WILLIAMS, Sir THOMAS MARCHANT (1845 - 1914), barrister and writer

Name: Thomas Marchant Williams
Date of birth: 1845
Date of death: 1914
Gender: Male
Occupation: barrister and writer
Area of activity: Law; Literature and Writing
Author: Edward Morgan Humphreys

Born at Gadlys, Aberdare, the son of a coal-miner. His first school was ' Ysgol y Comin,' Aberdare, where Dan Isaac Davies was headmaster, and where he became a pupil teacher. In 1864 he entered the Bangor Normal College; after taking his teacher's certificate he was headmaster of the Amlwch school and afterwards of the Garth school at Bangor. He was also, for a time, on the staff of a school in Yorkshire. On his return to Wales he became one of the first students of the University College of Wales, Aberystwyth, and took the University of London B.A. degree in 1874. He was appointed an inspector of schools under the London School Board, but decided to study law and was called to the Bar in 1885, joining the South Wales circuit. In 1900 he was appointed stipendiary magistrate at Merthyr Tydfil, a position which he held till his death. While living in London he took an active part in the revival of the Cymmrodorion Society and the establishment of the National Eisteddfod Association. At the time of his death he was chairman of the Council of the Association. He was also keenly interested in Welsh education. A prolific and caustic writer, he was the author of, amongst other things, *The Land of my Fathers*; *The Welsh Members of Parliament* , 1894 (critical sketches of the Welsh members, with caricatures by Will Morgan); and *Odlau Serch a Bywyd*, 1907, a volume of verse. He will be best remembered as the founder and editor, in 1907, of *The Nationalist*, a monthly magazine in which he gave his critical and controversial abilities full play. He was married in 1883, and knighted in 1904. He died at his home, Rhyd-y-felin, near Builth, 27 October 1914, and was buried in S. John's churchyard, near Builth.

Author

Edward Morgan Humphreys, (1882 - 1955)

Sources

E. Vincent Evans, in *Y Geninen* (Gŵyl Dewi), 1915

Further Reading

Wikipedia Article: T. Marchant Williams

Additional Links

VIAF: 4725798

Wikidata: Q18087866

Published date: 1959

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Humphreys, E. M., (1959). WILLIAMS, Sir THOMAS MARCHANT (1845 - 1914), barrister and writer. *Dictionary of Welsh Biography*. Retrieved 4 Oct 2024, from https://biography.wales/article/s-WILL-MAR-1845

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