

Edward Smyth

Born: 1709
President: 1747-1748
Died: 1778

Edward Smyth (or Smith) was born in Limerick in May 1709, the tenth son of Thomas Smyth, Bishop of Limerick. He was educated there by Mr Cuskin and then entered Trinity College Dublin as a pensioner at 16 years of age in 1725, obtaining a BA in 1727. Having been awarded an MB and MD in 1729, he was admitted as a Candidate to the College of Physicians in Ireland in 1738 and was elected Fellow in the same year. He was President of the College in 1747 and elected an Honorary Fellow on 11 May 1763. Elected governor of Dr Steevens' Hospital Dublin in 1747, he attended only five out of the 91 meetings held therein. He died on 17 November 1778.

A short note in the Freeman's Journal remembered him thus: 'Died late on Wednesday last at his house in Dawson Street, in an advanced age, Edward Smith MD Hon. Fellow of the College of Physicians, Dublin; a gentleman whose abilities in his profession was only excelled by the eminent virtues of his mind'¹ The inscription on a monument in St Paul's Churchyard in Dublin reads 'Under this monument, with his most dear and beloved wife Patricia, lies Edward Smith M.D., the tenth son of the Right Rev. Thomas, formerly Bishop of Limerick. Born May 1709; Died November 17th 1778'.

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¹ *Freeman's Journal* November 21 1778.

