Home Browse Authors A-Z	
Free text search	
Cymraeg	
PDF Print Cite	Timeline Cymraeg
EDWARDS, WILLIAM (Gwilym Padarn; 1786 - 1857), poet	

Name: William Edwards Pseudonym: Gwilym Padarn Date of birth: 1786

Date of birth: 1786 Date of death: 1857 Child: Griffith Edwards Gender: Male Occupation: poet Area of activity: Poetry Author: Griffith Milwyn Griffiths

He was a native of Llanberis, Caernarfonshire, where he worked as a quarryman.

Gaining considerable repute as a poet, he published a volume of verse, *Eos Padarn*, in 1829, including compositions submitted to the provincial eisteddfodau held at Wrexham, Caernarfon, and Brecon (1820-2). Since his reason for taking his work to the press was to ensure 'that some parts of my labour be remembered and preserved: and that all should not fall into oblivion', there was no need to include his contribution to the Carmarthen eisteddfod of 1819, which had already appeared in *Awen Dyfed* (1822). In his ode for this meeting, 'on the death of the outstanding military officer, Sir Thomas Picton', he commemorated Picton's career in the West Indies, including his promotion to 'Famed governor.../ In Trinidad', without, however, acknowledging the controversial and repugnant nature of his activity during this period.

He was buried at Llanberis 3 October 1857.

His son, Griffith Edwards (Gutyn Padarn), is separately noticed.

Authors

Griffith Milwyn Griffiths

Revised by the editorial team, 2024

Sources

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Awen Dyfed: sef, awdlau ac englynion a ddanfonwyd i Eisteddfod Caerfyrddin, Gorph.8, 1819; at y rhai y 'chwanegwyd hanes yr eisteddfod (Caerfyrddin 1822), pp. 17-29 William Edwards, Eos Padarn: yn cynnwys awdlau, cywyddau, englynion, carolau, cerddi ac emynau ar amrywiol destynau (Llanrwst 1829)

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