

EDERN DAFOD AUR ('Edern of the Golden Tongue'), the person who, according to some manuscripts of the 16th century, made a small dosbarth (arrangement or grammar) of the orthography of the Welsh language and of the form of words

Name: Edern Dafod Aur

Pseudonym: Edern Dafod Aur, Edern Of The Golden Tongue

Gender: Male

Occupation: made a small dosbarth (arrangement or grammar) of the orthography of the Welsh language and of the form of words

Area of activity: Scholarship and Languages

Author: Griffith John Williams

Many copies of this are extant. The copyists claimed, sometimes, that he was Edern, son of Padarn Beisrudd, that is, that he was the father of [Cunedda Wledig](#). On the other hand, [John Davies](#) of Mallwyd said that he flourished c. 1280. [EDWARD WILLIAMS](#) (Iolo Morganwg) was the first to state categorically that Edern's work was the grammar which is associated with the names of [Einion Offeiriad](#) and [Dafydd Ddu o Hiraddug](#), and as [Iolo Morganwg](#)'s copy was the source which was used by [John Williams](#) (Ab Ithel, 1811 - 1862) when he edited that grammar for publication he, the editor, gave the published work the title of *Dosparth Edeyrn Davod Aur*, 1856. [Sir John Morris-Jones](#) tried to prove that the grammar attributed to Edern Dafod Aur in the manuscripts was a pseudo-antique work belonging to the 16th century, and that the forger (whoever he may have been) called the author 'Edern' because that name was similar to 'Herodian,' the name of a grammarian of the second century A.D. Nor is 'Dafod Aur' anything but a translation of the Greek surname 'Chrysostom.' In spite of this it may be held that the grammar is older than is suggested by [Sir John Morris-Jones](#), because there is a reference to 'Dull Edern Dafod Aur' in the elegy written upon the death of [Tudur Aled](#) by [Siôn ap Hywel ap Llywelyn Fychan](#). It is obvious that the work had become recognized as one of the ancient authorities by 1525; it is more than probable, therefore, that it belongs to the preceding century. But more research is necessary before the problem can be solved.

Author

Emeritus Professor Griffith John Williams, (1892 - 1963)

Sources

The Transactions of the Honourable Society of Cymmrodorion, 1923-4, 1-8

Further Reading

Wikipedia Article: [Edern Dafod Aur](#)

Additional Links

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