



Morgans appear to have been settled in the hamlet of Pencoed for a long time, according to such parish records as survive today. The LAND TAX ASSESSMENTS for the parish of Coychurch, which included Pencoed, are held at the Glamorgan Record Office at County Hall in Cardiff. The Land Tax was in force for some two and a half centuries before it was abolished in 1963. The surviving Coychurch assessments run from 1782 into the 1890s, showing many occupiers bearing the name of Morgan, and a few Morgans as actual proprietors of land. Among the latter the name of JENKIN MORGAN occurs as the proprietor of a house and land in his own occupation (GROES FARM) and also as the owner of property which he let to other occupiers, such as the woollen factory Cwrt Gwilym. Jenkin Morgan also appears in the lists as occupier of land owned by Charles Edwin, Esquire, one time Lord of the Manor of Coity Wallia; this may be the copyhold land that was the subject of a will of 1771 and the document of 1785, to which I shall refer later. It would seem that the freehold of Groes Farm had long been held in the Morgan family, a fact that entitled Jenkin Morgan to be described as "yeoman" in some of the census returns and elsewhere. The name "Jenkin" was and is, of course, quite common, but it crops up in nearly every generation of the Pencoed Morgans. It is there in every land tax assessment from 1782 to the death of my great-grandfather in 1872; after that the assessments are made against his widow, Ann Morgan, until she herself died in 1887, when what was left of the property was doubtless sold. From the 1870s to the 1890s the name "Edward Morgan" appears as owner of a few small houses let to other persons, but I do not know if that Edward was my grandfather. During those ninety years from 1782 to 1872, and for some time before, there was always a Jenkin Morgan living at Groes Farm, Pencoed, paying his land tax, farming his patrimony and bringing up his children. The farm was not a large one. In the 1851 census return my great-grandfather was listed as farming 73 acres, but in the vicinity were large tracts of common land, such as Cefn Hirgoed, on which horses, cattle and sheep could be pastured.

Until the Joneses came into the family picture the Morgans were Church of England (as it then was) and were baptised, married and buried at their parish church of St. Crallo at Coychurch. Those solemn occasions in their humble lives, or some of them, were duly recorded in the Coychurch registers now deposited at the Glamorgan Record Office, and which begin at 1736. The Bishop's transcripts for Coychurch at the National Library in Aberystwyth begin at 1721,

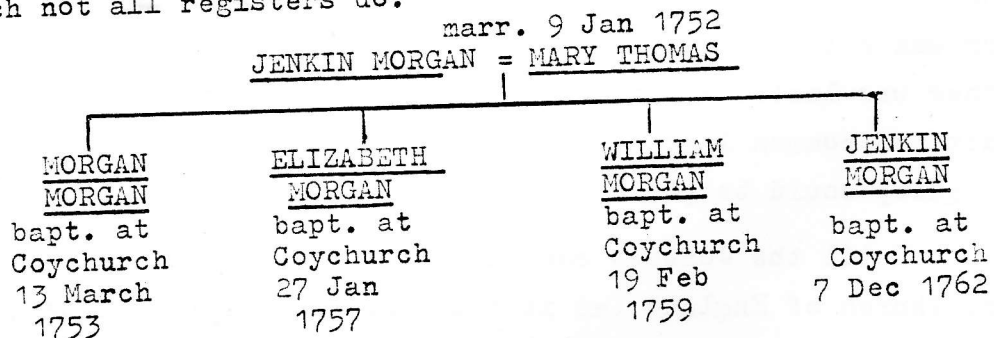
but throughout their range some years are missing - the transcripts for 1722 and 1725, for instance, have been lost. By combining the transcripts and the parish registers we can make up the following list of baptisms which may relate to our family.

Baptisms at Coychurch

- 1724 (BT) 13 Oct. ANNE daughter of Jenkin and Catherine Morgan  
 1726 (BT) 16 Oct JOHN son of Jenkin Morgan and Catherine his wife  
 1730 (BT) 11 Feb CECIL daughter of Jenkin Morgan  
 1736 (BT) 23 Feb THOMAS son of Jenkin Morgan  
 1739 (PR) 27 Sept MARGARET daughter of Jenkin and Catherine Morgan  
 1741 (PR) 24 Feb JOAN do do do do do  
 1744 (PR) 19 Oct WILLIAM so do do do do

Some of these children could well have died young. The rates of infantile mortality were very high in those days. This short list does not include a son named Jenkin, which looks odd if there was a family tradition of passing on that name from father to son; but there are those gaps of 1722 and 1725 when another son might have been born. Again one must not think that every Jenkin Morgan is an ancestor, or that no Morgan with any other name can be. It may be that this is the family of the Jenkin Morgan who died in 1771 and whose will (held at N.L.W.) I have had photo-copied for inclusion in this volume, along with the document between the two sons, Jenkin and William, by which William sold to Jenkin his half share of certain copyhold property.

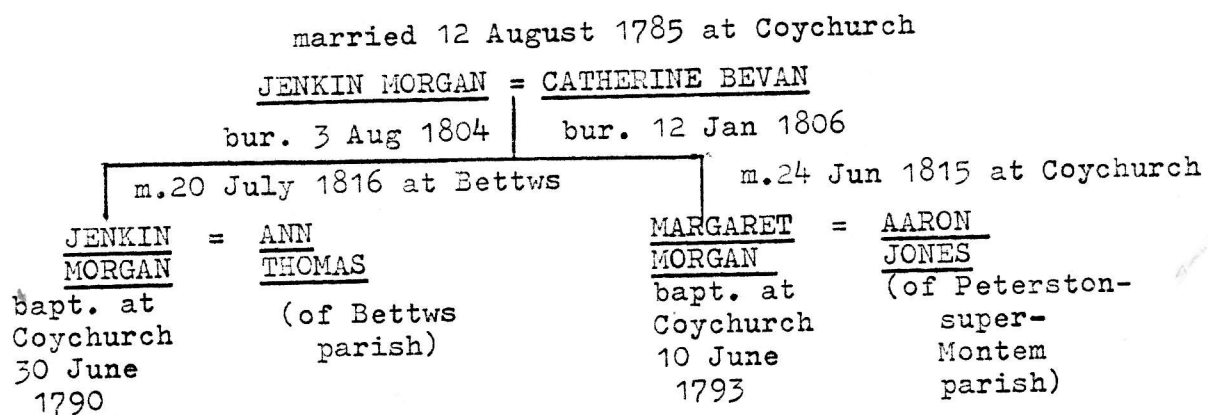
But there are other candidates for ancestry. The Bishop's transcripts record a marriage at Llantrisant, a parish adjoining Coychurch, on 9th January 1752 between Jenkin Morgan and Mary Thomas. In the subsequent years the Coychurch registers go on to record the baptism of their four children, naming the parents on each occasion, which not all registers do.



The husband, Jenkin Morgan, appears to have died in 1764. In January 1765 administration of his estate was entrusted to Mary Morgan, "widow, the relict". An Inventory of his goods, cattle and chattels was made on 16th January 1765. On the following day a Bond for the due administration of the estate was entered into by Mary

Morgan, the widow, with two sureties, possibly her brothers - Jenkin Thomas of Llandyfodwg, tailor; and Lodovick Thomas of Llantrisant, husbandman. Land was not included in the Inventory as that would pass to the deceased's heir by operation of law, in the absence of a will.

I cannot pretend to any certainty about which of these two families produced the succession of Jenkin Morgans who owned Groes Farm and the other properties linked with the name in the land tax assessments. On the whole I am inclined to look to Jenkin and Mary who were married in 1752. Their son Jenkin, born in December 1762, seems likely to have been the one who married Catherine Bevan (probably one of the Tre-Bryn Bevans) in 1785. Their marriage is in the Coychurch transcripts, which say they were "both of this parish". Neither of them lived to any great age, their burials appearing in the parish registers in 1804 and 1806 respectively. What link there was, if any, between the two Morgan families perhaps someone else may discover.



Jenkin and Ann here are my great-grandparents and they appear at the head of the larger tables of the Morgan Family of Pencoed a little further on.

Here I should perhaps again refer briefly to the will of the Jenkin Morgan who died in 1771 and the deed between his two sons, since the documents are of a kind not seen today. Copyhold was a very ancient form of land tenure under English law; it was abolished by the 1925 property legislation, which converted it into freehold. The Lord of the Manor would, centuries ago, have granted land to his tenants in villeinage in return for their obligation to perform agricultural services on the Lord's demesne.

With the passage of time these labour services changed into money payments and though in theory the copyhold tenant still held his land at the Lord's will, in fact his rights were protected by the immemorial custom of the Manor, which regulated the payments the Lord could require, such as fines on alienation by the tenant, a heriot (the tenant's best beast) on the tenant's death, etc. Transactions had to be entered on the rolls of the Manor court. Title to the land was evidenced by copy of the court roll, authenticated by the Lord's Steward. Sales of copyhold land were effected by Surrender and Admittance, that is the seller surrendered his holding in the Manor court and the buyer was admitted as the new holder, or tenant, being given a copy of the Surrender and Admittance as his title deed. If a copyholder wished to leave his property by will, he first surrendered the land to a person he chose, called the feoffee in trust, to be held by him on such trusts (or uses) as he, the tenant, should declare in his will. After his death the person to whom the land was left in the will would be admitted as the new tenant on the court roll.



Know all Men by these presents that we Mary Morgan of the parish of  
Crychurch, in the County of Glamorgan widow, Reheir  
Thomas of the parish of Landevodach, in the said County  
of Glamorgan Taylor and Lodowick Thomas of the parish of  
Llantrisant in the County of Glamorgan formerly Husbandman  
were bound unto the Right Reverend Father in God John Bishop of Landaff in the sum of four hundred and twenty pounds of good lawful Money of Great  
Britain to be paid to the said Bishop or his lawful Attorney his Executors or Assignes for the good  
and faithful payment of which sum we truly to be our due and several parts of our Knowledge being  
for the whole our Heirs & adm. jointly by these presents Sealed with our Seals and Dated the 17<sup>th</sup> Day  
of January 1765.

The Condition of this obligation is such that if the above bounden Mary Morgan widow  
the Heir and Administratrix of all and singular the good Chattels and  
Credits of Reheir Morgan late of the parish of Crychurch in the County  
of Glamorgan and Diocese of Landaff deceased " " " " " "

do make or cause to be made, a true perfect Inventory of all and singular the good Chattels and Credits of the  
said deceased which have or shall come to the hands possession or knowledge of the said Mary Morgan  
" " " " " " or into the hands and possession of any other person or persons for her or the same  
do make do exhibit or cause to be exhibited into the registry of the Consistory Court of Landaff at or  
before the last " " " " Day of April " " next ensuing and the same good Chattels and  
Credits, and all other the good Chattels and Credits of the said deceased which at the time of his  
death or which at any time after shall come to the hands and possession of the said Mary

Morgan " " or into the hands and possession of any other person or persons for her or  
will and truly administer according to Law, and further do make or cause to be made, a true and  
Just Account of her said Administration at or before the last " " " " Day of January  
which will be in the year 1766 And at the rest and residue of the said good Chattels and  
Credits which shall be found remaining upon the said Administratrix Account the same  
being first examined and allowed of by the Judge of the said Court for the time being shall  
deliber and pay unto such person or persons respectively as the said Judge by his Decree or  
Sentence pursuant to the true Intent and Meaning of an Act of Parliament intituled an  
Act for the better settling of Intestate Estates shall think and appoint; and if hereafter it shall  
appear that any last will and Testament was made by the said deceased and the Ex<sup>rs</sup> or Ex<sup>cs</sup>  
therein named do exhibit the same into the said Court making request to have it approved of  
accordingly if the said Mary Morgan " " being thereunto lawfully required do  
render deliver the said Letters of Admin<sup>n</sup> approbation of such Testament being first had & made  
into the said Court then this Bond to be void & of no effect or else to remain in full Force and Virtue

Sealed and Delivered in the  
presence of James Morgan

The mark of  
Mary Morgan

The above bounden Mary Morgan widow  
the Heir was sworn well and faithfully  
to administer & to the truth of the  
Inventory & to render an ac<sup>t</sup> & c<sup>t</sup>  
before me.

The mark of  
Reheir Thomas

Nathl. Wells

Lodowick Thomas

An Inventory of all and singular the Goods -  
 Cattle and Chattels of Benjamin Morgan late of the  
 parish of Coychurch, in the County of Glamorgan  
 and Province of Landaff deceased, made, valued  
 and appraised on the sixteenth Day of January  
 1765, by David Griffiths and William Thomas  
 appraisors as follows: that is to say -

First His wearing apparel valued at	£ 2, 10, 00
Also Ten Cows and one Bull at	28, 10, 00
Four Oxen at " " " " " "	10, 00, 00
Six Steers at " " " " " "	09, 00, 00
130 Sheep at " " " " " "	29, 05, 00
Two Calves at " " " " " "	01, 00, 00
Five Horses at " " " " " "	11, 00, 00
Three Pigs at " " " " " "	01, 07, 00
Poultry at " " " " " "	00, 10, 00
Corn at " " " " " "	07, 00, 00
Alliott's Lease valued at	10, 00, 00
Cash in the house the term of	07, 00, 00
Implementments of husbandry at	01, 00, 00
Bed, Trap Pans, Chests, Tables and wooden Vessels at	09, 00, 00
Two Traps and powder at	07, 00, 00
Earthen ware, Iron Pots, Linen and Saddle at	03, 03, 00
	<u>£ 167, 15, 00</u>

Subscribed at Landaff on the 17<sup>th</sup> Day of January 1765 -  
 by Mary Morgan widow the Relict, Administratrix  
 of the said deceased for a true and perfect Inventory of the  
 Goods and Chattels of the said deceased and under  
 the protection of adding if any more  
 of the effects of the said deceased shall  
 hereafter come to her hand possession or knowledge

In the name of God Amen I Dentin  
Morgan of Penruid in y<sup>e</sup> parish of Criglan in  
y<sup>e</sup> County of Glamorgan y<sup>e</sup>oman being sick in body  
but of sound & disposing mind & memory (thanks  
be to God) Do make this my last Will & Testament  
in manner following (that is to say) Whereas  
I have this day at the Baron Court of the right  
~~Honble Lady Charlotte Edwin Lady of the~~  
Manor of Crity Wallia in the said County surrendered  
all my Customary hold lands within the said  
Manor (except about outhouses & eight acres & a  
half of lands which I have surrendered to or for y<sup>e</sup>  
use of my son Dentin) to the said <sup>God stepdaughter</sup> Lady, to the  
intent that ~~she~~ she should regrant the same  
by the rod according to the custom of y<sup>e</sup> Manor  
to William David of Penruid one of y<sup>e</sup> Cust<sup>y</sup>  
tenants of the said Manor & his customary  
heirs as y<sup>e</sup>offes in trust to my use for life &  
to my wife Catherine for life & after our deaths  
to such person or persons use or uses as I shall  
by my last Will & Testament in writing to be  
ordily made & executed in y<sup>e</sup> presence of three or  
more credible witnesses & to be proved & enrolled  
in the Court of y<sup>e</sup> said Manor within six months  
after my decease before limit & appoint & for  
want thereof to my customary heirs  
Now I do hereby declare limit & appoint that  
the said William David shall stand & continue  
heir of the said premises as y<sup>e</sup>offes in trust after  
my death & the death of my said wife Catherine  
to do give & devise the same as follows Crig!  
I Give & devise all those Customary hold

lands called Cayer's velin containing by estimation  
ten acres, be the same more or less, to my said  
son Jenkin Morgan To hold (from & after  
the death of me & my said wife) <sup>as aforesaid</sup> to him &  
his customary heirs forever. Also I give  
& Devise all that House Barn orchard Garden  
& holden acres of land (more or less) called yr  
~~my~~ ~~old~~ alias Sir John Puthurck & two  
acres (more or less) adjoining the same called  
dwy oris wain aris. To my said son Jenkin  
Morgan & my son William Morgan To hold  
(from & after the death of me & my said wife as aforesaid)  
to them the said Jenkin & William & their  
customary heirs as tenants in common.

Also I give & Devise all those three acres  
of customary hold lands (more or less) near  
~~the church of St. Andrew's being part of the manor of St. Andrew's~~  
& also all that house stable Garden & loft containing  
one quarter of an acre near the said house & one field  
called Lae marle containing one acre (more or less)  
called Sir Richard Phillip To my Daughter  
Margaret to hold (from & after the death of me & my said  
wife as aforesaid) to her the said Margaret &  
her customary heirs ~~per~~ of her body lawfully  
begotten & for want of such issue to my said  
son Jenkin & his customary heirs forever.

I give unto my grandson Thomas  
within the sum of Ten pounds and  
one chest, one round table one feather bed  
and it's appurtenances the said money & goods  
to be paid & delivered to him after the death of

my said Wife Catherine and I do hereby nominate  
I appoint my said Wife Catherine & Son Jenkin  
Morgan to be Executors of this my Will hereby  
revoking all former Wills by me made  
In Testimony whereof I have hereunto  
set my hand & seal this 22<sup>d</sup> Day of April  
in the Year of our Lord 1771

Signed Sealed published &  
declared by the said testator  
Jenkin Morgan as if for his  
last Will & Testament in the  
presence of us who have signed  
our names as Witnesses thereto  
in his presence & at his request.

J<sup>r</sup> Morgan

J<sup>r</sup> Morgan

John Richard  
William David

of Trefort  
of Penrod

April 28<sup>th</sup> 1772.

Jenkin Morgan the son, one of the Executors in  
this Will named, was sworn well and faithfully to execute  
the same, to exhibit an Inventory & to render an  
Account &c. of the same being first reserved before me

N. Hopkins Surrogate

This Will was proved at Conbridge on the Twenty Eighth Day of April, in the Year  
of our Lord, one Thousand, Seven Hundred and Seventy Two, before the Reverend Nathaniel Hopkins  
Clerk, Rector of <sup>St. Andrew's</sup> the Chancellor's Surrogate, by Jenkin Morgan the son, one of the Executors in  
this Will named, who was first in the holy Evangelists personally sworn well and faithfully to  
execute the same, to exhibit an Inventory &c. and to render the best account of his administration thereof,  
when therunto lawfully required / Power being first reserved to Catherine Morgan the other  
Executor in this Will named, when she applies for the same.

MANOR of COITY WALLIA in the County of Glamorgan

The BARON COURT of Charles Edwin Esquire Lord of the said Manor held in and for the said Manor at the dwelling house of John David at Pencoed on Tuesday the twentieth day of September in the year one thousand seven hundred and eighty five Before John Franklin Esquire Steward there TO THIS COURT came William David feoffee in trust of the premises hereinafter mentioned together with WILLIAM MORGAN of the parish of Wandsworth in the County of Surrey Gentleman and in consideration of the sum of ninety pounds of lawful money of Great Britain to him the said William Morgan here in Open Court paid by his brother JENKIN MORGAN of Pencoed in the parish of Coychurch in the County of Glamorgan Yeoman SURRENDERED into the hands of the Lord of the said Manor by the hands of his said Steward by the rod according to the Custom of the said Manor ALL that one moiety or half share of that Customary held House Barn Orchard Garden and twelve acres of customary held land (more or less) called Ynissodd and two acres adjoining called dwy erw wain arw (be the same more or less) now in the occupation of the said Jenkin Morgan situate lying and being near Pencoed in the said parish of Coychurch within the Manor aforesaid together with all ways waters and watercourses rights members and appurtenances to the same premises belonging or in any way appertaining in as large and ample manner as the same was Devised to him the said William Morgan by his late Father deceased and the Reversion and Reversions Remainder and Remainders Rents Issues and Profits thereof and all the Estate right title interest property claim and demand of them the said William David and William Morgan or either of them of in or to the same or any part thereof TO THE INTENT that the Lord of the said Manor by the hands of his said Steward by the rod according to the Custom of the said Manor SHOULD REGRANT all and singular the said premises with the appurtenances to him the said Jenkin Morgan and his customary Heirs and assigns forever according to the Custom of the said Manor.

TO THE SAME COURT came the said JENKIN MORGAN and took of the Lord of the Manor by the hands of his said Steward by the rod according to the Custom of the said Manor ALL and singular the Customary held House Barn Orchard Garden and premises aforesaid and their appurtenances TO HOLD the same with their appurtenances to him the said Jenkin Morgan and his customary heirs and assigns forever according to the Custom of the said Manor by and under the Rents Duties Heriots Customs Suits and Services to the Lord due and of Right accustomed gave to the Lord for alienation as appears in the margin made his fealty and was thereof Admitted Tenant in the presence of these Customary Tenants vizt. Thomas Jenkin Hopkin Evan Rees Hopkin and Morgan Thomas.

*Ref. 55  
alien 65*

LAND TAX ASSESSMENTS at C.R.O. Cardiff

Hamlet of PENCOED Parish of COYCHURCH		Hundred of NEWCASTLE County of GLAMORGAN	(Extracts)
<u>1790 - 1793</u>			@ 4/1 in £ <u>Tax assessed</u>
<u>Proprietor</u>	<u>Occupier</u>		£. s. d.
JENKIN MORGAN	own occupation	(a)	1. 6.
Charles Edwin, Esq.	JENKIN MORGAN		10. 10
do	John Morgan miller		1. 14. 8.
do	John Morgan farmer		1. 13. 7.
do	Evan Morgan		9. 2½
Lord Talbot	JENKIN MORGAN		10. 10.
do	Margaret Morgan (1792/3 John Morgan, miller)		2. 2.
John Price	Evan Morgan		1. 2. 9.
Edward Davis for ye tythes	(six tenants, incl. JENKIN MORGAN)		3. 0. 8.
Charles Edwin, Esq.	William Morgan		1. 15. 2½.
do	Margaret Morgan		3. 3.
Thos. Edwards, Esq.	John Morgan		3. 9½.
Mary Morgan	widow		6½.
<u>1791/2/3</u>	Richard Jenkins (1791 - occupied by Richard David)	JENKIN MORGAN	9. 9.
<u>1793</u>	Jervis Powel	Thomas Morgan	17. 10½.

NOTE: (a) From some of the later assessments it is clear that this figure covers both -

Groes Farm 19. 6.  
and Cwrt Gwilym 6. 6.

so perhaps Jenkin Morgan ran the woollen factory as well as his small farm before he granted the 50-year lease to David Jones in 1814.

LAND TAX ASSESSMENTS at C.R.O., Cardiff

(Extracts)

Parish or Place - PENCOED  
Division of NEWCASTLE in the County of GLAMORGAN

<u>Proprietor</u>	<u>Occupier</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Rental or annual value</u> £. s. d.	<u>Tax Assessed</u> £. s. d.
<u>1880/81 @ 5½d. in £</u>				
Mrs. Morgan	self	House & land	28.	12. 10.
do	do	do	15. 10.	7. 1½.
do	Jenkin Leyshon	do	6. 10.	3.
do	William Griffiths	Land	7. 6.	5.
do	Thomas Howell	House & land	11. 0. 0.	5. 0½.
Edward Morgan	John Thomas	House & shop	8. 15. 0.	4. 1.
do do	self	House & garden	2. 7. 6.	1. 1.
do do	Mary Edwards	do do	3. 5.	1. 7.
Mary Morgan 13 props.	various occupiers	all described as "House & garden"	-	-

1882/83 @ 5d. in £

Mrs. Morgan	self	<u>GROES FARM</u>	28.	11. 8.
do	Ann Thomas	Heol Cir	15. 10.	6. 5½.
do	Jenkin Leyshon	House & land	6. 10.	2. 8½.
do	Thomas David	Land - acre	17. 6.	4.
do	?	Factory	11. 0. 0.	4. 7.
Rev. E.E.Jones	self	House & land	20. 7. 6.	8. 5½.
Edward Morgan	John Thomas	House & shop	8. 15.	4. 1.
do	William Richard	House & garden	2. 7. 6.	1. 1.
do	Mary Edwards	do do	3. 5.	1. 7.
Mary Morgan	10 properties in various occupations			

1891/92 @ 5d. in £

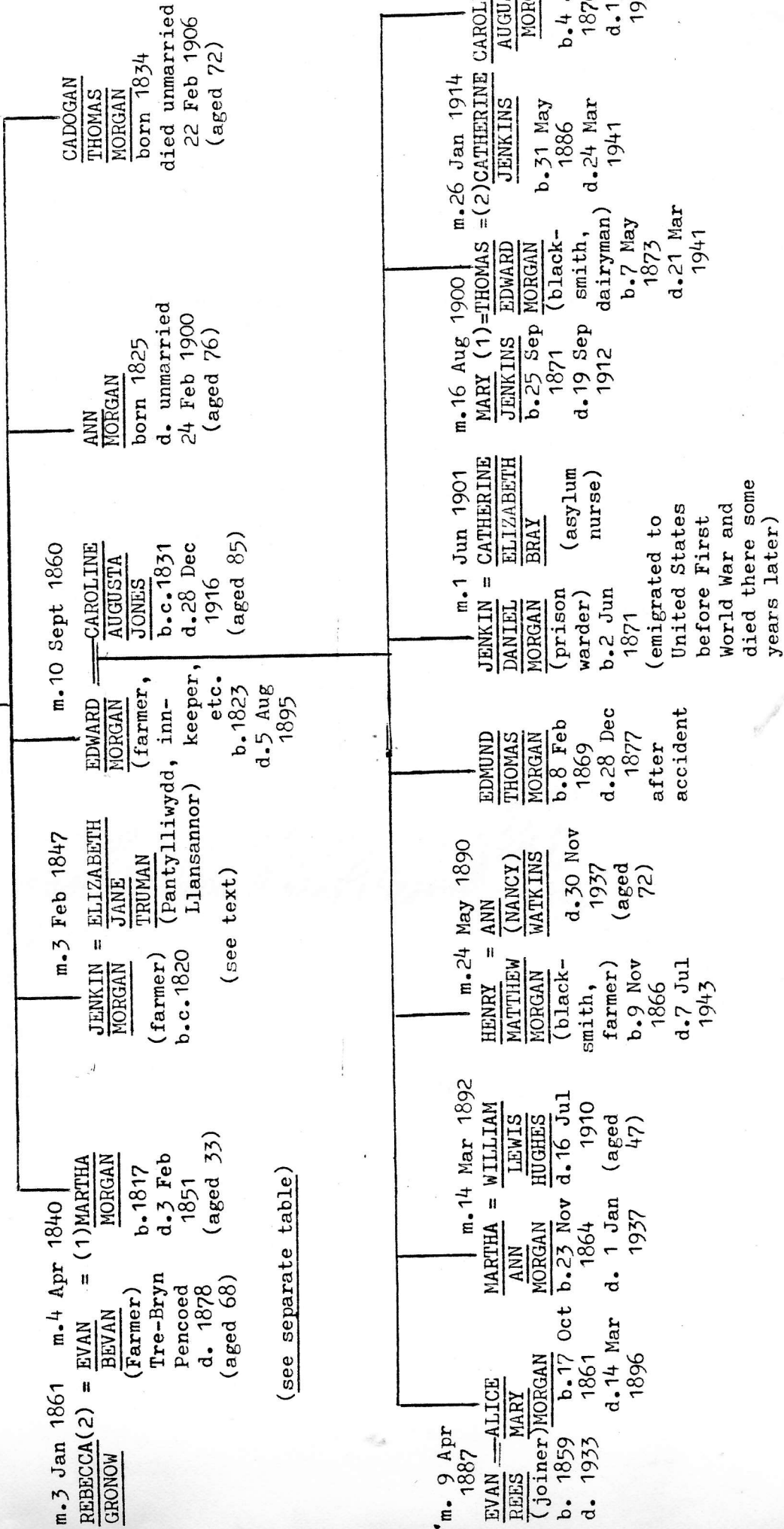
Rev. D.Saunders	D.Symons	Glanffrwd House	27.	11. 3.
do	Wm. Hopkin & ors.	Caerllyci etc	56. 10.	1. 3. 6½.
		Groes Farm	23	9. 7.
George Evans	Ann Thomas	Heol Cir		
Edward Morgan	William Edwards	House & garden	2. 10.	1.
do	Mary Edwards	do	3. 5.	1. 4.
do	John Thomas	do	8. 15.	3. 7.

married 20th July 1816 at Betws

JENKIN MORGAN = ANN THOMAS

(Farmer)  
 of Groes Farm,  
 Pencoed, Glam.  
 born 1790  
 died 15 August  
 1872 (aged 82)

born 1792  
 died 7 July 1887  
 (aged 94)



(see separate table)

m. 23 Dec 1911  
 LEWIS ROWLAND (widow)  
 CAROLINE AUGUSTA MORGAN  
 b. 4 Jun 1876  
 d. 13 Oct 1959

- Marriages solemnized in the Parish of Llanwanno in the County of Glamorgan  
 In the Year One Thousand Eight Hundred and Nineteen
- No 33. Edmund Jones of the Parish of Llanwanno in the County of Glamorgan —  
 Bachelor and Alice Williams of the Parish of Llanwanno in the said County  
 Glamorgan were married in this Church by Banns this twenty ninth Day of  
 May in the Year One Thousand Eight Hundred and Nineteen by me  
 Thomas Clerk This Marriage was solemnized between us Edmund Jones  
 Alice Williams by Mark In the Presence of Thomas Williams Mary Davies
- No 34. Richard Williams of the Parish of Llanwanno in the County of Glamorgan  
 Bachelor and Margaret Evans of the same Parish and County, spinster  
 were married in this Church by Banns this twenty ninth Day of May  
 In the Year One Thousand Eight Hundred and Nineteen by me Thomas  
 Clerk This Marriage was solemnized between us Richard Williams by  
 Mark Margaret Evans by Mark In the Presence of Richard Williams Mary Davies
- No 35. Evan Morgan of the Parish of Llanwanno in the County of Glamorgan Bachelor  
 and Mary Morgan of the same Parish and County, spinster were married in  
 this Church by Banns this second Day of October in the Year One Thousand  
 Eight Hundred and Nineteen by me Thomas Clerk This Marriage was  
 solemnized between us Evan Morgan Mary Morgan by Mark  
 In the Presence of William Philip Richard Williams by Mark
- No 36. Evan Llewellyn of the Parish of Llanwanno in the County of Glamorgan  
 Bachelor and Semina Matthew of the same Parish and County, spinster  
 were married in this Church by Banns this 2nd Day of October in the Year

Baptisms solemnized in the Parish of Bettws in the County of Glamorgan in the year 1816

When baptized	Child's Christian name	Parents name		Abode	Quality Trade or Profession	By whom solemnized
		Christian	Surname			
1816 May 12 <sup>th</sup>	Thomas son of	Jenkins	Jones	Wynyoreth	Farmer	By John Parry Curate
1816 June 16	William son of	Edward & Mary	Mathew	Wynyoreth	Taylor	By John Parry Curate
1816 June 23	Perdy son of	William & Rachel	Thomas	Wynyoreth	Labourer	By John Parry Curate
1816 September 12	William son of	David & Ann	Griffith	Qwertleson	Farmer	By John Parry Curate
1816 December 12	Thomas son of	John & Elizabeth	Crook	Ketuygelli	Farmer	By John Parry Curate

Marriages solemnized in the Parish of Bettws in the County of Glamorgan in the year 1816.

Jenkins Morgan of the Parish of Couchurch and Ann Thomas of this Parish were married in this Church by Licence both being the twentieth day of July in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixteen by me John Parry Curate. This Marriage was solemnized between us Jenkins Morgan and Ann Thomas in the presence of Edward Thomas Cadogan Thomas.

Burials in the Parish of Bettws in the County of Glamorgan in the year 1816

Name	Abode	When buried	Age	By whom the Ceremony performed
Richard Bradford	Pandy	April 16 1816	60 years	By John Parry Curate
William Edward	Goytreken bridge	May 1 <sup>st</sup> 1816	2 weeks	By John Parry Curate
Margaret Davies	Tynwain	May 29 <sup>th</sup> 1816	43 years	By John Parry Curate

I John Parry Curate of the Parish of Bettws in the County of Glamorgan do hereby solemnly declare that the several writings hereunto annexed purporting to be copies of several entries contained in the several Register Books of Baptisms Marriages and Burials of this Parish aforesaid from the 1<sup>st</sup> day January 1816 to the 1<sup>st</sup> day of January 1817 are true copies of all the several entries in the said several Register Books respectively from the said 1<sup>st</sup> day of January 1816 to the said 1<sup>st</sup> of January 1817 and that no other entry during such period is contained in any of such books respectively are truly made according to the best of my knowledge & belief.

John Parry Curate of Bettws  
Edward Thomas

## THE JONES FAMILY

I first became aware of the Jones family when I obtained my father's birth certificate nearly four years ago. From it I learned a great deal that was new to me: that my grandfather, Edward Morgan, had been a publican, that my father was born at the King's Head in Llandyfodwg parish, and that his mother's maiden name was Jones. I already knew that she was "Caroline Augusta", since as long ago as I could remember it had been a standing family joke that three women in successive generations had borne those names. I had not known either of my grandfathers, but well remember both my grandmothers. Granny Morgan was a smallish woman with piercing eyes, a ready tongue and a strict code of discipline for children. When my mother died in 1912 and my father and I went to live with his widowed sister, Mrs. Martha Hughes (Aunty Mat to me), Granny was already living with her. Later she went to Uncle Henry in Pencoed, where she died in December 1916 at the age of 85.

It was then an easy step to get my grandparents' marriage certificate, from which I learned that Granny's father had been EDMUND JONES, a Baptist minister. In the autumn of 1981 I called at Ilston House in Swansea, the office of the Baptist Union of Wales, where the overworked Secretary, the Rev. D.I. Davies, gave me his unstinted help and far too much of his precious time. In the pages of SEREN CYMRU we found what at first I took to be my great-grandfather's obituary, but a closer look at dates and ages proved it to be the obituary of his son of the same name, also the Rev. Edmund Edward Jones. Mr. Davies later showed me an old Baptist Union diary for 1902 which contained brief notices of ministers who had died during the previous year; in it was a paragraph about the Rev. E.E. Jones of Pencoed, which said that he had been born in 1824 when his father was minister at Paran, Blackmill. I wrote to the secretary of Paran; and when I visited Blackmill in April 1982, I was shown over the chapel by the caretaker, whom I had met by chance in the village. He pointed out my great-grandfather's name on the plaque behind the pulpit and showed me his portrait, with others, in a picture hanging in the vestry. I also called on one of the deacons, Mr. Christopher John, who very kindly lent me his only copy of the booklet produced at the chapel's centenary in 1919. An extract from it, which I have translated and reproduced, recounts something of my great-grandfather's career and his connection with the chapel.

In the early decades of the 19th century, when young Edmund Jones knew it, Ystradyfodwg (as the Rhondda valley was then known) was a very different place from what it later became. The great coal-mining developments took place in the second half of that century. Before that Ystradyfodwg, as described by C.J.O.Evans some forty years ago in his book on Glamorgan -

" . . . must have been among the most beautiful of the Principality's many gems of natural scenery; a place of majestic mountains, deep, silent valleys and hurrying streams; the haunt of rare fauna, equal to any of the lovely passes still existing in mid and north Wales . . ."

In those early days the small communities of rural Wales could barely raise, or borrow, the money to build a chapel. They could certainly not afford to pay their ministers a regular stipend on which they could live, marry and raise a family. The ministers, therefore, had to find some other way of earning a living. Some plied a trade, others kept schools or ran small farms - it seems that my great-grandfather tried his hand at both of the latter occupations. He had been a schoolmaster at Tonyrefail, then a tutor at Cwmsaebren (near the present-day Treherbert). While he was minister at Paran he farmed at Llwynyriwrth on the hillside road above Heolycyw. Then he went back to schoolmastering at Nantgarw and Groeswen.

Exactly when EDMUND EDWARD JONES, the son, came back to the area where he was born I do not know. His obituary notices in the papers are pleasantly vague on the point. The National Coal Board have told me that they have no records of the mining venture which he is said to have managed, though their letter did suggest that it was probably a small pit and likely to have been at Brynna Gwynnon. I have wondered whether his sister Caroline went with him to Pencoed to act as his housekeeper. He married Mary James at the Tabernacle in Cardiff in May 1860; the marriage certificate gives his age as 35 and hers as 42. Caroline Jones herself was married to Edward Morgan in September 1860, also at the Tabernacle in Cardiff. Possibly the one marriage prompted the other, since Caroline's services as housekeeper would no longer be needed. Her married life turned out to be very different from that of a minister's household.

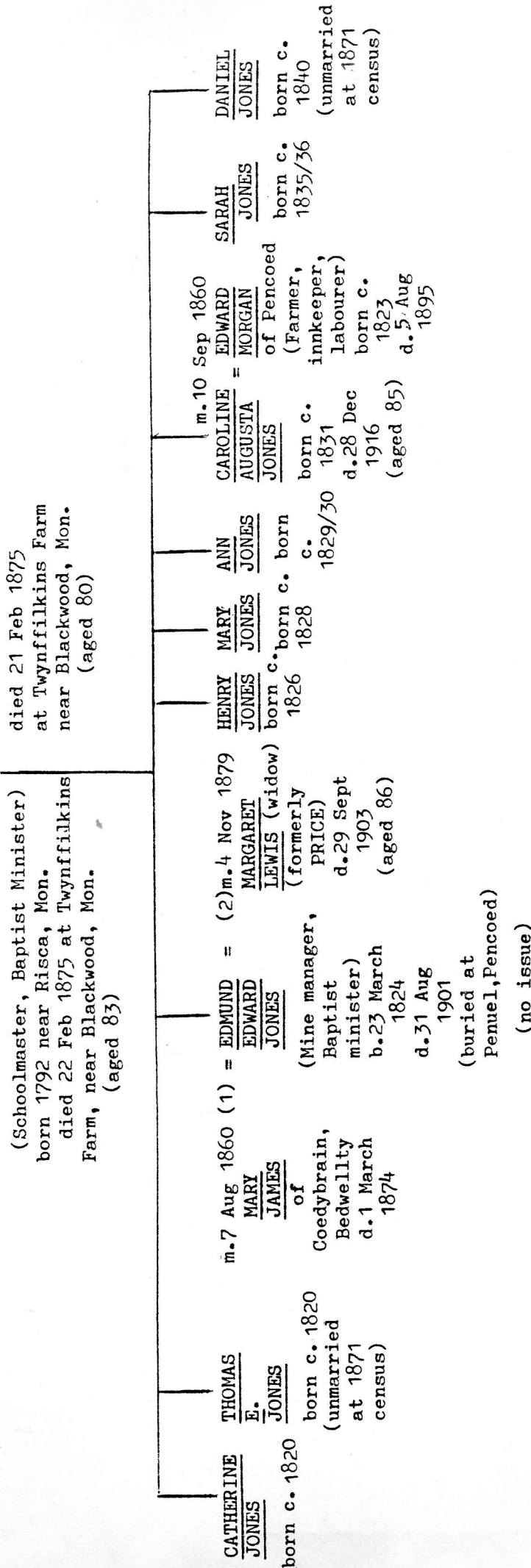
In the 1841 census returns I found my great-grandparents and their family living at Glyn Brynar, Mynyddislwyn. With two of their sons they were living there again in 1871; four years later they died within 10 hours of each other at near-by Twynffilkins farm. Where they were in 1851 and 1861 I have failed to discover. Somewhere in the valleys of East Glamorgan or West Gwent there may be living today the descendants of some of their seven children of whose lives and fates I have no inkling.

The JONES Family

(Based on the Census Return of 7th June 1841)

married at Llanwonno 28th May 1819

EDMUND EDWARD JONES = ALICE WILLIAMS



NOTE:- Ages stated in the Census Returns cannot wholly be relied upon. In particular, the enumerators in 1841 were instructed to round down to the multiple of 5 next below the actual ages of all those who were over 15. The enumerator at Mynyddislwyn, in which parish the Rev. Edmund Edward Jones was living then at Glyn Brynar (or Glyn Brynar), seems to have seriously misunderstood these instructions, and recorded all ages as multiples of 5. In consequence, the family of the Rev. Edmund E. Jones presents in the 1841 return the following ridiculous appearance:-

EDMUND E. JONES	45	CATHARINE JONES	20	HENRY JONES	15	CAROLINE JONES	10
ALICE	40	THOMAS	20	MARY	15	SARAH	10
		EDMUND	20	ANN	15	DANIEL	5

It is known that the son, Edmund Edward Jones, was born in March 1824; while Thomas and Daniel were still at home (at Glyn Brynar) when the census of 2 April 1871 was made, in which they were given the ages of 52 and 31 respectively. In the above table, therefore, this information has been used to try to estimate when the other members of the family were born.

and

PARAN Baptist Chapel, Blackmill

Although Edmund Edward Jones was not ordained at Paran, Blackmill until 27th January 1823, on the same day that the church was formally incorporated, he was by that time no stranger to the locality or to the church. The history of Paran, as related in the centenary booklet 1819-1919, states that already in 1817, as a schoolmaster then aged 25, he accompanied the Rev. Benjamin Davies of Penyfai and Nebo'r Ystrad to take part in what was then a quite customary service among the Baptists for naming and blessing (but not sprinkling) a newly born child at Glynogwr (Llandyfodwg). Conflict with the Methodists at Glynogwr led the Baptists there to seek another place to hold their meetings and eventually they settled on Blackmill. The chapel PARAN was opened on 25th May 1819. The history says that until 1823 the cause was under the care of the Rev. Benjamin Davies, assisted by Mr. Edmund Jones, who is thought possibly to have moved to the district in 1821, although he himself said later that he did so in 1823.

The booklet, which is wholly in Welsh, devotes a chapter to short biographies of each of its ministers. The following is a translation of the section on -

The Rev. EDMUND EDWARD JONES. He was the second minister here, although he was the first to be formally recognised as such. He was ordained here on 27th January 1823 on the day the church was formally incorporated. We must quote now as follows from "YSTRAD-IANA" by the Rev. J. Rufus Williams.

"This beloved old brother was born in the parish of Risca, Monmouthshire, at a place called Groesheol, near Pontycymer,<sup>†</sup> in the year 1792. He was baptised in the old baptistry in the burial ground of Capel Cefn Ty'r Marchog, Basaleg, by the Rev. James Edmunds, the joint minister at that time with the venerable John Hier, who was then incapable of baptising because of his infirmity. That was in 1810, when Mr. Jones was 20 years (?) of age. About the year 1815 Mr. Jones sought to keep a day school and he moved to Tonyrefail to do so, where he remained for about a year (Morien refers to this in his History of Tonyrefail). While he was living there he became a member of the church at Ystradyfodwg (in the Rhondda valley) and he resorted there every Sabbath" as he said in his very kind letter to us, "to hear the gospel being preached by the Rev. Benjamin Davies from Penyfai, under whose care the church was at that period. After a sojourn

<sup>†</sup> This is a probably a mistake for PONTYMISTER

"of about a year at Tonyrefail I had an invitation from a gentle-  
"man named William Davies of Cwmsaebren to go as tutor to his large  
"family, who were ten in number. In the year 1819 I was exhorted  
"by the church at Ystradyfodwg, where I was a member, to start  
"accustoming myself to preaching, but I did not venture to fall in  
"with their request for some months; then as they persisted in their  
"demands I decided that I would make an attempt at it on the next  
"'fellowship evening', on condition that nothing was said about it  
"to anyone until such time as the church might appreciate that I  
"had in me some qualification for the great work of preaching the word  
" and the precepts of the All Highest. I preached at the two follow-  
"ing fellowship meetings, while the neighbourhood generally knew  
"nothing about the new preacher. On the Sunday after that the one  
"who had sent his acceptance (to preach) failed to keep his promise.  
"In view of the disappointment and as the people were expecting a  
"preacher, two of the deacons came to me and pressed me to break free  
"of every restraint and to preach publicly. I was most nervous and  
"fearful of consenting to their request; but I promised to do so if  
"only they would start the meeting and not say anything about me in  
"conducting the service. They appointed me to preach to them every  
"Sabbath after that, except for communion Sundays, when Mr. Davies  
"would be officiating. That lasted for some four years, and I rec-  
"eived nothing from them for my efforts. I lived most comfortably  
"at Cwmsaebren, in the house of Mr. William Davies, for six years.  
"I left in 1823 to take charge of the church at Paran, Blackmill.  
"I stayed there for three years, then I returned to Ystrad, but by  
"then the schoolchildren had become rather scarcer. Towards the  
"end of the year I received a call to keep a school at Nantgarw  
"and Groeswen from Mr. Thomas from the Aber and Mr. Francis of Aber-  
"tridwr. I was there for thirteen years, comfortably. Then I left  
"Glamorgan, returning to Monmouthshire, the old county of my birth,  
"on being called by the church of SILOAM, Machen. From there I  
"moved to Blackwood. I am now close on 74 years of age, the oldest  
"minister in Monmouth county."

In these words this good old brother recounted the events of his career in bygone times. Seeing his officiating relationship with Paran, we do not understand why he was named "Jones, Blackmill" in SEREN GOMER, page 316, in October 1821, in connection with an ordination at Llancarfan. It may be that the old man at 74 was a little hazy about some dates, but he was certainly, as we have seen, of great assistance to Mr. B. Davies in founding the cause in Paran. He little realised that among the children he taught at that time was one of his successors at Paran, namely Hopkin Jenkins. No doubt by now he has taken his full reward for every service and sacrifice he made in those

days. An affectionate and respected place is given to his name on our memorial plaque at the centenary celebrations.

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NOTE: In the Gwent Record Office at Cwmbran there is a file of articles, and some draft articles, dealing with the history of various Baptist churches in the county. One of these is about SILOAM, Machen, and it states that - "Mr. E. JONES of Blackwood took charge of the church (i.e. "SILOAM) in 1836. The members in 1840 were about 40, and "the school 70. Mr. Jones left in 1843 . . . "

The Record Office also has in its archives a copy of the centenary handbook, 1976, of the Mount Pleasant Baptist church at Blackwood. According to this publication, the English Baptist church, which is called Mount Pleasant, was first founded in 1876. There seems to be no doubt that the church of which the Rev. Edmund Edward Jones was minister was LIBANUS, the Welsh Baptist church, whose chapel, according to the inscription on it in 1983, was built in 1829. It was still functioning as a chapel shortly before the Second World War, and may have continued after the war ended, but it had been abandoned and was partly derelict when it was offered by the Welsh Baptist Union to Mount Pleasant. They accepted the building and, having raised the necessary finance, they have now successfully converted the chapel into a conference centre for Christian youth, most of the work having been done by Community Industries. With the anglicisation of the Gwent coal-mining valleys the Welsh-speaking membership of Libanus must have faded quietly away.

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Before I had been to Cwmbran or to Blackwood and found out all this, I wrote in May 1982 to the secretary of Mount Pleasant Baptist chapel, a Mr. Norman, asking whether there had ever been any other chapels belonging to the Baptist denomination at Blackwood and whether he could give me any information about my great-grandfather. As usual I enclosed a stamped, addressed envelope for his reply; but no reply came. I learned later that Mr. Norman had moved to the S.E. of England but no doubt he sent on my letter to the new chapel secretary. In the following September I wrote to the minister at Mount Pleasant, a Mr. Young, with a copy of the letter I had written to Mr. Norman. Again I enclosed a stamped, addressed envelope, but again there was no reply. It was in April 1983 that I visited Cwmbran. At the Record Office there one of the archivists told me of a Rev. Pierce Jones who often researched there in connection with a history of the Baptists of Gwent he was compiling and suggested I should telephone him, which I did. He seemed interested and willing to help, so I wrote to him after I was home with copies of what I already had about the Rev. E.E. Jones, and once more a stamped, addressed envelope. Once more no reply came. I have sometimes wondered if there was something odd about my great-grandfather, which people were reluctant to tell me. Whether or not that was so, the impression I was left with was that clearly some degree of oddness prevailed among the present-day Baptists of Gwent.

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MARWOLAETH Y PARCH. E. E. JONES,  
COED-DUON.

Gwnaeth angen dalu ymweliad â'r ffermdy Twynffilkins, ger Coed-duon, Sabboth, Chwefror 21ain, a chymmerodd anwyl briod y Parch. E. E. Jones, ar ol cystudd byr, i ffordd yr holl ddaear; ac yn mhén deg awr ar olei anwyl briod, cymmerodd ein parchus hea dad, sef y Parch. E. E. Jones, ei hedfa i'w artref tragywyddol, ar ol taith grefyddol deilwng o'i broffes. Yr oeddent wedi cychwyn yn fore; treuliasant yn agos tringain mlynedd daa yr iau briodasol, ac ychydig yn ychwaneg dan yr iau i Grist, mewn modd cysson a difwlch, ac hunasant yn yr Iesu wedi cyrhaedd yr oedran addfed—Mr. Jones yn 83, a Mrs. Jones yn 80 mlwydd oed. Treuliodd Mr. Jones 56 mlynedd yn y weinidogaeth, a bu o wir ddefnydd yn llaw ei Feistr mawr i ennill cannoedd o eneidiau at y Gwaredwr bendigedig. Trwy ei lafur ef cychwynwyd amryw eglwysi newyddion yn Morganwg a Mynwy, megys Pentyrch, Tongwynlas, &c. Carwn yn fawr i ryw frawd cymhwys ddyfod a chofiant tellwng i'r tad a'r fam hyn yn Israel.

SEREN CYMRU12th March 1875Death of the Rev. E.E. JONES, Blackwood

Death paid a visit to the farmhouse, Twynffilkins, near Blackwood, on Sunday 21st February, and took the beloved wife of the Rev. E.E. Jones, after a short illness, the way of all the earth; and ten hours after his dear wife our venerable father, the Rev. E.E. JONES took his flight to his eternal home, after a devout journey worthy of his profession. They had set out early; they spent nearly sixty years under the marital yoke, and rather more under the yoke of Christ, in a manner consistent and unbroken, and fell asleep in Jesus after attaining the promised age - Mr. Jones 83 and Mrs. Jones 80 years of age. Mr. Jones spent 56 years in the ministry and was veritably an instrument in the hands of his great Master to win hundreds of souls to the blessed Redeemer. Through his labours several new churches were founded in Glamorgan and Monmouthshire, such as Pentyrch, Tongwynlas, etc. We should dearly love some suitably qualified brother to produce a memoir worthy of this father and mother in Israel.

The baptisms of four children of Jenkin and Ann Morgan are in the Coychurch parish register, though oddly that of the eldest son, Jenkin, is again missing. There is no doubt about him, however, as he appears in the 1841 census return living with his parents at Groes Farm. For quite a long time I did not discover his marriage, which took place in February 1847 at Llansannor to Elizabeth Jane Truman of Pantylliwydd in that parish. The one odd thing about the marriage certificate is that Jenkin is described in it as "shopkeeper" and his residence is given as "Bridgend", but the name and occupation of his father are correct and the register was signed by Jenkin's sister, Ann Morgan.

The Trumans were quite a historic family. The first of them to appear on the Glamorgan scene was a certain Richard Truman, a Northampton man, said to have been apprenticed to a saddler, who was a trooper in the Cromwellian army. He rose to be a lieutenant, came to Glamorgan under Col. Philip Jones of Fonmon and in due course he settled in Llantrisant. His great-grandson was Thomas Truman (1713-1786), a monumental mason, antiquary and genealogist, who married the heiress of Pantylliwydd and settled there. The mother of Jenkin Morgan's wife Elizabeth was Mrs. Jane Truman, a widow, who was a relative of the Methodist preacher, Edward Matthews, and eventually she became his first wife. Here I will quote some passages I have translated from the Welsh of "EDWARD MATTHEWS EWENNI" by J.J.Morgan, published in 1922.

Pages 35-37

"In 1833 Edward Matthews came to the neighbourhood of Penllin from Hirwaun (where he had been working). His new home was Pantylliwydd. Mrs. Truman, the owner and occupier of Pantylliwydd, was a cousin of his father; her maiden name had been Miss Alexander and her home close to St. Mary Church, between Cowbridge and St. Athan. She had been a widow for six years and supposing her young relative would be of help to her with the farm, she invited him to make his home there. At the time she was 37 years old and had three children, two girls and a seven year old son. The Trumans, like the Matthews, had been a family of good lineage that had seen better times. They had once possessed considerable estates, but from time to time the family had been obliged to sell farm after farm, and by this time Pantylliwydd remained as their only possession. There can be seen on the wall of the little Llansannor church, opposite the family graves, a sun-dial with an inscription underneath it:

Sic transit gloria mundi. T. Truman fecit  
March ye 10th 1741

The inheritance came to the family through the marriage of that particular Thomas, the maker of the sun-dial, with Mary, the heiress of Pantylliwydd. The eldest son was named

Thomas. The second son, William, died in 1831; he was rector of Christon in Somerset. Thomas, the third of that name, was the next heir in the chain, the husband of the Mrs. Truman with whom we are concerned. He had four brothers . . . . Mr. Truman was returning from Cowbridge late on the evening of one market day and his body was found dead on the road very early the next morning. It was supposed he had been thrown by his mettlesome horse and fell on his head; but since his purse was empty it was feared by some that he had fallen a victim to foul play, and there was talk of a confession some years later by a highwayman and murderer under sentence of death that he had attacked Mr. Truman and had struck him down a corpse. He was not quite forty years of age and the hair of his widow turned white in a few days under such a dreadful blow."

Pages 66-67 (1843)

"Not many months went by after Matthews returned to his old haunts before he took Mrs. Jane Truman as his wife. I can understand that it caused no little stir in the circle of his acquaintance. It seems that there was as much talk about his first marriage as there was about his second. There was some reason for the talk and for the surprise. They had lived for nine years by the same fireside without anyone prophesying or imagining a closer relationship between them. She was a blood relation of his and in addition was seventeen years older than he was. Nevertheless the gulf between them was not as wide as it appeared. For one thing he was much older and maturer than his years and she was much younger and more sprightly. Her tread was as light as that of a girl of nineteen, and for twenty years after their marriage no one would think from looking at them that they were other than of the same age. It was apparent that their mutual love and respect was sincere and deep. The union endured for decades without a cloud . . . . indeed until death separated them. . . . Mrs. Matthews was not only lively but pretty in her person and dignified in her bearing . . . . She was a woman of considerable culture . . . . She spoke the Vale of Glamorgan Welsh readily and attractively, though she preferred English, and for that reason they conversed normally in English in their home."

Mrs. Jane Matthews died on 21st September 1890 at the age of 94.

Edward Matthews married again in the following April, and he himself died on 26th November 1892

The Pantylliwydd household appears as follows in the 1841 census return:-

Llansannor - Pantylliwydd

Jane Truman	age 40	Farmer
Mary Truman	15	
Elizabeth Truman	15	
Thomas Truman	14	
Edward Matthews	30	Minister
David Richard	45	Ag. Lab.
Jane Llewelin	15	Fem. Serv.

Ages shown in this census are not to be taken at their face value; Mrs. Truman would have been about 45 and Edward Matthews 28.

After his marriage in 1847 Jenkin Morgan apparently went back to farming. In the census return of 1851 I have found him and his young family just outside Bridgend.

30th March 1851

Parish of Coity Lower : Bridgend

<u>Street &amp; House</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Relation to head</u>	<u>Cond- ition</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Where born</u>
Ewenny Rd. Clay Pits	Jenkin Morgan	Head	mar.	31	Farmer	Coychurch, Glam.
	Elizabeth do	wife	do	25	70 acres	Llansannor Coity, Glam
	Jenkin do	son		2		do do
	Thomas T. do	do		6 mos.		do do
	Ann Jones	serv.	unm.	34	house serv.	Llanfrynach, Carms.
	Jane Aston	do	do	12	do do	Coity Glam
	Timothy Prichard	do	do	25	Farm lab.	Hilmalady, Cork
	John Morgan	do	do	24	do do	Prengist, Pem
	Henry Jones	do	do	13	do do	Coity Glam

The family was not in that locality ten years later at the next census, and regrettably I have not been able to discover any trace of them anywhere else up to now. Nor have I found that Jenkin's father, Jenkin Morgan of Groes Farm, left a will; in the absence of which I presume that his eldest son would have inherited whatever real estate he possessed at his death. Whether Jenkin Morgan the younger was still alive in 1872, or at his mother's death in 1887, and whether he claimed his inheritance or caused what there was left of it to be sold, remains unknown to me.