

VAUGHAN, RICE (died 1670), lawyer and author

Name: Rice Vaughan
Date of death: 1670
Parent: Mary Vaughan (née Wynn)
Parent: Henry Vaughan
Gender: Male
Occupation: lawyer and author
Area of activity: Law; Literature and Writing
Author: William Llewelyn Davies

Second son (and, from 1654, heir) of Henry Vaughan, Gelli-goch, Machynlleth, and his wife Mary, daughter of **Maurice Wynn**, Glyn, near Harlech. He went to Shrewsbury school in July 1615, was admitted to Gray's Inn, 13 August 1638, and was called to the Bar on 20 June 1648. In the meantime he had been assisting the Parliament side, e.g. in June 1644 he was appointed a member of the committee for Cardiganshire, Pembrokeshire, and Carmarthenshire. Having failed to get himself elected Member of Parliament for Merioneth, 1654, he petitioned the Council of State, alleging irregularities on the part of the sheriff (Maurice Lewis); the member elected was John Vaughan, Cefnbodig (see summary account in **W. R. Williams**, *Hist. of the Great Sessions in Wales*, based on *Calendar of State Papers, Domestic Series*, 1654.) The previous year (18 August 1653) Vaughan had been appointed prothonotary for the counties of Denbigh and Montgomery in the court of Great Sessions in place of **John Edisbury**; for details, see **W. R. Williams**, op. cit., and *Calendar of State Papers, Domestic Series*, 1653-4. He served the commissioners for sequestrations (from March 1649) and did some business on behalf of the Council of State in 1656. He appears to have been a prisoner in the Tower of London for some time from May 1665 and probably remained there for about two years.

Vaughan was the author of (at least) three works: (a) *A Plea for the Common Laws of England* (London, 1651), a pamphlet dedicated to the House of Commons, replying to a book by Hugh Peters called *A Good Work for a Good Magistrate*; (b) *Practica Walliae: or the Proceedings in the Great Sessions of Wales: containing the Method and Practice of an Attorney there, from an Original to its Execution. Whereunto is added, The Old Statute of Wales at large; And an Abridgement of all the Statutes uniting Wales to England; with Tables of the Fees, and the Matters therein contained* (London, 1672); and (c) *A Discourse of Coin and Coinage* (London, 1675).

His will was proved in 1670 (P.C.C.)

Author

Sir William Llewelyn Davies, (1887 - 1952)

Sources

To the references already given add

Oxford Dictionary of National Biography

J. Foster, *Register of Admissions to Gray's Inn, 1521-1889* (1889)

W. R. Williams, *The parliamentary history of the principality of Wales, from the earliest times to the present day, 1541-1895* (Brecknock 1895)

R. Williams, *Montgomeryshire Worthies* (1894)

H. Blackwell, NLW MSS 9251-9277A: *A Dictionary of Welsh Biography*

Further Reading

Wikipedia Article: [Rice Vaughan](#)

Additional Links

Wikidata: [Q7323060](#)

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