

GRAVE No: D14a

GRIFFITHS, Elias, Elias James, Mary Ann & Ellen



Book Inscription:

How shall we escape if we reject the great salvation.
Blessed are the dead which live in the Lord.

Inscription: side 1

In Loving Memory of
ELIAS GRIFFITHS

Beloved Husband of

ELLEN GRIFFITHS *Llanelli Hill.*

Born April 10th 1862 Died March 4th 1902

*'Boast not thyself of tomorrow, for thy knowest not
What a day may bring forth.'*

Also of ELIAS JAMES *their son.*

Aged 13 years.

'In the midst of life we are in death.'

Both met their death at Milfraen colliery.

March 4 1902.

Inscription: side 2

And of ELLEN, wife of ELIAS GRIFFITHS.

'There shall be no night there.'

Inscription: side 3

Also of

MARY ANN

Their daughter

Died Feb 1 1899

Aged 20

'Gone but not forgotten.'

Elias Griffiths, a coal miner from Llanelli, married Eleanor Neads, who came from South Brent, Somerset and by the 1881 census, the young couple had settled near Mount Pleasant in Llanelli, with their three-year-old daughter Mary Ann.

Throughout the 1890s, Elias and Eleanor's family grew. By 1891, they were living in Llamarch, Llanelli, with six children, including their son Elias James, who was just two years old. The family continued to expand, and by the 1901 census, they had nine children, with Elias working as a coal miner and hewer.

Tragedy struck on February 1st, 1899, when their daughter Mary Ann passed away at just 20 years old. The family's hardship would continue.

On March 4th 1902, both Elias and his son Elias James lost their lives in a devastating accident at the Milfraen Colliery in Blaenavon. Elias was 48 years old, and his son Elias James was only 14, both were working as colliers when they perished.

Official Report:

They were thrown out of the cage while ascending the shaft in consequence of it having struck against one of the iron girders or byatts about 71 yards from the bottom. The cage which had 8 or 9 inches clear of the girders when steady is said to have left the bottom steadily and from some cause unknown to have got into swing with this result. My own impression is that the cage was jerked off the bottom owing to the lengths of slack rope at the time and thus got swaying about. There were four wire rope guides to each cage and subsequently the cages worked all right without any tightening of the guide ropes. There were no indications noticeable of the cage having previously come in contact with the sides of the shaft or the girders. Five were killed.