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STVDII  
SALAMANTIINI

A  
GUIDE  
TO THE  
MOUNT'S BAY  
AND THE  
LAND'S END  
COMPREHENDING THE  
TOPOGRAPHY, BOTANY, AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES,  
ANTIQUITIES, MINING, MINERALOGY  
AND GEOLOGY OF  
WESTERN CORNWALL.

SECOND EDITION

*To which is added, for the information of Invalids,*  
A DIALOGUE ON THE PECULIAR ADVANTAGES OF THE CLIMATES  
OF PENZANCE, DEVONSHIRE, AND THE  
SOUTHERN PARTS OF EUROPE

By a PHYSICIAN

LONDON;  
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY W. PHILLIPS,  
GEORGE YARD, LOMBARD STREET;  
SOLD ALSO BY T. VIGURS, PENZANCE; AND W. AND C. TAIT,  
EDINBURGH.

1824

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The Cornish Dialogue, introduced in the Appendix, for the sake of illustrating the provincial Dialect, has been composed after the model of the well known “*Tim Bobbin*”, which was written for the accomplishment of the same object, with reference to Lancashire. From the direction in which it came into the hands of the author, he is inclined to consider it as an hitherto unpublished production of the celebrated Dr. Walcott.

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*Appendix.*

A CORNISH DIALOGUE

Between GRACE PENWEAR and MARY TREVISKEY

GREACEY.

Faith and Trath than! I bleeve in then Parishes round  
Sichey Roag, sichey Vellan es nat to ba found.

MALLY.

Whoat’s tha’ fussing, Un Greacey! long wetha Cheel Vean?

GREACEY.

I’d nat goa a neest en to fang tha Kings Crown,  
For a sweers ef I speek to’an al cleev ma skuel down:  
Tha navar en ale tha boarn daeys, fath and shoar,  
Dedst behould sichey Maze-gerry Pattick a foar.

(Fuss) [a low cant word] a tumult, a bustle. Swift.

(Un) Aunt—a title usually given to an elderly woman.

(Vean) Cornish for little] Cheel Vean—little Child.

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(Tarving) [a cant word] struggling, convulsious, *Tarvings*.

(Fang) [Saxon] to gripe, receive, & c. Shakespear.

(Maze-gerry Pattick) a mad brutish or frolicsome fool.

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Why, a scat ale to Midjans and Jowds for the noans,  
A clom Buzza of scale melk about on tha scoans.  
And a raak'd up a showl for to steeve ma' outright,  
But I'm run'd awaey, readdy to feyntey for freyt!  
Loard! tell ma un Mally! whaat shall Ey do by 'an?  
For Zoundtikins Deth! Ey'm a fear'd to cum ny'an.

MALLY.

I know whoat Ey'd gee'an ef so bee 'twor my case,  
Ey'd scat tha ould Chacks aa'n; Ey'd trem 'an un Greace.

GREACEY

Ey'm afeard o' my leyf to coam ny tha ould Vellan,  
Else pleas faather! Ey bleeve Ey shu'd murely kill 'an.  
Wor ever poor creychar so baal'd and aboos'd,  
Ma heep here leyke bazzom, tha Roag have a bruis'd.  
Ey mad for 'es sopar a Muggety Pye,  
But a shaan't clunk a croom a'te Ey wish Ey meay die!

MALLY.

Aye! Ey tould tha afore that tha jobb wor a done,  
That tha'd'st find out tha odds 'ate, so shoor as a gun;  
But tha' wouds'nt hark to ma for doubting, for why  
That beshoor, that tha knowd'st 'en mooch better than Ey;  
But Ey knaw'd tha good trem 'ane befour tha's't got 'en;  
Ey cou'd tell tha a meshes of stoareys about en;

*The Salamanca Corpus: A Cornish Dialogue (1787)*

But tha' aanserds't soa heytish and shrinkt up tha noaz:

'A gissing 'twor greeat stromming leys Ey sopoaz!

But there's one of es praenks Ey shall aleweays remembar

'Twill be three years agone coam tha eighth of Novembar,

(Midjans and Jouds) shreds and tatters.

(Noans) [Nonce] on purpose.

(Clom Buzza) a coarse earthen pot.

(Scoans) the pavement. (Showl) a shovel. (Steeve) stave.

(Scat) to give a blow, to break. (Chacks) cheeks.

(Murely) almost. (Baal'd) mischievously beaten.

(Bazzom) of a blue or purple colour.

(Muggety Pye) a pye made of sheeps guts, parsley and crea, pepper and salt. (Clunk)

swallow. (Croom) crumb,

(Mashes) a great many, number, &c.

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Ey'd two pretty young Mabjers as eyes cu'd behould,

So fat as tha Botar; jest iteen wiks ould,

Tha wor picking about in tha Tewn plaace for meat,

Soa Ey hov downe sum Pillas amongst mun to eat:

When who but your man comd a tott'ring along

Soa drunk, that Ey thoft fath, ad fale in tha dung!

'A left tomble 'es Hoggan-bag jest by tha doar,

Soa I caled to tha man as one wud to be shoor,

Sez Ey, Martyn! dust hire Cheeld! teak up tha bag,

"Arrea" sez a, "for whoat beest a caleing me dog?"

And dreev'd forth towards ma, nar bettar nar wuss

Nack'd the Mabjers boath steff, we a gaert mawr o' fuss;

Ley'k enow ef Ey hadnt shov'd haastis awaey

A'd a done as a ded to Jan Rous t'oather daey,

**The Salamanca Corpus: A Cornish Dialogue (1787)**

When a gote en eis tantrums, a wilfull ould Devel,  
A slam'd tha poor Soal on tha head we a Yevel;  
Fath and Soal than un Gracey ef so bee a doent aelter  
Ey bleev e ma conshance el swing en a haelter.

GREACEY

When tha Leker es runn'd awaey every drap  
'Tis too late to ba thenking of plugging the Tap,  
And marridge must goa as the Loard do ordean,  
But a Passon wud swear to ba used so Cheeld Vean.  
Had Ey smilt out tha coose 'ane but neyne weeks ago  
Ey'd never a had tha ould Vellan Ey know.

(Mabjers) Mab Hens—young fowls two-thirds grown.

(Pillas) [Pilez—Cornish] the *avena nuda* or naked oats of Ray; bald, bare or naked oats without husks.

(Hoggan) Hogan in Cornish British signifies a Hawthorn berry; also any thing mean or vile; but here it means a Pork pasty; and now indeed a Tinner's Pasty is called a *Hoggan*.

(Arrea) Arria [vulg. for Ria] O strange.

(Gaert) great, "gaert mawr o Fuss," great root of Furze.

(Haestis) hastily. (Yevil) a Dung fork with three prongs.

(Passon) Parson. (Coose) course or way of him.

(Neyne weeks) — as though they had been married but nine weeks, whereas in the third line, she is addressed by Un Mally as 'long wetha Cheeld vean.' This will be readily explained by noticing a custom very prevalent among the lower ranks of the county, as will appear by the following anecdote. A friend of mine who was one year an officer in one of the mining parishes, told me that of fifty-five couples married during that year, it was *manifest* by the appearance of fifty of the ladies, that they ought to have been married several moons before. A young man, to the honour of the county be said, (even if the practice be to its disparagement) needs no compulsion to marry his lass when in this condition.

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But a vowd and a swear'd that if Ey'd by hes weyf  
That Ey naver shud lack ale tha daeys o' ma leyf;  
And a broft me a Nakin and Corn saave from Preen;  
En ma conshance thoft Ey, Ey shall leve leyk a Queen.  
But 'tes plaguey provoking, od rat es ould head!  
To be pooted and flopt soa! Ey wish a war dead.  
Why a spent haafe es fangings laast Saterdag neyt,  
Leyk enow by this teym 'tes gone every dyte.  
But Ey'll tame tha ould Devel, afor et es long,  
Ef Ey caant we ma Viestes—Ey will we ma Tongue.

(Nackin) Handkerchief. (Preen) Penryn. (Pooted) kicked.

(Fangings) gettings or wages. (Viestes) Fists.

