

THOMAS, SIENCYN or JENKIN (1690 - 1762), boot-maker, Dissenting preacher, and poet

Name: Siencyn Thomas
Date of birth: 1690
Date of death: 1762
Child: John Jenkin
Parent: Thomas Morgan
Gender: Male
Occupation: boot-maker, Dissenting preacher, and poet
Area of activity: Business and Industry; Poetry; Religion
Author: Geraint Bowen

The son of Thomas Morgan, miller, of Tre Wen, Brongwyn, Cardiganshire. He lived at Cwm Du. According to the evidence of the elegy written upon him by his son, **John Jenkin**, he was born in 1690. He began his career as a Dissenting preacher in 1716 and attended to the spiritual needs of the congregations at Tre-wen and Llechryd. His *englynion* 'In Laudem Authoris' in *Drych y Prif Oesoedd*, 1716, and his *cywydd* printed in *Meddylieu Neillduol ar Grefydd*, 1717, show that, in spite of the fact that he was still comparatively young, he was far in advance of his literary friends in the south of Cardigan in his mastery of prosody and in his knowledge of the traditional forms of the *cywydd*. He is at his best in his elegy upon Ifan Gruffydd of Tŵr Gwyn, 1753. His 'free' poems are highly religious and moral; both the *cyghanedd* and the internal rhyme figure prominently in them. He was the first Cardiganshire poet to use the 'three-beat' metre.

Author

Dr Geraint Bowen

Sources

Yr Adolygydd, iii, 55

Y Geninen, x, 78

Cymru (O.M.E.), vii, 173

Benjamin Williams (Gwynionydd), *Enwogion Ceredigion* (1869), 227

Blodau Dyfed (1824), 1824

Dilliau'r Awen, sef, Crynodeb o Waith Awenyddol â€¦ Evan Thomas Rhys â€¦ ac eraill (1842), 1842

Ceinion Alun (Rhuthyn 1851), 72

Almanac SiÃ´n Rhydderch (1733), 1733

N.L.W. *Llanofer Manuscript at the National Library of Wales, Aberystwyth* 59, 266

NLW Archives: [NLW MS 19B](#)

Cardiff Manuscript 56

Additional Links

NLW Archives: [NLW ex 1836: Beirdd Cwm-du](#)

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