

EVAN(S), LEWIS (1720 - 1792), one of the earliest Calvinistic Methodist exhorters in North Wales

Name: Lewis Evan (S)
Date of birth: 1720
Date of death: 1792
Parent: Evan Lewis
Gender: Male
Occupation: one of the earliest Calvinistic Methodist exhorters in North Wales
Area of activity: Religion
Author: Robert Thomas Jenkins

Christened 18 February 1719/20, son of Evan Lewis of Trefeglwys, Montgomeryshire, but removed when very young to Crugnant, Llanllugan, Montgomeryshire, where he became a weaver. On a visit to Trefeglwys, 4 November 1738, he was converted by a sermon of **Howel Harris**'s. He then went to some of **Griffith Jones**'s circulating schools around Llanllugan, and began to exhort as a Methodist. At the Trevecka Association of 1745 he was commissioned to itinerate in North Wales. In 1746 he was imprisoned at Dolgelley for exhorting at Bala - the affair is noteworthy because **Harris** appealed on his behalf to the King's Bench, and the justices were compelled to release Lewis Evan (excerpts of the documents in the case have been printed in *Cylchgrawn Cymdeithas Hanes y Methodistiaid Calfinaidd*, November 1921). He itinerated zealously, penetrating even into Caernarvonshire and Anglesey, and suffered dire persecution. In the Methodist disruption of 1750 he was at first on **Harris**'s side, and frequented his 'associations'; but later he joined **Rowland**'s connexion. He died (according to E. Griffith, *Methodistiaeth Trefaldwyn Isaf*, 39) 5 September 1792.

Author

Emeritus Professor Robert Thomas Jenkins, (1881 - 1969)

Sources

The chief authority is Richard Bennett, more specifically his article in *Cylchgrawn Cymdeithas Hanes y Methodistiaid Calfinaidd*, November 1921, but also his *Methodistiaeth Trefaldwyn Uchaf, 1738â€“1852* (1929)

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