

An Ula / The Owl

G G C G Am D⁷ G

A'n ydh - yn oll a wel - af y'n bys, An Ul - a yu'n tec-ca dhym - mo pup-prys, Yn
Of all the birds that ev - er I see, the owl is fair - est in her de - gree, For

5 G G C G Am D⁷ G

jeth a'y eseth yn gweth-en at - tes, Ha pan dhe an nos y nyj dhe ves. To
al the day long she sits in a tree, And when th night com - eth she flies aw - ay, To

9 G C G G

whyt to who yn meth hy to who, can - el ha jyn - jor gans
whit to who says she to who cinb - a - mon ging - er nut -

12 G C G Am D⁷ G

clov - ys druth, Ha dowr tom Frynk a'm ros tron ruth.
megs and cloves, and brand - y gave me m joll - y red nose.

A'n ydhyn oll a welaf y'n bys,
An ula yu'n tecca dhymmo pupprys:
Yn jeth a'y eseth yn gwedhen attes,
Ha pan dhe an nos y nyj dhe ves.

Penpusorn:

To whyt to who yn meth hy to who;
Canel ha jynjor gans clovys druth,
Ha dowr tom Frynk, a'm ros tron ruth.

Awhesyth y'n myttyn a yskyn yn ban
Ow casa an ula owth ola hep can;
Dres oll an jeth yn cusk yma-hy,
Ha'n ydhnygow ow cana ymons-y.

Penpusorn

Yma lyes dhen a vost nep pols,
A'y honen a pref mur ha nefra fals;
Mars us nans ha bre gans ergh wyn cudhys,
Y cren an ula, gans ullyans cryghyllys.

Penpusorn

Of all the birds that ever I see,
The owl is the fairest in her degree;
For all the day long she sits in a tree,
And when the night cometh she flies away.

Chorus:

To whit to who says she to who
Cinnamon ginger nutmegs and cloves
And brandy gave me my jolly red nose.

The lark in the morning ascendeth on high,
And leaves the poor owl to sob and to sigh;
And all the day long the owl is asleep,
While little birds are blithely singing cheep cheep.

Chorus

There's many a brave bird a boasteth awhile,
And proves himself great, let providence smile;
Be hills and valleys all covered in snow,
The poor owl will shiver and mock with ho, ho.

Chorus

Trelyes gans Merv Davey 1980

This song was recorded by Revs Sabine Baring Gould and Frank W. Bussell from James Olver, Launceston 1989. (*Baring Gould Heritage Project/Wren Trust, personal Copy Manuscript Pages 8 and 324*). In "Songs of the West" Baring Gould explains that this song was sung to Henry VIII as a three men's song and was published in 1609 in Ravenscroft's "Deuteromelia" (*Sabine Baring Gould, and Cecil James Sharp. Songs of the West, London, Methuen, 1905*). He notes with interest the changes that have