

FROST, WILLIAM FREDERICK (1846 - 1891), harpist

Name: William Frederick Frost
Date of birth: 1846
Date of death: 1891
Spouse: Sarah Ada Frost (née Gedrych)
Parent: William Frost
Gender: Male
Occupation: harpist
Area of activity: Music; Performing Arts
Author: Robert David Griffith

Born 28 December 1846 in Albert Street, Merthyr Tydfil, the son of William Frost, a blind harpist. (The father had lost his sight as the result of an accident received by him in a coal mine when he was only thirteen and had been sent to a school for the blind at Swansea, where he learnt to play the harp.) The son was taught by his father and became a fairly good harpist. When he was fifteen he won a prize for playing the harp at an eisteddfod held in Merthyr (1859). He won a scholarship given at the Swansea national eisteddfod, 1863, for singing ' Sweet Richard ' and the eisteddfod committee arranged for him to receive lessons from [Llewellyn Williams](#) (Pencerdd y De). At the Chester eisteddfod, 1866, [John Thomas](#) (1826 - 1913) awarded him a pedal harp, valued at £50; he also won a triple harp at an eisteddfod held at Llandovery. He was much in demand as a harpist, as a teacher of the harp, and as adjudicator in harp competitions. He received a doctorate from Germany. After his marriage to a talented singer named Sarah Ada Gedrych, he moved to Cardiff. There he founded the ' Frost Concerts ' which did much for the cause of music at Cardiff. He wrote several songs, his ' Hen Gymru fynyddig ' and ' Hoff fryniau fy ngwlad ' being at one time very popular. He died 25 February 1891 at 5 The Parade, Cardiff.

Author

Robert David Griffith, (1877 - 1958)

Sources

Y Cerddor, April and July 1891

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

David Morgans, *Music and musicians of Merthyr and district: Together with a list of eisteddfodau to the year 1901* (Merthyr Tydfil 1922)

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Wikidata: [Q20734616](#)

Published date: 1959

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