

ELFODD, bishop (died 809),

Name: Elfodd
Date of death: 809
Gender: Male
Occupation: bishop
Area of activity: Religion
Author: Robert Thomas Jenkins

whose name appears in the forms 'Elbodugus' and 'Elbodg' (Harleian MS. 3859), and 'Elvodugus' (**Nennius**), representing Old Welsh 'Elbodug', is famous for his adoption (in 768, according to Harleian MS. 3859) of the Roman Easter, which the Welsh Church had rejected in 602-3. The traditions concerning his origins vary, but a connection with the monastery of Cybi at Holyhead is asserted in most of them (see *The Lives of the British Saints*, iii, 431). He is said (*The Lives of the British Saints*) to have become bishop of Bangor in 755, but this statement rests on late and extremely dubious authority - the manuscripts of **Iolo Morganwg**. The chronicler **Nennius**, who styles himself Elfodd's pupil ('Elvodugi discipulus'), refers to him as 'episcopus sanctissimus' with no local designation; and the record of his death in 809 (Harleian MS. 3859) calls him 'archiepisopus Guenedote regione' (chief bishop in the land of Gwynedd), a phrase which at that date in Wales had no connotation of metropolitan authority.

Author

Emeritus Professor Robert Thomas Jenkins, (1881 - 1969)

Sources

J. E. Lloyd, *A History of Wales from the Earliest Times to the Edwardian Conquest*(London 1911), 203-4

Further Reading

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