

Tansys Golowan / Midsummer Feast

Verse

Em G C Em D Em

V.1

Dhe'n gwer yn hans del kerth-ys vy, Ha'n gor-thew-er tek dhe'm brys; Yn
 As I walked out to yon-der green, One ev-en-ing so clear; All

5

Em G C Em D Em Chorus

le may whel-yr mow-ys-y, ow qua-ry 'dro tansys. Cu-
 where the fair maids may be seen, Play-ing at the bon-fire. The

9

G D G Em D

run-ys yu mys meth-ev-en, Mar gough gans y vry luen;
 bon-ny month of June is crowned, With her sweet scarl-et rose; The

13

Em G C D Em D Em

Dres an pras ha blej-ew-en, Gans whek-ter a dhen-ew.
 flowers and mea-dow all ar-ound, With love-ly pleas-ure flows.

Dhe'n gwer yn hans kerthys'vy,
 Ha'n gorthewer tek dhe'm brys;
 Yn le may whelyr mowysy,
 Ow quarry dro tansys.

Penpusorn:

Curunys yu mys metheven,
 Mar gough gans y wyluen;
 Dres pup pras ha blejyewen'
 Gans whekter a dhenew.

Na vedheugh methek mowysy'
 A 'gas hys hep let omreugh,
 May fo kerensa ragon ny,
 Gans dywvregh cupyd yn few.

Penpusorn

Dysplewys yu golow an lor
 May whello'n lowender;
 Dres an Tan adrus an dor,
 Ow lamma yma'n wer.

Penpusorn

Yn boreles war'n glaston-ma,
 Aga hus a ransons y,
 Erbyn dos dewyn kensa,
 Ha'n jeth ow colowy.

As I walked out to yonder green,
 One evening so clear,
 All where the fair maids may be seen,
 Playing at the bonfire.

Chorus:

The Bonny month of June is crowned,
 With her sweet scarlet rose,
 The fliwers and meadow all around,
 With lovely pleasure flows.

Hail lovely maids be nob too coy,
 But freely yield your charms,
 Let love inspire with mirth and joy,
 In cupid's lovely arms.

Chorus

Bright luna spreads its light around,
 The scene for to admire,
 As they jump sporting o'er the flames,
 About the keen bonfire.

Chorus

All on the pleasant daisy mead,
 They shared each others charms,
 Till Sols's first beams began to play,
 And coming day

Trellys ha dyghtys gans Merv Davey 1980

Merv Davey, "Hengan" (Redruth, Dyllansow Truran, 1983) Notes: The words for this song were published by Bell in "Ancient Poems and Ballads" as the *Cornish Midsummer Bonfire Song* with the explanation "The very ancient custom of lighting fires on Midsummer-eve, being the vigil of St. John the Baptist, is still kept up in several parts of Cornwall. On these occasions the fishermen and others dance about the fires, and sing appropriate songs. The following has been sung for a long series of years at Penzance and the neighbourhood, and is taken down from the recitation of the leader of a West-country choir. It is communicated to our pages by Mr. Sandys." (Bell, Robert, and James H. Dixon. *Ancient Poems, Ballads and Songs of the Peasantry of England*: London: J.W. Parker and Son, 1857, p169.) I have introduced them here to the tune of the "Marigold" which was published in the Celtic Song Book (Graves, Alfred Percival *The Celtic song book, being representative folk songs of the six Celtic nations, chosen by Alfred Perceval Graves, London, E Benn, 1928, p. 276*). "The Marigold" was recorded by Davies Gilbert from an 86 year old man from St Erme in 1830. The tune has clearly travelled quite widely and materialised in Northern Ireland as "The Star of the County Down" in the twentieth century