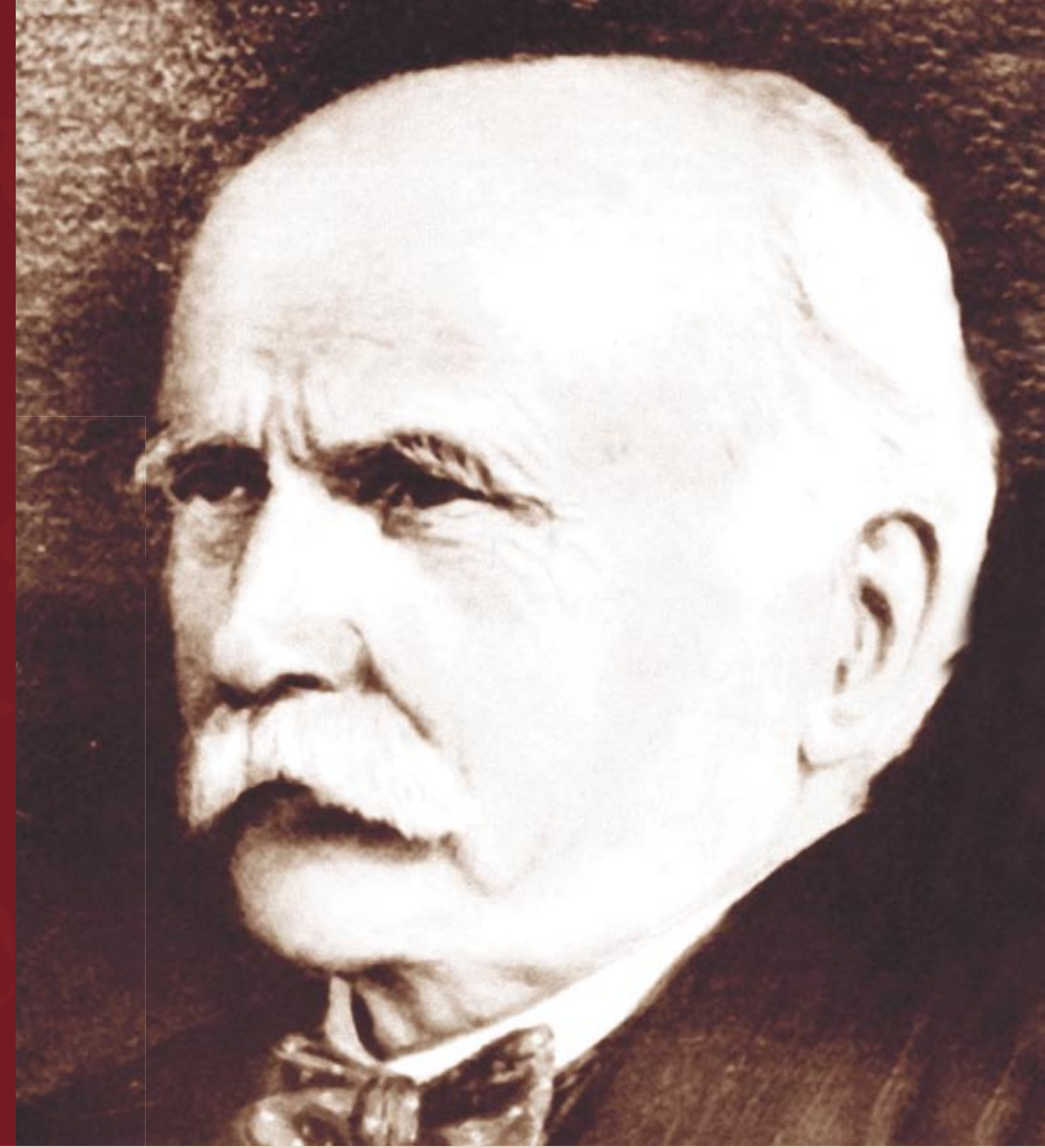


Y Parch R. Dewi Williams



Ganed Robert Dewi Williams ar y 29ain o Ragfyr, 1870, yr ieuengaf o ddeg o blant i Isaac ac Elizabeth Williams, Llwyn Du Isaf, Pandy Tudur. Mynychodd ysgol y Pandy - ysgol a ystyrir yn un ragorol, dan law yr ysgolfeistr John Price. Talai rieni Dewi 2 geiniog yr wythnos am ei addysg. Cofiai Dewi am y llanciau hŷn yn dod i'r ysgol yn y gaeaf, ac am rai'n dod o Benmachno, Beddgelert, Dolwyddelan, Betws ac Abergele.

Yna, cafodd ryw faint o addysg gan ei gefnder, Robert Roberts ("Y Sgolor Mawr"), ac yna ysgol Llandudno. Dychwelodd i ffermio yn Llwyn Du Isa am rhyw bum mlynedd pan fu farw ei fam.

Yn fuan ar ôl hyn dechreuodd bregethu a threuliodd flwyddyn yng Ngholeg y Bala, dwy flynedd ym Mhrifysgol Aberystwyth, a phedair blynedd yng Ngholeg yr Iesu, Rhydychen (1894-1898) gan dderbyn gradd yn y Clasuron.

Aeth i weinidogaethu yn Llandwrog yn 1898, ac yna i Benmaenmawr yn 1904. Dyma pryd y dechreuodd lenyddu o ddifrif. Priododd Helena Jones Davies, a ganed eu hunig blentyn, John Lumley yn 1908.

Yn 1917, penodwyd ef yn brifathro'r ysgol yng Nghlynnog Fawr, lle bu'n paratoui ymgeiswyr at yr weinidogaeth. Yn 1929 symudodd i Goleg Clwyd, y Rhyl, ac yno y bu tan iddo ymddeol yn 1939, gan symud i fyw i Rhuddlan. Bu farw ar y 25ain o Ionawr, 1955.

Cofir yn bennaf amdano fel awdur llyfr o storïau byrion o'r enw 'Clawdd Terfyn' a disgrifiwyd ef fel 'arloeswr y stori fer Gymraeg'. Mae'r straeon llawn hiwmor hyn wedi eu lleoli yn y Pandy, a chredai rhai eu bod yn medru adnabod rhai o hen gymeriadau'r ardal ynddynt, er bod iddynt enwau gwahanol.

Wedi ei farwolaeth, casglwyd nifer o'i ysgrifau at ei gilydd yn gyfrol o atgofion o dan y teitl 'Dyddiau Mawr Mebyd', a chyhoeddwyd y gyfrol hon yn 1973.

Cyhoeddwyd cofiant iddo, 'Cerdded y Clawdd Terfyn' gan W. J. Edwards yn 1992, a dywed yng nghyflwyniad y gyfrol:

'Ynddo caiff y darlennydd gip ar ddoniau ysbrydol, diwylliannol a llenyddol gŵr gwir anghyffredin a chip ar yr un pryd ar rai o ogoniannau doe gwerin Cymru.'

Robert Dewi Williams was born on the 29th of December, 1870, the youngest of ten children by Isaac and Elizabeth Williams, Llwyn Du Isaf, Pandy Tudur. He attended Pandy school – a school considered excellent, under the hand of the schoolmaster John Price. Dewi's parents paid 2 pence a week for his education. Dewi recalled the older youths coming to school in winter from Penmachno, Beddgelert, Dolwyddelan, Betws and Abergele.

Thereafter, he received some education by his cousin, Robert Roberts ("The Great Scholar"), then Llandudno school. He returned to farm Llwyn Du Isa for about five years when his mother died.

Shortly after this, he began to preach, and spent a year at Bala College, two years at Aberystwyth University, and four years at Jesus College, Oxford (1894-1898), receiving a degree in the Classics.

He went to minister in Llandwrog in 1898, and then to Penmaenmawr in 1904. This is when he began to write in earnest. He married Helena Jones Davies, and their only child, John Lumley, was born in 1908.

In 1917, he was appointed headmaster of the school Clynnog Fawr, where he prepared candidates for the ministry. In 1929, he moved to Coleg Clwyd, Rhyl, and remained there until his retirement in 1939, after which he moved to Rhuddlan. He died on the 25th of January, 1955.

He is remembered primarily as the author of a book of short stories called 'Clawdd Terfyn' and was described as 'a pioneer of the Welsh short story'. These humorous stories are located in Pandy Tudur, and some believed they were able to identify some of the area's old characters, although they have different names.

After his death, many of his writings were collected in a volume of reminiscences under the title 'Dyddiau Mawr Mebyd', published in 1973.

In the introduction to the memoir to Dewi, 'Cerdded y Clawdd Terfyn' by W.J. Edwards, it notes:

'In it, the reader will see rare spiritual, cultural and literacy talent and some of the glories of Welsh folk of yesteryear.'



Llwyn Du Isaf

