

## When Eyndek / Indian Weed

When Eyn-dek West yu to - ba - co yn myt-tyn-wyth glas, yn nos treg-hys may fo; Ag-an  
To - ba - co is an Indian weed, Grows green at morn, is cut down at eve, It  
5 pod-reth-es y tys-qua pup ke-her yu gor - a, Pre - der hen-na pan veg - yth to - ba - co  
shows our decay, all flesh is hay, Pray think on this when you smoke to - ba - co.

When Eyndek west yu tobacco,  
Yn mytynwyth glas, yn nos treghys may fo;  
Agan podrethes y tysqua;  
Pup keher yu gora,  
Preder henna pan vegyth tobacco.

Tobacco is an Indian weed,  
Grows green at morn, is cut down at eve;  
It shows our decay,  
All flesh is hay,  
Pray think on this when you smoke tobacco.

Kepar lyly, an pyb mar wyn;  
Ganso dydhan y kemeryn,  
Gans tuch gyllys,  
Kepar bewnans tus,  
Preder henna pan vegyth tobacco.

The pipe that is so lily white,  
Wherein so many take delight,  
Gone with a touch,  
Man's life is such,  
Pray think on this when you smoke tobacco.

Yma'n pyb, y gres mar vostys;  
Ha'n enef gans pegh yu dyslywys,  
Y tervyn yn sur,  
Tan govyjyon mur,  
Preder henna pan vegyth tobacco.

The pipe that is so foul within,  
Shows how the soul is stained with sin;  
It doth require  
The purging fire,  
Pray think on this when you smoke tobacco.

Lusow ytho warlergh gesys,  
A wor aberth y'gan brys,  
Bys yn pon yn fyn,  
Dewheles res yu dhyn  
Preder henna pan vegyth tobacco.

The ashes that are left behind,  
Do serve to put us all in mind,  
That unto dust,  
Return we must,  
Pray think on this when you smoke tobacco.

Ha mar ughel an mok yth yskyn;  
Y tysqueth bos pup bewnans gans fyn,  
An eth yu gyllys,  
Bewnans den yu gwrys,  
Preder henna pan vegyth Tobacco.

The smoke that doth so high ascend,  
Shows that our life must have an end,  
The vapours gone,  
Man's life is done  
Pray think on this when you smoke tobacco.

*Trelyes gans Merv Davey 1980*

Noted by Revs Sabine Baring Gould and Frank W. Bussel from James Potter, Postbridge 1890, Anne Roberts, Scobbetor 1890 and Harry Westway, 1894, (*Baring Gould Heritage Project/Wren Trust, Personal Copy Manuscript Page 213 song 107.*) It was published in "Songs Of The West" and in the notes Baring Gould makes the case that, whilst the lyrics can be traced back to seventeenth century broadsides, the tune is unique to Dartmoor and Cornwall. He comments:

*"Tobacco is an Indian Weed ..... wedded one would have supposed indissolubly to their traditional airs known everywhere else in England. But not so in Cornwall and on Dartmoor; there these words are set to quite independent melodies - melodies that probably had accompanied words in the Old Cornish tongue in former times"* (Sabine Baring-Gould, *R. H. Fleetwood Shepherd, Songs and Ballads of the West: A Collection made from the mouths of the people., London, Methuen & Co. 1891, song no 95 p 202, notes x and xi*).

Baring Gould saw Dartmoor and the Tamar Valley as the cultural fault line between the Anglo-Saxons of the East and the Celtic Cornish of the West. This may well have been the case in the early medieval period and but the extent to which this impacted upon nineteenth century folk tradition is a matter of some conjecture. What is interesting, however, is the extensive Cornish migration from West Cornwall to Dartmoor and the Tamar Valley which took place in the mid nineteenth century following the development of mining in that area. This is witnessed by Cornish mine names beginning with Wheal that appear in the valley below Baring Gould's own manor, Lew Trenchard. That this took place just a generation before Baring Gould's collection period suggests that there could have been a Cornish influence on the music he collected regardless of which side of the border whence it came.