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WILLIAMS, BENJAMIN (Gwynionydd; 1821 - 1891), cleric and author



Name: Benjamin William Pseudonym: Gwynionydd Date of birth: 1821 Date of death: 1891 Child: Ivor Pryse Williams Gender: Male Occupation: cleric and author Area of activity: Literature and Writing; Poetry; Religion Author: William Llewelyn Davies

Born 24 June 1821 at Seilach in the parish of Penbryn, Cardiganshire. He was a cousin to D. Silvan Evans. Originally a Congregationalist, he joined the Established Church. He received some education at Fishguard, and became master of a Madam Bevan school. In 1874 he was ordained deacon, becoming curate to his patron, D. H. Davies, incumbent of Troed-yr-aur; later he was preferred to the living of Llanover, Monmouth. He published (a) two volumes of poems - *Caniadau* (Aberystwyth, 1867) and *Brialien Glan Ceri* (Carmarthen, 1873), (b) a short essay on Lewis Glyn Cothi (Carmarthen, 1866), (c) *Enwogion Ceredigion* (Carmarthen, 1869), a biographical work which is still consulted. He also contributed to Y *Brython*, Yr *Haul*, and *Archaeologia Cambrensis*. He was a successful competitor at eisteddfodau, being awarded a prize for 'Hanes Castellnewydd-Emlyn' (in Cyfansoddiadau Buddugol yn Eisteddfod Castellnewydd-Emlyn, 1860), and another at the Aberystwyth eisteddfod, 1865, for an essay on Cardiganshire traditions. He died 7 December 1891.

## Author

Sir William Llewelyn Davies, (1887 - 1952)

## **Sources**

T. R. Roberts, Eminent Welshmen: a short biographical dictionary of Welshmen... from the earliest times to the present (1908), and sources noted therein

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