A PROPOSED STANDARD
WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

This document is a draft which is submitted
as part of the Cornish Language Partnership Process

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Cornish Language Commission
for scrutiny and discussion

Comments may be made to the editors
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# Contents

0. **Preamble** ............................................................... vii  
   0.1. Introduction ...................................................... vii  
   0.2. Guiding principles ................................................. vii  
   0.3. Compromise ........................................................ ix  
   0.4. Paradigms ........................................................... x  
   0.5. Aims and aspirations ............................................. xi  
   0.6. Signatories ........................................................ xiii  

1. **Pronunciation and spelling** ................................. 1  
   1.1. Word stress ......................................................... 1  
   1.2. Vowel length ....................................................... 2  
   1.3. Rules for vowel length ........................................... 3  
   1.4. Simple vowels ..................................................... 7  
   1.5. Diphthongs ........................................................ 19  
   1.6. Consonants .......................................................... 22  
   1.7. Punctuation ........................................................ 33  
   1.8. IPA chart ............................................................ 35  

2. **Initial Mutations** .................................................. 37  
   2.1. Synopsis ............................................................ 37  
   2.2. General observations ............................................. 38  
   2.3. Notes ................................................................. 39  

3. **Nouns** ................................................................. 42  
   3.1. Nouns in -en and -es ............................................. 42  
   3.2. Duals ................................................................. 42  

4. **Pronouns** ............................................................. 45  
   4.1. Personal pronouns ................................................. 45  
   4.2. Prepositional pronouns ......................................... 49  

5. **Verbs** ................................................................. 55  
   5.0. General remarks ................................................... 55  
   5.1. *Bos, bonas* ‘be’ ................................................... 55  
   5.2. *I’m beus* and the idiomatic possessive ....................... 60  
   5.3. *Mednas, mennas* ‘will, wish’ ................................... 62  
   5.4. *Gwyl, gul, gevel* ‘make, do’ .................................... 63  

Revision 16, 14 November 2007  iii
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

5.5.  *Dos, donas* ‘come’ .................................................. 65
5.6.  *Godhas* ‘know’ ......................................................... 67
5.7.  *Gallos* ‘be able’ ....................................................... 68
5.8.  *Gasa, gara* ‘leave, let’ ............................................... 70
5.9.  *Mos, monas* ‘go’ ........................................................ 70
5.10. *Cara* ‘love’ ............................................................... 71
5.11. *Cafos, cawas, gawas* ‘get, find’ ................................... 72
5.12. *Clowas* ‘hear’ ............................................................ 72
5.13. *Cawsal, caws, cawsa* ‘speak’ ....................................... 73
5.15. *Don, degy* ‘carry’ ........................................................ 74
5.16. *Esedha, sedha* ‘sit’ ..................................................... 74
5.17. *Gelwal* ‘call’ .............................................................. 75
5.18. *Glanhe* ‘clean’ ........................................................... 75
5.19. *Gortheby, gorreby* ‘reply, answer’ ................................ 76
5.20. *Gwelas* ‘see’ .............................................................. 76
5.21. *Kemeras* ‘take’ ........................................................... 77
5.22. *Leveral, lavaral, laul* ‘say’ ........................................... 77
5.23. *Pesy, pejy* ‘pray, ask’ ................................................ 78
5.24. *Ry* ‘give’ ................................................................. 78
5.25. *Seval* ‘stand, rise’ ........................................................ 79
5.26. *Dry* ‘bring’ ............................................................... 79

6.  **Syntax** ................................................................. 80
6.1.  *Nag, nag for ny, nyj* .................................................. 80
6.2.  Verbal usage ............................................................... 80
6.3.  The periphrastic present ............................................... 81
6.4.  The periphrastic future with *mednas* ............................. 83
6.5.  The future of *bos* ‘be’ ................................................ 85
6.6.  *Geyl* ‘do’ as the future auxiliary ................................... 85
6.7.  *Geyl* ‘do’ as a preterite auxiliary .................................. 86
6.8.  *Gasa, gara* ‘leave, let’ and the imperative ...................... 89
6.9.  Conditional sentences .................................................. 91
6.10. Indirect statement ....................................................... 95

7.  **Texts** ................................................................. 97
7.1.  From *The Creation of the World* .................................. 97
7.2.  From *Bewnans Meryasek* ............................................ 101

iv  Revision 16, 14 November 2007
7.3.  The Charter Fragment ............................................. 100
7.4.  Nebas Geryow adro dha Kernowak .......................... 102
7.5.  The American Declaration of Independence ............. 106
7.6.  Genesis 3 by William Rowe ................................. 108
7.7.  Bro goth agan Tasaw by Henry Jenner ................... 111
7.8.  Cân Nadelak by Henry Jenner .............................. 112
7.9.  Gweynten in Kernow by Henry Jenner .................... 114
7.10. Sapientes (An Dus Doth) by A. S. D. Smith (Caradar) .... 116
7.11. Pride and Prejudice (Chapter 1) by Jane Austen ........ 119
7.12. From Rebellyans by Myghal Palmer ....................... 122
7.13. Den Bohojak a’n Poscas and a poem by Neil Kennedy ... 124
7.14. Pedn bloodh Olly Osyk by Veronika Marék .............. 126
7.15. From Origo Mundi .................................................. 128
8.  Sentences from the traditional texts ...................... 136
   8.1.  Greetings and miscellaneous expressions ............... 136
   8.2.  Kings and Queens .............................................. 139
   8.3.  Insults and imprecations .................................... 140
   8.4.  Men, women, and marriage ................................... 142
   8.5.  Babies and children .......................................... 145
   8.6.  Relatives .......................................................... 146
   8.7.  Hygiene ........................................................... 147
   8.8.  Food and drink ................................................ 147
   8.9.  Clothing .......................................................... 150
   8.10. Money ............................................................. 151
   8.11. Fishes, birds, and animals ............................... 152
   8.12. The weather ................................................... 154
   8.13. Calendar ........................................................ 156
   8.14. The countryside, flowers, and trees ................... 157
   8.15. Agricultural labour ......................................... 158
   8.16. The blacksmith ................................................ 159
   8.17. Construction and building ............................... 160
   8.18. Fishing .......................................................... 160
   8.19. Place-names .................................................... 161
   8.20. Cornish and the Celtic languages ..................... 162
9.  Recommended spelling of monosyllables .................. 164
10. Summary of vowel spellings ................................ 177

Revision 16, 14 November 2007
0.1. INTRODUCTION
This work is an attempt by a diverse group of users of Cornish to provide the outline of a written form of the language which might serve as a standard for general use. Our group includes fluent speakers of Cornish and professional linguists, some of whom are engaged formally in the Cornish Language Partnership’s process to seek a Single Written Form.

We all came to this endeavour with our own preconceptions and preferred forms of the language, whether Medieval, Tudor, or Late. All features of the pronunciation, spelling, accidence, and syntax offered below have been widely discussed among us and have been agreed by us all. Although most of us have reservations about this or that aspect of what is being presented below, we all agree that it is probably the closest we are likely to come to a standard language. It should be noted that the standard we offer accommodates a considerable degree of variation at all levels. We believe, nonetheless, that there is an essential unity and coherence in what we propose.

0.2. GUIDING PRINCIPLES
Two guiding principles underpin the proposal. A standard orthography must meet the minimum requirements of Cornish users from every tradition. We insist that, as far as possible, the following two requirements be met.

• The spelling system must be based on attested traditional orthographic forms.
• In the orthography the relationship between spelling and sounds must be unambiguous.
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

Because the different traditions of Revived Cornish focus on different periods for their reconstructions, it is desirable to centre on a variety of Traditional Cornish to which all can relate. We have used as our starting point for the orthography William Jordan’s Creation of the World of 1611, while looking forward to John Keigwin, William Rowe, and Nicholas Boson, and back to John Tregear, Sacrament an Alter, Beunans Ke, Beunans Meriasek, and the Ordinalia. We have, made use of the entire corpus of Traditional Cornish in our attempts to increase the vocabulary and complete our paradigms. This has been a necessary principle of Revived Cornish since its beginnings.

It is probable that some people will find in our proposals elements which are unfamiliar at first. Others may say that we have been too timid. What we propose is by its very nature a compromise, but we have sought to do the following things:

a) to give due weight to the Cornish scribal tradition of the medieval period, which began its decline with the closure of Glasney in 1548
b) to offer a form of the language that is in its grammar and syntax close enough to later Cornish to be recognizably the same language
c) to suggest a variety of Cornish that is sufficiently close to the Celtic toponymy of present-day Cornwall as to appear to be part of the same linguistic tradition
d) to present a language that looks as though it could be learnt, written, and spoken without undue difficulty
e) to provide a robust orthography that equips the Revival with spellings which are as unambiguous as possible in their representation of the sounds of Cornish, and which at the same time remain faithful to the forms found in the Cornish texts which are the source of the language.

The spelling we use for the name of the language is Kernowak. This is a compromise between Cornowak of the Middle Cornish period (1572) and Lhuyd’s Kerniak, but it maintains the connection with the toponym Kernow ‘Cornwall’. Kernowak is also one of the spellings used
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

by William Gwavas, c. 1700. It differs from the forms previously used in Revived Cornish (Kernwek, Carnoack, Kernûak, Kernowek) and so privileges none of them. If our proposals, or something like them, are adopted as the form of the language to be taught and used, it will be possible to use Kernowak for the standard language itself, or Kernowak Standard (KS) when it is desired to distinguish it from other forms of Revived Cornish.

0.3. COMPROMISE

The orthography proposed below takes as its starting point The Creation of the World, written by William Jordan in 1611. This text has been chosen because it can be regarded as representing the latest stage of Middle Cornish or as representing the earliest continuous text in Late Cornish. The Creation is thus ideally suited as the basis for a compromise between those who favour Middle Cornish and those who prefer Late Cornish as the basis for the revival. The choice of The Creation of the World as a foundation text has a number of implications.

a) In the first place Jordan frequently indicates pre-occlusion in his spelling. It is for this reason that this orthography regularly writes pre-occlusion in such words as cabm ‘bent’, mabm ‘mother’, gwynn ‘white’ and pedn ‘head’. The option is also given for people to write camm ‘bent’, mamm ‘mother’, gwynn ‘white’ and penn ‘head’ if they prefer.

b) By the time of The Creation the reflex of Old Cornish /ui/ in words like buit ‘food’, ruid ‘net’ is usually written <oo> or <ou>. This orthography therefore can easily distinguish this vowel from /o:/ by using the attested grapheme <oo>: boos ‘food’ but bos ‘to be’, roos ‘net’ but ros ‘gave’.

c) Whatever one believes about vocalic length in Middle Cornish, it is apparent that by the time of The Creation, Cornish has only long and short vowels. Moreover the opposition is found for the most part only in monosyllables. This orthography need therefore distinguish long vowels in monosyllables only, e.g. del ‘leaves’ from dell ‘as’ or gar ‘(who) loves’ from garr ‘leg’.

Revision 16, 14 November 2007
d) It is also apparent that by the time of *The Creation* all unstressed syllables have been reduced either to [i] or [ə]. This means that in unstressed syllables [ə] may be written with <a> by default (unless the morphology argues against it), e.g. *gwelas* ‘to see’, *gwregath* ‘wives’, *Kernowak* ‘Cornish’.

e) This orthography writes *beis* ‘world’ (not *bys* or *bes*), *breis* ‘mind’ (not *brys* or *bres*). Although users of Revived Cornish may find such spellings novel, they should remember the spelling <ei> occurs sporadically throughout the texts, being particularly well-attested in Jordan’s *Creation of the World*; moreover spelling these words and others like them with <ei> facilitates both Middle Cornish and Late Cornish varieties of Revived Cornish. Here is a list of spellings in <ei> from the texts (spellings of such words with <ey> are very well attested but have not been included in the list below):

- *beis* ‘world’ OM 404; *beis* ‘world’ SA 60; *beise* ‘world’ CW 1080, 1140, 2138, 2151, 2315, 2330
- *beith* ‘be!’ BM 3866;
- *breis* ‘womb’ TH 8; *breis* ‘mind’ CW 106
- *deith* ‘day’ BK 511
- *feith* ‘faith’ TH 9, 16, 18a x 3, 31, 32, 34 x 4, 34a x 4, 36a, 37, 37a, 39, 39a, 41, 42 x2, 45a, 46a, 48a, 51 x3, 51a x 2, 54a x 3, 57
- *norveis* ‘world’ OM 313
- *preiv* ‘reptile’ CW 709, 912, 2415
- *preis* ‘time’ CW 911; *preise* CW 1162
- *seigh* ‘dry’ CW 1810, 1918.

By bringing our compromise spelling nearer to Lhuyd, our spoken Cornish is close to the only accurate description of living Cornish phonology in existence. This orthography thus does not depend upon speculation, but on the sounds of the language as heard in 1700 by a trained scholar.
0.4. PARADIGMS
The text below is not a complete description of all aspects of the Cornish language. We have confined ourselves to the current concerns about pronunciation and spelling and have given the paradigms of the more important pronominal pronouns and of some of the most commonly-used verbs.

Because it has proved impossible to reconcile completely the paradigms of the texts of Middle and Tudor Cornish with the more “advanced” inflection of the later period, we have in many instances given both a literary and a colloquial form. It is not our intention that all forms should be taught to learners. We assume that beginners will be taught the simplest forms, before moving on to learn the more literary paradigms as their knowledge increases.

NOTE: Throughout this presentation we will use the terms “conservative” and “advanced” to describe the choice users may make between forms which are relatively early or relatively late. The terms “literary” and “colloquial” are used in a similar fashion. These are used neutrally, with no connotation; they are simply descriptive of available options.

We have also included a discussion of initial mutations and of verbal syntax. Toward the end of the document we give several texts respelt in the proposed orthography, and a short list of monosyllabic words with renderings in the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA).

Where examples are given below from the original texts, they have been respelt in the proposed orthography so as not to confuse readers of this proposal.

0.5. AIMS AND ASPIRATIONS
This orthography began its evolution as an attempt by users of Unified Cornish, Revived Late Cornish, and Unified Cornish Revised to converge on a spelling which would allow for the required linguistic diversity while remaining firmly based on attested traditional orthographic forms. Along the way we determined that not only could this be done, but that it was also possible to accommodate the requirement of users...
of Common Cornish, that *the relationship between spelling and sounds must be as unambiguous as possible*. This orthography is neither “archaic” nor “modernist”. It stands in the middle of the extremes. We believe that students who learn it will be able to put the Charter Fragment, a page from *Pascon Agan Arluth*, a passage from *Bewnans Ke*, a passage from the *Creation of the World*, a text by John Tregear, and a text by William Rowe next to it and recognize them all as the same language. Those who wish to read the Cornish texts in their original spelling will find both earlier and later texts to be familiar.

We hope that this document will give an accurate picture of what we have agreed upon and what we propose. We do not intend this to be a *fait accompli*. We believe our proposal to be robust and inclusive, but we expect that it may be modified after the intense public scrutiny and discussion that will follow its publication.

We believe this document represents a major step forward in the search for an acceptable standard written form. We now appeal to all those seriously interested in a solution that meets the needs of current users and future learners of Cornish alike to join in a discussion on the basis of the principles set out in this preamble.

It is widely agreed among Cornish speakers that the only way a single written form of the language can emerge is by all parties working together to find common ground. Although standard Cornish must be firmly rooted in the traditional language and in the traditional spelling, it needs to be broadly acceptable to everybody. Input from as wide a spectrum of Cornish speakers as possible is therefore essential. We, the signatories of this proposal, have at all times welcomed suggestions, comments, and constructive criticism from users of all forms of Cornish.

A single agreed orthography for Cornish is essential if the language is to flourish. Although it will inevitably resemble pre-existing forms of Cornish, it is essential that the Single Written Form be different from them all. If everybody loses his or her favourite orthography, then everybody gains, because the chosen spelling belongs to everybody and not to one group. Those of us who espoused
other forms of the language have been ready to put them aside in the interests of the revival.

0.6. SIGNATORIES
Yih esan ny lebny an profya an lyver biañ-ma dha why, cowshoryon agan tavas ny, gen weleder ha gen ozen ha ciën i’vedh. Màr qwerugh wehr why y dhegemeras gen bolonjeth dà ha áysa an taclow ujy ina, na vednyn ny ichelas namoy grassys.

An jorna-ma, 22 Mevëven 2007

Frances Bennett (RLC)
Denise Chubb (UC)
Ray Chubb (UCR)
Andrew Climo (UCR)
Eddie Climo (KS/UC)
Laurie Climo (UC)
Ian Curnow (UC)
Bernard Deacon (RLC)
Michael Everson (KS)
Neil Kennedy (RLC)
Alan M. Kent (RLC/UCR)
Rod Lyon
Ken MacKinnon (KS/UC/RLC/KK)
Patricia Miller (UC)
Philip Payton (RLC)
John Pengilly (RLC)
Audrey Pool (UC)
Dan Prohaska (UCR)
Craig Weatherhill (UCR)
David Gus Williams (RLC)
Nicholas Williams (UCR)
0.7. SUPPORTERS

The following 51 people, having reviewed Revision 11 (made public on 26 March 2007), Revision 13 (made public on 15 May 2007), or Revision 15 (made public on 22 June 2007), have requested that their names be added to this list of supporters. A selection of quotations, made with their declarations of support, is also appended.

Sandy Angove
Heather Ashworth (UC/UCR)
Roger Bailey (UC/KK)
Clive Baker (UC/UCR)
Jan Beare (UCR)
Peggy Biddick (UCR)
Paul W. Birt (UC)
Vanda Bradley (UC)
Owen Cook (KK)
John Cowan
Wendy Curnow (UC)
Pete Daniels (UCR)
Mina Dresser (RLC)
Donald Dymond (UC)
George Gandy (UC/UCR)
John Ellery Gillingham (KK/UC)
Neil Harvey (UCR)
Peter K. Harvey (UC)
Rael Harvey (UC)
Maureen Hegarty (UC/RLC)
Patrick Hegarty (RLC)
Nigel Hicks (UC/UCR)
Denise Hoon (UC)
Rosemary Horne (UC)
Jane Howells (UC/UCR)
Nicolas Jacobs (UCR)
Mary Jones (UCR)
Jonathan Kereve-Clarke (KK)
Richard Legg (UCR)
Janice Lobb (RLC)
Nigel Martin (KK/UCR)
Jon Mills (UC/RLC/KK/UCR)
Philippa Mills (RLC/UC)
Constance Moore (UCR)
David Oates (UC)
Jonathan Olver (UC/UCR)
Chris Parkinson (RLC)
Andy Phillips (UCR)
Adrian Pilgrim (UC, RLC)
Ros Prigg
Jeremy Rowe
Pauline Rowe (KK/UC)
Christian Semmens (UC/UCR)
Zara Shoesmith (UC)
Ian Soulsby (UCR)
Steve Tinnie
Graham Charles Gordon Thomas
Laurence A West (UCR/KS)
Kate Williams
Robbie Wright (RLC)
Brian Young (UC/UCR)
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

“If this spelling, or one similar to it, is adopted as the Standard Written Form for schools, we will be able to reunite the language and advance its cause at a rate not previously seen.”

“This plan was one that I was speaking about a long time ago but was ignored—now people are doing it!”

“I am most pleased to be able to support this initiative since it makes a genuine effort to bring all groups together and to stimulate informed debate about the future standard orthography based on the needs and interests of all.”

KS v. 15: “Pys dâ oma gen an lytherednans-ma. Sur of y vos an gwelha spellyans bythqweth a vue y'n tavas dasvewys.” KS v. 16: “Peis dâ oma gen an lytherednans-ma. Sur ov y vos an gwelha spellyans bythqweth a veu y’n tavas dasvewys.”

“I think it is most important that whatever orthography is agreed is as close to historical versions as is practically possible. A language is about roots, identity and belonging, and continuity with the past is at least if not more important than ease of use.”

“I agree and well done all the good work you have done.”

“The chosen orthography must prove itself academically and linguistically to be attested in spelling and use. Otherwise we have failed.”

“Agreement desperately needed!”

“Very impressed with the draft proposal.”

“I very much hope that this significant document will be accepted and enable us to move forward”

“Kernowak manages to address many of the problems that currently exist in the other forms. Particularly from a KK user perspective, it omits a number of forms that were created without being based on historic fact. By going back to traditional forms and incorporating later forms such as pre-occlusion it creates a stunningly attractive form of Cornish that is easy to read (speaking as a Kemmyn user).”

Revision 16, 14 November 2007
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

“I am overwhelmingly impressed by the quality of the KS specification and the discussion in the public process.”

“I sincerely hope that this new Cornish orthography (and morphology) will be inclusive, and will encourage language users to work together for the future of Cornish in a non-partisan spirit.”

“Scientists and historians update their knowledge regularly in the light of the results of on-going research. Why should linguists be any different? Is it intellectual laziness? If a fifth version of Cornish allows us to read the old texts, both mediaeval and modern, and allows us to converse in a reasonably colloquial manner, then I would be perfectly happy to go along with it. It would certainly make for a level playing field if all the existing versions had to do the same, but I suspect the die-hards in all camps wouldn’t be happy. I would like to feel that what I was speaking and writing bore some resemblance to the language that we would have been using had it not died out.”

“I started out learning KK.”

“Kernowak is a great development. I want to jump aboard and further my linguistic studies as soon as it is approved. I … confirm my support for what you are attempting with regards to a unified Cornish language. [I believe] that the influence that KK has been allowed to amass since its inception has been bad for the Cornish language and Cornish people as a whole; in fact, the whole debacle has been embarrassing for me as a Cornishman. All I desire is to learn more about my homeland; its history, customs and language and to share that knowledge.”

“A universally accepted fifth form, one that can be taught to 'one and all' and used to effectively increase the limited number of native speakers is, to my mind, the most sensible solution.”

“The principles of KS seem to me to reconcile the demands of history and usability quite well.”

“No compromise will completely satisfy everybody. But KS does an elegant job of synthesizing Late and Middle forms, attested graphs and phonemic reliability. This is an improvement on all the orthographies currently in use, and in the interests of unity I would be happy to switch to it from Kemmyn.”
CHAPTER ONE

PRONUNCIATION AND SPELLING

1.0. Most learners of Cornish speak English. They come from all over Cornwall and indeed the world, speaking different varieties of English. In order to make as precise as possible the recommended pronunciation, we use the symbols of the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA) as strictly as we can, according to the rules given by the International Phonetic Association.

Many of the sounds of Cornish are similar to those used in English (of one sort or another) but some of them are quite different and must be taught and learnt. This orthography has been devised to give as much information as possible so that when a person sees an unfamiliar word, he or she will be able to pronounce it correctly according to clear rules.

1.1. WORD STRESS

In the IPA, primary word stress is written with a superscript vertical bar ['], and secondary stress with a subscript vertical bar [·]. In Cornish, words are usually stressed on the penultimate syllable; thus aval ['aval] ‘apple’ but avalow [a'valou] ‘apples’, mestres [mestəs] ‘mistress’ but mestresow [məstəzou] ‘mistresses’. There are notable exceptions. Mytern [mii'tən] ‘king’ is stressed on the second syllable, for example. Some adverbs and prepositions contain proclitic elements, and so are stressed on the second syllable: inwedh [m'we:d] (or i'wedh [i'we:d]) ‘also’, adro [a'dro:] ‘about’, ales [a'lez] ‘abroad, far and wide’, dheworth [də'wərθ] ‘from’, dherag [də'ræg] ‘before’. The word hadre [hə'dre:] ‘while, until’ is also stressed on the second syllable.

Compound words carry primary and secondary stress, e.g. tebel-spyrys [ˈtebəlˌspɜːrəz] ‘evil spirit’, overdevys [ˈɔvərˌdevəz] ‘overgrown’.

Revision 16, 14 November 2007
NOTE: Spellings in Middle and Late Cornish suggest that the possessive adjectives agan ‘our’, agas ‘your’ and aga ‘their’ had two forms. Since the words never bore full phrasal stress, the stress was weak. There are full forms [ægən], [ægəz], [ægə], and reduced forms whose unstressed syllable was frequently elided or dropped to give [gən], [gəz], [gə]. Our choice for spelling these two forms is agan [ægən], etc., and gàn [gən], etc.

1.2. VOWEL LENGTH
Cornish has two vowel lengths, long and short. The long vowel phonemes in earlier Cornish pronunciation are /i: e: o: u: y: ø:/; they occur mostly in stressed monosyllables. Vowels in word-final position are usually long, e.g. chy [tʃi:] ‘house’, tre [tɾei] ‘home’, tro [tɾɔ:] ‘turn’, dâ [dæ:] ‘good’, deu [dɔ:] ‘comes’. A few words like ha [ha] ‘and’ are always weakly stressed and do not conform to this rule. There are short phonemic equivalents of all the long vowels, namely /i e o u y ø/; they are typically realized as [ë E œ O Ü Y π]. There is also an unstressed vowel /ɔ/ and there are eight diphthongs /ei æi oi ow æw iw ew ‘i:i/.

In later Cornish pronunciation, some long vowels in stressed monosyllables have a tendency to break, as in den ‘man’ [de:n] > [de:n] and noth ‘naked’ [nɔθ] > [nɔθ]; in final position chy [tʃi:] regularly breaks to [tʃi:]. The vowels /y: y/ and /ø: ø/ fall together as /i: i/ and /e: e/ respectively.

NOTE: George has suggested that early Middle Cornish did not distinguish vowel length per se, but rather that phonemic length lay with the consonants, with a non-phonemic threefold distinction of short, half-long, and long vowels being conditioned by the consonant length. It may well be the case that consonant length outlived Old Cornish, but it appears that it was soon lost in favour of the phonemic short and long vowel distinction posited by Jenner, Nance, Caradar, Gendall, and Williams. It is certainly the case that phonemic length in the vowels, not the consonants, is the norm in the revived language.
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

1.3. RULES FOR VOWEL LENGTH

The main indicator of vowel length in monosyllables is the consonant which follows the vowel.


1.3.2. A vowel in a stressed monosyllable is **long** before <dh>, e.g. *bedh* [beðθ] ‘grave’ and *ladh* [læðθ] ‘kills’. Although [θ] (written <dh>) and [ʃ] (written <gh>) are voiceless, stressed vowels in monosyllables before either are also long, e.g. *coth* [koθθ] ‘old’, *gweth* [ɡwɛθθ] ‘worse’, *sqwyth* [skwiθθ] ‘tired’, *bath* [bæθθ] ‘coin’, *meth* [meθθ] ‘shame’, *qweth* [kwɛθθ] ‘garment’, and *begh* [beθx] ‘load’, *flogh* [floθx] ‘child’, *gwygh* [gwɪθx] ‘periwinkles’. (This applies even in later Cornish pronunciation where the final [x] becomes [h] and may be lost.) A vowel in a stressed monosyllable is also long before the consonant clusters <sk> and <st>, e.g. *Pask* [pæsk] ‘Easter’, *peisk* [pɛsk] ‘fish’, *best* [bɛst] ‘animal’, *chast* [ʃæst] ‘chaste’, *cost* [kɔst] ‘coast’, *Cryst* [kɾiːst] ‘Christ’, *gast* [ɡæst] ‘bitch, animal’, *lost* [lɔst] ‘tail’, *fust* [fust], [fiːst], ‘flail, cudgel’.

NOTE: The two rules given above appear to be the system Jordan uses for native Cornish vocabulary items in the *Creation of the World*. As can be seen below, many of the exceptions to these rules are found in loanwords.

1.3.3. A vowel in a stressed monosyllable is **short** before a written single voiceless consonant, e.g. *top* [tɔp] ‘top’, *whypp* [wʌp] ‘whip’, *fytt* [fɪt] ‘fit, bout’. A vowel in a stressed monosyllable is also short before a written double consonant, whether voiceless or voiced, e.g. *bryck* [bɾɪk] ‘brick’, *coll* [kɔl] ‘loss’, *dall* [dæl] ‘blind’, *foll* [fɔl] ‘crazy’,
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH


**NOTE 1:** For consistency, short vowels before /l/ and /ɾ/ are written with the consonant doubled <ll> and <rr>; short vowels are not written with the grave accent before single <l> and <ɾ>, apart from the three words *dàr* ‘eh?’, *màr* ‘if’, and *wàr* ‘on’. See §1.3.7.

**NOTE 2:** Although both *ch* [tʃ] and *j* [dʒ] are phonetically consonant clusters, unmarked vowels are short before *ch* (as in *sqwych* [skwɔɾʃ]) and long before *j* (as in *uj* [yːdʒ], [iːdʒ]).

1.3.4. A vowel in a stressed monosyllable is short before a pre-occluded consonant or an original long consonant which is subject to pre-occlusion, e.g. *cabm, camm* [kæɾm], [kæɾm] ‘bent’, *pedn, penn* [pɛɾn], [pɛɾn] ‘head’; *gwydn, gwynn* [ɡwrʰn], [ɡwrʰn] ‘white’; *tobm, tomm* [tɔɾm], [tɔɾm] ‘hot, warm’; *udn, unn* [ɾʰn], [ɾʰn], [ɾn], [ɾn] ‘one’.

**NOTE:** Unified Cornish, Common Cornish, and Unified Cornish Revised all acknowledged the existence of pre-occlusion in Cornish, but tended to discourage its use and did not show it in writing. It has, however, been a feature of the Cornish language since the late 15th century; it occurs in *Beunans Meriasek* (c. 1504) and is widely attested in place-names. From Jordan’s *Creation of the World* (1611) onward, it is written quite commonly. Revived Late Cornish has written pre-occlusion consistently.

Pre-occlusion is quintessentially Cornish and may be written with confidence. Moreover, because pre-occlusion is not reliably predictable, it must be indicated in writing. Words which are subject to pre-occlusion are written with <bm> and <dn> or <mm> and <nm> as the writer prefers. Speakers who do not use pre-occlusion...
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

will know to pronounce *gwydn* as [qwm]; speakers who do use pre-occlusion will know to pronounce *gwynn* as [qwrn].

If pre-occlusion were not indicated in the orthography, speakers who do wish to pre-occlude might do so in words where it is inappropriate. For instance, *swân* [wvon] ‘swan’ should not be pronounced *[wvn]n*; *gôn* [qmn] ‘I know’ does not pre-occlude, and is a different word from *godn, gonn* [g3n] ‘gun’ (though *godn, gonn* may be pronounced [g3n]).

1.3.5. When a vowel in a stressed monosyllable is long but occurs before a voiceless consonant or a consonant cluster, it is written with a CIRCUMFLEX ACCENT: *hôk* [ho:k] ‘hawk’, *shâp* [ʃæp] ‘shape’, *stât* [stæ:t] ‘state’. Where the high front vowel is long in such cases, it is written <î>, e.g. *qât* [kwit] ‘wholly’, *spit* [spit] ‘spite, rage’.

1.3.6. In some words, written <a> in a stressed monosyllable is long but may be pronounced either [æ:] or [ɔ:]. In these words, the CIRCUMFLEX ACCENT indicates this option, e.g. *brâs* [braːz], [brɔːz] ‘great’, *cân* [kæːn], [kɔn] ‘song’, *clâv* [klæːv], [klɔv] ‘sick’, *tâl* [tæːl], [tʌl] ‘brow’, *gwâv* [gwæːv], [gəv] ‘winter’, *gwîn* [glaːn], [gloːn] ‘wool’.

NOTE: An alternative without diacritical marks for this set of words would be the graph <ao>, e.g. *braos* ‘great’, *caon* ‘song’, *claov* ‘sick’, *taol* ‘brow’, *gwaov* ‘winter’, *gwlaon* ‘wool’. (Cf. Lhuyd AB 51c <brân vrâoz> ‘large crow’.)

1.3.7. When a vowel in a stressed monosyllable is short but occurs before a single voiced consonant, it is written with a GRAVE ACCENT, e.g. *pûb* [pʊb] ‘every’, *gôn* [qmn] ‘I know’, *jin* [dʒʌn] ‘contrivance’, *lin* [lin] ‘fluid, liquid’, *jûd* [dʒudʒ] ‘judge’. Note the use of the grave on the common words *dâr* ‘eh?’, *mâr* ‘if’, and *wâr* ‘on’.

NOTE: Diacritical marks are not new to Cornish. Edward Lhuyd used them, as did William Rowe, Thomas Tonkin, William Gwavas, and John Boson. Scholars William Pryce, Fred Jago, and
Henry Jenner also used them. Nevertheless, diacritical marks are unfamiliar to some users of Cornish, perhaps because Morton Nance chose to confine their use to learning materials, stating that for “ordinary writing, diacritical marks are not used in unified Cornish”. Unfortunately, this led to a lack of clarity in the relation between sound and spelling. This was a perceived shortcoming in Unified Cornish, which gave rise to several competing solutions.

In the proposed orthography, because vowel length is marked in monosyllables by the consonant which follows the vowel, it is necessary to use diacritical marks regularly to indicate vowel length when it is other than expected. In practice, the use of diacritical marks is fairly limited, because most anomalous vowel length is found in loanwords.

The use of diacritical marks in Kernowak is obligatory, in order for the reader reliably to make the length distinction between pairs such as gôn [gon] ‘I know’ and gôn [gon] ‘scabbard’, and between cổst [kost] ‘cost’ and cost [kost] ‘coast, region’ and so on. “Leaving off the accent” is to be considered a spelling error.

In the proposed orthography, diacritical marks are also used to make some other distinctions. Some of these are qualitative. Since unmarked u represents the phoneme /y/ (pronounced [y:], [i:] or [y], [i] depending on the following consonant), diacritical marks are used to indicate the phoneme /u/: û [u:] and ù [u]. A set of words which have special variant pronunciations are marked with the circumflex: compare bras [bæz] ‘treachery’, with brás [bæz], [bæz] ‘great’ and tal [tæl] ‘pays, must’ with tal [tæl], [tæl] ‘forehead’.

A very few homophones may be distinguished by the use of the circumflex, e.g. a [a] ‘from’, â [a:] ‘goes’; da [da] ‘thy, to’, dâ [da:] ‘good’; ev [ev], [e] ‘he’, ëv [ëv] ‘drinks’; eth [eθ] ‘eight, vapour’, êth [eθ] ‘goest, went’; ke [kei] ‘hedge’, ké [kei] ‘go’; on [on] ‘we are’, ôn [on] ‘lamb’. (This is similar to the Welsh practice, where the circumflex distinguishes cân ‘song’ and can ‘flour’; dîl ‘meadow’ and dol ‘doll’; gwên ‘smile’ and gwen ‘white f.’; hyôn ‘older’ and hyn ‘this’.)
Modern fonts and computer systems are well able to represent ä è i ó û and à è i ô û correctly and easily; these letters are used regularly in Welsh and Scottish Gaelic and have been for a long time. Keyboard driver software for these letters has been available for the Macintosh, Windows, and Linux platforms for a long time, and works with standard English-language keyboard hardware. It will be easy to make such resources available to people who do not yet have them. (We have avoided the use of diacritics on y because many fonts do not support them, and this would cause difficulties for users.)

1.4. SIMPLE VOWELS

1.4.1. Long /iː/ [iː]


As has been noted in §1.3.5, when /iː/ occurs before voiceless consonants it is written <i>, e.g. qwit [kwit] ‘wholly’, spit [spit] ‘spite, rage’.

Both [iː] and [i] are most usually written <y> in this orthography. Those accustomed to Late Cornish spelling have indicated their view that the high frequency of the graph <y> gives the proposed orthography a rather too “medieval” appearance. In this orthography a regular and predictable distinction is made between the use of <i> and <y>, in part to deal with the aesthetic question, and in part to recognize the foreign origin of some prefixes and suffixes. The general rule is that <i> is written in initial position (except in a few function words) and <y> elsewhere (except in some borrowed prefixes and suffixes).
1.4.1. Initial <i> and <y>
<i> is written in initial position: *idhyn* ‘birds’, *idn*, *inn* ‘narrow’, *inclynacyon* ‘inclination’, *inclynya* ‘to incline’, *incressya* ‘to increase’, *injyn* ‘stratagem’, *inia* ‘to urge’, *inspyrya* ‘inspire’, *intendys* ‘intended’, *iredy* ‘indeed’, *isel* ‘low’, *iwys* ‘indeed’.
<i> is written with the preposition *in* ‘in’; *in Kernow* ‘in Cornwall’, *i’n chy* ‘in the house’, *in y jy* ‘in his house’, *i’m breus avy* ‘in my judgment’. It is used in its inflected forms, e.g. *ina* ‘in him’, *inhy* ‘in her’, *inans* ‘in them’. It is also used in its derivatives: *in kerdh* ‘away’, *in mes* ‘out’, *in nes* ‘near’, *inwedh*, *i’wedh* ‘also’, *indelma* ‘in this way’, *indella* ‘in that way’, *inketelma* ‘in this same way’, *inketella* ‘in that same way’.
<i> is written with the preposition *inter* ‘among, between’: *inter benenes* ‘among women’, *intredhan ny* ‘among us’.
<y> is written in the preverbal particle *y(th)*: *yth ov vy* ‘I am’, *ycodh dhybm*, *y codh dhymm* ‘I should’ and in its variant *yn medh* ‘says, said’.
<y> is used with the adverbial particle *yn*: *yn fas* ‘well’, *yn few* ‘alive’, *yn freth* ‘fluently’, *yn gwyr* ‘truly’, *yn tâ* ‘well’.
<y> is used with the pronoun *y* ‘they’: *y a dheu* ‘they will come’.
<y> is used with forms of the verb to be: *yma*, *ymowns*, *ymownjy*, *yw*, *ywa*, *yns*.

NOTE: The preposition *in* ‘in’ is written with <i> and the adverbial particle *yn* is written with <y>. This orthographic distinction will help learners remember that *in* ‘in’ is not usually followed by any mutation, whereas Type I Mixed mutation follows the particle *yn*. The word *kyn* ‘although’ has the same mutation.

1.4.1.2. Medial <i> and <y>
<i> is written in the suffix *-ita* (English -ity) and on words containing the stem *-it*- from such words: *antyqwita* ‘antiquity’, *auctorita* ‘authority’, *captivyta* ‘captivity’, *carnalita* ‘carnality’, *cherita* ‘charity’, *cita* ‘city’, *citysan* ‘citizen’, *comodita* ‘convenience’, *controvercita* ‘controversy’, *dynita* ‘dignity’, *felycita* ‘felicity’, *mortalita* ‘mortality’, *nycita* ‘ignorance’, *pita* ‘pity’, *plûralita*
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH


<i> is written in the suffixes -itek, -itik: politek ‘politic’, critic ‘critic’ and in derivatives: critica ‘to criticize’.

<i> in written in the suffixes -ipal and -ipalita: mûnicipal ‘municipal’, pryncipal ‘principal’, mûnicipalita ‘municipality’

<i> is written in -ical: canonical ‘canonical’, heretical ‘heretical’, mystical ‘mystical’, scysmatical ‘schismatic’.


<i> is written in the suffix -ist: royalist ‘royalist’, nacyonalist ‘nationalist’


<în>, with a CIRCUMFLEX ACCENT, is used to write chemical and biochemical terms ending in English in -in, -ine, -eín and -eine: adrenalin ‘adrenalin’, morfin ‘morphine’, protin ‘protein’, caffin ‘caffeine’.

<y> is written in the suffix -yk in both native and borrowed words: dyscrejyk, dyscresyk ‘unbelieving’, chymyk ‘chemistry’; but chymist ‘chemist’.

Revision 16, 14 November 2007
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

<y> is written in the prefix poly-: polytechnik ‘polytechnic’.
<y> is used in all other positions. If the root word is spelt with <y>, the <y> is maintained in derivatives: pryns ‘prince’, pryncipalita ‘principality’.

1.4.1.3. Final <y>
<y> is written regularly in final position.

1.4.2. Short /i/ [ê]

In final position unstressed /i/ tends to raise from [i] to short [i], e.g. kelly [ˈkəli] ‘lose’, ankevy [ˈɑŋkəvi] ‘forget’.

NOTE 1: In stressed open syllables /i/ often alternates with /e/, e.g. <pyjy> and <pejy> ‘pray’, <cryjy> and <crejy> ‘believe’, <scryfa> and <screfa> ‘write’, <myras> and <meras> ‘look’. We recommend for these words the following forms, making the choice on etymological grounds: pejy [ˈpɛdʒi] ‘pray’, crejy
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH


NOTE 2: The word for ‘world’ is written <bys>, <beys>, and <bes> in the texts; the pronunciation was probably [biz] at first; becoming [bez] (the Old Cornish was <bit> [bɪt]). Rowe gives <beaze>, also evidently [bez]. The word for ‘finger’ is attested in Old Cornish as <bis> and <bes>, probably pronounced [bɛz]; Lhuyd gives <bês>, evidently [bez]. For simplicity’s sake, we recommend distinguishing the forms while respecting the variation in pronunciation: beis [bɪz], [bez] ‘world, finger’. The proposed orthography writes the word for ‘until’ with a short vowel as bis [bɪz]. See Note 2 at §1.4.3.

1.4.3. Long /e:/ [e:\]

When it occurs before a consonant cluster, length is shown by a circumflex, e.g. dêns [dɛnz] ‘they came’, gwêns [ɡwɛnz] ‘they went’.

The spelling <ai> is used in words with an original diphthong [ei] which has simplified to [e:], e.g. dainty [ˈdɛnti] ‘fussy’, paint [ˈpɛnt] ‘paint’, trailya [ˈtɹeɪljə] ‘turn’, traitor [ˈtɹɛɪtər] ‘traitor’, gwaiya [ɡweiːjə] ‘hope, take care’. Some speakers pronounce these as though they were written <treilya> [ˈtɹɛiljə], <treiتور> [ˈtɹɛiʔəɾ], <ɡwɛitya> [ˈɡweɪtjə]. For simplicity’s sake, only the forms with <ai> are recommended as standard.

NOTE 1: Traditional Cornish normally uses the word tavas for ‘language’, although eyth ‘language’ is used three times in
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

Tregear, which was not available to Nance when he reconstructed yeth. We recommend distinguishing eth [eː] ‘eight; vapour’, ëth [eː] ‘goest; went’ and yeth [eː] ‘language’.

NOTE 2: Some words seem to alternate between /i:/ and /e:/ (cf. bys ~ bes above), e.g. gwydh ~ gwedh ‘trees’, fydh ~ fedh ‘faith’, pryv ~ prev ‘reptile’, bydh ~ bedh ‘be!’, dydh ~ dedh ‘day’. We recommend for these words the following forms: gweidh [gwiːð], [gweːð] ‘trees’, feidh [fiːð], [feːð] ‘faith’, preiv [pɾiːv], [pɾiːv] ‘reptile’, beidh [biːð], [beːð] ‘be!’, deidh [diːð], [deːð] ‘day’. Other examples: gleib [ɡliːb], [ɡliːb] ‘wet’, peisk [pʲiːsk], [pʲeːsk] ‘fish’, seigh [siːx], [seːx] ‘dry’.

1.4.4. Short /e/ [ɛ]
The corresponding short vowel is slightly lower and more centralized than its long counterpart. It is written <e> and sometimes <ɛ> in the proposed orthography. Phonoetically it can be represented as [ɛ]. It occurs before voiceless consonants in monosyllables, e.g. let [let] ‘hindrance’, set [set] ‘sets’, and before pre-occluded n, e.g. tedin, tenn [tɛːn], [ten] ‘draws’, ev a vedn, ev a venn [ɛv ə 'veːn], [ɛv ə 'veːn] ‘he will (colloq.)’, gedn, genn [ɡɛːn], [ɡɛn] ‘wedge’. It also occurs as the stressed vowel in disyllables, e.g. redya ['ɾɛdja] ‘read’, metya ['mɛtja] ‘meet’, mednas, mennas ['mɛnəs], ['menas] ‘will, wish’, kelly ['kɛli] ‘lose’, ankevy ['aŋ'kɛvi] ‘forget’. Short [ɛ] occurs in low sentence stress in mès [mɛz] ‘but’.

NOTE: beth ‘ever’ and its lenited form veth ‘any’ have a long vowel. In the expression veth oll ‘any at all’, however, the long [ɛː] is shortened to [ɛ]: [vɛ:θ ɔːl].

1.4.5. Long /æː/ [æː]
This is a long mid-low vowel, although its range is rather wide and the vowel can approach cardinal [æː]; it may even approach [ɛː] on occasion. It occurs in monosyllables before single voiced consonants: e.g. mab [mæːb] ‘son’, ladh [läːð] ‘kill!’, gwag [ɡwaːɡ] ‘hungry’, tas [tæːz] ‘father’, cav [kæːv] ‘cave’, glan [ɡlaːn] ‘clean’, sham [ʃaːm]
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

'shame', *gam* ['gæm'] 'game', *ev a dal* ['e:v ə da:l] 'he ought', and before [θ], e.g. *cath* ['kæθ] 'cat', *whath* ['wæθ] 'still'.

The sound tends to lower to [ɔ:] after before <r>, e.g. *car* ['kɔr] 'love!'. See the Note at §1.4.6.

When /æ:/ occurs before unvoiced consonants or consonant clusters it is marked with a circumflex, e.g. *shâp* ['sœp] 'shape'.

In some words, the á marks the optional pronunciations [æ:] or [ɔ:], e.g. *brâs* ['bɾæs], [bɾɔs] 'great', *cân* ['kæn], [kɔn] 'song', *clâv* [klæv], [klovn] 'song', *gwâv* ['gwœv'], [gwɔv] 'song'. See §1.3.6.

NOTE: We know that /æ:/ was an open-mid vowel for a number of reasons. In the Middle Cornish texts *whath* 'still' is often written <wheth> and *fas* 'face' is on occasion <feth>. Lhuyd gives Cornish <gêst> 'bitch' AB: 46a, corresponding to Welsh *gast*. At BM 3411 the plural of *hal* 'marsh' is *hellowv*; if the short vowel of *hellowv* was /e/, the long vowel was likely to have been at a similar height in the mouth. Moreover, place-names containing <praZe> 'meadow' (<*pras*), and <glaze* 'blue' (<*glas*) suggest that the elements in Cornish had a raised /æ:/ rather than /aː/.

1.4.6. Short /æ/ [æ]
The short equivalent of /æ:/ is lower and slightly more central. Its range is rather wide and the vowel can approach cardinal [a]. It occurs in monosyllables before voiceless consonants, e.g. *whaff* ['wæf] 'gust of wind', and *sqwat* ['skwæt] 'blow, buffet'. It also occurs before double <ll>, e.g. *dall* ['dæl] 'blind', *fall* ['fæl] 'failure'. It also occurs before pre-occluded m and n, e.g. *cabm*, *camm* ['kæbm], ['kæm] 'bent', *mabm*, *mamm* ['mæbm], ['mæm] 'mother', *tabm*, *tamm* ['tæbm], ['tæm] 'bit', *spladn*, *splann* ['splæn], ['splen] 'brilliant, clear'.

It occurs as the stressed vowel in disyllables and polysyllables, e.g. *cara* ['kæɾa] 'love', *cana* ['kæna] 'sing', *canow* ['kænou] 'songs', *ladha* ['lædɔ] 'kill', *gasa* ['ɡæsə], *gara* ['ɡæɾa] 'leave, allow'.

The sound tends to lower to [ɔ] after <w> and before <r>, e.g. *swân* ['swɔn] 'swan', *part* ['pɔʁt] 'part', *wâr* ['wɔɾ] 'on', and before <ls>, e.g. *als* ['ɔls] 'cliff, shore'; *fals* ['fɔɾl] 'false'.

Revision 16, 14 November 2007 13
NOTE: The sound [u] is like the vowel in English Received Pronunciation pot [pɔt]; it is not like RP half [ha:f] or law [lɔ:]. The sound is like a vowel midway between the Eastern American cot [kɔt] and caught [kɔt] in those dialects which distinguish them.

1.4.7. Long /ɔ:/ [ɔ]
This is a mid-high rounded back vowel. It is written <ɔ> and sometimes <ɔ> in the proposed orthography. Phonetically it can be represented as [ɔː]. It appears in monosyllables before voiced consonants, e.g. cog [kɔɡ] ‘empty’, ov [ɔ:v] ‘am’, dov [dɔv] ‘tame’, ros [rɔz], and before consonant clusters: post [poʊst] ‘post’. When it occurs before a voiceless consonant, the length is shown by a circumflex, e.g. cóp [kɔ:p] ‘cope’, grót [ɡɔt] ‘groat’.

In some words and in unstressed position, the vowel sound shortens and lowers to [ɔ], e.g. bos [boz], [boz] ‘be’; dos [doz], [doz] ‘come’; mos [moz], [moz] ‘go’. This alternation is left un-marked in the proposed orthography.

NOTE: Some words alternate between /ɔ:/ and /u:/, the former being used in earlier Cornish pronunciation and the latter in later Cornish pronunciation. These words are spelt with the graph <oo>. See §1.4.9.

1.4.8. Short /o/ [ɔ]
This is the short equivalent of /ɔː/. It is lower and more central than its long counterpart, usually [ɔ] though sometimes reduced to [ɔ]. It is written <ɔ> and sometimes <ɔ> and <au> in the proposed orthography. It occurs in monosyllables before a voiceless consonant, e.g. top [tɔp] ‘top’, pot [pɔt] ‘pot’, cot [kɔt] ‘short’ and before consonant clusters and consonants written double, e.g. orth [ɔrθ] ‘upon’, porth [pɔrθ] ‘harbour’, toll [tɔl] ‘hole’, coll [ko:l] ‘loss’. It also occurs in monosyllables before pre-occluded m and n, e.g. tobm, tomm [tɔb’m], [tɔm] ‘hot’; todn, tonn [tɔ’n], [tɔn] ‘wave’.

Short /o/ also occurs before /n/ without pre-occlusion in the Cornish for ‘I know’, which we spell gɔn [ɡɔn]. The word for ‘gun’ is <gon>, plural <gonnys> in Beunans Meriasek. But Lhuyd writes it as...
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

1.4.9. Long /u:/ [u:]

This is a high back rounded vowel and is often the reflex of Old Cornish /ui/ and /oi/. It is written <ou> and sometimes <û> in the proposed orthography. Phonetically it can be represented as [uː], e.g. It is also written <ou> in borrowings from Middle English goun [gu:n] 'gown', cloud [klu:d] 'cloud' and flour [fluːr] 'flower'. It is written <û> in frût [fruːt] 'fruit', gûn [gu:n] 'down, unenclosed land', Stûl [stuːl] 'Epiphany'. The word ûsya 'use' is pronounced with an initial [juː]: [juzjə].

Some words alternate between /o:/ and /u:/, the former being used in earlier Cornish pronunciation and the latter in later Cornish pronunciation. These words may be written with the spelling <oo>: bloodh [bloʊð], [bluːð] 'years of age', cloos [kloʊz], [kluːz] 'hurdle', coos [koʊz], [kuːz] 'wood', goodh [ɡʊdɪɾ], [ɡuːdɪɾ] 'goose', goos, gooj [ɡʊj], [ɡuːj], [ɡuːdʒ] 'blood', loos [loʊz], [luːz] 'grey', oos [ɔʊz], [uːz] 'age', moos [moʊz], [muːz] 'table', poos [poʊz], [puːz] 'heavy', roos [rʊz], [rʊːz] 'net', troos [troʊz], [tuːz] 'foot', scoodh [skoʊð], [skuːð] 'shoulder', scoos [skoʊz], [skuːz] 'shield'.

1.4.10. Short /u/ [ʊ]

This, the short equivalent of /uː/, is slightly lower and a little more central than its long counterpart. It is not common and seems to
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

alternate with /o/. In the proposed orthography, because <u> represents /y/,[u] must be written <ù>, e.g. pùb [pʊb] ‘every’, bus [bus] ‘bus’, lùk [lʊk] ‘enough’.

NOTE: Because the graph <u> is used for /y/ and /Y/, a certain number of words which were sometimes written in Middle Cornish with <u> are respelt in this orthography with <o> where such forms are also attested in the texts. Some examples are cosca [ˈkɔskɔ] ‘sleep’, porpos ‘purpose’ [ˈpɔrpoz], porposya ‘intend’ [ˈpɔrpozja], scollya ‘scatter, shed’ [ˈskɔljɔ], second ‘second’ [ˈskɔnd], and sopposya ‘assume’ [ˈsɔrpozja].

1.4.11. Long /y:/ [yː] ~ [iː]
This is a long high rounded front vowel. It is written <u> and occurs in monosyllables before a single voiced consonant and <th>. By the sixteenth century /y:/ was unrounding to become /iː/ with which it fell together. Both pronunciations are acceptable and current: tus [tʏːz], [tɪːz] ‘people’, Sul [syːl], [siːl] ‘Sunday’, fur [fʏːz], [fiːz] ‘wise’, uth [ʏːθ], [iːθ] ‘horror’, uj [ʏːdʒ], [iːdʒ] ‘howl’.

NOTE: We recommend splitting the word pur ‘pure, very’ into two separate items: (i) pur [pyːz], [piːz] superlative purra [ˈpyrɔ], [ˈpyrɔ] (or purra [ˈpyrɔ], [ˈpyrɔ]) ‘pure, complete, utter’, e.g. Maria goeheres pur ‘Mary, a pure virgin’, an purra lader i’n pow ‘the most inveterate thief in the country’; (ii) pòr [pɔr] ‘very’ (adverb), e.g. pòr dìh ‘very good’, pòr goth ‘very old’.

1.4.12. Short /y/ [ʏ] ~ [i]
This is the short equivalent of /yː/. It has a tendency to unround and to fall together with /i/ as [i]. It is written <u> and occurs before pre-occluded n in udn, unn [ʏn], [iŋ], [in], [m] ‘one’ and as the stressed vowel in disyllables and polysyllables, e.g. ujy [ʏdʒi], [ɪdʒɪ] ‘is’, uja [ʏdʒa], [ɪdʒa] ‘howl’, budhys [bʊðɪs], [bʊðɪs] ‘drowned’, dowlujy [dʊlʊdʒi], [dʊlɪdʒi] ‘deviﬁry’.
1.4.13. Long /ø:/ [ɔː] ~ [ɛː]
This is a long mid-high rounded front vowel, [ɔː]. It appears in monosyllables before single voiced consonants and <th> and is written <eu> in this orthography. By the sixteenth century /ø:/ was unrounding to become /e:/ with which it fell together. e.g. eus [eʊz], [euz] ‘is’, deus [dɔez], [deuz] ‘come!’, deuth [deθ], [deθ] ‘came’, skeus [skoɛz], [skæz] ‘shadow’, keus [koɛz], [keæz] ‘cheese’, keun [koɛn], [keæn] ‘dogs’, leur [lʊɛ], [læɛ] ‘floor’, leun [lʊɛn], [læɛn] ‘full’, meur [moɛr], [meɛr] ‘much’, beu [boɛ], [beɛ] ‘was’.

1.4.14. Short /ø/ [œ] ~ [ɛ]
This, the short equivalent of /ø:/, is not common. It has a tendency to unround and to fall together with /e/ as [ɛ]. It is written <eu> and occurs as the stressed vowel in the preterite and perfect of the verb dos ‘come’, e.g. deuthowgh [dθowg], [dθowg] ‘you came’ and re dheuva [rɛθoʊv], [rɛθoʊv] ‘he has come’.

1.4.15. Schwa /ə/ [ə]


NOTE 1: It would simplify the proposed orthography if one could spell schwa identically everywhere. Unfortunately this is not
possible. If we write, for example, *colan* ‘heart’, *holan* ‘salt’ and *pellan* ‘ball’, we make it harder for learners, who have to remember that the plurals are *colonow*, *holanow* and *pellednow* respectively. It is therefore better to use the re-appearing morphological vowel in such cases – and also with feminines in -es: *myternes* ‘queen’ and *mestres* ‘mistress’. Schwa, however, can be written in forms that do not in themselves inflect. We recommend, therefore, writing *gwelas* ‘see’, *kemeras* ‘take’, *godhvas* ‘know’, *gortas* ‘wait’, *cafos/cawas* ‘get’ as well as *genaf, genas, genan*, and *esaf* ‘am’, *esan/eran* ‘we are’, and -ans in all 3rd plurals [if not in -yns]. This brings written Cornish closer to the practice of the scribes at the end of the sixteenth and beginning of the seventeenth century—in accordance with our aim of starting from William Jordan’s *Creation* of 1611: *gwelas* ‘see’ TH 3, *kemeras* ‘take’ TH 5a, *godhvas* ‘knowledge’ TH 11, *gortas* ‘wait’ TH 36, *ow kafas* ‘getting’ TH 11, *genaf* ‘with me’ BK 2967, *genas* ‘with thee’ BK 3048, *genan ny* ‘with us’ TH 40, *esaf ‘I am’ BK 3116, *y thesan* ‘we are’ TH 8, *ne geran* ‘we are not’ SA 59.

We also write *Kernowak* [ˈkɛrɔ:nak] ‘Cornish’, *Frenkak* [ˈfɾɛnkak] ‘French’, *Godhalak* [ˈɡɔðəlak] ‘Irish’ even though such forms as *Kernowegar* [ˈkɛɭo:ˈɛɡar] ‘Cornish speaker’ and *Godhalegy* [ɡɔðəˈlɛɡi] ‘Gaelicize’ may be used. We will also have vocalic alternation in *marrak* [ˈmaɭək] ‘knight’, pl. *marrogyon* [ˌmaɭəɹəˈɡɔn] and *tiak* [ˈtiːk] ‘farmer’, pl. *tiogow* [ˈtɪɭəʊ].

**NOTE 2:** From the time of *Beunans Meriasek* onward, final unstressed -o and -a are normally written -a. As a result, Middle Cornish *ganso* ‘with him’ and *gansa* ‘with them’ become identical. In compensation, the third person plural prepositional pronoun is recharacterized as *gansans*. In this orthography, *gansa* and *gansans* are taken as standard. *Ganso* ‘with him’ and *gansa* ‘with them’ may also be written. See §4.2.2.
1.5. DIPHTHONGS

1.5.1. /ei/ [ai]
This is phonetically /e/ + /i/, but the first element is usually considerably lower, so [ai] is more typical than [ei]; when speakers do use [ei] it sometimes simplifies to [ei]. This diphthong appears as <ey> in both monosyllables and disyllables, *teyr* [tɔiə] ‘three’ (fem.), *seyth* [saiθ] ‘seven’, *seythvas* [saiθvɔz] ‘seventh’, *seythen* [saiθən] ‘week’.

1.5.2. /æi/ [æi]
This is phonetically /æ/ + /i/, but the first element may lower to bring the diphthong to [ai]. The sound is found mostly in monosyllables, e.g. *bay* [bæi] ‘kiss’, *fay* [fei] ‘faith’, *gay* [gei] ‘gay’, *lay* [lei] ‘lay’, *may* [mei] ‘so that’, *pray* [prei] ‘prey’. It also occurs in the interjections *ay* [ai] and *hay* [hæi].

As noted above in §1.4.3, <ai> is [ei], an original diphthong [ei] that has fallen together with <e>.

1.5.3. /ɔi/ [ɔi]
This is phonetically /o/ + /i/, but is typically lowered to [ɔi], e.g. *oy* [ɔi] ‘egg’, *noy* [nɔi] ‘nephew’, *noys* [nɔiz] ‘noise’, *oyl* [ɔil] ‘oil’, *poynt* [pɔint] ‘point’, *poyson* [ˈpɔizən] ‘poison’, *voyd* [vɔid] ‘go away!’; *voys* [vɔiz] ‘voice’. The first element of the diphthong may be raised to [ɔi] in *moy* [mɔi], [mɔi] ‘more’.

1.5.4. /ɔw/ [ou]
This is pronounced [ou] and can stand in both stressed and unstressed syllables. Examples of monosyllables include *glow* [glou] (or [gluː]), and so on ‘coal’, *cows* [koʊz] ‘speech’, *pow* [pɔʊ] ‘country’, *powes* [pɔʊz] ‘garment’, *down* [dʊn] ‘deep’. Examples of stressed /ow/ in disyllables include *cowsal* [ˈkouzɔl] ‘speak’, *towal* [ˈtoulɔl] ‘plan, throw’, *Sowsnak* [ˈsouznak] ‘English’, *mowes* [ˈmoʊes] ‘girl’, *cowsas* [ˈkoʊzas] ‘shower’. From the sixteenth century onwards, in stressed syllables before a following vowel, the diphthong is sometimes raised to [u], e.g. *jowal* [ˈdʒʊəl], [ˈdʒuːəl] ‘jewel’, *Jowan* [ˈdʒʊən], [ˈdʒuːən] ‘John’, *Kernowak* [ˈkaːnuːək], [ˈkaːnuːək] ‘Cornish’.

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**A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH**

Revision 16, 14 November 2007
/ow/ is also found in unstressed syllables, where it is written <ow> as a plural suffix. It is usually pronounced [ou] (and is so transcribed here), but this may be reduced to [ɔ] or [u] or [ɔ], e.g. levow [ˈlevo:] ‘voices’, prejow [ˈprɛdʒou] ‘meals’, tylleryow [ˈtirɛɻɪjou] ‘places’ and bledhydnyow [ˈbleðɪdʃɪjou] ‘years’. As an unstressed second person plural ending it is written <owgh>, e.g. kemerowgh [ˈkɛməɾo:] ‘take!’, y fedhowgh [ˈfɛdʃou] ‘you will be’, pandr’a lavarowgh? [pænˈdrə ləˈvæɾo:] ‘what are you saying?’, me a vedn dos genowgh [miː æˈvɛn dɒs ɡənoʊ] ‘I will come with you’. The ending is also pronounced [ɔ] or [u] or [ɔ], and before why is regularly reduced to [o] or [ɔ].

NOTE: In Cornish <ow> never sounds like [aʊ] in RP English or General American cow [kaʊ].

1.5.5. /æw/ [au]
This is pronounced [au] and is written <aw>, e.g. maw [maʊ] ‘boy’, naw [naʊ] ‘nine’, paw [paʊ] ‘paw’, saw [saʊ] ‘but, except’.

1.5.6. /ɪw/ [iu]

NOTE: In the traditional texts, the spelling <yw> appears to be in free variation with the spelling <ew> in many words, e.g. <ew> ‘is’, <gwew> ‘worthy’, <lew> ‘colour’, <pew> ‘who’, <gew> ‘spear’; sometimes <ew> alternates with <u>, e.g. <plu> ‘parish’, <tru> ‘alas!’. For simplicity, the spelling <yw> is recommended as the general form in the proposed orthography. The exceptions
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH


1.5.7. /ew/ [eù]
This is pronounced [eu] and is written <ew>, e.g. bew [beu] ‘alive’, lewgh [lex] ‘mist’, tew [teu] ‘fat’, brew [breu] ‘wounded’.

In disyllables /ew/ has a tendency to become /oo/, e.g. bewnans ['beunans], bownans ['bownans] ‘life’; ewna ['ewna], owna ['oona] ‘mend’; dewdhek ['deudhek], dowdhek ['doudhek] ‘twelve’; dewla ['deula], dolua ['doola] ‘hands’. In this orthography, both forms are admitted as variants.

1.5.8. /ia/ ['i:a]

1.6. CONSONANTS

The consonants, apart from \( f \) and \( s \), are much simpler than the vowels and diphthongs. We list them, therefore, under their orthographic, rather than their phonetic forms.

1.6.1. \(<b> [b]\)

\( b \) is pronounced \([b]\) as in English ‘boy’, e.g. in \( \text{budhy} \) ['b\d\i], ['b\d\i] ‘drown’, \( \text{br\a}s \) ['br\a:s], ['br\a:s] ‘great’, \( y \text{ bedn} \) ['\i\h\i\h\i\n], ['\i\h\i\h\i\n] ‘his head’.

1.6.2. \(<c> [k], [s]\)

e has two values. Before a, o and u it is pronounced \([k]\), e.g. \( \text{cath} \) ['k\a\t\a] ‘cat’, \( \text{cot} \) [k\o\t] ‘short’, \( \text{cosca} \) ['k\o\s\k\a] ‘sleep’; in final position it is often written \( \text{ck} \), e.g. \( \text{bryck} \) [b\r\i\k]. Before e, y (and i) it is pronounced \([s]\), e.g. \( \text{certan} \) ['s\e\r\t\a\n] ‘certain’, \( \text{cyder} \) ['s\i\d\a\r] ‘cider’, \( \text{cynema} \) ['s\n\m\e\m\a] ‘cinema’. The ending -\( \text{cy} \) is \([\s\j]\), e.g. \( \text{laycya} \) ['l\a\s\j\a\a] ‘to tie’. The endinging -\( \text{cy} \) is \([\n\s\j]\) as in \( \text{chauncya} \) ['\c\h\a\n\s\j\a\a] ‘chance’, \( \text{dauncya} \) ['\d\a\n\s\j\a\a] ‘dance’, \( \text{launcya} \) ['\l\a\n\s\j\a\a] ‘lance, shaft’. The ending -\( \text{cy} \) may alternate between \([\s\j\a]\) and \([\s\a]\), e.g. \( \text{nacyon} \) ['n\a\s\j\a\n], ['n\a\s\j\a\n] ‘nation’, \( \text{temptacyon} \) ['t\e\m\p\t\a\s\j\e\n], ['t\e\m\p\t\a\s\j\e\n] ‘temptation’.

1.6.3. \(<\text{ch}> [t\j], [k]\)

\( \text{ch} \) is pronounced \([t\j]\) like the \( \text{ch} \) in English ‘church’, e.g. \( \text{chy} \) [t\i\i], [t\i\i] ‘house’, \( \text{chapel} \) ['t\j\e\p\a\l] ‘chapel’, \( \text{chanjya} \) ['t\j\a\n\d\j\a\a] ‘change’. In modern borrowings (usually from Greek) \( \text{ch} \) is sometimes pronounced \([k]\) as in, and in the same contexts as, English, e.g. \( \text{chemist} \) ['k\e\m\i\s\t] ‘chemist’, \( \text{technology} \) ['t\e\k\n\j\o\l\g\j\a\s\t] ‘technology’.

1.6.4. \(<\text{d}> [d]\)

d is pronounced \([d]\) as in English ‘dog’, e.g. \( \text{deidh} \) [d\i\d\h], [d\i\d\h] ‘day’, \( \text{deweth} \) ['d\e\w\e\a\h] ‘end’, \( \text{dow} \) [d\o\v] ‘tame’, \( \text{dry} \) [d\r\i\i], [d\r\i\i] ‘bring’.
1.6.5. <dh> [ð]

dh is a voiced interdental fricative [ð], like the th in English this and that, e.g. deidh [deːð] ‘day’, dhodha [ˈðɔðə] ‘to him’. Finally and medially after r it is often dropped, thus fordh [fɔðh], [fɔ], vordh [vɔðh], [vɔ] ‘road’, pl. fordhow [ˈfɔðou], [ˈfɔɾou], vordhow ‘roads’ [ˈvɔɾðou], [ˈvɔɾou]; hordh [hɔð], [hɔ] ‘ram’.

1.6.6. <f> [v], [f]

In initial position f is sometimes voiced to [v] in some words in traditional Cornish. (Voicing does not occur with f as a product of spirantization: hy fows ‘her garment’, aga fednow, aga fennow ‘their heads’.) The words in which historical f appear as v are limited in number. In this orthography, such words may optionally be written with a <v>, providing that it is done consistently. If one writes folen, fenten should also be written. If one writes volen, venten should also be written. Examples are fedna (fenna), vedna (venna) ‘overflow’; fenten, venten ‘spring’; folen, volen ‘page’; fordh, vordh ‘road’; forgh, vorgh ‘fork’; forn, vorn ‘oven’; fow, vow ‘cave’; Frenk, Vrenk ‘France’; Frenkak, Vrenkak ‘French’; fûg, vûg ‘cavity’.

In compounds where [v] is pronounced in the second element, it is also regularly written, e.g. fenten but penventen (not *pen-fenten).

Between vowels <f> represents [l], e.g. scryfa [ˈskrɛfa] ‘write’, olyfans [ˈɔlfans] ‘elephant’, sygnifia [ˈsɛgnifia], offeren [ˈoʃɛran] ‘mass’.


After an unstressed syllable, f has a tendency to disappear, thus original dewlef ‘hands’ becomes dewla [ˈdeula]; note also enef [ˈɛnɛ] ‘soul’ and genaf [ˈɡɛnə].

NOTE: Jenner, Nance, and Caradar all recommended pronouncing historic <f> after an unstressed vowel as [v], i.e. caraf [ˈkærəv],
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

genef [ˈgenəv], dredhof [ˈdɾɛðəv], and many speakers of the revived language maintain this pronunciation. It is clear from our later Cornish sources, i.e. from Tregear onwards, that in native words final [g] occurs after a stressed vowel, e.g. rag ‘for’, wheg ‘sweet’, and mog ‘smoke’, whereas [k] is found after an unstressed one, e.g. gowak ‘mendacious’, carrak ‘rock’ and gallosak ‘powerful.’ The same appears to be true for [b] and [p]: mab ‘son’ but methuonep ‘drunkenness’, neb ‘some’ but hevelep ‘likeness.’ The same alternation of voiced consonant after a stressed vowel and voiceless after an unstressed one is also noticeable with the reflex of British *d. After a stressed vowel Lhuyd writes ‘will be’ regularly as bedh and veð. When the syllable is unstressed, however, he writes the final segment as <th> [θ]: <volenezheth>, <bolenegegh> ‘wish’ (AB: 222, 224 and 240c) and <guironeth>, <Gwyroneth> ‘truth’ (AB: 222, 240c).

There can be no doubt that after a stressed vowel historic <f> was as [v], as is only to be expected. The following selection of examples indicate that the final segment of ev ‘he’, nev ‘heaven’, ov ‘am’, gav ‘forgive’, crev ‘strong’, sav ‘stand’ was indeed [v]:

- ev ye pen cok RD 2017; ev a brevyas lowre gow theis CW 818; mabe Jared yth ov heb gowe CW 2096; Taz ni es en nev Davies 1632;
- Gav da ny gyn cambwith Davies 1632; eez en nôr pokara en nêv Chamberlayne 1715; Mez ol krêv en kareasa edê Gwavas; an Taz Olgallusack, gosdr a’n nev Pryce 1790; Sâv aman, kebmer thâ li Pryce 1790.

It is by no means certain, however, that <f> after an unstressed vowel was pronounced [v]. It seems rather that in such a position <f> was either maintained and later weakened to [h] and then disappeared. There are very many examples in the texts from Pascon Agan Arluth to Creation of the World in which final f after an unstressed vowel is written <ff>. The two spellings <genaffa> ‘with me’ CW 271 and <ny sevenaffa> ‘I shall not prosper’ CW 1285 also suggest that -ef, -af in unstressed syllables ended in a voiceless segment. In these two forms it appears that the final [af]
has been reinforced with an enclitic particle va to give [af]. Such a development would not have occurred if the simplex in either case had been *genav and *sewenav.

<Genec> ‘with me’ and <ena > ‘soul’ are common at all periods. Indeed <ene>, <ena> ‘soul’ rhymes with words ending in -e and -a at PC 2316, 2364, 2508, 2581, 2659, RD 18, BM 122, 482, 773, 910, 1561 and CW 1542. Because genef ‘with me’ in some forms of Cornish became *geneh > gene, it was reinforced either by -ama (<genama> PA 193d > Late Cornish <gennam>) or by vy. It is noteworthy that <genevy>, <genavy> is attested 13 times in Middle Cornish and <genna vee> occurs twice in Late Cornish.

As far as [v] after an unstressed vowel is concerned, we have two examples each of <genev>, <genniv> ‘with me’, one of <ragov> ‘for me’, six examples <uarnav> ‘upon me’ and one example of <olav> ‘I weep’. In every case these are from the pen of Edward Lhuyd. He could hardly have heard any of them, since in his day <genef> had become <genna vee>, and the others would have been *ragam or *raga vee and *warnam or *warna vee. Olav ‘I weep’, if it existed, would have been *olama, *olam.

We have, then, no evidence at all for unstressed -av, -ov in traditional Cornish; indeed the evidence suggests that the final segment in enef ‘soul’, genaf ‘with me’, warnaf ‘upon me’, etc. was either [f] or O, as ['fena], ['ena], ['genaf], ['gena], ['wanaf], ['wana]. We therefore in this orthography write enef, genaf, warnaf, and ow enef vy, genaf vy, and warnaf vy.

1.6.7. <g> [g]

[g] is pronounced like [g] in English got, gimmick, e.g. genas ['genas] ‘with you’ (singular) and gansa ['genza] ‘with him’.

1.6.8. <gh> [x]

[gh] is pronounced like [x] of the ch in Scottish loch, e.g. golgh [golx] ‘wash!’, kergh [kæx] ‘fetch!’. There is a tendency for [x] to weaken to [h] or to be lost completely when following a vowel, e.g.
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

e.g. flogh [flo:x], [floch], [flo:] ‘child’; whegh [we:x], [wech], [we:] ‘six’. (In poetry and similar contexts this may be indicated conventionally as flo’ or whe’.) From the sixteenth century onwards rgh [rx] after a stressed vowel becomes rth or rh, as in warlergh [warlêx], [warlêθ], [warlêx]; merch [merx], [merθ] ‘daughter’; margh [marg̊h], [marg̊θ] ‘horse’. (In poetry and similar contexts this may be indicated conventionally as warlerth, warler’, merth, or marth.)

1.6.9. <gw> [gw]
gw is pronounced [gw] before vowels, i.e. as g + w, e.g. gwâdn, gwânn [gwân], [gwón], [gwân] ‘weak’; gwyn [gwín] ‘wine’; gwydn, gwynn [gwêdn], [gwên] ‘white’; gwelas [gwêlas] ‘see’. Before l and r the w is not pronounced, however, e.g. gwlân [glân], [glôn] ‘wool’, gwreg [greq] ‘wife’.

NOTE: Inflected forms of the verb gwyl ‘do’ are written with initial gwr-. When the initial consonant is lenited, however, the wr- is pronounced r-, e.g. me a wrug [me: ra] ‘I shall do’ and me a wrug [me: ra] ‘I did’. Something similar occurs when the initial is protected: màr qwrussa ev gwelas [mar kras ev ‘gwêlas] ‘if he were to see’.

1.6.10. <h> [h]

h is pronounced [h] as in English hat. Cornish words which have gh at the end of a syllable change this to h at the beginning of a syllable, e.g. flehas [felhas] ‘children’ (cf. flogh), golhy [golhy] ‘to wash’ (cf. golgh), kerhys [kêhys] ‘fetched’ (cf. kergh).

1.6.11. <j> [dʒ]

j is pronounced [dʒ] as in English judge, e.g. jentyl [dʒentyl] ‘gentle’, jowal [dʒōwal], [dʒuːal], ‘jewel’, Jowen [dʒoːən], [dʒuːən] ‘John’, Jamys [dʒæmɪs] ‘James’. In a number of words j alternates with s [z], e.g. wosa [wəza], woj [wɔdʒ], [wudʒ] ‘after’; kerenza [koˈrənza], kerenja [koˈrənʤa] ‘love’; usy [ˈvzi], [ˈizi], ujy [ˈdʒi], [ˈdʒi] ‘is’.

26 Revision 16, 14 November 2007
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

1.6.12. <k> [k]
   k is pronounced [k] like k in English kettle, e.g. ky [kiː], [koi] ‘dog’,

1.6.13. <l> [l]
   l is a dental-alveolar lateral approximant. RP and General
   American English both have a “clear” or [i]-coloured [l] as in
   lick or hilly and a “dark” or [u]-coloured [lV] as in
   holly or milk (apart from dialects which vocalize it to “miuk”). It is the “clear” [l] which
   is closest to the Cornish consonant, e.g. loos [loːz], [luːz] ‘grey’,

Intervocalic <lh> in this orthography is used to write a
sequence [lh] or a relatively tense geminate [lː], which occurs for
instance in the comparative and superlative of adjectives ending in
-ll (such as pell ‘far’, gwell ‘better’) which are formed by adding
-ha, e.g. pelha [ˈpɛlha], [ˈpɛlːa] ‘further, furthest’, gwelha
[ˈgwelha], [ˈgwɛlːa] ‘best’.

1.6.14. <m> [m], <n> [n]
   m and n are pronounced [m] and [n] as in English, e.g. mos
   [ˈɛna] ‘soul’. In some (but not all) short stressed syllables m is
   pronounced [m] with an intrusive but unexploded [b] before it,
   e.g. tabm, tamm [taːbm] ‘bit’ and obma, omma [ˈɔbma], [ˈɔmːa] ‘here’.
   (As noted above, the un-pre-occluded pronunciations [tem] and
   [ˈɔmːa] are also permitted.) Similarly, n after some (but not all) short
   stressed syllables is pronounced [n] with an intrusive but
   unexploded [d] immediately before it, e.g. gwydn, gwynn
   [gwrʌn], [ɡwən] ‘white’ and pedn, penn [peŋn], [ˈpɛn] ‘head’. In
   the proposed orthography such pre-occluded spellings are
   regularly shown in writing, e.g. cabm, camm [kæbm], [kæm]
   ‘bent, wrong’, lebmal, lemmal [ˌlebmoʊl], [ˈlemlɔl] ‘jump’,
   lebmyn, lemmyn [ˌlebnɔn], [ˈlemɔn] ‘now’, obma, omma
   [ˈɔbma], [ˈɔmːa] ‘here’, tabm, tamm [taːm], [tem] ‘bit’, tobm,
   tomm [tɔm], [tɔm] ‘warm’ and bledhydnyow, bledhynnyow
   [ˈblɛdθɪŋjou], [ˈblɛdθɔŋjou], ‘years’, gwydn, gwynn [ɡwrʌn], [ɡwən]
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

‘white’, pedn, penn [pe^n], [pen] ‘head’, taredna, tareonna [ta^re^n], [ta^rena] ‘thunder’ (vb), todn, tonn [to^n], [to^n] ‘wave’, udn, unn [u^n], [un], [u^n], [m] ‘one’.

NOTE: Some words have two forms, one pre-occluding and one not, e.g. bednath, bennath [be^n:θ], [be^n:θ] ‘blessing’ ~ banath [ba^n:θ] and mednaf vy, mennaf vy [me^n:θ vi:], [mena vi:] ‘I wish’ ~ manaf vy [mena vi:]. Both are permitted in this orthography.

1.6.15. <ng> [ŋ]
ng is pronounced [ŋ] as in RP or General American English sing in final position, e.g. spong [spɔŋ] ‘sponge’, kyng [kn] ‘king’ (not *[spɔŋ] or *[,kŋg]). When preceding [k] or [g], [ŋ] assimilates to [ŋ], as in ancow ['æŋkoʊ] ‘death’, Kevrangow [kev'æŋgoʊ] (toponym).

1.6.16. <p> [p]
p is pronounced [p] like p in English pool, e.g. pedn, penn [pe^n], [pen] ‘head’, top [tɔp] ‘top’.

1.6.17. <qw> [kw]
qw is pronounced [kw] like the sound in English queen, e.g. qweth [kw:θ] ‘garment’, qwit [kwit] ‘wholly’, ow qwertha [ou 'kwεrθa] ‘selling’. Before r, the w is not pronounced, however, e.g. màr qwressa [ma 'kresa] ‘if he were to’, ow qurydnya, ow qurynnya [ou 'ku^ni^n] [ou 'kunja] ‘wrestling’.

NOTE: Both qw and qu are found in the texts, but qw is less ambiguous; qressa could be pronounced *[kv'resa] and qwressa is a better fit with other forms of the same word, gwressa and wressa.

1.6.18. <r> [r] ~ [ɾ]
r in initial and absolute final position is an alveolar approximant [ɾ] as in RP and General American red, e.g. ros [roz] ‘rose’, dor
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

[do:z] ‘earth’. It also has this value when in contact with other consonants porth [pɔθ] ‘entrance, cove’, scryfa [ˈskɹfa] ‘write’. In intervocalic position it is a single alveolar tap as in bara [ˈbærə] ‘bread’. The tap may also reappear across boundaries, e.g. ger [ɡe:z] ‘word’, pl. geryow [ˈɡerjoo] ‘words’, car y das [ˌkæ:ɹ i ˈdæz] ‘his father’s relative’.

NOTE: Lhuyd described hearing an initial voiceless [r] occasionally in words like rag ‘for’, and said that he believed that it may formerly have been more common. This sound is not used in Revived Cornish.

1.6.19. <s> [z], [s]
s presents problems similar to those of f. In final position after a long stressed vowel, s is pronounced [z], e.g. tas [tæz] ‘father’, bos [boz], [boz] ‘be’, poos [pɔz], [pʊz] ‘heavy’, res [æz] ‘necessity’, beis [bɪz], [bɛz] ‘finger’. After a short stressed vowel it is also [z], e.g. bis [bɪz] ‘until’, bûs [bʊz] ‘but’. It is [z] or [s] after an unstressed vowel, though the distribution is not easy to determine. We recommend pronouncing the verbal adjective endings <ys> and <ies> in unstressed syllables as [iz] and [iæz] respectively, e.g. Kellys [ˈkɛlɪz] ‘lost’, budhys [ˈbʌdɪz], [ˈbʊdɪz] ‘drowned’, agriws [ˈɑɡriwz] ‘agreed’, criws [ˈkriwz], [ˈkraɪwz] ‘called, named’. We recommend pronouncing unstressed <as> and <es> as [æz], e.g. genas [ˈɡenəs] ‘with thee’, gwelas [ˈɡweləs] ‘to see’, lias [ˈlɪəs] ‘many’, and myternes [ˈmɪtərnəs] ‘queen’. Some speakers may prefer the optional pronunciation of unstressed <as> and <es> as [az].


Final -ns is usually pronounced [nz], e.g. dans [dænz] ‘tooth’, guyns [ɡwɪns] ‘wind’, kyns [kɪns] ‘before’, mans [mænz] ‘crippled’, mens [mɛnz] ‘amount, size’, whans [wænz] ‘desire’. Sometimes, however, it is pronounced [ns], e.g. in unstressed position in disyllables bewns [ˈbeʊns], bownans [ˈboʊns]
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

‘life’; **bians** ['bi:ns] ‘they would be’, or in borrowings **chouns** [ʧɔ:ns] ‘chance’, **dauns** [dɔːns] ‘dance’, **stauns** [stɔːns] ‘stance’. **Penzans** [pen'zæns] ‘Penzance’ has [ns], though **sans** ‘holy’ is [sænz].

Final -**rs** is usually pronounced [iz], e.g. **gwers** [ɡwɛrz] ‘verse’, **ors** [ɔrz] ‘bear’. Sometimes, however, it is pronounced [is], e.g. **fors** [fɔz] ‘energy’.

NOTE: There does not seem to be a reasonable way to disambiguate final [s] in these contexts. Spellings like *suunss* and *suunç* or *fors* and *fork* are unappealing. Voice or voiceless postconsonental **s** is not distinctive, however, and voicing of **dauns** to [dɔnz] or **fors** to [fɔz] is permissible.

As with **f** and **v**, there is hesitation in the sources about the nature of initial etymological <**s**>. In many words, it was clearly pronounced as [z] in the traditional language. In this orthography, such words may optionally be written with a <z>, providing that it is done consistently. If one writes **seigh**, **seythen** should also be written. If one writes **zeigh**, **zeythen** should also be written. Examples are **Sadorn**, **Zadorn** ‘Saturday’, **Sowsnak**, **Zowsnak** ‘English’, **seigh**, **zeigh** ‘dry’, **seythen**, **zeythen** ‘week’, **sor**, **zor** ‘anger’ and **Sul**, **Zul** ‘Sunday’.

In toponyms it is permissible to use <z> at all times, e.g. **Eglos Zenar** ‘Zennor’, and **Zawan Orgel** ‘Zawn Organ’. The Cornish for ‘Penzance’ has no pre-occlusion because the stress is on the second element; the name should be spelt **Penzans** [pen'zæns].

1.6.20. **<sh>** [ʃ]

**sh** is pronounced [ʃ] like the sh in English **shop**, e.g. **shoppa** ['ʃɔpə] ‘shop’, **sham** [ʃæm] ‘shame’, **shora** ['ʃɔra] ‘paroxysm, fit’. In Revived Cornish, the endings -**syon** and -**ssyon** may alternate between [ʃən] and [ʃən], e.g. **passyon** [ˈpaʃən], [ˈpaʃən] ‘passion’, **possessyon** [ˈpɔʃəʃən], [ˈpɔʃəʃən] ‘possession’, **mansyon** [ˈmænsən], [ˈmænʃən] ‘mansion’. The word for ‘to
punish’ has various forms in the texts; we recommend the form \textit{pùnysha} [\textipa{pou\textavity)].

NOTE: When \textit{s} and \textit{h} come together in compounds, a hyphen may be used to show that the sound is \textipa{sh} ([s] + [h]), not \textipa{j}; one should write \textit{les-hanow} [\textipa{le:s\textifecycle\textavity\textavity}] ‘nickname’, rather than *\textit{leshanow}. When \textit{s} and \textit{h} come together in causative verbs ending in \textit{-he}, an apostrophe may be used for the same purpose; one should write \textit{uskys’he} [\textipa{Yskês\textifecycle\textavity\textavity}], [\textipa{êskês\textifecycle\textavity\textavity}] ‘accelerate’. Note that other causative verbs do not take the apostrophe: \textit{glanhe} [\textipa{gle:n\textifecycle\textavity\textevity}] ‘to clean’, \textit{moghhe} [\textipa{mox\textifecycle\textavity\textevity}] ‘to increase’. When \textit{t} and \textit{h} come together in causative verbs ending in \textit{-he}, an apostrophe may be used to show that the sound is \textipa{th} ([t] + [h]), not \textipa{q}; one should write \textit{lent’he} [\textipa{len\textifecycle\textevity\textavity\textevity}] ‘decelerate’.

1.6.21. \textless ss\textgreater{} [s]
When it occurs between vowels, \textless s\textgreater{} is pronounced [z]. In order to represent [s] between vowels this orthography writes \textless ss\textgreater{}, e.g. in \textit{brâssa} [\textipa{b\textavity\textevity\textaysia}], [\textipa{b\textevity\textaysia}] ‘greatest’, \textit{nessa} [\textipa{nes\textaysia}] ‘next’, \textit{gossen} [\textipa{gos\textaysia}] ‘ferruginous earth’, \textit{ev a gowssa} [\textipa{ev a \textaysia\textaysia}] ‘he would speak’, \textit{ev a wrussa} [\textipa{ev a \textaysia\textaysia}], [\textipa{ev a \textaysia\textaysia}] ‘he would do’, \textit{messaj} [\textipa{mes\textaysia\textaysia}] ‘message’. For the combination \textless ssy\textgreater{} see §1.6.20. above. For the use of intervocalic \textless c\textgreater{} as [s], see §1.6.2. above.

1.6.22. \textless t\textgreater{} [t]
\textit{t} is a voiceless alveolar plosive [t], e.g. \textit{to} [\textipa{to\textavity}] ‘roof’, \textit{te} [\textipa{te\textavity}] ‘tea’. Before stressed \textit{e} and \textit{y} in certain words \textit{t} has a tendency to be assimilated to [\textipa{tf}], e.g. in \textit{te}, \textit{ty} ‘you’ (singular). These, therefore, have permitted variants \textit{che} [\textipa{t\textavity\textevity\textevity}], \textit{chy} [\textipa{t\textyalty\textaysia}].

1.6.23. \textless th\textgreater{} [\theta] (\theta)
\textit{th} is a voiceless interdental fricative [\theta] as in English \textit{thing}, e.g. \textit{eth} [\textipa{e\textbyter\textaysia}] ‘eight’, \textit{hy thas} [\textipa{h\textbyter\textaysia\textaysia}], ‘her father’, \textit{banothow} [\textipa{ba\textbyter\textaysia\textaysia}], ‘blessings’. Finally and medially after \textit{r}, it often becomes \textit{h}, e.g. \textit{gwertha} [\textipa{gw\textbyter\textaysia}], [\textipa{gw\textbyter\textaysia}] ‘sell’, or is dropped.
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

entirely, e.g. warbarth ‘together’ [wɔ:rbæθ], [wɜ:rbæθ]. (In poetry and similar contexts this may be indicated conventionally as gwerha or warbar’.) In toponymic signage <‘r’> should be used, e.g. Por’ ‘Par’, Por’ Ust ‘Priest’s Cove’.

1.6.24. <v> [v]

1.6.25. <w> [w]
w is pronounced as [w] in English wax, e.g. y wyl [t’wi:l] ‘to do it’, wâr [wɔr] ‘on’. Before l and r, however w- may be silent, e.g. an wlas [an ’lez] ‘the kingdom’ and y wreg [t’reg] ‘his wife’. In initial position wo- is sometimes pronounced [u], e.g. woja [’udɔ] (but the literary form is wosa [’wɔsa]). See also §5.6.1.

1.6.26. <wh> [ʍ]
wh is voiceless, pronounced [ʍ] like the wh of Scottish English and Hiberno-English whistle, i.e. with the devoicing clearly audible, e.g. why [ʍi:], [wɔi] ‘you (pl.)’, wheg [wɛx] ‘sweet’, whel [wel] ‘work’. In traditional Cornish, however, wh and w are not always kept clearly separate.

NOTE: The sound of wh is not [hw] or [xw]. It is closer to the voiceless bilabial fricative [ʍ]; learners who do not have [ʍ] may try to approximate the sound of wheg as [fɛx] or even [fɛeq].

1.6.27. <x> [ks]
x is pronounced [ks] like x in English vex, e.g. vexya [’vɛksja] ‘vex’.

1.6.28. <y> [j]

32 Revision 16, 14 November 2007
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

1.6.29. <z> [z]

z is pronounced [z] like z in English zoo, e.g. zeigh [zi:x], [ze:x] ‘dry’, zeythen [‘zæθən] ‘week’. See s above at §1.6.19.

1.7. PUNCTUATION

1.7.1. The hyphen is used sparingly, as in English, to connect elements of compound words, e.g. seryfa-composter ‘orthography’. The hyphen is also used with the affixes -na ‘this’ and -ma ‘that’, e.g. an lyver-na ‘this book’, an bluven-ma ‘that pen’. This helps to distinguish these particles from na ‘not’ and ma ‘is’ in the colloquial register. See also the Note at §1.6.20.

1.7.2. The apostrophe is an important part of Cornish orthography. It often indicates the elision of a vowel, as in dha’gas (< dha agas), pandr’yw (< pandra yw), or dhodh’ev (< dhodha ev). In order to ensure good typography, it is best not to leave a space before or after an apostrophe. If after, as in *dhodh’ev, the trailing apostrophe may be confused with a final single quotation mark; if before, as in *dhodh ‘ev, the burden is on the writer to ensure that the apostrophe goes the right direction (that is, that it looks like a 9’ rather than a 6’). Much “helpful” word-processing software will turn an apostrophe after a space into a left single “smart quote”, as in *dhodh ‘ev, and this is an unsightly error. The rule “don’t use a space on either side of an apostrophe” will help ensure better typography in Cornish. (In poetry and similar contexts the apostrophe may be written conventionally, however, so long as care in taken in typesetting.)

In this orthography, the apostrophe is used conventionally after the verbal particle th in the colloquial register, e.g. th’eraf vy [yth esaf in the literary register]. This is an orthographic convention, not an error; ‘th eraf vy is not “more correct”, and the leading apostrophe leads to the *th eraf vy trouble just described.

Note that in other orthographies of Revived Cornish dha was combined with agan, agas, and aga differently from the way it was combined with other prepositions. This orthography regularizes ha’gan ‘and our’, na’gan ‘nor our’, a’gan ‘of our’, dha’gan ‘to our’, re’gan ‘by our’, i’gan ‘in our’ (not dh’agan). See also §1.6.20.
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

1.7.3. Because the apostrophe is used quite frequently in Cornish, it can be recommended that “double quotation marks” be used for quoted speech, and ‘single quotation marks’ for citations within quoted speech. This is advantageous in terms of legibility, because double quotation marks are more easily distinguished from the apostrophe. The choice remains with the writer, however.

1.8. IPA chart. On the following page the IPA chart is given.
CONSONANTS

SHORT VOWELS

LONG VOWELS

DIAPHRAGM

PHARYN

LATERAL

APPROXIMANT

CLOSE

CLOSE-MID

OPEN-MID

OPEN
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH
CHAPTER TWO

INITIAL MUTATIONS

2.1 Synopsis. The mutations can be set out as follows:

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<th>Radical</th>
<th>Lenition</th>
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Revision 16, 14 November 2007
2.1. GENERAL REMARKS
The system of initial mutations is an essential part of Cornish grammar. Mutations often mark the gender and tense and mistakes may change the sense entirely.

2.1.1. Lenition or soft mutation occurs:
(i) after the articles an and udn, unn when the following noun is feminine singular; e.g. an gath ‘the cat’, udn wedhen, unn wedhen ‘a tree’.
(ii) after an when the following noun is plural and refers to people – though not in the case of c/k or g, e.g. an varchants ‘the merchants’, an dus ‘the men’, but an Kernowyon ‘the Cornish’. Late borrowings from English also remain un-mutated, e.g. an profetys ‘the prophets’.
(iii) in adjectives which follow a feminine singular noun (e.g. an venen vian ‘the little woman’) or plural masculine noun referring to people (e.g. an dus dhâ ‘the good men’).
(iv) after dew ‘two’, e.g. dew vaw ‘two boys’, dew verg ‘two daughters’.
(v) after the verbal particles a and ny and na, e.g. an medhek a vedn dos ‘the doctor will come’, na welas ev tra veth ‘he saw nothing’, ev a laver na vedn ev dos ‘he says he will not come’. (The particle ny is confined to the literary register.)
(vi) after dell ‘as’ (and its variant dër), e.g. par dell veu ‘as it was’; after fatell ‘how, that’ and its variant tell, e.g. na wodhysa tell wrug hy mos in kerth ‘he did not know that she left’; after hadre ‘until, while’ and its variant dër, e.g. hadre vo obma ‘while he is here’; after pân ‘when’, e.g. pân wrusta hy gvelas ‘when you saw her’; after aban ‘since’, e.g. aban dheuthans dha Gernow ‘since they came to Cornwall’; after dhia ban ‘since’, e.g. dhia ban glowas ev a’n mater ‘since he heard of the matter’; after màr ‘as, so’, e.g. màr dhâ o hedna ‘that was so good’.
(vii) after dha, da ‘your’ (singular), e.g. ple ma dha vabm ‘where is your mother?’; after y ‘his’, e.g. nag yw hedna y gy ev ‘that is not his dog’.
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

(viii) after a ‘of, from’, e.g. me a gowas a venen ‘I heard of a woman’; after a ‘of’ in expressions of quantity, e.g. meur a dheray ‘much disturbance’; after dha, da ‘to’, e.g. dha gerhas ‘to fetch’, dha dre ‘home, homewards’; after dre ‘through, by’, e.g. dre vodh Duw ‘by the will of God’; after in dadn, in dann ‘under’, e.g. in dadn dreys ‘underfoot’; after wàr ‘on, upon’, e.g. wàr veneth a dhysqwedhaf dhys ‘upon a mountain I shall indicate to you’; after re ‘by’ (in oaths), e.g. re Vyhal ‘by St Michael’; after heb in the fossilized phrase heb wow ‘without a lie’.

(ix) after some prefixed adjectives, b, d, g, gw and m are lenited, e.g. tebel-wesyon ‘evil fellows’, drog-vomednow ‘severe blows’, gwadn-diak, gwann-diak ‘poor husbandman’, hager-breiv ‘evil serpent’.

2.1.2. Spirantization or breathed mutation occurs:

(i) after hy, y ‘her’, e.g. orth hy themptya ‘tempting her’, hy horf ‘her body’; after aga or gà ‘their’, e.g. me a vedn aga threhy ‘I will cut them’, aga holon yw terrys ‘their heart is broken’.

(ii) after ow ‘my’, e.g. ow frias ‘my spouse’, ow hothman ‘my friend’, ow thas ‘my father’. Spirantization is not normally applied to the verbal noun, as in orth ow cara vy ‘loving me’ (though orth ow hara vy is also permitted).

(iii) after try (masc.), teyr (fem.) ‘three’, e.g. try ferson ‘three persons’, teyr hath ‘three cats’.

(iv) after na ‘no, not any’ in na felha (though na velha also occurs) ‘no longer’, na hen ‘not other’, na hens ‘no sooner’.

2.1.3. Provection or hard mutation occurs:

(i) after már, mara ‘if’, e.g. már teun ny ha leeral ‘if we say’, mara tos ‘if I come’, már qwressa an den deskys fur na guelas hemma ‘if that learned wise man were to see this’.

(ii) in verbal nouns after the participle-forming particle ow, e.g. ow kelwal ‘calling’, ow qwertha ‘selling’, ow tos ‘coming’.

Revision 16, 14 November 2007 39
2.1.4. **Mixed mutation Type I** occurs:

(i) after *ple* ‘where?’, e.g. *ple tof*? ‘where shall I come to?’, *ple fewgh why*? ‘where were you?’

(ii) after the particle *y*, e.g. *y fedhaf* I shall be’, *y whôn gwyr* ‘I know truly’.

(iii) after the conjunction *may* ‘that, where’, e.g. *i’n le may feun* ‘where we were’, *an eur may teuth* ‘the time when he came’.

*May* is particularly common in the expression *may halla* ‘in order that’, e.g. *bis may halla bos jùjjys* ‘so that he may be judged’, *may hallaf iy mos* ‘that I may go’.

(iv) after *maga* ‘as’, e.g. *maga fery awel hûk* ‘as merry as a hawk’, *ha myternes maga tû* ‘and a queen as well’.

(v) after *yn* in adverbial constructions, e.g. *gôn yn tû* ‘I know well’, *a behas marthys yn frâs* ‘who sinned wondrous greatly’.

**NOTE:** Some speakers of Revived Cornish use the phrase *yn whyr* ‘truly’, following Nance. This expression is unattested in Traditional Cornish. The attested expression uses the preposition *in*, which does not mutate; the sense of *in gwyr* is literally ‘in truth’, rather than ‘truly’.

2.1.5. **Mixed mutation Type II** occurs:

(i) after the second person singular object pronoun ‘*th*, e.g. *ny a’th wôr dha Pedn an Wlas* ‘we will take you to Land’s End’; after ‘*th* ‘thy’, e.g. *ty ha’th wreg* ‘thhee and thy wife’.

2.2. **NOTES**

Personal and place-names are rarely mutated in writing. This is also the case for foreign words that do not conform to Cornish phonetic type.

Some lexical items always appear in mutated form. In later Cornish, for example, *gwetyas* ‘hope’ is always provected to *qwetyas*, and *cawas* ‘get’ is usually *gawas*. *Gordhyans* ‘praise, glory’ is usually *worryans* in the later language.

The lenition of *ch > j* does not always occur where expected, e.g. *da chattal* ‘thy chattels’ for expected *da *jattal*. 
The word *deidh* ‘day’ is usually assibilated to *jeidh* after the article, e.g. *i’n jeidh* hedhyw ‘today’, *seyth trevath i’n jeidh* ‘seven times a day’. Similarly, the word *dyawl* ‘devil’ is usually assibilated to *jawl* after the article, e.g. *pandra’n jawl?* ‘what the devil? ’; in the plural the normal lenition is found: *an dhewolow* ‘the devils’.

The word *dor* ‘earth’ is nasalized after the definite article: *an nor* ‘the earth’, e.g. *cùssys yw an nor* ‘accursed is the earth’.

Final -th prevents lenition of the following consonant, e.g. *cath plos* ‘dirty cat’, not *cath *blos*.

The textual evidence for mutations does not reveal the neat system that revivalist textbooks and dictionaries have often suggested. Even if one takes into consideration that some writers might have ignored mutation when writing, or that they might have made mistakes, it is clear that mutations were sometimes ignored, particularly if mutation would have obscured the sense. The system presented here is itself a very basic introduction and exceptions may well be noted in the remains of traditional Cornish.
CHAPTER THREE

NOUNS

3.1. NOUNS IN -EN AND -ES
Feminine nouns in -en [en] usually form their plural in -ednow -ennow [e̞dnɔː], [e̞nɔː], e.g. folen ‘page’ > folednow, folennow. Feminine nouns in -es form their plural in -esow [ezɔː], e.g. myternes ‘queen’ > myternesow. The masculine noun cleves ‘disease’ has the plural clevejow.

Irregular plural formations of nouns in -en, -an include the following:

bledhen f. ‘year’ > bledhydnyow, bledhynnyow (cf. pypm myl ha pypm cans a vledhydnyow ‘five thousand and five hundred years’ CW 1861-62); a form bledhanyow is also attested (neb bledhanyow alebma ‘some years ago’ Nicholas Boson).

fenten f. ‘spring’ > fentydnyow, fentynnyow (cf. the toponym Penventiniowe)

steren f. ‘star’ > steradnow, sterannow (cf. ev a wraq an steradnow i’wedh ‘he made the stars as well’ John Boson)

taran m. ‘thunder’ > tarednow, tarennow (cf. yeyn kewary, tarednow ha golowas ‘Cold weather, thunder and lightning’ Pryce).

3.2. DUALS
Like the traditional texts, this orthography does not distinguish between the dual prefix for masculine and feminine nouns, which is dew- in both cases. Here are some examples:

breh f. ‘arm’ > dewvregh (cf. RD 1265)
brodn, bron f. ‘breast’ > dewvron (cf. CW 1909-10)
elun f. ‘haunch’ > dewglun ‘buttocks’ (cf. BM 3312)
Several things should be noted about these. In the first place, *dewla* is the dual/plural both of *leuv* ‘hand, arm’ and of *dorn* ‘hand’. When *dorn* means ‘fist’ it has a plural *dornow*:

 ha gans ow *dornow* a’n gwrydh ‘and will wrestle him with my fists’ PC 1132
 pör ankensy gans *dornow* dhodha war an socarnow reugh boxesow twey *very harshly with fist give him pitiable blows upon the ears* PC 1360-62
 ha ren dhodha boxesow gans *dornow* ha gwelyny ‘and we’ll give him blows with fists and rods’ PC 1389-90
 ev a veu cùffys gans *dornow*, kelmys gans *dornow* ‘he was buffeted by fists, bound with ropes’ TH 15a
 me a’n *dorn* gans ow *dornow* ‘I will thump him with my fists’ BK 2651.

In the second place, one can see that by the sixteenth century the dual *dewlagas* ‘eyes’ has been replaced by the plural *lagasow* or *lagajow*.

 ev a dorras arag agan *lagasow* ‘he broke [it] before our eyes’ RD 1491-92
 ow tallhe *lagasow* an bobel ‘blinding the eyes of the people’ TH 19a
 na ny’n gwelyyn *lagasow* ‘nor will eyes see it’ BK 1975
 gans dha *lagasow* ales ‘with your eyes wide open’ CW 694N
 Ha *lagajow* aniy a veu egerys ‘And their eyes were opened’ Rowe
 pejwar, blejen, *lagajow* ‘four, flower, eyes’ AB: 223.

The dual of *trous* ‘foot’ is attested once only (speaking of piercing Christ’s feet at the crucifixion):

 *kentar scon dre dha dhewdros* me a’s guysk ‘a nail through your two feet, I will thrust it’ PC 2781-82.
Otherwise the plural is used:

corf ha pedn, treys ha dewla ‘body and head, feet and hands’ PA 130d
ow Arluth, treys ha dewla ‘my Lord, hands and feet’ PC 474
segkys y dreys gans dha dhewbleth ‘you dried his feet with your two plaits’
RD 854
squerdy y dreys ha’y dhewla ‘torn his feet and hands’ RD 1266
kentrewys gans vedbevon treys ha dewla irody ‘nailed by Jews feet and hands
indeed’ BM 2990-91
treys ha dewla kentrewys ‘feet and hands nailed’ BM 3035
spykys birs a horn dre an treys ha dewla ‘great spikes of iron through the feet
and hands’ TH 15a
gans agan dewla ha treys ‘with our hands and feet’ TH 21a
Troos, pl. treys ‘A foot’ AB: 119b.

Other Celtic languages also use a dual for ‘hands’ and a plural for feet,
e.g. Welsh fy nwylo ‘my hands’ but fy ndhroed ‘my feet’; Irish mo dhá líomh
‘my hands’ but mo chosa ‘my feet’. This distinction is maintained in this
orthography: dorn, leuv > dewla but troos > treys.

The two nouns scovarn ‘ear’ and pedren ‘buttock’ are not used
in the dual. Only the plural of either is attested:

A. scovarnow ‘ears’
dhodha wir an scovarnow ‘to him on the ears’ PC 1361
wir an scovarnow hysy ‘assiduously upon the ears’ PC 1391
y a vensa stoppya aga scovarnow ‘they would block up their ears’ TH 19
gans agan lagasow ha scovarnow ‘with our eyes and ears’ TH 21a.

B. pedrednow ‘buttocks’
del wascaf y pedrednow ‘as I strike his buttocks’ PC 2094
Rag esya an pedrednow ‘To ease the buttocks’ BM 1422.

The simplex pedren may be the same word as the word spelt by
Lhuyd as patshan ‘clunis, a buttock’ AB: 48b.
CHAPTER FOUR

PRONOUNS

4.1. PERSONAL PRONOUNS
The pronouns from the Middle and Late Cornish texts show a variety of forms. This orthography allows two different paradigms for them, that is, the literary and the colloquial. The colloquial forms are typically, but not exclusively, derived from Late Cornish.

4.1.1. Disjunctive pronouns
The disjunctive or independent personal pronouns are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Singular</th>
<th>Literary</th>
<th>Colloquial</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td><em>me, my</em></td>
<td><em>me, my, ve, vy, avy</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td><em>te, ty</em></td>
<td><em>che, chy</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3m</td>
<td><em>ev</em></td>
<td><em>ev</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3f</td>
<td><em>hy</em></td>
<td><em>hy</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4.1.2. Emphatic suffixed pronouns
The suffixed emphatic pronouns are used regularly as object pronouns with imperative verbs. They are used as object pronouns with non-imperative verbs on occasion as well. With simple inflected verbs the object is normally expressed by a personal object pronoun between particle and verb (see the next section). The objective use of suffixed pronouns should, however, be allowed in colloquial registers. The emphatic suffixed forms of the personal pronouns are as follows:
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

4.1.3. Objective pronouns
The objective pronouns (“infixed pronouns”) are given below. These pronouns are suffixed to the verbal particle a, and are shown suffixed to it with the apostrophe. These forms are relatively infrequent in the colloquial register.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Singular</th>
<th>Literary</th>
<th>Colloquial</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>vy, ma</td>
<td>vy, ma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>jy, sy</td>
<td>jy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3m</td>
<td>va, a, ev</td>
<td>va, a, ev, ava</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3f</td>
<td>hy</td>
<td>hy</td>
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<th>Plural</th>
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<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4.1.4. Possessive adjectives
The possessive adjectives are given here. Some of them are suffixed to preposition a ‘of’ as in a’m ‘of my’, or dha ‘to’ as in dha’m ‘to my’.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Singular</th>
<th>Literary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>ow (spirantizes), a’m, dha’m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>dha (lenites), a’th, dha’th (causes mixed mutation)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3m</td>
<td>y (lenites)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3f</td>
<td>hy, y (spirantizes)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

Plural

1  agan, a’gan, dha’gan
2  agas, a’gas, dha’gas
3  aga (spirantizes), a’ga, dha’ga (spirantizes).

These have two uses: A as objects when the verb is a verbal noun, and B, as possessive adjectives:

A

Mars erough wyorth owcara vy ‘If you love me’
Dar, ny’m clowyth orth dha beji? ‘Hey, won’t you hear me beseeching you?’
may hallan vy y welas ‘so that I may see it’
orth hy themptya dha derry an frdt erhydn ow dyfen ‘tempting her to pluck the
fruit against my prohibition’
lebmyorth agan gelval ‘now calling us’
nannag esaf ow merchol orth agas goritas ‘I am almost dead waiting for you’
ha me a dhalileth aga guyl y ‘and I shall start making them’

B

sur ev a welyth ow thas ‘certainly he will see my father’
dre dha wreg y vos terry ‘that it was broken by your wife’
kyn fo y veumans yth már detestable ‘though his life be never so detestable’
rag marow yu an voren gans ow whaffys solabrys hy holon ‘for dead
is the girl already by my blows and the blood of her heart has poured
forth’
pan wreta már guyn fara ow scolga agan gwara ‘when you behave so oddly,
scattering our wares’
me a dhyqwa chy dha’gas mester ‘I will show a house to your master’
awell olo aga threys ‘like the prints of their feet’.

Both functions in Tudor and Late Cornish can be replaced by an
emphatic pronoun after the qualified noun or verbal noun. The noun
may be preceded by the definite article.

NOTE: Cornish is a Celtic language and like all the other Celtic
languages will not allow any possessive adjective to be stressed.
Cornish revivalists sometimes render sentences like ‘this is my
house’ or ‘what is your opinion?’, for example, as *hem yw ow

Revision 16, 14 November 2007 47
chy or *pandr’yw dha dybyans, with vocal emphasis on ow or dha. Such emphasis is very un-Celtic and should be discouraged. The correct way to emphasise a possessive adjective is by the use of enclitic particles, e.g. *hem yw ow chy vy and pandr’yw dha dybyans jy?
4.2. PREPOSITIONAL PRONOUNS

The prepositional pronouns from the Middle and Late Cornish texts show a variety of forms. This orthography allows both literary and the colloquial paradigms for them.

4.2.1. dha ‘to’

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Literary</th>
<th>Colloquial</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Singular</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>dhybm/dhymm</td>
<td>dha vy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>dhys</td>
<td>dha jy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3m</td>
<td>dhodho</td>
<td>dhodha, dhodh’ev, dha ev</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3f</td>
<td>dhedhy</td>
<td>dha hy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plural</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>dhèn</td>
<td>dha ny</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>dhywgh</td>
<td>dha why</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>dhedha</td>
<td>dhodhans, dha anij, dh’anij</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note that in all cases in the above paradigm, initial d- may be replaced by d-, e.g. dybm/dymm, dys, da vy, da jy, etc.

4.2.2. gans, (colloq.) gen ‘with’

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Literary</th>
<th>Colloquial</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Singular</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>genaf</td>
<td>genaf vy, genama, genam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>genas</td>
<td>genas jy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3m</td>
<td>ganso</td>
<td>gansa, gansa, gons’ev, gonja</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3f</td>
<td>gensy</td>
<td>gonsy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plural</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>genan</td>
<td>genan ny</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>genowgh</td>
<td>genowgh why</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>gansa</td>
<td>gansans, gonjans</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The ending in genowgh why is regularly reduced to [o] or [ɔ], and in poetry and similar contexts may be written geno’why.
### 4.2.3. in ‘in’

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Literary</th>
<th>Colloquial</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td><em>inaf</em></td>
<td><em>inaf</em> vy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td><em>inas</em></td>
<td><em>inas</em> jy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3m</td>
<td><em>ino</em></td>
<td><em>ina, in ev, eta, etten</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3f</td>
<td><em>inhy, iny</em></td>
<td><em>eta hy</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Plural**

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<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td><em>inan</em></td>
<td><em>inan</em> ny</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td><em>inowgh</em></td>
<td><em>inowgh</em> wy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td><em>ina</em></td>
<td><em>inans, in anjy, ettans, et anjy</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Colloquially *et ‘in’* is used before the possessive adjectives, and *et an ‘in the’* may replace *i’n* of the more conservative register.

The ending in *inowgh wy* is regularly reduced to [o] or [ɔ], and in poetry and similar contexts may be written *ino’why*.

### 4.2.4. dheworth, dhort ‘from’

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Literary</th>
<th>Colloquial</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td><em>dheworthaf</em></td>
<td><em>dhortaf</em> vy, <em>dhortam</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td><em>dheworthas</em></td>
<td><em>dhorta</em> jy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3m</td>
<td><em>dhworto</em></td>
<td><em>dheworta, dhorta, dhort’ev</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3f</td>
<td><em>dhworty</em></td>
<td><em>dhorty</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Plural**

<p>| | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td><em>dheworthand</em></td>
<td><em>dhortan</em> ny, <em>dhorth</em> ny</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td><em>dheworthowgh</em></td>
<td><em>dhowntg</em> wy, <em>dhort</em> wy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td><em>dhworta</em></td>
<td><em>dhewortsans, dhorans, dhort’anjy</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In the colloquial forms *d-* may replace initial *dh-*, e.g. *dorta* vy, *dortam*, etc. Note also that colloquial *dhort* and *dort* may replace the more literary *dheworth*, e.g. *dhort an dalleth* ‘from the beginning’ instead of *dheworth an dalleth*.

The ending in *dhowntg* wy is regularly reduced to [o] or [ɔ], and in poetry and similar contexts may be written *dhorto’why*.
### 4.2.5. orth, worth ‘upon’

This prepositional pronoun is not much used in Late Cornish.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Singular</th>
<th>Literary</th>
<th>Colloquial</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>orthaf</td>
<td>orthaf vy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>orthas</td>
<td>orthas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3m</td>
<td>orto</td>
<td>orta, orta ev</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3f</td>
<td>orty</td>
<td>orty hy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Plural</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>orthan</td>
<td>orthan ny</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>orthowgh</td>
<td>orthowgh why</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>orta</td>
<td>ortans, ort’anjy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In the colloquial forms *wo-* may replace initial *o-*; i.e. *wortaf, worta ev*, etc.

Colloquially, *orth an* may be replaced by *ort an*, e.g. *ort an gorhal uja va geyl gen ascorn scoodh davas* ‘because of the ship he makes with the shoulder-bone of a sheep’.

The ending in *worthowgh why* is regularly reduced to [*o*] or [*a*], and in poetry and similar contexts may be written (*w*)ortho’why.

### 4.2.6. a ‘of’

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Singular</th>
<th>Literary</th>
<th>Colloquial</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>ahanaf</td>
<td>ahanaf vy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>ahanas</td>
<td>ahanasta, a chy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3m</td>
<td>anodho</td>
<td>anodha, nodha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3f</td>
<td>anedhy</td>
<td>nodhy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Plural</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>ahanan</td>
<td>ahanan ny, a ny</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>ananowgh</td>
<td>ananowgh why</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>anodha</td>
<td>anodhans, ah’anjy, nonjy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The ending in *ahanowgh why* is regularly reduced to [*o*] or [*a*], and in poetry and similar contexts may be written *ahano’why*.
### 4.2.7. wàr ‘on, upon’

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Singular</th>
<th>Literary</th>
<th>Colloquial</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>warnaf</td>
<td>warnaf vy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>warnas</td>
<td>warna jy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3m</td>
<td>warnodho</td>
<td>warnodha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3f</td>
<td>warnedhy</td>
<td>warnedhy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plural</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>warnan</td>
<td>warnan ny</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>warnowgh</td>
<td>warnowgh why</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>warnodha</td>
<td>warnodhans, wàr anjy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The ending in *warnowgh why* is regularly reduced to [o] or [ɔ], and in poetry and similar contexts may be written *warno’why*.

### 4.2.8. rag ‘for’

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Singular</th>
<th>Literary</th>
<th>Colloquial</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
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<td>ragaf vy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>ragas</td>
<td>ragas jy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3m</td>
<td>ragtho</td>
<td>ragtha, racta</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3f</td>
<td>rygthy</td>
<td>racty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plural</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>ragan</td>
<td>ragan ny</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>ragowgh</td>
<td>ragowgh why</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>ragtha</td>
<td>ragthans, ract’anjy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The *g* in the root is devoiced before [θ], as in *ragtha* [ˈɾakoθa], *rygthy* [ˈɾoθi], *ragthans* [ˈɾakoθanθ]; before [t] in the colloquial register it is written *c* as in *racta, racty, ract’anjy*.

The ending in *ragowgh why* is regularly reduced to [o] or [ɔ], and in poetry and similar contexts may be written *rago’why*. 
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

4.2.9. dherag ‘before, in front of’

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Singular</th>
<th>Literary</th>
<th>Colloquial</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>dheragaf</td>
<td>dheragaf  ży</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>dheragas</td>
<td>dheragas  ʃy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3m</td>
<td>dheragtha</td>
<td>dheracta</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3f</td>
<td>dherygthy</td>
<td>dheracy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Plural

| 1        | dheragan | dheragan  ny |
| 2        | dharagowgh | dharagowgh  ʃwhy |
| 3        | dheragtha | dheragthans, dheract’anjy, dheractans |

All forms may be written and pronounced with initial d- instead of dh-. The g in the root is devoiced before [θ], as in dheragtha [dʰərægθa], dherygthy [dʰərægθi], dheragthans [dʰərægθaŋz]; before [t] in the colloquial register it is written c as in dheracta, dheracty, dheract’anjy.

The ending in dheragowgh ʃwhy is regularly reduced to [o] or [ɔ], and in poetry and similar contexts may be written dherago’why.

4.2.10. reb ‘beside’

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<tr>
<th>Singular</th>
<th>Literary</th>
<th>Colloquial</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>rebaf</td>
<td>rebaf  ʒy, rebam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>rebas</td>
<td>rebas  ʃy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3m</td>
<td>rebtho</td>
<td>rebtha, repta</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3f</td>
<td>rebthy</td>
<td>repty</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Plural

| 1        | reban    | reban  ny |
| 2        | rebowgh  | rebowgh  ʃwhy |
| 3        | rebtha   | rebthans, reptaŋjy |

Heb ‘without’ conjugates similarly. The b in the root is devoiced before [θ], as in rebtha [ɾeθa], rebthy [ɾeθi], rebthans [ɾeθaŋz]; before [t] in the colloquial register it is written p as in repta, repty, reptaŋjy.
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

The ending in rebough whyn is regularly reduced to [o] or [ɔ], and in poetry and similar contexts may be written rebo’why.

4.2.11. dre ‘through’

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Singular</th>
<th>Literary</th>
<th>Colloquial</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>dredhaf</td>
<td>dredhaf ụy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>dredhas</td>
<td>dredhas ụy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3m</td>
<td>drehdo</td>
<td>drehda, dreh’ev</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3f</td>
<td>drehdy</td>
<td>drehy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Plural</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>drehan</td>
<td>drehan ụy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>drehowgh</td>
<td>drehowgh whyn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>drehha</td>
<td>drehha, dreh’anjy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The ending in drehowgh whyn is regularly reduced to [o] or [ɔ], and in poetry and similar contexts may be written dreho’why.
CHAPTER FIVE

VERBS

5.0. GENERAL REMARKS
Traditional Cornish has a strong tendency to avoid the use of conjugated forms and instead uses the verbal auxiliaries bos 'be', mednas 'wish', gwyl 'do', dos 'come', godhvas 'know, be able', gallos 'be able', and gasa 'let', with the verbal noun or verbal adjective. The use of gwyl in particular is very widespread at all periods. Many texts make only very infrequent use of verbal forms other than the 3rd singular present, imperfect, and preterite. Instead, they prefer one of the auxiliary verbs. This ought to be the model for the syntax of everyday Revived Cornish. In poetry and other sorts of literature, of course, the more complex conjugated forms have their place.

In the following pages, paradigms are cited throughout in the proposed orthography. It must be remembered that in many cases the forms cited are modern reconstructions, since the relevant part of the verb is unattested in our sources. Most verbs have a present/future, imperfect, and preterite. Mos 'go' and dos 'come' have separate perfect forms also. Some verbs (e.g. bos 'be', godhvas 'know', clowas 'hear') have special forms for the future distinct from the present. In the very earliest Middle Cornish the conditional is also a pluperfect; this usage had been lost by the fifteenth century except in bos 'be'.

5.1. BOS, BONAS 'BE'
Present participle ow pos, ow ponas 'being'
Verbal adjective not used

5.1.1. The short present
'I am, you are, he is', etc. This is used to describe what something is rather than its location, and is not with ow + the verbal noun.
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

5.1.2. The long present
Positive forms: ‘I am, you are, he is’, etc. This is used to describe location and also used with ow + the verbal noun.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Singular</th>
<th>Literary</th>
<th>Colloquial</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>ov</td>
<td>ov vy, oma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>os, osta, ota</td>
<td>osta, osta jy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>yw, ywa</td>
<td>yw, ywa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plural</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>on</td>
<td>on ny</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>owgh</td>
<td>owgh why</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>yns</td>
<td>enjy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Negative and relative forms: ‘I am not, you are not, he is not’, etc. or ‘I who am, you who are, he who is’, etc. These are mostly used with ow + the verbal noun. To form the negative, nynj or nyns is prefixed to the literary forms, and nag is prefixed to the colloquial forms. For the literary form ujy below, usy may also be used.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Singular</th>
<th>Literary</th>
<th>Colloquial</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>yth esaf, yth esaf vy</td>
<td>th’eraf vy, th’eram(a)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>yth esas, yth ejas,</td>
<td>th’era chy, th’esta</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>yth esta, yth esta jy</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>yma, yma ev, yma hy</td>
<td>ma, ma ev, ma va, ma hy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plural</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>yth esan, yth esan ny</td>
<td>th’eran ny</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>yth eso’why th’erowgh why</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>ymowns, ymownjy</td>
<td>mowns, mownjy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3mfs

|            |                |                  |
| 1          | esaf, esaf vy  | eraf vy, eram    |
| 2          | esas, ejas,    | era chy, esta    |
|            | esta, esta jy  |                   |
| 3          | eus ‘there is not’, ‘which is’ eus | |
| 3mfs       | ujy, ujy ev, ujy hy | ujy, uja va, uja hy |

Revision 16, 14 November 2007
### 5.1.3. The short imperfect

‘I was, you were, he was’, etc. This is used to describe a continuous state in the past.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Singular</th>
<th>Literary</th>
<th>Colloquial</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>en</td>
<td>o ma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>es</td>
<td>o chy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>o</td>
<td>o va, o hy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Plural</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>en, en ny</td>
<td>o ny</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>ewgh</td>
<td>o why</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>êns</td>
<td>o anjy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 5.1.4. The long imperfect.

‘I was, you were, he was’, etc. This is used to describe a continuous location in the past. It is also used with ow + the verbal noun.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Singular</th>
<th>Literary</th>
<th>Colloquial</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>esen</td>
<td>eraf vy, eram</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>eses</td>
<td>era chy, esta</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>esa</td>
<td>era</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
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<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>esen</td>
<td>eran ny</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>esewgh</td>
<td>erowgh why</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>esens</td>
<td>era anjy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NOTE: The vowel in the final syllable in the literary forms of the long imperfect is [ə] as it is in esas, esan, and esans of the long present; the distinction is purely orthographic.
5.1.5. The preterite
‘I was, you were, he was’, etc. This is used to describe a past state which is completed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Singular</th>
<th>Literary</th>
<th>Colloquial</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>beuv</td>
<td>bema</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>beus</td>
<td>be chy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>beu</td>
<td>be</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Plural</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>beun</td>
<td>ben ny</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>bewgh why</td>
<td>bewgh why</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>bowns, bownjy</td>
<td>bowns, be anjy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5.1.6. The future
‘I will be, you will be, he will be’, etc. This tense can also be used for a habitual present.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Singular</th>
<th>Literary</th>
<th>Colloquial</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>bedhaf</td>
<td>bedhaf vy, bedhama, bedham</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>bedhys</td>
<td>bedhys</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>beidh</td>
<td>bedh</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Plural</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>bedhan</td>
<td>bedhan ny, bedh ny</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>bedhowgh</td>
<td>bedhowgh why, bedh why</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>bedhans</td>
<td>bedhans, bedh anjy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In many cases colloquially, this tense will be replaced by periphrasis: me a vedn bos dewedhas hanath ‘I will be late this evening’, na vanaf vy bos obma avorow ‘I will not be here tomorrow’ and a vednowgh why bos pell in Loundres? ‘will you be long in London?’

5.1.7. The habitual past
‘I was being, you were being, he was being’, etc. This is also used as a potential tense in indirect speech, ‘that I would be, that you would be, that he would be’, etc.
5.1.8. The subjunctive

Originally Cornish had two subjunctive tenses, but the two have largely fallen together. In this verb the two forms are attested, but their uses are similar. Only the singular form *bo*, however, is used in jussives, e.g. *re bo gras Duw genas* ‘may the grace of God be with you’.

The jussive third singular is *re bo* ‘may it be’.

5.1.9. The conditional/pluperfect

This uses the old pluperfect stem *bia-*. 

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Singular</th>
<th>Literary</th>
<th>Colloquial</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>ben</td>
<td>bo vy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>bes, besta</td>
<td>bo chy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>be, bo</td>
<td>bo ev, bo hy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Plural</th>
<th>Literary</th>
<th>Colloquial</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>ben, ben ny</td>
<td>bo ny</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>bowgh</td>
<td>bowgh why</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>bens, bowns</td>
<td>bo anjy.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In Middle Cornish, as well as having a habitual sense, this tense is used as describe the future-in-the-past in constructions like *ev a wrug promysya dhybm y fedhan mylweyth dha weyl* ‘he promised me that I should be a thousand times better’.
In colloquial contexts, this tense will be replaced by periphrasis, e.g. *na ve ev dha dhos in termyn, ny a venja bos in peryl mernans* ‘had he not come in time, we would have been in mortal danger’.

5.1.10. The imperative
In the colloquial register all but the second person singular and plural will be formed periphrastically, e.g. *gesowgh ny dha vos lowen* ‘let’s be happy’, *gerowgh anjy dha vos obma pan vo dá gonjans* ‘let them be here when they want’. See §5.8.

5.2. *Y’m beus* and the idiomatic possessive
In Middle Cornish the verb *y’m beus* ‘I have’ has a tendency to be recharacterized with personal endings, e.g. *ny’gan bedhan* ‘we used not have’ BM 4268, *kyn na’m boma lowena* ‘though I may not have joy’ CW 928. Moreover in the second person singular the pronominal element ‘*th* becomes merged with the following *f* and the result is similar to a form of the simple verb *bos* ‘be’ itself, e.g. *te a ’th feidh* > *te a feidh* > cf. *te a veidh* ‘thou shalt be’. As a result of these two developments the verb *bos* itself acquires possessive sense. Richard Gendall calls this the ‘idiomatic possessive’.

For those who wish to use forms of *y’m beus*, the paradigms are as follows.
The verb *y’m beus* is available in the proposed orthography, because it is an integral part of the traditional language. Since, however, the idiomatic possesive is more productive in Tudor and Late texts, it should be taught to learners in preference to *y’m beus* itself. Those learning Cornish, therefore, should be taught sentences like the following:

*Pan wrug acy clowas hedna, me a veu own brâs* ‘When I heard that, I was very afraid’

*Na ve Myhal dha weras dhèn, ny a via cudyn gen an weolhen Nadelak* ‘If Michael hadn’t helped us, we would have had a problem with the Christmas tree’

*Pana wober a vedhowgh why i’n soodh noweth?* ‘What salary will you have in the new job?’

*Na venjowgh why crejy an plesour a vian ny, màr teffa why ha gwyl hedna ragan ny* ‘You wouldn’t believe what pleasure it would give us, were you to do that for us.’

*Dre reson why oll dha’m inia vy, an horsen cabm a veidh an second chauns* ‘Because you all are urging me, the lousy bastard will get a second chance’

*Màr teffa ev ha geyl tra a’n par-na, na via ev kybmynas dos obma nefra arta* ‘If he had done something like that, he would never have been allowed to come here again.’
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

5.3. **MEDNAS, MENNAS** ‘WILL, WISH’

*Present participle* **ow mednas, ow mennas**

*Verbal adjective* not used

This verb is used in the present with a verbal noun to make the future, e.g. *hy a vedn y welas ena* ‘she will see him there’. Its conditional is also used with a verbal noun to express the conditional of other verbs: *na venja ev crejy, na ve my dh’y glerya dhodha* ‘he wouldn’t have believed, if I hadn’t explained it to him’.

5.3.1. The present

Note that the more literary forms may appear without pre-occlusion. Pre-occlusion is not expected in the second singular *menta*:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Singular</th>
<th>Literary</th>
<th>Colloquial</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td><em>mednaf, manaf</em></td>
<td><em>mednaf, madam</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td><em>mednys, menta</em></td>
<td><em>mednys, menta</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td><em>mydn</em></td>
<td><em>medn, medn ava, medn hy</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Plural</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td><em>mednyn</em></td>
<td><em>mednan ny</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td><em>mednowgh</em></td>
<td><em>mednowgh why</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td><em>mednans</em></td>
<td><em>medn aniy</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5.3.2. The conditional

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Singular</th>
<th>Literary</th>
<th>Colloquial</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td><em>menjan, mensan</em></td>
<td><em>menjaf vy, menjam’a</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td><em>menjas, mensas</em></td>
<td><em>menja chy, menjasta</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td><em>menja, mensa</em></td>
<td><em>menja ev, menja hy</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Plural</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td><em>menjan, menjan</em></td>
<td><em>menjan ny</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td><em>menjowgh, mensowgh</em></td>
<td><em>menjowgh why</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td><em>menjans, mensans</em></td>
<td><em>menja aniy, menjans</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

62 Revision 16, 14 November 2007
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

The following forms are used in the literary register:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Present</th>
<th>Imperfect</th>
<th>Subjunctive</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>mednys</td>
<td>mednan</td>
<td>mednan, mydnyf</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mensys</td>
<td>mednas</td>
<td>mednas, mydny</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mednas</td>
<td>medna</td>
<td>medna</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mensyn</td>
<td>mednan</td>
<td>mednan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mensough</td>
<td>mednowgh</td>
<td>mednowgh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mensans</td>
<td>mednans</td>
<td>mednans</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**5.4. GWYL, GUL, GWETHYL ‘DO, MAKE’**

Present participle **ow gwyl, ow cul, ow gwethyl** ‘doing’

Verbal adjective **gwrys** ‘done’

This is a common verb at all periods and it is used as an auxiliary most frequently in the present, the past, the conditional, and the imperative.

**5.4.1 The verbal noun**

The first matter that needs to be settled, however, is the shape of the verbal noun to be used. There appear originally to have been three separate forms, **gruthyl, guthyl** and **gul**. Some believe that **guthyl** and **gul** are the direct origin of **gweel** and **geel** in Late Cornish. Others believe that **gweel** came about analogically from **weel** with lenited initial. It is quite possible that both developments were instrumental in producing the two Late Cornish forms **gweel** and **geel**. We recommend **gwyl** (cf. gawei SA, gawe, gwyll CW) as standard, being the most distinctive form and also the form that is easiest to pronounce.

**5.4.2. The present/future**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Singular</th>
<th>Literary</th>
<th>Colloquial</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>gwrav, gwrama</td>
<td>gwra vy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>gwares, gwareta</td>
<td>gwras, gwra chy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>gwrar</td>
<td>gwra</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### 5.4.3. The preterite

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Literary</th>
<th>Colloquial</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>gwrug, gwruga</td>
<td>gwruga vy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>gwrussys, gwrusta</td>
<td>gwrusta</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>gwrug</td>
<td>gwrug hy, gwruga (va)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 5.4.4. The imperfect

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Singular</th>
<th>Literary</th>
<th>Colloquial</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>gwren</td>
<td>gwren vy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>gwres</td>
<td>gwre chy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>gwre</td>
<td>gwre</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 5.4.5. The subjunctive

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<th>Literary</th>
<th>Colloquial</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>gwrellan, gwryllyf</td>
<td>gwrelhan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>gwrellas, gwrylly</td>
<td>gwrelhas, gwrylhy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>gwrela</td>
<td>gwrelha</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

Revision 16, 14 November 2007
### 5.4.6. The conditional

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Literary</th>
<th>Colloquial</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>gwruссan</td>
<td>gwressan, gwressaf vy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>gwruссas</td>
<td>gwressas, gwressa chy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>gwruссa</td>
<td>gwressa</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Literary</th>
<th>Colloquial</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>gwruссan</td>
<td>gwressan ny</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>gwruссowgh</td>
<td>gwressowgh why</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>gwruссans</td>
<td>gwressa anjy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 5.4.7. The imperative

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Literary</th>
<th>Colloquial</th>
</tr>
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<td>—</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>gwra</td>
<td>gwra jy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>gwrôns</td>
<td>gwrôns</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Literary</th>
<th>Colloquial</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>gwren</td>
<td>gwren ny</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>gwrewgh</td>
<td>gwrewgh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>gwrôns</td>
<td>gwrôns</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 5.5. DOS, DONAS ‘COME’

**Present participle**  
*ow tos, ow tonas* ‘coming’

**Verbal adjective**  
*devedhys* ‘come’

This verb is used in particular after *màr, mara* ‘if’ in both real conditions in future time (e.g. *màr teuva ha dasserhy* ‘if he happens to rise again’ RD 7) and unreal conditions in the past (e.g. *Rag mara teffa Cryst ha dos in dalleth an beis whare wosa mab den dha beha* ‘For if Christ had come at the beginning of the world shortly after mankind had sinned’ TH 13a). It is used as an auxiliary in final clauses as well (e.g. *may teffan ha tedna dha’n dor an pryel eus ow rainya inan* ‘so that we should tear down the pride which reigns in us’ TH 6a). The two useful auxiliary tenses, therefore, are the present/future and the subjunctive.

*R’effa* is not *relish*, a form of *gwrelha*, the subjunctive of *gwyd*; it is an abbreviation of the (jussive) subjunctive of *dos*, properly *re dheffa*.

---

Revision 16, 14 November 2007
5.5.1. The present

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Singular</th>
<th>Literary</th>
<th>Colloquial</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>dov, deuv, deuma</td>
<td>dema</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>deth, dêta</td>
<td>de chy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>deu, deu va</td>
<td>de, de va</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Plural</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5.5.2. The subjunctive

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Singular</th>
<th>Literary</th>
<th>Colloquial</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>deffan</td>
<td>deffan vy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>deffas, deffasta</td>
<td>deffas chy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>deffa</td>
<td>deffa ev, deffa hy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Plural</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The following forms are used in the literary register:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Preterite</th>
<th>Imperfect</th>
<th>Perfect</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>deuth</td>
<td>den</td>
<td>dewaf</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>deuthys</td>
<td>des</td>
<td>deuvas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>deuth</td>
<td>do</td>
<td>deuva</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>deuthan</td>
<td>den</td>
<td>deuvon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>deuthowgh</td>
<td>dewgh</td>
<td>deuvough</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>deuthans</td>
<td>dêns</td>
<td>deuvans</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Conditional</th>
<th>Imperative</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>dothyan</td>
<td>deus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dothyas</td>
<td>dêns</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dothya</td>
<td>deun</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dothyan</td>
<td>dewgh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dothyowgh</td>
<td>dêns</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dothyans</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note that the perfect is a compound of the root *deu-* and the preterite *beuv*, etc. of *bos.*

Revision 16, 14 November 2007
5.6. GODHVAS ‘KNOW, BE ABLE’

Present participle ow codhvas ‘knowing, being able’

Verbal adjective godhvedhys ‘known’

This verb is used to mean ‘be able, can’ as well as ‘know’. It is used mostly in the present and in the imperfect.

### 5.6.1. The present

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Literary</th>
<th>Colloquial</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>gôn</td>
<td>goraf vy, gorama</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>negative na worama</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>godhas, godhasta</td>
<td>gosta</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>gor</td>
<td>gor, negative na wor</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Literary</th>
<th>Colloquial</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>godhan</td>
<td>goran ny</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>godhowgh</td>
<td>gorowgh why</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>godhans</td>
<td>gor anijy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note that in the first person singular gôn the vowel is short. Since a pre-occluded form *godn* is unattested, we write gôn with a grave to show that the vowel is not long. Gôn is replaced in later Cornish by the analogical gorama, goraf vy. The lenited colloquial forms worama [wɔrɔmə], wosta [wɔsta], wor [wɔr], etc. are sometimes pronounced [ɔrɔmə], [ɔsta], [ɔ:]. See also §1.6.23.

### 5.6.2. The imperfect

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Literary</th>
<th>Colloquial</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>godhyan</td>
<td>goyan vy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>godhyas</td>
<td>goyas chy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>godhya</td>
<td>goya ef/hy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Literary</th>
<th>Colloquial</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>godhyan</td>
<td>goyan ny</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>godhyowgh</td>
<td>goyowgh why</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>godhyans</td>
<td>goya anijy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The lenited colloquial forms woyan [wɔjən], woyas [wɔjəs], woya [wɔjə], etc. are sometimes pronounced [ɔjən], [ɔjəs], [ɔjə]. See also §1.6.23.
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

The following forms are used in the literary register:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Preterite</th>
<th>Subjunctive</th>
<th>Conditional</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>gothfěf</td>
<td>goffyan</td>
<td>goffyan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gothfěs</td>
<td>goffyas</td>
<td>goffya</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gothfen</td>
<td>goffyan</td>
<td>goffyan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gothfewgh</td>
<td>goffyowgh</td>
<td>goffyowgh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gothfans</td>
<td>goffyans</td>
<td>goffyans</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Imperative

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>goffyth, coll. gor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>goffedhans</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>goffedhyn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>goffedhowgh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>goffedhans</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The preterite *gothfěf, *gothfěs, etc. is unattested anywhere in traditional Cornish. To render the preterite 'I knew suddenly, I realized' me a wrug godhvas may be used.

5.7. GALLOS ‘BE ABLE’

Present participle not used
Verbal adjective not used

The commonest tenses of this verb are the present-future, the (past) subjunctive and the conditional.

5.7.1. The present/future

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Singular</th>
<th>Literary</th>
<th>Colloquial</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>gallaf</td>
<td>gellaf vy, gellama, gellam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>gyllysta, gylta</td>
<td>gellasta</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>gyll, gyllvyth (future)</td>
<td>gell, gell ava</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plural</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>gyllyn</td>
<td>gellen ny</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>gyllowgh</td>
<td>gellowgh why</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>gyllans</td>
<td>gell anjy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
5.7.2. The subjunctive

The present subjunctive *gyllyf, gylly, gallo*, etc. is well preserved in the earliest texts but soon yields to the past subjunctive *gallen, galles, galla*, etc., largely because the third singular forms *gallo* and *galla* became phonetically indistinguishable, as did the second and third persons of the plural. Both are used exclusively after *may* in final clauses.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Literary</th>
<th>Colloquial</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>may hallan</td>
<td>m’alla vy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>may hallas</td>
<td>m’alla chy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>may halla</td>
<td>m’alla, m’alja, m’alla va</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Literary</th>
<th>Colloquial</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>may hallax</td>
<td>m’alja chy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>may hallas</td>
<td>m’alla</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>may halla</td>
<td>m’alla va</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5.7.3. The conditional

A preterite *ny allas* ‘he was not able’ also existed in the earlier language. Both the imperfect and the preterite are replaced by the conditional in the later language, presumably by analogy with English: ‘I could’ in English is both past, e.g. ‘I practised and practised and finally I could do it without difficulty’ (past sense) and ‘If I really practised, I’m sure I could do it’ (conditional sense).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Literary</th>
<th>Colloquial</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>galsan, galjan</td>
<td>galjama</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>galsas, galjas</td>
<td>galja chy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>galsa, galja</td>
<td>galja</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Literary</th>
<th>Colloquial</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>galsan, galjan</td>
<td>galjan ny</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>galsowgh, galjowgh</td>
<td>galjowgh why</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>galsans, galjans</td>
<td>galja anjy.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The following forms are used in the literary register:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pretense</th>
<th>Imperfect</th>
<th>Imperative</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>gyllys</td>
<td>gyllyn</td>
<td>not used</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gylsks</td>
<td>gyllys</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gallas</td>
<td>gylla</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gylsyn</td>
<td>gyllyn</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gylsowgh</td>
<td>gyllowgh</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>galsans</td>
<td>gyllans</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As noted these two tenses in the colloquial register are both replaced by galjama, galja chy, etc. The imperfect tense of gallos is not common, indistinguishable as it is in part from the present. If one needs to say ‘I was not able’ as an imperfect one can use abel ‘able’; cf. inwedh nynj o mab den abel dha wers y honen in hebma ‘also mankind were not able to help themselves in this matter’ TH 12a, nynj o abel dha’gan gueras ny ‘he was not able to help us’ TH 13a.

5.8. GASA, GARA ‘LEAVE, LET’
Present participle ow casa, ow cara ‘leaving’
Verbal adjective gesys, gerys ‘left’

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Present/Future</th>
<th>Pretense (literary)</th>
<th>Imperfect (literary)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>gasaf</td>
<td>gesys</td>
<td>gasan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gesys</td>
<td>gyssys, gysta</td>
<td>gasas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gas</td>
<td>gassas, garas</td>
<td>gasa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gelyn</td>
<td>gessyn</td>
<td>gasan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>glesowgh</td>
<td>gessowgh</td>
<td>gassowgh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gelsans</td>
<td>gassans</td>
<td>gassans</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subjunctive (literary)</td>
<td>Conditional (literary)</td>
<td>Imperative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gassan, gyssyf</td>
<td>gassan</td>
<td>gas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gasses, gyssy</td>
<td>gassas</td>
<td>gasans lit.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gassa</td>
<td>gassa</td>
<td>gesyn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gassan</td>
<td>gassan</td>
<td>gessowgh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gassowgh</td>
<td>gassowgh</td>
<td>gasans lit.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gassans</td>
<td>gassans</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5.9. MOS, MONAS ‘GO’
Present participle ow mos, ow monas ‘going’
Verbal adjective gyllys ‘gone’
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Present/Future (literary)</th>
<th>Preterite (literary)</th>
<th>Imperfect (literary)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>av, ama</td>
<td>éth</td>
<td>en</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>éth, étá</td>
<td>ethys</td>
<td>es</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>é</td>
<td>éth</td>
<td>e</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>en</td>
<td>ethan</td>
<td>en</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ewgh</td>
<td>ethough</td>
<td>ewgh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ëns</td>
<td>ethans</td>
<td>ëns</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Perfect (literary)</th>
<th>Subjunctive (literary)</th>
<th>Conditional (literary)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>galsaf</td>
<td>ellan, yllyf</td>
<td>gylsan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>galsas</td>
<td>ellas, yly</td>
<td>gylsas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gallas</td>
<td>ella</td>
<td>gals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>galsan</td>
<td>ellan</td>
<td>gysan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>galsowgh</td>
<td>ellough</td>
<td>gysowgh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>galsans</td>
<td>ellans</td>
<td>galsans</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Imperative</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>kê, à</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ëns lit.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>deun</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>kewgh, ewgh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ëns lit.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5.10. **CARA** ‘LOVE’

**Present participle** ow cara ‘loving’

**Verbal adjective** kerys ‘loved’

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Present/Future</th>
<th>Preterite (literary)</th>
<th>Imperfect (literary)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>caraf</td>
<td>kerys</td>
<td>caran</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>kerys, kerta</td>
<td>kerys</td>
<td>caras</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>car</td>
<td>carsas</td>
<td>caran</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>keryn</td>
<td>kersyn</td>
<td>caran</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>kerowgh</td>
<td>carsowgh</td>
<td>carowgh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>carans</td>
<td>carsans</td>
<td>carans</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subjunctive (literary)</th>
<th>Conditional (literary)</th>
<th>Imperative</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>carran, kyrryf</td>
<td>carsan</td>
<td>car</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>carras, kyrry</td>
<td>carsas</td>
<td>carans lit.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>carra</td>
<td>carsa</td>
<td>keryn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>carran</td>
<td>carsan</td>
<td>kerowgh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>carrowgh</td>
<td>carsowgh</td>
<td>carans lit.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>carrans</td>
<td>carsans</td>
<td>carans lit.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note that this verb also has a 3rd singular future caryth, e.g. ev a caryth ‘he will love’.

Revision 16, 14 November 2007
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

5.11. **CAFOS, CAWAS, GAWAS** ‘GET, FIND’
*Present participle ow cafos, ow cawas ‘getting, finding’*
*Verbal adjective kefys, kevys ‘got, found’*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Present/Future</th>
<th>Preterite</th>
<th>Imperfect (literary)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>cafaf</td>
<td>kefys</td>
<td>kefyn, kevyn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>kefys</td>
<td>kefys</td>
<td>kefyn, kevyn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>kev; colloq. cāv</td>
<td>cafas; colloq. cavas</td>
<td>kefy, kevy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>kefyn</td>
<td>kefsyn</td>
<td>kefyn, kevyn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>kefough</td>
<td>kefsowgh</td>
<td>kefough, kevough</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cafans</td>
<td>cafans</td>
<td>kefans, kevans</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Conditional (literary)</th>
<th>Imperative (literary)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>cafvan, kysvan</td>
<td>cafvan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cafvas, kysvas</td>
<td>cafvas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cafva</td>
<td>cafva</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cafvan</td>
<td>cafvan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cafvowgh</td>
<td>cafvowgh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cafvans</td>
<td>cafvans</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5.12. **CLOWAS** ‘HEAR’
*Present participle ow clowas ‘hearing’*
*Verbal adjective clowsys ‘heard’*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Present/Future</th>
<th>Preterite (literary)</th>
<th>Imperfect (literary)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>clowaf; colloq. clow vy</td>
<td>clowsys</td>
<td>clowan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>clowsys</td>
<td>clowsys</td>
<td>clowan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>clow, clew;</td>
<td>clowas</td>
<td>clowa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>future clowyth</td>
<td>clowsyn</td>
<td>clowan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>clowyn</td>
<td>clowsowgh</td>
<td>clowough</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>clowough</td>
<td>clowsans</td>
<td>clowans</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>clowans</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Conditional (literary)</th>
<th>Imperative</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>clowvan</td>
<td>clowan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>clowvas</td>
<td>clowsas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>clowva</td>
<td>clowsa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>clowvan</td>
<td>clowsan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>clowough</td>
<td>clowsowgh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>clowans</td>
<td>clowsans</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### 5.13. COWSAL, COWS, COWSA ‘SPEAK’

Present participle *ow* cowsal, *ow* cows, *ow* cowsa

Verbal adjective *cowsys*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Present/Future (literary)</th>
<th>Preterite</th>
<th>Imperfect (literary)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>cowsaf</td>
<td>cowsys</td>
<td>cowsyn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cowsys</td>
<td>cowsys</td>
<td>cowsys</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cows</td>
<td>cowsas lit. and colloq.</td>
<td>cowsy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cowsyn</td>
<td>coussyn,</td>
<td>coussough</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cowsough</td>
<td>coussough</td>
<td>coussough</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cowsans</td>
<td>coussans</td>
<td>coussans</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Subjective (literary)

| cowsan, kewsf            | coussan   |                      |
| cowsas, kewsy            | coussas   |                      |
| cowsa                     | cousssa   | cowsens lit.         |
| cowsan                    | coussan   | cowsyn lit.          |
| cowsough                  | coussough | coussough            |
| cowsans                   | coussans  | coussans lit.        |

### 5.14. DEBRY ‘EAT’

Present participle *ow* tebry ‘eating’

Verbal adjective *debrys* ‘eaten’

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Present/Future (literary)</th>
<th>Preterite</th>
<th>Imperfect (literary)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>debraf</td>
<td>debrys</td>
<td>debryn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>debrys</td>
<td>depsys</td>
<td>debrys</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>deberr lit. and colloq.</td>
<td>debras lit. and colloq.</td>
<td>debry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>debryn</td>
<td>depsyn</td>
<td>debryn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>debrough</td>
<td>depsough</td>
<td>debrough</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>debrans</td>
<td>depsans</td>
<td>debrans</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Subjective (literary)

| deppran, dyyprsf         | deppran   | deberr lit. and colloq. |
| deppras, dyypry          | deppras   | debrans               |
| deppra                   | deppra    | debryn                |
| deppran                  | deppran   | debrans               |
| depprough                | depprough | debrough              |
| depprans                 | depprans  | debrans               |
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

5.15. **DON, DEGY** ‘CARRY’

*Present participle* ow ton, ow tegy ‘carrying’

*Verbal adjective* degys ‘carried’

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Present/Future (literary)</th>
<th>Preterite (literary)</th>
<th>Imperfect (literary)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>degaf</td>
<td>dug</td>
<td>degyn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>degth</td>
<td>dugas</td>
<td>degys</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>deg. dog</td>
<td>dug</td>
<td>degyn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>degan</td>
<td>dugan</td>
<td>degyn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>degowgh</td>
<td>dugough</td>
<td>degowgh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>degans</td>
<td>dugans</td>
<td>degans</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subjunctive (literary)</td>
<td>Conditional (literary)</td>
<td>Imperative (literary)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>degan, dygyf</td>
<td>deksan</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>degas, dygy</td>
<td>deksas</td>
<td>deg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dega, docka</td>
<td>deksa</td>
<td>degans lit.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>degan</td>
<td>deksan</td>
<td>degan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>degowgh</td>
<td>deksough</td>
<td>degowgh, dogowgh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>degans, dockans</td>
<td>deksans</td>
<td>degans lit.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5.16. **ESEDHA, SEDHA** ‘SIT’

*Present participle* owth esedha, ow sedha ‘sitting’

*Verbal adjective* esedhys, sedhys ‘sat’

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Present/Future (literary)</th>
<th>Preterite (literary)</th>
<th>Imperfect (literary)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>sedhaf</td>
<td>sedhys</td>
<td>sedhan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sedhys</td>
<td>sethsys</td>
<td>sedhas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>eseth; colloq.esa, sedh</td>
<td>sethsan</td>
<td>sedhan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sedhyn</td>
<td>sethsyn</td>
<td>sedhough</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sedhough</td>
<td>sethsans</td>
<td>sedhans</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sedhans</td>
<td></td>
<td>eseth; colloq.esa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subjunctive (literary)</td>
<td>Conditional (literary)</td>
<td>Imperative (literary)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sedhan, sedhyf</td>
<td>sethsan</td>
<td>eseth; colloq. esa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sedhas, sedhy</td>
<td>sethsas</td>
<td>sedhans</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>setha</td>
<td>sethsan</td>
<td>esedhough; colloq.sedhough</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sedhan</td>
<td>sethsan</td>
<td>sedhyn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sedhough</td>
<td>sethsough</td>
<td>sedhans</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sethans</td>
<td>sethsans</td>
<td>sedhans</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
5.17. **GELWAL** ‘CALL’

*Present participle* ow kelwal ‘calling’

*Verbal adjective* gelwys ‘called’

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Present/Future (literary)</th>
<th>Preterite (literary)</th>
<th>Imperfect (literary)</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>galwaf</td>
<td>gelwys</td>
<td>gelwys</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gelwys</td>
<td>gelwys</td>
<td>gelwys</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gelow</td>
<td>gelwys</td>
<td>gelow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gelwyn</td>
<td>gelwys</td>
<td>gelwun</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gelwough</td>
<td>gelwough</td>
<td>gelwough</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gelwans</td>
<td>gawlans</td>
<td>gawlans</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subjunctive (literary)</th>
<th>Conditional (literary)</th>
<th>Imperative</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>galwan, gylwyf</td>
<td>gawlran</td>
<td>gavlwan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>galwas, ylycyn</td>
<td>gawlस</td>
<td>gavlwan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>galwan</td>
<td>gawlān</td>
<td>gawl</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>galwough</td>
<td>gawlough</td>
<td>gawlougn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>galwans</td>
<td>gawlans</td>
<td>gawlans</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The *w* of *galw* is pronounced before a following vowel only, e.g. *galw y!* ['galwi], ['gelwai] ‘call them!’ but *galw y*! ['gel vi] ‘call me!’.

5.18. **GLANHE** ‘CLEAN’

*Present participle* ow clanhe ‘cleaning’

*Verbal adjective* glanhes ‘cleaned’

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Present/Future (literary)</th>
<th>Preterite (literary)</th>
<th>Imperfect (literary)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>glanhaφ</td>
<td>glanhsys</td>
<td>glanhsys</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>glanhorth</td>
<td>glanhas</td>
<td>glanha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>glanha</td>
<td>glanhasan</td>
<td>glanhen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>glanhy</td>
<td>glanhasough</td>
<td>glanhes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>glanhōelsif</td>
<td>glanhasans</td>
<td>glanhēns</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subjunctive (literary)</th>
<th>Conditional (literary)</th>
<th>Imperative</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>glanhōhais, glanhayhif</td>
<td>glanhasan</td>
<td>galha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>glanhāhes, glanhahayfi</td>
<td>glanhasas</td>
<td>glanhēns</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>glanhahas</td>
<td>glanhasa</td>
<td>glanhēns</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>glanhahan</td>
<td>glanhasan</td>
<td>glanhēns</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>glanhahasough</td>
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</table>
5.19. GORTHEBY, GORREBY ‘REPLY, ANSWER’

*Present participle* **ow cortheby, ow correby** ‘answering’
*Verbal adjective* **gorthebys, gorrebys** ‘answered’

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<tr>
<th>Present/Future (literary)</th>
<th>Preterite (literary)</th>
<th>Imperfect (literary)</th>
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<td>gortheppa</td>
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<td>gortheppans</td>
<td>gorthepsam</td>
<td>gorthebans</td>
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5.20. GWELAS ‘SEE’

*Present participle* **ow gwelas** ‘seeing’
*Verbal adjective* **gwelys** ‘seen’

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<th>Present/Future (literary)</th>
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<td>gwelhas, gwelly</td>
<td>gwelas</td>
<td>gwelans lit.</td>
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<td>gwelhan</td>
<td>gwelsa</td>
<td>gwelans lit.</td>
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<tr>
<td>gwelhans</td>
<td>gwelsa</td>
<td>gwelans lit.</td>
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There is a literary 3rd singular future form **gwelvyth**, e.g. **ev a gwelvyth** ‘he will see’. The subjunctive autonomous form **gweler** is used to mean ‘see!’ in works of reference, etc.
### A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

#### 5.21. KEMERAS ‘TAKE’

*Present participle* ow kemeras ‘taking’  
*Verbal adjective* kemerys ‘taken’

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<td>kemersas</td>
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<td>kemersoush</td>
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<tr>
<td>kemerrans</td>
<td>kemersans</td>
<td>kemerais lit.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

#### 5.22. LEVERAL, LAVARAL, LAUL ‘say’

*Present participle* ow leveral, ow lavaral, ow laul ‘saying’  
*Verbal adjective* leverys ‘said’

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<th>Imperfect (literary)</th>
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<td>leverys, leverta</td>
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<td>lever; colloq. laver</td>
<td>leverys, colloq. lavars</td>
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<td>leveryn</td>
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<tr>
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<td>lavarsas</td>
<td>lavar lit., colloq.</td>
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<td>lavarra</td>
<td>lavarsa</td>
<td>leverans lit.</td>
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<tr>
<td>lavarrans</td>
<td>lavarsans</td>
<td>leverans lit.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

5.23. **PESY, PEJY** ‘PRAY, ASK’

*Present participle* *ow pesy, ow pejy* ‘praying, asking’

*Verbal adjective* *petsy, pejys* ‘prayed, asked’

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Present/Future (literary)</th>
<th>Preterite (literary)</th>
<th>Imperfect (literary)</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>pesaf, pejaf</td>
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<td>pesyn</td>
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<td>pessans</td>
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<td>pessans</td>
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*Subjunctive (literary)*

| pesan, pysyf             | pessas, pysy         | peis                 |
| pessas                   | pessa                | pesans lit.          |
| pessan                   | pessan               | pesyn                |
| pessough                | pessough             | pessough             |
| pessans                  | pessans              | pessans lit.          |

The verb *cresy/crejy* ‘believe’ conjugates similarly.

5.24. **RY** ‘GIVE’

*Present participle* *ow ry* ‘giving’

*Verbal adjective* *reis* ‘given’

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<tr>
<th>Present/Future (literary)</th>
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<th>Imperfect (literary)</th>
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<td>ren</td>
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<td>resys</td>
<td>res</td>
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<tr>
<td>re, ro</td>
<td>ros; colloq. ros</td>
<td>re</td>
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<td>ren</td>
<td>resan</td>
<td>ren</td>
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<td>reowgh</td>
<td>resowgh</td>
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<tr>
<td>rêsns</td>
<td>rosans</td>
<td>rêsns</td>
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</table>

*Subjunctive (literary)*

| rolan, ryllif            | rolas, ryly          | ro, roy              |
| rolah, roy              | rosa                 | rêsns                |
| rolean                  | rosan                | ren                  |
| roleough                | rosough              | reowgh               |
| roleans                  | rosans               | rêsns                |

The 3rd singular subjunctive *roy* is used as an optative equivalent to *re rolha*, e.g. *Duw roy louwen a dhys!* ‘may God give you joy!’ The 2nd singular imperative *ro* is used before consonants, e.g. *ro dhym dha dhorn!* ‘give me your hand!’, whereas *roy* is used before vowels, e.g. *roy e dhym!* ‘give it to me!’.
### A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

#### 5.25. **SEVAL** ‘STAND, RISE’

*Present participle* **ow seval** ‘standing, rising’

*Verbal adjective* **sevys** ‘stood, risen’

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<th>Present/Future (literary)</th>
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<td><strong>sev</strong></td>
<td><strong>sezys</strong></td>
<td><strong>sezyn</strong></td>
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<td><strong>sev; colleg. sav</strong></td>
<td><strong>sezys; colleg. savas</strong></td>
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<td><strong>sevans</strong></td>
<td><strong>safsans</strong></td>
<td><strong>sevans</strong></td>
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**Subjective (literary)**

| **saffan, syffyf**        | **safsas**           | **saffa**            |
| **saffas, syffy**         | **safsas**           | **saffa**            |
| **saffa**                 | **safsas**           | **saffa**            |
| **saffan**                | **safsas**           | **saffa**            |
| **saffough**              | **safsouogh**        | **saffougy**         |
| **saffans**               | **safsans**          | **saffans**          |

**Conditional (literary)**

| **safsan, syffyf**        | **safsas**           | **saffa**            |
| **saffas, syffy**         | **safsas**           | **saffa**            |
| **saffa**                 | **safsas**           | **saffa**            |
| **saffan**                | **safsas**           | **saffa**            |
| **saffough**              | **safsouogh**        | **saffougy**         |
| **saffans**               | **safsas**           | **saffans**          |

**Imperative**

- **sav**; colloq. **sâ**
- **saffa**
- **saffan**
- **saffans**

**Preterite (literary)**

| **droy**                  | **dres**             | **dren**             |
| **drès**                  | **dresys**           | **dres**             |
| **dora**                  | **dros**             | **dren**             |
| **dren**                  | **dresan**           | **dren**             |
| **drewgh**                | **dresough**         | **drewgh**           |
| **drêns**                 | **drosans**          | **drêns**            |

**Subjective (literary)**

| **drohan, drylyf**        | **drosan**           | **dora, doroy**      |
| **drohas, dryly**         | **drosas**           | **drêns**            |
| **drola, droy**           | **drosa**            | **dren**             |
| **drolhan**               | **drosan**           | **dren**             |
| **drolhough**             | **drosough**         | **drewgh**           |
| **drolhans**              | **drosans**          | **drêns**            |

The 3rd singular subjunctive **droy** is used optatively as the equivalent of **re dhrolha** ‘may he bring’. The 2nd singular imperative **dora** is used before consonants, **doroy** before vowels.

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*Revision 16, 14 November 2007*
CHAPTER SIX

SYNTAX

6.1. NA, NAG FOR NY, NYNJ
In Middle Cornish there are two negative particles, nyunj and nag, nyns and nag being used before initial vowels in the two verbs bos ‘be’ and mos ‘go’. Nyuns is used in main clauses and in the protases of conditional sentences. Na[g] on the other hand is found in subordinate clauses and in tag-answers, e.g. Esta ow cortas? Nag esaf ‘Are you staying? No.’ Already by the later sixteenth century, however, na[g] is replacing nyuns and by the middle of the seventeenth century, na[g] is universal everywhere. In the traditional texts, the unstressed vowel [ə] of nag is sometimes written <y> or <e>, but the final <g> before vowels indicates quite clearly that the particle is na[g], not nyuns. There can be no doubt that the weakening of all unstressed syllables to schwa was an important factor in the replacement of ny by na.

In literary contexts, the proposed orthography will allow ny and nyns or nynj, where it is to be expected syntactically. In speech and colloquial writing na and nag may be used instead.

6.2. VERBAL USAGE
The examples below have been taken from the traditional Cornish texts, of all periods, but chiefly from the sixteenth, seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries. In all cases, however, since we will be dealing with syntax rather than phonology, the examples will be respelt as our proposed orthography.
6.3. THE PERIPHRASTIC PRESENT

In Cornish if one wishes to say ‘I live’ or ‘he is living by himself’, one uses the long form of bos + ow (hard mutation) + verbal noun. This syntax is already to be noted in BM:

*Nynj esas owth attendya an laha del via res* ‘You do not consider that the law, how it was necessary’

*In Cryst Jesu caradow yth esaf prest ow crejy* ‘in beloved Jesus I believe firmly’.

This should be the default, unmarked method for expressing the present in Revived Cornish:

*Ow breis dhybm yma ow ton y haljas prest ow goeras* ‘My mind suggests to me that you might be able to help me’

*Yma orth ow gohelas drefen ow bos anhedhak* ‘It avoids me because I am diseased’

*Yma ow qwan-rewardya y serzy, re’m ena* ‘He rewards his servants badly, upon my soul’

*Mar esowgh orth ow cara vy, gwythaseg ow comondenys* ‘If you love me, keep my commandments’

*Esta jy orth ow cara vy may es an re-ma?* ‘Do you love me more than these?’

*Th’era vy ow cara why i’n colon* ‘I love you in my heart’

*Mar teun ny ha leveral nag on ny pehadoryon, yth esan ow tecevya agan honen ha’n gwaeyneth nynj uyy genan* ‘If we say we are not sinners, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us’

*ha neb a wrella agas despysya why, yma orth ow despysya vy* ‘and who despises you, despises me’

*ha dysgwaetha treweth da myllyow war anijy eus cara vy ha gwytha geryow vy* ‘and show pity on thousands among those who love me and keep my words’

*Yma lowr onen ow bostya* ‘Many a one boasts’

*Nag eran ny ow kemeras hebna rag comen bara ha dexas* ‘We do not take this for common bread and drink’

*Yth ejas ow cockia dres pob i’n welas* ‘You are foolish more than everybody in the kingdom’

*Fols daw yma ow conys* ‘He serves a false god’
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

Rag *yθh esaf ow towtya* a drog ha prosperita bos res mos dha bayn alas
‘Because I fear it is necessary to go from misfortune and prosperity to
dreadful torment’

*Yθh ejas ow cowusal* dā ‘You speak well’
Lebmyn nyñj yw cas an tevel mayth *esaf vy ow towtya* y teun wâr nany ‘Now
the plan is no good so that I fear that we will go down’

*Yθh esowgh why ow guyl* calm dhodha ev sur ‘You surely do him wrong’
I’n dyfeth in mesk bestas *yma ev pest ow pêwa* ‘In the wilderness with
animals he lives continually’

*Bewa yθh esaf* pab enr i’n tounder ha yeynder reo ‘I live continually in heat
and frosty cold’
ha’y gureddhow dha’n der isel *yma ow resak* pôr lel ‘and its roots run into the
low ground very truly’

*Kensa orth an hager-awel uja va guyl* da dereval warnan ny kenyer ternyn dir
eran ny mos dôr Pedn an Wlas da Syllan ‘First because of the storm he
causes to rise against us every time we go from Land’s End to Scilly’

*Tryja, orth an garhal uja va guyl* gen ascorn scooth dawas ‘Third, because of
the ship he makes with a sheep’s shoulder bone’

*Ha rag hedna th’eran ow ry* agen myterneth gorseans dha’n pow ny ‘And
therefore we give our kingly thanks to our land’

*Mytern Fiend, th’eraf vy ow menya* ‘The King of France, I mean’

*Ma ev gan maga* ‘He feeds us’
*Y iveryoneth oll ternyn ma seval* cew ‘His truth stands firm always’
An lossem biaan gen y arr nedlys, *eus ow tervy* in an hallow ny, *eus cyes Plhet
Maria* ‘The small plant with the twisted stalk, which grows on our hills,
is called Lady’s Tresses’

*Fat’uyj ow colowy ha taredna* ‘How it thunders and lightens!’
drefen in taclow brôs *ma anjy menowgh ow hedka* gâ honen, bûs in taclow
munys *yma anjy ow sywyâ* has gâ honen ‘because in great things, they
often stretch themselves, but in small matters, they follow their own
nature’

*Th’eram ow ry* da why an bel-ma da guwy gen bolonjath dâ ‘I give you this
ball to play with goodwill’.

The same syntax can be used with the imperfect of the long form of
*bos* to express imperfect sense:
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

Nebas esan ow teby y fedha hy i’n fordh-ma ‘I little thought it would be like this’
I’n termyn passys, pan esans owth agría gans an se ha stall a Rom, yth esans, hag y a wrug, floryshya i’n religion a Cryst ha in rychts a’n beis ‘In the past, when they agreed with the see and stall of Rome, they flourished and did indeed flourish in Christ’s religion and in worldly wealth’
Yth yw marthojyon dha welas fatell wrug an re-na esans y ow kemeras rag aga doctors brâs, ha scol-mesters, y a wrug aga abâsya, sedâça ba’ga mockya even i’n keth sam mater-ma a’n þrymacy ‘It is remarkable to see how those whom they took for their great doctors and schoolmasters, they abused, seduced and mocked them even in this same matter of the primacy’.

6.4. THE PERIPHRASTIC FUTURE WITH MEDNAS

Spoken Cornish has always made the unmarked future by means of the auxiliary verb mednas, mennas ‘will’. Lhuyd himself points out that Cornish says Me a vedn mos ales ‘I will walk forth’, and that the comparable construction (*Mî a vy˙nna vy˙nd ar lêd) would not be understood in Welsh (AB: 250b). Here are some examples from the texts of the periphrastic future:

Rag an lahys dha ny eus a vedn hy dampnya porres ‘For the laws which we have will straightaway condemn her’
Rag már ny wres me a vedn y dhon genaf arta dre ‘For if you don’t, I will take it home with me again’
me a vedn guyl indella ‘I shall do so’
War y heyn rag dha esya dyllas me a vedn lesa ‘On her back I will spread clothes to ease you’
Gans qweth me a vedn cudha y fas hag onen a’n gu wysk ‘With a garment I will cover his face and one can strike him’
Ny vedn an cyd karbol cahn awoos an beis dewedha ‘The vile crooked scoundrel will not finish for all the world’
Me a vedn mos dha’im guelas ‘I will go to my kingdom’
Me a vedn mos dha yxras guyl gueras dyna már medn ‘I will go to see whether he will help me’
Ny a vedn ombredery fordh rag y drâilya defry ‘Will will think of a way of converting him indeed’
Ny vanaf y ania rag dhybm ny amonent defry ‘I will not annoy him, for it is no use to me’
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

Syra, me a vedn guyl agas comomdment why 'Sir, I will do your command-
ment'

Obma me a vedn govyn udn gwestyon dha vos assoylyes 'Here I will ask one
question to be answered'

Me a vedn debry kens layyya mes a jy 'I will eat before going out of the
house'

Me a vedn ry dhyys yn ro an fenten-nag advo dhdhly pefer errov dyr 'I will give
you as a gift this spring and around it four acres of land'
gnas na vanaf flattr na na vanaf úzya go w 'I shall not wheedle you
nor use deceit'

In dechelyans pehosow guyl alter me a vedn 'As atonement for sins I will
build an altar'

ha an tacow a vedn gwanyña clos dhyys rag nefra 'and the things will gain
everlasting fame for you'

Y a vedn gueras da'ga tus dender peth a'n beis 'They will help their
husbands earn their living in the world'

ha pejy gonjans me a vedn 'and I will pray for them'

Pandr' a vednnowgh why guyl rag lednow rag a's flogh? 'What will you do
for clothes for your baby?'

ha hedna a vedn gás tohma adhelargh ha arag 'and that will warm you
behind and in front'

Me a vedn mos dha whelas whel dha wyl 'I will go to look for work'

Roy dhybm ha me a vedn leveral dhyys 'Give it to me and I will tell you'

Obma na vednaf izy ostya bías i'n nesa chy 'Here I will not lodge but in
the next house'

pecar dór vednnowgh why gwelas orth hemma advo dha'n Empirick Angwyn 'as
you will see by this concerning the Empiric Angwyn'

Oll an re-ma me a vedn ry dhyys már menta bías codha dha'n dor ha gordhya
zy 'All these I will give you if you will only fall down and worship me'

Rag na vedn an Arluth gán cawax yn paradhys rag kemeras y hanow yn vayn
'For the Lord will not accept us in paradise for taking his name in
vain'

Na vedn ev nefra dos ves a gendon 'He will never get out of debt'

Ev a vedn gás guyl saw 'It will cure you'

An hern gede a vedn guyl drog da'n hern hav 'The winter pilchards will do
harm to the summer pilchards.'
6.5. THE FUTURE OF BOS ‘BE’

Most commonly the future of *bos* is expressed by the use of the verb’s future tense:

> Me na wôn leveral prag gans pob na *vedhaf* ledhys ‘I cannot say why I shan’t be killed by everybody’

> Caym, na *vedhys* indella ‘Cain, you shall not be thus’

> *parys dha’ga dyncosa me a *veidh*, ow arluth dâ ‘I shall be ready to bleed them, good lord’

> dha lowenha rag bledhen *me a *veidh* yn pör certan agas gwelas i’m castell ‘the happier I shall be for a year to see you in my castle in very deed’

> ha welcom *te a *veidh* ‘and welcome you will be’

> *Cows nebas, cows dâ, ha dâ *veidh* cousys arta ‘Speak little, speak well and well will be spoken back’.

Colloquially, however, the future tense of this verb may be replaced by *mednas* and the verbal noun:

> *Na vanaf bos* màr grefny dh’y wytha oll ow honen ‘I won’t be so greedy as to keep it all myself’

> Rag hedna *a vedn bos* cousys adro dha’n pow ‘For that will be spoken about the country’

> Rag *vy dha Duw a vedn bos* engrys genas *fy* ‘For I thy God will be angry with thee’.

The future may also be made by using *gwyl* as the auxiliary:

> *Why a wra bos* y *yra*, *sera* *wheg* ‘You will be his father, dear sir’

> *Francan-Beljan me a wra bos* ‘A Franco-Belgian I shall be’

> *Nena agas lagajow a wra bos* egrys, ha *why a wra bos* pecar ha Duw ow codhwas dâ ha drog ‘Then your eyes will be opened and you will be like God knowing good and evil’

> *ha dha dewy a wra bos* dha’lth your ha ev a wra dha rowlya ‘and thy desire will be for thy husband and he will rule thee’.

6.6. GWYL ‘DO’ AS THE FUTURE AUXILIARY

The verb *gwyl* can also be used as an auxiliary to form the future:
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

Messejer, rag dha servys dha rewardya me a wra ‘Messenger, for your service I shall reward you’
ha hodna na wra agas decevya na na wra nefra fyllal ‘and that will not deceive you, nor will it ever fail’

Ev a wra agas confortya ‘He will comfort you’
Gayth y’th coe ha’m nog a wra dha rewlya ‘Keep me in mind and my nephew will rule you’
ha me a wra y dhebry ‘and I shall eat it’

Why a wra cauous dër yw an guas Harry ma podrok brâs ‘You will find that this fellow Harry is a great scoundrel’

Ev a wra tyra wâr men Merlyn, a wra lesky Puecl, Penzans ha Newlyn ‘He will land on Merlin’s stone, will burn Paul, Penzance and Newlyn’

Wir dha dori che a wra mos oll dedlyow dha vounans ‘On thy belly shalt thou go all the days of thy life’

Ev a wra browy dha bedn ha che a wra browy y wexen ‘He shall bruise thy head and thou shalt bruise his heel’

In deschan che a wra don flehas ‘In anguish thou shalt bear children’
Spern ha ascal a wra eu dry rag dhys ha che a wra debry a’n loow a’n guel ‘Thorns and thistles will it produce for thee and thou shalt eat of the herbs of the field’
rag a mes a chy y uhra dos mytern rag nucya dha pobel Israel ‘for out of thee shall come a king to rule thy people Israel’

Whegh jorna che a wra guyl whel ha guyl an peth eus dhys dha wyl ‘Six days shalt thou labour and do what that hast to do’
rag na veden an Arthu gwa dha neb a wra y henwal heb othem ‘for the Lord will not forgive him who will call upon his name needlessly’
ha alea ev a wra dos dha ry breus wâr bew ha marow ‘and thence he shall come to just the living and the dead’.

6.7. GWYL ‘DO’ AS A PRETERITE AUXILIARY
The preterite tense exists for all full verbs and is frequently used in the texts, particularly in the third person singular. It is less common in other persons. Third person plurals in the preterite are very uncommon and confined largely to the earliest Middle Cornish.

Ha dew a dhug dustuny y’n clowsans ow levelal por wyr y fedna terry an templ crev ‘And two bore witness that they heard him say indeed that he would destroy the mighty temple’ PA 91ab

Revision 16, 14 November 2007
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

\[ y \text{ whalsans oll adro màr caffans gow irody } \] ‘they called all around if they might find a smith’ PA 154b
\[ omen a \text{ welsans } ena ‘they saw one there’ PA 154c \]
\[ hag y \text{ lavarsans dhodha ‘and they said to him’ PA 154d } \]
\[ pan y’n \text{ lathsans } dybita ‘when without pity they killed him’ PC 309b \]
\[ dltybm \text{ rosans } bystyl wherow ‘they gave me bitter gall’ RD 2601. \]

It should also be noticed that the syntax of the verbal particle \( y \) at the head of its clause (seen in four of the above examples) is poorly attested after the earliest Middle Cornish. The commonest way of introducing a non-negative preterite is with abnormal order, as for example in the following examples:

\[ \text{rag ev a } \text{ gemeras } \text{ dor a } \text{ dhor ‘for he took earth of earth’ } \]
\[ \text{orth Jesus ev a } \text{ gowsas ‘to Jesus he spoke’ } \]
\[ \text{Hadre vowns y ow plenting Jesus } \text{i’n } \text{ dor a scryfas ha dve vertu an scryfa hoh dh a } \]
\[ \text{ves a omedednas ‘While they were arguing Jesus wrote on the ground } \]
\[ \text{and by the power of the writing everyone withdrew away’ } \]
\[ \text{rag hedha an wsegoyn oset a } \text{ borthus any ‘therefore the crazed ones bore him envy’ } \]
\[ \text{cawanskeus ev a } \text{ whelas } \text{ rag own y vonas ledhys ‘he sought an excuse for fear } \]
\[ \text{he would be killed’ } \]
\[ \text{Nena an venen a } \text{ welas } \text{ y bos an frút dâ dh a dhertzy ha teg dh a syght hy lagajow } \]
\[ ‘\text{Then the woman saw that the fruit was good to eat and pleasant to the sight of her eyes’ } \]
\[ \text{Hy a } \text{ gemeras } \text{ radn an frút hag a’n } \text{ debras hag a } \text{ ros part dh a’n goar Adam } \]
\[ ‘\text{She took some of the fruit and ate it and gave part to the husband Adam’ } \]
\[ \text{hy a } \text{ gemeras } \text{ radn a’n } \text{ has anodhys ‘she took some of the fruit of it’ } \]
\[ \text{hy a } \text{ ros } \text{ dh a vy dhorth an wedhen ‘she gave to me from the tree’ } \]
\[ \text{Ha any a } \text{ glowas } \text{ lee an Arluth Dhuw ow kerthas i’n locarh ‘And they heard the voice of the Lord God walking in the garden’ } \]
\[ \text{dhodh’e v an venen a } \text{ worthebys } \text{ hag a } \text{ leverys ‘to him the woman answered and said’ } \]
\[ \text{hy a } \text{ dowlas } \text{ in offering a Dhuw moy ages’y oll ‘she has thrown in offering to God more than them all’ } \]
\[ \text{Eo any a } \text{ vargydnyas } \text{ rag try puns an vledhen gober ‘Then they bargained for three pounds a year as wages’ } \]
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

Anjy a kemeras an vordh noweth ha Jowan a gwythas an vordh goth ‘They took the new road and Jowan kept to the old road’
Ha gans an cry a wrug Jowan guyl an ladron a forsakyas an varchants ‘And with the cry that Jowan made the robbers forsook the merchants’

At all periods of Cornish, however, the verb *gwyll* has been extensively used as an auxiliary when expressing the simple past:

*An sarf re wrug ow tholla* ‘The serpent has deceived me’
*Ev a wrug ow kossulya* ‘He advised me to pluck fruit from it’
*me a wrug trespassya crew* ‘I transgressed mightily’
*Genaf Dus a wrug serry* ‘with me God became angry’
*Me re wrug y vusura rag an keth whel-ma deesweyth* ‘I have measured it twice for this same work’
*Mahoun, darbar hardygras dha neb a wrug ow throbla* ‘Mahound, inflict vengeance on him who vexed me’
*Avysyans ev a hedna frag na wrug y sesya orth y anow pan gowsys* ‘Let him explain this: why he didn’t seize him when he spoke to him face to face’
*Meryasek pan gampollys an pab a wrug y braisya* ‘When I mentioned Meriasek, the pope praised him’
*De Gwener Cryst Jesu ker a wrug merwal ragan ny* ‘On Friday beloved Christ Jesu died for us’
*Whath awos oll hemma na wrug ev omedna y favour dhout any* ‘Still in spite of all that he did not remove his favour from them’
*Ena na wrug ev tryga pell bis ëth dha whelas an peth o gweoll* ‘There he did not stay long but went to look for what was better’
*Ev a wrug qwetyas mos dha’n gwelha ternewen* ‘He hoped to go to the better side’
*rag na wrug avy byscath gvelas scryf Bryten coth ceth ‘for I never saw any ancient British writing’
*Na wrug avy byscath gvelas lyver Kernowak ‘I never saw a Cornish book’
*Me a wrug fanja gis lyther seythen alebma ‘I received your letter a week ago’
*Me a wrug desky Kernowak ternyn me ve mae ‘I learnt Cornish when I was a boy’.*
6.8. **GASA, GARA ‘LEAVE, LET’ AND THE IMPERATIVE**

There are only two verbs which commonly exhibit third person singular and third person plural forms for the imperative, namely *bos* ‘be’ and *gwyll* ‘do’. Here are some examples of both:

**bedhans** ‘let him (it)/them be’

- *gans lowan* bedhans strothys ‘let it be tied with a rope’
- *predn dha jyst heb toll na gyl* bedhans gorys diwyth heb xedhlow ‘a beam for a joist without deception or guile let it be made for you without blether’

- *yn bason* bedhans gorrys ‘let it be put in a basin’
- *saow dha vodh tegy, Arluth, bedhans gorrys in pab termyn* ‘but let your will, O Lord, always be done’

- *i’n predn cross* bedhans gorrys ha troos ha dewda kelmys ‘let him be put on the cross and his foot and hands bound’
- *gans peg* bedhans stanchûrys ‘let them be made staunch with pitch’
- *wàr dha lergh* bedhans reclys ‘let them be ruled according to you’
- *an benemes ha’n flehas* bedhans in mes exylys ‘the women and the children, let them be exiled away’

**bedhans** kerhys masons plenta ‘let there be fetched masons a-plenty’

- *aban yw an predn tellys* bedhans an ebyl gorrys dreedha rag aga laya ‘since the wood has been drilled, let the pegs be put through them to join them’.

**gwrêns** ‘let him (it)/them do’

- *In y Dhwu y schrug fydhya; lebmyn gwrêns y dhyllyfya* ‘In his God he trusted; now let him deliver him’
- *pob a’y du gwrêns aspia ow gwandra mars eus traitor* ‘let each man espy on his side whether any traitor is wandering about’
- *anodha ev gwrêns dell vedn pan glowsa y lavarow* ‘let him do what he wants with him, when he hears his utterances’
- *neh na schehtha gwrêns fanya* ‘whoever does not blow, let him fan’

- *gwrêns an nor dry rag gwels* ‘let the earth bring forth grass’

**Gwrêns** bos ebron in cres an dower ha gwrêns ev dybarth an dower ort an dower

- ‘Let there be a firmament in the middle of the water and let it divide the water from the water’

**Gwrêns** an dower in dain an nev bos contellys warbarth da udn tyller ha gwrêns

- ‘Let the water under the heavens be collected together to one place and let the dry land appear’
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

_Gwêns_ bos goloe i’n ebron nev da dybarth deidh ort an nos, ha _gwêns_ anij bos rag synesow, rag ternydyfow, ha rag dedhyow: ha bledhydyfow ‘Let there be light in the firmament of heaven to separate day from the night, and let them be for signes, for time and for days and years.

Increasingly, however, imperatives of persons other than the second singular and second plural are expressed by the use of _gasa_ ‘leave, let’. Here are some examples taken from the texts:

_**gesowgh hy abarth Malan i’n morter sqwat dha godha**_ ‘let it in the devil’s name fall neatly into the mortice!’

_**ha gesowgh vy dh’ handla**_ ‘and let me touch him’

_Gesowgh ny dha wyl_ den dha’n similitud ha hevelep ny ‘Let us make man in our similitude and likeness’

_**gesowgh ny dha gawas**_ recours dha’n tryssa chapter a Jenesys ‘let us have recourse to the third chapter of Genesis’

_**gesowgh ny dha vos**_ war a re a’n par-na ‘let us be wary of people like that’

_Gesowgh ny dha vyras wâr agan treys_ ‘Let us look at our feet’

_Rag hedna gesowgh ny dha venegas agan honen dha Dhua_ ‘Therefore let us confess ourselves to God’

_**ha gesowgh ny dha repentya**_ ‘and let us repent’

_Gesowgh ny dha ajwon_ agan oberow agan honen ‘let us acknowledge our own deeds’

_Gesowgh ny oll dha wyl_ agan confessyon ‘Let us all make our confession’

_Gesowgh ny lehmyn dha aswen_ agan honen ‘Let us now know ourselves’

_Gesen ny dha consydra_ an circumstans a’n dra ‘Let us consider the circumstance of the matter’

_Gas an hanath-ma a vernans dha vos dheworthaf_ vy ‘Let this cup of death pass from me’

_Gas vy dha entra aij_ ‘let me enter in’

_Deus nes, gas vy dh’y welas_ ‘Come here, let me see it’

_Gorta, gas vy dh’y dava_ ‘Wait, let me touch him’

_Gas ny dha vos_ alebma ‘Let us go hence’

_Na esowgh ny dha vos_ methak dha gonfessya ‘Let us not be ashamed to confess’

_Na esyn úsya_ argumentys mèx úsya examplys Cryst ‘Let us not use arguments but the examples of Christ’
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

Na esyn ny myras wâr an bara ha’n dewas yw setyss dheragan ‘Let us not look upon the bread which is set before us’
Gerouogh ny guyl den i’n awen ny ‘Let us make man in our own image’.

6.9. CONDITIONAL SENTENCES

Conditional sentences are either real or unreal. Real conditions in future time are those, for example, like ‘If he is there tonight, I’ll give him your message’ or ‘She will ring, if she needs help’, i.e. Màr peidh ev ena hanath, me a vedn ry dha vessaj dodha and Hy a vedn gelwal, màr peidh othem dedhy a weras. Note that in Cornish the if-clause (protasis) contains bos ‘to be’, the verb must go into the future:

Oll ow hows why a’n clowas: laverough màr peidh sawys ‘You have heard all my words: say if he is to be saved’
Unweyth màr peidh den marow, y spyyys nefia heb wow beth ny dheu in y vody ‘If a man is once dead, his spirit will never return to his body’
Màr peidh res dhybm indella in hanow Duw uhelha genas me à ‘If I must thus in the name of the highest God I will go with you’
rag ev a verow, nyñj eus doud, màr peidh keys a-ugh an dor ‘for he will die, there is no doubt, if he is found above ground’
Me a feth, re’n Arluth Duw, màr peidh res dhybm in dha le hag à dretha gans ow gyne ‘I will conquer, by the Lord God, if it is necessary in your place and will run through him with my spear’
màr peidh by frîlt by tastys te a veidh dampeys ragtha ‘if its fruit is tasted, you will be condemned for it’
yñ fôrdh-ma màr peidh tolfyys, me a veidh compas gansa ‘in this way if she is deceived, I shall be even with him’
mara pedhowgh repentys an keth plag a wra voydya ‘if you repent, the same plague will go away’
Rag hedna màr peidh tra sëth gurys dha gawytha Kernowak, ev a dal bos gen an re-na yw genys obna ‘Therefore if something is done to maintain Cornish, it must be done by those born here’.

With verbs other than bos in the if-clause it is normal to use dos (+ ha) as an auxiliary:

Revision 16, 14 November 2007 91
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

màr teu neb gwos ha ladra an gwel dtheowrthan prywe, meth veidh oll dla’gan ehan ‘if some fellow steals the rods from us surreptitiously, it will be a disgrace to all our kindred’

màr teu va ha dassergryth, meur a dws a wra crwy ina y vos Dws a nev ‘if he rises again, many will believe in him that he is God from heaven’

mara teun ha debatlya, marnas an eyl party obha ow tybérth por wyr ny which ‘if we debate, only one party here will be laughing when they leave’

ha màr teun leveral na wrussyn ñeha, ny a wra en gossak ‘and if we have not sinned, we render him mendacious’

Rag màr teugh why ha cara an re ujy orth agas cara why, pana reward a vedhough why? ‘For if you love those who love you, what reward will you have?’

pandr’a vedhough leveral màr teuma dysqwedhas dhywgh certan taclow eral meur moy ages helma? ‘what will you say, if I show you certain other things much greater than this?’

Màr teugh why demondya prag y whrug an eglos dwoys màr galys understodyng a’n keth artlyed-ma, geryw an scryptor a yll bos eey understondys ‘If you ask why the church chose such a hard understanding of this same article, the words of scripture can easily be understood’

Màr teugh why ha gortas inaf vy, ha ou geryw vy inough why, gowythough an peth a vedhough, hag ey a veidh reis ñha why ‘If you remain in me and my words in you, ask whatever you want, and it will be given you’

Mara tov ha trewelaw, ny vêdh mab den ow gwelas rag terror ‘If I go into a frenzy, no man will dare look at me for terror’

rag màr teuma ha rowtya ha fernewy ha stowtya, na veidh mab den na’m doetya ‘for if I swagger and rage and dominate, there will be no man who will not fear me’

Gwlas nev dh’a nev a veidh a hes, màr teun ny gwyl dá wâr an bies ‘The kingdom of heaven we will get for our souls at length, if we do good in the world’

Bôs màr teu meng ha leveral dêr alja taxas an Brytas coth dos dh’a’n wheler-ма inweilh, màr pe anggy màr fortysnych, th’era vy màr fell dort naha in dadn an taxas ow dama ha ow pow… ‘But if someone says that the language of the ancient Britons could have come to this height also, had they been sufficiently lucky, I am so far from disparaging the language of my mother and my country…
Unreal conditions in English usually contain ‘would/should’ in the apodosis (the clause without ‘if’), e.g. ‘If you saw him, you would recognize him’ (future time) and ‘If you had seen him, you would have recognized him’ (past time). Cornish, like the other Celtic languages, does not distinguish sentences of that kind from each other. The easiest way of expressing both in Cornish is to use màr + subjunctive of dos (+ ha) + verb in the protasis and the conditional of mednas/gywl + verb in the apodosis:

\[ \text{Màr teffas ha’y welas, che a venja y ajwon} \ \text{‘If you saw him, you would recognize him/If you had seen him, you would have recognized him’.} \]

The only way to distinguish unreal conditions in future from unreal conditions in past time, is by the context:

A  Unreal condition in the future
\[ \text{Màr teffas ha gwyl hedna, nefra na venjan vy cowsal orthas arta} \ \text{‘If you were to do that, I would never speak to you again’} \]

B  Unreal condition in the past
\[ \text{Màr teffas ha gwyl hedna, byscath na venjan vy cowsal orthas arta} \ \text{‘If you had done that, I would never have spoken to you again.’} \]

Instead of \textit{màr teffa} to introduce the protasis, one may also use \textit{màr qressa}. Here are some examples from the texts of some of both A and B (it should be noted that complete examples of A are not frequent):

A
\[ \text{fatla, màr teffa ha contradycsyon ha varyans chauncya dha vos drehevys wir questyion biam, na gotha dhèn nena in cas a’n par-na caves recours dha’n moyha auncyent eglos?} \ \text{‘Why, if both contradiction and difference were to happen to arise about a small question, should we then not in such a case have recourse to the most ancient church?’} \]
\[ \text{y uhrug dha re anedha mos dha’n dre ha degehny an axen ha dry gausa ha leveral iredy màr teffa tus ha gwytha bos dha Dhëuw dha wyl gensy} \ \text{‘He got some of them to go to the village and untie the ass and bring her with them} \]
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

and to say indeed if people were to prevent them, that God had need of her'

Màr qwressa an den deskys fur-na gwelas hemma, ev a venja caucas fraga y oscna in scryfa-composter 'If that learned, wise man were to see this, he would have reason to emend it in orthography'

B

Màr teffa an oll brodereth obeya accordyng dha’n comonimentys a Dhuw, na venja den veth styriva na gwava warhydn an collegys po company a brontyryon 'If the whole fraternity had obeyed according to God’s ordinances, no one would have stirred or moved against the colleges or company of priests'

Rag màr teffa Cryst ha dos in dalith an heis where woja mah den dha beha ha dha vos kellys, tus a wrussa sopposya màr teffa Dhuw aga sáffra dha dyxa aga natural powers, y a venja oblainya saluyon yn ùi lowr heb gexna veth aval in party Dhuw 'For if Christ had come in the beginning of the world soon after mankind sinned and was lost, people would have imagined, if God let them enjoy their natural powers, they would have obtained salvation well enough without any other assistance on the part of God’

Màr teffa an episcow ha’n brontyryon i’n termyn passys, inwedh an dus leg, desky ha practysya aga dítha ha’ga vocacyons, dre an examply-ma, surly na wrussa an eglos a Cryst dos dha’n dysonor ha’n dysordyr a welsan ny 'If the bishops and the priests in times past, and also the laity, had taught and practised their duty and vocation, by this example, surely the church of Christ would not have come to the dishonour and disorder that we have seen.

Negative unreal conditions are introduced by na ve as can be seen from the following examples:

Na ve bos fals an den-ma, ny’n drossan ny his dyxa ‘Had this man not been false, we would not have brought him to you’

Gallos warnaf ny vias na ve y vos grantys dhys dheworth uhelha arluth ‘You would have no power over me, had it not been granted you from a higher Lord’

Maria, na ve dha ras, gôn geýr y fían dysurys ‘Mary, had it not been for thy grace, I should have been destroyed’

Na ve y vos geýr sans, màr lias merkyl dyblans beth ny wrussa ‘Were he not a true saint, clearly he would have done so many miracles’
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

Dodha oll yth on sensys: lias obma devorys gans an dhragon ongrassys na ve ev sur a via ‘We are all beholden to him: many here would have been devoured by the wicked dragon, had it not been for him’

Ha na ve agan sasyour Cryst intendys dhia ry dha Beder speyal auctorita a-ugh aha hensa, pan a othem via cows hennna? ‘And had our Saviour not intended to give Peter special authority above his fellows, what need would there have been to utter this?’

Surely, na venjan crey an awyl, na ve an Catholyk Egos dhia ry dhybm experyens ‘Surely, wouldn’t believe the gospel, had the Catholic Church not given me experience’

An keth offys-nu na venja Peder kemeras, na ve Cryst dhia ry dhodha an auctorita ‘This same function Peter would not have undertaken, had Christ not given him the authority’

Na ve me dha’th cara, na venjan dha cossulya dha vos bargayn már vrâs gwrys ‘If I did not love thee, I would not advise thee that such a great bargain be made’

Na ve me dha’th cara, na venjan a vos nev tra yn man dha vos exaltys ‘If I did not love thee, I would not for anything wish thee to be high exalted’

Ny a dhodhya gans an ger, na ve ow maw dha’m lettya ‘We would have come at the command, had not my servant stopped me’.

In the proposed orthography, conditions can be introduced by mår teu, mår teffa and na ve and the conditional can be made, for example, either by me a venja gwyl or me a wressa gwyl.

6.10. INDIRECT STATEMENT

The easiest way of introducing indirect statement in Cornish is with either dell or fatell immediately before the verb. This has been in Cornish since the period of the earliest texts:

Udn venen dhâ a welas dell o Jesus dystryppys ‘A good woman saw that Jesus had been stripped’
Lebmyn ny a yll goelas lavar Dwa maga dell wra nev a vydna y glawas ‘Now we can see that the word of God feeds anyone who will hear it’.
A dus vos, why re welas fatell formyas Dwa an Tes nev ha nor warbergh y vrels ‘Good people, you have seen that God the Father created heaven and earth according to his wish’
Arluth, me a’gas gwarneus fatell esa turant brâs er agas pydh dreheuys ‘Lord, I warned you that a great tyrant had risen against you’.
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

In the later language *dell* is reduced to *dèr* and *fatell* to *tell* > *tèr*. Here are some examples of both:

*ev a lavaras dèr o va *“gever oll”* ‘he said it was “all goats”’

*Më a vor hemma ort y whox, an Kernowok, dèr ywa va tabedlys hùs nebas* ‘I know this from its sister, Cornish, that it is valued but little’

*Bùs màr teu onen ha leveral dèr alja tavas an Brytas coth dos dha’n uhelder-ma inwedh* ‘But if someone says that the language of the ancient Britons could have reached this height also’

*Pan wrug an zenen guelas tèr o an wethen dà rag boos* ‘When the woman saw that the tree was good for food’

*ha anjy woya tell era anjy yn noth* ‘and they knew that they were naked’

*Pyw a wrug leveral dhys tell esta yn noth?* ‘Who told you you were naked?’

*Ha Duw a welas an golow tèr o va dà* ‘And God saw the light, that it was good’.
CHAPTER SEVEN

TEXTS

7.1. From The Creation of the World

_Ego sum Alpha et Omega_

heb dalleth na dewethfa
pör wyr me yw,
Obma aij dhá'ñ cloudys
wár fas an dowr yn certan
try ferson in udn duwjys
ow kesrainya bis vyckan
in meur onor ha vertu.

Me ha'w Mab ha'ñ Spyrys Sans
try yth on in udn substans,
comprehendys yn udn Duw.

Me yw henwys Duw an Tas,
ollgallosak dres pùb dra.
Scon y feidh gwrys dèr ow ras
nev, plas rial dhá'm trygya
ha'w thron sedha ow bodh yw
may fo hedna.

Ha'n nor inwedh awolas
scon worth compas a veidh gwrys.
Hodna a veidh ow scaval droos
rag ow flesour pùpppreis
ha dhá'm onor maga tà.

Nev obma yw gwrys genaf
orth ow duwjys yn certan,
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

hag inhy y feidh gorrys
neb a’m gordh gans joy ha cân.
Naw ordyr elath gloryes.
y a veidh rial ha spladn;
canhasow dhybm danvenys
rag ow servya bis vyckan
me a vedn may fowns nefra.

Lebmyn pùb ordyr dh’y se
me a vedn may fo gorrys,
ha pùb onen dh’y dhegre
a veidh gorrys dha’m servys
pan vednaf vy comondya.

Obma nessa dha’m tron vy
an kensa try a veidh gwrys,
Cherùbyn an uhelha
te a veidh – deus rag uskys,
Serafyn, inwedh Tronys.

Ow gordhya oll why a wra
par dell yw ow bodh nefra
obma pùb preis.

Ha te, Lucyfer golow,
indella yw dha hanow,
ugh pùb el te a esa’.

An kensa ordyr te yw.
Gwait ow gordhya wàr bùb tu,
dhysa jy par dell gotha.

I’n second degre y feidh gwrys
try ordyr moy yn certan.
Deus rag dhybm, Pyncypatys!
Te a sedh obma poran,
Potestas i’n barth aral.
Domynyoon i'n tu-ma
ow praisya hag ow laudyda
ow hanow nefra heb gyl
an tressa degre awolas.
Me a wra try ordry moy,
Arghelath, ordry pór vrás,
dewgh arag obma dha vy
ha Vertutys kekefreis.

Ha'n elath i'n barth dyhow
why a sedh obma heb wow.
Dhybm y fedhowgh canhajow
hag y whrewgh ow arhadow
gans joy brâs ha cân püb preis.

Lebmyn pan yw dhyma gwryys
nev ha nor orth bodh ow breis.
ha'n naw ordry collenwys
ha'n kensa jorna spedys
me a's son gans ow ganow.

Ha me a vedn dyskydnya
dha'n nor in dadn an clouidy
hag ow bodh gwethyl ena
me a vedn may fo gwelys
ow bosaf Duw heb parow.

Lebmyn an second jorna
gwrav broster adhesempys
i'n ebron eus awartha;
me a vedn bos golow gwryys,

hag inwedh bos dyberthva
sur inter an jeidh ha'n nos.
Ny fyll dhybm conduc a dra
wâr an beis dër ow gallos.
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

An mor brâs in cot termyn
adro da’h’m tyr a veidh dreis
rag y wytha pòr ilyn
orth harlotry prest pùb preis.

An tressa deidh me a wra
dha’n gweidh seval yn bán
ha don delyow teg ha dâ
ha flourys wheg yn certan.

Ow bolonjeth yw hedna
may tockans ina pòr spladn
frûys da’h’m bodh rag maga
seul a dheg bewnans hogan.

An peswera deidh beidh gwrys
an howl ha’n loor yn tevry
ha’n ster inwedh kekefreis
rag gwyl golow benary.
‘Re-ma yw fyn gonelhys:
ow bednath y rov dhedh’y.

An pypnas deidh orth ow breis
an poscas heb falladow
hag oll an idhyn kefreis
me a’s gwra da’h’m plegadow
hag oll an bestas i’n beis
gans prevas a büb sortow.
An re-ma yw oll teg gwrys.
Me a’s son warbarth heb wow.
7.2. From *Bewnans Meryasek*

**SERVUS**
Tremenys yw diogel 1088
lebmyn genan an chanel,  
*ma fay*, holm’ yw speda deg.
Devedhs on bis i’n tyr.
Lebmyn qwyk dha’gas desyr 1092  
gwrewgh why londya, Meryasek.
An men re wrug inclynna
i’n tyr rag dha receva,
  gras dha Jesu gallosak. 1096

**MERIADOCUS**
Duw re’n talla dhywgh, tus vas. 1100
Arluth Jesu leun a ras
  re’m gedya i’n fordh welha.
Dha’m nessevyn maras av
  gansa temptys y fedhaf
    tro ha lust an beis-ma.

**BRITTONUS**
Dremas, beidh wár pyth ylly!
Bleydh brás i’n for’-na defry 1104  
pór wyr yma.
Mara teu in dha ogas,
ev a wra scollya dha woos.
  Ellas, ottava ena!
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

MERIADOCUS

Best, dhys me a worhebmyn
dhyma na wrylly dregyn
na dha Grystyon benytha.
Na gebmer owv’n veth, dremas,
dh’y handla sur ev a’m gas.
Myr, pór whar yn ketelma
ow sywya ev a levas.
Trespas veth ny wra profya.

1112

BRITTONUS

Sur te yw den benegys.
Lias den ev re ladhas
ha flehas prest i’n pow-ma.
Dhysa jy senjys ass on!
Ottava kepar hag ön
a vo dov orth dha sywya.

1120

MERIADOCUS

Gwyl trespas dhybm ny brofyas
nag ev ny’n jeyyth dregyn.
In hanow Cryst mab Gwy rhe
dhys, best, me a worhebmyn
mos dha’n gwyllós.
Gans mab den na wra mellya
nefra awoja helma.
Abarth Jesu awartha
i’th fordh gwra mos.

1124

1128
Me a vydn mos dha’n gwylfos, 1132
ena ermyt pôr wyr bos
may hallan gordhya ow Duw,
na ven temptys

gans tus an beis 1136
hadre ven bew.

Obma sur ryb an castel gelwys Pontelyn defry
wâr an meneth diogel
hag orth an ryver surly
a Josselyn
chapel gwethyl me a vydn
rag gordhya Maria wydn,

kynth yw tyller gwyls ha yeyn.

[ascendit ad montem]
Gordhyans dha Gryst mab maghteth
myl pass sur yw an meneth
dheworth an grownd byteweth. 1148
Duw a’m gweras!
Ow chy fowndya
sur ha growndya

manaf’ uskys. 1152

[Chapel a-ready. Here he weareth a russet mantel and a beard]
7.3. The Charter Fragment

Without pre-occlusion

Goslow, ty coweth,
beth na borth meth,
dieskyn ha powas
ha dhyma deus nes. 4
Mar codhas dha les,
ha dhys y rov mowes,
ha fest onen deg.
Genas mara plek,
a, tan hyhy.
Kemmer hy dha’th wreg
Sonya dhys ny vêk
ha ty a veidh hy.
Hy a veidh gwre’ty dhâ
dhys dha sensy;
pôr wyr a lavara’,
ha, govyn warranty.
Lemmyn y’th torn my a’s re,
ha wâr an Greth my a’n te,
nag eus hy far
a’n barth-ma dha pons Tamar. 20
My a’th peis, worty beidh dâ,
hag oll dha vodh hy a wra,
rage flogh yw ha gensy dooth,
ha gas hy dha galaos hy bodh.
Kyns mos dhymma emmowgh.
Ewgh alemma ha fystenowgh.
Dalleth avar yn freth. Dâr, wâr
own ma portha,
ev omsettya worthas sy
camm na vetha.
Mar a’th ergh dhys gwyl neb tra.
Lavar dhesy “Beth ny vennaf!”
Lavar dhodha, “Gwrav mar mennyth.”
Awos a alla, ny wra tra veth.
I’n eur-na y’th sens dha vos mestres,
hedyr vewhy hag arlodhes.
Cas o gansa re’n Ofêren.
Cortes yw ha deboner,
dhys dregyn ny wra.
Mar a’n kefyth yn danjer,
sens e fast indella!
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

7A. Nebas geryow adro dha Kernowak

Gàn tavas Kernowak yw mår pell gwadnhes, ûs na ellen scant qwetyas dha y welas crefhe arta, rag pecar dër wrug an Sowson y dhanvon i’n pow idn-ma an kensa, indelna yma stella ow tegy warnodha heb gara dhodha tylher veth bûs adro dha’ñ als ha’n mor; oll ywa va clappys lebmyn ogasty yw dorth Pedn an Wlas dha’n Carrak Loos, ha tua Por’ Ia ha Redruth, ha arta dort an Lizard tua Hellys ha Falmouth; ha an pow-na, an idna dew codna tyr es en hester adro dha ugangs mydkly, ha bûs qwarter, po hanter an lester-na. I’n tylher idn-ma hag oll, ma moy Sowsnak clappys dër eus a Kernowak, rag radn a ell bos kevys na ell scant clappya na godhvas Kernowak, bûs scant den veth bûs a wor godhvas ha clappya Sowsnak. Rag hedna, hevel dem calys yw dha gwyl dodha gortas ha dos adro arta, rag woja an tus goth dha merwal i’kerdh, ny a wel an tus yonk dha y clappya le ha le, ha lacka ha lacka. Ha indelna ev a vedn leha dort termyn dha termyn, rag an tavas Sowsnak [yw] clappys mår dá vell in tylher veth i’n wlas aves a’n treven ha’n…

Nag yw an pobel coth dha bos scodhys wâr naneyl, pecar dër vednowgh why gwelas ort hemma adro dha’n Empirick Angwyn, an brâssa ha an cotha fratyer mesk oll an clappyers Kernowak adhevedhas. Rag gofydnyes dha desmygya Gevern Anko, ev a wrug predery wár gever bûs nacovas adro an ger cov, devedhys dhort perch yn cov. Tra a’n par-na me a glowas adro dha’n Carrak Men Ombor’. Rag hedna, màr peidh tra veth gwrys dha gwytha Kernowak, ev a dal bos gen an re-na yw genys obma, ha deskyd dà, kevys bûs menowgh. Rag nag yns bûs nebas, bûs dew po try a worama anedha. Mesk anjy onen yw gwynhes ha deskys dres oll an re eral a veu deract’anjy polta pó a vediñ dos woja va dres lycklod. Indelna yw, pan na veidh nappyth gwrys lebmyn etta, na scant a vediñ a bos gwrys woja hemma, awos bos dodha va már veur godhvas in lias tavas pecar ha dha Greckyan, Hebran. Me a glowas leveral…. Mår qwressa an den
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

deskys fur-na gwelas hemma, ev a venja cawas fraga y owna yn scryfa-composter, &c.


An peth yw gwelys genaf vy dha bos godhvedhys ha dysmygys yw lavar wâr cota den brâs yn arhans a ught dha cans bloodh coth lebmy, marhak yn pedn west Pow Densher, ha Kellys (pecar del hevel) gen y mab lien, ow mos tua y bargen tyr in Pedn an Wlas. Ev a veu kevys adhewedhas gen onen a wrug gwyl ke ha gwerthys. An gwas, a wrug y perna, a wrug y dhanvon dha’n kensa scoren a’n chy-na uja trygys lebmy nes dha’n Carrak Loos yn Coos. An geryow warndhha: CAR DEW DRES PÙB TRA, lebmy nebas ken cowsys. Mâr dewedhas (pecar dèr hevel) th’era Kernowak i’n pow-na, ha lebmy nag eus bûs nebas i’n pow-ma – an peth eus gwyl dhybm crejy dèr vedn ava dowedha i’kerdh.

Rag me ow honen a veu genys in colon an pow-na yw an Kernowak moyha cowsys, ha whath ma cov dhybm, pan nag o ma bûs dro dha whegh blodh coth, na aljama y clappy na scant y godhvas. An wher, th’erama predery, th’o dhort sians ow dama tefna an pobel chy ha an kentrevogyon dha clappy tra veth dha vy bûs Sowsnak. Ma cov dhybm cawas tra a’n par-ma in lyver Arluth an Meneth adro dha y dhecsans Latyn. Hag obma, mår pedhama kybmyas dha gwyl semblans gân Aulsen coth brâs:

Parvum Haerediolum Majorum regna meorum
Quod Proavus, quod Avus, quod Pater excoluit

Nebas gân tyr, gân tyreth, ha bian reveth, tylher ow syra, syra wydn, hengyck inwedh.

Nena ow mos ales dha scol, ha woja hedna ow mos dha Frenk, nag eus cov dhybm dha godhvas meur i’n tavan Kernowak lebma ow tos dha gawas tra gwyl i’n beis. Ha lebmy th’erama ow towla dha gwelas mår
pell etna ogasty vell lias a’n kentrevogyon; ha ma dhybm màr veur kerenja racta, bús na ellam ry dhodha moy têr gothia dhybm, rag th’˘yw scant towak dha bos gwelys in lias geryow, a dal bos gwrys in madn dort an Latyn pò an Sowsnak. Ha na or den veth dorth paneyl a wrug an coll-ma kensa dos, dort an Romans meskys gen an Brytas, pò woja hedna dort an Sowson, martesen dort an dew. Bús th’erama ow whelas i’n scryf-ma (màr meur dër ellama) dha gorra an ger-na atenewen a wra desmygya gân tavas ny senjys dha re eral.

Ma lyver bian rebam adro dha’n Arlodhes Kernow, scryfys rag an flehas neb bledhanyow alebma, adro dha volen deg warn ugan, lehma leverys genaf vy an peth a worama adro dha’n tavas Kernow-ak, fatla ev a wrug dos… mos ales a’n Breton ha an Kembrions ha’n Kernowyon mesk anjy; nag ywa lycklod dër vedn ava bos trygys pell heb merwal i’kerdh ha dos dha tra veth. Th’eram soppoja indelma dha’n leha rag an Breton ha an Kernowyon, awos bos an Frenkak fyn parys dha kemeras wár an neyl ha an Sowsnak nobla wár y gela. Na woraf vy dër ell an Kembron gwlw dha gwytha gâ tavas, bús me a or hemma ort y whor, an Kernowak, dër yw ava talvedhys bûs nebas dha bos gwrys, warbarth ha gen an Sowsnak, an peth yw parys dha ry polta gwell dhodha dër uja va kemerys dorta. Ha whath an Sowson martesen a alja gawas maga nebas skians vell an Brytas et gà clappyga gâ fordhd, pan wrug anjy dos dres obma i’n kensa dalyleth, lehma gân gwell nev ny ha’n gwayn gân enys dà a wrug gà dry dha’n uhelder-ma… bûs màr teu onen ha leveral dër alja tavas an Brytas coth dos dha’n uhelder-ma inwedh, màr pe anjy màr fortynhes, th’eraf vy màr pell dorth naha in dadn an tavas ow dama ha ow pow, as rag y kerenja dër oma parys dha leveral indelna inwedh, ha da sconha, le dër wressa lyver An Hav an Arlodhes Kernow bos kevys yn dewla ow flehas ûja hemma, radn a alja bos parys dha leveral dër erama gwyl nebas a Kernowak, awos dër venjama gwyl ow honen dha bos devedhys dres mor, bûs ma bos gwelys gen pana colon dha th’erama ow leveral oll an sompel rag an Kernowak.

Ha ev a dal bos Ancow y honen a vedn predery dër erama ow crejy hedna dha vos gwyryw scryfys ena, rag tra veth aral mús dha gwlw wys. Ha lehmyn dër ywa devedhys et ow breis, me a vedn gwlw deweth an scryf-ma dorth an dewetha rym ves a’n kensa Cân Horace:

108 Revision 16, 14 November 2007
Quod si me lyricis vatibus inseres,
    Sublimi feriam sydera vertice.

Màr pedham, Francan-Beljyan me wra bos
    Pecar dër yw Sowson-Kernow, veidh onor vrás.
7.5. The American Declaration of Independence

“Conservative” register without pre-occlusion

YTH ESAN NY ow sensy an poynys-ma a wyryoneth dha vos dyblans hag apert, hen yw dha styrja, bos püb den oll eqwal an eyl dha gela, hag y oll dha receva dheworth aga Gwrier certan gwyryow na ell bos kemerys dhewortans, i’ga mesk an re-ma: Bewnans, Lyberta ha Sywy Lowena. — Rag assûrya an gwyryow-ma y feu Governansow settys in bann i’n bobel, hag yma power ewn an rewlysy ow powas wår acord an dus governys, — Pynag oll termyn a vo Form veth a Governans ow codras a dhystrowy an towlow-ma, yma Gwyr gans an Dus a’y janiya boneyl y settya a denewen, ha dha dhereval Governans noweth dhodhans aga honen, orth y fowndya wår an sort a benrewlys hag ow restry y bowers warlergh an maner, a hevel dhodhans an moyha lyckly dha dhry dhodhans Sawment ha Lowena. Yma an Furneth yn tevry ow cossulya na gothfia chanjya Governansow a dhuryans hyr rag resons scav ha brottal; ha rag henna yma püb experyans ow tysqwedhas bos an dus dha voy parys dha wodheval, pan yll drog bos perthys, avell ewna an cas esans y ina dre settya a denewen an formys a rewly yns y ûsys dhodhans. Saw pan usy tebel-vaistry pell orth aga abûsya, ow whelas püb termyn an keth Towl hag ow tysqwedhas y vos whensys dha’ga gorra in damn gallos an purra Turant, y a’s tevas an gwy, y a’s tevas an devar, a dowlal an keth sam Governans na dhewar aga heyn, hag a brovia dhodhans ëcoos noweth rag aga sawment i’n termyn a dheu. An sort-ma re beu an sùffrans ha’n perthyans a’n Colonys-ma; hag a’n sort-ma yw an plêt usy orth aga honsryna dha janiya an System a’ga Governans. Nyns yw istory a’n Mytern a Vreten Veur i’n jeidh hedhgyw tra veth ken es tebel-vaistry ha myschef arta hag arta, nag esa towl veth aral dhodha és settya y honen in bann avell Turant heb ambos i’n Stâtys-ma.
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

‘Advanced’ register with pre-occlusion

TH’ERAN NY ow senjy an an poyntys-ma a wyryoneth dha vos dyblans hag apert, hen yw dha styrya, y feu kenyver den formys eqwal an eyl dha gela, hag anjy oll dha receva dheworth an Gwrier anjy certan gwyryow na ell bos kemerys dhwortanjy, mesk anjy ma an re-ma: Bownans, Lyberta ha Sywya Lowender. — Rag assúrya an gwyryow-ma y feu Governansow settys in madn i’n bobel, ha ma power own an rewalars ow powas wàr acord an dus governys, — Pynag oll termyn a vo Form veth a Governans ow codras a dhystrowy an tolow-ma, ma Gwyr gans an Dus a’y janjya boneyl y settya a denewen yn tian, ha dha dhereval Governans noweth dhodhans aga honen, orth y fowndya wår an sort a benrewlys hag ow restry y bowers warlergh an maner, a hevel dhodhans an moyha lyckly dha dhary dhodhans Sawment ha Félycita. Ma an Furneth yn tevry ow cossulya na gothia chanjya Governansow a dhuryans hyr rag resons scav ha brottal; ha rag hedna ma kenyver experyans ow shoya bos an dus dha voy parys dha wodheval, pan ell drog bos perlynys, avell owna an cas anjy dre settya a denewen an formys a rewl era anjy úsys dhodhans. Saw pan wra tebel-vaistry aga abûysa dres termyn hyr, ow whelas pùb termyn an keth Towl hag ow tysqwedhas y vos whensys dha’ga gorra in dadn gallos an purra Turant, anjy a veidh an gwyur, anjy a veidh an devar, a dowlal an keth sam Governans-na dhewar an keyn anjy, hag a brovia dhodhans Scoos noweth rag aga sawment i’n termyn a dheu. An sort-ma re beu an suffrans ha’n perthys a’n Colonys-ma; hag a’n sort-ma yw an plêt uja ow constryna anjy dha janjya an System a’n Governans anjy. Nag yw istory a’n Mytern a Vreten Veur i’n jeidh hedhyw tra veth ken es tebel-vaistry ha myschef arta hag arta, nag era toawl aral dhodha és settya y honen in madn avell Turant heb ambos i’n Stâtys-ma.

Revision 16, 14 November 2007
7.6. *Genesis 3* by William Rowe

Lebmyn an hager-breiv o moy fals avell onen veth oll a’n bestas a’n gwel a rug an Arluth Duw gwyl. Hag ev a lavaras dha’n venen, “Ea! A wrug Duw leveral, te na wres debry a kynever gwedhen a’n lowarth?” 2Ha’n venen a lavaras dha’n hager-breiv, “Ny a ell debry dhewart oll an gweidh a’n lowarth; bùs dhewart an wedhen eus in cres an lowarth, Duw a lavaras, ‘Why na wra debry anodhy, na na wrewgh why e thochya, lès why a verow.’” 4Ha an hager-breiv a lavaras dha’n venen, “Why na wra sur merwal. 5Rag Duw a wor, i’n jorna a wrewgh debry anodhy, nena agas lagajow a wra bos egerys, ha why a wra bos pecar ha Duw ow codhvas dâ ha drog.” 4Pan wrug an venen gwelas tèr o an wedhen dà rag boos, ha dèr o hy blork dha’n lagajow, ha gwedhen dha vos desyrys dha gwyl onen fur, hy a generas radn a’n has anodhy ha wrug debry, hag a ros radn dh’y gour gansy, hag ev a wrug debry. 7Ha anjy a glowas lev an Arluth Duw ow kerdhas i’n lowarth in yeynder an jeidh; ha Adam ha’y wreg êth dha gudha dhewart derag an Arluth Duw in mesk an gweidh a’n lowarth. 8Ha’n Arluth Duw a gris dha Adam ha lavaras dhodha “Pleth esta?” 10Hag ev a lavaras, “Me a glowas dha lev i’n lowarth, ha me a veu own, rag th’eram yn noth, ha me êth dha gudha.” 11Ha ev a gowsas, “Pyw a wrug leveral dhyss tell esta yn noth? A wrusta debry dhewart an wedhen a wrug avy leveral dhyys na wreshta debry?” 12Ha an den a gowsas, “An venen a wrusta ry dha vy, hy a ros dha vy dhewart an wedhen, ha vy a wrug debry.” 13Ha an Arluth Duw a gowsas dha’n venen, “Pandr’yw hemma eus gwrys genas?” Ha an venen a worrebas, “An hager-breiv a dollas vy, ha vy a wrug debry.”

Ha an Arluth Duw a lavaras dha’n hager-breiv;
“Drefen te dha wyl hemma,
th’os chy mollethys

112 Revision 16, 14 November 2007
dres oll an chattal
ha dres kenyer best a’n gwel.
Wär dha dorr te a wra mos
oll dedhyow dha vownans.

15Ha ve a vedn gorra sor
intre te ha an venen
ha intre an has te ha’y has hy.
Ev a wra browy dha pedn
ha che a wra browy y gwewen.”

16Dha’n venen ev a cowsas,
“Me a vedn meur cressya
da dewhan ha dha omdhon.
In duwon te a wra don flehas;
ha dha desyrya a wra bos dha’th gour
ha ev a wra dha rowlya.”

17Ha dha Adam ev a gowsas, “Drefen te dha goslowas dha talla dha wreg ha a wreg debray dhwert an wedhen a wreg avy leveral dhys ‘te na wras debray anodhy,’”
Cûssys yw an nor rag dha kerenja.
Gen duwon te a wra debray anodha
oll dedhyow dha vownans.

18Spern ha ascal a wra ev dry rag dhys,
ha te wra debray a’n losow an gwel.

19In wheis dha godna tâl
te a wra debray dha vara
dër bo te dha trailya dha nor,
rag a vesta te a veu kemerys.
Rag doust os
ha dha doust te a wra trailya.”

20Ha Adam a grias hanow y wreg Eva drefen o hy dama a oll bowa. 21Ha dha Adam ha y wreg a wreg an Arluth Duw gwyl pows crohen, ha a’s goreras.

22Ha an Arluth Duw a wreg leveral, “Myrowgh, an den yw devedhys pecar ha onen a ny, da odlhas dâ ha drog. Ha lebymn lès ev a wôr rag y dhorn ha kemerys i’wedh dhwert an gwedhen bowenans

Revision 16, 14 November 2007 113
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

ha debry, ha bowa rag nefra.” 23Rag hedna an Arluth Duw danvonas ev arag dhewart paradhys, dha gonys an nor, dhewart neb a veu a kemerys. 24Indella ev a helhas mes an den, ha ev a worras el a nev ha cledha tan a wrug trailya kenyver vordh, dha gwytha an vordh a’n gwedhen a vownans.
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7.7. *Bro Goth Agan Tasow* by Henry Jenner, c. 1929

Bro goth agan Tasow, dha flehas a’th car,
Gwlas ger an Howlsedhas, pan vro yw dha bar?
Wâr oll an norveis th’on ny scollys ales,
Mès oll g kerensa yw dhys.

Kernow! Kernow! Ny a gar Kernow!
Hadre veidh mor glan vell fos in dha dro,
Th’on “Onen hag Oll” rag Kernow!

Gwlascor Mytern Arthur, an Sansow, ha’n Gral,
Moy kerys genan nyns yw tyreth aral.
Inas sy pùb carrak, nans, meneth ha chy,
A berth cov gân tavas coth ny.

Kernow! Kernow! Ny a gar Kernow!
Hadre veidh mor glan vell fos in dha dro,
Th’on “Onen hag Oll” rag Kernow!

In tewelder an bal ha wàr dodnow an mor,
Pan esan ow qwandra dre dyryow tramor,
In pùb le pynag hag in kenyver bro
Re drailyan colodnow dhyso.

Kernow! Kernow! Ny a gar Kernow!
Hadre veidh mor glan vell fos in dha dro,
Th’on “Onen hag Oll” rag Kernow!
7.8.1. *Cân Nadelak* by Henry Jenner, 1901

In pedn an vledhen, pàn o gwâv gwydn,
Beu genys Mab Duw a Varia wydn,
Rag sawya dhort pehas an beis-ma,
Ha bownans rag dry dha’n bobel dhâ.

Y whrug cana an El dha’n bugelath i’n gwel,
Hedna o cân pôr lowenak dha whel:
“Gordhyans dha Dhuw ujy’n Nev brâs,
Cres wâr an tyr dha dus a vodh vas!”

A ves an dhuryan wâr degol an Stûl,
A dheuth tus fur, o Myternow oll,
Ha anjy wrug dos aberth i’n bowjy,
Hag obma wrug gordhya gân Arluth ny.

Ha ny a vedn mos dha wordhya gansans,
Tus fur, ha bugelath ha chattal oll myns.
In termyn Offeren ny a vedn e welas,
Pân wra ev dyskydna rag dha’gan whelas.

Duw r’effa sawya coth Gernow wheg,
Dhort Pedn an Wolas bis Tamar teg,
Ha’y gwytha nefra i’n gerenja ev,
Dha wordhya Mab Duw ha Myternes Nev.

Bednath Nadelak geno’why re bo
Dhort an Tas Duw ny, ha dhort y Flogh,
Ha dhort Dama Duw, an Vaghtheth lan:—
Hedna yw deweth dha oll ow hân.
7.8.2. Kan Nadelik in Jenner’s spelling

En pedn an vledhan, pan gweaw o gewyn,
Be gennes Map Dew a Varya wyn,
Rag sawya dhort pehas an bys-ma,
Ha bosnans rag dry dh’an pople da.

’Rig kana an El dh’an bugely en gwêl,
Hedna o kan pur lawenek dho whêl:
“Gorryans dho Dhex ez en Nef braz,
Cres war an tir dho deez vodh vaz!”

A vez an dhuryan war degol an Stûl,
A dheth teez fyr, o Maternow ul,
Ha’n gy ’rig dos aberth an bow-gy,
Hag ubba ’rig gorria ’gan Arleth ny.

Ha ny vedn mos dho worria genzyns,
’Teez fyr, ha bugely ha chattol ul nyns.
En termen Offeren ny vedn e gowellas,
Pan ef ’ra dyskymnya rag dh’agan whellas.

Dew reffa sawya coth Gernow uhêg,
Dhort Pedn an Wollas bys Tamar têg,
Ha gwiñha y bisqueth en careñja ef,
Dho worria Map Dew ha Maternos Nef.

Bennath Nadelik gena why re bo
Dhort an Tas Dew ny, ha dhort e Hloh,
Ha dhort Dama Dew, an Vahlêth ’lan—
Hedna yw dueth dho ul ow han.
7.9.1. Gwaynten in Kernow by Henry Jenner, c. 1903

Gwaynten in Kernow! Ma mys Me ow tos;
    Flourys egor, idhyn bian a gan
    Gwerdh yw an gweidh, rudhyk in blejyow glan
Avalow yw an jarnow, wâr pùb rôs
Sawor an eythyn melyn oll an nos
    A lenow an air, warlergh howlsedhas spladn,
    A wrug golowy’n dodn las avel tan;
Ha son an mor a worthyp lev an coos.
Re wryllyf bos in Kernow! Lowenak
    Clowaf lev todn, ha gwaynten devedhys,
Gwelaf gun las Mor Havren, gwyls ha wheg,
    Gwelaf blejyow, vell hunros benegys
Govy! ny dhre dhyma gân gwaynten teg,
    Dyvres a’m bro, neb whecter in Loundres.
7.9.2. *Gwaynten in Kernow* in original spelling

(Donald R. Rawe suggests that Nance is responsible for the spelling)

*Gwaynten in Kernow!* 'Ma Miz-Me ow tos;
Floures agor, edhyn bian agan,
Gwerdh yu an gwele, ridhek en blejow glan
Acalow yu an jarnew, war peb ros
Savor an eithin melen ol an nos
A-lenw an ayr, warlergh houlsedhas splan,
A wrig golowca’n don las axel tan;
Ha son an mor a wortheb lef an cos.
Re wrellen bos en Kernow! Louwenek
Clewav lef ton, ha gwainten devedhes,
Gwelav gun las Mor Havren, gwils ha whek,
Gwelav blejow, ’vel henros beniges
Gowil ni dire dhemmo ’yan gwainten tek,
Diwres a’m bro, neb wheker en Loundres.
7.10.1. Sapientes (An Dus Doth) by A. S. D. Smith (Caradar)

With pre-occlusion

Yth esa mytern kyns wàr onen a’n citas Romanek hag ev a ordenas seyth den dha rewlya an cita. Ha’n dus-na a wrug omry dha gontell owr hag arhans ha gemmow, bis ma’n jeva an moyha bohoják anodhans moy rychys a’n beis-ma ès an mytern y honen. Ha hedna a wurssans, wosa y dha gemeras cossul warbarth, may hallans ladha an mytern ha radna y wlascor intredhans, ha hedna dre nert hag gallos aga rychys.

Ha pùb nos yth esa an mytern ow qwelas dre hun pêr ha seyth troos yn danna ha mog owth eskydna anodha, kepár ha pan ve tan vrâs yn danna. Hag y teuth gwryhon a’n re-na erbydn y lagajow, dell esa va ow teby ha’y dhalla.

Hag ena ev a dhanvonas kannajow dha bûb le warlergh dewynyon hunrosow. Hag y happyas dha’n kannajow dos erbydn gwas yonk a gafas gans Duw an spyrys a dhewnyeth

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Yth esa mytern kyns wàr onen a’n citas Romanek hag ev a ordenas seyth den dha rewlya an cita. Ha’n dus-na a wrug omry dha gontell owr hag arhans ha gemmow, bis ma’n jeva an moyha bohoják anodhans moy rychys a’n beis-ma ès an mytern y honen. Ha henna a wrussans, wosa y dha gemeras cossul warbarth, may hallans ladha an mytern ha ranna y wlascor intredhans, ha henna dre nert hag gallos aga rychys.

Ha pùb nos yth esa an mytern ow qwelas dre hun pêr ha seyth troos yn danna ha mog owth eskydna anodha, kepár ha pan ve tan vrâs yn danna. Hag y teuth gwryhon a’n re-na erbydn y lagajow, dell esa va ow teby ha’y dhalla.

Hag ena ev a dhanvonas kannajow dha bûb le warlergh dewynyon hunrosow. Hag y happyas dha’n kannajow dos erbydn gwas yonk a gafas gans Duw an spyrys a dhewnyeth
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

dha styrya hunrosow ha vysyons a’n termyn a dheu bis vyckan. Ha’n gwas a veu dreisadherag an mytern, ha wosa y dhos, an mytern a dheryvas orta y hunros.

“Ea,” yn medh an gwas, “desk y dha hunros dhys me a wra, ha kefreis ry dhys cossul. Ha mar ny wrêta warlergh ow hossul, y whervyth dhys ha te a wra dyfuna kepar del welta dre hun. Otomma dha hunros,” yn medh an gwas. “Yma an pêr esta ow qwelas dre hun owth arwedha an cita ma. An seyth troos yw an seyth den ujy orth hy rewlya, hag y ow pryjyon gans gorlanwes a rychys ha gallos hag ow tarbaroy traison er dha bydh, mar ny wrêta aga ladha a dermyn.”

Mës ny wrug an mytern warlergh cossul an gwas hag y a’n ladhas hag a gemeras y wlascor dheworta.

Indella te ny venta kemeras ow hossul adro dha’th vab ha tus fur Rom, hag y orth dha sawdhanas ha’th tolla dre lavarow, ow cortas dha ladha ha kemeras dha wlascor dhe- worthys, mar ny wrêta aga ladha a dermyn.”

“War ow feidh,” yn medh ev, “y a veidh ledhys avorow.”

dha styrya hunrosow ha vysyons a’n termyn a dheu bis vyckan. Ha’n gwas a veu dreisadherag an mytern, ha wosa y dhos, an mytern a dheryvas orta y hunros.

“Ea,” yn medh an gwas, “desk y dha hunros dhys me a wra, ha kefreis ry dhys cossul. Ha mar ny wrêta warlergh ow hossul, y whervyth dhys ha te a wra dyfuna kepar del welta dre hun. Otomma dha hunros,” yn medh an gwas. “Yma an pêr esta ow qwelas dre hun owth arwedha an cita ma. An seyth troos yw an seyth den ujy orth hy rewlya, hag y ow pryjyon gans gorlanwes a rychys ha gallos hag ow tarbaroy traison er dha bydh, mar ny wrêta aga ladha a dermyn.”

Mës ny wrug an mytern warlergh cossul an gwas hag y a’n ladhas hag a gemeras y wlascor dheworta.

Indella te ny venta kemeras ow hossul adro dha’th vab ha tus fur Rom, hag y orth dha sawdhanas ha’th tolla dre lavarow, ow cortas dha ladha ha kemeras dha wlascor dhe- worthys, mar ny wrêta aga ladha a dermyn.”

“War ow feidh,” yn medh ev, “y a veidh ledhys avorow.”
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

Ha ternos, meur y sör, mos dha’n seneth ev a wrug hag ery cregy y vab ha tus fur Rom gansa. Hag ena y sevys Jesse in badn ha cowsal indelma arag an bobel oll.

“Ny goodh dha arluth bos fėkyl na gasa falsury ha gow dh’y lewyas. Ha kepar del wrug an vyternes tolla an mytern adro dha’n marrak i’n termyn eus passys, indella y whra dha wreg dha dolla tejy.”

“Fatell veu hedna?” yn medh ev.

“Re Dhuw a’m ros! Ny’n deryvaf, marnas te a rolha dha er na veidh ledhys an mab hedhyw.”

“Na veidh ledhys,” yn medh an Emprour.

Ha ternos, meur y sör, mos dha’n seneth ev a wrug hag ery cregy y vab ha tus fur Rom gansa. Hag ena y sevys Jesse yn bann ha cowsal indelma arag an bobel oll.

“Ny goodh dha arluth bos fėkyl na gasa falsury ha gow dh’y lewyas. Ha kepar del wrug an vyternes tolla an mytern adro dha’n marrak i’n termyn eus passys, indella y whra dha wreg dha dolla tejy.”

“Fatell veu henna?” yn medh ev.

“Re Dhuw a’m ros! Ny’n deryvaf, marnas te a rolha dha er na veidh ledhys an mab hedhyw.”

“Na veidh ledhys,” yn medh an Emprour.
7.11. *Pride and Prejudice* (Chapter 1) by Jane Austen

Yth yw gwyryoneth aswonys gen kenyver onen, mars eus fortyn brâs gen den heb demedhý; yma othem dhodha a wreg. Ny fors pana vohes yw godhvedhys adro dha golon a dhen a’n par-na, pan wra ev dos aberth yn tyreth rag an kensa preis, y feidh an gwyryoneth-ma mår fast yn pednow a’n meynys oll adro, mayth ywa consydrys avell peth teythyak a onen bo y gela a’ga myrhas y.

“A Vester Bennet wheg,” medh y wre’ty dhodha udn jorna, “a wrußowgh why clowas tell yw Park Netherfield settyys dha nebonen worteweth?”

Mester Bennet a worthebys na wrug ev y glowas.

“Saw yth ywa settyys,” medh hy dhodha; “rag y feu Mestres Long namnygen obma, ha hy a gowsas orthaf ow tochya oll an mater.”

Ny worthebys Mester Bennet tra veth.

“A ny via dâ genowgh clowas pyw a wrug y gemeras?” a gris y wreg, cot hy ferthyans.

“Dâ via genowgh why y leveral dhybm, ha nag eus tra veth genama warbyth y glowas.”

Y feu hedna lowr rag galow dedhý.

“Dar, a briâs wheg, why a dal godhvas, Mestres Long a laver tell veu Netherfield kemerys gen den yonk, brâs y rychys, ujy ow tos dheworth an north a Bow an Sowson; tell wrug ev dos dha’n dor de Lun passys in caryaj brâs pejwar margh may halla whythra an tyller, hag y feu va kebmys plesys gansa, may whrug ev acordya heb let gen Mester Morris; tell vedn ev bos trygys ena kyns degol Myhal, ha radn a’y servans a veidh i’n chy kyns deweth an seythen nessa.”

“Pandri’yw y hanow?”

“Bingley.”

“Ywa demedhys bo heb demedhý?”

“O! heb demedhý, a briâs wheg, yu sur! Den heb gwreg ha rychys brâs gansa; pejwar bò pymp myl puns i’n vledhen. Ass yw hedna rial dra rag agan myrhas ny!”
“Pa vaner? Pa vaner a ell hedna gwyl dyfrans dhodhans?”

“Mester Bennet wheg,” y wreg a worthoys, “Fatla ellowgh why bos màr sqwythus! Why a dalvia godhvas tell erama ow predery ev dha dhemedhy onen anodhans.”

“Yw hedna y dowel ev rag bos trygys obma?”

“Y dowel ef! Whedhlow! Fatla ellowgh why cowsal indella! Saw martesen ev a vedn codha in kerenja gen onen anodhans. Rag hedna why a dal y vysytya pyscotter may teffa ev.”

“Nag erama ow qwelas occasyon rag hedna. Why ha’n mowysy a ell mos, boken why a alja aga danvon aga honen oll bis dhodha, ha hedna martesen a via whath dha well. Why yw màr semly avell den veth a’n myrhas ha dres lycklod why a wra plesya Mester Bingley moy es onen veth anodhans.”

“Ow frias wheg, th’erowgh why ow flattrra genama. Yn gwyrf kyns obma me a veu ów radn vy a decter, saw na vednaf vy leveral ow bosa tra veth specyal lebmy. Pan eus pynn merg howldevys gen benen, na dalvia dhedhly predery a’y thecter hy honen.”

“Yn fenowgh yn cas a’n par-na na veidh meur a decter gen an venen a alja hy kemeras preder veth anodha.”

“Saw, a brias wheg, why a res porres mos ha vysytya Mester Bingley pan dheffa ev dha’n tyreth-ma.”

“Hedna yw moy es a vednaf promysya, treshe dhybm.”


“Why yw re dhaisory n gwyrf. Th’eram ow crejy tell vedn Mester Bingley bos pòr lowen dha’gas gwelhas why; ha me a vedn danvon dhodha dèr agas dorn why lyther cot ow ry dhodha kybmyas dha dhemedhy an vowes anodhans a vo va moyhya plesys gonsy; saw res veidh dhybm gorra aberveth ger dà rag ow Lizzy vian wheg.”

“Da via genama màr teflowlgh why seval orth gwyl tra veth kepar. Nag yw Lizzy tabm veth gwell ès an re eral, ha me a wor nag yw hy
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beth màr deg vell Jane na beth màr vedal vell Lydia. Bûs why a veidh orth hy fàvera hy pùb termyn.”

“Nag eus tra veth inans, a venja comendya onen anodhans,” a worthëys ev, “mowes wocky heb skians yw kenyver onen anodhans; saw yma in Lizzy moy a skians ès in hy wherath.”

“Mester Bennet, fat’l’ellowgh why abûsya agas flehas agas honen in kepar maner? Why a gav plesour brâs orth ow vexya vy. Nag eus treweth veth oll genowgh a’m nervow trewerthek vy.”

“Cabngemerys owgh why ena, a brias wheg. Revrans brâs a’m beus rag agas nervow. Cothmans coth on ny an eyl dh’y gela. Me a’gas clowas why dha wyl mencyon anodhans gen meur a vry dres moy ès ugans bledhen.”

“A! Na worowgh why fa’t’erama ow sùffra!”

“Saw yma dhybm govenak why dha gawas sawment, ha bewa ha gwelas lias den yonk ha pymp myl puns dhodhans i’n vledhen ow tos dha’n costys-ma.”

“Na veidh prow veth i’n mater dha ny, már teu ugans den a’n par-na obma, dre reson na vednowgh why aga vysytya.”

“Trest dhybm, ow frias wheg, pan vo ugans anodhans i’n pow, me a veden vysytya kenyer onen anodhans.”


Revision 16, 14 November 2007
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

7.12.1. From Rebellyans
Myghal Palmer
*With pre-occlusion*

Dres oll an pow an nos na yth esa own, in pùb trevéglos hag in pùb chy, dhia Awan Tamar bis in Pedn an Wlas. Penvenyuster an Governans Cres dhe Sen Jory a gowsas orth an bobel wàr an bellwolak, ha’y eryow hardh a dhros dhe’n Gernowyon fienas-ow brâs ow tochy an termyn esa ow tos. Mar ny wre an uthwesyon Gernowek gelwys Lu an Gov cessya aga omsettyans wàr an Creslu Arbednek ha wâr sodh-ogyon an Governour Jeneral, an Lu Cresednekk a venja dos dres or an Tamar hag omsettya wàr an omsevysy. Mar medna pobel Conteth Kernow scodhya an rebels, kyn nag esa whans dhe’n governans omlath warbydn an Gernowyon aga honen, an Lu a venja dystrowy pùb tra i’ga fordh heb mercy, treven hag eglosyw kyn fe – pynag oll tyller a vedha kefys udn rebel ervys. Dres an mysyw tremenys an governans a wrug gwyl pùb tra i’ga gallos dhe gawas unverheans inter an omsevysy ha’n auctorita cres, saw heb sowyn veth.

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7.12.2. From Rebellyans by
Myghal Palmer
*Without pre-occlusion*

Dres oll an pow an nos na yth esa own, in pùb trevéglos hag in pùb chy, dhia Awan Tamar bis in Penn an Wlas. Penvenyuster an Governans Cres dhe Sen Jory a gowsas orth an bobel wàr an bellwolak, ha’y eryow hardh a dhros dhe’n Gernowyon fienas-ow brâs ow tochy an termyn esa ow tos. Mar ny wre an uthwesyon Gernowek gelwys Lu an Gov cessya aga omsettyans wàr an Creslu Arbennek ha wâr sodh-ogyon an Governour Jeneral, an Lu Cresennek a venja dos dres or an Tamar hag omsettya wàr an omsevysy. Mar menna pobel Conteth Kernow scodhya an rebels, kyn nag esa whans dhe’n governans omlath warbynn an Gernowyon aga honen, an Lu a venja dystrowy pùb tra i’ga fordh heb mercy, treven hag eglosyw kyn fe – pynag oll tyller a vedha kefys unn rebel ervys. Dres an mysyw tremenys an governans a wrug gwyl pùb tra i’ga gallos dhe gawas unverheans inter an omsevysy ha’n auctorita cres, saw heb sowyn veth.
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

Pùb termyn oll esyly Lu an Gov a besyas gans aga drog-oberow. Dew dheidh alenna y feu omsettyans wâr Jy Consel an Governour Jeneral in Try Verow, ha pejwar esel a’n Consel a veu ledlys pan dardhas tanbellen i’ga mesk. Warlergh selreth an Republyk Sowsnak, Conteth Kernow o ran a’n Republyk, wosa an bobel dhe votya dhe remaynya ina i’n gwerynyota arbednek nans o dew vledhen. Kyn fia croffal in Kernow an Sowson o trygys in Kernow dhe allos votya gans an Gernow-yon deythyak, ny ylly dyffrans veth bos gwrys inter an dhew vagas. An proces democratek o hedna. Ervyrys veu an mater ha nyns esa ger moy dhe leveral.

Nyns o re helergh dhe omry ha sawya an bobel Gernowek dhe-worth drog. Mar teffa an rebels ha kemenessa gans an Governor Jeneral hag assentya dhe dhascor aga arvow, ny venja dallelth an assault, mës y talvia dhodhans ambosa dhe omry kyns whegh eur gordhewar an nessa deidh. Mar ny wréns indella, an Lu Cresednek a venja tremena an or gans nerth pôr grev – tancow, artyllery hevuf, dew vyl soudor ha lonchydhyon fusennow. Mar teffans ha dos, uthek drog via an damaj, hag y fia lies person ledlys – benenes, flehas ha tus coth i’ga mesk, rag nag esa chauns dhe wyl dyffrans inter an rebels ha’n dus kehmyn.
7.13. Den Bohojak a’n Poscas and a poem by Neil Kennedy

Me a venja lavaral dhywgh drolla a wrug avy clowas adhewedhas. I’n termyn eus passys, pell dha’n eur-ma, th’era trygys in Porth Enys den bohojak an poscas. Hen yw da lavaral poscader, mar menn’why. Den coth o ev, pejwar ugans bloodh, gyllys loos y vlew ha cabm y geyn. Rag hedna y wreg a venja ev dha worra y rûsow adenewen ha tryga wâr an tyr heb mos da mor na velha. Lias gwyeth y a gampollas an dra ha wâr an deweth ev a assentyas. Nag o pell warlergh pan wrug comencya cawas blewak y vownans pûb jorna ha hyr y dhedhyow war an dor, ow mos pub preis dha’n als m’aljava gwelas an mor ha’n cockow tuag an Garrak Loos ha pelha. Re th’o re, sur lowr ha bedn gwaynten ev a bernas cock m’aljava dalleth poskecha arta. Där! Lowender pub jorna awos hager-awel ha yeyster. An todnow a wrug dereval vell menedhyow bis an den o lowen na whath. Gans hedna y wreg o troblys, ow predery pub eur bos gwedhyes. Na woya tabm veth an gwelha peth dha wyl. Hy êth indella gwelas an proner, neb udn Sows jentyl ha wheg na woya tra veth a’n mor, na whath bownans an boscaders, rag th’o devedhys a’n Tyreth Cres. Hen yw yller cries “Bir-ming-ham” i’n Sowsnak nobla. Na worama mar qwrugo’why clowas anodha. Me a glowas fatell yw brâssa vell Penzans. Na amownt...

Medh an den caradow: “Gerowgh cavow dha wandra, Benen vas! Na berth dowt, rag me a vedn cows dodha wâr an Zul.”

Andelha, medh an proner dha’n poscader: “Fatell wrug merwal gàs zyra?”

“I’n mor,” medh an poscader, "Budhy a wrug."

“Ha fatell a wrug merwal gàs zyra wydn?”

“Budhys ve ow zyra wydn i’wedh, pecar ha ow zyra.”

“Hag y zyra ef?”

“I’n mor, i’wedh!”

“Ha’gas gorhyk?”

“I’n mor, devry!”
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

Lebmyn medh an proner, “Nag eus own dha why bos budhys i’wedh? Na venja why kyns gortas wâr an dor alebma rag, m’alja gâs dedhyow bos hyr?”
Ha’n poscader a worrebas indella, ow lavaral, “Fatell a wrug gâs zyra why merwal?”
“Et y wely,” medh an proner.
“Ha’gas zyra wydn?”
“Dar! Et y wely, i’wedh.”
“Ah!” medh an poscader coth lebmyn: “Why a venja cosca hanath aberveth gâs gwely, na whath?!”

***

Brylly ow clappy, geryow fur, brabm an gath,
sylly ow neyja, losow hyr, brabm an nath,
kencras ow mos da godha ’dadn
goubman ha hûjes bûly kern.
Pandr’yw hedna? Crogen las, lagas rous,
dew baw deracta, ’terry, ’trehy
ganow ’egery, ’tebry kyg,
legest yth ywa! Ma va ow tos, ebal stowt,
Onen a’n brâssa, uthyk brâs, nag es dowt.
Yma an byvan-bûvans groovin’
’contell an browyon dhorth y ly.
Whedhel rag flehas vian. Tytel Ùngarak: Boribon születésnapja.

“Mettyn dâ dha jy, Olly Orsyk. A wosta pana jorna yw hedhyw?”

a wowydnyas Jenny-Nora

“Na worama. Lavar dhybm, me a’th psy!”

“Na vednaf leveral. Pryveth yw!” a worrebas Jenny-Nora.

Woja haunsel anjy êth in mes dha’n lowarth ha Jenny-Nora a gontellas meur a flourys.

“Rag fraga a wrusta contell oll an flourys-na?” a wowydnyas Olly.

“Pryveth yw!” a worrebas Jenny-Nora ha gorra an flourys aberth in lester.

Woja hedna Olly a wrug gortas i’n chy, saw Jenny-Nora êth dha neb udn tyller. Na wrug hy egery dha Olly pleth era hy ow mos.

Pan wrug hy dos arta tre, Olly a veu marth hag ev a wowydnyas: “Pandr’yw an fardel brâs-na?”

“Pryveth yw!” a worrebas Jenny-Nora ha hy a wrug kelas an fardel heb let.

Warlergh preis ly Jenny-Nora a bobas tesen vrâs rônd.

“Rag fraga a wrusta tesen?” a wowydnyas Olly, brâs y varthojyon.

“Pryveth yw!” a worrebas Jenny-Nora ha hy a worras an desen i’n yeyner.

Nenna hy a agoras an amary ha tedna in mes an pows tecka era dhedhy.

“Rag fraga a wrusta gwysca an pows tecka eus genas jy?” a wowydnyas Olly, meur y breder.

“Pryveth yw!” a worrebas Jenny-Nora. “Ha te inwedh a res crybya dha vlew jy!”

Anjy a glowas clogh an darras ow seny: ting-a-ling!

Ostysy o devedhlys: Harry, ha’y gy, Bessy.

Lebmyn na wrug Olly govn frag a dheuthans. Ev a woya solabrys tell o va “pryveth”. Anjy eth aberth i’n chambour ha Jenny-Nora a wrug degea an darras BOBM! in y fas.
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

“Ma pùb tra pryveth! Na worama convedhas tra veth! Me ow honen a vedn mos ales i’n beis!” medh Olly gen sor brás ha mos in mes a’n chy. Mès Jenny-Nora a bonyas wâr y lergh.
“Na wra diank dhort an chy. Te yw bobba bian! Deus aberveth!”
“Na wosta woja pùb tra? Hedhyw yw dha bedn bloodh jy. Hedhyw te yw teyr bloodh!”
Olly a gerneras marth brâs.
“Th’eram ow convedhas lebmyn! Rag hedna yth o pub tra pryveth! Rìa!”
Nenna kenyver onen a levers keslowena dha Olly ha ry dodh’ev an royow: an carr bian rudh ha’ñ choclats.
Olly a whethas ha dyfudh’i an teyr hantol. Ha Jenny-Nora a gerneras wyth a radna an desen intredh’anjy. Anjy a wreg debry hag eva ha cawas lowender brâs – an jorna-na, pedn bloodh Olly Orsyk.
7.15.1. From *Origo Mundi*

DEUS PATER

An 'Tas a nev y’m gelwyr,
formyer publié tra a veidh gwrys.
Onen ha try on in gwyr,
an 'Tas ha’n Mab ha’n Spyrys,
ha hedhyw me a dhesyr
dre ow gras dalleth an beis.
Y lavarañ nev ha tyr,
bedhans formys orth ow breis.

Lemmyn pàn yw nev dhèn gwrys
ha lenwys a elath splann,
ny a vynn formya an beis
par dell on try hag onen,
an 'Tas ha’n Mab ha’n Spyrys
pòr rial in sur certan.
An re-ma yw oberys
dell vensan agan honen.

I’n second deidh y fenna’
gwruthyl ebron, nev henwys,
rag yth hevel dhymm bos då
i’n kensa deidh myns eus gwrys.
Bedhans ebron dres publié tra
rag cudha myns eus formys,
rag sensy glaw awartha,
dha’n norveis may fe dyllys.
7.15.2. From Origo Mundi as in Norris’ edition

DEUS PATER

En tas a nef y’m gylcyr;
formyer pup tra a vyt gevys
Onan ha try on yn gevyr
en tas ha’n map ha’n spyr ys
ha hellyv me a theyv
dëve o grath dal leth an bys
y lauarr nef ha tyr
bethens formys orth o bys

lemmen pan yv nef th’u gevys
ha lenvys a the leth spylan
ny a vyn formye an bys
par del on try hag onan
an tas ha’a mab ha’a spyr ys
par ryel yn sur certan
an re-ma yv oberys
del venyth agan honan

yn secund dyth y fynna
gruthyl ebron nef’ hynvys
rag ythevel thy’m bos da
yn kynsa dyth muns us grevys
bethens ebron dreys pup tra
rak kath the muns us formys
rak synys glaw a wartha
the’n nor veys may fe dylys
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

I’n tressa deidh dybarth gwrav
  intre an mor ha’n tyryow
  hag i’n tyr gorhemyynaf
  may teffa gweidh ha losow. 28
Pùb gwedhen tevans a’y sav
  ow ton y früt ha’y delyow,
  ha’n losowyys erbynn hav
degans has in erberow. 32

I’n peswara gwrys perfeth
  dha’n beis oll golowys glan
  ha’ga henwyn, y a veidh
  an howl ha’n loor ha’n stergan. 36
Me a’s set a-ugh an gweidh
  in cres an ebron avann,
  an loor i’n nos, howl i’n jeidh
  may rollans y golow splann. 40

In pympas deidh me a vynn
  may fo formys dre ow nell
  bestas, poscas hag idhyn
  tyr ha mor dha gollenwal;
rag y whervyth an termyn
  dredha may fedher dhe well.
Dhedha me a worhemmyn:
inressyans ha bewynns pell. 48

_Hic descendit Deus de pulpito et dicit Deus [hic ludit Lucifer de celo]_
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

yn tresse dyth dybarth gwraf
  yntre an mor ha’n tyrrow
hag yn tyr gorhenmennaf
  may tefo gveyth ha losow
pup gweñen tefyns a’y saf
  oc toll hy fest ha’y delyow
ha’a losowys erlyn haf
  degyns has yn erberow
  28

yn peswere gereys perfecth
  the’n beys ol golowys glan
h’aga hymyn y a syth
  an houl ha’n lor ha’a stergan
my a set ahugh a’n gveyth
  yn creys a’n ebron avan
An lor yn nos houl yn geyth
  may rollons y golow splan
  32

yn pympes dyth me a cyn
  may fo formyys dre ov nel
bestes paskes ha’ghyn
  tyr ha mor the goullenwel
rag y whyrsthyt an tyrmyyn
  direth may fether the wel
thethe me a wohermyn
  encressyens ha bwens pel
  36

Hic descendit Deus de pulpito et dicit Deus [hic ludit Lucifer de celo]

yl seser gweñen perfecth
  the’n beys ol golowys glan
h’aga hymyn y a syth
  an houl ha’n lor ha’a stergan
my a set ahugh a’n gveyth
  yn creys a’n ebron avan
An lor yn nos houl yn geyth
  may rollons y golow splan
  40

yn tresse dyth dybarth gwraf
  yntre an mor ha’n tyrrow
hag yn tyr gorhenmennaf
  may tefo gveyth ha losow
pup gweñen tefyns a’y saf
  oc toll hy fest ha’y delyow
ha’a losowys erlyn haf
  degyns has yn erberow
  44

yn pympes dyth me a cyn
  may fo formyys dre ov nel
bestes paskes ha’ghyn
  tyr ha mor the goullenwel
rag y whyrsthyt an tyrmyyn
  direth may fether the wel
thethe me a wohermyn
  encressyens ha bwens pel
  48

Hic descendit Deus de pulpito et dicit Deus [hic ludit Lucifer de celo]
Hedhyw yw an wheghvas deidh,
aban dhallethys gonys
may whrug nev, mor, tyr ha gweidh,
bestas, poscas, golowys. 52
Gostyth dhymma y a veidh,
kekemmys eus ina gwrys.
Mab den a bry yn perfeth
me a vynn y vos formys. 56

Hic faciat Adam et dicit Deus

Dell on ny onen ha try,
   Tas ha Mab in trynita,
ny a’th wra, ty dhen a bry,
   haval dha’gan fas whare. 60
Ny a wheith in dha vody
   spyrys may hylly bewa,
ha’n bewmans pan y’n kelly,
   dha’n dor te a drail arta. 64

Adam, sav in bann yn clor
   ha trial dha gyg ha dha woos.
Preder me dha’th wyl a dhor
   haval dhymm a’n penn dha’n troos. 68
Myns eus i’n tyr hag i’n mor
   warnedha kemmer gallos;
i’n bys-ma rag dry ascor
   te a vew bis may fy loos. 72
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

hethyw yw an whefes dyth
aban dalletheys gonys
may rug nef mor tyr ha goeyth
bestes puskes golocys
52
gosteyth thy’mo y a cyth
kekemys vs ynne gvreys
map den a bry yn perfyth
me a wyn y vos formys
56

Hic faciat Adam et dicit Deus

Del ony oon ha try
 tas ha map yn trynyte
ny a’d WERA ty then a bry
60
hawal d’agan face whare
ny a swhyth in thy vody
sperys [may] hylly bewe
ha’a bewnans pan y’a kylly
the’n dor ty a dreyl arte
64

Adam saf yn ban yn chor
 ha treyl the gyk. ha the woys
preder my the’th whul a dor
68
hawal they’m a’n pen the’n troys
myns vs yn tyr hag yn mor
warnethe kemer galloys
yn bys-ma rak dry ascor
 ty a vew bys may fi loys
72
Adam, del ov Duw a ras,
   bos gwythyas a wrôntyaf’ dhys.
Wâr baradys me a’th as
   saw gwra unn dra a’m govys: 76
wâr bûb frût, losow ha has,
   a vo inhy hy tevys,
saw a’n frût ny veidh kymmyas,
   yw prenn a skians henwys. 80

Mara tebryth a henna,
   yw henwys prenn a skians
in mes alemma te â
   hag a veidh marow vernans. 84

ADAM
A Das, Mab ha Spyrys Sans,
gordhyans dha’th corf wheg pûppreis,
ow formya teg ha dyblans.
   Tê re’m gwrug pôr haval dhys. 88
Rag governya ow bewnans
   yma lowr orth bodh ow breis.
Pôr leun yma dhymm ow whans
   a unn gowethes ornys. 92

[sent ad paradisum]
CHAPTER EIGHT

SENTENCES FROM
THE TRADITIONAL TEXTS

8.1. GREETINGS AND MISCELLANEOUS EXPRESSIONS

Mettyn dâ dha why ‘Good morning to you’ (ACB opposite F f 2)
Serys, dha why lowena ‘Greetings, gentlemen’ (PC 2154)
Dûrda da why, sera ‘Good morrow to you, sir’ (Andrew Borde 1547)
Dûrsone dywgh, maghteth ‘God speed you, girl’ (Andrew Borde 1547)
Duw re’gas blessya ‘God bless you’ (Richard Symonds 1644)
Bednath Cryst dhys ha bednath dha vabm nefra ‘The blessing of Christ to you and your mother’s blessing always’ (BM 224-25)
Vatla yw genowgh why? ‘How are you?’ (Andrew Borde 1547)
Dâ, Duw re dalla dha why ‘Well, thank you’ (Andrew Borde 1547)
Yth ov vy pòr lowen dha’gas gwelas why an mettyn-ma ‘I am very pleased to see you this morning’ (ACB opposite F f 2)
Lowena ha leun yehas dha’m arluth ‘Joy and complete health to my lord’ (BK 2677-78)
Th’ov vy lowen gâs gwelas why in yehas dâ ‘I am glad to see you in good health’ (ACB opposite F f 2)
Pana nowedhys eus genas? ‘What news have you?’ (CW 1886)
Bedhowgh why lowenak ‘Be merry’ (ACB opposite F f 2)
Myhal, sera, dhlywgh gromercy ‘By St Michael, thank you, sir’ (CW 599)
Gromercy dha why warbarth ‘Thank you together’ (BM 258)
Deus abarth dha ny ha wolcom che a veidh ‘Come with us and you will be welcome’ (AB: 252a)
Th’ov vy lowen dha clowas dhort why ‘I am glad to hear from you’ (ACB opposite F f 2)
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

Rag very spît dyswrys ov qwît. Pandr’a wrama? Tru, tru, tru! ‘For very rage I am quite undone. What shall I do? Woe, woe, woe!’ (BK 1016-18)

Ow holon yw ogas trogh ‘My heart is almost broken’ (CW 1228)

Ellas, pandr’a veidh gwrys? Hemma yw yeyn nowodhow! ‘Ow holon yth yw terrys. Y fenjan ow bos marow! Soweth bythgweeth bos formys! ‘Alas, what is to be done? This is wretched news. My heart is broken. I want to die! Pity that I was ever created! (CW 1261-65)

Gowy rag ankenujy! Ellas ha gu! ‘Woe is me for misery! Alas and alack!’ (BK 1014-15)

Yth oma pôr dezhanhes orth dha welas i’n stât-ma ‘I am very sorry to see you in this state’ (CW 1225-26)

Gwelilha dha jer ‘Cheer up!’ (CW 1308)

Genas yth ov dysplesys ‘I am displeased with you’ (BM 400)

Kynth owgh genaf dysplesys, yth yw oll a’m anvoth vy ‘Though you are displeased with me, it is all against my will’ (BM 492-93)

Esta jy orth ov cara vy? ‘Do you love me?’ (TH 43)

Th’eraf vy ov cara why i’n colon ‘I love you in the heart’ (ACB opposite F f 2)

Me a’gas car deg mylblek moy es ow mabm ‘I love you ten thousand times more than I love my mother’ (BK 2925-26)

Meur senjys ov dha’th cara dell os body heb parow ‘I am greatly bound to love, as you are a peerless person’ (BK 395-96)

Anvenowgh a vo gwelys, dystowgh y feidh ankevys ‘Who is seen infrequently is immediately forgotten (BK 2996-97)

Py hanow os, benen vas? ‘What is your name, madam?’ (RD 1697)

Senjys on ny dha why ‘We are indebted to you’ (AB: 252a)

Me a vedn gâs pardona why ‘I’ll pardon you’ (AB: 244c)

Pywa eus ena abarth Duw? ‘Who’s there, in the name of God?’ (AB: 253a)

Ma agan yehas ny dhèn ‘We have our health’ (AB: 242a)

Me a vedn gâs gwelas arta gordhewar ‘I’ll see you again in the evening’ (AB: 244c)

Benatuw genowgh ‘Farewell’ (Andrew Borde 1547)
Lebmyn ma cas dhèn dha vos lowen ‘Now we have cause to be merry’ (AB: 253a)
Me a’s gwerth dhywgh a dheg warn ugans sterlyn ‘I will sell it to you for thirty pounds’ (PC 1553-54)
Maga lias tèr eus fowt dhywgh ‘As many as you have occasion for’ (AB: 232a)
Re a udn dra na dal tra veth ‘Too much of one thing is no good’ (ACB F f)
Prag na dheuta nes rag cows orthaf ha talkya? ‘Why don’t you come nearer to speak to me and converse?’ (OM 149-50)
Me a res mos dha Loundres mes a dhornow ‘I have to go to London immediately’ (Bilbao MS)
Praga? Pandr’yw an mater? ‘Why? What’s the matter?’ (CW 2329)
Pes myldyr eus alebma dha Loundres? ‘How many miles is it from here to London?’ (Andrew Borde 1547)
Sera, try hans myldyr ‘Three hundred miles, sir’ (Andrew Borde 1547)
Na wren strechya na felha ‘we will delay no further’ (PC 2334)
Na vednaf pelha lettya ‘I will delay no longer’ (PC 1612)
Me re settyas ow holon ‘I intend’ (Bodewryd MS 5)
In dadn ambos yth esas ‘You’re under contract’ (PC 2259)
Avorow dewgh adermyn ‘Come early tomorrow’ (OM 2843)
Guera owna gás fordhow hedhyw po avorow ‘Amend your ways today or tomorrow’ (William Gwavas c. 1728)
Th’ov vy gás gwas isel ‘I am your humble servant’ (ACB opposite F f 2)
Me a vedn prest dha servya ‘I will continually serve you’ (BM 3851)
Na vednaf vy na moy agas gelsal why servants, mès cothmans ‘I will no longer call you servants, but friends’ (TH 35a)
Deun ny lebmyn wor’tu tre ‘Let’s go home now’ (PC 3213)
Lebmyn pob oll eskynans in hanow a’n Tas Duw ker ha wor’tu tre festynans ‘Let everyone now mount in the name of the Father, dear God, and let him hasten home’ (OM 2002-03)
Mos alebma me a vedn gwelha gallaf ‘I will go hence as best I can’ (CW 1709-10)

Alebma deun ny dha dre ‘Let us go home hence’ (RD 805)

Mars yw dhys duwon gwysca an corn, roy ev tre arta ‘If you are grieved to wear the horn [of a cuckold], give it back home again’ (Oliver Oldwanton c. 1565-70)

Me a venja mos tre màr menta ‘I would go home, if you will’ (ACB F f 2)

Menjam ‘I will’ (ACB F f 2)

Gas ny dha vos alebma ‘Let’s go’ (CW 1333)

Rag meth deun ny alebma dha gudha in tyller clos ‘Let us go hence for shame to hide in a secret place’ (CW 865-66)

Me a vedn mos ales ‘I will go about’ (AB: 250b)

Me a ell mos dèr an hol contry ‘I may go through the whole country’ (Bilbao MS)

Gen Tobmas pyber ha’y dhen ‘With Thomas the piper and his man’ (Bilbao MS)

Na ell ev clowas veth ‘He cannot hear at all’ (AB: 249a)

Gwerwgh vy dha welas ‘Show me’ (AB: 250b)

Rag dowt na vedha na moy godheys dhysegh rag an jeidh-ma ‘Lest there be no more offered you this day’ (AB: 250b)

Na woraf vy scryfa na moy ‘I can write no more’ (AB: 250b)

Deus yn rag ‘Come forward’ (PC 1817)

Ev a wrug hedhas rag y vregh ‘He stretched forth his arm’ (AB: 250b)

Th’era vy orth a’s pesy ‘I desire you’ (AB: 250b)

Yma cov dha vy ‘I remember’ (AB: 250b)

Parys dha derry yw ‘It’s ready to break’ (AB: 250c)

8.2. KINGS AND QUEENS

Ma dha vy trial in cort an Vyternes ‘I have a trial in the Queen’s Court’ (Bilbao MS)

Me a vedn mos heb bern lebmyn dha gort an Mytern ‘I will now go without concern to the King’s court’ (BM 3176-77)

Ma dha ny mytern dà ha myternes maga tâ ‘We have a good king and queen as well’ (John Tonkin c. 1692, LAM: 224)
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

Gorran ev in y dron avel mytern in y se may halla bos cûrynys kepar dell veu dhên erhys gans y das kyns tremena ‘Let us set him on this throne as a king in his seat so that he may be crowned as his father commanded us before he died’ (OM 2372-76)

Bos cûrynys me a vedn mytern in Breten iwys. Pynag a gows er ow fydn, ev a’n prenzyth hag yn tydn. Cûryn vy adhesempys! ‘I will be crowned king of Britain indeed. Whoever speaks against me will pay for it and dearly. Crown me forthwith!’ (BK 3075-79)

Mytern Jamys a wrug qwetyas y stoppya bis ev na alja ‘King James tried to stop him but he could not’ (John Tonkin c. 1692, LAM: 224)

Ma mytern ny ow tos tre bydn wâv ‘Our king is coming home by winter’ (John Tonkin c. 1692, LAM: 226)

Ea, inwedh ev a’n gwrug mytern hag emprour i’n norveis ‘Yes he also made him king and emperor in the world’ (TH 2)

Myternath gwlasow, subjectys, tus jentyl, rych ha bohojak, ym Owns ow tos obma dha’n beis ha’w mos in kerdh alebma ‘Kings of countries, subjects, gentlefolk, rich and poor, they come here into the world and go hence’ (TH 6a)

Mos dha’n mor in servys an Vyternes ‘To go to sea in the Queen’s Service’ (Bilbao MS)

8.3. INSULTS AND IMPRECATIONS

Pandr’yw hedna dhysa? ‘What’s it got to do with you?’ (RD 1642)

Kê dha honen ha gwra gwell ‘Go yourself and do better’ (PC 2285)

Sens dha glap! ‘Shut your mouth!’ (RD 1113)

Taw ha na gows, te venen ‘Be quiet and don’t speak, woman’ (RD 917)

Taw, flattores, na gows moy. Na vednaf dhysa crejy ‘Silence, jabbering woman, speak no more. I won’t believe you’ (RD 1067)

A, owt warnas, drog-venen, worta pan wrussys cola! ‘A, damn you, you evil woman, that you ever listened to him!’ (OM 221-22)
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

Me a’n dorn gans ow dornow may clanderha rag ewn uth
‘I will batter him with my fists so he will faint in sheer horror’ (BK 2651-52)

Sqwatyaf dha bedn ha’th coloven dheworth dha scoodh gans
dha godna kepar ha goodh, te mab hora ‘I’ll smash your head and spinal column from your shoulder and neck like a goose, you son of a whore’ (BK 2159-64)

Gans ow whyp me a’n chass, ma kertha garow y gabm ‘I’ll chase him with my whip so that he walks with an unsteady gait’ (PC 1196-97)

Me a greis by Godys fas an harlot re dhyllas brabm ‘By God’s face I believe the scoundrel has farted’ (PC 1199-200)

Te horsen, na’gan brag ny! ‘Don’t threaten us, you bastard!’ (BM 1228)

Kê wàr dha gabm ‘Steady on!’ (BM 1048)

Na wra flattra na gwyl ges ‘Don’t wheedle or mock’ (PC 2277)

Nag owgh lemen gouyggon ‘You’re just liars’ (RD 1510)

Worteweth crog a’th tag ‘In the end a noose will throttle you’ (PC 1818)

Te pedn boba lagajak, ro gorthyp vas ‘You goggle-eyed gargoyle, give a proper answer!’ (BM 210-11)

Na gows kebmys whedhlow ‘Don’t talk so much nonsense’ (PC 1898)

Taw, taw, harlot, dha’th cregy! ‘Shut up, you scoundrel, hang you!’ (BK 472)

Gas cres, rag sham! ‘Silence, for shame!’ (BK 2204)

A dhrog-dheweth re vyrewhy! ‘May you die a nasty death!’ (BK 472)

Owt warnas, tebel-venen! ‘Damn you, evil woman!’ (BK 1210)

In mes a’m golak omeddn! ‘Get out of my sight!’ (BK 304)

Dha gossulyow yw muscok ‘Your advice is insane’ (BK 993)

Desempys gwev ow golak! ‘Flee my sight this instant!’ (BK 994)

Mollatuw in da las! ‘God’s curse on your guts!’ (RCarew 1602, LAM: 272)

Myl venjans warnas jy! ‘A thousand vengeances upon you!’ (RCarew 1602, LAM: 272)
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

A, mollath dha’ń horsen cabm! ‘Oh, curse the crooked bastard!’
(CW 804)

Te vyl brathky! ‘You vile cur!’ (PC 2087)

Tety valy, brabm an gath—nag eus edrak dhyma whath
‘Fiddle-sticks, the cat’s fart—I’m still not sorry’ (CW 1305-06)

Ass yw an den-na gocky! ‘How silly that man is!’ (PC 1662)

Why a wra cawas an gwvas brâs zyger-na ow cosca wâr an gorha ‘You will find that great lazy fellow sleeping on the hay’
(AB: 248a)

Fatla a dheuthowgh why obma? ‘How did you get here?’ (RD 193)

A, harlot, drog re fary gans dha govanscosow gow! ‘Hey, you scoundrel, damn you with your lying excuses!’ (BK 459-60)

Me na senjaf udn brabm plos a’n cas ‘I don’t care a smelly fart in the matter’ (PC 2268)

Me a wostel, te a’n pren awos oll dha goyntury ‘I bet, you’ll pay for it in spite of all your cleverness’ (BK 924-25)

Pedn brâs, a vednowgh why bos cregyys ‘Fathead, do you want to be hanged?’ (Richard Brome 1632)

Taw, dha’th cregy, te fol crothak! ‘Silence, be hanged, you cantakerous fool!’ (CW 1103, 1105)

Taw, dha’th cregy, gaja meur ‘Silence, be hanged, you braggart!’
(BK 176)

Ny derr ascorn lavar teg ‘Fair words break no bones’ (BK 1021)

Na amownt dhybm resna genas ‘There’s no point in arguing with you’ (CW 2395-96)

Genowgh farwel ‘Farewell to you’ (BK 2884).

8.4. MEN, WOMEN, AND MARRIAGE

Duw roy dhywgh gwyl honesta ‘May God grant that you behave chastely’ (BK 2747)

Omgwethan ny gans del glas agan pryvita pôr glos ‘Let us cover up tightly our private parts with green leaves’ (CW 858-59)

Arlodhes, gwydn avell gwrys, deun dha’ń chambour, me a’th peis, may hallan omacowntya ‘Lady, white as crystal, let’s go to the bedroom, please, so that we can get to know each other’ (BK 2981-83)
Dre von bew ow herenja te a veidh bis venary ‘As long as we live you will have my love forever’ (CW 847-48)

Bythgweth me ny welys benen dhybm a well plekya whath in neb le ‘Never did I see anywhere a woman that pleased me more’ (OM 2107-09)

An hager-mowysy nag yns vas; mowns in kenyver toll rag myras rag an peth eus mos—kemerowgh wyth gâs cal ‘The naughty girls are no good; there in every corner looking for what is going—take care of your cock’ (John Boson)

Lewd yma owth ombrevy ‘She is showing herself to be wicked’ (BK 3001)

Ogh, govy pan veuv genys! Gans moreth yth ov lenwys wâr dha lergh ow arluth wheg—saw bydnar re dhewhyll, genas me a wra pejy, ha hedna a via teg ‘Alas that I was born! I am filled with grief in missing you, my sweet lord—but never may you return, I will pray for you, and that would be nice’ (OM 2193-98)

Lebmyn an ostes a’n chy, hy a consylyas gen neb udn vanagh era i’n tre dha destria an den coth i’n gwely i’n termyn a’n nos ‘Now the landlady, she conspired with a certain monk who was in the town, to kill the old man in the bed during the night’ (AB: 252a)

Ev a dhelatyas an termyn m’alla va prevy era y wreg gwytha compas et y gever—era po nag era ‘He spun out the time so that he could prove whether his wife was remaining faithful to him—was she or wasn’t she’ (AB: 253a)

A, Duw a vedn shamys ow bos ha’m garr settys dêr hy ben ‘O, God wishes me to be disgraced with one leg crossed over the other’ (BK 3301-02)

Me a vedn dha avauuncya ha martesen dha launyca, re Syn Torpyn! ‘I will advance you, and perhaps shaft you, by St Turpin!’ (BK 1174-76)

Demedhowgh Jowan, an den, dha Agnes, an venen ‘Marry John, the man, to Agnes the woman’ (Parson Drake c. 1636, LAM; 212)
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

Drefen ow bonas benen te a ell dhybm deryvas ‘Since I am a woman, you can tell me’ (OM 161-2)

Dhys y rov moves ha fest onen deg ‘I give you a girl and a very pretty one’ (CF 6-7)

Kekmer hy dha’th wreg—sconya dhys ny vêk ‘Take her as your wife—she won’t try to deny you’ (CF 10-1)

Te a veidh hy—hy a veidh gwre’ty dhâ ‘You will have her—she’ll be a good wife’ (CF 12-3)

La var dhodha, “Gwra mår mennyth”—awos a alla na wra tra veth. I’n eur-na y’th sens jy dha vos mestres hedyr vewhy hag arlodhes ‘Say to him, “Do as you wish”—so that he does nothing, however he try. Then he will realize you are mistress as long as you live and the woman in charge’ (CF 33-6)

Benen vas ha dremas ‘Bride and groom’ (ACB opposite F f 2)

Rag hedna woja hemma yn chast gwren ny kesvewa ha carnal joy i’n beis-ma ny a vedn warbarth naha ‘Therefore hereafter let us live chastely together and in this world we will together renounce sexual pleasure’ (CW 1313-15)

Ey dha blos lustys an beis! ‘Fie to the dirty lusts of the world!’ (BM 427)

Saw na wrewgh collenwal lustys an kyg, rag an kyg a wra whansa contrary dha’n spyrys ha’n spyrys contrary dha’n kyg ‘But do not satisfy the lusts of the flesh, for the flesh will desire contrary to the spirit, and the spirit contrary to the flesh’ (TH 16a)

In duwon che a wra don flehas, ha dha desyrya a wra bos dha’th gour ha ev a wra dha rowlya ‘In anguish shalt thou bear children, and thy desire will be for your husband and he shall rule over thee’ (William Rowe)

Me ny vednaf growetha benytha gans corf Eva ‘I do not wish ever to lie carnally with Eve’ (OM 624-25)

Moy ès udn wreg dhybm yma dha’m plesour rag gwyl gansa ‘I have more than one woman for me to do my pleasure with them’ (CW 1451-52)

Ha’n mowysy lowr plenty yma dhybm. Nynj yns dainty. Me as kev pan vednaf vy. Ny sparys anothanjy malbew
onen a vo teg ‘And of the girls I have plenty enough. They’re not choosy. I get them when I want. I don’t spare a damned one of them who’s good-looking’ (CW 1455-59)

Arluth, gyvyans dha’am ena! Govy pan wruga peha gans corf a’n debel-venen! ‘Lord, pardon to my soul! Woe is me that I sinned with the body of the evil woman!’ (OM 2249-51)

Dhyma vy wy a ros gwreg. Hodna vy oll dha vlamya ‘You gave me a wife. She is entirely to blame’ (CW 877-78)

Ha pan wrug ev dos dha’n darras, ev a venja clowas den aral i’n gwely ‘And when he got to the door he thought he could hear another man in the bed’ (AB: 253a)

Kensa bledhen byrla ha bay, nessa bledhen lùll ha lay ‘The first year (of marriage) hugging and kissing, the next year lullaby’ (ACB F f)

Sen Pawl a gomondyas an gwer dha gara aga gwregath ‘St Paul commanded the husbands to love their wives’ (TH 31)

Res yw dhybm cowsal devry orth ow gwreg kyns mos a dre. Mars ellan heb cows orty, hy holon hy a dorsa ‘I must indeed speak to my wife before leaving home. If I went without speaking to her, her heart would break’ (OM 2171-74)

Ma lias gwreg lacka vell zeg ‘There are many wives worse than brewer’s grains’ (James Jenkins c. 1700)

Ha ma lias benen pecar an gwelen; y a vedn gweras dha’ga tus dendyl peth a’n beis ‘And there are many women like the bees; they will help their husbands earn worldly wealth’ (James Jenkins c. 1700)

8.5. BABIES AND CHILDREN

Brås yw an venen-na ‘That woman is pregnant’ (AB: 243c)

Pan wrugowugh why mos i’kerdh, th’era vy gyllys try mys gen flogh ‘When you left, I was three months pregnant’ (AB: 253a)

Ma flogh genaf genys ‘I have borne a child’ (OM 672)

Flogh bian noweth genys ‘A little new-born child’ (OM 806)

An vabm a gebner meth traweytheyow rag bos mam-meth ‘The mother is sometimes embarrassed to be breast-feeding’ (SA 59a)
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

Lowr mabm a worr hy flehas dha venenas eral dha vaga
‘Many a mother sends her children to other women to be nursed’ (SA 59)

Dha dre, mam-methow, totta, why ha’gas flehas vian ‘Home with you immediately, nursing mothers, you and your babies’ (BM 1675-76)

Hen yw re nebas már qwen flogh veth denethy ‘That is too little if we have any child’ (OM 389-90)

Pandr’a vednough why gwył rag lednow rag a’s flogh? ‘What will you do for clothes for your baby?’ (Chygwyn 1698, ACB opposite G g)

Me a vedn dha’n benenas ry mona boos ha dewas dha perna ha dha’n flehas dyllas dâ ‘I will give money to the women to buy food and drink and nice clothes for the children’ (BM 1671-74)

Syra, dama ha vy ow honen ‘Father, mother and I myself’ (Bilbao MS)

Me, ow gwreg ha flehas ‘I, my wife and children’ (Bilbao MS)

Me ha’m gwreg ha’m flogh bian ‘I my wife and my little child’ (OM 397)

Tus, benenas ha flehas ymowns obma devedhys ‘Men, women and children have come here’ (OM 1611-12)

Olowgh rag agas flehas ha ragowgh agas honen ‘Weep for your children and for yourselves’ (PA 169a)

Flehas heb skians a vedn gwył aga sians ‘Children without sense will do their whim’ (James Jenkins c. 1700)

8.6. RELATIVES

Rag dha gerenja, tas ker ‘For thy sake, dear father’ (ACB opposite F f)

Ujy gâs tas bew? ‘Is your father living?’ (AB: 246a)

Ow thas yw coth ha sqwythys ‘My father is old and tired’ (OM 737)

Yma ev pòr haval dhys ‘He is very like you’ (AB: 242b)

Yw hodna gâs whor why? ‘Is that your sister?’ (AB: 244c)

Yw an vowes-na gâs whor? ‘Is that girl your sister?’ (AB: 246a)

Govyn ev worth y vroder ‘Ask his brother’ (AB: 242b)
8.7. HYGIENE

Desempys ewgh i’n geryn ‘Get into the bath-tub immediately’ (BK 1144)

Dhybm na as troos na leuv na vo golhys ‘Leave neither foot nor hand of mine unwashed’ (PA 46d)

I’n bason bedhans gorrys ha me a’s golgh desempys ‘Let it be put in the basin and I will wash you immediately’ (PC 842-43)

Golhans pob treys y gela ahanowgh ‘Let everyone of you wash each other’s feet’ (PC 877-78)

Gans dorw y whraw dha wolhy ‘I will wash you with water’ (BM 744)

Me a wolgh scon ow dewla a wel dhywgh kettep onen ‘I will wash my hands in the sight of you, every one’ (PC 2499-500).

8.8. FOOD AND DRINK

Dha berna boos ha dewas an keth re-na a spedyas ‘to buy food and drink those same people hurried’ (PA 42ab)

Bara ha dewas ‘Food and drink’ (SA 63a)

Tân dhys dewas ha boos ‘Here’s food and drink for you’ (BM 4243)

Mollatuw i’n gegyn—scant yw an dewas ha’n boos ‘God’s curse in the kitchen—food and drink are scarce’ (BM 3928-29)

Gwag ov vy. A wrav vy gawas haunsel? ‘I am hungry. Shall I have breakfast?’ (ACB opposite F f 2)

Lebmyn dyfreth ov ha gwag pór wyr dres oll tus i’n beis ‘Now I am weak and hungry indeed beyond all people in the world’ (CW 1173-74)

Unweyth a caffan haunsel, me a wrussa amendya ‘If only I could have breakfast, I should improve’ (BM 110-12)

Na wra den bewa dre vara y honen ‘Man does not live by bread alone’ (William Rowe)

Mab den heb ken es bara beth ny’n jevas oll bewnans ‘Man with bread only will never live all his life’ (PC 65-66)

Nag on ny kelmys dha refrainya dheworth kyg porhel ‘We are not bound to refrain from pork’ (TH 27a)
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

Gorra an bara i’n forn  ‘To put the bread in the oven’ (ACB opposite F f 2)

Yw an bara pebys lük?  ‘Is the bread baked enough?’ (ACB opposite F f 2)

Ma wreg vy ow pobas mettyn ‘My wife is baking this morning’  
(AB: 251a)

Hy a wra gwyl tesen ragas dha dhos dre dha dha wreg ‘She will make you a cake of bread to take home to your wife’ (AB: 251a)

Osteñ, eus boos dâ dha why?  ‘Hostess, have you good food?’  
(Andrew Borde 1547)

Eus keus? Eus po nag eus. Mars eus keus, dro keus. Pan nag eus keus, dro an peth eus ‘Is there cheese? There is or there isn’t. If there is, bring cheese. If there isn’t cheese, bring what there is’ (ACB F f)

Woja cows ha lavyrya an vaner a via dâ, kemeras croust hag eva ‘After talking and working, it would be a good idea to have a little to eat and drink’ (OM 1899-1901)

Saw gwadn rewl yma obma, na ellen lyvya kyns mos ‘This is a bad arrangement that we can’t have lunch before leaving’ (BM 3925-26)

Gwag yw dhybm an pengasen ‘My belly is empty’ (BM 3927)

Bydnar re gyffy dha gon!  ‘May you never get your supper!’ (BM 1020)

Evough gàs cowl ‘Drink your soup’ (AB: 231c)

Erbys an geverow a veidh ow boos dha’m prejyow ‘The herbs of the streams will be my food for my meals’ (BM 1971-72)

Ma anjy ow rostya ha pryjyan ‘They are roasting and boiling’  
(AB: 248a)

Ma boos lour certan obma warbydn soper ‘There is certainly enough food here for supper’ (PC 688-89)

Eus conys dhywgh?  ‘Have you supped?’ (AB: 242a)

Ny a vedn pôr wyr kyns mos warbarth dha dhebry ‘We will very truly first go together to eat’ (BM 264-65)

Na ell ev aga debry ‘He cannot eat them’ (AB: 244c)

Rewgh boos dha vy, ostes dâ ‘Bring me food, good hostess’  
(Andrew Borde 1547)
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

**Benen**, *drewgh poscas dha vy* ‘Woman, bring me fish’ (Andrew Borde 1547)

**Debrough me rag dha wyly maw** ‘Eat a dog-fish in May to make a boy’ (ACB opposite F f)

**Maghteth**, *drewgh oyow hag amanyn dha vy* ‘Maid, bring me eggs and butter’ (Andrew Borde 1547)

**Drewgh kwart gwyn dha vy** ‘Bring me a quart of wine’ (Andrew Borde 1547)

**Deun ny, glebyn agan myn lebmyn, cowetha jentyl** ‘Come, let’s wet our whistles, good friends’ (BM 3276-77)

**Gwedren a wyn, gwedren a’n gwyn** ‘A glass of wine, a glass of the wine’ (AB: 242a)

**Gwyn na cyder ny úsyat** ‘He used to drink neither wine nor cider’ (BM 4451)

**Na gwyn ny úsyan badna** ‘Nor of wine do we drink any drop’ (CW 1474)

**Na evaf cyder na gwyn na dewas marnas dower pur** ‘I drink neither cider nor wine nor any drink but pure water’ (BM 1969-70)

**Coref bo gwyn a caffan vy, dower ny esan** ‘Were I to get ale or wine, I’d drink no water’ (BM 661-61)

**I’n tavarn sur owth eva ymowns, pòr rudh aga myn** ‘They’re drinking in the pub and their mouths are bright red with wine’ (BM 3308-09)

**Deus nes hag assay an pot—dha jy ev a gost grôt kyns dyberth** ‘Come here and try the pot; it’ll cost you a groat before you go’ (BM 3325-27)

**Botler, festyn heb lettya—dora dhybm an gwyn gwelha** ‘Butler, hurry without stopping—bring me the best wine’ (OM 1903-94)

**I’n pow-ma nyns eus gowell gwyn** ‘In this land there is no better wine’ (OM 1914)

**An dewas yw dà ha cler** ‘The drink is good and clear’ (OM 1918)

**Ha why a ell eva coref gwelha mars eus dhywgh brag** ‘And you can drink the best beer if you have malt’ (James Jenkins c. 1700)

**Na wrewhg eva re, mès eva rag a’s sehas, ha hedna, moy bo le, a vedn gwytha corf in yehas** ‘Don’t drink too much, but..."
drink for your thirst, and that, more or less, will keep body in health’ (William Gwavas c. 1728)

**Y ûryn otta obma—towl e in dha weder glas** ‘Here is his urine; pour it into your blue glass’ (BM 1444-45)

### 8.9 CLOTHING

**An hevys adro y geyn** ‘The shirt on his back’ (AB: 250a)

**An lodrow adro agas garrow** ‘The stockings on your legs’ (AB: 250a)

**Gwescowgh an gentar-ma et eskys vy** ‘Knock this nail into my shoe’ (AB: 230c)

**An eskyjyow adro agas treys** ‘The shoes on your feet’ (AB: 250a)

**Dysk dha eskyjyow qwyek dha ves** ‘Take your shoes off quickly’ (OM 1406)

**Ev a lavaras fatell o ev ùnwordhy rag bocla y eskyjyow** ‘He said that he was unworthy to buckle his shoes’ (TH 8)

**An vanak adro agas dorn** ‘The glove on your hand’ (AB: 250a)

**Hy a wor gwyl padn dâ gen hy gwâlân** ‘She can make good cloth with her wool’ (James Jenkins c. 1700)

**Kemerowgh wyth a’gas lavrak poos** ‘Take care of your heavy trousers’ (John Boson 1709)

**Yma gàs dyllas gwrys** ‘Your clothes are made’ (AB: 248b)

**Cawas an bows-na heb gwry eus i’th kerhyn me a vedn** ‘I will to have that seamless garment that is about you’ (RD 1921-22)

**Udn flogh yonk gwydn y dhyllas** ‘A young child in white clothes’ (PA 254c)

**Y dhyllas a veu gwrys maga whydn avell an ergh** ‘His clothes became as white as snow’ (TH 56a)

**Otobma dyllas dha’gas qwetha—fystenowgh, bedhans guwyskys** ‘Here are clothes to clothe you—let them be put on’ (CW 977-78)

**Rewgh dhybm qweth rag ow hudha; me yw noth ha’n gwyns yw yeyn** ‘Give me a garment to cover myself; I am naked and the wind is cold’ (BM 3041-42)

**Pyw a wrug leveral dhys tell esta yn noth?** ‘Who told you you were naked?’ (William Rowe)
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

**8.10. MONEY**

_Gwysk dha dhyllas i’th kerhyn_ ‘Put your clothes on’ (BM 3003)

_Dha vante gas in gaja. Me a’n beidh rag ow waja ha te a greg re’n ow thas_ ‘Leave your cloak as pledge. I will have it for my pay and you can hang upon my word’ (PC 1186-88)

_Dieth via bonas reis qweth a’n par-ma dha jaudyn_ ‘It would be a pity to give a garment like this to a scoundrel’ (PC 1791-92)

_In le ow dyllas owrlyn, purpor, padnow fyn, lebmnyn me a wysk qweth loos_ ‘Instead of my silken clothes, satin, purple, fine fabrics, now I shall wear grey cloth.’ (BM 1965-67)

**8.10. MONEY**

_Goslow dha vy, che den màr fur, dha neb ma meur a peth ha lias tyr_ ‘Listen to me, you man so wise, who has much wealth and many lands’ (James Jenkins c. 1700)

_Lowen bledhen noweth ha benen yonk ha mona lower gans a’s gwreg_ ‘A happy new year and a young woman and may your wife have money enough’ (John Boson 1709)

_Me a’n pren dheworthas. Otta an mona parys_ ‘I’ll buy it from you; here is the money ready’ (PC 1555-56)

_Na venja pe an mona sur_ ‘He surely wouldn’t pay the money’ (John Tonkin c. 1695)

_Pronter ev a hevel sur—yma mona gans hedna_ ‘He seems to be a priest—he will have money’ (BM 1903-04)

_Kepar hag udn ladar ev a ell robbya lias den_ ‘like a robber he can rob many people’ (TH 25a)

_Ha aniy a worras an naw puns i’n desen_ ‘And they put the nine pounds in the cake’ (AB: 251a)

_Deu yw an mona re’m fay_ ‘The money is gone, upon my faith’ (BM 1873)

_Ha an mona aniy a gavas ha’n bara aniy a dhebras_ ‘And they found the money and ate the bread’ (AB: 253a)

_Na vedn ev nefra dos ves a gendon_ ‘He’ll never get out of debt’ (AB: 230c)
8.11. FISHES, BIRDS, AND ANIMALS

Otta an poscas, idhyn i'n air ha bestas ‘Here are the fishes, birds of the air and animals’ (CW 397-98)

Chattal, idhyn, ha bestas ‘Cattle, birds, and animals’ (CW 2482-83)

Margh ha casak hag asen, ky ha cath ha logosen ‘Horse and mare and ass, dog and cat and mouse’ (CW 406-07)

Buwgh, lejak, ha leugh ‘Cow, heifer, and calf’ (Bilbao MS)

Dall yw an gasak-na ‘That mare is blind’ (AB: 243c)

Buwgh yw best heb parow dha vab den ‘A cow is a peerless animal for mankind’ (OM 124-45)

Tarow, ojian, ha denowas ‘Bull, ox, and steer’ (Bilbao MS)

Casak, margh, ha ebal ‘Mare, horse, and colt’ (Bilbao MS)

Eus leth lik gen an vuwgh? ‘Has the cow enough milk?’ (ACB F f 2)

Medhow yw an hogh-na ‘That pig is drunk’ (AB: 243c)

Gorra ow thus dha'n fer dha wertha ohan ‘To send my men to the fair to sell oxen’ (ACB opposite F f 2)

Margh yw best heb parow dha vab den rag omweras ‘A horse is an unequalled animal for give assistance to mankind’ (OM 124-25)

Ma margh dh’ow broder vy ‘My brother has a horse’ (AB: 242a)

Yma’n den ow gwertha an margh ‘The man is selling the horse’ (AB: 246c)

Na wregh y bern ‘Do not buy it’ (AB: 244c)

Py ma dhybm ow margh morel? ‘Where has my jet-black horse got to?’ (BM 2111)

Ny dhesefsan y fedna an pack-casak bonas már hell ha kebmys dewanhes ‘I would not have guessed that the pack-mare would have been so slow and so out of condition’ (BK 388-91).

Gavar, ewyges, carow, davas ‘Goat, hind, stag, sheep’ (OM 125-26)

Hordh, davas, hag on ‘Ram, sheep, and lamb’ (Bilbao MS)

Devas, eyn, gever, ha menas ‘Sheep, lambs, goats, and kids’ (Bilbao MS)

An bestas ha’n ohan ha’n devyjyow oll i’n gwel ‘The beasts and the oxen and all the sheep in the field’ (CW 1069-70)
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

Ma whegh buwgh dhodha, dew margh, ha try cans lodn davas ‘He has six cows, two horses and three hundred sheep’ (AB: 244a)

Kepar hag ôn wär geyn lowarn po brathky ‘Like a lamb on the back of a fox or fierce dog’ (OM 895)

Lebma fo an bugel medhel, an lowarn a leha an devysyow ‘Where the shepherd is slack, the fox reduces the sheep’ (BM 2979-81)

Neb na gar y gy a’n gwer devydar ‘Who does not love his dog makes him a sheep-worrier’ (Scawen MSS)

Yma obma keun munys ‘Here are some small dogs’ (BM 3223)

Kepar ha lion owth uja ‘Like a roaring lion’ (TH 3a)

Hedhyw me a wel carow ‘I shall see a stag today’ (BM 3235)

Me a wor y letsta sur abarth a’m coos radn a’m kyrwas ‘I know that you have stolen from inside my forest some of my stags’ (BK 104-06)

Ev re dhanvonas kyrwas in le ohan dha’m gweras ‘He has sent stags instead of oxen to assist me’ (BK 832-33)

Saw yth enjy i’n golon rampyng bleydhas setlys rag devorya ‘But they are at heart ravenous wolves intent on devouring’ (TH 19a)

Yma an gôg i’n lowarth awartha ‘The cuckoo is in the upper garden’ (Ustick MSS)

Goodh ha yar ‘Goose and hen’ (OM 129)

Hôs, payon, colom, grugyar, swân, bargos, bryny ha’n er ‘Duck, peacock, dove, partridge, swan, buzzard, crows and the eagle’ (OM 131-32)

Colom wheg glas hy lagas ‘A sweet dove with blue eyes’ (OM 1109)

Grugyar teg hag awhesyth ‘A fair partridge and a lark’ (OM 1203)

Dew gopyl a gelemny, dov gans pluv gwydn ‘Two pairs of doves, tame with white plumage’ (BK 2045-46)

Pan y’th clowys ow kelwal, muskegys moy es gwenal i’n fordh orth hy lowena ‘When I heard you calling, I went more wild with pleasure than a swallow in her joy by the road’ (BK 1108-10)
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

**An golom yw devedhys ha gensy branch olyf glas** ‘The dove has come with a green olive branch’ (CW 2461-62)

**Me a offryn teyr bran vrâs, marthys rownd aga mellow. Y a dal denerow whegh. Me a’s kerhas pór wyr dhewar geyn margh mes a hallow** ‘I will offer three large ravens, with very round joints. They are worth sixpence. I indeed fetched them yesterday on horseback from the moors’ (BM 3407-11)

**Me a wrug gwelas an carnou ujy an gúllys ha’n idhyn mor eral ow qwyl aga neythow** ‘I saw the rocks where the gulls and other sea birds make their nests’ (AB: 245a)

**Porpas, sownmens, syllias** ‘Porpoise, salmon, eels’ (OM 136)

**Lenesow ha barvusy** ‘Ling and cod’ (OM 138)

**Mès me a drocyas udn peisk brâs, naw y lostyow** ‘But I found a big fish with nine tails’ (Noel Cater 1698, LAM: 228)

**Idhyn, bestas, prevyon** ‘Birds, beasts and reptiles’ (OM 1160)

**Kè aberveth, te harlot, i’n pryson in mesk prevas** ‘Go inside, you scoundrel, into the prison among the insects (BK 418-19)

**Gans nader yth ov gwadnhes** ‘I have been weakened by a snake’ (OM 1756)

**Serpont yw hy, uth hy gwelas** ‘It is a snake, horrible to behold’ (OM 1451-52)

**Dha weth vedhans dha’n cronek** ‘They will be the worse for the toad’ (PC 2732)

**Shyndys ov gans cronek du ha whedhys gans y venym** ‘I have been injured by a black toad and swollen by its poison’ (OM 1778).

**Cronek an hager-dhu** ‘Toad, the ugly black one’ (Ascribed to Dolly Pentreath by William Bottrell).

### 8.12. THE WEATHER

**Hager-awel hag awel deg** ‘Bad weather and good weather’ (ACB opposite F f 2)

**Kensa ort an hagar-awel uja va qwyl da dereval warnan ny kenyver termyn dèr eran ny mos dort Pedn an Wlas da Syllan** ‘First because of the storm he raises against us every time we go from Land’s End to Scilly’ (Nicholas Boson)

158  Revision 16, 14 November 2007
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

Fatla ujy ow colowy ha taredna! ‘How it thunders and lightens!’
(AB: 248a)
Lowas ha taran ‘Thunder and lightning’ (RD 129)
Yeyn kewar, tarednow ha golowas ‘Cold weather, thunder and lightning’ (ACB opposite F f 2)
Ny’m let glaw na tarednys ‘Neither rain nor thunder will stop me’
(BK 3029)
Yma ow qwyl ergh ‘It snows’ (AB: 250b)
Yma ow qwyl kesar ‘It hails’ (AB: 250bc)
Ergh, rew, gwyns, ha clehy ha kesar ‘Snow, frost, wind, icicles and hail’ (ACB opposite F f 2)
Yma ow tegensewa hager-gowas ‘A nasty shower is threatening’
(OM 1079-80)
Otta cowas pòr ahas. Na’s perth den mara pes pell ‘Here comes a very nasty shower. No one will withstand it if it last long’
(OM 1081-82)
Hedna a wra gwytha na dheffa glaw aberveth ‘That will ensure that rain won’t come in’ (OM 1075-76)
Gallas an glaw dha ves glan ‘The rain has quite cleared up’ (OM 1097)
Yma an gwyns ow whetha ha’n mor ow tereval foll ‘The wind is blowing and the sea rising wildly’ (BM 601-02)
Menowgh gans ergh ha clehy me re beu in mes dre nos ‘Often in snow and ice I have been out all night’ (BM 3055-56)
Cabmdhavas i’n mettyn, glaw a ell bos etten ‘Rainbow in the morning, rain may be in it’ (ACB F f)
An gabmdhavas yn tevry pesqwyth may’s gwelhough why hy, rememba ahanowgh why me a wra bis venary ‘The rainbow indeed whenever you see it, I shall remember you for ever’
(CW 2501-04)
Rag own why dha godha po an rew dha derry ha why dha vos budhys ‘Lest you fall, or the ice break and you be drowned’
(AB: 250a)
8.13. CALENDAR

Ma dewdhek mys i’n vledhen ‘There are twelve months in the year’ (Bilbao MS)

An vledhen yw dewdhek seythen ha dewgans ‘The year is fifty-two weeks’ (Bilbao MS)

Quarter bledhen yw trydhek seythen ‘Quarter of a year is thirteen weeks’ (Bilbao MS)

Hanter bledhen yw whegh seythen warn ugans ‘Half a year is twenty-six weeks’ (Bilbao MS)

An jorna-ma wár seythen ‘this day week’ ACB O

In hav porth cov gwâv ‘In summer remember winter’ (Lhuyd MSS)

Gwâv in hav dër bo Golowan; ha hav in gwâv dër bo Nadelak ‘Winter in summer until midsummer; and summer in winter until Christmas’ (Ustick MSS)

De Halan Gwâv mettyn in eglos Lalant ‘On All Saints’ Day in the morning in Lelant church’ (Depositions of Exeter Consistory Court 1572)

An whefas deidh in Gortheran ha’n gela veidh mys Est certan orth ow desyr an ethvas deidh; ha’n tressa mys Gwydngala, de Gol Myhal yw hedna. In plu Noala nefra an keth feryow-ma a veidh ‘The sixth day of July and the other in August indeed as I wish, the eighth day; and the third, September, that is Michaelmas. In the parish of Noala these same festivals will be for ever’ (BM 2070-79)

An degvas deidh mys Hedra i’n bledhen myl whegh cans dewgans ha try ‘The tenth day of October in the year 1643’ (John Keigwin)

Flogh a veu genys in mys Merth, ny a drohas y vugel in mys Est. Eu a ros towl dha Pronter Pawl mys Du kyn Nadelak ‘A baby was born in March, we cut his navel in August. He gave a fall to the Vicar of Paul in November before Christmas’ (William Gwavas c. 1728, ACB folio before G g)

An kensa jorna a mys Hedra an contell, in plu Pawl, in Kernow teg in bloodh Crist an Arluth wheg myl seyth cans ha hanter deg ‘The meeting on the first day of October in
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

the parish of Paul, in fair Cornwall in the year of Christ the sweet Lord 1705’ (Thomas Boson 1705, BF: 38)

I’n bledhen a’n Dwe Arluth ny, 1710. William Gwavas a’n Tempel Cres in Loundres in Pow an Brethon ‘In the year of our Lord God, 1710. William Gwavas from the Middle Temple in London in Britain’ (William Gwavas 1710, LAM: 238)

Dort Newlyn i’n Blu Pawl, 22 Est 1711 ‘From Newlyn in the parish of Paul, 22 August 1711’ (William Gwavas, LAM: 238)

Adheworth Newlyn, i’n Blu Pawl, an 22vas mys Est, 1711 ‘From Newlyn, in the parish of Paul, the 22nd of August, 1711’ (Oliver Pender, LAM: 238)

Scryfys wâr an kensa deidh a’n mys Kevardhu 1736 ‘Written on the first day of the month of December’ (William Gwavas).

8.14. THE COUNTRYSIDE, FLOWERS, AND TREES

Kê aberth i’n pow the wandra udn pols bian ‘Go into the country to wander for a while’ (RD 1634-35)

Na sorran may teffa gweidh ha losow ‘Let us not be angry that trees and herbs may grow’ (Lhuyd MSS)

An losowen bian gen y arr nedhys, eus ow tevy in an hallow ny, eus cries Pleth Maria ‘The small plant with the twisted stalk, which grows on our hills, is called Lady’s Tresses (Spiranthes spiralis)’ (AB: 245a)

Lowr flourys a bûb ehan i’n plas-ma otta tevys—ha frûtys wâr bub gweedhen y tev gwâv ha hav kefreis ‘Look, there are many flowers of every kind growing here—and fruit on every tree grow winter and summer as well’ (CW 364-66)

Me a vedn mos dha wandra obma in mesk an flourys ‘I shall go to wander here among the flowers’ (CW 539-40)

Ena yth esa plenty a bûb kynda a frûtys ‘There were plenty of kinds of fruit there’ (TH 2)

Gweidh crabbys na dhora frût dá veth ‘Crab-apple trees that bear no good fruit’ (TH 9)

Myr, ot obma teyr sprusen a dheuth mes a’n aval-ma ‘Look here are three pips that came out this apple’ (CW 1845-46)
Dreys, spern, lynas, ha spedhas ‘Brambles, thorns, nettles, and briars’ (TH 9)

Crev yw gwredhyow an spedhas mayth yw ow dewvregh terryss wortans menough ow qwetytha ‘Tough are the roots of the briars so that my arms are broken by working at them again and again’ (OM 687-89)

Praga i’gas kerthow why y tev lynas yn erbers heb gonys veth? ‘Why in your territory do nettles grow without any cultivation?’ (BK 2295-97)

Ena yth esa flourys ha frútyss teg aga lyw dha’gan maga ‘There were flowers there and pleasant fruits to feed us’ (CW 1050-52)

Spern y teg dhys ha spedhas ha’n erbys a’n keth dor-na, te a dheber ‘It will bear thorns and brambles for you and the herbs of the same ground you will eat’ (CW 947-49)

Spern hag ascal a wra ev dry rag dhys ‘Thorns and thistles it will produce for you’ (William Rowe)

Rag delkyow sevy a wra mowysy teg ‘For strawberry leaves make girls fair’ (Chygwyn, ACB opposite G g)

Ewgh dewhans dha’n erberow ha contellowgh yn fysy erbys rag guthyl dowrow ‘Go immediately to the herb gardens and busily collect herbs to make fragrances’ (BK 2986-89).

8.15. AGRICULTURAL LABOUR

Pana whel a ellasta gwyl? Pùb whel oll ‘What work can you do? All kinds of work’ (AB: 251a)

Res yw porres lazyrya ha gonys an beis obma dha gawas dha ny sosten ‘It is very necessary to cultivate the world here to get food for us’ (CW 1079-81)

Gorra an ohan i’n ardar ‘To put the oxen to the plough’ (ACB F f 2)

Aras an kensa an todn ‘First plough the lea’ (ACB F f 2)

Gorra tus i’n skybar dha droshyan ‘To send men to the barn to thresh’ (ACB opposite F f 2)

Gorra an vowes dha shakya an cala ‘To put the maid to shake the straw’ (ACB opposite F f 2)
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

Bargydnya gen den dha vos dha’n whel sten ‘To bargain with a man to go to a tin-work’ (ACB opposite F f 2)

By dha stenor deg puns i’n vledhen ‘To give the tinner ten pounds a year’ (ACB opposite F f 2)

Carya an sten dha’n fog ‘To carry the tin to the furnace’ (ACB opposite F f 2)

Sten Sen Agnes yw an gwelha sten in Kernow ‘St Agnes tin is the best tin in Cornwall’ (ACB opposite F f)

Whelas tus dha trehy kesow ‘To seek men to cut turf’ (ACB F f 2)

Whelas pobel dha trehy eythyn ‘To seek people to cut furze’ (ACB F f 2)

Me a gontell dreyn ha spern ha glos dha lesky ‘I will gather brambles and thorns and cow-dung to burn’ (CW 1091-92)

Danvon rag tus dha dреhy gorha ‘To send for men to cut hay’ (ACB F f 2)

Whelas mejwesyon dha vejy an is ‘To seek reapers to reap the corn’ (ACB F f 2)

Is i’n nor ‘Corn in the ground’ (Bilbao MS)

Trehy ground beten rag gonys sogal ‘Cut beat land to grow rye’ (Bilbao MS)

Barlys, gwanath, ha kergh ‘Barley, wheat, and oats’ (Bilbao MS)

Dha jarj iy a veidh wăr kergh, barlys, ha gwanath ‘Your charge shall be over oats, barley, and wheat’ (CW 1065-66)

Bara, bleus, ha brudnyon ‘Bread, flour, and groats’ (Bilbao MS)

Whelas colmoryon dha gelmy an is ‘To seek binders to bind the corn’ (ACB F f 2)

8.16. THE BLACKSMITH

Mos dha’n gov dha hernya an vergh ‘To go to the smith to shoe the horses’ (ACB F f 2)

Gorra an sogh ha’n trohar dha’n gov ‘To send the share and the coulter to the smith’ (ACB F f 2)

Gorra an dens harrow dha’n gov dha lehma ‘To send the harrow tines to the smith to sharpen’ (ACB F f 2)
Ny wòn gov in oll Kernow a whetha gans megydnow certan beth well ‘I know no smith in all Cornwall who would blow any better with bellows indeed’ (PC 2712-14)

Whath kentrow dhedha nynj o ‘They did not yet have nails’ (PA 154a)

Te, gwa try hentar dha ny ‘You, make three nails for us’ (PA 154d)

Danvon rag myl kentrow ‘Send for a thousand nails’ (Bilbao MS)

8.17. CONSTRUCTION AND BUILDING

Darbar lym ha pry, meyn whel, slodyas ha gednow ‘Provide mortar and clay, building stones, sledge-hammers and chisels’ (OM 2317-18)

Gans ow bol noweth lebmys me a sqwat pùb pys tymber ‘With my newly sharpened axe I shall split each piece of timber’ (CW 2283-84)

Me a vedn trehy tednow ha lathys teg ha corblys ‘I will cut beams, struts and brackets’ (OM 2445-46)

Ass oma sqwyth prednyer derow ow trehy ‘How tired I am cutting oak planks’ (OM 1009-10)

Màr lel y sensys dha lyn kyns es trehy wàr an predn, re got o a gevelyn ‘So accurately did you hold your line before cutting the plank, it was too long by a cubit’ (OM 2518-20)

Myr, obma dha wober ‘Look, here are your wages’ (AB: 251a)

8.18. FISHING

Gorra an rosow i’n dowr rag hern ‘To put the nets in the water for pilchards’ (Bilbao MS)

Pana prys rag hern? ‘What price for pilchards?’ (ACB opposite F f 2)

Prys dâ ‘A good price’ (ACB opposite F f 2)

Ha kenyver benen ha cawel a try hans hern wàr hy heyn ‘And every woman with a basket of three hundred pilchards on her back’ (John Boson, Pilchard rhyme)

Ny a via prys dâ rag an sten ha rag an hern ‘We should have a good price for tin and for pilchards’ (John Tonkin c. 1695)
Ma own dha vy ma deweth dha nessa bledhen adro dha’n hern ‘I am afraid there is an end until next year with the pilchards’ (Oliver Pender 1711, LAM: 238)

An hern gwâv a vedn gwyl drog dha’n hern hav ‘The winter pilchards will harm the summer pilchards’ (Oliver Pender 1711, LAM: 238)

Mos dha’n mor dha gachya poscas ‘To go to sea to catch fish’ (ACB F f 2)

Me a glowas, a glowas an tros, an tros, an tros a’n poscas munys ‘I heard, heard, heard the noise, noise, noise of the tiny fish’ (Noel Cater 1698)

Tedna cans myl warbarth ‘To catch a hundred thousand together’ (ACB F f 2)

A vednowgh why mos dha drig? ‘Will you go to the strand?’ (ACB F f 2)

8.19. PLACE-NAMES

An Dûk a’n jenyth pôr wyrag y lavyr oll an tyr a Dhowr Hombyr dha Scotlond ‘The Duke will get for his labour all the land from the River Humber to Scotland’ (BK 3235-37)

A oll an gwlasow in Crystoneth nyns eus onen an jevas mår veur caus dha favera an se ha’n stall a Rom dell jevas Inglond ‘Of all the countries in Christendom none has as much cause to favour the see and stall of Rome as has England’ (TH 51)

Nena mos ales dha seol ha woja hedna mos dha Frenk ‘Then I went away to school and after that to France’ (Nicholas Boson)

Nena ev êth in kerdh rag Frenk rag debry an taclow yw pôr trynk ‘Then he went away to France to eat things that are very bitter’ (John Tonkin c. 1693)

Brethonek Pow Lesaw in Frenk ‘The Brythonic of Brittany in France’ (AB: 222)

Ha ev dha Wordhen êth y honen ‘And he to Ireland went himself’ (John Tonkin c. 1693)

Yma trygys in Kembra in Urbe Legionum ‘He lives in Wales in the City of the Legions’ (BK 1292-93)
8.20. CORNISH AND THE CELTIC LANGUAGES

Gân tavas Kernowak yw mår pell gwaďhes, ûs na ellen scant qwetyas dha y welas crefhe arta ‘Our Cornish language is so far weakened that we can hardly hope to see it strengthen again’ (Nicholas Boson c. 1675)

Ma moy Sowsnak clappys dell ujy Kernowak ‘There is more English spoken than Cornish’ (Nicholas Boson c. 1675)

Radn a ell bos kezys na ell scant clappya na godhvas Kernowak, bûs scant den veth bûs a or godhvas ha clappya Sowsnak ‘Some can be found who can hardly speak or understand Cornish, but hardly anyone who cannot understand and speak English’ (Nicholas Boson c. 1675)

Ne alja ev clappya na scryfa Kernowak pecar ha why ‘He could not speak nor write Cornish like you’ (Oliver Pender 1711)

Gomar mab Jafet mab Noy a veu an kensa den a wrug clappya Kernowak i’n termyn a veu Tour Babel derevys ‘Gomer son of Japhet son of Noah was the first man to talk Cornish at the time when the Tower of Babel was built’ (John Boson 1710)

An Kelesonak pô an Scot-Vrethonak eus leverys in Uheldyr an Alban hag in gwelascor Wordhen ‘The Caledonian or Scot-British which is spoken in the Highlands of Scotland and in the Kingdom of Ireland’ (AB: 222)

Pô dell yw hy cries genan ny in Kembra, an Lesawak ‘or as we in Wales call it, Llydaweg (Breton)’ (AB: 222)

In tavas Greca, Latyn ha’n Ebbrow, in Frenkak ha Kernowak deskys dâ ‘Learned well in Greek, Latin, Hebrew, in French and Cornish’ (John Boson 1716)

Ny a ell gwelas hag ajwon an tavas Kernowak dha vos tavas coth ha treweth yw y vos kellys ‘We can see and recognise that the Cornish language is an ancient tongue and it is a shame that it should be lost’ (John Boson 1710)

Meur a gormola dha why wâr tyr ha mor ha in pûb chy rag agas gerlyvryn dâ a’n Kernowak i’n pow-ma ‘Great praise to you on land and sea and in every house for your fine dictionary of the Cornish of this country’ (William Gwavas 1736)
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

Me a wrug scantlowr clowas udn ger Sowznak cowsys i’n
cok rag seythen warbarth ‘I heardly heard a single word of
English spoken in the boat for a week altogether’ (William Bodinar
1776)

Na wrug avy byscath gwelas lyver Kernowak ‘I never saw a
Cornish book’ (William Bodinar 1776)

An Kernowak yw oll nekevys gen pobel yonk ‘Cornish is all
forgotten by young people’ (William Bodinar 1776)

Yw hemma scryfa Kernowak dâ? ‘Is this good Cornish writing?
(William Gwavas 1710)

Nag ov vy whath hanter-den Kernowak dâ dha scryfa da
why ‘I am still not half a good Cornishman to write to you’
(William Gwavas 1711)

Ellowgh why clappy Kernowak? Gellam. ‘Can you speak
Cornish? Yes’ (ACB opposite F f 2)

Me na vednaf cowsa Sowznak ‘I will not speak English’ (Richard
Carew 1602, LAM: 272).
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

CHAPTER NINE

RECOMMENDED SPELLING OF MONOSYLLABLES

This list is not exhaustive.

a [æ] ‘from’
â [æː] ‘goes’
abm, amm [æm], [æm] ‘kiss’
agh [æx] ‘progeny’
agh [æx] ‘oh!’
air [æz] ‘air’
als [olz] ‘shore’
ar [ɔr] ‘arable land’
art [ɔrt] ‘art’
ass [æs] ‘how!’
back [bæk] ‘breakwater’
bad [bæd] ‘bad’
bagh [bæx] ‘dungeon’
bagh [bæx] ‘hook’
badh [bæð] ‘bath’
badh [bæð] ‘boar’
badn, bann [baen], [bæn]
‘height’ of in badn, in bann
[ənbaen], [ənbaen], in
madn, in mann [ɔmaen],
[ɔmaen] ‘upwards’, a vadin, a
vann [ɔvæn], [ɔvæn]
‘upstairs’
bai [be] ‘bay’
bal [bæl] ‘mine’
barr [bɔr] ‘branch’
bas [bæz] ‘shallow’
bas [bæz] ‘becomes shallow’
bat [bet] ‘cudgel’
bath [bæθ] ‘coin’
bay [bæi] ‘kiss’
bedh [beð] ‘grave’
bedh [beð] ‘dares’
begh [beŋ] ‘load’
beidh [bɛð], [bɛð] ‘will be, be!’
beis [bɛz] ‘world’
beis [bɛz] ‘finger’
bell [bɛl] ‘war’
ben [bɛn] ‘stem, trunk’
benk [bɛŋk] ‘bench’
ber [bɛr] ‘roasting spit’
berr [bɛr] ‘short’
best [bɛst] ‘animal’
beth [bɛθ] ‘ever’
bew [bɛu] ‘alive’
bew [bɛu] ‘lives’
bis [bɪz] ‘until’
blam [blæm] ‘blame’
blas [blaus] ‘taste’
bleus [bluəz] ‘flower, meal’
bleydh [blaθ] ‘wolf’
bleyn [blaɪn] ‘top’
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

**blodh** [bloːd] ‘year of age’, also **bloedd** [bluːd] ‘year of age’
**blow** [blou] ‘blue’
**bo** [bo:] ‘would be’
**bò** [bo:] ‘if’
**bobm, bomm** [bɔːm], [bɔm] ‘thump’
**bock** [bɔːk] ‘billy-goat’
**bodh** [boːd] ‘wish’
**bogh** [boːx] ‘buck’
**bol** [boːl] ‘hatchet’
**bolgh** [bɔlɛx] ‘gap’
**borr** [bɔːr] ‘fat’
**bos** [bɔːs] ‘be’
**bòs** [bɔs] ‘bush’
**böst** [bɔːst] ‘boast’
**boos** [bɔːz], [buːz] ‘food’
**both** [boːQ] ‘nave of wheel’
**brabm, bramm** [bɔːm], [bɔm] ‘fart’
**brag** [bɔːɡ] ‘malt’
**brag** [bɔːɡ] ‘threatens’
**bran** [bɔːn] ‘raven’
**bras** [bɔːz], [bɔːz] ‘treachery’
**brás** [bɔːz], [bɔːz] ‘great’
**brav** [bɔːv] ‘fine’
**brehg** [bɛːx] ‘arm’
**breis** [buiːz], [bɛːz] ‘mind’
**breis** [buiːz], [bɛːz] ‘womb’
**brest** [bueːst] ‘brass’
**brest** [bueːst] ‘breast’
**breus** [bɔːz] ‘judgment’
**brew** [buiː] ‘wounded’
**breyth** [bɛːθ] ‘speckled’
**brodn, bronn** [bɔːn], [bɔːn] ‘breast’
**brogh** [bɔːχ] ‘badger’
**bros** [bɔːz] ‘stew’
**bros** [bɔːz] ‘prick, point’
**brow** [buiː] ‘quern’
**bry** [buiː] ‘value’
**bryck** [buk] ‘brick’
**bryv** [buiːv] ‘bleats’
**budh** [buiːd], [buiːd] ‘drowns’
**bùs** [bɔs] ‘but’
**bùsh** [bɔʃ] ‘bush’
**bùss** [bʊs] ‘bus’
**buwgh** [buiɔ] ‘cow’
**cabm, camm** [kæm], [kæm] ‘crooked’
**cal** [kæl] ‘sly’
**call** [kæl] ‘penis’
**cán** [kæn], [kɔn] ‘song’
**càn** [kæn] ‘very white’
**car** [kɔr] ‘kinsman’
**car** [kɔr] ‘love!’
**carr** [kɔr] ‘car, cart’
**cas** [kæs] ‘battle’
**cas** [kæs] ‘case, cause’
**cas** [kæs] ‘hatred, hates’
**cast** [kæst] ‘trick’
**cath** [kæθ] ‘cat’
**cav** [kæv] ‘cave’
**cav** [kæv] ‘will get’
**chair** [tʃeɪ] ‘chair’
**chass** [tʃæs] ‘chase’
**chast** [tʃeːst] ‘chaste’
**chêk** [tʃɛk] ‘cauldron, kettle’
**cher** [tʃeɪ] ‘aspect, cheer’
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cornish</th>
<th>Pronunciation</th>
<th>English Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>chet</strong></td>
<td>[tʃet]</td>
<td>‘fellow, chit’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>chy</strong></td>
<td>[tʃi:], [tʃi]</td>
<td>‘house’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>chyf</strong></td>
<td>[tʃi:f]</td>
<td>‘chief’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>chyl</strong></td>
<td>[tʃi:l]</td>
<td>‘child’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>clap</strong></td>
<td>[klœp]</td>
<td>‘jabber’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>class</strong></td>
<td>[klœs]</td>
<td>‘class’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>clâv</strong></td>
<td>[klœ:v], [klÅ:v]</td>
<td>‘sick’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>clap</strong></td>
<td>[klœp]</td>
<td>‘jabber’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>clâm</strong></td>
<td>[klœ:m]</td>
<td>‘claim’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>cler</strong></td>
<td>[kle:®]</td>
<td>‘clear’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>clock</strong></td>
<td>[klOk]</td>
<td>‘clock’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>clogh</strong></td>
<td>[clo:x]</td>
<td>‘bell’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>clôk</strong></td>
<td>[klo:k]</td>
<td>‘cloak’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>cloos</strong></td>
<td>[klo:z], [klu:z]</td>
<td>‘hurdle, wattle’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>clor</strong></td>
<td>[klo:®]</td>
<td>‘mild’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>clos</strong></td>
<td>[klo:z]</td>
<td>‘bliss, glory’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>clos</strong></td>
<td>[klo:z]</td>
<td>‘closed, enclosure’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>clot</strong></td>
<td>[klOt]</td>
<td>‘clot’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>cloud</strong></td>
<td>[klu:d]</td>
<td>‘cloud’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>clout</strong></td>
<td>[klu:t]</td>
<td>‘cloth’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>cock</strong></td>
<td>[kOk]</td>
<td>‘cock, male bird’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>cog</strong></td>
<td>[ko:g]</td>
<td>‘empty’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>cog</strong></td>
<td>[ko:g]</td>
<td>‘cuckoo’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>côgh</strong></td>
<td>[kOx]</td>
<td>‘red, scarlet’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>côk</strong></td>
<td>[ko:k]</td>
<td>‘sailing boat’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>côk</strong></td>
<td>[ko:k]</td>
<td>‘chef, cook’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>coll</strong></td>
<td>[kOl]</td>
<td>‘peak; awn’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>coll</strong></td>
<td>[kOl]</td>
<td>‘loss, damage’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>coodh</strong></td>
<td>[ko:D], [ku:D]</td>
<td>‘falls, behoves’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>coos</strong></td>
<td>[ko:z], [ku:z]</td>
<td>‘wood’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>côp</strong></td>
<td>[ko:p]</td>
<td>‘cope’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>cor</strong></td>
<td>[ko:z]</td>
<td>‘wax’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>corr</strong></td>
<td>[ku:]</td>
<td>‘dwarf’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>corr</strong></td>
<td>[ku:]</td>
<td>‘ale’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>cort</strong></td>
<td>[ko:rt]</td>
<td>‘court’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>coss</strong></td>
<td>[ko:s]</td>
<td>‘itching’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>cost</strong></td>
<td>[ko:st]</td>
<td>‘coast, region’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>côst</strong></td>
<td>[ko:st]</td>
<td>‘cost’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>cot</strong></td>
<td>[ko:t]</td>
<td>‘short’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>coth</strong></td>
<td>[ko:®]</td>
<td>‘old’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>cousm</strong></td>
<td>[ku:m]</td>
<td>‘small valley’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>cour</strong></td>
<td>[ku:®]</td>
<td>‘limit’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>cour</strong></td>
<td>[ku:®]</td>
<td>‘court’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>couth</strong></td>
<td>[ku:®]</td>
<td>‘husk, pod’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>cowl</strong></td>
<td>[kOol]</td>
<td>‘pottage’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>crack</strong></td>
<td>[kæk]</td>
<td>‘snap, crack’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>craf</strong></td>
<td>[kæ:f]</td>
<td>‘greedy’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>cragh</strong></td>
<td>[kæ:x]</td>
<td>‘scab’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>creg</strong></td>
<td>[kæ:®]</td>
<td>‘hoarse’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>crèn</strong></td>
<td>[ku:n], [ku:n]</td>
<td>‘shake’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>cres</strong></td>
<td>[kæ:®]</td>
<td>‘faith, belief’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>cres</strong></td>
<td>[kæ:®]</td>
<td>‘peace’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>cres</strong></td>
<td>[kæ:®]</td>
<td>‘middle’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>creun</strong></td>
<td>[ku:n], [ku:n]</td>
<td>‘pool, reservoir’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>crev</strong></td>
<td>[ku:v]</td>
<td>‘strong’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cryst</strong></td>
<td>[ku:st]</td>
<td>‘Christ’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>crobm, cromm</strong></td>
<td>[ku:®m], [ku:®m]</td>
<td>‘crooked, bent’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>crôch</strong></td>
<td>[kOx:t]</td>
<td>‘crutch’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>crog</strong></td>
<td>[ko:q]</td>
<td>‘hanging, suspension’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>crow</strong></td>
<td>[ku:Q]</td>
<td>‘fiddle’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>crow</strong></td>
<td>[ku:Q]</td>
<td>‘bird’s crop’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>crow</strong></td>
<td>[ku:Q]</td>
<td>‘bloodshed’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>crow</strong></td>
<td>[ku:Q]</td>
<td>‘hole, socket’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>crow</strong></td>
<td>[ku:Q]</td>
<td>‘shed, hut’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>crows</strong></td>
<td>[ko:oz]</td>
<td>‘cross’</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

crug [kryːɡ], [kiːɡ] ‘mound, barrow’
cryb [kriːb] ‘crest’
cryn [kriːn] ‘dry, brittle’
crys [kriːz] ‘vigour, speed’
cryv [kriːv] ‘raw, crude’
cudh [kiːD, kiːD] ‘hide!’
cudh [kiːD, kiːD] ‘secret’
cul [kiːl] ‘narrow’
cuv [kiːv], [kiːv] ‘loving, amiable’
da [də] ‘to’
da [də] ‘thy’
dâ [dæː] ‘good’
dall [dæl] ‘blind’
dans [dænz] ‘tooth’, pl. dens [dænz]
dâr [dər] ‘what, eh?’
dauns [dæns] ‘dance’
de [dæː] ‘yesterday’
deidl [dəd] ‘as’
den [dæn] ‘man, person’
dèr [dæː], [də] ‘through’
deu [dəʊ], [dəː] ‘finished’
deu [dəʊ], [dəː] ‘comes’
dew [dəʊ] ‘two’
dha [də] ‘thy’
dha [də] ‘to’
dhên [dən] ‘to us’
dhys [dɪz], [dɪz] ‘to thee’
dol [dəl] ‘meady’
dol [dəl] ‘dole’
dooth [dʊθ], [dʊθ] ‘wise, demure’
dor [dʊr] ‘earth’
dos [dʊz] ‘come’
doth [dʊθ] ‘discreet’
dour [dʊər] ‘scrupulously’
dov [dʊv] ‘tame’
dowr [dʊər] ‘water’
dowt [dʊt] ‘fear’
dral [dæːl] ‘spear’
dre [dæː] ‘home’
drè [dæ] ‘through’
drem [dæːm] ‘lament’
dren [dæːn] ‘thorn’, pl. dreyn [dɹəm]
dres [dɹeːz] ‘beyond’
drog [dɹoɡ] ‘evil’
dry [dɹiː], [dɹi] ‘bring’
du [dʊ] ‘black’
dûk [dʊk] ‘duke’
Duw [dʊ] ‘God’
dyn [dɹi] ‘hill-fort’
el [eil] ‘angel’
er [eɪr] ‘heir’
er [eɪr] ‘eagle’
es [eɪz] ‘ease’
es [eɪz] ‘than’
Est [eːst] ‘August’
et [ɛt] ‘in’
eth [eθ] ‘eight’
eth [eθ] ‘vapour’
êth [eθ] ‘thou goest; he went’
eur [ʊər], [eɪr] ‘hour’
ev [ɛv], [ɛ] ‘he’
èv [ɛv] ‘drinks’
eyl [oɪl] ‘one’
**A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>fas [fæ:z] ‘face’</th>
<th>fy [fi:] ‘fie!’</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>fast [fæ:st] ‘fast, firm’</td>
<td>fyll [fil] ‘fails’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fav [fæ:v], [fæ:] ‘beans’</td>
<td>fyn [fim] ‘fine, payment’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>say [sai] ‘faith’</td>
<td>fyn [fim] ‘fine, delicate’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>feidh [fæ:d], [fæ:] ‘faith’</td>
<td>fyn [fim] ‘end’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fel [fæl] ‘crafty, clever’</td>
<td>fyt [fit] ‘bou’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fell [fæl] ‘cruel, destructive’</td>
<td>gal [gæ:l] ‘outcast’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fer [fær] ‘fair’</td>
<td>gam [gæ:m] ‘game’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fest [fæst] ‘extremely’</td>
<td>garr [gɔ:r] ‘leg’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>feth [fæθ] ‘overcomes’</td>
<td>garth [gɔθ] ‘enclosure, garden’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fler [flæ:] ‘stink’</td>
<td>gas [gæz] ‘leave, allow!’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fhogh [flɔx] ‘child’</td>
<td>gass [gæs] ‘gas’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>flour [flɔr] ‘flower’</td>
<td>gast [gæ:st] ‘bitch’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>flows [flɔuz] ‘trifling talk’</td>
<td>ged, genn [gæn] ‘chisel’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fo [fo:] ‘flight’</td>
<td>gel [gel] ‘leech’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fol [fol] ‘fool’</td>
<td>gell [gel] ‘brown, tawny’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>foll [fɔl] ‘foolish, crazy, wild’</td>
<td>gen [gæ:n] ‘mouth’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fordh [fɔd], [fɔ:] ‘way’ (in poetry for*)</td>
<td>ger [ge:] ‘word’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>forgh [fɔr] ‘fork’</td>
<td>ges [gæz] ‘mockery’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>form [fɔm] ‘form’</td>
<td>ges [gæz] ‘jests’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>form [fɔm] ‘oven’</td>
<td>gladn, glann [glæn], [glæn] ‘bank, brink’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fors [fɔr] ‘energy’</td>
<td>glan [gla:n] ‘clean, pure’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fos [fɔz] ‘ditch’</td>
<td>glas [gla:s] ‘blue, glaucous’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fow [fou] ‘cave, den’</td>
<td>glaw [gla:w] ‘rain’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fowt [fɔut] ‘fault’</td>
<td>gleib [gli:b], [gli:b] ‘wet’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>freth [friθ] ‘eloquent’</td>
<td>gledh [gleθ] ‘chickweed’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>frodn, fronn [fro:n], [frɔ:n] ‘bridel’</td>
<td>glen [gle:n] ‘sticks’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>frós [froz] ‘stream’</td>
<td>glos [gloz] ‘pain, anguish’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fros [froz] ‘tumult’</td>
<td>glow [glo:] ‘charcoal, coal’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>frút [fro:t] ‘fruit’</td>
<td>glu [glu] ‘clear, transparent’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fryg [friɡ] ‘nostril’</td>
<td>glus [glyz], [gli:z] ‘glue’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fug [fyɡ], [fɪɡ] ‘sham; fictitious’</td>
<td>glûth [gluθ] ‘dew’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fur [fyə], [fɪr] ‘wise’</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cornish</th>
<th>English</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>gnas [ɡnæz]</td>
<td>nature, quality</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>godn, gonn [ɡɔn], [ɡɔn]</td>
<td>gun</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gol [ɡɔl]</td>
<td>sail</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gol [ɡɔl]</td>
<td>feast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>golgh [ɡɔɫ]</td>
<td>'wash!'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gols [ɡɔl]</td>
<td>hair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gòn [ɡɔn]</td>
<td>I know</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gor [ɡɔr]</td>
<td>knows</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>goodh [ɡɔd], [ɡu:d]</td>
<td>goose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>goodh [ɡɔd], [ɡu:d]</td>
<td>wild</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>goon [ɡu:n], [ɡo:n]</td>
<td>sheath, scabbard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>goon [ɡu:n], [ɡo:n]</td>
<td>downland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>goos [ɡu:z], [ɡu:z]</td>
<td>blood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gooth [ɡu:Q], [ɡu:Q]</td>
<td>pride</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gooth [ɡu:Q], [ɡu:Q]</td>
<td>vein, stream</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gour [ɡu:Ω]</td>
<td>husband</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gov [ɡov]</td>
<td>smith</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gow [ɡoi]</td>
<td>lie, falsehood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gradh [ɡræ:d], [ɡwa:n]</td>
<td>step, grade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gras [ɡræ:s]</td>
<td>thanks, grace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>graunt [ɡrænant]</td>
<td>grant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gre [ɡre]</td>
<td>status</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gref [ɡref]</td>
<td>grief</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grêk [ɡræk]</td>
<td>Greek</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>greuff [ɡref], [ɡref]</td>
<td>'front of body'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>grôn [ɡrɔn]</td>
<td>mass, bundle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>grôt [ɡrot]</td>
<td>groat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>grow [ɡrou]</td>
<td>gravel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>grownd [ɡround]</td>
<td>ground</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>grug [ɡrɔɡ], [ɡriɡ]</td>
<td>heather, ling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gryll [ɡrɔl]</td>
<td>spider-crab</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gu [ɡiu]</td>
<td>woe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gul [ɡwil], [ɡyil], [ɡil]</td>
<td>do</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gwadn, gwann [ɡwɔ:n], [ɡwɔ:n], [ɡwɔ:n]</td>
<td>weak</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gwag [ɡwɔɡ]</td>
<td>empty, hungry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gwall [ɡwol]</td>
<td>mischance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gwan [ɡwɔ:n]</td>
<td>stab, stabs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gwarr [ɡwɔ:n]</td>
<td>'nape of neck'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gwas [ɡwɔ:s]</td>
<td>youth, servant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gwâv [ɡwɔ:v], [ɡwɔ:v]</td>
<td>'winter'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gwedn, gwenn [ɡwɛ:n], [ɡwɛ:n]</td>
<td>anus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gweidh [ɡwi:d], [ɡwe:D]</td>
<td>trees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gwel [ɡwel]</td>
<td>sight</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gwel [ɡwel]</td>
<td>sees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gwel [ɡwel]</td>
<td>field</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gwel [ɡwel]</td>
<td>barm, yeast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gwel [ɡwel]</td>
<td>rods</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gwells [ɡwelz]</td>
<td>'grass'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gwer [ɡwe:]</td>
<td>green</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gwerg [ɡwel]</td>
<td>virginal'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gwers [ɡwelz]</td>
<td>verse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gweth [ɡwel]</td>
<td>worse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gweus [ɡweus]</td>
<td>lip</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gweth [ɡwel]</td>
<td>'act, work'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gweth [ɡwel]</td>
<td>'time, occasion'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gwlan [ɡle:n], [ɡlɔ:n]</td>
<td>'wool'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gwlæs [ɡle:s]</td>
<td>'kingdom, country'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gwrâg [ɡwe:x]</td>
<td>'hag, old woman'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gwrêdh [ɡwe:d]</td>
<td>roots</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

gwreg [gwi:æg] ‘wife, woman’
gwrek [gwi:æk] ‘wreck’
gwrèm [gwi:æm] ‘hem’
gwry [gwi:ri:], [gwi:i:] ‘seam’
gwrys [gwi:riz] ‘crystal’
gwys [gwi:zi:] ‘made, done’
gwy [gwi:i:], [gwé] ‘twists, weaves’
gwydn, gwynn [gwi:ðn], [gwi:n] ‘white’
gwygh [gwi:x] ‘periwinkles’
gwyl [gwi:l], [gy:l], [gi:l] ‘do’
gwyll [gwi:ll] ‘vagrant, beggar’
gwyls [gwi:ls] ‘wild’
gwyn [gwi:n] ‘wine’
gwyns [gwi:nz] ‘windlass’
gwyldh [gwi:lð], [he:n] ‘at ease’
gwyll [gwi:ll] ‘true’
gwysk [gwi:sk] ‘clothes, apparel’
gwysk [gwi:sk] ‘strikes’
gwysk [gwi:sk] ‘care’
gwyw [gwi:u] ‘worthy’
gyk [gik] ‘least sound’
gyl [gιl] ‘guile, trickery’
gyr [gι] ‘gripes’
gys [gιz] ‘fashion, guise’
gyw [gιœ] ‘spear’
ha [ha] ‘and’
hal [he:ll] ‘moor, down’
hap [he:p] ‘chance’
hav [he:v] ‘summer’
heb [he:b] ‘without’
hedh [he:ð] ‘ceases’

hel [he:l] ‘hall’
hele [he:le] ‘generous’
hell [he:l] ‘tardy, reluctant’
hèm [hen] ‘this’
hen [hen] ‘old’
hèn [hen] ‘that’
hern [hen] ‘pitchards’
hes [he:z] ‘length’
hes [he:z] ‘swarm, swarms’
hesp [hesp] ‘hasp’
heudh [hœ:δ], [he:ð] ‘at ease’
heyl [hœil] ‘estuary’
hogh [hœx] ‘pig’
hôk [hœk] ‘hawk’
hol [hœl] ‘whole’
hol [hœl] ‘follows’
höm [hœm] ‘this’
hôn [hœn] ‘that’
hônd [hœ:nd] ‘hound’
hordh [hœ:ð], [hœ] ‘ram’ (in poetry hor’)
horn [hœm] ‘iron’
hos [hœz] ‘hoarse’
hos [hœz] ‘duck’
hot [hœt] ‘hat’
howl [hœul] ‘sun’
huk [hœk], [huk] ‘hooded cloak’
hun [hœ:n], [hœ:n] ‘sleep’
hus [hœz], [hiz] ‘magic’
hy [hι], [hœ] ‘she’
hyg [hιg] ‘hook’
hyr [hι:ð] ‘long’
iden, inn [i:ðn], [i:n] ‘narrow’
in [in] ‘in’
is [i:z] ‘corn’
jag [dʒæɡ] ‘jolt’

174  Revised 15.7, 29 October 2007
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

jäm [dʒæm] ‘jam’
jét [dʒe:t] ‘jet, iota’
jin [dʒim] ‘contrivance’
jùj [dʒo:dʒ] ‘judge’
joust [dʒoʊst] ‘joust’
jyst [dʒi:st] ‘beam, joist’
ke [ke:] ‘hedge’
ke [ke:] ‘go’
kel [ke:l] ‘hiding, shelter’
Kelt [kElt] ‘Celt’
ken [ke:n] ‘cause, case’
ken [ke:n] ‘other’
 kèn [kEn] ‘skin, peel’
kerdh [kE®D] ‘walk!’
kergh [kE®x] ‘fetch’
kergh [kE®x] ‘oats’
kern [kE®n] ‘round’
keth [ke:Q] ‘same’
keth [ke:Q] ‘slave’
keun [kø:n], [ke:n] ‘dogs’
keus [kø:z], [ke:z] ‘cheese’
kek [ke:] ‘enclosure’
keyn [kø:n] ‘back’
knack [knæk] ‘crack’
knes [kne:z] ‘skin’
know [knoʊ] ‘nus’
knouk [knouk] ‘knock’
knwy [kniəʊ] ‘fleece’
ky [ki:], [koi] ‘dog’, pl. keun [køːn], [ket]
kyg [kiː] ‘flesh, meat’
kyl [ki:il] ‘skittle’
kyll [ki:] ‘nook’
kyng [kn] ‘king’
kyns [kinz] ‘before’
kyst [kst] ‘chest’
kyy [kivy] ‘gets’
labm, lamm [la:b̩m], [læm] ‘jump’
ladm, lann [læ:n], [læn] ‘monastic enclosure’
lash [leʃ] ‘lash’
làss [leːs] ‘lace’
last [laːst] ‘nastiness’
lath [laːθ] ‘yard’
lay [leɪ] ‘religious law’
le [le:] ‘place’
le [le:] ‘less’
led [le:d] ‘lead!’
ledn, lenn [leːn], [len] ‘cloth’
leg [leɡ] ‘lay, non-clerical’
legh [le:x] ‘flat rock’
leis [liz], [leː] ‘court, palace’
len [le:n] ‘faithful’
lergh [lE®x] ‘track’
les [le:Z], [leːz] ‘width’
les [le:z] ‘profit, advantage’
lesk [leːsk] ‘rocking’
leth [leːθ] ‘milk’
leugh [lø:x], [leːx] ‘calf’
leur [lɔːr], [lɛ:] ‘ground, floor’
leuv [lɔːv], [lev] ‘hand’
lev [leːv] ‘voice’
lew [leu] ‘ruder’
lewgh [leʊx] ‘mist’
lin [lin] ‘fluid, liquid’
lion [ˈləʊn] ‘lion’
list [list] ‘list-yard’
lo [lo] ‘spoon’
lomb, lomm [lɔm], [lɔm] ‘bare, naked’
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

lodn, lonna [lɔ:n], [lɔ:n] ‘animal, brute’
log [lɔ:g] ‘monastic cell’
logh [lɔ:x] ‘lake, inlet’
logh [lɔ:x] ‘remiss’
lôk [lɔ:k] ‘look’
lonk [lɔ:nk] ‘gullet’
loor [lɔ:r], [lu:r] ‘moon’
loos [lɔ:Z], [lu:Z] ‘grey’
lôrgh [lɔ®x] ‘staff’
loss [lɔs] ‘loss’
lost [lɔ:st] ‘tail’
low [lɔw] ‘lice’
lows [lɔwz] ‘negligent’
lu [liu] ‘army’
lùk [lɔ:k] ‘enough’
lùk [lɔ:k] ‘luck’
Lun [ly:n], [li:n] ‘Monday’
lùst [lɔ:st] ‘lust, desire’
ly [li:] ‘lunch’
lybm, lymm [lɪ[m], [lɪ:m] ‘sharp’
lym [lɪ:m] ‘lime’
lyn [lɪ:n] ‘flax’
ly [lɪz] ‘mud’
lyth [lɪ:θ] ‘flounder’
lyv [lɪ:v] ‘flood’
lyw [lɪw] ‘colour’
mab [mæ:b] ‘son’
mad [mæ:d] ‘mad’
mal [mæ:l] ‘blast, the Devil!’
mall [mæ:l] ‘readiness’
mabm, mamm [mæ:m], [mæm] ‘mother’
màn [mæ:n] ‘anything, nothing’
mans [mænz] ‘crippled’
màr [mɔ:ɾ] ‘as’
màr [mɔ:ɾ] ‘if; doubt’
margh [mɑ:ɾ] ‘horse’
marth [mɑɾθ] ‘astonishment’
mas [mæ:s] ‘good’
maw [mæʊ] ‘boy’
Me [mɛ:] ‘May’
medh [mɛð] ‘says’
medh [mɛð] ‘mead’
medn, men [mɛ:d], [mɛn] ‘will’
meb [mɛb] ‘smokes’
mel [mɛl] ‘honey’
mell [mɛl] ‘joint’
mèk [mɛk] ‘pretends’
men [mɛn] ‘stone’
men [mɛn] ‘powerful’
mens [mɛnz] ‘amount, size’
mer [mɛɾ] ‘mayor’
mergh [mɛɾx] ‘daughter’
merk [mɛɾk] ‘mark’
Merth [mɛɾθ] ‘Tuesday’
mes [mɛz] ‘thumb’
mèş [mɛz] ‘but’
mesk [mɛsk] ‘middle’
meth [mɛθ] ‘shame’
meth [mɛθ] ‘failure’
meth [mɛθ] ‘fosterage’
meur [mɛɾ] ‘fosterage’
min [mɪn] ‘kid goat’
mog [mɔɡ] ‘smoke’
mogh [mɔ:x] ‘pigs’
mol [mol] ‘clot’
mol [mol] ‘bald, round-topped’
mon [mɔ:n] ‘slender’
môn [mɔ:n] ‘fish offal’
om [mo:l] ‘very cold’
om [mo:l] ‘bald, round-topped’
om [mo:l] ‘clot’
mos [mo:z], [mu:z] ‘table’
mor [mo:®] ‘sea’
mor [mo:®] ‘blackberries’
mûs [mu:z] ‘moss’
mòn [mɔ:n] ‘slender’
mûn [mu:n] ‘mineral ore’
myl [mi:l] ‘thousand’
myl [mi:l] ‘animal’
myr [mi:®] ‘appearance’
myr [mi:®] ‘look!’
myrr [mu:l] ‘myrrh’
myn [mi:n] ‘edge, mouth’
mûs [mu:z] ‘go’
mûs [mu:z] ‘moss’
myll [mêl] ‘poppy’
naw [nɔ:] ‘nine’
nàm [nem] ‘fault’
nWB [ne:b] ‘some’
nen [ne:n] ‘roof, ceiling’
nes [ne:z] ‘nearer’
nëus [noz], [ne:z] ‘thread’
nev [ne:v] ‘heaven’
neyth [ni:θ] ‘nest’
nor [no:z] ‘world’
nos [noz] ‘night’
nös [nɔ:] ‘mark, token’
noth [no:θ] ‘naked’
nown [noon] ‘hunger’
nøy [noi] ‘nephew’
noys [nɔiz] ‘noise’
oys [nɔiz] ‘nephew’
o [ɔ] ‘was’
ogh [ɔ:x] ‘oh’
oi [o:i] ‘track’
oil [ɔ:il] ‘all’
on [ɔ:n] ‘we are’
ôn [ɔ:n] ‘lamb’
oos [u:z], [u:z] ‘age’
or [ɔ:ɾ] ‘very cold’
or [ɔ:ɾ] ‘edge’
ors [u:ɾ] ‘bear’
óst [ɔ:st] ‘host, army’
óst [ɔ:st] ‘host’
ow [ɔw], [ɔ] ‘my’
ow [ɔw] ‘host’
ow [ɔw] ‘host’
ow [ɔw] ‘we are’
ow [ɔw] ‘lamb’
øy [ɔi] ‘egg’
oyl [ɔil] ‘oil’
pab [pæ:b] ‘pope’
padn, pann [pæn] [pæn] ‘cloth’
pain [pæn] ‘palm’
pais [pæz] ‘peace!’
pal [pæ:l] ‘shovel’
pall [pæl] ‘pall’
palm [pælm] ‘palm’
pals [pɔl] ‘plentiful’
pân [pæn] ‘when’
pâr [pɔ:r] ‘equal’
par [pɔ:r] ‘part’
part [pɔ:t] ‘part’
parth [pɔ:θ] ‘part, side’
pâs [pæ:s], [pɔ:z] ‘cough’
Pask [pæ:s]k ‘Easter’
pass [pæs] ‘pace’
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

pât [pæt] ‘pate’
paw [pæ] ‘paw’
pe [pɛː] ‘pay’
pedn, penn [pɛdn, pɛn] ‘head’
peg [pɛg] ‘sin’
peis [pɛiz], [pɛz] ‘begs’
peis [pɛiz], [pɛz] ‘paid, satisfied’
peisk [pɛisk], [pɛsk] ‘fish’
pêk [pɛk] ‘pitch’
pel [pɛl] ‘ball’
pell [pɛl] ‘far’
per [pɛr] ‘pears’
per [pɛr] ‘cauldron’
pes [pɛs] ‘continues’
peth [pɛθ] ‘thing; property’
pla [pleː] ‘plague, pest’
plag [plec] ‘plague’
plain [ple:n] ‘full, complete’
plank [pleŋk] ‘plank’
plas [plez] ‘mansion’
plass [plez] ‘place at table’
plât [pleːt] ‘plate’
platt [pleːt] ‘splayed’
pleg [pleːq] ‘yields, pleases’
plen [pleːn] ‘arena’
plet [plekt] ‘plight’
pleth [pleθ] ‘plait of hair’
plobm, plomm [pləm, pləm] ‘lead’
plos [ploz] ‘dirty’
plownt [plomt] ‘disseminates’
plu [plo:] ‘parish’
pluv [plov], [ploiv] ‘feathers’
pob [pob] ‘Everybody’
pôr [pɔr] ‘very’
post [post] ‘post’
pow [pou] ‘country’
pows [pouz] ‘garment’
poynt [point] ‘point’
pras [pæz] ‘meadow’
pratt [pæt] ‘trick’
predn, prenn [pɛd’n, pɛn] ‘tree, log’
preis [pɛiz], [pɛz] ‘time, meal’
preiv [pɛiv], [pɛiv] ‘reptile’
prest [pæest] ‘ready’
prow [prow] ‘advantage’
prowt [prowt] ‘proud’
pryck [pʊk] ‘point’
prys [pɛiz] ‘price’
pùb [pʊb] ‘every’
pur [pʊr], [pʊə] ‘pure, inveterate’
pyb [pɪb] ‘pipe’
pyda, pynn [pʊn, pʊn] ‘pin’
pyl [pɪl] ‘hillock’
pyl [pɪl] ‘head of arrow’
pyn [pɪn] ‘pain, punishment’
pyt [pɪt] ‘pit’
pyth [pɪθ] ‘stingy’
pwy [pɪu] ‘who’
qwart [kwat] ‘quart’
qweth [kwet] ‘garment’
qwit [kwit] ‘wholly’
qwyc [kwɪk] ‘quick’
qwyt [kwɪt] ‘free, quit’
rang, ran [ran] ‘share’
ras [ræz] ‘grace, blessing’
re [re] ‘some’
re [re] ‘too much’
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

red [ıe:d] ‘reads’
reff [ıef] ‘presumption’
rent [ıe:n] ‘rent’
res [ıez] ‘necessity’
res [ıez] ‘ford’
reun [ıon], [ıen] ‘seal (mammal)’
reun [ıon], [ıen] ‘horsehair’
rev [ıev] ‘shovel’
rew [ıeÜ] ‘succession, line’
rew [ıeÜ] ‘frost’
rewl [ıeUl] ‘rule’
ro [ıo:] ‘gift’
rol [ıo:l] ‘list’
Rom [ıom] ‘Rome’
rom [ıom] ‘room’
roos [ıoz], [ıu:z] ‘net’
ros [ıoz] ‘gave’
ros [ıoz] ‘roses’
ros [ıoz] ‘heathland’
ros [ıoz] ‘wheel’
roth [ıoth] ‘order, form’
row [ıo] ‘row of houses’
rudh [ıyd], [ıi:ð] ‘red’
rusk [ıysk], [ıisk] ‘rind’
rúth [ıuth] ‘crowd’
ry [ıi], [ıai] ‘give’
rych [ıtf] ‘rich’
rym [ıim] ‘rhyme’
ryn [ıim] ‘promontory’
sad [ıæd] ‘grave’
sag [ıæx] ‘bag’
sall [ıæl] ‘salted’
sav [ıæv] ‘erect posture’
sav [ıæv] ‘stand!’
saw [ıæv] ‘load’
saw [ıæv] ‘safe, hale’
scant [ıkont] ‘scarce’
scaf [ıko:ft] ‘scarf, joint’
sca [ıæ:v] ‘light’
scol [ıko:ll] ‘school’
scol [ıko:] ‘waste’
scón [ıkon] ‘soon’
scoos [ıko:z], [ıku:z] ‘shield’
scout [ıkɔt] ‘skit, howden’
scruth [skry:θ], [skri:θ] ‘shiver’
scryf [skı:ft] ‘writing, writes’
se [ıe] ‘seat’
sedh [ıæd] ‘sits’
sedh [ıæd] ‘depth’
seg [ıæg] ‘brewer’s grains’
seigh [ıix], [ıe:ks] ‘dry’
seil [ıeil] ‘foundation’
seil [ıeil] ‘seal’
ser [ıe:] ‘artificer’
serth [ıeθf] ‘straight’
set [ıet] ‘sets’
seth [ıeθ] ‘pot, jar’
seul [ıod], [ıel] ‘as many’
sev [ıev] ‘stands’
seyth [ıaθf] ‘seven’
shâk [ıe:ks] ‘shakes’
sham [ıæm] ‘shame’
shâp [ıe:p] ‘shape’
sherp [ıe:rp] ‘sharp’
sket [sket] ‘straightway’
sketh [skı:θ] ‘tatter’
skeus [ıko:z], [ıke:z] ‘shade’
slâk [ıæ:k] ‘slackens’
sley [ıle] ‘cunning’
slym [ılim] ‘slime’
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

slynk [slŋk] ‘slide’
slyp [slp] ‘slips’
småt [smæt] ‘hardly’
smooth [smoʊθ] ‘smooth’
snell [snl] ‘fast’
snod [snod] ‘ribbon’
sobm, somm [sɔm] ‘sum’
sof [sof], [so:] ‘tallow’
sogh [sox] ‘ploughshare’
sogh [sox] ‘blunt’
sols [səlz] ‘shilling’
sòn [sən] ‘sound’
soddh [səd] ‘job’
sor [sər] ‘anger’
sos [səs] ‘friends’
soul [səul] ‘soul’
sowl [səʊl] ‘thatch’
Sows [səʊz] ‘Englishman’
spal [spəl] ‘fine, mulct’
spas [spəz] ‘space’
sped [spəd] ‘succeeds’
spit [spɪt] ‘spite, rage’
spladn, splann [splæn], [splæn] ‘bright, clear’
spong [spɔŋ] ‘sponge’
sprus [spɹəz], [spəz] ‘pips’
spyg [spɪɡ] ‘spike’
sqwat [skwæt] ‘blow, buffet’
sqwych [skwɪŋ] ‘spasm’
sqwyr [skwɪr] ‘standard, pattern’
sqwyth [skwɪθ] ‘tired’
stag [stæɡ] ‘tether’
stanch [stæntʃ] ‘watertight’
stap [stæp] ‘step’
stark [stɑrk] ‘fixedly’
ståt [ståt] ‘state’
stauns [ståns] ‘stance’
stebm, stemm [stem] ‘bend’
sten [sten] ‘tin’
ster [stɛr] ‘star’
slav [slæv] ‘lisping’
stock [stək] ‘stock’
stoff [stɔf] ‘goods’
stol [stəl] ‘stole’
stowt [stəʊt] ‘stout’
straft [stəʊft] ‘immediately’
strail [stɛrl] ‘mat’
strait [stɛrit] ‘straight’
stras [stəs] ‘low ground’
streich [striɛtʃ] ‘delay’
strem [stɾɛm] ‘stream’
strêt [stɾet] ‘street’
strik [stɾɪk] ‘nimble’
strong [stɾaŋ] ‘stagnant’
stroth [stɾɔθ] ‘tight’
stryl [stɾiʃ] ‘strife’
stryng [stɾɪŋ] ‘clasp’
stryw [stɾiŋ] ‘sneeze’
Stûl [stʊl] ‘Epiphany’
Syght [sɪxt] ‘sight’
Sul [sʊl], [sɪl] ‘Sunday’
sur [sʊr], [sɪr] ‘sure’
swàn [swɔn] ‘swan’
syght [sɪxt] ‘sight’
sym [sɪm] ‘monkey’
syn [sɪn] ‘sign’
tack [tæk] ‘nails, secures’
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

tag [tæ:ɡ] ‘suffocates’
tal [tæ:l] ‘pays, must’
tâl [tæ:l], [tɔːl] ‘forehead’
tan [tæ:n] ‘fire’
tàn [tæ:n] ‘take!’
tas [tæːz] ‘father’
te [tɛ:] ‘tea’
tedn, tenn [tɛːn], [tɛn] ‘Pulls’
teg [tɛɡ] ‘beautiful’
tell [tɛl] ‘holes’
tell [tɛl] ‘that’ (< fatell)
terr [tɛɾ] ‘breaks’
tes [tɛz] ‘heat’
tev [tɛv] ‘grows’
tew [tɛw] ‘fat’
teyl [tɛil] ‘manure’
teyr [tɛːr] ‘three’ (fem.)
to [tɔː] ‘roof’
tobm, tomm [tɔm], [tɔm] ‘warm’
todn, tonn [tɔn], [tɔn] ‘wave’
todn, tonn [tɔn], [tɔn] ‘unploughed land’
toll [tɔl] ‘hole’
toll [tɔl] ‘tax’
toll [tɔl] ‘deceit’
ton [tɔn] ‘tone’
top [tɔp] ‘top’
torgh [tɔɾx] ‘boar’
torgh [tɔɾx] ‘wreath’
torn [tɔːn] ‘turn, time’ (but i’n tor’ ma ‘at the moment’)
torr [tɔr] ‘belly’
torthand [tɔɾθ], [tɔɾ] ‘loaf’ (in poetry tor’)
tos [tɔz] ‘dough’
toth [tɔθ] ‘haste’
tour [tʊə] ‘tower’
towch [tʊtʃ] ‘touch, moment’
towl [tʊl] ‘plan’
townt [tʊɔnt] ‘impudent’
tra [tɛː] ‘thing’
trap [tɔr] ‘step-stile’
tre [tɛː] ‘town’
trenk [tɾɛŋk] ‘sour, acid’
tres [tɛːz] ‘way, track’
trest [tɾɛst] ‘trust’
treth [tɾɛθ] ‘sandy beach’
treas [tɾɛz], [tɛːz] ‘thwart, contrary’
trew [tɾɛʊ] ‘spits’
tro [tɾɔ] ‘turn’
trohm, tromm [tɾɔm], [tɾɔm] ‘sudden’
trock [tɾɔk] ‘large box, coffin’
trogh [tɾɔx] ‘cracked’
tron [tɾɔn] ‘throne’
troos [tɾɔz], [tɾɔz] ‘foot’
tros [tɾɔz] ‘noise’
tru [tɾu] ‘alas!’
trúth [tɾuθ] ‘trout’
try [tɾi], [tɾi] ‘three’
tryg [tɾiɡ] ‘ebb’
tryg [tɾiɡ] ‘will dwell’
tryst [tɾiːst] ‘sad’
tu [tʊ] ‘side’
tus [tʊz], [tʊz] ‘people’
ty [tɪ], [tɔ] ‘oath’
tyd [tɪd] ‘tide’
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

tydn, tynn  [tʰn], [tm] ‘firm, tight’
tym  [tɪ:m] ‘thyme’
tyn  [tɪ:n] ‘bottom’
tyr  [tɪ:r] ‘land’
udn, unn  [rʰn], [vn], [rʰn], [m] ‘one’
uj  [jʊ:dʒ], [i:dʒ] ‘screech’
ús  [ju:z] ‘usage’
uth  [jʊθ], [iθ] ‘horror’
væs  [væ:z] ‘useful’
vordh  [vɔrdθ], [vɔɾ] ‘way’ (in poetry vor’)
voyd  [vɔid] ‘empty’
voys  [vɔiz] ‘voice’
vu  [vʊ] ‘view’
vyl  [vʊl] ‘vile’
war  [wær] ‘aware’
war  [wær] ‘beware!’
wər  [waɾ] ‘on’
wast  [wæst] ‘waist’
well  [wel] ‘well!’
whaff  [waɾf] ‘wallop’
whans  [wænz] ‘desire’
whath  [wæθ] ‘still, yet’

wheg  [wɛɡ] ‘sweet’
whel  [wɛl] ‘work’
wher  [wɛr] ‘ails’
wheth  [wɛθ] ‘blast, breath’
whor  [wɔr] ‘sister’
why  [wi] ‘beetle’
why  [wi] ‘beetle’
whyp  [wi:p] ‘whip’
woud  [wʊd] ‘furious’
wry  [rɪ] ‘desire’
yeyn  [jɪn] ‘cold’
eyn  [jɪn] ‘cold’
yzn  [m] ‘adverbial particle’
yonk  [jɔŋk] ‘young’
yor  [jɔɾ] ‘roebuck’
yorl  [jɔɭ] ‘earl’
yos  [jʊəs] ‘hasty pudding’
Yow  [jʊə] ‘Thursday’

yw  [jʊ] ('ʊ' in weak stress) ‘is’
# SUMMARY OF VOWEL SPELLINGS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Written</th>
<th>when stressed and followed by</th>
<th>is pronounced</th>
<th>as</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a</td>
<td>b, d, dh, f, g, gh, j, l, m, n, s, sk, st, th, v</td>
<td>long</td>
<td>æ:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a</td>
<td>r</td>
<td>long</td>
<td>o:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e</td>
<td>b, d, dh, f, g, gh, j, l, m, n, r, s, sk, st, th, v</td>
<td>long</td>
<td>e:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>o</td>
<td>- &quot; -</td>
<td>long</td>
<td>o:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>u</td>
<td>- &quot; -</td>
<td>long</td>
<td>y: ~ i:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>y</td>
<td>- &quot; -</td>
<td>long</td>
<td>i:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>i</td>
<td>- &quot; -</td>
<td>long</td>
<td>i:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>û</td>
<td>regardless of the following consonant, and except in ûsya where it is [ju:]</td>
<td>long</td>
<td>u:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ai</td>
<td>regardless of the following consonant</td>
<td>long</td>
<td>e:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ei</td>
<td>regardless of the following consonant</td>
<td>long</td>
<td>i: ~ e:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>eu</td>
<td>generally regardless of the following consonant</td>
<td>long</td>
<td>o: ~ e:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>oo</td>
<td>regardless of the following consonant</td>
<td>long</td>
<td>o: ~ u:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ou</td>
<td>regardless of the following consonant</td>
<td>long</td>
<td>u:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

a  bm, c, ch, ck, dn, ff, k, ll, mm, nn, ns, nt, ss, x  short  æ

a  ls, rf, rgh, rn, rr, rs, rt, rth and also after w  short  ð

e  bm, c, ch, ck, dn, ff, k, ll, ls, mm, nn, ns, nt, rf, rgh, rn, rr, rs, rt, rth, ss, x  short  ë

o  -“-  short  œ

u  -“-  short  y ~ ï

y  -“-  short  ï

i  -“-  short  ï

ù  regardless of the following consonant  short  ū

eu  rarely, and not in monosyllables, regardless of the following consonant  short  œ ~ ë

au  regardless of the following consonant  short  œ

â  bm, c, ch, ck, dn, ff, k, ll, mm, nn, ns, nt, ss, x  long  æ:

â  l, n, s, v  long  æ: ~ õ:

c  bm, c, ch, ck, dn, ff, k, ll, mm, nn, ns, nt, ss, x  long  e:

î  -“-  long  i:

ô  -“-  long  o:
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

à  b, d, dh, f, g, gh, j, l, m, n, s, sk, st, th, v short æ
à  r short o
è  b, d, dh, f, g, gh, j, l, m, n, r, s, sk, st, th, v short e
ì  -“- short i
ò  -“- short o

ay sometimes raised to [ai] æi
ey sometimes raised to [ei] or [e:] æi
oy sometimes raised to [ui] òi
aw always aʊ
ow generally; sometimes raised to [uː]; finally often [ɔ], [o], or [o]

yw generally; sometimes [uʊ] when stressed iʊ
uw -“- iʊ
u -“- only in final position as in du, Jesu iʊ
ew always eo
ia always ‘iɔ
ya always jæ
A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Letter</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Length</th>
<th>Sound</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a</td>
<td>when unstressed, especially in final position</td>
<td>short</td>
<td>o</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e</td>
<td>when unstressed, especially in final position</td>
<td>short</td>
<td>o</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>o</td>
<td>when unstressed, especially in final position</td>
<td>short</td>
<td>o</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>y</td>
<td>when unstressed, especially in final position</td>
<td>short</td>
<td>ı ~ i</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>à</td>
<td>orthographically, only in these words:</td>
<td>long</td>
<td>æː</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>à ‘goes’; dà ‘good’</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>è</td>
<td>orthographically, only in these words:</td>
<td>long</td>
<td>eː</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>èv ‘drinks’; éth ‘goest, went’; ké ‘go’</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ô</td>
<td>orthographically, only in this word:</td>
<td>long</td>
<td>oː</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ôn ‘lamb’</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>