

CYNGEN (died 855), prince

Name: Cyngen
Date of death: 855
Parent: Cadell ap Brochwel
Gender: Male
Occupation: prince
Area of activity: Military; Politics, Government and Political Movements; Royalty and Society
Author: John Edward Lloyd

was the son of Cadell, ruler of Powys, who died in 808. He was of the line of **Brochwel Ysgithrog**, and, after a long reign, ended his life as a pilgrim at Rome, being, as far as is known, the first Welsh prince to make the journey after the submission of Wales to papal authority. His only title to fame is that he erected, in a valley in Iâl, afterwards known as Pant y Groes and Valle Crucis, an elaborate memorial, of a well-known Mercian pattern, to his great-grandfather, Elise, who is declared, in a lengthy inscription, to have delivered Powys (about 725) from the power of the English. Very little of this inscription can now be read, but it was recorded much more fully by **Edward Lhuyd** in 1696 and his transcript forms the basis of modern discussion. For the most recent account, see *Archæologia Cambrensis*, 1935, 330-3. The 'g' in 'Eliseg's Pillar' goes back to an error of the original graver; the old form, as the pedigrees show, was Elized, which became successively Elisedd, Elise, and Elis. The monument has suffered many misfortunes: it was thrown down in the Civil Wars and the remains re-erected in 1779. As for the ancient dynasty of Powys, it came to an end with Cyngen, for, though he is said to have had three sons, none of them appears to have succeeded him; what befell the region is uncertain, but it is likely that **Rhodri Mawr** became its ruler, claiming through his mother, Nest, who was Cyngen's sister.

Author

Sir **John Edward Lloyd**, (1861 - 1947)

Sources

J. E. Lloyd, *A History of Wales from the Earliest Times to the Edwardian Conquest*(London 1911), 204, 244, 324-5

Further Reading

Wikipedia Article: [Cyngen ap Cadell](#)

Additional Links

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