

DEATH OF A CRIMEAN VETERAN AT LLANELLY.

There are in this world of ours many notable persons, and whenever their number is reduced by death our sympathy always goes out to those who may in any way be affected. There are those who have earned the public regard and estimation, if not the right to posterity, for their intellectual capacity, and others for their deeds of daring in their

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Portrait of Trooper McNally, a Crimean Veteran.

DISTRICT NEWS.

GOWERTON.

LECTURE.—On Friday evening at the Tabernacle Vestry, the Rev. J. Matthews, Swansea, delivered a most interesting and instructive lecture on "Progress of Christianity during Her Majesty's Reign." Mr. John Rowlands, headmaster of the Wuanarwydd Board School, occupied the chair. We noticed among others present:—The Rev. J. John, Rev. W. W. Williams; Mr. J. John; Mr. D. Williams, B. Davies-Williams, and D. Oliver Davies, Gower-ton. The usual vote of thanks brought the meeting to a close.

"Barnes Local Improvement"—This quaint and interesting Bethania Bap is by the Rev. A. C. Davies.

Sunday and yearly meeting chapel, the offi- Dan Davies, laetofos. The s chap over- were made- toise is in a most ev. W. J. John right.

HERMER-OL.

NING BODY. overning Body Bethel Chapel, B. Williams Roberts, M.A., Wuanarwydd, nty Alderman Mr. T. Jones, B.A., Head r, Clerk.

is appointed to ment for the ad. The presi- desire of the hat the govern- arrangements ent buildings, d as follows: on Saturday the

ed to the Techn- ury Governing see of all the g within the l Ministers of l of All School

Public Elementary Schools and others.

3. That the Rev. Alderman Aaron Davies, chairman of the County Governing Body, be asked to perform the opening ceremony.

4. That a gold key, with a suitable inscription be provided, and presented by Mrs. M. B. Williams to the Rev. Aaron Davies.

5. That Mrs. Williams be asked to occupy the chair, and conduct the proceedings &c.

6. That refreshments be provided, consisting of tea, coffee, cake &c.

7. That a small furnishing committee be appointed, with power to order all furniture not provided by the County Authority.

8. That a memorial stone be laid.

The above resolutions were unanimously confirmed, and the Rev. W. D. Williams, Alderman, J. Powell, J. P., and Mr. T. Jones together with a head master were appointed a committee.

Letters were read from Mr. D. and Mr. John T. D. Llewellyn B. accepting the invitations given them upon the occasion, and that he pleased to deliver addresses. 2. directed to communicate with eminent gentlemen both clerical and lay, resignation of Hugh Rowlands was accepted, and Mr. and J. Loughor, were appointed caretakers of £1 per week, residence, fire, and other matters brought forward. The school will be open for the p on the opening day.

CONCERT AT PORT.

At Zion Chapel Barry Port evening, a large number of people to patronise the annual concert place of worship. The articles on occasion were:—Soprano, Madam Llanelly; contralto, Miss Mary Grey; tenor, Mr. Alfred Evans, Aberdare; bass, Mr. Lewis R. Bowen, Cliffrw; accompanist, Mr. D. T. Williams, Swansea. Excepting Miss Thomas, the artists were new to the district, and left a very favourable impression. Mr. Alfred Evans laboured under a disadvantage by reason of a recent cold and over-work. Mr. Bowen was in splendid tune. He possesses an excellent voice, rich in tone, and of good compass. Miss Grey did well, especially in her Welsh solos. Madam S. J. Thomas's singing was very highly appreciated, and all-four were repeatedly encoored, and gracefully responded. The choir, conducted by Mr. Richard Davies, did commendably well. Much credit is due to them for the spirited and happy rendering of the parts allotted to them. The Rev. J. H. Rees discharged the duties of chairman.

PEMBREY SCHOOL BOARD.

PINGED SCHOOL.

A special meeting of this Board was held at the Infants' New School on Monday evening.

Bwrdd y Llenor.

GAN CYMRO JONES.

RHAI CYCHOGROU AM CILWEPOR.

Amdiffynir Gwylfa gan Keinion yn y "Croniel" yn ngwyneb ymosodiad brwt yr "Herald" arno. "Ua o'r beirdd" newydd" mwyaf swynol yw Gwylfa, ond ymddengys fod ei lyfr barddonneth yn "Y drach gwynion"—wedi tynnu drafn duon i'r golwg yn yr "Herald." Ni raid i Gwylfa ddigoloni—gall ei awon ffordio blodono a dwyn ffrwyth melus eto er cyndderiddeirff conffign rhai "o'i frodyr." Dywed Keinion: "Yn wir, nis gallwn ffordio colli can y Bardd o'r Felinelli, oblegid y mae ganddo nodyn na chlywais un o feirdd Cymru yn si daro hyd yma."

Cyfeiria y "Croniel" at y "Dysgedydd" mewn angen am olygydd. Ymddangosodd nodyn cghwem am y "Dysgedydd" yn yr "Independent;" dywed mai colli tir wna y "Dysgedydd" byth er y collwyd Herber. Atebodd y "Dysgedydd," ar ol egluro rhai pethau dywed: "Yr ydym wedi sylwi o dro i dro ar bleidgarwch cywilyddus gohebydd Cymreig yr "Independent;" medr bwilio heb ddim ing cydybod y gwyf salaf yn mysg ei gytellion, tra yn anwybyddu rhai o wyr galluocaf ein henwad. Yn sicr ni ddylai hyn fod felly." Ysgrifennu Keinion: "Pan y bydd eisiet ymosod ar Mr Jenkins (ysgrifenydd nodiadau Cymreig yr "Independent") gwaf hyny o dan fy enw, a chymeraf ofal na chaffi neb fenthgys cysgod yr enw hwnw i dafu baw am ben brawd, na'i gel-frathu yn ei gefn. A sylwch fod hyn yn eael ei wneud ar gefn y "Ni" golygyddol ar glawr y "Dysgedydd." Cyhawnder a'r brawd Mr Jenkins fydd i bob gweidogod Annihynol amlygu ei farn ar y paragraff a grybwyllais. Dylai ymddiriedolwyr y "Dysgedydd" amddiffyn ein honw da fol gweinidogion drwy gyhoeddi pwy o weinidogion Cymru a ysgrifennodd y paragraff o dan sylw a phwy sydd yn ei ategu. Ac yn mhollach eto. Rhaid iddynt etoli golygydd allan o law, neu byddant yn sicr o redog y llestr i greigiau mwy sy'n nla." Nid oes nob yn model hwylio llong o dan nawdd y dydawl. Rhaid cael gwybod pwy sydd i gymeryd y llyw, a'r gwr, neu y gwyf, sydd i gael eu dal yn gyfrifol. Gwn fod yr hen gyhoeddiad yn myn'd drwy argyfwng pwyysig; collodd olygydd pobl-ogaid, ac y mae swyn mewn enw. Gall y "Dysgedydd" gyhoeddi gwell ysgrifau nag a ymddangosent ynddo o dan olygiaeth fyw Herber, eto ni byddant wedi dod drwy ei law ef, ac oedrycha rhai yn is arnynt o hwyliad hynne. Eto rhaid i'r ymddiriedolwyr grodu y gall llong lawn o aur fyn i'r erbyn y creigiau oni bydd llaw fedrus wrth y llyw. Rhaid cael golygydd, a goren po gyntaf."

Mae'r "Croniel" drwyddo yn cynwys

Mae'r nos yn ddystaw gerdded dros y tir, Dydweli, elier idd ei thawd fangor, Ond dagrau brawd wnaeth lygaid tort yn glir I wel'd addwail Duw yn fwy-fwy gole! Nos Lun yw hi, a'r gynta'n Cilwepor chwib, A Ffydd yn cofio newseith y cenanod, Mae'r gwr fu dau yr elor dau y gwith, 'Mhen awr yn dafuol grym yr addewidion.

Yr ysgrif sydd yn sicr o gael y sylw manylaf yn y "Cerdor" ydyw yr un fywgraffyddol o'r diweddar Caradog, gan ei hoff gyfaill Mr M. O. Jones, Treherbert. Mae'r darlun yn dda, a'r ysgrif yn cynwys crynoded o fanylion gwerthfawr am yr arweinydd diguro. Fel arweinydd y "Cor mawr" y bydd ei enw yn aros i'r oes a ddol. Nid oedd amheuaeth am dalent Caradog; ac yr oedd ei natur dda, yn llofro dros yr ymylon; ond gallasai fod yn fwy o fendith iddo ei hun ac i ereill pe yn ddifrifolach ac yn fwy dan ddylanwad crefydd. Y darn cerdorol yn y rhyfyn gor ein bron yw rhan gan gysegredig, "Trig gyda mi," gan Mr D. Lloyd Evans, Machynlleth.

Erystal "Cymru'r Plant" yn y gorphenol, credwn, fod rhyfynau 1898 yn rhagori. Y mae yn orlawn o'r hanesion mwyaf dyddorol, ac o wybodach a wnales. Dyma gylchgrawn cenedlaethol y plant, ac yn deilwng o'i safle.

PAUL A'R BEIRDD.

(O'r "Goleuad.")

GAIR AT YR APOSTOL PAUL.

Paul awyl, y mae polenan—o dan Yn d'od heilio'th gorau; Tro i ffordd tua rhyw ffau O olwg y mangelau.

A wyddost ti fod heddw—yn y wlad Lydan offer distryw?

Adeg beryllus ydyw—

Cilia i bant er mawr cael byw.

Rhyw Adda heb ddim gwreiddiol,—ond a wel

Gan dylwyth estronol,

Dreia'n wner dy droi yn ol,

Pa cistodd wrt, Apostol?

Arferem ni'n bur forau—dy garu

Gyda gwir galonau;

Ond O! wron, dy eiriau

Di i gyd sy'n dlawd a gau.

Dyrsawch du yr oesu—a welast

Heb wylw mewn ofnus;

Ond heddw, wir, mae'n dyddheu—

Gwylid dy ben y golau.

Dy syniadau swyhuol—a welwast

Mae'n golau beirddiol,

A gwelir ei dan glawr ddi

Ryw forau yn oer farwol.

A wnei di'r ben dirion dad,—i Adda

Wreiddiol ymddiheurad,

Rhag i hwn fel cawr-gennid

I ladd dy lwydd hyd y wlad.

Owmdar. D. G. JONES.

GAIR ODDIWRTH YN APOSTOL PAUL.

Anwyl Syr,—anellu naeth,—ba les yw

O Blas yr Athrawiaeth?

Ni wrandechwch ar honiad dyn—

Gwibedyn mewn gwylodach?

Och! i'e wyddoch i Adda—daro'i bon

I ddrinbi gytia!

Milwys'n awr yw bilafuwr bla

Aift yr all, wfti'r oed!

Trooper McNally

DEATH OF A CRIMEAN VETERAN AT LLANELLY

The South Wales Press February 17, 1898

llanellich.org.uk LCH0374

FOR AGES AND PAINS.

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ELLIMAN'S

ELLIMAN'S YEAR BY YEAR, 1847 to 1896, INCREASING DEMAND FOR ELLIMAN'S UNIVERSAL ANTI-RHEUMATIC FOR HUMAN USE, AND ELLIMAN'S ROYAL ANTI-RHEUMATIC, FOR HORSES, CATTLE,

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Correspondence and

Death of a Crimean Veteran at Llanelly

There are in this world of ours many notable persons, and whenever their number is reduced by death our sympathy always goes out to those who may in any way be affected. There are those who have earned the public regard and estimation, if not the right to posterity for their intellectual capacity, and others for their deeds of daring in their country's behalf. How one admires the conduct of men who have been participants in some great engagement on sea or land. How the charge of Balacklava thrilled our people with glory and emulation ! It was indeed a wonderful event, when we remember the treatment meted out to the Light Brigade by the enemy. Of the six hundred who obeyed that never-to-be-forgotten command, how few in number were those who remained to tell the tale. Here and there we chance across one of the survivors; and with what an amount of justifiable pride are the battle-field experiences narrated. Last Sunday afternoon one of these Crimean veterans was living in Llanelly, but while the shades of night were falling he "crossed the bar." His name was Thomas McNally, and he resided with William Richards, at 14, Annesley Street, Llanelly. The story of McNally's military career has often been told, but a passing reference to it may not, under the circumstances, be out of place. As can at once be seen he was of Irish extraction. His parents resided in Dublin, and it was in the year 1827 that he made his entry into the world. Nineteen years later, in 1846, he definitely decided to follow the example set by so many loyal Irishmen, namely, to don Her Majesty's uniform ; and on the 8th of that year he enlisted in the 13th Light Dragoons, now known as the Hussars. From his own point of view he was fortunate, inasmuch that his regiment was one of those that embarked for the Crimean campaign, and he had an interesting way, when pressed, of giving one the benefit of his experiences. He possessed a Turkish medal, dated 1854, and a Crimean

medal for the following year, together, with one for long service and good conduct, the four bars above them recording engagements at Sebastopol, Inkerman, Balacklava, and Alma. McNally never got higher than the rank of a private, but it is safe to assume that had he been as educated as he was daring, a responsible position would have fallen to him. He was an exceedingly steady and trustworthy soldier, and it afforded much pleasure to him when attention was drawn to the five badges on the arm for good conduct. To Achieve such a distinction is sufficient of itself to make any soldier proud. Owing to the terms of enlistment which then existed, McNally was sworn in for a period of twenty four years, but he actually served for twenty five years and sixty two days, which fact serves to show the depth of his patriotism. When in 1871 he was discharged from the army, he received a pension of 7s. 10½d. per week, a truly magnificent sum with which to keep body and soul together! That was in excess of the amounts received by many of his comrades by reason of his extra service and exceptionally good behaviour. In passing, it may be stated that never was Private McNally confined in a guard room. His pension was made up thus : usual weekly allowance, 4s. 8d. ; extra allowance, as already explained, 3½d. ; for each good conduct badge, 7d. For some time McNally kept a public house known as the " Army and Navy," in Pembroke, and it was during his residence there that his wife was carried away by the hand of that grim visitor, Death, to whom we are told we must all give in. Four years later McNally gave up the business and made his way to Llanelly, putting up at the house where he ended his days. Had he been spared until next May his sojourn amongst us would have extended over seven years. He entered the service of Dr. Buckley as a groom, and on that gentlemen's retirement from public practice, McNally was retained by his successor Dr. Roderick. Subsequently he was employed at an ærated water works, but in January of last

year severe illness compelled him to relinquish his position. At intervals his illness caused him much suffering and it was seldom that he was to be seen outside the house. His medical attendant was his former employer, Dr. Roderick, but the latter's efforts were unavailing. During Saturday, he sank rapidly and at seven o'clock in the evening of the following day, he passed over to the great majority. The chief cause of death was heart disease, accentuated by other ailments. Notwithstanding his advanced age and the hardships of his earlier life, McNally was of striking appearance. From his unmistakable military carriage one could easily guess the nature of the calling he had followed. In November, 1893, he was one of the guests at a banquet given in Cardiff, to the Crimean heroes and had he been able to go there, he would have been one of the band of gallants, who occupied the Crimean stand provided by a London journalist on the occasion of the Diamond Jubilee procession. McNally has not left any children, but whether he has left any relatives cannot be stated with certainty. Some people assert that relatives are living in Preston, Lancashire and others deny that. In any case the question presents itself. What is to be done with the military souvenirs ? It is said that McNally had a small deposit in the Post Office and that he was insured for £29, but with these the public have no concern. It would though, be interesting to know what is to be done with the medals, etc. Unpleasant stories have been circulated and we know for a fact that a solicitor has been consulted on the matter. Meanwhile the will is in the possession of the Rev Father Byrne, who ministered at the death-bed.

**THE SOUTH WALES PRESS,
FEBRUARY 24, 1898**

***CRIMEAN VETERAN'S INTERMENT.
MEMORABLE EVENT AT LLANELLY.***

The remains of, Trooper McNally, to whose death reference was last week made in the SOUTH WALES PRESS, were interred in

the Box Cemetery, Llanelly, on Friday afternoon, with befitting ceremony and solemnity. About three o'clock a service was held in the Roman Catholic Church, Lloyd Street, conducted by the Rev. Father Byrne, at which were present the friends of the deceased, together with a number of officers. The congregation was a large one, and the service, as is always the case, was very impressive. Meantime, volunteers, police and firemen had taken up their position outside the church, where again there was a large number of people. There were about forty volunteers on parade, including a firing party of fourteen in charge of Sergt. W. T. Davies. The officers present were. Major Bythway, Major Roderick, Captain Phillips, Lieutenant Evans, Quarter-master Sergt. Foster, and Sergt. Jones. The Carmarthen Company was represented by Drill. Instructor Sergt. Weeks, and Sergt. Rogers. Lieutenant Buckley and Sergt. Samuel, of the Pembrokeshire Yeomanry, were also present. The posse of police, thirty all told, was in the command of the superintendent, Captain Scott, the officers in attendance being Inspector Thomas, Sergts. Evans, Hopkins, Harries, Williams, and Mitchell Moore. Conductor David John accompanied the seventeen firemen. Three Crimean veterans, named Thomas Connif, Michael Bryne, and Willis turned out with their medals on their breasts, and how touching the proceedings must have been to them. The funeral cortege started from the Church and proceeded very slowly along Murray Street, Stepney Street, to the Box Cemetery as already stated. All along the route the footpaths were lined with people, and as a token of the great respect in which McNally was held on account of his private life as well as his military career, most of the blinds were drawn, whilst many business houses were temporarily closed. A cab occupied by the Rev Father Byrne, took the lead, the others following in this order :-Firing party, band, lurry in lieu of gun carriage bearing coffin, three veterans of the Crimea, two

mourning coaches volunteer police, firemen. The firing party marched with their arms reversed, and the coffin was covered by the Union Jack on the top of which were placed a wreath, helmet and sword. The gun carriage was drawn by a heavy black horse, and immediately behind was a chestnut charger belonging to Lieutenant Buckley. The charger was riderless ; the usual position of the jack-boots and spurs was reversed. A young man, named David Williams, a groom in the service of Lieutenant Buckley, led the charger even to the graveside. Here, in the presence of a large gathering, the last rites were pronounced by Rev Father Bryne, and three volleys were fired by twelve volunteers. It is much to be regretted that the funeral was not attended by full military honours. Everything was done with a view to bringing this about, but the War Office, which has been described as being the worst of the many government departments, could not see its way to lend any assistance. Communications had been sent to every likely quarter, and it is most likely that Sir John Jones Jenkins, M.P., had he not been confined to his house, would have ended his influence with the minister for war. The circumstances were fully explained to Mr Gwilym Evans, Liberal candidate for the borough, who was at the time staying at the Hotel Metropole, and he was asked to obtain the assistance of the Welsh members in getting a full military funeral for McNally, which, of course, meant that detachments should be present from the standing army. It would serve to awaken a soldierly enthusiasm among the young men of the town, said the Rev. Father Byrne, that the brave dead should be honoured over his grave. The telegraphic reply received was :- "Every effort made. Military funeral impossible. Particulars follow." The foregoing was followed by a letter from Mr. Evans, who wrote thus : "Immediately I received your letter, I set about the task assigned to me by you and my fellow-townsmen, with pleasure, and I am sorry to add, without success. I met Mr. David Randell, M.P., and he kindly introduced me to Major General Cleary,

Deputy Adjutant of the Forces. and he assured us that it is contrary to regulations to give a military funeral to anyone on the retired list, and that if McNally had been a general, no such funeral could have been given him. For my own satisfaction and yours, and those who have moved in the matter, I asked for a written reply, and you are at liberty to make any use of it you like. I wish to call your attention to the last paragraph, which is a direct reply to my representations that exception had in the past been made. I quite agree with you that it would be a good thing for the Army if the authorities would do more honour to the heroes who have served and deserved so well of their country." The written reply referred to is from the office of the Under Secretary of State, and runs as follows :-"I am directed by the Secretary of State for War to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of this date, relative to the wish that a military funeral be accorded in the case of Mr Thomas McNally, formerly a private in the 13th Light Dragoons, who fought at Balaklava. In reply, I am to express the Commander-in-Chief's regret that as the regulations only permit funerals to officers and men on the active list, and actually serving, the above request cannot be sanctioned. I am to add that there is no record of permission having been given from head-quarters in exception of the regulations under this head." It may be asked if the officer commanding the South Wales District, in reply to a request for a gun carriage and detachment of men, could not have sent a more acceptable wire than this: " Distance too far. Arrange with Volunteers." The aforesaid distance is that lying between Llanelly and Cardiff. The lack of enthusiasm and regard on the part of the War Office has been strongly condemned, and is not likely to be soon forgotten.