

LLOYD, MEREDITH (fl. 1655-1677), lawyer and antiquary

Name: Meredith Lloyd
Gender: Male
Occupation: lawyer and antiquary
Area of activity: History and Culture; Law
Author: Walter Thomas Morgan

He was a native of Welshpool and a kinsman of [Robert Vaughan](#) of Hengwrt. He was himself a collector of manuscripts, and is said to have been the owner of the manuscripts of [Thomas Williems](#) of Trefriw, which he presented to [Robert Vaughan](#). The authority for this statement is the author of the catalogue of the Hengwrt library in *Cambrian Register*, iii, who cites letters and papers which he had received from a descendant of Lloyd, 'a gentleman of Radnorshire.' He also owned the 'Vita Sancti Cadoci' ([Peniarth MS 385](#)), which he lent to [Vaughan](#), who made a transcript of it ([Peniarth MS 275](#)), but which the latter either neglected to return or later received as a gift. Letters between Lloyd and [Vaughan](#) during the year 1655 have been printed in the *Cambrian Register*, iii, 301-2, 310-2, and *The Cambro-Briton*, i, 410-5; there are also two important letters, one written in 1655, and the other in 1658, bound with [Peniarth MS 275](#). This correspondence shows that [Vaughan](#) held Lloyd in high esteem and frequently consulted him about his researches. It was he who was entrusted with the negotiations for securing a loan for his friend of the 'Liber Landavensis' from [Sir John Vaughan](#) of Trawsgoed in 1655. [Vaughan](#) had a high opinion of Lloyd's scholarship and urged him to undertake a study of the Old Welsh laws, for which he was admirably equipped by his legal training and his knowledge of Old Welsh. Another of Lloyd's intimates was the famous copyist, [John Jones](#) of Gelliilyfdy (1578? - 1658?), whom he visited at the Fleet prison. Among the Wynnstay MSS. in the National Library of Wales there is an interesting letter (C. 102) written in 1677 from Lloyd to a kinsman, [William Maurice](#) of Llansilin, the famous antiquary, in which he discusses the contents of the Hengwrt library, and urges its sale to [William Williams](#) (1634 - 1700), afterwards known as 'Speaker Williams.'

Robert Owen, in his *Short Historical Sketch of Welshpool*, suggests that the subject of this article was the Meredith Lloyd of Brynellin, whose name appears among the list of the burgesses of Welshpool, printed in *Mont. Coll.*, xii, 328, and that he was a descendant of the noble clan of Neuadd-wen. But no evidence to support these claims has been traced.

Author

Walter Thomas Morgan, (1912 - 1990)

Sources

R. Williams, *Montgomeryshire Worthies* (1894)

Handlist of Manuscripts in the National Library of Wales, I, xvi, xx; see also references given in the body of the article

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