

MOSES-EVANS, DAVID LEWIS (1822 - 1893), poet and schoolmaster

Name: David Lewis Moses-evans
Date of birth: 1822
Date of death: 1893
Child: Mary Thomas (née Moses)
Child: E. Tudor Moses-Evans
Child: D.L. Moses-Evans
Child: John Moy Evans
Child: T. Moy Evans
Gender: Male
Occupation: poet and schoolmaster
Area of activity: Education; Literature and Writing; Poetry
Authors: Moelwyn Idwal Williams, John Lloyd Thomas

Born 1 May 1822 at Cwm-pib, Cribyn Clotas, near Lampeter. He was of the same family as [David Davis](#), Castellhywel. At the age of 12 Moses moved to Blaenbidernyn near Pencarreg. Some five years afterwards, he opened a school on his own account in Pencarreg and later at Rhydcymerau, Brynaman, and Cwm-twrch. He finally returned to Brynaman where he became employed as a clerk in the local iron works, a post which he held for forty years. He was recognised locally as a good Welsh scholar.

In the 1840's he contributed a series of character sketches to *Yr Haul* and in the 1850's he was a frequent contributor to *Yr Ymfynydd* on botanical subjects. He translated ' *The Vicar of Wakefield*' and ' *We are Seven*,' etc., into Welsh. At the Lampeter eisteddfod of 1859 he was second to John Morris Jones (Ioan Cunllo) for an ode to the memory of [Daniel Evans](#) (Daniel Ddu o Geredigion), his work being highly praised by [Eben Fardd](#).

He was known colloquially as Dafydd Moses but about 1860 he added the surname Evans after researching his family history, and this was the surname used by the 5 or 6 youngest of his 9 children, 4 sons and 5 daughters. Moses died 1 September 1893.

His daughter Mary was the step-mother of J. Lloyd Thomas, headmaster of Llanfyllin grammar school, and the mother of Dafydd Arafnah Thomas, a minister. See T.J. Morgan's article on the *eisteddfod* poets of Cwmaman and the Swansea valley in [Journal of the Welsh Bibliographical Society](#) [↗](#), 9, 162-85, for his role as a teacher of poets in the area and the comments of [Wacyn Wyn](#) (Watkin Hezekiah Williams and [Gwydderig](#). See also Huw Walters, *Canu'r pwill a'r pulpod*, 94-103.

[Gwydderig](#) (Richard Williams, 1842 - 1917) bequeathed his manuscripts to T. Moy Evans, one of D.L. Moses-Evans's sons, headmaster of St. David's College school Lampeter before becoming a solicitor in Ammanford : he edited a volume of stories, *Hirnos Gaeaf*.

Another son, John M(oy) Evans, was a prominent solicitor in Swansea, a town council member and chairman of the library committee and of the Royal Institution. He was president of the South Wales Unitarian assembly and edited series of articles in the *Cambrian Daily Leader*. Other sons were D.L. Moses-Evans, a solicitor in Ystalyfera, and E. Tudor Moses-Evans, vicar of Monkton, Pembrokeshire and canon of St. David's.

Authors

Dr Moelwyn Idwal Williams

John Lloyd Thomas, (1889 - 1974)

Sources

Cymru (O.M.E.), 1894, 269

H. Blackwell, [NLW MSS 9267A: A Dictionary of Welsh Biography](#)

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