

[DA 1]

<eng>  
GAELIC SONGS OF  
MARY MACLEOD

[DA 2]

BLACKIE & SON LIMITED  
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TORONTO

[DA 3]

GAELIC SONGS OF  
MARY MACLEOD

EDITED WITH INTRODUCTION,  
TRANSLATION, NOTES, ETC.  
BY  
J. CARMICHAEL WATSON

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[DA 5]

<gai>  
Orain agus Luinneagan  
Gàidhlig le Màiri nighean  
Alasdair Ruaidh  
<eng>

[DA 6]

[Blank]

[DA 7-8]

Preface  
[Beurla]

[DA 9]

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List of Abbreviations	
BGh., <i>Bàrdachd Ghàidhlig: Specimens of Gaelic Poetry</i> ; W. J. Watson; Stirling, 1932 (2nd ed.).	
Celt. Scot., <i>Celtic Scotland</i> ; W. F. Skene; Edinburgh, 1886 (2nd ed.).	
CPNS., <i>The History of the Celtic Place-Names of Scotland</i> ; W. J. Watson; Edinburgh, 1926.	
D., <i>An Duanaire, a New Collection of Gaelic Songs and Poems</i> ; Donald Macpherson; Edinburgh, 1868.	
Dinn., <i>Irish-English Dictionary</i> ; Rev. P. S. Dinneen; Irish Texts Society; Dublin, 1927.	
E., <i>Comh-chruinneachidh Orannaigh Gaidhealach; the Eigg Collection</i> ; Ranald MacDonald; Edinburgh, 1776.	

GB., *The Gaelic Bards from 1411 to 1715*; A. Maclean Sinclair; Charlottetown, 1890.

M., *The Maclagan Collection of Gaelic Manuscripts*, made in the latter half of the eighteenth century by the Rev. James Maclagan (1728–1805); in the Library of Glasgow University. (See Prof. Mackinnon's Catalogue, p.302 ff.).

MC., *MacD. Coll., The MacDonald Collection of Gaelic Poetry*; Rev. Angus MacDonald and Rev. Archibald MacDonald; Inverness, 1911.

McN., *The Manuscript of the Rev. MacDonald MacNicol (1735–1802)*, for which see Rev. Dr. George Henderson's paper in *Transactions of the Gaelic Society of Inverness*, xxvii, 340, whence the text of "Do Mhac Dhomhnaill" is taken.

RC., *Reliquiae Celticae*; the Rev. Alexander Cameron, ed. A. Macbain and J. Kennedy; Inverness, 1892 (I), 1894 (II).

[DA 30]

S., *Cochruinneacha Taoghta de Shaothair nam Bard Gaelach*; A. and D. Stewart; Edinburgh, 1804.

S0., *Sar-Obair nam Bard Gaelach: or the Beauties of Gaelic Poetry*; John Mackenzie; Glasgow, 1841 (1st ed.).

T., *Comhchruinneacha do Dh'Orain Taghta Ghaidhealach*; Patrick Turner; Edinburgh, 1813.

Wardlaw MS., entitled "*Polichronicon seu Polcratia Temporum, or, the True Genealogy of the Frasers*"; Master James Fraser, minister of Wardlaw (Kirkhill), begun in 1666, ed. Wm. Mackay for Scottish History Society; Edinburgh, 1905.

#### Notes on the Sources

The footnotes on the text do not give all the variations of the printed and MS. sources; the omission by any source of a line or stanza is not noted save in one or two cases; nor are the orthographical minutiae of the MS. versions recorded, as this would serve no useful purpose. The simple principle has been followed of noting variants only when they seem to furnish a clue to the genuine text; and in the formation of the text the few departures made on MS. evidence from printed versions, when they do not depend on matters of fact, as in ll. 840 and 819, depend on the principle that, other things being equal, the more unusual word is the less likely to be corrupt.

E. and S. are generally preferable to S0., since the latter is to a large extent a work of transcription and has a tendency to regularize any unusual feature. In one poem T. has been preferred to

GB., the version of MC. being printed in full in the notes with amended spelling. In four poems the text of BGh. has been followed with two or three trivial variations.

The fusion of different versions has been avoided.

[DA 31]

TABLE OF SOURCES  
[Beurla]

[DA 32-33]

Notes on the Maclagan MSS.  
[Beurla]

[DA 34]

Notes on the Nat. Lib. MS.  
[Beurla]

[TD 1]

Gaelic Songs of  
Mary MacLeod

[TD 2]

<gai>  
Pòsadh Mhic Leoid

Conaltradh eadar Màiri nighean Alasdair  
Ruaidh agus Nic Dhomhnaill á Trondairnis.

Hó lail oho  
Hóireann ó. (1)

MAIRI

A Mhairearad chridhe  
Nic an Tòisich,

Is bliadhna an t-seachdain  
O na phòs thu;

Is ann gu d' bhaile  
Thriall am mór shluagh:

5

Thriall Mac Coinnich  
Le Mac Leoid ann:

Thriall Mac Fhionghain  
Ann 's Mac Dhomhnaill.

10

NIC DHOMHNAILL

An cluinn thu, Mhàiri  
So na ceil orm:

Ciodh i an long ud  
Seach an eirthir?

(1) Aithris so an déidh gach rainn.

[TD 3]

[Beurla]

[TD 4]

MAIRI

Don-faighneachd ort! 15  
Cuime an ceilinn?

Ciodh i tha sud ach  
Long mo leinibh?

Tobar fìona  
Shìos 'na deireadh, 20

Is tobar fìor-uisg'  
'Na Ceann eile.

Shìn i taobh ri  
Long Mhic Coinnich,

Chuir i bòrd á 25  
Long an Eilein.

Don-faighneachd ort!  
Cuim' nach innsinn?

Ciodh i sud ach  
Long nan rìghrean, 30

Air an seinnear  
Na trì pìoban:

Ruairidh òg Mac  
Leoid nam pìosan:

Guala dheas mu'n 35  
Iadh an sìoda:

Guala thoisgeal  
Mu'n iadh na mìltean.

Dhìreadh mo leanabh  
Mullach mhóirbheann,

40

[TD 5]

[Beurla]

[TD 6]

Pìob 'ga spreigeadh  
Leat 'san tòrachd:

Claidheamhna geala  
Dhèanadh feòlach:

Targaidean donna  
Tollta stròicte.

45

A Ruairidh Ruairidh  
Ruairidh an Dùin ud,

Is tù mo mhire  
Is mo cheòl sùgraidh:

50

Is tù mo phaidirean,  
Mo chìr-chùil thu:

Mo ghàradh mheas  
Am bi na h-ùbhlan.

Càite a bheil  
A h-aon riut coltach,

55

O nach maireann  
Fionn no Oisean,

Diarmaid donn no  
Goll no Osgar?

60

Mi 'nam shuidh  
Air chaolas rònach

M'aghaidh air Hirt  
Nan ian gorma;

Thàinig bleidean,  
Bleidean leòmach,

65

D'fharraid dhìomsa,  
Le càil chomhraidh,

<eng>62. 'Chaolas-rònach, D.; shligeadh, D.<gai>

[TD 7]

[Beurla]

[TD 8]

Ciod e bu bheus  
Do shìol Leoid ud. 70

Fhreagair mi è  
Mar bu chòir dhomh:

(Dhomhsa b'aithne  
Beus nan Leòdach:)

"Fìon 'ga ligeadh,  
Beoir 'ga h-òl ac', 75

Is treas-tarruing  
'Ga cur an stòpa,

Cobhair fheumach,  
Riarach' beòshlaint'". 80

A bhean ud thall  
A chòir an uisge,

A Trondairnis 's ann  
Thàinig thusa:

'S e sin a dh'fhàg  
Thu an diugh gun trusgan. 85

NIC DHOMHNAILL

Air do làimh  
A chaile bhusdubh,

Chan 'eil mi  
Gun òr gun usgar. 90

Tha mo ghùn dubh  
Ur 'nam chiste,

Is mo sgòid-bhràghad,  
Chan fhaigh thusa i!

[TD 9]

[Beurla]

[TD 10]



MAIRI

Is iomadh bodach  
Leathann ceòsach

95

Agus cailleach  
Rògach leòmach

Thigeadh a nall  
A cùirt Dhomhnaill,

100

Dh'innseadh gun do  
Thriall am mòd air:

Gun do ghlais na  
Gaill e an seòmar.

Chugaibh chugaibh  
Phrasgain ghealtaich

105

Thàinig a nall  
A Gleann Shealtainn;

Chugaibh 'sa' chuan  
Mar na farspaich;

110

Chugaibh 'san fhraoch  
Mar na glaisein,

D'eagal deagh Mhac  
Leoid 'gur faicinn.

A' ghlas-ghuib ort,  
Is air do sheòrsa!

115

Fàg an tìr so,  
Tìr nan Leòdach!

Is rach 'gad ghearan  
Do chùirt Dhomhnaill!

120

[TD 11]

[Beurla]

[TD 12]

Mairearad nan Cuireid

Oran a rinn Màiri nighean Alasdair Ruaidh, is  
Mairearad nan cuireid a' togail oirre gun robh i  
leatromach.

Ach, a Mhairearad nan cuireid,

Cuime a chuir thu orm breug:  
Hi riri o hiri o hi o.

Gun robh leanabh gun bhaisteadh  
Fo aisne mo chléibh',

Ann an làraich mhic tighearn' 125  
Far nach bithinn 's tu fhéin.

Cuim' nach innseadh tu an fhìrinn  
Cho cinnteach rium fhéin?

Cha b'ionann do m'athair 130  
Is do t'athair-sa, éisg!

Cha b'ionann do m' bhràithrean  
Is do d' ghàrlaich gun spéis.

Cha b'ionann do ar tighean  
An ám laighe do 'n ghréin:

Gum faighte an tigh m'athar-s' 135  
Sitheann 's cnàimhean an fhéidh:

Is e gheibhte an tigh t-athar-s'  
Sùgh is cnàimhean an éisg.

An ám dìreadh o'n bhaile 140  
Is trom 's gur h-annamh mo cheum.

Gur a diombach mi 'n chaile  
Thog sgannal nam breug;

Dubh iomall na tuatha,  
Buinneag shuarach gun spréidh,

[TD 13]

[Beurla]

[TD 14]

Le farmad 's le mìorun 145  
Chuir mìchliu orm fhéin;

Thog ormsa an droch alladh,  
Is ortsa, a Chaluum nam beus,

Air an d'fhàs an cùl dualach 150  
Tha 'na chuaileanan réidh,

Is e sìos mu d' dhà shlinnean  
Mar an fhidheall fo theud.

Marbhrann

do Fhear na Comraich

Tha mise air leaghadh le bròn  
O'n là dh'eug thu 's nach beò  
Mu m'fhiùran faidhidneach còir 155  
Uasal aighearach òg  
As uaisle shuidheadh mu bhòrd:  
Mo chreach t'fhaighinn gun treoir éirigh.

Is tu an laoch gun laigse gun leòn  
Macan mìngheal gun sgleò; 160  
Fearail fìnealta an t-òg  
De shliochd nam fear mór  
D'am bu dual a bhith còir,  
'S gum b'fhiù faiteal do bheoil éisdeachd.

Is tu clann na h-irghinn a b'fheàrr, 165  
Glan an fhriamh as an d'fhàs,  
Càirdeas rìgh anns gach ball,  
Bha sud sgrìobht' leat am bann  
Fo làimh duine gun mheang  
Ach thu lìonta de àrdan euchdach. 170

[TD 15]

[Beurla]

[TD 16]

A Ruairidh aigeanntaich àird  
O Chomraich ghreadhnaich an àigh,  
Mhic an fhir bu mhór gàir  
Nan lann guineach cruaidh garg,  
Ort cha d'fhuaradh riamh cearb, 175  
Iarogha Uilleam nan long bréidgheal.

Fhuair mi m'ailleagan ùr  
Is e gun smal air gun smùr,  
Bu bhreac mìndearg do ghnùis,  
Bu ghorm laghach do shùil, 180  
Bu ghlan sliasaid is glùn,  
Bu deas daingeann an lùb ghleusta thu.

A lùb abhall nam buadh,  
Is mairg a tharladh ort uair  
Mu Ghlaic Fhionnlaigh so shuas 185  
Air each crodhanta luath,  
Nàmhaid romhad 'na ruaig,  
Air dhòigh buille cha b'uair éis e.

Ach fhir as curanta làmh

Thug gach duine gu cràdh, 190  
Is truagh nach d'fhuirich thu slàn  
Ri uair cumaisg no blàir  
Thoirt tilleadh as do nàmh;  
Bu leat urram an là cheutaich.

Bu tù an sgoilear gun dìobradh, 195  
Meoir as grinne nì sgrìobhadh,  
Uasal faidhidneach cinnteach,  
Bu leat lagh an tigh-sgrìobhaidh,  
Is tu nach mùchadh an fhìrinn;  
Sgeul mo chreiche so! shil do chreuchdan. 200

<eng>185. Fhionnlaidh, SO.; Iolaidh, S., M. 188. air dhoigh buille,  
S., M; air dhaibh buille, SO.; éis, M.; eis, S., SO. 193. so S.; a  
thoirt cìs dheth do nàmh, SO.; om. M. 195. gun diobradh, S., SO.; 's  
an sibhrainn, also spelt phonetically in the margin, M.<gai>

[TD 17]

[Beurla]

[TD 18]

Stad air m'aighear an dé;  
Dh'fhalbh mo mharcanta féin;  
Chuir mi an ciste an teud;  
Dhiùlt an gobha dhomh gleus;  
Dh'fhairtlich sud orm 's gach léigh, 205  
Is chaidh m'onoir, is, mo rìgh, dh'euig thu.

Thuit a'chraobh as a bàrr,  
Fhrois an gràinne gu làr,  
Lot thu an cinneadh is chràdh  
Air an robh thu mar bhàrr 210  
'Gan dìonadh gach là,  
Is mo chreach, bhuinig am bàs teum ort.

An ám suidhe 'nad sheòmar  
Chaidh do bhuidheann an òrdugh,  
Cha b'ann mu aighear do phòsaidh 215  
Le nighean Iarla Chlann Domhnaill  
As do dhéidh mar bu chòir dhi;  
Is ann chaidh do thasgaidh 'san t-sròl fo d' léine.

Ach gur mise tha bochd truagh,  
Fiamh a' ghuil air mo ghruaidh; 220  
Is goirt an gradan a fhuair,  
Marcach deas nan each luath,  
Sàr cheannard air sluagh,  
Mo chreach, t'fhàgail ri uair m'fhéime.

Ach fhuair mi m'ailleagan òg 225

Mar nach b'abhàist gun cheòl,  
Saoir ri càradh do bhòrd,  
Mnàì ri spìonadh an fheoir,  
Fir gun tàilìsg gun cheòl;  
Gur bochd fulang mo sgeoil éisdeachd. 230

<eng>203. nan teud, S., SO., M. 205. dhaltruich sud orm, S., M.;  
dhiult sud mi, SO. 207. barr, M.; bharr, S.; thun a bhlàir, SO. 212.  
bas teum, M.; bàs treun, S., SO. 218, fudh d'leine, S.; fo na  
leintin, M.; ghle-gheal, SO. 221. gradan, S., SO.; bradan, gl.  
bruisse lump M<gai>

[TD 19]

[Beurla]

[TD 20]

An uair a thionail an sluagh  
Is ann bha an t-iomsgaradh cruaidh  
Mar ghàir sheillean am bruaich  
An déidh na meala thoirt uath;  
Is ann bha an t-eireadh bochd truagh 235  
Is iad mu cheannas an t-sluaigh threubhaich.

An Talla am bu ghnàth le Mac Leoid

Gur muladach thà mi,  
Is mi gun mhìre gun mhànran  
Anns an talla am bu ghnàth le Mac Leoid.

Tìgh mòr macnasach meadhrach 240  
Nam macaomh 's nam maighdean,  
Far am bu tartarach gleadhraich nan còrn.

Tha do thalla mòr prìseil  
Gun fhasgadh gun dìon ann,  
Far am faca mì am fìon bhith 'ga òl. 245

<eng>232. 'n t iom-sgaradh, M.; 'n tiom sgaradh, S.; 'n tioma-  
sgaradh, SO.

235. 'n t-eireadh, M., SO.; 'n teireadh, S. 236. After this, the  
last line in S. and SO., M. has:

<gai>Ach ga h e tathair bu treis' 236 a  
Chuir sud mail' air am feisd b  
Bha do bhrath'ren fo leatrom c  
Piob do dheidhse ga greasadh d  
Ag mo ghradh mar bu deas leis e  
's ceinn-fheadhna gan spreigeadh re toighreachd. f<eng>

237. So E., BGh. Rìgh! gur muladach, &c., S., S0. 'S mor mo mhulad  
's mo phramhan. 'S mi gun mhacnus gun mharan M.

245. After this verse M. has:

<gai>Aig oighre shiol Tormaid  
Fear heaguis cho 'n eol domh  
Cha 'n i 'n fhoill a chuir as duit no 'n stroth.  
Cuid ga tabhaist 's ga d'bheusan  
A bhi gu fuilteach tric beun dearg  
Air a chuideachda cheir-gheal nan croc.  
Leat bu mhian na coin luthmhor, &c.

[TD 21]

[Beurla]

[TD 22]

Och mo dhìobhail mar thachair,  
Thàinig dìle air an aitribh:  
Is ann is cianail leam tachairt 'na còir.

Shir Tormoid nam bratach,  
Fear do dhealbh-sa bu tearc e,  
Gun sgeilm a chur asad no bòsd.

250

Fhuair thu teist is deagh urram  
Ann am freasdal gach duine,  
Air dheiseachd 's air uirghioll beoil.

Leat bu mhiannach coin lùthmhor  
Dhol a shiubhal nan stùcbheann,  
Is an gunna nach diùltadh ri h-ord.

255

Is i do làmh nach robh tuisleach  
Dhol a chaitheamh a' chuspair  
Le do bhogha cruaidh ruiteach deagh-neoil.

260

Glac throm air do shliasaid  
An déidh a snaidheadh gun fhiaradh,  
Is bàrr dosrach de sgiathaibh an eoin.

Biodh céir ris na crannaibh  
Bu neo-éisleanach tarruing,  
An uair a leumadh an taifeid o d' mheoir.

265

<eng>248. After this, S0. has the verse:

<gai>Chi mi a' chliar is na dàimhich  
A' tréigsinn na fàrdaich  
O nach éisd thu ri fàilte luchd-ceoil.<eng>

262. An déidh a snaidheadh after E., S., SO., BGh. 'S i gun ghaiseadh gun fhiaradh (ghiomh int), M.<gai>

[TD 23]

[Beurla]

[TD 24]

An uair a leigte o d' làimh i  
Cha bhiodh òirleach gun bhàdhadh  
Eadar corran a gèinne is an smeoirn.

Ceud soraidh le dùrachd 270  
Uam gu leannan an t-sùgraidh:  
Gum b'e m'aighear 's mo rùn bhith 'nad chòir.

An ám dhuit tighinn gu d' bhaile  
Is tu bu tighearnail gabhail,  
An uair a shuidheadh gach caraid mu d' bhòrd. 275

Bha thu measail aig uaislean,  
Is cha robh beagan mar chruas ort:  
Sud an cleachdamh a fhuair thu ad aois òig.

Gum biodh farum air thàilisg 280  
Agus fuaim air a' chlàrsaich,  
Mar a bhuineadh do shàr mhac Mhic Leoid.

Gur h-e bu eachdraidh 'na dhéidh sin  
Greis air ursgeil na Féinne,  
Is air chuideachda chéirghil nan cròc.

<eng>269. After this, M. has:

<gai>'S ann's a chlachan so shios uam  
Tha mo chairdin 's mo dhislin  
Cia mar theid mi na'm fiadhnais aig bron?

'S ann na luighe a's teampull  
Tha m'aighir is m'annsachd  
Chaidh' cha teid mi fhein ann 's gun thu beo.<eng>

Thereafter the air is noted in ten bars.

278. ad t aois òig, E.; and so S., SO.<gai>

[TD 25]

[Beurla]

[TD 26]

Marbhrann

do Iain Garbh Mac Ghille Chaluim Ratharsaidh  
a chaidh a dhìth le ainneart mara.

Mo bheud is mo chràdh 285  
Mar a dh'éirich dà  
An fhear ghleusta ghràidh  
Bha treun 'san spàirn  
Is nach faicear gu bràth an Ratharsaidh.

Bu tù am fear curanta mór 290  
Bu mhath cumadh is treoir  
O t'uilinn gu d' dhòrn  
O d' mhullach gu d' bhròig:  
Mhic Mhuire mo leòn  
Thu bhith an innis nan ròn is nach faighear thu. 295

Bu tù sealgair a' gheoidh,  
Làmh gun dearmad gun leòn  
Air am bu shuarach an t-òr  
Thoirt a bhuannachd a' cheoil,  
Is gun d'fhuair thu na's leoir is na chaitheadh tu. 300

Bu tù sealgair an fhéidh  
Leis an deargta na béin;  
Bhiodh coin earbsach air éill  
Aig an Albannach threun;  
Càite am faca mi féin 305  
Aon duine fo'n ghréin  
A dhèanadh riut euchd flathasach?

<eng> 295. Innis nan Ròd, M. 306. Re shireadh fuidh ghrein / Aon ni  
air nach gleusta ghabhadh tu, M.<gai>

[TD 27]

[Beurla]

[TD 28]

Spealp nach dìobradh  
An cath no an strì thu,  
Casan dìreach 310  
Fada finealt:  
Mo chreach dhìobhail  
Chaidh thu a dhìth oirnn  
Le neart sìne,  
Làmh nach dìobradh caitheadh oirre. 315

Och m'eudail uam  
Gun sgeul 'sa' chuan



Bu ghlé mhath snuadh  
 Ri gréin 's ri fuachd,  
 Is e chlaoidh do shluagh 320  
 Nach d'fheud thu an uair a ghabhail orra.

Is math thig gunna nach diùlt  
 Air curaidh mo rùin  
 Ann am mullach a' chùirn  
 Is air uilinn nan stùc: 325  
 Gum biodh fuil ann air tùs an spreadhaidh sin.

Is e dh'fhàg silteach mo shùil  
 Faicinn t'fhearainn gun sùrd,  
 Is do bhaile gun smùid  
 Fo charraig nan sùgh, 330  
 Dheagh mhic Chaluim nan tùr á Ratharsaidh.

Mo bheud is mo bhròn  
 Mar a dh'éirich dhò,  
 Muir beucach mór  
 Ag leum mu d' bhòrd, 335  
 Thu féin is do sheoid  
 An uair reub ur seoil  
 Nach d'fheud sibh treoir a chaitheadh orra.

<eng>326. an tus an spreithidh sin, M.; air tùs na spreidh-sin, S.;  
 S0. omits the verse.<gai>

[TD 29]

[Beurla]

[TD 30]

Is tu b'fhaicillich' ceum  
 Mu'n taice-sa an dé 340  
 De na chunnaic mi féin  
 Air faiche nan ceud  
 Air each 's e 'na leum,  
 Is cha bu slacan gun fheum claidheamh ort.

Is math lùbadh tu pìc 345  
 O chùlaibh do chinn  
 An ám rùsgadh a' ghill  
 Le ionnsaigh nach till,  
 Is air mo làimh gum bu chinnteach saighead uat.

Is e an sgeul cràiteach 350  
 Do'n mhnaoi a dh'fhàg thu,  
 Is do t'aon bhràthair  
 A shuidh 'nad àite:  
 Di-luain Càisge  
 Chaidh tonn-bhàidhte ort, 355

Craobh a b'airde de'n abhall thu.

[TD 31]

[Beurla]

[TD 32]

Tuireadh

A rinn Màiri nighean Alasdair Ruaidh  
goirid an déis a fàgail an Sgarbaidh.

Hóireann ó ho bhì ó  
Hóireann ó ho bhì ó  
Hóireann ó ho bhì ó  
Ri hóireann ó o hao o!

Is muladach mì, hì ó  
Hóireann ó ho bhì ó  
O cheann seachdain, hì ó  
Ro hóireann ó o hao o,

Is mi an eilean gun  
Fhiar gun fhasgadh.

360

Ma dh'fhaodas mi  
Théid mi dhachaidh;

Nì mi an t-iomramh  
Mar as fhasa,

Do Uilbhinnis  
A' chruidh chaisfhinn,

365

Far an d'fhuair mi  
Gu h-òg m'altrum,

Air bainne chìoch  
Nam ban basgheal,

370

Thall aig Fionnghail  
Dhuinn nighean Lachainn,

Is ì 'na banchaig  
Ris na martaibh

Aig Ruairidh mór Mac  
Leoid nam bratach.

375

[TD 33]

[Beurla]

[TD 34]

'S ann 'na thigh mór  
A fhuair mi am macnas,

Danns' le sunnd air  
Urlar farsaing,

380

An fhìdhleireachd 'gam  
Chur a chadal,

A' phìobaireachd  
Mo dhùsgadh maidne.

Thoir mo shoraidh, hò ó  
Hóireann ó ho bhì o,  
Gu Dùn Bheagain, hì ó  
Ro hóireann ó o hao o.

385

[TD 35]

[Beurla]

[TD 36]

Luinneag Mhic Leoid

Is mi am shuidhe air an tulaich  
Fo mhulad 's fo imcheist,  
Is mi ag coimhead air Ile,  
Is ann de m' iongnadh 's an ám so;  
Bha mi uair nach do shaoil mi,  
Gus an do chaochail air m'aimsir,  
Gun tiginn an taobh so  
Dh'amharc Dhiùraidh á Sgarbaidh.

390

I hurabh o i hoiriunn o,  
i hurabh o i hoiriunn o,  
I hurabh o i hogaidh ho ro,  
hi ri ri rithibh ho i ag o.

Gun tiginn an taobh so  
Dh'amharc Dhiùraidh á Sgarbaidh;  
Beir mo shoraidh do'n dùthaich  
Tha fo dhubhar nan garbhheann,  
Gu Sir Tormod ùr allail  
Fhuair ceannas air armailt,  
Is gun cainte anns gach fearann  
Gum b'airidh fear t'ainm air.

395

400

Gun cainte anns gach fearann  
Gum b'airidh fear t'ainm air,  
Fear do chéille is do ghliocais,  
Do mhisnich 's do mheanmain,

405

Do chruadail 's do ghaisge,  
Do dhreach is do dhealbha,  
Agus t'fholachd is t'uaisle  
Cha bu shuarach ri leanmhainn. 410

<eng>394. a, BGh.; a', E.; a's, SO. 396. a, E. 409, So BGh., after  
E.; t-òlachd, SO.<gai>

[TD 37]

[Beurla]

[TD 38]

Agus t'fholachd is t'uaisle  
Cha bu shuarach ri leanmhainn;  
D'fhuil dìrich rìgh Lochlainn  
B'e sud toiseach do sheanchais. 415  
Tha do chàirdeas so-iarraidh  
Ris gach Iarla tha an Albainn,  
Is ri h-uaislean na h-Eireann:  
Cha bhreug ach sgeul dearbhtha e.

Is ri h-uaislean na h-Eireann:  
Cha bhreug ach sgeul dearbhtha e. 420  
A Mhic an fhir chliuitich,  
Bha gu fiùghantach ainmeil;  
Thug barrachd an gliocas  
Air gach Ridir bha an Albainn  
Ann an cogadh 's an sìothshaimh, 425  
Is ann an dìoladh an airgid.

Ann an cogadh 's an sìothshaimh,  
Is ann an dìoladh an airgid.  
Is beag an t-iongnadh do mhac-sa  
Bhith gu beachdail mór meanmnach, 430  
Bhith gu fiùghant' fial farsaing,  
O'n a ghlac sibh mar shealbh e:  
Clann Ruairidh nam bratach,  
Is e mo chreach-sa na dh'fhalbh dhiubh.

Clann Ruairidh nam bratach, 435  
Is e mo chreach-sa na dh'fhalbh dhiubh;  
Ach an aon fhear a dh'fhuirich  
Nìor chluinneam sgeul marbh ort;  
Ach, eudail de fhearaibh,  
Ge do ghabh mi uat tearbadh 440  
Fhir a' chuirp as glan cumadh,  
Gun uireasbhuidh dealbha.

<eng>425. sìothshaimh, BGh.; sìò'-chaibh, E.; sìò'-chainnt, SO.<gai>

[TD 39]

[Beurla]

[TD 40]

Fhir a' chuirp as glan cumadh,  
Gun uireasbhuidh dealbha;  
Cridhe farsaing fial fearail, 445  
Is maith thig geal agus dearg ort.

Sùil ghorm as glan sealladh  
Mar dhearcaig na talmhainn,  
Làmh ri gruaidh ruitich  
Mar mhucaig na fearradhris. 450

Làmh ri gruaidh ruitich  
Mar mhucaig na fearrdhris.  
Fo thagha na gruaige  
Cùl dualach nan camlùb. 455  
Gheibhte sud an ad fhàrdaich  
An càradh air ealchainn,  
Miosair is adharc  
Is rogha gach armachd.

Miosair is adharc  
Is rogha gach armachd, 460  
Agus lanntainean tana  
O'n ceannaibh gu'm barrdhéis.

Gheibhte sud air gach slios dhiubh  
Isneach is cairbinn,  
Agus iubhair chruaidh fhallain 465  
Le an taifeidean cainbe.

Agus iubhair chruaidh fhallain  
Le an taifeidean cainbe,  
Is cuilbheirean caola 470  
Air an daoiread gun ceannaichte iad;  
Glac nan ceann lìomhta  
Air chur sìos ann am balgaibh  
O iteach an fhìreoin  
Is o shìoda na Gailbhinn.

<eng>454. So SO., BGh.; Chuil dualaich, E. 463. Gheibht' air gach slias dhiu' sid, E. 465. iubhair chruaidh, SO., BGh. (pl.); iubhar cruaidh, E. 470. air an daoirid, SO.; air a dhaoirid, E. 471. ? crann.<gai>

[TD 41]

[Beurla]

[TD 42]

O iteach an fhìreoin 475  
Is o shìoda na Gailbhinn;  
Tha mo chion air a' churaidh,  
Mac Mhuire chur sealbh air.  
Is e bu mhiannach le m' leanabh  
Bhith am beannaibh na sealga, 480  
Gabhail aighir na frìthe  
Is a' dìreadh nan garbhghlac.

Gabhail aighir na frìthe  
Is a' dìreadh nan garbhghlac,  
A' leigeil nan cuilean 485  
Is a' furan nan seanchon;  
Is e bu deireadh do'n fhuran ud  
Fuil thoirt air chalgaibh  
O luchd nan céir geala  
Is nam falluingean dearga. 490

O luchd nan céir geala  
Is nam falluingean dearga,  
Le do chomhlan dhaoine uaisle  
Rachadh cruaidh air an armaibh; 495  
Luchd aithneachadh latha  
Is a chaitheadh an fhairge  
Is a b'urrainn g'a seòladh  
Gu seòlaid an tarruinte i.

<eng>480. na sealga, E.; nan sealga, SO., BGh.<gai>

[TD 43]

[Beurla]

[TD 44]

Crònan an Taibh

Ri fuaim an taibh  
Is uaigneach mo ghean; 500  
Bha mise uair nach b'e sud m'àbhaist.

Ach pìob nuallanach mhór  
Bheireadh buaidh air gach ceòl,  
An uair a ghluaiste i le meoir Phàdraig.

Gur mairg a bheir géill 505  
Do'n t-saoghal gu léir:  
Is tric a chaochail e cheum gàbhaidh.

Gur lìonmhoire a chùrs  
Na'n dealt air an driùchd  
Ann am madainn an tùs Màighe. 510

Chan fhacas ri m' ré  
Aon duine fo'n ghréin  
Nach tug e ghreis féin dhà sin.

Thoir an t-soraidh so bhuam  
Gu talla nan cuach, 515  
Far am biodh tathaich nan truagh dàimheil.

Chun an tighe nach gann  
Fo an leathad ud thall,  
Far bheil aighear is ceann mo mhànrain.

Sir Tormod mo rùin, 520  
Olgharach thù,  
Foirmeil o thùs t'àbhaist.

A thasgaidh 's a chiall,  
Is e bu chleachdamh duit riamh  
Teach farsaing 's e fial fàilteach. 525

<eng>499. an Taibh, S.; an Taif E.; an t-shäimh, S0.<gai>

[TD 45]

[Beurla]

[TD 46]

Bhiodh teanal nan cliar  
Ré tamaill is cian,  
Dh'fhios a' bhaile am biodh triall chàirdean.

Nàile, chunnaic mi uair  
Is glan an lasadh bha ad ghruaidh, 530  
Fo ghruaig chleachdaich nan dual àrbhuidh'.

Fear dìreach deas treun  
Bu ro-fhìrinneach beus,  
Is e gun mhìghean gun cheum tràilleil;

De'n linnidh b'fheàrr buaidh 535  
Tha 's na crìochaibh mun cuairt,  
Clann fhìrinneach Ruairidh lànmhoir.

Chan 'eil cleachdainn mhic rìgh  
No gaisge no gnìomh,  
Nach 'eil pearsa mo ghaoil làn deth. 540

An tréine 's an lùth,  
An ceudfaidh 's an cliù,  
Am féile is an gnùis nàire.

An gaisge is an gnìomh,

Am pailteas neo-chrìon, 545  
Am maise is am miann àillteachd.

An cruadal 's an toil,  
Am buaidh thoirt air sgoil,  
An uaisle gun chron càileachd.

Tuigsear nan teud, 550  
Purpais gach sgéil,  
Susbaint gach céill nàduir.

Gum bu chubhaidh dhuit siod  
Mar a thubairt iad ris,  
Bu tu an t-ubhal thar mios àrdchraoibh. 555

<eng>546. miann BGh., after E.; miagh, S., SO.<gai>

[TD 47]

[Beurla]

[TD 48]

Leòdach mo rùin,  
Seòrsa fhuair cliù,  
Cha bu tòiseachadh ùr dhàibh Sir.

Bha fios có sìbh  
Ann an iomartas rìgh, 560  
An uair bu mhuladach strì Theàrlaich.

Slàn Ghàidheil no Ghoill  
Gun d'fhuaras oirbh foill,  
Dh'aon bhuaireadh gun d'rinn bhur nàmhaid.

Lochlannaich threun 565  
Toiseach bhur sgéil,  
Sliochd solta bh'air freumh Mhànuis.

Thug Dia dhuit mar ghibht  
Bhith mórdhalach glìc;  
Chrìosd deònaich do d'shliochd bhith àghmhor. 570

Fhuair thu fortan o Dhia,  
Bean bu shocraiche ciall,  
Is i gu foistinneach fial nàrach:

A bheil eineach is cliù,  
Is i gun mhilleadh 'na cùis, 575  
Is i gu h-iriosal ciuin càirdeil:

I gun dolaidh fo'n ghréin  
Gu toileachadh treud,



Is a folachd a réir bànrighinn.

Is tric a riaraidh thu cuilm  
Gun fhiabhras gun tuilg:  
Nighean oighre Dhùn-tuilm, slàn duit.

580

<eng>570. Chrìosd deònaich, E., BGh. Crìosd dheonach', S.; Chrìosd  
deonaich', SO.<gai>

[TD 49]

[Beurla]

[TD 50]

An T-Eudach

Duanag a rinn Màiri nighean Alasdair Ruaidh  
mar gum biodh i ag eudach ri ban-Ilich a  
mheall a leannan oirre, nam b'fhìor i.

Hìrirì ohù robhó,  
Roho ì ohì o.

Gur a mise tha iar mo chlisgeadh,  
Tha loch uisge fo m' chluasaig.

Ged a théid mi do m' leabaidh  
Chan e an cadal as dual domh,

585

Is a' bhean tha an Ile  
Sìor mhiadachadh m'euda;

Bhean thug uamsa mo roghainn,  
Is gun taghainn thar cheud e.

590

Ach nam bithinn 'na fianuis,  
Gum biodh spìonadh air bhréidean.

Chì mi an Fhionnairigh thall ud  
Is ì gun earras fo'n ghréin oirr'.

Gum faca mise uair a  
Bha daoine-uaisle mu d'réidhlean.

595

Rachadh cuid do'n bheinn-sheilg dhiubh,  
Cuid a mharbhadh an éisg dhiubh,

Air Linne na Ciste  
Am bi na bric anns an leumraich.

600

Tha mo chean air an lasgair,  
Saighdear sgairteil fo sgéith thu.

An uair a thig thu do'n chaisteal  
Bheir thu dhachaidh do cheud ghràdh.

<eng>599. Linge, D.<gai>

[TD 51]

[Beurla]

[TD 52]

Ged a tha mi air m'aineol 605  
O'n bhaile fo éislean,

Chan ion do'n bhan-Ilich  
Bhith strìth rium mu d'dhéidhinn.

Cumha do Mhac Leoid

Gur e an naidheachd so fhuair mi 610  
A dh'fhuadaich mo chiall uam  
Mar nach bitheadh i agam  
Is nach fhaca mi riamh i;

Gur e abhall an lios so  
Tha mise ag iargain, 615  
E gun abachadh meas air  
Ach air briseadh fo chiad-bhàrr.

Gur e sgeula na creiche  
Tha mi nise ag éisdeachd,  
Gach aon chneadh mar thig orm 620  
Dol an tricid 's an déinid;  
Na chunncas 's na chualas  
Is na fhuaradh o'n cheud là,  
Creach nid an t-seabhaig,  
Air a sgathadh ri aon uair.

Ach a chlann an fhir allail 625  
Bu neo-mhalairtich beusan,

Ann an Lunnainn 's am Paris  
Thug sibh bàrr air na ceudan;  
Chaidh nur cliù thairis  
Thar talamh na h-Eiphit, 630  
A cheann-uidhe luchd-ealaidh  
Is a leannain na féileachd.

<eng>615. So S0.; I gun abuchadh meas oir, S. 619. orm, S.; oirn',  
S0. 621. na chunnadh, S.; na chunnaic, S0. 628. om. S.<gai>

[TD 53]

[Beurla]

[TD 54]

Ach a fhriamhaich nan curaidh  
Is a chuilein nan leóghann  
Is ogha an dà sheanair 635  
Bu chaithreamaich lòisdean,  
Càite an robh e ri fhaotainn  
Air an taobh-s' an Roinn Eòrpa?–  
Cha b'fhuras ri fhaighinn  
Anns gach rathad bu dòigh dhuibh. 640

Ach a Ruairidh mhic Iain,  
Is goirt leam fhaighinn an sgeul-s' ort;  
Is e mo chreach-sa mac t'athar  
Bhith 'na laighe gun éirigh;  
Agus Tormod a mhac-san, 645  
A thasgaidh mo chéille!  
Gur e aobhar mo ghearain  
Gun chailleadh le chéile iad.

Nach mór an sgeul-sgrìobhaidh  
Is nach iongnadh leibh féin e, 650  
Duilleach na craoibhe  
Nach do sgaoileadh e meanglain,  
An robh cliù agus onoir  
Agus moladh air deagh bheairt  
Gu daonnachdach carthannach 655  
Beannachdach ceutach.

Ge goirt leam an naidheachd  
Tha mi faighinn air Ruairidh,  
Gun do chorp a bhith as dùthaich  
Anns an tuama bu dual duit, 660  
Sgeul eile nach usa  
Tha mi clàistinn 'san uair so,  
Gar nach toir mi dha creideas,  
Gur beag orm ri luaidh e.

<eng>659. 's Dùthaich, S.; 'san Dùthaich, S0. 663. gar, S.; ged,  
S0.<gai>

[TD 55]

[Beurla]

[TD 56]

Gur rò bheag a shaoil mi 665  
Ri mo shaoghal gun éisd'mid,  
Gun cluinneamaid Leòdaich

Bhith 'gam fògradh á'n oighreachd,  
Is á'n còraichean glana  
Is á'm fearainn gun déidh air, 670  
Is ar ranntannan farsaing  
Nan rachte 'nam feum sud.

Gun éireadh 'nad aobhar  
Clann Raghnaill 's Clann Domhnaill 675  
Agus tigh Mhic Ghille Eathain  
Bha daingeann 'nur seòrsa,  
Agus fir Ghlinne Garadh  
Nall thairis á Cnòideart,  
Mar sud is Clann Chamshroin  
O champ Inbhir Lòchaidh. 680

Is beag an t-iongnadh Clann Choinnich  
Dhèanamh oireachd mu d' ghualainn  
Is gun robh thu 'nam fineachd  
Air t'fhilleadh trì uairean. 685  
Is e mo chreach gun do chinneadh  
Bhith mu chruinneachadh t'uaighe,  
No glaodh do mhnà-muinntir,  
Is nach cluinntear 'san uair-s' i.

Tha mo cheist air an oighre  
Tha a staidhle 'sna Hearadh, 690  
Gar nach deach thu 'san tuam ud  
Far am bu dual duit o d' sheanair.  
Gur iomadh fuil uaibhreach  
A dh'fhuaraich ad bhallaibh  
De shloinneadh nan rìghrean 695  
Leis na chiosaicheadh Manainn.

<eng>682. eireachd, S.; eiridh S0. 691. gar, S.; ged, S0.<gai>

[TD 57]

[Beurla]

[TD 58]

Is e mo ghaol-sa an sliochd foirmeil  
Bh'air sliochd Olghair is Ochraidh,  
O bhaile na Boirbhe  
Is ann a staidhleadh tu an toiseach; 700  
Gur iomadh fuil mhórdha  
Bha reòta 's a' chorp ud:  
De shliochd àrmunn Chinn-tìre,  
Iarla Ile agus Rois thu.

Mhic Iain Stiùbhairt na h-Apunn, 705  
Ged is gasda an duine òg thu,  
Ged tha Stiùbhartaich beachdail,

Iad tapaidh 'n ám fòirneirt,  
 Na gabh-sa meanmna no aiteas  
 Anns an staid ud nach còir dhuit: 710  
 Cha toir thu i dh'aindeoin  
 Is chan fhaigh thu le deoin i.

Cuime an tigeadh fear coigreach  
 Do thagradh ur n-oighreachd?  
 Gar nach 'eil e ro dhearbhta 715  
 Gur searbh e ri éisdeachd;  
 Ged tha sinne air ar creachadh  
 Mu chloinn mhac an fhir fhéilidh,  
 Sliochd Ruairidh mhóir allail,  
 Is gur airidh iad féin oirr'. 720

<eng>715. gar, S.; ged, S0.<gai>

[TD 59]

[Beurla]

[TD 60]

An Crònan

An naidheachd so an dé  
 Aighearach è:  
 Moladh do'n léigh  
 Thug malairt do m' chéill:  
 Nis teannaidh mi féin ri crònan. 725

Beannachd do'n bheul  
 Dh'aithris an sgeul  
 Dh'fhàg fallain mo chré;  
 Cha ghearain mi féin  
 Na chailleadh 's na dh'eug 730  
 Is mo leanabh 'nan déidh comhshlàn.

Nam biodh agamsa fìon  
 Gum b'ait leam a dhìol  
 Air slàinte do thighinn  
 Gu d' chàirdean 's gu d' thìr; 735  
 Mhic àrmuinn mo ghaoil,  
 B'e m'àrdan 's mo phrìs  
 Alach mo Rìgh thogbhail.

Is fàth mire dhuinn féin  
 Is do 'n chinneadh gu léir 740  
 Do philleadh o'n eug;  
 Is milis an sgeul,  
 Is binne na gleus orghan.

<eng>721 ff. So E., SO.; M has:

<gai>Chualas nuaidheachd an de  
'S aighir leom fhein (corr. from aighireach)  
Moladh d'n leigh  
Thug cobhair do d'chreidh.<eng>

725. 'Nis teannaidh, SO.; nois o theannas, E., M.

728. om. SO.; mo chrè, E.; do chreadh, M.

731. So E.; na dheidh, SO.; nan deis (written above deidh) 's beo  
shlaint, M.<gai>

[TD 61]

[Beurla]

[TD 62]

Is e m'aiteas gu dearbh  
Gun glacar grad shealbh 745  
An grunn d'farsaing nan sealg  
Is an caisteal nan arm  
Leis a' mhacaomh d'an ainm Tormod.

Tha mo dhùil-sa ann an Dia  
Gur mùirneach do thriall 750  
Gu dùn ud nan cliar  
Far am bu dùthchas do m' thriath  
Bhiodh gu fiùghantach fial foirmeil.

Gu dùn turaideach àrd,  
B'e sud innis nam bàrd 755  
Is nam filidh ri dàn  
Far am bu mhinig an tàmh:  
Cha b'ionad gun bhlàths dhoibh sud.

Gu àros nach crìon  
Am bi gairich nam pìob 760  
Is nan clarsach a rìs  
Le deàrrsadh nam pìos  
A' cur sàraidh air fìon  
Is 'ga leigeadh an gnìomh òircheard.

Buadhach am mac, 765  
Uasal an t-slat  
D'an dual a bhith ceart  
Cruadalach pailt  
Duaismhor am beachd  
Ruaimneach an neart Leòdach. 770

<eng>756. So E. SO.; M. has:

<gai>Far 'm bu mhinig leo tamh  
gabhail iomairt re daimh,  
cha b'iongantach dhaibh  
Rìgh! bu ro mhor do chairdeas leo sin.<eng>

796. So E., SO.; ruaismhor, gl. grand, M.

770. Ruaineach, explained by làidir, E.<gai>

[TD 63]

[Beurla]

[TD 64]

Fiùran na cluain  
Dhùisg 'san deagh uair,  
Is dùth dhuit dol suas  
An cliù 's ann am buaidh:  
Is dùthchas do m' luaidh 775  
Bhith gu fiùghantach suairc ceoilbhinn.

Fasan bu dual  
Fantalach buan,  
Socrach ri tuaith,  
Cosgail ri cuairt, 780  
Coisionta cruaidh  
Am brosnachadh sluaigh,  
A' mosgladh an uair fòirneirt.

Lean-sa 's na tréig  
Cleachdamh is beus 785  
T'aiteim gu léir,  
Macanta sèimh,  
Pailt ri luchd theud,  
Gaisgeil am feum,  
Neartmhor an déidh tòrachd. 790

<eng>781. ff. So E., SO.; M. has:

<gai>Tosach dol suas  
Cosgaradh cruaidh  
Cosant ann uair doruinn.

Tha thu shliochd nam fear ùr,  
Tha fo lic ann san uir;  
'S e dh'fhag shilteach mo shuil,  
Ge do rìgeadh mi 'n crun,  
Nach fhaic mi fear dhiubh  
Ach ann gliocas an cliuth sa' mhorchuis.

Sliochd Olgair nan Lann, &c.

[TD 65]

[Beurla]

[TD 66]

De shliochd Olghair nan lann  
Thogadh sròiltean ri crann:  
An uair a thòisich iad ann  
Cha bu lionsgaradh gann,  
Fir a b'fhìrinneach bann, 795  
Prìseil an dream,  
Rìoghail gun chall còrach.

Tog colg ort a ghaoil!  
Bi ro chalma is gum faod;  
Gur dearbhtha dhuit, laoich, 800  
Do chinneadh nach faoin  
Thig ort as gach taobh gu d' chomhnadh.

Uasal an treud,  
Deas cruadalach treun  
Tha an dualchas dhuit féin, 805  
Théid mu d' ghuaillibh ri t'fheum  
De shliochd Ruairidh mhóir fhéil;  
Cuir-sa suas, a Mhic Dé, an t-òg rìgh.

Tha na Gàidheil gu léir  
Cho càirdeach dhuit féin, 810  
Is gur feairrde thu gu t'fheum  
Sir Domhnall a Sléit',  
Ceannard nan ceud,  
Ceannsgalach treun ròghlic.

Is maith mo bharaile 's mo bheachd 815  
Air na fiùrain as leat  
Gu carantach ceart:  
Is ann de bharrachd do neirt  
Mac mhic Ailein is dà mhac Dhomhnaill.

<eng>819. Mac Mhic Ailein is da Mhac Dhonuill, M.;

<gai>Mac mhic Ailein 's a mhac  
Thig le faram am feachd  
Go d' charaid a chasg t fhoirneart,<eng> E. and so S0.<gai>

[TD 67]

[Beurla]

[TD 68]



A Gleann Garadh a nuas 820  
Thig am barantas sluaigh  
Nach mealladh ort uair:  
Cha bu charantas fuar  
Na fir sin o chluain Chnòideart.

Is leat Mac Shimidh o'n Aird, 825  
Is Mac Coinnich Chinn tSàil,  
Théid ad iomairt gun dàil  
Le h-iomadaidh gràidh;  
Cha b'iongantach dhàibh  
Is gur h-iomadh do phàirt dhoibh sin. 830

Is goirt an naidheachd 's gur cruaidh  
Mac Ghille Eathain bhith uainn,  
Gun a thigheadas suas:  
Bha do cheangal ris buan,  
T'ursainn-chatha ri uair dòrainn. 835

B'iomad gasan gun chealg  
Bu deas faicheil fo arm  
Bheireadh ceartachadh garbh  
Is iad a chlàistinn ort fearg  
Eadar Breacachadh dearg is Bròlas. 840

Tha mi ag acain mar chall  
Iad a thachairt gun cheann  
Fo chasaibh nan Gall  
Gun do phearsa bhith ann:  
Mo chruaidh-chàs nach gann 845  
Thu bhith fad anns an Fhraing air fògradh.

<eng>836. gasan, explained by "a young man", E.; garsan, gl.  
fleasgach laidir, M.

837. faicheil M.; faicsin E.; faicinn SO.

838. ceartacha(dh) E., SO.; ceartachdain M.

840. Breacachadh (corr. from Breacaisidh) dhearg, M.; gu dearbh is  
inserted above the line, evid. to replace dhearg, which is not  
erased; Breacachadh thall E.; Bràcadal thall SO.

846. Do bhi', E.<gai>

[TD 69]

[Beurla]

[TD 70]

A Chrìosd, cinnich thu féin  
An spionnadh 's an céill

Gu cinneadail treun  
An ionad na dh'eug, 850  
A mhic an fhir nach d'fhuair beum  
Is a ghineadh o'n chré ròghlain.

A Rìgh nan gràs  
Bi féin mar ghàrd  
Air feum mo ghràidh, 855  
Is dèan oighre slàn  
Do'n teaghlach àigh  
Bu mheamhrach dàimh,  
D'an robh coibhneas air bhàrr sòlais.

[TD 71]

[Beurla]

[TD 72]

Fuigheall

Théid mi le m' dheoin 860  
Do dhùthaich Mhic Leoid,  
M'iùl air a' mhór luachach sin.

Bu chòir dhomh gum bi  
M'eòlas 'san tìr  
Leòdach mur pill cruadal mi; 865

Siùbhlaidh mi an iar  
Troimh dhùbhlachd nan sian  
Do'n tùr g'am bi triall thuathcheathairn,

O'n chualas an sgeul  
Buadhach gun bhreug 870  
Rinn acain mo chléibhe fhuadachadh.

Chì mi MacLeoid,  
Is prìseil an t-òg  
Rìomhach gu mór buadhalach,

Bho Olghar nan lann 875  
Chuireadh sròiltean ri crann,  
Is Leòdaich an dream uabharra.

Eiridh na fuinn  
Ghleusta air na suinn,  
Is feumail ri ám cruadail iad, 880

Na fiùranan garg,  
An ám rùsgadh nan arm  
Is cliuiteach an t-ainm fhuaras leibh.

Sìol Tormoid nan sgiath

Foirmeileach fial,  
Dh'éireadh do shluagh luathlàmhach;

885

<eng>862. Mo iùl air a bhord luath-bhineach, M. 867. O yousach nan bian M.

868. n'duil gun raibh mian toirmalach, M. 869 ff. M. has:

<gai>Chualus an de sceul luathbhineach gun bhreig  
'S buaghtail an t eud coinbhailach.

[TD 73]

[Beurla]

[TD 74]

Dealradh nam pìos,  
Torman nam pìob,  
Is dearbh' gum bu leibh an dualachas.

Thàinig teachdair do'n tìr  
Gu macanta mìn,  
Is ait leam gach nì chualas leam,

890

O Dhùn Bheagain nan steud  
Anns am freagair luchd-theud  
Bheir greis air gach sgeul buaidh-ghlòireach.

895

An uair chuireadh na laoich  
Loingeas air chaol  
Turus ri gaoith ghluaiste leibh,

O bharraibh nan crann  
Gu tarruing nam ball  
Teannachadh teann suas rithe;

900

Iomairt gu leoir  
Mar ri Mac Leoid  
Chàraich fo shròl uain-dhaite i,

Bho Aros an fhìon  
Gu talla nam pìos:  
Gum beannaich mo rìgh an t-uasal ud.

905

<eng>905. Aros by conjecture; àrois S0.; om. M.<gai>

[TD 75]

[Beurla]

[TD 76]

Do Mhac Dhomhnaill

Tha ulaidh orm an uamharrachd,  
Mo ghibhte phrìseil uasal thu,  
Mo leug bu lìonmhor buadhan thu, 910  
Chan fhaigh an rìgh ri t'fhuasgladh thu:  
Air m'fhocal fìor o'n fhuair mi thu  
Cha tugainn uam air òr thu.

Tha tasgaidh ann an dìomhaireachd  
O chionn an fhad-s' de bhliadhnachan; 915  
Cha b'airgiod glas 's cha b'iarann e  
Ach Ridire glic riaghailteach  
Fhuair meas is gliocas iarlachan:  
O'n fhuair mi nis ri t'iarraidh thu  
Mathadh Dia dhuit e, Shir Domhnall. 920

Bu chuid mhór de m'araichdean thu,  
Mo phreasan snuadhach dealbhach thu,  
Mo long bu lìonmhor seanchas ort  
Bu mheasail buadhail ainmeil thu;  
Nan leiginn féin air dearmad thu 925  
Gu dearbhtha cha b'i chòir i.

O's craobh de'n abhall phrìseil thu,  
De'n mheas bu ghasda brìoghalachd,  
O ghrunnd na fala fìrinnich  
D'am b'fhasan riamh an rìoghalachd: 930  
Nam b'ann do lorg do shinnsir mi  
Gun innsinn-se na b'eòl domh.

Gu meal thu féin do staidhlichean  
Is gach fearann tha an oighreachd dhuit,  
Dùn-tuilm an talamh deagh-mhaiseach 935  
Am biodh céir 'ga las' an coinnleiribh  
Is fìon 'ga òl gu saoibhir ann  
Am pìosa glasa soillsichte  
An tigh farsaing meadhrach ceòlmhor.

<eng>924. Bha measail, MS., acc. to Henderson.<gai>

[TD 77]

[Beurla]

[TD 78]

Do chùirt a b' fhìorghlan foidearachd 940  
Is bu mhath làmh-sgrìobhth' air paipearan;  
Bha cuid do mhiann air maighdeannan  
Bhiodh an gùintean sìoda fraoidhneiseach  
Is iad dùinte sìos mu'n staighisean,

Is gun toir iad cìos gun fhaighneachd 945  
Do aon strainnseir thig air fògradh.

Tha deagh ghàrd air th'ainmealachd,  
Do chàirdean an t-Iarl Earra-Ghàidhealach,  
Mac Coinnich is Morair Tairbeirt leat,  
Fir a' Bhealaich is Bhràid Albann leat, 950  
Gleann Garadh 's fir nan Garbhchrìoch leat,  
Is an Colla is cha bu chearbach e,  
Is na Camshronaich o Lòchaidh.

Mac Aoidh nam bratach meanmnach leat,  
Siol Airt is Chuinn is Chormaic leat, 955  
Na Collanan cìosail armailteach  
Le'n loingeis luchdmhoir ghealbhréidich  
Air fairge is iad a' seòladh.

An codal no bhith an dùsgadh dhuit  
Bu leat an Caiptein Mùideartach 960  
Is na dh'éireadh leis de fhiùranaibh,  
Is cha bu neart gun dùrachd e,  
Is gur beachd leam gum bi biùthas anns  
A' chùis mu'm bi sibh deònach.

Ghléidhinn prasgan fathast duit: 965  
Siol Torcuill na tha air ghléidheadh dhiubh,  
Clann Fhionghain 's fir an t-Stratha leat;  
Bu dìleas duit na tighean ud:  
Mur cumadh crùn no claidheamh iad  
Gum faighinn-sa na's leoir dhuit. 970

<eng>941. So by conjecture, or less likely, lamh-sgiath air  
saighdearan. MS. has lamh sgrìobh air saighdearan, acc. to  
Henderson. 942. Bu chuid, MS. 943. an not in MS. 969. iad not in  
MS.<gai>

[TD 79]

[Beurla]

[TD 80]

Aig lìonmhorachd do chàirdeis riu  
Cha sgrìobhar iad air phaipearan;  
Bidh Frisealaich, bidh Granndaich leat,  
Bidh Rothaich a thaobh nàduir leat  
Nan cumadh iad an àbhaist riut 975  
'Gad chur 'san àite an còir dhuit.

Dh'éireadh leat na Dubhghlasaich  
A thaobh do mhàthar chùramaich:  
Bidh cóig ciad gaisgeach cùirteil ann  
Is gum b'e fàth mo dhùrachd dhaibh 980

Iad bhith dhuit cho dùbailte  
Is nach diùltadh iad do chomhnadh.

Nan tigeadh airc no éiginn ort  
Gun éireadh feachd á Eirinn leat;  
Iarl Antruim nan each ceumnach leat 985  
Is an sliochd sin Mhic Féilim leat,  
Nan cluinnte foirm air fheumalachd  
Gun éireadh leat am mór-shluagh.

Gun éireadh leat gun amharus  
Feachd Iain Mhóir 's Iain Chathanaich 990  
Is an dream dhìreach Leathanach  
Is fir Chinn-tìre is Latharna,  
Is gur mairg luchd beurla chaitheadh ort  
Is na maithean ud an tòir orr'.

Gur cian 's gur fad an aimsir 995  
O'n chuala mi aig seanchaidhibh  
Nar thàinig sibh do na talmhaintean-sa  
Gur gnìomh a chaidh a dhearbhadh gun  
Robh tigh is leth na h-Albann air  
A shealbhachadh an còir dhuibh. 1000

<eng>987. Probably for air th' fheumalachd. 997. do, -sa suppl.  
Henderson.<gai>

[TD 81]

[Beurla]

[TD 82]

Luinneag

do Iain mac Shir Tormoid Mhic Leoid air  
dhi bràth thombaca fhaotainn uaidh.

Hithill uthill agus ó  
hithill ó horiunna  
hithill uthill agus ó  
hithill óhó horiunna  
hithill uthill agus ó  
hithill ó horiunna  
faillill ó hullill ó  
hó ri ghealladh ill an.

Ged a théid mi do m' leabaidh  
Chan e cadal as miannach leam  
Aig ro mheud na tuile  
Is mo mhuileann gun iarann air;  
Tha a' mholtaire ri pàidheadh 1005  
Mur cailltear am bliadhna mi,

Is gur feumail domh faighinn  
Ged a gheibhinn an iasaid i.

Tha mo chean air a' chlachair  
Rinn m'aighe-sa riarachadh, 1010  
Fear mór a' bheoil mheachair,  
Ge tosdach gur briathrach thu:  
Gum faighinn air m'fhacal  
Na caisteil ged iarrainn iad:  
A cheart aindeoin mo stàta, 1015  
Gun chàraich sud fiachan orm.

Ged a thubhairt mi riut clachair  
Air m'fhacal cha b'fhìor dhomh e;  
Gur rìoghail do shloinneadh  
Is gur soilleir ri iarraidh e: 1020

<eng>1001. So S., SO.; Ga do reach mi 'm leabuidh, E.; Ge socair mo  
leaba M. 1007. So E., S., SO.; gu'm bu mhianach leom agam, M.<gai>

[TD 83]

[Beurla]

[TD 84]

Fìor Leòdach ùr gasda  
Foinnidh beachdail glic fialaidh thu,  
De shliochd nam fear flathail  
Bu mhath an ceann chliaranach.

Ach a mhic ud Shir Tormoid 1025  
Gun soirbhich gach bliadhna dhuit  
A chur buaidhe air do shliochd-sa  
Agus piseach air t'iarmadan;  
Is do'n chuid eile chloinn t'athar  
Anns gach rathad a thriallas iad, 1030  
Gu robh toradh mo dhùrachd  
Dol an rùn mar bu mhiannach leam.

An uair a théid thu do'n fhireach  
Is ro mhath chinneas am fiadhach leat,  
Le do lomhainn chon ghleusta 1035  
Ann do dhéidh 'n uair a thrialladh tu:  
Sin is cuilbhir caol cinnteach  
Cruaidh dìreach gun fhiaradh ann;  
Bu tù sealgair na h-éilde,  
A' choilich is na liath-chirce. 1040

Tha mo chean air an Ruairidh,  
Gur luaimneach mu d' sgeula mi;  
Fìor bhoinne geal suairc thu,  
Am bheil uaisle na peucaige,

Air an d'fhàs an cùl dualach 1045  
Is e 'na chuachagan teudbhuidhe;  
Sin is urla ghlan shuairce:  
Cha bu tuairisgeul breugach e.

<eng>1024. chliaranach, E., S., SO.; chliaran iad, M. 1039. na h-eilid, S., SO. and so E. M. transposes eilid and choilich. The rime seems defective.<gai>

[TD 85]

[Beurla]

[TD 86]

Slàn iomramh dhuit Iain, 1050  
Guma rathail a dh'éireas duit,  
Is tu mac an deagh athar  
Bha gu mathasach meadhrachail,  
Bha gu furbhailteach daonnairceach  
Faoilteachail déirceachail;  
Sàr cheannard air trùp thu 1055  
Nan cuirte leat feum orra.

Gur àlainn am marcach  
Air each an glaic diollaid thu,  
Is tu conbhail do phearsa  
Ann an cleachdamh mar dh'iarrainn duit: 1060  
Thigeadh sud ann ad làimh-sa  
Lann Spàinteach ghorm dhias-fhada  
Is paidhir mhath phiostal  
Air crios nam ball snìomhaineach.

<eng>1056. So E., S., SO.; nan cuirte mar fhiacha e M. 1061. So E., &c.; Thigidh (sic) sud ort o'n cheardaich, M.<gai>

[TD 87]

[Beurla]

[TD 88]

Marbhrann

do Shir Tormod Mac Leoid a dh'eug air an  
treas là de'n Mhàirt, anns a' bhliadhna  
1705

Cha sùrd cadail 1065  
An rùn-s' air m'aigne,  
Mo shùil frasach  
Gun sùrd macnais



'S a' chùirt a chleachd mi  
Sgeul ùr ait ri éisdeachd. 1070

Is trom an cudthrom so dhrùidh,  
Dh'fhàg mo chuislein gun lùth,  
Is tric snighe mo shùl  
A' tuiteam gu dlùth,  
Chaill mi iuchair mo chùil: 1075  
An cuideachd luchd-ciuil cha téid mi.

Mo neart 's mo threoir  
Fo thasgaidh bhòrd,  
Sàr mhac Mhic Leoid  
Nam bratach sròil, 1080  
Bu phailt mu'n òr,  
Bu bhinn caismeachd sgeoil  
Aig luchd-astair is ceoil na h-Eireann.

Có neach d'an eòl  
Fear t' fhasain beò 1085  
Am blasdachd beoil  
Is am maise neoil,  
An gaisge gleois  
An ceart 's an còir,  
Gun airceas no sgleò féile? 1090

<eng>1072. So BGh., after S0.; an lùs E. 1075. chùil BGh., S0.,  
E.; ? chiuil.<gai>

[TD 89]

[Beurla]

[TD 90]

Dh'fhalbh mo shòlas:  
Marbh mo Leòdach  
Calma cròdha  
Meanmnach ròghlic;  
Dhearbh mo sgeoil-sa 1095  
Seanchas eòlais  
Gun chearb foghlum:  
Dealbhach ròghlan t'éagasg.

An treas là de'n Mhàirt  
Dh'fhalbh m'aighear gu bràth; 1100  
B'i sud saighead mo chràidh  
Bhith 'g amharc do bhàis,  
A ghnùis fhlatasach àilt,  
A dheagh mhic rathail  
An àrmuinn euchdaich. 1105

Mac Ruairidh reachdmhoir

Uaibhrich bheachdail,  
 Bu bhuaidh leatsa  
 Dualchas farsaing,  
 Snuadh ghlaine pearsa, 1110  
 Cruadal 's smachd gun eucoir.

Uaill is aiteas  
 Is ann bhuat gu faighte,  
 Ri uair ceartais  
 Fuasgladh facail 1115  
 Gun ghruaim gun lasan  
 Gu suairce snasda reusant'.

Fo bhùird an cistidh  
 Chaidh grunn a' ghliocais,  
 Fear fiùghant miosail 1120  
 Cuilmeach gibhteil,  
 An robh cliù gun bhristeadh:  
 Chaidh ùr fo lic air m'eudail.

<eng>1118. So E., BGh.; na ciste, S0.<gai>

[TD 91]

[Beurla]

[TD 92]

Gnùis na glaine  
 Chuireadh sunnd air fearaibh, 1125  
 Air each crùidheach ceannard  
 Is lann ùr thana ort  
 Am beairt dhlùth dhainginn  
 Air cùl nan clannfhalt teudbhuidh'.

Is iomadh fear aineoil 1130  
 Is aoidh 's luchd ealaidh  
 Bheir turnais tamall  
 Air crùintidh mhalairt  
 Air iùl 's air aithne:  
 Bu chliù gun aithris bhreug e. 1135

Bu tu an t-sìothshaimh charaid  
 Ri ám tighinn gu baile,  
 Ol dian aig fearaibh  
 Gun strì gun charraid, 1140  
 Is bu mhiann leat mar riut  
 Luchd innse air annas sgeula.

Bu tric uidh chàirdean  
 Gu d' dhùn àghmhor  
 Suilbhir fàilteach  
 Cuilmmhor stàtail 1145

Gun bhuirb gun àrdan,  
Gun diùlt air mhàl nan déirceach.

Thu á sliochd Olghair  
Bu mhór morghail,  
Nan seòl corrbheann 1150  
Is nan còrn gormghlas,  
Nan ceòl orghan  
Is nan seòd bu bhorb ri éiginn.

<eng>1125. sunnd, S0.; sùnt, E.; sùrd, BGh. 1144. fàilteach, S0.,  
BGh.; àilteach, E.<gai>

[TD 93]

[Beurla]

[TD 94]

Bha leth do shloinnidh  
Ri sìol Cholla 1155  
Nan cìos troma  
Is nam pìos soilleir,  
Bho chóigeamh Chonnacht:  
Bu lìonmhor do loingear bréidgheal.

Is iomadh gàir dhalta 1160  
Is mnàì bhasbhuailt'  
Ri là tasgaidh:  
Chan fhàth aiteis  
Do d' chàirdean t' fhaicsin  
Fo chlàr glaiste: 1165  
Mo thruaighe, chreach an t-eug sinn!

Inghean Sheumais nan crùn,  
Bean-chéile ghlan ùr,  
Thug i ceud-ghràdh d'a rùn,  
Bu mhór a h-aobhar ri sunnd 1170  
An uair a shealladh i an gnùis a céile.

Is i fhras nach ciuin  
A thàinig as ùr,  
A shrac ar siuil  
Is a bhrìst ar stiuir 1175  
Is ar cairt mhaith iuil  
Is ar taice cùil  
Is ar caidreabh ciuil  
Bhiodh againn 'nad thùr éibhinn.

Is mór an ionndrainn tha bhuainn 1180  
Air a dùnadh 'san uaigh,  
Ar cùinneadh 's ar buaidh,  
Ar cùram 's ar n-uaill,

Is ar sùgradh gun ghruaim:  
Is fada air chuimhe na fhuair mi féin deth. 1185

<eng>1158 So BGh.; Coinneachd, E.; Coinneach, SO.<gai>

[TD 95]

[Beurla]

[TD 96]

Cumha

do Shir Tormod Mac Leoid.

Mo chràdhghal bochd  
Mar a thà mi nochd  
Is mi gun tàmh gun fhois gun sunnd.

Gun sùrd ri stàth  
Gun dùil ri bhith slàn, 1190  
Chaidh mo shùgradh gu bràth air chùl.

Chaill mo shusbaint a càil,  
Fàth mo thùrsaidh gach là,  
Is mi sìor-ursgeul air gnàths mo rùin.

Mu dheagh mhac Ruairidh nan long, 1195  
Lamh lìobhraigeadh bhonn,  
Is bha measail air fonn luchd-ciuil.

Is e bhith smuainteachadh ort  
A chràidh mi am chorp  
Is a chnàmh na roisg bho m' shùil. 1200

Mi ri smuaintean bochd truagh  
Is ri iomradh baath buan  
Is mi 'gad ionndrainn-sa uam: 's tu b'fhiù.

Ag ionndrainn Leòdach mo ghaoil  
Bhith 'san t-sròl-anart chaoil 1205  
Gun chomhdach r'a thaobh ach bùird.

O'n là ghlasadh do bheul  
Gun deach airc air luchd-theud  
An uair sgapadh tu fhéin na crùin.

Thog na filidh ort sgeul 1210  
Fhad 's a dh'imich an ceum  
Nach fhaca iad na b'fhéile gnùis.

[TD 97]

[Beurla]

[TD 98]

Gun robh maise ann ad fhiamh,  
Sin is tlachd ort measg chiad,  
Rud nach cuala mi riamh air triuir. 1215

Tha am Mac Leoid-s' air ar ceann  
Is e fo thùrsadh nach gann;  
Is beag an t-iongnadh 's e chaill a stiuir.

Chaill e maothar a threud  
'San robh fradharc nan ceud 1220  
Is tagha de dheagh chairt-iuil.

Deagh shealgair am frìth,  
Bha gun cheilg do thigh Rìgh,  
Agus seirbhiseach dìleas crùin.

Tha do chinneadh fo ghruaim 1225  
Is gach aon fhine mun cuairt  
O'n là ghrinnicheadh t'uaigh 's a' chrùist.

Mu'n t-sàr ghaisgeach dheas threun  
Ann am batail nan ceud,  
Cha bu lapach 'san leum ud thù. 1230

Làmh churanta chruaidh  
Ann an iomairt 's gach buaidh,  
Chan urrainn domh t'uaisle, a rùin.

Do thigh-talla fo ghruaim,  
Is e gun aighear gun uaill, 1235  
Far am bu mhinig a fhuair sinn cuirm.

[TD 99]

[Beurla]

[TD 100]

<eng>This lament for Iain Garbh of Raasay is in Còisir a' Mhòid (I. 50) ascribed to Mary MacLeod, on what authority is not stated. Raasay tradition, as I am told by Mr. Alexander Nicolson and others, unhesitatingly ascribes it to Iain Garbh's sister, and this fact, along with the style of the song itself, makes it, I think, certain that Mary was not the author. Mr. Nicolson has collected in Raasay a less complete version. The free rendering is in the metre of the original.<gai>

Och nan och 's mi fo léireadh  
mar a dh'éirich do'n ghaisgeach;  
Chan 'eil sealgair na sìthne

an diugh am frìth nam beann casa.

Bha mi uair nach do shaoil mi,  
ged is faoin bhi 'ga agradh,  
Gun rachadh do bhàdhadh  
gu bràth air cuan farsaing;

Fhad 's a sheasadh an stiuir dhith  
's tu air cùl a buill bheairte,  
Dh'aindeoin ànradh nan, dùilean  
agus ùpraid na mara;

Fhad 's a dh'fhanadh ri chéile  
a cuid dhealgan 's a h-acuinn,  
Is gum b'urrainn dhi géilleadh  
do d' làimh threun air an aigeann.

Ach b'i an doineann bha iargalt,  
le gaoth á'n iar-thuath 's cruaidh fhrasan:  
Thog i a' mhuir 'na mill dhùbhghorm  
's smuais i an iùbhrach 'na sadan.

Hù o ro hó io hó hùg oireann o,  
hó a o hù, éile e hó,  
hù o ro hó io hó bhà,  
hó ro bha, hiu ra bhó, hiu o ró,  
hú o ro hó io hó hùg oireann o,  
faill ill ó laill io hó.

[TD 101]

[Beurla]

[TD 102]

<eng>The following anonymous elegy on Sir Norman MacLeod of Bernera has been edited and translated by Professor Watson (see Northern Chronicle for 19th April, 1922) from a manuscript in the National Library of Scotland. It is included as a specimen of classic poetry for comparison with the style of Mary MacLeod's composition on the same theme. For its vocabulary Dinneen should be consulted. In Rel. Celt. (II, 264) is another classic elegy on Sir Norman, of which a better version is found in Nat. Lib., Box No. 3.<gai>

Marbhrainn sior Tormóid Mic Leoid

ar n-a sgríobhadh ann so, do ég an treas lá do'n  
mhí Mháirt, ar ndeich(el?) a cluig, ano dom  
1705

Rug an fheibhe a terme as teach,  
ag sin go léir ar loimchreach;  
amhghar ar éigsibh gach fhóid:  
an t-adhbhar tréigsin Tormóid.

A seal féin fuair an t-eineach,  
ag so an díle dheireadhach;  
a dhruud fá chré do chadal  
rug a ré go Roghadal.

Sior Tormód do thaobh tréighe,  
's é lá do chlú a céidfhréimhe;  
caoineadh budh ceart da áirmhibh:  
aoinfhear go seacht subhailcibh.

Mac Ruaidhri do riar dáimhe  
riamh aoinfhear dob iomláine;  
mo thogha-sa do bhraith bladhdh:  
urusa air mhaith a mholadh.

A thoirbheartas le teas ngráidh,  
eólus go n-eagna lomláin;  
ceart nár cham do thuath tire:  
neart ann le fuath fairbhríghe.

[TD 103]

[Beurla]

[TD 104]

Mar táid dúile agus daoine  
's na Hearadh d'a égcaoine,  
ó'n mhuir-si a bhfoltaibh na bhfiodh,  
's gan tuigsi ar foclaibh fileadh.

Slán le h-eólus Innsi Gall  
ar tteasdóil d' fhéinnidh Fhionnghall;  
ar lén tré éaludh anma  
's gan léghudh sgéla sgolardha.

O nach maireann mac MhicLeoid,  
ná h-iarrthar 'n-a nduais deighsheoid  
's gan fiadhain ar cham tar cháir,  
nó ar riaghail rann tar rabháin.

'S é le h-ég no gur athruigh  
as an bhaile, a Bearnathraigh,  
a Dhé mhóir, ag riarudh rann  
dob é grianbhrugh óil Fhionnghall.

Fáth bróin diombuaine an duine,  
fa lór d' adhbhur eólchuire;  
fir domhuin 's a ngnaoi d'a ngad,  
's nach foghain faoi acht f . . . .

Fuair mac MhicLeoid, lór a mét,  
clú tar laochaibh a leithéid;

ó fhuil a thoirm i ngach tír,  
do chur a ainm a n-imhchín.

Do líon a bhrón-sin gach brugh  
a ccrích cinnidh a mháthar;  
ó fuil fóir Cuinn a cceasaibh:  
guil slóigh an fhuinn Uibhisdigh.

Dóibhsion is doirbh an deadhail,  
gan súgradh 'n a sein-treabhaibh  
laoich as buirbe ag bualadh bhos:  
duilghe is luathghal an Leódhus.

[TD 105]

[Beurla]

[TD 106]

Ré fearuibh Sgí do sgaradh  
an tréighe 's an tromaradh;  
mur do ghéd an chumha a ccáil,  
's ní lugha a béd a mBarráigh.

Atá a ccláruibh na comhra  
ceann na foirneadh feasamhla;  
's an uaigh-si, 'ga cor a cceilt,  
uaisle fhola agus airmbheirt.

Aiceacht múinte gach mhic óig  
'n a luighe fá lic Thormóid;  
inn an tomus lán time;  
mar sanas an suaidh-fhile.

O fhuil Leoid lór do ceileadh  
d'a saoitheacht, d' ar sáir-cheineal;  
's gach gnás budh dualghus do'n druing,  
tré bhás gach suachus seachuinn.

Seacht gcéad dég 's a cúig gan chol,  
ég Thormóid, doirbh an deadhol;  
é comháireamh is é sin  
annáladh Dé go deimhin.

Ní fhuil tréanfhear ag toidheacht  
do mhaicne nó mór-oireacht,  
o'n bhás tré luathchar nach lag:  
uathmhar an cás comhrug.  
Rug.

[TD 107]

[Beurla]



[TD 108]

[Blank]

[TD 109]

<eng>

NOTES

[NOTE.—For the information in the notes the chief sources are the well-known and indispensable histories and clan histories, especially Browne's History of the Highlands and Clans, Mitchell's History of the Highlands and Gaelic Scotland, Mackenzie's History of the Mackenzies, of the MacLeods, and of the MacDonalds, and the great Clan Donald of the Rev. Dr. Archibald MacDonald and the Rev. Dr. Angus MacDonald. Outside these the source is generally specified; and I trust that where the number of the page has not been given the passage will be easily found by a list of contents, index, &c.]

POSADH MHIC LEOID

This so-called "Conversation between Mary MacLeod and Nic Dhomhnaill" presents some puzzling problems. First, a section of it closely resembles part of the "Tàladh Dhomhnaill Ghuirm le a Mhuime" contributed to the Gael (V. 68) by Dr. Alexander Carmichael and printed in BGh. with some improvements from Dr. Carmichael's later and much fuller version. The two poems should be compared, and contrasted, in their entirety, but especially with ll. 13 ff. of the text cf. BGh. 6516 ff.:

<gai>

Nàile nàile hò	nàile gu triall
Moch a màireach	gun d'fhaighnich a' bhean
De'n mhnaoi eile:	na, có i an long ud
Siar an eirthir	's a' chuan Chananach?
Don-bìdh ort!	c'uim an ceilinn?
Có ach long Dhomhnaill	long mo leinibh
Long mo rìgh-sa	long nan Eilean.
Is mór leam an trom	atà 'san eathar.
Tha stiuir òir oirr'	trì chroinn sheilich.
Gu bheil tobar fìona	shìos 'na deireadh
Is tobar fìoruisg'	's a' cheann eile;

<eng>

[TD 110]

and with ll. 75 ff. cf. BGh. 6542:

<gai>

Ol fìona is beoir ad champa.

<eng>

What may be the relation between the two will be considered later.

Next we have the difficulty of the second line (Nic an Tòisich) and the heading (Nic Dhomhnaill á Trondairnis); how can the same woman bear both designations? It seems probable, indeed almost certain, that the lady meant is Marjory (Mairearad of l. 1), daughter of Macintosh of that ilk, who married Domhnall Gorm of Sleat in or immediately before 1614; if then ll. 3 and 4 are to be taken literally, the first section of the poem was composed in or before 1615 and not by Mary MacLeod. This section seems to end at l. 10.

We then come to a section which shows the closest correspondence with the Tàladh, but which is in praise not of Donald Gorm but of a Ruairidh òg Mac Leoid, who is said, apparently, to have equalled Mackenzie and surpassed MacDonald. In view of that correspondence we can say quite definitely that Mary was not the author, in the proper sense, of this section. As we have no clue to the date, we cannot say which Roderick MacLeod is meant, or whether he was a contemporary of Mary MacLeod. If she had any hand in the composition as it stands, she was adapting to her own use the lines we find in the Tàladh. It is very likely, as the Rev. Malcolm Maclean points out to me, that the Conaltradh, the Tàladh and many other poems have embedded in them much older fragments, which are akin in spirit to the old tales; these fragments formed the stock in trade of the poets, which they did not hesitate to use, and among them are the lines common to the Conaltradh and the Tàladh. This section ends at l. 60.

The rest of the poem is in baser style; it is inferior in language and versification, its spirit is that of a tàmailt or an aoir, and its taste is doubtful—altogether a declension from the heroic fervour of the central part of the poem. Its style is by no means that of Mary MacLeod, and it was clearly composed at a time when MacDonald and MacLeod were at bitter enmity, which was the case during Sir Roderick Mór's time (d. 1626) but not during Mary's poetic career.

1. Mairearad: Marjory, daughter of the chief of Macintosh, was the third wife of Domhnall Gorm Mór VII of Sleat; in

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1614, no doubt on his marriage or soon after, he made provision for her by granting her a charter of lands in Sleat. It is unusual but not impossible that the wife of MacDonald should be styled Nic Dhomhnaill; we should rather have expected Bean Mhic Dhomhnaill. Again, the usual Gaelic equivalent for Marjory is Marsaili; but Marjory, Margery, and Margaret are the same name. There seems little doubt of the identification. This Donald Gorm is the same whose name is associated with the Tàladh.

23 ff. Shìn i taobh, &c.: "She drew alongside Mackenzie's boat," i.e. she was the equal of the other in sailing, and MacLeod was the equal of Mackenzie, no small boast in the days when Mackenzie's

power was paramount over all the northwest—"cò bheireadh geall ri Mac Coinnich?" Such seems to be the secondary meaning, though Mary may be speaking of friendship and alliance.

Chuir i bòrd, &c.: We may take bòrd to mean a tack in sailing, though it appears not to be used in this sense in Scotland now; "she outsailed the island boat by a tack, outstripped her by the distance covered in a tack." Or we may take bòrd in its ordinary meaning of a plank: "she knocked a plank out of the island boat," perhaps by some such feat as "bumping". In any case the meaning is that she outsailed or surpassed the island boat. What then is long an Eilein? An t-Eilean is Skye, and in view of this and of long Dhomhnaill ... long nan eilean in the Tàladh it seems certain that the island boat symbolizes MacDonald of Sleat. MacLeod then surpassed MacDonald, and was equalled only by Mackenzie—the same championship of MacLeod against MacDonald as we find in the last section of the poem.

33. Ruairidh: who this Ruairidh chief of MacLeod was is uncertain.

48. an Dùn: Dunvegan.

58. Fionn: the leader of the Fiann, of whom Diarmaid Ua Duibhne was one, flourished in the third century A.D. His son was Ossian, and Ossian's son was Oscar. Goll mac Morna was the chief warrior of the Clann Morna, and a frequent opponent of Fionn. Cuchulainn (fl. c. A.D. 1), the Fiann, Ossian and Oscar are mentioned in the Tàladh Dhomhnaill Ghuirm.

62. Caolas rònach: if this is a place-name it is a curious

[TD 112]

one, and I have not been able to find it; more likely "a seal-haunted strait".

80. Supply do before the verbal noun riarachadh: "a useful help towards completing one's sense of satisfaction at a meal."

83. Trondairnis: i.e. from Dùn-tuilm, the principal residence of MacDonald at this time.

100. Domhnall: almost certainly Donald Gorm Mór who died in 1616 or 1617. The Sir Donald who died in 1643 was summoned to appear before the Covenanting Parliament in Edinburgh in 1641, to answer for rendering assistance to Charles I; while Sir Donald the tenth chief continued his resistance to King William's government even after Killiecrankie, and only submitted after his castle of Sleat had been bombarded by two government ships of war. It does not appear, however, that either of these was actually imprisoned; and the reference in ll. 103, 104, is no doubt to the imprisonment of Donald Gorm Mór by the King and Privy Council of Scotland in 1589 and 1608.

108. Gleann Shealtainn, anglicized Glen Haultin, in Trotternish, east of Snizort.

MAIREARAD NAN CUIREID

A specimen of the Tàmailt.

MARBHRANN DO FHEAR NA COMRAICH

This is the earliest poem of certain date ascribed to Mary. Its subject is Roderick Mackenzie of Applecross, who died on 6th July, 1646. His father, Alexander Mackenzie of Coul and Applecross, was an illegitimate son of Colin Cam of Kintail, and brother of Kenneth first Lord Mackenzie of Kintail and Sir Roderick of Cóiageach, the Tutor of Kintail. Roderick died before his father (ll. 236 a and b), and never succeeded to the estate of Coul, but received Applecross as his patrimony during his father's lifetime.

165. Clann na h-irghinn: Roderick's mother was Annabella, daughter of Murdoch Mackenzie I. of Fairburn, who was the illegitimate son of Roderick Mór Mackenzie I. of Achilty and a daughter of William Dubh MacLeod of Harris and Dunvegan.

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172 A' Chomraich, "the sanctuary" of St. Maelrubha (A.D. 642-722) who founded the monastery of Applecross in A.D. 673. The sanctuary had a radius of six miles, and appears to have been marked by stone crosses (CPNS.). The Gaelic for "in Applecross" is still "air a' Chomraich".

173. gàir is the accus. of respect, limiting the sphere in which adj. is to be understood; "great in respect of shout;" the other exx. of this acc. are in ll. 274, 318, 339, 441, 447, 533, 535, 572, 626, 636, 795, 910, 928, 940, 1212.

176. Strictly, great-great-grandfather.

185. Glaic Fhionnlaigh is beside the shore between Milton and Camusterrach, on the other side of the road from Milton loch at a distance of 30 or 40 yards. An old wall running from the loch to the glaic is called gàradh Fhionnlaigh. There is no local tradition of a battle, but a piece of level ground 150 or 200 yards away is called Blàr Dubh.

203. I owe the reading in the text to Dr. D. J. Macleod: "I laid by my harp in a coffer" makes excellent sense, especially in view of the following line. Taking ciste nan teud of all the sources, ciste is coffin, and the teudan are the ropes by which it is lowered. The other seems distinctly better.

204. an gobha: "the smith," (who possibly nailed up the coffin), "denied me gleus," i.e. the mood appropriate to music; the sense is obscure.

216. nighean Iarla Chlann Domhnaill: the reference, if we are to take it literally, is obscure; but the expression is probably a figurative one. Roderick's wife was Fionnghal, daughter of Murdoch Mackenzie of Redcastle.

224. t'fhàgail: note subjective use of the pronoun, "thy leaving (of me)"; contrast "Is neo-roghainn leam t'fhàgail," "I am reluctant to leave thee."

228. ? as a sign of grief.

236c. Roderick had no full brothers; he had, however, three half brothers, sons of his father's second marriage. These lines, though clearly corrupt, seem to be genuine.

#### AN TALLA AM BU GHNATH

This famous song, which in E. is headed *Le Nighean Alastair ruaidh do Shir Toramaid Mac Leoid*, was composed, says

[TD 114]

John Mackenzie, "on the Laird being sick and dying. He playfully asked Mary what kind of a lament she would make for him. Flattered by such a question, she replied that it would certainly be a very mournful one. 'Come nearer me,' said the aged and infirm chief, 'and let me hear part of it.' Mary, it is said, readily complied, and sung, *ex tempore*, that celebrated poem."

We have no reason to disbelieve the substantial truth of this tradition; yet it seems probable from the whole tone of the poem that it was composed on the occasion of a minor illness rather than when Sir Norman was actually on his deathbed. Again, it seems likely that there was some considerable interval between its composition and Sir Norman's death; for the only obvious reason for the survival of a tradition that the elegy was composed before his death would be that the poem became fairly widely known while its subject was known to be alive and well.

239. Mac Leoid: it seems almost certain that here for once Mary improperly applies this style to an other than the chief; yet the reference may be to the castle of Dunvegan and not to Sir Norman's own house in Bernera.

263. bàrr is probably the duine-uasal's crest of one eagle's feather, but may refer to the feathered or bushy (*dosrach*) arrow-butts protruding from the mouth of the quiver.

267. Cf. *Eachann Bacach do Shir Lachlann Triath Dhubhaird: Cha bhiodh òirleach gun bhàthadh Eadar smeoirn agus gàinne.*

283. An Fhiann: see note on l. 58.

286. Note how the line merges into the following one.

MARBHRANN DO IAIN GARBH

Mr. James Fraser, in his Polichronicon under the year 1671, writes as follows (I owe this reference to Mr. A. Nicolson):

“This April the Earle of Seaforth duelling in the Lewes, a dreedful accident happened. His lady being brought to bed there, the Earle sent for John Garve M’kleud, Laird of Rarzay, to witness the christning; and, after the treat and solemnity of the feast, Rarsay takes leave to goe home, and, after a rant of drinking uppon the shoare, went aboard off his birling and sailed away with a strong north gale off wind; and whither

[TD 115]

by giveing too much saile and no ballast, or the unskillfulness off the seamen, or that they could not mannage the strong Dut(ch) canvas saile, the boat whelmd, and all the men dround in view of the cost. The Laird and 16 of his kinsmen, the prime, perished; non of them ever found; a grewhound or two cast ashoare dead; and pieces of the birling. One Alexander Mackleod in Lewes the night before had voice warning him thrice not to goe at (all) with Rarsey, for all would drown in there return; yet he went with him, being infatuat, and drownd (with) the rest. This account I had from Alexander his brother the summer after. Drunkness did the (mischeife).”

We may take it, therefore, that Iain Garbh died at Easter (l. 354), 1671; and as he was served heir to his father in 1648, the tradition that he died at the age of twenty-one must be discarded. From l. 352 it is clear that he was succeeded by his brother; in Origines Parochiales (II, i, 348) it is stated that “in 1688 Janet and Giles MacLeods, alias MacAlasdair mhic Ghille Chaluim (sisters of Iain Garbh) were served heirs of line, conquest, and provision to their father Alexander Macleod”; and we may suppose that it was on the death of this brother that the representation of the family devolved upon Alexander, son of John, brother of Iain Garbh’s father.

Iain’s size and strength are still a tradition in Skye, and especially in Raasay; among several songs composed upon him are two elegies by his sister, one of which (Och nan och ’s mi fo léireadh) is in Còisir a’ Mhòid ascribed to Mary MacLeod; (1) the other, a magnificent lament, begins:

<gai>  
Mi am shuidh air an fhaoidhlinn  
Is mi gun fhaoilte gun fhanan,  
Cha tog mi fonn aotrom  
O Dhi-haoine mo dhunaidh,  
<eng>

with which cf. l. 354. Pàdraig Mór’s pìobaireachd, Cumha Iain

Ghairbh, is well known. The tradition that witchcraft brought about his drowning is related in Clàrsach na Coille, p. 290, and in J. Gregorson Campbell's Witchcraft and Second-sight in the Highlands, p. 25.

297. "a hand unerring and unblemished, undamaged."

(1) I accept as conclusive the Raasay tradition which, I am told, ascribes the song to Iain Garbh's sister and not to Mary MacLeod; see p. 100.

[TD 116]

The sense is like that of "gun leòn làimhe gun laige," (Eachann Bacach, do Shir Lachlann Triath Dhubhaird).

315. oirre refers to the boat; "a hand that would not cease from causing her to speed."

321. a ghabhail orra: "to reach them."

329. do bhaile gun smùid, &c.: we might be tempted to take this as referring to Iain Garbh's house in Clachan, Raasay, though the description by no means suits the place; but the "homestead without smoke under the wave-lashed rock" is Iain's watery grave: cf. the lament mentioned above:

<gai>

Nochd gur h-ìosal do chluasag  
Fo lic fhuaraidh na tuinne;  
Is ann an clachan na tràghad (or gun tràghadh)  
Tha mo ghràdh-sa 'na uirigh.  
<eng>

The verses quoted I owe to Mr. Samuel Maclean of Raasay; they and others will be found in Songs of the Hebrides, II, 102.

347. rùsgadh a' ghill: geall, a wager, stake, pledge, is common in poetry, and is used in several idiomatic phrases of which this is perhaps the commonest of the promise or pledge made by a warrior to do good execution in battle. Rùsgadh here seems to have the meaning of "make known, announce"; cf. "an àill leat mise a rùsgadh ceoil duit?"; an alternative meaning would be "make a clean sweep of", in reference to the pledge or promise of the opponent. Cf. S. 498:

<gai>

Gun leòn gun sgìos, gu bràth cha phill  
Gus an téid na gill a chur leo;  
<eng>

Iain Lom, Oran do Dhomhnall mac Dhomhnaill mac Thriath Shléite:

<gai>

Dol a shiubhal nan stùcbheann,  
Anns an uidhe gun chùram  
Leis a' bhuidhinn roimh 'n rùisgte na gill.  
<eng>

Further examples are collected and discussed in BGh., whence the above explanation is taken.

352. In Maclean Sinclair's Gaelic Bards (I, 95) it is said that Iain had two brothers; Mackenzie (History of the

[TD 117]

MacLeods, 369) says that he was an only son. The tradition of Raasay supports the former; one brother perished with him, and one remained to succeed him.

#### TUIREADH

The heading given to this song in the Duanaire is a strong confirmation of the tradition, vouched for by the Rev. Kenneth MacLeod among others, that a part of Mary's exile was spent in Scarba. The heading in turn is perhaps confirmed to some extent by the third and fourth lines, which certainly suit Scarba better than Mull whose traditional claim is better known. Unfortunately we get no precise information from the poem either on this point or regarding Mary's early history.

365. Uilbhinnis, Ullinish, a district in Bracadale in Skye. The following lines are not incompatible with the tradition that Mary was born in Harris.

375. As Sir Roderick Mor died in 1626, these lines are not inconsistent with the tentative suggestion of 1615 as the year of Mary's birth; a slightly earlier date would perhaps suit them better, however, while any later date is to be rejected. Tradition records that she was in service in Dunvegan Castle, and it is quite possible that she entered that service when she was eleven or less, before Sir Roderick's death.

#### LUINNEAG MHIC LEOID

This is among the best known of all Mary's songs. It is addressed to Sir Norman of Bernera (l. 399), and was of course composed during her exile. Why it should be known as "MacLeod's Lilt" is not very clear, as Sir Norman was never MacLeod, a style reserved for the chief.

394. Dhiùraidh á Sgarbaidh: the decision between the various readings is an important one. I have followed BGh. because (1) it seems clear that for a part of her exile Mary was in Scarba (see notes on Tuireadh and introduction); (2) a of E. is not nearly so



likely to be the result of corruption as is or agus; (3) á is still heard from traditional singers, for example in Raasay, as Mr. John Maclean tells me.

397. do'n dùthaich, i.e. Harris, as appears from l. 399.

400. A reference to Sir Norman's Lieut.-Colonelcy of the

[TD 118]

force of 700 men raised by Sir Roderick of Talisker in 1650 in response to a proclamation issued by King Charles II on his arrival in Scotland.

413. For the MacLeods' Norse descent see note to l. 696.

416. We need not trouble to take literally this poetic exaggeration; cf. S. 113, Oran do Lochiall, le Gille-easbuig Domhnallach:

<gai>

Chan 'eil fineadh feadh Alba am bheil buaidh  
Nach 'eil Camshronaich fuaight' riu gu beachd.

<eng>

417. A reference to the Irish connexions of the MacDonalds, to whom Sir Norman was related through his second wife, the daughter of Sir James MacDonald of Sleat, and through his mother, Isabel, daughter of Donald MacDonald of Glen Garry, after whom Sir Roderick Mór's five sons were called "cóignear mhac uasal Iseabail".

Éire, f. gen. Éireann, dat. Éirinn.

433 ff. We do not know when Sir Norman's two younger brothers, William of Hamer and Donald of Greshornish, died; his elder brothers, Iain Mór and Sir Roderick of Talisker, died in 1649 and 1675 respectively; the poem is therefore later than 1675.

438. Note nìor with pres. subj. expressing a negative wish; now obsolete. Nìor is nì (neg.) and the particle ro.

459 ff. It is noticeable that the place given to the bow is now secondary to that of firearms. Mr. James Fraser, who was born in 1634, died in 1709, and commenced his Polichronicon in 1666, notes there that "that manly art" (of archery) "is wearing away by degrees, and the gun taking place". The last battle fought in Scotland in which bows are recorded to have been used was also the last clan battle, that of Maol Ruadh (Mulroy) in Lochaber, between the MacDonalds of Keppoch, under Colla nam bó, and the Mackintoshes of Moy (see T., p. 142, 143 ff.); it took place in 1688. See further BGh. 310.

471. The translation adopts the conjecture crann.

474. Commerce between Galway and the western isles may have been

direct, or through the Lowland ports. It is interesting to note that sìoda na Gailbhinn is still known in Skye and Lewis as applied to a delicate kind of grass.

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497. g'a seòladh: the obsolete construction of urrainn with gu illustrates the original meaning of urrainn, a guarantor, security, hence an authorized or competent person; urrainn gu, a fit person to. See vocab.

#### CRÒNAN AN TAIBH

From ll. 504 and 514 ff. it seems that Mary was not in either Skye or Harris when she composed this poem. From this and the general tone we may conclude that the poem belongs to the period of her exile; yet we cannot be precise as to its date, and it therefore affords no valuable evidence in that connexion. It is clear only that it was composed after 1666 (l. 582 n.); and no poem of her exile can be shown to be earlier than that date. A fragment was sung to Miss Tolmie in Bracadale and is printed in her Collection (98).

504. Pàdraig Mór Mac Cruimein, the famous piper of Sir Roderick Mór, on whose death he composed the Cumha Ruairidh Mhóir:

<gai>

Tog orm mo phìob is théid mi dhachaidh,  
Is duilich leam fhéin, mo léir mar thachair;  
Tog orm mo phìob 's mì air mo chràdh  
Mu Ruairidh Mór, mu Ruairidh Mór.

Tog orm mo phìob, tha mi sgìth,  
Is mur faigh mi ì théid mi dhachaidh;  
Tog orm mo phìob, tha mi sgìth  
Is mì air mo chràdh mu Ruairidh Mór.

Tog orm mo phìob, tha mi sgìth,  
Is mur faigh mi ì théid mi dhachaidh;  
Clàrsach no pìob cha tog mo chrìdh,  
Cha bheò fear mo ghràidh, Ruairidh Mór.

<eng>

Pàdraig is said to have accompanied Roderick of Talisker to London after the restoration of Charles II, and to have composed there the pìobaireachd "Thug mi pòg do làimh an Rìgh" on being allowed to kiss the King's hand on that occasion (e.g. Mackenzie's Hist. of the MacLeods, p. 103). From the Polichronicon, however, a contemporary account, it appears that the incident occurred in May, 1651, when

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the King's army, a few weeks before the battle of Inverkeithing, was gathering at Stirling, and that the MacCrimmon concerned was not

Patrick but John. The passage runs as follows (Wardlaw MS., p. 379): "It was pretty in a morning (the King) in parad viewing the regiments and bragads. He saw no less than 80 pipers in a crould bareheaded, and John M'gyurmen in the midle covered. He asked What society that was? It was told his Majesty: Sir, yow are our King, and yonder old man in the midle is the Prince of Pipers. He cald him by name, and, comeing to the King, kneeling, his Majesty reacht him his hand to kiss; and instantly played an extemporanian part Fuoris Pōōge i spoge i Rhī (Fuaras pòg o spòg an Rìgh), I got a kiss of the Kings hand; of which he and they all were vain." The MacCrimmon family are fully discussed in Mr. Fred. T. MacLeod's recent "The MacCrimmons of Skye".

513. nach tug e, &c.: a sentiment very common in Gaelic poetry.

518. an tigh: The walls of Sir Norman's house, in the north-east of Bernera, are still standing; see introd., p. xiv.

521. Olgharach: see note to l. 791.

548. "in winning victory in respect of scholarship", "in pre-eminence of scholarship"; cf. l. 195.

551. For a similar expression cf. l. 1085.

558. Sir: "the dignity of knighthood is no new beginning for them"; Sir Norman's father, Roderick Mór, was knighted in 1613.

561. Teàrlach: Charles II. Some account of the part played in the second civil war by Sir Norman and Sir Roderick is given in the notes to Marbhrann do Shir Tormod.

562. Slàn is rightly explained in a footnote in E. by "defiance"; "I defy Gael or Saxon (to show) that deceit was found on you" (BGh.).

564. dh' is for do, used idiomatically in the sense of despite; cf. Seumas MacShithich (?), Oran Gaoil: Sruth d'a chaisid cha chum air m'ais mi," "the stream despite its swiftness will not hold me back".

565. Lochlannaich: see note to l. 696.

567. Mànus: the MacLeod genealogy according to Irish

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MSS., printed in Skene's Celt. Scot., has: "Manus óg mac/Magnus na luingi luaithe mic/Magnus Aircin mic/Iamhar uallach." "The period of Manus óg would be the early part of the ninth century, when the Norse settlements in the Isles were in progress" (BGh.).

568 ff. These stanzas added in praise of Sir Norman's lady are in the manner of the classic panegyric; see introduction p. xxvi. Sir Norman married in 1666 as his second wife Catherine eldest daughter of Sir James MacDonald IX of Sleat; her sister Florence was the wife

of Iain Breac of Harris and Dunvegan.

#### AN T-EUDACH

593. an Fhionnairigh: on the coast of Morvern, lying across the sound of Mull from Aros (thall ud); and we may suppose Mary composed the poem while in exile in Aros (l. 905).

599. Linne na Ciste is a deep pool about three miles up the Fiunary burn, and lying beneath a fall. Immediately below this pool is a ford, and close by are a number of cairns on which in former days, when conveying a funeral across the ford, they were accustomed to rest the coffin (ciste). The path followed on these occasions is still partly traceable. (I owe this difficult identification to Miss C. M. MacVicar, Loch Aline.)

#### CUMHA DO MHAC LEOID

The formal subject of the lament is Roderick, seventeenth chief of Harris and Dunvegan, who succeeded his father Iain Breac in 1693; in fact, however, it deals also with his younger brother Norman, who, as Roderick had no son, was his prospective heir and did actually succeed him. We must suppose that news reached Mary, whether during her exile or later, of the death of both Roderick and Norman, by what cause we have no information. Roderick's character, his abandonment of the traditional mode of life of a Gaelic noble, and his neglect of Dunvegan castle and its inmates made him an unpopular chief and were strongly censured by his father's bard, Roderick Morrison, an Clàrsair Dall, in the famous Òran Mór Mhic Leoid; whether or not it was Roderick that caused Mary's exile, she received his death without much regret. She praises

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his ancestors, and her praise of them and of Norman serves as a signal contrast to her silence regarding his personal qualities. Of her much warmer feeling towards Norman there is further proof in the following poem, which she composed on hearing that he had not after all shared his brother's fate. Roderick died in 1699, and the poem can be assigned with certainty to that year.

615. gun abachadh meas: Roderick's only child was a daughter; Norman was not yet married; William, the third and only other brother, was probably already dead.

620. Note the idiom: "becoming more frequent and more severe", lit., "going into frequency, &c."; cf. dol am feabhas, improving.

621. chunncas, 3 sg. past passive of faic; so chualas; except in a few cases, this termination is now replaced by -adh; chunnadh of S. is a barbarous formation in this termination.

624. aon uair, pron. éan uair, as often; so éan fhear, &c.

625. a chlann: this and the following plurals are to be noted. an fhir allail: Iain Breac.

635. ogha, addressed to Roderick only.

an dà sheanair: his father's father was Iain Mór, his mother's Sir James MacDonald IX of Sleat.

637 ff. The construction is loose, and of the nature of an aposiopesis; the noun or relative to which e refers is not expressed, but easily understood.

641. Iain Breac Mac Leoid.

645. Tormod a mhac-san: Norman his i.e. Iain Breac's son, not as has been supposed Roderick's own son.

659. as: a form of anns an (occurring before t and d in Scottish Gael., but Dinneen, s.v. i (in), quotes other cases for Irish).

661. nach usa: an understatement; the Crònán shows how much stronger was her feeling for Norman than for Roderick.

668. 'gam fògradh: the reference is to the accession of Stewart of Appin to the estates of MacLeod which might follow the extinction of the male line; cf. below.

671. is ar ranntannan: the absolute construction.

672. sud refers back to am in 'nam: lit. "if it should be gone into need of those"; rachte is the pass. subj. impersonal.

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674. Clann Domhnaill simpliciter are here the MacDonalds of Sleat. The term usually includes the clan in all its branches.

677. Gleann Garadh, Glen Garry, in Inverness-shire; distinguish Gleann Garadh in Perthshire.

683. 'nam fineachd, &c.: Roderick was nephew of Margaret daughter of Sir John Mackenzie of Tarbat (wife of his uncle Roderick), grandson of Sibella daughter of Kenneth first Lord Mackenzie of Kintail (wife of Iain Mór his grandfather), and husband of Lady Isabel Mackenzie daughter of Kenneth third Earl of Seaforth and of Isabel daughter of Sir John Mackenzie of Tarbat and sister of the first Earl of Cromarty.

685. From this and l. 691 it seems that Roderick died away from home. The burial place of the MacLeods of Harris and Dunvegan was in Harris (cf. the heading of the lament for Sir Roderick Mór mentioned on p. xxxii). It has always been regarded in the Highlands as a

misfortune to die and be buried away from home; the case of Thomas Lord Fraser, who was buried in Kilmuir as a sign of "the great love he bore the family of MacLeod", is mentioned in the note to l. 825. Sir Roderick Mór was buried in the Chanonry of Ross (Fortrose Cathedral), where his recumbent grave-stone is still legible.

689. air an oighre: i.e. Norman, Roderick's prospective heir.

690. staidhle 'sna Hearadh: as stated in the note to l. 696, Harris was, whether rightly or wrongly, regarded by tradition as the original possession of the Sìol Tormoid or MacLeods of Harris and Dunvegan, though they had also held Glenelg since about 1343. Mackenzie, in discussing claims to the chiefship (History, p. 7) says that "in several royal charters, and other authentic documents, where the heads of the families are mentioned, the representatives of Tormod (are) usually styled MacLeods of Harris", and this is the case in literature. Now that Harris no longer belongs to the MacLeods the chief is generally known as MacLeod Dhùn Bheagain.

696. Manainn: Harald, lawful king, under Hacon, king of Norway, of the Norwegian kingdom of Man and the Isles after 1265, was succeeded in that kingdom by his only son Leodus. Leodus married Adama d. of Ferquhar earl of Ross

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(cf. l. 704) and had two sons, Torkell and Dormeth. To Torkell, the elder, he gave Lewis and Waternish; to Dormeth he gave Harris and his other lands in Skye, which was about the fourth part of what he gave to his eldest son. All their descendants "took their patronimick from Leod, sone to Harald, both those who descendit of Torquill, . . . as those who descendit of Dormeth, or, as the Highlanders pronounced, Tormett, heritor of the Herries." Such is the account of the genealogy of Clan Leod given in the History of the Family of Mackenzie, written by the first Earl of Cromarty, Mary's contemporary; and there is little doubt that this represents the tradition on which Mary is touching. The MacLeods of Harris and Dunvegan are still commonly called Sìol Tormoid, those of Lewis Sìol Torcuill. A variation of this tradition is that Leod married the d. of Mac Raild, a Danish knight, and through her acquired her father's lands including Dunvegan.

The whole of this account is rejected by Skene as the fabrication of the Earl, owing to the absence of literary evidence for such a genealogy before the writing of his work in 1669; the Chronicle of Man, a document of the greatest importance because contemporary with the events it narrates, makes no mention of Leod, although up to the year 1265 the Earl's history is in close agreement with it; but the Chronicle is at this stage meagre; between 1265 and 1274 it records only (1266) the transference of the kingdom of Man and the Isles to Alexander king of the Scots; this the Earl places in 1270 or immediately after, saying that Alexander "gave to Harald . . . the Isles of Lewis, and that part of the Sky which he found then in the Norwegian possession, viz. Vaternes, Meignanes, and the Herries,

to be holdin in wassalladge of him and his successores, Kings of Scotland." The absence of positive statement in the Chronicle is not to be taken as proof of the contrary; early poems dealing with the genealogy of MacLeod, did we possess them, might well show what is most likely to be the case, that the Earl is recounting current tradition. In the present context we are concerned not with the truth of that tradition, but with the fact that Mary was well acquainted with and used it (see Celt. Scot. and Highlanders; Chron. of Man, i, 110; Sir Wm. Fraser's Earls of Cromartie, ii, 509 ff.).

Another account is given in Mr. James Fraser's Polichronicon, commenced in 1666 (Ward. MS., p. 40): "Duncan (son of

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King Malcolm) enjoyed the crown but a very short time, with great trouble from England, quhen he is killed by M'kpeudar (MacPeter), Thain of Merns, by the former Donalds procurement, who, to strengthen himselve in his kingdom, conduced with Sueno 2, King of Norrowy, for assistance to recover the crown, he gave him the north and west Isles, which his race possesses to this day, viz. the Mackleuds. For Leodus, the sone of Oliverius Norwegie, possessed the Lewes, called so from Leodus, who had 4 sones, Torcil, Tormoid, Teah, and Teascil, who divided the country among them, Torcil possessing the Lewis, Tormoid the Haris, and the other two, parcells among them; upon them 4 the poet in that language gives this distich on

Schlichd Oliver shin nach duair baistig, tha buon maslig;  
Ta Tormodich, agus Torkil, Teah, is Teaskill.

<gai>(Sliochd Olbhair sin nach d'fhuair baisteadh, tha buan masladh;  
Ta Tormodaich, agus Torcuill, Teah agus Teascuil.)<eng>

"The clan Torkil in Lewis were the stoutest and prettiest men, but a wicked bloody crew whom neither law nor reason could guid or moddell, destroying one another, till in end they were all expelled that country, and the M'Kenzies now possess it. The poet gave them this satyr:

<gai>  
She mi varrell er Chland Leod gir cossvil ead re Poir i Duse  
The shin mis i is mo, Ichis i te is Oig Tuse.

Is e mo bhairil air Chlann Leoid, gur cosmhail iad ri pòir ... (?)  
An té is sine, ma's i as mó, itheas i an té as òige an tùs."  
<eng>

The Norse descent of the Clan Leod is a favourite theme with Mary; cf. l. 791 and note.

698. Olghar: see note to l. 791. Ochraidh: not identified.

699. Boirbhe, Beirbhe (N. Björgvín), Bergen, one of the principal

cities of Norway. This is perhaps the only name of a place in Scandinavia which survives in modern Sc. Gaelic, and it has the article in Gaelic, an unusual feature in Norse names.

703. De shliochd àrmunn Chinn-tìre: a poetically general

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reference to Norman's descent on his mother's side from the MacDonalds of Sleat. To understand what was in Mary's mind we must recall the struggles of Somerled, grandfather of Donald the eponymus of the Clan, to assert Gaelic sway in Argyll and the Isles against the Norse. Somerled, whose capacity for leadership put him in a position of such power that the Chronicle of Man credits him with the intention of conquering the whole of Scotland, and who met his death by treachery at Renfrew in the year 1164 while leading an army against the King of Scotland, defeated Godred the feudal King of Man and the Isles in a sea-fight off the north shore of Islay in 1156. The result of this was a brief peace between Gael and Norseman, on condition of Somerled receiving the Isles south of the point of Ardnamurchan, a territory which included Kintyre, and which was the ancient patrimony and earliest possession of the Clan Cholla in Scotland. On Somerled's death these central territories of Islay and Kintyre went to his son Reginald, on whose death, in 1207, they passed to Donald the eponymous progenitor of Clan Donald. I do not think we have here any special reference to the family of MacAllister of Loup in Kintyre, said to be descended from Alasdair, second son of Donald and therefore an early cadet branch of Clan Donald. Islay and Kintyre remained central possessions of the Lords of the Isles, though at intervals in their history they acquired very large additions of territory.

The most important of these was the Earldom of Ross. A legitimate claim to it was advanced by Donald, fifth in descent from Donald son of Reginald, on behalf of his wife, Lady Mary Leslie, who became Countess of Ross in her own right. This claim Donald vindicated at the battle of Harlaw, in Aberdeenshire, in 1411, against an army sent to meet him by the Duke of Albany and led by the Earl of Mar. The united forces of Scotland, however, were too strong to permit him to take possession of Ross; the Earldom was bestowed by Albany in his capacity of regent of Scotland on his son the Earl of Buchan; it reverted to the crown in 1424; and it was probably not until soon after the death of James I, in 1437, that Donald's son, Alexander, was granted possession of the title and estates of Ross, probably by the regents of the young king James II, in right of his mother, Countess of Ross. Alexander's son John, the last Lord of the Isles, in consequence of many acts of war by himself and his son Angus against

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the crown of Scotland, was divested of the Earldom of Ross, and, in 1493, of all his other titles and estates.



There was then no earldom of Islay, but the Lords of the Isles being designated "de Ile", "of Islay", and being, as we have seen, Earls of Ross, Mary combines the two; so does Iain Lom, "Do Dhomhnall Gorm Og Mac Dhomhnaill Shléite":

<gai>

"Aig ogha Iarla Ile  
Agus Chinn-tìre,  
Rois is Innse Gall."

<eng>

The MacDonalds of Sleat are descended from Hugh, son of Alexander the first to enter into possession of the Earldom of Ross.

705 ff. Mhic Iain Stiùbhairt: the patronymic of the chief of Appin, at that time Robert Stewart of Appin, to whom was married Isabel, sister of Roderick and Norman, and to whom, through his wife, the estates of MacLeod might pass in the event of the death of Roderick and Norman, their only brother, William, having died unmarried. Alexander Mackenzie, in the belief that the poem was composed on the death of Roderick the fifteenth chief, gives that Roderick a son and daughter, against the evidence of Douglas's Baronage, and marries the daughter out of hand to Stewart of Appin. The case of that Roderick does not meet the requirements of the poem.

an Apuinn, Appin, a district north of Loch Creran in Argyll: Apuinn Mhic Iain Stiùbhairt; distinguish from Apuinn a' Mhèinnearaich, Appin of Menzies, which is Dull in Perthshire.

718. an fhir fhéilidh: Iain Breac. The reference no doubt includes William as well as Roderick and Norman.

719. Ruairidh Mór: Sir Roderick Mór, who died in 1626, the great-great-grandfather of Roderick and Norman.

## AN CRÒNAN

Mary's joy at finding the report of Norman's death to be false finds full expression in An Crònan; besides being personally attached to him, she welcomed the prospect of a change of régime. Though Roderick is not mentioned, his degeneracy from the hereditary qualities of his house is indicated plainly

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enough in constant reminders to Norman of what is due to tradition, and in expressions of joy that the old order of hunting, feasting and open-handedness to the household will be renewed. Norman was, as the language of the poem would of itself show, a young man at his accession, but Mary's hopes were not fulfilled for long; Norman married in 1703 Anne Fraser, daughter of Hugh Lord Lovat, and died before the birth of his son Norman in 1706. It is clear that the poem was composed very soon after the Cumha do Mhac Leoid. A

fragment of it was sung to Miss Tolmie in Bracadale in 1862; see her Collection, No. 99.

723. The physician, i.e. God, says Miss Tolmie; perhaps rather the bearer of the message.

725. The reading of E. and M., theannas, is the relative fut., used commonly enough, though ungrammatically, in colloquial speech in place of the independent fut.

736. àrmunn: Iain Breac.

751. dùn ud nan cliar: Dunvegan.

779. socrach ri tuaith: a common sentiment; cf. Iain Lom to Mackinnon of Strath: "Cha b'e am fasan bh'aig càch / So ghlac e mar ghnàth / Bhith smachdail mu'n mhàl air tuaith."

791. Olghar: cf. ll. 521, 698, 875, 1148.

"In the classic bardic poetry the name is Olbhur, and occurs frequently, e.g. in the elegy on Sir Norman aicme Olbhuir (thrice).—RC., II, 264; a poem in Nat. Lib. MS., addressed to William MacLeod, son of Sir Norman, has—

<gai>

Mac í Olbhuir mur thuinn thoruidh (rann 12),  
Triath do ríoghfhuil aicme Olbhuir (rann 23).

<eng>

Olghar, Olbhur is perhaps to be equated with Oilmor of the MacLeod genealogy as printed in Celt. Scot., III, 460, where he appears as great-grandfather of Leod, the eponymus of the clan. The name is obviously the Norse Olver: seven men of that name are mentioned in Landnámabók."—BGh.

807. Sliochd Ruairidh, the race of Sir Roderick Mór. The descendants of his eleven children are too many to enumerate. The most prominent at this date were Sir Norman of Bernera, and the representatives of the houses of Talisker, Hamer, and Greshornish, founded respectively by Sir Roderick of Talisker, Tutor of MacLeod, William, and Donald, Sir

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Roderick Mór's second, third and fourth sons. Besides these, through Sir Roderick Mór's daughters Norman had marriage ties with, among others, the houses of Maclean of Duart, Maclean of Coll, MacDonald of Clan Ranald, MacDonald of Glen Garry, MacLeod of Raasay; and through the daughters of John, Sir Roderick's eldest son and successor, with these and other houses.

812. Sir Domhnall a Sléite: Mary, daughter of Iain Mór of Dunvegan, married Sir James MacDonald IX of Sleat; Florence, Sir James's

daughter, was wife of Iain Breac and mother of the present Norman. This Sir Donald is Sir James's grandson, XI of Sleat, who succeeded in 1695 and died in 1718.

819. Mac mhic Ailein: this must refer to Alan, chief of Clan Ranald since 1686, who was mortally wounded at Sheriffmuir. The version of E. and SO. seems impossible, for it is apparently certain that Alan had no son: so Mary's younger contemporary, Sìlis na Ceapaich:

<gai>

Beir soraìdh gu h-Ailean o'n chuan  
Bha greis anns an Fhraing uainn air chuairt;  
Is e ro mheud do ghaisge  
Chum gun oighre air do phearsa.

<eng>

The lines in E. and SO. may arise from contamination with some other poem.

The version of M. has, as noted, "Mac Mhic Ailein is da Mhac Dhonuill", which, written thus, is an extraordinary phrase, as Mac Dhomhnaill is the style of the chief of that name only, and is therefore not applicable to more than one man at a time. Capital letters, however, are used indiscriminately in M., and we should perhaps read "dà mhac Dhomhnaill", "the two sons of Donald". There remains to identify these; we may suppose them to be James of Orinsay, who was later for a short time chief of the house, and William of Vallay, sons of Sir Donald who died in 1695, and brothers of the Sir Donald mentioned in the previous stanza. The latter had only one son. With this identification we may compare again Sìlis na Ceapaich:

<gai>

Beir soraìdh gu Domhnall o'n Dùn,  
Gu h-Uilleam 's gu Seumas 'nan triuir.

<eng>

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825. Mac Shimidh: Fraser of Lovat. It is probable, though we cannot be certain, that the Crònán was composed after May, 1699. In that month died Thomas Lord Fraser, and was succeeded by his son Simon, who erected in the churchyard of Kilmuir a monument to his father bearing an inscription which is quoted in Mackenzie's History of the MacLeods. Lord Thomas married Sibella, daughter of Iain Mór, and, says the inscription, "for the great love he bore the family of MacLeod, he desired to be buried near his wife's relations, in the place where two of her uncles lay. And his son, Lord Simon, to show to posterity his great affection for his mother's kindred, the brave MacLeods, chooses rather to leave his father's bones with them than carry them to his own burial place near Lovat." Lord Simon was beheaded in 1746 for his share in the '45.

an Aird, Aird Mhic Shimidh, the Aird, a district near Beaulieu in

Inverness-shire.

826. Mackenzie of Kintail: see note on l. 683.

Ceann tSàil Mhic Coinnich, Mackenzie's Kintail, in Ross-shire; distinguish Cinn tSàil Mhic Aoidh, Mackay's Kintail, which is Tongue in Sutherland.

831 ff. Sir John, chief of Maclean, a strong supporter of the Jacobite cause, was in exile at the court of St. Germain from 1692 until the accession of Queen Anne in 1702; cf. Mairearad nighean Lachlainn, a younger contemporary of Mary MacLeod:

<gai>

Is goirt leam gaoir nam ban Muileach,  
Iad ri caoineadh 's ri tuireadh,  
Gun Sir Iain an Lunnainn  
No 'san Fhraing air cheann turuis, &c.  
<eng>

834. do cheangal ris: see note to l. 807. Sir John's mother was Julian, daughter of Iain Mór and aunt of Norman.

840. Breacachadh: the seat of the Macleans of Coll, often mentioned by John Maclean, the Maclean Bard; a description of the old castle, written towards the end of the sixteenth century, is printed in Skene's Celt. Scot. In regard to the reading adopted, I am indebted to Mr. Hector M. MacDougall, Glasgow, a native of Coll, for the information (1) that the place-name is masculine; (2) that to the north-west of the old castle is

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some elevated ground where the rock is all of the red quartz variety, a rare thing in Coll, where grey gneiss with dykes of basalt predominates. This part is thus so red in appearance that the region is called "na creagan dearga". The dhearg of M., which preserves the rime, has therefore been adopted, with change of gender.

Donald, the tenth Maclean of Coll, who died in 1729, married first Isabella, daughter of Sir Roderick of Talisker, and secondly Marian, daughter of Sir Norman of Bernera.

FUIGHEALL

"On her passage from Mull to Skye," says John Mackenzie (i.e. at the end of her period of exile), Mary "composed a song, of which only a fragment can now be procured". Once again, we are disappointed to find that we can extract no certain information from this fragment. The question must arise whether her destination was Dunvegan, the seat of the chief, or Bernera, the residence of Sir Norman. The words of l. 866 constitute the only tangible evidence for the

latter, and we are probably safe in accepting Mackenzie's statement that her passage was to Skye. Dunvegan would be her natural destination, and especially the abode of the chief is indicated by dùthaich Mhic Leoid (l. 861) and ll. 872 and 903, for Mary is consistent in applying the proper style MacLeod to the chief alone. The title of the song Luinneag Mhic Leoid is no disproof of this, for it was probably not given by Mary. The expression in l. 866, therefore, referring to her passage westward, probably does not mean that she was bound for Harris.

If this is so, we can give only a poetic interpretation to the phrase. So far as we know, she set out for Dunvegan from either Sgarbaidh or as Mackenzie says from Mull. If from the former, the expression can be taken literally only if we suppose it to apply to the first part of the voyage to Dunvegan by way of the Sound of Iona. If we are content to concede to her a poetic licence, the phrase is as well used of a voyage from Aros as of one from Sgarbaidh north through the Sound of Mull; in either case it can only loosely describe the first part of the voyage, which is of course on the whole northwards and not westwards.

872. MacLeoid: probably Norman; see over.

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873. an t-òg: this well suits the supposition that the MacLeod who recalled Mary was Norman the eighteenth chief, who as we know was a young man at his accession.

875. see 791 n.

884. Siol Tormoid: the MacLeods of Harris and Dunvegan; see note on l. 696.

905. Aros: àros of SO. is certainly wrong, for the dative of àros, dwelling, mansion, is àros; if we suppose the word to be simply a common noun, the phrase àros an fhìon is certainly not such as we should associate with Sgarbaidh, which, so far as is known, was never the abode of any person of importance. As the text stands, there is a pun on Aros, the place-name, àros, mansion, and talla, hall.

#### DO MHAC DHOMHNAILL

Headed in the MS. "Le Mairi nighean Alasdair Ruaidh mhic Leòid, an té sheinn An Crònán"

The poem is addressed to Sir Donald MacDonald of Sleat, who succeeded his father, Sir Donald, in 1695. He was known as Domhnall Gorm Og, or more particularly as Domhnall a' Chogaidh from the part he played in the war on behalf of James VII. At the Battle of Killiecrankie he commanded the forces of the clan in place of his father, who fell ill after setting out; in reference to this Iain

Lom, in a poem on Cath Raon Ruairidh, says:

<gai>

Mo ghaol an Domhnall Gorm Og  
O'n Tùr Shléiteach 's o'n Ord;  
Fhuair thu deuchainn 's bu mhór an sgeula e.

Mo ghaol an Tàinistear ùr  
Is a gheur Spàinneach 'na smùid:  
Cha b'e an t-ùmaidh air chùl na sgéithe e.  
<eng>

Nor did the resistance of Sir Donald and his son to the government of King William end at Killiecrankie. They united with the other Jacobite chiefs in a refusal to submit on any terms (1), and Sir Donald's house in Sleat, like those of other

(1) Cf. a letter printed in Browne's History of the Highlands, ii, 183.

[TD 133]

of the island chiefs, suffered bombardment by two government frigates. The Earl of Argyll received a commission "to reduce him if he does not speedily surrender", referring to which a letter in the Sleat charter chest from the chief's cousin, Hugh MacDonald, captain in General Mackay's regiment, quoted in Clan Donald, urges the chief to signify his submission in "a very obliging letter" to General Mackay. "Lord Morton (see note on l. 977) appears in your interest, and advises you to write to Argyll an obliging letter, for he assures me that Argyll professes much kindness for you. This will not only keep Argyll from invading your country, but likewise make him befriend you at Court. I beseech you not to bring ruin upon yourself by papists and desperat people that resort to your island. Lord Morton would go on foot to London on condition that your peace was made." The terms of Sir Donald's ultimate surrender we do not know.

The younger Sir Donald, subject of the present poem, appears to have taken an active part in the Jacobite rising of 1715, and his estates were forfeited. He died in 1718. We do not know at what stage in his career the poem was composed, but as he is already Sir Donald it must have been after 1695. The poem affords Mary a good opportunity for the conventional but spirited enumeration of MacDonald's allies; some of them would have done less for Sir Donald than Mary would have us believe.

In Alex. MacDonald's Story and Song from Loch Ness-side (p. 288) we are told that the following stanzas were well known in that district, and that the tradition concerning them was that they were a part of a composition by Màiri nighean Alasdair Ruaidh, when she discovered, pretty well advanced in years, that she was the daughter not of one Alexander MacLeod but of a distinguished MacDonald of the

time:

<gai>

Thoir tasgaidh bhuan an dìomhaireachd  
O chionn an fhad so bhliadhnaichean—  
Chan airgiod glas 's chan iarann e  
Ach Ridire glic riasanach  
Fhuair meas is misneachd iarlaichean;  
Is o'n fhuair mi nis gu m'iarraidh e  
Gun riaraich mi Sir Domhnall.

Mo chuid mhór gun airceas tu,  
Mo chleasan snuadh-mhor dealbhach thu,

[TD 134]

Mo ghibht ro phrìseil ainmeil thu;  
O'n chuimhnich mi air seanchas ort  
B'e an dìochuimhn' mur a h-ainmichte thu,  
Is nan leiginn bhuan air dearmad thu  
Gu dearbhtha cha b'e chòir e.

Is gur craobh de'n abhall phrìseil thu,  
De'n mheas is blasda brìoghalachd,  
Is is dosraiche an ám cinntinne  
'S a' choill 's nach biodh na dìonagan, (1)  
De'n fhìor fhuil uasail fhìonanaich;  
Is gum bi mi dhoibh cho dìchiollach  
Is gun inns' mi nis n'as eòl domh.

Thig sliochd mhór Mhic Cathain leat  
Is an dream rìoghail Leathanach,  
Bha uasal uaibhreach aighearach,  
Is bu chruadalach ri labhairt riu  
Fir Chinn-tìre is Latharna;  
Is gur maireg luchd-beurla bhraitheadh tu  
Is na maithean sin an tòir ort.  
<eng>

This extraordinary tradition of Mary's parentage seems to be quite unknown in Skye or Harris, and was in all probability the result of a misinterpretation of the somewhat curious wording of the poem itself.

935. Dùn-tuilm, in Trotternish, was at this time the principal residence of MacDonald. It was inhabited as late as 1715 (Pennant's Tour, ii, 303).

949. Mac Coinnich: Mackenzie of Kintail, no doubt Coinneach òg, an active Jacobite, who succeeded his father in 1678 and died in Paris in 1701. With Mackenzie of Kintail, as with most of the other families mentioned, the house of Sleat was connected by marriage; Sir Donald himself was the grandson of Margaret, daughter of Sir Roderick Mackenzie of Còigeach, the Taoitear Tàileach.

Morair Tairbeirt: Sir George Mackenzie, Viscount Tarbat and first Earl of Cromarty, one of the most powerful men of his time in Scotland, and the great advocate of the Union.

(1) ? for dìoganan, a dialectic form of gìoganan, thistles.

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He was the author of, inter alia, the History of the Family of Mackenzie.

950. Fir a' Bhealaich, &c.: the followers of Campbell of Breadalbane.

am Bealach: Taymouth; the use of the article shows unfamiliarity with local usage, which is Bealach simply, or Bealach nan laogh.

951. Gleann Garadh: MacDonald of Glen Garry.

fir nan Garbhchrìoch are probably Clan Ranald, whose ancient patrimony is the country between Loch Shiel and Loch Hourne, to which the term na Garbhchrìochan, the Rough Bounds, is generally applied.

952. an Colla: Coll MacDonald of Keppoch, Colla nam bó, who was born in 1664, succeeded in 1682, and died about 1723. His wife was Barbara, sister of the subject of the poem, and his sister was the great poetess Sìlis na Ceapaich, Mary MacLeod's contemporary.

955. The MacDonalds in general, "the seed of Art and Conn and Cormac". Conn Ceudchathach, Conn of the Hundred Battles, was High King of Ireland, according to the Annals, from 123 to 157 A.D. He was father of Art, who was father of Cormac. Cormac's great-grandsons were the three Collas, who were banished from Ireland to Scotland and there acquired territory. "Téid arís Colla Uais go n-a bhráithribh i nAlbain agus gabhaid fearann mór innte; gonadh ón gColla Uais sin tángadar clann nDomhnaill na hAlban agus na hEireann" (see Keating, ii, 382). See note on l. 1155.

956. Collanan is a name formed on Colla, "the descendants of Colla".

960. An Caiptein Mùideartach: Alan of Clan Ranald succeeded his father in 1686 at the age of thirteen, and at the age of sixteen accompanied his cousin and guardian, MacDonald of Benbecula, to the Battle of Killiecrankie at the head of five hundred men. The poem being probably after 1695, Alan had by now become reconciled to the government of King William, two of the sureties for his good behaviour being Argyll and Viscount Tarbat.

966. Siol Torcuill: the MacLeods of Lewis, who had lost their land and been nearly extirpated at the hands of the Mackenzies; hence "na tha air ghléidheadh dhiubh".



[TD 136]

967. Mackinnon of Strath in Skye.

977. na Dubhghlasaich, &c.: Sir Donald's mother was Lady Mary Douglas, daughter of Robert third Earl of Morton.

985. Antrum: the great house of MacDonald of Antrim, sprung from Somhairle Buidhe son of Alasdair of Dùn Naomhaig and the Glens of Antrim; the Earl is no doubt Randal, who succeeded in 1696 and died in 1721.

986. MacFéilim, i.e. Conn Ceudchathach (see l. 955 note), son of Feidhlimidh (Feidhlim) Reachtmhar, "F. the Lawmaker," king of Ireland. By "these descendants of Felim's son" Mary means a general reference to the MacDonalds in Ulster. (Cf. "Mac Feighlimigh mhoir mheir," Rel. Celt. II, 254.)

990. Iain Mór 's Iain Cathanach, Sir John Mór of Dùn Naomhaig and his son; along with three sons of the latter, they were hanged on the Borough Muir of Edinburgh in 1499 for storming the castle of Dunaverty, in which King James IV had placed a garrison; see RC. ii, 164.

992. fir Chinn-tìre: a part of Kintyre, with the castles of Dunaverty and Saddell, as well as Dùn Naomhaig in Islay, were the patrimony of Iain Mór, second son of John Lord of the Isles and of Princess Margaret, daughter of Robert II. With Kintyre also we associate the MacAllisters of Loup, who derive their name from Alasdair, son of Donald, the progenitor of Clan Donald.

fir Latharna: the MacDougalls of Lorne, descended from Somerled.

995 ff. There are many parallels to this claim on behalf of the premier clan of Scotland; cf. MacCodrum's "Moladh Chloinn Domhnaill" (MacDonald's Uist Bards; BGh.):

<gai>

Alba, ge bu mhór r'a innse e,  
Roinn iad i o thuinn gu mòintich:  
Is iomadh urra mhór bha innte  
Fhuair an còir o làimh Chloinn Domhnaill.  
Fhuair iad a rithis an Rùta,  
Cunntaidh Antrum ge bu mhór i;  
Sgrios iad as an naimhdean uile,  
Is thuit MacUibhilin 'san tòrachd.  
Bhuidhinn iad baile is leth Alba:  
Is e an claidheamh a shealbhaich còir dhoibh.  
<eng>

[TD 137]

The tigh referred to (l. 999) seems to be Tigh nan teud, three miles north-west of Pitlochry; cf.:

<gai>

B'ann diubh Art agus Cormac,  
Sìol Chuinn a bha ainmeil,  
Sliochd nan Collaidhean garga  
Le'n do chuireadh Cath-gailbheach (-Gairbheach)  
Is Domhnall Ballach nan Garbhchrìoch,  
Rinn Tigh nan teud aig leth Alba 'na chrìch.<eng>  
(MacDonald's Story and Song from Loch Ness-side, p. 2).

The expression is an ancient one; cf. Acallamh na Senórach (Stokes) (MSS. of fifteenth cent.), l. 1837: "gu ngébadh tech ar leth Eirenn", "that he would get half of Ireland and a house over"; also Glenmasan MS. (? c. 1500) (Mackinnon), Celtic Review, I, 14: "gur cosain nert a láime fén treab ar leth Alpan dó", "so that the might of his own hand won for him half Scotland and a stead over".

#### LUINNEAG DO IAIN MAC SHIR TORMOID

This song is still known in part in Harris. It is addressed to John, eldest son of Sir Norman of Bernera, sometimes called Iain Taoitear, as guardian of Norman, the nineteenth chief of MacLeod, who was born after his father's death. John was an advocate at the Scottish bar.

The occasion of the poem is the presentation to the poetess of a snuff-mull (bràth), or, as some in Harris say, a quern, and the first two stanzas deal playfully with this subject.

1004. gun iarann air: "unshod"; the iron parts of a mill are a square block of iron (dealgan) let into the iron socket (dual) in the centre of the upper millstone; and the cylindrical iron bolt (torghann) inserted in the iron lunn, on which the propellor rests and rotates. A Lewis ballad runs:

<gai>

Tha an dealgan 's an torghann  
Air meirgeadh 'san dual,  
Is tha a h-uile rud cearbach cearr oirr'.<eng>  
(All from Mr. H. M. Maciver).

1029. By his second marriage (to Catherine, daughter of Sir James MacDonald of Sleat) Sir Norman had two other sons, William and Alexander, and four daughters.

de is to be understood before chloinn.

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1041. Ruairidh: perhaps John's second son, Roderick.

#### MARBHRANN DO SHIR TORMOD

This poem is entitled in E. Oran le Inghin Alastair ruaigh do Mac Leod, and in SO. simply Cumha Mhic Leoid.

Sir Norman MacLeod of Bernera, to whom it is addressed, was the third son of Sir Roderick Mór of Harris and Dunvegan, and born in Bernera. His contract of fosterage, between Sir Roderick and "Eoin mac mic Cainnigh", is among the National MSS. of Scotland, dated 8th October, 1614; at that date he was probably about five years old. Of his early life little is known. When in 1650 Charles II crossed to Scotland, Roderick of Talisker, Norman's brother, raised a regiment of about 700, most of them MacLeods, to support the King; and Norman received the Lieut.-Colonelcy of this force. Both brothers fought at Worcester (1651), where the MacLeod forces were so reduced that, it is said, by common consent the clan was absolved from military service until it should recover. Norman was taken prisoner, confined for eighteen months, and tried for his life; owing to the similarity of his name to the Welsh Llwyd, Lloyd, he was stated in the indictment to be a Welshman, and through this flaw the trial was held up and Norman sent again to prison. Thence he escaped, and afterwards returned to Skye. After the defeat of Worcester Charles retired to the Continent; but his supporters in the Highlands were not idle, and in 1653 Norman was dispatched to him at Chantilly with a letter signed by the chiefs of the loyal clans informing him of affairs in the Highlands. It is a sign of the eminent place occupied by the MacLeods among the Jacobite clans that the message which Charles sent in reply was addressed to Sir Roderick of Talisker. After the defeat of General Middleton at Loch Garry in 1654, the royalist leaders and chiefs decided that no more could at present be accomplished for the cause; Norman opened his house in Bernera to the defeated generals, and from there they escaped to the Continent. In 1659 he undertook a mission on behalf of Charles to the court of Denmark, which procured a promise of no less than 10,000 troops; these however were never called upon; General Monk abandoned his support of Richard Cromwell, and the Restoration was accomplished. Roderick and Norman immediately gave their allegiance to the King in

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London, and were knighted, as they well deserved to be. Mary's tribute to his loyalty, then (ll. 1223-4), is no more than the truth.

Sir Norman died on the third day of March, 1705, as appears from the dating verse in an elegy upon him from the Book of Clan Ranald, printed in RC. II, 264 ff.:

<gai>  
Seacht ccéd dég sa dó re ríom  
strí bliadhna aois a nairdríogh  
órslath budh cneasda do chí  
go teasda romhac ruaidhrí,  
<eng>

translated there:

Seventeen hundred and two to be reckoned  
and three years the age of the supreme king,  
a gold wand the purest to be seen,  
to the death of the excellent son of Rory.

So also an anonymous elegy:

<gai>  
Seacht gcéad dég 's a cúig gan chol,  
ég Thormóid, doirbh an deadhol;  
ré comháireamh is é sin  
annáladh Dé go deimhin;<eng>  
(see p. 106.)

Mary mentions the day but not the year. The poem can thus be ascribed with certainty to the year 1705.

1075. iuchair mo chùil: The exact meaning seems to me uncertain. Iuchair possibly means not key but keystone, as in Irish; "the keystone of my support (cùl)." Cùil may be gen. not of cùl but of cùil, nook, secret place, pantry, in the sense of store-house, treasure-house, by confusion with cuile of that meaning. Perhaps we should read chiuil, "the key of my music"; cf. a eochracha éigse, his keys of poesy (Dinn.); iuchair ghliocais; iuchair nam bàrd, rìgh nam filidh (BGh. vocab.).

1095. Here and at l. 1130 ff. the translation is derived from BGh.

1106. Sir Roderick Mór of Harris and Dunvegan.

1115. Fuasgladh facail: "solving the knot of a case for decision"; cf. the Cumha do Mhac Leoid mentioned on p. xxxii:

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"Mu mhàthair fhuasglaidh nan ceistean"; and Pòl Crùbach's Iorram na Truaighe:

<gai>  
"Ceann réite gach facail  
Gus an uair an deach stad air do chainnt."  
<eng>

1130. These lines are difficult, especially in view of the tense of bheir. "Many a stranger, many a guest and man of song, will for a space be ready to part with wealth (lit. crowns), for his guidance and his acquaintance."—BGh.

1148. Olghar: see note to l. 791.

1155. sìol Cholla: the Clan Donald. "Is follus fós gurab ré linn Mhuireadhaigh Tírih do chuadar na trí Cholla go n-a mbráithribh ó Chonnachtaibh do dhéanamh gabháltais ar Ulltaibh, gur bheanadar

roinn mhór do Chúigeadh Uladh dhíobh ar éigin, mar atá, Modhairn Uí mac Uais is Uí Chríomhthainn go bhfuilid drong mhór dhíobh da haitiughadh aníú, mar atá Ragnall mac Samhairle Iarla Antruim nó nAondroma ó Cholla Uais; &c:” “It is also well known that it was in the time of Muireadhach Tìreach (d. A.D. 335) that the three Collas with their kinsmen left Connaught to win conquests from the Ultonians, and wrested by force from them a large portion of the province of Ulster, namely Modhairn, Ui Mac Uais and Ui Chríomhthainn; and many of their descendants hold possession of these to-day, as Ragnall son of Samhairle, Earl of Antrim, or Aondrom, descended from Colla Uais; &c.” (Keating, ed. Dinneen, Vol. II, p. 100). Colla Uais, the most famous of the three, was the alleged progenitor of the Clan Donald (see note on l. 955); and the reference here is to Sir Norman’s mother, Isabel daughter of Donald MacDonald of Glen Garry. Mary MacLeod’s knowledge of tradition is notable. Further information about the three Collas is given in the Book of Clan Ranald (RC. II, 151 ff., given also in Celt. Scot. III, appendix 1, in translation); for the clans supposed to be descended from Colla Uais, see Celt. Scot. index.

1167. Inghean Sheumais nan crùn: Catherine, eldest daughter of Sir James MacDonald IX of Sleat (Seumas Mór), married Sir Norman as his second wife in 1666. Her sister Florence was wife of Iain Breac of Harris and Dunvegan.

“Nan crùn” holds the same idea as is more fully expressed in l. 1209.

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#### CUMHA DO SHIR TORMOD

1216. am Mac Leoid-sa: the reference is certainly to the chief, no doubt Norman, to whom the Crònán, who died shortly afterwards, before the birth of his son in 1706. Sir Norman, in virtue of his age and capacities, naturally held a position of great authority in the councils of his clan, especially since the death of Sir Roderick of Talisker, the Tutor, in 1675.

The following version of the Cumha do Shir Tormod was taken down in 1861 from Mairi bheag nighean Domhnaill mhic Ruairidh, Ebost, Skye, by Miss Tolmie, and is printed in the MacD. Coll., p. 150. It bears clear signs of having been curtailed and corrupted by oral transmission, though it contains some lines that may be closer to the original than the received text. The first four verses are in Miss Tolmie’s Coll.

<gai>

Sàthghal Màiri nighean Alasdair Ruaidh.

#### MARBHRANN DO MHAC LEOID

7 ma’s fìor gun robh e marbh

Mo shàthghal goirt  
Mar atà mi nochd  
Is mi gun tàmh gun fhois gun sunnd.

Is mi gun sunnd air stàth,  
Gun mo dhùil ri bhith slàn,  
Tha mo shùgradh gu bràth air chùl.

Is ann tha Leòdach mo ghaoil  
'San t-sròl-anart (1) chaoil  
Is gun chomhdach r'a thaobh ach bùird.

Is e bhith smaointinn ort  
A chràidh mi am chorp  
Is a chnàmh na roisg bho m' shùil.

Tha Mac Leoid ata ann  
Fo ghruaman 'san ám:  
Is beag an t-ioghnadh, 's e chaill an stiuir.  
<eng>

(1) "'San Ol anart," MacD. Coll.

[TD 142]

<gai>  
Chaill e meamhair air féin  
Nach bu chladhair measg cheud  
Is duine thaghadh na deagh chairt-iuil.

Chaill e sealgair na frìth  
Nach bu chearbach do'n Rìgh  
Agus seirbhiseach dìleas a chrùin.

Thog na filidh ort sgeul,  
Air na chunnaic iad féin,  
Gun robh eireachdas ceud 'nad ghnùis:

Gun robh thuigse 'nad ghnìomh  
Is de thlachd ann ad bhian  
Nach faca (1) mi riamh aig triuir.  
<eng>

In their note to the above the editors say rather strangely that its subject is Roderick, the fifteenth MacLeod of Dunvegan, of whom they say Mary sang, on his death in 1664, the fragment printed on p. xxxiii. It is clear that the subject is Sir Norman, who died in 1705.

#### NOTES ON THE METRES

1. Regular Strophe: (a) (2) Consisting of a phrase of two stresses, thrice repeated, and with end-rime, followed by a half-phrase

containing a rime which is carried throughout the poem. The full phrases, which may be stressed on the ultimate or the penultimate syllable, sometimes contain internal rime, but this is irregular. The poems in this metre are: An Talla am bu Ghnàth le Mac Leoid, Crònan an Taibh, Cumha do Shir Tormod, Fuigheall. In the first three the final half-phrase consists of two syllables with the stress on the second; in the Fuigheall it consists of three syllables with the stress on the first, giving the entire strophe a fine rolling swing very different from the mournful effect of the other.

These are briefly expressed as, e.g.:

3 (Ri fuaim an taibh) m' àbhaist.

(1) "'N a chunnaic," MacD. Coll.

(2) The metre which Mary MacLeod has been wrongly thought to have invented.

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(b) Consisting of a phrase of two stresses, six times repeated, with end-rime and inconstant internal rime, followed by a half-phrase of two syllables with stress on the penultimate and carrying its rime throughout the poem. This is found in Marbhrann do Fhear na Comraich:

6 (Tha mise air leaghadh le bròn) éirigh.

2. Irregular Strophe: (a) Marbhrann do Shir Tormod, which contains two types of strophe, (1) a phrase with two stresses, the second being on the penultimate syllable, six times repeated, with end-rime and usually internal rime, followed by a half-phrase of two syllables with one stress on the penult and carrying its rime throughout the poem:

6 (Cha sùrd cadail) éisdeachd;

and (2) a phrase of two stresses, the second being on the ultimate syllable, six to eight times repeated, followed by a half-phrase of three syllables with one stress on the penult:

6-8 (Is trom an cudthrom so dhrùidh) cha téid mi.

(b) An Crònan, which consists of the type last mentioned, the double-stressed phrase being repeated from five to seven times:

5-7 (An naidheachd so an dé) ri crònan.

(c) Marbhrann do Iain Garbh is of the same type, except that the final half-phrase is of three or four syllables, with stress on the penult or antepenult; but two strophes are of the type of Marbhrann do Shir Tormod (1), save that the double-stressed phrase is repeated

seven and eight times, and is followed by a four-syllable half-phrase with one stress:

5-7 (Mo bheud 's mo chràdh) an Ratharsaidh.

(d) Do Mhac Dhomhnaill. This is a rather unusual metre, consisting of a phrase with two chief stresses, the second being on the antepenultimate syllable, repeated from four to six times, with end-rime and inconstant internal rime, followed by a single-stressed phrase in the end-rime, followed in turn by a three-syllable phrase stressed on the penult and carrying its rime throughout the poem:

Tha ulaidh orm an uamharrachd  
Mo ghibhte phrìseil uasal thu

[TD 144]

Mo leug bu lìonmhor buadhan thu  
Chan fhaigh an Rìgh ri t'fhuasgladh thu  
Air m'fhocal fìor o'n fhuair mi thu  
Cha tugainn uam air òr thu.

3. Cumha, in the form of quatrains. The structure is one of four long lines (printed for convenience as eight short lines), each with four stresses, the second and third stressed words riming within each line, and the final stressed word riming throughout the rann. There are three poems in this metre, the Cumha do Mhac Leoid, Luinneag do Iain, and Luinneag Mhic Leoid. The last is peculiar in its repetition of the final line of the rann as the first line of the next rann; "this may be regarded as an extension of conchlann, 'a grasp', a term used to denote the repetition of the final word of a rann as the first word of the next" (BGh.).

Ex. (as usual the internal rime is not quite constant):

Is mi am shuidhe air an tulaich  
fo mhulad 's fo imcheist  
Is mi ag coimhead air Ile  
is ann de m'iongnadh 'san ám so  
Bha mi uair nach do shaoil mi  
gus an do chaochail air m'aimsir  
Gun tiginn an taobh so  
dh'amharc Dhiùraidh á Sgarbaidh.

4. Amhran, in the form of single long lines, printed for convenience as a couplet. (a) Each long line has four stresses, the second and third stressed words riming, and the final stressed word carrying its rime throughout the poem. The two examples are Mairearad nan Cuireid and An t-Eudach.

Ex.: Tha mo chean air an lasgair, saighdear sgairteil fo sgéith thu.

(b) Pòsadh Mhic Leoid and Tuireadh. Each long line has four stresses, and in the Tuireadh the rime of the last stressed syllable



is continued throughout the poem. In the Pòsadh the rime of the last stressed syllable is changed frequently.

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#### RELEVANT DATES

1613 Sir Roderick Mór of Harris and Dunvegan knighted.

1626 Sir Roderick Mór died.

1646 Roderick Mackenzie of Applecross died; Marbhrann do Fhear na Comraich, Mary MacLeod's earliest poem of certain date.

1648 Iain Garbh mac Ghille Chaluim of Raasay served heir to his father.

1649 John of Harris and Dunvegan, Iain Mór, fourteenth chief, died.

1650 Charles II landed in Scotland.

1651 Battle of Inverkeithing; Battle of Worcester.

1653 Norman of Bernera dispatched to Charles in France.

1654 (July) Battle at Loch Garry.

1655 Roderick of Harris and Dunvegan, fifteenth chief, accepted protection of Cromwell.

1659 Norman of Bernera dispatched to court of Denmark.

1660 The Restoration; Norman of Bernera and Roderick of Talisker knighted.

1664 Roderick of Harris and Dunvegan, Ruairidh Sgaiteach, died.

1666 Sir Norman of Bernera married Catherine, d. of Sir James MacDonald of Sleat. Mr. James Fraser's Polichronicon (The Wardlaw Manuscript) begun.

1671 Iain Garbh mac Ghille Chaluim of Raasay drowned at sea; Marbhrann do Iain Garbh.

1675 Sir Roderick of Talisker died.

1688 Battle of Mulroy (Maol Ruadh in Lochaber) fought between the Mackintoshes of Moy and Colla nam bó of Keppoch; the last clan battle.

1689 Battle of Killiecrankie (Cath Raon Ruairidh).

1693 John of Harris and Dunvegan, Iain Breac, sixteenth chief, died; succeeded by his son Roderick.

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1699 Roderick of Harris and Dunvegan, seventeenth chief, died; Cumha do Mhac Leoid; succeeded by Norman; An Crònán.

1705 Sir Norman of Bernera died; Marbhrann do Shir Tormod; Cumha do Shir Tormod, Mary MacLeod's last poem of certain date.

1715 Battle of Sheriffmuir.

1718 Sir Donald MacDonald of Sleat, Domhnall a' Chogaidh, to whom "Do Mhac Dhomhnaill", died.

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#### VOCABULARY

n. after the number of the line refers to a footnote on the text.

acain, 871, f. bemoaning, lamenting.

adharc, 457, f. horn for holding shot.

agmhor, 570, prosperous, fortunate; 1143, magnificent.

aigeanntach, 171, form of aigeannach, spirited, mettlesome.

àilleagan, 177, 225, m. jewel; metaph. handsome man; often used as a term of affection for a child.

àillteachd, 546, f. beauty, excellence; form of ailleachd.

àilt, 1103, noble, stately.

aineol, 605, unacquaintance, want of knowledge; air m'aineol, in a land I know not; opposed to air m'eòlas. "Shiubhail mi cian leat air m'eòlas, Agus spailp de'n stròic air m'aineol" (Alex. MacDonald); 1130, fear aineoil, stranger.

aiteam, 786, m. and f. folk, people.

aitreabh, 247, f. dwelling, residence (elsewhere masc.).

àlach, 738, m. race, family.

alladh, 147, fame, renown, whence foll.

allail, 719, illustrious, renowned.

aoidh, 1131, m. stranger, guest.

araichd, 921, precious thing acquired, godsend, boon; same as Ir. aireag, O.Ir. airec, inventio.

àrbhuidhe, 531, for òrbhuidhe, gold-yellow.

àrmunn, 736, 1105, m. hero, warrior.

àros, 759, m. dwelling, mansion.

bàdhadh, 268, act of sinking deeply in.

balg, 472, m. quiver; generally, a bag.

ball, 900, m. part of rigging, rope; 1064, stud, nail or boss.

banchag, 373, f. a woman cowherd, dairymaid.

barrdhias, 462, f. point of a sword (bàrr, dias).

basbhualte, 1161; bean bh., a woman who claps her hands (in grief); old gen. of basbhualadh, hand-clapping, used as adj.

basgheal, 370, white of palm, white-handed.

batail, 1229, Eng. battle.

bean-mhuinntir, 687, f. maidservant.

beart, 654, f. deed; 1128, sword-sheath.

beòshlaint, 80, f. livelihood, sustenance.

bian, pl. béin, 302, m. skin, hide.

biùthas, 963, m. glory, reputation.

bleidean, 65, m. wheedler, cajoler, importunate bothersome person.

boinne, m. drop; 1043, a metaphor for beauty of form and colour; cf. "Is i (Deirdire) boinne-fala bu chaoine cruth",

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"(Deirdire) was the blood-drop of finest form".—Deirdire (Dr. Alexander Carmichael), p. 24.

bonn, 1196, m. coin.

bòrd, 25, perhaps a tack in sailing; cf. bòrd, to tack, bòrdadh, tacking (Dw.); Ir. bórd, space advanced by a boat in two tacks (Dinn.); see note; 227 board (of coffin); 335 board (of boat), gunwale.

bradan, 221 n. swelling on the skin, ridgy tumour on the surface of the body.—Dw.

bréid, 592, m. three-cornered kertch or coif formed of a square of fine linen, worn by married women; gen., piece of cloth, sail, from which foll.

bréidgheal, 176, 1159, white-sailed.

brìoghalachd, 928, f. juiciness, fullness of sap.

buadh, 910, f. virtue, quality, excellence, whence foll.

buadhail, 924, full of good qualities, excellent.

buadhalach, 874, same meaning as buadhail.

buaidh-ghlòireach, 895, choice-worded, of choice speech.

buaireadh, 564, m. disturbance, provocation, temptation.

buannachd, 299, f. maintenance, emolument.

buinneag, 144, f. lass, young woman.

buirb, 1146 (better buirbe) rudeness, arrogance.

busdubh, 88, black-muzzled; bus, a muzzle, snout, mouth.

caidreabh, 1178, m. society, companionship.

càil, 68, f. appetite, desire; c. chomhraidh, a desire for conversation.

càileachd, 549, f. genius, natural endowment, disposition.

cainbe, 466, f. hemp.

cairbinn, 464, carbine.

cairt-iuil, 1221, f. mariner's compass.

caisfhionn, 366, white-footed.

caismeachd, 1082, f. corresponding to Ir. caismirt; meaning, inter alia, "a discussion": hence, theme of story-telling.

caith, 496, traverse, speed over.

caithreamach, 636, of joyful or victorious noise; caithream, joyful or warlike noise, shout of victory.

calg, 488, m. bristle, short stiff hair.

carantach, 817, affectionate, loving.

carantas, 823, m. affection; c. fuar, a proverbial phrase.  
carthannach, 655, same meaning as carantach.  
ceannard, 1126, high-headed.  
ceannas, 400, m. authority; 236, (concrete) chief.  
ceannsgalach, 814, authoritative, masterful.  
ceann-uidhe, 631, m. end of a journey, objective.  
ceartachadh, 838, m. adjustment, putting to rights.  
céir, 264, 936, f. wax; 489, a deer's buttock, whence foll.  
céirgheal, 284, 245 n., white-buttocked.  
ceòsach, 96, big-rumped.  
ceumnach, 985, pacing, with stately pace.  
ceudfaidh, 542, f. sense, mental faculty.  
chugaibh, 105, away with you, avaunt; (chum, chun, in pronominal compound, 2nd. pl. "The combination is based on the analogy of agam &c.," Dinn.) A worse spelling is thugaibh &c., from thun (phonetic.)  
ciodh, 13, 17, what is?  
cìos, 945, 1156, f. tax, tribute.  
cìosail, 956, exacting tribute, rich in tributes.  
ciste, 203, f. box; 1118, dat. cistidh, coffin.  
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clannfhalt, 1129, m. clustering hair (clann in the sense of a lock of hair).  
cliar, 248 n., 526, 751, f. company or train of bards, poetic band.  
cliaranach, 1024, m. bard, minstrel, one of a cliar.  
clisgeadh, 583, m. act of startling, alarming.  
cluasag, 584, f. pillow.  
cneadh, 659, f. wound, hurt.  
cóigeamh, 1158, m. province, lit. a fifth part.

coisionta, 781, industrious, overcoming, hardy.

colg, 798, m. wrath, fierce aspect.

conbhail, 1059, older form of cumail, holding; Ir. congbháil.

còraichean, 669, pl. of còir, f. rightful possessions, property; titles.

còrn, 242, 1151, m. drinking-horn.

cosgail, 780, lavish, liberal.

corran, 269, m. small tapering point.

corrbheann, 1150, with tapering points or corners (còrr, beann, a horn).

cràdhghal, 1186, m. painful sobbing.

crann, 792, 876, 899, m. mast; 264, arrow.

cròc, 284, f. deer's antler.

cròdha, 1093, valiant.

crodhanta, 186, strong-hoofed, strongly shod; crodha, crudha, horse-shoe, hoof; crodhan, a parted hoof.

crònan, 725, m. crooning, humming.

crùidheach, 1126, well-shod.

crùist, 1227, f. burial-vault; form of crùidse, crùisle.

crùintidh, 1133, pl. of crùn.

crùn, 1167, 1209, m. crown piece; 1224, the Crown.

cuachag, 1046, f. small curl, ringlet.

cuailean, 150, m. lock of hair, curl.

cuairt, 780, f. a circuit, progress, here a circuit of bards.

cùil, 1075, f. store-house, closet; see note.

cuilbhir, 1037, m. gun, fowling-piece.

cùinneadh, 1182, m. wealth; coin.

cuireid, 121, f. trick, prank, wile.

cùl, 149, 454, 1045, 1129, m. hair of the back of the head, then in

general, the hair, tresses.

cumasg, 192, m. fray, tumultuous battle.

curanta, 189, 290, 1231, heroic (curaidh, hero).

cuspair, 259, m. mark, target.

dalta, 1160, m. foster-child.

daoiread, 470, m. dearness (daor); air and., despite their dearness, however dear they are.

daonnachdach, 655, liberal, hospitable.

daonnairceach, 1053, same meaning as daonnachdach.

dearbhta, 418, 715; dearbhtha, 800, 889, 926, proven, tried, certain; past part. of dearbhaim, I prove, show.

dearcag, 448, f. small berry; d. na talmhainn, blaeberry.

déidh, 670, f. fondness, eagerness.

déinead, 620, f. keenness.

dìobhail, 246, 312, f. loss, want.

dìol, 733, m. act of draining (a glass).

dòigh, 188, m. likelihood; air dh. buille, by reason of the likelihood of being smitten; 640, manner, method, wont.

dolaidh, 577, f. defect, injury.

don-faighneachd, 15, 27, d. ort, "evil of asking upon you, a plague on your asking"; cf. don-bìdh, dìth-bìdh, don-dòchais (BGh. vocab.).

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duaismhor, 769, liberal, bounteous.

dùth, 773, natural, hereditary, befitting one's ancestors and oneself.

éagas, 245 n.; éagasg, 1098, m. form of aogas, countenance, appearance.

ealadh, 631, 1131, f. song, music, artistic production; luchd ealaidh, minstrels.

ealchainn, 456, f. rack for weapons.

earras, 594, m. wealth, property.

eineach, 574, m. honour; generosity; lit., face, countenance.

eireadh, 235, form of eire, burden. (Given as éire(adh) in some Sc. Gael. dictt., but e is short.)

eirthir, 14, f. sea-coast.

éis, 188, f. delay, hindrance.

éisg, 130, f. satirist, reviler.

éisleán, 606, m. debility, grief.

eòlas, 864, f. knowledge of, or familiarity with, the way.

faiche, 342, f. an exercising green or parade ground near a house; generally, a green.

faicheil, 837, of martial appearance.

faiteal, 164, breath; speech.

falluing, 490, f. garment, cloak.

fantalach, 778, lasting, enduring.

farspach, 110, f. blackbacked gull.

feachd, 984, 990, m. warlike expedition, host.

fearrdhris, 450, f. red wild rose, dog-rose.

feòlach, 44, m. carnage.

fiabhras, 581, m. fever, feverish confusion.

fiadhach, 1034, m. hunting of deer.

fìreun, 473, m. eagle.

fiùran, 155, 771, 816, 881, 961, m. handsome youth; lit. sapling; cf. craobh, gasan, slat, sonn, all used by Mary MacLeod metaphorically of persons.

flathail, 1023, princely, noble.

flathasach, 307, 1103, same meaning as flathail.

foidearachd, 940, pastime, according to MacNicol (Henderson).



foirm, 987, m. noise, outcry; f. air fheumalachd, a cry of need for service.

foirmeil, 522, 697, 753, stately, magnificent; foirm, form, pomp.

foirmeileach, 885, same meaning as foirmeil, above.

fòirneart, 708, 783, 819 n., m. force, violence.

foistinneach, 573, calm, sedate.

folachd, 409, 579, noble lineage, noble blood (from fuil, blood).

fonn, 878, m. tune, air.

fraoidhneiseach, 943, fringed, embroidered.

freasdal, 253, m. waiting on, attending; ann am f. gach duine, in serving every man, in attending to his needs or requests; cf. 1115-7.

fuasgladh, 1115, m. act of solving, explication.

furbhailteach, 1053, courteous, affable.

gàbhaidh, 507, dangerous, perilous; gen. of gàbhadh used as adj.

gabhail, 274, f. carriage, bearing, behaviour.

gàinne, 269, f. arrow-head.

gàir, 1160, f. shout, cry.

gàirich, 760, f. roaring noise.

gaiseadh, 262 n., m. blemish, defect.

gar, 663, 691, 715, although (regularly changed to ged in SO.); more often gar an, though not.

gàrd, 947, m. Eng. guard.

garbhghlac, 482, f. rough hollow.

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gàrlach, 132, m. starveling child, bastard, term of contempt.

gèadh, 296, m. wild goose.

gealbhréideach, 957, white-sailed.

geall, 347, m. pledge, promise, wager.

glac, 261, f. quiver; 471, a handful of arrows, dòrlach; 1058, hollow of a saddle.

glaisean, 112, m. finch, linnet, sparrow.

glas-ghuib, 115, f. muzzle, gag to prevent speech.

gleadhraich, 242, f. loud rattling noise.

gleus, 204, m. and f. possibly the key of the harp, usu. crann; if so, cf. 1075 n.; 1088, fighting trim, activity; gaisge gleois, valour of action.

gleusta, 287, trim, accomplished, polished, deft; 879, tuneful; 1035, trim, in order, eager.

gnìomh, 764, m. handiwork; elsewhere, a deed of prowess.

gradan, 221, m. pain, bitter sorrow, anguish; cf. greadan, Ir. greadán, heat, torture, etc.

greadhnach, 172, majestic, magnificent.

greis, 283, 895, f. space of time, spell; 513, a ghreis féin, the world's (or possibly his) own spell (of prosperity and adversity in turn); cf. "Fear gun dà là, fear gun là idir".

gruag, 453, 535, f. head of hair.

iarmad, 1028, m. offspring, race.

innis, 295, f. haunt of seals, i.e. the sea; 755, haunt, haven or resting-place of poets; (cf. ròd nan cliar, anchorage of poets, BGh. vocab.); both from the meaning "pasture, resting-place for cattle".

iomadaidh, 828, f. great quantity, abundance.

iomairt, 827, 1232, f. contest, conflict; 902,, bustle? gaming?

iomall, 143, m. refuse; dubh i. na tuatha, the very dregs of the population.

iomartas, 560, m. affairs, bustle, trouble.

iomsgaradh, 232, m. mutual separation, sad parting; 0. Ir. imm-scarad (Windisch); see also tiomsgaradh.

ion, 607, fit, befitting, proper.

irghinn, 165, f. dialectic form of inghinn, dat. of inghean (nighean), used as nom. (Dw. misspells ireann).

isneach, 464, f. rifled gun.

iùl, 862, m. bearings, landmark, course (of a ship); 1134, knowledge, guidance.

làmh-sgiath, 941 n., f. hand-shield, targe.

làmh-sgrìobhtha, 941 n., m. hand-writing; (old gen. of sgrìobhadh).

lànmhor, 537, complete, perfect.

lapach, 1230, slow and awkward, soft; meata.

làrach, 125, f. house, dwelling; site of a dwelling.

lasadh, 530, m. flush, kindling of the face (not here of anger).

lasan, 1116, sudden kindling, blaze.

lasgair, 601, m. fine young man.

leannan, lover, sweetheart, 271, 632, m. (figuratively) one given to, one who constantly practises.

leigeadh, 764, m. act of letting run, broaching.

leac, 1123, f. grave-stone, slab.

leòmach, 66, 98, conceited, pert.

leug, 910, m. precious stone, jewel.

ligeadh, 75, form of leigeadh, q.v.

linn, 535, f. brood, family; cf. deireadh linne, the youngest of a family.

lìobhraigeadh, 1196, m. act of

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delivering, bestowing (based on Eng. deliver).

lìonsgaradh, 794, m. resources (in a very wide sense); cf. Rosg Gàidhlig p. 136, where liansgaraidh means genealogy, extraction. Mr. John N. Macleod gives examples of the idiomatic use of this word: nach ann aice (aige) tha an l., applied to a gossip who returns from a céilidh with all the goileam of the place; to a minister who has much freedom in preaching; to a man thoroughly versed in any sphere. This sense may be defined as "a wide range, a wide field of operations," and seems appropriate in Alex. Macdonald's Aoir Eile do Bhan-bhàrd an Obain (1924 ed. p. 336). The word is sometimes used in the sense of scattering, e.g. of sheep on a hillside.

lòisdean, 636, m. lodging, residence; Ir. lóiste, lodge, booth; entertainment. Or poss. a form of lóiseam, pomp, magnificent assemblage: "gum b'uallach do lóiseam, T. 54, explained in a footnote "a great company of gentry".

lomhainn, 1035, f. leash of hounds.

luachach, 862, precious, excellent; mór luachach forms a noun, "that man of great worth".

luaimneach, 1042, restless, aflutter.

lùb, 182, f. young man, carried on in 183 as a scion, shoot.

macaomh, 241, 748, m. goodly youth, gallant; mac (adjectival), caomh (used as noun), lit. a lad dear one.

macnas, 378, 1068, m. sport, mirthfulness, whence foll.

macnasach, 240, sportive, mirthful.

mairg, 184, 505, 993, f. object of pity; is mairg an duine, woe to the man.

maith, 994, n. a noble; mith is maith, peasant and noble, gentle and simple (Alex. MacDonald).

màl, 1147, m. payment, subsidy.

malairt, 724, f. change (from sickness to health); 1133, exchange, barter.

mànran, 238, 519, m. tuneful sound, melody.

maothar, 1219, coll. noun; the young, the tender; m. na treuda, the young of the flock (MacLennan).

marbh, 438, sgeul marbh, either "news of thy death", lit. "a dead tale of thee"; cf. marbhrann: or "news that thou art inactive"; cf. fuar-scéal, a dead or uninteresting story (Dinneen).

marcanta, 202, m. horseman, knight.

mathasach, 1052, benevolent, benign, or perhaps "giving without condition"; cf. Ir. maithim.

meachar, 1011, tender, kindly.

meadhrach, 240, 939, cheerful, merry, festive.

meadhrachail, 1052, same meaning as meadhrach.

mìndearg, 179, smooth and ruddy.

mìngheal, 160, smooth and bright.

miosair, 457, m. measure for powder; Ir. miosúr

mòd, 102, m. court of justice, council.

moltair, 1005, f. mill-dues.

mórdha, 701, noble, great.

mórdhalach, 569, magnificent, majestic.

morghail, 1149, sea-prowess, sea-fighting; (mor-, compositional form of muir, gal, gail, valour).

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mucag, 450, f. berry of the dog rose.

neo-chrìon, 545, liberal, abundant.

neo-éisleach, 265, not feeble, strong, sound.

neo-mhalairteach, 626, not changeable, réidh.

neul, 260, 1087, m. hue, complexion.

nuallanach, 502, loud-sounding, roaring.

nur, 629, dialectic form of bhur, your.

òg, 873, m. young man (adj. used as noun).

òirheard, 764, m. goldsmith.

oireachd, 682, f. gathering, assembly; usually eireachd in Sc. Gael, but here the other is required by the rime; Ir. oireacht.

òirleach, 268, f. inch.

Olgharach, 521, of the race of Olghar.

òrd, 257, m. hammer, dog-head of a gun, which strikes fire from the flint.

orghán, 743, 1152, m. organ.

paidirean, 51, m. rosary.

pàirt, 830, f. kindred, relationship.

pìc, 345, f. bow; cf. Pòl Crùbach: "Agus pìc mheallach Air a tarruing o chluais gu dòrn."

pìos, 34, 762, 887, 906, 938, 1157, m. silver vessel, cup.

pràmhan, 237 n. heaviness, dejection.

prasgan, 106, 965, m. rabble, gang, group of people.

preasan, 922, m. little bush or thicket.

purpais, 551, m. theme; Eng. purpose.

ranntannan, 671, pl. of rannt m. partisan, supporter, ally; from rann, a part, division.—Dw. coins "title-deeds, deeds of conveyance; chattels".

reachdmhor, 1106, commanding, authoritative, puissant; Ir. reachtmhar, legislative, giving laws; from reacht, law, power, authority.

riarachadh, 80, 1010, m. act of satisfying.

riaraich, 580, serve, distribute.

réidhlean, 596, m. green level plain, lawn for games, etc.

ròd, 295 n., perhaps has the sense of a "quantity of sea-ware cast on the shore"—Dw.; but ròn is the correct reading.

rògach, 98, roguish; from Eng.

rònach, 62, full of seals.

ruaimneach, 770, glossed in E., "làidir"; robust, active.

ruiteach, 260, 449, ruddy.

sàradh, 763, m. act of broaching.

sealbh, 478, m. prosperity, good fortune; 745, possession, enjoyment.

seòd, 336, 1153, m. man of valour, warrior; form of seud.

seòlaid, 498, f. harbour, anchorage.

sgannal, 142, m. scandal, slander.

sgeilm, 251, f. boasting, vain talk.

sgleò, 160, 1090, m. boasting; 1090, vapour, mistiness, dimness of the eyes; cf. "na ríoghbrugh ní h-aisling ól", in his kingly mansion drinking is no dream;—RC., II, 286 (BGh.) and in Eng., "not with umbrages, but a substantiall entertainment" (Wardlaw MS., p. 482).

sgòid-bhràghad, 93, f. square neck-kerchief, stomacher.

sibhrainn 195 n., m. ?

sìothshaimh, 425, 1136, f. peace, tranquillity.

slacan, 344, m. bludgeon, club, wand.

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slàn, 562, m. defiance, challenge (see note); "I defy Gael or Saxon (to show) that deceit was found on you." (BGh), so dubh-shlàn, dùbhlán, defiance.

slat, 766, f. wand, rod; metaph. handsome youth.

sligeadh, 75 n., m. "drinking from shells".—Dw. quoting this passage; but ?; ligeadh is the correct reading.

smeoirn, 269, f. butt end of arrow, notch to fit the bowstring.

so-iarraidh, 415, easy to ascertain.

solta, 567, vigorous, comely.

sonn, 879, m. post, stake; hence, stalwart man, champion, sonn catha.

spealp, 308, m. active trim young man.

spreadhadh, 326, m. report of a gun, loud sound of bursting.

spreigeadh, 41, m. act of playing briskly and spiritedly; so Ir. spreagadh.

sròl, 1080, m. satin; 904, pl. sròiltean, 792, 876, satin pennon, or possibly sail.

staidhle, 690, 933, m. title, style; the passive of the verb is found in 700.

stàth, 1189, m. good purpose or end, benefit, advantage.

stòpa, 78, m. stoup, flagon.

stròicte, 46, hacked, sundered, shivered.

stròth, 245 n., m. extravagance.

sùgh, 138, m. juice, broth.

susbaint, 552, 1192, f. substance.

tabh, 499, m. ocean. (Norse haf, n. the high sea, ocean); used by Alex. MacDonald, and still in Harris and Barra for the open sea, the Atlantic, opposed to An Cuan, the Minch. The outermost rock of the Flannan Isles is Sgeir an Taibh (A. Nicolson); Camus cùil an Taibh is on the west side of Iona.

taifeid, 266, 466, f. bowstring.

tàileasg, 229, 279 (in pl.), m. chess or backgammon.

tarruing, 900, f. halyard.

tasgadh, 1162, m. act of bestowing, burying.

tasgaidh, 523, 646, 914, f. what is bestowed, deposit, treasure; 1078, bestowal; 218, in sense of tasgadh.

teach, 525, m. house, mansion.

teanal, 526, m. gathering; form of tional.

teannachadh, 901, m. act of holding close to the wind.

tearbadh, 440, m. separation.

teist, 252, f. repute, fame.

teud, 152, m. fiddle-string; 203, harp (Armstrong); 550, harp-string.

teudbhuidhe, 1046, 1129, yellow as harp-strings, which were gold-gilt (BGh.); yellow-stranded.

t

tigheadas, 833, m. household.

tiomsgaradh, 232 n., given as "a parting for time" (tìom, sgaradh) in a paper on "Some Rare Gaelic Words and Phrases" by Alex. MacDonald, Trans. Gael. Soc. Invss. xxix, 30. Questionable.

togbhail, 738, older form of togail, raising, rearing; Ir. tógbháil.

toisgeal, 37, left, opposed to deas; (?also right, opp. to cearr: cf. "Is mairg ... thigeadh cearr no toisgeal air," S. 235).

tolg, 581, f. pride, ostentation.

tonn-bhàidhte, 355, f. a wave that drowns, lit. a wave of drowning;



bàidhte, old gen. of verb. noun bàdhadh.

tòrachd, 42, 790, f. pursuit.

treas-tarruing, 77, f. thrice-distilled whisky; foreshot.

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trusgan, 86, m. garment, clothes, mantle.

tuam, tuama, 660, 691, m. tomb, grave.

tuath, 143, 779, f. people of a country, population, peasantry.

tuathcheathairn, 868, m. f. tenantry, peasantry.

tuigsear, 550, m. one who understands, a connoisseur.

tuilg, 581, see tolg.

tuisleach, 258, unsteady, fallible.

turaideach, 754, turreted.

turnais, 1132, a job, a smart turn (Skye). (BGh. Vocab.)

uabharra, 877, prideful, haughty.

uamharrachd, 908, f. lit. frightfulness; excessiveness, excessive measure; "I have a treasure great exceedingly."

uidh, 1142, f. journey, way.

uirghioll, 254, m. speech, the faculty of speech.

ulaidh, 908, f. treasure, especially a treasure lit upon more or less unexpectedly. (BGh. Vocab.).

urla, 1047, f. face, countenance.

urrainn, 1233, m. guarantee, authority, security; whence the ordinary usage, "is urrainn mi", etc. "Thy nobility is no longer my security."

ursainn-chatha, 835, f. pillar of battle, a conspicuous hero.

ursgeul, 283, m. tale, narrative, 1194, act of narrating.

usgar, 90, m. jewel.

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