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Ga dy daink caghlaa mooar er Mannin as er ny Manninee tra hug y Ghaelg raad da'n Vaarle ayns y nuyoo lhing jeig, cha ren stayd glaraghyn ayns Mannin scuirr dy chaghlaa ec y traa shen. Ta obbyr niartal fo raad 'sy laa t'ayn jiu dy aa-vioghey yn Ghaelg, agh cha lhisagh shin jarrood dy vel 'Manninaghys' ry akin 'sy Vaarle ta goll er loayrt 'syn ellan neesht, as dy vel y Vaarle shen er chaghlaa dy mooar trooid ny sheelogheyn as ee tannaghtyn dy chaghlaa nish.

Ta glareydee (*linguists*) gynsagh dooin nagh vel sorçh erbee dy ghlare ny share na sorçh elley, dy vel caghlaa glare dooghyssagh as nagh vod eh ve er ny lhiittal. Ny-yeih, ta fys ain neesht dy vel glaraghyn as blassyn soilshaghey cre ass ta peccagh as dy vel sleih moyrnagh ass dooie-ghlare (*dialect*) as blass y boayl v'ad ruggit as troggit. Jeeaghyn er y chooish er yn aght shen, t'eh red ennagh treih dy vel blass as dooie-ghlare Baarle Vannin goll sheese y liargagh. 'Sy laa t'ayn jiu, scoan my yiow shiu Manninagh aeg erbee ta gra 'look at the book' (t'ad gra 'luck at the buck'), ny 'wasp' yn un aght as 'grasp' (t'ad gra 'wosp'), as va mee dy bollagh fud-y-cheilley y chied cheayrt cheayll mee peccagh ennagh loayrt mychione 'Shore mobile' (ayns ynnyd 'Sure').

As er-lhimmey jeh 'traa dy liooar' as 'skeet' (ta çheet voish Baarle Lancashire 'sy toshiaght ansherbee, dy liklee), cha bee fys oc er ny focklyn as ny raaghyn Gaelgagh va cummit seose ayns Baarle ny shenn Vanninee: ta cooinaghtyn aym's tra dynsee mee raaghyn lheid as *fud-y-cheilley*, *jarrood* as *moal* dy row ad ec my vummig as my yishag 'sy Vaarle oc er-dy-rieau, agh quoi mastey yn sleih aegey ta cur geill da lheid ny focklyn, my nee ad clashtyn ad edyr? As s'treih t'eh neesht nagh vel ny smoo dy obbyr scoillaragh goll er jannoo er y Vaarle Vanninagh t'ec paart dy henn sleih foast; ga dy vel eh kiart dy lhisagh shin cummal seose y Ghaelg, cha lhisagh yn Vaarle Vanninagh ve jarroodit ny beg soit jee.

Ta cooinaghtyn aym neesht dy row paitçhyn 'sy vun-scoill marym va blass mie Manninagh oc agh dy ren yn aght v'ad taggloo caghlaa dy mooar tra hie ad dys yn ard-scoill. Foddee nagh vod monney ve jeant dy lhiittal ny caghlaaghyn shoh, agh lhisagh Manninee cur tastey daue, as goaill oc hene cre t'ad dy choayl.

Though the Isle of Man and its people changed greatly when Manx gave way to English in the nineteenth century, the linguistic situation did not stop changing then. There is a strong movement today to revive Manx, but we shouldn't forget that 'Manxness' is expressed in the English which is spoken in the island too, and that that English has changed considerably over the generations and continues to change.

Linguists tell us that no variety of a language is better than any other, that language change is natural and that it cannot be stopped. However, we know also that language varieties and accents express identity and that people are proud of the dialect and accent of the place they were born and brought up. Looking at things from this perspective, it is somewhat sad that the distinctive accent and dialect of Manx English is disappearing. These days you will be hard pushed to find any young Manx person who says 'look at the book' (they say 'luck at the buck'), or 'wasp' rhyming with 'grasp' (they say 'wosp' instead), and I was very confused the first time I heard someone talking about 'Shore mobile' (instead of 'Sure').

And apart from 'traa dy liooar' and 'skeet' (which probably comes from Lancashire English anyway), they won't be aware of the Gaelic words and phrases which were preserved in the English of the older Manx: I remember when I learnt words such as *fud-y-cheilley* ('confused'), *jarrood* ('forget', but in Manx English used

in the expression 'to be in a jarrood') and *moal* ('out of sorts' as in 'He's looking a bit moal today') that my parents had those words in their English already, but who among the young pays attention to such words, if they hear them at all? And it is also to be regretted that there isn't more research being done on the Manx English which is some older people still have; though it is right that we should support Manx Gaelic, Manx English shouldn't to be forgotten or ignored.

I remember too that there were children at primary school with me with a good Manx accent, but the way they pronounced things changed considerably when they went to the high school. Perhaps not much can be done to hinder these changes, but Manx people should pay attention to them, and consider what they are losing.