

## LLYWELYN FARDD (fl. c. 1150-1175), poet

**Name:** Llywelyn Fardd  
**Parent:** Cywryd  
**Gender:** Male  
**Occupation:** poet  
**Area of activity:** Poetry  
**Author:** David Myrddin Lloyd

His dates and list of works are not easily fixed. *Cerdd Dafod* gives c. 1185 - 1220, but [J. Lloyd-Jones](#) has c. 1155 - 1200. It may be suggested that there were two poets of the same name, one in the 12th century, and the other in the 13th century, and that that is why the 'Red Book of Hergest' refers to 'Llywelyn Fardd, son of Cywryd.' This poet was the earlier, and apparently a native of Merioneth. In an elegy to Cedifor he refers to himself as a soldier of [Madog ap Maredudd](#) (died 1160), and in addressing [Owain Fychan](#), son of [Madog](#) (died 1187), he claims that he was older than that prince. In a poem to [Owain Gwynedd](#) he states that he had been with him on Southern soil, but [Owain](#) did not fight in South Wales after 1138. According to the 'Red Book' it was Llywelyn who sang the elegy to [Owain's](#) retinue which is attributed to [Cynddelw](#) in *The Myvyrian Archaeology of Wales* Llywelyn Fardd composed several religious poems, his best being his 'Ode to Cadfan,' which is a panegyric to the church of Towyn and a splendid description of its religious life during the abbacy of Morfran, who was alive in 1147.

In a short poem in *Llsg. Hendregadredd* and *The Myvyrian Archaeology of Wales* to [Llywelyn the Great](#), by Llywelyn Fardd, the prince is styled as 'eagle of Clwyd,' a title which would be but scant praise if used much after 1206. This composition reads like the effort of a young poet, and indeed he described himself as an 'eloquent youth.' It is suggested that this second Llywelyn Fardd was then on the threshold of his career and that it was he who lived to sing the praises of [Owain ap Gruffudd ap Gwenwynwyn](#) a prince who was alive as late as 1274.

### Author

**David Myrddin Lloyd**, (1909 - 1981)

### Sources

*Llawysgrif Hendregadredd* (1933), 1933

*The Myvyrian Archaeology of Wales* (1801-1807), i, 355-362

*The Poetry in the Red Book of Hergest* (Llanbedrog 1911)

H. Lewis, *Hen Gerddi Crefyddol* (Cardiff 1931)

J. Lloyd-Jones, *The Court Poets of the Welsh Princes*

### Additional Links

VIAF: [43568812](#)

Wikidata: [Q3331180](#)

**Published date:** 1959

**Article Copyright:** <http://rightsstatements.org/page/InC/1.0/>

LGC  
NLW

LLYFRGEL  
THE NATION



Ysgrifeddiadau  
Llywodraeth Cymru  
Copied by  
Welsh Government