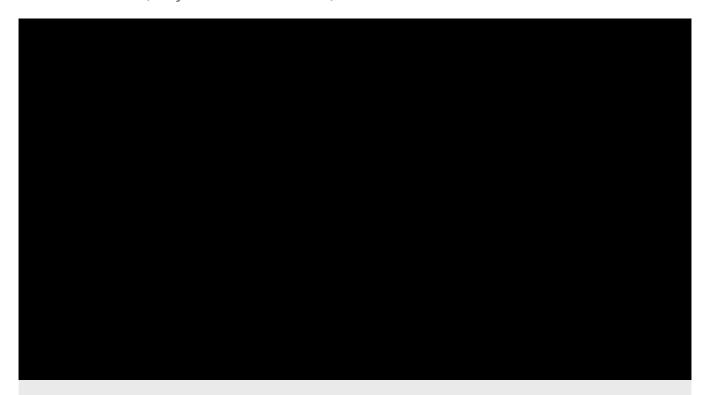
GRIFFITH, DAVID (Clwydfardd; 1800 - 1894), eisteddfodic bard and arch-druid



Name: David Griffith
Pseudonym: Clwydfardd
Date of birth: 1800
Date of death: 1894
Parent: Richard Griffith

Gender: Male

Occupation: eisteddfodic bard and arch-druid

Area of activity: Eisteddfod; Poetry

Author: Daniel Williams

Born in Vale Street, Denbigh, 29 November 1800. Like his father, Richard Griffith, he was a watch- and clock-maker by trade. He was a powerful man physically and, as a Wesleyan lay preacher, (1827-94), frequently walked thirty miles to keep his Sunday engagements - at the age of eighty-four he walked to the top of Snowdon and back. He says: 'I was appointed Archdruid ... in 1860; but it was at Wrexham eisteddfod in the year 1876 that I was licensed as Archdruid of the Gorsedd ... of the Bards of the Isle of Britain ' (*Yr Eurgrawn*, 1895, 127). From 1860 to 1894 he only missed one (Carmarthen) of these eisteddfodau. He began his long career as an adjudicator at a local eisteddfod (Llan-nerch-y-medd, 1835) and he was the official bard of the Aberffraw eisteddfod in 1849. He competed against Bardd Nantglyn (Robert Davies, 1769 - 1835) on many occasions and was awarded a silver medal as early as 1827 for a translation of Goldsmith's ' *Deserted Village*,' and composed the *englynion* which appear on the tombstone of Owen Williams of Waun-fawr (1790 - 1874). In 1890 the government made him an award of £200. He died 30 October 1894.

Author

Reverend Daniel Williams, (1878 - 1968)

Sources

Y Geninen, 1895, 86, 164, 260

Yr Eurgrawn Wesleyaidd, December 1844, April 1895

Bye-Gones, relating to Wales and the Border Counties, 1893-4, 478-9

Further Reading

Wikipedia Article: David Griffith

Images

John Thomas, David Griffith (Clwydfardd, 1800-94)

Hugh Humphreys, <u>David Griffith</u>, <u>Clwydfardd</u>

A. & G. Taylor, <u>David Griffith</u>, <u>Clwydfardd</u>

John Thomas, <u>Clwydfardd, Druisyn, and Treban</u>

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