

JAMES, CHARLES (1820 - 1890?), musician

Name: Charles James
Date of birth: 1820
Date of death: 1890?
Gender: Male
Occupation: musician
Area of activity: Music; Performing Arts
Author: Robert David Griffith

Born at Llanilar, Cardiganshire, 11 July 1820. His father conducted the singing in the church, where the boy was given the opportunity of developing his gift for singing. He had a good voice, and a London gentleman offered to find him a place in his church choir, but the offer was declined by his parents. He was given some lessons by [Richard Mills](#) of Llanidloes when the latter passed by on his periodic tours. Two of his airs were published in *Caniadau Seion* and three others in the *Arweinydd Cerddorol*. One of his compositions, 'Llanilar,' appears in the *Ceinion*, and another, 'Bwth fy Nhad,' in *Y Cerddor Cymreig*, no. 36. He lived in London for years and was elected conductor of the Welsh Choral Society. Latterly he lived at Whitchurch, near Cardiff. It is thought that he died in 1890, for his name then ceased to appear in the town *Directory*.

Author

Robert David Griffith, (1877 - 1958)

Sources

M. O. Jones, *Bywgraffiaeth Cerddorion Cymreig* (1890)

Additional Links

Wikidata: [Q20732697](#)

Published date: 1959

Article Copyright: <http://rightsstatements.org/page/InC-RUU/1.0/>

The Dictionary of Welsh Biography is provided by The National Library of Wales and the University of Wales Centre for Advanced Welsh and Celtic Studies. It is free to use and does not receive grant support. A donation would help us maintain and improve the site so that we can continue to acknowledge Welsh men and women who have made notable contributions to life in Wales and beyond.

Find out more on our [sponsorship page](#).

