

pronounced in Gaelic, is to the effect that the Gaelic languages are older than the Cymric, inasmuch as the absence of inflection or the attenuation of it, is a characteristic of more modern languages and indicates a departure from the inflection of the more ancient languages. It is on the same ground, that Cornish, seeing that it preserved an inflected genitive in the declension of substantives, may claim to be older than its sisters Welsh and Armorican, in which the place of inflection is supplied by prepositions.

In Cornish the adjective usually follows the substantive as is the case in Gaelic. Such Cornish adjectives as *maz*, good, *drok*, bad, *braz*, great, *bian*, small, *ogoz*, near, disclose at a glance a strong resemblance to Gaelic adjectives that have a similar meaning. There is an unmistakable correspondence between Cornish and Gaelic numerals. One of the most beautiful and expressive combinations in Gaelic is formed by the coalescing of various prepositions with the personal pronouns. Cornish presents beautiful combinations of the same kind, and thereby shows how identical its lineage is with the Gaelic of Scotland and Ireland; e.g. *Ynnof annam*, in me, *ynno ann*, in him, *ganow annaunn*, in us. The emphatic *fein fhein* appears in Cornish as *honau*, *honou*, eg. *The honau thu fhein*, thyself. In the conjugation and forms, and in the number and use of its tenses, the Cornish verb approaches more nearly to the Armoric than to the Welsh verb. The substantive verb has two roots in Cornish as in Gaelic. The adverbs, prepositions and conjunctions in Cornish are numerous. It is impossible at this distance of time to form any correct idea regarding the manner in which Cornish was wont to be pronounced.

The Cornish version of the Lord's prayer discloses a strong resemblance to Irish and Scottish Gaelic:

Pesad an Arluth, po Pader an Arluth; Agan Tas neb us yn nef, by dhens uchellys dhe hanow, dens dhe wlaseor, dhe vodh re bo gwreys yn nor cepar hag yn nef: Ro dhynny hydhew agan pub dydh bara: Ha gaf dhynny agan cammow, kepar del gevyn ny neb us on camm'er agan pyn ny. Ha na dog ny yn antel, mes gwyth ny dheworth droc: rag genes yw an mychterneth, an crevder, ha'n wordhyans rag bsqueth ha bysqueth.

It appears that in Cornwall, miracle-plays in the native Cymric dialect were performed at an early date. In the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries, mysteries and miracle-plays were exhibited in churches. In the fifteenth century and subsequently, they were represented in the open-air. It appears that no earlier notice of the per-