

**Name:** Richard Davies  
**Pseudonym:** Tafolog  
**Date of birth:** 1830  
**Date of death:** 1904  
**Parent:** Joanna Davies  
**Parent:** Edward Davies  
**Gender:** Male  
**Occupation:** poet and critic  
**Area of activity:** Eisteddfod; Literature and Writing; Poetry  
**Author:** Thomas Parry

Born May 1830, son of Edward and Joanna Davies, Dugoed Bach, Mallwyd, Meirionethshire. The family moved to Cwm Tafolog, Cemais, Montgomeryshire, when Davies was a child. Having had only a few months' schooling, he worked for a time at Oswestry in order to gain a knowledge of English. He stayed on his father's farm till his marriage in 1865, when he went to live at Hirddol near Penegoes. His wife died in 1882, and on his remarriage to an Englishwoman from Worthen in Shropshire he moved to her home.

His interest in poetry dates from about 1850, when he won several prizes at local eisteddfodau. His output was considerable, including long *awdlau* on such topics as 'Tywyllwch,' 'Prydferthwch,' 'Rhagluniaeth,' 'Hunanaberth,' 'Awen,' and *prydestau* on 'Ymweliad y Doethion a Bethlehem,' 'Gwirionedd,' 'Tangnefedd,' 'Yr Iachawdwriaeth,' 'Tragwyddoldeb.' Very little of his poetry is of lasting value, but it is an example of the philosophical aspect of the Romantic revival which it was the custom of the age to embody in long poems. His articles in *Y Geninen* are interesting as giving the standpoint of the followers of [Islwyn](#), the school known as 'the New Poets.'

He died 5 February 1904.

## Author

Sir Thomas Parry, (1904 - 1985)

## Sources

Richard Davies, Evan Davies (ed.), *Gwaith Tafolog* (Dolgellau 1909)

Richard Davies, [Barddoniaeth a Beirdd](#), *Y Geninen*, ii, 48

Richard Davies, [Barddoniaeth: ei natur a'i dyben](#), *Y Geninen*, xv, 170

## Images

NLW: [Richard \(Tafolog\) Davies](#)

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