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Haverford West (Pembrokeshire Museums)

The curator, Mr. R. A. Kennedy informs us that the museum in Haverford West has reference material of molluscs, birds and mammals, birds' eggs, an herbarium and a small number of geological specimens. He would welcome visits from any natural history curator as Haverford West does not employ a biologist at the present time.

Tenby Museum

Tenby was founded in 1878 and has been voluntarily managed for the whole of its existence. The honorary curator, W. Harrison M.B.E., sent their current museum guide which indicates that there are at least display collections of birds, their eggs and mammals. The pride of the museum as a whole (although it covers fine art, local history and so on) must surely be the Lyons shell collection. The entries reproduced below illustrate the importance of this mollusc material.

SEA SHELLS

In two of the centre cases and in the drawers below is a selection of British shells from the extensive collection of marine molluscs formed by William Lyons (1766-1849). His collection, gathered from the shores of Pembrokeshire, South West England and South West Ireland, was one of the first additions to the Museum after its foundation in 1878. Two species of shells named after him are included in the display.

The shells commonly found on the beaches of Tenby are on view but some types have become scarce.

A smaller collection of non-marine mollusca may be examined in drawers, including one local species, *Helix pisana*, which is otherwise found only in Northern Italy.

from Tenby Museum Guide, p.12

LYONS COLLECTION. TENBY.

W. Lyons, of Tenby, one of the older conchologists who corresponded with Montagu and Captain Brown, is variously described. He is "Dr. Lyons" in an old Tenby Guide (1866) and "George Lyons, Esq., of Tenby, Wales" to Brown (14). His autograph can be seen in a copy of Lister's "Synopsis" at Tenby Museum.

Turbo crenatus (Linné) and *Turbo perforatus* (Perry) were among the shells sent by Lyons to Montagu in 1813, as then new to Tenby, quoting Montagu's labels from Exeter. This gives the earliest date. Later, Brown refers to Lyons as the collector of two of his new species, *Chiton discrepans* and *Turritella minor*, and two others, supposed to be new, his *Rissoa crystallina* (= *Hyala vitrea* Mont.) and *Hiatella striata*, which is the *Lyonsia norwegica* (Gmelin).

The Lyons Collection of shells was presented to Tenby Museum on 1st April, 1878, by Miss Lyons, and is exhibited there, as originally mounted, in a series of table-cases. He will be best remembered by the genus *Lyonsia*, dedicated to him by Turton, and by the var. *lyonsii* of *Calliostoma zizyphinum* (L.).

from Dean, J.D. (1936) Conchological Cabinets of the last century

J. Conch., 20(8); 230