

## EDWARDS, RICHARD FOULKES (Rhisiart Ddu o Wynedd; 1836 - 1870), poet

**Name:** Richard Foulkes Edwards  
**Pseudonym:** Rhisiart Ddu O Wynedd  
**Date of birth:** 1836  
**Date of death:** 1870  
**Gender:** Male  
**Occupation:** poet  
**Area of activity:** Eisteddfod; Poetry  
**Author:** Elwyn Evans

Born 14 January 1836 in the Bodfari district of Denbighshire. At an early age he removed with his parents to Plas Llanychan, Ruthin. He started writing poetry when he was very young, and in 1856 gained second place at the Bangor eisteddfod for his *awdl*, 'Yr Amaethwr.' In 1858 a volume of his poems, *Y Blaenffrwyth*, was published by [Thomas Gee](#), Denbigh. He won the chair at the Llandudno eisteddfod of 1864 for his *awdl* 'Ioan yn Ynys Patmos,' and at the Aberystwyth eisteddfod of 1865 he won a prize for a critical essay on the genius of [Eben Fardd](#) ('Traethawd Beirniadol ar Eben Fardd a'i Athrylith'). In 1869 at the Liverpool eisteddfod he was awarded the chair for his elegy on [Henry Rees](#). He worked for a time as a clerk in a solicitor's office in Ruthin, and later he worked for [Thomas Gee](#), Denbigh. He went to the Bala Independent College to train for the ministry and received a call to Mynydd-islwyn, Monmouth. He did not accept the call, but in May 1867 sailed to join his parents in the United States, and died there at Oskosh, Wisconsin, 8 March 1870.

### Author

Elwyn Evans

### Sources

T. R. Roberts, *Eminent Welshmen: a short biographical dictionary of Welshmen... from the earliest times to the present* (1908)

*Notable Welshmen (1700–1900)* (1908)

*Y Traethodydd*, 1903, 299

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