



Sins of the Father: a Georgian Story of Misfortune

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Among the nineteenth-century clergy there was no lack of outstanding characters: men of achievement who often served their parish over an exceptionally long period, and whose personality compelled universal respect. One such man was the well known evangelical Richard Pendrill Llewelyn, vicar of Llangynwyd for fifty years until his death in 1891. Llewelyn came to the parish at a time of rapid population increase, due to the burgeoning iron industry; he worked tirelessly for better church and school provision, and did much to foster cultural and social progress in the community. In all his endeavours he was ably supported by his wife Mary Catherine, the daughter of Thomas Rhys, proprietor of the Eagle Academy at Cowbridge. She herself possessed literary gifts, and acquired some repute during her lifetime, particularly for her translations of Welsh poetry into English.¹