EARLY WELSH GNOMIC POEMS
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Edited by

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CARDIFF
THE UNIVERSITY OF WALES PRESS BOARD
1935
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PREFACE

ONE of the most outstanding needs of Celtic scholarship at the present time is critical editions, with commentaries, of the early poetry contained in the famous *Four Ancient Books of Wales*, and it is hoped that this book may be a small contribution towards the study of one section of it. It has its origin in some research on Welsh and Irish nature-poetry undertaken for the Allen Scholarship in 1933–4, so that the gnomic verse edited here consists only of those poems where nature-poetry, whether gnomic or descriptive, is an important element. Apart from their significance in the history of Welsh literature they have an added importance in that, taken together with the exceedingly similar Anglo-Saxon gnomic poetry, they form a valuable illustration of semi-popular philosophy and thought in Britain in the early Middle Ages. The present texts are intended for the use of students in the University of Wales and others who have ready access to the standard Welsh books of reference; and it has been possible to limit the bulk of the notes very considerably in the case of words whose meaning has been established already in, for example, the Bulletin of the Board of Celtic Studies, by giving only the references to them instead of reproducing unnecessarily what has been sufficiently dealt with elsewhere.

I should like to thank my former teachers Professor and Mrs H. M. Chadwick for encouraging me to take up this work; the authorities of the National Library of
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Wales, the Bodleian Library, and the British Museum, for kindly giving me facilities for consulting their manuscripts; and the Syndics of the University of Wales Press for undertaking the publication. But above all, my warmest thanks are due to Professor Ifor Williams, who read the whole of the poems with me, for so generously allowing me to take advantage of his time and his profound Welsh scholarship. It would be impossible for me to acknowledge all the passages where, particularly in the Notes, I am so deeply indebted to his assistance, but any student of early Welsh literature will realise that they are very many.

K. J.

Cambridge
May 1935
LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ACL = Archiv für Celtische Lexicographie.
Anc. Laws = Aneurin Owen, Ancient Laws and Institutes of Wales.
Arch. Camb. = Archaeologia Cambrensis.
BBCh. = The Black Book of Chirk.
BT = The Book of Taliessin (references to J. G. Evans’ edition, by page and line).
Bull. = The Bulletin of the Board of Celtic Studies.
CLH = Ifor Williams, Canu Llywarch Hen.
Conts. = K. Meyer, Contributions to Irish Lexicography.
D = Dr John Davies of Mallwyd; particularly, his Dictionarium Duplex.
DDG = Ifor Williams, Detholion o Gywyddau Dafydd ab Gwilym.
Hendre G = J. Morris Jones and T. H. Parry-Williams, Llawysgrif Hendregadredd.
HGC = Henry Lewis, Hen Gerddi Crefyddol.
IW = Professor Ifor Williams.
JGE = J. Gwenogvryn Evans.
JMJ = Sir John Morris-Jones.
Le Gonidec = Le Gonidec and de la Villemarqué, Dictionnaire Breton-Français.
LLJ = Professor J. Lloyd Jones, Geirfa Barddoniaeth Gynnar Gymraeg.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

Loth, MG = J. Loth, La Métrique Galloise.
MA = The Myvyrian Archaeology of Wales, 2nd edition (references by page, column, and line).
Mod.W. = Modern Welsh.
M.W. = Mediaeval Welsh.
O.W. = Old Welsh.
PK = Ifor Williams, Pedeir Keinc y Mabinogi.
Pughe = W. O. Pughe, A Dictionary of the Welsh Language.
RBH = The Red Book of Hergest (references to J. G. Evans' edition of the Poetry, by column and line).
RC = Revue Celtique.
Recherches = Th. Chotzen, Recherches sur la Poésie de Dafydd ab Gwilym.
S, see WS.
SE = D. Silvan Evans, Dictionary of the Welsh Language.
Strachan Introd. = J. Strachan, Introduction to Mediaeval Welsh.
Troude = A. E. Troude, Dictionnaire Francais et Celto-Breton.
VVB = J. Loth, Vocabulaire Vieux Breton.
WBM = The White Book Mabinogion (references to J. G. Evans' edition, by column and line).
WOP = William Owen (Pughe).
WS or S = William Salesbury; particularly, his Dictionary in Englyshe and Welshe.
ZCP = Zeitschrift für Celtische Philologie.
INTRODUCTION

§ 1

The poems edited in this book form a large section of what has come to be called the "early Welsh nature-poetry". For the most part they are clearly not nature-poems at all as we understand the term, but descriptions of nature do occur mingled with the sententious verse which is their real substance; and this confusion has been explained¹ as the result of a true nature-poetry, corrupted and disintegrated with time, having been used by later sententious poets as a setting for their interpolated and irrelevant maxims. I prefer to regard the descriptive element, which is the smaller, as the irrelevant one, and to treat the poems as essentially sententious or "gnomic" verse, using the term generally applied to this kind of poetry. A gnome is a sententious statement about universals, whether about the affairs of men ("human-gnome") or about external nature ("nature-gnome"); it need not be, and usually is not, a current popular saying with an implied moral, as the proverb is, and it need contain no advice or exhortation like the precept. For example, "The vegetable garden is green", that is, "It is the characteristic of vegetable gardens to be green", is a nature-gnome; but "A rolling stone gathers no moss" is a popular proverb whose whole point is in the metaphor and im-

² Poem VII.16.1.
plied moral; and “Look before you leap” is an exhortatory precept.

These general gnomic statements may seem to us unnecessarily obvious, but they were evidently not thought so at one time, to judge by the gnomic poetry which is found in other early literatures, particularly in Anglo-Saxon, where it is very similar to the Welsh. *Bera sceal on haede*, "a bear is to be found in the woods", and *Widgongel wif word gespringed*, "a gadding woman gives rise to comment", from the Anglo-Saxon gnomic poems, are really very like our “Usual is the nest of an eagle in the top of an oak” and “A bad woman causes frequent scandals”; they are all the outcome of a primitive desire for classification.

For the purposes of these poems it is necessary to distinguish the nature-gnome relating to universals from the descriptive statement about nature relating to particulars (“nature-description”), such as “Mountain snow, white are the house-roofs”, which is a descriptive statement about a particular winter’s day. It is this second type which is the intrusive element, the “nature-poetry” proper, but it must not be confused with the true nature-gnomes which are as inseparably part of the gnomic poetry as the human-gnomes. There are then two kinds of nature-poetry to be considered, the gnomic and the descriptive; those poems where the references to nature are all or almost all gnomes are referred to here simply as “gnomic”, but those where they are

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2 Cotton Gnomes 29.
3 Exeter Gnomes 65.
4 IV.7.i.
5 VII.16.iii.
6 III.35.i.
INTRODUCTION

largely descriptive, together with the usual human-gnomes and a few nature-gnomes, I call "quasi-gnomic". It will be seen that poems nos. III and V are quasi-gnomic; nos. VI, VII, VIII, IX, and the first eight stanzas of IV, are purely gnomic; II is a mixture of gnomic and quasi-gnomic and other stanzas; and the parts of no. I given here are almost all pure nature-descriptions. It is beside the purpose of the present book, which is concerned only with the texts, to deal with the origin and past history of the descriptive nature-poetry and of the gnomic-poetry, or to show how the confusion of the two came about, or what kind of people composed these forms of literature; this would need a separate work if it is to be treated adequately.¹

The poem no. I is a sketch of a winter's day near the sea shore, and has been included, though it contains few gnomes, because its fine nature-descriptions must be studied in relation to those of the quasi-gnomic poems. The human-gnomes begin to get more frequent in the third lines of the stanzas as the poem proceeds; they are perhaps not "irrelevant" gnomes of the same kind as in the Eiry Mynydd stanzas of no. III, for it is at least possible that they are the débris of a dialogue on cowardice;² on the other hand they may be no more joined to any story than the glað allan verses of no. II with their similar subject, and the whole may be a reminiscence of elegy and saga and gnomes about cowardice, as that poem is. Some of the phrasing is certainly connected in one way or another with the

¹ I hope to publish shortly a study of these and other poems, both Welsh and Irish, in which these problems will be examined.
² See Ifor Williams, CLH, p.176.
INTRODUCTION

gnomic and quasi-gnomic poetry, for example, crin caun, crin calaw, cev ewur, hir nos, llum ros, cul hit, kirchid carv crum tal cum elid, briuhid tal glan gan garn carv culgrum cam, bir dit, and so on; stanza 8 occurs in the Red Book of Hergest, col. 1035, ll. 13–14, and stanza 22 belongs perhaps to a Kalan Gaeaf series like poem v, or is at least influenced by it. Yet it does not read like a mere medley, and is in any case the work of a very competent poet. The last part of the poem in the Black Book belongs to the cycle of Llwyarch Hen, and is omitted here because it seems to have no connection with the nature-poetry; it is edited and discussed by Ifor Williams, Canu Llwyarch Hen.

§ 2

All but two of our poems are found in early manuscripts. No. i is from the Black Book of Carmarthen, now in the National Library of Wales, which was written at the end of the twelfth century. Nos. iii–vii are in two manuscripts now in the Bodleian Library, Oxford—the Red Book of Hergest, written at the end of the fourteenth century, and Jesus College MS. 3, written in the first half of the fifteenth century. These poems in Jesus 3 are not copied from the Red Book, but the two are closely related and must have a common not distant manuscript original; perhaps both were copied from the lost parts of the White Book of Rhydderch, which contained a number of the early Red Book poems. No. ii is from the Red Book only. No other independent

1 Abbreviated BBC. 2 Abbreviated RBH.
3 Abbreviated J. 4 See stemma, p. 11.
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manuscripts of the above poems are known to me, but there are many late copies of them, some at first hand and others more distant; they have no value for the editor and are ignored in the present texts. No. VIII is known only in late transcripts, the earliest of which belongs to the late fifteenth century; no. IX is found in a large number of manuscripts dating from the mid-sixteenth century and later.¹

Nos. II, IV, V, VI, and three stanzas of VIII amalgamated with VII, were printed from late transcripts by William Owen Pughe in 1792,² and in the Myvyrian Archaeology of Wales in 1801,³ but the first edition (with translations) of nos. I-VII from the BBC and RBH themselves was that of Skene in 1868;⁴ he did not use Jesus 3 and gave no variants, and his text is made useless by its misreadings and misprints, to say nothing of the translations. Diplomatic editions of the poems in the BBC and RBH were published by Gwenogvryn Evans in 1907 and 1911 respectively,⁵ but there has been no critical edition with translation and notes since Skene’s. No. VIII has never been published complete before. No. IX was printed by Rhys Jones in his Gorchestation Beirdd Cymry (1773), and in the

¹ On these MSS. see pp.9 ff. and 12 ff.
² The Heroic Elegies of Llywarç Hen. The “variants” that he gives are mere emendations or the results of scribal errors in late MSS.; for example, many which he gives as from the Red Book show that he was using late and inferior copies.
³ Pughe’s texts were used together with variants from “OLPP”, a moderately accurate copy of the Red Book.
⁴ The Four Ancient Books of Wales.
⁵ Vols. 5 and 11 of his Series of Old Welsh Texts.
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Myvyrian Archaeology. It was translated by Stephens, The Literature of the Kymry, pp.298 ff.

§ 3

Most of the poems have been attributed at one time or another to Llywarch Hen, the sixth-century Welsh prince and reputed author of much early poetry. No. 1 does in fact seem to belong to the Llywarch Hen cycle, but the rest show no internal evidence whatever to connect them with him, and the belief probably arose from certain similarities of style explicable on other grounds, and, as Professor Williams notes, from the position of nos. II–VII in the Red Book immediately before the elegies in the same metre where Llywarch appears. Some late sources make the author the person called Mab Claf ab Llywarch, Macclaf ab Llywarch, Mab Cloch ab Llywarch, or Y Maer Glas ab Llywarch, presumably regarded as a son of Llywarch Hen, though Pughe thought he lived at the end of the fourteenth century. No doubt he is an entirely fictitious character, and Pughe's suggestion is a good one, that the name was invented out of a misunderstanding of some words in the poem RBH, cols. 1034–5, oed mackby mabklaf; however, he was evidently looked on as a substitute for Llywarch, an author suitable for writings which the scribe had not evidence or impudence enough to ascribe to Llywarch himself. In fact it is not known who composed the poems.

1 21a. 2 See p.3, note 1.

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INTRODUCTION

They cannot be as old as the sixth century in any case, at least in anything like their present form. It is outside the scope of this study to ask how old Welsh gnomic poetry and the more immediate models of these poems may be,¹ but as we have them their language is considerably later than that of the ninth-century Llywarch Hen elegies edited by Professor Williams,² which in spite of extensive scribal modernisation preserve many early forms found nowhere in our poems. The latest possible date of composition is fixed by the manuscripts themselves at about 1200 for no. i and about 1400 for nos. ii–vii. All seven are composed in early types of the englyn metre probably in common use from the ninth to twelfth centuries, though they may have originated much earlier; they lingered on at least down to the fifteenth century as a survival, but were already out of fashion for original composition by the thirteenth.³ The group nos. ii–vii may be dated towards the end of this period, perhaps early twelfth century: the scribe of the Red Book was copying earlier manuscripts, for the readings of v.3.ii, vi.24.ii, and vii.11.ii, indicate an exemplar that used u for w, and cyfuarwydant in iii.2.iii was copied from a text using uu or w for f.⁴ Non-mutations of consonants are found in goced (iv.3.i), bacbyabc (iii.20.ii, vi.12.ii), and bron-g6ala (vi.1.iii). All these suggest manuscripts of the late twelfth or early thirteenth centuries. The linguistic evidence is not as helpful as it might be, because in the nature of the poems verbs, valuable date criteria,

¹ I hope to show later that gnomic poetry of this kind goes back to the ninth century at least.
² CLH.
³ Cf. RC, xxi, p.33.
⁴ But see Cymmeror xxviii, p.131.
are uncommon; but the following early forms are to be noted: the rare present indicative 3rd sg. in -\textit{id} and -\textit{yd} in frequent use, not only in gnomes but freely as a verb-form for general purposes; passives in -\textit{awr};\textsuperscript{1} \textit{namwyn} occasionally for later \textit{namyn}; no\textsuperscript{(c)} for \textit{na};\textsuperscript{1} \textit{llywyr} for \textit{llwyr} proved by the rhyme in 11.9 and elsewhere; \textit{ny} relative leniting (\textit{ny garabr}, vi.32.iii); final -\textit{aw(-)} always rhymed in -\textit{aw(-)} and not in -\textit{o(-)}; sporadic “Irish” rhyme (in vi.8 and vii.10 and 11), which Professor Williams believes to be not later than the twelfth century at latest. Further, a group of verses evidently taken from some poem of exactly the same type as no. vi are found on the bottom margin of folio XLII of the Black Book, and the second of them is clearly the same stanza as v.6 and vi.31, with very slight differences (see note to v.6); which shows that this kind of poetry and perhaps these very poems were current already in the twelfth century. On the other hand, if the language is not later than the twelfth century it hardly justifies a date much earlier, for the rarity of “Irish” rhyme and the occurrence of the borrowed Norman French word \textit{menestyr} in rhyme in vi.17.i make it probable that they are later than the Norman Conquest. Stanzas 1–3 and 5 of no. iv are a longer form of the englyn (englyn unodl union) which Professor Loth dates not earlier than the second half of the twelfth century,\textsuperscript{2} but it is significant that in stanza 1 the rule about unsymmetrical rhyme in the last couplet is not observed, and that in this \textit{gnabt g6ynt} series stanza 4 is \textit{not} an englyn unodl union but a penfyr;

\textsuperscript{1} Cf. Loth, \textit{Les Mabinogion}, 1, p.28.
\textsuperscript{2} RC, xxii, p.37.
so that these verses are scarcely likely to be much later than the mid-twelfth century. Poem II is said by Lloyd (History of Powys Fadog, pp.141–2) to have been composed by one Llywelyn Llogell Rhyson, parson of Marchwyail in Powys, "in the ancient style of poetry when the great Eisteddfod was held there in the time of King Edward III"; his source is the spurious "Iolo MSS.", and the statement is obviously an invention based on the occurrence of the word marchwyeil as a common noun four times in the poem.

On the dating of no. VIII, which also belongs to this period, see p.11. No. I is certainly older than nos. II–VII. Many rare words and forms, including the use of "rhy of possibility", "Irish" rhyme, the frequent -id 3rd sg. termination in all kinds of sentences, and the -int 3rd pl. present termination, st.8.ii, together with the fact that the poem belongs in some way to the cycle of Llywarch Hen, suggest a comparatively early date, perhaps tenth or early eleventh century.

§4

Nos. VII and VIII are known as the Bidiau (called here Bidiau I and II), because of the frequent occurrence of the verb-form bid. The two are closely related to each other, but cannot be treated merely as scribal variations of one poem, for the differences are too great and must be due partly to oral transmission; hence they have to be used with caution as sources for emendations of each other.

Bidiau I is in by far the oldest MSS.; the basic text is in RBH, and it is also found in Jesus 3. Bidiau II is
in Peniarth MS. 102, pp. 5-6, written by Robert Vaughan (1592-1666) and headed “allan o hen lyfr ar femrwn”; in British Museum Additional MS. 14873, p. 189, written by Wm. Morris in 1739; and in Panton MS. 14, f. 131, written by Evan Evans (mid-eighteenth century). A version is also found in Peniarth 27.ii, p. 89, written in the last quarter of the fifteenth century perhaps by Guttyn Owain,¹ and is thus a much earlier MS. than any of the others; but the text is somewhat different, showing some oral and scribal variation from the other versions and omitting stanzas 8, 9, 10, 12, 13 and 14 (its ninth stanza is the same as Bidiau 1.16) and adding at the end the following verses which do not belong to the Bidiau series:

\[
O \text{ chlywy chwedyl bid hydaw dy vryd;}
ysgafn gwraith gwaran\text{daw;}
ys gw\text{yawth ail govyn arnaw.}
\]

\[
Na \text{ vydd var-vynych, na chwenny\text{c}h gyfrdan;}
a\text{n}a ogan \text{yny bych;}
kadw \text{dy bwyll, twyll na chwenych.}
\]

The second is stanza 10 of the version of “Kyssul Adaon” in Llanstephan MS. 27 (see Bull. II, p. 121), but is not in the BBC version. Though Peniarth 27 is so much older the text is not so good as that in Peniarth 102, and some of the forms are later; hence I make Peniarth 102 the basis of our text. Some of the gnomes from both Bidiau poems are quoted in the list of proverbs in Peniarth 17² (c. 1250), which is thus a very valuable source of early variants.

¹ See J. G. Evans, *Reports on MSS. in the Welsh Language.*
The family tree of the Bidiau seems to be this (cf. p.63):

```
  U
 /   \
ORAL STATE /   \
  |      |   |
Bidiau I Bidiau II
  V (MS. of BBC or BBCh. date?) Y (MS. of BBC date)
     W                  Dr Davies?
                    Oral variation
                     |   |
            X (White Book of Rhydderch?) Pen. 102 Addl. 14873 Pant. 14

(Pen. 17 proverbs)     Pen. 27

RBH Jesus 3
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BM. Addl. 14873 is not a copy of Peniarth 102, for it preserves the earlier spelling \( ei \) for \( ai \) and has other forms which could not have been taken from Peniarth 102; Panton 14 is on the whole closer to Peniarth 102, but independent of either; the three are all close to each other. The scribal errors common to all, particularly \( iad \) for \( rac \) in stanza 1, show that they have one MS. source, perhaps a copy of Dr Davies’ (see p. 12). On V, W, and X see the table on p.63.

Though all but one of the MSS. of Bidiau II are very late, and the exception not early, it is evident that like Bidiau I this is an early poem; indications of early date are \( no \) for \( na \), the rare word \( eddain \) trisyllabic and rhymed in -\( in \), “Irish” rhyme in stanzas 8 and 9, \( u \) for \( w \) and possibly \( i \) for \( y \) in the hypothetical MS. Y, which suggests the late twelfth century, final \( t \) for final \( d \) in \( lwyt \), and final \( c \) for final \( g \) in \( bagloc \), etc. in Peniarth 27. The Addl. 14873 copy ends in Welsh with the words:

( 11 )
"Notice the difference between these and those in the Red Book and other old manuscripts, and understand that this poem is very, very old, since there is so much variation between the old copies; apart from the authority of Dr Davies himself." Panton 14 has the same note, with the last phrase expressed "these are the words of Dr Davies". This shows that Bidiau 11 was known to Dr Davies and believed by him to be very old; also that Addl. 14873 and Panton 14 were copying one of his books. No doubt Peniarth 102 is from the same source.

More than one of the late copies of Bidiau 11 were known to William Owen Pughe and used by him for variants for Bidiau i. The Myvyrian Archaeology follows him exactly with the addition of variants from "LLPP" for the verses in Bidiau i. Neither used Peniarth 27.

§ 5

The so-called Englynion y Misoedd, "The verses of the months", are twelve stanzas of (normally) eight lines of seven syllables rhyming together. They treat of the twelve months of the year, and consist of an aggregate of unconnected gnomes, the first few generally about the nature of the month concerned and the rest human-gnomes of the usual kind, with a tendency to a religious tone.

There are twelve MSS. known to me. Llanstephan 117, p.84, by Jeuan ap William about 1545, is the earliest, but it is a carelessly written and not propor-

1 See p.5, note 3.

The poem is attributed to Aneirin or Aneirin Gwawdrydd by four MSS. (*Addl.* 14873, *Peniarth* 111, at the end, *Cwrt Mawr* 6, and *Panton* 33), the first adding that it was about A.D. 510, the other three that it was "in the court of Maelgwn of Gwynedd, king of the Britons". *Llanstephan* 117 attributes it to Merddin Gwowdrudd (the epithet seems properly to belong to Aneirin); and *Peniarth* 111 at the beginning, *Addl.* 14878 (but a marginal gloss adds "others say Aneurin Gwawdrydd composed it"), and a note at the end of the *Addl.* 14873 version, to Mab Cloch or Mab Claf ab Llywarch (see *p.*6). *Wrexham* 1, and *Panton* 18 and 1, attribute it to Syppyn Cyfeiliog. The first two

attributions imply that the scribe responsible was completely ignorant of the real authorship and thought it to be of the highest antiquity (and this was believed in Gruffydd Hiraethog's time, early sixteenth century, according to the note in Panton 1). The ascription to Sypyn Cyfeiliog (late fourteenth century) on the other hand points to the belief that it was fairly recent. In the late sixteenth century Sion Tudur wrote a "Digrifwawd neu ymgynhebygiad i Owdl y Misoedd" (in Addl. 14885 and 14873) which makes it likely that the poem had been current for some time before, as he is evidently adapting and parodying a well-established tradition. Lastly, the note that appears in several MSS., that Guttyn Owain (last part of the fifteenth century) wrote three verses to replace three lost from the original poem, shows they were thought to have been current for some time before the middle of the fifteenth century. A posterior date is definitely fixed at 1545 by the earliest MS., Llanstephan 117.

Something can be gathered from internal evidence. There are a number of rare words, some quoted from this source alone by D in his dictionary, some of which were evidently unknown to the seventeenth-century scribes, such as marianedd, molwynoc, etc.; final -af and -a are rhymed together, as in modryda: morfa, which is not early; and final -aw(-) with final -o(-), as eos: rhos, which is certainly not earlier than the fourteenth century. On the whole, the middle or later part of the fifteenth century seems a fairly likely date for the composition of the poem in its present form.

Sion Tudur's parody hinted that the Englynion y
Misoedd had already become a widespread popular poem, and this is made certain by the fact that there are at least three versions or recensions to be considered. The first, that given in the text and called here A, is found in all the extant MSS. except Llanstephan 117, and in the Gorchestion Beirdd Cymry, where it is attributed to Aneirin Gwawdrydd with no mention of Guttyn Owain. The second version, called here B, is the same as A for the first eight verses, but gives four completely different verses for the last four, which it declares to be the original work of Aneirin or Merddin as the case may be; and adds the four which came last in A with a note that as the original last four were lost, these were composed by Guttyn Owain to complete the mutilated poem. This is found in Llanstephan 117, the earliest MS., and in the MA with a note that the last four were lost since they were not written down, and that when Guttyn Owain had filled the gap, the original four were found in Deheubarth in the “Llyfr Gwyredd”.¹ The MA text uses the Gorchestion with variants as from the “Llyfr Hir” for the first eight stanzas, and for the last four gives the B text as from the “Llyfr Gwyrrdd”, with the A version in footnote. And, though Addl. 14873 gives the A version, it evidently knew B, for it gives a note on f.82, “see the Englynion of the last four months on p.188, which it is thought are the genuine englynion that Aneurin composed; and that it was Guttyn Owain who composed these here to fill the place of the four others which had become quite lost through long space of time”; and on f.188 is the note given by MA (not stating that the
¹ This note is given in Panton i as the words of Gruffydd Hiraethog.
source was Llyfr Gwyrrdd however) followed by the four englynion in question; these were known to Dr Davies as a note of his is quoted in the margin. The scribe, Evan Evans, clearly followed an A version but tried to combine it with a B one (source Dr Davies?). Two MSS. which give the A version, namely Peniarth 111 and Panton 33, continue with the first verse of the last four in B, without explanation or mention of Guttyn Owain, as if they knew of the existence of a variant September stanza but thought it also due to Merddin or Aneirin respectively. Almost all the MSS. give the A version, including Wrexham 1, which is here taken as the basis for the text, and for the purpose of this edition I follow A; but it must be noted that the earliest MS. gives B, and the belief was known to other scribes. Still there is evidently considerable MS. authority for neglecting the ascription to Guttyn Owain; the source is perhaps some one MS. transcribed by him or associated with his name.

The third version, C, is clearly due to very considerable oral variation, so much as to be almost a new poem; I know of no MS. where it is extant as such, complete, but copious variants are quoted from it in Addl. 14873 from the “Llyfr Hir Nyffryn” and in the MA from the “Llyfr Hir”. The last four verses of C are variants on the A version, not on B.

It is not possible to construct a complete stemma for these twelve MSS., as there is much conflation of texts, due probably ultimately to the popular nature of the poem; however, it is noticeable that Llanstephan 117 and Peniarth 99 tend to agree, as do Peniarth 111 and
INTRODUCTION

Cwrt Mawr 6, and Panton 1 and 18 are clearly derived from a text close to Wrexham 1. In editing I have ignored the five latest MSS., which do not contain variants of any value not represented in the rest, and Peniarth 65 which is a poor text; and have used the first six good MSS., namely Llanstephan 117, Peniarth 99, Addl. 14885, Wrexham 1, Peniarth 111, and Cwrt Mawr 6, with Wrexham 1 as basic text, since it is the best early version and only forty-five years later than the earliest. Insignificant orthographical variations and mistakes are ignored.

In editing I make use of the usual signs. One or more letters enclosed in square brackets are my own restorations in the text, thus man[n]abc (vi.20.iii); a blank between square brackets means that something is lost which I have not attempted to restore; one or more letters in pointed brackets are to be deleted, thus myn<yn>yd (III.21.i); one or more letters in italics are an expanded contraction, as tonn. The abbreviations of the MSS. of Bidiau II and the Englynion y Misoedd are explained in the notes to those poems.

NOTE. Since writing § 5 Professor T. H. Parry-Williams’ remarks on the poem in his Canu Rhydd Cynnar (Cardiff 1932; pp.244–5) and his edition, with Sion Tudur’s parody, from Peniarth MS. 206, have come to my notice. He mentions fifteen more MSS.; the earliest, Cardiff 5, p.263, which gives fragments only, was written in 1527. Almost all have the A version, the rest B. Apparently he would be willing to accept a fifteenth century date for the Englynion (“Os gwir y cofnod i Gutyn Owain...gyfansoddi pedwar o rai newydd...gallent fod mor hen â’r 15g.”).
1. Llym awel, llum brin, anhaut caffael clid;
   lllicrid rid, reuhid llin,
   ryseiw gur ar vn conin.

2. Ton tra thon toid tu tir;
   goruchel guaetev rac bron ban[n]ev bre;
   breit allan orseuir.

3. Oer lle lluch rac brythuch gaeaw,
   crin caun, calaw truch,
   kedic awel, coed ⁴im bluch.

4. Oer guely pisscaud yg kisscaud iaen;
   cul hit, caun barywhaud;
   birr diuedit, guit gyyrhaud.

5. Ottid eiry, guin y cnes;
   nid a kedwir oe neges;
   oer llinnev, eu llyu heb tes.

6. Ottid eiry, guin aren;
   segur yscuid ar iscuit hen;
   ryuaur guint, reuhid dien.

7. Ottid eiry ar warthaw reo;
   gosgupid g[u]int blaen guit tev;
   kadir yscuid ar yscuit glev.

8. Ottid eiry, tohid istrad;
   diuryssint vy keduir y cad,
   mi nid aw, anaw nim gad.

9. Ottid eiry o dv riv;
   karcharaur goruit, cul biv;
   nid annuyd hawdit hetiv.

¹ MS. inibluch.
10. Ottid eiry, guin goror mynit, 
llum guit llog ar mor; 
meccid llwyr llauer kyghor.

11. Eurtirn am cirn, cirn am cluir; 
oer llyr<e>1, lluchedic auir, 
bir diwedit, blaen gvit gvir.

12. Guenin i gogaur, guan gaur adar, 
dit diulith [ ], 
kassulwin2 kewin brin, coch gwaur.

13. Guenin i godo, oer agdo rid, 
reuid rev pan vo; 
ir nep goleith lleith dyppo.

14. Guenin ig keithiv, gwirtliv mor, 
crin calaw, caled riv, 
oer divlit yr eluit hetiv.

15. Guenin ig clidur rac gulybur gaeaw; 
glas cimleit3, cev ewur; 
dricweuet llyvrdar ar gur.

16. Hir nos, llum ros, lluid riv, 
glas glan, guilan in emriv, 
garv mir; glau a uit hetiv.

17. Sich guint, gulip hint, kiuuetlauc4 diffrint, 
 oer callet, cul hit, 
 llyw in awon; hinon uit.

18. Driccin in mynit, avonit i gniw, 
gulichid llyw llaur trewit; 
neud gueilgi gueled ir eluit.

---

1 c added above the line by a later hand. 
2 MS. kyssulwin. 
3 MS. cunlleit. 
4 MS. kiuuetlauc.

(19)
19. Nid vid iscolheic, nid vid e leic unben, nyth eluir in dit reid; och, Gindilic, na buost gureic.

20. Kirchid carv crum tal cum clid, briuhid ia, brooet llum; rydiegec glev o lauer trum.

21. Bronureith breith bron, breith bron bronureith; briuhid tal glan gan garn carv culgrum cam; goruchel awel guaetvann, breit guir orseur allan.

22. Kalan gaeaw, gurim gordugor blaen gruc, goreuynauc ton mor, bir dit; deruhid ych kighor.

23. O kiscaud yscuid ac aral goruit a guir deur diarchar, tec nos y | ffissceau escar.

24. Kinteic guint, creilum coed, crin caun, caru iscun; Pelis enuir, pa tir hun?

25. Gwir i grid, rid rewittor, oeruelauc tonn, brith bron mor; Re[e]n rothid duvin kighor.

II

RBH, col. 1032, l.5

† Baglæc bydin, bagý onn, hwyait yn llynn, graenwynn tonn; trech no chant kyssul callon.

† a brave man can escape from many a stait
† ? serried is the host, buding is the ash
2. Hir nos, gordyar morua;
   gna6t teruysc yg kymanua;
   ny chytuyd diryeit a da.

3. Hir nos, gordyar mynyd;
   gochwiban g6ynt y6ch blaen g6yd;
   ni th6yll drycanyan detwyd.

4. Marchwyeil bed6 briclas
   a dynn uyn troet o wanás;
   nac adef dy rin y was.

5. Marchwyeil der6 my6n ll6yn
   a dynn vynn troet o gadwyn;
   nac adef rin y uorwyn.

6. Marchwyeil der6 deilyar
   a dynn vyn troet o garchar;
   nac adef rin y lauar.

7. Marchwyeil dryssi a m6yar erni;
   a m6yalch ar y nyth
   a chelwyda6c ny theu vyth.

8. Gla6 allann, g6lychyt redyn,
   g6ynn gro mor, goror ewynn;
   tec a gann6yll p6yll y dyn.

9. Gla6 allan y gan glyd6r,
   melyn eithyn, crin eu6r;
   Du6 reen, py bereist lyv6r?

10. Gla6 allan, g6lychyt vyg g6allt;
    g6yynanus gwann, diff6ys allt,
    g6el6gan g6eilgi, heli hallt.

11. Gla6 allan, g6lychyt eigya6n,
    gochwiban g6ynt y6ch blaen ca6n;
    g6ed6 pob camp heb y da6n.
1. Eiry mynyd, gōynn pob tu; kynneuina bran a chanu; ny da6 da o drachycu.

2. Eiry mynyd, gōynn keunant, rac ruthur gōynt gōyd gōyrant; llawer deu a ymgarant a phyth ny chyfaruydant.

3. Eiry mynyd, gōynt ae tabl; llydan lloergan, glas taula6; odit dyn dirieit diha6l.*

4. Eiry mynyd, hyd escut; gna6t ym Prydein gynrein drut; reit oed deall y alltut.

5. Eiry mynyd, hyd ar des, hōyeit yn llynn, gōynn aches; hōyr hen, ha6d y ordiwes.

6. Eiry mynyd, hyd ar dro; chwerdyt bryt 6rth a garo; kyt dywetter 6rthyl chwedyl mi a atwen veuyl lle y bo.

7. Eiry mynyd; graennwyn gro; pysc yn ryt; clyt y ogo; kas vyd a oreilyto.

8. Eiry mynyd, hyd ar daraf; gna6t gan gynran eiryan araf, ac ysgynnus o du corof, a disgynnu bar ar araf. *

1 J, kenevin.
2 RB, gōryrant with second y cancelled; J, gōyryant.
3 sic J; RB, chyfuaruydant.
4 J, tana6l. 6 J, alldut.
5 J, mi atwen veuyl lle bo.
6 J, chwerdit.
7 J, o tu corff.
8 J, o tu corff.

* A mischievous man is rarely without litigation.
9. Eiry mynyd, hyd kyngerôn; llawer a dywedeis\(^1\), os gôn; anhebic y\(^2\) hafydyd hôn.

10. Eiry mynyd, hyd hellaët\(^3\); gochwiban gôynt yôch bargabô tôr; téôm, a 6r, yô pechaôt.

11. Eiry mynyd, hyd ar neit; gochwiban gôynt yôch gônbleit uchel; gnaôt tabel yn deleit.

12. Eiry mynyd, hyd ym brô; gochwiban gôynt yôch blaen to; nyt ymgel drôc yn lle y bo.

13. Eiry mynyd, hyd ar draeth; collyt\(^4\) hen y uabolaeth; drycôr trem a wna dyn yn gaeth.\(^5\)

14. Eiry mynyd, hyd yn llôyn, purdu bran, buan jyrchwyn; iach ryd, ryuedaôt\(^5\) pa gôyn\(^6\).

15. Eiry mynyd, hyd myôn brôyn, oer micned; med y gherwyn\(^7\); gnaôt gan bob anauus gôn.

16. Eiry mynyd, brith bronn tôr, kyrchyt\(^8\) aniueil glydôr; gôae wreic a gaffo drycwreic.

17. Eiry mynyd, brith bronn kreic, krin kalaf, alaf dichleic; gôae 6r a gaffo drycwreic.

---

\(1\) J, dyweis.  
\(2\) J, om.  
\(3\) J, ellaôt.  
\(4\) J, collit.  
\(5\) sic J; RB, ryuedot.  
\(6\) J, ae kôyn.  
\(7\) J, yngôerthrôyn.  
\(8\) J, kyrchit.

(23)
18. Eiry mynyd, hyd yn ffos,
kysgyt¹ gëøenyn yn didos;
kytuut lleidyr a hir nos.

19. Eiry mynyd; kynglhennyd [yn] auon;
h6yrwedab6c yng kynnyd² ny moch dieil meyul meryd.

20. Eiry mynyd, pysc yn lynn;
balch heba6c, bæ6ya6c unbynn;
³nyt ef a geiff pa6b a uynn³.

21. Eiry mynyd; coch blaen pyr;
llidia6c lluosassa6c⁴ | ongyr;
occh, rac hiraeth vy mrodyr!

22. Eiry mynyd; buan bleid,
ystlys diffeith6ch a dreid;
gna6t pob anaf ar dieid⁵.

23. Eiry mynyd, hyd nyt h6yr;
dyg6ydyt⁶ gla6 o awyr;
megyt⁷ tristit lleturyt llwyr.

24. Eiry mynyd; eilion⁸ ffraeth;
gowlchyt⁹ tonneu glann traeth;
keluyd kelet y aruaeth.

25. Eyry mynyd, hyd my6n glynn;
g6astat uyd haf, araf lynn;
baryfl6yt re6; gle6 y erchwynn.

¹ J, kysgit. RB has ll.2 and 3 transposed, with marks of trans-
position. J has them transposed without the marks.
² J, yngklynnyd.
³ J, pyllynnyd.
⁴ J, lluosassa6c.
⁵ J, direid.
⁶ J, dyg6ydyt.
⁷ J, megit.
⁸ J, eilton.
⁹ J, gowlchyt.

(24)
26. Eiry mynyd; brith bronn g6yd; kadarn vy meich a’m ysg6yd, eïdunaf na b6yf ganml6yd.
27. Eiry mynyd, ll6mm blaen ca6n, cr6m blaen g6rysc, pysc yn eigya6n; lle ny bo dysc ny byd da6n.
28. Eiry mynyd, pysc yn ryt, kyrchyt car6 culgr6m cwm2 clyt; hiraeth am uar6 ny weryt.
29. Eiry mynyd, hyd yg koet; ny cherda detwyd ar troet; meckyt4 ll6uyr llawer adoet.
30. Eiry mynyd, hyd ym bronn; gochwiban g6ynt y6ch blaen onn; trydyd troet y hen y ffon.
31. Eiry mynyd, hyd ar na6, hwyeit yn llynn, g6ynn ala6; diryeit ny mynn g6aranda6.
32. Eiry mynyd; coch traet ieir; bas d6fyr myn yt leueir; chwenneckyt meuyl m6breir.
33. Eiry mynyd, hyd esgut; odit a’m dida6r o’r byt; rybud y dr6ch ny weryt.
34. Eiry mynyd, g6ynn y gnu5; ys odida6c wyneb ku o gar gyt a mynych athreidu.

1 J, kyrchit.  2 J, cum.  3 J, transposes st.29 and 30.  4 J, meckit.  5 J, y gu.

† rarely is the face of a friend kindly / at frequent visiting.

36. Eiry mynyd, dyd a doeth²; bit glaf³ pop trôm; Ilôm lletnoeth; gna[b]t pob anaf ar a[n]noeth.

IV

RBH, col. 1031 1. Gna[b]t gôynt o’r deheu; gna[b]t atneu⁴ yn llann; gna[b]t gôr gônann godeneu; gna[b]t y dyn ofyn chwedleu; gna[b]t y vab ar uaeth uoetheu.

2. Gna[b]t gôynt o’r dôyrein; gna[b]t dyn bronrein balch; gna[b]t môyalch ym plith drein; gna[b]t rac traha tralleuein; gna[b]t yg gwic kael kic o urein.

3. Gna[b]t gôynt o’r gocled⁵; gna[b]t rianed⁶ chwec; gna[b]t gôr tec yg Gôyned; gna[b]t y deyrn arlîy gôled⁷; gna[b]t gôedy llynn llethryded.


5. Gna[b]t gôynt o’r mynyd; gna[b]t meryd y mro; gna[b]t kael to yg gweunyd⁸; gna[b]t ar laeth maeth dyn creuyd; gna[b]t deil a gôyeil a gôyd.

¹ J, ganmoda[b]c. ² sic J; RB, ac dooeth. ³ J, glas. ⁴ J, adneu. ⁵ sic RB; J, gogled. ⁶ J, rianet. ⁷ J, gôyled. ⁸ J, ynggôyned
6. Gnaət o vastardaeth 2 grynno’ryaeth ar wyr, a goraged dr6c meduaeth, a chyni ar wyr a gorôyr waethwaeth.

7. Gnaət nyth eryr ym blaen dar, ac yg kyfyrdy gôyr llauar; gol6c vynut ar a gar.

8. Gnaət dyd ac anllôyth yg kynlleith gayaf³; kynreinyon kynôytieith; gnaət aelwyt diffyd yn diffeith. 

9. Crin calaf a llif⁴ yn nant; kysnewit Seis ac aryant; digu eneit mam geublant.

10. Y deilen [honn] a dreuyt⁵ gôynt, gôac hi oe thynget; hen hi, eleni y ganet.

11. Kyt boet bychan, ys keluyd <yd>⁶ adeil adar yg gorôyd coet; kyuouet vyd da a detwyd.

12. Oerwlyb mnyyd, oerlas ia; ymdiryet y Du6 nyth dôylla; nyt edeu hirbwyll hirbla.

V

1. Kalan gaeaf, kalet gra6n, deil ar gychôyn, llynnwynn lla6n; y bore gynn noc vynet gwae a ymdiret y estrâ6n.

1 Stanza from J; see note, p.52. 2 J, JGE, bastardaeth.
3 J, gayat. 4 J, lif.
5 J, dryôyt. 6 See note, p.52.
2. Kalan gayaf, kein gyfrin, kyfret awel a dryckin; g6eith keluyd y6 kelu rin.

3. Kalan gayaf, cul hydot, melyn blaen bed6, g6ed6 hauot; g6ae a haed meuyl yr bychot.

4. Kalan gayaf, cr6m blaen g6rysc; gna6t o benn dirieit teruysc; lle ny bo da6n ny byd dysc.

5. Kalan gaeaf, gar6 hin, anhebic y gynteuin; namwyn Du6 nyt oes dewin.

6. Kalan gaeaf, kein gyfreu adar, byrr dyd, ban cogeu; trugar daffar Du6 goreu.

7. Kalan gayaf; kalet cras; purdu bran, buan ovras; am g6ymp hen chwerdit g6en g6as.

8. Kalan gaeaf, cul kerwyt; gwae wann pan syrr; byrr vyd byt; g6ir g6ell hegar6ch no phryt.

9. Kalan gayaf, ll6m godeith, aradyr yn rych, ych yg gweith; o’r kant odit kedymdeith.

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1 *sic* J; RB, bedu.  
2 J, gyffreu.  
3 J, darfar.  
4 J, buan bras.  
5 J, herar6ch.
VI

1. Gorwyn blaen onn, hirwynnyon vydant
   pan dyuant ym blaen neint;
   brongâla\(^1\) hiraeth y heint\(^2\).

2. Gorwyn blaen neint; deweint hir;
   keinmygir\(^3\) pob kywreint;
   dyly bun pôyth hun y heint.

3. Gorwyn blaen helic; eilic pysc yn lynn;
   gochwiban gôynt yôch blaen\(^4\) gôrysc man;
   trech anyan noc adyse.

4. Gorwyn blaen eithin a chyfrin a doeth,
   ac a[n]noeth disgethrin;
   namyn Duô nyt oes dewin.

5. Gorôyn blaen meillyon; digallon llyfôr;
   lludedic eidigyon\(^5\);
   gnaôt ar eidil oualon.

6. Gorwyn blaen kaôn; gôythlaôn eicid;
   ys odi dê digaôn—
   gôeithret call yô\(^6\) caru yn iaôn.

7. Gorwyn blaen mynyded; rac anhuned gayaf
   "crin kaôn; trôm callwed\(^7\);?
   rac neôyn nyt oes wyled.

8. Gorwyn blaen mynyded; hydyr oeruel gayaf;
   crin kaôn, crôbyr ar ued;
   whefris\(^8\) goâll yn alltuded.

\(^1\) J, bron\(n\) waly.
\(^2\) J, y heneint.
\(^3\) J, kein meigir.
\(^4\) om. J.
\(^5\) sic J; RB, edigyon.
\(^6\) om. J.
\(^7\) sic J; RB, crin caôn trôm crin kaôn trôm.
\(^8\) J, chweffris.

(29)

* cf. S.\(^5\) Cha bli naire au goile galânch (TCS i. 1.2)
9. Gorwyn blaen der6, chwer6 bric onn, rac hwyeit goesgerit\(^1\) tonn;\(\text{—}\) pybýr p6yl; pell oual y’m kallon.

10. Gorwyn blaen der6, chwer6 bric onn; chôec\(^2\) eubr, chôerthinat tonn; ny chel grud kystud kallon.

11. Gorwyn blaen egroes; nyt moes caledi; katwet bab y eiryoes;\(\underbrace{\text{g6aethaf anaf y6}^3\text{ anuoes.}}\)

12. Gorwyn blaen banadyl, kynnadyl\(^4\) y sercha6c, goruelyn kangeu bac6ya6c; bas ryt; gnàst hyfryt yn huna6c.

13. Gor6yn blaen auall; amgall pob dedwyd; wheueryd\(^5\) y arall, a g6edy karu gadu g6all.

14. Gorwyn blaen auall; amgall pob dedwyd; hir dyd; meryd mall; cr6ybyr ar wa6r; carchara6r dall.

15. Gor6yn blaen coll geir Digoll bre\(^6\); diaele uyd pob ffoll; g6eithret cadarn cad6 aruoll.

16. Gor6yn blaen corsyd; gnàt meryd yn drôm, a ieuane dysgedyd; ny thyrr nam6yn ffol y ffyd.

17. Gorwyn blaen elestyr; bit venestyr pob drut; geir teulu yn ysg6n, gnàt gan aghy6ir eir tôn6n.

\(^1\) sic J; RB, goesgereit. \(^2\) sic J; RB, chec. \(^3\) om. J. \(^4\) om. J. \(^5\) J, chweferyd. \(^6\) J, bro.

(30)
18. Gorwyn blaen gruc; gnaît seithuc ar lôfyr\(^1\); hydyr vyd dôfyr\(^2\) ar dal glan; gnaît gan gywir eir kyyan.

19. Gorbyn blaen brôyn; kymbyn biô\(^3\); redegabc vyn deigyr hediô; amgeled\(^4\) am dyn nyt ydiô.

20. Gorbyn blaen redyn; melyn kadaarth; mor vyd diwarth\(^5\) deillon; redegabc man[n]abec meibon.

21. Gorbyn blaen kyraabal; gnaît goual ar hen, a gônyn yn ynal; namyn Duô nyt oes dial.

22. Gorwyn blaen dar; didar drychin; gônyn yn uchel; geuvel crin; gnaît gan rewyd rychôerthin.

23. Gorbyn blaen kelli, goghyt y gôyd, a deil deri dygôydyt\(^6\); a wyl a gar, gônyn y uyt.

24. ^Gorwyn blaen derô; oeruerô dôfyr; kyrchit biô blaen betôerô\(^8\); gônelit aeth saeth y syberô.

25. ^Gorwyn blaen kelyn, kalet [angawr], ac ereill eur-agoret; pan gysco pabb ar gylchet ny chôsc Duô pan ryd gôaret.

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\(^1\) J, lyfôr.\(^2\) J, dôfôr.\(^3\) J, lliô.\(^4\) sic J; RB, amgeled amgeled.\(^5\) J, diwall.\(^6\) J, dygôydyd.\(^7\) J, om. st.24–7.\(^8\) RB, betuerô.

RB, gorôyn blaen kelyn kalet ac ereill eur agoret.

( 31 )
26. Gorwyn blaen helic; hydyr elwic gorwyd; hirdyd deilyedic; a garo y gilyd nys dirmic.

27. Gorwyn blaen brôyn, brigâbc vyd pan danner dan obennyd; medôl serchaâbc syberô vyd.

28. Gorwyn blaen yspydat; hydyr hwlyat gorwyd; serchâbc erlynyat; gonenlit da diwyt gennnt. a trustworthy messenger does good.

29. Gorôyn blaen berôr; bydina6r\(^1\) gorwyd; kein gyfreu\(^2\) coet y labr; chôrderdt\(^3\) bryt 6rth a gara6r\(^4\).

30. Gorwyn blaen perth; hywerth gorwyd; ys da p6yll gyt a nerth; gonenlyt agheluydyt\(^5\) antherth.

31. Gorwyn blaen perthi; kein gyfreu adar\(^6\), hir\(^6\) dyd, da6n goleu; trugar dassr Du6 goreu.

32. Gorwyn blaen erwein\(^7\) ac elein yn llôyn; g6yychyr g6ynt, g6yd migyein\(^8\); eirya6l ny gara6r\(^9\) ny gyghein.

33. Gorwyn blaen ysga6; hydyr ana6 unic;\(^4\) gna6t y dreissic dreissya6; g6ae a d6c dassr o lâo.

---

\(^1\) J, bydin6r.
\(^2\) J, geffreu.
\(^3\) J, chôrderit.
\(^4\) J, anghara6r.
\(^5\) J, angheluydyd.
\(^6\) J, erpein.
\(^7\) sic J; RB, gara6l.
\(^8\) J, nugyein.

( 32 )
VII (BIDIAU I)

1. Bit goch crib keilya6c, bit anynyana6l y lef
   o wely buduga6l;
   llewenyd dyn, Du6 ae ma6l.

2. Bit la6en meichyeit 6rth ucheneit go6ynt;
   bit tabel yn deleit1;
   bit gna6t afl6yd ar diryeit.

3. Bit guhudyat keissyat; bit gynifiat2 go6yd;
   a bit gynnywys3 dillat;
   a gar4 bard bit hard rodyat.

4. Bit5 le6 unbenn a bit avwy,
   a bit vleid ar ad6y;
   ny cheid6 y wyneb ar ny rodwy.

5. Bit vuan redeint6 yn ardal mynyd;
   bit yn gheuda6t7 oual;
   bit anniweir annwadal.

6. Bit aml6c marcha6c, bit ogela6c lleidyrl
   t6ylyt g6reic goluda6c;
   kyueillt bleid bugeil dia6c.

7.8 Bit aml6c marcha6c8; bit redega6c gor6yd;
   bit uab llen yn ch6anna6c9;
   bit anniweir deueiry6c.

8. Bit gr6m bi6 a bit l6yt bleid;
   esgut gor6yd y ar heid;
   g6esgyt g6a6n gra6n yn y wreid.

1. J, om. the line.  
2. RB, gynifiat; J, gnifyat; P, A, gynifiad.
5. RB, bit avwy unbenn a bit le6; P, A, bid lew unben a bid
  awy vryd; J, bit le6 unbenn a bit avwy vleid ar ad6y.
7. J, angheuda6t.
8=a om. J.  

WGP (33) 3
9. Bit grôm bydar, bit trôm keu; 
esgut gorwyd yg kadeu; 
gôesgyt gôaôn graôn yn y adneu.¹

10. Bit haha bydar; bit annwadal chut; 
bit ynuyt ymladgar; 
detwyd yr² ae gôyl ae kar. 

11. Bit dôfyn³ llynn; bit lym⁴ gôaewaôr; 
bit gwarant leô⁵ gle6 6ôr; ḫ 
bit doeth detwyd, Duô ae maôl⁶. 

12. Bit euein alltut; bit disgythrin drut; 
bit chwannaôc ynuyt y chwerthin; 
⁶bit lôm ros, bit tost kenin?. 

13. Bit wlyb rych; bit uynych mach; 
surely 
birôyn claf, bir laben iach; 
bir chôrynyât colôyn, bir wenwyn gwraô. 

14. Bit diaspat aë<u>; bit aë bydin; 
bit basgadur⁸ dyre; 
bit drut gleô a bit reô bre. ḫ² 

15. Bit wenn gôylan⁹, bit vann¹⁰ tonn; 
bir hyuagyl gôyê ar onn; 
bir lôyt reô; bit leô callônn. 

¹-¹ om. J. 
² sic P, and PP 223; A, ir; RB, J, or. 
³ P, A, dwôn; RB, dyfôn; J, dôyrr. 
⁴ sic J; P, A, llym; RB, lynn. 
⁵ P, A, gwarandeu glau; PP 121, warancleu glew; RB, grancleô gleô; J, grangcleô gleô. 
⁶ P, A, nawdd; RB, J, maôr. 
⁸ RB, J, besgittor. 
⁹ sic J; RB, gôylyan. 
¹⁰ J, wann.
16. Bit las lluarth\(^1\); bit diwarth eirchyat; the suppliant is shameless
bit reinyat y ghyuarth\(^2\); combat, battle (v. note)
bbit wreic drôc ae mynycz warth.\(^8\)

17. Bit grauanga\(^6\)c iar; bit trydar gan le6; there is clamour from
\(^4\) bit ynyt ymladgar\(^4\); the heart is broken with grief
fun. of hyper

18. Bit wynn tôr; bit orun\(^5\) seirch;
the glutton is
bbit hoffder llaôer ae heirch;
freedy (glutton)

VIII (BIDIAU II)

1. Bid gogor\(^7\) gan iar; bid trydar\(^8\) gan lew,
Penriarth
bid ofal ar a’i car\(^9\); 102, f.5
bid tonn calon rac galar\(^10\).

2. Bid aha byddar; bid anwadal ehud;
the rack is fickle
diried\(^11\) bid ymgeingar,
ynwelsome
dedwydd yr\(^12\) a’i gwyl a’i car.

3. Bid gywir baglawg;\(^13\) bid rygyngawd gorwydd;
the horse is deceitful
bid fab llen yn chwannawg;
bid anniwair deueiriawg\(^14\).

1 J, buarth; P 2, lle fuarth.
2 J, ynghyuarch; see note, p. 65.
3 J, grauag.
4 J, om. J.
5 RB, J, orôn.
6 J, ringa\(^6\)c cleirach.
7 P 2, graviad; A, P, gogor.
8 A, trygar; P 2, dridar; Pt 14, trydar.
9 P 2, ofnad ar a gar; A, bid ofal ar ei car.
10 P, iad calar; A, iad galar; P 2, rac galar; RB, gan alar; Pt 14,
iad galar with gan alar written above.
11 sic A; P, P 2, diriaid.
12 P 2, ar; A, ir.
13 A, gywir baglawl; P 2, gywir bagloc; Pt 14, gywir baglawg.
14 sic Pt 14; A, P, daueiriawg; P 2, dau eiriwc.

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4. Bid amlwg marchawg; bid ogelawg lleidr; twyllid gwraig goludawg; cyfaillt blaidd bugail diawg.

5. Bid gwyrrdd gweilgi; bid gorawen tonn; bid cwyn pob galarus, bid aflawen hen heinus.


7. Bid chwyrniad colwyn, bid wenwyn neidr; bid nofiaw rhyd wrth beleidr; nid gwell yr odwr no’r lleidr.

8. Bid anhygar diriaid, bid ffer pob eweint; bid heneint i dlodedd; bid addfwyn yn ancwyn medd.

9. Bid dwfn llynn; bid llym gwaywawr; bid gwarant lew glew wrth awr; bid doeth dedwydd, Duw a’i nawdd.

10. Bid llawen meichiaid, gwynt a gyfyd; bid dedwydd ar ei naid; gnawd aflwydd ar ddiriaid.

---

1 A, oludawg. 2 P 2, gwerdd. 3 A, bod. 4 P 2, gorwen. 5 So P 2; A, P, fach. 6 P 2, chwyrniad. 7 P 2, wenwynic. 8 P 2, kwynus. 9 P 2, wenwynic. 10 P 2, wenwynic. 11 sic P 2; A, odtwr; P, otdwr. 12 sic A; P, Pt 14, ewaint. 13 A, na’r. 14 sic P, Pt 14; A, meichiaid. 15 P, A, ar ei naid bid dedwydd; see note, p. 66.
11. Bid 
  gyhu<
  dgar; bid<
  gynifiad 
  gwydd; bid 
  gynnwys gan 
  dillad; bid 
  garu bardd 
  gan roddiad.

12. Bid wenn gwylan, bid fann tonn, bid hyfagl 
  gwyr ar onn, bid lwyt rew, bid lew calon.

13. Bid lew unben a bid awy vryd, a bid 
  lleiniad yn ardwy; ni cheidw ei wyneb ni 
  roddwy.

14. Bid llymm eithin, a bid eddain alltut; 
  chwannawg drut i chwerthin; bid lwm rhos, bid 
  tost cennin.

IX (ENGLYNION Y MISOEED)

1. Mis Jonawr, myglyd dyffryn, blin trulliad, 
  trallawd klerddyyn, kul bran, anaml llais 
  gwenyn, gwa<
  c<buxes, diwres odyn;
  gwael gwr anwiw i ofyn; gwae 
  a garo i dri gelyn; 
  gwir a ddyvod Kynvelyn
  "gorev kannwyll pwyll i ddyn."

---

1 P, [lyddg<
  dgar; A, guhu<
  dgar; P 2, kyhu<
  dgar.
2 A, byd.
3 P 2, dyn.
4 A, P, Pt 14, lwytrew.
5 A, yr.
6 P, all<
  dut; A, alltud; PP 115, all<
  dut.
7 sic A and Pt 14; P, drud.
8 sic J; P, A, cost.
9 sic P 99, P 111, C; W, LL, A, ionor.
10 sic P 99, P 111, C; W, trulli<
  ad; LL, trulli<
  ad; A, trulli<
  ad.
11 A, treig[ad].
12 A, anwy<
  l.
13 LL, A, gar.
14 sic LL, P 99, A, P 111, C; W, g<
  yr.
15 A, ddowod.
16 LL, kyvelin.

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2. Mis Chwefrol, anaml ankwyn, llafurus pal ac olwyn; knawd gwarth o fynych gysswyn; gwae heb raid a wnel achwyn; tri ffeth a dryg-wenwyn;
7kyngor gwraic, murr, a chynllwyn; pen ki ar vore wanwyn; gwae a laddodd i vorwyn; diwedd dydd da fydd i fwyn.

3. Mis Mawrth, mawr rhyfic adar, chwerw oerwynt ar ben talar; hwy vydd hindda no heiniar; pob bywy aynag esgar; pob edn a edwyn i gymar; pob peth a ddaw drwyr ddaiar ond y marw, mawr i garchar.

4. Mis Ebrill, wybraidd gorthir, lluddedig ychen, llwm tir, gwael hydd, gwareus clusthir; knawd osb er nas gwahoddir; usual a gress though he be not invited.

---

1 P 99, A, chwefror. 2 LL, anvall; A, annyall.
3 P III, ankwyn; C, amgwyn. 4 LL, gynllwyn; C, gynllwyn. 5 P 99, pob.
6 LL, a vag drwc; P 99, a vac dryc; A, a dry yn ddrwg; C, P III, a dry drwc. 7 LL, kyangol, gwraic, a mynych gychwyn.
8 A, myr. 9 LL, kic; P 99, A, cil.
10 A, laddo. 11-11 om. LL, P 99, A, P III, C.
12 LL, rryddig. 13 LL, amyl.
14 sic LL, P III, C; P 99, A, ar dalar; W, ar ben dalar.
15 A, hinon. 16 LL, hen iar (!). 17 A, nag alar.
18 sic P III; W, C, a ryfic i ysgar; A, a raneg i ymyskar; LL, P 99, om. the line.
19 A, pob dyn. 20 P III, gwyl; LL, gael.
21 W, gwareus glusthir; LL, chwrrs klystir; P 99, chwareus clusthir; A, char[ ]s klysthir; P III, gwareus klysthir; C, chwareys glysd hir. 22 sic A, P III, C; LL, osber ir; W, P 99, gwest.
aml bai pawb lle nis kerir;  
gwyn i fyd a vo kowir;  
knawd difrawd ar blant enwir;  
knawd gwedi traha tranck hir.

5. Mis Mai, difrodus geilwad,  
klyd pob klawdd i ddigariad;  
llawen hen diarchenad;  
ydail koed, hyfryd anllad;  
hawdd kymod lle bo kariad;  
llafar koc a bytheiad;  
nid hwyrach mynd i'r farchnad  
croen yr oen no chroen y ddavad.

6. Mis Mehevin, hardd tiredd,  
llwyn mor, llawen marianedd;  
hirgain dydd, heinif gwragedd,  
hylawn praidd, hyffordd mignedd;

1 P 99, LL, ni cherir.  
2 sic P 99, A, P III, C; W, anwir; LL, aniwr.  
3 sic LL, W, C; A, P 111, wedi; P 99, wedy.  
4 LL, diwrydes.  
5 C, ddigariad.  
6 LL, a di archenad; C, ddiarchenaid; P 99 transposes ll.3 and 4; 
C and P III give the first six lines in the order 1-2-3-6-4-5; LL gives 1-3-2-6-4-5.  
7 A, amkad.  
8 sic P 111; W, mynd yr; LL, A, yr a i’r; P 99, vyd i’r; C, gyn  
ebrywdd yn y.  
9 sic P 99, LL (groen), P 111, A (na), C (a); W, groen yr oen  
nor’ hen ddavad.  
10 sic P 111, C; LL, llawen meranedd; W, llawn marianedd;  
P 99, llawen miranedd; A, llawen miranedd.  
11 sic A; W, LL, P 99, P III, C, ddydd.  
12 sic P 111; C, W, LL, P 99, A, heini.  
13 LL, hylawn.  
14 A, brig; W, pridd.  
15 LL, mugynedd.
Duw a gar¹ pob tangnevedd²; Diawl a bair pob kynddrygedd³; pawb a chwennych anrhydedd; pob kadarn gwan i ddiweddd.

7. Mis Gorffennaf, hyglyd⁴ gwair, taer tes, toddedig kessair⁵; ni char gwilliad⁶ hir gyngrai⁷; ni lwydd hil korff⁸ anniwair; & llwyr diendid mefl mowrair⁹; llawn ydlan¹⁰, lledwag kronffair; gwir a ddyvod¹¹ mab maeth Mair, “Duw a farn, dyn a levair”.

8. Mis Awst, molwynoc¹² morva, llon gwenyn, llawn¹³ modryda; gwell gwaith kryman no bwa; amlach das no chwarwyva¹⁴; ni lafur ni weddia, nid¹⁵ teilwng iddo i fara; gwir a ddyfod¹⁶ Sain¹⁷ Brenda “nid llai kyrchir¹⁸ drwc no’r da”.

¹ sic LL, P 111, C; W, P 99, A, bair.
² sic A; LL, W, P 99, P 111, C, tyngnefedd.
³ C, gynddaredd; A, kyngryddeg; P 99, transposes ll.5 and 6.
⁴ C, myglyd. ⁵ A, kesail; C, geisair. ⁶ A, P 111, C, gwilliaid.
⁷ sic LL, A, P 111, C; W, gyngair; P 99, gygrair.
⁸ P 99, P 111, C, o gorff.
⁹ LL, diendid dirmic mevyl vowrair; A, dielid melf mowlair; C, ddiliad mel. LL and C transpose ll.5 and 6.
¹⁰ P 99, llwm ydlan; W, LL, P 111, C, llwm ydlam; A, llawn hyd lan.
¹¹ A, ddowod.
¹² LL, moel wynoc; P 99, C, malwenoc; A, molwenog; P 111, malwynawg altered to molwenog.
¹³ P 111, llawen; A, llon gwenwyn llawn bodryda.
¹⁴ sic W, P 111; P 99, chwerwyfa; A, chwryddfa; C, chwaryddfa; LL, amlach das o hyd no chwarwyva.
¹⁵ W, ni; LL, ni bydd. ¹⁶ A, ddowod. ¹⁷ A, C, saint.
¹⁸ LL, P 99, drwc no da; P 111, C, gyrchir y drwg na’r da; A, drwg na’r da.

(& the seed of an unchaste lady does not prosper / shame completely avenges a boast
who works not men forays, he does not deserve his bread.)
9. Mis Medi, mydr\textsuperscript{1} ynGhanon, aeddfed oed\textsuperscript{2} yd ac aeron; \(w^r\) gan hiraeth fy nghalon; golwg Duw ar dylodion\textsuperscript{4}; gwaetha gwir\textsuperscript{5} gwarthrudd\textsuperscript{6} dynion; gwaetha da drwy anudon\textsuperscript{7}; traha a thresio\textsuperscript{9} gwirion\textsuperscript{10} a ddiva yr etifeddion\textsuperscript{11}.

10. Mis Hydref, hydraul\textsuperscript{12} echel, chwareus hydd, chwyrn awel; knawd ysbeilwyr\textsuperscript{13} yn rryfel; knawd lledrad\textsuperscript{14} yn ddymgel; gwaetha gwirion\textsuperscript{15} ni\textsuperscript{16} ddawr pa wnel; tryni ni hawdd\textsuperscript{17} i ochel; angau i bawb sy ddiogel, amau fydd y dydd y del.

\textsuperscript{1} sic LL, P III, C; W, mudyr; A, mydr amkanon; P 99, mytr.
\textsuperscript{2} C, oedd; A, coed.
\textsuperscript{3} sic C, P III; W, gwayw; LL, gwaiw; P 99, gwaew; A, gwyf.
\textsuperscript{4} A, dyledion.
\textsuperscript{5} P 99, da.
\textsuperscript{6} LL, gwarth dynion; A, gwarthae; P III, gwartha gwirion altered from gwarthrudd dynion; C, gwerthu'r gwirion.
\textsuperscript{7} sic P 99, om.
\textsuperscript{8} LL, gwaeth a thrin a dreisio dynion.
\textsuperscript{9} P 99, thresiu'r.
\textsuperscript{10} C, gwyrion; A illegible.
\textsuperscript{11} sic P III, C; LL, gwaetha dîva dîva'r ydiveddion; W, ytifeddion; P 99, a dîva'r plant a'r wyrion; A illegible.
\textsuperscript{12} W, A, hydraul.
\textsuperscript{13} LL, C, ysbeilwynt; A, ysbeilwr; P III, ysbeilwynt mewn altered to ysbeilwyr yn.
\textsuperscript{14} P III, lladron; A, lladrad.
\textsuperscript{15} LL, dduried ni ddawr beth anel; A, dyn ni ddawr pa nel.
\textsuperscript{16} C, ni ddaw.
\textsuperscript{17} LL, P III, C, nid rrywdd.
\textsuperscript{18} A, [ ] a ddaw yn ddiogel.

\textsuperscript{41}
II. Mis Tachwedd, tuchani merydd, 
bras llydnod, llednoeth koydydd;
awr a ddaw drwy lawenydd, 
awr drist drosti a dderfydd;
y da nid eiddo’r kybydd, 
yr hael ai rhoddo piefydd;
dyn a da’r byd a dderfydd, 
da nefol tragwyddol fydd.

12. Mis Rhagfyr, byrddyd, hirnos, 
7 brain yn egin, brwyn yn rhos,
tawel gwenyn ac eos;
8 trin yn niwedd kyfeddnos;
adail dedwydd yn ddiddos; 
adwyth diriaid heb achos;
yn hystl er hyd i haros 
a dderfydd yn nydd a nos.

1 A, P 111, C, tychan.
2 sic C; P 111, llawenydd; LL, W, llywenydd; A, llywenydd.
3 W, eidd r; LL, eio y.
4 ll.5-7, om. A.
5 W, ai rhydd ai piefydd; LL, ai rroddo pievydd; P 111, ai rroddo pievydd; C, ai rhoddo biau’r bydd.
6 W, rhaefyr.
7 C, brain yr y egin brwyn yn y rhos; A, ar egin.
8 sic A; W, P 111, C, ynghyfedd ddiweddnos; LL, yngyvedd nos.
9 A, ag yn nos; C, a gyn nos; LL, yn nydd yn nos.

{wealth is not the property of the miser} it is the generous one who gives it away who shall possess it.
{there is conflict at the end of a night’s carouseal}
the house of the fortunate is sound (lit. “not letting a drop (grain) through,” “wealthy for the last”).

(42)
NOTES

I

St.1. Metre, cf. JMJ, Cerdd Dafod, p.313; but see Loth, MG, ii.1, p.236.
   l.i. caffael is probably to be read caffel, as often, to give rhyme with awel.
   l.ii. licrid, i.e. is flooded. Llygru = “to corrupt, spoil, mar”; see PK, p.171.
   l.iii. ry of possibility, see Strachan Introd. p.60, i.e. the grass, etc. is frozen so hard that one could stand on a stalk without breaking it.

St.2. Englyn byrr crwcca.
   l.ii. guaetev, “outcries” (of the wind), cf. goruchel awel guaetvann, st.21, l.iv.
   l.iii. “Scarcely can one stand up outside.” Orseuir, cf. v.7.ii, note. With this line cf. st.21, l.iv.

St.3, l.i. lluch, “a lake”, occurs in place-names, as Llôch Eôin, Llôch Ta6y, WBM, 503. Borrowed from Irish loch. The phrasing of lle lluch is unusual; leg. lly, fr. lly’ in gwely, “bed”, as in st.4? Or tr. “cold is the place; there is dust (reading lluch = llwch) blown before the tumult of winter”? Brythuch, cf. taryan y mrythwch, BT, p.11, 6–7; bum gawr ym mrythwch, ibid. p.48, 20; brydeu anaraf brythwch gaeaf, MA, 189a, 43; brythwch = ymlad, D. Here = “tumult”. Cf. the two meanings of gawr.
   l.iii. kedic, cf. llit kedic, lla6 dreissic dra6s, RBH, 1240, 19.

On this passage Loth (ACL, I, p.409) says “‘le vent bataille’; je suppose que kedic est un dérivé de cad”; but cf. the cad in the common place-name cadnant = “noisy stream”? Not all the Cadnants can be sites of battles; cf. also Afon Cedig running into Lake Vyrnwy. Coed im bluch; the dash over the second i is quite distinct in the MS., but the emendation is necessary for metre and improves the sense. Bluch is a crux. Blwch = “box”, but that cannot be the meaning here. Is it Breton blouch, “sans poil, sans barbe, nu, découvert” (Troude)? (cf. Bluchbard in Nennius = “beardless” or “shaven bard”?); or cf. Irish blog, “a fragment”?

St.4, l.ii and l.iii. barywhaud...gvyrhaud, “bearded...bowed”, adjectival termination; see Loth, ACL, I, p.407, and WG, p.396.

St.5, l.1. eiry; a second eiry has been partially erased in the MS.
NOTES

Note that the -y in these instances is sometimes syllabic, as in Mod.W. eira, and sometimes not, as normally in M.W. See WG, p.177. Caes, cf. CLH, p.177; it must mean "surface" here.

l.ii. oe = "to their", cf. CLH, p.177.

St.6, l.i. aren for arien, a S. Welsh form; cf. PK, p.278.


St.7, l.i. see WG, p.177.

Cnes, cf. CLH, p.177; it must mean "surface" here.

l.ii. os, cf. CLH, p.177.


St.7, l.i. see WG, p.177.

Cnes, cf. CLH, p.177; it must mean "surface" here.

l.ii. gosgupid, a δπαξ λεγόμενον, but clearly fr. go+(y)sgub = "sweeps".

St.8. Cf. RBH, 1035, 13-14. L.ii, see CLH, p.177.

St.9, l.i. o dv, cf. o'r tu allan = "on the outside".

l.iii. annuyd, cf. LLJ, s.v. annwyt 2.

St.10, l.ii. "Bare are the timbers of the ship at sea." Or, with a comma at guit, "bare are the trees, the ship is at sea"; the first of these gnomes is quite natural but the second is not, for a ship at sea is more characteristic of summer than winter in primitive seafaring. The picture is of a ship with its sails taken in before the winter storm.

St.11, l.i. eurtirn, pl. of eurddwrn; cf. cledyf eurdorn, WBM, 455, "gold hilted sword". Claideb orduirn = "mit goldenem Griff", Windisch, s.v. orduirn. Perhaps "handles" here? For evidence that early Welsh (blowing) horns had gold rims, see RBH, 1037, 19, where arwest = "rim". Cf. the Anglo-Saxon gold-rimmed drinking horns, as the Taplow specimen, see British Museum Guide to Anglo-Saxon Antiquities, p.64.

Cluir. A cluir occurs BBC, f.viii.9 = "chorus", which does not seem to fit here. Can it be plural of cloer, "a slit-window or recess", such as are found in castles; and tr. "drinking horns round the window shelves"? i.e. a kind of sideboard (IW). The whole line in any case seems to be a gnomic one.

l.ii. ilyri, "paths", pl. of llwrb.

Auir, note rhyme in "yr, the older pronunciation.

l.iii. gvir, "bent", cf. gwyrau, st.4, l.iii.

St.12, l.i. gogaur = "fodder", a dialect word in Carmarthenshire. The meaning is here that the bees live in their hive on their stored supplies.

l.ii. Something has fallen out in the MS., and the rhyme-word in -awr is missing.

Diulith, "bleak", fr. gwlydd, "soft". Note th for t = dd.
NOTES

l.iii. kassulwin = “white-cloaked”.

St.13, l.i. agdo, LLJ, “cover” (?). Cf. Loth, ACL, i, p.403, “froide est la surface? du gué. Il gélera quand il y aura gelée.... Angdo < ang, large étendu”.

l.iii. goleith...dyppo, cf. CLH, p.177.

St.15, l.ii. cimleit, cf. cyflaith; “glas gyflaith y llech, Medd. Mydd., ii.150, cf. 78, 606,” SE; “Elebiarni, the name of some plant, Medd. Mydd. 284”, ibid. Loth (ACL, i, p.413) reads cunlleit with the MS. and suggests cynlladd, “first cut (plants)” and tr. “verts sont les émondes”; but this is a ghost word.

Cev ewur, i.e. the cow-parsnip stalk is hollow and withered in winter.

St.16. This and the next verse seem to be meant as weather signs.

l.ii. emriv seems to be a στρας λεγόμενον; compound of rhiv? Or read emliv=ymliv, “quarrelling”? (IW.)

St.17, l.i. kiuuetlauc, i.e. cywethlog; cf. cywaethyl, RB.Brut, 34 = “argue, quarrel”; cywethyla=“litigabit”, ibid.153; cywethyl, ibid.6. T for th, as often in O.W. and the BBC.

Diffrint, “valley”< dwfr + hynt = “watercourse”, perhaps here in its original meaning.

l.ii. callet, a pl. of celli.

St.18, l.i. i mynit, cf. iv.5.i, note.

St.19. This stanza appears to be out of place and to belong to the Llywarch Hen dialogue series; cf. BBC, f.livb, 13. It seems Llywarch is reproving Cyndilig for not playing the part of a warrior. See CLH, p.178.

St.20, l.i. Loth, ACL, i, p.433, “recherche le cerf au front courbe une combe abritée”. But “au front courbé” would be talgrum.

l.iii. ry of possibility, cf. st.1, l.iii, note.

St.21. This stanza seems to have been confused with another in a different metre. A couplet bronureith—bronureith has been clumsily joined on to an englyn of 10, 7, 7. On the first couplet, Ifor Williams (Beirniad, 11, 1912, p.58) notes that this is an old metric technique found in the Gododdin; and Loth, MG, ii, p.6, notes the tendency in BT to repeat the rhyme word, as in popcant id cuitin, id cuittin pop cant.

l.v. guir, see v.8.iii, note.

Orseuir, see v.7.ii, note.

St.22. This stanza is from a Kalan Gaeaf series, but it looks like a reshuffling of st.10 above. See CLH, p.179.

St.23 belongs to the story of the latter part of the poem, see Introduction, p.4, and CLH, pp.179–80.

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l.iii. The story of the poem; ten stanzas are here omitted as irrelevant.

St.36. The last in the poem, omitted as irrelevant.

II

Stanzas 4–6 probably do not belong to the poem, as they seem to be part of a story whose meaning is now unknown; perhaps someone has been betrayed by an indiscreet confidence and imprisoned as a result, but the references to “saplings” are obscure. Possibly the verses got added to the poem on the analogy of marchwyel, “saplings”, at the beginning of stanza 7, if that is not itself part of the preceding.

St.1, l.1. “Serried is the host, budding is the ash”? There seems to have been a considerable confusion in the Celtic languages between at least three roots\(^1\): one \textit{bac}\(^+\)- with meanings “crowd, cluster, curl, sprig, bud, tip”; the second \textit{bacc}\(^+\)= “angle, hook”; and the third \textit{bacal}\(^+(\text{Irish}), bael}\(^+(\text{Welsh})= “staff, crozier, crook”, fr. Latin \textit{baculum} (see Thurneysen, \textit{Kelto-Romanisches}, p.39). The confusion of “curl” and “crook” is natural, and it is not always possible to distinguish the roots and meanings. \textit{Meaning (1)}, “crowd, cluster, curl, sprig, bud, tip”. \textit{Bagad}= “nonnuli, aliquot, turba, turma; utimur pro racemo uvarum”, D. \textit{Racemus}= “bagedyn”, \textit{ibid. Bagadog}= “hung with clusters of grapes or berries”. \textit{Gorwyn blaen afallbodau-fagwy}, “of clustering flowers”, MA, 143a, 7. \textit{Gorueyn kangeu bagwyawc}, “clustering branches”, vi.12.i. \textit{Ac uch wyneput gwyn gwineu-vagwy}, “auburn curls”, MA, 158b, 44. \textit{Bagwy}= “blaer” (leg, “blaen”), Arch. Brit. 214a. Breton \textit{bagad}= “troupe”, Troude. Irish \textit{baclach}= “a crowd”, Dinneen; \textit{bachall}= “a curl”, \textit{bachallach}= “ringleted”, \textit{bachla}= “germ, sprout, or bud”, \textit{bachtlog}, “a bud, sprout, twist, curl”, \textit{ibid. Bachlach}= “curl’d or frilled”, Arch. Brit., Irish-English Diet., s.v. \textit{bachlach}. Welsh \textit{baglurun}= “buddle”, \textit{blagurun} (with metathesis) = “burgen”, WS. \textit{Meaning (2)}, “staff, crozier, crook, hook, crooked”. \textit{Baglog}= “bacalatus”, D. \textit{Bachall}= “staff, crozier, pilgrim’s staff”, Meyer, Conts. \textit{Asebrn y chefy oed ar weith bagyl}, “her backbone was like a crook”, WBM, 166. \textit{Kynn bum kein-vaglabec}, “before I was crook-backed”, RBH, 1036, 1. \textit{Baglan brem}, “wooden crook”, \textit{ibid. 1036, 9}. Derivative, “one bearing a crook, a shepherd”; Irish \textit{bachlach}, “a shepherd, rustic, boor, clown”, Conts. \textit{Bachlach}= \[1\] In Jespersen’s sense of “root”, see \textit{Progress in Language}, pp.113–15.
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l.ii. *graenwynn*, cf. III.7.i, *graennwyn gro* (cf. *g6ynn gro mor*, st.8, l.ii). It probably stands for *graenawynn*, cf. *daer, dair*: *daear*, but might be for *grannwn*, “white-cheeked” or “white-bearded”, which would be a more natural epithet of a wave, but less natural in III.7. Note also *gran a gro*, RBH, 1035, 33, leg. *graean*. The scribes appear to have felt some difficulty with the word.

St.2, l.ii. See Bull. 1, p.118, where *dyar* is explained by IW as “sad”; “eifallai bod dau *ddyar* yn Gymraeg, un yn golygu *turf* ac yn cyfateb i’r ferf *do-garim* a rydd Windisch, W. 495”. For “noisy”, cf. *dyar* = “sonitus, strepitus, sonare, strepere, hinc gorddyar”, D.

St.3, l.iii. See IV.11.iii, note. Contrast the *diriaid* who is led astray by his own *drycanyan*.


St.4, l.ii. *gwanas*, see PK, p.200. Here = “fastening”.

St.5, l.iii. Cf. “Scél Mucci Mic Dathó” (ed. N. K. Chadwick, *An Early Irish Reader*), p.10, asbert Crimthand Nia Nair, *ni thardda do rín do mnaíb*, “said Crimthann Nia Nair, ‘do not let out your secret to women’”.

St.6, l.ii. *carchar* can hardly be “prison” here on the analogy of *gwanas* and *cadwyn*. For the meaning “fetters” see PK, p.135.

St.7, l.ii. *erni* shows that *dryssi* is singular here, though usually plural with singular *drysien*. Is it a collective?

St.9, l.ii. *JGE, eithin*, but the *y* is quite distinct in the MS.

l.iii. *lyvðr*, cf. VVB, p.177, *lobur, “infirmé, faible”; anhela* gl. *lobur, ibid*. Irish *lobur*. If the modern *ltwfr* is derived from this *lobur* it must be a later form metathesised from the *lyvðr* which is found here and elsewhere in the early poems. The rhyme shows the form is correct here, as elsewhere.

St.10, l.ii. *diff6ys*, common in place-names, = “precipice”.

St.11, l.iii. i.e. “achievement without its own proper genuine talent is not enough”. 

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III

St.1. **eiry mynyd.** Eiry is normally monosyllabic, and it is quite possible that the original form of this common refrain was *eiry ym mynyd*, “snow on the mountains”, which would be a preferable construction. But dissyllabic *eiry* occurs frequently in e.g. poem i (see st.5, note). The usage in the later Eiry Mynydd poems varies; e.g. MA, 358a, st.1, Eiry scanned dissyllabic; st.2, Eir but scanned dissyllabic; st.3, *Eira*.

l.ii. **canu,** cf. *gnaud i farn* (leg. *fran*) *fynych ganu,* MA, 361b, 8, i.e. “to make a noise with its voice”. Some literal-minded person objected that the raven is hardly a song-bird, hence MA, 854a, 25, *nid cynnevin bran a chanu.*

St.3, l.i. **ta6l,** cf. DDG, p.8, 47, *talm sydd iddi os tolia,* and p.116, *arbed neu gynilo yw toli.* Or is it < *taflu,* cf. *ysgawn* < *ysgafn,* etc., and tr. “The wind tosses it”?

l.ii. **Iloergan,** see RC, XLII, p.353, “pleine lune”, Loth.

l.iii. “A mischievous man is rarely without litigation.”

**Dirieit**, see iv.11.iii, note.

St.5, l.ii. **aches,** cf. LLJ, s.v. *aches.*

St.6. Englyn unddl cyrch.

l.ii. **chwerdyt.** Note the spelling in -yt (and so often elsewhere; but J always spells -it); the rhyme here with *bryt* shows that the vowel is y, not i (cf. vi.23, *dyg6ydyt* rhyming with *uyl*).

See CLH, p.165, s.v. *llewynycht.* This must be a different form of the 3rd sg. -id ending, presumably from -etti+, while the other is from -etti; see WG, pp.332 and 323. Note that these -awd, -id, -yd forms need not stand at the head of the sentence (contrast WG, p.332), e.g. v.7.iii, *am gymp hen chwerdit g6en g6as.*

St.7, l.i. **graenwyn,** see ii.1.ii, note.


St.8. Note the metre; *daraf, araf,* and *corof* are monosyllabic and proest rhyme; the irrational vowel has been assimilated to the word-vowel in spelling.

l.iv. A gnome about the “chieftain” might be expected, parallel to l.iii, and it seems to refer to his dismounting. Is *bar-ararf* a phrase descriptive of dismounting? But what is *araf?* It cannot be *araf,* “slow” (“and for anger to come down upon the tardy”), because the rhyme shows it is monosyllabic. Is it *arf,* “a weapon”, again? Tr. “and for anger to come down (i.e. find) a weapon”, and read in line ii *varaf,* “and for a chieftain to have a fine beard”); or keep *araf* in l.ii and read *varaf* in l.iv, “and for wrath to come down because of an insult”, taking *barf,* “beard”,

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"and for affreasion to come upon a (gray-) beard?"

? a disyumn as bar araf: and for a weapon to come down on a spear?
the sign of the warrior, to =“honour” or “insulted honour”, cf. wyneb, “face”, in the same meanings, and cf. RBH, 1048, 10, meuyl barueu?

St.9, l.i. kyngrón, see CLH, p.77. Here =“hunched”.
   l.ii. os gôn, see PK, p.118. “Truly.”

St.10. Englyn byrr crwcca.
   l.i. hellaōt < hela, =“hunted”, cf. gevirhau, barwyhau, l.4. The ll is due to assimilation either of the -gh of the root or the h which seems to occur in several cases of this -awd termination; see WG, p.396, and Strachan Introd. p.83. Is the h on the analogy of the future in -hawd? (See Strachan Introd. p.84.)
   l.iii. a 6r, MS. a6r; the metre shows it must be two syllables. Cf. WBM, 474, Oi, a6r, cany at mor mar6 d165s ynda6..., leg. ei a 6r, “Good sir”, etc.

St.11. Englyn byrr crwcca.
   l.iii. teleid = telediw, D.

St.13, l.ii. collyt means more than “loses” here; rather, “feels the loss of”.
   l.iii. i.e. an ugly face makes a man feel inferior, hampers him.

St.14, l.ii. See v.7.ii, note. Note j for consonantal i.
   l.iii. ryuedaót; note -ot written for -awt in the RB text, a late spelling due to the RB scribe. See WG, p.95.
   Pa, “why”, see WG, p.290.

St.15, l.ii. y gherwyn = yngl gherwyn, see iv.5.i, note.
   Pob, see note on vi.2.ii.

St.16, l.1. brith, i.e. with snow.

St.17, l.ii. alaf, see Loth, ACL, 1, p.449; and CLH, p.169. Cf. cyfalaf, “wealth”, and Irish alamh, “cattle”.
   Diclieic, see WBM, 504, where cleicaw = to plunge. Does it mean here that the cattle do not enter the water because it is too cold?
   l.iii. Cf. RC, xlv, p.8, mairg gach aon is a frithe drochmnd, “woe to everyone who has got a bad wife”.

St.18, l.iii. Cf. Cotton Gnomes, l.42, peof sceal gangan þystrum wederum, “the thief goes in darkness”. Note ktyyt with the second t = dd, a sign of copying from a MS. in the earlier spelling.

St.19, l.i. kynglhenyd, cf. Wm. Salesbury, Llysieulyfyr (ed. Stanton Roberts), p.114, cynglennyd, “a kind of liverwort”. Cf. D, Botanology, cynglennydd yr afon, “y llesanog, llyfiau’r afu, linwyydd yr afon, clust yr assen, lichen, secoraria, hepatica”. Hugh Davies, Welsh Botanology, “ = iungermannia, epiphylla, river star-
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tip”. ACL, i, p.40, epatica= y geglynnnydd; see N.E.D. s.v. liverwort = hepatica.

I.ii. kynnyd= cynnif, see Bull. II, p.299. But in Mod.W. = “to progress, gain ground”; therefore, “the slow succeeds”?

St.20, l.ii. bac6ya6c, see ii.1.i, note.

I.iii. JGE prints nyt ef ageiff ageiff pa6b auynn, but the first ageiff is distinctly crossed through, and by the original scribe, in RB. J nyt ef a geif pa6b a vynn.

St.21, l.i. pyr, from Latin pyrum, pyrus, pirum, pirus, “pear tree”?

I.ii. ongyr, “spears”, cf. MA, 191a, 52; 211a, 9; 247a, 45; 291b, 48; RBH, 1442, 18, cledyfeu cochyon cochyn onger.

St.22, l.ii. treiddio, “penetrate”, but cf. BBC, f.xxx.2, lluid yv vy bleit, nim treit Guendit, “Gwendydd does not visit me”.

I.iii. dieid cannot be a scribal error for dirieid in spite of the reading of J, because the rhyme is in -dd. = diheid, “wretched” (with loss of h after the accent, cf. deau=dehau, etc.)? Cf. RBH, 1391, 27-8, Maon Meiryonnnyd, mor diheid a6ch bot heb aruot heb aereileid, “how sad it is”, etc.; ibid. 1384, 24-5, Mor diheid hymny mor dyhir, “How sad that is, how grievous”. Or is it di+eid in eiddig, “eager, greedy” (cf. eidic am gic, “eager for the flesh”, RBH, 1045, 44) and eiddgar, “zealous”? Therefore diaidd= apathetic?

St.24, l.i. eilion, “deer”; cf. BBC, f.xxxb, 11, bit itau in aelau, eilon indi, and RC, xxxviii, p.52. Cf. elain, “a fawn”, and Irish elit, “a deer”.

Ffraeth = “parod, cyflyn”, see IW in Arch. Camb. 83, 356.

I.iii. If we can read kelyt it would be preferable to translate “the skilful conceals his design”, since the imperative is extremely rare in these gnomes; see st.6, l.ii, note.

St.25, l.iii. erchwynn, “the side of a bed”, that is, the edge or outside, away from the wall. The brave man takes his place (in battle, etc.) on the side nearest danger. Y=yn, cf. PK, p.122.

St.27, l.iii. See v.4.iii, note.

St.28, l.ii. The reading of J is interesting as suggesting an exemplar of BBC spelling.

I.iii. weryt, < gwared, Mod.W. = “deliver”, but cf. st.33, l.iii, where the meaning “avail” is clear.

St.29, l.ii. detwyd, see iv.11.iii, note.

I.iii. i.e. “swings the lead”? or, “the coward is a cause of much harm”? Adoet, see WBM, 472, Nyd athoed kyweithyd hebda6 eiroet ny wnelei ae anaf ae adoet arnei; ibid. 478, Yspadaden (50)
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Penkaðr, na saethutta ni bellach, na wyn anaf ac adoet a’th uar6 arnat. “Hurt”, “harm”.

* ST.31, l.i. na6 : nofio, with (regular) loss of -f (<m) in a mono-
syllable, cf. llaw : llofrudd. In the form nauf -f is restored by
  l.iii. diryeit, cf. iv.11.iii, note.


ST.33, l.iii. trwch, cf. DDG, p.94, 1.4, trwch fum gyfarfod a’r
tri, “unfortunate was I to meet the three”. Compare the Irish
proverbially unavailing robad do throich, “warning to the doomed”,

ST.34, l.iii. athreidu, cf. treiddio, st.22, l.ii, note. L.ii and iii =
“too frequent visiting is ill-received”?

* ST.35. Note the mutations with the 3rd sg. imperfect.
  l.ii. ceuda6t, cf. BBC, f.Li.1, kid y lleirno keudaud nis
beirv calon. “Mind.” See LLJ.

ST.36, l.iii. annoeth=“a fool”.

IV

Stanzas 9 and 11–12 are of the quasi-gnomic type. Stanza 10
belongs to the poem RBH, col.1036, and has somehow got in-
serted here. These last four verses have been treated as part of
poem 11 by WOP and MA, because they are not gna6t stanzas
like the rest, but they belong definitely to iv in RBH and Jesus 3,
and there is no good reason for separating them.

ST.1. Englyn unodl union, but without cywydd rhyme.
  l.i. gna6t, “customary”, Irish gndth. The meaning of
“gnawd XY” is “it is an attribute of X to be Y”; there is no specific
implication that X is usually Y but not always.

Atneu, see LLJ, s.v. atneu, and cf. atneu gan berchenna6c,
WB prov. 25, and atneu kyheryn gan gath, ibid. 26. The idea is
that deposits of treasure are made in a church as a safe place,
cf. H. Lewis, HGC, p.190, where Llan adneu is translated “Depositi
Monasterium”. But note LLJ, ibid. (4), dodi mewn bedd, which
might possibly fit here; and cf. Loth, RC, xlii, p.345.

ST.2. Unodl union.
  l.i. bronrein, “with a stiff breast”. Rhain = “stiff”, cf.
celaned rain, “stiff corpses”, MA, 143 b, 17; kynvrein bronrenion,
“haughty chieftains”, BBC, f.xxx.12.

l.iv. gwic. The ordinary meaning in Mod.W. is “wood”,
cf. coedwig. But see Loth, RC, xli, pp.390 ff., where he suggests

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compare Irish *fich*, “battle”. “Usual for ravens to get flesh in a battle” would perhaps be more in accord with early ideas.

St.3. Unodl union.

i.i. Note non-mutation of *c* in *goceled*, and see p.7.

i.ii. Is this an indication of where the poem was composed?


St.5. Unodl union.

i.i. *meryd*, “a fool, dullard”, cf. *mergidaam*, gl. *ebesco* (VVB, p.184), and *meryd mall*, vi.14.ii, and *gnaet meryd yn dr6m*, vi.16.i, and o’i *ferydd bellg*, Gwyneddon, III, p.27, l.55; Irish *mearaidhe* = “amadán”, O’Clery.

Y mro. This method of writing *yn*, with the final nasal assimilated to the following consonant and lost (but *yg* before *g, k=yngh(h)*), is common in the poems and no doubt represents the pronunciation, a sort of *sandhi*. I leave the MS. spelling throughout to indicate the probable pronunciation and to limit the number of emendations; it is to be understood always as *yn mro*, etc.

St.6. Omitted in the late copies, e.g. BM, Addl. 14873, f.164, and in WOP and the MA. It is erased in the RBH and illegible to me (though evidently legible to JGE); Skene notes this and gives a corrupt text in a footnote as from the Book of Llywelyn Offeiriod; but he must have been following a late transcript, as that MS. (i.e. Jesus 3) reads the same as JGE’s reading of RBH.

i.i. *o bastardaeth J*, JGE; the *b* is probably a miscopying for *v*. *Crynnbryaeth*, “baseness”, “boorishness”, cf. Ifor Williams, *Dafydd Nanmor*, p.163.

i.ii. “And for bad women to be feasted on mead.”

St.7, l. ii. *kfyrdy*, see Bull. II, p.308. CLH, pp. 99, 101

St.8, ll.i-ii. A crux. What is *anl6yth*? Leg. *a tanll6yth*, “with a blazing fire”, but the non-mutation of *i* would then be difficult to explain. *Kynlleith*; *Cynllaith* is a district in Powys, which cannot fit here; the word also means “battle”, “slaughter”, e.g. BBC, f.113.4, which Thurneysen (*Kelto-Romanisches*, s.v.) derives from *lectos*, “death”; but adds that as an adjective it = “flüssig”, *dadleitho*, “to dissolve”. Tr. therefore “usual is a blazing fire in the damp of winter”? *Kynr6ytieith* must be a compound of *ieith, “tongue”*; *r6yt=r6yd* with *t* for *d=dd*? If so, “chieftains are free of speech”?  

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l.iii. Cf. arfedau y diffyd diffeith, Pen. 17 prov. 83, and dinas y diffyd diffeith, ibid. 209, and gnaft aelwyt diffyd yn diffeith, WB prov. 97.

St.9, l.ii. Cf. Giraldus Cambrensis, Descript. Kamb. i, c.8, “They (the Welsh people) pay no attention to commerce”, and Chotzen, Recherches, p.115, “Quant aux Anglais que Dafydd ab Gwilym a connus personnellement, eux aussi sont intéressés dans le commerce”. On this and the following stanzas see p.51.

l.iii. geublant, cf. PK, p.143.

St.10. This verse is from RBH xi, where it belongs: the differences would be accounted for by oral transmission. I insert honn from RBH, 1036, 29 to make a regular penfyr (Loth type 4).

St.11. Englyn byr crwcca.

l.i–ii. “Though it be small, ingenious is the nest of the birds in the border of the wood.”

l.ii. The yd is unmetrical and must be a case of dittography, for if adeil were a verb, bychan and probably boet would have to be plural.

Gorwyd; cf. O Fangor...hyd orwyd Meirionyd meidriad, MA, 148b, 1; Kystlaw eiry gorwyn gorwyd Epynt, ibid. 158a, 1; Teir allawr gwyrrthuawr...ysy rweg mor a gorwyd a gwrt lanwedd, ibid. 248b, 46; Eiry mynydd gwynn gorwydd, ibid. 362a, 12; haddd nawdd yn gwagawd gorwydd, ibid. 848b, 52. The meaning seems to be “border” or “slope” or “upland”, perhaps originally “upland boundary”, cf. the two uses of ael=“brow” or “border”; and with this passage cf. DDG, p.59, 1, yn ael coed. Skene, “tall trees”, a guess for this passage; note WOP, “skirt of the wood”. Derivation? Rhyme shows the last syllable is -wydd, not -wydd.

l.iii. detwyd. Mod.W. “happy”. The early meaning seems to be “fortunate” in the sense of one who is born under a lucky star, with whom everything prospers, and so “blessed” (cf. A.S. eadig, which means either “prosperous” or “blessed”), from which, with slight extension of meaning, sometimes “righteous”. Cf. bet6n detwyd dianghut, “If I had been fortunate thou wouldst have escaped”, RBH, 1037, 38; cf. CLH, p.71. Nyt eidiun detwyd dyhed (i.e. it is only the unlucky under-dog that wants a revolution), RBH, 1035, 23; so detwyd a gar dadoluch, Pen. 17 prov. 196 and Engl.Clyw. 45. Ny cherda detwyd ar droet, “the prosperous does not journey on foot”, lli.29.ii; my reit y detwyd namyn y eni, “the fortunate needs but to be born”, WB prov. 172 and Engl.Clyw. 51. Pa achaws y kyfroassawch vivi eirioet yar ygy gwastat detwydyt (Lat. felicitatem), RB.Brut, 67. Pan ych detwyd byd gyfnessaf ytt duwun; Kystal yw hymny a erchi ytt o bydy gywethawc a detwyd (“wealthy and successful”) bot wrthyt duwun, tr. dapsilis interdum

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notis et largus amicis Cum fueris, dando semper tibi proximus esto; Bull. II, p.32. Guledic deduit, “blest Lord”, BBC, f.xx b, 4. Adail dedwydd yn ddiddos, “the house of the fortunate is sound”, Englynion y Misoedd, 12, 5. Dedwydd is used in the Welsh Bible as a translation of μακαριός, Latin beatus, e.g. in the Beatitudes. But cf. Loth, RC, xxxvi, pp.174-5, “Le sens propre était sage, qui réfléchit et sait. Ce sens est encore marqué dans certains textes”. But, for his examples, the first is a misreading of Skene (see III.29.ii) ; on the second, see note on II.3.iii, and below on diriaid; for the third, cf. Guledic deduit above; for the rest, see on diriaid below (“sage” is not antonym of “méchant” here). He is led to this conclusion by his derivation from do-ate (or eti)-uid+, but this is by no means certain. It is difficult to give the true meaning in one word; “fortunate” is perhaps the best, with “prosperous” and “righteous” as occasional alternatives.

Dedwydd is not infrequently contrasted with diriaid, sometimes with the sense “righteous”, and evidently the two were regarded as to some extent antonyms, e.g. Pen. 17 prov. 301, gwelly am y paret a detwid noc am y tan a diriait, “better by the wall with the righteous than by the fire with the mischievous”. The early meaning of diriaid appears not to be “wicked” but rather “mischievous”, “wrong-headed”, the perverse sort of person who is not really vicious but who cannot help making a mess of things—a man born under an unlucky star; see CLH, p.173. The best one word in English is perhaps “mischievous”.

V

St.1. Englyn unodl cyrch. Note that a version of this stanza, without I.iii, a pure milwr, occurs MA, 361b.

l.i. Kalan gaeaf, signifies the actual day, the “Calends of Winter”, November 1st; Irish samhain, which however means “end of summer”. Tr. “Winter’s Day”, on the analogy of May Day, New Year’s Day; i.e. the day at the beginning of the season. “Beginning of Winter” is too vague, and “All Saints’ Day” introduces ideas which do not belong to the phrase.

l.iii. Note the old form no(e).

St.2, l.i. cyfrin; now an adjective, but cf. vi.4.1, gorwyn blaen eithin a chyfrin a doeth. The mutation is curious; is it influenced by kein gyfreu adar below? “Winter’s Day; fine is a secret shared”; there is no reason to tr. this line “On Winter’s Day a secret shared is fine”, which would be a sufficiently foolish remark. The phrase is a pure human-gnome, though certainly a nature-gnome would be expected here.

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St.3, l.ii. **haout**, an upland farmstead to which cattle are driven in the summer.


St.4, l.iii. **da6n**, “natural gift, talent”. The usual form of the gnome is *lle ny bo dysc ny byd da6n*, as III.27.iii. For this sense of *daun* cf. DDG, p.54, 25, *anmerch gennyd, wisbryd wedd, Loyw ei dawn, leuad Wynedd*.

St.5, l.iii, occurs also VI.4.iii, RBH, 1056, 8, and Engl.Clyw. 17.iii. **Dewin** is here probably to be rendered “diviner”, the usual meaning of the word, i.e. manticism is a false art and none knows the future but God, perhaps a hit at Giraldus’ *awenyddion* and their like; but it might quite well be translated “There is no divinity but God”, cf. *Cywarchaf yr dewin gwertheuin gwerthuawr wrth y uod yn vrenhin, MA, 198b, 18–19. Un Duw, un dewin, un doeth, Pen. 102, f.6. Note the *w* in *namwyn*, the old form even in RBH, where often *namyn*, e.g. VI.4.iii.

St.6, l.i. The mutation shows that *kein gwyfeu* is a compound, “sweet-songed”, predicative to *adar*. There is clearly a confusion in this verse, which as it stands describes partly a winter day—Kalan *gayaf...byrr dyd*, and partly a summer day—*kein gwyfrew adar...ban cogeu*. The verse has got into the Kalan Gaeaf series from a summer series, probably a Gorwynion since it occurs in VI.31, but *da6n goleu* in l.ii. The original form of the stanza is probably that in BBC, f.XLII, *gorwin blaen pertheu, kein gwyrew adar, hir dit, bann cogeu; trugar daffar Duw orev*; an interesting piece of evidence that Gorwyn verses go back *at least* to the late twelfth century. **Cyfreu** = “words, song”, not “plumage”; cf. Loth, ACL, 1, p.469, “le sens habituel de cyfreu est paroles, ordinairement chantées, chant”. See CLH, p.162.

l.iii. **daffar**, cf. VI.33.iii. “Le mot signifie en effet clairement provisions, secours à la disposition de”, Loth, ACL, 1, p.497. “The merciful providence of God is best”; hardly “merciful providence, God has made it”, which would need the relative particle and infixed pronoun, *ae goreu*.

St.7, l.i. **kalet cras** can hardly refer to Kalan Gaeaf as it is not regarded as a “pardched” season in these poems, and analogy demands a self-contained gnome here.

l.ii. The usual form of this line is *purdu bran buan iyyrchwyn* (or some other animal), e.g. III.14.ii. And why is *gorras* (“stout”) mutated? But cf. *breit allan orseur*, I.2.iii, and *trugar daffar Duw orev*, BBC, f.XLII. The explanation of the arrow from the bow (Skene) is fanciful. On this stanza, cf. a poem in Pen. 102, f.8, st.3, *calan gauaf, calaf cras, du plu bran, gnaow buan bras, am gwymph hen chwerddid gwen gwys*, “Winter’s Day, the reeds are parched,
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black is the plumage of the raven, usual for the stout to be swift”, etc., which confirms the interpretation of ovras and tempts one to read calaf cras here.

St. 8, l. i. kerwyty, fr. carw. A plural or collective termination?

l. iii. gwir = ys gwir? cf. 1.21. v, breit gwir orseur allan? and MA, 140a, 18, gwir gwae i werin gwin eu gwirawd; cf. the same use common in Irish, e.g. Pokorny, A Historical Reader of Old Irish (Halle, 1923), p.9, Fir, olse, ingen fil and 7 bid Deirdriu a ainm, “True, he said, it is a girl and Deirdre shall be her name”. Or should one read gwir-well, gwir-vae, like iawn? Does breit gwir correspond to the complementary da iawn?

St. 9, l. i. godeith = a bonfire, not “heath” (Strachan Introd. p.261). Can it mean here the spot where the burning took place? Cf. beacon, a signal fire but also the peak on which the fire was, in place-names.

l. ii. Cf. creidir in rich ich i guet, BBC, f.xvii.3 (where, however, the scene is early summer), and olyn yn rhych ych yn y baith, MA, 359a, 38.

VI

St. 1, l. i. gorwyn. Skene “bright”, but this does not always apply very well. Gwyn can mean also “delightful”, “happy”, cf. gwynfa and gwyn ei fyd, etc.; “delightful” fits all the cases quite satisfactorily. Gor- is intensive here.

l. iii. “A heart full of longing leads to sickness.” Brongâla, from bron and geula, “fullness”; note the non-mutation of the g, implying an exemplar of BBCh. date at latest.


St. 2. The stanza is a variant of RBH, 1035, 3-4, which breaks up a gordydar adar series and is perhaps out of place. The difference in l.iii must be due to oral transmission, not scribal error.

l. ii. keinmygir, cf. cain in verbal compounds in Irish. The meaning is certain but the root is difficult and the lack of mutation curious; cf. edmyg, dirmyg, but gofygu, keinfyg.

Pob, cf. the identical use of cach in proverbs in Irish, and omnis in mediaeval Latin, e.g. Gaselee, An Anthology of Mediaeval Latin (Macmillan, 1925), p.78, “sic foris fertilis sed intus sterilis omnis hypocrita” in a gnomic poem. The translation “every skilful one is honoured”, etc. is clumsy and not English: the meaning of X pob Y is simply that the Y as a class are X. Tr. “the skilful are honoured”.

l. iii. The heint in question is presumably love-sickness.

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St.3, l.i. eilic, “brisk”? Cf. CLH, p.142. The word seems to mean “valiant, vigorous, swift”, cf. arial, “vigour”.

l.iii. Cf. trech eyd anyan noc adyse, Engl.Clyw. 31.iii; trech anyan noc adyse, WB prov. 213.

St.4, l.i. cyfrin, see v.2.i, note.

l.ii. disgethrin, cf. a dywa6t yn disgethrin anhygar 6rh Peredur, WBM, 141, “and he said roughly and unkindly to Peredur”. Disgethrin = “asper, austerus”, D.

l.iii. See v.5.iii, note.

St.5, l.i. meîllyon, Mod.W. = “clover”, but cf. mellhionou, gl. “violas”, VVB, p.184. The original meaning seems perhaps to be “small meadow flowers”.

St.6, l.ii. Refers to l.iii, which is itself a reflection on gôythlaôn eïdic.

l.iii. “It is the sensible man’s task to love truly”, or “it is a wise task”; but cf. 15.iii below, where the other arrangement is preferable.

St.7, l.i. anhuned, “wakefulness, disquiet”; metaphorically used here. cf. Ben bardd crefyddol, p.5.

St.8, l.ii. “There is froth on mead.” Crôybyr; the meanings are “cloud, froth, scum, lees of honey, hoarfrost”. Cf. Gorwyn llîw crôybyr ewyn crych, “bright, the colour of the froth of rippling foam”; J. C. Morrice, Gruffudd ab Ieuon ab Llywelyn Vychan, p.48. Ar crôybren wen ’n yr awyr, Cymrodor, iv, p.120; “An unregistered form which evidently means cloud”, “...In parts of S. Wales it has another meaning, ‘hoarfrost’”, ibid. p.136 (Llanstephan 2, 222 reads wybren wenn). Ibid. p.120, trôy y crôybyr ymblayn ka6ad o’r glâb, “the cloud before a shower of rain” (Llanstephan 2, 122, gan wybren ymlaen diruawr gawat). Crôybyr = “favus, faex mellis”, D. Cf. RC, x, p.329. Cf. st.14, l.iii below.

l.iii. whefris, cf. st.13, l.ii, wheueryd. Cf. Bull. iv, p.136. The verb and its forms are quite uncertain, though the meaning “happen” seems to suit. The second e in wheueryd seems to be superfluous but I do not emend because of this uncertainty; note the association with gwâll in both cases.

St.9, l.ii. goesgerit, fr. gwâsgaru. Note the double vowel-affection.

l.iii. pell in the sense of time; cf. CLH, p.106. Y=yn, followed by soft mutation, see PK, pp.102 and 122.

St.10, l.iii. Cf. BBCh. prov. 47. WB prov. 188, Engl.Clyw. 35.iii.

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“fair is the wood”, MA, 146a, 2. Eirioes y perthaist, MA, 154b, 14, where it seems to be used as an adverb, = “finely”. In kyflaun y eirioes, MA, 162a, 3, it is used as a noun, as here, = “fair thing”; therefore kataet pabô y eirioes = “let each guard what he considers a fair thing”.

St.12, l.i. Note this early occurrence of the ty dail motif dear to the Cywyddwyr.

Kynnadyl, cf. ef a gerdwys parth a’y gymnadyl, “he went to his rendezvous”, WBM, 8.

l.ii. bacóyaoc, see 11.1.i, note.

St.13, l.ii. wheuryd, see note to st. 8, l.iii.

St.14, l.ii. dedwyd, see iv.11.iii, note.

l.ii. meryd, see IV.5.i, note.

Mall, see Bull. III, p.56. “Wicked.”

l.iii. cr6ybyr, see st.8, l.ii, note; here = “hoarfrost”.

Carcharaör dail, according to the usual occurrence of these gnomes, should mean “the prisoner is blind”, perhaps because of the darkness of his prison; but “the blind man is a prisoner” gives so much better and more probable sense that it is the more likely rendering.

St.15, l.ii. Digoll bre, cf. ac y kychôynnysont... parth a chevyn Digoll, a gòedy eu dyuot hyt ym perued y ryt ar Hafren..., WBM, 209; Lluest Gâtwalla6n... yg goônrafag Digoll wynyd, RBH, 1043, 23. “Cefn Digoll, the Welsh name formerly given to the Long Mountain or Mynydd Hir, south of Welshpool”, ACL, III, p.51, s.v. coll.

l.ii. ffoli, see Bull. I, p.225, where IW shows ffoli = something like “bag”, from Latin “follis”. The idea is that the puffed-up wind-bag of a man has no worries.

l.iii. g6eithret seems to imply “deed suited to” or “proper for”; almost “duty”. Cf. gônabn weithret gor kyt bydôn g6as, “I used to play a man’s part though I was a youth”, RBH, 1042, 2.

Aruoll, cf. LLJ, and Bull. I, pp.226–7; = “pledge”.

St.16, l.i. corsyd; Mod.W. corsydd = “marshes”, sg. cors; corsen = “reed”, pl. cysr. But see WG, p.219.

St.17, l.i. menestyr = “cupbearer”; the idea is that the reckless are their own cupbearers, i.e. continually pour out wine for themselves. Cf. dôyllab (leg. dyôyllab) di, venestyr, “pour out, cupbearer”, MA, 191a, 7. Borrowed from Norman-French menestre.

St.19, l.i. kymôyn fr. mwyn, = (1) “gentle”, (2) “wealth” (Irish maoín, “wealth, riches”), as in Mwynfawr. Kymwynas = “a kindness, a benefaction”, Irish comaoin, “a favour, recompense”, therefore kymwyn also = “profitable”?

l.iii. i.e. to have solicitude for one person only is scarcely worthy of the name. Cf. amgeled am vn nydiô, RBH, 1044, 39,
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evidently a variant, and the meaning is explained in the next englyn, ny elwir coetawyn premn. See CLH, p.63.

St.20, l.i. kada6arth; occurs elsewhere only in arall atbyn kata-warth yu egyn, BT, p.9, 20. This is not sufficient evidence to prove the traditional translation “charlock”, e.g. Hugh Davies, Welsh Botanology, gives cadasarth, “charlock”, but only quotes these passages. Cedowrach, “burr”, must be a different word.

l.ii. “How the blind escape scandalisation!” Diwarth; gwarth = “insult” or “scandalisation”; i.e. the blind cannot see the things which would cause them scandalisation, gwarth. But cf. bit diwarth eirchyat, Bidiau i.16.i, i.e. the gwarth takes no effect upon him because he is so unshamable.

l.iii. “Boys are nimble and grimy”. Manna6c=bannog, “speckled, spotted, or horned”. There is a confusion between two roots, mann, “a spot”, and bann, “a peak”, “horn”, etc.; in Elen Vanna6c it is presumably “of the love-spot”; in the vch en bannog of Hu Gadarn it is either “dappled” or “horned”.

St.21, l.i. kyra6al, now criafol, but the rhyme shows -al is the termination here, not -au6ol; see Bull. ii, p.298.

St.22. Metre milwr of 887, see Loth, MG, ii.1, p.186.

l.i. didar fr. tar in taran, “noisy” and trydar, “noise”? l.ii. geuvel, cf. dan y gwelit ae geveul, BBC, f.xxxiii.15, fr. gwyw, “withered”, and the same wel or fel as in poethwal, poethfel. Cf. gwyddiwal, “a thicket”?  

St.23, l.i. Cf. glyn teccaf o’r byt a g6yd gogysfuch ynda6, WBM, 225, and aghiiid y guit, “its trees of unequal height”, BBC, f.xxvi.8.

St.24, l.i. Berwi; the idea is “to bubble” originally, and so “to boil”. Note that the line is a syllable short. The scribal error in l.ii suggests the exemplar wrote u for v.

l.iii. g6nelit. This appears to be a subjunctive stem with a present indicative ending; the form occurs elsewhere in these poems (though it seems not to be recognised in the grammars) and always in an indicative sense (e.g. st.28, l.iii, g6nelit da diwyt gennat=Engl.Clyw. 60.iii, digawn da diwyt gennat; cf. CLH, p.169); is it perhaps a relic of a time when the stem gwnel- was not confined to the subjunctive? Cf. on the stem el-, WG, p.367.

St.25, l.i. Something has gone wrong with the englyn. The temptation is to take ac eireill as an incorporated gloss = “and other sources have”, i.e. that one source had gorwyn blaen kelyn kafel and others gorwyn blaen kelyn, eur agoret; but the first would be an exception to every other stanza in the poem by omitting a second gnome in the first line and by qualifying the plant; while the second would be one syllable too long even for the extended milwr of 877, and the meaning would be obscure. Ac eireill eur-agoret makes sense,
and *kalet* looks like a contrast, with a noun lost; *angawr*, "miser", fits very well, making a penfyr, and if one could read *awr-agoret* (see Cymmeror, xxviii.178) would give internal rhyme (IW). Note that the gnome in l.iv occurs elsewhere (e.g. Engl.Clyw. 37.iii) without *pan gysco*, etc., which is perhaps an unnecessary accretion; or it may genuinely be due to a fusion of stanzas.


l.ii. *deilyedic* formed from *deiltad*, "tenant", like *trevedic* from *trefad*, gl. "rusticus" and "colonus", Norris, *Cornish Drama*, 11, p.422. The idea is that the rent-paying villein has a hard day’s work. If fr. *dail*, "leaves", "the long day is leafy", i.e. a summer day, but this is unusually abstruse for the phrasing of these poems.

l.iii. *dirmic*, cf. Laws, p.21, *Ef bieu capaneu y brenhin... ae yspardóneu. ...pan dirmyceer, “when they are discarded”*; cf. also *ibid.* pp.24 and 27.

St.27, ll.i and ii. Cf. *a phan edrychóyt y dyle, nyt oed arnei namyn byrwellt dyslyt chéinllyt a boneu gôrysc yn amyl tróydaó, a gêdy ryussu o’r dineuyt y meint gôellt a oed uch eu penneu ac is eu traet arnei*, WBM, 203. It shows that rushes, etc. were used for an inferior sort of bedding stuffing. WOP tr. ll. ii and iii, "When drawn under the pillow the wanton mind will be haughty" (!).

St.28, l.i. *hwylbat*, cf. Irish *séol*, "a course".

l.iii. *gônelyt*, note the rhyme in -yt and see III.6.ii, note, and VI.24.iii, note.


St.29, l.i. *bydinaór="one who likes to be in hosts”*? LLJ takes it in this passage as pl. of *byddin*. Leg. *bydinawc*?

l.ii. *llaór*, cf. *laur* gl. *solum* (VVB, p.172; it is *sólus*, not *sólum*, IW.). *Tri vgein mlyned yt portheis i laórwed*, "I suffered solitude", BT, p.19, 16. As a personal name and a common noun="champion" (i.e. monomachus?). The idea is here that when alone in a wood one hears birds, but a crowd drives them into silence.

St.30, l.iii. *gônelyt*, see st.28, l.iii, note.

St.31. See v.6, note.

St.32, l.i. The reading *erpein* of J suggests that its exemplar used here the Anglo-Saxon letter *þ*, =*w*. *Elein*, see RC, viii, p.497. Elain="hinnulus, damula", D.


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Is the idea “bending”, “hiding”? For the termination, plural, cf. gbeissyonein, double plural of gōas, RBH, 1938, 8. On the reading of J, mugyein, cf. guatuara y dan mugyaw y penneu arnau (Hengwrt MS. ii.256, Pen.5 (Y Groglith)), “shaking their heads at him”. “Nug, ‘a shake’, nugiaw, ‘to shake, quiver’, nugiaw gan y cwn (but gan y cawn, D. prov.), ‘to be shaken by the dogs’”, Pughe. Therefore “The trees are swaying”?

l.iii. “Intercession for one who is not loved does not prevail.”

Eiryawl=“intercedere”, D. The reading of J is supported by eiry tòa a garaðr hōdweith, “intercession for one who is loved is an easy task”, RBH, 1956, 32. For the construction, cf. a’m eiryolo Pedyr, “May Peter intercede for me”, RBH, 1151, 12. For the -awr termination = present tense, cf. chloeryd bryt brth a garaðr in st.29, l.iii.

Ny gyghein, fr. cyghanu, see T. Lewis, Gloss. Med. Welsh Law, s.v. cyghanu=“to prevail”, “obtain”, “be legal”.

Str.33, l.iii. Can mean either “woe to him who has to take alms”, or, in view of dygit Dwe dafar o law, Pen. 17 prov. 225, = “God snatches provision out of the hand”; it might be “Woe to him who snatches provision from the hand”.

VII. (BIDIAU I)

On this poem and its relations to the following poem, see pp.9 ff. A few emendations have been made from the Peniarth and Addl. texts of Bidiau II and scattered gnomes in the Peniarth 17 list (see p.10) where the Red Book text positively demanded it and the others offered a probable solution; but this has been done very cautiously, and not for example in the case of pure oral variation. In editing, I call Peniarth 17 proverbs, PP; Peniarth 102, P; Addl. 14873, A; Panton 14, Pt; and Peniarth 27, P2.

Str.1, l.ii. bit. Strachan Introd. p.98 takes this as a “consequent-dinal” present indicative. But see J. T. Morgan, Bulls. v and vi; he takes bid in the imperative sense to be “an expression of resolve”, that is, “shall be, must be, needs to be”; but in the proverbs he allows the sense “is by nature”, comparing A.S. sceal in gnomes. But on the contrary sceal in the Anglo-Saxon gnomes generally means “shall (be), should (be), must (be)”, e.g. Exeter Gnomes, l.4, God sceal mon aerest hergan, “one shall praise God first”; l.49, ne sceal hine mon cildgeoge forwepan, “one shall not rebuke him, young child as he is”. “Is by nature” is expressed in the Anglo-Saxon gnomes by biþ, byþ; and sceal seems rather to have the force of “must needs be if it is to be at all”; so, Cotton Gnomes, l.1, Cyning sceal rice healdan, i.e. “a king, if he is to be a genuine king (cf. Welsh teithiog), must needs control the state”.

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Cf. Chadwick, Growth of Literature, i, pp.380 ff., where sceal is translated “is indispensable to”, “is to be”, “must be” (sometimes “is”); and so the Norse skal in gnomes is there tr. “is to be” (p.383, “the skal formula is the most common but the present indicative also occurs”). The same idea seems to be in the Welsh bid in gnomes, which is also the idea (as allowed by Morgan) elsewhere; thus bid amlwg marchawg, “the real knight needs to be conspicuous”, “to have the teithi of a knight one must be conspicuous”. “Shall be” or “should be” would perhaps express it most satisfactorily (Morgan compares, op. cit. p.32, “Ginger shall be hot in the mouth”, i.e. “ginger is certainly hot, according to its nature”); bid then is something more than a simple present indicative, but “shall be” in this sense is not a generally intelligible modern English idiom, and it is perhaps best to translate “is”. Note that bid frequently does not count in the scansion; cf. Loth, MG, 11.2, pp.125 ff. Note the frequent mutation of the complement or the subject after bid; in Bidiau i there are about 78 per cent. of mutations to non-mutations, but in Bidiau ii, which has been more modernised, only about 54 per cent. It is practically the rule for the complement to follow directly on the bid and before the subject; this is often quite clear, as bit laben meichyeit, “joyful are the swineherds”, but bit anniweir annwadal might be either “the fickle is faithless” or “the faithless is fickle”; unless it is quite clearly the contrary such cases are to be taken in the first way.

Annyanaöl, cf. Anc. Laws, 1, p.222; 11, pp.72, 206, where=something like “innate”. RB.Brut 185, it tr. “innata” and “naturalis”; but cf. greddf=“strength” as well as “nature”, and Bull. v, p.123, pwy wyt, fflwr anianawd, where it must surely= “full of spirit”. This meaning fits the context best here.

1.i. budugaöl, “triumphant, exultant”, properly belongs to llef and is a violent case of transferred epithet. But cf. WBM, 488, budugaöl y6 Bedwyr=“skilled” or “gifted”.

St.2, 1.i. WOP explains that the wind would shake the mast off the trees and so save the swineherds the trouble.

1.i. teleit, see III.11.iii, note.
1.iii. diryeit, see IV.11.iii, note.

St.3, 1.i. cuhudyat, “accusing”, cf. Laws, p.139, maer cuhudyat. A kéisiad is one who comes to arrest, a beadle or catchpoll.

Cynifiat, see III.19.ii, note.

1.i. “Clothes are well-fitting,” P and A read bid gynnwys gan dillad, “the welcome goes with the clothes”, the other meaning of gynnwys. The primary meaning is “to contain”, from condensus.

St.4. The emendation restores the rhyme in 1.i and has the authority of P and A.

1.i. gawwy=“avid, ardent”? Cf. ACL, 1, p.449.
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1.iii. **ar**, see WG, p.298.
St.5, 1.ii. Cf. *seo sceal in eagan, snyttro in breostum*, “the pupil shall be in the eye, care in the breast”, Ex. Gn. 123.
1.iii. **anniweir**, Mod.W. “lustful”, but the early meaning is simply “unfaithful”; cf. the *trydyd anniweir teulu*.
St.7, 1.iii. **deueiry
c**=“deceitful”, fr. *dau+gair*.
St.8, 1.ii. i.e. after eating barley; cf. ós δ' άτε τίς στατός ἵππος, ἀκοστής ἐπι φάτνη δεσμόν ἀπορρήτος θείη πεδίουo, Iliad, VI, 506–7.
1.iii. “(Even) gossamer presses upon grain in root”? I take this as a way of saying that even a light thing, actually or metaphorically, can be burdensome to the young or weak. Or leg. *góisgyt* here and in the next stanza; “gossamer covers grain”, etc.?
St.9, 1.iii. **adneu**, see iv.1.i, note.
1.iii. “Happy is he on whom looks one who loves him.”
Yr. For the relative *ar* see WG, p.298, and for the confusion of *ar* and *yr* as prepositions see Bull. III, p.259. The Pen. 27 text of Bidiau II reads *ar* here.
Lynn, RBH. The emendation is confirmed by J, P, and A.
1.ii. **grancelf** makes no sense; the P, A and PP readings show that RB and J are wrong. An exemplar *bit guarant leu gleu*, “the brave is a dependable lion”, would account for all the forms; in which *u=*w, and PP read *t* as c and *u* once as *u*; P and A read *tl* as *d* and modernised -eu wrongly to -au in one case; and the common exemplar of RB and J missed -wa-, read *t* as c, and transcribed -*u* as -f once. It looks as if this was the stemma (see p.11):

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V
guarantleu gleu
    |
W
    |
gwaranceu glew
    |
PP
waranceu glew
    |

X
    |
grancelf glew
    |

RBH
    |
grancelf glew

    |
J
    |
grangklef glew

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PP could not have been copying RBH, and the similarity of the mistake c and the correction -ew in both makes it look as if PP and X had a common intermediary between themselves and V. (For evidence of intermediaries between V and P, A, see p.11.) V must have been of BBCh. date at latest, since u = w. RB and J, which are close but independent texts, would scarcely both have miscopied gwarancleu so similarly; therefore a common exemplar X is postulated. (Professor Williams suggests bit waran-cleu glew wrth awr, with waran= faran, “the brave is quick to fury at the battle cry”, or bit waran-lleu glew, “the brave is of the fury of a lion”, etc., cf. BA, p.15, 2, lew mor hael baran-lleu. This would give (the more usual) mutation with bit, but it does not seem to account satisfactorily for the forms with g-; waran-cleu loses the internal rhyme, and waran-lleu does not explain the -cl- and -d-.)

l.iii. ma6r, RB and J; an alteration by a scribe who did not understand “Irish” rhyme. Note that P and A have nawdd, but A seems to have started to write an m and to have finished by writing nawdd.

St.12, li. euein, RB and J; P and A eddain (rhyming in -in). Cf. Pen. 17 prov. 115, bit eedin alludd. See CLH, p.175. “Outcast” or “stranger” seems to fit satisfactorily; note that eddain is the better attested form. Etymology?

Disgythrin, cf. vi.4.ii, note. Compare this stanza with Bidiau11.14 which is in a better state of preservation; it gives internal rhyme with eithin and eddain and alludd and drud, which this stanza does not, and introduces an additional gnome apart from the l.iii lost in RB. The verse has obviously suffered from oral transmission.

l.ii. chwannac6=“prone”, “apt”. Cf. Mod.W. mae hi chwannog i law, “it is prone to rain”, “likely to rain”.

St.13, li. g6yn; might be g6yn, “white”, but the preponderance of mutations with bid and the evidence of P and A, cvynfan, supports the first. Note Pen. 17 prov. 123, bit lawen yach. Also the adjectival use of nouns in this verse and the next.

St.14, li. aele; aeleu seems to be the same word; it is emended here for the rhyme with æ, but cf. RBH, 1048, 35, onyt rac asheu ac aeleu, where the -eu form is attested by rhyme. See D, “aele= gresyn, dolurus, tostur, trist, trwm”.

Aë. Meaning? See ACL, III, p.260, but it settles nothing. IW suggests read re, “an army is swift”.

l.ii. besgittor, MSS., is no sense; besgittor=“is fattened”. An adjective or noun is needed here, hence I read basgardur, but it is not an easy change scribally.

Dyre “lascivia, libido”, D. Noun=adjective here as elsewhere in the poem.

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NOTES

St.15, l.i. The sense shows that vann, the reading of RB, is correct; vann suggests an early exemplar with v spelt w.

l.ii. hyuagyl, fr. magl, Latin macula, “a stain, spot”.

l.iii. See Bidiau ii.12.iii, note.

St.16, l.i. “The supplicant is shameless.”

l.ii. reinyat, cf. RC, xlII, p.372, note, where Loth derives it from rhan and makes “=distributrix”, therefore “prince”; cf. the Anglo-Saxon use of beahgifa, “ring-giver”, etc., meaning “chief”, “lord” (because the act of receiving gifts was an acknowledgment of dependence). Or derive from rhain, “stiff”, and make it = “prop”, “support”. The translation “chief” perhaps combines both ideas. Cf. etifedd Gwynedd gwaonar gyrchaid neud Dwu a’r rhannws yr hael reiniad, MA, 222b, 31, where the connection appears to be with rhan; but a chymot a’n rheen kynn no’n reinyao, where rhain is better (RBH, 1193, 11).

Cyfarth. Loth, loc. cit., tr. “celui qui distribue gronde naturellement”, and takes cyfarth as “barking”; the regular meaning is the occasion when the hounds have brought their quarry to bay and surround it, barking; and the transferred meaning, as here, “battle”; cf. dychyrrchôyn gyfarth mal arth o wyyn, BT, p.16, 10–11; llas arth yn y gyfarthfa (var.), MA, 346a, 13; Bran a gre yn y gyfarthfa, ibid. 1.41. (I read cyfarth following JGE, but am not satisfied that the true reading of RBH is not cyfarth, as in J; which if correct would be an interesting case of the rhyme ch : th in Welsh, as in Irish.)


St.18, l.i. or6n, MS., could be for (g)br6m, a frequent spelling of gbrm, by an easy scribal confusion of o and 6, = “harness is blue”.


BIDIAU II

Where the text is the same as Bidiau 1, refer there for notes.

St.1, l.iii. An exemplar rad, where d is a c with an accidental vertical stroke, would explain the variants, r being misread as i; P2 preserves the true reading.

St.3, l.i. baglawg, see ii.1.i, note.

Rygynawd, see Bidiau 1.18.iii, note.

St.7, l.ii. “The ford is waded with the help of staves.”

l.iii. odwr. Is this godwr, fr. god, “adulterous”, with analogical loss of initial g? Note the variants; the scribes were puzzled.

St.8, l.ii. i dlodedd, see vi.1.iii, note.

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NOTES

St.9, l.ii. See Bidiau i.11.ii, note.
St.10. The phrases seem disarranged and corrupted; there is no final rhyme in l.i, and the reading of Bidiau 1.2 is probably the correct one. L.ii, MSS. read ar ei naid bid dedwydd, but the rhyme should be in -aid, and the transposition is easy. Naid seems to have the same meaning as nawdd; “the fortunate is his own protection”.
St.12, l.iii. lwytrrew, MSS., evidently taken by the exemplar of A and P for llwydrew, “hoarfrost”, which makes no sense. Tr. “frost is grey”.
St.13, l.ii. lleiniad, fr. llain, “spear”?

IX

In editing I call Llanstephan 117, LL; Peniarth 99, P 99; Addl. 14885, A; Wrexham 1, W; Peniarth 111, P 111; and Cwrt Mawr 6, C.
St.1, l. i.e. because of the many fires?
   l.ii. blin trulliad, i.e. because there was more feasting in the long winter nights and so more work for him.
    Trallawd klerddyn, “the wandering bard is sad”, because of the bad weather he encountered in January? Note the use of noun as adjective, and cf. e.g. Bidiau 1.13.ii. Var. treiglad, “vagabond, roaming”, obambulator, D.
   l.iv. buches, “locus mulgendi vaccas”, D.
   Diwres, from di and gwres?
   l.v. “Degraded is the man who is unworthy to be asked for anything.” Note i = ei, the old spelling.
   l.vi. Some explanation as that of st.2, l.v given in l.vi is needed.
St.2, l.i. ancwyn, “secundae mensae, bellaria, dapes delicatiore”, D; but cf. LLJ, s.v. ancwyn, and Bidiau ii.8.iii. But Panton 1 gl. marg. “afalau ag aer[on], table fruit”.
   l.ii. knaawd = gnaawd; cf. the couplets trem : drem, crau : grau, by hardening.
   l.vii. pen ki. This is the commonest reading. LL has pen kic, P 99 and A pen cil. “A dog’s head” seems to make no sense, nor does penci, “a dogfish”. I follow Panton 1 gl. marg. “darn o fwa’r arch neu fwa’r cyfammod yn arwyddocau dirfawr

* cf. St.6 2; Breed - crwaidh. A portion of rainbow seen in stormy weather; called a "dog’s tooth", or "sun-dog".

[See Fatty's p.164] [Stefan Brain, p.100]
NOTES

ddry[cinoedd] a thymestl”, and take it to be a proverbial expression of ill omen and foreboding of storm. Was a rainbow on a spring morning considered a sign of bad weather?
St.3, l.i. rhyfic, “ambitio, arrogantia, insolentia, presumptio, superbia; a myg”, D.
   l.iii. heiniar, “proventus, peculum, fenum, penus, annona”, D.
   l.v. arynaig, cf. LLJ, s.v. aryneic.
St.4, l.iii. clusthir, i.e. the hare.
   l.iii. diarchena^,” lightly clad”, because it is May and warm?
   See PK, p.105.
St.6, l.ii. marianedd. Note the variants; the scribes seem to have had difficulty with the word. A plural of marian=“calculi, sabulum, sabura, locus sabulosus”, D?
St.7, l.i. hyglyd, fr. clyd; or read hyglud, fr. cludo, “easily carried, ready for carting”?
   l.vi. kronffair, “a small or petty fair”? SE, quoting this reference; but crown does not mean “little”, and “round” hardly fits here. Cf. Irish cruinn, “niggardly”? “No one visits a mean fair”?
St.8, l.i. molwynoc. Note the variants. Evidently the scribes did not know the word. “Plenus, ait LL.D.P. [Llyfr David Powell]”, D. Cf. Rhodri Molwynog, “epithet not yet satisfactorily explained”, Lloyd, History of Wales, 1, p.231. But cf. also BBC, f.xxxiii.8-g. Bet Meilir malwinauc salwodauc sinhvir, “Meilir the snail-like”. Read therefore molwenog with C, and tr. “the salt-marsh is full of snails”?
   l.iv. i.e. the greens have been turned into rickyards?
St.9, l.i. “There is verse in the Canon.”
   l.ii. “The ripening season of corn and fruit.”
   l.iii. Var. gwyn, “withered is my heart with longing” (cf. g6y6 callon rac hiraeth, RBH, 1035, 8) would perhaps give better sense.
   l.iv. tylodion, var. of tlodion.
St.10, l.ii. chwyrn, “velox, pernix, celer, impiger”, D.
St.11, l.i. “The fool grumbles.”
   l.ii. llyndod, cf. llydnu, “to foal”.
St.12, l.v. diddos, properly, “not letting a drop (of rain) through”, “weatherproof”.

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