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A Tour in Wales, MDCCLXXIII

Antiquary, zoologist and traveller, Thomas Pennant (1726–98) is remembered for his work in bringing natural history to popular attention and for his engaging writing about the journeys he made. Lavishly illustrated by Moses Griffith with fine engravings of the stunning scenery, buildings and artefacts, this work appeared in two volumes between 1778 and 1781. More than a mere travelogue, this tour of his native country is full of delightful vignettes and historical background. The descriptions of locations and buildings reveal Pennant's thorough mind and tireless capacity for observation. Several of Pennant's other works, including his *Tour in Scotland* (second edition, 1772), are also reissued in the Cambridge Library Collection. Volume 1 begins in Pennant's birthplace, Downing in Flintshire, and follows a route around North Wales, making 'a complete tour of the tamer parts of our country'. The places visited include Chester, Oswestry, Llangollen, Mold and Caerwys.



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A Tour in Wales MDCCLXXIII

VOLUME 1

THOMAS PENNANT





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A T O U R

 $I\mathcal{N}$

WALES.

MDCCLXXIII.



LONDON.

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MDCCLXXVIII.





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THESE home-travels are the first part of an account of my own country; and were actually performed in the year mentioned in the title page. The world justly loves the reality; therefore, this is mentioned to satisfy the public, that they are not formed out of tours undertaken at different periods.

These make of themselves a complete tour of the tamer parts of our country. In a future volume, the wild and romantic scenery will be presented, intermixed with the rich vallies so frequently interspersed. To this will be added an Appendix, containing the subjects referred to in this volume, with variety of other matter. I implore the aid of my countrymen to assist me in the attempt; and to savor me with the necessary materials. They will see, that great part of Denbighshire, and all parts of the sour remaining counties of our principality, are still to be described. My frequent a journies



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journies through them, render me a tolerable master of their topography. I look up to my friends for history and anecdote latent among their papers; or references to our writers, least any facts lodged in books might escape my memory.

Among the gentlemen I am chiefly indebted to for information respecting the present work, I cannot pass unthanked:

PHILIP YORKE Esq; of Erddig;
JOHN MYTTON Esq; of Halston;
THOMAS MOSTYN Esq; of the house of Trelacre;
PETER DAVIES Esq; of Broughton;
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PAUL PANTON Esq; of Bagilt;
LLOYD KENYON Esq; of Greddington;
Mr. ROGER KENYON of Cefn;

To Owen Brereton Esq; I owe the loan of the curious antiquities found in his estate near *Flint*, which are engraven in the plates viii. and ix.

To



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To RICHARD WILLIAMS Esq; of Vron, I am highly obliged for his poetical translations, marked R. W. and for the elegant version of the ode on Owen Glyndwr, to which that mark is omitted.

To RICHARD MORRIS Esq; of the navy office, I owe much general information; and am particularly indebted to him for the correction of the press. Mr. HAWKER of the custom house Chester, favored me with a particular account of the commerce of that city.

THE reverend Mr. EDWARDS, rector of Llanvechan, favored me with some excellent accounts of the parishes of Ofwestry, Sellatyn, and Hope.

I RECEIVED several historical facts respecting the parish of Whittington, from the reverend Mr. Roberts, rector of the parish.

THE reverend Mr. JOHN PRICE, public librarian, and the reverend Mr. JOHN JONES, fellow of Jesus college a 2 Oxford,

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Oxford, were indefatigable in furnishing me with extracts from the manuscripts of the university.

As due, I must repeat my thanks to the reverend Mr. JOHN LLOYD, rector of *Nnanerch*, my constant companion in these excursions, for variety of information, which his great knowlege of our antient language qualified him to do, to my singular advantage.

MR. WILKINSON, painter in Chefter, obliged me with many materials relative to that city.

To Mr. CALVELY land furveyor of the same city, I owe some elegant plans, which will appear in a future volume.

THE drawings marked Moses GRIFFITH, are the performances of a worthy servant, whom I keep for that purpose. The candid will excuse any little impersections they may find in them; as they are the works of an untaught genius, drawn from the most remote and obscure

parts



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parts of North Wales. Those that wish to anticipate the views in the intended progress I am to make through the remaining counties, may satisfy themselves by the purchase of the late publications of the admirable Mr. PAUL SANDBY*, in whose labors sidelity and elegance are united.

Downing, February 1. 1778.

THOMAS PENNANT.

. His views in North and South Wales are, FIRST SETT, SOUTH WALES. 1. Chepftow castle, Monmouthshire 2. Cardiff 3. St. Quintin's Glamergansbire 4. St. Donat's 5. View up Neath River. 6. Pembroke castle 7. Llanphor court 8. Manerwawr castle 9. Infide of ditto 10. Carey castle 11. Burton castle, Milford Haven 12. The episcopal palace at St. Davids.

SECOND



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NORTH WALES.

- 1. Overton bridges Flintsbire
- 2. The new bridge over the river Dee, near Chirk castle
- 3. Chirk castle from Wynnstay park
- 4. Llangollen
- 5. The abby of Llan Egwest, or Vale Crucis, and Castle Dinas Brân
- 6. The iron forge near Dolgelleu
- 7. Harlech castle
- 8. Caernarvon castle
- 9. Bangor
- 10. Pengwern, &c. neat Festiniag
- 11. Conway castle
- 12. Pont y Pair, above Llanrwft

THIRD SETT.

Consist of views in South and North Wales.

- 1. The west gate of Cardiff
- 2. Cardiff castle from the west
- 3. The entrance to Chepftow castle
- 4. View of ditto
- 5. Infide of ditto
- 6. Tracth mawr, North Wales
- 7. Pont Aber Glaslyn,
- 8. Carew, or Carey castle, from north-wek
- 9. The river Dee, near Bala, North Wales
- 10. Pimble Meer,
- 11. Dinefawr castle
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