

## JESUS COLLEGE OXFORD

### JC:P215 PAPERS ON THE REVISIONS MADE TO THE 1840 EDITION OF THE WELSH BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER

These papers are concerned with the creation of a revised edition of the Welsh version of the Book of Common Prayer, which was published in a bilingual Welsh/English edition in 1840. The revision was carried out with the approval of the four Welsh Bishops and the Bishop of Hereford, but most of the actual work of revision was done by a group of four Welsh clergymen, two of whom had been to Jesus College, namely Rowland Williams (matr. 1798) and Rice Rees (matr. 1822; F. 1828-39). Rees died in May 1839, before the project was complete, and his contribution was completed by another Jesus man, Morris Williams (matr. 1832), who evidently sent these papers to Jesus College in November 1840 (see **JC:P215/MSI/1** below).

These papers were evidently of especial significance to the revision, because the approved lists of corrections (**JC:P215/MSI/5-13**) were all signed by each of the relevant Bishops, as explained below. They were stored in the Library, where they were catalogued as MS 176, and were then transferred to the archives in in September 2018 as part of Accession No. 507.

Catalogued in November 2019.

#### **JC:P215/MSI/1**

**17 Nov 1840**

Letter to an unknown addressee from Morris Williams (address, Bangor) enclosing the following documents, and asking his recipient to tell him of their safe arrival.

#### **JC:P215/MSI/2**

**After Aug 1840**

Manuscript version of the prefatory advertisement seen in printed form in **JC:P215/MSI/3** below. This document bears the signatures of the four Welsh Bishops, and the Bishop of Hereford. It must date from after August 1840, when one of the signatories, Connop Thirlwall, was consecrated Bishop of St. David's.

#### **JC:P215/MSI/3**

**After Aug 1840**

Printed prefatory advertisement for the 1840 edition of the Welsh Book of Common Prayer, signed by the four Welsh Bishops, and the Bishop of Hereford. The Bishops recommend this new edition to their parishioners, and single out four clergymen for their help with the Welsh. This page was intended to go into the prayer book itself, because the other side has a list of the contents of the book, but the copy in this collection must be a proof, as it bears various corrections.

#### **JC:P215/MSI/4**

**n.d. (c. 1840?)**

A short MS life of St. Peter, written with lines alternately in black and red ink. No authorship is given, and it is unclear why it is included with this other material.

#### **JC:P215/MSI/5-13**

**1839-40**

Nine bifolia recording lists of alterations and corrections to be made to the new edition of the Welsh Book of Common Prayer. Each bifolium is signed by way of approval by the four Welsh Bishops, and the Bishop of Hereford, as well as the four clergy (or their representatives) who oversaw the revision. **MSI/5-6** are signed by Rice Rees, and so must date from before his death in May 1839. All later bifolia are

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signed in his stead by Morris Williams. All the bifolia are signed by John Banks Jenkinson, who was Bishop of St. David's until his death on 6 July 1840.