

PHILLIPS, THOMAS (1760 - 1851), surgeon and benefactor of education

Name: Thomas Phillips
Date of birth: 1760
Date of death: 1851
Parent: Thomas Phillips
Gender: Male
Occupation: surgeon and benefactor of education
Area of activity: Education; Medicine; Philanthropy
Author: Gwilym Owen Williams

Born in London, 6 July 1760, son of Thomas Phillips of Llandegley, Radnorshire. He received his medical education at Hay and in London, and became a member of the Royal College of Surgeons. After serving in the Navy, he was in practice first in Calcutta and then in Botany Bay, before settling in India in 1802, where he became a member of the Calcutta Medical Board. He returned to London in 1817, and died there 31 June 1851.

He has been called the chief benefactor of Welsh education in the 19th century. He established scholarships at S. David's College, Lampeter, and endowed a chair of natural science there. In 1847 he founded the Welsh Collegiate Institution (Llandovery College) by setting aside £140 per annum to pay the salary of the warden, stipulating that the Welsh language should be used in the classroom. In his will he left £12,000 as endowment for masters' salaries. He gave many thousands of books to these institutions and to several Welsh towns.

Author

Canon Gwilym Owen Williams

Sources

Oxford Dictionary of National Biography

The Gentleman's Magazine, 1851, i, 655-6

Edward Dodwell and James Samuel Miles, *Alphabetical List of the Medical Officers of the Indian Army with the dates of their respective appointment, promotion, retirement, resignation, or death, whether in India or Europe*

Llandovery College Trust Deed

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