

Manx Notes 664 (2024)

HENRY SAYLE
“SHILG YN DRAYNE” *
(1896)

This is a version of hunt the wren,
Translated and versed by a Brideonian.
I'm sorry my friends that I haven't the tune
That was sung to these words by Methuselahum.

FIRST PART

Higmyan shilg, yn drayne,
Dooyrt Robbyn yn Vobbyn,
Higmyan shilg, yn drayne,
Dooyt Ruchard yn Robbyn
Higmyan shilg, yn drayne
Dooyt Juan y Thallooin
Higmyan shilg, yn drayne
Dooyt dty chooilley unnane

O creed, yiw main eh
Dooyt Robbyn Vobbyn
O creed, yiw main eh
Dooyt Ruchard ya Robbyn.
O creed, yiw main eh
Dooyt Juan y Thallooin,
O creed, yiw main eh
Dooyt dty chooilley unnane

Ayns y thammag glass shid
Dooyt Robbyn yn Vobbyn
Ayns y thammag glass shid
Dooyt Ruchard yn Robbyn.
Ayns y thammag glass shid,
Dooyt Juan y Thallooin
Ayns y thammag glass shid
Dooyt dy chooilley unnane

* Originally published as Stephen Miller, “Henry Sayle, ‘Shilg yn Drayne’,” *Kiaull Manninagh Jiu* July (2024), [20]–[21].

Ny how eb, ny how eh
Dooyt Robbyn yn Vobbyn
Ny how eh, ny how eh
Dooyt Ruchard yn Robbyn
Ny how eh, ny how eh
Dooyt dty chooiley unnane

Cre'n aght thaarys main eh
Dooyt Robbyn yn Vobbyn
Cre'n aght thaarys main eh
Dooyt Ruchard yn Robbyn
Cre'n aght thaarys main eh
Dooyt Juan y Thallooin
Cre'n aght thaarys' main eh
Dooyt dty chooilley unnane

Lesh madjyn as claghyn
Dooyt Robbyn yn Vobbyn
Lesh madjyn as claghyn
Dooyt Ruchard yn Robbyn
Lesh madjyn as claghyn
Doot Juan y Thallooin
Lesh Madjyn as claghyn
Dooyt chooiley unnane

HENRY SAYLE,
Bride Village, March 5th, 1896.

SECOND PART

This is part second of Hunt the Wren;
You must think me a queer kind of Brideonian,
For I'm scheming to send to the man in the moon
To see have he still got the air of the tune,
For they're saying he's a jonnick old man.

Teh ain nish, teh ain nish
Dooyrt Robbyn yn Vobbyn
Teh ain nish, teh ain nish
Dooyrt Ruchard yn Robbyn.
Teh ain nish, teh ain nish

Dooyrt Juan y Thallooin
Teh ain nish, teh ain nish
Dooyrt dty chooilley unnane

Cre'n aght yiow main thie
Dooyrt Robbyn yn Vobbyn
Cre'n aght yiow main thie
Dooyrt Ruchard yn Robbyn
Cre'n aght yiow main thie
Dooyrt Juan y Thallooin
Cre'n aght yiow main thie
Dooyrt dty chooilley unnane

Ayns cayrt vooar ymballagh
Dooyrt Robbyn yn Vobbyn
Ayns cayrt vooar ymballagh
Dooyrt Ruchard yn Robbyn
Ayns cayrt vooar ymballagh
Dooyrt Juan y Thallooin
Ayns cayrt vooar ymballagh
Dooyrt dty chooilley unnane

Cre'n agh yiow main eoit
Dooyrt Robbyn yn Vobbyn
Cre'n agh yiow main eoit
Dooyrt Ruchard yn Robbyn
Cre'n agh yiow main eoit
Dooyrt Juan y Thallooin
Cre'n agh yiow main eoit
Dooyrt dty chooilley unnane.

Lesh skynnaghyn as forkyn
Dooyrt Robbyn yn Vobbyn
Lesh skynnaghyn as forkyn
Dooyrt Ruchard yn Robbyn.
Lesh skynnaghyn as forkyn
Dooyrt Juan y Thallooin
Lesh skynnaghyn as forkyn
Dooyrt dty chooilley unnane.

Ny sooillyn dys ny doal

Dooyrt Robbyn yn Vobbyn
Ny sooillyn dys ny doal
Dooyrt Ruchard yn Vobbyn
Ny sooillyn dys ny doal
Dooyrt Juan y Thallooin
Ny sooillyn dys ny doal
Dooyrt dty chooilley unnane

Ny lurgaghyn dys ny croobee
Dooyrt Robbyn yn Vobbyn
Ny lurgaghyn dys ny croobee
Dooyrt Ruchard yn Robbyn
Ny lurgaghyn dys ny croobee
Dooyrt Juan y Thallooin
Ny lurgaghyn dys ny croobee
Dooyrt dty chooilley unnane

Ny craueyn dys ny moddee
Dooyrt Robbyn yn Vobbyn
Ny craueyn dys ny moddee
Dooyrt Ruchard yn Robbyn
Ny craueyn dys ny moddee
Dooyrt Juan y Thallooin
Ny craueyn dys ny moddee
Dooyrt dty chooilley unnane

[THE END.]

Bride, March 11th, 1896.
HENRY SAYLE.

Henry Sayle, "Shilg yn Drayne (1)," *Ramsey Courier* 10 March 1896: 3d; "Shilg yn Drayne (2)," *Ramsey Courier* 29 September 1896: [3]e.

Stephen Miller RBV

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