

HOWELL, JENKIN (1836 - 1902), printer, writer, musician

Name: Jenkin Howell
Date of birth: 1836
Date of death: 1902
Parent: Gwen Howell
Parent: John Howell
Gender: Male
Occupation: printer, writer, musician
Area of activity: Literature and Writing; Music; Printing and Publishing
Author: Watkin William Price

son of John Howell (died 1841) and his wife Gwen, of Tor-foel, Penderyn, Brecknock. He had little schooling, being apprenticed at eight years old to a shoe-maker; five years afterwards he went to work at Pont-Neath-Vaughan. When fourteen, he was at Merthyr Tydfil, a town of poets and musicians and of eisteddfodau; thence he moved to Aberdare, where he attended night-schools kept by John Anthony and **Dan Isaac Davies**. He gave up shoe-making, and from 1854 till 1861 worked with his brother-in-law as a sawyer. But on the advice of his pastor **Thomas Price** (1820 - 1888) he became a printer, opening works of his own in 1867. His frequent contributions to the press won him repute in all parts of Wales - much poetry of his appeared in *Yr Ymofynydd*, *Seren Gomer*, and *Y Geninen*. He himself printed many Welsh books, besides the newspaper *Y Gweithiwr Cymreig* which he owned and edited. He was an authority on the folklore and the dialect of eastern Glamorgan, and at the Pontypridd national eisteddfod of 1893 he shared with **T. C. Evans** the prize for an essay on 'Glamorgan Folklore.' Two years before his death, he began a series of articles, in *Y Geninen*, on the older history of the Aberdare Valley. He died 14 June 1902, and was buried at Penderyn.

Author

Watkin William Price, (1873 - 1967)

Sources

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The Weekly Mail, 21 June 1902

Y Cymmrodor, xxiv

NLW Archives: [NLW MS 1149C](#)

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Published date: 1959

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APA Citation



Price, W. W., (1959). HOWELL, JENKIN (1836 - 1902), printer, writer, musician. *Dictionary of Welsh Biography*. Retrieved 11 Nov 2024, from <https://biography.wales/article/s-HOWE-JEN-1836>

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