## MORRIS, DAVID WILLIAM (Marmora; 1823 - 1914), Baptist minister

Name: David William Morris Pseudonym: Marmora Date of birth: 1823 Date of death: 1914 Parent: William Morris Gender: Male Occupation: Baptist minister Area of activity: Religion Author: William Joseph Rhys

Born 9 October 1823 at Llanstephan, Carmarthenshire. He was brought up at Llanelly, and apprenticed to a shoemaker. Although his father, William Morris, was a Calvinistic Methodist preacher, the son insisted upon being baptized by immersion; this was in 1845, at Cwmafan, Glamorganshire. He went from Sirhowy, Monmouthshire, to the Haverfordwest Baptist Academy in 1847 and was ordained at Liverpool on 10 November 1850. Six weeks later he went to minister at Casmael and Beulah, Pembrokeshire. Afterwards he ministered at Berthlwyd, Cwmtwrch, Ystradgynlais, Cwm-sarn-ddu (twice), Hafod (Swansea; whilst here, built Philadelphia chapel), Pontestyll, and Sennybridge. Emigrating to the U.S.A. in 1870 he served churches at Scranton, Hyde Park, and Tylorville. The late years of his life were spent at Swansea. He was something of an oddity, praying with eyes open, and preaching with eyes closed. He published *Blynyddoedd Boreuol Moses* (1851), *Maesydd y Myfyriwr*, Bwrdd y Babell (1870), *Rhiniog y Cysegr, Tir Emanuel*, and *Athrofa lachawdwriaeth*. He also contributed to periodicals - e.g., *Seren Gomer, Y Bedyddiwr*, and *Baner America*. He died 12 September 1914.

## Author

Reverend William Joseph Rhys, (1880 - 1967)

## Sources

*Y Geninen*, March 1915, 54 *Trafodion Cymdeithas Hanes Bedyddwyr Cymru*, 1936, 50

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