

## OLIVER, JOHN (1838 - 1866), poet

**Name:** John Oliver  
**Date of birth:** 1838  
**Date of death:** 1866  
**Parent:** Sarah Oliver  
**Parent:** John Oliver  
**Gender:** Male  
**Occupation:** poet  
**Area of activity:** Poetry  
**Author:** Hywel David Emanuel

Born 7 November 1838 at White Hall, Llanfynydd, Carmarthenshire, and christened 18 November, the fourth child of John and Sarah Oliver. He received his early education at the village school (1843-50) and in a Carmarthen school (1850-3), and then determined to prepare himself for the Independent ministry. After a successful career from 1853 to 1859 in the Presbyterian College, Carmarthen, where he developed an acquaintance with English and German literature in particular, he was compelled by ill-health to abandon his plan of proceeding to Glasgow University. Thereafter, in failing health, he preached occasionally, composed poetry, mainly in Welsh, and gave private tuition to a small number of pupils. He died 24 June, 1866, and was buried on 28 June in Llanfynydd churchyard. His collected works were published in 1867 under the name *Cerddi Cystudd* by his brother, the Rev. Henry Oliver.

### Author

Hywel David Emanuel, (1921 - 1970)

### Sources

H. Oliver, *Cerddi Cystudd sef gweddiillion barddonol* (Newport-on-Wye 1867) (with biographical preface)

*Oxford Dictionary of National Biography* (gives further references)

E. Pan Jones, *Oriel Coleg Presbyteriaidd, Caerfyrddin: yn cynwys hanes yr holl fyfyrwyr fu yn y coleg o 1796 hyd 1899*(Merthyr Tydfil 1909), 80

Josiah Thomas Jones, *Geiriadur Bywgraffyddol o Enwogion Cymru* (Aberdŵr 1867-70), ii, 327

*The Records of the Church in Wales at the National Library of Wales* (in N.L.W.)

Walter J. Evans, NLW MS 10329B: Carmarthen Presbyterian College roll of students(163)

### Additional Links

Wikidata: [Q18756845](https://www.wikidata.org/wiki/Q18756845)

**Published date:** 1959

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Emanuel, H. D., (1959). OLIVER, JOHN (1838 - 1866), poet. *Dictionary of Welsh Biography*. Retrieved 8 Nov 2024, from <https://biography.wales/article/s-OLIV-JOH-1838>

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