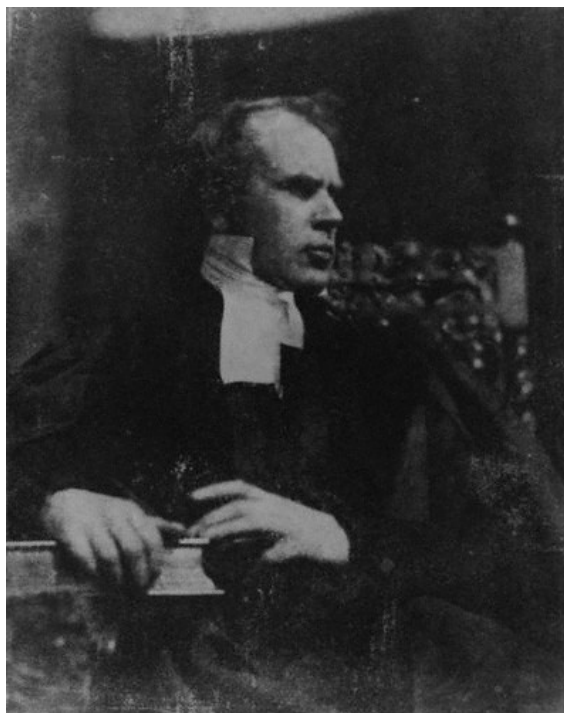


David Welsh



David Welsh

Rev Dr **David Welsh** DD FRSE (11 December 1793 – 24 April 1845) was a Scottish divine and academic.

1 Life

Welsh was born in **Moffat** on 11 December 1793 the son of a sheep farmer at **Earlhaugh** and **Tweedshaws**. He was educated at **Moffat Parish School** then the **High School in Edinburgh**. He studied **Divinity** at the **University of Edinburgh** and was licensed to preach in 1816. In 1821 he was ordained as minister of **Crossmichael**. From there he was translated to **St David's Church in Glasgow**.^[1] **Glasgow University** granted him a **Doctor of Divinity (DD)** in 1831.^[2]

In the 1820s, Welsh was notable for his attempt to forge an alliance between the evangelicals and the **Edinburgh Phrenological Society** - then at the height of its influence. However, Welsh was out-maneuvred by **George Combe** - the "high priest" of the phrenologists - who prohibited all discussion of religious matters at phrenological meetings. Welsh and his fellow evangelicals then left the society.

In 1831 he was appointed Professor of **Ecclesiastical History** in the **University of Edinburgh**. In 1834 he was



Welsh's townhouse at 59 Melville Street, Edinburgh

elected a Fellow of the **Royal Society of Edinburgh** his proposer being **Sir William Hamilton**.^[3]

Welsh later presided at a major event in 19th century church history. In 1842 he was **Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland** therefore being **Moderator** during the critical **Disruption of 1843**. Sadly for the established church, but happily for the **Free Church** he headed the secession on the day of the exodus. He then chaired the first **General Assembly of the Free Church of Scotland**.^[4] He is seen on the **Disruption Painting by Hill to Thomas Chalmers'** right holding the **Protest** he read to the **Church of Scotland assembly**.

He was **Secretary of the Scottish Bible Board** and also **Editor of the North British Review**.^[5]

In later life he lived with his family at his **Edinburgh townhouse, 59 Melville Street**.^[6] He died suddenly on 24 April 1845 at **Camus Eskan in Dumbartonshire**,^[7] and is buried against the western outer wall of the southern section of **St Cuthbert's churchyard in Edinburgh**.



The grave of David Welsh, St Cuthbert's churchyard, Edinburgh

- [3] https://www.royalsoced.org.uk/cms/files/fellows/biographical_index/fells_indexp2.pdf
- [4] One or more of the preceding sentences incorporates text from a publication now in the public domain: Wood, James, ed. (1907). "Welsh, David". *The Nuttall Encyclopedia*. London and New York: Frederick Warne.
- [5] *Monuments and monumental inscriptions in Scotland: The Grampian Society, 1871*
- [6] *Edinburgh and Leith Post Office Directories 1840-47*
- [7] https://www.royalsoced.org.uk/cms/files/fellows/biographical_index/fells_indexp2.pdf

2 Publications

- *The Life and Writings of Thomas Brown* (1825)
- *The Elements of Church History* (1844)

3 Family

David Welsh was married to Mary Hamilton in Glasgow on 1 June 1830. They had 10 children:

- David James, c. 1832–1890, Major-General
- John Hamilton, c. 1833–1867, merchant
- Helen, fl. 1874
- Margaret Mary, fl. 1874

4 References

- [1] *Monuments and monumental inscriptions in Scotland: The Grampian Society, 1871*
- [2] https://www.royalsoced.org.uk/cms/files/fellows/biographical_index/fells_indexp2.pdf

5 Text and image sources, contributors, and licenses

5.1 Text

- **David Welsh** *Source:* https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/David_Welsh?oldid=777973395 *Contributors:* Charles Matthews, Timrollpickering, Tagishsimon, DavidBrooks, Alai, Plrk, MacRusgail, RussBot, Mais oui!, Greenshed, DI2000, Adam sk, Cydebot, Richhoncho, RogueNinja, Waacstats, Cmichael, Thegame65, BOTijo, StAnselm, Dawn Bard, ClueBot, Kinvarus, Addbot, Iexec1, Tuesdaily, Full-date unlinking bot, RjwilmsiBot, Stephendickson, ClueBot NG, Krenair, ChrisGualtieri, VIAFbot, DavidBrooks-AWB, KasparBot, Ehdeejay and Anonymous: 14

5.2 Images

- **File:59_Melville_Street,_Edinburgh.jpg** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/d/d8/59_Melville_Street%2C_Edinburgh.jpg *License:* CC BY-SA 4.0 *Contributors:* Own work *Original artist:* Stephendickson
- **File:David_Welsh.jpg** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/f/fe/David_Welsh.jpg *License:* Public domain *Contributors:* National Portrait Gallery *Original artist:* Hill & Adamson
- **File:The_grave_of_David_Welsh,_St_Cuthbert's_churchyard,_Edinburgh.jpg** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/0/01/The_grave_of_David_Welsh%2C_St_Cuthbert%27s_churchyard%2C_Edinburgh.jpg *License:* CC BY-SA 4.0 *Contributors:* Own work *Original artist:* Stephendickson

5.3 Content license

- Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 3.0