

## THE DEICTIC PRONOMIAL \**KEY* IN CELTIC

THERE are a handful of forms in the Celtic dialects that continue the Indo-European deictic pronomial \**key*. Some of these, like OIr. *cen* 'apart from; without', MW *amgen*, MC *ken*, MBr. *quen* 'other' (orig. 'on this side'; cf. OIr. *cenalpande* gl. 'cisalpina' Sg. 127 b 8) < \**ke-nā*, and its derivative OIr. *cenntar* '(this) world; region, district', with suffix \*-*tero-*, are easily analysed.<sup>1</sup> But the majority still require an adequate treatment and will be discussed here.

### 1. OLD IRISH *cé*

The Old Irish deictic particle *cé* has been interpreted as an original particle by Pedersen, who develops it from \**ke/i* by lengthening in auslaut.<sup>2</sup> Marstrander, on the other hand, regards it as continuing a fossilised thematic loc. sg. \**key* < \**ke-y*.<sup>3</sup> Thurneysen<sup>4</sup> and *Lexique étymologique* C-51 report both explanations, but leave the question as unsettled. A third alternative may now be introduced, viz. that *cé* continues a fossilised masc. nom. sg. \**key*; on the vocalism, cf. non-neuter nom. sg. OIr. *cía*, MW *pwý*, MC *pyw*, MBr. *piu*<sup>5</sup> 'who?' < \**k<sup>w</sup>e* < \**k<sup>w</sup>ey*.<sup>6</sup> That this may be the correct analysis is supported by the interpretation of Gaul. *ci* in § 2.

### 2. GAULISH *duci*

For the loc. sg. of \**key* we should expect a form with nil-grade vocalism and null desinence, i.e. \**kí*. This form, in fact, is attested in the Gaulish (La Graufesenque) conjunction *duci*, which has been interpreted by Thurneysen, no doubt correctly, as literally meaning 'hierzu'.<sup>7</sup> Since *ci* 'here' is not governed by the preposition *du* 'to' (OIr. *du*, *do*, OW *di*, MW *y*), which would require a form descended from dat. sg. \**ke(s)mey*, or perhaps from \**kōy* < \**kō-ey* (should it have adopted thematic flexion), it must be a fossilised loc. sg.<sup>8</sup> Thus through the combined paradigmatic testimony of OIr. *cé* and Gaul. *ci* we are afforded confirmation that they continue masc. nom. sg. \**key* and loc. sg. \**kí*, respectively.

<sup>1</sup> See E. Bachellery and P.-Y. Lambert, *Lexique étymologique de l'irlandais ancien* (Dublin and Paris 1987) C-63-4.

<sup>2</sup> H. Pedersen, *Vergleichende Grammatik der keltischen Sprachen* I (Göttingen 1909) 294 § 198 (1), II (Göttingen 1913) 198 § 518 (4).

<sup>3</sup> C. Marstrander, 'Ogham XOP', *Ériu* 5 (1911) 144.

<sup>4</sup> R. Thurneysen, *A grammar of Old Irish* (Dublin 1946) 501 § 827.

<sup>5</sup> The Cornish and Breton forms, of course, continue *p(w)y yw*.

<sup>6</sup> See E. P. Hamp, 'Miscellanea Celtica: III. The British interrogative pronominals', *Studia Celtica* 10-11 (1975-6) 59-69, *passim*. He provides a convenient tabular display in 'The Indo-European Anaphora *ei* in Umbrian', *American Journal of Philology* 107 (1986) 398-400, p. 398.

<sup>7</sup> R. Thurneysen, 'Zu den Graffiti von La Graufesenque', *Zeitschrift für celtische Philologie* 16 (1927) 285-304, pp. 286-7.

<sup>8</sup> A possible alternative is that *ci* could represent instr. sg. (> dat. by syncretism) \**kī* < \**kī-h<sub>1</sub>*; this would not change my argument, as instr. sg. \**kī* is a member of the same paradigm as loc. sg. \**kí*.

3. OGHAM **KOI** AND A GAULISH GHOST FORM

The enigmatic Ogham form **KOI** is attested nine times in the Irish epigraphic corpus.<sup>9</sup> Macalister and MacNeill have persuasively surmised that it is equivalent in meaning to the HIC IACIT on Latinised memorial stones of the same period,<sup>10</sup> and Marstrander has rightly analysed it as a loc. sg. continuing \**kōy*.<sup>11</sup> However, since we have already seen that Gaul. *ci* represents the original loc. sg. form of this base, **KOI** must be interpreted as a remade form, based, of course, upon the ever-spreading thematic declension.

Loth thought that he had found the Gaulish cognate of **KOI** in the form *κουι* in an inscription from Cavaillon.<sup>12</sup> The full text of this inscription, as now read by Lejeune, is: *ατεσ·ατ | εμαγου | τι·ουνα | κουι*.<sup>13</sup> In his interpretive remarks, Lejeune calls attention to the phonological difficulty of Loth's equation, viz., that the digraph *ou* is equivalent to *ū* in Roman characters, and that \**kūi* (< \**kōy*) would be dat., not loc. sg. Moreover, his new division of words and interpretation, which are supported by the interpuncts, are so compelling as almost to exclude any others: *ατεσ ατεμαγουτι ουνακουι* is an 'építaphe à formulaire de curatelle: "A. pour A. fils de O."' There can be no doubt that *κουι* is a ghost form.

4. GAULISH *isoc*

This form from the Chamalières inscription is probably an adverb 'so, thus'.<sup>14</sup> I have elsewhere suggested that it continues the Continental

<sup>9</sup>R. A. S. Macalister, *Corpus inscriptionum insularum celticarum* I [*CIIC*] (Dublin 1945) nos. 22, 26, 34, 38, 48, 98, 120, 156, 163.

<sup>10</sup>R. A. S. Macalister, *Studies in Irish epigraphy* III (London 1907) 85; J. MacNeill, 'Notes on the distribution, history, grammar, and import of the Irish Ogham inscriptions', *RIA Proc.* 27 C (1908-9) 329-370, pp. 364-5. See also C. Marstrander, 'Kleine irische Beiträge', in *Festschrift til Professor Alf Torp paa hans 60 aars fødselsdag, 27. September 1913* (Kristiania 1913) 239-252, p. 250.

<sup>11</sup>Marstrander, *Ériu* 5 (1911) 144. But the variant form \***KI**, thought to be attested once, and discussed by all commentators, has proven to be a ghost form; see Macalister, *CIIC*, no. 156, where he corrects his earlier misreading. I should like to thank Dr Damian McManus for confirming Macalister's corrected reading (personal communication, 15 July 1988). Based upon his personal inspection of the stone, he is 'satisfied that **KOI** was definitely the original reading, and . . . would not disagree with Macalister's *Corpus* record except that his sketch should present the two *o*-vowel notches a little less boldly than it does'.

<sup>12</sup>J. Loth, 'κουι dans une inscription gauloise de Cavaillon et l'oghamique *KOI*', *Revue des Études Anciennes* 20 (1918) 38-42.

<sup>13</sup>M. Lejeune, *Recueil des inscriptions gauloises: I. Textes gallo-grecs* (Paris 1985) G-122.

<sup>14</sup>P.-Y. Lambert, *Études Celtiques* 16 (1979) 141-69, opts for a different division of words, leaving him with *soc* (155), which he interprets as a pronoun of undetermined flexion (157); the final *-c* he believes is the product of sandhi with the following word, *cantl*. Belá Kowal, *Indogermanische Forschungen* 92 (1987) 243-55, reads the form as *isos* (245) and interprets it as masc. acc. pl. (251). But to judge from the drawing and photograph in M. Lejeune et R. Marichal, 'Textes gaulois et gallo-romains en cursive latine', *Études Celtiques* 15 (1976) 151-71, p. 159 and pl. xiv, respectively, the final character is probably *-c*.

Celtic demonstrative stem \**isto-*, as seen, for example, in Lepontic masc. nom. sg. *ísos* (Vergiate) and Hisp.-Celt. fem. acc. sg. *ísTam* (Luzaga).<sup>15</sup> The final -c, then, probably continues the deictic enclitic particle \**-ké*, which is attested in a wide range of the Indo-European languages, but is particularly promiscuous in the Italic dialects.<sup>16</sup> Fleuriot is probably correct in principle to compare *isoc* to Umb. *esuk*, *issoc* 'sic',<sup>17</sup> though its precise morphological analysis remains unclear. While the Umbrian adverb clearly is a fossilised ablative or instrumental, we cannot be sure of the Gaulish form, since the quantity of the -o- is unknown. Were it etymologically an ablative (-*ō* < \**-ōd*) or an instrumental (-*ō* < \**-oh<sub>1</sub>*) we would expect the -*ō*- to have become -*ū*-. For the present no sure explanation is in sight.

#### 5. MIDDLE CORNISH *keth*

The Middle Cornish deictic demonstrative *keth* 'that, the above mentioned' has been derived from \**ke-dhe* by Pedersen.<sup>18</sup> But the ambiguous Cornish orthography, in which the digraph *th* may represent either the voiced or voiceless dental spirant, cannot diagnose the accuracy of his proposal. So the fact that *keth* is always construed with the definite article,<sup>19</sup> e.g. *an keth map eth alemma* 'that same Son who went hence',<sup>20</sup> as is also found with the demonstrative pronoun *pyth* (*y* = /e/) 'what', e.g. *an pyth a wren, my ny wothyen, rag ny wylyn* 'what I did, I knew not, for I did not see',<sup>21</sup> may cause one to wonder whether the dental element of *keth* is analogically after that of *pyth* (< \**k<sup>w</sup>ettV*-<sup>22</sup>).

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<sup>15</sup>J. F. Eska, 'The demonstrative stem \**isto-* in Continental Celtic', *ZCP*, forthcoming.

<sup>16</sup>See R. von Planta, *Grammatik der oskisch-umbrischen Dialekte* II (Straßburg 1897) 228–30 § 289, and M. Leumann, *Lateinische Grammatik* I. *Lateinische Laut- und Formenlehre* Neuausgabe (München 1977) 468–70 § 372.

<sup>17</sup>L. Fleuriot, 'Le vocabulaire de l'inscription gauloise de Chamalières', *Études Celtiques* 15 (1976) 173–90, p. 186.

<sup>18</sup>Pedersen, *Vergleichende Grammatik* II, 198 § 518 (4).

<sup>19</sup>See H. Lewis, *Llawlyfr Cernyweg Canol* argraffrad newydd (Caerdydd 1946) 39 § 37 n.

<sup>20</sup>*Ordinale de resurrectione domini nostri Jhesu Christi*, line 2509 in *The ancient Cornish drama* II (ed. and transl. E. Norris, Oxford 1859) 188.

<sup>21</sup>*Passio domini nostri Jhesu Christi*, lines 3021–2, in Norris, *Ancient Cornish drama* I (Oxford 1859) 462. The same syntax is also found with MBr. *pez*: see R. Hemon, *A historical morphology and syntax of Breton* (Dublin 1975) 128–9 § 76 (7).

<sup>22</sup>See E. P. Hamp, 'British Keltic \**peθ*', *Bulletin of the Board of Celtic Studies* 17 (1957) 158–61, p. 161.