

## PARRY, EDWARD (1723 - 1786), Methodist exhorter, poet and hymn-writer

**Name:** Edward Parry  
**Date of birth:** 1723  
**Date of death:** 1786  
**Gender:** Male  
**Occupation:** Methodist exhorter, poet and hymn-writer  
**Area of activity:** Poetry; Religion  
**Author:** Edward Davies

Born in 1723 at Llys Bychan, Llansannan, Denbighshire. He was a carpenter by trade, contemporary with [Thomas Edwards](#) (Twm o'r Nant) and one of [Twm](#)'s most gifted actors. He was twice married and lived first at Cefn Byr and then at Tan-y-fron. In 1747 he gave up acting in the interludes and welcomed the revivalists to his house. In 1749 he began to exhort but, when the split occurred between [Howel Harris](#) and [Daniel Rowland](#), his zeal cooled and he returned to the fold of the Established Church. In 1761 he left Tan-y-fron and went to live at Bryn Bugad, where he rejoined the Methodists. When the South Wales exhorters resumed their visits to North Wales, Edward Parry, because of his zeal and ability, became the most outstanding local exhorter and was invited to evangelise in London. In 1773 he built a chapel on his land at Tan-y-fron. In 1764 he published, with [Twm o'r Nant](#) and David James of Llansannan, *Y Perll Gwerthfawr*, and in 1767 *Agoriad i Athrawiaeth y Ddau Gyfamod* (2nd imp. in 1781). In 1774 a pamphlet of twelve pages, comprising an elegy and a few hymns, was published at Trevecka 'for Edward Parry.' In 1789 *Ychydig Hymnau* was published; this includes two hymns that have become famous. He died 16 September 1786, at the age of 63, and was buried in Llansannan churchyard.

### Author

Edward Davies

### Sources

*Goleuad Cymru* (Caerleon 1820-1830), 1827, 446, 464, 490, 516, 558

*Methodistiaeth Cymru* (1851-6), i, 143-6, iii, 113-25

*Enwogion y Ffydd* (1880)

J. Thickens, *Emynau a'u Hawduriaid* (1945)

E. P. Jones, *Methodistiaeth Galffinaidd Dinbych, 1735-1909* (1936), 24

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