

that y^o Ld^{sp} will not be displeased at my acquainting you with y^e distress of so great a genius, in order to give you an opportunity of introducing him into y^e world. The giving Bread to this poor man in any part of Wales will be doing a very *eminent* service to y^e Welsh in general, his writings will do honour to his country, and sure I am were there many such as him among y^e Welsh clergy that their labour w^d greatly stop y^e progress of the mad Methodists who have in a manner bewitched the major part of y^e inhabitants, w^{ch} is generally attributed to y^e Indolence and, it's greatly to be feared, ignorance of too many of y^e parochial ministers. I am informed that M^r Tho. Owen, Rector of Aberffraw, is in a very declining way and cannot hold out long: in whose gift the living is, I know not. If 8 years fatiguing labour in collating & correcting two Impressions of the Welsh Bible hath merited me any esteem with y^o Ld^{sp}, & their Ld^{sp}s the other Welsh Bishops, I shall think my self very abundantly rewarded if this poor man can but get any small preferment at my recommendation more particularly in his native Island, and I humbly beg y^o Ld^{sp} to have him in remembrance

I am, my Lord

Your Ld^{sp}'s most obed^t servant

RICHARD MORRIS.

[*Endorsed by R.M.*]

5 Jany 1753

Copy to y^e B^p of Bangor
in behalf of y^e Rev^d
Gronwy Owen.

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LEWIS MORRIS TO JOHN RODERICK AT John W^{ms} Sign
of y^e Ship Dolgelley

(*draft*)

20th Jan. [1753]

FRIEND,

Yours I rec^d In due time with y^e acc^t as desired, Excepting

that you dont tell me whether the Effects mentiond there, are in Ready money, Lands, Bonds, or Cattle which I would be glad to know if Could Enquire further into y^e affair, & write to me p^r first opportunity.

as for y^e acct I promisd to send you Concerning y^e wonder that was seen in y^e Air, according to y^e best Enquiry I could make Ill give it you with all y^e Impartiality Imaginable and Let you Judge of y^e Cause and Effects of y^e Phenomena.

On Dec^r y^e 5th 1733 at about 2 In y^e afternoon an Indifferent dull cloudy day, Inclining to rain, y^e wind blowing fresh S.S.E. one William John Lewis a Farmer of y^e Parish of Holyhead being within half a mile to y^e E.S.E. of Holyhead a Plowing with a servant boy in y^e fields. He with his boy saw Coming from y^e mountains of Snowden a vessel of about 90 ton as he guessd Rig'd after y^e manner of a Catch [*? Ketch*] under all her sails with y^e Fore Tack at y^e Cathead sailing in y^e air about a Quarter of a mile High from y^e Ground steering directly towards him, with her penant & antient flying but of what colour he could not Discern; after he had taken some notice of y^e phenomena he ran home to Call out his wife and by y^e Time she came to y^e Door all that she saw was the Vessel returning Stern foremost towards Carnarvonshire mountains. The penant coming upon Deck and all y^e sails down and Furd or at least not to be perceivd. The masts Boltsprit and yards very plain and then a cloud receiving y^e vessel out of sight.

The next day after this strange story was spread abroad I went to y^e mans House to Enquire into y^e truth and Particulars of this Story. The man being not at Home, His wife with some unwillingness told me y^e above passage that she had seen, and how her husband calld her out and that she did not care to mention it Lest people might Imagine it was an Invention of theirs. Sometimes after I met her Husband in Holyhead of whom I Enquird further, who agreed in what y^e woman said in most particulars Excepting Sea Terms for she could not say how she was Rigg'd but said she was like y^e old Packuet boats (which tis known were Catches).

He said further that he could count y^e very Ropes of her

Riggin Though the vessel came no nearer to him than within half a mile viz. over Penrhose Bradwen; and that he saw a great number of Birds Flying about y^e vessel and under her Keel and when y^e vessel began to return back The birds took their Flight to y^e Northward into y^e Sea.

He saw no men nor any Likelyhood of any, he could see y^e very keel and Stern plain as could be, & the Sails were so plain that he could see y^m swell with y^e Hardness of y^e Gale, & in Lowering down y^e fore stay sail it hung Loose over y^e Bow, & a cloud receivd y^e vessel, stern foremost.

He further says that about 10 years agoe he saw another vessel Rig'd after y^e same manner and abt y^e same bigness but that it came further to y^e N.W. and Quite over his head at a place called Peibio not far from his house, and was very near y^e Ground, and about 20 year agoe he saw Just such another.

All these things I had from y^e People's own mouths Now we are to consider into y^e truth of the Relation & nature of this appearance.

All Evidences are to be Considered under one of these 3 heads:

Testimony of Honest Historians or Relators. Reason of things & Experiments. In our Case The Only Evidence of proof we have is y^e Testimony of y^e Relator. Therefore we must Enquire into his Character and by what I hear of all his neighbours that I have discoursed with, it is this.

He is an Illiterate man of about 54 years of age, Lives upon himself having a good stock of money, Farms & Small Tenements, lets Horses to hire & for passengers. He & his wife are a couple of very serious sedate people, far from any vanity and from being Talkative or vain glorious. He is a man of very sound Judgement in his own affairs to my knowledge and hath nothing (as I can find) of a Melancholy disposition in him: No man Can object agt his sincerity and Indeed he is noted for his Blunt Honesty & his plain dealing, nor can I learn that ever he is us'd to tell a lye willfully.

By the Character Given of this man you may Judge of y^e truth of the Relation.

What is remarkd upon y^e whole is
That God shews his power when he thinks proper, & most Comonly to shepherds & Ignorant people, to the Confusion of Great wise men & That y^e first appearance was about y^e Preston Rebellion [1715] whether any thing Extraordinary happend after y^e second appearance you may better remember than I. What Extraordinary alteration in y^e world may happen soon after this Phenomenon God alone knows.

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LEWIS MORRIS TO THOMAS EVANS

(draft)

M^r Tho^s Evans¹

GALLTVADOG

Feb. 19. 1753.

DEAR FRIEND,

I have by this post sent your last bill and our account current to my Bro^r R Morris of y^e navy office with orders for him to pay you the ballance, and if M^r Hicks hath lately or will soon pay any money into your hands, you'll keep them towards our next account.

The Inclosed is a copy of the Commission I had from the Treasury which I desire you'll carry without loss of time to any eminent council (except y^e attorney-gen^l) & except also such persons that you may suspect will be employd by my adversaries, and let me have an opinion,

1. "Whether an Injunction from any Court of Law can or ought to stop me in working these mines for y^e Crown," or whether an Injunction lies against the Crown. It would be a

¹ A native of Anglesey, at the Inner Temple, and a "Cymmrodor."—B.M. Addl. MS. 15059, f. 126^v.