

LEWIS ab EDWARD (fl. c. 1560) a poet

Name: Lewis ab Edward
Gender: Male
Occupation: poet
Area of activity: Eisteddfod; Poetry
Author: David James Bowen

who hailed from Bodfari, Denbighshire. Wiliam Thomas ab Edward, the scribe mentioned in Pen. MS. 112 (509), is also associated with Bodfari. Lewis ab Edward was also known as Lewis Meirchion, but is often confused with [Lewis Môn](#), a poet who fl. c. 1480-1527. His elegy on the death of [Edmund Llwyd](#) of Glynllifon (died 1541) is possibly one of his early compositions. He was present at the wedding feast of [Wiliam Llwyd ab Elisau](#) of Rhiwaedog and Elizabeth, daughter of [Owain ap Siôn](#) of Llwydiarth, at Rhiwaedog, 20 October 1555, where, together with [Simwnt Fychan](#) and [Siôn Tudur](#), he composed mocking englynion to [Gruffudd Hiraethog](#) who was the victim of buffoonery at the feast. He graduated as a pencerdd at the Caerwys eisteddfod of 1568 and thus belongs to the last generation of the great *penceirddiaid*. The date of his death is not known but he is included in the elegy on twenty poets and musicians attributed to both [Wiliam Llŷn](#) (died 1580), and [Siôn Tudur](#) (died 1602). His wit and learning are noted by the elegist. Many of his poems are addressed to members of the [Bodeon](#), [Cochwillan](#), [Glynllifon](#), [Llyweni](#), [Plas Newydd](#), and [Rhiwaedog](#) families. His book of pedigrees is referred to in Pen. MSS. 133, 134 and 135.

Author

Professor David James Bowen

Sources

Peniarth Manuscripts at the National Library of Wales, Aberystwyth 81 (127), 121 (215), 147 (203)

N.L.W. *Swansea Manuscript* 1 (215)

Jes. Coll. MS. at the Bodleian Library, Oxford 15 (380)

NLW MS 6496 (138)

NLW Archives: [Llanstephan MS 125: Poetry](#) (32, 181)

J. C. Morrice, *Barddoniaeth Wiliam Llyn* (1908)

Y Llenor: cylchgrawn chwarterol dan nawdd cymdeithasau Cymraeg y colegau cenedlaethol, i, 78-9

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