

## HUGHES, HUGH (Tegai; 1805 - 1864), Independent minister and man of letters

**Name:** Hugh Hughes  
**Pseudonym:** Tegai  
**Date of birth:** 1805  
**Date of death:** 1864  
**Parent:** Barbara Hughes  
**Parent:** Thomas Hughes  
**Gender:** Male  
**Occupation:** Independent minister and man of letters  
**Area of activity:** Literature and Writing; Religion  
**Author:** David Tecwyn Evans

Born at Llandygái, Caernarfonshire, 1805, the son of Thomas and Barbara Hughes, two Anglesey people who were ardent Independents. When the Cororion Independent chapel at Tre-garth, Llandygái, was closed down, he joined the Wesleyans at Shiloh, Tre-garth, and became a lay preacher. He never attended a day school and the only education he received was at the Cororion and Shiloh Sunday schools. He was only a boy when he went to work at the Bethesda slate quarries, where he became a first-rate workman. He read hard and studied unremittingly and his membership of the Bethesda Cymreigyddion Society taught him a great deal. Although he was in full sympathy with the Wesleyan doctrines he did not approve of their system of church government and he, therefore, rejoined the Independents. He accepted a call to be minister of Rhos-lan and later officiated as a minister at Manchester and at Chwilog. At the end of his term at Chwilog he set up his own printing press at Pwllheli where a penny newspaper, *Yr Arweinydd*, and several of his literary works were printed and published. In 1859, he became minister of Bethel, Aberdare [for which see under [William Jones, 1814? - 1895](#)] where he spent the rest of his days. His books include: *Gramadeg Cymraeg, sef leithiadur Athronyddol*; *Bwrdd y Bardd*; *Telyn y Saint*; *Ioan yn Ynys Patmos* (awdl); *Gramadeg Barddoniaeth*; *Agoriad Gwybodaeth* (a book on composition and public speaking); *Adolygiad ar Draethawd Eliseus Cole ar Benarglwyddiaeth*; essays on *Llywodraeth Foesol*; *Annibyniaeth*; *Olyniaeth Apostolaidd*; *Moses a Colenso*; *Cydwylod*; *Y Bedydd Cristionogol*; and *Dawn ar Bob Dyn*. Tegai worked unceasingly as a preacher, author, and poet and may be justly regarded as a very notable example of a poor country boy who, lacking the advantages of birth and education, taught himself and acquired an honoured position among his contemporaries; [Dr. Lewis Edwards](#) praised his *Gramadeg* and 'J.R.' of Llanbryn-mair and [Gwilym Hiraethog](#) paid tributes to the excellence of his prose and verse. He died at Aberdare, 8 December 1864, and was buried there.

### Author

Reverend [David Tecwyn Evans](#), (1876 - 1957)

### Sources

Josiah Thomas Jones, *Geiriadur Bywgraffyddol o Enwogion Cymru (Aberdâr 1867-70)*, i, 567-70

### Further Reading

Wikipedia Article: [Hugh Hughes](#)

### Images

J. E. James, *Y Parch Hugh Tegai*

### Works

Hugh Hughes, *Cofiant John Jones, Talsarn (Pwllheli c.1860)*

## Additional Links

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