EDWARDS, THOMAS DAVID (1874 - 1930), musician

Name: Thomas David Edwards
Date of birth: 1874
Date of death: 1930
Parent: David Edwards
Gender: Male
Occupation: musician
Area of activity: Music; Performing Arts; Religion
Author: Robert David Griffith

Born 15 July 1874 at Pittson, Pennsylvania, U.S.A., son of David Edwards (Iorwerth Glan Elyrch) and his wife, the parents having emigrated from Rhymney, Monmouthshire Being a delicate child, he received very little early education. Coming over to Pontypridd, Glamorganshire, he worked hard at music and gained the diplomas of L.R.A.M., A.R.C.M., and F.T.S.C.

He was organist of Salem, Porth, until 1909; Brynhyfryd, Treharris, 1909-24; Sardis, Pontypridd, 1924-8; and Tabernacle, Portmadoc, 1928-30. He was a skilled organist and much in demand throughout the country as an organ recitalist. He conducted choirs at Treharris, Pontypridd, and Portmadoc; he also conducted singing festivals and served as adjudicator.

His compositions, which were numerous, included, ' Dysg i mi Dy ffordd ' (anthem), ' Shepherd's Lullaby,' and songs - ' Bugeiles y Glyn ' and ' Cymru.' It was his hymn-tune, ' Rhyd-y-groes,' which, however, made his name best known. He died 15 March 1930 and was buried in Glyn-taff cemetery, Pontypridd.

Author

Robert David Griffith, (1877 - 1958)

Sources

Y Cerddor, February 1914, May 1930

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