

CARDIGAN PRIORY IN THE OLDEN DAYS

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Cardigan Priory in the olden days by Emily M. Pritchard

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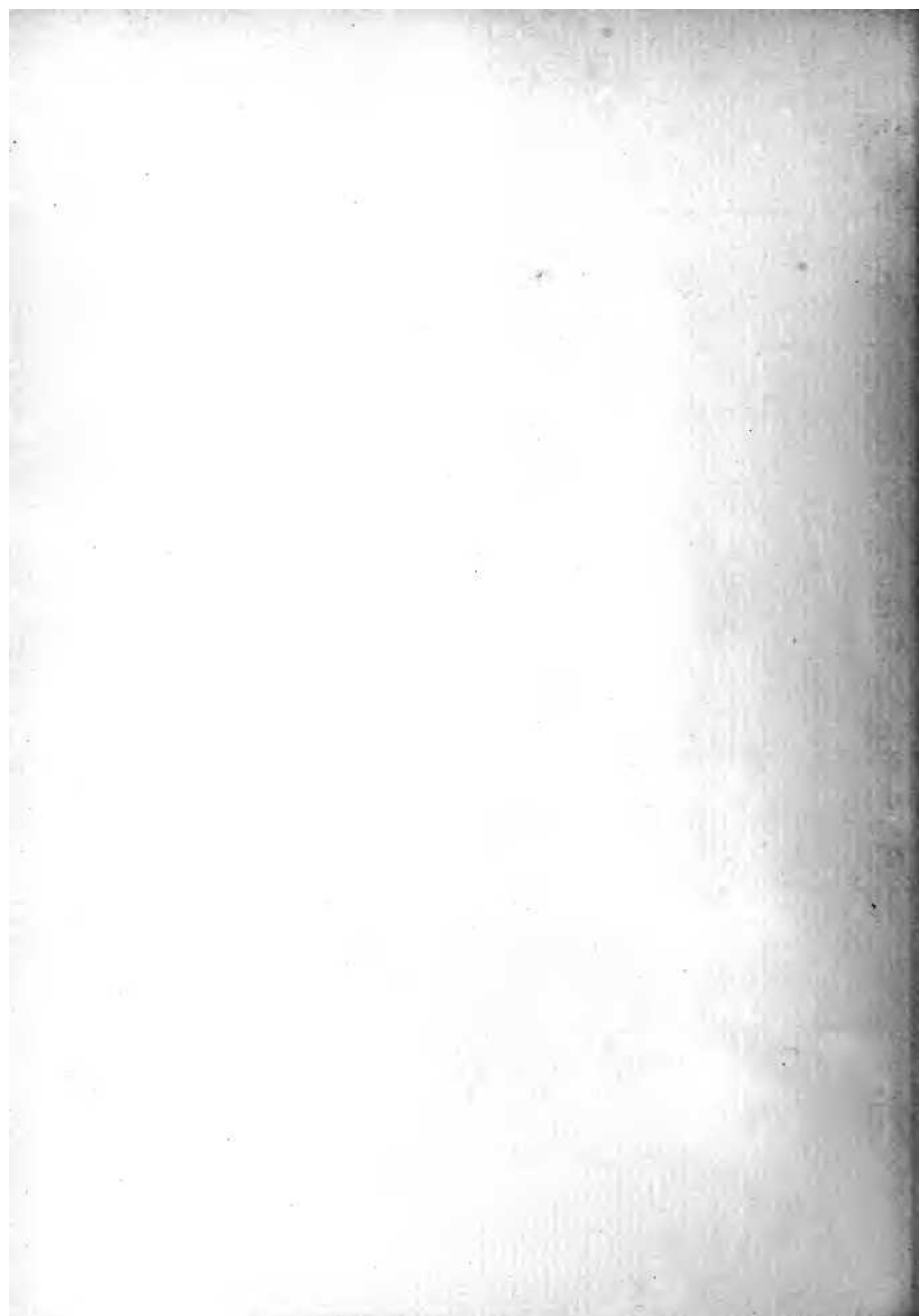
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EMILY M. PRITCHARD

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BY
EMILY M. PRITCHARD
(OLWEN POWYS)



ILLUSTRATED

LONDON
WILLIAM HEINEMANN

1904

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I Dedicate
THIS LITTLE BOOK
TO
THE PRESENT OWNER OF THE PRIORY
KNOWING THAT HE WILL TAKE MORE INTEREST
IN IT THAN ANY ONE ELSE
E. M. P.

P R E F A C E



ON the occasion of the visitation of the Cambrian Archæological Society to Cardigan, in August 1904, I was asked to read a paper on the Priory of Cardigan before the Society. In searching for information thereon I came on so much that was interesting, and that would have taken far too long to read during the time limit allowed for the paper, that I was asked to publish it, that those who are interested in such things may also read them. I owe, first of all, thanks to the Rev. D. H. Davies, Vicar of Verwig and Mount, for to him I owe the first knowledge of the grants of James I.'s reign, at the Record Office ; then I know not whether I owe him thanks or the reverse for the following, as the result has been a long and laborious search, and the burning of much midnight oil ; it

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was Mr. Davies who first, by his gentle persuasions, prevailed on me, against my inclinations, to undertake the Paper, read before the Cambrian Archæological Society, and further by his genial "go on" urged me on to still further search. I owe also many thanks to Mr. John Vincent, of 61, Lincoln's Inn Fields, for his skill in deciphering almost illegible MSS. for me, both at the Record Office and at the British Museum, and for his prompt attention and ready courtesy in sending me copies thereof.

Also I owe many thanks to Miss James, late of Tenby and Pantaeson, for her able assistance in searching old MSS. and books for me at the British Museum when I was endeavouring to trace the life of St. Mathaiarn ; also to Mr. Ballinger, librarian of the Cardiff Free Library, for the excellent help he has given me in unearthing the "History and Cartulary of the Monastery of St. Peter's of Gloucester," by Wm. Henry Hart, as I had already been to Gloucester Cathedral in the expectation of finding information I thought might be in the muniments there. Also to Mr. John Randolph, of 128, Alexandra Road, Wimbledon ; D. Rees, Ph.D. Leipzig, Belmont, Cardigan ; to the Corporation of Cardigan for the

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loan of the old Corporation Book, and to Mr. Morgan Jones, our able Town Clerk of Cardigan, for his kindly help on various occasions. I wish also gratefully to acknowledge my indebtedness to Canon Bazeley, Rector of Matson, Gloucester, and Honorary General Secretary of the Bristol and Gloucester Archæological Society, for his kindness in searching for me the muniments of Gloucester Cathedral.

The photographs are by Desmond, photographer, Cardigan.

EMILY M. PRITCHARD

(OLWEN POWYS).

THE PRIORY,
CARDIGAN,
October 25, 1904.