

SAMUEL, EDWARD (1674 - 1748), cleric, poet, and author

Name: Edward Samuel
Date of birth: 1674
Date of death: 1748
Child: William Samuel
Child: Edward Samuel
Gender: Male
Occupation: cleric, poet, and author
Area of activity: Literature and Writing; Poetry; Religion
Author: William Llewelyn Davies

Born in Cwt-y-Defaid in the parish of Penmorfa, Caernarfonshire. He came to the notice of **Humphrey Humphreys**, bishop of Bangor, who helped with his education and advised him to prepare for orders. He went to Oxford, matriculating from Oriel College, 19 May 1693, as 'pauper puer'; **Thomas**, *A History of the Diocese of St. Asaph*, describes him as B.A. He became rector of Betws Gwerfil Goch, 4 November 1702, but exchanged it, 21 January 1721, for that of Llangar, where he remained until his death on 8 April 1748. Two sons became clergymen - EDWARD SAMUEL (1710 - 1762), rector of Llanddulas (1735-47), and his father's immediate successor at Llangar, and WILLIAM SAMUEL (1713 - 1765), rector of Nantglyn, 1743-65, and father of **Dr. David Samwell**.

Edward Samuel wrote some poems in free metre; for examples see (a) *Blodeu-gerdd Cymry*, 1759; (b) *Llu o Ganiadau, neu Gasgliad o Garolau a Cherddi ... o Gasgliad W. Jones, Bettws Gwerfil Goch* (Oswestry, 1798); (c) *Eos Ceiriog*, 1823; and (d) B.M. Add. MS. 14961. Sermons by him were published (*Pregeth ynghylch gofalon bydol a bregethwyd yn Eglwys Llanywer, yr ail dydd o fis Mai, 1720. Ar gladdedigaeth Mr. Robert Wynne, diweddar Vicar Gwyddelwern*, 1731 and *Adgyfodiad ein Harglwydd Jesu Grist, wedi ei brofi Mewn pregeth a bregethwyd ar Ddydd Sul y Pasg*, 1766), but his most important original work in prose was *Bucheddau'r Apostollon a'r Efengylwyr* (Shrewsbury, Thomas Jones, 1704, and other eds.). The following works translated by him were also published - (a) *Gwirionedd y Grefydd Gristionogol* (1716, etc.) - from the original by Hugo Grotius; (b) *Holl Ddyledswydd Dyn* (Shrewsbury, 1718); (c) *Prif ddyledswyddau Christian : sef angenrhaid a mawrles gweddi gyffredin a mynych gymmuno* (Shrewsbury, John Rhydderch, 1722/3; 1793 ed. printed at Chester) - from the original by William Beveridge, bishop of St Asaph; the first of the two works, published together, was dedicated to judge Robert Price, Giler, Denbighshire, and the second to Watkin Williams Wynne [sic], Wynstay [sic], and (d) *Athrawiaeth yr Eglwys* (Caerlleon, Roger Adams, 1731), being versions of two separate works, the one by Peter Nourse, and the other by William Wake, archbishop of Canterbury. A facsimile of a letter written by Samuel (1 March 1703/4) to **Edward Lhuys** can be seen in **Richard Ellis**, *Facsimiles of Letters of Oxford Welshmen*.

Author

Sir William Llewelyn Davies, (1887 - 1952)

Sources

To the sources named in the text add

Oxford Dictionary of National Biography

T. R. Roberts, *Eminent Welshmen: a short biographical dictionary of Welshmen... from the earliest times to the present* (1908)

Foster, *Alumni Oxonienses: the members of the University of Oxford*

H. Blackwell, *NLW MS 9273A: A Dictionary of Welsh Biography*

NLW MSS 14104 (an essay submitted to the national eisteddfod at Corwen, 1919)

Hugh Owen (ed.), *Additional Letters of the Morrisises of Anglesey (1735-86)*(London 1947-9)

H. B. Thomas, *A History of the Diocese of St. Asaph* (1874), i, 44, ii, 138

Further Reading

Wikipedia Article: [Edward Samuel](#)

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