

WILLIAM, THOMAS (1697 - 1778), of Mynydd-bach, Independent minister, and author

Name: Thomas William
Date of birth: 1697
Date of death: 1778
Gender: Male
Occupation: Independent minister, and author
Area of activity: Literature and Writing; Poetry; Religion
Author: Evan Lewis Evans

Born in 1697, he spent nearly the whole of his life at Ty'rbedw, on the slope of Mynydd-bach, in the parish of Llandeilo, Carmarthenshire, but later evidence tends to show that he was not a native of that place. He was a weaver by trade, but was a man of unusual attainments. He became a member of Capel Isaac, or the Mynydd-bach church, as it was generally called, in 1715, and was appointed a deacon there on 1 September 1734. Shortly afterwards he began to preach, and on 5 April 1744 was granted a preaching licence by the Carmarthen quarter sessions. In 1724 he published his *Oes-lyfr*, a chronicle of events, in three parts. A second edition of this work was published in 1768, and at least three more editions, with additions, appeared after the author's death. He was, moreover, an admirable poet and printed a number of other small books, including three impressions (1727, 1766, 1767) of *Gwaedd Ynghymru yn wyneb pob Cydwybod*, together with *Morgan Llwyd's Llythur ir Cymru Cariadus*, his friend Joseph John's *Dammegion Iesu Grist ar Gan*, 1761, and a translation of *Henry Evans* Bedwelty's *Cynghorion Tad i'w Fab*, 1771. After having been John Harries's right hand man throughout the period of the latter's ministry at Mynydd-bach (1724-48), he himself was ordained minister of the church in 1757, and industriously laboured in that field until his death, 12 June 1778. He was buried at Llanfynydd. It appears that he was also the secretary of his church, for the entries in the old Mynydd-bach register (now kept in N.L.W.) were for many years made in his handwriting.

Author

Reverend Dr Evan Lewis Evans, (1898 - 1978)

Sources

Hanes Eglwysi Annibynnol Cymru, iii, 540-1

W. Rowlands, *Cambrian Bibliography* (Llanidloes 1869)

Works

Thomas Williams, *Breiniol gofrestr o'r breninoedd a'r tywysogion o Gymry neu Frytaniaid, a reolasant yn y deyrnas hon cyn iddynt gael eu difeddiannu o'u cyflawn freniniaeth, sef o'r flwyddyn 1108 cyn geni Crist hyd y flwyddyn 1282 ar ol geni Crist* (Caernarfon 1875?)

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