

DAVIES, REES (1694? - 1767), Independent minister

Name: Rees Davies
Date of birth: 1694?
Date of death: 1767
Gender: Male
Occupation: Independent minister
Area of activity: Religion
Author: Robert Thomas Jenkins

Born in Cardiganshire; according to a letter of his (Trevecka letter 100, 20 August 1737) to **Howel Harris**, he was 'kinsman' to **Evan Davies** (1694? - 1770), tutor of Carmarthen. At a date unknown to us, he transferred his church membership from Crug-y-maen, Cardiganshire, to Abergavenny. In **Dr. John Evans's** lists of 1718, a 'Rice Davies' appears as minister of an unidentified place called 'Cromindee,' but by 1724 Rees Davies was minister of the congregation at Goitre which in 1744 removed to a new chapel in Llanover parish, patriotically called 'Hanover.' [The 'Cromindee' ('Comb du') Congregation and the later (1744) 'Hanover' Congregation were one and the same (Isaac Thomas in *Y Cofiadur*, 1958, 12-13).] Davies is said to have been well-to-do (he certainly married well) and well educated. His letter to **Howel Harris** shows kindly feeling towards **Harris** and towards **Griffith Jones** of Llanddowror; but the frequent (and acid) references to him in the diaries of **Philip David** of Penmain show clearly that he was no 'enthusiast,' indeed was an exceedingly 'dry' man, and on indifferent terms with his fellow-ministers. In **Philip David's** words, 'he preached his chapel empty' but he endowed it well. He died September 1767, aged 73; **Philip David** officiated at his funeral at Hanover, 22 September

Author

Emeritus Professor Robert Thomas Jenkins, (1881 - 1969)

Sources

Hanes Eglwysi Annibynnol Cymru, i, 32-3, 39

manuscript diaries of Philip David

Y Cofiadur, 1958, 12-13

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