

PERYF ap CEDIFOR WYDDEL (fl. 1170), poet

Name: Peryf ap Cedifor Wyddel
Gender: Male
Occupation: poet
Area of activity: Poetry
Author: David Myrddin Lloyd

He was one of eight brothers at least, seven of whom were foster-brothers of **Hywel ab Owain Gwynedd**. When **Hywel** was slain at Pentraeth, Anglesey (1170), in battle against his half-brothers, **Dafydd** and **Rhodri**, the sons of **Christina**, the seven stood by him. Some of them were also slain, and three only of them escaped injury. Ithel, the other brother, had already been killed at Rhuddlan, at an earlier date, while fighting for **Owain Gwynedd**, and a series of *englynion* lamenting his death had been composed by **Cynddelw** (*The Myvyrian Archaiology of Wales*, 174a).

On p. 346 of *The Myvyrian Archaiology of Wales* we find a series of elegiac *englynion* by Peryf to **Hywel**, and in the Hendreg. MS. 126a, and in *The Myvyrian Archaiology of Wales*, 281b, there is an anonymous series, which are clearly the work of one of the seven foster-brothers. There is every reason for accepting the opinion expressed by **Thomas Price** (*Hanes Cymru*, 584-7) and by **Thomas Stephens** (*Literature of the Kymry*, 39-41) that these very fine *englynion* were also composed by Peryf.

Author

David Myrddin Lloyd, (1909 - 1981)

Published date: 1959

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APA Citation



Lloyd, D. M., (1959). PERYF ap CEDIFOR WYDDEL (fl. 1170), poet. *Dictionary of Welsh Biography*. Retrieved 17 Nov 2024, from <https://biography.wales/article/s-PERY-APC-1170>

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