

## JONES, NATHANIEL CYNHAFAL, (1832 - 1905), Calvinistic Methodist minister, and poet

**Name:** Nathaniel Cynhafal Jones  
**Date of birth:** 1832  
**Date of death:** 1905  
**Gender:** Male  
**Occupation:** Calvinistic Methodist minister, and poet  
**Area of activity:** Literature and Writing; Poetry; Religion  
**Author:** Idwal Lewis

Born in the district of Gellifor, Llangynhafal, Denbighshire, 19 April 1832. At an early age he moved to Mold, to work as a tailor in the shop of Angel Jones, where **Daniel Owen** was his fellow-worker for a short time. In 1855 he moved to Holywell as travelling salesman in the employment of **P. M. Evans**, publisher. He began to preach in 1859, and for a short time attended a private school at Holywell, before proceeding to Bala C.M. College, where he remained for four years. In 1864 he accepted a call from the church at Adwyr Clawdd, and, in 1865, he took charge of the C.M. Church at Penrhyndeudraeth. He moved to Llanidloes in 1875 and was there for eighteen years. He was moderator of the North Wales C.M. Association in 1892, and edited *Y Drysorfa* from 1893 to 1897. In 1892, he lived at Rhyl without pastoral charge, but from 1895 to 1902 he held the pastorate of Engedi church, Colwyn Bay. After retiring, he lived at Abergele, and at Blaenau Ffestiniog, where he died 14 December 1905; he was buried at Abergele.

As a poet he was often successful at eisteddfodau, and more than once he was placed second in the chief competitions at the national eisteddfod. Cynhafal and **John Davies** (Gwynedd) edited *Charles o'r Bala*, a Welsh fortnightly magazine for the use of Sunday schools. He published several volumes of his poems - *Fy Awenydd*, 1859, *Elias y Thesbiad*, 1869, *Y Messiah*, 1895, *Y Bibl*, 1895, *Charles o'r Bala*, 1898, and he and **Richard Mills** wrote a Welsh biography, *Buchdraeth y Parch. John Mills*, 1881. His chief literary accomplishment was the editing of the works of **William Williams** of Pantycelyn, *Gweithiau Williams, Pantycelyn* 2 vols., 1887-91, to which he contributed a life of the author, with critical essays and explanatory notes on all the separate works.

### Author

Idwal Lewis

### Sources

*Y Drysorfa*, January 1898, February 1906

*Y Geninen* (Gŵyl Dewi), 1906

### Further Reading

Wikipedia Article: [Nathaniel Jones](#)

### Additional Links

VIAF: [9631238](#)

Wikidata: [Q6969710](#)

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