

## LAWS, EDWARD (1837 - 1913), historian of Pembrokeshire,

**Name:** Edward Laws  
**Date of birth:** 1837  
**Date of death:** 1913  
**Spouse:** Georgina Elizabeth Laws (née Nantes)  
**Child:** Emily Hewlett Edwards (née Laws)  
**Child:** Edward Lucian Laws  
**Parent:** Mary Laws (née Mathias)  
**Parent:** John Milligen Laws  
**Gender:** Male  
**Occupation:** historian  
**Area of activity:** History and Culture  
**Author:** Bertie George Charles

was the eldest son of admiral John Milligen Laws (born 1799) of Marchfield House, Binfield, Berks., and Mary (1815 - 1899), daughter of [Charles Delamotte Mathias](#) (1777 - 1851), of Lamphey Court and Llangwaran, Pembrokeshire. His parents were married on 25 June 1836 and he was born on 17 April 1837 and christened in Lamphey church on 4 July. He was educated at Rugby and Wadham College, Oxford, where he matriculated on 28 May 1856. His wife, who died on 8 May 1897, was Georgina Elizabeth Laws, eldest daughter of the Rev. W. Nantes of Frome Vowchurch, Dorset. For some years he held a commission in the 35th (Royal Sussex) Regiment, before settling at Tenby where he was a notable public figure for half a century. He was a member of the town Council (1897) and mayor of the borough (1900), a J.P. for the county of Pembroke, and chairman for a long period of the Tenby bench. In 1899 he was high sheriff of Pembrokeshire. He devoted much of the ample leisure, which he enjoyed as a gentleman of means, to the study of the history and archaeology of Pembrokeshire. His chief works are the county history, *Little England beyond Wales*, 1880; *Church Book of St. Mary the Virgin, Tenby*, 1907; in collaboration with his adopted daughter Emily Hewlett Edwards, *A Short History of the Civil War as it affected Tenby and its neighbourhood*, 1887, and a number of articles in *Archæologia Cambrensis*, 1882-1906. With assistance from [Henry Owen](#) (1844 - 1919), before the work was completed, he produced an ' *Archæological Survey of Pembrokeshire*,' 1908. He died 25 July 1913 after an accident while driving his horse and trap, and left one son, Edward Lucian Laws.

### Author

Dr Bertie George Charles, (1908 - 2000)

### Sources

*The Tenby Observer*, May 1897, 31 July, 18 September 1913

*The Guardian* (Pembs.), 1 August 1913

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*Burke's Landed Gentry*, s.n. Mathias

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