

JONES, JOHN ISLAN (1874 - 1968), minister (U) and author

Name: John Islan Jones
Date of birth: 1874
Date of death: 1968
Parent: Mary Jones
Parent: Evan Jones
Gender: Male
Occupation: minister (U) and author
Area of activity: Literature and Writing; Religion
Author: Mary Auronwy James

Born 17 February 1874, son of Evan and Mary Jones, Tynewydd (later of Cornant and Melin Llys-faen), Cribyn, Cardiganshire. He went to schools in Cribyn and Llanwnnen (under [David Thomas](#), 'Dewi Hefin') until he was about ten years old. After being a farm servant and a stonemason with his father he attended the school of David Evans, minister (U) at Cribyn, (1896-98). He won a scholarship to Jesus College, Oxford, where he graduated in 1901 before proceeding to Manchester College, Oxford to prepare for the ministry. He won a Hibbert Scholarship which enabled him to go to the Universities of Marburg and Jena in Germany in 1904, but ill health caused him to return home before completing a Ph.D. degree course; he gained an M.A. degree in 1909. He spent the prime of his life as a minister (U) in England : Accrington (1906-09), Bolton (1909-17) and Hindley (1917-39), before retiring to his native district. He was at an advanced age when he was invited to be principal of Carmarthen Presbyterian College in 1945; he remained there for 3 years, ministering to Parcyfelfed (U) church at the same time. He was a man of strong convictions, proficient in the cynganeddion and a choirmaster. He published *A brief history of the Unitarian Church, Accrington* (1909), *Egwyddorion yr Undodiaid* (1948), and his reminiscences, *Yr hen amser gynt* (1958), which won him a prize offered by Ceredigion Education Committee. There are articles written by him in the *Ymfynydd* (1905-59), *Cymru*, and *Trans. Unitarian Historical Society* (see Glyn Lewis Jones, *A Bibliography of Cardiganshire, 1600-1964*). He died a bachelor, 28 May 1968.

Author

Dr Mary Auronwy James

Sources

Yr Ymfynydd, 1901, 189; 1904, 192; 1906, 165; 1968, 81-7

Further Reading

Wikipedia Article: [John Islan Jones](#)

Additional Links

Wikidata: [Q6240907](#)

Published date: 2001

Article Copyright: <http://rightsstatements.org/page/InC/1.0/> 

The Dictionary of Welsh Biography is provided by The National Library of Wales and the University of Wales Centre for Advanced Welsh and Celtic Studies. It is free to use and does not receive grant support. A donation would help us maintain and improve the site so that we can continue to acknowledge Welsh men and women who have made notable contributions to life in Wales and beyond.

Find out more on our [sponsorship page](#).

