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Shòghmhòr 's glòirmhor blas."

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NOTE TO FIRST EDITION.

THIS little book would most probably have never appeared in print but for the encouragement I had the honour to receive from Professor Blackie, who is so well known as an accomplished Gaelic scholar, and a warm advocate of Gaelic and its literature. It is now, with much diffidence, given to the public under his auspices. I hope that it will prove helpful to students of Gaelic, for whose use it is intended, and that some at least of its contents will find an echo in the breast of Highlanders generally, especially those of them living at a distance from their native glens and straths. As a first venture in the field of literature, and the first attempt at doing in a small way for Gaelic what has been so successfully done for the Continental languages, I hope that it will meet with some indulgence at the hands of the critics.

It only remains for me to add that to those who may desire a guide to help them in their efforts to pronounce Gaelic, &c., I cordially recommend *Practical Lessons in Gaelic*, by Donald C. Macpherson ; an admirable little book.

NOTE TO THIS EDITION.

In submitting this little work once more to the public, it is proper to mention that I have carefully revised and amended it throughout: I have partially rearranged the Conversations, and have added a Conversation on deer-stalking, and directions as to pronunciation. I hope that it will be found, in its new form, to be more worthy of the highly favourable and gratifying reception that was given to the first edition of it. My best thanks are due to Mr. Duncan MacIsaac for his efficient help in the work of revising the proof sheets.

THE AUTHOR.

OBAN, January, 1892.

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A FEW REMARKS ON THE STUDY OF GAELIC.



THE Gaelic has generally been esteemed a very difficult language; and no doubt it has its peculiarities, which I shall mention presently; but the great hindrances in the way of its acquisition have lain rather in accidental circumstances than in intrinsic difficulty. The double fact that the upper classes in the Highlands, with a few honourable exceptions, do not speak the language of the people, and that it is always more difficult to hold converse with the lower and half educated, or altogether uneducated classes, than with the educated; this, conjoined with the want of a scientific apparatus of grammatical and lexicographical appliances such as exist in the classical languages, is apt to discourage learners, whose desire to make the acquisition receives no spur from any social necessity of making it. As almost all the common people in the Highlands now speak pretty tolerable English, and in fact are often more forward to speak it on common occasions than to use their mother-tongue, only those residents in the Land of Bens who have a special love for the people, and who delight to identify themselves with genuine Highland sentiment and tradition feel a motive strong enough to induce them to go through the labour of acquiring a new language which cannot boast of any very rich and varied literature to reward their exertions. And those few, as I know from experience,

have at the very outset had their ardour sadly cooled by the want of a little book of idiomatic phrases and dialogues on common subjects, such as every traveller on the Continent carries in his pocket, as the key to the vestibule of German, Italian, French, Russian, or other modern language. The conversational method is the method of nature; and the entire disuse of it in our great classical schools is one of the chief causes of the slowness and painfulness of the process by which Greek and Latin are acquired by our British youth.* The want of such a colloquial introduction to Gaelic will, I feel convinced, be felt no more after this little work, to which I feel honoured in having been requested to affix a few words of preface, shall have found its way into general circulation. The vocabulary which it contains may readily be increased by the perusal of the admirable dialogues in the *Caraid nan Gaidheal*, by the late Dr. Macleod, of St. Columba, Glasgow, and the *Highland Tales*, English and Gaelic, by J. F. Campbell (Edinburgh, 1860), to which from my own practice, I feel inclined to add the Gaelic translation of the *Pilgrim's Progress*, to be obtained with other Gaelic books from the publishers of this work, not forgetting, of course, the historical parts of the Old Testament, and the parables of the Gospels.

The strictly philological difficulties of the Gaelic language are of two kinds: those belonging to the vocabulary or material of the language, and those belonging to its phonic and syntactic genius. While in passing from English to

* The conversational method, as applied to ancient Greek, I have endeavoured to introduce in my *Greek and English Dialogues* (London, Macmillan, 1871), and the same principle applied to modern Greek will be found in the work of Messrs. Vincent and Dickson (London, Macmillan, 1879).

French, the Englishman finds some seven-tenths of the words only old friends with new faces, in Gaelic, the inverse proportion is nearer the truth; out of ten words on which the tyro stumbles only three may bear any resemblance to his previous stock, and these three cannot always be recognised without going through a process of philological induction, of which the majority of students cannot be supposed to be capable. It is of importance, however, that this induction should be attempted; for it will enable the learner to start with a certain stock of words, very slightly modified from what he already possesses. In order to enjoy this advantage, the learner has only to bear in mind the following simple principles:—(1) That *b* and *g* are only the flat or blunt forms of *p* and *k* or hard *c*; that *d* in the same way is the blunt form of *t*; that *v* is only a softer or vocalized form of *b*; and that *m* is a *b* with fully compressed lips and the breath sent gently through the nose. (2) That in all languages, the carelessness of hasty colloquy combines with the vocalic demands of music (and Gaelic has always been mainly a sung language) in smoothing away consonants in certain positions and presenting the word in a curtailed shape; and this either at the end, as when *tho'* stands for *though*, or at the beginning as when *sample* comes from *example*, or at the middle as when *Père* comes from *Pater*, and *Mère* from *Mater*. (3) That in many languages the pure sound of the consonant is apt to be modified by the addition of a breathing or aspiration, which compound is often marked by the original consonant with the spirant letter added; as when *th* in English or *o* in Greek appears as the product of an aspiration following the original dental consonant. In the same way the Latin *c* or *k* is softened down to *ch* in Gaelic, as when *deich* stands for *decem*

and *each* for *equus*, a horse. (4) In comparing languages, the student must bear in mind that the flexional terminations, as the *us* in *bonus*, are no radical part of the word, and must be discounted. With these principles in his head, the student of Gaelic will in a very short time easily recognise old friends in a number of Gaelic roots which at first blush may not reveal their parentage to the unpractised eye. Thus, *mios* a month, will at once be seen to be identical with *mensis*; *gabhar*, a goat, with *caper*; *beatha*, life, with *vita*; *athar* with *pater* by the dropping of the initial *p* which takes place also in *lan*=*plenus*, and some other roots. A classified list of these transmuted words with their cognates in English, Latin, or German, made, as he picks them up in reading, will materially aid the progress of the student.*

But the great difficulty in Gaelic lies exactly where foreigners find it in English, viz., in the pronunciation. Here the main thing to be noted is that, as in our English words *though*, *plough*, &c., the final consonant, having been first softened by the aspiration, at last falls off altogether; so that as a general rule final *gh* or *dh* in Gaelic hardly ever makes any sensible impression on the ear. Likewise in the middle of a word, between two vowels, *gh* and *dh* are habitually softened off, as in the English proper name *Vaughan*; so that *gabhar*, *caper*, becomes *gour*, as in *Ardgour*, and other well-known names in Celtic topography. To an Englishman this should certainly not appear strange, delighting as he does in *high*, *sigh*, *thigh*, and other such evanishments of the final consonant of his Saxon roots. But there is a euphonic

* Those who have leisure and inclination to pursue Gaelic Etymology scientifically, will find important aid in *Celtic Studies* by *Ebel*, English by *Sullivan* (London, Williams & Norgate, 1863).

peculiarity in all the Celtic languages to which neither the Englishman nor any of his Teutonic congeners finds an analogy in his mother tongue, and which, unless firmly grappled with at the outset, will be a cause of constant annoyance to him in the course of his linguistic progress. This peculiarity consists in the habitual modification, or, in some cases, complete obliteration, of the initial consonant of the following word by the contagious influence of the long final vowel of the preceding word. Thus *truaighe* means *woe*; but when in the common exclamation *mo thruaighe—wee is me!* the long vowel of *mo* = *mine* immediately precedes, the *t* vanishes altogether, and the pronunciation is *mo chroóai*. So after *gle*, very, *math*, good, becomes *mhath*, i.e., *vah*; *mh* in Gaelic being equivalent to our *v*. This softening of the initial consonant takes place also in the common concord of adjective and substantive, as when *mor*, big, becomes *mhór* when joined to a feminine substantive, in the familiar *Skerryvore* = the big reef. The only way to get over this difficulty is persistently and emphatically from the very first to pronounce all words subject to this change loudly and distinctly in both ways. Thus *tigh*, a house, pronounced *tie*; but *mo thigh*, pronounced *mo high*, my house; and this prefix must be fixed in the ear by repetition as an essential part of the word. A similar method will remove the difficulty felt by so many students in reference to the gender of substantives in German. Instead of the single *buch*, a book, let *das buch*, the book, be firmly fixed in the ear emphatically from the beginning; and in this way the gender in German, or the initial modification in Gaelic, will be learned as easily as the change of terminational syllables in the cases of Greek and Latin nouns.

I have only to add that in a language where pronunciation and spelling differ so much as in Gaelic, no person who can procure one should commence the study without the familiar aid of a good teacher, or, if possible, without the best aid—that of residence for a few months in some remote Highland district. To those who can do neither, MacAlpine's pronouncing Dictionary may confidently be recommended.

Residents and travellers in the Highlands ought also to omit no opportunity of catechising the natives, generally well informed on this point, on the significance of the names of districts and places as they occur. These names being, in nine cases out of ten, pictorial or descriptive in their character, will, when properly explained, perform the double service of impressing the features of the scenery permanently on the mind of the traveller, and of enriching his vocabulary of the language to an extent of which only a living experience could give him a conception.

COLLEGE, EDINBURGH,

1st June, 1880.

PRONUNCIATION.

The Gaelic Alphabet contains eighteen letters, viz., a, b, c, d, e, f, g, h, i, l, m, n, o, p, r, s, t, u.

The Vowels are divided into broad and small. The broad are a, o, u, and the small are e, i.

The Consonants are classed as—dentals d, t, s; labials b, f, m, p; linguals l, n, r; and palatals c, g.

h is the mark of aspiration and is never found alone in a word, but always after the letters b, c, d, f, g, m, p, s, t.

The Accents are two, viz., the grave accent and the acute accent. Either of these accents placed over a vowel indicates that it is long, and that it has a specific sound according as the one or the other is used. The accents further serve the purpose of distinguishing from each other words that are identical in spelling but different in meaning.

SOUNDS OF THE VOWELS.

- a 1, Long like *a* in *far*, as *dàn*—a poem, *bàn*—white.
- „ 2, Short like *a* in *that*, as *fad*—length, *gad*—with.
- „ 3, Long before *dh* like *u* (drawled) in *burn*, as *ladhran*—hoofs.
- „ 4, Short sound of foregoing, as *lagh*—law.
- „ 5, Before *nn* and *ll*=*a* 1 and *u* in *drury*, as *clann*—children, *call*—loss.
- e 1, Long like *e* in *there*, as *rè*—during, *gnè*—kind.
- „ 2, Short like *e* in *jet*, as *dheth*—of him or it, *le*—with.
- „ 3, Long like *a* in *fame*, as *dé*—yesterday, *cé*—earth.
- „ 4, Short like *a* in *rate*, as *teth*—hot, *leth*—half.
- i 1, Long like *e* in *me*, as *sìd*—weather, *dìth*—want.
- „ 2, Short like *i* in *pin*, as *fìr*—men, *min*—meal.
- „ 3, Short like *i* in *tight*, as *tigh*—a house, *a stigh*—within.
- o 1, Long like *o* in *for*, as *còrr*—heron, *dè*—drink.
- „ 2, Short like *o* in *moral*, as *cor*—condition, *orra*, on them.
- „ 3, Long like *o* in *bold*, as *dòn*—meadow, *bò*—a cow.
- „ 4, Short like *o* in *bone*, as *dol*—going, *croih*—cattle.
- „ 5, Long like *ow* in *down*, as *fonn*—land, *toll*—hole.
- u 1, Long like *oo* in *poor*, as *ùr*—new, *ùprait*—bustle.
- „ 2, Short like *u* in *drury*, as *cur*—sending, *guth*—voice.

The first long sound of *a*, *e*, *i*, the first and third sound of *o*, and the first sound of *u* are marked with the grave accent. The third sound of *e* is marked with the acute accent. The sounds of the vowels form the key to the sounds of the diphthongs. Final vowels are always sounded.

SOUNDS OF THE DIPHTHONGS.

- ai 1 = *a* 1 and *i* 2, as *bàigh*—kindness.
 „ 2 = *a* 2 and *i* 1, as *chaidh*—went.
 „ 3 = *a* 1, the *i* being silent, as *fàille*—welcome.
 „ 4 = *a* 2, the *i* being silent, as *tais*—soft.
 „ 5 = *a* 3, the *i* being silent, as *tairbhe*—profit, *airm*—arms.
 ao 1 = *a* 3, the *o* being silent, as *aog*—death, *caol*—slender.
 ea 1 = *e* 2 slightly sounded and *a* 1, as *geall*—wager.
 „ 2 = *e* 2 slightly sounded and *a* 2, as *geal*—white.
 „ 3 = *e* 1, *a* being silent, as *dèan*—do.
 „ 4 = *e* 2, *a* being silent, as *lean*—follow.
 ei 1 = *e* 3 and *i* 2, as *dèidh*—wish.
 „ 2 = *e* 4 and *i* 2, as *deich*—ten.
 „ 3 = *e* 3, the *i* being silent, as *cèile*—spouse.
 „ 4 = *e* 4, the *i* being silent, as *còist*—question.
 eo 1 = *e* 4 slightly sounded and *o* 1, as *cedl*—music.
 „ 2 = *e* 4 slightly sounded and *o* 2, as *beothail*—lively.
 „ 3 = *o* 3, the *e* being silent, as *tedma*—expert.
 „ 4 = *o* 4, the *e* being silent, as *deoch*—drink.
 eu 1 = *e* 3, the *u* being silent, as *ceum*—a step.
 ia 1 = *i* 1 and *a* 2, as *ciall*—sense, *iar*—west.
 io 1 = *i* 1 and *o* 4, as *lìon*—fill.
 „ 2 = *i* 2 and *o* 4, as *ciont*—guilt.
 „ 3 = *i* 2, the *o* being silent, as *iomlan*—complete.
 „ 4 = *u* in up, as *ciod?*—what?
 iu 1 = *i* 2 and *u* 1 as *fiù*—worthy.
 „ 2 = *i* 2 and *u* 2, as *iubhar*—a yew-tree.
 „ 3 = *u* 1, the *i* being silent, as *dùilt*—refuse.
 „ 4 = *u* 2, the *i* being silent, as *diugh*—to-day.
 oi 1 = *o* 1 and *i* 2, as *clòimh*—wool.
 „ 2 = *o* 2 and *i* 2, as *cloimh*—mange.
 „ 3 = *o* 2, the *i* being silent, as *toiseach*—beginning.
 ua 1 = *u* 2 and *a* 2, as *cluas*—ear.
 ui 1 = *u* 1 and *i* 2, as *dùil*—hope.
 „ 2 = *u* 2 and *i* 2, as *sluig*—swallow.
 „ 3 = *u* 2, the *i* being silent, as *duine*—a man.

I have followed here Stewart's scheme of pronunciation.

SOUNDS OF THE TRIPHTHONGS.

The Triphthongs are *aoi*, *eai*, *eo*, *iai*, *iu*, and *uai*.

As the sounds of the diphthongs depend on the sounds of the individual vowels, so the sounds of the triphthongs depend on those of the diphthongs. The rule that the vowel immediately before or immediately after a plain palatal or lingual often loses its sound holds good in regard to the triphthongs. The vowel in the triphthongs that loses its sound is the last *i*.

SOUNDS OF THE CONSONANTS.

- b, Like *b* in boat, as *bàrd*—a poet.
 bh, *bh* at the beginning and end of a word is like *v*, as *bha*=*va*—was, *gabh*=*gav*—take.
bh in the middle of a word is sometimes like *w*, but is oftener silent, as *leabhar*=*leawar*—book, *dubhar*=*duär*—shade.
 c, *c* before a broad vowel is like *c* in *can*, as *càrn*—a heap of stones.
c before a small vowel is like *k* in *keen*, as *cinn*—heads.
 ch, *ch* at the beginning of a word is like the Greek *chi* as pronounced in Scotland, as *chi*, shall see.
c at the end of a syllable or word is like *chk*, as *mac*—a son.
 Exceptions—*chunnaic*, *ionraic*, *ionracas*, *dirdheire*, *éiric*.
ch at the end of a syllable or word is like *ch* in *loch*.
chd is like *ch* in *loch* with *k* added.
 d, *d* before a broad vowel is like *d* in *door*, as *dorus*—door.
d before a small vowel is like *d* in *dew*, as *dèan*—do.
 dh, *dh* before a broad vowel has no sound in English exactly like it.
dh before a small vowel is like *y* in *yield*, as *dhìbh*—of you.
dh at the end of a syllable or word or in the middle of a word is silent.
 f, *f* is like *f* in English.
 fh, *fh* at the beginning of a word sounds like *h*, as *fhuair*=*huair*—found.
fh preceded by *dh'* or by the interrogative *an d'* is silent, as *dh' fhalbh*? as if written *dhalbh*—went, and *an d' fhalbh*? as if written *an dalbh*?—did (he, &c.) go?
 g, *g* before a broad vowel is like *g* in *gab*, as *gabh*—take.
g before a small vowel is like *g* in *gean*, as *géill*—yield.
 gh, *gh* before a small vowel is like *y* in *yield*, as *gheibh*—will get.
gh before a broad vowel has no sound in English exactly like it.
gh in the middle and end of a word is silent.
 l, *l* before a broad vowel has no sound in English exactly like it.
l before a small vowel is like *l* in *lure*, as *liadh*—a ladle or blade of an oar.
 ll, *ll* at the end of a syllable or word is like *ll* in *million*, as *pill*—return *pilltinn*—returning.
 m, *m* is like *m* in English.
 mh, *mh* at the beginning and end of a word is like *v*, as *mharbh*=*varv*—killed, *nàmh*=*nàv*—an enemy.
mh in the middle of a word is generally silent, but it imparts a nasal sound to the vowel preceding it, as *còmhradh*—dialogue, *samhradh*—summer.
 n, *n* before a broad vowel is like *n* in *north*, as *nàs*—custom.
n before a small vowel is like *n* in *new*, as *neach*—a person.
n after *c*, *g*, *m*, *t*, is like *r*, as *cnàmh*=*cràmh*—decay, digest, *gnìomh*=*grìomh*—deed, action, *mnathan*=*mrathan*—woman, *tnù*=*trù*—envy.
 p, *p* like *p* in English.
 ph, *ph* at the beginning of a word is like *f*, as *phill*=*fill*—returned.

- s, *s* before a broad vowel is like *s* in English.
s before a small vowel is like *sh*, as *sìn*=*shìn*—stretch.
- sh, *sh* at the beginning of a word sounds like *h*, as *shìn*=*hìn*—stretched.
so—this, and *sud*—yon, sound as if spelt *sho* and *shud*.
- t, *t* before a broad vowel is like *t* (with a lisp) in *tan*, as *tana*—thin.
t before a small vowel is like *ch* in *chin*, as *teine*—fire.
- th, *th* at the beginning of a word is like *h*, as *thig*=*hig*—come.
th in the middle and end of a word is silent, as *bathar*=*baär*—goods, *bàth*=*bà*—drown.
- l, n, r, are the only letters that are doubled in the middle of a word. No letter is doubled at the beginning of a word.

CÒMHRAIDHEAN: CONVERSATIONS.

AN DOINIONN.

Ciamar a tha 'chuideachd mu'n ghealbhan?

An sibh a th'ann, a Dhòmhnuaill?

'S fhad o'n chunnaic sinu sibh.

Ciod a bha 'g 'ur cumail?

Nach robh mi 'n Glascho o'n bha mi 'n so mu dheireadh!

Ciod a chuir a Ghlascho sibh?

Innsidh mi sin duit.

Bha mi aig banaismhiche, Seumas.

'S math an gnothuch air an robh sibh.

'Cha d'thug è tàmh dhomh gus an do gheall mi dol ann.

Ciamar a thàinig am baile-mòr ruibh?

'Cha d'thàinig ach meadhonach.

Ciod a th'agaibh 'n a aghaidh?

Tha de dh'uinich 's de dh'upraid ann 's nach mòrnach deachaidh mo cheann air aimhreit.

An do ghabh sibh sgriob leis an each-iaruinn?

'Cha do ghabh, 's cha ghabh.

Tha mi taingeil gu'n d'fhuair mi air m'ais do shàmhechair a' ghlinne.

Nach fiadhaich an t-sid!

'Cha chuimhne leam na's fiadhaiche aig an àm so de'n bhliadhna.

An euala sibh mu'n sgiorradh bhrònach a thachair air drochaid Thatha air oidheche Di-dòmhnuaich?

'Cha chuala mi facal dheth.

'Nuair a bha 'ghaillionn aig a h-àirde thuit an drochaid.

THE STORM.

How is the company around the fire?

Is it you, Donald?

It is a long time since we saw you.

What has kept you?

Was I not in Glasgow since I was here last!

What sent you to Glasgow?

I shall tell you that.

I was at the wedding of my son, James.

You were on a good errand.

He gave me no rest till I promised to go to it.

How did the city agree with you?

It agreed with me but indifferently.

What have you against it?

There is so much hurry and bustle in it that my head became nearly deranged.

Did you take a trip with the iron horse?

I did not, and will not.

I am thankful that I have got back to the quiet of the glen.

How wild the weather is!

I do not remember wilder at this season of the year.

Have you heard of the sad accident that happened on the Tay Bridge on Sunday night?

I have not heard a word of it.

When the storm was at its height the bridge fell.

Tha mi 'n dòchas nach robh carbad-smùide 'dol thairis oirre aig an àm.

Bha, agus thuit è leis an drochaid. An do chailleadh gach neach a bha 's a' charbad?

Chailleadh.

Ni Math 'g ar teasraiginn.

Is cinnteach mi gu'm bi cunntas cianail againn mu challtach air fairge.

Cha bheag na thachair dheth sin air a' gheamhradh so cheana.

Chuala mi gu'n d'fhugadh lom-sgrìob air coille 'n Dùin.

Tha iad a' deanamh dheth gu'r do chuireadh gu làr mu mhìle craobh.

An d'rinneadh mòran dolaidh am baile nam bùithean?

Chaidh uinneagan a bhriseadh an sud 's an so, mullaichean luidheirean a leagail, is corra bhàta 'chur fodha.

An è sin uil' è?

Bha'n t-sràid a tha ri taobh a' chladaich air a cladhach, is bha'm balla 'bha 'cumail taice rithe air an taobh a mach air a bhriseadh.

Ciamar a chaidh dhuibh-fhéin.

Cha'n fhaod sinn a bhi gearan.

Chuala mi gu'n do leagadh aon de na tighean agaibh.

Cha do leagadh; ach chaidh an tubhadh a thoirt bhàrr mullach an t-sabhail.

Nach iongantach gu'n do thèaruinn an tigh-còmhnuidh!

Bha de thuramanaich air tacan 's gu'n do shaoil mi gu'm biodh è nuas mu 'r cinn.

Ciamar a dh' fhairich thu aig an àm dheuchainneach sin?

Cha'n urrainn domh na dh' fhairich mi 'chur an cainnt a 's freagarracha na th' anns na rannan so :—

I hope that a train was not crossing it at the time.

There was, and it fell with the bridge. Were all that were in the train lost?

They were.

May the Good Being preserve us!

I am certain that we shall have sad accounts of losses at sea.

The losses of that kind that have occurred this winter already are not inconsiderable.

I have heard that a clean sweep has been made of the Dun Wood.

It is estimated that about a thousand trees have been brought to the ground.

Has much damage been done in the town of shops?

Windows were broken here and there, chimney tops were knocked down, and a few boats were sunk.

Is that all?

The street along the shore was dug up, and the wall that supported it on the outside was broken.

How did it fare with yourselves?

We must not complain.

I heard that one of your houses was knocked down.

It is not so; but the thatch was taken off the roof of the barn.

How wonderful that the dwelling-house escaped!

It rocked so much for a while that I thought that it would fall about our heads.

How did you feel at that trying time?

I cannot express what I felt in more appropriate language than that of the following verses :—

‘Dh’ éirich an fhairge ’s sheíd a’
ghaath,

Is b’ aobhar oillt an fhuaim
Do na h-uile aon ’s an eadhar fhaoim
Air faontradh feadh a’ chuain.

Ach mac an sgiobair, balachan
maoth,

Chual e gun gheilt an toirm:
Fiamh aiteis àird gu’n robh ’n a
ghnuis,

Gun smuaircean air roimh ’n
stoirn.

Dh’ fheòraich a h-aon de ’n sgioba
dheth

Cionnas ’bha è cho ciùin.

‘Cha ’n ’eil eagal dhòmh-sa,’
fhreagair è:

‘Tha m’ athair air an stiùir.’”

Tha na rannan druithreach sin air
tiom’ a thoirt air mo chridhe:
’s éigin domhfeasgar math
fhàgail agaibh agus dol dach-
aidh.

Cha ghluais sibh ceum gus am
faigh sibh ’ur cuid de thràth
an fheasgair.

Tha fiughair aca rium aig an tigh.
Ma tha biodh: thoir dhomh do
bhoineid.

Ma tha Màiri is thusa air an aon
sgeul cha ’n ’eil math dhòmh-
sa cur ’n ’ur n-aghaidh.

TUATHANACHAS.

Ciamar a tha sibh uile ’s an tigh so?
Tha sinn gu math, gu’n robh math
agaibh.

Ciamar a tha sibh-fhéin ’s na
bhuineas duibh?

Cha ’n ’eil aobhar gearain againn.
Thigibh a stigh is leigibh ’ur n-
anail.

So dhuibh cathair taobh an teine.

’S ann agaibh-fhéin a tha ’n gealbh-
an suilbhir ’s a’ chagailt sgiolta.

The sea rose and the wind blew,

And terrible was the sound
To all on board the frail bark
That was adrift on the ocean.
But the skipper’s son, a tender boy,

Heard without fear the roar:
There was an expression of lofty
joy in his countenance,
And he heeded not the storm.

One of the crew enquired of him

How he was so calm.
‘There is no fear of me,’ he
replied:
‘My father is at the helm.’

These impressive verses have melted
my heart: I must bid you good
evening and go home.

You shall not move a step till you
get your share of the evening
meal.

They expect me at home.
If they do let them: give me your
bonnet.

If Mary and you are of one mind
there is no use in my opposing
you.

FARMING.

How are you all in this house?
We are well, thank you.

How are you yourself and those
belonging to you?

We have no cause of complaint.
Come in and rest.

Here is a chair for you beside the
fire.

It is you that has the cheerful fire
and the tidy hearth.

Tha 'mhòine pailte 's cha 'n 'eil
caomhnadh orra.

'S mòr an t-sochair am pailteas
connaidh.

An d'fhàinig sibh o'n tigh an diugh?
Thàinig.

Cha bheag an t-astar a choisich
sibh.

Tha e mu chòig mìle fichead.

Bithidh sibh sgith.

Cha'n urrainn domh a ràdh nach
'eil.

Am bheil thu 'n sin, a Mhòr?

'D é b' àill leibh?

Am bheil a' bhanarach a' bleogh-
ainn a' chruidh?

Tha

Falbh a mach agus abair rithe 'n
soitheach so 'lìonadh.

Falbhaidh.

Cùrainnich am bòrd, a Cheit.

C'ait am bheil an t-anart-bùird?

Gheibh thu è 's a' chiste sin thall.

An toir mi nuas an t-aran-
cruineachd 's an t-aran-coirce?

Bheir, agus an t-im 's a' mhulachag
chàise.

Na caomhnaibh na th' air 'ur
beulaobh: 's è 'ur beatha.

'S i 'mhin ùr a th' agaibh 's an
aran so.

'S i; fhuair sinn as a' mhuilleann i
air Di-màirt.

'N è so a' cheud deasachadh a bh'
agaibh dhi?

'S è.

Tha i fìor ghrinn.

Bu chòir dhi bhi; oir cha 'n fhaca
mi riamh bàrr coirce 'b' fheàrr
na bh' againn am bliadhna.

Cia meud mulan a th' agaibh 's an
ìolainn?

Tha sèa-deug againn.

Am bi am pailteas còltaich agaibh
do 'n chroth fad a' gheamh-
raidh 's an earraich?

Tha mi 'smuaineachadh gu'm bi.

So fear an tighe 'tighinn.

Peats are abundant and are not
spared.

Abundance of fuel is a great boon.

Have you come from home to-day?
I have.

You have walked no small distance.

It is about twenty-five miles.

You are tired.

I cannot say that I am not.

Are you there, Sarah?

What is your will?

Is the dairy-maid milking the cows?

Yes.

Go out and tell her to fill this dish.

I will.

Cover the table, Kate.

Where is the table-cloth?

You will find it in the chest over
there.

Shall I bring down the wheaten
bread and the oaten bread?

Yes, and the butter and cheese.

Do not spare what is before you:
you are welcome.

It is the new meal that you have in
this bread.

Yes; we got it from the mill on
Tuesday.

Is this the first baking that you
have had of it?

Yes.

It is very fine.

It should be so; for I never saw a
better crop of oats than we had
this year.

How many stacks have you in the
stack-yard?

We have sixteen.

Will you have plenty of straw for
the cattle during winter and
spring?

I think that we shall.

Here is the man of the house coming.

'S mi 'tha toiliet' 'ur faicinn.
Tha greis o'n bha sibh 's a' cleàrn
so.

Tha dlùth air bliadhn' ann.
An d'thug sibh sgrùl ùr sam bith a
nuas as a' ghleann?

Cha d'thug ach gu bheil do charaid,
Alastair mòr, gu slàn, fallain.

Am bheil guth aige air sgrìob a
ghabhail an rathad so?

Cha 'n fhiosrach mi gu bheil.
Ciamar a tha 'n T-Uachdaran ùr a'
tighinn ruibh?

Tha gu ro mhath.
Am bheil e aoidheil, bàigheil ris
an t-sluagh?

Tha è, agus tha è 'toirt misneich is
cothruim do gach duine ionraic,
dèichiollach air an oighreachd.

Is dual da sin : 's è mac an deagh
athar è.

Am bheil an buachaill a stigh?

Tha mi 'n so.

A mach thu do 'n t-sabhal, agus
thoir ultach cheannagan do 'n
bhàthaich airson a' chruidh.

Co dhiùbh is è crodh Gallda no
Gàidhealach a th' agaibh.

Crodh Gallda.

'D é 'bhios sibh a' deanamh leis a'
bhainne?

Tha sinn 'g a chur do 'n Oban a h-
uile là.

Cia meud pinnt a bhios aig gach
bò?

Mu chòig pinnt.

Thig sin gu mòran airgid aig
deireadh na bliadhna.

Tha sinn taingeil è 'bhi againn mu
choinneamh a' mhàil.

Cia meud laogh a bhios sibh a'
togail?

Ceithir no còig.

'D é 'bhios sibh a' deanamh leis a'
chòrr?

'S àbhaist duinn an reic ris an
fheòladair.

I am very glad to see you.

There is some time since you were
in this quarter.

It is nearly a year.

Have you brought any news down
from the glen?

I have not, except that your friend,
big Alastair, is hale and
healthy.

Has he any word of taking a trip
in this direction?

I am not aware that he has.

How do you like the new laird?

Very well.

Is he affable and kind to the people?

He is, and he gives encouragement
and fair-play to every honest
and industrious man on the
estate.

That is hereditary to him : he is
the son of a good father.

Is the herd within?

I am here.

Out with you to the barn, and
bring a bundle of wisps to the
byre for the cattle.

Whether is it Lowland or High-
land cattle that you have?

Lowland cattle.

What do you do with the milk?

We send it to Oban every day.

How many pints has each cow?

About five pints.

That will amount to much money
at the end of the year.

We are thankful to have it for the
rent.

How many calves do you rear?

Four or five.

What do you do with the rest?

We are in the habit of selling them
to the butcher.

Cia meud each a th' agaibh?
 Ceithir.
 An do thòisich sibh air an treabhadh?
 Cha do thòisich.
 Am bheil caoirich agaibh?
 Tha.
 'D é 'n seòrsa 'th' agaibh?
 Caoraich Ghàidhealach.
 Co 'cheannaich na h-uain agaibh am bliadhna?
 Chuala mi 'ainm ach cha 'n 'eil cuimhn' agam air.
 Is coltach gur h-e Gall no Sasunnach a bh' ann.
 Fhuair mise airgid ullamh orra 's tha mi coma.
 'D é 'phris a bhios a' chlàimh am bliadhna?
 Cha 'n 'eil fhios agam: tha i 'g éiridh.
 Am bheil thu dol a ghabhail aont' ùr de 'n bhaile?
 Cha 'n 'eil an aont' a th' agam a mach fhathast?
 An d' fhuair thu 'm màl a nuas.
 Cha 'd fhuair.
 An téid agad air cumail air t-aghaidh?
 Feumaidh mi 'bhi strì ris.
 Buaidh is piseach leat, 'fhir mo chridhe.

How many horses have you?
 Four.
 Have you begun to plough?
 We have not.
 Have you sheep?
 Yes.
 What kind have you?
 Highland sheep.
 Who bought your lambs this year?
 I heard his name but do not remember it.
 He is likely to have been a Lowlander or an Englishman.
 I got ready money for them and do not care.
 What will be the price of the wool this year?
 I do not know: it is rising.
 Are you going to take a new lease of the farm?
 My present lease has not yet expired.
 Have you got the rent lowered?
 I have not.
 Can you manage to hold out?
 I must strive to do so.
 Success and prosperity attend you, my dear fellow.

IASGACH AIR A'MHUIR.

SEA-FISHING

An robh sibh ag iasgach an raoir?
 Bha.
 C' àit an robh sibh?
 Bha sinn aig a' Charraig.
 An robh gabhail mhath air an iasg?
 Is ainmic a chunnaic mi na 's fheàrr.
 Cia meud a ghlac sibh?
 Còig ceud.
 Cha robh sibh 'n 'ur tàmh.
 Bha sinn tacan 'g an toirt a stigh cho luath 's a b'urrainn sinn.
 Cia meud a bh' ann dibh?

Were you fishing last night?
 We were.
 Where were you?
 We were at the Carraig.
 Were the fish taking well?
 I have seldom seen them taking better.
 How many did you catch?
 Five hundred.
 You were not idle.
 We were for a while taking them in as fast as we could.
 How many were there of you?

Ceathrar.

Bha trìuir ag iasgach is aon a' fannadh, nach robh?

Tha sibh ceart.

Co dhiùbh is è pìocach no sgadan a bha sibh a' faotainn?

Sgadan.

An robh iad a' cluich air uachdar an uisge?

'S iad a bha: bha 'n fhairge mar gu'm b'ann airghoil le 'n cluich.

Co dhiùbh is iad na slatan no 'n lloan a bh' agaibh?

Na slatan: cha robh an lloan deas againn.

'D é 'n seòrsa maghair a bh' agaibh?

'S è cuileag de dh' ite na faoilinn a bh' againn.

Cia meud cuileag is àbhaist a bhi air gach slait?

A dhà mar is bidheanta.

An sibh-fhèin a bhios a' stalcadh nan dubhan?

'S sinn.

Am faca sibh muca-mara?

Bha tè mhòr 'n ar cuideachd fad an fleasgair.

'D é 'mheudachd a bh' innte?

Tha mi cinnteach gu'n robh i dà fhichead troidh air fad.

An robh i dlùth dhuibh?

Bha i aon uair cho diùth 's gu'm faodamaid leum air a druim.

Is math nach robh Iain eutrom is Annag an dannsaidh còmhla ruibh.

Carson?

Mu 'n abradh tu seachd bhiodh iad a mach a dhannsaidh oirre.

Tog de d' sgeig, 'Fhionnlaidh ghéir.

'N è sgeig a thubhairt thu? Bi taingeil nach d' éirich na 's miosa.

Ciamar sin?

Nach 'eil thu taingeil nach do smùid i 's an athar thu, agus nach do shluig i thu 'n déidh sin?

Four.

There were three fishing, and one rowing slowly, were there not?

You are right.

Whether was it saithe or herring that you were catching?

Herring.

Were they playing on the surface of the water?

That they were: the sea was as it were boiling with their playing.

Whether was it the rods or the net that you had?

The rods: we had not the net ready.

What sort of bait had you?

It was a fly of the gull's feather that we had.

How many flies is it usual to have on each rod?

Two generally.

Do you dress the hooks yourselves?

We do.

Did you see whales?

A large one kept us company all the evening.

What was its size?

I am sure that it was forty feet long.

Was it near you?

It was once so near that we could leap on its back.

It is well that light-headed John and dancing Annie were not with you.

Why?

Before you could say seven they would be out to dance on it.

Give over your off-taking, sharp Finlay.

Is it off-taking that you said? Be thankful that worse did not happen.

How that?

Are you not thankful that it did not dash you into the air, and swallow you afterwards?

Cha 'n 'eil math a bhi bruidhinn
riut-sa.

Cha 'n 'eil.

C'uin a dh' fhàg sibh tha...?

Mu naoi uairean an raoir.

Am b' fheadar dhuibh iomram
dhachaidh?

Cha b' fheadar; dh' éirich a' ghaoth
's chuir sinn na siùil ris a' bhàta.

Bha sgairt mhath 'ghaoithe againn-
ne mu dheich uairean.

Cha b' ann na b' fhèathala 'bha è
againn-ne mach.

An robh dad de dh' fhairge agaibh?

Bha i 'n a meallaibh mu 'n d'
ràinig sinn Cearara.

Co 'bh' air an stiùir?

Bha Iain Dheòrsa.

Cha 'n amadan am fear a stiùras
bàta gu tèaruainte ri sid ghairbh.

Fàilt oirbh! a dhaoin' uaisle.

An robh sibh ag iasgach?

Tha sinn dìreach air tilleadh uaithe.

Tha mi 'n dòchas gu'n do shoirbhich
leibh.

Fhuair sinn fichead cudainn agus
deich bodaich-ruadha.

'S math a fhuaras sibh.

An d' fheuch sibh riamh iasgach
bhàrr nan creag?

Cha d' fheuch.

'S iomadh làn mùrlaig a fhuair mise
air an dòigh sin.

Ciamar a théid sinn m' a dhéibhinn?

Cha 'n 'eil agaibh ach àite freagarrach
fhaotainn agus an driamlach a
thilgeil.

'S ann a dh' fheumas sinn 'fheuch-
ainn feasgar éigin.

Tha mi 'cluinninn gu bheil sibh
teòm' air iomram.

Tha sinn 'g a chleachdadh.

C' àite, ma 's è 'ur toil è?

Airan abhuinn làimh ris an Oil-thigh.

Puf! lub thunnag.

Na 'm faiceadh tu sinn ri farpais le
'r bàtaichean, agus na mìltean
sluaigh ag amhàire oirnn, cha
bhiodh tu 'focaid oirnn.

There is no use in talking to you.

There is not.

When did you leave the other side?

About nine o'clock last night.

Had you to row home?

We had not; the wind rose, and we
set the sails to the boat.

We had a smart breeze of wind
about ten o'clock.

It was not calmer with us outside.

Had you anything of a sea?

It ran high before we reached
Kerrera.

Who was at the helm?

John (son) of George.

The man that steers a boat safely
in rough weather is not a fool.

Hail to you, gentlemen.

Were you fishing?

We have just returned from it.

I hope that you have been success-
ful.

We got twenty cuddies and ten
codlings.

You have done well.

Have you ever tried to fish off the
rocks?

We have not.

Many a basketful have I got in
that way.

How shall we set about it?

You have only to find a suitable
place and cast the line.

We must try it some evening.

I hear that you are expert at row-
ing.

We practise it.

Where, if you please?

On the river near the College.

Pu! a duck dub.

If you saw us competing with our
boats, while thousands of
people looked on, you would
not mock us.

Mo bheannachd oirbh ! Cuiribh
na ràimh, an tobhta, agus an
taoman ann an àite tèaruinte.
Slàn leibh air an àm.

My blessing upon you. Put the
oars, the rowing bench, and
the baler in a safe place.
Farewell for the present.

LÀ.

A' MHADUINN.

Am bheil brath agad air éiridh ?
'D é 'n uair a tha è ?
Tha è fichead mionaid a dhith air
de naoi uairean.

An d' fhuair thu cadal math ?
Cha do dhùisg mi o 'n chaidh mi
'laidhe gus an d' thàinig sibh
a stigh.

Bithidh a' bhraiceas deas an ùine
ghoirid.

Am bheil am pailteas uisge,
sìopuinn, is shearadairean 's
an t-seòmar ?

Tha.
Am bu mhath leat thu-fhéin
fhailceadh ?

Bu mhath.
Tha 'n seòmar-failcidh làimh riut.
Bithibh cho math 's an dorus aige
fhàgail fosgailte.

Nì mi sin.
'D é 'n seòrsa là 'th' ann ?
Là grianach 's a' ghaoth o 'n ear.

An cuala tu riamh ? :—
"Gaoth a deas, teas is toradh.

Gaoth an iar, iasg is bainne.

Gaoth a tuath, fuachd is gaillionn.

Gaoth an ear, meas bhàrr chrann-
aibh."*

Is math is aithne dhomh na facail
sin, ach 's fhad' o 'n chuala
mi iad.

A DAY.

THE MORNING.

Do you intend to get up ?
What o'clock is it ?
It wants twenty minutes of nine
o'clock.

Have you slept well ?
I have not wakened since I went
to bed till you came in.

Breakfast will be ready in a short
time.

Is there plenty of water, soap, and
towels in the room ?

There is.
Would you like to have a bath ?

I would.
The bath-room is near you.
Be so good as leave its door open.

I will do so.
What kind of day is it ?
A sunny day with the wind from
the east.

Have you ever heard ? :—
"Wind from the scuth (denotes)
heat and produce.

Wind from the west (denotes) fish
and milk.

Wind from the north (denotes) cold
and storm.

Wind from the east (denotes) fruit
off trees."

I know these words well, but it is
a long time since I heard them.

* An old observation on the weather on New Year's eve.

A' BHRAICEAS.

BREAKFAST.

Iarramaid beannachadh.

Co dhiùbh 's è *tea* no *coffee* 'ghabhas tu?

Gabhaidh mi *tea*, ma 's è 'ur toil è.
An gabh thu sìucar is uachdar leatha?

Co dhiùbh a ghabhas tu ubh an toiseach, no iasg, no muc-fheòil chrochte?

Gabhaidh mi ubh an toiseach.

Am bheil mòran chearc agaibh?

Tha mu dhà fhichead againn.

C' àit am bheil sibh a' faotainn nam breac?

'S an abhuinn ud shios.

'D é 'n t-aran a ghabhas tu?

Gabhaidh mi a h-aon de na breacag-an cruineachd.

Co dhiùbh a ghabhas tu im ùr no im saillte?

Mholainn duit a h-aon de na bonnaich-isbein.

An toir sibh dhòmh-sa sliseag de 'n mhuic-fheòil chrochte, 'athair?

Geàrr air do shon fhéin i, 'ille.

Ciamar a tha thu 'dol achur seachad an là, 'Ailein?

Tha mi 'dol do 'n mhonadh a shealg.

'D é 'tha thusa 'dol a dheanamh, a Sheònaid?

Tha mi 'dol a sgrìobhadh litrichean an toiseach.

'D é 'tha thu 'dol a dheanamh an déigh sin?

Tha mi 'dol a leughadh.

'D é 'n leabhar a tha thu 'dol a leughadh?

Eachdraidh na H-Alba.

'S è sin a 's fheàrr na sgeulachdan spleadhach.

'D é 'tha sibhse 'dol a dheanamh, a mhàthair?

Tha mi 'dol do 'n bhaile air ghnothuch?

'D é 'tha sibhse 'dol a dheanamh, 'athair?

Let us ask a blessing.

Whether will you have tea or coffee?

I will have tea, if you please.

Will you take sugar and cream with it?

Whether will you have an egg first, or fish, or pork ham?

I will have an egg first.

Have you many hens?

We have about forty.

Where do you find the trout?

In the river down yonder.

What bread will you have?

I will have one of the flour scones.

Whether will you have fresh or salted butter?

I would recommend to you one of the sausage bannocks.

Will you give me a slice of the pork ham, father?

Cut it for yourself, lad.

How are you going to pass the day, Allan?

I am going to the hill to hunt.

What are you going to do, Janet?

I am going to write letters first.

What are you going to do after that?

I am going to read.

What book are you going to read?

The History of Scotland.

That is better than fictitious tales.

What are you going to do, mother?

I am going to town on business.

What are you going to do, father?

Tha mi 'dol gu mòd a thoirt breith
air duine bochd a tha iad a'
cur as a leth gu'n robh e 'sealg
gun chead.

I am going to a court to pass
judgment on a man who is
accused of poaching.

AN DÌNNEIR.

DINNER.

Ciamar a thàinig thu air t-aghaidh
's a' mhonadh, 'Ailein?

Mharbh mi deich eòin ruadha agus
dà mhaighich.

Is math a fhuaras thu.

Am faca tu féidh?

Chuunnaic mi damh mòr, cabarach
air mullach a' mhonaidh.

An robh e mar astar urchair dhuit?

Bha deadh cothrom agam air a
thilgeil na 'm biodh peileirean
agam.

Am bheil thu sgith?

Cha 'n urrainn domh a ràdh gu'm
bheil.

Is iongantach leam sin.

Bha 'n t-àileadh cho beothachail 's
nach do sgithich an t-saothair
mi.

Tha 'n dinnear air a' bhòrd.

Their thusa sios bean-an-tighe,
'Ailein.

Tha 'n staidhir farsuing is furasd'
a thèarnadh.

Is eireachdail na cabair-fhiadh a
th' air a' bhalla.

Tha dithis dhiùbh air am bheil dà
mheur dheug.

An gabh thu brot?

Gabhaidh, gu 'n robh math agaibh.

An d' fhuair sibh 'ur gnothach a
dheanamh?

Fhuair.

Am faigh sibh 's a' bhaile a h-uile
ni 'bhios a dhìth oirbh?

Gheibh sinn a' chuid a' s mò dhiùbh,
ach 's àbhaist duinn na h-uibhir
de nithe fhaotainn a Glascho.

An gabh thu crioman de 'n bhradan?
Thoir am buntàta 's an t-im leaghte
'n so.

How did you get on in the hill,
Allan?

I killed ten grouse and two hares.

You have done well.

Did you see deer?

I saw a large antlered stag on the
top of the hill.

Was he within range of your shot?

I had a good opportunity of shoot-
ing him if I had had balls.

Are you tired?

I cannot say that I am.

I am surprised at that.

The air was so bracing that the
exertion did not fatigue me.

Dinner is on the table.

Take down the lady of the house,
Allan.

The stair is broad and easily de-
scended.

The deer horns on the wall are
handsome.

There are two of them with twelve
points.

Will you have broth?

I will, thank you.

Did you get your business done?

I did.

Can you get in the town every
thing that you need?

We can get the most of them, but
we are in the habit of getting
several things from Glasgow.

Will you have a bit of the salmon?

Bring here the potatoes and the
melted butter.

Tha 'm bradan air ùr-thoirt as an abhuinn.

Gabh gloine fiona.

Theagamh gur fèarr leat uisge-beatha.

Leig leam sliseag de 'n mhairt-fheòil so a chur 'ad ionn-suidh.

Cha d' fheuch mi riamh feòil a 's blasda 's a 's maotha.

An gabh thu nis beagan de 'n mhuilt-fheòil?

Tha na 's leòir agam.

Angabh thu làn spàine de 'n bhiadh mhilis so?

An gabh thu càise?

An gabh thu ubhal no *orange*?

'S fheàrr leam fion-dhearc.

Gabh gloine de dh' fhion dearg.

Cuir mu 'n cuairt am botul, a Chailein.

'S fheàrr dhuinn dol do 'n t-seòmar 's am bheil na mnathan uaisle.

Tha 'n t-uisg' ann.

Cha 'n 'eil ann ach fras.

Tha 'm paipear-naigheachd air tighinn.

Thoir am ionnsuidh è.

Thoir dhuinn ceòl, 'Iseabal.

'S math a chluich thu 'm port sin.

Ciod a dh' éirich do 'n phìobair?

Cha chuala mi sgàl d' a phìob an diugh.

Shiach e 'chas an raoir aig banais a' bhrocair.

Am burraidh! ach bithibh caoimhn-eil ris a' ghille bhoichd.

Cha 'n è spéis do mhire 's do dh' aidhear a tha toirt orm-sa pìobair a bhi agam, ach gaol a' chiùil fhéin agus cuimhne nan làithean a dh' fhalbh. Cha 'n 'eil ceòl eil' ann a ruigeas air mo chridhe cosmhuil ris.

Tha 'n t-àm ann airson aoraidh.

Buail an clag.

The salmon is fresh from the river.

Have a glass of wine.

Perhaps you prefer whisky.

Allow me to send you a slice of this beef.

I have never tasted sweeter and tenderer beef.

Will you now have some of the mutton?

I have enough.

Will you have a spoonful of this sweetmeat (pudding)?

Will you have cheese?

Will you have an apple or an orange?

I prefer grapes.

Have a glass of port.

Send round the bottle, Colin.

We better go to the room where the ladies are.

It is raining.

It is only a shower.

The newspaper has come.

Bring it to me.

Give us music, Isabella.

You have played that tune well.

What has become of the piper?

I have not heard a skirl of his pipe to-day.

He sprained his foot last night at the fox-hunter's wedding.

The blockhead! but be kind to the poor lad.

It is not a liking for mirth and merriment that makes me keep a piper, but love for pipe music and the remembrance of the days that are gone. No other music affects my heart as it does.

It is time for worship.

Ring the bell.

A' BHANAIS.

An tu 'th' ann, a Mhàiri bhàn nam mlog-shùil?
 'S mi le 'r cead: am bheil sibh-fhéin gu sunndach?
 Mata cha 'n 'eil: tha mi air mo chlaoidh le sgios is cion cadail.
 Dhi-chuimhnich mi gu'n robh sibh aig a' bhanais.
 Co bhiodh ann mur bithinn-sa, 's gu'm bu mhi fleasgach bean-na-bainnse?
 Bha mòran agaibh r' a dheanamh.
 Carson a tha thu 'g ràdh sin?
 An cuala sibh riamh an sean-fhacal?—"An nì nach cluinn thu 'n diugh cha 'n aithris thu 'm màireach."
 Dh' fhaodadh tu innseadh dhomh-sa.
 An geall sibh nach tig sibh thairis air?
 Geallaidh: so mo làmh.
 'S è mo bharail nach 'eil i math na 's leòir air a shon.
 'S è mo bharail-sa nach 'eil caileag 's an dùthaich a 's laghaiche na i.
 'S i nach 'eil 's nach robh riamh laghach.
 Mo nàire! a Mhàiri, cha téid thusa do 'n mhonadh am bliadhna.
 'D é 's ciall d' a sin?
 Nach 'eil fhios agad?
 Cha 'n 'eil.
 Rì linn mo sheanar b' àbhaist do 'n chòrdadh a bhi aca air a' mhonadh ud.
 'D é dhe sin?
 Bha leac air a mhullach mu mheudachd lic-lighe air am biodh iad a' cur a' bhéidh 's na dibhe.
 'D é 'tha 'n 'ur beachd?
 Tha nach bi còrdadh agad-sa 'm bliadhna.
 Beannachd leibh: comhairlichidh mi do Miss Anna gun ghnòth-uch a bhi aice ruibh.

THE WEDDING.

Is it you, fair-haired Mary of the laughing eyes?
 It is, with your leave: are you yourself in good spirits?
 Indeed I am not: I am worn out with fatigue and want of sleep.
 I forgot that you were at the wedding.
 Who should be there if I were not, seeing that I was the bride's best man?
 You had much to do.
 Why do you say that?
 Have you ever heard the proverb?
 —"What you do not hear to-day you will not repeat to-morrow."
 You might tell it to me.
 Will you promise not to repeat it?
 I will: here is my hand.
 I am of opinion that she is not good enough for him.
 I am of opinion that there is not a nicer girl in the country.
 She is not and never was nice.
 For shame! Mary, you will not go to the hill this year.
 What does that mean?
 Do you not know?
 I do not.
 In my grandfather's time they used to hold the contract meeting on yon hill.
 What of that?
 There was a flag on the top of it about the size of a gravestone on which they used to put the food and drink.
 What do you mean?
 I mean that you will have no contract meeting this year.
 Good-bye: I will advise Miss Ann to have nothing to do with you.

Cha toir i feart ort.

Chì sinn.

Turus math dhuit, a Mhàiri laghach.

C' uin a thàinig thu o'n bhanais?

Mu chòig uairean 's a' mhaduinn.

Cia meud a bh' ann de chuideachd?

Mu dhà fhichead.

Co 'phòs iad?

Phòs ministear na sgìreachd.

Am bheil an sluagh toigheach air?

Tha, agus is math a dh' fhaodas iad, oir tha e càirdeil, aoidheil riutha.

'D é 'rinn sibh an déidh dha falbh?

Thòisich sinn air an dannsadh.

Co 'dhannas a' cheud ruidhle?

Dhannas mise le bean-na-bainnse, is dhannas fear - na - bainnse le 'maighdein.

Bha ruidhl' is ruidhl' againn an déidh sin agus an robh sinn sgìth.

An sin leig sibh 'ur n-anail tacan.

Leig, is chaidh uisge-beatha 'chur mu 'n cuairt. An sin thubhairt mise, "Tha bean - na-bainnse 'g òl oirbh."

Thubhairt am fleasgach eile, "Tha fear-na-bainnse 'g òl oirbh."

An robh iad a' glaothaich 's a' deanamh sgailleagan le 'm meòir?

Bha, agus shaoileadh sibh air uairibh gu'n robh na fir air bàinidh.

Bhiodh sin a réir an eòlais air mac na bracha.

Cha 'n abair mi nach 'eil beagan de 'n fhìrinn agaibh.

An robh òrain 'g an gabhail?

Bha an dràs 's a rìs.

'N uair a bhiodh sibh sgìth de bhreabadh nan cas.

Dìreach sin.

'D é 'tha "cur reast 's an ùrlar" a' ciallachadh?

She will not heed you.

We shall see.

A good journey to you, nice Mary.

When did you come from the wedding?

About five o'clock in the morning.

How many were there of a company?

About forty.

Who married them?

The minister of the parish.

Are the people fond of him?

They are, and they may well be, for he is friendly and affable to them.

What did you do after he left?

We began to dance.

Who danced the first reel?

I danced it with the bride, and the bridegroom danced it with her maid.

We had reel after reel after that till we were tired.

You then rested for a while.

We did; and whisky was sent round. I then said, "The bride drinks to you."

The other best man said, "The bridegroom drinks to you."

Were they shouting and cracking their fingers?

They were, and you would think at times that the men were in a frenzy.

That would be in proportion to their acquaintance with the son of malt.

I shall not say that there is not some truth in your remark.

Were songs sung?

Yes, now and again.

When you were tired of thumping with your feet.

Just so.

What does "arresting the floor" mean?

Gu bheil stad ri 'bhi 's an dannsadh
 ear ghreis no gu bheil càraid-
 ean sònraichte 'g a ghleidheil
 dhoibh fhéin.

'D é 'n nair a bha é 'n nair a shuidh
 sibh gu 'r suipeir ?

Bha é deich uairean.

Co 'bh' air ceann a' bhùird ?

Bha mise.

Co 'bh' air ceann shìos a' bhùird ?

Bha athair bean-na-bainnse.

An robh cuirm shòghar agaibh ?

Bha gach biadh a b' fheàrr againn
 a ghabhadh faotainn 's an
 dùthaich.

Am bheil na fir tèom' air a' bhiadh
 a ghearradh ?

Bhiodh é 'n a thàmailt do dhuine
 mur biodh fhios aige ciamar a
 ghearradh é ceare no biadh
 sam bith eile.

An robh fala-dhà agaibh ?

Bha na 's leòir.

Am bheil fearas-chuideachd shòn-
 aichte sam bith aca aig an
 t-suipeir ?

Bithidh iad ri fala-dhà le cnàmhan.
 Cuiridh fear uchd circe ris an abrar
 an long no cnàmh lom sam
 bith a dh' ionnsuidh fir eile, a
 dh' fheumas rann a dheanamh.

Ma bhios na fir geur bheir iad
 àbhachd do 'n chuideachd.

Nach 'eil coinneamh aca roimh 'n
 phòsadh a shocrachadh chùis-
 ean ?

Tha dà choinneamh aca, an còrdadh
 mòr 's an còrdadh beag.

'D é 'th' air a dheanamh aig a'
 chòrdadh bheag ?

Tha 'm fear a' tighinn le companach
 gu tigh a leannain gu è-féin a
 thairgseadh.

Tha 'n còrdadh mòr 'n a leth
 bhanaid.

Tha na càirdean a' cruinneachadh
 taobh air thaobh.

'D é 'tha air a dheanamh aige ?

That dancing is to be stopped for
 a while, or that certain couples
 are keeping it to themselves.

What o'clock was it when you sat
 to supper ?

It was ten o'clock.

Who was at the head of the table ?
 I was.

Who was at the foot of the table ?
 The bride's father.

Had you a sumptuous feast ?

We had the best kinds of food that
 could be got in the country.

Are the men expert carvers ?

It would be a disgrace to a man
 not to know how to carve a
 fowl or any other food.

Had you fun ?

We had plenty of it.

Have they any particular diversion
 at the supper ?

They make fun with bones.

One will send a fowl's breast called
 the ship or any bare bone to
 another, who must make a
 rhyme.

If the men are sharp-witted they
 will afford sport to the com-
 pany.

Have they not a meeting before
 the marriage to settle matters ?

They have two meetings, the big
 contract meeting and the little.

What is done at the little contract
 meeting ?

The man comes with a companion
 to his sweetheart's house to
 offer himself.

The big contract meeting is a half
 wedding.

The friends of both parties meet.

What is done at it ?

Tha là na bainnse 's gach chùis
fheumail eil' air an socrachadh.
Feumaidh gu bheil na bainnsean
sin cosdail.

Cha 'n 'eil teagamh nach 'eil.
Nach amaideach na h-uiread a chur
a mach orra?

Cha 'n 'eil an t-pallach orra-san
aig am bheil a' bhanais,

Ciamar sin?

Tha na coimhearsnaich a' cur a
stigh gach ni 'bhios feumail.

Gu dearbh!

Cuiridh iad cearcan, uibhean, im,
mulachagan càise, is nithe eile
g' an ionnsuidh.

Mar so tha càirdeas agus deagh
choimhearsnachd air an cumail
suas.

Tha eagal orm gu bheil tuilleadh
's a' chòir de dh' òl a' dol air
aghaidh aig na còdhailibh sin.

Tha air uairibh; ach tha na 's lugha
ann dheth na b' àbhaist.

Gu'm a h-ann na 's lugha 'bhios è
'fàs a h-uile là.

CRUINNEACHADH GÀIDH- EALACH AN OBAIN.

Fàilt air a' mhaighstir-sgoil: cia
as a thug sibh a' choiseachd?

Is coma cia as: tha mi air mo
chlaoidh le teas is pathadh.

Rachaibh a stigh, a dhuine ghaol-
aich.

Nì mi sin gu toileach.

Am bheil thu 'n sin, a Chiorsdan?

Tha mi 'tighinn.

So am maighstir-sgoil an impis
toirt thairis le sgìos is pathadh.

Nach è so an là bruthainneach!

Leigibh sibh-fhéin 'n 'ur sineadh
air an uirigh.

So! so! a nuas deoch do d' charaid.

Co dhiùbh a ghabhas sibh deoch
mheòig no deoch bhlàthaich?

The wedding-day and other neces-
sary matters are settled.

These weddings must be expensive.

No doubt they are.

Is it not foolish to spend so much
on them?

The burden is not on those that
have the wedding.

How that?

The neighbours send in all that is
necessary.

Indeed!

They send them hens, eggs, butter,
cheeses, and other things.

Friendliness and neighbourliness
are thus kept up.

I fear that too much drinking goes
on at these meetings.

Yes, at times, but there is less of
it than used to be.

May it become less every day.

THE OBAN HIGHLAND GATHERING.

Hail to the schoolmaster: whence
have you walked?

It does not matter whence: I am
exhausted with heat and thirst.

Go in, dear man.

I shall do so willingly.

Are you there, Kirsty?

I am coming.

Here is the schoolmaster like to
give over through fatigue and
thirst.

What a sultry day this is!

Stretch yourself on the couch.

Come! come! bring down a drink
to your friend.

Whether will you have a drink of
whisky or a drink of butter-milk?

Meòg! blàthach! Nach 'eil deur idir 's a' bhotul?

'S ann air a shon fhéin a nì 'n cat crònan; ach a dh'innseadh na firinn dhi-chuimhnich mi gu'n robh a leithid 's an tigh.

An gabh sibh è mar tha è no 'n cuir mi uisge 'n a cheann?

'S fheàrr leam deoch mheòig, gu'n robh math agad.

Toilichibh sibh-fhéin.

'S fheàird mi sin.

An ann 's an Oban a bha sibh?

'S ann.

Tha mi cinnteach gu bheil ùpraid mhòr ann an dràs le luchd-turuis.

Bha othail ann an diugh co dhiù nach fhaca mise riamh a leithid.

Ciod air am bheil sibh a' tighinn?

B' è 'n diugh là nan cluichean Gàidhealach.

An do chruinnich mòran sluaigh g' am faicinn?

Tha iad a' deanamh dheth nach robh na 's lugha na 'òig mile cruinn.

Cia as a thàinig iad?

As gach ceàrn de 'n dùthaich mu 'n cuairt is a dùtchannan eile.

C' àit an robh a' choinneamh?

Air faiche taobh a mach a' bhaile.

An robh an sluaigh uile air an fhaiche aig an aon àm?

Cha robh: bha sruth is saobh-sruth dhiùbh air an ais 's air an aghaidh eadar am baile 's an fhaiche fad an là.

An robh an t-éideadh Gàidhealach air mòran diùbh?

Bha è air a' chuid a bu mhò de luchd na farpuis is air corra h-aon de na h-uaislean.

An robh farpuis ann mu chaith-eamh na cloiche?

Bha farpuis ann mu chaitheamh na cloiche, mu thilgeil an ùird, mu chur char de 'n chabar, mu

Whey! butter-milk! Is there not a drop at all in the bottle?

The cat purs for itself; but to tell the truth I forgot that there was such a thing in the house.

Will you have it as it is or shall I mix it with water?

I prefer a drink of whey, thank you.

Please yourself.

I am the better of that.

Were you in Oban?

I was.

I am sure that there is much bustle in it at present with tourists.

There was a stir in it to-day at any rate such as I never saw.

What do you refer to?

This was the day of the Highland games?

Did many people assemble to see them?

It is computed that not fewer than five thousand were assembled.

Whence did they come?

From every district of the surrounding country, and from other countries.

Where was the meeting?

On a field outside of the town.

Were all the people on the field at the same time?

They were not: a stream of them was passing and repassing all day between the town and the field.

Did many of them wear the Highland dress?

It was worn by most of the competitors and by a few of the gentry.

Was there a competition about putting the stone?

There was a competition about putting the stone, throwing the hammer, tossing the caber,

leum, mu ruith, mudhannsadh,
agus mu phlòbaireachd.
Co 'bhuidhinn an duais a 's àirde
airson a' cheud thrì diùbh sin?
Fear ris an abrar Dòmhnall Dinnie.
Cia meud troidh a thilg è 'chlach
a bu truime?
Naoi troidhe deug thar fhichead.
Cia meud troidh a thilg è 'n t-òrd
a bu truime?
A dhà dheug is còig fichead troidh,
agus naoi òirlich.
A dhuine chridhe! Nach è 'n
curaidh è!
Tha iad ag ràdh gu'm b' urrainn è
'thilgeil na b' fhaide na 'n
togradh è.
An do mhothaich sibh an robh
mòran de dh' uaislean na dùth-
cha air an fhaiche?
Cha 'n fhaca mi riamh cruinneach-
adh cho mòr dhiùbh.
An robh Professor Blackie, caraid
nan Gàidheal, ann?
'S è 'bha, am broilleach na cuid-
eachd.
Co tuilleadh a chunnaic sibh de na
h-uaislean?
Chunnaic mi Morair Bhraid-alb-
ainn, am Morair Dòmhnallach,
am Morair Caillean Caimbeul,
mac do Mhac Caillein, an
Còirneal Iain Mac 'Ille Chal-
uim Pholltalaich, agus mòran,
a' bharrachd.
An innis sibh so dhomh? An robh
duaisean air an toirt ann airson
bàrdachd Gàidhealaich?
Cha robh.
Is duilich leam sin.
Cha b' ionann a' chùis ri linn
Dhonnchaidh Bhàin Mhic-an-
t-Saoir.
Nach do bhuidhinn esan duaisean
's an Eaglais-bhric 's an Dun-
éideann airson òran a rinn è?
Bhuidhinn, agus tha na h-òrain sin
air mhaireann gus an là 'n
diugh.

leaping, running, dancing,
and bagpipe playing.
Who won the first prize for the
first three of these?
A man called Donald Dinnie.
How many feet did he throw the
heavy stone?
Thirty-nine feet.
How many feet did he throw the
heavy hammer?
One hundred and twelve feet and
nine inches.
Dear me! What a champion he
is!
It is said that he could have thrown
it farther had he chosen.
Did you notice whether many of
the gentlemen of the country
were on the field?
I have never seen so large a gather-
ing of them.
Was Professor Blackie, the friend
of the Gael, there?
That he was, in the forefront of
the company.
Who more did you see of the gentry?
I saw Lord Breadalbane, Lord Mac-
Donald, Lord Colin Campbell,
a son of Mac Cailen, Colonel
John Malcolm of Poltalloch,
and many others.
Will you tell me this? Were
prizes given at it for Highland
poetry?
There were not.
I am sorry for that.
It was different in the time of
Duncan Ban MacIntyre.
Did he not win prizes at Falkirk
and in Edinburgh for songs
that he composed?
He did, and these songs survive
till the present day.

Ciod air am bheil iad a' tighinn ?
 Air a' Ghàidhlig 's a' phìob mhòir.
 Nach robh miadh air bàrdachd aig
 na cluichean ainmeil a bh' aca
 's a' Ghréig o shean ?

Bha, agus b' àbhaist do na bàird
 agus na h-eachdraichean an
 oibrean a leughadh aig na
 coinneamhan sin.

'D é 'n seòrsa dhuaisean a bha air
 an toirt aca ?

Aig coinneamh mhòir *Olympia* b'
 è 'n duais crùn de mheòir a'
 chroinn-olaidh fhiadhaich.

Air leam-fhéin gu'm bu leibideach
 an duais sin.

B' eadh, innte féin, ach bha cliù
 anabarrach fuaighte rithe.

Bha 'n duine 'bhuidhinn i air a
 mheas an duine b' urramaiche
 's a' Ghréig.

Nach iongantach nach 'eil na h-
 uachdarain a' toirt misneich do
 na bàird againn-fhéin !

'S eadh, 's gur h-i 'Ghàidhlig cainnt
 an t-sluaigh.

Tha na h-uachdarain am bidh-
 eantas 'n an daoine tuigseach,
 fiosrach.

Tha iad, ach cha 'n 'eil iad cho
 dealasach mu fhòghlum 's a
 dh' fhaodadh iad.

Na 'm biodh, chitheadh iad gur h-i
 'Ghàidhlig am meadhon ionns-
 achaidh a 's fheàrr 's a 's
 nàdurra air son an t-sluaigh.

Tha è iomchuidh, uime sin, gu'm
 biodh a' Ghàidhlig air a teag-
 asg 's na sgoilean.

Nach 'eil è iomchuidh cuideachd
 gu'm biodh a' Bheurla air a'
 teagasg anna ?

Gun teagamh ; cha 'n fhaodar
 dearmad a dheanamh air a'
 Bheurla.

Is duilich nach 'eil leabhar-sgoile
 air a chur a mach le Gàidhlig
 is Beurla taobh ri taobh.

'D é 'm math a dheanadh sin ?

What do they treat of ?

Gaelic and the great bagpipe.

Was not poetry in repute at the
 celebrated games that they had
 in Greece of old ?

It was, and the bards and his-
 torians used to read their works
 at these meetings.

What kinds of prizes were given
 at them ?

At the great assembly of *Olympia*
 the prize was a crown of the
 branches of the wild olive tree.

It strikes me that that was a
 trifling reward.

Yes, in itself ; but there was great
 fame attached to it.

He that won it was regarded as
 the most distinguished man in
 Greece.

Is it not surprising that the lairds
 do not encourage our own
 bards !

It is, considering that Gaelic is the
 language of the people.

The lairds are generally intelligent
 and well-informed men.

They are, but they are not so
 zealous about learning as they
 might be.

If they were, they would perceive
 that Gaelic is the best and
 most natural medium of in-
 struction for the people.

It is proper, therefore, that Gaelic
 should be taught in the schools.

Is it not proper, also, that English
 should be taught in them ?

Undoubtedly ; English must not
 be neglected.

It is a pity that a school-book is
 not issued with Gaelic and
 English side by side.

What good would that do ?

Bhiodh è 'n a chuideachadh mòr do
'n òigridh ann an ionnsachadh
na Beurla.

// Tha mi 'g 'ur tuigsinn; 's ann 'n
'ur ceann fhéin a tha 'n tùr.

'S mithich dhomh a nis dol air mo
cheum.

// Gu' m a math a bhios sibh.

Thugaibh ar beannachd gu 'r
mnaoi, a' bhean chiallach,
chòir.

It would be a great assistance to
the young in learning English.

I understand you: it is in your
head that the sense is.

It is now time for me to pursue
my journey.

May it be well with you.

Give our compliments to your
wife, the prudent and worthy
woman.

AM BAILE.

A ghlinn mo ghràidh carson a dh'
fhàg mi thu? Tha mi 'n so
mar bhò mhaol am buaile
choimhich.

'S truagh mi-fhéin leat: c' uin a
sguireas tu de d' ghearan 's de
d' ochanaich?

Cha tig am baile so rium gu siorr-
uidh, tha mi 'g ràdh riut.

Mur tig 's ann agad-sa 's cha 'n
ann aig a' bhaile 'tha choire.

'S fheàrr dhuibh sgrìob a ghabhail
feadh a' bhaile 'dh' fheuchainn
an cuir e saod oirbh.

Tha mi seachd sgìth d' a chabhsair
tioram, cruaidh.

Tha sinn air ar cur h-uige gu
cruaidh le 'r dòighean frion-
asach.

Tha fhios gu'n seasadh tusa do
mhàthair an aghaidh t-athar.

'D é 'dh' iarradh sibh nach 'eil
agaibh:—tigh grinn, seasgair,
coimhearsnaich shuairc, agus
iomadh toileachas-inntinn?

B' fheàrr leam mìle uair na seana
choimhearsnaich, an seann
tigh tubhta, agus na garbhl-
aichean m' a thimchioll.

Tuigidh sibh ri ùine uaisle nam
bailtean.

Uaisle nam bailtean gu dearbh!
'S e sin uaisle tholrach an fhas-
ain, mar thubhairt am bàrd.

THE TOWN.

My beloved glen, why did I leave
you? I am here like a polled
cow in a strange fold.

I am to be pitied with you: when
will you cease your complain-
ing and sighing?

This town will never agree with
me, I tell you.

If not, the fault lies with you and
not with the town.

You better take a turn through the
town to see if it will put you
into good trim.

I am quite tired of its dry, hard
pavement.

We are severely tried with your
fretful ways.

Of course you would support your
mother against your father.

What could you desire that you
have not:—a fine snug house,
affable neighbours, and many
enjoyments?

I would prefer a thousand times
the old neighbours, the old
thatched house, and the rough
grounds around it.

You will by and by understand
town gentility.

Town gentility indeed! That is
the hollow gentility of fashion,
as the bard has said.

Nach bu taitneach a' choinneamh
aig an robh sinn an oidhche
roimhe?

'N è 'n t-soiridh a tha 'd bheachd
no c' ainm so 'th' oirre?

An *soiree*.

Coinneamh na spìocaireachd.

Saoileadh neach gur h-è uisge
domblais a bha thu 'g òl o 'n
thàinig thu do 'n bhaile.

Cupan de dh' eanghlais, sliseag
thana de dh' aran-cruineachd,
agus fiach a' bhonn-a-sè de
raisins.

Cha b' ann gu cuirm geòcaireachd
a bha sinn air ar cuireadh.

Chunnaic mi là 'dh' ithinn air aon
tràth na 'bh' air a roinn air
gach aon a bha 's an àite-
shuidhe còmhla rium.

Cha 'n fhaod e 'bhi nach do thaitinn
na ministeirean riut.

Mata cha do thaitinn.

'D é 'choire 'th' agad dhoibh?

Tha gu'n do ghabh iad mar ceann-
teagaisg, "Mol thusa mise
agus molaidh mise thusa 's mi-
fhéin."

Cha do mhothaich sinne anns na
thubhairt iad ach comharradh
air an càirdeas d' a chéile.

Bha spailpean 'n am measg a chuir
am chuimhne abhag a bhios
a' tathunnaich ris gach neach
a thig 'n a rathad.

Nach tu 'leig ruith do d' theang-
aidh!

Co ach esan! rinn è sud is rinn è
so: cha d' rinn è sud 's cha 'd
rinn è so; 's mu 'n do sguir è
thug è beum do dhaoine a b'
fheàrr 's a b' fhòghluimte na
è-fhéin.

Cha robh an gille grinn ach a'
deanamh a dhleasnais.

Theagamh nach robh; ach 's coma-
leam peasain gun mhodh, gun
tùr.

Was not the meeting that we were
at the other night a pleasant
meeting?

Do you mean the soiridh, or what
is it called?

The soiree.

The niggardly meeting.

One would suppose that it is water
of gall that you have been
drinking since you came to
town.

A cup of milk-and-water, a thin
slice of wheaten bread; and a
half-penny's worth of raisins.

It was not to a feast of gluttony
that we were invited.

I have seen the day when I would
eat at one meal what was
served to all in the seat with
me.

Surely the ministers pleased you.

Indeed they did not.

What fault have you with them?

That they took for their text,
"Praise you me, and I will
praise you and myself."

We perceived nothing in what they
said but a token of friendliness
to one another.

There was a fop among them that
reminded me of a terrier that
barks at every one that comes
in its way.

How you have given rein to your
tongue!

Who but he! He did this and he
did that; he did not do this
and he did not do that; and
before he finished he hit better
and more learned men than
himself.

The fine lad was only doing his
duty.

Perhaps so; but I do not care
for brats without manners or
sense.

Nach peacach dhuit a bhi an aghaidh nam ministeirean?

Cha 'n 'eil mise 'n an aghaidh, 's mi nach 'eil.

'S an coltach ris a tha do shean-achas.

Biodh iad bàigheil, tùrail, fiachail is cha 'n 'eil neach ann aig am bi barrachd meas orra na th'agam-sa.

A thaobh *soirees*, abram gu bheil iad 'n an caitheamh - aimsir thaitneich, tharbhaich doshean 's do dh'òg 'n uair a bhios iad fo dheadh stiùradh.

Is mòr am math a th' air a dheanamh 'n ar là 's 'n ar linn trid sgoilean-sàbaid.

Cha chomasach tuilleadh 's a' chòir a ràdh as an leth.

Is it not sinful of you to be against the ministers?

I am not against them, not I.

Your talk seems to indicate as much.

Let them be kindly, sensible, and worthy, and no one will respect them more than I.

With regard to *soirees*, let me say that they are a pleasant and profitable pastime to old and young when they are well conducted.

Great good is being done in our day and generation by means of Sabbath schools.

It is not possible to say too much in their favour.

2

Tha cuid-eigin aig an dorus, a Mhairearad.

Mur h-'eil mi meallta 's è Eòghann a' bhùth a th' ann.

Am bheil sibh uile 'n 'ur slàinte an so?

Thig a nìos, 'Eòghainn; bha fugh-air agam riut an dé.

'N uair bha mi deas gus am bruthach a dhireadh thàinig sgaoimeirean bhàrr *yacht* a stigh, is b' fheudar dhomh feitheamh orra.

'S math an t-àm an d' thàinig thu. Theab tighinn eadar na mnathan is mise mu dòighean a' bhaile.

'S ann ri dòighean is beusan eile 'bha sibhse cleachdta.

'S ann, ach tha gliocas 's an t-seanfhacl, "Beus an àite 's am bithear 's e nithear."

An téid sibh a mach a ghabhail sràid?

There is some person at the door, Margaret.

If I mistake not, it is Ewen of the shop.

Are you all well here?

Come forward, Ewen; I expected you yesterday.

When I was ready to ascend the hill, harum-scarums from a yacht came in, and I had to attend upon them.

You have come in good time.

The women and I had almost quarrelled about the ways of the town.

You have been accustomed to other ways and manners.

Yes, but there is wisdom in the proverb, "The customs of the place one dwells in must be conformed to."

Will you go out to walk?

Tha sin cho math dhomh 's a bhi
mèananaich 's a' tachas mo
chinn an so fad an là gun dad
agam r' a dheanamh.

Thoir a nuas mo bhrògan, a Shiùs-
aidh.

Nach fheàrr dhuibh na bòtuinnean
a chur oirbh o 'n 's è là na
faidhreach a th' ann?

Na bòtuinnean! togaibh d' 'ur
n-amaideachd.

A nuas na brògan gu h-ealamh.

Tha mi nis deas gu dol leat.

Ciamar a thèarnas sinn am bruth-
ach?

Air fhiaradh.

Nach àillidh, farsuing an sealladh
a th' againn o 'n mhullach so!

Sud Caol Muile calg-dhireach mu
'r coinneamb.

Sin an Linne Sheilich air cùlaobh
Chearara.

Tha eilean Chearara dlùth dhuinn
a' cumail dìon' is fasgaidh air
a' chala 's air a' bhaile.

'D é 'phairce bheag a tha 'n so
fodhainn?

'S è sin an t-àilean-bhall.

Gabhamaid sìos an rathad so.

'Tha sinn a nis air a' chòmhnard.

'D é 'n stiobull àrd, cuimir a th'
air an làimh chlì?

'S è sin stiobull na h-eaglais ùire
mu'n robh mi 'bruidhinn ruibh
air a bhò 'n dé.

'S è togail eireachdail a th' innte
da-rìreadh.

Am bheil i grinn 's an taobh a
stigh?

Cha mhòr a tha cho grinn.

Am bheil *organ* innte?

'S è *harmonium* is ainm do 'n inneal-
chiùil a th' innte.

'D é 'n seòrsa inneal-ciùil a th' ann?

Tha è car cosmhuil ri *piano* air an
taobh a mach; ach tha fonn
monmhurach, àrd aige mar th'
aig *organ*.

It is as well for me to do so as
to be yawning and scratching
my head here all day, having
nothing to do.

Bring down my shoes, Susan.

Had you not better put on the
boots, as it is the market day?

The boots! give over your folly.

Bring down the shoes quickly.

I am now ready to accompany you.

How shall we descend the hill?

Slantwise.

What a lovely and extensive view
we have from this height!

Yonder is the Sound of Mull
straight before us.

There is the Linne Haylich behind
Kerrara.

The island of Kerrara is near us,
protecting and sheltering the
harbour and town.

What small park is here below us?

That is the bowling-green.

Let us turn down this way.

We are now on level ground.

What lofty and graceful steeple is
to the left?

That is the steeple of the new church
about which I was speaking to
you the day before yesterday.

It is really a handsome building.

Is it elegant within?

There are not many so elegant.

Is there an organ in it?

The musical instrument in it is
called a harmonium.

What kind of musical instrument
is it?

It is rather like a piano outside;
but it has a loud murmuring
sound like that of an organ.

Chì sibh bùithean de gach seòrsa a suas 's a nuas an t-sràid.

'D é 'n tigh àrd, uinneagach a th' againn an so?

'S è sin *bank* no tigh-malairt airgid.

'D é 'n riadh a gheibhear ann airson airgid?

Cha 'n fhaigh ach dà phunnd 's a deich as a' cheud punnd Sasunnach.

'D é 'n soitheach-smùide 'tha cho farumach le 'clag 's le 'feadaig?

Té de 'n fheadhainn bheaga 'bhios a' dol troimh 'n *canal*.

Cha 'n fhaca mi tigh-òsda o 'n thàinig sinn a mach.

Tha còig eadar sinn 's an drochaid.

C' àit am bheil obair a' *ghas*?

Tha i 's an t-sràid-chùil.

Nach ann 's a' chala 'tha 'n loingeas!

Tha fichead ann de loingeas dhaoine uaisle.

Sud tigh-sgoil a' bhaile aig bun a' bhruthaich.

Tha sinn a nis aig a' *Post Office*.

Cia meud uair 's an là 'bhios litrichean a' falbh 's a' tigh-inn?

Trì uairean.

'S mòr an goireas sin do 'n dùth-aich.

'N è sin an dotair mòr a' dol seachad?

A' cheart duine.

Nach ann air a tha 'chabhag!

Tha de dh' iarraidh aig daoine air 's nach 'eil tàmh no fois aige a là no dh' oidhche.

An duine beannaichte! 'Nuair a bha mi air mo dhruim air leaba thinneis cha b' urrainn mo mhàthair a bhi na bu chaomharrum.

Nach ann air muinntir na faidhr-each a tha 'n othail!

You will see shops of every kind up and down the street.

What lofty, many-windowed house have we here?

That is a bank, or a house for exchanging money.

What interest will be received in it for money?

Only two and a half per cent.

What steamboat is it that makes such a noise with its bell and whistle?

One of the small ones that go through the canal.

I have not seen an inn since we came out.

There are five between us and the bridge.

Where is the gas-work?

It is in the back street.

What a number of ships is in the bay!

There are twenty of gentlemen's ships.

Yonder is the town school-house, at the foot of the brae.

We are now at the Post Office.

How many times a day do letters go and come?

Three times.

That is a great convenience to the country.

Is that the big doctor passing?

The very man.

What a hurry he is in!

He is so much in request that he has no rest either by day or by night.

The blessed man! When I was on my back on a sick bed my mother could not be kinder to me.

What a stir there is among the market people!

Tha è coltach ris gu bheil forfhais
mhath air eich.

Am faic sibh an tigh ud air
am bheil aghaidh de chloich
ghoireil ?

Tha mi 'g a fhaicinn.

'S è sin an tigh-mòid.

An aunn an sin a bhios mòd an
'T-Siorraim ?

'S ann.

Tha cho math dhuinn so fhàgail
mu 'n coinnich sinn tuilleadh
's a chòir de luchd-còlais.

Rachamaid sìos seach a' cheardach.

'D é 'n obair a tha 'dol air a h-agh-
aidh an so ?

Tha iad ag uidheamachadh ceann-
uidhe airson an rathaid-iaruinn.

Tha mi 'cluinninn gu bheil iad
'dol a thogail ceithe ùir.

Tha iad ag obair air goirid uainn.

'D é 'n doimhneachd uisge 'th' aig
an àite far am bheil iad 'g a
thogail ?

Mu fhichead troidh aig isle mara
agus mu dhà throidh dheug
thar fhichead aig àirde 'n làin.

Ciamar a tha na clachan air an
leigeil le leathad ?

Le slabhraidhean agus ulagan iar-
uinn.

Tha inneal-deathaich aca a dh' oibr-
eachadh na h-acfhuinn.

Ciamar a tha na clachan air an cur
'n an àite gu h-ìosal ?

Tha clachairean a' dol sìos.

Ciamar a thèid aca air fuireach gu
h-ìosal ?

Bheir mi oidheirp air sin a mhìn-
eachadh dhuibh.

Tha iad a' cur orra aodach leathr-
aich a tha 'g an còmhdachadh
o'n amhaich gu bonn an cosan.
An sin tha clogaid chopair air
a cur air an ceann a tha air a
dlùthadh cho teann ris an aod-
ach a 's nach fhaigh deur uisge
stigh.

It looks as if there was a good
demand for horses.

Do you see yon house with a free-
stone front ?

I see it.

That is the Court-House.

Is it there that the Sheriff Court is
held ?

Yes.

It is as well for us to leave this lest
we meet too many acquaint-
ances.

Let us go down past the smithy.

What work is going on here ?

They are preparing a terminus for
the railway.

I hear that they are going to build
a new pier.

They are working at it a short
distance from us.

What depth of water is there at
the place where they are build-
ing it ?

About twenty feet at low water
and about thirty-two feet at
high water.

How are the stones let down ?

With iron chains and blocks.

They have a steam-engine to work
the apparatus.

How are the stones put in their
place below ?

Masons go down.

How do they manage to remain
below ?

I shall attempt to explain that to
you.

They put on them leathern clothes
that cover them from their
neck to the soles of their feet.
Then a helmet of copper is
put upon their head, and is so
closely joined to the clothes
that no water can get in.

Ciamar a tha e 'tachairt nach 'eil na fir air an tacadh?

Tha plob de *ghutta percha* a' leigeil a stigh àilidh air cùlaobh na clogaide.

Cia as a tha 'n t-àileadh a' tighinn?
A inneal-àilidh ris am bheil an dara ceann de 'n phìob air a theannachadh.

Tha dòigh aca air àileadh salach 's air anabarr àilidh ghloin a leigeil a mach.

Ciamar a tha iad a' faicinn fo 'n uisge?

Tha trì uinneagan beaga air a' chlogaid.

Am bheil an rathad a' dol troimh 'n chnoc so os ar ceann?

Tha : coisicheamaid suas g' a ionnsuidh.

'S iomadh tora, òrd, piocaid, geamhlag, is baraile fùdair a chuidich gu am bealach so 'ghearradh.

'S iomadh; agus bha tora aca 'bha 'g obair le cumhachd death-ach.

Tha sinn a nis air taobh deas a' chnuic.

An è sud an t-each-iaruinn a' cur nan smùid dheth?

'S è.

An gille! Cha chuir sgìos no cuing analach air-san.

Nach i 'n togail ud taobh eil' an lochain eaglais na sgìreachd?

'S i.

Nach laghach i leis an àilean uaine air a beulaobh, an cladh uaigneach air a cùlaobh, agus a' challaid dhosraich m' a timchioll?

Gu' m a fada 'bhios an soisgeul air a shearmonachadh innte ann an cànan ghloin nam beann!

How does it happen that the men are not choked?

A gutta-percha pipe admits air at the back of the helmet.

Where does the air come from?

From an air-engine to which one end of the pipe is screwed.

They have a method of letting out foul air and excess of pure air.

How do they see under the water?

There are three small windows on the helmet.

Does the road pass through this hill above us?

It does: let us walk up to it.

Many a drill, hammer, pickaxe, crowbar, and barrel of powder helped to cut this gap.

Yes; and they had a drill that worked by steam power.

We are now on the south side of the hill.

Is yon the iron horse throwing off its smoke and steam?

It is.

The hero! Neither fatigue nor shortness of breath will affect him.

Is not yon building on the other side of the lakelet the parish church?

It is.

Is it not nice, with the green plot in front, the solitary graveyard behind it, and the bushy hedge around it?

Long may the Gospel be preached in it in the pure language of the mountains!

TURUS-IASGAICH.

Rinn mi guth aig an doras an dé,
ach dh' innis an searbhant
dhomh gu'n robh sibh o 'n
bhaile.

Ghabh mi cothrom an là mhaith a
dhol a dh' iasgach.

Co dhiùbh is ann air a' mhuir no
air abhuinn no air loch uisg'a
bha sibh ag iasgach?

Bha mi 'g iasgach air Loch Sgam-
adail.

'S iomadh àite 's an robh mi, deas
is tuath, an ear 's an iar, ach
cha roth mi riamh aig Loch
Sgamadail.

Thachair a leithid eile dhomh-
fhéin. Bha mi air mullach a'
Chùirn-ghuirm 's aig Loch-an-
doirb 's an Taobh Tuath, ach
cha robh mi riamh air mullach
Chruachain no aig Loch Sgam-
adail gus o chionn ghoirid.

Is lionmhor iad a tha eòlach air
àiteachan 's air nithe 'tha fad'
air falbh am feadh a tha iad
aineolach air àiteachan 's air
nithe 'tha dlùth làimh.

'S ann mar sin a thachair do
dh' iomadh aon a thaobh na
Gàidhlig.

Tha sibh ceart. Gheibhear na
ceudan a chaith mòran d' an
ùine ag ionnsachadh na Fraing-
eis agus cainnt na Gearmailt
aig nach 'eil smid Ghàidhlig 'n
an ceann ged is i 'chainnt a
bh' aig na daoine o 'n d' thàinig
iad agus a th' aig an t-sluagh
a tha iad a' chòmhnuidh 'n
am meag.

'D é 'n rathad a ghabh sibh do
Sgamadal?

Thog mi ris a' bhruthach bràigh
Bhaile Nodha, 's ghabh mi null
thar a' mhonaidh.

'D é 'n seòrsa rathaid a th' ann.

A FISHING EXCURSION.

I called at the door yesterday, but
the maid-servant told me that
you were from home.

I took advantage of the good day
to go to fish.

Whether was it on the sea or on a
river or on a fresh water lake
that you were fishing?

I was fishing on Loch Scamadale.

I have been in many a place, south
and north, east and west, but
I have never been at Loch
Scamadale.

The like has happened to myself.
I have been on the top of
Cairngorm and at Lochindorb
in the North, but I have never
been on the top of Cruachan
or at Loch Scamadale till
lately.

There are numbers of persons that
are acquainted with places and
things that are far off while
they are ignorant of places
and things that are near at
hand.

It has happened thus to many in
regard to Gaelic.

You are right. Hundreds will be
found who have spent much of
their time in learning French
and German, but who have
not a word of Gaelic in their
head, though it is the language
that was spoken by those from
whom they have sprung, and
that is spoken by those among
whom they dwell.

What road did you take to Scama-
dale?

I ascended the hill above Balino
and crossed the moor.

What kind of road is it?

Tha deagh rathad a' fìaradh a suas taobh a' bhruthaich gu mullach a' mhonaidh, ach cha 'n 'eil ann an déidh sin ach ceum garbh thar an fhraoich.

'D é 'n t-astar a tha eadar Baile Nodha 's an loch?

Mu thuaiream trì mìle.

Cia meud mìle 'tha o so gu ruig an loch?

Còig mìle agus trì mìle—'s e sin ochd mìle.

An do mhòthaich sibh am bheil coilich is cearcan fraoich pailte 's a' mhonadh?

Tha mi 'm barail gu'm bheil, oir bha iad ag éiridh 'n an sgaoth-aibh a h-uile ceann tacain mar chaidh mi air m' aghaidh.

Air leam nach 'eil eun ann a' s briadha na 'n coileach-fraoich deireadh an fhogharaidh.

Is math is fhiach e 'fhaicinn a' spaidseireachd air 'ais 's air 'aghaidh gu h-uuibhreach air tolmán, a chirean dearg togta os ceann a shùilean, agus iteach dubh-dhonn a' dearsadh 's a' ghréin.

'D é 'n ùine 'ghabh sibh a' dol a null o Bhaile Nodha?

Mu uair an uaireadair, a' coiseachd air mo shocair.

Tha de dh' uchdain, de chamhanan, 's de lùban 's na monaidhean 's nach 'eil è furasda coiseachd gu luath tharta.

'N uair a ràinig mi 'n taobh thall chunnaic mi sealladh nach dì-chuimhnich mi 'chlisge.

'D é 'n seòrsa seallaidh a bh' ann?

Bha badan de cheò cho geal ris an t-sneachd air mullach Chùirn-deirg.

Is tric a chithear sin air na beanntan.

Am feadh a bha mi 'g amharc air thàinig oiteag 'ghaoithe fodha a reub 'n a stroicean è, agus

A good road winds up along the side of the hill to the top of the moor, but there is only a rough path over the heather after that.

What distance is there between Balino and the lake?

About three miles.

How many miles are there from here to the lake?

Five miles and three miles—that makes eight miles.

Did you observe whether grouse are plentiful in the moor?

I am of opinion that they are, for they were rising in coveys every now and then as I went forward.

I think that there is not a more elegant bird than the cock grouse in the end of harvest.

He is well worth being seen strutting proudly backwards and forwards on a knoll, with his red crest erected above his eyes, and his dark - brown plumage gleaming in the sun.

What time did you take to cross from Balino?

About an hour by the watch, walking at my leisure.

There are so many hillocks, hollows, and windings in the moors that it is not easy to walk fast over them.

When I reached the other side I saw a sight that I shall not forget in a hurry.

What kind of sight was it?

There was a tuft of mist as white as snow on the top of Carn-dearg.

That is often seen on the mountains.

While I was looking at it a gust of wind came under it that tore it in tatters, and these tatters

bha na stròicean sin air an cuibhleadh mu 'n cuairt air iomadh dòigh iongantach agus air an togail suas 's an athar, far an deachaidh iad as an t-sealladh.

'D é 'mheudachd a th' anns an loch?
Tha è mu dhà mhil' air fad is mu cheithreamh mhil' air leud.

Ciamar a tha è air a shuidh-eachadh?

Tha e ann an lag dhomhain eadar na beanntan, a tha 'g éiridh gu cas uaithe, 's iad uaine gu'm mullach.

Am bheil coille 'cinntinn air an cliathaichean?

Cha 'n 'eil: na 'm biodh cha 'n 'eil loch 's a' Ghàidhealtachd a bhiodh na b' àillidh na è.

An robh bat' agaibh 'g a iasgach?
Bha.

Cuiridh mi geall gu'n d' fhuair sibh i làn uisge.

Fhuair, agus ghabh mi fichead mionaid 'g a taomadh.

'D é 'n seòrsa taomain a bh' agaibh?
Bha cuach-bhleoghainn, a fhuair mi o 'n mhnaoi cheanalta 'tha 'chòmhnuidh taobh an loch.

Am b' ann am meadhon an loch a bha sibh ag iasgach?

Cha b' ann, ach aig a thaobhan: tha 'm meadhon tuilleadh a 's domhain.

'D é 'n doimhneachd a 's freagarr-aiche?

Eadar ceithir is deich troidhean.

Cha b' urrainn duibh iasgach agus iomram aig an aon àm.

Cha b' urrainn, ach leig mi leis a' bhàta falbh leis a' ghaoith, a' toirt làimh air na ràimh an dràsda 's a ris g' a cumail ceart.

Cia meud breac a ghlac sibh?

Dà fhichead.

'D é 'n ùine 'ghabh sibh 'g an glacadh?

were whirled round in many strange fashions, and raised into the air, where they disappeared.

What is the size of the lake?

It is about two miles long and a quarter of a mile wide.

How is it situated?

It lies in a deep hollow between the mountains, which rise abruptly from it and are green to their tops.

Is there wood growing on their flanks?

There is not: if there was there would not be a more beautiful lake in the Highlands.

Had you a boat fishing it?

I had.

I'll wager that you found it full of water.

Yes, and I took twenty minutes to bale it.

What kind of baler had you?

A milking-pail that I got from the mild woman that lives beside the lake.

Was it in the middle of the lake that you were fishing?

It was not, but at its sides: the middle is too deep.

What is the most suitable depth?

Between four and ten feet.

You could not both fish and row at the same time.

I could not, but I let the boat drift with the wind, handling the oars now and then to keep her right.

How many trout did you catch?

Forty.

What time did you take to catch them?

- Ghlac mi 'chuid a 's mò dhiùbh
ann an uair an uaireadair.
Cha robh sibh dlomhanach.
Bha iad rè na h-ùine sin a' leum gu
sùrdail ceithir thimcheall, agus
's è sin an t-àm a 's fheàrr a
ghabhas iad.
- 'D è 'n t-àm de 'n bliadhna 's fheàrr
gu iasgach air na lochan sin?
An dara agus an treasa mìos de 'n
t-samhradh.
- 'D è 'n seòrsa là 's freagarraiche
airson an iasgaich?
Là blàth, grianach, le fras uisge 'n
dràsda 's a ris, agus gaoth an
iar.
- 'D è 'n seòrsa chuileagan a 's freag-
arraiche?
- Ma tha 'n là soilleir gun deò gaoith'
ann, 's iad cuileagan beaga,
dorcha a 's freagarraiche, ach
ma tha 'n là dorcha, an t-uisge
dorcha, agus sgairt math
ghaoith' ann, feumar cuil-
eagan na 's mò 's na 's soilleire
'ghabhail.
- Mur 'eil an t-iasgair eòlach air an
loch feumaidh è seòrsa no dhà
fheuchainn gus an amais e air
an fheadhainn a fhreagras.
- Tha mòran an earbsa ris an dòigh
air an tilgear na cuileagan 's
air an tairngear iad troimh 'n
uisge.
- 'D è na h-àiteachan a 's fheàrr gu
iasgach?
- Far am bheil luibheannach a'
cinntinn is far am bheil uillt
a' dol a stigh do 'n loch.
- Am bheil bradain an Loch Sgam-
adail?
- Tha.
- Ciamar a tha iad 'g a ruigheachd?
Tha iad a' tighinn a mìos air
abhuinn Iuthachair as a' mhuir
's an carrach agus 's an t-
samhradh.
- Nach 'eil iad toigheach air a bhi ann
an aibhnichean 's an lochan?
- I caught the most of them in an
hour by the watch.
You were not idle.
They were during that time leap-
ing actively all round; and
that is the time when they
take best.
- What is the best season of the year
for fishing on these lakes?
The second and third month of
summer.
- What kind of day is most suitable
for the fishing?
A warm, sunny day, with a shower
of rain now and then, and a
west wind.
- What kind of flies are most suit-
able?
If the day be clear and windless
small and dark-coloured flies
are the most suitable, but if
the day be dark, the water
dark, and a smart breeze of
wind blowing, larger and
lighter-coloured flies must be
taken.
- If the fisher is not acquainted with
the loch he must try different
kinds till he finds those that
suit.
- Much depends on the manner in
which the flies are cast and
drawn through the water.
- What are the best places for fish-
ing?
Where weeds grow and where
burns enter the lake.
- Are there salmon in Loch Scama-
dale?
There are.
- How do they reach it?
They come up on the river Iuàchair
from the sea in spring and
summer.
- Are they not fond of being in
rivers and lakes?

Tha, anabarrach toigheach.

'S iomadh uair a chunnaic mi iad a' leum àirde mòire as an uisge. 'D é 'tha 'toirt orra sin a dheanamh?

Tha è coltach gu bheil iad a' leum mar so chum gu'm faigh iad dhiubh seòrsa mial' a th' orra 'n uair a dh' fhàgas iad an sàile.

Am faca sibh iad riamh a' leum a suas eas?

Chunnaic iomadh uair: is iongantach, bòidheach an sealladh e.

Ciamar a tha iad a' toirt na h-oidheirp?

Tha iad 'g an lùbadh fhéin gus am bheil an cinn 's an earbail a' coinneachadh, agus tha iad an sin a' toirt duileum air an adhart mar dheanadh cearcall cuilce na'm biodh a dhà cheann air an leigeil as.

Nach tric leo tuiteam air an ais?

Is tric, ma bhios an t-eas car àrd; ach bheir iad ionnsuidh an déidh ionnsuidh aira' mhullach a ruigheachd gus an soirbhich leo, ma tha sin comasach.

Cha 'n 'eil teagamh agam nach robh dileag de Chaol Il' agaibh 's a' chliabh a thoirt beothachaidh dhuibh 'n uair a bhiodh sibh sgith de thilgeil na drianlaidh.

Cha robh, ach bha làn searraig agam de thilgeil.

Cha shaoilinn gu'm biodh an deoch sin aona chuid blasda no beothachail.

Tha i 'n dà chuid, agus tha mòran 'g a gabhail a roghainn air deoch sam bith eile.

'D é 'n rathad a ghabh sibh a' tighinn dachaidh?

Am monadh.

Tha mi cinnteach gu'n robh sibh sgith gu leòir mu 'n d' ràinig sibh an tigh.

Yes, very fond.

I have often seen them leap a great height out of the water. What causes them to do that?

It is probable that they leap thus in order to get quit of a sort of louse that adheres to them when they leave the salt water.

Have you ever seen them leaping up a fall?

I have many a time: it is a strange and pretty sight.

How do they make the attempt?

They bend themselves till their heads and tails meet, and they then spring forward as a hoop of cane would do if both its ends were released.

Do they not often fall back?

Yes, if the fall is rather high; but they will make attempt after attempt to reach the top till they succeed, if that is possible.

I have no doubt that you had a small drop of Caol Ile in the basket to refresh you when tired of throwing the line.

I had not, but I had a bottleful of cold tea.

I should not suppose that that drink would be either palatable or refreshing.

It is both, and many take it in preference to any other drink.

What road did you take coming home?

The moor.

I am sure that you were tired enough before you reached the house.

Bha mi, ach cha bhithinn a' chòir
cho sgìth mur biodh gu'n
deachaidh mi air seachran.

'D é 'chuir air seachran sibh?
Ceò dùmhail a dhùin mu m'
thimchioll.

An do choisich sibh air 'ur n-agh-
aidh troimh 'n cheò?

Choisich fad trì cheithreimhnean
na h-uaire, tha mi cinnteach,
gus an d' thàinig mi mu dheir-
eadh air m' ais a dh' ionnsuidh
an àite as an d' fhalbh mi.

'N uair a thig an ceò air neach 's a'
mhonadh 's è 'ghliocas fuireach
far am bheil è gus an sgaoil è.

Rinn mi sin mu dheireadh. Am
shìneadh air an fàraoch bhad-
anach, ghorm, air mo shuain-
cadh am bhreacan dùbh-ghlas,
thàinig na rannan sin le Donn-
chadh Bàn am chuimhne :—

“S mithich tèarnadh do na gleann-
aibh

O 'n tha gruaimich air na beann-
aibh,

'S ceathach dùinte mu na meallaibh,
A' cur dallaidh air ar léirsinn.

Bi 'dh sinn beò an dòchas ro mhath
Gu'm bi 'chùis na 's fheàrr an ath
là,

Gu'm bi gaoth, is grian, is talamh

Mar bu mhath leinn air na sléibht-
ibh.”

SEALG NAM FIADH.

Am bheil duine stigh an so?
Tha mise stigh. Thig a nìos co
sam bith thu.

Ciamar a tha Para mòr?

Gabhaibh mo leisgeul. Cha 'n 'eil
mi uile gu léir a' deanamh a
mach co 'tha 'g am fheòraich.

Am bheil cuimhn' agaibh air an là
'mharbh sinn an dòbhran* donn
aig Lochan-nam-breac?

* Dòbhran, the fresh-water otter. Béist-dubh, the sea otter.

I was, but I should not have been
nearly so tired were it not that
I went astray.

What caused you to go astray?
A thick mist that closed round me.

Did you walk on through the mist?

I did for three-quarters of an hour,
I am sure, till I came back at
last to the place from which I
started.

When the mist comes on one in the
moor it is his wisdom to remain
where he is till it disperses.

I did so at last. While reclining
on the tufted, blue heather,
wrapped in my dark - grey
plaid, these verses by Duncan
Bàn came into my memory :—

It is time to descend to the glens,

As there is gloom on the bens,

And mist closing round the hills,
Blinding our vision.

We will live in good hope
That matters will be more favour-
able next day,

That the wind, the sun, and the
ground

Will be as we could wish on the
mountains.

DEER-STALKING.

Is there anyone within here?
I am within. Come forward who-
ever you are.

How is big Patrick?
Excuse me. I do not quite make
out who is inquiring for me.

Do you remember the day when
we killed the brown otter at
Lochan-nam-breac?

Cho cinnteach 's a tha mi beò 's è mo charaid òg a th' ann. Is mi-chiatach gu'n dì-chuimhnichinn sibh, 's gur h-iomadh là 'bha sinn còmhla a' sireadh shionnach, bhroc, is dhòbhran.

Tha còig bliadhna o 'n dh' fhàg mi 'n dùthaich, is bha m' fhiacalan aig an àm sin na b' fhaide na 'm fheusag.

Innsibh a nis dhomh c' àit an robh sibh agus ciamar a chaidh dhuibh o 'n dhealaich sinn.

Bha mi ann an iomadh àite, ach 's ann 's na H-Innsean-an-ear a bha mi mu dheireadh.

Tha dòchas agam gu'n do thèar-uinn sibh o luaidh 's o chlaidheamh.

Thèaruinn. 'S è 'n teas an ni 'bu mhò 'chuir orm.

Cha d' fhuair 'ur n-athair as cho saor.

Cha d' fhuair, ach bha deich is trì fichead punnd Sasunnach aige 's a' bhliadhna an éirig a leòin.

Is taitneach leam nach 'eil 'ur Gàidhlig air meirgeadh.

Tha i air greim cho teann a ghabhail air mo theangaidh 's nach creid mi gu'n caill mi 'm feasd' i.

Is dual duibh sin. Ged bha 'ur n-athair fichead bliadhna 's an arm bhruidhneadh è i 'n uair a thàinig è dhachaidh cho math ri duine 's an dùthaich.

Bha companaich Ghàidhealach agam 's an réiseamaid, agus b' àbhaist duinn greis a thoirt air a bruidhinn 'n uair a bhith-eamaid leinn-fhéin.

C'uin a thàinig sibh dhachaidh?

O cheann dà mhios. Tha mi 'n dràs' a' fuireach le m' charaid 's an tigh-sheilg.

Sin duine cho aoidheil, suaire 's a thachair orm riamh. A h-uile

As sure as I live it is my young friend. It is unseemly that I should forget you, considering that we were many a day together searching for foxes, badgers, and otters.

There are five years since I left the country, and my teeth were at that time longer than my beard.

Tell me now where you have been and how it has fared with you since we parted.

I have been in many a place, but I was last in the East Indies.

I hope that you have escaped lead and sword.

I have. The heat is what affected me most.

Your father did not escape so free.

He did not, but he had seventy pounds a year in reparation for his wound.

I am pleased that your Gaelic has not become rusty.

It has taken so tight a grip of my tongue that I do not believe that I shall ever lose it.

That is hereditary to you. Though your father was twenty years in the army he could speak it when he came home as well as any man in the country.

I had Highland companions in the regiment, and we used to take a spell at speaking it when we were alone.

When did you come home?

Two months ago. I am at present staying with my friend in the shooting-lodge.

That is as affable and courteous a man as I ever fell in with.

uair a choinnicheas sinn bith-
idh còmhraidh eadaruinn mu
'n fhrith.

Cha mhòr a tha cho eòlach ribhse
air gach coire, glaic, is bealach
a th' innte.

Bu chòir dhomh a bhi eòlach orra,
oir chuir mi seachad mo làith-
ean air am feadh.

Tha mi cinnteach gu bheil sibh aois
mhòr.

Is cuimhne leam blàr *Waterloo*.

'S iomadh atharrachadh a chunnaic
sibh.

An déidh a' bhlàirsinn thàinig mòran
de na h-oicheirean Gàidhealach
dhachaidh, agus ghabh iad
bailtean fearainn an sud 's an
so air feadh na dùthcha.

Cha 'n 'eil mòran d' an seòrsa 's a'
Ghàidhealtachd a nis.

Cha 'n 'eil, agus is léir a' bhuil.
Bha iad am bidheantas 'n an
daoine fiachail, agus 'n an
luchd-altrum eolais, riaghailt,
agus modhalachd am measg
an t-sluaigh.

Mo chreach! dh' fhalbh iad mar
dhuilleach nan craobh fo
fhuaichd a' gheamhraidh.

An robh sibh a mach a' sealg nam
fiadh o 'n thàinig sibh?

Bha, an dé.

Cha 'n 'eil caitheamh-aimsir ann a
's fallaine na è agus a 's fheàrr
gu duine 'dheanamh cruad-
alach.

Dh' fhiosraich mise sin air m'
allaban 's na H-Innsean.

Co 'chaidh leibh do 'n mhonadh?

Cha deachaidh ach am forsair agus
gille 'ghitlan na màileid 's an
robh am biadh.

'D è 'n rathad a ghabh sibh?

Ghabh sinn an toiseach rathad a'
Choire Mhòr, ach o 'n nach
fhaca sinn coltas fhiadh an
rathad sin, dh' atharraich sinn

Every time we meet, a conver-
sation takes place between us
about the forest.

There are not many so well
acquainted as you are with
each coirrie, dell, and pass
in it.

I should be acquainted with them,
for I have passed my days
among them.

I am sure that you are a great age.

I remember the battle of Waterloo.
You have seen many a change.

After that battle was over many
of the Highland officers came
home, and took farms here and
there throughout the country.

There are not many of their kind
in the Highlands now.

There are not, and the effect is
visible. They were generally
men of worth and fosterers of
knowledge, order, and man-
nerliness among the people.

Alas! they have departed like the
foliage of the trees exposed to
the cold of winter.

Have you been out stalking the
deer since you came?

I was, yesterday.

There is not a more healthy pastime
or one better fitted to make a
man hardy.

I experienced that in the course of
my wanderings in the Indies.

Who went with you to the moor?

Only the forester and a gillie to
carry the wallet containing the
food.

In what direction did you go?

We went first in the direction of
the Coire Mòr, but as we saw
no appearance of deer in that
direction, we altered our course

ar gabhail, agus rinn sinn
dìreach air Allt-a-bheithe.

Is tric le féidh a bhi tàmh an sin.
An do thachair sibh air greigh
dhiubh?

Cha deachaidh sinn fada 'n uair a
mhothaich am forsair greigh
dhamh is éildean 'n an laidh' 's
an fhraoch.

Cuiridh mi geall gu'n do leig sibh
sibh-fhéin air 'ur beul 's air 'ur
sròin air an làr cho luath 's a
chunnaic sibh iad.

Leig, agus sheall mise troimh 'n
ghloin-amhaire orra, is chunn-
aic mi damh mòr, cabarach 'n
a sheasamh air tolmán, 's è
'cumail sìil fhurachail m' a
thimchioll.

Ciamar a chaidh agaibh air 'ur
rathad a dheanamh g' an
ionnsuidh?

Shlaod sinn sinn-fhéin air ar n-agh-
aidh thar càthair agus mòintich
mar a b' fheàrr a b' urrainn
sinn.

An d' fhuair sibh mar astar urchair
dhoibh gun iad a mhothach-
ainn duibh?

Cha d' fhuair. An fhuaim a rinn
an sneachd reòta 'brisdeadh
fodhainn ràinig i cluasan an
daimh a bh' air freiceadan.
Thionndaidh esan a cheann an
rathad a bha sinne, agus ann
an tiota bha 'ghreigh uil' air
an cois, agus thàr iad as.

An deachaidh iad fada mu 'n do
stad iad?

Chaidh iad astar math, agus an sin
stad iad greis, ach ge b' air
bith a b' aobhar da dh' fhalbh
iad a rìs 'n an deannaibh.

Is bòidheach an sealladh iad 'n uair
a bhios iad 'n an ruith. Tha
'n gluasad cho eutrom, beoth-
ail 's gu bheil sinn ullamh gu
saoilsinn nach 'eil an casan a
beanailt do 'n làr.

and made straight for Allt-a-
bheithe.

Deer rest there often. Did you
fall in with a herd of them?

We had not gone far when the
forester noticed a herd of stags
and hinds lying in the heather.

I'll wager that you let yourselves
down on your face on the
ground as soon as you saw
them.

We did, and I looked at them
through the spy-glass, and
saw a large antlered stag
standing on a knoll and keep-
ing a watchful eye around
him.

How did you manage to make
your way towards them?

We dragged ourselves along over
bog and moss as we best could.

Did you get within range of them
without their noticing you?

We did not. The sound that the
frozen snow made breaking
under us reached the ears of
the stag on guard. He turned
his head in our direction, and
in a moment the whole herd
were on foot, and made off.

Did they go far before they halted?

They went a considerable distance
and then halted for a while, but
whatever was the cause of it
they set off again at full speed.

A pretty sight they are when run-
ning. Their movement is so
light and lively that we are
apt to suppose that their feet
do not touch the ground.

An àit an leanailt dhirich sinne-
Meall-nan-damh, agus ghabh
sinn air ar n-aghaidh gus an d'
ràinig sinn bealach air a'mhull-
ach, agus dh' fhalaich sinn
sinn-fhéin an sin air cùlaobh
cloiche mòire.

Ciod a thug oirbh sin a dheanamh?
Am forsair a bhi 'm barail gu'n
gabhadh a' ghreigh troimh 'n
bhealach sin.

An d' thàinig iad mar bha fiughair
agaibh?

Thàinig, agus bha 'n damh mòr air
thoiseach orra.

An do mharbh sibh è?

Loisg mi air, is bhuail am peileir
's a' ghualainn è.

An do thuit è?

Cha do thuit. Thug è leum 's an
athar agus dh' fhalbh è air trì
chasan le luathas anabarrach
as déidh chàich.

An d' fhuair sibh an ath urchair
orra?

Cha d' fhuair. Lean sinn an lorg
fad cheithir mìle, ach dh'
fhairslich oirnn tighinn suas
riutha.

B' fheudar dhuibh sgur de 'n tòir.

B' fheudar. Bha 'n oidheche tighinn
oirnn 's bha 'n t-àm dhuinn
tilleadh air ar ceum.

'N uair a bha sinn a' dol air ar
n-ais thar na beinne gu saoir-
each, sgith bha 'n sneachd gu
tric a suas gu 'r sléisdean.

Tha sin a' cur am chuimhne rann
a riun Donnchadh Bàn Mac-
an-t-saoir ann an cuideachd
Ghallda 's an robh e 'n Dun-
éideann.

Cluinneam i.

So dhuibh i mar chuala mis' i.

" 'S truagh nach robh mise 'm
Buachaill Eite

Instead of following them we
ascended Meall-nan-damh, and
went on till we reached a pass
on the top, and hid ourselves
there behind a large stone.

What made you do that?

The forester being of opinion that
the herd would go through
that pass.

Did they come as you expected?

They did, and the big stag was
before them.

Did you kill him?

I fired at him, and the ball struck
him in the shoulder.

Did he fall?

He did not. He gave a spring in
the air and set off on three
legs at a great pace after the
others.

Did you get another shot at them?

We did not. We followed their
track for four miles, but it
baffled us to overtake them.

You had to give up the pursuit.

We had. Night was coming upon
us, and it was time for us to
retrace our steps.

When we were laboriously and
wearily recrossing the moun-
tain the snow was often up to
our thighs.

That reminds me of a verse that
Duncan Bàn MacIntyre made
in a Lowland company that
he was in in Dun-éideann.*

Let me hear it.

Here it is to you as I have heard it.

Would that I were on Buachaill
Eite†

* *Dun-éideann*, Edinburgh.

† *Buachaill Eite*. name of twin mountains at the head of Glen Etive.

Agus sneachd gu ruig mo shléisd-
ean,
'S a h-uile Gall a tha 'n Dun-
éideann
As mo dhéidh 's iad casruisgte."
Cha 'n 'eil na bàird 'n am fala-dhà
'n uair a thòisicheas iad air
fochaid is aoireadh.

With snow up to my thighs,

And that every Lowlander in Dun-
éideann

Were following me barefooted.

The bards are no joke when they
begin to indulge in ridicule
and satire.

A' BHAN-RÌGHINN 'S AN TEAGHLACH RÌGHEIL.

THE QUEEN AND ROYAL FAMILY.

Fàilt air Donnchadh ruadh. 'D é
'chuir bho 'n tigh thu cho
tràthail an diugh?

Chuala mi gu bheil sibh 'dol a chur
a stigh mulain, agus thàinig
mi 'dh' fheòraich am bi sibh
cho math a 's tubhadh a
ghleidheil air mo shon.

Cha 'n 'eil thar trì mìosan o 'n
fhuair thu tubhadh uam. 'D
é 'rinn thu leis?

Chuir mi air an tigh e, ach tha na
radain an déidh a chur gu tur
an dolaidh.

'S ann ri fala-dhà a tha thu.

'S ann da rìreadh a tha mi. Tha
iad air fàgail mullach an tighe
cho tolltach ri criathar.

Ma 's ann mar sin a tha 'chùis bith-
idh na 's leòir de shnith agaibh.

Snith! O 'n thòisich an t-uisge
cha deachaidh stad air a là no
'dh' oidhche.

Bithidh am farum a ni è air feadh
an tighe 'n a cheòl sundach
do d' chluasan.

Tha iomadh seòrsa ciùil ann a bu
shunndaiche leam; ach bheir-
eadh è gàire oirbh-fhéin a bhi
'faicinn an leumnaich a bhios
oirnn a null 's a nall g' a
sheachnadh.

Tha eagal orm gu'm bi droch dhìol
air àirneis 's air aodach.

Hail to Duncan roy. What has
sent you so early from home
to-day?

I heard that you are going to put
in a stack, and I have come to
ask if you will be so good as
keep thatch for me.

It is not more than three months
since you got thatch from me.
What have you done with it?

I put it on the house, but the rats
have completely destroyed it.

You are jesting.

I am in earnest. They have left
the roof of the house as full of
holes as a sieve.

If that is the case you will have
enough of rain-drops from the
roof.

Rain-drops! Since the rain began
they have not ceased either by
day or by night.

The noise they make through the
house will be a cheerful music
to your ears.

There are many kinds of music
that I would deem more cheer-
ful; but it would make your-
self laugh to see how we leap
hither and thither to avoid
them.

I fear that furniture and clothes
will receive bad usage.

'N uair a bha mi 'eur orm coilleir glan chum gu'm bithinn mar bu chòir dhomh 'n uair a thiginn 'n 'ur làthair-sa, thàinig boinne nuas a dh' fhàg comharradh odhar cho mòr ri bonna-sè air an anart ghrinn, gheal.

Tha 'leithid sin gu math deuchainneach air foighidinn duine.

'S math nach robh sibh 's an éisdeachd 'n uair a thachair è, oir bha mi 'n sin "cho fiata ri broc liath a bhiodh an garaidh."

Cha 'n iongantach leam idir gu'n robh.

Saoil sibh ciod a thàinig air Noah 'n uair a leig è na radain a stigh do 'n àire?

Sin rud nach do ghabh mi riamh fo m' bheachd.

Tha amharus agam, ach cha 'n abair mi 'bheag.

Dh'innseadh dhomh gu'n robh thu 's an Oban an dé.

Chaidh mi sìos a cheannach snàth a chàradh an lìn agus a phàigh-eadh beagan gheòtan a bh' aig luchd nam bùth am aghaidh.

Agus ciamar a tha baile na h-àilleachd?

Tha è 'n sud mar bha è riamh o 'n is cuimhne leam-s' è, 'n a thàmh ri taobh na mara 's aig bun a' mhonaidh.

Tha mi 'cluinninn gu bheil ùpraid anabarrach ann an dràs leis an each-iaruinn.

Tha sin ann.

Am faca tu 'n t-each-iaruinn?

Chunnaic, is bha mi 's an aitreabh mhòr as am bheil è 'falbh. Chunnaic mi 'ris e 'dreadh bruthach Ghleann Cruitein, is bhuail è mi gu'n robh a leòir aige r' a dheanamh a' slaodadh nam feun a bha 'n ceangal ris.

'D é tuilleadh a chunnaic thu?

When I was putting on a clean collar that I might appear before you in a befitting manner, a drop came down that left a brown mark as large as a half-penny on the fine clean linen.

That sort of thing is pretty trying to a man's patience.

It is well that you were not within hearing when it happened, for I was at the time as surly as a grey badger in his den."

I am not at all surprised that you were.

What, think you, came over Noah, when he admitted the rats into the ark?

That is a matter that I have never taken into consideration.

I have a suspicion, but I shall say nothing.

I have been told that you were in Oban yesterday.

I went down to buy thread to mend the net, and to pay a few trifling debts that the shopkeepers had against me.

And how is the town of beauty?

It is yonder as it has been ever since I remember it, resting by the sea-side and at the foot of the hill.

I hear that there is a great bustle in it at present with the iron horse.

There is.

Did you see the iron horse?

I did, and I was in the great building out of which it starts. I saw it again climbing the Glen-cruitein brae, and it struck me that it had enough to do dragging the waggons that were attached to it.

What more did you see?

Chunnaic mi *bazar*.

'D é 'chunnaic thu ann?

Chunnaic mi iomadh seòrsa rìomh-
aidh, agus mnathan uaisle òg,
aidheil, eireachdail.

An do cheannaich thu dad ann?

Cheannaich mi sporan fada caol
air a dheanamh de shnàth
sìoda gorm.

'D é 'thug thu air?

Leth-chrun.

'D é 'n ni 'bu taitniche leat a thach-
air ort air do sgriob.

Leabhar a chunnaic mi ann am
bùth leabhar-reicear o 'n robh
mi 'ceannach dhubhan airson
an iasgaich.

'D é 'n leabhar a bh' ann?

Bha eachdraidh beatha na Ban-
righinn.

Cha robh fhios agam gu'm biodh
spéis agad-sa d' a leithid sin
de leabhar.

'S iomadh rud a bhios am measg
an t-sluaigh air nach bi fios
agaibh-sa.

Tha sin fìor, ach tha 'bheag no
'mhòr de dh' eòlas agam air
eachdraidh beatha na Ban-
righinn.

Bithidh mi anabarrach fada 'n 'ur
comain ma bheir sibh roinn
deth dòmh-sa.

Tha mi toilleadh, ach c' àit an
tòisich mi?

Bheir mi - fhéin as aibh è 'lion
beagan is beagan.

Rach air t-aghaidh.

An innis sibh dhomh c' uin a
rugadh a' bhan - righinn,
Bhictoria?

Rugadh i air a' cheathramh là
fichead de cheud mhìos an
t-samhraidh 's a' bhliadhna
1819.

Co 'b' athair dhi?

Bha Diùc *Kent*, ceathramh mac an
treas rìgh Deòrsa.

Co 'bu mhàthair dhi?

I saw a bazaar.

What did you see in it?

I saw many kinds of finery, and
affable and handsome young
ladies.

Did you buy anything in it?

I bought a long, slender purse
made of blue silk thread.

What did you give for it?

Half a crown.

What was the most pleasant thing
that you met on your trip?

A book that I saw in the shop of
a bookseller from whom I was
buying hooks for the fishing.

What book was it?

The biography of the Queen.

I was not aware that you would
have a liking for such book.

There is many a thing among the
people of which you are not
aware.

That is true, but I have less or
more knowledge of the Queen's
biography.

I shall be very much obliged to
you for a share of it.

I am willing, but where shall I
begin?

I will extract it from you myself
little by little.

Proceed.

Will you tell me when Queen Vic-
toria was born?

She was born on the twenty-fourth
day of the first month of sum-
mer in the year 1819.

Who was her father?

The Duke of *Kent*, the fourth son
of the third King George.

Who was her mother?

Bha Bhictoria, Bana - Phrionnsa Shaxe Coburg, piuthar Leopold, rìgh nam Belgianach, agus piuthar Earnest, Diuc Choburg.

C' uin a chaochail a h-athair?

A' bhliadhna 'n déigh dhi-se 'bhi air a breith.

Nach robh teaghlach idir aig bràthair a h-athar, rìgh Uilleam?

Bha teaghlach aige, ach chaochail iad 'n an òige.

C' uin a thàinig i 'dh ionnsuidh na rìgh-chaitheach.

'S a' bhliadhna 1837, 'n uair a chaochail rìgh Uilleam.

C' àit an robh i air a crùnadh?

Ann an Abait *Westminster*, an làthair mhaithean is fhlaithen na rìgheachd.

Bu trom an t-uallach a chaidh a leagail air neach cho òg.

B' eadh, ach bha luchd-comhairle mhath aice g' a stiùradh.

Co iad luchd-comhairle na Ban-rìghinn?

Iad-san a tha o àm gu àm air an taghadh gu bhi 'n au luchd-riaghlaidh air gnothaichean na rìgheachd.

Co 'tha 'g an taghadh?

Tha 'Bhan-rìghinn 'g an taghadh as a' bhuidhinn a 's làidre 's a 's lionmhoire 's a' Phàrlamaid.

Ciamar a chuirear as an dreuchd iad 'n uair a dh' fhàsas a' Phàrlamaid neo-thoilichte leò?

'N uair a bhios tuilleadh 'n an aghaidh 's a' Pharlamaid na 'bhios leo cha 'n urrainn iad seasamh.

Nach fhaod iad an greim a ghleidheil gun taing do 'n fheadhainn a tha 'n an aghaidh?

Cha 'n fhaod, a chionn gu 'n diùltar airgid dhoibh gu gnothaichean na rìgheachd a chur air an aghaidh.

Tha mi 'tuigsinn. Is mòr cumhachd an airgid.

Victoria, Princess of Saxe Coburg, sister of Leopold, King of the Belgians, and sister of Earnest, Duke of Coburg.

When did her father die?

The year after she was born.

Had her father's brother, King William, no family?

He had a family, but they died in their youth.

When did she come to the throne?

In the year 1837, when King William died.

Where was she crowned?

In Westminster Abbey, in presence of the nobles and lords of the kingdom.

Heavy was the burden that was laid on one so young.

Yes, but she had good counsellors to guide her.

Who are the Queen's counsellors?

Those that are from time to time chosen to rule the affairs of the kingdom.

Who chooses them?

The Queen chooses them from the strongest and most numerous party in Parliament.

How shall they be put out of their office when Parliament becomes dissatisfied with them?

When more are opposed to them in Parliament than are favourable to them they cannot stand.

May they not retain their hold in spite of those that are opposed to them?

They may not, because money will be refused to them to carry on the affairs of the kingdom.

I understand. Great is the power of money.

Abraibh gu'n téid ni sam bith air ainhreidh co 'choirichear, a' Bhan-rìghinn no a luchd-comhairle?

A luchd-comhairle. A réir an lagha tha ise gun choire 's na nithe sin.

C' uin a bha 'Bhan-rìghinn agus Prionns' Ailbeart air am pòsadh?

Ann an toiseach an earraich 's a' bhliadhna 1840.

Nach robh iad dàimheil d' a chéile?

Bha. B' è Prionns' Ailbeart mac Diùc Chòburg, bràthair màthar na Ban-rìghinn,

An robh iad an aon aois?

Bha 'Bhan-rìghinn trì mìosan na 's sine na'm Prionnsa.

An robh dreuchd sam bith aige ann an riaghladh na rìoghachd.

Cha robh.

Is cinnteach mi nach b' urrainn duine cho math ris 'tùine 'chur seachad an dìomhanas.

Bha è gun tàmh a' deanamh maith. 'D é 'n teaghlach a bh' aca?

Còignear nighean agus ceathrar mhac.

C' uin a rugadh Prionnsa *Wales*, no na Cuimrig, oighre 'chriùin?

'S a' bhliadhna 1841.

'S è Ailbeart Edward (Imhear) is ainm dha.

Co ris a tha è pòsda?

Ris a' Bhana-Phrionnsa, *Alexandra*, nighean a 's sine rìgh *Dhenmark*.

Tha Alfred, Diùc Dhun-éideann, an dara mac, pòsda ris a' Bhana-diùc, Màiri, nighean Impire *Rus:ia*.

Nach ann air a' mhuir a tha esan? 'S ann : tha è 'n a *Admiral*.

Tha 'n treas mac, Artair, Diùc Chonnacht, pòsda ris a' Bhana-Phrionnsa Louise Marguerite, nighean Phrionnsa Frederick Teàrlach, a bha ann an dlùth

Suppose that anything should go wrong, who will be blamed, the Queen or her counsellors?

Her counsellors. According to the law she is without blame in these things.

When were the Queen and Prince Albert married?

In the beginning of spring in the year 1840.

Were they not related?

They were. Prince Albert was son to the Duke of Coburg, brother of the Queen's mother.

Were they the same age?

The Queen was three months older than the Prince.

Had he any office in the government of the country?

He had not.

I am sure that so good a man could not spend his time in idleness.

He was constantly doing good.

What family had they?

Five daughters and four sons.

When was the Prince of Wales, heir to the crown, born?

In the year 1841.

His name is Albert Edward.

To whom is he married?

To the Princess Alexandra, eldest daughter of the King of Denmark.

Alfred, Duke of Edinburgh, the second son, is married to the Duchess Mary, daughter of the Emperor of Russia.

Is he not at sea?

Yes : he is an Admiral.

The third son, Arthur, Duke of Connaught, is married to the Princess Louise Marguerite, daughter of Prince Frederick Charles, who was nearly related to the

- dhàimh ri Ìmpire na Gearmailt. Tha esan 'n a Sheanalair 's an arm.
- Chaochail Leopold, an ceathramh mac, 's a' bhliadhn 1884, a' fàgail as a dhéidh bantairich agus cloinne.
- Bha Bhictoria, a 'Bhana-Phrionnsa righeil, pòsda ri Frederick Uilleam, Ìmpire na Gearmailt.
- Bha 'n dara nighean, Alice, nach maireann, pòsda ri Frederick Uilleam, Prionnsa *Hesse*.
- Tha 'n treas nighean, Helena, pòsda ri Frederick, Prionnsa na dùthcha ris an abrar *Schleswig Holstein*.
- Tha 'n ceathramh nighean, Louise, pòsda ri Morair Lathurna, mar tha fhios aig gach Gàidheal.
- Tha 'n còigeamh nighean, Beatrice, pòsda ri Prionnsa Eanruig Maurice Battenburg.
- C' àit am bheil a' Bhan-rìghinn mar is bidheanta 'chòmhnuidh?
- Ann an lùchairt *Windsor*, trì mìle fichead a mach a Lunnainn.
- C' àit am bi i 'fuireach 'n uair a bhios i 'n Lunnainn?
- Ann an lùchairt *Buckingham*.
- Tha mi 'cluinninn gu bheil i flor thoigheach air Baile-mhorair.
- Tha i: 's ann ann is àbhaist di am fogharadh 'chur seachad.
- Nach do chuir i mach leabhar anns am bheil i 'toirt cunntais air a beatha 's a' Ghàidhealtachd?
- Chuir i mach dà leabhar, agus is còir do na h-uile neach 's an rìgheachd an leughadh.
- Carson?
- A chionn nach urrainn neach sam bith an teugnadh gun a thairisneachd 's a spéis do 'n Bhan-rìghinn a bhì air am meudachadh.
- Cha 'n 'eil teagamh nach ann mar a 's àird' am meas a bhios aig
- Emperor of Germany. He is a General in the army.
- Leopold, the fourth son, died in the year 1884, leaving behind him a wife and family.
- Victoria, the Princess Royal, was married to Frederick William, Emperor of Germany.
- The second daughter, Alice, who is not alive, was married to Frederick William, Prince of Hesse.
- The third daughter, Helena, is married to Frederick, Prince of the country called Schleswig Holstein.
- The fourth daughter, Louise, is married to Lord Lorne, as every Highlander knows.
- The fifth daughter, Beatrice, is married to Prince Henry Maurice of Battenburg.
- Where does the Queen generally live?
- In Windsor Palace, twenty-three miles out from London.
- Where does she live when she is in London?
- In Buckingham Palace.
- I hear that she is very fond of Balmoral.
- She is: it is there that she is in the habit of passing the autumn.
- Has she not published a book in which she gives an account of her life in the Highlands?
- She has published two books, and every person in the kingdom should read them.
- Why?
- Because no one can read them without having his loyalty to and regard for the Queen increased.
- There is no doubt that the higher the respect that people have

daoine oirre-se a 's coltaiche dhoibh a bhi toilichte fòipe agus dileas di.

Ann's na leabhraichean so chithear i 'n a mnaoi, 'n a màthair, 'n a nighinn, agus 'n a caraidd leasnach, gràdhach.

Na 'm biodh am Freasdal cho caoimhneil a 's a càirdeas a chur an rathad so cha 'n ann an tigh snidheach a bhiodh Màiri is mise.

Chithear i a' nochdadh co-fhulangais leis a' mhuinntir a th' ann an uireasbhuidh 's an àmhghar, a' taghal ann an tighean nam bochd, a' deanamh gairdeachais maille riubh-sau a tha ri gairdeachas, a' cumail conaltraidh shuairc ri 'seirbheisich, a' dìreadh bheanntan, a' dol thar aibhnichean, a' leigeil fhaicinn air iomadh dòigh gu bheil cridhe blàth aice agus inntinn bhunailteach.

Is mòr am beannachadh do 'n dùthaich a leithid a bhi air an rìgh-chathair.

for her the more likely they are to be contented under her and faithful to her.

In these books she will be seen in the character of a dutiful and loving wife, mother, daughter, and friend.

If Providence were so kind as to send her friendship this way, it is not in a rain-dropping house that Mary and I would be.

She will be seen showing sympathy with those that are in want and affliction, visiting in the houses of the poor, rejoicing with those that rejoice, holding polite conversation with her servants, ascending mountains, crossing rivers, showing in many ways that she has a warm heart and a steadfast mind.

It is a great blessing to the country that such as she is on the throne.

A' GHÀIDHLIG.

Tha sibhse ri leabhranachd mar is àbhaist.

Tha leabhraichean dhornh-sa mar tha 'bhuill - aefhuinn do 'n fhear-cheàird.

Tha mis' air tighinn oirbh mar an sneachd, gun sireadh, gun iarraidh.

Cha 'n 'eil idir: tha obair an là seachad agam.

Co dhiùbh is i 'Ghàidhlig no 'Bheurla, an Laidiunn no 'Ghréigis a tha sibh a' cauasachd an dràs?

A' Ghàidhlig.

Cha 'n fhaod è 'bhi nach 'eil sibh coimh-liont' iunte nis.

GAELIC.

You are engaged with books as usual.

Books are to me as his tools are to the tradesman.

I have come upon you like the snow, unsought and undesired.

Not at all: I have the day's work over.

Whether is it Gaelic or English, Latin or Greek, that you are studying at present?

Gaelic.

Surely you are now perfect in it.

Cha 'n urrainn domh a ràdh gu bheil.

Cha 'n 'eil sibhse fura'sd' a thoil-eachadh.

Tha 'Ghàidhlig is cànaichean am bidheantas mar thobar nach traodh.

Cha 'n 'eil mi uile gu léir 'g 'ur tuigsinn.

Tha mi 'ciallachadh gu bheil mòran aig neach r' a fhòghlum mu 'n ruig è air làn eòlas orra ge b' air bith cho fada 's a dh' fhaodas è 'bhi 'g an cnuasachd.

Saoil sibh ciod is ciall do 'n othail a tha mu 'n Ghàidhlig o cheann beagan bhliadhnaichean?

Tha daoine fòghluimte air dùsgadh gu mothachadh air a luach.

Bu mhithich dhoibh: 's iomadh là 'chuir iad suarach i.

Tha cuid déidheil air seadh ainmeannan àiteachan fhaotainn a mach, agus cha shoirbhich leo gun a' Ghàidhlig.

Nach 'eil ainmeannan Gàidhlig air mòran àiteachan 's a' Ghalldachd 's an Sasunn cho math a 's anns a' Ghàidhealtachd?

Tha.

Tha feadhainn eile toigheach air sgeulachdan is dàin a chruinneachadh, agus air eòlas fhaotainn air seana chleachdainnean.

Cha mhò 'nì iadsan a' bheag de mhath as eugmhais na Gàidhlig.

Tha feadhainn eil' ann a tha 'gabhaill' tlachd ann an lorgachadh na dàimhe 'tha eadar a' Ghàidhlig is cànaichean eile.

Is cinnteach mi nach 'eil sin fura'sd' a dheanamh.

Cha 'n 'eil: cha 'n è 'h-uile duine fòghluim' a tha comasach air.

Cuiridh sibh comain mhòr orm ma bheir sibh dhomh fiosrachadh mu 'n chiis.

I cannot say that I am.

You are not easily satisfied.

Gaelic and languages in general are like an inexhaustible spring.

I do not quite understand you.

I mean that one has much to learn before he attains to a full knowledge of them, however long he may be studying them.

What do you think is the meaning of the stir that there has been about Gaelic for some years back?

Learned men have awakened to a sense of its value.

It was time for them: they despised it for many a day.

Some are desirous to find out the meaning of the names of places, and they will not succeed without Gaelic.

Do not many places in the Lowlands and in England, as well as in the Highlands, bear Gaelic names?

Yes.

Others are fond of collecting tales and poems, and of obtaining a knowledge of ancient customs.

Neither will they do any good without Gaelic.

There are others that take pleasure in tracing the affinity that subsists between Gaelic and other languages.

I am sure that that is not easily done.

It is not: it is not every learned man that can do it.

You will oblige me very much by giving me information about the matter.

Feuchaidh mi beagan de na leugh
mi m' a déibhinn a chur mu
d' choinneamh.

'S sibh-théin an t-aon neach a tha
mi 'faotainn toileach gu m'
chuideachadh 'n am thoir air
còlas.

Thoir leat 's a' cheud dol a mach
gu bheil cànairean an t-saogh-
ail air an roinn 'n an teaghl-
aichean.

C' ainm a th' air an teaghlach d'
am buin a' Ghàidhlig?

An *Aryan* no 'n *Indo-European*.

An ainmich sibh na cànairean d'
am bheil an teaghlach so air a
dheanamh suas?

Thig mi 'dh' ionnsuidh sin an ceart
uair.

Tha mi 'g iarraidh maitheanas.

An uair a sgaoil an sluagh a bha
'buidhinn na cànairean a bu
mhathair do na cànairean a
thàinig a nuas g' ar n-ionns-
uidh-ne chaidh cuid diùbh an
ear do na H-Innsean agus
cuid eile dhiùbh an iar do 'n
Roinn-Eòrpa.

'D é 'n dùthaich as an do sgaoil
iad?

Tha è coltach gur h-ann a *Persia* a
sgaoil iad.

C' ainm a th' air a' chànairean a bh'
aig an sgaoth dhiùbh a chaidh
do na H-Innsean?

An *Sanscrit*.

Am bheil a' chànairean so air a buidh-
inn fhathast?

Cha 'n 'eil, ach tha i air mhaireann
ann an leabhraichean.

'D é na cànairean eile 'bhuineas do
'n teaghlach so?

Tha againn an toiseach na cànairean
mòra sin—a' Ghréigeis 's
an Laidionn.

'S fhada o 'n bhàsaich iad sin.

Tha 'Ghréigeis fhathast beò, slàn,
ach tha mòran cheudan de
bhliathnathan o 'n sguir an

I will endeavour to set before you
a little of what I have read
about it.

You are yourself the only one
whom I find willing to help
me in my search after know-
ledge.

Carry away with you at the outset
that the languages of the
world are divided into families.

What is the name of the family to
which Gaelic belongs?

The Aryan or Indo-European.

Will you name the languages of
which this family is made up?

I will come to that presently.

I beg pardon.

When the people that spoke the
tongue that was mother of the
languages that have come
down to us dispersed, some of
them went eastward to the
Indies, and others of them
went westward to Europe.

From what country did they dis-
perse?

It is probable that it was from
Persia that they dispersed.

What is the name of the language
that was spoken by the swarm
of them that went to India?

The Sanscrit.

Is this language spoken still?

It is not, but it survives in books.

What other languages belong to
this family?

We have first these great languages
—Greek and Latin.

It is long since these died.

Greek is still alive and healthy,
but Latin ceased many hun-
dreds of years ago to be

Laidionn a bhi air a bruidhinn
le sluagh.
An d' fhàg an Laidionn sliochd 'n
a déidh?
'S i 'dh' fhàg.
An ainmich sibh iad?
Cànain na H-Eadailt, na Spàinte,
Phortugal, na Frainge, agus
còrr aon eile.
Am bheil tuilleadh chànaichean ann
a bhuineas do 'n *Aryan*?
Buinidh dhi a' Bheurla, cainnt na
Gearmailt, Rusia, Pholand,
Bhulgaria, Bhoemia, Shervia,
etc.
Air m' fhocal cha 'n 'eil aobhar aig
a' Ghàidhlig nàire 'ghabhail
d' a luchd-dàimh.
Tha Raonull Mac Eachainn, aig an
dorus, ag iarraidh bruidhinn
ruibh.
Thoir a stigh è do sheòmar na
dlùneireach.
Bithidh mi air m' ais a chlisgeadh.
Na cuiribh cabhag oirbh-fhéin air
mo shon-sa.

spoken by a people.

Has Latin left a family behind it?

That it did.

Will you name them?

The language of Italy, of Spain,
of Portugal, of France, and a
few others.

Are there more languages that be-
long to the *Aryan*?

There belong to it English, Ger-
man, Russian, Polish, Bul-
garian, Bohemian, Servian,
etc.

Upon my word, Gaelic has no
reason to be ashamed of its
kindred.

Ronald Mac Hector is at the door
wishing to speak to you.

Bring him in to the dining-room.

I shall be back instantly.

Do not hurry yourself on my
account.

2

Saoil sibh am bheil a' Ghàidhlig
air a cothlamadh le facail o
chànaichean eile?
Tha ann an tomhas, ach tha na 's
lugha de dh' fhacail choigreach
innte na th' anns a' chuid a 's
mò de chànaichean na Roinn-
Eòrpa.
Cia as a fhuair i na facail choigr-
each a th' innte?
Fhuair i 'chuid mhòr dhiùbh o 'n
Laidinn.
Ciamar a fhuair iad a stigh innte?
'Trid cumhachd cléir eaglais na
Roimhe.
Is ainneamh ni anns nach bi làmh
aig a' chléir.
Anns na h-amannan dorcha o shean
bha cumhachd mòr aca ann an
nithe aimsireil cho math a 's
ann an nithe spioradail.

Do you think that Gaelic is mixed
with words from other lan-
guages?

Yes, in a measure, but there are
fewer foreign words in it than
there are in most of the lan-
guages of Europe.

Whence did it receive the foreign
words that are in it?

It received the most of them from
the Latin.

How did they get admittance into it?
'Through the influence of the clergy
of the Church of Rome.

There are few things in which the
clergy have not a hand.

In the dark times of old they had
great influence in temporal as
well as in spiritual matters.

'S è mo bharail-fhéin nach 'eil è chum buannachd do chléir eaglais sam bith a bhi 'gabhail mòran gnothuich ri nithe aimsireil.

B' iad luchd-comhairle rìghrean is luchd-teagaisg an t-sluaigh, agus is gann a bha eòlas no fòghlum 's an dùthaich ach na bha 'n am measg-san.

Cha 'n iongantach, uime sin, ged fhuair iad uiread buaidh' air a' Ghàidhlig 's gu'm b' éigin di facail a ghabhail o 'n Laidinn. An d' thàinig facail a stigh do 'n Ghàidhlig o chànainean sam bith eile?

Thàinig a' bheag no 'mhòr o chainnt nan Lochlannach.

Cha ruig mi leas 'innseadh dhuit gu bheil facail 's a' Ghàidhlig a fhuair i o 'n Bheurla.

Tha sin soilleir do na h-uile duine. An innis sibh dhomh ciod a' chainnt a 's dhàithe dàimh do 'n Ghàidhlig?

An Laidinn.

An déidh na Laidinn 's iad na cainntean a 's dàimheile dhi cainnt na Gearmailt agus a' Bheurla mar bha i mu 'n robh i air a truailleadh le facail o chainntean eile.

Am bheil dàimh idir aig a' Ghàidhlig ris a' Ghréigeis?

Tha, ach tha è na 's fhaide mach na ris an trì eile.

Ciamar a nithear a mach gu bheil an dàimh so eadar a' Ghàidhlig agus na cainntean sin.

Gabh beachd air cho cosmhuil 's a tha na facail so ri 'chéile :— aon—unus, dà—duo, trì—tres, ochd—octo, mìle—mille, sèa—sex, seachd—septem, agus mar sin sìos.

Buinidh na facail sin do 'n Ghàidhlig cho math a 's do 'n

It is my own opinion that it is not of advantage to the clergy of any Church to interfere much in temporal matters.

'They were the counsellors of kings and the teachers of the people, and there was scarcely any knowledge or learning in the land except what was among them.

It is not to be wondered at, therefore, that they so prevailed over Gaelic that it had to receive words from the Latin.

Have words entered Gaelic from any other languages?

Fewer or more have entered it from the Scandinavian language.

I need not tell you that there are words in Gaelic which it received from English.

That is apparent to every man.

Will you tell me what language has the closest affinity to Gaelic?

Latin.

After Latin the languages that have the closest affinity to Gaelic are German, and English as it was before it was corrupted with words from other languages.

Has Gaelic any affinity with Greek?

It has, but it is more remote than with the other three.

How can it be made out that there is this affinity between Gaelic and these languages?

Mark how like these words are to each other :—aon—unus, dà—duo, trì—tres, ochd—octo, mìle—mille, sèa—sex, seachd—septem, and so forth.

These words belong to Gaelic as well as to Latin: they are

- Laidinn : is leis an teaghlach an coitchiontas iad.
- Am bheil dad r' a fhaotainn ann an *Grammar* na Gàidhlig cosmh-uil ris na gheibhear ann an *Grammar* nan cainntean eile?
- Tha beagan, ach tha è cho mion 's nach 'eil è furasd' a chur ann an Gàidhlig a thuigeas daoine.
- Chomhairlichinn duit leabhar Phroffessor Blackie mu 'n Ghàidhlig a leughadh.
- Ciod tuilleadh a tha ri 'ràdh mu 'n chùis?
- Tha mòran de bhun-fhacail 's a' Ghàidhlig aig am bheil an leth-bhreacan 's an Laidinn gu sònraichte.
- Am bheil an dàimh a tha eadar riu furasd' fhaicinn?
- Cha 'n 'eil mur 'eil neach eòlach air a lorgachadh.
- 'D é 's aobhar d' a sin?
- Tha mòran de na facail nach 'eil a' tòiseachadh leis an aon litir, agus tha muthadh eadar riu air dòighean eile.
- Ann an coimeas chànanain, uime sin, tha è fùmail a thoirt fainear ciod na fuaimean anns an dara cainnt a tha 'freagairt do na fuaimean anns a' chainnt eile.
- 'D é 'ur barail mu 'n Ghàidhlig mar chainnt?
- Tha i fìor fhreagarrach airson cur an cèill smuaintean, faireachdainnean, agus uireasbhuidhean gnàthaichte an duine.
- Nach 'eil i freagarrach airson bàrdachd?
- Tha, agus airson ciùil, eachdraidh, sgeulachdan, agus airson labhairt ri coimhthional agus cunntas a thoirt air coltas na cruithachd.
- Am bheil i freagarrach airson feallsanachd?
- the common property of the family.
- Is there anything to be found in Gaelic Grammar resembling what is to be found in the Grammar of the other languages?
- There is a little, but it is so minute that it is not easy to put it in intelligible Gaelic.
- I would recommend to you to read Professor Blackie's book about Gaelic.
- What more is there to say about the matter?
- There are many root-words in Gaelic which have their counterparts in Latin especially.
- Is the affinity between them easily perceived?
- It is not if one is not skilful in tracing it.
- What is the cause of that?
- Many of the words do not begin with the same letter, and there are differences between them in other ways.
- In comparing languages, therefore, it is necessary to consider what sounds in the one language correspond to the sounds in the other.
- What is your opinion of Gaelic as a language?
- It is very well adapted for expressing the ordinary thoughts, feelings, and wants of man.
- Is it not adapted for poetry?
- Yes, and for music, history, tales, addressing an assembly, and describing the appearance of creation.
- Is it adapted for philosophy?

Cha 'n 'eil.

Carson?

A chionn nach 'eil facail fhreagarrach innte.

Ciamar a thachair sin?

Chaidh stad a chur air a cinneas.

Am bheil e 'n a comas àireamh a facail a mheudachadh?

Tha gu mòr, agus sin uaipe féin, gun bhi 'n comain càinain sam bith eile.

A bharrachd air sin tha i 'n a caint liomharra, bhinn-fhoelach, cheòlmhor.

'S è so barail nan daoine fòghluimte a rannsaich a' chùis.

Mòran taing dhuibh.

Biodh a càirdean uile cho dileas di 's a tha sibhse, 's cha 'n eagal di.

LEABHRAICHEAN

GÀIDHLIG.

An aithne dhuibh fear a' bhail' ud shuas?

'S aithne dhomh è r' a fhaicinn : 's è sin uil' è.

Cha bu mhòr an call ged nach robh am barrachd eòlais agaibh air.

Tha è coltach ris nach 'eil thusa buidheach dheth.

Cha 'n 'eil, 's tha aobhar agam.

Ciod a thàinig eadarabih?

Cha téid stad air a theangaidh a' diomoladh na Gàidhlig agus gach ni Gàidhealach.

"Is tric a dhiomol an ceannaich' am bathar a bu mhath leis 'n a mhàileid."

Nach dubhairt è rium an clàr an aodainn nach 'eil 's a' Ghàidhlig ach cainnt airson dhaoine borba, 's nach 'eil leabhraichean innte a 's fhiach an leughadh!

It is not.

Why?

Because there are not suitable words in it.

How did that happen?

Its growth has been stopped.

Has it the power of increasing the number of its words?

Yes, greatly, and that from itself, without being indebted to any other language.

Moreover, it is a polished, melodious, and musical language.

This is the opinion of the learned men that have examined the matter.

Many thanks to you.

Let all its friends be as faithful to it as you are, and there is no fear of it.

x

GAELIC BOOKS.

Do you know the man of the farm up yonder?

I know him by sight: that is all.

It would be no great loss though you should have no further acquaintance with him.

It seems that you are not pleased with him.

I am not, and I have cause.

What has come between you?

His tongue does not cease to disparage Gaelic and everything Highland.

Often has the pedlar disparaged goods that he would wish to have in his pack.

Did he not tell me to my face that Gaelic is only a language for savages, and that there are no books in it worth reading!

Cha do labhair è ach a réir an eòlais a th' aige.

Bu chòir dhuibh a ràdh a réir ain-eòlais 's a mbl-mhodhalachd.

Tha thusa tuilleadh a 's cruaidh air.

Tha! tha! cha tig as a' phoit ach an toit a bhios innte.

Cha sguir thusa de chagnadh maimhdean na Gàidhlig.

"Is duilich leam nach urrainn mi an slugadh," mar thubhairt Iain Lom.

Am feasgar mu dheireadh a bha thu 'n so bha seanachas againn mu 'n Ghàidhlig.

Bha sin againn, agus bu taitneach an seanachas è.

'S fhiach è 'n t-saothair dhuinn air an fheasgar so còmhradh a bhi againn mu leabhraichean Gàidhlig.

{ C' àit an tòisich sinn?

{ Aig an toiseach.

{ Ach e' àit am bheil an toiseach?

{ Feumaidh sinn dol air ar n-ais sèa no seachd ceud bliadhna.

Am bheil an leabhar a 's sine 'th' againn an aois sin?

Tha iad a' deanamh dheth gu 'm bheil.

C' ainm a th' air?

Leabhar *Dheer*.

'N è ainm àite 'th' ann an *Deer*?

'S è ainm sgìreachd a th' ann a tha 'n iar air Ceann-Phàdruig, ann an siorramachd Abaraidhean.

Co 'sgriobh è?

Na manaich ann an tigh-mhanach 's an sgìreachd.

Ciod air am bheil è 'tighinn?

'S è earrannan de 'n t-soisgeul ann an Laidinn a th' anns a' chuid a 's mò dheth.

Ciod air am bheil na tha 'n a Ghàidhlig dheth a' tighinn?

Tha e gu h-àraid a' tighinn air fearann a thug cinn-fheadhna 's a' choimhearsnachd do 'n tigh-mhanach.

He only spoke according to the knowledge that he has.

You should say according to his ignorance and rudeness.

You are too hard on him.

Yes! yes! nothing but the smoke that is in it will come from the pot.

You will not cease to chew the enemies of Gaelic.

"I regret that I cannot swallow them," as John Lom said.

The last evening that you were here we had a talk about Gaelic.

We had, and a pleasant talk it was.

It is worth our while this evening to have a conversation about Gaelic books.

Where shall we begin?

At the beginning.

But where is the beginning?

We must go back six or seven hundred years.

Is the oldest book that we have that age?

It is estimated that it is.

What is its name?

The book of *Deer*.

Is *Deer* the name of a place?

It is the name of a parish to the west of Peterhead, in Aberdeenshire.

Who wrote it?

The monks in a monastery in the parish.

What does it treat of?

The most part of it consists of portions of the Gospel in Latin.

What does the Gaelic portion of it treat of?

It treats chiefly of land that neighbouring chiefs gave to the monastery.

An ionann Gàidhlig an leabhair so
a 's a' Ghàidhlig againn-ne ?

Cha 'n ionann : tha muthadh eat-
orra.

'S è 'n ath leabhar a 's sine 'th'
againn Leabhar Deadhan Lise
Mòire, ann an Earraghàidheal.

C' uin a bha 'n leabhar sin air a
chur r' a chéile ?

'S a' bhliadhna 1512 : a dh' aona
chuid bha è deas a' bhliadhna
sin.

Co dhiùbh is è eachdraidh no bàrd-
achd a th' ann ?

Bàrdachd.

C' àit an d' fhuaradh i ?

Air feadh na Gàidhealtachd.

Cia meud dàn a th' ann ?

Tha còrr a 's trì fichead ann, agus
ochd thar fhichead dhiùbh mu
'n Fhéinn.

Am bheil dàn ann le Oisean ?

A réir an leabhair tha naoi le
Oisean, dithis le Fearghas
filidh, agus aon le Caoilte Mac
Ronain.

Co iad sin ?

Trìuir bhàrd na Féinne.

Tha sinn a' fòghlum o so gu 'n
robh iomradh air Oisean is gu
'n robh dàn air an cur as a leth
o cheann còrr a 's trì cheud
agus ceithir fichead bliadhna ?

Ciod an seòrsa Gàidhlig a th' ann ?

An t-aona Ghàidhlig a th' ann an
leabhar Dheer.

C' uin a bha è air a chur a mach ?

O cheann deich bliadhna fichead.

Co 'dh' ullaich è airson a chur a
mach ?

An T-Ollamh Mac Lachlainn an
Dun-éideann.

'S è 'cheud leabhar Gàidhlig a bh'
air a chlàdh-bhualadh *Leabhar-
àinuigh Knox*, air eadar-
theangachadh leis an Easbuig
Charsallach.

C' uin a thàinig e mach ?

'S a' bhliadhna 1567.

Is the Gaelic of this book the same
as ours ?

It is not: there is a difference be-
tween them.

The next oldest book that we have
is "The Book of the Dean of
Lismore," in Argyll.

When was that book put together ?

In the year 1512: at any rate, it
was ready that year.

Whether is it history or poetry ?

Poetry.

Where was it found ?

Throughout the Highlands.

How many poems are there in it ?

There are upwards of sixty in it,
twenty-eight of them being
about the Féinn.

Are there poems in it by Ossian ?

According to the book there are
nine by Ossian, two by Fergus
the bard, and one by Caoilte
Mac Ronain.

Who are these ?

The three bards of the Féinn.

We learn from this that mention
was made of Ossian and poems
were ascribed to him upwards
of three hundred and eighty
years ago.

What kind of Gaelic is in it ?

The same kind of Gaelic as is in
the book of Deer.

When was it published ?

Thirty years ago.

Who prepared it for publication ?

Dr. MacLauchlan, in Edinburgh.

The first Gaelic book printed is
Knox's Liturgy, translated by
Bishop Carswell.

When did it come out ?

In the year 1567.

- Bha e air a chur a mach as ùr leis an Ollamh Mac Lachlainn.
- Is coltach gu 'n robh na h-uibhir de na Gàidheil comasach air a' Ghàidhlig a leughadh 's a' bhliadhna 1567.
- Chuir Seanadh Earraghaidheil a mach leth-cheud dena Sailm an Gàidhlig 's a' bhliadhna 1659, agus an còrr 's a' bhliadhna 1694.
- Bha na Sailm air an cur a mach am meadrachd Ghaelic leis an Urramach Iain Kirke, ministear Bhochuidir, 's a' bhliadhna 1684.
- Bha Foclair Gàidhlig air a chur a mach le Alastair Dòmhnallach, am bàrd, 's a' bhliadhna 1740.
- Bha 'n *Tiomnadh Nuadh* air a chur a mach an Gàidhlig 's a' bhliadhna 1767.
- Bha co-chruinneachadh de Ghnàth-fhocaill Ghàidhealach air a chur a mach le Mac-an-Tòisich 's a' bhliadhna 1785.
- Bha 'n *Seann Tiomnadh* air a chur a mach an Gàidhlig 'n a earrannaibh o 'n bhliadhna 1783 gus a' bhliadhna 1801, 'n uair a bha 'n obair crìochnaichte.
- Bha na *Seann Dàna* air an cur a mach leis an Ollamh Mac-a-Ghobhainn 's a' bhliadhna 1787.
- Bha *Dan an Deirg* agus *Tiomnadh Ghuil* air an cur a mach le eadar-theangachadh le C. S. Jerram, M.A., 's a' bhliadhna 1874.
- Bha Obair Oisean le Mac Mhuirich air a chur a mach 's a' bhliadhna 1806.
- Bha Foclair Gàidhlig Armstrong air a chur a mach 's a' bhliadhna 1825, agus Foclair a' Chom-uinn Ghàidhealaich trì bliadhna 'n a dhéidh sin.
- Cha 'n fhaod mi crìochnachadh gun iomradh a thoirt air an
- It was republished by Dr. Mac-Lauchlan.
- It is probable that a number of the Highlanders could read Gaelic in 1567.
- The Synod of Argyll published in Gaelic fifty of the Psalms in the year 1659, and the rest of them in the year 1694.
- The Psalms were published in Gaelic metre by the Rev. John Kirke, minister of Balquiddir, in the year 1684.
- A Gaelic Vocabulary was published by Alexander MacDonald, the bard, in the year 1740.
- The New Testament was published in Gaelic in the year 1767.
- A collection of Gaelic Proverbs was published by Macintosh in the year 1785.
- The Old Testament was published in Gaelic in parts from the year 1783 to the year 1801, when the work was finished.
- The Ancient Lays were published by Dr. Smith in the year 1787.
- Dearg's Lay* and *Goll's Testament* were published with a translation by C. S. Jerram, M.A., in the year 1874.
- Ossian's work, by MacPherson, was published in the year 1806.
- Armstrong's Gaelic Dictionary was published in the year 1825, and the Highland Society's Dictionary three years afterwards.
- I must not conclude without making mention of the Highland

Teachdaire Ghàidhealach 's air Cuairtear nan Gleann.

'S ann 's na leabhraichean sin a bha sgrìobhainean ainmeil an Ollaimh Mhic Leòid air an cur a mach an toiseach. Gheibhear a' chuid mhòr dhiùb ann an *Caraid nan Gàidheal*.

Is airidh iomradh a thoirt air na *Sgeulachdan Gàidhealach* a chruinnich I. F. Caimbeul, air *Dàin Oisín* an Gàidhlig 's am Beurla leis an Ollamh Mac-a-Chléirich, agus air na *Gnath-fhocaill* a chuir an Siorram Mac Neacail a mach.

Messenger and the Courier of the Glens.

It was in these books that the namely writings of Dr. M'Leod were first published. The most of them will be found in *Caraid nan Gaidheal*.

The Highland Tales collected by J. F. Campbell, Ossian's Poems in Gaelic and English by Dr. Clerk, and the Proverbs published by Sheriff Nicolson, are worthy of mention.

2

Faodaidh sinn a nis bruidhinn mu na bàird air am bheil a' bheag no 'mhòr de dh' eòlas aig Gàidheil am bidheantas.

Bithidh na 's leòir agaibh r' a dheanamh ma bheir sibh iomradh orra uile.

Cha 'n urrainn domh sin a dheanamh an dràs.

Ghabhadh e leabhar gu math mòr cunntas a thoirt air na th' ann diùbh.

Na 'n abradh neach rium, "C' ait am bheil 'ur bàrdachd r' a faotainn?" dh' fhaodainn 'aire a thionndadh ri "Sàr-Obair nam Bàrd Gàidhealach."

Am bheil òrain nam bàrd uile 's an leabhar sin?

Tha àireamh thaghta ann de dh' òrain le còig is dà fhichead bàrd.

'D é 'n seòrsa òran a th' annta?

Òrain-mholaidh, òrain-chumbaidh, òrain-ghaoil, òrain-shùgraidh, òrain - chogaidh, òrain mu ràithean na bliadhna, òrain spioradail, agus mar sin sìos.

Am bheil gin ann de dh' òrain *Mhàiri Nic Leòid*, ris an

We may now speak of the bards of which Highlanders in general have less or more knowledge.

You will have enough to do if you speak of them all.

I cannot do that at present.

It would take a pretty large book to give an account of all that there are of them.

Were any one to say to me, "Where is your poetry to be found?" I might turn his attention to "The Beauties of Gaelic Poetry."

Are the songs of all the bards in that book?

There is a select number of songs in it by forty-five bards.

What kind of songs are they?

Songs of praise, laments, love songs, songs of mirth, war songs, songs about the seasons of the year, spiritual songs, and so forth.

Are there any in it of the songs of Mary MacLeod, called Mary,

abrar Màiri, Nighean Alastair
Ruaidh ?

Tha naoi ann.

C' àit an d' rugadh i ?

An Rùdal 's na H-Earradh.

C' uin a rugadh i ?

'S a' bhliadhna 1569.

'D é 'n aois a bha i 'n uair a
chaochail i ?

Bha i còig fichead bliadhna 's a còig.
Nach robh i 'n a banaltrum an
teaghlach Mhic Leòid Dhuin-
bheagain ?

'Bha fad iomadh bliadhna.

Carson a chuir è air fògradh i do
Mhuile ?

A chionn gu'n robh è dìombach dhi
airson òrain a rinn i.

Nach ann 'n uair a bha i 'm Muile
'rinn i 'n t-òran iomraideach
sin ris an abrar *Luinneag Mhic
Leòid ?*

S ann.

Nach do chuir è bàta 's sgioba g' a
toirt dhachaidh 'n uair a chual'
è mu 'n òran so ?

Chuir, ach bha òrdugh aca gun a
toirt air bòrd gus an gealladh
i nach deanadh i tuilleadh
òran.

An d' thug i 'n gealladh a dh'
iarradh orra ?

Thug, is fhuair i dhachaidh.

An do ghleidh i 'gealladh ?

Rinn i òran do mhaic do Mhaic
Leòid, agus 'n uair a chaidh
a cronachadh air a shon thubh-
airt i, "Cha 'n òran a th' ann;
cha 'n eil ann ach crònan."

An urrainn duibh dad de dh'
eachdraidh Iain Luim, bàrd
Lochabair, a thoirt domh ?

'S è Dòmhnallach a bh' ann de
theaghlach na Ceapaich.

'D é 'n linn 's an robh è beò ?

Ann an linn a' cheud 's an dara
Tearlaich, is 'n a dhéigh.

the daughter of red-haired
Alexander ?

There are nine.

Where was she born ?

In Roudal, in Harris.

When was she born ?

In the year 1569.

What age was she when she died ?

She was one hundred and five years.

Was she not a nurse in the family
of MacLeod of Dunveagain ?

She was for many a year.

Why did he banish her to Mull ?

Because he was displeased with her
on account of a song that she
made.

Was it not when she was in Mull
that she made that celebrated
song called MacLeod's ditty ?

It was.

Did he not send a boat and crew
to take her home when he
heard about this song ?

He did, but they had orders not to
take her on board till she
should promise not to make
any more songs.

Did she give the promise that was
required of her ?

She did, and was allowed to go
home.

Did she keep her promise ?

She made a song to a son of Mac-
Leod, and when she was re-
proved for it she said, "It is
not a song; it is only a croon."

Can you give me anything of the
history of John Lom, the Loch-
aber bard ?

He was a MacDonald of the family
of Keppoch.

In what age did he live ?

In the age of the first and second
Charles, and after it.

Chuala mi gu'n robh è 'n a charaid dealasach do na Stiùbhartach.

Bha, agus 'n a nàmhaid guineach do rìgh Uilleam 's d' a chàird-ean, na Caimbeulaich.

Nach è 'sheòl feachd Mhontrose do dh' Ionar-lòchaidh a chumail còdhail ris na Caimbeulaich?

'S è; agus 's è 'rinn an t-òran ainmeil sin mu 'n bhàl ris an abrar "Là Ionar-lòchaidh."

'D é 'n seòrsa duin' a bh' ann?

Bha è 'n a dhuine geur-chuiseach, dalma, danarra, fiosrach mu ghnothaichean na linne buair-easaich 's an robh e beò.

C' uin a chaochail è?

Mu 'n bhliadhna 1700.

Bha è aoismhòr 'n uaira chaochail è. Bruinidh sinn a nis mu *Alastair Dòmhnallach* ris an abrar *Mac Mhaighstir Alastair*.

Rugadh è ann am Muideart mu 'n bhliadhna 1710.

Bha 'athair 'n a mhinistear de 'n Eaglais Easbuigeach ann an Aird-na-murchann.

'D é 'n dreuchd a bh' aige-fhéin?

Bha è 'n a mhaighstir-sgoil sgìr-eachd an Aird-na-murchann, agus 'n a fhoirfeach 's an eaglais.

Dh' fheumadh gu'n robh è 'n a dheadh sgoilear.

Fhuair è 'ionnsachadh ann an oil-thigh Ghlascho.

Nach do thionndaidh è ris a' Chreideamh Phàpanach?

Thionndaidh 'n uair a dh' fhalbh è le Prionnsa Teàrlach 's a' bhliadhna 1745.

Nach è 'rinn "Oran nam Fineachan Gàidhealach" agus "Allt an t-siùcair?"

'S è, agus "Am Breacan Uallach," "Fàlto na Mòr-thir," "A Bhanarach Dhonn," "Beannachadh Luinge," agus mòran a bharrachd.

I have heard that he was a zealous friend of the Stewarts.

He was, and a bitter enemy to King William and his friends, the Campbells.

Was it not he that guided Montrose's army to Inverlochy to meet the Campbells?

It was; and it was he that composed that namely song called "The Day of Inverlochy."

What kind of man was he?

He was a shrewd, bold, resolute man, well-informed as to the affairs of the turbulent age in which he lived.

When did he die?

About the year 1700.

He was a great age when he died.

We shall now speak of Alexander MacDonald, called the son of Mr. Alexander.

He was born in Muideart about the year 1710.

His father was a minister of the Episcopal Church in Ardnamurchan.

What office did he himself hold?

He was a parish schoolmaster in Ardnamurchan, and an elder in the church.

He must have been a good scholar.

He received his education in Glasgow College.

Did he not turn to the Popish religion?

He did when he went away with Prince Charles in the year 1745.

Was it not he that composed "The Song of the Highland Clans," and "The Sugar Brook?"

Yes, and "The Light Plaid," "Hail to Mòrir," "The Brown-haired Dairymaid," "The Blessing of a Ship," and many more.

Co dhiùbh 's è fhéin no *Donnchadh Bàn Mac-an-t-Saoir* am bàrd a 's fheàrr?

Cha 'n 'eil mi ro chinnteach.

Tha iad le cheile 'n am bàird chumhachdach.

Tha Donnchadh Bàn na 's fhasa 'thuigsinn.

Tha tuilleadh fhocal a chaidh a cleachdadh ann am bàrdachd an Dòmhnallaich.

C'ait an d'rugadh Donnchadh Bàn? Rugadh è an Druimliaghairt an Gleann-urchaidh 's a' bhliadhna 1724.

Dh' innseadh dhomh nach b' urrainn da aona chuid leughadh no sgrìobhadh.

Cha b' urrainn, ach bha meoghair cho math aige 's gu'n robh cuimhn' aige air a h-uile facal de na h-òrain a rinn è.

An robh ceàird sam bith aige?

Bha e 'n toiseach 'n a fhorsair* do Mhòrair Bhrait - Albainn an Coire-cheathaich 's am Beinn-dòrain, agus 'n a dhéidh sin do Dhiùc Earraghàidheil am Buachaill Eite.

Nach robh è 's an arm?

'N uair a bha e 'n a dhuin' òg bha è le Còirneal Caimbeul Choire-chumhann am blàr na H-Eiglse Brice.

Bha è o 'n bhliadhna 1793 gus a' bhliadhna 1799 ann am *Fencibles* Morair Bhraid-Albainn.

Bha è na h-uibhir a bhliadhnaichean ann am Freiceadan baile Dhun-éideann.

C' uin a chaochail è?

'S a' bhliadhna 1812.

'S iad na h-òrain a 's fheàrr a rinn e "Beinn-dòrain," "Coire-cheathaich," agus "A' Mhàiri Bhàn òg."

Whether is he or Duncan Bàn MacIntyre the better bard?

I am not very sure.

They are both powerful poets.

Duncan Bàn is more easily understood.

There are more obsolete words in MacDonald's poetry.

Where was Duncan Bàn born?

He was born in Drimliart, in Glenorchy, in the year 1724.

I have been told that he could neither read nor write.

He could not, but he had so good a memory that he remembered every word of the songs that he composed.

Had he any trade?

He was at first forester to Lord Breadalbane in Coire-cheathaich and Bendorain, and afterwards to the Duke of Argyll in Buachaill Eite.

Was he not in the army?

When he was a young man he was with Colonel Campbell of Carwhin at the battle of Falkirk.

He was from the year 1793 to the year 1799 in Lord Breadalbane's Fencibles.

He was a number of years in the City Guard of Edinburgh.

When did he die?

In the year 1812.

The best songs that he composed are "Bendorain," "Coire-cheathaich," and "Young Fair Mary."

* *Frithear* is the word used by *Duncan Bàn* for forester. "Tha gach frithear fuasgaillte:" "Every forester is disengaged." *Forsair*, however, is that which is most commonly used, and is sanctioned by the late Dr. MacLeod.

Nach d' eadar-theangaich *Professor Blackie* "Beinn-dòrain" gu Beurla?

Dh' eadar-theangaich.

Dh' innseadh dhomh gu bheil e anabarrach grinn air a dheanamh.

Tha e : is ainmic a' leugh mi eadar-theangachadh a dh' fhaodar a choimeas ris.

Tha mi duilich nach 'eil ùin' agam tuilleadh a ràdh mu na bàird air an fheasgar so.

Mata gu dearbh cha ruig sibh a leas : tha mi air faotainn cheana mòran eòlais uaibh.

Na 'm biodh agam-sa de mhcoghair a chuimhnicheadh e uile.

Has not Professor Blackie translated "Bendorain" into English?

Yes, has.

I have been told that it is very finely done.

It is : I have seldom read a translation that may be compared with it.

I am sorry that I have not time to say more about the bards this evening.

Indeed you need not : I have already received much information from you.

I wish I had such a measure of memory as would remember it all.

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