

# **The Dalloyd & Griffith Story**

by James M Burton, Aberdare, February 2015

This is a professional-amateur's attempt to piece together the origins, history and descendants of the above families at a simple request by living relatives. Their origins in the mining town of Ystradgynlais and their emigration to Scranton in Pennsylvania are fraught with hard work and toil in the coal mines amongst dire poverty with many tragic tales. But the respect they maintain is crowned with a smattering of fame and historical firsts. The story is by no means error free or unfinished and may be freely distributed or changed by any successive authors. This is a non-profit venture and may not be re-sold for profit. Special thanks to descendants of the above families, whose evidence and research I have incorporated into this paper. All original documents can be viewed on Ancestry under the handle spooksprung, while that website persists.

***Updated 5th March 2015***

## **Contents**

**Joseph Dalloyd, 1804-1877**

**John Dalloyd, 1838-1875**

*Son of Joseph Dalloyd & Margaret Griffiths*

**Joan Dalloyd 1861-1918**

*Daughter to John Dalloyd & Margaret Williams*

**Joseph Dalloyd, 1840-1910**

*Son of Joseph Dalloyd & Margaret Griffiths*

**Mary Ann Dalloyd, 1826-1875**

*Daughter of Joseph Dalloyd & Margaret Griffiths*

**Morgan Dalloyd A.C. 1854-1947**

*Grandson to Joseph Dalloyd & Margaret Griffiths*

**Herbert Griffith 1854-1890**

*Son of Mary Ann Dalloyd & Thomas Griffith*

**Joseph Arthur Griffith 1889-1952**

*Son of Herbert Griffith & Mary Lynn*

# Joseph Dalloyd, biography, 1803-1877

*Son of John Dalloyd & Elizabeth Lewis*

Joseph born in Pembroke worked as a coal miner and labourer all his life, moving from Swansea to Llangiwg settling in Ystradgynlais using different variations of his surname over the years. He was married with 10 children.

He tells us via the census that he was born in the remote parish of Roch in Pembrokeshire. Because of his 'habit' of changing his surname several times over his career from Daley, Dalley, Dally, Dalloyd, and even Delloyd, (*explained below*) it has been difficult to find his origins so far. There is no trace of a Joseph Dalloyd prior to 1851, but we find in 1841, he, with his wife and the same named children, ages and birth-places using the surname Dally in Llangiwg.

So, I visited Pembroke archives for a thorough search of his baptism. In Roch, Nolton, Havorfordwest, Camrose, Brawdy and all the surrounding parishes, including surviving non-conformist chapel records I found not a trace of a Dally, Dalloyd or any anomaly, variant, abbreviation or illegitimacy. However following up a lead on a Martletwy parish baptism I found scores of baptisms for Dally with 11 families in the area, no doubt related to each other in some way, all working in coal mining & land shipping; loading coal onto the barges to be taken down stream for loading onto bigger ships. Remarkably 6 of these have a wife named Elizabeth.

Amongst them Richard & Hannah (Griffith) Dally baptise a Joseph Dally on 6th March 1803. They were married in Jeffreston parish nearby in 1793, having around 10 children. Remarkably also these 11 families disappear from Martletwy parish records in 1824, the same year Joseph is found married in Swansea.

From where they are, the similar nature of their work and the origin of their surname, all living close to one another, and the fact that they baptise and marry in the main Welsh-English parish church it is sufficient to claim they were Southern Irish Protestants contracted for this work as they were good at it and 'trustworthy Irish'. The archivist suggested they in turn may descend from the French Huguenots who came to Ireland during religious persecution.

So considering that Joseph was also later employed in the same work as his fellow Dally's and that these families are concentrated in Martletwy, it is safe to say this is indeed him. Other evidence includes him naming his child Hannah after his mother. There is still the mystery as to why Joseph tells us he was born in Roch. So I'll conjure up some ideas:

- His mother living in unsuitable cramped labouring houses, no more than mud huts, would traditionally go and stay with relations to give birth, 11 miles isn't far to Roch, I'm sure she would have walked it.
- He was lying to cover his tracks. I have found no evidence however of any Dally being in court, prison or newspaper (apart from one attempted murder, theft of a gold watch and one case of bastardy, all in Martletwy).
- Maybe he did not know precisely where he was born but was told by someone in the family this story.
- His family was on the move constantly due to work, but made sure all children were baptised in Martletwy on their return.

Another intriguing link comes from a John Dalloyd and Elizabeth Lewis being married in Ystradgynlais 1802, they baptising and burying a William in that same year. It is pertinent to note that this is the ONLY family using the Dalloyd surname in the whole of Wales at the time, if not the UK. Joseph in around 1826 starts using the Dalloyd surname when he moved to the aforementioned town before Elizabeth dies in 1830. I considered therefore for a time that this couple may have been the actual parents of Joseph, whether they then moved to Roch on doctor or work orders to sire Joseph around 1804, and they leaving him to be adopted by close relatives Dally's. They certainly died back in Y'gynlais in 1811 and 1830 respectively, noted that his supposed mother Elizabeth would have been 50 years old at the time of his birth, if we are to go by the parish records. Joseph then came back to Y'gynlais looking for his real parents?

If he was not their child, could these have been uncles or 1<sup>st</sup> cousins to him, and had some spiritual or pecuniary influence that prompted him to change his name? Maybe he did so as Dalloyd sounded more 'Welsh' to disassociate himself with his Irish past or even pretended to be related to them of Y'gynlais to claim poor relief, social status or was a social climber?

We must consider also that although no direct evidence exists that he was Welsh spoken considering his origins above and he living in the most English of Welsh districts, Pembroke, I am pretty sure he picked up a great deal of it, especially if his wife was of that tongue, and he moving to Y'gynlais (still strong in Welsh speakers to this day). Poems in deep Welsh appear in the local papers in honour of his children's marriages. His grandson Morgan, who he adopted, composed and sang in Welsh, with his son Dr David John becoming first professor of music in Aberystwyth, publishing and writing songs for the Eisteddfods, this would by no means be an impossible feat if they had not been inherent native speakers of the old Celtic tongue!

I would class Joseph as an itinerant labourer at first, walking to Swansea in search of work, where he married Margaret Griffiths who came from St Davids not far from Martletwy, a suggestion they may have 'run off to the city' together. A child Margaret is born to them, but thought to have died, and so they moved 10 miles north to Llangiwg (Llanguicke) by 1841 siring another 7 children Mary Ann, Hannah, Thomas, Sarah, Martha, John & Joseph, under the surname Dally and working as a collier.

By 1851 he has now changed his name officially or otherwise to Dalloyd, working as an 'engine worker' in Ystradgynlais. This suggests that he may have been involved with coal trucks, mine pumps or other primitive machinery. In 1871, now aged 67 he is still hard at work as a coal miner, living with his grandchildren Joan, who's father John possibly died in America and Morgan who lost his mother Hannah in '59 to childbirth. From the birth-places of his children we can determine that he travelled from Roch to Martletwy to Swansea to Y'gynlais to Llanguick to Roch to Y'gynlais, either in search of work, restlessness, or was 'on the run'.

I have no evidence that he was involved in the local chapel movements, but we can assume some interest as he encouraged his grandson Morgan, who barely knew his mother or father, to attend one them at Cwmtwrch where he was trained in the new Tonic Sol-fa methods of singing. He became one of its 'poster boys', winning competitions countrywide, leading to his son David John becoming the first professor of music at Aberystwyth University. At least 4 of Joseph's children

moved to the mining town of Scranton in Pennsylvania around the 1860-70s.

*Variants of Joseph's surname from official documents: 1824 Dally. 1824 Dalley. 1826 De Loyd. 1829 Dally. 1841 Dally. 1851 Dalloyd. 1861 Dalloyd. 1871 Dalloyd. 1877 Dalloyd.*

## **Children of Joseph Dalloyd & Margaret Griffiths**

- Margaret Dalloyd their first child baptised in Swansea 1824 appears to have died, but we have no records for her. She may even have been re-christened as Deloyd in 1826 when the family moved to Ystradgynlais, but no reliable trace of either child can be found after this date. Worth researching is a Margaret Lloyd staying with Joseph Dalloyd (*what would be her brother*) when he is using the surname Lloyd in NY, 1870 (*explained on p.7*).
- Hannah Dalloyd progressed for a time with the family, but either through bad planning or misfortune gave birth to a Morgan by an unknown father in 1854, who as mentioned above became a singing sensation locally. We believe she died in childbirth in 1859 when daughter Hannah was born, she, never knowing her mother or father ended up adopted and 're-enacting' the life of her mother siring 3 children illegitimately to two Davies.
- Thomas Dalloyd died age 13, in 1845. Martha Dalloyd married a David Morgan and stayed in Wales.
- Sarah Dalloyd married Griffith Powell a miner in 1858 and by 1870 had shipped out to Scranton to join her relatives with children Joseph, Catherine, Margaret, Mary, Morgan, William.

*Notes for researchers: we can only reliably trace Joseph's journey through the birth-place-names given to his children in the census who only turn up successively together with same names and birth-dates in Llangiwg 1841 and Y'gynlais 1851, assuring us it is the same family, but with the surname Dally mutating to Dalloyd. We are safe to conclude he marries under the Dally surname, as Swansea is a short distance away, and the first port of call if coming to seek work from Pembroke, a burgeoning port at the time. There is from my and others extensive research no other matching marriage with a Margaret under any variation of his name in South Wales. Of course it must be noted most of this work has been done online by professional amateurs, and many documents have not come online or are poorly transcribed, and so all info is subject to scrutiny and change.*

## **Parish Records Reference**

- 5<sup>th</sup> Oct 1793, marriage, Richard Dally & Hannah Griffiths, Jeffreyston, Pembrokeshire
- 16<sup>th</sup> Jan 1802, marriage, John Dalloyd & Elizabeth Lewis, St Cynog's, Y'gynlais
- 6<sup>th</sup> March 1803, baptism, Joseph son of Richard & Hannah Dally, Martletwy, Pembrokeshire
- 25<sup>th</sup> Apr 1824, marriage, Joseph Dally & Margaret Griffiths, Cadoxtan St John's, Swansea
- 29<sup>th</sup> Dec 1824, baptism Margaret of Joseph & Margaret Dally, Cadoxtan St John, Swansea
- 11<sup>th</sup> Feb 1826, baptism Margaret Deloyd of Joseph & Margaret, St Cynog's, Y'gynlais
- 27<sup>th</sup> Feb 1829 Baptism Hannah Dally of Joseph & Margaret, St Cynogs, Y'gynlais
- Residence 1841. Age 38. Llangiwg, Joseph Dally. Twrch Cottage. Miner.
- Residence 1851. Age 48. Y'gynlais, Joseph Dalloyd. College Row. Engine worker.
- Residence 1861. Age: 58. Y'gynlais. Joseph Dalloyd. 9 Penrhos Hill. Coalminer
- Residence 1871. Age: 68. Y'gynlais. Dalloyd. Cwmtwrch. Coal miner

## John Dalloyd, biography, 1838-1875

*Son of Joseph Dalloyd & Margaret Griffiths*

The birth and baptism of John cannot yet be discerned due to the family moving frequently, they using different version of the same surname, and they possibly being too poor to afford registration. Census however states he was born in Ystradgynlais 1838, although he is living in Llangiwig by age 3. After moving back to the former town he manages to win the attentions of Margaret Williams a local girl, daughter of Thomas, a stone cutter in 1857. Tradition has a pre-nuptive poem being written for them and posted in the local paper, most likely by a student at the Cwmgiedd 'school of poets' nearby (*translation below*).

From thence we are not certain what happened to him. His only daughter Joan is living with her grandparents Joseph & Margaret by 1871 in Cwmtwrch, her mother dead in the same year from tuberculosis. There are suggestions that he travelled to America to look for work, his brother Joseph is documented as emigrating by 1863 and living in NY by 1870 and Scranton PA by 1875.

Because of the scarcity of the Dalloyd surname, especially in Scranton we can be marginally sure that a John Dalloyd junior, born and buried there in 1870 and an unnamed unborn Dalloyd buried 1871 could be by him. From that evidence we can suppose for example that he emigrated to Scranton leaving his wife and daughter behind, and married an Ann Jones in 1870, thus committing bigamy, leaving his wife at home in Wales to die in agony, and watching his new wife die in childbirth in the same year. Other researchers have hinted that Ann was the eldest daughter of John W. Jones whose 2<sup>nd</sup> daughter Hannah married his brother Joseph as proved in the next chapter, which makes good sense.

But of course we do not know the circumstances which prompted this move if it happened at all. We have no evidence that he even left or lived in America or married Ann. The John junior above could even be named in his honour by his brother Joseph. He might even have died around the same time as his wife, but of course there is no evidence in Wales to say so, apart from the fact that on Joan, his daughter's marriage certificate, 1878, it is stated he is dead.

---

### Epithalamium in honor of John Dalloyd

Here's the first of the translations of the marriage-poems in accolade of your ancestors matrimony penned by the school of poets in Cwmgiedd. This one is pretty innocuous, but Welsh poetry never translates well, the romance is within the word play and form of the language. They are actually made to a precise form with rules and subtle rhymes.

22 August 1857 'Seren Cymru' <http://papuraunewyddcymru.llgc.org.uk/en/page/view/3193580/ART22/dalloyd>

Awst 8, yn Eglwys Ystradgynlais, gan y Parch. Thomas Walters, Periglor, John, mab Joseph Dalloyd, a Margaret, merch Thomas Williams, (Saer Maen), y ddau o College Row, Ystradgynlais.

Mae Marged 'nawr yn wraig lan lon,  
A John yn wr mwyn cryno  
Boed iddynt fyw yn un yn der  
Bob amser yn ddiflino  
Boed iddynt blant serchoglawn teg,  
Ac hefyd chweg gysuron  
Boed heddwch rhyngddynt ar bob pryd,  
Gan rodio 'nghyd yn ffyddlon.  
Boed iddynt gyfoeth a thy hardd,  
A gardd yn llawn o flodau  
A heddwch lor, a stor o ras,  
Gan fyw fel addas seintiau.  
Yna, ar ol terfynu'u hoes,  
A chario'r groes yn gryno,  
Hwy gant eu codi i'r nefoedd fry,  
I ganu yn ddiflino. J. JENKINS. Gorof.

August 8, in Ystradgynlais church, by Rev. Thomas Walters, incumbent, John, son of Joseph Dalloyd, and Margaret, daughter of Thomas Williams, (Stonecutter), both of College Row, Ystradgynlais.

Marged now is an up street wife  
And John a suitably gentle husband  
May they live brightly as one  
Untiring for all time  
May they have pleasant fair children  
And many sweet comforts  
May they be at peace with each other  
By walking together faithfully  
With a garden full of flowers  
And perfect peace and a store of beef?  
While living like fitting saints  
Then after they expire  
While carrying the cross  
They'll be lifted to the heavens  
To sing praises unending. J. JENKINS. Gorof

---

## **Joan Dalloyd, biography, 1861-1918**

*Daughter to John Dalloyd & Margaret Williams*

Joan was brought up with her grandparents Joseph & Margaret in Cwmtwrch from 1871 after her mothers untimely passing in that year. With her father also either dead or emigrated to America, she would have appreciated this kind adoption, her skilled cousin Morgan living with them filling the house with his musical gifts. She was keen to carry on and married John Evans, a coal miner in 1878 producing a grand litter of 10 children, David J, Margaret, Dinah, Evan, Joseph, Rees, Joan, William, Esther Ann & Thomas Ifor in the Coedffranc area. Unfortunately she was one of the many victims of the Spanish Flu that swept through Europe after the war and is buried in St John's, Skewen.

## Joseph Dalloyd, biography, 1840-1910

*Son of Joseph Dalloyd & Margaret Griffiths*

Reliably born in South Wales, his baptism place is obscure for now. It could have been in Ystradgynlais or Llangiwig, if he had one at all, with his family moving around constantly. He had a go at working making boilers near the steel mills of Ebbw Vale, but with his brothers and sisters emigrating he thought this an exciting new prospect and is carried aboard the 'City of Washington' steamer to New York in 1863.

A newspaper story printed in 1870 by David Thomas describing his emigration from Cwmtwrch to Scranton tells how he arrived in New York and stayed at the house of J. Dalloyd, son of Joseph Dalloyd of Cwmtwrch, at 403 Greenwich Street with his step-father, J.W. Jones. This place at the time was a boarding house, in the 1870 census under a John Jones; living & working with them, a Joseph Lloyd and Hannah his wife. This proves Joseph married Hannah Jones around 1868 and for some reason mutated his name to Lloyd while running this hostel, a stop off point and 'familiar contact' for Welsh emigrants to NY. This is excellent undeniable provenance. He is later found living as a mine foreman in Scranton, 1880-00.

A Joseph Deloyd is also listed as a conscript in the American Civil War serving in the 12th district of PA, living in Hyde Park of which I was unsure of, but his 1901 grave bears the rank 'Private', definitive proof he served in the Civil War. It seems obvious to me at least that he came to America specifically to fight therein. We have had the same problem in tracing him as his father, as his surname mutates slowly from Dalloyd to Da Lloyd to D Lloyd, finally emerging as Lloyd, under which name his 6 children are baptised as Frank, John D Lloyd, Josephine L, Fredrick, & Gertrude. Of interest is John D. Lloyd, an eminent judge in Scranton. Joseph dies in 1901, buried in Scranton, his widow surviving him by 15 years.

*Notes for research: Because of the scarcity of the Dalloyd surname, with only one Joseph born 1840 in the entire world, we are certain of his origins and passage to New York. Discovering how his name mutated came from the undeniable facts in the newspaper report which linked him to the boarding house under the Jones's, and that on many of his children's death certificates with a surname Lloyd, he is still given the surname Dalloyd, allowing us to trace him in the census successively with the same children and wife but mutating surname.*

Yr oedd oddeutu dwsin o oruchwylwyr ymfudol yma yn cynyg lle i ni, (oherwydd yr oeddynt yn cerdded oddiamgylch, gan geisio y neb a allent ei lynu), ond wedi myned allan, cawsom o hyd i Mr. J. W. Jones, tad-yn-nghyfraith J. Dalloyd, mab Joseph Dalloyd, Cwmtwrch, a partner ymfudol. Y mae eu ty yn 403, Greenwich st., sef lle yr oedd Cadwaladr Richards, tua milldir o'r Castle Gardens. Yr oeddem yno am 12 o'r gloch. Yn mhen

*Extract of 'Journey to America' by David Thomas from the 'Gwladgarwr' 20 August 1870*

I have translated the whole of the article describing a Welshman's journey from Ystradgynlais to Scranton from Liverpool via NY meeting J. Dalloyd on the way. You can't get better provenance than that! It seems there was a large community of Welsh mining settlers in Scranton. One imagines there are still speakers of Welsh amongst them... Also related is a book that you could get 'The Welsh in America: Letters from the Immigrants' Alan Conway 1961 (University of Minnesota Press) that features people in this article.

---

20 August 1870 'Gwladgarwr'

<http://papuraunewyddcymru.llgc.org.uk/en/page/view/3085554/ART11/dalloyd>

### **'Journey from Cwmtwrch to America' by DAVID W. THOMAS (cont.)**

About one o'clock the 'City of Manchester' came in, although it had started out a quarter hour before us at Liverpool. At 3 o'clock the mail arrived with a sump truck of bags, and we started for New York. We are travelling with a 'headland full' of Irish, with the lights in the distance till about mid night. About then a cry went out, but the end was not come, 'twas One of 'Mary's' children who had a cry I have never heard the like. By the morning I heard that he had lost his mind and had to be restrained by tying his hands and legs. I saw nothing notable on the 6th to 8th but a few fish on the 7th. On the 8th we were nearing the 'Banks' there was a fog, so a signal was put out every three minutes.

April 10th. This is the second Sunday morning aboard the 'Cuba'. From the bowels of the stowage came the message that a divine service would be held in the Main Saloon, a place I didn't know about until now. At quarter past 10 the bell rung to make the service church-like, at that we saw the seamen in their best, going to church as they say, and there a church of England service was given by the Captain. In the stowage the Irish were taking their service, but they were close to losing it because the priest couldn't find his best shoes, but in the end he came and there were 50 or 60 children of 'Mary' congregated, mostly young girls and each with their common prayerbook in their hands.

After the service came dinner time, but I declined to go. I haven't eaten a morsel since last Monday, only that which I bought from the cooks here. I have spent 10 shillings. At two o'clock we had a meeting on the upper deck, a sermon by an old white haired man who was a missionary in China for 21 years, on his way back there. The Atlantic was as flat as a table and the 'Cuba' was sailing admirably. And about the time you were in Cwmtwrch going to the six o'clock meet, he was in clear English imploring to us that, "God so loved the world that he gave his only son" etc. The two subjects were God's Love & Faith of Man. 'Rouseas Dream' and 'Edinburgh' were sung excellently. We did not take a walk to the Gurnos then oh no! Only the hammock was awaiting us.

April 12th & 13th. The pilot came to the bridge, Sandy Hook Island was in the distance, and about 2 or 3 o'clock we anchored for 'New Jersey City', the most beautiful place you have ever seen because of the handsome trees. The 'City of

'London' was here since yesterday. There was a outbreak of measles and mumps so we couldn't go in. About 7 o'clock the doctor came on-board to examine us. There isn't much to it, just walking past him. Then we commenced up the Hudson River to the side of the 'New Jersey'. Some sort of large barge is being pulled by the packet taking the luggage from the 'Cuba' over to Castle Gardens in New York with a great deal of commotion.

About 10 o'clock we were in Castle Gardens. It was a large wooden structure on the banks of the river, only a breadth of a road between them. Here there are desks with supervisors and money changers. There is a large gallery about it like a church, a place for supervisors to stand, and in one corner there was a fountain of cold water, and oh! that was welcome, having been on the ship for 11 days having only tepid water. I should have said sooner that nobody can care for his luggage after they were put on by the tender at Liverpool till they got to Castle Gardens and the boxes are opened, so make sure you have your ticket then or you will not get your luggage without it. There were a dozen emigration supervisors offering us places to stay (as we were walking about hoping none of them would swallow us).

But on going out we found Mr J.W. Jones father-in-law to J. Dalloyd, son of Joseph Dalloyd, Cwmtwrch and his travelling partner. His house is at 403 Greenwich Street where Cadwaladr Richards (Welsh settler, present NY 1853) was 3 miles from Castle Gardens. We were there by 12 o'clock. In the hour David Phillips came off the 'City of London' and we were glad to see him and understand that he was well. He was amongst the children whom the outbreak occurred and was close to being quarantined for 6 weeks. After dinner we went to look at New York town. Its streets and makers are not as excellent as those in Liverpool, although there is a better atmosphere as there are trees lining each side of the street. The street cars here are a cacophony and enough to make you deaf as the bells ring without end. Also there are 'cars' running above the street. I couldn't give a description of them I saw neither head nor tail of them, but they stopped atop high posts 10 yards in length and those being operated by stationary machines working by tile ropes and when they went past you could imagine that the old boy (God?) is going past (referring to the cable cars).

# Mary Ann Dalloyd, biography, 1826-1875

*Daughter of Joseph Dalloyd & Margaret Griffiths*

The birth place of Mary Ann is not yet certain from baptism records, since her father Joseph was moving around in the area so much. We might guess she would have been Christened with the early Dalley version of the family's surname, and is recorded in the census as being born in Llangiwg (Llanguicke).

After the family moved to Y'gynlais around 1842 she meets Thomas Griffith of Llandeilo, son of John a stone cutter and marries in 1843, moving back to Llangiwg. Whatever prompted the family to emigrate, it could have simply been an advert in the newspaper promising high wages and free houses for coal miners, Thomas and Mary seem to have shipped out to Scranton in Pennsylvania before 1861 leaving their 6 children with a near relative Morgan Griffiths in Llangiwg. With Thomas settled there as a coal miner, Mary comes back for the children shipping them on mass on board the steam ship 'Resolute', arriving in New York on 4th Oct 1862, where they took a train to Scranton in Pennsylvania, where there was a large mining community of Welsh spoken emigrants from Ystradgynlais, South Wales and Ireland.

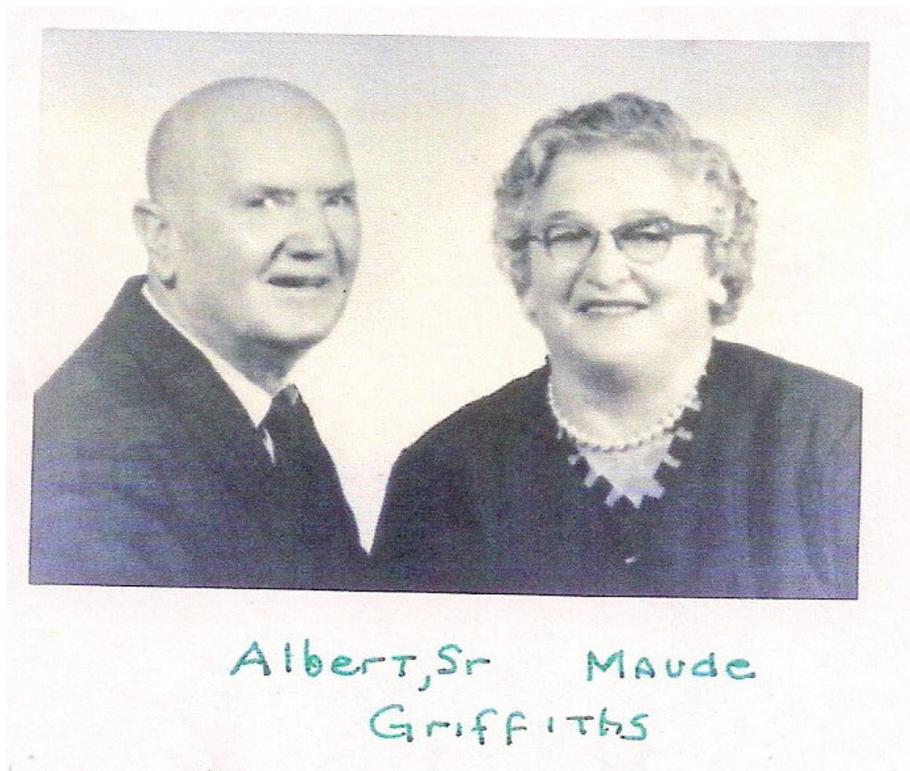
We have the family listed in Scranton on the census in 1870 and included Thomas & wife Mary Ann with children Joseph, Herbert, Thomas, Margaret, Mary A, Anna & Benjamin. However by 1880 it seems Thomas and Mary had died, leaving the children scattered to the four winds. I have not traced John, or his daughters who have probably married off.

## Children of Thomas Griffith & Mary Ann Dalloyd

- A reliable survivor was Thomas Griffith junior of whose death certificate in Scranton survives, firmly stating his parents were Thomas Griffith and Mary Ann Dalley from Wales. He worked as a miner for at least 50 years siring 13 children, Minnie, Sammia, John, Byron, David, Cyrus, Albert, Thomas H, Wesley, Mary, Sarah & Helen by Sarah Williams, of whom we have individual photographs of, appearing very 'radiant'.
- Benjamin Griffith, a coal miner in Scranton & Moosic married Sarah Ann Evans, with 7 children, George, Benjamin, Eliza, Isabelle, Esther Rachel William. There were at least 6 Benjamin Griffith's born around the Scranton area but everything seems to match for this liaison, but further proof is required to be definitive.
- This is also the case for Joseph Griffith, we have an excellent match for a coal miner of the same name and birth-date marrying Margaret Lewis and siring Jane, Ann, Richard J., Owen, Priscilla, Minnie G, Laura & Maud, settling in Wilkes-Barre nearby.



Thomas Griffith & Sarah Williams with children c.1896



Albert Griffith & Maud Retta Jenkins c.1960

613  
 COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
 BUREAU OF VITAL STATISTICS  
 File No. **53253**  
 Registered No. **854**  
(If death occurred in a Hospital or Institution, give its NAME instead of street and number.)

**CERTIFICATE OF DEATH**  
 1. PLACE OF DEATH  
 County of Lacka  
 Township of .....  
 or  
 Borough of .....  
 or  
 City of Scranton (No. 2905-11-Union St., ..... Ward)  
 Registration District No. 4  
 Primary Registration District No. ....

2. FULL NAME Thomas Griffiths

**PERSONAL AND STATISTICAL PARTICULARS**

3. SEX Male 4. COLOR OR RACE White 5. SINGLE, MARRIED, WIDOWED OR DIVORCED Married  
(Write the word.)

6. DATE OF BIRTH June 17 1864  
(Month) (Day) (Year)

7. AGE 67 yrs. 10 mos. 24 ds.  
If LESS than 1 day how many.....hrs. or .....min.?

8. OCCUPATION  
 (a) Trade, profession, or particular kind of work Retired Miner  
 (b) General nature of industry, business, or establishment in which employed (or employer) .....

9. BIRTHPLACE (State or Country) Wales

10. NAME OF FATHER Thomas Griffiths

11. BIRTHPLACE OF FATHER (State or Country) Wales

12. MAIDEN NAME OF MOTHER May Ann Dally

13. BIRTHPLACE OF MOTHER (State or Country) Wales

14. THE ABOVE IS TRUE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE.  
 (Informant) Mrs Thomas Griffiths  
 (Address) 2905-11-Union

15. Filled MAY 12 1922 1922  
Chas. M. C. Local Registrar

**MEDICAL CERTIFICATE OF DEATH**

16. DATE OF DEATH May 11 1922  
(Month) (Day) (Year)

17. I HEREBY CERTIFY, That I attended deceased from Apr 15 1922, to May 11 1922, that I last saw him alive on May 10 1922, and that death occurred, on the date stated above, at 7:30 P. M. The CAUSE OF DEATH\* was as follows:

Purpuric Meningitis  
 (Duration) 7 yrs. 5 mos. 20 ds.

Contributory (Secondary) ..... (Duration) ..... yrs. .... mos. .... ds.

(Signed) R. C. Shepherd M. D.  
 19..... (Address) 633 S. Market

\*State the DISEASE CAUSING DEATH; or in deaths from VIOLENT CAUSES, state (1) MEANS OF INJURY; and (2) whether ACCIDENTAL, SUICIDAL, or HOMICIDAL.

18. LENGTH OF RESIDENCE (For Hospitals, Institutions, Transients or Recent Residents).  
 At place of death..... yrs..... mos..... ds. In the State..... yrs..... mos..... ds.  
 Where was disease contracted, If not at place of death?.....  
 Former or usual residence .....

19. PLACE OF BURIAL OR REMOVAL Washburn Cem DATE OF BURIAL May 16 1922

20. UNDERTAKER S. D. Jones & Son ADDRESS Scranton Pa.

Thomas Griffith, death certificate, 11 May 1922, Scranton

# Morgan Dalloyd A.C. 1854-1947

Grandson to Joseph Dalloyd & Margaret Griffiths

Morgan deserves mention and praise as it is seldom we have 'celebrities' emerging from the grime and toil of the Victorian working classes. He born of Hannah by an unknown father in 1854, she dying in childbirth 1859, he was brought up by his considerate grandfather Joseph in the Cwmtwrch area who encouraged him to take up an education in the local chapels, some solace for his loss. The elders would have spotted his unique vocal skills and trained him in the new 'Tonic Solffa' method, for which he won many prizes locally in Eisteddfods.

So good is he that he enters the local '*Poets School*' at Cwmgiedd passing his '*Advanced Certificate*' in 1878. This was in the same year as his marriage to Magdalen Griffiths of Glyncynwal Uchaf, a farm with very ancient toponymical origins, possibly linked to 6<sup>th</sup> Century St.Cynwal who may have settled here from the Gower after an outbreak of the 'yellow plague', but definitely farmed as part of 'Palleg Manor' from the 12<sup>th</sup> century. A well composed pre-nuptive poem appears in the papers in his honour, by Dewi Glan Twrch a prolific well known local poet (*translation below*). He then moves to Skewen.

He thereafter entered many competitions in local Eisteddfods, becoming a composer and choir conductor, finally a musical judge. All this goes on from 1872 aged 18 then suddenly stops in 1886 aged 32 whence he moved to Aberystwyth with his work as an insurance salesman. Here his son David John Delloyd, enamoured by his father's skills took professional training, becoming the first to attain a Bachelors in Music in 1905, becoming the first Professor of Music at Aberystwyth University in 1926. He wrote scores of music, plays and songs for the Eisteddfods and published many books on this subject in Welsh. Morgan's other children included Joseph, Gwenllian, Haydn, Edgar, Edith & Ernest.



Head of Department:  
PROF. DAVID DE LLOYD,  
MUS. DOC., B.A.

**DE LLOYD, DAVID JOHN** (1883-1948), musician; b. 30 Apr. 1883, at Skewen, Glam., son of Morgan de Lloyd, an insurance agent. The family moved several times before eventually settling down at Penparcau, Aberystwyth. While they lived at Carmarthen David attended Pentrepoeth board school. From early childhood he showed remarkable musical ability. In 1894 J.S. Curwen attended the South Wales Tonic Sol-fa Conference held at Carmarthen and during the next two years took David with him on lecturing tours in England, Scotland and Ireland, to demonstrate the more advanced uses of the notation. From Aberystwyth county school (1896-99), he won the Ceredigion county exhibition to U.C.W., Aberystwyth, where he remained until 1905, graduating B.A. (hons. Hist.), 1903. In 1905 he became the first to gain the degree of B.Mus. in the University of Wales. It was felt he should be further encouraged, and a committee chaired by T.F. Roberts (*DWB*, 882) promoted a public testimonial amounting to £100 which enabled de Lloyd to spend the session 1906-07 at Leipzig.

He taught at schools in Woolwich, 1908-11, Llanelli, 1911-19, and took the degrees of B.Mus., 1913, and Mus. Doc., 1915, at the University of Dublin. He m. in 1911 Lilian Morgan of Aberystwyth. He often adjudicated at national *cisteddfodau*. In 1919 he returned to Aberystwyth as a lecturer in the music department when Sir H. Walford Davies (see above) came to occupy the vacant chair. The numerous extra-mural activities of the professor threw more work on to the shoulders of the lecturer and de Lloyd became responsible for the choral society, the college orchestra and the weekly concerts held by the department. He succeeded Sir Walford Davies in the chair in 1926. He d. 20 Aug. 1948, the day upon which his retirement from the college was to take effect.

He composed a large number of works and arranged other music. His principal works include *Gwenllian* (opera), 1924; *Tir na n'Og* a lyrical ode by T. Gwynn Jones (see below); *Gwlad fy Nhadau* (cantata); *Cân a Moliant* (Hymns and tunes – general editor H. Haydn Jones), *Saith o Ganeuon enwog Brahms* (with Welsh words by T.H. Parry-Williams); and *Forty Welsh traditional tunes*, issued by the Cards. Antiq. Soc.

Information supplied by Ifor L. Evans; personal knowledge.\*

## **Epithalamium in honour of Morgan Dalloyd**

The 'higher' the station of the family, the better the poem, this one is by a friend of Morgan, using the pseudonym 'Dewi Glan Twrch', a well known prolific local poet from the 'School of Poets' at the time.

<http://papuraunewyddcymru.llgc.org.uk/en/pa ge/view/3293103/ART51>

PRIODASGERDD I Mr. MORGAN DALLOYD, A.C., Sciwen, a Miss MAGDALEN GRIFFITHS, Glyncynwal Uchaf, Cwmtwrch. 28 Mawrth 1879 'Gwladgarwr'

Epithalamium (Nuptial-poem) to Morgan Dalloyd, A.C. (Advanced Certificate) and Miss Magdalen Griffiths, Glyncynwal Uchaf, Cwmtwrch. 28 March 1879 'Gwladgarwr' (Love of the Country (Wales))

Ha! daliwyd, o'r diwedd, yn aur-rwydi serch,  
Y cerub cerddorol dihafal  
A weuwyd gan Cupid yn mynwes y ferch  
Miss Magdalen Griffiths, Glyncynwal;  
Bu'n cellwair flynyddau, ond dyfnach bob tro  
Y suddai i'w chalon ddi-drwbl,  
Nes i'r penderfyniad diysgog daeth o  
Offrymu ei hun iddi'n gwbl.

Ha! Caught at last, in a golden-net of affection,  
The unequalled musical cherub  
That was woven by Cupid in the breast of the girl  
Miss Magdalen Griffiths, Glyncynwal;  
She mocked for years, but became accustomed each time  
It flowed to her heart without trouble,  
Until the descision steadfastly came to  
Offer herself to it wholly

Gwireddu'r ddiareb "dau debyg a gwrdd"  
Wnaeth Morgan wrth hen allor Hymen,  
Drwy gipio y lili serchoglan i ffwrdd  
O'i chartref, i ardal gain Sciwen  
Nid dau ydynt mwyach, ond c'lymwyd- hwy'n llon  
Yn dyn mewn glan rwymyn priodas  
A sel ar eu hamod yw'r aur-fodrwy gron,  
Osododd y Person mewn urddas.

Verified the proverb "two alike will meet"  
Morgan did at the old altar of the Hymen,  
By kidnapping the pleasant lili away  
From her home to Skewen  
Not two are you no more, but totally entwined  
Closely on the shore of matriomnial ties  
A seal on his promise is the round golden ring  
That he placed with dignity

'R un fath a dwy ffrydlif yn treiglo i lawr  
Dros lechwedd y mynydd i'r aber,  
Lle cydgyfarfyddant yn brydferth eu gwawr,

Ac un gyll ei henw bob amser  
Efelly'r ddwy ffrydlif rhagorol a chlr,  
Unasant yn rhyd aber-cariad  
A cholodd Glyncynwal ei henw yn wir,  
Hyd angau yn dyn ei bymrwymiad.

Just like two flood waters flowing down  
Over the ridge of the mountain to the union,  
Where they embrace beautifully in the dawn,  
And one astray their name every time  
And so the two beautiful, clear floodwaters,  
United in a ford of confluence-love  
And Glyncynwal truly lost its name,  
Until the commitment of man dies.

Difwlch, fel y fodrwy, y byddoch yn nghyd,  
A'ch cariad brwd fyddo'n cynyddu,  
Fel afon yn treiglo, gan chwyddo o hyd  
Fwy-fwy hyd nes cyrhaedd y weilgi.  
Na ddoed annedwyddwch i flino eich bron,  
Nac'hefyd ddrain gofid ysgariad,  
Ond t'wned haul llwyddiant ei wenaun yn llon,  
Yn wybren eich bywyd yn wastad.

Without a break, like the ring, you'll be together,  
And your brooding love will magnify,  
Like a river flowing, swelling all the time  
Big-bigger until reaching the estuary.  
No troubles will come to tire your brow,  
And neither the sorrowful thorns of divorce,  
But make their faces smile with happy progress,  
In the firmament of your life constantly.

Na laesa dy ddwyllaw er dyfod i'r lan  
I gopa teml euog anrhydedd  
Yn Ddr. gobeithio y do'i yn y man,  
A'th fun fo'n goronog o rinwedd  
Hir oes i chwi bellach, fo'n gysur i gyd,  
Tra'n teithio ar lithrig daith bywyd,  
A phan ddel eich arwyl i adaw a'r byd,  
Boed i chwi fynediad i'r gwynfyd.

Never forbid your two hands to reach the shore  
To the summit of the golden temple of honor  
Hope it will come in time,  
And there crowned with virtue  
Long life to you, comforts to you all,  
While travelling on life's slippery road,  
And when comes your time to leave this world,  
So be that you enter the heavens.

DEWI GLAN TWRCH. Cwmtwrch

## **Herbert Griffith 1854-1890**

*Son of Mary Ann Dalloyd & Thomas Griffith*

Tracing Herbert was a special task by a fellow researcher, she was reliably informed by relatives that an Albert was one of her forefathers who had died in a mining accident in Scranton. With absolutely no trace of an Albert prior to 1880 she put her thinking cap on and traced similar sounding names, coming up with Herbert, noticing that two of what would have been his nephews had been named Albert, a similar name to Herbert and wondered if he might have changed his name and the children named after him. Mine disaster lists were scanned for the area and a result came up for an Albert in 1890, a further trace found him being charged with a 'gang assault' by a Mary Jane Lance in 1889 and him living in Scranton close to relatives in the 1880 census with wife Mary Lynn and children Thomas Patrick Griffith & Edward Griffith.

If he had changed his name however, there was not one document that could trace her Albert / Herbert back to Thomas Griffith or the rest of the family as compulsory registration or even change of name was not yet implemented, although his son Thomas Patrick's death certificate & census firmly states his father came from Wales and was named Albert. There was also nothing to connect him with Joseph Arthur Griffith, presumed to be his son born a year before his death. So we must consider the following:

- Naming children after grandfathers, uncles, favoured or honoured dead relatives or even stillborns was a common practice amongst the Welsh. We may think that they thought that those who died an accidental death was of no blame and assured a place in the firmaments and could 'live again' through a newborn. One may consider therefore that his brother Thomas Griffith might have named his son Albert in 1892 after his brother Albert, who had died in the mining accident of 1890 in his honour.
- No trace of an Albert born in 1854 can be found as living in Wales and coming to Scranton by 1870, neither is there a sign of a Herbert post 1870, despite extensive trace analysis.

It is very flimsy evidence, but because of family hearsay which always has an element of truth, these two latter facts considered, with him being a miner in Scranton close to relatives in 1880 stand as the only explanation found so far, unless some mystery document arises.

- We believe therefore that Herbert changed his name to Albert in 1875 possibly by request of his wife Mary Lynn, of Irish Roman Catholic descent, at their wedding, naming his son Thomas after his father, and Joseph after his grandfather.

Name changes were allowed on naturalization of a new American subject, it was also perfectly acceptable to have a 'pseudonym'. There is no reason to believe he changed it because he was 'on the run', he never moved from Scranton. Herbert is a very uncommon name in Wales, so perhaps he was bullied and thought it a blessing to take a more mature name of Albert on his coming of age.

## **Assault on Mary Jane Lance**

*Daniel RAFFERTY, Anthony DUCY, Charles McCONNELL, Albert GRIFFITH, and Lincoln Lloyd, all of Dickson City, are in the county jail charged with criminal assault upon Mary Jane LANCE, a woman well known in police circles. The allegation is that on Saturday, while on her way to from Priceburg to Scranton, Mary Jane was set upon by fifteen men, all of whom subjected her to indignities, the five above being included in the fifteen. The arrests were made by Constable Logan, and the commitment was by Justice Meehan, of Dickson City. Scranton Republican, Tuesday, July 16, 1889*

Searching up on the sensitive subject of the 'charge of assault' on Mary Jane Lance by Albert Griffith and the 15 others, I found the case in the news, so did some look up on the woman concerned for any openings. She seems an ordinary enough lady with 10 children married to Robert D.Lance a blacksmith right in the centre of Scranton, in 1900 at Decker Court half a mile from Market Street where the Griffith's were (born Mary Jane Williams, Wales). Whether she had a falling out with her neighbours or a period of insanity, and then accusing all the men around her, who happen to be her neighbours we cannot say, but I find no evidence (of course) that she was "well known to police" as it says in the report. This might infer that she was continuously making up stories or deranged, with no further authority. Just one note that MIGHT relate is that her daughter Charlotte was an inmate at the local "insane asylum" for 20 years.

It is quite obvious that Albert was not charged or convicted as he was back at work, albeit dying in the mining accident of 1890 in Scranton. The co-accused were also neighbours that can be traced back to 1870 when Albert would have been known as Herbert, and therefore school-chums. Charles McConnell even married Albert's widow, as did the Raffertys into the Griffith's, giving another clue as to the mystery of the Herbert-Albert name change.

## Joseph Arthur Griffith 1889-1952

*Son of Herbert Griffith & Mary Lynn*

Joseph is reliably born in the mining town of Scranton, PA from scores of documents. Family tradition told that he was the son of Albert who died in a Scranton mining accident. I personally have seen no documented evidence to connect him to his father Albert / Herbert Griffith, but everyone has an origin, and the closest we come is from the evidence I gave in the previous chapter.

He begins work in the coal mining industry, marries Elizabeth Kinsley in 1911 and by 1917 age 28 was a mine foreman, being called up for active duty in WWI. Whether he did serve in the forces I find no trace, but by 1920 he is back to familiarity as a coal miner in the remote town of Lopez, Colley, PA with children Catherine, John & Marguerite.

By 1930 circumstances had completely changed, with he working as a shoemaker in Johnston City, Broome, NY with one more child, Elizabeth or 'Betty'. What circumstance led him to change career and come to the 'big smoke', we cannot say, we 'presume' that there was less work in coal mining during the 'Great Depression'. He carries on the latter occupation until his death in 1952 and is buried in Calvary Cemetery nearby.



*Joseph Griffith is the father lower right with son John Joseph. Left to right Elizabeth Jane, mother Lizzie Kinsley, sister Catherine (Katie), sister Marguerite.*

### **Reference, from Ancestry Worldwide, Pembrokeshire & Swansea County Archives**

*I think it would be absurd to list every individual document that lead me to the above conclusions, when they are all neatly stored and accessible via Ancestry.com under my username 'spooksprung' in the 'Dalloyd' tree to anyone who wishes to view it for free via library access or cheaply via home sub.*

UK Census 1841-1911 Llangiwg, Coedffranc, Ystradgynlais, Wales  
BDM Index 1837-1915 England & Wales  
National Library of Wales Online Catalogues  
NLW Welsh Newspaper Search Engine  
NLW Welsh Journals Search Engine  
Swansea Record Office – Xerox of original S/Wales Parish registers  
Pembroke Record Office – HD scans of original Pembroke Parish registers

Federal Census 1860-1940 Scranton PA, Wilkes-Barre PA, Broome NY, New York NY.  
U.S. City Directories  
New York, State Census, 1925  
Pennsylvania Town & Church Records  
Atlantic Passenger List 1820-1947  
Pennsylvania, Death Certificates, 1906-1963  
U.S., Find A Grave Index, 1600s-Current  
U.S., Civil War Draft Registrations Records, 1863-1865  
U.S., World War I Draft Registration Cards, 1917-1918

### **Further Research**

*Scouring the Pennsylvania, New York & State archives may yield some results, especially if some diaries or papers of eminent men in Scranton can be found. John D. Lloyd 1874-1954, son of Joseph Dalloyd b.1840 was a judge in that town. Dr David John Delloyd has papers in the Uni of Wales Library described as being 'genealogical'.*

*American-Welsh Newspapers: <http://www.genuki.org.uk/big/wal/USA3.html>*

*Baner America. 1868-1877 : A Welsh newspaper published in Hyde Park, Pa, by a Company. The first editors were the Rev Morgan A Ellis, the Rev Frederick Evans, and the Rev David Parry ('Dewi Moelwyn'). Henry M Edwards was the agent or organiser. On the retirement of the above-mentioned persons it was edited by Thomas B Morris ('Gwyneddfardd'), and W S Jones became its chief organiser. During this period it was published in Scranton, Luzerne, Pa.*

*Baner y Bobl: According to Y Drych, 31 July 1924, this journal was published at Hyde Park, Pa, and was issued for the Welsh people.*

*Y Drych Americanaidd. 1851--- to date. No one at the date of the first issue of this popular Welsh American weekly paper could foresee its long and successful career, and all too few of its early issues were saved. This journal is invaluable for the history of the Welsh in America. Its first editor was John W Jones, a native of Llanaelhaiarn, Caernarvonshire.*

*Y Ford Gron. 1867. [Rhif 1-3]: A monthly periodical, published at Scranton, Pa, for the service of Welsh literature in all its branches. It was edited by Thomas Gwallter Price and William Aubrey Powell, and ran for less than a year.*

*Yr Ymwelydd. 1877-?. Henry M Edwards, an eminent solicitor in Luzerne Co, Pa, first published this journal about the end of 1871, and was also its editor. It was a monthly periodical, and included among its articles were many on the leading Welsh writers of the USA, such as the Rev Frederick Evans ('Ednyfed'), 'Dewi Glan Twrch', etc.*