

36 No. 2

Castle Villa

2767

An old inhabitant told the writer that the old Welsh name for Castle Villa was CASTELL Y CYMRU. This suggested the probable etymology of the present name: Latinised CASTELL Y CYMRU - Castrum Walliae. The present Welsh name is Cas Wilia, probably a corruption of the Latin form, Cas Wilia being corrupted into the English Castle Villa. It should be noted that the camp lies within the Welsh border. Iron cannon balls have been found in the "Castle" much corroded, and now weighing about 4 lb. He also informed the writer that some years ago when employed by Mr. George Harries, the present occupier of the farm, in digging in a vallum near the present barn door he found 3 roughly hewn stones. The description suggested that they were portions of a dressed stone entrance to the inner vallum. One of the stones formed part of an arch. Unfortunately the stones found were broken up and used in the building of new gate jambs at the farmyard entrance. Dressed purple stone, portions of an earlier and a more ornate building, may be seen in the walls of one of the present outbuildings