

MANUSCRIPT 149

Harrison, Samuel, b. 1648.  
Notes of Sermons on the Apostles' Creed.  
MS 149

England

1672

Samuel Harrison was born in Hartwell, Buckinghamshire, where his father was rector of the local church. On December 4, 1661, he was matriculated at Magdalen Hall, Oxford. In 1665 he received a baccalaureate from Wadham College, followed by a Master's degree in 1668. He became rector of Oving, Buckinghamshire, in 1672. After ten years he was transferred to a position at Waddesdon. He was still serving as rector of Waddesdon in 1706--see the County of Buckingham: Calendar of Sessions' Records, III (1939), 39.

The notebook was probably begun immediately after Harrison's appointment to Oving. The first of the sermons, which are sporadically dated, was written or preached on May 5, 1672. The notes, composed with the meticulous care of an ambitious new practitioner in a profession, adhere to an almost stereotyped systematic arrangement of subject matter. The general topic of each sermon is set by a short biblical quotation, usually on matters of Christian faith, which is then closely scrutinized for its possible meaning in the original context. This is generally followed by a paragraph headed "Application," in which the author attempts to demonstrate the relevance of the biblical teachings for his own time. Wherever he saw occasion for it he added a

few more comments, often in the form of a dialogue of possible objections against the sermon and refutative counter-arguments.

Octavo, 18 x 12 cm.

114 leaves, mostly foliated; occasionally a few pages are left blank.

Original leather binding, with gold decoration along the borders of front and back cover.

Notes written throughout in the author's own hand, except for a few comments added in a very shaky script (e.g., p. 30). The handwriting is generally plainly legible.

Purchased in 1922.

29 October 1968  
H. Reiter