

A BIBLIOGRAPHY OF THE HISTORY OF THE CYNON VALLEY

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INTRODUCTION

There has long been a need for a list of books, papers and articles, in Welsh and English, relating to the history of the Cynon Valley particularly as the body of works on this subject and an interest in our past has grown considerably during the past decade.

The project was started in 1993 but proved too huge a project to complete. Much of the work was done by Geoffrey Evans of the Cynon Valley History Society and my former library colleague Mrs Lynne Bryn Jones. In 2012 it was decided to complete it and with modern technology it has made the project easier. I have updated the entries since 1993.

The present list has therefore been produced jointly by the Cynon Valley History Society and Rhondda Cynon Tâf Libraries and it is hoped that it will assist schoolteachers, their pupils, research students and all those interested in the rich history of this locality in locating relevant material on a particular subject.

In this internet age it is often thought that everything can be found if you “Google” it. This is not true especially of material published before 1990. It is hoped this bibliography will fill this huge gap.

The list includes not only books and articles relating solely to the Cynon Valley but also other texts of more general information that contain important references to the Cynon Valley. The bibliography also contains the titles of dissertations relating to the history of the area submitted for degrees and higher degrees to the constituent colleges of the University of Wales and their successor universities. We have some of these at Aberdare library.

As you will see, Literature is not a subject of the Bibliography. I have included it if it has local interest otherwise I have not included the works of local authors. Biographies of local authors I have included.

Whereas every effort has been made to include everything that has been written on the various aspects of the history of this valley it will be inevitable that some item has escaped my notice. If it transpires that there are omissions, I tender my apologies, and would be glad if readers contact me with details of the book or article so that the bibliography can be updated.

Annotations have been added alongside particular titles where necessary in order to explain the subject matter of the work.

Many of the works listed in this bibliography are to be found in Aberdare library either in the reference department or in the lending department and have an asterisk before the author/title. If the book is not available at Aberdare, it can be borrowed fairly quickly from another library.

I have included only some items from our W.W. Price Collections and R. Ivor Parry Local History Collections as they are too numerous to list in their entirety. They contain collections of booklets, papers, news cuttings and many other documents

about the Cynon Valley that these two local historians donated to the library. There is a printed catalogue of these collections available to view in the Reference Department of Aberdare Library.

May I draw your attention to two particular items, our excellent local historian Watkin William Price's magnum opus: his 30 volume Biographical Index of Wales. The other one complements his work. It is the Index of Obituaries in the Aberdare Leader 1902-1940 which has been compiled by the members of the Cynon Valley branch of the Glamorgan Family History Society which must have taken thousands of hours to produce.

The Cynon Valley History Society produces a newsletter called *Hanes* that includes articles about local history. Some of them are included in this bibliography but not all, firstly because of the sheer number of articles but also because the complete run of *Hanes* to 2011 is now available on a DVD, which is available from the society. It has an index and search facility.

All the photographs at the beginning of each chapter are from our Digital Archive:
<http://archive.rhondda-cynon- Taf.gov.uk/treorchy/index.php>

I would like to express my thanks to Jeremy Morgan, Elfed Bowen, David Leslie Davies and Colin Rees of the Cynon Valley History Society, Brian Davies, the Curator of Pontypridd Museum and Gwyn Griffiths for drawing my attention to books and articles that might otherwise have been overlooked. I would also thank Geoffrey Evans for all his preliminary work in starting this bibliography.

Finally I would like to thank Mr Daryl Leach, a library colleague, who has transferred all this information onto PDF files and has put it "live" on the internet. This will be updated at regular intervals.

It is my hope that researchers will find this bibliography very useful.

September, 2013

Steven Graham
Reference Librarian
Aberdare Library

ABBREVIATIONS

The following abbreviations are made:

ARCH.CAMB.	ARCHAEOLOGIA CAMBRENSIS
ESCV.	ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES IN THE CYNON VALLEY
GFHS	GLAMORGAN FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY JOURNAL
LLAF.	LLAFUR: THE JOURNAL OF THE SOCIETY FOR THE STUDY OF WELSH LABOUR HISTORY
MORG.	MORGANNWG: THE JOURNAL OF THE GLAMORGAN HISTORY SOCIETY
NLWJ.	NATIONAL LIBRARY OF WALES JOURNAL
OA.	OLD ABERDARE
OSP.	OFFICIAL SOUVENIR PROGRAMME ABERDARE'S BIG WEEK, 1930
RCHM. (WALES)	ROYAL COMMISSION ON ANCIENT AND HISTORICAL MONUMENTS IN WALES
WHR.	WELSH HISTORY REVIEW

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 - 4D Early Modern 1600-1800
 - 4E Nineteenth Century
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6. Industry
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 - 6B Industrial Revolution and Industrial Archaeology
 - 6C Iron Industry
 - 6D Coal Mining, Coal Trade
 - 6E Industrial Relations
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7. Trade and Commerce
8. Transport: Roads, Canals, Tramways, Railways, Trams & Buses
9. Religion
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10. Population, Emigration and Housing
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15. Culture: Art, Eisteddfodau, Music & Theatre
16. Societies and Institutions: Public Halls & Institutes and Cooperative Societies
17. Politics: Elections, Members of Parliament
18. Education
19. War/Military History
20. List of local newspapers

1. GEOGRAPHY AND TOPOGRAPHY



The Cynon Valley

A pencil sketch by Emma and Lucy Bacon drawn circa 1820-30

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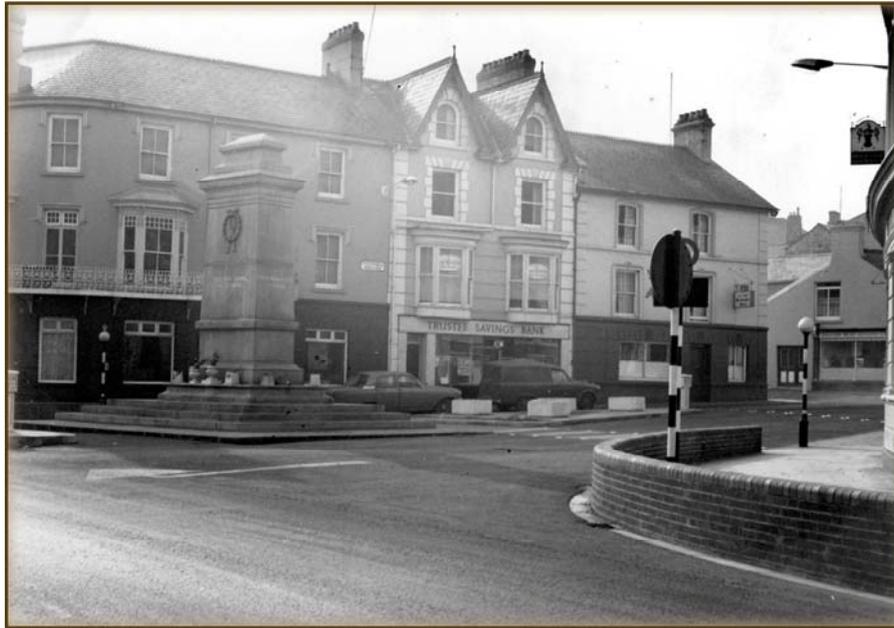
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2. GENERAL HISTORIES: ABERDARE



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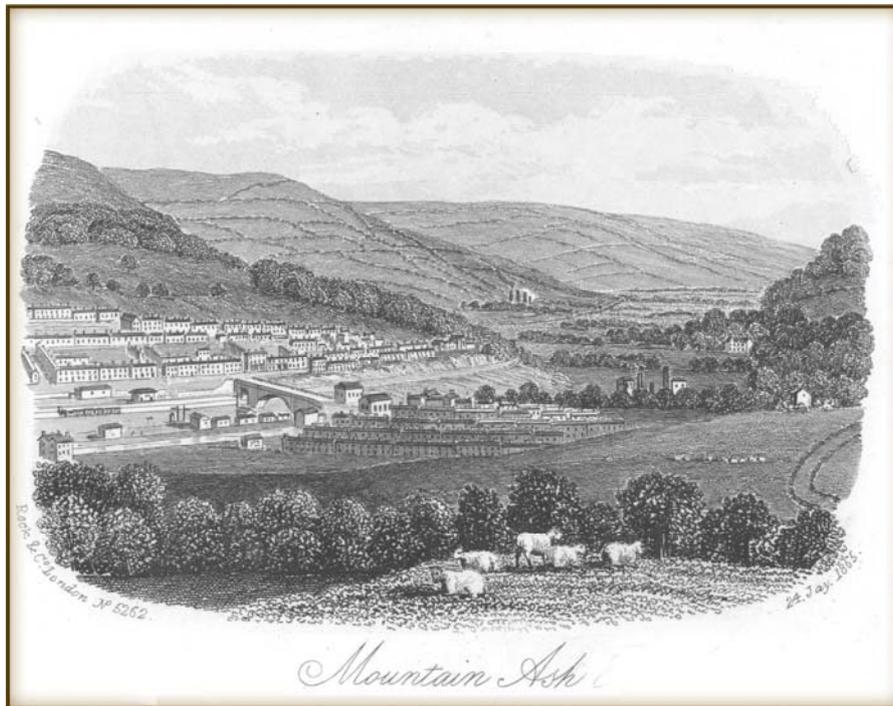
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3. GENERAL HISTORIES: THE REMAINDER OF THE CYNON VALLEY



A Sketch of Mountain Ash, 1865

ABERCYNON
MOUNTAIN ASH
LLANWONNO
PENDERYN
PENRHIWCEIBER

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4. PERIODS



The Llyn Fawr hoard

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4B. ROMAN AND EARLY CHRISTIAN

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6. INDUSTRY

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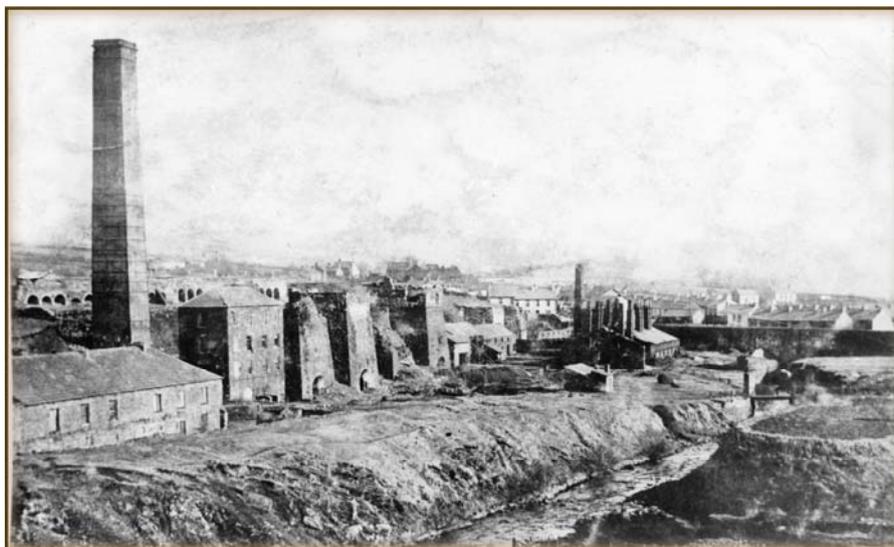
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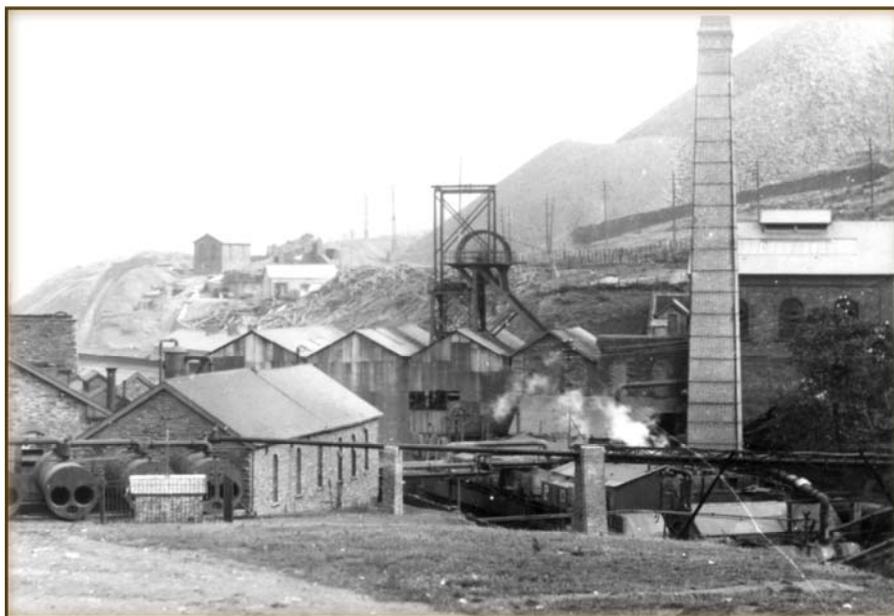
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6D. COAL-MINING - COAL TRADE



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Eschle, Hannah,

Evans, Thomas,

Jones, Richard

Jones, Samuel

Lea, Alfred

Parry, William

Richards, T.H.

Rombach, G.

Schwerer, Charles

Simmonds, Herbert

Skinner, William

Strickland, George

Thomas, David

Weight, Edmund

Williams, John

Williams, Thomas.

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Collier, D.

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8. TRANSPORT

ROADS, CANALS, TRAMWAYS, RAILWAYS, TRAMS & BUSES



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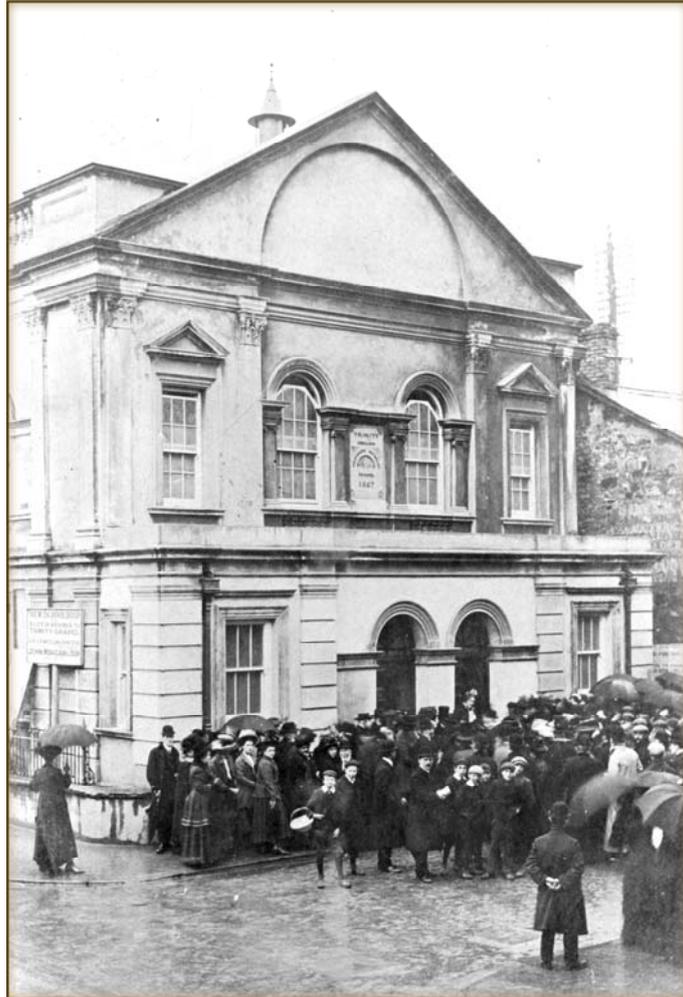
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9. RELIGION

9A. RELIGION: General



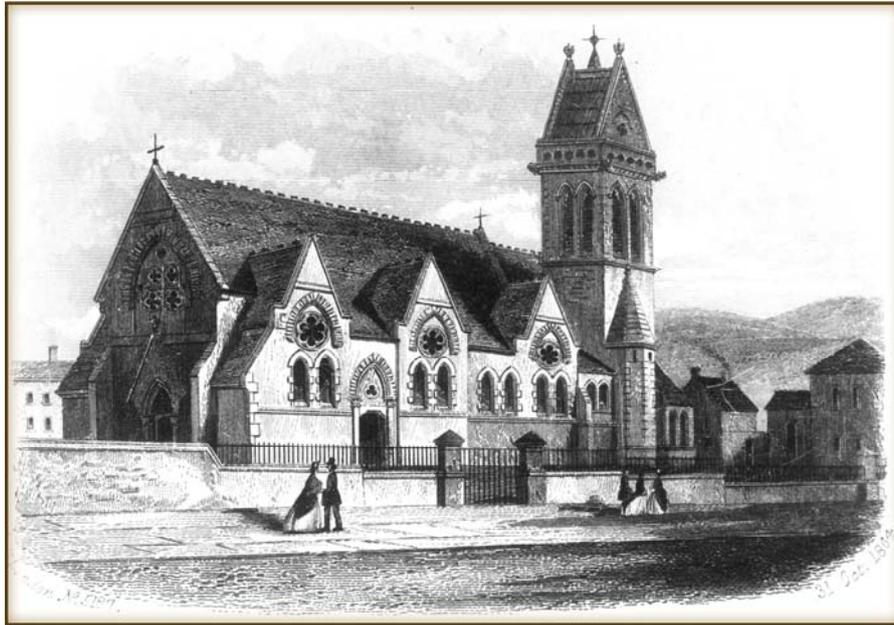
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9B. Religion: Anglican Church



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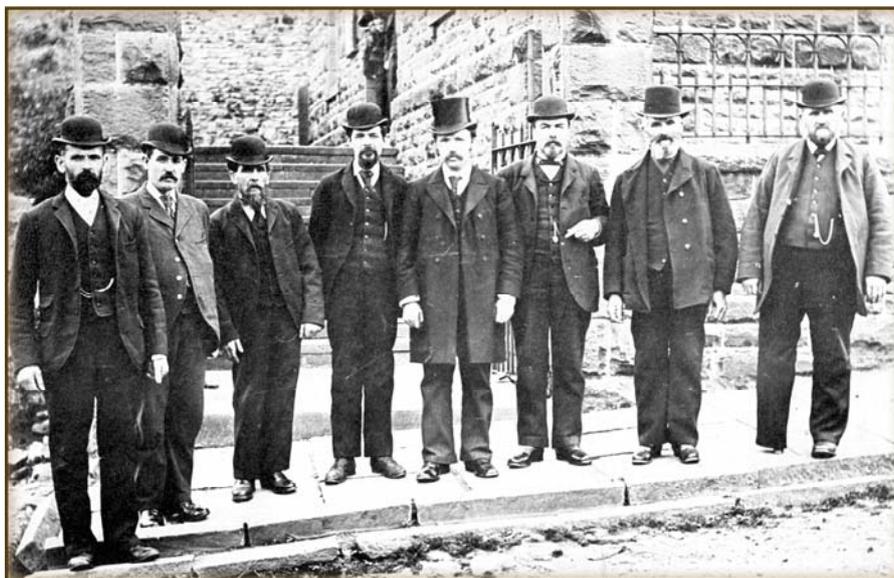
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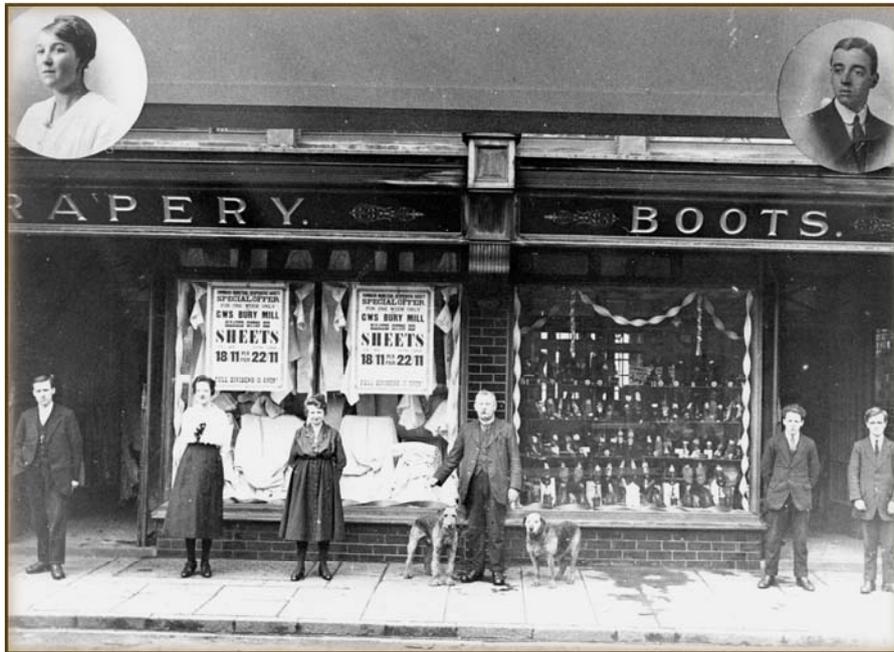
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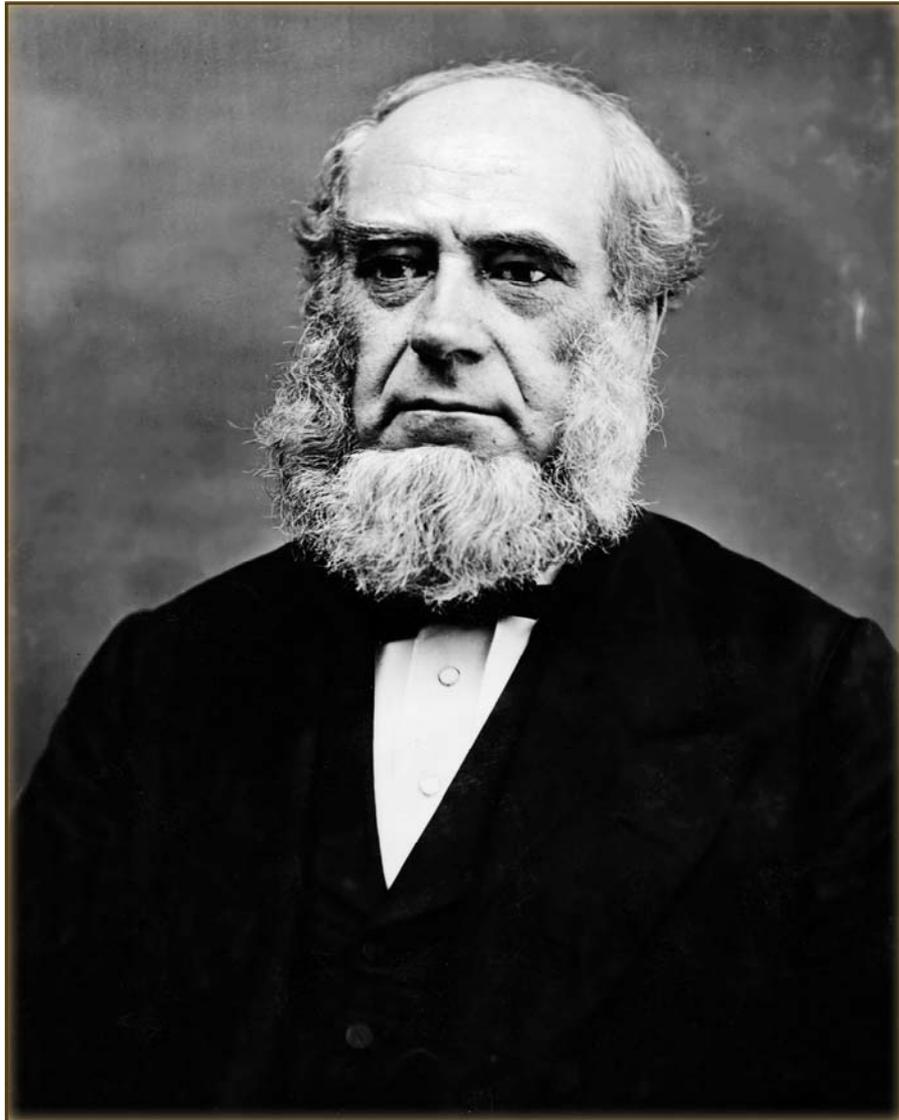
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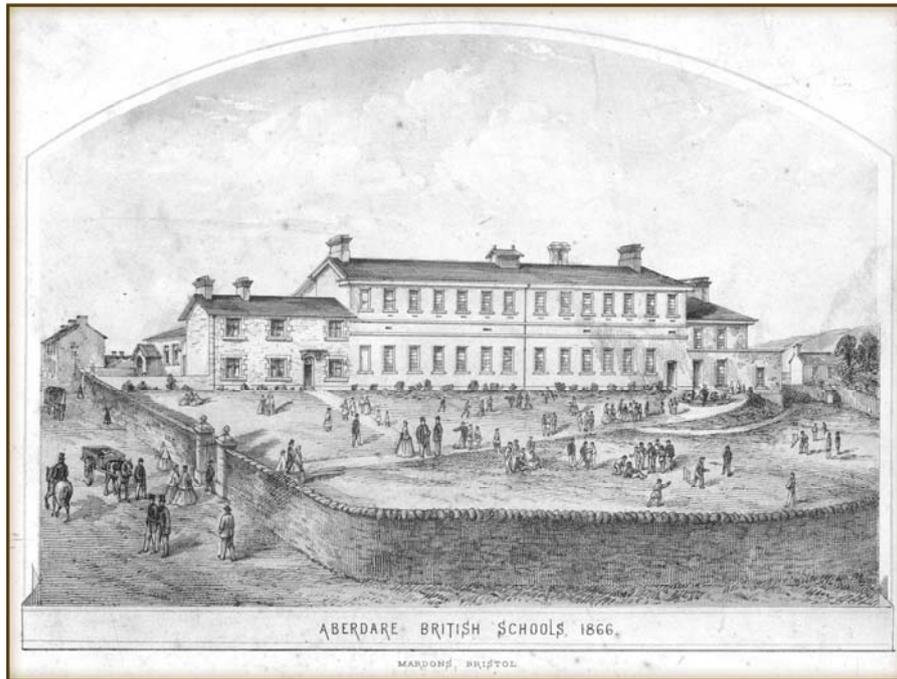
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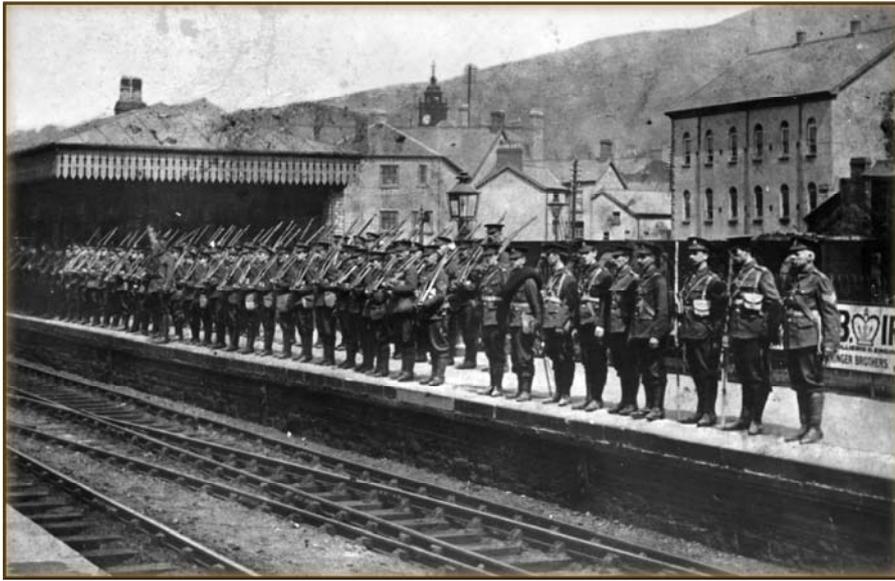
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- *Y Gwron 1856 – 1860 (Microfilm), 1858-59 (Bound Volume)
- *Tarian Y Gweithiwr 1875 – 1913 (Microfilm)
- *Y Darian 1914 – 1934 (Microfilm)
- *Mountain Ash Post 1912 – 1920 (Microfilm)
- *Glamorgan, Monmouth & Brecon Gazette 1833 – 1841 (Microfilm)
- *Cardiff & Merthyr Guardian 1842 – 1874 (Microfilm)
- *Aberdare Times 1861 – 1902 (Microfilm)
- *Aberdare Leader 1902 – 1991 (Microfilm)
- *Mountain Ash Leader 1986 – 1991 (Microfilm)
- *Cynon Valley Leader 1991 - 2004 (microfilm),
2005 - present (CD-ROM)
- *Aberdare and Mountain Ash Express 1908, 1912-13, 1917-22,
1924-41, 1947-1950 (Bound Volumes)