

GRIFFITHS, EVAN (Ieuan Ebblog, 1795 - 1873), Independent minister

Name: Evan Griffiths
Pseudonym: Ieuan Ebblog
Date of birth: 1795
Date of death: 1873
Gender: Male
Occupation: Independent minister
Area of activity: Religion
Author: Walter Thomas Morgan

Born 18 January 1795 at Gellibeblog, near Bridgend, Glamorganshire, the youngest of seven children. His father died when he was only three years old, and owing to the poverty of the family he enjoyed few educational advantages. At 21 years of age he started preaching and attended for about a year a school kept by the minister of his chapel, W. Jones of Brynmenyn. Later he went for two years to a school at Newport, Monmouth, kept by **Jenkin Lewis**. At the end of this period he was recommended by his teacher to **lady Diana Barham** as a suitable person to take charge of two Independent churches, Pilton Green and Park Mill, in Gower. He commenced his ministry 3 May 1822. He resigned his pastorate, 4 August 1828, and removed to Swansea to work on the translation of **Mathew Henry's Commentary** into Welsh, and when the printer, J. A. Williams, became bankrupt in 1830, Griffiths purchased the business and undertook both the translation and publication of the last three volumes. Vol. II appeared in 1831 and the remaining two by 1835. Other publications from his press include a children's monthly, *Y Rhosyn* October 1832-December 1833, and *Y Drysorfa Gynulleidfaol*, January 1843-December 1845. Though he ceased to have charge of a church, he continued preaching regularly on Sundays. Besides his translation of **Mathew Henry** he published over forty translations and original works, including translations into Welsh of **Finney's Lectures** (1839) and *Sermons* (1841), **Burder's Eastern Customs** (1837), **Brook's Mute Christian** (1830), J. A. James's *Church Member's Guide*, and **Doddridge's Rise and Progress ...** He also published a *Welsh-English dictionary* (1847). Some of his manuscripts, consisting mainly of sermon notes, are preserved in the National Library of Wales (**NLW MS 28B** , **NLW MS 176B** , **NLW MS 177B** , **NLW MS 275C**). He married 26 May 1829, Mrs. Mary Jones, who predeceased him. He died 31 August 1873 and was buried at Sketty.

Author

Walter Thomas Morgan, (1912 - 1990)

Sources

Oxford Dictionary of National Biography

Hanes Eglwysi Annibynnol Cymru, iv, 467-8

Ifano Jones, *A history of printing and printers in Wales to 1810, and of successive and related printers to 1923* (Cardiff 1925), 187

J. H. Davies, ed., *Catalogue of Additional Manuscripts in the National Library of Wales*

Catalogue of Printed Literature in the Welsh Department, Cardiff Free Libraries (1898)

Further Reading

Wikipedia Article: [Evan Griffiths](#)

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