

JESUS COLLEGE OXFORD

JC:PI57 LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION FROM SIR JOHN RHYS (P. 1895-1915)

Sir John Rhys (1840-1915) matriculated from Jesus College in 1865, and was a Fellow here from 1881-95, and then Principal from 1895 until his death. He was also the first Jesus Professor in Celtic, being elected to the post in 1877, and was one of the foremost Celtic scholars of the 19th century.

This scan of a letter of recommendation from Rhys was presented to the archives by the granddaughter of its subject in May 2018 as Accession No. 476.

Catalogued in May 2018.

JC:PI57/CI/I

8 Jun 1900

Scan of a letter of recommendation from Sir John Rhys, written on behalf of George Michael Billings (matr. 1896). Rhys was writing just before Billings sat his Finals (he got a Third in Chemistry). Rhys strongly recommended Billings for a post as a schoolmaster, perhaps working in one of the colonies. Billings (1878-1956) did indeed become a schoolmaster, and he did indeed go abroad, working in Singapore, Shanghai, (where in 1907 he became Headmaster of the Public School for Boys and Girls in Boone Road, and where he also played much rugby, football and cricket), and finally in Canada. He returned to England in 1935, retiring to Dorset. More information on Billings' life may be found on this website:

<http://www.treatyportsport.com/person-1---george-michael-billings.html>