

## 7. Prepositions

1. Both simple and compound prepositions occur. Compound prepositions consist of either the combination of two simple prepositions, or of a simple preposition with a noun. Conjugated prepositions are treated in III.5.8-13#. The following are the prepositions found (in alphabetical order):

2. /a/ 'of'. Of which the following uses may be distinguished:

(1) 'of', introducing the quality, material or immaterial, which something possesses: <trehans dynar a vone> 'three hundred pence of money' P.36a; <glan off a was an dremas> 'clean am I of the blood of the saint' P.149b; <peswar marreg a brys> 'four soldiers of repute' P.190b; <pren a skeyens>, <pren a skyens> 'the tree of knowledge' O.80, 82; <tyreth a thythwadow>, <tyr a thythwadow> 'the land of promise' O.1624, 1871;

In this sense /a/ is also very frequent in compound adjectives (cf. III.3.6#, where examples are given).

(2) 'from, of', place: <a|n par3 ma 3e pons tamar> 'from this part (i.e. 'from here') to the Tamar bridge' CE.18; <a|n vghelder ma-3|ese> 'from the height where he was' P.5b; <ihesus crist a|n-na3are>, <ihesus crist a na3ary> 'Jesus Christ of Nazareth' P.69c, 255b; <a|ble o|ta gy> 'from where are you?' P.144a; <a|n pen the|n troys> 'from the head to the foot' O.68; <mes a egip agan dry> 'to bring us out of Egypt' O.1647;

(3) '(made) from, out of': <a|n veyn ma gura bara> 'of these stones make bread' P.11c; <a dor y vam 3e|n bys|ma> 'from his mother's womb into this world' P.43d; <a|n avell deve3ys> 'derived from the apple' P.152d; <a|y anvoth> 'against his will' (lit. 'out of his unwillingness') P.175a;<sup>1</sup> <gorhel a blankos playnyys> 'a ship of planed planks' O.950; <a bol hag a lyys formys> 'made of clay and of mire' O.1070;

(4) 'of, concerning', with verbs meaning 'to say', 'to hear', etc.: <Pan-dra a woven|te se (...)|ha|m lahys> 'what do you ask about my laws?' P.80a; <wy a glewyth a dormont crist> 'you shall hear of Christ's torment' P.132d; <a baynis crist preder> 'to think of Christ's pains' P.182c; <An e3ewon a gewsy a Ihesus> 'the Jews said about Jesus' P.194a; <prederys (...)|a|y worfen> 'thinking (...) of his ending' O.227; <preder a|d enef> 'think of your soul' O.479;

(5) idiomatically in the expression 'on the (...) side': <a|n-n|eyl tenewen>, <a|n-n|yl tenewen> 'on the one side' P.71a, O.214; <a|n barth dyghow>, <A barth dyghow> 'on the right hand side' P.93c, 193a, 198a, etc.; <a 3yghow hag a gleth> 'to right and to left' P.236b, 242c; <myr a pup tenewen> 'look on every side' O.746; <ha|n mor a pup tu thethe> 'and the sea on each side of them' O.1689;

(6) idiomatically in the expression 'with (...) hand(s)': <a|m lef thyghyow>, <a|m luf thyghyow> 'with my right hand' O.421, 921; <y|th lathaf (...)|a|m dew-luef> 'I will kill you (...) with my two hands' O.1533-34;

(7) in other idiomatic expressions: <a|m govys> 'for my sake', 'in my behalf' O.76, 108; <yma marth thym a vn dra> 'I am astonished at one thing' O.1395; <a ver speys>, <a ver spys> 'in a short space' O.947, 1540; <a ver termyn>, <a ver|dermyn>, <a ver dermyn> 'in little time' O.1362, 1441, 1601, etc.;

(8) /meur a/ 'much of, many a'; cf. III.3.5# where examples are given.

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<sup>1</sup> It is interesting to note that this same idiom exists in MW, as e.g. *o'm hanwod*, *o'm hanuod* 'against my will' in PKM.12.24, PKM.14.16, PKM.33.22, etc. (MdW *o anfodd* 'unwillingly').

3. /a-barth/ 'for the sake of'.

<a barth an tas beneges> 'for the sake of the blessed father' O.1792; <abarth an ioul> 'for the devil's sake' O.2700;

4. /a-berth yn/ 'within'

(1) 'within, in' a place: <a-berth y|n dre> 'inside the town' P.30c; <a-berth y|n bys|ma> 'within this world' P.44c; <mester bras a-berth y|n wlas> 'a great master in the land' P.89a;

(2) 'upon' the cross:<sup>2</sup> <aberth yn crows may farwe> 'that he should die upon a cross' P.151a; <a-berth yn crows pan ese> 'when he was crucified' (or: 'when he was on the cross' P.185a, 197a;

5. /a-berveth yn/ 'within, inside', 'on (the cross)'

<a-berveth yn crows cregy> 'to hang upon the cross' P.146c;

6. /a-dar/ 'beyond'.<sup>3</sup>

<mur o an payn [a-]dar ken> 'great was the pain, beyond any other' P.135c;

7. /a-denewen/ 'aside'.

<aspy ahas ha glv a-rag hag a-denewen> 'watch carefully and keenly forward and to the side' O.2062-63;

8. /a-dro dhe/ 'around, about'.

<buxow leas (...) ha tummasow (...) 3e gryst a-dro-3|e 3ewen (...) a ve syttis> 'many blows (...) and buffets (...) on Christ, about his jaws, were laid (...) ' P.138cd; <queth esa a-dro 3o3o> 'a garment there was around him' P.140c; <adro 3|y gorff y trylyas sendall rych yn luas pleg> 'around his body he wound rich sendal in many folds' P.232c; <ov conys yn-crys an dre (...) adro-the|n temple> 'working in the middle of the town (...) about the temple' O.2300-2302;

9. /a-dryv/ 'behind'.

<ny gowsyn yn tewolgow a-dryff tus yn un hanas> 'I was not wont to speak in the dark, muttering behind people's backs' P.79d;

10. /a-rag/ 'at the front', 'forward'.

<a-rag guris colmmenow> 'at the front knots were made' P.131c; <a-rag dywhans ov kerthes> 'marching quickly forward' O.1684; <[a-r]ag an debel bobal> 'in front of the wicked people' O.1843;

11. /a-ugh/ 'over, above'.

<a-vgh eglos tek> 'above a fair church' P.13d; <a-vgh pen crist gorrys> 'put above Christ's head' P.189b; <e3ewon a worras a-vgh lhesus crist vn men> 'Jews placed over Jesus Christ a stone' P.237a; <ahugh an gveyth> 'above the trees' O.37; <nyg a-vgh lues pow> 'fly above many a country O.1136;

12. /a-ves dhe/ 'outside'.

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<sup>2</sup> For this idiom see also 4 and 24(6)# below.

<sup>3</sup> This preposition occurs in P only once and is written <dar>, which leaves the line one syllable too short to fit the metre. It does not occur in O.

<a-ves 3e|n dre y-3|ese> ‘outside the town it was’ P.162b;<sup>4</sup>

13./a-vyne/ ‘from’.

<A-vyne[-n] gwar3e y ben (...) bys-yn y droys> ‘from the top of his head (...) to his feet’ P.135a;

14./awos/ ‘because, in order to; despite, notwithstanding’.

<awos a gallo na wra travy3> ‘because he is not able to do anything’ CE.30; <en box oll be3ens gwerthys a-vos den rag y ranne> ‘let the whole box be sold in order to distribute it for man’s sake’ P.36b; <awos dampnye an den|na> ‘in order to condemn that man’ P.94d; <3e 3envyth a-wos plegye> ‘for the sake of giving way to anyone’ P.123c; <awos ol roweth adam> ‘despite all the richness of Adam’ O.884; <Nyns|us fors awos henna> ‘there is no concern about that’ O.2801;

15./bys/ ‘until’.

<hy a begyas bys hanter dyth> ‘it lasted until mid-day’ P.201a; <bys may fy loys> ‘until you be gray’ O.72; <beys vynytha>, <bys venytha> ‘for ever’ O.153, 220, 1242, etc.;

16.\*/bys dhe/ ‘as far as, up to’.

17./bys-yn/ ‘until, to, as far as’.

<bys-y|n meneth> ‘unto the mountain’ P.53b, O.1303, 1982; <a|n hombronkyas bys-yn pylat> ‘they led him unto Pilate’ P.114c; <Iosep eth bys-yn lustis> ‘Joseph went to the magistrate’ P.215a; <bys-yn gorfen> ‘even to the end’ O.720; <bys-yn yffarn> ‘(even) into hell’ O.783;

18. /dre/ ‘through, by means of’.

(1) ‘(piercing) through’: <3e|n-n|empynnyon dre an tell> ‘to the brain through the holes’ P.134c; <dre vn scochforth y ponyas> ‘through a short-cut she ran’ P.164c; <dre y holon y-3|eth seth> ‘through her heart went an arrow’ P.223a; <res ev keskar dre terros> ‘it is necessary to wander through terrors’ O.360;

(2) ‘by means of’, ‘as a result of’: <dre breson presonys> ‘by a prison imprisoned’ P.24c; <rag dre gle3e a veughe dre gle3e y|fyth le3ys> ‘for who lives by a sword, by a sword shall he be slain’ P.72b; <dre ras an goys y whelas> ‘by the virtue of the blood he saw’ P.219d; <dre weres agan dev ny> ‘by the aid of our God’ O.535; <dre vertu an thyr guelen> ‘by virtue of the three rods’ O.1763;

A variant form /dyr/ occurs also: <dyr vur cheryte> ‘out of great charity’ P.35a;

19./drefen/ ‘because’.

<Pur wyr drefen an vertu a|n lauar crist> ‘right truly because of the power of the word of Christ’ P.68a; <drefen ov bos noeth> ‘because of my being naked’ O.259; <drefen luen ty thu|m seruye> ‘because you have served me fully’ O.1019;

20. /drys/ ‘beyond, over, throughout’.

<dris an bys ol>, <dris ol an bys> ‘over all the world’ P.31b, 200b; <why a vyn drys pub tra> ‘you wish beyond all’ P.148a; <drys nos> ‘throughout the night’ P.237c; <bethens ebron dreys pup tra> ‘let the sky be above all things’ O.21; <ov fysadow dres pup tra>

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<sup>4</sup> The Ms. has <a vest 3en dre>, which may be a scribal error (perhaps an indication that the exemplar was dictated to the copist?).

'my prayer above all things' O.1830;

'besides, except': <tekke alter (...) ny else den aspye (...) dres an monnt calvarye> 'a more beautiful altar (...) a man could not find (...) except Mount Calvary' O.1177-80;

Idiomatically: <dres dyfen>, <dres ov defen>, <dres ov dyfen> 'against the/my prohibition' O.172, 270, 423, etc.; <drys y worhemmy> 'against his command' O.353;

21. /dhe/ 'to' may be found with the following meanings.

(1) 'to, towards' a place or person: <3e pons tamar> 'to the Tamar bridge' CE.18; <3e|n meneth olyff y-3|eth> 'he went to the Mount of Olives' P.52a; <y trylyas th|y asethva> 'he returned to his seat' P.143d; <Enaff crist 3e yffarn eth> 'Christ's soul went to hell' P.212a; <the adam ke> 'go to Adam' O.634; <dun alemma the|n mor ruyth> 'let us go hence to the Red Sea' O.1622;

(2) 'to', time: <deue3is 3e oys> '(was) come to age' P.10a;

(3) '(in)to' a situation or condition: <a|n doro the anken> 'will bring us to sorrow' O.225; <bos the|th ly ha the|th kynyow> 'food for your breakfast and for your dinner' O.1140; <gor vy the lowene> 'bring me to bliss' O.1896;

(4) 'to, pertaining to': <3e ihesu be3ens grassys> 'to Jesus let there be thanked' P.24d; <3|y voth> 'at his will / according to his will' P.32b; <3e|n-n|e3yn gwyls> 'to the wild birds' P.206c; <the dev y coth thyn grasse> 'it behooves us to thank God' O.1148; <lowene the flour an beys> 'joy to the flower of the world' O.1541;

(5) 'for, for the sake of', denoting purpose: <bos 3e 3u 3e wull gynsy> 'that God had to do with her' (lit. 'it being for the sake of god to do with her') P.27d; <daver (...) 3e worre trevyth ynne> 'receptacles to put anything in(to them)' P.50b; <3|agan sawye> 'for our salvation' P.153c; <the|n beys ol golowys glan> 'bright lights for all the earth' O.34; <goth dek (...) my a offryn the dev> 'I will offer a fair goose (...) to God' O.1195-96;

(6) 'in order to', denoting an intention and followed by a verbal noun: <eth (...) 3e besy> 'went (...) to pray' P.56a; <th|ow hemeres> 'to take me' P.61d; <y eth 3|y la3e> 'they went to kill him' P.160b; <tyr ha mor the goullewwel> 'to fill the land and sea' O.44; <the welas an passyon> 'to see the Passion' O.2840;

(7) with verbs meaning 'to say, tell, speak', 'to show', 'to give', etc., introducing the indirect object: <3e vab den a 3yswe3as> 'to mankind that he showed' P.5a; <An ioul 3e gryst a gewsys> 'the devil spoke to Christ' P.14a; <roys 3e gen re> 'given to some others' P.23d; <3e iudas y leueris> 'to Judas he said' P.48a; <3e|n e3ewan dyrryvys> 'to the Jews he declared' P.62c; <3e pedyr crist a yrghys> 'Christ commanded Peter' P.72a; <my a wronnt oel mercy theys ha the eua the wregthy> 'I will grant the oil of mercy to you and to Eve your wife' O.329-30;

(8) idiomatically, with certain verbs. (a) With the verb 'to make, do' to give it the meaning 'to cause': <gura 3e|n payn ma ow gasa> 'cause this pain to leave me' P.55a; <hag inweth gvra the|th warty may tebro ef annotho> 'and also cause your husband that he eat from it' O.199-200; <gans lyf y wraf the lathe> 'with a flood I shall cause to be slain' O.1032;

(b) With other verbs (sometimes also with the verb 'to do', but not giving it the meaning 'to cause'), meaning 'as, (in)to': <kymmerr-y 3e|3 wreck> 'take her as your wife' CE.10; <me a ra the crist amme> 'I will embrace Christ' (lit. 'I will do to Christ a kiss') P.63d; <treyl the gyk ha the woys> 'turn (in)to flesh and (in)to blood' O.66; <na gresyth thu|m lauarow> 'that you do not believe my words' O.174;

(9) In idiomatic expressions: <3e hes> 'at length' P.109d; <The herodes y-th|esa (...) worth pylat sor bras> 'In Herod there was great anger against Pilate' (lit. 'to Herod ...') P.110a; <3e sesar yw contrary> 'he is an opponent of Caesar' P.146d; <3e crist may fe crehelllys oll y gorf ha|y esely> 'that were jolted all Christ's body and his limbs' (lit. 'to

Christ that were jolted ...') P.184d; <A barth dughow (...) 3e gryst> 'on the right of Christ' P.198a; <oll monas 3e|n fo> 'all took to the flight' P.250d; <haval d|agan face> 'like unto our image' O.60; <the|th worhemmyn> 'at your command' O.121; <the epscop guraf the sacre> 'I consecrate you to [be] bishop' O.2614;

(10) /dhe/ followed by a verbal noun, assuming the function of a finite verb form. See 6.35#, where examples are given.

22. /dhe-rag/ 'before, to(wards) the front of, in the presence of'.

<3e-rag y abestely> 'in the presence of his apostles' P.44a; <the-rag an try may-3|esa> 'when he was in the presence of the three' P.112b; <3e-rag leas huny> 'in the presence of many' P.240a;

23. /dhe-war/ 'at'.

<pylat 3e-war breder a leueris 3e Ihesu (...)> 'Pilate, at a thought, said to Jesus (...)' P.129a;

24. /dhe-worth/ 'from'.

<a the 3e-worth an dremas> 'that come from the supremely good' P.12b; <ha 3e-worth an prins annas (...) bys-yn ebscop cayphas> 'and from the prince Annas (...) to the bishop Caiaphas' P.88ab; <ha|n scherewys prest a-bell 3e-worth an gwyr a|fy> 'and the wicked ones were always fleeing far from the truth' P.203d; <bos granntyes (...) dywort an tas> 'there being granted (...) from the father' O.412-13; <theworth vrry re thuk y vn wrekk> 'from Uriah [you] have taken his one wife' O.2244-45;

A longer form /a-dheworth/ '(away) from' occurs once in O in where it is conjugated for the 3sg.f.:

<fenten bryght (...) ha pedyr streyth vras (...) ov resek a-dyworty> 'a fountain (...), and four great springs (...) running from it' O.771-73;

25. /er/ 'leading to', or 'on account of, by' (with this latter meaning this preposition may perhaps be a variant form of /re/ 'by'; cf. 7.40# below).

(1) 'to, towards': <er ov gev> 'to my sorrow' O.589;

(2) 'on account of, by': <er the feth>, <er the fyth> 'by your faith' O.677, 1441; <er the gentylys> 'through your courtesy' O.2105;

26. /erbyn/ 'against'.

(1) 'against, opposed to': <erbyn crist ... y|eth> 'to meet Christ they went' P.29b; <erbyn natur> 'contrary to nature' P.208c; <the dyrry an frut erbyn ov dyfen> 'to pluck the fruit against my will' O.303-304; <fals duwow erbyn cregyans> 'false gods, contrary to faith' O.1882;

(2) 'by', time: <Erbyn bonas henna guris> 'by the time that was done' P.230a; <erbyn haf> 'against summer' O.31, 488;

27. /gans/ 'with, by', occurs with the following meanings.

(1) '(together) with, in the company of, by': <gans boclers ha cle3y3yow> 'with bucklers and swords' P.74b; <gans laddron y tewe3as> 'with thieves he ended' P.186d; <gans an beth fast powessens> 'they rested right by the grave' P.254a; <my ny vennaf growethe vynytha gans corf eva> 'I will never again lie down with the body of Eve' O.624-25; <gvethen vhel gans lues scoren> 'a lofty tree with many branches' O.775-76;

(2) 'with the help of', 'by means of': <gans dour gorris yn ba3on> 'with water put into a basin' P.45c; <ij a|n scorgyas (...) gans ij scorgye> 'two scourged him (...) with two

scourges' P.130c; <ef eth 3e|n corff (...) gans vnnient> 'he went to the body (...) with ointment' P.234d; <gans deyl agan cuthe gvren> 'with leaves let us cover ourselves' O.254; <kylmys fast gans lysten> 'bound fast with swaddling-bands' O.808;

(3) '(caused or done) by': <Gans an ioul> 'by the devil' P.22a; <temtijs (...) gans gow ha gans scherewneth> 'tempted (...) by falsehood and by wickedness' P.52d; <Gans den scuntyll (...) me a glewas leuerell> 'by a learned man (...) I have heard tell' P.134a; <prak gans pup na vethaf lethys> 'why by all I may not be slain' O.595-96; <greuyys bras gans pharow> 'greatly oppressed by Pharaoh' O.1416-17;

(4) 'with' a certain emotion or opinion: <gans mur ioy> 'with great joy' P.30a; <gans cregyans da> 'in good faith' P.44d; <reson gans gwyr 3|y vrvsy> /(...) dh'y vreusi/ 'a reason with truth to judge him' P.117d; <gans reoute bras> 'with great respect' O.2079; <gans moreth yth|of lynwys> 'with sorrow I am filled' O.2194;

(5) With certain verbs: <ny acordye y golon gans y lauar> 'his heart did not accord with his speech' P.40d; <gans crist y-th|o cowethys> 'with Christ he was associated' P.41b; <I a wyskis cryst gans gwyn> 'they dressed Christ in white' P.114a; <growethe (...) gans eva y wreghty> 'to lie (...) with Eve his wife' O.635-37; <may haller agas cuthe gans dylles> 'that one may cover you with rich clothes' O.1924-25;

(6) Idiomatically, in: <Gans henna> 'upon that' P.81a, 86a, 257a;

## 28. /heb/ 'without'

<heb ken ys bara> 'without anything but bread' (i.e. 'by bread alone') P.12a; <heb wow>, <hep wow>, <hep gow> 'without a lie' (i.e. 'indeed') P.76c, 174b, O.659, 1138, 1179, etc.; <heb fynweth> 'without end' P.212d; <heb cowyth> 'without companion' O.95; <best hep parow> 'beast without equal' O.124;

29. /yn/ 'in(to)'. In constructions with this preposition it is not always possible to be sure whether the article is included or not (i.e. whether to read <yn> as /yn/ or as /y'n/). The following uses can be distinguished:

- (1) 'in', place: <y|3 torn> 'in your hand' CE.15; <y|n lyffrow> 'in the Scriptures' P.16a, 73c, 206b; <yn yffarn> 'in hell' P.66d, 212d, 213d; <te a vyth (...) yn paradys> 'you shall be (...) in paradise' P.193d; <yn tyr> 'on land' O.27, 69, 119, etc.; <vn sarf in guethen yma> 'there is a serpent in the tree' O.797;
- (2) 'into', place: <gorris yn ba3on> 'put into a basin' P.45c; <myrough yn agis colon> 'look into your hearts' P.141d; <herdhya an gyw (...) yn y mab y|n tenewyn> '(...) the thrusting of the spear into her son, in the side' P.221ab; <y|th worhel>, <yn the worhel> 'into your ship' O.980, 992, 1017; <yma moyses pel gyllys yn mor> 'Moses is far gone into the sea' O.1682;
- (3) 'to', in the expression 'from ... to': <Heys (...) a|n neyll lef yn y-ben> 'the length (...) from the one hand up to the other' P.178a;
- (4) 'in', time: <y|n geyth> 'in the day' P.20c; <y|n nos haneth> 'in this very night' P.49b, 52b, 239c; <yn tressa dyth>, <y tresse dyth> 'on the third day' P.91c, 238d, O.25; <y|n mernans crist> 'on the death of Christ' P.214b; <An lor y|n nos houl y|n geyth> 'the moon by night, the sun by day' O.39; <yn dyweth> 'in the end' O.516, 671, 1728;
- (5) 'in' a situation or condition (real or abstract): <in danger> 'under control' CE.35; <yn tewolgow> 'in darkness' P.17c, 212d, O.546, 558, 889; <yn hanow du>, <yn hanow dev> 'in the name of God' P.30b, 93a, O.538, 1077, 1675; <yn ges> 'in mockery' P.95d, 136b, 191b; <yn drog-gras> 'in requital' O.550; <yn nobyl aray> 'in noble array' O.1967;
- (6) 'on' the cross:<sup>5</sup> <y|n growys>, <yn crows> 'on the/a cross' P.2d, 128a, 146c, etc.;

<sup>5</sup> Literally this means 'in the cross'. The idiom does occur in Breton as well (see e.g. *anduret maro euidomp en*

**Note.** Rarely, /yn/ occurs as a predicative particle before nouns and adjectives: <In scorgijs prenyer ese yn dewle> ‘as scourges, sticks were in the hands (...)’ P.131a; <pur hard a wovynnys corf lhesus (...) yn ro> ‘very boldly he asked for Jesus’ body (...) as a gift’ P.215b; <hen yw dyth a-bowesva (...) yn dysquythyens a henna ny a bowes> ‘this is a day of rest (...) in manifestation of that we will rest’ O.145-48; <in atal (...) gorre the|n meneth tabor> ‘as a repayment (...) take it to Mount Tabor’ O.427-29;

For this use of *yn* in MW see GMW.244N., where it is argued that this *yn* is etymologically not to be identified with the preposition, but with the article. In MC this use of /yn/ is much less frequent than in MW.

30. /yn-dan/ ‘beneath, under’.

<pur ewn yn-dan an asow> ‘exactly beneath the ribs’ P.218d; <yn-dan gen> ‘below the chin’ O.2712; <yn-dan dryys may fo pottyys> ‘that it may be trodden under foot’ O.2807;

31. /(yn-)herwydh/ ‘in association with, in the company of; in accordance with’.

Apparently, this preposition occurs only with /yn/ when it is conjugated, in which case /yn/ takes the suffixed personal pronoun. (But cf. /yn-mysk/, 7.33#.) Examples are: <herwyth y volungeth ef> ‘in accordance with his will’ O.1320; <deus mei miserere herweth the grath ha|th pyte> ‘God forgive me according to your will and your compassion’ O.2252-53;

32. /yn-kres/ ‘in the midst of’.

<lhesus ef a 3yswe3as pur evn yn-cres yn-tre3e> ‘he showed Jesus in the very midst of them’ P.147b; <yn-creys an ebron> ‘in the midst of the sky’ O.38; <yn-creys hy barennow> ‘in the midst of its branches’ O.839;

33. /yn-mysk/ ‘among(st), amid(st)’.

<yn-mysk y abestely> ‘amongst his apostles’ P.27a; <kerdyn gwe3yn yn-mesk cronow> ‘(scourges with) tough cords amongst thongs’ P.131b;<sup>6</sup> <yn-mysk mur a tewolgow> ‘in the midst of great darkness’ O.784; <yn-mesk fleghys ysrael> ‘in the midst of the children of Israel’ O.1552;

Sometimes, this compound preposition is shortened to /mysk/, perhaps to fit the metre: <mesk ov pobel> ‘among my people’ O.1594;

34. /yntre/, /ynter/ ‘between, among’.<sup>7</sup>

(1) ‘between, among’: <chechys yn-tre dewle> ‘seized between hands’ P.48d; <hy a ve seuys yn-ban ynter benenas> ‘she was raised up among (some) women’ P.172a; <yn-tre en e3ewon> ‘among the Jews’ P.181b; <yntre the lynneth the-sy ha lynneth benen> ‘between your own progeny and the progeny of the woman’ O.315-16; <yntre y thyns ha|y davas> ‘between his teeth and his tongue’ O.826;

(2) ‘into’ with the verb ‘to break, tear’: <ow holon yn-tre myll darn (...) na sward|hy> ‘my heart, in thousand pieces (...) it does not split’ P.166c; <veyll an tempyll a swardyas yn-tre dew> ‘the veil of the temple was rent in two’ P.209c; <compys yntre dew my a|n tregh> ‘exactly into two [pieces] I will cut it’ O.2536-37;

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*vn croas* ‘endured death for us on (litt. ‘in’) a cross’ (*Doctrin an Christenien*, ed. Hemon (Dublin 1977), p.8). (See also 3(2) and 4 above.) The idiom may be derived from Latin *in cruce*?

<sup>6</sup> This line is one syllable too long, which caused Nance to change it into *kerdyn gwethyn mysk cronow*. It is, however, more likely that we should read \*/gwehdn/ for <gwe3yn>, cf. MB *guezn*, MnB *gwevn*, W *gwydn* (Loth, RC.23.277).

<sup>7</sup> The form /ynter/ occurs once in P.172a, in which case the ending <er> is abbreviated in the Ms.

35. /ken/ 'before', time.

<kyn bos leskys the lusow> 'before being burned to ashes' O.1355;

36. /marnas/, /mars/, adversative: 'unless, except, only'.

<nyn-g|yw mernas belyny> 'it is vile conduct only' P.82d; <mars mara be3|e degis gans y dus> 'but if he will be borne off by his people' P.240c; <gul dyel (...) war pep ol sur marnas ty> 'doing vengeance on all, surely, except you' O.947-48; <mars ty a theg> 'unless you carry' O.2814;

37. /ogas dhe/ 'close to, near'.

<ogas 3e forth en cyte> 'close to the road to the city' P.189c; <na mos oges the|n wethen> 'nor go near the tree' O.184;

38. /par/ 'by (way of)'. This may very well be a 'ghost'-preposition. It occurs only once in P.(1c) and once in O.(1352) in the (English?) adverb /par-hap/ 'perhaps' (cf.8.95#):<sup>8</sup> <par lauarow> 'with words' P.1c;

39. /rag/ 'for, because of'.

(1) 'for, because of', giving a reason and in Middle Cornish often functioning more like a conjunction than as a preposition:

<rag flog yw> 'for she is a child' CE.21; <rag henna> 'therefore' (litt. 'because of that') P.5d, 26c, 108c, etc., O.308, 524 902, etc.; <rag own>, <rag ovn> 'for fear' P.14c, 53d, 57b, etc., O.160, 196, 1056; <rag ynno me ny gaffe scyle vas may fo dampnys> 'for in him I could not find a good reason that he should be condemned' P.142d; <rag yth|level thym bos da> 'for it appears to me to be good' O.19; <rag an gvella>, <rag an guella> 'for the best' O.650, 2620;

(2) when followed by a verbal noun (a personal pronoun may stand between the two) /rag/ may mean 'because of, in order to, to':<sup>9</sup> <rag y demptye> 'to tempt him' P.14a; <y allus crist rag iuggye> 'his power/authority to judge Christ' P.116a; <rag y thry 3e|n dor gans meth> 'to bring him down with shame' P.136b; <ena worto rag kewsell> 'to talk with him there' P.140c; <rag the weres> 'to help you' O.101; <rag cafus flogh the|th serve> 'to get a child to serve you' O.647;

(3) idiomatically: <guyth|e-ef rag tarosvan> 'guard it against demons' O.2364; <compos rag an fossow> 'accurate (i.e. fitting) for the walls' O.2485;

40. /re/ 'by' (in oaths). Before vowels this preposition takes the form /ren/.

<re-n|offeren> 'by the mass' CE.33; <ru|m lewte>, <ru|m lowte>, <ru|m loute>, <ru|m laute>, <ru|m levte> 'by my loyalty' P.116c, O.611, 2124, 2502, etc.; <ru|m fey> 'by my faith' O.473, 2041, 2495; <ren ov thas> 'by my father' O.528, 1111;

41. /ryb/ 'near to'.

(1) 'beside, by, close to': <a drohas ryb an pen scovern onan ane3e> 'cut off close to the head an ear of one of them' P.71b; <a ros ryb an scovern box 3e grist> 'he gave beside the ear a buffet to Christ' P.81b; <Ryp crous> 'beside the cross' P.208a;

(2) 'along', with verbs of motion: <ryp an gyw a resas> 'along the spear it (Christ's

<sup>8</sup> Pennaod, in his Breton translation of P, takes this not as a preposition but as an adjective and translates it with *hevelep* 'same' (so that the translation reads 'to tell in such words'). Nance emended the whole phrase to *par del won* 'as I can', which he needed also to make the rhyme of this first stanza regular.

<sup>9</sup> In many of these cases one would rather expect to find /dhe/ instead of /rag/.



blood) ran' P.219b;

42. /saw/ 'save, except, only'. In ORD /saw/ is also found as a conjunction with the simple meaning 'but' (9.24#)

<Tus crist 3e-ves a fyas (...) saw pedyr crist a holyas> 'Christ's people fled away (...) except for Peter, who followed Christ' P.77ab; <ny gewsys 3e blegadow saw war thu y a vynne (...) leuerell gow> 'they did not speak in conformity, but against God they wished (...) to tell lies' P.90bc; <saw a|n frut ny fyth kymmys yw pren a skeyens hynwys> 'only of the fruit you have no leave which is named the tree of knowledge' (i.e. 'the only fruit you have no permission (to eat) is (the one) named "the tree of knowledge"') 0.79-80; <nyns|us (...) tus vev saw ny> 'there are no (...) men alive save us' 0.1151-52;

43. /tan/ 'under, by (in oaths)'

<tan ow feth>, <tan ov feth> 'by my faith' P.49d, 0.2534;

44. /treus/ 'across, adverse'.

<an-n|yl torn y fyth re hyr tres aral re got> 'at one turn it will be too long, across another too short' 0.2548-49;

45. /trogha/ 'towards'.

<Stop an wethen trogha|n dor> 'bend down the tree towards the ground' 0.201; <fystyn trogha parathys> 'hasten towards Paradise' 0.332;

46. /war/ 'on (top of), above, over'.

<war en grey3 my|a|n|te> 'on the faith, I swear him' CE.16; <war an bys>, <war an beys> 'on the earth' P.2b, 41d, 60d, etc., 0.131, 409, 1042, etc.; <war ben y 3ewleyn>, <war ben dewlyn>, <(...) dowlyn>, <(...) ov dewlyn> 'on his/my knees' P.54d, 58a, 171c, 0.1196; <war an pren frut degis may fe> 'on the tree there might be borne a fruit' P.153c; <War paradys my a|th as> 'over paradise I appoint you' 0.75; <nyns|us pons war thour cedron> 'there is no bridge over the water of Cedron' 0.2804;

In idiomatic expressions: <leuerell war anow> 'say by (word of) mouth' P.59c; <a ynnyas war pedyr> 'she urged against Peter' P.84a; <war thu (...) leuerell gow> 'to tell a lie against God' P.90c; <war dyth pasch> 'on Passover day' P.124c; <war crist y fons ov cronkye> 'they were striking Christ' (lit. 'on Christ they were striking') P.132a; <war hast> 'in haste' P.159b, 202a; <ow faynys (...) vs (...) war ow sensy> 'my pains (...) that are (...) seizing me' P.166b; <war nep cor> 'in any way' 0.122, 2512; <war ver lavarow> 'in few words' 0.127; <war an tas dev ny a bys> 'to the Father God we pray' 0.668; <war woles> 'at the bottom' 0.781; <war peyn bras> 'under great penalty' 0.2040; <ny|m pref den war gowardy> 'no man shall prove me of cowardice' 0.2161; <yma war agan toul> 'it is our intention' (lit. 'upon our plan') 0.2698;

47. /war-lergh/ 'after, following'.

(1) 'after', time: <War-lyrgh mab den dhe begha> 'after mankind's sinning' P.7a; <war-lyrgh henna> 'after that' P.91c; <war-lyrgh y vonas le3ys> 'after his being slain' P.240b; <war-lyrgh the vones the-dre> 'after you have gone home' 0.830;

(2) 'according to': <y a ruge (...) war-lyrgh y arhadow> 'they did according to his bidding' P.247d; <ol war-lergh the gussullyow> 'in full accordance with your counsels' 0.2269; <war-lergh y vrys> 'according to his will' 0.2827;

48. /war-tu/ 'towards'.

<war tu ha|y vam a|n pewo> 'towards his mother to whom he belonged' P.207c; <war tu dylarg> 'towards the rear' O.961; <war tv tre fystenens> 'let him hasten towards home' O.2003;

49. /woje/ 'after' (time).

<wose my thys th|y thefen> 'after I had forbidden it to you' O.280; <Wose cous ha lafurye an vaner a vye da kemeres croust hag eve ha powes wose henna> 'after talk and work the custom is good to take food and drink, and to rest after that' O.1899-1902;

50. /(w)orth/ 'against, at, to', with the following uses:

(1) 'towards' a place or 'against' or 'on' something: <worth meyn 3e dochye> 'to touch against a stone' P.14c; <ord en grows (...) may-3|ese>, <worth en groug (...)> 'to the cross (on which he was ...)' P.179b, 189a; <worth y dreys ha worth y ben> 'at his feet and at his head' P.236c;

(2) 'towards' a certain purpose, aiming 'at': <worth 3e vetye> 'at meeting you' P.20b;<sup>10</sup> <trystyns vs worth ow blu3ye> 'sadness is enervating me' (lit. 'is aiming at my enervation') P.53b; <orth 3e vlamy> 'reviling you' (lit. 'aiming at your being reviled') P.120c; <nyns|us den ort ov seruye> 'there is not a man to serve me' O.929; <orth the weres> 'to help you' O.1469;

(3) 'at' a certain time or occasion: <worth an goyn> 'at the supper' P.42c; <Hag y worth y dormontye> 'as they were tormenting him' P.97a; <worth ow formye> 'by creating me' (lit. 'when you created me') O.109;

(4) 'measured against, according to': <worth an myns a|n pegh> 'according to the magnitude of the offence' P.117c; <worth an les y a dollas ij doll> 'according to the width they bored two holes' P.178b; <owleow ese yn corf Ihesus worth neuer> 'wounds that were in Jesus' body, in number' P.228d; <orth ov brys> 'according to my judgement' O.8; <orth both the vreys> 'according to the will of your mind' O.1286;

(5) With certain verbs: <worth ihesu ef a fecte> 'to Jesus he feigned' P.40c; <(...) a wovynnys worth an|bobyll> '(he) asked of the people' P.67a; <worth ihesus ef a gowsas> 'to Jesus he spoke' P.92a; <orth Ihesus a omgamme> 'they wried at Jesus' P.196b; <3e veras worth crist> 'to look at Christ' P.216b; <rag cola worth vn venen>, <rag cole orth vn venen> 'by listening to a woman' O.419, 919; <myr orth ov offryn> 'look at my offering' O.505; <My a|th wheres orth y thon> 'I will help you to carry him' O.893; <mar serryth orth den> 'if you are angry with man' O.1224;

(6) idiomatically, in: <3e|n marreg worth y hanow y a yrhys> 'to the soldier by his name they commanded' P.218b; <worth y ehen> 'in spite of his utmost' (lit. 'against his utmost') P.242d; <yma (...) orth both ow brys> 'it is (...) in accordance with my will' O.90; <ambosow orth tryher gureys> 'covenants made with the mighty' O.1235; <ol y pobel ymons y orth y sywe> 'all his people, they are (at) following him' O.1687-88; <may-th|eder worth the vlamy> 'so that one is blaming you' O.2797;

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<sup>10</sup> The interpretation of <vetye> is not fully certain. Stokes considers it to be a loan from E 'to meet', and so do later translators who all stretch the meaning of the phrase to "a-waylaying you" (Herniman). An alternative might be to consider that this verb is derived from borrowed OF *mest* (from *maiset* < Lat *malifacius*) 'evil action, wickedness'. The translation might than be 'to do you evil'.