

DAVIES, WILLIAM (1820 - 1875), Wesleyan minister

Name: William Davies
Date of birth: 1820
Date of death: 1875
Spouse: Mary Davies
Spouse: Jane Davies (née Williams)
Child: William Edwards Davies
Gender: Male
Occupation: Wesleyan minister
Area of activity: Religion
Author: Griffith Thomas Roberts

Born at Aberystwyth, 16 October 1820. He received a reasonably good elementary education and later taught himself by omnivorous reading. His mother was a Wesleyan and he himself joined the connexion in 1840. He was a paid preacher at Llanfair-yng-Nghornwy, Anglesey, when he was accepted as a candidate for the ministry in 1843; he was ordained in 1847 at the end of his probationary period. After serving as a minister in various circuits in North Wales, Liverpool, and London, he was in 1867 appointed supervisor of the denominational bookroom at Bangor. He was probably the most gifted Welsh Wesleyan minister of the century - an able organizer, an effective debater, a highly influential preacher, and a man of wide literary and musical interests. He was editor of *Y Winllan* (1857-60) and *Yr Eurgrawn Wesleyaidd* (1866-75), to which latter periodical he regularly contributed over a long period of years a column known as 'Liith yr Hen Wylledydd.' His chief literary works were *Geiriadur Ysgrythyrol*, 1857; *Agoriad i'r Ysgrythyrau*, 1860; *Athrawiaeth yr lawn*, 1873; *John Bunyan a'i Amserau*, 1900 (reprinted from *Yr Eurgrawn*, 1867). He was the first finance secretary of the North Wales province (1855-60, 1863-6) and was general secretary of the province from 1865 to 1875. His first wife was Jane Williams, Ty Newydd, Abergele (died 26 January 1854, aged 33); **William Edwards Davies** was their son. His second wife was Mary Humphreys of Aberystwyth (died 1875), widow of Hugh Humphreys of Holywell. He himself died shortly after his second wife, 13 August 1875, and was buried with her at Aberystwyth.

Author

Reverend Griffith Thomas Roberts, (1887 - 1977)

Sources

Y Geninen, 1886, 145-52

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