

ADRODDIAD BLYNYDDOL / ANNUAL REPORT 1918-19

MOSTYN MSS

1919001

Blwyddyn / Year

Adroddiad Blynyddol / Annual Report 1918-19

Disgrifiad / Description

About a year ago the Council received an intimation that some portion of the valuable literary treasures the property of the Right Honourable Lord Mostyn, were to be sold, including the Welsh manuscripts. With a patriotism which all must admire, Lord Mostyn desired to keep the Welsh Manuscripts intact, and to retain them in Wales. To enable this to be brought about His Lordship offered to sell the manuscripts as a whole to the National Library. The question of funds for so extensive a purchase was a difficult one, owing to the state of the Library's funds. The difficulty was, however, promptly overcome by the public spirited generosity of Mr A Cecil Wright, J.P. (whom we all welcome here today as a life member of the Court). Mr Wright undertook to purchase the MSS from Lord Mostyn and to present them to the National Library (NLW MSS 3020D, 3021F, 3022-3D, 3024C, 3025B, 3026C, 3027E, 3028-44B, 3045-6D, 3047C, 3048-62D, 3063E, 3064B, 3065-6E, 3067-70B, 3071-2E, 3073-5D, 3076B). This great act of generosity was done with a modesty and grace which all will appreciate.

Nodiadau

Schedule Available.

SIR JOHN WILLIAMS

1919002

Ffynhonnell / Source

Sir John Williams

Blwyddyn / Year

Adroddiad Blynyddol / Annual Report 1918-19

Disgrifiad / Description

Sir John Williams's additions to his collections number 44 volumes, including the rare first edition, 1633, of "The Purple Island" by Phineas Fletcher (Dept of Printed Books). He has also added twenty old deeds (Sir John Williams Deeds) and 110 pamphlets.

Nodiadau

Schedule Available.

HENRY TAYLOR

1919003

Ffynhonnell / Source

Mr Henry Taylor

Blwyddyn / Year

Adroddiad Blynyddol / Annual Report 1918-19

Disgrifiad / Description

Mr Henry Taylor (NLW MSS 6267-331) has added to his Flintshire Historical Collection a valuable series of papers relating to the Flintshire elections of 1837, 1842 and 1852, giving many sidelights on old time electioneering methods, and recalling famous contests between the families of Glynne of Hawarden, the Mostyns and the Hammers (NLW MSS 6313-15C, 6316-18B, 6319-21E).

Mynegai

Sir Fflint, Penarlâg.

THOMAS JONES (LLANFAETHLU) MSS

1919004

Ffynhonnell / Source

The Reverend A Owen Evans, Llanfaethlu Rectory, Anglesey

Blwyddyn / Year

Adroddiad Blynyddol / Annual Report 1918-19

Disgrifiad / Description

Rev A Owen Evans, Llanfaethlu Rectory, Anglesey, has sent 41 volumes of MS. Music, being the Music of Books of Thomas Jones, Parish Clerk of Llantrisant, Anglesey, born 1818, died 1898 (NLW MSS 8112-52). These old tune books are being collected for the Library whenever they turn up.

The music department has a fair number. Others will be gladly received and acknowledged. The value of them is greater if the place where used or compiled can be given.

SERGEANT MAJOR FEAR

1919005

Ffynhonnell / Source

Sergeant Major Fear of Aberystwyth

Blwyddyn / Year

Adroddiad Blynnyddol / Annual Report 1918-19

Disgrifiad / Description

Sergeant Major Fear of Aberystwyth has handed over for preservation the final instalment of War letters. The total number of letters deposited by him is 4052.

LIBRARIES COMMITTEE OF BIRMINGHAM

1919006

Ffynhonnell / Source

The Libraries Committee of Birmingham

Blwyddyn / Year

Adroddiad Blynnyddol / Annual Report 1918-19

Disgrifiad / Description

Among the gifts it is pleasant to report a number from other libraries, duplicates withdrawn, and offered to the National Library. The Libraries Committee of Birmingham sent four plays of Shakespeare, Hamlet (2 editions), 1676, and 1703, Cymbeline 1759, and King Lear 1770 (Dept of Printed Books).

TRUSTEES OF THE BRITISH MUSEUM

1919007

Ffynhonnell / Source

The Trustees of the British Museum

Blwyddyn / Year

Adroddiad Blynnyddol / Annual Report 1918-19

Disgrifiad / Description

The Trustees of the British Museum offered the choice from a large number of duplicates withdrawn, from which 7,660 volumes were selected (Dept of Printed Books). The Libraries Committee of the Corporation of London have been especially helpful, making up almost to completion the publications of the old Records Commission, and some other sets valuable for historical research, the total gift being 700 volumes, mostly folios.

CROYDON PUBLIC LIBRARIES

1919008

Ffynhonnell / Source

The Croydon Public Libraries Committee

Blwyddyn / Year

Adroddiad Blynnyddol / Annual Report 1918-19

Disgrifiad / Description

The Croydon Public Libraries Committee have sent nearly 100 volumes, and more are being sent (Dept of Printed Books).

LONDON COUNTY COUNCIL

1919009

Ffynhonnell / Source
The London County Council
Blwyddyn / Year
Adroddiad Blynyddol / Annual Report 1918-19
Disgrifiad / Description
The London County Council have made a grant of such of their official publications as were suitable, over 380 volumes (Dept of Printed Books).

`HANSARD'S DEBATES'

1919010
Ffynhonnell / Source
Miss Evans
Blwyddyn / Year
Adroddiad Blynyddol / Annual Report 1918-19
Disgrifiad / Description
Hansard's Debates, 142 volumes, covering 1868-88 formerly the property of the late Henry Richard, M.P., has been presented by his niece Miss Evans (Dept of Printed Books).

RICHARD MORRIS LEWIS, SWANSEA

1919011
Ffynhonnell / Source
Miss M A Morris, Swansea
Blwyddyn / Year
Adroddiad Blynyddol / Annual Report 1918-19
Disgrifiad / Description
Miss M A Morris, the niece of the late Mr Richard Morris Lewis of Swansea (who translated portions of Homer's Iliad into Welsh) has sent to the Library an interesting group of books belonging to him (Dept of Printed Books), including the MS. of his translations from the Greek (NLW MS 2250B), some autograph letters (NLW MS 2249B) and other personalia, in all 46 volumes.
Mynegai
Abertawe.

THOMAS BRIGSTOCKE

1919012
Ffynhonnell / Source
Mr T E Brigstocke
Blwyddyn / Year
Adroddiad Blynyddol / Annual Report 1918-19
Disgrifiad / Description
Some personalia relating to Thomas Brigstocke, the painter, have been received from his nephew, Mr T E Brigstocke (NLW MS 2686C).

WILLIAM JAMES, PONT-Y-PRIDD

1919013
Ffynhonnell / Source
Mr William James, J.P., Pontypridd
Blwyddyn / Year
Adroddiad Blynyddol / Annual Report 1918-19
Disgrifiad / Description
Another item of interest is the MS. of the Sermon preached at the funeral service of the author of "Hen Wlad fy Nhadau" in 1878 by Dr Roberts, presented by Mr William James, J.P., Pontypridd (NLW MS 2410B).
Mynegai
Pont-y-pridd.

FIRST BIBLE IN IRISH

1919014

Ffynhonnell / Source

Mr J H Davies

Blwyddyn / Year

Adroddiad Blynyddol / Annual Report 1918-19

Disgrifiad / Description

Mr J H Davies has given a copy, complete and in sound condition, of the First Bible in Irish - London, 1685, quarto, 1142 pp. This first issue was the Old Testament only (Dept of Printed Books). The New Testament was not issued in Irish until the year 1602 (1603). The complete Bible in one volume was first printed in 1690.

Y LLYFR PLYGAIN

1919015

Ffynhonnell / Source

Professor Edward Edwards

Blwyddyn / Year

Adroddiad Blynyddol / Annual Report 1918-19

Disgrifiad / Description

Professor Edward Edwards has given a rare edition of Y Llyfr Plygain, 1771 (Dept of Printed Books).

WELSH BIBLE

1919016

Ffynhonnell / Source

Mrs Wheldon of Carmarthen

Blwyddyn / Year

Adroddiad Blynyddol / Annual Report 1918-19

Disgrifiad / Description

A copy of the Welsh Bible of 1727 (O.T. only) presented by Mrs Wheldon of Carmarthen formerly belonged to Daniel Rowland of Llangeitho, who wrote his name in it in several places, "Daniel Rowland his Book, 1773" (Dept of Printed Books). The name Sarah Rowland also occurs.

Mynegai

Caerfyrddin.

BIBLE AND POETICAL DICTIONARY

1919017

Blwyddyn / Year

Adroddiad Blynyddol / Annual Report 1918-19

Disgrifiad / Description

Special mention may be made of an anonymous gift, Annotations upon the Holy Bible, 2 volumes, folio, 1683 (Dept of Printed Books), and The Great Historical Geographical Genealogical and Poetical Dictionary, etc., by Jeremy Collier, 2 volumes, folio, 1771 (Dept of Printed Books). These were received in a parcel consigned from Shifnal, a railway station on the Welsh Border, with a note inside the parcel in a lady's writing "1st Feb:/19. A gift to the National Library, Aberystwyth. Bought at a Cottage Sale in England."

The unknown friend of the National Library may like to know that her thoughtful kindness is appreciated.

SIR LEOLINE JENKINS & SIR RICHARD BULSTRODE ETC

1919018

Blwyddyn / Year

Adroddiad Blynyddol / Annual Report 1918-19

Disgrifiad / Description

The purchases from the Special Book Fund include a complete set of Migne's Patrologia, both the Greek and Latin sections, in all 369 volumes (Dept of Printed Books). A collection of 540 books and pamphlets in Scotch Gaelic (Dept of Printed Books), a set (not quite complete) of the Hakluyt Society's publications, 109 volumes (Dept of Printed Books), and a series of 106 original letters written between the years 1674-84 by Sir Robert Leoline Jenkins, Secretary of State to Sir Richard Bulstrode, Envoy at Brussels (NLW MS 5389C). The letters give news of political events, and contain references to the Prince of Orange, the Dutch Treaty, the Peace with France, the Duke of Monmouth, and many other matters of state.

Sir Leoline Jenkins was a distinguished Welshman, who by his will gave large endowments to Jesus College, Oxford, and the Grammar School at Cowbridge, of which town he was a native.

Mynegai

Ffrainc, Rhydychen, Y Bont-faen.

AGRICULTURAL PUBLICATIONS

1919019

Blwyddyn / Year

Adroddiad Blynnyddol / Annual Report 1918-19

Disgrifiad / Description

Further additions have been made to the Agricultural Library which now contains about 4,000 books - all classified and catalogued (Dept of Printed Books).

SIR SAMUEL T EVANS

1919020

Ffynhonnell / Source

The late Sir Samuel Evans, GCB.

Blwyddyn / Year

Adroddiad Blynnyddol / Annual Report 1918-19

Disgrifiad / Description

The Library of the late Sir Samuel Evans, GCB, bequeathed by his will, has been removed to the Library, and is being arranged (NLW MSS 2231-42, 7538A). The bequest included the law books (Dept of Printed Books). These will materially strengthen that section. The total number of volumes included in the bequest is about 1800.

The executor of the late Mr Joseph Earle Ollivant (son of a former Bishop of Llandaff) has sent to the Library 80 volumes, offered to the National Library by the direction of Mr Ollivant, who made some gifts during his lifetime (Dept of Printed Books).

Mynegai

Llandaf.

'LE VOILE DE BONHEURE' BY MONSIEUR CLEMENCEAU

1919021

Ffynhonnell / Source

D Lloyd George

Blwyddyn / Year

Adroddiad Blynnyddol / Annual Report 1918-19

Disgrifiad / Description

The Prime Minister has sent a play "Le Voile de Bonheur" written by Monsieur Clemenceau, President of the Peace Conference, a special copy, enclosed in a satchel of green plush lined with brown silk (Dept of Printed Books). In transmitting the gift the Prime Minister's Private Secretary states, "I am sure it will be treasured in the National Library because of its association with the British and French Premiers".

DR HENRY OWEN'S BEQUEST

1919022

Ffynhonnell / Source

The late Dr Henry Owen

Blwyddyn / Year

Adroddiad Blynnyddol / Annual Report 1918-19

Disgrifiad / Description

The late Dr Henry Owen by his will bequeathed to the National Library his bust in marble by Sir W Goscombe John, R.A. , and a selection up to 500 of his books and manuscripts to be made by Mr Herbert M Vaughan, one of the literary executors of the will.

In consultation with the Librarian a selection was accordingly made from the Library at Poyston which includes the manuscript note-books of Dr Owen, and of Edward Laws, his friend and fellow worker on Pembrokeshire history. The older manuscripts include two in the hand of Geo. Owen of Henllys, "Fragments of Wales;" and Pembroke and Kemes, so called for that in this book there are conteyned diverse notes touchinge and auntient and moderne state of both these seignioryes and diverse other matters touchinge the same Lordshippes; Holograph Letters of General Sir Thomas Picton (born at Poyston); A Rent Roll of the Rents belonging to the Bishop of St Davids 1685. The total number of MSS and volumes of personalia is 39 (NLW MSS 1341-9B, 1350A, 1351-4B, 1355-61C, 1362-75B, 1376C, 1377-8B, 1379C, 1380E, 1381D, 1382E, 1383C, 1385-6D, 1387E, 1388D, 1389E, 1390D, 1391E, 1392B, 1393C, 1394-5B, 1396E, 1397-8B, 1399-1400D, 1401C, 1402B, 1403-6E, 1407-8B, 1409-10E, 1411C, 1412-13E, 1414D, 1415B, 1416-17C, 1418E, 1419-29C, 1430E, 1431A, 1432-9E, 1440D, 1441-3E, 1444F, 1445E, 1446A, 1447C, 1448D, 1449E, 1450D, 1451B, 1452A, 1453E).

Among the printed books selected are some very rare volumes by Pembrokeshire writers (Dept of Printed Books) - Thomas Phaer's "Nyne First Books of the Eneidos" 1562, and a later issue of the same book "Thirteen Bookes of Aeneidos" 1620. Another work by the same author is "The Regiment of Life, whereunto is added a treatise of the Pestilence, with the Book of Children, lately corrected and enlarged by Thomas Phayre," 1596.

The rare work on the Statutes abridged by William Owen, printed by Pynson, 1521, is a much coveted addition to the Library, and the same applies to three books by Robert Recorde, (of Tenby) (Dept of Printed Books).

I. The Urinal of Physic, composed by Mayster Robert Recorde, Doctor of Physicke; "1548, imprinted at London by Reynolds Wolfe.

II. Record's Arithmetic or the Ground of Arts, 1652, an edition of this famous book not hitherto in the Library.

III. The Castle of Knowledge, 1556, Imprinted at London by Reginald Wolfe, with 30 pages of contemporary MS. added at end.

These supplement the important collections of the works of Robert Recorde in Sir John Williams's Library.

Dr Owen acquired in the course of his life many choice books. He subscribed for example for many of the publications issued by his friend Mr Ashbee, at the Essex House Press. He was, too, a personal friend of the poet Laureate, Mr Robert Bridges, and possessed many of the rare issues of his works. Both these groups are included in the books selected.

He had also a number of rare books relating to Sir Thomas Picton, in addition to the original letters already referred to. All the Picton books not already in the National Library are included.

A few other books of special interest may be briefly mentioned;

Poems ... by Mrs Katherine Phillips, the matchless Orinda ... 1710, with portrait, in exceptionally fine binding of crimson morocco, richly tooled.

Emma Darwin, wife of Charles Darwin, A century of Family Letters, 2 volumes, 1904, The privately printed edition.

The Castell of Health ... by Sir Thomas Elyot - 1576. A choice copy in red morocco.

The Government of Ireland and under the honorable just, and wise governour Sir John Perrott, Knight, 1626. Perrott was a Pembrokeshire man.

The collection of Autograph Letters and historical documents formed by Alfred Morrison - The Hamilton and Nelson Papers - 2 volumes, small folio, 1893-4. Printed for private circulation.

An attractive Pembrokeshire item is a volume of Tracts containing 17 pieces by John Cennick, the Moravian Preacher who spent a portion of his ministerial life in Haverfordwest, and preached in all the places round.

Mynegai

Sir Benfro, George Owen of Henllys, Pembroke, Cemais, Cemaes, Tyddewi, Dinbych-y-pysgod, Iwerddon, Hwlfordd.

WAR BOOK, ABERYSTWYTH

1919023

Ffynhonnell / Source

Mr George Eyre Evans

Blwyddyn / Year

Adroddiad Blynyddol / Annual Report 1918-19

Disgrifiad / Description

`War Book, Aberystwyth', 4 volumes. A collection of press cuttings, letters, hand-bills, and other materials for a history of Aberystwyth in relation to the War laid down week by week from August 1914 to November 1918 by Miss Catherine Powell Evans of Ty Tringad, and presented by Mr George Eyre Evans.

R LLOYD JONES, LIVERPOOL

1919024

Ffynhonnell / Source

Mrs A S Lloyd Jones

Blwyddyn / Year

Adroddiad Blynyddol / Annual Report 1918-19

Disgrifiad / Description

From Mrs A S Lloyd Jones there has been received forty-nine volumes of Welsh books, sent in accordance with the wish of her husband, the late Rev R Lloyd Jones of Liverpool, who set these volumes aside, and requested that after his death they should be sent to the National Library (Dept of Printed Books). A book label recording this has been inserted in each book, and Mrs Lloyd Jones has consented to the books being used for loans to Study Classes in Welsh, and for circulation in any other way which may make them useful.

Mynegai

Lerpwl.

PHOTOGRAPHIC NEGATIVES

1919025

Ffynhonnell / Source

Sir Owen M Edwards, Knt., M.A.

Blwyddyn / Year

Adroddiad Blynyddol / Annual Report 1918-19

Disgrifiad / Description

Sir Owen M Edwards, Knt., M.A., has sent for preservation in the Department of Prints and Drawings a large number of photographic negatives (Dept of Pictures and Maps). He writes:- "They are the collection of the late John Thomas of Liverpool. He used to call them 'the Cambrian Gallery' Most of them were taken inn the 'sixties'. He was a photographer with a great love for Welsh history and literature, so wherever he went, he took historical scenes, and important living persons, especially litteraterus. He sold his collection to me when he retired. His son is a well-known Liverpool surgeon." "The collection", Sir Owen Edwards goes on to say, "contains among other things (1) Portraits of the men who made modern Wales, Gwilym Hiraethog, Islwyn, Caledfryn, etc. (2) Views of places which have since disappeared or are greatly changed, e.g. submerged Llanwddyn, Old Colwyn, etc. (3) Groups of actors on famous occasions e.g. Sassiwn Llanidloes, Ruthin Eisteddfod, etc. (4) Scenes illustrating Welsh life and industries, e.g. Cattle Fairs, etc., "He goes on "I used the Gallery for the purposes of Cymru, and of writers on Wales I used to give prints to authors free. When the Library has catalogued them I hope it can take this work off my hands, but charging something like cost price for printing. I know that Mr Thomas had he been alive would have been glad to see his collecion thus used."

I consider this a very important addition to the National Library and foresee no difficulty in making the contents of the collection available in the manner suggested by Sir Owen Edwards. The first step is to obtain a supply of negative storing boxes, and then to get the catalogue prepared.

Mynegai

Lerpwl, William Rees, Hen Golwyn, Rhuthun.

ODCOMIAN BEQUEST

1919026

Ffynhonnell / Source

Sir Harry Verney, Bart., of Claydon Hall, Bucks.

Blwyddyn / Year

Adroddiad Blynyddol / Annual Report 1918-19

Disgrifiad / Description

Very pleasant associations centre round the gift of a very rare book presented by Sir Harry Verney, Bart., of Claydon Hall, Bucks.

At the degree ceremony of the University of Wales, held in the National Library in July last Lady Verney, a member of the Library Court, received the degree of Doctor in Music. After the ceremony Sir Harry Verney handed to the Librarian a small parcel, with an intimation that he wished to present a book to the Library to commemorate the honour conferred upon his Mother. The book proved to be a copy of the *Odcombian Banquet: Dished forth by Thomas Coryat, and served in by a number of Noble Wits in prayse of his Crudities and Crambe too*. Imprinted for Thomas Thorp, 1611 (Dept of Printed Books). The volume contains the eulogies of a large number of the literary men of the time addressed to Thomas Coryat on the publication of his famous work *Coryat's Crudities* hastily gobbled up.

The eulogists include Ben Jonson, Henry Neville (of Abergavenny), John Harrington, Dudley Digges, John Donne, Inigo Jones, John Chapman, Thomas Campion, John Owen (of the Epigrams), Michael Drayton, John Davies (of Hereford), Henry Peacham, and many others, including one of interest to us, Richard Hughes (of Bangor) who contributes an englyn in Welsh. There is another englyn unsigned.

A year ago this valuable little volume was lying unknown bound up with a volume of miscellaneous tracts in the library at Rhianfa, Menai Bridge. When it was found Lady Verney had it specially bound in Levant morocco, but gave no hint of its future home.

Mynegai

Y Fenni, Henffordd, Porthaethwy.

LEYCESTER'S COMMONWELTH 1584

1919027

Ffynhonnell / Source

Principal Salmon, M.A., of the Swansea Normal College

Blwyddyn / Year

Adroddiad Blynyddol / Annual Report 1918-19

Disgrifiad / Description

Another gift on the same occasion was made by Principal Salmon, M.A., of the Swansea Normal College, "The Copie of a Leter by a Master of Arte, of Cambridge, to his friend in London; concerning some talke past of late between two worshipful and grave men, about the present state, and some proceedings of the Erle of Leycester and his freindes in England," Anno M.D. LXXXIII (1584) (Dept of Printed Books). This rare little book, says Mr Esdaile of the British Museum in a letter to Principal Salmon, "was apparently issued in green vellum and generally called 'Father Parson's Green Coat' but Father Parsons repudiated it". This is the first issue of the work known as *Leycester's Commonwealth*, which was not reprinted until 1641. Principal Salmon states that he picked it up a good many years ago for a few pence on a second hand bookstall. The copy lacked the first four leaves (one blank). The missing leaves have been obtained by photography, from the copy in the Bodleian Library, and the little book has been repaired and bound in our own bindery.

Mynegai

Abertawe, Caergrawnt, Llundain, Amgueddfa Brydeinig.

PANTON

1919028

Ffynhonnell / Source

Rt Hon J Herbert Lewis, M.P., Vice President

Blwyddyn / Year

Adroddiad Blynyddol / Annual Report 1918-19

Disgrifiad / Description

At the annual meeting held five years ago it was reported that the Panton MSS, in 91 volumes had been acquired for the National Library. It is now my great privilege to report that a collection of documents,

and some unbound manuscripts being the un-catalogued, and unknown portion of the Panton collection has found its way to the Library (NLW MSS 1970-2001B, 2002C, 2003-18B, 2019C, 2020-1B, 2022C, 2023-35B, 2036-9D, 2040A, 2041-6B, 2047A, 2048D, 2049-50B, 2051A, 2052B, 2053A, 2054-64B, 2065E, 2066D, 2067iB, 2067iiE, 2068F).

The interesting thing is that the Panton group of documents came from two sources, and that other portions from both these sources are already in the National Library. The two sources are I. The Papers of Sir John Wynne of Gwydir and his descendants, and II. the Papers of John Williams Town Clerk of Beaumaris at the close of the XVIIth century. A large part of his papers came to the Library with the Kinmel Collection, the balance which went to Paul Panton now comes home. Among this is a MS. History of Beaumaris, written about the year 1676 as appears from a note at the end of the MS. The existence of this history of Beaumaris was known from papers in the Kinmel group, but no knowledge of its whereabouts was forthcoming until it turned up a month ago. Another MS. probably due to the same industrious antiquary is dated 1667, and contains the Charter of Beaumaris with the oaths of the several officers of the same Borough - and in the same bundle is "A Briefe Abstract, Exposition and true demonstration of all partes and thinges belonginge to a Ship and the practique of Navigaton," a very neat MS. of 160 pages - with an index of contents, and a Preface signed with the initials H.M. The date is early XVIIth century. It may be a transcript of a printed book, but so far I have failed to discover such a work.

Another very interesting MS. in this part of the collection is the original catalogue of the Hengwrt Library made by Robert Vaughan c. 1650-60 in his own beautiful writing, together with some notebooks of his dealing with Welsh historical persons. There is a peculiar charm about the recovery of this MS. catalogue. It was very probably borrowed from Hengwrt by Ieuan Brydydd Hir (who died in 1789) and went into the Panton collection with his manuscripts. In fact the entry "Vol 70" written on it shows that it was numbered as one of Ieuan Brydydd Hir's MSS. It now returns to the company of the Hengwrt MSS., many of which are duly entered in its pages, and also to make up the blank "No 70" in the Panton MSS. There is still romance in book-collecting.

It is in the Gwydir papers however that the most enticing treasures will be found. There are over 3000 letters and documents ranging from about 1580 to 1660, dealing with public and domestic affairs over that period. When one recalls that this covers the attempted Spanish invasion, the Popish Plot, the Civil War and the Commonwealth, it will be realised what an important addition this makes to the materials available for the Welsh historian. Time will only admit of a short and utterly inadequate reference to a few of the papers.

The Court of the Marches naturally figures in the earlier documents and amongst them are letters with the autograph of Sir Francis Bacon, sometime Attorney General of the Court.

Queries from Lord Byron to Comm: of Array for Carnarvonshire, February 5th 1645.

A copy of a certificate in 1636 from the paishioners of Beddgelert who did not approve of the Curate there.

June 20th 1588. Instructions from Queen Elizabeth's Council to Lord Pembroke, Lord Lieutenant of Caernarvonshire, and from him to the Deputy Lieutenants, with regard to the anticipated invasion, and the Spanish Armada.

July 1588. From the Council of the Marches as to mustering forces in Carnarvonshire to repel the Spanish invasion.

An interesting item is a warrant for a Buck to be taken out of the Forest of Snowdon and delivered to Maurice Wynne. The Warrant is signed by Sir H Sydney, and dated August 1561. He was Lord President of the Marches at that time.

There are several autograph letters of Lewis Bayley, Bishop of Bangor, author of the Practice of Piety, together with papers relating to the lawsuit in which he was involved, and which led to his imprisonment. The facts with regard to this have hitherto been obscure, but I think they can now be placed together into a satisfactory story.

There are letters written by Sir Thomas Williams, Dr John Davies of Mallwyd, a letter dated October 3rd, 1621, from John Jones of Ludlow to Sir John Wynne asking for information from North Wales to assist John Speede in preparing the new edition of his History of Britain. Letters with the autograph of Oliver Cromwell, Prince Rupert (two), A printed broadsheet, "The humble Petition of severall inhabitants of South Wales" to "The Lord Generall Cromwell" asking for a supply of faithfull Teachers and Expounders of the Word of God and of Constant and Settled Teachers, and the provision of Schooles and Nurseries of Learning and Religion".

The letter which will rank as the gem of the collection is one dated May 26th 1601, 2 pages, in the hand of William Morgan who translated and published the Bible in Welsh in 1588. Hitherto only four letters of his were known to be in existence, and all four were written after he became Bishop of St

Asaph. The letter now discovered was written while he was Bishop of Llandaff and is signed "William Landaven".

This collection has been purchased and presented to the Library by the Rt. Hon. J Herbert Lewis, M.P., Vice President.

Mynegai

Biwmares, Sir Gaernarfon, Eryri, Llwydlo, Gogledd Cymru, Llanelwy, Llandaf.

Nodiadau

MS 2050B, Restricted Access. Schedule Available.