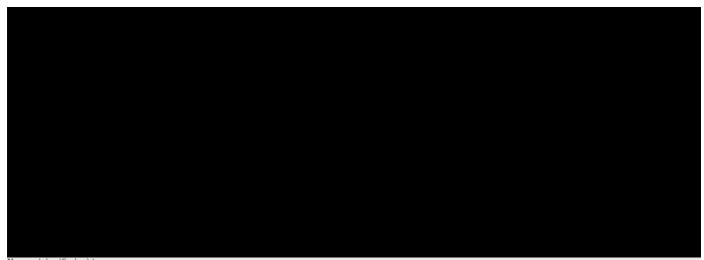
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JONES, JOHN (EMLYN) (Ioan Emlyn; 1818 - 1873), Baptist minister, poet, – and man of letters



Name: John (Emlyn) Jones Pseudonym: Ioan Emlyn Date of birth: 1818 Date of death: 1873 Gender: Male Occupation: Baptist minister, poet, and man of letters Area of activity: Eisteddfod; Literature and Writing; Poetry; Religion; Scholarship and Languages

Born at Newcastle Emlyn. He was apprenticed to a watchmaker at Crickhowell (a town of which he sketched the history in *Golud yr Oes*, 1863), and while there was one of the 'Cymreigyddion ' of Abergavenny (1838) and of Llangynidr. From Crickhowell he moved to Cardiff, to the staff of *The Principality* - there he translated parts of Gill's Biblical commentaries.

It is not known when he began preaching - indeed, precise dates of his career are in general hard to come by; but he ministered successively at Pontypridd, Ebbw Vale, Cardiff, Merthyr Tydfil, and Llandudno, returning finally to Ebbw Vale, where he died in January 1873, aged 55. His literary activity was considerable: he was editor of Y *Bedyddiwr* and of *Seren Cymru* at different times, brought out an engred edition of *Hanes Prydain Fawr* (by Titus Lewis), published *Tiriad y Ffrancodym Mhencaer* in 1856 and *Gramadeg Cerddorol* in 1860, not to speak of other books. He undertook the resumption of Y *Parthsyllydd*, a large-scale treatise on geography which had been begun by John Jenkins of Hengoed and Thomas Williams (Gwilym Morgannwg), but failed to complete it (it was completed in 1875 by J. Spinther James).

Two bardic chairs fell to him - at Denbigh National Eisteddfod (1860) and at a regional eisteddfod in Anglesey (1871) - and he published in 1871 a collection of *awdlau* submitted unsuccessfully at other eisteddfodau. But his name lives today solely on account of his poem 'Bedd y Dyn Tylawd ' ('the Poor Man's Grave'). He was given the honorary degree of LL.D. by Glasgow University in 1863.

Author

Emeritus Professor Robert Thomas Jenkins, (1881 - 1969)

Sources

Y Gwyddoniadur Cymreig (1889-96), 2nd ed., x, 652-3

Y Traethodydd, 1903, 434

Author: Robert Thomas lenkins

A roll of the graduates of the University of Glasgow from 31st December, 1727 to 31st December, 1897 With short biographical notes (Glasgow 1898), 300 Y Geninen, March 1893

Images

John Jabez Edwin Mayall, John Cochran, John Emlyn Jones NLW: Memorial of John Emlyn Jones (Ioan Emlyn) at Glyn Ebwy

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