

IORWERTH ap MADOG (fl. 1240?-1268?), jurist

Name: Iorwerth ap Madog
Gender: Male
Occupation: jurist
Area of activity: Law
Author: Robert Thomas Jenkins

repeatedly mentioned in various manuscripts of the ' Venedotian Code ' of the Welsh Laws, is more specifically designated in one of these as ' Iorwerth ap Madog ap Rhahawd '; this would make him a brother of the poet **Einion ap Madog** (fl. c. 1237) - the identification is accepted by **Sir John Lloyd**, *A History of Wales* , 355. This would make him a descendant of the 9th century **Cilmin Droed-ddu**, and a cognate of the family which later became known as the **Glyn** family of Glynllifon, Caernarfonshire, and which in later days produced lawyers of some note. Iorwerth's family connections have been carefully investigated in *N.L.W. Jnl.* (see reference below). Even before his time, the family had been prominent in law and administration; for example, Iorwerth's grandfather's cousin, **CYFNERTH** (fl. c. 1210), was the redactor of a law-book which, although of North Wales origin, was associated in later editions with South Wales; and Iorwerth's great-uncle, **YSTRWYTH** (fl. 1204-22; see **Lloyd**, *A History of Wales* , 622 n. 55, and index) was, in all probability, the cleric of that name who acted as secretary and envoy of **Llywelyn the Great**. Iorwerth has always been regarded as the final redactor of the ' Venedotian Code,' the best-arranged and most complete of the Codes; and he was clearly regarded in his day as a very high legal authority; but precisely what additions he made to the corpus cannot be exactly determined.

Author

Emeritus Professor Robert Thomas Jenkins, (1881 - 1969)

Sources

Dafydd Jenkins, 'Iorwerth ap Madog,' in *The National Library of Wales Journal*, viii, 164-70

A convenient short account of the various versions and manuscripts of the Laws will be found in J. E. Lloyd, *A History of Wales from the Earliest Times to the Edwardian Conquest* (London 1911), 354-6

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