

**Further evidence that suggests that the portrait of Colonel Thomas Wood at y Gaer, Brecon is by George Hayter.**

The most famous picture that George Hayter painted was *1833 House of Commons* showing the members of parliament present at the moving of the address to the crown during the first “reformed” parliamentary session in 1833, a picture that took 10 years to paint.



*1833 House of Commons* by George Hayter, National Portrait Gallery

To help with the task of creating his huge picture Hayter arranged for many of the MPs to sit for individual portraits. Colonel Thomas Wood was an MP at this time and according to the National Portrait Gallery can be identified as one of the figures standing to the left of the speaker.



Detail from portrait of Thomas Wood in y Gaer



Figure identified by NPG as Thomas Wood



This is confirmed by the artist himself who published a key to the picture, which provided sketches of each part of the picture and numbers corresponding to the MP's. Thomas Wood appears as No 223

Detail of Key; No 223 Colonel Thomas Wood, Breconshire

Using one's imagination it is possible to see a similarity between pose in this sketch and the y Gaer portrait. This suggests that y Gaer portrait may have been the basis for the miniature representation in the 1833 Commons work and that Wood was very probably one of the many MPs who sat for individual portraits by Hayter in the course of his research. If this is true it provides both a context for the portrait and further support for the attribution of George Hayter as the artist.