

TESTIMONIAL TO MR SAMUEL HOLLAND.

Nothing could have been more gratifying to Mr Holland, now in his eighty-fourth year, than to have been surrounded as he was, on Monday last, by a number of true friends who came to symbolise their affection and appreciation of his character by presenting him with an excellent portrait of himself. Though a Conservative journal like the *North Wales Chronicle* cannot, of course, endorse the political opinions of the late member for Merioneth, yet it frankly pays to him a warm tribute of praise for many signal services rendered to the commerce and the cause of education in the county.

The LORD-LIEUTENANT (Mr R. D. Pryce, Cyfronydd), in making the presentation, stated how happy he was to come to pay honour to whom honour was so due. He looked upon Mr Holland as a great benefactor to the county, and his assiduity and courtesy in his duties, social and parliamentary, claimed the highest respect. Above all, he was throughout a long life full of activity and usefulness—recognised as a man of the highest integrity. Mr Pryce heartily wished him a long continuance of that "otium cum dignitate," which was the reward and ornament of a life consecrated to active and useful purposes, and felt much pleasure in offering the portrait to Mrs Holland in honour of her husband.

Mrs HOLLAND, in accepting the gift, read the following reply:—"My Lord-lieutenant and Gentlemen, -Your gift of this portrait of Mr Holland is very gratifying to me, and I heartily thank you for it. It is a real pleasure to me to possess it. It will be valued by me because I consider it such an excellent likeness of my husband, and because the inscription upon it is a lasting testimony to the high place which he holds in the esteem of all classes and, I believe, all parties. Again I thank you heartily for your gift, and through you those who have contributed to it; and I assure you that your county—I ought to say our county—will never cease to be regarded by Mr Holland and myself with grateful and sincere affection."

The deputation was made up of Liberal representatives from most of the centres of Merionethshire and a few Conservative friends. Mr Henry Robertson, late M.P. for the county; Mr Earnest Greaves (Lord-lieutenant of Carnarvonshire), Mr Samuel Pope, Q.C., and Colonel Evans-Lloyd, wrote letters expressing their great regret at being unable to be present.

At the luncheon which followed, and at which the company, numbering between 30 and 40, were very hospitably entertained by Mr and Mrs Holland, several speeches were made shewing the depth of kind feeling entertained towards Mr Holland.

Mr CHARLES HOLLAND (Wrexham), as a relative, expressed the pleasure he and the other relatives felt at the honour thus paid to his uncle, and rejoiced that such an excellent portrait had been secured to be the heritage of the family.

The LORD-LIEUTENANT, in replying to the toast of his health, said the picture that delighted him most was the picture of an honoured gentleman after a long active life of public usefulness, enjoying a peaceful old age in a beautiful home amid the loveliest scenery in North Wales, and surrounded by so many true and warm-hearted friends.

Dr. EDWARD JONES, Dolgelley, thought that the painting would help to immortalise their friend and late representative, though monuments like Dr. Williams's School at Dolgelley would still better and more worthy preserve his memory.

Mr E. P. JONES, of Blaenau Festiniog, spoke with regard to the slate trade and the good feeling of the working men towards Mr Holland. The speaker's own feelings were much stronger than he could express in language. They at Festiniog did not want brush and paint to immortalise Mr Holland, for his name was for ever carved in the rock and in the hearts of the hundreds of quarrymen which their host had once employed.

Mr ROBERT OWEN, Rhiw House, spoke to the same effect, and Mr CHARLES SPOONER testified to the valuable friendship which had for so many years existed between them.

Mr C. R. WILLIAMS, Dolmelynlyn Hall, was, though a Conservative, very glad to contribute to the testimonial. He held that differences in politics or religion should not disturb private friendships—tolerance, he thought, should be the mark of every gentleman.

Mr HUGHES-JONES, Aberdovey, next spoke and said that he had for many years been associated with Mr Holland in politics, and it was true of him that whatever he took in hand he was sure to carry it out.

Dr. ROBERTS, Portmadoc, testified that he had known their host for forty years, and had always found him the truest of friends.

After Mr Caeson and Mr Parker had added a few words, Dr ROBERTS, Festiniog, related how much he had leaned upon and profited by the advice and encouragement of their late member, and spoke with admiration of the portrait, which he described in verse:—

Yn'r eurliw ffrâm ceir arlun—goreu oll
O'r gwr hardd a chyflun;
Hwn o Holland sy'n ei lun—
Mae'n fyw oll—mae'n ef ei hun.

Mr S. HOLLAND then rose to thank the company for their great kindness and good wishes, and the valuable portrait which the contributors had presented to his wife in his honour. In an interesting speech he remarked how the growing fatigues of Parliamentary life had obliged him to retire, but during the fifteen years he was thus member he had done his best to carry out their wishes, and was very proud to feel that his services had been appreciated, and their kindness he would never forget.

The company soon afterwards separated. The portrait, which is considered a faithful likeness, is the work of Mr Hugh Carter, the artist who won so much credit by his portraits of the late Mr Beale, Bryntirion, Merionethshire, and Alderman Staples, lately Lord Mayor of London.

To the portrait is attached the following inscription: "In recognition of a long career of public usefulness in the county of Merioneth as an extensive and beneficial employer of labour, a constant friend of education, and active and judicious magistrate, and as a faithful representative of the county in Parliament for fifteen years, this portrait of Samuel Holland, Esq, Caerdeon, has been painted and presented to Mrs Holland by a large number of friends."

Mr Edward Griffith, of Springfield, Dolgelley, was the energetic secretary of the testimonial committee, and to him was delegated the task of carrying out the resolution arrived at by the Liberal Association at a meeting held at Bala a few months ago, a task which was very successfully accomplished on Monday.

In his statement he remarked that a large number of friends of both political parties had readily subscribed towards the testimonial. He had received £5 from America from one who had been indebted to Mr Holland for advice and encouragement in his early life, and who feels that he owes him a debt which he cannot ever repay. Mr Griffith assured Mr Holland of the deep regard of the Liberal party, and their appreciation of his services.

All united in wishing Mr Holland many years of life and health and joy, and felt with Mr Pope, Q.C., that he would go down to posterity as one of the worthies of Merionethshire, who had identified himself with the industry of the county in its infancy, and by great assiduity and ability had fostered it until it had become really great blessing to thousands, and who, by his faithful representation in Parliament, his efforts in behalf of education, and his unique encouragement of young men, had made his name beloved.

LONDON AND NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY.

Traffic Return, Week ending November 14th, 1886.	
Passengers, Parcels, Horses, Carriages, Dogs	
Mails.....	£63.49
Merchandise, Minerals, and Live Stock.....	£123.81
Total for the week.....	£187.31
Corresponding week in 1885.....	£184.221
Aggregate to date.....	£3,921,706

STEPHEN REAY, SECRETARY

DENBIGHSHIRE INFIRMARY.

Month ending October 31st, 1886.

IN-PATIENTS: Admitted, 17; discharged, 20; cured, 17; relieved, 3; dead, 1; irregularity, 0; made out-patients, 3; remain in the house, 19; casualties, 59.

OUT-PATIENTS: Admitted, 148; discharged, 84; cured, 62; relieved, 22; dead, 1; irregularity, 0; made in-patients, 3; admitted since January 1st, 1886, 1677.

Presents have been kindly sent by the following: Colonel Mesham, Mrs Gold Edwards, Mrs Burton, Miss Burton.

JOHN T. H. DAVIES, M.D.,
Resident Medical Officer