THE POET ISLWYN OF SACRED MEMORY

Mt. Islwyn in Wales Becomes Immortal

Through His Muse.

A Small, Weak Man Was He Who Took the Mountain on His Shoulders and Placed it in the Sight of Many Generations .- Moving it at Will, and Sending It on a Journey Through Wates and Across the Seas To Welshmen.

It is generally acknowledged that Islwyn was among the most gifted sons of the Welsh muse that have flourished during the present century, and as a preacher there was none more acceptable with his denomination, Maelwyn, of the Weekly Mail, gives

the following pretty little sketch of er and student of modern theology, and the bard: "I was privileged once with held very definite views upon the theologis company from Maesteg to Llangy- gical questions of the day. Mr. Morris nwyd, and I well remember one thing he tried to impress upon me, and that was the truth of the old adage, 'A poet is born, and not made.' I had asked his advice as to the best books to study to become a poet, and I shall not forget the pains he took to make me see the advisability of giving up such an idea which he found very general among young men, 'Don't, general among young men. 'Don't,' said he, 'dabble with poetry if you can help it; but take to some branch of knowledge which you could with a little industry get to understand, and would profit by.' I followed his admonthly duoglott magazine—The Hope tle industry get to understand, and would profit by.' I followed his advice, for which I feel thankful to him to this day. In the Cylchgrawn, 1851-52 various activities of the organization are I find some poetry written by him before he adopted his bardie pseudonym Islwyn such as "Gwilym Fardd," Un o'r Llanciau," Babell W. T.," "Will-lam Thomas," and in November, 1852. he calls himself for the time "Bardd Islwyn." He also contributed several articles in prose to the same magazine, upon which he was highly complimented by the editor, who is still with us ed by the editor, who is still with us in the person of the Rev. W. Williams, Argyle, Swansea,

Mathew's narrative of the poet-preach-er's life, which appear in the Cylchgrawn, is given, the following paragraph being most characteristic of the renowned biographer's style: 'He took the name Islwyn from the name of his native parish, which was called Mynyd Islwyn. Perhaps the parish took its name from the mountain, since, according to the testimony of the best historians, the mountain was there before the parish. At any rate, the name Islwyn the mountain was the name Islwyn the mountain was the parish. At any rate, the name Islwyn the mountain was the parish at any rate, the name Islwyn the mountain was the parish at the parish accepted the invitation sent him a forther hight ago to undertake the pastoral charge of the Tabernacie Congregational church. Liverpool, in which the late Dr. John Thomas officials. Mr. Roberts, who was recently married to the only daughter of the late Dr. Herber Evans, is in the thirty-flift year. He was ordained to the Congregational ministry in the year issued to the parish took. At any rate, the name Islaw and the parish took is the parish took at the Wales and throughout such parts of the world as are inhabited by Welsh-mor It is through William Thomas of the undertook the charge of the men. It is through William Thomas, of the Babell, that this mountain has become immortal; it was he that caused it to enter into the literature of Wales and to become dear to the hearts of thousands. A small, weak man was he who took the mountain on his shoulders and placed it in the sight of shoulders and placed it in the sight of shoulders are shoulders. many generations to come who otherwould neither have seen nor heard of it. There were always many | So far as the bulk of the subscriptions to the planets, of sending It on a journey strong in mind."

PROMINENT SCRANTON WELSH-MAN.

Mr. William Owen, of Madison avemost prominent of the Scranton Welsh-North Wales. He arrived in America 51 years ago, and worked at his trade of nailmaking in New York city for



WILLIAM OWEN.

twelve years. He left the metropolis for Trenton, N. J., where he worked at the same profession for some years, Mr. Owens came to Scranton when lots were selling for two and three hun- Birkenhead on the morrow completely indred dollars that afterwards were sold for forty and fifty thousand dollars. He is the father of ten children, six of whom are alive. One of his daughters is the estimable wife of Chief Robling. The late Mrs. Doud was also his daughter. The Misses Mary and Flo live at home with the old gentleman in a substantial residence on the corner of Madison and Olive. His sons are the Owens Bros., the successful monument builders on Adams avenue. Mrs. Owens died a few years ago and her remains were interred in the beautiful Dunmore cemetry, where the largest and one of the most costly and magnificent monuments have been erected to her memory. Mr. Owens was for many years a successful business man on the West Notwithstanding that he has seventy-four years to his life's credit he is as lithe today as many men of And bereft the country of all joy. fifty and his mental faculties are as bright as in the days of yore. He is well blessed with worldly goods. His principal delight now is reading. He is a leading member of one of our Christian churches, and delights in the doc-

NOTES.

trines of his favorite creed.

Aberavon can boast of the unique dis-tinction of a blind mayor, Mr. Henry Richards, who is also known as a poet and a preacher. All his reading matter, ser-mons, lectures, and speeches, he has spehis daily paper is printed for him in this fashion, so he never can get until two ford was an amazingly brilliant one. days after publication.

The "Winilan," the monthly magazine issued by the Bookroom of the Weish Wesleyans for the use of their young people, celebrates its jubilee this year and its enterprising editor, the Rev. Thomas Hughes, of Bootle, has signalized the influence of Christianity is the worldliness,

vent by issuing a jubilee number of double the usual size, which contains much historical matter of great interest to the Weish branch of the Methodist church,

Mr. Justice Grantham, while presiding over the Merionethshire Assizes recently made a bold attempt to pronounce the sweet and euphemistic name of "Lland-hangel-genu'r Glyn," But he couldn't and, turning to his chapiain in despair, he asked. "Is it one or half a dozen words?"
"One, my lord," replied the chaplain,
whereupon the judge exclaimed, with a MANY GIANTS BORN AT MT. ISLWYN deep-drawn sigh, "Then I pity you Welsh-men." Many thanks, my lord, but the sympathy is sadly misplaced.

> An analysis of the Welsh Nonconformist denomination for 1896 shows that the in-dependence are the strongest in Cardi-ganshire, Carmarthenshire and 'Glamorganshire, the Baptists in Pembrokeshire and Monmouthshire, and the Calvinistic Methodists in all the counties of North Wales, in Radnorshire and Breconshire, in the South and in the English towns. The total membership is given as 147,207 for the Methodists, 136,782 for the Independents, and 101,791 for the Baptists.

The Rev. T. Morris, of Porth, whose sudden and tragic death is sincerely mourned, was one of the best-known preachers of the Welsh Congregationalists in Glamorganshire, He was a great readspent eighteen years in the ministry in Dowlais, and four years at Porth, and at both places actively part cipated in all good works. At the time of his death he was preparing a volume of sermons for the press.

Notwithstanding what the traducers of the Rhondda may say, it is questionable whether there is in the whole kingdom a more vigorous Band of Hope union than of the Age (Gobalth yr Oes)-in which the discussed. In March the Union will hold its annual eisteddfod, when a choir of 500 bright little voices will perform.

About sixty years ago, it is said, an indulgence was extended to every debtor confined in the prison of Swansen castle, by virtue of which the prisoners had an opportunity, if their debts were small, of securing their release. Having obtained this indulgence from the high sheriff, they street, on that side of the market place "Lately the long expected volume of sermons by Isiwyn have appeared, to the great satisfaction of all his admirers, and, as a preface, the Rev. E. Mathew's narrative of the post-preach-the molestation of their creditors as though they were confined within the walls of the castle.

The Rev. O. L. Roberts, of Pwllhell, has accepted the invitation sent him a fort-Islwyn, apart from the mountain, has become a household word throughout course of training at the British college; Wales and throughout such parts of he afterward ministered at Pentyrch, Gla-

giants in stature at Mynydd Islwyn, the Gee testimonial, as might be reasonand indeed some with gigantic minds, abiy expected, has come from North yet no one was capable of throwing this mountain here and there in song with its large population and enormous with the state of the subscriptions to wealth, will not be behind in paying a tribute of respect to one who may be said to have led the van in the light of Welsh through Wales and across the seas to Nationalism, Welsh Disestablishment, Welsh moveimmortality in history, except this ments. Although many Liberals may not small, weak man in body, but a scraph, have agreed with Mr. Gee in all the details have agreed with Mr. Gee in all the details of his long life's work for Wales, no truly liberal-minded Welshman can for a moment doubt that he has deserved well of his country and the Welsh people generally, and it is hoped that South Wales will heartily co-operate with North Wales benue, Scranton, is one of the oldest and fore the list is finally closed in making the rominent of the Scranton Welsh-He was born 74 years ago in The committee set out with the idea of presenting Mr. Gee with the sum of £1,000, together with small suitable and permanent mementoes of the occasion to both himself and Mrs. Gee. About £200 are still required to make up this amount to the required to make up this amount to the satisfaction of the committee, and it is to be hoped that they will not be disapted a mind contented itself with so lowly to be hoped that they will not be disap-

"It was this time three years ago," writes an old Llandoverian, "when a 'pack' of us were making the journey to Birkenhead to witness what subsequently turned out to be the complete discomfiture of the Welsh team, a team which contained, by the way, two of our old schoolfellows-Charlie Nichol and Conway Rees to wit. The night was intensely cold; inleed, we were informed at Liverpool that the barometer had not been lower during the past twenty years! Anyhow, in spite of all discomforts, we spent the night right merrily, and loud and unearthly were the noises in our compartments that cold and dreary winter's night. Yarps on all sorts of subjects were spun, and when a 'filth of subjects were spun, and when a first former at Crayen Arms committed the following atrocity of a riddle the train was in imminent danger of being derailed, so roughly handled was the offending punster. 'I say, lads,' he asked, 'how does a tramp resemble Crayen Arms?' "Cause action" wears stockings,' 'Wrong', 'Wo neither wears stockings. 'Wrong.' 'We give it up.' 'Well,' said the riddler, beaming with delight, 'because he is always eravin' alms!" That pun and the crushing defeat our gallant fifteen sustained at apacitated all of us for work during the following week."

state that a very elegant marble slab was placed over the grave of the Maid of Cetn Ydfa when the Llangynwyd Parish church was restoted four years ago, and the in-scription is a face mille of what was on the old stone in the chancel which had to be removed. Will Hopkins' grave is outside the church, but nothing to point it out in the shape of a slab or tomb.

When the gay sage of Treforest read that Lord Tredegar had met with an ac cident to his eye whilst out shooting he at once wrote to his lordship:

'Tis said a fellow feeling makes us kind, That it extends to all the blind; My soul is sad this foggy morn Because of the ugly, barbarous thorn Which hit Tredegar in the eye, Who to please a ford would risk a neck,

But even he with an axe to grind Salutes Tredegar with an honest mind. Lord Tredegar replied: "Dear 'Morien I am very glad to see your handwriting again as clear as ever. Thanks for your sympathetic verses. My accident, happily, is not serious, and I am rapidly recovering." Evidently the Druid and the baron see eye to eye.

It is interesting to find that the late Bishop of St. David's was Sir George Os-borne Morgan's private tutor at Oxford. "And," says Sir George, in chronicling the past, "a better man never lived." The career of the Welsh radical leader in Ox-

It has not escaped the notice of Principal



"I wonder why Mrs. Templeton wears such a wry face?" "To harmonize with her husband's rye nose."—Life.

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narrowness and the selfish ambition of some ministers of the Word." And so we fear it will continue while ministers are merely men, human, every day men.

Forty-five years' service is a rare re-

iam Powell took on duty as organist of St Mary's Roman Catholic church in Mon mouth-a post which he has just resigned to the regret of all. We are going to have a series of Weish

territorial names. One of the best-known ministers in Bradford is the Rev. T. Rhondda Williams. This departure, doubt, will be followed by the Rev. John Ogmore Jones, the Rev. Evan Cadoxton-juxta-Neath Evans, or the Rev. Jenkin Caerphilly-Higher Jenkins, D. D. One of the most humorous lecturers who

have toured America was a Welshman named Robert Jones-Burdett. He was a

native of Brynmawr, and always com-manded a good fee for his lecture. Never heard of him. He must have been lecturing to the Indians. No one at Swansea was surprised to find Miss Dilwyn smoking a cigar at the commercial banquet recently. Miss Dillwyn has long been a devotee to "sublime to-bacco." The story goes that her father (the late M. P.) used to say to guests with whom the family were on intimate terms.

join my daughter in the smoking room. It is stated that about \$50 have so far een collected among the London Welsh for the proposed national memorial to Prince Llewelyn, and it is hoped to get the sum up to floo. One of the London secretaries has received a note from the sec-retary of the lord chancellor, in which Lord Halsbury promises his support for the movement for commemorating "the last native Prince of Wales,"

"If you care for a cigar you had better

Referring to the treaty of arbitration between England and America, the Liveronly regret that the late Mr. Henry Richard, M. P., and other tried friends of the policy of arbitration are not alive to witness this triumph of their principles."

of St. David's which has not yet seen the light. Between fifteen and twenty years ago a very worthy Carmarther shire curate, who had worked hard for his church against adversities and reverses, was nomi-nated informally by Bishop Basil Jones to a curacy betwixt Cardin and Brecon, But counter influences were at work, and the incumbent (now gone, like the bishop to the "great majority") took a stand against the curate, whose life became embittered by exceeding parochial bitter-ness. He was a masterly preacher, and his sermons were affluent of thought and and obscure a position. The vicar, how-ever, ignored all these considerations, and this gentle but of misfortune's buffets was pretty nearly broken-hearted. In his previous curacy he had been the means of building a parsonage. But the vicar had died, and the next ylear had his own eurate, and so Mr. Blank had to shift.
Whilst he was on probation at —— his wife and family were actually domiciled down West in a building which had been an outhouse or attached to one and then the youngsters were laid low with typhold. The facts reached the bishop's ears, and evidently his heart burnt hot within him. He did not, as far as the writer knows, say anything. But the curate was immediate ly nominated to a rectory in the dlocess, and there he probably still ives—a noble man, whose life has been one of high, but unostentatious, excellence,

"All honor to Mr. Harry Evans, of Dow lais, on his gaining the diploma of F. R. C. O.," writes a Brecon correspondent, first Welshman who has attained the distinction. Mr. A. H. Edwards, Mrs. Bach, Oxon, and F. R. C. O. of Holy Trinity, Doneaster, late organist of St. Mary's, Brecon, is a Welshman-nay, doubly Welsh by his marriage to Miss Edbly Welsh by his marriage to Miss Edwards, of the latter town. What of Mr. Lee-Williams, Mus. Bach., Oxon. and F. R. C. O., of Penisarpentre, Llanspyddid, Brecknock, late organist of Llandaff and Glouchester cathedrals? What, also, of Dr. Greenish, F. R. C. O., born at Haverfordwest, and Mr. Middleton, F. R. C. O., born at Welshpool, in 1871? Dr. Hubert Parry, F. R. C. O., is of Welsh extraction, and Dr. Varley Roberts F. R. C. O. and and Dr. Varley Roberts, F. R. C. O., and

SENATOR QUAY'S SUCCESSOR.

W. E. Curtis, in Chicago Record. I found in Philadelphia the other day that Mr. Penrose, the new senator from Pennsylvania, is very well thought of by his neighbors in the city of Philadelphia.

Chicago,

& St. Louis,

and, although he is regarded as a loyal fleutenant of Senator Quay, his friends declare that his individuality will assert itself as he grows a little older, and his natural abilities will be demonstrated. Should Canada revolt against the English monarchy, as Cuba has revolted against the Spanish monarchy, the Americans would not permit their govern-

publican boss in that state.

Mr. Quay first picked up Robert Adams for that destiny. He is a young man of excellent family, which counts so much in Philadelphia, with an independent ortune, a good speaker and a knack for politics. He had him elected to the legislature, then to the state senate, and then got President Harrison to send him as not President Harrison to send him as ninister to Brazil in order that he might have a little diplomatic experience. At the next election after his return, he put him up for congress, but Adams did not fill the bill. He was too fond of society. He liked to go to balls and dinner parties, and was a great ladies' man, which detracted from his usefulness as a politician. Mr. Quay tried to correct these habits, out Adams' social instincts were too

Boles Penrose had already made considerable headway in local politics, and had attracted Mr. Quay's attention. After watching him closely for a while, and subjecting him to various tests to see what stuff there was in him, the sena-tor decided to make Penrose his politi-cal heir, and he is now the crown prince of the Pennsylvania machine. He sent Penrose to the state senate and kept him there until he was recognized by every-body as Mr. Quay's personal representa-tive. 'Now he comes to the United States senate, young, able, accomplished and with a prospect of a famous career. Cer-tainly no young man, and he is only 36 years old, ever had a finer opportunity to distinguish himself, and they say that he is made of the proper kind of stuff. Like Adams, Mr. Penrose comes from the exclusive circles of the Philadelphia aris-tocracy. He is rich, good-looking, elo-quent in speech, bright, witty, studious and shrewd.

From the Sun. If Canada were to arise in revolt against the British monarchy, as Cuba has arisen against the Spanish monarchy, and were

to strike for independence and self-gov-ernment as Cuba has struck for them, the thousands of troops to Quebec to crush the Canadian revolt, as Spain has sent hunreds of thousands to Havana against the Cuban revolt, the American interest in the affair would grow yet stronger.

If the English troops were not only to fight the belligerent Canadians, but were to butcher the defenceless inhabitants of Canada, murder the Canadian prisoners of war, burn the hospitals of the Canadian insurgents, shoot all Canadians suspected insurgents, shoot all Canadians suspected of sympathizing with the insurrection, kill women and children, execute citizens without trial, banish people to penal set-tlements in Africa, and do other evil deeds resembling those of Spain in Cuba. Amer can sympathy for the suffering Canadians would be too strong for repression,

If England were to send against the Canadians a savage general, with full power to turn Canada Into a charnel use, and to lay waste its provinces, as Spain has sent the savage Weyler to Cu ba, we think that the Americans of this seneration would cry "Hait!" very soon after the carnage and the ravages had be-

If the English were to claim that, be cause they held Quebec and other fortified places against the Canadians, as the Spanards hold Havana and a few other strongolds against the Cubans, it was their privilege to destroy all the rest of Canala, we do not think the Americans would

If England were to say that she has maintained her authority in Canada for many years, and that the country is hers right of conquest, which is what ain says about Cuba, the Americans uld probably reply that it was time for England to get out when the Canadians didn't want her any longer. If England were to argue that, because

the suppressed the Papincau-Mackenzie coult in Canada sixty years ago, she would certainly suppress any other revolt, as Spain says she is sure to win in Cuba this time because she won there thirty years ago, the Americans would probably regard the argument as inconclusive.

If at the time of the Canadian uprising there should be in the white house a president like Cleveland, and in the state lepartment a secretary like Olney, and f the two should do all they could to help England in Canada, as they have done all n their power to help Spain in Cuba, we apprehend that the congress of the United States and the American people would quickly He their hands, and then raise

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Senator Quay is very fond of Mr. Pen-rose, and has been training him for sev-eral years to be his successor as the Re-

strong for him, and he had finally to give ube proper and the so-called inundation

IF CANADA WERE IN REVOLT. bridge piers rest reach to rock-bottom don to Constantinople or India to shorten their trip by fully sixteen hours The promise of diverting the transcon-Americans would very surely take a deep interest in the Canadian question.

If England were to send hundreds of the construction of this bridge over the the construction of this bridge over the Danube on the part of Roumania

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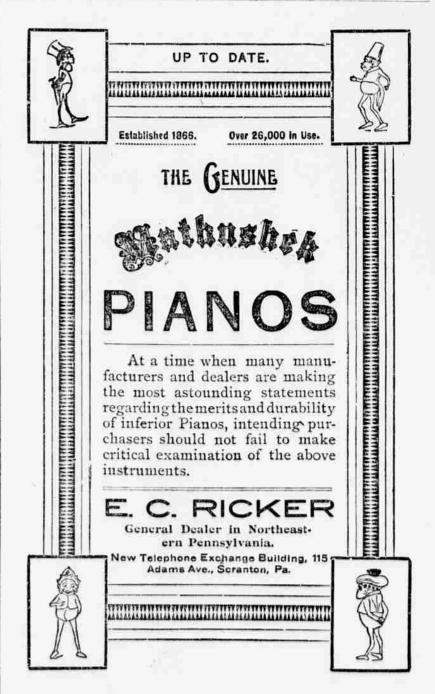
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