

HISTORICAL REVIEW.

After the conquest of Great Britain by the Saxons, a remnant of the ancient British people escaped to Wales, where they were long governed by monarchs with the title of Princes. A division of the Royal dignity arising between several sons, led to quarrels, and, as usual, the interference of foreigners—in this case of the English. At length the chief authority became settled for a period in a chieftain named Llewellyn, who, for some time, reigned under the patronage, and as the instrument of Edward 1st. The time arrived when Edward, however, wished to exercise his real power more directly. A pretext of quarrel, and an invasion followed, and the Welsh were conquered.

The Welshmen are reported to have longed for a native Prince as vicegerent of the Royal conqueror, and when the Queen of England gave birth to a Prince in Caernarvon Castle, they speedily learned why a visit had been made to that place.

The King was at Rhudlan Castle when the announcement was made to him, and he immediately repaired to Caernarvon and proceeded to carry out the plan previously arranged. He had received assurances that the Welsh would willingly submit to a Prince born within the country, of blameless life, and free from prejudices ; he therefore proceeded to the Queen's chamber, and, taking the infant Prince in his arms, brought him to the Welsh chieftains, and claimed their allegiance, according to promise. Such is a brief sketch of the origin of the title. The first Prince was known as Edward of Caernarvon.