PHYLIP BRYDYDD (fl. 1222), court poet

Name: Phylip Brydydd
Gender: Male
Occupation: court poet
Area of activity: Poetry
Author: David Myrddin Lloyd

His extant works are an *awdl* and intercessionary *englynion* addressed to Rhys Gryg, a chain of *englynion* and an elegiac *awdl* to Rhys Ieuanc ap Gruffudd (son of the 'lord' Rhys) (died 1222), and two other interesting poems in which he claims priority over poets of lower degree. One of these last-mentioned was sung in the court of Rhys Ieuanc in Llanbadarn-fawr. Gwilym Ddu associates Phylip with Ceredigion, and ranks him among the exponents of the tradition of the highest grade of court poets (*The Myvyrian Archaiology of Wales* , 277b, 8-9). Phylip Brydydd refers to himself as Rhys Gryg's chaired poet, and as one who was his comrade 'a hundred times,' even when his enemies arose against him 'in every hill' - probably an allusion to the vicissitudes which overtook that prince in 1213. This poet's compositions reveal his pride in the noble tradition of the leading court poets of Wales, which he claims can be traced back to the muse of Taliesin and the court of Maelgwn Gwynedd. They also reveal, however, that the guardians of this tradition were driven in the courts of South Wales, even as early as his day, to strive against the 'poetasters,' the 'unskilled dabblers' and 'vain bards' - a reference to the lower strata of poets of whom more was to be heard in a later generation.

Author

David Myrddin Lloyd, (1909 - 1981)

Sources

The Myvyrian archaiology of Wales (Denbigh 1870), 257-9

Further Reading

Wikipedia Article: Phylip Brydydd

Additional Links

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