

GROVE, Sir WILLIAM ROBERT (1811 - 1896), scientist and lawyer

Name: William Robert Grove
Date of birth: 1811
Date of death: 1896
Spouse: May Emma Maria Grove (née Powles)
Parent: Anne Grove (née Bevan)
Parent: John Grove
Gender: Male
Occupation: scientist and lawyer
Area of activity: Law; Science and Mathematics
Author: Griffith Milwyn Griffiths

Born 11 July 1811 at Swansea, son of John Grove and Anne (formerly Bevan). He entered Brasenose College, Oxford, and graduated B.A. 1832, M.A. 1835. The degree of D.C.L. was conferred upon him in 1875, and that of LL.D., Cambridge, in 1879. In November 1831 he entered Lincoln's Inn, being called to the Bar in November 1835. His natural bent was towards science, and he won considerable repute for his scientific researches. He became a member of the Royal Institution, 1835, a vice-president of that body, 1844; and was elected F.R.S. in 1840. From 1840 to 1847 he held a chair of experimental philosophy in the London Institution. The Royal Society awarded him its medal in 1847. In 1853 he took silk and for some years he worked on the South Wales and Chester circuits. Between 1871 and 1887 he served as a judge; he was knighted in 1872. On his retirement he was made a member of the Privy Council, November 1887. His wife, May Emma Maria, daughter of John Diston Powles, of Summit House, Middlesex, whom he married in 1837, predeceased him in 1879. He himself died in London 1 August 1896.

Author

Griffith Milwyn Griffiths

Sources

Oxford Dictionary of National Biography (Supp.)

Further reading

Colin Matheson, *The Glamorgan Historian*, 9 (1973), 96-104

Iwan Rhys Morus, *William Robert Grove: Victorian gentleman of science* (Cardiff 2017)

John Wilson, William Wilson, James M. Wilson, *William Robert Grove: the lawyer who invented the fuel cell* (Metolius Ltd. 2007)

Swansea blue plaques: [William Robert Grove](#)

Wikipedia Article: [William Robert Grove](#)

Works

William Robert Grove, *On the correlation of physical forces* (London 1846)

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