INTRODUCTORY HISTORICAL SKETCH 17

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the fame of St. Columba of Iona. In 603, Aedhan, King of Dalriada, was conquered by Aethelfrith, King of the Northumbrians, at Daegstone, now Dawstone, after which event the British inhabitants of Strathclyde became tributary to their conquerors. West Wales, or Dyvnaint, extended from the Quantock Hills to the Land's End, and the first great inroad into it was made by Ine, who, in 710, conquered Geraint, the British king, pushed his army as far as the River Tone and there founded the city which we now know as Taunton. It was not, however, until 815 that Ecgberht, King of the West Saxons, made the conquest of Cornwall. It remains now only to speak of the district with which we now associate the name of Wales, and here it may be mentioned that the name of Welsh was given to the Brythons by the Anglo-Saxons, and was derived by them from their word wealhas, meaning strangers or unintelligible people, a term met with in other parts than Wales, such as at Wallingford, in Berks, "the ford of the strangers." North Wales, or Wales as we know it, had a more enlarged boundary than it now possesses until 799, when Offa, King of Mercia, pushed his way over the Severn, till then in its upper part the British boundary, drove the Prince of Powys from his town of Pengwyrn, and founded there the town in the scrub, Scrobbesbyrig, our present Shrewsbury. After this victory he constructed, according to a long-standing tradition, the dyke which bears his name. It is, however, possible, that it may be a work of much earlier date, which he utilised as a boundary line.

Offa's dyke, of which extensive remains still exist, stretched from the mouth of the Dee to that of the Wye, including some portions of land now belonging to England, and stringent rules were laid down to prevent the Welsh from entering the English side of that boundary.

It is important from an ethnological point of view to remember that whilst Britons and Saxons were at war with

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