

The Trial of John Barleycorn for Brewing Strong Ale Part one

Transcript of J.T. Clarke's manuscript by Chris Sheard

Trial Yuan-ny-hoarn
Son gimbyl Lune-lajer
liorish
Bing dy Daa Ghooiney-yeig
As yn Ard-Vriw

**The Trial of John Barleycorn
For brewing Strong Ale
By
A Jury of Twelve Men
And the First Deemster**

Currit lesh er y hoshiaght
liorish Turneyr-y-Ree
Coyrleyder y Theay
as Mainshter Mianeyder
leighder yn fendeillagh

Ve Quaiyl er-lheh
er-hene dy chur lesh yn
phryssoonagh fo-vriwnys
son e ghrogh-yannoo

**Carried out
by the Crown Attorney
Counsel for the People
and Mr Desirer
lawyer for the defendant**

**It was a special Court
to bring the prisoner to trial
for his misdeeds**

1.
Juan-ny-Hoarn, fo-vriwnys son
gimbyl Lune-lajer.

Fir-oik yn Whaiyll.

Yn Ard-vriw - enmyssit - Cairys.
Turneyr-y-Ree enmyssit - Feyshteyder.

Leighder yn Fendeilagh - enmyssit - Mianeyder.

Marish Shiartanse dy Fir-oik
elley, lheid as yn Toshiaght-joarrey
yn ghuilley-ghliash, as maroo
Fir-oik-y-Chee, lheid as
Matt-voar-y-Collisthin, ayns Purt-ny-Injey [Inshey]
enmyssit ayns y Ghialck[sic] - greimmeyder-shicky
agh ayns y Vaarle - Constable.
Cleragh y Whaiyll, enmyssit - T.T. Obbaltagh-feeyney.

1.

**John Barleycorn, on trial for
brewing Strong Ale.**

Court Officials

**The First Deemster - called - Justice.
The Crown Attorney - called - Questioner.
The Defendant's lawyer - called - Desirer.
With several other Officials,
such as the Coroner,
the Lockman, as well as
the Policemen, such as
Big Matt Collister, in Peel
called in Manx - sure-gripper
but in English - Constable.
Clerk of the Court, called - T.T. Wine-Abstainer.**

2.

Tra va'n Whuaiyll er ny
harey, ec yeearee Turneyr-y-ree
va'n phryssoonagh currit lesh stiagh
'sy whuaiyll. Cha Leah's va enmyn
ny deiney-bingagh er nyn yllagh
'sy whuaiyll, chelleeragh ren y
phryssoonagh - ec coyrle yn leighder
echey - doolaney three jeu - ny
enmyn oc va - I. Craueeaght -
G. Graihder-yn-irriney - as
P. Cooinsheanse. Chelleeragh v'ad

nyn droor er nyn gastey [?], as
chyndait magh er dorrys, as
three elley er nyn reih 'syn ynnyd oc
dy yannoo magh yn Ghaa-yeig.
V'ad eisht er nyn loo dy chur briwnys
ynrick er immeeaght Juan-ny-hoarn
cordail rish leigh-ny-cheerey, as prowallys
ny feanishyn.

Ad shoh enmyn ny deiney-bingagh -
I. Scaa-lheaneyder - P. Lhiaseyder-vea -
D. Farrysthie-ys - B. Cronnaghey-cair -
T. Obbyr-vie - M. Briwnys - N. Treisht -
A. Kutid [?Kiootid] - E. Giastyllys - G. Tushtey -
T. Barrantys - as G. Sheelt.

Va'n phryssoonagh eisht er ny harey
dy chummal seose e laue, as va ny
foiljyn shoh currit dys e lieh:
"T'ou uss, Yuan-ny-hoarn, dty
phryssoonagh nish kiongoyrt rish yn
whuaiyll shoh, er dty gheyrey jeh
ymmodee foiljyn noi'n theay.
Hoshiaght ooilley, dy vel oo blein
lurg blein mhillley [milley] grain-arroo,
ta ayn hene mie as follan son beaghey,
kiarit ec ard reiltys Yee dy chummal
seose yn challin, agh t'ou uss chyndaa eh

2.

**When the Court was called to
order, at the request of the Crown Attorney
the prisoner was brought into
the court. As soon as the names
of the jurymen were called out
in the court, the prisoner immediately,
on the advice of his lawyer,
challenged three of them, whose
names were - I. Piety,
G. Lover of truth, and
P. Conscience. Immediately the three
of them were [?]suspended and
sent out and**

three others chosen in their place
to make up the Twelve.

They were then sworn to give true judgement
on the behaviour of John Barleycorn
according to the law of the land, and evidence
of the witnesses.

These are the names of the jurymen:-

I. Broadcaster - P. Life-Improver -
D. Diligence - B. Right-Observance -
T. Good-work - M. Judgement - N. Trust -
A. Acuity - E. Charity - G. Knowledge -
T. Dependability - and G. Sober.

The prisoner was then ordered
to hold up his hand, and accused of these
crimes:

“That you, John Barleycorn, the
prisoner now before this
court, are accused of
many vices [crimes] against the people.
Firstly, that you year after year
despoiled cereal grain,
which in itself is good and healthy for sustenance,
provided by God’s dominion to sustain
the body, but you turn it

3.

dys lune-lajer, ta ny yough
neu-follan, as jannoo skielley
da’n annym as y challin, da
ynsagh ellynagh as sheeltys y Theay.

'Syn nah ynnyd - dy vel oo,
son foddey dy hraa, brishey yn Doonaght
liorish freayll labreeyn gobbraghey
ayns ny aiee-yn vraihée ayd (pronounced vry) [sic]
er laa yn Chiarn.

'S[y] trass ynnyd - Dy vel oo, ayns
ymmodee aghtyn, ayns creck yn jough
lajer ayd, geddyn argid, chammah

as cooid as cowryn, voish sleih
scoorit liorish saase-yn
feer aggairagh as foalsey.

'Sy chiarroo ynnyd - Dy vel oo, ayns
aght feer atchimagh er chleayney
chammah shenn as aeg dy iu yn jough-
viljag ayd, tra te noa vestit seose
lesh cha vel fys cre te, er derrey
ta aslayntyn er vishaghey sy cheer,
as ymmodee baaseyn doal-taitym [doaltattym]
er chur Sleih dys yn oaie.

'Sy wheiggoo ayn - Dy vel oo cleayney
eer yn aegid ain, v'ou [voue] ta'n theay jerkal
rish ymmodee reddyn vie, ass y raad
chair, as liorish yn drogh sampleyr
ayd, leeideil ad er ny cassanyn dy neu-heeltys as dy yummallys.
T'ou er leeideil chammah
scollag-yn aegey as mraane aegey dys y
thie-oast, as dys shamyryn chiaullee [kiaullee]
yn jouyll, raad t'ou er leeideil thousaneyn
dy inneenyn-aegey er-shaghryn, as ny
deiney-aegey dys roosterys [roosteyrys] as ro-vennic[k] dys
dunverys.
Reesht. Shimmey'n lught-thie t'ou er stroie yn shee oc as nyn
gherjagh, er-scarrey

3.

**into strong-ale, which is an
unhealthy drink, and does harm
to the soul and the body, to
the manners and sobriety of the People.**

**Secondly - that you,
for a long time, have been breaking the Sabbath
by keeping labourers working
in your malting kiln
on the Lord's day.**

Thirdly - That you, in

many ways, through the sale of your strong drink, obtain money, as well as property and wealth, from drunken people by wrongful and false means.

Fourthly - That you, in a dreadful way enticed both old and young to drink your sweet liquor, when it is newly mixed up with who knows what, until illnesses have increased in the land, and many sudden deaths have sent people to the grave.

Fifthly - That you enticed even our youth, from whom the people hope for many good things, from the proper way, leading them on the paths of insobriety and of prodigality. You have lead both young men and young women to the public house, and to the music rooms of the devil, where you have lead thousands of young girls astray, and the young men to robbery and too often to murder.

Again. You have destroyed the peace and comfort of many families, have parted

4.

dooinne as ben phoost veih my
cheilley, liorish ny joughyn lajer ayd
ta greeasaghey seose yn uill oc dys
streeu as anvea. Thousaneyn dy
cheayrtyr t'ou er choyrtyr ny caarjyn
as y sleih-mooinjerey 'smessey er-y-cheilley
myr moddee; ny craueyn oc jeestyrynee
ny feeacklyn oc snaggeraght er-y-cheilley
as yn eill oc ooilley craa lesh
keoie-id - eisht er ghreeasagh seose ad
dys shuit-leigh dy vaarail nyn
argid dy ommijagh er-y-cheilley

ayns farg as eulys, dy hoilshaghey
ny smoo dy cheayll-vaanrit ayns
y thie-oast ny va rieu oc ayns
nyn dhieyn-chummal, as myr shoh
kesmad lurg kesmad cheet dys ny
dhieyn. Liorish yn jough ayd, shimmey
labree t'ou er nyannoo liastey 'syn obbyr
echey, as er chur coayl da'n vainshter
baarail nyn draa as nyn argid
ayns y thie-oast, dys arkys as treihys
nyn lught-thieyn t'er jeet dy ve
errey hrome da'n Theay. Ta ooilley'n
voirey vee-reiltagh, ayns Cheer as balley,
ooilley yn voiranys veshtallagh
ec y thie as voish y thie- ta
ooilley'n rouanys, yn neu-heeltys,
yn anvea, yn seaghyn, yn arkys,
yn voghtynid- yn egin- ny streeughyn
as ny caggaghyn 'sy theihll er ve currit dys
dty lieh as kyndagh rhyt- Te
raait dy vel ymmodee kialgyn
chroutagh ayd dy leeideil mraane
aegey voghtey oney jeh'n chassan-
chair- as dy chur raad da saynt
ny foalley- saynt ny sooillyn-
as moyrn y veeal- as fei-yerrey [fy-yerrey]
tuittym ayns streebys feayn foshlit 'sy traid

4.

**man and wife from each
other, by your strong drinks
which stirs up their blood to
strife and discord. Thousands of
times you have set the worst friends
and relatives on each other
like dogs; their bones creaking
their teeth chattering together
and their flesh all shaking with
madness - then have incited them
to law suits to spend their
money foolishly on each other
in anger and fury, to show
more mental derangement in**

the public house than they ever had in
their homes, and thus
step by step coming to
beggary. By your drink, you have made many
labourers indolent in their work,
and have given loss to the master,
spending their time and money
in the public house, to the hardship and misery
of their families who have become
a heavy burden on the Public. All the
unruly trouble, in country and town,
all the drunken brawls
at home and from home- all
the excess, the insobriety,
the discord, the sorrow, the hardship,
the poverty, the want, the struggles
and the fights in the world have been attributed
and blamed on you. It
is said that you have many clever
tricks to lead poor innocent
young women from the right
path and to give way to the desires of
the flesh and the desires of the eyes,
and pride of the mouth, and finally
falling into open prostitution in the street

5.

dyn nearey as dyn aggle,
geaylley [yeealley] y cheilley, cur sooillyn
ghoo da cheilley as jannoo ymmyd
jeh'n ghlare
'seajee, 'sgraney,[sic] sluhtagh,
as neu-ghlen oddagh yn Veeataig smessey
dy ven dy bragh fockley-magh. Ta ooilley
yn olkys shoh, as foddey sliee ayns
earroo nagh vod mayd genmys
currit dys lieh yn jough-lune t'ou
uss cleayney ad dy iu myr follan
as slayntoil daue.

Agh cha nee ynrican shoh, agh
t'ad gra, dy vel oo jannoo cumraagys
as ayns partee-ys rish, three jeh'n sleih

smessey er eaghtyr-ny-hooirrey - ta
shen dy ghra - Peddyr Porthar - Delila
Feeyney - as Liggar Loshtee. Ta'n Theay
l[h]iassaghey dty oi dy vel oo yn leeideillagh
oc ooilley - er-yn-oyr dy vel oo hoshiaght
cleaynaghey ad dy ghoail bolgum veg
jeh'n jough-viljag ayd hene son nyn laynt
eisht tra ta cree veg currit
ayndoo liorish yn chroutys ayds,
ta bine veg dy feeyn er ny voylley
as goo vie currit da son Slaynt.
Eisht tra ta'n chione voght gaase
red beg scoorit, as y jough vie ayds,
as jough Peddyr Porthar, as feeyn
Delila gaase red beg eig er-y-chieu [cheu]
sthie, ta Liggar-Loshtee cheet
er-y-hoshiaght eisht as cur er-ouyll
sleih. T'eh gymmyrkey yn chooid smoo
jeh'n voghtynid tayns y theihll, yn loght, yn
vee-reiltys, yn vaardeyrays [sic], ny baaseyn
ghoal-taittym [doaltattym] as er y hrie [chriy], as
giarrey scoarneeeyn y cheilley, as
croshey ad hene, as pyshooney
ad hene, coyrt yn challin dys yn oaie,
as yn annym dys toyrt-mow.

5.

**without shame and without fear,
lashing each other, giving black eyes
to each other and using
the most abhorrent, ugly, sluttish
and dirty language
which even the most disreputable
woman would never utter. All this
wickedness, and many more in
number which we cannot name
is due to the ale which
you entice them to drink as
healthy for them.**

**Not only this, but
they say that you befriend
and are in partnership with three of the worst people**

on the surface of the earth - that's
to say - Peter Porter - Delila
Wine - and Brandy. The People
charge you that you are the leader
of them all, because you first
enticed them to take a little sip
of your own sweet drink for their health,
then when a little courage is put
in them by your trickery,
a little drop of wine is recommended
and a good reputation for Health ascribed to it.
Then when the poor head grows
a little bit drunk, and your good drink,
and Peter Porter's drink, and Delila's
wine grows a little bit stale on the inside,
Brandy comes forward then and puts people
in a rage. It sustains most
of the poverty in the world, the crime, the
misrule, the fornication, the sudden deaths
and [deaths] on the gallows[?], and
cutting each others throats, and
crucifying [?] themselves, and poisoning
themselves, sending their bodies to the grave,
and the soul to damnation.