EDWARDS, ROBERT (1796 - 1862), musician

Name: Robert Edwards
Date of birth: 1796
Date of death: 1862
Gender: Male
Occupation: musician
Area of activity: Music; Religion
Author: Robert David Griffith

Details of his birth and parentage are not known. He started his career as a miller in Melin Gwibnant, near Mostyn, Flintshire. Removing to Liverpool as a carter, he afterwards rose to be a foreman or superintendent under the Bridgewater Trust, a post which he held for the remainder of his life. He was connected with the music at Bedford Street Calvinistic Methodist chapel, Liverpool, for twenty-four years, as precentor there, he succeeded John Ellis (1760 - 1839). He composed 'Caersalem,' 8.7.4., one of the most popular hymn-tunes in Wales. Written in 1824, it appeared in *Peroriaeth Hyfryd* (John Parry), 1837, and became known as ' Tôn Bob y Felin ' (Bob of the Mill's tune). In 1878 it was published in *Y Cysegr a'r Teulu* (Thomas Gee), and there attributed to E. Roberts, but information supplied by John Edwards, Bedford Street (Robert Edwards's successor) and others proved that the composer was Robert Edwards. He died in 1862 and was buried in Anfield cemetery, Liverpool.

Author

Robert David Griffith, (1877 - 1958)

Sources

Yr Haul, 1889, 113

Y Cerddor, May 1892, 1896 (12) July 1905, February 1907

Edward Jones, *Rhestr gyda nodiadau byrion, o Enwogion Cymreig o 1700 i 1900* (1908)

J. Hughes Morris, *Hanes Methodistiaeth Liverpool* (Liverpool 1929-1932), i, 231-2

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