

THE DATE OF THE ACT OF UNION OF ENGLAND AND WALES

It is well known that an act of Henry VIII made the whole of Wales shire ground, delimiting the present twelve counties (or thirteen, if we include Monmouthshire) and providing for the representation of Welsh constituencies in the House of Commons. But a strange uncertainty has arisen of late as to the year in which this measure was enacted, and the approach of the Quatercentenary of the statute makes it very desirable that the doubt should be resolved.

The legal description of the act is 27^o Hen. VIII, cap. 26. Now the twenty-seventh year of that king began on April 22, 1535, and ended on April 21, 1536, so that it might be loosely described as 1535-6. But a reference to the latest authority upon the subject, the *Interim Report* of the Committee on House of Commons Personnel and Politics (Stationery Office, 1932), p. 91, will show that no session of the commons was held in 1535 and that the eighth and last session of the 'Seven Years' Parliament', when this measure was passed, lasted from February 4 to April 14, 1536. In a subsequent act, 28^o Hen. VIII, cap. 3, it is expressly stated that the 'act and ordinance' making new shires in Wales was made in the session holden the fourth day of February in the king's 27th year, i.e. in 1536. The year is correctly given by Wynne (*History of Wales*, 1697, p. 326) and by all later writers until the end of the nineteenth century, when the habit arose in Wales (but not elsewhere) of assigning the act to 1535. This date will be found in the appendix volume of the *Report of the Welsh Land Commission* (1896), p. 127, in *The Welsh People*, by Rhys and Brynmor-Jones (1900), p. 375, in Bowen's *Statutes of Wales* (1908), pp. 75-92, and in *The Making of Modern Wales*, by W. Llewelyn Williams (1919), p. 68. Where distinguished lawyers have thus gone astray, it is not strange to find the writers of text-books following suit. But the error should be rectified before it has become ineradicable. As to how it has arisen, I can only conjecture that it is due to a cursory reading of the heading 1535-6 in the *Statutes of the Realm*, the primary authority for the text of the act.

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III. ARCHAEOLOGY AND ART SECTION ANTHROPOMETRICAL RECORDS

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THE tables which follow are a continuation of the records published in the previous numbers of the *Bulletin*, Vol. IV, Part 2, May 1928; Part 3, December 1928; Part 4, May 1929; and Vol. V, Part 1, November 1929; Part 2, May 1930; Part 3, November 1930; Part 4, May 1931; Vol. VI, Part 1, November 1931; Part 3, November, 1932; Part 4, May 1933; and Vol. VII, Part 1, November 1933. The present series includes a sample of adult men from north-western Wales measured up to 1932. The measurements are mainly those of Professor H. J. Fleure, D.Sc., Mr. Elwyn Davies, M.A., M.Sc., University of Manchester, and Mr. E. G. Bowen, M.A., University College of Wales, Aberystwyth. Part of the equipment in head-measuring instruments, recording cards, &c., were purchased from a grant made to the Anthropological Section of the Guild of Graduates by the University of Wales. Only adult men whose ancestry on both sides belonged, to the best of their knowledge, to one and the same small area are usually included. In cases where the individuals observed expressed some doubt as to their parents' native locality, the regions given have been inserted within brackets. Moreover, as far as possible, cases belonging to rural areas have been selected. No attempt has been made to classify these cases according to anthropological type. The order of cephalic index has been used in the lists, but without prejudice; it seems to offer an easy mechanical sequence, likely not to mislead students. The aim throughout has been to measure by reasonably firm contact, without strong pressure. The head length taken is the glabello-occipital maximum.

ABBREVIATIONS.

med. = medium.	fr. = fresh.	fl. = florid.	dk. = dark.	br. = brown.
lt. = light.	blk. = black.	w. = with.	gr. = grey.	ceph. = cephalic.
p. = pale.	sp. = specks.	bl. = blue.	pigm. = pigmented.	sl. = slightly pigmented.