

Bridge over the Llugwy on the Holyhead Road near Capel Curig

David Cox



Description

David Cox O.W.S. (1783-1859)

Bridge over the Llugwy on the Holyhead Road near Capel Curig

Signed lower centre: David Cox/1834

Watercolour over pencil heightened with touches of bodycolour and stopping out
20.4 by 27 cm., 8 by 10 ³/₄ in.

Provenance:

With Thos Agnew & Sons, London;

Anonymous sale, Sotheby's, 22nd November 2007, lot 148

A similar view by Cox, from slightly further back to include the semicircular viewing area was engraved by William Radclyff for Thomas Roscoe's *Wandering and Excursions in North Wales*, 1836, pl.17. Roscoe described the 'the elevated pavement, [of the great Holyhead road] with its semicircular recesses and stone parapet, flanking the stream of the Llugwy ... approaches the picturesque bridge, through which the gushing waters flow, giving the name of the Coven Falls to this spot. To the traveller in Wales nothing fixes his attention so much as the gigantic masses of granite rocks that interpose in the channels of the various rivers, or that lie in enormous layers upon the banks. These, in a remarkable degree, characterize the features of the Llugwy at this place, while their stern aspect is softened by the peculiar grace of the pendent trees, which seem to take root, un planted and uncared for, in every fissure that will afford them nourishment.' (Roscoe, op,cit, pp. 219-220).