

A  
HISTORY  
of the  
County of Brecknock  
IN TWO VOLUMES.  
VOL. II. PART II.

*Containing the Antiquities, SEPULCHRAL MONUMENTS AND INSCRIPTIONS, Natural Curiosities, Variations of the Soil, Hospitality, Mineralogy, a copious List of rare and other Plants and also the Genealogies and Arms of the principal families properly coloured and glazed, together with the Names of the Parsons and Incumbents of all the Parishes and Livings in that County.*

(By THEOPHILUS JONES, Deputy Registrar of the Archd<sup>y</sup> of Brecon.)

*"Sermos oritur non de villis domibuscue alienis.*

*"sed quod magis ad nos*

*"Pertinet, et necesse est ut optineamus."*  
Æt. 1550. a. 1550. 1550.

*"Si verò sint qui in urbe aut hospitio, in patria*

*aut peregrini et vagantes semper parvi esse*

*voluit — non ego illis hæc conceperui."*  
Caesari. Tacit. Tacit.



BRECKNOCK.

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FOR THE AUTHOR:

*And Sold by J. Booth, Duke Street, Portland Place, LONDON.*

1809.

improper tythes, a third part being reserved for the minister for officiating here ; these improper tythes were sold in the reign of James the first or Charles the first to Mr. Morgan, the ancestor of the Dderw family, from whom they descended to Sir Charles Morgan.

There is no parsonage house or glebe here, the profits of this curacy were estimated by the commissioners in queen Anne's time, at twenty pounds per annum. The register commences in 1755.

## YSTRADGYNLAIS.

**Y**STRAD Gwnllys or Gwnlen, the vale of Gunleus ap Glewissig, prince of Gwent and father of Saint Cattwc, was probably the marriage portion he received with his wife, Gwladis, one of the daughters of Brychan ; this is a very extensive parish, though its length east and west far exceeds the breadth ; on the west it adjoins Carmarthenshire and Glamorganshire, having Cadoxton near Neath on the south, running parallel with it for several miles ; on the north are Llywel and Devynock.

The church, situated at nearly the western extremity of the parish, is dedicated according to Ecton to Saint Mary, but I have no doubt the patron saint was Gwnlen or Gunleus, from whom the parish took its name ; it is in latitude 51 52, longitude 4 9, is low, dark and too small for the parish, and consists of a nave and chancel only, not cieled, but tolerably flagged and regularly seated. The porch of entrance at the west end, seems to have been built since the church and has a school room with a fire place over it, but this is also too low : near it is a turret, or rather small shed containing one bell.

Across the middle of the aisle is a small gallery, which an inscription informs us was erected in 1734, while Mr. Portrey and Mr. Howel Powel were churchwardens : On the north wall in the chancel, on a plain white marble monument, " To rescue from oblivion the names of Richard, Christopher and John Portrey, by Catherine, daughter of Morgan Awbrey of Yniskedwin, esq. and especially of their sister Catherine, who married William Gough of Willersley, in the county of Gloucester, esq.

esq. and by that marriage left issue, Richard, James, William, John, Jane and Elizabeth.

James Gough Awbrey of Yniskedwin, her son, rector of this parish, happy in his marriage with his beloved Eleanor, daughter of George Williams of Aberpergwm, esq. caused this marble to be inscribed in the year 1784.\*

Near the communion rails is a monument almost obliterated by the care and attention of the beautifiers of the church, though a wet towel would make the letters visible. The arms are, vert a chevron gules between three pheons sable impaling, argent three chevronels gules between three boys' heads couped at the shoulders proper. Nearer the communion table, on a black stone, To the pious memory of Morgan Awbrey of Yniskedwin, esquier, who was interred the 19th day of June, 1648, his age being 29 years, after which follow some verses, which, if the four first lines do not satisfy the reader, I must intreat he will take the trouble to visit the monument to peruse the remainder.

This marble may look sad and well it may,  
Being fixed thus for to display,  
A doleful fate which did befall,  
The people here in generall, &c. &c.

These letters are of later date than 1648, but this also has been white washed, and the arms above are compleatly covered with lime. Underneath is a stone, with letters in relief, to the memory of Morgan Awbrey, but the remainder of the inscription is either effaced or concealed, this however is probably the grave-stone first placed over Morgan Awbrey, who died in 1648, and that upon the wall was affixed there when the letters on this were nearly worn out.\*

At the distance of five or six miles south east of this church is a chapel, which I believe to have been anciently a private oratory, and to have been erected by one of the Herberts of Cil y bebill, it is now called Coelbren,† the present fabric was rebuilt in 1799 entirely at the expence of Mr. Walter Price of Glynllech, who possesses five out of seven tenements of which the hamlet consists. There is as yet but one seat in the chapel, which belongs to Mr. Price, and no bell, though a shed

\* The wardens state that there is a donation of two pounds per annum to the poor of this parish, but by whom given or whereon it is charged they do not inform us.

† Coelbren y Beirdd, the alphabet of the bards, say Owen and Edw. Williams, the latter of whom

has volumes of this alphabet in boards, here however I apprehend Coelbren is a corruption of Cil-bryn, church hill, or the hill of the sanctuary, as Cil-y-bebill, in the neighbourhood is the church of the tents.

shed has been prepared for covering it, whenever any kind benefactor shall think proper to bestow one upon the inhabitants; in this chapel however, unadorned, and indeed unfinished as it is, may be seen an inscription of some antiquity upon a stone covering, the remains of a man of great wealth and influence in this country about two hundred years ago. The stone is upon the floor and the letters are in relief and tolerably well preserved; "Heare lyeth the body of John Herbert, esquier, sonne to Water, sonne to William, sonne to Sir Richard Herbert of Colbrooke, knight, he married Margaret, vz. Jenkin David, paternally issuing of Einon Sais, who had issue XII children, now living five, William, Water, John, Jonet and Luce, he decessed the VII day of January, 1601. Arms, 1 Herbert, 2 three martlets, in chief a label of three points, 3 Milo Fitzwalter, 4 Bernard Newmarch, 5 Bleddin Broadspeare, 6 Proger, 7 a lion passant, over all an escutcheon of pretence gules, 1 a buck tripping, 2 a lion passant, 3 Sande Hardd, 4 three jambs couped. This curacy, to which the rector of Ystradgynlais nominates, has been augmented by queen Anne's bounty.

Except the Sarn Helen, which runs along a high ridge or Cefn,\* as the Welsh call it, separating this parish from Ystradfellte and afterwards Cadoxstone, I do not know that the Romans have left behind them any vestiges of their progress or residence in Ystradgynlais: upon the hills in this parish, adjoining Llywel and Carmarthenshire, several Carneddau and the remains of two or three small British encampments may be seen on the south east of these mountains, at a place called Penwyll, the lime bursts out, whose quality is held in high esteem by the farmers of Brecknockshire and particularly of the hundred of Devynock, it has however near one hundredth part less of carbonate than that at Ystradfellte; its ingredients are,

Carbonate of lime	-	-	-	-	-	-	98	9
Bitumen, or a substance of that nature,	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	3
Water	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	2
Oxyde of iron	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	25
Residuum, with a trace of sulphurous acid	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	17
							99	82

Proceeding up the vale, this range of mountains is opposed by another on the south side of the Tawe, in some places resembling a mural fortification. In this natural

\* On this ridge (according to Strange, in the *Archæologia*, vol. IV, page 7) between Coelbren and Cefn hir fynidd, on the side of the road was a millary, See plate XII, fig. 5, p. 499, the inscrip-

tion, on which was not legible further than that the first letters appeared to be IMPC, whether this stone has been broken or removed I know not, but I have never been able to discover it.

natural wall near the head of the valley of Ystradgynlais, or as it is frequently called Glyntawe, is a hermitage, which, though not large enough for a modern banqueting room, is more commodious than that of Saint Illtyd at Llanhamlach. It is erroneously called here Eglwys Cradoc, Cradoc's church: this was the cell in which it is supposed Gunleus, prince of Glewissig, died in the arms of his son Cattwc or Cadocus, as mentioned in my first volume;\* the son gave the name to the cave as the father did to the valley. Of Saint Cattwc, I have already given as full a history as I could collect; he has three churches dedicated to him in Monmouthshire, two in Breconshire called Llangattock and Llanspyddid, one in Caermarthenshire called Llangadoc, and two in Glamorganshire called Cadostone juxta Barry and Cadostone juxta Neath, the latter parish adjoins Ystradgynlais, where it is said this holy man resided for several years though he did not die there: his hermitage is chiefly natural, but it seems to have been in some measure enlarged by the industrious, though rude efforts of human labour; it is about six feet high, flat at top and three or four yards square, if this was the saint's *summer residence only*, his taste cannot be impeached, if he remained there during the winter, his condition must have been truly deplorable.

Among the families who have been long resident in this country are Awbrey of Yniscedwin Gwyn of Abercrâf and Price of Glynllech. Yniscedwin is a corruption of Ynis-Edwin, or rather Ynis-Odin, for so the Welsh call Edwin the son of Einon, the son of Owen prince of Wales. This chieftain, whose father was inhumanly murdered by the men of Gwent, while he was only endeavouring to persuade them to obedience to their lawful ruler, was for a time deprived by his uncle, Meredith of his principality and his possessions; cruel and iniquitous as this treatment was, it will hardly justify Edwin in availing himself of the assistance of the enemies of his country in recovering his inheritance; having however engaged in his interest the Saxons and the Danes, their united forces overran South Wales in the year 990, and secured to him a transient possession of his power; from the line of march he pursued, or the place wherein he resided, we have the names of Ynis odin in Breconshire, Rhyd odin in Caermarthenshire, and Castell odin and Llanbadarn odin in Cardiganshire, Edwin's Isle, Edwin's ford, Edwin's castle and Edwin's Saint Paternus; so that he probably landed at or near Aberystwith in Caerdiganshire, passed from thence near Edwinsford in Caermarthenshire, and entered Breconshire at Ystradgynlais.

Yniscedwin

\* Page 46 and 47. The reference in the index to p. 49 is erroneous.

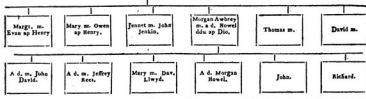
Yniscedwin, in Ystradgynlais was anciently the patrimony or acquisition of Griffith Gwyr or Griffith of Gower; from one of his female descendants it came to the Franklins of Swansea. Morgan Awbrey the son of William Awbrey of Abercynrig by his first wife, was disinherited by his father, settled as I have before stated, at Palleg, in this parish, his son William married a daughter and heiress of Jenkin Franklen, with whom he had a very considerable property in this parish, and among the rest, the mansion and demesne of Yniscedwin. His grandson Morgan Awbrey sold it to his relation and namesake Morgan Awbrey, who married one of the daughters of Thomas Games of Aberbran, the first named Morgan Awbrey afterwards went to live at Cathelyd in Llangevelach, his descendants taking the sur-name of Morgan. The male line of the purchasers of Yniscedwin failed with Morgan Awbrey who married Rachel Middleton, upon whose death without issue, the estate came to his aunt Catherine, who married Richard Portrey, clerk; their three sons likewise dying without issue, it was inherited by their daughter Catherine, the wife of William Gough of Willersley; their grandson, Richard Gough, the late proprietor, took the surname of Awbrey in addition to his own; he died in 1808, and having no children, devised the estate to his brother, the reverend Fleming Gough, rector of Ystradgynlais, who now resides in the mansion.

N. B. The descendants of Catherine, the daughter of Morgan Awbrey, by Richard Portrey, are given in the next page, contrary to the general usage in pedigrees, merely to shew the late proprietors of the Yniscedwin estate.

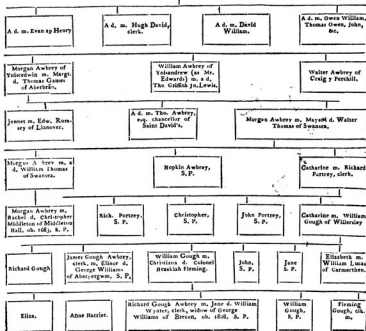
Awbrey

## Awbrey of Yniscedwin.

The same as Awbrey of Abercynrig to Richard, the third son of Jenkin Awbrey, inclusive, whom. a d. Morgan Gwilym ap Henry of Cydweli.



Evan Gwin Morgan Awbrey, eldest son, m. Jennet, d. Watkin Herbert of Crickhowel.



Abercrâf is so called from its being situated near the fall of a small brook, the Crâf or Crai \* (for they are both precisely of the same import) into the Tawe, the estate belonged to a family who boast of their descent from that great hero of antiquity, Justin ap Gwrgan; in 1601 it is found in the possession of John Llewelyn, clerk, rector of Ystradgynlais, who married Mary the daughter of William Walbeoffe of Llanhamlach; this clergyman was immensely rich, traced his genealogy in the eldest line from the prince of Glamorgan, and died in 1634, leaving only two daughters, upon one of whom (Mary) who married Edward Gwyn, second surviving son of Howel Gwyn of Hay castle, he settled this tenement and other very valuable and extensive possessions in this parish; his posterity continued to reside here † until the middle of the last century: Abercrâf, with a considerable property in the neighbourhood, is now the property of Matthew Gwyn of Neath, esq. who will be seen in the pedigree of this family, in the appendix to my first volume.

The family of Price of Glynlech have adopted that surname for upwards of two centuries, but they are descended from Sir Roger Vaughan of Bredwardine, and bore in the last century the arms of Vaughan; of late years, from the division of the property among the sons and daughters, the eldest son became only a small freeholder, they are now, however, once more rising into opulence and respectability; Lewis Vaughan, from whom they are derived, was, according to our genealogies, the fourth son of Sir Roger Vaughan of Tretower, he was a natural son, and bore the baton over his arms; but this was no objection to him in those days, and he accordingly married a rich heiress and daughter of Andrew Prees Andrew of Abercamlais; his descendants are here inserted, the prior part of the pedigree will be seen upon reference to that of the general ancestor of the Vaughans.

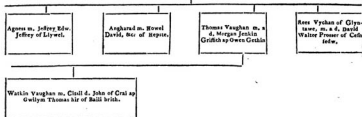
Lewis

\* Craobham Ir, I sprout or shoot forth, Cra-af, the issuing forth, the channel torn by the impulsive force of the stream, as well as the act of tearing or breaking up any substance—from whence (pardon me ye indigenous inhabitants of the turbaries!) Crâfu to scratch—Ra in Celtic, with or without a prefix, signifies the issuing, pouring forth or force of water; unde Rhaladr, a cataract, and rhaladru, to flow impetuously.

† One of this family, Edward Gwyn, a barrister, eldest son of John Gwyn of Abercrâf, esq. which Edward married lady Frances Throckmorton, lies buried in the north aisle of Hereford Cathedral, and has a black marble monument there to his memory, commending his probity, charity, and knowledge in his profession, erected by his widow, and from which we learn that he died June 23, 1690, aged 35.



Lewis Vaughan married as aforesaid.



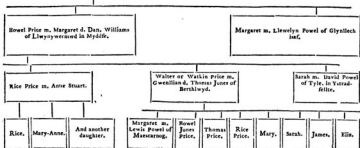
Rees Watkin Ychan or Vychan bought Glynllech in 1608, then called Cwm-  
llech, from William Walters of Cardiff, gent. he married, according to a MS. in  
the British museum, a daughter of David Walter Prosser of Cefn y fedw, which  
confounds him with his uncle; according to the tradition of the family he married  
Llywelydd, daughter of Jeffrey Edward Jeffrey of Llywel, by whom he had five  
daughters and one son.

Watkin m. Margaret d. Lewis David Philip of Cilgwin in Myddfë.



Howel Price m. Jennet d. Walter John of Ton y foel dref.

Watkin Price m. Margaret d. Rees Watkin of Devynock.



Powel of Glynllech isaf, descended from Brychan Brecheiniog, is also a family long settled in this parish, but I have not been able to connect them with that genealogy.\* Most of the inhabitants however of the vale of Ystradgynlais claim their origin from him or Cradoc Fraich-fras, being driven by the Normans into this extreme nook of the county; but those who settled here, though they might lament the disgrace of their defeat had little reason to complain of their change of situation; the whole or greatest part of the valley of Glyntawe being much lower than that of the Usk, and vegetation consequently more forward; it was anciently overgrown with wood on both sides of the river, the progress of population and the purposes of agriculture soon required the removal of part of this cloathing, but a sufficiency was left to render the country remarkably picturesque, until the manufacturer established himself at the bottom of the glen, when his wants soon denuded it, or at least robbed it of many of its beauties, improving at the same time the value of the soil, rendering it more productive for the use of man, and leaving still many romantic and shady dells on each side of the river, which are worth the tourist's attention, though never yet explored by our travellers.

On the north of the Tawe a little below the fall of the Tawyne is a rock called Daren yr ogof, or the rock of the cave, from this springs up at once a sufficient quantity of water for turning a grist mill at all seasons of the year; this brook, or rather river, called Llynfell, from Llyn a liquid and ell a common termination; after crossing the turnpike road from Brecon or Trecastle to Swansea: soon falls into the Tawe, the inhabitants observe that in a rainy day this river does not perceptibly increase, but that on the following day it becomes muddy, and the quantity of water is considerably greater; there is nothing singular in this, the rain falling on the mountain above has not only a very considerable depth, but many varieties of soil to penetrate before it reaches the hollow of this cavern, and consequently a long portion of time is required before the additional water can swell the common current, which is certainly extraordinary, though not equal in quantity to the great spring at Ogmores in Glamorganshire, but though we cannot rival that magnificent fountain, yet if we follow the Tawe about two miles downwards, and then cross southward to the Llech, or rather Llechog, the stony, a small river between the

mansion

\* Owen Gethin, from whom many Brecknockshire families were formerly anxious to derive their descent, was of this parish, he was ancestor to

Owen Gethin, a respectable farmer, now living there, but I am not able to bring the pedigree correctly down to him and his brothers.

mansion of Glynllech and Coelbren chapel, a scene occurs which mocks description by the pen and almost defies the powers of the pencil: the waterfall called 'Sgwd yr hên rhyd must not however pass unnoticed, and I therefore lament that Mr. Warner, *to whom it was mentioned*, whose talents upon these subjects are peculiarly happy, did not take the trouble of walking from Pontneathvaughan to see this cataract, in comparison with which, in point of height, those of Hepste and Pyrddin are mere mill spouts.

This little mountain stream, which sometimes swells into a considerable river, and is then only seen to advantage, runs over a bed of rocks, without a tree on its banks until it crosses the road from Ystradfellte to Glynllech and the vale of Ystradgynlais; after passing a few yards westward it is lost at once, and the traveller only catches a peep at the summits of a woody glen sweeping round towards the Tawe; struck with this appearance when I first rode this way, though knowing nothing at the time of this great natural curiosity, and alighting from my horse, I followed the river and was astonished, and at the same time enraptured with the grandeur of the scene; the stream first throws itself into foam, about three or four yards upon a ledge of rocks interrupting its descent, after which it falls in one unbroken sheet of water, upwards of ninety feet perpendicularly, it then runs concealed\* by trees and the banks, which are nearly precipitous and entirely clothed with underwood, in a semicircular direction to the Tawe into which it falls.

At the Aber of this little river the upper vein or stratum of coal, with which fossil this parish is pervaded at different depths first *crops out* (as the colliers term it) but it is neither of sufficient thickness, nor can its direction be followed without too great an expence to be worked with profit here; as we proceed down the vale indeed other veins or strata have been discovered, but principally on the north west side of the Tawe, in such situations that by driving levels and other mechanical expedients, a very considerable trade in this article, as well as in iron stone, is now carried on, which is increased ten-fold since the completion of the canal from Swansea to Hên neuadd in this parish; by this conveyance the coal, being of that nature called stone coal, and chiefly used in drying malt and hops, and the smaller particles of the same fossil, called culm, which is of less value than the lumps and used in burning lime, are conveyed in barges from the different collieries, and shipped

\* I here feel forcibly the deficiency of my pen; writers who are in the habit of happily describing views of this kind, would have told us that the obdurate Llech ashamed of its wrath, or mortified at its tumble, steals silently and bashfully from the scene of its disgrace until it hides its head or — its tail (I foresaw I should spoil the simile) in the bosom of the gently winding Tawe.

ped at Neath for various ports in England. This canal is in length nearly seventeen miles : from Swansea to the Twrch, on the confines of the counties of Glamorgan and Brecon, the distance is twelve miles and 1672 yards, and from thence to Hên neuadd, three miles and a half.

The river Twrch, which from its source to its fall into the Tawe is a boundary between the above counties, and reminds me that one or two of the streams conducing to swell the larger, remain still unnoticed. Twrch, in Welsh, signifies a hog, and from the habits of this animal in digging up the earth with its snout, many rivers forming deep channels or holes, into which they sink into the earth, and are lost for a distance, are so called, a small brook, Banw, in Llanfigan, meaning a little pig, has been said to be of this family, but I am inclined to think the little rivulet which gives the name of Cwmbanw to that dingle, signifies ban wy, water from the summit. The appellation of Twrch given to the torrent at Ystradgynlais is peculiarly descriptive of its rapidity and effect, as it pours down in a continued stream from its source to its fall, rolling before it immense stones and tearing up the soil sometimes to a great depth ; yet turbid as this torrent appears, particularly in a flood, its ravages have been productive of discoveries useful to man, which might otherwise have remained for ages concealed, and the *strata* laid open on its banks, have successfully directed the researches of the collier and the mineralogist.

The next river proceeding on the same side of the Tawe up the vale in Breckshire, is called Gwraidd, from Gwraiddio or Gwreiddio to root up, for the same reason that the former river derives its appellation : it is however not nearly equal to the Twrch, either as to the quantity of water or the impetuosity of its torrent ; passing the Crâf and the Llynvell before noticed I come to Haffes, another stream, the meaning of which I know not, unless it be Hâf-hesp, or Hesp yn yr hâf, dry in summer time, so called, because there is no water in the brook in summer. Proceeding a few yards higher up, I approach the confines of the parishes of Llywel and Treacastle, where the Tawe divides into two streams, nearly equal in point of size, the current however bearing this name, proceeds north west to Llywel and the borders of Caermarthenshire, or rather springs from thence, while the other, called Tawyne, a diminutive of Tawe, rises eastwardly in the parish of Devynock. The bridges in this parish, except that at Abercrâf, which is upon the county, are repaired by the inhabitants of the district.

The advowson of this rectory was anciently in the lords of Brecon ; to whom it was granted after the forfeiture, does not clearly appear, but it seems to me to have been taken possession of by John Walwyn, receiver for the crown of the rents of

the

the duke of Buckingham's estates in Breconshire, whose daughter and sole heiress Margaret married Walter Wynter of Brecon, who, as well as his son and grandson, were Roman catholics, and may have lost it from their inability to present, though their descendants claimed the right of patronage as late as the year 1738, when William Wynter, esq. having presented Penry Bailey, clerk and Christopher Portrey of Yniscedwin, esq. having also presented John Portrey, clerk, the bishop of the diocese issued a commission directed to three or four of the most respectable gentlemen in Breconshire, empowering them to meet in the parish church, to examine witnesses, to swear a jury, to inquire and to return their verdict *de jure patronatus*; they accordingly met, when after the inspection of authentic documents and hearing the evidence of several old persons, the jury found that the advowson was in Christopher Portrey and not in William Wynter, this verdict is entered in the bishop's register at Abergwili, but how this right came to the family of Yniscedwin I never yet could learn.

The rectory (not valued in Pope Nicholas's taxation) remains in charge, is estimated in the Liber Regis at 9*l.* 10*s.* 7*d.*; tenths 19*s.* 4*d.* Procurations and Synodals "*in ordinaria Visitatione*" 10*s.* 5*d.* Archdeacon's procurations, 7*s.* 5*d.*

The register book commences in 1721.

## LIST OF INCUMBENTS.

Date of Institutions.	Patrons.	Incumbents.
1490.—The Bishop of St. David, p. h. v.		Thomas, the Bishop's Chaplain.
1493.—The Crown, p. h. v.*		David ap Gwalter.
1514.—The duke of Buckingham.		Thomas ap Griffith.
1583.—George Lloyd of Holwood, } Ampney, Gloucestershire, esq. }		Lewis Thomas.
1601.—Edward Morgan & Edward } Kemeys esq. † }		John Llewelyn.
1634.—Morgan Awbrey.		Charles Herbert.

1635.—

\* During the minority of the duke of Buckingham, and on the resignation of Thomas, who here again has no surname. This parish is called

Ystradgynlais, otherwise Glyntawe at this time.

† Tutors and guardians of Walter Wynter, an infant.

Dates of Institutions.	Patrons.	Incumbents.
1635.—The Crown by lapse. *		Charles Herbert.
Morgan Awbrey.		Hopkin Thomas. †
1666.— Ditto.		John Collins.
1687.—Christopher Portrey, gent.		Richard Portrey.
1714.—Richard Portrey, esq. ‡		James Powel.
1739.—Christopher Portrey esq.		John Portrey.
1745.—Ditto		John Seys.
1780.—John Woodhouse, of Bridewell } Hospital, esq. §		James Gough Awbrey.
1790.—Richard Gough Awbrey, esq. }		Fleming Gough.

## LLYWEL or LLIWEL.

**L** LULLE, alias Llywel, says Ecton ; whoever communicated to the editor this mode of spelling the word, was correct in the derivation and nearly so in the orthography of the appellation. Llu-lle which idiomatically should be written Llu-le is the residence of the army, as is also Llu-wal, Llu-wel or Lluweli.¶

Upon reference to the history of Wales or to my first volume, it will be seen that Rhys ap Tudor, in gratitude to his nephew, the wild Irishman or Idio Wyllt for his assistance in subduing his rebellious subjects, conferred upon him the lordship of Llywel, in which I have reason to believe were comprehended all the lands eastward of Towy ; from Llangadoc to Aberguesin. The epithet uniformly conferred by the Britons upon this Hibernian unequivocally marks their opinion of his character and manners, and shews that they considered him no higher in the scale of human beings than we now do the Ourang Outang ; ¶ we may therefore conclude

\* Rymer's Fædera, v. XIX. p. 780.

† When presented is uncertain ; he was ousted by the propagators of the gospel in Wales, and succeeded, after five or six years vacancy, by James Jones, a thatcher, who was followed by David Jones, a ploughman. Walker's Sufferings, &c. p. 161.

‡ Elinor Wynter, widow, claimed the presentation at this time, and entered a caveat against the institution of Mr. Powel.

§ He was a trustee of the Ynisedwin estate

under an act of parliament ; the advowson was in fact at this time in Mr. Awbrey.

¶ "Gwel is literally a bed, metaphorically any place of rest, hence, house, habitation, manor, estate or tenement." Note to Wynne's History of the House of Gwedir.

¶ Notwithstanding these prejudices of the Welsh from the difference of manners, and perhaps from some eccentricities in this chieftain, it appears clearly from history that he was not only a brave but a very able and prudent man.