

**ST. ILLTYD'S CHURCH,
PEMBREY: ITS HISTORY
AND ITS ARCHITECTURE**

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St. Iltyd's Church, Pembrey: its History and its Architecture by Edward Roberts & H. A .
Pertwee

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EDWARD ROBERTS & H. A . PERTWEE

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ITS HISTORY AND ITS ARCHITECTURE.

BY
EDWARD ROBERTS,
SWANSEA,
AND,
H. A. PERTWEE,
BURYPORT.

WITH ILLUSTRATIONS.

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TO
GERARD B. ELKINGTON, Esq.,
DAN-Y-GRAIG, BUREYPORT,
AS THE LOCAL REPRESENTATIVE
OF THE
ELKINGTON FAMILY,
THE PATRONS OF THE LIVING
OF PEMBREY,
AND THE
DONORS OF ST. MARY'S CHURCH,
BUREYPORT,
THIS LITTLE WORK IS,
BY PERMISSION, RESPECTFULLY DEDICATED.



P R E F A C E .

BY THE EDITOR, "THE CAMBRIAN."

THE history of our Old Churches forms an interesting and significant part of our national history. The one is largely dependent on the other. In early times the Ecclesiastical and Civil authorities went hand in hand together; adversity or prosperity somewhat similarly affected both. Thus the history of a parish church forms a national history in miniature, and the recognition and admission of that fact make the neglect of old church history all the more inexplicable. This work is therefore all the more welcome. We hope it is the forerunner of many of its kind.

"ST. ILLTYD'S CHURCH, PEMBREY; ITS HISTORY AND ARCHITECTURE," is brimful of ecclesiastical, architectural, archæological, historical and antiquarian interest. The Authors—Mr. EDWARD ROBERTS, Swansea, and Mr. H. A. PERTWEE, Burryport—have done their work exceedingly well. They have spared no effort to make it complete and accurate. Mr. Edward Roberts is well-known in South Wales. He has long been a valued and active member of the Swansea Scientific Society. His instructive and original contributions on Welsh Place-names—the great bulk of which have appeared in *The Cambrian*—have excited considerable interest and discussion. He has compiled the history of St. Illtyd's Church with much ingenuity.

In the arduous work of compilation Mr. Roberts has had the advantage of the splendid Reference Libraries at the Royal Institution of South Wales and the Swansea Public Library. These references are as numerous as they are varied, but Mr. Roberts has not by any means overburdened this work, a fact which bears testimony to his thoroughness and patience. The book is copiously and beautifully illustrated, from drawings made by Mr. H. A. Pertwee.

The history of St. Illtyd's Church was first undertaken by the late Mr. Conway Meredith—a gentleman whose enthusiasm in scientific research was unbounded, and who was specially fitted for such a task. Death, however, intervened, and the work was, we believe, bequeathed to Mr. Pertwee. Hence Mr. Pertwee's valuable and welcome co-operation with Mr. Ed. Roberts.

One has only to read the book to discover that its compilation and illustration have been "labours of love" both to Mr. Roberts and to Mr. Pertwee. Their sole ambition has been to form the mediums for rescuing and preserving for future generations the history of the ancient Parish Church of Pembrey, which has not, hitherto, been given its proper place in ecclesiastical and national history. The Swansea Scientific Society, under whose auspices this history has been prepared, are to be congratulated upon this work. It is one, albeit a valuable, instance of the need and the usefulness of the Society.

In connection with the history of St. Illtyd's Church, Mr. Edward Roberts has received valuable information and encouraging advice from Col. Morgan (President of the Swansea Scientific Society), Mr. C. H. Glascodine,