

PARRY, ROBERT (Robyn Ddu Eryri; 1804 - 1892), poet

Name: Robert Parry  
Pseudonym: Robyn Ddu Eryri  
Date of birth: 1804  
Date of death: 1892  
Gender: Male  
Occupation: poet  
Area of activity: Poetry  
Author: Edward Morgan Humphreys

Born at Caernarvon, 7 February 1804, son of a tailor who was also a bonesetter and a versifier. He was for a period a pupil at [Evan Richardson](#)'s school and showed some signs of talent which won for him the patronage of [Peter Bailey Williams](#). He failed to master any craft or trade and spent years of his life wandering from place to place in Wales and England; he once visited the United States, but did not stay long. He was at different times, a schoolmaster, a lawyer's clerk, a preacher, a lecturer on temperance, an advocate of Mormonism, and, between 1850 and 1852, editor of *Y Wawr*, a periodical published in Cardiff. He was best known as a speaker on temperance; many doubted his sincerity, in view of his own conduct, but [John Davies](#) (Gwyneddon), who knew him well, believed him to have been too harshly judged. His verse, although he wrote a great deal, is of little account. The most interesting thing he wrote is the autobiography which serves as an introduction to the collection of his poems *Teithiau a Barddoniaeth Robyn Ddu Eryri*, published by [Hugh Humphreys](#), Caernarvon, in 1857. This is rambling, but it is a picture of the man. Bangor MSS. 636, 752-5, 978, 1286, 1549, 3839, 4870, 5277, at U.C.N.W., are in his hand. He died at Ludlow, 4 November 1892, at the age of 88, and was buried at Ludford.

## Author

Edward Morgan Humphreys, (1882 - 1955)

## Sources

*Teithiau a Barddoniaeth Robyn Ddu Eryri*, (Caernarvon, 1857)

*Y Geninen* (G yl Dewi), 1893, 32, 46

*Cymru (O.M.E.)*, iii, 257

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