

JONES, WILLIAM (Bleddyn; 1829? - 1903), antiquary, local historian, geologist, and collector of folk-lore

**Name:** William Jones  
**Pseudonym:** Bleddyn  
**Date of birth:** 1829?  
**Date of death:** 1903  
**Parent:** Catrin Jones (née Williams)  
**Parent:** John Jones  
**Gender:** Male  
**Occupation:** antiquary, local historian, geologist, and collector of folk-lore  
**Area of activity:** History and Culture; Literature and Writing; Nature and Agriculture; Science and Mathematics  
**Author:** Benjamin George Owens

Born at Beddgelert, 1829, son of John Jones, sexton (who is referred to in Charles Kingsley, *Two Years Ago*) and Catrin Williams. He was apprenticed to a tailor at Caernarvon in 1841, but apart from a brief spell at Portmadoc he spent his life in business at Llangollen, and died there 30 January 1903.

He shared the prize with [Owen Wynne Jones](#) (Glasynys) for an essay on the antiquities of the parish of Beddgelert at an eisteddfod there in 1860, and it was this essay and other materials collected by him which formed the basis of *Bedd Gelert*, 1899, by [D. E. Jenkins](#). He was also successful in essay competitions on Conway and its neighbourhood, at the Conway national eisteddfod in 1861, and on the history of Eifionydd, at the Madoc eisteddfod in 1872. His essay on the geology of Caernarvonshire, at the Caernarvon national eisteddfod in 1862, which won much praise, was published in *Y Brython*, 1862, 75-93, and reprinted under the title of *Llawlyfr ar Ddaialeg Sir Gaernarfon*, 1863.

He collected much of the materials of his uncle [John Thomas](#) (Siôn Wyn o Eifion, 1786 - 1859), which were published in *Gwaith Barddonol Sion Wyn o Eifion*, 1861. Autograph letters from him, essays by him on folk-lore, and collections of poetry transcribed by him, are preserved in N.L.W. MSS. 568, 666, 668, 670-1, 673, 4253, 12734-5.

## Author

Benjamin George Owens

## Sources

*Y Geninen*, 1910

*Y Cymmrodor*, v et seq.

D. E. Jenkins, *Bedd Gelert, its facts, fairies, and folk-lore* (Porthmadog 1899) (preface)

*The Llangollen Advertiser*, 6 February 1903

Llangollen parish register

## Additional Links

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