

WILLIAMS, HUGH (Cadfan; 1807? - 1870), printer and journalist

Name: Hugh Williams
Pseudonym: Cadfan
Date of birth: 1807?
Date of death: 1870
Gender: Male
Occupation: printer and journalist
Area of activity: Literature and Writing; Printing and Publishing
Author: Hywel David Emanuel

Born at Bryn-crug, near Towyn, Merionethshire. He served his apprenticeship with **Richard Jones**, the Dolgellay printer. He became known as a writer of ability and a staunch advocate and defender of the Church, and in January 1848, he started to edit and print a Church paper called *Y Cymro*, published at first in Bangor. In July 1849, he handed over the proprietorship to a Mr. Shone, but continued to edit the paper until October 1850, when it was removed to London. Cadfan is next found in London holding the office of reader in the employ of the publisher John Cassell. He was friendly with **John Jones** (Talhaiarn) and **William Jones** (Gwrgant) and acted as secretary to the 'Talhaiarn Annuity Fund' during 1863-5. Papers relating to this fund as well as a holograph letter of Cadfan are contained in **NLW MS 4511C**. He was also a churchwarden of the Welsh church in London for many years. In 1870 he was chosen as the first editor of a Welsh church paper, *Y Dywysogaeth*, published at Rhyl, Flintshire, but he died 11 July 1870 at the age of 63 years; he was buried in Rhyl churchyard. Cadfan was the author of *Caban F'Ewyrth Twm*, a Welsh translation of *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, illustrated by Cruickshank and published by Cassell in 1853, and *Llyfr Gweddï i Dŷ Gweddï*, a Welsh translation of a work by W. B. Stevens, an American divine.

Author

Hywel David Emanuel, (1921 - 1970)

Sources

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Yr Haul, 1870, 256

Baner ac Amserau Cymru, 20 July, 1870

Catalogue of Printed Literature in the Welsh Department, Cardiff Free Libraries (1898), 517

NLW Archives: **NLW MS 4511C: The 'Talhaiarn' Testimonial Fund**

H. Blackwell, **NLW MS 9276A: A Dictionary of Welsh Biography** 9276 (431)

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