

**LLANTWIT MAJOR:
A FIFTH CENTURY
UNIVERSITY**

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Llantwit Major: A Fifth Century University by Alfred C. Fryer

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A Fifth Century University.

BY

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PREFACE.

DURING the congress of the British Archæological Association, held at Cardiff in 1892, I had the honour to read a paper on 'Llantwit Major: a Fifth Century University;' and in January, 1893, my paper was re-read before the Cardiff Naturalists' Society. This paper has now been enlarged into the present volume, and it is an attempt to give some idea of a university as it existed in the fifth century.

This simple essay claims to be nothing more than a rough sketch; and a series of notes made during a short holiday leisure are here woven together into a few short chapters.

The 'Liber Landavensis,' the Iolo MSS., 'The Lives of the Cambro-British Saints,' and the works of the Rev. W. J. Rees have been freely consulted. I must also express my obligation to Professor Rhys for the use I have made of his work on 'Celtic Heathendom,' and to the Rev. E.

J. Newell for the extracts I have taken from his popular history of the 'Ancient British Church.'

I can scarcely hope to have escaped errors; still, I have done my best to avoid them; those only who are familiar with ancient documents and the difficulties that surround the study of them, can fully appreciate my position in this undertaking.

The knowledge we possess of some of the subjects of study introduced into Chapter IX. is of a later date. This may be considered an anachronism. However, this little book is nothing more than a very rough picture, and the sketch would have been incomplete if some of the studies were not inferred from the knowledge of a somewhat later period, in order to show the kind of teaching that may have been going on at Llantwit in the fifth century.

The subsequent pages contain a sketch of Llantwit and its founders, the students who studied there, and the instruction they may have received.

ALFRED C. FRYER.

CLIFTON, BRISTOL.

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