Original Mocuments.

INVENTORY OF THE GOODS OF IEVAN AP KENRIC VAGHAN, DATED A.D. 1361, 36 EDW. III.; TO WHICH IS APPENDED HIS WILL.

From the Muniments at Peniarth, Montgomeryshire.

Communicated by W. WATKIN E. WYNNE, Esq.

Amongst MSS. and documentary evidences formerly preserved at Nannau, Merionethshire, in the possession of the late Sir Robert Williames Vaughan, Bart., by whom they were bequeathed on his decease in 1859 to Mr. Wynne, the following Inventory and Will have been found. This little document, of comparatively earlier date than the majority of those of a like description relating to the Principality, containing also certain particulars of general interest, has been placed at our disposal by Mr.

Wynne with his accustomed kindness.

Ievan ap Kenric Vaghan, or Vychan, the testator, seems to have resided near Aberdaron, on the western promontory of Caernarvonshire called Llyn, the extremity of which, known as Braich y Pwll, is supposed to be the Canganorum Promontorium of Ptolemy. He had possessions in the parish of Meylltyrn and probably in some neighbouring parts; his dwelling is believed to have been at Trygarn, about a mile distant from that place. He had doubtless been in the position of a gentleman of old family in his county, and of moderate income. His personal possessions were small, his estate moreover encumbered, possibly through hospitality, which in that remote region, on the highway to Bardsey, it may have been difficult to withhold from the numerous devout pilgrims resorting to the Isle of Saints.

The subjoined document was, as already noticed, one of those that were received by Mr. Wynne with the Vaughan MSS. The late Sir Robert Vaughan had a large property in the promontory of Caernarvonshire, and "Plas Meylltern," the Hall of Meylltern, belonged to him; Mr. Wynne is not aware, however, that Sir Robert was descended from the Trygarn

family.

The Inventory, it will be seen, was taken whilst the testator was still living, not, as more customary, after his decease; the enumeration of objects pledged and of his mortgages was doubtless written down from the declaration of the dying man. The Will is subjoined; it may deserve notice that it was made, if our reading of the imperfect writing on the damaged parchment be accepted, in the presence of John, abbot of Bardsey. This circumstance suggests the supposition that Ievan, harassed by the cares of his waning fortunes, may have actually sought refuge in the neighbouring Isle of Saints; on the other hand, the abbot may, possibly,

have been his kinsman: he was, doubtless, as head of so celebrated a monastery, a person of considerable influence in these parts, and his presence may have been desired by the testator by way of confirmation, in regard to his declaration of moneys which he had borrowed on the securities stated in his Inventory, and for the better authentication of his Will. In the brief enumeration of the abbots of Bardsey, given by Mr. Longueville Jones in his memoir on the Island and Monastery, Archæol. Camb., vol. i., first series, p. 63, no abbot named John is found previously to the sixteenth century. We are informed, however, by Mr. Wynne, that in the collection of pedigrees compiled by Robert Vaughan, the Merionethshire antiquary, about the middle of the seventeenth century, John, a younger son of Ievan ap Meredith, is stated to have been abbot of Bardsey, and it seems probable that he may have been abbot as early as the date of the document which is here brought under the notice of our readers.

The descent of Ievan ap Kenric is of considerable interest as connected with the family history of North Wales. We are indebted to the kind courtesy of a friend at Beaumaris, Mr. John Williams, for a pedigree in which Ievan appears seventh in descent from Llowarch Hwlbwrch, or Olbiwch, said to have been Chamberlain and Treasurer to Prince Gruffud ap Llewelyn, who lived between a.d. 1037 and 1064. It is believed that Llowarch espoused a kinswoman of Gruffud ap Cynan, father of the celebrated Owen Gwynedd. Richard ap Kynwrig of Trygarn, Ievan's great grandson, was esquire to Edward IV. The heiress of this ancient race, Mary, daughter of Richard Trygarn, married John Griffith, Esq., of

Carreglwyd in Anglesey.

The possessions and household effects of Ievan ap Kenric appear, as already stated, to have been of small account; after the enumeration of oxen, cows, and sheep, few in number, mention is made in the Inventory of blada, a word by which grain of all descriptions is commonly designated, both in regard to growing crops or corn in store. We here meet with a term of somewhat unusual occurrence, used in this document as a measure of oats—"crenoc avene"—which may claim a few explanatory observations.

In Cowell's Interpreter we are informed that "Curnocke is four bushels or half a quarter of corn"—the authority cited being Fleta, lib. ii. cap. 12, namely, the chapter "De pondere et mensura." It is, however, singular that no mention of the word has been found in the printed copies; of which the earliest was published in 1644, and the second, accompanied by Selden's Dissertation, in 1647. It has been suggested, with considerable probability, that the word "curnocke" may have been an addition by a transcriber in the MS. copy of Fleta which was used by the early glossarist, and have been copied from the Interpreter by Blount and other compilers of dictionarie 2

¹ Hengwrt MS., No. 96, now in Mr. Wynne's library at Peniarth. In the pedigree of Ievan ap Meredith there given it appears that Morgan ap Ievan, brother of John above mentioned, married Gwenllian, daughter of Griffith Derwas, whose brother Howel was murdered in 1400. A daughter of the said Griffith was wife of Richard Trygarn, great grandson of Ievan ap Kenric, whose

Inventory and Will are given above.

² Jamieson explains a Curn or Kurn as signifying in N. Scottish, "a quantity of anything; a parcel or indefinite number;" for instance, a "ourn of bread," a small piece; a "curn aits," a quantity of oats; "curnie," a small quantity, &c. Lyndsay in 1592 writes of "curnis of meill and luiffullis," namely handfuls, of malt,

The cranoc, curnocke, or curnook, seems to have been a measure of Irish origin.3 Ledwich, in the Antiquities of Kilkenny, p. 380, informs us that "the cranock or cronnog, in Irish, was a basket or hamper for holding corn, supposed to hold the produce of seventeen sheaves of corn, and to be equal to a British barrel."

Thus, likewise, in Ducange, edit. Henschel, we find "crannoca, mensuræ genus apud Hibernos," with references to documents printed by Rymer. It was used, however, in Wales and elsewhere; the term occurs repeatedly

in the Record of Caernarvon, but no explanation is there given.

It has been repeatedly stated, on the alleged authority of Fleta above mentioned, that the curnocke contained four bushels or half a quarter; this, however, was by no means an invariable rule. In the Wardrobe Book, 28 Edw. I. (1299, 1300), edited by Mr. Topham for the Society of Antiquaries, we find, under Victualia, "59 crannok di' bras' avene molite" received from ships arriving from Ireland; also "133 crannok di' bras' faciunt in quarter' Anglie, quolibet crannok valente 2 quarter', 386 quarter."

We are indebted to the kindness of the Professor of Political Economy in the University of Oxford, to whose valuable researches into the History of Agriculture and Prices attention has previously been invited in this Journal, for the following particulars derived from a series of Irish computi relating to the possessions of Roger Bigod between 1280-90. On all his estates situate within the English pale the crannock was used instead of the quarter, and, except in the case of oats, it invariably contained eight bushels, each of four pecks. In the case of oats the crannock contained sixteen bushels, and this duplication of the quarter of oats, as Professor Rogers remarks, is not very rare; he has found it customary, in several English estates of which he has examined the accounts, from the middle of the thirteenth century.

The use of this ancient measure may be traced in Worcestershire and some adjacent parts of England. In the Register of the Priory of Worcester, shortly to be produced under the editorial care of the Ven. Archdeacon Hale, the term occurs repeatedly,-" cron' siliginis, j. cron' ordei, j. quarteria avenæ," &c.6 In later times we find this ancient measure occasionally mentioned, although possibly disused. Skinner gives "curnock, mensura quædam frumenti ; v. Clark of the Market, p. 12;" and Mr. Riley,

³ O'Reilly gives Crannog in his Irish Dictionary, interpreted "a basket or hamper;" the term is probably to be traced to the material of which the ancient measure was formed.

⁴ Liber Garderobe, p. 125. It should seem that this was exclusively Irish measure; throughout the account oats, barley, &c., occur, measured by the quarter and bushel—"per mensuram rasam." In Claus. 3 Hen. III., the Justiciary of Ireland is ordered to deliver annually to the King of the Isle of Man "duo dolia vini et sexies viginiti crennoc bladi pro homagio suo."

for the Camden Society, p. 7; see also notes, p. xxxvii. The Archdeacon prints the word in extense, "cronnus;" he notices that "cronnokus" occurs in the Gloucester Cartulary. At Worcester 28 cronns of grain were distributed as "St. Wolstan's alms," consisting of five quarters of wheat, four quarters of rye, and four quarters of pease, the whole being ground and baked into loaves; the twelve quarters, making twenty-four cronns, and each cronn fifty-two loaves. These loaves, 1248 in number, were distributed at the gate. Regist. ut supra, p. 106. This Elemosina is mentioned in Valor Eccl., vol. iii., p. 226.

<sup>Arch. Journ., vol. xxi., p. 392.
Regist. Priorat. B. M. Wigorn., edited</sup>

to whose labors we are greatly indebted for information concerning the municipal institutions and the trade of the metropolis, has pointed out mention of the "cornook" in the Pathway to Knowledge, a translation from the Dutch, printed in 1596; it is there identified with the coomb of four bushels.

The interest of all details associated with the obscure subject of mediæval weights and measures, of which we hope ere long to see the elucidation by Professor Rogers, must be our excuse for this digression on a term that

seems to have been hitherto insufficiently noticed.

After the enumeration of Ievan's live stock and "blada," we find his small household appliances, "parva utensilia domus," of which the cooking vessels alone (ollæ) were considered deserving to be specified. There can be little doubt that these ollæ, four in number, pledged for the sums of 6s. 2d., 2s., iôā., and 14d. respectively, were tripod caldrons of mixed metal, such as have frequently been found on or near ancient sites of occupation, and have been regarded as Roman relics when they have occurred near Stations or places known to have been occupied in Roman times. A good example of the mediæval caldron found in North Wales was brought under our notice in 1863 by the Hon. W. O. Stanley, M.P., as related in this Journal, vol. xx. p. 169. It is here figured.



Caldron found in Denbighshire; height 10 inches, diameter 113.

It may deserve notice in regard to these older pledged by Ievan (sub pignore) to various persons, that, according to the merciful laws of Howel Dda, there were "three pledges which never lapse; a coulter, a cauldron, and a fuel axe." The caldron, the trivet, and the flesh-fork were appli-

⁷ In Sir Jonas Moore's System of Mathematics, 1681, this term is doubtless to be traced under the form "canock" (sic). Dr. Young, as Mr. Riley informs me, mentions both cran and crannock in the second Report of the Commissioners on Weights and Measures; 1820.

8 See notices of tripod caldrons, Archaeologia, vol. xiv. p. 278, Arch. Journ.,

vol. xx., p. 169.

This vessel, which holds about nine

quarts, was found in a turbary at Bodidris, Denbighshire. It is now at Bodelwyddan, near St. Asaph, the seat of Sir Hugh Williams, Bart. Bodidris was a border fortress in early times, and doubtless one of the strongholds of the lordship of Denbigh, granted by Elizabeth to Robert Dudley. Considerable remains exist of the ancient mansion, the hall, and the exterior stables.

² Ancient Laws and Institutes of Wales, vol. ii., p. 633.

ances of sufficient value and importance to claim consideration in legislative provisions. Thus in the valuation of buildings, furniture, &c., appended to the Venedotian Code, or Laws of North Wales, and there ascribed to Jorwerth, son of Madog; the worth of the king's boiler is set at six score pence, and its flesh-fork at twenty-four pence; his "bergin," possibly the trivet or brandrith, at six score pence; his caldron at three score pence, and its flesh-fork at twelve pence. The worth of the caldron, &c., of a magnate ("uchelwr") are set at the like amount.

There were likewise tripod mediæval vessels of metal, in form not unlike the coffee-pot of our own times, and these may have sometimes been designated ollæ; an example was found in ploughing near Corwen in 1855, and it is now, we believe, in Mr. Wynne's possession. It is figured, with a

short notice by him, in the Archæologia Cambrensis.4

In a former volume of this Journal attention was called by Mr. Wynne to a term peculiar to Welsh law, and of very frequent occurrence in documents, viz., appridare. It should seem that the word pridare or appridare is a latinised term from the Welsh word prid, ransom, and signifies to take on mortgage.5 See the documents given by Mr. Wynne in illustration of it; Arch. Journ., vol. vi., p. 394; compare Mr. Smirke's observations, vol. vii. p. 62. In the subjoined Inventory we find "terras ad pridas," viz., a tenement "ad pridam," i. e., redeemable, by Mered ap David Gogh at a certain sum, (the amount illegible); another tenement at 21., and two tenements in the town of Meylltyrn at 81. In the Will occurs the expression "terras meas pridas;" the last word should probably be read "pridatas," as, in a document in the possession of Sir Richard Bulkeley, Bart., according to information for which we are indebted to the courtesy of Mr. John Williams, of Beaumaris, is found the expression "terras meas pridatas," meaning, as suggested by him, "lands which I hold as mortgagee."

It may seem a little singular in the documents here given, that a man who had lands as mortgagee should have pledged for small sums such household articles as the *ollæ* above-mentioned; but in all probability Ievan may have had occasion for some small sums of money, and it was doubtless more convenient to raise them by pledging his *ollæ* than by calling in any

of his mortgages.

In perusing the testamentary dispositions of Ievan ap Kenric Vaghan, his desire that his body should find sepulture in the Holy Isle of the Saints at Bardsey will not pass unnoticed. The high veneration with which Ynys Enlli, the Island of the Current, was regarded dates from a very early period in the annals of Christian Cambria. It is asserted that the aged prelate of South Wales, Dubritius, resigning his see at Caerleon to St. David, retired to Bardsey, and was there interred, A.D. 522; his

nula is stated.

⁴ Third series, vol. iv., p. 416. A similar vessel found near the Roman Wall is figured in Dr. Bruce's work on the Mural Barrier, pl xvi, Fig. 2.

⁵ Pridiaw in Welsh is explained in

5 Pridiaw in Welsh is explained in Owen Pugh's dictionary as signifying, to give a price, to lay a pawn or pledge, or to ransom.

³ Ibid., vol. i., pp. 295, 297: compare the Leges Walliæ, lib. ii., c. 31, in which the crater is set at eight, the tripod at four "denarii legales," and another valuation, ibid., c. 37, in which we find the following—"lebes regis libram valet,—fuscinula lebetis xxiiij. den. Caldarium regis dim. libre.—Caldarium optimatis lx. den.—Caldarium villani xxx. den." In each instance the value of the fusci-

remains were, however, removed in the twelfth century to Llandaff.6 Here also, according to Giraldus, was the tomb of St. Daniel, Bishop of Bangor, who died toward the later part of the sixth century. the massacre at Bangor, about A.D. 607, many of the brethren of that convent, with other fugitives for the sake of their holy faith, found a refuge in the Island of the Saints. The example of the venerable Bishop of Caerleon, in retiring to close his life at Bardsey, was so extensively followed, as Mr. Rees has remarked in his Lives of Welsh Saints, that, according to the exaggerations of after ages, no less than twenty thousand saints were interred in the little island, the entire surface of which was occupied by their graves, and pilgrimages were frequently made thither for the sake of obtaining the intercession of the departed.7 Many persons, moreover, desired that their bones should rest in that hallowed ground; the voyage to Ynys Enlli was, however, attended with danger, and the bards have described its difficulties, not forgetting to celebrate the guardian influence to which the faithful owed protection amidst the waves. According to tradition, the transit from the shores of Merionethshire to the Isle of Saints was frequently made from the estuary at Barmouth. In the church of Llanaber, a short distance to the north of that place, an interesting relic existed, as we are informed by Mr. Wynne, until the "restoration" of the fabric about 1858: at the west end of the north aisle a space had been walled off, to serve, it is believed, as a mortuary depository in which the corpse in transit to Bardsey might be suitably placed on any occasion when stormy weather delayed the voyage across the perilous seas.8

INVENTORY OF THE GOODS OF IEVAN AP KENRIC VAGHAN, dated Tuesday before the Feast of the Annunciation (March 25), A.D. 1361, 36 Edw. III.; with his Will appended.

Inventarium Ievan ap Ken Vaghan die Martis proxima ante festum annunciacionis Beate Marie, anno Domini millesimo coc^{mo} sexagesimo primo, et anno regni regis Edwardi tercii post conquestum tricesimo vj^o. Primo, habet in bonis quinque boves, et sex vacas (sic), et tria averia, et v. vitulos,

⁶ Rees, Welsh Saints, p. 192. Pennant, Tour in Wales, vol. ii., p. 197, gives A.D. 612 as the date of the death of Dubritius.

7 See the document entitled, "The Pardons and Privileges of the Abbey of Ennly," printed in the account of Bardsey, by the Rev. H. Longueville Jones, Archæol. Camb., vol. ii., p. 64. In regard to the history and present condition we may refer to that interesting memoir, and to the authorities there cited, and also to further particulars relating to Bardsey given in the same Journal, vol. iii., p. 363; vol. iv., p. 134; vol. vi., Third Series, pp. 151, 188.

⁸ Mr. Wynne states that he was desirous to secure the preservation of "the dead-house," which might conveniently have been converted into a vestry. It was, however, destroyed, as was also a rude altar at the east end of the south

aisle; in which was found the bronze cross figured in this Journal, vol. xvi. p. 204, where a short account of the church has been given by Mr. Wynne. See also his letter, Arch. Camb., Third Series, vol. iv., p. 314.

⁹ Averia, according to Spelman, Bishop Kennett, Cowell, and other glossarists, signified cattle generally, "equi, boves, jumenta, oves, cæteraque animalia quæ agriculturæ inserviunt, aut in agricolæ bonis et facultatibus, seu, ut vocant. Instauramento, computantur." Ducange in v. : Averii seem to have been horses used in farm labor. We find also avere lanutum, namely sheep, and porcinum, swine. It would seem from the context, that in the Inventory above given, averia may signify heifers, sometimes written "haifers," Ang. Sax., heafre, vaccula. Cowell, indeed, has the following observation:—"I think the word heifer to have

et xlij. oves, et blada exhistencia (sic) in terris et [extra]¹... crenoc avene, et parva utensilia domus, et duos equos; videlicet, unam ollam cum David ap y Gwineu sub pignore, videlicet, vj. s. ij. d., et aliam ollam cum Edū ap Heil' Gam² sub pignore, videlicet, ij. s., et aliam ollam cum Athaf ap Ken ap Mad'³ sub pignore xviij. d., et quartam ollam cum Gwladus V'gh' Edū ⁴ sub pignore, videlicet, xiiij. d.; et terras ad pridas, videlicet, unum tenementum ad pridam a Mered ap David Goghe sub.. li., et [unum] tenementum Mad' Inon⁵ sub ij. li., et duo tenementa in villa Mellteri.. ⁵ sub octo l'is.. ⁻ et cetera.

In Dei nomine amen. Ego predictus Ievan compos mentis et debil . . corpus (sic) in extrema voluntate ordino ac condo testamentum meum in hunc modum. Lego animam meam Deo omnipotenti et Beate Marie . . . et omnibus Sanctis Dei, et corpus meum ad sepeliendum in insula sancta sanctorum Bardeses' si Deus disposuerit. Item lego in oblacionem cum corpore meo Item lego Vamaeth Velen⁸ xij. d. Item lego fil' Mab' Gwien ⁹ xij. d. Item lego Bledyn filio meo omnia bona mea mobilia et in mobilia, et omnia utensilia mea predicta; ¹ et alia utensilia varia non oportet numerari lego predicto Bledyn. Item lego omnes terras meas pridas predicto Bledino filio meo. Item lego blada exhistencia in terris et extra predicto Bledyn sicut melius sibi videbitur expedire, ² et predictus Bledyn providere faciat pro Ith' ³ filio meo qui de legitimo thoro procreato (sic). ⁴ Et ego predictus Ievan obligatus in debitis, videlicet, Thome de Milleton iiij. li. x. s., Jor' ap Mad' Loit ⁵ de tribus redditibus domini . . . s. iij. d., ⁶ Mered' ap Ievan xiij. d., Ievan ap Geñrys v. s.; et predictus Ievan ordino Bledyn ad faciendum omnia pro salute anime me (sic) sicut

been only a corruption of aver, and to have signified at first any beast, though now restrained to the younger kind." Interpreter, s. v. Averia.

¹ The number is obliterated.

² Probably Edneved, son of Heile Gam, son of Howel (!) the Crooked.

³ Athaf, son of Kenric, son of Madog. ⁴ Gwladys Vergh, or Verch, (daughter of,) Edneved.

⁵ Madog Inon, possibly for Einon or Eignon, a common Welsh name.

⁶ Possibly Mellterin, or Melltern, the last letters of the word are illegible, the parchment being damaged. Meylltyrn is a parish near the testator's residence.

⁷This word is obscure; it should probably be read in extenso, libris.

8 Mr. Wynne considers this to signify "the yellow nurse, or foster mother," possibly some old adherent of Ievan's family, and the first remembered in his bequests, even before his own sons. It has, however, been suggested by a friend well versed in the antiquities of North Wales, that Vamaeth (or Mammaeth) Velen may have relation to the chapel on "Maen Velen," the Yellow Cliff, opposite Bardsey, a place held in great veneration. Trygarn, the residence of Ievan, and Bardsey, are both in the Commot of

Maenmelyn, and the bequest may have been to the church, possibly to the mother church in the Commot. It may, indeed, have been necessary to specify the Vamaeth, for the locality abounded with chapels, and ruins of some of them remain at the present time.

⁹ It is uncertain whether filio or filiae is here intended. Mab Gwien, sou of Gwien. It must, however, be observed that the last letter of Mab has a mark of contraction. The mixture of Latin with Welsh renders the early documents relating to the Principality very obscure.

1 Namely, the ollæ specified in the

Inventory.

This phrase seems misplaced here; possibly it was accidentally transposed in making the transcript. The reading of the original may have been—"predictus Bledyn providere faciat, sicutomelius sibi videbitur expedire, pro Ith'"

3 Probably Ithel.

⁴ The first hand may have written procreat9 (procreatus—est being understood), which might obviously be changed into procreato in the transcript.

⁵ Jorwerth ap Madog Loit, or Lloyd. ⁶ This *redditus domini*, Mr. Wynne observes, may have been a rent to the crown, sibi videbitur expedire. Hiis testibus et fidejussoribus ad predictum testamentum, Bledyn ap Eignon Game,7 Cad' Chiwith',8 Jor' ap Mad' Kefder,9 Bledyn ap Ken, et multis aliis. Actum coram Johanne t'1 de Barteges' die et anno supradictis. In cujus testimonium sigillum predicti [Ievan?] est appositum.

Additional Note on the term " Prida."

Whilst the foregoing document and observations were in the printer's hands we became indebted anew to the courtesy of Mr. Williams, from whom we have received an instrument that may throw some further light upon the obscure terms prida, appridare, &c. It bears date February 24, 35 Henry VI. (A.D. 1457), and appears to be an indenture of covenant, collateral with a deed of pryde (or mortgage) that is recited in it, and was dated probably on the same day. The deed of pryde (or mortgage) was made by Res Salmone of Beaumaris of his burgage, without the west gate of Beaumaris, to William Bulkeley the elder, Esquire, the operative words being "prydyt and sett to pryde," which seem equivalent to "mortgaged and set to mortgage." Set, in law language, is equivalent to grant; thus set to farm is to lease, and "set to pryde" must, as it would appear, be to mortgage. The transaction in question

was certainly in effect a mortgage.

The word "pryde" had, however, evidently very different and even almost opposite meanings; for the money, amounting to 60s., paid by William Bulkeley to Res Salmone as the consideration for the deed of pryde, was paid "as in pryde of the said burgage." The grant of the burgage is to William Bulkeley, his heirs, and assigns from St. David's day, 35 Hen. VI., for four years, and so from four years to four years, a practice unknown to English lawyers.1

Instead of interest a yearly rent is made payable by the mortgagor; and, if it be in arrear, it is to "run and be set with" (added to) the mortgage

debt (the sum of 60s.) "in pryde yearly."

Though, according to the documents adduced by Mr. Wynne in explanation of the words pridare and appridare, in vol. vi. of this Journal, p. 394, they sometimes meant to take in mortgage; yet, in all probability, they are Latin forms of the word pryde, and show that it had sometimes this meaning. Indeed it should seem that all these words had a very vague

and probably Jorwerth was farmer under the crown. Almost every office was farmed out in the middle ages in Wales, such, for instance, as those of the sheriff, the raglot, the ringild, the woodwarden,

Bledyn, son of Einion the Crooked, or the one-eyed; Camm, bowed, crooked.

Richard's Dictionary.

S Cadwallon possibly, or Cadwalader, the Untoward. Chwith, sinister, awkward; Chwithig, left-handed, untoward.
Jorworth ap Madog.

The parchment has here suffered and for letters before the final the horse the

a few letters before the final t' have been

entirely obliterated. It is probable that the reading was abbate. It has been stated previously that there was an abbot of Bardsey, named John, about the time when the document given above is dated. Possibly the seal affixed may have been his.

It may be observed, that, in the "Memoranda de terris pridatis per Gruffut ap Aron," communicated formerly by Mr. Wynne, the conveyance by the mortgagor is for successive terms of four years continually until redemption.

Arch. Journ., vol. vi., p. 394.

sense, and signified either to grant in mortgage or to take in mortgage; and that the actual meaning in every case was to be determined by the context. If, as appears not improbable, the primary sense of the Welsh form of the word pryde as a verb, viz. pridiaw, was to give one thing for another, both the meanings above mentioned may be easily accounted for.

A. W. and W. S. W.

Archaeological Intelligence.

The Annual Meeting of the Institute for the year 1866 will be held in the Metropolis, commencing on July 17. It is with grateful satisfaction that the Central Committee desire to make known to the Members that Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen has signified Her Pleasure that the Meeting should be announced as held under Her sanction and Patronage. Her Majesty has also been graciously pleased to grant permission for a special visit to Windsor Castle. H. R. H. the Prince of Wales, Patron of the Institute, has condescended to take the part of Honorary President of the London Meeting. Cordial promise of assistance and encouragement has been received from the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor, and, by sanction of the Court of Common Council, the Inaugural Assembly will take place in the Guildhall.

Full particulars regarding the proposed arrangements may be obtained

at the Office of the Institute, No. 1, Burlington Gardens.

The publication of a work of great value to all who devote attention to Palæography, and to the investigation of Historical evidence preserved in ancient records, claims the special notice of our readers. The success that attended the Photo-zincographic facsimiles of Domesday Book has suggested to Sir Henry James a reproduction, by the same process, of the most interesting of our royal charters, grants, letters of royal and remarkable persons, with various documents deposited at the Record Office, or in other repositories, including the most perfect copy of Magna Carta extant. The series has been selected, under direction of the Master of the Rolls, by Mr. T. Duffus Hardy, Deputy Keeper of H.M. Records; it will extend from the Conquest to the commencement of the last century. The facsimiles, arranged chronologically, will form four parts, atlas quarto; price of each part 25s. Translations and notes have been supplied by Mr. W. B. Sanders, Assistant Keeper of Records. This important work, entitled "National Manuscripts," may be obtained through Mr. Stanford, Charing Cross, or any bookseller.

It is with satisfaction also that we hail the announcement of a collection of facsimiles of "National Manuscripts" of Scotland, to be executed under the charge of Sir Henry James. The materials for the first portion have been selected by direction of the Right Hon. Sir William Gibson-Craig, Bart., Lord Clerk Register, by the talented Curator of the Historical Department of the Register House, Edinburgh, who has likewise been permitted to have recourse to the rich stores in public and private collections

in North Britain.

THE REV. WILLIAM GREENWELL, M.A., announces as in readiness for