

ADRODDIAD BLYNYDDOL / ANNUAL REPORT 1913-14

KINMEL MANUSCRIPTS

1914001

Blwyddyn / Year

Adroddiad Blynyddol / Annual Report 1913-14

Disgrifiad / Description

Of the additions made to the Library since the last meeting of the Court, the most important is the collection of manuscripts from Kinmel Park, Abergele, purchased from the Trustees of the late Mr H R Hughes, Lord Lieutenant of Flintshire.

The negotiations for this collection have been in progress for a considerable time, owing to the necessity of applying to the Court for power to sell. The MSS were valued by Sir George Warner, DLitt, late Keeper of MSS in the British Museum, for the Kinmel Trustees, and by Mr J H Davies, MA, on behalf of the National Library. It is pleasant to be able to record that the independent valuations of these gentlemen were so near in the aggregate, that no difficulty was experienced in agreeing to a sum which was mutually satisfactory. Colonel Hughes, the present owner of Kinmel, and his co-Trustees, have met the Library in a fair and friendly way throughout the negotiations.

The collection comprises 131 volumes in manuscripts (NLW MSS 1501-1631), and 32 printed books not in the National Library were also included in the sale (Dept of Printed Books).

The Manuscripts were brought together mainly, if not entirely, by the late Mr H R Hughes, who purchased the collection of John Williams of Beaumaris, and the collection of the late Miss Angharad Llwyd of Caerwys, and later of Tyn-y-Rhyl. To these Mr Hughes added a number of Manuscripts from various sources.

Mr Hughes's special subjects were Heraldry and Genealogy, but he took a keen interest in all that related to the history and topography of North Wales. His collection naturally reflects his own tastes, and is therefore strong in heraldry and genealogy.

Mynegai

Sir Fflint, Biwmares, Gogledd Cymru.

ANGHARAD LLWYD

1914002

Blwyddyn / Year

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Disgrifiad / Description

The MSS of Angharad Llwyd are comprised in 54 thick 4to and folio volumes, representing the lifework in collecting and copying of that industrious lady and her father, Rev John Llwyd, who was the friend and fellow-worker of Thomas Pennant to whom he gave valuable help in the preparation of the "Tours of Wales" (NLW MSS 1552-1604). They were able to bring together a considerable number of original documents, mainly relating to the counties of Flint and Denbigh, which but for their care of them would in many cases have been destroyed or lost. Miss Angharad Llwyd also made copies or extracts from valuable MSS in private collections, which are no longer accessible, and from manuscripts at Peniarth and elsewhere.

The printed volumes comprise a number of rare books privately printed (Dept of Printed Books), mostly issued in very limited editions as:

"The Welsh Traveller, or the unfortunate Welshman", by Nathaniel Crouch, edited by J O Halliwell [Phillipps], London, for the Editor, 1860, duo, pp. 45. 30 copies printed.

"The Welsh looking glass, or thoughts on the State of Religion in North Wales", by a person who travelled through that country in the year 1811. London, 1812, foolscap 8 vo., pp. 52.

"A Minute Account of the People of Anglesey in the Reign of James I." ... from a MS edited by J O Halliwell [Phillipps]. London, for private circulation, 1860. Crown 8 vo. pp. 57. 26 copies printed.

"Llyfr Gweddi Cyffredin," Cambridge, 1770. A handsome copy in red Morocco with all the plates coloured by hand.

"The Academy of Armory, or a Storehouse of Armory and Blazon", [...] by Randle Holme, Chester, printed by the author, 1688. A perfect copy with the original title page, and the second volume containing the index of persons contained in the Armory, printed in 1821.

The following item is of special interest, being the first independent atlas of the Principality:

"The Principality of Wales (Exactly described) In a compleat set of Maps of all its Countys Wherein are Expressed the chief roads and distances in each county with the names and limits of every Hundred: Being very useful for Gentlemen and Travellers; Printed and sold by Thomas Taylor Map and Printseller at the golden Lyon over against Serjants Inn in Fleet Street, where are sold all sorts of the best Maps and French Dutch and Italian Prints at Reasonable Rates.

Mynegai

Sir Fflint, Sir Ddinbych, Sir Fôn, Caer.

EMLYN EVANS

1914003

Ffynhonnell / Source

Mr D Emlyn Evans

Blwyddyn / Year

Adroddiad Blynnyddol / Annual Report 1913-14

Disgrifiad / Description

Emlyn Evans' Library

Mr D Emlyn Evans who died on the 19th April 1913, expressed a wish that his books might be sent to the National Library, and by the courtesy of Mrs Emlyn Evans, I have lately seen through the Library, and made a selection of the books.

The books selected have been transferred to the National Library during the last few days.

The late Mr Emlyn Evans was a native of Newcastle Emlyn, and the greater part of his life was devoted to Music, first as a chorister, and an Eisteddfod competitor, later as an Eisteddfod adjudicator, a composer, and editor of periodicals and other publications relating to Music. He was the chief editor of the "Welsh Congregational Tune Book", "The Welsh Wesleyan Tune Book", and other similar collections.

His Library, naturally, is strongest on the Music side (NLW MSS 8001-49. It includes standard books on Music and Musicians; vocal scores of many of the principal oratorios, operas, etc.; all the principal Collections of Hymns and Tunes for public worship; a large number of pieces of Music by Welsh Composers, ranging from a leaflet in Tonic Sol-Fa up to the volume containing an Oratorio, Cantata, or Opera. These last represent the accumulations of a lifetime, and the offerings of many friends.

Mrs Emlyn Evans has also given to the Library six medals won by "Emlyn" as follows (Dept of Pictures and Maps):-

Bethesda, 1866, for an Anthem, Bethesda, 1869, for an Anthem, Conway, 1872, Pwllheli, 1875, Wrexham, 1876, Cardiff Times Commemoration Prize, 1878, for best Soprano Tune.

The Collections of "Emlyn" strengthen the National Library on the Music side, and will serve to perpetuate the memory of one of the most gifted sons of Wales, as unselfish as he was patriotic.

Mynegai

Castellnewydd Emlyn, Conwy, Wrecsam, Caerdydd.

PANTON MANUSCRIPTS

1914004

Blwyddyn / Year

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Disgrifiad / Description

The Council have purchased the Panton Collection of MSS consisting of 91 volumes mostly in the handwriting of Ieuan Brydydd Hir, i.e. Rev Evan Evans, MA, a good Welsh scholar, whose painful and pathetic life story is well known (NLW MSS 1970-2068). A native of Lledrod, near Aberystwyth, he was educated at Ystradmeurig by Edward Richard, the scholar-poet who founded the famous Grammar School there - and at Merton College, Oxford.

He took holy orders and served as a curate in various places. His chief work, however, lay in the field of literature. A considerable portion of his life was given to the transcribing of MSS for which purpose he is said to have visited most of the libraries in Wales.

For reasons into which it is unnecessary to enter, Evans was not a successful man, and suffered much privation. Towards the end of his life, however, he was provided with a yearly pension of £20 by Paul Panton of Plas Gwyn, Anglesey, and to this patron Evans's collection of MSS passed.

It has often been said that Evan Evans's father cut him off with a shilling. The probate of the father's will was acquired with other deeds by the National Library some time ago. The legacy left to Ieuan Brydydd Hir in the will was half-a-crown.

The Panton Manuscripts have been fully described by Dr Gwenogvryn Evans in the Reports of the Historical MSS Commission, Report on Welsh MSS, vol. II, Part III, pp 801-70. Two bundles of correspondence included in the collection, contain some letters written by Edward Richard of Ystradmeurig, and by Lewis Morris.

Mynegai

Rhydychen, Sir Fôn.

Nodiadau

NLW MS 2050B restricted access. Schedule Available.