

## JONES, WILLIAM (Gwrgant; 1803 - 1886), lawyer and writer

**Name:** William Jones  
**Pseudonym:** Gwrgant  
**Date of birth:** 1803  
**Date of death:** 1886  
**Parent:** Margaret Jones  
**Parent:** Robert Jones  
**Gender:** Male  
**Occupation:** lawyer and writer  
**Area of activity:** Eisteddfod; Law; Literature and Writing  
**Author:** Helen Myfanwy Ramage

Born at Brwynog, Llanfihangel, Montgomeryshire, son of Robert Jones, a mason, and Margaret, his wife. He was educated at the village school at Meifod and then articled to a solicitor at Llanfyllin. He removed from there to S. Asaph, and thence to London, where for many years he carried on an extensive business.

He took a keen interest in Welsh letters, and wrote to the Welsh magazines under the name of Gwilym Brwynog. He published a book called *Gwreiddiau yr Iaith Gymraeg*. Gwrgant was a popular adjudicator at eisteddfodau; as one of the three adjudicators at the Rhuddlan eisteddfod (1850) he read the adjudication awarding the chair prize for a poem in the open metres to **Evan Evans** (Ieuan Glan Geirionydd).

Gwrgant took an active part in London Welsh activities all his life; he was a member of the Cymreigyddion Society, chairman of the London branch of the Cambrian Institution, and a member of the Society of Cymmrodorion - he was the librarian of the second Cymmrodorion Society, was present at the formation of the third Society thirty years later, and was a vice-president until his death in 1886.

### Author

Helen Myfanwy Ramage, (1992)

### Sources

R. Williams, *Montgomeryshire Worthies* (1894)

*Gwaith Talhaiarn* (London 1855), i, 435

*Cambrian Journal* (1854-64), 1856, 76

*Y Cymmrodor*, 1951, 183

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

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