with no architectural feature save a wide chamfer, has for its sill a stone upon which is faintly discernible an ornamental band of foliage conventionally treated. The stone is of greater width than the doorway, one end running over two feet into the wall, and it is fairly certain that it is a part of a sepulchral slab which has thus been utilised. The doorway is probably of the late 14th century, and the slab must have been placed in its present position at or before the construction of the doorway. The churchyard before its extension was circular, and its older portion is higher than the ground outside. A plain square sundial on the left-hand side of the entrance is dated 1794.—Visited, 24th August, 1910.

Thomas, *Hist. Dioc. St. Asaph*, 1908, i. 406; Glynne, 'Notes,' *Arch. Camb.*, 1884, V, i, 87; Baker, *Arch. Camb.*, 1885, V, ii, 206, with illustrations.

#### DIVISION V (MISCELLANEOUS—WELLS).

171. **St. Mary's Well** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 2 S.W. ; lat. 53° 19' 16", long. 3° 23' 55").

This well (also said to have been called 'St. Melyd's Well') on the boundary between the parishes of Meliden and Gwaunysgor, and high on the slopes of Gallt Melyd, is now no more than a hollow about 4 feet long and 2 feet high, the bottom formed of water-worn stones ; but it was stated that the well sometimes contained water. The wood on Gallt Melyd is called 'Coed yr Esgob', 'the Bishop's Wood'.-Visited, 24<sup>th</sup> August, 1910.

#### DIVISION VI (SITES OF HISTORIC OR ANTIQUARIAN INTEREST).

171A. At a spot on the hill above Meliden, the exact position of which approximates very closely to lat. 53° 19' 56", long. 3° 24' 2", and close to the path leading to Gwaunysgor, is a rough piece of land on the slope of the hill which is enclosed by a low bank and a shallow outer ditch. Within, and immediately surrounding the enclosure, several worked flint implements, a leaf-shaped lance-head, and two barbed arrow-heads, have been picked up by Lieut.-Col. T. A. Glenn of Meliden. Both in position and construction the enclosure is too Weak to have been intended for defence, and there are no indications of tumuli or hut dwellings.— Visited, 31st June, 1912.\*

#### DIVISION VII (FINDS).

172. **Torques** In a letter to a correspondent of Mr. Edward Lhuyd from Mr. Robert Davies of Llannerch, dated the 31st March, 1705, the last-named says— "Give this Postscript (with my service) to Mr. Lhuyd of ye [Ashmolean] Museum. That he may know I have met with Nothing for him lately, but this in the margin which I should call a Talisman, if I remember'd that such were at any time us'd in these Countreys.

#### Figure 44.

Two of these made of copper, or such like mettle and about this bigness ; the ends seems to be snakes heads, ye rest not smooth, but fit'd round with lines like these streaks, were found in a lead work near Meliden in Flintshire, A° 1704." (*Camb. Arch. Assoc. Parochialia*, iii, 98.

The lead work here referred to is said to be an old Roman working.

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\* Since this date Col. Glenn writes: "Near the path leading from the enclosure to the Gop [Gwaunysgor] I picked up a fine knife of greenish-blue flint, [1.75"] by [0.75"] by [0.25"]", with an edge ground to razor sharpness, and perfect."

## Parish of MOLD RURAL.

### DIVISION Ia (TUMULI).

173. **Bryn y Castell** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 14 S.W.; lat. 53° 9' 4", long. 3° 5' 35").

An irregularly oval mound of striking appearance, in the township of Bistre, composed of gravel and pebbles, and covered with wood. It has an average height of 25 feet ; the summit dimensions are north-west to south-east 14 yards, north-east to south-west 12 yards. The mound is possibly sepulchral.—Visited, 2nd June, 1910.

174. **Tumulus** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 13 S.E.; lat. 53° 9' 13", long. 3° 7' 30").  
Owner, Mr. Pennant A. Lloyd, Pentrehobyn Hall.

A mound, probably sepulchral, about 4 feet high, diameter over all, 18 yards east to west and 24 yards north to south. It has evidently been trenched, but when or by whom is unknown.—Visited, 15th June, 1910.

### DIVISION IC (MEINI HIRION).

175. **The Grey Stones** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 14 S.W.; lat. 53° 9' 11.5", long. 3° 5' 8").

Two stones standing in a field south of Carreg Lwyd Farm, and on the opposite side of the road from Pen y mynydd to Llong railway station. The first is an upright diamond-shaped boulder, about 6 feet high, 5 feet broad, and 1½ feet thick in the middle. The second is prostrate, and much sunk in the ground.\* Both appear to be glacier blocks, and glacial striations are evident on the larger of the two. A writer in *Arch. Camb.*, 1859, III, v, 75, states that they are the remains of a stone circle their appearance, however, does not countenance this supposition, and an aged inhabitant of Padeswood, who has known them for 68 years, said that there were no others within his recollection. The smaller one formerly stood lower than it is at present, the soil around it having subsided by tillage.—Visited, 4th June, 1910.

### DIVISION II (EARTHWORKS), SUB-DIVISION D (CASTLE MOUNTS, WITHOUT ENCLOSURES).

176. **Leeswood Mound** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 13 S.E. ; lat. 53° 8' 42.5" long. 3° 7' 3"). Owner, Major J. H. Wynne Eyton, The Tower, near Mold.

A circular mound much damaged by the ascending paths now cut into its sides. It is from 20 to 22 feet high, and the flat top is 44 feet in diameter each way. A broad footpath runs round the base of the earthwork. There is no evidence in the surroundings of an attached bailey. —.Visited, 2nd June, 1910.

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\* As the old name of the farm near is in the singular ('Careg Lwyd' not 'Cerrig Llwydion), it is possible that only one of these grey stones was formerly visible above ground.

DIVISION II (EARTHWORKS), SUB-DIVISION E (CASTLE MOUNTS, WITH ENCLOSURES).

177. **Tyddyn Mount** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 13 S.E.; lat. 53° 9' 40", long. 3° 7' 3"). Owner and occupier, Capt. W. H. Blackburn.

A fine mound in the garden of Tyddyn farm in the township of Bistre. Its summit is nearly circular, with a diameter of between 9 and 10 yards; in height it is about 25 feet. On the north-east a ditch and low outer bank can be traced, but they are obliterated on two other sides by the drive to the house, and on the fourth side by the croquet lawn, to extend which the mound itself has been partially cut away. The meadow between the house and the road, called 'The Mount Meadow', shows on the south side some irregularities of surface, and is much higher than the road whereon it abuts; it probably represents the enclosure. The large field on the north-west is called in the Tithe Schedule (No. 1191) 'Erw Mount', but it is not now known or remembered by that name.—Visited, 23rd September, 1910.

DIVISION II (EARTHWORKS), SUB-DIVISION X (UNCLASSIFIED—DYKES).

178. **Wat's Dyke** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 14 S.W., 14 N.W., 13 N.E.).

This earthwork (always called 'Offa's Dyke' in this neighbourhood) leaves Hope parish at lat. 53° 8' 39", long. 3° 3' 25", with a north-westerly direction until it approaches Dyke farm, where it has been destroyed by the railway. It presently reappears, and is shortly afterwards again lost until the present Mold and Chester road, which is constructed upon it, is reached. On the north side of that road, and in the township of Bistre, it becomes visible, passing south of Carreg Lwyd in an almost westerly direction. Near this spot it has been cleared away for 600 or 700 yards, but it is again found, pointing first due north, and afterwards north-west; passing Whitehouse farm and Bôd Offa, east of Pant y fawnog, and (with a slight interruption) forward to Bryn y bâl in Argoed township. Here it can be seen at intervals up to the Rose and Crown Inn. It leaves this parish, and enters that of Northop at lat. 53° 10' 52", long. 3° 6' 53".

It will be described as a whole at a later stage.

DIVISION III (STONE STRUCTURES—DOMESTIC).

179. **The Tower** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 13 S.E.; lat. 53° 8' 57", long. 3° 8' 10"). Owner and occupier, Major J. H. Wynne Eyton.

The medieval tower (to the eastern side of which is attached a range of comparatively modern domestic buildings) is a tall, plain, machicolated and embattled structure, about 27 feet broad externally on the south side, and 45 feet on the west side. Close to the east end of the south side is a projecting turret of equal height with the tower, and set forward 8 inches west of it is a low building about 11 feet square, lighted by slits, all of good squared stone; where not repaired both are of 15th century work. An illustrated description of this tower appeared in *Arch. Camb.*, 1846, I, i, 55, but the windows there shown have been replaced by others, and the house has become a comfortable mansion. The ground floor of the tower is vaulted; the walls are 6 feet thick, and about 101 feet high, with 3 feet more to the crown of the vault. A doorway at the north-east corner gives entrance to a circular staircase

leading to the room above ; and on the west side next the south wall, another doorway afforded entrance to the western building, the ground floor of which probably contained a well. There are curious gargoyles outside, and in the modern passage on the east side of the tower are two corbels which are relics of the earlier domestic buildings.—Visited, 14th May, 1910.

180. ***Pentrehobyn Hall*** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 13 S.E. ; lat. 53° 9' 12", long. 3° 7' 20"). Owner and occupier, Mr. Pennant A. Lloyd.

This is a good domestic residence, consisting of a central structure and two projecting gabled wings at either end of the main building. Over the entrance is the date 1540. There is no porch. Inside are two finely carved overmantels, dated 1545 and 1546, respectively. A little remote from the house, but in line with it, are eight 'llettyau,' or lodgings for travellers, each cell being 7 feet wide in front and 5 feet deep, with the guardian's house at the end, approached by steps. They look of little later date than the residence.—Visited, 2nd June, 1910.

#### DIVISION V (MISCELLANEOUS).

181. ***Carreg Carn March Arthur*** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 13 S.W.; lat. 53° 9' 17", long. 3° 11' 34.5").

The stone thus known is a small roughly-smoothed boulder of about 3 feet by 2 feet, which has been placed beneath an arch of stonework standing on the side of the turnpike road, a short distance beyond the well-known hostel called 'The Loggerheads' and Llanferres Bridge. Its surface bears an impression that in form is not unlike a huge horse-shoe, and from this peculiarity it has always been known as 'Carreg Carn March Arthur,' 'the stone of Arthur's Horse's Hoof,' the mark being traditionally imputed to the descent of Arthur's horse in a flying leap taken from the summit of Moel Famau, about three miles distant.—Visited, 16th August, 1910.

A stone panel placed in the upper portion of the pillar bears an inscription, now for the greater part illegible, the purport of which is said to commemorate a famous legal dispute concerning the mineral rights of the family of Grosvenor, in which the 'Carreg March Arthur' played a prominent part as marking the boundary between the counties of Flint and Denbigh at the spot where it stood. The decision of the Court of Exchequer was given in 1763, and it is probable that the pillar was erected directly afterwards for the purpose of enshrining the stone which proved an important factor in the suit, and the pillar itself is now usually regarded as standing upon the boundary line of the two counties.

It is, however, by no means certain that this is so. It is believed that no full and authentic account has been published of the suit in question (apart, of course, from the legal reports), and, the details, so far as they relate to the original position of the 'Carreg' are therefore unknown. But, in the Public Record Office (Exchequer Depositions, 32 Geo. II, Michaelmas, 1758, No. 13), are the testimonies of a number of witnesses taken at Ruthin on the 13th September, 1758, to certain interrogatories, one of which was—"Do you know a certain stone commonly called and known by the name of Carreg March Arthur, otherwise Carreg Carn March Arthur, situate in the parish of Llanverres in the county of Denbigh," etc. The depositions are of considerable antiquarian interest, as well as importance in relation to the former limits

of the counties of Flint and Denbigh ; but as the statements are *ex parte* no further notice can be taken of them here.

DIVISION VI (SITES OF HISTORIC OR ANTIQUARIAN INTEREST).

182. ***Dol yr Orsedd*** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 13 S.E. ; lat. 53° 8' 50", long. 3° 7' 16"). Owner, Mr. Pennant A. Lloyd, Pentrehobyn Hall, Mold.

About the beginning of the 19th century, in the meadow still called 'Dol yr orsedd,' near Pentrehobyn Hall, stood a notable maenhir, which it became necessary to remove when the Mold and Wrexham turnpike road was made. Beneath it were found human bones and a dagger, some 5 or 6 inches long. The bones were ultimately buried, and the dagger was stolen. But in 1849 the stone still remained whole, prostrate but close to the hedge at the north-east corner of the meadow. It is said to have measured in total length about 9 feet, in breadth from 2 to 2½ feet, and in depth from 1 to 1½ feet ; in shape it was quadrangular (*Arch. Camb.*, 1849, I, iv, 323). This maenhir cannot now be traced, and it is believed to have been broken or removed many years ago. But it may be remarked that in the adjoining meadow west of Dol yr orsedd is a limestone gate post of unusual size, 4 feet 6 inches above ground, 2 feet broad and 16 inches thick. This may be the old maenhir of Dol yr orsedd, utilised to serve a different purpose, and it may have stood upon a low mound forming the " gorsedd " which gave its distinguishing name to the meadow.— Visited, 12th June, 1910.

183. ***Tir Maen Llwyd*** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 14 S.W. ; lat. 53° 8' 30", long. 3° 6' 0").

This field, situated in the township of Leeswood, still bears the name above given ; but a man about 70 years old, who had known the field all his lifetime, had no remembrance of a standing stone. Tithe Schedule, No. 663.—Visited, 21st September, 1910.

184. ***Maes Garmon*** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 13 N.E. ; lat. 53° 10' 22", long. 3° 9' 55"). Owner, Col. Basil E. Philips, Rhual.

A large field in the township of Rhual, the supposed site of the battle known, as 'the Alleluia Victory,' traditionally believed to have been fought in the year 420 between the Christian Britons and the Saxons and Picts. \* An obelisk, erected in 1736, commemorates this victory, and the inscription declares that saints Germanus and Lupus were present at it. Within the field is a stone enclosure, 8 feet by 4 feet, containing a spring called the 'Goblins' Well'; the stones are mostly displaced, and the bed of the well is trampled by cattle; the overflow is fairly copious.—Visited, 21st September, 1910.

185. ***Pen y Sarn*** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 13 N.W. ; lat. 53° 10' 11", long. 3° 12' 43.5").

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\* Bede notes the battle but does not date nor locate it. The date ascribed is in any case too early, and there are competing sites.

Pen y sarn is a farm-house, built on a ridge overlooking an old cobbled way,, leading from Gwernaffild over the river Alyn to Pigs yr Esgob in Cilcain parish. Where not cobbled the lane is on the natural rock.—Visited, 24th October, 1910.

186. ***Dol yr Orsedd*** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 14 S.W.; lat. 53° 9' 10", long.. 30 6' 30").

This meadow is in the township of Leeswood, having the inn by Llong railway station standing within it. The Mold and Chester Railway runs-along its northern edge. Both north and south of the railway the meadow is flat. No tradition attaches to it, and whatever remains may have existed here would almost certainly have been cleared away when the railway was constructed.—Visited, 24th October, 1910.

187. ***Capel Spon*** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 14 S.W.).

When Leland passed through this district (c. 1535) there existed three chapels annexed to the parish church of Mold, of which one, Capel Spon, was situated in the township of Bistre (the others were Nerquis and Treuddyn, now separate parishes). Edward Lhuyd in 1699 speaks of Capel Spon, " whereof a small part of ye wall onely is now to be seen." Even this has disappeared, and there are now no remains of the chapel.\* The Domesday form of the name 'Bistre' is 'Biscopstrew' and the Welsh was 'Croes Esgob.'

In the *Cheshire Sheaf* for January, 1906 (vol. vi., new series, p. 11), a writer (Mr. Thomas Cropper of Buckley) says that he had been informed by a man between 80 and 90 years old that he remembered a field on Spon Farm called 'The Chapel Field,' and that the footpath from Spon Green to Padeswood passed through the field. Mr. Cropper adds "the field itself skirts a wooded dingle, and the site of the chapel itself is on the opposite side to the wood," where are some large squared stones in the hedge, on the east side. The exact position of the field is lat. 53° 9' 14", long. 30° 4' 20".—Visited, 16th July, 1912.

#### DIVISION VII (FINDS).

188. ***Bronze Celt*** found at Rhual ; now in the Welshpool Museum.

189. ***Bronze Celt*** found at Bistre; now in the Welshpool Museum.

### Parish of MOLD URBAN.

#### DIVISION II (EARTHWORKS), SUB-DIVISION E (CASTLE MOUNTS, WITH ENCLOSURES).

190. ***The Bailey Hill*** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 13 N.E. ; lat. 53° 10' 14", long. 3° 8' 38"). Owners, The Mold Urban District Council.

The mount-and-bailey castle constructed on a natural hill by Robert de Montalt as the Caput of his lordship of Montalt. The hill is rounded on the northeast, and protected by two high banks and two ditches. Within the enclosure thus formed, and towards the south of it, was constructed an artificial mound with a flat top 20 yards each way ; the mound was surrounded by a ditch to which it dropped at least 60 feet on the

north side. The inner of the two banks was continued southward to form a large inner bailey, about three-quarters of an acre in area ; while the other bank curved out to form the outer bailey, now partly occupied by a chapel and school. On the eastern side a portion of this outer bank has been cut off by the comparatively modern road. The entire castle covered over seven acres of ground.\* There are no present signs of stone walls or foundations, but in 1872 two parallel walls, 10 feet apart, were found near the south-western base of the mound (*Arch. Camb.*, 1872, IV, iii, 165).—Visited, 24th June, 1910.

Mold Castle was taken from Robert de Montalt in 1147 by Owain Gwynedd, and later was frequently captured and recaptured by Welsh and English.

A small plan appears in Mrs. Armitage's *English Castles* (1912), p. 260, where also it is stated that "the motte of Robert de Monte Alto still exists, and is uncommonly high and perfect ; it has two baileys, separated by great ditches, and appears to have had a shell on top."

#### DIVISION III (STONE STRUCTURES—DOMESTIC).

191. ***Tre'r Beirdd*** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 13 S.E.; lat. 53° 9' 28", long. 3° 8' 28"). Owner and occupier, Mr. Thomas Bellis.

A house built in 1716 on the site of an older one, and retaining its name. It was the patrimony of a branch of the Lloyds of Hartsheath.—Visited, 21st October, 1910.

#### DIVISION IV (ECCLESIASTICAL STRUCTURES).

192. ***The Parish Church*** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 13 N.E.). Ded : St. Mary. Diocese of St. Asaph ; archdeaconry of Wrexham ; rural-deanery of Mold; townships of Mold, Broncoed, Rhual, Llwynegryn, Argoed (parts), Gwysanney, Bryncanyllt, Hartsheath, Leeswood. †

The church, which stands on a slight eminence near the Bailey Hill, is a fine edifice of the Perpendicular order. It consists of a spacious nave of seven bays, with north and south aisles, a western tower, a south porch, and a north door, the last now affording entrance to a small vestry. The chancel was extremely shallow, and in 1855 it was largely extended. At the south-west angle of the chancel is an outside turret which led to the rood loft. The tower was rebuilt in 1773, ‡ probably following more or less

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\* The outworks doubtless extended on the eastern side nearly to the old land still called 'Henffordd'. Human skeletons have been found in the inner bailey (now a bowling green) from time to time. In the outer enclosure was a well, called by Edward Lhuyd in 1699 'Ffynnon y Beili'.

† The parish of Mold, including the townships of Hendrebiffa, Gwernaffilt (now written 'Gwernaffield'), and Arddynwent, which, until recent ecclesiastical arrangements were part of Mold parish (with its chapelries of Nerquis, Treuddyn and Bistre), was co-extensive with the lordship of Moldsdale, whose lords formerly had the presentation to the church.

‡ "In taking down the old tower the workmen discovered, at the depth of a foot below the ground a layer of burnt wheat, barley, rye, and beans, three inches thick, upon an earthen floor from four to five yards square, under which was deposited in regular order a great number of human bones, about half a yard in depth, and a stone which had been worked into the foundation, upon which was inscribed, ' Here lieth the body of Gwenlllan, daughter of Evan ab David ab Iorwerth ' " (*Lewis, Top. Dict. of Wales*, 1833, s.n. Mold'). It is also stated in a brief History of the Parish in the *Cambro-Briton*, 1820, I, 142, that "in taking down the old tower in 1768 a curious image was discovered near the foundation ... but the worthy Vicar ... gave orders for its immediate demolition; and the marble Saint was accordingly

faithfully the old design and decorative details. The north aisle has an excellent original roof ; at its eastern end is a niche, and a small aumbry. At the end of the other aisle are two elaborate niches, with pedestals and canopies, and another small aumbry. The clerestory is so low as to make the windows mere slits. Angel figures bearing shields charged with different badges are placed at the springings of the nave arches, and above is a shallow moulding containing animal carvings. Some of the remaining fragments of old stained glass show the dates 1572 and 1576.— Visited, 15th June, 1910.

Thomas, *Hist. Dioc. St. Asaph*, 1911, ii, 404 ; Glynne, 'Notes,' *Arch. Camb.*, 1884, V, i, 260 ; P. B. Davies-Cooke, *Mold Parish Church*.

#### DIVISION VII (FINDS).

193. **Gold Horse Peytrell.** The circumstances of the discovery of this famous object, now in the British Museum collection of British antiquities, are related in a letter of Mr. John Langford (the tenant of the farm upon which the find was made), dated 29th January, 1835, thus given in *Archceologia* (1835), xxvi, 423.-

" The gold breast-plate, now in my possession, was raised on the 11th of October, 1833, from a description of rough vault in a field in my farm (about a quarter of a mile from the town), called Bryn-yr-Ellyllon. The stones had partially fallen in, among which were found the bones of a man, and the breast-plate, which was partly bent together from the weight of the stones which had fallen on it. The discovery happened by removing what appeared to be a mass of litter, in order to level the mound with the rest of the field. About three or four hundred loads of pebble and other stones were found upon the place where the body had apparently been laid."

Further particulars are given in a letter from the Rev. Charles Butler Clough, then Vicar of Mold, to John Gage, F.R.S., Director of the Society of Antiquaries, as follows :—" . . . A short time before the discovery of the Corselet workmen had been employed in raising gravel from the side of the road, and had made a considerable pit for some yards into the adjoining field. A new tenant, Mr. John Langford, having taken the field, and the pit being unsightly, and relinquished by the surveyor of the road, he employed persons to fill the hole by shovelling down the top of the bank. While so employed, they observed that the whole of the materials with which they were filling the gravel pit appeared to consist of larger stones than the material of the gravel below, and among them were several very large round stones. About four feet from the top of the bank, and without doubt upon the original surface, they perceived the Corselet. It lay as it would have been worn, with the breast upwards, the back parts doubled behind, and contained within it a considerable number of small bones, vertebrae, etc., but none of them longer than from two to three inches. The scull, of no unusual size, lay at the upper end, but no bones of the extremities were noticed. These bones had no symptoms of fire upon them. The Corselet was very resplendent. Upon it, in rows, lay a quantity of beads, some of which I saw, but

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doomed to a second martyrdom." The Ven. Archdeacon Thomas (*Hist. Dioc. St. Asaph*, 1911, ii, 410) suggests that this image occupied one of the niches at the east ends of the aisles, but no reasons for this are adduced.

\* This means 'the Elves Hill', but it is now more commonly known as 'The Pentre Hill'.

cannot now procure one. They were evidently made of some kind of resin, as they broke bright and clear, and burned well, with the smell of that substance . . . But while the chieftain's bones were thus committed to the ground, unconsumed and apparelled as in life, it was not so with his followers; from two to three yards from the spot where he lay an urn was found, but, unfortunately, was broken to pieces by the workmen, and more than a wheelbarrow of the remnants of burnt bones and ashes with it."

The following is the description of the peytrel given in the British Museum Guide to Antiquities of the Bronze Age, page 150—"It is mounted [in its case] on a copper plate as originally worn, fragments of the lining being shown at the side ; and

### Figure 45

was found just seventy years ago [from 1904], with a man's bones in a cist which had been covered with three or four hundred loads of pebbles and other stones, forming a cairn called Bryn-yr-Ellyllon (Hill of the Fairies or Goblins), near the river Alun, at Mold, Flintshire. There were also in the cist many amber beads and remains of coarse cloth which had been fastened round the edges of the peytrel as a fringe. Traces of iron are also said to have been noticed, and two or three yards from the spot was found a cinerary urn. A romantic story is also told of the discovery, which has been attributed to second-sight ; and several pieces, including the gold straps for fastening, were lost after the peytrel had been thrown aside as worthless. Several of these pieces have been recovered, and presented at intervals by various donors. The depth at the centre ( $8\frac{1}{2}$  inches) can be exactly determined, as the upper and lower borders (in which are holes for attaching the fringe) are still preserved; and the present length is about 3 feet 7 inches, but it is not complete at either end. The size is well adapted for a pony of about twelve hands, like the famous Welsh breed of the present day. The thin gold plate is embossed in a style resembling, that seen on the bucklers from Wales and elsewhere ; but a richer variety of patterns is here employed, consisting of circular bosses of two sizes pyramidal rivet-heads, pointed ovals, and other bosses of quadrangular shape, separated by simple raised lines. It was probably no earlier than the shields [late Bronze age], and the presence of iron may indicate even a later date. A discovery of this kind demonstrates in a striking manner the abundance of gold at the end of our Bronze period. It is obvious that before a warrior would decorate his horse with the precious metal, he had, doubtless, satisfied his own personal needs in this direction." Four pieces of the peytrel have found their way to the Grosvenor Museum at Chester, and, as the only fragments of this splendid and unique object known to exist outside the British Museum, are here reproduced.

The mound is now entirely cleared away, but its site—a natural circular elevation at the south end of the field on the north side of the Chester road—is still traceable (lat.  $35^{\circ} 10' 1.5''$ , long.  $3^{\circ} 7' 52''$ ), and a stone bearing an inscription commemorating the discovery is let into the wall of a building projecting into the field from the Chester road, to indicate the place where the mound once stood. One of the stones from the barrow is now the lowermost of the steps leading to the mound of the neighbouring Bailey Hill.—Visited, 22nd August, 1910.

### Figure 46

## Parish of NANNERCH.

### DIVISION Ia (TUMULI).

194. ***Tumulus in Penbedw Park*** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 9 S.W. ; lat. 53° 12' 14.5"; long. 3° 14' 34"). Owner, Mr. H. B. Buddicom.

This-tumulus stands on a gently rising slope about 6 feet above the surface of the ground on the south, and 9 feet on the north sides. The dimensions about half way down the slope of the mound are 12 yards from east to west and 9 yards north to south. It has been opened, and on the Ordnance sheet it is stated that " Roman remains " and " calcined pottery " were found here in 1860.—Visited, 26th June, 1910.

Information has since been received from Mr. Buddicom, whose sister, Miss Buddicom, remembers the exploration of the tumulus in the year 1860, when some fragments of pottery and bones were discovered, all of which are said to have been replaced. No account of the excavation appears to have been preserved. Subsequently, on a personal visit by the Commissioners to Penbedw, a fragment of coarse pottery, part of the discovery of 1860, was found by Mr. Buddicom, and is here illustrated.

Within the limits of Penbedw Park (near the lodge on the high road to Mold) 1~ a stone circle. and at a short distance from the circle stands a fine boulder. These fall within the parish of Cilcain, the boundary line being the little brook that traverses the park ; the circle and standing stone are on the south side, the tumulus on the north side of the stream. The former, therefore, are inventoried under "Cilcain" (Nos. 46 and 47). But, in considering the possible relationship of the objects to each other, the parochial limits should, of course, be disregarded, and the different accounts should be read together.

### Figure 47.

195. ***Ysgubor Newydd Tumulus*** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 8 S.E. ; lat. 53° 12' 59", long. 3° 15' 32").

In a field to the south of the road opposite Pen y garnedd farm-house are the remains of a tumulus, which was partly destroyed when the farm buildings of Ysgubor Ncwydd were built. Another part in the next field to the west was destroyed at the same time. What is left of the mound stands about 10 feet above the level of the road near at hand. It is probably of this tumulus that Edward Lhuyd in his account of Nannerch parish writes in 1699, "There is in Trelan [township] a place called Pen y garnedd where was the grave of Lhywelyn Lhawgwrach, a noted warrior," etc. The remains of the mound are now on Ysgubor Newydd farm, but it evidently gave its name to the neighbouring farmstead of 'Pen y Garnedd.'—Visited, 22nd August, 1910.

### DIVISION IC (MEINI HIRION).

196. ***Cae Garreg Lwyd*** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 8 N.E.; lat. 53° 13' 26", long. 3° 16' 57').

The stone which gives its name to this field stands within it, against an out-building of Bryn Goleu farm. It is an irregular pentagon, measuring 2 feet 3 inches above ground, 3 feet thick at base, and 10 inches thick at its truncated top. A smaller stone lies by its side. Tithe Schedule, No. 472.—Visited, 15th October, 1910.

197. **Stone on Bryn y Garreg** (6 in. Ord. Surv. Sheet, Flint. 8 S.E. and 12 N.E.). Near the top of a large hill, 1,196 feet above Ordnance datum (sheet 12 N.E.; lat.  $53^{\circ} 11' 35''$ , long.  $3^{\circ} 16' 55''$ ), is a standing stone, from which, presumably the hill is named. It is 6 feet high; at the base it is almost a square of 6 feet, and it rises to a ridge 2 feet wide by 3 feet long. Tithe Schedule, Nos. 275-279.—Visited, 28th October, 1910.

DIVISION II (EARTHWORKS), SUB-DIVISION B (HILL FORTS).

198. **Pen y Cloddiau**\* (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 8 S.E.; lat.  $53^{\circ} 11' 55''$ , long.  $3^{\circ} 18' 22''$ —the point within the camp at which the boundaries of the counties of Denbigh and Flint meet).

Pen y cloddiau (locally termed Bryn y Cloddiau), a large oval-shaped camp on the rounded summit of one of the hills of the Clwydian range, is situated mainly in the parish of Nannerch, but partly in those of Ysceifiog (co. Flint) and Llandyrnog (co. Denbigh).

**Figure 48.**

The camp is about half a mile long, and a quarter of a mile across at the broadest part. The longest axis lies to the north-west. The area comprises rather more than 50 acres. The highest point, 1,442 feet above sea level, is to the north, dropping about 150 feet to the south, having an average height of 500 to 600 feet above the surrounding country. The defences, which are generally well preserved, vary much, according to the character of the ground.

Commencing from the south and following along the western side, we find the rampart has been much injured by the erection of a modern fence. Part of the earth for the formation of the rampart had been thrown up from a trench immediately in its rear, as is the case for the most part all round the camp. This rampart has a long exterior slope, and apparently no ditch; probably a steep scarp [Was here the only defence. After some 400 yards the scarped platform becomes more apparent, but it soon develops into a regular ditch, at first without a counterscarp bank; both bank and ditch increase in importance as they run northward. Across the hill, where the approach is easy, the defence works become more complicated. The main rampart is higher, and the inner excavation for earth is more pronounced. In front of this rampart is a fortified platform, with breastwork, overlooking the main ditch. This feature is the most interesting of the whole work, it added greatly to the defence, and shows that the constructors were no novices in the art of engineering. Beyond the counterscarp bank of the main ditch are two small trenches (looking suspiciously like obstacle trenches). On the front generally there is one only, and that often irregular in character. On the eastern side, which overlooks the steep slope of the hill, the defence is confined to the main rampart and ditch, with a well-pronounced

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\* This article has been contributed by Lieut.-Col. W. Ll. Morgan, R.E., a member of the Commission.

counterscarp and bank, and a slight ditch in front. This defence continues about half the length of the front up to the entrance, beyond which the natural slope increases and the defences diminish in proportion. The earth for the formation of this rampart was taken from a terrace in the rear, which terrace, though it can be seen in other places, is a more prominent feature here than elsewhere. Proceeding southward, the ditch in places is almost inaccessible and the rampart has diminished to a bank, or a - inall scarp. About 200 yards from the southern point the approach becomes easier, and the rampart again increases in proportion; though the ditch is apparently absent, the inner excavation is well marked. Just at the most southern point the defences have been so much destroyed that it is impossible to say if an entrance formerly existed. The entrance, about the centre of the eastern front, is well preserved, and admirably designed. The main rampart on either side of the roadway is incurved right angles to the face; to the north, access to the ditch is guarded by a bank, inning, with the ramparts, an almost continuous defence; to the south, a bank, on the crest of a small ravine, at first at right angles to the rampart, gradually sweeps round to the north, forming a good protection to any flank approach to the roadway. It would almost appear as if this roadway had been purposely designed, so that the shields of the assailants would be of no service to their bearers. The second entrance, about 120 yards to the north, a well-defined straight cut through the rampart (very different from the other), may possibly have been made at a later period. The water supply was good, and abundance could be obtained from the low ground to the east, easy of access from the camp, and the watering parties could be well protected. Good provision could also be obtained within the camp itself by puddling, the reservoirs formed by the ramparts cutting across natural folds of the ground.— Visited, 21st September, 1911.

Edward Lhuyd, writing in 1699, calls this hill 'Moel Yswiliog,' and speaks of the camp upon it as being a mile in circumference (Camb. Arch. Assoc., *Parochialia*, i, 78).

#### Figure 49.

199. **Moel Arthur** \* (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 12 N.E. ; lat. 53° 11' 5", long. 3° 16' 46"). Owner, Mr. H. B. Buddicom, Penbedw Park ; occupier, Mr. Robinson, Plas Yw.

This small, but strongly fortified camp crowns a circular hill 1,494 feet above Vel. and 800 feet above the surrounding country, and covers about five acres of ground. The slopes of the hill side are very steep, excepting towards the north, the defences were strongest.

At the entrance to the north-east the main rampart has a command of about above the present level of the ditch. The bank on the counterscarp, which here is certainly a second rampart, stands about 12 feet above this ditch with a steep fall to the front of 30 to 35 feet (this in all probability now covers an outer ditch).

Turning to the west, the main rampart diminishes, and the outer rampart increases in importance, and half way along the western front the inner rampart disappears altogether—perhaps destroyed at its extreme end by the making of a

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\* This article has been contributed by Lieut.-Col. W. Ll. Morgan, R.E., a member of the Commission.

modern wall. This wall is on the summit of a steep slope, which 'is a continuation of the outer rampart. On the inner side of this slope are decided traces of a levelled terrace, which become well defined to the east, where it has not been damaged by the wall.

Approaching the entrance from the north, this terrace is very distinct, and here it has a low rampart or breastwork in front, on the top of the slope. The entrance to the north-east is well preserved, and has a striking resemblance to that at Pen y Cloddiau. The ramparts on either side of the roadway are deeply incurved, the access to the ditch on the northern side is cut off by a bank, and advantage has been

### Figure 50.

taken of a small gully on the southern side to prevent an approach from that quarter. It is impossible to doubt that the entrances to both these camps were designed by the same people.—Visited, 22nd September, 1911.

Excavations were made here in 1849 by Mr. W. Wynne Ffoulkes, but the only finds recorded were "two pieces of coarse red Roman pottery and some fragments of flat arrow heads or knives, and corroded iron"; he also met two pieces of rough walling south of the gateway, and these he pulled down (*Arch. Camb.*, 1850, II, i, 181). The conclusions drawn from the result of these excavations, as well as those made at Moel Fenlli and Moel y gaer (both in Denbighshire), were that Moel Arthur and Moel Fenlli were of Cambro-British origin, subsequently occupied by the Romans, whilst Moel y gaer, though showing in a more marked manner the presence of the Romans, Mr. Wynne Ffoulkes "allotted to a different period or race." These conclusions cannot be considered as entirely satisfactory.

#### DIVISION IV (ECCLESIASTICAL STRUCTURES).

200. **The Parish Church** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 9 S.W.). Ded : St. Mary.\*  
Diocese of St. Asaph ; archdeaconry of Wrexham ; rural-deanery of Mold townships of Trepan, Trefechan, Trecwm, Penbedw.

An entirely new building erected in 1853, with no old fittings, except possibly the chandelier and an alms box. There are some memorial tablets from the previous church. The steps at the south gate of the churchyard are composed of old tombstones.—Visited, 27th June, 1910.

#### DIVISION VI (SITES OF HISTORIC OR ANTIQUARIAN INTEREST).

201. **Erw'r Esgob** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 8 S.E. ; lat. 53° 13'2", long. 3° 15'52"). Owners, The Principal and Fellows of Jesus College, Oxford. Directly west of and contiguous to the Methodist Chapel, Pen y felin. No explanation could be given of its name, but the fact that it belongs to Jesus College may afford a clue.† Tithe Schedule, No. 204.—Visited, 22nd August, 1910.

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\*The wakes were held on the Nativity of St. Mary, six weeks after harvest. Edward Lhuyd observes (*Parochialia*, i, 77) that some said the church was formerly called 'y Capel gwiel yn y rhos', 'the wattled chapel in the moorland'.

## DIVISION VII (FINDS).

202. The objects discovered by Mr. W. Wynne Ffoulkes in his excavations in the prehistoric camp upon Moel Arthur in the year 1850, are referred to under No. 199 above. Most, perhaps all, of the articles found by Mr. Ffoulkes at Moel Fenlli (in Denbighshire) were presented by him to the late Mr. F. R. West of Ruthin Castle, where they are still preserved, and will be detailed under that county. The finds made at the other camps of the Clwydian range, where excavations were undertaken by Mr. Ffoulkes, appear to have been retained by him, and their fate is not :now known.

## Parish of NERQUIS.

### DIVISION IV (ECCLESIASTICAL STRUCTURES).

203. **The Parish Church** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 16 N.E.). Ded : St. Mary. Diocese of St. Asaph; archdeaconry of Wrexham; rural-deanery of Mold; townships of Nerquis and Arddynwent.

A church consisting of a long nave, south porch, and western tower, to which have been added in recent years a short north aisle, transepts, and apsidal chancel. Square tower batters towards the base; internally it opens into the nave by a Norman arch, above which is a round-headed opening into a former western gallery. The base of the tower is now fitted up as a baptistry, its walls being lined with the I Nvork from old pews. The font is modern, but the old font is still preserved, and stands on the ledge of the tower window. The Elizabethan communion table, now in the vestry, is illustrated in *Arch. Camb*, 1891, V, viii, 66. The principals of the are good but plain. The pulpit has good early 16th century panelling. What is called 'Cader Vair,' ' St. Mary's chair,' now placed on the south side of the chancel, consists of a gaudily-coloured\* seat with high coved back and niched superstructure, necessarily-ecclesiastical at all. The very probable suggestion is made in *Arch. Camb. Camb.*, 1891, V, viii, 66, that it was brought from abroad by Sir George Wynne of Leeswood (d. 1756), and placed above his intended burial place, a position it occupied for many years.

Several fragments of floriated coffin lids, found during the restoration, lie about in the porch; (1) a stone covered with interlaced work, possibly of early 14th century date; (2) a fragment having rich carving almost obliterated; (3) the head of a cross, with foliated cross-arms within the disc; (4, 5) two fragments of conventionalised foliage; (6) a complete slab with the arms of a cross, diagonally placed; (7) a tapering

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† Edward I granted lands in Nannerch to the bishop of St. Asaph which are said to be the present 'Maes yr Esgob' in Trefechan township (Thomas, *Hist. Doc. St. Asaph*, 1911, ii, 419). It is, however more likely that the demise of Episcopal property assented to by the King refers to the lands of which 'Erw'r Esgob' was a part, inasmuch as the grant included a mill, which is doubtless that still adjoining 'Erw'r Esgob'.

\*In the first edition (1874) of Thomas's *Hist. Dioc. St. Asaph*, p. 609, it is said that this colouring was "recent"; which, however, could only mean that it had been recently restored, as Sir Stephen Glynne, writing before 1847, says of the seat that it "has been" richly painted and gilt.

shaft, almost entire, the upper portion bearing a quarter-length figure having pointed ears, the lower part covered with a close foliage pattern ; (8) a slab with a mutilated inscription, VTP : DD [ BLE]THVN. The parish chest, dated 1633, is curiously ornamented with a circular starred pattern.--Visited, 15th June, 1910.

Thomas, *Hist. Dioc. St. Asaph*, 1911, ii, 422, with illustration of the Cader Vair Glynne, 'Notes,' *Arch. Camb.*, 1884, V, i, 262.

#### DIVISION VI (SITES OF HISTORIC OR ANTIQUARIAN INTEREST).

204. ***Erw'r Gaer*** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 16 N.E.; lat. 53° 8'3", long. 3° 8' 52"). A long narrow field showing no traces of fortifications.—Visited, 21st October, 1910.

### Parish of NEWMARKET.

#### DIVISION IV (ECCLESIASTICAL STRUCTURES).

205. ***The Parish Church*** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 5 N.W.). Ded: St. Michael. Diocese of St. Asaph ; archdeaconry and rural-deanery of St. Asaph ; township of Newmarket.

This church is a simple parallelogram, without structural distinction of nave and chancel. It has been much restored. The chancel is modern. The west wall has above it a bell cote for one bell. The font is a plain octagon, with circular basin, 20 inches across, and total external diameter of 24 inches. The base is modern.

A much weathered early 15th-century cross stands on the south side of the churchyard. The shaft tapers to a height of 6 feet 6 inches : it has eight sides, but is not equilateral, the measurements about mid-height being nine inches and six inches. It is set into an octagonal base, offset into a square below. The shaft is crowned by an octagonal capital, surmounted by a four-sided finial containing canopied compartments or niches. The eastern of the two larger compartments contains a figure of the Crucifixion, with the Virgin under one arm of the cross, and traces of a figure (doubtless that of St. John) under the other arm. The western compartment contains a representation of the Crucifixion, without attendant figures. The north and south compartments are much narrower, and are empty. The total height of the cross is 11 feet 7 inches (Owen, *Stone Crosses*, 149). The upper half of a late 14th or early 15th sepulchral slab\* is in the churchyard--Visited, 1st July, 1910. Thomas, *Hist. Dioc. St. Asaph*, 1908, i, 408.

#### DIVISION V (MISCELLANEOUS).

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\* A drawing of this slab has been furnished to the Commissioners by Colonel T. Allen Glenn of Meliden. The inscription upon the shield was not decipherable without other aids, and it was only after a number of rubbings had been taken by Col. Glenn that the following result was obtained: Hic. Lacet. Ithe(l . )velyn ap Bleth., for Ithel ap Llewelyn ap Bleddyn.

206. **The Gop Bone Cave** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 5 N.W. ; lat. 53° 18' 34", long. 3° 22' 15"). Owner, Lady Aberconway, Bodnant, Talycafn; occupier, Mr. R. R. Humphreys, Gop Farm.

This cave is on the south side of the limestone-formed Gop hill, about a hundred yards below the immense cairn on the summit of the hill (No. 96). In 1886, while the cairn was under exploration by Prof. Boyd Dawkins, the cave was accidentally discovered in digging out a fox run. Its exploration was at once undertaken, and the results proved to be of great scientific importance. The lowermost layer of soil consisted of yellow clay, free from remains of man or of animals. Above this was a grey clay, wherein were remains of cave hyena, bison, stag, reindeer, roedeer, horse, and woolly rhinoceros; some of the bones bearing the teeth-marks of hyenas had apparently been "washed out of the original hyaena floors by the action of water," and "redeposited at a time later than the occupation of the cave by hyenas." On the surface of the grey clay was a thick accumulation, containing refuse bones of pre-historic age, as well as those of reindeer and hyaena derived from the layer below; these were mixed with much charcoal, many pot boilers, fragments of bronze age pottery (but no bronze implements), burnt bones of domestic animals, splinters of flint, and "a large quantity of human bones of various ages, lying under slabs of limestone which formed a continuous packing up to the roof." On removing these a sepulchral chamber was discovered at the furthest end, three of its sides formed of dry rubble, now represented by a mere ledge. This chamber contained more than fourteen skeletons, closely packed together in a crouching position, and a polished fling flake of rare type. Of the skulls perfect enough to be examined, some were of brachycephalic and some of dolichocephalic type. There was thus represented a partial union of races ; and the entire yield of this cave represents a variety of climatic conditions, of successive occupations, and a great span of time.—Visited, 6th July, 1910.

### Figure 51.

Boyd Dawkins, *Arch. Journal*, 1901, lviii, 322 ; reprinted in *Arch. Camb.*, 1902, VI, ii, 161. The ethnological and archaeological questions to which the discoveries in the Newmarket cave give rise are discussed by Dr. Boyd Dawkins in *Arch. Camb.*, 1912 (January), VI, xii, 61.

During the past three years the Gop Cave has again been the subject of careful exploration by Mr. J. H. Morris of West Bromwich. The following brief account of the results already attained has been furnished to the Commission : --Work was commenced in 1908, and still continues. Operations were begun in the cave north-west of the site of the burial chamber excavated by Prof. Boyd Dawkins in 1886, the displacement of stalactitic matter having exposed an opening in the limestone of sufficient width to admit an average-sized man. At 3 feet this passage widens, and the height also increases. At 14 feet tunnels open sharply from it to right and left. That to the left leads back to the cliff, where an ancient entrance has at some remote period been artificially closed. The passage to the right has been explored for a distance of 23 feet, and is found to run at least 15 feet further, to a point about 20 feet north (and below the level) of the sepulchre discovered in 1886. The floor was covered to a depth of about 2 feet, with the soil which filters in through crevices in the roof. Excavations in one quarter showed, below the earth, stiff clay mixed with

stalactitic matter to bed rock. Human remains, sufficient to prove the interment of several bodies, have been found, but no perfect skulls have been met with. The bones are much decayed ; the teeth are sound but much worn. Near the entrance to the cliff, in the left-hand passage, in August, 1911, was found a very perfect stone axe, made of a hard dark and heavy foreign stone which has not yet been identified. The stone has been beautifully chipped into shape, but shows no traces of polishing. Its size is 8½ inches by 3¾ inches by 1¾ inches. The only other finds comprise a small implement of dark stone, probably a lance head, and a small flint flake or scraper. No pottery has been met with. The animal remains are of the sheep, ox, wolf or dog, fox, badger, and pig; no bones of extinct or other pleistocene animals. A detailed report and plan will appear in the second part of "Newmarket Historical Notes" by Lieut.-Col. T. Allen Glenn, which is now passing through the press.

#### DIVISION VI. (SITES OF HISTORIC AND ANTIQUARIAN INTEREST).

206A. **Craig Arthur.** (6 in. Ord. Surv. Sheet, Flint. 5 N.W.; lat. 53° 17' 49.5", long. 3° 21' 16").

The name given to an outcrop of white rock on the southern border of the parish, which has been partly quarried. 'Ffynnoneu Craig Arthur,' 'the Wells of Craig Arthur,' are mentioned in Lhuyd's *Parochialia* (1699), i, 60. One strong spring still discharges its waters, and at its margin is a stone marked with curious scorings, which is specifically called "Craig Arthur." The markings are unquestionably of human origin, but their purpose is a mystery, and, though well known to the inhabitants around, have no explanation.—Visited, 19th July, 1910.

#### DIVISION VII (FINDS).

207. **Coins.** In the year 1863 some coins were found in a field called ' Cadlas Ty Coch,' immediately opposite the village school. They are said to have been sent to the British Museum, but nothing is known of them there.

### Parish of NORTHOP.

#### DIVISION Ia (Tumuli).

208. **Mound** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 10 S.W.; lat. 53°12'0", long 3° 6'16"). An elongated mound, about 5 feet high at the highest point, rising towards the east end and tailing off to the west. Its total length from east to west is about 33 yards, and breadth 18 yards from north to south. Part of it on the south side has been cut away by the widening of the Northop-Hawarden road. The mound is now overgrown by trees.—Visited, 20th June, 1910.

#### DIVISION 11 (EARTHWORKS), SUB-DIVISION B (HILL FORTS).

209. **Pdoel y Gaer, Rhosesmor** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 9 S.E.; lat. 53° 12' 44", long. (3° 10' 53"). Owner, The Duke of Westminster, Eaton Hall, Chester ; occupier, Mr. Daniel Price.

Moel y gaer camp is placed on a hill which rises nearly 1,000 feet above Ordnance datum. The enclosure is nearly circular, with a north to south diameter of about 600 feet. The outer defences on the south have been partially destroyed by a quarry but as they appear on each side of the quarry, it is possible to say that besides a formidable inner bank, 7 feet high from the bottom of the ditch and 9 feet wide, there was a second ditch and two outer banks. Proceeding eastwards the inner of these banks ends in a mound, where comes an entrance, and a little further is a platform between the middle and outermost bank. Northwards from this entrance the inner bank continues to be well defined, being at one point 12 feet above the bottom of the ditch ; but the middle bank is presently lost, the outer bank becomes lower, and due north it is almost imperceptible. As the outermost defences decline in strength the inner bank becomes more formidable, it being at this point quite 14 feet above its ditch. On the west, one of the other banks reappears, and both banks become much broken, although this side is very accessible ; presently, the outer bank again sinks away, but more south it is seen again, and at due south the two banks and the intervening ditch become formidable, while a little further the third bank is again visible as the outermost defence, and the three banks and the two ditches are continued on the south, except at the quarry. One of the original entrances is placed almost due south. The banks here may have been curved to meet each other, as the entrance is covered by a low mound which appears to have been formed of the western terminals of both dykes; but the earthen walls of the camp have been so much disturbed by man, and disintegrated by nature, that it is difficult to make sure of their course. All the banks are composed of earth mixed with small blocks of limestone. Within the enclosure, 120 feet from the western side, is a mound, .20 feet east to west by 28 feet north to south ; a depression in the centre suggests it has been dug into.—Visited, 24th May, 1910.

## Figure 52

### DIVISION 11 (EARTHWORKS), SUB-DIVISION E (CASTLE MOUNTS, WITH ENCLOSURES).

210. *Llys Edwin* (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 9 S.E.; lat. 53° 12' 55", long. 3° 8' 37").

Owner and occupier, Mr. Edward Jones.

The mound called by this name is at its highest point about 4 feet high from the surface level, and 12 feet above the bottom of the ditch on the north and east sides, but it falls away to the south at its widest point ; its summit is about 30 feet from north to south, and 12 feet from east to west. It is composed of stones and earth, and stands at the north-east corner of an outer rectilinear enclosure, which has been much disturbed by cultivation. This enclosure is formed by a deep ditch with outer bank, which still remain on the north and east, sides for about 100 yards, and are traceable on a part of the south side. The mound itself is enclosed by a separate bank and ditch on the west and south, the defences of the main enclosure protecting it on the other two sides. There is an entrance to the inner area through the external bank near the north corner of the eastern side. The banks consist of small unwrought stones and earth. The whole is a small mount-and-bailey structure, but although standing on a slight elevation the post is not a strong one. There is a spring near the corner of the next field to the south. This was doubtless the seat of the Welsh

chieftain. Edwin of Tegeingl, from whom many of the principal families of Flintshire deduce their origin. – Visited, 16<sup>th</sup> June, 1910.

#### DIVISION II (EARTHWORKS), SUB-DIVISION X (UNCLASSIFIED—DYKES).

##### 211. *Wat's Dyke.*

This earthwork, always spoken of as 'Offa's Dyke', enters the parish six chains east of the Rose and Crown public house, proceeds past Bryn Offa in a north-westerly direction, passes through the south-west corner of Aton Park, reappears by a farmhouse called 'Clawdd Offa,' and (with occasional gaps) is seen for more than three quarters of a mile, as far as the south end of a wood called 'Coed Ucha,' east of - Mynachlog. It can be followed nearly all the way along eastern side of this wood. On the north side of the Northop-Holywell road it is found again in Coed Ilys, where it first crowns the top of a ravine, then descends the eastern side, and is ultimately lost.

It will be described as a whole at a later stage.

#### DIVISION IV (ECCLESIASTICAL STRUCTURES).

212. *The Parish Church.* (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 9 S.E.). Ded : St. Peter.\*  
Diocese of St. Asaph ; archdeaconry of Wrexham ; rural-deanery of Mold ; townships of Caerfallwch (Rhosesmor), Kelsterton, Northop (Clan Eurgain), Boughton, Golffryn, Wepre.

An edifice consisting of nave, chancel, and north aisle. There is no structural division between nave and chancel. The aisle extends to nearly the same length as the main body of the church, and is divided from it by five Perpendicular arches resting on octagonal piers. The division between the chancel and the aisle consists of a solid wall which is pierced by an ogee-headed doorway. The most important architectural feature of the church is the well proportioned Perpendicular tower at the west end of the nave ; it is 98 feet in height, and is in five stages. The church has been restored with great thoroughness. The font is new. Four effigies, which at one time stood in various parts of the church, have been placed in niches in the north wall. They are (1) a knight in armour of the period 1395-1405; the face has been mutilated and there is no inscription, but the shield has faint traces of a lion rampant within an inescutcheon. "The head rests on a tilting helm, which has a long mantling with a tassel, and is surmounted by an heraldic crest, the head and shoulders of a man issuing out of a coronet." This effigy was discovered in digging a grave in the chancel in 1798. (2) A lady having a square head-dress and long quilted kirtle. "The head rests upon a square cushion beneath an elaborate canopy of late Decorated work, richly carved." The effigy bears an inscription: ..... Die : mai : Anno : Dni : M°.CCC.LXXXII. "This monument is especially interesting as a study of costume, as we have here a dated effigy, which enables us to see what was the apparel of a Welsh lady of rank at the close of the fourteenth century." (3) A knight in full armour. The monument has the inscription : HIC : IACET: ITH: VACH : AP : BLED : VACH, but is without date. The belt is of the same design as that worn in the first described

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\* The Welsh name of this parish is Llaneurgain, "derived from St. Eurgain, the daughter of Maelgwn Gwynedd, and first founder of the church, about the end of the sixth century" (Thomas, *Hist. Dioc. St. Asaph*, 1911, ii, 428).

effigy. "The thighs are encased in plate, and the *genouillieres* are, as in the first effigy, peculiar and evidently of a Welsh type; nothing exactly like them is seen in English effigies of this period." (4) An effigy, called by Pennant "the fat knight," of which the essential features have disappeared. "It is just possible that part of this monument was originally the effigy of Ithel Anwyl ap Bleddyn, who, it is stated, was buried in Northop Church, and that in the reign of Queen Elizabeth it was altered into 'the portraiture in stone' of some neighbouring magnate by a local monumental sculptor." There are also two portions of a floriated slab, *circa* A.D. 1400, which recently discovered in the vicarage field. The inscription reads: .....[U] XOR : QUONDAM BLE[D]YN. In the churchyard, to the north-east of the church, is the early 17th-century grammar school of Northop, now disused.—Visited, 7th June,

"Thomas, *Hist. Dioc. St. Asaph*, 1911, ii, 428; Glynne, "Notes," *Arch. Camb.* 1884. V, i, 185. The effigies have been figured and described by Mr. S. W. Williams, F.S.A., in *Arch. Camb*, 1892, V, ix, 215; and the identification of (2) and (3) attempted by Mr. Edward Owen, F.S.A., *ib.*, p.293. \*

### Figure 53.

#### DIVISION V (MISCELLANEOUS).

213. **Ancient Bank** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 9 S.E. ; lat. 53° 12' 15"-25", long. 3° 10' 39").

A slightly raised flat-topped bank, made of stones and earth, about 2 feet 6 inches broad, in the district of Rhosesmor. It is first noticeable a little east of the main road, and just north of the Red Lion ; it proceeds northwards for about 14 chains to the end of the open green, where it is lost. When the vicarage garden was enclosed from the waste nearly twenty years ago it is said to have been noticed. If continued between the two points, it would have extended about three quarters of a mile. It is spoken of as Roman, though it more probably is a medieval bank, the purpose of which is not now apparent.—Visited, 28th September, 1910.

214. **Y Gefnffordd** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 9 S.E. ; lat. 53° 12' 55", long. 3° 10' 7"-36").

An abandoned, grass-grown, well-pitched lane, leading from the road which crosses the open common of Rhosesmor, and running almost due east to the road from Croes y stryt, to Pen y Pare. The pitching is of an average width of 15 feet. The road has been thought to be Roman, and, if not so, it possibly runs into the line of the Roman road which intersected the county. It presents a good example of an old pitched way, all the more interesting because it has undergone no repairs for a great number of years. A house near the Croes y Stryt road is called ' Castell.'— Visited, 28th September, 1910.

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\* The engraving in Pennant (*Tours*, ed. 1778, p.83; 1810, i, 114, ed. Rhys, I, 109) shows the other side of the effigy No. 3 to that now facing the spectator.

Edward Lhuyd records (so far as anything can be made out of the passage in his *Parochialia*, I, 89), that the church formerly contained stained glass of the year 1525, displaying St. Laurence, St. Mary and St. Damasus, commemorating William ap Jevan ap Gruffyd and (? or) his wife.

DIVISION VI (SITES OF HISTORIC OR ANTIQUARIAN INTEREST).

215. **Maen Llwyd Mawr, Maen Llwyd Bach** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 9 S.E. lat. 53° 11' 51", long. 3° 9' 45").

Two fields (Tithe Schedule, Nos. 365-6) near the farm of Sarn galed, now containing no indication of the formerly existing standing stone.—Visited, 28th September, 1910.

216. **Garnedd** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 9 S.E. ; lat. 53° 12' 44", long. 3° 9' 50".)

A field in which no carnedd is now apparent, nor could any tradition of one be gathered ; but its gateposts are rude stones of unusual shape, and in the wall of the garden of Croes y Stryt house opposite are several big stones which may have formed part of a carnedd.—Visited, 28th September, 1910.

217. **Sarn Galed** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 9 S.E. ; lat. 53° 11'52", long. 3° 9'30"), Owner, Sir John Eldon Bankes, Boughton Hall, Northop ; occupier, Mr. T. Pate.

' Sarn galed,' ' hard causeway,' is the name of a small farm-house rebuilt in 1764, to which a paved footpath led over stony fields. Four rough gate posts lead into the farm yard, two of which are about 6 feet high, and are possibly the standing stones removed from Maen llwyd mawr and Alaen llwyd back (No. 215) near at hand. — Visited, 28th September, 1910.

218. **Mynachlog** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 9 S.E. ; lat. 53° 12' 11", long. 3° 8' 45"). Owner, Sir John Eldon Bankes ; occupier, Mr. James Bateman.

This is probably the site of a medieval monastic grange. The present house is modern, but behind it is a plot, of ground called 'yr ardd ddu,' ' the black garden,' whence bones, said to be human, have been dug, though not to the knowledge of the present occupier.—Visited, 28th September, 1910.

## Parish of PRESTATYN

DIVISION IV (ECCLESIASTICAL STRUCTURES).

219. **The Parish Church** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 1 S.E.). Ded : The Saviour. Diocese of St. Asaph ; archdeaconry and rural-deanery of St. Asaph ; townships of Prestatyn and -Nant.

This church is modern. A stone vessel, found on the site, has been placed in the wall of a recently built memorial chapel. It is circular, 9½ inches diameter across the top. About two inches below the inside is a small projecting ledge, ¼ inch and below that a shallow basin, in contour the segment of a circle ; it is 6½ inches high, and is provided with a stone spout 3¾ inches long. What was precisely the function of this vessel is difficult to determine. —Seen, 26th August, 1910.

DIVISION VI (SITES OF HISTORIC OR ANTIQUARIAN INTEREST).

220. **Prestatyn Castle, site of** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 2 S.W. ; lat. 53° 20' 18", long. 3° 23' 36"). Owner, Lady Aberconway, Bodnant, Talycafn ; occupier, Mis. Waterhouse, Nant Mill, Prestatyn.

The site of the medieval castle of Prestatyn, reference to which is made in the public records, is at an angle formed by the overflow ditch from Nant Mill and a deep (apparently modern) meadow drain. There is here a low platform standing 3 feet at most above the level of the surrounding ground, and surrounded by a ditch; roughly circular, 90 feet in diameter, with a projection on the south-east. Within this enclosure, but not quite concentric with it, is a low circular mound 58 feet in diameter, ringed round with a ditch averaging 36 feet in width, the mound standing some 3 feet above the outer enclosure, and from 2 to 3 feet above its own ditch. Here stood Robert de Banastre's castle, and the Caput of the manor (and commot) of Prestatyn.\* —Visited, 21th September, 1910.

## Parish of RHUDDLAN.

### DIVISION II (EARTHWORKS), SUB-DivisiON, E (CASTLE MOUNTS, WITH ENCLOSURES).

222. [*sic.*] **Toothill**† (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 4 N.E. ; lat. 53° 17' 12", long. , 3° 27' 8"). Owner, Mr. Maurice Rowley Convey, Bodrhyddan Hall ; occupier, Mr. Richard Williarns, Castle Inn, Rhuddlan.

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\* Prestatyn is mentioned in Domesday as one of the berewicks attached to Rhuddlan, which was then (A.D. 1086) held by Robert of Rhuddlan under earl Hugh of Chester. "In Prestetone et Ruestock est terra unius carucae; et ibi est in doininio cum duobus bovariis, et duobus villanis et quatuor bordariis ; ibi est ecclesia: valet xx solidus." Shortly after 1086 Robert Banastre became mesne tenant of Prestatone, and built there a castle (*oppidum*), a part of which was standing in the rear 1279. During the time of Owain ap Iorwerth lord of Gruffydd, lord of Gwynedd (1135-1170), the English power over the whole of the district comprising most of modern Flintshire, became much weakened, and at times possibly disappeared, so that the Robert Banastre of that period led all his people (*tut sa gent*), from Prestatyn without the Dyke (*od le Deke*), into the county of Lancaster. By 1279 the English power was again firmly established over the district, and the manor of Prestatyn was given to Robert Crevequer. A petition was presented to the King (6 Edw. I: *Rot. Parl.* I, p.2) by the Robert Banastre of that date (who sets forth his descent from the builder of Prestatyn castle) for restitution of his lands. In reply to this petition an inquisition held at Prestatyn on the feast of St. Lucia the virgin, 8 Edw. I (13th Dec., 1279), found that "King Richard gave the manor to Robert Banastre, forefather to the petitioner, and whose heir he is, who held it peaceably three years and a half, and built there a tower (*oppidum*), of which a part yet stands; and as to the alienation of the said manor from Robert, they (the jurors) say that 'Owanus Gewenet,' then prince of Wales, with his army violently ejected the said Robert the ancestor, and overthrew the castle."

† The Toothill was probably the 'Bren' ('Bryn' Hill) of Domesday, the account of which is curiously mixed up with the account of 'Roelent' (Rhuddlan). To 'Bren' pertained various neighbouring lands, Cwybr, Pentre, Llewellyd, etc. The dwellings within the vill of Bren may have been destroyed when the great stone castle was built on its present site by Edw. I. This hill was evidently a fortalice of the Welsh times to which various rents and services were due, and is doubtless the 'Motehull' mentioned in the Chester Recognizance Rolls for 1377 and 1485.

The Toothill, or 'Bonc Hill,' as it is commonly called, is a high mound, composed of sand ; the dip between it and the natural plateau, of which it is the southern termination, having apparently been deepened, and the excavated gravel placed on the top of the mound to increase its height and area. The position is commanding. The top of the mound is circular, with a diameter of about 30 feet. The descent on the north and west sides is about 25 feet ; but, on the south, where it falls to the margin (rin of the river Clwyd, the drop is from 60 to 70 feet. Two or three feet from the summit on the south side is a small plateau, 10 yards north and south by 8 yards east and west. There are no traces, either on the hill-top or on the plateau, of stone foundations, and the defences must have been entirely of wood. There was possibly an attached court in the direction of the present castle.—Visited, 5th August, 1910.

### DIVISION III (STONE STRUCTURES MEDIEVALCASTLES).

223. **Rhuddlan Castle** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 4 -N.E. ; lat. 53° 17' 20", long. 3° 27' 47"). Owner, Mr. Maurice Rowley Convey, Bodrhyddan Hall.

One of the two great fortresses (the other being the castle of Flint) erected by Edward I in Wales in the year 1277. The plan is that of a parallelogram, 40 by 46 yards within the walls, with angle towers, which almost exactly coincide with the cardinal points. The towers at the north and south angles are single ; those at the east and west are double, and guard the entrances to the interior. An observer standing at the northern angle and looking directly south has the massive double towers of the entrances to his right and left hand, respectively, and will note the rectangular shape of the castle. The entrances are not, however, exactly opposite each other; a straight line drawn from the eastern gateway falls about 4 feet, to the left of the centre of the western gateway. The towers of each pair were alike in arrangement, but the eastern gateway towers differed from those of the western gateway and it is probable that the single tower on the south was duplicated in that on the north, but the latter is too incomplete to permit of certainty on this point. The eastern gateway towers rise to a height of about 45 feet, being about 15 feet above the curtain walls to right and left. The interior face of the towers is flat, and continues obliquely the line of the curtain, thus making the interior an irregular hexagon, but externally the towers are rounded up to the point when they front each other and flank the entrance way in two straight lines. This entrance way was 30 feet deep and 9 feet wide; midway came the groove for the portcullis, behind which the space was narrowed to 7 feet by stone projections which afforded support to the portcullis. The interiors of the towers were divided into various rooms, but with the exception of the chambers opening upon the entrance way, which on either side were unmistakably guard rooms, it is impossible to state their probable purpose. Each of these eastern towers appears to have been of two stories above the ground level, and each contained, at the right angle made by the interior wall with that of the entrance way, a broad newel staircase which led up to the top of the tower and allures. In the northern tower of the eastern pair are signs of a fireplace on the first floor, but all the dressed stone details have been removed. The chambers on this floor were unusually lofty, their height being about 12 feet ; and the interior form of both towers was circular on the ground floor and heptagonal on the first and second floors. The corresponding towers at the western gateway are similar in general construction to those just described, but vary considerably in their detailed arrangements. The interior face is

straight, and aligned with the adjacent curtains. The entrance is guarded in the same manner, but the portcullis is brought further forward than on the eastern side. The towers, too, are loftier, rising quite 20 feet above the curtain walls, and as the ground on this side slopes sharply to the river Clwyd, the effect is much more imposing, than that presented by the eastern entrance. The interiors were divided into three stories, of which in each case the lower was circular, the first and second floors were heptagonal, and the top story was again circular. The first and third stories have fireplace openings, those on the first floor of the southern tower of the pair are of a different character from the rest. probably betokening later alterations, but the fine stone work has so completely vanished from every part of the structure, that certainty is impossible. Good newel stairs in each tower led to the upper floors ; and each floor of both towers had three exterior windows, as well as an opening to the stairs.

Of the single towers, the one at the northern angle has been so damaged that few of its details can be made out, but it is probable, following the analogy of the entrance towers, that it closely resembled the corresponding tower at the southern corner. The latter presents interesting variations from the towers already described. Though forming as intimate a part of the scheme of the defence as the eastern and - western towers, these single towers (for there is enough of the northern tower to show it did not vary from its southern counterpart in this respect) were not a structural part the curtain wall on either side. The wall on its exterior face ran up to, and joined the tower at about one-third of its convexity, but the inner face of the wall was carried along past the tower, thus forming a short angle of 8 feet 6 inches in length ; to it the curved wall of the tower was joined, an opening on the ground floor level leading directly into the courtyard. The two single towers also had basement chambers. The southern (and, probably, the northern) tower was of three stories, the first and second being hexagonal, and the third circular, whilst the basement and ground floor were also circular. There are three deeply-splayed openings in the exterior curve of the tower on the ground floor, but on the first floor there are only two set between those on the lower stage. A newel stair was placed on the northern side of the doorway into the courtyard, and it had a doorway on the first floor opening on a shaft 4 feet by 3 feet which ran without apparent break from the top of the curtain to the bottom, where it terminated about three feet above the courtyard level, in a square opening in the wall. A similar shaft is found on the opposite side lie courtyard which was apparently connected in a similar manner with the newel stair of the corresponding northern tower. It is difficult to conjecture the purpose of these shafts, though the most probable suggestion is that they were garderobes. The objections to this hypothesis are that they are not found adjoining the eastern or western gateway towers where they would be as much required, and that they open by a wide orifice directly into the courtyard.

The castle not being a perfect parallelogram, its north-eastern and south-western sides are a few feet longer than those facing the north-west and south-east, and the curtain walls vary accordingly. At a distance of 13 feet 6 inches from each of the towers on the shorter sides, and at 14 feet 6 inches on the longer sides, the walls are inset 30 inches, the angle thus made being occupied by an oilett defended from the interior ground level to which it splays to a width of 5 feet 6 inches; and almost midway in the length of wall thus weakened was an opening, 3 feet wide, splaying internally to 6 feet. These loops effectually sweep the outer ward, and are perhaps the most striking features of the defence. The total external length of the curtain

between the southernmost of the eastern gateway towers and the south tower is 90 feet, of which the central 63 feet have been decreased in thickness. The longer sides have been treated in the same manner. The walls are of a uniform height of about 35 feet ; the summit is not now approachable, but there can be little doubt it formed a walk, protected on the exterior and perhaps on the interior side by embrasured walls. At a distance of 7 feet 6 inches from the ground, where the walls are about 9 feet thick, they begin to batter, so that at the ground level they attain a thickness of about 10 feet 3 inches. They were not pierced for intra-mural galleries, in no part of their length do they seem to have been broken internally except close to the single towers where the mysterious shafts already referred to are carried from top to bottom. The stone newels in each tower were in every instance carried to the summit, and appear to have been the only method by which the tops of the walls were gained. There is a doorway in the curtain between the right-hand gateway tower and the eastern tower, probably to give easy entrance from the barbican when the portcullis was down.

As the floors in the several towers have been destroyed, and the worked stone dressings have almost entirely disappeared, it is impossible to identify any of the rooms, and the position of the chapel has not been made out. The square holes in the inner sides of the walls have been supposed with much probability to point to the fact that many of the residential and official apartments were of wood.

The moat surrounded the castle on all sides except the south-west, where the defence was the river Clwyd. The line of the river was defended by a square tower and wall connected with the barbican. The scarp and counterscarp of the moat were revetted with masonry, and its upper portion which is above the high-water level of the river was kept filled with water by means of cross walls fitted with sluices.

The plan does not contemplate large residential apartments, and it is probable that these were not erected around the inner ward until a later period ; the castle well was placed near the centre of the inner court. The outer ward is of an average depth of 15 feet, except on the side, towards the Clwyd, to which it slopes gradually. —Visited, 4th August, 1910.

The absence of all indications of the existence of a chapel within the towers of the castle, coupled with their structural unsuitability for the provision of such a chamber, renders the conclusion probable that the castle chapel was a separate building, which may even have stood without the castle moat (see the remarks made under the head 'Spital Cottage,' No. 233, *post.*) It is also certain that St. Thomas's Chapel (which was the castle chapel, wherever it may have been situated), and the chantry chapel of St. John (which it is suggested may have been within the chapel of St. Thomas) had been demolished before the dissolution of the monasteries.

The military and architectural history of this castle has been almost entirely neglected. It has not been dealt with by Mr. G. T. Clark, and the later writers upon castles have given it, scant attention. The public records relating to it are fairly abundant, but for the most part are unpublished. In an account of 32 Edw. I. (Pub. Rec. Office, *Exchequer Accounts : Works* ; Bundle 486, No. 15) one of the towers is called 'the Gillot Tower.' This must mean 'the Juliet Tower,' but it is difficult to suggest which of the towers at Rhuddlan could have been so called.

**Figures 54, 55 and, 56.**

224. **Bodrhyddan**\* (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 4 N.E. ; lat. 53° 17' 50", long. 3° 25' 53"). Owner and occupier, Mr. Maurice Rowley Conroy.

An old site, the seat of the Conveys. The oldest portion of the present house is not earlier than 1696. The mansion was largely extended and reconstructed in 1874, when the original south door was closed, and the older avenue disused. In the garden is a sun dial, the stem square with chamfered edges and inscribed 1637 I H. Part of Bodrhyddan house stands in Diserth parish.—Visited, 23rd August, 1910.

225. **Cwybr Mawr** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 4 N.E. ; lat. 53° 18' 7", long. 3° 27' 57"). Owner, Mr. W. D. W. Griffiths, The Garn, Trefnant ; occupier, Mr. Owen Williams.

An old house of two blocks at right angles to each other ; the original door on the south side is in good condition, the door on the east is closed. The date 1615 is inscribed on a beam inside the southern entrance. Some of the mullioned windows are filled in. The township of Cwybr, in which the house stands, is called ' Cauber' in Domesday.—Visited, 23rd August, 1910.

#### DIVISION IV (ECCLESIASTICAL STRUCTURES).

226. **The Parish Church** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 4 N.E.). Ded : St. Mary. Diocese, archdeaconry, and rural-deanery of St. Asaph ; townships of Criccin, Ysgawen, Pentre, Brynbychan, Brynywal, Cefndy, Trellewelyn, Rhydorddwy. This is a double-chambered church of the Clwydian type, the northern side being used as the chancel and nave, and at the west end being the engaged tower. There is no structural division between nave and chancel. The arcade between the nave and aisle is of six bays, the octagonal piers and the plain arches being of late Perpendicular date. The tower is not quite square; it opens to the nave by a tall eastern arch, and cuts off the western arch of the arcade. The roofs of both aisles are modern and have been raised, as is shown by the old corbels which still remain, and the cornice braces cut the arches irregularly. The north door is blocked, and the south door has a modern porch. The west window of the south aisle is a triplet of the Early English period, which has been re-dressed. A small closed window in the north aisle is early Decorated ; the other windows are modern. A piscina placed in the south wall about midway between the present chancel and south door, shows that the church was extended eastwards, probably at the Perpendicular rebuilding. On the top of the gable at the east end of the south aisle is the upper part of a figure with hands clasped in prayer. The embattled tower is rather low, but occupies a commanding position on the verge of the river bank in line with the medieval castle and earlier foothill ; it has one low Perpendicular buttress at the north-east corner, and a flat buttress on the west side nearly equal in height to the tower itself. The font is modern. The parish chest of oak, dated 1710. There are two effigies fixed in the wall at the west end of the south aisle, one the mutilated figure of a priest , - the other the upper part of a much weathered figure, brought from Rhuddtan priory by dean Shipley : it is illustrated in *Arch. Camb.*, 1847, I, ii, 252. Between the tower and the

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\* The spelling is etymological, and the pronunciation 'Botryddan'; Edward Lhuyd (A.D. 1699) spells it 'Bod Trydhan'.

south aisle are set three 14th century sepulchral slabs, all incised, with stepped crosses. On the south side of the churchyard is the massive circular pedestal of the old cross, now surmounted by a modern one. Further east in the churchyard is the square stem of a sundial.—Visited, 5th August, 1910.

Thomas, *Hist. Dioc. St. Asaph*, 1908, 412 ; Glynne, 'Notes,' *Arch. Camb.*, 1884, V, i, 87 ; Owen, *Stone Crosses*, 151.

227. **The Dominican Friary** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 4 N.E. ; lat. 53° 17' 7", long. 3° 27' 23"). Owner, Mr. Maurice Rowley Convey, Bodrhyddan Hall ; occupier, Mr. Daniel Jones.

No part of the church of this friary now stands above ground, and the remains of its appurtenant offices are scanty. The site is a farm called 'Plas Newydd,' and the few remains are parts of the farm buildings. On the south side is a large building, 25 yards long and 10 yards broad, mainly of the late Decorated period. It was, doubtless, the hall ; it is now used as a barn. On the north side it has four oblong openings just below the roof, and two corresponding openings on the south side, with three slits at the lower level. The western wall of the farm yard, and the extension southward is in the main original ; it is nearly 39 yards long, and has in it five plain-pointed single-light windows, apparently of the Decorated period ; two similar windows at the north end of the wall are modern imitations. A few yards east of the farm-house are old foundations which may be those of the south-west corner of the south transept of the friary church, but without excavation it is impossible to speak on this point with any certainty. The head of an ogee window is built into the garden wall on the north side of the farm yard.

In the wall of the farm-house garden are two sepulchral slabs of the early Decorated period, each incised with a round-headed cross, the circle containing a Maltese cross, with a boss just below the circle. Forming the upper lintel of a modern doorway, on the east side of the farm yard, is a fragment of an inscribed coffin lid, placed upside down, whereon are the letters HIC :IACET : MATIL ; the rest of the inscription is cut off, and the last letter is obscured by the jamb of the doorway. Built into the wall on the east side of the farm yard is the hooded figure of a knight, the lower part imperfect ; this is illustrated in *Arch. Camb.*, 1847, I, ii, 253. Two inscribed wall

slabs have been placed in the of the baron the south side of the farm yard. One of these shows a cross with a quatrefoiled head within which is a cross ragule, and around the edge the following letters are still decipherable : IACET : ROBERTVS : FILIVS : ROBERTUS: DE BRILELTON : CVIVS : A'I'E: P'PICIET'. The other slab on the same side of the farm yard represents an archbishop, with crosier, mitre, maniple, chasuble, and alb, angel heads at the two upper corners of the slab, and the inscription ...PVR. LALME. FRERE. WIL[LIAM FRENEY] ERCHEVESKE. DE. RAGES. 'Rages' has been identified with Edessa, and William de Freney shown to have been a Dominican friar who was living in 1286. The Preaching Friars of Rothelan are mentioned as early as 1268, the establishment being known as 'The Prior and Brethren of Friars Preachers of Rothelan.' At its suppression in 1534 the house is said to have comprised (in addition to the church and cemetery) a hall with three chambers, two other chambers, a kitchen, and a stable.—Visited, 3rd August, 1910.

*Arch. Camb.*, 1847, I, ii, 250 ; *ib.*, 1848, I, iii, 46 ; *ib.*, 1867, III, xiii, 355 ; *ib.*, 1912, VI, xii, 121.

**Figure 57.**

DIVISION V (MISCELLANEOUS).

228. **Criccin (Crugyn) Cross** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 4 N.E. ; lat. 53° 16' 56.5"; long. 3° 26' 18"). Owner, Mr. Maurice Rowley Conwy, Bodrhyddan. The lower part of the shaft and broken pedestal of a cross standing on a natural mound by the west side of the road (Ffordd y Criccin), nearly opposite Criccin Farm. There seems to be no authority for calling this cross 'Croes Eurgain,' a name which is not known to Edward Lhuyd. The mound is composed of fine sand, with some pebbles, and an accumulation of soil above ; the top is fairly level and about 6 yards in diameter. It is much dug away on the east and north-west sides : on the west and south-west sides it stands about 27 feet above the ground level, the slope on the west side being gradual. The broken shaft, 2 feet 4 inches in height, is much weathered, roughly octagonal in form, and shaped to an oblong (12 inches by 10 inches) at the base, where it is let into a pedestal, broken into two pieces, to one of which the shaft has in recent times been secured. The remains are of late 13th or early 14th century date.\* Two fields south of the mound are called 'Maes y groes,' 'the field of the cross.'—Visited, 3rd August, 1910.  
Owen, *Stone Crosses*, 162.

230. [*sic.*] **Ffynnon y Castell** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 4 N.E. ; lat. 53° 17' 17.5", long. 3° 27' 49.5"). Owner, Mr. Maurice Rowley Conwy, Bodrhyddan Hall. This spring is mentioned by Edward Lhuyd in 1699 ; it is on the south side of Rhuddlan castle ditch, and below the transverse wall of the ditch. It was used as a source of drinking water within living memory, but is now choked and trampled over. The water, however, still runs, and finds its way to the Clwyd.—Visited, 22nd September, 1910.

DIVISION V (MISCELLANEOUS).

231. **'The Parliament House'** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 4 N.E.) Owner, Mr. Maurice Rowley Conwy, Bodrhyddan Hall. A domestic residence standing in the main street of Rhuddlan, bearing a stone inscription announcing the house to be the modern successor of the edifice within which Edward the First promulgated what is usually known as " the Statute of Rhuddlan," in A.D. 1284. No part of the building as it at present stands has any pretence to a higher antiquity than the middle of the 16th century, and a considerable portion of it is much later. But the structure is of interest to antiquaries inasmuch as its walls contain a few bits of what must unquestionably have been carved freestone from the medieval castle, of which not a particle now remains in its original position.

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\* There at one time existed two other crosses in the parish, probably erected to mark certain boundaries – Croes Rhuddlan and Croes y Cefn Du, the latter of which had disappeared before the year 1699.

The details are of two apertures : the first is of the regular form of opening found in the military structures of Edward the First—the round-shouldered, square-headed style, known as the Carnarvon type of doorway ; the second has formed a small opening terminating in a shallow ogee curve. The former is of the last years of the 13th century, while the second may be half a century later. The dwelling in the walls of which they are now inserted was possibly erected as a town house of the Conwy family, to whom the castle and its appurtenances were granted.

232. **Rhuddlan Bridge** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 4 N.E. ; lat. 53° 17' 23", long. 3° 28' 3-).

The actual piers and arches of this bridge, which carries the main road from Rhyl to St. Asaph over the River Conwy, may be of the date 1595, to which year an inscription on one of the piers assigns it ; but it has been much repaired, and the superstructure is modern.—Visited, 10th August, 1910.

#### DIVISION VI (SITES OF HISTORIC OR ANTIQUARIAN INTEREST).

233. **Spital Cottage** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 4 N.E.; lat. 53° 17' 22", long. 3'26'53"). Owner, Mr. Maurice Rowley Convey ; occupier, Mr. J. H. Wheelwright. There was at Rhuddlan a church of St. Thomas's which was closely attached to the castle, as is proved by the fact that the presentation was vested either in the king or the constable. Its site seems to have been completely forgotten, but it may be surmised that it stood not far from the castle, and, indeed, may have been within the precincts. At a date of which we have no record, but before A.D. 1310, a chantry chapel dedicated to St. John was founded in one of the Rhuddlan churches in commemoration of the King (Edw. II) and his ancestors, and some of the lands of St. Thomas's were granted to it. The chantry was known as the Hospital of St. John, and the land with which it was endowed was the Spital land. In 1699 it was a " tenement belonging to Colonel Whitley " (Lhuyd, Parochialia, i, 51). The modern house now called 'Spital Cottage' is doubtless built on a portion of that area. No traces of antiquity are to be found in the vicinity, nor have any finds been unearthed on the site.—Visited, 11th August, 1910.

### Parish of RHYL.

#### DIVISION III (DOMESTIC' STRUCTURES).

234. Ty'n Rhyl\* (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 1 S.W. ; lat. 53° 18' 56", long. 3° 28' 34.5"). Owner, Mr. C. R. Tayleur, Bod Emlyn, Rhyl ; occupier, Mr. Cobb.

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\* Rhyl less than 90 years ago was a township of Rhuddlan parish, and this house the only important residence within it. The township was called by Edward Lhuyd in 1699, 'Tre'r hul,' and the house, 'The Hill.' In Rhuddlan churchyard also is a tombstone recording, the burial (Sept. 30th, 1700) of John Conway, gent of 'Hil.' Another tombstone is to Ellen, wife of Henry Lloyd, Esq., " of Rhyl," who died 7th August, 1711. The early form of the name was undoubtedly 'Hull', which was probably pronounced 'hüll' or 'hill'. It is referred to on several occasions in the Recognizance Rolls of Chester as "Hull, in the commote of Prestaton".

A good double-gabled house ; the chief room has the date 1608 cut on a beam over one of the doors, and 1672 is on the outside of another doorway opening upon the lawn. The carved chimney piece of the entrance hall is said to have been partly made from a 16th century bedstead. Many of the panels have coats of arms painted by the late Miss Angharad Llwyd, who resided here for many years.—Visited, 25th August, 1910.

### Parish of ST. ASAPH.

#### DIVISION IV (ECCLESIASTICAL STRUCTURES).

235. *The Cathedral Church of St. Asaph* (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 4 S.E.). A structure which dates architecturally for the most part from the Decorated period, but it can be historically shown that a certain amount of building was done in the 15th century which must have taken the character of careful reparation of work in an earlier style. In size it is the smallest of the cathedral churches of England and Wales, and falls short of the true cathedral model in the absence of aisles to its eastern limb and transepts. Nevertheless, from the point of view of effect its pleasing proportions give to it a quiet dignity that is highly effective. "The cathedral consists of a nave and aisles of five bays, transepts and choir, without any aisles or chapels of any kind attached." The late Mr. E. A. Freeman mentions an early drawing of the church showing from the south side an Early English choir of three bays, each of the two easternmost of which contained a couplet of lancets, and the westernmost an equal triplet. "They appear to have been excellent specimens of Early English work, of very good proportions, and furnished with elegant banded shafts." To whatever extent this Early English choir may have survived, it is certain that the nave and transepts, which had been destroyed during the troubles incident to Edward I's conquest of the country, were entirely rebuilt in the latter years of the 13th century, the work probably going on until the middle of the next century. The nave was constructed during this period.; it extends to only five bays, and the arcade is of extreme plainness ; the piers are without capitals, and the mouldings are carried round the arches without break. The clerestory windows are small square lights, foliated, those on the south side are original, those on the north modern copies. The south transept had an altar to St. Mary; it is now used as the chapter-house. The former chapter-house stood on the north side of the choir. The west window is a triplet curvilinear tracery, having a minor order dividing each light into two, the whole under an enclosing arch ; the transept and some of the aisle windows are also of the same style and period. The east window is modern. The woodwork of the roof is late Perpendicular, as are portions of the stalls. The central tower is plain and massive. "The tower of St. Asaph's cathedral," observes Mr. Freeman, "and the whole church, as completed in the latter half of the fourteenth century, possesses, on the whole, a decided character of excellence in point of outline, and, while the ancient choir stood, and the nave and aisles remained unaltered, it must have been far from exhibiting its present poverty even in point of detail." The cathedral contains only one pre-Reformation effigy and one pre-Reformation slab; the former is of exceedingly elaborate and excellent execution. It once stood in the choir, but is now in the south

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transept—the modern chapter-house. It is of the period 1340-50, but bears no inscription. The slab in the north transept, below a shield bearing a lion rampant, depicts a hound chasing a hare ; it probably dates from the latter half of the 13th century.—Visited, 24th August, 1910.

*Arch. Camb.*, 1854, II, v, 279 (E. A. Freeman); Thomas, *Hist. Dioc. St. Asaph*, 1908, i, 269 ; *The Builder*, 3 Sept., 1892 ; numerous monographs.

In a brief description of the cathedral written in 1854, Mr. E. A. Freeman refers to the finest feature of the structure, the tower, in the following terms : " The central tower would naturally be the last part finished. Its large transomed belfry-windows, of three lights, have ogee tracery, but with a manifest inclination to Perpendicular. In the want of more certain evidence, I am inclined to connect it with a bequest to the fabric in the will of Bishop Llewelyn ap Madoc, dated 1373, two years before his death (Browne Willis, p. 241). The battlement was rebuilt after it had been damaged by a storm in 1714 [Note : The battlement actually existing dates only from 1810, and the western window in the tower was reconstructed within a few years], and the change in the masonry induces the belief that the whole upper portion of the tower was rebuilt at the same time. But if so, it is clear that the original stonework of the windows was replaced with great care, so that they may safely be referred to as genuine specimens." The " more certain evidence " which Mr. Freeman desiderated is in a measure now forthcoming, and is found to confirm his conclusions. There can be little doubt that the bequest of Bishop Leoline ap Madoc incited his successor and the cathedral chapter to the completion of the structure, and it is probable that a large quantity of stone was provided, for in 1380 an agreement was entered into with certain of the free tenants of the bishop whereby in consideration of an annual rent of 10 marks they were exonerated from an accustomed service of finding every day throughout the year, Sundays and feast days excepted, six men to work from sunrise to sunset at excavating red stone for the works of the cathedral. And in 1392 there is an interesting item of intelligence upon the public records, which is one of the few instances we possess of a precise date for the construction of Welsh architectural work. On the 2nd August in that year David Waryng, parson of Kilken (as attorney for the bishop, dean and chapter), and Robert Fagan 'cementarius,' appeared in the Recognizance Court of Chester to apply for the enrolment of the following agreement: "Hec est convencio facia inter Episcopum Decanum et capitulum Assavensis ex parte una et Robertum Fagan ex alter\* Videlicet quod idem. Robertus sumptibus suss propriis et expenses faciet et proficiet competentem campanilem. ecclesie Cathedralis Assavensis iota opere petrosa tam in quarera quam alibi usque ad altitudinem quinque virgarum muri integri et unius verge et dimidie in batall' superius secundum proportionem competentem fundamentis dicti campanilis meliori modo et forma quibus profici debetur. Et quod predicts Episcopus Decanus et capitulum solvant prefato Roberto centum marcas secundum quantitatem facture dicti campanilis. Et eciam iidem Episcopus Decanus et capitulum tenentur ad omnia cariagia lapidum et quod inveniant caleem sumptibus eorundem Episcopi Decani et capituli. Ita etiam quod totum campanile per prefatum Robertum proficietur in forma prescripta erga festum Omnium Sanctorum anno millesimo cclxxxij° [1392]."

There is no reason to suppose that Robert Fagan was behind in his contract, and it may therefore be regarded as assured that the upper thirty feet of the tower of St. Asaph Cathedral (including the battlement) is (subject to the later reparations mentioned by Mr. Freeman) of the year 1392-3. It is, of course, impossible to accept

the literal accuracy of Browne Willis's oft-quoted account of the damage done to the cathedral structure by Owen Glyndwr, that "The Chirch Cathedral) of Saint Asaph, with the steple, bells, quere, porch, and vestiary, with all other contentis, bokes, chaliz, vestiments, and other ornaments, as the bokes, stalles, deskes, altres, and all the aparail longying to the same chirch was brent and utterly destroyed, and in likewys the byshop's palays and all his other three mannoirs no styk left " (Browne Willis, ii, 116, quoted from Thomas, *Hist. Dioc. St. Asaph*, 1908, i, 285). That damage to the cathedral was caused by Glyndwr or his adherents is undoubted, and that much injury and even destruction was occasioned by fire is only what might be expected ; but it is quite impossible that so massive a fabric as the cathedral church should have been " utterly destroyed " in what was probably nothing more than a raid, and the idea is negated by the irrefragable evidence of the building itself.

### Figures 58 and 59.

236. **The Parish Church** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 4 S.E.). Ded : Ss. Kentigern and Asa. Diocese, archdeaconry, and rural-deanery of St. Asaph ; townships of Brynpolin, Gwernglefryd, Talar, Gwerneigrion. The former townships of Y Faenol, Bodelwyddan and Pengwern now form the separate parish of Bodelwyddan ; those of Cilowen, Rhyllon, Bodeugan and Cyrehynan form the new parish of Waun ; and those of Wickwer (Wig Fair) and Meriadog constitute the parish of Cefn in Denbighshire.

The church consists of two equal parts (nave and north aisle), divided by an arcade of five bays. There is no structural distinction between the chancel and the nave, at the west end of which is the original door. The south doorway is old, but the porch is modern. At the east end of the wall of the nave is a very rude double piscina ; near it on the same wall is a window of four lights. Further west is a plain but elegant lancet. The east windows have five lights and four lights, respectively. The west window of the south aisle has two lights. The general character of the church is Perpendicular, but the bases of the columns of the arcade are evidently older. The roof of the north aisle has been raised. That of the nave is of the hammer-beam type, with tracery above the principals. The cornice braces of both roofs cut the arches irregularly, but this is because the two easternmost arches are of slightly different span. The oak chest is 7 feet 3 inches long. In the churchyard is a sundial.—Visited, 2nd August, 1910.

Thomas, *Hist. Dioc. St. Asaph*, 1908, i, 383 ; Glynne 'Notes,' *Arch. Camb.*, 1884, V, i, 83.

#### DIVISION V (MISCELLANEOUS).

237. **Pont Dafydd, St. Asaph** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 4 S.E. ; lat. 53° 15'48-5', long. 3° 26' 2".)

This stone bridge of one arch crossing the Clwyd connects the townships of Gwernglefryd in St. Asaph parish and Rhyllon in the parish of Waen, and carries what was formerly the main road from Flint to St. Asaph. The present structure, which is only about 9 feet wide, was built in 1630, replacing the timber bridge, called 'Pont David Escob' (*Y Cwttā Cyfarwydd*, p. 132).<sup>\*</sup> The old paved road from this bridge to St. Asaph, towards the grounds of Bron Wylfa, is still discernible.—Visited, 24th August, 1910.

238. **Roman Road.**

There are traces, slight and not very convincing it is true, of the passage through this parish of the road which ran between the two Roman stations of Deva and Canovium. An ancient road has been traced at the back of the Bishop's Palace, and a coin of Vespasian or Titus has been discovered on the supposed line of the road through the palace gardens. The course of the road in an easterly direction was probably towards Pentre Halkyn, and westwards towards Sarn Rug, crossing the Elwy a little south of the present bridge.

#### DIVISION VI (SITES OF HISTORIC OR ANTIQUARIAN INTEREST).

239. **Dol y Garreg** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 4 S.E. ; lat. 53° 15' 10", long. 3° 25' 30"). Owner, Mr. Maurice Rowley Convey, Bodrhyddan ; occupier, Mr. Robert Jones.

There is now no standing stone at the point indicated, but at the north end of the field at right angles to the river Clwyd are the remains of two large parallel banks, enclosing about three quarters of an acre of irregular surface. This has been supposed to represent the remains of a Roman camp, and, being in the township of Bryn polio, it has been connected with Suetonius Paulinus.<sup>†</sup> No finds of any kind have been discovered, and the disturbed appearance of the ground has probably been produced by\_ diggings for clay or stone. Tithe Schedule, No. 178.—Visited, 23rd August, 1910.

240. **Tal y Sarn** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 4 S.E. ; lat. 53° 16' 9"-18", long. 3° 26' 52-).

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<sup>\*</sup> It is stated by the historian of the diocese, Archdeacon D. R. Thomas, that the bridge was first built 1, Y Bishop David (A.D. 1503-1512). This is, however, an error. In the year 1485, John Conway obtained a lease of (*inter alia*) a piscary in the Clwyd from the bridge of the town of Rothlan to the bridge called Dany Brigge (= Davy Brigge).

<sup>†</sup> Phonologically this is impossible, 'Paulinus' being made in Welsh into 'Peulin', while Welsh 'polin' (more correctly written 'polyn', 'a pole' goes with the Welsh word 'pawl', which also means 'a pole'.

Tithe Schedule, Nos. 43, 49, 50. Three small plantations overlooking an old road leading northwards past Gro Sion Philip to a ford over the Elwy, and southward to St. Asaph. The lane is cobbled in parts.—Visited, 14th October, 1910.

241. **Coed yr Esgob** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 7 X.E. ; lat. 53° 14' 52", long. 3° 27' 43" and 57").

Two coppices, on either side of a good cobbled and pitched lane. They have apparently acquired their present name within recent years, from the fact that they adjoin land belonging to the see of St. Asaph.—Visited, 14th October, 1910.

## Parish of TREMEIRCHION.

### DIVISION Ia (TUMULI).

242. **Tumulus** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 5 S.W. ; lat. 53°16'25", long. 3°21'42"). A natural mound in a field 13 chains due west of Criafol farm, crowned by what seems to be a low tumulus, the base of which is about 25 yards each way. Its height above the base is, on the north 30 feet, on the south 5 feet, on the east 5 feet, and on the west 10 feet. To the south-west of the mound, some 70 yards from the top, is a stone of partly-rounded form.—Visited, 30th August, 1910.

### DIVISION III (DOMESTIC STRUCTURES).

243. **Bachegre** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 8 N.W. ; lat. 53° 13' 48.5", long. 3° 23' 8.5"). Owner, Mrs. Salusbury, Bryn Bela.

The mansion house of Bachegre, constructed by Sir Richard Clough of Denbigh (died 1570), has been demolished, and the materials used to build a more modern residence ; but some parts of the original offices and outbuildings still exist. On the west side of the courtyard (to the east side of which stood the old house) are the former stables, with an archway bearing the date 1587, and the initials R.C. The old farm outbuildings are practically unaltered. There is a fine barn which is worthy of particular notice ; it has excellent squared-stone foundations, walls of red brick, and open timber-work above; south side is a round-headed stone doorway, and many two-light square-headed windows.—Visited, 24th September, 1910.

Pennant, *Tours*, ed. 1810, II, 139.

### DIVISION- IV (ECCLESIASTICAL STRUCTURES).

244. **The Parish Church** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 8 N.W.). Ded : Holy Trinity\* . Diocese, archdeaconry, and rural-deanery of St. Asaph ; townships of Bryngwyn, Maenefa, Tre'r llan, Tre'r graig, Bachegre.

A small church without structural division between nave and chancel. Near the west end of the nave on the south side is a good early-Perpendicular two-light window ; in

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\* This is a modern dedication ; Bishop Maddox places Tremeirchion under the more probable invocation of Corpus Christi. The earlier name of the parish was Dinmeirchion, but no traces are now discoverable of the din ' which must have formerly existed here.

one of the lights the old 15th century glass is almost complete, while the other is filled with fragments from other windows. The coved roof is celled at the west end. There is an octagonal font of the Decorated period, not now used. The north transept is modern. A medieval hand bell employed at funerals, 9½ inches in total height, is still preserved. In the north wall of the chancel is a canopied tomb with the effigy of a priest in full canonicals, and the inscription : Hic. IACET. DAVID. F' HOVEL. F' MADOC;\* it probably commemorates a former vicar of the parish. A description and illustration of this tomb, which has been painted black, are in *Arch. Camb.*, 1897, V, xiv, 109. Another interesting effigy, removed from the south side of the nave, and now placed beneath the window of the transept, is that of a nameless cross-legged knight, in late 13th century armour, and displaying a lion rampant on the shield, of which a full account and careful drawing is given in *Arch. Camb.*, 1890, V, vii, 178. A third effigy (No. 245), and the head of the churchyard cross (No. 246), are now at St. Beuno's College, Tremeirchion. A coffin lid, bearing a round-headed calvary cross, is built into the churchyard wall near the west gate ; within the circle is a Maltese cross having quarter-circles between the arms, and a boss below the circle at the top of the shaft.† The south porch has an old roof and stone seats on either side. The pointed western door, which is now closed, is a little out of the centre of the west front. The church has two massive buttresses on its western wall, and four similar but later ones support the north wall. The bell cote on the western gable contains one bell. A lychgate on the south side of the churchyard is flagged, and retains on the north side some of its old timberings.—Visited, 29th June, 1910.

Thomas, *Hist. Dioc. St. Asaph*, 1908, i, 402 ; Glynne, 'Notes,' *Arch. Camb.*, 1884, V, i, 89.

#### DIVISION V (MISCELLANEOUS).

##### 245. *Effigy of an Ecclesiastic.*

A mutilated effigy of an ecclesiastic was removed from Tremeirchion churchyard in 1862, and is now kept under shelter at St. Beuno's College. The body is headless, though the block of the upper part of the head is preserved ; the effigy is otherwise much damaged. The figure is vested with chasuble, alb, etc. (*Arch. Camb.*, 1897, V, xiv, 114).—Seen, 29th June, 1910.

##### 246. *Head of Churchyard Cross.*

In the year 1862 the head of the churchyard cross was purchased by the late Chevalier J. Y. W. Lloyd of Llangurig, Montgomeryshire, from the church authorities of Tremeirchion, and presented by him to St. Beuno's College at Tremeirchion. It now stands on a new shaft and stepped base in the courtyard of the college. On each of the four sides are figures under ogee crocketed canopies. In one of the two larger

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\* The initial letter of the name Hovel resembles a 'K', but is almost certainly intended for an 'H'.

† In the churchyard formerly stood a slab the inscription on which is thus given by Lewis Morris (*Arch. Camb.*, 1896, V, xiii, 142) : Hic Jacet Hunyd uxor Karwet fil' Hywel cui' a'i'e req'iescat in pace. Two fragments of this stone have been built into the outside of churchyard wall, close to the western entrance (Rev. C.A. Newdigate, S.J. in *Arch. Camb.*, 1897, V, xiv, 117.

compartments is the Crucifixion with Ss. Mary and John ; in the opposite compartment the Virgin is seated with the infant Christ in her arms ; in each of the side compartments is a figure with crozier turned inwards. The whole composition is supported by corbels of angel heads. A good illustrated description is given in *Arch. Camb.*, 1897, V, xiv, 119 ; Owen, *Old Stone Crosses*, 181.—Seen, 29th June, 1910.

#### DIVISION V (MISCELLANEOUS—WELLS).

247. **Ffynnon Beuno, St. Beuno's Well** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 8 N.W. lat. 53° 14' 25.5", long. 3° 22' 25"). Owner, Mr. D. F. Pennant, Nantlys, St. Asaph. This spring rises within a walled reservoir or bath, 10 feet 6 inches by 15 feet internally, and is enclosed by an external wall. At one corner are some old stepping stones. The overflow passes through the worn mouth of a stone head (*Arch. Camb.*, 1897, V, xiv, 123).—Visited, 28th June, 1910.

#### DIVISION V (MISCELLANEOUS).

248. **Ffynnon Beuno Cave** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 8 N.W. ; lat. 53° 14' 26", long. 3° 22' 15"). Owner, Mr. D. F. Pennant, Nantlys, St. Asaph ; occupier, Mrs. Denman.

This cave in the carboniferous limestone was already known and used to the extent of a few yards as a cattle shed, when in 1883, the late Dr. Henry Hicks, with the active co-operation of the late Mr. P. P. Pennant, explored it. At some distance from the larger entrance the cave ii, as found to branch to left and right ; in the right arm is a perpendicular shaft to the open air, and mining had apparently been carried on in this direction. The left branch had been undisturbed since prehistoric times, and here were found several worked flint implements, associated with much charcoal, and the bones of hyena, bear, great deer, woolly rhinoceros, mammoth, etc., some of which were found beneath a floor of stalagmite breccia. This branch was followed until it opened out on the cliff above the larger entrance.—Visited, 28th June, 1910.

The finds of this cave were widely distributed, among the institutions receiving specimens being the University College of North Wales, Cambridge University Museum, and Dorchester Museum, and Mr. Pennant has himself a representative collection. Dr. Hicks' 'On researches in Bone Caves in Wales,' *Proc. Geologists' Assoc.*, 7th November, 1884 ; and V, x, No. 1 ; *Brit. Assoc. Reports*, 1885 and 1886 ; *Arch. Camb.*, 1885, V, ii, 232 ; 1887, V, iv, 346.

249. **Cae Gwyn Cave** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 8 N.W.; lat. 53° 14' 27", long. 3° 22' 16"). Owner and occupier, Mr. Edwin Mdragan, Cae Gwyn, Tremeirchion.

This cave is on the same cliff face, or escarpment, of carboniferous limestone as that of Ffynnon Beuno cave ; the entrance is about 20 feet higher up the cliff side. It was excavated by Dr. Hicks concurrently with Ffynnon Beuno cave, and was found to contain bones of the same genera and species of animals as those discovered in the other cave. As the cave seemed to have another entrance in the field behind, which is covered with glacial drift, a shaft was driven 20 feet down. The sinking passed through various strata of boulder clay and sand, until a red laminated clay and bone earth were reached, and here " a small but well-marked flint flake was dug up from

the bone earth on the south side of the entrance."\* This shaft is now filled up, but the cave is still accessible for some thirty yards.—Visited, 23rd September, 1910.

250. **Ancient Road** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 8 N.W. ; lat. 53° 14' 50", long. 3° 22' 50").

A well constructed piece of causeway from Sunimerhill to Ty moel, about 200 yards, apparently representing part of an old road. It is from 8 to 9 feet broad, and has an edging of roughly squared stones, which, where the ground is lower, are splayed outwards and downwards so as to support the causeway. Although called Roman, it is doubtful whether the road, in its present condition, is older than the end of the 18th century.—Visited, 23rd September, 1910.

#### DIVISION VI (SITES OF HISTORIC OR ANTIQUARIAN INTEREST).

251. **Rhewl** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 5 S.W. ; lat. 53° 15'23", long. 3° 22'51"). The name of a farm on the west side of an evidently old, but now macadamized, road.—Visited, 23rd September, 1910.

#### DIVISION VII (FINDS).

252. **A Leaden Seal** bearing the legend, S. ITHEL FIL' KVN(V)RICI, was picked up in 1863, on the surface of a newly ploughed field in Maeneva township. At the back was a remnant of the shank. *Arch. Camb.*, 1863, III, ix, 244. Its present location is unknown.

### Parish of TREUDDYN.

#### DIVISION IC (MEINI HIRION).

253. **Carreg y Llech** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 16 N.E. ; lat. 53° 7' 1"; long. 3° 7' 2 1').

A monolith of sandstone, 'containing nuggets of iron stone, some of which have dropped out, leaving holes or pockets. It stands in a low-lying meadow, and is 6 feet high, 6½ feet broad, with an average thickness of 18 inches, and leans towards the west. The remains of a low bank or base of earth, 6 inches high, are perceptible to the west, and around the stone can be seen what appears to be a rough pavement of small cobbles.—Visited, 1st June, 1910.

*Arch. Camb.*, 1873, IV, iv, 202.

#### DIVISION II (EARTHWORKS), SIUB-DIVISION X (UNCLASSIFIED—DYKES).

254. **Offa's Dyke** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 17 S.W. and 17 N.W.).

This dyke is not clearly defined at the south-east corner of the parish, but at lat. 53° 6' 28", long. 3° 5' 2" it shows itself unmistakably on the road side, and continues a

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\* Sir John Evans (*Stone Implements*, 1897, p.521), noticing these discoveries observes – “Doctor Hicks regards these caves (Ffynnon Beuno and Cae Gwyn), as ‘Pre-Glacial’, a view in which I cannot agree.”

north-westerly course as far as lat. 53° 6' 41", long. 3° 5' 42", where it appears to turn northwards and is lost in the mining area of Coed Talwrn. No certain traces of it can afterwards be found in this parish.

It will be treated as a whole at a later stage.

#### DIVISION III (STONE STRUCTURES—DOMESTIC).

255. **Plas ym Mhowys** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 16 N.E.; lat. 53° 7' 36.5" long. 3° 6' 47-5"). Owner, Mr. Thomas Hough, The Lodge, Treuddyn ; occupier, Mr. George Hough.

A large house representing an ancient site, and continuing an old name. It is mentioned by Edward Lhuyd as one of the chief houses in Treuddyn, then (1699) a township and chapelry in the parish of Mold. The name Plas ym Mhowys, 'the Plas in Powys,' gives colour to the idea that the principality of Powys once extended to this point.—Visited, 5th October, 1910.

#### DIVISION IV (ECCLESIASTICAL STRUCTURES).

256. **The Parish Church** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 16 N.E.). Ded : St. Mary. Diocese of St. Asaph ; archdeaconry of Wrexham ; rural-deanery of Mold ; township of Treuddyn.

This church was entirely rebuilt in 1873. In the vestry are. (1) an old oak chest, roughly made and very rotten beneath; and (2) a fine Jacobean chest on four legs ; the front is finely panelled, and there is a door at each end ; the back is plain. The lid, which is moveable, and looks modern, measures 5 feet long and 27½ inches wide.—Visited, 9th June, 1910.

Thomas, *Hist. Dioc. St. Asaph*, 1874, p. 612 ; Glynne 'Notes,' *Arch. Camb.*, 1884, V, i. 263.

#### DIVISION VI (SITES OF HISTORIC OR ANTIQUARIAN INTEREST).

257. **Y Gistfaen** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 16 N.E. lat. 53° 6' 47.5", long. 3° 9' 5"). Owner and occupier, Mr. George Oldfield.

This is the name of a comparatively modern house near it are many grey stones used as gateposts. There is no tradition of an actual cistfaen, but it was said that the older house stood due west in a field on the other side of the river Terrig, and in the parish of Nerquis.—Visited, 20th October, 1910.

258. **Maes y Garreg Wen** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 17 N.W.) ; lat. 53° 74" and 53° 7' 8", long. 3° 5' 25-42").

The name means 'The field of the white stone.' Four adjoining fields (or portions of them) still exist as grass-grown areas within Coed Talwrn, surrounded by abandoned pit shafts and spoil heaps, but the above name given to them in the Tithe Schedule (Nos. 486-9) is quite forgotten.—Visited, 9th June, 1910.

259. **Heol y Gwyddel** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint: 16 N.E. ; lat. 53° 6' 38.5", long. 3° 6' 44"). Owner, Mr. C. C. Trevor-Roper, Plas Teg ; occupier, Mr. Richard Williams.

'Heol y gwyddel,' is the name given to three adjoining fields traversed by a cartway, which is the 'heol' leading from the present Corwen and Chester road and the village of Treuddyn, to Ffrith ucha farmhouse, to join a public lane at Ffridd bella farm. Enquiries failed to elicit any explanation of the name by which the fields are still known\*. Tithe Schedule, Nos. 577, 578 and 584.—Visited, 5th October, 1910.

260. **Cae'r Ymryson** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 16 N.E.; lat. 53° 6' 5", long. 3° 7' 8")

It is reported that the field on which the vicarage was built, was formerly called 'Cae'r Ymryson,' 'the field of the contest.' Possibly all the field was not included in the vicarage garden, as the name still clings to a piece of the land adjoining —Visited, 5th October, 1910.

261. **Pen y Groes** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 16 N.E. ; lat. 53° 7' 17", long. 3° 6' 58"). Owners, the representatives of the late Mr. Joyce, Bodfari ; occupier, Mr. Richard Francis.

The name of a large farmhouse, possibly an abbreviation of 'Pen y groesffordd,' 'four lane ends.' It stands by the side of the road to Plas ym Mhowys, and from it a lane (now represented by a mere footpath) dips down to Pen y brain in a northwesterly direction.—Visited, 5th October, 1910.

262. **Pen y Stryt** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 16 N.E. ; lat. 53° 6' 39", long. 3° 7' 55"). Owner and occupier, Mr. John Goodwin.

This is the name of a residence standing at the head of a good road. The house looks comparatively modern, but has older out-buildings. In a wall next to the house is a stone bearing the date 1631.—Visited, 5th October, 1910.

263. **Y Garnedd** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 4 S.E. ; lat. 53° 15' 12", long. 3° 24' 35").

A field on the farm of Glan Clwyd, in Bodeugan township, upon which are now no indications of a cairn ; but the name is still in use. Tithe Schedule, No. 210.—Visited, 11th August, 1910.

264. **Cae'r Garnedd** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 4 S.E.; lat. 53° 16' 10" and 15", long. 3° 26' 2").

This is the name applied in the Tithe Schedule (Nos. 29 and 106) to two fields in the township of Cyrchynan. No ancient remains are to be seen, nor is there tradition of such ; but the field names are still in use.—Visited, 11th August, 1910.

## Parish of WHITFORD.

### DIVISION Ia (TUMULI).

265. **Tumulus in Ffridd y Garreg Wen** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 5 S.E. ; lat. 53° 16' 23", long. 3° 17' 50"). Owner, Lord Mostyn.

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\* It may mean either 'The Irishman's Street,' or 'the Brushwood Road'.

A mound about 40 chains north-west of Bwrdd rhyfel (No. 299), but, not shown on the Ordnance map. It is about 6 feet above ground level, is circular in shape, and has an average diameter of 40 feet. The top is 9 feet in every direction, and fairly flat. There are heaps of mining refuse close by of somewhat similar appearance, but this mound seems to be of a distinct type, and is probably sepulchral.—Visited, 30th June, 1910.

266. **Mound** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 5 S.E. ; lat. 53° 16' 50", long. 3° 16' 45").  
Owner, Lord Mostyn; occupier, Mr. W. Banks.

A small mound on rising ground, on Pwll farm near Gorsedd Church, having a flat circular top 30 feet in diameter, the height above ground on the south 9 feet, on the east 30 feet, on the north 8 or 9 feet, and on the west 5 feet it has all the appearance of a tumulus. It stands in the township of Tre Ednowain, and does not appear to have been disturbed. It is not-marked on the Ordnance map.—Visited, 4th July, 1910.

267. **Tumulus in Bryn Covert** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 5 N.E. ; lat. 53° 18' 7", long. 3° 18' 39"). Owner, Sir Pyers Charles Mostyn, Talacre.

This tumulus has a fairly flat top, 12 feet in average diameter, and height 12 feet above the ground level on every side. It has been dug into from above. The enclosure within which the mound is placed is itself surrounded with a bank and ditch, probably of considerable age, but having no connection with the mound.—Visited, 22nd July, 1910.

268. **Tumulus in Bryn Covert** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 5 N.E. ; lat. 53° 18' 8", long. 3° 18' 36.5"). Owner, Sir Pyers Charles Mostyn, Talacre.

This tumulus is circular, and its summit irregular. The height above ground on the north side is 6 feet, and on the west 12 feet. The base is 15 yards north to south and 20 yards east to west. The roughly triangular bank which encloses it is provided with a ditch, and has every appearance of great antiquity.—Visited, 22<sup>nd</sup> July, 1910.

269. **Y Gorseddau** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 5 S.E.; lat. 53° 16' 46.05", long. 3° 16' 35"). Owner, Lord Mostyn.

The two mounds called 'Y Gorseddau'\* are situated on a ridge of land in Rosehill Wood, on the south side of the main road, and are about 40 yards apart their relative direction is east and west.

The eastern mound is on an average 12 feet high. The summit is of a somewhat irregular circular form, and of a diameter of 15 feet. There are signs of its having been dug into from the summit. A sandstone object, having the general form of a celt, 4 inches long and 2½ inches wide at the cutting edge, was found near the

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\* In a lease dated 20th June, 1534, the abbot and convent of Basingwerk let to Richard ap Thomas ap Tudor a messuage and lands in the township of Mertyn Uwchglan, and all their lands in Mertyn Isulan. in the parish of Whitford, " and a close lying under Gorseth yr yarle, and all their lands being, in the said towne and parish from the said close under Gorseth yr yarle to Pant Assay " (Pub. Rec. Office : *Ministers'Accounts*, 27-8 Hen. VIII, No. 5543). ' Gorseth yr yarle ' stands for ' Gorsedd yr Iarll,' ' the earl's Gorsedd,' and clearly designates one of the mounds. Edward Lhuyd in 1699 had heard of " gorsedh yr iarlh,' but was not sure whether it was in the parish of Whitford, or in that of Dinmeirchion (Tremeirchion).

surface of this mound in the week before the inspecting officer's visit ; is now at Gorsedd vicarage.

The mound to the west is about 15 feet high. It has every appearance of having been opened.

Both these mounds are near the farm of Yr Orsedd and Gorsedd Church. The district also bears the name 'Wacco,' which may be English, and may contain as its final syllable the word 'hoe'\*.—Visited, 30th June, 1910.

#### DIVISION 1c (MEINI HIRION).

270. **Standing Stones** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 5 S.E. ; lat. 53° 16' 42" and 45", long. 3° 16' 15" and 20").

At the building of Gorsedd Church in 1852, two monoliths were removed from the site intended for the church, to be used as gateposts elsewhere. The identity of these gateposts was almost forgotten, but has lately been established by Mrs. John Morris, who remembers them in their original position. One stands at the side of the gate in the first field on the right-hand side of the road from Druid Inn, Gorsedd, to Babell ; it is 4 feet high above ground, and from 15 to 18 inches thick. The other is at the entrance to the field immediately behind Gorsedd Vicarage, and is 5 feet 6 inches high above ground, and 2 feet by 15 inches thick. Both are of irregular outline.—Visited, 19th July, 1910.

#### DIVISION 1e (INSCRIBED STONES).

271. **Inscribed Stone now at Downing Hall** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 5 N.E.). A stone bearing the inscription: HIC IACIT MULIER BONA NOBILI.

This was removed to Downing by Thomas Pennant the antiquary and naturalist, probably a few years before his death in 1798. Its original site is somewhat uncertain. In Camden's *Britannia* (Gibson's and Gough's editions) it is described as standing in the parish of Caerwys, and the earliest notice of it in *Archmologia Cambrensis* (1855, III, i, 153) speaks of it, as having been removed from Caerwys to Downing (see No. 40 for what is said to have been its position in the first-named parish). It has also been reported to have come from the parish of Newmarket, but this is almost certainly wrong. The most satisfactory evidence for its original location is contained in a little work entitled 'Henafiaethau Caerwys,' 'the Antiquities of Caerwys,' written by T. Prichard Edwards, 'Caerwys,' now residing at Blaenau Festiniog, co. Merioneth. This brings it from the parish of Ysceifiog, and it is therefore further noticed under that parish (No. 298).

272. **Maen Chwyfan** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 5 N.E. ; lat. 53° 17' 54.5", long. 3° 18' 26"). Owner, Lord Mostyn ; occupier, Mrs. Morris, Ty Newydd, Whitford.

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\* Several places in Whitford have the curious name 'Wacco', namely 'Buarth y Wacco', 'Wacco,' and 'Pant y Wacco'. Llewelyn ap Iorwerth, prince of North Wales (1194-1240), in a charter to the monks of Basingwerk, confirms to them (among other places), 'Havot de la Weech'; and in the 'Valor Ecclesiasticus' (36 Henry VIII), the monks' lands in the townships of 'Whitford and Wack' are mentioned. It is called 'Walke' in the *Ministers' Accounts* already referred to.

Maen Chwyfan (as it is locally termed) is a fine wheel cross of the 10th or 11th century, ornamented on all four sides with characteristic Celtic detail. It stands in the corner of a field, exposed to the weather, but protected from danger by a wooden fence. The stem is 8 feet 11 inches high, and the circular head 2 feet 4 inches, the total height being thus 11 feet 3 inches ; its breadth increases from 21 to 27 inches ; the thickness also increases from 7 inches to 10 inches. It is the tallest of the wheel crosses of Great Britain.—Visited, 30th June, 1910.

The best description of this cross is by the late Mr. J. Romilly Allen, F.,S.A., in *Arch. Camb.*, 1891, V, viii, 75, with an excellent illustration. Westwood, *Lapidarium Walliae*, page 206, plate 88 ; Owen, *Stone Crosses*, pages 138-148. In the account of the stone by Edward Lhuyd in Gibson's edition of Camden's *Britannia*, that scholar observes that the name 'Maen y Chufan ' appeared in a deed of the year 1388, but gives no authority for the statement.

Mr. Allen's description of the ornament is as follows:-

"*Front.*—On the head is a cross with a circular, raised boss in the centre, and four equal arms having -extended ends, the spaces between the arms are recessed, and there is a small round pellet in each of the angles next the central boss. The lower and two side-arms are filled in with a triquetra, or three-cornered knot, distorted on the side next the centre, so as to fit into the space occupied by the arms. The top arm is filled in with a looped band.

The cross on the head is surrounded by a circular ring ornamented with a flat cable-moulding. The boss has a cross formed of incised lines upon it.

The shaft is divided into three panels containing—(1) a piece of plaitwork composed of fourteen bands interlacing correctly, but irregularly executed as regards the straightness of the bands and the distances between them ; (2) a key pattern, the setting-out lines of which form a square divided into eight similar triangles ; (3) a man, undraped, holding a spear (?) in his right hand, and treading on a serpent, the whole beino, surrounded by a border of rude spiral ornament. The bottom of the shaft, to a height of 1 foot 6 inches above the base, is left plain.

*Back.*—On the head is a design very similar to that on the front, except that the triquetra-knots on the arms of the cross are regular instead of being distorted, and there is no cable-moulding round the ring. The shaft is divided into two panels containing—(1) two separate pieces of interlaced work, the one at the top consisting of a pair of concentric circular rings interlaced with a four-cornered knot formed of four intersecting semi-circles, and the pattern filling the remainder of the panel at the bottom consisting of a band looped alternately on opposite sides ; (2) a piece of plaitwork composed of twelve bands. All the interlaced work on this face has a line along the centre of the band. The bottom of the shaft is plain to the height of 1 ft. 6 in. above the base.

*Right Side.*—Round the circular edge of the head is a continuous piece of plaitwork composed of four bands. On the shaft is a single panel containing seven, separate designs : (a) a double square, key-pattern border composed of T's placed facing alternately to the right and left ; (b) a chain composed of two circular rings ; (c) a circular ring interlaced with a four-cornered knot, similar to the design on the top panel of the back of the cross ; (d) a band making undulating curves ; (e) a band forming loops on opposite sides ; (f) an animal with a man standing underneath its belly ; (g) a key-pattern, the setting-out lines of which form a square divided into eight similar triangles. The bottom is plain to a height of 1 ft. 6 in. above the base.

Left Side.—Round the circular edge of the head is a piece of plaitwork of four bands, continued from the opposite side. On the shaft is a single panel containing five separate designs : (a) a chain of six circular rings ; (b) 0, piece of plaitwork composed of four bands ornamented with a line along the centre of the band ; (c) a man, undraped, seen in full face, standing with his two arms upraised, and his two legs apart, with an axe between them ; (d) an animal (?) much defaced ; (e) an animal with a long tongue, and a serpent between its legs. The bottom of the shaft is plain to a height of 1 ft. 6 in. above the base."

**Figure 60.**

DIVISION II (EARTHWORKS), SUB-DIVISION D (CASTLE MOUNTS,  
WITHOUT ENCLOSURES).

273. **Coed Allt y Tywod Mound** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 5 N.E. ; lat. 53° 16'56", long. 3° 17' 1"). Owner, Lord Mostyn.

This is a mound composed of earth and rubble, with a low bank at foot. Its height is from 50 to 60 feet from the ground on the north and north-east sides ; on the west the descent is steeper, and on the east there is a fall below the bottom of the mound. The top is 45 feet in diameter, and flat. It is now clothed with wood. At first sight this mound seems to belong to the motte-and-bailey type, but the surroundings have been so disturbed by mining operations that all traces of an attached court (if one ever existed) have been destroyed. The mound stands in the township of Tre Ednowain, and has been supposed to be the site of the 'Ilys' of Ednowain Bendew, a Flintshire chieftain who is supposed to have flourished in the first half of the 11th century.—Visited, 4th July, 1910.

Pennant, *Whiteford and Holywell*, 1796, p. 119.

DIVISION II (EARTHWORKS), SUB-DIVISION X (UNCLASSIFIED—DYKES).

274. **Offa's Dyke** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 5 S.E., N.E., and N.W.).

This dyke appears in Whitford parish at lat. 53° 15' 11", long. 3° 18' 4", and, with some few breaks, can be distinctly traced as far as lat. 53° 17' 55", long. 3° 20' 15", where it commences to form the boundary between the parishes of Newmarket and Llanasa.

It will be described as a whole at a later stage.

DIVISION III (STONE STRUCTURES—DOMESTIC).

275. **Downing Hall**\* (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 5 N.E.; lat. 53° 17' 51", long. 3° 16' 6.5"). Owner, The Earl of Denbigh.

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\* As Downing stands in the township of Tre Ednowain it has been thought that the English form of the name is derived from that of the Welsh, but the phonology implied seems improbable.

In the grounds, by the side of the early inscribed stone (No. 271), is a stone altar tomb, without the superincumbent slab its front decorated with rich tabernacle-work.

This mansion is rendered noteworthy as having been the residence of the antiquary and naturalist, Thomas Pennant. The older portion of the front is evidently of about the date 1627, assigned to it by him. Many alterations as well as additions have since been made to the building. The carved mantelpiece in the smoking room is a notable feature. Two views of Downing Hall, as it was in 1796, appear in Pennant's *History of the parishes of Whiteford and Holywell*.—Visited, 19th July, 1910.

276. **Downing Ucha, Upper Downing** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 5 N.E. ; lat. 53° 17' 49", long. 3° 16' 16.5").

This house has been rebuilt on an old site. In one gable has been inserted a stone from the earlier building with the following inscription :—ANO. DO. 1697 M.E. ..LL 1539. The 'LL' stands for one of the Lloyds Of Downing Ucha. Upper Downing is about 300 yards from Downing Hall, being separated from it by a ravine called 'Y Gwibrnant.'—Visited, 19th July, 1910.

277. **Mertyn Downing** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 5 N.E. ; lat. 53° 17' 58", long. 3° 15' 23").

This house is the old abode of the Parrys of Mertyn, and. is figured in Pennant's *History of Whiteford and Holywell* (1796), p. 60. A part of the back has been removed, but in the portion remaining is a stone inscribed : <sup>R. P. IVLY</sup><sub>1642</sub>; over the front door is the date 1675. The ground floor square-headed windows, with drip stones above, are unaltered.—Visited, 19th July, 1910.

278. **Y Gelli** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 5 N.E. ; lat. 53° 17' 35", long. 3° 18' 31 ").

A long building of Perpendicular date, now converted into two cottages standing about one mile from Whitford Church. It runs north-west and southeast, and has a three-light window in the south-east gable and a huge chimney block on the north-west. It is of two stories ; the short wing on the south side of the northern end contains a flight of ruined stone steps. The doorway in the middle of the northeastern side, where the wall is some three feet thick, is original. Some of the mullioned windows in both stories remain ; others have been modernized. In the lease of Basingwerk Abbey to Hugh Starkey, of the year 1537, this is called 'a grange' to the said abbey.—Visited, 30th June, 1910.

279. **Mertyn Isglan or Mertyn Issa** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 6 N.W. ; lat. 53° 17' 49", long. 3° 14' 43"). Owner, Lord Mostyn ; occupier, Mr. T. Davies.

The older portion of this residence is constructed of rough stone ; the house contains many closed mullioned windows (one with three mullions and a transom is quite perfect), and some which have been modernized. There is a good plain oak staircase. This older portion is of about the year 1600, and to it—probably in the eighteenth century—a brick addition was made.—Visited, 21st July, 1910.

280. **Ty Maen Old House** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 5 N.E. ; lat. 53° 17' 2", long. 3° 17' 8"). Owner, Lord Mostyn.

This ruin is a mere heap of stones, of which only one was found squared ; the heap was formerly larger than it now is, having been much spoiled and robbed. On one side a few flat stones showed on the ground, and on another side the earth was black, as though it had been a garden. The remains are in the middle of a field

directly west of Coed Allt y Tywod. All this it would have been unnecessary to record if Edward Lhuyd, writing in 1699, had not said " There is a ruin in [the township of] Tre Ednowen in a field called Y ty maen, where the ancestors of Sir Roger Mostyn dwelt " (translation); and Pennant speaks of " a great enclosure belonging to Sir Roger Mostyn called Ty maen " (*Hist. of Whiteford and Holywell*, 1796, p. 119).—Visited, 30th June, 1910.

#### DIVISION IV (ECCLESIASTICAL STRUCTURES).

281. **The Parish Church** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 5 N.E.). Ded : St. Mary. Diocese of St. Asaph ; archdeaconry of St. Asaph ; rural-deanery of Holywell ; townships of Bychtyn, Mostyn, Mertyn Isglan, Mertyn Uwchglan, Tre'r Abbot, Tre'r Llan, Tre Ednowain, Whitford Garn.

This church consists of a western tower, nave of six bays, and north and south aisles ; all modern, except the north wall and -two or three of the piers of the arcade, the church having been practically rebuilt in 1846. There is no structural distinction between nave and chancel. The floor falls towards the east end. The font is dated 1649. Outside the west end of the south aisle are various fragments of incised and inscribed slabs, and also a portion of the stoup.

#### Figure 61.

Inside the church 'are other broken floriated and incised stones,\* and a discarded sundial. The parish chest has been cut out of a solid piece of oak ; it is 5 feet 7 inches long, 22 inches wide, 22 inches deep, and both ends are semicircular. There is a memorial to Thomas Pennant, the naturalist and antiquary, and in the graveyard another to Moses Griffiths, Pennant's artist.—Visited, 30th June, 1910. Thomas, *Hist. Dioc. St. Asaph*, 1911, ii, 202 ; Glynne, 'Notes,' *Arch. Camb.*, 1884, V, i, 186 ; Pennant, *Hist. of Whiteford and Holywell*, 1796, page 99.

#### DIVISION V (MISCELLANEOUS).

282. **Sarn Hwlcyn** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 5 N.E. ; lat. 53° 18' 0", long. 3° 19' 23').

This is the name of a road, now well macadamized, but evidently not of modern construction. ' Sarn ' is also the name of a small hamlet on the same road, about 20 chains west, but in the parish of Llanasa.—Visited, 30th June, 1910.

283. **The Tower** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 5 N.E.; lat. 53° 17'39", long. 3° 18'0')  
Owner, Lord Mostyn.

This is a circular building in Coed y garreg, about 20 feet in height and 18 feet in diameter, divided into three stories. The thickness of the wall at the second story is 3 feet 6 inches. In the uppermost story, looking northwards, are four openings about 18 inches square, and in the second story two openings, 3 feet by 2 feet, which have been reconstructed. It is probably a late 16th or early 17th century beacon tower. It

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\* Figured in *Arch. Camb.*, 1891, V, viii, 136.

has been repaired in commemoration of the diamond jubilee of the late Queen Victoria.—Visited, 30th June, 1910.

For its appearance in 1796 see Pennant's *Whiteford and Holywell*, p. 112.

#### DIVISION V (MISCELLANEOUS—CROSSES).

284. ***Cross Base in Llwyn y Bedd*** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 2 S.E. ; lat. 53° 19' 31", long. 31° 17' 22").

Near the north-west corner of the wood called Llwyn y bedd,<sup>†</sup> in Mostyn township, is the pedestal of a cross, the pillar of which has disappeared. The portion remaining is 12 inches high, and 18 inches square at the bottom, but set back to 14 inches at the top, where there is a square socket hole of 7 inches for the stem. A part of the pedestal is broken off.—Visited, 10th August, 1910.

#### DIVISION V (MISCELLANEOUS—WELLS).

285. ***Ffynnon Oswalt or Oswald's Well*** (6 in. OCd. Surv. sheet, Flint. 6 N.W. lat. 53° 17' 19", long. 3° 14' 50").

A spring near Mertyn Hall, discharging a considerable volume of water into a tank, which is protected by a modern brick arch. No explanation of the name was obtainable.—Visited, 19th July, 1910.

#### DIVISION VI (SITES OF HISTORIC OR ANTIQUARIAN INTEREST).

286. ***Maes yr Orsedd*** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 5 S.E. ; lat. 53° 16' 34", long. 3° 18' 15").

There is nothing about this field, which is almost flat, to account for the name. Tithe Schedule, No. 345.—Visited, 7th September, 1910.

288. ***Maes Mynach Ucha, Maes Mynach Issa*** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 6 N.W. lat. 53° 17' 49" and 54", long. 3° 15' 5"). Owner, The Earl of Denbigh.

Two fields (Tithe Schedule, Nos. 1394 and 1401), situate in the township of Mertyn Abbot, which formerly belonged to the monastic house of Basingwerk.

289. ***Hendre Mynach*** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 5 N.W. ; lat. 53° 17' 0", long. 3° 21' 15"). Owner, Lord Mostyn, Mostyn Hall.

A house of the above name (Tithe Schedule, No. 82) formerly stood upon the site indicated, in the township of Tre'r Abbot, once the possession of the monastery of Basingwerk. It is mentioned by Edward Lhuyd in 1699, but was demolished later, and the land added to the neighbouring farm of Hendre fawr in the parish of Cwm (see No. 72).—Visited, 13th October, 1910.

290. ***Hendre Bach*** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 5 N.W. ; lat. 53° 16' 55", long. 3° 20' 52.5"). Owner, Lord Mostyn ; occupier, Mr. J. Williams.

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<sup>†</sup> Edward Lhuyd in 1699 says that in Llwyn y bedd, above 'Lhynegr' (Linacre), was a spot called 'Bedh Evan', where still-born children were buried.

The name given to this house, or to the field adjoining it (Tithe Schedule, No. 629) is 'Hendre Mynach mawr,' the explanation of which name is to be found in the fact that the house and field lie in the township of Tre'r Abbot, which belonged to the monastery of Basingwerk. The same explanation applies to two farm-houses, 'Tfe'r Abbot fawr' and 'Tre'r Abbot fach,' and to 'Pant yr Abbot,' the name of a field, all within the same township.—Visited, 13th October, 1910.

291. **Caeau Cynafriog** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 5 N.W. ; lat. 53° 17'48" and 50", long. 3° 20' 38" and 45").- Owner, Lord Mostyn ; occupier, Mr. David Roberts, Tre'r Abbot fawr.

This obviously corrupt name (Tithe Schedule, Nos. 671-2) is quite unknown to the tenant of Tre'r Abbot fawr, who calls the fields in question 'Wergloddie,' i.e., 'Gweirgloddiau,' 'the hay meadows.'—Visited, 1st July, 1910.

#### DIVISION VII (FINDS).

##### 292. **Sepulchral Urns.**

On the occasion of the visit of the Royal Commissioners to Downing Hall, on the 20th September, 1911, and during an inspection of the library, an urn was perceived on the top of one of the bookcases. By the kindness of the Earl of Denbigh, and of Sir William H. Tate (who was then in occupation), the urn was brought down for examination, when it was found to contain within it a smaller urn, and a letter of which the following is a copy :—" August 26th, 1833. My dear Sir,—On my way from Caerwys, Edward Williams at Rhydwen gave me the enclosed, which he had just found on clearing an old tumulus on one of his fields. Many other things were also found, but not one of them so perfect as the one I send you. He thought it a curiosity, and therefore begs you would accept it. There were bones found, and the other veseris were very much larger than the one sent you. Yours, etc., E. R."\*

Nothing further has been gathered respecting this interesting find. The larger urn is of the cinerary class, and approximates to the type of the Bronwen urn, the Hon. J. Abercrombie's No. 59 (*Bronze Age Pottery*, ii, plate 66). It is  $5\frac{5}{8}$  inches high ; diameter at mouth 6 inches, at bottom  $3\frac{1}{4}$  inches. The smaller vessel is of the incense-cup variety. Both are of the late Bronze age. Rhydwen, the farm upon which (as it would appear) stood the tumulus in which the urns had been interred, borders upon the western side of the parish of Caerwys.

##### Figure 62.

##### 293. **Bronze Celt.**

A fine looped bronze celt was found on a hill called the Glôl, in Whitford parish, shortly before the visit of the inspecting officer. The celt is  $5\frac{3}{4}$  inches long,  $2\frac{7}{8}$  inches broad at the cutting edge, and  $11\frac{1}{2}$  inches broad at the haft. The section of the haft end is oblong, with slightly rounded corners.—Seen, 19th July, 1910.

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\* It has been subsequently found that the sheet of note paper bears a very faint cameo stamp of the word 'Frith'; unfortunately the name is rather a common one in the neighbourhood.

## Parish of YSCEIFIOG.

### DIVISION Ia (TUMULI).

294. **Carnedd** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 9 S.W. ; lat. 53° 13' 22", long. 3° 14' 52"). On the right-hand side of the road leading out of the main Mold and Denbigh road to Ysceifiog village, just north of the Trough, is a heap of small stones, with three or four large ones, and a stone standing 2 feet 3 inches above ground, 4 feet 6 inches broad at the base, 19 inches broad at the top, and about 18 inches thick throughout. The whole suggests the remains of the carnedd from which the township took its name of Garneddwen.—Visited, 31st October, 1910.

295. **Mound near Gellily House** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 5 SX. ; lat. 53° 15' 21", long. 3° 16' 36").

This is marked on the 1 inch Ordnance Survey sheet as a 'Tumulus,' but it is more probably a natural outcrop of rock, with a thin covering, of soil.—Visited, 18th July, 1910.

### DIVISION IC (MEINI HIRION).

296. **Stone on Waun Issa Farm** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 8 N.E. ; lat. 53° 15' 2", long. 3° 16' 15"). Owner and occupier, Mr. Thomas Bithel Price.

A boulder about 4 feet high and 6 feet 7 inches long. The fields near, called 'Ffridd y garreg lwyd', 'Pant y garreg ucha', and 'Pant y garreg isa', take their names from this stone, which is possibly of glacial origin.—Visited, 18th July, 1910.

297. **Stone in Pare Garreg Lwyd** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 9 N.W. ; lat. 53° 14' 28", long. 3° 14' 4.5").

A boulder of millstone grit, roughly hexagonal in section, standing in the middle of a field. Its girth midway is 2 feet 7 inches, and its greatest height at one corner is 5 feet 6 inches. The stone is partly surrounded by a small elevation, about 4 inches high, probably formed by the operation of ploughing. A glacial erratic.—Visited, 18th July, 1910.

### DIVISION 16 (INSCRIBED STONES).

298. **Inscribed Stone now at Downing Hall** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 5 N.E.).

A triangular block of whinstone of irregular shape, 3 feet 2 inches high above ground, bearing an inscription. The inscribed side is about 2 feet 10 inches wide, and has been slightly polished. The inscription is possibly of the 7th century, if not earlier, and reads :-

HIC IACIT MULIER BONA NOBILI

which Sir John Rhys translates:—" Here lies the good wife of Nobilis." The inscription is fairly legible, but most of the letters are of a debased form, and the M has the form ΠΠ.—Visited, 19th July, 1910.

Westwood, *Lapidarium Walliae*, pl., 89, No. 4; Pennant, *Tours*, ed. Rhys, ii, 76 ; *Arch. Camb.*, 1855, III, i, 153.; ib. 1891, V, viii, 135.

See No. 271, above.

DIVISION II (EARTHWORKS), SUB-DIVISION B (HILL FORTS).

299. ***Bwrdd Rhyfel*** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 5 S.E. ; lat. 33° 16' 7", long. 3° 17' 18"). Owner, Lord Mostyn.

A roughly oval area in Coed moel dda, protected by two banks of earth and stones, with an intervening ditch which becomes shallow towards the east. The only entrance is on the south-west. At the entrance to the enclosure the top of the inner bank upon the right is about 4 feet from the ditch bottom, and the outer bank from 5 to 6 feet above the same. On the left the outer bank is conspicuous. Walking northwards, as the whole enclosure is situated on a slope the inner bank rises from 5 to 6 feet above the level area outside the entrance, and the height of the bank also increases to 6 feet from the ditch bottom. The area thus enclosed is about three-quarters of an acre ; it is covered with wood. The interior is by no means flat, so that the word 'bwrdd,' 'a table,' inaccurately describes it. It may have been a prehistoric cattle enclosure.— Visited, 30th June, 1910.

DIVISION III (DOMESTIC STRUCTURES).

300. ***Gellilyfdy***\* (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 5 S.E. ; lat. 53° 15' 18", long. 3° 16' 51"-5').

This residence, in the township of the same name, has been so much modernized that a few windows are the only original remaining features. These probably represent a house erected in the first half of the 17th century. Most of the extensive farm buildings are old, and denote the former importance of the place. The barn has a fine open oak roof ; one of the main beams bears the date 1586.—Visited, 18th July, 1910.

301. ***Colomendy, 'The Dovecote'*** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 8 S.E. ; lat. 53° 12' 50", long. 3° 18' 0"). Owner, Mr. John Owen, Plas Ucha ; occupier, Mr. John Roberts.

A farm-house with an unusually large porch, but presenting no other external architectural features requiring attention. Over a three-light mullioned window in one of the gables is the date 1663. At the back, the foundations of a wall, 6 feet thick, possibly indicate the former existence of a larger house than now exists. The farmyard is large, and the openings to the buildings are rudely arched. The upper story of one of these is fitted up as a dovecote, whence the name of the house. The wood-framed windows of the middle part of the 17th century remain in the half-ruinous barn, and huge beams support the upper story.—Visited, 22nd July, 1910.

302. ***Gledlom*** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 8 N.E. ; lat. 53° 13' 47", long. 3° 15' 40"). Owner, Mrs. Gillespie, Ty'n y caeau.

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\* Here lived John Jones, attorney of the court of the Marches, most of whose MS. collections and transcriptions passed at his death, c. 1630, into the possession of Robert Vaughan of Hengwrt, and are now in the National Library of Wales. The name of the house appears as 'Gelli Loveday' on the 6 in. Ordnance Sheet. The Domesday form is 'Chesilaved'.

An interesting mansion, now a farm-house, having the shippon of the period of the main building under the same roof. Over the porch is a stone bearing the date 1645 and a shield of arms charged with a chevron between three boars' heads.—Visited, 27th June, 1910.

#### DIVISION IV (ECCLESIASTICAL STRUCTURES).

303. **The Parish Church** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 8 N.E.). Ded : St. Mary.  
Diocese and archdeaconry of St. Asaph ; rural-deanery of Holywell ; townships of Trellan ucha, Trellan issa, Bodingen, Garnéddwen, Gellilyfdy, Prysau, Trevraith. This church was entirely rebuilt in 1837. The old disused font is octagonal the upper part of the bowl is quatrefoiled, and diminishes towards the stem, which is wanting. Various relics of the earlier church are preserved in the present building, namely: (1) the upper part of a medieval female effigy, the head carved in low relief; (2) the top of a coffin lid, showing a Maltese cross with a leaf between each arm, and HIC—the beginning of an inscription; (3) the lower part of a floriated coffin lid; (4) two well-preserved coats of arms, removed from old memorial slabs. In the porch is a full length effigy of a priest, with chasuble, alb, and stole, the head resting on a cushion ; the canopy is of the 14th century. On the south side of the churchyard is the broken and much weathered shaft of the old cross, 3 feet 2 inches high, evidently octagonal when perfect, but with square base.—Visited, 7th July, 1910.  
Thomas, *Hist. Dioc. St. Asaph*, 1911, ii, 209 ; Owen, *Stone Crosses*, 204.

#### DIVISION V (MISCELLANEOUS—WELLS).

304. **Ffynnon Fair** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 8 N.E. ; lat. 53° 14' 15", long. 3° 16' 14-).  
This spring, situated about 350 yards north of the parish church, is covered with flat stones. The overflow from the well is copious.—Visited, 18th July, 1910.

#### DIVISION VI (SITES OF HISTORIC OR ANTIQUARIAN INTEREST).

305. **Gorsedd** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 9 N.W. ; lat. 53° 14'55", long. 3° 14'30").  
The name ' Gorsedd ' is applied to a meadow having what seems to be merely a natural rise in the ground. It was said that a human skull was discovered in the clay pit on the Gorsedd by the late Mr. Houghton of the Nag's Head, Pant y diffaeth, and that it was re-interred.—Visited, 29th August, 1910.
306. **Y Gadlas and Maen Llwyd** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 8 N.E. ; lat. 53° 14'10", long. 3° 17' 10").  
There is no maen llwyd in the field known by both of the above names, but on the northern and outer side of the hedge, on the right-hand side of the cartway leading to Bronfadog farm-house, are four grey stones, the largest of which is roof-shaped, 4 feet 6 inches broad, 3 feet high, and about 5 feet thick at base. Tithe Schedule, No. 1615.—Visited, 15th October, 1910.
307. **Maen Llwyd** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 9 N.W. ; lat. 53° 14' 19", long. 3° 15' 14-).

The only standing stone at the spot indicated is a small irregular boulder used as a gate post ; this has a height above ground of 3 feet, a width at base of 11 inches by 9 inches, and at top of 7 inches by 5 inches.—Visited, 15th October, 1910.

308. **The Sarn** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 8 N.E. ; lat. 53° 13'31-5", long. 3° 16'7"). The name 'Sarn' is given to the point where a lane crosses the Mold and Denbigh Road. The lane on either side is now mended with road metal, and no cobbled surface could be detected.—Visited, 15th October, 1910.

#### DIVISION VII (FINDS).

309. **A Gold Torque**, the property of the Duke of Westminster, and preserved at Eaton Hall, near Chester.

It is said to weigh 24 ounces, and to have been found during the removal of a tumulus on the farm of Bryn Sion (T. Prichard Edwards, '*Henafiaethau Caerwys*', '*the Antiquities of Caerwys*'). It is, however, stated in the account of the Chester meeting of the Cambrian Archaeological Association in 1909, when the torque was exhibited, that it "was purchased by Earl Grosvenor in 1815 for 200 guineas from the miner who found it while working in a limestone quarry near Holywell, about a mile distant (as the inscription on the case states), from the reputed palace of the late Princes [of Wales]" (*Arch. Carmb.*, 1910, VI, x, 181).

### MAELOR SAESNEG.

#### PREFATORY NOTE.

Maelor Saesneg is a wholly detached part of the county of Flint, from the nearest point of which it is distant over ten miles, the intervening land being part of the county of Denbigh. It contains the civil parishes of Bangor, Bronington, Bettis-field, Halghton, Hanmer, Iscoyd, Overton, Penley, Tybroughton, Willington, and Worthenbury.

'Maelor Saesneg' is the fuller and older form of what is now called 'the hundred of Maelor'—as though there were but one Maelor. The rest of Maelor - Maelor Gymraeg, or Bromfield—lies on the left or west side of the river Dee and forms part of the county of Denbigh. Maelor Saesneg lies wholly on the east side of the Dee.

At the time of the Domesday Survey (A.D. 1086) the district of Maelor Saesneg formed an un-named portion of the hundred of 'Dudestan,' in Cheshire. At this time it (or a portion of it) may have actually been part of the Mercian diocese of Lichfield, and remained in that of Chester until the year 1849, though doubtless it originally belonged to St. Asaph. The other portion of the hundred of Maelor, namely Maelor Gymraeg, continued within the diocese of St. Asaph. This ecclesiastical partition is probably the reason why one portion came to be called Maelor 'Saesneg', 'English' Maelor, while the other was distinguished as Maelor 'Gymraeg', 'Welsh' Maelor.

The fact that this district of Maelor Saesneg in A.D. 1086 was considered to be part of Cheshire, and in the diocese of Lichfield, makes it fairly certain that its political

government at the same period was in Norman hands. It is impossible to say whether the name Maelor was even then in existence, and, of course, even more impossible to say how far the ethnological character of the district has been varied. But we do know that about the commencement of the twelfth century the Welsh were able to advance their limits eastwards, and probably to establish the principedom of Powys. At any rate it is about this period that the name 'Powys' comes into general use, though it occurs on the Valle Crucis pillar ; and just a century later, in A.D. 1202, we have the earliest mention of Maelor in a charter of Madoc ap Gruffudd to Valle Crucis Abbey, who calls his patrimony 'Malaur Saisnec'. The same Gruffudd had held it in A.D. 1195 as the manor of Overton, which was the Caput of the land. While in the possession of the Welsh princes it was one of the three commots of the cantref of Maelor, those of Wrexham and Merford (together called 'Maelor Gymraeg') forming the other two. Ecclesiastically, however, English Maelor continued attached to Lichfield. And the two parts of Maelor ceased to be a single patrimony when Edward I. in 1275 granted Maelor Saesneg to Robert de Crevequer, and in 1282 when he conceded Maelor Gymraeg (or Bromfield) to John de Warrenne. By an exchange with Robert in 1283 Maelor Saesneg was restored to the Crown, and the territorial readjustments rendered possible by the conquest of Wales permitted of its incorporation into the new shire of Flint. By this manoeuvre Edward was able to secure unhesitating obedience to the royal writs, and to relieve the Crown from the irritating pretensions of a lord marcher. By the so-called Statute of Rhuddlan (A.D. 1284) Maelor Saesneg was made subject to the sheriff of Flint, and it has ever since been a part of that county, although it has been frequently granted out as an independent lordship.

### **Parish of BANGOR ISYCOED.\***

#### DIVISION IV (ECCLESIASTICAL STRUCTURES).

310. *The Parish Church* (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 22 N.W.). Ded : St. Dinoth.<sup>†</sup> Diocese of St. Asaph ; archdeaconry of Wrexham ; rural-deanery of Bangor Isycoed ; townships of Bangor in Flintshire, Sesswick, Ryton, Pickhill, and Eyton in Denbighshire.

The structure is composed of a nave of four bays, north and south aisles, an aisleless chancel, and an 18th century tower of three stages ; the western tower is only a few yards distant from the right bank of the river Dee. The chancel generally is of Decorated character, as is also a portion of the northern nave arcade. The north aisle was much altered during the 19th century, and the south aisle rebuilt. There is some early glass in the upper lights of the Perpendicular window on the south side of the chancel. The painting shown as from "an old fresco in the south aisle" is largely conjectural. On the floor at the west end of the north aisle are two oaken beams with

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\* Bangor Isycoed parish is called 'Banoor Monachorum' by Edward Lhuyd, in the Order of Council 1849, and elsewhere.

† The dedication to St. Dinoth (Dunawd) is comparatively recent, the older invocation being to St. Deiniol. Edward Lhuyd writing of Bangor Monachorum. in 1699 says, "Their feast is on Daniel's Tyde," and notes the existence of a well there bearing Deiniol's name.

late Decorated mouldings, probably once part of the old rood-loft, and afterwards used in the western gallery which was pulled down in 1877.

The parish chest is made of a solid piece of oak, brought to a point at one end. The octagonal Perpendicular font has on its panels the emblems of the evangelists, the symbols of the Passion, and a shield charged with three fleurs-de-lis arranged two and one.—Visited, 29th April, 1910.

Thomas, *Hist. Dioc. of St. Asaph*, 1908, i, 429.

#### DIVISION V (MISCELLANEOUS).

311. **Bangor Bridge** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 22 N.W. ; lat. 53° 0' 9", long. 2° 54' 44').

This bridge of five arches spans the river Dee, connecting the village of Bangor with the parish of Sesswick in Denbighshire, and affording a passage for the high road to Wrexham and Ruabon. It is very narrow, the parapets being carried over the arches on each side so as to afford eight triangular shelters for foot passengers, and producing altogether a most pleasing effect. It is of late 15th, or early 16th century date, and according to an inscription on its southern side, now illegible, but recorded by Pennant (*Tours*, ed. 1778, i, 225 ; ed. 1810, i, 303 ; ed. Rhys, i, 288 ; see also *Arch. Camb.*, 1896, V, xiii, 353), was repaired in the year 1658.‡—Visited, 26th April, DIVISION V (MISCELLANEOUS—WAYSIDE CROSS).

312. **Bangor Cross.**

In the year 1849 the mutilated remains of an octagonal cross were found in a bulwark of the river Dee, scarce two furlongs from the churchyard of Bangor Isycoed. The cross was removed by the Rev. J. H. Montagu Luxmoore, rector of Marchwiell (co. Denbigh), to the rectory garden of Marchwiell (*Arch. Camb.*, 1849, I, iv, 325), where it is still preserved. The base is plain, 2 feet 4 inches square, and 17 inches high. An octagonal shaft rises 10½ inches to the beginning of the arms. One arm is quite broken off, and the greater part of the other much mutilated. The arms were octagonal and slightly smaller in section than the cross itself. The upper arm of the cross stands 9 inches above the cross arms ; it is circular with a central boss, and has been fractured just above the boss. The total height of the cross above the base is at present 27½ inches, and all has been cut out of a single stone. The simplicity of the form, and the destruction of all ornament that may have been upon the cross, render its dating hazardous, but it is certainly pre-Reformation, and probably of the early 15th century. In which direction from Bangor church the relic was found is not stated, but on the south side of that structure, and at about the distance indicated by Mr. Luxmoore, near the right bank of the Dee, and by the side of the road leading from Bangor to Overton, is a field called 'Maes y Groes' (see 'Maes y Groes,' No. 1).—Visited, 27th April, 1910.

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‡ The Ordnance Survey authorities have placed upon their maps A.D. 1036." This quite impossible date is thus arrived at : The inscription referred to bore, in addition to the year of Our Lord, the year of the world. .5607 (according to Pennant), and the year of the Hegira, 1036. The last-named date continued visible after the others had peeled away. and has been taken as the year of the erection of the bridge according to the Christian era.

DIVISION VI (SITES OF HISTORIC OR ANTIQUARIAN INTEREST).

313. ***The Monastery of Bangor Isycoed.***

It is necessary to say a few words on the location of the site of this famous monastic settlement, the historic character of which it is impossible to doubt. It is equally impossible to doubt that it stood somewhere in the parish of Bangor and in the township of "the llan," as it would be called in any more Welsh part of Wales. This narrows the exact spot down to the flat area extending along both banks of the river Dee from Bangor Bridge towards Overton. Leland is the first of the ancients who mentions the ruins of the monastery, and he does so as follows:—"This is Bangor whey the great abbay was. A parte of this paroch, that is as much as lyith beyond Dee on the north side, is yn Walsehe Maylor, and that is as half the paroch of [Ban]gor. But the abbay stoode yn Yn[glyshe] Mailor on the hither and south [side] of Dee. And it [is] ploughid gro[wnd now] where the abbay was by th[e space] of a good Walsch myle, [and yet] they plough up bones of the [monkes, and in remembrance] were dig[gid up pecis of theyr clothes in sepulturs]. The abbay stoode in a faire valley, and Dee ran by it. The cumpace of it was as of a waulid toun, and yet remaynith the name of a gate caullid Porth Hogan by north, and the name of a nother caullid Port Clays by south. Dee syns chaunging the botom rennith now thoroug the mydle betwyxt thes 2 gates, one being a mile dim. from the other, and yn this ground be ploughid up foundations of squarid stonys, and Romaine money is founde there." "Porth Hwgan," ('Wgan's Gate'), \* says Mr. A. N. Palmer, in a paper entitled "Notes on the Early History of Bangor Isycoed" (*Y Cymmrodor*, 1889, x, 17), "is, the name still given to the point at which the road from Wrexham to Bangor Bridge cuts its way through the ancient river-bank to the lower level of the river-side meadows." 'Porth Clays'" the same writer believes to have been situate "somewhere in the ,district over which the various farms called 'Cloy' or 'Clay' are scattered" (*ib.*, page 18). Mr. Palmer brings forward a further clue presented by the name 'Cae Ffynnon Daniel', 'the field of Daniel's Well', which name he asserts commemorates "almost certainly Daniel or Deinioel, son of Dunawd, the Abbot" (*ib.*, page 19, note 6). This well, however, is in the manor of Pickhill and Sesswick, two of the townships of Bangor parish on the opposite (or Denbighshire) side of the Dee.

Edward Lhuyd in 1699 says, "the field where ye Abby stood is call'd Stanielch", a name that is manifestly English, and probably intended to represent 'Stanwick'.

314. ***Maes y Groes No. 1*** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 22 N.W. ; lat. 52° 59' 58', long. 2° 54' 30").

This Maes y groes, before the building of the two houses ('Maes y groes' and 'Dee Side', now standing on ,parts of it) and the creation of gardens, etc., appurtenant to those houses, must have stretched throughout the whole length of its western side along the Bangor and Overton road, which here is parallel with and adjacent to the right bank of the river Dee. The meadow is still entered from that road ; and immediately opposite the gateway is a spot where the path from the river bank drops

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\* The 6 in. Ordnance map, contrary to all rules of accentuation, has altered this perfectly well attested personal name to 'Porth y gan', 'the gate of the song'.

into the road, which is very suitable for a wayside cross. There is here a line of six squared stones, 8 feet in length, now used as a coping for the bank side, but giving the appearance of having been intended for some other purpose. This point is a little over 200 yards south of the church, but the meadow stretches about 450 yards further.—Visited, 27th April, 1910.

315. **Maes y Groes Nos. 2, 3 and 4** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 22 N.W. ; lat. 52° 59' 45", long. 2° 54' 47", 2° 55' 5").

These three fields, each called 'Maes y groes,' and probably at one time a single enclosure, are situate on either side of the Bangor and Overton road, at the point known as 'Turn of Dee,' about half a mile south of Bangor church, and the fields above named are too distant therefrom to have contained the site of the cross now at Marchwiell Rectory.—Visited, 8th October, 1910.

#### DIVISION VII (FINDS).

316. **A wood carving** representing the entombment of Christ was found in or about the year 1889, in a farm-house in the parish of Bangor Isycoed. It is fully described and illustrated in *Arch. Camb.*, 1889, V, vi, 88, by the late Mr. J. Romilly Allen, F.S.A. ; it was then in the possession of the late Mr. E. R. Luxmoore of Bryn Asaph, St. Asaph, and is now in that of his son, Mr. J. C. B. Luxmoore.

### Parish of BETTISFIELD.

#### DIVISION III (DOMESTIC STRUCTURES).

317. **Bettisfield Old Hall** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 26 S.W. ; lat. 52° 55' 8", long. 2° 47' 58"). Owner, Sir Wyndham C. H. Hamner, Bart. ; occupier, Mr. W. Kelsatl.

This residence, now a farm-house of three stories, dates apparently from the beginning of the 17th century, or perhaps somewhat earlier. It has two distinct portions at right angles to each other, each terminating in a gable. The porch is internal. The uppermost story of the portion running north and south is mainly veiled, with a cornice having a portion of a carved principal at one end. This is called 'The Chapel', and since it once belonged to the Roman Catholic family of Fowler this part of the house may have been used for private devotions. The whole is of excellent red brick, the moulded ribs of the many mullioned and transomed windows (most of which are closed) being of that material. On the west of the house, bounding the kitchen garden, is a very large space walled in with the same sort of brick as that of which the house is built. This wall is now in parts quite ruinous, especially on the west side where it bounded the old road. The new portion of the house displaced some buildings older than any now in position.—Visited, 10th May, 1910.

#### DIVISION V (MISCELLANEOUS).

318. **Ancient Road** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 26 S.W. ; lat. 52° 55' 20", long. 2°47'24").

Skirting the western side of Bettisfield Wood for about a furlong and a half is a disused piece of road, slightly curved, and having an average width of 30 feet at different points, including the ditches on each side. If prolonged in a north-westerly direction it would pass 'Old Lane Coppice', and fall into the present road by the entrance to Bettisfield Park. If carried south it would lead to the farm called 'Cornhill' and Cadney Bank in Bettisfield, and so towards the parish of Wem in Shropshire.—Visited, 30<sup>th</sup> May, 1910.

#### DIVISION VI (SITES OF HISTORIC OR ANTIQUARIAN, INTEREST).

319. **The Warstone** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 26 S.W. ; lat. 52° 55' 35", long. 2° 49' 16').

'Warstone' is probably a localism for 'Hoar stone,' which is the usual term for a boundary stone ; but whether this be so or not, there is now no standing stone in this field, nor are there any stones here except a few small rounded ones by the side of the stile. Tithe Schedule, No. 167.—Visited, 6th October, 1910.

#### DIVISION VII (FINDS).

320. **Roman**. Two fragments of what are almost certainly Roman tiling were found in the meadow fronting Bettisfield Old Hall by the inspecting officer on the occasion of his visit to the Hall. Both pieces are slightly flanged.—Seen, 10th May, 1910.

### Parish of BRONINGTON.

#### DIVISION II (EARTHWORKS), SUB-DIVISION F (HOMESTEAD MOATS).

321. **Haulton Ring** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 26 S.W. ; lat. 52° 55' 48", long. 2°47'25").

A roughly-square moated area, 46 yards in length by 30 yards in breadth, having its sides aligned to the cardinal points. The entrance was at the north corner. The moat varies in breadth, and at some points is very wide ; the west side is full of water, and at the south-west and north-west corners large pools have formed. The last person who occupied the house in Haulton Ring is said to have been Dorothy, widow of Sir John Hanmer ; she died in 1656, and the residence was pulled down a few years afterwards (Lord Hanmer, Hist. of Hanmer, 1876, pp. 54 and 81).—Visited, 9th May, 1910.

### Parish of HALGHTON.

#### DIVISION II (EARTHWORKS), SUB-DIVISION F (HOMESTEAD MOATS).

322. **The Moat** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 22 S.E. ; lat. 52° 58' 9", long. 2° 50' 18').

This moat is in a meadow to the east of Peartree Lane. The area enclosed measures 34 yards and 40 yards on the north and south sides, and 27 yards and 25 yards on the east and west sides respectively, and rises about 12 feet above the bottom of the moat, which still contains water in some places, and is from 3 to 10 yards wide at different points. The entrance was to the south. There was evidently an extension of the moat on the east in a south-easterly direction, perhaps to meet a spring, and the ground on the south-east side is irregular as though it had been trenched or banked for some purpose. There are no visible remains of foundations either within or without the enclosure.—Visited, 3rd May, 1910.

#### DIVISION III (DOMESTIC STRUCTURES).

323. **The Bryn** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 22 S.E. ; lat. 52° 57'49", long. 2°50'58").

Owner, Lord Kenyon, Gredington Park, Ellesmere ; occupier, Mr. Owens.

'The Bryn' is a long, low, irregular farm-house, partly constructed of timber, with brick fillings, and partly of brick alone. It was formerly the residence of a family called Lloyd, and it is interesting as an example of the structure at one time common enough in Maelor wherein the squire occupied one part of the dwelling, and his farmer another.\* At about 25 yards from, and below, the western gable are the northern and southern sides of a wet moat, and in the adjoining field called 'The Moat Meadow' (Tithe Schedule, No. 210), a moated area can be traced wherein a still older house once stood. The Moat Field (Tithe Schedule, No. 216), on the other and western side of the road to the Moat Meadow, contains no object of antiquity.—Visited, 3rd May, 1910.

324. **Halghton Hall** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 22 S.E. ; lat. 52° 58' 32", long. 2° 52' 13"). Owner, Lord Kenyon, Gredington Park, Ellesmere ; occupier, Mrs. Matthews.

A residence which was constructed about 1662, and was formerly one of the seats of the Lloyds of Halghton. The principal frontage is to the south, and extends about 21 yards in total length. A wing, at a direct right angle to the main building, is attached to the eastern end and projects two yards to the north and six yards to the south. The house is built mainly of red brick, with stone dressings and plinth. Internally it has a good staircase, with flat and turned balusters, and one room has a ceiling decorated with raised plaster work. The house has long since been converted into a farm-house, and the principal door and nearly all the mullioned windows are closed. It has been erected within an ancient moated area, the line of the moat being still perfect in places though it has totally disappeared in others.—Visited, 26th April, 1910.

#### DIVISION VI (SITES OF HISTORIC OR ANTIQUARIAN INTEREST).

325. **Far Moat Land, Middle Moat Land** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 22 S.E. ; lat. 52° 57' 49", long. 2° 50' 28"). Owner, Lord Kenyon, Gredington Hall, Ellesmere ; occupier, Mr. W. Griffith.

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\* In the hearth tax returns for 1662, Luke Lloyd, the then owner, and Jonathan Cliffe, the tenant, are respectively rated for five and for two hearths "in one house".

In the Tithe Schedule (Nos. 413 and 415) these, fields are designated 'Moat Land,' but are actually called 'The Motlands.' They adjoin, having at an earlier period probably formed one enclosure. 'Far Moat Land' has no trace of a moat or other distinctive feature ; but in 'Middle Moat Land ' is a somewhat elevated area, with broken banks, which has been disturbed by the passage of the Liverpool Corporation's aqueduct through it. Here may have been a moated area.—Visited, 8th October, 1910.

## Parish of HANMER.

### DIVISION Ia (TUMULI).

326. **Bryn Rossett**\* (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 23 S.W. ; lat. 52° 57' 45", long. 2-47' 49").

Bryn Rossett is a conical bill of but slight elevation, surrounded towards the top by a narrow and shallow ditch, above the bottom of which the crown of the hill stands from 1½ to 2 feet only. This enclosed elevation is probably a tumulus, which has been rifled and subjected to severe denudation. It is 29 feet across from north to south, and 27 feet from east to west. There is a depression on the summit, where digging has apparently taken place. No history or tradition clings to it, so far as could be ascertained.—Visited, 2nd May, 1910.

327. **Tumulus** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 25 N. E. ; lat. 52° 56' 40", long. 2° 49' 54"). Owner, Lord Kenyon, Gredington Hall.

A mound on the left-hand side of the road leading from Hanmer to Bettisfield, immediately north of the Scrape Wood, and west of the Gredington pheasantries ; it has a rounded contour. The total length, parallel with the road, is 175 feet, and width 140 feet ; the height above the level of the road is about 20 feet. There is no encircling fosse, and a straight ditch fed by a spring at a short distance to the north of the mound appears to have no structural connection with it. The mound suggests itself as sepulchral in character, but has not been explored. The surface of the ground in the near neighbourhood of the tumulus bears evident traces of having been much altered in comparatively recent times.—Visited, 3rd May, 1910.

### DIVISION 11 (EARTHWORKS), SUB-DIVISION X (UNCLASSIFIED).

328. **Earthwork** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 26 N.W. ; lat. 52° 57' 9", long. 2° 48' 25"). Owner, Sir Wyndham C. H. Hanmer, Bart.

A raised site of elliptical form, lying south-west of Hanmer Hall, and almost due east of Hanmer church, in what is called 'Vicarage Meadow.' It is surrounded by a wide shallow depression which is not so much a moat as a sort of drain to keep the site dry, nearly all the ground around it being boggy, except near the north corner, where the entrance seems to have been. The top of the enclosure is fairly flat, rising slightly towards the middle. Its longest axis, from north to south, is 241 feet, and its breadth,

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\* 'Rossett' is the name invariably taken in Maelor when the Welsh 'Yr Orsedd' passes into an English word, so that 'Bryn Rossett' would mean 'Hill of the Eminence', or it may be 'Hill of the Orsedd'.

at right angles through the middle of the first measurement, is 176 feet. The elevation above the bottom of the surrounding depression is from 5 to 9 feet at different points.

This earthwork, according to Lord Hanmer's *Hanmer* (1876, page 66, and note), is the site of the rectory house of Hanmer, formerly belonging to the canons of Haughmond, Salop, which was purchased, with the rectorial tithes, by Sir Thomas Hanmer, after the dissolution of the monasteries. The house was lent by a later Sir Thomas<sup>†</sup> to Randolph Phillips, vicar of Hanmer (died 1563), and from this circumstance the meadow came to be called ' Vicarage Meadow.' John Hanmer, brother of the last named Sir Thomas Hanmer, pulled the building down at some date subsequent to 1614.—Visited, 9th May, 1910.

#### DIVISION IV (ECCLESIASTICAL STRUCTURES).

329. **The Parish Church** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 26 N.W.). Ded : St. Chad.

Diocese of St. Asaph ; archdeaconry of Wrexham ; rural-deanery of Bangor Isycoed ; township of Hanmer.

Hanmer church, pleasantly situated above the north end of Hanmer mere, was the scene of a destructive fire on February 3rd, 1889, when all its furniture, roofs, windows, southern arcade, and nearly all the memorials within perished. The bare walls remained, but the western tower was only slightly injured, although the bells fell. The communion plate and registers were rescued. The character of the structure, with the exception of the chancel, was Perpendicular, 1490 being the date assigned. The church was rebuilt on its old lines. It consists of nave, north and south aisles, and a lofty western tower of three stages, the lowermost stage being of considerable elevation and containing the great window above the western door. There is a high, rather narrow, north door opposite the south porch. The chancel, which had been rebuilt in 1720, stands as it was left by the fire. Careful enquiry has been made concerning two " medieval monuments " here, but they cannot now be found, and must also have been destroyed in the fire of 1889.\* —Visited, 3rd May, 1910.

Thomas, *Hist. Dioc. St. Asaph*, 1908, i, 441 ; Glynne, 'Notes,' *Arch. Camb.*, 1885, V, ii, 127. The fine octagonal churchyard cross, with square sculptured cap, (now much weathered), has been described and well illustrated by the late Canon M. H. Lee in *Arch. Camb.*, 1876, IV, vii, 207.

#### DIVISION V (MISCELLANEOUS—WELLS).

330. **St. Chad's Well** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 26 N.W. ; lat. 52° 57'27-5", long. 2° 48' 50').

A deep circular pool, 4 feet in diameter, formerly the sacred well of Hanmer church. It is situate in a meadow about 35 chains north of the church.—Visited, 9th May, 1910.

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<sup>†</sup> Lord Hanmer seems to have confused the two Sir Thomas Hanmers.

\* One of these monuments bore the figure of a knight, the shield bearing the inscription, "Hic jacet David ap Madoc ap Rhirid"; while the other had the legend "Hic jacet Griffith ap Iorwerth Voel orate p.e.a." (Lord Hanmer, *Hist. of Hanmer*, 176, p.51.

## DIVISION VI (SITES OF HISTORIC OR ANTIQUARIAN INTEREST).

331. **Alleged Roman Road** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 26 N.W. ; lat. 52°57'34"-38", long. 2° 48' 9"-15").

The late Mr. W. Thompson Watkin, on p. 52 of his *Roman Cheshire*, says :—"A fine fragment of it (the Roman road) lately detected in company with Mr. Lee, on the west side of Croxton Pool in Flintshire, which is 56 feet in width counting from the depression marking the fosse on each side, and 6 feet in height : it is about 200 yards in length, and adjoining it on the west side is a mound (*mons exploratorius*) 226 feet from E. to W., and 182 from N. to S. The preservation of this fragment of the pool, pointing almost exactly N. and S., is evidently due to the fact that it at this point crossed a slack or hollow," etc. This description is sufficient to identify what Mr. Watkin meant to indicate. The so-called road is an irregular bank, having neither the dimensions nor the direction above specified : it lies low, and anything more un-Roman in appearance it is difficult to imagine ; the 'mons exploratorius ' is a natural knoll. The Roman road doubtless ran near, but probably well above Croxton Pool.—Visited, 26th April, 1910.

### Parish of ISCOYD.

#### DIVISION Ia (TUMULI).

332. **Tumulus** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 23 S.E. ; lat. 52° 58'9", long. 2° 45'4"). A mound in a field called Miles' Ground. It is of rounded contour, about 34 yards in diameter, and 5 feet high. It was opened in 1872, and found to contain calcined bones and pottery of the bronze age. These relics are now in Whitchurch Museum, Salop.—Visited, 17th May, 1910.

333. **Warren Tump** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 23 S.E. ; lat. 52° 58' 23", long. 2° 44' 43"). Owner and occupier, Major P. T. Godsal, Iscoyd Park. An apparently unopened tumulus, constituting a small eminence on a tiny knoll. The height is about 6 feet ; the diameters are, from east to west 86 feet, and from north to south 75 feet.—Visited, 26th May, 1910.

#### DIVISION II (EARTHWORKS), SUB-DIVISION F (HOMESTEAD MOATS).

334. **Wolvesacre Hall Moat** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 23 S.E. ; lat. 52° 58' 36", long. 2° 44' 6"). Owner and occupier, Major P. T. Godsal, Iscoyd Park. The moat is perfect on the south-west and south-east sides, and nearly so on the north-west, but it has been destroyed on the north-east side for the formation of a modern road, and erection of farm buildings. The portions of the moat remaining are full of water. The enclosed area is about half an acre in extent. There are no evidences of foundations inside, but the owner states that Wolvesacre Hall was standing within the area as late as 1843.—Visited, 26th May, 1910.

#### DIVISION IV (ECCLESIASTICAL STRUCTURES).

335. **The Parish Church** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 23 S.W.). Ded. : St. Mary. Diocese of Chester ; archdeaconry of Chester ; rural-deanery of Malpas ; township of Iscoyd, which is identical with the ecclesiastical parish of Whitewell. The church is on the site of the half-timbered chapel of Whitewell ; the latter, which is figured in *Arch. Camb.*, 1876, IV, vii, 87, was pulled down in 1830. The present building contains the original monument to the eminent divine, Philip Henry (died 1696), who lived for many years at Broadoak, Iscoyd, near at hand. — Visited 17<sup>th</sup> May 1910.

#### DIVISION V (MISCELLANEOUS—WELLS).

336. **Whitewell** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 23 S.W. ; lat. 52° 58' 0", long. 2° 45' 8"). Owner, Major P. T. Godsal, Iscoyd Park. This is 'the sacred well of Old Whitewell chapel, and is situate immediately south of the burial ground of the present Whitewell Church. It is now covered with a locked iron plate ; beneath the supporting stone work a copious flow of water still issues.— Visited, 17th May, 1910.

#### DIVISION VI (SITES OF HISTORIC OR ANTIQUARIAN INTEREST).

337. **Crossfield** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 23 S.E. ; lat. 52° 58' 40", long. 2° 44' 25"). Owner, Major P. T. Godsal, Iscoyd Park. Tithe Schedule, Nos. 432 and 433. These two adjoining fields present no feature explanatory of their name ; but they are less than 30 chains distant from Maes y groes (No. 339), which see.—Visited, 23rd April, 1910.

#### DIVISION VII (FINDS).

338. **A Bronze Axe** was found in the year 1855 in digging the foundations for the terrace wall round Iscoyd Hall, and is believed to be one of four given by Major P. T. Godsal of Iscoyd Park, to the Whitchurch (Salop) Museum.

339. **Maes y Groes** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 23 S.E. ; lat. 52° 58' 56", long. 2° 44' 50"). In the year 1879 in the paving of a cow house of Maes y groes farm four stones were found by the late Mr. Philip W. Godsal, who removed them to Iscoyd Hall, where they are now displayed on the terrace. Two of these stones are capitals of nook shafts ; one is of Late Norman date, 7 inches high ; the other of the Early English period, 6 inches high. Both are of hard grey stone, and excellently preserved. The third stone is of the same material, but is without carving. The fourth stone is of red sandstone, with a broad sunken moulding on one of its angles.—Seen, 27th April, 1910.

**Figure 63.**

### Parish of OVERTON.

#### DIVISION II (EARTHWORKS), SUB-DIVISION F (HOMESTEAD MOATS).

340. **Moat** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 22 S.W. ; lat. 52° 57' 45", long. 2° 54' 35"). Slightly north of Lightwood Farm is an enclosed square area, each side being 30 yards in length, and having its corners facing the cardinal points. The entrance appears to have been in the middle of the south-west side. The moat is from 7 to 10 yards wide, and full of water. At the north corner is a depression in the ground trending in a south-westerly direction, and the south corner has a similar depression in a different direction ; both doubtless intended for filling and draining the moat.— Visited, 17th May, 1910.

#### DIVISION IV (ECCLESIASTICAL STRUCTURES).

341. **The Parish Church** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 22 S.W.). Ded : St. Mary. Diocese of St. Asaph ; archdeaconry of Wrexham ; rural-deanery of Bangor Isycoed ; townships of Overton Villa, Overton Foreign, Knolton.

An edifice, of which the dominant character of the architecture is Perpendicular. It has been considerably and, on the whole, judiciously restored, but the only ancient features which remain are the nave arcade, and the east end of the north aisle.

The tower is late Decorated. There are two fountains, both modern. Three portions of incised slabs are let into the bases of some of the nave piers, and the portion of a lettered coffin lid (.....[? ANGHA]RAT. FILIA. EVNIAWN [? UX]OR ) The oak parish chest is well preserved. Near the western gate of the churchyard is the much-weathered shaft of the original cross ; it stands 3 feet 4½ inches high.—Visited, 17th May, 1910.

Thomas, *Hist. Dioc. St. Asaph*, 1908, i, 456 ; Glynne, 'Notes,' *Arch. Camb.*, 1885, V, ii, 127.

#### DIVISION VI (SITES OF HISTORIC OR ANTIQUARIAN INTEREST).

342. **Castle Wood\* or Asney Wood** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 22 S.W. ; lat. 52° 59' 4", long. 2° 56' 22").

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\* The site of Overton Castle can be determined approximately with almost perfect certainty. On the 28th June, 1292, Edward I granted to Thomas le Taverner a plot of land at Overton (Calendar, Charter Rolls, ii, 422). The southern boundary of this property was the street leading to the gate of the castle of Overton, by which was doubtless indicated the old road, now partly closed, leading from Overton past Maes gwaelod to Asney and the river Dee. Leland says : " There was a praty Pile or Castel at Oureton yn auncient tyme, the which was thrown downe by the violence of Dee ryver chaunging his botom. For of olde tyme Dee ran half a mile from the Castel yn a place of the valley caullid Whistan, where now is woode and ploughid grounde right agayne Oureton . . . one parte of the Diches and Hille of the Castel yet remaynith ; the residew is in the botom of Dee." It would thus appear that part of the ditches and hill of the castle remained on the bank of the Dee at a place called 'Whistan,' which seems to be identical with Asney. A small area on the bank of the Dee (including Asney Cottage, but not Asney Farm) was, until a few years ago, a detached part of Overton Villa, completely surrounded by Overton Foreign, and it shared in the immunities of the borough of Overton, probably because the lord's castle, and perhaps his mill, were situated therein. The river at this point is still eating away the right bank. A road (now closed at the Overton end) proceeds a little further north on the left to Dutford, one of the old fords over the Dee, and on the right to Asnev Farm. Two old buildings near, and the foundations of a hay barn at Maes gwaelod. Together with a wall there, contain wrought stones which may have been brought from an earlier edifice, perhaps from the ruins of Overton Castle. It is clear,

This name is given to a portion of the wood north-west of Gwernhaulod Hall, but it has no historic significance.

343. **Rhewl** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 25 N.W. ; lat. 52° 57' 10", long. 2° 56' 31"). A farm-house on which is an old road, the house also being near the point of intersection by another such road.—Visited, 6th October, 1910.

344. **Church Field** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 22 S.W. ; lat. 52° 58' 22", long. 2° 53' 54").

Tithe Schedule, No. 471. This field, at the corner of Cloy and Cay Dyah lanes, and on the north side of the lane last named, represented the bread charity of Thomas and Margaret Eyton, but was sold about 60 years ago. The field still retains its old name.—Visited, 8th October, 1910.

345. **Causeway Field** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 22 S.W. ; lat. 52° 58' 20", long. 2° 57' 37").

This field is so called because adjacent to Erbistock weir, to which ran a paved road, long fallen into disuse, but still known locally as the 'cawsey.'

346. **Crossfield** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 25 N.W. ; lat. 52° 57' 37", long. 2° 56' 13").

A point on the road from Overton to Ellesmere, where a road diverges to, Knolton, is always spoken of as 'Overton Cross.' There is no cross road here, nor has there ever been one. In the field nearly opposite the corner -,A,-here the Knolton road starts, within the hedge and nearly parallel with the main way, is a long bank of earth about 4 feet high and 18 feet across at its west end, tapering away in height and breadth to the east, and having a total length of 86 yards. This bank is very similar to one in Marchwiell parish (Denbighshire) opposite the house called 'Croes y mab,' and, like that, may have been the site of a wayside cross.—Visited, 6th October, 1910.

347. **Battlefield** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 25 N.W. ; lat. 52° 57' 3", long. 2° 57' 11").

Tithe Schedule, No. 1093. A field so called in the township of Knolton. The name here probably contains merely the dialect word 'battel' or 'battle,' in the sense of 'to feed,' or 'to take nourishment.'—Visited, 6th October, 1910.

## Parish of PENLEY.

DIVISION 11 (EARTHWORKS), SUB-DIVISION F (HOMESTEAD MOATS).

348. **Moat** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 25 N.E. ; lat. 52° 57' 29", long. 2° 52' 5"). Owner, Mr. R. G. Naughton Dymock ; occupier, Mr. F. E. Cotton.

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therefore, that the site of that castle is now at the bottom of the Dee behind Asney Cottage (6 in. Ord. Surv. Sheet Flint. 22 S.W.; lat. 52°59'3", long 2°57'28").

The enclosed moated area is nearly square, with sides facing the cardinal points, 45 yards from north to south, and 41 yards from east to west. It is surrounded by a thick hedge and used as a garden. The entrance is in the middle of the south side, where are foundations of a bridge on each side of the moat. The moat is of an almost uniform width of six yards, and full of water.—Visited, 17th May, 1910.

349. **Moat on Hill Farm** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 25 N.E. ; lat. 52° 57' 13", long. 2° 53' 36"). Owner, Lord Kenyon, Gredington Hall, Ellesmere ; occupier, Mr. Wm. Broomhall.

This moated area is rectangular, except that its south-east corner now forms the segment of a circle. On the west side, which is 100 yards long, is a ditch still wet at its south end ; on the north side, which is 70 yards long, a cattle pool has been constructed the depressions on the other sides are dry. The enclosed area is elevated about 1½feet above the surrounding surface, and contains, by estimation, 1½ acres of ground.—Visited, 18th August, 1910.

#### DIVISION VI (SITES OF HISTORIC OR ANTIQUARIAN INTEREST).

350. **Cae Moat Well** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 25 N.W. ; lat. 52° 56'42", long. 2° 54' 9"). Owner, Lord Kenyon ; occupier, Mr. Thomas Cliffe, Nant y climbers farm. The tenant, who has been in occupation 17 years, has never heard this name, nor is there now any moat or well in the field so called in the Tithe Schedule (No. 19) ; but in a field south of the farm, sloping towards a small dingle, is a spring protected on three sides by old brickwork, the water of which is still used for drinking purposes at Nant y climbers farm. Close to it are said to be evidences of an old dwelling, or at least of an orchard. The exact position of this well is lat. 52° 56' 35", long. 2° 54'20". —Visited, 6th October, 1910.

#### DIVISION VII (FINDS).

351. In the grounds of **Penley Hall** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 25 N.E.) was found during digging, a few years ago, a four-eared stone vessel, circular within, which is supposed to have been a font. The outside measurements are : diameter from ear to ear, 24 inches ; diameter between ears, 16 inches ; depth, 13 inches. Its provenance is not certainly known, but it is supposed to have come from Penley Chapel close at hand, the predecessor of the present Penley Church. It is similar in appearance to the so-called font in Llanmerewig Church, Montgomeryshire, and to a vessel at Merton Abbot, Whitford.—Visited, 17th May, 1910.

### Parish of TYBROUGHTON.

#### DIVISION II (EARTHWORKS), SUB-DIVISION E (CASTLE MOUNTS, WITH ENCLOSURES).

352. **Mount Cop** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 23 S.W. ; lat. 52° 57' 47", long. 2° 47' 19').

A low and broad mound, with clearly marked but shallow fosse. The summit diameter is 61 feet from west to east, and 76 feet from north to south. The drop from the summit to the bottom of the ditch is from 16 to 20 feet. The fosse is shallow, and varies in depth. The counterscarp is on an average from 6 to 8 feet high. The rampart on the south side has disappeared. The entrance, which was probably at the south-west corner, has been altered by modern digging. The whole looks like a structure of the mount-and-bailey type, and in the meadow to the south and southwest are slight indications of the former existence of an enclosure.—Visited, 9th May, 1910.

#### DIVISION VII (FINDS).

353. **Coins, Roman.** About 100 yards east of Mount Cop, at the point called Eglwys Cross, where the main Bangor and Whitchurch road is crossed by a bye-road leading north and south, were found about the year 1840 eight Roman coins, which are now at Gredington Hall, Hamner, the seat of Lord Kenyon. These coins are described in *Arch. Camb.*, 1876, IV, vii, 237 ; all are of the Constantine period.—Seen at Gredington, 26th April, 1910. zn

### Parish of WILLINGTON.

#### DIVISION II (EARTHWORKS), SUB-DIVISION F (HOMESTEAD MOATS).

354. **'Hall of Talents'** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 22 S.E. and 23 S.W. ; lat. 52° 59' 23", long. 2° 49' 23"). Owner, Lord Kenyon ; occupier, Mr. William Benyon, the Fields Farm.

Towards the north-east corner of the field now called ' Hall of Talents ' (for Hall in Talwrn ') are the signs of an enclosure, moated on the north, south, and east sides, and on the east dropping with a fall of 25 or 30 feet to a ravine, at the bottom of which runs a small stream. The enclosure itself is about 20 yards north and south, and 39 yards east and west. The moat or ditch is now only from 1½ feet to 3 feet deep. A writer in *Arch. Camb.*, 1874, IV, v, 213, says that there was then living a man who had been employed " to fill up the ditches and level the works " in this field. The enclosure contained the house of the Lloyds of Willington. The field is approached from the road between Turpinford Bridge and the Sarn by a long grassy track, 11 yards across, always called ' The Coach Way.' Close to it, at the north-east end of the field, and projecting eastwards towards the stream, but stopping short of it, is a long artificial bank, which may once have been a dam for banking up the water to turn a mill, or have carried a bridge.—Visited, 18th August, 1910.

355. **Earthwork** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 23 S.W. ; lat. 52° 58' 34", long. 2° 48' 35').

In the meadow about 70 yards west of Willington Old Hall is an area, apparently once roughly rectangular, which has been much broken up and dug into, and is full of holes. It is perhaps the remains of a moated area, wherein a house once stood. One straight bank, 28 yards by 8 yards wide, and showing, the exterior fosse, is discernible; the rest is confusion. It is commonly regarded as a camp (*Arch. Camb.*, 1874, IV, v.214). – Visited, 30<sup>th</sup> May, 1910.

### DIVISION III (DOMESTIC STRUCTURES).

356. **Willington Cross** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 23 S.W. ; lat. 52° 58' 45", long. 2° 49' 13').

Willington. Cross (probably so called from being close to a crossing of two roads) is a good early 17th century brick house, composed of three bays which are gabled formerly the residence of the family of Lloyd. It has long become a farm-house, and many of the stone-mullioned windows have been filled up. Leading from the cellar are a few steps which terminate at a blank wall, the closed entrance, as is asserted, to an underground passage, of which nothing is known by anyone with certainty. A field north, and another south of the house, are each called 'The Crossfield' (Tithe Schedule, Nos. 310 and 377).—Visited, 9th May, 1910.

In digging the pipes for the Liverpool Waterworks near this house a Roman road is said to have been cut through (Watkin, *Roman Cheshire*, 52, note).

### DIVISION VI (SITES OF HISTORIC OR ANTIQUARIAN INTEREST).

357. **The Warway** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 22 N.E. ; lat. 52° 59' 28", long. 2° 49' 24"; also sheet 23 N.W.).

Leaving, the, main road at Talarn Green, 8 chain,-, south of Talarn Green church, and proceeding in a north-easterly direction towards Oldcastle in Cheshire, is a lane always called 'The Warway,' a name not, hitherto satisfactorily explained. It is unquestionably an ancient trackway.—Visited, 18th May, 1910.

### DIVISION VII (FINDS).

358. **Coins—Medieval.** A jugful of silver coins of Elizabeth and James I was found in a hedge bank at 'Three Fingers,' when the road was altered in 1840 (*Arch. Camb.*, 1874, IV, v, 212).

## Parish of WORTHENBURY.

### DIVISION II (EARTHWORKS), SUB-DIVISION, F (HOMESTEAD MOATS).

359. **Moat, Hollybush Farm** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 22 S.E. ; lat. 52° 59' 20", long. 2° 52' 47"). Owners, Messrs. Hughes of The Gates ; occupier, Mr. A. Hughes.

The moated area is an irregular square, the internal dimensions being 113 feet on the north side and 72 feet on the south-east side. The moat is still full of water, except at the north-west corner, where is the entrance. There is no tradition of any buildings within the moat, and the farmhouse which has been erected without it looks about 150 years old.—Visited, 10th May, 1910.

### DIVISION III (DOMESTIC STRUCTURES).

360. **Emral Hall** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 22 N.E. ; lat. 52° 59' 30", long. 2° 51' 52"). Owner, The Trustees of the late Lady Puleston., occupier, Mr. J. W. Summers, M.P.

Emral Hall is a domestic residence of considerable size, standing in an extensive park. The oldest, longest, and highest part of it is the north-west front, which terminates at each end with a gable. This portion of the Hall belongs to about the year 1600 ; its outline is dignified, especially the north-west side. On the south-east a narrow new front with projecting new wings at right angles were added by Mr. Thomas Puleston between 1724 and 1727, and later the stable yard was laid out and completed in 1735. This yard, through which ran the drive to the Whit-church road, is guarded north and south by handsome iron gates of the same period. Extending along nearly the whole of the north-west front was a moat 105 feet long and 37 feet wide, and continuing 63 feet along a part of the southwest side as far as the later servants' quarters. This moat was drained, partly filled, and turfed in 1898, but is still quite discernible ; it doubtless completely surrounded the house, but was much curtailed in 1724, when extensive alterations were effected. Of the many rooms inside the hall the three finest are those in the older part, namely (1) the dining room on the first floor, (2) the still finer saloon or drawing room on the second floor, and (3) a large retiring room to the west of the saloon. All these rooms have raised plaster ceilings, of late 17th or early 18th century date : two of them are flat, but the saloon ceiling is coved on two sides, and divided into compartments showing the labours of Hercules and other allegorical figures, in the art of the period. The grand staircase, 6 feet wide, with wrought iron dog-gate, is noticeable. There are a number of pieces of tapestry in excellent preservation.—Visited, 2nd May, 1910.

361. **Mulsford Hall** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 22 S.E. ; lat. 52° 59' 18", long. 2° 50' 53"). Owner, Mr. W. C. Bailey Puleston ; occupier, Mr. Huxley.

This is a good red brick house, built in 1746 according to the curious inscription on its front, and erected outside an area which enclosed an older building. In the interior the oak staircase is excellent, and characteristic of the period. The moat on the west side is 124 feet long, extending on the north 44 feet, and on the south a much shorter distance ; it is mostly dry, though there is still water in parts of it. The lengths of the two last named limbs have been considerably diminished during the last 26 years.— Visited, 2nd May, 1910.

362. **Broughton Hall** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 22 N.E. ; lat. 53° 0' 33", long. 2° 50' 27"). Owner and occupier, Mr. John Howard.

A good specimen of a structure built primarily as a residence. It dates from the beginning of the 17th century, when it replaced an earlier house. It is rectangular, two of its sides terminating in four gables. The oldest part is constructed of huge oaken beams, the interstices filled in with brickwork covered with plaster. The beams have never been painted, nor the plaster whitewashed. The tops of the two stories are ornamented externally with lines of carved corbels. The porch, although in strict character with the older portion, was not added until 1852. A red brick addition to the half-timber house was erected at the beginning of the 19th century, and harmonizes well with the main building. The owner states that at the back of the main block of chimneys is a nook, beginning in the cellar, and passing at the back of the chimney in each story to the attic, where there was probably a secret chamber. In the library is

some fine carved wood-work, the martyrdom of St. Barbara being represented.—  
Visited, 29th April, 1910.

#### DIVISION IV (ECCLESIASTICAL STRUCTURES).

363. **The Parish Church** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 22 N.E.). Ded : St. Deiniol.  
Diocese of St. Asaph ; archdeaconry of Wrexham ; rural-deanery of Bangor  
Isycoed ; township of Worthenbury (containing the four hamlets of Mulsford,  
Broughton, Y Wern, and Wallington).

This church was rebuilt between 1736 and 1739 on the site of an older (wooden)  
building it has red brick and stone dressings, etc. The parish chest in the vestry  
beneath the tower is of oak. The font is modern. The fragments of stained glass in  
the east window, according to the late Rev. Sir J. H. Gresley Puleston, Bart., came  
from the destroyed chapel at Emral.—Visited, 27th April, 1910.

Thomas, *Hist.Doc. St. Asaph*, 1908, I, 462.

#### DIVISION VI (SITES OF HISTORIC OR ANTIQUARIAN INTEREST).

364. **Emral Chapel** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 22 N.E. ; lat. 52° 59' 33", long. 2°  
51' 51').

This chapel is mentioned in the will of John de Puleston, 20th February, 1443-4, as  
'the chapel of St. Thomas the Martyr at Emrall ; it was pulled down about the year  
1775. It had cure of souls and a graveyard attached to it, and was the domestic  
chapel of Emral Hall, from which it was distant about 300 yards to the north-east. The  
following relics are preserved :—(1) two quartered coats of arms, now built into the  
wall on each side of the entrance to the Emral kitchen garden ; (2) the cross on the  
top of the north-east gable of Emral Hall ; (3) the fragments of old stained glass in the  
east window of Worthenbury church (Rev. Sir J. H. G. Puleston's *Story of a Quiet  
Parish*, pp. 60 and 162).

365. **Sarn Farm** (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Flint. 22 N.E. ; lat. 52° 59' 49.5", long. 2° 50'  
10').

Sarn Farm derives its name from an old cobbled road, now well macadamized, which  
led to a paved ford over the Dee.—Visited, 30th May, 1910.