

## SALISBURY, THOMAS (1567?-1620), publisher London

**Name:** Thomas Salisbury  
**Date of birth:** 1567?  
**Date of death:** 1620  
**Parent:** Pierce Salisbury  
**Gender:** Male  
**Occupation:** publisher  
**Area of activity:** Printing and Publishing  
**Author:** William Llewelyn Davies

He is described in his indentures of apprenticeship to Oliver Wilkes, stationer, dated 9 October 1581, as the son of Pierce Salberye of the parish of Clokanock (Clocaenog), Denbighshire He was admitted freeman of the Stationers' Company, 16 October 1588; he may also be the Salisbury 'a bookbinder dwelling in Powles churchyard,' who is mentioned in Hist. MSS. Comm., *Cecil MSS.*, vi, 288-9.

Salisbury published at least four Welsh books in London between 1593 and 1604, viz.: (a) **Henry Salesbury**, *Grammatica Britannica*, 1593; (b) **William Middleton**, *Psalmae y Brenhinol Brophvvyd Dafydd gwedi i cynganedhu mewn mesurau cymreig*, 1603; (c) **Edward Kyffin**, *Rhann o Psalmae Dafydd Brophwyd*, 1603; and (d) a Welsh translation, 1604, of king James I, *Basilikon Doron*. Entered by him in the *Stationers' Registers* in 1597 was a Welsh version of *A godly meditation of the soule concerninge a love towards Christ our Lord*, but there is no evidence that this was ever published. In a letter written to **Sir John Wynn of Gwydir** c. 1610 (**Ballinger and Jones**, *The Bible in Wales and Calendar of the Wynn of Gwydir Papers*) Salisbury refers to several books in Welsh lost through the untimely death of **Edward Kyffin**, the translator of the (incomplete) *Rhann o Psalmae ...*, during the plague sickness of 1603, and adds that the printing of the *Basilikon* was not completed. **William Middleton's Psalmae** is dedicated to **Sir Thomas Myddelton**, kinsman of the translator and patron of the publisher. As has been shown by **E. D. Jones** (*N.L.W. Jnl.*, i, 52-3), **Sir Thomas Myddelton**, on 5 January 1593/4, advanced £10 to 'Thomas Salisbury stationer, and Harry Salesbury clark ....' (possibly the **Henry Salesbury** of the Grammar of 1593) towards the printing of a book called '*the sickmans salve, in the Welshe tong*,' and on 12 October 1602, £30 towards the printing of **William Middleton's Psalmae**, 1603. (See **Sir Thomas Myddelton's** account book among the Chirk Castle MSS. in N.L.W.).

It has been suggested (in *D.N.B.*) that JOHN SALISBURY (fl. 1695), London printer, was a grandson of Thomas Salisbury. He was the first printer and editor of the *Flying Post*, the first number of which was issued on 11 May 1695. A few details concerning him are given in the *D.N.B.* He died probably before 1705.

### Author

**Sir William Llewelyn Davies**, (1887 - 1952)

### Sources

To the sources named above (and in the *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography* account) add

R. B. McKerrow, (ed.) *A dictionary of printers and booksellers in England, Scotland and Ireland, and of foreign printers of English books 1557-1640* (London 1910)

R. B. McKerrow, (ed.) *Journal of the Welsh Bibliographical Society*, ii, 169-70, 180-2

**Published date:** 1959

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