

## LEWIS ab EDWARD (fl. c. 1560) a poet

Name: Lewis ab Edward Gender: Male Occupation: poet

Area of activity: Eisteddfod; Poetry Author: David James Bowen

He hailed from Bodfari, Denbighshire. William Thomas ab Edward, the scribe mentioned in Peniarth MS 122: Poetry, &c. (509), is also associated with Bodfari. Lewis ab Edward was also known as Lewis Meirchion, but is often confused with Lewis Môn, a poet who fl. c. 1480-1527. His elegy on the death of Edmund Llwyd of Glynllifon (died 1541) is possibly one of his early compositions. He was present at the wedding feast of William Llwyd ab Elisau of Rhiwaedog and Elizabeth, daughter of Owain ap Siôn of Llwydiarth, at Rhiwaedog, 20 October 1555, where, together with Simwnt Fychan and Siôn Tudur, he composed mocking englynion to Gruffudd Hiraethog who was the victim of buffoonery at the feast. He graduated as a pencerdd at the Caerwys eisteddfod of 1568 and thus belongs to the last generation of the great penceirddiaid. The date of his death is not known but he is included in the elegy on twenty poets and musicians attributed to both Wiliam Llŷn (died 1580), and Siôn Tudur (died 1602). His wit and learning are noted by the elegist. Many of his poems are addressed to members of the Bodeon, Cochwillan, Glynllifon, Llyweni, Plas Newydd, and Rhiwaedog families. His book of pedigrees is referred to in Peniarth MS 133, Peniarth MS 134 and Peniarth MS 135.

### **Author**

**Professor David James Bowen** 

### **Sources**

NLW Archives: Peniarth MS 81: Barddoniaeth (127) NLW Archives: Peniarth MS 121: Poetry, &c. (215)

NLW Archives: Peniarth MS 147: Cantrefi a chymydau Cymru (203)

NLW Archives: Swansea Manuscript 1 (215)

Jes. Coll. MS. at the Bodleian Library, Oxford 15 (380)

NLW Archives: NLW MS 6496C (138)

NLW Archives: Llanstephan MS 125: Poetry (32, 181) J. C. Morrice, Barddoniaeth Wiliam Llyn (1908)

Y Llenor: cylchgrawn chwarterol dan nawdd cymdeithasau Cymraeg y colegau cenedlaethol, i, 78-9

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